

Dipak.Dash@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Road transport ministry has asked vehicle aggregators to remove from their mobile application prompts or options that encourage passengers to tip drivers at the time of booking a trip, saying such features violate the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines of 2025.

The advisory has been issued following reports of aggregators displaying prompts such as "Advance Tip", "Choose an Add-on" and "Improve your chances of quicker ride confirmation". Some apps also tell passengers that a driver may be more likely to accept a trip if they add a tip.

The ministry cited a clause of the guidelines, which specifies that passengers have the option to give drivers a voluntary tip only after completion of the journey.

The provision also manda-



QUICKER RIDE

tes that the entire tip amount must be credited to the driver without any deduction by the aggregator.

"No tipping feature or mechanism shall be provided in the App that is misleading, manipulative, or otherwise in violation of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 and the rules and regulations made thereunder," the guidelines say.

The ministry said no feature, prompt, message, add-on, payment option, or user interface element should be displayed before completion of the ride.

Former Prez Kovind Describes Book As More Than A Personal Account

Manash.Gohain
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: In an "era of reels" when social media influencers compete for young people's attention, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday cautioned Gen Z against taking shortcuts and advised them to occasionally swap the scroll for an autobiography and learn about how people overcome real-life struggles.

Speaking at the launch of former President Ram Nath Kovind's autobiography, *Triumph of the Indian Republic: My Life, My Struggles*, Modi said such books allow young people to understand an era through the experiences of those who lived through it.

"Today is the era of reels; social media influencers draw you somewhere. But in this



PM Narendra Modi with former President Ram Nath Kovind during the launch of latter's autobiography in New Delhi

age too, remember what's written at railway stations; Shortcut will cut you short," Modi said.

The remarks came amid an increased push by govt and BJP to connect with Gen Z through social media. Modi himself has stepped up his use of reels and short videos to engage with younger audiences in recent weeks.

Calling Kovind's autobiog-

Modi recalled Kovind losing his mother in a fire during childhood when she tried to save household belongings

raphy a "heritage for Indian democracy", Modi said its title captured the former president's journey—while his life and struggles were personal, "the victories of those struggles belong to Indian democracy".

Modi recalled Kovind losing his mother in a fire during childhood when she tried to save household belongings. "Anyone could have been broken after such an incident," he said, adding that the tragedy had instead made Kovind stronger. He also spoke about

Kovind's modest upbringing in Kanpur Dehat and his eventual rise to the country's highest constitutional office.

Recalling his visits to Rashtrapati Bhavan, Modi said Kovind retained his simplicity even as president and would personally walk him to his car despite being repeatedly requested not to do so.

Kovind described the book as more than a personal account. "It is the story of the rise of India," he said, adding that the republic had given an ordinary citizen like him the opportunity "to dream, to serve and to contribute to the nation".

Modi also praised Kovind's continued public engagement after leaving office, including his work on the "One Nation, One Election" initiative, saying it could open "a new chapter in Indian democracy".

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: India is home to over 60% of the world's wild Asian elephants, and the country has 33 reserves for them, strengthening efforts towards their long-term conservation, PM Narendra Modi said Wednesday, marking World Elephant Day.

"On World Elephant Day, we celebrate the majestic elephant which has remained an integral part of India's ecological heritage. We are also proud of all forest personnel, scientists, veterinarians, mahouts and the local communities who are integral to all such efforts," Modi said on X.

On the occasion, environment minister Bhupendra Patel said the government has reaffirmed India's commitment to securing a shared future for elephants and people, and called for action to ensure that the



ECOLOGICAL HERITAGE

elephant continues to walk freely through the country's forests and landscapes for generations to come.

Noting the spread of elephant reserves across 14 states and 150 scientifically validated elephant corridors, he said advanced population monitoring and stronger measures to mitigate human-elephant conflict are strengthening elephant conservation.

The country has nearly 30,000 wild elephants and about 3,600 captive ones. All 33 elephant reserves put together cover a total area of nearly 80,000 sq km.

Assam's flood-hit villagers get grooming relief items

Prabin.Kalita
@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: When flood relief came to Chumoni village in Assam's Charaideo district, it arrived with scissors, razors, combs and beauty kits.

With floodwaters receding but thick layers of mud and silt still cutting residents off from the outside world, a haircut, a shave, eyebrow threading or a beauty treatment has become an unlikely form of relief for more than 2,000 men and women in Holohukan panchayat's Chumoni village in Mahmor constituency.

The unusual initiative was organised by BJP MLA Suraj Dehingia, who brought in a team of 18 beauticians and 24 barbers from Moran to offer free grooming services to villagers. "The village remains difficult to access, with thick deposits of mud and silt left behind by the receding floodwa-



Assam emergency services personnel rescue people on a rubber boat in Guwahati

ters. The villagers, men and women alike, who normally travel around five km to Nazira or Simalguri for personal grooming, have been unable to leave the village amid the continuing disruption," Dehingia told TOI. The idea came while the 50-year-old legislator was visiting flood-hit areas and interacting with residents.

