

IN AGE OF AI, FORCING THIRD LANGUAGE UNNECESSARY: STALIN

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Continuing his attack against the three-language policy, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Friday pitched for Artificial Intelligence and its advanced translation technology, saying that there's no need to "burden" students with another language. CM Stalin emphasised, "True progress lies in innovation, not linguistic imposition."

He claimed that BJP leaders are advocating by arguing its 'crucial' need for day to day life in North India when in fact they can be solved with AI.

advocating Hindi insist, "You must know Hindi to buy tea, pani puri, or use toilets in North India." In the Age of AI, forcing any language as a third language in schools is unnecessary. Advanced translation technology already removes language barriers instantly." Stalin wrote on X.

"Students should not be burdened with extra languages. They should focus on mastering their mother tongue and English while gaining expertise in science and technology. If needed, they can learn any language later." Stalin added.

Meanwhile, the Tamil Nadu Governor RN Ravi had said that there's a strong demand for implementation of New Education Policy 2020 because the youth feel "hugely deprived" of opportunities. "There is huge demand for implementation of the NEP 2020. The youth of this region feel hugely deprived of opportunities compared to those from neighboring states due to the rigid two language policy of the State Government," the Governor said in a statement posted on X by the Tamil Nadu Raj Bhavan.

He further stated

that the 'stringent' two-language policy is "unfair" and that the youth "must have a choice to study language." "Unfortunately in the name of opposition to Hindi they are not allowed to study even any other South Indian languages. This is indeed unfair. Our youth must have a choice to study language," he said.

The Tamil Nadu government has strongly opposed implementing the New Education Policy (NEP) of 2020, raising concern over the "three-language formula" and alleging that the Centre wants to 'impose' Hindi.

UNION MINISTER FOR COAL AND MINES, SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY TO INAUGURATE 175TH FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA AT KOLKATA ON 4TH MARCH 2025

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The Geological Survey of India (GSI), one of the oldest scientific organizations in the country, is set to celebrate its 175th year of geoscientific legacy. To mark this historic milestone, Union Minister of Coal & Mines, Shri G Kishan Reddy will inaugurate the Foundation Day celebrations on 4th March 2025 at Central Headquarters, Kolkata, in the esteemed presence of Shri Asit Saha, Director General, GSI, heads of organisations along with senior officials, geoscientists, and stakeholders.

Established in 1851 by Sir Thomas Oldham,

GSI has played a pioneering role in geological mapping, mineral exploration, disaster studies, and geoscientific research, significantly contributing to India's industrial and economic growth.

As a curtain-raiser to this grand celebration, GSI will organize a Pan-India Walkathon on 2nd March 2025, bringing together geoscientists, students, policymakers, and the general public, across all GSI offices in the country. The Central Headquarters, Kolkata will serve as the focal point, with the event taking place at CK-CL Park, Salt Lake, Sector-II, led by Shri Asit Saha,

Director General, GSI. More than just a commemorative event, the Walkathon will provide a unique platform to engage with communities, raise awareness about the significance of geoscience, and inspire future generations to explore and innovate. Participants from diverse backgrounds will join hands to celebrate GSI's 175-year legacy of excellence in geosciences.

During the 175th Foundation Day celebrations on 4th March 2025, GSI will showcase its rich legacy and scientific contributions through a series of engaging

events, insightful publications and unveiling of Special Postal Cover, My stamp and two geoscientific mobile apps. Diverse exhibitions and historical photo gallery highlighting a visual journey through GSI's 175-year legacy, its milestones and achievements will be showcased. To foster public engagement and awareness about geosciences, various competitions, interactive events and a blood donation camp will be organized, encouraging participation from all walks of life, reinforcing GSI's commitment to social responsibility and community welfare.

As one of India's pioneering scientific institutions, GSI has evolved from discovering coal for railways to driving cutting-edge innovations in geoscience. The 175th Foundation Day celebrations will not only honour its rich legacy but also reaffirm its commitment to advancing geoscientific investigations, mineral exploration, and technological innovation for the Nation's progress. With an overwhelming spirit of participation, the Geological Survey of India looks forward to an inspiring and impactful celebration of knowledge, fitness, and consciousness for geoscience.

PRESIDENT OF INDIA GRACES CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu, graced the convocation ceremony of the National Forensic Sciences University at Gandhinagar today (February 28, 2025).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that a justice-based social system is considered the best in our country. By combining heritage and development, we are building a developed India based on justice. In the last few years, the Ministry of Home Affairs has taken several effective steps to strengthen the role of forensic sciences and develop facilities and capacity in this field.

