

Dhurandhar Director's  
Next Is a Sports Drama?website: <https://skylinedaily.in/>**4 credit card mistakes to avoid as a beginner, last one goes unnoticed**

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**Ministry of Ayush Begins 75-Day Countdown to IDY 2026 with Yoga Mahotsav-2026 in Lonar**

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**Mary Kom and Bhutia stress grassroots focus at Khelo India Tribal Games**

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## In Brief

### Appointment of Trust Board Chairpersons and Members for Annavaram and Chinna Tirupati Temples

**Amaravati, April 7:** The state government has appointed trust board chairpersons and members for two more prominent temples in the state.

For the Dwaraka Tirumala Temple (Sri Venkateswara Swamy Devasthanam) in Eluru district, N. V. Sudhakar Rao has been appointed as chairman along with 16 trust board members. Similarly, for the Annavaram Satyanarayana Swamy Temple in Kakinada district, Inukonda Venkata Rohith has been appointed as chairman along with 16 trust board members. The coalition government issued orders to this effect on Tuesday.

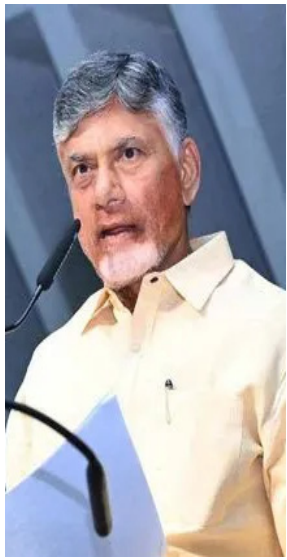
### Key twist in the rape case of a woman in Macherla

**Palnadu District:** Police have made progress in the rape case of a woman in Macherla. Based on CCTV footage, police have determined that the victim's boyfriend was responsible for the assault. They are further investigating who may have assisted the and have taken additional steps in the investigation.

Earlier, a brutal rape was committed on a government employee who was living alone in Macherla. The incident took place last Thursday. The accused entered the victim's house under the pretext of asking for drinking water. He then threatened her with a knife and attacked her. He tied her hands and legs, gagged her mouth with cloth, and sexually assaulted her before fleeing the scene.

Currently, the victim is receiving treatment at Guntur Government General Hospital. Doctors have stated that her condition is stable. Based on her complaint, police registered a case and began an investigation. Using CCTV footage, they have initially identified the accused, and special teams are conducting a search to apprehend him.

## India advancing rapidly in the nuclear sector under Modi's leadership: CM



**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 7 :** Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said that achieving a key milestone in India's nuclear energy journey is a matter of pride. He stated that the indigenous Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor has achieved criticality. He mentioned that this marks an important milestone in the second stage of India's nuclear program. Prime Minister Modi has already expressed happiness over this achievement, calling it a testament to India's scientific capability and congratulating the scientists and engineers.

Chandrababu extended heartfelt congratulations to the scientists and engineers. He shared these views on the social media platform X. The Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor set up at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, successfully achieved criticality on Monday. This is considered a major step forward in the second stage of India's nuclear program. Prime Minister Modi has already expressed happiness over this achievement, calling it a testament to India's scientific capability and congratulating the scientists and engineers.

## YSRCP leaders should question Jagan on that issue: PVN Madhav

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 7 : P. V. N. Madhav, BJP**

Andhra Pradesh president, responded to the attempted attack by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office. He said that resorting to attacks is not right in a democracy.

He commented that Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy had "spread poison" regarding the Amaravati capital issue. He said that Jagan, who has changed his stance three times, should be questioned by his own party members. If there are objections to media reports, they should be countered or discussed, he suggested.

He also said that there are harsh reports against them in Sakshi Media

Group, but leaders of the coalition parties are not even condemning them. He criticized Jagan for

**mane: MP CM Ramesh**  
MPC C. Ramesh demanded that YSRCP apologize to ABN Andhra Jyothy Managing Director Vemuri Radhakrishna. He said Radhakrishna would not be intimidated by the threats of YSRCP groups.



He recalled that even during the tenure of Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, attacks on ABN Andhra Jyothy had occurred, and alleged that Jagan is continuing the same culture. He stated that if there are errors in news reports, they should be challenged—but attacking is inhumane.

He also questioned whether, if such behavior continues, YSRCP would be able to run media organizations like Sakshi.

## Trying to intimidate the media through attacks is not right... Minister TG Bharat slams YSRCP

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, Visakhapatnam, Delhi, April 7:** Minister T. G. Bharath and MPs Sana Satish and M. Sribharat strongly condemned the attempted attack by leaders of the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office in Hyderabad. They advised YSRCP leaders to change their approach at least now.

**"Should be faced democratically: Minister TG Bharat"**

Minister T. G. Bharath Gupta, Andhra Pradesh Industries Minister, strongly condemned the attack on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office in Hyderabad. He said that if news reports are not liked, they should be countered in a democratic manner. Trying to threaten the media through attacks is not right. He urged YSRCP leaders to change their attitude.



**"Attacks on ABN for speaking the truth fearlessly: MP Sana Satish"**

MP Sana Satish expressed strong anger, calling the attack by YSRCP cadres on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office in Hyderabad a heinous act. Speaking to the media in Delhi, he condemned it as an attack on press freedom and described it as "goondagiri" (hooliganism).

He said it is shameful that MLAs and former ministers themselves allegedly led rowdy groups to carry out the attack. He that YSRCP

leaders targeted Andhra Jyothy for fearlessly speaking the truth. He questioned whether physical attacks are the response when they cannot answer questions backed by evidence regarding Amaravati issues.

He added that all democrats stand with ABN Managing Director Vemuri Radhakrishna and asserted that truth cannot be suppressed despite repression. He demanded strict action against those involved and warned that YSRCP cannot suppress facts through violence.

**"YSRCP leaders should change even now: MP Sribharat"**

Visakhapatnam MP M. Sribharat expressed strong anger against "Jagan and his team." He condemned the attack on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office. Speaking to the media in Visakhapatnam, he said that even with a 39% vote share,

## Those who commit wrong can never escape time: Kollu Ravindra

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 7 :** Minister Kollu Ravindra condemned the attack by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office. He questioned whether attacks are the response when Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's stance on the capital issue is questioned. He called it a heinous act that former ministers allegedly joined rowdy groups to attack a media organization.

He said this attack reflects the "demonic culture" of YSRCP. He accused them of making allegations freely through their own media, but resorting to attacks when their failures are questioned.

He alleged that during their five-year rule, YSRCP harassed several media organizations, including Andhra Jyothy and ABN. He recalled that under Jagan's rule, through GO 2430, there were attempts to prevent questioning government failures. He criticized the current attacks as shameful and said people

are observing Jagan's "irrational and aggressive behavior." He added that those who do wrong can never escape the consequences of time.

**"Why so much panic when flaws are exposed?" - MLA Somireddy**

MLA Somireddy Chandramohan Reddy questioned why YSRCP reacts so strongly when its flaws are pointed out. He condemned the attack on ABN Andhra Jyothy offices. He said that ABN MD Vemuri Radhakrishna only commented that YSRCP leaders tend to agree with whatever Jagan says on the capital issue. He criticized YSRCP for changing positions—from supporting Amaravati initially, to backing the three-capital proposal, and now supporting "Ma Vigan." He questioned what was wrong in Radhakrishna's "Weekend Comment by RK" and said objections should be addressed through rebuttals, not attacks.

**"Jagan cannot stop media freedom" - Prathipati**

**Pulla Rao**

Former minister Prathipati Pulla Rao said that media freedom cannot be suppressed through physical attacks. He described ABN Andhra Jyothy's reports and Radhakrishna's writings as "sparks of fire."

He alleged that internal dissent within YSRCP over the "Ma Vigan" proposal led to frustration, and accused Jagan of encouraging attacks on ABN to cover up his inability to control his own party.

**"No need for attacks" - MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy**

MLA Kotamreddy Sridhar Reddy criticized YSRCP, saying it is resorting to attacks on media offices to divert attention from losses related to "Ma Vigan." He said there are many ways to express disagreement with media reports and that attacks are unnecessary.

**"Truth cannot be stopped by intimidation" - Venkata Subbarao**

Bodepudi Venkata Subbarao, a member of the Srisailem Temple trust



board, strongly condemned the attempted attack. He said attacking media for questioning the capital issue is wrong and warned that such actions threaten democracy. He added that people have already rejected intimidation politics and that truth cannot be silenced through fear.

**"Does that newspaper have values?" - Syed Rafi**  
Syed Rafi, TDP spokesperson, condemned the attacks allegedly carried out under Jagan's direction. He accused them of diverting public attention from opposition to "Ma Vigan." He also questioned whether Sakshi Media Group follows ethical values.

## The time for such YSRCP politics is over: Minister Atchannaidu

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 7 :** Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu condemned the attempt by the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) to attack the ABN Andhra Jyothy office. He said that attacking media freedom is a reflection of YSRCP's political culture. He alleged that the attacks on the media are happening because they questioned Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's stance on Amaravati. He strongly criticized YSRCP for attack-

ing media that raises questions, calling it a heinous act. He added that during YSRCP's rule, many media organizations faced harassment, and it is disgraceful that MLAs and former ministers allegedly led rowdy groups to media offices.

