QUICKLY.

Irinjalakuda Town Co-op **Bank board superseded**



superseded the board of Irinjalakuda Town Co-operative Bank due to its poor financial condition and governance. The board has been superseded for 12 months. The RBI said it has appointed Raju S Nair, former V-P, Federal Bank, as administrator, supported by a panel of advisors. PTI

ICICI Bank launches premium forex card

Mumbai: ICICI Bank and Visa unveiled Corporate Sapphiro Forex Card, marking the first time an Asian bank has offered a prepaid card powered by Visa Infinite. The card targets entrepreneurs and corporate leaders, and combines prepaid convenience with premium benefits. OUR BUREAU

SBI General Insurance unveils Health Alpha



Mumbai: SBI General Insurance launched Health Alpha on Tuesday, marking the first retail health insurance product introduced after GST reforms. The insurer positioned the offering as a fully customisable plan with over 50 coverage options and sum insured ranging from ₹5 lakh to unlimited cover. OUR BUREAU

Retailers observe up to 50% surge in festival sales amid Navratri demand

SHOP SALES. Buyers are returning to stores with same-day or speedier deliveries being a key factor

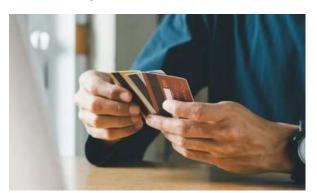
Bengaluru

Retailers are observing a surge of up to 50 per cent in festival sales, driven by demand for Navratri, faster deliveries and price parity with online platforms.

Players like Vijay Sales and Lotus Electronics report that consumers are returning to stores for immediate purchases and service assurance, with same-day or even four-hour deliveries becoming key decision drivers.

As brands increasingly align offline and online pricing, neighbourhood stores are regaining relevance, blending digital browsing with quick, reliable offline fulfilment during the ongoing festival season.

"During the first 10–12



FESTIVE SURGE. As brands increasingly align offline and online pricing, neighbourhood stores are seeing sales pick up

days of the festival period, we saw nearly a 30 per cent surge in sales," said Gaurav Pahwa, Director, Lotus Elec-

"Customers often do their research online but still prefer to walk into our stores for the touch-and-feel experience and after-sales service. What's also changed is that brands are now offering similar prices to offline retailers as they do online, sometimes even better, so the customer

doesn't see a major differ-

ence in pricing. Pahwa added that speed of

delivery has become a major differentiator. "We've started delivering products within four hours of purchase. If a customer buys before 7-8 pm, they can get the product the same day. That convenience has become a decision-making huge factor," he said.

FIRST WAVE

Nilesh Gupta, Director of Vijay Sales, said overall festive sales had risen about 50 per cent compared with last Navratri. "Around 30 per cent of this is from delayed or pent-up demand, while roughly 20 per cent represents genuine growth, which is still a strong number," he said. "Both online and offline channels have performed well, and consumer sentiment is very positive."

Satish Meena, adviser at

Datum Intelligence, explained, "The first three days are typically dominated by ecommerce, as everyone seeks the best deals. However, this year, with GST cuts and other factors, foot traffic in stores has also increased. While pricing priority has always influenced decisions, extended EMI options at offline stores have now made it a more compelling journey for consumers."

Many initially try platforms like Amazon or Flipkart for smartphones, but once inventory runs out, they head to Apple stores or other offline retailers.

According to TechInsights, the first wave of India's festival season from September 22 to October 2 saw a 5 per cent year-on-year increase in smartphone

'AI, GenAI training emerge as top priorities for Indian enterprises in FY26'

Our Bureau Bengaluru

The demand for technical skills has expanded beyond traditional IT teams, with AI and GenAI training emerging as key workforce training priorities for FY26.

According to a report by Great Learning for Business, the enterprise training arm of Great Learning, approximately 48 per cent of organisations prioritising this domain are from the IT & IT-Enabled Services (IT/ ITeS) sector, followed by Manufacturing & Supply Chain 14 per cent, and Banking, Financial Services & Insurance (BFSI) and Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals with 10 per cent each.

Among organisations focusing on Data Science and Analytics, the IT/ITeS sector leads with a significant 47 per cent. In comparison, BFSI represents 21 per cent, and both Professional Services and Manufacturing & Supply Chain account for 11 per cent each. Similarly, Cybersecurity and Risk Management reflects a strong emphasis from the IT sector, with 50 per cent of organisations acknowledging its critical importance across the industry.

