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AP partners with IBM, BharatGen, NetGen to build swadeshi AI Stack

deploy and operate AI workloads with full control over data, operations, and governance.

BharatGen strengthens the AP's Swadeshi AI Stack through sovereign AI models built entirely in India and designed to reflect the nation's linguistic and cultural diversity. BharatGen's multilingual foundation models, with native support for Telugu and other Indian languages, form the intelligence layer of this collaboration enabling government departments, startups, academia, and industry to co-create citizen-centric solutions that advance governance, welfare delivery, and livelihood enhancement across the state.

This infrastructure will support the hosting of foundational and domain-specific models while ensuring resilience, security, and operational control within Indian jurisdiction.

IT Minister N Lokesh said: "I am delighted that Andhra Pradesh is partnering with IBM, BharatGen and NxtGen to build our Swadeshi AI Stack."

"Swadeshi (Indigenous) models and sovereign GPU infrastructure are key enablers for building innovative solutions, scaling adoption and transforming government services, while still tailoring to unique local needs," said Sandip Patel, MD, IBM India and South Asia, adding that through this collaboration, IBM will bring its experience and technologies in AI and governance to help build AI capabilities that are secure, scalable, trustworthy and designed to deliver meaningful outcomes for citizens and institutions."

"BharatGen is committed to support AI infrastructure by building Text, Speech, and Vision models for 1.4 billion people across 22 Indian languages," said Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, Founding Director, BharatGen Technology Foundation.

"Sovereign AI needs to be supported by sovereign infrastructure," said AS Rajgopal, MD & CEO, NxtGen.

The collaboration supports the AP's broader vision to establish the state as a leader in responsible, inclusive and applied AI. As part of this vision, the government aims to enable advanced AI-powered hyper-personalized citizen services, foster an enabling ecosystem for startups, and improve governance through scalable digital public infrastructure.

UNICC Director Sameer Chauhan, IBM India MD Sandeep Patel, IIT Madras Director Kamakoti and others were present.

"Over the next three to five years, our learners will gain industry-aligned, future-ready skills and strengthen the state's emerging tech workforce," he said.

"The state government has signed an MoU with Michigan-based Calibo, Inc. to support more than 50 higher education institutions in Andhra Pradesh with AI curriculum frameworks, sandbox environments, faculty development, and applied programmes to boost student skills and employability."

"In addition, government of Andhra Pradesh, through the Real Time Governance Society, is setting up a state-level AI Sandbox with Calibo. This secure environment will help design smarter, faster, and more efficient public services that respond better to citizens' needs. Calibo's founder, Raj Vattikuti, was born in Andhra Pradesh, and it is a matter of pride that one of our own is bringing world-class expertise to strengthen our talent and public services," Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu added.

PM Modi pushes inclusive AI, UN reform and strategic partnerships

Minister noted.

India has consistently advocated for restructuring global institutions to reflect contemporary geopolitical realities, including expansion of the UN Security Council and enhanced representation for emerging economies and developing countries.

In a separate engagement, Modi met Anura Kumara Dissanayake, President of Sri Lanka, describing the interaction as a step toward deepening bilateral friendship.

"Strengthening friendship with a valued neighbour! It was wonderful meeting President Anura Kumara Dissanayake of Sri Lanka in Delhi," he said.

The leaders reviewed the recent progress in India-Sri Lanka ties and explored avenues for further collaboration across multiple sectors. "We took stock of the progress in India-Sri Lanka relations in the recent times. We also discussed avenues of cooperation in areas such as energy, connectivity, infrastructure, healthcare, skilling, culture, blue economy and more," Modi stated.

India and Sri Lanka share longstanding civilizational, cultural and economic ties. In recent years, New Delhi has played a key role in supporting Colombo through economic challenges, while both countries have sought to enhance cooperation in maritime security, renewable energy and regional connectivity.

The Prime Minister also held talks with Peter Pellegrini, President of the Slovak Republic, focusing on trade, technology and strategic collaboration.

