



Delimitation Will Make Southern States Irrelevant, Says Revanth



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday said he had conveyed his serious concern over the BJP-led government at the Centre's proposal on delimitation of constituencies to increase Lok Sabha seats by 50 per cent uniformly across all states. Speaking at the Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting held

in New Delhi, Revanth Reddy said such a move could be politically disadvantageous to southern states. In an informal chat with mediapersons after the CWC meeting, Revanth Reddy termed the proposal as "anti-South India" and cautioned that it could allow non-southern states to determine who comes to power at the Centre,

leaving southern states with a diminished role. Revanth Reddy said southern states were already suffering financially due to reduced grants from the Centre and warned that the latest delimitation formula would result in political losses as well. "The delimitation formula is discriminatory. It is in favour of bigger states and against smaller states like Telangana. This may lead to conflict between bigger and smaller states," he cautioned. The Chief Minister suggested that the Lok Sabha seats in states should be increased based on the respective state economies and GDP growth rates. He also sought that the delimitation exercise be taken up only after the completion of the Census 2027 exercise in March 2027. Revanth Reddy opined that a uniform 50 per cent increase in seats across all states appeared to be a "conspiracy" by the BJP to secure power at the Centre without depending on southern states, where it lacks a strong ground presence.



God sent me to you, says Jeevan Reddy as he meets KCR

Hyderabad: Former Congress minister and Member of Legislative Council (MLC) T Jeevan Reddy, who tendered his resignation to the primary membership of Congress last week, met Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) at the latter's farmhouse in Erravalli on Friday afternoon, April 10. On Thursday, BRS working president KT Rama Rao (KTR) had invited Jeevan Reddy, who has been disgruntled with the Grand Old Party for the past couple of years, to join the pink party. As soon as Jeevan Reddy met KCR, he became emotional and said, "Brother, god has

sent me to you, and asked me to work with you." Former Congress minister and Member of Legislative Council (MLC) T Jeevan Reddy, who tendered his resignation to the primary membership of Congress last week, met Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) at the latter's farmhouse in Erravalli on Friday. KCR hugged Jeevan Reddy affectionately and felicitated him by wrapping a shawl around his shoulders, while the former Congress leader reciprocated. Both leaders discussed the prevailing political scenario and comforted each other.

Stamps and Registration Now on WhatsApp

Hyderabad: Citizens can now access all services of the stamps and registration department directly through the MeeSeva WhatsApp chatbot, marking a new milestone in digital governance. The measure was guided by IT and industries minister D. Sridhar Babu and commissioner T. Ravi Kiran of MeeSeva. The Electronic Service Delivery (ESD) division has successfully integrated the Inspector General of Registration and Stamps (IGRS) department services onto the MeeSeva WhatsApp/Chatbot platform. Launched in November last year, the MeeSeva WhatsApp chatbot platform provides services such as a certified copy of registration document, encumbrance certificate, purchase of stamps, franking, deficit, societies, RTI, firms and penalty via the official number 8096958096.

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla calls on Prez, PM, VP



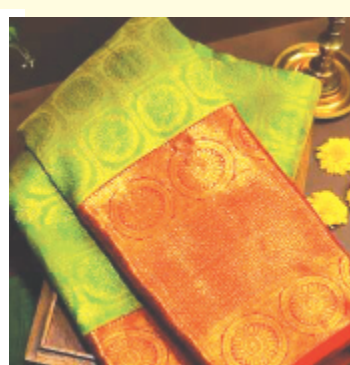
Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla paid courtesy visits to Droupadi



Murmu, Narendra Modi, and Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan in New Delhi on Friday. During his meetings with the President and the Prime Minister, the Governor expressed his gratitude for being entrusted with the

responsibility of serving as the Governor of Telangana. These visits marked his first official interactions with the top leadership of the country after assuming office. Later, Shukla also met the Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan in Delhi, in what was his first courtesy call since taking charge as Governor. The meetings were described as formal interactions aimed at strengthening coordination between the state leadership and the Union government following his recent appointment.

One Crore Parrot Green Indiramma Saris Ordered This Year



HYDERABAD: The state government has placed an order for one crore Indiramma saris for distribu-

tion to women on the occasion of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's birth anniversary on November 19. The contract, valued at ₹450 crore, has been awarded to the Telangana Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society for production. Continuing the free saree distribution scheme launched last year, the Congress government has introduced a change in colour and design. While blue saris were distributed last year to about 86 lakh women.

TG Employees JAC sets June 2 deadline for PRC implementation

Hyderabad: The Telangana Employees Joint Action Committee has set June 2 as the deadline for the state government to announce new pay scales recommended by the Pay Revision Commission. Employee unions have decided to organise demonstrations demanding the resolution of pending issues, including the clearance of benefits for retired staff. JAC Chairman V Lachi Reddy and Secretary General O Rajasekhar stated that PRC recommendations must be announced by the deadline. They urged the government to release five pending Dearness Allowance instalments immediately.



Telangana declares end of Maoist armed presence as 42 cadre surrender

Hyderabad: In what Telangana Police described as the "final collapse" of the CPI (Maoist)'s organisational structure in the state, 42 cadre of the banned outfit, including a battalion commander and senior leadership from two key formations, surrendered before the Telangana Police on Friday, April 10. The surrender, the latest in a series of capitulations that has accelerated sharply this year, included Sodi Malla alias Keshal alias Nikhil, the in-charge commander of the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army (PLGA) Battalion and a member of the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC), one of the most senior figures to have come forward this year.

Game changer projects planned for TG growth: Kishan Reddy

Union Minister G Kishan Reddy said the Central government is committed to strengthening the infrastructure of government schools. He highlighted ongoing efforts to ensure every school has access to mid-day meals, uniforms, textbooks and digital learning facilities such as smart classrooms. These measures, he said, are aimed at improving the quality of education and ensuring equitable opportunities for students. He addressed the media on Friday after chairing the Hyderabad District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meeting at Dr MCR HRD Institute, Jubilee Hills. The meeting, which lasted nearly eight hours, brought



together senior officials, including the District Collector, GHMC Commissioner, representatives of the Metro Water Board.

AI Helped State to Increase Revenue Collection, Says Bhatti

Hyderabad: Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Friday said the state has increased revenue collections through artificial intelligence, continuous tax monitoring, and administrative reforms. Speaking at a Cabinet Sub-Committee meeting at the Secretariat on Friday, Bhatti said the use of AI has improved collections, particularly in mining and transport, and directed officials to step up action against illegal sand mining, unauthorised crusher operations, illegal transport, and overloading to prevent revenue losses. The meeting was attended by ministers N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and Jupally Krishna Rao, and reviewed measures to strengthen revenue generation across departments. The deputy chief minister said GST revenues in the commercial taxes department have risen by 15 per cent over the past three months due to stricter monitoring and regular reviews. Revenues in the registration department have also shown a steady increase during the same period.



Monday, April 13, 2026

Equity in Maternal Healthcare: Leaving No Mother Behind

(On the occasion of "National Safe Motherhood Day" on 11 April)

Being a mother is one of the most beautiful and treasured periods of a women's life. Motherhood itself is the most powerful, sacred word and experience. National Safe Motherhood Day observed on 11 April is an initiative of the White Ribbon Alliance to raise attention towards adequate access to care during pregnancy, childbirth, and post-natal services. It is also a poignant reminder of the holy journey of motherhood filled with love, sacrifice, and boundless strength. This day is commemorated on April 11th annually, the birth anniversary of Kasthuba Gandhi, the wife of Mahatma Gandhi. "2026 National Safe Motherhood Day Theme: "India is among the world's most dangerous countries to give birth to, representing 15% of all maternal deaths globally. In India, 44,000 women die annually as a result of poor pre and post-natal care. According to statistics, 12% of women in India die due to complications during pregnancy, delivery, and post-delivery. The GoI announced April 11th to celebrate National Safe Motherhood Day since 2003. Around 800 plus women die every day from avoidable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth, according to WHO. About 99% of maternal deaths occur in developing countries only. The maternal mortality fell by 44% worldwide between 1990 and 2015. The day provide awareness about high-quality care for all expectant mothers to ensure safe motherhood. This includes pre and post-natal health care facilities for mothers, timely management and treatment during childbirth, and Bisht assistance by skilled health care professionals, among other goals. The theme of 2026 National Safe Motherhood Day is "Equity in Maternal Healthcare: Leaving No Mother Behind". "No One Can Substitute Mother : " Women who live in poor neighbourhoods or rural areas have a greater maternal death rate. Between 2016 and 2030, the objective is to reduce worldwide maternal mortality to less than 70 per 1,00,000 live births as a part of the Sustainable Development Goals. To save women and newborn babies, expert treatment before, during, and after childbirth must be provided. Mother is the name for God in the lips and hearts of little children. Mother is the heartbeat in the home, there seems to be no heartthrob. A mother is the women who can take the place of all others but whose place no one can substitute. " Safe motherhood means that an expectant mother is provided with the necessary information for a safe pregnancy and childbirth and even after delivery. Motherhood is a significant phase of a women's life, and no matter what, she deserves adequate care and protection during this time. On this important day, let's raise awareness, provide enhanced maternal healthcare, promote healthy pregnancy practices, and celebrate motherhood.

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy

Jeevan Reddy Quits Congress to Join BRS



Karimnagar: In a major shift in Jagtial politics, former minister T. Jeevan Reddy on Thursday confirmed his decision to join the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). The announcement followed a meeting at his residence with BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao, who was accompanied by former ministers

Gangula Kamalakar and Koppula Eshwar. Jeevan Reddy, who had been a pillar of the Congress for decades, expressed deep dissatisfaction with the current administration. Speaking to the media after the hour-long meeting, he asserted that the reconstruction of the state's future is possible only under the leadership of K. Chandrashekhara Rao. He claimed that the people of Telangana have lost significantly over the past two years and warned that the BRS must return to power to prevent further damage.

Joint OLS survey for Adilabad airport to be conducted on April 17

A final decision on the Adilabad airport project will take off after a joint survey by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, the Ministry of Defence, and the State Government to conduct an on-site Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17. Following this survey, a final decision on the runway's orientation will be made, and following that field visit--and after obtaining clearance from the Defence Ministry--approval will be granted for the master plan. Subsequently, steps will be taken to plan for the foundation-laying ceremony. These details were disclosed by the Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu following a high-level meeting on the issue of approval for the Adilabad airport in the national capital on Wednesday. Joined by the Union Minister G Kishan Reddy, they announced the Centre's readiness to give a boost to Telangana's aviation infrastructure with Warangal and Adilabad airports. Kishan Reddy highlighted that Adilabad, which already hosts a defence airstrip, has been in demand for a civilian airport for years. He confirmed that discussions with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Civil Aviation Minister Rammohan Naidu have led to a breakthrough, with the Defence Ministry agreeing to construct the airport, while the Airport Authority of India will build a civil terminal for passenger services. Rammohan Naidu said that Telangana currently has only one airport --Hyderabad and expanding aviation facilities is a priority under the



Prime Minister's vision. He announced that the foundation stone for the Warangal airport will be laid within three months, while Adilabad's project will move forward after the completion of the Obstacle Limitation Survey (OLS) on April 17. The Adilabad airport will require an additional 450 acres of land, for which the Telangana Government has responded positively to acquisition requests. Local representatives, including Adilabad MP Nagesh and MLA Payal Shankar, assured that there are no hurdles in land acquisition. Officials from Civil Aviation, Defence, and the state administration participated in the meeting, which concluded on a highly positive note. The ministers emphasised that Adilabad's strategic location makes it an ideal hub for tourism and commerce, with the potential to evolve into a major commercial centre. This marks a

significant step in decentralising aviation infrastructure in Telangana, ensuring that regions beyond Hyderabad gain access to air connectivity and economic opportunities, he added. However, in the case of a proposal for an airport in Peddapalli, the State Government has submitted a proposal identifying a specific site and "our feasibility report also indicated favourable conditions for this location." Naidu said further steps on this project will be taken once we receive a formal written response from the State Government, and that it will require about 600 to 700 acres. Further, "If large-scale airports are to be developed with a view to the future, at least 1,200 acres of land are required," he added. However, regarding Kothagudem, the land allocated by the State Government is not feasible, and this was conveyed to the State Government, he clarified.



Amid LPG concerns, Telangana's Nalgonda speeds up PNG expansion

NALGONDA: The administration is taking steps to expedite the expansion of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) supply in Nalgonda district. These measures are being implemented following orders issued by the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Nalgonda Collector B Chandrasekhar stated that expanding PNG supply is highly essential due to the ongoing crisis in the Middle East, which has disrupted fuel supplies and specifically impacted the availability of LPG in the commercial sector. Action is being taken to rapidly expand City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks in line with the Central government directives. The collector mentioned that a district-level gas distribution expansion committee has been established to reduce dependency on commercial LPG. During a meeting held in the collector's chamber on Thursday with officials from the Civil Supplies, Industries, Panchayat Raj, Electricity and Police departments, he noted that the allocation of commercial LPG to states could be increased from 20% to 50% to encourage long-term PNG usage. The expansion of the PNG network in the district is being carried out by Megha City Gas Distribution Private Limited. To expedite the project, the collector has granted permission for work to proceed 24 hours a day, provided that noise pollution regulations and safety standards are strictly followed. This special permission will remain in effect until September 30.

