



## CM Revanth Proposes 'Fair Formula' For Delimitation



Telangana chief minister Revanth Reddy is a very feisty personality, and he likes to keep his political hands on their feet with his constant verbal reprimand. Now he has taken on Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and the central government regarding the delimitation issue. Considering the fact that the central government had announced the proposal for delimitation, which would substantially increase the number of Parliament and Assembly seats in India, Revanth had a strong

reaction to the same. Revanth pointed out that South Indian states have financial capitals which generate significant amount of revenue which contributes to the national index as well. On the other hand, the north Indian states have the political capitals which control the country in political terms. The chief minister stated that political capitals have the tenacity to look down on financial capitals, which is a very bad thing. "We are completely against bowing down to the Delhi bosses. What kind of logic is it for us, South Indian states to deliver all the revenue and contrib-

uted to the center?" Revanth questioned. The delimitation of Lok Sabha seats may benefit the BJP in the short run, but if it is unfair to Southern and smaller states, it could weaken the country in the long run. National interest must be placed above any party interest, Revanth concluded on the matter. Delimitation is likely to nearly double the number of parliamentary and assembly seats in the Telugu states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. This could completely change the political equilibrium in the Telugu states and the Telangana CM is clearly against the same.



## Wait For Women's Quota To End: PM

New Delhi: Ahead of the three-day sitting of Parliament to amend the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinayam from Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said the nation was close to creating a new history, when the women's reservation law will be amended this week for its implementation in 2029 and will fulfil the vision of the past and the resolutions of the future. Addressing the Nari Shakti Vandan programme at Vigyan Bhavan here, Modi described the moment as "historic" and said that the wait of decades, for reservations for women from the state Assemblies to Parliament, was coming to an end. Emphasising the importance of social justice, he stressed the country envisions an egalitarian India where social justice was not merely a slogan but an integral part of the work culture. Recalling the passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinayam in the new Parliament building in 2023, the PM noted that the measure was passed unanimously with all parties agreeing it should be implemented by 2029 in any case. Modi said the Act must be implemented in time so that women's participation strengthens democracy, for which a special session of Parliament's Budget Session will begin from April 16. "Our effort and priority is this work should be accomplished through dialogue, cooperation and participation, which will enhance the dignity of Parliament," he said.

### GHMC Power Demand Peaks At 4,381 MW

HYDERABAD: The Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana (TGSPDCL) announced that the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) area hit a new maximum demand of 4,381 MW at 4.01 pm on Monday, underscoring surging power needs amid the summer heat. This surpasses the previous peak of 4,421 MW recorded at 7.06 pm on March 3, 2026. Despite the spike, TGSPDCL assured uninterrupted quality supply, grid stability, and readiness to meet further demand surges. Power demand in the state and GHMC limits over the past week was as follows: 16,451 MW in the state and 3,944 MW in GHMC on April 6; 16,468 MW and 3,933 MW on April 7; 16,471 MW and 3,989 MW on April 8; 17,002 MW and 4,106 MW on April 9; 16,747 MW and 4,119 MW on April 10; 16,401 MW.

### Bandi Sanjay rejects Telangana CM's 'hybrid model' proposal for delimitation

Hyderabad: Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay has termed Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's "hybrid model" for increasing the Lok Sabha seats as part of the delimitation process as "unconstitutional." Bandi rubbished Revanth Reddy's suggestion that the Centre could increase 50 per cent of the increased seats in Lok Sabha for each state as pro-rata, and the rest of the 50 per cent increased seats based on the states' Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). "Hyderabad is the maximum contributor to the state's GSDP.



### Pocharam Slams Party, Stages Reservoir Protest



Hyderabad: Former agriculture minister and Banswada MLA Pocharam Srinivas Reddy expressed strong displeasure over alleged ill-treatment within the party. A

video clip that surfaced on social media on Monday shows him venting his anger while speaking to a police official, asking to be left alone at the Siddapur Reservoir site in Var ni, citing risks from wildlife. Srinivas Reddy staged a night-long protest at the reservoir to highlight the government's failure to clear pending bills. During a phone call, a local police officer urged him to leave the spot, warning it was unsafe. "I came here as a last resort, what may be the consequences.



Hyderabad: Following a failed meeting between TGSRTC and the Commissioner of Labour Department on Monday, April 13, in Hyderabad, the Telangana Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) Joint Action Committee (JAC) has announced a

### TGSRTC workers to go on an indefinite strike from April 22

statewide indefinite strike from April 22. "The first bus, which is supposed to leave after midnight on the intervening night of April 21 and 22 will not leave the depot if our demands are not met," Suddala Suresh, leader of the TGSRTC Bahujan Workers Union, told Siasat.com. He said neither the RTC management nor any concerned political representative attended the meeting at the Commissioner of Labour's office for the third consecutive time.

### HC pulls up HYDRAA, halts demolitions except for encroachments on public land

Hyderabad: Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy of the Telangana High Court on Monday directed the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDR AA) not to carry out demolitions in the city and municipal areas, except in cases relating to removal of encroachments on river bodies, nalas and public roads. The court expressed serious concern over repeated violations of its earlier orders and the absence of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) governing demolition drives. Observing that he had been hearing "hundreds of cases," the judge noted that no SOP had been placed on record for demolitions within the limits of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation.



### Medigadda repairs - Reality check turmps political attacks

Hyderabad: The apparent sudden revival of interest to rehabilitate the Kaleshwaram project barrages at Medigadda, Sundilla and Annaram may have as much to do with the realisation that tens of thousands of crores of rupees spent on the project are lying waste since October 2023, when the problems at the barrages came to light, as it has to do with the fact that the Medigadda barrage is still the best bet for making the most of Godavari water for the rest of Telangana. It may be recalled that condition of the barrages faced a torrent of political criticism from the Congress both in the run-up to the last Assembly elections, and after the formation of government: The party used the sinking of one of the blocks at Medigadda, and leaks at Sundilla and Annaram, to beat the BRS with. These failures of the barrages were also the prompt for the Congress government to revive the Dr B.R. Ambedkar Pranahita-Chevella project with plans to build a new barrage on the the Pranahita river.

## Will Biometric Voting End the EVM Tampering Debate?



Every time election results are announced across India, a perennial debate surfaces when the losing political parties and their supporters raise a hue and cry over the credibility of the polls. They frequently allege that the Election Commission of India colluded with the ruling governments to tamper the EVM machines by increasing the voting percentage in the last minute. However,

the ECI strongly counters all the allegations and continues to deploy novel methods and techniques to make elections tamper-proof. Amid all this, a Public Interest Litigation filed in the Supreme Court has drawn the attention of everyone. Through this plea, Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay suggested for biometric verification systems at polling booths to prevent electoral malpractices such as impersonation and duplicate voting. The petitioner has requested the Supreme Court to consider introduction of finger and iris-based biometric identification at polling stations to curb duplicate and fraudulent voting. A bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi weighed on the matter and immediately issued notices to the Centre, the Election Commission of India, and several states, seeking their responses on the plea. The Court, however, made it clear that such a massive exercise cannot be implemented immediately but can be considered for the future polls.

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## Father of Indian Constitution - Dr Bheem Rao Ambedkar

(On the occasion of "Ambedkar or Bhim Jayanthi" on 14 April)

Ambedkar Jayanthi is celebrated also as Equality Day on 14 April annually all over India since 1928 and also in many countries abroad. Born into a

Dalit family on 14 April 1891 in Mhow near Indore, Madhya Pradesh, and this year will mark the 134th birth anniversary of the legendary figure in Indian history. Ambedkar was brilliant in his academics, Elphinstone college Mumbai, earned two doctorates in Economics from Columbia University, USA and London School of Economics, UK, the first Indian Dalit to earn Doctorate from abroad. "Father of Indian Constitution": " Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is not only the principal architect of the constitution, but also the first Law minister, first Dalit doctorate from abroad, a jurist, economist, and social reformer.

He served as Principal of the Government Law college and also professor of political economy in Mumbai, He became the first Law Minister of Independent India, and served as chairman of Indian Constitution drafting committee, dedicated his life to eliminating caste-based discrimination, untouchability, Dalit women education/empowerment, social equality, human rights for Dalits, and social justice. He was deputed as drafting committee chairman on 29 August 1947, the new constitution adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 Nov 1949 and came into force from 27 January 1950. Dr Ambedkar received highest civilian award Bharat Ratna, posthumously in 1990.

"Social Reformer": " Bhim Jayanthi is not only remembrance of his life, but also a tribute to his relentless fight for social justice, equality, fraternity, protector of civil liberties, and human rights. For his iconic contributions to this free country, he was popularly known as Babasaheb. He established the Bahishkrit Hitakarini Sabha to promote the non-brahmin social outcasts. He also led social movements like the temple entry, anti-priest, anti-caste, equal rights. He was the author of three famous books and took significant role in forming central banking institution, the RBI. " " The interesting facts about

Ambedkar are the first Dalit conferred double doctorates from abroad, supporter of foundation of RBI, reducing working hours from 12 to 8 hours a day, his autobiography used as text book at Columbia university, and the only Indian statue put nearby Karl Marks in the London Museum. Let's derive motivation from this Indian icon to excel in our own professions or fields to contribute to the development of the country.

Dr Burra Madhusudhan Reddy

## BJP MP Arvind Asserts 2029 National Polls Will Be With 33% Quota For Women

NIZAMABAD: MP Dharmapuri Arvind described the Women's Reservation Bill as a historic milestone in the country's history. He asserted that the 2029 Lok Sabha elections will be conducted with 33 per cent of the seats in the parliament reserved for women. Addressing a press conference held at the BJP office in the district headquarters on Sunday, he said that the women's bill will also benefit women in increasing their numbers in the seats reserved for the SC and ST communities. Increase in the women's participation in politics will reduce corruption," the BJP Lok Sabha member declared. He criticised Congress leaders for trying to use the Women's Reservation Bill for political gains. He maintained that the bill has been introduced not for political purposes. It clearly reflects the BJP's commitment towards women's empowerment. Arvind clarified that there is no alliance between BJP and BRS. He went on to allege that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is funding K. Kavitha's party. He said there are attempts to divide people along caste lines. The Lok Sabha member predicted



that there will soon be large-scale defections from the BRS to BJP. Those present at the MP's press conference include National Turmeric Board

chairman Palle Gangareddy, BJP state leaders Medapati Prakash Reddy and Sravanti Reddy, district president Dinesh Patel and corporators.



## No Delay in Lake Development Works: Ponnam

KARIMNAGAR: Transport minister Ponnam Prabhakar on Sunday conducted an extensive inspection of the ongoing development and beautification works at Kotha Cheruvu, Yellamma Cheruvu and Palle Cheruvu in Husnabad town, stressing the need for high-quality construction and timely completion of the projects. During his visit to Kotha Cheruvu, the minister focused on the town's drainage system and directed officials to prepare proposals for a dedicated feeder channel to prevent drainage water from entering the lake, thereby safeguarding water quality. At Yellamma Cheruvu, Prabhakar reviewed the progress of the glass bridge under construction. He proposed developing a viewpoint on the nearby hillock, setting up an open gym on the bund and enhancing greenery with lawns to transform the area into a major

recreational hub. He also inspected facilities being developed for devotees at the Yellamma Temple, including newly constructed sheds and ongoing works at the Pochamma Temple. Addressing civic infrastructure needs, the Minister identified a suitable site for a graveyard for wards 8 and 9 and instructed officials to initiate work without delay. At Palle Cheruvu, he examined the Bathukamma Ghat steps and suggested installing decorative railings along the bund to improve safety and aesthetics. Reiterating his emphasis on standards, Prabhakar said there should be no compromise on the quality of materials used in public projects. Municipal chairperson Dandi Laxmi, vice-chairperson Chittari Padma, officials from revenue and municipal departments, ward councillors and Congress leaders accompanied him.

## 3 Family Members Killed in Road Accident in Vikarabad

Hyderabad: Three members of a family died in a road in Peddamul village in Vikarabad on Monday morning. Luckily, a boy escaped with injuries. The accident happened between Tatepally and Siddannamadugu than da in Vikarabad. The family members Kaviraj, 40 and his wife Pavani, 35 and their two children Karthik, 13 and Keerthana, 11, belong to Zaheerabad. They came to Rukmapur village in Vikarabad to discuss the arrangements for the marriage of Pavani's brother on May 1. While returning home on their two-wheeler, a speeding lorry hit them. Kaviraj, Pavani and Keerthana died on the spot while Karthik escaped with injuries. The police rushed Karthik to Tandur government hospital. The police booked a case against the lorry driver Mohammed Sharif and detained him.

## Seethakka Celebrates Injured Boy's Birthday

Warangal: Panchayat Raj minister Danasari 'Seethakka' Anasuya celebrated the birthday of a young boy undergoing treatment for severe injuries at a private hospital here on Sunday. Yuvan is the son of Siddaboina Rana Ramesh, a priest at the famous Medaram Sammakka-Saralamma shrine. He had sustained critical injuries on February 25 after a stone structure fell on him on the temple premises. He has been receiving intensive medical care since the incident. Upon learning that Sunday marked the child's birth-



day, Seethakka visited the hospital carrying a cake. She spent time by the boy's bedside, organising a small celebration to cheer him up despite the clinical surroundings. The minister personally cut the cake and offered her best wishes to the young survivor. During her visit, the minister interacted with Yuvan's parents, Ramesh and Swapna, offering them emotional support and courage during this difficult time. She also reviewed the boy's medical progress with doctors and assured the family that the government would provide all necessary assistance to ensure his full recovery. The priest's family expressed deep gratitude to the minister for her kindness and for taking time out of her schedule to bring a moment of joy to their son during his recovery.