"My meeting with Mr. Peter Pellegrini, President of the Slovak Republic was very productive. The recent India-EU FTA will create several opportunities to boost trade and investment between our nations," Modi said.

Beyond trade, the leaders discussed cooperation in digital technology, startups, Digital Public Infrastructure, defence and space. The engagement comes amid broader efforts to strengthen India's ties with European partners and deepen economic integration with the European Union.

Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister chaired a roundtable interaction with CEOs of AI and deeptech startups at Seva Teerth, highlighting the government's emphasis on innovation-driven growth.

The interaction focused on leveraging emerging technologies to accelerate inclusive development, improve governance and position India as a global hub for digital innovation.

The day's engagements reflect New Delhi's twin-track approach—advancing reform in global governance institutions while simultaneously strengthening strategic and economic partnerships across regions, with technology and inclusive growth at the centre of its diplomatic outreach.

UN computing centre to establish centre of excellence for AI in

government signed a total of seven memorandums of understanding (MoUs) with various companies and institutions on the sidelines of the summit.

The state has partnered with BharatGen, NexGen, and IBM India to launch a state-wide AI Tech Hub.

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said the initiative will empower citizens, from farmers to fishermen, setting a national example with an inclusive, Telugu-first, citizen-focused AI, with future Quantum-AI integration.

The Andhra Pradesh government also signed an MoU with the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) to establish its first South India campus in Amaravati, he added.

"The Skill Development arm of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, NIELIT (Deemed to be University), will strengthen Andhra Pradesh's journey as a hub for Quantum and AI education. This partnership will also explore skilling based strengthening of India's semiconductor ecosystem," Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said.

The Chief Minister also announced that the state is partnering with IBM to skill one lakh talented youngsters in Andhra Pradesh across AI, Cybersecurity, and Quantum Computing.

'For them, AI is Anti India': BJP blasts Cong over shirtless protest at

India's image globally.

Pointing direct fingers at Congress MP Rahul Gandhi for 'unleashing' the topless Congress workers at the venue, it said that the planned ruckus was clearly designed to embarrass India on the world stage.

"At a time when India is hosting a prestigious global AI Summit, showcasing its innovation and leadership in technology, the Congress party chose disruption over dignity," it further said.

BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawala equated the shirtless protest outside the Bharat Mandapam as an "anti-India" act, accusing the Congress of unleashing goons against the nation. "These are shirtless protests against the BJP but brainless goons against India. For Congress, AI means Anti India," he said.

Another BJP spokesperson, Pradeep Bhandari, also blamed Rahul Gandhi, who recently termed the AI Impact Summit a "disorganised PR spectacle" and said that it was on his instructions that the youth Congress workers stormed the venue, being attended by foreign delegates, tech gurus and many heads of nations.

"Congress needs to apologise to the nation! Congress behaves like Urban Naxals," he said.

Meanwhile, the group of Indian Youth Congress workers who barged into the Bharat Mandapam with provocative banners and shouted slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi were rounded up and taken to the police station.

Police said that legal action is being taken against them for trespassing into the complex and putting the 'security of foreign delegates at risk'.

In a statement, the INC youth wing admitted that its workers demonstrated outside the venue and it was to register a protest over the government "prioritising corporate interests over national interests."

India-U.S. interim trade pact likely to be operationalised in April, says

now need to be translated into a legal agreement, for which the two sides will meet next week.

The Indian team will be headed by chief negotiator Darpan Jain, who is a joint secretary in the Commerce Ministry. Under the pact, both sides would extend duty concessions to each other on a number of goods traded between them.

The U.S. has announced that it will reduce the reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods from 25% to 18%. It has already eliminated the 25% punitive tariffs on India for buying Russian crude oil. The move is a big relief to the domestic industry as they were facing steep 50% tariffs by the U.S.

Mr. Goyal expressed hope that an executive order to cut the tariffs to 18% would be issued by the Trump administration this month.

