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CHENNAI I BENGALURU I HYDERABAD I VIJAYAWADA I KOCHI

THE SOUTH INDIA TIMES

Essence of the South

NATIONAL DAILY NEWSPAPER

SCAN FOR E-PAPER

LS to take up motion seeking more time for JPC examining bills on removal of Ministers after prolonged custody

New Delhi (TSIT)

The Lok Sabha is scheduled to take up a motion on Friday seeking an extension of time for the presentation of the report of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examining three key bills that propose the automatic removal of the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers and Ministers if they remain in judicial custody for 30 consecutive days in connection with serious criminal charges.According to the List of Business for the Lok Sabha, Bharatiya Janata Party MP Aparajita Sarangi, who chairs

the 31-member Joint Parliamentary Committee, and BJP MP Vishnu Dayal Ram will move a motion requesting the House to extend the deadline for the panel to submit its report.The motion states: “That this House do extend time for presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee on the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025; the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025; and the Government of union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025 upto the first day of last week of the Winter Session, 2026.”

OM NAMO VENKATESAYA

30- 07-2026

Total pilgrims : 67,063
Tonsures : 25,565
Hundi kanukalu : 4.81 CR
Laddu sale... 4.27 Lac
Annaprasadams..2.53 Lac
Medical treatment...3,166
Waiting Compartments...Outside line at Krishna Teja Guest house.

Approx. Darsan Time for Sarvadarshanam (with out SSD Tokens)..18-20 H.

OVER-SPEEDING CAUSED 82,124 ROAD ACCIDENTS IN 2025: GADKARI

NEW DELHI: Over-speeding caused 82,124 road accidents in India in 2025, accounting for around 16 per cent of all road accidents, Parliament was informed on Thursday. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said driving on the wrong side and lane indiscipline caused 4,089 accidents, followed by jumping red lights (276) and the use of mobile phones while driving (136). The number of road accidents in India rose by 5.3 per cent to more than 5.13 lakh in 2025, with road crashes claiming the lives of 21 people every hour, according to government data.On average, 59 road accidents occurred every hour in the country."A total of 5,13,563 road accidents have been reported by police departments of states and Union Territories in the country during the calendar year 2025, claiming 1,83,382 lives," Gadkari said. The minister also said that police departments in states and Union territories reported a total of 2,85,770 road accidents across the country during the first six months of 2026.

DELHI POLICE WON'T TAKE ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST CJP PROTESTERS ON ONE CONDITION: GOVT ORDER

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police will not take any legal adverse action against individuals who participated in the Cockroach Janta Party-led protest in the national capital, but those with criminal background will have to face action, according to a Delhi government order. In its order, the home department said that with regard to arrests or detentions, if already made, the process for reviewing the arrests and releasing the arrested persons will be undertaken expeditiously. Delhi Police has registered 13 FIRs in connection with violence during 'Chalo Sansad' march by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) on July 20. The police have also identified more than 2,800 people with criminal background who participated in the protest march."Government of NCT of Delhi does not propose to take any further adverse action against the individuals involved in the protests, and the matter shall be treated as closed without any future proceedings on this account," the home department said in its order.

Cauvery protests: Please don't come now, Karnataka CM tells TN CM Vijay

CHENNAI/ BENGALURU (TSIT):

With the protests over Cauvery river water sharing intensifying in the State, Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Friday requested Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay to defer his scheduled visit to the neighbouring State on August 3.

Vijay's visit to Karnataka, though mentioned repeatedly by the government and leaders in Karnataka, has not been officially confirmed by the Tamil Nadu government. Two days ago, Shivakumar had said he offered to take Vijay on a helicopter tour of the areas fed by Cauvery water to show the scarcity there. However, the situation changed after widespread protests across Karnataka, particularly in Mandya, where demonstrators tore posters of Vijay's film ‘Jana Nayagan’ and forced theatres at some places to halt its screening. Let's meet in more conducive, cordial atmosphereIn his appeal, Shivakumar urged Vijay to defer his proposed visit to Bengaluru in view of the charged atmosphere in the State following the CWMA's decision upholding CWRC's direction to Karnataka to release 3,500 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu for 15 days.

KTR appears before court in Formula E-car race case

Hyderabad (TSIT):

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K.T. Rama Rao on Friday appeared before the special ACB Court here in the Formula E-car race case.

Rama Rao and other accused in the case personally appeared in the court in response to the summons issued in May.

Indian Administrative Service officer Arvind Kumar and former Chief Engineer of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority, B.L.N. Reddy, also appeared before the court. KTR and others paid sureties of Rs 1 lakh each and completed other formalities. The court later adjourned the hearing in the case to August 25.

Former Ministers Sabita Indra Reddy, Mahmood Ali, MLA Kaushik Reddy, BRS leader Praveen Kumar and several other party leaders and a large number of party workers also reached Nampally Court Complex to show solidarity with KTR.

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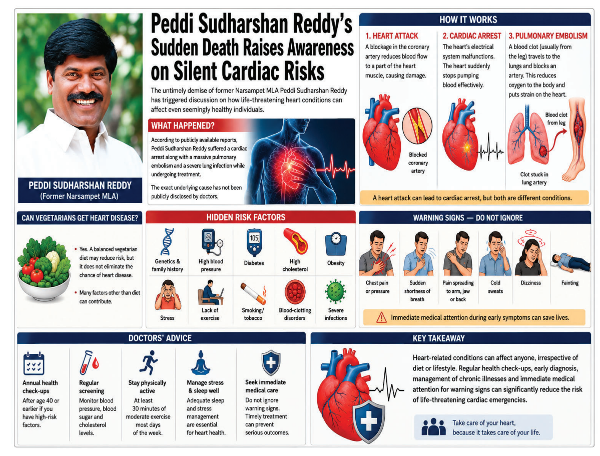
ECI Secretary Reviews Voter List Revision, Urges Faster Completion of SIR Process

Hyderabad City TSIT July 31: Election Commission of India (ECI) Secretary Naveen Kumar on Thursday reviewed the progress of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, digitisation of enumeration forms and polling station mapping in Medchal-Malkajgiri district. The review meeting was held at the Medchal Collectorate with District Election Officer and Collector Mikkilineni Manu Choudhary and other election officials. Addressing the officials, the ECI Secretary said that while the district and sub-district teams had been working efficiently, a few areas were still lagging behind compared to other districts. He directed officials to make optimum use of the remaining two days by working closely with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to complete all pending targets ahead of schedule.

Peddi Sudharshan Reddy's Sudden Death Raises Awareness on Silent Cardiac Risks

Hyderabad City TSIT July 31: The untimely demise of former Narsampet MLA Peddi Sudharshan Reddy has shocked Telangana and sparked widespread discussion about sudden cardiac emergencies. Many people have been left wondering how an individual known for leading a disciplined lifestyle and reportedly abstaining from alcohol and non-vegetarian food could lose his life unexpectedly.



According to information released by the treating hospital and publicly available reports, Peddi Sudharshan Reddy suffered a cardiac arrest while also battling a massive pulmonary embolism and a severe lung infection. However, doctors have not publicly disclosed the exact underlying medical factors that led to these complications.

Medical experts say the incident serves as an important reminder that serious heart-related emergencies are not confined to people with unhealthy lifestyles. While avoiding alcohol, tobacco and maintaining a healthy diet can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, these measures do not completely eliminate the possibility of life threatening cardiac conditions.

A cardiac arrest occurs when the heart suddenly stops pumping blood effectively, cutting off blood supply to vital organs. It is different from a heart attack, which is caused by a blockage in the arteries supplying blood to the heart. Although a heart attack can trigger cardiac arrest, the two conditions are medically distinct.

Doctors also explain that a pulmonary embolism is a blockage in one or more arteries of the lungs, usually caused by blood clots that travel from other parts of the body, most commonly the legs. It is a medical emergency that places severe strain on both the lungs and the heart and can become fatal if not treated immediately.

Minister Vakiti Srihari Visits Fish Canteen at Masab Tank, Reviews Food Quality and Hygiene

Hyderabad, TSIT: Telangana Minister for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, Fisheries, Youth Services and Sports Vakiti Srihari on Friday paid his first visit to the State Fisheries Department headquarters at Masab Tank and inspected the Fish Canteen operated by the department. Minister was received by Fisheries Director Nikhila, Additional Director Muralikrishna, and other department officials. During the visit, he reviewed the canteen's management, hygiene standards, food quality and customer services. He also enquired about the menu and the variety of fish-based dishes being served. Speaking on the occasion, Vakiti Srihari said the government's objective is to provide quality, hygienic and nutritious fish-based food to the public.

Employees launch pen-down, shutdown stir over service demands

Khammam (TSIT): Employees of the VB-G RAM-G wing under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) launched an indefinite pen-down and shutdown agitation across Khammam district on Friday, demanding implementation of pay scales, service rules, promotions, job security and other service benefits.

District Joint Action Committee (JAC) president C.H. Kotaiah alleged that despite serving the MGNREGS for nearly two decades, VB-G RAM-G employees were yet to be granted regular pay scales. He said the government had repeatedly assured implementation of pay scales but had failed to fulfil its promise. The employees were also deprived of service rules, promotional avenues, job security and other legitimate employment benefits, he added.

Stating that the agitation was launched to secure their long-pending demands, Kotaiah urged the government to immediately implement the pay scale and resolve all service-related issues. The employees later submitted a memorandum to the District Collector, requesting that their grievances be brought to the notice of the government and resolved at the earliest. They warned that the pen-down and shutdown agitation would continue until their demands were addressed.

Collector Khushboo Gupta Conducts Surprise Inspections at Tribal Mini Gurukul School and Area Hospital in Jadcherla

Mahabubnagar, July 31 (TSIT Bureau): District Collector Khushboo Gupta conducted surprise inspections at the Telangana Tribal Welfare Mini Gurukul School and the Area Hospital in Jadcherla on Friday as part of her mandal tour. She reviewed the facilities being provided to students, sanitation standards in the hospital, and the quality of healthcare services, issuing several directions to the concerned officials.

During her visit to the Tribal Welfare Mini Gurukul School, the Collector inspected the staff attendance register, classrooms, and the functioning of CCTV cameras. She interacted with Class IV students and enquired about the quality of breakfast and midday meals, whether the menu was being followed, and the overall facilities available in the school.

The students informed the Collector about severe mosquito menace, the absence of window shutters in some classrooms, and non-functional ceiling fans. Responding immediately, Ms. Gupta directed the school authorities to repair all defective fans by the evening. She also instructed officials to obtain necessary approvals for repairing the damaged windows and directed the RCO to prepare and submit proposals on an urgent basis for the reconstruction of the damaged compound wall and other repair works.

Build Expo 2026 to Be Held in Karimnagar on August 1 & 2

Karimnagar: Representatives of the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers India (ACCEI), Karimnagar Centre, announced that the 6th Build Expo 2026 will be organized on August 1 and 2 at the Indoor Stadium, Karimnagar. The primary objective of the expo is to introduce the public to the latest technologies and innovative products in the construction industry.

Speaking at a press conference held at the Indoor Stadium, ACCEI Chairman Nalla Laxmaiah, Expo Convener Paka Pavana Krishna, Secretary Sabbani Srinivas, and Sponsorship Committee Head Velpula Sravan said that the exhibition will be open from 9:30 AM to 9:00 PM on both days.

They stated that the expo would help homeowners and the general public make informed choices about quality construction materials while also creating awareness about modern construction methods. The event is held once every two years, and this year's edition marks the 6th Build Expo.

Visitors will find everything related to building construction—from foundation to interior finishing—under one roof. Products on display will include steel, cement, paints, hardware, plywood, laminates, elevators, waterproofing chemicals, electrical and sanitary products, uPVC windows, PT slab technology, and many more.

