

THE INDIAN MAIL

ENGLISH DAILY

FRIDAY, 27 December 2024

VOLUME : 15 ISSUE : 120 PAGES : 12 ₹ 4

PUBLISHED FROM HYDERABAD, VIJAYAWADA



Shankar Spends 92 Crore on Game Changer 5 Songs?

S Shankar, the visionary director known for his lavish approach to filmmaking, has once again gone all out for his latest venture Game Changer....

12



EV maker Ampere's revenue declines by 46 pc to Rs 612 crore in FY24

Electric vehicle (EV) maker Ampere's total income from operations in FY24 declined by 46 per cent to Rs 612 crore, from Rs 1,124 crore in FY23....

07



Sravan condemns illegal & oppressive actions of Revanth gov't

BRS leader Dr Sravan Dasoju has strongly condemned the illegal and oppressive actions of the Revanth Reddy government, which have once again failed before the judiciary....

02

CM Revanth assures all support to film industry in Telangana

Hyderabad, Dec.26 (NSS): Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has reiterated that the State government is ready to extend all support to the film industry in Telangana.

Around 50 film personalities, led by Telangana Film Development Corporation (TFDC) Chairman and producer Dil Raju met the Chief Minister at the Police Command Control Center in Banjara Hills on

Thursday and discussed the issues of film industry. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Minister for Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, DGP Jithender and others attended the meeting. The meeting assumed significance in the wake of the stampede at Sandhya Theater and the aftermath of film actor Allu Arjun's arrest. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that his main objective was to pro-

vide the film industry and assured that the State government would extend all the help to support the industry. "As the Chief Minister, it is my responsibility to enforce the laws. I do not have any personal preferences. Let us all develop the film industry together without confining to Telugu only," Revanth Reddy said. Reminding that the State government has so far issued eight special orders for the benefit of films and the po-

lice grounds were given to Pushpa -2 film, the Chief Minister said the State government has decided to create a new brand image for the Telugu Film Industry, ensuring the industry prosper. "On the lines of IT and Pharma, the government accorded equal importance to film industry. It already announced to present Gaddar film awards and appointed noted film Producer Dil Raju as the FDC Chairman to coordinate between government.



India emerges as global leader in "disaster warning": Jitendra Singh

Hyderabad, Dec.26 (NSS): Union Minister of State for Science & Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and

Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh, while commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami at INCOIS (Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services), said India today has emerged as a global leader in "disaster warning" and his catering to other nations as well across the world.

Continued on pg 02

BRS party leaders visit Sritej

Hyderabad, Dec 26 (NSS): BRS party leaders today visited Sritej, who was seriously injured in a stampede at Sandhya Theatre and is undergoing treatment at KIMS hospital. The party MLAs Harish Rao, Vivekananda, Bandaru Lakshma Reddy, senior party leaders Errabelli Dayakar Rao, Srinivas Goud, Naveen Rao and others reached the hospital and enquired about the boy's health condition.

Continued on pg 02



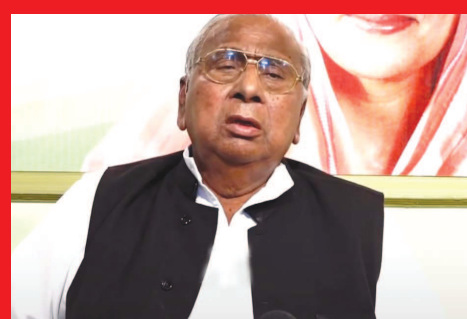
Mahatma Gandhi's legacy under threat from those in power in Delhi: Sonia

Bengaluru, Dec 26 (IANS): Former Congress President Sonia Gandhi in her message to the Extended Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting organised on the occasion of centenary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi taking over as the President of the grand old party in Karnataka's Belagavi asserted that the legacy of the Father of the Nation is "under threat from those in power in Delhi". In her two-page letter addressed to Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and members of the Extended CWC.

Continued on pg 02

BRS leader Errolla Srinivas gets bail

Hyderabad, Dec.26 (NSS): BRS party leader Errolla Srinivas was granted bail today by Nampally III ACJM court in the MLA Kaushik Reddy's case. The magistrate granted the bail to Srinivas after hearing the arguments of his counsel and asked him to submit a bond of 5000 along with two sureties. Speaking to media persons outside the court, Errolla Srinivas said justice prevailed in his case.



VH demands Amit Shah's apology over Ambedkar remarks

Hyderabad, Dec 26 (NSS): Former MP and Congress senior leader V Hanumantha Rao has demanded that Union Home Minister Amit Shah should tender an unconditional apology for his recent derogatory remarks about B R Ambedkar. Speaking to the media at Gandhi Bhavan here on Thursday, V Hanumantha Rao said that if others insulted Ambedkar, they would be filed cases and put them in jail.

VH lamented as to why no action was taken against Amit Shah, who had criticised Ambedkar so much. "I have never seen such a big insult to Dr B R Ambedkar in my political life. At least now, the Union Home Minister should admit his mistake and apologise to the nation.

President Murmu confers Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar on 17 children

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : President Droupadi Murmu, on Thursday, conferred the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar on 17 children for their exceptional achievements at a ceremony held here at Rashtrapati Bhavan. The award is given to children in the age group 5-18 years with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements in seven categories for Bravery, Art & Culture, Environ-

ment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service and Sports that deserve national recognition. 17 children (7 boys and 10 girls) from 14 states and union territories have been selected this year for the award.

Continued on pg 02



HC dismisses group-1 post aspirants' petition

Hyderabad, Dec.26 (NSS): The Telangana High Court has given a jolt to group-I posts aspirants. The high court bench dismissed the petition of the aspirants seeking the stay on the declaration of the group-1 results. The aspirants had approached the High Court on various issues, including reservations. Their petition came up for hearing in the court today. The Group-I exams have already been completed. The Group-I candidates had approached the High Court.

BJP should spell out its stand on BC caste census

Hyderabad, Dec.26 (NSS): BRS Party MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha has demanded that the BJP explain its stand on the BC caste census. "Why is the BJP not standing up to the Congress government on the promises made by the Congress party to the BCs and the implementation of the Kamareddy Declaration? "Does the BJP not count on BCs?" she asked. On Thursday, the pottery community leaders met MLC Kavitha at her residence in the city. They brought to the notice of MLC Kavitha the problems

faced by the BCs, especially those belonging to the caste based professions. Kavitha made it clear that the Congress government had failed to implement the promises made to the BCs.



Bank of Baroda VIJAYANAGAR COLONY BRANCH
No.10/3/67, Opp:Post Office,
HYderabad-500057

**APPENDIX -IV [See Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)**

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 27.08.2024, calling upon the Borrower **M/s Streamline Facility Services, Flat No.401/ C, 4th floor, Mustafa Towers,11-4-658, Lakdikaplu,Hyderabad-500004, Mr.Doswada Raju, S/o Mr.Narashimulu Dandam,** (Partner cum Guarantor) and **Mrs Kamala Bai Hanuman Singh, W/o Doswada Raju,** (Partner cum Guarantor): **Both are at:** Plot No.19, Gandhi Nagar Colony Near Krishnaveni Talent School,Langar House, Golconda,Hyderabad -500008, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.30,40,173.56/- (Rupees Thirty lacs forty thousand one hundred seventy three paise fifty six only)** as on 21.08.2024 together with further interest thereon with effective from 21.08.2024 at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this the **21st day of December of the year 2024.**

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

The Partners/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of **Bank of Baroda, Vijayanagar Colony Branch** for an amount of **Rs.31,62,603.10/- (Rupees Thirty One Lac Sixty Two Thousand Six hundred three paise ten only)** and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus costs, charges and expenses till date of payment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:

All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Plot No.2 in Survey No.308, Nagarguda, Thalappally Village, Shabad Mandal, R R District. **Bounded by:** North: Plot No.3 & land of vendor, South: Plot No.1, East: Shadnagar to Chevella Road, West: Land of Vendor.

Date : 21.12.2024 Sd/- Authorized Officer,
Place:Hyderabad BANK OF BARODA

KVB Karur Vysya Bank THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD.
Miryalaguda Branch, D.No.18-1634,
Hanumanpet, Sagar Road, Miryalaguda,
Telangana-508207. Email: miryalaguda@kvbmail.com,
Ph No: 08689-232366/232365, Mobile No: 8008998853

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Reg: Notice issued under Sec 13 [2] of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 [SARFAESI Act] for recovery of dues in the Loan A/c of 1. Mr. Krishna Mohan Gurijala, S/o Mr. Madhava Rao, H.No.28-934, Vidya Nagar, Miryalaguda Town, Nalgonda District, Telangana-508207. Alternate: H.No.2-123, Chowtapalli, Veerullapadu Mandal, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh-521170. .Proprietor/Borrower.

Whereas you have committed default in repayment of loans in the above mentioned loan account to the secured creditor bank, the Bank had issued notice under the SARFAESI Act calling upon you to repay the outstanding amount of **Rs.25,90,408.94 Ps (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Ninety Thousand Four Hundred and Eight and Paise Ninety Four Only)** as on 05-12-2024.

Whereas the notices sent to No.1 of you by Regd. Post has been returned un-served. You are hereby called upon to visit the bank and obtain copy of the notice in your own interest in order to note the full particulars of the loan dues, securities charged to the bank etc. You are hereby called upon to pay the outstanding amount as shown above together with interest till date of payment within 60 days from the date of the notice failing which, the secured creditor Bank will be constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of the secured assets mortgaged to the bank as mentioned below, as per the provisions of SARFAESI Act.

Description of Mortgaged Property

Schedule-A (Details of the mortgaged property of Guarantor Mr.Krishna Mohan Gurijala): All that piece and parcel of Vacant Land having an RCC Shed with an extent of 180 Sq. Yards or 151.02 Sq.Mts having Municipality D.No.10-300001, within the Block No.10 at Plot No.33 in Sy.Nos.235/a2, 236/2, 237/3, 235/a3, 236/3, 237/2, situated at Neruducheru Municipality and Revenue, Suryapet Revenue District, Nalgonda District Registrar, registered vide Sale Deed No.5322/2020 and being bounded by: East: 24 Ft Wide Road...37'-0" West: Vacant Site pertains to Plot No.24...37'-0" North: Vacant Site pertains to Plot No.32...44'-0" South: Vacant Site pertains to Plot No.34...44'-0".

Date: 12-12-2024 Sd/- Authorized Officer
Place: Hyderabad The Karur Vysya Bank Limited

Canara Bank NARSINGI BRANCH
D.No.2-77/3/B/2, Near Registration
Office, Narsingi, Rajendra Nagar
Mandal, Ranga Reddy District,
Telangana State - 500 089.