## Man Held for Posing as Govt Employee to Demand Rs 2 Crore Dowry in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: A 30-year-old man has been arrested in Hyderabad for allegedly posing as a central government employee and attempting to extort a massive dowry. The accused, identified as Panasa Madhu Goud from Cheruvupalli village in Nalgonda district, had been residing in the Alkapuri area in search of livelihood. Unable to secure a job, he reportedly fabricated a fake identity card claiming to be a Grade-3 employee at the Food Corporation of India (FCI) in Charlapalli. Using the forged credentials,

## IT minister touts Telangana as national model in clean energy



Hyderabad: Telangana is pursuing a focused strategy to emerge as a national model in clean energy, Minister for IT and Industries D Sridhar Babu said on Sunday. Addressing the groundbreaking ceremony of Rs 700-crore compressed bio-gas (CBG) project at Narmetta in Siddipet district, he said

the state government was promoting a circular economy that integrates industrial growth with environmental sustainability while strengthening rural livelihoods. The project, being developed by Juno Joule Biofuels Pvt Ltd, is expected to generate direct employment for around 1,400 people,

with women likely to constitute nearly 30% of the workforce. Referring to India's energy profile, Sridhar Babu noted that the country imports nearly 90% of its crude oil requirements and about 60% of its LPG consumption. Reducing dependence on external energy sources, he said, was critical, and clean energy solutions would play a key role in achieving this goal. He stressed the need to transform rural areas into energy production hubs, adding that the state was consciously working to decentralise industrial growth beyond Hyderabad and strengthen the rural economy. Describing the initiative as a "paradigm shift", he said farmers in the region could transition from being "food providers" to "energy providers". The project will utilise agricultural residues such as paddy straw, along with cattle dung and poultry waste, to produce biofuel gas, thereby converting waste into value. The CBG initiative will be implemented in a cluster model in three phases, comprising 10 plants with a capacity of 100 tonnes per day each. Inviting investments in Telangana's clean energy sector, the Minister said the government would extend necessary support to facilitate such projects. Among those present were Members of Parliament Bhuvaneshwar Khaita and Premachandran, MLA T Harish Rao, former Union Minister Santosh Bagrodia, former MPs V Hanumantha Rao and Rayapati Sambasiva Rao.



# Hyderabad Voice

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## Gold, Silver Ornaments Stolen from House in Kamareddy

Hyderabad: Burglars struck at a house at Janmabhoomi Colony in Kamareddy and escaped with 40 tulas gold, 60 tulas silver and Rs.1 lakh in cash. Thieves broke into the house by breaking open the lock of the house belonging to MPO Balakrishna and decamped with the booty. The incident happened when the family came to Hyderabad to visit a hospital. When they returned home.

## Groundbreaking Ceremony for Rs.700 Cr CBG plant Held in Siddipet

Hyderabad: IT and industries minister D. Sridhar Babu announced that the state government is promoting the circular economy to strengthen the rural economy, supplement environmental protection, and make the state a role model in clean energy. Taking part in the groundbreaking event of a Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) plant at Narmetta in Nangunur mandal, Siddipet district, being developed by Juno Joule Biofuels Private Limited with an investment of Rs 700 crore, Sridhar Babu said the unit would provide employment to approximately 1,400 people, with 30% of the workforce comprising women. The initiative will be implemented in a cluster-based model across three phases, with the development of 10 CBG



plants, each having a capacity of 100 tonnes per day. The plants will produce biofuel gas using sustainable feedstock such as paddy straw, cattle dung, and poultry waste, contributing to circular economy practices and the clean energy transition. Sridhar Babu noted that India currently imports about 90% of its crude

oil and 60% of its LPG from foreign countries. He emphasised that reducing dependence on other nations for fuel needs requires prioritising "clean energy," urging villages to transform into fuel production hubs. The government aims to extend industries beyond Hyderabad to bolster the rural economy, rather than confining them to urban areas. Through this Narmetta project, local farmers will not only serve as food providers but also make history as urjadatas (energy providers) for the nation. Former minister and local MLA T. Harish Rao, former MPs V. Hanumantha Rao and Rayapati Sambashiva Rao, Juno Joule Biofuels CEO Rayapati Nagasharat and others took part in the ground-breaking event.



## BRS Set to Return as TRS to Regain Lost Ground; KTR Announces State-Wide Padayatra

Hyderabad: BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao on Sunday said the party would go back to its old name of TRS, but the final decision would be taken by party chief K. Chandrasekhar Rao. Rama Rao also said he would go on a state-wide padayatra next year to reconnect with the people, highlight their problems and also strengthen the organisation in time for the next Assembly elections. "The TRS by becoming the BRS, in an effort to reach out to more states, distanced itself from the people of Telangana and this proved costly. A gap developed between the party and the people during its decade in power," Rama Rao said while speaking to mediapersons during a visit to Mancherla. He said the party had suffered in its BRS avatar and lost power. "Though we intend to revert and stay like the TRS, the final word is left to party chief K. Chandrasekhar Rao. My role as working president is only to implement his decision." The decision to go back to the old name appeared to come against the backdrop of BRS former leader and rebel K. Kavitha announcing the launch of her new party later this month. There is apprehension that she could, at the last minute opt, for the TRS name, or a similar sounding one, though by all indications she would go with the name of Telangana Praja Jagruthi as per a submission made by her side in court. Rama Rao said that it was unbecoming on the part of an individual (Kavitha) to make family members to weep. "Even if they don't do good, they must not make their parents weep," Rama Rao said. Rama Rao also applauded Telugu Desam supremo and AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for bouncing back after defeat and regaining power. "The TD always mingled with the people and continuously maintained good contacts," Rama Rao said. "The TD leadership always maintained strong ties with the grassroots workers and the people."



## QR-based reflective tape rule in Telangana raises cost concerns

HYDERABAD: Transport operators have raised concerns over the high cost of authorised reflective tapes, as the Transport department steps up enforcement of QR code-based certification for transport vehicles to improve road safety and reduce night-time accidents. Officials have made it clear that vehicles without QR-verified reflective tapes will not be issued fitness certificates, making installation of approved products mandatory. Against this backdrop, transporters said authorised tapes are significantly more expensive than alternatives available in the market. Telangana Lorry Owners Association State president Manchireddy Rajender Reddy said costs range from Rs 900 to Rs 1,000 for autos and Rs 5,000 to Rs 12,000 for lorries, while similar products available locally and online cost nearly half. Auto drivers also questioned the need for high-cost tapes for vehicles operating within city limits, where roads are well-lit. Vehicle owners further flagged delays in digital verification, with QR code data not reflecting on servers in some cases, making it difficult for Motor Vehicle Inspectors to process fitness certificates. This has led to repeated visits to transport offices over two to three days, resulting in loss of daily income. While welcoming the focus on road safety, transporters urged the government to allow more affordable alternatives to ease the financial burden.

## ATM Cash Filling Agents Steal Rs 1.2 Crore Cash

Two custodians of a private firm handling ATM cash replenishments allegedly fled with 1.2 crore meant for refills in the SR Nagar police station limits. The case was registered based on a complaint by Naveen, the branch manager of CMS Info Systems Limited in Secunderabad. The firm collects cash from banks and deposits it in ATMs based on capacity, police said. An audit of 31 ATMs in SR Nagar, Ameerpet and surrounding areas revealed that cash was missing from eight machines.

The shortage was found during a routine verification, police said. In his complaint, Naveen said that the inward data of the company showed a total shortfall of ₹1,20,98,500. A police officer confirmed the discrepancy. Police suspect two custodians as they have not reported to duty and are not responding to calls. Three persons, who have been captured in the CCTV footage collected by the IT teams, have reportedly been detained by the accused custodians

## Bhatti Announces Panel To Address Power Sector Issues



HYDERABAD: Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu announced the formation of a committee with senior officials to resolve longstanding issues faced by power sector employees. The announcement followed a meeting at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad with leaders of the Electricity Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC). They raised concerns over speculation that power distribu-

tion companies (DISCOMs) would be privatised. The Deputy CM firmly assured them that DISCOMs would not be privatised under any circumstances. He urged the leaders to publicise this commitment widely and counter any false propaganda. Bhatti reiterated the government's long-term commitment to strengthening the energy sector, pledging all necessary steps. He emphasized that both the employees' JAC and officials share responsibility for bolstering power utilities. He also directed officials to resolve complaints received via the 1912 helpline promptly, making power utilities a byword for efficient service. Additionally, senior power utility officials will dedicate one hour each month to meet employee unions and address their grievances. The JAC submitted a memorandum outlining key demands, including establishing a third DISCOM, employee adjustments, implementation of the 2026 pay revision commission (PRC), restoration of the old pension scheme for recruits up to 2004.

## HYDRAA continues to demolish illegal structures for 2nd day in Ameenpur



Hyderabad: The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) continued demolitions for a second day on Sunday at Ilapuram, Ameenpur mandal in Sangareddy district. According to HYDRAA, a six-storey illegally constructed building has been largely demolished, with nearly 80 per cent of the structure already cleared. It is allegedly linked to Azeem, brother of Supreme Court lawyer MA Mukheem. The officials on Sunday said the remaining portion will be removed shortly. The demolition drive started on Saturday under tight police security with support from Revenue and Municipal officials, focused on clearing unauthorised structures while safeguarding vast stretches of high-value public land. Officials confirmed that these constructions violated High Court orders issued in 1998 and 2013, which clearly stated that no construction should be carried out on the government land. An official at HYDRAA said that the properties were built on government land in violation of a 1998 court order asking to maintain the status quo. Approximately 1,263 acre of land in survey numbers 1 to 220 of Ilapuram village belong to the government. Out of this, 861 acre, worth Rs 15,000 crore, was freed from encroachment on Saturday and the demolition continued for the second day, stated HYDRAA officials. Furthermore, Mukheem had constructed a farmhouse in 2006 in violation of High Court orders to maintain status quo. Over the past year, the structure was allegedly expanded to nearly 40 acres. The operation is being carried out with caution to prevent any damage to nearby residential apartments, leading to a slower pace of demolition.

## Kavitha's Big Favor – BRS Set to Return as TRS?



Following a meeting in Kyathanapalli, Mancherla district, BRS Party Working President KTR engaged in a casual chat with the media. KTR stated that they would examine the possibility of reverting the BRS back to the TRS. Incidentally, this statement of KTR has come a few days after his Sister Kavitha saying the name 'TRS' has become available and she may even lock it for her party. It appears that BRS Leadership became alert with her statement and started examining the possibilities. The BRS leadership did address the issue a couple of times but never appeared to be serious in reverting back to TRS. However, they sensed danger if Kavitha gets the name. KCR committed a big mistake by changing the party name from TRS to BRS. Back then, KCR would harbor dreams about making it big at the national level but lost in the Assembly elections in the state. The Party lost its Telangana Connection and sentiment associated with the name after the change. If Kavitha was able to get the name, she will have that sentiment. Also, the name 'TRS' can trigger confusion on the EVM Machines and dent BRS's chances big time. So, BRS leadership seems to be hellbent about not allowing the name to go to Kavitha. We will have to see if that will become a legal battle between both the sides. Waging a Legal battle on Kavitha will bring new headaches. It is a big blunder that BRS did not block the name 'TRS' already even in case they do not want to go back to the old name. If BRS is able to roll back its name to TRS, Kavitha may have unintentionally done a huge favor to her father's party.

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## Telangana Will Revive KLIS By '28: Uttam



Hyderabad: The state government intends to get the damaged Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation scheme (KLIS) by 2028, and the Medigadda barrage a year later. Against this backdrop, irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday directed officials and design consultants to fast-track the rehabilitation works to restore the project to full operational status under a time bound programme. The minister announced the constitution of a high-powered steering committee with tunnelling expert Col Parikshit Mehra as convener to oversee the implementation of rehabilitation works. The

committee will meet twice a week with the minister joining in whenever required to review the progress. An officer will be deployed to monitor the progress daily. Uttam Kumar Reddy, speaking at a review meeting on the rehabilitation of KLIS barrages, told key officials of the department, representatives of the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), agencies tasked with rehabilitation designs and implementation agencies including L&T, that the fundamental problems are identical across the three structures. The minister said that the next two working seasons should be treated crucial in the process of completing the

KLIS repairs. He expressed hope that Annaram and Sundilla could be fully completed within the timeline set for the purpose, while Medigadda can be made at least partially operational simultaneously. The government has finalised the design consultant AFRY India to work in a joint venture with IIT Mumbai for the purpose. "We need the design as early as possible," he told the consultant, stating that the designs would have to be sent to the Central Water Commission (CWC) for approval. He asked government adviser Adityana th Das to coordinate with the CWC to get approvals needed from the Centre. The CWP RS, Pune, a government of India organisation, tasked with performing tests and studies at the barrage sites, has been asked to treat the KLIS rehabilitation as its topmost priority. CWPRS personnel must be stationed at the sites continuously until the 45-day testing window is completed.

