SEBI and NSE Champion Financial Literacy, Investor Awareness and Investor Protection at Regional Investor Seminar for Awareness (RISA) in Puducherry

Vijayawada, November 29, 2025: Under the aegis of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) , the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE), successfully concluded a high-impact Regional Investor Seminar on Awareness (RISA) in Puducherry today. The seminar is part of a nationwide initiative to enhance financial literacy, investor awareness and investor protection across the country.The seminar witnessed participation from diverse audience of civil servants, existing and potential investors, students, professionals, and members of the community.Shri Tuhin Kanta Pandey, Chairman, SEBI inaugurated the seminar and delivered the keynote address. He emphasized SEBI's unwavering commitment for creating a transparent, strong, and fair regulatory framework to protect investors' interests. He underscored that investor protection and market integrity are of paramount importance. SEBI Chairman spoke about fostering a culture of investing that benefits the entire ecosystem. Shri Pandey also apprised audience about SEBI Check that allows investors to verify the authenticity of UPI IDs and confirm the bank details of a registered intermediaryShri Ashishkumar Chauhan, MD & CEO, NSE, in his opening address, highlighted NSE's mission to be a beacon of investor education, awareness, and protection. He mentioned that there is exponential growth in India's investor base which now stands at 12.2 crore unique registered investors. Hence, a financially literate and an aware investor is the strongest shield against frauds and scams and also facilitates their financial well-being.Smt. Shruti S Yaragatti, IPS – Cybercrime, Puducherry, conducted a vital session on cybercrime awareness, a critical topic in the era of digitized transactions, providing attendees with tips on staying safe from online frauds. Shri Suraj Mohan, Regional Director, SEBI SRO, addressed the regulatory framework and grievance redressal mechanisms available to investors.NSE's Commitment to Investor EmpowermentThe seminar highlighted the National Stock Exchange's deep-rooted commitment to financial inclusion and investor safety:• Investor Awareness Programs (IAPs): NSE has ramped up its efforts, conducting 14,487 IAPs in FY26 alone (as of 31-Oct-25), reaching nearly 7.8 lakh participants, underscoring the massive scale of their educational outreach.• Investor Protection Fund: The Investor Protection Fund stands at a corpus of ?2,719 crore (as of 31-Oct-25), demonstrating a strong commitment to safeguarding investors' money.• Public Outreach: The exchange continues to collaborate with popular platforms like Kaun Banega Crorepati and leverage advertisements in traditional and new media to promote investor awareness.The RISA seminar provided a comprehensive understanding of the securities market, covering essential topics including the process of planning to achieve financial goals and investing in various instruments like equities, bonds, Mutual Funds, REITs, and InvITs., Protecting oneself from frauds, scams, impersonation, and misinformation, among others. The event culminated with an Interactive Q&A Session and an NSE Quiz, fostering engagement and active participation.

Piramal Finance expands in Andra Pradesh, targeting ?1.5 lakh crore overall AUM by FY28

Vijayawada, 30 November 2025: Piramal Finance Limited today announced a major expansion in Andhra Pradesh as it targets 1.5 lakh crore overall AUM by FY28. The state remains the most significant market for the company's housing finance and MSME products, with a strong loan book supported by 30 branches across key 27 cities, including Vizag, Vijayawada, Rajahmundry, Kurnool serving over 38,000 customers. The company also unveiled the latest phase of its flagship campaign Hum Kaagaz Se Zyaada Neeyat Dekhte Hain, featuring three new films that highlight the aspirations of families and small entrepreneurs across Bharat. Piramal Finance's retail AUM has crossed ?75,000 crore, reflecting a three and a half times increase in four years. The company aims to surpass ?1,00,000 crore by the end of FY26. Retail disbursements rose 45 percent during the festive season, driven by demand from semi urban markets for home, personal and business loans. This follows a 32 percent increase in the first half of FY26. The company continues to scale through its High Tech High Touch model, which blends digital solutions with personalised service. Jagdeep Mallareddy, CEO - Retail Lending, Piramal Finance Ltd: "As one of the fastest-growing NBFCs with a strong and expanding retail franchise, we see tremendous opportunity in markets like Andhra Pradesh. Semi-urban and emerging markets continue to drive our growth, and our focus is on delivering simple, transparent, and reliable credit solutions to customers who may not always have traditional paperwork. Our high-tech, high-touch model ensures we stay deeply connected to real customer needs while scaling responsibly and building long-term trust." Arvind Iyer, Chief Marketing Officer, Piramal Finance Ltd: said: "With this new chapter of Neeyat, we're continuing to bring forward stories that reflect what we see across our branches every day. Families and small business owners, whom we speak with every day, come with real aspirations and a strong desire to move forward. These stories capture that spirit, the authenticity, and the optimism that drives them. It also reinforces our approach of engaging with customers openly, understanding their needs, and supporting them with solutions that take the next step with confidence, achieving growth and progress."Piramal Finance was recently listed on the NSE and BSE on 7 November 2025. The company serves 5.2 million customers across 13,000 pin codes through 517 branches in 428 cities. Its consolidated AUM has nearly doubled from Rs.49,000 crore in FY21 to Rs. 91,477 crore in Q2 FY26, with retail forming more than 82 percent of the book. The company operates more than 45 AI models to strengthen underwriting, collections and customer experience, enabling credit access even for customers without formal credit histories.