The President said that any justice system would be considered robust only if it is truly



inclusive. She told students that their goal should be to provide fair and speedy justice based on forensic evidence to all sections of society, especially those from the weaker and disadvantaged sections. She urged them to contribute to the good governance of the country.

The President said that changes related to crime investigation and evidence have been made in the three new criminal laws. In cases where the punishment period is seven years or more, it has now

become mandatory for a forensic expert to visit the crime scene and investigate. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita made provision for development of Forensic facilities in all states in a time-bound manner. Time-bound forensic examination has been made mandatory in many statutes. The President said that these changes would increase demand for forensic experts.

The President said that due to rapid changes in technology,

especially in the fields of digital technology and Artificial Intelligence, the capabilities of forensic sciences experts are increasing, but at the same time, criminals are also discovering new ways.

People associated with our policing, prosecution and criminal justice delivery system can be successful in controlling crime and making justice accessible only by being smarter, more prompt and alert than the criminals.

She expressed confidence that with the contribution of National Forensic Sciences University, a strong forensic system would develop, the conviction rate would increase and criminals would be afraid of committing crimes.

HOLISTIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION CHAMPION LUKE COUTINHO'S VISITS ANGANWADI CENTERS IN NEW DELHI

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Renowned holistic health coach and co-founder of Luke Coutinho Holistic Healing Systems, Mr. Luke Coutinho, visited Anganwadi Centre in Kusumpur Pahari ICDS Project AWC 55 & 59 in R K Puram, New Delhi today to witness first-hand the implementation of Poshan Abhiyaan.

The visit aligns with the Government of India's commitment to tackling malnutrition through Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) in which social behavioural change and community participation is a major component.

During his visit, Mr. Coutinho interacted with Anganwadi workers who are key stakeholders engaged in strengthening nutrition and early childhood education in the community.

He also interacted with the children at the Anganwadi Centre and motivated all towards good nutrition and healthy lifestyle practices.

He saw how the real-time tracking of nutritional services is being done through the

'Poshan Tracker' application, an advanced IT governance tool that monitors the infrastructure and service delivery at Anganwadi Centres. This tool, available in 24 languages, has facilitated near real-time data collection and targeted interventions, ensuring improved service efficiency for beneficiaries.

Praising Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's, anti obesity campaign and clarion call for reduction of edible oil for cooking, Mr Luke talked about awareness and community mobilisation being done by MoWCD through annual Jan Andolan events i.e. Poshan Maah and Poshan Pakhwada under Poshan Abhiyaan.

He emphasised on involvement of males in the family for good nutrition. He also praised Ministry's initiatives of use of millet in Supplementary Nutrition Program and use of technology for real-time tracking of nutritional services through the 'Poshan Tracker' application under Saksham Anganwadi and



Mission Poshan 2.0.

The Joint Secretary, Ministry of WCD mentioned that for ensuing 7th Poshan Pakhwada 2025 from 18th March to 2nd April 2025, emphasis has been given on Healthy lifestyle to address Obesity in Children besides Focus on first 1000 days of life, Popularisation of Beneficiary Module and Management of malnutrition through implementation of CMAM Module.

To encourage adoption of locally available food in the daily diet, Mr. Luke Coutinho planted Curry leaf sapling.

The Joint Secretary,

Ministry of WCD presented a copy of 'Poshan Utsav Book', conceptualized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and curated by the Deendayal Research Institute (DRI). It serves as a comprehensive repository for appreciation of the rich culinary heritage and nutritional diversity of the country. This visit by Mr. Coutinho is expected to create greater awareness about the importance of holistic nutrition and early childhood education, reinforcing the collective mission of achieving a healthier and better-nourished India.

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AKASH JAGANNADH'S HIGH-OCTANE ACTION THRILLER 'THALVAR' GLIMPSE CREATES SENSATIONAL FEAST..!!

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Director Puri Jagannadh, synonymous with his blockbuster commercial hits, has established a huge presence across the country. His son, Akash Jagannadh, has earned impeccable experience as an actor over the years. He began his journey as a child artist, acting in several movies, and later garnered a stupendous reception for his heroic arrival in the industry. While his previous movies have become notable hits, Akash Jagannadh is all set to enthrall the fans with his ultimate action-packed avatar in Thalvar, a big-budget film produced on a grand scale by Dr. Bhaskar ELV, the founder and chairman of ELV Group of Companies and Warnick Studios, and directed by Kasi Parasuram.

The film's visual glimpse, which was recently released, has left fans and viewers awestruck with its grandeur and breathtaking action

sequences. The makers of Thalvar are creating this Pan-Indian film with the vision of delivering a top-notch action-packed thriller. Currently, the team is shooting the film, which is expected to be completed by June, followed by the audio launch in September-October and a worldwide theatrical release before the end of this year.

A lot of time has been dedicated to shaping this film, as it features numerous action sequences shot across many locations.

While Akash Jagannadh plays the lead role, Prakash Raj, Puri Jagannadh, Anasuya Bharadwaj, Shine Tom Chacko, Ajay, and several other prominent actors will perform pivotal roles. Additionally, a few famous North Indian and Bollywood actors will also be a part of the film.

Mr. Johny Basha, Head of Production at Warnick Studios, states that filmmaker Kasi Parasuram is creating



a marvelous cinematic experience for the audience. It is being very well complemented by Kesava Kiran's musical score, Trilok Siddu's visuals, and mind-blowing action sequences choreographed by Dinesh Kasi.

The film is being made in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Kannada, and Malayalam.

Technical Crew : Executive Producer: Johny Basha (Warnick Productions). Music Director: Kesava Kiran. Director of Photography: Trilok Siddu. Action: Dinesh Kasi. Production Controller: Manjunath Kn. Costume Designer: Dipti Desai. Akash Jagannadh Stylist: Sumaiya Tabassum. Digital Marketing Executive: Rashmika Santhosh (Warnick Productions). Team Warnick Productions: Harihara Suthan, Rashmika Santhosh, Nagendra Reddy, Yanadi Reddy. Publicity Designer: Aves Designs - Avinash, Sivaprakasam (Warnick Productions). Title Animation: Shree Varshan.

INDIA YAMAHA MOTOR CONTINUES AS OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF MONSTER ENERGY YAMAHA MOTOGP TEAM FOR 2025 SEASON

Chennai, 01 March 2025: India Yamaha Motor Pvt. Ltd. is thrilled to announce its continued partnership as an official sponsor of the Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP (MEYM) team for the 2025 season. The decision underscores India Yamaha Motor's commitment to the growing popularity of MotoGP racing in the country, while also reiterating its support to this elite sport. The collaboration, which began in the 2024 season, is a part of the company's strategic brand building exercise to establish the "The Call of the Blue" brand campaign among the motorcycle enthusiasts worldwide.

As a testament to this partnership, the iconic logo of Yamaha's acclaimed

brand campaign – "The Call of the Blue" logo will prominently feature on the front fenders of both Fabio Quartararo's and Alex Rins's YZR-M1 bikes throughout the season. Along with the 2025 livery, the famed logo unit will also be featured on the racing suits of the Monster Energy Yamaha MotoGP riders, team's jerseys and other promotional materials including the official merchandizes.

With Yamaha Motor Racing unveiling - Blue Shift as its theme for the 2025 season, Indian Yamaha Motor's brand campaign - The Call of the Blue is more relevant than ever now. This synergy reinforces India Yamaha Motor's alignment with the



brand's Racing DNA while inspiring riders to embrace the power of performance and precision engineering in Yamaha motorcycles.

"The Call of the Blue" brand campaign has already resonated deeply with young Yamaha fans across India, embodying their aspirations and spirit. By showcasing the campaign's logo on the global stage of MotoGP, India Yamaha Motor aims to elevate the connection with its fans, inspiring them to embrace the thrill of racing and the Yamaha legacy with even greater enthusiasm. MotoGP is the premier motorcycle racing championship and one of the biggest sporting spectacles in the world. It is an exciting platform for racing enthusiasts to witness the most powerful and fastest bikes as well as the most skilled riders on the planet. Yamaha carries a long and successful history in MotoGP and a rich legacy of more than 500 Grand Prix wins.

UPGRADATION AND MAKEOVER OF MAMBALAM RAILWAY STATION IS NEARING COMPLETION

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The Mambalam Railway Station, a vital transit point in the Chennai Beach – Chengalpattu section, is undergoing significant transformation under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS). This NSG-3 category station, serving approximately 32,000 passengers daily, is being modernized to enhance passenger experience and upgrade its infrastructure.

Importance of Mambalam Station for commuters : Mambalam Railway Station serves as a crucial transportation hub, particularly as a gateway to Chennai's prominent commercial hubs. The station handles significant daily traffic over 200 MEMU/EMU train services and over 90 Mail/Express trains passing through 5 platforms serving commuters. The station provides access to several significant destinations including

renowned textile and jewellery shops, shopping centers at the famed Ranganathan Street in Chennai, Sri Ahobila Math, Lord Venkateswara temple and Goddess Lakshmi Temple.