Desiltation of Kadam project stalled, farmers raise concerns ahead of monsoon in Telangana

ADILABAD: With just two months left for the rainy season, concerns are mounting among farmers in Nirmal as desiltation of the Kadam project taken up as a pilot by the state government remains stalled despite the tender process being completed last year. Irrigation authorities have issued notices twice to the contractor over the delay in commencing the works. Speaking to TNIE, superintendent engineer



of irrigation Rajendra Prasad said, "We have issued notices to the contractor at least three times over the delay. The district collector has also held

meetings with irrigation officials and directed that the works be completed before the rainy season. We have identified three locations for storing silt."

Karimnagar Police Book 120 Cases Against Illegal Sand Mining In March

KARIMNAGAR: Karimnagar police booked 161 people for illegal sand mining across the Karimnagar police commissionerate to curb revenue loss and environmental damage, police said on Thursday. During a month-long drive in March, police registered 120 cases and seized 149 vehicles involved in the illegal excavation, storage and transportation of sand. Cases were registered against the accused across multiple police station limits. Police commissioner Goush Alam said the rural division accounted for 73 cases and 79 vehicle seizures, followed by the Huzurabad division with 32 cases and

48 seizures, while the Town division recorded 15 cases. Karimnagar rural police station registered 28 cases and seized 36 vehicles. Police said the drive was aimed at preventing loss of government revenue and addressing risks to road safety and the environment. Between January and March, police registered 245 cases, seized 357 vehicles and booked 422 people in connection with illegal sand mining. The commissioner said police would continue strict enforcement and conduct frequent raids in vulnerable areas. He appealed to the public to share information on illegal sand mining.

Rs 1.4 crore swindled using IDs of deceased cops in Telangana's Karimnagar

KARIMNAGAR: A major scam involving misappropriation of government funds has been unearthed at the Karimnagar police commissionerate, where salaries were fraudulently drawn in the names of deceased staff. A Task Force probe revealed that around Rs 1.4 crore was syphoned off. Officials said a police employee, who had earlier worked in the pay section, used the employee IDs of three deceased constables and manipulated the IFMIS portal by adding other names. The accused allegedly opened fake bank accounts, linked them to his mobile number and withdrew salaries between 2022 and 2026 and used the money for personal expenses and to clear loans. Cases have been registered at the



One Town police station. On Wednesday, DGP Shivadhar Reddy had tweeted: "I have instructed every officer to serve with integrity, compassion, and accountability. While many uphold these values, recent ACB actions are a reminder that deviation will invite strict consequences. Report corruption on 1064."



Hyderabad Voice

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GHMC worker killed in accident

A GHMC sanitation worker was killed after a speeding RTC bus rammed into her at Amberpet on Thursday. Following the incident, the GHMC workers protested by blocking the road and demanded action against the bus driver. The victim, M Pushpa, was crossing the road and an RTC bus hit and ran over the victim. The woman died on the spot due to the severe injuries. Following the death, the GHMC workers sat on the road and blocked the thoroughfare for an hour.

Ponnam Inaugurates Samatha Kitchen, Distributes 2BHK Title Deeds



Hyderabad: Transport and BC welfare minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Wednesday inaugurated the 'Samatha Kitchen' at the Hyderabad district collectorate as part of the state government's 99-day 'Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranalika' programme and distributed 2BHK housing title deeds to beneficiaries in Bahadurpura and Karwan constituencies. The minister said the initiative was aimed at promoting inclusive development and creating live-

lihood opportunities. "The government places great priority on the Samatha Kitchen initiative, which aims to create employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, transgender individuals, and other marginalised communities," he said. Hyderabad collector Harichandana Dasari said the focus was on sustainable livelihoods through employment-oriented initiatives. She added that skill development training would be tailored to persons

with disabilities and transgender individuals to enhance employment opportunities. At Karwan in the Old City, the minister distributed 76 2BHK housing title deeds in Farooqnagar of Bahadurpura constituency and 175 in Jiyaguda, Karwan constituency. "We have completed the remaining pending works and are now delivering these double-bedroom houses to the beneficiaries," he said. He said the government would continue distribution to all eligible beneficiaries. "This government will distribute title deeds to the remaining eligible individuals as well," he said. Referring to welfare measures, the minister said, "In the last 10 years, not a single ration card was issued. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and through the 'Praja Palana', we have distributed new ration cards. If there are still any eligible individuals remaining, ration cards will be distributed to them at any time; this is a continuous process. Beyond just ration cards, we are also distributing high-quality, fine-grain rice suitable for consumption.



Harish flays Ponguleti: Calls him arrogant and bombastic

Former minister and party deputy floor leader T Harish Rao criticised Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, saying that when corruption was exposed, Ponguleti resorted to abusive language, insults, and made-up stories in defence. "Ponguleti himself admitted that the CM and all ministers are corrupt," said Rao, challenging him to accept his mistake and apologise to the public. Speaking at a press meet in Nagapur village of Revalli mandal on Thursday, he fired at Reddy. "We heard Ponguleti's arrogant words even in the highly sacred Secretariat. Despite being near the Ambedkar statue, Birla Mandir, temple, mosque, and church, he spoke only lies, instead of truth. His frustration is evident." "Ponguleti has gone into defence mode. He spoke not as a State minister, but like the head of Raghava Constructions. He is trying to protect his son. He thought he could escape by telling fabricated stories. He himself concluded that not only he, but all ministers are corrupt," said Rao. "The CM himself said that corruption in Raghava Constructions was identified by officials and fines were imposed.

Heatwave Alert For Telangana: Temperature to Cross 40



Telangana is set to witness a heatwave from April 12 to April 22, with temperatures rising above 40°C across the state. According to an X post by Telangana Weatherman, districts including Adilabad, Kumuram Bheem Asifabad, Nirmal, Mancherial, Jagtial, Peddapalli, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, and Mulugu are expected to record temperatures between 42°C and 44°C. Karimnagar, Rajanna Sircilla, Warangal, Hanamkonda, Siddipet, and Jangaon are likely to experience temperatures between 40°C and 42°C. Hyderabad, Medchal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Rangareddy, Sangareddy, Medak, Vikarabad, Mahabubnagar, Narayanpet, Wanaparthy, Nagarkurnool, and Gadwal are expected to record temperatures between 39°C and 41°C. Hyderabad is likely to see temperatures around 40°C to 41°C continuously for ten consecutive days. Rainfall activity will remain isolated, with no major rainfall expected.

Cyber Crooks Dupe BRS MLA of Rs.1 Lakh

Hyderabad: Cyber crooks duped BRS MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy of Rs.1 lakh in the name of disbursing Rs.10 lakh to 40 people in his constituency under the Viksit Bharat scheme. The caller introduced himself as Ananta rami Reddy working as an additional finance secretary in the Finance department in Telangana and cheated the MLA. The MLA received the call when he was at his residence at Nandagiri Hills in Jubilee Hills. The caller informed him that loans up to Rs.10 lakh could be disbursed under the Central government's Viksit Bharat scheme and asked the MLA to refer a list of 40 beneficiaries from his Jangaon Assembly constituency. Stating that it was the last day for enrolling the scheme, the caller asked the MLA to send Rs.1 lakh as it would incur Rs.2,500 each for beneficiary for availing the scheme.

Chief Secy asks Collectors to find innovative road safety solutions

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Secretary K Ramakrishna Rao on Thursday, April 9, directed all District Collectors to prioritise road safety and come up with creative, locally relevant solutions to reduce accidents. He held a video conference with the District Collectors to review the implementation of the "Arrive Alive" programme, a key initiative under the 99-day Praja Palana-Pragathi Pranalika. The "Arrive Alive" programme will be conducted across the state from April 13 to 18, with a series of focused activities aimed at enhancing public awareness and promoting responsible road usage. He instructed that District Road Safety Committee meetings be convened immediately to plan and effectively implement



the week-long programme. He also underscored the importance of involving local public representatives to ensure wider outreach and community participation. The Chief Secretary observed that while the state government has been proactively implementing several road safety measures, the number of road accidents continues to rise. He attributed this to the rapid increase in the number of vehicles, improved road infrastructure leading to higher speeds, lack of adequate driver training, over-speeding and reckless driv-

ing behaviour. Ramakrishna Rao reiterated that the success of the programme depends on coordinated efforts, public participation and sustained awareness campaigns, with the ultimate goal of saving lives and ensuring safer roads across the state. Director General of Police (DGP) B Shivadhar Reddy stated that the programme is not a routine exercise but a comprehensive, multi-departmental effort involving coordination among various stakeholders. He pointed out that pedestrians and two-wheeler riders constituted a majority of the road accident victims.

190 Rowdy Sheeters in Hyderabad Test Positive for Drugs: Police

Hyderabad: As many as 190 rowdy sheeters in Hyderabad positive for drugs during tests carried out by the police to 250 rowdy sheeters in twin cities. The police conducted drug tests following instructions from Hyderabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar. Of the 1300 history

sheeters, the police conducted tests on 250 of them, especially those from the old city. Of the 250, 190 of them test positive. The police sent them to de-addiction centres. Following this, the police decided to conduct similar tests to all the history sheeters in Hyderabad soon.

Telangana Intensifies HIV Awareness, Expands Prison Healthcare and Trauma Care Infrastructure

Hyderabad: Health minister Damodar Rajanarsimha on Thursday participated in multiple programmes meant to underline the government's commitment to accessible and inclusive healthcare. Rallies, human chains, and medical camps were organised to spread awareness about HIV/AIDS. The minister stressed that stigma and discrimination arose from lack of awareness and must be addressed through education. He said the government was providing free testing and treatment through 127 testing centres and 33 ART (antiretroviral therapy) centres, serving over 1.14 lakh patients. Rajanarsimha also inaugurated a three-day medical camp at Chanchalguda Jail, where inmates are being screened for HIV, tuberculosis, and other health conditions. He announced that special health camps with specialist doctors and diagnostic services will now be conducted in prisons once every three months. Along with MLA Arikepudi Gandhi, Rajanarsimha laid the foundation stone for a 100-bed critical care block at Kondapur to be built at an estimated cost of ₹41 crore. He said the state was establishing 109 trauma care centres along highways and strengthening emergency response systems, including expanding 108 ambulance services, to ensure rapid medical assistance within minutes of accidents. The government was also developing 31 critical care blocks, with several already operational and others nearing completion.

Woman, lover held for attempted murder of husband

Hyderabad: In a shocking incident, a woman allegedly attempted to murder her husband with the help of her lover in Pocharam on the city outskirts. As per information available, the suspect, Balamani, a mother of three from Ghanpur Lingapur village, along with her husband B Ramesh, had been living together when her extramarital relationship with a relative, Amar, came to light. Enraged after her husband discovered the affair, she reportedly plotted to eliminate him. On April 7, while Ramesh was asleep, Balamani and Amar allegedly attacked him with sticks. However, they fled from the spot reportedly after the victim pleaded for his life. Based on a complaint, the Pocharam IT Corridor Police have arrested Balamani and remanded her in judicial custody on Thursday, while the co-suspect Amar is currently absconding. Further investigation is on.



Harassment drives nurse to end life in Telangana

WARANGAL: A 20-year-old nurse, G Chitti, died by suicide at her residence in AK tанда in Rayaparthi on Thursday. Her family alleged that a local youngster, Nehru, had been harassing her. The victim worked at the CHC in Wardhannapet mandal. According to her father, G Pullaiah, she had informed the family about the alleged harassment on Wednesday night. He said he advised her to approach the police the next day.

Revanth Directs Repair Works of Damaged Kaleshwaram Barrages



Hyderabad: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday directed officials to take up repairs of the three damaged barrages at Medigadda, Sundilla and Annaram, part of the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation scheme (KLIS) and bring them back into use at the earliest. He directed that all works be executed in accordance with the recommendations of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) and emphasised expediting the repair process without delay. Revanth Reddy was speaking at a meeting to review the Kaleshwaram project along with irrigation minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy. He called for the preparation of a special action plan for the re-

pair works and directed officials to ensure continuous monitoring. Revanth Reddy also instructed that all concerned agencies be alerted and mobilised to accelerate the pace of work. He stressed that tests and sample collections being carried out under the supervision of the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) should be completed before the onset of the monsoon. The Chief Minister suggested forming a team comprising officials from the irrigation department, CWPRS, barrage construction agencies and design consultants, with the involvement of members from the Central Water Commission (CWC) at every stage of the work. During the meeting, engineers in-

formed the Chief Minister that not only the sunken pillar at Medigadda but the entire 1.6-kilometre barrage would need to be studied. Revanth Reddy directed officials to prepare an action plan for drilling 500 borewells near Medigadda and to arrange the necessary machinery to complete the work at the earliest. He also instructed that designs related to the repairs be finalised quickly and a comprehensive schedule for works to be taken up until December be prepared. Making it clear that there should be no delays, the Chief Minister assured that there would be no shortage of funds for the project. He directed officials to set up a base camp at Medigadda and said he would personally visit the site to inspect the works once they commence. Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, Irrigation Secretary Sri dhar, Chief Minister's secretary Manicka Raj, and senior officials from the irrigation department attended the meeting.