Representatives from leading companies across India will showcase their latest products and technologies.

Engineers and technical experts from various regions will also provide free guidance and professional advice to visitors. Civil engineers, architects, builders, contractors, technical professionals, students, and the general public from the undivided Karimnagar district, as well as Mancherial, Warangal, Siddipet, and Mahabubnagar, are invited to make use of this opportunity.

South Indian Bank Opens New Branch, ATM at Kondapur

Hyderabad, July 31, 2026: Continuing its growth strategy across high-potential urban markets, South Indian Bank today inaugurated a new branch & ATM at Gachibowli Road, Kondapur, further strengthening its presence in one of the country's leading business and technology hubs.

The branch was inaugurated by Mr. N Akhilesh Reddy, Industrialist, while the onsite ATM was inaugurated by Dr. Sadanandam Dasari, Former Scientist, Horticulture (KVK ICAR GOI). The onsite strong room was inaugurated by Mr. Utla Krishna, Premise Owner, in the presence of Mrs. Lakshmi Ramakrishna Srinivas, Independent Director, South Indian Bank, along with senior officials of the Bank. Strategically located in Hyderabad's western corridor, the branch is designed to cater to the evolving banking needs of retail customers, MSMEs, entrepreneurs, corporates and residents in the rapidly growing Gachibowli and Kondapur region. The branch will offer a comprehensive suite of banking products and services, supported by the Bank's technology-driven and customer-centric approach. This expansion aligns with South Indian Bank's strategy of strengthening its presence across key growth markets while bringing its relationship-driven banking model closer to customers.

Waqf Board Meetings Remain Stalled, Delay Raises Concerns Over Protection of Properties

Hyderabad City TSIT July 31: The functioning of the Telangana State Waqf Board has virtually come to a standstill, with its governing body meetings remaining suspended for more than a year and a half. The prolonged delay has raised concerns over the protection of Waqf properties, appointment of mosque and dargah management committees, lease renewals and the handling of legal disputes involving valuable religious assets.

According to officials and Waqf Board sources, the last governing body meeting was held in October 2024. Since then, no further meetings have been convened, reportedly following directions issued by the State Government during the process of implementation of the amended Waqf Act. Despite repeated requests by the Waqf Board Chief Executive Officer seeking permission to convene meetings, no approval has reportedly been granted. The absence of board meetings has affected several key administrative decisions. The appointment of Mutawallis and ad hoc management committees for mosques, dargahs and other Waqf institutions has been delayed, while expired lease agreements have not been renewed. Officials say the inability to revise lease rentals in line with market rates and approve new leases has also affected the Board's revenue, with hundreds of files remaining pending.

Another major concern is the delay in submitting the revised list of Waqf properties under Section 22-A of the Registration Act, which prohibits the registration of protected government and institutional lands. While departments such as Revenue, Forest and Endowments have already submitted updated lists of prohibited properties, the Waqf Board is yet to furnish its revised inventory to the Registration Department.

According to Waqf records, the number of Waqf properties has increased from about 33,900 properties covering nearly 77,000 acres to around 53,000 properties following field surveys and updated registrations. However, as the revised list has not been incorporated under Section 22-A, allegations have surfaced that transactions involving several Waqf lands are continuing without adequate safeguards.

The issue is particularly significant in the rapidly developing districts of Rangareddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri and Sangareddy, where land values have increased substantially.

SRM University-AP Bags Three EDex Awards 2026

Amaravati, July 31: SRM University-AP, Amaravati, has won three prestigious honours at the EDex Awards 2026 (6th Edition) held in Chennai, in recognition of its excellence in higher education, innovation and academic leadership.

The awards, presented by Indianpreneur Magazine, recognised the outstanding performance of the university's three academic schools—School of Engineering and Sciences (SEAS), Easwari School of Liberal Arts (ESLA), and Paari School of Business (PSB).

The School of Engineering and Sciences was named Best Engineering College of the Year 2026 – South India for its industry-oriented curriculum, research achievements, strong placement record and advanced engineering programmes. The Easwari School of Liberal Arts received the Best Liberal Arts School of the Year 2026 award for excellence in multidisciplinary education, while the Paari School of Business was honoured as the Best B-School of the Year 2026 – Andhra Pradesh for its future-focused curriculum that integrates management, technology, innovation and experiential learning.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Ch. Satish Kumar said the recognition reflects the university's commitment to academic excellence, research, innovation and entrepreneurship. He added that SRM University-AP will continue to promote holistic student development through quality education and global academic standards.

The awards were received by Prof. C.V. Tomy, Dean of the School of Engineering and Sciences; Dr. Nafeesathul Basariya Mohamed Iqbal, Assistant Professor, Paari School of Business; and Dr. Ayesha Parveen Haroon, Head of the Department of Psychology, Easwari School of Liberal Arts.

TKR College Hosts AICTE-ATAL FDP on Quantum Computing and AI

Hyderabad (TSIT): The Department of Information Technology at TKR College of Engineering and Technology, Hyderabad, successfully organised a six-day AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy-sponsored Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on "Integration of Quantum Computing and AI in Healthcare, Agriculture, and Transportation" from July 20 to 25.

The programme featured expert sessions by eminent academicians and researchers from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, University of Hyderabad (UoH), Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad (JNTUH), and GITAM University. Participants received in-depth knowledge on Quantum Computing, Quantum Machine Learning (QML), Quantum Algorithms, Quantum Neural Networks (QNN), and Photonic Quantum Communication, along with their real-world applications.

A major highlight of the FDP was its practical training sessions, where participants learned to install and use IBM Qiskit and gained hands-on experience in Quantum Machine Learning for healthcare diagnostics, Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA), Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) using photonic qubits, and Quantum Neural Networks for binary classification. An article discussion session was also held to promote research collaboration and publication among faculty members.

As part of the programme, participants visited the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Hyderabad, where they explored the Quantum Computing Laboratory. The industrial visit provided exposure to quantum simulators, quantum communication technologies, quantum optimisation applications, and ongoing research in Quantum Neural Networks.The organisers credited the success of the programme to the guidance and support of Dr. A. Ramaswamy Reddy, Principal of TKR College of Engineering and Technology, the institution's management, the FDP coordinator, organising committee, and participants. They also expressed gratitude to AICTE-ATAL Academy and the resource persons for their valuable contributions.

The programme concluded with a valedictory ceremony, reaffirming the institution's commitment to promoting research, innovation, and faculty development in the rapidly evolving fields of Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence.

TVK shift: OPS undecided, son keen

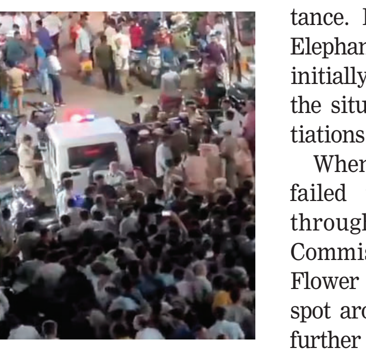
CHENNAI: Former Chief Minister and DMK MLA O Panneerselvam's (OPS) son and former Theni MP OP Ravindranath is keen to join the ruling Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), though his father is yet to give the green signal, according to sources close to the family. "At present, OPS has no plans to join TVK as he is a sitting MLA. However, his son, former MP OP Ravindranath, is keen to join the ruling party, keeping the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections in mind. However, TVK leadership wants OPS to join along with his son. Therefore, the family is yet to take a final decision," a close associate of OPS told DT Next.

A few months before the recently concluded Assembly election, OPS joined the then-ruling DMK and contested from Bodinayakanur as a DMK candidate. Following the election, DMK moved to the Opposition benches, and OPS was not given any party post. This fuelled speculation that the former CM, reportedly unhappy with developments, was planning to switch to TVK. However, OPS dismissed the reports.

Sources in DMK pointed out that OPS recently participated virtually in the meeting of the party's MLAs chaired by the Leader of the Opposition.

"Had he decided to quit the party or make any major political move, he might have skipped the meeting. Instead, he participated actively," a DMK source said. While OPS is yet to indicate any intention to leave the DMK, sources said his son Ravindranath continues to be keen on joining TVK.

GST officials rescued after traders confine inspection team in Sowcarpet



CHENNAI: A team of Goods and Services Tax (GST) officials was rescued by Chennai Police after they were allegedly confined inside a stainless steel shop by a large group of traders during an inspection on Mint Street in Sowcarpet on Thursday evening.

Following the incident, police escorted the officials to the Elephant Gate Police Station and launched a search for those involved based on a complaint filed by the GST department.

According to police, the inspection began around 4 pm at Mahipal Stainless on Mint Street. The team was led by GST Superintendent Nishanth and included Inspectors Azeez, Sushil and three other officials.

Around 7 pm, nearly 300 traders and members of the Steel Market Association gathered outside the premises and surrounded the officials. The traders objected to the inspection, alleging that the audit was illegal. They insisted that senior GST officials, including the Commissioner, visit the spot and explain the purpose of the inspection before the team would be allowed to leave. As the officials were unable to leave the premises, they sought police assistance. Personnel from the Elephant Gate Police Station initially attempted to resolve the situation through negotiations with the traders.

When the discussions failed to yield a breakthrough, the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Flower Bazaar, reached the spot around 8 pm and held further talks with representatives of the traders. The GST officials were subsequently released and escorted safely to the Elephant Gate Police Station.Based on the complaint lodged by the GST officials, the Elephant Gate Police registered an inquiry and detained at least six persons for question.

Representatives of the Malayala Manorama Group called on the Honble Chief Minister

SC grants anticipatory bail to DMK leader Senthilbalaji in fresh corruption case

NEW DELHI: In a relief to DMK leader and former minister V Senthil Balaji, the Supreme Court on Friday granted him anticipatory bail till further orders in a fresh corruption case lodged against him by the Tamil Nadu government led by Joseph Vijay. A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi granted the relief to Balaji with certain conditions – that he will cooperate with the investigation, deposit his passport and not influence any witnesses.

MK Stalin seeks extension of electricity bill payment deadline amid billing complaints

"You immediately come to us even if there is slightest breach in bail conditions. We will modify or cancel our orders," Justice Bagchi told senior advocate Guru Krishnakumar appearing for the Tamil Nadu government.

Earlier in the day, Justice V Mohana recused herself from hearing the anticipatory bail plea of Balaji. On Thursday, the top court agreed to hear Balaji's plea seeking pre-arrest bail in the fresh corruption case pertaining to alleged irregularities in the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation (TASMAC).

The Madras High Court had dismissed the anticipatory bail petition of Balaji in the FIR lodged by the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) in the TASMAC scam case.

Soon after the denial, the top court bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant was urged by senior lawyers Kapil Sibal, Mukul Rohatgi and Amit Anand Tiwari on behalf of the DMK leader that his plea be listed for urgent hearing as he faces imminent coercive action.

Balaji represents Coimbatore South in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. According to the FIR, a large-scale scam took place in TASMAC in the allotment of shops and bars.

Balaji alleged that the FIR quoted verbatim the affidavit of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the petition tThe agency filed before the Supreme Court. In fact, the FIR itself at various places says that it is from the counter affidavit and petition of the ED, the plea said.

