

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Education key to tribal and regional development: Prez Murmu in

spirit even today. She noted that Kartik Oraon’s dream of establishing a university in Gumla would soon be realised. Highlighting the region’s significance, the President said the area connecting Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha is rich in rivers, forests, plateaus and mountains, and has preserved some of the country’s oldest traditions. Calling her visit to Jharkhand a pilgrimage, she said it was the birthplace and workplace of Lord Birsa Munda, who is revered nationwide as a symbol of social justice and tribal pride. She also recalled renowned social reformer and freedom fighter Jatra Tana Bhagat, who was born in Gumla and led a non-violent movement against British rule inspired by Mahatma Gandhi’s ideals. Remembering Param Vir Chakra awardee Shaheed Albert Ekka, she said his unparalleled bravery during the 1971 India-Pakistan war remains a matter of national pride. President Murmu praised the rich cultural heritage of the tribal community, noting that its music, dance, drama and art traditions are exceptionally vibrant. “This richness is reflected in the fact that more than 100 tribal artistes from across the country have been honoured with the Padma Shri,” she said. The programme featured colourful performances by tribal dance troupes from various states, creating a festive atmosphere.

A large gathering attended the event held at Pankhraj Saheb Kartik Oraon Chowk Barrier Bagicha, Manjhatoli in Gumla. The event was attended by Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jua Oram, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on SC/ST Affairs Faggan Singh Kulaste, and Jharkhand Governor Santosh Gangwar, among others.

Defence Ministry inks Rs.4,666 cr contracts for battle carbines,

infantry arsenal, the CQB Carbine offers a compact design, high rate of fire and enhanced lethality, providing a decisive advantage in close-combat and confined-space operations. The project also underscores growing government-private sector synergy, strengthening the Make in India initiative while boosting employment, supporting MSMEs, and deepening India’s indigenous defence manufacturing ecosystem, the Ministry added. The second contract, valued at approximately Rs.1,896 crore, was signed with WASS Submarine Systems S.R.L., Italy for the procurement and integration of 48 Heavyweight Torpedoes along with associated equipment for the Indian Navy’s Kalvari Class (Project-75) submarines. The acquisition will significantly enhance the combat capability of the Navy’s six submarines under the class. Officials said delivery of the heavyweight torpedoes is scheduled to commence from April 2028 and will be completed by early 2030. Equipped with advanced technological features and robust operational capabilities, the torpedoes will strengthen the Navy’s underwater warfare prowess. The latest acquisitions underline the Government’s commitment to meeting the evolving operational requirements of the Armed Forces through the induction of advanced and niche technologies. In the Financial Year 2025–26, the Ministry of Defence has so far signed capital acquisition contracts worth Rs.1,82,492 crore, reflecting a sustained focus on the modernisation and indigenisation of India’s defence forces.

India has boarded the ‘Reforms Express’, says PM Modi in year-end

The Prime Minister highlighted several reforms implemented by the government, primary among which was the rationalisation of the Goods and Services Tax system. “This reform has boosted consumer sentiment and demand,” Mr. Modi said. “Sales have grown in the festive season.” He further highlighted the income tax relief announced in Budget 2025, where individuals earning up to Rs. 12 lakh a year were exempted from income, the replacement of the Income-tax Act of 1961 with the “modern and simple” Income Tax Act, 2025, and the expansion of the definition of ‘small companies’ has been expanded to include firms with turnovers up to Rs.100 crore. Mr. Modi also said that the government’s decision to allow 100% FDI in Indian insurance companies would give a fillip to insurance penetration and security for the people. “Apart from enhanced competition, it would offer better insurance choices and improved service delivery for the people,” Mr. Modi said. Apart from these, the Prime Minister also listed out the Securities Market Code Bill introduced in Parliament, the repeal of hundreds of outdated laws, the revocation or suspension of various quality control orders (QCOs), the implementation of the labour codes, among the notable reforms carried out this year.

Former Bangladesh PM and BNP chief, Khaleda Zia passes away at 80

for the forgiveness of her soul and request everyone to offer prayers for her departed soul,” the BNP added. Khaleda Zia had been admitted to the private hospital on November 23 after developing serious complications related to her heart and lungs. Bangladeshi media reports said she was also suffering from pneumonia during her final weeks. She had remained under close medical supervision for 36 days, with her condition described as fragile. Over the years, the former prime minister battled multiple chronic health conditions, including liver cirrhosis, diabetes, arthritis, and long-standing complications involving her kidneys, lungs, heart, and eyesight. Her treatment was being overseen by a multidisciplinary medical team that included specialists from Bangladesh as well as doctors from the United Kingdom, the United States, China, and Australia. Earlier this month, discussions were held about transferring her abroad for advanced medical care. However, those plans were ultimately shelved after doctors advised that her physical condition was too weak to endure international travel. Khaleda Zia, the widow of former President Ziaur Rahman, made history as Bangladesh’s first woman prime minister and served two terms in office. Despite years of legal and health challenges, she remained a central figure in national politics, with many supporters believing she could have played a key

role in future elections. She is survived by her elder son, BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman, his wife Zubaida Rahman, and their daughter Zaima Rahman. Tarique Rahman returned to Bangladesh on December 25 after spending 17 years in exile. Her younger son, Arafat Rahman Koko, died several years ago in Malaysia. Tributes continued to pour in from party leaders, political allies, and supporters, marking the end of an era in Bangladesh’s turbulent political landscape.

Devotees throng temples on ‘Vaikunta Ekadasi’

Jyoti Prasad and others coordinated arrangements for the devotees. Astalakshmi Sametha Iswharya Venkateswara Swamy temple located in Ayyannapeta, outskirts of Vizianagaram witnessed huge rush of devotees from 5 a.m. onwards. The temple trustees Durga Balaji, D. Umadevi and others made elaborate arrangements for the darshan of Lord Venkateswara Swamy through “uttara dwaram” (entrance through North side of the temple). The devotees offered special prayers in Kalyana Venkateswara Swamy temple located at Ring Road, TTD’s Venkateswara Swamy temple located near Balaji junction and Venkateswara Swamy temple at Thotapalem and other places. Shiva Balaji temple located in bankers’ colony of Srikakulam wore a festive look with special decoration with flowers. Priest of the temple Gopinambala Sitaramacharyulu performed Abhisekham to the presiding deity on the occasion.

India’s highway network crosses 1.46 lakh km to become 2nd largest in

in 2014 to 43,512 km at present. MoRTH cumulatively monetised Rs 1,52,028 crore through various modes of asset monetisation till November 2025 and has fixed a Rs 30,000 crore target for FY 2025-26. To enhance private participation, Model Concession Agreements (MCAs) have been updated. Build-operate-transfer (BOT) system has is revamped for the first time since 2007-08. To widen the investment base, MoRTH plans to introduce the Public InvIT – Raajmarg InvIT for which SEBI clearance is under process, with issuance date scheduled for January 2026, according to the official statement. In line with Union Budget 2025-26, MoRTH has identified a PPP project pipeline of 13,400 km, with an estimated cost of Rs 8.3 lakh crore, to be developed over the next three years. A network of 35 Multimodal Logistics Parks have been planned under Bharatmala Pariyojana with an investment of about Rs 46,000 crore, capable of handling around 700 million metric tonnes of cargo once it becomes operational. To improve user comfort and convenience, the Ministry plans state-of-the-art wayside amenities (WSAs) at intervals of 40–60 km along National Highways in PPP (public-private partnership mode) mode. Besides, under Parvatmala Pariyojana, the Ministry envisages development of safe, economical, efficient and world-class ropeway infrastructure to improve connectivity, decongest urban areas and enhance last-mile logistics efficiency in hilly regions. As part of the other major developments in 2025, the Prime Minister inaugurated the 12-km-long Sonamarg Tunnel in Jammu & Kashmir, constructed at a cost of over Rs 2,700 crore, and inaugurated and laid foundation stones for multiple road projects at Katra, including the Rafiabed-Kupwara NH widening project worth over Rs 1,952 crore. Landmark Urban Decongestion Projects including the Dwarka Expressway and UER-II were also Inaugurated in Delhi. As part of the clean energy drive, the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways flagged off the first-ever trials of hydrogen-powered heavy-duty trucks, launched by Tata Motors in New Delhi. The Cashless Treatment of Road Accident Victims Scheme, 2025 was also notified on a pan-India basis, providing treatment cover of up to Rs 1.5 lakh per victim at designated hospitals across the country. The Ministry strengthened vehicle safety standards through mandatory High Security Registration Plates (HSRP) and advances provisions related to Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) in new vehicles. MoRTH also operationalized 123 Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities across 21 States/UTs and 160 Automated Testing Stations across 19 States/UTs; cumulatively 3.58 lakh vehicles are scrapped till November 2025. Under the Rah-Veer Scheme, the financial incentive for Good Samaritans was increased from Rs 5,000 to Rs 25,000 per incident, with 10 national-level awards of Rs 1 lakh each instituted annually.

The BhoomiRashi Portal was set up to enable end-to-end digitisation of highway land acquisition with PFMS-linked direct compensation, strengthening efficiency and transparency. The Ministry also introduced a FASTag-based Annual Pass for non-commercial vehicles at Rs 3,000 for 200 fee plaza crossings; 36.13 lakh passes are sold, generating Rs 1,084 crore in user fee collection till November 2025. Besides, the Government decided to implement barrier-free Electronic Toll Collection using Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras on select national highway stretches, enabling seamless tolling alongside FASTag.

AP HC dismisses petitions on Group-2

the Group-2 notification issued by the Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) in 2023. The petitioners alleged that the special reservation points allocated mainly to women, the disabled, ex-servicemen and sportsmen were not as per the rules. They sought correction of the reservation roster in accordance with the guidelines of the Supreme Court, cancellation of the old notification and issuance of a new one. After conducting a comprehensive inquiry into this, the High Court bench rejected the arguments of the petitioners and issued a verdict. With the dismissal of all the petitions, the path for the recruitment process was paved. With the Group-2 prelims and mains exams already over, this verdict has raised new hopes among the candidates. This verdict has brought relief to the candidates who were worried about where the recruitments would end up due to the roster points dispute. With the legal complications removed, there is a possibility that APPSC will speed up the next recruitment process.

Public’s role important in preventing diseases:

government’s in achieving the healthcare goals. In the new year, he urged the public to see that in addition to maintaining a healthy diet and ensuring their personal hygiene, their surroundings are also clean.

Cleanliness is important in preventing diseases such as typhoid and diarrhoea, he said, expressing concern that the government steps alone are not yielding the desired results. He added that lifestyle changes are needed to keep a check on non-communicable diseases, such as diabetes, blood pressure and cancer. The Minister also expressed concern over shortcomings in the performance of doctors and other healthcare staff in government hospitals. A change in the attitude of doctors and staff is important, he said, advising them to treat patients with empathy. While there have been some changes in their way of work after the NDA government came to power, more efforts need to be put in for the results to show, the Minister said.

BC leader hails Modi for conducting caste-based

by taking up a caste census. “I hail Prime Minister Modi for agreeing to take up caste-based census for the first time in the 77 years of independent India,” Mr. Krishnaiah said. He referred to the proposed caste census as the only way to ascertain the exact population of the backward classes across the country, in order to extend them benefits in proportion to their numbers. Mr. Krishnaiah wanted 50 per cent reservation of seats for the BC community in the parliament and assembly elections, a special development scheme with ₹2 lakh crore and an exclusive cabinet ministry to oversee the welfare activities of the community. BJP State official spokesperson Jalli Madhusudhan and media panellist K. Sridhar took part.

Balanced growth key to sustainable development: MP M.Sribharat

deep understanding of the political system, cultivate a strong moral compass, and actively engage with their communities. He urged young aspirants to develop their own principles and paths instead of blindly following established leaders. On economic reforms, the MP observed that the Goods and Services

Tax (GST) has contributed significantly to improving India’s taxation framework and reducing tax evasion. Addressing education and language learning, Sribharat noted that mastery of one’s mother tongue provides a strong cognitive and linguistic foundation, making it easier to learn English and other languages. He encouraged students to consider the teaching profession as a means to serve their communities and build knowledge-driven societies in their respective states. He also advised tribal students to appear for the CUET (Common University Entrance Test) to seek admission to the tribal university at Saluru. Additionally, he informed that GITAM Deemed to be University is extending free education opportunities to talented tribal students as part of its inclusive education initiatives. He clarified that skilled people generally do not fear Artificial Intelligence because AI is a tool that enhances human capability rather than replacing expertise, especially in knowledge-driven fields.

Vocational subject to be included in SSC Board

School Education Department, through Samagra Shiksha and the Vocational Education (Skill Education) wing, had initiated significant reforms with the objective of fostering a culture of hands-on learning, beyond mere textbook knowledge, among students. Officials who spoke on the occasion clarified that vocational education was not meant to limit students to being manual workers, but to nurture them as future automobile engineers, innovators and entrepreneurs. They underlined the vast opportunities available in sectors such as agriculture, horticulture and food processing, and urged teachers and headmasters to create greater awareness about vocational pathways among students. Winners of the competition were rewarded with cash prizes of Rs.25,000 as first prize, Rs.15,000 as second prize and Rs.10,000 as third prize, along with medals and certificates. Additional State Project Directors, Samagra Shiksha, M.R. Prasanna Kumar and K. Ravindranath Reddy, State Institute of Educational Management and Training (SIEMAT) Director V.N. Mastanaiah, Director of Government Examinations K.V. Srinivasulu Reddy, State Finance Controller Rajagopal and others attended the programme.

Sankar Foundation Achieves a Landmark Milestone of Over 5 Lakh Eye Surgeries



Visakhapatnam, Dec 30: As the calendar year 2025 draws to a close, Sankar Foundation proudly celebrates a historic achievement in its mission to eliminate avoidable blindness. The month of December 2025, Sankar Foundation has crossed an historic milestone of performing the 5 lakh eye surgeries and treated over 29 lakh outpatients, firmly establishing its reputation as "A Leader in Eye Care" in the region. From the very beginning, Sankar Foundation has remained steadfast in its vision to bring quality eye care to all, relentlessly working to restore sight and transform lives. Impressive Clinical Performance The Year 2025 gone by also

shows 29,975 sight-restoring eye surgeries and 5,318 additional clinical procedures and screened 2,01,617 outpatients. These achievements underscore the Foundation's unwavering commitment to excellence in clinical care and its growing impact on communities across Andhra Pradesh. **Strong Outreach Initiatives** The Outreach Team of Sankar Foundation continued to expand its reach across North Andhra Pradesh in 2025: " 603 free eye screening camps organized " 43,804 outpatients screened " 14,175 eye surgeries performed through outreach efforts This extraordinary initiative highlights the Foundation's dedication to community-based eye care and its mission to ensure that no one suffers from avoidable blindness due to lack of access. **Acknowledgement of Excellence** The Board of Trustees - led by Sri M. Ramdas, along with the Managing Trustee, Sri A. Krishna Kumar, Trustees Sri A. Prasanna Kumar, Sri A. Vijay Kumar, and General Manager Sri K. Radhakrishnan, commended the doctors, staff, and the entire workforce for their remarkable dedication and performance. Their collective efforts have enabled Sankar Foundation to achieve this milestone and continue its journey of service and compassion.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
e-Tender Notice No. DYCESUJWATENG
2025012, Dated : 11-12-2025
NAME OF WORK: CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD OVER BRIDGE NO. 425 IN LIEU OF EXISTING MANNED LEVEL CROSSING AT KM. 746/15-17 BETWEEN URLAM - SRIKAKULAM STATIONS WITH 1X51 MTR CG + 2X18 MTR CG + 5X30 M PSC GIRDER + REWALLS ON EAST COAST RAILWAY.
Approx. Cost of the Work (₹) : 47,26,02,442.91, EMD (₹) : 25,13,000.00.
Completion Period of the Work : 24 (Twenty Four) Months.
Tender Closing Date & Time : At 1400 Hrs. of 10.01.2026.
No manual offers sent by Post / Courier / Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.
Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website : <http://www.lreps.gov.in>
Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 15 (Fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers / bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer / bidder can participate on e-tendering.
The tenderers should read all instructions to the tenderers carefully and ensure compliance of all instructions.
Dy. Chief Engineer / GSI / Waltair
PR-206/CI/25-26

TRUHOME FINANCE LIMITED (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Ltd.)
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>
Reg.Off.: Srinivasa Tower, 1st Floor, Door No.5, Old No.11, 2nd Lane, Cenatoph Road, Alwarpet, Teyyanampet, Chennai-600018

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 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 01.10.2024 and thereby fixed the e-auction of subject property in question on 05.11.2024. However, the said auction scheduled on 05.11.2024 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 days for the date of the notice on such terms and conditions as mutually agreed between The Truhome Finance Limited and intended purchaser.

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagors	Amount of Recovery and date of Demand Notice	Reserve Price (Rs.) & EMD Amount	Contact Person Details – (AO and Disposal team)
1. VIJAYALAKSHMI PODIPIREDDY, 2. VIJAYALAKSHMI PODIPIREDDY, Both are Residence of D NO 36-31-3/3 PUDI VARI STREET INNISPETA DURG TEMPLE RAJAHMUNDRY H.O RAJAHMUNDRY ANDHRA PRADESH INDIA 533101 Lan. SLPHRJMD0000806	13(2) Notice dated. 13-04-2024 & Notice Amount of Rs.1308631/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakh Eight Thousand Six Hundred Thirty One Only) as on 06-04-2024 under reference of Loan Account No. SLPHRJMD0000806 with further interest and other costs, charges and expenses	Rs.7,40,000/- (Seven Lakhs Forty Thousand Only)) & EMD Amount. Rs.74000/- (Rupees Seventy Four Thousand Only) Date of Property shall be sold to the proposed purchaser by Private Treaty	Ashfaq Patka 9819415477 Dharmendrasinh Chauhan- 76007 62777
Description of Property			
The Property Admeasuring an extent of 41.66 Sq.Yds. D.No. 13-7-16,Comprised in Survey Nob.64/3 Situated In Rajahmundry Village with ion the sub-Rreg -Rajhamundry being bounded by: East.1 : Motha Anatha Rao lane way 18.06 ft, West.1 : Sirangi Ratna Kumar Site 16.09 ft, North.1 : Motha Anatha Rao D.No. 13-7-16 House 22.02 ft, South.1 : Municipal Road 20.03 ft.			
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: UTI08000230.			
Place : Rajahmundry Date : 31-12-2025		Sd/- Authorised Officer- Truhome Finance Limited (Formerly Shriram Housing Finance Limited)	