Minister Atchannaidu said that people have already taught a lesson to YSRCP's "rowdy politics." He stated that the days of intimidating the media through threats and attacks are over. He praised ABN

Andhra Jyothy Managing Director Vemuri Radhakrishna for continuing to run the media fearlessly despite pressure.

He further said that YSRCP is resorting to diversionary politics because it cannot respond to Andhra Jyothy's editorial. He added that people will not forget the attitude of YSRCP leaders toward women. Finally, he stated that the time for YSRCP's politics of suppressing the media has come to an end.



## If speaking facts leads to physical attacks, Ram Mohan lashes out at YSRCP

**Delhi, April 7:** Union Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu expressed strong anger against Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, the chief of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). He questioned, "If we ask questions, is it an attack? If we analyze, is it considered aggression?" He spoke to the media in Delhi. He said that the attack by YSRCP rowdy groups on the ABN Andhra Jyothy office was extremely brutal. He stated that attempting to suppress media freedom is equivalent to murdering democracy. He mocked that resorting to physical attacks when facts are spoken reflects the weakness of "Jagan and his team."



## Amaravati lives on because of their initiative: Capital farmers

**From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 7 :** Lawyers of the Andhra Pradesh High Court expressed happiness over the legal recognition and gazette notification of Amaravati as the capital. A victory rally for Amaravati was organized under the leadership of lawyers near the High Court. Capital region farmers,

women, and public representatives participated in the rally. They marched from the judges' residences to the High Court. Later, at the court premises, lawyers and farmers saluted the national flag, cut a cake, and celebrated. The farmers expressed gratitude to Mohammed Ahmed Shariff, the then Legislative Council Chairman, calling him a

savior who protected Amaravati, and presented him with flowers. Farmers stated that Amaravati has become enduring ("immortal") due to the efforts of the judiciary and the Legislative Council. Standing before the tricolor flag at the High Court, they raised slogans of "Jai Amaravati." They also performed a ceremonial offering (harati) and paid

obseance to the High Court for safeguarding Amaravati. Former Legislative Council Chairman Mohammed Shariff, MLA Prathipati Pulla Rao, LIDCAP Chairman Pilli Manikya Rao, RERA Chairman Siva Reddy, and Library Corporation Chairman Gonguntla Koteswara Rao participated in the celebrations held at the High Court.

## Water security for drought-stricken district with Jaladhara – Annamayya district as a guide for the state



**Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily):** The Deputy Chief Minister of the state, Konidela Pawan Kalyan, has praised the efforts of Annamayya District Collector Nishant Kumar, who has implemented the "Jaladhara" program very successfully in achieving water security in the district. On Tuesday, at the Andhra Pradesh State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD and PR) in Vijayawada, the Deputy Chief Minister of the state participated as the chief guest in a one-day workshop on the topic of sustainability of surface and groundwater resources (source sustainability) in rural drinking water supply systems. The Deputy Chief Minister specially invited Annamayya District Collector Nishant Kumar to this conference. In the conference, the Collector explained the Jaladhara project implemented in the district through a power point presentation and created awareness among everyone. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister said that the Jaladhara project implemented in Annamayya district has become a model for the state. The Deputy Chief Minister said that the development of water resources in the drought-affected Annamayya district has been possible through the Jaladhara and there has been a revolutionary change in water conservation. Mainly, the increase in groundwater by 8.59 meters in just 5 months, the restoration of 962 minor irrigation tanks, water recharge for about 20,000 acres of land, and the positive impact on the rural and urban economy are proof of the success of the Jaladhara, he said.

### Special congratulations to the Collector....

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister expressed his heartfelt congratulations to Collector Nishant Kumar, who has implemented the Jaladhara project with dedication and taken the drought-affected district towards water security. He suggested that this success should be taken as a guideline for implementation across the state. He also suggested that the experts, scientists and engineers who participated in the program should study the Jaladhara project thoroughly and work to ensure that water conservation measures are implemented effectively across the state.

### Watershed Implementation – Comprehensive Plan....

Speaking at the meeting, Collector Nishant Kumar said that following the basin-based water conservation policy in the district, steps have been taken to identify river basins and divert surplus water to deficit areas. Mainly, the Penna river basin, utilization of Cheyuru and Papagni tributaries, identification of 49 tributaries, connection of 382 tanks through 532 cascades, restoration of 962 dried-up tanks, extensive works through the Employment Guarantee Scheme and other measures have enabled efficient use of wasted water. Instead of huge irrigation projects requiring a cost of thousands of crores, 3-4 TMC of water has been brought into use with the available resources, the Collector said. Special Chief Secretary of the Water Resources Department, engineers, scientists, professors and others participated in this awareness conference.

## Chennai NITTTR and IQAC conducts five-day professional development program at MITS.

**Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily):** MITS (Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science) Deemed to be University near Madanapalle, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in collaboration with National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai, inaugurated a five-day professional development programme on "Use of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning". Dr P Malliga, Professor and Head of Department of Computer Science and Engineering and Dr C Subha, Associate Professor of Educational Media and Technology, NITTTR, Chennai were the chief guests of the programme. Speaking at the programme, Dr Malliga explained the growing importance of artificial intelligence in higher education and suggested that teachers should use AI-based tools to make teaching-learning processes more effective. She said that it is necessary to integrate AI technologies in curriculum design and research. She explained the role of AI in the development of learning resources, digital content creation and personalized learning. Using AI-based tools, adaptive learning systems will change the curriculum according to the learning speed and ability of each student, he said. Presentations, videos, quizzes can be easily created through content creation tools. Online teaching can be effectively conducted through virtual classrooms, she said. Plagiarism checkers, copy checking tools, identify copied content in student assignments, and data analytics tools will help in



analyzing student performance and improving teaching. With the use of AI tools, teaching will be transformed into more efficient, faster and student-oriented, he said. Speaking at the event, Dr C Subha said that in this era of rapid development of technology in the education sector, such training programs will provide new opportunities for teachers and take the standards of education to a higher level. Principal Dr P Ramanathan, IQAC Coordinator Dr K Satish, Heads of Departments, Coordinator Dr Anuradha and faculty members participated in the program.

## Russian couple Constantine and Constantine Julie visited "Lee" Master Arts Academy

**Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily):** Russian couple Constantine and Constantine Julie visited the "Lee" Martial Arts Academy in Madanapalle as part of their tour of India. Speaking to the media on this occasion, they said that they learned that the founders of "Lee" Martial Arts Academy, Karate Master Murali, are teaching martial arts to many people, following the principles of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, and conducting free pranayama, meditation and yoga classes. They praised this as very commendable. Later, addressing the karate students, they advised them to learn the art of martial arts along with the virtue of service and following the rules of diet, learn karate with concentration, discipline and perseverance, and protect themselves. They said that India's history is very rich, it is the birthplace of diverse cultures, and they have great respect for the traditions and culture here. Dr A Sivakumar, V Kavitha, and yoga teachers who participated in the program said that there is a lot of hard work in



learning martial arts, and they asked everyone to learn pranayama yoga meditation along with karate education and be healthy with physical and mental strength. They said that they had come to Madanapalle to organize free yoga classes, pranayama meditation yoga through the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi Foundation. Junior Puneet Kumar Lee, Mohit Kumar Lee, dance master Bhanu Prakash, karate students and their parents participated in it.

## Devotee Donates Rs.10,000 to Nitya Annadanam Scheme at Sri Kalahasteswara Swamy Temple

**Srikalahasti - 7 April (Skyline Daily)**At the renowned pilgrimage center Sri Kalahasteswara Swamy Temple, popularly known as "Dakshina Kashi," a devotee from Bengaluru, Vanaraja, donated Rs.10,000 towards the temple's Nitya Annadanam (daily free meal) scheme being administered by the Devasthanam.

Former Temple Trust Board member Chitti Velu Jayagopal and APRO Rajesh were present on the occasion. The temple authorities arranged special darshan for the donor.



## The annual fair (Jatara) Starts at Sri Mutyalamma Temple, Srikalahasti



**Srikalahasti - 7 April (Skyline Daily)** The annual fair (Jatara) at Sri Mutyalamma Temple, an affiliated temple of Sri Kalahasteswara Swamy Devasthanam, commenced on Tuesday, 07-04-2026. On the first day, Ambali Naivedyam was offered at 8:30 AM, followed by the Geriga Puja Utsavam at 9:00 AM. The Maila Muggu program was conducted at 1:00 PM. Temple Trust Board Chairman Kotte Saiprasad, members Gurrappa Shetty and Kola Vaishali,



special invitees Ch. Shailaja and DEO NR Krishnareddy along with his spouse, affiliated temples supervisor Ravi, clerk Lakshmayya, former Trust Board member Renukamma, and the priests of Mutyalamma Temple participated in the Programme.

## Free Mega Health Camp for Journalists: Collector



**Kadapa (Skyline Daily) April 07:** District Collector Sridhar Cherukuri said in a statement on Tuesday that a mega health camp will be organized for Patri KUs in the district on 08 and 09 of this month with the courtesy of Kadapa Sarvajana Hospital Rims on the orders of the state government. He said that the state government is giving a lot of attention to the health and safety of journalists, and as part of this, a mega health camp will be organized for journalists and their family members at Sarvajana Asu Patri (RIMS). He said that the medical camp will start at 9.00 am and the participants of the medical examination should register their details in the registration form link shared on WhatsApp by the journalists. Accredited journalists in the district were asked to take advantage of this facility. They were advised to come with an empty stomach for blood tests and lipid profile tests, and bring the reports of previous medical tests, if any.

