

Affordable Paperbacks

►► From Page 1

Affordable paperbacks are the top performers. Penguin's ₹499 Black Classics translation of 'The Odyssey' by EV Rieu saw a 10x sales boost, according to Sameer Mahale, vice president sales at Penguin Random House India.

It was the best-selling edition at Mumbai's famed bookstore Kitabhkhana, its chief operating officer Jagath Tekkatte said.

Academic translations that cost ₹1,000-2,000 are also thriving. Robert Fagles' version is popular with collectors at Kitabhkhana and Blossom Book House while Emily Wilson's 2018 translation, which Nolan cited as an inspiration, has sparked such high demand that Kitabhkhana is currently sold out and awaiting restocks.

Gowda of Blossom Book House also noted high demand for Stephen Fry's accessible retelling.

The surge isn't limited to 'The Odyssey' alone, readers who walk in looking for it often leave with a broader reading list. Mahale and Gupta reported a noticeable increase in demand for Homer's 'Iliad' as well, while Gupta said the same is true for Greek mythology collections, inspired fiction like Madeline Miller's 'Circe' and 'The Song of Achilles', and children's mythology.

"When ten year olds start asking for Greek myths through Percy Jackson, you have a reader for the next twenty years, not the next two weeks," Gupta said.

THE NOLAN EFFECT

Mahale credited Nolan for creating a "rare crossover moment where both new and long-time readers are engaging with the text." 2026 is emerging as a strong one for book adaptations. While Project Hail Mary and Dune "outsold expectations," 'The Odyssey' is "at a similar scale and possibly slightly ahead," Gupta said.

Gowda said Project Hail Mary still ranks first, but 'The Odyssey' editions have roughly equal growth.

Inverted Duty Structure

►► From Page 1

This may be time to start thinking about a GST 3.0, specifically easing refunds on input services and correcting the inverted duty structure, he added.

"This points to a persistent gap in domestic manufacturing capability despite the range of successful PLI (production-linked incentive) and Atmanirbhar Bharat interventions rolled out over the past few years," said Saurabh Aggarwal, tax partner, EY India.

A sustained push by policymakers towards localisation will be critical for India to convert consumption-led growth into a more durable, manufacturing-anchored expansion, he said.

Personal Guidance Preferred

►► From Page 1

The hospital has expanded obesity clinics across centres and is hiring or redeploying staff to support this multidisciplinary model.

"There is an increasing demand for support, for hand-holding, for advising about diets, advising about exercise, advising about strength training for these people," said Ambrish Mithal, group chairman-endocrinology & diabetology at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Saket.

"There is scope for digital health coaches and even health apps and others to enable us to deal with the tsunami that's sweeping us."

According to Saumitra R Chand, career expert at Indeed India & Singapore, "While it is still early to draw a direct link between the growing popularity of these medications and hiring trends, Indeed's data suggests that demand for nutrition professionals in India remains on an upward trajectory: job postings for nutritionists were 26% higher in April

2026 from a year ago".

This suggests that as more people focus on sustainable weight management and long-term lifestyle changes, demand will remain strong for professionals who can provide personalised dietary guidance.

"Even with the emergence of new medical treatments, drugs, nutritionists are likely to play an important role in helping individuals build healthy habits, manage side effects and maintain outcomes over time," added Chand.

Aditya Phadte, consultant-endocrinology and diabetology at Manipal Hospitals, said increasing adoption of GLP-1 therapies has significantly expanded the need for multidisciplinary obesity-care teams led by endocrinologists and supported by specialised obesity nutritionists. Obesity is increasingly being recognised as a chronic metabolic disease rather than simply a lifestyle issue.

"We are seeing more patients actively seeking struc-

tured dietary counselling, meal planning, support for sustainable lifestyle modification and long-term follow-up during their weight-loss journey. This has naturally increased the demand for endocrinologists and specialised obesity nutritionists working together as part of comprehensive obesity-care programmes," said Phadte.