## Man kills wife in Shamshabad after domestic dispute, held

Hyderabad: A minor domestic dispute turned fatal when a man allegedly killed his wife in Shamshabad on city on Sunday, sending shockwaves among local workers. According to police, the couple Badar Batra and his wife Santasi Batra (25), natives of Odisha, had migrated to Ramanzapur in search of livelihood. They were working at a brick kiln and living nearby.



## No DISCOM privatisation, assures Bhatti to employees

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu stated that a committee comprising senior officials will be constituted to resolve the issues of power sector employees. On Sunday, leaders of the Electricity Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) met the Deputy CM at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad to discuss their concerns. During the meeting, JAC leaders brought to his attention the ongoing speculation that power distribution companies (DISCOMs) would be privatised. Responding to this, the Deputy CM clarified that under no circumstances would the DISCOMs be privatised. He urged the leaders to widely publicise this assurance and strongly counter any false propaganda. He further stated that the government is committed to strengthening the energy sector in the long term and will take all necessary steps in that direction. He emphasised that both Employees' JAC and officials have a responsibility to work towards strengthening power utilities. The Deputy CM also instructed that complaints received through the 1912 helpline should be resolved promptly, ensuring that power utilities become synonymous with efficient service delivery. He added that senior officials of power utilities would be directed to allocate one hour every month to meet with employee unions and address their issues. The Electricity Employees' JAC submitted a memorandum highlighting several demands, including the establishment of a third DISCOM, employee adjustments, implementation of the 2026 PRC, restoration of the old pension scheme for those recruited up to 2004, regular promotions, recruitments, and resolution of artisan-related issues. The programme was attended by JAC chairman Saibaba, convener Ratnakar Rao, co-convener BC Reddy, and leaders Bhupal Reddy, Sadanandam, Swami, Ramesh, Ashok, Sudhakar Reddy, Karunakar Reddy, Nagaraju, Satyanarayana, Dayanand, Shivashankar, Janapriya, Mallayya, Pramod, and others.

## Cong lunges at BRS for shady land dealings; pans KTR over list remarks



Hyderabad: Ibrahim atnam MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy and Bhongir MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy on Sunday alleged that the Congress government has included lands allegedly grabbed by BRS leaders from the poor, in the prohibited 22(A) list, asserting that the move was intended to protect public land interests. Addressing the media at Gandhi Bhavan, the leaders launched a sharp attack on BRS Working President KT Rama Rao (KTR), accusing him of making misleading statements and "speaking as if he has lost his senses." Chamala remarked that KTR was "venomous through and through," in-

tensifying the political exchange between the ruling Congress and opposition BRS. Chamala refuted KTR's claim that over one crore acres were placed under the prohibited list during the Congress regime. He stated that the total land in Telangana is about 2.75 crore acres, of which 1.50 crore acres belong to farmers and around 68 lakh acres to the Forest Department, calling the allegation "mathematically incorrect and misleading. He further accused KTR of consistently misleading the public and said that his remarks against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy were condem-

nable. Referring to the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, Chamala alleged that it had failed and described it as a "disaster," while accusing the BRS leadership of mismanagement during its decade in power. He said the people had rejected BRS rule and credited the current Congress government with restoring public trust. The MP also criticised the previous government for "farmhouse governance" and alleged that the BRS leadership failed to engage effectively with the Centre during its tenure. He claimed that major infrastructure projects in Hyderabad were initiated during Congress rule.



## Metro eyes driverless pod system for last-mile connectivity

HYDERABAD: In a step towards improving last-mile connectivity, Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) has initiated plans to introduce an Automated/Personal Rapid Transit (PRT) system to link key high-density zones across the city's IT and business hubs. The proposed system is aimed at connecting areas around the State Secretariat, Knowledge City, Raidurg and Hitec City metro stations, the Financial District, and the Raidurg-Kukatpally stretch. Three consultancy firms — LEA Associates, RITES Limited and Balaji Railroad Systems Limited (BARSYL) — have submitted proposals for preparing the techno-economic feasibility study (TEFS), design and bid process management for the project under the Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) model in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The proposals were opened on Friday, and after evaluation of technical bids, the financial bids of the shortlisted firms are expected to be taken up next week. HMRL had invited requests for proposals in February 2026 for selecting a consultant to undertake the TEFS and related processes for the PRT system.

## Inter Student Who Died By Suicide Declared Pass

Adilabad: An intermediate student died by suicide late last week, reportedly fearing that he would not succeed in the intermediate examinations. When the results were announced on Sunday, it was found that he had passed. Police said the student, a 17-year-old first-year MPC student from Rapalli of Bonakal mandal in Khammam district had left home on Thursday, and his body was found later. He was a student first year in a private college at Wyr in Khammam district and appeared for annual examination held in March. Police and his family said he feared that he had not performed well. His parents said the student had shared

his anxiety with a friend. The results showed he had secured 349 out of total 470 marks and passed with B-Grade. He secured 67 in English, 60 in Sanskrit, 40 in Maths-1, 58 in Maths-2, 49 in Physics, 54 in Chemistry and 19 in English Practicals. Meanwhile, a report from Utloor Mandal said a 17-year-old student from Danthanpalli village died by suicide in her house following disappointment in the results. Her family members noticed her struggling and rushed her to a hospital but she died on the way. She was a first year BIPC student at a private junior college in Utloor. All names are being withheld as the victims are minors.

## BRS will benefit but Telangana will suffer: Harish Rao



HYDERABAD: Even while stating that the proposed delimitation of constituencies will be "dangerous" for southern states, BRS leader T Harish Rao on Sunday

claimed that the move will, however, be advantageous for the pink party. The former minister opined that delimitation of segments based on the 2011 population will render injustice to southern states. Speaking to TNIE, he said: "The BJP-led Union government is trying to gain advantage as the delimitation will increase Lok Sabha seats in northern states and help it secure the magic figure in the parliamentary elections. This will pose a great risk and danger to southern states. These states, where regional parties are strong, may lose prominence at the national level." The Siddipet MLA also said that the move will further harm Telangana's interests. "States like Telangana contribute a lot to the nation but in return they don't get anything. In such a scenario, delimitation on the basis of 2011 population will lead to fewer Lok Sabha seats for these states. Then these states will have no say at the Centre in securing projects and funds," he added. Harish, however, claimed that the BRS will benefit if delimitation leads to an increase in Assembly constituencies in the state. "The BRS will definitely benefit from this move. Because of our strong leadership, we will have good candidates to field in the elections even if number of segments are increased. We can accommodate more leaders. The BJP and Congress, on the other hand, will find it difficult to field candidates in all constituencies," the senior BRS leader added.

## Congress govt plans steep hike in land registration values

Hyderabad: In a move that is likely to impose a significant financial burden on prospective homebuyers, the Congress government in Telangana is gearing up to revise land registration values across the State. Apart from residential and commercial land value, the government has also prepared proposals to hike the registration value of agricultural lands. The Stamps and Registrations department took up a comprehensive exercise to reassess market values, citing a widening gap between official rates and prevailing open market prices. District-wise field reports are being compiled, with a sharp focus on high-growth regions surrounding Hyderabad, including Ranga Reddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri, and Sangareddy districts, citing an increase in land prices in recent years.

## Pass Women's Quota in One Voice For 2029 Polls: PM Modi

### CJI Surya Kant says greatest challenge facing India's legal system is lack of accessibility



Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Sunday called for urgent steps to bridge the gap between legal rights and their practical availability to all citizens, stressing that even as India possesses a robust framework of laws, it is often inaccessible to a large population. The CJI stated that the greatest challenge facing the country's legal system is the lack of accessibility for the needy due to issues of distance, delay, and implementation gaps. "The mere existence of justice is not sufficient. Rather, it must reach the doorstep of every last citizen in a timely manner. The strength of a republic should be measured not by its declared rights, but by the rights that are actually realised," the CJI said at a two-day North Zone Regional Conference on legal rights in Dehradun. The CJI also highlighted the unique challenges faced by hilly states like Uttarakhand, noting that rugged geographical terrain and limited connectivity infrastructure hinder access to justice. In such regions, it is imperative to make the judicial system more accessible and responsive, tailored to suit local conditions, he said. The conference, titled 'Justice Beyond Barriers: Rights, Rehabilitation, and Reform for the Most Vulnerable,' was organised jointly by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), the Uttarakhand High Court, and the Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority. Sharing his experiences from various parts of the country, including Ladakh,

Srinagar, Nagaland, and Kerala, he noted that citizens often struggle not due to a lack of rights, but due to the absence of accessible platforms through which to claim them. The CJI observed that the true test of the Constitution lies not in major cases, but in the availability of justice in the daily lives of ordinary citizens, underscoring that the success of institutions would be measured by their effectiveness in delivering justice to those most in need. He identified legal aid schemes, awareness campaigns, and multi-service camps as effective measures in this regard. The CJI also cited his experiences from across the nation, including his interactions with Army personnel in Ladakh, tribal communities in Srinagar and Nagaland, and fishing communities in Kerala. Describing this conference as a crucial platform for deliberating on regional legal challenges, the CJI said that, keeping in mind the distinct problems of various regions, it is essential to adopt local and context-specific strategies to ensure that vulnerable sections of society do not become marginalised.



NEW DELHI: Ahead of the three-day special sitting of Parliament beginning April 16, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it was imperative that the 2029 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections be conducted with women's reservation in place and urged all political parties to come together to pass the amendments to 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam' in one voice. The Prime Minister, in a letter to the floor leaders of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, asserted that any society progressed only when women had the opportunity to progress, make decisions and, more importantly, lead. He said that for India to realise its vision of becoming a developed nation, it was essential that women play a greater, active role in this journey. Modi will address a national-level Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan at Vigyan Bhawan in the national capital on Monday, organised to reinforce the commitment towards greater

participation of women in shaping India's development trajectory. It will also highlight the increasing role of women in governance and leadership from panchayats to Parliament. The Budget Session of Parliament has been extended, and a special three-day sitting has been convened on April 16 to 18. The women's reservation Act will ensure an increase in the number of Lok Sabha seats to 816, of which 273 will be reserved for women. After extensive deliberations, we have reached the conclusion that the time has now come to implement the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam in its true spirit across the country. It is imperative that the 2029 Lok Sabha elections and Assembly elections are conducted with women's reservation in place," Modi said the letter dated April 11. Noting that the implementation of the women's reservation Act in 2029 would infuse new energy into India's democratic institutions and strengthen public trust, Modi said that it would also ensure greater participation and representation in governance. "I am writing this letter so that we may all come together in one voice to pass this amendment," he wrote. The Prime Minister said he was writing the letter so

that all parties come together to pass this amendment in one voice during the "historic discussion" that is set to take place in Parliament from April 16. "This special sitting is an opportunity to further strengthen our democracy. It is also a moment to reiterate our collective commitment to moving forward together, taking everyone along," Modi wrote, adding, "I am writing this letter to you with this spirit and purpose. The Prime Minister highlighted that the issue of women's reservation in Parliament and state legislatures has been discussed for decades. In 2023, members of Parliament across party lines came together to support the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam. He added that during those deliberations the timing of its implementation was also touched upon, and there was a broad consensus that the provisions of this historic law should become effective at the earliest. "Leaders from many parties were of this view. In the recent past, we have held consultations with experts on this subject. We have sought suggestions and guidance from those well-versed in constitutional matters. We have also engaged in dialogue with political parties," Modi wrote.



### India moves closer to making F414 jet engines; F404 maintenance facility also planned

NEW DELHI: Technical discussions between GE Aerospace and state-owned Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the co-production of the F414 jet engine in India have been concluded, paving the way for the final contract to be signed later this year, sources have confirmed. The agreement is set to mark a first-of-its-kind transfer of advanced military aero-engine technology from the United States to India, enabling domestic manufacturing of a frontline fighter engine. Cleared in June 2023, the programme entails the transfer of a substantial share of manufacturing technology for the F414 engine, which will power the Tejas Mk-2 fighter. Sources said the project has now moved into the commercial negotiation phase, with the production line expected to be operational within two years of the contract being signed. Alongside, GE will also establish a depot-level maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility in India for F404 engines used in the Tejas Mk-1A fleet. The facility will be owned and operated by the Indian Air Force, with GE providing technical inputs, training and specialised equipment. Sources said this will cut turnaround time and reduce reliance on overseas repair pipelines. The F414 engine underpins India's next-generation fighter plans. The Tejas Mk-2, designed around the engine, is expected to see an order of at least six squadrons, or around 120 aircraft, translating into a requirement of roughly 130 to 140 engines, including reserves. The engine is also planned for the first tranche of the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), projected at around 40 aircraft, taking the combined near-term requirement to about 170 to 180 engines. Beyond this, India is in advanced discussions with French company Safran to co-develop a higher-thrust 110-120 kN class engine for the AMCA's later variants. This engine is intended to replace the F414 in the long term and power the AMCA Mk-2 configuration.

### Maoist commander Rupri, last of Telugu cadre in Bastar, killed in encounter

RAIPUR: Maoist commander Rupri, reportedly the last active Telugu Maoist cadre in the entire Bastar region, was killed in an exchange of fire on Monday in the dense forested terrain of Kanker district, about 180 km south of Raipur. According to a senior police officer, Rupri was an Area Committee Member (ACM) and with her death, the influence of the Telugu leadership—which historically formed the core of the Maoist movement in Chhattisgarh—has effectively ended in the Bastar zone. Rupri was married to Vijay Reddy, a member of the Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC). Reddy's body



was recovered following an encounter in the Manpur-Mohla district (Chhattisgarh) in 2025. "The operation was launched following precise intelligence inputs regarding the presence of Maoists in the Machpalli-Aramjhora-Hidur forest areas, located along the border of Chotebethiya and Partapur police stations," said Nikhil Rakhecha, Kanker district police chief. He said the forces engaged in a gunfight with the Maoists, which likely killed Rupri. "During the search operation, a fierce gunfight broke out between the security forces and the Naxalites in the Machpalli area. Following the gunfight, a thorough search of the site led to the recovery of Rupri's body, along with a pistol, ammunition, and various daily-use Maoist supplies," he said.