## SC Commission Member Dr. Pakati Goutham Raj Receives Warm Welcome in Naidupeta



**Nayudupeta Apr 07. Skyline Daily Staff Reporter:** Nayudupeta. Dr. Pakati Goutham Raj, State SC Commission member, received a warm welcome in Naidupeta from Dr. Sriprati Babu. The ceremony took place at the R&B Guest House, where Dr. Goutham Raj was honored with shawls and bouquets. He later visited Veerlagunapadu panchayat in Ozili mandal, where locals submitted peti-

tions regarding their issues. Dr. Goutham Raj assured prompt action and instructed officials to address the problems. The visit highlights the commission's efforts to address local issues and provide support to the community. Dr. Sriprati Babu's involvement underscores the importance of collaborative efforts in resolving community concerns.

## "Akhilesh's Lyari Raaj" Or "Dhurandhar Chief Minister": A UP Poster Drive

**Patna; A** 'Dhurandhar' poster campaign has started in Uttar Pradesh, with a youth organisation projecting next year's Assembly election as a choice between "Akhilesh's (Yadav) Lyari Raj" and "Dhurandhar" Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. The references are from Aditya Dhar's blockbuster movies Dhurandhar and Dhurandhar The Revenge. For those who skipped the movies, Lyari is a densely populated Karachi neighbourhood that once lived under the shadow of gang wars. Lyari forms a key setting in the Dhurandhar universe. And the first part shows Rehman Dakaat, played by Akshaye Khanna, as an influential gangster virtually ruling Lyari. The posters, which have appeared in over 10 cities of Uttar Pradesh, show Samajwadi Party president and former Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav in the avatar of Rehman Dakaat and pit him against Adityanath, whose government is set to complete a decade in power. On one side of the poster is a collage



of news reports on communal riots during the Akhilesh Yadav regime. The other side showcases news reports about gangsters being killed after the Yogi Adityanath government came to power. These killings include the murders of Atiq Ahmed and his brother Ashraf, who were shot dead on live television while police were taking them for a medical check-up.

These posters in Lucknow, Malihabad, Sitapur, Hardoi, Jaunpur, Barabanki, Azamgarh, Noida, Pratapgarh, Amethi and Gonda have been put up by an organisation named Youth Against Mafia. The 'about' section of the organisation's website says, "Uttar Pradesh

cannot build a prosperous future if public memory fades. Periods of organised crime, fear, violence, and weakened rule of law do not just harm victims in the moment. They shrink investment confidence, discourage entrepreneurship, weaken local economies, reduce job creation, and damage the hopes of an entire generation. "Youth Against Mafia exists to turn memory into civic action. The foundation will document the past, educate the present, and help shape a future where young people defend a safer and more opportunity-led Uttar Pradesh," it adds. Abhinav Tiwari, general secretary of Youth Against Mafia, said the organisation has no

links to any political party. "We have started this awareness drive to inform people from Gen Z about what Uttar Pradesh went through. Riots used to take place, and the youth of today must not forget that," he said. Fakhruul Hasan Chand, Samajwadi Party spokesperson, said people are unsafe under the BJP government, irrespective of whether they are at home, in jail or on the road. "That BJP government throws allegations against the Samajwadi Party. If you search on the Internet, 'Atiq with BJP leaders', you will see the real face of the BJP," he said. "Uttar Pradesh's law and order situation is in tatters, and the BJP government has completely failed to fix it."

# EDITORIAL

## Naxals are not the end of development

The government's deadline for eliminating Naxalism is March 31, 2026. This marks a historic milestone when the decades-long Maoist movement in the hills and forests of nine states, known as the Red Corridor, is coming to an end. Once a constant battle between the security forces and the Maoists, which once affected more than 120 districts of the country, Naxalism had declined significantly by 2025. It is now confined to a few parts of central and eastern India. Thousands of lives have been lost in the decades of violence. These include civilians and security personnel. However, the elimination of armed Maoists does not mean that the problems have ended. No matter how much the security forces have damaged the Naxal groups, the ideology or root causes behind them still remain in evidence. Even in remote villages in Naxal-affected areas like Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand, roads have been constructed, telecom networks have been expanded, banking facilities, schools, skill centers have been set up, and security forces have reached the villages and provided security, which has increased public confidence and reduced Naxal activities. Welfare schemes are being implemented. The government has repeatedly said that all this is development. But development is not just about numbers. It is necessary to examine how much human development and living standards have improved. Poverty, social exclusion, broken trust among tribal communities are the main reasons for the rise of Maoism. Some tribal communities are losing their land and forest rights. They are facing exploitation by powerful bosses. In addition to this, the authorities are being negligent. If all these are not resolved, Maoism or other such movements will inevitably arise at the grassroots level. The Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, through the Forest Rights Act and the Panchayat Raj Acts, has provided protection and local self-governance to the tribals in the respective Scheduled Areas. The governors have special powers to not only protect the rights of the people of these areas but also look after their welfare. However, these are failing due to poor implementation, not because of any flaws in the laws. In these circumstances, the governors themselves should be responsible for protecting the interests of the tribals. Also, rehabilitation should not be just one measure. Education, healthcare, jobs, dignity, and proximity to every family are needed. Till March 31, the government mainly focused on security issues and the end of the Maoists.

Now, the government needs to focus on issues that led to the conflict, such as security in tribal lives, employment, jobs, and forest land rights. Although the eradication of left-wing extremism is a good development for the restoration of peace and security in those areas, in the name of corporate powers, crony capitalists, and exploitation of natural resources in tribal areas should not be allowed. Instead, efforts should be made to create the rights that tribals should have and to provide them with participation in parliamentary democracy. Union Home Minister Amit Shah told the Lok Sabha before the deadline of March 30 for the liberation of Naxals that 4839 Maoists have surrendered in the past three years due to intensive paramilitary operations, 2218 have been arrested, and 706 have been neutralized in encounters. He alleged that Naxalism increased exponentially because the previous Congress government showed sympathy for the Naxals.

But in reality, when Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister, he recognized Naxalism as a major challenge to the country's internal security and launched Operation Green Hunt in 2009-10 to eradicate Naxals. At that time, Naxalism was rampant in 180 districts of mineral-rich states like Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra. But the operation was stopped after strong criticism was received that if Naxal prevention measures were taken, it would cost a lot of money to maintain the paramilitary force and many lives would be lost. But now Union Home Minister Amit Shah has adopted a dual policy. On the one hand, he warned that the surrendered Naxals would be rehabilitated through talks, and those who opposed this would be killed. The dissatisfaction of human rights activists and intellectuals who considered the eradication of Naxals as genocide was not taken into account. Moreover, they were labeled as urban Naxals. They propagated among the tribals that the Naxal ideology is opposed to parliamentary democracy and that they do not contribute to development. Overall, they succeeded in ending left-wing terrorism. Now the immediate task is to heal the wounds of war through reconciliation politics.

# In Numbers: How Has India Kept Fuel Prices Low Even As Europe Sees 70% Spikes?

Gas prices in Europe have surged by nearly 70% amid the West Asian crisis, intensifying volatility in global energy markets. Compounding this, Russia imposed a gasoline export ban effective April 1. Since the Iran war, energy markets have been acutely destabilised. Eurozone inflation rose to 2.5% from 1.9%, driven largely by energy inflation at 4.9% year-on-year. A 74 surge in crude, a near-blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, and collapsing Gulf LPG flows should have triggered a domestic spiral across many countries. However, India has managed to contain the retail impact so far.

### What's behind this divergence?

**The Shock Transmission**  
The shock originated at a critical chokepoint: the Strait of Hormuz, through which nearly 25% of global oil flows transit. Disruptions pushed Brent crude from around \$70 to over \$120 per barrel, a rise of roughly 70%. Consequently, European gas prices rose by about 50%, while retail fuel prices increased sharply; Germany saw petrol rise 18%, Spain 34%, and Portugal's diesel rose nearly 17%. In several African economies, fuel costs are estimated to have surged by 30% to 50%. India's structural exposure was significant. Its crude import dependence stands at 88%, while LPG imports accounted for 60% of consumption, of which roughly 90% transits through Hormuz. With over 100 million households under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana reliant on subsidised LPG, this dependence has direct implications.

Early indicators pointed to stress: LPG imports fell from 3,22,000 metric tonnes to 2,65,000 metric tonnes, while the Gulf's share in it dropped from around 60% to 34%. Under standard transmission dynamics, such a shock would have led to a sharp retail price increase. Yet, unlike most economies, India prevented a full pass-through. Petrol and diesel prices remained largely unchanged, and LPG saw only a limited increase. Moreover, the government claims that it has stabilised LPG prices after having secured an eased supply of it.

The puzzle is, why did such exposure not translate into domestic price instability?

### Where India Is Getting Its

### Supplies From

India's first line of response lay in supply-side adaptation specifically: a rapid but structural diversification of import sources. Crucially, this was not an ad hoc adjustment but an extension of pre-existing procurement strategies that provided options under crisis conditions.

