

# SKYLINE

ENGLISH DAILY

Simultaneously published from Visakhapatnam, Tirupati, Hyderabad & Vijayawada .

Vol. 21 Issue: 118

Monday 6, April 2026

Visakhapatnam, 8 Pages Rs.1.00

## Judicial infrastructure not optional but essential, says CJI Surya Kant

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Hyderabad, April 5  
Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant, opined that strengthening judicial infrastructure was essential for the delivery of justice, and the State governments in the country were doing their best in this sphere.  
He was speaking after laying the foundation stone for Telangana High Court Zone II in Rajendernagar, on the city outskirts, on Sunday (April 5, 2026). The Zone-II includes residential buildings for judges and the chief justice..  
Justice Surya Kant stressed that the judiciary and the executive must align in purpose for the



Constitution to truly come alive. He said he had the privilege of laying foundation stones for judicial court complexes in several States, including Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, and now Telangana. He hoped that the proposed 100-acre new Telangana High Court

complex would be among the best in the country after going through the drawings and models on display. He said the Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had assured him that the project would be completed within two years.  
Describing the occasion as a rare and historic moment in public life, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that building a court campus is akin to constructing a "temple for people of all faiths."  
"One may build a temple, mosque, church or gurdwara, but to build a court complex comes rarely in the life of any leader. A campus for justice, is like building a temple for all cit-

izens," he remarked.  
Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant seeing the drawings of the new High Court building after laying the foundation stone for Telangana High Court Zone II in Hyderabad on April 5, 2026  
Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant seeing the drawings of the new High Court building after laying the foundation stone for Telangana High Court Zone II in Hyderabad on April 5, 2026  
The Chief Minister said that the legislature, executive and judiciary function with autonomy, inter-dependence and mutual respect. For the common citizen, he said, the court represents the final door to knock and the  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## Gherao of judicial officers a reflection of Trinamool's 'maha jungle raj', says Modi



Kolkata, April 5:  
Highlighting the incident of the gherao of judicial officers in West Bengal's Malda district, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday (April 5, 2026) said the incident was a reflection of "Trinamool Congress-sponsored maha jungle raj".  
Mr. Modi said the Trinamool government does not consider any constitutional institution

to be of any significance and the incident at Malda was a reflection of that. "The law-abiding citizens are shocked, how judicial officials were held hostage in Malda. What kind of a government it this that even judges are not safe. How can you expect safety of common people from such a government... The situation is so bad that the highest  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## Another India-flagged tanker Green Asha crosses Strait of Hormuz amid tensions



New Delhi, April 5 : An India-flagged vessel, Green Asha, has safely crossed the Strait of Hormuz, marking the ninth Indian tanker to transit the crucial maritime corridor since the onset of the ongoing West Asia conflict.  
The development comes even as tensions remain elevated and security concerns continue to disrupt one of the world's most

vital oil and energy supply routes.  
According to reports, Green Asha is an LPG carrier and its successful passage highlights India's continued reliance on the strait despite mounting risks.  
The transit follows a series of similar crossings by Indian vessels navigating the conflict-hit region under heightened surveillance.  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## Government steps up LPG supply, urges calm amid Hormuz concerns

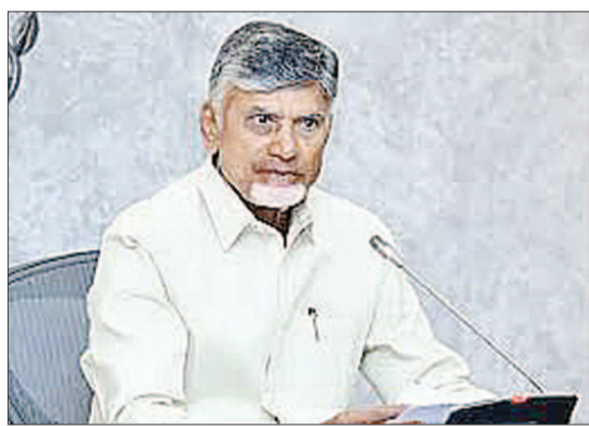


New Delhi, April 5:  
Sale of small 5-kg LPG cylinders — available across-the-counter at LPG distributorships on showing valid ID proofs — has been stepped up, with about 6.6 lakh bottles sold since March 23 as the government ramps up supplies to meet demand. Unlike the subsidised domestic 14.2-kg cylinders, the 5 kg bottles, called FTL cylinders, are

priced at market rates and do not require any address proof for procurement from a nearby LPG distributorship.  
"Yesterday (April 4, 2026), more than 90,000, 5Kg FTL cylinders were sold. Since March 23, 2026, about 6.6 lakh, 5 Kg FTL cylinders have been sold," the Oil Ministry said in a statement.  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## WUAs have to ensure optimum utilisation of water resources, says Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Amaravati, April 5  
The Water Users' Associations (WUAs) have a significant role to play in the conservation of water resources and they need to do their best to enable the government to provide irrigation facility to every acre in the State, observes Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.



Amaravati: AP Chief Minister Chandrababu has announced 100 days of action on water conservation - water resource conservation issues. The government will undertake this program from April 6 to July 14 under the name of 'Water Security - Responsibility of Irrigation Communities'. Chandrababu will participate in the program to be

held in Yadiki of Tadipatri constituency on Monday. In this context, Chandrababu held a tele-conference on Sunday with the members of irrigation associations in the state on the action plan. Directions were given on the measures to be taken for water conservation. Addressing members of the WUAs through a tele-conference, on the eve of

the launch of a 100-day action plan on optimum utilisation of water resources, on Sunday, Mr. Naidu stressed the need for water security and called for collective efforts to achieve it through proper coordination among the departments of Water Resources, Forest, Panchayat Raj, Agriculture and Animal  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## Macherla Town CI Venkata Ramana suspended on graft charges

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Macherla, April 05 :  
In a new twist to the alleged 'honour' killing in Palnadu district, Macherla Town Police Station Circle Inspector Venkata Ramana, was suspended for acting in favour of the father of deceased Chowdeswari, who is accused of killing her.  
Orders to this effect were issued on Sunday.  
The accused, Chandra Sreenu, is reported to have strangled his 22-year-old daughter Chowdeswari to death on March 18, as she married against his wishes.  
"Following allegations that CI Venkata Ramana



did favour to the accused by accepting money, the police officer was suspended," said Guntur Range Inspector of Police (IGP) Sarvashresth Tripathi.  
The victim, Chowdeswari, had left her

## Govt committed to providing drinking water to people of Anantapur, says minister

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Anantapur, April 5  
Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav on Sunday inaugurated the water treatment plant at Muddalapuram village of Kuderu mandal in Uravakonda Assembly constituency. The plant, which has a capacity to treat 16 million litres per day, was constructed at a cost of Rs.15.35 crore using Central government funds under the AMRUT scheme.  
Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Keshav said the State government is committed to providing potable drinking water to the people of the district in the



summer. He appreciated the efforts of Anantapur Urban MLA Daggubati Venkateswara Rao for assisting with the completion of the construction works.  
Mr. Keshav said that unlike the previous YSR

Congress Party (YSRCP) government, which was confined to just the allocations of funds, their government translated words into deeds. Mr. Keshav said the NDA government had allocated  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## As U.S. sanctions deadlines expire this month, exporters urge govt to revive oil-rice barter trade mechanism with Iran

New Delhi, April 5: The government's acknowledgement on Saturday (April 4, 2026) that it is procuring oil and LNG from Iran after a gap of seven years has sparked hope for Indian traders that it may consider restoring trade with Iran and its interest in the Chabahar port, even as U.S. sanction deadlines loom again in April. The U.S.'s

temporary sanctions waiver for Russian oil specifically for India expires on Sunday (April 5), while another general waiver for all countries will expire on April 11. In addition, the U.S. waiver for Iranian oil will expire on April 19, and its six-month waiver for India's stake in Chabahar port ends on April 26. On Friday (April 3), the Ministry of

External Affairs said it "remains engaged" with the U.S. and all parties on the issue of Chabahar, while officials expressed hope that Washington would consider extending the waivers on oil, given that the war in West Asia continues, with no end in sight.  
However, there's no clarity on whether the government will reject U.S. President Trump's demands if the U.S. decides to re-impose sanctions.

Iran's continued restrictions on the Hormuz Strait are a big concern, say exporters, given that more than 80% of India's Basmati exports are destined for West Asian countries and a large number of export consignments are currently stranded in the Strait, stuck in transit at ports or on the high seas, leading to heavy financial losses for them.  
In a letter to Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, the  
(Contd. on pg.2)

## Babu Jagjivan Ram's services are memorable

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Visakhapatnam, April 05 : Former Deputy Prime Minister of India Babu Jagjivan Ram's 119th birth anniversary celebrations were held in grand style in the district on Sunday. Various programs were organized in community halls, schools and hostels. He informed the students about his life. On this occasion, Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidyadhari, Pendurthi MLA Panchkarla Ramesh Babu, North

Constituency MLA Vishnukumar, VMRDA Commissioner Tej Bharat, SC Commission Member Rawada Sitaram and others participated in the program organized at his statue on Beach Road under the aegis of Social Welfare Department. Tributes were paid.

The guests who spoke on the occasion praised the services of Babu Jagjivan Ram. His services to the country are memorable. He emphasized that his efforts for the uplift-

ment of the downtrodden sections were immense and the measures taken for social equality gave direction to the country. It was recalled that as a parliamentarian for a long time, he served in various key departments and contributed significantly to the development of the country. On this occasion, JC Vidyadhari suggested that his life is an inspiration to the youth and that they should follow the path shown by him  
(Contd. on pg.2)



# Jagan has least regard for public opinion, says I&PR Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy

By Skyline Staff Reporter  
Vijayawada, April 5

Andhra Pradesh I&PR Minister Kolusu Parthasarathy said on Sunday that YSRCP president and former Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's "drama of decentralisation" was built on lies and that he betrayed the people's trust by proposing the three-capital plan, which had few parallels in the world. Addressing the media at the TDP central office, near Mangalagiri, Mr. Parthasarathy criticised Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy for making serious mistakes and justifying them later on strange grounds.

"The former Chief Minister has least regard for public opinion," the Minister said, and slammed the YSRCP chief for suggesting that the area between Vijayawada, Guntur and Machilipatnam, which he coined as 'MAVI-



GUN', be developed as the capital. Mr. Parthasarathy said Amaravati was a symbol of self-respect, and recalled how Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu got vast

tracts of land pooled for construction of the capital city. He noted that Hyderabad was generating lakhs of crores of revenue for Telangana, and Amaravati would do the same upon its completion. Revenue from Amaravati was estimated to be ₹5 lakh crore, he said, while insisting that it (the upcoming greenfield capital) was a self-financing project. Highlighting the progress made during the 20 months of the coalition government assuming office, Mr. Parthasarathy said funds were secured on a large scale from the Centre, which the YSRCP dispensation failed to do. "Investor confidence has been restored after TDP and its allies came to power in 2024," he stated, adding that Mr. Naidu was moving forward with a vision even as Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy continued to play politics.

# Centre fully supporting construction of Amaravati, says BJP A.P. chief Madhav

Vijayawada, April 5: BJP State president P.V.N. Madhav asserted on Sunday that the Union government was fully supporting the construction of the capital city Amaravati and it helped in firmly establishing it as the sole capital by having the A.P. Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, 2026, passed in Parliament. The Modi Government had initially provided Rs.1,500 crore for construction of the capital after bifurcation of the unified State and a special financial assistance of ₹1,000 crore later for creation of essential infrastructure, Mr. Madhav said

in a press release. The fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation for Amaravati at Uddandarayunipalem reflected the importance that was attached to the capital project by the Centre, Mr. Madhav pointed out. Crucial infrastructure Further, he said the creation of crucial infrastructure like major arterial roads, power grids, and water pipelines was going on at a brisk pace, and reminded that the Centre provided funds on a large scale for the establishment of prestigious educational institu-

tions like the IIT and AIIMS. He said the formation of the NDA Government at both the Centre and in the State in 2024 restored Amaravati's glory. A massive financial package of ₹15,000 crore was announced in the 2024-25 Union Budget for expeditious development of Amaravati, he said. Mr. Modi had relaunched the Amaravati construction works costing about ₹43,000 crore in May 2025. The passage of the Bill was a defining moment in the history of Amaravati, Mr. Madhav added.

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### Judicial infrastructure not optional but essential, says CJI Surya Kant

last resort for justice. The new High Court complex, he said, would become an icon of justice and a functional lifeline for democracy. "For the next 100 years, the weak, the voiceless and the oppressed will come to this temple of justice seeking to be heard," he said.

Reiterating his government's commitment to democratic values, he said providing world-class infrastructure to the judiciary is the responsibility of the executive. "We believe all pillars must work collaboratively with mutual respect and avoid confrontations. We give the highest respect not only to judgments and verdicts but also to the observations and feedback of the judiciary," he stated.

The Chief Minister acknowledged the historical significance of the existing High Court building in Hyderabad but noted that it could no longer meet the growing demands of litigants, lawyers and judicial staff. This necessitated the decision to build a modern, state-of-the-art campus.

The new complex, coming up on 100 acres of land is envisioned as one of the largest High Court buildings in India and a benchmark in modern public infrastructure. While work is already underway for Zone-I, which comprises institutional buildings, the foundation was laid on Saturday for Zone-II, which will include residential facilities.