POSSESSION NOTICE [SECTION 13(4)] (for Immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 04.10.2024, calling upon the (1) **Aleef Pinjari** S/o P. Ale Shaheb, H.No 6 11, Narsingi, Rajendranagar Mandal, Rangareddy Dist, Telangana 500089 (2) **Keesara Venkat Reddy** S/o Buchi Reddy, H.No.1-95, Manchirevula, Rajendranagar Mandal Hyderabad, 500075 (3) **Aleef Pinjari** S/o P. Ale Saheb, Quarter No.1, Block 20, Vyas Nagar, Manchirevula Village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Rangareddy District, Telangana to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.15,79,186.22 (Rupees Fifteen lakh Seventy Nine Thousand One Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Twenty Two Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower/owner/guarantor/legal heir having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/owner/guarantor/legal heir and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **23rd day of December of the year 2024.**

The borrower/owner/guarantor/legal heir in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank** for an amount of **Rs.15,79,186.22 (Rupees Fifteen lakh Seventy Nine Thousand One Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Twenty Two Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's/owner's/guarantor's/legal heir's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that the House bearing No 6-11 in Gramakantam, admeasuring 100 Sq yds or equivalent to 83.6 Sq mtrs, having plinth area of 2649 sqft(RCC) situated at Narsingi Village & Grampanchayat, Rajendranagar Mandal, Rangareddy District, Telangana State and **Bounded by:** On the North by Neighbour's House No 6-10/2 belongs to Ravi, On the South by : Neighbours Land, On the East by : 15' Wide Road, On the West by : Neighbour's land, SRO Gandipet, (Document 7053/2013) (CERSAI : Security Interest Id -400038301247)

Date : 23.12.2024 Sd/- Authorized Officer
PLACE: NARSINGI CANARA BANK

HDFC Bank Limited
Branch: Fourth Floor, Krishi Sapphire, MSR Block, Hitech City Main Road, Madhapur, Hyderabad-500081.
Tel.No. 18002100018/040-66588491, CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) (HDFC) under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notices, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notices, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours. In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated hereinbelow in their respective names, together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realization, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to HDFC by the said Borrower (s) respectively. Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property (ies)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1	Mrs. M.CHANDRAKALA M/o Mr. MUSIRIGARI HARISH KUMAR GOUD (Since Deceased) Mrs. BOYAPALLY SONY W/o Mr. MUSIRIGARI HARISH KUMAR GOUD (Since Deceased) And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s), Legal Representative(s), Successors and Assigns of Mr. MUSIRIGARI HARISH KUMAR GOUD [Since Deceased]	Rs.21,24,839/- (Rupees Twenty one Lakhs Twenty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-Nine Only) as on 31-OCT-2024*	26-NOV-2024	All that the Flat No.401 in Third Floor of "PARK VIEW ARCADE", having plinth area of 1069 square feet or 99.31 Square meters, (including common area and car parking), along with undivided share of land admeasuring of 50 Square yards (Out of 400 Square yards), constructed on plot No.64, in survey No.112, covered in Block No.2, rest of the area, situated at Miyapur village, Serilingampally Mandal and Municipality, Ranga Reddy District and bounded by: Boundaries of Entire Property: North: Plot No.71, South: 30'-0" Wide Road, East: Plot No.63, West: Plot No.65, Boundaries of Flat: North: Corridor, Staircase & Flat No.402, South: Open to Sky, East: Open to Sky, West: Open to Sky.
2	Mr. KETHAVATH SARATHBABU (BORROWER)	Rs.39,55,962/- (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Two Only) as on 31-OCT-2024*	29-NOV-2024	All that piece and parcel of the House on Plot No.190, admeasuring an area of 222 Sq.Yards or its equivalent to 185.6 Sq.Meters, in Survey No.147, Situated at "NRUPATUNGA NAGAR" of Saheb Nagar Kalan Village, Hayathnagar Revenue Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, under Ward No.5, Block No.2 of GHMC, LB Nagar Circle-3A, under Registration Sub District Vanasthalipuram and bounded by:- North: Plot No.170, South: Plot No.193, East: 25 ft. Wide Road, West: Plot No.191
3	Mr. ELLUNDULA SANDEEP (BORROWER) Mr. E.SHANKER (CO-BORROWER) Mr. ELLENDULLA SAIKUMAR (CO-BORROWER)	Rs.60,32,145/- (Rupees Sixty Lakhs Thirty-Two Thousand One Hundred and Forty-Five Only) as on 31-OCT-2024*	29-NOV-2024	All that the House bearing No.5-9-V/0067, (PTIN No.1177031432), on Plot No.518 North Part, admeasuring 150 Sq. Yds, or equivalent to 125.41 Sq.Mtrs, having Plinth Area 850 Sq.Feet, with R.C.C. Roof, within the approved layout forming part of Survey Nos.129, 130, 131 and 132, Situated at Almasguda Village, Balapur Revenue Mandal, Under Badangpet Municipality, Ranga Reddy District, under registration at S.R.O. L.B.Nagar, Ranga Reddy District and bounded by:- North: Plot No.517, South: Plot No.518, South Part, East: 25' Wide Road, West: Plot No.499.

*with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and / or realization.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to HDFC as aforesaid, then HDFC shall proceed against the above Secured Asset(s) / Immovable Property(ies) under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset (s) / Immovable Property(ies), whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 23-DEC-2024
Place: Hyderabad

For HDFC Bank Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai-400020.

Mahatma Gandhi's legacy under threat from those in power in Delhi: Sonia

Continued From pg 01

Sonia Gandhi also expressed 'regret' for not being able to be present with all of them on the historic occasion.

The letter reads: "The 39th session of the Indian National Congress was held exactly a hundred years ago at this very location. It is, therefore, only appropriate that you are assembled at Mahatma Gandhi Nagar. Mahatma Gandhi's becoming Congress President here then was a turning point for our party and for the Independence movement. It was a transformational milestone in our country's history.

"Today, we re-dedicate ourselves to preserve, protect and promote the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi. He has been and will continue to be the fundamental source of our inspiration. It was he who moulded and guided all our remarkable galaxy of leaders of that generation. His legacy is under threat from those in power in New Delhi and the ideologies and institutions that have nurtured them." The letter further stated: "These organisations never fought for our freedom. They opposed Mahatma Gandhi bitterly.

India emerges as global leader in "disaster warning": Jitendra Singh

Continued From pg 01

The Minister recalled that the INCOIS was conceptualised following the tragic Tsunami of 2004 and after 2014, with an unflinching support and priority received from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it made rapid strides to be recognised as the world's most state-of-the-art institute of its kind.

Dr Jitendra Singh lauded PM Modi's pathbreaking ocean initiatives, including the 'Deep Sea Mission' which he had announced in his Independence Day address. He also highlighted India's quantum progress in ocean research and disaster preparedness. The Minister emphasized the nation's emergence as a global leader in providing world-class disaster warning systems, underscoring the pivotal role of scientific advancements in foster-

ing safety and sustainability.

Reflecting on the catastrophic tsunami that claimed over 230,000 lives worldwide, including 10,749 in India, Dr Jitendra Singh remarked on the invaluable lessons learned and the transformative policies that followed. "The tragedy served as a catalyst for establishing institutions like INCOIS, which now stands as a testament to India's commitment to safeguarding lives and livelihoods," he said.

India's Tsunami Early Warning System, lauded internationally, was showcased as a cornerstone of the nation's disaster preparedness. The Minister also noted ongoing collaborations with UNESCO and the Tsunami Ready Initiative, which aims to bolster community resilience across vulnerable regions. He cited the recognition of 24 Indian communities under this program as evidence of a community-centric approach.

Dr Jitendra Singh underlined the growing significance of oceanic exploration in India's journey toward becoming "Viksit Bharat". With a 7,500-km coastline and abundant marine resources, he advocated for their sustainable exploration and conservation. "Our deep-sea mission and initiatives like BioE3 [Biotechnology for Environment, Employment, and Economy] are creating an ecosystem that will not only enhance biodiversity but also contribute to national prosperity," he said.

Looking ahead, the Minister expressed optimism about concurrent breakthroughs in space and marine missions, envisioning an India that leads globally in both realms. "We are planning to deploy an Indian in the deep sea and another in space, possibly by 2026, marking a historic milestone," he announced.

Govt, film industry to work together from now on : Dil Raju

Hyderabad, Dec 26 (NSS): Telangana Film Development Corporation (TFDC) Chairman and producer Dil Raju said that the State government and the film industry would work together from now onwards and he would take responsibility for coordination between these two.

Speaking to the media after meeting with the Chief Minister at the Police Command Control Center in Banjara Hills on Thursday, Dil Raju said that Telugu cinema was respected

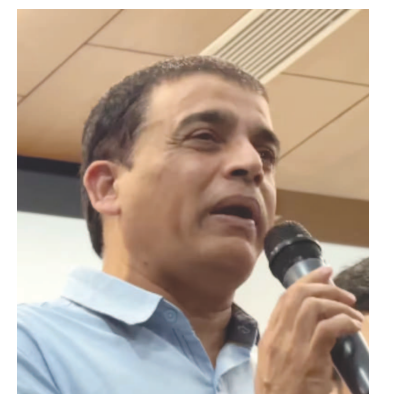
at the national level and the Chief Minister suggested that Telugu cinema should work at the global level, not at the Indian level.

"The Chief Minister has assured that all facilities will be arranged so that even Hollywood films can be shot in Hyderabad. He has also asked the film industry to take steps to create awareness on the issue of drugs. In re-

turn, the film personalities has promised that they would create awareness on the eradication of drugs," Dil Raju revealed.

He said there are misconceptions that there is a gap between the film industry and the government and the Sandhya Theatre incident led to such a discussion.

Dil Raju stated that a committee will be formed jointly by the in-



dustry, TFDC and the government and the committee will take a decision on the issues of the industry.

BRS party leaders visit Sritej

Continued From pg 01

Speaking on the occasion, they said they would stand by the victim's family. Harish Rao spoke to the media on the occasion. "KIMS doctors said Sritej is being treated well. We wish the boy a speedy recovery. KCR has instructed us to give courage to Sritej's father Bhaskar. We pray to God that the departed Revathi's soul rest in peace. The CM should not scare the film industry people. The government is politicising the Sandhya theatre incident. There have been no

occasions when the CM visited the families of those who died in gurukuls," he alleged. Rao asked the government as to why the brother of the CM was not arrested when a sarpanch committed suicide in the State. "The CM says that law is equal for all. Why no action has been taken against his brother," he asked.



Srvan condemns illegal & oppressive actions of Revanth govt

Hyderabad, Dec 26 (NSS) : BRS leader Dr Srvan Dasoju has strongly condemned the illegal and oppressive actions of the Revanth Reddy government, which have once again failed before the judiciary.

Speaking on the release of Telangana activist, Osmania University Dalith student leader and former SC/ST Commission Chairman Errolla Srinivas, who was granted bail by the honourable courts, Dr Srvan stated that no amount of intimidation or police repression can stand before the principles of justice and democracy. Dr Srvan criticized the government, stating, "This is not a government of strength, it is a regime of fear, corruption, and a dictatorial mindset." From the common man to celebrities, everyone has been subjected to oppressive tactics aimed at silencing dissent and democratic rights. Had the Banjara Hills police acted in accordance with their constitutional duty and accepted the complaint filed by

an MLA, this escalation could have been avoided. Instead of fulfilling their obligation, the police brazenly refused to register the complaint and, shockingly, resorted to filing an illegal case against the complainants, including Dr Errolla Srinivas. "This incident is a glaring example of the police acting as mere puppets in the hands of the ruling government, misusing their authority to target Opposition voices. Such blatant abuse of power undermines the rule of law and erodes public trust in the system, raising serious concerns about the impartiality of law enforcement in Telangana. Errolla Srinivas's illegal detention is yet another example of the government's deep insecurity and desperation to stifle voices of truth." Dr Srvan thanked the judiciary for upholding the rule of law and delivering a decisive verdict that granted bail to Errolla Srinivas. He emphasized that this legal victory is a moral blow to the Revanth Reddy government.

President Murmu confers Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar on 17 children

Continued From pg 01

Each awardee of Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is given a medal, certificate and a citation booklet. Speaking on the occasion, President Murmu congratulated all award winners and said that the entire country and the society is proud of them. The President told children that they have done extraordinary work, achieved amazing accomplishments, have limitless capabilities, and possess incomparable qualities. They have set an example for the children of the country, she said. She added that providing opportunities and recognising children's talents has been a part of our tradition.



7 militants held over killing of Bihar migrant workers, says Manipur CM

Imphal, Dec 26 (IANS) : Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on Thursday said that seven cadres of a militant outfit have been detained in connection with Saturday's killing of two migrant workers from Bihar and are now being interrogated. Armed assailants shot dead the two migrant workers near the panchayat office in Keirak on Kakching-Wabagai Road in Kakching district when the victims, along with a few others, were going on their bicycles. The victims were identified as Sunal Kumar, 18, and Dashaat Kumar, 17. Interacting with the media after attending the Vijay Diwas celebrations here, the Chief Minister said that the killing of two migrant workers might be with a "political motivation". "Seven cadres of a militant outfit have been picked up and the senior police officials are now interrogating."



NHRC issues notice to Rajasthan govt over boy's death in bore-well

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a notice to the Rajasthan government after taking suo motu cognisance of a media report about the death of a five-year-old boy on December 26 after being trapped in a 150-foot-deep bore-well for nearly 56 hours in Dausa district. The boy allegedly fell in the bore-well while playing in a field, the Commission said while seeking details of the action taken against the lax public authorities.

PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana : Public awareness event held in Bihar's Motihari

Patna, Dec 26 (IANS) : A public awareness programme was organised in Bihar's Motihari district about the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana and its implications for the common man. The event, organised under the Solar Energy Scheme saw participation of a large number of people. During the day-long event, many officials associated with solar systems gave information about the Central government scheme and appealed to the people to take advantage of it. Officials as-

sociated with various firms as well as domain experts elaborated on the benefits of solar energy and also sought to give a brief overview on how the system of migration from non-renewable energy to solar energy was simple and affordable. They also shared arithmetic on how solar power will curtail the electricity expenses of households. "People will be able to save on their electricity bill as well as sell the surplus electricity. For installation, they will get a subsidy of Rs 78,000," they informed. Solar energy expert Abhishek Lohia told newsmen that the government intends to take the scheme to every part of the country. "A maximum subsidy of Rs 78,000 will be available on three kilo watts. If you install a three-kilo watt solar roof top, you



will get a subsidy of Rs 78,000. This will come directly into your bank account. You will have to pay the balance amount. Your electricity bill will be reduced by 80 to 90 per cent," he said. He further said that the government is looking to cover over 1 crore households under the scheme, in the first phase. "This will not only reduce their electricity bills but will also enable them to earn income by selling surplus electricity," he said. PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana is a landmark initiative,

launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 15, 2024. It aims to transform India's energy landscape by providing free electricity to households. The scheme is set to reshape the country's energy landscape by empowering millions of households with solar power. The government has set a target of reaching 10 lakh households by March 2025 and increasing its ambit to one crore by March 2027.

EOU will recommend property attachments of accused involved in paper leak: Bihar ADGP

Patna, Dec 26 (IANS) : Bihar Police ADGP Kundan Krishnan said on Thursday that the Economic Offence Unit (EOU) of the state police will recommend property attachments of the accused involved in the paper leak. "Since 2012, the EOU has taken significant action, having cracked 10 cases, arrested 545 individuals."



Promptly resolve issues of protesting farmers, Haryana asks Punjab

Chandigarh, Dec 26 (IANS) : Haryana Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana on Thursday said that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann should follow his Haryana counterpart and promptly resolve the issues of protesting farmers. "Since the Haryana Chief Minister is providing minimum support price (MSP) on all crops, the Punjab government should also follow the Haryana government's policy in the interest of Punjab's

farmers," the Agriculture Minister said in a statement. The minister also expressed concerns over the deteriorating health of agitating farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal. He said the Punjab government should take care of Dallewal's health and efforts should be made so that he could end his hunger strike. On the farmers' call to resume the Delhi march on December 18, the minister said Punjab and Haryana are the biggest producers of foodgrains for the central pool and farmers of both states were getting the benefit of MSP. He said the Punjab government should also ensure that all farmers of Punjab could sell their produce on MSP like they do in Haryana.

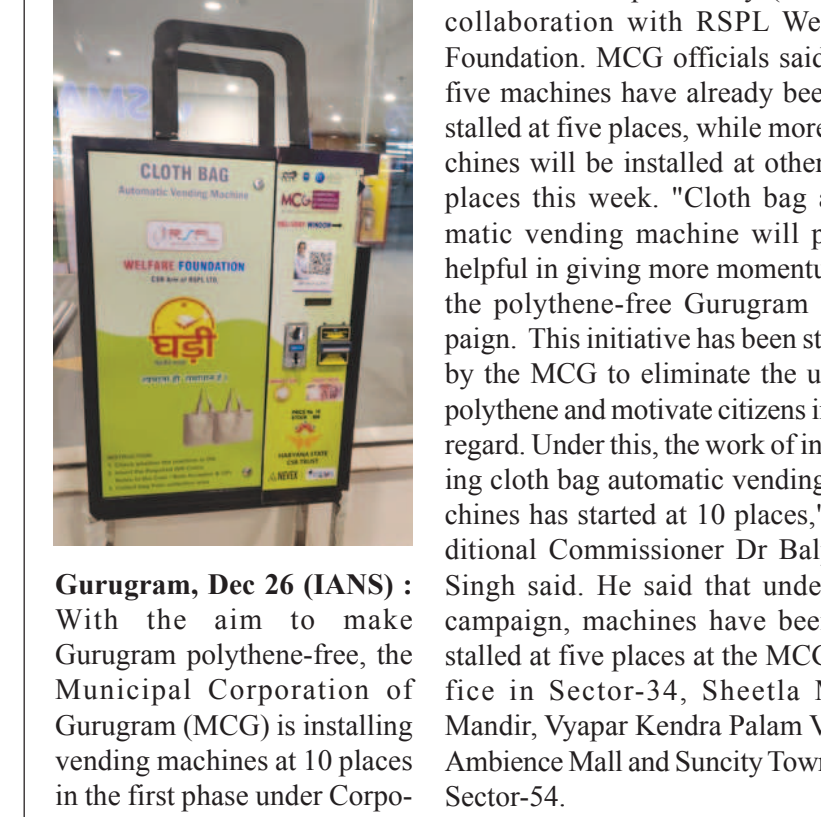
The Punjab Chief Minister should play his role and come forward to talk to the farmers so that they can return to their homes. The minister said the Supreme Court had already formed a committee of experts to resolve this issue but the farmer leaders did not attend the meeting with the committee appointed on this matter. A day earlier, Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav along with the director of Union Ministry of Home Affairs Mayank Mishra met farmer leader Dallewal.

Table with columns: Name of the Borrower(s), Demand Notice Date & Amount, and Description of secured asset. It lists various borrowers and their associated property details under the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

Gurugram : MCG installs cloth bag vending machines at 10 places in first phase

rate Social Responsibility (CSR) in collaboration with RSPL Welfare Foundation. MCG officials said that five machines have already been installed at five places, while more machines will be installed at other five places this week. "Cloth bag automatic vending machine will prove helpful in giving more momentum to the polythene-free Gurugram campaign. This initiative has been started by the MCG to eliminate the use of polythene and motivate citizens in this regard. Under this, the work of installing cloth bag automatic vending machines has started at 10 places," Additional Commissioner Dr Balpreet Singh said. He said that under the campaign, machines have been installed at five places at the MCG Office in Sector-34, Sheetla Mata Mandir, Vyapar Kendra Palam Vihar, Ambience Mall and Suncity Township Sector-54.

Gurugram, Dec 26 (IANS) : With the aim to make Gurugram polythene-free, the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) is installing vending machines at 10 places in the first phase under Corpo-



Advertisement for THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD. featuring a DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002. It details the bank's location, contact information, and the specifics of the secured assets being offered for sale, including borrower names, amounts, and property descriptions.

Advertisement for Public Notice For E-Auction Cum Sale (Appendix - IV A) (Rule 8(6)). It provides details for the sale of immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited, including the location of the corporate office, the nature of the secured assets, and the terms and conditions for bidders.

OPINIONmail



COMING YEAR 2025 WILL BE SIGNIFICANT FOR INDIA IN TERMS OF DIPLOMACY

What does the crystal ball reveal about the upcoming year 2025? The predictions are a mixed bag. Nostradamus, the famous French astrologer and seer, has made significant predictions regarding global affairs and India's future for 2025. The 16th-century seer has predicted significant events that have shaped our world, from the COVID-19 pandemic to the moon landing, lending credibility and a sense of awe to his predictions. People today are trying to interpret the 16th-century seer's prophecy, impressed by his historical accuracy. Nostradamus has predicted that the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war may end in 2025. He warned that both nations could face climate change and floods. According to the New York Post, Turkey and France could significantly facilitate the peace process between Ukraine and Russia. Nostradamus also foretold an 'ancient plague' in England in 2025, indicating a resurgence of a historical disease and the resolution of Brazil's involvement in the Russia-Ukraine conflict and various natural disasters.

Additionally, Nostradamus has predicted that earth may hit be an asteroid. He said 'From the cosmos, a fireball will rise, a harbinger of fate,' could engage us in potential future events with profound and concerning implications. As for India's future, the year begins with the 2025 Republic Day parade. The theme is 'Swarnim Bharat: Virasataur Vikas. It is yet to be finalised who will be the chief guest. On the religious side, the next Maha Kumbh Mela will be held in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, from January 13, 2025, to February 26, 2025. The Mela is a grand and holy spiritual gathering every 12 years at a rotating location. Millions of pilgrims rush to the venue to take the holy bath. In 2025, India will likely see fast economic growth, social challenges, and new technology. The government is making significant improvements in technology education and renewable energy. These efforts and chances for economic development give a positive outlook for India's future prosperity. India is becoming more critical globally by working closely with other major economies in trade, defence, and climate efforts. This shows India's growing political power. At the domestic level, a critical issue facing the Opposition coalition, I.N.D.I.A., is its cohesion. Already, some tensions have emerged. The Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have distanced themselves from the alliance. The AAP plans to contest the Delhi Assembly elections independently. The cracks within were visible in the latest Haryana, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand Assembly polls. While the Congress has done poorly in Haryana and Maharashtra, it is in coalition in Jharkhand with the JMM. The partners in the coalition are unhappy about the Congress's dismal performance. They are watching how Congress performs in the upcoming Delhi and Bihar polls scheduled for 2025. The upcoming Assembly polls will indicate the future of political realignment. Delhi will hold Assembly elections in February, with the BJP looking to unseat Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal. The AAP has faced many challenges, including corruption allegations against several leaders in the recent past. As a tactic, the AAP has appointed Athishi as a temporary chief minister. The AAP and Congress were partners in the Lok Sabha elections in Delhi, but the alliance got no seat. BJP bagged all seven seats. Bihar will also have elections in 2025. It is politically a critical state. The ruling NDA, led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, may face intense competition from the Mahagathbandhan, headed by Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav. The BJP and the JD(U) are working to retain the state. Two political organisations—the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the CPI—will celebrate their birth centenary. The RSS will complete 100 years in September, while the CPI will begin its centenary celebrations in December this year. With its ups and downs, the RSS has strongly influenced Indian politics and society and now since 2014, India is being ruled by the RSS led BJP under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It will be of interest to see whether RSS will announce its revised road map for their India dream during centenary celebrations in 2025.

By Kalyani (Shankar)

EDITORIAL
the indian mail

Spain's tourist industry outlook for 2025 upbeat after record visitors this year

Spain is set to register a record number of visitors this year, with some 95 million foreign visitors coming to the country and a turnover of over 2 billion euros (\$2.10 billion), according to the Spanish tourist industry organisation Mesa de Turismo. With foreign visitor numbers returning to pre-pandemic levels, Spain's tourist industry appears to have fully recovered from the health crisis and is now looking ahead with optimism, Xinhua news agency reported. In Barcelona, a major holiday destination in Spain and Europe, the Barcelona Tourism Consortium is aiming to use tourism to transform the city.

"The COVID experience was traumatic and taught us that we have an opportunity to use tourism to continue transforming our cities, to attract investment, to reach out to the world, to give recognition to new projects from abroad while making our identity and our culture known to the world," Mateu Hernandez, managing director of the Barcelona Tourism Consortium, told Xinhua. He said the priority is to attract people who want to fill hotels by offering them an extraordinary range of options. Foreign visitors to Spain have so far spent 11 per cent more than last year, says the Mesa de Turismo, and Spanish cities aim to attract more high-spending foreign visi-



tors next year by focusing on such areas as gastronomy, art and culture, festivals, and congresses and conventions. To achieve the goal, Hernandez said using technology is "fundamental". "We're investing more than 5 million euros into a technological platform that will allow us to forecast and provide our visitors with a better experi-

ence," he said. The organisation is now developing a mini-programme for the WeChat messaging app that will be launched early next year to help Chinese visitors better enjoy their stay in the city. "We're helping the tourist sector to understand the consumption and behaviour patterns of Chinese travellers.



SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNISTS BREAK ELECTORAL ALLIANCE WITH AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AFTER 30 YEARS

The politics in South Africa underwent a significant change on Thursday December 12 when the general secretary of the South African Communist Party (SACP) Solly Mapaila announced the decision of his Party to fight solo in the local elections in the country in 2026 breaking the alliance with the main ruling party African National Congress (ANC). The SACP and the ANC have been the partners of the tripartite alliance that ruled the nation since 1994

when Nelson Mandela became the first president of the free nation after the holding of free elections. SACP General Secretary Solly Mapaila told a special congress of the party in Boksburg that a decision had been taken to break the long-standing alliance with the African National Congress (ANC) for the 2026 elections. The decision followed a bilateral meeting with the ANC on November 24 in which many of the grievances of the SACP were discussed but the Party leaders were not satisfied at the replies given by the ANC. The SACP will work out the details of

its future strategy at the special national congress to be held shortly. The ruling tripartite alliance also consists of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). COSATU has not yet reacted to the decision of the SACP. The SACP has its influence on this trade union body, so the political circles are observing whether COSATU will follow the footsteps of the SACP or remain with the ANC as the usual partner. (IPA Service)

S. Korea to invest \$1.9 bn for developing climate tech in 2025

The South Korean government will invest 2.7 trillion won (\$1.9 billion) in developing technologies aimed at tackling climate change next year, the science ministry said. The figure marks a 3.9 per cent increase from the 2.6 trillion-won investment into the scheme in 2024, according to the Ministry of Science and ICT, Yonhap news agency reported. The investment is part of the government's 10-year plan to advance science technologies by 2032 to respond to global warming. South Korea has pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per cent from 2018 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. Next year's budget will be used for developing core technologies for renewable energy.