The United States emerged as a key marginal supplier of LPG, backed by pre-contracted volumes of approximately 2.2 million tonnes per annum, about 10% of India's import basket. This contractual baseline enabled scaling up without delays owing to renegotiation. Simultaneously, Russia's share in India's crude imports rose to around 45-50 million barrels since the Iran war started, and is expected to be as high as around 2 million bpd. This was sustained through alternative maritime routes, notably the Cape of Good Hope, effectively bypassing Hormuz-related disruptions. African suppliers, particularly Nigeria and Angola, provided additional crude substitution from the Atlantic Basin. Although these flows were costlier due to longer transit routes, they served as critical buffers in maintaining supply continuity. Argentina, though a relatively small player, also emerged as a supplementary LPG source. Its contribution was marginal in volume terms but still significant in a tight market. Even so, constraints persisted. Russia's LPG export infrastructure limited scalability, while suppliers like Norway and Canada faced logistical rigidities and longer lead times. The key insight is that India's resilience did not come from post-crisis improvisation, but from a diversified import portfolio that could be reweighted under stress, including the incorporation of non-traditional suppliers like Argentina.

### Naval And Diplomatic Tools

This supply diversification was complemented by maritime and strategic interventions. With disruptions extending to both Hormuz and the Red Sea, shipping routes were reconfigured around the Cape of Good Hope. This has historically increased transit times by approximately 30% and freight costs by 40-60%, alongside a spike in insurance premiums. To mitigate these risks, India



deployed naval and diplomatic tools. Under Operation Sankalp, Indian naval escorts ensured safer passage for critical energy shipments. Concurrently, selective access through Hormuz was maintained via diplomatic channels, reducing the probability of extreme supply disruptions. The payoff was clear: while costs increased, physical supply continuity was preserved. Domestic buffers further strengthened this resilience. LPG production increased by 28%, while piped natural gas (PNG) connections expanded by nearly 2.9 lakh, partially substituting LPG demand at the margin. Strategic petroleum reserves, covering roughly 74 days of consumption, provided an additional cushion.

### The Price Containment Plan

However, even with supply secured, global price escalation remained unavoidable. Herein lay the most decisive intervention. India's second and arguably more consequential policy response was to decouple global price shocks from domestic retail prices through a combination of fiscal absorption and administrative controls. The divergence between input costs and retail prices was stark. Analysts suggest that under full pass-through of global price shocks, the increase could be significantly higher, given the sharp rise in international LPG benchmarks. In reality, prices rose by only about ₹60 (roughly 7%). This gap was bridged through a layered absorption architecture. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) bore under-recoveries estimated at ₹40,000 crore, while the government provided com-

ensation of around ₹30,000 crore. Targeted subsidies under PMUY further insulated vulnerable households. The net effect was that most of the price shock was absorbed upstream by public sector balance sheets rather than being transmitted to consumers. The containment strategy was even more pronounced in petrol and diesel pricing. The government implemented excise duty cuts of ₹10 per litre on both fuels, reduced diesel duties effectively to zero, and imposed export levies to redirect supply towards the domestic market. As a result, retail prices remained largely stable despite elevated global crude prices.

### Diesel As A Special Case

This prioritisation is grounded in macroeconomic considerations as diesel is not just a fuel but an input into the entire price system. First, diesel plays a central role in inflation transmission. It underpins logistics, agriculture, and supply chains, with direct and second-round effects on both the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and Consumer Price Index (CPI). Containing diesel prices, therefore, mitigates broader inflationary pressures. Second, macroeconomic stability considerations were paramount. At \$120+ crude, a full pass-through would have significantly raised CPI inflation, eroded real incomes and potentially triggered monetary tightening. Third, diesel's importance for trucks, which account for approximately 70% of India's freight movement, and for powering irrigation via diesel pumps and power backup across MSMEs, implies a significantly higher input-output multiplier compared to LPG.

Stabilising diesel prices, therefore, compresses inflationary effects across logistics, food prices, and core CPI, delivering disproportionately large macro-economic gains. Fourth, excise duty reductions effectively shifted the burden from OMCs to the sovereign balance sheet, preventing financial stress within public sector energy firms.

### Can This Last?

Finally, political economy constraints cannot be ignored. Petrol and diesel prices are high-frequency, highly visible indicators of economic distress, creating strong incentives for administrative containment. That said, the system is not impermeable. Private sector players, such as Nayara Energy, adjusted prices upward, indicating that administrative control is partial and contingent on public sector dominance. India's response to the 2026 energy shock reflects a coordinated, multi-layered policy framework, where it efficiently re-engineered shock transmission mechanisms. The state intervened at multiple nodes - supply, logistics, pricing, and welfare - to ensure that global volatility was absorbed fiscally rather than passed on to consumers. Whether this constitutes a policy masterstroke depends on its sustainability. The model is contingent on fiscal space, geopolitical positioning, and continued diversification. Structural risks, particularly a high-import dependence and the vulnerability to Hormuz disruptions, remain unresolved. India did not escape the shock; it reconfigured how the shock travels through its economy, demonstrating a form of state capacity that is as much fiscal as it is geopolitical.

# India Just Decided To Let Chinese Capital In Again. But There's A Catch

In March 2026, India eased regulations that had restricted Chinese capital in local companies, in a development that marks New Delhi's cautious pragmatism towards capital flows from Beijing. Instead, the new rules mandate that decisions on whether or not to allow proposals on capital flows from countries that share a land border with India will be taken within 60 days. Yet, India has not fully opened the sluice gates, and the relaxation is being allowed in sectors such as capital goods, electronic components, polysilicon and ingot wafers. Another caveat is that majority control must stay with an Indian company or entity, but investments from bordering countries that involve 'beneficial ownership' to the limit of 10% are permitted under the automatic route, which does not need government approval.

Economic engagement between India and China nosedived in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020, a situation that was compounded by China's military coercion and border clashes that led to deaths of soldiers on both sides. In the wake of the pandemic, when stock

prices plummeted, China's central bank raised its equity stake in India's HDFC from 0.8% to 1.1%, which immediately triggered a political blowback that China was indulging in opportunistic takeovers of India's corporate assets.

This development led to the government promulgating Press Note 3 (PN3), which stated that all investment from bordering countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Myanmar and China will go through deep scrutiny. It reflected New Delhi's effective targeting of Chinese capital and its befitting response to Beijing through economic signalling. Prior to 2020, India's startup ecosystem had a lot of Chinese investors, funding a wide range of technology companies in fintech, e-commerce, and digital services. The restrictions curbed BYD's plan to establish a plant in India and Great Wall Motors' \$1 billion investment, while Ant Group, Shunwei Capital, and Tencent Holdings Group also sold their share to Indian investors.

In October 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping conferred on the sidelines of the

BRICS summit in Russia and decided to defuse the military standoff. By agreeing to patrolling arrangements on the border, the Chinese tacitly admitted to their act of trying to create new facts on the ground. The understanding reached with China in October 2024 met an important aim, which was ensuring that the Indian Army could patrol till relevant points, and the resumption of grazing. With the resumption of patrolling, both sides began to take steps towards normalising relations.

The impetus for economic normalisation has come from both sides, with the 'Economic Survey 2023-24' suggesting that India must open doors to Chinese capital, inviting businesspeople to set up manufacturing units in India to reduce the trade deficit. Following this development, Niti Aayog member Rajiv Gauba suggested a calibrated reopening to economic cooperation with China. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman disclosed that China Inc had also approached the government through the Ministry of External Affairs to relax curbs, but

added that a "sense of caution" would be built into the re-engagement. Thus, opening its doors to Chinese Foreign Di-



rect Investment (FDI) in select sectors through the automatic route - though with caveats - reflects India's cautious decision-making and economic pragmatism. The recent moves of relaxing the rules demonstrate a pragmatic shift in India's foreign policy to balance national security with economic imperatives.

Economically, the relaxation of foreign direct investment rules could revive India's manufacturing and technology sectors, which are facing technological and capital gaps. Post-

Galwan, Chinese FDI flows declined sharply. From April 2019 to March 2020, Chinese FDI in India was approximately \$163.8 million, but it went down drastically to \$2.7 million in April 2025-March 2025, creating financing challenges for several sectors, including electronics, manufacturing, renewable energy, and startups.

Allowing minority shares 10% beneficial ownership through automatic routes in these sectors, such as capital goods, electronic capital goods, electronic components, and solar manufacturing inputs such as polysilicon - except strategic sectors such as semiconductors - with a scrutiny period of 60 days is a calibrated approach.

This calculated relaxation could also complement New Delhi's broader industrial policy, such as "Make India 3.0" and the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme, which aims to make India a manufacturing hub for traditional and new developing technology and strengthen manufacturing capacity.

In addition, it could play a role in strengthening India's integration into global supply chains.