While speaking at the launch of seven components of the ?25,060-crore export promotion mission (EPM), Mr. Goyal said the India-U.S. trade agreement has opened huge business opportunities for Indian exporters.

He said that India has protected all the sensitive sectors, including agriculture.

"Now once that rate (50% tariff) comes out to lower than any of our competitors, we are lower than anybody else who is an emerging market or a developing economy, and plus having safeguarded all the sensitive sectors, it's a great win-win solution for both countries," he said.

The Minister said that labour-intensive sectors like apparel, leather and marine were suffering from high tariffs.

Piyush Goyal slams Rahul Gandhi for his remarks on India-U.S. deal

He also criticised Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for raising concerns about the deal. Stepping up his attack on the government over the interim U.S. trade deal, Mr. Gandhi on Friday said the answer to why Prime Minister Narendra Modi agreed to a deal, where India gives so much and appears to get so little, and makes an "abject surrender" lies in the "grips" and "chokes" placed on him.

Mr. Gandhi questioned that why the government has agreed to increase U.S. imports by ?100 billion a year without a reciprocal promise.

"I think he (Gandhi) lives in a world very detached from reality. All of you here are exporters. Were you happy with the 50 per cent tariff? Was your business prospering? Were your jobs safe? Was Tirupur able to export apparel? What was happening to your leather industry where lakhs of workers are working? What had happened to our marine seafood exports? All labour-intensive sectors were suffering," he said.

'India is on the right track'

He added that businesses will prosper at the 18% rate that India negotiated under the trade pact with the U.S.

It will help boost exports of gems and jewellery, and spices also, he said. On imports from the U.S., Mr. Goyal said India needs high-tech devices like GPUs (Graphics Processing Units), coking coal and aircrafts.

"We need airplanes in India. As our steel production doubles and is slated to double from 140 million to 300 million tonnes in the next 5-6 years, huge investments, almost ?10 lakh crores investments are in the pipeline in the steel industry. That steel will need coking coal.

"You are all businessmen in this room. Is it better to have two sources of a product or six sources of a product?," he asked.

India needs these products from trusted partners for its economic growth, the minister said, adding that exports will play an important role in the effort to push the country's growth.

"...very clearly, India is on the right track. We make sure that our sensitive defensive interests remain protected. All our agricultural produce in India remains protected from the markets where there is any competition. We ensure that we open our market for consumer benefit," he said.

Through this deal, he said, India has ensured to purchase high-quality pharma products, "super expensive and complicated" medical devices will come to India at lower or zero import duty. "We are serving 1.4 billion consumers who are also a stakeholder in the development," he added.

According to the joint statement, India has expressed its intention to purchase $500 billion of U.S. energy products, aircraft and aircraft parts, precious metals, technology products and coking coal over the next five years.

The reciprocal tariffs on India are now among the lowest compared to its competitor nations. These countries include China (35%), Thailand (19%), Myanmar (40%), Cambodia (19%), Indonesia (19%), Brazil (50%), and Vietnam (20%).

A.P. is developing Quantum ecosystem for global markets, says CM

commitment to nurturing a comprehensive quantum ecosystem. He expressed confidence that the world would talk about the Amaravati Quantum Valley being developed with a futuristic vision. He asserted that the foray of global giants such as Google would transform ?Visakhapatnam into a major AI hub in the coming years.

He lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's efforts to place India ahead of other nations in realising the potential of AI through a human-centric approach and data security and pointed out that Andhra Pradesh was doing all that was required to benefit the AI revolution.

In a social media post, Mr. Naidu said that he was delighted to participate in the WEF event and that he shared his perspective on building global competitiveness and shared prosperity with AI.

Crime rate has declined by 6% in State, says AP Home minister Anitha

the State due to the hostile conditions prevalent at that time, the Home Minister said.

Ms. Anitha asserted that it was because of effective functioning of the law and order machinery in the last 20 months that huge investments were committed in the State.

As the cybercrimes posed a rising threat, cybercrime police stations were in the process of being established in all the districts and awareness being created on how to be safe, she said.