These observations are based on insights from learning and development (L&D) leaders and business unit heads across sectors.

Following suit, enter-prises are sharpening their L&D playbooks to boost employee retention and career progression. Over 26 per cent are tailoring programmes to specific roles, ensuring employees see a clear link between training and career advancement: 25 per cent are updating content to match emerging industry trends; 19 per cent

Following suit, enterprises are sharpening their L&D playbooks to boost employee retention and career progression

emphasise industry certifications, giving employees recognisable credentials and 13 per cent each invest in external expert collaborations and regular skills-gap analyses, embedding a culture of continuous adaptation.

TRAINING DEMAND

The report highlighted that in FY25, training demand for mid-level employees more than doubled, rising to 35 per cent from 15 per cent in FY24. Companies are moving beyond entry-level interventions to focus on employees who sit at the intersection of execution

and leadership. Similarly, demand for senior-level training more than doubled year-on-year, signalling a deliberate shift toward strengthening leadership pipelines and succession planning. Companies are acknowledging that future growth depends not only on fresh talent but on resilient leaders who can steer organisations through technological and market disruption.

In FY24, early-career professionals training accounted for over 80 per cent of Great Learning's enterprise training programmes. However, there was a temporary moderation in this volume in FY25. This was a direct consequence of the macroeconomic caution that led many enterprises to pause largescale entry-level onboarding, especially within the technology sector.

'Regulations must enable inclusivity in AI innovation'

Our Bureau Chennai

The regulatory landscape in AI should not exclusively favour major technology companies while weighing down smaller players in the industry, Abhishek Singh, Director General, National Informatics Centre (NIC), and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and In-Technology formation (MeitY), said on Tuesday. Singh was speaking at the Conclave on AI Governance

Technology, Madras. The conclave, held in the run up to the India AI Summit next year, was organised

+ Residential sales hold steady at 87,603 units

across major markets: Knight Frank report

at the Indian Institute of

by the institute's Centre for Responsible AI (CeRAI) under the Wadhwani School of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence's (WSAI).

"We believe if regulations take over at this stage, we might be giving some advantage to big tech and restraining the capabilities of our own AI industry and researchers. We want to prioritise innovation and focus on regulating only the harm such as Deepfakes or privacy concerns," he added.

ROLE MODEL IN AI Singh added that India's gov-

ernance framework around AI can become a role model for countries of the Global South and can help for AI



B Ravindran, Head, WSAI, IIT-Madras

tools to be developed and deployed in these countries. "AI, by nature, is a global technology and it requires the countries of the Global South to get a voice in order to develop a framework which is truly inclusive and

participative. India has consistently championed this multi-stakeholder model for governments which involves participation from industry, academia, civil society and non-profits," he said.

He hoped that the framework that India is defining for AI governance can become a role model for countries of the Global South.

VARIED LANDSCAPE

B Ravindran, Head, WSAI, IIT-Madras, said that AI technologies present a varied landscape and hence require a multi-pronged apfor effective proach governance. "The approach must involve voluntary commitments from service proto create a valuable human-AI ecosystem," he added. The conclave saw academ-

cipation

viders as well as active parti-

stakeholders and end-users

ics, researchers, policymakers, industry leaders and students on themes such as 'Safe and Trusted AI, Inclusion and Human Augmentation'.

Notable keynote speakers included Srinivasan Parthasarathy, University Distinguished Scholar, Computer Science and Engineering Department, Ohio State University, Venkatram Ramaswamy, Professor, University of Michigan, and Urvashi Aneja, Founder and Director of Digital Futures Lab.

Rupee in a consolidation phase helped by domestic factors end of last week. However, there is a resistance ahead at

Our Bureau

India's top eight residential markets recorded sales of 87,603 housing units and defied expectations of a market correction, according to Frank India's Knight quarterly market update.

Residential sales grew 1 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) in Q325. Mumbai recorded 28 per cent of total sales at 24,706 units sold, a 2 per cent y-o-y increase.

Chennai emerged as the strongest performer with 12 per cent y-o-y growth, selling 4,617 units, marking its highest quarterly sales since the pandemic.

Meanwhile, markets like NCR (12,955 units) and Bengaluru (14,538 units) maintained stable momentum.