### 1st Time In India? AI Campaign In Elections



The kind of entertainment and excitement that Indian election offer is beyond the comprehension for global viewers. The kind of theatrics and out of the box thinking that we see in Indian electioneering is unlike anything anywhere else in the world. This is on perfect display as we look at the election campaign as something pretty extraordinary has happened here. At an election campaign in Tamil Nadu last night, the local TVK party candidate used holographic AI technology to bring the imagery and vocal effects of Thalpathy Vijay for his roadshow. In the viral video that is trending on

social media, we get to see a holographic image of Vijay that was generated through visual technology and audio effects generated through AI. Visual imagery and AI audio is used to generate a virtual effect of Vijay attending the election campaign while he is actually not even on the spot. This is a very innovative way, and perhaps one of the first times that AI technology is being used at a public capacity in Indian election system. Over the last few days, we have seen a few TVK candidates using banners and life-size posters of Vijay for their campaigns. But the video from last night.

### Delimitation, Not Women's Reservation, Real issue: Sonia



New Delhi: Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Monday

Narendra Modi is making appeals to opposition parties to support bills that the government wants to bulldoze through Parliament in a special session when the election campaign in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal will be at its peak, she said. "There can be only one reason for the extraordinary hurry, which is to derive political advantage and place the Opposition on the defensive," she alleged. The prime minister is, as usual,

being economical with the truth, Gandhi claimed. Noting that Parliament passed the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 unanimously in September 2023 during a special session, Gandhi said the law introduced Article 334-A in the Constitution which mandated one-third reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabhas, scheduled to come into effect after the completion of the


next Census and the Census-based delimitation process. The Opposition had not asked for this condition. In fact, the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, had forcefully demanded that the reservation provision be implemented from the 2024 Lok Sabha elections itself. For reasons best known to itself, the government did not agree," she pointed out in her article.

Estd : 1996

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### VOICE OF WORDS

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## Education

**VOICE OF WORDS**

Wednesday, April 15, 2026



### 'Vantara University To 'Create Legends' In Wildlife Science,' Says Anant Ambani

Jamnagar: In a significant announcement blending philanthropy, science, and ambition, Anant Ambani laid out an expansive global vision for wildlife conservation and veterinary sciences at the foundation stone ceremony of Vantara University in Jamnagar. Speaking at the event, the Reliance Industries Executive Director emphasised that the institution aims to become a transformative force in the global wildlife ecosystem. "Team Vantara is trying to create a legacy that will not only serve the current purpose of wildlife but will be a legacy that will serve the world for the next thousands years," Ambani said. Positioned as the world's first integrated global institution dedicated to wildlife conservation and veterinary sciences, Vantara University expands Anant Ambani's existing Vantara initiative, which operates a large-scale animal rescue and rehabilitation centre in Jamnagar. Ambani underscored the university's long-term aspirations, saying, "This University is going to create legends for the wildlife field in the upcoming years. We will be the best University, the most dynamic, the most advanced in the world." He further highlighted the institution's dual focus on animal and human well-being through research-led innovation. "This University will not only serve Mother Nature but it will also be the key to solving many diseases in the world which will also help not only animals but humans," he said. The university is expected to play a major role in building global expertise. "This University will, every year, give out top-class veterinarians not only to India but to the entire world. We will give out scientists not only to India but to the entire world," Ambani added. The ceremony, held around Anant Ambani's birthday, featured traditional Hindu rituals and incorporated symbolic elements such as soil and water collected from across India. During the address, Ambani reiterated the philosophical and cultural foundation of the initiative. "As in Hindu culture we say that every animal has come for a purpose. It's a creation of God. Animals are God's own. So we need to protect mother nature and we are here to protect what the nature has given to us," he said. He expressed confidence in the institution's enduring impact and said, "I think the university here is something which is going to live beyond us. We all here have it in us to make this the world's best. India, Jamnagar will bring people who want to learn about wildlife right here and we will be the creators of the future for wildlife, for animals and for veterinarian support." Closing his speech on a personal note, Ambani thanked his family and collaborators. "I would like to thank again team Vantara, all our esteemed guests. I would like to really thank my parents and together we are going to create history and together we are going to make my parents proud and India proud. Thank you. Jai Shree Krishna. Jai Hind." With its ambitious blueprint, Vantara University aims to position India as a global hub for wildlife research, conservation, and veterinary excellence.

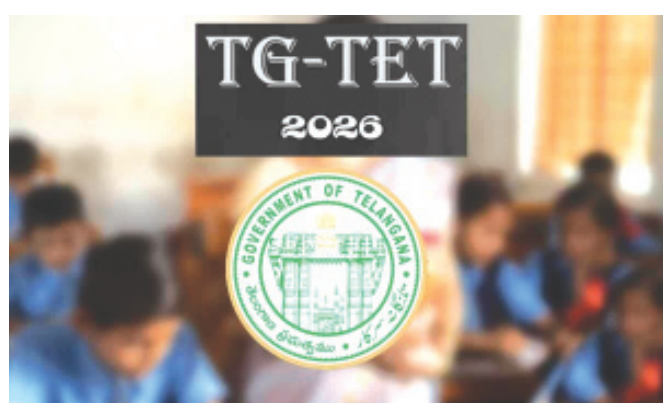
## Telangana Intermediate supplementary exams to start from May 13

Hyderabad: Intermediate Public Advanced Supplementary Examinations for both first and second year students will start from May 13. Students intending to appear for these exams can pay the fees from April 13 to 20. Time table for the same is given below: Practical examinations will be conducted from May 22 to May 25 in two sessions i.e., forenoon session from 9 am to 12 pm and afternoon

session from 2 pm to 5 pm. Additionally, the English Practical Examination for first-year students will be held on May 26 from 10 am onwards and for second-year students, from 2 pm onwards. The Ethics and Human Values Examination will be conducted on the same day from 10 am to 1 pm. The Environmental Education Examination will be conducted on May 28 from 10 am to 1 pm.

## TG TET June 2026 notification released, exams scheduled from June 15

Hyderabad: The School Education department on Monday released the Telangana Teacher Eligibility Test (TG TET) June 2026 notification, scheduling the computer-based test between June 15 and 30. Interested candidates can download detailed notification from the website. <https://schooledu.telangana.gov.in> from April 15. Online registrations via <https://schooledu.telangana.gov.in> are open from April 15 to 30.



# Telangana Inter results 2026: 75.61 per cent students pass second-year exams

Hyderabad: Telangana Intermediate Public Examinations (IPE) 2026 results were released on Sunday, with 75.61 percent of regular students clearing the examinations. A total of 4,11,474 second intermediate regular students appeared and 3,11,112 passed (75.61 percent).

Girls continued to outshine boys by registering 12.79 percent more passes. Similarly, a pass percentage of 66.94 percent was recorded in the first year intermediate regular exams. The results declared by K Keshava Rao, Advisor to the government (public affairs) and Education department secretary Yogita Rana, have been made available on the websites: <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> and <http://results.cgg.gov.in>.



## Medchal tops, Siricilla trails in Inter results

Hyderabad: The Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) has released the district-wise results of the Intermediate Public Examinations (IPE) March 2026, revealing significant variations in performance across the state. In the General Stream (second year regular), Medchal district emerged as the top performer with an overall pass percentage of 82.73%, closely followed by Jayashanker Bhoopalapalli (82.34%), Komram Bheem Asifabad (82.16%), and Mulugu (82.12%). Ranga Reddy also recorded a strong performance at 81.61%. On the other end of the spectrum, Rajanna (Siricilla) registered the lowest pass percentage at 58.69%, followed by Warangal (60.80%), Adilabad (62.50%), Kamareddy (63.09%), and Siddipet (63.81%), highlighting areas where academic support and interventions may be needed. In the vocational stream (second year regular), Jayashanker Bhoopalapalli stood out with an impressive 94.78% pass rate among girls and an overall pass percentage of 84.44%, making it the best-performing district in this category. Other high scorers included Komram Bheem Asifabad (88.07%), Narayanpet (86.43%), Medak (85.34%), and Mulugu (83.41%). Conversely, Jangaon recorded the lowest vocational pass percentage at 63.97%, followed by Mahabubabad (65.03%), Kamareddy (65.76%), Suryapet (65.81%), and Siddipet (66.18%). The results highlighted the disparities in educational outcomes across districts, with urban centres like Medchal and Ranga Reddy leading, while several rural districts continue to face challenges.

## Girls Outshine Boys in Inter Exams in Telangana



Hyderabad: Girls outshined boys in the intermediate exams in Telangana. As many as 4,89,123 first year students appeared for the exam. Of them, 3,23,807 students registered a passing percentage of 66.02. Of 3,23,807 students, girls registered a pass percentage of 74.40 while boys 57.69. Around 5,05,948 second

year students appeared for the exam. Of them, 3,58,490 students passed the exam registering a pass percentage of 70.58. Of the 3,58,490 students, girls registered a pass percentage of 78.65, while boys 62.50. Advisor to the Government of Telangana (Public Affairs), K. Keshava Rao and Education Department Secretary

and Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) Vice Chairperson, Yogita Rana released the results at TGBIE office in Nampally here on Sunday. The marks secured by the candidates are available on the websites: <https://tgbie.cgg.gov.in> and <http://results.cgg.gov.in>, according to a press release.

## IIIT-H hosts Learning & Longevity Symposium 2026



Hyderabad: The International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H) convened the Learning & Longevity Symposium (LLS) 2026, placing learning—not medicine, fitness, or finance—at the centre of the longevity conversation. Hosted by IIIT-H's Third Age Learning (3AL) Research and Design Group, the symposium brought together leading voices from cognitive neuroscience, molecular biology, geriatric medicine, AI, game design, eldercare technology, and learning sciences. The goal was to explore a bold, unifying hypothesis—learning is the most powerful intervention for healthy aging. The symposium covered The Biology of Longevity, Third Age Learning, and The Longevity Ecosystem and the format encouraged unlikely but necessary intersections—neuroscientists engaging with game designers, dementia specialists in dialogue with edtech entrepreneurs, and cognitive scientists exchanging ideas with architects of the emerging silver economy. "This symposium is not just an event, but the beginning of a sustained platform," said Prof Vasudeva Varma, founder of the 3AL Research and Design Group. "We intend to return to these questions year after year—until solutions move from theory to practice."

## IIM Mumbai Celebrates Inaugural MBA Graduation Of 505 Students, Marks Transition From NITIE

Mumbai: The Indian Institute of Management Mumbai marked a significant milestone as it celebrated the graduation of its inaugural MBA batch of 2026 at its campus on Friday. A total of 505 students received their degrees, making it a landmark moment in the institute's transition from National Institute of Industrial Engineering to an IIM. The graduating cohort included 300 students from the General MBA programme, 177 from MBA in Operations and Supply Chain Management, and 28 from MBA in Sustainability Management. Additionally, 39 students from the executive programme in Logistics and Operations Excellence through Digitisation, 26 from the one-year executive postgraduate programme, and seven doctoral candidates were conferred degrees. The ceremony was attended by Ashishkumar Chauhan, Managing Director and CEO of the National Stock Exchange of India, along with institute director Manoj Tiwari and Board of Governors chairman Shashi Kiran She



tty. Addressing the students, Chauhan emphasised the importance of adaptability, integrity and critical thinking in an increasingly complex world, urging graduates to contribute meaningfully towards India's growth vision. Tiwari described the graduating batch as a reflection of the institute's evolving academic journey, expressing confidence in their future contributions across sectors. Shetty highlighted the institute's expansion plans, including an investment of over Rs 1,000 crore and a target to scale student capacity to 3,000 by 2028, positioning IIM Mumbai as a global hub for management education. The convocation marks a new chapter for the institute as it aims to nurture future-ready leaders and drive innovation in management studies.



International News

**VOICE OF WORDS**

Wednesday, April 15, 2026



## China says it will resume some ties with Taiwan, including more direct flights

BANGKOK: China said Sunday it would resume some ties it had suspended with Taiwan such as direct flights to cities across China and imports of Taiwanese aquaculture products as the island's opposition party leader concludes her visit. The Taiwan Work Office under China's Communist Party issued a statement saying it would explore setting up a longstanding communication mechanism between the Communist Party and Taiwan's Kuomintang Party, and facilitate the import of Taiwan's aquaculture products, after it banned them in recent years. Cheng Li-wun, the head of the Kuomintang, and China's President Xi Jinping held a high-profile meeting Friday during which both called for peace without offering specifics. Taiwan is self-ruled but China claims the island as part of its territory. Relations between China and Taiwan have been tense since 2016 when the Taiwanese public elected Tsai Ing-wen from the Democratic Progressive Party as president. Since then, Beijing cut off most of its official dialogue with Taiwan's government in the capital Taipei and started sending military planes and vessels towards the island on a daily basis. The list of measures in the statement touches on ties that China had suspended in recent years as tensions increased. China plans to resume direct flights for other mainland cities like Xi'an or Urumqi to Taiwan, the statement said, although it remained unclear how the measures will be implemented. China banned individual trips by Chinese people to Taiwan in 2019. Taiwan's rules now require Chinese visitors to hold a valid resident visa from another country, like the U.S. or the European Union, to apply for a visitor visa. China also said it would work toward construction of a bridge that would connect to Matsu and Kinmen, Taiwanese islands that are closer geographically to China. The project is a longstanding proposal that Beijing has previously announced. China banned the import of Taiwanese pineapples in 2021 and since then extended the import ban to products as varied as the grouper fish, squid, tuna and other fruits. After the initial ban on grouper, Taiwan's Ministry of Agriculture said it approached China about making adjustments to ensure it met import requirements. China replied with a limited list of individual companies that were allowed to sell to China, but without explanation. Taiwan added it would "continuously assist farmers and businesses in expanding into overseas markets" in order to diversify risk, according to a statement it issued Saturday.

