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Apple Intelligence now features Image Playground, Genmoji, ChatGPT support

Apple on Friday announced the release of iOS 18.2, iPadOS 18.2, and macOS Sequoia 15.2, with a new set of Apple...

07



Gukesh etches India's name in golden letters in chess history: AICF

The All India Chess Federation (AICF) president Nitin Narang lauded D. Gukesh on becoming the youngest World Chess Champion and said it is...

12



Celebration of India's cultural heritage, collective spirit: PM Modi on Maha Kumbh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Prayagraj on Friday and lauded the tireless efforts of employees and sanitation...

02



HC grants interim bail to Actor Allu Arjun

Hyderabad, Dec 13: Actor Allu Arjun, who was arrested in a stampede case at Sandhya Theatre, has got a huge relief from the High Court. The HC granted interim bail to him and adjourned the hearing of the quash petition filed by Allu Arjun to Monday. After his arrest, Arjun was produced before a Nampally court, which remanded him to 14-day judicial custody. Allu

Arjun's lawyers filed a petition in the High Court seeking quashing of the case. During the course of the arguments, Allu Arjun's lawyer sought an urgent hearing on the petition by the HC. However, the government's counsel argued that the case should be heard on Monday and there was no need for an urgent hearing.



CM Revanth urges Centre to release pending grants immediately

New Delhi, Dec.13 (NSS): Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has urged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to immediately release the pending grant of Rs. 1,800 crore to the backward districts of Telangana as per the AP Reorganization Act. The Chief Minister called on Nimala Sitharaman at her chambers in the Parliament on Friday. He discussed with the Union Minister the

grant which is to be received from the Centre for the development of the backward districts and reminded the Centre agreed to release a grant of Rs 450 crore to nine districts every year under the Reorganization Act. Revanth Reddy further appealed to Nirmala Sitharaman to release the pending grant of Rs.1,800 crore for the years - 2019-20, 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24.

Continued on pg 02



Constitution provides shield, guarantee to Indians: Priyanka in LS

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS): Congress leader and Wayanad MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Friday stressed the importance of the Constitution as a "shield and guarantee" for the nation's security and freedom of speech. Speaking during the Constitution debate in the Lok Sabha in her maiden speech, she accused the central government of "eroding trust" in the Constitution over the past decade.

Continued on pg 02



Prez Murmu pays tribute to martyrs of Parliament attack on 13th anniversary

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS): President Droupadi Murmu, on Friday morning, paid heartfelt tribute to the personnel who laid down their lives to safeguard the Parliament, as the day marks 13 years since it was attacked by terrorists. Taking to X, the President expressed, "I pay

my humble tribute to the bravehearts who sacrificed their lives defending our Parliament on this day in 2001. Their courage and selfless service continue to inspire us." Continued on pg 02

Improve facilities in zoo parks, urban forest parks: Konda Surekha tells officials

Hyderabad, Dec 13: Minister for Forest, Environment and Endowments Konda Surekha has directed the officials to improve the facilities at urban forest parks and zoo parks for attracting more visitors with environmentally friendly activities. The 13th Governing Body Meeting of

Zoos and Parks Authority of Telangana (ZAPAT).



Telangana to become Rs.84 lakh crore economy in 10 years: Sridhar Babu

Hyderabad, Dec.13 (NSS): Minister for IT and Industries Duddilla Sridhar Babu has reiterated the Telangana government's ambitious goal of transforming the State into a trillion-dollar (Rs.84 lakh crore) economy over the next decade. He highlighted that artificial intelligence (AI), semi-conductors, and quantum computing will serve as key drivers for this exceptional economic growth. Speaking at the conclusion of the "IAMPHENOM India" conference, organised by global AI leader Phenom at HITEC City on Friday, the Minister emphasised the importance of talent development to fuel this vision.



Uttam releases water from Nizam Sagar for Rabi crop

Hyderabad, Dec 13 (NSS): Telangana's government is set to expand irrigation coverage to an additional 30 lakh acres over the next five years through the modernisation of historic projects like the Sriramsagar Project (SRSP) and Nizam Sagar, announced Minister for Irrigation and Civil Supplies N. Uttam Kumar Reddy during his visit to these projects on Friday. At SRSP in Mendora Mandal, Nizamabad district, the minister reviewed the project's performance alongside MLAs P. Sudarshan Reddy, Bhupathi Reddy, and Vemula Prashanth Reddy, as well as senior officials including Principal Secretary Rahul Bojja and District Collector

Rajeev Gandhi Hanumanthu. Officials revealed that siltation had reduced SRSP's storage capacity from 112 TMC to 80 TMC. To address this, the minister instructed the use of advanced global desilting technologies to restore its original capacity. SRSP has been a lifeline for farmers, irrigating 12.5 lakh acres annually across ten districts during both kharif and rabi seasons.



Target to produce 20 gigawatts of green power by 2030: Bhatti

Hyderabad, Dec 13: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka said the State government is formulating a special plan to produce 20 gigawatts of green power by 2030.

Kavita slams Revanth's attempts to undermine Telangana's cultural heritage

Hyderabad, Dec.13 (NSS): Telangana Jagruthi founder MLC Kavitha Kalvakuntla expressed her outrage over Telangana Congress leader and CM Revanth Reddy's alleged attempts to undermine the State's cultural heritage.



She accused the Congress party of failing to respect Telangana's identity and questioned Rahul Gandhi's tacit approval of such actions. MLC Kavitha, during her interaction with media.

Constitution provides shield, guarantee to Indians : Priyanka in LS

Continued from pg 01
Paying homage to security personnel who lost their lives defending Parliament during the December 13 attack, Priyanka began her speech by expressing heartfelt gratitude

toward them. "Our civilisation, spanning thousands of years, is rooted in dialogue and communication," she remarked, citing traditions from the Vedas, Upanishads, and religions like Islam, Jainism, and Buddhism.

"This tradition of dialogue shaped our unique freedom struggle, which was democratic at its core, involving peasants, labourers, advocates, intellectuals, and people from all castes and communities." She highlighted the efforts of lead-

ers like B.R. Ambedkar, Maulana Azad, Rajaji, Jawaharlal Nehru, and others who dedicated years to drafting the Constitution. Calling the Constitution a "lighthouse," Priyanka said it embodied justice, hope, and aspiration,

empowering citizens to demand their rights and hold governments accountable. "Our Constitution talks about justice, hope, expression and aspiration. It is a lighthouse of all the emotions of millions of Indians. This lighthouse

has given us hope that we can fight for our rights and get justice. It has given strength, belief and faith to every citizen of the country to raise their voice before which the government will have to bow down, the citizen can make or break any government."

CANARA BANK
UPPAL BRANCH, H.No.1-46/1, Om Sai Nilayam, Ring Road, Uppal-500039.

DEMAND NOTICE
Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

The below mentioned person(s) has been granted various credit facilities from time to time by way of financial assistance against various assets creating security interest in favour of the Bank. The particulars of property mortgaged by borrower/guarantor by way of deposit of title deeds creating security interest in favour of the Bank are mentioned hereunder. As borrowers/guarantors have failed to discharge the debt due to the Bank, the account have been classified as Non Performing Assets as per the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India. As the Demand Notice that were sent to borrower/guarantor by Regd. Post calling upon them to discharge the debt due to the Bank were returned by the Postal Department, this notice is issued.

Name of the Borrower(s) & Guarantors : G.Gurumurthy (Borrower), Plot No.44/A, Surya Hills Colony, Hemanager, Boduppal, Hyderabad-500039. G.Vijaya (Mortgagor), W/o G.Gurumurthy, Plot No.44/A, Surya Hills Colony, Hemanager, Boduppal, Hyderabad-500039. **Non-Performing Asset (NPA) as on 29-11-2024 Outstanding Amount: Rs.5,25,705.05 (Rupees Five Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Five and Paise Five Only)** together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs thereon. **Demand Notice Dated: 05-12-2024**

Brief Details of Security:- All that the piece and parcel of plot No.44 southern part in Survey No's: 206, 207, 208 & 209 parts admeasuring 100 sq yds or 83.6 sq mts, situated at Boduppal Village and gram Panchayath, Ghatkesar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District S.R.O Uppal. **Boundaries: North:** Plot No.44 Northern part, **South:** Plot No.43, **East:** Plot No.50, **West:** 20' Wide Road. **Name of Title holder: Sri. Guguloth Vijaya.**

If the above mentioned borrower/guarantors fail to repay the above mentioned due by borrowers/guarantors with future interest and incidental expenses, costs as stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, within 60 days from the date of this notice, the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under Sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of the Section 13 of SARFAESI Act and other applicable provisions of the said Act. This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deemed necessary under any other provision of Law. **Date: 13-12-2024, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorised Officer, Canara Bank**

CAN FIN HOMES LTD
Regd. Office: 29/1, 1st Floor, Sir M.N.Krishna Rao Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004.
Website: www.canfinhomes.com, CIN: L85110KA1987LC008699.

Branch Office: 2-52/88, Sai Teja Enclave, GPRQ Quarters Road, Indira Nagar, Gachibowli, Hyderabad-500032, Tel: 040-40179219/23000030
E-mail: gachi.bowli@canfinhomes.com

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 9 (1)]
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, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

NOTICE is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Gachibowli Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 06-01-2025 for recovery of Rs.11,29,500/- (Rupees Eleven Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Only) due to Can Fin Homes Ltd. from Mr. VUPPULA JAGADISHWAR RAO as on 13-12-2024 together with further interest and other charges thereon. The reserve price will be Rs.20,40,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Forty Thousand Only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs.2,04,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Four thousand only)

Description of the Immovable Property
All that the Residential Independent House bearing No.1-1-1499/Part, to an extent of 121.00 Sq.Yds or 101.18 Sq.Mtrs, Admeasuring 454 Sit of Plinth area, Situated at Venkatadri Nagar kazi pet Village, Under Warangal Municipality, Warangal District, Telangana. **Boundaries of the property: North:** House of late Sri. Banelli South: Remaining House and Open Plot of donor, **East:** House of Sri.Sudhakar Reddy, **West:** 40 Feet Road. **Encumbrance - Nil**

The detailed terms and conditions of the sale are provided in the official website of Can Fin Homes Ltd. (<https://www.canfinhomes.com/SearchAuction.aspx>). Link for participating in e-auction: <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net>
Date: 13-12-2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Hyderabad Can Fin Homes Ltd.

AXIS FINANCE LIMITED
Ground and 1st Floor, Alpha Centre, #216, Double Road, 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560002

NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

To,

1) Mr. Yadadri Agro Farms Private Limited (Borrower cum Mortgagor), Represented by its Director Mr. Sai Kiran Kothapally, Plot No.344, Road No.7, Kakathiya Hills, Guttala Begumpet, Madhapur, Telangana-500090. 2) Mr. Sai Kiran Kothapally (Co-Borrower/ Secured Asset), H.No.27-1611/1, Plot No.14, L B Nagar, Near Community Hall, Safilguda, Secunderabad, Hyderabad-500056. 3) Mr. Peesapati Ravishankar (Co-Borrower), H.No.308, Sumanth Sai Palace, Road No.8, Bandari Layout, Nizampet Village, Telangana-500090.

REF: Loan Account No. 0456MMA00008702
SUB: Notice of 30 days in terms of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 For Sale of the immovable property being:
"All that Part and Parcel of Commercial Building (Western Part of 3rd Floor) with super built up area of 3297 sq.ft (including two car parking in Cellar) together with an undivided share of land admeasuring 101.5 sq.yds, out of 1015 sq.yds, constructed on Plot Nos.9 & 10, Municipal No.8-2-248/1/7/9 & 10/3B situated at Panjagutta, known as Road No.1, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana" (hereinafter referred to as "immovable property/ Secured Asset").

Sirs,

1) This notice is issued to you Nos.1 to 4 (hereinafter collectively referred to as "You"), the above-named addressees in terms of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and Section 13(8) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT, 2002).

2) That after availing the aforesaid loan from Axis Finance Ltd. (AFI/Secured Creditor), You had committed default in repayment of the loan amount and in view of the continuous default of more than the time period stipulated under the relevant applicable guidelines/ circulars for asset classification issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the above referred loan account of the Borrower was classified as **Non-Performing Asset (NPA) on 08-06-2024** in accordance with the concerned guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

3) That thereafter, a demand notice dated 26-Jun-24 u/s 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) was duly served upon You but You failed to make the payment of demanded amount i.e. **Rs.2,97,98,410/- (Rupees Two Crore NinetySeven Lakh NinetyEight Thousand Four Hundred Ten Rupees)** by way of Outstanding Principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 5th June 2024 within 60 days of the said notice and as such the secured creditor has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the Secured Asset in compliance of the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and rules framed thereunder on 11th October 2024.

4) That, the Secured Creditor has decided that the Secured Asset may be put to sale in accordance with Rule 8(5) by issuing a public notice in newspaper on expiry of 30 days from the date hereof.

5) That this notice of 30 days, at pre-sale stage, is being given to You the addressees in compliance of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and you are hereby informed and notified that the aforesaid Secured Asset shall be put to sale, by holding public auction through e-auction mode on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" after 30 clear days from publication of the public notice in the newspaper.

6) That the attention of You the abovenamed addressees is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 (as amended w.e.f. 01.09.2016) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Asset. In case You are desirous of exercising your rights under Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, You are hereby called upon to pay a sum of **Rs.3,12,94,110/- (Rupees Three Crore Twelve Lakh Ninety Four Thousand One Hundred Ten Only)** and interest till 5th December 2024 with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by it prior to the date of publication of public notice for transfer of the Secured Asset by any one mode as contemplated under the Act. You may note the date for publication of public notice will be 30 days after which your right of redemption of the Secured Asset would stand terminated immediately upon publication of the sale notice under Rule 9(1) of the said Rules.

Date: 05.12.2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Hyderabad, Telangana Axis Finance Ltd.