Supreme Court judges P.S. Narasimha, Ujjal Bhuyan, S.V. Bhatti, Alok Aradhe, and Telangana High Court Chief Justice Apresh Kumar Singh also spoke.

### WUAs have to ensure optimum utilisation of water resources, says Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu

Husbandry. CM Chandrababu directed to take up the 'Water Security-Responsibility of Irrigation Communities' program in coordination with the Departments of Water Drainage, Forestry, Panchayat Raj, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. It has been clarified that work recognition programs should be carried out from April 6 to April 15. It was ordered to give administrative permissions for the identified works from April 16 to 20 and to undertake the works from April 21 to July 9. From 10th to 14th July.. it is suggested to submit the reports related to the completed works. Plans have been made to implement these programs centrally by the irrigated communities. Key responsibilities have been assigned to the 60,000 members of irrigation societies in the state.

The action plan would be launched at Yadiki in Tadipatri Assembly constituency on April 6 with the basic objective of conserving every drop of rainwater and increasing the groundwater levels.

The WUAs should do water budgeting by estimating availability and demand in their areas and take necessary steps, Mr. Naidu advised.

#### Lauds 'Jaladhara'

The Chief Minister told the WUAs to get the feeder canals desilted, check-dams repaired, and new structures built wherever required. He wanted that priority be given to micro-irrigation, and lauded the 'Jaladhara' initiative in Annamayya district for its success in recharging the groundwater and filling local tanks.

Mr. Naidu noted that Rayalaseema, which everyone feared would become a desert, emerged as a horticulture hub, and that the State government's priorities included completion of the Polavaram project and finishing pending works pertaining to the Handri-Neeva Sujala Sravanthi, Galeru-Nagari Sujala Sravanthi, and Telugu Ganga.

### Macherla Town CI Venkata Ramana suspended on graft charges

parents and then forcibly handed her over to them, an act that is now believed to have directly led to her death. Following an internal inquiry, officials reportedly found that the CI had played a serious role in the chain of events that ended in the honour killing.

Based on these findings, Palnadu District Superintendent of Police Krishnarao issued orders suspending the officer.

Preliminary reports suggest that Venkataramana not only failed to protect the couple, but also allegedly mis-

used his position by facilitating the woman's return to her parents in exchange for a large amount of money. Mr. Chandra Sreenu lodged a 'woman missing' complaint with Macherla Town police, later. He even staged a protest and threatened to commit suicide by dousing with petrol alleging that police were negligent in tracing his daughter.

Police traced the newly married couple and during questioning, Chowdeswari reportedly said that she was in love with Nagaraju, and the wedding was performed with her consent.

However, police counselled the woman and sent her along with parents, though she was a major. As per the police, the accused allegedly killed her by strangulating her and fabricated a scene to make it appear as though she had ended her life.

The accused had reported that Chowdeswari had ended life due to family problems. But, the post-mortem report indicated that it was not a suicide, the police said.

"The post-mortem report revealed that Chowdeswari died either due to strangulation or asphyxiation," a police officer told The Hindu on Sunday (April 05). Police have already arrested Chandra Sreenu, and investigation is on.

### Govt committed to providing drinking water to people of Anantapur, says minister

Rs.3,800 crore for widening and lining of Handri-Neeva canal in last year's budget and had completed the works. He said the government is completing irrigation projects and is simultaneously taking steps to overcome the drinking water problems. The Finance Minister added that the government had allocated ₹700 crore for resolving the drinking water problem in Municipalities.

Mr. Keshav also said that they would complete Amaravati capital works and the Polavaram project apart from bringing investments to the State. Anantapur MP Ambica Lakshminarayana said that the completion of the plant before summer would resolve the drinking water problem of the city. He said Union Urban Development Minister Manohar Lal Khattar is giving priority to development of Anantapur and this has been possible because of the 'doubt engine sarkar' in the State.

Mr. Venkateswara Prasad said that the construction of the plant had started in 2017 with the support of then Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. However, its construction did not go ahead during the previous regime. "We have completed the construction of the plant in just 20 months and it has been inaugurated after conducting a trial run for three months. The people of the city will no longer have to face the drinking water problem," he said.

### Gherao of judicial officers a reflection of Trinamool's 'maha jungle raj', says Modi

court of the country had to intervene," Mr. Modi said while addressing a public meeting in Cooch Behar. Seven judicial officers, who were engaged in adjudication process of the Special Intensive Revision, were gheraoed by a mob at Mothabari in Malda on April 1. They were later rescued by the police after several hours. Thirty-five persons have been arrested in connection with the incident and National Investigation Agency (NIA) has taken up investigation of the case. Mr. Modi reiterated that the States who have done well in population control will not lose seats in delimitation. He also appealed to all the political parties to take active steps for ensuring women's reservation in Parliament.

### Another India-flagged tanker Green Asha crosses Strait of Hormuz amid tensions

The situation in the Strait of Hormuz has remained volatile since Iran tightened its control over the passage following US-Israeli strikes on February 28.

The escalation has impacted global fuel supplies and rattled energy markets, with maritime data indicating that nearly 60 per cent of commodity-carrying ships using the route are either originating from or destined for Iran. Despite these challenges, Indian shipping activity through the strait has remained relatively robust. Prior to Green Asha's journey, at least eight Indian ves-

sels had already crossed the corridor. Among them were LPG carriers BW TYR and BW ELM, which transported around 94,000 tonnes of cargo through the conflict zone.

In late March, four Indian-flagged LPG tankers, including Pine Gas and Jag Vasant, delivered more than 92,600 tonnes of LPG over a three-day period. Earlier, MT Shivalik and MT Nanda Devi had carried close to 92,700 tonnes of LPG to Gujarat's Mundra and Kandla ports in mid-March.

Other shipments included crude and refined fuels. Oil tanker Jag Laadki transported over 80,000 tonnes of crude oil from the UAE to Mundra, while Jag Prakash crossed the strait carrying gasoline from Oman to African markets.

Another LPG carrier, Green Sanvi, also completed its transit recently with a cargo of approximately 46,650 metric tonnes.

### Government steps up LPG supply, urges calm amid Hormuz concerns

The Ministry said there are no reports of shortages at LPG distributor points, with more than 51 lakh domestic cylinders delivered during the day and online bookings accounting for 95% of total demand.

Authorities have intensified action against hoarding and black marketing, seizing over 50,000 cylinders since March and issuing more than 1,400 show-cause notices to LPG distributors, with 36 dealerships suspended so far.

The government has prioritised supplies of domestic LPG and piped natural gas (PNG), particularly for households and essential services such as hospitals and educational institutions, while boosting refinery output and managing demand by extending LPG refill intervals.

Commercial LPG supplies have been capped at 70% of pre-crisis levels, with smaller cylinders being made widely available to ease pressure on demand.

On natural gas, the government said full supplies are being maintained for households and transport, while supplies to fertiliser plants are set to rise to about 90% of average consumption from April 6, supported by incoming LNG cargoes.

All refineries are operating at high capacity with adequate crude inventories, and petrol pumps across the country remain fully stocked, the Ministry said, reiterating its advice to avoid panic buying and rely on official information.

### As U.S. sanctions deadlines expire this month, exporters urge govt to revive oil-rice barter

Punjab Rice Millers Exporters Association urged the government to arrange a barter agreement with Iran, exchanging Iranian crude oil for Indian rice shipments. "This one significant step would ease India's oil crisis and revive our traditional trade with Iran," association director Ashok Sethi told The Hindu, adding that the exporters are urging the government to make use of the "Rupee payment mechanism", a corpus fund managed through UCO Bank set up in 2012 for commodities trade. He added that this would help farmers clear the stocks of Basmati rice from the previous crop season ahead of the new kharif sowing season from May.

If activated, the mechanism would also help India pay for crude oil from Iran, although at present Indian refiners are not taking very large quantities of it, given the high prices, low availability and the need to recalibrate refineries for it.

In 2019, the Modi government ended imports of Iranian and Venezuelan oil due to alleged U.S. pressure, and began to reduce imports of Russian oil in November 2025 because of the U.S.'s 25% penalty tariff, which was removed in February 2026. After Mr. Trump threatened another 25% tariff for any trade with Iran, MEA officials pointed out that these were at minimal levels of \$1.6 billion in 2024, dropping from about \$15.7 billion in 2014. The government also pulled out all staff and prepaid its investment commitment of \$120 million to Iran in November 2025 for the Chabahar port development project, indicating it was prepared to end the project due to the U.S. sanctions threat.

"On this particular issue (Chabahar port), the sanctions waiver that was given to us is valid till April 26, 2026. The Government of India remains engaged with all concerned in order to address the implications of these developments," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a briefing.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has stressed that decisions on buying oil were commercially driven, denying the U.S. claims that it

"allowed" India to buy Russian oil by issuing the waivers so as to keep oil prices low. Despite that, the price of oil has remained high, at more than \$110 per barrel.

"Amid Middle East supply disruptions, Indian refiners have secured their crude oil requirements, including from Iran; and there is no payment hurdle for Iranian crude imports as per some rumours being circulated," the PNG ministry said on Saturday (April 4), adding that India now imports crude oil from over 40 countries. All eyes are now on whether the imports will continue, even if the U.S. snaps back any of its sanctions in April.

### Babu Jagjivan Ram's services are memorable

and commit themselves to the development of the backward sections of the society. Today's youth are called upon to improve their skills and rise to higher positions by developing awareness of the modern technology, Artificial Intelligence (AI). Chairman of the Library Corporation Satish , Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department K. Rama Rao, GVMC ADC Satyaveni, SC Corporation ED Satyapadma, PD APMIP Manmadharao, DVMC members Rambabu, Professor Subbarayudu, N. Srinivasa Rao, Malathi, SC Corporation Director E. Sujatha, Poondi Malleswara Rao, Rajababu, Samuel, Joseph, representatives of Ambedkar Memorial Society, former AP Relli Corporation Chairman Vaddadi Madhusudan Rao, MRPS District President Deepak, MRPS leader T. Srinivasa Rao and others participated. Besides Malleswara Rao, representatives of various communities, many officials participated.

### CREDAI calls for government action amid rising construction costs

Vijayawada, April 5: The construction sector in Andhra Pradesh has suffered a devastating blow due to the ongoing international conflict involving the United States, Israel, and Iran, express the members of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India-A.P. (CREDAI). Dasari Rambabu, General Secretary, CREDAI A.P., said that the war has come at a time when the real estate business in the State had just begun picking up pace after experiencing a lull during the previous government.

"Now, with many local tile and sanitary business units in Gujarat shutting down due to the war-induced crisis, we are forced to depend on branded businesses for the supply of raw materials. Since these cost more, this has resulted in price hike, which in turn has affected the buyer," Mr. Rambabu told The Hindu.

Earlier, in a press release issued on Saturday (April 4, 2026), CREDAI members said that rising crude oil prices in the international market have led to a massive spike in transportation costs, making the delivery of cement, sand, and bricks significantly more expensive. The war has also disturbed imports of raw materials essential for manu-

facturing steel and aluminium. This has also led to a shortage of glass, PVC pipes, and electrical wiring. Mr. Rambabu said prices of all raw materials have risen by 15% to 25%. "The price of cement per bag, which was earlier Rs.240, has increased to Rs.300, while the price of steel, which stood at Rs.56,000 per tonne before the war, has now risen to Rs.70,000 per tonne," the statement said.

The construction industry provides a livelihood for approximately 250 allied sectors. If this sector collapses, millions of workers will lose their employment, the CREDAI general secretary said.

They urged the government to regulate material prices and introduce tax rebates or a reduction in registration charges to provide breathing room for the construction sector. The government should also maintain strict surveillance to ensure companies do not create artificial shortages under the pretext of price hikes, the CREDAI members said.

At present, construction activities have only slowed down in the State. The impact, while negligible in Visakhapatnam, is felt more in Amaravati, Mr. Rambabu said, adding that it will take five months for the sector to recover from the crisis.

## SC Commission Member Dr. Sripathi Babu Meets Collector, JC Over TDP Workers' Harassment in Kavali.

**Nellore, April 05**  
**Daily Staff Reporter.**  
Nayudupeta State SC Commission member Dr. Sripathi Babu has taken serious note of allegations of harassment against TDP workers in Kavali constituency, despite the party being part of the ruling coalition. He met with District Collector Himanshu Shukla and Joint Collector Mogili Venkateswarlu to discuss the issue. The move follows Minister Nara Lokesh's warning that those involved in such activities would face consequences. Dr. Sripathi



Babu directed the officials to investigate the matter and take strict action against those responsible. He specifically raised the issue of farmer Koppolu Balachander from Kadanutala village, who is facing injustice in a land dispute, and asked the Collector to ensure justice is done.

## Rotary Club Donates mortuary freezer to Christian Community in Naidupeta.

**Naidupeta, April 05**  
**Daily Staff Reporter.**  
Nayudupeta The Rotary Club of Naidupeta, in collaboration with Trinity Hospital, donated a coffin to the Christians community in the area. The event took place at AL CM High School grounds, with Rotary Club President Nagurayya and other members in attendance.



Nagurayya stated that the Rotary Club has been undertaking various service activities in the area, focusing on education, healthcare, and economic empowerment of women. The club has provided 7000 pairs of clothes to poor students, constructed sheds, and arranged water facilities in schools. Pastors from the area expressed their gratitude, saying that the donation was

not just a material gift, but a symbol of respect for the deceased and a source of comfort for the grieving families. They thanked the Rotary Club and its members, including Secretary Batta Subrahmanyam, Ramachandra Reddy, H. Subrahmanyam, Munagala Krishnarao, Pramila Devi, Kusumakumari, Rammohan, Udaya Shankar, Shankar Lal, and PHF Haribabu B. Kiran Kumar.