## North Korea's Kim Jong Un backs push for 'multipolar world' in talks with Chinese foreign minister

SEOUL: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un voiced support for China's push to build a "multipolar world" and called for deeper ties between the traditional allies during a meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, state media said Saturday. During the meeting Friday, Kim said his government will fully support Chinese efforts to achieve territorial integrity based on its "one-China principle," a reference to Beijing's official position that Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory, according to North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency. Kim also outlined North Korea's position on unspecified regional and international issues of "mutual concern" and said sustained development of ties between the two countries has become more crucial in the current geopolitical environment, KCNA said. Wang, on a two-day trip to North Korea, said the countries' relations were entering a "new phase" following a summit last year between Kim and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Embracing the ideas of a "new Cold War" and a "multi polarized world," Kim has sought to break out of international isolation and push a more assertive foreign policy by expanding ties with governments locked in confrontations with the United States. While Russia has been Kim's top foreign policy priority in recent years, sending thousands of



troops and large weapons shipments to support its war against Ukraine, he has also been cozying up to China, the North's traditional main ally and economic lifeline. Kim joined Russian President Vladimir Putin at a World War II ceremony in Beijing in September and held his first summit with Xi Jinping in six years, moves that supported his efforts to portray North Korea as part of a united front against Washington. North

Korea and China last month resumed direct flight and passenger train services, which had been suspended since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. In this photo provided by the North Korean government, leader Kim Jong Un, right, meets Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Pyongyang, North Korea, Friday, April 10, 2026. Wang arrived in Pyongyang on Thursday in his first visit to North Korea in seven years.

## US, Iran fail to reach ceasefire agreement after 21-hour talks; Tehran says Washington raised 'excessive demands'

ISLAMABAD: The United States and Iran ended a historic round of face-to-face talks early Sunday without reaching an agreement and the fate of the fragile, two-week ceasefire still unclear. Vice President JD Vance, who led the U.S. delegation during the 21 hours of talks in Pakistan's capital Islamabad, said negotiations finished without a deal after the Iranians refused to accept American terms to refrain from developing a nuclear weapon. However, Pakistani mediators called on both countries to maintain the ceasefire. "It is imperative that the parties continue to uphold their commitment to ceasefire," Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said, adding that his country will try to facilitate a new dialogue between Iran and the U.S. in the coming days. The discussions in Islamabad began Saturday, a few days after a fragile ceasefire was announced as the war that has killed thousands of people and shaken global markets entered its seventh week. Vance said he remained in constant communication with U.S. President Donald Trump and others in the administration during the negotiations. "But the simple fact is that we need to see an affirmative commitment that they will not seek a nuclear weapon, and they will not seek the tools that would enable them to quickly achieve a nuclear weapon," Vance told reporters. "That is the core goal of the president of the United States. And that's



what we've tried to achieve through these negotiations." The vice president said he spoke with Trump "a half dozen times, a dozen times, over the past 21 hours" and also spoke with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Adm. Brad Cooper, head of the United States Central Command. "We were constantly in communication with the team because we were negotiating in good faith," Vance said, speaking at a podium in front of a pair of American flags with special envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner to his side. "And we leave here, and we leave here with a very simple proposal, a method of understanding that is our final and best offer. We'll see if the Iranians accept it." Separately, the spokesperson for Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Esmail Baqaei, in an X message, also confirmed that the two sides failed to make a

deal and "numerous messages and texts have been exchanged between the two sides". "In the past 24 hours, discussions were held on various dimensions of the main negotiation topics, including the Strait of Hormuz, the nuclear issue, war reparations, lifting of sanctions, and the complete end to the war against Iran and in the region," he wrote. "The success of this diplomatic process depends on the seriousness and good faith of the opposing side, refraining from excessive demands and unlawful requests, and the acceptance of Iran's legitimate rights and interests." Baqaei expressed appreciation to the "government and the warm-hearted and noble people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for hosting the negotiations and their benevolent efforts in advancing this process".

## Iraq elects Kurdish politician Nizar Amidi as president amid war fallout

BAGHDAD: Iraq's parliament voted Saturday to elect Nizar Amidi, a political official with one of the country's two main Kurdish parties, as president, five months after a parliamentary election that didn't produce a bloc with a decisive majority. His election comes as Iraq is reeling from the fallout of the US-Israeli war on Iran. Iraq became caught in the middle of the conflict, with Iran-backed militias launching attacks on US bases and diplomatic facilities as well as on critical energy infrastructure. Meanwhile, the US and Israel carried out airstrikes targeting the militias, some of which killed members of the Iraqi military. The war and Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz also largely halted the oil exports upon which Iraq's economy depends. Amidi, a member of the political bureau of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan party, beat out a roster of candidates that included Iraq's current Foreign Minister, Fuad Hussein, who was the pick of the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party. By convention, Iraq's president is always Kurdish, while the more powerful prime minister is Shiite and the parliamentary speaker is Sunni. The vote to elect a president took place more than two months past the constitutional deadline, which requires a president to be elected within 30 days after the first session held by a newly elected parliament.



## Cambodia urges Thailand to resume talks on disputed border

Cambodia has urged Thailand to resume talks as soon as possible on their disputed border, a long-standing disagreement that led to deadly clashes last year. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet said on Saturday that he "strongly hopes" the two neighbours will be able to work together "quickly and with sincerity". "This will be foundation for long-lasting peace that would allow our people living along shared border to live peacefully. Cambodia is fully ready," he said in a statement posted on social media. Thailand's Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow said earlier Saturday that his country was not ready to resume talks, even though a new government had just been formed. When asked about Cambodia's renewed call for negotiations, he said it had the "right" to do so, but that Thailand had its "own procedures" to follow. The two Southeast Asian countries have been at odds for decades over the demarcation of their 800-kilometre (500-mile) border, a legacy of the French colonial era. The dispute erupted into several rounds of clashes last year, killing dozens of people and displacing more than a million in July and December. The countries signed a ceasefire agreement in late December that allows for border talks. But tensions on the frontier remain, with both sides trading accusations of truce violations. Cambodia claims Thai forces captured several areas in border provinces -- contrary to their agreement -- and has demanded their withdrawal.

## A 9-year-old found locked in a utility van since 2024, malnourished and unable to walk

PARIS: A 9-year-old boy was rescued this week after living locked in his father's utility van in eastern France since 2024, according to the local prosecutor. The child has been hospitalized, and his father detained. Police were alerted by a neighbor to "sounds of a child" coming from a van on Monday in the village of Hagenbach near the borders of Switzerland and Germany, according to a statement from Prosecutor Nicolas Heitz provided Saturday. After forcing the van open, they found a child "lying in a fetal position, naked, covered by a blanket on top of a mound of trash and near excrement," the statement said. The



child was clearly malnourished and could no longer walk, because he had been in a seated position for so long, it said. The boy's father told investigators that he put the child in the truck in November 2024 "to protect him," because his partner wanted to send the boy to a psychiatric hospital, the prosecutor said. The boy was 7 at the time. The prosecutor said there was no medical record.

# VOICE OF WORDS

## BUSINESS

# Will strengthen energy ties with India, says Qatar

Qatar is looking to continue and strengthen its energy relations and cooperation with India, said Qatar's Energy Minister Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi on Friday. The remarks came after Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri arrived in Doha on April 9 for a two-day official visit. During the visit, Puri met Al-Kaabi, who is also Qatar's Minister of State for Energy Affairs and President and CEO of QatarEnergy. According to a press note issued by the Petroleum Ministry, the two leaders discussed all aspects of the strategic relationship between the two countries, including high-level engagements, trade, investment, energy cooperation, culture, and people-to-people ties. "They hoped for an early return of peace and stability in the region and further strengthening of the bilateral relationship between India and Qatar," the ministry said.

The visit follows the recent ceasefire announcement in West Asia, after which Puri travelled to Qatar to secure energy supplies that were impacted by the conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel. Qatar remains a key



supplier of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to India, accounting for around 45% of the country's LNG imports. However, the conflict disrupted supplies after Iranian strikes on energy infrastructure caused damage and led to force majeure being declared on some of Qatar's deliveries due to a production halt at the Ras Laffan facility. Following the supply disruption from Qatar, India began sourcing LNG from alternative suppliers, including the United States and Australia. In daily press briefing, the government said that despite the disruption, no dry-outs have been reported at LPG distributorships.

Commercial LPG allocation has been increased to about 70% of pre-crisis levels, including a 10% reform-linked allocation. Since March 14, 2026, around 1,06,093 metric tonnes (MT) of commercial LPG—equivalent to over 55.8 lakh 19-kg cylinders—has been sold across the country. On a single day, 6,297 MT of commercial LPG, equivalent to more than 3.3 lakh 19-kg cylinders, was sold. The government said it continues to closely monitor the supply situation and is taking necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted availability of fuel across the country.



## FPIs Continue Heavy Selling In April, Pull Out Rs 48,213 Crore In 10 Days After Record ?1.17 Lakh Crore March Outflow

Mumbai: Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) continued to sell Indian equities aggressively in April 2026. In just the first 10 days of the month, they pulled out Rs 48,213 crore (about USD 5.14 billion) from the stock market. This comes after a massive sell-off in March, when FPIs withdrew a record Rs 1.17 lakh crore, making it the highest monthly outflow ever. The sudden shift is notable because FPIs had invested Rs 22,615 crore in February, which was the highest inflow in 17 months. With the latest selling, total FPI outflows in 2026 have reached around Rs 1.8 lakh crore so far. According to data from National Securities Depository Limited, the entire April outflow has come from the cash market segment till April 10. Experts say that global factors are the main reason behind this selling pressure. Rising geopolitical tensions in West Asia have pushed up crude oil prices, increasing fears of global inflation. Himanshu Srivastava from Morningstar Investment Research India said that investors are avoiding risk due to uncertainty in global markets. VK Vijayakumar of Geojit Investments highlighted that the ongoing energy crisis, along with the weakening Indian rupee, is keeping foreign investors cautious. He also pointed out that other markets like South Korea and Taiwan are currently more attractive for FPIs due to better earnings growth expectations compared to India. Even the recent ceasefire between the US and Iran did not change investor sentiment. Vaqarjaved Khan from Angel One said that FPIs used the market rally after the ceasefire as an opportunity to exit further.



## Shell steps up LNG supplies to India, wins major fertiliser tenders after Gulf disruptions

NEW DELHI: Global energy major Shell plc has ramped up natural gas supplies to India in the wake of disruptions triggered by the West Asia conflict, leveraging its global liquefied natural gas (LNG) portfolio to capture a larger share of spot and term demand, including key fertiliser sector tenders. Industry sources said Shell emerged as a leading supplier in last month's bulk LNG procurement by Indian fertiliser companies, securing a supply of 4 trillion on British thermal units out of 6 TBtus volumes tendered, as the government moved to ensure feedstock availability for urea production amid constrained supplies from the Gulf. With supplies from India's largest LNG supplier in Qatar disrupted by the West Asia conflict, Shell plc's India arm stepped in, importing its largest-ever monthly LNG volumes in March, they said. Besides fertiliser, Shell India also supplied gas to other industrial users and retailers. In March, it became India's largest supplier of imported gas. Shell's ability to step up supplies is backed by its 5 million tonnes-per-year LNG import terminal at Hazira in Gujarat and associated storage infrastructure, along with its position as the world's largest LNG portfolio player, allowing it to source cargoes from multiple regions beyond West Asia to meet demand. Sources said the company leveraged its LNG portfolio in countries ranging from Oman to Australia and Nigeria. It also operates one of the largest LNG shipping fleets (over 65 chartered carriers), helping deliver gas when India's main supplier declared force majeure. India imports roughly half of its natural gas requirement, which is used as feedstock for fertiliser production, power generation, CNG for transport, piped cooking gas for households and across a range of industrial applications. As much as 45-50 per cent of LNG imports come from Qatar under long-term contracts.

## Iranian crude reaches Indian shores after nearly seven years as cargoes arrive at key ports



Two supertankers carrying Iranian crude have docked at Indian ports on the east and west coasts, marking the first such deliveries in nearly seven years, according to ship-tracking data, reported by PTI. The Felicity, a very large crude carrier operated by the National Iranian Tanker Company, anchored off Sikka in Gujarat late Sunday with about 2 million barrels of crude loaded at Kharg Island in mid-March. A second vessel, Jaya, moored near Paradip port in Odisha around the same time, carrying a similar quantity of crude lifted from Kharg Island in late February, before the escalation of military strikes involving the United States, Israel and Iran, followed by Tehran's retaliation. The shipments

come after a limited US sanctions waiver issued last month, allowing the sale of Iranian oil already in transit. The exemption was aimed at easing global supply pressures and stabilising oil prices amid geopolitical tensions. However, uncertainty persists after reports that peace talks collapsed over the weekend, with Washington announcing a blockade of Iranian ports to curb Tehran's oil export revenues. The buyers of the cargoes have not been officially disclosed. Paradip port is primarily operated by Indian Oil Corporation, which has confirmed purchasing at least one Iranian shipment under the waiver. Sikka is a major crude-handling hub for Reliance Industries and Bharat Petroleum Corporation, which

have infrastructure in the region. This marks a significant return of Iranian crude to Indian shores after imports were halted in May 2019 following tightening US sanctions. India had previously been one of Iran's largest oil buyers, importing significant volumes of Iran Light and Iran Heavy grades before the restrictions. At its peak, Iranian crude accounted for 11.5% of India's total oil imports. India was importing around 518,000 barrels per day in 2018, which dropped to 268,000 bpd in early 2019 during a temporary US waiver period. A previous cargo of Iranian crude aboard the tanker Ping Shun, carrying about 600,000 barrels and bound for Vadinar in Gujarat, was diverted to China due to payment issues.

## Adani Energy Solutions Hits Key Growth Milestone With 1 Crore Smart Meters, Stock Jumps Over 7% To ?1,158 On Strong Q4 Performance

Mumbai: Adani Energy Solutions delivered a strong performance in Q4 FY26, showing solid growth across its transmission, distribution, and smart metering businesses. The company crossed a major milestone by installing over 1 crore smart meters, highlighting its fast expansion in the digital energy space. The company commissioned its second High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) project in Mumbai. This project has increased the city's power transmission capacity by 1,000 megawatts, helping meet rising electricity demand. Additionally, after securing the South Kalam substation project, the company's total transmission network expanded to 27,949 circuit kilometers. System availability during the quarter stood at an impressive 99.77 percent, showing strong operational efficiency. Adani Electricity Mumbai reported better performance in the distribution segment. Distribution losses reduced to 4.20 percent from 4.31 percent last year, indicating improved

efficiency. Power supply reliability remained extremely high at 99.997 percent. Electricity sales in Mumbai rose 4% to 2,508 million units. Meanwhile, at MPSEZ Utilities Ltd, unit sales jumped 46 percent to 368 million units, reflecting strong industrial demand. The company achieved a significant milestone by installing more than 1 crore smart meters. Its current order book stands at 2.46 crore meters, with an estimated revenue potential of Rs 29,519 crore. There is still a huge opportunity in India, with around 10.3 crore smart meters yet to be installed, giving the company strong future growth potential. For FY26, the company's transmission network increased from 26,696 to 27,949 circuit kilometers. Transformation capacity also rose to 1,23,175 MVA. In Mumbai, power supply reliability remained extremely high at 99.998 percent, while customer complaints declined. Collection efficiency stayed above 100 percent, and digital payments increased to 85.5 percent.

## First India-flagged LPG tanker crosses Strait of Hormuz after US-Iran ceasefire



Jag Vikram, an India-flagged liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tanker has successfully crossed the Strait of Hormuz. This marks the first transit by an Indian vessel since a temporary two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran was announced. Ship tracking data showed the tanker moved through the strategic waterway between Friday night and Saturday morning and was located in the Gulf of Oman, east of the Strait on Saturday afternoon, proceeding eastwards. The vessel movement was also confirmed by a government statement giving an update on developments in West Asia. "The India-flagged LPG vessel Jag Vikram has safely crossed the Strait of Hormuz today (Saturday)," it said. "The vessel is carrying approximately 20,400 tonnes of LPG cargo with 24 seafarers onboard. It is expected to arrive at Mumbai on April 15, 2026." Jag Vikram is the ninth Indian vessel to exit the Persian Gulf since early March, while about 15 India-flagged ships remain in the region, awaiting passage. Owned by Mumbai-based Great Eastern Shipping Company, Jag Vikram is a mid-sized gas carrier with a deadweight capacity of over 26,000 tonnes. At least 28 India-flagged vessels were in the Strait of Hormuz region when the West Asia conflict erupted, including 24 on the western side and four on the eastern side of the waterway. Prior to Jag Vikram's transit, eight vessels from the western side and two from the eastern side had managed to sail to safety. Several foreign-flagged ships carrying India-bound cargo also remain stranded in the Persian Gulf. According to MarineTraffic data, hundreds of vessels remain in the region, including 426 tankers, 34 LPG carriers and 19 LNG vessels, many of which had been effectively stranded amid the disruption. The government statement said that port operations across India remain normal, with no congestion reported. "The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways continues to coordinate with the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian Missions, and maritime stakeholders to ensure seafarer welfare and uninterrupted maritime operations," it added.

# VOICE OF WORDS

## HEALTH

### PCOS management beyond medication: Daily habits that make a difference



PCOS management goes beyond medication, with experts highlighting the role of daily habits like diet, yoga, sleep, and natural remedies. Consistent lifestyle changes can help regulate hormones, improve insulin resistance, and support long-term reproductive health. Polycystic ovarian syndrome, or PCOS, is more than just a hormonal condition. It affects metabolic health, reproductive function, and even mental well-being, making it one of the most complex health concerns for women of reproductive age today. While medication is often part of treatment, experts increasingly emphasise that it is not the only answer. According to Dr Narendra K Shetty, Chief Wellness Officer at Kshemavana Naturopathy and Yoga Centre, lifestyle changes remain the first line of management. "Weight and lifestyle management are the primary approaches, supported by diet, physical activity, sleep, and daily habits," he explains.

Why daily habits matter more than you think

The body responds to consistency. Hormone balance can be affected greatly by small and simple decisions about what one eats, how much one moves, and sleep habits. Seed cycling is an example of an alternative that has been suggested lately to help achieve this goal. According to it, flax and pumpkin seeds must be taken in the first two weeks of the month, while sesame and sunflower are to follow after.

#### Foods that support hormonal balance

There are certain foods that may be helpful in assisting in the management of PCOS symptoms. These include food products that have turmeric content and curcuminoids that have anti-inflammatory and ovulatory benefits. Other food products that have been mentioned include tender coconut water, which assists in the reduction of free androgen levels within the body and helps maintain hormone levels such as FSH and LH. Pomegranate, which contains various vitamins and phyto-sterols, may assist in reducing free testosterone levels.

Cinnamon tea may also be a good choice for regulating insulin levels, especially during the luteal phase.

#### The role of diet in PCOS management

However, diet still plays a vital part in controlling PCOS. Foods with low glycaemic indexes can contribute towards lowering insulin resistance, while higher protein intake might control androgens.



## Gluten-free breakfast recipes for people with celiac disease

Food allergies and reactions to certain types of food or ingredients are extremely common. People with celiac disease are said to have an immune reaction to eating gluten, as per the Mayo Clinic. Gluten is a protein found in wheat and several other grains, which can affect people with celiac disease. A gluten reaction can show in the form of diarrhea, fatigue, weight loss, abdominal pain and bloating, gas, nausea and vomiting. With celiac disease, one may have to restrict their intake of foods that contain gluten. Therefore, if you have the condition, here are some gluten-free breakfast recipes to try.

#### Moong Dal Chilla

**Ingredients:** 1 cup moong dal1 chilli1 inch chopped ginger1 tsp cumin/jeera¼ tsp turmeric2 tsp coriander Asafoetida ½ tsp salt3 tbs waterCooking oil Wash and rinse moong dal. Soak it in water for 2-3 hours. Drain the water and add to a blender. Add chilli, ginger and cumin and blend to form a smooth batter. Next add turmeric, coriander, hing and salt to the batter. Mix well. Add water to form a batter with a flowing consistency. Pour a ladle of batter onto a hot tawa and spread gently. Sprinkle some olive oil over the chilla. Cover and let it cook on medium flame. Flip the chilla to cook on both sides. Serve with green chutney.

#### Quinoa upma

**Ingredients:** ½ cup quinoa ½ teaspoon oil½ teaspoon mustard seeds½ teaspoon of cumin seeds½ teaspoon urad dal½ teaspoon moong dal 1 inch ginger1 chilliPinch of hing/asafoetida½ cup chopped onions½ cup finely chopped carrotsSalt to tasteRinse the quinoa in a mesh strainer. Set aside after draining the water. Heat oil in a pan, add mustard seeds, cumin seeds, urad dal, moong dal and stir. Add chopped ginger, chillies, asafoetida (optional). Add onions, curry leaves and stir again. Next add finely chopped carrots, french beans and frozen peas. Stir well and add quinoa to it. Saute on low flame and then add water and salt to taste. Cover with a tight-fitting lid and simmer on low heat until the quinoa seeds are cooked. Stir once or twice to keep it from sticking to the pan.

#### Brown rice dosa

**Ingredients:** 2 cups brown rice¼ cup poha or flattened rice2 tbs chana dal½ cup urad dal ½ tsp methi seedsSalt to tasteIn a bowl, combine brown rice with water, cover with a lid and keep aside for 4-5 hours. In a separate bowl, do the same for urad, chana and methi seeds. Cover and leave aside for 4 hours. Wash and drain the brown rice and add it to a blender. Form a smooth paste using water. Wash and drain urad, chana and methi seeds and blend to form smooth paste. Transfer the paste with brown rice paste. Add salt to taste and mix together. Cover it up and let it ferment for 8 hours. In a non-stick tawa, pour a ladle of batter and spread in a circular motion. Sprinkle some ghee over it and let it cook on high flame. Fold and make a semi circle. Serve warm with coconut chutney.**READMORE**

#### Rajgira paratha

**Ingredients:** ¾ cup amaranth flour or rajgira atta1 large potato (mashed)½ tsp cumin powder 1 or 2 green chillies – crushed or finely chopped Salt to tasteGhee or oil as requiredAdd rajgira atta to a kneading container. Add 1 or 2 tablespoons of water in parts and knead to form a smooth dough. Leave it aside. In a bowl, take the mashed potato, add crushed green chillies, cumin powder and salt to taste. Add chopped coriander and ginger paste and mix well. Next make small or medium sized balls from the dough. Roll them in a circular motion and add the potato filling. Roll them to a suitable size. Heat ghee or oil in a tava. Add the parantha and fry it until cooked on both sides. Your paratha is now ready to eat.

#### Foods to avoid in a gluten-free diet :

According to the Mayo Clinic, grains such as wheat, barley, rye, triticale and oats should be avoided in a gluten-free diet. Furthermore, one must avoid foods such as breads, cakes, pies, candies cereals, cookies, crackers, pastas, hot dogs, seasoned rice mixes, sauces including soy sauce, vegetables in sauce and seasoned snack foods, unless they're labeled as gluten-free or made with corn, rice, soy and other gluten-free items, says the health body.

## Avoid self-medication: The dangers of unsupervised supplements and painkillers



Self-medication with supplements and painkillers may seem convenient, but experts warn it can lead to serious health risks, including organ damage and delayed diagnosis. Doctors stress the importance of medical guidance over quick fixes. Why unsupervised medication In a world that moves fast, recovery is expected to keep pace. A headache is fixed with a pill, fatigue with a supplement, and a minor ache with whatever is easily available. It feels efficient, even harmless. But that convenience is beginning to come at a cost. Dr Simon Thomas, Senior Director, Robotic Joint Replacements & Orthopaedics at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Shalimar Bagh warns that self-medication, especially with supplements and over-the-counter painkillers, is turning into a silent health risk. What seems like a quick solution today can, over time, lead to complications the body does not immediately reveal. Supplements are often seen as safe by default. They promise better immunity, stronger hair, improved energy, and overall well-being. The messaging is simple: if it is marketed as wellness, it must be good for you. But the body does not work that way. Unsupervised use of supplements can overload systems that are already functioning within a delicate balance. Doctors report cases where people



taking supplements for issues like hair fall or fatigue have ended up with nausea, skin reactions, digestive problems, and even elevated liver enzymes or kidney stones. Part of the problem is the assumption that "more" equals "better". In reality, excess nutrients do not always get flushed out. Some accumulate, some interfere with other processes, and some simply strain the organs meant to process them. Painkillers are even more normalised. A headache before a meeting, a backache after a long day, a fever that needs to be managed quickly, the solution often feels obvious. However, frequent and unsupervised use of common drugs like ibuprofen, paracetamol, and diclofenac can quietly affect the body. While providing immediate relief, they also exert strain on the liver, kidneys, and the digestive system. In the long run, this may cause problems like gastrointestinal bleeding, kidney damage, and liver damage. In certain instances, extended use might even elevate the chances of developing heart problems. What makes it even more dangerous is that these drugs act as cover-ups. The continuous pain, which needs to be diagnosed, is immediately relieved without getting to the root of the problem.

# VOICE OF WORDS

## WOMEN

[Longevity doctor explains reasons behind facial ageing, shares 12 ways to slow it down](#)



Facial ageing starts beneath the skin, influenced by bone structure, fat shifts, hormones and sun exposure. A longevity doctor explains the science behind it and simple habits that may help slow the process. From collagen loss to hormonal changes and UV damage, several factors shape how the face ages. Ageing is one of those things everyone talks about, but no one really experiences the same way. It is natural, unavoidable. Still, most people are not trying to stop it completely. Just slow it down a bit. Keep things steady for as long as possible. The face is where it shows up first. Subtle at the beginning, then harder to ignore. Dr Thomas Paloschi, a longevity medical doctor focused on preventive age management and functional medicine, recently broke this down in an Instagram post on April 1. His point was simple. What you see on the surface is only a small part of the story. Facial ageing starts beneath the skin, not on it. According to Dr Paloschi, facial ageing is not just about wrinkles or fine lines. It begins much deeper, long before visible changes appear. Which also means that creams alone are not enough. He points to several structural changes happening underneath:

- Bone framework
- Deep fat compartments
- Superficial fat pads
- Retaining ligaments and fascia
- Dermal collagen and elastin

These layers shift gradually, and that is what eventually shows up on the face.

Your bone structure changes more than you think. "The facial skeleton doesn't stay fixed with age," Dr Paloschi explained. "It reshapes. Studies show orbital enlargement, midface or maxilla bone loss, and mandibular angle widening, all of which reduce the support that keeps tissues lifted." So the foundation itself changes. That slight loss of support can affect how the face sits over time. He also notes that these changes are not entirely fixed and can be slowed down to some extent. Fat distribution in the face shifts over time. There is also what he describes as a changing "fat map". As people age, deep fat pads tend to shrink, while superficial fat shifts downward. This is what leads to hollows, under-eye bags and jowls. It is not just about losing fat, it is about where it moves. Dr Paloschi suggests that some of the underlying causes behind this shift can be influenced. Skin changes happen at a cellular level. "The dermis thins with age," Dr Paloschi noted. "Collagen production slows, elastin fragments, and the extracellular matrix weakens, reducing firmness and elasticity." So the surface changes people notice are tied to what is happening at a deeper, cellular level. He adds that these pathways are not entirely fixed and can be influenced with the right approach. One of the biggest external factors is ultraviolet radiation. "It fragments collagen, stiffens elastin, damages DNA, and speeds visible ageing far more than time alone," he said. Which makes daily sun protection less of an optional step and more of a basic one if the goal is to slow things down.

## [What happens to your skin when you lose 10 kg? A dermatologist explains](#)

Losing 10 kg can lead to both positive and visible skin changes, including improved texture, loose skin and more defined facial features. A dermatologist explains what to expect and how nutrition, hydration and habits can support healthy skin.

### Weight loss and skin

Losing 10 kg is often seen as a big win for your health. You feel lighter, more active, and in many cases, more confident. But your skin? It goes through its own adjustment phase. While some people notice a glow, others are surprised by changes like loose skin or a tired-looking face. The truth sits somewhere in between, and it largely depends on how your body adapts.

### Why your skin changes after weight loss

"Weight loss is a major transformation for the body, and the skin has to adjust to that change," says Dr Khushboo Jha, Chief Dermatologist Consultant at Metro Hospital and founder of One Skin Clinic. Factors like age, genetics, speed of weight loss and nutrition all play a role in how your skin responds.

### Loose skin is more common than you think

One of the most noticeable changes is sagging or loose skin. "When the body expands, the skin stretches. Over time, collagen and elastin fibres weaken. So when weight is lost, especially quickly, the skin doesn't always snap back immediately," explains Dr Jha. This is most visible around the abdomen, arms, thighs and even the face.

### Your face may look sharper or slightly tired

Weight loss often brings more definition, sharper cheekbones, a clearer jawline. But there's another side. "A sudden reduction in facial fat can sometimes make the face appear hollow or slightly older," she says. That's why gradual weight loss tends to give more balanced, natural-looking results.

### The upside: clearer and healthier skin

Not all changes are challenging. Weight loss can actually improve skin quality. Reduced inflammation, better blood circulation and improved insulin sensitivity all contribute to clearer, smoother skin. Diet plays a role too. Cutting down high glycaemic foods often means fewer breakouts and better texture overall.

### Why stretch marks may look more visible

This surprises many people. Stretch marks don't disappear with weight loss. In fact, they may look more



noticeable initially as the surrounding fat reduces. The good news? Over time, they usually fade and become less prominent.

### Nutrition shows up on your skin

Skin reflects how you lose weight, not just how much you lose. "If your diet includes enough protein, vitamins and minerals, your skin tends to look healthier and more radiant," says Dr Jha. Crash dieting, on the other hand, can leave skin dry, dull and fragile.

What actually helps your skin bounce back

There's no single fix, but a combination works best:

- Strength training to support skin firmness

- Proper hydration

- Balanced nutrition

- Consistent skincare

"Actives like retinoids and peptides can help, but internal health plays a bigger role," she adds.

### The real story

Losing 10 kg is great for your health, but expecting "perfect skin" immediately after isn't realistic. Your skin is adapting. It needs time, support and consistency. Weight loss changes your body, and your skin is part of that journey.

Go slow, eat well, and take care of your skin both inside and out. Because in the end, it's not just about losing weight, it's about maintaining healthy, resilient skin along the way.

## [Skin cycling in summer: Does the viral trend actually work in India's heat?](#)



Skin cycling is a popular skincare trend, but experts say it needs careful tweaks for Indian summers. From lighter moisturisers to longer recovery periods, adapting the routine is key to avoiding irritation and protecting the skin barrier. The skincare trend that has steadily gained popularity is skin cycling. The promise of improved efficacy without causing irritation has made skin cycling the hottest topic in the skincare world today, according to dermatologists and influencers alike. However, here's the twist. What works in controlled routines doesn't always translate well to Indian summers, where heat, humidity and sweat change how your skin behaves. So, does skin cycling still hold up? Or does it need a rethink?

### What exactly is skin cycling?

"Skin cycling has taken the beauty world by storm, and for good reason. When done right, it is one of the most intelligent, skin-friendly routines available today," says Dr Rinky Kapoor, Co-Founder and Director, The Esthetic Clinics. She explains that the concept is simple: "Rotate actives strategically across a four-night cycle, exfoliation, retinoid, then two nights of recovery, allow-



ing the skin barrier to rebuild between treatments."

Why summer changes everything Here's where things get tricky. "The golden rule is to pause and customise before copying a trend," says Dr Rinky Kapoor. According to her, Indian summers significantly impact skin behaviour. "High humidity means the skin is already in a state of heightened sebum production, increased sweating, and a perpetually stressed barrier." This is especially true for people dealing with acne, fungal issues or heat rashes.

### The biggest mistake people make

Using strong actives without adjusting for weather.

"Using a potent retinoid in this environment without adequate barrier support on recovery nights can quickly tip sensitive skin into reactive territory," she explains.

In simpler terms, what feels like a 'routine upgrade' can quietly become skin damage.

### How to make skin cycling work in summer

The good news? You don't have to ditch it entirely.

"Skin cycling is absolutely adaptable for Indian summers, but with a few essential tweaks," says Dr Rinky Kapoor.

# VOICE OF WORDS SPORTS



## Atiqa Mir becomes highest-ranked female in FIA karting rankings

LONATO: Indian racing prodigy Atiqa Mir has emerged as the highest-ranked female in the latest FIA International Karting Ranking (IKR) in her category, marking a milestone moment in her fast-rising career. The 11-year-old is placed seventh overall in the International OK-NJ class (age 12-14), making her the highest-ranked female racer in the rankings calculated by motorsport's world governing body, the FIA. The rankings are led by Zoltan Coigny of Switzerland. Atiqa, the first Indian to be supported by the Formula 1 Academy, was fast-tracked into the Junior category (age 12-14) from the Mini class (8-12) at the start of 2026, considering her special talent. She repaid the immense faith shown by her backers by bagging a historic podium in the opening round of the Champions of the Future Academy (COTFA) series in Valencia last month. Her father, Asif Mir, who was India's first national karting champion, is pleased with his daughter's rapid rise in the world of motorsport, while not losing sight of the ultimate goal, reaching Formula 1, with no female having raced there since 1992. "Atiqa has reached a big milestone in her career due to her hard work and support from everyone involved in her journey. It is a proud moment for India. She needs to keep working hard and improving, it is a moving target. There is a famous saying in racing 'if you sit still you are moving backwards'," said Asif. Last month, Atiqa capped off a successful campaign in the WSK Super Master Series with a commendable eighth-place finish out of 53 drivers in the final round at Franciacorta.



## Telangana rowers finish runner-up in national indoor championship

Hyderabad: Telangana put up an impressive show, finishing runner-up in the Under-15 category of the inaugural All India indoor rowing championship in Cuttack (Odisha). Geographic Reference Telangana rowers won two gold, three silver and two bronze to finish second in the final medals tally. Most of the rowers are from Telangana Sports School, Telangana Tribal Sports School and the city. Telangana State Sports Minister V Srihari, Advisor to State Government (Sports) AP Jitender Reddy, SATG chairman Shivsena Reddy and SATG VC & MD Dr A Soni Bala Devi congratulated the medallists.

## Sainyam shines with best-ever finish at ISSF World Cup in Granada

New Delhi: Sainyam, a former junior world and Asian champion, recorded her best finish at an International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol leg, shooting 178.9 in the women's 10m air pistol final on the penultimate day of competitions at the Las Gabias Shooting Range in Granada, Spain, to claim a creditable fifth place on Saturday. Reigning Asian Games champion Palak also made the final and finished seventh, bowing out after the 14th shot of the 24-shot final with a score of 137.9. China's Shen Yiyao won gold with 244.2. Sainyam shot 582 in qualification to take third spot in the 83-strong field, while Palak made the top eight, claiming seventh spot with a 577. In the men's 25m rapid-fire pistol, Olympian Vijayveer Sidhu recorded the best Indian finish, his effort of 576 giving him 23rd place overall. Among other Indian medal contenders, Ankur Goel was 29th with a 572, and Neeraj Kumar placed 40th with an effort of 565. All three Indians in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) competition in the ongoing ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol, in Granada, Spain, could not progress beyond the qualification stage, with Surabhi Bharadwaj Rapole and Olympian Anjum Moudgil logging scores of 587 each to finish in 18th and 19th spots respectively. Ayushi Podder shot 585 to finish 27th. The eighth and final qualification spot went to 589. Also on Friday, Ankur Goel was the best-placed Indian in the men's 25m rapid-fire pistol (RFP) with a score of 289 after the



first stage precision round. Olympian Vijayveer Sidhu shot 287 while Neeraj Kumar shot 282. The trio comes back on Saturday for the second rapid-fire qualification stage before the top eight progress to the final. Reigning Asian Games champion Palak will partner Mukesh Nelavalli in the 10m air pistol mixed team, the first event of the tournament, alongside Sainyam and Ujjwal Malik. In the second day's final, the air rifle mixed team, India will be represented by Sonam Uttam Maskar and Gajanan Shahdev Khandagale, and Shruti and Arshdeep Singh, respectively. As per the laid-down selection policy, India has fielded shooters ranked between 4 and 6 in the domestic national rankings. The team remains a strong

contender, however, with established names such as Akhil Sheoran, Anjum Moudgil, and Mehuli Ghosh, world championship medalists all, leading the lines, along with the likes of World Cup final winner Simranpreet Kaur Brar, world record holder Rhythm Sangwan, and last year's Buenos Aires World Cup gold medallist Vijayveer Sidhu, providing further solidity. While some shooters have competed in continental competitions earlier in the year, for many, including those from powerhouses China, the Granada World Cup will be the international season opener. No wonder, then, that they have entered the second-largest 22-member squad, including three of their reigning Olympic champions.

## Yavuputra Tigers edge Elegans Eagles 6-5 in FNCC-Pullela Gopi Chand Badminton League



Hyderabad: Yavuputra Tigers defeated Elegans Eagles 6-5 in the FNCC-Pullela Gopi Chand Badminton League championship being held during weekends here on Saturday. The results: Yavuputra Tigers bt Elegans Eagles 6-5. Men singles: Pranit (Elegans Eagles) bt Shourya (Yavuputra Tigers) 15-14, 15-13; Lokesh Reddy (Yavuputra Tigers) bt Pranav Ram (Elegans Eagles) 15-14, 10-15, 15-14; Ta zuwala (Elegans Eagles) bt Tharun (Yavuputra Tigers) 15-12, 15-10; Linessh (Yavuputra Tigers) bt Chin may (Elegans Eagles) 15-6, 15-14. Women's singles: Avani (Yavuputra Tigers) bt Aaryama (Elegans Eagles) 15-12, 15-7; Shresta (Yavuputra Tigers) bt Disha Santosh (Elegans Eagles) 6-15, 15-8, 15-14; Shreyanshi (Elegans Eagles) bt Navya (Yavuputra Tigers) 15-6, 15-8; Kanvika (Elegans Eagles) bt Aaradhya (Yavuputra Tigers) 15-14, 15-11.