ROSAR BRANCH
Bank of Baroda # 3-5-822/5, 1st Floor, Hyderguda Main Road, Hyderguda, Hyderabad-500 029, Tel: + 91 40 23421635, E-mail: vjahyd@bankofbaroda.co.in.

Pre-sale Notice
Notice before Sale Notice Under Rule 6 (2) & 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

To, Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors:- Mr. Rajesh Javvaji S/o. Mr. Javvaji Narasimha Rao H.No. 5-2-117, Siram Nilayam Tirumala Nagar, Moulali Secunderabad - 500040. 2) Mr. Rajesh Javvaji S/o. Mr. Javvaji Narasimha Rao Flat No:404, Mandiweep Residency Chandabagh, Kohe Moola Ali Malkajgiri Circle, Secunderabad - 500 040. 3) Mr. Venkata Narasimha Rao Javvaji S/o. Mr. Laxmaiah H.No. 5-2-117, Siram Nilayam Tirumala Nagar, Moulali Secunderabad - 500040. 4) Mr. Ramesh Babu Matta S/o. Mr. Venkatarasaiah Matta Flat No: 203, Sushilpa Hills H No: 42-22, Moulali Hyderabad - 500 040.

Dear Sir / Madam,
Re: Notice under Rule 6(2) and/or Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act, 2002).
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Bank of Baroda u/s 13(2) of the above said SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 issued a Demand Notice on 08-07-2024 calling upon the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) 1.Mr.Rajesh Javvaji, 2.Mr.Venkata Narasimha Rao Javvaji (Borrowers) And 3.Mr.Ramesh Babu Matta (Guarantor) to repay the amount in terms of the said notice within 60 days from the date of the said notice.
And whereas the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Corporate Guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount and hence, the undersigned, in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 4 and/or Rule 8 of the Rules has taken over the **symbolic possession** of the property/properties (hereinafter referred as the said properties) more particularly described herein below on 16-11-2024.
And whereas the undersigned in exercise of the powers conferred u/s 13(4) (a) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 proposes to realize the bank's dues by Sale of the said properties. Please take notice that the sale of secured assets mortgaged/charged to the bank more fully described hereunder will be Sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis through E-auction at any date after expiry of 30 days period from the date of this notice. Separate public e-auction notice will be sent to you, when the bank decides to auction the property/s through e-auction.
You may please note that the amount due from the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) to the bank as on 30.11.2024 is **Rs.31,45,721.75 (Rupees Thirty one lacs Forty five thousand Seven hundred Twenty one and paise Seventy five only)** plus interest from 01-12-2024 plus charges, which has to be realized by the sale of the said properties. You are requested to make payment of the amounts mentioned in the notice in terms of the security financial/Guarantee agreement executed by you.
Details of Secured Assets/Mortgaged Property: Description of the Immovable Property/s: **Schedule of Property:** Residential Flat bearing No. 404 in the Fourth Floor of an apartment building "MANDIWEEP RESIDENCY", having built-up area of 1064 Sq. Ft including common area along with single car parking space in the parking slot, together with an undivided share of land admeasuring 44.50 Sq. Yards out of 890 Sq. Yards, in Survey No. 378, situated at Chandabagh, Kohe Moola Ali, under Block No. 41 within limits of GHMC Malkajgiri Mandal & Circle, Medchal - Malkajgiri District, Telangana and bounded by **Boundaries for Entire Land: North:** 14'-0" wide Road, **South:** 33'-0" Road, **East:** 25'-0" Road, **West:** Neighbor's plot with existing wall. **Boundaries of Flat : North:** Open to sky, **South:** Open to Sky & Flat No. 403, **East:** Corridor, **West:** Open to Sky

Date: 04.12.2024 (Ajay Kumar K)Authorised Officer & Chief Manager
Place: Hyderabad Bank of Baroda

Prez Murmu pays tribute to martyrs of Parliament attack on 13th anniversary

Continued From pg 01
In a gesture of gratitude to soldiers and their families, who are a constant source of support in challenging circumstances, she said, "The nation remains deeply grateful to them and their families."
"On this day, I reiterate India's unwavering resolve to combat terrorism. Our nation stands united against the forces of terror," the Presi-

dent concluded.
On December 13, 2001, five terrorists, along with their set of arms, drove into the Parliament in a car that bore fake labels of the Home Ministry and Parliament. The terrorists carried AK-47 rifles, grenade launchers, pistols and grenades.

This act resulted in the deaths of six Delhi Police personnel, two Parliament Security Service personnel, and a gardener. The security forces had gunned down all five terrorists.
About 40 minutes prior to the incident, both Houses of Parliament had been adjourned. More than

100 people, including major politicians and officials, were inside the parliament building at the time of the attack. Home Minister L. K. Advani and Minister of State for Defence Harin Pathak were also believed to have still been inside the building during the attack.

AXIS FINANCE LIMITED
Ground and 1st Floor, Alpha Centre, #216, Double Road, 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560002

NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

To,

1) Mrs. Kalpana Paramesh Uppalapati (Borrower cum Mortgagor), 2-1-11, Road No.1, Alakapuri Town Ship, Nekkampur, Beside Aryamitra, Hosta, Manikonda, KV Rangareddy, Telangana-500089. **Also at:** Senior Architect, HSBC Software Development Pvt. Ltd., F949+F7V, Laxmi Cyber City, White Fields, Hitech City, Hyderabad, Telangana-500081. 2) Mr. Marella Paramesh (Co-Borrower cum Mortgagor), 2-1-11, Road No.1, Alakapuri Town Ship, Nekkampur, Beside Aryamitra, Hosta, Manikonda, Kvrangareddy, Telangana-500089.

REF: Loan Account No. 0456AHA00001968&0456MMA00005003
SUB: Notice of 30 days in terms of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 For Sale of the immovable property being:
"Independent Residential House on part of plot bearing No.121/Part-A, in Sector-1 in Survey No.146, admeasuring 143.00 square yards or equivalent to 119.54 Square meters with a total plinth area of 3700 square feet, situated at Alakapoor Township, Nekkampur Village, Manikonda Municipality, Gandipet Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana" (hereinafter referred to as "immovable property/ Secured Asset").

Sirs,

1) This notice is issued to you Nos.1 to 2 (hereinafter collectively referred to as "You"), the above-named addressees in terms of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and Section 13(8) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT, 2002).

2) That after availing the aforesaid loan from Axis Finance Ltd. (AFI/ Secured Creditor), You had committed default in repayment of the loan amount and in view of the continuous default of more than the time period stipulated under the relevant applicable guidelines/ circulars for asset classification issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the above referred loan account of the Borrower was classified as **Non-Performing Asset (NPA) on 03-01-2024** in accordance with the concerned guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

3) That thereafter, a demand notice dated 31-Jan-24 u/s 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) was duly served upon You but You failed to make the payment of demanded amount i.e. **Rs.1,14,75,296/- (Rupees One Crore Fourteen Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Six Only)** by way of Outstanding Principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 5th June 2024 within 60 days of the said notice and as such the secured creditor has taken **Symbolic Possession** of the Secured Asset in compliance of the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and rules framed thereunder on 06th May 2024.

4) That, the Secured Creditor has decided that the Secured Asset may be put to sale in accordance with Rule 8(5) by issuing a public notice in newspaper on expiry of 30 days from the date hereof.

5) That this notice of 30 days, at pre-sale stage, is being given to You the addressees in compliance of Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and you are hereby informed and notified that the aforesaid Secured Asset shall be put to sale, by holding public auction through e-auction mode on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" after 30 clear days from publication of the public notice in the newspaper.

6) That the attention of You the abovenamed addressees is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 (as amended w.e.f. 01.09.2016) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 in respect of time available, to redeem the Secured Asset. In case You are desirous of exercising your rights under Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002, You are hereby called upon to pay a sum of **Rs.1,07,39,100/- (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakh ThirtyNine Thousand One Hundred Only)** and interest till 5th December 2024 with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by it prior to the date of publication of public notice for transfer of the Secured Asset by any one mode as contemplated under the Act. You may note the date for publication of public notice will be 30 days after which your right of redemption of the Secured Asset would stand terminated immediately upon publication of the sale notice under Rule 9(1) of the said Rules.

Date: 05.12.2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place: Hyderabad, Telangana Axis Finance Ltd.



Celebration of India's cultural heritage, collective spirit : PM Modi on Maha Kumbh

Prayagraj, Dec 13 (IANS) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Prayagraj on Friday and lauded the tireless efforts of employees and sanitation workers involved in the preparations for the grand Maha Kumbh 2025.
Addressing a public gathering, PM Modi emphasized the historical significance of the event, describing it as a "great yagya of unity" that will captivate global attention.
He remarked, "The Maha Kumbh will be a monumental event which will unite people from all walks of life. A new chapter of history is being written on the sacred land of Prayagraj, where a continuous Mahayagya is going on to host lakhs of devotees daily for 45 days." In preparation for this cultural and spiritual extravaganza, the Prime Minister inaugurated 167 development projects worth Rs 5,500 crore. These projects include the construction of 10 new road overbridges, flyovers, permanent ghats, and riverfront roads to enhance infrastructure and connectivity in Prayagraj.
PM Modi further highlighted India's rich cultural and spiritual heritage, stating, "India is a land of countless holy places and sacred rivers like the Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati, Kaveri, and Narmada. Prayagraj, the confluence of three holy rivers,

is a spiritual epicentre where sanctity resides at every step." He quoted ancient scriptures, saying, "When the Sun enters Capricorn in the month of Magh, all divine powers, sages, and pilgrims gather in Prayag. Without Prayagraj, the stories of our Puranas remain incomplete."
The Prime Minister described the Maha Kumbh as a "living symbol of India's cultural and spiritual journey that has been thriving for thousands of years." He explained that the event transcends mere rituals, symbolizing the awakening of collective consciousness and inner spirituality.

Mohan Babu apologises for attack on journalist

Hyderabad, Dec 13 (IANS) : Veteran Tollywood actor Manchu Mohan Babu on Friday apologised for an incident in which a television journalist was injured at his residence three days ago. The actor, who had grabbed the mike of the Telugu news channel TV9's reporter and attacked him, apologised to the journalist and the organisation.
Mohan Babu, who has been booked by police for the attempt to murder, posted a letter on the social media platform 'X' to express regret over the unfortunate incident. "It pains me deeply that what started as a personal family dispute spiralled into a larger situation, causing distress not only to the esteemed TV9 family but also to the broader journalist fraternity."

Revanth urges Centre to set up integrated coach factory in Kazipet

New Delhi, Dec.13 (NSS): Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has appealed to Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to set up an integrated railway coach factory in Kazipet in Telangana. The Chief Minister met the Railway Minister on Friday and explained that the AP Reorganisation Act clearly mentioned the establishment of a coach factory in Kazipet.
Referring to the recent announcement of Railways that stated that a Periodic Overhauling (POH) workshop is being set up in Kazipet, the Chief Minister said the establishment of a coach factory in Kazipet is not just a dream of Kazipet people, but also the entire Telangana. He requested the Railway Minister to construct a new railway line between Vikarabad-Krishna station as the proposed railway route would connect the backward areas of South Telangana- such as Parigi, Kodangal, Chitlapalle, Tekalkod, Ravulapalle, Mathur, Daulatabad, Damaragidda, Narayanapet and Maktal. The new railway line will also help for the development of cement clusters and other industries near Tandoor. Moreover, the proposed railway network will also help to reduce the distance between Vikarabad Junction and Krishna station by 70 km, Revanth Reddy explained.

Mukti Joddhas likely to give Vijay Diwas celebrations in Kolkata a miss this year



Kolkata, Dec 13 (IANS) : It is unlikely that Mukti Joddhas or serving officers from Bangladesh will attend the Indian Army's 53rd Vijay Diwas celebrations in Kolkata. The Eastern Command of the Army celebrates Vijay Diwas every year to celebrate India's decisive victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War that led to the liberation of Bangladesh. Every year,

since the celebrations commenced, a delegation from Bangladesh, comprising Mukti Joddhas, their spouses, parliamentarians and serving military officers, have participated in events organised over 3-4 days. The tradition was followed even when the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) under Begum Khaleda Zia was in power in Bangladesh.



BJP, AAP cross swords over 'bogus voters'

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : A verbal duel broke out between the Delhi BJP and the AAP over bogus voters in the electoral rolls for the forthcoming Assembly polls, with the Opposition reminding illegal voters of one-year jail term for impersonation and the ruling party alleging a conspiracy to delete names of its supporters from the voters' list. While AAP National Convenor Arvind Kejriwal accused the BJP,

along with the Election Commission, of getting names of its voters removed from the electoral rolls, the BJP vowed not to allow even a single Rohingya, Bangladeshi or any bogus voter to cast vote in the Delhi Assembly elections. Releasing videos shot by BJP's booth level workers during their visits to homes of alleged bogus voters in Moti Nagar and Trilokpuri constituencies, Delhi

BJP chief Virender Sachdeva said, "Kejriwal is shaken as his fraud is being exposed. Bogus Rohingya and Bangladeshi voters are being caught and voters living in Uttar Pradesh who come to vote in Delhi are being exposed." "The way Kejriwal has started questioning constitutional bodies shows he has nothing concrete to say about the exercise to remove bogus voters," he claimed.



Sirsa hails Yogi's move to recover costs of damaged property from Sambhal rioters

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : BJP National Secretary Manjinder Singh Sirsa has lauded Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's recent decision to recover the costs of repairing damaged public property from the perpetrators of violence in Sambhal. Sirsa called for the implementation of this policy nationwide, emphasising that those responsible for vandalising government property should be held accountable for the damages caused.