MK Stalin seeks extension of electricity bill payment deadline amid billing complaints

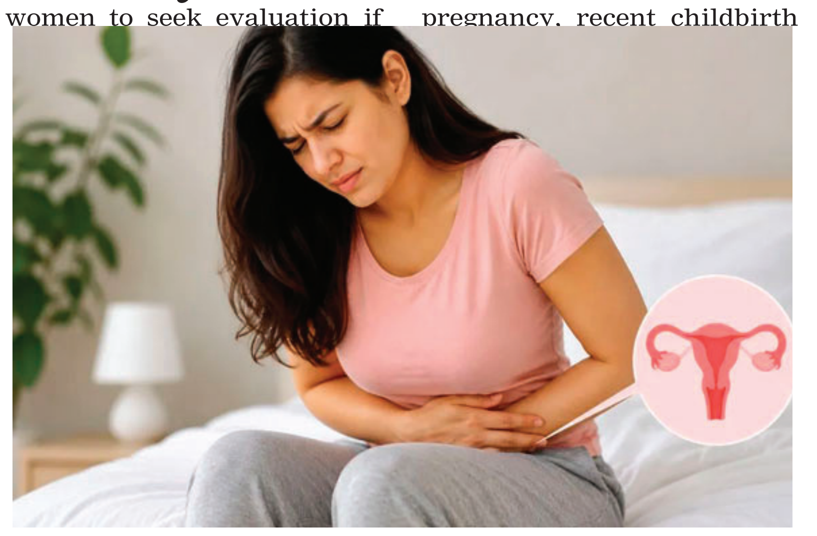
CHENNAI: DMK president MK Stalin on Friday urged the Tamil Nadu government to extend the deadline for paying electricity bills until complaints over the revised billing process are resolved.

In a statement, Stalin alleged that consumers across the State were facing widespread confusion over electricity bills and criticised the TVK-led government for its handling of the issue. "When the TVK government assumed office, the State witnessed frequent power outages. Now, consumers are facing problems with electricity billing," he said.Stalin claimed that the government had acknowledged complaints from 3.70 lakh electricity consumers regarding excessive or erroneous bills, adding that the actual number of affected consumers could be much higher. "Many more consumers may have been affected but have not yet raised their voices against the excessive bills," he said. Appealing to the government, Stalin urged it to extend the payment deadline until all billing-related issues are resolved. He also called upon the authorities to ensure that meter readings are taken accurately .

NIRL Bags 900 MW Solar Project from GUVNL

Chennai, July 31: NLC India Renewables Limited (NIRL), a wholly owned subsidiary of NLC India Limited (NLCIL), has received a Letter of Intent (LoI) from Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) for the development of a 900 MW solar power project.The project was awarded through a tariff-based competitive bidding process, with the electricity generated to be procured by GUVNL.NIRL said the project marks another significant step in expanding its renewable energy portfolio and aligns with its long-term

Irregular periods not always caused by stress; experts advise timely medical evaluation



New Delhi, Jul 30: While stress is often blamed for delayed or irregular menstrual cycles, health experts caution that it may not always be the underlying cause. Persistent changes in menstrual patterns could indicate hormonal, metabolic or reproductive disorders that require medical attention.

Doctors say irregular, unusually heavy or painful periods should not be ignored, as they may be linked to conditions such as polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), thyroid disorders, fibroids, adenomyosis or other uterine abnormalities.

Dr Priya Darshni, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at Plush Chennai, said menstrual irregularities can result from a variety of factors, including hormonal imbalances, metabolic conditions and reproductive health issues. She noted that while stress can affect hormone regulation and influence the menstrual cycle, it should not automatically be considered the sole reason for irregular periods. According to experts, doctors first assess a woman's age and menstrual history while evaluating irregular cycles. Women below 18 years and those above 45 years may experience menstrual changes due to different physiological reasons, including hormonal fluctuations associated with menopause.

Medical experts advise women to seek evaluation if they experience excessive bleeding, severe menstrual pain or sudden changes in their menstrual cycle. Heavy bleeding that requires changing sanitary protection every one or two hours, especially when accompanied by large blood clots, may lead to anaemia if left untreated.

Doctors also look for symptoms associated with PCOS, including excessive facial or body hair, acne, rapid weight gain and missed or irregular periods. Pelvic pain or the presence of abdominal lumps may indicate fibroids, adenomyosis or ovarian disorders.

Apart from stress, lifestyle and hormonal factors such as thyroid disorders, obesity, rapid weight changes, poor sleep, smoking, alcohol consumption and uncontrolled blood sugar levels can also affect menstrual health. For women of reproductive age, pregnancy, recent childbirth and breastfeeding history are also considered during diagnosis, as these factors can temporarily influence menstrual cycles.

Experts said diagnosis usually involves a detailed medical history, physical examination and investigations such as haemoglobin, thyroid function, blood sugar and pregnancy tests, along with pelvic ultrasound. Additional imaging such as MRI may be recommended if structural abnormalities are detected. Doctors emphasised that while occasional menstrual changes are common, persistent irregularity, heavy bleeding, severe pain or symptoms such as unexplained weight changes, excessive hair growth, acne or pelvic discomfort warrant consultation with a gynaecologist for timely diagnosis and treatment.

EDITORIAL

India's Defence Deals Have A Serious Problem Nobody Talks About

For more than two decades, India's defence offset policy aimed to be a powerful instrument to strengthen indigenous defence manufacturing, attract cutting-edge technologies, and reduce dependence on foreign suppliers.

The concept was straightforward: if India spends billions of dollars on importing military hardware, a portion of that expenditure should return to the country through investments, technology transfers, local production, research partnerships, and industrial development. Basically, the policy was well-intentioned, having looked at developing countries striving to build a military technological base while purchasing military equipment from advanced countries. However, it looks like that never worked in India.

Even I recall my discussion with then Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar, and he understood the problem, then told me: "Plan to get rid of offset policy; it does not do much good." Not to say that the policy did not produce any gains. Large defence contracts did generate substantial business for Indian companies, expanded the private sector, and enabled many MSMEs to become suppliers to global aerospace and defence manufacturers. Several Indian firms today manufacture components for international defence companies - an outcome that would have been difficult without offset obligations. Yet, despite these achievements, the policy has fallen significantly short of its original strategic objectives. India continues to rely heavily on imports for advanced military technologies and critical components. The country's ambition of using offsets to build tech sovereignty remains only partially fulfilled.

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC), in its Fiftieth Report on the "Management of Defence Offsets," adopted on June 4 and presented to Parliament this month, provides perhaps the most comprehensive assessment of the programme's shortcomings. The report makes it clear that the problem extends far beyond delayed vendor obligations. It reveals deeper structural weaknesses in planning, project evaluation, technology selection, and contract management.

Large Pending Obligations

The most immediate concern is the pace of implementation. Among 26 ongoing offset contracts, the total offset obligation stands at nearly USD 9.92 billion. However, vendors have submitted claims worth only USD 5.47 billion, representing just 55.14 % of the obligation. Nearly USD 4.45 billion, or 44.86%, remains unsubmitted.Such a large pending obligation raises serious questions regarding execution and monitoring. While delays are often attributed to vendors, the PAC correctly observes that responsibility also lies with the Ministry of Defence. Several projects approved during contract negotiations later proved commercially or technically unviable. This indicates weaknesses in project appraisal, partner selection, and post-contract supervision rather than mere vendor non-compliance.

So, it's important that experts in the MoD now look at technological and commercial aspects on a separate, clear basis and the vendor's long-term commitment in India.

Completion Does Not Mean Success

The Ministry has signed 56 offset contracts over the years. Of these, only 20 contracts, roughly 35.7%, have been fully completed, audited, and closed. Another 10 contracts remain under final audit, while 26 contracts, almost half the programme, continue to remain operational.

WHY CHINA'S LATEST 'CHIP' Breakthrough Is Shaking The World

Have you ever watched the closing stages of a marathon? For most of the race, the leader looks comfortable. Every now and then, he glances over his shoulder and sees a runner who never seemed much of a threat. Then, almost without anyone noticing, that runner begins to close the gap. His stride lengthens. His pace quickens. And just when the leader thinks the finish line is safely within reach, the challenger suddenly looks capable of sweeping past. That is increasingly what the global semiconductor race looks like. For years, the United States and its allies built an overwhelming lead in the technologies that power the modern world. Taiwan dominated the most advanced chips. South Korea dominated memory chips. The Netherlands produced the world's most sophisticated lithography machines. American companies designed the processors powering everything from iPhones and AI chatbots to fighter jets. China, despite its manufacturing prowess, remained largely dependent on others for the most advanced technologies. That equation may now be changing. The Lithography Breakthrough Early this week, Reuters reported that China has begun mass-producing domestically developed immersion deep ultraviolet (DUV) lithography machines, marking a major milestone in Beijing's long campaign to reduce dependence on foreign technology. According to Reuters, the effort is being led by Shanghai Aishengna Electronic Technology Group, a relatively unknown state-owned company that has brought together engineers from several of China's leading lithography startups. On its own, that is significant enough. But it comes alongside reports from Chinese researchers claiming huge progress towards something even more ambitious: they are poised to produce a home-grown Extreme Ultraviolet (EUV) lithography machine. If those claims are true, they could represent one of the biggest shifts in the semiconductor industry in decades. China, in other words, has crossed one technological milestone. It is now claiming to be approaching another. These reports have coincided with the blockbuster stock market debut of memory chipmaker ChangXin Memory Technologies (CXMT). Right now, it's the toast of eager investors. Together, they suggest the chip war may be entering a new phase. DUV And EUV Lithography With enough engineering ingenuity, Chinese engineers are now using DUV machines to produce advanced 7-nanometre chips. EUV takes the technology to an entirely different level. It allows manufacturers to produce the world's most advanced processors - the 2nm, 3nm, and 5nm chips, now powering artificial intelligence systems, high-end smartphones, and the next generation of supercomputers. Without EUV, building those chips becomes vastly more difficult. That is why EUV has long been regarded as the holy grail of semiconductor manufacturing. For years, one company that stood at the summit of the DUV and EUV machines was ASML, based in the Dutch town of Veldhoven. ASML dominates the global market for advanced immersion DUV lithography systems and has an effective monopoly on commercial EUV machines. No other company has successfully brought an EUV system to market. Its machines are among the most complicated products humanity has ever built. Each one costs hundreds of millions of dollars, weighs well over 150 tonnes, and contains tens of thousands of precision components sourced from companies spread across Europe, America, and Asia. It can take months simply to assemble and install one machine. It took ASML decades to perfect the technology. That explains why China's reported progress has attracted so much attention. The Sanctions That Backfired Western governments often use sanctions and export controls to slow down competitors' progress or prevent them from making any progress at all. President Donald Trump, in his first term itself, and later President Joe Biden, persuaded the Dutch government to stop ASML from exporting its most advanced machines to China. The restrictions did not stop there. The US also tightened controls on advanced processors, chipmaking equipment, and sophisticated software used to design leading-edge chips. Chinese companies, including Huawei and Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation, better known as SMIC, suddenly found themselves cut off from technologies they had relied upon for years. The logic was that if China could not buy the world's best chipmaking tools, it would struggle to manufacture the world's most advanced processors. For a while, that strategy appeared to work. Many analysts concluded that China would remain several generations behind industry leaders such as TSMC in Taiwan, Samsung in South Korea, and Intel in the United States. China, however, had other ideas. Rather than treating semiconductors as simply another industrial sector, it elevated them to the level of national strategy. Tens of billions of dollars flowed into research, manufacturing equipment, materials, universities, and private companies. Reducing dependence on foreign technology was not just an economic objective but a national security issue. China Wasn't Supposed To Get This Far In August 2023, while US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo was visiting Beijing, Huawei quietly launched its Mate 60 Pro smartphone. When tech experts dismantled the phone, they discovered a domestically produced 7-nanometre processor manufactured by SMIC. The finding stunned the Americans. Why? Precisely because they had calculated that sanctions and restrictions were enough to prevent China from producing 7nm chips. They thought it was impossible for China to achieve this feat. Instead, SMIC had produced it using older DUV technology combined with highly sophisticated engineering techniques. This was the first indication that sanctions might not be producing the outcome that the Americans had expected. Now, the Western media's confirmation that China is mass-producing its own immersion DUV lithography machines has again raised eyebrows in Washington. Building An Ecosystem There's this resignation in the West that China's progress is unstoppable. But what is it that China is doing that is so different? One of the biggest misconceptions about China's semiconductor ambitions is that everything revolves around Huawei or SMIC. It doesn't. Unlike Taiwan, whose remarkable success rests largely on one company - TSMC - China has spent the better part of a decade building an entire semiconductor ecosystem. The strategy has been to strengthen every link in the chain, from chip design and manufacturing equipment to materials, memory chips, and fabrication plants. If one company falls behind, another moves forward. Isn't that impressive? Indeed, that strategy is beginning to pay dividends. The clearest example came recently with the spectacular stock market debut of memory chipmaker ChangXin Memory Technologies (CXMT). Investors rushed to buy into the company, seeing it as evidence that China is becoming a serious force in memory chips - one of the most important building blocks of the AI revolution. Memory Chips vs Processor Chips Memory chips are very different from processors. Processors - the CPUs and GPUs made by companies, such as Nvidia, AMD, and Apple - do the thinking. Memory chips store the information those processors need to work. Modern artificial intelligence systems require vast amounts of both computing power and memory. Without one, the other becomes far less useful. For years, South Korea's Samsung and SK Hynix, together with America's Micron, dominated the memory business. China is now beginning to challenge that dominance. CXMT has rapidly become the world's fourth-largest producer of DRAM memory chips, which provide the temporary working memory computers need to process data. Yangtze Memory Technologies, better known as YMTC, has emerged as a significant manufacturer of advanced NAND flash memory, which stores data permanently in smartphones, laptops, and data centres.