## 4 credit card mistakes to avoid as a beginner, last one goes unnoticed



**4 Credit Card Mistakes To Avoid As A Beginner**

**Mumbai:** As the new financial year, FY27, investors are navigating a complex landscape of market volatility, geopolitical tensions, and changes in taxation. In this uncertain environment, financial experts emphasise the importance of careful planning—not just for investments, but also for managing everyday financial tools like credit cards. In a conversation with Zee Business, Pankaj Mathpal, Managing Director of Optima Money, and Vikas Puri, Senior Partner at Complete Circle Capital, discussed strategies for effective financial planning. The conversation ranged from portfolio construction to emergency funds, debt management, insurance, and, notably, the responsible use of credit cards. Mathpal highlighted that investors must first understand the volatile nature of markets. "With geopolitical events such as the Israel-Iran conflict impacting global economies, and new provisions in the Income Tax Act 2025 coming into effect, this financial year is unlike any other," he said. "It's essential not to panic dur-

ing market fluctuations. If you are invested in equities, maintain patience and consider investing your available cash in instalments rather than lump sums. This approach reduces risk and aligns with long-term goals." Puri emphasised that before investing, investors should first ensure their financial foundation is secure. "A robust portfolio starts with insurance coverage and an emergency fund. These act as safeguards against unexpected volatility or life events. Life and health insurance are non-negotiable; they protect your family from financial burdens if unforeseen circumstances occur." When the conversation turned to credit cards, both experts stressed that mismanaging them is a common pitfall. Puri noted that many individuals, especially younger investors, confuse their credit limit with disposable income.

**4 credit card mistakes to avoid as a beginner**  
The experts laid out key mistakes and principles for using credit cards responsibly:

**1) Missing bill payments**  
Paying your credit card bill late can turn convenience into a costly liability. "Always pay your credit card bill by the due date," Mathpal said. "If payments are delayed, revolving credit can accumulate at extremely high interest rates—sometimes as high as 50 per cent per year, depending on the card and the user profile. This can quickly turn a convenient tool into a costly liability."  
**2) Spending emotionally or impulsively**  
Investors sometimes make discretionary purchases. Investors should control lifestyle spending, especially on luxury items or international travel, when currency volatility is high. Puri explained, "Now is not the time to make discretionary expenses in dollars while the rupee is weakening. Budgeting is essential."  
**3) Not using your card strategically**  
Credit cards can provide rewards, cashback, and discounts if used wisely. Understanding the billing cycle and the interest-free credit period ensures that you benefit without incurring unnecessary

costs.  
**4) Thinking your credit limit is extra income**  
"When using a credit card, some assume that the limit is extra money they can spend. But this is temporary credit, not free money. Ultimately, the borrowed amount has to be repaid, Puri said. The credit card may be used either for cashless purchases, for earning rewards, or for having an overdraft facility, but not as a substitute for your income. Mistaking your credit limit for extra money may result in overspending and financial stress.

**Linking credit card management to broader financial principles**  
Further, they added that managing credit cards is just one piece of the financial puzzle. "Many people also take small personal loans for non-essential purposes like travel, unaware of the high cost of borrowing. Paying off debt should always be a priority before investing. This reduces financial stress and ensures a smoother investment journey." The experts also tied credit card management to broader financial planning principles: **Emergency Fund:** Keep adequate savings to cushion yourself against any unexpected occurrences so that you do not have to resort to borrowing money at exorbitant interest rates when an emergency occurs. **Diversification:** A properly diversified investment portfolio, including stocks, bonds, gold, and foreign assets, serves as insurance against volatility. This concept applies both to investing and money management. **Automated Saving:** Automated investments serve as an

antidote to emotional decisions and contribute to wealth creation consistently. "When savings are automated, you invest without being influenced by market fear or greed," Mathpal explained.

**Seven financial mantras for FY27**  
The experts also laid out seven key financial mantras for FY27:  
1. Make your portfolio risk-aligned.  
2. Maintain an emergency fund.  
3. Prioritise debt repayment.  
4. Follow proper diversification.

5. Adopt automatic savings.  
6. Ensure adequate insurance coverage.  
7. Make tax-efficient investments without chasing tax benefits alone.  
Credit card usage falls directly under the principles of debt management and budgeting. By incorporating both the sound use of credit cards and other measures mentioned above, investors can safeguard themselves against overspending and secure their financial futures. The experts stressed that FY27 offers both challenges and opportunities. "Understanding your tools—from credit cards to investments—is key," said Puri. "Don't let temporary credit or impulsive decisions jeopardise your financial health. Plan carefully, pay off debt first, and use credit strategically. For investors entering the new financial year, the takeaway is clear: a credit card is a tool, not extra money. When used responsibly—in tandem with budgeting, debt management, and investment planning—it can enhance convenience and rewards without compromising your financial stability."

## Sensex rises for 4th straight day, ends 510 pts higher; Nifty tops 23,100; Infy, Hindalco jump 3% each

The benchmark indices had slipped into the deep red in the morning trading hours, with Sensex falling more than 800 points and Nifty tumbling below 22,750 as US President Donald Trump's fresh threats against Iran spooked investors. But bulls soon took over control of Dalal Street. Sensex and Nifty erased all losses and sharply jumped into the green, before closing near their respective day's highs. At close, Sensex was up nearly 510 points at 74,616, while Nifty 50 was up more than 155 points, or 0.68%, at 23,124.

## Vodafone Idea Share Price: AGR reassessment deadline extended to June 30; telecom stock under pressure



**Mumbai:** Vodafone Idea Share Price: In a relief for Vodafone Idea, the government has extended the deadline for AGR reassessment to June 30, giving the company extra time to sort out pending calculations. Earlier, this process was supposed to wrap up by March 31. The reassessment covers dues up to FY17 and is still incomplete mainly because some paperwork linked to Spectrum Usage Charges (SUC) hasn't been submitted across a few circles. For context, SUC is what telecom companies pay the government for using spectrum. While the licence fee part of the reassessment is already done, this remaining piece has delayed the full exercise. Even with this extension, investors aren't really celebrating. Shares of Vodafone Idea were hovering around Rs 8.55 on the National Stock Exchange on April 7, down about 2.40 per cent during the day. The bigger picture looks tougher—the telecom stock has fallen 13.72 per cent over the past month and is down more than 26 per cent so far this year. That kind

of drop shows investors are still worried about the company's overall financial health and the long road ahead.

**Small but important win on users**  
Now here's the part that stands out. For the first time in years, Vodafone Idea has actually added subscribers. According to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the company added 21,927 users in February 2026. It's not a big number, especially when you compare it with rivals. Reliance Jio added 1.62 million users, while Bharti Airtel added 4.85 million. But for Vodafone Idea, even a small gain is a step in the right direction after a long stretch of losses.

**Why users are coming back**  
The company has been spending more on its network—rolling out better coverage and upgrading infrastructure. That capex push could be starting to show some early results. At this point, Vodafone Idea isn't being picky. Whether it's high-paying users or budget ones, the focus is simply on growing the base

again. Meanwhile, BSNL actually lost about 0.10 million users during the same period, showing how competitive the space still is.

**What happens next**  
Vodafone Idea is also in talks with banks to raise more funds. That's crucial because without steady investment, it can't keep up with bigger rivals.

**So where does this leave things?**  
The AGR deadline extension helps, and the subscriber addition is a positive sign. But one good month doesn't change the bigger picture. The company still needs consistent user growth, fresh funding, and a stronger network to really turn things around. For now, it's progress—but very early days.  
In a separate development, Vodafone Idea Limited (VIL), has brought in a prepaid plan priced at Rs 3999. This plan comes with several benefits for users, including access to OTT platforms like JioHotstar and Amazon Prime Lite. Experts believe, this move is aimed to attract users and may benefit the telecom operator.

## Bank credit growth to ease to 13% this fiscal; MSME, retail remain key drivers: CRISIL



**Mumbai:** Bank credit in India is expected to grow around 13 per cent in the current fiscal, slightly slower than the estimated 14 per cent growth in FY26, according to a report by CRISIL Ratings. The report said the growth will be supported mainly by strong demand from the retail and micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) segments, along with corporates continuing to prefer bank loans over bond issuances. "Bank credit is poised to grow ~13% this fiscal, driven by healthy growth in the micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) and retail sectors, as well as the continued preference of corporates for bank credit rather than issuance of

bonds amid the prevailing interest rate differential," the report said. However, the pace of expansion will be slightly slower compared with last fiscal. "Overall, credit growth will be a tad slower than the estimate of ~14% for fiscal 2026," the report added. The report noted that geopolitical developments, particularly tensions in West Asia, could influence the outlook for credit demand. "The duration and intensity of the West Asia conflict and its effect on the macroeconomic landscape can also impact the credit growth calculus," it said, adding that a pick-up in deposit growth will also be crucial as the gap between credit and deposit growth has widened re-

cently. Corporate lending, which accounts for about 36 per cent of domestic bank credit, is expected to grow at a steady pace. Subha Sri Narayanan, Director at CRISIL Ratings, said, "Credit growth in the corporate sector (~36% of domestic bank credit) is seen growing 9-10%, in line with ~10% in fiscal 2026." She added that corporate borrowing from banks picked up in the second half of FY26 as loan rates became relatively cheaper compared with bond yields. "After a subdued start, corporate credit growth accelerated in the second half of fiscal 2026, supported by lower interest rates on bank loans relative to corporate bonds," Narayanan said.

