Majority Claims, Defection Fears, And A Possible Punjab Floor Test



Chandigarh: Punjab's political landscape has been thrown into turmoil as a fierce battle over numbers and narratives unfolds between the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and opposition leaders. With a high-stakes Assembly session on the horizon, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has projected confidence, asserting that his government holds a comfortable majority. Yet, the opposition is unconvinced-and increasingly vocal. Senior Congress leader Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa has questioned the timing of the Assembly session, scheduled on Labour Day (Friday). He argues that the unusual timing signals an urgent attempt by the government to demonstrate its strength through a possible confidence motion. Randhawa also added that within two months, President's Rule will be imposed, the way the situation seems to be on the ground.

From the Shiromani Akali Dal camp, leader Bikram Singh Majithia has gone a step further, claiming that the AAP government has already lost its majority. He alleged that only a limited number of MLAs attended a key meeting in Jalandhar, while others were compelled to participate under pressure from authorities, including the Vigilance Bureau. Seven AAP MPs, including Raghav Chadha, have crossed over to the BJP. After their joining, the speculation has intensified concerns about internal cracks within the ruling party.

In response, AAP leadership has moved swiftly to reinforce unity. Strategy meetings in Jalandhar brought together MLAs and party officials to assess risks and prevent any potential defections ahead of the crucial session. Despite the mounting pressure, Mann remains resolute. He claims the backing of 94 MLAs and has stated that he is fully prepared to prove his majority on the Assembly floor if required-a move that could set the stage for a dramatic political showdown. Punjab BJP president Sunil Jakhar has criticised the government's intentions, alleging that the proposed confidence motion is merely a tactic to buy time and extend the government's tenure.

'Can Print Everything Except Money' : ISRO Acquires Russian 3D Printer



New Delhi: India's all-weather friend Russia has won a global competitive bid and has supplied a high-end 3D printer that can print everything except currency notes, but India hopes to use it to make quality parts for its upcoming human space flights and moon missions. India's ambitious human spaceflight and lunar exploration programmes could soon fly with critical components made using advanced Russian 3D printing technology. Russian state-owned nuclear and technology giant Rosatom has successfully supplied and commissioned a heavy-duty industrial 3D printer in India, a machine that ISRO says will significantly enhance its ability to rapidly manufacture large and complex metal components for missions such as Gaganyaan, Chandrayaan, and the proposed Bharatiya Antariksh Space Station. Rosatom's Fuel Division, which leads the corporation's additive manufacturing business, has supplied the equipment known as the RusBeam 2800. Based on Electron Beam Additive Manufacturing (EBAM) technology, the printer will be used to manufacture metal parts for India's aerospace sector. The contract was awarded through an international competitive tender, underscoring Rosatom's emergence as a global leader in industrial-scale additive manufacturing.

In 2025 a similar large-scale electron beam 3D printer during a visit to Russia last year, where Rosatom showcased how such systems could produce massive aerospace-grade components as single-piece structures, reducing the need for welding and assembly. The deployment of comparable technology in India now signals a major step toward bringing that capability directly into ISRO's production ecosystem. "These 3D printing units are so advanced that they can print anything except currency notes, which only the federal bank does," said Ilya Vladimirovich Kavelashvili, director, Additive Manufacturing Business Unit, at Rosatom State Corporation in Moscow. 3D printing isn't science fiction any longer.

For ISRO, the acquisition represents not just another machine, but a strategic capability upgrade at a time when India is preparing for long-duration human spaceflight and more ambitious deep-space missions. According to the Indian space agency, the EBAM system opens the door to producing large aerospace components faster, lighter, and with far greater material efficiency. India's IIT Madras-incubated start-up Agnikul Cosmos Pvt. Limited has already deployed a 3D printer, which it uses to make small rocket engines, including cryogenic engine components. "The high deposition rate and vacuum-controlled environment of the EBAM machine from Rosatom represent a significant leap in ISRO's capability to fabricate large-scale, near-net-shape components from advanced titanium alloys, super alloys, and refractory alloys," said Dr. Vessangi Anilkumar, Deputy General Manager at the ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram, and head of its Additive Manufacturing Research and Development Center. By drastically reducing lead times for complex aerospace structures, the technology could transform how mission-critical hardware is produced. "By integrating this critical technology, we can drastically reduce lead times for aerospace structures while ensuring the material integrity required for the extreme conditions of space," Dr. Anilkumar said. He added that the system would be "a cornerstone in achieving the rapid prototyping and production goals essential for our future orbital infrastructure and deep-space missions like Gaganyaan, Bharatiya Antariksh Space Station, and Chandrayaan missions." The RusBeam 2800 now holds the distinction of being India's largest 3D printer for electron-beam wire deposition operating under vacuum. Custom-built for the Indian client, the machine is operated using software developed by Rosatom. It is capable of producing parts up to 2.8 metres in height and weighing as much as four tonnes, including components with complex geometries that are difficult or impossible to manufacture using conventional machining or casting methods. Its productivity is one of its defining strengths. With a print speed of up to 50 millimetres per second, the system can fabricate a 50-kilogram metal part in just five hours. The printer supports a wide range of materials essential for space and aerospace applications, including titanium-based, nickel-based, and cobalt-chrome alloys, all of which are used in environments requiring high strength, heat resistance, and structural reliability.

Dawood Aide Salim Dola Sent To Anti-Drugs Agency Custody Till May 8 Over Drug Case



New Delhi: A Mumbai court remanded alleged international drug trafficker Salim Ismail Dola to the custody of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) till May 8 in connection with a 2023 drug trafficking case, following his recent arrest after nearly two years on the run. The NCB had sought 10 days of custody, arguing that Dola had been on the run since the case was registered and that his custodial interrogation was necessary to probe a larger narcotics network. While a chargesheet had already been filed, the agency told the court that fresh leads had emerged during initial questioning that required verification. According to the anti-drugs agency, Dola is a key international supplier of mephedrone and is allegedly linked to a wider drug syndicate. Investigators have claimed that 20 kg of the contraband seized in June 2023 was supplied by him. The agency further alleged that co-accused Faisal Javed Shaikh, described as the main kingpin in the case, was in direct contact with Dola via WhatsApp and would receive consignments at a fixed location near JJ Hospital in south Mumbai.

In his statement, Shaikh allegedly told investigators that he procured around 40 kg of mephedrone every month from Dola at Rs 7 lakh per kg and sold it at Rs 18 lakh per kg, generating profits of Rs 40-50 lakh monthly. The NCB also told the court that a financial probe had led to the freezing of assets worth Rs 6.40 crore linked to the alleged drug proceeds. The agency further cited Dola's alleged involvement in multiple cases across the country, including a Gujarat case involving the seizure of over 90 kg of mephedrone and a 2024 case linked to a multi-state drug cartel. Investigators also referred to older cases, including a 2018 fentanyl seizure by Mumbai's Anti-Narcotics Cell, a DRI case involving smuggling of banned gutkha, and earlier narcotics seizures dating back to 1998.

India Too Modest About Contributions : Science Museum Group Chief Ian Blatchford

New Delhi: At a time of shifting geopolitics and climate urgency, India is emerging as a critical force shaping the global future, not just through scale but through its ability to innovate at cost, Sir Ian Blatchford, Director and Chief Executive of the Science Museum Group, has said Blatchford, who is based in the UK, said India's trajectory in science, clean energy and technology is not only central to its own growth but can also increasingly drive global outcomes. "If India thrives, my country does too," Blatchford said, framing India as "an extraordinary force for good" in a world marked by uncertainty.



Blatchford, who has been travelling to India for over two decades, said the relationship between New Delhi and London is entering a more substantive phase, driven by collaboration rather than legacy ties. He pointed to the long-pending free trade agreement as a turning point, calling it a "major event" that signals both countries are now willing to translate intent into action. At the institutional level, Blatchford emphasised, partnerships between the UK's Science Museum Group and India's National Council of Science Museums have evolved from one-sided exchanges to co-creation. "In the old way of doing things... western museums would create exhibitions and tour them. That now seems quite patronising," he said. "We actually work with our colleagues here."

Why India's Clean Energy Story Stands Out

On climate, Blatchford described PM Modi's announcement of net-zero commitment by 2070 at COP26 as a defining moment. "What fascinated global environmentalists was not the date, but the ambition," he said. But he also stressed a reality often overlooked in Western debates. "India has the right to grow... the West has had economic growth for 200 years," he said, adding that balancing development with decarbonisation is central to India's challenge. What sets India apart, he argued, is its reliance on innovation led by the private sector rather than a state-driven model.

The Power Of Frugal Innovation

Blatchford repeatedly returned to what he sees as India's most under-recognised strength: Its ability to innovate at scale and at low cost. "India is able to achieve the green transition at a price point that will make the biggest difference," he said. From solar energy to infrastructure, he pointed to what he called "frugal innovation" as a model with global relevance, especially at a time when energy transitions in Europe are proving expensive and politically difficult. "This is an amazing story. India is too modest about that contribution," he remarked.

'Ambassadors For Good'

For Blatchford, technology alone is not enough. Public trust and engagement will determine how effectively countries transition to cleaner systems. "Trust and storytelling are critical," he said, adding that cultural institutions like museums often enjoy far greater public trust than political actors. He argued that large-scale transitions, such as net zero, need to be communicated not just through policy but through people. "It's about the scientists, the engineers, making this transition real," he said. Looking ahead, Blatchford said the UK and India could act as joint ambassadors for a cleaner, more collaborative global order. He also highlighted initiatives like the International Solar Alliance and India's expanding role in energy and technology diplomacy. "Let's do something amazing together," he said, framing the energy transition not as a burden but as "an incredible opportunity".

In Sunjay Kapur 30,000-Crore Estate Row, Relief For Karisma Kapoor's Children



New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has ordered the assets of businessman Sunjay Kapur - who died in London in June last year and left behind an inheritance worth Rs 30,000 crore - be preserved amid a bitter and unseemly family dispute between his third wife, Priya Sachdeva Kapur, and Kiaan and Samaira Kapoor, his children from his second marriage to actor Karisma Kapoor. Kiaan and Samaira have accused Priya Kapur of forging a will attributed to Sunjay Kapur and of filing an incomplete list of assets; the list allegedly excludes expensive horses used for polo and luxury wristwatches from brands such as Rolex. The children have also claimed that several immovable properties and high-value paintings owned by Sunjay Kapur - as part of larger Kapur family assets - are not included in the list submitted to the court by Priya Kapur. This afternoon, the court said Sunjay Kapyr's assets "need to be preserved... should not be dissipated" and granted an interim injunction restraining Priya Kapur from selling them. The court also restrained operation of his bank accounts. The onus, the court said, is on Priya Kapur to dispel suspicions over the will. It added Karisma Kapoor's children had established a prima facie case and it would be an "injustice" if no action were taken and the will is later proven to be fake. The broader dispute — which also includes clashes between Priya Kapur and Sunjay Kapur's mother, Rani Kapur, as well as his sister, Mandira Kapur — has been marked by sharp exchanges.

4 Dead, Many Missing As Cruise Boat With 31 On Board Sinks In Madhya Pradesh

Jabalpur: At least four people died after a cruise boat with 31 on board sank in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur district on Thursday, officials said. The tourist boat, which was operating in the Bargi Dam area of the city, was reportedly overloaded. Local residents and authorities rushed to the spot soon after the tragedy. While 15 people have been rescued, operations are underway to look for several other people, who are missing. Officials said the condition of the rescued individuals is being monitored.



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APPENDIX-IV-A [SEE PROVISION TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6)] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to Truhome Finance Limited (formerly M/s Shriram Housing Finance Limited), the Physical Possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of Truhome Finance Limited, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis in e-auction on 05.06.2026 between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for recovery of the balance due to Truhome Finance Limited from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table.

Details of Borrowers and Guarantors, amount due, Short Description of the immovable property, reserve price and earnest money deposit and date of Inspection are also given as:

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (Rs.) & Bid Increment	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team)
1 MR.MOHAMMED HAMEED S/O MR. MOHAMMED ALIM PASHA 2 MR.APHIJA BEGUM MOHAMMED W/O MR. MOHAMMED ALIM PASHA All are Resident of H NO 1-265 NA GOLLA GERI COLONY NATAVALLY VIL KOTHAKOTA MDL WANAPARTHY DIST NEAR YADAV COMMUNITY HALL NYETVALLY MAHABUB NAGAR TELANGANA INDIA 509104 Loan Account No. SHLHMBNR0000078 Date of Possession & Type 16th April, 2026, Physical Possession Encumbranches known Not Known	Demand Notice Date – 09-12-2024 Demand notice Amount Rs.2207250/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty only) as on 31-12-2024 under reference of Loan Account No. SHLHMBNR0000078	Rs.18,00,000/- (Rupees Eighteen lakhs Only) Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/- and in such multiples. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)(Rs.) Rs.18,0000/- (One Lakh Eighty Thousand only) Last date for submission of EMD : 04 June , 2026 Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.	05-JUNE-2026 & Auction Time: 11.00 A.M. to 01.00 P.M.	Mr. SATISH & RajaDurgaPrasad 9849225412(M) &9550869343 Property Inspection Date : 03-June -2026

Description of Property

District Registration Mahaboob Nagar ,Sub Registration District Vanaparhi ,Pebbair Mandal and Muncipality ,Situated at Chelmillaa Village Sy No. 18 ,345 ,plot no. 56, House No. 8-900007,Assessment no.1252101134,R C C House ,133.33 Sq Yards . NORTH: plot No.71, SOUTH: 20 feet road. EAST: plot No.55. WEST: plot No.57.

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 intending bidders have to submit their EMD 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 : Mahaboob Nagar
Date : 01-05-2026

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