

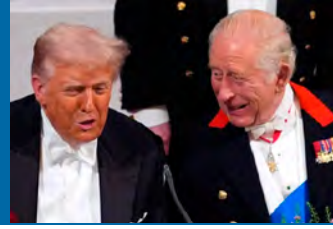


Justice must be seen to be done: Kejriwal on refusal to appear in excise case before HC judge

INSIDE | PAGE

Trump says King will be 'very safe' during US visit after security talks

WORLD | NEWS



THE BLACK GOLD SHOOT WRAPPED UP IN 60+ WORKING DAYS, SAMYUKTHA LOOKS POWERFUL IN NEW POSTER, MAKING VIDEO UNVEILED

CINEMA | PAGE



SCAN FOR E-PAPER



OM NAMO VENKATESAYA



26-04-2026

Total pilgrims: 79,878

Tonsures: 33,037

Hundi kankaluz: 3.94 CR

Waiting Compartments: 30

Approx. Darshan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens): 12 H

WEATHER



38 °C | °F

Precipitation: 15%

Humidity: 40%

Wind: 13 km/h

GOLD RATE 24K ₹



1,55,830/-

WOMAN DELIVERS BABY ON TRAIN, CO-PASSENGERS HELP IN DOCTORS ABSENCE

Mangaluru (TSIT) A train journey from Mangaluru to Mysuru turned unexpectedly into a makeshift delivery room on Monday when a woman, somewhere between stations and destinations, brought a new life into the world inside a halted train in Dakshina Kannada district. The train was stopped at BC Road Railway Station in Bantwal taluk after the woman went into labour mid-journey. The idea was simple and urgent: get her medical help. But time, as it often does in moments of crisis, refused to cooperate. For more than half an hour, no doctor arrived. What followed was a scene both stark and extraordinary. With no medical personnel in sight, two women co-passengers stepped forward. Inside the cramped confines of a train toilet, they helped deliver the baby — away from hospital beds, monitors, or sterile rooms, but not away from courage.

Serving people of Bengal is in my destiny this time, says PM Modi

Kolkata (TSIT):

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed confidence in the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) success in the West Bengal Assembly election, stating that it is his destiny to serve the people of the state this time. "To serve the people of West Bengal and ensure their safety and security is written in my destiny this time. Hence, this is my responsibility also. I will not walk away from this responsibility. The Assembly election in West Bengal this time is also critical in changing the destiny of the entire eastern India," the Prime Minister said while addressing an election campaign rally at Jagatdal in North 24 Parganas district. He also explained why the Assembly polls in the state this time were crucial for changing the destiny of eastern India. According to him,



Anga (Bihar), Banga (Bengal) and Kalinga (Odisha) are the three pillars for a prosperous India, and if any one of the three pillars becomes weak, then the entire India gets affected.

"This is my last campaign rally in West Bengal this time. The kind of public enthusiasm that I have witnessed this time in my campaign rallies, I am sure that I will have to come to West Bengal again after May 4, to be a witness to the oath ceremony of the new cabinet," the Prime Minister said. Speaking on the occasion, he also said that if the BJP comes to power in West Bengal, a major "Make in India" will be established around the state capital of Kolkata.

Universities must become innovation hubs: CM Naidu



Visakhapatnam (TSIT):

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Monday said that universities should not remain mere degree-granting institutions but must evolve into centres of innovation that can influence

society. He was speaking at the centenary celebrations of Andhra University.

The Chief Minister inaugurated the AU iFactory and Network Centre built at a cost of Rs.64 crore and laid foundation stones for nine development projects worth Rs.112 crore, including hos-

tels and a convocation hall. He urged students to become job creators instead of job seekers and stressed the importance of innovation, startups, and industry collaboration. Highlighting the growing global importance of Visakhapatnam, he said the upcoming Google data centre would attract major investments.

Describing Andhra University as a leading institution with a rich 100-year legacy, he announced Rs.500 crore support for its development and expressed confidence that it could achieve a place among the world's top 100 universities. Governor S. Abdul Nazeer, who inaugurated the celebrations, said the university is a proud cultural and intellectual symbol of the Telugu people. He encouraged students to focus on research and innovation.

Russia will do everything that serves interests of Iran: Putin

Saint Petersburg (TSIT):

Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi on Monday called on Russian President Vladimir Putin in Saint Petersburg as the Kremlin reiterated its support for bringing peace in the Middle East, local media reported.



"For our part, we will do everything that serves your interests, the interests of all the peoples of the region, to ensure that this peace is achieved as

quickly as possible. You know our position well," Russia's Tass news agency quoted Putin as saying during the meeting with the visiting Iranian minister.

Putin stated that people of Iran are fighting "courageously and heroically" for their sovereignty. He

expressed hope that the people of Iran will overcome this "difficult period of trials and peace will come." He also expressed Moscow's

India, New Zealand sign historic FTA, PM Christopher Luxon calls it 'once-in-a-generation' agreement



New Delhi (TSIT)

India and New Zealand have signed a landmark Free Trade Agreement (FTA), granting market access across 70.03% of tariff lines while keeping 29.97% under exclusion. Describing the pact as transformative, New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon said the agreement marks a breakthrough after years of stalled efforts.

Luxon said, "We agreed then, that we'd launch negotiations on a free trade agreement. For decades, many people said it couldn't be done. But tonight, that deal gets signed."

Taking it to social media platform X, "This is a once-in-a-generation agreement that gives NZ exporters unprecedented access to 1.4 billion people and an economy set to

become the third-largest in the world. It means more jobs on farms and orchards, it means more money coming into local communities, and it means more opportunities for your family to get ahead."

The FTA was formalised in the presence of Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and his New Zealand counterpart, Todd McClay.

Piyush Goyal on the development said, "The fact that we are making businesses easier to set up, easier to work in India working towards reducing the compliance burden, ensuring simplicity in operations, ensuring a business climate that is trusting, that encourages investment, and also making sure that as a nation, we provide an environment that is business friendly, that is very inviting, and that it

help you both grow and enjoy good profits in India."

Through the FTA, both the countries collaborate with farmers to boost productivity and integrate them in the global value chains. The FTA boosts MSMEs and Jobs through Zero-duty access for labour-intensive sectors including textiles, apparel, leather, footwear, gems & jewellery, engineering goods and processed foods.

The 30% of tariff lines will have immediate duty elimination, covering wood, wool, sheep meat, leather-raw hides etc. 35.60% of tariffs are subject to phased elimination over 3, 5, 7, and 10 years, including petroleum oil, malt extract, vegetable oils, and selected electrical and mechanical machinery, peptones etc, the statement read.



OUR CENSUS OUR DEVELOPMENT

(First Phase of Census 2027)

Common queries on Self-Enumeration (SE) and their Answers (Part-1)

WHAT IS SELF-ENUMERATION?

Self-Enumeration is an online process in which you fill and submit your household details on the SE portal (se.census.gov.in) yourself, without waiting for an enumerator



- ❖ **Is Self-Enumeration mandatory?**
No, it is an additional facility. If you do not do it, an enumerator will collect data during field visit
- ❖ **Can I do Self-Enumeration in any language?**
This facility is available in Hindi, English and 14 Indian languages
- ❖ **Is internet required for Self-Enumeration?**
Yes, internet is required to access the portal
- ❖ **Is my information safe?**
Yes, all data is secure, encrypted and stored on government servers
- ❖ **What is SE ID and its use?**
After submission of information, you will receive a unique 11 digit SE ID (Also via SMS/email) which must be shown to the enumerator during her/his visit to your house
- ❖ **What if SE ID is forgotten?**
It can be retrieved using the registered mobile number on the portal
- ❖ **Will an enumerator visit after Self-Enumeration?**
Yes, the enumerator will visit your home and confirm your details using the SE ID
- ❖ **Do I need to upload any documents?**
No documents are required to be uploaded
- ❖ **Is help available on the portal?**
Portal has user guide, flowcharts, tutorial videos, FAQs and tooltips

TOLL FREE - 1855

Let us fulfill our responsibility, Let us participate in the Census  CensusIndia2027

Women Safety, Empowerment Key to Development CM Revanth

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU:

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that ensuring the safety and security of women and children is fundamental to achieving sustainable development...



Addressing the ICCG programme, he noted that India granted voting rights to women soon after Independence, reflecting its progressive vision...

tunities through tie-ups with Amazon.

Expressing concern over rising drug abuse, the Chief Minister said substance addiction is a major contributor to crimes against women and children.

He added that Self-Help Groups have been integrated into multiple sectors, including public transport, solar energy projects, school management...

CM REVANTH EXPRESSES GRIEF OVER DEMISE OF PRO MARABOINA MADHUSUDHAN

Hyderabad TSIT: Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy expressed deep shock and sorrow over the sudden demise of Maraboina Madhusudhan...

CMC PRAJAVANI RECEIVES 44 COMPLAINTS; COMMISSIONER ORDERS TIME-BOUND RESOLUTION

Hyderabad TSIT: The Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) organised its weekly 'Prjavani' grievance redressal programme on Monday...



Reaffirming the Corporation's commitment to citizen-centric governance, the Commissioner directed that no delays will be tolerated...

SR University celebrates placement success meet 2026

Hyderabad (TSIT): SR University organized its Placement Success Meet-2026 on April 25, celebrating the achievements of graduating students...



Major recruiters included Accenture, Cognizant, and Cagamin, along with firms like Infosys, TCS, Deloitte, and Amazon.

The aim of Poshan Pakwada programs is to overcome malnutrition



W a n a p a r t h y (T S I T) : Additional Collector Khimya Naik stated that the aim of Poshan Pakwada programs is to overcome malnutrition...

Altum Credito Home Finance Pvt. Ltd. POSSESSION NOTICE [Rule 8(1)] (For immovable property) WHEREAS, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Altum Credito Home Finance Private Limited...

Protium Finance Limited (Erisoftware Growth Source Financial Technologies Limited) POSSESSION NOTICE - (U/S 13(4) & As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) WHEREAS, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd...

FEDBANK FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD. POSSESSION NOTICE WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd...

MANAPPURAM HOME FINANCE LIMITED POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) WHEREAS, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Manappuram Home Finance Ltd...

CAN FIN HOMES LTD POSSESSION NOTICE WHEREAS the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd...

GENERAL NOTICE It is hereby inform to the general public that, Sri Bilikanti Ramakrishna, S/o. Bilikanti Rajeshwar has purchased land bearing Sy. No. 351/e...

PUBLIC NOTICE My clients MAMINDLA NARSINGA RAO, S/o. Narsiah, P/O. H.No. 10-15A/9/A/1, Wechors Colony, Jangaon District...

ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL POSSESSION NOTICE [SEE RULE 8 (1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002] On account of the amalgamation between Aditya Birla Finance Ltd. and Aditya Birla Capital Ltd...

ICI Home Finance POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) WHEREAS, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICI Home Finance Company Limited...

ICI Home Finance POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) WHEREAS, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICI Home Finance Company Limited...

CHANGE OF NAME

L. LIZA DAS, Legally Wedded Spouse of NK TUKUNA DAS, R/O: SCHOOL SAHI, BELAGOAN, BELAGOAN, BHATAKUMARADA, BELLAGAM, PURUSOTTAMPUR, GANJAM, ODISHA - 761003., have changed my name from LIZA DAS To LIZA KUMARI PANDA

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on @SCRailwaysIndia Details of the Tender Notices of S.C. Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

Open e-Tender Notice No. DRM/Works/SC/41-53/2026/OT, Dt. 23.04.2026

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the following works up to 14.00 hours on 22.05.2026

SI.No.: 01, e-Tender No.: 41, CR_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: SNF-SC-KZJ Section: Provision of Divyangjan amenities to meet short term targets in stations in SNF-SC-KZJ Section. Approx. Tender Value : Rs. 2,99,86,480/-, EMD: Rs. 5,99,800/-, Completion period in Months: 06, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 02, e-Tender No.: 42, CR_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: SC-KZJ Section: Proposed replacement of steel girders with PSC gibs for Br.No. 366 DN Exg. 10x12.20m GB at Km. 263/22-30 in SC-KZJ section. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 3,86,98,172/-, EMD: Rs. 7,74,000/-, Completion period in Months: 09, Maintenance period in Months: 48

SI.No.: 03, e-Tender No.: 43, CR_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: SC-KZJ Section: KZJ Development of Female Block, Circulating Area & other pending works of New Running Room at KZJ - in Phase-II. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 3,28,51,020/-, EMD: Rs. 6,57,000/-, Completion period in Months: 09, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 04, e-Tender No.: 44, CR_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: SC-KZJ section: Construction of Office cum stores building for Sr. Section Engineer (Signal) at BG. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 2,07,37,666/-, EMD: Rs. 4,14,800/-, Completion period in Months: 09, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 05, e-Tender No.: 45, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: Supply of potable drinking water through water tankers to stations and colonies under Sr.DEN/South/SC jurisdiction. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 80,92,157/-, EMD: Rs. 1,61,900/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: Nil

SI.No.: 06, e-Tender No.: 46, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: Bhadrachalam Road Improvements to water supply arrangements Provision of main & 2nd entry B.O.P. PF shelters, vehicle parking area etc. at BDCR. (Two Packet System). Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 14,25,09,544/-, EMD: Rs. 28,50,200/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 07, e-Tender No.: 47, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: Bhadrachalam Road - Development of crowd control measures and additional holding area at BDCR during Godavari Pushkarams-2027. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 9,53,59,974/-, EMD: Rs. 19,07,200/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 08, e-Tender No.: 48, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: Bhadrachalam Road - Infrastructure development works at BDCR in view of Godavari Pushkarams-2027. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 9,94,72,901/-, EMD: Rs. 19,89,500/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 09, e-Tender No.: 49, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: BPQ-KZJ section: SSE/PWay/MAGH, SKZR & BPA Provision of Drains Pathways, Standardisation of Dead ends, Removal of check etc in connection with safety related yard improvement & upgradation works at various yards under ADEN/ BPA sub division. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 7,14,57,772/-, EMD: Rs. 14,29,200/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 10, e-Tender No.: 50, S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: JMKF: Construction of CPWJ office and shed at JMKF, SW 2) Construction of office cum stores building for SSE/Signal at SKZR. SC div. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 4,46,25,450/-, EMD: Rs. 8,92,500/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 11, e-Tender No.: 51, W.S.C. 26 OT, Name of the work: Supply of Potable drinking water through water tankers to stations, service buildings and colonies under Sr.DEN/West/SC Section. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 64,87,013/-, EMD: Rs. 1,29,800/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: Nil

SI.No.: 12, e-Tender No.: 52, NW_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: SW 1) Provision of Cover over platform at Bhalki-3 bays, Kamalnagar-3 bays, Janwal-3 Bays, Pangoon-3 Bays under ADEN/BDR sub division in DEN/North-West jurisdiction. SW 2) Provision of Additional COPS at Udgir Railway station under ADEN/BDR sub division in DEN/North-West jurisdiction. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 4,17,17,923/-, EMD: Rs. 8,34,400/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 36

SI.No.: 13, e-Tender No.: 53, NW_SC 26 OT, Name of the work: PDP - NZB Section: SW 1) SSE/P Way/ARMU jurisdiction: Proposed safety related yard improvement upgradation works at various yards. SW 2) SSE/P Way/KRMR jurisdiction: Proposed safety related yard improvement and upgradation works at various yards. Approx. Tender Value: Rs. 3,00,63,943/-, EMD: Rs. 6,01,300/-, Completion period in Months: 12, Maintenance period in Months: 45 Days

1. Tenderers should participate through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered. 2. Tender conditions/other particulars are available in the tender documents on IREPS website at reps.gov.in which can be downloaded, can be participated and can view any modifications if any.

3. All the prospective tenderers are requested to remit EMD through online payments/BG only. 4. The tender notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the office of Sr.DEN/Co-ordination, Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway, and Secunderabad which can be seen on all working days. 5. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto. 6. All the prospective tenderers are advised to get GSTN identification Nos. and submit along with their offer.

Visit our site at "www.ireps.gov.in" Sr. DEN/Co-Ordination/Secunderabad

FOR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT:

9948480279, 7330778889

CHANGE OF NAME

Md. ABDUL KHALEEL, S/o. Mahabub Ali, Aged 47 years, R/o. H.No. 6-4-74, Hanumanpura, Mahabubnagar-509001, Telangana, here by informed that my Daughter (Minor)Anayah Fatin, Aged 12 years born on 01-05-2014, have changed her name from Anayah Fatin to AIZZAH FATHIMA for all future records. Hence her new name is AIZZAH FATHIMA. Hence this Affidavit.

Form No. INC-26

Pursuant to rule 30 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014) BEFORE THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, SOUTHEASTERN REGION, HYDERABAD

In the matter of En Pointe Shared Services Private Limited (CIN: U69201TG2022PTC164380) having its Registered Office at 130P & 115/1P, Nanakramguda Rd, Ranga Reddy Dist., Financial District, Manikonda Jagir, Gachibowli, K.V. Rangareddy, Seri Lingampally, Telangana, India, 500032

EN Pointe Shared Services Private Limited ("Company") proposes to make application to the Central Government (Regional Director) under section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Extra ordinary general meeting held on 6th April 2026 to enable the Company to change its registered office from the "State of Telangana" to the "Union Territory of Delhi".

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the Company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing in the prescribed form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of objection to the Regional Director Southeastern Region Directorate, at 3rd Floor, Corporate Bhawan, Jagajyoti, Nagole, Tattannara Village, Hayat Nagar, Mandali, Ranga Reddy District, Hyderabad-500068, Telangana, within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the Applicant Company at its registered office at the address mentioned below:

130P & 115 /1P, Nanakramguda Rd, Ranga Reddy Dist., Financial District, Manikonda Jagir, Gachibowli, K.V. Rangareddy, Seri Lingampally, Telangana, India, 500032

For & behalf of EN Pointe Shared Services Private Limited (Sd/-) Date: 28.04.2026 Valbhav Gupta (Sd/-) Place: Telangana DIN: 07560542

Tender Notice No: 03-Mech-VB-WET-TPTY-26-27 Dated 22.04.2026

Dy.CME/CRS/TPTY acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against TPTY No. mentioned here under closing date as mentioned below up to 11:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offers received shall be ignored.

SI.No.: 1. Description of work : 03-Mech-VB-WET-TPTY-26-27 Dated 22.04.2026 "Supply and Apply of Wet-on-Wet PU painting on Exterior, Interior FRP Painting, Roof, Under frame and Marking/Sticking on both side and End walls on Vande Bharat Coaches for SS-1 'Schedules at CRS/TPTY". Approx. Cost (in Rs.): Rs. 54,67,463.04/-, Bid Security (in Rs.): Rs. 1,09,400/-, Period of completion: 08 Months from the date of commencement of work. Date of Closing: 14.05.2026 @ 11.00 Hrs.

Website particulars www.ireps.gov.in Notice Board Location where complete details of tender can be seen.

Office of the Chief Workshop Manager, Carriage Repair Shop, Tirupati

For further Tender Conditions/details (available in the tender documents) and for downloading of Tender Documents, Corrigendum, please visit our website https://www.ireps.gov.in.

Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/CRS/ Tirupati

Divisional Electrical Engineer (Maintenance), Guntur acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites the following E-Tenders through IREPS portal www.ireps.gov.in

SI.No.: 01, Tender Title: Dismantling of lattice type tower Lighting and Provision of High masts over Guntur Division. Tender Ref No.: GNT-E02-26-27 Dt. 22.04.2026. Approx Value: Rs. 66,32,667.56. Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 1,32,700.00. Cost of tender form (non-refundable) in Rs.: 0

Last date and time for online submission of Tender: 14.05.2026 up to 15.30 hours

Any further Communication/Corrigendum will be published in E-portal https://gem.gov.in only.

Divisional Electrical Engineer/M Guntur

No: B/SG/Tender Notice/E-01/2026-27, Dt: 25.04.2026

For and on behalf of the President of India, the undersigned invites E-Tenders for the following works up to 15.30 hrs on Dt: 20.05.2026

SI.No.: 1. Tender No & Name of the work: Carrying out Telecom works in connection with COP shelters, Platform surface, Circulating area and Washable Apron, Coach Watering Arrangements, Booking Counters at all stations, over multiple stations on Vijayawada division. Tender value: Rs. 1,64,24,842.40, EMD: Rs. 3,28,500.00, Completion Period: 06 Months.

Date of closing and timing: Upto 15.30 hrs. 20.05.2026

1. Tender conditions/other particulars such as the details of the name of work in full, the similar nature of the above works, eligibility criteria, etc. are available in the Tender documents published on the website at "www.ireps.gov.in".

2. The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website "www.ireps.gov.in" before the date of tender closing to note any changes/corrigenda for any tender.

3. The Tender Notice is also displayed in the Notice Board located in the Office of Divisional Railway Manager (Signal & Telecom), S.C. Railway Vijayawada.

4. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto. "Visit our site at "www.ireps.gov.in".

Divisional Railway Manager(S&T) Vijayawada

MLCs Take Oath in Legislative Council; CM Revanth Reddy Attends Ceremony

Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU:

Newly elected Members of the Legislative Council (MLCs), including Minister Azharuddin and Kodandaram, were administered the oath by Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy in a grand ceremony held at the Council.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy attended the programme and extended his greetings to the newly sworn-in members. The event was also attended by Council Deputy



Chairman Banda Prakash Mudiraj, TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, Ministers Sridhar Babu and Vivek, MP Vem Narender Reddy, Government Whips, MLCs, and MLAs. The ceremony witnessed the presence of several senior leaders and public representatives, reflecting the significance of the occasion. Speaking on the sidelines, leaders expressed confidence that the newly inducted members would contribute effectively to legislative discussions and governance in the State.

CM REVANTH REVIEWS ASSEMBLY DEVELOPMENT WORKS, CALLS FOR PARLIAMENT-STANDARD FACILITIES



Hyderabad TSIT BUREAU: Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy on Monday conducted a high-level review on the development of the Assembly premises at the Legislative Council Conference Hall and issued key directives to officials. The meeting was attended by the Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy and Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, along with senior officials. During the review, the Chief Minister stressed that the Assembly complex should be developed on the lines of Parliament,

HYDERABAD TO EMERGE AS HIGH-SPEED RAIL HUB MINISTER KOMATIREDDY VENKAT REDDY



Hyderabad TSIT: Minister for Roads & Buildings and Cinematography Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said Hyderabad is being developed as a central hub for high-speed rail connectivity, aligning with the vision of Chief Minister A.Revanth Reddy to position Telangana as a future-ready economic powerhouse. Chairing a high-level

RAJIV PARK REVAMP TO BE COMPLETED BY MAY 10 AHEAD OF CM VISIT JAGGA REDDY

Hyderabad TSIT: TPCC Working President Jagga Reddy directed officials to expedite the ongoing renovation works of Rajiv Park and ensure completion of key components before May 10, in view of the proposed visit of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy.



design near the Rajiv Gandhi statue at the park entrance and replacing the existing black granite flooring with better-quality tiles. Noting that the existing music fountain is non-functional, he instructed officials to install a modern music fountain that operates daily in the evening with synchronized songs. Officials informed that the currently sanctioned 3 crore is sufficient only for renovation works. In

GOVERNMENT GRAIN BUYING CENTERS ARE UNDER THE CONTROL OF BROKERS- JAGITYALA AMC CHAIRMAN NARAYANA REDDY



Jagityala, April 27, TSIT : Gaddam Narayana Reddy, chairman of the Jagityala Agriculture Market Committee, said that the government will start grain buying centers through the control of brokers. On Monday, IKP purchase center in Mothe village of Jagityala Urban Mandal was inaugurated along with village sarpanch Sangepu Mahesh. Speaking on this occasion, he advised the farmers to sell their grain at the purchase centers set up in the respective villages and get the government support price of Rs 2389 instead of selling the hard-earned crops to brokers. Former Sarpanchs, MPTCS, IKP staff, MPDO, Village Secretary, VRO and farmers participated in this programme.

DG PRISONS DR.SOUMYA MISHRA INAUGURATES FACILITIES INSPECTS JAILS

Hyderabad TSIT: Director General of Prisons Dr.Soumya Mishra conducted an official tour in Warangal district, inaugurating key facilities and carrying out comprehensive inspections, reaffirming the department's commitment to prison reforms, inmate welfare, and rehabilitation.



but also offer dignity, trust, and a second chance at life. Later, the DG visited the Narsampet Women's Special Prison and conducted a detailed inspection. She reviewed security arrangements, food quality, healthcare services, sanitation, and overall inmate welfare. Interacting directly with women inmates, she enquired about their health and concerns and encouraged them to actively participate in rehabilitation and skill development programmes. Subsequently, she visited the Central Prison at Mamnoon in Warangal and inaugurated a newly constructed administrative building. She stated that the facility would enhance the efficiency of prison administration and directed officials to focus on modernization, security, and welfare measures. The visit highlighted the Telangana Prisons Department's focus on transforming prisons into centres of reform and rehabilitation while ensuring high standards of safety and management.

NO COMPROMISE ON BLS BJP ACCUSED OF VOTE DELETION ATTEMPTS TPCC CHIEF MAHESH KUMAR GOUD



Hyderabad TSIT: TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that there will be no compromise on Booth Level Strengthening (BLS) and alleged that the BJP is making secular votes through indirect methods in Telangana. Addressing party leaders at Indira Bhavan, he accused the BJP of attempting to manipulate voter lists through backdoor means and urged party cadres to stay alert and counter such moves effectively. He said the primary objective of all party workers should be to bring the Congress party to power at the Centre and ensure that Rahul Gandhi becomes the Prime Minister. Highlighting Telangana's governance, he noted that development and welfare programmes are being implemented effectively, unlike in BJP-ruled states. He added that attracting investments worth Rs.5 lakh crore is a significant achievement.

Bal Panchayat Initiative Rolled Out in Telangana to Empower Children

Hyderabad TSIT: The Telangana government has launched the Bal Panchayat (Children's Parliament) initiative as part of the Praja Palana Pragathi Pranaika programme, aiming to empower children by giving them a platform to voice their concerns and participate in community decision-making. The initiative is designed to bring children together to discuss issues affecting their lives, identify solutions, and contribute to building safer and more inclusive villages.

CHANGE OF NAME I, Gaddam Srinivasa Rao, S/o Veeranna, H.No.4-3-39, Zaheerapura, VTC Khammam (Urban), Gandhi Chowk, Khammam, Telangana State. I have changed my Name from Gaddam Srinivasa Rao to Gaddam Srinivasa Rao vide affidavit dated 27-04-2026. Henceforth I shall be known as Gaddam Srinivasa Rao for all purposes.

CAN FIN HOMES LTD Branch Office Unit No 201 Second Floor Vignya Sil Towers, Kukatpally Tel. 040-35106304/3218, E-Mail: kukatpally@canfinhomes.com, CIN: L85110KA1987PLC008899 APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 9 (1)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Canara Bank KARIIMNAGAR MANKAMMATHOTA(6853): H.No.7-2-949, Poornam Complex, Mankammathota, Karimnagar- 505001 DEMAND NOTICE Notice issued Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002.

ICICI Home Finance Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurli Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India Branch Office: D.No.1-1-130, 1st Floor, Vinayak Nagar, Nizambad, Telangana 503003 [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Andhra University Should Rise to Global Standards: Vice President

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES
Visakhapatnam : The Vice President of India, C. P. Radhakrishnan, expressed hope that Andhra University, which has a rich legacy of over 100 years, should evolve into a globally recognized institution. He was addressing the valedictory ceremony of the university's centenary celebrations held on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, the Vice President paid tributes to teachers, stating that their guidance played a crucial role in shaping his journey. He acknowledged that the university had provided him with a strong foundation and recalled the contributions of great personalities like C. R. Reddy and Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan in building the institution's stature. He also remembered the support extended by Maharaja Vikram Dev Varma of Jeypore and the royal families of Vizianagaram and Bobbili. He advised students that earning degrees alone is not sufficient and emphasized the importance of developing skills relevant to changing times. He called upon the university to strengthen its role as a research hub, encouraging



innovation aligned with real-world needs. He also stressed the need for greater awareness on patents and interest in pure sciences. Highlighting regional development, he noted that Visakhapatnam is emerging as a major hub for IT, data

of failures, and committed to their goals. On the occasion, the Vice President, along with Governor Abdul Nazeer, presented Excellence Awards and centenary mementos to several eminent personalities including former Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Odisha Governor Kambhampati Haribabu, GMR Group founder G. M. Rao, and others.

SUCCESS DOES NOT COME OVERNIGHT: SACHIN TENDULKAR
Renowned cricketer Sachin Tendulkar delivered an inspiring message to the youth, stating that success cannot be achieved overnight and requires consistent hard work and discipline. He emphasized that there are no shortcuts to success and highlighted patience and self-belief as key factors. Recalling his personal life, he spoke about his father Ramesh Tendulkar, a professor who always valued education and research. He encouraged students to stay focused on their goals without being distracted by internal or external pressures. Sachin concluded by saying that the true "return gift" for a teacher is the success of their students.



Sri Padmavati's wedding celebrations conclude with grandeur in Tirumala. Chairman B.R.Naidu and Sri M Ravichandra participated in this program.

Bring big Canteens to Devotees utility soon- Additional EO

Tirumala (TSIT) Keeping in view the ongoing summer rush, the TTD Additional Executive Officer Sri Ch. Venkaiah Chowdary instructed the operators of Big Canteens in Tirumala to complete modernization works at the earliest and make them available to devotees as soon as possible. He held a meeting with Big Canteen operators on Monday at Sudharma Meeting Hall in Sri Padmavathi Rest House at



Tirumala. Speaking on the occasion, he directed that food items should be sold to devotees only at the prices fixed as per TTD policy. He also instructed that only traditional food items should be sold in hotels and that hotel staff must strictly follow the dress code. The Additional EO also emphasized giving top priority to sanitation in hotels and maintaining cleanliness in the surroundings. Later, he held a meeting with Janata Canteen operators and instructed them to provide food to devotees at affordable prices as per the prescribed norms. Subsequently, the Additional EO met donors who are constructing rest houses in Tirumala under the Cottage Donor Scheme.

ANDHRA PREMIER LEAGUE PLAYER AUCTION CONCLUDES SUCCESSFULLY - STAGE SET FOR AN EXCITING SEASON IN VISAKHAPATNAM



The South India Times, Visakhapatnam: The Andhra Premier League (APL) player auction was successfully conducted at Radisson Blu Hotel Visakhapatnam on Sunday. A total of seven teams participated in the auction, competing actively to build strong squads. Each team was allocated a purse of Rs.55 lakhs and successfully acquired 22 players each. Players were categorized into Groups A, B, and C to ensure balanced competition. The highlight of the auction was K V Sasikanth, who was sold for a record Rs.16.25 lakhs to Amaravathi Royals. The event was attended by APL Chairman Sujay Krishna Ranga Rao, ACA COO Girish Dongre, and GM (Game Development) M S Kumar. Former Indian cricketer Wasim Jaffar also graced the occasion, adding prestige to the event. With the successful completion of the auction, the stage is set for an exciting APL season. Match schedules and further updates are expected to be announced soon.



The daughter and Son of Telangana BJP State President Sri N. Ramachander Rao, Smt Amukta and Sri Avaneesh donated Rs.10 lakh each to the TTD-run Sri Venkateswara Annaprasadam Trust.

Apollo Launches 76th Smart Hospital in Hyderabad, Boosts Next-Gen Healthcare Infrastructure



Hyderabad (TSIT) Apollo Hospitals has strengthened India's expanding healthcare ecosystem with the launch of its 76th hospital—a 400-bed next-generation smart facility in Hyderabad's Financial District—on April 27, 2026. The hospital was inaugurated by A. Revanth Reddy in the presence of Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha and MLA Arekapudi Gandhi. Designed as a digitally integrated care ecosystem, the new hospital combines advanced technology with patient-centric services. AI-enabled scheduling, real-time clinical connectivity,

and a unified digital platform aim to ensure faster, more accurate, and continuous care delivery. The facility is equipped with cutting-edge technologies such as Arthrex Pano Scope for minimally invasive procedures, VALD systems for rehabilitation assessment, and the uMR Omega 3.0T MRI for high-precision imaging with AI-supported workflows. Founder and Chairman Dr. Prathap C. Reddy said the hospital represents more than infrastructure, calling it a symbol of hope, compassion, and dignity in patient care. Joint

Managing Director Dr. Sangita Reddy described the launch as a milestone reinforcing Apollo's mission to deliver accessible, high-quality healthcare through advanced technology. Marking Apollo's fifth hospital in Hyderabad, Vice Chairperson CSR Upasana Konidela announced 10,000 free health screening checkups for the Nanakramguda community every Sunday. Regional CEO Tejesvi Veerepalli emphasized that the hospital will strengthen emergency response systems, including connected ambulances and the dedicated emergency number 1066, ensuring critical care begins even before patients reach the hospital. With this launch, Apollo Hospitals continues to position India as a global destination for advanced, technology-driven medical care while improving accessibility for patients nationwide.

Tata Motors delivers over 101 units of the all-new Tata Sierra in Hyderabad

Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd., one of India's leading automotive brands, delivered over 101 units of the all-new Tata Sierra in Hyderabad today. The Sierra has crossed 100,000 bookings nationally, reflecting the strong demand and enduring appeal of this iconic nameplate. This phenomenal response underscores the Sierra's iconic status and its magnetic appeal as a premium mid-SUV in the hearts and minds of customers across India. The milestone event was held in Jalavihar, Hyderabad, where Jasper Industries Private Limited, Malik Autoworld Private Limited, Orange Auto Private Limited, Prathamalik Auto Matrix Private Limited, Tejaswi Automobiles, Venkataramana Motors, Select Cars & VVC Autoworld came together with customers, making it a large-scale customer delivery event of the iconic SUV.



Surabhi Vani Devi: A Journey of Dignity, Education and Purposeful Leadership

BY DR. JITHENDER RAO THANUGULA, SENIOR JOURNALIST

In a public sphere often defined by high-decibel politics, Surabhi Vani Devi stands out as a leader shaped by discipline, quiet strength, and decades of service in education. Daughter of former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, she has carved her own identity through consistent contribution rather than relying on legacy alone. With over four decades of experience as an educationist, Surabhi Vani Devi has played a pivotal role in nurturing institutions that promote not just academic excellence but also character, creativity, and responsibility. Her approach blends firm standards with compassion, creating environments where students are encouraged to think inde-



pendently and grow with confidence. Known for her student-centric philosophy, she has always emphasized holistic development beyond textbooks. Her mentorship style focuses on emotional support, guidance, and building self-belief among young learners, making her a respected figure in academic circles. Her entry into politics in 2021 marked a significant milestone when she won the Graduates' MLC election with a decisive mandate, defeating N. Ramchander Rao. The victory reflected the trust of the educated community in her credibility and balanced leadership. As a legislator, she has maintained a dignified and thoughtful approach, focusing on constructive issues rather than confrontation. Bringing the same values of discipline, ethics, and responsibility into public life, she continues to be regarded as a calm and credible voice. Surabhi Vani Devi's journey exemplifies leadership rooted in values, proving that meaningful contribution and integrity remain timeless in an ever-changing political landscape.

Trivana by GHR USM South Hyderabad's Boutique Villa Community Earns IGBC Pre-Certified Gold Rating

Hyderabad, April 27, 2026: Trivana, a boutique villa community in South Hyderabad, has now been awarded the IGBC Pre-Certified Gold rating, setting a significant benchmark for the city's villa projects that aim for wellness- and sustainability-led planning, thoughtful design, and future-conscious development. Nestled in Almasguda, Tukkguda, Trivana offers low-density living and seamless access to Nehru Outer Ring Road and Rajiv Gandhi International Airport. The project is developed by GHR USM Developers, which brings together GHR Infra's 35+ years of founders' legacy in Hyderabad real estate and USM MyCity, a USA-based real estate firm and a part of the diversified USM group, headquartered in Chantilly, Virginia (with branches in Texas and California), it brings a technology-driven approach to real estate, with a focus on quality, efficiency, and sustainable development.