Shree Vidya Venkatraman, medical director-preventive health at Apollo Hospitals, said managing obesity and metabolic disorders now requires a multidisciplinary approach that brings together clinicians, including internal medicine specialists, endocrinologists and diabetologists, psychologists and medical nutritionists to deliver better long-term outcomes.

In India, the biggest gap is not access to medication alone but the absence of long-term monitoring and multidisciplinary support systems that help patients sustain healthier lifestyles beyond the treatment phase, she said.

Elon Musk's Fortune Slumps to Pre-SpaceX IPO Levels After Rout

Bloomberg

New York: SpaceX pulled off a successful launch last Friday evening at its Starbase facility in South Texas, sending its Starship rocket into orbit. It hasn't stopped Elon Musk's fortune from falling back to Earth.

The world's first trillionaire is now poorer than he was before SpaceX's initial public offering priced last month, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

Musk's wealth, which peaked at about \$1.33 trillion on June 16, now stands at \$684 billion. The \$600 billion-plus decline in just over a month exceeds the net worth of any other person who has ever been on Bloom-

berg's list of the world's 500 richest people, other than Musk himself.

Shares of Space Exploration Technologies Corp, as the company is formally known, hit a closing high of \$201.80 on June 16, but have since tumbled 46% to a record low of \$108.37. Next month as many as 911.5 million shares belonging to insiders and early backers will be unlocked, potentially putting more downward pressure on the price.

Short interest in the company rose to 219.3 million shares as of July 29, according to S3 Partners, up from 23.3 million on June 16. That's more than one-third of those available for public trading. Next week SpaceX reports its quarterly earnings for the first time as a public company.

Another recent catalyst for the drop in Musk's wealth comes from Tesla Inc.

Shares of the electric carmaker have fallen 17% since it released second-quarter results on July 22. The company reported \$5.8 billion of capital expenditures, with Musk calling it "a massive capex year." Tesla recorded its first cash negative quarter in two years, overshadowing higher revenues on better-than-expected car deliveries. Tesla plans to introduce a host of new products in the near future, including Optimus humanoid robots, autonomous Cybercabs and AI initiatives. It said it expected to spend more than \$25 billion this year on capital expenditures.

Shares in the Austin-based carmaker are down 36% from a December high.

Minimum Withdrawals

►► From Page 1

Roughly about 10% of such (medical) students also take seats at engineering colleges," said Ranjana Jha, vice-chancellor of Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women. "This year's delay in NEET counselling may lead to some overlap between medical and engine-

ering admissions," she added. At VIT Vellore, the impact of the delayed NEET counselling is minimal, said director-admissions S Sashikumar. VIT offers three bio-related B Tech programmes — Biotechnology, Health Sciences & Technology, and CSE (Bioinformatics). "Only a very small number of students leave these programmes to pursue MBBS

through NEET counselling," he said.

Rajiv Chaudhary, chairperson of the B Tech admission committee at Delhi Technological University, said withdrawals from B Tech programmes (for admissions to medical courses) are usually minimal. "We do not expect this number to change much this year as well," he added.

\$60b Additional Capital Inflows

►► From Page 1

SBI Research said a large proportion of existing FCNR(B) deposits maturing in August and September 2026 is likely to be renewed under the new scheme, encouraged by higher interest rates, further boosting inflows.

In June, Goldman Sachs economists Arjun Varma and Santanu Sengupta esti-



mated the RBI measures could generate an additional \$60 billion in capital inflows, turning the balance of payments into a surplus of around 0.6% of GDP in the current financial year.

Nitin Aggarwal of Motilal Oswal Financial Services estimated the RBI's measures could generate an additional \$40-50 billion in forex inflows in the year ending March 2027.

'Robust Demand across Categories'

►► From Page 1

Together with its light commercial vehicle, Super Carry, Maruti Suzuki sold more than 200,000 vehicles in July, a monthly sales record for any automaker in India, said Partho Banerjee, senior executive officer, marketing and sales, at the local unit of Japan's Suzuki Motor company.

"Globally only two other automakers, both from mainland China, sell more than 200,000 units every month," Banerjee said, adding, "We are seeing robust demand across categories and have pending bookings for 160,000 units." Sales of small cars at Maruti Suzuki rose 63% in July, while those of SUVs grew 48%.

"We were earlier constrained by lack of capacity. Now with two new lines starting in Kharkhoda and Hansapur, we will be able to meet customer demand. Our market share is growing month-on-month," Banerjee said. The company is

particularly witnessing strong demand for CNG vehicles, whose sales peaked at 83,000 units in July. Network stocks of the company currently stand at about 16 days.

The Indian unit of Korean auto major Hyundai, which saw volumes decline by 10% in June on account of a production loss of 13,900 units due to a fire at one of its vendor's facilities, rebounded strongly last month, selling 54,210 units locally.

"We have kicked off the new quarter on a strong note," managing director and chief executive Tarun Garg said. Including exports, July's volume of 75,360 units was the highest ever since the local unit's inception, he added.

Tata Motors continued to hold the second slot in the category with sales of 62,611 units in July. At Mahindra, Nalinikanth Gollagunta, CEO-automotive division, said the company saw all-round traction across the portfolio in

July and grew volumes to 60,048 units. In the two-wheeler segment, too, demand largely remained healthy. Market leader Hero MotoCorp posted a 22% increase in local sales to 501,403 units last month, while Honda Motorcycle & Scooter India reported a 2% rise, dispatching 476,436 units. Royal Enfield's sales rose 38% to 105,317 units and Suzuki Motorcycle sold 123,216 units, up 28% from a year earlier.

In the commercial vehicle segment, leader Tata Motors sold 33,876 units last month, a 28% increase from July last year. In farm equipment, Mahindra's volume grew 21% to 32,643 tractors in July.

Veejay Nakra, president, Farm Equipment Business at Mahindra, said: "Significant recovery in rainfall, improved reservoir levels, accelerated kharif sowing aided by government support and healthy farm cash flows have led to positive rural and farmer sentiment."

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक
(भारत सरकार का उपक्रम)

pnb
punjab national bank
(Govt. of India Undertaking)

CIRCLE OFFICE : ARMB - HOOGHLY
23A, Rai M. C. Lahiri Bahadur Street
P.O. - Serampore, Hooghly (W.B.),
Pin - 712 201, E-mail ID : cs8240@pnb.bank.in
Mobile No. : 97480 59165

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION SALE OF MOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(6) & 9(1) Proviso to Rule 6(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described movable 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.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS					
Sl. No.	Name of the Branch Name of the Account Name & Address of the Borrower / Guarantors Account	Description of the Movable Properties Mortgaged / Owner's Name (Mortgagors of Property(ies))	A) Dt. of Demand Notice U/s. 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 B) Outstanding Amount C) Possession Date U/s. 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 D) Nature of Possession	A) Reserve Price (Rs. in Lakhs) B) EMD (Last date of Deposit of EMD) (Rs. in Lakhs) C) Bid Increase Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)	Date / Time of E-auction Details of the Encumbrances known to the Secured Creditors
1.	ARMB - Hooghly Borrower : M/s. Ontrust Packaging Private Limited 205, B-Block, Jindal Tower Darga Road, Kolkata 700 173. Also at : Village - Kamal, P.O. - Jamra, Dist - Burdwan, Pin - 713 143. Shri Mahesh Bhattacharya (Director cum Guarantor) 5A, Lenin Sarani, Kolkata - 700 013. Smt. Tumpa Hazra (Guarantor), W/o. Kalachand Hazra Kamal, Kamlaipara, Sargram, Burdwan, Katwa, Pin - 713 143. Shri Prabir Kumar Hazra (Guarantor), S/o. Late Shri Muktapada Hazra Kamal, Kamlaipara, Sargram, Burdwan, Katwa, Pin - 713 143. Shri Kalachand Alias Subir Hazra (Guarantor), S/o. Late Shri Muktapada Hazra Kamal, Kamlaipara, Sargram, Burdwan, Katwa, Pin - 713 143. Mita Hazra (Guarantor) Kamal, Kamlaipara, Sargram, Burdwan, Katwa, Pin - 713 143.	MOVABLE PROPERTIES Plant & Machinery (as a Scrap Value) : Hypothecated Plant & Machinery, situated at Mouza- Kamal, J.L. No. 59, L.R. Dag No. 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240 L.R. Khatian No. 868, 869, 870, 888, Village Kamal, P.O. - Jamrah, P.S. - Katwa, under Sargram Gram Panchayet, Pin - 713 143, Dist. - Burdwan, West Bengal.	A) 11.10.2014 B) Rs. 3,19,82,750.00 (Rupees Three Crores Nineteen Lakhs Eighty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty only) plus further interest contractual rate from 30.09.2014 and costs C) 22.12.2015 (Symbolic) & 05.03.2024 (Physical) D) Physical Possession	A) Rs. 6.04 Lakh B) Rs. 0.604 Lakh (24.08.2026) C) Rs. 0.10 Lakh	24.08.2026 From 11.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. with 10 mins extension Not known to Bank

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.

- The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"
- The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
- The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website : <https://ibaanknet.com> on 24.08.2026 From 11.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M.
- For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer <https://baanknet.com> & www.pnbindia.in
- Bank shall not be liable for any kind of statutory dues against the property. Buyers shall be solely responsible for payment of any kind of taxes.

Date : 02.08.2026
Place : Serampore

Mr. Debjeet Sengupta, Authorised Officer (Mob. No. 97480 59165)
Punjab National Bank, ARMB - Hooghly

QR Code

OBITUARY

Dr. Pamidi Kotaiah

Former Chairperson - Prasadiya ARC Limited
Director - Touchstone Capital Limited
Director - Touchstone Fincap Limited
Advisor & Mentor - Prasadiya Group
Former Chairperson - NABARD

Left for heavenly abode on 23rd July, 2026.

His sad demise is an irreplaceable loss to all of us.
We express our deep condolences and pay tribute to the great visionary.
We pray for the departed soul to rest in eternal peace.

Board of Directors and Staff

Prasadiya Group of Companies
Hyderabad

M S R V Prasad
CEO Prasadiya Group
Hyderabad

LNG Shipping

LNG TERMINAL

NG TRANSMISSION

PETROCHEMICALS

SMALL-SCALE LNG

LNG RETAIL

LIQUID HYDROCARBONS

LPG TRANSMISSION

CITY GAS DISTRIBUTION

RENEWABLES

COMPRESSED BIO-GAS

GREEN HYDROGEN

GAIL (India) Limited
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

STRENGTH BEHIND INDIA'S ENERGY SECURITY

UNAUDITED STANDALONE AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE, 2026

Pursuant to Regulation 52(4) SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS
(Q1 FY 2026-27)

Revenue from Operations (Standalone) ₹38,982 crore	PBT (Standalone) ₹5,773 crore	NG Transmission 122.36 MMSCMD
---	--	--

ENERGISING TODAY. SECURING TOMORROW

The results can be accessed through the following link:
https://www.gailonline.com/Financial_Results.html or scan:

Date: 31.07.2026
Place: New Delhi

By order of the Board
GAIL (India) Limited

Sd/-
S. K. Sinha
Director (Finance) & CFO
DIN: 10528036

Regd. Off.: 16, Bhikaiji Cama Place, R. K. Puram, New Delhi-110 066 | www.gailonline.com | CIN: L40200DL1984GOI018976

Follow us on: