Byju's RP Moves NCLT Against Google over Data Access

Nikhil Patwardhan

Bengaluru: The resolution professional overseeing the insolvency of Byju's parent Think & Learn has moved the Bengaluru bench of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) against Google LLC and Google India in a dispute understood to be over access to the company's data and digital services, people aware of the development said.

The application, filed under Section 60(5) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, seeks directions from the tribunal.

The counsel for resolution professional (RP) Shailendra Ajmera confirmed that Google LLC and its Indian arm had been named as respondents, but did not discuss the exact relief sought.

The application was listed for the first time before NCLT's Bengaluru bench on Wednesday. The NCLT cause list described it as an application seeking directions.

People aware of the matter said the case is understood to involve access to data belonging to Think & Learn and held through Google's services, including Google Cloud.

Access to such accounts would allow the RP to take control of the company's digital records and examine information relating to its operations, contracts and technology infrastructure. It would also be required to preserve the company's data and assess its business as part of the insolvency process.

Queries sent to Google, the RP and the company's suspended directors did not elicit any response until press time on Friday.

The dispute seems to mirror an earlier battle involving Amazon Web Services India, which provided Think & Learn with cloud storage, databases, media, analytics and other computing services. The company's main AWS account had 51 linked accounts, according to an earlier NCLT order.

Last year, Ajmera moved the tribunal against AWS India, seeking continuation of its services. He separately sought directions requiring Think & Learn's former management to hand over the credentials needed to access the company's AWS portal.

The RP told the tribunal that he was unable to inspect the account or verify its usage and invoices. He also raised concerns that some services billed to Think & Learn may have been used by third parties.

AWS said the login credentials and control over the linked accounts remained with Think & Learn's erstwhile management, and that it could not provide the RP access. It suspended the account in April 2025 after dues for services supplied during the insolvency period remained unpaid. AWS subsequently sought payment of Rs 39.49 crore for services supplied between the start of Think & Learn's insolvency and April 2025. In August, the NCLT dismissed the RP's application and allowed AWS's plea, directing him to place eligible invoices before the creditors' committee for priority payment as insolvency-process costs.

Think & Learn entered insolvency in July 2024 after it failed to pay Rs 158.90 crore in sponsorship dues to the Indian cricket board. Ajmera was appointed resolution professional in February 2025 and has since filed several applications seeking access to company records, accounts and assets required to run the process.

QComm will Keep Attracting Capital: Majety

Swiggy founder says product differentiation will matter more than price as 10-min delivery becomes table stakes

Our Bureau

Bengaluru: Swiggy founder and group CEO Sriharsha Majety said that the quick commerce industry will remain well-funded and competitive, even as the company's 10-minute delivery unit Instamart steps up efforts to reduce its losses.

"The category will continue to attract capital and competition. Our answer is to build a business that wins through a distinctive product offering, not only through price. Quick delivery is increasingly becoming table stakes," Majety said in a letter to the company's shareholders as part of its 2025-26 annual report.

"The right to win will come from reliable availability, breadth of assortment, differentiated categories, strong partner brands and the ability to make Instamart a destination for everyday upgrades, not just everyday essentials," he added.

Instamart competes with the likes of Eternal-owned Blinkit, public markets-bound Zepto, Flipkart Minutes, Amazon Now, Tata Digital-backed BigBasket and Reliance Retail's Jio Mart in the rapid delivery segment.

In an interview to ET, Flipkart group CEO Kalyan Krishnamurthy had said that the quick commerce market did not have enough capacity to accommodate six-seven players. Swiggy raised ₹10,000 crore via a qualified institutional placement (QIP) in December 2025, a year after it raised ₹4,500 crore through its November 2024 initial public offering (IPO). Rival Zepto is also planning to go public this year, looking to raise $650-700 million in fresh capital.

Majety also said that Instamart shifted its focus during 2025-26 from adding dark stores to sweating the existing assets.

"Our strategy was not to pursue volume at any cost. We focussed on wallet share, basket quality, availability and operating leverage. Contribution margin improved to -2.8% of GOV (gross order value) from -4.0% in the previous year, led by higher AOVs (average order value), improved monetisation, better infrastructure utilisation and lower dependence on unsustainable incentives," Majety said.

"We also took a more deliberate approach to network expansion. After front-loading investments in dark stores, our focus shifted towards sweating existing assets, improving utilisation and adding stores in a calibrated manner for coverage and debottlenecking," he added.

Instamart had 1,143 active dark stores as of March 31, up from 1,021 a year ago.

Ecomm Export FDI Policy Eases Rules, Raises Compliance Questions

ET EXPLAINER

Pranav Mukul

Bengaluru: The Centre's decision to relax its FDI policy to allow foreign direct investment in the inventory-based model of ecommerce for exports is unlikely to have a significant impact on the domestic online retail operations of companies such as Meesho, Flipkart and Amazon, industry executives said.

TO BENEFIT SMALLER SELLERS

However, they said the move would help smaller sellers and MSMEs expand their reach in global markets. 'Lawyers, meanwhile, urged caution in the policy's implementation, warning that it could give rise to structures that may be misused to hold inventory. India's FDI rules prohibit ecommerce companies from holding inventory, requiring them to operate on a marketplace model to prevent large inflows of foreign capital from distorting competition for small sellers and traders.

ADDITIONAL CHANNEL

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) said on Thursday that restrictions on foreign investment in inventory-based ecommerce will "not apply in case of exports of domestically manufactured and/or produced goods/products." The policy, executives said, creates an additional channel for Indian sellers to access overseas markets.

"I don't see this having any meaningful impact on the domestic ecommerce landscape because the relaxation is exclusively for exports," said a senior ecommerce industry executive who requested not to be identified. "Where it could make a difference is in creating an additional channel for Indian-made products to reach global consumers." Amazon welcomed the decision, saying it "empowers tier-2 and tier-3 manufacturers to go global" as the company targets $80 billion in cumulative exports by 2030. "This enabling amendment unlocks opportunities for regional manufacturers and SMEs, allowing us to better serve seller partners and contribute meaningfully to India's export-led growth strategy," an Amazon spokesperson said.

However, executives and lawyers said additional safeguards would be needed to prevent misuse of the policy. "There is a potential risk, although the extent of that risk will depend on how the final implementation, customs enforcement and FEMA compliance framework evolve alongside this.

TO BOOST EXPORTS

The policy objective clearly is to boost exports without liberalising domestic inventory-based ecommerce. However, whenever a regulatory distinction is based on the ultimate destination of goods, there is scope for leakage if controls are not sufficiently robust," said Ashid Basheer, Partner, Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas. Another senior executive at a large domestic retailer said the policy could raise compliance and enforcement challenges "if companies seek to blur the line between export-only and domestic operations."

Potential scenarios include using shared warehousing and logistics for both export and domestic businesses, routing inventory through related entities before domestic sales, diverting export-designated stock into the local market, or relying on complex related-party structures to effectively run an inventory-led model while continuing to present themselves as marketplaces, the executive said.

The person called for safeguards such as mandatory legal and accounting segregation of export inventory and separate warehouses for goods meant for exports.

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Execution is Bigger Challenge than Profitability: Fractal CEO

Himanshi Lohchab

Mumbai: Newly listed enterprise AI firm Fractal Analytics on Friday reported its first major quarterly profit setback in recent years, as execution lapses and the rampdown of two large clients in its technology, media and telecom (TMT) business weighed on earnings. The stock slumped 8.69%.

Fractal reported a sharp 38% sequential decline in net profit to Rs 72.3 crore in April-June quarter. However, on a yearly basis, net profit climbed 92%, while revenue rose 20% to ₹912.5 crore.

Founder and chief executive Srikanth Velamakanni said the company's challenge was execution rather than profitability. He acknowledged that the company's 20% on-year revenue growth fell short of internal expectations and attributed much of the weakness to the TMT vertical.