"Food, medicines, clothes and other assistance have reached the flood-hit people provided by the government, social groups and individuals. But, they needed to prepare

themselves mentally and that would be by some freshness." "While I was deep inside the flooded areas with the people, I came to understand their needs," Dehingia said.

The MLA initially took only barbers to the village. But women complained, prompting him to bring beauticians as well. The 42 professionals from Moran volunteered their services as their contribution to the flood-relief effort.

"None charged the villagers for their work. They used their skills and their hands to offer in their own way of standing with people in distress," Dehingia said. Transportation for the volunteers and packed lunches were arranged free of cost. For residents dealing with the aftermath of floods, the grooming drive offered more than haircuts and beauty care—it brought a little freshness and a sense of normalcy.

Shukla inaugurates Bennett University's space startup prog

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bennett University (BU) on Wednesday launched SpaceTech Venture Cohort at its Deekshabamh 2026 induction ceremony.

The initiative was inaugurated by Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the second Indian to travel to space, who conducted scientific research aboard International Space Station.

Positioning space as the next frontier for entrepreneurship, the new cohort aims to encourage students from diverse disciplines including technology, design, life sciences, architecture, policy and business to explore opportunities in the space-tech sector.

Addressing the new students, Shukla highlighted the importance of preparation,

resilience and learning from setbacks. "Failure is not the end of the road, but one of the best mediums to learn and reinvent yourself."

When things get tough, you must rely on your preparation and hard work," he said.

The launch was also attended by Khel Ratna and Arjuna Awardee Ronjan Sodhi as Special Guest.

Drawing from his sporting career, Sodhi stressed the importance of focus and perseverance in achieving ambitious goals, qualities he said are equally relevant to building successful aerospace ventures.

The event also featured the official launch of the Space Founders Manual, which serves as a practical resource for aspiring space entrepreneurs.

Chandra's dramatic announcement comes ahead of Tata Sons' AGM

Continued From P 1



attend Tata Sons' AGM. SKT and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust must jointly nominate a representative to meet quorum and vote on Chandra's directorship.

TCS, the group's most valuable company, was among the hardest hit, closing down 3.7% on BSE, while Tata Technologies lost 2.8%.

Chandra's dramatic announcement comes ahead of Tata Sons' annual general meeting on Aug 18, when shareholders are due to vote on renewal of his directorship. That board seat is crucial to his chairmanship—although his current term runs until February 2027, he must remain a Tata Sons director to hold the role. The AGM itself faces uncertainty (as reported by TOI on July 27). The public charities regulator has barred Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SKT) from holding trustee meetings over allegations it violated public trust laws, leaving it unable to nominate a representative to

attend Tata Sons' AGM. SKT and Sir Dorabji Tata Trust must jointly nominate a representative to meet quorum and vote on Chandra's directorship.

If the regulator does not lift the ban, the AGM will have to be adjourned until December, the maximum period allowed under the rules. That could complicate Chandra's position: If his directorship is not renewed by then, he would have to relinquish the Tata Sons chairmanship and, under Tata's internal rules, the chairmanship of other Tata companies too. The rule was introduced after Cyrus Mistry's removal as Tata Sons chairman, when he initially remained chairman of several other Tata companies.

According to a dominant school of thought, Chandra may not have wanted to face the uncertainty—and possible humiliation—of not being reappointed as director; either because of deferment of the AGM or because of the Trusts voting against his continuation. There is also speculation that New Delhi, while concerned over the unsettling situation at the sprawling \$185 billion conglomerate, may have chosen to remain neutral. "Don't forget Noel's surname—he's a Tata, and that counts for something," said a person who's been in the thick of things.

Chandra's exit leaves Noel under pressure to reassure investors and policymakers that the group's biggest investment projects—including those tied to India's push into advanced manufacturing—stay on track.

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Corporate Identity Number (CIN): U40100RJ200500050004483
Regd. Office: New Power House, Jodhpur-342001. Phone No: 0291-274264
Email: saahub@jvnvl.com, info@jvnvl.com, energy@jvnvl.com

NIT NO. 07/2026-27

"A" and "AA" category in Central/State Government departments and JVVNL Online tenders are invited through e-procurement process for various civil construction works under Jodhpur (9413359193)/Barmer (9413359593)/Bikaner (9413359189) from registered tenderers. Details of work, estimated cost, tender fee, process fee, security deposit, date of tender opening and general contract conditions etc. are available on websites <http://energyrajasthan.gov.in/jvnvl> and <http://sppp.amrarnaj.gov.in> and <http://eprocrajasthan.gov.in>. Intimation of future amendments/period extension, if any <http://energyrajasthan.gov.in/jvnvl> And <http://sppp.raj.gov.in> will be published on <http://eprocrajasthan.gov.in>

URN No.: JV2627W5080310, 00308, 00291, 00292, 00293, 00294, 00295, 00296, 00297, 00298, 00299, 00301, 00272, 00273, 00274, 00275, 00276, 00277, 00278, 00279, 00280, 00281, 00282, 00283, 00284, 00285, 00286, 00287, 00288, 00289, 00290, 00300, 00302, 00303, 00305, 00306, 00307, 00315, 00316, 00317, 00318, 00319, 00320, 00321, 00322, 00323, 00324, 00325, 00326, 00327, 00328, 00329, 00330, 00331, 00332, 00333, 00334, 00335, 00336, 00337, 00338, 00339, 00340, 00341, 00342, 00343, 00344, 00345, 00311, 00312, 00304, 00314

Raj. Sarnamand/C26/9505 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CIVIL)

E-AUCTION NOTICE FOR VARIOUS ASSETS OVER CHAKRADHARPUR DIVISION

For and on behalf of the President of India, Union of India, the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Chakradharpur Division, South Eastern Railway invites e-auction for the following assets categories over Chakradharpur Division, which is notified in the <https://www.ireps.gov.in/> website. Category, Catalogue No. Date of Auction, Auction Start Time and Auction Closing Time are as follows: • Miscellaneous, EMR-CKPDIV-26-5, 17.08.2026, 11:30 hrs. & 12:30 hrs. • Pay & Use, CloakRoom-ROU, 17.08.2026, 12:30 hrs. & 13:00 hrs. • Parking, PARK-MX-ROU-2, 21.08.2026, 11:30 hrs. & 12:00 hrs. • Parking, PARK-MX-TATA-2, 22.08.2026, 11:45 hrs. & 12:15 hrs. • Pay & Use, TatabCloakRoom26, 24.08.2026, 12:00 hrs. & 12:30 hrs. • Miscellaneous, Mss-MCK-ROU-26, 27.08.2026, 12:00 hrs. & 12:30 hrs. Interested parties to take note of this and go through the website as mentioned above for details of the site and related information about the e-Auction notice. For enquiries/clarifications, if any, please contact the office of the undersigned.

(PR-607) Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Chakradharpur South Eastern Railway We serve with a smile

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक **punjab national bank**
... असेल के प्रतीक ... the name you can BANK upon!

ARMB RANCHI (Address: S N Ganguly Road, Radheshyam Lane Ranchi, Ranchi-834001 Ph: 7300752025, E mail: cs6794@pnb.bank.in)

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given that the property is in present and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

Lot No.	Name of the Branch	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (mortgagors of property(ies))	A) Reserve Price		Date/Time of E-Auction	Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors		
			A) Dt. Of Demand Notice No. 152) of SARFAESI ACT 2002	B) EMD				
1.	PNB-Jamshedpur, Jamshedpur (006320) M/s Dream Homes Infrastructure At QR No 16/21 Road No 1 B a g e r a c o l o n y Jamshedpur 831002	All the residential flat measuring 1080 Sq.ft (Super Built Up), comprising Flat No E-4 in the 5 th Floor within the building now named as "SHABANA APARTMENT" situated at Road No 12, Jawaharnagar, Mango, Jamshedpur, including One Four Wheeler parking space at the parking area of the complex, together with the undivided proportionate share of land measuring an area 150 Sq.ft being in portion of Old Plot No 192, recorded under old khata no 39, corresponding to portion of New Plot No 987, a.b.c, recorded under New Khata No 798, in ward No 8, MNAC of Mouza Pardi, P.S. Mango, Thana No 1641, District Sub Registry Office and Town Jamshedpur, District East Singhbhum, together with all its advantages, easements, privileges, amenities, ingress and egress, utilities, services and lift etc in the name of M/s Dream Homes Infrastructure vide sale deed no 3317/3663 dated 09.08.2016. The property is bounded by: North: Open Sky Space, South: Flat No E-3, East: Open sky space, West: Common passage	A) Rs. 19,30,000	B) Rs. 2,19,300	24.08.2026 From: 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Any other encumbrances known to the bank is not known		
			C) Possession Date vide 13(4) of SARFAESI ACT 2002	D) Bid Increase Amount			C) Rs. 50,000	D) Banknet Property ID
			E) Nature of Possession Symbolic / Physical	F) Banknet Property ID			C) Rs. 50,000	D) Banknet Property ID
			G) Symbolic	D) PNB/BA72207			C) Rs. 50,000	D) Banknet Property ID

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions:
1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS".
2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) amount as mentioned above shall be deposited in E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (<http://baanet.com>)

TOI YOUNG LEADERS **THE AI CAREERS MASTERCLASS**

500+ STUDENTS TRAINED | 20+ MENTORS | 4.8/5 PARENT RATING

AI is Changing Every Career. Is Your Child Ready?

The AI Careers Masterclass opens up exciting career paths for your child. With expert-led sessions, fun experiences and real-world insights, we make future-ready learning engaging, safe and inspiring.

8 LIVE SESSIONS | GRADES 4-9 | NO CODING REQUIRED | PHYSICAL CERTIFICATE

KIDS WILL EXPLORE CAREERS IN

ONLINE GAMING | HEALTHCARE & MEDICINE | SPACE & SCIENCE | SPORTS & ANALYTICS | DESIGN & CREATIVITY | CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY

& MANY MORE!