Rajasthan Forum protests neglect of local artists at 'Rising Summit'

The Rajasthan Forum has expressed deep resentment over the exclusion of Rajasthan-origin artists from the recently organised three-day Rising Rajasthan Summit. In a letter addressed to the Chief Minister, Forum President and Padma Bhushan awardee Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt, also a Grammy Award winner, termed it 'regrettable'. The Rajasthan Forum, comprising 34 distinguished artist members—including 12 Padma awardees—has been committed to promoting the art and culture of the state for over a decade. Raising concerns, the Forum questioned the lack of representation for Rajasthan's artists in such a significant event.

Crackdown on illegal poppy farming in Manipur : Assam Rifles destroyed 6,228 acres in 5 years

The Assam Rifles has identified a staggering 16,250 acres of illegal poppy fields in different districts of Manipur in the past five years and destroyed 6,228 acres, officials said on Sunday. The defence spokesman said that besides fighting against various unlawful activities and crackdown on the drug menaces, the combat against illegal poppy cultivation has been a consistent priority for Assam Rifles, as reflected in its sustained efforts over the years. He said that in 2020 the paramilitary force identified an astounding 8,057 acres of illicit poppy fields in various districts and 1,695 acres were destroyed. Continuing the force's rigorous action, a total of 5,610 acres of unlawful poppy fields were identified and 1,976 acres were destroyed in 2021. And, the next year (2022) the force intensified 494 acres and destroyed 715 acres, including previously undiscovered patches. In 2023, a total of 1,735 acres of illegal poppy cultivation areas were identified and 1,488 acres



were eradicated. This year so far, 354 acres of illicit poppy cultivation areas have been destroyed, primarily in the districts of Ukhrul, Churachandpur and Chandel. The spokesman said that by 2024 the area of identified poppy fields has declined significantly, reflecting the success of the state and Central governments' efforts and the security forces' multi-pronged strategy against illegal poppy farming. The Assam Rifles has been identifying and destroying illegal poppy cultivation in mountainous and forest areas actively in coordination with state and central agencies, including the Narcotics

Control Bureau (NCB), Manipur Police and other Central Armed Police Forces deployed in the area. The NCB, as the nodal agency for drug enforcement under the Ministry of Home Affairs, ensured synergy among all stakeholders during operations, especially during the opium harvesting seasons. Joint operations of different forces have focused on curbing cultivation, disrupting supply chains and dismantling the networks sustaining the illicit drug trade. Beyond destruction operations, Assam Rifles has also prioritised addressing the socio-economic factors driving poppy cultivation, the spokesman said.

200 Russian, North Korean troops allegedly killed in combat against Ukraine : Kyiv

Seoul, Dec 26 (IANS) : Some 200 Russian and North Korean soldiers were estimated to have been killed while fighting in combined units against Ukrainian forces, Kyiv's intelligence authorities said, without specifying the number of casualties for each side. The Defence Intelligence of Ukraine (DIU) made the revelation in a statement, noting that North Korean soldiers have been mobilised for as-

sault operations as part of combined units of Russia's Marine Corps and airborne troops, Yonhap news agency reported on Thursday. Claiming that the North Korean troops suffered 'irreversible losses' from Ukraine's attacks, the DIU said the language barrier is an issue for Russian and North Korean combined units in conducting coordinated operations. "Because of this problem, North Korean soldiers opened 'friendly

fire' on the vehicles of the so-called Ahmat battalion. As a result, they killed eight Kadyrov soldiers," it said, "referring to Chechen fighters. The Ukrainian military also released photos and footage of what appear to be dozens of North Korean soldiers killed along with Russian troops in Russia's Kursk border region, according to a Ukrainian media outlet. Ukrainska Pravda reported on Sunday, citing information from a drone unit, that the soldiers



whose bodies were shown covered in snow were killed during assaults in the Russian region bordering Ukraine on Saturday (local time). "The Madiar channel emphasised that this is a collabo-

rative effort of FPV (first person view)-drone pilots of the 414th Unmanned Strike Aviation Systems Regiment, the Mahura Brigade, the 95th Air Assault Brigade.



Cambodia launches digital platform for informal economy

Phnom Penh, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Cambodian government officially launched a digital platform for the informal economy on Thursday. Speaking at the launch event in Phnom Penh, Prime Minister Hun Manet said the portal marked an important milestone in implementing the National Strategy for Informal Economy Development 2023-2028. He emphasised the platform's significance in providing recognition and support for the informal economy. The move demonstrated the government's commitment to supporting the informal economy, aiming to create opportunities and enhance living standards and overall well-being. Manet said, Xinhua news agency reported.



New Zealand sees increased prices for domestic flights, accommodation

Wellington, Dec 26 (IANS) : New Zealand saw increased domestic air and hotel prices, which means the cost of exploring the country has become more expensive, according to the statistics department Stats NZ on Thursday. New Zealand's domestic air transport prices were up 10.8 per cent in November 2024 compared with October 2024, the highest increase in domestic flight prices since July 2023, Stats NZ said. New Zealand's domestic accommodation prices also rose, up 6.9 per cent over the month, it said. The increased prices for domestic flights coincided with performances by several

global artists around New Zealand, Stats NZ prices and deflators spokesperson Nicola Growden said. However, international airfares and international accommodation prices decreased 2.7 per cent and 4.6 per cent respectively, statistics show, Xinhua news agency reported. Meanwhile, monthly food prices fell 0.1 per cent in November 2024 compared with October 2024, which was contributed by the price fall of vegetables, down 7.9 per cent, Growden said, adding this was the third consecutive month that vegetable prices fell alongside rising fruit prices. Annually, food prices increased 1.3 per cent in the 12 months to November 2024, contributed by butter, milk, and olive oil, following a 1.2 per cent increase in the 12 months to October 2024. According to Stats NZ, New Zealand-resident traveller arrivals were 2.97 million in the October 2024 year, an increase of 383,000 from the October 2023 year. Regarding border crossings, there were 1.07 million border crossings in October 2024.



Outbreak of sheep, goat plague reported in western Mongolia

Ulan Bator, Dec 26 (IANS) : An outbreak of a highly contagious disease affecting sheep and goats has been reported in the western Mongolian province of Khovd, local media reported on Thursday. "Several cases of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), commonly known as sheep and goat plague, have been confirmed in Bulgan soum (an administrative subdivision) of the province," the Bulgan soum governor's office said in a statement. As a result of the outbreak, the soum has been placed under quarantine for an undetermined period, the statement added, Xinhua news agency reported. The livestock sector is a cornerstone of the Mongolian economy, but frequent outbreaks of livestock diseases pose significant challenges to the industry. Mongolia is one of the world's last surviving nomadic countries, where livestock husbandry plays a crucial role in diversifying the landlocked nation's mining-dependent economy. As of the end of 2023, the country had 64.7 million livestock, with goats comprising 38.1 per cent of the total, according to the National Statistics Office.

137 killed in unexploded ordnance blasts in Afghanistan in 2024

Kabul, Dec 26 (IANS) : A total of 137 people lost their lives and more than 330 others sustained injuries following the blasts of unexploded ordnances, remnants of past wars, across Afghanistan since the beginning of 2024, local media reported. "As of the start of 2024, approximately 240 separate incidents have taken place in Afghanistan, resulting in a total of 470 fatalities, including 386 children who have been either martyred or injured," TOLONews quoted Nooruddin Rustamkheil, head of the Directorate of Mine Action Coordination, as saying. According to Rustamkheil, among the deceased, 125 children, 10 men, and two women were accounted for, while the injured comprised 264 children, 53 men, and 16 women.



China's former senior provincial legislator prosecuted for bribery, abuse of power

Beijing, Dec 26 (IANS) : A public prosecution has been initiated against Su Zengtian, formerly a Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Fujian Provincial People's Congress, on suspicion of bribery and abuse of power. Following the Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP)'s designation.



Qatar sends delegation to Syria to finalise embassy reopening

Doha, Dec 26 (IANS) : A Qatari diplomatic delegation has arrived in Damascus, the capital of Syria, to complete the procedures for reopening Qatar's embassy in Syria, Qatari Foreign Ministry spokesperson Majed Al Ansari said. The delegation met with representatives of "Syria's transitional government" and reaffirmed Qatar's commitment to supporting the Syrian people in their pursuit of security, peace, development, and prosperity, according to Al Ansari, Xinhua news agency reported. Al Ansari also noted that participants of the meeting also discussed ways to enhance the flow of Qatari humanitarian aid and assessed the urgent needs of the Syrian population during this critical phase.

Bangladesh plans national election by late 2025 or mid 2026

Dhaka, Dec 26 (IANS) : Bangladeshi interim government's Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus Thursday said it may be possible to hold the next national elections at the end of 2025 or the first half of 2026. "The election can be scheduled between the end of 2025 and the first half of 2026," he said in a televised speech to the nation at 10 am local time on Thursday marking the country's Victory Day. Yunus said he repeatedly appealed to all to arrange the elections after completing all the necessary major reforms. But, due to political consen-

sus, it may be possible to hold the elections by the end of 2025 after completing minor reforms based on the preparation of an accurate voter list, he said. Yunus urged the Election Commission and all social institutions and political parties to take various creative programmes to achieve this goal.



Mentally stimulating down time activities linked to better brain health: study

Canberra, Dec 26 (IANS) : Engaging in mentally stimulating activities during down time, such as reading, can be beneficial for brain health, according to an Australian research. In a new study, researchers from the University of South Australia (UniSA) found that some sedentary, or sitting, activities are better for cognitive function than others. The researchers assessed the 24-hour activity patterns of 397 adults aged 60 and above, and found that socially or mentally stimulat-

ing activities such as reading, playing musical instruments, crafting or talking to others are beneficial for memory and thinking abilities. Watching television or playing video games was found to be detrimental. The researchers said the findings could help reduce the risks of cognitive impairment, including from dementia. "We already know that physical activity is a strong protector against dementia risk, and this should certainly be prioritised if you are trying to improve your brain

health. But until now, we hadn't directly explored whether we can benefit our brain health by swapping one sedentary behavior for another," Xinhua news agency quoted Maddison Mellow, a co-author of the study from UniSA, as saying in the report. She recommended breaking up time spent watching TV or gaming with five-minute bursts of physical activity or more cognitively-engaged seated activity.



Jharkhand HC provides relief to CM Hemant Soren in ED summons case

Ranchi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Jharkhand High Court on Thursday granted relief to Chief Minister Hemant Soren in a case related to his alleged non-compliance with Enforcement Directorate (ED) summonses. During the hearing, the court extended the exemption from Soren's personal appearance in the MP-MLA Special Court of Ranchi until January 16, 2025. Previously, the bench of Justice Anil Kumar Chaudhary had issued a notice to the ED and directed the agency to file a reply. As the ED had not submitted its response so far, the court, granting the agency another opportunity, scheduled the next hearing for January 16, 2025. The case originates from a complaint filed by the ED on February 19, 2024, in the Chief Judicial Magistrate's (CJM) court, accusing Soren of violating Sections 63 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and 174 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). According to the complaint, the ED issued ten summonses to Soren for questioning regarding a land scam linked to the Bargain Zone of Ranchi. Soren appeared in response to only two summonses, which the ED claimed constituted non-compliance under the law. The CJM court took cognisance of the complaint on March 4, 2024, and subsequently transferred the matter to the MP-MLA Special Court.

'Blatant violation': Kerala HC mulls contempt action against CPI-M over road blocking

Kochi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Kerala High Court on Thursday spoke tough as it heard a petition against CPI-M state Secretary M.V. Govindan for leading the party area conference on the main road in the state capital city and is mulling if suo moto contempt proceedings should be initiated against party leaders for this blatant violation of laws. What has irked the high court is this meeting venue was just opposite the Thiruvananthapuram district court and also the Vanchiyoor police station. One reason why the court took a strong position is they noted that 40,821 road accidents occurred in the state this year up till October, in which 3,168 persons died and 45,657 persons sustained injuries. "As per the statistics provided on the official website of Kerala Police, the number of road accidents in Kerala in the year 2024 up to October is 40,821 in which 3,168 persons died and 45,657 persons sustained injuries. The rash and negligent driving in the state has gone to the extent of causing accidents.



Four linked to Canada-based terrorist Arsh Dalla arrested in Punjab

Chandigarh, Dec 26 (IANS) : Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) in a joint operation with Mohali Police, arrested four operatives of Canada-based terrorist Arsh Dalla and another foreign based-handler and recovered three .32 calibre pistols along with 16 cartridges from their possession, said Director General of Police (DGP), Gaurav Yadav, here on Thursday. Those arrested have been identified as Gagandeep Singh and Navjot Singh, both residents of Amloh in Fatehgarh Sahib, Lakhwinder Singh, a resident of Bhadson in Patiala and Vipantpreet Singh, a resident of Faridkot. Besides recovering arms and ammunition from them, the police

have also impounded their white Swift car, in which they were travelling. DGP Yadav said the accused confessed to have fired at a car accessories showroom in Phase 11, Mohali on the intervening night of December 1 and 2 with an intention to intimidate the shop owner and extort money from him as directed by their foreign-based handler, Daljit Singh, alias Ninda. He is a history-sheeter and fled to the US on a passport with fake particulars and is associated with a radicalised US-based gangster. The DGP said the module was linked to radical Arsh Dalla and was planning to execute more crimes in Punjab at his behest. All the arrested accused have an extensive criminal history with a

number of cases registered against them, the DGP said, adding further investigations are ongoing to identify more people involved in this module. Additional Director General of Police, (AGTF), Promod Ban said following the firing incident at a car accessories showroom, special teams of the AGTF under the supervision of AIG Gurmeet Chauhan and AIG Sandeep Goel in coordination with Senior Superintendent of Police (Mohali), Deepak Pareek, were formed to crack the case. The teams gathered CCTV footages, technical inputs and evidence from the crime spot which led to identification of the accused, including the two shooters involved in the crime, he said.

MP Assembly adjourned amid Oppn protest over fertiliser issue

Bhopal, Dec 26 (IANS) : The first day of a five-day winter session of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly only proceeded for an hour on Thursday as the House was adjourned following a protest by the opposition Congress over the fertiliser issue. As the 'Question Hours' session began, some legislators from both the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress raised their questions on different is-

suues. However, the Leader of Opposition (LoP) Umang Singhar demanded to hold a discussion on the fertiliser issue. Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar assured the House that a discussion on the fertiliser issue will be held later. However, Congress MLAs created a ruckus and walked out of the Assembly as their demand was not fulfilled. "We want to discuss the problems of farmers in the Assembly but the state government is running away



from the discussion. If they don't want to hold a discussion that is fine for us but they should provide fertilisers to the farmers," the LoP said. Earlier, LoP Umang Singhar reached the Assembly with empty

sacks of fertilisers as a mark of their protest. The Congress MLAs also raised slogans in front of the Gandhi statue located on the premises of the state Assembly.

Holds talks on national policy draft on agriculture : Punjab minister



Chandigarh, Dec 26 (IANS) : Punjab Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian on Thursday held deliberations with officers on the draft of the national policy framework on agricultural marketing and decided to call a meeting with farmers and other stakeholders within this week. Khudian, along with Additional Chief Secretary Anurag Verma, Chairman of Punjab State Farmers' and Farm Workers' Commission Sukhpal Singh, Secretary of the Punjab Mandi Board, Ramvir, asked the department officials to call a meeting with rep-

representatives of farmers, agriculture experts and other stakeholder immediately to analyse and consult on the draft policy shared by the Central Government. He further said that the draft policy needs thorough analysis and consultation with stakeholders as it could have serious implications for the state and its farmers. He said the Agriculture Department has already shot a letter to S.K. Singh, Deputy Agriculture Marketing Adviser and Convener of the Drafting Committee of the Central Government to give at least three-week time to send comments on the draft policy.



Women are not feeling safe in Karnataka, says BJP's Mahila Morcha chief

Belagavi (Karnataka), Dec 26 (IANS) : The BJP's Karnataka Mahila Morcha President, K. Manjula, stated on Thursday that the women in the state, especially in the north region were not feeling safe under the present government. She made the statement while taking part in the protest in Belagavi condemning the series of maternal deaths in the

state. "Neha Hiremath was killed in Hubballi on a college campus over a love affair. My party workers during my tour in north Karnataka conveyed to me that after the defeat of the BJP in the north region the menace of anti-social elements and bullying has increased," Manjula stated. "In the Bengaluru Rameshwaram Cafe blast, one of the women who went for lunch had lost her eyes. Deputy Chief Minis-

ter, D.K. Shivakumar tried to manage the issue by stating immediately that the blast had taken place in the backdrop of a business rivalry.



J&K Police bust drug trafficking network in Kashmir

Srinagar, Dec 26 (IANS) : Continuing its stringent crackdown on drug trafficking, Srinagar Police has arrested two drug peddlers involved in the trafficking of narcotic substances and recovered substantial quantities of contraband substances from their possession, an official statement said on Thursday. Police said that during a naka checking at Barthana Bund, their team intercepted an Alto vehicle with the accused persons on board, who have been identified as Asif Ahmad Sheikh and Arif Ahmad Sheikh, both residents of Babapora Barthana. "During the search, a substantial quantity of contraband substances was recovered from their possession," police said. An FIR has been registered and both the accused persons have been arrested. The vehicle used in the commission of the crime has also been seized. Police said that the two accused persons are hardcore drug peddlers engaged in large-scale narcotic trafficking among the youth.

Bengal school job case : Calcutta HC rejects anticipatory bail of prime accused Bhadra

Kolkata, Dec 26 (IANS): The Calcutta High Court on Thursday rejected the anticipatory bail plea by West Bengal's multi-crore cash for school job case prime accused Sujay Krishna Bhadra in the case registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the matter. Recently, a single-judge bench of the high court had granted conditional bail to Bhadra in the case registered against him by the Enforce-



ment Directorate (ED), which is conducting a parallel probe in the school job case. However, of late, the CBI has also initiated the process of taking Bhadra, who is currently under treatment at the hospital.

Bharat Electronics Limited bags new orders worth Rs 973 crore

Bengaluru, Dec 26 (IANS) : Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has secured additional orders worth Rs 973 crore since the last disclosure on December 9 this year, the Navratna Defence Public Sector Undertaking said on Thursday.

Major orders include Platform Screen Doors for Metro Rail, Radars, Communication equipment, Jammers, Seekers, Upgraded Submarine Sonar,

Upgraded Satcom Terminals, test stations, spares and services. With these orders, BEL has now accumulated orders totalling Rs 9,801 crore in the current financial year.

BEL had announced on December 9 that it has secured additional orders worth Rs 634 crores since November.

The orders included maintenance of Akash Missile System, telescopic sights for guns, communication equipment, jammers, elec-

tronic voting machines, test stations, spares, services, etc. This had taken the company's order book to Rs 8,828 crore. BEL is a multi-product, multi-technology conglomerate which designs, manufactures and supplies products and systems in a wide variety of fields including radars, missile systems, military communications, naval systems, electronic warfare & avionics systems.



Adani Defence & Aerospace clinches Rs 400 crore deal to acquire Air Works

Ahmedabad, Dec 26 (IANS) : Adani Defence & Aerospace announced on Thursday that it has signed a binding agreement to acquire Air Works, India's largest private-sector maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) company, for an enterprise value of Rs 400 crore. "Adani Defence Systems & Technologies Ltd (ADSTL) has signed a share purchase agreement to acquire 85.8 per cent shareholding in

Air Works India (Engineering) Private Ltd," a company statement said.

Air Works undertakes base maintenance for narrow-body and turboprop aircraft, as well as rotary aircraft from its facilities at Hosur, Mumbai, and Kochi and with regulatory approvals from civil aviation authorities of more than 20 countries.

In addition to being a market leader in civil aviation, Air Works has built significant capabilities in defence MRO, executing projects for key platforms of the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force, the statement said.



Gold gains 30 pc in 2024, silver 35 pc up on COMEX this year : MOFSL

Mumbai, Dec 26 (IANS) : Gold and silver have experienced an impressive rally in 2024, gaining approximately 30 per cent and 35 per cent, respectively, on the Commodity Exchange (COMEX), a report showed on Thursday. While central bank policies and geopolitical risks are significant drivers of gold and silver prices, other factors also play a role in shaping the market, according to the report by Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd (MOFSL).

Hackers steal over \$12.7 billion in over 1,000 crypto heists to date

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : Crypto criminals have stolen over \$1.71 billion worth of cryptos this year, pushing total thefts to shocking levels at \$12.7 billion across more than 1,000 heists to date, data showed on Thursday.

The high value and anonymity of cryptocurrencies make them a magnet for criminals, helping the total value of criminal crypto transactions to hit shocking highs, according to the report by CryptoPresales.com. In five of the past 10 years, including 2024, hackers have stolen over \$1 billion annually.



EV maker Ampere's revenue declines by 46 pc to Rs 612 crore in FY24

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : Electric vehicle (EV) maker Ampere's total income from operations in FY24 declined by 46 per cent to Rs 612 crore, from Rs 1,124 crore in FY23. Ampere's losses also surged nearly 11 times to Rs 215 crore last fiscal, from Rs 20 crore in FY23.

If the company's non-operative (one-time cost) of Rs 477 crore is included, then the company suffered a massive loss of Rs 693 crore in FY24, as per its financials with the Registrar of Companies (ROC). The reason for the decline in the company's income was drop in its scooter sales. Ampere also offers three-wheeler electric vehicles along with electric scooters. Electric scooters accounted for 70 per cent of the company's sales in FY24. The company's income from EV scooters



fell 59 per cent to Rs 432 crore. However, sales of electric three-wheelers grew 2.5 times year-on-year to Rs 178 crore. In the last financial year, Ampere earned Rs 29 crore from non-operational activi-

ties and Rs 2 crore from the sale of scrap. The share of material cost in the total expenses of the company was 61 per cent in FY24. It declined by 40 per cent to Rs 526 crore in FY24.



Exporting MSMEs up from 52,849 in 2020-21 to 1,73,350 in 2024-25

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The total number of exporting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) increased considerably from 52,849 in 2020-21 to 1,73,350 in 2024-25, the government said on Thursday.

MSMEs exports have witnessed a remarkable rise, increasing from Rs 3.95 lakh crore in 2020-21 to Rs 12.39 lakh crore in 2024-25, underscoring their critical role in boosting India's economy and strengthening global trade. MSMEs demonstrated an exemplary growth trajectory, contributing 45.73 per cent to exports in 2023-24, which increased to 45.79 per cent by May 2024, highlighting their growing impact on India's trade performance.

Notably, the gross value added (GVA) by MSMEs in India's GDP was 29.7 per cent in 2017-18 which rose to 30.1 per cent in 2022-23. Even amid the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the sector sustained a contribution of 27.3 per cent in 2020-21, rebounding to 29.6 per cent in 2021-22. These figures highlight the sector's pivotal role in driving economic growth and stability, reflecting its en-

during strength and importance to the Indian economy, said the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. Between July 1, 2020, and July 24, 2024, a significant number of enterprises transitioned to medium enterprises. During the financial year 2020-21 to 2021-22, 714 micro enterprises scaled up to medium and 3,701 small enterprises were upgraded to medium enterprises, informed the ministry.

IREDA lines up Rs 3,000 crore for green energy projects in Odisha

Bhubaneswar, Dec 26 (IANS) : Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) has sanctioned over Rs 3,000 crore for green energy projects across Odisha, covering solar, hydro, ethanol and renewable energy manufacturing sectors, IREDA chairman and managing director Pradip Kumar Das said on Thursday. Addressing the Odisha Solar Investor Conclave, Das reaffirmed IREDA's commitment to the state's ambitious renewable energy target, with the state setting its vision on achieving 10 GW capacity by 2030. Das also spotlighted Odisha's potential to emerge as a leading solar power producer and a hub for solar equipment manufacturing. Sharing IREDA's national contributions, he noted that the company has sanctioned over 2.08 lakh crore and disbursed 1.36 lakh crore towards renewable energy projects, positioning itself as a catalyst for market formation in emerging RE technologies such as ethanol, EV fleet financing, pumped storage hydropower and green ammonia.



Jaipur coaching centre sealed after students fall ill

Jaipur, Dec 26 (IANS) : Utkarsh Coaching Centre in Rajasthan's Jaipur has been sealed after several students fell ill and some fainted on the premises, said officials here. A team from the Greater Municipal Corporation led by Mansarovar Zone Deputy Commissioner Laxmikant Katara on Thursday took action to shut down the centre. The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) team collected water samples, and CCTV footage from the classroom for investigation. The closure comes after a distressing event on Sunday when

multiple students fainted during a class held on the second floor of the coaching centre in Mahesh Nagar (Shri Gopal Nagar) at around 6.45 p.m. Reports indicated that a strange smell filled the classroom, causing students to cough severely and lose consciousness. Soon after the coaching centre's management called 108 ambulance services, and other students helped carry the unconscious individuals to a nearby private hospital. A doctor from a private hospital had earlier confirmed that seven students were brought in with symptoms of suffocation and respiratory distress, while the re-

maining students were admitted to other medical facilities. "The affected students reported coughing and breathlessness but are now in stable condition," the doctor said. Amid the chaos, a clash broke out between the police and some student leaders. Authorities have ruled out the possibility of gas leakage or the smell emanating from the kitchen of a nearby PG facility. The exact cause remains unclear. On Monday, the municipal corporation's investigation team conducted a thorough examination of the premises.



Madras HC questions TN govt on slow action in corruption cases

Chennai, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Madras High Court has strongly criticised the Tamil Nadu government for its slow action in addressing corruption charges and misappropriation cases involving state government employees. A division bench comprising Justices S.M. Subramaniam and M. Jothiraman remarked on Thursday that despite numerous complaints, even basic services were not being provided to the public without the involvement of cor-

ruption. The court highlighted widespread complaints of corruption across state government departments, including uniformed services. The bench directed the Tamil Nadu Home Secretary to respond by January 6, 2025, detailing the government's stance and actions against these allegations. Justice Subramaniam observed: "It is painful to note that poor people have to shell out thousands of rupees as bribe money just to obtain nativity certificates, patta,

and other essential documents. When government employees receive their salaries and allowances on time, why should the poor suffer?" The court further questioned whether the state government was effectively monitoring and controlling the actions of uniformed personnel. It sought clarity on whether appropriate action was being taken against police and prison department officials for lapses, dereliction of duty, and abuse of power.

21 'fake universities' operating in country; 8 based in Delhi

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : There are 21 "fake universities" operating in the country and the respective state governments are taking action against them, the Parliament was informed on Thursday. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said in a reply in Lok Sabha that the list of fake universities is available on the website of the University Grants Commission (UGC) at <https://www.ugc.gov.in/universitydetails/Fakeuniversity>. Out of these 21 "fake universities", a maximum of eight are functioning in Delhi, according to the website. The Minister said that to prevent these institutions from defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities," the Central government has requested Chief Secretaries of all the states and Union Territories to take legal action for the closure of these institutions.



Crimes against female students in MP must be addressed on priority: BJP MLA

Bhopal, Dec 26 (IANS) : Senior BJP leader and former Madhya Pradesh cabinet minister Bhupendra Singh cornered his government over the rising crimes against female students in the state and asked the government to address the issue on priority during the Assembly winter session which began on Thursday. During the 'Question Hours' session, Bhupendra Singh raised questions about the sexual exploitation of minor female students in schools and demanded an answer from the Education Department.

MCG prepares to prevent fire incidents in Bandhwari landfill site

Gurugram, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) is ready to prevent fire incidents in the Bandhwari landfill site situated on Gurugram-Faridabad Road. According to the MCG officials, arrangements have been made in the Bandhwari landfill site to deal with the fire. Six machines have been installed to detect methane gas. With the help of CCTV cameras, the landfill site is being monitored 24 hours a day. Entry of any outsider in this garbage dump has been banned. Claim-

ing to have made all necessary arrangements to deal with fire in future, Joint Commissioner of the MCG Akhilesh Yadav has filed an affidavit in the National Green Tribunal (NGT). Due to repeated incidents of fire in the Bandhwari



garbage dump, NGT had sought answers from the Central Pollution Control Board, Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Forest Department, District Deputy Commissioner and MCG in this matter. At present, garbage from Gurugram and Faridabad is being dumped here.

K'taka BJP MLA says Siddaramaiah govt biased on Panchamasali Lingayat protest issue



Belagavi (Karnataka), Dec 26 (IANS) : Anguished over the Siddaramaiah government's refusal to allow the Panchamasali Lingayat community to stage a protest over reservation quota in Belagavi, BJP MLA and senior leader Basanagouda Patil Yatnal on Thursday said the

current dispensation has turned out to be "complete pro-Muslim". Speaking to reporters here on the Belagavi Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Roshan's categorical no to the protest, Yatnal stated, "We will ask the Deputy Commissioner for his opinion on not permitting the Panchamasali protest. We will ask whether there is democracy in Belagavi or whether the Deputy Commissioner wants to carry out Hitler's rule. The Congress government has an allergy towards agitations by the Hindus." He further charged, "The government thinks of those Muslims as innocents who do arson and set fire to things. The party adores them. Our Home Minister G. Parameshwara questions the protest by farmers who feed him, but he loves Muslim law-breakers. They are withdrawing all cases related to K.G. Halli and D.J. Halli, Hubballi riot and violence incidents."



Bengal Minister faces criticism within party over 'Muslim majority' comments

Kolkata, Dec 26 (IANS) : West Bengal Municipal Affairs & Urban Development Minister and the Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim has started facing criticism from his own party leaders, including Muslims also, for his recent comments predicting that the current "religious minorities" will soon become "majorities" in the state as well as the country. The two Trinamool Congress MLAs who criticized Hakim have the same name -- Humayun Kabir. Soon after Hakim's comments made during a public programme went viral on social media on Saturday evening, the party legislator from Bharatpur constituency in Murshidabad district Humayun Kabir advised the minister to be more careful about what he was saying at a public forum.



209 Hindus killed in Sambhal since 1947 : CM Yogi

Lucknow, Dec 26 (IANS) : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, while addressing the Winter Session of the Assembly on Thursday, accused the Opposition of turning a blind eye to violence against Hindus in Sambhal in the state. Yogi Adityanath stated that 209 Hindus have been killed in communal incidents in Sambhal since 1947. Yogi Adityanath elaborated on the history of violence in the region, saying, "Riots started in Sambhal from 1947 itself. One person was killed in 1947, six more in 1948. Between 1958 and 1962, several riots took place, and five people were killed in 1976. In 1978, 184 Hindus were burnt alive in mass violence, leading to curfews lasting several months. Riots continued into the 1980s, which claimed more lives -- one in 1980, one in 1982, and four in 1986. Violence persisted in 1990-1992, with five deaths, and in 1996, with two more deaths." He accused the Opposition of remaining silent during these incidents. "Since

1947, 209 Hindus have been killed in Sambhal, but not a single word was spoken for the innocent victims. Those shedding crocodile tears today never stood for justice back then," he said. Yogi Adityanath also recounted the horrors of the 1978 riots, alleging that a Hindu moneylender who had provided loans to locals was targeted, along with others who had sought refuge in his home. "They were surrounded, brutally attacked and murdered in the most inhuman ways. Yet, Opposition leaders dare to talk about harmony today," he said. Yogi Adityanath also pointed to Uttar Pradesh's improved law and order situation under his government.

I saw Nehru documents being shredded, says historian Rizwan Kadri

Ahmedabad, Dec 26 (IANS) : Historian Dr Rizwan Kadri on Thursday claimed that he had seen an elderly person shred many documents and letters related to first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.



Dr Kadri, a member of the Prime Ministers' Museum and Library (PMML) Society, told IANS, "An internal inquiry committee has been set up to look into allegations of destruction and non-availability of documents related to Nehru." The researcher said in 2008, a total of 51 carton boxes containing Nehru's letters written to various persons, including Aruna Asif Ali, Jaiprakash Narayan, Govind Ballabh Pant and Edwina Mountbatten, the last vicereine of India, were "withdrawn" from the PMML in New Delhi at the request of Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, as a representative of the donor family. He said before the withdrawal of the documents these were bifurcated as offi-

cial correspondence and private papers. Seeking an early return of the Nehru letters and documents to the museum to facilitate research, Dr Rizwan, known for his research on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, said, "I have no clue about the fate of the documents in 51 boxes that were withdrawn by Sonia Gandhi." He said researchers like him would continue to request and wait to get access to the crucial documents, hoping the documents would be digitized and shared with the public by Gandhi on a website at some stage. Dr Rizwan expressed regret that the documents were withdrawn -- something which should not have happened once these had been donated to the Museum. "This matter was also discussed in the institution and there were some who expressed that the documents could not be withdrawn once these had been donated. Legal opinion was also taken and a suggestion for auditing of documents was also given. An internal inquiry committee has also been set up to look into the matter," he said. Calling the withdrawn collection very important, he refused to speculate if the documents would still be safe.

Bhubaneswar: Bees attack Cong workers during protest against IAS officer

Bhubaneswar, Dec 26 (IANS) : The workers of Odisha Chhatra Congress and Yuva Congress were attacked by a swarm of bees during their protest near the residence of senior IAS officer and principal secretary in the SC/ST welfare and Odisha language department, Bishnupada Sethi here on Thursday. The Congress workers were demanding the arrest of the senior bureaucrat over his alleged involvement in the Rs 10 lakh bribery case. As per reports, the winged insects attacked the workers as someone disturbed a beehive on a tree near Sethi's residence in the city. The sudden attack of bees forced the protesters to run away from the place. The police personnel deployed at the spot and journalists reporting the protest were also forced to duck on the ground to save themselves from the attack.



Can basic safety be implemented in slums and JJ clusters, Delhi HC asks Fire Dept, MCD

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Delhi High Court on Thursday asked the city government's Fire Department and Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to examine the feasibility of implementing a basic level of safety for the residents of slums and JJ clusters.

A bench of Acting Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) highlighting the tragic incident in the slums of Neb Sarai, where a fire claimed the lives of a 12-year-old girl and a woman.

"This preventable disaster occurred because emergency services, including fire brigades, could not access the area due to

narrow and congested streets," said the petition filed by Alliance For People's Rights, a network of NGOs.

This heartbreaking event has brought into sharp focus the administrative apathy that has not only violated the fundamental right to life guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India but also caused immense hardship to the community, it added. The petition said that the fire caused immense hardship to approximately 100 individuals, most of whom belonged to economically vulnerable groups, and these families lost not only their makeshift homes but also their meagre possessions, plunging them further into despair.



Temples promote stupidity, schools rationality : RJD MLA

Patna, Dec 26 (IANS) : Known for making controversial statements, RJD MLA Fateh Bahadur Singh on Thursday once again sparked controversy, saying that while temples promote stupidity, it is the schools which promote rationality. "Today, there are two paths in society. People either send their children to the temple or to school. The temple promotes superstition, hypocrisy, and stupidity while the school promotes rational knowledge, scientificity, and change in life."



AAP in Punjab failed to address issues concerning municipal polls : Congress

Chandigarh, Dec 26 (IANS) : Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee President Amarinder Singh Raja Warring on Thursday slammed the ruling AAP for its failure to address issues concerning the ongoing municipal council elections. Beginning his day at the Khanauri border, the Ludhiana MP met farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who is on his 21st day of a hunger strike till death. Warring described his fight as one for all Punjabis and a testament to the relentless spirit of farmers who are the backbone of the nation. Warring lashed out at the Central government for its indifferent attitude toward farmers' demands, stating, "The treatment of our farmers by the Central government is condemnable. I appeal to all Punjabis to unite and support Dallewal-ji in this struggle

for our rights. The Congress has always stood with the farmers and will continue to do so." He emphasised how the issue has been consistently raised in the Parliament and added Rahul Gandhi has and will continue to amplify the farmers' voice on national platforms.



CIDCO's Navi Mumbai Metro bags three ISO certifications

Navi Mumbai, Dec 26 (IANS) : The City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra Ltd. (CIDCO)'s Navi Mumbai Metro has bagged three ISO certifications for Quality Management, Environmental Management and Occupational Health & Safety standards, an official said on Thursday. Operated by the Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation Ltd. (MMRCL), the (ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001) certifications came in the very first year of its operations and were received by the CIDCO Joint Managing Director Shantanu Goel. "The ISO certifications reinforce CIDCO's commitment to providing world-class metro ser-

vices while prioritizing quality, sustainability, and safety. Again, it has underscored CIDCO's prominence in urban development and infrastructure sectors," said CIDCO Vice-Chairman and MD Vijay Singhal. This makes the Navi Mumbai Metro line the only one in the state to have all three ISO honours, awarded by the British Standards Institution, he added. The officials said that the prestigious ISO certifications are a testament to CIDCO's continuous efforts in improving the operational excellence of Navi Mumbai Metro.