Shishir Baijal, Chairman & Managing Director, Knight Frank India, said, "India's residential market is now in its fifth year of an upcycle. Consequently, the y-o-y growth rate is beginning to rationalise, and we may be entering a prolonged plateau phase. Within a volatile geopolitical environment, In-



44 per cent y-o-y and 28 per cent y-o-y respectively

tions remain stable. The rate cut of up to 100 basis points, liquidity support through the simplification of both direct taxes and GST collectively strengthened end-user confidence. A notable outcome of this upcycle has been the surge in demand for premium housing, which has emerged as a key driver in recent years, reflecting the evolving aspirations of urban buyers for larger and higherquality homes."

dia's macroeconomic condi-

The supply side witnessed 88,655 new unit launches across the top eight markets, reflecting a modest 2 per cent y-o-y decline.

However, this aggregate figure masks significant regional divergence.

Chennai and Bengaluru

drove supply expansion and grew by 44 per cent y-o-y and 28 per cent y-o-y, respectively. In contrast, Mumbai and NCR both saw a dip by 19 per cent y-o-y in new launches. Gulam Zia, Senior Execut-

ive Director, Valuation, Advisory and Research at Knight Frank India, said, "Premium housing has decisively taken centre stage, accounting for more than half of all sales this quarter. The strength of the ₹1–2 crore segment, now the largest by volume, underscores a structural shift in buyer demand. Even with rising inventory, absorption levels remain stable, reaffirming the market's ability to adjust and grow within a healthy and sustainable framework."

ing Managers Index), despite seeing some moderation to 60.9 in September from 62.9 in August, remains in the expansion zone. So, domestic factors have been helping the

stays flat but there has been no signs of a bullish trend reversal. On the other hand, the dollar index is facing a

rupee has been charting a sideways trend between 88.60 and 88.80 over the past

not mean a positive reversal in trend. Only a decisive breakout of 88.60 and 88.40 will turn the near-term out-



look positive. A breach of 88.40 will see the rupee strengthening to 88. On the other hand, if the bears regain traction and drag the rupee below 88.80, the domestic unit might begin another leg of downswing, which can take it to 90.

The dollar index started recovering on the back of the support at 97.60 towards the 98.70, which is also the neckline of an inverted head and shoulder pattern. So, if the dollar index rises past 98.70, it can open the door for a rally to 100.50 as per the chart pattern. Yet, note that 100 is a potential resistance.

Overall, if the dollar index fails to break out of the resistance at 98.70, the rupee will have room to gain some ground. But if the dollar in-

Ref:BDL/CC/OT/GT/009/2025-26

OUTLOOK At the moment, the rupee is in a sideways crawl and the dollar index is facing a resistance. So, the movement in dollar-rupee exchange will depend on how the dollar in-

dex reacts to the upcoming

resistance.

BHARAT DYNAMICS LIMITED

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, GACHIBOWLI, HYDERABAD - 500 032

(A Govt. of India Enterprise

pee to 89 and 90 against the

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM REGIONAL CO-OPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS' UNION LTD. RE TENDER NOTICE ders are invited for the following items at TRCMPU

SI. lo.	ltem	Tender Ref	Tender Value (in Rs)		
1	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of BMC monitoring system at TRCMPU under NPDD scheme	2025_KCMMF_789222_2	60,00,000		
2	Supply and Installation of 90 numbers of Desktop personal computers at TRCMPU under NPDD scheme.	2025_KCMMF_806482_1	45,00,000		
3	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of waterbath at TRCMPU under NPDD scheme	2025_KCMMF_789315_2	12,00,000		
	Last date for submission of tender is on 15.10.2025, 12:30 PM.				

Inviting Indigenous Competitive Bidding Estimate in Rs Description Facility Management Services in plant area 66561 173.86 Lakhs at BDL, Bhanur Please visit website https://bdltenders.abcprocure.com, select online tenders on dashboard for further details. Bids should be submitted online only. "corrigendum if any shall be issued through our e-portal only and not in Newspapers'

e-PROCUREMENT ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE

*Bidders are Requested to apply for online Vendor Registration in BDL website https://bdl-india.in/registration-contractors prospects.
ADDITIONAL GENERAL MANAGER (Corp Comm



Medical Health Officer of Nagpur Municipal Corporation invites proposals from Reputed & Experience Companies Who are GMP Certified by FDA to participate in the competitive bidding process of procurement of Rate Contract to Supply Essential Medicine (Allopathic, Surgical, Injectable) under 15th Finance . The estimated cost of medicines to be purchased is Rs. 8,70,33,830/from reputed firms. For Detailed Tender document interested bidders should visit http://maharashtra.gov.in/tenders or https://mahatenders.gov.in

Tender	Name of the work	EMD	Cost of blank
No.		(In Rs.)	Tender
1	Essential Medicines	Rs. 8,70,330/-	Rs.15,000/-

1. Date of sale for e-Tender: 06/10/2025 upto 6.00 pm. 2. Last Date of submission: 23/10/2025 upto 5.00 pm. 3. Date of opening (if possible): 24/10/2025 at 5.00 pm or any other suitable date. 4. Tender submission would be online on 06-05-2025 and deadline to submit the proposals is 23-10-2025 & opening of tender on 24-10-2025.

Advt No. 543 PR Medical Officer Health (MOH) Date 07.10.2025 Nagpur Municipal Corporation, Nagpur

Insurance brokers meet FM, suggest one platform for claim settlement, redress

Our Bureau Hyderabad

The Insurance Brokers Association of India (IBAI) has requested the Centre for a unified, technology-driven platform to streamline claim settlements and grievance

handling across all insurers. A delegation of the association, which represents over 750 licensed insurance brokers across the country, led by Narendra Bharindwal, President, IBAI, met Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman in New Delhi on Monday to congratulate the government on the landmark GST

reforms in insurance. It submitted a set of proposals to strengthen insurance penetration and policyholder protection and mooted a unified platform for claim settlements and grievance hand-

INSURANCE COVERS

It proposed to embed suitinsurance covers with Mudra loans, ensuring protection for entrepreneurs and small borrowers to enhance the reach of insurance and to declare April 19, the founding day of IRDAI, as National Insurance Awareness & Policyholder Day to mobilise nationwide awarecluded insurance inclusion through Corporate Social Responsibility to consider payment of insurance premium for vulnerable groups and adoption of villages, strengthening corporate governance and risk oversight and to introduce a risk-based insurance oversight framework in line with global best practices to promote stability and transpar-

The IBAI also conveyed to life insurance

ness. Other proposals in-

the Minister that the GST exemption on retail health and select products will bring significant relief to policyholders.

cent so far in October. Also, Akhil Nallamuthu the Services PMI (Purchasweigh on the rupee, possibly triggering a decline in the ru-

bl.research bureau

The rupee closed at 88.78 versus the dollar on Tuesday. After witnessing a significant downward pressure in the recent months, the local currency seems to have found some stability now.

WEEKLY RUPEE VIEW.

Though the dollar, which depreciated last week, is showing signs of recovery now, the rupee has stayed steady so far this week. The recovery in the Indian equity market is keeping the sentiment positive.

The benchmark index, Nifty 50, has gained 2 per

Kochi, Kerala - 682024

Dear Shareholders.

Geojit Financial Services Ltd.

CIN: L67120KL1994PLC008403,

Ph: 0484-2901000, Fax: 0484-2979695,

mailus@geojit.com, www.geojit.com

Reg.Office: 34/659-P, Civil Line Road, Padivattom,

On the charts, the rupee

key resistance. Below is an analysis. The

couple of weeks. Nevertheless, this does



NOTICE

Pursuant to the letter dated 16th July 2025 from the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Geojit Financial Services Limited has initiated a 100-day special outreach program titled "Saksham Niveshak", running from 28th July 2025 to 6th November 2025.

This initiative is designed to assist shareholders in updating critical information such as KYC details, bank account particulars, nomination records, and contact information including email ID, phone number, and residential address. Timely updates will help prevent the transfer of dividends and shares to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF)

In line with the latest SEBI circular, shareholders holding shares in physical form who have not updated their PAN, nomination, contact details, bank account information, or specimen signature will receive payments such as dividends, interest, or redemption only via electronic transfer. Therefore, shareholders with unclaimed dividends or incomplete KYC records are urged to contact the Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent (RTA) at the earliest, to ensure their records are updated.

RTA:

Place: Kochi

Date: 08.10.2025

MUFG Intime India Private Limited "Surya" 35, Mayflower Avenue, Behind Senthil Nagar Sowripalayam Road, Coimbatore 641028 T: +91 422 2314792, 2539835 / 836, 4958995 https://web.in.mpms.mufg.com/helpdesk/Service _Request.html

Additionally, shareholders are encouraged to register and track their requests through the SWAYAM portal: https://swayam.in.mpms.mufg.com We urge all shareholders to take prompt action during the campaign period to safeguard their entitlement and ensure compliance with statutory requirements.

> For Geojit Financial Services Ltd. Sd/-Liju K Johnson Company Secretary