यूनियन बैंक **Union Bank of India**
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E-mail: ubin0812048@unionbankofindia.bank

NOTICE TO THE BORROWER INFORMING ABOUT SALE (15 DAYS NOTICE) RULE 9(1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

Date & Time of Auction: 31-12-2024, Tuesday from 12:00 Noon to 05:00 PM (with 10 minutes unlimited auto extensions) E-auction website: https://baancknet.com

To:- BORROWER(S): 1) M/s Haireva Infracore Projects Ltd., Reg. Office: D.No.1-54-58, PLOT No MIG 28 & 29 SWETHAVAHANA RESIDENCY, SECTOR-1, MVP COLONY, VISHAKHAPATNAM-530017. **GUARANTOR(S):** 1) Mr. Chilkuri Jagdeeswarudu, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar Junction, Visakhapatnam-530040. 2) Smt. Chilkuri Radha Rani, W/o Sri Chilkuri Jagdeeswarudu, D.No.2-349/1, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar Junction, Visakhapatnam-530040. 3) Sri. Maganti Venkateswara Rao, D.No.2-349/1, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar Junction, Visakhapatnam-530040. 4) Mr. M.Kalyana Chakravarthy, D.No.10-2/4, Flat No.2, Basil Residency, Gayatri Nagar, Near Vikatha Super Market, PM Palem, Visakhapatnam-530041. 5) Mr. Guntupalli Sharat Babu, D.No.50-63-8/4, Rajendra Nagar, Visakhapatnam-530016. 6) Mr. Dumpa Narasimha Murthy, D.No.1-9/1, Main Road, Kapulapada, Bheemunipatnam, Visakhapatnam-531163. 7) Mrs. Tirumalaraju Venkata Subba Lakshmi, D.No.49-5-3, Lalitha Nagar, Visakhapatnam-530016. 8) Mrs. Yetcharla Ramanamma, D.No.49-54-9/7, Plot No.56, Survey No.14, Block F, Balaya Sastry Lay Out, Allipuram Extension Ward, Visakhapatnam-530013. Also at: D.No.45-35-10/A, Jagannadapuram, Opp: M.P. School, Akkayapalem, Visakhapatnam-530016. 9) Mr. V.Satyaveera Venkata Prasad Rao, D.No.49-54-9/7, Plot No.56, Survey No.14, Block F, Balaya Sastry Lay Out, Allipuram Extension Ward, Visakhapatnam-530013. Also at: D.No.45-35-10/A, Jagannadapuram, Akkayapalem, Visakhapatnam-530016. 10) Mrs. Kollu Sujatha, Plot No.79, RTC Colony, Contonment, Vizianagaram-535003. 11) Mrs. Kotana Ratnam, D.No.1-126, Sabbarvam, Post, R.R. Complex Backside, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. 12) G-1, Green Villa, Green Park Colony, NH-5, P&T Colony, Visakhapatnam-530013. 13) Nalluri Srikanth Choudhary, D.No.9-5-4/4, Flat No.401, Gayatri Nilayam, Shivaji Palem, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530017. 14) Mr. Annaparthi Santosh, D.No.3-5-116, Jammigadda, Suryapet, 15th Ward, Suryapet, Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh-508213. 15) Mr. Annaparthi Rajesh, D.No.3-5-116, Jammigadda, Suryapet, 15th Ward, Suryapet, Nalgonda, Andhra Pradesh-508213. 16) Mrs. M.Shyamala, D.No.2-349, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar, Visakhapatnam-530040. 17) Mr. K.Umaheswara Rao, Paras Paradise, Block No.7, Indiranagar, NR BPCL Petrol Bunk, Visakhapatnam-530040. 18) Mr. Prahalad Kumar Rath, C/o Rath Sales Agencies, Rama Lakshmi Road, Nr. Lakshmi Hunda Showroom, Visakhapatnam-530017. 19) Mr. N.Venkateswara Rao, D.No.1-11-55/138/67, S.No.110/2A & 115/2B of Ekilapur Village, Gulberga builders Layout, Near Nilaganthapuram Colony, Raichur, Karnataka-564101. 20) Mr. G.V.Rama Rao, D.No.2-304, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar-530040. 21) Mr. G.S.R.A.Choudhary, D.No.2-304, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar, Visakhapatnam-530040. 22) M/s Haireva Farm & Developers, D.No.2-349, Krishna Poulites, Old Dairy Farm, Visakhapatnam-530013. 23) Mr. G.V.Venkata Rama Rao, D.No.2-304, Old Dairy Farm, Adrshnagar, Visakhapatnam-530040. 24) M/s Haireva Projects, Door No.1-3, Co-Operative Layout, Visalakshi Nagar, Jodugula Village, Visalakshinagar, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530043. 25) Mr. Panchakarla Ramesh Babu, Mahalakshmi Nilayam, D.No.50-120/30/A, Balaya Sastry Lay Out, Seethamadhara, Visakhapatnam-530013. 26) Panchakarla Mahalakshmi, Mahalakshmi Nilayam, D.No.50-120/30/A, Balaya Sastry Lay Out, Seethamadhara, Visakhapatnam-530013. 27) Mr. Panchakarla Venkateswara Rao, P-15-14/13, Flat No.2, Bhudha Varapu Gardens, Sri Sai Vihar, Mahanipeta, Visakhapatnam-530002. 28) A.Vara Prasad, Plot No.117, D.No.1-83-3-1, Sai Satya Residency, Chinnna Waltair, Visakhapatnam-530017. 29) S.Suresh Kumar, Sai Satya Residency, Chinnna Waltair, Visakhapatnam-530017.

The secured debt for the recovery of which the immovable secured asset is to be sold: Rs.184,01,82,149/- (Rupees One Hundred Eighty Four Crores One Lakh Eighty Two Thousand One Hundred Forty Nine Only) as on 30.09.2024 with subsequent interest, charges and costs thereon.

(As per demand notice dated 27.07.2021, the outstanding dues Rs.50,41,49,288.86 (Rupees Fifty Core Forty One Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Eight & Paise Eighty Six only as on 28.06.2021 with subsequent interest, charges and costs thereon), 62 bank guarantees issued by bank for Rs.93,72,03,950.00 will increase accordingly upon invocation. (Mid Corporate branch)

As per demand notice dated 07.07.2021 Rs.2814.87 lakhs (Rupees Twenty Eight Crores Fourteen Lakhs and Eighty Seven Thousand only) together with contractual rate of interest as stated above from 30.06.2021 with subsequent interest, charges and costs thereon. (Seethamadhara Branch)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sub: Notice of 15 days for sale of immovable secured assets under Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Union Bank of India (E-bank), Mid corporate branch & Seethamadhara branch Vishakhapatnam the secured creditor, caused a demand notice dated 27.07.2021 & 07.07.2021 under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, calling upon you to pay the dues within the time stipulated therein. Since you failed to comply with the said notice within the period stipulated, the Authorised Officer has taken possession of the immovable secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Symbolic Possession notice dated 18-11-2021, 16-12-2021, 03-01-2022, 10-01-2022 & 14-02-2022 (Mid Corporate branch) & 12.11.2021 & 17.02.2022 (Seethamadhara Branch) Vishakhapatnam issued by the Authorised Officer, as per Appendix IV to the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 were delivered to you and the same were also affixed to the properties mortgaged with the Secured Creditor, apart from publication of the same in newspapers. Please note that as per the said demand notices you were informed about your right to redeem the property within the time available under Section 13(8) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

As you have failed to clear the dues of the secured creditor, the immovable secured assets that have been taken possession of by the Authorised Officer, will be sold by holding public E-auction on 31.12.2024 from 12:00 PM to 05:00 PM by inviting Bids from the public through online mode on <https://baancknet.com>.

You are also requested to ensure participation by parties interested in buying the immovable secured assets in the sale as proposed above.

A copy of the terms of sale is enclosed for your reference. Please note that the Auction will be conducted through E-Auction mode on the date and time mentioned in the enclosed terms of sale.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold:-

Securities under pari-passu charge with Axis Bank (Mortgaged at All)

Property No.1:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 222.22 Sq.Yds. or 1690.78 Sq.Mts. under Survey No.255/1C, 255/1G, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.18, 17, 19, 20 & 21, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of total site: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.22 Site, North: Plot No.10 to 15 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129700 83.1377550 Sale Deed No.1737/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.1,24,61,700/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.1,25,000/-

Property No.2:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1442.21 Sq.Yds. or 1205.83 Sq.Mts. under Survey No.255/1C, 255/1G, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.5, 6, 7 & 8, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of total site: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.22 Site, North: Plot No.10 to 15 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129700 83.1377550 Sale Deed No.1737/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.88,87,500/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.90,000/-

Property No.3:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1555.55 Sq.Yds. or 1300.60 Sq.Mts. under Survey No.255/1C, 255/1G, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.10, 11, 12, 13 & 14, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of total site: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.22 Site, North: Plot No.10 to 15 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129700 83.1377550 Sale Deed No.1737/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.95,86,200/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.96,000/-

Property No.4:- Details of Collateral Security: (Item No.1):- Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 3733.33 Sq.Yds. or 3121.44 Sq.Mts. under Survey No.255/1C, 255/1G, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.132 & 133, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-1: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.132 Site, North: Plot No.133 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129417 83.1374800 Sale deed 1740/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.2,30,06,600/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.2,35,000/-

Property No.5:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 800.50 Sq.Yds. under Survey No.252/10B, 252/10C, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.132 & 133, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-1: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.132 Site, North: Plot No.133 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129417 83.1374800 Sale deed 1740/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.2,30,06,600/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.2,35,000/-

Property No.6:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1555.55 Sq.Yds. or 1300.60 Sq.Mts. under Survey No.255/1C, 255/1G, VUDA LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), situated at Plot No.10, 11, 12, 13 & 14, Mallunaidupalem Grampanchayathi, Gullepalli Village, Sabbarvam Mandal, Anakapalli Registration Sub-Dist., Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-1: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: 40 Feet Wide Road, West: Plot No.22 Site, North: Plot No.10 to 15 Site. Google coordinator 17.8129700 83.1377550 Sale Deed No.1737/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.1,24,61,700/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.1,25,000/-

Property No.7:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1066.67 Sq.Yds. under Survey No.254/2 situated at Plot No.147, 148, 149 & 150, LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), Gullepalli Village, Mallunaidu Village & Panchayat, Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: Plot No.156, West: Plot No.135, 136, 137, 138, North: Plot No.134. Google coordinator 17.7930346 83.3809982 Sale Deed 1640/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.5,33,54,600/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.5,35,000/-

Property No.8:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1066.67 Sq.Yds. under Survey No.254/2 situated at Plot No.147, 148, 149 & 150, LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), Gullepalli Village, Mallunaidu Village & Panchayat, Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: Plot No.156, West: Plot No.135, 136, 137, 138, North: Plot No.134. Google coordinator 17.7930346 83.3809982 Sale Deed 1640/2009

Reserve Price: Rs.65,73,500/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.66,000/-

Property No.9:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1333.33 Sq.Yds. under Survey No.254/2 situated at Plot No.135, 136, 137, 138 & 139 LP No.36/2007 (RC No.117207/1), Gullepalli Village, Mallunaidu Village & Panchayat, Sabbarvam Sub-Registrar Office, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: East: Plot No.146, 147, 148, 149 & 150. South: Plot No.140, West: 40 Feet Wide Road, North: Plot No.134. Google coordinator 17.8129267 83.1392783 Sale Deed 2360/2010

Reserve Price: Rs.82,16,600/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.83,000/-

Property No.10:- Item 1:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land situated at Plot No.7 of Rushikonda Layout measuring an extent of 1106.65 Sq.Yds. or 925.16 Sq.Mts. covered by Survey No.332 Part of Madhurawada Village of Visakhapatnam Rural Mandal, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: East: 40 Feet Wide Road, South: Plot No.2 & 3 Part, West: Gedda, North: VUDA Land for School. Google coordinator 17.7930346 83.3809982 Sale Deed 2127/2011

Reserve Price: Rs.4,23,29,700/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.4,25,000/-

Property No.11:- Item 1:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All that piece and parcel of land situated in Plot No.6 of Rushikonda Layout measuring an extent of 852.18 Sq.Yds. or 712.42 Sq.Mts. covered by Survey No.332 Part of Madhurawada Village of Visakhapatnam Rural Mandal, Visakhapatnam District. Boundaries of Collateral Security: East: S.No.336/3 South: Plot No.4, West: 40 Feet Wide Road, North: VUDA Land for School. Google coordinator 17.7930346 83.3809982 Sale Deed 2128/2011

Reserve Price: Rs.3,25,95,900/-, EMD: 10% of Reserve Price, Bid Increment: Rs.3,26,000/-

Properties under Exclusive charge with UBI:

Property No.1:- Details of Collateral Security: Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.164 measuring 315 Sq.Yds. or 263.38 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.245/8 situated at Kapulapada Village Bheemunipatnam Mandal, Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-1: East: Plot No.177, West: Plot No.163, South: Plot No.165

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.225 measuring 270 Sq.Yds. or 225.75 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/4 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-2: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot Nos.226, 227 & 228. West: Plot No.206, North: Plot No.224

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.226 measuring 74.44 Sq.Yds. or 62.24 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/4 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-3: East: Plot No.227, South: 40 Feet Road, West: Plot No.205, North: Plot No.225

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.227 measuring 72.44 Sq.Yds. or 60.57 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/1 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-4: East: Plot No.226, South: 40 Feet Road, West: Plot No.226, North: Plot No.225

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.228 measuring 72.44 Sq.Yds. or 60.57 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/1 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-5: East: 40 Feet Road, South: 40 Feet Road, West: Plot No.227, North: Plot No.225

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.239 measuring 78.75 Sq.Yds. or 65.84 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/10 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-6: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.287, West: Others land, North: Plot No.285

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.287 measuring 64.50 Sq.Yds. or 53.93 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-7: East: Others land, South: Plot No.313, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.315

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.313 measuring 79.19 Sq.Yds. or 72.90 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-8: East: Others land, South: Plot No.314, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.316