The villa project stood out for its emphasis on renewable energy systems, ventilation, and nature integration, with east and west-facing orientations, and layouts designed to enhance daylight exposure. The project's amenities include a swimming pool, gymnasium, clubhouse, skating rink, sports courts, step gardens, and dedicated children's play areas—designed as everyday infrastructure that supports wellness. Sustainability Framework to Create Lasting Value for Residents and Environment Trivana is projected to reduce water consumption by 37% through efficient plumbing fixtures, while also harvesting 100% of rainwater and treating 100% of wastewater generated on site through dedicated treatment systems. Nearly 30% of the site area has been reserved for native vegetation, enhancing the ecological character of the project while promoting responsible water use. The project's energy strategy is equally forward-looking. A proposed 18.9 kWp renewable energy system has been planned to support 50% of the common area lighting load, complemented by 100% LED lighting in common spaces and building envelope measures that help reduce heat gain and improve thermal comfort. To foster healthier indoor environments, the development also incorporates low-VOC paints and adhesives, natural ventilation, daylight-conscious design, HCFC-free refrigerants, and

halon-free fire systems. Further strengthening its environmental credentials, Trivana integrates GreenPro-certified materials accounting for 53% of the total material cost, alongside recycled-content materials, eco-friendly wood, and an organic waste converter system with a capacity of 100 kg per day to process 100% of wet waste. Together, these initiatives shape a community that is as mindful as it is modern, and as responsible as it is refined. Commenting on the achievement, Mr. Karteesh Reddy M, CEO, GHR Infra, said, "The IGBC Pre-Certified Gold recognition stands as a testament to our project's thoughtful approach to green living. It highlights Trivana's alignment with progressive building principles across water conservation, energy efficiency, site planning, sustainable materials, waste management, and occupant well-being. The future of housing is certainly about excelling in design and providing quality living experience—all done with a responsible commitment towards sustainability."

Yashoda Hospitals-Hitec City's National Conference & Live workshop on "Acute Asthma" treatment "Severe Asthma Preceptorship Program" successful with the participation of 400+ Doctors

Hyderabad, April 27, 2026 : Yashoda Hospitals, Hitec City, in collaboration with the Academy for Advanced Pulmonary Education and Research (AAPER), successfully conducted a national-level "Severe Asthma Preceptorship Program" Conference and Live Workshop at the 5th Floor Auditorium of Yashoda Hospitals, Hitec City. The program witnessed participation from over 400 delegates across India, including pulmonologists and medical students. The conference focused on advancing precision medicine approaches in the diagnosis and management of severe asthma through case-based learning and hands-on training. The event was inaugurated by the Managing Director of Yashoda Hospitals, Dr. G. S. Rao, who attended as the Chief Guest. On this occasion Yashoda Hospitals, Managing Director Dr. G. S. Rao, stated that severe asthma continues to be a significant healthcare challenge. He highlighted that despite the availability of advanced treatment options, lack of proper identification, phenotyping, and awareness about modern therapies often leads to suboptimal patient outcomes. He emphasized that such



practical, case-based preceptorship programs aim to promote specialized medical education and improve patient outcomes through precision respiratory care. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. V. Nagarajuna Maturu, Senior Interventional Pulmonologist at Yashoda Hospitals, Hitec City, noted that modern severe asthma management increasingly relies on phenotyping, biomarkers, and biologic therapies. He stated that the objective of the preceptorship was to provide doctors with practical, case-based exposure and enhance their ability to implement personalized treatment strategies. He further added that Yashoda

Hospitals has been running a dedicated Severe Asthma Clinic for the past five years, making it one of the structured clinics of its kind in the country. The clinic offers advanced phenotyping, biomarker-based treatment, biologic therapies, and multidisciplinary care. The conference featured expert sessions on key topics such as the definition of severe asthma, phenotyping in the Indian context, treatment optimization, eosinophilic lung diseases including ABPA and EGPA, the use of biologics, and the goal of asthma remission. Interactive case discussions and faculty-led sessions were among the major highlights of the program.

The preceptorship placed special emphasis on practical learning. Hands-on workshop sessions were conducted on advanced techniques such as FeNO measurement, oscillometry, sputum inflammatory analysis, and biologic administration. These sessions provided participants with real-time experience using advanced technologies in asthma care. The workshop also showcased modern equipment from 12 national and international medical companies, enabling participants to gain hands-on training in the latest tools and technologies used in advanced asthma management.

G. GIRIBABU WHO TOOK CHARGE AS THE NEW DSP OF WANAPARTHY DISTRICT



Wanaparthy (TSIT): G. Giribabu has officially taken charge of the post as the new DSP of Wanaparthy. G. Giribabu, who served as DSP in Jadcharla District Police Training College of Mahabubnagar district, has been appointed as DSP of Wanaparthy.

MODERN FARMING CAN BOOST INCOME

Khammam (TSIT): Adopting modern agricultural practices can significantly enhance income, said State Agriculture, Marketing and Handlooms Minister Tummalala Nageswara Rao. He, along with District Collector Diwakar T.S., participated in the 'Scientists at Farmers' Doorstep' programme held at the Rythu Vedika in Raghunathapalem mandal on Monday. The minister said the initiative aims to take agricultural scientists directly to villages to guide cultivators on crop selection, fertiliser usage and cost-effective methods to achieve higher yields.



He announced that a Godrej oil palm factory is likely to be inaugurated in May and that the company is keen on setting up a nursery in Khammam district. Tummalala encouraged cultivation of oil palm, stating that the government provides a subsidy of Rs 51,000 over four years and that the crop can yield income for up to 40 years, with scope for intercropping. He also urged cultivators to explore crops like arecanut, jasmine and cocoa, and said the government is ready to support agricultural mechanisation with proper utilisation of funds. District Collector Diwakar said food security will become a key concern in view of rising population and declining soil fertility. He noted that with proper knowledge, income of Rs 2-3 lakh per acre is achievable and advised reducing urea usage while promoting organic farming. He added that experts are being brought to the field level to provide practical guidance and help ensure sustainable agriculture.

Man Held in Cheating Case in Shadnagar



RANGAREDDY: Cyberabad Police apprehended a 49-year-old man in connection with a cheating case related to a job offer. The case was registered at Shadnagar Police Station, Future City, under Crime No. 335/2026 under Sections 318(4) and 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

According to police, the accused, K. Bikshapathi, allegedly collected money and gold ornaments on the assurance of providing a job on April 18, 2026. However, the promised opportunity did not materialize. Based on a complaint, police conducted an investigation using technical inputs and took the accused into custody on April 27. During the process, gold ornaments were recovered. The accused hails from Ramreddipally village in Urkonda mandal of Nagarkurnool district and was residing at Chaitanyapuri in Hyderabad. The case was handled under the supervision of senior officials, and further investigation is underway.

Sangatan Srujan Abhiyan Review Meeting



Bhonagiri, April 27, TSIT: The review meeting of "Sangatan Srujan Abhiyan" organized under the chairmanship of TPCC President Mahesh Kumar at Bonagiri Parliament was successful. AICC in-charge Meenakshi Natarajan attended the meeting as the chief guest and gave direction on party strengthening, booth level formation, mandal and village committee activities. MLC K Shankar Naik, TPCC General Secretaries EV Srinivas Rao, Boddireddy Prabhakar Reddy, Janagama district president Dhanwanti, Bonagiri district president Birla Ilaiah, TPCC leaders Rudra Santhosh, Gampa Venugopal and others participated. The leaders called for strengthening the party up to the village level through Sangatan Srujan Abhiyan. It is advised to work in coordination keeping in mind the upcoming elections.

Prajavani Applications Must Be Resolved Promptly and Without Pending: Additional Collector Bhaskar Rao

Yadadri Bhongir TSIT: Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Bhaskar Rao stated that applications received through the Prajavani program must be resolved promptly and without any pending issues. On Monday, during the Prajavani session held at the Collectorate conference hall, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Bhaskar Rao and Additional Collector (Revenue) Venka Reddy received 57 petitions submitted by citizens from various regions. He directed the concerned officials to conduct timely field-level inspections of the applications received via Prajavani and to resolve them without allowing them to remain pending. He further informed that, among the received petitions, 39 pertained to the Revenue Department, 5 to the District Panchayat, 4 to Handlooms and Textiles, 2 to the Municipality, 2 to Child Welfare, and 2 to the District Agriculture Department; additionally, one petition each was received for the Special Deputy Collector, Housing, and Survey & Land Departments. ZP CEO Shobha Rani, District Rural Development Officer Nagireddy, and district officials from various other departments participated in this program.



Dealers further pointed out that existing margins are insufficient to meet operational expenses and demanded a revision in line with government norms. They also sought legal protection, stating that companies should be held accountable for the quality of sealed products, while dealers should be treated as witnesses during inspections. The Association raised objections to raids conducted in the name of curbing illegal HTBT cotton seed trade and urged authorities to take strict action only against illegal operators without harassing genuine dealers. The dealers appealed to both State and Central governments to address their demands and ensure fair business conditions. The bandh impacted fertilizer trade across the State, with dealers keeping their establishments closed in protest.

DISTRICT SP CRIME REVIEW



Mahabubad Reporter April 27: A crime review was conducted by the Mahabubabad District SP at the Mahabubabad District Town Police Station Conference Hall with all the Sub-Divisional Officers, Circle Inspectors, Station House Officers and officers of the relevant departments within the limits of Mahabubabad district. On this occasion, the District SP conducted a comprehensive review on the current crime situation, resolution of pending cases, progress of investigations, and law and order situation. He instructed the officers to investigate each case with quality and complete it within a specific time frame. He also inquired specifically about the implementation of the Mana Uru - Mana He said that the surveillance system should be strengthened in every police station and services should be provided in a way that is accessible to the people. In this meeting, the SP congratulated the officers and staff who worked hard to achieve punishment in cases and presented rewards to the relevant CDOs. Similarly, Public Prosecutor Kampalli Venkatayya, who performed his duties effectively in achieving punishment in cases, was honored with a shawl and presented a memento.

Justice must be seen to be done: Kejriwal on refusal to appear in excise case before HC judge

NEW DELHI: Aam Aadmi Party chief Arvind Kejriwal has written to Delhi High Court Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma, saying he will not appear in the excise case personally or through a lawyer before her, the party said on Monday. BJP urges Bengaluru Police Commissioner to cancel event supporting Umar Khalid. Pointing to a "grave miscarriage of justice", Kejriwal, in a four-page letter, said he has "serious and unreconciled" concerns regarding the matter. Kejriwal later posted a video message on X, in which he said that his fight is "not about winning or losing, but about right and wrong". He also said he is preparing to go to the apex court against the earlier order given by Justice Sharma in the matter. "People can ask me that if I am unsatisfied with the rescusal order, then why do I not approach the Supreme Court? I am preparing for that, this is a very sensitive case. "Keeping in mind the law, respect and public trust in judiciary, I am taking one step at a time. I am not taking this step in ego, rebellion or as an insult to judiciary," Kejriwal said in his video. The Delhi chief minister wrote in the letter, "I have decided that I shall not participate in the further proceedings in this matter, either in person or through counsel. I do not take this step lightly. He further said that "justice must not only be done, but must also be seen to be done". "The principle that justice must not only be done, but must also be seen to be done, is among the most sacred assurances that a court gives to a citizen in a democracy," he said.



The assurance cannot be dishonoured by asking the citizen to ignore what "anyone can plainly see" in a case like this, he added in the letter. The letter also invoked the principles of Satyagraha and the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, with Kejriwal saying that his intent is "strengthening of judiciary and prevent its weakening". He added that he has given the authority an opportunity to consider and correct what he perceived to be a grave miscarriage of justice. His earlier plea seeking the rescusal of Justice Sharma, which was rejected on April 20, was interpreted as a personal attack, the AAP chief claimed. "After the said judgment, I am left with the painful and inescapable impression that what I had urged as a lawful plea of apprehension was received and answered as a personal attack upon Your Ladyship and as an assault on the institution itself. "Those are not, with respect, answers to the case I had brought. They show me that my plea of apprehension has been judicially understood as a personal and institutional affront," he said in the letter. The letter further noted the leader's belief that it was now "impossible to receive an impartial hearing" in Justice Sharma's court in the excise case. Kejriwal also reiterated two grounds cited earlier in his rescusal plea. "First, the issue of Your Ladyship's repeated public association with the RSS's legal front, the Akhil Bharatiya Adhivakta Parishad (ABAP) - an organisation belonging to the ideological ecosystem of the ruling dispensation.

Everyone Must Participate in Self Enumeration: Collector

The South India Times Nagar kurnool Nagar Kurnool District Collector Hemanth Keshav Patil urged all citizens to actively participate in the ongoing self-enumeration process and called upon media representatives to lead by example by completing their own enumeration. Addressing a special media conference held at the Collectorate video conference hall on Monday,



along with Additional Collector Amarendra and District Chief Planning Officer Sujatha, the Collector clarified that census data has no connection with ration cards or beneficiary selection for welfare schemes. He stated that the census process is being conducted systematically across 20 mandals, 460 villages, and 86 wards in four municipalities of the district. The population census, which was due in 2021 but postponed due to COVID-19, has now been relaunched as Census-2027 by the Central and State Governments. For the first time, the census is being conducted in digital mode. The first phase of self-enumeration is open from April 26 to May 10, and citizens are encouraged to achieve 100% participation by entering their details online through computers, mobiles, or tablets. The Collector informed that around 2,500 staff are engaged in the census process in the district. Citizens can register their details on the official portal https://se.census.gov.in. Upon submission, a reference ID (SE ID) will be generated. When enumerators visit households, this ID can be shown for verification and final approval. If self-enumeration is not completed, officials will record the details during their visit.

FERTILIZER DEALERS OBSERVE ONE-DAY BANDH IN TELANGANA

Hyderabad, April 27 (TSIT): Fertilizer dealers across Telangana observed a one-day bandh on Monday in protest against various unresolved issues affecting their business operations. The Telangana Fertilizer Dealers Association stated that the bandh was organised in line with the call given by the All India Association in New Delhi and in support of the ongoing agitation by the Maharashtra Association. The Association alleged that fertilizer companies are forcing dealers to purchase additional co-marketing products such as pesticides and organic inputs along with fertilizers like urea and DAP at higher prices. They also expressed concern over the non-implementation of the Free on Rail/Road (F.O.L) policy, stating that supplies are being made on an ex-godown basis, increasing costs for dealers and ultimately burdening farmers.



Dealers further pointed out that existing margins are insufficient to meet operational expenses and demanded a revision in line with government norms. They also sought legal protection, stating that companies should be held accountable for the quality of sealed products, while dealers should be treated as witnesses during inspections. The Association raised objections to raids conducted in the name of curbing illegal HTBT cotton seed trade and urged authorities to take strict action only against illegal operators without harassing genuine dealers. The dealers appealed to both State and Central governments to address their demands and ensure fair business conditions. The bandh impacted fertilizer trade across the State, with dealers keeping their establishments closed in protest.

tors without harassing genuine dealers. The dealers appealed to both State and Central governments to address their demands and ensure fair business conditions. The bandh impacted fertilizer trade across the State, with dealers keeping their establishments closed in protest.

FORM-C NOTIFICATION							
(SEE 10(A) (E) IN CHAPTER III (A) OF TELANGANA AMENDED ACT 2016) (SEE TELANGANA GOVERNMENT MA & UD DEPARTMENT ISSUED MEMO NO. 155768PLG.II.2023, DT. 02.03.2024)							
GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT							
District Collector File No. G11/296/2026				Dated: 15-04-2026			
RDO, Bhongir File No. B & 906 & Babinagar & 204				Dated: 25-04-2026			
Gazette No. 20 & 2026				Dated: 25-04-2026			
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana that a total of Ac.07.24 Gts., land is required by the requisition given by Dy. Chief Engineer (Con.), Kaazipet in the limits of Babinagar Village of Babinagar Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District for public purpose, namely, for extension of MMTS Phase - II from Ghatkesar - Raigir (Yadadri).							
As the said acquisition is in the public interest, the Telangana Government MA & UD Department has issued Memo No. 155768PLG.II.2023, DT.02.03.2024, exempt for construction of MMTS Phase-II project from Ghatkesar to Yadadri (Wangapally) various villages falling under the districts Medchal - Malkajgiri and Yadadri - Bhongir districts from the application of provisions of the Chapter - II and Chapter - III of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.							
As per the provisions of Sub Section 1 & 2 of 43 in RFCT in LARR Act, 2013, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Bhongir is appointed as Administrator in this Project vide District Collector, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri Progs No. G & 3290 & 2023, Dt. 23.10.2025.							
Therefore, it is notified that for the above said project in the Babinagar Village of Babinagar Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District in the land measuring, more or less Ac.7.24 Gts., of standard measurement, whose detailed description is as mentioned below, is under acquisition:							
SCHEDULE							
Babinagar Village		Babinagar Mandal		Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District			
Sl. No.	Survey No. Classification of Land Type of Land	Name of the Person	Extent in Ac.Gts.	Structure			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	593	Patta	Dry	Gade Dayanand (P); Government Land	0.11 1/2		
Total = 5666 Sq.Mts (1.16 Gts)							
Total = 9561 Sq.Mts (2.14 1/2 Gts)							
Gaddam Narsinga Rao (P)&(E) 100 Sq.Mts House							
Akula Sarjaveera Rao (P)&(E) 250 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Road 1200 Road							
Unknown 20 Sq.Mts Unknown							
Total = 9561 Sq.Mts (2.14 1/2 Gts)							
Pasham Jangaiah (P)&(E) 192 Sq.Mts House							
Pasham Balaiiah (P)&(E) 209 Sq.Mts House							
Pasham Sahaiah (P)&(E) 209 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Yadamma (P)&(E) 100 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Balanarsimha (P)&(E) 167 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Mamatha (P)&(E) 114 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Chirna Kastabai (P)&(E) 502 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Laxman (P)&(E) 109 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Krishna (P)&(E) 109 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Sunnam Sathyanarayana (P)&(E) 151 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Raju (P)&(E) 109 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Potta Eshwaramma (P)&(E) 155 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Yella Swamy (P)&(E) 175 Sq.Mts House							
Potta Ramanjaneyulu (P)&(E) 300 Sq.Mts House							
Kondapalli Nehamiya (P)&(E) 40 Sq.Mts Church							
Katta Balakrishna (P)&(E) 117 Sq.Mts House							
Gosukonda Narsaiah (P) 68 Sq.Mts House							
Nalla Mahender Reddy (P)&(E) 217 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Bhupathy Yathish (P) 144 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Parshram (E) 144 Sq.Mts Open Plot							
Potta Nagamma (P)&(E) 200 Sq.Mts House							
Kaira Pochamma (P)&(E) 419 Sq.Mts House							
Kummari Bikhshapathy (P)&(E) 240 Sq.Mts House							
Kandula Nagamani (P)&(E) 72 Sq.Mts House							
Rapolu Yellaiah (P)&(E) 186 Sq.Mts House							
Katta Mani Bai (P)&(E) 164 Sq.Mts House							
Katta Venkatamma (P)&(E) 164 Sq.Mts House							
Road 808 Sq.Mts Road							
Unknown 236 Sq.Mts Unknown							
Total = 5666 Sq.Mts (1.16 Gts)							
Total = 810 Sq.Mts (0.08 Gts)							
S.W.L.A Social Welfare Land Acquisition 0.09							
Poosa Pramod Kumar 0.06							
Poosa Prashanth 0.09							
Poosa Nanda Kumar 0.19							
Poosa Rambabu 1.00							
Poosa Raju 0.18							
Poosa Krishna 0.12							
Poosa Venkatesh 0.07							
Poosa Venkatesh 0.08							
Poosa Ravi Babu 0.03							
Govt Land 0.02 1/2							
Govt Land 0.07							
Govt Land 0.08							
Total Ac.7.24 gts.							

EDITORIAL

Trump's 'Hellhole' Comment Might Just Be A Favour To India

When a head of state starts using unparliamentary language about another state and its people, it can be assumed to be a sign of deterioration: either of the ties between the states or the mental faculties of the speaker. It is not difficult to understand what applies to the utterings of Donald Trump, the President of the United States. Apart from Israel, there has been no country, ally or enemy, spared his verbal lashings during his second term in office. It appears, sometimes, that he channels all the criticism and curses landing on his doorstep from his countrymen towards anyone beyond the US territory. This doesn't mean that he spares his countrymen either. The latest 60 Minutes interview, hours after the shooting at the White House Correspondents' Dinner, saw Trump lashing out at CBS correspondent Norah O'Donnell for reading out the suspect's manifesto. He called O'Donnell a "disgrace" and labelled the media in general as "horrible people". It's now public knowledge that Trump is touchy. He feels. The only problem with this is his temperament and words have the power to upset the markets, kill and kidnap heads of state, and bring economies to the brink of ruin.

From 'I Love Hindu' To Verbal Lashings

When he calls India a "hellhole", therefore, it's not the words per se that matter but the impression they create for a country that's making a bid to be counted as a global superpower. And we Indians are no less touchy. We are perhaps also upset at Trump's volte-face. How does an "I-love-Hindu" proclaiming man go to this current litany of curses and complaints within a matter of a few years? Not just that, we are also baffled by his consistent hyping up of the Pakistan establishment. While Indians get verbal lashings, Pakistanis are being lavished with trust and praise.

How much attention should we actually pay to Trump's harangues?

Words are not important; what they betray is. Trump is putting in words, rather blatantly, the itch of an imperialist. Through his words, Trump becomes the representative of the Empire that strikes back at the erstwhile colonies for daring to demand equity. Neocolonialism has been given too big a benefit of the doubt in the era of globalisation. The stated claims of globalisation - equity, mobility, and dismantling of the racial supremacy of the Global North - have all fallen flat. Yet, we are uncomfortable accepting them. Perhaps because the post-colonial nations are still clutching at straws. We are still dependent on the scraps of the empire. Any change in immigration policies in the Global North gives us nightmares. Any change in the geoeconomics reaches our kitchens. We are still vulnerable.

Vivek Ramaswamy Knows

The emergence of China and India as big economies is not good news for the populations whose ancestral pride involves carrying out massacres in these very countries. Sure, the Indian and Chinese people are welcome to spend their money on holidays and luxuries that strengthen the neocolonial states; they are not welcome to demand equality. They are also not supposed to be in denial of their roots. Vivek Ramaswamy, for example, learned it the hard way. It's the same old script, and now even the vocabulary is getting back to its offensive roots.

And yet, there is a danger in over-reading Trump. He is a symptom, not a system. The neocolonial order he so crudely ventriloquises was perfectly well-oiled even when American presidents spoke in the measured cadences of diplomacy. The polite version of the same hierarchy and condescension. The "aid", the World Bank conditionalities, the IMF prescriptions, and the visa queues outside Western embassies were no less humiliating for being dressed in the language of partnership and development. Trump's contribution, if it can be called that, is merely to have removed the euphemism. The empire has always struck back. It is just now doing so without a speechwriter.

Thank Trump For Clarity

This, perhaps, is the only service Trump inadvertently renders the post-colonial world: clarity. For decades, the Global South has been asked to perform gratitude for an arrangement that was never designed in its favour. The question for India and for every nation still negotiating its place in an order it did not build is what to do with this clarity. The day India stops caring what Trump calls it will be a more significant milestone than any trade agreement. We are not there yet. But the map, at least, is getting harder to misread. So, it's not the "hellhole" comment that's worrisome; it's the probability that he can make hell break loose, and there's very little that can stop him from being gratuitously destructive. Let's focus on that. On April 21, President Trump unilaterally extended the ceasefire with Iran just a few hours before the deadline was supposed to end. This is the second time that Trump announced a ceasefire this month, the first one being on April 7, when he, like this time, unilaterally announced a 15-day ceasefire mere 90 minutes before the deadline for Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz was to expire. Irrespective of the rationale presented by the US behind the announcement of a ceasefire each time, it is quite clear that the US wants an early end to the war and possibly on terms that it can dictate. Is it because the US has realised that Iran cannot be defeated militarily? Or, is it because the US does not have the wherewithal to fight Iran in an attritional battle for a prolonged period? To find possible answers to these, there is a need to examine two critical issues in this: the combat stamina and options for further military operations in this war by the US and Israel. Combat Stamina All inputs indicate that the US is looking at an early off-ramp in the war. In the current circumstances, if Iran were to unconditionally agree to open the Strait of Hormuz, the US is likely to take it as a win immediately and wind up its war commitment. Among other reasons, the primary reason is that the US is finding it difficult to replenish the essential stock of weaponry required to fight a prolonged war. For the kind of war that the US is fighting in Iran, it essentially requires two types of munitions to fight. One is the stand-off ground attack munitions, which require aircraft, ships, artillery and missile systems to engage the targets. These munitions allow platforms to launch at a long, standoff distance from adversary air defences. The US has already engaged about 13,000 targets over the first 39 days before the ceasefire took effect on April 7.

Sabarimala Effect: Judges To Decide Course For Women's Rights

At a critical juncture in India's constitutional journey, the proceedings before the Supreme Court of India signal far more than a continuation of the controversy surrounding the Sabarimala Temple. What is presently in progress before nine judges is a deeper judicial interrogation of the constitutional boundaries itself. It seeks to delineate the contours of religious freedom while testing its limits against the guarantees of equality, dignity, and individual autonomy. While engaging with these questions, the Supreme Court is not merely revisiting a prior judgment, but is poised to clarify enduring tensions that have historically remained unresolved in the evolution of India's rights-based jurisprudence. The proceedings before the nine-judge bench, though triggered by the review of the Sabarimala Temple verdict, are in substance a far-reaching constitutional inquiry into the relationship between religious freedom and fundamental rights. As the seven framed questions are examined, the court is not merely revisiting temple entry but is effectively setting the doctrinal boundaries that will govern a range of pending and future disputes involving gender justice across communities. This includes challenges to practices affecting women of the Dawoodi Bohra community (such as excommunication and female genital mutilation), the rights of Parsi community women who marry outside the faith, and broader questions concerning equality within Muslim personal law impacting women. The constitutional framework will determine whether claims of denominational autonomy can continue to shield discriminatory practices, or whether constitutional morality and equality will prevail, thereby giving this hearing consequences that extend well beyond



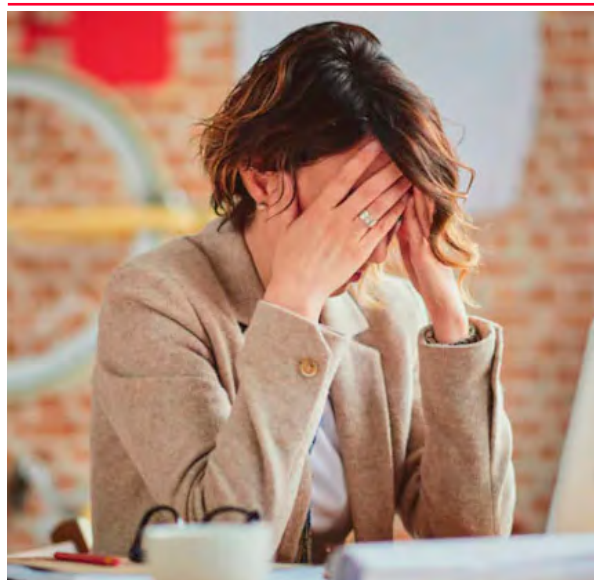
Sabarimala and into the core of gender rights jurisprudence in India. This article marks the opening of a special five-part series that seeks to closely examine the constitutional significance of the ongoing nine-judge bench proceedings before the Supreme Court of India. The series will systematically unpack how the Supreme Court's determination on the seven questions is poised to recalibrate the delicate balance between religious freedom and fundamental rights across diverse communities. Each subsequent part will analyse specific fault lines, ranging from denominational autonomy to the extent of judicial review over personal laws and trace their implications for questions of gender justice, equality, and reform. In doing so, the series aims to situate the present hearing within the larger constitutional trajectory, demonstrating that what is at stake is not merely the resolution of a single dispute,

but the shaping of a jurisprudential framework that will govern the interface between faith and rights in the years to come. The seven substantive questions of law that the Supreme Court nine judge bench is hearing presently seek to clarify the scope of religious freedom and conscience under the Constitution of India, rights of denominations, and how religious freedom interacts with the other rights under Part III of the Constitution. The questions emanated from the Sabarimala review petitions that challenged the judgment of the Supreme Court allowing the entry of women at the Sabarimala shrine. A cursory look at the questions would give us an impression that these questions do not affect the rights of women. To put it accurately, none of these questions directly refer to the rights of women. After all, women enjoy right to equality as enshrined in Article 14 of the Constitution.

One would assume that the debate that women should have equal rights is settled and over. But dig a little deeper and one would realise that the present debate will have huge implications for women as they negotiate their rights within society and religion. It is one thing to say that the Constitution protects the right to equality of women in civil and administrative affairs. But a deeply religious society like India held on to customary beliefs and practises believe that women can never occupy places of leadership within religious institutions. A woman cannot be a Shankaracharya of a math, she can never be a Shahi Imam, can never be a Pope and so on. While clothed differently, the reason for inequality of women is because they menstruate. Menstruation aside, even some customary laws like Muslim personal laws or the Shariat laws that are protected under the Constitution are highly discrimina-

tory. All communities and religions protect these laws and customs under Article 25 of the Constitution which imparts them freedom to practise their faith, and under Article 26 that allows denominations to manage their own religious affairs. Post-independence, the Union and state government brought in a series of legislations that sought to regulate the affairs of the religious institutions like Hindu mutts, dargahs, among others. All these legislative interventions were challenged before the Supreme Court by the temple administration. In almost all instances, the Supreme Court upheld the intervention of the government and upheld the reform brought in by the government. The reform was sweeping in many cases. Take the example of the famous case of Devaru (Sri Venkatarama Devaru and Others v State of Mysore and Others, 1958). In this case the legislation allowed the entry of all "Hindus" to the temple (earlier the right was restricted). If the religious denomination's right would have been protected in toto, then the Constitutional mandate that allowed the entry of all Hindus to the temples would have been defeated. The Supreme Court upheld that Madras Temple Entry Authorisation Act that allowed the entry of all Hindus to the temple. In about a dozen such cases before the Supreme Court, the top court upheld the legislation of the state to give way to the reformist agenda. Post-independence, the clash was between the state's intent to reform versus the religious institutions which asserted their rights to manage their own affairs. In this clash, it was reform that won, echoing the spirit of the constitution. The Woman Question The case of Shah Bano (1985), Shayara Bano or the triple talaq case (2017), Sabarimala Judgment (2018) are some rare instances where the Constitutional courts were directly confronted with the 'woman question'.

IT'S TIME TO ADDRESS PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS IN A CHANGING WORLD OF WORK



A delivery rider works 14 hours a day to meet algorithm-driven targets. A factory worker quietly endures relentless pressure and harassment. A middle-aged manager pushes away thoughts of suicide resulting from stress. These are not isolated stories. They are signals of a deeper crisis, one that is too often invisible, unspoken and underestimated: the impact of psychosocial hazards on workers. This April 28, the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, calls global attention to psychosocial factors that influence health at work. The impact of physical work-related hazards such as manual handling of heavy loads or working at heights is well-recognised and understood. Psychosocial hazards are invisible but just as dangerous. Long working hours, workplace stress, violence and harassment, low pay and lack of job security - to name but a few - can all take a toll on both the physical and mental health of workers. A new International Labour Organization (ILO) report, The Psychosocial Working Environment: Global Developments and Pathways for Action, high-

lights the scale of the impact. It reveals that work-related psychosocial factors are responsible for more than 840,000 deaths annually due to associated cardiovascular diseases and mental disorders and lead to the loss of nearly 45 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) each year. Long working hours are highlighted as a critical psychosocial risk factor associated with increased risk of cardiovascular disease and stroke. In Asia and the Pacific, the burden is especially significant, with nearly half of workers in the region working more than 48 hours per week, substantially higher than in other parts of the world. The report also recognises the implications of the changing world of work on the psychosocial work environment. Digitalisation and the use of artificial intelligence are transforming how tasks are coordinated, monitored and assessed. New forms of employment, including platform work, varied contractual arrangements and the expansion of remote and hybrid work, are redefining supervision, expectations and working time.

Cheers! India-New Zealand FTA Promises Wine Drinkers A New High

The 'once-in-a-generation' India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has made Shubham Upadhyaya, sommelier at the Manish Mehrotra-helmed Nisaba restaurant in Delhi, a very happy man. With the FTA green-lighting the reduction of the peak tariff of 150 per cent to 83 per cent on New Zealand wine imports over the next 10 years, Upadhyaya believes the seven New Zealand labels he has on his impressive list of 98 wines from around the world will get cheaper over the next two or three years - and these are more likely to be picked up by customers. Will one have to wait for 10 years, though, to benefit from the trickle-down effect of the proposed duty reductions? Citing the impact of the India Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA), sommelier and corporate Trainer Gagan Sharma says that though the accord was signed in 2022 and the wine duty reduction was spread across a similar time range, price drops are already evident on restaurant menus. "New Zealand wine prices, too, will be impacted within a couple of years," Sharma says. Manish Mehrotra, Nisaba's multi-award-winning chef, who has had New Zealand Sauvignon Blancs on his menus for as long as he can remember, explains why. A New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc - or 'sauv blanc' - is fresh (a benefit of the country's idyllic air quality), gently acidic (which helps to cut through the ghee, butter and masala), and mildly sweet - just the three qualities that help a wine to



sit well with Indian food. More importantly, it is best for the summer months, which comes as a relief at a time when the media is spilling over with stories of how we must brace for torrid months ahead because of the El Nino Effect. The chef's choice for an accompaniment with the 'sauv blanc' from New Zealand, preferably from its Marlborough wine region, is chaat! Yes, whether it is the standard bhalla papri chaat or the party must-have, palak patta chaat, you have your perfect match. Did anyone say wine pairings are for food snobs? For Abhiroop Dey, the young restaurant manager and sommelier of Captain's Cellar, Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, a New Zealand 'sauv blanc' pairs seamlessly with the Triphal Spiced Pan-Seared Chilean Sea Bass that you get at Varq, the hotel's pan-Indian restaurant. Triphal is a variety of pepper popular along the Konkan Coast and Goa. "The beauty of the New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc is that it pairs well with both Indian and Chinese food," Ray says. Reacting

to the FTA, he adds that prices of New Zealand wines have been a barrier for the customer, so any movement downwards will not only increase the interest in New Zealand wines, but also make his guests more amenable to checking out different wine varietals and boutique labels. There's been a lot of interest, for instance, in the New Zealand Pinot Noir, a red wine varietal popularly associated with Burgundy in France. Again, the New Zealand one is lighter bodied and more fruit forward than its French cousin. The Delhi Wine Club's founding president, Subhash Arora, recalls a recent dinner he had at Bann, the Modern Thai restaurant promoted by the Michelin two-star chef Garima Arora in Gurugram, where he kept drinking a Pinot Noir from New Zealand's Otago wine region, deep down to the country's south closest to Antarctica. "I chose Pinot Noir over the other options available," Arora says. Talk about the Pinot Noir listed on the Olive Bar & Kitchen, Mehrauli, menu, and the restaur-

ant's Executive Chef Dhruv Oberoi insists that it is the perfect match for his Nilah Cheese Souffle, whose base ingredient is the English Stilton-inspired blue cheese from Eleftheria, the artisanal cheese maker recently in the news for winning a 'Super Gold' and two gold medals - an achievement noted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi - at a prestigious global competition held in Brazil. Blue cheese figures again in Mehrotra's choice for the best pairing with a New Zealand Pinot Noir. It's his popular Mutton Seekh Kabab with Butter and Blue Cheese. The Pinot Noir, the chef says, is the perfect foil for the butter and blue cheese. The FTA is most likely to renew popular interest in New Zealand wines. For Upadhyaya, Nisaba's Sommelier, it will definitely lead to the discerning oenophile discovering New Zealand's lesser-known wine regions - notably Otago, Hawkes Bay and Martinborough - and getting to taste the depth and diversity of the country's offerings. That seems like a great way to start the FTA party.

Congress Faces 'Political Talaq' Warning from Muslim Leaders in Karnataka



Bengaluru (TSIT) In a significant political development, the Indian National Congress in Karnataka is facing strong backlash from sections of Muslim leadership, with warnings of a symbolic "talaq" — indicating a complete break in political support.

The unrest follows disciplinary actions against party leaders, including the suspension of a Congress MLC and the removal of Nasir Ahmed from his role as Political Secretary to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. These moves have triggered concerns among minority leaders, who allege select

ive targeting of Muslim representatives.

Leaders from across districts such as Bengaluru, Davangere, and Mysuru have voiced strong objections, stating that the issue goes beyond internal party discipline and touches upon dignity, representation, and trust. Several leaders warned that continued action against minority representatives could force the community to reconsider its long-standing political alignment with the Congress.

"The message is clear — respect minority voices or risk losing their support," a senior leader remarked,

emphasizing that the use of the term "talaq" reflects a serious erosion of confidence rather than temporary dissatisfaction. Adding to the discontent are unmet electoral expectations, including demands related to hijab permissions, reservations, and adequate political representation. Leaders argue that failure to address these concerns has deepened frustration within the community. As tensions rise, the Congress leadership now faces a crucial challenge — rebuilding trust with a key support base or confronting potential electoral repercussions in Karnataka.

Shivakumar defers leadership call to Congress high command

Bengaluru (TSIT) Karnataka's simmering leadership narrative in the ruling Congress once again found echo on Monday, with Deputy Chief Minister and state Congress president DK Shivakumar reiterating that both Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and he would abide by any decision taken by the party high command on the issue.

Speaking to reporters after returning from Delhi, Shivakumar said he places "full faith" in the Congress leadership, which, according to him, would take an appropriate call at the right time.

His remarks come amid continued political buzz over a possible reshuffle in the State leadership structure and changes in the Cabinet, particularly in the period following May 4, when electoral outcomes from four States, one union Territory, and bypolls in two Karnataka Assembly constituencies are expected.

Without divulging details of his Delhi discussions, Shivakumar maintained a guarded tone on internal deliberations. "I will not speak about political issues before the media. I have already said that when the time comes, you will get to know. So I will not tell you," he



said when asked about his meetings with the party leadership.

He also sought to play down speculation of internal discord, insisting that the party remains united and that all decisions already taken would move forward as planned.

Responding to remarks attributed to senior Minister Satish Jarkiholi on alleged internal differences, the Deputy Chief Minister dismissed such concerns, saying the high command would address matters at the appropriate time. "There are no issues, we have faith in our party, they will

do what they have to," he said.

On growing speculation around leadership change as the government approaches the three-year mark, Shivakumar said neither he nor the Chief Minister had publicly discussed the subject, adding that both would fully abide by the party's decision.

"We will accept whatever and whenever the high command decides, and we will abide by it," he said. He also brushed aside queries on whether any "political development" could coincide with his birthday on May 15. The leadership discourse within the ruling

Congress has intensified in recent months, fuelled in part by talk of an informal understanding between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar at the time of government formation in 2023, and the approaching midpoint of the government's five-year term.

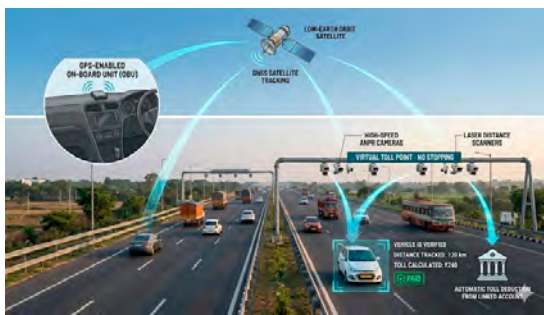
On the issue of internal reservation for Scheduled Castes, Shivakumar responded to BJP criticism by asserting that the government had acted in line with its commitment to ensure equitable distribution of benefits.

"We have found a solution and tried to do justice to all sections among SCs. We have fulfilled the promise made, and everyone should go together," he said.

In a separate note, the Deputy Chief Minister issued a firm advisory to party workers, asking them not to put up flex banners or advertisements for his birthday on May 15.

"No one should put up flex banners or advertisements for my birthday. If flexes are installed, cases will be registered by authorities against those responsible," he warned, adding that civic authorities have been instructed to enforce penalties for violations.

National highways to replace toll plazas with satellite-based tracking by year-end



New Delhi, Apr 26: In a significant move to ease highway travel, the central government is preparing to eliminate physical toll plazas on National Highways across the country by the end of this year. Union minister Nitin Gadkari has announced the implementation of an advanced, barrier-free toll collection system to replace the existing FastTag method.

Under the new system, which is expected to roll out by December, toll charges will be calculated based on the actual distance traveled. Using Global Positioning System (GPS) and satellite-based tracking, the system will monitor a vehicle's movement on the highway and automatically deduct the fee proportional to the kilometers covered.

Special Cleanliness Drive in 34 Slum Areas under Swachh Survekshan: Daljit Kumar

AWARENESS CREATED AMONG SLUM RESIDENTS TO MAINTAIN CLEANLINESS



Bengaluru : With the objective of maintaining cleanliness across the city and transforming it into a waste-free urban body, as well as securing a better ranking in Swachh Survekshan 2025-26, the Bengaluru Central City Corporation has undertaken a special cleanliness drive. As part of the already prepared action plan, and considering the importance of maintaining hygiene in slum areas, a total of 34 slums and adjoining back-

lane areas within the corporation limits were selected and cleaned under the 10th phase of the drive. Awareness was also created among the public to avoid littering in and around these areas, informed Daljit Kumar, Additional Commissioner (Development), Bengaluru Central City Corporation.

A total of 275 pourakarmikas and 88 other sanitation staff actively participated in the drive.

Approximately 12.8 quintals of waste were collected and safely disposed of during this operation. DGM Bhimesh Nayak, concerned division AGMs, officials, pourakarmikas, and other staff members also took part in the cleanliness drive.

GMR Sports and Rugby India Announce Introduction of Women's Franchises in Season 2 of the HSBC Rugby Premier League

New Delhi : GMR Sports, in partnership with Rugby India, today announced a landmark step in the evolution of the HSBC Rugby Premier League (RPL) with the introduction of women's franchises in its second season.

Building on the success of the inaugural 2025 edition, four of the existing six men's teams—Chennai Bulls (owned by Avid Sys Sports), Delhi Redz (owned by RMZ Corp), Mumbai Dreamers (owned by Dream Sports), and Kolkata Banga Tigers (owned by Hunch Ventures), formerly Kalinga Black Tigers and now relocated from Bhubaneswar to Kolkata—will also field women's teams. This marks a significant stride towards inclusivity and the growth of rugby in India.



The addition of women's teams underscores the league's commitment to fostering a robust and sustainable rugby ecosystem while providing a premier platform for female athletes to showcase their talent at the highest level.

The HSBC Rugby Premier League, scheduled to be held from June 16-28 at Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad, builds on the strong foundation of its debut season held in

Mumbai last year, which featured six men's franchises. The league has rapidly emerged as a key driver in popularising rugby across the country. The introduction of women's teams is expected to further elevate the league's profile and inspire the next generation of players.

on the development, Mr Rahul Bose, President, Rugby India, said: "It has always been our dream at Rugby India to have an RPL

Women edition. This year that dream comes to fruition. We have our partners, GMR Sports and our wonderful franchisees to thank. Women's 7s rugby across the world is as exciting as Men's 7s rugby. And our Indian women are superb! Come and witness the action in Hyderabad!"

Mr Sujoy Ganguly, CMO, GMR Sports, added, "At GMR Sports, we have always believed in building platforms that drive meaningful change in Indian sport. The inclusion of women's teams in the Rugby Premier League is a natural and important progression for the league. It reflects our commitment to nurturing talent across genders, while continuing to elevate the overall standard and appeal of rugby in the country."

Bengaluru's Most Anticipated Nature-Centric Plotted Development Goes Live: EARA Group Unveils 'Amidst Nature' Phase 1 to 100 Channel Partners

Bengaluru: EARA successfully hosted an engaging Channel Partner Meet at its flagship 'Amidst Nature' project site on April 23, 2026. The event witnessed participation from approximately 100 channel partners, reflecting strong industry interest and confidence in the project. The gathering also served as an exclusive, invite-only preview of the development for select partners ahead of its wider market rollout.

The meet served as a strategic platform to strengthen relationships with channel partners while providing them with deep insights into the project's vision, planning, and differentiated value proposition. The EARA team presented comprehensive details about the development, including its design philosophy, lifestyle offerings and long-term investment potential.

The session also focused on equipping channel partners with the necessary knowledge and tools to effectively communicate the project's key differentiators to prospective buyers. Interactive discussions, site walkthroughs and presentations enabled attendees to gain a first-hand understanding of the project's scale, strategic location advantages and thoughtfully designed infrastructure.

E. Lakshminarayana Reddy said, "We believe



channel partners are integral to our growth journey, and this meet was aimed at strengthening that collaboration. 'Amidst Nature' reflects our vision of creating thoughtfully planned spaces that balance modern living with natural surroundings. What sets the project apart is its readiness that is offering well-planned, ready-to-build villa plots supported by strong infrastructure, legal clarity and a low-density layout. We have consciously focused on creating a development where buyers can move from investment to actual construction without delays, which is a key gap in today's plotted development market. We are confident that with the support of our partners, the

project will resonate strongly with today's discerning buyers and deliver long-term value."

The 'Amidst Nature' project has been conceptualized to offer a harmonious blend of modern living and natural surroundings, catering to the evolving preferences of today's homebuyers who seek wellness-driven and sustainable lifestyles. With increasing demand for serene yet well-connected living spaces, the project stands out as a compelling investment opportunity.

The event further reinforced EARA's commitment to building a strong partner ecosystem and maintaining transparent communication with stakeholders. Channel partners appreciated the detailed briefing and

expressed strong confidence in the project's potential to attract both end-users and investors alike.

Rakesh from Homes and Spaces shared, "'Amidst Nature' is a beautifully planned development, and its location near Kanakapura makes it highly attractive for both end-users and investors. The infrastructure is well-developed, with ready-to-build plots that offer immediate usability. What truly stands out is the greenery and overall environment, which enhances the living experience. From an investment perspective as well, the project holds strong potential for appreciation, making it a compelling opportunity for today's buyers." The 'Amidst

Nature' project enjoys a strategically selected location that offers the perfect balance between connectivity and tranquility. Surrounded by lush green landscapes, the development provides a peaceful living environment while remaining well-connected to key urban hubs and essential social infrastructure. Its proximity to educational institutions, healthcare facilities, retail centers and upcoming infrastructure developments further enhances its livability and investment appeal. With a strong response from channel partners during this exclusive preview, 'Amidst Nature' is well-positioned to generate significant interest among both end-users and investors as it moves towards its official launch.

Asia's Largest SCADA Centre Set for Launch in Bengaluru

Bengaluru (TSIT) In a major boost to urban infrastructure, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board has readied Asia's largest Integrated Intelligent Water and Sewerage Management (SCADA) Centre in Bengaluru. The state-of-the-art facility, developed under the Cauvery Stage 5 project with support from Japan International Cooperation Agency, will soon be inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar.

BWSSB Chairman Dr. Ram Prasath Manohar inspected the centre at Shimsha Bhavan in Jayanagar, reviewing final preparations ahead of its launch. The advanced command centre is designed to monitor and manage the city's entire drinking water and sewerage network in real time.

The SCADA facility will oversee the supply of 775 MLD water under Cauvery Stage 5 to over 110 villages, while also integrating water treatment plants, ground-level reservoirs, and sewage treatment plants across the city. Equipped

with Artificial Intelligence, the system can predict water demand, detect leakages instantly, and reduce water losses.

A key highlight is real-time water quality monitoring, tracking parameters such as chlorine, pH, TDS, and turbidity, with instant alerts in case of contamination. The system also ensures compliance with environmental standards and monitors biogas generation at sewage treatment plants.

Additionally, IoT-enabled predictive maintenance, GIS integration, and smart metering will help prevent equipment failures, reduce operational costs, and improve efficiency. Officials say the project marks a major step toward creating a digital twin of Bengaluru's water network in the future.

Calling it a landmark initiative, BWSSB leadership stated that the intelligent SCADA centre will bring transparency, efficiency, and a technological revolution in the city's water and wastewater management systems.



Madras HC dismisses plea seeking probe into Vijay's election affidavit

Chennai, April 27 : The Madras High Court on Monday dismissed a petition seeking a probe into the financial disclosures made by actor-politician Joseph Vijay in his nomination affidavit for the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjay V. Gangapurwala Dharmadhikari and Justice Arul Murugan rejected the plea filed by Chennai resident MP Venkatesh, which alleged suppression and misrepresentation of financial details in Vijay's Form 26 affidavit submitted for the Perambur constituency.



The petitioner had sought directions for a preliminary inquiry by multiple agencies, including the Income Tax Department, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the Election Commission of India, claiming that the affidavit con-

tained contradictory disclosures.

According to the petition, Vijay had reported high-value financial transactions, including loans worth several crores extended to family members and associated entities, while at the same time declaring zero liabilities.

The petitioner argued that such disclosures were misleading and failed to meet the statutory

requirement of full and transparent reporting under election laws. The plea also highlighted specific transactions, including a loan exceeding Rs 12 crore to his spouse and substantial transfers to a trust, alleging that these lacked adequate explanation regarding their nature and source of funds.

Citing Section 33A of the Representation of the People Act,

1951, the petitioner contended that incomplete or inaccurate disclosures violated a voter's right to information, which is protected under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution.

A time-bound inquiry and submission of a status report before polling were also sought. However, the High Court declined to entertain the plea and dismissed it without ordering any probe.

The development comes even as a separate petition raising similar concerns over discrepancies in Vijay's election affidavits remains pending before the High Court. In that case, the Bench had earlier issued notices on April 20 to the Election Commission of India and the Income Tax Department, observing that more than Rs 100 crore allegedly remained undisclosed in one of the affidavits.

CPM seeks postponement of Cauvery Management Authority meeting



CHENNAI: CPM State Secretary P Shanmugam on Monday urged that the scheduled meeting of the Cauvery Management Authority on April 29 be postponed, citing the absence of elected governments in key States.

In a statement, he said the Cauvery Management Authority had been constituted to monitor whether Karnataka releases 177.25 tmc ft of water annually to

Tamil Nadu, as directed by the Supreme Court of India, and to deliberate on issues related to the river water sharing.

The 50th meeting of the Authority has been announced to be held in New Delhi on April 29. Pointing out that the Cauvery water issue concerns Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Puducherry and Kerala, he noted that Assembly elections are

currently under way in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry, with counting scheduled on May 4.

In the absence of elected governments in these States, holding such a meeting would not be appropriate, he said.

He further stated that the agenda for the April 29 meeting had not been disclosed. Under such circumstances, officials attending the meeting would not be in a position to present considered views without prior consultation with an elected government, which is the usual practice.

The party, therefore, urged that the meeting be deferred and convened after the formation of elected governments in the concerned States.

DPH advises govt facilities to keep ORS in stock for summer

CHENNAI: Anticipating a surge in heat-related illnesses as summer tightens its grip, the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine has directed all government health facilities to stock adequate quantities of Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) and distribute it free of cost, even as it ordered the creation of dedicated heat stroke wards across the State. The instructions, issued to government hospitals, medical college hospitals, primary health centres and urban health units, come amid a steady rise in temperatures, with Chennai recording higher-than-



usual heat levels since February.

"ORS must be made readily available in all government health institutions and supplied free to the public to prevent dehydration," a senior official in the department told DT Next. The department has

also asked field staff to prioritise vulnerable groups, including agricultural labourers, construction workers and roadside vendors, who face prolonged exposure to the sun. Health workers have been told to distribute ORS proactively and sensitise people on the

risks of dehydration.

In a parallel measure, all government medical colleges, district headquarters hospitals and major public health facilities have been instructed to establish exclusive heat-stroke wards to handle emergency cases. "District health officers must ensure that all precautionary steps are in place to prevent fatalities due to heatstroke," the official said.

Denizens lament lack of tender coconuts in southern suburbs Doctors said early symptoms such as fatigue, dizziness and excessive thirst should not be ignored.

Denizens lament lack of tender coconuts in southern suburbs

CHENNAI (TSIT): Residents in the southern suburbs of Chennai are facing a severe shortage of tender coconuts as rising temperatures and supply issues have pushed prices higher.

For more than two weeks, Chennai and its suburbs have been experiencing intense heat, much earlier than the usual peak summer period that begins in early May.

The soaring temperatures have led to an increase in heat-related illnesses, prompting people to consume more water-rich fruits and beverages to stay hydrated. There



has been a surge in demand for tender coconut water, but supply has not kept pace. In several residential areas, households that usually rely on coconuts from their own trees

are now struggling. The number of coconuts available has dropped due to the harsh heat, which has caused many immature coconuts to fall prematurely. Gulf crisis stalls tender

coconut exports from Pollachi as ocean freight rates triple

Workers who climb trees to harvest coconuts have not been available in sufficient numbers, as many have taken up work related to election activities over the past few weeks.

Following the demand and shortage of supply, the price of a single tender coconut has risen to Rs 100-120, compared to Rs 50-60 during the same period last year. Vendors say prices could increase further, as temperatures rise in the coming weeks.

NASA's PACE Data Is Redefining Our View of Earth's Climate and Oceans

NASA's new PACE satellite provides essential data on ocean health, air quality, and climate effects, enhancing scientific understanding and supporting global environmental monitoring.

NASA is now publicly distributing science-quality data from its newest Earth-observing satellite, providing first-of-their-kind measurements of ocean health, air quality, and the effects of a changing climate.

The Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, ocean Ecosystem (PACE) satellite was launched on February 8, and has been put through several weeks of in-orbit testing of the spacecraft and instruments to ensure proper functioning and data quality. The mission is gathering data that the public now can access at https://pace.oceansciences.org/access_pace_data.htm. PACE data will allow researchers to study microscopic life in the ocean and particles in the air, advancing the understanding



of issues including fisheries health, harmful algal blooms, air pollution, and wildfire smoke. With PACE, scientists also can investigate how the ocean and atmosphere interact with each other and are affected by a changing climate. "These stunning images are furthering NASA's commitment to protect our home planet," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "PACE's observations will give us a better

understanding of how our oceans and waterways, and the tiny organisms that call them home, impact Earth. From coastal communities to fisheries, NASA is gathering critical climate data for all people."

"First light from the PACE mission is a major milestone in our ongoing efforts to better understand our changing planet. Earth is a water planet, and yet we know more about the sur-

face of the moon than we do our own oceans. PACE is one of several key missions - including SWOT and our upcoming NISAR mission - that are opening a new age of Earth science," said Karen St. Germain, NASA Earth Science Division director. The satellite's Ocean Color Instrument, which was built and managed by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, observes the ocean, land, and atmosphere across a spectrum of ultraviolet, visible, and near infrared light. While previous ocean color satellites could only detect a handful of wavelengths, PACE is detecting more than 200 wavelengths. With this extensive spectral range, scientists can identify specific communities of phytoplankton. Different species play different roles in the ecosystem and carbon cycle - most are benign, but some are harmful to human health - so distinguishing phyto-

New Bat coronavirus discovered in China, poses potential risk of human transmission

A team of Chinese virologists has identified a new bat coronavirus that carries the potential for animal-to-human transmission. The virus, found to utilize the same human receptor as the Covid-19 virus, was discovered in a study led by Shi Zhengli, a prominent virologist from the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV), according to a report in the South China Morning Post.

Shi, often referred to as 'Bat Woman' for her extensive research on bat-borne viruses, has denied allegations that Covid-19 originated from a lab leak at WIV, a claim also refuted by the Chinese government.

The newly identified virus belongs to the merbecovirus subgenus, which also includes the Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) virus. It is a new lineage of the HKU5 coronavirus,

first detected in the Japanese pipistrelle bat in Hong Kong.

Research findings, published in the peer-reviewed journal Cell,



revealed that this virus can bind to the human angiotensin-con-

verting enzyme (ACE2) receptor, the same receptor used by SARS-CoV-2 to infect human cells. Scientists also observed that the

virus, when isolated from bat samples, was capable of infecting

human cells and organ-like tissue models. Meanwhile, China has reiterated that the WIV has never conducted gain-of-function research on coronaviruses, amid allegations that US taxpayer funds were used to support such studies.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Gao Jiakun dismissed these claims, stating that "China firmly opposes all forms of political manipulation" regarding the virus's origins. The Wuhan lab has remained under scrutiny, especially during the Trump administration, which shut down USAID-funded projects that did not align with American interests. The World Health Organization (WHO)-China joint mission had earlier concluded that a lab leak was "extremely unlikely" as the cause of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Advanced RNA Sequencing Reveals the Drivers of New COVID Variants

A study reveals that a new sequencing technique, tARC-seq, can accurately track mutations in SARS-CoV-2, providing insights into the rapid evolution and variant development of the virus.

The SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID has the unsettling ability of often generating variants of itself. Other viruses also mutate, but as SARS-CoV-2 quickly spread throughout the entire human population during the pandemic, killing millions, the virus' dynamic evolution posed a serious problem: it repeatedly challenged our bodies' immune response fighting the virus and hindered the process of getting updated vaccines ready.

Understanding the genetic mechanism fueling SARS-CoV-2's ability to generate variants can go a long way in keeping COVID at bay. In this study published today (April 22) in Nature Microbiology, researchers at Baylor College of Medicine and collaborating institutions developed a new technology called tARC-seq that revealed a genetic mechanism affecting SARS-CoV-2 divergence and enabled the team to calculate SARS-CoV-2's mutation rate. Using tARC-seq, the researchers also captured new mutations in SARS-CoV-2 in infected cells in the lab that recapitulated observations revealed by worldwide pandemic viral sequencing data. The findings can be useful for monitoring viral evolution in the human population. "The SARS-CoV-2 virus uses RNA, instead of DNA, to store its genetic information. Our lab has long been interested in studying RNA biology, and when SARS-CoV-2 emerged we decided to investigate its process of RNA replication, which is typically error-prone in RNA viruses," said corresponding author Dr. Christophe Herman, professor of molecular and human genetics and of molecular virology and microbiology at Baylor. The researchers wanted to follow RNA replication errors because they are crucial for understanding how the virus evolves, how it changes and adapts as it spreads in the human population, but current methods lacked the precision to detect rare new SARS-CoV-2 mutations, particularly in samples with a low number of viruses, such as those from patients. "Because samples from patients have very few SARS-CoV-2 RNA copies, it is difficult to distinguish between the errors made by SARS-CoV-2 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp), the enzyme that makes copies this virus' RNA, and the errors from the other enzymes used in the sequence analysis," said Herman, a member of the Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center. "We

have developed a technique that we call Targeted Accurate RNA Consensus sequencing (tARC-seq), which allows us to measure true errors when copying specific RNA present in very low amounts." Insights Into Variant Formation Originally, the thought was that, because SARS-CoV-2 has an internal mechanism to repair the mistakes RdRp makes, then the virus should not evolve or mutate very quickly. "This idea contrasted with the fact that during the pandemic new COVID variants emerged often around the world," Herman said. "Since the pandemic began, we've seen a number of prominent variants, including Alpha, Beta, Delta and Omicron, as well as variants within these groups." With their improved analytical tool in hand, Herman and his colleagues accurately determined the mutation frequency of SARS-CoV-2 and types of mutations, both in cell cultures in the lab and clinical samples. "We found that the mutation rate was higher than originally expected and this helps explain the frequent appearance of COVID variants," Herman said.

They also discovered that there are hotspots in SARS-CoV-2 RNA, locations that are more prone to mutation than others. "For example, we identified a hotspot on the RNA region corresponding to the spike protein, the protein that allows the virus to invade cells. Also, RNA of the spike protein makes up many vaccines," Herman said. The tARC-seq method also revealed that the generation of new variants involved template switching. "We determined that, as RdRp is copying one RNA template or sequence, it jumps to another template on a nearby virus and then continues copying the RNA, so the resulting new RNA copy is a mixture of both RNA templates," Herman said. "This template switching will result in sequence insertions or deletions that bring about viral variability. We also observed complex mutations. SARS-CoV-2 takes advantage of these two powerful biological mechanisms, template switching and complex mutations, that allow it to evolve quickly, generating variants to adapt to and persevere in human populations. "It was interesting and exciting to see that tARC-seq allowed us to capture in laboratory cell cultures the emergence of new mutations that recapitulate the mutations observed with worldwide pandemic sequencing data," Herman said. "Our new technology captures a snapshot of new mutations in clinical samples from individual patients and can be useful for monitoring viral evolution in the human population."

DUTY-FREE EXPORTS TO \$20 BILLION INVESTMENT:

How India-New Zealand FTA Emerged As A Win-Win Deal

India and New Zealand have signed a landmark Free Trade Agreement (FTA), positioning it as a major step forward in deepening economic ties, boosting exports, and unlocking investments, according to official statements. The pact, signed at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi by Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and New Zealand Trade Minister Todd McClay, is being described as a "once-in-a-generation" opportunity to strengthen bilateral engagement. According to a PIB report, McClay termed the agreement transformative, saying it would "boost exports, create jobs, and strengthen bilateral economic ties," while improving market access and reducing trade barriers. He also pointed to strong business participation and deep people-to-people linkages between the two nations. Goyal called the FTA a defining milestone in India's engagement with developed economies, aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's push for expanded global partnerships. "This



forward-looking agreement will also facilitate \$20 billion of investment into India, deepening our cooperation in trade, services, investment, innovation, mobility, agriculture productivity and education, and creating pathways for skilled talent and students," he wrote on X. A key highlight of the deal is 100% duty-free access for Indian exports to New Zealand across all tariff lines, a move expected to significantly boost labour-intensive sectors such as

textiles, leather, engineering goods, and processed foods. Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal said the FTA "marks a new era in our economic partnership," adding that Indian exporters will gain a level playing field and scale advantages in the Indo-Pacific. "The deal offers predictability in today's uncertain world," he said. PIB noted that the agreement, concluded in just nine months, opens 118 services sectors for India, introduces mobili-

ty said, adding that India's emergence as the world's third-largest economy offers Kiwi exporters "unprecedented access" to a 1.4 billion-strong market. Prime Minister Modi echoed the sentiment, calling it a landmark moment in bilateral ties. "This agreement will greatly benefit our farmers, youth, women, MSMEs, artisans, startups, students and innovators... The investment commitment of \$20 billion by New Zealand will further strengthen our cooperation... paving the way for a more prosperous and dynamic future for both countries," he said in a post on X. With bilateral trade currently modest, both sides expect the FTA to significantly expand trade and investment flows, reinforcing a broader strategic partnership anchored in economic cooperation and shared growth ambitions.



Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended 31



Business Growth - Total Business of the Bank stood at Rs.5,90,314 Crore as on 31.03.2026 registering a growth of 14.95% on Y-o-Y basis, wherein Gross Advances grew by 19.44% on Y-o-Y basis to Rs.2,62,752 Crore & Total Deposits grew by 11.59% on Y-o-Y basis to Rs.3,27,563 Crore. CASA Growth - Total CASA stood at Rs. 1,17,752 Crore as on 31.03.2026 registering a growth of 12.46% on Y-o-Y basis, Savings Deposit stood at Rs. 1,01,025 Crore registering a growth of 11.78% on Y-o-Y basis and Current Deposit stood at Rs. 16,727 Crore registering a growth of 16.77% on Y-o-Y basis. CASA ratio improved by 74bps to 38.65%. Profitability- Net profit for the quarter ending 31.03.2026 stood at Rs.801 Crore as against Rs.653 Crore as on 31.03.2025 registering 22.66% growth on Y-o-Y basis. Operating Profit for the quarter ended 31.03.2026 stood at Rs.1,573 Crore. Net Interest Margin (NIM)- Global stood at 3.00% and Domestic NIM at 3.19% for the quarter ended 31.03.2026. Advances in Retail, Agriculture & MSME (RAM) Sectors - RAM segment of the Bank increased by 24.23% to Rs. 1,52,324 Crore Y-o-Y backed by 26.62% Y-o-Y growth in Retail advances 26.24% Y-o-Y growth in Agriculture advances and 19.36 % Y-o-Y growth in MSME advances. Reduction in NPA - Gross NPA reduced by 52 bps Y-o-Y to 2.17% as on 31.03.2026 whereas Net NPA reduced by 23 bps Y-o-Y to 0.27% as on 31.03.2026. Capital Adequacy Ratio - Capital Adequacy Ratio (CRAR) stood at 18.61% as on 31.03.2026 with Tier I Capital Ratio of 16.59%. Credit to Deposit Ratio - Stood at 80.21% as on 31.03.2026 as against 74.94% as on 31.03.2025. Dividend @ 4.40% (i.e @ 44paise per equity share) is proposed for the year 2025-26 subject to approval from shareholders in ensuing Annual General Meeting of the Bank Financial Results for the Quarter and Year Ended 31 st March 2026 Profitability (Quarter Ended March 31st ,2026): Net Profit for the quarter ended 31.03.2026 stood at Rs.801 Crore as against Rs.653 Crore for the same period in the preceding year, registering a growth of 22.66% Y-o-Y. Net Interest Margin (NIM)- Global stood at 3% and Domestic NIM at 3.19% for the quarter ended 31.03.2026. Cost of fund improved by 31 bps Y-o-Y to 4.47% for the quarter ended 31.03.2026. Yield on Advances (Domestic) stood at 8.18% for the quarter ended 31.03.2026. Cost to Income ratio improved by 581 bps Y-o-Y at 52.66% for the quarter ended 31.03.2026. Return on Asset (ROA) stood at 0.87% showing an improvement of 10 bps on Y-o-Y basis Fee Based Income grew by 32.65% Y-o-Y basis to Rs.516 Crore as on 31.03.2026 as against Rs.389 Crore as on 31.03.2025. Profitability (Year Ended March 31 st,2026): Operating Profit has shown a growth of 6.49% on Y-o-Y basis to Rs.6429 Crore as against Rs.6037 Crore for the year ended 31.03.2025.

Escorts Kubota expands Digitrac into a full series, launches three new tractor models

Escorts Kubota Limited, the agri-machinery and construction equipment major, has announced the launch of the Digitrac series under Powertrac. With this launch, the company expands the Digitrac range from its existing two models to a comprehensive series of five, spanning the 45-55 HP category range. The series is designed for advanced agricultural and heavy haulage applications and is being launched pan India. Escorts Kubota operates three tractor brands in India - Kubota, Farmtrac & Powertrac - catering to premium, entry-premium and value segments respectively. The Digitrac series sits within the Powertrac brand. This is the company's fourth major tractor introduction since February 2025, following the Farmtrac Promaxx series, the Kubota MU4201 and the Powertrac Shaurya paddy series. The two existing Digitrac models, the PP 461 and PP 431 are one of the key contributors to Powertrac tractor sales in India. Their design and pre-



mium aesthetics have resonated strongly with young and aspirational farmers. The three new additions to the series are the Digitrac PP 461 4WD, the Digitrac PP 431 Plus and the Digitrac PP 41i. All five models feature bigger CC engines, bigger tyres, side shift gear, a 12 forward and 3 reverse constant mesh gearbox, independent PTO (iPTO) and a heavy hydraulic lift of 2000 kg. The series fully supports advanced implements for each stage of farming, such as Super Seeder, Reaper, Reversible MB Plough, and Laser Leveller.

Commenting on the launch, Nikhil Nanda, Chairman and Managing Director said, "This is our fourth new tractor introduction since February 2025, across all three brands. This sustained pace of launches reflects the stage we are now in as an organisation. Each launch is a deliberate step towards strengthening our portfolio and moving closer to our stated ambition of a stronger market position in India." Akira Kato, Deputy Managing Director said, "Digitrac has established a strong identity with its dis-

tinctive design and proven appeal among young and progressive farmers. Expanding it into a full series of five models is a natural progression. We see meaningful opportunity to scale this product across India and make it an even larger contributor to the Powertrac business." Neeraj Mehra, Chief Officer, Tractor Business Division added, "Digitrac is now a full-fledged Tractor Series for New Age Farmers. With its positioning as Style to Kill, Performance to Thrill, this new expanded Digitrac series brings 5 models with bigger engine, a 12+3 gearbox, independent PTO and a top speed of upto 39.9 km/h. These are features that were earlier available only in higher horsepower categories. With Digitrac, we are making advanced tractor capability accessible in the 45 to 55 HP segment also, with the fuel efficiency and value that Powertrac is known for. We are confident that the expanded series will further strengthen this connect with farmers across India."

COAL INDIA Q4 RESULTS:

Profit Rises 11%, Revenue Beats Estimates; Dividend Declared

Coal India Ltd.'s net profit for the fourth quarter of financial year 2026 rose 11.2% year-on-year, according to an exchange filing on Monday. The company logged a consolidated bottom-line of Rs 10,839 crore, exceeding market expectations of Rs 9,125 crore. In the corresponding period of last fiscal, Coal India's net profit stood at Rs 9751 crore. Revenue from operations rose nearly 6% to Rs 46,490 crore from Rs 43,961 crore in the year-ago period. Bloomberg analysts' had estimated the topline to come in at Rs 37,800 crore. On the operational front, earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation were up 6.2% to Rs 12,673 crore from Rs 11,932 crore year-on-year. Analysts consensus estimates stood at Rs 11,932 crore. While Ebitda margin stood at 27.3%, compared to 27.1% in the comparable quarter of the last



fiscal, analysts' had estimated margins to come in at 29.8%. Moreover, the company has also declared a final dividend of Rs 5.25 per share. "Payment of final dividend for fiscal 2025-26 shall be made subject to approval of shareholders in the ensuing AGM (annual general meeting)," the filing stated. Coal production fell 2% in fiscal

2026 to 768.19 MT and the offtake was down at 744.88 MT. In the fourth quarter coal production was down 1% and offtake fell 2%. Follow live updates here. Coal India Q4 Result Highlights (Cons, YoY) Revenue up 5.8% to Rs 46,490.03 crore versus Rs 43,961.56 crore. Net Profit up 11% to Rs 10,839.18 crore versus Rs 9,751.64 crore. Ebitda up 6% to Rs

12,673.16 crore versus Rs 11,932.14 crore. Margin at 27.3% versus 27.1%. Coal India Share Price Coal India's stock ended 0.77% lower at Rs 452.50 apiece on the NSE on Monday, before the results were declared. This compared to a 0.81% advance in the Nifty index. The share price has risen 13.41% year-to-date, and 15.10% in the last 12 months.

Bajaj Housing Finance Q4 Results: Net Profit Soars; NII Rises 15%

Highlights
Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd. on Monday posted a 14.1% year-on-year rise in its net profit to Rs 669 crore in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026.



Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd. on Monday posted a 14.1% year-on-year rise in its net profit to Rs 669 crore in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2026. In the corresponding quarter of fiscal 2025, the company had logged a bottomline of Rs 587 crore. The non-banking financial company's net interest income rose 15% to Rs 945 crore, as compared to Rs 823 crore in the year-ago period. In terms of asset quality, the gross non-performing assets ratio stood at 0.27%, marginally lower as

against 0.29% at the end of March 2025 quarter. The net NPA ratio was flat at 0.11%. The NBFC's loan losses and provisions for March 2025 quarter was reported as Rs 55 crore as against Rs 26 crore in the year-ago quarter. For the entire fiscal year 2025, Bajaj Housing Finance's NII rose 25% to Rs 3,752 crore from Rs 3,007 crore in fiscal 2024. The net profit increased by 20% to Rs 3,320 crore from Rs 2,770 crore in the preceding fiscal. The housing finance company's capital

adequacy ratio, including Tier II capital, stood at 22.46% as of March 31, 2025. Bajaj Finance Share Price Today Before the quarterly results were declared, shares of Bajaj Housing Finance closed 1.8% higher at Rs 91.07 per share after it rose as much as 2.47% to Rs 91.60 apiece. This compares to a 0.81% advance in the NSE Nifty 50 Index. It has fallen 3.46% in the last 12 months and 27.17% year-to-date.

Haier Launches F11, India's Only Ultra Fresh Air Technology Washing Machine with Full AI Color Touch Panel

India, 27th April, 2026: Haier Appliances India, the No. 1 global major appliances brand for 17 consecutive years, has taken laundry innovation to the next level with the launch of its new Haier F11 washing machine series. Designed to tackle everyday consumer pain points from fabric odour and detergent wastage to complex controls, the Haier F11, India's Only Ultra Fresh Air Technology with AI Touch Panel, brings unmatched freshness, hygiene and care for laundry in modern Indian homes. The Haier F11 Washing Machine keeps clothes super fresh for up to 12 hours with its India's Only Ultra Air Fresh Technology, helping prevent odour even when clothes are left inside after a wash. Its stylish design is paired with Full AI Color Touch Panel that features large icons and dedicated programs for fabrics such as sarees, jeans and cotton, making everyday use straightforward. The washing machine also comes with Essence Wash technology that auto-



matically adjusts detergent usage based on the load, reducing wastage. It further features Instant Dissolve Premix technology, which creates a premix microbubble solution for faster and more effective detergent dissolution, along with 3D Power Spraying, where the microbubble solution is sprayed directly onto fabrics to ensure deeper and more thorough cleaning. AI One Touch further simplifies operation allowing users to start a smart wash with a three-second press while automatically setting the wash parameters.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. NS Satish, CEO, Haier Appliances India said, "With the launch of the F11, our focus is to address the real, everyday challenges faced by modern Indian households. Today, laundry is no longer just a functional task; it's about hygiene, convenience, and the reassurance that technology can quietly take care of it. Every feature of the new Haier F11 is thoughtfully designed to simplify the experience while making advanced technology intuitive and accessible to everyone. This launch reflects

Haier's commitment to redefining standards in the washing machine category and our broader goal of delivering intelligent, high-performance appliances that genuinely enhance everyday living." Manufactured at Haier's advanced facility in India, the F11 washing machine series reaffirms the company's commitment to the 'Make in India, Made for India' initiative. This launch embodies Haier's innovation-first philosophy and underscores its ongoing dedication to designing smart, globally competitive appliances tailored for Indian

lifestyles. HAIER F11 WASHER-DRYER WASHING MACHINE SERIES: TOP FEATURES AND SPECIFICATIONS: Ultra Fresh Air Technology One of the most common complaints with washing machines is stale or musty odour in clothes, especially when laundry is left inside the drum after a wash. The F11 addresses this with India's Only Ultra Fresh Air Technology, which continuously circulates fresh air through the drum after the wash cycle. Full AI Color Touch Panel Traditional machines often confuse users with multiple buttons and complex settings. The Haier F11 washing machine's large, full AI color touch panel display offers an intuitive, user-friendly interface. Users can easily select programs, track wash progress, and customise cycles at a glance, making laundry simple for every family member.

White House says Trump 'stands by' Secret Service as shooting suspect due in court

The Washington Hilton hotel, the venue for the White House Correspondents' Dinner, says its security protocols had been directed by the US Secret Service. "The hotel was operating under stringent security protocols for the property as directed by the US Secret Service, which led security for the event," says the hotel in a statement, reported by Reuters news agency. The hotel adds that the Secret Service worked in coordination with a wide range of security teams, including local Washington DC police and hotel security. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has been speaking to Fox News. In clips reposted on X by the official White House Rapid Response account, Rubio says: "I didn't hear shots I just saw a bunch of security people rushing in." "The first thing you wonder immediately is... is there an internal threat, is there a threat inside the ballroom



itself?" He says he watched the staff follow "all the security protocols". "It was sort of an unfortunate situation that happened there, where one individual can disrupt what is one of the bigger nights in Washington, especially when the president attends. "That's kind of the world we live in right now." FBI Director Kash Patel says

"we're going to be so ready" for Donald Trump to attend the correspondents' dinner in the next 30 days. He tells Fox News: "The security posture, I imagine, is going to be completely different. "I'll be working with the White House, with the Department of Homeland Security, the Secret Service, the Metropolitan Police

Department. The FBI will be fully resourced for that event." Speaking about the FBI's work after the shooting, Patel says that the bureau has conducted interviews "literally across the country" and transported evidence to be analysed quickly. He adds that the FBI's Behavioural Analysis Unit is working to create a

profile from "emails, social media postings, witness interviews" and interviews with friends, family and neighbours to create a "complete picture of this individual's mindset and intent". US officials identified Cole Tomas Allen, 31, as the suspect in Saturday night's shooting. Allen, from Torrance, California, describes himself as a mechanical engineer, game developer and teacher on his LinkedIn. He graduated from California State University in 2025 with a Master's in computer science. After he was detained, Allen told officials that he wanted to shoot officials in the Trump administration, two sources told CBS News, the BBC's US partner. US media are reporting a history of anti-Trump posts from the alleged shooter. A document, described as a manifesto, has also been linked to an X account with Allen's name as a username. A post

in November 2024 said the user had voted for Kamala Harris. An account with the same name on the social network Bluesky wrote in January: "The country will continue to crash and burn until people stop asking when other people will step up." I am at the federal courthouse here in Washington DC. Cole Tomas Allen, the 31-year-old suspect in the White House Correspondents' Dinner shooting, is expected to hear the formal charges against him read out shortly. Today's hearing is usually a fairly procedural part of the court process. But today we could hear from Allen himself or his attorney about his plea to the charges. While we've been learning about the suspect, we still haven't seen or heard from him since images of him were released on Saturday. We could also learn new details about what the prosecutors plan.

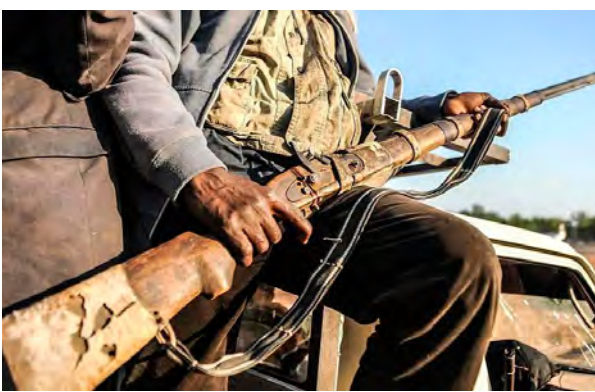
Sri Lankan monks arrested after 110kg of cannabis discovered in their luggage



Twenty-two monks have been arrested at an airport in Sri Lanka after officials discovered 110kg (242lbs) of cannabis concealed in their luggage. Customs officials said each monk was found with around 5kg of Kush - a particularly potent form of the drug - hidden within "false walls" in their luggage when they arrived in the capital Colombo on Saturday. The monks, who were mainly students, were returning from Thailand after being treated to an all-expenses-paid four-day holiday by an unnamed sponsor when they were detained.

A 23rd monk, believed to have organised the trip, has since been arrested in a suburb of Colombo, police told BBC Sinhala. According to the acting police spokesman, the monk - who did not join the trip - had told the other monks that "these parcels are a donation" and that a van would come to collect the packages. Sri Lanka's Police Narcotics Bureau discovered photos and videos on the mobile phones of some of the monks, who were from temples across Sri Lanka, showing them enjoying their break wearing casual clothing.

GUNMEN RAID NIGERIAN ORPHANAGE AND KIDNAP CHILDREN



Eight children are still missing after gunmen raided an unregistered orphanage in Nigeria's north-central Kogi State and kidnapped 23, authorities have said. Kogi's information commissioner Kingsley Fanwo said 15 children were rescued due to the "prompt and coordinated response" of security agencies. Sunday's attack also saw the owner of the facility taken, he added. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, but security sources say the state has a functional Boko Haram cell, and that there have been several violent attacks in the area. Nigeria is also grappling with a kidnap crisis in many parts of the country, with criminal gangs abducting people for ransoms. The government has made paying ransoms illegal but this has not prevented the kidnappings. "The government remains fully committed to ensuring the rescue of all the victims," Fanwo said. His statement on Monday also

highlighted that the orphanage was "operating illegally" in a "bushy environment" without the knowledge of relevant authorities. Fanwo urged operators of orphanages, schools, and similar institutions to always engage appropriately with the appropriate government agencies "especially in the current security climate". Mass kidnappings in schools are not uncommon in Nigeria, especially in the country's northern region which is currently plagued by insecurity. This is the first time an orphanage has been targeted. In November 2025, more than 300 students and their teachers were abducted from one Catholic Secondary School in Niger State, also in the north central region of Nigeria. They were released in two batches with the last group regaining freedom more than one month after. The government denied reports that any ransom had been paid, or that two Boko Haram commanders had been freed as part of the deal.

Colombia offers record \$1.4m-reward for rebel it blames for deadly bomb attack



Colombia's Defence Minister Pedro Sánchez says he is offering a record reward for information leading to the capture of a rebel leader known as "Marlon". "Marlon", whose real name is Iván Jacob Idrobo Arredondo, is suspected of having ordered Saturday's bomb attack on the Pan-American Highway, in which 20 people were killed. The attack is one of the dead-

liest targeting civilians and comes just over a month before presidential elections scheduled for 31 May. Sánchez said the 5bn peso (\$1.4m; £1m) reward for "Marlon" was the highest offered by Colombia. The defence minister accused "Marlon" of being behind Saturday's attack as well as a series of others in the provinces of Cauca and Valle del Cauca.

Trump says King will be 'very safe' during US visit after security talks

Donald Trump has said King Charles III will "be very safe" during his state visit to the US, which is due to begin later on Monday. Further security talks took place between the White House and Buckingham Palace after a gunman gained access to an event attended by Trump in Washington DC on Saturday. Asked about the security implications for the royal visit, the US president told CBS' 60 Minutes on Sunday that the grounds of the White House, where King Charles will visit, are "really safe". The King and Queen's programme will go ahead largely as planned, Buckingham Palace said, with the UK government hoping it could ease diplomatic tensions. The UK's ambassador to the US, Sir Christian Turner, said



the visit would be about "renewing and revitalising a unique friendship" between the two countries. He said Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer had spoken to Trump on Sunday, and the trip would proceed largely as expected. The King and Queen privately reached out to the Trumps to give their sympathies after the attack, during which a Secret

Service agent was lightly injured and the president and his wife were rushed to safety. The four-day state visit will begin in Washington DC, with the King and Queen being greeted at the White House by Trump and the First Lady Melania Trump. The president said on Sunday: "I think it's great, he'll be very safe... the White House grounds are really

safe. This area of not very many acres is really safe. "And he'll be staying here, I believe he's going to a couple of other locations because he's here for a few days. "He's a great guy. They called him and they are so looking forward to being here. We spoke this morning." There are British and US flags flying in the streets around the White House, ahead of what will be several days of political theatre. It will be a charm offensive by the UK, attending ceremonial events in Washington and making a symbolic show of solidarity at the 9/11 Memorial in New York. For Trump, it will also be a chance to be seen on the world stage next to royalty and might be a welcome diversion from his own political battles.

Kim Jong Un opens memorial for N Korean soldiers killed in Ukraine war

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Russian Defence Minister Andrey Belousov have unveiled a memorial in Pyongyang for North Koreans who have died fighting in the Ukraine war. Military jets flew overhead and white balloons were released into the air as Kim and Belousov unveiled a statue and opened a memorial museum. It is not known how many North Korean soldiers are fighting against Ukraine, but South Korean intelligence estimates that at least 15,000 have been sent to help Russia recapture parts of western Kursk. Seoul also estimates that about 2,000 North Koreans have died in the conflict - neither



Pyongyang nor Russia have provided any official numbers. In return for providing soldiers, it is believed North Korea has received food, money and technical help from Moscow. The opening of the Memorial Museum of Combat Feats at the Overseas Military Operations on

Sunday coincided with what Russia described as the first anniversary of its recovery of parts of Kursk. Ukraine launched a surprise incursion in Kursk in August 2024. Russia said it regained full control of the region a year later. Kim assured Belousov that North Korea "will as ever

fully support the policy of the Russian Federation to defend the national sovereignty, territorial integrity and security interests", according to state media. Russia will "surely win a victory in the just sacred war", Kim said. Belousov said he discussed long-term military co-operation with North Korean officials, according to Russian news agencies. Aside from Belousov, Kim also met with the speaker of Russia's parliament, Vyacheslav Volodin, a close ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin. During a meeting on the sidelines of China's military parade in Beijing last September, where both leaders came as guests.

Russian fighters confirm withdrawal from northern Mali city after separatist attacks



After a weekend of co-ordinated attacks across Mali by separatist fighters and Islamist militants, Russian forces who are in the country helping protect the military government have confirmed they have pulled out of the northern city of Kidal. In a series of social media posts, Russia's Africa Corps said they had "left the locality" along with Malian troops. The separatist Azawad Liberation Front (FLA) group said on Sunday the Russian troops had agreed to withdraw permanently, and claimed control of Kidal, declaring it "now free". Mali has faced insurgencies for years from the separatists in the north, and groups affiliated with al-Qaeda and the Islamic State group. On Saturday, explosions and sustained gunfire were reported in multiple parts of Mali, including the capital, Bamako. Attacks were also reported in the central cities of Ségou and Mopti, as well as Gao and Kidal in the north, on the southern fringes of the Sahara desert. In Kati - a town near the capital and home to a major military base - Malian Defence Minister Sadio Camara

was killed in an apparent suicide truck bombing on his residence. Reports suggest the assault by the FLA - who seek a breakaway state for northern areas dominated by ethnic Tuaregs - was primarily focused on cities in the region, while the jihadist group Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM) had staged simultaneous attacks in multiple areas. The Alliance of Sahel States (AES) - comprising Mali and the neighbouring countries of Burkina Faso and Niger also led by the military - said the attacks were a "monstrous plot backed by the enemies of the liberation of the Sahel" but did not go into any further detail. Fighting resumed in Kidal on Sunday, but shortly afterwards, FLA spokesman Mohamed Elmaouloud Ramadane said an agreement had been reached between them and the Russian Africa Corps with a "view to ensuring their secure withdrawal from the fighting". He previously told the FLA had remained in the city because "elements of the Malian army and Russian mercenaries" were still present.

Iran's foreign minister meets Putin in Russia as Israel continues strikes in Lebanon

Two separate clips, filmed yesterday, show a helicopter landing before a group of what appear to be Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers carry a stretcher towards the aircraft. Seconds later an explosion can be seen in the background. We have geolocated the footage using satellite imagery and carried out reverse image searches to confirm the videos are new. Israeli media reported that one soldier was killed in the attack as wounded troops were being evacuated. The Iran-linked Hezbollah group said it carried out the attack. As a reminder, Israel has what it calls a "buffer zone" extending around 10 kilometres into Lebanese territory, needed, it says, to reduce the threat from Hezbollah. It



means around 5% of Lebanon is now under Israeli military occupation. Back in Russia Sergei Lavrov, the country's foreign minister, has given a positive assessment of the talks between Russian and Iranian delegations in St Petersburg. They were "useful", state TASS news agency quoted Lavrov as telling journalists after the

meeting. The negotiations lasted for "about 1.5 hours", Interfax added. Earlier, Putin offered Araghchi Russia's support in ending the Iran war, while Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said that Moscow was ready to mediate in reaching a peace deal. As discussions take place in Russia, we've been monitoring the latest in the Strait of Hormuz.

Satellite imagery seen by BBC Verify shows that two ships seized last week by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) are currently anchored off Hormuz Island. Imagery captured today show the ships - MSC-Francesca and Epaminondas - lying at anchor around 8km (5 miles) from the island in the Strait of Hormuz. Both vessels reportedly came under fire from IRGC forces last Wednesday and were said to have been damaged. Videos showing IRGC personnel boarding the two ships was broadcast by Iranian state media last week - although BBC Verify analysis indicates some parts of the footage was filmed after the seizures.

AT LEAST 42 KILLED IN CHAD AFTER WATER WELL DISPUTE ESCALATES



At least 42 people were killed in a clash between the Islamic State group and the Sahel States (AES) in Chad, according to the Islamic State group. The group said it had "liberated" the town of Kidal after a "brave" battle. The Islamic State group has been active in Chad since 2015, and has fought several battles with the AES. The Islamic State group has also been fighting against the French-led coalition forces in the Sahel region. The Islamic State group has been accused of committing human rights abuses in the region. The Islamic State group has also been accused of recruiting children into its ranks. The Islamic State group has been accused of using suicide bombings as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using drones as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using heavy weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using chemical weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using biological weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using nuclear weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using cyber weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using space weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using anti-matter weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using dark matter weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using exotic matter weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using supersymmetric weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using string theory weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using quantum mechanics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using relativity weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using thermodynamics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using electromagnetism weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using nuclear physics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using particle physics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using astrophysics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using cosmology weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using geophysics weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using oceanography weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using atmospheric science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using environmental science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using earth science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using space science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using planetary science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using solar system science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using galactic science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using cosmic science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using universal science weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omniscience weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omnipotence weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omnibenevolence weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omniscience weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omnipotence weapons as a tactic. The Islamic State group has been accused of using omnibenevolence weapons as a tactic.



Royal Challengers Bengaluru defeats Delhi Capitals by 9 wickets (81 balls left)

MS Dhoni Suffers 2nd Injury, CSK Coach Stephen Fleming Drops IPL 2026 'Comeback' Bombshell



If one calf strain was not enough, MS Dhoni has faced another setback. Chennai Super Kings head coach Stephen Fleming has revealed that the former captain has "tweaked" his calf again. Fleming indicated that Dhoni's return to the playing XI for the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 has been further delayed after the veteran wicketkeeper-batter suffered another setback in his recovery. Dhoni, who was initially expected to miss only the opening two weeks of IPL 2026, has now been sidelined for nearly a month, with CSK already eight matches into their campaign without their talismanic former captain featuring even once.

Abhishek Sharma Fan Girl Responds To Backlash Over Grabbing SRH Star's Hand At Team Hotel

Recently, Sunrisers Hyderabad star Abhishek Sharma was involved in an off-field incident. Following the match against Rajasthan Royals in Jaipur on Saturday, a video went viral on social media showing a fan forcibly grabbing and pulling Abhishek's hand after spotting the star cricketer at the team hotel. While the fan was visibly excited upon seeing the player, the incident left Abhishek visibly agitated, despite being surrounded by security officials. The encounter has sparked a heated debate among fans, with many suggesting the incident was a clear security breach. Now, the fan-girl in question has responded. On her Instagram handle,



named *moreofhimshikha*, she posted a video with the caption: "Girls, tumhare jiju pyaar se nahi maan rahe the toh bas phir kuch aisa kiya maine (Girls, your brother-in-law was not agreeing politely, so I ended up doing something like this)." After facing backlash, she wrote on Instagram: "With all due respect to Abhishek Sharma and his fans, I would like to share what actually happened from my side. Things are not always exactly how they appear

online. "I was at a venue where Abhishek Sharma had arrived, and when I found out he was there, I went to see him because I've been a fan of his for a long time, even before he became this famous. I only wanted to shake his hand, but there was a huge crowd. In the rush, while I was trying to move and give space, I accidentally grabbed his hand instead of shaking it," she added. "Everything happened very quickly, and the moment got messed up. I got nervous, and my brother pulled me back right after. The video was recorded, and I posted it because that moment felt special to me. I genuinely didn't expect it to go viral or be misunderstood like this."