Change in mindset and thinking needed, not cosmetic rechristening: Stalin

Chennai, Nov 30(UNI): Debunking the rechristening of the Raj Bhavans as Lok Bhavans as a cosmetic one devoid of any merit, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK president MK Stalin on Sunday said what is needed is a change of mindset and thinking to adhere to Democratic principles.

"Is the rechristening as 'Lok Bhavan', an eye-wash by those who care a damn neither for the people's forum nor for the legislature? Is it an attempt at throwing mud on the eyes of the very idea of democracy?" the

Chief Minister asked in a hard-hitting post on 'X'.

"The need of the hour," he said, "is to accord due respect to the government duly elected by the people and the sovereign legislature to fulfill the aspirations of the citizens. And if there is no change in thinking as well as in practice, mere change of nomenclature is unnecessary."

The stinging reaction comes in the wake of the Modi government accepting the suggestion of Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi and effecting the name change. The Raj Bhavan at Guindy in Chennai has sported a new look with this change.

It must be recalled that Ravi and the DMK government have been on a collision course ever since he assumed office. Now, he is on an extension after his tenure is over.

Mallaiah Sweets owner Goura Venkateswara Rao loses his son

(By Our Staff Reporter)
Machilipatnam, Dec 30

Joseph Pawan, the son of the world-famous Mallaiah Sweets boss, died on Friday due to a health problem. Many public representatives, city dignitaries, and political leaders of various ranks paid their respects to him on Saturday. They paid their respects at his body. Joseph Pawan's funeral was held with great pomp from his resi-

dence to the Hindu cemetery. The body was buried according to Hindu traditions. Fans and the public participated in this funeral procession. Thousands of politicians from various parties and Mallaiah Sweets staff participated in the funeral procession and said their last tearful farewell.

Vinay Kumar takes charge as Himachal Pradesh Congress president

Shimla, Nov 30(UNI): The newly appointed Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee president, Vinay Kumar, on Sunday formally assumed charge, marking a significant organisational shift for the party as it prepares for upcoming political challenges in the state.

Almost all factions within the party have expressed satisfaction over Kumar's elevation. While the development has strengthened Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's camp, insiders say the Holly Lodge faction is also not opposed to him, given Kumar was once a loyalist of six-time former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh.

A three-time MLA from Sri Renukaji in Sirmaur district and former Deputy Speaker of the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Kumar's appointment is seen as an effort to strengthen the party's grassroots connect and

organisational discipline.

At the handing-over ceremony held at the Congress headquarters in Shimla, senior party leaders, office-bearers, MLAs and workers welcomed Kumar with enthusiasm.

Senior leaders expressed confidence that his administrative experience, understanding of organisational matters and strong connect with rural constituencies will help revive the party's presence across the state.

Addressing party workers after assuming office, Kumar said his primary focus would be to energise the organisation at the booth and block levels, ensure better coordination between the party and the government, and prepare a more robust structure ahead of the next electoral cycle.He said the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh, led by CM Sukhu, is working under difficult economic conditions but remains committed to fulfilling its guarantees and delivering welfare to the people. He added that the party machinery must complement the government's efforts by effectively communicating achievements, addressing public concerns and countering misinformation.

Kumar emphasised that unity within the party would be crucial, urging workers to put aside personal differences and prioritise the organisation's interests.