## Kakani Warns Officials Involved in False Cases Against YSRCP Workers.

**Pellakuru, April 05**  
**Daily Staff Reporter.**  
Nayudupeta Former Minister Kakani Govardhan Reddy has warned officials involved in filing false cases against YSRCP workers, stating that they will face consequences. He made the remarks while visiting the family of former DCCB Chairman K a m i r e d d y Satyanarayana Reddy, who is currently facing jail time for allegedly questioning illegal sand mining. Kakani Govardhan Reddy, accompanied by former MLA Kiliveti Sanjeevayya, condemned the actions of the police officials, saying that they are acting on the instruc-



tions of the coalition leaders. He questioned the imposition of non-bailable sections, which carry a 10-year prison sentence. YSRCP leader YS Jagan Mohan Reddy had personally spoken to K a m i r e d d y Satyanarayana Reddy's wife, Prabhavattamma, and assured her that the party would stand by them. Kakani Govardhan Reddy stated that the injured lion is dangerous and warned officials to take note of their actions. The event was attended by party leaders, local representatives, and a large number of YSRCP workers.

## Vayalpad Set to Witness Grand Spiritual Fest on May 3



**(By our Staff Reporter)**  
**Vayalpad, April 5:**

On Sunday, the temple committee of Vayalpad resolved to conduct the Sri Nalla Veera Gangabhavani Jathara, popularly known as Vayalpad grama Peddamma Thalli, in a grand manner. A meeting was held in the temple premises where extensive discussions were carried out regarding the arrangements for the festival. Temple committee trustee Morram Reddy Ram Kumar Reddy stated that this year's Jathara will be held on May 3. He mentioned that special arrangements are being made to provide all necessary facilities to the devotees. He also informed that, as per tradition, the "Chaatimpu" (formal concluding ritual) will be conducted on May 26. He further said that special

Puja rituals, decorations, traditional programs, and cultural performances will be organized on the day of the Jathara to offer a spiritual experience to the devotees. Keeping in view the expected heavy turnout, arrangements for drinking water and distribution of prasadam will also be made. Members of the temple committee including Tabjul Ananda Chetty, V. Ramanareddy, Jamakayala Balaram, Bokkasam Brothers, Kosuri Ramesh, Puli Brothers, Gollapalli Reddeppa, and others participated in the meeting and assured their support for the successful conduct of the Jathara. The temple committee appealed to local devotees, youth, and villagers to participate in large numbers and make the festival a grand success.

## Building an equal society with the ideals of great people



**Madanapalle, April 05**  
**(Skyline daily):**

The true tribute we pay to great people is to follow the path shown by them in the development of the country and the pursuit of social equality, said Annamayya District Additional SP (Administration) M Venkatadri. On the orders of District SP Dheeraj Kunubilli, the 118th birth anniversary celebrations of former Deputy Prime Minister Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram, the hope of the downtrodden, were celebrated at the district police headquarters in Madanapalle on Sunday. On this occasion, Additional SP garlanded Jagjivan Ram's portrait and paid tribute with bouquets. Later, he said that Babu Jagjivan Ram has gone down in Indian history as a freedom fighter, a Dalit fraternity and a tireless fighter. He recalled that his role in ensuring social justice is reflected in the Constitution is unforgettable, and his services to the country as a Union Minister and Deputy Prime Minister for a long time are immortal. Affectionately called 'Babuji' by the people, he said that administrative efficiency should not be compromised, the Additional SP said. He called on today's youth and police personnel to take inspiration from the biographies of such great leaders and work responsibly for the establishment of an equal society regardless of caste and religion. AR DSP D Edukondala Reddy, RSIs G Ravi, Y Chandra Sekhar and many police personnel participated in this program and paid tributes to Babu Jagjivan Ram, remembering his services.

## Excise officials who ignore wine shops as a hub of crime in the town



**Madanapalle, April 05(Skyline daily):** Crime is increasing in Madanapalle town due to wine shops, CPI Constituency Secretary K Murali has issued a statement. Speaking on the occasion, Murali criticized that wine shop owners in Madanapalle town are running wine shops against the rules, liquor is being sold 24 hours a day, belt shops have increased exponentially, and excise police officers are acting as if they have not seen anything and have made friends with wine shop owners. Both excise officers and wine shop owners consider wine shops as an emergency service and are constantly looking for drug addicts, due to which crime is also increasing in the town, he said. He said that youth are committing atrocities under the influence of alcohol, and behind every crime that happens in the town, it is because of loss of judgment under the influence of alcohol. He said that the excise police officers who are responsible for controlling such things are in cahoots with the wine shop owners, and therefore, wine shops in the town are running as they please. Therefore, the Annamayya District SP has demanded that action be taken against the wine shops running in Madanapalle town against the rules and the exchange officials who are cooperating with them.

## MITs MCA and MBA students get Postgraduate National Scholarships.



**Madanapalle, April 05(Skyline daily):** The MITs deemed-to-be-university (Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science) near Madanapalle has awarded Postgraduate National Scholarships to MCA and MBA students, said Dr C Yuvaraj, Vice-Chancellor of the university. With the aim of supporting talented and financially needy students from underprivileged backgrounds through National Scholarships, 7 MCA students got Rs.

3,00,000 each and 2 MBA students got Rs. 1,50,000 each, making a total of Rs. 24,00,000 for 9 students, he said. The students who received the scholarships were congratulated by the University Chancellor Dr N Vijaya Bhaskar Chowdhary, Pro Chancellor M Dwarnath, Executive Director Kirti Nadella, Head of MCA Department Dr Naveen Kumar, Senior Manager of Student Affairs Dr P Athahar Sameena, Raga Deepthi and faculty members.

## Jaha, Sugavasi inaugurate surveyors' cricket tournament on the occasion of Survey Day

**Madanapalle, April 05(Skyline daily):**

A cricket tournament jointly organized by the district surveyors on the occasion of Survey Day began on Saturday in the premises of an engineering college in Madanapalle town of Annamaya district. Madanapalle MLA Shahjahan Basha and Rajampet Parliament TDP President and former TTD Governing Council member Sugavasi Prasad Babu were present as the chief guests and inaugurated the competitions. The guests inaugurated the cricket tournament and played cricket with the surveyors for a while, making the program more exciting. Later, the surveyors gave a grand welcome to the guests and organized an introductory program. Wreaking on the occasion, the chief guests said, surveyors play a key role in land measurements, government land management and implementation of development projects.



They said that the performance of surveyors who serve the people is commendable. He also said that such sports programs are very useful in reducing job stress. He gave a message that unity and friendship among district surveyors will increase through this tournament and that the youth should develop interest in sports. District surveyors, local leaders, college representatives, and surveyors from various mandals participated in this program.

## Nisar Ahmed, Naresh Kumar Reddy attend Suman TV journalist's sister's wedding ceremony

**Madanapalle, April 05(Skyline daily):**

Annamayya district, Madanapalle constituency, Ramasamudram mandal Suman TV journalist Hariprasada's sister Mounika and Anand's wedding ceremony was held in a grand manner at the TTD Kalyana Mandapam in Punganur town on Saturday night. Madanapalle constituency YSRCP coordinator Nisar Ahmed, former MLC Naresh Kumar Reddy and former chairman of Madanapalle Market Yard and Ramasamudram mandal observer Tatti Srinivasulu Reddy, Mayuri Raghunath Reddy, Chippili Mallikharjuna Reddy, Kothapalli Nagarjuna Naidu and others attended the wedding ceremony and blessed the newlyweds. Speaking on the occasion, Nisar Ahmed said, Suman



Hariprasada is known to everyone as a TV journalist. He praised him for responding immediately to public issues and working to resolve them through his channel, making him a name for himself. He said he was happy to attend his sister's wedding. Journalists Easwar Reddy, Lakshmiipathi, Srinivasulu Reddy, Vijay, Harinad, Mani Kumar, Nagaraju, Mallikharjuna and others participated in this wedding.

## Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram's services to the country are memorable

**Madanapalle, April 05(Skyline daily):** Joint Collector Shiv Narayan Sharma and MLA Shahjahan Basha said that the services rendered by freedom fighter and former Deputy Prime Minister of India, Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram to the country are memorable and everyone should take his ideals as inspiration. On Sunday, the 119th birth anniversary of Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram was

celebrated in a grand manner at the Madanapalle Collectorate under the auspices of the District Social Welfare Department. JC Shiv Narayan Sharma, MLA Shahjahan Basha, DRO Madhusudhan Rao participated in the program as chief guests. On this occasion, they garlanded the portrait of Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram and paid tributes in a grand manner. Later, JC said that Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram, an egalitarian, humanitarian and good administrator, had rendered a great service to the country. Born on April 5, 1908, Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram had a sense of morality and devotion towards his teachers since childhood. He said that he had served the country with great efficiency for more than three decades as a Union Cabinet Minister and a Member of Parliament.

## IFFCO Records Pre-Tax Profit of Over Rs.4,106 Crore in FY 2025-26 : Dileep Sanghani

**Visakhapatnam, 05th April:** This achievement is not merely a story of statistics, but a saga of victory—a testament to the hard work of farmers, the dedication of employees, and the enduring values of the cooperative movement: Dileep Sanghani IFFCO Chairman Dileep Sanghani stated that the financial year 2025-26 has emerged as a milestone in the history of the Indian cooperative movement. IFFCO's journey, which began in 1967 with just 57 cooperative societies, has today become a symbol of trust for over 36,000 societies and millions of farmers. Establishing itself as the second-largest cooperative institution globally is not merely an achievement, but a living testament to the power of India's cooperative spirit. In this golden year, IFFCO achieved an all-time record pre-tax profit of over Rs.4,106 crore. IFFCO also set new



benchmarks in production and sales. A record sale of 118.75 lakh metric tonnes of fertilizers, coupled with a nationwide supply of 119.68 lakh metric tonnes, stands as proof that the institution accords the highest priority to farmers' needs. The rising sales of urea and DAP have further solidified IFFCO's pivotal role in the agricultural sector. In FY 2025-26, the popularity of nano-fertilizers witnessed rapid growth, with sales exceeding 30.1 lakh bottles. Products such as Nano Urea Plus, Nano DAP, Nano Zinc, Nano Copper, and 'Dharamrut' have emerged as highly effective, eco-friendly, and cost-efficient alternatives for farmers. Furthermore, Nano NPK Liquid (8-8-10) and Nano NPK Granular (20-10-10) have been notified under the Fertilizer Control Order—these are the first products of their kind in the world. They can be utilized through both foliar spraying and soil application, enhancing nutrient use efficiency and creating a positive environmental impact.

## SKYLINE

Monday 6.4.2026

## Currency Control

When a central bank moves to shut down parts of a \$100-billion-plus daily market, it is not merely regulating ~ it is signaling distress. The recent actions by the Reserve Bank of India to curb offshore rupee trading and cap onshore positions mark one of the most forceful interventions in India's currency markets in over a decade. The message is unmistakable: stability now matters more than sophistication later. The rupee's slide to record lows has not occurred in isolation.

It reflects a convergence of pressures ~ geopolitical shocks, volatile capital flows, and growing concerns about trade disruptions. In such a moment, policymakers face a familiar dilemma: allow markets to discover a price, however painful, or step in to prevent disorder. The RBI has chosen the latter, deploying administrative controls rather than relying solely on interest rates or forex reserves. In the short term, the approach appears effective. By restricting access to offshore derivative instruments and squeezing arbitrage positions, the central bank has disrupted speculative bets against the rupee. But this success comes with caveats that are harder to ignore. Currency markets thrive on depth, participation, and the credibility of rules.

Over the past decade, India has attempted to move cautiously toward greater openness ~ encouraging foreign participation, improving liquidity, and aligning with global financial practices. By abruptly tightening access, the central bank risks reversing these gains. Investors, particularly those operating across jurisdictions, value predictability as much as returns. Sudden constraints introduce a perception of policy risk that can linger long after the immediate crisis has passed. There is also a structural cost. Offshore markets, for all their imperfections, provide price signals that reflect global sentiment. Curtailing them may reduce volatility in the near term, but it also fragments the process of price discovery.

A widening gap between onshore and offshore rates would not signal strength; it would indicate distortion. For businesses seeking to hedge currency exposure, this could translate into higher costs and reduced efficiency. Yet it would be simplistic to view the RBI's actions as purely regressive. Central banks are ultimately custodians of stability, not market idealism. In moments of acute stress, orthodoxy often yields to pragmatism. The deeper question is not whether intervention was justified, but how long such measures can persist without undermining broader ambitions. India has long aspired to elevate the rupee's global standing, aligning with the economic vision articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. That goal requires trust ~ trust in markets, in institutions, and in the continuity of policy. Temporary controls may buy time, but they cannot substitute for confidence. The current episode, therefore, is less about the rupee's level than about India's financial trajectory. If the restrictions remain a short-lived response to exceptional conditions, they may be remembered as prudent crisis management. If they become a recurring tool, they risk signaling a retreat from openness. In defending the currency, the central bank has drawn a line. The challenge now is ensuring that this line does not become a boundary.