World's Biggest Military Now Has A Supply Problem. Inside US' Weapons Crisis

The United States' growing munitions deficit is not merely the consequence of the ongoing conflict with Iran; rather, it reflects a deeper structural imbalance between America's strategic ambitions and the capacity of its defence industrial base. Decades of post-Cold War assumptions, that major interstate wars were unlikely, encouraged successive administrations to prioritise efficiency over surge capacity. The result has been an industrial ecosystem optimised for peacetime procurement rather than sustained, high-intensity warfare. The wars in Ukraine and the Middle East have exposed the limits of this model. The immediate causes of the shortage are clear. Sustained military assistance to Ukraine, including millions of 155 mm artillery rounds, Patriot interceptors, Javelin anti-tank missiles, and Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (GMLRS), had already reduced US inventories. Continued support for Israel, prolonged operations against the Houthis in the Red Sea, and, most recently, the 2026 military campaign against Iran have further accelerated the depletion of critical stockpiles. Reports suggest that the Iran campaign consumed a significant proportion of advanced precision munitions, including Tomahawk cruise missiles, Precision Strike Missiles (PrSM), Patriot and THAAD interceptors, and naval air-defence missiles such as the SM-3 and SM-6. Consumption rates have significantly exceeded peacetime production levels, exposing the mismatch between operational requirements and industrial output. The roots of this problem, however, lie in the gradual erosion of the American defence industrial base. Following the Cold War, consolidation within the defence sector reduced the number of suppliers, while production lines for critical inputs, including solid rocket motors, explosives, shell bodies, rare-earth components, and microelectronics, were either scaled back or allowed to stagnate. The emphasis on lean supply chains and cost efficiency created multiple single-source bottlenecks, leaving the United States with limited capacity to rapidly expand production during crises. Equally significant has been the decline in skilled manufacturing labour and ageing production infrastructure, both of which constrain the speed with which industrial output can be increased. Efforts to reverse this trend have produced only modest results. Despite substantial investments to expand artillery shell production, output has grown far more slowly than planned, with persistent shortages of explosives, metal components, and qualified manufacturing capacity limiting progress. Similar challenges affect the production of high-end missile systems. Weapons such as Patriot interceptors, THAAD missiles, and Tomahawk cruise missiles require long production cycles, highly specialised supply chains, and industrial investments that cannot be created overnight. Financial allocations alone cannot rapidly generate the workforce, facilities, and supplier networks necessary for sustained expansion. Policy choices have compounded these structural constraints. Procurement patterns characterised by fluctuating orders, prolonged acquisition timelines, and an emphasis on sophisticated platforms rather than stockpile depth discouraged industry from investing in excess capacity. Globalised supply chains and inadequate pre-crisis planning further reduced resilience. Although recent initiatives, including expanded defence funding, the use of the Defense Production Act, and long-term industrial agreements, represent important corrective measures, they are unlikely to produce meaningful increases in output in the immediate future. Operationally, the United States has retained sufficient inventories to sustain military operations against Iran under the current scope of the conflict. Conventional air-delivered munitions, including JDAMs, Small Diameter Bombs, and Hellfire missiles, remain available in substantial numbers. Nevertheless, the extensive use of high-end stand-off weapons and missile-defence interceptors has narrowed Washington's strategic flexibility. Decisions regarding escalation have increasingly been shaped not only by political considerations but also by concerns over inventory management. The strain on stockpiles has also complicated continued military assistance to partners and affected the readiness of naval and air assets deployed across multiple theatres. The broader strategic implications extend well beyond the Middle East. American war games have repeatedly demonstrated that a high-intensity conflict in the Indo-Pacific, particularly over Taiwan, would consume precision-guided munitions at a pace far exceeding current production capacity. The depletion of inventories during the Iran campaign thus widens an already recognised capability gap. While it does not fundamentally undermine US deterrence against China, it reinforces concerns regarding America's ability to sustain simultaneous operations across multiple theatres and prolonged conventional conflicts against peer competitors.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OR GLORIFICATION OF OBSCENITY?

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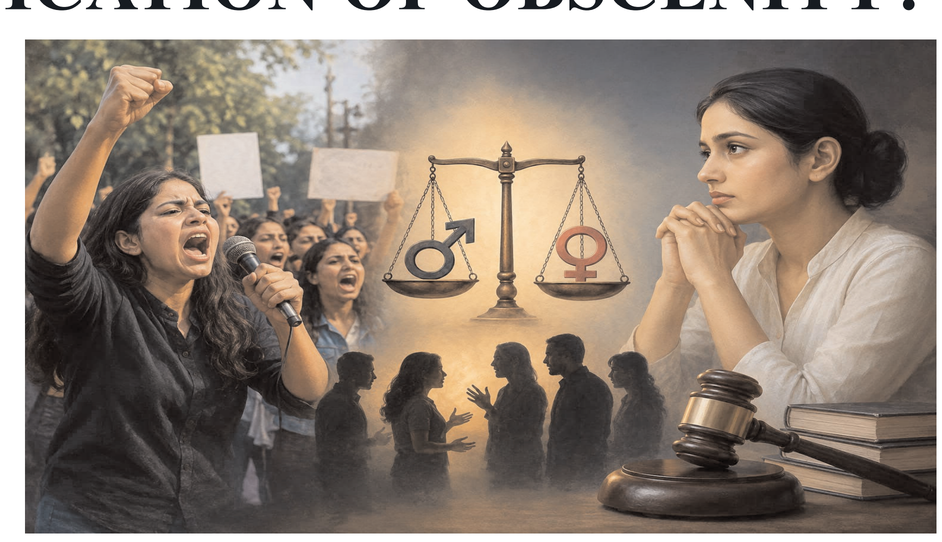


Jantar Mantar is a public forum in democratic India where citizens gather to convey their views to the government and society. This place symbolizes the freedom of expression guaranteed by the Constitution. But when language is violated during protests, profanity is used as a tool of resistance, and obscenity is celebrated as a symbol of courage, it is natural to question: what are the limits of freedom of expression? Does protest in a democracy mean legitimizing all forms of language and behavior? Or does freedom also entail responsibility? In recent days, the public use of highly offensive language by some protesters at Jantar Mantar became a topic of discussion. A segment of society appeared to support this, calling it a "rebellion against patriarchy" and "the voice of a fearless woman." On the other hand, many considered it a violation of social decorum, public decency, and constitutional responsibility. This debate is not about a single incident, but about the direction society is taking to redefine the boundaries of expression. Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution guarantees every citizen the freedom of expression. However, the same Constitution, through Article 19(2), also makes it clear that this freedom is not absolute. Reasonable restrictions can be imposed on this freedom on grounds such as public order, decency, morality, defamation, contempt of court, and national security. Thus, the Constitution itself recognizes that freedom and responsibility go hand in hand. The right to protest is essential in any democracy. Criticism of the government, questioning policies, and dissent are the strengths of a democratic system. However, if the language of protest begins to promote hatred, obscenity, or violence in society, it cannot be evaluated solely on the basis of "free speech." The language used in public life also impacts society's culture and future generations. It's also worth considering whether, if a man were to use similar language on a public platform, would society and the law react the same way as it would against a woman? If the answer is "no," it cannot be considered consistent with the principle of equality. Equal rights also imply equal responsibility.

If the law takes action against obscene or offensive expressions made by men, the same standard should apply to women. Similarly, if inappropriate language against women is unacceptable, such language against men should not be normalized. There is a concern in social discourse today that ideological commitments sometimes trump objectivity. If an event is evaluated based on a person's views, political leanings, or gender, both justice and equality are affected. Blind support for any side undermines democratic discourse. Practices and principles, not individuals, should be the basis for evaluation. Patriarchy, gender inequality, and injustice against women are real social issues. Struggles against them are necessary. But if this struggle is conducted with dignity, logic, and constitutional propriety, its moral force is greater. Obscene language or abusive behavior cannot be justified simply because the objective is to oppose a system. The means are as important as the objective. In the age of social media, inflammatory language instantly goes viral. This often creates the illusion that the more aggressive or controversial an expression is, the more effective it will be. However, the true beauty of democracy lies in the power of ideas, not the harshness of words. History shows that lasting change comes from reason, dialogue, and moral courage, not mere incitement. All citizens are equal before the law. This is the fundamental spirit of the Indian Republic. Therefore, if obscene language, indecent exposure, or statements derogatory to any class in public places constitute crimes under the law, they should be assessed based on the individual's conduct, not their identity. Equality does not mean special privileges, but equal standards. It is also essential that a clear social and legal understanding be developed between freedom of expression and hateful or obscene speech.

CABINET CLEARS RS 84,000-CRORE SCHEME FOR OFFSHORE OIL, GAS EXPLORATION

The Union Cabinet on Friday approved 'Samudra Manthan', a Rs 84,084-crore National Offshore Exploration Scheme aimed at accelerating oil and gas exploration in India's offshore basins and reducing dependence on energy imports. The Central Sector Scheme, to be implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas through FY2030-31, seeks to strengthen domestic exploration, expand production capabilities and build an integrated offshore energy ecosystem, according to an official government statement. According to a government press release, the approval follows Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Independence Day 2025 call for a modern-day 'Samudra Manthan' to unlock India's offshore energy potential. "The Scheme translates the Prime Minister's vision of unlocking India's vast offshore energy potential and marks a landmark step towards strengthening India's energy security, accelerating domestic exploration and production, promoting technological leadership, and advancing the vision of Viksit Bharat," the government said. The programme includes large-scale seismic data acquisition and interpretation, accelerated deepwater and ultra-deepwater exploratory drilling, scientific drilling in frontier basins, development of shared offshore production and evacuation infrastructure, and creation of an integrated Oil & Gas Manufacturing and Services Zone. It also provides for digital programme management, capacity building, technology adoption, stakeholder engagement and international outreach to support offshore exploration and production, according to the Cabinet decision. The government expects the initiative to help add more than 600 million metric tonnes of oil equivalent (MMTOE) to hydrocarbon reserves, increase domestic oil and gas output, generate employment and encourage investments across the exploration and production value chain.