Mohammed Shami Given Award For 'Obstructing The Field' Dismissal Amid Ongoing IPL 2026 Row

Veteran Indian cricket team fast bowler Mohammed Shami received the 'ChatGPT IQ Award' in the Lucknow Super Giants dressing room following the loss against Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday. Shami did not take any wickets, but he slammed a last-ball six to take the match to a Super Over, and it was his throw that led to Angkrish Raghuvanshi's controversial 'obstructing the field' dismissal. In a video released by LSG on their social media, assistant coach Lance Klusener listed Shami's performances in the match and mentioned the dismissal while handing him the award. Klusener said, Shami showed presence of mind to



affect the dismissal. Shami's throw hit Raghuvanshi while he tried to return to his crease and the third umpire decided that he intentionally came in between the ball and the wicket-keeper. Raghuvanshi was on Monday fined 20 per cent of his match fee for his emotional outburst after being

one Demerit Point for breaching Level 1 of the IPL's Code of Conduct for Players and Team Officials during Match No. 38 against Lucknow Super Giants," read an IPL statement. "Raghuvanshi was found to have breached Article 2.2 of the IPL's Code of Conduct, which relates to "abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during a Match." The incident occurred in the fifth over, when, after being given out for "obstructing the field", Raghuvanshi struck the boundary cushion with his bat in an aggressive manner and subsequently threw his helmet into the dugout. Raghuvanshi admitted to the offence and accepted the Match Referee's sanction.

Delhi Capitals Gets Special Message From Parth Jindal Ahead Of RCB Clash

Two days after losing to Punjab Kings despite posting a 264-run total, Delhi Capitals face the humongous task of beating the formidable Royal Challengers Bengaluru. The six-wicket loss to Punjab Kings - a game in which their bowlers were dismantled in a record chase - has left DC shaken. Placed sixth on the points table, they now find themselves in a tightening playoff race where another defeat could seriously dent their chances. Ahead of the match, DC co-owner Parth Jindal remarked: "Time to turn the heat on @DelhiCapitals. We all know how good this squad is - time to be together, time to play together and time to bring our best cricket to the @IPL. This is where our season truly begins." Time to turn the heat on @DelhiCapitals



we all know how good this squad is - time to be together, time to play together and time to bring our best cricket to the @IPL - this is where our season truly begins. Delhi's campaign so far has been defined by splendid batting but inconsistent execution with the ball. Their top order, led by KL Rahul, has repeatedly provided blistering starts, while the likes of

Nitish Rana and David Miller have ensured momentum is maintained through the middle overs. However, the inability to defend even imposing totals remains a concern, despite moderate success while chasing targets. The death bowling, in particular, has looked vulnerable under pressure - something opposition teams have begun to target.

Yuzvendra Chahal Wants To Open For Punjab Kings, Preity Zinta Gives Epic Response

Punjab Kings are currently riding high in IPL 2026. At the halfway stage of the group phase, PBKS are the only undefeated team. In seven matches so far, they have won six, while one was washed out, taking their total points tally to 13. Generally, going by past trends, 16 points are enough for a team to qualify for the playoffs. If they win two more matches, it can be safely assumed that PBKS will be the first team to enter the IPL 2026 playoffs. No wonder the PBKS dressing room is a happy place at the moment. In the midst of this, PBKS spinner Yuzvendra Chahal had a funny request for the team's co-owner, Preity Zinta. "Mam, ek match mein open batting karne ka chance mil jaaye toh



#pzchat," Chahal asked the veteran actor on X. "For sure, Yuzi. Anything for you. IPL khatam hone do, uske baad whichever match you like I'm sure Prabh & Priyansh won't mind then #Ting," came the epic reply from Preity.

SPURS' SIMONS TO MISS REST OF SEASON AND WORLD CUP



Netherlands attacking midfielder Xavi Simons said he was "heartbroken" after being ruled out for the rest of the season for reoperation on a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament. Simons was carried off on a stretcher in the second half of Tottenham's 1-0 win at Wolves on Saturday. The 23-year-old fell to the ground following a collision with Wolves defender Hugo Bueno. After initially getting to his feet, he went down again. Spurs confirmed Simons will have surgery in the coming weeks. "They say life can be cruel and today it feels that way," Simons wrote in a social media post. "My season has come to an abrupt end and I'm just trying to process it. Honestly, I'm heartbroken. None of it makes sense." Partial tears or ruptures to the ACL typically lead to players being unavailable for between six and nine months as they recover. "We can confirm that Xavi Simons has ruptured the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in his right knee," said a Tottenham statement, "external Xavi will undergo surgery in the coming weeks and, following that, will then begin his rehabilitation with our medical team." The injury to Simons comes as Spurs fight for Premier League survival. Despite beating Wolves, they remain in the relegation zone and are two points from safety with four games left. The 2026 World Cup, which is taking place in the United States, Canada and Mexico, begins on 11 June, with the Netherlands starting their campaign in Group F against Japan on 14 June. "All I've wanted to do is fight for my team and now the ability to do that has been snatched away from me... along with the World Cup," added Simons. "Representing my country this summer just gone. I'll take time to find peace with this, but I'll continue to be the best team-mate I can be. I have no doubt that together we'll win this fight."

Kylian Mbappe A Doubt For El Clasico, Real Madrid Confirm Thigh Injury

Real Madrid striker Kylian Mbappe is a doubt for the Clasico on May 10 after his club confirmed Monday he has sustained a thigh injury. "He has been diagnosed with an injury to the semitendinosus muscle in his left leg," said Los Blancos in a statement, after the France captain went off hurt during Madrid's 1-1 draw against Real Betis in La Liga last Friday. Madrid, second in the Spanish top flight by 11 points from leaders Barcelona, face Espanyol on

Sunday before taking on the Catalan giants the following weekend. Real Madrid initially indicated Mbappe had suffered a muscular overload, but further tests showed the top goalscorer was injured. If Madrid drop points against Espanyol without him and Barcelona defeat Osasuna on Saturday, Hansi Flick's side will be crowned champions for a second successive season. Mbappe has been troubled by injury this season, generating concern in France with the World Cup in the

United States, Canada and Mexico starting on June 11. The 27-year-old, a world champion in 2018, was dogged by a knee issue which lasted for two months, the longest absence of his career, and admitted it caused him "frustration, anger and anxiety". Real Madrid striker Kylian Mbappe is a doubt for the El Clasico against Barcelona next month because of a hamstring injury. The France captain was replaced after 81 minutes of the 1-1 La Liga draw with Real Betis on Friday.

Real said Mbappe had been "diagnosed with an injury to the semitendinosus muscle in his left leg" and that they were "awaiting progress". Real, who are 11 points behind leaders Barcelona in the table with five games remaining, visit Espanyol on Sunday before travelling to the Nou Camp on 10 May.



Kara Telugu Release Promoted Ahead of April 30 Debut

This film, Kara, is a story of an ordinary man struck in extraordinary situations. The film is also an extraordinary film, one which is very close to our hearts" says Dhanush at 'Kara' Telugu Pre-Release Event Ahead of its theatrical release on April 30, Kara was formally introduced to the Telugu audience at a special promotional event in Hyderabad, with Dhanush presenting the film alongside director Vignesh Raja. Produced by Dr. Ishari K. Ganesh under Vels Film International, the film features music by G. V. Prakash Kumar and brings together a performance-driven ensemble including Mamitha Baiju and K. S. Ravi Kumar in key roles. Set against a tense, realism-rooted backdrop, Kara is positioned as a character-centric drama that follows an ordinary man drawn into extraordinary circumstances. The narrative unfolds through emotional conflict and situational pressure rather than conventional hero-driven spectacle. The film marks director Vignesh Raja's next after Por Thozhil, carrying forward a similar emphasis on grounded storytelling and psychological engagement. The Telugu release is being handled by Vigneshwara Entertainments, signalling a structured and simultaneous outreach into the Telugu market. The



evening was graced by Sai Durgha Tej, Venky Atluri, and Buchi Babu Sana, whose presence underscored the growing anticipation around the film's Telugu release. With music by G. V. Prakash Kumar and a strong ensemble cast supporting Dhanush, Kara is being presented not merely as a dubbed release, but as a film with the potential to resonate across languages through its narrative strength and performances. Distributor Satish who is releasing the film in the Telugu market, spoke about the significance of the opportunity and his confidence in the film's appeal. "Good evening, and a hearty welcome to everyone here. I am thankful to my parents and family, who are the core strength behind where I am today.

Very thankful to Ganesh Sir for this opportunity. Dhanush Sir, it has been a long-standing dream to be a distributor for your most successful film, and this will be that film. Director Sir, I have seen the film; it has great sequences, and the plot is such a hardcore family drama. I would also like to introduce my friend Rajesh, with whom all the promotions were handled. We hope to work with you again soon, and are thankful for the opportunity." Director Vignesh Raja reflected on the intent behind the film, emphasizing its sincerity and connection with audiences. "Hello all, my first film, Por Thozhil - as soon as the film was released, I got so much appreciation from the Telugu audience. So, for all the people who liked that film, we made a film that is

similar in spirit, meaning it is very honest and sincere in its intention, and the intention is only one thing: to show you guys a good time at the theatre. It will respect your time, your intelligence, and the time you spent on the ticket. So please do come and watch; I am banking on you guys to take the film to the masses and take the word further. Thanks to Dhanush Sir, Mamitha Mam, Ravi Kumar Sir, and a lot of actors who gave genuine performances. Thanks, Durgha Tej Sir - I am a fan of your work - and thank you, Atluri Sir, for taking the time. And Vigneshwara Entertainments, thanks for distributing the film." K. S. Ravi Kumar shared his experience of working on the film and his long-standing association with Dhanush. "Hello everyone,

it's a good time for me here. Recently, I made a straight Telugu film, Ustaad, and now, in this film, I did my own dubbing. It has been a decade since Dhanush and I acted together; he hasn't changed. He has been the same guy, and it is the same with his father too, who is a friend of mine. They are such a great family. And the Telugu audience are great; all my films were remade or dubbed, and they became super hits. For this film—one thing I have to say is about the producer. He is a big educationalist. He has many colleges and schools; films are his passion. His father is a great artist, and his daughter also worked as a producer for this film. The director is also an intelligent guy; he knows things and is aware of everything. He gave me a fantastic role, and like how I did to Kamal, he did the same with me — he made me go through prosthetic make-up. I want to thank Mr. Sai Durgha Tej garu; he became a big hero. Venky Atluri Sir, big fan of your films. Dhanush is a guy who lives for cinema. Yesterday also, he mentioned that he is like a blinded horse when it comes to cinema, and nobody can disturb him. I acted as his father in the film, and thank you, Dhanush, for this role." Mamitha Baiju spoke about her journey with the film and the personal significance of the role.

Jagapathi Babu, Laya, Akella V Krishna, Kishore Naidu Chirumamilla, Tammareddy Bharadwaj, Charitha Chitra Production's Vadhala Thrilling Teaser Unveiled

Senior actor Jagapathi Babu steps into an intense new territory with Vadhala, a suspense-driven drama that blends emotional depth with a chilling premise. Sharing the screen with him are Laya and Hrithika Srinivas, both playing crucial roles in this tightly wound narrative. The film is directed by Akella V Krishna and backed by producers Kishore Naidu Chirumamilla and Tammareddy Bharadwaj under the Charitha Chitra Production banner. The makers who previously generated intrigue with a glimpse, have now come up with a thrilling teaser.



Yogi is a deeply devoted husband who dotes on his wife, making her the center of his world. She, in turn, loves him wholeheartedly and guards their relationship with quiet intensity, unwilling to let anyone disrupt the bond they share. However, their seemingly perfect world is unsettled by the presence of a young girl close to the family, who develops an intense attachment to Yogi. To her, he is everything—her anchor, her obsession, and she is prepared to cross any line to claim his love. Jagapathi Babu slips comfortably into an age-appropriate role, portraying a gentle, caring hus-

band whose world carries a quiet charm. Laya matches him perfectly as the devoted wife, bringing warmth and affection to their bond. Together, they share an effortless, endearing chemistry that anchors the narrative. Hrithika Srinivas emerges as an intriguing surprise, stepping into a character laced with negative shades, hinting at deeper layers to the story. The teaser also hints at another pivotal presence, with Ravi Varma appearing in a key role that adds further weight to the ensemble. Akella V Krishna presented the story in a gripping manner, with the inclusion of

suspense and drama in remarkable way. Chota K Naidu frames the film with a gritty visual tone that enhances the suspense, while Karthik Kodakandla's background score injects a steady pulse of tension throughout. The editing by Kotagiri Venkateswara Rao keeps the narrative crisp. Lakshmi Bhupala is the writer, while production design is handled by Bajja Brahmaiah. Overall, Vadhala positions itself as a gripping emotional thriller where every moment feels consequential, leaving behind a teaser that lingers with its intensity and intrigue.

Janhvi Kapoor's Micro Dress Shuts Down Night



Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor turned heads at the grand launch of Fenty Beauty in Mumbai, where global pop icon Rihanna was also present. The star-studded evening brought together some of India's most stylish celebrities, and Janhvi stood out with a look that perfectly balanced modern structure and understated elegance. She wore an off-shoulder white top paired with a sculpted corset-style waist and a draped black mini skirt. The silhouette played with volume and structure, giving the outfit a sharp, editori-

al edge. Her hair was pulled back in a sleek bun, and she kept her accessories minimal, letting the outfit do all the talking. Her makeup leaned toward a soft glam look, with a flawless base, contoured cheeks, and defined eyes that were striking yet not overdone, a style that felt perfectly in tune with Fenty Beauty's philosophy of celebrating natural beauty. On the career front, her film Homebound has been selected as India's official entry for the 2026 Oscars, and her upcoming Telugu project Peddi with Ram Charan is set for a June 2026 release.

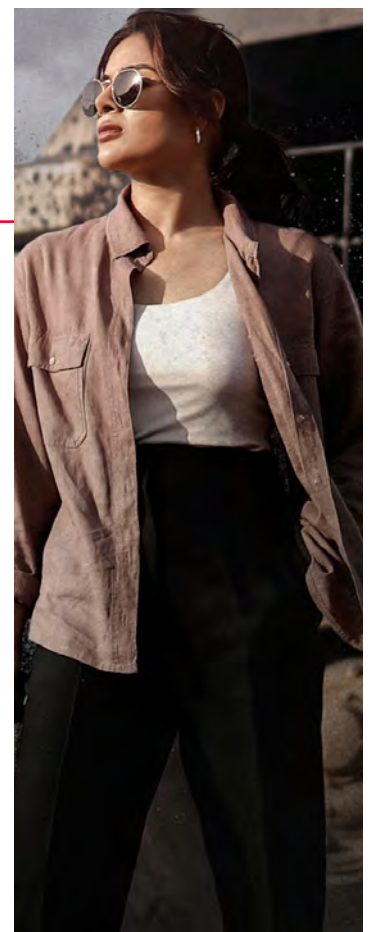
THE BLACK GOLD SHOOT WRAPPED UP IN 60+ WORKING DAYS, SAMYUKTHA LOOKS POWERFUL IN NEW POSTER, MAKING VIDEO UNVEILED

Stepping into one of the boldest phases of her career, versatile actress Samyuktha, known for her strong performances, diverse roles, and a streak of successful films as a lucky heroine, takes the lead in the gritty, female-led action drama The Black Gold, being mounted on a pan-Indian scale. Directed by Yogesh KMC and produced by Razesh Danda under Hasya Movies in collaboration with Maganti Pictures, the film promises a hard-hitting narrative driven by intensity and scale. Set against the backdrop of coal mines along the Telangana-Maharashtra border, the story revolves around a police officer who values the law more than the gun in her hand, an intriguing and fresh narrative point. The film boldly explores one of India's most sensational

coal syndicates, reportedly involving even a Chief Minister. It is inspired by real-life incidents, adding further intensity to the story. Samyuktha looks tough, standing in front of a massive industrial machine, with her sunglasses on in the poster. She carries a gun casually by her side, as if danger is just part of her day. Dust swirls around her. The movie was shot across locations such as Mancherial, Bellampalli, Kagaznagar, and Adilabad, along with specially

erected sets in Hyderabad. The team wrapped the entire production in just 60+ working days, executing five power-packed schedules across 10+ fully built, realistic sets, with 300+ crew members on the ground every day, as revealed in a working video that showcases the grit and determination behind the making of the film. The action sequences have been designed on a scale rarely seen in heroine-oriented films. Completing such a high-intensity film with extensive action in just 60 days is no small

feat. The shoot was carried out using two cameras daily, and in some cases, up to five cameras simultaneously. With high production values and strong technical standards, The Black Gold is being shaped to appeal to both cinema lovers and Gen Z audiences alike. The film also brings together a strong supporting cast, including Murali Sharma, Rao Ramesh, Nassar, Manish Wadhwa, Ramki, Ravindra Vijay, Adukalam Naren, BVS Ravi, Krishna Chaitanya, and Chandrika Ravi in important roles. Coming to the technical crew, the music is composed by Sam CS, while A. Vasanth handles the cinematography. Chota K Prasad is the editor, and Sahi Suresh serves as the production designer. The Black Gold will have a pan-Indian release in Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, and Kannada.



Drugs case: Mumbai court orders defreezing of Rhea Chakraborty's bank account

A special court in Mumbai has ordered the defreezing of the bank accounts of actor Rhea Chakraborty and her brother, accused in a drugs case, citing the NCB's failure to follow procedural requirements under the NDPS Act. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) had frozen the duo's accounts as part of its probe into a drug-related case linked to the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput. Rhea Chakraborty and her brother, Showik, represented by lawyer Ayaz Khan, argued that the NCB failed to follow the mandatory procedural requirements under Section 68F (for seizure or freezing of properties) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. The prosecution opposed the applica-

tion, citing Chakraborty's alleged statements as evidence of her being an active member of a drug syndicate in contact with peddlers. It maintained that the freezing of the account was a necessary action by the investigation officer. However, finding merits in the defence's contention, Special NDPS Court Judge U C Deshmukh on Saturday noted that under section 68F(2) of the NDPS Act, any order to freeze or seize property must be confirmed by a "competent authority" within 30 days. If no such confirmation is made, the order becomes legally invalid. The respondent (NCB) does not deny that there is no compliance with the mandatory pro-

vision, the court pointed out. Therefore, in view of a high court ruling and provisions of Section 68F of the

NDPS Act, the application is liable to be allowed, it said.



Rishab Shetty's 'A Film By Giri' to Release in Theatres on May 8



Under the banners of Star Wood Entertainment and Rishab Shetty Films, presented by Achhibabu M, the film 'A Film By Giri' stars Rishab Shetty of Kantara fame as the hero, with Rachana Inder as the female lead. The film has completed all formalities and is set to arrive in theatres on May 8.