Gurugram: GMDA conducts anti-encroachment drive on SPR Road

Gurugram, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) continued its crackdown against encroachment wherein the Enforcement Wing of GMDA on Thursday conducted an intensive demolition drive along Southern Periph-

eral Road (SPR) and demolished illegal permanent structures in Rambir ki Dhani which were constructed without permission. "When the SPR alignment was finalized and the land was demarcated, alternative plots were awarded by HSPV to the land owners.

Nitish Kumar lacks vision, says Tejashwi Yadav

Patna, Dec 26 (IANS) : Bihar Leader of the Opposition Tejashwi Yadav criticised Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, saying that he lacks vision for the development of the state. Yadav accused Nitish Kumar

of lacking vision, innovation, and a concrete roadmap for the state's development. He also criticised the Chief Minister for relying on "retired officers" and outdated ideas, asserting that Bihar now requires "a new vision" to progress.



Chittorgarh Fort holds unique identity globally : Rajasthan MP in LS

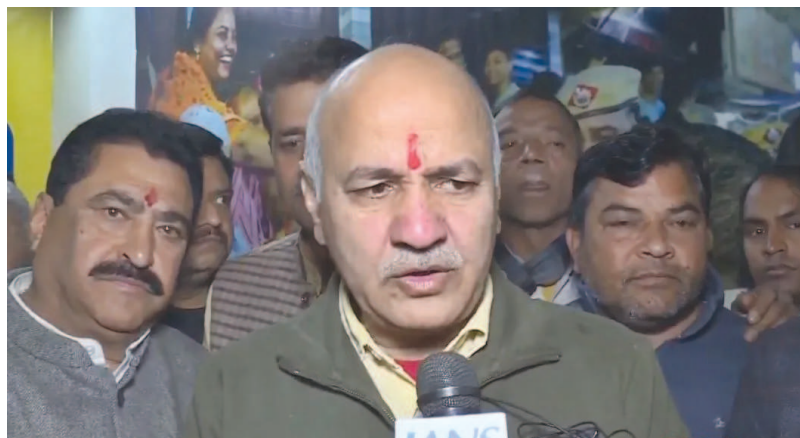
Jaipur, Dec 26 (IANS) : Rajasthan's Chittorgarh MP C.P. Joshi on Thursday inquired in Lok Sabha during the question hour session about the construction of a memorial dedicated to Bhakt Shiromani Meerabai inside Chittorgarh Fort while saying that the fort holds a unique identity

globally. Highlighting the historical significance of the fort, MP Joshi stated: "Chittorgarh Fort holds a unique identity globally. As the largest fort in Asia, Chittorgarh boasts a rich and glorious history associated with figures like Meera, Panna, Padmini, and Maharana Pratap."

AAP high on confidence, BJP has no agenda or leadership : Manish Sisodia

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : The Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) confidence is soaring high, while it's the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) which has been floundering and tottering in the run-up to the Delhi Assembly elections, said former Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Thursday. Senior party leader Sisodia, speaking to IANS said that the Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP is marching ahead with full confidence and is ready to pin down its rivals in the upcoming polls because people are happy with its good governance in the past ten years and ready to give it another chance. "We have an excellent team of leaders, led by grassroots leader Arvind Kejriwal. In the past

ten years, we have improved the city's parameters in education, health and many other sectors. "However, the BJP has neither any leadership nor any issues and agenda for the city. It's only agenda is to keep complaining against our government and hence the rudderless BJP will offer no challenge to us," Sisodia stated. Notably, Delhi Assembly elections are likely to be held in February next year. Political parties have already stepped up their campaign, with the AAP announcing fresh poll pledges of free electricity, water and more, while the BJP is firing volleys accusing the CM Atishi government of fooling and misleading Delhiites with 'fake' promises.



Six killed as vehicle falls into ravine in south Afghanistan

Kabul, Dec 26 (IANS) : A vehicle carrying a family fell into a ravine in southern Afghanistan's Helmand province, claiming the lives of six, the Xinhua news agency reported citing information received by the provincial department of information and culture. The accident took place in the province's Babaji district after the vehicle lost control and fell into a steep and deep ravine, kill-

ing six people, including women and children, on the spot, said the source. Six commuters lost their lives and four others sustained injuries as a jeep plunged into a river in northern Badakhshan province last week. Poor conditions on roads, reckless driving and lack of security measures are among causes of deadly road accidents in the war-ravaged country. Earlier this month, in an accident

that took place in northern Jawzjan province on a highway linking the province with neighbouring Sari Pul province, one person was killed on the spot and 10 others were injured. In another accident, a car veered off the road and overturned in Shahr-e-Safa district of southern Zabul province along a highway linking Kandahar with the national capital Kabul, killing two and injuring two others.

The officials had blamed reckless driving for the mishaps, asserting that drivers' carelessness on congested roads often claimed commuters' lives. On November 25, at least six people were killed after a passenger vehicle fell into the Kokcha River in the Badakhshan province. The mishap took place when the vehicle was heading toward Faizabad city, the capital of the province.

Swachh Bharat Mission drives toilet cleaner usage in India by 53pc in 2024

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS) : Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or Clean India Mission has driven toilet cleaner usage in Indian households by 53 per cent in 2024, according to a report. The report by Kantar, a market research firm, showed that the country has seen a dramatic rise in the use of toilet cleaners and floor cleaners. From 19 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively of households using these in 2014, it more than doubled to 53 per cent using toilet cleaners and 22 per cent buying floor cleaners in 2024. Launched by the government on October 2, 2014, the Swachh Bharat Mission is a

country-wide campaign initiated to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management and to create Open Defecation Free (ODF) villages. The report attributed the growth of toilet cleaner usage in households to the mission's success, coupled with marketing efforts. It said the mission significantly improved hygiene awareness and product penetration, particularly in rural areas. As per the report, over 128 million new households have been added in the toilet cleaners, and 52 million homes in the floor cleaners segment. The report said the surface cleaner market is about Rs 4,200 crore,



with toilet cleaners accounting for half the segment at Rs 2,000 crore. Kantar said the category was largely urban-centric a decade ago -- that's changed drastically. A decade ago, 82 per cent of households that bought toilet cleaners were in urban areas, it was 90 per cent for floor cleaners. "Urban is no longer the dominant

source of the category with rural contributing to 52 per cent," said K Ramakrishnan, managing director, South Asia, world panel division at Kantar. "Clearly, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan drove the importance of cleanliness to the Indian households, and simultaneously helped manufacturers to drive penetration of household hygiene categories as well."

Since its inception in 2014, the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has led to over 500,000 villages achieving ODF (Open Defecation-Free) plus status with rural sanitation rising from 39 per cent to 100 per cent.



Kerala announces Crime Branch probe into govt school question paper leaks

Thiruvananthapuram, Dec 26 (IANS) : Days after the alleged leak of question papers for the second-term Christmas examinations in Kerala's state-run schools, the government on Thursday announced a Crime Branch probe into the matter. The controversy erupted after question papers of the Class 11 mathematics and Class 10 English examinations appeared on a YouTube channel, and got huge traction. State Education Minister V.Sivankutty had then announced that he took the incident very seriously and the General Education department would do what was necessary. Subsequently, the General Education Department lodged a police complaint on this matter.



Policeman killed in attack on anti-polio team in Pakistan

Islamabad, Dec 26 (IANS) : A policeman was killed in firing by unknown gunmen in Pakistan's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police officers said on Thursday. A polio worker was also critically injured when some unknown armed persons attacked a polio vaccination team in Shakarkhel area of Karak district of the province. The attackers fled the scene after car-

rying out the attack, and a search operation was underway to arrest the culprits, police said. Following the incident, a heavy contingent of police reached the area. Security forces cordoned off the area and launched an investigation into the attack, Xinhua news agency reported. Earlier, the Pakistani government launched a fresh nationwide anti-polio campaign after cases rose to 63 so far in 2024. As IANS reported at the start of this month, the Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio Eradication at the National Institute of Health (NIH).

Shaina NC praises Omar as 'mature leader' for criticising Cong's objections to EVMs

Mumbai, Dec 26 (IANS) : National Conference (NC) leader and Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah's, recent criticism of the INDIA bloc ally Congress' objections to Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) has sparked a response from Shiv Sena leader Shaina NC, who lauded Abdullah as a 'very mature leader.' Speaking to IANS on Thursday, Shaina NC praised Abdullah for questioning the credibility of EVM-related objections within the INDIA bloc. Abdullah had on Sunday pointed out the inconsistency in the Opposition bloc's stance on EVMs.



K'taka Health Minister promises control on rising cesarean deliveries

Belagavi (Karnataka), Dec 26 (IANS) : The Karnataka government stated on Thursday that the number of cesarean deliveries was rising in the state and announced that a new programme would be launched by next month to control this. Karnataka Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao made the announcement in the Legislative Council in Belagavi on Thursday. Health Minister Rao made this statement in response to a question by the Congress Legislative Council member Jagadev Guttedar during the session held at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi.

BJP misleading people with baseless allegations on Waqf : K'taka govt

Belagavi, Dec 26 (IANS) : Karnataka Minister for RDPR, IT and BT Priyank Kharge said on Thursday that the BJP is misleading people with baseless allegations on the issue of Waqf in the state. "The BJP has been discussing the Waqf issue for the past week. However, they are speaking without any evidence, documentation, or proof. Their only intention is to mislead people. Vijayendra is responsible for offering Rs 150 crore to suppress the report on the Waqf scam case and owes an explanation."



Pakistan to act against human traffickers after migrant boat capsizes in Greece

Islamabad, Dec 26 (IANS): Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has taken serious note of the boat capsizing incident in southern Crete Island of Greece, which was carrying dozens of Pakistanis trying to enter Europe illegally. He directed the country's interior ministry to identify and nab the mafia of human traffickers operating in the country.

So far, at least one Pakistani is confirmed dead while at least 47 others have been rescued following incidents of capsized boats in the south of Crete Island of Greece on Thursday. Pakistan foreign office stated that they cannot confirm the number of deceased or missing Pakistani nationals for now.

"According to initial reports, 47 Pakistanis are among those rescued following yesterday's incidents of capsized boats in Crete Island of Greece. One Pakistani is confirmed to be among the dead. At this stage, we are unable to confirm the number of deceased or missing Pakistani nationals," read a statement issued by Pakistan's foreign office.



Mystery illness that causes 'excessive body shaking' affects about 300 people in Uganda

New Delhi, Dec 26 (IANS): About 300 people in Uganda have reportedly been affected by a mystery illness that causes 'excessive body shaking'. The disease, named 'Dinga Dinga' by locals in the country's Bundibugyo district, is majorly affecting women and girls, Ugandan newspaper The Monitor reported. The symptoms of the illness include fever and excessive body shaking which makes walking a challenge.

The illness is currently being treated with antibiotics, given by community health teams, and no fatalities have been reported so far, Dr. Kiyita Christopher, the district health officer, was quoted as saying.

"There is no scientific evidence that herbal medicine can treat this disease. We are using specific treatments, and patients usually recover within a week. I urge lo-

cal to seek treatment from health facilities within the district," he said. The doctor noted that no instances had been recorded in nearby areas outside of the Bundibugyo region.

He informed that samples have been submitted to the health ministry for analysis. The country's Health Ministry is yet to issue an official statement about the disease. The last such disease was recorded as the dancing plague of 1518, which occurred in Strasbourg, France. People would dance spontaneously, often for days on end, seemingly against their own will and without the ability to stop, and some reportedly died due to over-exhaustion. Meanwhile, another African country is also seeing a mysterious outbreak that has reportedly affected about 400 people.



South Korean govt to expedite economic policy implementation to assist market stabilisation

Seoul, Dec 26 (IANS): The South Korean government will accelerate its implementation of key economic policy measures to help normalise financial markets, which have largely stabilised following the impeachment of President Yoon Suk Yeol over the weekend, the country's top economic policymaker said Thursday. Finance Minister Choi Sang-mok made the remarks during an emergency meeting with Bank of Korea Governor Rhee Chang-yong and other top financial officials, which has been held on a daily basis to discuss ways of minimising economic impacts of Yoon's short-lived imposition of martial law on December 3, Yonhap news agency reported. Officials at the meeting noted that the local stock market has shown significant stabilisation, thanks to active government intervention and a buying spree by institutional investors. Volatility in the foreign exchange market, which initially spiked, has also largely subsided, they added, according to the finance ministry.

Israel launches first wave power plant

Jerusalem, Dec 26 (IANS): Israel has inaugurated its first power plant that generates electricity from sea waves, Israel's Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure said in a statement. Located at Jaffa Port in the Mediterranean city of Tel Aviv-Yafo, the power plant has an installed capacity of 100 kilowatts. It was developed by the Israeli energy company Eco Wave Power and built in collaboration with the French state-owned electricity utility EDF and the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality, with funding from the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, Xinhua news agency reported.

The facility consists of 10 buoys installed along the breakwater at Jaffa Port, each connected to a patented energy conversion unit that allows for



easy operation and maintenance. The buoys rise and fall with wave movements, driving a hydraulic motor and generator onshore. The system is capable of generating electricity from waves as low as 60 cm in height. Equipped with a smart control system, the technology raises the buoys above the sea surface during storms to prevent damage.

All electricity generated by the project is supplied to Israel's national grid, with the state-owned Israel Electric Corporation purchasing all the energy produced by the facility.

The ministry noted that the project is a step toward increasing energy production from renewable sources, reducing air pollution, and enhancing Israel's energy security.



Australia warns travellers to Fiji of methanol poisoning risk

Canberra, Dec 26 (IANS): The Australian government has updated its travel advice for Fiji after several tourists were hospitalized with suspected alcohol poisoning.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has advised travellers to Fiji to be wary of potential methanol poisoning through alcohol.

It comes after seven tourists, including four Australians, were hospitalized after consuming alcohol at a resort bar in Fiji on Thursday night local time.

Israel continues airstrikes across Syria, targeting military arsenals

Damascus, Dec 26 (IANS): Israeli warplanes launched multiple airstrikes early Thursday, targeting former military arsenals across Syria, according to a war monitor. The latest raids hit missile bases in Battalion 107 near Zama and weapons warehouses in rural Tartus, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported. Earlier on Thursday evening, an Israeli jet reportedly struck radar installations at the Deir Al-Zour Military Airport in eastern Syria. Israeli aircraft targeted former munitions depots dug into mountains in Rural Damascus, causing a series of powerful explosions.

There were no reports of casualties. These attacks are part of an ongoing military campaign by Israel that began on December 8, targeting any remaining military capabilities linked to Syria's former leadership, as the country's new authorities are working to stabilize the country's security situation. Meanwhile, Syria's Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS)



leader, Ahmad al-Shara, held a meeting with UN Special Envoy for Syria Geir Pedersen in Damascus to discuss the political transition in the country, according to a statement released by local al-Watan Online news outlet.

Al-Shara, also known as Abu Mohammed al-Julani, said that UN Security Council Resolution 2254, adopted in 2015 concerning Syria's political transition, now requires an update to reflect the current realities in the country, urging a "fresh approach" that aligns with Syria's new leadership and evolving circumstances.

Peace talks over eastern Congo aborted

Kinshasa, Dec 26 (IANS): A peace summit scheduled for Thursday to address conflicts in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was called off at the last minute due to a tough negotiation standoff, it was revealed on Thursday.

Angolan President Joao Lourenco was set to host DRC President Felix Tshisekedi and Rwandan President Paul Kagame, in a bid to ease tensions gripping the eastern DRC by securing an agreement supposed to be signed by the three heads of state.

The summit was planned as part of the "Luanda Process," a peace initiative launched in 2022 and endorsed by the African Union, to accelerate re-

gional stabilization. Tshisekedi arrived in the Angolan capital of Luanda early Sunday for the summit and met with Lourenco and former Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, broker of the "Nairobi Process," a parallel peace mechanism led by the East African Community (EAC). However, Kagame did not board a flight to Luanda and walked away from the summit, Xinhua news agency reported. "The agreement has been 99 per cent negotiated," Angolan Foreign Minister Tete Antonio told the press after the tripartite summit was called off. "One of the parties requested the postponement of the summit until there is a common language," said Antonio. The peace agreement was aborted due to a tough negotiation standoff. Meanwhile, tensions



have been on the rise on the ground with ongoing clashes between government military and rebels. According to Rwanda's Foreign Ministry, the ministerial meeting in Luanda on Saturday failed to reach a consensus between Rwanda and the DRC regarding a commitment to direct talks with the March 23 Movement (M23) rebel group. "The DRC had accepted the principle of a dialogue with the M23, before surprising us with a refusal on the eve of the summit," said Rwandan Foreign Minister Olivier Nduhungirehe. The eastern DRC continues to face instability due to the M23 rebel group, which has been advancing and seizing large areas of territory.



Lula vows to 'severely punish' coup plotters after recovery

Sao Paulo, Dec 26 (IANS): Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has vowed to "severely punish" those involved in the 2022 coup attempt. "I believe that General Braga has every right to the presumption of innocence," Lula said during a press conference, referring to the detained retired general Walter Braga Netto, who served as minister of defence under former President Jair Bolsonaro.

The event, held at Sirio Libanes Hospital shortly after Lula's discharge, marked his first public appearance since undergoing emergency skull surgery last week.

Young kids, professionals from 65 countries participate in global AI competition in Russia

Moscow, Dec 26 (IANS): Young children and professionals from 65 countries, including India, have taken part in AIChallenge, an international AI competition for children organised by Sberbank and AI Alliance Russia. India became second in the number of registered participants at the AI Challenge. Participants from other BRICS countries include Ethiopia, Egypt, and South Africa.





Shankar Spends 92 Crore on Game Changer 5 Songs?

Shankar, the visionary director known for his lavish approach to filmmaking, has once again gone all out for his latest venture Game Changer. With songs like

Raa Macha Macha (40M views), Dhop (24M views), Naa Naa Hyraanaa (44M views), and Jaragandi (50M views), the buzz is not only about the massive number of views but also the rumored exorbitant budget spent on these songs. Known for his penchant for grandiose visual spectacles.



KD Shiva Shiva Song: A Divine experience

KD - The Devil, Kannada movie starring Dhruva Sarja produced by KVN productions on a massive budget has been in news from the announcement. The movie makers have released a divine folk song praising Lord Shiva, Shiva Shiva. The song composed by composer Arjun Janya is rich in orchestral brilliance and the song ignites our devotion to the almighty. Ajay Devgn and Lokesh Kanagaraj unveiled the song, today. Lyrics written by Chandrabose touches our heart and song sung by Kailesh Kher, Vijay Prakash give us a huge devotional experience. Unknowingly, we dance to the folk beats lost in a trance praying to Shiva. Dhruva Sarja, known for his dance moves, made this energetic song even more memorable. The young actor is playing a dynamic character in this movie, KD - The Devil and the makers express confidence that the movie will become a huge blockbuster.

Ashnoor Kaur experiences vulnerability and rediscovery through her film 'Kisko Tha Pata'

Actress Ashnoor Kaur revealed that her character, Shreya, in the new film "Kisko Tha Pata" goes through an emotional rollercoaster, filled with vulnerability, strength, and rediscovery. Speaking about her role, Ashnoor shared, "Shreya is a character that resonates deeply with anyone who has experienced the weight of love and the fear of losing it.



Rs 2 crore assistance by Allu Arjun, makers of 'Pushpa-2' for family of stampede victim

Actor Allu Arjun, producers and director of 'Pushpa 2: The Rule' have announced Rs 2 crore for the family of the woman who was killed and her son who was critically injured during the premiere show of the movie at Sandhya Theatre on Dec 4.



Tollywood in Turmoil: Manchu Vishnu Calls for Unity

It seems as though the ever-changing Tollywood industry is flooded with chaos, with waves of scandal, celebrity, and private drama sweeping through it. There has been a flurry of activity lately due to the deadly stampede during the Pushpa 2 premiere, the ongoing Manchu family conflict, and the emphasis on Jaani Master. Manchu Vishnu, the association's president, has come up with a statement in the middle of this turmoil, calling for industry unity and composure. During his speech, Vishnu reminded the film community of the modest origins of the Telugu film industry in Hyderabad.



Mohanlal's Barroz 3D Promises a Grand Experience

The Malayalam cinema icon Mohanlal has taken on the role of both director and lead actor for his highly anticipated film Barroz 3D. Produced under the banner of Aashirvad Cinemas by Antony Perumbavoor, this film is set to take audiences on a grand fantasy adventure. The movie which is a 3D fantasy drama has already created a huge buzz with its promotional content setting high expectations for its release. Barroz 3D is releasing on December 25 as a special Christmas treat, and the Telugu version of the film is being distributed grandly by Mythri Movie Makers. During the pre-release press meet, Mohanlal expressed his excitement about

the project and his longstanding association with the film industry. He shared his gratitude for the love and support he's received over the years and revealed that directing Barroz 3D was a dream come true for him. "This is a 3D film, created with a native approach to 3D filmmaking. No one has attempted a movie in this format in the last 40 years. It's a children-friendly film, designed for both young and adult audiences to enjoy," said Mohanlal. He emphasized that the film celebrates the child within everyone and brings a fresh approach to storytelling.

Sai Pallavi To Become Yellamma : Will It Happen?

This is not debating the fact that extremely talented actress Sai Pallavi is one of the most followed South Indian beauties in Telugu Cinema. Her following and fame are almost on par with most heroes in Tollywood. As per the latest report, Sai Pallavi could be putting an end to the long wait to entertain the Telugu audience with a straight Telugu film. The latest reports are suggesting that she will soon

be seen in Telugu film after a long while. Apparently, Pallavi has been approached to play the principal female lead role in Yellamma which is conceived by Venu of Balagam fame. The actress has principal agreed to be a part of the film, and once she signs the dotted lines, she will be playing the hyped Yellamma character in the film. Sai Pallavi is usually very selective and filtered about her films as she likes to do only characters and content that fully appeals to her.

So by this meter, if she really has been impressed by the script narrated by Venu, then it could very well mean that the film has a lot of impetus. Needless to say Sai Pallavi would also be determined to make a comeback in Tollywood after a long while with a good film that would entertain the audience. For now, what is confirmed, is that Venu has signed up Nithiin for the male lead role. If things go as planned, then Sai Pallavi could be playing the Yellamma character in the film.



Will Sukumar Say Goodbye to Movies?

The world of cinema is often likened to a blazing firework—its brilliance captivating but sometimes marked by the unexpected fallout. At a recent event in Hyderabad, director Sukumar, known for his trailblazing work on Pushpa: The Rule, left audiences stunned with a seemingly offhand remark. When asked what he would want to leave behind, Sukumar casually responded, "Cinema." His quip, however lighthearted, sparked ripples of shock, especially from superstar Ram Charan, who was seated beside him. Charan swiftly intervened, taking the mic to plead with Sukumar not to abandon his craft. The timing of Sukumar's comment adds



to the drama surrounding Pushpa 2. Lead actor Allu Arjun is embroiled in legal troubles following a tragic incident at the film's premiere. A stampede erupted when the actor greeted fans outside the venue, leading to the death of a woman and severe injuries to her son, who remains hospitalized. Authorities arrested Allu Arjun on December 13, placing him in judicial custody before granting interim bail. Yet, delays in paperwork saw the actor spend a night in jail, deepening the saga. Police officials have since intensified their investigation, preparing to submit video evidence claiming Allu Arjun ignored warnings to leave the venue on the fateful evening.

Malaika Arora's Viral Message to Wives Shakes the Internet!

Bollywood beauty Malaika Arora's advice to married women is like a refreshing cup of tea in a world that constantly stirs the pot. Recently, the diva, who continues to live life on her own terms, shared some wisdom for wives or those about to say "I do." Through a candid chat with Bollywood channels, Malaika made it clear that maintaining individuality after marriage is key to a happy life. And she's not just talking about emotional independence — she's advocating for financial freedom too.

The Chaiyya Chaiyya star expressed that women should keep their finances separate even after tying the knot. "Independent rakho baba. Jo tera hai voh tera hai, jo mera hai voh mera hai," she said, emphasizing the importance of retaining your own identity in a relationship. "When you get married, you try to fuse your worlds, but it's crucial to hold onto your own bank account.