A.P. Home Minister asks DGP to organise women police sports meet

Andhra Pradesh Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha has asked Director General of Police (DGP) Harish Kumar Gupta to organise Women Police Sports Meet separately.

"Everybody should give priority for sports. Games and Sports will give much relief to police personnel who are always busy in their duties," Ms. Anitha said.

The Home Minister, along with DGP and other police officers inaugurated the Second All India Police South Zone T-20 Cricket Tournament at APSP 6th Battalion, on Friday (February 20).

Ten teams, including Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar, ITBP and NSG will play in the tournament, Mr. Harish Kumar Gupta said.

The tournament will be conducted up to February 24, and tight security has been arranged for the five-day event, the DGP said.

AP appoints One-man commission to probe Tirumala Laddu adulteration

individuals responsible for the alleged irregularities in the preparation of the sacred offering.

Previously, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) formed by the CBI had submitted a report on the matter following directives from the Supreme Court. However, the state government determined that the SIT report required further clarity on specific aspects to fully expose the conspiracy and the key figures involved. Consequently, the decision was made to initiate a deeper, independent investigation.

Government sources reiterated their commitment to a transparent inquiry, aiming to address the concerns raised by devotees across the country. Officials affirmed that strict legal action will be taken against the guilty based on the findings and recommendations submitted by the Dinesh Kumar commission.

Allegations of adulteration in such a revered offering have caused widespread concern among devotees, prompting the government to treat the issue with utmost seriousness and expedite the investigative process.

The SIT had conducted an extensive probe into various aspects, including the laddu preparation process, procurement of raw materials, quality control mechanisms, and the role of officials concerned.

Based on the SIT findings, the one-member committee will now carry out a deeper analysis.

Further government action is likely to be determined after the committee submits its recommendations.

Growing maritime complexities demand stability, trust at sea: Vice

Warning of the growing complexities at sea, the Admiral observed that "these shifts add complexity to an already congested and competitive maritime space" and underscored "the importance of maintaining stability, trust and confidence at sea.

"It is against this wider strategic backdrop that IONS assumes significance by providing space for dialogue, collaboration, and shared understanding amongst maritime security agencies," he added.

The DCNS also states that the challenges that arise in this maritime space are shared and often transcend national boundaries.

'They underscore the interdependence of our maritime security interests and highlight the importance of dialogue leading to coordinated action," he said.

Speaking about the IONS, the officer said that since its inception, IONS has developed into a credible and inclusive forum that brings together navies and maritime security agencies of the Indian Ocean littoral and contiguous regions.

"What began as a confidence-building initiative has steadily evolved into a trusted platform for engagement, facilitating interaction through working groups, exercises, professional exchanges between maritime agencies and navies to exchange perspectives, take stock of the evolving maritime environment, and offer broad guidance to ongoing interactions and engagements under the IONS framework," he added.

He also said that the strength of IONS lies in its ability to remain inclusive, flexible, and relevant, focusing on achievable cooperation while respecting national mandates and priorities.

After 16 years, India assumed the Chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), with the present Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi assuming the role during the conclave.

Tight arrangements for conducting Inter Exams

said that the education department and other concerned officials should first inspect the respective examination centers and ensure that all the facilities are there.

Theory tests at 85 centers.. 81 thousand people to appear

RIO Muralidharan explained in the meeting that 81,001 people are appearing for the Inter exams to be held from February 23rd, and theory tests will be held at 85 centers. He said that 40,165 people are writing the exams in the first year of Inter and 40,836 in the second year. According to the schedule released by the government, practical exams for vocational groups were conducted smoothly from January 27 to February 10, and practicals for general group students were conducted from February 01 to 10. It was revealed that theory exams will be held from February 23 to March 24. It was clarified that exams for first and second intermediate students will be held from 9.00 am to 12.00 pm every day except Monday. It was clarified that the Ethics and Human Values ??exam will be held from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on January 21. It was stated that the Environmental Education exam will be held from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm on January 235.

