

Union Ministers inaugurate Skill India Centre in UP's Baraut to boost skilling opportunities

Agencies, New Delhi

In a significant move towards accelerating India's skill development initiative and equipping youth with cutting-edge skills, Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav and Minister of State (Independent charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education Jayant Chaudhary on Monday jointly inaugurated Skill India Centre (SIC) at Ch. Kehar Singh Divya Public School, Baraut, Baghpat, in Uttar Pradesh.

The Centre has been established by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) in collaboration with Redington Foundation. Addressing the gathering, Vaishnav highlighted the significance of building a workforce aligned with emerging industry demands.

He said, "This initiative in Baraut strengthens the government's mission of building a technologically empowered workforce that can support India's expanding digital and electronics ecosystem."

When quality skilling reaches rural districts, it unlocks aspirations, expands local opportunities, and accelerates social transformation, he added.

"With more learners now adopting AI-enabled tools and training, the local workforce is becoming future-ready for emerging and relevant job roles," the minister noted.

The launch marks a significant expansion of last-mile skilling access



for rural youth and women in Uttar Pradesh. Through this initiative, NSDC and Redington Foundation aim to train around 600 candidates mainly underprivileged youth and women—from Baraut and Chhaprauli blocks in the Baghpat district.

The Baraut centre will serve as

the training hub, supported by a spoke centre in Chhaprauli to widen local access.

The courses, designed around the fast-growing electronics and IT-ITES sectors, reflect the region's demand for skilled professionals and the national push toward a digitally empowered workforce.

On this occasion, while

addressing the gathering, Jayant Chaudhary emphasised the transformative role of skills in nation-building.

He said, "Today's inauguration of the Skill India Centre in Baraut reflects the government's commitment to taking opportunities to the doorstep of every youth, especially in rural and underserved regions."

The Centre would become a gateway of new possibilities for young people in the region, he added.

"Skilling is not just about employment—it is about dignity, mobility, and confidence. With centres like this, we are creating pathways for local talent to thrive in emerging sectors and contribute meaningfully to India's growth story," he said further.

During the visit, both ministers interacted with trainees, explored the training labs, and encouraged young learners to embrace new-age skills that support long-term employability.

The impact of the ongoing collaboration is already visible. A total of 72 candidates from Baghpat, trained under Redington Foundation's CSR initiative in partnership with NSDC, have been placed in reputed organisations.

The inauguration of the SIC stands as a significant milestone towards creating an inclusive skilling ecosystem in Uttar Pradesh, helping young citizens acquire industry-relevant skills and move towards financial independence.

Market witnesses volatile session with Nifty below 26,000 mark



New Delhi (UNI)

The stock market witnessed a volatile trading session on Monday with the benchmark indices ending lower amid selling across sectors

stocks hit 52-week low.

Nearly 100 stocks hit 52-week high on BSE while more than 300 stocks hit 52-week low.

Those on the highs included

Asahi India, M&M Financial,

Federal Bank, Eicher Motors,

Shriram Finance, Axis Bank, Hero

MotoCorp, among others.

On the other hand, those hitting

lows included Chambal Fertilisers,

Deepak Nitrite, Tejas Networks,

Cohance Life, PCBL Chemical,

SVVN, Sheela Foam, Jindal Saw,

United Breweries, Colgate

Palmolive, Thermax, KNR

Construction, CG Consumer,

Vedant Fashions, SKF India, Bata

India, Clean Science, among

others.

Defence stocks dropped in trade

pushing the Nifty India Defence

index down more than 2.5%.

In terms of some of the stock

specific performances, HAL shares

dropped 3% on the sentimental

impact following the Tejas fighter

jet crash.

Justin Langer is Brand Ambassador of NiviCap

● India's first-of-its-kind digital solutions platform for students aspiring to study in Australia



New Delhi: Guided by its vision—"Fast. Fair. Family Approved. Your academic dreams in Australia without financial roadblocks", NiviCap marks a new era in the education financing ecosystem. Australia continues to stand tall as the most preferred international education destination for Indian students, celebrated for its world-class universities, multicultural inclusivity, and post-study work opportunities.

Building on this commitment, the launch of NiviCap also marked the announcement of Justin Langer as the Brand Ambassador. Further strengthening the Australia-India education partnership, the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), Australia's national trade and investment promotion agency, supported the launch of NiviCap.

Developed by the founder of

Ziksu Australia, one of the country's leading fintech brands, NiviCap

bridges India and Australia's

education ecosystems through a

comprehensive suite of non-banking

solutions. Designed to support both

students and parents from pre-

admission to post-arrival, it brings

together services such as loan

discovery, application assistance, forex guidance, and post-arrival support under one secure digital solutions platform. NiviCap stands apart for combining transparency, technology, and empathy, giving students a seamless pathway to their academic goals and parents the comfort of knowing their children are supported every step of the way.

India is now the second-largest

source country for international

students in Australia, with

approximately 137,703 students from India commencing or continuing study in 2025. Despite such strong demand, the process of education financing and associated requirements remains fragmented. NiviCap aims to simplify this journey with a unified, trustworthy, and transparent platform, empowering families, especially from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, to pursue their overseas dreams with clarity and confidence.

GST rate cuts powered festive demand, manufacturing output

New Delhi: GST rate rationalisation provided a huge boost to consumer demand and manufacturing output during the recent festive season, and sustaining the upturn will depend on broader economic conditions and industry-specific dynamics in the quarters ahead, a report said on Monday.

Credit ratings agency ICRA said that manufacturing rebounded as firms stocked up ahead of festivals, with consumer durables showing a prominent sequential and year-on-year uptick.

"While the GST rationalisation may support demand for regular use or small-ticket items after the festive season, the sustenance of the buoyancy in demand for big-ticket items remains to be seen," it said.

The report also noted that "a

good part of the GST rate cut benefit is going to be neutralised by the star labelling requirements to be introduced from January 2026."

The year-on-year growth in GST e-way bill generation eased to 8.2 per cent in October from 21 per cent in September, the ratings agency said, partly attributing it to the shift in the festive calendar.

The report said the GST cuts have visibly impacted prices, as the core consumer price index excluding gold was flat sequentially in October, against a typical monthly increase of 0.4-0.5 per cent.

GST rate cuts have eased the tax burden for consumers and businesses by lowering prices on essentials and improving affordability across key sectors, it added.

Central Bank of India boosts MSME sector with successful mega outreach campaign

Pune: Reinforcing the Centre's policy of strengthening India's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector—considered the backbone of the national economy, the Central Bank of India's Pune Regional Office had successfully organized a Mega MSME Outreach Campaign.

The initiative was held under the chairmanship of Zonal Head Ajay Kumar Singh, said a release here today.

According to Regional Manager Rajesh Mishra, the campaign received an overwhelming response from various industry associations.

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CavinKare's CHIK Unveils "10 on 10 Hair Color" Campaign

New Delhi: CHIK, the trusted hair-care brand from CavinKare, launched a dynamic new campaign film titled "10 on 10 Hair Color" starring television icon Shweta Tiwari post its foray into the creme category with CHIK Quick Creme. The 30-second TVC showcases CHIK Quick Creme's promise of delivering flawless, ultra-rich, and glossy shine color in just 10 minutes. The campaign film will be aired across Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan in Hindi.

The film opens on a lively slice-of-life moment featuring Shweta Tiwari, alongside two friends who hold back from joining a sudden, last-minute plan due to concerns about visible greys and the time required to color their hair. Shweta then introduces them to the new CHIK Quick Creme—a

unique 10-minute fast-action formula presented in a convenient single-use sachet, designed to make creme hair coloring quicker and easier than ever before. The product delivers rich, vibrant-looking color infused with the goodness of Amla and Bhringraj, offering consumers a hassle-free and effective coloring experience at just Rs 10.

What follows is a playful, visually captivating transformation; the friends go from "before" to "after" in a burst of color and confidence. With brisk movements, radiant smiles, and vivid splashes of hue, the TVC turns an uncertain "grey-hair moment" into one of effortless style and self-assurance, celebrating the power of quick, beautiful change.



Odysse Electric signs MoU with Shriram Green Finance



sustainable mobility with ease.

Speaking on the partnership, Nemin Vora, Founder and CEO, Odysse Electric, said: "Our

alliance represents more than a partnership—it is a commitment to redefining how India moves. By uniting advanced EV innovation with inclusive financing, we are opening the doors to a cleaner, smarter, and democratically accessible mobility ecosystem. Together, we aim to empower every citizen to be part of the electric revolution and shape a future where sustainability is not an option, but a way of life."

Nanda Gopal, National Business Head, Shriram Green Finance Limited, said:

"With this MoU, Odysse and Shriram Green Finance aim to reduce barriers to EV adoption, accelerate deployment of zero-emission commercial vehicles, and contribute to India's mission of achieving net zero emissions."

Doubling GDP requires MSMEs to invest in tech-enabled manufacturing capabilities: Nirvuti Rai

New Delhi: Nirvuti Rai, Managing Director & CEO of Invest India, today outlined a strategic vision to accelerate India's economic transformation through high-quality foreign direct investment (FDI), tech collaboration and rapid scaling of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

While addressing industry leaders at PHDCCI here, Ms Rai stressed that India's next wave of growth hinges on strengthening manufacturing and building resilient, localised supply chains.

She noted that while the

Rupee slips to record low amid liquidity crunch and high dollar demand

New Delhi (UNI)

The Indian rupee touched a new record low of about Rs 89.50 against the US dollar. The currency came under pressure because the demand for dollars increased, cash availability in the banking system remained tight and foreign inflows were not steady.

The rupee depreciated quickly after it broke key levels, which activated automatic sell orders and pushed it down further.

Depreciation of any currency refers to the fall in currency's value in a floating exchange rate system where demand and supply determine the value of currency.

Importers have been buying more dollars for their payments, and the limited supply of dollars in the market made the rupee weaken more easily.

Even though global factors like crude oil prices and the dollar index have been stable, domestic conditions have been enough to pull the rupee down.