IOC Q1 Results:

Loss At Rs 2,661 Crore Sharply Beats Worst-Case Street Estimate; Revenue Up 26.2%

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) reported a consolidated net loss for the first quarter, but the performance was significantly better than the Street's worst-case expectations, aided by stronger-than-expected revenue and a positive operating profit.

The state-run oil marketing company posted a net loss of Rs 2,661 crore for the quarter, compared with Bloomberg estimates of a loss of Rs 20,295 crore. The company had reported a profit of Rs 11,378 crore in the preceding quarter.

Revenue from operations rose 26.2% sequentially to Rs 2.62 lakh crore, comfortably beating analysts' estimate of Rs 2.36 lakh crore. Revenue stood at Rs 2.08 lakh crore in the March quarter.

IOC reported an Ebitda of Rs 1,947 crore during the quarter, significantly outperforming expectations of an Ebitda loss of Rs 14,473 crore. However, operating profit declined sharply from Rs 20,716 crore reported in the previous quarter.

IOC Q1 Result Highlights (Cons, QoQ)

Net Loss at Rs 2,661 crore versus profit of Rs 11,378 crore. Revenue up 26.2% at Rs 2,62,000 crore versus Rs 2,08,000 crore.

Ebitda down 90.6% at Rs 1,947 crore versus Rs 20,716 crore.

Margin at 0.7% versus 10%.

Ebitda fell 90.6% sequentially, while the Ebitda margin contracted to just 0.7% from 10% in the preceding quarter, reflecting significant pressure on refining and marketing profitability.

Despite the steep decline in earnings compared with the previous quarter, the results were considerably better than feared by the market, particularly at the operating level. The company remained Ebitda positive against expectations of a substantial operating loss, while the reported net loss was far lower than consensus estimates.

IOC SHARE PRICE TODAY

The shares of Indian Oil Corp. closed 0.16% higher at Rs 140.17 per share. The shares rose 1.10% in one week and 0.44% in one month. However, year-to-date shares fell 15.61% and they were down 3.87% in one year.

SBI Card, Google Pay Launch Co-Branded Flex Credit Card

New Delhi (TSIT): SBI Card and Google Pay have jointly launched the Google Pay Flex SBI Card, a co-branded credit card designed to simplify everyday digital payments while offering rewards, flexible repayment options and seamless account management.

Launched as part of the Flex by Google Pay offering, the new card enables users to earn reward Stars on everyday spending across categories such as groceries, utility bill payments, travel bookings, shopping and other online and offline purchases. Customers can earn up to 18,000 Stars annually, with instant redemption available at the time of payment.

The card offers an integrated digital experience, allowing customers to apply, make payments, track rewards and manage their account directly through the Google Pay app. It also provides an option to convert outstanding bills into easy EMIs for greater financial flexibility.

Available on both RuPay and Visa payment networks, the RuPay variant can be linked to UPI, enabling payments at millions of UPI-enabled merchants across the country. Both variants support tokenisation on Google Pay for secure tap-to-pay transactions.

Speaking on the launch, Salila Pande said the partnership combines convenience, security and meaningful rewards to redefine the everyday payment experience. Sharath Bulusu said the new card aims to make digital credit as accessible and convenient as UPI payments.

The Google Pay Flex SBI Card comes with a Rs.1,000 welcome benefit, a joining and annual renewal fee of Rs.499 plus applicable taxes, and a renewal fee waiver on annual spends of Rs.1 lakh. Cardholders can also earn up to 8 Stars for every Rs.500 spent upon meeting specified monthly spending milestones.

Maruti Suzuki Q1 Results:

Falls 11% As Material Cost urges; Margins Shrink

ing the period. Operating performance, however, came under pressure. Ebitda declined 14.5% year-on-year to Rs 4,312 crore from Rs 5,043 crore, while the Ebitda margin narrowed sharply to 8.2% from 13.1% a year ago. The decline in profitability was primarily due to a steep increase in input costs. Cost of materials surged 46% year-on-year to Rs 32,000 crore, offsetting the benefits of higher sales and weighing on operating margins.

Maruti Suzuki Q1 Result Highlights (Cons, YoY)

Net Profit down 10.8% at Rs 3,352 crore versus Rs 3,758 crore.

Revenue up 35.9% at Rs 52,456 crore versus Rs 38,593 crore.

Ebitda down 14.5% at Rs 4,312 crore versus Rs 5,043 crore.

Margin at 8.2% versus 13.1%.

Despite the pressure on earnings, Maruti Suzuki delivered a strong operational performance during the quarter.

The company recorded its highest-ever quarterly total sales volume of 682,724 units, up 29.3% year-on-year. Exports increased 28.6%, while SUV sales rose 44.6%, reflecting sustained demand for the company's utility vehicle portfolio.

Net sales grew 36.4% during the quarter, supported by healthy domestic volumes and overseas shipments. Maruti Suzuki also strengthened its leadership position in the domestic passenger vehicle market, with market share improving to 41.2%, a gain of 2.3 percentage points from a year earlier. The company attributed the increase to strong growth in both its small car and SUV segments.

JLR INDIA DELIVERS RECORD Q1 RETAIL SALES PERFORMANCE

Mumbai : Record Q1 retail sales at 1,665 units, up 11% YoY — JLR India's strongest ever first-quarter performance

Wholesale momentum also continues: 1,694 units, up 4% YoY

Range Rover, Range Rover Sport and Defender accounted for 85% of total India retail sales in Q1, with Defender continuing to be JLR India's highest selling model

SV and Bespoke demand accelerates following revised pricing under India-UK FTA

JLR India well-positioned for FY27 with a strong product pipeline

JLR India delivered its strongest first-quarter retail sales performance on record, with 1,665 units retailed in Q1 FY27, up 11% year-on-year (YoY). Wholesales for the quarter stood at 1,694 units, up 4% YoY.

Range Rover, Range Rover Sport and Defender models accounted for over 85% of total retail sales in Q1 FY27, highlighting their strength in the India luxury SUV segment. Defender also remained the company's top selling model, illustrating continued appetite for its 'tough luxury' proposition in India.

During the quarter, JLR India introduced revised pricing for Range Rover SV and Range Rover Sport SV under the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), with benefits up to ? 75 lakhs depending on the model. The announcement has driven an uptick in client interest, with a notable rise in SV enquiries and growing demand for Bespoke commissions across both models. Mr. Rajan Amba, Managing Director, JLR India, said: "We have started FY27 strongly with our best-ever Q1 retail performance. Demand continues to grow for Range Rover, Range Rover Sport and Defender, and we are seeing interest for SV and Bespoke increase following the India-UK FTA.

We welcome the FTA as a key moment for luxury automotive in India. It allows us to bring more of our curated SV products, exclusive Range Rover special editions, and bespoke creations to our consumers, tailored to their aspirations.

With a strong product pipeline ahead, we are well-placed to sustain this momentum in FY27."

JLR India offers greater ownership flexibility with assured buyback programme and enhanced financing

MUMBAI, INDIA JULY 2026: JLR India has launched a new assured buyback programme, offering eligible clients a guaranteed future vehicle value of up to 55 per cent of the ex-showroom price

Available on selected Range Rover, Defender and Discovery models, a programme tailored for the India market

Combined with enhanced financing solutions, the initiative provides greater financial flexibility and ownership convenience for clients

By guaranteeing a minimum future value at the start of ownership, the programme helps reduce uncertainty and supports easier vehicle upgrades

The initiative reinforces JLR India's commitment to delivering a modern luxury ownership experience that extends beyond the vehicle itself

JLR India today announces the introduction of its Assured Buyback Programme and enhanced financing solutions designed to make ownership of Range Rover, Defender and Discovery vehicles more accessible, predictable and convenient for clients across India.

JLR India today announces the introduction of its Assured Buyback Programme and enhanced financing solutions designed to make ownership of Range Rover, Defender and Discovery vehicles more accessible

JLR specifically developed the programme for the Indian market to combine a pre-determined future value with attractive financing options, helping clients benefit from greater certainty throughout their ownership. Eligible customers can now avail a minimum assured buyback value of up to 55 per cent of the ex-showroom value, with flexible ownership tenure – within the agreed mileage cap, subject to model eligibility and pre-agreed retailer-specific terms and conditions.

The Assured Buyback Programme addresses one of the most important considerations for luxury vehicle buyers – future value. By establishing a guaranteed minimum vehicle value at the start of ownership, customers benefit from enhanced confidence and greater financial predictability when planning their next vehicle purchase or upgrade.

Mr Rajan Amba, Managing Director, JLR India, said: "The Assured Buyback Programme reinforces confidence in clients guaranteeing them a future value of their vehicle, making luxury ownership more assuring. Additionally, exclusive financing solutions complement the programme, giving clients enhanced financial flexibility and reassurance. At JLR India, we are committed to delivering modern luxury ownership experience that extends well beyond the vehicle itself. Through initiatives like these, we are making the aspiration of owning a JLR vehicle more attainable while offering confidence and long-term value throughout the ownership journey." The programme complements JLR India's broader client-first approach by allowing customers to plan future upgrades with greater certainty while benefiting from flexible monthly payment structures.

Nuvama delivers its highest ever quarterly profit of 306 Cr in Q1 FY27 Client assets crossed 5 lakh crore

Mumbai, July 2026: Nuvama Wealth Management Limited (NSE, BSE: NUVAMA), one of India's leading wealth management companies, announced its financial results for the quarter ending 30th June 2026.

Nuvama delivered a strong quarter, driven by a healthy all-round performance across businesses. Wealth Management continues to deliver strong and sustainable growth with profits increasing by 20% YoY. Asset Services maintained strong growth momentum, while Capital Markets demonstrated resilience, supported by a diversified platform and exceptional performance in Fixed Income.

Client assets crossed 5 lakh crore, reaching a significant milestone, reflecting deepening client trust and franchise strength.

NUVAMA GROUP'S CONSOLIDATED PERFORMANCE

Commenting on the performance Ashish Kehair, MD & CEO of Nuvama Group said, "We are pleased to begin FY27 on a strong note, delivering our highest-ever quarterly profit exceeding 300 Cr, revenues crossing 900 Cr, and client assets surpassing 5 trillion. Our performance reflects the strength of Nuvama's diversified platform, disciplined execution, and the deep trust that clients continue to place in us across market cycles. Wealth Management demonstrated sustained growth, supported by client acquisition, healthy net new flows and consistent margins. Across both, Nuvama Wealth and Nuvama Private, we continued to invest in talent, technology and client proposition enhancements. We are also seeing encouraging progress in newer initiatives including offshore wealth and AI-enabled productivity tools. Asset Management advanced on multiple strategic priorities, including the receipt of mutual fund licence and successful close of our commercial real estate fund. Beyond these, our institutional businesses continued to contribute meaningfully to growth. Asset Services delivered strong revenue growth, driven by deeper engagement with existing clients and the acquisition of new mandates. Capital Markets maintained its performance despite a volatile market environment. Overall, the Nuvama Group delivered a strong performance reinforcing the strength and resilience of our integrated platform model. As the industry evolves, we believe the value of independent, client-first and full-platform wealth management firms will become even more pronounced. Our strategy remains unchanged to invest in organic growth, deepen client relationships, embrace technology and AI, and maintain the highest standards of governance and capital allocation. We remain excited about the long-term opportunity ahead and are committed to building a larger, stronger and more resilient franchise for all our stakeholders."

Key Highlights

Wealth Management

Revenues: 447 Cr in Q1, grew by 19% YoY

PBT: 149 Cr in Q1, grew by 20% YoY

Client Assets: Stood at 3,63,892 Cr as at end of Q1, grew by 12% YoY

Nuvama Wealth:

Revenues: 250 Cr in Q1, grew by 13% YoY, led by continued traction in the MPIS solutions. MPIS revenues grew faster at 20% YoY

PBT: 90 Cr in Q1, grew by 19% YoY

Net flows: Delivered highest ever quarterly MPIS NNM of 3,044 Cr, representing 8% of opening MPIS assets. MPIS Assets stood at 42,795 Cr, grew by 32% YoY

Nuvama Private:

o Revenues: 198 Cr in Q1, grew by 27% YoY, supported by continued ARR momentum and strong transactional opportunities. ARR revenues grew 14% YoY

PBT: 59 Cr in Q1, grew by 22% YoY

Net flows: ARR NNM stood at 1,083 Cr; excluding outflow from select low cost mandates, underlying flows remained healthy over ~1,800 Cr

About 60,000 migrants arrive in Ceuta in 24 hours, Spanish territory's leader says

Peru's ex-president has 15-year jail sentence for corruption charges overturned

Peru's constitutional court has overturned a 15-year jail sentence handed to the country's former president after he was found guilty of corruption. Ollanta Humala, who led the country from 2011 to 2016, was convicted in 2025 of accepting illegal funds from the Venezuelan president and Brazilian construction company Odebrecht to fund his election campaigns in 2006 and 2011. The former president had said he would appeal against the verdict, and now Peru's constitutional court has declared the entire criminal proceedings against him null and void. Humala is expected to be released from Barbadillo Prison in the capital Lima, according to local media. After the ruling, Humala's lawyer Julio Espinoza Goyena wrote on social media that the court had decided the contributions his client received on electoral campaigns "do not constitute money laundering". He said: "The Criminal Chamber currently handling the case must order the definitive dismissal of the proceedings and the FREEDOM of former President Ollanta Humala". When Humala was convicted, his wife Nadine Heredia was also found guilty of money laundering and sentenced to 15 years in prison. However, she was granted safe passage to Brazil after seeking asylum in the Brazilian embassy. Humala was the first of four Peruvian presidents to be investigated in connection with the Odebrecht scandal. Alejandro Toledo, who governed from 2001 to 2006, was sentenced last year to more than 20 years in prison for taking $35m (£26m) in bribes from the company. Alan García, president from 1985 to 1990 and 2006 to 2011, killed himself in 2019 as he faced imminent arrest over allegations he was bribed by Odebrecht. He had denied the accusations.

Hundreds escape Greek wildfire by sea as blazes continue across Europe

Hundreds of people in central Greece are being evacuated by sea after the coastal town they were in became hemmed in by one of the many wildfires raging across the country. Around 500 people, mostly tourists, were left stranded after the fire broke out near Agios Vasileios in Viotia on Friday morning and rapidly spread on strong winds, local media report. Another fire has broken out further along the coast, while firefighters continue to battle a large wildfire on the Greek island of Crete that ignited earlier this week. Greece is one of several European nations suffering devastating wildfires after a succession of heatwaves created favourable conditions for them. Firefighters in Portugal and Spain are still tackling blazes spanning thousands of hectares, with a new heatwave this week raising the risk of a massive fire near Madrid reigniting. The area of central Greece where the two fires broke out this morning was considered the most at-risk due to high winds complicating firefighting efforts. More than 200 people have been evacuated and another 100 are due to be taken by boat from Agios Vasileios, while emergency workers are attempting to safely remove those still in the town, according to Greek news agency Amna, citing fire officials. People there had earlier been told by authorities to move further inland before the fire reached the outskirts of the town. The fire further along the coast burnt through farmland before moving through the rural town of Xironomi. Firefighters on Crete continue to tackle persistent hotspots in a wildfire that has torched thousands of hectares of land and prompted the temporary evacuation of 8,000 people. Fires have also broken out on the islands of Paros, Andros and Kalymnos. Most wildfires are sparked by humans, whether intentionally or accidentally, but climate change is making the conditions for them more common. Last winter was mild and wet, encouraging vegetation growth, which has then dried out in successive hot spells, generating fuel for wildfires. In Spain, more than 200,000 hectares of land has burnt in 2026 - roughly five times above the average by this point in the year - while the burnt land in Portugal is also higher than usual.

NIGERIA REMOVED FROM SOUTH AFRICAN POP STAR TYLA'S UPCOMING WORLD TOUR

Just days after South African singer Tyla released the dates for her upcoming world tour, Nigeria has been removed from the list of destinations. On Monday, the Grammy winner announced details of her headline tour in the wake of last week's release of her second album A*POP. Her official website initially named 34 cities, including Lagos, Johannesburg and Cape Town, where she would be performing, but by Friday, an updated list was published without the Nigerian city. No reason has been given for the change but there have been growing calls in Nigeria for the 24-year-old to cancel her concert in the country over the recent wave of anti-migrant sentiment in South Africa. Relations between Nigeria and South Africa soured recently over allegations that Nigerians have been the target of xenophobic violence. Nigeria, alongside other African countries, has accused South Africa of not doing enough to deal with attacks on foreign nationals. There have also been a series of protests with people calling for all undocumented migrants to leave South Africa. Tens of thousands of foreigners have left the country, including Nigerians, many of whom boarded specially chartered repatriation flights. While there have been diplomatic efforts to calm tensions, most recently with a meeting between their foreign affairs officials in Abuja, the issue has spread beyond politics. On Wednesday, an online petition titled "Ban Tyla from entering Nigeria until xenophobic attacks stop in South Africa" was launched in Nigeria and it has already attracted thousands of signatures. On Tyla's social media pages, where the initial tour dates still appear, Nigerians cautioned her against performing in the country as they criticised her for failing to speak out against the protests in South Africa. Tyla has so far not responded to a BBC request for comment. Tyla is not the only South African artist facing a backlash for their seeming silence on the anti-migrant protests. Comedian Trevor Noah also came under fire following an advert he fronted for the Tourism Business Council of South Africa. The promotional clip, shared across the council's various social media accounts, generated many comments criticising the former Daily Show host for promoting South Africa but failing to call out xenophobic attitudes. Users even went as far as to add context under the video saying South Africa was "a xenophobic country [that] doesn't allow visiting migrants". The South African government has pushed back on the growing wave of criticism.

Four climbers killed and six feared missing after avalanche hit Nirmal Purja's team

Four climbers have died and another six are feared missing after an avalanche on Pakistan's Broad Peak, one of the world's highest mountains. Two of the four bodies have been identified, while authorities are in the process of identifying the other two, according to the tourism minister for region of Gilgit Balistan. Search and rescue operations have been suspended for the day because of weather conditions and are set to resume tomorrow, the Faisal Ehsan Pirzada, home secretary of Gilgit Baltistan, said. An American, a Chinese national, a Pakistani, an Omani and six Nepalis are said to be part of the climbing group, which was led by renowned renowned Nepal-born climber Nirmal Purja, according to the Alpine Club of Pakistan. Searches began for a ten-member international mountaineering team led by Purja after reports an avalanche hit on Thursday on the 8,047-metre (26,400 ft) peak in the Karakoram range. Purja, the expedition leader, is known for climbing all 14 of the world's 8,000-metre plus mountains in just over six months in 2019. The two confirmed dead have been named by the Alpine Club of Pakistan as Nadhira Ahmed Abdullah Al Harthy from Oman and Pur Bahadur Gurung from Nepal. The identities of the other two bodies that have been recovered have not been released. Earlier on Friday, the Alpine Club said two rescue helicopters had been sent by the Pakistan army, carrying rescue personnel and additional specialised equipment to support the rescue operation. In a separate statement, the Alpine Club said it had been "in constant contact" with the authorities to ensure that "all available resources are mobilised at the earliest opportunity". "The Club prays for the safety and successful rescue of all the climbers and stands in solidarity with their families and the international mountaineering community during this difficult time," it added. Purja joined the British Army in 2003 and joined the Special Boat Service - the special forces unit of the Royal Navy - in 2009. He went to Everest Base Camp in 2012, and instead of returning to Kathmandu, he summitted the 6,119m Lobuche East mountain in Nepal - his first peak. Climbing alongside Purja was American Mallory Geis. In mid-June, she had posted on social media that she had new boots ready for what she called "her first big kid climbing expedition in Pakistan". She is tagged in a post from a travel company, Moving Mountains. The post says that Mallory would be with Sohail Saki - a Pakistani national who is also listed among the missing. This would be his last 8,000m peak in Pakistan, and Mallory's first attempt, the social media post added. Besides Purja, Saki and Geis, there are a few other significant names among the missing climbers, including Pur Bahadur Gurung - also known as Yukta - and Kili Pemba Sherpa. Yukta is certified by the International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations (IFMGA), and is very close to completing the 14 peaks challenge, where climbers attempt to summit the world's 14 mountains that rise at least 8,000m above sea level. Kili Pemba has so far summited Everest 15 times. In 2021 he was a member of a historic K2 winter expedition.

UK rapper Yung Filly found not guilty of raping woman after Australian show

UK rapper Yung Filly has been found not guilty of raping a fan after performing at a nightclub in Australia in 2024. On Friday a jury in Western Australia found him not guilty for three counts of sexual penetration without consent. But he was found guilty for two counts of assault occasioning bodily harm. The YouTuber, whose real name is Andres Felipe Valencia Barrientos, had been accused of sexually assaulting the woman, then 20 years old, in his hotel room after he performed in Hillarys, a coastal suburb of Perth. The jury could not come to a decision on three other counts of rape. Barrientos was also found not guilty for one count of assault occasioning bodily harm and also for strangulation. The 30-year-old social media star, who pleaded not guilty to all charges, cried when the verdict was read out, local media reported. He will remain on bail until 21 August, when the court will decide his sentencing date. Prosecutors will also decide on the next steps for the three hung jury verdicts - whether to press ahead or not on those rape charges. Barrientos has been on bail since being charged and was allowed to fly home to the UK in September for four months, before returning to Western Australia ahead of his trial. During the trial, Barrientos had told the court that he had "fancied" the woman when they met at the concert venue. Barrientos, who was born in Colombia and brought up in the UK.

Hamas agrees to Trump's plan to disarm in Gaza

Massive Attack investigated after reports of pro-Palestinian display in Singapore show

Singapore authorities are investigating Massive Attack after the British band reportedly expressed pro-Palestinian sentiments during a performance in the city-state. According to local media reports and eyewitness accounts on social media, two members of Massive Attack held up a Palestinian flag at the show on Wednesday, and reportedly shouted "Free Palestine", with some in the audience joining them. The BBC has contacted the organisers of the Singapore show and Massive Attack's management company for comment. Neither have responded yet. Singapore has strict rules on public speech and what it deems as demonstrations, arguing that it is necessary to regulate them to protect social harmony. Authorities have previously investigated public events related to the Israel-Gaza war. Earlier this year they fined several people for organising an unauthorised walk in support of the Palestinian cause. In response to BBC queries on Friday, a spokesperson for the police and the media authority said that "reports were lodged and investigations are ongoing". The spokesperson also said that the media authority is investigating a possible breach of licence conditions. Performances in Singapore, including concerts, usually require a permit. The BBC has asked Singapore authorities whether the band members or anyone involved in the production of the show have been detained or barred from leaving Singapore pending investigations. Authorities have yet to respond. Massive Attack is currently on a world tour, with Wednesday's performance their only date in Singapore. Their next show is due to be held in Seoul on Saturday. The band, which pioneered the trip-hop genre, has long been known for its openly political stance on a number of issues, including the war in Gaza. Massive Attack's frontman Robert Del Naja was arrested earlier this year when he took part in a demonstration in London. He was accused of showing support for Palestine Action, which is a proscribed organisation in the UK. Strict rules in Singapore It is not yet clear what charges the band could face.

President Droupadi Murmu Congratulates CWG 2026 Medal Winners Lovepreet Singh, Seema Kaliramna

President Droupadi Murmu on Friday congratulated Lovepreet Singh and Seema Kaliramna on winning medals in men's weightlifting and women's discus throw events respectively at the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. "Warm congratulations to Lovepreet Singh on clinching Silver Medal in the Men's 110 kg weightlifting event at Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026. Your remarkable performance reflects your unwavering determination, remarkable strength and relentless pursuit of excellence. Your achievement has brought immense pride and joy to every Indian. I wish you many more laurels in the years to come," she said in a post on X. Hailing from Bal Sikander village in Punjab's border district of Amritsar, Lovepreet comes from a humble family. His father is a tailor, while his grandfather earned a living selling vegetables. He shattered the Commonwealth Games snatch record and came agonisingly close to gold before finishing just a kilogram behind New Zealand's David Andrew Liti to claim silver in the men's 110kg weightlifting competition in the CWG. "Heartiest congratulations to Seema Kaliramna on winning Bronze Medal in the Women's Discus Throw event at Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026. Your achievement is a testament to your perseverance, dedication and hard work. "Your success will inspire young women to strive for excellence in sports. May you continue to bring glory to the nation," the president said in another post. Kaliramna, who overcame post-pregnancy arthritis to resume her sporting career just last year, clinched a bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow despite marginally falling short of her personal best in the event.

UNNATI HOODA, TANVI SHARMA ENTER SEMIFINALS OF TAIPEI OPEN

India's Unnati Hooda and Tanvi Sharma won their respective women's singles matches to enter the semifinals of the Taipei Open badminton tournament on Friday. Kiran George, however, lost his men's singles quarterfinal match against Japan's fourth seeded Yudai Okimoto 21-12 21-10 in 33 minutes. Hooda clinched a straight-game 23-21 21-16 victory over compatriot Devika Sihag to reach the last four stage, while Tanvi got the better of Thailand's Supanida Katethong 21-15 18-21 21-14 in a gruelling 54-minute quarterfinal clash. Earlier in the day, the all-Indian quarterfinal contest between Hooda and Sihag started with a fiercely contested first game, where the former held her nerve to win it 23-21. Hooda was off to a great start, racing to an 11-3 lead before Sihag staged a spirited comeback to level the scores at 21-21. However, Hooda held her composure in the closing stages, winning the next two points to clinch the opening game. In the second game, the third seeded Hooda maintained her momentum and capitalised on her leads to wrap up the match 21-16 against eighth seed Sihag in 42 minutes.

How India's Seema Kaliramna Overcame Arthritis After Motherhood To Win Bronze At Commonwealth Games 2026

Childbirth is often described as an athlete's toughest comeback. For the Commonwealth Games bronze medallist Indian discus thrower Seema Kaliramna, the real battle began after she became a mother. Weeks after giving birth to her son Rudra in 2022, Seema developed arthritis, an inflammatory disease that attacked the very joints a discus thrower relies on to generate power. The pain was so severe that lifting everyday objects became difficult, let alone hurling a one-kilogram disc across a field. Four years later, she stood on the Commonwealth Games podium. "After pregnancy, I had arthritis due to which a lot of complications came," the 27-year-old told PTI. The comeback was anything but straightforward. Her husband, Ravinder Kaliramna, a former national champion whose own career ended prematurely because of injuries, suddenly found himself coaching an athlete whose greatest opponent was no longer inside the throwing circle. "I didn't even know such a thing existed," he said. "We were so clueless.

I did a lot of research, tried Ayurveda bacause this is something that is not curable, one can only manage it." The couple changed everything. "She had to avoid sour food like ache and lemon. We started including things in her diet that were beneficial for her. "All her joints hurt. She couldn't lift anything. Slowly, slowly she started working out." The progress came in inches rather than metres. Before motherhood, Seema's personal best stood at 48.08 metres. She returned to competition in 2024. She hurled the discus to career-best 59.73 metres at the Indian Championships earlier this year. In Glasgow, her bronze winning throw was 58.65m. While rebuilding her body, Seema was also working towards a PhD in Physical Education at Chaudhary Bansi Lal University in Bhiwani. Her research examines how imagery and self-talk influence athletic performance, concepts that became deeply personal as she navigated rehabilitation. "My paper is also on visualisation and manifestation."

SAFFRON JERSEY ROW: HOCKEY INDIA CHIEF DEMANDS EXPLANATION FROM BOARD OFFICIALS

The jersey colour change controversy has taken a sharp new turn, with Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey writing to Executive Board members to demand clarity on the behind-the-scenes discussions that led to the Indian men's and women's teams switching from blue to saffron. While Tirkey had previously urged that the issue not be politicised, internal communications accessed by NDTV reveal he was kept entirely in the dark about the move. This prompted him to issue a stern directive to federation officials, demanding an immediate explanation for bypassing the Executive Board and noting that the Government of Odisha has also sought clarification from him. The development comes amid growing criticism of Hockey India's decision to replace the traditional blue colour with saffron. While the federation initially framed the shift as a technical adjustment to enhance player visibility on blue turfs, Tirkey's communications reveal deep internal friction and procedural lapses at the highest level of Indian hockey administration. By calling out the lack of consultation with elected leadership, the former India captain has effectively turned the spotlight back onto Hockey India's governance and decision-making system. In his initial email to board members, Tirkey wrote: "I wish to bring to your attention the recent change in the colour of the Indian national team's jersey. This decision appears to have been taken and implemented without being placed before the Executive Board for discussion and without my prior knowledge. "My concern is not with the choice of saffron itself. However, a decision of this significance, involving the identity and representation of our national team, should ideally have been discussed with the elected leadership and the Executive Board before implementation. "The matter has since attracted considerable media attention and, unfortunately, political interpretation in certain quarters. With the World Cup approaching, I have publicly clarified that the change was purely a sporting decision so that the focus remains on the team and its preparations. "I have also been asked by the Government of Odisha to provide clarification regarding this matter. I therefore request the concerned Hockey India officials to provide me with a written clarification at the earliest, outlining the basis for the decision, the process followed, and the circumstances under which the change was approved and implemented. This will enable me to respond appropriately and accurately." In a follow-up email, Tirkey posed five specific questions to officials, demanding details on the authority under which the decision was taken and the reasons why top board members were not informed before the public announcement.

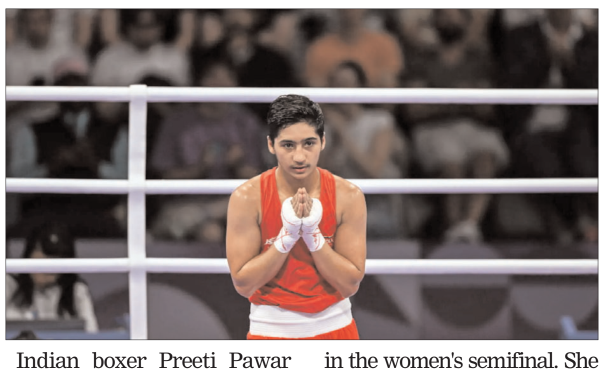
NORRIE BEATS TOMIC AT LOS CABOS OPEN IN 50 MINUTES

Cameron Norrie's resurgent form continued as he overpowered Bernard Tomic in just 50 minutes to progress to the semi-finals of the Los Cabos Open in Mexico. Fifth-seed Norrie won 12 straight games to defeat his Australian opponent 6-1 6-0 and set up a semi-final meeting with defending champion Denis Shapovalov. The British number two travelled to Mexico on a run of six consecutive defeats, having not won a match since April, but has put together a run of three successive straight-set victories. He defeated Aleksandar Kovacevic comfortably in the first round before recovering from 3-0 down in the first set to beat James Duckworth in the second round. "I'm pleased with the result. I was very solid, I returned well, I made a lot of tough balls when I needed to, and I kept him moving," said Norrie. "I enjoyed the match, and it's nice to go to bed a little bit earlier." The other semi-final will be contested by Hong Kong's Coleman Wong and Frenchman Arthur Gea, both of whom are ATP Tour semi-final debutants.

JUDOKAS HARSH SINGH, ASMITA DEY, YAMINI MOURYA ENTER CWG FINALS, ENSURE 3 MORE MEDALS FOR INDIA

India's judokas guaranteed the country at least three silver medals at the Commonwealth Games as Harsh Singh, Asmita Dey and Yamini Mourya progressed to the finals of their respective weight categories on Friday. Young Asmita fought valiantly to snatch the win from the jaws of defeat, beating Scotland's Summer Shaw by yuko to progress to the women's 48kg final where she will meet Canada's Heidi Quach later in the day. She had earlier sailed into the semifinals with an easy win over Scotland's Eva Ewing, defeating her via ippon. An ippon is the highest possible score in judo. It means a full point, and ends the match right away, while yuko is a lower-level scoring value in judo that was reinstated by the International Judo Federation (IJF) for the LA 2028 Olympic cycle. Harsh then edged past Australia's Pedro Carlos Antun Neto via waza-ari to progress to the final. He had earlier defeated Chikondi Kathewera of Malawi via ippon to sail into the men's 60kg quarterfinals, where he beat Vanuatu's Alan Monthouel to make it to the last four-round. Harsh will take on another Australian in Joshua Katz in the final later tonight. A waza-ari in judo is the second-highest score a fighter can achieve, worth a major advantage. It is awarded for a throw that lacks one element of an ippon or a ground hold lasting 10 to 19 seconds. Two waza-aris is equal to an ippon, which immediately results into a win.

"We Are Not Able To Eat Food Properly," Boxer Preeti Pawar On Cutting Weight



Indian boxer Preeti Pawar opened up about the gruelling process of weight cutting before a crucial bout after securing her spot in the women's 54kg final of the Commonwealth Games, describing the process as tough as players don't get to eat properly, but stating that it motivates her to progress further and win the medal. Preeti Pawar became the first Indian boxer to book a place in the final on Friday, defeating Zambia's Catherine Mwape 5-0 in the women's semifinal. She will face Canada's Scarlett Delgado in the final. Reflecting on the tough preparation required ahead of crucial bouts, Preeti shared, "It is a part of our training. It motivates us. It is a little tough because we are not able to eat food properly. But it motivates us that we are one step away from the final." The semifinal victory followed another impressive performance in the Round of 16, where Preeti stopped the contest in the second round against Malawi's Mtenje, and a dominant unanimous decision victory over Nicole Clyde of Northern Ireland in the quarterfinal. In the semifinal, both Preeti and Catherine started evenly, but the Indian quickly took control using her sharp jabs and strong lefts. Mwape was forced to take her first standing eight-count. Mwape kept pushing forward, but Preeti stayed calm and outmanoeuvred her.

BOULTER TO LEAD GB AT BILLIE JEAN KING CUP FINALS

Katie Boulter will lead the British team at the Billie Jean Cup Finals in Shenzhen, China. Emma Raducanu, who has struggled with injury and illness throughout the year, has not been named in the squad. British number two Boulter replaces Katie Swan in a team that is otherwise unchanged from their qualifying win against Australia, in Harriet Dart, Mika Stojsavljevic and Jodie Burrage. Britain begin their campaign against the Czech Republic on Tuesday, 22 September. In April, 17-year-old Stojsavljevic starred with a singles win over world number 56 Talia Gibson as Britain upset the home side in Melbourne to qualify for their fourth finals in five years. "I'm pleased to select Katie Boulter, who knows what it's like to step up on occasions like this, and the three women who played with so much heart and courage to upset Australia earlier this year," said Great Britain captain Anne Keothavong. "Czechia will be a very challenging first match for us but the players and I believe in our chances, since we have a very strong record in recent finals." Wimbledon champion Linda Noskova and runner-up Karolina Muchova are in the team for 11-time winners Czechia, who Britain face in the quarter-finals.

Rohit "Looking 10 Years Younger": Fans React As India Star's New Look Goes Viral

India's veteran batter Rohit Sharma is enjoying his time away from cricket in London. He signed off the three-match ODI series against England with a superb 138 off 110 balls, albeit in a losing cause. It was a vintage knock from Rohit, who has already made his intentions clear about playing in next year's ODI World Cup, set to be held in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia in October-November. Rohit has already turned 39 and will be a year older by the time the marquee event begins. The player, who has retired from Tests and T20Is, has been working hard on his fitness, and the results are there for all to see. On Friday, a picture of Rohit posing with Ravi Shastri went viral on social media. The India captain was sporting a new look, and fans felt he looked nearly 10 years younger. Former Pakistan captain and batting great Zaheer Abbas believes Indian stalwarts Virat Kohli and Rohit still have plenty to offer and is convinced the duo will feature in next year's ODI World Cup. Speaking on a Pakistani television channel, Zaheer, popularly known as the 'Asian Bradman' for his prolific run-scoring feats, said both Indian batting maestros remain among the best in the game and that age should not stand in the way of their World Cup ambitions. "Both are very, very good in terms of skill and, given their experience, I don't see any reason why they should not play the World Cup. Age should not be a factor as long as they are fit and continue scoring runs," he said. The former Pakistan batter, who scored more than 100 first-class centuries during an illustrious career, said India would benefit immensely from the duo's experience at the 2027 ODI World Cup, which will be jointly hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. "I watched Rohit score a hundred against England, and it is still a pleasure to watch him bat. He plays so effortlessly and with such sweet timing," Zaheer said. Rohit will next be seen in action in September when India host the West Indies for a three-match ODI series, starting on September 27. His transformation is WOW.

He is definitely aiming-

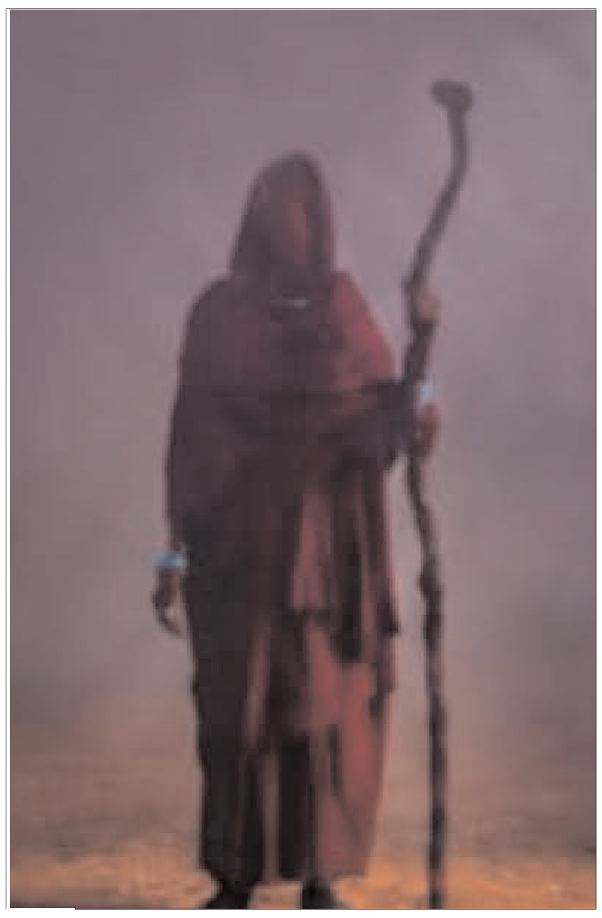
The unfinished man is more dangerous than a new potential man.

SPIDER-MAN BRAND NEW DAY SHATTERS RECORDS AT THE INDIAN BOX OFFICE

Spider-Man: Brand New Day has taken the Indian box office by storm, registering a phenomenal ?80 crore gross on its opening day. With this achievement, the film has become the biggest Hollywood opener ever in India. The opening has surprised trade analysts as the film witnessed outstanding collections across major markets, proving once again that Spider-Man remains one of the most loved superheroes among Indian audiences. The Telugu states played a key role as the film recorded an impressive ?9 crore gross on day one, highlighting the massive fan following enjoyed by the franchise all over. Spider-Man is creating similar waves internationally as reports suggest that the film is heading towards a record-breaking collection of $70–75 million in North America with just previews. The opening weekend is currently projected to cross a staggering $325 million globally. With such an extraordinary start, trade predicts that the film will continue its dream run in the coming days.

It is also likely to affect the theatrical run of Telugu releases Chennai Love Story, Srinivasa Mangapuram, and Newton's 3rd Law in the days to come. Internationally, the blockbuster has clocked a staggering ?1,000 crore gross worldwide, underscoring the character's massive global pull. In India, Spider-Man: Brand New Day will enjoy a clear run, with no major films scheduled to challenge its dominance. Its only notable holdover competition comes from Christopher Nolan's The Odyssey, which currently reigns as the year's highest-grossing Hollywood release in the country. In terms of other records, the film is also set to deliver the highest opening weekend for any Hollywood release in Indian history.

M.S. Raju's Mystic Divine Thriller 'Agadha' Trailer to Release on August 3rd



Public interest is growing day by day in 'Agadha', a mystic divine thriller directed by the renowned M.S. Raju. Following the tremendous response to the previously released teaser and posters, expectations for the film have soared.

Heightening this anticipation, the film unit has announced that the 'Agadha' trailer will be released on August 3rd at 12:00 PM. A poster released for the occasion—featuring a female ascetic standing amidst a mysterious forest atmosphere—further piques curiosity about the secrets hidden within the story. The poster clearly suggests that 'Agadha' will transport the audience into a unique world of spiritual mystery.

Produced by Kasi Visalakshi Balusu under the Sri Adi Varaha Productions LLP banner, the film is presented by Ajay K.R.

M.S. Raju himself has handled the story, screenplay, and direction.

Made in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, and Hindi, 'Agadha' is set for a grand worldwide release on August 14. Having already created a sensation with its teaser, the film unit is confident that the trailer will elevate expectations to even greater heights.

Spider-Man and Allu Arjun Crossover Breaks the Internet! Pushpa Actor Attends Grand Premiere of Brand New Day in Hyderabad With Kids

The much-awaited Spider-Man: Brand New Day blockbuster kicked off with a grand premiere in Allu Cinemas, Hyderabad, where Allu Arjun attended with his family_ The latest outing of everyone's favourite neighbourhood superhero, Spider-Man: Brand New Day is witnessing phenomenal demand across the Telugu states. Audiences are turning out in large numbers for the latest chapter in the Spider-Man saga. The film's celebrations kicked off with a grand premiere at Allu Cinemas - India's largest and most advanced Dolby Cinema screen in Hyderabad. The evening saw Allu Arjun attend with his wife Sneha Reddy and their children, making it a memorable family movie night. Also present were Allu Aravind, Allu Sirish, Bunny Vas, directors Chandoo Mondeti, Sai Rajesh, Harish Shankar and Boyapati Sreenu, actress Rashya Gorak, Mythri Movie Makers producer Ravi, a producer from Haarika & Haasine Creations, Chinna Babu and producer Guneet Monga. The star-studded turnout at the Hyderabad premiere underscores the immense anticipation surrounding Spider-Man: Brand New Day, as the film continues to generate exceptional buzz and strong audience demand across the Telugu market.

Rashmika Mandanna has reportedly sustained a serious injury while filming a dance sequence

The actress is currently working on the films Ranabaali and Mysaa. According to reports, the continuous action sequences and dance performances for these projects resulted in a complete tendon detachment in her hip area.

Doctors are said to have been surprised by the severity of the injury, noting that such tendon damage is usually seen only in athletes who undergo intense physical training.

Medical experts have advised Rashmika to take complete rest for six weeks. They have also recommended a rehabilitation program to help the tendon heal and regain strength.

Rashmika is currently one of the busiest pan-India actresses, juggling the shoots of four major films. In addition, she serves as the brand ambassador for around 30 products. Due to her injury, the shooting schedules for her films as well as several advertising campaigns are expected to be affected.

Fans and well-wishers are hoping for her speedy recovery.

Actor Sudigali Sudheer's upcoming film Sudheer's Joker has announced acclaimed actress Abhirami as part of its ensemble cast

Sudheer's Joker stars Sudigali Sudheer in the lead, while Bigg Boss fame Ayesha is making her debut as the female lead. The film also features Abhirami, Murali Sharma, Ajay Ghosh, Ramesh Indira, Vishnu Oi, and Muralidhar Goud in key roles. Following the critically acclaimed and unique film Parada, producers P.V. Srinivasulu, Vijay Donkada, and Sridhar Makkava are bankrolling this project under the Ananda Media banner. The film is written and directed by P.S. Sunil Puppala. The makers today unveiled an exciting update by introducing Abhirami's character. She will portray Gayathri Devi, a significant role that promises to leave a lasting impact on the audience. Along with the announcement, the team released her first-look poster featuring the caption, "A promise made to a mother lives forever," which has struck an emotional chord with viewers.

Grand Launch of the Trailer and Audio of the Distinctive Investigative Crime Thriller "Niram"

Movie Set for a Grand Theatrical Release Soon Starring Mugen Rao, Preethi Asrani, and Tanya Hope in the lead roles, "Niram" is presented by K Square Cinemas and produced by K. Bindumadhavi under the Unit of K Square Ventures banner. P. Rajesh serves as the co-producer, while Balaram Krishna has directed this unique investigative crime thriller. The film is gearing up for a grand theatrical release soon. The Telugu trailer and audio launch event of "Niram" was held in Hyderabad in a grand manner. Speaking at the event were Lyricist Bharathi Babu said, "I have written two songs for this film, while Vanamali garu has penned the other two. Director Balaram Krishna has a strong command of Telugu and worked closely with us to bring out meaningful songs. The film explores the intriguing theme of how people change their true colors.

Kiara Advani's Alluring & Enigmatic Birthday Special Poster From Yash's Toxic

ocking Star Yash's Toxic has added a special touch to Kiara Advani's birthday celebrations by unveiling a stunning new poster introducing her character, Nadia. Directed by Geetu Mohandas, and produced by KVN Productions and Monster Mind Creations, Toxic is set for release on August 26. The team opted for aggressive promotional campaign, and the birthday poster immediately catches attention.

Sobhita Dhulipala Gets Draped Into Goddess Mode

Sobhita Dhulipala has been steadily establishing herself as one of the most sought-after faces for brand endorsements and promotions lately, and her latest appearance takes that game to a whole new level.

She recently closed designer Rahul Mishra's grand finale showcase at India Couture Week 2026, presenting his celebrated "Devi" collection. Sobhita stunned in an ivory and champagne-toned couture ensemble with intricate crystal beadwork, and the show turned theatrical when a richly embellished lehenga was ceremonially draped over her live on the ramp, evoking the imagery of a goddess being adorned.

On the work front, Sobhita was last seen in the Amazon crime thriller film directed by Sharan Koppisetty and written by Chandra Pemmaraju Cheekatilo.

Sobhita Dhulipala brought the curtains down on Rahul Mishra's much-awaited grand finale at India Couture Week 2026, commanding the runway as the showstopper for the designer's acclaimed 'Devi: The Eternal Muse' collection. Dressed in a breathtaking couture creation that celebrated Indian craftsmanship and feminine divinity, Sobhita's ethereal presence transformed the runway into a tribute to mythology, art and haute couture.

The actress walked down the runway wearing a beautifully crafted temple-art-inspired ensemble. Her look featured a divine, sculptural mesh corset-style jumpsuit with intricate layered-necklace embroidery that mimicked the heritage architecture of the Ajanta Caves. Her waist was cinched with an ornate crystal-encrusted belt featuring beadwork and dangling embellishments.

The bottom of the jumpsuit featured a fitted silhouette in a nude shade with asymmetric ivory satin drapes outlined in crystal piping.

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