In the meeting, along with the R.I.O., DVEO, Education, Health, RTC, Electricity, Police, Revenue, Postal Department officials and others participated.

TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Ltd.)

Truhome FINANCE

Head Office: Level -3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051; **Tel:** 1800 102 4345 ; **Website:** http://www. truhomefinance.in

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PRIVATE TREATY SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

A Sale Notice is given for Sale of Immovable Asset through Private Treaty under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (54 of 2002).

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s and mortgagor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to The Truhome Finance Limited(Earlier known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited), The Physical possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of The Truhome Finance Limited(Earlier known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited). Earlier company had issued the sale notice on 02.03.2024 and thereby fixed the e-auction of subject property in question on 09.03.2026. However, the said auction scheduled on 09.03.2026 remained failed due to want of bid. Now person have shown interest in purchasing the schedule mortgaged property. As the schedule mortgaged property could not be sold through e-auction earlier, The Truhome Finance Limited has decided to mortgage property will be sold through Private Treaty on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of balance outstanding amount due to The Truhome Finance Limited(Earlier known as Shriram Housing Finance Limited), from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table.

The notice is being given to the Borrower/s, Guarantor/s and Mortgagor (s) that the aforesaid secured asset shall be sold after 15 day's for the date of the notice on such terms and conditions as mutually agreed between The Truhome Finance Limited and intended purchase.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (Rs.) & EMD Amount	Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team)
1. CHITTIBABU KOLLABATHULA 2 MRS.SALADI A VENKATA LAXMI All are R/O,DNO 8-20/1, MALLAYYAPETA RAM SAI TOWN SHIP, RAJAHMUNDRY, OPPOSITE CURRENT OFFICE KATERU, EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH, 533105. and also at SAMAKRISHNA KIRANA AND GENERAL STORE, OTHERS, DNO 5-391, SUBBAILAOPETA, NEAR KATHERU PANCHAYATI OFFICE, STREET KATERU, EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH 533105 & WARD NO 29 A, RS NO 89 PART, D NO 66-10-25, KAKINADA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, KAKINADA SURYARAOPETA HEMLET, S ATCHUTAPURAM VILLAGE, INDIRA GANDHI STREET, EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH 533002 Lan. SLPHRJMD0000761 **Date of Possession & Type** 12.02.2024 & Physical Possession **Encumbranches known** Not known	13(2) Notice dated. 16-11-2023 & Notice Amount of Rs.2490768/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Ninety Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Eight Only) (in respect of Loan Account No. SLPHRJMD0000761) as on 06-Nov-23 with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses	Rs.12,50,000/- (Twelve Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only) & EMD Amount. Rs.125000/- (Rupees One Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Only) **Date of Property shall be sold to the proposed purchaser by Private Treaty** Date. 09.03.2026	Ashfaq Patka 9819415477 Raja Gurga Presad-9550869343 Anjibabu – 9966365296

Description of Property

WARD NO 29 A, RS NO 89 PART, D NO 66-10-25, KAKINADA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, KAKINADA SURYARAOPETA HEMLET, S ATCHUTAPURAM VILLAGE, INDIRA GANDHI STREET, EAST GODAVARI, ANDHRA PRADESH 533002: EAST: 4FT WIDE JOINT PASSAGE WAY, NORTH : COMPUND WALL BELONGS TO SALADI RAMAM . WEST: HOUSE & SITE BOLONGS TO KAPPLA LAKSHMI KANTHAM , SOUTH: 8.6. FT MUNICIPAL ROAD.

1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer the website of Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited) website.
2) The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub- section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
3) The intending bidders have to submit amount to be deposited by way of RTGS/NEFT to the account details mentioned herein below: BANK NAME: AXIS BANK LIMITED BRANCH: BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX, MUMBAI BANK ACCOUNT NO. Current Account No. 911020045677633 IFSC CODE: UTIB0000230.

Place : Kakinada
Date : 21-02-2026

Sd/- Authorised Officer- Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited)