

- 19th installment of the PM-KISAN scheme, benefiting 20,685 farmers, was released, with eligible families receiving ₹6,000 annually in three installments.
- Department of Women and Child Development Assam and SCERT have launched a six-month certificate course on Early Childhood Education for Anganwadi Workers in Dima Hasao district.
- Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha invites Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekharan to visit for collaboration, talks on renovating 19 ITIs, building heritage hotel, and a visit from Asian Development Bank's Mio Oka.

NEWS BEARER

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Release of 19th installment of PM-KISAN held in Dima Hasao

Haflong 24th Feb: The 19th installment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme was released, benefiting 20,685 farmers. Eligible families received ₹6,000 per year, disbursed in three equal installments of ₹2,000 each. The scheme ensures timely financial assistance for agricultural needs. The event included a one-day Kisan Mela. The programme



was attended by District Commissioner Simanta Kr Das, Principal Secretary of DHAC

Partha Sarathi Jahari, Amritlal Narzary, Rasmita Saikia, KVK Scientist, and Amarjit

Mangang, Assistant General Manager, NABARD. Simanta Kr Das, ACS, highlighted the PM-KISAN scheme's impact on farmers' lives, emphasizing marketing and training, especially in village areas, and ensuring proper knowledge about government schemes and documentation for success. Other present in the programme were farmers, media persons, and other officials.

Demow's tea estates Presents the live Jhumoir Binandini

Guwahati, Feb 25: At Guwahati's Sarusajai Stadium, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other national and international dignitaries attended the Jhumoir Binandini program this evening. The Tea Estates of Demow hosted today's live broadcast of the Jhumoir Binandini program. The Jhumoir Binandini program was aired live in the following tea estates this evening, according to the Demow Circle Officer: Athabari, Moukhuti, Khongia,



Gohainbari, Thowra, and Rajmai. Ankan Jyoti Phukan, the Demow Circle Officer, went to the Thowra Tea Estate for the screening, while Ayush Garh, the District Commissioner for the Sivasagar District, went to the Rajmai Tea Estate.

Aizawl launches RBI's "Financial Literacy Week 2025"

Initiation taken by Mizo Govt.



Aizawl, Feb 25: Mizoram Govt Vijay Kumar Singh officially opened RBI "Financial Literacy Week 2025" at MRB Head Office in Aizawl. The event included release of Financial Literacy Messages Booklets will be distributed to 513 libraries throughout the state to increase the financial literacy of the populace. This year's topic, "Financial Literacy – Women's Prosperity," is in line with Vikshit Bharat 2047's objective of establishing an independent India. Governor Singh praised RBI for promoting financial literacy and empowering women.

He cited government programs like social security, credit guarantees, and entrepreneurial efforts. He urged banks to include all Mizoram residents in the official financial system. RBI Aizawl's General Manager, T. Lhungdim, announced the tenth year of Financial Literacy Week. He unveiled a Financial Literacy Van, visiting five districts to spread financial literacy knowledge. Representatives from NABARD, State Bank of India, Mizoram Rural Bank, and Mizoram Co-operative Apex Bank also spoke at the event.

Teacher Jugomaya Singh, Dies



Haflong, Feb 21: Jugomaya Singh, a respected senior citizen and retired teacher from Haflong, passed away on Friday, February 21, 2025, at her residence on College Road due to age-related ailments. She was 78 years old. Jugomaya Singh, wife of Horen Singh, dedicated her career to education and social organization. Survived by family, cremation scheduled for February 2025.

Inauguration of ECCE Certificate Course for Anganwadi Workers in Dima Hasao district

Haflong, Feb 22: The Department of Women and Child Development Assam, in collaboration with SCERT, Assam, inaugurated a 6(six) months certificate course on ECCE for Anganwadi Workers (10+2) and above in Dima Hasao district at Keshav Smarak Nyas, Haflong today. The program was attended by Executive Member, NCHAC, Donpainon Thaosen as Chief Guest in the presence of Rowelson Rongpi, Addl. Director, Education, Kunjalata Lachon, Dy. Director, WCD, other dignitaries, and Anganwadi workers.

The program aims to provide comprehensive training to Anganwadi workers, equipping them with the essential skills and knowledge required for fostering the holistic development of children under six years of age.



Emphasizing the importance of early childhood education in shaping the future of young minds, Executive Member NCHAC Donpainon Thaosen encouraged participants to seize the opportunity. He expressed that whatever they learn in the training should be applied to benefit the children. Speaking in the inaugural session, Deputy Director, Smt. Kunjalata Lachon, stressed the importance of early childhood education in laying the foundation for lifelong learning and nation-building.

She highlighted that well-trained Anganwadi workers play a crucial role in the development of young children, helping them grow into responsible and capable citizens. "If the Anganwadi worker is very good, then the whole Anganwadi centre environment will be child-friendly and vibrant," she added. The program was also attended by CDPOs, Supervisors, Block Coordinators, and departmental staff.

Mizoram increases Anthurium flower delivery abroad

Aizawl, Feb 27: India's potential for exporting floriculture was significantly increased when Mizoram shipped 1008 cut anthurium flowers to Singapore from the Zo Anthurium Growers Cooperative Society in Aizawl. On February 26, the first shipment of Anthurium flowers was physically flagged off by the Department of Horticulture in Mizoram in cooperation with the APEDA. Veg Pro Singapore Pte. Ltd. will import the flowers, which were shipped by air from Aizawl via Kolkata and packaged in 50 corrugated boxes by IVC Agrovet Pvt. Ltd.

Agartala, Feb 27: On Tuesday, Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha invited Tata Sons Chairman Natarajan Chandrasekharan to visit the state and examine possible prospects for collaboration and growth. CM Saha met with Chandrasekharan at the Advantage Assam 2.0 summit that is currently taking place in Guwahati. "I'm glad to have met Shri Natarajan Chandrasekharan Ji, Chairman of Tata Sons, at Assam Advantage 2. It is our pleasure to invite him to visit Tripura and explore possible avenues for collaboration and development. The

chief minister wrote, "Looking forward to strengthening ties," on Facebook. A MoU for the renovation of up to 19 ITIs at a cost of Rs. 686 crore was previously signed by the Tripura government and Tata Group company Tata Technologies. The state government and the Tata Group are also in talks to build a heritage hotel in Agartala. CM Saha also met Asian Development Bank country director Mio Oka at the Advantage Assam 2.0 Summit in Guwahati. "Happy to meet Smt. Mio Oka, the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Country Director for

India, at Assam Advantage 2. ADB consistently provides Tripura with tremendous assistance. I'm sure that our partnership will promote growth and development in Tripura because of her extensive experience and knowledge. Looking forward to a successful collaboration," he wrote in a different post. Over the next three to four years, Anil Agarwal, chairman of the mining giant Vedanta Group, has declared that the company will invest Rs 50,000 crore in the oil and gas industries in Assam and Tripura.

Uddhav Thackeray & Raj at wedding function talking with nostalgia

New Delhi, Feb 24: At a wedding event in Mumbai, MNS chief Raj Thackeray met his cousin and Shiv Sena leader Uddhav Thackeray, sparking rumors that the two men may be eager to settle their political differences before Maharashtra's civic elections. The politically distant cousins were spotted together on Sunday night at the government official Mahendra Kalyankar's son's wedding in Andheri. At the event, which came amid rumors of a split between the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi and the ruling Mahayuti, MNS Raj Thackeray met with the former chief minister and his wife, Rashmi Thackeray. According to political

analysts, the MNS and Sena may want to settle their differences in light of the state's upcoming elections for civic bodies, such as the lucrative Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation. The civic polls' schedule has not yet been made public. In the past two months, the cousins have met in public three times, which has heightened rumors of a thaw in relations between the two groups. After leaving the Shiv Sena in 2005, Raj Thackeray founded his own party the following year. The opposition MVA's Shiv Sena (UBT) won 20 seats in last year's elections for the 288-member Maharashtra assembly, while the MNS received no votes.

Madhya Pradesh Will Create Over a Lakh Jobs With Investments of Rs 2.1 Lakh Crore

Pune, Feb 24: Billionaire Gautam Adani said that Adani Group would invest Rs 2.1 lakh cr in MP, creating over a lakh jobs. He told the Madhya Pradesh Global Investors Summit in Bhopal that negotiations are in progress for a coal gasification project, an airport project, and a greenfield smart city that would attract additional investments. By 2030, more than 1,20,000 jobs will be created in Madhya Pradesh thanks to investments of Rs 2.1 lakh crore in the pumped storage, cement, mining, smart meters, and thermal energy sectors, according to Mr. Adani, chairman of the Adani Group. "These are not just investments. These are milestones in a shared journey - a journey that will make Mad-



hya Pradesh a national leader in industrial and economic growth. They reflect our deep confidence in the leadership of the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister and our unwavering commitment to this state's extraordinary rise," he said. According to Mr. Adani,

his ports-to-energy conglomerate has already made over 25,000 job creations in the state through investments totaling Rs 50,00 crore in energy, infrastructure, logistics, and other areas. "But our journey here is far from over," the industrialist declared. Mr. Adani praised

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who opened the summit this morning, saying that his visionary leadership has changed the country from one that always followed international trends to one that now sets them. "Never before has India's confidence been higher. Never has our nation commanded greater respect on the global stage. When a country believes in itself, the world too believes in it," he said, adding that this resurgence of belief was driven by the relentless efforts of PM Modi. Madhya Pradesh has become one of India's most investment-ready states thanks to Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's unwavering emphasis on ease of doing business, the industrialist continued.

FIRs against 140 SM accounts and videos of Maha Kumbh women taking a bath

Prayagraj, Feb 24: At least 140 social media accounts have been the target of numerous formal complaints filed by the Uttar Pradesh police for allegedly disseminating false information and sharing offensive videos of women taking a bath at Maha Kumbh 2025. "13 FIRs have been registered against 140 social media handles that shared misleading content," Maha Kumbh DIG Vaibhav Krishna told. The Uttar Pradesh Police's social media team is reportedly keeping a careful eye on all social media sites, particularly in light of the offensive videos that were circulated online showing pilgrim women taking a bath in the Triveni Sangam. Earlier, UP Director General Of Police, Prashant Kumar said, "We will ensure strict action against those involved in preparing and selling objectionable videos of women on social media." The publishing of images and videos of women

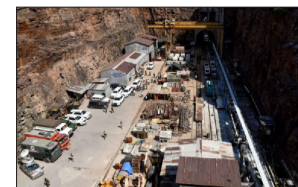


at the Kumbh Mela was prohibited by the Allahabad High Court in 2019. The court ruled that images of women taking a holy dip or bathing should not be circulated. Additionally, it issued a warning that if the order was disregarded, consequences would follow. Print and visual media are both subject to this rule. Numerous instances of disseminating false information about the Maha Kumbh have also been documented, in addition to the sharing of inappropriate content by female devotees.

Authorities discovered, for instance, that a video of a Bangladeshi train fire in 2022 was fraudulently circulated online on February 22. According to the post, a train fire on February 14, 2025, killed 300 people en route to Maha Kumbh. Officials have since taken legal action to prevent the dissemination of such misleading information. The final day of Maha Kumbh 2025, which also happens to be the festival of Maha Shivratri, a large number of devotees are anticipated.

Telangana tunnel collapse rescue effort confronted obstacles

Bengaluru, Feb 25: The fourth day of the rescue operation to free eight workers trapped in the SLBC tunnel in Telangana's Nagarkurnool district has begun without any new developments. Since Saturday morning, when a section of the tunnel collapsed during TBM excavation, the workers have been stranded. Six rescuers from the 2023 Silkyara tunnel rescue mission in Uttarakhand are assisting the Indian Army, NDRF, SDRF, Singareni Collieries, and NHIDCL rescue teams who are currently on the ground. However, the workers, who were from Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir, have not yet been contacted. Conditions inside the tunnel have gotten worse over night, according to rescuers, with a solid wall of mud blocking access and a significant water seepage. Prasanna Kumar, the commandant of the 10th



Battalion of the NDRF, that the rescue parties, which include members of the Indian Army and Navy, are having trouble moving through 11 feet of slush, which has reduced visibility to zero. "Navy commandos attempted to make a cut, but they were not equipped for this kind of mud wall," an official told The Indian Express. Efforts to drill through the slush using available equipment have also failed. Only five to ten meters separate the rescuers and the underground workers, according to a senior Irrigation Department official who spoke to the Times of India. However, the collapse has made it extremely dangerous to enter.

Mumbai is under heat wave alert

Mumbai, Feb 25: Due to increasing temperatures, the India Meteorological Department



has issued a heat wave alert for Mumbai and the surrounding areas for February 25 and 26. The highest temperatures are predicted to reach 37-38 degrees Celsius, prompting the IMD to issue a "yellow warning" for a heat wave in Mumbai, the nearby Thane district, and the Konkan districts of Raigad and Ratnagiri. Notably, the IMD reports that a temperature range of 37 to 38 degrees Celsius is nearly 5 degrees Celsius warmer than typical February weather. According to Sushma Nair, an IMD scientist, the high temperatures are expected to last for the next two days. Further, in its daily bulletin, the IMD said: "Heat wave condition likely over isolated pockets of Konkan and Goa on February 25 and 26." And "hot and humid conditions are very likely at isolated pockets of Saurashtra, Kutch and Gujarat regions."

Wuhan, China, has found a new virus

New Delhi, Feb 26: A pandemic like COVID-19 hasn't struck the world in a hundred years. However, a virus more hazardous than the infamous Covid was recently discovered in China. Recently, a team of scientists led by famous virologist Shi Zhengli discovered a virus in a bat's body that may infect people more quickly than COVID. Shi is employed at the

Wuhan lab where Covid was supposedly first discovered. In the scientific world, he is also well-known for his studies on COVID-19. He went on to say that a virus known as HKU5-CoV-2 was discovered in a bat's body. This virus is also a close relative of Covid, according to researchers. MERS is a coronavirus variant. One-third of those infected by this MERS

virus die. According to researchers, the recently found virus is either a distant relative of this MERS or connected to it. According to researchers, this new virus might also be a Covid mutation. People are afraid that this virus can transmit from other animals to humans as well as from person to person. Nonetheless, scientists have stated that additional research on

the subject is required without worrying just yet. The same was stated by Saurabh Das, a physician at NRS Hospital. "Everything is still in the research stage," he said. Other than that, no reports of the virus spreading have surfaced thus far. The WHO will undoubtedly notify someone or something if something occurs. Panicking at this time is pointless.

Chhaava's box office saw a 151% increase in ticket sales on the ninth day of releasing

Chennai, Feb 22: The Valentine's Day release of Chhaava, starring Vicky Kaushal, Rashmika Mandanna, and Akshaye Khanna, is a box office success in India. It is scheduled to experience a bump jump on its second Saturday following an amazing first week. More people are booking in advance than ever before. For the most recent information on day 9, scroll below. On day nine, Chhaava has sold about 3.12 lakh tickets through advance sales. Compared to the 1.24 lakh tickets sold on Friday, there has been a massive 151% increase. Approximately 1.86 lakh tickets have been sold at



PVR INOX alone. Given the prevailing trends, the Vicky Kaushal film will light up the screen in the afternoon, evening, and at night. Word-of-mouth is extremely powerful, drawing crowds to theaters not only in Maharashtra, its top circuit, but also in other

areas like Bangalore, West Bengal, and Delhi-NCR. Early forecasts indicate that on day nine, Chhaava will make between 32 and 34 crores. It will easily rank in the top ten highest-grossing Hindi film releases on the second Saturday.

Farah Khan charged with offending Hindu sentiments with her remark about Holi

Pune, Feb 22: Bollywood director and choreographer Farah Khan is facing a complaint for allegedly offending Hindu sentiments. According to IANS, Vikash Bhata, also known as Hindustani Bhau, is a social media personality who filed the complaint. He complained that Farah Khan's recent remark that Holi is a festival of "chhapris" disappointed him. Hindustani Bhau demanded legal action against Farah for her divisive statement and filed the complaint at Mumbai's Khar Police Station. Additionally, the complaint called on the authorities to strictly enforce sections 196, 299, 302, and 353 of the Indian Penal Code against Farah.



"The comment made by Farah Khan has disrespected the religious sentiments of Hindus. Referring to a sacred festival in such a manner is inappropriate and could lead to communal disharmony," Bhau's lawyer stated. Filmmaker-choreographer is currently seen in Celebrity MasterChef, talked about the festival of Holi and called it a festival of 'chhapri' people. "Saare chhapri logon ka favourite festival Holi hota hai," she said.

Katrina Kaif & mother-in-law in Mahakumbh

Prayagraj, Feb 24: There are just two days left. The last day of Mahakumbh is February 26. Katrina Kaif and her mother-in-law had already arrived in Mahakumbh. Despite taking a bath in the Kumbh prior to the film's release, her husband Vicky Kaushal is currently occupied with promoting the movie "Chhaava." Katrina and her mother-in-law have always gotten along well. The actress enjoys festivals with her family, whether it's Diwali or Christmas. Katrina is traveling to Mahakumbh this time with her mother-in-law. The actress described her feelings upon arriving there.

Suhana Khan's striking white lehenga adds regal elegance to Aadar Jain wedding

Mumbai, Feb 22: Alekha Advani and Aadar Jain are wed! Numerous famous people attended the newlyweds' vow-exchanging ceremony in Mumbai on Friday. Aside from Aadar's relatives, Kareena Kapoor and Ranbir Kapoor, celebrities like Suhana Khan took center stage at the star-studded wedding. Suhana gave the celebrities a real run for their

money with her gorgeous monochromatic costume. In keeping with her love of ethereal elegance, the actor and star kid chose a dramatic eth-

nic ensemble, a maahe nyra lehenga set by Torani, which retails for ₹2,99,500 on the designer brand's website. Suhana exuded understated beauty in her long-tailed lehenga. The set includes a blouse, dupatta, and lehenga skirt that are all exquisitely hand-embroidered with dori, zari, and pearl motifs. It is composed of organza and ivory-colored silk. She wore her hair in delicate curls with a light glittering eye and accessorized with a stunning pair of layered diamond and emerald choker necklaces. Suhana accessorized her stunning wedding guest outfit with matching diamond and emerald earrings and a small



black bindi.



black bindi.

Prajakta Koli, the most stylish soon-to-be bride is

New Delhi, Feb 24: On February 25, actress & YouTube star Prajakta Koli and her longtime partner, attorney Vrishank Khanal, are getting married. The couple celebrated their mehendi ceremony with close friends and family as part of their pre-wedding festivities. Actor was seen dancing passionately with Vrishank in an inside video from the ceremony that has since surfaced on social media. The pair was seen dancing to the upbeat song Zingaat from the Marathi movie Sairat in the inside video of the mehendi ceremony that Instant Bollywood posted on Instagram. Prajakta

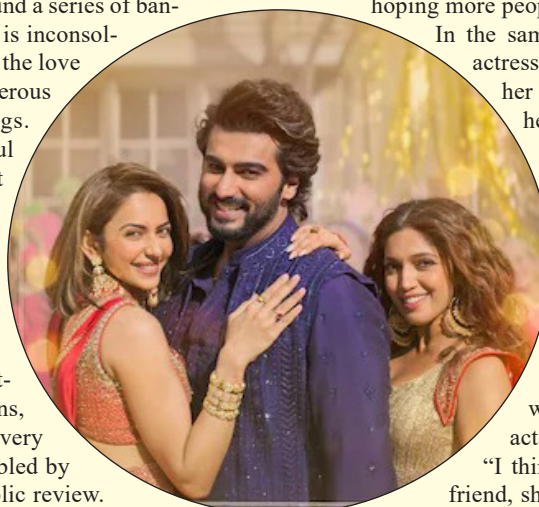


matched the steps with her fiancé, who was standing next to her, and mouthed the lyrics. On this special occasion, the two were surrounded by family and friends. Prajakta and Vrishank had been dating for a number of years. Prajakta recently released her fiction book, "Too Good To Be True," making her a published author. Her most recent appearance was in Mis-matched's 3rd season.

Day 3 Box Office revenue for Mere Husband Ki Biwi is 4.45 Cr and Up

Mumbai, Feb 24: Vicky Kaushal and Rashmika Mandanna's Chhaava continue to pose a serious threat to Mere Husband Ki Biwi, which was released on February 21. According to Sacnilk, the movie made Rs 1.25 crore on its first Sunday (day 3). The main actors in the movie are Bhumi Pednekar, Rakul Preet Singh, and Arjun Kapoor. According to the report, the romance comedy has made a total of Rs. 4.45 crore. Mere Husband Ki Biwi had an overall Hindi occupancy rate of 15.82% on its first Sunday. The film, which was produced by Pooja Entertainment, features an ensemble cast that includes Anita Raj, Mukesh Rishi, Harsh Gujral, Shakti Kapoor, and Kanwaljit Singh. Mudassar Aziz is the film's director. As Ankur Chaddha (played by Arjun Kapoor) finds himself torn between his fiancée Antara Khanna (Rakul Preet Singh) and his ex-wife Prabhleen Kaur Dhillon (played by

Bhumi Pednekar), the romantic comedy's plot revolves around a series of banter. The audience is inconsolable as a result of the love triangle's numerous misunderstandings. Recently, Rakul Preet Singh sat for a candid conversation with NDTV and talked about the film's box office run. While expressing her gratitude to her fans, she said, "I'm very grateful and humbled by the critic and public review. The audience walking out with a smile is the happiest feeling. Ours is a film to



be enjoyed with family and friends, and I am hoping more people go and watch it."

In the same conversation, the actress also talked about her relationship with her co-stars Arjun Kapoor and Bhumi Pednekar. "I love both of them, they are amazing," she said, adding, "I am a person who actually deals with everyone. I am not someone who is an insecure actor." She continued, "I think Bhumi is a great friend, she is like a sister and so is Arjun, you know it's our second collaboration, I have known him for



really long." "Both of these guys were present at my wedding, so they are friends before co-actors and it was a great experience working with them and like I said that this film was so much fun that it never felt like work," Rakul Preet Singh said, highlighting the attendance of Arjun Kapoor and Bhumi Pednekar at her wedding to Jackky Bhagnani.

Tata AIA launches Multicap Momentum Quality Index Pension Fund for smarter retirement planning

Guwahati, Feb 27: Tata AIA Life Insurance has introduced the Multicap Momentum Quality Index Pension Fund, a market-linked retirement solution designed to provide long-term capital growth with a disciplined investment strategy. The fund, available under Tata AIA's Smart Pension Secure plan, focuses on momentum-driven, high-quality



stocks selected from the Multicap Momentum Quality 50 Index. It offers exposure across large, mid, and small-cap stocks, ensuring diversification and stability while aiming for high risk-adjusted

returns. The New Fund Offer (NFO) opens on February 21, 2025, and closes on February 28, 2025. Investors can access it through Tata AIA's digital platforms, including Policybazaar, Tata Neu, and PhonePe. Harshad Patil, CIO of Tata AIA, emphasized the fund's strategic focus, stating, "Retirement planning today requires a smarter approach. By

blending momentum and quality investing, we aim to deliver superior returns, helping policyholders achieve financial independence." With India's economic growth on the rise, this pension fund offers investors a structured pathway to grow their retirement corpus while ensuring financial security and tax benefits under Section 80CCC.

NERCORMS hosts NER Tech Hackathon 2025

Guwahati, Feb 27: The North Eastern Regional Community Resource Management Society (NERCORMS) is set to host the NER Tech Hackathon: Unleashing the Potential of 5G, IoT, AI, and Related Technologies to Address the Gap in NER on March 11, 2025, at the Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati.

This pioneering event aims to foster digital innovation by leveraging 5G technology to address key challenges in healthcare, agriculture, animal husbandry, and IoT applications in the Oil & Gas industry—with a strong emphasis on reaching remote communities, women, youth and self-help groups. The hackathon is being organized under the project "Deepening of Scientific Research on 5G Use Cases for Solving Challenges of Society" by the North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society (NERCORMS), a society under the North Eastern Council, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, Govt. of India.

To incentivize participation and recognize groundbreaking ideas, NERCORMS has announced a grand prize of INR 10 lakhs for the winning team, along with three consolation prizes of INR 2 lakhs each. Registration for the NER Tech Hackathon 2025 is open until March 15, 2025.

Additionally, INR 5000 will be provided to all selected teams to meet miscellaneous expenses.

Sajjan Jindal honored as 'Business Leader of the Decade' at AIMA Managing India Awards

New Delhi, Feb 27: JSW Group Chairman Sajjan Jindal has been conferred with the prestigious 'Business Leader of the Decade' award at the 15th AIMA Managing India Awards, recognizing his transformative leadership in expanding JSW Group into a global powerhouse. The award was presented to Jindal in a ceremony attended by Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan as the Chief Guest and Minister



of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasad as the Guest of Honour. Yezdinagorewalla, CEO of KPMG India, read the citation acknowledging Jindal's contributions. Under his leadership, JSW

Group has doubled its revenues to \$24 billion and nearly tripled its annual steel production capacity to 39 million tonnes. The conglomerate has also strengthened its presence in renewable energy, cement manufacturing, and India's infrastructure modernization efforts. JSW has grown into the country's second-largest private player in the ports sector while also expanding into electric vehicles and military drones.

IndusInd, IDFC First Surge, RBL Bank, and Bandhan Bank

Mumbai, Feb 27: Following the Reserve Bank of India's decision to reverse the higher risk weights on bank loans to NBFCs and Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), stocks such as Bandhan Bank, RBL Bank,

IndusInd Bank, and IDFC First Bank have had significant intraday gains. It is anticipated that this action will reduce the capital requirements for banks and NBFCs, which could increase lending in these industries.

Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company stands to gain the most from the decreased risk weight for NBFC loans, which will also result in lower funding costs for these businesses.

MS Dhoni teases hair secrets in new Garnier Black Naturals campaign

Guwahati, Feb 27: In a playful new teaser, cricket legend MS Dhoni and his wife Sakshi share insights into his youthful look, all thanks to Garnier Black Naturals.

The banter-filled clip reveals how Sakshi takes credit for Dhoni's hair color while Dhoni keeps his "Trusted Secrets" close. During the teaser, Sakshi shares how a recent interviewer marveled at Dhoni's youthful appearance at 43, claiming he still looks like he's in his 30s. Dhoni humorously credited his hair and beard color, with Sakshi quickly adding that she's responsible for the touch-ups.

When asked what product he uses, Dhoni flashed his signature grin and kept his



"secret" under wraps.

The campaign is set to create buzz among fans and beauty enthusiasts alike, as Dhoni's cool-headed decisions on the cricket field now extend to his grooming game.

SMFG India Credit sets Guinness World Record for largest cattle welfare lesson



Guwahati, Feb 27: SMFG India Credit has achieved a Guinness World Record for the Largest Cattle Welfare Lesson (Multiple Venues) with 517 participants across six locations in India. This milestone was part of the company's 7th edition of PashuVikas Day (PVD)—the country's largest one-day cattle care camp—held in 500 locations across 16 states, benefiting approximately 1,50,000 cattle and 40,000 cattle owners. PashuVikas Day 2025, themed "Mera Pashu Mera Parivar," underscored the crucial role of livestock in rural livelihoods. With nearly 70% of India's rural population dependent on agriculture and related activities, SMFG India Credit's initiative reinforced its commitment to financial inclusion and rural welfare. Over 6,000 employees participated in the event, ensuring widespread engagement. Dibrugarh Market Perspective: The initiative has resonated strongly in Assam, particularly in the Dibrugarh region, where livestock plays a pivotal role in the agrarian economy. Farmers and cattle owners in Dibrugarh have welcomed PVD's special-

ized welfare lessons, which are expected to enhance productivity and financial security. With access to better cattle care, the region is likely to see an uptick in dairy production and rural financing opportunities. Shantanu Mitra, CEO & MD of SMFG India Credit, emphasized the company's focus on Tier-2+ locations, with nearly 90% of its branches in these regions.

"Our goal is to drive financial inclusion by providing the right products and financial solutions to communities at every stage of their life cycle," he stated. Swaminathan Subramanian, COO, called the Guinness World Record a "defining moment," reaffirming SMFG India Credit's commitment to rural development. Previously, PVD has been recognized by the World Records Union, Limca Book of Records, and World Book of Records. SMFG India Credit, a subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG), operates across 670+ towns and 70,000+ villages, offering financial solutions for small businesses and rural entrepreneurs.

Tata Tea Gold brings a luxurious blend to Eastern India

Guwahati, Feb 27: Tata Tea Gold, a premium blend of Assam's valley-grown teas and aromatic highland long leaves, is making waves among tea lovers in Eastern India. Expertly crafted by Tata Tea's master blenders, this luxurious mix promises a perfect balance of rich taste and irresistible aroma. Positioned as an ideal choice for a refreshing start to the day or a rejuvenating break, Tata Tea Gold is designed to cater to discerning consumers who appreciate quality. The tea is available at ₹300 for a 500-gram pack, making it a premium yet accessible option for tea enthusiasts. In Guwahati, a key hub for the



tea industry, the introduction of Tata Tea Gold is expected to enhance the market's premium tea segment. With Assam being a leading tea producer, consumers in the region have a strong prefer-

ence for high-quality blends. The blend's rich flavor and soothing aroma align well with the tastes of Guwahati's tea connoisseurs, adding a refined choice to the city's vibrant tea culture.

DGT partners with Subros Ltd. to boost skilling in automotive air-conditioning manufacturing

Guwahati, Feb 27: The Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), has signed a Flexi-MoU with Subros Limited to enhance skilling in the automotive air-conditioning manufacturing sector. The agreement, signed in the presence of Minister of State (I/C) Jayant Chaudhary, aims to provide industry-aligned training and employment opportunities for Indian youth. Under the partnership, Subros Ltd. will act as the Industry Training Partner (ITP), identifying skill gaps, developing training curricula, and providing hands-on learning infrastructure, including classrooms and workshops. DGT will oversee candidate assessments and certification, while Subros will ensure placement for at least 50% of successful trainees. The initiative follows a 'Learn and Earn' model, blending theoretical knowledge with practical exposure



to enhance employability in the automotive and manufacturing industries. Speaking at the event, Minister Jayant Chaudhary emphasized the role of skilled manpower in India's rise as a global manufacturing hub. "This collaboration will equip our youth with future-ready skills in automobile air-conditioning, aligning them with evolving industry needs," he said. Subros Limited, a key player in automotive air-conditioning, joins other industry leaders like Maruti Suzuki and Toyota Kirloskar under the Flexi-MoU scheme. The initiative supports the Skill India Mis-

sion, which has enrolled over 1.05 lakh Agniveers and offers 85 NSQF-compliant courses. Industry experts believe this initiative will have a positive impact on markets like Guwahati, where demand for skilled professionals in the automotive and manufacturing sectors is rising. The city, a growing hub for automobile trade in North-east India, will benefit from a skilled workforce, improving service quality and boosting local employment. The availability of trained professionals is expected to enhance the efficiency of vehicle maintenance and air-conditioning services in the region.

ELECHEMA 2025 kicks off, showcases India's power sector innovations

Greater Noida, Feb 27: The 3rd Edition of Electraverse Sparks, IEEMA's flagship program for startups, took center stage on Day 4 of ELECHEMA 2025, bringing together 20 pioneering startups competing to showcase breakthrough innovations in energy, electronics, AI, automation, and sustainability.

The event served as a platform for both early-stage and late-stage startups to present cutting-edge solutions that could transform the industry. The World Utility Summit concluded with insights from Vijay Mittal (IOFS), Joint Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries, emphasizing grid modernization, sustainable energy policies, and digital transformation in the power sector. He highlighted India's rising energy demand and the necessity of strengthening domestic manufacturing, supply chain resilience, and green energy adoption. Meanwhile, Etechnxt, the premier forum for emerging technologies, focused on AI-driven smart grids, IoT, and blockchain applications in energy markets. The Electraverse Sparks pitch sessions saw strong participation, with sensor systems, smart energy management, and autonomous navigation dominating discussions.

Startups like Hydrogen Innovations Pvt Ltd, VimanoInc, and Universally Green Technology Pvt Ltd emerged as winners in the early-stage category, while C Electric Automotive Drives Pvt Ltd., Fitsol Supply Chain Solutions Pvt Ltd., and Multi Nano Sense Technologies Pvt Ltd won in the late-stage segment. Winners will receive funding and investment opportunities to further scale their innovations. The Women in Power Conclave featured influential leaders, including Vera Silva (CSO & CTO, GE Vernova), Laxmi Singh (Commissioner of Police, UP), and BaniVarma (Director, BHEL), who stressed the importance of diversity in the energy sector. They praised the increasing presence of women entrepreneurs driving transformation in an otherwise male-dominated industry. Awards & Grand Finale ELECHEMA 2025 concluded with the Awards Distribution & Exhibitor Night, recognizing outstanding contributions in energy and innovation. The evening was capped with a musical performance by playback singer Shaan, adding to the celebratory atmosphere. Organized by IEEMA, ELECHEMA remains a crucial platform connecting global technology trends with India's energy future.

Tata AIA strengthens financial awareness as Mizoram celebrates 38th Statehood Day

Aizawl, Feb 27: As Mizoram marks 38 years of statehood, Tata AIA Life Insurance has reaffirmed its commitment to enhancing financial inclusion in the state. Despite Mizoram's high literacy rate of 92% and a strong economic growth of 10.14% in FY 2022-23, insurance penetration remains low, with only 64,142 policies sold in FY23, generating an annualized premium of ₹269.15 crore. Recognizing this gap, Tata AIA, Mizoram's designated Lead Insurer, has launched a series of

financial awareness initiatives aligned with IRDAI's vision of "Insurance for All by 2047." Over the last two years, Tata AIA has reached over 8 lakh people in the state through on-ground and digital campaigns. To mark Mizoram's Statehood Day, Tata AIA has actively supported public events, including the Youth Festival at Govt. T. Romana College and a Health Camp in Sialsuk, Aizawl district. The company's Bimarath van covered 750 km across key districts, engaging over 10,000

people with financial literacy programs. Additionally, social media campaigns featuring Mizo influencer Adeline Pachau have reached 20 lakh users. From Aizawl's bustling market perspective, financial security remains a crucial need for small business owners and traders who often lack structured savings or insurance coverage. Tata AIA's outreach aims to bridge this gap, offering tailored solutions like term, savings, and retirement plans to ensure economic stability.

Commenting on the initiative, Mizoram's Secretary, Shri Lalramsanga Sailo, emphasized, "On Mizoram Statehood Day, let us celebrate progress, unity, and security. Just as the state has flourished with resilience, life insurance ensures financial stability and protection for every family." With sustained campaigns like Masik Bima Diwas and out-of-home advertisements in Aizawl, Tata AIA is steadily driving financial awareness and accessibility across Mizoram.

Tata Tea Premium launches 'Tata Tea Premium Care' with natural ingredients



Guwahati, Feb 27: Tata Consumer Products Limited (TCPL) has unveiled Tata Tea Premium Care, a new premium tea variant infused with natural ingredients like Tulsi, Ginger, Brahmi, Elaichi, and Mulethi. This launch is part of TCPL's commitment to premiumization and wellness, offering consumers a blend of strong chai with added health benefits. Designed for those who prefer kadak chai, Tata Tea Premium Care seamlessly blends taste and wellness. Puneet Das, President - Packaged Beverages (India & South Asia), TCPL, stated, "With Tata Tea Premium Care, we are elevating the everyday tea experience by incorporating the good-

ness of time-tested natural ingredients. As consumers become more mindful of wellness choices, we believe this unique blend will resonate deeply with them." The launch is being promoted through an innovative print campaign in major publications, featuring an eye-catching design shaped like the tea pack to enhance consumer engagement.

In Guwahati, a key tea-consuming market, the introduction of Tata Tea Premium Care is expected to strengthen TCPL's foothold. The city's tea retailers and distributors anticipate strong demand, given Assam's deep-rooted tea culture and growing preference for wellness-focused beverages.

Piyush Goyal calls for unified electrical expo to strengthen India's global position

Greater Noida, Feb 27: Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal has urged India's electrical industry to establish a unified world-class exposition platform, reinforcing the nation's position as a global hub for electrical and energy solutions. Speaking at ELECHEMA 2025, Goyal highlighted the need to merge multiple industry-led exhibitions into a single large-scale showcase to attract global investors and strengthen domestic manufacturing. "Instead of fragmented expos, we must create one grand platform to display

India's capabilities. A consolidated exhibition with over 1,500 exhibitors and 100,000+ visitors would firmly establish India as the epicenter of the global electrical industry," Goyal stated.

He called upon industry associations to take the lead in making this vision a reality, boosting exports and international collaborations. The event also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM), fostering global industry partnerships and expanding India's power sector

footprint. Vimal Anand, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, noted that India is poised to become the world's third-largest economy by next year, ahead of its earlier 2030 target.

The fifth edition of the eTECHnext conference, held alongside ELECHEMA 2025, focused on clean energy, smart grids, digital transformation, and workforce upskilling.

Discussions emphasized the need for technological advancements and policy support to drive India's clean energy future.

Tata Power signs MoU with Assam government for 5000 MW renewable energy push

Guwahati, Feb 27: Tata Power has signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Assam Government to develop up to 5000 MW of renewable and clean energy projects, including solar, wind, hydro, and energy storage. The agreement, signed at Advantage Assam 2.0, entails an investment of ₹30,000 crore over the next five years. The MoU was formalized between Dr. Krishna Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary (Power), Government of Assam, and Dr. Praveer Sinha, CEO & MD, Tata Power, in the presence of Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. The Assam Government will facilitate the identification of 20,000 acres of encumbrance-free land and ensure necessary infrastructure support for seamless project execution. Additionally, Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd. (TPREL), a subsidiary of Tata Power, has partnered with Assam Power Distribution Company Limited (APDCL) to expand rooftop solar adoption under the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGY). These initiatives are expected to create 3,000 local job opportunities while



reinforcing Assam's clean energy transition. The development is poised to impact Guwahati's energy sector significantly. With Assam striving for a 500 MW solar capacity by 2027, the initiative will enhance power availability for businesses, industries, and tea gardens. Guwahati's commercial hubs are expected to benefit from improved energy efficiency, reduced electricity costs, and increased sustainability efforts. Dr. Praveer Sinha said that Tata Power remains committed to sustainable energy solutions, aligning with India's target of 500 GW renewable capacity by 2030.

AI, automation & sustainability drive innovation at ELECRAMA 2025 startup pitch

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chain resilience, and green energy adoption. Meanwhile, Etechnxt, the premier forum for emerging technologies, focused on AI-driven smart grids, IoT, and blockchain applications in energy markets.

The Electraverse Sparks pitch sessions saw strong participation, with sensor systems, smart energy management, and autonomous navigation dominating discussions. Startups like Hydrogen Innovations Pvt Ltd, Vimanol Inc, and Universally Green Technology Pvt Ltd emerged as winners in the early-stage category, while C Electric Automotive Drives Pvt Ltd., Fitol Supply Chain Solutions Pvt Ltd., and Multi Nano Sense Technologies Pvt Ltd won in the late-stage segment. Winners will receive funding and investment opportunities to further scale their innovations. The Women in Power

Conclave featured influential leaders, including Vera Silva (CSO & CTO, GE Vernova), Laxmi Singh (Commissioner of Police, UP), and Bani Varma (Director, BHEL), who stressed the importance of diversity in the energy sector. They praised the increasing presence of women entrepreneurs driving transformation in an otherwise male-dominated industry. Awards & Grand Finale ELECRAMA 2025 concluded with the Awards Distribution & Exhibitor Night, recognizing outstanding contributions in energy and innovation.

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Alpenliebe Juzt Jelly launches playful 'Jungle Land' and 'Fruity Salad' shapes at Rs 10

Imphal, Feb 27: Alpenliebe Juzt Jelly, a leading confectionery brand from Perfetti Van Melle, has introduced two innovative jelly variants—Jungle Land and Fruity Salad—featuring playful shapes like monkey, banana, pineapple, strawberry, orange, and green apple. Designed to blend taste with fun, these jellies are available across urban and rural markets at ₹10 per pack. Packed with real fruit juice, the new jelly shapes encourage senso-



ry play and creativity, allowing consumers to stack, mix,

and build their own fruity adventures. The jellies boast a unique dual-layer formulation—a traditional jelly base with a soft foamy layer—offering a distinct texture. Gunjan Khetan, Marketing Director, Perfetti Van Melle India, emphasized the brand's commitment to innovation, stating, "With these exciting new shapes, we are redefining the jelly category and creating interactive snacking experiences that spark imagination."

Impact of Nvidia's Q4 results

Pune, Feb 27: Data center-themed stocks like Anant Raj, E2E Networks, and Black Box saw a 5% decline on February 27 following the release of the fourth quarter results of AI giant Nvidia Corp. Nvidia warned that gross profit margins would be tighter than expected as it rushes to roll out a new chip design called Blackwell. Additionally, there's a chance that US tariffs will negatively impact outcomes. As it ramps up manufacturing of its new flagship Blackwell AI chips, Nvidia said its first-quarter profit would narrow to roughly 71% from 73.5%, lower than the 72.2% analysts had predicted, while delivering a 78% rise in quarterly revenue. While South Korean chipmakers Samsung Electronics and SK Hynix saw declines of 0.18% and 1%, respectively, shares of Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC), Nvidia's primary chip supplier, declined 0.47%.

MG Motor launches stylish COMET BLACKSTORM EV with enhanced features



Imphal, Feb 27: JSW MG Motor India has launched the COMET BLACKSTORM, a new top-end variant of its compact electric vehicle, further enhancing its appeal. Priced at INR 7.80 lakh (ex-showroom) plus a battery rental of INR 2.5/km, the BLACKSTORM edition brings a bold 'Starry Black' exterior, premium interiors, and upgraded features. Equipped with a 17.4 kWh battery, the COMET BLACKSTORM offers an ARAI-certified range of 230 km and supports fast charging. The interior maintains an all-black theme with red-embroidered 'BLACKSTORM' leatherette seats, while the exterior sports a dark chrome COMET EV nameplate and black-finished INTERNET INSIDE emblem. The model also comes with four speakers for an enhanced audio experience. Customers can personalize their BLACKSTORM with exclusive accessories like a badge, wheel cov-

er, hood branding, and skid plates. Rakesh Sen, Head of Sales, JSW MG Motor India, stated, "Modern Indian buyers are looking for unique and stylish choices that reflect their personality. The COMET BLACKSTORM elevates everyday commutes with its sophisticated and bold design."

The MG COMET EV has witnessed a 29% year-on-year sales growth in CY'24, highlighting its increasing popularity among urban commuters. The MG COMET BLACKSTORM is expected to attract strong demand in Imphal's growing EV market, where compact and energy-efficient vehicles are gaining traction due to rising fuel costs. With its affordable battery rental plan and city-friendly design, the BLACKSTORM presents a compelling option for eco-conscious buyers in Manipur. Customers can book the MG COMET BLACKSTORM at their nearest MG dealership for INR 11,000.

udaan records 70% growth in daily buyers, strengthens Kirana Commerce in 2024

Guwahati, Feb 27: udaan, India's largest e-business-to-business (eB2B) platform, has reported significant growth in 2024, with a 70% increase in daily buyers and a 65% surge in revenue run rate. The platform delivered over 2.45 billion units of products, weighing more than 7 lakh metric tonnes,



reinforcing its leadership in kirana commerce. The FMCG category witnessed an 85% year-on-year (YoY) growth, driven by a 50% in-

crease in product orders by retailers. Private label brands saw an exceptional 250% growth in revenue run rate, reflecting rising demand for high-quality, value-driven products. Additionally, udaan deployed electric vehicles (EVs) in Bengaluru for last-mile delivery, marking a step towards sustainable logistics.

Vaibhav Gupta, Co-Founder and CEO of udaan, said, "With strong sustainable growth, we are not just enabling kirana commerce but actively leading its transformation. As we look forward to 2025, our focus remains on innovation, efficiency, and strengthening Bharat's kirana ecosystem."

Flipkart strengthens Assam's digital economy, empowers local entrepreneurs

Guwahati/Silchar, Feb 27: E-commerce giant Flipkart is expanding its footprint in Assam by empowering local businesses, artisans, and entrepreneurs through digital platforms. At the Advantage Assam 2.0 Investment & Infrastructure Summit 2025, Flipkart reaffirmed its commitment to fostering economic growth and digital inclusion in the state. Rajneesh Kumar, Chief Cor-

porate Affairs Officer, Flipkart Group, highlighted Assam's strong entrepreneurial base and the state government's efforts under Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's leadership. "Flipkart remains dedicated to providing local businesses with technology, tools, and market access to scale their ventures while generating employment," Kumar stated. With over 1 lakh sellers from Assam on

Flipkart



its platform, Flipkart has witnessed a 100% year-on-year growth in seller participation. Popular product categories include women's ethnic wear, grooming products, and home furnishings. Cities like Guwahati, Jorhat, Goalpara, and Sivasagar are emerging as major

e-commerce hubs. To bolster infrastructure, Flipkart operates fulfillment centers in Palasbari, Balashidhi, and Kochpara, with upcoming hubs in Kamrup and Jalukbari. Strategic partnerships, including MoUs with the Assam Industries & Commerce Department and the Assam Skill Development Mission, aim to boost local artisans, the handloom sector, and workforce training.

Bajaj Allianz Life becomes first insurer to launch Bima-ASBA facility

Guwahati, Feb 27: Bajaj Allianz Life has become the first insurer in India to go live with the Bima-Application Supported by Blocked Amount (Bima-ASBA) facility, aligning with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) initiative to simplify premium payments and enhance policyholder convenience. Bima-ASBA allows customers to block a specified premium amount (up to ₹2 lakh) in their bank accounts via UPI's One-Time Mandate (OTM). The funds remain in the customer's account, earning interest, until the insurance company completes the underwriting process. If the policy is issued, the blocked amount is debited; otherwise, the funds are released within 14 days. Bajaj Allianz Life has successfully integrated this

BAJAJ | Allianz

system with its payment partners. Tarun Chugh, MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz Life, welcomed the initiative, stating, "Bima-ASBA strengthens trust, transparency, and digital adoption in the insurance industry. By allowing customers to block premiums instead of paying upfront, it enhances flexibility and security." In Guwahati, where digital adoption is steadily growing, this move is expected to boost life insurance accessibility.

Customers will benefit from reduced refund concerns and an improved digital transaction experience, enhancing trust in insurance products.

AI is now available to Paytm users

Mumbai, Feb 27: Paytm, a digital payments platform, announced on Thursday that it has teamed up with Perplexity, an AI search engine, to deliver artificial intelligence to crores of Indian consumers. Among other things, this partnership will allow users to ask common queries and research topics in their native tongue.

Bajaj Allianz launches Global Insurance Excellence Awards 2025 to recognize top advisors

Pune, Feb 27: Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has announced the Global Insurance Excellence Awards (GIEA) 2025, aimed at recognizing exceptional general and health insurance advisors across Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa (MENA). Partnering with Asia Insurance

Review (AIR), the awards will honor professionals across eleven categories, including Best Health Insurance Adviser, Best Multiline Insurance Adviser, and Lifetime Achievement Award. A distinguished panel of industry leaders from Singapore, Malaysia, Egypt, Sri Lanka, and India

will evaluate nominees, ensuring a rigorous selection process. The winners will be announced at a grand awards ceremony in India later this year. Nominations for the GIEA Awards 2025 are open from February 19 to March 20, 2025, at www.asiainsurancereview.com/giea2025.

HDFC Life launches Click 2 Achieve Par Advantage to support financial goals

Shillong/Imphal, Feb 27: HDFC Life, a leading private life insurer in India, has introduced its latest offering, HDFC Life Click 2 Achieve Par Advantage, a participating life insurance product designed to help individuals achieve their financial milestones with flexibility, liquidity, and long-term security. The new plan caters to different life stages, enabling policyholders to save while ensuring early liquidity for short-term needs. Key features include Policy Continuance Benefit (PCB), which waives future premiums and continues benefits for nominees in case of the policyholder's demise, and a customizable Death Benefit Multiple (5x, 7x, or 11x) for tailored coverage. Additionally, the Paid-Up Addition option allows customers to convert bonuses into encashable benefits. Aneesh Khanna, Head of Products & Segments at HDFC Life, highlighted the product's versatility, stating, "This plan is designed to



offer a financial safety net while providing flexibility to meet aspirations such as homeownership and higher education for children." The plan also offers additional life coverage for spouses and tax benefits as per prevailing laws. With a 99.50% claim settlement ratio in FY24, HDFC Life continues to reinforce its commitment to customer-centric innovation in the life insurance sector.

CES Foundation to host Silk Link Workshop in Shillong to boost Meghalaya's Eri Silk industry

Shillong, Feb 27: The Customized Energy Solutions Foundation (CESF) is set to host a state-level Silk Link workshop in Shillong on February 26, 2025, at Vivanta Meghalaya, aiming to strengthen the Eri silk value chain across the state. With Ri-Bhoi district at the center of Meghalaya's Eri silk industry, the initiative seeks to expand production beyond the current four districts to tap into the state's full potential. CESF Director Ms. Netra Walawalkar highlighted the economic significance of the Eri silk sector, stating, "Expand-



ing production across all districts has the potential to engage a much larger workforce and substantially increase the sector's economic contribution." The workshop will bring together key stakeholders, including

government agencies, financial institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector players, to identify challenges, develop business models, and improve market access. Mr. Nitin Akhade, who leads Energy Access and Livelihood projects at CESF, emphasized that the expansion of the Eri silk industry could benefit over 438,000 people.

A key focus will be mobilizing ₹100 crore from public and private sectors to integrate decentralized renewable energy (DRE) technologies into silk production.

Nifty 50 and the Sensex end in flat

New Delhi, Feb 27: The Sensex and the Nifty 50, two domestic market benchmarks, closed flat due to ongoing worries about foreign capital flight, a slowdown in economic growth, and a potential trade war between the US and its allies. The Nifty 50 ended the day at 22,545.05, down 3 points, while the Sensex ended the day 10 points higher at 74,612.43. The BSE Midcap index

dropped 0.97%, the Smallcap index slid 2.09%, resulting in significant losses for both the mid and small-cap indices. Sensex index at the finish were shares of UltraTech Cement, Mahindra & Mahindra, Kotak Mahindra Bank, SBI, and ITC. Index ended flat with slight gains thanks to increases in the shares of a few heavyweights, such as HDFC Bank, Bajaj Finance, and Reliance Industries.

The 16th edition of ELECRAMA 2025 wraps up on a high note

Greater Noida, Feb 27: The 16th edition of ELECRAMA 2025, organized by Indian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (IEEMA), has wrapped up on a high note, reinforcing its position as the premier global platform for electrical and allied electronics industry. This edition broke previous records, drawing over 1,000+ exhibitors, 400,000+ business visitor

footfalls, and generating an estimated \$20 billion in business enquiries—a testament to the event's unmatched scale, influence, and global appeal. ELECRAMA 2025 emerged as an important platform for industry engagement, showcasing impactful B2B meetings, insightful thought leadership sessions, and constructive policy dialogues that united both global and Indian stake-

holders. The event successfully facilitated over 15,000 B2B meetings and attracted more than 500 international buyers from 80 countries, further solidifying India's stature as a reliable partner within the global electrical ecosystem. One of the biggest highlights this year was the launch of the New Energies Pavilion, a game-changing showcase of breakthrough technologies in

Battery Storage, EV Charging Infrastructure, Digital Energy, Solar Modules, Solar Inverters, and more. The global interest at ELECRAMA 2025 has increased. While attending the event, Hon'ble Minister Bachir Camara, Deputy Minister, MEHH, Guinea, said, "India's advancements in energy and digitalization offer valuable insights for developing nations like Guinea."

Piyush Goyal calls for unified electrical industry expo to boost India's global leadership

Greater Noida, Feb 27: Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Piyush Goyal, has urged India's electrical industry to consolidate its various expos into a single, world-class event to position the country as the leading global destination for electrical and energy solutions. Speaking at ELECRAMA 2025, Goyal emphasized the need for a unified platform to showcase India's advancements in power infrastructure, smart grids, and automation technologies. "India is at the forefront of the global energy transition, and our electrical industry plays a critical role in this transformation. Instead of hosting multiple fragmented expos,

we must create a large-scale event with over 1,500 exhibitors and 100,000+ visitors, making India the epicenter of the global electrical industry," said Goyal. The minister also highlighted India's growing manufacturing capacity and expanding export market in the power sector. He encouraged industry associations to spearhead this initiative, ensuring India's domestic sector thrives while attracting global investments. "If we create a unified platform of scale and impact, international players will recognize India as the one-stop destination for all things electrical," he added. A major highlight of the event was the signing of a Mem-

orandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM), led by Vimal Anand, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, to enhance global collaborations and expand India's power sector footprint. Anand noted that India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy by next year, ahead of previous estimates. The fifth edition of the eTECHnxt conference was also inaugurated, focusing on clean energy, digital transformation, and workforce upskilling. Experts discussed energy storage, carbon markets, and the role of smart grids in modernizing India's power sector. A whitepa-

per, New Frontiers in Power Generation, was launched, detailing the critical role of energy storage in renewable integration and cost efficiency. The event concluded with a roundtable discussion, Bharat, the Vishwamitra, led by German Ambassador Dr. Philipp Ackermann. The discussion focused on structural reforms, digitalization, and infrastructure investment to sustain high economic growth and drive India's transition to clean energy. ELECRAMA 2025 continues to be a significant platform for bridging policy, technology, and market dynamics, driving India's vision for a resilient and future-ready power infrastructure.

India's pension AUM projected to reach ₹118 trillion by 2030: DSP Pension Fund Managers

Guwahati, Feb 27: India's pension assets under management (AUM) are set to witness exponential growth, reaching an estimated ₹118 trillion by 2030, according to DSP Pension Fund Managers. The National Pension System (NPS) is expected to account for about 25% of this total, driven by demographic shifts and evolving retirement trends. India's elderly population is projected to grow 2.5 times by 2050, with post-retirement life expectancy averaging 20 years. Despite this, pension penetration remains low at just 3% of the GDP. The widening retirement savings gap, expected to grow at 10% annually, could reach \$96 trillion by 2050. However, Indian investors are increasingly shifting from traditional savings methods to

market-linked investments, as evidenced by a decline in cash and bank deposit dependence from 62% to 44% in the past decade. The NPS private sector AUM has expanded by 26.8% annually over the last five years, rising from ₹84,814 crore to ₹2,78,102 crore. Between FY 2020 and 2024, male subscriber registrations increased by 65%, while female subscribers surged by 119%. The recently introduced NPS Vatsalya has garnered over 86,000 subscribers. DSP Pension Fund Managers projects that NPS private sector AUM will surpass ₹9,12,000 crore with over 15 million subscribers in the next five years. Key growth drivers include tax reforms, greater adoption of private sector fund managers, and AI integration in fund

management. The expanding pension sector presents new opportunities in Guwahati's financial market. With growing financial literacy and increased awareness of NPS benefits, more investors in Guwahati are expected to shift towards structured retirement planning. Financial advisors and wealth management firms in the city are actively promoting pension schemes, ensuring broader participation in India's evolving pension landscape. "We believe India's pension market is poised for rapid growth. With the right policies and awareness, it has the potential to unlock significant value for citizens. We expect to be among the top five players in this space within the next five years," said Rahul Bhagat, CEO of DSP Pension Fund Managers.

The future of Magnus Carlsen's Freestyle Chess project is questioned D Gukesh's head coach

Mumbai: The Freestyle Chess Grand Slam Tour began with its first leg in Germany this month, as Vincent Keymer reigned supreme at Weissenhaus. For Indian chess fans, it was a source of disappointment as reigning world champion D Gukesh endured a winless run. The 18-year-old finished in eighth position, and is set to return to Paris for the next Grand Slam event, scheduled for April. The Paris Grand Slam event will also see Arjun Erigaisi and R Praggnanandhaa join Gukesh and form a strong Indian contingent. However, Gukesh's primary trainer, Grzegorz Gajewski, has disclosed that he is uncertain about his future in Freestyle Chess. "We're a little unsure about which approach we should choose for him because, as exciting and innovative as Freestyle is, there's no guarantee that there will be another Grand Slam Tour in two years' time



and we don't know in which direction it's headed." In an earlier interview with ChessBase India during the Weissenhaus Grand Slam event, Gukesh also remarked that Chess960 is an experiment, and he doesn't see it taking over classical chess.

As King Kohli and company destroy Pakistan, the internet erupts

'The greatest chase-master'

Mumbai: India defeated archrivals Pakistan by six wickets in an exciting match at the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 thanks to a game-winning knock from Virat Kohli. In addition to securing the victory, the star batter's incredible century became a major turning point in his storied career, surpassing Australian great Ricky Ponting to become the third-highest run-scorer in the history of international cricket. Kohli's unbeaten century off 111 balls, which included seven boundaries, was a masterclass in batting. This century was Kohli's sixth in ICC ODI events and his first in the Champions Trophy. In achieving this feat, Kohli also became only the third batter in the history of one-day international cricket to reach 14,000 runs, joining the elite ranks of Sachin Tendulkar and Kumar Sangakkara. With 14,085 runs in 299 ODIs at an average of 58.20, Kohli has now scored 51 centuries and 73 fifties, cementing his place among cricket's greats. Following the victory, social media exploded with praise for Kohli and his match-winning performance. Here are a

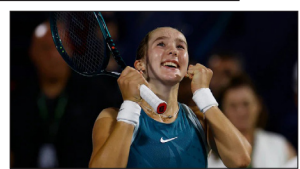


Virat Kohli's stellar century guided India to a thrilling victory over Pakistan, sparking a wave of celebrations across the internet.

few reactions you can't miss: Pakistan won the toss and opted to bat first, getting off to a promising start. Babar Azam's (23 off 26 balls) early flurry of boundaries, alongside his opening partnership with Imam-ul-Haq (18), gave Pakistan hope. However, two quick wickets saw Pakistan slip to 47/2. Skipper Mohammad Rizwan (24) and Saud Shakeel (62 off 76 balls), despite their steady 104-run partnership, consumed a lot of deliveries, leaving Pakistan with limited time to accelerate. The middle order tried to fight back, with Khushdil Shah, Salman Agha, and Naseem Shah contributing in small bursts, but Pakistan were eventually dismissed for 241 in 49.4 overs.

17-year-old Mirra Andreeva scripts history to youngest WTA 1000 champion

Mumbai: Mirra Andreeva, 17, made history by becoming the youngest WTA 1000 champion since the tournament's inception in 2009. The teenager defeated Clara Tauson 7-6 (1), 6-1 in the grand final to win the Dubai Tennis Championships on Saturday, February 22. She was also the fifth player to win the WTA 1000 championship in Dubai for the first time. The others are Jasmine Paolini (2024), Barbora Krejickova (2023), Elina Svitolina (2017), and Venus Williams (2009). Andreeva will also debut in the top 10 of the WTA rankings at No. 9 when the updated rankings are released, following her incredible run. "I would like to place in the top 10 by the year's conclusion. Now that February is almost over and I've already succeeded, this is amazing to me. I'm just really pleased with how I played today. I was really, really anxious. Andreeva



remarked, "I believe you could see it during the match with all those double faults, some mistakes." Andreeva punched above her weight to beat three Grand Slam champions; Iga Swiatek, Marketa Vondrousova and Elena Rybakina on her way to winning the tournament. "I'm really overjoyed that I was able to control and handle the pressure. And it feels fantastic right now. But earned the break to make it 2-2 and took the set into a tie-breaker. Andreeva stayed unbeaten in tie-breaks this year, Sensing victory, Andreeva stepped up to serve for the title and clinched it as Tauson's return sailed long on her second championship point.