Uttam Urges Centre to Raise Paddy Procurement Targets Amid

Hyderabad: Civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday urged the Centre to increase the procurement of rice from Telangana. He stated that the Centre's policy of reducing procurement of custom milled rice (CMR) and boiled rice has left Telangana struggling with excess stocks, storage costs, milling expenses and interest liabilities. In a letter to Union minister for food and public distribution Pralhad Joshi, Uttam Kumar Reddy urged the Centre to address the mismatch between the state's booming paddy production and the Centre's shrinking procurement. The Congress government has witnessed a rapid surge in paddy production in both Kharif and Rabi seasons. The state procures paddy on behalf of the government of India under the decentralised procurement scheme to ensure minimum support price (MSP) to farmers and prevent distress sales. Continued procurement (by the Centre) is essential to safeguard lakhs of farmers, but the state cannot indefinitely bear the financial strain of excess paddy without adequate Central support in the form of higher boiled rice allocations and timely extensions," the minister

emphasised. Also Read - Pawan Khera Anticipatory Bail Petition-HC Reserved Orders on Maintainability He requested reallocation of 5 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) boiled rice targets for Rabi 2024-25 by reducing the raw rice target of the Food Corporation of India (FCI). Currently, 8.45 LMT of rice is yet to be delivered. The original deadline of February 28, has passed, and the state has sought a 60-day extension. The minister noted that Telangana paddy's superior grain characteristics and lower moisture levels made it ideal for boiled (par-boiled) rice conversion. Rice millers have agreed in principle to supply with only 5 per cent broke rice, offering a practical solution, he said. Uttam Kumar Reddy sought enhancement of the boiled rice target by 20 LMT for covering both Kharif and Rabi seasons — a significant jump from existing levels to better align with the state's rising production capacity. He also stressed the need for further extension of two months for Rabi 2024-25 deliveries. This is necessitated by pending physical verification of Kharif paddy stocks and the need for additional processing time.

It would have been better if AICC had directly intervened in Jeevan Reddy's issue: Jagga Reddy



It would have been better if the AICC leadership had directly intervened and resolved the issue regarding T Jeevan Reddy, said TPCC working president T Jagga Reddy. In a media chat, he responded to Congress senior leader Jeevan Reddy leaving the party, saying 'it is unfortunate that a senior Congress leader like Jeevan Reddy has left the party. In his case what was happening internally should have been reviewed at the AICC level. It would have been better if the Delhi leadership had directly stepped in and resolved the issue'. However, Reddy clarified: "this is my personal opin-

ion. MLAs and leaders switching parties is common in present-day politics. The reasons behind Jeevan Reddy changing the party cannot be discussed openly with the media; we will discuss them internally within the party." He said: "It is indeed unfortunate that Jeevan Reddy, who has been loyal to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi's family, and the Congress, has moved away from the party. Jeevan Reddy is a very senior leader in the Congress. He served as an MLA in 2014 and was later made an MLC for four districts. He is a big personality in the Congress party." The senior party stated that "based on media reports.

Recover demolition costs from violators, not public funds: Telangana HC

Hyderabad: Justice NV Shruvan Kumar of the Telangana High Court has observed that the cost of demolishing unauthorised constructions must be recovered from those responsible, and not borne by the public exchequer, while directing the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) to act on an alleged encroachment in Tarnaka. The direction came in a writ petition filed by Dachepally Chandrababu, who alleged that an arch erected by Sri Durga Pochamma Devasthanam had encroached upon a public road near the Lalaguda flyover leading towards Osmania University. The petitioner submitted that despite lodging a complaint through the GHMC mobile application on March 15, no concrete action had been taken. Hearing the matter, Justice Shruvan Kumar observed that once an unauthorised structure is established, it is incumbent upon the authorities not only to remove it but also to recover the demolition expenses from the violator. He stressed that public funds cannot be utilised for such purposes, describing cost recovery as a statutory obligation of civic authorities. Taking note of submissions by GHMC that notices had already been issued to the temple authorities, the court directed the corporation to examine the complaint, provide an opportunity of hearing to all concerned parties.



Bhagwat to open RSS founder memorial in Telangana

NIZAMABAD: RSS sarsanghchalak (chief) Mohan Bhagwat will inaugurate and dedicate the Sri Keshava Spoori Mandir to the nation on April 11 at Kandakurthi village in Renjal mandal, the ancestral home of RSS founder Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. Built at a cost of Rs 10 crore on three acres under the supervision of Seva Bharathi, the two-storey memorial houses a statue of Dr Hedgewar, an idol of Bharat Mata and exhibits including photographs and articles associated with him. All works have been completed. The Keshava Spoori Mandir will promote Ganga Harathi on the banks of the Godavari, to be conducted in line with established traditions. Bhagwat is expected to reach the village at 5 pm. He will visit historic temples, inaugurate the mandir, unveil the statues and view the exhibitions before addressing a public meeting. The programme will be held from 5.30 pm to 8 pm. Around 6,000 invitees are expected at the meeting, spread over three to five acres.

Bhatti distributes bicycles to schoolchildren



Emphasising that education is the strongest tool for progress and social transformation, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu said the government is committed to ensuring access to quality

education for every child. Speaking at bicycle a distribution programme organised by the Amma Foundation for students of government schools and colleges at Bonakal and Erru palem mandal headquarters in Madhira con-

stituency of Khammam district on Thursday, he said, "Education is the true weapon for progress. Only through education can we build an equal and ideal society without disparities. Highlighting the government's focus on education, he said recent socio-economic, educational, employment and caste surveys indicate that sustainable development is possible only through strengthening the education sector. The Deputy Chief Minister announced that the government will soon roll out a breakfast scheme benefiting around 20 lakh students in government schools from June 2, noting that "No child should attend school on an empty stomach as it affects their ability to learn". He further said that free mid-day meals will also be extended to Intermediate students from the next academic year. Stress-

ing that the government is investing heavily in education, he said every child in the state should be provided opportunities to study as far as they wish and develop into high-quality human resources. He added that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is giving special emphasis to improving educational infrastructure and facilities. Outlining key initiatives, Vikramarka said the government aims to ensure universal access to education by removing financial barriers and providing free, high-standard education comparable to corporate institutions. He said construction of 100 "Young India Integrated Residential Schools" with international standards has been initiated, each with an estimated investment of Rs 100 crore across 20-25 acres, equipped with English-medium.

Seven medical students punished for ragging at Kakatiya Medical College

Warangal: The authorities of Kakatiya Medical College (KMC), Warangal have taken disciplinary action against seven MBBS third year students for allegedly ragging juniors. The students in question were said to have been suspended for six months and expelled them from the hostel for the entire course period. It was said that some second year MBBS students have made derogatory comments against the third year students in their WhatsApp group. The third year students who came to know about the comments of the second year students recently wanted to punish them. They summoned 20 second year students to the hostel terrace, forced them to kneel, to apologise and to promise not to repeat such behavior again. One of the students recorded the incident on his mobile phone and complained to National Medical Council (NMC) and to Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences (KNRUHS) authorities besides lodging a complaint with Warangal commissionerate police. Following the complaints, the college authorities took action against the erring third year students.

Monday, April 13, 2026

Murmu hails Green India Challenge

President Droupadi Murmu was presented Vriksha Vedam 2.0, a landmark book authored by Green India Challenge founder and former MP J Santosh Kumar in New Delhi on Thursday. In a deeply moving moment, the President described the present era as both a golden age of opportunity and an age of crisis. She warned that humanity stands on the edge of greed, forgetting the sacred reality of the Pancha Bhutas, the five foundational elements of existence. Quoting the book, she noted that life flourishes only when the Earth is green. She expressed hope that the Green India Challenge would continue its transformative impact across the nation. Murmu commended the movement for its remarkable journey of planting approximately 19.6 crore saplings across diverse regions over eight years to ensure a sustainable future for all.



Atchannaidu vs Botsa Triggers Fresh Debate in AP Politics

The ruling alliance supporters have been repeatedly raising concerns about Jagan's mentality and his tenacity to go to any length for power. Now, cabinet minister Atchannaidu touched on the same as he posed a straight question to the YCP chief. Atchannaidu said Jagan can do anything for the sake of power, including going against his father, Babai (uncle), mother and sister which a dangerous trait for a politician. "When all of AP was concerned about YSR's disappearance in 2009, Jagan wasn't even accessible. He needs to convey to the public about his whereabouts when YSR situation was happening. In fact, Botsa Satyanarayana who is with YCP now had said Jagan might've been behind what happened to YSR." Atchannaidu said Jagan's men attacked Reliance industries suspecting them for YSR's death but the same Jagan partnered with them and gave Reliance a Rajya Sabha seat. These are some pretty serious comments from the TDP senior against former CM Jagan as the ruling alliance is again questioning the mentality of Jagan. This light sound extremely provocative to the YSR family supporters at first sight. But TDP supporters are saying that the fact that Jagan's loving mother Vijayamma and sister Sharmila are also against him is an indication of Isi method of operations. Reacting to this, Botsa Satyanarayana countered Atchannaidu, saying they are spreading lies for political gain. In fact, he said he was the one who brought Jagan by holding his hands on the day of YSR's demise. He further urged leaders to differ on policies rather than bring such issues into politics.



YCP Goes All Out: MAVIGUN Banners at Jagan's House!

The ex-chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, YS Jagan has this habit of changing the capital cities and related proposals whenever given the opportunity. After the vague three capitals plan between 2019 and 2024 Jagan has shifted to Machilipatnam, Vijayawada and Guntur now with MAVIGUN plan. Despite the early criticism and social media backlash for this new proposal made by Jagan, it appears that YSR Congress is going all out with regard to the publication of this MAVIGUN capital. On that note, something very interesting happened at the residence of Jagan in Tadepalli today as a banner featuring MAVIGUN was assembled here. The banner features, Jagan and also Devineni Avinash while the text depicts "Jagan 2.0 - MAVIGUN 2029." This could be a clear indication of the fact that YSR Congress is going to centralise this MAVIGUN idea for their election campaign in 2029.

Around 30 injured in poll-related violence in Assam; seven arrested



Poll-related violence in Assam on Thursday left around 30 people injured and led to seven arrests, officials said. A senior police officer alleged that Kartik Sena Sinha, contesting from Patharkandi in Sribhumi district, entered the Rangamati polling booth and argued with the presiding officer. "He claimed that fake voters had cast votes in the names of genuine voters. When the presiding officer denied the charge, he broke the EVM," the officer said. "Following this, supporters of Congress and the BJP clashed." Sinha is in a direct contest with BJP candidate and Assam minister Krishnendu Paul. "In the clash, around 25 people were injured, of whom two are in serious condition. They have been shifted to Karimganj Civil Hospital for treatment," the officer added. Senior Superintendent of Police, Sribhumi, Leena Doley visited the spot and reviewed the situation. Voting at the polling station was suspended for nearly three hours due to the violence and resumed only after election officials replaced the damaged EVM. "Sinha left the scene, and no arrest has been made yet. Further investigation is underway," the officer said. In another incident, three leaders of Assam Jatiya Parishad (AJP) were injured in a clash with BJP supporters at Khowang constituency in Dibrugarh district, another police officer told PTI. "According to reports, AJP alleged that BJP was running an IT cell at a house in the area. A group of AJP workers reached there along with the police. After some time, AJP leaders Samudra Barua, Swakhyar Borgohain and Chitrakamal Handique also went there," he added. Following a heated exchange of words, the AJP workers and BJP activists got involved in a physical brawl, in which the three AJP leaders were injured, the officer said. When contacted, Dibrugarh Senior Superintendent of Police Gaurav Abhijit Dilip said, "The building seems to be a party office and further investigation is underway to ascertain what exactly was going on there."