The report also highlighted that the ongoing geopolitical tensions may have mixed effects on corporate borrowing. "The ongoing West Asia conflict would have a dual impact on wholesale credit growth," the report said, explaining that while uncertainties may delay private sector capital expenditure, supply-chain disruptions and higher input prices could increase demand for short-term working capital loans. MSME lending is expected to remain the fastest growing segment for banks, though growth could moderate slightly from the previous year. "This segment has been, and will remain, the fastest growing portfolio for the banking sector," the report said, adding that growth in FY27 "should still be upwards of 22% in the base case." The report attributed this outlook partly to government initiatives aimed at improving credit access for smaller businesses. Retail lending, which accounts for roughly one-third of bank credit, is also expected to maintain steady growth. "Retail loans (~33% of bank lending) will continue to grow at a reasonable clip, at ~14%, in fiscal 2027," the report said. However, the report warned that inflationary pressures

linked to geopolitical developments could affect consumer demand. "Inflationary pressures from a prolonged West Asia conflict and the resultant higher interest rates could weigh on retail consumption demand," it added. Meanwhile, deposit growth will remain a key factor influencing banks' ability to sustain lending growth. Vani Ojasvi, Associate Director at CRISIL Ratings, said banks are increasingly tapping alternative funding sources due to slower deposit growth. "Regulatory measures such as the phased reduction in the cash reserve ratio have released liquidity for banks, providing support during the recent muted deposit growth," Ojasvi said. She added that banks are also relying more on certificates of deposit to support lending. "Against overall deposit growth of 10.8% on-year as on March 15, 2026, growth in CDs was ~27%, albeit on a much smaller base. However, this comes at a higher cost," she said. The report concluded that while bank credit growth is expected to remain steady this fiscal, geopolitical uncertainties and funding dynamics will continue to shape the outlook for the sector.

## TCS, Infosys, Wipro, HCLTech results due on these dates as investors await IT Q4 FY26 earnings



**Mumbai:** India's information technology sector is set to enter a crucial period. The fourth-quarter earnings season for FY26 will officially begin next week. Investors are closely watching the top IT companies. These include Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, Wipro, HCL Technologies, and Tech Mahindra. The earnings announcements will be spread across April. The results will give a clear picture of demand trends. They will also reflect how global uncertainties are impacting the sector. Tata Consultancy Services will kick off the earnings season for IT companies. The company is scheduled to announce its Q4 FY26 results on April 9. The results will be declared after market hours. The earnings call is planned for 7 pm on the same day. This call will be closely tracked by analysts and investors. In previous quarters of FY26, TCS has

announced its results between 3:40 pm and 4:20 pm. A similar timing is expected this time as well. The company has also said it will consider a final dividend for FY26. This makes the announcement more important for shareholders. Dividend decisions often impact investor sentiment in the near term.

**Infosys results expected on April 23**  
Infosys will announce its Q4 results on April 23. The company is expected to release its numbers after market closing hours. Looking at past trends, Infosys has declared its earnings around 3:45 pm in earlier quarters of FY26. The same pattern is likely to continue. The company's commentary will be important. Investors will watch for updates on client spending. Any signals on deal pipelines will also be key.

**Wipro to announce on April 16**  
Wipro is scheduled to re-

port its Q4 FY26 performance on April 16. The company usually announces results between 3:30 pm and 4 pm. This trend has been consistent across recent quarters. Market participants will look for stability in its performance. Growth outlook and margin trends will remain in focus.

**HCL Tech likely to report on April 21**  
HCL Technologies will declare its results on April 21. The company typically reports earnings later in the day. In earlier quarters, results were announced between 5 pm and 6 pm. A similar timing is expected for Q4 as well. Investors will focus on its deal wins. Commentary on growth visibility will also be important.

**Tech Mahindra to announce on April 22**  
Tech Mahindra will release its Q4 numbers on April 22. The company usually announces results after market hours. Past data shows that earnings are declared between 3:30 pm and 4:30 pm. The market will watch for signs of recovery in its business. Updates on key verticals will be tracked closely.

**Why this earnings season is important**  
This earnings season comes at a time of global uncertainty. IT companies are facing mixed demand conditions.

# Ministry of Ayush Begins 75-Day Countdown to IDY 2026 with Yoga Mahotsav-2026 in Lonar

- Asia Book of Records Set with Collective Trikonasana Practice at Yoga Mahotsav-2026
- Mass Trikonasana Reflects Spirit of Collective Participation and Shared Wellness: Prataprao Jadhav
- Yoga Mahotsav-2026 Symbolises Global Awakening Towards Holistic Health: Jadhav



**New Delhi, April, 7 (PIB):** The Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Ministry of Ayush, organised Yoga Mahotsav-2026 at Chhatrapati Shri Shivaji Maharaj Udyan, Lonar, district Buldhana, Maharashtra. The event marked a significant milestone as it entered the Asia Book of Records for the largest gathering performing Trikonasana. Nearly 5,000 participants assembled at dawn to perform the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP), transforming the historic town of Lonar into a vibrant centre of collective wellness. The large-scale participation highlighted the growing global acceptance of Yoga as a powerful medium for promoting unity, health, and well-being. Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, described the event as

(IDY) 2026.” He noted that hosting the celebration in the geologically significant Lonar region symbolises a broader global awakening towards holistic health and harmony. Emphasising the importance of Yoga, he stated that the practice continues to enhance physical health, mental well-being, and emotional balance. Highlighting the significance of the record-setting Trikonasana performance, Shri Jadhav stated that the achievement reflects the spirit of collective participation and shared wellness inherent in Yoga. He also underlined the importance of Ayush Aahara, emphasising

the role of traditional and natural foods such as millets, ragi, coconut oil, and medicinal spices in boosting immunity and promoting holistic health. Addressing the gathering, Ms. Monalisa Dash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, described Yoga as one of India’s most valuable contributions to the world, noting that it represents a way of life that fosters harmony between mind, body, and spirit. The programme featured a live demonstration of the Common Yoga Protocol led by Prof. (Dr.) Kashinath Samagandi, Director, MDNIY. The session included Yogasana, Pranayama, and Dhyana, enabling participants to experience the comprehensive benefits of Yoga. Yoga Mahotsav-2026 also showcased several flagship initiatives of the Ministry of Ayush, including the “Yoga for Air Travel” protocol, “10 Yoga Protocols for Non-Communicable Dis-

eases,” and the Yoga 365 campaign aimed at integrating Yoga into daily life. A toll-free helpline (1800-315-7008) offering 14 days of free guided Yoga practice was also highlighted.

The event marked the formal commencement of the 75-day countdown to the 12th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026. The programme was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Ayush, representatives of the district administration, and other distinguished guests. Over the past eleven editions, the International Day of Yoga has emerged as one of the largest global movements for health and well-being, with increasing international participation each year. The forthcoming 12th edition will focus on addressing non-communicable diseases, promoting geriatric health, and exploring the integration of emerging technologies, including Artificial Intelligence, with Yoga. The Ministry of Ayush reaffirmed its commitment to promoting Yoga as a mass movement through Jan Bhagidari, encouraging wider participation across the country and globally in the lead-up to IDY 2026.



## ICAR Constitutes Special Task Force to Strategize Agricultural Resilience Amid Global Geopolitical Shifts

**First Meeting Chaired by DARE Secretary & ICAR DG Outlines Comprehensive Framework for National Food and Input Security**

**New Delhi, April, 7 (PIB):** The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established a high-level Special Task Force (STF) to proactively address emerging global challenges and formulate mitigating strategies for the agricultural sector. During the first meeting chaired by the Secretary DARE & Director General, ICAR, following comprehensive framework was outlined to ensure national food and input security: Intensification of 'Mera Gaon Mera Gaurav' (MGMG): Action has been initiated to broaden the scope of the MGMG campaign to enhance farmer outreach. The initiative will prioritize 100 aspirational Districts, utilizing existing organizational structures to provide a complete package of practices and build field-level confidence. Optimizing Soil Health and Fertilizer Use: A dedicated campaign is being launched to promote the balanced use of fertilizers and bio-inputs. This includes a district-wise assessment to rationalize fertilizer consumption in major crops like wheat and rice, ensuring maximum resource efficiency. Diversification and Domain Mapping: Detailed mapping of millet-growing regions is being undertaken to optimize land-use efficiency. This strategy includes promoting high-value alternatives in low-productivity rice areas, such as the integration of eco-fisheries, to enhance farmer income during the Kharif season.

Technological and Mechanical Interventions: Emphasis is being placed on mechanical solutions, including Direct Seeding of Rice (DSR), supported by a strengthened AICRP on Meteorology for real-time farmer advisories. Governance and Monitoring: To ensure swift execution, Nodal Officers have been designated within each Subject Matter Division (SMD) to monitor weekly progress and coordinate a consolidated Actionable Plan across key areas. The Special Task Force will convene as situational exigencies demand, leveraging institutional feedback mechanisms and internal expertise to provide data-driven inputs to the Government.