## Navneet Kaur-led India women gear up for four-match Argentina tour



Hyderabad: The Indian Women's Hockey Team is all set to play their four-match Argentina Tour, to be held at the Club Ciudad de Buenos Aires in Argentina from April 13 to 17. The tour will serve as the ideal preparation for the Indian team ahead of a crucial period as they gear up for the FIH Nations Cup, FIH Hockey World Cup Belgium & Netherlands 2026, and the Asian Games later this year. Ahead of the tour, the Indian Women's Team trained in Bengaluru before departing for Argentina on Thursday evening. Having finished as runners-up at FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026 held in Hyderabad, Telangana, the team will be looking to carry that momentum forward into the tour and the rest of the year. Experienced forward Navneet Kaur will serve as the captain of the team during the tour, in the absence of Captain Salima Tete. Meanwhile, the return of India's veteran goalkeeper Savita will be a huge boost, with Bichu Devi Kharibam expected to share goalkeeping duties with her, after her impressive performances at the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 Qualifier, Hyderabad, Telangana. Having recently earned her 200th international cap, Nikki Pradhan will lead the way at the back alongside the vastly experienced Sushila Chanu Pukhrabam. The likes of Ishika Chaudhary, Manisha Chauhan, Jyoti and Udita also add solidity in the back line for India. Meanwhile, Lalanthlangiangi will also get the opportunity to

prove her mettle after earning a call-up to the senior side. With Salima Tete missing out on this tour, Neha will be anchoring a young midfield unit along with Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke and Sunelita Toppo. The likes of Sakshi Rana, Rituja Dadaso Pisal, Ishika and Deepika Soreng - who have impressed at the senior level so far - will get the opportunity to make their mark and cement their place in the starting line-up. Navneet Kaur, who recently won the Hockey India Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year, for her consistent performances, will be leading the line for India alongside Lalremsiami. Meanwhile, Baljeet Kaur, Deepika, and Beauty Ddungdung will provide attacking options as well. Mumtaz Khan also returns to the setup and can provide more goalscoring threat, with Annu also in the mix. Sharing his thoughts on the four-match tour, Indian Women's Hockey Team Chief Coach Sjoerd Marjine said, "We are here with 23 players, who will all get the opportunity to showcase themselves. We will use this tour as an opportunity to play with different team combinations and find ways to win. The big goal for me here is to see the individual and team performances against the number two ranked side in the world." Over the next week, India will contest against Argentina on April 13, 14, 16, and 17, with all matches scheduled at 11:00 AM local time (7:30 PM IST).

## Tyson Fury dominates Makhmudov in latest comeback and calls out Joshua



LONDON: Tyson Fury showed little rust in dominating Arslanbek Makhmudov for a unanimous victory Saturday and immediately challenged a ringside Anthony Joshua to fight him next. "Let's give the fight fans what they want," Fury bellowed after going 12 rounds in his latest comeback. A long-awaited Fury-Joshua heavyweight showdown would be one of the biggest fights in British boxing history. Joshua sat ringside and appeared to be using his phone to film portions of the fight at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. He didn't commit to anything when Fury (35-2-1) yelled into the Netflix microphone: "Do you accept my challenge?" Joshua said, "I'll punch you up," and "I'm the landlord. You work for me." As for Saturday's fight, the self-described "Gypsy King" had a fairly slow start but otherwise dictated the pace with his left jab and in later rounds landed frequent lead uppercuts on Makhmudov (21-3). Two judges scored it 120-108 and the other 119-109. The 36-year-old Joshua, a former world champion, later told Netflix in an interview: "Contracts will be sent over. You'll probably see us in the ring." He noted he's still "sorting some things out" following the death of two close friends in a fatal car accident in Nigeria. Joshua was a passenger in the vehicle. The 37-year-old Fury, the former two-time heavyweight champion, called it quits shortly after losing to Oleksandr Usyk in December 2024 for a second time - his only two professional defeats. "If AJ don't want it, then lets get Usyk in the trilogy," Fury said at Saturday's post-fight press conference. At Fury's request, his ring walk was preceded by a tribute to the late Ricky Hatton, the Manchester native and former world champion who died last year at age 46. The message "RIP Ricky" was stitched on the back of Fury's shorts. Conor Benn earned a 10-round unanimous decision over Regis Prograis to bolster his case for a title shot against WBC welterweight champion Ryan Garcia. Benn (25-1, 14 KOs) took command in the middle rounds with punishing body shots against 37-year-old Prograis (30-4, 24 KOs), a former two-time world champion at super lightweight (140 lbs). Saturday's bout was at a catchweight of 150 lbs. All three judges scored it 98-92 for the 29-year-old Briton, who sustained cuts over both eyes from head clashes.

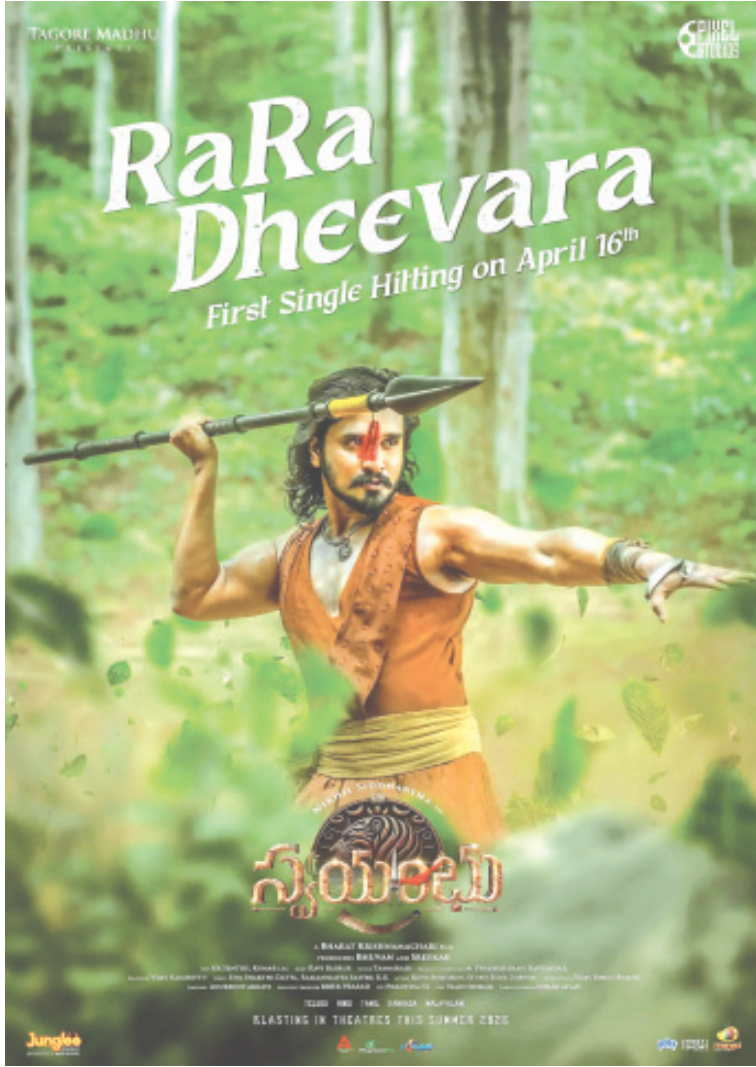


## Ram Charan In Legendary Director's Period Adventure ?



For quite some time now, pan-India Telugu actor Ram Charan's collaboration with Bollywood's iconic filmmaker Sanjay Leela Bhansali has been in the discussion due to frequent reports in the media circles that the duo is in plans to unite for a period drama. But, nothing concrete about this high-profile project materialized so far. Now, fresh reports once again started gaining buzz that Sanjay Leela Bhansali is going to helm a historical adventure drama which will see Ram Charan as the lead protagonist. Inside sources in Bollywood are buzzing with the news that Bhansali has locked the RRR actor for his next period thriller which is based in the backdrop of a jungle. Bhansali and Charan were supposed to work on the adaptation of author Amish Tripathi's popular book Legend of Suheldev in 2024. However, the plans didn't move forward beyond discussion stages due to unknown reasons. It is now believed that the fresh script is inspired by writer Vijayendra Prasad's idea which was originally written for Rowdy Rathore 2. Popular writer Durgesh Singh, who wrote Gullak 2 and Shakti Shalini, is said to have prepared an adventure drama based on this idea and developed it into a full length script that suits a top-league actor. Bhansali is believed to be keen on roping in Ram Charan for this script. There is no clarity whether he pitched the story to Charan or not. Bhansali has the reputation for mounting period dramas on epic scale with larger-than-life canvas. On the other side, Ram Charan has garnered massive pan-India following with RRR. So, this formidable combination is bound to create ripples once it is formally announced. Currently busy with his much anticipated rural sports drama Peddi, Charan has Pushpa director Sukumar's project on the horizon. If the news about Bhansali's project turns out to be true, he might work on it after wrapping up Sukumar's film. For now, the news remains a speculation.

## Swayambhu: Nikhil Turns Dheevara



Nikhil is all set to enthrall in his next outing Swayambhu, directed by Bharat Krishnamachari. The movie takes inspiration from history but presents it in a grand, heroic style rarely seen in Telugu cinema. Meanwhile, the makers have shared an update on the film's first song. The musical promotions of Swayambhu will begin with the launch of Ra Ra Dheevara on April 16, as officially announced. The song poster features Nikhil in a warrior get-up, preparing to hurl a spear in a forest. Ravi Basrur scored the music for the movie, and evidently the first single will offer an eye-feast, in terms of composition as well as visual presentation. The film's teaser, unveiled a couple of months ago, created a massive buzz. From the very first shot, it conveyed grandeur, intensity, mystery, and devotion. The grand sets, detailed locations, and stunning visuals make the world of Swayambhu feel ancient yet refreshingly new. Nikhil's transformation stands out as one of the biggest highlights. Produced by Pixel Studios, Swayambhu is gearing up for its theatrical release.

## Sid's Touch To Kamsahamnida

Mega Prince Varun Tej is fully dedicating his time and energy to his ongoing film Korean Kanakaraju, directed by Merlapaka Gandhi. The actor has undergone a complete transformation for the role, and the title glimpse stirred massive curiosity by presenting him in a fierce, wild avatar. Today, as part of the musical journey, the makers released the first song-Kamsahamnida. S Thaman has composed a soothing and playful melody, heartfelt track that instantly connects with anyone who feels deeply. The song begins with a sweet moment where Ritika explains the meaning of Kamsahamnida (Thank You) to Varun Tej. Kasarla Shyam's lyrics beautifully cap-



ture the unfolding love story, while Sid Sriram elevates the mood with his signature soulful rendition. Varun Tej's graceful moves and his warm, endearing chemistry with Ritika make the visuals refreshing and appealing. It's a chartbuster start to the film's musical campaign. The makers are expected to announce the film's release date soon.

## Ravi Babu's Razor Locks Release Date



Ravi Babu, known for his relentless experimentation as a filmmaker, is coming up with a wild action thriller Razor. The title glimpse suggested an intense action thriller steeped in high-stakes drama, gore, and psychological tension- arguably his most audacious project to date. With the shoot fully wrapped a couple of months ago, and the post-production now finished, the makers locked May 8th as the release date. This date marks the birth anniversary of director and actor Ravi Babu's father, the late Chalapathi Rao. Star producer Suresh Babu presents the film under the Suresh Productions banner, continuing his long association with Ravi Babu, while Flying Frogs handles production. The technical crew includes cinematographer Charan Madhavaneni and music composer SS Rajesh. The team will augment the promotional activities in the coming days.



## Can Allu Arjun Break the Tamil Director Jinx with Raaka?

The Telugu film industry has often seen a strong connection between Tamil directors and Telugu heroes. Many big stars have worked with directors from Tamil cinema, and this trend has created both success and failure stories over the years. One of the biggest examples is Pawan Kalyan. He worked with Tamil directors and delivered massive hits like Kushi and Tholi Prema. These films became industry blockbusters and are still loved by fans. Because of this, Pawan Kalyan is often seen as a lucky hero when it comes to working with Tamil filmmakers. However, not all his films were successful, as movies like Panjaa and Puli failed to impress at the box office. On the other hand, many star heroes faced disappointment when they teamed up with Tamil directors. Mahesh Babu's film Spyder did not perform well. Similarly, Ram Charan's Game Changer turned out to be a big failure. Reports say the movie lost nearly 60 percent of its budget, making it a huge disaster. Vijay Deverakonda also faced a setback with NOTA, and Ram Pothineni's The Warrior could not meet expectations.

## Deepika's Paycheck For Raaka: High or Low?

Star siren Deepika Padukone has been in the news lately, but not entirely for the right reasons. Controversies, exit rumours, and talk about "excessive demands" have been doing the rounds, with a few big-budget projects like Spirit, Kalki 2 reportedly shunting her out, and others following suit. Amidst all this noise, one thing is clear. She's very much part of Allu Arjun's Raaka and charges a bomb for the same. Directed by Atlee, the film has already generated decent buzz with its title and first look. Backed by Sun Pictures, this is being mounted as a massive pan-India project, targeting a Summer 2027 release. Coming to the talking point, Deepika is said to be charging Rs 25 crores for the film, which is her highest paycheck so far. On the surface, that looks huge. Especially when actresses like Mrunal Thakur, Sreeleela, and Pooja Hegde usually operate in the 73-4 crore range. That's a massive gap. But there's a flip side too. When you place that Rs 25 crore next to the film's bigger economics, it tells a different story. Allu Arjun is reportedly charging close to Rs 250 crores. Atlee is said to be taking home around Rs 100 crores. Suddenly, Deepika's fee doesn't look "too high" anymore. In fact, comparatively, it sits on the lower side within this setup. That's the interesting contrast here. A number that feels big when seen alone, looks relatively small when placed next to the male star and director's remuneration. Also, Raaka features multiple female leads, including Mrunal Thakur, Rashmika Mandanna, and Janhvi Kapoor in key roles, as per the insider sources. End of the day, Raaka is playing on a huge canvas. Big star. Big director. Big budget.