Army ramps-up info-warfare game after Op Sindoor, rollout to Corps level

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army has operationalised a dedicated Information Warfare Organisation and is now expanding its psychological and cyber units down to the Corps level after lessons from Operation Sindoor. Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi, speaking at the Ran Sanwad tri-services dialogue in Bengaluru on Thursday, formally revealed that the organisation comprises a Psychological Defence Division and a Command Cyber Operations Wing. "The Psychological Defence Division under a Brigadier is playing a very, very pivotal role," Gen Dwivedi said. He added that the Command Cyber Operations Wing would, "in a later time frame, also go down to the Corps headquarters." This means that the Army's 14 Corps-level formations will have their own info-warfare capabilities. The general was candid that this is the beginning of a longer journey. "We have just made the beginning. This is phase one. Based on this, we will move on to phase two and phase three," he said. The phased rollout mirrors the Army's recognition that information warfare is not a monolithic challenge. Domestic operations carry a different character from what expeditionary forces face when deployed in unfamiliar territory.



"When the expeditionary forces go, they have a different concept because they are going to an alien area. They don't even know the culture of that area," Gen Dwivedi said, underlining the layered complexity of perception management in foreign operational environments. One of the key operational decisions during Operation Sindoor, he said, was to shut down all Army social media handles, leaving only the official ADG Strategic Communication (ADG Public Information) channel active.

High Court Questions YCP Over '2029 Destruction' Campaign

The Andhra Pradesh High Court expressed serious concern over objectionable flexis and social media posts by the YCP which mentioned of 'Destruction in 2029'. The Court questioned the intention behind the provocative campaign and whom was the YCP trying to destruct — people or the state itself. The court also faulted the police for failing to deal properly with the objectionable posts. Taking cognizance of the social media posts by the party, the HC judges asked how dare they hang flexis mentioning the destruction that the leaders would unleash in 2029, when the next Assembly elections would be conducted. The flexis exhibit the audacity of the party in openly declaring to be a destructive force in the state. The Court passed



the serious comments while hearing a petition relating to YCP social media in charge Sajjala Bhargav Reddy. "Insulting the CM is equal to deriding the 5 crore people in the state. Who gave you the right to talk and post insulting other people and their families? Taking a swipe at the police, the judges said the YCP


leaders would not have ridiculed and insulted leaders of rival parties had police initiated strict action against them in the past, when the party was first elected to power. The destruction to which the YSRCP was pointing could be of Amaravati capital city, which the YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy had been opposing since the proposal was made in 2015. Jagan did not attend the foundation laying ceremony on October 22, 2015, hinting at his anti-Amaravati sentiment. After being elected to power in 2019, he made the three-capital proposal but could not proceed with it due to paucity of funds and legal hurdles. Recently, the Parliament passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026 formally recognizing Amaravati as the sole.

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Education

VOICE OF WORDS

Monday, April 13, 2026



CET likely to replace intermediate marks for degree admissions in Telangana

Hyderabad: Intermediate students may soon have to take a common entrance test (CET) for admissions to conventional undergraduate programmes offered by different universities in the State. The State government is considering a shift from the current intermediate marks-based admission system to a centralised entrance examination. The entrance test, on the lines of the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) UG conducted by the National Testing Agency for undergraduate admissions to the Central universities, is likely to be rolled out from the academic year 2027-28. Confirming the preparations for the entrance test, a senior Higher Education Department official said the roll out will not be possible for the forthcoming academic year. "But, there are plans to introduce it for the academic session 2027-28," the official said. At present, first-year degree seats are filled through the Degree Online Services, Telangana (DOST) based on the merit secured in the Intermediate Public Examinations, and course and college preference exercised by students. The Telangana Council of Higher Education and Commissionerate of Collegiate Edu-

cation hold the web-based admission counselling process. If the government approves the entrance test, the current Intermediate merit-based degree admissions will be discontinued. Instead, merit in the entrance exam and reservation will be taken as criteria for admissions to degree programmes. The entrance test will be in addition to the existing DOST web-based counselling. As per the proposal, a DOST notification will be released inviting online applications from students and faculty-wise examination conducted followed by results and rank list. Based on the merit, DOST web-based counselling will be held and seats allotted. Meanwhile, the introduction of an entrance test, as per officials, might help regulate 58 non-DOST colleges, which have been holding their own admissions. Students and student organisations have alleged that these do not follow reservation policies, and some even fail to pay fees to universities. The State government is already holding various common entrance tests such as Telangana Engineering, Agriculture and Pharmacy Common Entrance Test (TG EAPCET) for admissions to undergraduate professional programmes, including BTech and BPharmacy.

No approval for Aditya Degree Colleges, warns Telangana Council of Higher Education



Hyderabad: The Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) on Wednesday cautioned students and parents against taking admission in Aditya Degree Colleges or Aditya Business Schools in Hyderabad, which lack necessary permissions, for the academic year 2026-27. In a statement, the TGCHE said no degree colleges were sanctioned or granted permission to operate under the names of Aditya Degree Colleges or Aditya Business Schools in

Hyderabad for the academic year 2026-27 by the State government or TGCHE till date. Furthermore, no affiliation process has been initiated by Osmania University for such institutions. The Aditya Educational Institutions, the TGCHE said, have been publicizing the establishment of multiple degree colleges across Hyderabad under the names of Aditya Degree Colleges and Aditya Business Schools. These institutions were inviting admissions through Aditya Degree Admission Test and recruiting faculty without obtaining necessary approvals from the government, TGCHE or any recognised university, it said. "Any management, society or trust issuing public announcements regarding existence or operation of such unauthorised private degree colleges, without obtaining the requisite approval from the government, TGCHE or university, will be considered as violating the prescribed norms and will be liable for action under the applicable laws," it said. The TGCHE advised students and parents to verify the authenticity and approval status of the institutions before seeking admission into any private degree colleges for the academic year 2026-27. "Admissions taken in unapproved institutions will be at their own risk," the TGCHE informed students.

CBSE's New Plan Faces Execution Test

Hyderabad: Educators and parents said the changes mooted by the CBSE in its curriculum offered flexibility but raised concerns about classroom execution, teacher availability, and student pressure. The CBSE last week announced a three-language system from Class VI and a two-level pattern for mathematics and science in Class IX from 2026-27, which will be rolled out in phases. The board has said all Class IX students will write a standard 80-mark paper, with an optional 25-mark advanced paper. The advanced score will remain outside the aggregate and appear separately only if a student crosses the threshold. On paper, this lets students attempt a harder paper without risking their percentage. Teachers say the real test will be common textbooks, limited advanced content, and whether staff can manage two tiers in the same room. Dr B. Ebenezer, CBSE teacher, educator, and vice-chairperson of the Hyderabad Sahodaya Schools Complex, said, "This is a brave and strong move. The intent is clear but implementation at the classroom level will be the real challenge." That concern runs through the plan. He said it remains manageable if teaching stays common and the difference comes in the papers, where one tests basics and the other pushes higher-order thinking. Any split in textbooks or content would make it harder. "You will now have two sets of students in the same class, standard and advanced. The question is whether both will follow the same curriculum and textbook," he said. "If not, that would make things complicated." Aspirants Parents read the policy differently. Roopchand Yadav, whose child studies in a CBSE school, said the language part could reduce strain if choices are sensible. Two compulsory languages may allow a child to take the mother tongue instead of an unfamiliar one, and a carefully handled third language can widen learning. "Trouble begins," he said.



Galgotias University Faces Backlash Over Global Ranking Ads And AI Summit Robot Controversy

New Delhi: Galgotias University on Wednesday found itself at the centre of a social media storm after releasing full-page advertisements in leading Indian newspapers claiming global recognition. The advertisements, which highlighted the university as "ranked globally" and "committed to making India proud", triggered a wave of online criticism, with users flooding platforms with memes and sarcastic remarks. Many questioned the credibility of the claims, especially in light of a viral incident from the India AI summit that had already put the institution under scrutiny. Social media users were quick to mock the campaign. One user joked

that the "two top universities" were "WhatsApp University and Galgotia University". Others took a more critical tone, with comments suggesting reputational damage, saying people "laugh when they hear the name" and that parents would "think twice before admitting their children". Several posts also sarcastically linked the university's academic focus to memes, further amplifying the backlash. The outrage comes after an incident at the summit held at Bharat Mandapam, where the university was asked to vacate its stall, following allegations that a robotic dog displayed at its pavilion as an in-house innovation was actually a commercially available

product. Observers identified the robot, showcased as "Orion," as the Unitree Go2, developed by Chinese robotics company Unitree Robotics. Critics argued that showcasing an imported product as indigenous innovation at a flagship national AI event raised serious concerns about transparency and credibility. Following scrutiny, officials allegedly cut power to the university's pavilion after asking it to leave the expo. During an interaction with DD News during the AI Summit, Professor Neha Singh had described the robot as a product of the university's AI investments, claiming it could perform surveillance and monitoring tasks and was developed in-house.

Govt, Deakin University sign MoU to boost AI, skilling and research



Hyderabad: In an aim to strengthen emerging technologies and future workforce development, the state government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Deakin University for applied artificial intel-

ligence (AI), skilling, research and innovation. The agreement was signed on Thursday at the Telangana Secretariat between the President and Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University, Iain Martin, and CEO of Aikam, Phani

Nagarjuna, who represented the government. According to a release, the MoU will focus on providing AI skilling and education, including co-designed programs, executive education and workforce training, research and applied innovation that will have translational research, academic exchange, and knowledge creation in high-impact domains. It will also include ecosystem and industry engagement, aiming at startup enablement, industry partnerships, and pathways for commercialisation and innovation-led growth. "This partnership offers significant scope to develop public sector use-case applications leveraging AI, and further strengthens the India-Australia relationship," Professor Iain Martin said. Phani Nagarjuna said the partnership would help integrate applied AI research, industry collaboration and skilling to accelerate Telangana's growth as a leader in applied AI.

NEET SS 2025 Round 2 Choice Filling Extended Again Until Further Orders; Check Steps To Choice Filling Here

NEET SS 2025 Round 2 Counselling: The NEET SS 2025 choice-filling facility for round 2 counselling has been extended again until further notice. The official website of the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) states that "The choice filling for Round 2 of NEET SS Counselling has been extended until further orders. The Candidates can now exercise choice filling and are advised to stay in touch with the MCC website for further updates." The deadline for the choice filling was earlier extended until April 7, but now it has been extended until further notice. To complete their college selections, candidates must visit the official website and log in with their credentials, such as username and password. Candidates must submit their college selections before the deadline. The deadline date has not been released yet. As per the Medical Dialogues Report, the MCC stated that "As per the schedule, the academic session for the year 2025 for Super Specialty courses was to start from 10th April, 2026. In this regard, it is stated that those candidates who do not wish to participate in Round 2 for upgradation may join their respective departments at the allotted insti-

tutes. Candidates who want to use the upgrade facility in Round-2 may join their duty as soon as the Round-2 results are declared. Candidates can check out the steps to choice filling and choice locking below: Step 1: Go to the official MCC website, mcc.nic.in. Step 2: Add your registered NEET SS credentials. Step 3: Next, fill in the personal details and pay the non-refundable registration fee (INR 5,000) and refundable security deposit (INR 200,000). Step 4: Examine the available seat matrix to see how many seats are available in each specialty and institution. Step 5: In order of preference, choose the top courses and institutes. Step 6: Include as many options as you can to improve your chances of getting an allotment. Step 7: To prevent data loss, save your choice list on a regular basis. Saving does not signify final submission. Step 8: Press the 'Lock' button before the deadline. If you fail to lock, your options will be automatically locked, which may not correspond to your final preference. Step 9: Save the locked options list for future reference. Check the official NEET SS Notification Here. NEET SS 2025 Round 2 Choice Locking: Addition And Withdrawal of Seats. Previously, the MCC issued a notice regarding the addition.

CBSE To Implement 'Computational Thinking & AI' Curriculum For Classes 3-8 From 2026-27; Announces Teacher

CBSE has officially unveiled its plan for introducing a new curriculum on Computational Thinking (CT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for students from Class 3 to Class 8, which will come into effect in the academic year 2026-27. According to an official notice issued on April 9, 2026 (TRG-02), this decision by CBSE is in line with the goals of the NEP 2020 and NCFSE 2023. As part of its efforts towards this decision, CBSE has officially announced 'Computational Thinking and Understanding Artificial Intelligence' as the training theme for teachers in the 2026-27 academic year. As stated by the Board, the new curriculum seeks to assist learners in developing logical reasoning abilities, identifying patterns, and solving problems through systematic approaches. The ethical aspects of AI should also be made known to learners at an early age.



International News

VOICE OF WORDS

Monday, April 13, 2026

India, US review West Asia crisis, defence and tech ties during Foreign Secretary's Washington visit

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met senior US officials in Washington during a three-day visit, discussing developments in West Asia and the Indo-Pacific, while reviewing defence and trade ties and exploring ways to deepen cooperation. Misri held talks with Under Secretary of War for Policy Elbridge Colby at the Pentagon, following their recent meeting in New Delhi on the sidelines of the India-US Defence Policy Group meeting. Colby had visited India last month for discussions on advancing the bilateral defence partnership. The foreign secretary's visit comes as India and the United States seek to stabilise ties after a period of strain, including trade frictions and differences over regional security issues. "Sustaining the momentum of India-US defence exchanges, Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri had another wide ranging conversation with Under Secretary of War for Policy Elbridge Colby @USWPColby at the Pentagon, covering the ongoing developments in the Indo-Pacific region and West Asia," the Indian Embassy in the US said in a post on X. He also met Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment Mike Duffey, with talks focusing on strengthening defence industrial, technology and sup-



ply chain linkages in line with the framework for the bilateral Major Defence Partnership signed last year. "Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri had a fruitful interaction with the Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment Mike Duffey @USD ASDuffey at the Pentagon," the embassy said in another post on X. Misri also met Under Secretaries Jeffrey Kessler and William Kimmitt at the Department of Commerce to expand cooperation in commercial and critical technologies and discussed building resilient and trusted supply chains. "Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri met Under Secretaries Jeffrey

Kessler @BISgov and William Kimmitt @TradeGov to expand cooperation in commercial and critical technologies – key to transforming the India-US partnership for the 21st century. They also discussed building resilient and trusted supply chains," the embassy said. Meanwhile, Air Chief Marshal AP Singh, who is also on an official visit to the United States, visited Peterson Space Force Base and interacted with General Gregory M Guillot, Commander, US NORTHCOM. The two sides exchanged views on operational issues and the growing partnership, the Indian Air Force said.



Israel kills top Hezbollah official as Netanyahu says Lebanon strikes will continue 'wherever necessary'

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday that the country would keep hitting Iran-backed Hezbollah "wherever necessary", the day after Israeli strikes pummelled Lebanon. The Israeli military carried out further strikes in southern Lebanon on Thursday, killing at least five people in Abassiyeh, a village near Tyre, according to the civil defence agency. "We are continuing to strike Hezbollah with force, precision, and determination," Netanyahu said on his personal X account. "Our message is clear: anyone who acts against Israeli civilians -- we will strike them. We will continue to hit Hezbollah wherever necessary, until we fully restore security to the residents of the north" of Israel, he added. Netanyahu's remarks come as Israel's military said Thursday it had struck and killed a close adviser to Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem in Beirut a day earlier, when Israeli strikes pummelled Lebanon. "Yesterday, the IDF struck in the Beirut area and eliminated Ali Yusuf Harshi, the personal secretary and nephew of Hezbollah Secretary-General Naim Qassem," a military statement said. Harshi was "a close associate and personal adviser to... Qassem and played a central role in managing and securing his office", it added. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks during a press conference in Jerusalem. Meanwhile, rescuers searched for survivors under the rubble of destroyed buildings in Beirut on Thursday as Lebanon observed a day of mourning after Israeli strikes across the country killed more than 200. Israel's simultaneous strikes on Wednesday, carried out without warning and targeting the heart of Beirut and several other regions of Lebanon, killed at least 203 people and wounded 890, according to the most recent toll from the health ministry. Hezbollah, for its part, announced that it had fired rockets at northern Israel overnight in response to what it called "the enemy's violation of the ceasefire". "This response will continue until the Israeli-American aggression against our country and our people stops," Hezbollah said. It was the first action announced by the Iran-backed armed group since the announcement of a ceasefire between Iran and the United States a day prior.

UK pushes for ceasefire extension to Lebanon as Starmer tours Gulf



LONDON: Britain's foreign minister said Thursday the UK "strongly" wanted to see Lebanon included in the ceasefire in the Middle East as Prime Minister Keir Starmer arrived in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). "We do want to see the ceasefire extended to Lebanon. I'm deeply troubled about the escalating attacks that we saw from Israel in Lebanon yesterday," Yvette Cooper told Sky News. "We've seen the humanitarian consequences, the huge mass displacement of people in Lebanon. So we do strongly want to see the ceasefire extended to Lebanon," she said. Cooper's comments came as Starmer arrived in the UAE on the second leg of his visit to the Gulf to meet with regional leaders in an effort to bolster the ceasefire in the Middle East war. Starmer on Wednesday met Saudi Arabia's de facto leader, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Jeddah. "The prime minister began by welcoming the ceasefire and set out how efforts must now be focused on upholding it and turning it into a lasting peace," a Downing Street spokesperson said in a statement. "He was clear that it was vital now to continue work to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, and discussed the UK's ongoing efforts to convene partners to agree and plan the practical steps required to give shipping the confidence to transit the Strait," the spokesperson added.



Iran Flags Mine Risk In Strait of Hormuz, Announces Alternative Transit Routes After Closure Over Israel Strikes

Iran has issued alternative navigation routes for vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz, warning of the risk of sea mines in parts of the strategically key shipping route, according to AFP. The announcement comes after Iran once again effectively shut the Strait of Hormuz in response to Israeli strikes on Lebanon, Iranian state media reported, as cited by AP. On the other side, Israel has maintained that its operations against Hezbollah fall outside the scope of the US-Iran ceasefire agreement. US Vice President JD Vance echoed this position, stating that Washington had never said Lebanon was part of the truce deal. "If Iran wants to let this negotiation fall apart, over Lebanon, which has nothing to do with them, and which the United States never once said was part of the ceasefire, that's ultimately their choice," Vance said, as quoted by AFP. In a statement carried by local media and reported by news agency AFP, Iran's Revolutionary Guards said ships must follow revised traffic patterns to ensure maritime safety and avoid possible contact with sea mines. The advisory laid out specific entry and exit corridors aimed at reducing risks for commercial ves-

Four dead, 38 rescued during attempted channel crossing from France to UK



EQUIHEN BEACH: French authorities said that at least four people, two men and two women, died on Thursday as they were trying to get onboard an inflatable boat to attempt the perilous sea crossing from northern France to the UK. The prefect of the Pas-de-Calais region in northern France, François-Xavier Lauch, said 38 others were rescued, including one whose condition involved medical emergency. He spoke while rescue operations were still ongoing on Equihen Beach on Thursday morning. Lauch said migrants were carried away by dangerous currents as they were trying to embark on a "taxi-boat," the name authorities use for small motorized boats, usually inflatable, used by traffickers to pick up people along large stretches of the northern French coast. Thursday's incident happened along a broad ex-

panse of sand, backed by dunes and a forest where people attempting the perilous crossing hide out, sometimes for days at a time, as they wait for boats and suitable weather and sea conditions. Police patrol on buggies and keep watch from the remains of World War II-era bunkers but cannot prevent all departures on a beach so long. Attempted crossings and deaths have surged in recent days. French maritime authorities said Wednesday 102 people have been rescued in two separate operations while trying to cross the channel. Last week, two people died in a similar incident off the coast north of Calais. Unlike inflatable boats that migrants carry themselves into the water, so-called "taxi boats" set off largely empty from secluded spots along the coast and pick up migrants from prearranged rendezvous areas on beaches.

North Korea Conducts 3-Day Cluster-Warhead Missile Tests, Expands Nuclear Capabilities And Escalates Tensions With South Korea



Seoul: North Korea on Thursday said its testing spree this week involved various new weapons systems, including ballistic missiles armed with cluster-bomb warheads, as it pushes to expand nuclear-capable forces aimed at rival South Korea. The report by North Korean state media came a day after South Korea's military said it detected North Korea firing multiple missiles from an eastern coastal area in its second round of launches in two days. North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency said the tests lasted three days starting Monday and also included demonstrations of

anti-aircraft weapons, purported electromagnetic weapons systems and carbon-fiber bombs. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missiles launched Wednesday flew 240 to 700 km before falling into the sea, and that it also detected at least one projectile launched on Tuesday from an area near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang. Japan's Defence Ministry said none of the weapons fired Wednesday entered waters within its exclusive economic zone, while the US military said the North Korean launches on Tuesday and Wednesday posed no immediate threat to the United States or its allies. KCNA said the latest tests included demonstrations of cluster-munition warhead systems mounted on the nuclear-capable Hwasong-11 ballistic missiles, which resemble Russia's Iskander missiles in their design for low-altitude, maneuverable flight to evade missile defence systems. The report said the launches confirmed that the short-range missile, when armed with such warheads, "can reduce to ashes any target covering an area of 6.5-7 hectares (16 to 17.2 acres) with the highest-density power". South Korea's military did not immediately comment on the North Korean military claims. The launches underscored continuing tensions between the Koreas, blunting South Korean hopes for warmer relations. In a statement Tuesday night, Jang Kum Chol, a first vice minister at Pyongyang's Foreign Ministry.

VOICE OF WORDS

BUSINESS

India a 'safe anchor' amid global uncertainty: Shaktikanta Das



World Bank Raises India's FY27 Growth Forecast To 6.6% On Back Of FTAs, Robust Domestic Demand

The Indian economy is expected to grow at a rate of 6.6 percent in financial year 2026-27, according to the latest report of the World Bank on South Asia's economic outlook amid the West Asia crisis. The global lender had earlier projected a growth of 6.3 percent for the Indian economy. The upward revision comes even as the South Asian region is reeling under severe energy disruptions due to the United States-Israel-India war. The latest report highlighted recently signed free trade agreements and robust domestic demand as the key reasons behind the upward revision. "India's new FTAs with the European Union and the United Kingdom comprise tariff cuts on more than 95 percent of traded goods, along with trade facilitation measures for both goods and services," the report mentioned.

The two FTAs provide Indian consumers and firms with easier access to cheaper imported final goods and intermediate inputs, as well as greater foreign market access for exporters, it said. Moreover, Indian exports would also get a boost. According to the report, about half of India's total exports in 2024 were shipped to advanced economies. At about 23 percent of total exports, India not only exported more goods and services to the European Union and the United Kingdom than to any other advanced-economy region, but it also exported a larger share to European markets than many other major EMDEs (Emerging Market and Developing Economies). The report said that India's robust growth numbers will lift the collective economic growth prospects of the South Asian region. It said that the region's economic growth is expected to slow to 6.3 percent in 2026 amid dislocations in global energy markets. Still, South Asia remains the fastest-growing EMDE region, thanks to the strength of India's economy. The rest of the region is expected to grow at a pace comparable to other EMDEs. However, it also warned of downside risks to growth. It said the region's growth prospects could be dampened by more persistent global energy market dislocations or by adverse spillovers from the adoption of artificial intelligence in major export markets.

Ola Electric Stock Jumps 17% On Back Of Newly Developed LFP Cell

While the broader market indices on Thursday remained under pressure due to uncertainty arising out of the fragile ceasefire agreement, the stock of Ola Electric Mobility defied the trend on the bourses. The stock of the electric scooter manufacturer jumped over 17 percent during the trade on Tuesday had informed the



exchanges that it had developed an in-house LFP cell, which is expected to reduce the production cost of its scooters. "Ola Electric today announced the readiness of its in-house developed Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) cell, marking a key milestone in its mission to accelerate electric mobility and build a full-stack energy ecosystem," the company said in a statement on Tuesday. The cell has been developed as part of Ola's vertically integrated battery innovation efforts. The new 46100 format LFP cell is bigger than the current NMC 4680.

At a time when the global economy is grappling with uncertainty and instability, India has continued to demonstrate resilience and adaptability, emerging stronger from successive crises, Shaktikanta Das said on Thursday. Speaking at the AIMA National Leadership Conclave in New Delhi, the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister emphasised that India's growth story goes beyond mere survival during turbulent periods. "India has not just endured crises—it has transformed through them and emerged measurably stronger," Das noted. He pointed out that the global economic environment remains "unsettled and charged," with challenges such as geopolitical tensions, supply chain disruptions and uneven growth prospects. Risks, he added, are currently tilted toward the downside. Despite these headwinds, India's economic performance has remained robust. Das highlighted that the country recorded a real GDP growth of 7.6% in FY26, with an average growth rate of 7.8% over the past five years. According to him, this resili-

ence is underpinned by several key factors, including macroeconomic stability, consistent policymaking, infrastructure-led development and strong domestic demand. Das also stressed the importance of maintaining low inflation, calling it essential for economic stability and inclusive growth. "Inflation is often described as a tax on the poor. Keeping it low enhances consumers' spending power," he said. Reflecting on India's policy response during global crises, he said authorities adopted a calibrated approach—introducing fiscal and monetary expansion when needed, followed by timely withdrawal to prevent excess liquidity from destabilising the system. He further highlighted structural shifts in the economy, including rapid digitalisation, expansion of infrastructure and growth in emerging sectors such as electronics and semiconductors. On the global front, Das underscored India's emphasis on strategic autonomy and diversified partnerships, reducing dependence on any single country. "Our decisions are guided by national interest," he said. De-



scribing India as a "safe anchor" in an increasingly volatile world, he noted that the country offers stability, predictability and long-term growth opportunities amid widespread global uncertainty. Looking ahead, Das expressed confidence in India's economic trajectory, citing strong structural drivers such as a favourable demographic profile, rising consumption, infrastructure investment and digital public infrastructure. "These are not temporary tailwinds—they are durable and compounding strengths," he said. He also advised businesses to focus on resilience by strengthening balance sheets, diversifying supply chains and investing in future readiness.