## 'bob SAMVAD', an AI-powered multilingual conversational platform of Bank of Baroda to transform in-branch customer interactions launched in Mumbai

**- In-house AI platform enables real-time, low-latency two-way communication across 22 languages, embracing India's linguistic diversity**

**- DFS Secretary terms bob SAMVAD a step towards inclusive banking, strengthening customer service through technology**

**New Delhi, April, 7 (PIB):** Bank of Baroda (Bank) unveiled its bob SAMVAD, which was formally launched by Shri M. Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance in Mumbai on March 28th 2026. The platform is an industry-first AI-powered multilingual conversational platform aimed at transforming customer interactions at its branches. Designed to eliminate language barriers, the platform enables customers and branch staff to communicate seamlessly with each other in their preferred language. M. Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, congratulated Bank of Baroda on the launch. Secretary, DFS commended Bank of Baroda for the innovative use of technology to bridge the language barrier in banking and enhance customer experience. Sh. Nagaraju said that bob SAMVAD will promote more inclusive & accessible service delivery and help improve customer service at branches. The initiative has set a new benchmark for the sector, he added. Nagaraju also visited bob Forest, another green initiative by the Bank after bob Earth, Green Deposits and Green Bonds, reflecting the Bank's commitment towards sustainability and overall ESG goals. bob Forest is a 6,000 sq. ft. green oasis built at Bank of Baroda's BKC office in Mumbai that promotes biodiversity and cleaner air. Commenting on the launch, Dr. Debadatta Chand, Managing Director & CEO, Bank of Baroda said, "With bob SAMVAD, Bank of Baroda is leveraging AI to make our branches more inclusive and customer-friendly by enabling seamless real-time conversations in local languages. This initiative reflects our commitment to operational excellence by combining technology with customer-centric design." Developed entirely in-house, bob SAMVAD leverages AI-driven speech and language technologies to enable real-time, low-latency, two-way communication across 22 languages, ensuring contextual accuracy and natural fluency, while embracing India's linguistic diversity. At the service counter, the application enables seamless communication between customers and branch staff, even if they speak different languages. Customers can speak or input their queries in their preferred language, which are instantly translated into the staff member's chosen language, and vice versa, facilitating smooth, real-time conversations, ensuring accurate understanding and efficient service delivery. The interaction is displayed as text on the screen, with an optional voice mode that converts text into speech, for customers who prefer audio over reading - making it fully accessible for everyone.

## Amit Shah, commends Saraswat Cooperative Bank and Amul for crossing Rs.1 lakh crore annual turnover in 2025-26

**New Delhi, April, 7 (PIB):** Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, has congratulated Saraswat Cooperative Bank and Amul for crossing the milestone of Rs.1 lakh crore annual turnover in the year 2025-26. In a post on X, Amit Shah said, "Saraswat Cooperative Bank and Amul crossing the Rs.1 lakh crore annual turnover mark in 2025-26 is a vivid example of the strength of cooperatives and their immense potential.

This achievement is not only historic for the cooperative banking and dairy sectors, but it will also provide new energy to the journey of building an Atmanirbhar Bharat. Heartfelt congratulations to all the Karamyogies associated with Amul and Saraswat Cooperative Bank for this proud achievement."

# Today's Horoscope

**Aries**  
Chances of your recovering from physical illness are high which will enable you to participate in sports competition. Natives who are employed will require a sustainable amount, but due to unnecessary expenditure done in the past, they won't have enough. Friends will come to your aid if needed. Today, you and your love partner will delve into the ocean of love, and will experience the high of love. You might see an advancement in your work today. You will endlessly plan to rejuvenate your body and become fit. But just like the rest of the days, you'll fail to execute it. You will be lead down by your partner and this might force you break the marriage.  
Remedy :- Recite (Om Ham Hanumathe Namaha) 11 times early in the morning for financial growth.

**Taurus**  
Some family members could irritate you by their envious behaviour. But no need to lose your temper otherwise situation could go out of control. Remember what can't be cured must be endured. Wishes will be fulfilled as blessings and good fortune comes your way- and as hard work of the previous days brings results. Friends and relatives will do favours and you will be quite happy in their company. Don't wear those clothes which your lover doesn't like as it may offend him. Natives who have a creative job can face various problems today. You can realize the importance of a job over creative work. You can spend a good day reading an interesting magazine or novel.  
Remedy :- Offering water to Peepal tree and circumambulating it, especially on Saturdays, will be highly beneficial for health.

**Gemini**  
Likely to suffer from a persistent pain in neck/back. Don't ignore it especially when it is accompanied by general weakness. Rest will be very important today. Investment in antiques and jewelry will bring gains and prosperity. You will have limited patience today-but take care as harsh or imbalance words might upset people around you. Today chances of meeting someone who would appeal to your heart would be very strong. Opportunities to show your skills will be with you today. You can suddenly plan to take off from work today and spend time with your family. Today, you will spend the best time of your life with your spouse.  
Remedy :- Use plates and spoons made of silver for great health and fitness.

**Cancer**  
Cultivate a harmonious nature to kill your hatred because it is more powerful than love and deadly affects your body. Remember evil triumphs sooner than good. If you wish to lead a smooth life and maintain a stable standard of living, then you need to remain attentive today regarding your finances. Spouse will encourage you to get rid of smoking. It is right time to get rid of other bad habits too. Remember we should strike when the iron is hot. Your dreams and reality will get mixed in the ecstasy of love today. Put your efforts in the right direction and you will be rewarded with extraordinary gains.  
Remedy :- Increase family feelings and happiness by distributing sour food items such as lemon, tamarind, or gol gappe to young girls.

**Leo**  
A day of recreation and fun. Property deals will materialize and bring fabulous gains. Your brother will be more supportive to your needs than you had thought. Love is synonymous to worshipping God; it is very spiritual as well as religious. You will know this today. It is a favorable day, utilize the best of it at work. You will not mind what people think of you today. Rather, you will prefer not meeting anyone in your spare time and enjoy the solitude. Life becomes really mesmerizing when your partner is really awesome, you are going to experience it today.  
Remedy :- Make use of incense sticks, camphor, room freshener, and scented candles at workplace for an enhancing work-life.

**Virgo**  
Today you feel relaxed and in the right mood to enjoy. Due to the placement of the Moon, your money can be spent on unnecessary things. If you wish to accumulate wealth, then talk to your spouse or parents about it. This period is also good for taking your parents into confidence regarding your new projects and plans. Love is beyond the limit of senses, but your senses will experience the ecstasy of love today. Opportunities for work will come through females you know. Unexpected travel for some proves to be hectic and stressful. The series of disagreements will take its toll and you will find it very difficult reconcile with your spouse.  
Remedy :- Recite (Om Ham Hanumathe Namaha) 11 times early in the morning for financial growth.

**Libra**  
Blood pressure patients could take the help of red wine to lower their blood pressure and keep cholesterol under control. It will further relax them. Money gains will not be to your expectations. Someone you live with will be annoyed if you have been ignoring your household duties. Your love relationship is turning magical; just feel it. Partners will be enthusiastic about your new plans and ventures. You can suddenly plan to take off from work today and spend time with your family. Touches, kisses, hugs have a very special significance in married life. You are going to experience it today.  
Remedy :- For better financial conditions, apply some oil on your body and in your belly button, and then take a bath

**Scorpio**  
You might feel slightly run-down mentally and physically- A little rest and nutritious food will go a long way in lifting your energy. Today, with the help of a close friend, some businessmen are likely to gain monetary benefits. This money can overcome many of your troubles. Trouble seems to be brewing on the home front so take care of what you say. Past happy memories will keep you busy. It looks like a wonderful day today at work. Realizing the fragility of time, you will like to spend your time in solitude away from everyone. It would also be beneficial for you to do so. Everything seems happy today in your married life.  
Remedy :- Wear a seven mukhi Rudraksha to live disease-free life.

**Sagittarius**  
Try to get out of your office early for some recreation. Long pending arrears and dues will finally be recovered. You will find friends supportive-but be careful of what you say. New romance for some uplifts your spirits and keeps you in a cheerful mood. Today you can pick up additional responsibility that will lead to higher wages and a better position. Today, you can come back from office and get indulged in some of your favourite hobbies. This will calm you down. You keep getting jokes on married life over social media, but today you will get really emotional when the startling beautiful facts about your married life will come before you.  
Remedy :- Store water in yellow coloured glass bottle, keep in Sun, and drink it for contentment in family life.

**Capricorn**  
Health should be given priority to social life. Investment needs to be made with a long-term perspective. Your excessive energy and tremendous enthusiasm will bring favorable results and ease domestic tensions Romantic entanglement will add spice to your happiness. Today your artistic and creative ability will attract lot of appreciation and bring you unexpected rewards. Today people will pass compliments-which you have always wanted to hear. With just little efforts, the day might become the best day of your married life.  
Remedy :- Feed Fishes with wheat flour balls

**Aquarius**  
Use smile therapy to cure your prolong illness as it is the best antidote for all problems. Economically, today is going to be a mixed day. You can acquire monetary profits today, provided you work really hard. Sisterly affection will encourage you. But you should not lose your temper over trifles as it would only harm your interests. Your tears may be wiped by a special friend. Those connected with art and theatre will find several new opportunities to give their creative best. If travelling make sure you carry all important documents. Your spouse is truly your angel, and you will know this today.  
Remedy :- Offer milk to banyan or neem tree, and apply a tilak of the soil of the tree on your forehead. This will empower your economic condition.

**Pisces**  
Go out for a long walk for the sake of your good health. Watch your tendency to live for the day and to spend too much on entertainment. Your childlike and innocent behavior would play a pivotal role in solving family problem. Unexpected romantic inclination will cloud your mind towards the evening. If you were struggling at work since many days, it is going to be a really good day. The natives of this zodiac sign would like to spend more time alone than meeting people today. Today, your free time can be spent by cleaning the house. You and your spouse will create the best memory of your married life today.  
Remedy :- For a good financial life, chant (Om Gam Ganapataye Namaha) 11 times everyday.