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.316 measuring 85.98 Sq.Yds. or 71.89 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-9: East: Others land, South: Plot No.314, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.316

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.317 measuring 88.40 Sq.Yds. or 73.91 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-10: East: Others land, South: Plot No.315, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.317

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.317 measuring 84.78 Sq.Yds. or 70.88 Sq.Mts in the approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-11: East: Others land, South: Plot No.316, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.318

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.318 measuring 83.57 Sq.Yds. or 69.87 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-12: East: Others land, South: Plot No.317, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.319

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.319 measuring 82.37 Sq.Yds. or 68.87 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-13: East: Others land, South: Plot No.318, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.319

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.320 measuring 81.16 Sq.Yds. or 67.64 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-14: East: Others land, South: Plot No.320, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.322

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.321 measuring 80.07 Sq.Yds. or 66.95 Sq.Mts in approved layout Vide L.P. No.92/2016 Dated 06.07.2016 approved by VUDA covered by S.No.240/7 situated at Kapulapada village Bheemunipatnam Mandal, Visakhapatnam District in the register at Sub-Registrar office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-15: East: Others land, South: Plot No.320, West: 40 Feet Road, North: Plot No.322

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.322 measuring 261.20 Sq.Yds. or 218.39 Sq.Mts., in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-16: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.91, West: Plot No.106, North: Plot No.89

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.91 measuring 279.20 Sq.Yds. or 233.44 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-17: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.91, West: Plot No.106, North: Plot No.89

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.91 measuring 279.20 Sq.Yds. or 233.44 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-18: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.91, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-19: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-20: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-21: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-22: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-23: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-24: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-25: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-26: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-27: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-28: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-29: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-30: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral Security: Item-31: East: 40 Feet Road, South: Plot No.92, West: Plot No.103 & 104, North: Plot No.91

Full Description of Collateral Security: All the Vacant Plot No.92 measuring 259.20 Sq.Yds. or 216.72 Sq.Mts. in, in S.No.248/9 Sai Brundavanam Lay out at Dakamari Village, Bheemunipatnam District and Sub-Registrar Office at Bheemunipatnam. Boundaries of Collateral

OPINIONmail



RBI ATTACHES MORE IMPORTANCE TO INFLATION CONTROL THAN GROWTH

A debate among economists and policy wonks was raging about the deceleration of the Indian economy and rising price line particularly in the context of the forthcoming monetary policy of the Reserve Bank of India. In that debate, Reserve Bank has clearly opted for a hairline stance on inflation control rather than take note of the fall in GDP growth as a handle to start a rate easing cycle. RBI kept the policy repo rate at 6.5%. Those looking forward to seeing growth rate as the supreme objective of policy, were possibly disappointed. Inflation-growth dilemma is nothing new in policy narrative. This time it took a new urgency as the second quarter GDP figures clearly showed sharp deceleration in the pace of the economy.

The Reserve Bank has clearly sided with caution and conservatism in that debate. In its monetary policy announced on Friday, December 6, the monetary policy committee of the RBI has favoured retaining the current policy stance with unchanged policy rather than accede to the demands of a rate cut. Prices are rising consistently above the RBI's tolerance band of 4%, plus/minus 2% for the greater part of the current fiscal year. The band is meant to be a comfort zone. However, if the price rise rate consistently remains above the upper limit, albeit none too wildly, all along, then it becomes difficult to be complacent about it.

More important is the nature of the price rise. The overall inflation is getting overly influenced by the persistently strong rise in food prices. Since these items have a close to 50% weightage in the consumer price index, the overall index is strongly rising. Leaving aside the food and fuel inflation, commonly called the core inflation, the rise is not that much robust.

However, the Reserve Bank does not expect the food prices to ease before end of February and early March next year. So, till then, until the arrival of the winter crops in the market, the Reserve Bank apparently wishes to play it cool. Let us look at the price inflation figures a little closely to understand the nature of the current rises in prices. The Reserve Bank takes the consumer price index —CPI— as the measure of inflation for its policy formulation. In that context the movements in CPI are important. It is also pertinent to remember that it is food inflation which hurts the common people most and the weakest sections of society are hit particularly. The governor, Shaktikanta Das, was at pains to explain this point at his policy statement today. According to the statement, the CPI headline inflation increased from average 3.6 per cent during July-August to 5.5 per cent in September and further to 6.2 per cent in October 2024. Incidentally, this was the highest spike in more than a year, since September 2023. Of all the categories, the prices of food items rose the fastest much to the policy maker's discomfort. The CPI food inflation surged to 8.4 per cent in September and firmed up further to 9.7 per cent in October 2024 from an average of 5.2 per cent in during July-August, according to RBI governor. As a result, the contribution of food group (with a weight of 45.9 per cent in the CPI basket) to headline inflation increased from around 68 per cent during July-August to around 74 per cent in October. A sharp pick-up in price momentum across vegetables, and oils and fats in a scenario of rising inflation in cereals, meat and fish, and fruits led the upsurge in food inflation. In other words, food prices rose across the board and that too sharply for all major groups. You can some comfort that some kinds of unhealthy food prices rose faster, like those for oils and fats, which could hopefully lead to better health outcomes! The price momentum in oils and fats firmed up sharply to 3 per cent in September and further to 6 per cent in October. But alongside these, the momentum in vegetables prices, which are consumed by all and particularly the poorer people, increased to 3.5 per cent in September and further 8.2 per cent in October. Leaving aside the food and fuel inflation, which measures the core inflation trends.

(By Anjan Roy)

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

WHY DEVENDRA FADNAVIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO BJP'S CENTRAL LEADERSHIP?

Devendra Fadnavis as Maharashtra Chief Minister for a third term underscores the man's importance to the Bharatiya Janata Party. But why is Fadnavis a greater pick than several others who could have staked claim for the top post? The answer must lie in the fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was very, very pleased Fadnavis got his due. In 2019, Fadnavis had agreed to play second fiddle to Eknath Shinde for the BJP's sake and here was Shinde refusing to let go till the last few hours left.

It was Fadnavis' composure versus Shinde's suppressed impatience. Shinde gave Fadnavis' image a shine-over! Lent Fadnavis a halo. Of sacrifice. Of political maturity. Shinde cannot be faulted for ambition but Fadnavis' calm confidence set him apart. Fadnavis had done a favour to the BJP, not to Eknath Shinde. Since then, Fadnavis was marked for renewed glory! In his reflective moments, Shinde will deign to admit he could have played his cards better. Shinde thought he was irreplaceable but he forgot that the Mahayuti wouldn't have folded



like a pack of cards without him at the helm. Besides, Shinde also did not correctly gauge the admiration Fadnavis enjoys. Soon after Fadnavis was crowned Maharashtra Chief Minister,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was heard saying, "Narendra in Delhi, Devendra in Mumbai!" So, what separates Devendra Fadnavis from Shinde?
(IPA Service)



AFTER LOSING IN BOTH LOK SABHA AND BYPOLLS, BSP SEEKS CHANGE IN STRATEGY

BSP as evident was not able to attain a single seat in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections following reports of its core Dalit votes shifting to other parties. Now BSP supremo Mayawati is trying to go back to the basics and redraw the party's bahuujan strategy. She even decided to contest the assembly bypoll in nine seats of Uttar Pradesh (UP) in a break from the past, but the party could neither win a seat nor make the contest triangular. After these losses, Mayawati blamed electoral malpractice and asserted that until the Election Commission addresses these issues, the BSP will not contest any bypoll in the country. The BSP is set to launch its expansion drive on 15 January 2025 and has opened its doors to the former leaders. The party has also decided to rope in the All India Backward and Minority Communities Employees Federation (BAMCEF).



THE GREAT TRUMP RIDDLE - WILL IT AFFECT INDIA-RUSSIA BILATERAL RELATIONS?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited Russian President Vladimir Putin to visit India at the time of his visit to the BRICS summit at Kazan in Russia in October this year. This was immediately accepted by President Putin and in the last six weeks since the Kazan conclave on October 22-23 this year, the Russian foreign ministry came out officially twice with the statement about the Russian President's India visit and why this was very significant for the boosting of bilateral relations. Interestingly, no dates were mentioned as Indian officials have so far not indicated probable dates for the visit. Generally Putin's visits are slotted in November/December. Questions are being raised- Is the

Indian side ready for welcoming President Putin in Delhi by December end or the dates may be fixed sometime next year. This time, the Putin visit is not so normal. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has to take into account some after effects from the side of Trump 2 administration which takes over on January 20, 2025. For President Putin, the visit to India in the coming days is being viewed as a big diplomatic triumph in the context of the Ukraine war which is continuing since February 24, 2022.



DEMOCRATIC AND SECULAR FORCES IN BANGLADESH HAVE TO WORK FOR PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

The continuous attacks on Hindus and other minorities like Buddhists in Bangladesh are causing widespread concern. Consequent to the fall of the

Sheikh Hasina government in the first week of August after a mass movement, it was expected that the end of her authoritarian rule would usher in a more democratic system in Bangladesh. However,

in the chaos of the first few days, reports of attacks on some Hindu temples and houses of the minority community emerged across the country. The chief advisor of the interim government, Muhammad Yunus, had at that time assured that minorities would be protected. But incidents have occurred in the period since then. So far, there have been 2,000 documented acts of violence and at least nine members of minority community have been killed.

The current aggravation of the situation took place when Chinmoy Krishna Das, a Hindu monk, was arrested and charged with sedition. Chinmoy Das had earlier been associated with ISKCON, but had been removed from it and is now heading the Sammilita Sanatani Jagran Jote. Even if he has been expressing militant views, the charge of dis-

respecting the Bangladesh national flag as the cause for his arrest on sedition charges appears to be heavy handed. When Das was presented in court and denied bail, there was a clash between the police and his followers. An assistant public prosecutor was attacked by the mob and killed. This incident shows how precarious the communal situation is at present. The response of the interim government and its spokespersons has been to downplay these attacks by claiming that these were exaggerated reports. They have sought to portray it as an outcome of the public anger against the Awami League activists and supporters. They tend to see the hand of the Indian government behind this anti-Bangladesh campaign.

WHAT ABOUT TAKING A CUE FROM BEIJING TO TACKLE SEVERE DELHI POLLUTION?

Pollution from stubble burning from neighbouring areas visits Delhi every year. Health hazards apart, schools have to be closed, govern-

ment organisations and private firms find little alternative but to ask their employees to work from home. These are certainly no permanent solutions to the man-made pollution.



UNESCO adds Mongolia's Mongol nomad migration, associated practices to intangible cultural heritage list

Ulan Bator, Dec 13 (IANS) : The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has added Mongolia's Mongol nomad migration and its associated practices to its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, according to a statement from the country's Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth on Friday. The UNESCO decision was made during the 19th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, taking place in Asuncion, the capital city of Paraguay, from December 2 to 7, Xinhua news agency reported. Mongolian nomadic culture is

rooted in the interdependence between pastures, livestock, and herders and herder families moving between pastures to give the earth time to rejuvenate, as noted by UNESCO. The migration process is steeped in tradition. The head of the household determines the date for relocation, and the entire family contributes to the preparations, which include cleaning the area and readying the animals, said UNESCO. A unique aspect of this cultural heritage is the role of the wife, who dresses in her finest attire and leads the migration as a gesture of gratitude and respect for Mother Nature, according to UNESCO.



Israeli air force kills three senior Hamas commanders in Gaza: IDF

Jerusalem, Dec 13 (IANS) : The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the Israel Security Agency (ISA) announced on Friday the killing of three senior Hamas commanders in airstrikes carried out in the Gaza Strip this week. The commanders were implicated in the October 7 attack on Israel, which resulted in numerous civilian casualties and abductions, said the statement. Among those killed was Majdi Aqilan, the deputy commander of Hamas' Shati Battalion. IDF said Aqilan was in charge of commanding the onslaught in Nahal Oz kibbutz on October 7 and has since been behind much of the terrorist activity against IDF troops in Gaza, Xinhua news agency reported. Another target, Mamdouh Mehna, was a senior figure in Hamas' tunneling operations. Mehna allegedly participated in the attack on Nahal Oz on October 7.



S.Korea: Main opposition says Yoon's apology 'disappointing,' no option remains other than resignation or impeachment

Seoul, Dec 13 (IANS) : The main opposition Democratic Party (DP) on Friday expressed disappointment over South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol's apology regarding his emergency martial law declaration this week and stressed that no option remains other than his immediate resignation or impeachment. "There is no way to resolve the situation other than the President's immediate resignation or an early departure through impeachment," Representative Lee Jae-myung said in a press conference at the National Assembly, Yonhap news agency re-

ported. Lee's comments were made in response to Yoon's televised public address made earlier in the day. Yoon said he is "sincerely sorry" for causing public concern by declaring martial law while pledging not to make another such attempt again. The DP chief said Yoon's remarks were "completely out of line with the people's expectations" and that it "further raised the sense of betrayal and anger among the public". The National Assembly is poised to vote on an impeachment motion against Yoon over his surprise declaration and subsequent lifting

of martial law this week, which left South Korea in political turmoil. Earlier on Friday, Lee urged members of the National Assembly to pass the impeachment motion, calling on ruling party members to demonstrate courage by supporting it. "Rather than predicting the outcome, it is imperative that the motion is approved," Lee told reporters. He pointed out that the decision ultimately rests on the stance of the ruling People Power Party (PPP) lawmakers. A two-thirds majority is required to pass the motion, which would need support from at least eight PPP lawmakers.

Myanmar International Textile 2024, Machinery Fair kicks off in Yangon

Yangon, Dec 13 (IANS) : The 2024 Myanmar International Textile and Machinery Fair kicked off in Yangon on Friday. The event is organised by the Chinese Textile and Garment Association in Myanmar (CTGA) in collaboration with the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association

(MGMA). This event aimed to make long-term potential business cooperation, and strengthen economic ties between Myanmar, China and ASEAN countries, according to the MGMA, Xinhua news agency reported. A total of 20 Chinese brands and over 100 manufacturers of textile and apparel, shoes and bags from

China displayed their products in the expo, it said. In addition, the event highlighted made-in-Myanmar products, including clothing, accessories, shoes and domestic bags from small and medium-sized enterprises, with the aim of promoting and introducing these locally produced goods, it added. The Korea



Garments Association in Myanmar and Hong Kong Myanmar Manufacturers' Association Limited also participated in this fair, the MGMA said.



Highway accidents kill three, injures 12 in Afghanistan

Kabul, Dec 13 (IANS) : At least three commuters lost their lives, and 12 others were injured in two different road accidents in Afghanistan. The first accident took place in Jawzjan province on a highway linking the province with neighbouring Sari Pul province as a car diverted from a road on Friday afternoon, leaving one dead on the spot and injuring 10 others, provincial police spokesman Abdul Satar Halimi said on Friday. The second road accident happened when a car veered off the road and overturned in Shahr-e-Safa district of Zabul province along a highway linking Kandahar with the national capital Kabul Thursday night, killing two and injuring two others, spokesperson for provincial police Zabihullah Jawhar said.



Over 12,000 Mongolian children vaccinated against HPV

Ulan Bator, Dec 13 (IANS) : At least 12,847 children aged 11 have been vaccinated against the human papillomavirus (HPV) as part of Mongolia's nationwide campaign, as per the country's Health Ministry, reports said. The vaccination drive, officially launched late last month, aims to combat cervical cancer -- a significant public health concern in Mongolia. Hospitals across the country are offering free HPV vaccinations to 11-year-old girls and boys with parental or guardian consent, following the government's decision in December 2023 to include the HPV vaccine in the National Immunisation Schedule for this age group, Xinhua news agency reported citing local media. According to the ministry, there are more than 78,600 children aged 11 in Mongolia.



64.8 million people face food insecurity crisis in Horn of Africa

Nairobi, Dec 13 (IANS) : The number of food-insecure people in the Horn of Africa stood at 64.8 million as of November, according to a report released on Friday by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), an East African bloc. The report said the figure marks a slight decrease from 65 million in October, attributed to improved food supplies following high rainfall in some IGAD members. Of those affected, 35 million reside in IGAD members, namely Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and Uganda, while the remaining

are in other African countries, including the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Xinhua news agency reported. "Extreme weather and climate change, now more severe and frequent, are the primary drivers of food insecurity in the region. The agriculture and livestock sector is dominated by rain-fed agriculture and the changing climate disproportionately affects the vulnerable groups," the report noted, stressing that protracted armed conflicts and violence, political unrest, and insecurity have also contributed to widespread displacement, disrupting household food production. According to the report, the region hosts over 29 million displaced individuals, driven by conflict and climate-related risks, particularly in Sudan and the DRC. The influx of internally displaced persons is exacerbating food insecurity in many host communities by placing additional strain on their already limited resources.



Russian Foreign Minister warns of nuclear escalation risks in Ukraine

Moscow, Dec 13 (IANS) : Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has warned of nuclear escalation risks in Ukraine, while reaffirming that his country remains open to dialogue. In an interview video released Friday by American reporter Tucker Carlson on X, Lavrov discussed Russia-US relations, the Ukraine crisis, and the broader geopolitical landscape. Lavrov expressed grave concerns over certain rhetoric by some officials in the Pentagon and NATO about potential limited nuclear strikes on Russia without getting US territories involved in nuclear conflicts, emphasising that any such actions could spiral into uncontrollable escalation, Xinhua news agency reported. "Russia's military doctrine says that the most important thing is to avoid a nuclear war."

Sri Lanka to raise disability allowance from the 2025 budget

Colombo, Dec 13 (IANS) : The Sri Lankan government plans to increase the allowance for disabled individuals to Rs 10,000 rupees (approximately \$35) from the current Rs 7,500 rupees (about \$26), Sugath Wasantha de Silva, the south Asian Island country's first visually impaired Member of Parliament, announced during his maiden parliamentary speech on Friday. He stated that this increase will take effect in the 2025 budget. The government's broader goal over the next five years is to socially empower the disabled community.





Amid cash row in RS, Singhvi seeks CCTV footage, gives locking 'solution'

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Congress MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi, at the centre of a controversy over the discovery of a wad of currency notes in the Upper House, said that he was astonished to hear about it. He has called for a thorough investigation and examination of the CCTV footage to get to the bottom of it and also suggested that every House member should be given a lock and key to rule out any security breach, in

their absence. Singhvi, issuing a clarification over the controversy, said that he was in the House only for three minutes on Friday and added that he carries only Rs 500 in his purse. Chaos broke out in Rajya Sabha on Friday morning after Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar informed the House that a wad of currency notes was recovered by security officials during the anti-sabotage check on Friday.

Odisha Assembly witnesses ruckus over Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram project

Bhubaneswar, Dec 13 (IANS) : The Odisha Assembly on Friday witnessed a huge ruckus by the opposition party members over the ongoing multipurpose Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh. Following the pandemonium, the House was adjourned till 4 p.m. by Speaker Surama Padhy. As soon as the proceedings of question hour started, Congress members reached the well of the House protesting against the rejection of the adjournment motion moved by the party demanding discussions on the Polavaram Project issue. They were later joined by the BJD members shouting slogans against the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party

government. The House was first adjourned till 11.30 a.m. but when the House assembled again, the opposition continued its uproar prompting Speaker Padhy to further adjourn the house till 4 p.m. The Speaker in her statement on the rejection of the motion said that the Polavaram issue is currently sub judice, so it can't be discussed in the House. Speaking to media persons outside the House, former Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Naveen Patnaik said, "The BJD has always been fighting for the interests of the people of Odisha and we will continue to do so." Meanwhile, Congress MLA Rama Chandra Kadam alleged that Odisha will drown due to the Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh while the state govern-



ment has kept mum on the issue. He accused the Central government of showing undue favours to Andhra Pradesh and awarding huge financial assistance for the completion of the project. Countering the allegations raised by the opposition leaders on the Polavaram issue, state Law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said, "In their 24-year regime, whatever they have achieved while fighting for the state is completely exposed and it is a naked truth and history

will not forgive them. The last government didn't do what it was supposed to do pertaining to various controversial issues, let it be the Polavaram or Bansadhara water dispute or the Kotia. But one thing I can assure the people of Odisha is that this Mohan Majhi-led BJP government will do whatever needs to be done to safeguard the interest of the state and the interest of the people of the state."

CM Mohan Yadav's surprise night inspection of cancer hospital

Bhopal, Dec 13 (IANS) : Chief Minister Mohan Yadav made a surprise visit to Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital and Research Center (JNHRC) in Bhopal, said officials on Friday. The CM went to the hospital late Thursday night where he interacted with several cancer patients admitted to the hos-

pital and inquired about their health. He also inspected the medical services being provided to patients. He spoke with patients who have come from different parts of the state for treatment at the hospital. Among the patients he interacted with were Pawan Kumar Jain, Roop Singh, Ramkaran Kushwaha, Sanat Kumar, Kalavati and Mukesh

Kalam. A press statement issued by the office of the Chief Minister mentioned that CM Yadav during the inspection said the state government would pay the expenses for the treatment of a patient named Tara Pandey. Pandey from Sidhi district belongs to the economically weaker section. The CM also instructed the doctors to complete the process

regarding the necessary assistance amount. CM Yadav said the state government will provide financial assistance to cancer patients categorised under the economically weaker section (EWS). He asked the JNHRC staff to fulfil the process for availing the financial assistance for the patients belonging to the EWS category from the government.



Centre to launch 100-day TB elimination campaign

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS): The government on Friday announced to launch a 100-day tuberculosis (TB) elimination campaign, which is in line with the 'TB-Mukt Bharat' vision laid out by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, J.P. Nadda, is slated to launch the campaign

from Panchkula, Haryana in the presence of Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and State Health Minister Arti Singh Rao on Saturday, informed the ministry. The campaign underscores the government's commitment to achieving the goal by addressing the challenges of TB notification.



Backtracking from MSP promise, barricading to stop farmers show govt's 'cruelty': Cong MP Tiwari

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : As farmers were staging a protest march towards the national capital, barricades have been set up to stop them, drawing sharp criticism from Congress leader Pramod Tiwari. Referring to the government's stance as "cruelty," Tiwari recalled the 2020 farmers' protests that resulted in the "deaths" of over 700 ryots.

Threat to woman officer: Six prisoners shifted to different jails in K'taka

Kalaburagi (Karnataka), Dec 13 (IANS) : Following the threatening audio message to the Chief Jail Superintendent of Kalaburagi District Prison, six prisoners, including a terror suspect, have been shifted to different jails across the state, sources said on Friday. The Chief Jail Superintendent of Kalaburagi District Prison, R. Anita, had received a threatening audio message from an anonymous person warning that her car would be blown up with explosives. The authorities have shifted Zulfikar Ali, a terror suspect involved in the 2013 bomb

explosion case in Malleshwaram locality of Bengaluru. The prisoners were shifted to Belagavi, Dharwad, Shivamogga, Ballari and other district prisons in the state. Sources confirmed that prisoners Bachchan, a rowdy sheeter from Shivamogga, Abdul Khader Jilani, Sheik Saddam Hussain, Zakir and Vishal are the others who have been shifted to jails. The authorities stated that they had obtained permission from the court before their shifting. The probe had revealed that these prisoners were leading a royal life inside the prison in collusion with some jail staff. They were also blackmailing the officers by tak-



ing their videos. Police said the threatening message was sent as an audio recording to a police inspector in Kalaburagi on his mobile phone. The information was subsequently passed on to Anita. In response, her official vehicle has been parked under continuous CCTV monitoring. Recently, reports of certain prisoners receiving preferential treatment at Kalaburagi Prison surfaced, prompting an inspection by senior officers, including the ADGP Prisons.

Gujarat residents save big with PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana

Ahmedabad, Dec 13 (IANS) : In the Sola area in Gujarat's Ahmedabad, residents are saving big by installing solar panels, thanks to PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana initiated by the Central government. This initiative, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is transforming lives by enabling families to generate their own electricity through solar panels, significantly reducing their dependency on the grid and slashing power bills. One such success story is that of Pradeep Rawal, a resident of the Sola area in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, who is getting financial benefits

brought by adopting solar energy. Three years ago, he installed a 6-kilowatt solar panel system at his home. Since then, his electricity bills have been a thing of the past. In fact, Rawal no longer pays any power bills, instead, the electricity department credits him for the energy he generates. Rawal, who previously spent an average of Rs 60,000 annually on electricity bills, now enjoys the savings and even earns credits for the surplus energy his system generates. "I used to pay around Rs 15,000 to Rs 17,000 every year, but after installing the solar panel, I am getting credits. In March, the electricity department deposits around Rs 60,000 into my bank account,



thanks to the energy produced by my rooftop panels," Rawal shared. The 25-year guarantee on his solar panel system ensures he can continue reaping the rewards without any issues. "I paid a one-time fee of Rs 7,000 for the system installation. Since then, there have been no problems. In our society, nearly everyone has installed solar panels. It's an

excellent scheme," he added. Rawal also praised PM Modi's initiative to promote solar energy, calling it a remarkable vision for the country. "The way PM Modi's initiative to provide electricity through solar panels is progressing is quite impressive. It's truly beneficial for everyone," he said.

Vijayan govt opposes CBI probe into Kannur ADM suicide case

Kochi, Dec 13 (IANS) : The Vijayan government on Friday moved the Kerala High Court opposing a CBI probe into the Kannur Additional District Magistrate suicide case. On November 27, the court accepted the petition of K. Manjusha for a CBI probe into the death of her husband Naveen Babu, who was found hanging at his official residence. After a preliminary hearing, the court had directed that notices be served to the Kerala government and the CBI. On Friday, while the state

government opposed the CBI probe, the investigative agency said that if the High Court gave the nod, it was ready to investigate the case. The Court said it would decide on the CBI probe after reviewing whether the police investigation was on the right track, and posted the case for a detailed hearing.





Hyundai Motor to join Google to advance software capabilities for future mobility

Seoul, Dec 13 (IANS) : South Korean auto giant Hyundai Motor Group said on Friday it will join hands with Google to strengthen its automotive software system and deliver next-generation navigation and infotainment experiences for drivers. Under the partnership, Hyundai Motor will adopt Google's Android Automotive Operating System (AAOS) and use Google Maps' geolocation information service, called the Places API, to upgrade its navigation capabilities, according to company officials. Rather than directly applying the Google Maps service in its cars, Hyundai Motor plans to

utilise the information provided by the service on some 250 million places across the globe, such as business operating hours, contact info and reviews, to increase the accuracy of its navigation service, the officials explained, reports Yonhap news agency. The carmaker first plans to apply the advanced navigation service in Kia Corp.'s passenger vehicles to be sold in North America, with a subsequent expansion to the new overseas auto lineups of Hyundai Motor Co. and its luxury brand Genesis. Hyundai Motor Group has Hyundai Motor and Kia under its wing.



69 pc of \$1 trillion FDI inflow into India came in last 10 years : Govt

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Total FDI inflows into India over the last decade (April 2014 to September 2024) amounted to \$709.84 billion, accounting for 68.69 per cent of the overall FDI inflow in the past 24 years which crossed the \$1 trillion mark, according to the Commerce and Industry Ministry's

year-end review released on Friday. "This landmark achievement was bolstered by a nearly 26 per cent rise in FDI to \$42.1 billion during the first half of the current fiscal year," the review stated. Such growth reflects India's increasing appeal as a global investment destination.



73 pc of e-commerce, tech startups planning workforce expansion in India

Bengaluru, Dec 13 (IANS) : About 73 per cent of the e-commerce and tech startups are planning workforce expansion, signalling a net employment change of 8.9 per cent, a report showed on Friday. This surge is fuelled by advancements in AI, the rise of Web 3.0 applications, and the increasing adoption of direct-to-consumer (D2C) models, said the 'Employment Outlook Report' for October 2024 to March 2025 by TeamLease Services. Employee retention has also taken centre stage. With 88 per cent of e-commerce firms intensifying their focus on targeted incentives, recognition programs, and career development opportunities, companies are prioritising a motivated.

EV, ancillary industries in India can attract \$40 billion worth investments in 5-6 years

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : There is a potential \$40 billion investment opportunity for the development of electric vehicles (EVs) and ancillary industries in India over the next 5-6 years, a report showed on Friday. About two-thirds of the planned investments can potentially materialise in the lithium-ion battery segment alone, said the report by Colliers, a professional services and investment management company.

The deployment of these funds will rely upon successful implementation of government policies, charging infrastructure ramp-up and domestic manufacturing capacity scale-up, it added. At the same time, with an uptick in EV adoption, increasing need for charging infrastructure would potentially translate into real estate demand for more than 45 million square feet by 2030.



TCS inks 5-year deal with Telenor Denmark to deliver IT infra services

Mumbai, Dec 13 (IANS) : IT major Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on Friday said it has extended partnership with Telenor Denmark (TnDK), the second largest mobile operator in the Danish market, to deliver IT infrastructure services. The extended partnership will see TCS manage the telecom operator's IT infrastructure with an automation-first delivery approach. Over the past six years, TCS has deployed its 'Machine

First Delivery Model' to modernise the IT infrastructure of TnDK, which serves over 1.6 million subscribers. "Our partnership with TCS has been an important factor in driving innovation and ensuring resilience in our IT infrastructure. By continuing our collaboration, we are confident that TCS will continue to deliver the strategic insights and technological expertise required to navigate the complexities of our evolving business environment," said Louise Haurum, Chief Technology Officer, Telenor



Denmark. TCS said it will leverage its extensive experience managing TnDK's infrastructure to enhance digital assets, including advanced automation solutions. "This extended partnership strengthens our strategic relationship with Telenor and highlights

our commitment to delivering secure, managed services," said Akhilesh Tiwari, President, Communications, Media and Information Services (CMI), TCS. TCS is engaged with over 160 telecom companies across the globe.



Apple Intelligence now features Image Playground, Genmoji, ChatGPT support

Cupertino (California), Dec 13 (IANS) : Apple on Friday announced the release of iOS 18.2, iPadOS 18.2, and macOS Sequoia 15.2, with a new set of Apple Intelligence features that will elevate users' experience with iPhone, iPad, and Mac. Now, users can explore creative new ways to express themselves visually with Image Playground, create the perfect emoji for any situation with Genmoji, and make their writing even more dynamic with new enhancements to Writing Tools, the company said in a statement. Building on Apple Intelligence, users with an iPhone 16 or iPhone 16 Pro can instantly learn

more about their surroundings with visual intelligence with Camera Control. And now with ChatGPT integrated into Writing Tools and Siri, users can tap into ChatGPT's expertise without having to switch between apps, helping them get things done faster and easier than ever before. Apple Intelligence also begins language expansion with localised English support for Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, and the UK. "Additional languages, including Chinese, English (India), English (Singapore), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese will be coming throughout the

year, with an initial set arriving in a software update in April," said the tech giant. According to the company, the Image Playground experience allows users to easily create fun and unique images, with concepts like themes, costumes, accessories, and places. "Users can add their own text descriptions, and can even create images in the likeness of a family member or friend using photos from their photo library. Image Playground generates images in distinct styles, including Animation — a modern, 3D-animated look — and Illustration, which offers images with simple shapes, clear lines, and colourblocking," said Apple.

9 in 10 Indian firms say cloud transformation fuelling AI adoption: Report

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : At least nine in 10 Indian businesses now affirm that embracing cloud transformation is a critical enabler of AI adoption, according to a report on Friday. Notably, 67 per cent of Indian companies are currently transitioning applications to the cloud, reinforcing the nation's commitment to innovation and efficiency, according to an EY India report. Most Indian companies are adopting a hybrid approach, with 80 per cent managing enterprise applications partly on the cloud and partly on-premises. This balanced strategy allows for flexibility while enabling gradual progress toward full cloud migration. "The rapid adoption of cloud technology in India is more than just a technological upgrade.



Asiana Airlines set to officially become a Korean Air subsidiary

Seoul, Dec 13 (IANS) : A full-scale integration between Korean Air and Asiana Airlines is expected to proceed in earnest, according to industry observers on Friday, following the closing of the protracted merger deal first announced four years ago. Korean Air has invested some 700 billion won (\$489.5 million) in a third-party share issuance by

Asiana Airlines. The company was set to spend an additional 800 billion won later Wednesday, bringing its stake in the rival carrier to 131.57 million shares, or 63.9 per cent of the total, reports Yonhap news agency. The move is the final step in the deal to form a mega-carrier announced in November 2020. Asiana Airlines will officially become a Korean Air subsidiary on Thursday.

The deal won approval from competition authorities in all 13 countries and the European Union. The countries also included South Korea, the United States, China and Japan. The U.S. decision, in particular, had been closely watched, as a rejection would have put an end to the deal that has been pursued for over four years.

At minus 4.1, J&K's Srinagar records season's coldest night

Srinagar, Dec 13 (IANS) : Mercury continued its free fall as the minimum temperature dropped to minus 4.1 degrees Celsius in Srinagar on Friday recording the coldest night of the season so far. Due to the clear night sky, the minimum temperature continued to drop further, said the Meteorological (MeT) Department officials adding that the city recorded its coldest night this season so far.

"Weather is likely to remain dry till the evening of December 8 and the night temperature is expected to drop further during this period," the MeT department officials said. Gulmarg recorded minus 4.3 and Pahalgam minus 6.5 as the minimum temperature. Jammu city had 8.6, Katra 7.6, Batote 1.6, Banihal minus 2.6 and Bhaderwah 0.3 as the minimum temperature. The 40-day-long period of harsh winter cold known locally as the 'Chillai Kalan' starts each year on



December 21 and ends on January 30. During this period, water bodies in Kashmir freeze partially

making boating/rowing very difficult in local lakes and rivers. Frost and fog make the movement

of pedestrians and vehicles difficult in the morning, and in order to avoid any mishap.



Bangladeshi citizens living in Indore should be sent back : BJP MLA

Bhopal, Dec 13 (IANS) : Madhya Pradesh BJP MLA Usha Thakur said on Friday that Bangladeshi citizens living in Indore or any other areas of the state should be sent back to their country. Senior leader Usha Thakur (58), who is an MLA from Mhow in Indore, claimed many Bangladeshi citizens are living in Indore and they have established their businesses in prominent markets in the city. "I have written a letter to Indore district administration and have requested that all Bangladeshi citizens should be identified and sent back. I know many of them have established their business in Sadar Bazar and Sarafa Bazar," said Thakur.

Currency notes found on Congress MP's seat in RS, Dhankhar says probe on

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Friday said that currency notes were recovered from the seat occupied by Congress member Abhishek Manu Singhvi and a probe was underway. "I hereby inform the members that during the routine anti-sabotage check of the chamber after the adjournment of the House yesterday. Apparently, a wad of currency notes was recovered by the security officials from seat number 222 which is presently allotted to Abhishek Manu Singhvi, elected from the state of Telangana."

He said the matter was brought to his notice, and he ordered a probe immediately. "I made sure an investigation takes place and the same is underway," Dhankhar said. The currency notes were found during the checking from MP Abhishek Manu Singhvi's seat in Rajya Sabha on Thursday. After this revelation, chaos erupted in the Upper House with the BJP members pointing fingers at the Congress leaders. Union Minister J.P. Nadda said, "This incident is of a serious nature."



Bhagavad Gita is a scripture for humanity's welfare: Kerala Guv Arif Mohammed Khan

Chandigarh, Dec 13 (IANS) : Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan has said that the Bhagavad Gita, a cornerstone of India's cultural heritage, is a scripture for the welfare of humanity. He spoke on Friday at the ninth International Gita Conference, themed "Balanced Nature-Pure Environment Based on Srimad Bhagavad Gita," held at Kurukshetra University in Haryana as part of the International Gita Mahotsav. Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya highlighted the Gita's message of environmental protection. He described it as a sacred text offering solutions to human life's challenges. Dattatreya, who also serves as Kurukshetra University's Chancellor, inaugurated the conference by lighting a lamp and unveiling a souvenir. Kerala Governor Khan emphasised the Gita's role in environmental conservation. He stressed the importance of spreading its message worldwide. The scripture encapsulates

the essence of the Upanishads and Vedic texts, reflecting India's unity and integrity. Swami Gyananand Maharaj, a Gita scholar, reiterated that the Bhagavad Gita carries a global message of environmental protection. He noted that Kurukshetra, where these teachings originated, is a sacred land. The Gita provides solutions to life's problems through balance, he said. Uttarakhand Governor Lieutenant General Gurmit Singh (retd) expressed pride in preserving cultural values. He praised efforts to celebrate Haryanvi traditions' richness.



Congress leaders must thank CM Sarma for beef ban: Assam BJP chief

Guwahati, Dec 13 (IANS) : Assam BJP chief Bhabhesh Kalita said on Friday that the opposition leaders must credit the ruling party for banning the beef in the state. "Rakibul Hussain brought up the beef issue during the election. He accused us of distributing beef to get votes. This accusation did not go well with the voters and Congress put up a very poor show in the Samaguri assembly by-election," he told media persons. He also asserted that Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma was quick to challenge the Congress on this false narrative.

'Poverty, black marketing or illegal migrants', BJP questions Bengal's high consumption of kerosene

Kolkata, Dec 13 (IANS) : Amit Malviya, BJP's in-charge of the National Information & Technology Department and Co-in-charge for the West Bengal unit, on Friday, questioned the exorbitantly high percentage of kerosene consumption in the state in comparison to the national statistics.



BJP's Bansuri Swaraj slams AAP govt for not implementing Ayushman Bharat scheme in Delhi

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Ahead of the Assembly polls early next year, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Bansuri Swaraj has hit out at the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Delhi over the non-implementation of the 'Ayushman Bharat Scheme' and accusing it of depriving the Delhi residents of one of the largest health schemes in the world. Bansuri Swaraj, the Lok Sabha MP from the New Delhi constituency, on Friday, criticised the AAP government for not implementing the scheme in Delhi, despite its wide-reaching benefits across the country. "Ayushman Bharat, launched by PM Modi, is one of the largest health benefit schemes in the world, which gives Rs 5 lakh health cover for free to every single beneficiary. Unfortunately, the AAP government of Delhi is not allowing the implementation of this scheme in Delhi," she said.

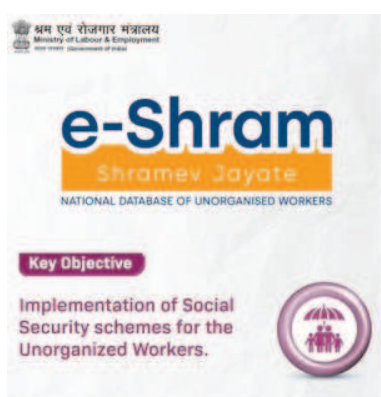


J&K L-G vs Omar Abdullah govt: Jurisdictions clearly defined, say Home Ministry sources

Jammu, Dec 13 (IANS) : Amid the growing friction over the division of powers between the Raj Bhavan and the elected government in Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Home Ministry has said that there is no question of overlapping powers as jurisdictions are very clear, said

sources on Friday. This comes after a few instances where the Omar Abdullah government has cried foul. Taking the brewing confrontation further, Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Friday said the Omar Abdullah government has enough powers to rise to the aspirations of the people. The appoint-

ment of the advocate general is one point in question where the friction appears to have produced some heat. D.C. Raina had resigned as the advocate general of the UT immediately after the elected government took office. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah later 'rejected' Raina's resignation.



Over 30.43 cr unorganised workers now registered on eShram portal : Centre

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Over 30.43 crore unorganised workers have registered on the government's eShram portal (as of December 1), the Parliament was informed. The number of informal workers from rural areas who have registered on the eShram Portal are 27.22 crore (as on December 1), said Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Shobha Karandlaje in a written reply in Rajya Sabha. The Ministry launched eShram portal (eshram.gov.in) on August 26, 2021 for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW).



Namibia's President-elect pledges unity, progress, accountability in post-election speech

Windhoek, Dec 13 (IANS) : Namibia's President-elect Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah addressed the media at a South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) Party press conference, following her historic election victory. SWAPO, Namibia's ruling party, triumphed in both the presidential and National elections which concluded recently. Speaking at the event in the country's capital

Windhoek, Nandi-Ndaitwah underscored the significance of the elections, noting the high voter turnout and the peaceful, disciplined participation of Namibians as a testament to the country's democratic maturity, Xinhua news agency reported. "We have just concluded a historic election characterised by political tolerance, resilience, and a strong commitment to democracy," she said. Nandi-Ndaitwah acknowledged

the contributions of Namibians, especially the youth, who granted SWAPO the mandate to govern, and reiterated the party's responsibility to honour the trust placed in them. The president-elect shared her vision for governance, emphasising inclusivity, integrity, and accountability. "As we prepare for the task of governing Namibia for the next five years.

Increased hostilities in Syria gravely concerns humanitarians: UN

United Nations, Dec 13 (IANS) : UN humanitarians have said that they are gravely concerned about increased hostilities in north-west Syria. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said on Friday that local authorities reported tens of thousands of displaced families in Hama, some of whom fled to Homs. Hama is the destination city for people fleeing fighting in and around Idlib and Aleppo. Now, there are reports of

heavy fighting in Homs, Xinhua news agency reported. OCHA said it had worked in Hama with humanitarian partners before fighting broke out to provide relief, including health support and essential items, to those newly displaced. Some 3,000 families were displaced to Homs. The office said colleagues and partners continue to provide support to people displaced by the hostilities wherever possible.



UN regional commissions call for urgent, equitable, sustainable energy transition

Bangkok, Dec 13 (IANS) : As the 13th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development concluded in Bangkok, five United Nations Regional Commissions issued a joint statement underscoring the urgent need for a just, sustainable and equitable global energy transition. The statement emphasised a commitment to support UN member states in accelerating renewable energy deployment and improving energy efficiency, intending to triple global renewable energy capacity and double energy efficiency improvement rates by 2030, helping member states meet both SDG 7 and Paris Agreement objectives, Xinhua news agency reported.

South African Dy President calls for public involvement in tackling food safety issues

Cape Town, Dec 13 (IANS) : South African Deputy President Paul Mashatile has called for active citizen involvement in ensuring food safety and urged the public to report suspicious food-handling practices to authorities.

He made the call during an oral question-and-answer session at the National Assembly of Parliament in Cape Town, the country's legislative capital, amid rising concerns about contaminated food linked to recent student deaths across the country, Xinhua news

agency reported. "As government, we condemn in the strongest of terms, the irresponsible acts that have led to the loss of lives due to food-contamination cases affecting mainly children in recent weeks," Mashatile told the National Assembly when

replying to a question about the cases. He outlined key government measures, including mandating all spaza shops and food-handling facilities to register with municipalities within 21 days to ensure legal compliance.



Nine killed in Ecuador armed attacks

Quito, Dec 13 (IANS) : At least nine have been killed in two armed attacks in Ecuador. On Friday, police confirmed the discovery of six male bodies aged 17-25, all piled together. Local media reports indicated that some of the bodies were bound and showed gunshot wounds. Police have transported the bodies to a forensic centre in the port city of Manta, Manabi, Xinhua news agency reported. On Wednesday night, three members of the same family were mur-

dered in the city of Bahia de Caraquez, Sucre canton, Manabi. Manabi, a key region for drug trafficking on Ecuador's Pacific coast, has seen rising violence in 2024, with numerous crimes linked to organised crime, police said. In response, the government deployed police and military to target criminal groups in conflict zones. President Daniel Noboa declared an "internal armed conflict" in January against 22 criminal gangs labelled as "terrorist."

More illegal miners rescued in South Africa amid police crackdown

Johannesburg, Dec 13 (IANS) : Authorities confirmed that 16 illegal miners were rescued in the past 24 hours from an old mine shaft in Sabie, a small town in Mpumalanga Province, eastern South Africa, where they were trapped while conducting illegal mining activities. "The increase in illegal mining activities in seven hotspot provinces,

which include Mpumalanga where we are now and North West Province where we are heading to later this afternoon, called for an immediate integrated and multidisciplinary approach to put a stop to these illicit mining activities," South African Police Service (SAPS) National Commissioner Sahlahle Fannie Masemola said on Friday. The rescue operation in Sabie is separate from another illegal mining incident in Stilfontein in North West Province, where over 1,000 illegal miners have been underground for weeks.



Ukrainian army to get over 30,000 long-range drones in 2025: Minister

Kyiv, Dec 13 (IANS) : The Ukrainian army is set to receive more than 30,000 Deep Strike combat drones next year, Ukrainian Defence Minister Rustem Umerov said. "These next-generation drones can operate autonomously over long distances and strike enemy targets with high precision," Umerov wrote on Friday on Facebook. The delivery of the drones is a part of the "Resilience Plan" unveiled last month by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, Umerov noted. He added that a portion of these drones is funded by international partners that have invested in Ukraine's defence industry, Xinhua news agency reported. The Minister did not say how these drones will be distributed among Ukrainian troops.

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize 2024 for ex-Chile Prez Michelle Bachelet

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Michelle Bachelet, the former President of Chile and a global advocate for human rights, has been awarded the 2024 Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development. The announcement was made by an international jury chaired by Shivshankar Menon, former National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary of India. "The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disar-

mament and Development for 2024 is awarded to Her Excellency Michelle Bachelet for the example and inspiration that she is to women and men around the world of steadfastly striving for peace, gender equality, human rights, democracy and development in difficult circumstances and her contributions to India's relations with Chile," a statement said. Bachelet, whose full name is Veronica Michelle Bachelet Jeria, is celebrated worldwide for her

steadfast commitment to peace, equality, and human rights. In her illustrious career, she has held key positions, including being the Founding Director of UN Women, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and serving two terms as Chile's first female President. She has consistently championed gender equality and the rights of marginalised communities, leaving an indelible impact both domestically and internationally. Born on September 29, 1951, in La Cis-

terna, Santiago Province, Chile, Bachelet faced significant personal and political challenges during General Augusto Pinochet's dictatorship. Following her arrest, imprisonment, and torture in 1973, she went into exile in Australia and later Germany. Undeterred, she returned to Chile to contribute to its political transformation and was elected President in 2006 and again in 2014. During her presidency, Bachelet introduced sweeping education and tax reforms. Her tenure also



witnessed the signing of a free trade agreement between India and Chile, enhancing bilateral ties. Beyond her presidency, Bachelet

led global efforts to promote gender equality as the first Director of UN Women from 2010 to 2013.



Over 100 flights canceled as strong winds batter Netherlands

The Hague, Dec 13 (IANS) : Strong gusts of wind caused widespread disruption across the Netherlands on Friday, with over 100 flights cancelled at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, and railways, road traffic, and waterways impacted. The Dutch national weather institute KNMI issued a code yellow weather alert for nearly the entire country, covering 10 of the 12 provinces. Only the southern provinces of North Brabant and Limburg remain under code green. Wind gusts of 75 to 90 km per hour were reported, with coastal areas experiencing gusts of 90 to 100 km per hour. On the northern Wadden Islands, wind speeds could reach as high as 100 to 120 kilometres per hour, Xinhua news agency reported. Travellers passing through Schiphol were warned to prepare for cancellations and delays. Over 100 flights had already been cancelled as of Friday morning. The storm also disrupted train services, with trees and branches blown onto tracks in several locations.

Indonesia to import two million live cattle by 2029

Jakarta, Dec 13 (IANS) : Indonesia will import two million live cattle by 2029, with an annual target of around 400,000, to support the increase in domestic meat and milk production, said the Ministry of Agriculture on Friday. "There are more than 200 investor entities committed to the livestock sector, with most local investors opting for partnership schemes, while foreign investors tend to build their own farms," said Agung Suganda, director general of livestock and animal health at the Ministry of Agriculture. He noted that 134 investors are engaged in dairy cattle farming, while around 70 are involved in beef cattle farming. About 90 per cent of farms in the country are small-scale and not integrated with the processing industry, Xinhua news agency reported. Investments in dairy cattle farming are expected to be realized by 2025, with at least 1.5 million hectares of land available across the country.



17th Verona Eurasian Economic Forum kicks off in UAE

Ras Al Khaimah, Dec 13 (IANS) : The 17th Verona Eurasian Economic Forum kicked off on Friday in Ras Al Khaimah, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), bringing together policymakers, business leaders, and academics from Europe and Asia. Under the theme of "New Cooperation Architecture for Contemporary Economy," the forum addresses critical global issues such as energy, finance, infrastructure, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, food security, and environmental protection. In his keynote speech at the opening ceremony, Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Su-

preme Council Member of the UAE and ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, highlighted the UAE's significant strides over recent decades. He emphasized the nation's evolution into a hub for global economic, cultural, and tourism activities, as well as its ongoing efforts to strengthen its position as a pivotal player in the global economy. "The UAE is actively fostering a business-friendly environment to pave the way for expansive international cooperation," Sheikh Saud said, Xinhua news agency reported. In a congratulatory letter to the forum, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the theme of

the forum reflects the growing need for a global economic system based on equality and justice. Putin called for a transition to economic models free of discrimination, sanctions, and undue pressure, offering mutual benefits rather than favoring select nations. Antonio Fallico, president of the Conoscere Eurasia Association, the forum's organizing body, pointed to the irreversible shift from a unipolar world order to multipolarity. Fallico highlighted the increasing importance of regional globalization and cross-regional markets, emphasizing the need for cooperation amid evolving geopolitical realities.



Assam Guv pays obeisance to Srimanta Sankardev at Batadrava Than

Guwahati, Dec 13 (IANS) : Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya during the concluding leg of his two-day visit to Nagaon, paid his obeisance to Srimanta Sankardev at Batadrava Than on Friday, officials said. He also took stock of the progress of the Batadrava Than development project and held discussions with the concerned functionaries. Offering his prayers here, the Governor visited and saw different aspects of the project which aimed at transforming Batadrava Than into a significant tourist hub and cultural centre. Expressing his vision, the Governor remarked that the site holds immense cultural importance for Assam.

Will the Ukraine and Syria conflicts get entwined with Iran's accusations?

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : One conflict is raging in the grassy and forested expanses of the Eurasian steppes and the other in the semi-arid areas of the Levant, but the Ukrainian and the Syrian conflicts seemed to move towards a conflation of sorts as Iran has now charged Ukraine with supporting the HTS rebels advancing southwards. The two conflicts did have a link, or perception thereof, as the Ukrainian war or special military operation pits Russia against the West, which accuses Iran and China of supporting Moscow. On the other hand, Russia, China, and Iran accuse the West of backing the Islamists of the Hayat Tahrir-al-Sham

(HTS), formerly known as Jabhat al-Nusra and linked to Al Qaeda. However, on Friday, Iran accused Ukraine of aiding the terrorists, who moved out of the "sanctuary" in the northern Idlib province, on the border with Turkey, to overrun Aleppo and move into the Hama and Homs provinces. Iran's Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and Head of the Eurasia Department Mojtaba Damirchilu said that he was aware of reports claiming that Ukraine has been selling weapons to the militants in Syria and helping them with obtaining IDs, Iranian media reported. Those actions are "a clear violation of the international obligations of governments in relation to the prevention and combating terrorism," he stressed, and demanded that Kiev "immediately

halt" its assistance to "the terrorist groups". Citing the dangerous nature of "Takfiri terrorist elements" in Syria, which have long been on the UN Security Council's list of terrorist organizations, Damirchilu described the use of such groups to destabilise the West Asia region "as an unethical policy, contrary to all principles and norms of international law". Alliances with terrorism only lead to the expansion of insecurity and violence in the world, and sooner or later, it will affect those who support it, he warned. The Iranian diplomat also hit back on repeated accusations by Ukrainian officials that Iran has been supplying weapons to Russia, noting that the only goal of such "baseless" statements is to persuade the US and EU countries to



supply even more arms to Kiev. Iran "has not interfered in the conflict" and has consistently called for the sides to resolve the crisis through talks, Damirchilu stressed. Ukraine has yet to respond to the Iranian allegations. However, this is not the first time that Ukraine has been accused of using and equipping proxy forces, including deemed terrorists fighting Russian interests abroad, with earlier reports citing its help to Islamist rebels confronting government forces and their Russian

auxiliaries in the sandy, trackless wastes of Africa's sprawling Sahel region. France's Le Monde newspaper had recently reported that in Mali, where the ruling junta ended a long alliance with former colonial power France in 2022 in favour of Russian support Ukrainian drones were providing support for the Tuareg rebels "who are benefiting from discreet but decisive support" from Ukraine. After over 130 Malian soldiers and Russian personnel of the erstwhile Wagner PMC were reportedly killed following days of clashes with Tuareg rebels and fighters linked to Al Qaeda in northern Mali in July, Ukrainian military intelligence service spokesman Andriy Yusov said that the rebels had "received necessary information" to successfully carry out the attack. He did subsequently backtrack, but the damage had been done.



Meghalaya CM launches campaign to increase aesthetic appeal of cities

Shillong, Dec 13 (IANS) : Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Friday launched the "Paint My City" campaign aiming to increase the aesthetic appeal of cities in the hill state. Speaking at the occasion, Sangma said, "The initiative is

aimed to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the town. As part of the initiative, the boundary walls, building of government offices and educational institutions will be painted." The campaign was launched in Tura town and it will happen in Jowai and Shillong. The Chief Minister said that the

overall objective of this campaign is to transform Tura town into one of the cleanest and most picturesque towns in the country. Sangma appealed to the community to participate in the initiative and set an example for the state and the nation.

Russia to close Polish Consulate General in St. Petersburg

Moscow, Dec 13 (IANS) : Russia will close the Polish Consulate General in St. Petersburg starting January 10, 2025, the Russian Foreign Ministry said. The move was a response to the closure of the Russian Consulate General in Poznan on November 30 by the Polish authorities, the Ministry said on Friday in a statement. It added that three diplomats of the Polish consulate have been declared "persona non grata" and ordered to leave Russia, Xinhua news agency reported. It accused Polish authorities of following an "openly hostile policy" towards Russia in recent years.



Travel trade associations hail Rajasthan Tourism Unit Policy 2024

Jaipur, Dec 13 (IANS) : Kuldeep Singh Chandela and Virendra Singh, President and Secretary General of the Federation of Hospitality and Tourism of Rajasthan (FHTR) on Friday commended the state government's focus on sustainable growth in tourism. They also hailed the government's efforts to address evolving industry needs while highlighting the policy's innovative provisions, such as the introduction of new categories like eco-tourism units, film cities, heritage restaurants, hotel housing, and indoor/outdoor play zones.

California to push for finishing new port of entry as Trump threatens border crackdown

New York, Dec 13 (IANS) : US California Governor Gavin Newsom has urged the Joe Biden administration to help secure more federal resources for a new port of entry in San Diego County before President-elect Donald Trump takes office, as per sources. Attributing Trump's victory in

November as fueled in part by some voters' concerns about migrants at the border and by Trump's promise of mass deportations, the California Governor is now seeking to reframe the national conversation around the border, emphasising the importance of US trade with Mexico in

fueling the economy, lowering costs for consumers and supporting millions of jobs across the nation, Xinhua news agency reported quoting The Washington Post.

On Thursday, Newsom is expected to announce the beginning of construction of a road to the

new Otay Mesa East Port of Entry, according to aides who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss plans that have not been officially announced.

State officials say the crossing will reduce the wait times for cars and trucks that often idle for hours at the US-Mexico border.



North Korea to hold key parliamentary meeting two days after Trump's inauguration

Seoul, Dec 13 (IANS) : North Korea will hold a key parliamentary meeting to discuss a constitutional amendment and other issues, two days after US President-elect Donald Trump takes office next month, according to the North's state media Friday.

North Korea decided to convene the 12th session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) on January 22 at a plenary meeting of the SPA standing committee held the previous day, Yonhap news agency reported quoting the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

The KCNA said that the upcoming session will address a range of issues, including "revising some provisions of the Socialist

Constitution." North Korean leader Kim Jong-un ordered a constitutional revision during the parliamentary session in January to reflect his previous declaration of inter-Korean ties as "hostile," pledging not to seek reconciliation and unification in the constitution. The upcoming session will be closely watched for any follow-up details on a constitutional amendment, particularly regarding provisions defining the country's territory in connection with Kim's directive.

On October 15, North Korea demolished sections of roads and train tracks connected to South Korea -- the Gyeongui Line and the Donghae Line -- and later said its constitution defines South Ko-

rea as a "hostile state," suggesting the constitution was amended during a parliamentary meeting earlier that month in accordance with Kim's order. The KCNA said the upcoming January session will also address the state budget for 2025, the adoption of laws on the building materials industry and offshore farming, as well as organisation matters, among other issues, without providing further details. The scheduling of the SPA meeting two days after Trump's inauguration on January 20 raises the possibility that the North Korean leader may disclose his country's policy toward the US in response to Trump's second term.



Bulgaria busts migrant smuggling network

Sofia, Dec 13 (IANS) : Bulgarian authorities have dismantled an organised crime group involved in smuggling illegal migrants from Asia and North Africa to Western Europe, arresting five suspects.

The operation took place on Friday in Sofia, leading to the arrest of three Syrian citizens.

Two additional members of the group, also Syrian nationals, were subsequently identified and apprehended, Xinhua news agency reported.

During the operation, authorities confiscated phones, SIM cards, vehicle documents, and detailed notes related to the organisation and payment of illegal migrant groups. Witnesses, including Bulgarian and foreign nationals, were also interrogated.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the group arranged transportation using trucks and vans to move migrants from the Black Sea city of Burgas, located 75 km north of the Turkish border, to Sofia.

UN chief calls for end to fighting in Syria, return to political process

United Nations, Dec 13 (IANS) : UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for immediate humanitarian access to all civilians in Syria, and a return to political process to end the bloodshed. At a press meeting, Guterres said that he had just spoken with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to discuss the latest developments in Syria.

During the phone conversation, he emphasised the urgent need for immediate humanitarian access to all civilians in need, and a return to the UN-facilitated political process to end the bloodshed, Xinhua news agency reported.

The UN chief also stressed that all parties are obligated

under international law to protect civilians.

This latest offensive was launched into Syrian government-controlled areas by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, a group sanctioned by the Security Council, along with a broad range of other armed opposition groups.

"It has led to significant shifts in the frontlines. Tens of thousands of civilians are at risk in a region already on fire," Guterres told reporters.

"We are seeing the bitter fruits of a chronic collective failure of previous de-escalation arrangements to produce a genuine nationwide ceasefire or a serious political process to implement Security Council resolutions," he said. "These must change."



Tech to defence, India and US deepen partnerships via Seattle

Seattle, Dec 13 (IANS) : Over a year after its opening, the Indian Consulate in Seattle continues to deepen New Delhi's relations with the Pacific Northwest states of the United States through opening of new visa application centres and enhanced Indo-US cooperation in the fields of technology, higher education, defence and agriculture.

It was agreed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US visit in June 2023 that India would take steps to operationalise its Consulate in Seattle before the end of 2023. A few months later - in November 2023 - the first Consulate General of India in Seattle was opened.

Located in one of the world's leading tech hubs that is home to major companies like Microsoft, Amazon, and Boeing, its inauguration marked a new chapter in India-US diplomatic ties that have grown tremendously over the last 10 years under the leadership of

PM Modi. Its consular jurisdiction spans over nine Pacific Northwest States of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

Consul General Prakash Gupta, an Indian Foreign Service officer, told IANS that the consulate continues to focus intensely on strengthening India-US cooperation in areas of technology and data.

"Given that technology is our focus, India must have a footprint where the tech hub is," he maintains.

Gupta highlighted that, as technology continues to evolve, India's young population will have a decisive role to play in future, especially in the sphere of artificial intelligence.

He also noted that the defence sector is one area where US giants can deepen their engagement with India.



Three climbers dead on New Zealand's Mount Cook

Wellington, Dec 13 (IANS) : Three climbers are believed dead on New Zealand's tallest mountain after missing for five days, the police said on Friday.

"After reviewing the number of days the climbers have been missing ... we do not believe the men have survived," said Aoraki Area Commander Inspector Vicki Walker. The police believed that

the climbers, two from the United States and one from Canada, did not survive a fall from Mount Cook, the country's tallest mountain. The search for the men commenced on Monday, following a report that they were overdue, but for most of the week, searchers have been hampered by dangerous weather, Walker said.

India's development assistance changing lives across Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, Dec 13 (IANS) : Several significant projects, that will augment civilian infrastructure and improve the quality of life for the people of Myanmar through India's grant-in aid of \$500,000 per annum, were inaugurated in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

India's Ambassador to Myanmar Abhay Thakur inaugurated the Border Areas Development Programme (BADP) and Rakhine State Development Programme (RSDP) projects along with the country's Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Re-

settlement (MOSWRR) Dr. Soe Win and Border Affairs (MOBA) Minister Lt Gen. Tun Tun Naung, respectively. According to the Indian Embassy in Myanmar, the inaugurated projects will contribute to significant new socio-economic civic facilities, for the benefit of local population in line with local needs, in Chin State and the Naga Self-Administered Zone. In Chin State, the completion of 16 roads and bridges, along with one education centre, marks a significant milestone. Similarly, the Naga Self-Administered Zone has seen the successful completion of 19 roads and bridges, and two education centres. "Together, these ini-

tiatives encompass a total of 38 activities, at a cost of USD 4.5 million demonstrating the extensive efforts and commitment towards regional development. Furthermore, notable projects such as the construction of a water supply system in Gwa township and the construction of an incinerator in Mrauk U township have been completed, reflecting the emphasis on essential services and environmental conservation.





Gukesh etches India's name in golden letters in chess history: AICF

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : The All India Chess Federation (AICF) president Nitin Narang lauded D. Gukesh on becoming the youngest World Chess Champion and said it is not just a personal milestone but the feat has also etched India's name in golden letters in the history of chess. Gukesh scripted history on Thursday after beating Ding Liren of China in the 14-game World Chess Championship final in Singapore.



BGT: It's harder to gauge pink ball's seam position at night, says Gill

Brisbane, Dec 13 (IANS) : India batter Shubman Gill reflected on the team's 10-wicket loss in the day-night Test in Adelaide, explaining that the team is more accustomed to playing with a red ball. He noted that the pink ball is slightly different, making it more challenging to judge the seam position while playing under the lights. After registering a 295-run win, their biggest Test win on runs over Australia, in the series opener in Perth, India slumped to a 10-wicket loss in the second Test at Adelaide Oval, which levelled the five-match series 1-1. "I think the pink ball is slightly different from the red ball. It's a little bit harder to be able to gauge the seam and the hand of a bowler, especially when you're playing at night. And we are a bit more used to playing with the red ball in the day. Just the dynamics of a pink ball Test, we don't play as much. "And just playing at night, it's a little bit

harder to gauge the seam position and the hand position at which the ball is released. So, it's a bit more difficult to look as a batsman," Shubman told reporters on the eve of the match. India will look to regain the lead in the series when the two sides meet for the third Test in Gabba, the venue where India clinched a historic three-wicket win in 2021 to end Australia's 33-year dominance at the venue. In the match, Shubman played a knock of 91 in the second innings to contribute to India's win. Now that India have come back to the same venue and had a practice session, Shubman said, "It was nostalgic walking into the stadium after 2021.



ISL 2024-25: Table-toppers Mohun Bagan look to capitalise on struggling Kerala Blasters

Kolkata, Dec 13 (IANS) : Mohun Bagan Super Giant are set to face Kerala Blasters FC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 on Saturday.

HIL 2024-25: It's a proud moment for me to lead the Delhi team, says Shamsher Singh

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Indian hockey star Shamsher Singh is excited about the much-anticipated return of the Hockey India League (HIL), set to commence its sixth season on December 28 after a hiatus of seven years. Shamsher, a vital member of the Indian hockey team that clinched a bronze medal at the Paris Olympics 2024, has been named co-captain of the Delhi SG Pipers alongside Australia's decorated forward.



Vishwa Samudra Open 2024: Ajeetesh Sandhu registers a thumping five-shot win

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Chandigarh's Ajeetesh Sandhu registered a thumping five-shot win after returning a confident one-under 71 in the last round of the INR 2 crore Vishwa Samudra Open 2024 played at the historic Delhi Golf Club (DGC). Sandhu (69-67-69-71) totalled 12-under 276 for the week and took home an im-

pressive prize money cheque of INR 30 lakh for his effort. It happened to be Sandhu's first win in five years and overall seventh professional title. It was also Sandhu's first triumph at the celebrated DGC. Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain (67-73-67-74) finished a distant second at seven-under 281 after he delivered a 74 in the final round. Jamal's runner-up finish

earned him a prize money cheque worth INR 20 lakh that lifted him 11 spots from 17th to sixth position in the PGTI Ranking. International winner Sandhu, who was the overnight leader by a narrow margin of two shots, negotiated the windiest day of the week and tricky pin positions with distinction finding most of the fairways and greens.



Imad Wasim announces retirement from international cricket

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Pakistan all-rounder Imad Wasim announced his retirement from international cricket for the second time on Friday. The 35-year-old has expressed his desire to continue playing domestic and fran-

chise cricket around the world. Imad, earlier had announced his retirement from international cricket in 2023 too but his stellar performance in the Pakistan Super League.

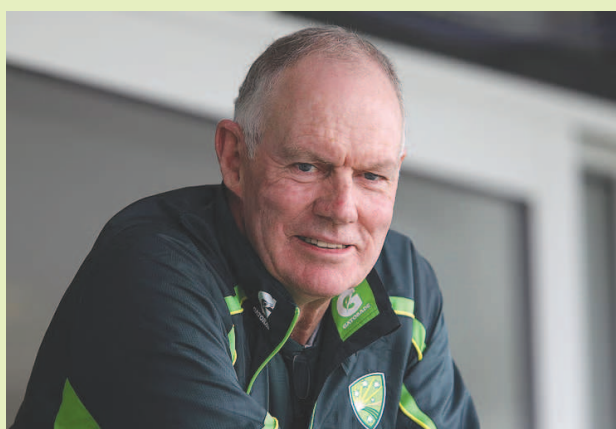
BGT: India's bowling attack load mainly picked up by Bumrah, says Gavaskar

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Legendary India batter Sunil Gavaskar believes the current Test team is indeed heavily reliant on fast-bowling spearhead Jasprit Bumrah to lead the bowling attack. Bumrah is the current leading wicket-taker in the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy series with 12 scalps from two matches. But Bumrah hasn't found much support from the rest of the Indian fast bowlers – Mohammed Siraj has nine wickets, while Harshit Rana and Nitish Kumar Reddy are having five and two scalps each. "Yes, to a great extent. You've got to say that. Mohammed Siraj is a good foil, but he has to start getting five wickets in an innings. Otherwise, the load is being picked up mainly by Jasprit Bumrah. "But if Siraj can pick up two, three wickets, keep on breaking

partnerships, then he certainly helps Jasprit Bumrah. Harshit Rana, the newcomer, bowled impressively in Perth, wasn't as impressive in the second game at Adelaide. "Maybe he just couldn't find his rhythm, therefore was not bowling the length that he should have, or the line that he should have. But hopefully he will have learned. And then that makes it easy. It takes the load off Bumrah. Bumrah can then come in, in short bursts of four or five overs, and be much more effective," said Gavaskar to Star Sports. In terms of who should be India's spinner for the third Test, starting on December 14 in Brisbane, the former off-spinner Harbhajan Singh said Washington Sundar should be given a go, after Ravichandran Ashwin played in the second game in Adelaide but got just one wicket of Mitchell Marsh while not doing much with the bat.

India pick T20I, ODI squads for series vs West Indies; Yastika still unavailable

Mumbai, Dec 13 (IANS) : With Yastika Bhatia, Shreyanka Patil and Priya Punia unavailable due to injuries, the selection committee was forced to make some major changes for the upcoming six-match white-ball series against the West Indies Women to be played from December 15.



Bumrah is a combination of both Lillee and Roberts: Chappell

New Delhi, Dec 13 (IANS) : Former Australia cricketer Greg Chappell, who had served as India head coach, believes Jasprit Bumrah is a combination of the best of legendary pacers Dennis Lillee and Andy Roberts. He added that Bumrah is currently the one standing between Australia and grabbing the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. "I have always said that Dennis

Lillee and Andy Roberts were the most complete fast bowlers that I faced. How does Bumrah, with his unorthodox action and masterful control, measure against these two and the other titans of modern fast bowling? "Bumrah, though less overtly combative, channels Lillee's ability to unsettle batsmen. His deadly yorkers and disconcerting bounce – especially with his unorthodox release point and trajectory – echo Lillee's capacity to dictate terms. Bumrah's quiet intensity and precision make him a nightmare, much like Lillee's unrelenting aggression. "Bumrah shares Roberts' cerebral approach. Both bowlers use subtle variations to outfox batsmen.