## From Colombo to Dhaka and Male, pumps are running dry and New Delhi is answering

As the war in the Middle East grinds on, energy markets are convulsing, shipping routes through the Strait of Hormuz remain choked, and the collateral damage is falling hardest on the smaller, import-dependent countries that didn't start the conflict and have no leverage to end it.

Bangladesh. Sri Lanka. The Maldives. All three have reached out to New Delhi. When a nation's power plants go dark, when fishing boats cannot leave harbour, when hospitals run low on diesel for their generators - that crisis is immediate. A road project taking a decade to complete is an abstraction. A tanker arriving in port at dawn is a fact.

India's Neighbourhood First Policy India has long proclaimed a "Neighbourhood First" foreign policy. Critics argue India's engagement with its immediate neighbourhood has been reactive rather than proactive - impacted by growing Chinese influence rather than an independent vision. The Middle East crisis has changed the landscape completely.

The Maldives is a tiny island nation with no refining capacity, no alternative large neighbour, and a fragile economy already under severe strain. When fuel supplies from the Gulf dried up, there was quite simply nowhere else to turn. India, rather than reminding the Maldivian government about a strident "India Out" campaign - answered the call without conditions. That decision would be remembered long after the political slogans of the Muizzu era have faded.

What makes this significant is that India absorbed real costs to do it. The Indian crude basket hit \$114 per barrel last month - up from a range of \$65-70 - and the rupee has depreciated nearly 10%, its sharpest fall in 14 years. So, while its energy economics is becoming more unfavourable, India is still supplying fuel to its neighbours. This makes the generosity strategically meaningful - and costly.

Bangladesh Relationship The Bangladesh case is more nuanced and more instructive. The two countries share a long 4,100-kilometre border, deep civilisational and cultural ties. But they also carry the weight of

recent friction under the tenure of Mohd Yunus' tenure, which mainstreamed the anti-India fringe.

When India chose one of its first gestures to the new Dhaka government to be the dispatch of 5,000 metric tonnes of diesel, it was sending a powerful message: that India deals with nations, not just with governments perceived to be favourably disposed.

New Delhi's fuel diplomacy shows that neighbours that lean away, run domestic campaigns against Indian influence, and test the relationship - they still get the phone answered.

Sri Lanka Remembers Who Came First

Sri Lanka does not need to be reminded of these lessons. It lived them. When Colombo's economy collapsed in 2022, which caused massive shortages, brought citizens onto the streets, and forced a president to flee - it was India that moved first.

Before the International Monetary Fund arrived with its structural adjustment conditions, India extended fuel, food, medicines, and credit lines to stabilise Sri Lanka.



When the current energy crisis struck, Colombo's instinct was again to reach toward New Delhi. This is what sustained engagement over time produces - trust that survives government changes and shifts of diplomatic weather.

India's neighbourhood policy is often framed as being in opposition to China's Belt and Road Initiative - a framing that's simplistic and erroneous. China's infrastructure model is about leverage at scale: ports, roads, and telecom networks that reshape a country's strategy and come at exorbitant costs with strings attached. It is also, as several nations have discovered, not necessarily available when

the lights go out. Geography and economics always win over political slogans. India's task is not merely to fill tankers - but to convert that immediate goodwill from fuel diplomacy into the durable architecture of a neighbourhood that chooses New Delhi. Vaccines. Aid. Fuel. Each crisis has reminded the neighbourhood of what India can do when it chooses to lead. The next chapter of Indian foreign policy will be defined by how India will sustain the same clarity of purpose and speed of decision when the present crisis is over.

## Nutrition should be life-skill for our kids

Achid today does not learn about food first from a classroom, a parent, or even a textbook. More often, the first lessons come from packaging, jingles, cartoon mascots, celebrity endorsements, delivery apps, and the glowing screens that turn snacks into status. Before a child understands what protein does, he may already know which chips are "cool." Before they learn why water matters, they may have memorized the logo of a sugary drink. Recent data suggests a jarring disparity in the information ecosystem of our children.

For every one message they receive about hydration or balanced nutrition, they are bombarded with roughly 50 advertisements for ultra-processed foods (UPFs) high in fat, salt, and sugar. That is not a trivial cultural shift. It is a public health crisis disguised as "consumer freedom". India today is living with what nutrition experts call a dual burden of malnutrition - persistent under-nutrition on one side, and rising overweight, obesity, and diet-related disease on the other. In many homes, these are no longer separate realities. One child may be undernourished, while another family member is already at risk of diabetes, fatty liver, or hypertension.

UNICEF India notes that poor nutrition in India is not simply about 'too little' food. Often it is also about unhealthy, low-diversity diets and micronutrient deficiencies. Good nutrition, it reminds us, is fundamental not only to survival but to learning, growth, and life-long well-being. The World Health Organization has repeatedly warned that children remain heavily exposed to the marketing of foods high in saturated fats, sugars and salt, and that such marketing affects not only food preferences but purchase requests, dietary intake and even the norms children develop around food itself.

WHO's 2023 guideline calls for stronger, mandatory protections because self-regulation has proved

inadequate, especially in the digital era. (<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240075412>). India has not been indifferent to this challenge. The country has expanded food support through programmes such as 'PM POSHAN', school meals, 'POSHAN' initiatives, anaemia reduction campaigns, and school health efforts. 'PM POSHAN' itself explicitly aims not only to improve attendance and retention but also to improve children's nutritional levels, with convergence around micronutrients and school health.

As policymakers gathered at the 2026 Nutrition Conclave in Delhi on 13 March 2026, by 'Nourishing Schools Foundation', 'Food Future Foundation', and partners, focusing on behaviour change, child nutrition, and policy outcomes, a consensus emerged that was as much about pedagogy as it was about public health. The policy makers believed that India's nutrition crisis can no longer be solved by feeding programmes alone. To combat a marketing machine that spends billions to shape a child's palate, nutrition education must move from the fringes of so-called extra-curricular activities, to the very core of the school curriculum. India is currently caught in a unique and dangerous demographic pincer movement. On one hand, the United Nations' 2025 State of Food Security and Nutrition (SOFI) report highlights that India still grapples with the world's highest rate of child wasting (18.7 per cent). On the other, the Economic Survey 2025-26 warns of an exploding childhood obesity epidemic, with over 3.3 crore children currently classified as obese, a figure projected to soar to 8.3 crore by 2035. This dual burden of malnutrition is no longer a tale of two Indias. Today, stunting and obesity often coexist within the same neighbourhoods, and sometimes the same households. The root cause is frequently the



same, which is a profound lack of 'nutrition literacy'. We have expanded food access through monumental schemes like 'PM Poshan' and 'Poshan Abhiyaan 2.0', thereby ensuring millions receives a daily meal. But access without education is a half-measure. Providing a meal satisfies hunger for the afternoon, but teaching children why that meal matters protects them for a lifetime. On the other hand, a child may receive a nutritious meal in school and still spend the rest of the day aspiring to the brightly marketed foods that dominate television, neighbourhood shops, and smartphone feeds. This is where public policy often stops too early.

We have tried to feed the child, but not sufficiently to educate the chooser. That is why nutrition education (read literacy) must no longer be treated as an occasional awareness drive, a poster on a wall, or a forgettable chapter before examinations. It must become part of how children learn to live. We must understand that nutrition is not merely about calories. It is about overall growth and development. Children form habits before they form ideologies. Their taste, appetite, reward systems and food routines are shaped long before adulthood.

If unhealthy consumption becomes normal in childhood, later correction becomes much harder. Schools therefore are not just places of instruction; they are one of the last democratic spaces where society

can intervene before lifelong patterns settle in. Therefore, a nutrition-literate child does not simply identify carbohydrates, proteins and fats for marks. That child begins to ask practical questions like "why does a packet snack feel satisfying for ten minutes but leave me hungry again?" "Why does a meal of dal, rice and vegetables keep me fuller longer?" "Why do sugary drinks create bursts of energy followed by lethargy?" "Why is a colourful label not the same thing as a healthy product?" These are not elite questions.

They are survival questions for the twenty-first century. The case for schools is especially strong because schools are among the few institutions that still reach children across class, caste, region, and social background. Therefore, a well-designed nutrition curriculum can do what most health messaging fails to do. "Down to Earth" reports that the Indian government, guided by recommendations in the Economic Survey 2025-26 (released January 2026), is accelerating a shift in public health policy from merely ensuring food availability to regulating the consumption of unhealthy food through education and restriction.

Facing a rapid surge in ultra-processed food (UPF) consumption and childhood obesity, the policy focus is combining, what they call, a 'marketing shield' with an 'educational sword'. (<https://www.downtoearth.org/in/>

ood/economic-surv ey-2026-flags-surge-in-ultra-processed-food-consumption-recommends-higher- (gst). Recognizing that marketing bans alone are insufficient, policymakers are pushing for mandatory nutrition education to enable children to navigate a world of processed goods. In this direction, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has already laid groundwork with the "Eat Right School" programme, which uses "Yellow Books" - activity books available in 11 languages to teach food safety and nutrition to students.

The goal is to move from theoretical knowledge to practical life skills, such as reading nutrition labels and making healthier food choices. But here lies the danger - if nutrition education is introduced badly, it will fail. Children do not need another dry, moralising chapter that reduces food to guilt, fear, or memorised diagrams, or be shamed about what is in their tiffin boxes. They need something much more intelligent, where they are practically taught how food fuels energy, growth, concentration and immunity, while helping them understand the everyday importance of protein, fibre, iron, calcium and hydration.

They need to be taught in creative ways what processed and ultra-processed foods mean in real life, how to read food labels, how advertising shapes cravings through colour and celebrity, and why traditional diets often hold valuable nutritional wisdom worth preserving. As we move toward the 2030 global nutrition targets, India has the opportunity to lead the world in school-based health interventions. By making nutrition education as fundamental as literacy and numeracy, we can ensure that the next generation isn't just 'fed,' but truly nourished. Moreover, in an age where the marketplace speaks to children all day, the classroom cannot afford to whisper.

## Not just vrat food! Singhara's shocking health benefits are turning heads everywhere

This humble fasting ingredient is quietly gaining attention for its powerful Ayurvedic health benefits. From boosting energy to supporting digestion, singhara is more than just a vrat staple.

If your kitchen suddenly smells like vrat food and your family is quietly munching something "healthy," chances are, singhara or singhara has entered the chat. Yes, the water chestnut, often seen only during fasting days, is now becoming the star of wellness gossip. From dadi's nuskhas to Ayurveda experts, everyone seems to be whispering the same thing: "Don't underestimate this fruit."

So what's the real story behind singhara? Let's break it down. Why singhara is a fasting favourite

Acharya Balkrishna says, during vrat (fasting), people switch to



light, sattvik food, and that's where singhara flour comes in. It is considered phalahaari, meaning it fits perfectly into fasting diets.

But this isn't just about tradition. According to Ayurveda, singhara is packed with minerals and alkaline elements that make it deeply nourishing. It gives energy slowly, keeps you full for

longer, and doesn't feel heavy on the stomach.

Basically, it's the quiet over-achiever of fasting foods. Natural shield against common diseases

Here's where things get interesting. Ayurveda doesn't just treat singhara as food—it sees it as medicine. Regular consumption is

believed to help manage: Blood sugar levels (helpful for diabetes)

Heart health

Ulcers

Joint pain like arthritis

From Tooth Pain to TB:

Traditional remedies that surprise

Old-school remedies involving singhara are honestly wild, and fascinating.

For dental issues like loose teeth, a mix including singhara has been traditionally used for relief. Even more surprising, Ayurveda texts mention its use in managing symptoms related to tuberculosis when combined with herbs like triphala and pippli.

Sounds intense, right? That's because singhara has long been treated as a powerful healing ingredient, not just a snack. Stomach problems? Singhara

might help

Had too much spicy food and now regretting life? Singhara has your back.

It is known to:

Help control diarrhoea

Improve digestion

Boost appetite

Balance pitta (which often causes stomach issues)

Energy booster without the crash

Unlike sugary snacks that give quick energy and then drop you hard, singhara releases energy slowly.

Its natural "guru" (heavy) and "madhur" (sweet) properties mean:

You feel full for longer

Your body stays energised

You avoid sudden fatigue

Skin, hair & sleep: The hidden glow-up benefits

This is where singhara quietly turns into a beauty secret.

## Royal family leads Easter celebrations with church service in UK

Britain's King Charles III and his wife, Queen Camilla, were joined by senior members of the royal family for the annual Easter Sunday church service at St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle. With the King's scandal-hit younger brother Andrew and his family missing from the line-up, the procession was seen as a major show of strength by the royals as they waved to the crowds gathered to greet the

77-year-old monarch. The Prince and Princess of Wales, William and Kate, were accompanied by their three children — Princes George and Louis and Princess Charlotte. Britain's Princess Charlotte, Kate, the Princess of Wales, Prince George, Prince Louis, William, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Edward arrive to attend the Easter Matins Service at St. George's Chapel in Windsor. Reuters "This Easter comes at a time of real anxiety for many people. Conflicts abroad, pressures at home, and uncertainty about the future weigh heavily on



families and households," said British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in his Easter message from 10 Downing Street. "In moments like these, faith offers reassurance and grounding a reminder that we are not alone, and that hope can still take root even in difficult soil." Our country is at its best when we choose community over division, kindness over indifference, and service over self-interest. I thank everyone who gives their time through churches and Christian charities, and wish Christians across the UK and around the world a very happy Easter filled with peace, hope

and the promise of new life," he said.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, leader of the Church of England, also used her first Easter sermon since installation at Canterbury Cathedral to call for an end to "violence and destruction" in the Middle East.