"Especially TMT, we executed very poorly. Luckily for us, TMT is bottoming out and next quarter is going to be okay," he told ET. Velamakanni said the broader industry is witnessing a shift as hyperscalers and telecom companies divert budgets from operating expenditure to AI infrastructure investments.

IBM CRASH

A similar trend was flagged by IBM earlier this month, when CEO Arvind Krishna blamed the company's disappointing June-quarter performance on clients shifting budgets on servers, storage and memory. The warning triggered a nearly 25% single-day plunge in IBM's shares, its steepest decline since the 1987 Black Monday crash.

"Companies have dramatically raised their capex... If machines can do the job, then they will reduce opex accordingly. We have seen multiple companies under pressure on opex because of the capex increase," he said, adding that Fractal should not blame industry conditions for its own performance. "We should just look at improving our execution."

Contrary to trends seen in traditional IT services, where AI is shrinking deal sizes and contract tenures, Fractal said it is witnessing the opposite. "Our deal sizes are increasing because of the opportunity. Our addressable opportunity is increasing," Velamakanni said. "When you listen to IT services companies, they are coming from the engineering side and adding a little bit of AI. Everything they are saying will sound the inverse of what we are saying."

Renewables, Battery Storage Key to India's Energy Transition: Joshi

Minister says clean energy scale-up to ease tariffs, highlights rapid gains in battery, solar and wind energy

Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Renewable energy minister Pralhad Joshi said India's drive in battery storage systems, along with rapid expansion of wind and solar power would play a key role in pushing the country's clean energy transition.

Addressing the Adani Presents Times Network Sustainability Conclave 2026, Joshi said the push towards battery storage, coupled with a strong focus on wind and solar energy, would bring down electricity costs.

"India was the second-largest in terms of battery [energy storage] addition last year. We are investing heavily in battery storage systems, with a strong focus on wind, solar and storage. Results will be seen soon, and it will lead to bringing down the cost of electricity," Joshi said.

Highlighting India's push towards next-generation technologies, he added that the country's first hydrogen-powered train has placed India among a select group of nations investing in clean transportation.

The conclave brought together policymakers, industry leaders, financial experts and climate advocates to discuss India's roadmap for sustainable development, climate resilience and energy security.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav while addressing the gathering said India will continue to play a global leadership role in the green economy and climate action, and pointed to the success of Mission LiFE and the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign. He also highlighted the state's sustainability initiatives, including afforestation and water conservation.

Industry leaders underscored clean energy as a strategic economic opportunity.

ReNew founder Sumant Sinha said, "If there are two things that are going to impact the future of any economy, one is artificial intelligence, the second is energy.. The thing that we can rely upon the most is clean energy because we can make that within our borders. It can become a critical part driving the future of the country."

The deliberations touched on financing India's green ambitions.

Ministry of Finance Joint Secretary Baldeo Purushartha said flagship programmes such as the Green Hydrogen Mission, PM Surya Ghar Yojana, support for battery storage and production-linked incentives for advanced battery manufacturing have significantly accelerated the country's renewable energy transition.

Industry leaders, meanwhile, outlined how businesses were preparing for a low-carbon future. Tata Power's Vaibhav Singh, Blue Star India's Vikas Bakshi and Charge Zone founder and CEO Kartikey Hariyani discussed the growing importance of clean technologies, electric mobility, sustainable cooling solutions and domestic manufacturing in strengthening India's industrial competitiveness while reducing emissions.

Offering a broader climate perspective, Centre for Science and Environment Director General Sunita Narain said that "there is one extreme weather event a day happening across India," arguing that climate action must go beyond emission reduction to include resilient cities, stronger local environmental governance and sustainable development.

Looking ahead, International Solar Alliance Director General Ashish Khanna said rooftop solar adoption is expected to more than double over the next five years as India expands its clean energy footprint.

Echoing the need to strengthen the country's energy backbone, IREDA Executive Director (Projects) Sushant Kumar Dey said building adequate energy storage capacity should remain the immediate priority before India looks at exporting electricity.

UP Guv Convenes Monsoon Session of State Legislature from Aug 3

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel has convened the third session of the state legislature from August 3, officials said on Friday. Assembly Principal Secretary Pradeep Kumar Dubey said the Governor has summoned the third session of the 18th Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from Monday.

Legislative Council Principal Secretary Rajesh Singh said the Upper House has also been convened from 11 am on August 3. The announcement comes days after the state cabinet, chaired by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approved the proposal to convene the session. The session is expected to take up the supplementary budget for the 2026-27 financial year and other legislative business. —PTI

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डॉ. दर्शन फेलोशिप से सम्मानित

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ : केजीएमयू के रेस्पिरेटरी मेडिसिन विभाग के प्रोफेसर डॉ. दर्शन कुमार बजाज को उत्कृष्ट चिकित्सकीय कार्य, शैक्षणिक उपलब्धियों और श्वसन रोगों के उपचार व अनुसंधान में योगदान के लिए युनाइटेड एकेडमी ऑफ पल्मोनरी मेडिसिन की फेलोशिप से सम्मानित किया गया है। यह सम्मान उन्हें हाल ही में इंदौर में आयोजित ब्रोंकोपल्मोनरी वर्ल्ड कांग्रेस के दौरान दिया गया।

मानक तय करने में होगी RMLIMS की भी भूमिका

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ : देशभर में मरीजों के इलाज को बेहतर बनाने के लिए लखनऊ के डॉ. राम मनोहर लोहिया आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (RMLIMS) को बड़ी जिम्मेदारी मिली है। भारत सरकार ने संस्थान को देश के 16 तकनीकी संसाधन केंद्रों (टीआरसी) में शामिल किया है। यह केंद्र वैज्ञानिक शोध के आधार पर राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर इलाज और जनस्वास्थ्य से जुड़े दिशा-निर्देश तैयार करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएगा।

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग (डीएचआर) के अंतर्गत सेंटर फॉर एविडेंस-बेस्ड गाइडलाइंस ने चुनिंदा संस्थानों की सूची शुक्रवार को जारी की, जिसमें आरएमएलआईएमएस को भी स्थान मिला। संस्थान के निदेशक प्रो. सीएम सिंह के नेतृत्व में मिली इस उपलब्धि को शोध और चिकित्सा के क्षेत्र में बड़ी सफलता माना जा रहा है।

इस परियोजना के प्रधान अन्वेषक (पीआई) कॉलेज ऑफ नर्सिंग के प्रोफेसर डॉ. शिव कुमार मुद्गल बनाए गए हैं। उनके साथ प्रो. सीएम सिंह, असोसिएट डीन प्रो. अमित कौशिक, श्वसन रोग विभागाध्यक्ष प्रो. अजय वर्मा, फार्माकोलॉजी विभागाध्यक्ष प्रो. अर्पिता सिंह और सामुदायिक चिकित्सा विभाग की असिस्टेंट प्रफेसर डॉ. मिली सेंगर सह-प्रधान अन्वेषक के रूप में कार्य करेंगी।

टीआरसी का मुख्य काम वैज्ञानिक प्रमाणों के आधार पर इलाज और जनस्वास्थ्य के दिशा-निर्देश तैयार करने में सहयोग करना है। इनका उपयोग देशभर के अस्पतालों में समान गुणवत्ता वाली स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं देने के लिए होगा। प्रो. सिंह ने कहा कि 16 संस्थानों में चयन होना संस्थान की मजबूत शोध क्षमता की राष्ट्रीय पहचान है।

क्वीन मैरी में की गई गर्भाशय की पहली रोबॉटिक सर्जरी

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ : स्त्री एवं प्रसूति रोग विभाग (क्वीन मैरी अस्पताल) में पहली बार रोबॉटिक तकनीक से गर्भाशय (हिस्टरेक्टॉमी) का सफल ऑपरेशन किया गया। विभागाध्यक्ष डॉ. अंजू अग्रवाल ने बताया कि यूपी के सरकारी चिकित्सा संस्थानों के स्त्री एवं प्रसूति रोग विभाग में यह अपनी तरह की पहली रोबॉटिक हिस्टरेक्टॉमी है। सर्जरी के बाद मरीज तेजी से स्वस्थ हो रही है और जल्द ही उन्हें अस्पताल से छुट्टी दे दी जाएगी।

गोरखपुर निवासी 51 वर्षीय शशिकला एक साल पहले गर्भाशय में असामान्य रक्तस्राव की शिकायत लेकर क्वीन मैरी अस्पताल पहुंची थीं। उनका वजन अधिक होने के कारण सामान्य ओपन सर्जरी में संक्रमण, टांके पकने और अन्य जटिलताओं का खतरा ज्यादा था। इसे देखते हुए डॉक्टरों ने रोबॉटिक तकनीक से ऑपरेशन करने का निर्णय लिया। 22 जुलाई को बिना बड़े चीरे के सफल सर्जरी की गई, जिससे मरीज को कम दर्द हुआ और रिकवरी भी तेजी से हो रही है।

मरीज के स्वास्थ्य में सुधार, जल्द मिलेगी अस्पताल से छुट्टी

मात्र ₹10 हजार में किया गया इलाज

डॉ. अंजू अग्रवाल ने बताया कि हिस्टरेक्टॉमी ऐसी सर्जरी है, जिसमें गर्भाशय को निकाला जाता है। लगातार असामान्य रक्तस्राव, गर्भाशय में गांठ या अन्य गंभीर समस्याओं में यह ऑपरेशन किया जाता है। उन्होंने बताया कि निजी अस्पतालों में ऐसी रोबॉटिक सर्जरी पर चार से पांच लाख रुपये तक खर्च आता है, जबकि केजीएमयू में सीएसआर फंड के सहयोग से यह ऑपरेशन मरीज के लिए मात्र 10 हजार रुपये में किया गया। इससे आर्थिक रूप से कमजोर मरीजों को भी आधुनिक उपचार का लाभ मिल सकेगा।

विशेषज्ञों की टीम: सर्जरी में डॉ. अंजू अग्रवाल, डॉ. स्मृति अग्रवाल, डॉ. शालिनी सिंह, डॉ. अनन्या, डॉ. शाम्भवी, सिस्टर नीथा और मनीष शामिल रहे। एनेस्थीसिया विभाग से डॉ. विनीता, डॉ. नीलकमल, डॉ. निधि सिंह और डॉ. गोविंद अग्रवाल ने सहयोग किया।

हेल्थ सेक्टर की बदलेगी तस्वीर, रोडमैप तैयार

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ : प्रदेश में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत बनाने की दिशा में बड़ा कदम उठाते हुए एसजीपीजीआई में दो दिवसीय राउंड टेबल कॉन्फ्रेंस का आयोजन हुआ। हेल्थ सिस्टम्स रिसोर्स सेंटर-उत्तर प्रदेश (एसएचएसआरसी-यूपी) का रोडमैप तैयार किया गया। शुक्रवार को हुई बैठक में तय हुआ कि एसएचएसआरसी-यूपी राज्य सरकार का स्थायी तकनीकी सलाहकार होगा। स्वास्थ्य संबंधी शोध, नई नीतियों के निर्माण और उन्हें जिलों तक प्रभावी ढंग से लागू कराने में इसकी अहम भूमिका रहेगी।

एसजीपीजीआई में दो दिन चली राउंड टेबल बैठक

'आरोग्य संकल्प' थीम पर आयोजित बैठक में संस्थागत ढांचे, सुशासन और कार्यप्रणाली पर विस्तार से चर्चा हुई। राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन के मिशन निदेशक डॉ. पिंकी जोवेल ने कहा कि संस्थान का फोकस उन क्षेत्रों पर होना चाहिए, जहां सुधार की सबसे अधिक जरूरत है। दूसरे सत्र में जिलों में योजनाओं के बेहतर क्रियान्वयन, फील्ड कर्मचारियों के प्रशिक्षण, रियल-टाइम मॉनिटरिंग, डिजिटल डैशबोर्ड और राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन व आयुष्मान भारत जैसी योजनाओं के बेहतर समन्वय पर मंथन हुआ। अंतिम सत्र की अध्यक्षता प्रो. (डॉ.) आरएस हर्षवर्धन ने की। इसमें स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली अनुसंधान, डिजिटल हेल्थ, गैर-संचारी रोग, गुणवत्ता सुधार, स्वास्थ्य अर्थशास्त्र, नीति विश्लेषण और मानव संसाधन विकास के लिए अलग-अलग तकनीकी प्रभाग बनाने की सिफारिश की गई।

समापन सत्र में प्रो. ज्ञान चंद ने धन्यवाद ज्ञापन दिया। आयोजन सचिव डॉ. गौरव के. झा ने कहा कि बैठक से निकली सिफारिशें एसएचएसआरसी-यूपी को उत्कृष्टता केंद्र बनाने के साथ प्रदेश में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं की गुणवत्ता, दक्षता और आम लोगों तक बेहतर पहुंच सुनिश्चित करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएंगी।

बेहतर इलाज की कुंजी है रिसर्च : ब्रजेश

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ : पीजीआई स्थित सेंटर ऑफ बायोमेडिकल रिसर्च (सीबीएमआर) के स्थापना दिवस समारोह में उपमुख्यमंत्री ब्रजेश पाठक ने कहा कि गंभीर बीमारियों के इलाज के लिए नई दवाएं और नई तकनीक तभी आएंगी जब चिकित्सा अनुसंधान को लगातार बढ़ावा मिलेगा। शोध का लाभ सीधे मरीजों तक पहुंचे, इससे इलाज बेहतर और खर्च कम होगा।

पाठक ने कहा कि नई दवाओं के विकास, प्रभावी इलाज और सस्ती स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के लिए शोध को मजबूत करना जरूरी है। शोध सिर्फ प्रयोगशाला तक सीमित न रहे, बल्कि लोगों की जिंदगी बेहतर बनाने के लिए हो। वैज्ञानिकों की हर खोज भविष्य की स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत करती है, इसलिए गुणवत्ता और नवाचार दोनों जरूरी हैं। ब्रजेश पाठक ने कहा कि भारत को स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए दवाएं और तकनीक देश में ही विकसित हों।

'इलाज की सही दिशा तय करती है लैब रिपोर्ट'

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ: एसजीपीजीआई में मेडिकल लैब प्रोफेशनल वीक-2026 का समापन हुआ। वक्ताओं ने कहा कि सही इलाज सिर्फ डॉक्टर की जांच पर नहीं, बल्कि लैब की सटीक रिपोर्ट पर भी निर्भर करता है। इसी कारण मेडिकल टेक्नॉलजिस्ट स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था की अहम कड़ी हैं। सीएमएस डॉ. देवेंद्र गुप्ता ने कहा कि इलाज में टेक्नॉलजिस्ट की भूमिका करीब 70% है।

फारो की समिति के सदस्य बने डॉ. प्रमोद

■ NBT न्यूज, लखनऊ: कल्याण सिंह अति विशिष्ट कैंसर संस्थान के रेडिएशन ऑन्कोलॉजी विभाग के एडिशनल प्रफेसर और डीन डॉ. प्रमोद कुमार गुप्ता को फेडरेशन ऑफ एशियन ऑर्गेनाइजेशन्स फॉर रेडिएशन आन्कॉलजी (फारो) की पब्लिक रिलेशंस कमिटी का सदस्य बनाया गया है। इस समिति में भारत से केवल दो विशेषज्ञ चुने गए हैं, दूसरे सदस्य एम्स भोपाल के डॉ. सैकत दास हैं। फारो एशिया का प्रमुख अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगठन है जिसमें भारत, जापान, चीन, दक्षिण कोरिया सहित कई देशों के विशेषज्ञ शामिल हैं।