

JGU to host prestigious STAR Scholars Network Global Conference 2026

Sonipat, Following a competitive bidding process, O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) has been selected to host the 2026 STAR Scholars Network Global Conference from 10-14 December 2026. This was announced during the 2025 STAR Global Conference, hosted last month by Istanbul Aydin University in Türkiye. Millennial media consulting

O.P. Jindal Global University will convene the conference for the second time in India, where global scholars will gather to explore how humanity can thrive amid rapid advances in AI and the growing urgency of sustainability. The conference will be organised on the theme "Flourishing in the Age of AI and Sustainability."

The upcoming 2026 conference is expected to draw leading academics, policymakers, researchers and practitioners from across continents, offering a crucial platform to explore how higher education can navigate and shape a world defined by accelerating technological change and urgent sustainability challenges.

With AI transforming labour, governance, culture and communication, and sustainability becoming a defining moral and developmental imperative, the conference aims to investigate what "human flourishing" looks like in a rapidly shifting global landscape.

Prof (Dr) C. Raj Kumar, the Founding Vice Chancellor of O.P. Jindal Global University, said, "The STAR Global Conference is hosted by a different country every year. The annual conference brings together scholars from around the world to foster cross-border collaborations for scholarly and cultural exchange. It is considered one of the most influential global forums on higher education, internationalisation and knowledge collaboration with over 20,000 plus members from 2353 colleges and universities across 115 countries around the world. Earlier, JGU hosted the 2021 STAR Global conference virtually from India because of the COVID-19 pandemic."

The 2026 STAR Scholars Network Global Conference is



expected to build on this momentum, providing a space for conversations that bridge technology, sustainability, ethics and humanity. Scholars are likely to discuss both the risks posed by artificial intelligence as well as the possibilities it offers for inclusion, creativity and global connectivity.

Similarly, sustainability will be examined not just through the lens of climate action, but also through questions of justice, equity and the human experience. While detailed programming will unfold in the months ahead, the choice of JGU as host of the Global Conference for the second time signals a growing recognition of India's expanding role in global higher education and research cooperation.

It also marks an important moment for international

academic networks seeking to understand how universities can lead in an age where the future of work, the planet and society itself is being rewritten. The decision to bring the conference to India again comes at a milestone moment for JGU.

Earlier this year, the university received the "2025 Global Education for Peace Award" from the STAR Scholars Network, a recognition conferred annually on the United Nations International Day of Peace. The award acknowledges institutions that demonstrate outstanding commitment to building cultures of peace through education by creating globally oriented curricula, inclusive teaching, international collaborations and community engagement.

JGU shared this year's distinction with the American University in the Emirates (UAE); both institutions were recognised as exemplars of ethical leadership and global citizenship in higher education. The award highlighted JGU's expansive network of more than 450 international partnerships, its emphasis on interdisciplinary and values-driven education and its sustained engagement with local communities through social responsibility initiatives.

Andhra Pradesh will be Maoist-free by March 2026, says DGP



Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh Director General of Police (DGP) Harish Kumar Gupta on Thursday exuded confidence that Andhra Pradesh will be free from Maoists by the end of next March.

Stating that the police achieved huge success with the two encounters in Mareduilli forests in Alluri Sitharamaraju district, he said the police were taking all measures to achieve the target of making Andhra Pradesh free from left-wing extremism by March 2026 as part of the goal set by the Union Home Ministry.

Addressing a press conference at Rampachodavaram in Alluri Sitharamaraju district on Thursday, he said all the security forces were working to achieve the target.

The DGP arrived here to

review the ongoing 'Operation Sambhav' launched to eliminate the Maoists who entered the Mareduilli agency in the Andhra Odisha border area from neighbouring Chhattisgarh.

He termed the two encounters in Mareduilli as a major success. Thirteen Maoists, including top Maoist commander Madvi Hidma and explosives expert Metturi Joga Rao alias Tech Shankar, were killed in these encounters.

The DGP said the police also arrested 50 Maoists from five districts on November 18. All these Maoists had come to Andhra Pradesh from Chhattisgarh as part of their attempts to establish a shelter.

He reiterated the call to all the Maoists to surrender and join the national mainstream. He warned that those refusing to surrender will be either caught or neutralised.

"There is no place for violence in Andhra Pradesh", said the DGP.

The DGP clarified that CPI (Maoist) general secretary Thippiri Tirupathi alias Devuji is not in the police custody.

Nine members of the protection team of Devuji were among 50 Maoists arrested in five districts on November 18, hours after an encounter in the forests of Alluri Sitharamaraju district in which top Maoist commander Madvi Hidma, his wife Rajee and four others were killed.

A day after Hidma's killing, seven Maoists, including explosives expert Metturi Joga Rao alias Tech Shankar and six others, were killed in the same area.

Additional Director-General of Police (Intelligence) Mahesh Chandra Laddha, who briefed the DGP about the Operation Sambhav by displaying the seized weapons from the encounter sites.

Laddha had said on Wednesday that under pressure due to the operations by security forces, Maoists from Chhattisgarh are entering Andhra Pradesh to turn it into a shelter zone and that they plan to revive Maoist activity.

MP BJP leaders hail Nitish Kumar's return, say Bihar set for all-round growth



Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said on Thursday that Bihar would witness 'all-round development under the new National Democratic Alliance government, as Nitish Kumar was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bihar for a record tenth time in Patna.

Senior BJP leaders from Madhya Pradesh sent their greetings to Nitish Kumar and his colleagues in the NDA. In the messages, they said the new government in Bihar has begun its term with strong public support and noted that the alliance has a clear mandate.

State Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, who had campaigned in Bihar and attended the swearing-in ceremony, said that Bihar could expect steady progress under the NDA.

"Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Nitish Kumar for taking oath as Chief Minister of Bihar for the 10th time. I am fully confident that

under the guidance of PM Modi, the NDA government will work for the vision of 'developed Bihar,'" CM Yadav said in a post on X.

State BJP president Hemant Khandelwal remarked on the Prime Minister's gesture of waving a 'gamchha' during the ceremony, calling it an expression of love and gratitude towards the people of Bihar for their support to the NDA in the Assembly polls.

"By waving a 'gamchha' at the swearing-in ceremony, PM Modi once again expressed his heartfelt gratitude towards the people of Bihar. This honour is not a formality, but a symbol of Bihar's support and commitment to the development," Khandelwal wrote on X. State Minister Vishwas Sarang, who had campaigned in the Bihar assembly polls, said that Nitish Kumar's tenth term as Chief Minister marked an important achievement. "Bihar election

result is the beginning of a new era of Indian politics, where the people will support development only. Nitish Kumar's swearing-in ceremony for the tenth time is evidence for it," Sarang told IANS in Bhopal.

Apart from Nitish Kumar, 26 Cabinet Ministers took oath, out of which 14 are from BJP, 8 from JD(U), 2 from LJP (RV) and one each from HAM (S) and RLM. The NDA government has inducted nine new faces in the new Cabinet, including LJP (RV)'s Sanjay Kumar Singh, who defeated Lalu Prasad's son Tej Pratap Yadav in the Mahua Assembly constituency. Of the 26 ministers, Kumar's Cabinet features only one Muslim member. Governor Arif Mohammed Khan administered the oath of office and secrecy to them.

Kumar (71), who is a member of the legislative council (MLC), did not contest the Assembly elections.

Centre eases rules for import of steel not covered under quality control orders



New Delhi, The government on Thursday announced new measures to ease rules for import of steel grades not covered under Quality Control Orders (QCOs), apart from approving extension of certain exemptions after reviewing the concerns submitted by industry participants.

In order to streamline the regulatory framework governing steel imports and to facilitate ease of doing business, the Ministry of Steel undertook a review of the existing import-related requirements.

It also reviewed the requirement for obtaining clarification or No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Ministry of Steel for import of steel grades not covered under any QCO.

"Based on the recommendations of the High-Level Committee on Non-Financial Regulatory Reforms (HLC-NFRR), it has been decided that steel grades not covered by any Quality Control

licences for the relevant grades.

In cases where import of QCO-covered steel grades is proposed from manufacturers who do not possess BIS licences, an exemption mechanism is already in place and such applications are examined by the Committee constituted on May 14, 2020.

The Committee, comprising representatives from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and domain experts, will continue to examine applications and decide on granting exemptions for import of QCO-covered steel products manufactured by non-BIS licensee units, said the ministry. Also, based on representations received from industry, the Ministry had earlier granted exemption from mandatory QCO compliance for specified Chapter 73 steel products for imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.10.2025.

Importers may directly generate SIMS numbers for such non-QCO grades through the Portal without seeking any reference or approval from the Ministry of Steel, the statement added.

As per the Quality Control Orders issued by the Ministry of Steel, all grades of steel covered under the Orders are required to be imported only from manufacturers holding valid and operative BIS

licences for the relevant grades. In cases where import of QCO-covered steel grades is proposed from manufacturers who do not possess BIS licences, an exemption mechanism is already in place and such applications are examined by the Committee constituted on May 14, 2020. The Committee, comprising representatives from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and domain experts, will continue to examine applications and decide on granting exemptions for import of QCO-covered steel products manufactured by non-BIS licensee units, said the ministry. Also, based on representations received from industry, the Ministry had earlier granted exemption from mandatory QCO compliance for specified Chapter 73 steel products for imports with Bill of Lading having shipped on board date on or before 31.10.2025.

TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Ltd.)
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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 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 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.Kalpesh Enterprise, Through it's proprietor Rathod Amit Dineshbhai, Address :-Plot No.3, Reva Park,Near Somaniya Society,Vavdi Road, Morbi-363641 Also :-Kalpesh Enterprise, Through it's proprietor Rathod Amit Dineshbhai, Property Address :- Shop No.9,10 & 11, Ground Floor, Shiv laheri Plaza, Near Vavdi Chowkadi,Nr.Rudra Mobile, Area : Satyam Society,Off. Vavdi Road, Madhapar, Morbi-363641	13(2) Notice date 14.08.2024 ----- Rs.28,39,801/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred One Only) as on 08-08-2024 under reference of Loan Account No. SLPHMRBI000028 1.	Rs.28,80,000/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Eighty Thousand only) Bid Increment: Rs.10,000/- and in such multiples. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Rs.) Rs.2,88,000/- (Rs. Two lakh eighty eight thousand only) Last date for submission of EMD : 25 December 2025, Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.	26th - Dec - 2025 Auction Time: 11.00 A.M. to 01.00 p.m.	Ashfaq Patka 9819415477 Dharmendrasinh Chauhan- 76007 62777 Property inspection Date: 25 December 2025, Time.11 AM to 1 PM

Date of Possession & Type 09-11-2025 and Physical Possession
Encumbrances known Not known

Description of Property
All that piece & parcels situated District : Morbi at Morbi, Taluka Village : Madhapar, Revenue Survey No.46 paiki, N.A.Plot No.16 land admeasuring 334.37 Sq.Mtr in built commercial complex known as "Shivlaheer Plaza", in Ground Floor Shop No.9 with built up area 22.30 Sq.Mtrs and Shop No.10 with built up area 22.30 sq.mtrs and Shop No.11 with built up area 66.90 Sq.Mtrs (All without terrace rights), it's N.A.known as "Satyam Society", of District : Morbi. The said property is bounded as under:-
Boundaries of the property (Shop No.9) :- North :- Common Plot, South :- Survey No.10, East :- Passage, West :- Survey No.46 paiki land,
Boundaries of the property (Shop No.10) :- North :- Shop No.9, South :- Shop No.11, East :- Passage, West :- Survey No.46 paiki land
Boundaries of the property (Shop No.11) :-North :- Shop No.10, South :- Shop No.12, East :- Passage, West :- Survey No.46 paiki land

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.**
3) The mortgagors/borrowers are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest before auction, failing which secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.
4) Please note that the secured creditor is going to issue the sale notice to all the Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors by speed/ registered post. In case the same is not received by any of the parties, then this publication of sale notice may be treated as a substituted mode of service.

Place : Morbi
Date : 21-11-2025

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

Top Maoists Devuji, Malla Raji Reddy not in our custody: Andhra Police tells HC



Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh Police told the state High Court on Thursday that CPI (Maoist) General Secretary Thippiri Tirupathi, alias Devuji and another top Maoist leader Malla Raji Reddy were not in custody of the state police.

The police conveyed this to the High Court when it took up hearing on a habeas corpus petition filed by one Gangadhar of Telangana, seeking direction to Andhra Pradesh Police to produce Devuji and Raji Reddy in the court.

The police, however, denied that the two leaders are in their custody. It informed the court that Maoists who were arrested in five districts on November 18 were already produced before concerned courts.

The High Court directed the petitioner to submit the

evidence in support of his claim that Devuji and Raji Reddy are in police custody.

The petitioner's counsel argued that the police issued a press statement that key Maoist leaders are in their custody. He sought time to submit the statement to the court.

The court adjourned the hearing on the petition to Friday.

Additional Director-General of Police (Intelligence) Mahesh Chandra Laddha had clarified on Wednesday that the police are unaware about the whereabouts of Devuji.

"We don't have any information where Devuji is now. He must be Chhattisgarh or Telangana. He is not with us. We arrested his protection team. Once we talk to them, we will come to know what was their plan," he said.

India hosts Colombo Security Conclave NSA meet, member states discuss enhancing cooperation



New Delhi, The 7th National Security Advisor (NSA) level meeting of the Colombo Security Conclave (CSC) was held in New Delhi on Thursday, where the member states reiterated their commitment to the vision and objectives of CSC, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced.

NSA Ajit Doval hosted his counterparts from member states, including the Maldives, Mauritius, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The Seychelles participated as an Observer State, while Malaysia attended as a Guest.

At the meeting, the first Secretary General, appointed by India, presented a comprehensive review to the CSC Member States on the decisions taken at the 6th NSA level meeting in Mauritius on December 7-8, 2023, and activities undertaken since then under the five pillars of cooperation, namely Maritime Safety and Security; Countering Terrorism and Radicalisation; Combating Trafficking and Transnational Organised Crime; Cyber Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure and Technology; and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief.

The CSC Member States also discussed ways of

enhancing cooperation under identified pillars, including through training and capacity building. The members welcomed the decision of Seychelles to accede to the CSC as a full member.

The delegations from member States were led by Ibrahim Latheef, National Security Advisor, Maldives; Rahul Rasgotra, National Security Advisor, Mauritius; Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha, Secretary, Sri Lankan Ministry of Defence; and Khaili-ur-Rehman, National Security Advisor of Bangladesh.

Additionally, the delegation from the Seychelles was led by Major General Michael Rosette, Chief of Seychelles Defence Forces. Malaysia participated as a Guest for the first time and was represented by Badrul Shah Mohd Idris, Deputy Director General of the Malaysian National Security Council.