Dame Sarah Mullally said: "This week our gaze and our prayers have been turned towards the land where Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead." Today, as we shout with joy that Christ is risen, let us pray and call with renewed urgency for an end to the violence and destruction in the Middle East and the Gulf.

"May our Christian sisters and brothers know and celebrate the hope of the empty tomb and may all people of the region receive the peace, justice and freedom they long for." Thousands have been killed in the ongoing US-Israel strikes on Iran, responded to by Tehran with attacks on Israel and US-allied states in the Gulf.

## Displaced by war, Lebanon's Christians mark Easter far from homes, churches

It was not how the Rev. Maroun Ghafari had envisioned this Holy Week — for years, he had held Easter sermons in his predominantly Christian village of Alma al-Shaab in southern Lebanon, near the border with Israel. This year, he is preaching from a Beirut suburb, beside a cardboard cutout depicting his church in Alma al-Shaab, now caught in the crossfire between Israeli forces and Hezbollah fighters.

Since hostilities erupted last month between Israel and Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group — in the shadow of the wider, US-Israeli war on Iran — over 1,400 people have been killed in Lebanon, and more than 1 million have been forced to flee their homes.

Among those displaced from the war-torn south are thousands of Christians. They now find themselves far from their ancestral churches in Lebanon, where Christians have maintained a strong presence through centuries of Byzantine, Arab and Ottoman conquest and plenty of modern-day crises. Christians are estimated to

make up around a third of Lebanon's population of roughly 5.5 million people. With 12 Christian sects, the country is home to the largest proportion of Christians of any nation in the Arab world.

Huddling in a church, hoping for protection Christian villagers who stayed behind in southern Lebanon, ignoring Israel's blanket evacuation warnings for the area, have increasingly hardened into enclaves surrounded by fierce clashes. And though villagers in Alma al-Shaab had been uprooted before, in the 2024 Israel-Hezbollah war, this time around, they were adamant they wouldn't leave, even as airstrikes came closer and closer. The villagers huddled in their church for protection as Israeli warplanes pounded large swaths of southern and eastern Lebanon while Israeli troops stepped up a ground invasion and Hezbollah kept firing rockets at Israel.

In his annual Easter homily, Patriarch Beshara al-Rai of Lebanon's Maronite Church blamed both Hezbollah and



Israel for the suffering wrought by the war.

"The country is going through a critical situation due to Iranian interference through Hezbollah and Israeli aggression," he said. "Our hearts bleed for the victims of the conflict imposed on Lebanon."

Ghafari's brother, 70-year-old Sami Ghafari, was among the villagers who sought refuge at the church in Alma al-Shaab. But he dashed out briefly on March 8 to tend to his garden, and was killed by an Israeli drone strike. His killing prompted the remaining villagers — including his brother — to pack up their

belongings. The UN peacekeepers in the area — a force known as UNIFIL that has monitored the region for nearly five decades — evacuated them to the northern suburbs of Beirut.

"We wanted to stay, but it was always possible that one of us could be targeted or killed at any moment," the Rev. Maroun Ghafari told The Associated Press from St. Anthony Church in the northern Beirut suburb of Jdeideh, where the displaced from Alma al-Shaab came to worship "Everyone is tired, and we see that war brings nothing but destruction, death and displacement."

## Pope Leo marks first Easter as pontiff with call for hope amid global conflicts

Pope Leo celebrated his first Easter Mass as pontiff with a call Sunday to exercise hope against "the violence of war that kills and destroys," saying "we need this song of hope today" as conflicts spread around the world. With the US-Israeli war on Iran in its second month and Russia's ongoing campaign in Ukraine, Leo has repeatedly called for a halt in hostilities. In his Easter homily, the pope singled out those who wage war, abuse the weak and prioritise profits.

Leo, the first US-born pope, addressed the faithful from an open-air altar in St. Peter's Square flanked with white roses, while the steps leading down to the piazza where the faithful gathered were filled with spring perennials, symbolically resonating with the pope's message of hope.

The pontiff implored the faithful to keep their hope in the face of death, which lurks "in injustices, in partisan selfishness, in the oppression of the poor, in the lack of attention given to the most vulnerable."

"We see it in violence, in the wounds of the world, in the cry of pain that rises from every corner because of the abuses that



crush the weakest among us, because of the idolatry of profit that plunders the earth's resources, because of the violence of war that kills and destroys," he said. He quoted his predecessor Pope Francis in warning against falling into indifference in the face of "persistent injustice, evil, indifference and cruelty," because "it is also true that in the midst of darkness, something new always springs to life and sooner or later produces fruit."

He will later deliver the traditional "Urbi et Orbi" message - Latin for "to the city and the world."

Christians in the Holy Land were marking a subdued Easter

Traditional ceremonies at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, revered by Christians as the traditional site of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, were scaled back under an agreement with Israeli police. Authorities have put limits on the sizes of public gatherings due to ongoing missile attacks.

The restrictions also dampened the recent Muslim holy month of Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr holiday, as well as the current weeklong Jewish festival of Passover. On

Sunday, the Jewish priestly blessing at the Western Wall - normally attended by tens of thousands - was limited to just 50 people.

The restrictions have strained relations between Israeli authorities and Christian leaders. Police last week prevented two of the church's top religious leaders, including Latin Patriarch Pierbattista Pizzaballa, from celebrating Palm Sunday at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. On Tuesday, the pope had expressed hope that the war could be finished before Easter.

## "If US gets three more victories like this, it will be ruined," Iran Speaker shares pic of downed jet

Tehran [Iran], April 5 (ANI): Iran's Parliament Speaker MB Ghalibaf on Sunday shared images of destroyed aircraft and said that the US would be ruined if it were victorious in this manner.

If the United States gets three more victories like this, it will be utterly ruined," he said in a post on X. Iran's Military on Sunday claimed that it had shot down two US Black Hawk helicopters and a C-130 military transport plane.

"After enemy attempts to rescue their downed fighter pilot, invading drones in southern Isfahan were shot down in a joint operation by IRGC and Basij forces, with support from local law enforcement. Two Black Hawk helicopters and a C-130 military transport plane were shot down in southern Isfahan," Spokesman of the Khatam Al-Anbiya Central Headquarters said, according



to Press TV.

United States President Donald Trump confirmed on Sunday that the military rescued the second F-15 crew member, who went missing after Iran downed the jet amid the West Asia conflict. In a post on social media portal Truth Social, Trump called it the "most daring" search and rescue operation for the US military, stating that the government will "not leave a warfighter behind."

He also confirmed that the crew

member sustained injuries.

He wrote, "We got him! My fellow Americans, over the past several hours, the United States Military pulled off one of the most daring Search and Rescue Operations in US History, for one of our incredible Crew Member Officers, who also happens to be a highly respected Colonel, and who I am thrilled to let you know is now safe and sound! This brave Warrior was behind enemy lines in the treacherous mountains of Iran, being hunted down by our enemies, who were getting closer and closer by the hour, but was never truly alone because his Commander in Chief, Secretary of War, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and fellow Warfighters were monitoring his location 24 hours a day, and diligently planning for his rescue."

## Nepal introduces two-day weekend holidays in wake of fuel crisis

Kathmandu [Nepal], April 5 (ANI): The Government of Nepal on Sunday decided to implement a two-day public holiday—Saturday and Sunday—in response to the ongoing fuel crisis linked to prolonged conflict in West Asia, which has caused major disruption to the global energy trade due to the virtual closure of the Strait of Hormuz. The decision was taken during a meeting of the Council of Ministers held at the Office of the Prime Minister in Kathmandu. Government



offices and all educational institutions will observe the new weekend schedule starting April 6 to help facilitate petroleum supply, government spokesperson Sasmit Pokharel said. Pokharel stated that the move to close offices and schools on Sundays was prompted by ongoing disruptions in petroleum supplies and added that government offices, excluding educational institutions, will now operate from 9 am to 5 pm on working days.

The Cabinet has also decided to prepare the necessary legal framework to support the conversion of petrol- and diesel-powered vehicles into electric vehicles. According to the spokesperson, the decision was taken as fuel supply has become increasingly uncertain due to escalating conflict in West Asia.

The government believes that promoting the conversion of petrol- and diesel-powered vehicles into electric ones could help address potential fuel

shortages while supporting the country's transition toward cleaner transportation. The ongoing conflict involving Iran, Israel, and the United States has disrupted global petroleum supply, contributing to shortages and a sharp rise in fuel prices in Nepal. Petroleum prices in Nepal have reached an all-time high, with the latest revision by the state-owned Nepal Oil Corporation (NOC) pushing petrol prices to NPR 202 per litre in the Kathmandu Valley. Diesel and kerosene prices have also increased to NPR 182 per litre.

The decision follows a meeting of the NOC's board of directors last week, which approved an NPR 15 per litre hike for petrol, diesel, and kerosene. This marks the third price increase in just 18 days, following hikes on March 15 and March 25. Petrol prices in Nepal have now surpassed the previous record set in June 2022, when petrol reached NPR 199 per litre and diesel NPR 192 per litre.

After fluctuating over the years, petrol prices had dropped to NPR 156 per litre and diesel to NPR 137 per litre in January 2026. Prices had previously surged during the Russia-Ukraine War, but the current increase marks an unprecedented peak. Over the past 18 days alone, petrol prices have jumped by NPR 45 per litre, while diesel and kerosene have risen by NPR 40 per litre. The price of aviation fuel for domestic flights has surged by NPR 124 per litre, while for international flights in Kathmandu it has reached USD 819 per kilogram. With the revision, domestic aviation fuel prices increased from NPR 127 per litre to NPR 251 per litre. Despite the latest adjustments, NOC reports losses of NPR 34.36 per litre on petrol, NPR 120.54 per litre on diesel, and NPR 416.37 per LPG cylinder, estimating fortnightly losses at NPR 11.71 billion. Prices are likely to rise further depending on international market trends.

## Indian-origin couple jailed for operating UK companies despite ban

An Indian-origin couple has been sentenced for breaching a disqualification order to operate companies in the UK for over five years despite a ban following tax fraud claims. Bharat Jogia, 71, from England's West Midlands region was disqualified as a company director for 13 years in 2014 after not disputing that he caused Jogia Jewellers (UK) Limited to wrongfully claim more than 2 million pounds from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

The UK's Insolvency Service discovered that he ignored that ban to continue to control pharmaceutical companies Diamond Pharma Limited and BHH Consulting. Bharat Jogia showed complete contempt for the law by breaching his director disqualification ban for more than five years," said Mark Stephens, Chief Investigator at the Insolvency Service. Louise Jogia acted as a front to shield her husband, providing signed documentation and support where needed.

"Ignoring a disqualification is a serious criminal offence that undermines the entire system designed to keep rogue directors out of positions where they can cause further harm to creditors, employees and the wider economy," he said. Stephens explained that director disqualifications exist to protect the public and maintain confidence in UK businesses. "When someone is banned from running companies, it is because they have proven themselves unfit to do so," he added. Jogia's disqualification order ought to have prevented him from running, managing or promoting any company until 2027. His breach of the ban resulted in a sentence of nine months in prison, suspended for 18 months, when he appeared at Birmingham Crown Court last week. He was also ordered to complete 100 hours of unpaid community work and disqualified as a company director for another 10 years. His wife was sentenced to seven months in prison, also suspended for 18 months, at the same hearing and disqualified as a company director for 10 years. The suspended sentence means the couple has avoided immediate custodial terms, provided they commit no further offences and comply with court-imposed community requirements. Jogia, based in Streetly near Birmingham, signed a disqualification undertaking or an agreement

to keep rogue directors out of positions where they can cause further harm to creditors, employees and the wider economy," he said.

Stephens explained that director disqualifications exist to protect the public and maintain confidence in UK businesses. "When someone is banned from running companies, it is because they have proven themselves unfit to do so," he added. Jogia's disqualification order ought to have prevented him from running, managing or promoting any company until 2027. His breach of the ban resulted in a sentence of nine months in prison, suspended for 18 months, when he appeared at Birmingham Crown Court last week.

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where company directors suspected of misconduct voluntarily disqualify themselves instead of taking the case to court in June 2014.

In the signed document, Jogia did not dispute that he caused Jogia Jewellers (UK) Limited to participate in transactions which formed part of a scheme to defraud HMRC. The undertaking meant that Jogia could not be a director of any UK-registered company or be involved in forming, marketing or running a company.

However, he continued to run Diamond Pharma Limited and BHH Consulting Ltd in all but name from the day of his disqualification until August and July 2019 respectively, just before liquidators were appointed to both companies. Investigations by the Insolvency Service revealed that Jogia instructed lawyers on conveyancing matters, approved company accounts, authorised agreements with customers and suppliers, managed staff and received more than 80,000

pounds in consultancy services, all for Diamond Pharma Limited.