Upgradation Highlights: Being done at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.7 Crores, Mambalam Station upgradation projects aims to transform the station in to modern transit hub with comprehensive improvements in stations infrastructure and passenger amenities

Improvement to Station Facades: Enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the station frontage on both east and west sides.

New Booking Counters: Establishing additional booking counters to accommodate the increasing passenger footfall.

Pedestrian Plaza: Development of a pedestrian-friendly



plaza with signages to enhance accessibility and commuter convenience.

Platform Resurfacing & Upgrades: Upgrading platform surfaces and installing additional shelters to improve passenger comfort.

Parking Area Expansion: Revamping with hard floor in parking spaces on both the main entry side and the CMRL side.

Passenger Information System : Installing modern Passenger Information Display Boards and an upgraded Public Announcement System.

Security Enhancements: Strengthening passenger security

with the installation of CCTV cameras across key areas of the station.

Work in Progress and Timeline: The project is in advanced stage of completion and is targeted for completion by March 2025.

Benefits to Commuters: Enhanced facilities : The upgraded facilities including improved platforms, new booking offices, additional platform shelters, parking and vehicle fence will make travel convenient and comfortable for passengers and enhance the overall passenger experience besides increased footfall boosting local commerce and economic development of the surrounding region.

JAISHANKAR MEETS EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRESIDENT IN DELHI

Chennai, 01 March 2025: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar today called on visiting European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and voiced appreciation for her thoughts on re-energising India's engagement with Europe.

In a post on X, the EAM said: "Pleased to call on @EU_CommissionPresident @vonderleyen today in Delhi.

"Appreciate her thoughts on re-energising India's engagement with Europe.

"The wide ranging participation of Indian Ministers and EU Commissioners during this visit stands testimony to the importance we place on deeper India-EU ties." The European Commission President in a post on X said: "Touchdown in Delhi with my team of Commissioners.

"In an era of conflicts and intense competition, you need trusted friends.

"For Europe, India is such a friend and a strategic ally.

"I'll discuss with

@narendramodi how to take our strategic partnership to the next level." Earlier, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen arrived here today on a two-day visit during which she will hold talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The MEA spokesperson said in a post on X that Von der Leyen was received at the airport by Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel.

"Elevating the India-EU multifaceted partnership to new heights.

"President of the @EU_Commission @vonderleyen arrives in New Delhi for the first visit of EU College of Commissioners to India.

"Warmly received with a special welcome by MoS for Health & Family Welfare @AnupriyaSPatel at the airport." Later, the European Commission president visited Raj Ghat.

The MEA spokesperson said on X: "Recalling Mahatma's message of universal peace.

"President of the @EU_Commission @vonderleyen started her India visit with homage to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat." Tomorrow she will hold bilateral talks with Prime Minister Modi at Hyderabad House, to be followed by press statements.

Von Der Leyen, whose visit is on the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is accompanied by the European Union College of Commissioners.

The second ministerial meeting of the India ? EU Trade and Technology Council and bilateral ministerial meetings between the European Commissioners and their Indian counterparts will also be held during the visit.

India and European Union are strategic partners since 2004 and their bilateral ties have expanded and deepened across a wide range of areas. As the two sides enter the third decade of the strategic partnership, the visit of President von der Leyen and the EU College of Commissioners will pave the way for

further strengthening of bilateral relations based on growing convergences.

This is President Ursula von der Leyen's third visit to India.

President von der Leyen paid an official visit to India on April 24-25, 2022. During her meeting with Prime Minister, they announced the establishment of an India-EU Trade and Technology Council. She also participated in the Raisina Dialogue 2022 in April as the Chief Guest and delivered the inaugural address.

The India-EU Trade and Technology Council was set up as a strategic coordination mechanism to tackle challenges at the nexus of trade, trusted technology, and security, and thus deepening cooperation in these fields. The TTC met in Brussels on May 16, 2023.

She also attended the G20 Leaders' Summit in India in September 2023.

Prime Minister and President Ursula von der Leyen have also met regularly on the sidelines of multilateral meetings.

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RELA HOSPITAL LAUNCHES INDIA'S FIRST INTESTINAL REHABILITATION CENTRE TO EXPAND TREATMENT HORIZONS BEYOND TRANSPLANTATION

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Rela Hospital, a leading multispecialty hospital in the city, has opened Centre for Intestinal Rehabilitation and Nutrition Support, a first-of-its-kind facility in the country, to offer a comprehensive range of medical, surgical and nutritional therapies for rare intestinal failures and complex gastrointestinal disorders, with a particular focus on preterm babies who are not medically fit for intestinal transplants.