BPCL Appoints Sanjay Khanna As CMD, Leads Rs 75,000 Crore Investment Drive Through 2029



Mumbai: BPCL has formalized its top leadership appointment at a time when the company is preparing for one of its largest capital investment cycles in refining and petrochemicals. BPCL confirmed that Sanjay Khanna has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director from April 9, 2026, following board approval and a directive from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. His tenure will continue until May 31, 2029, or until further orders. Khanna had already been handling the additional responsibility of CMD since May 1, 2025, ensuring a smooth leadership transition and continuity in decision-making at the company's highest level. With over three decades of experience, Khanna brings deep expertise in refinery operations and technical services. He holds a chemical engineering degree from the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, and a postgraduate qualification in finance management from Mumbai University. His leadership journey includes heading BPCL's Kochi and Mumbai refineries and overseeing major process unit expansions, reinforcing operational strength across key assets. Khanna's elevation comes alongside BPCL's ambitious capital expenditure roadmap of Rs 75,000 Crore planned over the next five years. A significant portion of this includes the Rs 50,000 Crore Bina Petrochemical and Refinery Expansion Project in Madhya Pradesh, the company's largest investment to date. He also played a critical role in commissioning the Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project at Kochi, a milestone initiative delivered despite pandemic-related disruptions. Beyond BPCL, Khanna serves on the boards of Bharat PetroResources Limited, Petronet LNG Limited, and Ratnagiri Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited. He also



BMW beats slowdown in luxury car market amid EV push, sales surges 17% in Q1 to 4,567 units

German carmaker BMW continues to outshine rival luxury brands with its best-ever first-quarter performance in calendar year 2026. The company posted 17% year-on-year (YoY) sales growth to 4,567 units in Q1, far surpassing the overall luxury car market's modest 3% rise to around 14,000 units. BMW's success in a challenging landscape stems from robust demand for its electric vehicles (EVs). The company's EV leadership continued in Q1, with 1,185 BMW and MINI EVs sold, a massive 83% YoY increase. BMW holds the largest market share of over 70% in India's luxury EV segment, with EV penetration reaching 26% of total sales. Hardeep Singh Brar, President and CEO of BMW Group India, attributed the surge in EV demand to the global oil crisis, especially in March, as it convinced many customers that EVs are the way forward. He expects strong demand for BMW EVs to persist, backed by a wide portfolio, robust launch pipeline and entry into new markets. On the broader luxury car market, Brar noted that demand has moderated amid macroeconomic and geopolitical headwinds. Compared to this small market, India's overall passenger vehicle (PV) wholesales rose 16% year-on-year to about 450,000 units

in March 2026. "The market for expensive cars isn't doing well because customers in this segment are far more dependent on global economics, unlike the mass market's salary class and corporate buyers who receive steady monthly income," he said. "Business class buyers, reliant on global economics, are being conservative right now. They're reserving cash flow to ensure they can run their businesses if anything happens. Stock market-dependent customers are also proceeding cautiously," Brar added. He warned that if geopolitical tensions persist, the luxury car market could face further moderation and even supply chain disruptions for components. BMW had achieved its highest-ever annual sales in India last calendar year, selling 18,001 cars (17,271 BMW and 730 MINI units), up 14% year-on-year. The total market, which has players like Mercedes-Benz, Audi and JLR, grew at low single digit to about 52,000 units. In 2026, BMW Group India will launch 27 new products, including all-new generation models, major facelifts and special limited editions from BMW, MINI and BMW Motorrad. The company will also increase its footprint by opening 19 outlets in 18 cities. Today, the total number of touchpoints across the three brands is 97 in 40 cities.

India rides out global storm with strategic calm: Jyotiraditya Scindia

India has been able to navigate the current global turbulence through a combination of democratic maturity, strategic diplomacy, diversification and decisive policymaking, Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Thursday. Addressing an event organised by the All India Management Association in New Delhi, Scindia highlighted the challenges posed by ongoing global instability, including disrupted supply chains, heightened geopolitical tensions and volatility in energy markets. "The current instability has sent shockwaves through the global system, affecting supply chains and energy markets. In such an environment, where energy remains the backbone of economies, India has managed to navigate these choppy waters," he said. The minister credited the Centre's proactive approach, noting that over the past few weeks, the Prime Minister has put in place a structured framework to address emerging challenges and convert them into opportunities. He pointed out that India has strengthened engagement with multiple countries while ensuring continuity in critical supply routes. "Indian vessels continue to move through the Strait of Hormuz and reach our shores, while we ensure that domestic stakeholders are protected from global volatility," Scindia said. According to him, this reflects the country's growing institutional strength across governance, diplomacy and execution. Turning to the telecom sector, Scindia said the government is investing over ₹1.39 lakh crore to expand broadband connectivity across the country, with the goal of linking every village through optical fibre networks. He added that 45% of the allocation is earmarked for capital expenditure, while the remaining 55% will be used to maintain the infrastructure over the next decade. A 10% increase in broadband penetration, he noted, has the potential to significantly boost economic growth. Looking ahead, Scindia projected that India could add between \$1.5 trillion and \$2 trillion to its GDP over the next five to ten years through such initiatives. He also outlined ambitious plans for the postal network, stating that the government aims to transform India Post into a global logistics powerhouse. With a network of around 1.6 lakh branches, the department is being repositioned to play a larger role in the logistics ecosystem. Highlighting recent initiatives, the minister said new services such as 24-hour and 48-hour Speed Post have been launched to improve efficiency and reliability. He added that the Department of Posts is expected to register double-digit growth in FY25-26 and expressed confidence that it could transition from a cost centre.



VOICE OF WORDS

HEALTH

Woman reaps benefits of plant-based diet



Brenda Workman, 63, who lives in Princeton, West Virginia, US, spent her entire life in a weight loss-weight gain cycle. She would lose some weight with discipline, but her cravings for foods high in sugar and fat would result in overeating and weight gain again. Workman shares with Today that her BMI landed in the obese category. She is still sensitive about revealing her maximum weight.

Deteriorating health

Being obese, Workman felt lethargic and her joints would hurt. She'd had high cholesterol for about 25 years and was taking a statin to control it. In , she felt dizzy and checked her blood pressure reading. It was high. The high reading persisted for days and she contacted her doctor. The doctor put her on medication to lower her blood pressure and also suggested switching to a plant-based diet.

Going vegan

Workman became a vegan by quitting all animal products – meat, cheese, eggs and dairy. It was a big change as she shared that she “grew up on biscuits and gravy, meat at every meal and sausage and all the things that go with causing obesity,”

Keep experimenting with recipes :

Switching to a plant-based diet can be difficult, and Workman found that experimenting with recipes can help. Now, her breakfast consists of oats or a cold cereal with berries on top. She sometimes makes pumpkin muffins. She eats a big salad for a meal every day, which includes lots of greens, roasted potatoes, chickpeas and all kinds of vegetables. Brown rice with beans is her go-to meal. Now, instead of sugar, she uses dates, raisins, fruits or a bit of maple syrup to sweeten her dishes.

Benefits of plant-based diet :

According to studies in the Journal of the American Heart Association, eating a nutritious plant-based diet may lower cholesterol levels and reduce the risk of heart attack, stroke, and heart failure. According to nutritionists, vegans should consider a B12 supplement since that vitamin is only found in animals.

Complete transformation

Three years after making the change, Workman says she has lost 27 kilos and no longer needs medicine to lower her blood pressure and cholesterol. “I cried because I thought I would never be off statin drugs for the rest of my life. A lot of people as they age think, ‘It’s always going to be this way, I’m just getting old, these chronic diseases are just going to happen. I have to accept it.’ And I’m a firm believer now that food really does matter,” she shared.



Vitamin B12 deficiency can be extremely harmful for the body

Our body requires 2.4 micrograms of vitamin B12 on a daily basis. But do you know deficiency of even this small amount can put the body at extreme risk? Vitamin B12 is also called Cobalamin. It is one of the 8 vitamin Bs which the body needs for the normal functioning of the nervous system. Since plants do not make vitamin B12, the only foods that have vitamin B12 in them are meat, eggs, and dairy products. Vitamin B12 deficiency can be spotted by the symptoms its deficiency shows. Sometimes the signs of vitamin B12 deficiency can be confused with something else, hence it is better to get it tested medically.

Difficulty in walking; having balance problem

People with vitamin B12 tend to walk with feet wide apart. This unsteady walk can be an indicator of other health conditions, but due to vitamin B12 deficiency the peripheral nerve damage affects the movement of the individual. The person might also experience numbness in feet and limbs which also affects the smooth movement of the individual.

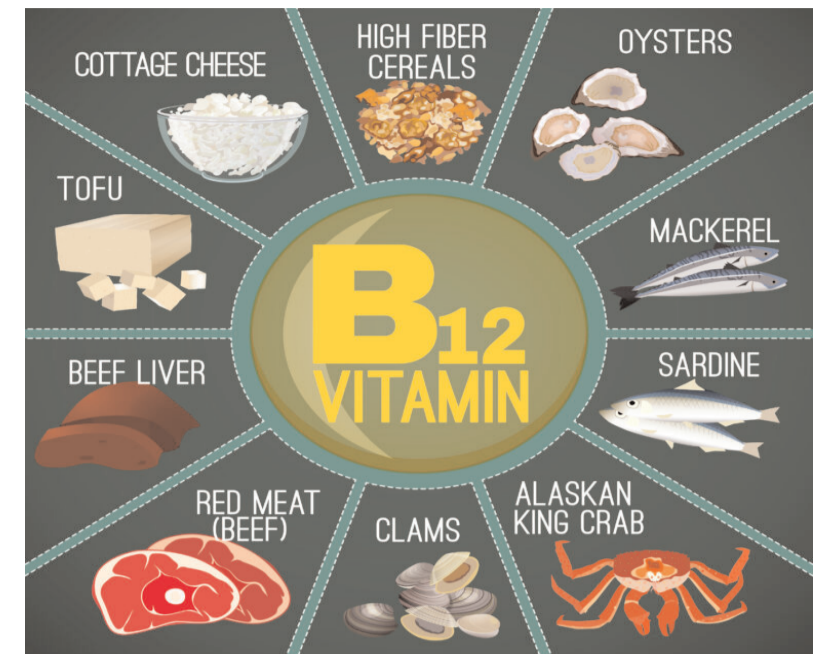
Swollen tongue

A swollen tongue can be an early indicator of vitamin B12 deficiency. Swollen tongue with straight long lesions is a classic sign of vitamin B12 deficiency.

The tongue is often red and is accompanied by pins and needle sensation.

Depression

A 2018 study on the case of a 55-year-old man by experts at the Department of Neurosurgery, Ispat General Hospital, Rourkela, Odisha found the neurological link of vitamin B12 deficiency. The patient's "memory was disturbed, judgment impaired, had a changed personality as he had become isolated, apathetic, and withdrawn. He was also unwilling to think and depressed." The patient was treated with Vitamin B12 and folic acid. "His blood was sent for vitB12 and folic acid estimation, and he was started with vitB12 1000 microgram intramuscularly once daily and olanzapine 5



mg at bedtime. His serum VitB12 and folic acid value came to be 90 pg and 10 ng/ml, respectively. His weakness improved significantly with immediate effect, all other symptoms took around 1 month to improve," the study report says

Increased heart beats

Many health reports say a faster heart rate, without any other explanation is an indication that the body does not have sufficient vitamin B12. The heart makes up for the reduced number of red blood cells which happens when the body lacks vitamin B12. This puts additional pressure on the heart to pump more blood to the body.

The common signs of vitamin B12 one should know

It is essential to notice the early signs of a disease so that it is treated early. The common signs of vitamin B12 are strange sensations in the body which often seem like numbness or tingling sensation in feet and limbs. The person may feel weak all the time; there will be physical exhaustion due to fatigue and mental exhaustion due to difficulty in thinking and reasoning. Anemia is a common sign of vitamin B12.

When to worry: The red flags of nerve pain you should never ignore



Understand the vital differences between nerve pain and muscle strain to ensure an effective recovery. Pain can often feel similar on the surface, but its underlying cause can vary significantly. One of the most common areas of confusion is distinguishing between nerve pain and muscle pain, two conditions that may overlap in sensation but require very different approaches to treatment and care. Understanding this difference is crucial, as misinterpreting the source of pain can delay recovery or even worsen the condition. While muscle pain is often linked to strain, overuse, or injury, nerve pain may stem from compression, irritation, or damage to the nerves themselves. The way these pains present, whether through sharp, radiating sensations or dull, localised aches, can offer important clues, but they are not always easy to decode without proper guidance. For individuals dealing with persistent discomfort, recognising these subtle differences can be the first step toward effective treatment. It also raises important questions about when to seek medical attention, how to manage symptoms safely, and what signs should not be ignored. To better understand the differences, we spoke with an orthopaedic surgeon. Dr Raju Vaishya, senior consultant orthopaedic and joint replacement surgeon at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi, tells indian-express.com, “Nerve pain is typically sharp, burning, electric, or shooting in nature, often radiating along a specific nerve pathway (e.g., down the arm or leg). It



may be associated with tingling, numbness, “pins and needles,” or weakness. Symptoms often worsen with certain positions (e.g., spinal movement).” He continues, “Muscle pain, in contrast, is usually dull, aching, or cramp-like, localised to a specific area, and aggravated by movement or palpation. It may be associated with stiffness or soreness, especially after activity or strain.” A key distinguishing feature, he says, is radiation and neurological symptoms in nerve pain versus localised tenderness in muscle pain. Common causes of nerve pain vs muscle pain Dr Vaishya explains that nerve pain commonly results from nerve compression or irritation, such as disc herniation (sciatica), cervical radiculopathy, carpal tunnel syndrome, diabetes (peripheral neuropathy), or trauma. “Muscle pain is more often due to overuse, strain, minor injuries, poor posture, exercise-related soreness, or muscle imbalance,” he notes, adding that it can also occur with infections or inflammatory conditions like myositis. In daily life, Dr Vaishya says that prolonged sitting, improper ergonomics, or heavy lifting can contribute to both, but nerve pain typically involves structural or metabolic nerve involvement, while muscle pain is mechanical or inflammatory. When to seek medical help and warning signs He adds that red flags for nerve-related pain “include radiating pain, numbness, tingling, weakness, loss of coordination, or bowel/bladder dysfunction (possible spinal emergency).” Night pain or pain not relieved by rest also warrants attention.

VOICE OF WORDS

WOMEN

Primer To Mascara, The Right Sequence To Apply



Whether you are getting ready for a party or heading to the office, eye makeup has the power to completely transform your overall personality. The eyes are the most captivating feature of the face. It is often said that the eyes can convey a great deal without uttering a single word, and the right eye makeup can make this expression even more impactful.

Whether you are getting ready for a party or heading to the office, eye makeup has the power to completely transform your overall personality. However, achieving perfect eye makeup is an art form. Therefore, to make your eyes look even more beautiful and alluring, there are certain points you should keep in mind while applying eye makeup. Before you begin your eye makeup, make sure to apply an eye primer or a light layer of concealer over your eyelids. This evens out the skin tone around the eyes and helps the eyeshadow stay put for a longer duration. It also ensures that the colours appear more vibrant and vivid. When applying eyeshadow, select colours that complement your outfit and skin tone. Always apply a light brown or nude shade to your crease line. Blending is the most crucial element of eye makeup. Use a brush to blend the colours seamlessly so that no harsh lines or edges are visible. Eyeliner serves to define and shape your eyes. If you have small eyes, avoid applying a very thick line, as this can make your eyes appear even smaller. A winged eyeliner style gives the eyes a slightly larger and lifted appearance. Apply kohl (kajal) or gel liner along your upper waterline (inner lash line) to make your eyelashes appear thicker and fuller. Eye makeup remains incomplete without mascara. Before applying mascara, use an eyelash curler and then apply two coats of mascara - the first to add length, and the second to add volume. Be careful to ensure that no clumps form in the mascara. Your eyebrows act as the frame for your eyes. Well-defined eyebrows give your entire look a polished and professional finish. Use an eyebrow pencil or powder that is one shade lighter than your natural hair colour. Apply a small amount of highlighter or a shimmer shade to the inner corners of your eyes and along the brow bone. This simple trick instantly brightens your eyes.



5 benefits of using rice water for hair

For centuries, women in Japan and Southeast Asia have relied on a surprisingly simple hair care secret: rice water. This starchy liquid, left over from soaking or cooking rice, is packed with nutrients that can transform your tresses from dull to dazzling. If you're tired of harsh chemicals and endless product lists, here are 5 reasons why rice water deserves a spot in your hair-care routine.

Strengths hair strands:

Rice water is a potent source of amino acids, vitamins, and minerals, including B vitamins and antioxidants. These nutrients work synergistically to nourish the hair follicles, fortify the hair shaft, and minimize the occurrence of breakage and split ends. Regular use can lead to visibly stronger and more resilient hair.

Promotes hair growth:

Inositol, a carbohydrate present in rice water, plays a pivotal role in promoting hair growth. It penetrates deep into the hair shaft, repairing damage and revitalising dormant hair follicles. The result is an environment conducive to accelerated hair growth, leading to increased volume and a fuller, healthier appearance over time.

Improves hair elasticity:

Hair subjected to heat styling, chemical treatments, or environmental stressors often loses its nat-



BEAUTY BENEFITS OF RICE WATER FOR SKIN

- 1 Skin brightening
- 2 Anti-ageing
- 3 Boosts skin barrier health
- 4 Soothes sun damage
- 5 Mattifies oily skin



ural elasticity, becoming more prone to breakage. Rice water addresses this concern by restoring the hair's flexibility, making it less susceptible to damage. This is particularly beneficial for individuals with brittle or damaged hair seeking to rebuild and fortify their strands.

Boosts shine and manageability:

Rice water is rich in starch, which coats the hair shaft, smoothing the

cuticle and creating a reflective surface that amplifies the shine. This natural conditioner also detangles strands, making hair more manageable and less prone to frizz and breakage.

Cleanses and conditioning:

Beyond its restorative properties, rice water acts as a natural cleanser for the scalp. It effectively removes impurities and excess oils, promoting a clean and healthy environment for hair growth. Simultaneously, the conditioning elements in rice water leave the hair feeling silky and well-nourished, striking a balance between cleanliness and hydration.

Try This 30-Day Remedy

Step By Step for acne



Turmeric is an amazing remedy for acne. It can help reduce inflammation, redness, and irritation while also helping to clear up your skin. This is because turmeric has antibacterial, antiseptic, and anti-inflammatory properties that help to reduce the infection-causing bacteria on the skin as well as reduce inflammation and redness. Additionally, it can help reduce the oiliness of the skin, which can help clear up acne.

Remedy For Acne With Turmeric

Here is a 30-day remedy for acne with turmeric:

Day 1: Start with making a face mask using 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of honey, and 1 teaspoon of rose water. Apply the mixture to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Day 2: Make a scrub by mixing 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of oatmeal, and 1 teaspoon of honey. Massage your face with it

for 5 minutes and then rinse it off with warm water. Healthy Living Unveiled: Discover the 10 Secrets of Indian Grandmothers

Day 3: Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of lemon juice, and 2 teaspoons of water. Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 10 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Day 4: Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of honey, and 2 teaspoons of yoghurt.

Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Day 5: Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of raw honey, and 1 teaspoon of milk.

Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Days 6-10: Repeat the same routine as Days 1-5.

Days 11-15: Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of jojoba oil, and 1 teaspoon of honey.

Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Days 16-20: Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of aloe vera gel, and 1 teaspoon of honey.

Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of apple cider vinegar, and 1 teaspoon of honey.

Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

Make a paste with 1 teaspoon of turmeric powder, 1 teaspoon of honey, and 1 teaspoon of coconut oil. Apply the paste to your face and let it sit for 15 minutes before rinsing it off with warm water.

VOICE OF WORDS

SPORTS

Atletico punish 10-man Barcelona, take control of Champions League tie



BARCELONA: Julian Alvarez and Alexander Sorloth's goals earned Atletico Madrid a commanding 2-0 lead over 10-man Barcelona in a tense Champions League quarter-final first leg clash on Wednesday. The La Liga leaders were on top in the all-Spanish tie at Camp Nou before Pau Cubarsi was sent off for bringing down Atletico's Giuliano Simeone, who was through on goal. Alvarez whipped home the resulting free-kick and Sorloth doubled their advantage with 20 minutes remaining to give Atletico a strong chance of reaching the semi-finals. Diego Simeone's side, who have never won the competition, reached the 2014 and 2016 finals but were beaten by rivals Real Madrid on both occasions. "We have things to improve and learn from... we're happy for the win but there's a long way to go," Atletico's Antoine Griezmann told Movistar. "We're very far from the semis, we're 90 or more minutes away... we're confident but keeping our feet on the ground." Barca, semi-finalists last season, need to make a huge comeback next Tuesday in Madrid if they are to stand a chance

of lifting the trophy they last won in 2015. "It will be tough there but if anyone can do it, it's us," Barca defender Ronald Araujo told Movistar. Barca coach Hansi Flick was upset by the use of VAR to punish his side for Cubarsi's red card but not to analyse a potential handball incident against Atletico's Marc Pubill in the second half. The defender touched the ball with his hand after goalkeeper Juan Musso passed it to him, to take the goal kick himself, which Flick said should have been reviewed. "The VAR was very focussed today for Atletico, he's a German guy, so thanks Germany," complained the former German national team boss. "It's for me a clear red card, then it (can) change (things) totally." Diego Simeone said the decision that was made was "common sense". Atletico knocked Barca out of the Copa del Rey in the semi-finals in March and this was the second of three meetings between the sides in the space of a fortnight. Barcelona started well with Marcus Rashford, on loan from Manchester United, their main threat down the left.

Sania Mirza launches High Performance Tennis Programme in Hyderabad



Hyderabad: India's greatest ever women's tennis player, Sania Mirza, has extended her passion to nurture young talent to the next level by launching High Performance Tennis Programme at her Sania Mirza Tennis Academy near here from May 1. The programme is designed to develop competitive players of all age groups through a structured, internationally benchmarked training system covering technique, fitness, match strategy, and mental con-

ditioning and will be held in collaboration with Marco Seruca, former Portuguese Davis Cupper with over 35 years of high-performance coaching experience. "Seruca's coaching philosophy rests on four pillars — technical precision, physical conditioning, tactical intelligence, and mental resilience — with a proven track record of developing players capable of competing at the highest levels of the game," Sania, founder of SMTA said. "India has extraordinary raw talent. What has been missing is a structured, high-performance environment to channel it. The Sania Mirza Tennis Academy provides exactly the right platform to do that," said Marco Seruca, Head Coach — SMTA High Performance Programme. A six-time Grand Slam champion and Padma Bhushan recipient, Sania Mirza has long been committed to raising the standard of tennis in India. The High Performance Programme is the most ambitious initiative the academy has undertaken, professionalising every aspect of a competitive player's journey — from training and fitness to tournament planning and sports psychology. "India has the potential to produce world-class tennis players. Bringing Marco Seruca to Hyderabad gives Indian players access to the standard of coaching they deserve," Sania said. "The programme will run six days a week and includes individual player development plans and regular performance assessments, morning and evening on-court sessions, professional fitness conditioning, and competitive match play and tournament planning, professional pathway guidance, and mental training," she explained.

Young Tigresses focus on development at AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup

Hyderabad: India's campaign at the AFC Under-20 Women's Asian Cup Thailand 2026 may not be fully reflected in the results column, with defeats to stronger opponents standing out. But beyond the scorelines, the tournament offered a clearer picture of a team committed to development. Drawn in a demanding Group C alongside continental heavyweights and former world champions Japan, a physically imposing Australia, and a disciplined Chinese Taipei side, the Indian U20 women's national team entered the competition aware of the challenge and chose to meet it on their own terms. That approach was defined early by head coach Joakim Alexandersson, who prioritised development and clarity of style over short-term conservatism. "I don't want to be that kind of coach who sits back with 10 players in a youth tournament just to hold on to results and play very defensively for 90 minutes," he told the-aiff.com after India's campaign came to an end on Wednesday. "I feel that is not the right thing to do for our players. I would rather try to play our game, but of course also try to make it more difficult for the opponents.



Indian Women's Boxing Team Makes History, Tops Asian Championships With 10 Medals

Ulaanbaatar: The Indian women's team delivered a historic performance at the Asian Boxing Championships 2026, finishing on top of the medal charts with a total of 10 medals, including four gold, two silver, and four bronze, underlining their dominance at the continental stage. Under the stewardship of head coach Santiago Nieva, every member of the women's team returned home with a medal, stamping their authority on the continental competition. With Boxing Federation of India President Ajay Singh in attendance, Minakshi (48kg) got things going by claiming the first gold of the day with a commanding 5-0 victory over Mongolia's Nomundari Enkh-Angalan. Preeti (54kg) continued her sensational run, defeating Chinese Taipei's Huang Hsiao-wen — a three-time world champion and Tokyo 2020 Olympic bronze medallist — by a unanimous 5-0 decision to secure the top podium fin-



ish. Priya (60kg) added to India's gold tally with a clinical 3-0 win over North Korea's Won Un-gyong in the final. Arundhati (70kg) also impressed, registering a 4:1 victory against Kazakhstan's Bakyt Seidish to clinch gold in her category. India added two silver medals to its tally, with Jaismine (57kg) finishing runner-

up after a strong campaign, while Alfiyan Pathan (80+kg) also secured silver following her final bout. Having confirmed 16 medals, the most of any nation involved in this edition, India will be looking to finish the tournament strongly on Friday, with two men's boxers in finals action.

Ayush stands tall in China; Sindhu, Prannoy crash out



BENGALURU: While the seasoned names faltered under pressure at the Badminton Asia Championship, China, the 20-year-old Ayush Shetty refused to let the ship sink, holding firm with grit and composure. Blending class with consistency, Shetty emerged as the lone spark in an otherwise fading campaign, carrying India's hopes on young shoulders. Shetty turned the court into a pressure chamber, forcing Chi Yu Jen into a slow, suffocating collapse, sealing it 21-16, 21-12.

With a relentless mix of flat lifts, sharp drives, and thunderous smashes, he dictated the tempo from the outset. "I can beat any top-20 player any day," he said. It sounded bold, but in China, Shetty is turning it into a statement. He has already toppled World No 7 Li Shi Feng and outplayed World No 20 Chi Yu Jen, showcasing composure beyond his years. The next hurdle is massive - World No 4 Jonatan Christie. If he clears it, which is also a quarterfinal, the Leo Messi fan will redefine his career trajectory. Chi, pushed onto the back foot, resorted to safer returns in the second set - but that only played into Ayush's hands. The Indian shuttler owned the rallies, slicing the net with precision and hammering winners onto the sidelines with ruthless accuracy. There were brief flashes of frustration with line calls, but Shetty was in complete control, and Chi simply ran out of answers. Meanwhile, HS Prannoy, 33-year-old, bowed out, losing 12-21, 19-21 to Weng Hongyang. In the women's singles, PV Sindhu saw her campaign come to an end in the second round. Facing World No 2 Wang Zhi Yi, the Olympic medallist, went down 21-18, 21-8 in a 46-minute contest. Despite trailing 14-9 early in the opening game, Sindhu showed resilience against the home favourite, mounting a brief comeback to narrow the gap to 18-19 before the momentum slipped away. Also, Unnati Hooda saw her run end, going down 17-21, 9-21 to Tomoka Miyazaki. Hooda looked drained, struggling to cope with Miyazaki's sharp cross-court angles during the second set. Her responses grew slower, her movement laboured, and the match slipped away. It was during a critical moment in the second set when Prannoy's shuttle had originally been declared 'In' after landing in the left-back corner of the court, only to be overturned and ruled in favour of the home player shortly after, following Weng's objection. "It's 2026, and I still can't believe there is no Hawk-Eye on Court 2 for a Super 1000 event," Prannoy wrote on social media after a disputed line call during his match against China's Weng.



Khalin Joshi extends lead at Andhra Open with steady third round

Hyderabad: Khalin Joshi carded a one-under 70 to extend his lead to three shots at seven-under 206 after round three of the Rs 1 crore Andhra Open 2026 at the East Point Golf Club in Visakhapatnam on Thursday. The Bengaluru-based 33-year-old Khalin (68-68-70), a six-time winner, who opened the week at the DP World PGTI event with rounds of 68 and 68, now carries a comfortable advantage into the final round. Dubai-based Yash Majmudar (71-69-69) and Delhi's Rashid Khan (70-72-67) were tied for second at four-under 209. Majmudar returned a 69, while Rashid produced the day's best round of 67 to move into contention. Joshi's round was defined by a strong recovery after a shaky start that included three three-putts early on. He bounced back with a tap-in birdie on the seventh after his approach shot left him inches from the hole, and then delivered a crucial eagle on the par-5 12th, where he sank a 15-footer. "I didn't get off to a good start, but I stayed patient and trusted my ball-striking. I'm driving it well and hitting my irons solid, so I just need to keep the putter going. I'm proud of the way I handled myself on the course despite the poor start and fought back on the back nine. Going into the final round, I've been in such situations before, so I know that I just need to be in my zone and play good golf shots.



Samyuktha Menon's New Look Has No Off Switch

Samyuktha Menon is one actress who clearly believes that less is never more when it comes to glamour, and her latest pictures prove exactly that. Draped in a stunning traditional outfit with a heavy glamour dose, she looks every bit the star she is becoming. The rich fabric, the bold jewellery choices, the confident pose, and that intense gaze all come together to create pictures that are impossible to scroll past. Samyuktha has always had a magnetic screen presence, and these off-screen pictures show she carries that same energy everywhere she goes, no camera crew required. What makes Samyuktha stand out in a crowded industry is her ability to blend traditional styling with a bold, modern attitude. She is not trying to look glamorous, she simply is. Her styling choices are getting bolder, her confidence is visibly growing, and her fashion game is hitting new highs with every new set of pictures. She recently played Dia in Nari Nari Naduma Murari, the Telugu romantic comedy directed by Ram Abbaraju, where she delivered a spirited performance as an ex-girlfriend who re-enters the hero's life with unresolved emotions. On screen and off screen, she is making a strong statement.

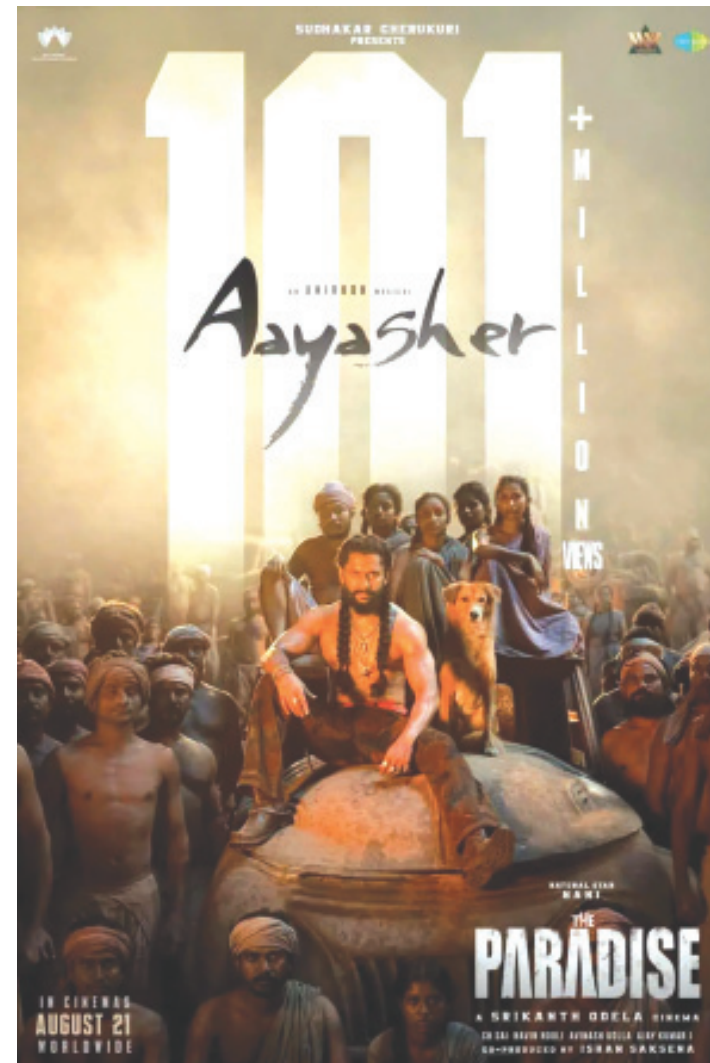


Inside Talk: Allu Arjun's Triple Role In "Raaka"



Ever since the title reveal poster of Icon Star Allu Arjun's latest film, #AA22, is out as "Raaka", there are huge debates on social media regarding the look, the title, the story behind it and the whole plot of the movie. One of the most discussed parts is that Allu Arjun will be playing many roles in the movie. It has come out a long time earlier too, and here's what the folks are discussing right now. Apparently, Allu Arjun will be seen in the role of a werewolf if the title poster of "Raaka" is anything to go by. With that bald and intense monstrous look, surely one would feel that he will be playing a negative, shaded role with this. Anyway, it will be an easy guess that Allu Arjun will have another look in the film, which might be his good look before he turns into this monster. Or some say, Allu Arjun is playing both a cop and a wolverine, a good and evil combo, thus doing a dual role. Some folks even went on saying that Allu Arjun will be seen as a father scientist too, like how we have seen Hrithik Roshan playing the role of both father and son in Krishi movie. However, back then, it was reported that Allu Arjun will be seen in various roles in this movie, as he plays a shape-shifting monster. Definitely, Raaka has become a buzz point now, leaving the attention from all other entertainment options as of now.

Nani's Aaya Sher Sensational 100 M Mark



Natural Star Nani is in unstoppable form, constantly reinventing himself and pushing the boundaries of mass cinema. He steps into one of his fiercest and most intense avatars yet in The Paradise and the film's musical journey began with a bang. The first single Aaya Sher has erupted into a global sensation, dominating across platforms and music charts. Impressively, the song has crossed 100M+ views, becoming the fastest from Nani to reach the landmark. With 101 M+ views already, it is the first song for Nani to breach the benchmark, before film's release. The song scored by Rockstar Anirudh Ravichander packs raw power, mass energy, and irresistible rhythm. But the real knockout is Nani's explosive screen presence, commanding body language, and viral hook steps that have turned Aaya Sher into a sensational hit. Directed by Srikanth Odela, The Paradise is gearing up for a grand theatrical release on August 21. With Aaya Sher rewriting global chart history, expectations are sky-high for the movie.

Supriya Brings Back SS Creations With Heart

Surendra Yarlagadda of SS Creations, son-in-law of ANR, brother-in-law of Nagarjuna, and father of Sumanth and Supriya Yarlagadda, once backed path-breaking films like Gaayam and Shiva, along with several other notable projects. Now, Supriya Yarlagadda is bringing the banner back to life with the much-awaited love-and-action drama Dacoit starring Adivi Sesh. The new SS Creations logo was unveiled during the film's pre-release event, with Venkat Akkineni doing the honours. Sumanth praised his sister for her relentless hard work in making the film a reality. Supriya, meanwhile, explained the deep emotional meaning behind the redesigned logo. "We wanted to re-launch SS Creations with a film that truly stands for something- and I believe Dacoit is the right beginning. The logo carries layers of symbolism- my grandfather's dhoti signifying his simplicity, my grandmother's kumkum reflecting her grace, my daughter running ahead with childlike freedom, and my grandfather guiding her with warmth.



Can Krithi Shetty Bounce Back Strong With LIK?



Young actress Krithi Shetty became very popular with her first movie Uppena. The film was a big blockbuster, and she won many hearts with her cute looks and natural acting. After such a strong start, everyone expected her to become one of the top heroines in Telugu cinema. However, her journey after Uppena has not been very smooth. Though she acted in several films, most of them did not perform well at the box office. Out of her recent movies, only Shyam Singha Roy and Bangaraju gave her some success. Apart from these, nearly seven films failed to impress the audience. This made fans feel a bit disappointed, as they expected more hits from her. Now, Krithi Shetty is hoping for a strong comeback. Her upcoming movie Love Insurance Company with Pradeep Ranganathan is set to release on April 10. This film has created some buzz, and fans are eagerly waiting to see if it will bring her back to success. A good hit at this point is very important for her career. At the same time, she has also got a new opportunity in a film directed by Anil Ravipudi. In this movie, she will act alongside Venkatesh Daggubati and Kalyan Ram. This project looks promising, as Anil Ravipudi is known for making entertaining films. Being part of such a movie can help Krithi gain back her form. In the film industry, ups and downs are very common. Many actors face failures before making a strong comeback. Krithi Shetty still has time and talent on her side. With the right script choices and strong performances, she can surely return to the success path.

Guild Splits for the First Time Over the Percentage System

The Active Telugu Film Producers Guild (ATFPG) was first started under the leadership of Dil Raju to safeguard the interests of the Producers who are into actively making films. But then, for the first time, there is a split in the Guild. We know that certain theaters in Nizam (twenty three of them) have announced they are going to operate only in Percentage System and slowly it will be extended to all theaters in Nizam from April 30th. Opposing that, Sixteen Producers of the Guild have sent a letter that the system is not acceptable to them. They write that they wish the existing rental system will continue and they will negotiate terms with the Exhibitors. Only glaring missing names in the letter are those of Dil Raju and Suniel Narang who have the major chunk of theaters in Nizam. The Producers are worried they will get lesser shares for their films if Per-



centage System is implemented but those supporting that say theaters can not survive on the present Rental System. There is a complaint that Dil Raju wants to push this system to cut Mythri into size because the majority of Big films are with them and Dil Raju's compound is not into making such films in near future. To negate that argument, the issue was brought to the front before SVC's big release, Toxic. Dil Raju has sent a message that he is taking this decision for the greater good of the theaters. Mythri's Peddi will be most impacted but Toxic will face the first cut when the system is implemented. Mythri and all the producers making big films are opposing this system. They say the film business is already in doldrums and this change will bring bigger problems. This is the first time the Guild is split vertically on any issue. Another name missing in the list is Allu Aravind.