"Under Jogia's management, Diamond Pharma Limited also racked up more than 445,000 pounds in tax debts, leading to HMRC applying to have the company wound-up," stated the Insolvency Service. "For BHH Consulting Ltd, Louise Jogia provided the trading history to the liquidator by email, noting that she and her husband set up the company 'as a consultation service to the pharmaceutical industry'. However, matters which as a director Louise Jogia would be expected to deal with such as instructions to lawyers on conveyancing matters, the company's IT decisions and payment to creditors, were all dealt with by her husband," it noted. Their analysis of BHH Consulting Ltd's bank account showed it was used to pay personal bills for Bharat and Louise Jogia. The Insolvency Service said it is now seeking confiscation of funds against the Jogias under the UK's Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

## Sobhan Brothers have finally fallen in the Groove

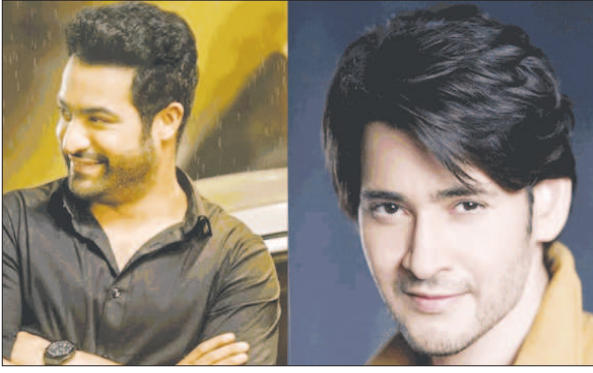


At one point in time, the elder son of former director Sobhan looked like quite a chap with good potential to make it big at the box office. He's Santosh. And the way he chose a few projects has resulted in scoring flops at the box office with more than a dozen movies. Later came his younger brother, Sangeeth, who has made himself a name with the MAD movie, but acted in a couple of OTT projects that didn't even get him a name, though one of them worked out well. Finally, it looks like both

Santosh and Sangeeth have scored big out there with the theatrical releases, Couple Friendly and RaaKaaSaa, respectively. Though Couple Friendly hasn't scored big numbers at the box office, surely the movie made huge noise and proved that Santosh Shoban is a terrific actor and would pull off great numbers if he could find the right content that would click. At the same time, RaaKaaSaa is getting a good reception now, and this movie also proves that Sangeeth could pull audiences to theatres if he

finds proper comedy films. That means, we can sum up that both the Sobhan brothers have definitely fallen in groove with their cinema career. That said, it is high time that both the Sobhan brothers get the right scripts so that their foothold in the film industry will get stronger. Otherwise, if they chose films for just remuneration and production banners, surely they will be heading towards a direction that would never give them any chance to do course-correction.

## Mahesh and NTR laud Adivi Sesh's Dacoit Trailer



Superstar Mahesh Babu has encouraged Adivi Sesh and produced films with him previously. Now, he appreciated the actor's upcoming Dacoit Trailer. Man of Masses Jr. NTR, who praises the talented filmmakers loved the trailer and expressed the same. Mahesh Babu wrote, "From Major to #Dacoit... great to see you push further Sesh... The Trailer is a solid setup for what's to come. Wishing you and team the very best..." Tarak aka Jr. NTR wrote, "Loved the #DACOITTrailer....so

gripping and very well made. All the very best to Sesh, Supriya, Mrunal and the entire team. Looking forward to April 10th!" Everyone who watched the trailer is intrigued by the story and are praising Adivi Sesh, Mrunal Thakur for their performances. Anurag Kashyap is playing a prominent role in the film directed by Shaneil Deo and produced by Supriya Yarlagadda, Suniel Narang. Annapurna Studios is presenting the film marked for release on 10th April, worldwide.

## Rahaman's Profit Sharing Deal In Big Discussion!!



With the arrival of the glimpse of 'Rama' from the much hyped film "Ramayana" out the other day, various aspects related to the movie are being widely discussed now. One of them is the music scored by Oscar-winning composers AR Rahman and Hans Zimmer together. The sound design is very interesting, and the score is quite compelling. At this juncture, it's coming out that Rahman is now going the way of 'superstars' when it comes to charging from producers. Rather than taking a huge chunk of money as an advance, it is coming out that AR Rahman is going the star's way, demanding a share in the profits of the movie. While the composer will anyway get royalties on the songs forever, every time the

song gets played anywhere, or publicly performed by someone at any show, event, or pub, this profit-sharing deal is something new. In this model, only the composer will get a huge chunk if the film turns out to be a big hit at the box office. Otherwise, he might not get huge money like he would get by taking remuneration. That's a win-win move for both. At the same time, there are those who say that composers should just provide songs, take money and forget it, rather than demanding royalties, copyrights and profits in shares for life. Anyway, this profit-sharing model works only for a few like AR Rahman, Shashwat and others, but not for every composer who is just starting their career in Film Nagar now.

## Tollywood Box office gets Back on Track

After many weeks of poor performance, the Telugu film industry is finally seeing some positive change at the box office. For a long time, theatres were almost empty, and new releases failed to attract audiences. But now, two recent films, Rakasa and Biker, have brought some hope back. These films may not be huge blockbusters, but they are doing a decent job. They have started pulling audiences back to theatres, especially in city areas. In big cities and multiplex theatres, more people are coming to watch these movies. This is a good sign for the industry, which was struggling recently.

One important reason for this improvement is positive word of mouth. People who watched these films are sharing good opinions with others. Because of this, more viewers are getting interested. Even without big promotions or festival holidays, these movies are slowly gaining attention. Another good sign is the increase in weekend collections. Usually, Saturdays and Sundays bring more crowds, and this time too, theatres are seeing better occupancy.

Sunday, in particular, is expected to perform well, as families and young audiences prefer to watch movies on weekends. However, there is one small challenge. On the same day, two big IPL cricket matches are happening — Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Lucknow Super Giants and Chennai Super Kings vs Royal Challengers Bengaluru. Cricket is very popular in India, and many people prefer watching matches during the evening and night time. Because of this, some shows in theatres may see fewer audiences, especially night shows. Even with this challenge, the overall situation looks better than before.

Both Rakasa and Biker are expected to continue their steady run in the coming days. Since there are no big movie releases immediately, these films have a good chance to perform consistently. This positive phase may continue until April 10, when a new film, Dacoit, starring Adivi Sesh, is set to release. His film might bring fresh competition to the box office. Until then, the current films can take advantage of this gap.



## Adivi Sesh Rejected Pawan Kalyan Movie at First; Opens Up On His Struggles

During the promotions of his upcoming film Dacoit, Adivi Sesh spoke openly about his life, struggles, and dreams. Adivi Sesh said that he grew up in the United States, but from a very young age, he loved Telugu movies. He shared that he started watching films when he was just four years old. That love slowly turned into a dream of becoming an actor and creating his own identity in the film industry.



While studying in college, Adivi Sesh worked in a grocery store. There, he used to teach English to Telugu people and build contacts. He hoped that these connections might help him enter the film industry one day. Adivi Sesh also shared an interesting story about his early days. When he was just 15 years old, he went for an audition for a film. To look older, he used pencil lead to draw a beard on his face. Even though he did not get selected, his passion to become a hero became stronger.

Later, he joined a film course in the US. However, he realized that degrees alone would not give him movie opportunities. So, he left his studies in the final year and started working in web designing. After that, he made his film Karma, where he worked as a writer, director, and actor. He also revealed that he first rejected a role in Panjaa starring Pawan Kalyan. But after advice from his cousin, he accepted it. That role brought him recognition and opened many doors.

## Why is this Mega Hero Rejecting A lot of Films?

Ever since he was involved in a bike accident, Mega Hero Sai Dharam Tej aka Sai Durgha Tej has become quite choosy with the kind of movies he picks. He has come up with a horror thriller like Virupaksha, but after that, his next film hasn't been released yet. He signed only one movie, which happens to be Sambarala Yeti Gattu, and it's being made with a gigantic budget by the producer of the Hanuman movie.

Here's an interesting discussion being heard in Film Nagar now. Apparently, Sai Dharam has signed his new movie under the direction of "Ka" movie creators, which was announced a couple of days back. Even this film appears to be a big-budget fantasy flick only, and might take some



time to wrap up. However, Sai Dharam is not in a hurry to finish movies asap, and come up with lots of commercial films. Before signing this new film, many top production houses and directors who have scored hits with their debut movies have narrated movies to Sai Dharam Tej, but nothing worked out. The hero is said to have rejected a lot of movies, feeling that they are mostly routine.

Many are saying that once Sai Dharam from the Mega family is known for churning out commercial masala movies back to back, most of them didn't do well. For that reason, he has decided not to come up with such movies, but only meaningful commercial films that will work at the box office. This decision by the hero has really altered the way even filmmakers look at him now.

## Filmmaker Reveals Worst Thing Happening In Mumbai Sets

Veteran filmmaker Priyadarshan is known for his Bollywood movies like Hera Pheri and his other associations with superstar Akshay Kumar. He has now made the movie 'Bhooth Bangla', a horror-comedy that stars Akshay, Tabu, and Wamiqa Gabbi in the leads. As the film is hitting cinemas on April 10th, the director interacted with the press and explained what is actually killing the work culture in Bollywood.



In fact, Priyadarshan openly said that huge entourage on sets are "the worst thing" happening in the Hindi film industry right now. According to him, actors are now coming with large teams including managers, makeup staff, and assistants, and sometimes these groups are even bigger than the actual film crew. When too many people are present on set, it not only becomes difficult for directors to manage but also slows down the entire process. At the same time, Priyadarshan even mentioned that some entourage members are earning more than experienced actors, which shows how much

things have changed. Also, Priyadarshan pointed out that in the South, things are more controlled, and people stick to their roles without crowding the set. On the other hand, some argue that big stars need these teams to manage their schedules, branding, and commitments. However, most of these team members don't get paid by the stars, but the production keeps feeding them, thus sucking the pockets of producers dry. For now, Priyadarshan's comments have triggered a discussion. We have to see if Bollywood takes note or continues the same way.

## All Time Highest Grossing Indian films: Who's on Top?



Indian cinema is generating massive revenues worldwide, as we are witnessing multiple big films that are arriving consistently at the ticket counters. But now let us have a look at the highest grossing Indian films of all time. A remarkable box office trend is drawing attention across the Indian film industry as recent numbers place two films from the Dhurandhar franchise among the highest grossing titles of all time. Trade trackers note that Dhurandhar 2 has reportedly amassed Rs 1536.53 crore within just 16 days of release, while its predecessor Dhurandhar stands at Rs 1354.84 crore worldwide. These figures position the franchise alongside some of the biggest milestones in Indian cinema history. At the top remains Dangaal with a staggering Rs 2059.04 crore

global haul. Close behind is Baahubali 2 The Conclusion at Rs 1800 crore, a benchmark that redefined pan India theatrical success. The recent surge of Pushpa 2 The Rule to Rs 1785.84 crore further highlights the growing appetite for large scale franchise storytelling. Industry analysts say the rapid rise of Dhurandhar 2 is particularly noteworthy because it achieved these numbers in just over two weeks, signaling extraordinary audience pull across markets. The performance also reflects how sequels and cinematic universes are increasingly driving box office momentum in India. With such records being challenged in quick succession, trade circles believe the coming weeks will determine whether Dhurandhar 2 can climb even higher in the all time rankings.

## Janhvi Kapoor Getting Special Privilege In Tirumala? Here's Truth!



Bollywood actress Janhvi Kapoor has this habit of visiting the world, famous Tirumala Temple ever so frequently, and now she has opened up the same in an interaction. Janhvi Kapoor recently opened up about her deep devotion to Lord Venkateswara, sharing a personal reflection on her visits to the Tirupati temple. She noted that while countless devotees wait for hours in long queues hoping for a glimpse of the deity, she feels fortunate to have special access that allows her darshan with-

out the usual wait. However, Janhvi emphasized that this privilege alone does not make her experience complete. She explained that for her, the spiritual journey is incomplete unless she climbs all 3,500 steps to reach the temple each time. This act, she said, forms an essential part of her devotion and connection with the deity. The climb, despite being physically demanding, symbolizes dedication, faith, and respect, turning the pilgrimage into a deeply personal and meaningful experience. Through her words,

Janhvi highlighted the essence of true devotion that it goes beyond convenience or shortcuts and requires effort, patience, and sincerity. She also brought attention to the emotional and spiritual significance of the Tirupati pilgrimage for millions of devotees, reflecting how rituals and personal acts of faith strengthen one's spiritual bond. Her reflection serves as an inspiration for those who undertake similar pilgrimages, reminding them that the journey itself holds as much value as the destination.

# Logical Reasoning in Calendar

## (For all Competitive Exams)

1. There are ----- days in one week.  
Ans:7  
2. The first day of the week is-----  
Ans:Sunday  
3. The last day of the week is -----  
Ans:Saturday  
4. The day after Monday is -----  
Ans:Tuesday  
5. The day before Friday is -----  
Ans:Thursday  
6. The day between Tuesday and Thursday is -----  
Ans:Wednesday  
7. Two days after Monday is -----  
Ans:Wednesday  
8. Three days after Friday is -----  
Ans:Monday  
9. Two days before Sunday is -----  
Ans: Friday  
10. One week after Monday is -----  
Ans: Monday  
11. The weekend days are-----and-----  
Ans: Saturday, Sunday  
12. A weekday is -----  
Ans:Monday-Friday  
13. The 3rd day of the week is -----  
Ans:Tuesday  
14. The 5th day of the week is -----  
Ans:Thursday  
15. The day that comes after Saturday is -----  
Ans:Sunday  
16. The day that comes before Tuesday is -----  
Ans:Monday  
17. If today is Wednesday, tomorrow is -----  
Ans:Thursday  
18. If today is Friday, yesterday was-----  
Ans:Thursday  
19. If today is Sunday, tomorrow is -----  
Ans: Monday



20. If today is Monday, yesterday was -----  
Ans:Sunday  
21. The longest school day is usually a -----  
Ans:weekday  
22. There are -----weekend days.  
Ans:2  
23. The middle day of the week is -----  
Ans:Wednesday  
24. The day before Sunday is -----  
Ans:Saturday  
25. The day after Thursday is -----  
Ans:Friday  
26. The 6th day of the week is -----  
Ans:Friday  
27. The 7th day of the week is -----  
Ans:Saturday  
28. The 2nd day of the week is -----  
Ans: Monday  
29. The 4th day of the week is -----  
Ans: Wednesday  
30. The day before Monday is -----  
Ans: Sunday

Ans: Sunday  
31. If today is Tuesday, two days later is-----  
Ans: Thursday  
32. If today is Saturday, two days earlier was -----  
Ans: Thursday  
33. One day after Sunday is-----  
Ans: Monday  
34. One day before Friday is -----  
Ans: Thursday  
35. Three days before Thursday is -----  
Ans: Monday  
36. Four days after Monday is -----  
Ans: Friday  
37. Five days after Tuesday is -----  
Ans: Sunday  
38. Five days before Sunday is -----  
Ans: Tuesday  
39. Two weeks have-----days.  
Ans: 14  
40. One week has-----days.  
Ans:7  
41. There are ----- months in a year.  
Ans: 12  
42. The first month of the year is -----  
Ans: January  
43. The last month of the year is -----  
Ans: December  
44. The month after January is -----  
Ans: February  
45. The month before March is -----  
Ans: February  
46. The month between April and June is -----  
Ans: May  
47. The 6th month of the year is -----  
Ans: June  
48. The 12th month of the year is -----  
Ans: December  
49. The 3rd month of the year is -----  
Ans: March  
50. The 9th month of the year is -----  
Ans: September  
51. The month that has Valentine's Day is -----  
Ans: February  
52. The month that starts summer (June) is -----  
Ans: June  
53. The month after October is -----  
Ans: November  
54. The month before August is -----  
Ans: July  
55. The shortest month is -----  
Ans: February  
56. The longest months have ----- days.  
Ans:31  
57. April has ----- days.  
Ans:30  
58. June has ----- days.  
Ans:30  
59. September has ----- days.  
Ans:30  
60. November has ----- days.  
Ans:30  
61. January has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
62. March has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
63. May has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
64. July has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
65. August has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
66. October has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
67. December has ----- days.  
Ans:31  
68. February usually has ----- days.  
Ans:28  
69. February in a leap year has -----

-- days.  
Ans:29  
70. The 2nd month of the year is -----  
Ans: February  
71. The 4th month of the year is -----  
Ans: April  
72. The 5th month of the year is -----  
Ans: May  
73. The 7th month of the year is -----  
Ans: July  
74. The 8th month of the year is -----  
Ans: August  
75. The 10th month of the year is -----  
Ans: October  
76. The 11th month of the year is -----  
Ans: November  
77. The month before January is -----  
Ans: December  
78. The month after December is -----  
Ans: January  
79. Three months after March is -----  
Ans: June  
80. Two months before December is -----  
Ans: October  
81. One month after May is -----  
Ans: June  
82. One month before April is -----  
Ans: March  
83. Summer usually starts in -----  
Ans: June  
84. Winter usually starts in -----  
Ans: December  
85. Spring usually starts in -----  
Ans: March  
86. Fall usually starts in -----  
Ans: September  
87. The year begins in -----  
Ans: January  
88. The year ends in -----  
Ans: December  
89. The month with Halloween is -----  
Ans: October  
90. The month with Christmas is -----  
Ans: December

91. The month with New Year's Day is -----  
Ans: January  
92. The month with Independence Day (USA) is -----  
Ans: July  
93. The month after February is -----  
Ans: March  
94. The month before October is -----  
Ans: September  
95. The month between July and September is -----  
Ans: August  
96. The month between November and January is -----  
Ans: December  
97. Half a year is ----- months.  
Ans:6  
98. A quarter of a year is ----- months.  
Ans:3  
99. A full year has ----- months.  
Ans:12  
100. The calendar year repeats every -----months.  
Ans:12

Dr. M. Reddi  
Ramu  
Professor,  
Dept of  
B.S & H  
, Viswam  
Engineering  
College,  
Autonomous,  
Madanapalli.  
Cell:  
08897892659



## The Importance of Empathy: Its Role in Daily Life and Professional Life, and Ways to Develop This Quality

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. It involves placing oneself in another person's situation and responding with sensitivity, compassion, and respect. In today's fast-paced and competitive world, empathy has become an essential soft skill that strengthens relationships, improves communication, and promotes harmony. It is not merely an emotional response but a conscious effort to recognize others' perspectives. Developing empathy enables individuals to become better human beings and responsible professionals. Therefore, empathy plays a crucial role in daily life, professional life, and personal development. The Importance of Empathy in Daily Life Empathy helps individuals build meaningful and lasting relationships. When people listen to each other with understanding, conflicts are reduced and trust is strengthened. For instance, empathy within families encourages emotional bonding and mutual respect. Parents who understand their children's emotions create a supportive environment, while friends who empathize with one another maintain strong and reliable friendships. Empathy also promotes kindness and cooperation in society. When individuals recognize the struggles of others, they are more likely to offer help and encouragement. This compassionate behavior leads to a more peaceful and inclusive community. Moreover, empathy improves communication in everyday interactions. Instead of reacting impulsively,

empathetic individuals consider the emotions behind words and respond thoughtfully. As a result, misunderstandings are minimized, and relationships become more harmonious. The Role of Empathy in Professional Life Empathy is equally valuable in professional settings. It enhances teamwork and collaboration. Employees who understand their colleagues' perspectives can work together more effectively. Empathy also strengthens leadership qualities. A leader who listens to team members, acknowledges their challenges, and provides support fosters motivation and loyalty. Furthermore, empathy improves customer relations. Professionals who understand customer needs and concerns can provide better service, leading to satisfaction and trust. In fields such as education, healthcare, counseling, and management, empathy is particularly important. Developing Empathy: Strategies and Practices Developing empathy is a gradual process that requires conscious effort. Some effective ways to develop empathy include: - Active listening: Paying full attention to others, without interrupting, helps individuals understand emotions and viewpoints. - Perspective-taking: Imagining oneself in another person's situation can help understand their feelings. - Reading and engaging with diverse experiences: Exposing oneself to different stories and discussions can enhance empathy. - Practicing kindness and compas-

sion: Small daily actions can strengthen empathetic behavior. - Emotional awareness: Recognizing one's own emotions helps in understanding others more effectively. Conclusion Empathy is a powerful quality that enriches both personal and professional life. It strengthens relationships, improves communication, and promotes cooperation. By cultivating empathy, individuals contribute to a more understanding and supportive society. Ultimately, empathy not only improves interactions but also reflects the true essence of humanity, making the world a more harmonious and respectful place.

Dr. A. Harish Sharma MS (clinical psychology), MA . English, MCA, CFD(NHI California), CFN, CST English (Vidhya Bharathi sharadha dhamam). MTIET Palamaner



## Not easy being a skipper, Riyan deserves credit for his amazing captaincy against GT: Bangar

Former India cricketer Sanjay Bangar heaped praise on Rajasthan Royals skipper Riyan Parag for his composure and decision-making in a tense finish against the Gujarat Titans on Saturday, highlighting how leadership played a defining role in their six-run win. In a match that went down to the final over at the Narendra Modi Stadium, Rajasthan's decision to hand the ball to Tushar Deshpande proved decisive, with the pacer defending 11 runs under pressure. Bangar underlined that the foundation of the win lay in Parag's captaincy during crunch moments. With multiple bowling choices available, the RR skipper's clarity stood out as he backed Deshpande for the final over, a decision that ultimately sealed the game. "Riyan Parag deserves the credit for his amazing captaincy in this match against GT. It is not an easy job being a skipper, especially when you have tons of bowling options to choose from and you find yourself in a high-pressure situation. Riyan clearly trusted Tushar Deshpande to bowl the final over and when a captain chooses you to bowl an over that's a do-or-die one, then you have to do well. If you don't, your team will lose," Bangar told



JioStar. Bangar stressed that beyond tactics, a captain's role is also about instilling belief in players during high-stakes situations. "It is important for the skipper to motivate the bowler when asking him to do such a tough job. You have to constantly tell them that you can do it, and Tushar Deshpande lived up to the expectations by soaking in all the pressure and bowled the best over of his cricket career," he said. Deshpande responded with an ice-cool over, conceding just four runs and dismissing Rashid Khan at a crucial juncture to swing the match decisively in Rajasthan's favour. Bangar also highlighted the long-term impact of such trust between captain and bowler, saying, "Once you get that kind of trust and faith from your skipper, it is a wonderful feeling. Every time Rajasthan finds themselves in a nail-biting situation, Riyan Parag will go towards Tushar

Deshpande because he has done it once and can do it again." He summed up the moment as a perfect blend of leadership and execution, stating, "So brilliant from the captain, great execution from the bowler. The celebration at the end tells us how hungry RR was for this win." Apart from the final over heroics, Bangar also reserved praise for leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi, who turned the game with a four-wicket haul to derail Gujarat's chase. Bishnoi's control and discipline made it difficult for batters to settle, even without a wide range of variations. Explaining Bishnoi's effectiveness, Bangar pointed out his unique bowling approach. "Ravi Bishnoi rarely bowls the leg break. He relies on just two deliveries - the googly and the one that goes straight on. The googly is his stock ball. He has limited variety, but he is very effective and accurate. He gets wickets when batters sit back to cut him, as Rahul Tewatia did. They end up edging the ball but, Bishnoi works well within his limitations," Bangar said. Despite not being a conventional leg-spinner, his impact was undeniable. "He doesn't have a conventional leg spinner, but his figures of 4 for 41 proved his class," he noted.

## IPL 2026: 'We lost momentum in middle overs,' says Rashid Khan after GT fall short vs RR in last-over thriller

Ahmedabad: Gujarat Titans' stand-in captain Rashid Khan admitted his side lost crucial momentum during the middle overs of the chase as they went down by six runs to Rajasthan Royals in a high-scoring Indian Premier League (IPL) clash at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Saturday. Chasing 211 after Rajasthan posted 210/6, Gujarat appeared well on course for much of the innings, especially with opener Sai Sudharsan anchoring the chase with a fluent knock. However, a cluster of wickets in the middle overs dented their progress before the Titans eventually finished at 204/8, falling short in the final over bowled by Tushar Deshpande. Reflecting on the defeat, Rashid, who led the side in the absence of regular skipper Shubman Gill, felt Gujarat's bowlers had done well to limit Rajasthan despite a strong start from the visitors. "We

bowled really well, especially the way they have started to restrict them under like, 210. I think it was a great effort on this wicket by the bowlers. And then we started really well with the bat too. I felt we have given a great start with the openers. And then I felt in the 12th and 13th overs, we lost back-to-back wickets. That's something that really put us on the back foot. But I think, if they were there, it wasn't that hard to score, but I think in that period of time, we just lost the momentum of the game," he said after the game. The Afghan all-rounder said the surface at the venue was conducive for strokeplay and believed the chase was well within reach before the momentum shift. "On the wicket like this, 9-10 per over, it's not that hard a job to be done. And I feel like we just, a little bit like you lose the momentum in that time and go harder and keep a

little bit for a longer period of time. And the boundaries were coming. I think on this wicket, boundaries were coming easily. But I think we just lost a few early quick wickets in that period of time, which just didn't allow us to go on and keep the momentum till the end," he added. Despite the narrow loss, Rashid stressed that the team would regroup quickly as the tournament progresses. "Everyone have their own game plan, and they know the condition and situation really well. And then just to make sure that you read the conditions and the requirements of the game. Everything is written on the board. I feel like that makes the job pretty much easier, but it's too early; it's still in the competition. We learn from our mistakes, what we do, and we keep getting better and come back stronger in the next game," he stated.

## AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup: India suffer 0-5 loss to Australia

The Indian U20 women's national team suffered a 0-5 defeat to Australia at the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup 2026 in the Pathum Thani Stadium, Thailand, on Sunday. Skye Halmarick's (38' p. 39', 48') hat-trick gave Australia a strong lead, followed by goals from Danella Brutus (54') and Daisy Brown (90+4'). As a result, India remains at the bottom of Group C with no points after two matches. A victory in their final group-stage game against Chinese Taipei on Wednesday could still secure Joakim Alexandersson's team a spot in the knockout rounds. Although the final score might suggest otherwise, the Young Tigresses started strongly in the early exchanges, frequently launching counter-attacks against Australia's posses-

sion-based approach. Sulanjana Raul advanced down the left in the fourth minute, bypassed her marker, and delivered a low cross to Sibani Devi Nongmeikapam, who was forced into a tough angle by the defenders before losing possession. Moments later, Anju Chanu Kayenpaibam's cross from the opposite side was intercepted. Australia midfielder Avaani Prakash initiated the first real opportunity of the day when she was played through on the right and fired a shot that was saved by India's goalkeeper Monalisha Devi Moirangthem. Soon after, Anju attempted a long-range free-kick, but it went over the bar. The Young Matildas scored their first goal in the 38th minute when Cindy Colney brought down Butrus inside the



Indian box, awarding a penalty. Halmarick successfully converted the penalty. Just a minute later, the Australian forward doubled the lead with a header from a cross on the right by Peta Trimis. The Aussies continued their momentum after the break, with Halmarick completing her hat-trick in the 48th minute as her shot deflected before finding the net. The Young Matildas quickly took a 4-0 lead in the 54th minute, assisted by Butrus, who drove into the Indian box and pushed the ball past Monalisha. India kept rallying until late in the game, with Monalisha making saves off Trimis. India's best opportunity came in the 85th minute when Bhumika Devi Khumukcham was played through on the right and delivered a precise cross to Sibani, who headed it wide.

# Govt to invest Rs.40,000 cr to develop Rayalaseema into horticulture hub, says minister

By Skyline Staff Reporter Nandyal, April 5  
Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav said that the State government would be investing Rs.40,000 crore to develop Rayalaseema district into a horticulture hub, which is expected to bring in further development to the region. Mr. Keshav, along with Minorities Welfare Minister N. Md. Farooq and District Collector Rajakumari Ganiya participated in the Budget 2026-27 outreach programme held in the



District Collectorate. Mr Keshav said that the financial position of the State is very precarious and 99 per cent of the State revenues are being spent on salaries and

they have prioritised the payment of pensions to retired employees and the State government is considering payment of salaries only after meeting the pension commitments. Meanwhile, Mr. Farooq said that the budgetary allocations this year have been promising when compared to the previous years and a speciality has been the allocation of funds constituency-wise. He expressed confidence that the budget would be a turning point in the development of capital

Amaravati. The Minister said that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu is focussing on development of the State and simultaneously taking steps for the welfare of women, farmers and common people through the 'Super Six' schemes. He said the government is implementing transparent policies and emphasised the need for the people's representatives and officials to create awareness about the budget to the public at the district and mandal level.

# VPA celebrates 63rd National Maritime Day 2026



By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 05 : Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) celebrated the 63rd National Maritime Day on 5th April 2026, underscoring the vital role of the maritime sector in global trade and national economic development. The day also honours the invaluable contributions of seafarers, with the prestigious NMD Award of Excellence recognizing lifetime achievements in the Indian maritime industry. This year, National Maritime Day was observed under the theme:

“Maritime India – Empowering Progress.” To mark the occasion, Dr. M. Angamuthu, Chairperson, VPA, and Roshni Aparanji Korati, Deputy Chairperson, VPA, along with Heads of Departments, laid a wreath in solemn remembrance of the sacrifices made by seafarers. A ceremonial Guard of Honour was presented by the VPA tug flotilla. Arun Prasad, Chief Vigilance Officer, and Rajesh Mittal, DIG, Indian Coast Guard, also paid rich tributes on the occasion.

As part of the celebrations, essay writing and elocution competitions were organized for school children, and the winners were felicitated with prizes. Additionally, Letters of Appreciation were awarded to officers and staff of the Marine Department in recognition of their exceptional service and dedication. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from Heads of Departments, senior officers, employees, and students, making the celebration a grand success.

# Efforts to resolve the problems of retired electricity employees in the State

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 05 : The new general secretary of the State Retired Electricity Employees Welfare Association, K.N.V. Rama Rao, has revealed that the problems faced by retired electricity employees (pensioners) in Andhra Pradesh will be resolved through petitions. Speaking at a press conference organized at the Daba Gardens Vizag Journalists Forum Press Club (VJF) on Sunday, Rama Rao said that their problems will be resolved harmoniously through the coalition government. He said that there are thousands of retired electricity employees across the state and his working group will move forward according to plan, keeping their welfare in mind. He said that the state general meeting was held in Tirupati on March 30, and the presidents, general secretaries and other important members of the Electricity Pensioners Association of all the districts of the state attended the meeting. He said that after the general meeting, M. Krishna Reddy was elected as the president in the elections held for the State Retired Electricity Pensioners Association



and he was elected as the general secretary. Also, D.R.S.V. Prasad was elected as the working president, S. Masilamani and P. Polinayudu as vice presidents, S.V.R. Krishnamohan and A.N.K. Rayudu as organizing secretaries, N. Rama Satyanarayana and Katari Srinivasa Rao as organizing secretaries, Sai Raju Bapiraju and S. Narsingha Rao as additional secretaries, H. Sai Babu and Pappu Muralimohan as joint secretaries, and I. V. Ramana and C.H. Tirupati Rao were unanimously elected, Rama Rao said. Elections to the executive committee are held once every two years,

in which He said that representation will be provided to all regions across the state. He said that retired employees of all organizations including AP EPDCL and SPDCL have been given participation in the executive committee. Retired employees are the elderly, and they will appeal to the government authorities with their petitions and requests if they have any problems and achieve their rights in a harmonious manner. Speaking as a special invitee to this meeting, National Journalists Association Secretary Gantla Srinu Babu said that

K.N.V. Rama Rao, who was elected as the General Secretary of the Eastern Region Power Distribution Company Retired Employees Welfare Association, was a partisan of journalists and that when he was in service, he would immediately solve the problems of journalists who left. He praised the association members saying that it is a good idea to solve the problem with the word "request" to solve the problem of pensioners. After the meeting, the State General Secretary of the Retired Electricity Employees Association Rama Rao and the awardee Gantla Srinu Babu, who has been awarded as the best journalist three times by the Andhra Pradesh government, were felicitated. Along with the members of the association, senior journalists and international choreographer R.Nagaraju Patnaik were felicitated and felicitated. In this meeting, along with the new executive members, executive members P.V.V. Satyanarayana, J. Sriramamurthy, B.Gurunadha Rao, district executive members S.Varahalu, G. Satyanarayana, N.Viramana, B.Apparao and others participated.

# Legalization of Amaravati as the capital is a key milestone for the development of the state

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 05 : Vishwa Brahmin Sangam State Working President and Visakhapatnam District President Sivakoti Srinivasa Rao (Vasu) expressed happiness over the passage of the Amaravati Legalization Bill by both the Houses. A statement was issued to this effect. He said that it is a day that will go down in history. He said that he is very proud to say that our capital is our Amaravati. He said that Amaravati has been suppressed a lot in the last five years and that the capital of Andhra Pradesh



has become something that cannot be said. He said that Amaravati has come to life after the NDA government came to power. He said that today is a day that every citizen of Andhra Pradesh can be proud of. He said that after a ten-year wait, Amaravati has become the capital

city today, and behind this, there is a lot of hard work by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Nara Lokesh. He expressed special thanks to the central government on behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh. He thanked everyone who supported the Amaravati capital. He reminded that farmers fought for the Amaravati capital for about 1600 days. Farmers have been subjected to many lawsuits and have suffered many insults.

# Andhra University cultural fest 2026: 3-day celebrations announced

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 5  
As a part of Andhra University centenary celebrations, a three-day mega cultural fest 2026 will be organised from April 6 to 8, according to AU Vice-Chancellor G P Rajasekhara. Addressing the media in Visakhapatnam, he stated that the first day's proceedings on would be inaugurated by State Home Minister Vangalapati Anitha. On the second day, Visakhapatnam Member of Parliament M Sriharat would participate in the celebrations as the chief guest. Deputy Chief Minister K Pawan Kalyan would grace the event on the concluding day. The Vice-Chancellor noted that the fest was being organised on a massive scale at the AU Engineering College Grounds,



involving students from AU campus and its affiliated colleges. He invited the people of Visakhapatnam to attend the event, witness the students' talent, and encourage them. Cultural fest chairman N Vijay Mohan shared the schedule, stating that the festivities would kick off on the March 6 at 7 AM with a cycling event from the AU Engineering College Centre to

Rishikonda. It would be followed by a plantation drive. In the evening, the main stage at the Engineering College Grounds would host live bands and cultural performances, including thapeta gullu, yoga, performances by the 'AU United' student group, dances by international students, and a musical night. Anitha would grace the evening as the chief guest.

On the second day, the Engineering College would host rangoli competitions, salad decoration, and an 'Ethnic Day' photo booth contest. The evening stage would feature cultural programmes by students, a musical concert by renowned singer Vagdevi, and cultural dances by foreign students. Sriharat would attend it as the chief guest. On the final day, a walkathon would be organised starting at 7 AM from the AU Convention Centre. The evening highlights include live band performances, cultural shows by AU students, dhimsa dance, kolatam, and puli vesham. Cultural performances by the AU United Club and students from affiliated colleges would also take place. Pawan Kalyan would give away prizes to the winners.

# VISTA app by VMRDA is the future of tourism in Visakhapatnam!

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 2  
VMRDA Chairperson M V Pranav Gopal stated that, as the State of Andhra Pradesh takes strides towards digitalisation under the guidance of the Chief Minister, Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the recently introduced 'VISTA' App (VMRDA Integrated Smart Ticketing Application) will ensure hassle-free services for tourists in Visakhapatnam. Which tickets you can book in Visakhapatnam from the VISTA app? This app, designed to facilitate the ticket booking process for parks, museums, and tourist spots managed by VMRDA, is instrumental in providing easy, fast, and hassle-free services to the public.



Tourism in Visakhapatnam made easy! The VMRDA Chair person, Pranav Gopal said, "In addition to offering convenient, rapid, and hassle-free services to tourists visiting Visakhapatnam from distant regions, the VISTA app also provides features such as map navigation, notifications, booking history, and a feedback system. It is evolving into a comprehensive digital ecosystem for tourism services."

He suggested that everyone download and utilize this app, as features like visit scheduling allow users to plan their visits efficiently, thereby saving both time and effort. Chairman M V Pranav Gopal issued directives to undertake measures to ensure widespread publicity for the VISTA App, thereby ensuring that its benefits reach people and tourists from all walks of life.

# Škoda Auto India continues surge; records highest-ever quarterly sales in Q1 2026

Visakhapatna, April 5: Škoda Auto India continues its strong growth trajectory into 2026, recording its highest-ever quarterly sales in Q1 (January–March) with 20,028 units sold. This is a growth of 17% over the 17,138 cars sold in the same period last year. Building on a landmark 2025, Škoda Auto India has sustained its growth surge and is continuing to break its own records, further accelerating its momentum in the Indian market. Škoda Auto India's performance has been led by the strong and consistent demand for the Kodiaq, which recently crossed the 50,000 sales milestone, the introduction of the new Kushaq, steady contribution from the Slavia, and the continued demand for the Kodiaq in the premium SUV segment. Commenting on the milestone, Ashish Gupta, Brand Director, Škoda Auto India, said, "Continuing our growth surge into 2026 with our biggest-ever quarter is a strong validation of the momentum we have built over the past year. After achieving a record in 2025, it is encouraging to see that we are sustaining this trajectory while also setting new benchmarks for ourselves. This growth is driven by a combination of a stronger and more accessible prod-



uct portfolio, deeper market reach, and a sharper focus on customer-centric initiatives. The Kodiaq continues to take the brand to newer customers and regions, and the new Kushaq that was recently introduced has made its mark. Meanwhile, the Slavia and Kodiaq continue to drive consistent demand in their segments. As we move ahead, we remain focused on maintaining this momentum with consistent execution by launching relevant products, expanding our network, and enhancing the overall ownership experience." **Building Trust:** Škoda Auto India continues to strengthen customer confidence through a sharper focus

on ownership experience and after-sales support. The introduction of Škoda Super Care has set a new benchmark by offering a standard 4-year warranty, 4 years of roadside assistance, and 4 labour-free services across the range, ensuring complete peace of mind and predictable maintenance costs for customers. This customer-first approach is complemented by continuous enhancements in service processes, transparency, and accessibility. With a growing network of 330 Customer Touchpoints in over 180 cities, Škoda Auto India is expanding its reach while ensuring a seamless and reliable ownership journey

across both established and emerging markets. Delivering Excellence Škoda Auto India's performance in the first quarter of 2026 is underpinned by a strong and evolving product portfolio that continues to resonate with changing customer expectations. The Kodiaq remains a key growth driver, expanding the brand's presence in the sub-4m SUV segment and bringing new customers into the Škoda fold. Further strengthening this proposition, the recently-launched new Kushaq takes the brand's democratisation strategy to the next level, offering a wide range of safety, comfort, and convenience features as standard. With segment-first technologies such as an all-new eight-speed automatic transmission and features like the Rear Seat Massager, along with enhanced standard equipment across the range, the new Kushaq reinforces Škoda Auto India's focus on delivering higher value and accessible European technology. At the same time, the Slavia continues to deliver steady volumes, while the Kodiaq upholds the brand's presence in the luxury SUV range, ensuring a well-rounded portfolio across key segments.

# Induction stoves push: Govt plans to reduce LPG dependence

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 2  
In the wake of LPG shortage, the Union government is planning to promote induction stoves and heaters. To discuss the issue, Union Minister for Commerce and Industries Piyush Goyal had a meeting with officials of the departments concerned where it was proposed to take up 'go electric' campaign to minimise dependence on LPG. As a part of the initiative, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the Power Ministry, and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade are collaborating to increase the pro-



duction of induction stoves and compatible cookware. Meanwhile, the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under the Ministry of Power, proposes to procure five lakh induction stoves to meet surging demand. The government is implementing the National Efficient Cooking

Programme to promote 1200-W energy-efficient induction cooktops, which are estimated to provide 20-30 per cent savings on cooking cost compared to normal LPG cylinders. To minimise the use of LPG, the Andhra Pradesh government is planning to equip all Anganwadi centres with induction stoves.