The centre has a multidisciplinary team, comprising expert surgeons, gastroenterologists, dietitians, and nursing specialists, to provide integrated care, essential for repair, regeneration, and elongation of intestines. This team led by Prof. Anil Vaidya Director - Multivisceral Organ Transplantation and Dr. Naresh Shanmugam Director - Women and Child Health & Senior Pediatric Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Rela Hospital includes 10 other experts. This team will provide end-to-end care for intestinal failure from extremely premature infants to adolescents. Intestinal failures refer to the condition when the intestines are not able to properly absorb the nutrient either due to genetic problems or due to removal of small intestines due to disease. These children would be dependent on total parenteral nutrition (nutrition through veins).

The team will support both medically and surgically to rehabilitate (increase the absorption capacity) the intestine. This process might take several months and would require total parenteral nutrition. Home parenteral nutrition, a method of providing nutrients intravenously in the



home setting, would be provided for stable children.

This centre addresses a range of intestinal failure and gastrointestinal conditions, including: Short Bowel Syndrome, marked by reduced intestinal function; Chronic Intestinal Pseudo-Obstruction, where the intestines fail to move food properly; Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, characterised by chronic digestive tract inflammation; Hirschsprung Disease, causing severe constipation due to missing colon nerve cells; Omphalocele, the protrusion of abdominal organs at birth; Necrotising Enterocolitis, intestinal damage in premature infants; and volvulus, a dangerous intestinal twisting that cuts off blood supply.

It offers comprehensive care through a range of specialised services. Most of these infants/children would be really unwell requiring Neonatal/pediatric intensive care to stabilise and support. Oral feeding with special formulations, special feeding techniques for intestines to adopt along Parenteral Nutrition to provide adequate calories for their growth would be done by Gastroenterology and Nutrition team. Children who have never eaten anything by mouth from birth, will not know how to eat they require special support from a department of communication & swallow sciences. If feasible, bowel

lengthening surgery would be done and if all methods fail, these children will finally require intestinal transplant.

In his comments, Prof Mohamed Rela, Chairman and Managing Director, Rela Hospital, said, "While intestinal failure is rare in children overall, affecting approximately 24 in 100,000 babies, it significantly affects preterm infants. In India intestinal transplantation is often the primary treatment. However, our vision is to provide a comprehensive range of unique treatment services to the children, thus minimising the need for transplantation. We prioritise medical, surgical, and nutritional therapies to encourage natural intestinal growth, aligning with advanced international standards. We have an ongoing partnership with Carevue Health in offering these services. We hope that this new centre would benefit a large number of children from India and neighbouring countries."

In his comments, Prof. Anil Vaidya, Director - Multivisceral Organ Transplantation, Rela Hospital, said, "The intestine, comprising the small intestine (10 feet in newborns, 20 feet in adults) and the large intestine (around 5 feet), plays a critical role in digestion. While losing the large intestine may have a lesser impact, the small intestine, where most digestion occurs, is essential. Its loss

results in food passing undigested, necessitating intravenous nutrition (parenteral nutrition) for survival in cases of intestinal failure. Our center provides comprehensive, multidisciplinary support for infants, children, and adolescents with intestinal failure and complex gastrointestinal conditions."

Dr. Naresh Shanmugam, Director - Women and Child Health & Senior Pediatric Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Rela Hospital commented, "The intestinal rehabilitation centre will provide end-to-end care encompassing a wide range of specialisations and nutritional & medical support for small infants both in hospital and in-home until they reach adequate weight where surgery or transplant could be offered. The services include advanced therapies to support intestinal function, personalised treatment for better patient outcomes, and collaborations with partner hospitals for continuity of care. Importantly, we offer Home Parenteral Nutrition (HPN) programs for sustained support, enabling patients to receive vital nutrition at home. Our multidisciplinary team works to transition patients from IV nutrition to oral or enteral feeding, reducing transplantation requirements, improving long-term outcomes, and reducing healthcare costs."

Dr. Ilankumaran Kaliamoorthy, CEO, Rela Hospital, commented, "This Centre would deliver unique services which would benefit a lot of children not only from India but also from neighbouring countries."

ANDHRA PRADESH PRESENTS RS. 3.22 LAKH CRORE BUDGET

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Andhra Pradesh Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav on Friday presented a Budget of Rs 3,22,359 crore for the financial year 2025-26. The outlay is about 9.48 per cent higher than

the previous year. The budget size for 2024-25 was Rs Rs. 2,94,427 crore.

The revenue expenditure is estimated at Rs 2,51,162 crore and the capital expenditure at

Rs 40,635 crore. The estimated revenue deficit is around Rs 33,185 crore, and the fiscal deficit is estimated at around Rs 79,926 crore.

"The revenue deficit will be around

1.82 per cent, and fiscal deficit will be around 4.38 per cent of GSDP," he said. This is the second full-fledged Budget presented by the TDP-led NDA government after it came to power in June last year.

THE DIRECTORATE OF SPORTS, SRMIST, HAS SET ITS 5TH NOVA WORLD RECORD

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The Directorate of Sports created a unique Nova World Record in Ball Badminton (High Service). We are proud to say this is the 5th Nova World Record for the Directorate of Sports, SRMIST. SRMIST Registrar Dr. S. Ponnusamy inaugurated the Nova World Record on the morning of the 27th at 8 am. Dr. B. Babu Manoharan, Chairman of St. Joseph Engineering College, initiated the first service; it went on till the 28th morning at 9 am. 282 ball badminton players (M&W) served

the high service, which reached 20 meters high for 25 hours continuously to raise awareness about anti-drug initiatives. Ball badminton players from all over India took part in this Nova World Record, and Honourable Vice Chancellor Prof. C. Muthamizhchelvan and Director of Sports Prof. R. Mohanakrishnan received the Nova World Record Honours from Mr. Rajkumar, CEO of Nova World Record.

Nova World Records Created by the Directorate of Sports, SRMIST - 1. Longest



Yoga Marathon (84 Students Performed Yoga Continuously for 24 Hours to raise awareness against drug abuse) 2. Pledge Against Drugs (5,084 Students took a pledge and participated in a Signature Campaign against drugs)

3. 10th International Yoga Day Celebration (520 students performed the Common Yoga Protocol and set a record for the

maximum Surya Namaskars, promoting yoga awareness)

4. 24-Hour Basketball Free Throws Challenge (85 Students performed continuous basketball free throws for 24 hours)

5. Ball Badminton Marathon - The Ultimate Challenge (282 students will serve 20-foot-high Service continuously for 25 hours to promote anti-drug awareness).

CUTN HONOURED WITH PURSE AWARD AT NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY EVENT AT NEW DELHI

Chennai, 01 March 2025: CUTN Honoured with PURSE Award at National Science Day Event at New Delhi.

The Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) received the prestigious Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) Award during the National Science Day celebrations held at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, on Friday



(28.02.2025).

Prof. M. Krishnan, the Vice Chancellor of CUTN, received the award from Dr. Jitendra Singh, the Union Minister for Science and

Technology, Government of India, at the event.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Ministry of Science and Technology,

Government of India, organized the National Science Day 2025 celebration, which was themed "Empowering Indian Youth for Global Leadership in Science and Innovation for Viksit Bharat." The event, held on 28 February 2025, at Vigyan Bhavan, aimed to highlight the importance of scientific research and innovation in driving national development and inspiring the next generation of scientists.

AIADMK TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL-PARTY MEET: EPS

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) will take part in the all-party meeting scheduled for March 5 regarding constituency delimitation, party General Secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin

has called for the meeting to oppose the reduction in the number of parliamentary constituencies due to the delimitation process. Invitations have been sent to 45 political parties, including AIADMK, Tamil Nadu Victory Party, Naam Tamilar Katchi, and Bharatiya Janata Party.

Speaking to

reporters in Salem, Palaniswami stated: "Two representatives from AIADMK will attend the meeting on behalf of the party. We will present AIADMK's stance on the delimitation issue. Except for the ruling party, all other participants are opposition parties. However, we are the principal opposition."

He also criticized the state government, alleging that illicit liquor sales are rampant across Tamil Nadu and that the administration is turning a blind eye to drug and illegal liquor distribution.

Meanwhile, Naam Tamilar Katchi and Puthiya Tamilagam Party have announced that they will boycott the all-party meeting

IRAQ REPATRIATES 130 IRANIAN PRISONERS

Chennai, 01 March 2025: Iraq on Wednesday repatriated 130 Iranian nationals imprisoned in the country, allowing them to serve the rest of their jail terms in their home country, according to the semi-official Fars news agency.

The prisoners were transferred to Iran within the framework of a convict extradition agreement signed between the two

countries in 2011, Fars quoted Askar Jalalian, Iran's deputy justice minister for human rights and international affairs, as saying on Wednesday.

He added the inmates were returned to their country through the Mehran border in western Iran. Jalalian said Iran had signed agreements on the extradition of convicts with 29 countries, stressing



that 23 of the treaties had already gone into effect. He noted that since the beginning of the current Iranian calendar year, which fell on March 20, 2024, close to 300 Iranians

had been repatriated to their home country. According to Iran's IRIB news agency, following this latest transfer, the number of Iranians still imprisoned in Iraq stands at 30.

SRINAGAR-JAMMU HIGHWAY CUT OFF DUE TO SNOW; NORMAL LIFE DISRUPTED

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The inclement weather has shut the strategic Srinagar-Jammu National highway and Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri road connecting Ladakh Union Territory due to accumulation of snow and also affected flight operations at the Srinagar International Airport on Friday, an officials said.

Srinagar and other parts of Kashmir valley experienced light to moderate snowfall overnight disrupting normal life. It was snowing at many places in the valley, the reports said.

"As of now all the morning flights are

running late due to bad weather at Srinagar International Airport", Airport Director Javid Anjum said.

The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) engaged in the snow clearance at the Srinagar airport runway after the area received fresh snowfall today.

Traffic on Srinagar-Jammu National Highway is blocked due to snow accumulation between Ramsoo and Qazigund, shooting stones/landslides/mud slides between Nashri and NAVYUG Tunnel.

The BRO responsible for the

maintenance of the highway have pressed its men and machinery to clear the snow from the high to make it traffic worthy.

Batote-Doda road was also closed due to landslides at Ragi Nalla. Moreover, Srinagar-Sonamarg-Gumri (SSG) Road connecting Ladakh and Bhaderwah-Chamba Road, Mughal road/ Sinthan road are also closed due to accumulation of snow, Jammu and Kashmir Traffic Police posted on X.

The Jammu and Kashmir School Board of education (JKBOSE) has decided to hold 11th

class exams on schedule despite heavy snowfall, a communique said. "There is no change in the exam scheduled for today", officials said.

However, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) has postponed the 1st semester examinations scheduled for today.

The Controller of Examinations stated, "This is for the information of all concerned that 1st semester exams scheduled for 28-02-2025 are hereby postponed. The fresh dates for the said exams shall be notified later."

MR. REUVEN AZAR, AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL, CALLS ON DR. DEVESH CHATURVEDI, SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' WELFARE

Chennai 01, March 2025: Ambassador of Israel, Mr. Reuven Azar called on Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. The meeting served as a platform to explore opportunities for strengthening cooperation in agriculture and allied sectors, with a focus on food security, sustainable supply chains, and innovative agricultural technologies.

Dr. Chaturvedi emphasized the longstanding partnership between India and Israel in

agriculture and allied sectors. He also highlighted the Prime Minister's vision for recycling sewage water for agricultural use, as well as key trade and grain storage issues.

The meeting focused on the upcoming visit of the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security of Israel, the impact of Centers of Excellence (CoEs) across 20 states on productivity, precision irrigation, post-harvest management, and market access issues.

The discussions concluded with a shared commitment to strengthening Indo-



Israel cooperation in agricultural innovation, technologies, and the horticulture sector, emphasizing mutually beneficial outcomes for both nations.

The Israeli delegation included Mr. Fares Saeb, Deputy Chief of

Mission. The Indian side was represented by senior officials from the Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (DA&FW), including Joint Secretary (International Cooperation), Joint Secretary (MIDH) and Additional Commissioner (Plant Protection).

design capabilities will be on display in audio-visual technologies to gaming, sustainability, toys and more.

Possibilities in design are endless. We have to create new ideas, innovation on a large scale catering to 140 crore people of the country. Inclusive growth and development is our country's will and strength. Create, disrupt and leave a mark in the world with your capabilities, the Minister said.

The 44th Convocation Ceremony saw 430 students from various disciplines being awarded degrees from the National Institute of Design.



Chennai 01, March 2025: Design is not only about aesthetics, it is an innovation that has its impact on India's legacy and will play a role in the country's development. This was stated by Union Minister of Commerce & Industry Shri Piyush Goyal during his address at the 44th Convocation Ceremony of National Institute of Design (NID) on Thursday, February 27, 2025. He further noted that the fresh graduates will act as a bridge between the legacy and the future of this country.

President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Shri Acharya Devvrat, Governor of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel,

Chief Minister of Gujarat, Minister of State Commerce and Industries Shri Jitin Prasad and Governing Council Members also graced the event.

Highlighting Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's call for 'Make in India' and 'Design in India' for the world, Minister Goyal noted that the fresh graduates will make it a reality. He stressed that these graduates as problem

solvers, innovators and designers will be working for the world. "You will be the architect of the world, the world is waiting for you", he said.

Emphasising on the growing importance of design across sectors from space to semiconductors, Shri Goyal pointed out that the first stage of the Chandrayaan space mission was the satellite's design that led to its success. He asserted that India's

MILAN 25 - The much-anticipated National-Level cultural Fest of SRMIST

Chennai, 01 March 2025: MILAN'25, the much-anticipated national-level cultural fest, is set to take place from March 3rd to March 6th, 2025. This four-day extravaganza will feature 40+ events with a total cash prize of Rs15 lakhs, attracting talented participants from across the country. The grand inauguration on March 3rd will be graced by Mr. Atharva Murali and Ms. Kayadu Lohar, who will officially mark the beginning of MILAN'25. The night will come alive with an electrifying performance by



Thaikkudam Bridge, a renowned 15-member rock band blending Indian folk, classical, and global influences. With over 650 performances across 25 countries, their albums Navarasam (2016) and Namah (2019) have captivated audiences worldwide. On March

4th, the festival will feature an exceptional pro show by Thaman S, an acclaimed music director and playback singer. With a career spanning multiple successful films such as Dookudu (2011), Race Gurram (2014), and Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo (2020), he has left an

indelible mark on the Indian music industry. A National Film Award winner, Thaman continues to dominate both Telugu and Tamil cinema. The festival will conclude on March 6th with the valedictory ceremony, celebrating the achievements and enthusiasm of all participants. With an exciting lineup of events and stellar performances, MILAN'25 promises to be an unforgettable cultural spectacle, bringing together talent and entertainment on a grand scale.

COAL MINISTRY SUCCESSFULLY HOSTS ROAD SHOW ON INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMERCIAL COAL MINE AUCTIONS IN MUMBAI

Chennai, 01 March 2025: The Ministry of Coal, in its continued efforts to promote investment opportunities in the coal sector and commercial coal mine auctions, successfully conducted a high-impact roadshow today in Mumbai. The event was graced by Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, as the Chief Guest. Also present were, Shri Vikram Dev Dutt, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Ms. Rupinder Brar, Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, and senior officials from the Ministry of Coal. The event also witnessed the participation of key stakeholders, industry leaders, investors, and policy experts, who engaged in insightful discussions on the future of coal mining in India.

The roadshow served as a strategic platform to accelerate private sector participation, enhance domestic coal production, and promote sustainable mining practices. It focused on policy reforms, ease of doing business, and technological advancements, reaffirming the Government's commitment to unlocking the full potential of India's coal sector while ensuring environmental sustainability and long-term energy security.

In his keynote address, Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy highlighted the crucial role of coal in



India's economic progress, particularly in ensuring energy security and meeting growing industrial and power sector demands. He reiterated the Government's commitment, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, to accelerate domestic coal production, reducing import dependence, and ensuring sustainable mining practices.

He further emphasized that the Ministry is ensuring a fast-tracked approval process, reducing bottlenecks, and improving transparency in the allocation of coal blocks. The Secretary reaffirmed the Ministry's focus on afforestation on Mined-out land biodiversity conservation, and responsible mine closure practices, ensuring mining activities align with India's sustainability goals. He also announced that the upcoming 12th round of auctions which is going to start very soon will include underground mines, offering additional financial incentives. Encouraging industry leaders and investors to actively participate in upcoming coal mine auctions, he assured them of full government support,

including regulatory assistance, financial incentives, and streamlined processes to enhance business confidence.

He reiterated that India's coal sector offers immense opportunities for investment, innovation, paving the way for a self-reliant and resilient energy future.

In her welcome address, Ms. Rupinder Brar, Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, Ministry of Coal, underlined the strategic importance of private sector's participation in coal mining. She reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to creating a transparent, competitive, and investor-friendly coal sector. She also highlighted key incentives available to investors and urged stakeholders to leverage policy reforms for long-term growth. She noted that since the commencement of commercial coal mining, coal demand has surged, and the Government has allowed its use beyond captive purposes, enabling mining companies to operate with greater flexibility and market coal as a commodity.

The roadshow

featured detailed discussions on investment potential, regulatory reforms, sustainability measures, and coal gasification prospects. It provided a platform for direct engagement between policymakers and industry leaders, facilitating insightful deliberations on upcoming rounds of commercial coal mine auctions. Technological advancements, best practices in sustainable coal mining, policy support for ease of doing business and fast-tracking project approvals. The roadshow included an engaging and interactive Q&A session, where investors actively engaged with officials, seeking clarity on policies, auction processes, and growth prospects in the coal sector.

The queries of potential investors were addressed comprehensively, reinforcing confidence in the industry's transparent and investor-friendly approach.

The Mumbai roadshow was another significant milestone in the Ministry of Coal's mission to promote investment, enhance domestic production, and ensure a sustainable future for coal mining in India. The event reinforced the Government's commitment to strengthening investor confidence, fostering innovation, and advancing India's energy security goals in line with the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.