

SKYLINE

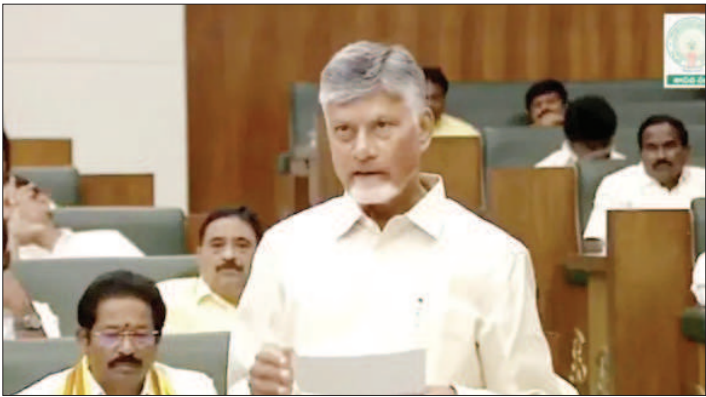
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Electricians and plumbers evaluated Group-1 papers: CM Chandrababu makes sensational comments in the Assembly

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, August 19
Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has alleged that a huge scam took place in the APPSC Group-1 recruitments during the previous government. He expressed deep anger that the answer sheets of the exams conducted as part of the selection process for top officials who will shape the future of the state were edited with electricians, plumbers, drivers and security guards, and there could be no greater scandal than this. Chandrababu spoke in detail about these irregularities in the debate held in the Legislative Assembly under Rule 344 on Wednesday. Chandrababu said that the entire evaluation process related to the Group-1 notification issued in 2018 has become a hotbed of irregularities. He criticized that



even the orders of the High Court were defied, false affidavits were filed and the evaluation responsibilities were entrusted to very private individuals. He alleged that the then Intelligence Chief PSR Anjaneyulu took charge as the APPSC Secretary and entrusted this process to his friends and relatives. He alleged that the exam answer sheets were sent in PDF format through private Gmail, Google Drive and WhatsApp, completely corrupting the system. He said that the answer sheets were kept and evaluated unofficially for 84 days in the Highlands under the control of the CID, and Rs. 1.19 crore was spent for this. He explained that forensic reports make it clear that out of the 734 OMR slips examined, 718 slips had been altered and additions had been made, and that whitener had also been used. He said that irregularities were committed by not having CCTV cameras in the evaluation center for 17 days and allowing mobile phones. Chandrababu expressed his concern that this entire affair is playing with the future of the (Contd. on pg.2)

New buildings for 37 degree colleges.. Model libraries in 175 constituencies: Minister Lokesh

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, August 19
Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh said that the government has taken key decisions to provide better infrastructure to students in the state, and as part of this, permanent buildings will be constructed for 37 government degree colleges that do not have their own buildings. Similarly, it was announced in the Legislative Assembly that an action plan has been prepared to set up model libraries in 175 constituencies in the state. Minister Lokesh was answering questions



asked by members in the Legislative Assembly today. MLA Bhuma Akhilapriya brought to the attention of the assembly that students are facing difficulties due to the lack of a permanent building for the government degree college in the Allagadda constituency. Responding to this, the minister said that the number of students in the college has now reached 103 and the required land is available for the college. He assured that a new building and the construction of the (Contd. on pg.2)

FM Sitharaman-led delegation to review India-Singapore economic ties at 4th ISMR

New Delhi, Aug 19 : Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has left for Singapore to participate in the fourth India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) which is scheduled to be held on August 19-20, the Finance Ministry said on Wednesday. Taking to the social media platform X, the ministry stated that FM Sitharaman is leading a ministerial delegation comprising External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Minister of State for



Electronics and IT and Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada. Established in 2022, the ISMR is a high-level economic mechanism between India and Singapore aimed at reviewing bilateral economic cooperation and (Contd. on pg.2)

Andhra govt allays fears over data centres affecting water supply to Visakhapatnam

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, August 19
Andhra Pradesh IT Minister, Nara Lokesh, on Wednesday defended the state government's decision to establish data centres in Visakhapatnam, claiming that misinformation was being spread over their environmental and water requirements. Speaking in the State Legislative Assembly, Minister Lokesh said Google's decision to invest in Visakhapatnam had triggered wider interest from other IT companies in the city. He was responding to a question raised by Jana



Sena MLA, Lokam Naga Madhavi. Minister Lokesh said data centres are critical to the AI-driven digital economy and India's data sovereignty, particularly amid emerging geopolitical challenges. He explained that once the proposed data-centre ecosystem reaches the targeted 6.5 GW capacity, it is estimated to require around 3 TMC of water annually based on current technology, while stressing that newer cooling technologies are expected to (Contd. on pg.2)

Youth to play key role in BRICS energy ties

New Delhi, Aug 19 : The Eighth BRICS Youth Energy Summit 2026, held here, has reaffirmed the pivotal role of BRICS youth in advancing energy cooperation and shaping solutions for a secure, sustainable, inclusive and future-ready energy sector, in keeping with the vision of "Energy for All", a statement said on Wednesday. The virtual summit hosted under India's BRICS Chairship brought together more than 100 participants, including young energy professionals from academia, government institutions, and the



Energy Ministries of the BRICS member countries, representatives of the BRICS Youth Energy Agency (BRICS YEA), as well as international organisations including Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL), the International Solar Alliance (ISA), and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the statement said. India's BRICS Chairship in 2026 is guided by the overarching theme "Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability (BRICS)". Within the (Contd. on pg.2)

Union Minister Rijiju condemns China's 60 km incursion into Arunachal Pradesh

New Delhi, August 19: Union Minister Kiren Rijiju has denied reports that the Chinese army has entered Arunachal Pradesh by 60 km. He clarified that these stories are completely untrue. This clarification was given in the wake of allegations by locals that Chinese soldiers have entered Arunachal Pradesh by crossing the Line of Actual Control in Upper Subansiri district of Arunachal. On this occasion, Kiren Rijiju said, "There is a long border between India and China in Arunachal Pradesh. This border is still not



fully and clearly demarcated at the field level. Chinese activities have increased in some areas due to the fact that our border with Tibet was not properly demarcated in the past." While saying that the government is taking into account the (Contd. on pg.2)

Rajnath Singh to discuss defence cooperation indo-Pacific with Japanese counterpart

New Delhi/Mumbai, Aug 19 : Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will hold a bilateral meeting with his Japanese counterpart, Shinjiro Koizumi, in New Delhi on Thursday to further strengthen defence cooperation between the two nations and promote peace in the Indo-Pacific region. Shinjiro Koizumi arrived in Mumbai on Wednesday for his maiden visit to India. Upon arrival, he inspected a Guard of Honour at the Western Naval Command in Mumbai. The Japanese Defence



Minister also laid a wreath at the Gaurav Stambh at the Naval Dockyard. Additionally, he paid a visit to the indigenous ship INS Chennai. Koizumi held discussions with Indian Navy Chief Admiral Krishna Swaminathan and Flag Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Naval Command, Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan. The delegation was briefed on the roles and responsibilities and operational (Contd. on pg.2)

Canadian Hindu, civil groups urge Carney govt to allow RSS chief's visit

Washington, Aug 19 : More than 100 Canadian Hindu and civil liberties organisations have urged Prime Minister Mark Carney's government to allow Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat to visit Canada, rejecting demands that he be declared inadmissible. In a joint letter addressed to Carney and three senior ministers, the groups said any immigration or public-safety decision involving Bhagwat must be based on credible evidence and due process rather than political pressure. The letter was also sent to Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree,



Immigration Minister Lena Metlege Diab and Foreign Affairs Minister Anita Anand. It follows calls from New Democratic Party MPs Jenny Kwan and Heather McPherson, along with several organisations, asking the Canadian government to prevent Bhagwat from entering the country, according to the letter. The signatories said Bhagwat's proposed visit was important to Canada's Hindu community, which they placed at more than one million people. They described the RSS as a major Indian organisation involved in community service, social initiatives, cultural activities and public discourse. "Such a step would raise

serious questions about evidence, due process, freedom of expression, freedom of religion and equal treatment under Canadian law," the letter said, referring to demands that Bhagwat be barred. According to the signatories, the two MPs have reportedly accused Bhagwat of having a history of hate speech, advocating violence against religious minorities, engaging in targeted intimidation and maintaining associations with criminal or listed terrorist organisations. "These are exceptionally serious allegations. They should not be treated as political rhetoric or (Contd. on pg.2)

New US green card rule may hit Indians

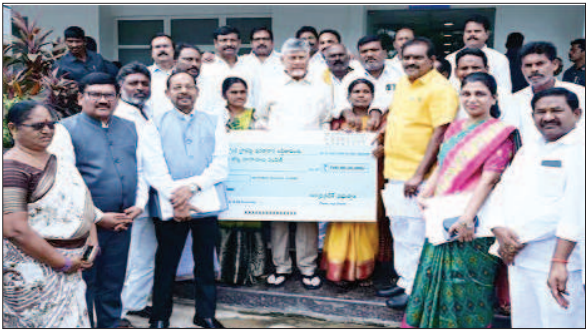
Washington, Aug 19 : Thousands of Indians seeking US green cards could face wider scrutiny of their finances and use of public benefits under new immigration guidance taking effect on September 18. US Citizenship and Immigration Services said officers may consider housing assistance, food stamps, college financial aid and other means-tested benefits when deciding whether an applicant is likely to become a public charge. The guidance follows the Department of Homeland Security's decision to rescind the 2022 Biden-era public charge regulations. The final rule was announced on July 16 and published in the Federal



Register on July 20. It will apply to Forms I-485 seeking permanent residence or adjustment of status that are postmarked or electronically submitted on or after September 18. Applications submitted from December 23, 2022, through September 17, 2026, will continue to be decided under the 2022 regulations and related guidance. The change could affect Indians seeking permanent residence through family and employment categories. It does not apply to people who already hold green cards or US citizenship. Most family-sponsored applicants will be subject to the public charge assessment. They include spouses, children and parents of US citizens, as well as spouses and chil-

dren of lawful permanent residents. Adult children and siblings of US citizens, fiancé(e)s of citizens, and widows or widowers of citizens are also covered. Employment-based categories subject to the assessment include priority workers, professionals holding advanced degrees, people of exceptional ability, skilled workers, investors and religious workers. Foreign medical school graduates, international broadcasters and certain current or former US government employees abroad are also listed among those subject to the provision. Congress has exempted several humanitarian and (Contd. on pg.2)

CM Chandrababu assures Veligonda evacuees, releases another Rs. 200 crore compensation



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Amaravati, August 19
As the first phase of the Veligonda project, which has been a dream for decades, approaches, the state government is standing by the displaced families who sacrificed everything for the project. The government, which has already provided compensation in several phases, has recently released another compensation of Rs. 200 crore. Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu himself handed over this cheque to the representatives of the displaced families in the Legislative Assembly premises today. With this release, the gov-

ernment has so far provided compensation of Rs. 518 crore to the Veligonda displaced people. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Chandrababu made it clear that the government will never forget the sacrifices of the farmers and displaced people who lost their lands and houses for the construction of the projects. "It is our responsibility to stand by them and stand by them. It is our government that has supported the Veligonda displaced people in the past, and we are standing by them even now. We will also release the remaining compensation (Contd. on pg.2)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Electricians and plumbers evaluated Group-1 papers: CM Chandrababu makes sensational comments in

state's youth. He said that this is one of the biggest scams that happened during the previous regime, and he clarified that further action will be taken after a complete analysis. He warned in the Legislative Assembly that such mistakes will not be repeated in the future, and that a strict system will be established in the APPSC, and that those who make mistakes will be severely punished.

Chandrababu explained that many irregularities, from printing thousands of fake OMR sheets to changing answer sheets, were committed during the previous government's tenure. The Chief Minister said that these irregularities came to light only after Gautam Sawang took charge as the new chairman and ordered manual evaluation. He alleged that about 49 thousand duplicate OMR slips were printed in a private company and the list of examiners was circulated in WhatsApp and Telegram groups. He said that different handwritings and overwritings were found in the answer sheets. He said that out of 734 OMR slips examined, 718 slips were found to have been changed, and 21 slips did not have any signatures. He said that not only were CCTV cameras suspended in the answer sheet marking room for 17 days, but mobile phones were also allowed. He criticized the appointment of a candidate who had written the Group-1 exam as the examiner for the evaluation as the culmination of these irregularities. Chandrababu Naidu described this as the biggest scam committed by the previous regime. "Do they have the courage to say that no mistake was made?" he asked. He warned that strict action would be taken against those responsible after analyzing the misdeeds that had taken place. He clarified that systems are not just for individuals, but for the future of the youth. The CM assured that such mistakes would not be repeated in the future and that a strong system would be created by taking feedback from the people and intellectuals.

CM Chandrababu assures Veligonda evacuees, releases another Rs. 200 crore

as soon as possible. People should recognize governments that do good," he commented. The displaced families expressed their happiness over the government's support and assurance. They said that they will always be indebted to the government.

Compensation of Rs. 518 crore

The government is providing full assurance to the displaced people in the villages that are being flooded as part of the construction of the Veligonda project. As part of this, compensation is being paid to those who have built their own houses under One Time Settlement (OTS). Previously, the government paid Rs. 318 crore to 2,557 families under OTS. Recently, it has provided Rs. 200 crore to another 1,600 families. With this, a total of 4,157 displaced families have received compensation of Rs. 518 crore. Along with compensation, the government has also paid special attention to rehabilitation. While a total of 7 rehabilitation colonies are being developed for the displaced, infrastructure work has already been completed in the remaining 6 colonies except Vemulakota. With all the facilities like electricity, drinking water, roads etc. provided, the displaced families are moving to their allotted houses. Ministers, MLAs and other public representatives from the joint Prakasam district participated in this program.

New buildings for 37 degree colleges.. Model libraries in 175 constituencies: Minister Lokesh

damaged boundary wall will be undertaken for the Allagadda College under a special scheme. He suggested that the necessary teaching and non-teaching staff be appointed and labs, computers and benches be provided under the MLA quota funds (P4). He clarified that it will cost about Rs. 15 crore to fully build each degree college and that all colleges will be provided with basic facilities in phases.

Special focus on development of libraries

Lokesh said that the coalition government has paid special attention to strengthening the library system in the state. Responding to a question asked by MLA Madhavi Reddy on the library construction work in Kadapa, he assured that he would take the responsibility of completing the work in the next nine months. He explained that the previous government had diverted the cess funds due to libraries to the treasury, and after coming to power, steps were taken to ensure that those funds were returned to the library department. He said that the model library set up at a cost of Rs. 1 crore in Mangalagiri was successful and that 300 students were preparing for competitive exams even after 8 pm. He said that model libraries would be set up in 175 constituencies in the state in the same spirit. He called on public representatives, industrialists and alumni to cooperate through CSR funds, so that libraries could be further developed. Lokesh announced that the best central library in the country will be built in Amaravati, Visakhapatnam, and Rayalaseema by connecting it with the Global Institute of Good Governance and the Telugu Cultural Center. He said that its design will be finalized soon and work will begin. In response to this, he revealed that a zonal library will be set up at the Andhra University center in Visakhapatnam and another state-of-the-art zonal library will be set up with all the features at the Rayalaseema center. He believed that reading books increases creativity in children and libraries play a key role in keeping them away from smartphones and iPads.

Youth to play key role in BRICS energy ties

energy track, India has adopted the theme "Energy for All", reflecting its commitment to advancing universal, affordable and inclusive energy access across BRICS.

The Summit placed youth at the centre of BRICS energy cooperation, recognising their role as drivers of innovation, entrepreneurship, technological advancement and international cooperation. The discussions also emphasised the importance of strengthening collaboration among young professionals, academia, government institutions, and industry across BRICS countries, as per the statement.

The deliberations underscored the importance of translating youth engagement into practical outcomes through joint research,

technology demonstrations, knowledge exchange and capacity-building initiatives. Under the three priority areas of energy security and sustainability, energy access and equity, and technology and innovation, more than 20 youth panellists shared country perspectives and experiences on important topics, including diversification of the energy mix, resilient energy supply chains, energy access and innovative financing, new and emerging technologies, and digitalisation of energy systems.

The discussions reflected broad convergence on the need for resilient and diversified energy systems, affordable and inclusive energy access, and innovative and affordable financing to advance clean energy deployment. Technological innovation and digitalisation, supported by reliable energy data, interoperability, cyber security and skilled human resources, were identified as important enablers of efficient, flexible and resilient energy systems.

Youth representatives from India highlighted key national initiatives and achievements in energy security, energy access, clean energy deployment and power-sector reforms, including the PM-KUSUM, PM Surya Ghar, SHANTI Act, Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), and the India Energy Stack (IES), the statement added.

FM Sitharaman-led delegation to review India-Singapore economic ties at 4th ISMR

identifying new areas of collaboration.

The fourth roundtable will build on progress made under six key pillars of cooperation -- advanced manufacturing, connectivity, digitalisation, healthcare and medicine, skills development, and sustainability, according to the ministry. Moreover, the meeting will also explore new opportunities to further strengthen the economic partnership between the two countries.

The ministerial roundtable provides a platform for the two sides to assess developments across the identified areas and discuss ways to deepen economic engagement.

Additionally, EAM Jaishankar arrived in Singapore on Tuesday ahead of the ISMR.

“Great to welcome Hon'ble EAM S Jaishankar to Singapore for the 4th India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable ISMR! - HC Wong,” Singapore’s High Commissioner to India, Simon Wong, stated on X.

It noted that, along with EAM Jaishankar, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, and Jitin Prasada, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, are going to participate in the roundtable from the Indian side.

According to the MEA, the mechanism of ISMR is an important platform to drive cooperation, including in new and emerging areas. Its inaugural meeting was held in 2022, followed by the second meeting in Singapore (August 2024) and the third in New Delhi in August 2025.

Union Minister Rijju condemns China’s 60 km incursion into Arunachal Pradesh

concerns of the locals, he advised that it is not right to spread false propaganda by showing old videos from Bangladesh on social media. He expressed concern that such actions will damage the morale of the military forces guarding the borders.

Kiren Rijju alleged that the previous Congress government had failed to build infrastructure along the borders. “The then Defence Minister AK Antony had said in Parliament that our policy was not to build roads in the border areas. Due to this, China was able to build infrastructure there before us. After our government came to power in 2014, since independence, we have undertaken construction work on a war footing even in remote areas where there are no roads,” he said.

Rijju clarified that China had already set up camps in some high-altitude areas where the borders were not clear, and that it had not occupied Indian villages. He revealed that the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) patrols in those areas have been further strengthened.

Andhra govt allays fears over data centres affecting water supply to Visakhapatnam

reduce water consumption further.

He said water for data centres would come from the industrial allocation of water from Polavaram project, without diverting water meant for the city’s residents.

Minister Lokesh said the government is committed to supplying Visakhapatnam’s urban water requirements through Polavaram, with gravity-based supply expected within 18 months. Dedicated pipelines would be provided for data centres, he added.

Comparing water consumption, Lokesh said a 1 GW thermal power plant consumes nearly 10 times more water annually than a data centre, questioning why protests over water usage were focussed only on data centres.

Minister Lokesh also said Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu had set a clear ceiling of 6.5 GW for data-centre allocations, and declared that the target has now been fully achieved. He said the government would prioritise companies that demonstrate strong environmental responsibility.

Data centres are coming up at Advavivaram-Mudasarlova, Tarluvada, and Rambilli areas in Visakhapatnam.

Citizens’ groups in Visakhapatnam have opposed the data centre hub, highlighting concerns over the strain on resources such as water and power, as well as its environmental impact. They cited the Super El Niño-like weather pattern that has put considerable strain on water resources across the State to oppose the project.

The CPI and CPI(M) have been opposing data centre projects in and around Visakhapatnam, alleging that the projects would adversely affect the environment, drinking water sources and public health.

Rajnath Singh to discuss defence cooperation indo-Pacific with Japanese

capabilities of the Indian Navy, according to the Defence Ministry.

The Japanese Defence Minister will head to New Delhi for his meeting with Rajnath Singh on Thursday. "The meeting is expected to further strengthen bilateral defence relations, enhance strategic trust and cooperation, promote stability & security in the Indo-Pacific

region and identify new areas of collaboration," the Defence Ministry said.

The Ministry further stated that the two leaders will exchange views on deeper maritime security cooperation and closer defence equipment and technology collaboration under the 'Make-in-India' framework, following Japan's revision of the Three Principles on Transfer of Defence Equipment and Technology.

"The meeting provides an opportunity to build a roadmap for further advancing bilateral defence and security cooperation," it added.

According to the Ministry of Defence, India and Japan share a common vision of building a free, open, resilient and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

"The two-day visit of the Japanese Defence Minister underscores the growing momentum in bilateral defence cooperation and reflects the commitment of both sides to further expand the partnership," it added.

This comes weeks after Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi visited India in July for the 16th Annual Summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where both sides agreed to deepen defence and security cooperation.

During this visit, India and Japan signed over \$10 billion in agreements, aimed at boosting investments in AI, defence, clean energy, and targeting 10 trillion Yen in Japanese investments over the next decade.

Canadian Hindu, civil groups urge Carney govt to allow RSS chief’s visit

established as fact without clear, credible and independently verifiable evidence,” the letter said.

The groups asked the MPs and organisations opposing the visit to provide evidence supporting their claims. They said any available material should be assessed through established Canadian legal and governmental processes.

The letter also challenged assertions that Bhagwat’s presence could cause “social disorder” or threaten Canadians.

“Canada’s immigration and public-safety decisions must be based on established law, credible evidence and due process—not speculation and political rhetoric,” it said.

The organisations acknowledged that political disagreement, peaceful protest and criticism of religious, cultural or political leaders were legitimate. But they warned that excluding a visiting leader on the basis of unproven allegations would raise concerns about pluralism and fairness.

“Many Canadian Hindus may understandably perceive the campaign against Mr. Bhagwat as reflecting anti-Hindu prejudice or Hinduphobia,” the letter said.

It added that the views of individual political representatives or organisations should not be presented as those of all Canadians or Canadian Hindus.

“Canada needs more dialogue, not division; more evidence, not allegations; more due process, not political pressure; and more respect for its multicultural mosaic—not efforts that could silence one community’s legitimate right to welcome its own cultural and spiritual leaders,” it said.

The document lists 101 organisations, including the Canada India Foundation, Canadian Hindu Chamber of Commerce, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, VHP Canada, BAPS INC, Hindu Sikh Unity Forum Canada and several temples and regional community associations. Its introductory passage refers to “more than 101 ” organisations, while its closing description says the signatories represent more than 500 organisations and civil liberties groups.

The RSS was founded in India in 1925 and has grown into a large volunteer organisation with a network of affiliated groups active in social, cultural and public life. Bhagwat has served as its Sarsanghchalak, or chief, since 2009.

New US green card rule may hit Indians

special immigration categories. These include refugees, asylees, applicants for Temporary Protected Status, victims of human trafficking and qualifying criminal activity, and certain self-petitioners under the Violence Against Women Act.

Special immigrant juveniles, certain Afghan and Iraqi nationals who worked for the US government, Cuban Adjustment Act applicants and some surviving relatives of military personnel are among the other exempt groups.

USCIS officers must consider five statutory factors: the applicant’s age, health, family status, assets and financial position, and education and skills.

They may also consider Form I-864, an affidavit through which a sponsor agrees to use personal financial resources to support the immigrant.

For benefits received before September 18, USCIS will consider only public cash assistance for income maintenance and government-funded long-term institutional care. For means-tested benefits received on or after that date, officers may consider any such benefits, including housing and food assistance.

The agency said officers must examine all relevant evidence and decide applications individually under the totality of the circumstances. Receiving a covered benefit will not by itself lead to rejection.

No single factor, apart from the absence of a sufficient affidavit of support when one is required, can alone establish that an applicant is likely to become a public charge.

An applicant found inadmissible solely on public charge grounds may be invited to post a cash or surety bond. The amount will be based on the government assistance the person could potentially receive over the next five years.

Applicants may submit Form I-945 for a public charge bond only after USCIS issues a Notice of Intent to Deny containing an invitation to post one. The agency will not accept unsolicited bonds.

About 66,800 India-born immigrants obtained US green cards in fiscal 2024, accounting for 4.9 per cent of the 1.36 million people granted lawful permanent residence that year, according to Department of Homeland Security data. About 61 per cent of the Indian recipients secured permanent residence through adjustment of status while already living in the United States.

 SOUTH COAST RAILWAY VISAKHAPATNAM Follow us on @SCoRailwayIndia Website: www.scor.indianrailways.gov.in Tender No. : VSKP-ELECTG-26-27-WC-12. Dated : 14-08-2026 For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites E-Tender for the following works. Details of Tender Notice No. VSKP-ELECTG-26-27-WC-12. Tender No. : VSKP-ELECTG-26-27-WC-12. Name of Work : Replacement of Conventional Ceiling Fans by Energy efficient BLDC Ceiling Fans. Provision of Sensors, LED Inverter Batten Light & Street Lights in Service Buildings, stations, Chambers etc. under the Jurisdiction of SEE/ELG Units on PSA-DVD Section of Waltair Division. Quality : As mentioned in Tender Document. Period of completion : 180 days. Tender Value : Rs. 1,44,83,144.82/- (Rupees One Crore Forty Four Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand One Hundred Forty Four and Eighty Two paise only). Bid Security / Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs.2,89,700/- (Rupees Two Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Only). Cost of tender document : Rs. 0/- (Nil). Offer validity : 60 days from date of opening. Type of tender : Works Tender governed by : GCC-2022 for Works. System of Tendering : Open Tender - Single Packet. Time & Date of tender closing : 13:30 Hours of 14-09-2026. Tender Document and corrigendum : Visit website http://www.ireps.gov.in Postal address for correspondence : Office of Sr.DEE/G/VSKP, DRM Office Building, Dondaparthy, Visakhapatnam - 530004, Andhra Pradesh.	 SOUTH COAST RAILWAY VISAKHAPATNAM Follow us on @SCoRailwayIndia Website: www.scor.indianrailways.gov.in Tender No. : VSKP-ELECTG-26-27-WC-12. Dated : 14-08-2026 For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites e-Tender for the following works up to 15:00 hours and the date mentioned below. 1. B/E-29/IEGS/22/26-27 Dated : 07-08-2026. Name of work : (i) Vijayawada Division - Provision of additional quantity / Items of Electrical arrangements to soft upgradation & COP shelters at 14 stations viz., TUNI, YLM, APT, NDD, SLO, CCT, AKP, BVRT, RYP, SKM, OGL, EE, CLX & BPP under ABSS. (ii) Vijayawada Division : Improvements to illumination levels at Railway stations & Airport lighting arrangement at Kavali & BVRT stations. Period of completion : 6 Months. Tender value (Rs.) : 7,64,66,152.55. Earnest Money Deposit / Bid Security (Rs.) : 15,29,300/-. Cost of Tender document Rs. : Nil. Date of closing : 31-08-2026. 1) The prospective tenderers are advised to visit website www.ireps.gov.in before the date of tender closing to note any changes / corrigenda for any tender.	 SOUTH COAST RAILWAY VISAKHAPATNAM Follow us on @SCoRailwayIndia Website: www.scor.indianrailways.gov.in Tender No. : VSKP-ELECTG-26-27-WC-12. Dated : 14-08-2026 For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-Tenders for the following work. Tender No. : B-E29-TRD-TNDR-16-2026-27. Name of the Work : Replacement of Rusted Cantilevers, anti creep, overaged insulators and composite insulators in Vijayawada Division. Approximate Value (Rs.) : Rs.3,23,13,241.00. Completion period : 12 Months. Bid Security (EMD) (Rs.) : Rs.6,46,300/-. Date of closing : 10-09-2026. Cost of Tender form: Nil. For full details and conditions visit our site at www.ireps.gov.in. N.B. : If date of opening happens to be a holiday, the tender will be opened on next working day. Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, SCoR-A226 TRD, Vijayawada. For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, please visit the website https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scor.indianrailways.gov.in
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Former MP Vijayasai Reddy announces formation of new party

However, merely replacing trees would not solve the problem, he stressed. Unless canals and drains were properly desilted, farmers would continue to face losses despite new plantations and investments.

The government has already sanctioned funds for works on the Sankaraguptham canal, for which Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan had laid the foundation stone. Once completed, the project is expected to address the saline-water problem in two to three Assembly constituencies. The remaining canals will also be taken up for cleaning as part of an integrated project, he said.The minister said coconut farmers were receiving assistance under various Central



and State government schemes. With the support of the Coconut Development Board (CDB), 5,250 hectares in Konaseema district were brought under development schemes between 2017-18 and 2024-25. A subsidy of Rs 56,000 per hectare is being provided for expansion of new coconut plantations in

two equal installments of Rs.28,000 each over two years. Under the horticulture plantation expansion programme, farmers can also receive financial assistance of up to Rs.2,47,950 per hectare over three years for activities including pit digging, planting and cultivation equipment. Atchannaidu said Chief

Thumati Madhava Rao assumes charges as Dy. Chairman of AP Legislative Council

(Skyline daily):
Amaravati:Aug 19
MLC Thumati Madhava Rao has been unanimously elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council. Chairman Moshen Raju announced Madhava Rao's election. Subsequently, the Chairman escorted Madhava Rao to the Deputy Chairman's seat and congratulated him.



The Chairman had invited members from all parties

to join in escorting Madhava Rao to the chair. Andhra Pradesh Legislative Council members will soon witness an MLC of the YSR Congress Party taking over as the next Deputy Chairman. With his newly acquired position, he will be able to control and regulate the council house and ensure that everyone's voices are heard.

Tension prevails in AP legislative council as YSRCP demands discussion on DSC, house adjourned

Amaravati:Aug 19 (Skyline daily):
The AP Legislative Assembly and Legis lative Council commenced for the third day. Today (Wednesday), YCP members moved an adjournment motion in the Legislative Council regarding the 'Mega DSC' recruitment drive. Council Chairman Koyye Moshenu Raju rejected the motion. Following this, YSRCP members staged a protest at the Chairman's podium, creating a chaotic situation in



the House. They demanded a discussion on the DSC issue and surrounded the podium to register their protest. The party members attended the session wearing black

scarves around their necks. Due to the commotion caused by the YSRCP members, the Chairman adjourned the proceedings of the AP Legislative Council for a while.

Government running away from DSC debate: Botcha



(Skyline daily):
Amaravati: Aug 19

Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council Botcha Satyanarayana said the TDP coalition government was running away from a debate on the alleged irregularities in DSC recruitment for the second consecutive day, while claiming in newspapers that it was "ready for anything." He demanded a CBI inquiry into the DSC issue, a full debate in the Legislative Council and the immediate resignation of Education Minister Nara Lokesh. Speaking at the Assembly Media Point here on Tuesday, Satyanarayana questioned whether teachers had ever been directly appointed under the sports quota without appearing for the DSC examination. He asked whether the government order providing three per cent sports quota had legal validity and whether it was placed before the Cabinet or the Legislature. He said changes made to the order had left the future of 438 selected candidates uncertain. Satyanarayana asked why the government had not released the DSC merit list if there was no paper leak. He said audio and video clips allegedly showing negotiations over jobs had surfaced, but no effective action had been taken. He challenged the government to order a CBI inquiry into the Group-I examinations conducted during the previous YSRCP government as well, saying the party was ready for any investigation. Referring to drought conditions and farmers' problems, Satyanarayana said YSRCP had sought a discussion in the BAC and an extension of the Assembly session by two or three days. He said the government had ignored the request and lacked commitment towards farmers. He said YSRCP would continue its fight until a comprehensive discussion on the DSC irregularities was held in the Legislative Council.

AP Government tightens safety checks on sleeper buses

(Skyline daily):
Amaravati: Aug 19
The state government has intensified safety measures to prevent fire accidents in sleeper buses, transport minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy said in the Assembly on Tuesday. Replying to a question raised by MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy during Question Hour on incidents of fire in sleeper buses, the minister said that 16 government-owned and 835 private sleeper buses are currently registered in the State. He said the transport department was conducting special inspections of sleeper buses and ensuring strict compliance with Rule 128 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules. The government was taking all necessary steps to prevent fire

accidents and improve passenger safety in sleeper buses, he added. The minister said stringent rules and preventive measures were being enforced to minimise accidents caused by human error. Transport officials were conducting regular checks to ensure that operators complied with prescribed safety standards. On drunk driving, Ramprasad Reddy said the government was adopting a zero-tolerance approach and taking strict action against those found driving under the influence of alcohol. He assured the Assembly that the government would continue to strengthen enforcement and safety measures to protect passengers travelling in sleeper buses.

Savitha hails 'historic' BC quota restoration in local bodies

(Skyline daily):
Amaravati: Aug 19

BC, EWS welfare, handlooms and textiles minister S Savitha on Tuesday hailed the state government's decision to provide 34 per cent reservation for Backward Classes (BCs) in rural local bodies and 33.33 per cent in urban local bodies. Speaking during the discussion on the Bill providing 34 per cent reservation for BCs in local body elections in the Assembly, Savitha said the decision would be remembered as a historic day for the BC community. She thanked Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and minister Nara Lokesh for fulfilling another election promise. Savitha said the previous YSRCP government had reduced BC reservations in local bodies from 34 per cent to 24 per cent, depriving BCs of more than 16,800 elected positions. She said Lokesh had highlighted the issue during his padyatra and promised to restore the quota after coming to power. The minister said the Cabinet had already approved the proposal and the government was now seeking the Assembly's approval. She recalled that former Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao had founded the TDP with the welfare of BCs as one of its priorities and that Chandrababu Naidu had introduced 34 per cent BC reservations in 1994. Savitha said the TDP had encouraged several prominent BC leaders, including K Yerrannaidu, T Devender Goud, K E Krishnamurthy and Yanamala Ramakrishnu. She also spoke of various welfare measures implemented by the coalition government. She said BC allocations had increased from Rs 39,000 crore in the first budget to Rs 47,000 crore in the second and Rs 51,000 crore in the third budget. The government had also provided 34 per cent reservation in nominated posts and introduced several benefits for weavers, fishermen, toddy tappers and Vadderas, she said.

Government to provide support to Konaseema coconut farmers

(Skyline daily):
Vijayawada: Aug 19
The Meteorological Department stated that heavy rains are likely to occur in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana over the next week due to low pressure, which could intensifyAmaravati: The state government is taking comprehensive measures to provide a permanent solution to the problems faced by coconut farmers in Konaseema, agriculture minister K Atchannaidu said in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday. Replying to questions raised by MLAs Giddi Satyanarayana and Bandaru Satyanandaro during Question Hour, the minister said the government's objective was to plant a new coconut sapling in place of every

damaged tree while addressing the root cause of the problem through desilting of canals and drains. The state has coconut cultivation over 1.18 lakh hectares, of which around 36,000 hectares are in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district. About 10,000 hectares of coconut plantations in the district are cultivated by tenant farmers, he said. Atchannaidu said inadequate desilting of canals over the past five years had allowed seawater to flow backwards into agricultural areas, increasing soil salinity. As a result, even apparently healthy coconut trees were suddenly weakening and dying. He said he had personally inspected the affected areas, while Deputy



Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan had also visited the region and brought the issue to the government's attention. The minister said proposals had been prepared to provide Rs.1,000 financial assistance for every new coconut sapling planted in place of a damaged tree.

 TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly Known As Shriram Housing Finance Limited)		
Reg.Off.: Srinivasa Tower, 1st Floor, Door No. 5, Old No.11,2nd Lane, Cenatopha Road, Alwarpet,Teynampet, Chennai-600018 Head Office: Level 3, Workhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051 Website: www.truhomefinance.in		
DEMAND NOTICE		
Notice is hereby given that the following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal & interest of the loan facilities obtained by them from the Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited) and the said loan accounts have been classified as Non-performing Assets (NPA). The Demand Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT) on their last known address. In addition to the said demand notice, they have been informed by way of this public notice. Details of Borrowers, Securities, Outstanding dues, Demand Notices sent under section 13(2) and the amount claimed there under given as under:-		
Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Name & Address	Property Address of Secured Assets	Demand Notice Date & Amount Due in Rs.
N V GANDHIBABU BAVISETTY S/O MR. BAVISETTY RAMAKRISHNA MRS.BAVISETTY SRI JYOTHI W/O N V GANDHIBABU BAVISETTY D NO 4-22-2 DVR APARTMENTS PLOT NO 102 SRI LAKSHMI NAGAR NEAR NARAYANA SCHOOL, MANDAPETA ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 533308 Loan Amount –Rs.2133281/- NPA Date – 11-06-2026 Account No : SHLHRJMD00000910	DESCRIPTION OF ENTIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Previous East Godavari District, Now Kakinada District, Kiriampudi Mandal, Sri Jagampeta Sub Registrar Office, Somavaram Village Panchayat Somavaram Village Taluka, Zerlot Merka, RS No.66/4, Near D.No.1-16 an extent of 219 Square Yards or 182.20 Square Meters of vacant site in that a newly constructed Daba House with D.No.1-7, Assessment No.7, situated within the boundaries: East: Property belong to Koppula Nagaraju 44.0 Ft. South: Path Way 45 1/2 Ft West: Path Way 41.0 Ft. North: Site belongs to Sunku Chakrarao 47 Ft Within above boundaries an extent of 219 Square Yards of site with all usual easement rights.	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.2103893.98/- (Twenty One Lakh Three Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three Rupees and Ninety Eight Paise Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No. SHLHRJMD00000910
RAMBUDDI PAPAARAO S/O MR.PAPAARAO MRS.RAMBUDDI DURGA W/O RAMBUDDI PAPAARAO DOOR NO 20-8-53/1 KOTTAYAREDDY STREET OPP MAYURI THEATER CINEMA ROAD KAKINADA EAST GODAVARI ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 533002 Loan Amount –Rs.161458/- NPA Date – 04-07-2026 Account No : SLPHKNDAA0000213	DESCRIPTION OF ENTIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Previously East Godavari District, Presently Kakinada district, Kakinada mandal SRO –Kakinada Municipal area ,ward No.14 block No.20 kakinada cover Drain Street, Kotayya Reddy Lane, situated towards northern direction in Old Assessment No. 26484, Old D.No.20-8-53, T.S.No.2001, from out of an extent of 102 ½ Sq.yards of site and old tiled house, an extent of 37.375 Sq yards 31.25 Sq.mts.. of site situated towards western direction and Building therein bearing Present D.No.20-8-53/2, Assessment No.106046478, is bounded by the following boundaries and measurements as under:- East: Fl.34.6 or 10.52 mts. - Remaining House portion of vendors (Boundary Wall belongs to this property), South: Fl.9.9 or 2.97 mts - Municipal Road, West: Fl.34.6 or 10.52 mts. - House wall of Sallihunda Lakshminikantham North: Fl.9.9 or 2.97 mts. - Beyond Wall in this property House of Simma Anji Within the above boundaries an extent of 37.375 Sq.yards 31.25 Sq.mts., of site and Building therein, with all common ways, water ways and with all easement rights attached thereto. Situated within the Sub-Registration District of Kakinada and Registration District of Kakinada	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.1770144.84/- (Seventeen Lakh Seventy Thousand One Hundred Forty Four Rupees and Eighty Four Paise Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No.SLPHKNDAA0000213
NUNNA SATYANARAYANA S/O MR. NUNNA SHIRAMULU MRS.NUNNA VENKATA LAKSHMI W/O NUNNA SATYANARAYANA DOOR NO D 15- 6- 6/ 1 FLOT NO F2 SEA SHELL APARTMENTS SATYAPRASANNA NAGAR VENKATA RATNA PURAM KALPANA BRIDGE DOWN KAKINADA URBAN KAKINADA ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 533001 Loan Amount –Rs.886557 & 817291 /- NPA Date – 04-07-2026 Account No : SBTHKNDAA0000196 & STUHKNDAA0000207	DESCRIPTION OF ENTIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Details of the boundaries and measurements of the land measuring 1663.36 sq.Yards or 1390.74 sq.m., located in Kakinada Sub-Registrar, Kakinada Mandal, East Godavari District, Kakinada, and falling within the Kakinada Municipal Corporation Area, Venkataratanapuram, Kakinada, T.S. No. 1497, Municipal Ward No. 9, Block No. 15, 8th Street, Door No. 15- 6 - 6. East: 163.61 0.0 - 49.83 2. Municipal Road South: 92.0 28.04 - 4.83 2. Municipal Road West: 161.61 01. 49.23 .T. Hanumantha Rao's house, North: 92.3. 28.12. P. Sriramachandra Raju's house The said boundaries and measurements are the average of the area of 1663.36 sq.yds., or 1390.74 sq.m. and the area of 30 sq y. or 25.08 sq.m. is not specified in my name. All of them are included.	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.926514/- (Nine Lakh Twenty Six Thousand Five Hundred and Fourteen Rupees Only) & Rs.860841/- (Eight Lakh Sixty Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty one Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No. SBTHKNDAA0000196 & STUHKNDAA0000207
MR.VASUDEVARAO JAKKA S/O MR.JAKKA VENKATESWARA RAO MRS.DORLE SWETHA C/O VASUDEVARAO JAKKA DOOR NO 19-52-2/B RANGIREJU VEEDHI RAMACHANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL VISAKHAPATNAM ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 530001. Loan Amount –Rs.4724711/- NPA Date – 03-Aug-2026 Account No : THLHVIZG0001362	DESCRIPTION OF ENTIRE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Plot No's: 4 &5, "GREEN LEAVES", VMRDA LP No: 4/2023/1167/VMRDA/DPMS covered by Survey No's : 6-5, 6-5Part, 6-6, 6-7, 6-8Part, 6-9 & 7-9 Part Situated at Mailipeta Gram Panchayat, Dakamari Revenue Village, Bheeminiapatnam Mandal, Visakhapatnam District And bounded on the:Item No.1, Plot No.4 an extent of 153.33 Sq. yards, North: Plot No: 5 South: Plot No: 3, East: Layout Boundary West: 12 M wide Layout Road Item No.2, Plot No.5 an extent of 151.66 Sq. yards North: 2. Plot No.6, South: Plot No: 4, East: Layout Boundary, West: 12 M wide Layout Road Situated within the Sub-Registration District of Bheemuniapatnam and Registration District of Visakhapatnam	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.5142187.74/- (Fifty One Lakh Forty Two Thousand One Hundred Eighty Seven Rupees and Seventy Four Paise Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No. THLHVIZG0001362
KOTTAKOTA NAGARAJU D/O MR.KOTTAKOTA SRI RAMA MURTHY MRS.KOTTAKOTA SRIDEVI S/O KOTTAKOTA NAGARAJU DOOR NO 6 - 324 KANDA VEEDHI PALAKONDA SRIKAKULAM ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 532440 Loan Amount – Rs.2243187/- NPA Date – 03-Aug-2026 Account No : SLPHSKLMD0000007	(Description of Property) The property admeasuring an extent of 128 Sq.Yds., comprised in Survey Number(s) 479-1 situated in House No. 6-485 (nearly north side) PALAKONDA Village, within the Sub-Registration District of PALAKONDA bounded on the: West: RCC House of Kottakota Umamaheswari North: Pathway South: C.C Road East: RCC House of Vandranki Ramana Situated within the Sub-Registration District of Palakonda and Registration District of Parvatipuram manyam	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.2514482.32/- (Twenty Five Lakh Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Two Rupees and Thirty Two Paise Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No. SLPHSKLMD0000007
ANISHETTI UDAY KIRAN S/O MR.ANISHETTI VENKATESWARA RAO MRS.ANISETTY SIVA MALLESWARI W/O ANISHETTI UDAY KIRAN DOOR NO 42-37 CHANDRABABU NAIDU DEVARAPALLI MANDALAM DEVARAPALLE W G DIST ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 534313 Loan Amount –Rs.2822643/- NPA Date – 03-Aug-2026 Account No : SHLHRJMD0001103	East Godavari District, Devarapalli Mandal, Sri Kovvur Sub-Registrar's Limits, Devarapalli Gram Panchayat, Devarapalli Village Taluku, D.No.4-204, Zerlot Meraka R.S.No.113/1, Assessment No.2056, which is an extent of 170 Square Yards of R.C.C Building boundaries, measurements particulars: East : Site of Excutant South : Road West : Site of Yerrakaraju Varalakshmi North : 4 Ft. Width Road Within the above boundaries of 146 Square Yards or 142.309 Square Meters of site of R.C.C Building, Doors, Entrance Doors, Windows, Shelves, Roof Top, and with all easement rights.	Demand Notice Date – 12-08-2026 Demand notice Amount Rs.2884612/- (Twenty Eight Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Six Hundred and Twelve Rupees Only) as on 31-08-2026 under reference of Loan Account No. SHLHRJMD0001103
You the borrowers are therefore called upon to make the payment of the outstanding dues as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 days of this notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the SARFAESI Act, to enforce the above mentioned securities. Please note that as per Sec 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained from transferring the above referred securities by way of sale, lease, or otherwise without our consent. Place : MANDAPETA / JAGGAMPETA, Kakinada , Visakhapatnam Sd/- Authorised Officer- Truhome Finance Limited (Earlier Known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited) Date: 20-08-2026		

 Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd. (Arcil) Acting in its capacity as Trustee of various Arcil Trusts Arcil office: The Ruby, 10th floor, 29, Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West) Mumbai-400 028 Website: https://fpertAuction.com; CIN-U65999MH2002PLC134884					
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH ONLINE E-AUCTION IN EXERCISE OF THE POWERS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT) READ WITH RULES 6, 8 & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002					
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) / Mortgagor (s), in particular, that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited, acting in its capacity as Trustee of various Arcil Trusts ("ARCIL") (pursuant to the assignment of financial asset vide registered Assignment Agreements), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", "Whatever there is" and "Without recourse basis" by way of online e-auction, for recovery of outstanding dues of together with further interest, charges and costs etc., as detailed below in terms of the provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act") read with Rules 6, 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").					
Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower/s / Guarantor/s / Mortgager/s	LAN No. & Selling Bank	Trust Name	Outstanding amount as per SARFAESI Notice dated 15/Dec/2022	Possession type and date	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)
				Date of Inspection	Reserve Price
				Type of Property and Area	Date & Time of E-Auction
Borrower: Kiran Kumar Srungarapu Co-Borrower: Venkatesantamani Lakkoji	LP0000000094142 Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited (VHFC)	Arcil-Trust-2025-018	Rs. 24,94,618/- as on 10/Dec/2022 + further Interest thereon + Legal Expenses.	Physical on 30/Oct/2025 Will be arranged on request land admeasuring 67 1/4 Sq.Yds out of 134 1/2	Rs.225000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Twenty Five Thousand only) Rs.225000/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Fifty Thousand only) 21-09-2026 at 11:00 AM
Description of the Secured Asset being auctioned: Entire Ground Floor of the house bearing D.No.5-4-46 with plinth area measuring 1210 sqft, and undivided share of land admeasuring 67 1/4 Sq.Yds out of 134 1/2 sq covered by Survey No.62/3.4, situated at Sarathi Village, Rajam Nagar Panchayat, Mandal and SRO, Srikakulam District, Door No. 5-4-46, Asst No. 1133007506, Andhra Pradesh, 532127. On East Side: " Joint wall between this house and dabba house of Srungarapu Muralidhar Rao On West Side: " Sheets Shed in the site of Alla Boina Ramayya On North Side: " 1 1/2ft kalwa On South Side: " Road					
Pending Litigations known to ARCIL		Nil		Encumbrances/Dues known to Nil	
ARCIL		ARCIL			
Last Date for submission of Bid		Same day 2 hours before Auction		Bid Increment amount: As mentioned in the Bid document.	
Demand Draft to be made in name of:		Arcil-Trust-2025-018		Payable at Par	
RTGS details		Arcil-Trust-2025-018, Trust Account No: 57500001745590, HDFC Bank Limited, Branch: Kamla Mill Extn Ctr, Mumbai, IFSC Code: HDFC0000542			
Name of Contact person & number		Arit Choudhary arpit.choudhary@vastuhfc.com; 73573 75589, Santosh Tiwari- 99204 90126, Shekhar Sharma- 86557 96116, Navneet Singh- 99991 05933			
Terms and Conditions:					
1. The Auction Sale is being conducted through e-auction through the website https://fpertAuction.com and as per the Terms and Conditions of the Bid Document, and as per the procedure set out therein.					
2. The Authorised Officer ("AO") ARCIL shall not be held responsible for internet connectivity, network problems, system crash down, power failure etc.					
3. At any stage of the auction, the AO may accept/reject/modify/cancel the bid/offer or post-pone the Auction without assigning any reason thereof and without any prior notice.					
4. The successful purchaser/bidder shall bear any statutory dues, taxes, fees payable, applicable GST on the purchase consideration, stamp duty, registration fees, etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the secured asset conveyed/delivered in his/her/its favour as per the applicable law.					
5. The intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries/ due diligence regarding encumbrances, title of secured asset and claims/rights/dues affecting the secured assets, including statutory dues, etc., prior to submitting their bid. The auction advertisement does not constitute and will not constitute any commitment or any representation of ARCIL. The Authorized Officer of ARCIL shall not be responsible in any way for any third-party claims/rights/dues.					
6. The particulars specified in the auction notice published in the newspaper have been stated to the best of the information of the undersigned; however undersigned shall not be responsible/ liable for any error, misstatement or omission.					
7. The Borrower/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors, who are liable for the said outstanding dues, shall treat this Sale Notice as a notice under Rules 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, about the holding of the above mentioned auction sale.					
8. In the event, the auction scheduled hereinabove fails for any reason whatsoever, ARCIL has the right to sell the secured asset by any other methods under the provisions of Rule 8(5) of the Rules and the Act.					
Place: Srikakulam Date: 20.08.2026				Sd/- Authorized Officer Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd.	

SKYLINE

Thursday 20.8.2026

Youth Reckoning

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Independence Day speech was striking not simply because he spoke so much about India’s youth, but because of what that emphasis revealed about the political challenge facing his government. After weeks in which young people had taken to the streets over examination failures, educational grievances and wider anxieties about their future, Modi offered a distinctly forward-looking answer: free online coaching for competitive examinations, artificial-intelligence training for one crore young Indians and a wider promise that youth would be the principal beneficiaries of a developed India. These are not insignificant measures.

The cost of coaching has become a serious burden on middle-class families, while technological change will require millions of workers to acquire new skills. But the political significance of the announcements lies elsewhere. They suggest that the government has recognised youth discontent as a problem that cannot simply be ignored. Yet recognition is not the same as acknowledgement. The speech offered young Indians opportunities for the future without directly confronting the institutional failures that had contributed to their anger. There was no reckoning with the examination controversies, no substantive engagement with why government jobs and competitive examinations have become such high-stakes gateways, and no reflection on what happens when institutions lose the confidence of those who depend upon them. That omission matters because the recent protests were not merely a demand for better coaching. They represented a deeper frustration with a system in which millions compete and too few secure opportunities and where the credibility of the examination process can determine the course of an entire life.

The other striking element was the warning against “dimagi Naxals” who Mr Modi said seek to create disorder, and must be identified and isolated. The juxtaposition is politically revealing. The government is willing to speak directly to young Indians about their aspirations, but it also draws a boundary around legitimate dissent. That could prove a dangerous miscalculation. Young citizens do not become hostile to the state merely because they protest. Indeed, democratic politics depends upon their ability to question institutions without being treated as enemies of the national project. The test for any government is not whether it can persuade the young to dream about 2047, but whether it can persuade them that the institutions of 2026 deserve their trust.

This is where implementation will matter, but so will accountability. A free coaching platform cannot repair an examination system whose credibility is in doubt. AI training cannot substitute for employment. And slogans about a developed India cannot compensate indefinitely for institutions that appear unresponsive when citizens demand answers. The Prime Minister has understood that India’s youth cannot be taken for granted. His speech was therefore a significant political acknowledgement of their importance. But the harder task remains for his government. It must win their trust without asking them to surrender their right to question power.

When national symbols become political football

National symbols belong to the nation, not to a political party. They are among the few things in public life that should rise above ideology, electoral rivalry and partisan loyalties. The Tricolour, the national anthem and the national song Vande Mataram occupy a special emotional space in the Indian imagination because they evoke the country's freedom struggle, its civilisational memory and the sacrifices through which India became a republic.

That is precisely why any political leader who appears to disrespect or dismiss a national symbol must expect public scrutiny. On August 15, 2026, Congress leader Sonia Gandhi was seen agitated and hand gesturing mid-way through a full rendition of Vande Mataram at the Congress headquarters entailing public wrath online.

Her questionable 'conduct' and the subsequent lame defence provided by her partymen have therefore provoked questions that go far beyond the immediate political controversy. That such a misconduct has come from senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi - who had built a non-controversial public image until now - is disappointing. For common public - be it a Congress or the BJP supporter - the public disrespect shown to the national song is aggravating and demeaning.

Congress's contentious stance
The Congress has historically had a complicated but important relationship with Vande Mataram. The song was deeply associated with India's freedom movement and was sung at

several important sessions of the Indian National Congress. It was adopted as the national song by the Constituent Assembly on January 24, 1950, with President Dr. Rajendra Prasad declaring it equal in status to the national anthem. More so, when the Congress has long projected itself as a party with a special claim to the legacy of India's freedom movement, the misconduct of its senior leaders is puzzling. They cannot simultaneously invoke the sacrifices of the freedom struggle and appear casual about symbols that emerged from that very struggle.

There is, of course, an important distinction between legitimate disagreement over the political use of a national symbol and disrespect towards the symbol itself. In a democracy, nobody should be compelled to surrender their political beliefs. But national symbols require a degree of restraint precisely because they represent something larger than the political moment. The larger concern is the message such gestures send.

India is already a deeply polarised political society. Political parties routinely accuse one another of being anti-national, communal, elitist or authoritarian.

False public image
The controversy also becomes more significant because of Sonia Gandhi's long curated public image. For years, the Congress president and its most powerful figure was perceived, even by many political opponents, as someone who gener-

ally maintained a measured and dignified public persona. Her politics could be criticised, her decisions could be challenged, and her leadership could be opposed, but she largely avoided the kind of theatrical political behaviour that has become increasingly common.

That image appears to be changing.

Recently, people were also witness to Sonia Gandhi's remark referring to her party spokesperson Pawan Khera as the "white-haired man". This too has removed the myth about Sonia Gandhi being 'graceful' in her public conduct. Such personal remarks about age or appearance does not behave the 'first family' of the Congress party towards its loyal workers as it bespeaks of their lowly and insignificant existence. In the age of technology and social media - when every little act, sigh and murmur are audible and visible - such gross behaviour tends to diminish the dignity of the person making them. Every politician is aware of this 24/7 scrutiny.

The higher the political stature, the higher the expectation of restraint.

Lessons from the controversy
There is a broader lesson here for India's political class. National symbols cannot become another battlefield in the permanent war between parties. The Tricolour does not belong to the ruling party, just as the Constitution does not belong to the Opposition. These are common possessions of Indians. Similarly, Vande Mataram can't be bracketed as a 'Congress's song' or 'BJP's



song'. Indeed, one of the saddest developments in contemporary politics is the tendency to convert everything into a partisan identity marker. A song becomes a test of ideology. A salute becomes a political statement. A national celebration becomes an opportunity for party mobilisation. The result is that things which should unite citizens become instruments for dividing them.

The answer cannot be to demand uniformity of thought. It must be to restore a culture of constitutional and national courtesy.

Criticism of Sonia Gandhi or the Congress on this issue should therefore not be dismissed as merely 'BJP propaganda'. Nor should every Congress supporter be painted as someone who blindly endorses everything the party does. Millions of Indians support political parties while retaining independent judgment. The democratic health of the country depends precisely on citi-

zens being willing to question their own political camps.

And that is perhaps the most important point.

National pride should not be a monopoly of the Right. Nor should secularism be a monopoly of the Left. Patriotism should not require party membership. A person can disagree profoundly with the BJP and still stand respectfully for Vande Mataram. A Congress supporter can oppose the government's policies while holding the Tricolour with pride. India is large enough for all these contradictions.

Instead of living in denial, the Congress party in all its wisdom must acknowledge the disrespect and apologise to the nation.

Because ultimately, the question is bigger than Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Narendra Modi or any political party. Politicians come and go. Governments change. Elections are won and lost. Political reputations rise and fall. The nation remains.

Rs.1.05 lakh crore lost: Inside the dangerous rise of India’s Gen Z stock traders

India's investor profile is dynamically shifting to its core demographic dividend: a tech-savvy, enterprising youth population that seems to be taking on more risk in the stock market for higher returns. Reports indicate how the average Indian investor is barely in their early 20s, with half of them being in the under-30 age group.

From being 25% of the total NSE registered investors in FY20, the Gen-Z segment rose to account for 40% of them in FY25. RBI data also confirms this sharp demographic change: the share of sub-30 age investors had jumped from 22.6% in March 2019 to 38.9% by July 2025. The National Stock Exchange's Market Pulse report for June 2026 records that the median age of the Indian investor has fallen from 38 in March 2020 to 33 today. Investors under 30 now account for 37.9% of the total investor base, up from 23.5% five years ago. They also made up 59% of all new registrations so far this financial year. The country's demat accounts, which stood at roughly 21.3 crore in November 2025, are estimated to have crossed 23 crore by June, and a large share of that growth - just brokerages alone put the figure near three in four new accounts - belongs to investors below 30.

This is not a marginal trend. It is close to becoming the market's centre of gravity.

What merits greater attention beyond this shift is the extent to which India's youth is walking into one of the most information-asymmetric arenas in finance, where the safeguards between risk and return on investment are blurry.

With graduate unemployment at record highs, secure jobs scarce, and asset prices outpacing incomes, equities (and especially derivatives) have become the default "Plan B" for a generation that was otherwise told that education guarantees stability in upward mobility towards higher-income and wealth accumulation.

A Generation Without a Safety Net
It would be tempting - and not entirely wrong - to read this as a story of desperation amongst youth, who are keen to achieve higher income-returns on risk-driven investment. The Periodic Labour Force Survey 2023-24 shows Gen Z unemployment (among those aged 15 to 26) running at 11.9%, against just 2% for millennials.

Among Gen Z graduates specifically, joblessness stands at 29% for men and 36.9% for women. Barely one in five employed Gen Z workers has any social security cover at all. A college degree, which was meant to be a ticket to stability, has for a large section of India's youth become simply a longer wait in a more crowded queue.

It would be too easy to stop here. But desperation alone can not explain why so much of this new money is flowing specifically into equities, and, increasingly, into the riskiest end of equities, rather than into gold or real estate, or simply staying in a bank account, as it did for their parents' generation. Something else has changed about how young India relates to the market itself.

How a Volatile Market Became The Answer

Part of the answer lies not with young

investors but with the system that shaped them. Over the last two decades, India quietly replaced the idea of a guaranteed pension with the market-linked National Pension System, made the Systematic Investment Plan the default answer to savings, and built, through Jan Dhan accounts, Aadhaar-based KYC and UPI, the easiest on-ramp into formal finance anywhere in the world.

This was, by most measures, a successful and necessary reform integrating the state-society compact for better digitisation and adoption of technology. But it also had a side effect, wherein an entire generation grew up being told, correctly, that fixed deposits lose to inflation and that equities are where real wealth is built. They are doing what they were taught to do. The problem is not that they entered the market. It is what happens once they are inside it.

This is where India's specific moment has an interesting trajectory and where the "higher information asymmetry" reasserts at the heart of equity investing itself. Recent research on Indian brokerage apps finds that gamified features such as streaks, badges, leaderboards, and social trading feeds correlate strongly with higher trading frequency and shorter holding periods, and that the effect is sharpest among the youngest and least experienced users. Alongside this has grown the influence of the "finfluencer", an unregulated but highly trusted content maker for many young investors, whose advice on options and small-cap bets travels faster than any SEBI disclosure ever could. None of this



has made equity markets genuinely simpler to understand. It has only made them feel that way on a phone screen, which may be more dangerous.

There is also a narrower, very Indian reason for the timing of this shift. Parliament's Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Act, 2025, banned real-money fantasy sports and card games outright, shutting down an industry that, by some estimates, had drawn in nearly 45 crore Indians and cost them close to Rs 20,000 crore a year. But the appetite for a fast, skill-flavoured bet did not vanish with the ban. It needed a new legal address, and the options segment of the stock market, open to anyone with a PAN card, was the nearest one standing.

The Price of That Answer

The consequences are plainly visible in SEBI's own data. The regulator's July 2025 study found that 91% of individual traders in the equity derivatives segment lost money in FY25, with net losses widening 41% over the previous year to more than Rs 1.05 lakh crore.

A separate SEBI update showed the

share of F&O traders under 30 rising from 31% in FY23 to 43% in FY24, even as more than three-quarters of loss-making traders kept trading after consecutive bad years. A companion study on intraday cash trading found that under-30 investors made up 48% of that segment by FY23 and lost money at a higher rate than the market as a whole.

None of this is solved by telling young Indians to be more patient. It calls for SEBI to regulate app design with the same seriousness it applies to advertising, for financial literacy to reach students before their first trade rather than after their first loss, and for an honest conversation about a job market that has made impatience feel like the more rational choice.

The market, driven by the irrational exuberance of the young, as ever, will keep taking the other side of that bet. The more useful question is why it has become so easy, and so tempting, to place it, and what kind of implications it can have for a young demographic that is already finding it difficult to be directly part of income- or wealth-generating opportunities.

Monsoon immunity : Daily habits that actually work

Monsoon immunity the ayurvedic way: Daily habits that actually work Ayurveda has answers rooted in centuries of practice, from rasayana herbs to daily routine shifts. Brands like Patanjali make these age-old remedies easy to follow every single day.

Atmospheric Science
Monsoon brings relief from summer heat. It also brings a spike in infections, digestive troubles, and low energy. Ayurveda has long treated this season as a period of weakened 'agni', or digestive fire, and reduced natural immunity. Classical texts describe monsoon as 'Visarga Kala', a time when the body's strength quietly declines even as the environment feels cooler and calmer.

Understanding why this happens, and how to counter it, can help you stay well through the rainy months.

Why monsoon weakens the body
Ayurveda explains that during monsoon, Vata dosha increases due to dry winds and fluctuating temperatures, while Pitta accumulates from the residual heat of summer. This dual imbalance disturbs digestion first. Weak digestion means poor nutrient absorption, which in turn lowers 'ojas', the subtle essence Ayurveda links to immunity and vitality.

Alternative & Natural Medicine
Modern observations support this pattern. Humidity supports bacterial

and fungal growth. Waterlogging increases exposure to contaminated water. Fluctuating temperatures stress the respiratory system. The Ayurvedic and modern explanations point to the same outcome: the body needs extra support during these months.

Strengthening digestion first

Ayurveda treats digestion as the foundation of immunity. A person with strong agni can process food efficiently and build healthy tissue. A person with weak agni accumulates 'ama', or toxins, which Ayurveda considers the root of most illness.

During monsoon, classical texts recommend light, warm, and freshly cooked food. Raw salads, leafy greens, and street food are discouraged because of contamination risk and because they are harder to digest in this season. Ginger, black pepper, and cumin are commonly added to meals to kindle digestive fire.

Psychology
Many households turn to simple digestive aids during this period. Patanjali's Divya Churna is one such product used after meals to support digestion and prevent bloating, a common monsoon complaint.

The role of Rasayana herbs
Rasayana is the branch of Ayurveda focused on rejuvenation and immunity building. Several herbs used in



this tradition have been studied for their effects on the immune system. Amla, or Indian gooseberry, is one of the richest natural sources of vitamin C. It also contains antioxidants that support white blood cell function. Ashwagandha is an adaptogen studied for its role in reducing stress hormones and supporting immune resilience. Tulsi has documented antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory properties, which is why it appears in most Ayurvedic monsoon remedies.

Atmospheric Science
Chyawanprash, a herbal jam built around amla, has been part of Ayurvedic monsoon and winter routines for centuries. It combines dozens of herbs meant to work together rather than in isolation. Patanjali's Chyawanprash is widely used in Indian households for this

exact purpose, taken daily with warm milk to build resistance before the season's peak.

Daily routine adjustments

Ayurveda places heavy emphasis on 'dinacharya', or daily routine, as a tool for prevention. During monsoon, a few adjustments are commonly advised.

Waking before sunrise is recommended to align the body with natural rhythms. Warm water, sometimes with a pinch of turmeric, is suggested first thing in the morning to support digestion. Oil massage, or 'abhyanga', using warm sesame or herbal oil, is advised to balance Vata and improve circulation.

Health
Bathing with lukewarm water, rather than cold, is preferred in this season. Keeping feet dry and

clean is stressed repeatedly in classical texts, since dampness is considered a direct trigger for joint and skin issues during monsoon.

Herbal oils formulated for this purpose, including options from Patanjali, are commonly used for foot and joint massage during the rains.

Foods to favour and avoid
Ayurvedic dietary guidance for monsoon is specific. Warm soups, moong dal khichdi, and steamed vegetables are considered ideal.

Bitter and astringent tastes, found in foods like bitter gourd and pomegranate, are recommended to counter Pitta buildup.

Foods to limit
Foods to limit include curd, heavy fried items, and cold beverages. These are believed to slow digestion further and increase mucus formation, which can worsen respiratory symptoms already common during the season.

Alternative & Natural Medicine
Herbal teas made with tulsi, ginger, and black pepper are a staple in most Indian homes during monsoon. Patanjali's Tulsi Ghanvati and herbal tea blends are frequently used as a convenient way to include these ingredients daily without preparing fresh decoctions each time.

US snubs Pak on J&K, American ambassador Sergio Gor says ‘important part of India’

Srinagar Aug 19 : United States Ambassador to India Sergio Gor on Wednesday, August 19, called Jammu and Kashmir as an “important part of India” and indicated that Washington was open to re-evaluate the travel advisory against its citizens visiting Kashmir.

“It’s a pleasure to be here... This is an important part of India. I am here, visiting for the first time. It is an incredibly beautiful place. I am thrilled to be here, thrilled to see this place. We just had a very good meeting. We have some follow-ups, so we hope to take back to Washington, back to Delhi. But a very warm, a very cordial and we look forward to building this relationship forward,” Gor said.

Notably, this marks the first visit by the top US diplomat to Kashmir. He also serves as US President Donald Trump’s Special Envoy for South and Central Asia. Gor’s visit is being looked upon as a major US diplomatic engagement in recent years amid heightened strategic developments in the region. On his “very



good” meeting with Sergio Gor, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that they had the opportunity to discuss the relations between our two countries “but with specific focus on what the US can do with J&K.” “There are obviously certain legacy issues that over time we will be working to resolve but we look forward to taking this conversation further. This is a conversation that will take place both between Ambassador Gor and Washington, and between me and the Govt of India in New Delhi. But we are very hopeful and opti-

mistic that the engagement between the US and J&K will both widen and deepen in the years ahead,” he added. Notably, US diplomats have visited the region in the past, which includes the political engagements ahead of the 2024 Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections.

“Appreciated the opportunity to meet with Jammu & Kashmir Chief Minister @OmarAbdullah and to learn more about his priorities. We discussed ways to deepen economic collaboration and create opportunities that would mutually benefit both of

our nations,” Gor wrote on X after meeting the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister. Meanwhile, Omar Abdullah wrote on the social media platform, “It was a pleasure to receive @USAmbIndia Sergio Gor in Srinagar today. We had a very good conversation about the possibilities that exist to widen & deepen the engagement between J&K & the United States of America, particularly in areas like tourism, horticulture & the new economy. I look forward to continuing this engagement & taking our conversation forward.”

Tibetans to hold nationwide protests on August 20 over new Chinese law which ‘attacks ethnic rights’



New Delhi, Aug 19 : Tibetans in India are planning demonstrations across the country on Thursday to highlight what they describe as continuing human-rights violations in Tibet and to protest against a new Chinese law which they claim threatens their distinct linguistic, cultural and national identity.

The protests are expected to be held in several Indian cities, including New Delhi, Kolkata, Dharamshala, Chennai and Bengaluru, among other centres.

“In Kolkata, the protest will take the form of a candlelight vigil outside the Chinese Consulate General,” Tibetan Youth Congress coordinator for the Northeast Tsepal Tenzing told The Statesman. “In Kolkata, the protest will take the form of a candlelight vigil outside the Chinese Consulate General,” Tibetan Youth Congress coordinator for the Northeast Tsepal Tenzing told The Statesman.

The new Chinese law ‘Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress’ brought in from July 1 this year, threatens to erase the language and culture of ethnic communities like the Tibetans, Mongols and others by legalising forced assimilation, penalising any form of dissent by these ethnicities anywhere in the world, protesters claim. Social Issues & Advocacy

Tenzing said the nationwide mobilisation had been prompted in part by the self-immolation of Tibetan activist and former monk Lobga Rangzen outside the United Nations headquarters in New York on July 2.

Rangzen, also identified as Lobsang Palden, died after setting himself on fire while carrying a Tibetan flag. Tibetan organisations said he had undertaken the action to draw international attention to Tibet and demand independence.

The incident has since become a rallying point for Tibetan activists globally, with Tibetan communities planning demonstrations, candlelight vigils and other peaceful actions. India is host to nearly a million Tibetans, descendants of refugees who fled to India in wake of Chinese crackdown in the Himalayan state after the flight of the Dalai Lama in 1959 on horseback to India.

“China wants to treat us as a minority that can be erased. But we are the majority in Tibet, and Tibet is a free country. We want to underline that,” Tenzing said. Government “They are trying to take away our children, our boys and girls, to be taught in colonial boarding schools in Mandarin only, with no access to Tibetan language ... it’s a bid to end Tibetan identity and culture,” he said.

Tenzing said the protests were also intended to draw attention to Tibetans who, he alleged, had disappeared or had been detained after speaking out against Chinese policies.

“Tens of thousands of Tibetans have vanished in recent times for daring to protest in some way or the other,” he said.

He cited the case of Tibetan protest singer A-Sang. The singer also known as Tsukte, was taken away after singing a song ‘Prince of peace’ which was taken to be a tribute to the Dalai Lama, dubbed a traitor and “splitist” by the Chinese government.

“He sang about democracy and about Tibet and then he vanished from public sight,” Tenzing said. “Monks are continuing to protest in Tibet, but these are small, isolated incidents which are not being picked up by the media, specifically because the Chinese do not allow media access to Tibet,” he said.

Independent reporting has documented significant restrictions on access to Tibet, with foreign journalists facing restrictions on travel and reporting in Tibetan areas.

“We want to focus the world’s attention on the problems that are besetting our motherland, which is Tibet,” Tenzing said.

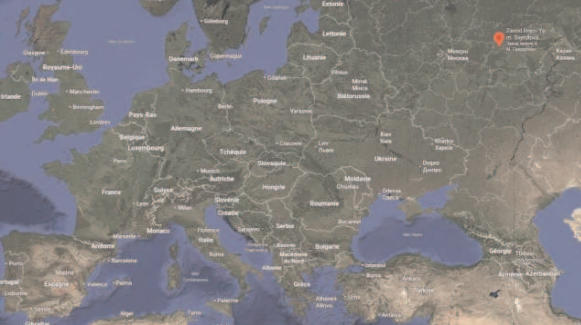
South Asians & Diaspora

The August 20 demonstrations are expected to combine opposition to China’s new ethnic-unity law with broader demands concerning human rights, religious freedom and the preservation of Tibetan language and culture.

The planned mobilisation follows a series of protests by Tibetan communities in India and abroad. Hundreds of Tibetans, including monks, demonstrated at Bylakuppe in Karnataka on August 14, demanding an end to Chinese rule in Tibet.

Indian Student Injured in Drone Attack in Russia’s Ufa

Moscow, August 19: An Indian student was injured in a drone attack in Ufa, Russia, amid escalating tensions between Russia and Ukraine. The Indian Embassy in Moscow said on Wednesday that the student is undergoing treatment at a local hospital and is in stable condition. The student, who is pursuing medical studies at Bashkir State Medical University in Ufa, was reportedly injured when drones targeted the city.



Following the incident, the Indian Embassy promptly contacted the student and is maintaining

regular communication. Embassy officials are also coordinating with local authori-

ties to ensure that the student receives all necessary medical assistance and support. The embassy has withheld the student’s identity and other personal details for security reasons. Ukraine has intensified drone attacks on Russian territory over the past three days. Ufa, a major industrial city located about 1,200 km from Moscow, has been among the reported targets. An oil refinery in the city was also reportedly attacked.

South Korea, US curtail joint military drills following Trump order

Seoul, Aug 19 : South Korea and the United States are scaling down their annual combined exercise at Washington’s request, the allies said on Wednesday, after US President Donald Trump ordered a reduction in the drills that North Korea could see as “hostile.”

The allies will conclude the Ulchi Freedom Shield (UFS) exercise Friday, cutting the 11-day duration nearly in half, according to Seoul’s Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) and the US Defense Department. The UFS was scheduled to run from August 17-27. Field training exercises, a core part of the drills, will also be reduced to some extent, with discussions under way between the two militaries to decide on the detailed plans, the JCS said. The Pentagon said it has “substantially” reduced the exercise, with associated live-training events reduced and certain events cancelled or converted to simulations. However, the department said the downsizing does not mean a weakening of the allies’ military capabilities.

“These adjustments preserve essential readiness and training objectives. There will be no degradation to US training objectives,” a Pentagon official said. The announcement comes after Trump called for scaling down joint South Korea-US military drills in a social media post on Sunday (US time), citing a cost burden and his good relationship with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, reports Yonhap news agency. Trump also said the exercises send a “totally inappropriate and hostile” signal to Pyongyang.

The UFS is one of the two major theatre-level combined exercises the allies conduct annually to train for contingencies against North Korea. While it is primarily a simulation-based command post exercise (CPX), often dubbed “war games,” the drills also include major field manoeuvres (FTX) across land, sea and air. The allies typically carry out defensive operations in the first week of the UFS, with the second phase more focused on counterattack scenarios against enemy aggression. Speaking to reporters shortly after the announcement,

Defence Minister Ahn Gyu-back said that the allies were cancelling the second phase of the exercise. “We appear to be leaning toward cancellation,” he said.

Signs of adjustments to the schedule emerged Tuesday as US Forces Korea (USFK) Commander Gen. Xavier Brunson, who doubles as the Combined Forces Command (CFC) commander, made an unannounced visit to the defence ministry in Seoul for a meeting with Ahn.

The CFC, the allies’ warfighting command, is already conducting the exercise out of two separate command posts -- at the wartime CP Tango bunker in Seongnam and at Camp Humphreys, the main US base in Pyeongtaek, some 50 kilometres south of the capital -- the JCS said. Camp Humphreys serves as the CFC’s peacetime headquarters. Having split the command posts reflects the readjustment in the scope of the UFS. The allies had planned to carry out 14 field manoeuvres at the battalion level or above during this year’s UFS, but those are also being scaled down.

The allies are reportedly in talks to either hold the live drills separately or have South Korea conduct them independently. Some field training could also be postponed to a later date, sources familiar with the matter said. “South Korea and the U.S. agreed to discuss and carry out various measures going forward to achieve the objectives of the UFS exercise and establish a robust combined defence posture,” the JCS said.

The scaling back of the UFS poses a dilemma for Seoul as it seeks to use the exercise to validate its capabilities to lead the combined forces once it retakes wartime operational control (OPCON) from Washington. South Korea wants to expedite the OPCON transition process by concluding the second phase of the three-stage conditions-based transi-



tion plan agreed upon with the US and setting a target timeline by the end of this year. The reduction of the drills could undermine Seoul’s efforts to accelerate the OPCON transition, a setback for the Lee Jae Myung administration, which aims for the transfer before its five-year term ends in June 2030. Asked by reporters about its impact on the OPCON transfer, Ahn dismissed such concerns, saying that the evaluation of South Korea’s readiness linked to the OPCON handover takes place during the first week of the exercise.

The defence ministry also downplayed concerns the scaled-back drills would weaken deterrence against North Korea. The allies scaled back their joint drills in 2019 during Trump’s first term, when the high-stakes nuclear diplomacy with Pyongyang was at its peak. But that decision was reached based on bilateral consultations, unlike this week’s unilateral request from Washington.

Wednesday’s announcement comes amid growing speculation for a resumption of dialogue between Trump and Kim. The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday that Trump is pushing for another in-person meeting with Kim this fall, possibly during his trip to China where he is expected to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit.

North Korea has decried the allies’ exercises as rehearsals for invasion and conducted its own weapons tests in apparent protest. South Korea and the US have stressed that the drills are defensive in nature.

Baloch leader urges Trump to act over Pakistan airstrikes in Balochistan



Washington, August 19 : The Baloch American Congress president, Tara Chand, has written to US President Donald Trump seeking urgent intervention over recent Pakistani military airstrikes in Balochistan’s Surab district that reportedly killed more than 30 civilians, including women and children.

In his letter addressed to Trump, Chand wrote, “We respectfully urge your administration to investigate these serious allegations and determine whether any US-origin aircraft, weapons, drones, technology, components, or other military equipment were used in the reported operation.”

On behalf of the Baloch community, he also urged the American administration to investigate the reported airstrikes and civilian casu-

alties in Surab, determine whether US-origin military equipment or technology was involved, and conduct appropriate end-use and compliance reviews of relevant US defence equipment supplied to Pakistan.

Chand further called on the American authorities to support an independent investigation and accountability for any violations of US law, arms-transfer conditions, or international humanitarian law as well as review relevant US military assistance or transfers if credible evidence establishes that such equipment was misused against Baloch civilians.

“Mr. President, a Baloch child’s life is as precious as the life of any child anywhere in the world. We are not asking the United States to prejudge the evidence—we are asking your

Administration to establish the truth, protect civilians, and ensure accountability. We would welcome the opportunity to provide available documentation and meet with appropriate US officials regarding this urgent matter,” the letter mentioned.

The incident took place in the early hours of August 12 when the Pakistani Air Force reportedly carried out indiscriminate bombardment in residential areas in the Gidar area of Surab, killing civilians and causing significant damage to properties.

Last week, several Baloch activists and human rights bodies strongly rejected the statement issued by Pakistan’s Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR)- the official media and public relations wing for Pakistan’s Armed Forces, following the Pakistani airstrikes in Surab, describing it as “false and fabricated”.

The criticism came after the Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) attempted to downplay the Surab attack by attributing it to the premature detonation of a Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) allegedly linked to a militant

group.

Slamming Pakistan’s official remarks, a leading Baloch human rights defender, Mir Yar Baloch, took to X and posted: “DGISPR, which serves as the official spokesperson for the Pakistani military, has long faced severe criticism over its misleading and fabricated statements and official positions regarding controversial military operations.”

“The Surab massacre was a planned act of collective punishment, and local residents of Surab stand as witnesses to the fact that the Pakistan Air Force deliberately targeted a civilian population under the cover of darkness, severely affecting an entire village and leaving its residents to bear the devastating consequences,” he added.

Human rights body Baloch Voice for Justice (BVJ) alleged that the DGISPR resorted to “extreme exaggeration” and made a failed attempt to construct a “so-called narrative” that contradicted the facts, apparently to conceal the ongoing “war crimes” in Balochistan by Pakistani forces. The rights body noted that the reality on the ground can no longer be concealed by “distorting the facts.”

Stock Markets Extend Losing Streak; Nifty Falls for Seventh Session

Mumbai, August 19: Domestic equity markets extended their losing streak on Wednesday, with benchmark indices closing lower amid weak global market conditions. The Nifty declined for the seventh consecutive session, while the Sensex fell for the fourth straight day. At the close of trading, the Nifty dropped 76.60 points to settle at 24,078.30, while the Sensex declined 325.78 points to close at 76,909.68. This marked the Nifty’s longest losing streak since September 2025. The Nifty is now approaching the crucial 24,000 level. Market



experts said a close below 24,050 could lead to a test of 24,000 in the next session. The 24,200–24,300 range is expected to act as an immediate resistance zone. Max Healthcare Institute, Coal India and Power Grid

Corporation were among the major losers. The Nifty Midcap index fell 0.21%, while the Smallcap index declined 0.51%. Sectoral performance remained mixed, with the Nifty Chemicals index recording the steepest decline. The IT index performed relatively better. HCL Technologies, Eterna, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Sun Pharma and Titan gained, while Power Grid, Bajaj Finance, L&T, ITC and Hindustan Unilever declined.

Pallaburusu movie review

Cast - Prajwal Yadma, Muralidhar Goud, Gomathy Reddy, Sudhakar Reddy and others

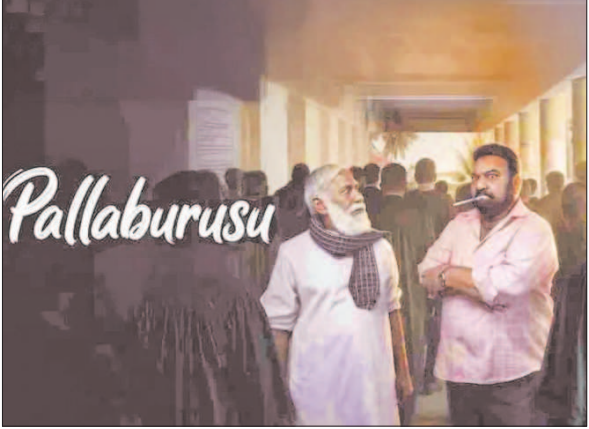
Director - Uday Chauhan
Producer - Annapurna Studios, Aditya Pittie, and Vivek Krishnani

Banner - Annapurna Studios, EPIC Studios

Music - Pawan Ch

After backing several content-driven films, Annapurna Studios returns with Pallaburusu. Directed by debutant Uday Chauhan, the film has Sudhakar Reddy, Muralidhar Goud, Prajwal Yadma, and Gomathy in key roles. With music by Pawan Ch and camera by Vinod K. Bangari, the movie has been released on a low-key note. Read our review here.

Plot: Shambu(Sudhakar Reddy), an elderly villager, is advised by a doctor to use a toothbrush



instead of traditional neem sticks after suffering from a toothache. He asks his son Tirupati(Muralidhar Goud), a railway gatekeeper, to buy him a toothbrush and medicines. Though Tirupati purchases them, the toothbrush goes missing amid his daughter's marriage proposal arrangements. Hurt by his son's neglect and the fact that important family

Telangana and features the popular local artist Sudhakar Reddy. He plays Shambu, a neglected old man who is worried about aging. Firstly, Sudhakar Reddy of Balagam fame is a perfect fit for the role and delivers a sincere performance. He emotes well and is very good in all the emotional scenes. The happening Muralidhar Goud plays

matters are hidden from him, Shambhu files a case against Tirupati under the Maintenance Act, claiming that his son failed to provide him with a toothbrush. What follows and who wins the legal battle is the basic story.

Performances: Pallaburusu is set in the heartland of

Tirupathi and is also cast well in the setup. But sadly, his character is not developed properly, and this limits Muralidhar's scope for performance. Though he plays a young person in age, the way he performs as the son who neglects his father is good. Prajwal Yadma and Gomathy Reddy are okay in their roles.

Technical Aspects: Pawan CH has composed the music, and he has done a good job with the album. Two songs in particular have been composed well and gel nicely into the setup. As the film is made on a shoestring budget, there is not much to talk about. The production design does well to showcase the village setup naturally. However, the screenplay of the film is low-key. There are no special moments that stand out. The film runs on a simple thread and only clicks in the climax portions. The dialogues are good, but the lyrics are quite meaningful.



Ram Pothineni Joins Rajinikanth's Dharman

A crazy multistarrer combination is taking shape as Ram Pothineni is set to share screen space with Superstar Rajinikanth in Dharman, directed by Aswath Marimuthu. Kamal Haasan and Superstar Rajinikanth are joining forces for Dharman, one of the most eagerly awaited pan-India projects. The film is being backed by the prestigious Raaj Kamal Films



International banner and is produced by Kamal Haasan and R Mahendran. The project has already generated considerable buzz following its intense first-look poster, and the addition of Ram Pothineni makes the casting even more interesting. Ram will reportedly be seen in a prominent and crucial role in the film, and this is certainly not a brief or special appearance. In a clear indication of the scope of his character. The combination of Rajinikanth and Ram Pothineni makes the project an exciting multistarrer, with Ram expected to have substantial importance in the narrative. Interestingly, Ram has taken up

Dharman even while being heavily occupied with his ambitious directorial debut, RaPo23, in which he is also playing the lead. Meanwhile, the shoot of Dharman is already underway in Chennai under the direction of Aswath Marimuthu. More details regarding Ram's character and his shooting schedule are expected to emerge soon. With Kamal Haasan backing the project, Rajinikanth leading it, Aswath Marimuthu directing, and Ram Pothineni coming on board for a substantial role, Dharman is shaping up to be one of the most interesting pan-India multistarrers in the making.

Akkineni Trio Celebrates 90 Years of family Legacy



The Akkineni family is one of the most respected names in Telugu cinema. Recently, three generations of the family's star power came together as Nagarjuna, Naga Chaitanya and Akhil Akkineni appeared for a special interview with Variety India. The conversation focused on their family's long journey, values, discipline and the future of Telugu cinema. The Akkineni trio has now appeared on the cover of Variety India. The special cover celebrates nearly 90 years of the Akkineni family's contribution to the film industry. Nagarjuna and his sons looked stylish in formal suits and impressed fans with their classy appearance. The cover picture quickly

attracted attention on social media. Many fans praised the trio for their smart looks and the strong bond they share as a family. The photograph also highlights how the Akkineni name continues to remain important in Telugu cinema. Nagarjuna has carried forward the legacy of his father, legendary actor Akkineni Nageswara Rao. Over the years, he has created a successful career with films in different genres. Now, he is preparing for another major milestone in his career. The actor is working on his 100th film, which is being directed by Ra Karthik. The project is expected to be a special one for both Nagarjuna and his fans. Naga Chaitanya is also

busy with his upcoming projects. He is currently working on Vrushakarma, which is being directed by Kartik Dandu. The actor has been choosing different kinds of stories and continues to build his own identity in the Telugu film industry. Meanwhile, Akhil Akkineni is enjoying the success of Lenin. After the film's release, the actor has not announced his next project yet. Fans are eagerly waiting to know what he will choose as his next film. The Variety India cover has once again brought the Akkineni family into the spotlight. With Nagarjuna and his sons following their own paths, fans are curious to see how the family's legacy will continue in the coming years.

Jr NTR to Entertain with 'Ntrtain' Soon?



In recent times, whenever Jr NTR's big film comes up, naturally Kalyan Ram's production house "NTR Entertainment" comes into the picture, taking a co-partnership. Even for the upcoming "God of War" that is being produced by Harika & Hasini Creations, this production house has come aboard. However, it is now coming out that Jr NTR is getting ready to launch his own production house. Reports are coming that Jr NTR is launching a production house named "NTRTAIN", which has the name NTR at the beginning, but sounds like 'entertain' when pronounced. The production house will most likely be handled by his wife Lakshmi Pranathi, as per the updates. Whether this production house will make small-budget concept movies, or some films with heroes close to them is something to be seen. Currently, only hero Nani is making films like that among the contemporary heroes, as he ropes in other stars to make conceptual movies and commercial films too. Mahesh's GMB is also doing well by backing good content, but isn't making great blockbusters. Now that Jr NTR is also getting into the game, most likely, it will be very interesting to see how many movies he would pick up, produce, release and win awards.

Toxic's Opening Day: will records break?



Finally, after a couple of postponements, most hyped superstar Yash's latest outing, "Toxic", is hitting cinemas on August 26th. The recently released trailer has truly stunned the audience, and the Hindi version alone has garnered 31 million views already, while Telugu and Tamil versions fetched 12 million views each. That proves the film is running high on hype, but what is to be seen is how much will turn that into 'collections' on First Day. If we look at Yash's last outing, KGF Chapter 2, the super hyped sequel of his KGF, the first film of the star that stunned the nation, the openings are great. KGF Chapter 2's worldwide opening was around the Rs.165 crore range. However, if we look at other films that came around the same time, Baahubali 2 grossed more than Rs.210 crores, and Pushpa 2 touched

almost Rs.290 crores. At the same time, other Telugu movies like RRR also opened with more than Rs.200 crores gross on its release day. But then Dhurandhar 2 has shocked the world after it didn't match Pushpa 2's figures. While Dhurandhar 1 opened with Rs.40 crores, Dhurandhar 2 was welcomed with Rs.240+ crores gross on Day 1. So hype and craze might turn or might not turn into collections on Day 1, but surely Toxic has to break records or create new ones, for the kind of budgets involved. We have to wait for a week more to find out what happens. Directed by Geethu Mohandas, Toxic features Yash in a double or possibly triple action, with a galaxy of stars including Nayanthara, Kiara Advani, Tara Sutaria, Huma Qureshi and Rukmini Vasanth playing crucial roles.

Irumudi takes off with sensational advance bookings

Ravi Teja has never stated about any movie has special and very close to his heart like he did for Irumudi. The Shiva Nirvana directorial has promised to cater to all audiences groups with great family emotions blended into thriller genre with a spiritual touch of Ayyappa Deeksha. Mallepoola Pallaki song has created gigantic buzz adding to the excitement created by songs, teaser and trailer. Releasing on 21st August worldwide, the movie opened to sensational advance bookings in North America. It collected US\$150K+ gross in pre-sales and it showcases the organic buzz that the movie has built over the months. In Nizam area, the bookings have opened to a huge start as the movie came into trending within an hour. Bookings in Andhra Pradesh will open later but trade analysts are predicting a tsunami to be unleashed.



For a Ravi Teja film, such a collective positive buzz and anticipation has been absent and Irumudi is showcasing his true box office pull. Even though it is early days, the movie looks like it is set to be one of the career biggest blockbusters for Mass Maharaja. Already, GV Prakash Kumar showcased his excitement calling the movie a classic.

Censor reports have been super positive and anticipation among audiences is unprecedented. Mythri Movie Makers have showcased their passion to bring this movie to audiences as the director intended. On the whole, looking at the trends, trade analysts are stating that Ravi Teja is going to create ripples with Irumudi.

Why so slow are Telugu Heroes than Malayalam super star?

Mohanlal is currently creating a lot of excitement with his new movie lineup. The Malayalam superstar has announced seven upcoming films with some of the biggest names in the industry. The announcement has once again made fans discuss the working style of senior heroes in South Indian cinema. Mohanlal revealed that he will be working with filmmakers Vishnu Mohan, Anoop Sathyan, Priyadarshan, Dileesh Pothan, Sathyan Anthikad, Jude Anthany Joseph and Jeethu Joseph. Some of these projects were already announced, while his latest announcement confirmed more interesting collaborations. The actor has several different types of films in his lineup. His project with Vishnu Mohan is currently known as L367. He is also set to work with Priyadarshan on the director's 100th film.



Another interesting project is Nedumkandam Miracle with director Dileesh Pothan. The movie has a strong technical team and is expected to be an important project. Mohanlal is also joining hands with Jude Anthany Joseph and Anoop Sathyan. The details of his upcoming films with Sathyan Anthikad and Jeethu Joseph are yet to be revealed. However, these combinations have already created curiosity among movie lovers.

Chiru & Balakrishna: Lessons Heroes Should Learn



Megastar Chiranjeevi and Nandamuri Balakrishna are currently racing against time for a reason. While doing this, they are actually giving a big message to the next generation of heroes regarding the way they should plan movies and how they should honour commitment and stay dedicated to bringing movies on said dates. Here's an interesting analysis. Apparently, Megastar Chiranjeevi is celebrating his 71st birthday, not at home or at a holiday destination, but actually on the sets of his latest movies. He wants to make sure that his #Mega158, which is being directed by KS Bobby, is released on the eve of Sankranti 2027 at any cost.

On the other hand, despite not having recovered from his injury and surgery yet, even Nandamuri Balakrishna, the 66-year-old star, is planning #NBK111 quite packed schedules, such that it would come either in December 2026 or in early January. When two big, senior and aged stars are working that hard, many are wondering why other Tier 1 heroes who are in their 40s are struggling to wrap the schedules as planned and bring the movies to theatres. On average, every year we are seeing at least one release from these big stars, while the others in the same league are taking more than 2 years to bring one film. Should they not learn the lessons from the senior stars?

ICC Rankings: Brook dethrones Head as No. 1 Test batter; Shanto achieves career-best rankings

Dubai, Aug 19 : England batter Harry Brook reclaimed the No. 1 spot in the ICC Men's Test Player Rankings, dethroning Australia opener Travis Head, who dropped down the list following his low scores in the first match of the ICC World Test Championship series against Bangladesh. Bangladesh produced a superb team performance to defeat Australia by nine wickets in the opening match of their two-match series in Darwin. It is the fourth stint at the top for Brook, who first achieved the number one position in December 2024. Joe Root (second) and Steve Smith (third) have also overtaken Head, who could only manage scores of 22 and 17 in Darwin. Smith scored 71 and 44 to move up to third position. Meanwhile, Bangladesh skipper Najmul Hossain Shanto, who struck an excellent innings of 84 in the first innings to help setup the victory, shot up nine places to reach a career-best 20th position. Shanto moved above the likes of India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja and compatriot Liton Das. His tally of 659 rating points is the sixth highest for a batter from his country. Teammate Mominul Haque (up five rungs to 31st) and Australia all-rounder Cameron Green (up five

slots to 30th) also made ground on this list, while Travis Head relinquished his place as the top-ranked Test batter following scores of 22 and 17 across the match. Cameron Green's second-innings century has enabled him to advance five positions to 30th while Mominul Haque (up five places to 31st), Shadman Islam (up three places to 58th), Mehidy Hasan Miraz (up five places to 59th) and Tanzid Hasan (up 84 places to joint-88th) are the others to move up the batting rankings. There's just 33 rating points between those first four batters, meaning there could be further movement following England's home Test series with Pakistan and the second match of Australia's series against Bangladesh. Seam bowler Hasan Mahmud has made headway with his Player of the Match effort. He is up 26 places to 38th after returning figures of six for 55 in the first innings, while Mehidy's haul of five for 66 in the



second innings lifts him three places to 24th, ICC reports. In the ICC Men's ODI Player Rankings, the biggest mover this week is Afghanistan left-hander Sediqullah Atal, whose scores of 143 and 98 in the last two matches of their five-match series against Ireland have helped him advance 37 places to 33rd. Ireland's Curtis Campher's scores of 84 and 96 have lifted him 23 places to 36th. Canada batter Pargat Singh's knock of 42 against Scotland in an ICC Men's Cricket World Cup League 2 match in Dundee has helped him move up 10 places to 85th, while Ireland's Andrew Balbirnie is up five places to 47th.

1st Test: Aim was to get the wickets as quickly as we can due to rain threat, says KL Rahul



Galle, Aug 19 : The threat of an impending downpour forced India to adopt an aggressive approach and wrap up the game quickly in their favour on day five of the opening Test against Sri Lanka, admitted vice-captain KL Rahul after the visitors got a clinical 165-run victory here at the Galle International Stadium on Wednesday. Chasing a target of 372, Sri Lanka were eventually bowled out for 206 in 77.4 overs, with young left-arm spinner Manav Suthar taking four wickets in ten balls after lunch to trigger a rapid lower-order collapse and end with figures of 6-55. The downpour coming right after the game was over led to the post-game presentation ceremony being shifted indoors. "Just relieved, honestly! We kept looking at the cloud upstairs and we knew there was one big shower coming, so we didn't want to delay the

game. We were trying to get the wickets as quickly as we could. "Obviously, they had a decent partnership and once we broke that partnership, we felt like we were right back in the game and we could, once we got into their tail, we knew that we could get the wickets early. But yeah, we had one eye on the clouds," Rahul said to broadcasters. He also praised the Galle International Stadium ground staff for making a pitch which provided a balanced contest between bat and ball over all five days. "It wasn't (as comfortable as it was). I think it was a great Test match. I think the wicket played really well throughout the five days. "There was something in it for spinners obviously, but the batters who applied themselves as well could get some runs. And we've seen Sonal (Dinusha) from the Sri Lankan team.

Both the innings, getting a hundred and an 80, batted beautifully, had a very clear game plan to sweep the spinners and use his feet. "So I think people who are really committed to their game plan could score runs as well. So that's what you want to see in Test matches, where fast bowlers picked wickets too, even for their team and for our team. So I think all in all, it was a great wicket, great Test match," he added. During the stubborn alliance between Sonal Dinusha and Keshara Nuwantha, Rahul disclosed India kept faith in their tactical discipline with the new ball, even as the possibility of striking with the second new ball was huge. "We knew that the new ball was going to come and if we couldn't get wickets, the new ball would be our next best chance. But throughout

the day, our mindset obviously was to keep putting the ball in the right areas. We knew there was a little bit of help from the wicket. "Obviously, the opposition also can play well. There are batters who will dig deep and get a partnership. So we knew that would happen. So we just had to be patient and just keep putting the ball in the areas, and the wicket, like I said, there was some help in it. And once we got a wicket or once we broke a partnership, then we knew we could get two or three together," Rahul explained. Quizzed on why several batters across both teams didn't get big scores, Rahul noted that clarity of thought during the initial period of an innings was the deciding factor on a surface offering immediate assistance to bowlers. "It was a really good Test match wicket to play in. Batters who really committed to their plans or had a plan as to how they're going to play spin or fast bowling stood a chance. I honestly feel someone who walked in there thinking, I'll see what to do once I get there. There are batters who kind of struggled because there was a little bit of help straightaway. "And the batters who have gotten out are the guys who got out in the first 15-20 balls. That tells you the whole story. So if you could get through that 20 balls, 25 balls and commit to a plan, then you were okay," he concluded.

Renshaw replaces Weatherald for Australia's second Test against Bangladesh

Mumbai, August 19: Australia have made one change to their squad for the second and final Test against Bangladesh, recalling Matthew Renshaw after their shocking nine-wicket humiliation in the series opener in Darwin. Opener Jake Weatherald has been dropped from the 13-member squad after a disappointing outing in the first Test, with the left-handed Renshaw named as his replacement. Renshaw could make his first Test appearance in more than three years if selected for the Mackay Test, which begins on Saturday. The 30-year-old last played Test cricket in Delhi against India in 2023, when he came into the side as a concussion substitute for regular opener David Warner. History Since then, Renshaw has represented Australia in both ODI and T20I cricket. His return to the Test squad comes after Australia's top order struggled badly against Bangladesh, who secured a stunning nine-wicket victory



in Darwin. Australia were bowled out for just 198 in their first innings, while Weatherald managed only 23 and a duck across the two innings. His poor showing has resulted in his omission from the squad for the series finale. Renshaw's inclusion provides Australia with another option at the top of the order as they look to respond to one of the most unexpected defeats in their recent Test history. Regular No. 3 Marnus Labuschagne, however, has retained his place despite his own struggles with the bat. Labuschagne scored 31 in the second innings in Darwin but has been short of runs for some time.

Australia coach Andrew McDonald acknowledged that the experienced batter still has work to do to secure his position in the side. "I think it was 31 he got in the second innings, and up until the point he got out, you'd sit there and say he was looking good," McDonald said of Labuschagne. "He was moving well, he's clipping off his pads, he was getting back through the ball down the ground. So it's easy for me to sit here and try to defend that, but ultimately it's 31. It's not a big score. He's lacked runs. He feels that. We feel that. We're working incredibly hard as a coaching group." The defeat in Darwin left Australia with plenty to address before the second Test, particularly after Bangladesh's bowlers exposed weaknesses in their batting line-up. Australia's reserve wicketkeeper-batter Josh Inglis and fast bowler Scott Boland have retained their places in the squad and could also come into contention for the series finale.

BWF World C'ships: Lakshya Sen fights back from slow start to open campaign with win

New Delhi Aug 19 : Lakshya Sen shook off a sluggish start to launch his BWF World Championships campaign with a commanding comeback win over Austria's Collins Filimon at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on Tuesday. The 14th-seeded Indian, 1111 recovered from a 16-21 opening-game loss against the Austrian, ranked 128th, to win the next two games 21-8, 21-4 and seal the Round of 64 contest in 45 minutes. Filimon had the better of the opening exchanges and managed to stay narrowly ahead for much of the first game. Sen, a former World Championships bronze medallist, struggled to find his rhythm and eventually surrendered the opener 16-21. Shopping For Authentic South Asian Apparel The response was emphatic. With the home crowd rallying behind him, Sen quickly settled into the



second game and refused to let Filimon build the same momentum. The Austrian briefly stayed level at 7-7, but Sen soon moved ahead and began finding greater success with his attacking game. His smashes repeatedly troubled Filimon, while Sen also handled the Austrian's attacking shots effectively. A 16-8 lead gave the Indian a firm grip on the game, and he went on to close it out 21-8 and force a decider. There was little doubt about the outcome in the third game. Sen opened with three

straight points and immediately began putting pressure on Filimon. His sharp attacking play helped him race to a 6-1 lead before he extended the advantage to 11-1 at the interval. The break did little to change the momentum. Sen returned to stretch his lead to 13-1, with chants of "Lakshya bhai, superstar" echoing around the stadium as the home crowd sensed the finish. Filimon managed to stop the Indian's run briefly at 15-3, but Sen remained firmly in control. He moved to 18-3 and then

20-4 before converting his first match point to complete a 21-4 third-game win. After dropping the opening game, Sen had conceded just 12 points across the next two games. The victory takes the Indian into the next round of the men's singles draw as he begins his bid for another deep run at the World Championships. In other matches on Tuesday, Unnati Hooda defeated Myanmar's Thet Htar Thuzar 22-20, 21-16 in women's singles. Rohan Kapoor and Ruthvika Shivani Gadde lost 22-20, 19-21, 17-21 to Canada's Jonathan Bing Tsan Lai and Crystal Lai, while mixed doubles pair Ashith Surya and Amrutha Pramuthesh went down 21-16, 29-30, 22-24 to Turkey's Emre Sonmez and Yasemen Bektas. India's women's doubles pair Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand also advanced, beating USA's Lauren Lam and Allison Lee 21-15, 21-12

BWF World C'ships: Arjuna Award nod for Treesa-Gayatri followed by Round of 16 spot; Kavipriya-Simran bow out

New Delhi Aug 19 : Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand continued India's winning run in women's doubles at the BWF World Championships, advancing to the Round of 16 with a straight-game victory over USA's Lauren Lam and Allison Lee, while Kavipriya Selvam and Simran Singh's campaign came to an end against Bulgaria's Stoeva sisters here on Tuesday. Treesa and Gayatri, ranked 39th in the world, defeated the 16th-seeded American pair 21-15, 21-12 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium to move into the last 16. The Indians made an assured start, taking the opening point and maintaining the lead for most of the game. Even when Lam and Lee attempted to close the gap midway through the contest, Treesa and Gayatri stayed composed and took the opening game 21-15. The Indian pair remained in control from the beginning of the second game and gradually extended their advantage. They led 19-12 late in the game before wrapping up the match 21-12. The victory was another strong outing for the pair, who had also won their opening-round match on Day 1. For Treesa and Gayatri, the result was special, as the duo was nominated for the Arjuna Award in the morning. While they kept her emotions in check after the match, they were happy with the news of nomi-



nation. For Kavipriya and Simran, however, the home World Championships campaign ended in the Round of 32. The Indian pair, who had beaten Spain's Nikol Carulla and Carmen Maria Jimenez 22-20, 21-14 in their opening match, struggled to match the experienced Stefani Stoeva and Gabriela Stoeva. The Bulgarian sisters quickly established control and took the opening game 21-7. The Indian pair tried to fight back in the second, but could not turn their efforts into a comeback and eventually went down 14-21. The loud 'Let's Go India' chants from the home crowd continued to ring around the stadium, but Kavipriya and Simran could not

find the momentum needed to force a decider. The women's doubles results came amid a mixed day for India at the World Championships. Unnati Hooda began her campaign with a 22-20, 21-16 win over Myanmar's Thet Htar Thuzar in women's singles. Earlier, India's mixed doubles campaign suffered two setbacks. Ashith Surya and Amrutha Pramuthesh lost a dramatic contest to Turkey's Emre Sonmez and Yasemen Bektas, with the second game decided by a rare 30-29 scoreline after the pair reached 29-all. Ruthvika Gadde and Rohan Kapoor also bowed out after losing 22-20, 19-21, 17-21 to Canada's Crystal Lai and Jonathan Lai.

India strengthen WTC spot as PCT rises to 53.33 after Galle win



New Delhi, Aug 19 : India received a significant boost in their World Test Championship (WTC) final qualification hopes after defeating Sri Lanka by 165 runs in the first Test in Galle on Wednesday, although the Shubman Gill-led side remained fifth in the latest points table. India's percentage of points (PCT) improved from 48.15 to 53.33 following the victory, which earned them 12 crucial WTC points. However, they could not climb above fifth place as fourth-placed Bangladesh also strengthened their position after beating

Australia in the opening Test of their series in Darwin last week. Sri Lanka remained sixth in the standings, but their PCT dropped from 37.50 to 33.33 following the defeat. Australia are still on top of the standings with 77.78 PCT as they marginally hold the second-placed South Africa behind them, who have a PCT of 75. New Zealand are placed third behind the previous two finalists with a PCT of 72.22 in six matches, while England (24.36), Pakistan (22.22) and West Indies (20.83) remain in the bottom three positions respec-

tively. India's latest victory was powered by young left-arm spinner Manav Suthar, who produced a match-winning performance on a sluggish Galle surface. Playing only his second Test, Suthar claimed 6-55 in the second innings to finish with match figures of 10-101 and register his maiden ten-wicket haul in Test cricket. Chasing 372 for victory, Sri Lanka were bowled out for 206 in 77.4 overs in the second innings. Sonal Dinusha top-scored with 84, while Dhananjaya de Silva made 59, but Suthar's decisive spell ended the hosts' resistance.

India had earlier taken control of the Test through Devdutt Padikkal's magnificent 167 in the first innings, which helped them post 462 and secure a 178-run first-innings lead. Rishabh Pant then scored a crucial 66 in the second innings as India set Sri Lanka a challenging target. The victory was particularly important for India, who have already lost four of their 10 Tests in the current WTC cycle. With seven Tests still remaining, every match assumes greater significance for the Gill-led side as they look to secure a place in the WTC final. India will get an immediate opportunity to strengthen their position in the standings when they face Sri Lanka in the second Test in Colombo from August 23. Following the Sri Lanka series, India are scheduled to travel to New Zealand for a two-Test series in November. India will then conclude their WTC campaign with a five-Test home series against Australia next year.

Drugs are destroying the future !

Visakhapatnam CP Bagchi warning for students

Awareness seminar on 'Drug Eradication' held at Samatha College



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 19
Visakhapatnam Police Commissioner Dr. Shankabratha Bagchi said that the youth should be made aware of the use and control of drugs. Samatha College and Michael Angel Walkers Association jointly organized an awareness seminar on the topic of 'Drugs - Eradication' at Samatha College on Wednesday. The CP said that drug use has a serious impact not only on individual health but also on the family system, education, employment and society. He urged the youth to focus on education, sports, social service and creative activities. **Everyone is responsible**

'Reeda' Chairman Dr. SP Ravindra said that drug eradication is not only the responsibility of government departments, but also the responsibility of everyone in the society. He said that educational institutions should play a key role in guiding the youth on the right path. Samatha College Dean and Correspondent Dr. S. Vijaya Ravindra said that his college always gives priority to awareness programs on drug eradication keeping in mind the future of the students. College Principal Dr. S. Sarabandi said that if people become addicted to drugs, their education, health and future will be affected. Vice Principal Shilpa said that students should recognize their talents and actively participate in sports, cultural, educational and social service programs. International Walker Association President Dr. P. Raviraju said that the youth should develop healthy habits like walking and exercise.

Focus on health
MGF Founder President Dr. K.Usha Manoranjani said that drug eradication is very important for building a healthy society. She explained to the students the ill effects of drugs. She made them pledge to stay away from them. College faculty, staff, students and representatives of the Walkers Association participated in the program.

'Red Bull' Racing Car Exhibition at GITAM

By Skyline Staff Reporter, Visakhapatnam, Aug 19
GITAM President M. Sribharat participated as the chief guest at the Red Bull Racing project/Formula race car exhibition held on the GITAM University campus. The event captivated GITAM students and automobile enthusiasts alike. It was organized to bring motorsport culture and engineering technical expertise closer to the students.

On this occasion, university students, along with members of the GITAM Automotive Club and GUSAC, had the opportunity to observe and learn firsthand about Red Bull Racing technology, advanced aerodynamics, speed, and powertrain design principles. Students gained insights into the engineering techniques and design methodologies used in world-class racing. Engineering students and motorsport enthusiasts from GITAM University expressed their delight as they viewed the racing car and took photographs. The management stated that the GITAM Automotive department would continue to encourage students through such global racing initiatives, enabling them to participate in national and international racing events (such as Formula Student or Karting) in the future.

The GITAM University management, faculty, and Automotive Club coordinators thanked everyone who participated and contributed to the success of the event.



AINU Vizag Performs First Robotic Boari Flap Reconstruction Surgery in Vizag, Restoring Kidney Function

By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 19
In a significant milestone for advanced urological care in the region, the Asian Institute of Nephrology & Urology (AINU), Vizag, has successfully performed Vizag's first robotic Boari Flap reconstruction surgery to treat a complex long-segment ureteric stricture, restoring normal kidney function in a 50-year-old woman suffering from a severe ureteric stricture. The patient, a resident of Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, initially presented with a ureteric stone that could not be treated successfully at another hospital due to significant narrowing of the ureter. Following this, she developed urinary obstruction and infection, requiring immediate intervention. Upon admission at AINU Hospital Vizag, the medical team first stabilized her condition by placing a percutaneous nephrostomy (PCN) tube to relieve obstruction and manage infection. The stone was later successfully removed. However, the patient continued to experience recurrent infections due to a long segment ureteric stricture, which left her dependent on an external drainage system. After comprehensive evaluation, the urology team opted for a robotic reconstructive approach to restore normal urinary flow and preserve kidney function. During surgery, the team encountered



a more extensive ureteric defect than anticipated, making conventional procedures such as ureteric reimplantation or psaos hitch unsuitable. The surgeons therefore performed a robotic Boari flap reconstruction, a specialized technique in which a flap from the urinary bladder is used to reconstruct the damaged ureter. Unlike traditional open surgery—which involves a large incision and prolonged recovery—the procedure was carried out using minimally invasive robotic technology through just a few keyhole incisions. This resulted in minimal blood loss, reduced post-operative pain, faster recovery, and excellent functional outcomes. The patient recovered well, had the kidney tube removed prior to discharge, and was discharged within three days. Speaking about the case, Dr. Amit Saple, Senior Consultant Urologist,

Transplant, Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon said: "This was a highly complex reconstructive case. The ureteric narrowing involved a long segment located close to major pelvic blood vessels, making the surgery technically demanding. Robotic technology allowed us to perform the reconstruction with exceptional precision while minimizing surgical trauma, resulting in quicker recovery and excellent outcomes." He further added "The robotic platform has significantly enhanced our ability to perform complex reconstructive urological surgeries. It enables meticulous dissection and precise suturing in difficult anatomical locations, ensuring better clinical outcomes and improved patient recovery." Dr. G. Ravindra Varma, Managing Director & Sr. Consultant Urologist, Andrologist, Uro-Oncologist,

Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon, AINU Hospital Vizag, said, "Managing long-segment ureteric strictures is particularly challenging, as they can significantly compromise kidney function if not addressed with precision. In this case, we adopted a robotic Boari flap reconstruction—a highly advanced, minimally invasive technique that utilizes bladder tissue to restore ureteral continuity and ensure normal urine flow. This approach not only allowed us to effectively bridge the damaged segment but also helped preserve the patient's kidney function. Robotic technology provides enhanced precision, better visualization, and faster recovery, making it a game-changer in complex reconstructive urology." The advanced procedure was expertly led by Dr. Amit Saple, Senior Consultant Urologist, Transplant, Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon, along with Dr. G. Ravindra Varma, Managing Director & Senior Consultant Urologist, Andrologist, Uro-Oncologist, Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeon, and Dr. P. Sridhar, Consultant Urologist. This success also highlights AINU Hospital Vizag's broader expertise in robotic urology, where other complex procedures, including Radical Prostatectomy and Radical Cystectomy, are routinely performed with excellent outcomes.

Bhavishyonmesh Robotics Exhibition by Ramanath Secondary School



By Skyline Staff Reporter
Visakhapatnam, Aug 19
Students of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and several other schools in Visakhapatnam participated in 'Bhavishyonmesh - Unfolding of the Future', a two-day robotics exhibition organised by Ramanath Secondary School under the NSTL Educational Society at the school premises in the NSTL Complex here on Wednesday. The exhibition provided a platform for young innovators to showcase their creativity and technical skills through a variety of robotics, automation and technology-based projects. Students presented working models and innovative solutions, demon-

strating the practical application of concepts learned in the classroom. The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Abraham Varughese, Outstanding Scientist and Director, NSTL, and Chairman, NSTL Educational Society, at 9.30 a.m. Scientists and technical experts from NSTL also participated in the programme and interacted with the students. They viewed the projects, encouraged the young innovators and shared their knowledge and insights on robotics and emerging technologies. The participation of students from Kendriya Vidyalayas and other schools added diversity to the exhibition and enabled

students to exchange ideas and learn from one another. Interaction with NSTL scientists gave the participants an opportunity to understand the practical applications and future possibilities of robotics and emerging technologies. The exhibition aims to promote scientific temper, creativity, innovation and problem-solving skills among school students and encourage them to explore emerging technologies through hands-on learning. The two-day exhibition will conclude on August 20, with the valedictory programme scheduled at 3.30 p.m.

New Agricultural Transformer Brings Relief to Konuru Farmers

Vizianagaram (Gari vidi), August 19 (Skyline): Farmers in Konuru village of Garividi mandal are set to benefit from improved power supply following the commissioning of a new 100 KVA agricultural transformer. Youth leader Kimidi Ram Mallik Naidu inaugurated the transformer and performed special prayers before switching on the power supply. The new facility was established following requests from local farmers who had been facing difficulties with agricultural electricity supply. Speaking on the occasion, Ram Mallik Naidu said farmers' welfare remained a key priority and assured that efforts would continue to address local issues



in coordination with the concerned departments. He said strengthening electricity infrastructure in rural areas would help farmers carry out agricultural operations without frequent power-related disruptions. Farmers said the additional transformer is expected to ease problems such as

low voltage and overloading, particularly during the agricultural season. They expressed gratitude to the leaders and electricity department officials for facilitating the facility. Local TDP leaders, party workers, electricity department officials, farmers and villagers attended the programme.

A tribute to a time-honoured tradition of valour: The Royal enfield Classic 350 Gorkha Edition

Visakhapatnam, August 19: Royal Enfield, the global leader in the mid-size motorcycle segment (250cc-750cc), today announced the launch of the Classic 350 Gorkha Edition in India. Inspired by the legacy of the Gorkha Regiment, this newest expression of the Classic 350 pays tribute to generations of courage, discipline, and resilience, while remaining true to the motorcycle's timeless character and authentic riding experience. Rooted in Royal Enfield's design philosophy, the Gorkha Edition of the Classic 350 has been conceptualised as a mark of honour and admiration for the brave men of the Gorkha fraternity, one of the world's most respected military regiments. The Classic 350 Gorkha edition wears its inspiration with unmistakable presence. Finished in a distinctive Gorkha Green, the rich, commanding colourway gives the iconic Classic silhouette a

new depth and character, while a bespoke insignia featuring the legendary crossed Khukris serves as its defining signature. Crafted exclusively for the edition, these elements come together to create a motorcycle that carries the spirit of the Gorkhas with pride—bold in its expression, rooted in its heritage and unmistakably Classic. Speaking at the launch, Yadvinder Singh Guleria, Chief Commercial Officer, Royal Enfield, said, "With the Classic 350 Gorkha Edition, we pay tribute to an extraordinary military legacy defined by fierce bravery, loyalty and absolute honour. Every detail stays true to the timeless character of the Classic 350, while the bespoke Gorkha insignia speak of the values that have defined this regiment for generations. The Gorkha apparel collection extends that tribute beyond the ride, giving our community a way to carry that legacy forward with pride and purpose."



Speaking on the occasion, Lieutenant General Sanjeev Chauhan, AVSM, YSM, President, Gorkha Brigade, said, "The strength of the Gorkha Regiment lies not only in its history, but in the values of courage, discipline and honour that have been upheld across generations. It is a privilege to see this legacy acknowledged through the Royal Enfield Classic 350 Gorkha Edition, which pays tribute to the spirit and traditions of the Gorkha soldiers with dignity and respect."

With its signature upright riding posture and refined J-series engine, the Classic 350 Gorkha edition retains the unmistakable design and riding experience that have made the Classic 350 one of Royal Enfield's most iconic motorcycles, staying true to its Classicism. For enhanced everyday convenience, it also features an Assist & Slipper clutch for smoother gear shifts and a Type-C USB Fast Charging port. The Royal Enfield Classic 350 Gorkha Edition will be available at Rs.2,10,684 (ex-showroom, New Delhi) and

booking opens today. Complementing the motorcycle, Royal Enfield introduced the Gorkha Collection, an exclusive range of apparel inspired by the bravery and discipline of the Gorkha Regiment. The range features dual-certified Jet and Quest helmets, high-ankle distressed leather boots, multi-functional headgear, and curated lifestyle apparel and collectibles. Designed in a palette of regimental crimson, tactical olive green, matte black, and warm bronze, every piece draws design cues from military uniforms, regimental insignia, and the iconic crossed khukris. From hand-embroidered badges to heavyweight cotton twill and distressed leather, the collection seamlessly fuses artisanal craftsmanship with rugged utility. More than lifestyle gear, the Gorkha Collection carries a story of courage, honour, and resilience, built to accompany riders far beyond the journey.