# After Varanasi, Ramayana Targets Rs.1000 Cr OTT Deal?

Ranbir Kapoor's mythological behemoth Ramayana is arguably the next highly awaited Bollywood film of the year. With 4000 Crores budget riding on this two-part project, the stakes are so high that the makers need massive theatrical and digital deals to recoup the investment.

According to the latest buzz in Bollywood media, the production house behind this epic duology has rejected a mind-blowing OTT bid from a leading company. Reportedly, a staggering offer worth 700 Crores for the digital rights of both parts of Ramayana have been offered. But, producer Namit Malhotra is said to have declined the offer as he is expecting minimum 1000 Crores from OTT players for this ambitious project.

Earlier, there were similar unverified reports in the media that SS Rajamouli's upcoming globe-trotting action adventure 'Varanasi' also received a similar offer from OTT giant Netflix. Sources revealed that the team is yet to close the deal. Though it is unclear whether the price offered is exaggerated or the team is expecting more than the quoted amount, the OTT rights are still unsold.

Now, Bollywood circles are buzzing with the news that Ramayana makers are confi-



dent that Ramayana fetches more than 700 Crores and still looking for better offers. Another talk is that the producer is also thinking to sell the rights of two parts separately so as to make more profit out of the deals.

Keeping aside the rumours over these big-ticket deals, it should be noted that the first glimpse of Mahesh Babu starrer Varanasi received a phenom-

enal response due to the jaw dropping visuals and SS Rajamouli's incredible presentation. Whereas, the just released glimpse of Rama from Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana received mixed reports as the VFX effects didn't cater to the high expectations of moviegoers. There is no wrong in expecting record breaking deals for a film like Ramayana given the scale and budget involved.

But, the content in the promos should match the high expectations and create unprecedented buzz on the franchise. The team should come up with more fascinating promotional content in the coming days to up the ante before the release of the first part. Ramayana stars Ranbir Kapoor, Yash, Sai Pallavi and Sunny Deol in the lead roles. The film is releasing for a Diwali 2026.

## Ramayana vs Varanasi Debate Brings Kalki into the Spotlight

The ongoing debate around Ramayana has unexpectedly brought Kalki 2898 AD back into the spotlight. After the teaser of Ramayana received mixed reactions, particularly criticism over a few VFX shots, film lovers, especially from the South, began drawing comparisons with other big-budget spectacles. Many pointed to S. S. Rajamouli's approach, highlighting that beyond budgets, conviction and clarity of vision play a crucial role. His Varanasi pre-visualization glimpse was widely appreciated and faced minimal criticism, reinforcing the idea that execution matters as much as scale. Amid this discussion, Kalki 2898 AD has emerged as a benchmark. Being mounted on a massive budget, the film was largely praised for its visual effects and CG quality, with very few complaints from audiences regarding the screenplay. Interestingly, this renewed conversa-



tion has turned into free publicity for Kalki, especially as work on its sequel has already begun. The film's technical strengths are once again be-

ing acknowledged, keeping it relevant in public discourse. In a way, the Ramayana debate has only strengthened Kalki's standing as a visual spectacle

done right. The shooting of the sequel has already gone on floors and Nag Ashwin is leaving no stone unturned to make this film a smash hit.

## Mega Hero Betting Only on Big Concepts?

Until 2023, Mega hero Sai Durgha Tej did films in quick succession and made sure that at least two movies released every year. Even after meeting with a serious accident in 2021, he recovered very quickly and completed both Virupaksha and Bro without taking much gap. It has now been nearly three years since the release of his last film and still shooting for his upcoming ambitious pan-India project, Sambarala Yeti Gattu, which is being helmed by debutant director Rohit and produced by Hanu-Man fame Niranjan Reddy.

In the making for two years, Sambarala Yeti Gattu is yet to lock the release date as some portions are still pending. The big-budget film has faced several delays in these two years. But, the team is now gearing up for a grand release very soon. The date is likely to be announced in a few weeks. Meanwhile, SDT recently announced a new collaboration with the directorial duo behind Kiran Abbavaram's KA. Producer Saahu Garapati, who is fresh from the success of Mana



Shankara Vara Prasad, will back this project which is also expected to be a high-budget mystic thriller just like his previous blockbuster Virupaksha.

Looking at his recent choice of scripts, it is clear that Sai Durgha Tej is more inclined towards choosing intense larger-than-life subjects rather than regular commercial potboilers and romantic entertainers which he tried before Virupaksha. But, the pace at which he is doing films is a worrying factor as far as his career progression is concerned. For an actor like SDT, spending more than a year for a single project is quite disappointing as many top-tier actors are able to complete minimum one film every year. It is time for him to shift gears immediately and have at least one or two releases in a year without wasting much time.

## Suriya's Karuppu becomes Veera Bhadrudu

Suriya's upcoming film is gearing up for a summer release with a new identity in Telugu. Originally titled "Karuppu" in Tamil, the film will be released in Telugu as "Veera Bhadrudu." Directed by RJ Balaji, the film is slated to hit screens on May 14, targeting the summer season. Trisha plays the female lead. The project is produced by Dream Warrior Pictures, with S. R. Prakash Babu and S. R. Prabhu backing it. Music is composed by Sai Abhyankar. The shooting has already been completed, and the team is currently gearing up for release. The promotions will begin shortly. Suriya has been trying to make a big bang comeback. He also wrapped his work on another Telugu-Tamil bilingual, Vishwanath and Sons.



## Dhurandhar Director's Next Is a Sports Drama?

Aditya Dhar is one of the star directors of the Hindi film industry who proved his mettle with the biggest blockbuster titled Dhurandhar. The two part film made him a bankable director and across the nation, the film buffs are wondering what could be his next film. Interestingly, there are reports about Aditya Dhar making a sports drama. Aditya always wanted to bring the story of Ashwathama to the world and considered it as his dream project. However, it is unsure if Aditya Dhar will immediately commission his new project or wait until he makes another one. Aditya Dhar proved his skill in handling emotion and also carrying the action flavour perfectly. If he focuses on a sports drama, it can bring in a lot of attention.

As per bollywood reports, Aditya Dhar is believed to be making a sports drama on a



high-scale production. He may take a break immediately and come back with an exciting film. It's too early to say which project he eventually takes up, but it will involve a lot of work. Additionally, there are also re-

ports about Aditya Dhar initiating discussions with filmmakers down South. The possibility of bringing a South star on board can not be ruled out as well. An official confirmation over the same is awaited.

## Adivi Sesh's Dacoit completes censor formalities



Adivi Sesh has built a reputation for choosing distinct and content-driven films, often taking his time to ensure quality. Staying true to his approach, his latest film "Dacoit" has now completed all pre-release formalities, including censor certification. The film has been awarded a U/A certificate in both Telugu and Hindi versions, clearing the decks for its release. Directed by Shaneil De, "Dacoit" is an action-packed love drama slated to hit screens on April 10. The film showcases Sesh in a more intense and mass-oriented avatar, marking a departure from his earlier roles. Mrunal Thakur plays the female lead, while Anurag Kashyap appears in a pivotal role. The makers have also announced that the theatrical trailer will be released on April 4, ramping up promotions ahead of the film's release. Produced by Supriya Yarlagadda, with Suniel Narang as co-producer, the film is presented by Annapurna Studios.

## Sreenidi Deccan FC held to 1-1 draw by Aizawl FC

Hyderabad: Sreenidi Deccan FC played out a 1-1 draw against Aizawl FC in Matchweek 7 of the Indian Football League at the Deccan Arena. David Castaneda opened the scoring in the 29th minute, while the visitors equalised through an own goal in the 87th minute of the game. Head coach Carlos Vaz Pinto made three changes to his starting eleven following the draw against Shillong Lajong FC. After serving his one-match suspension, Lalromawia returned to the side, replacing Lalbiakliana. Striker Paulo Cezar came in for Roly Bonevacia, and Lalthankuma replaced Pape Gassama.

# SPORT

## Mary Kom and Bhutia stress grassroots focus at Khelo India Tribal Games



**Raipur:** Six-time World Championship medallist Mary Kom and former India football captain Bhaichung Bhutia underlined the importance of grassroots investment and structured development pathways while addressing reporters at the Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG) 2026 in Raipur. For creating future champions, both the legends maintained that Indian families need to discourage children from spending more time on screens and instead encourage them to go to playgrounds and take part in various sports. Bhutia, one of Indian football's most iconic figures, stressed that while initiatives like KITG are a strong starting point, long-term success depends on strengthening the foundation of sport in the country. Reflecting on his own journey, he pointed to the role played by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) in nurtur-

ing young athletes at a time when sporting infrastructure was still evolving. "I have been a SAI product, from the first batch in 1986. Investing at the grassroots level is needed, but we tend to overlook that and only focus on the top level," Bhutia said, emphasising the need for sustained attention at the base of the sporting pyramid. "Tribal communities naturally have immense sporting talent, and we have seen this very clearly, particularly from the Northeast, where many athletes have represented India well and brought recognition to the country. Giving young people a platform is very important," Bhutia said. "See, when I talk about where I come from, I always say this everywhere, when you are from the Northeast, you do two things: football or music. That was my environment. Growing up, no other sport was played by the

other kids around me. Football was the culture in Sikkim, in every village, every town." Echoing his views, Mary Kom praised the Khelo India Tribal Games (KITG) as a transformative initiative that can bridge long-standing gaps in access and awareness. "First of all, I want to congratulate the Chhattisgarh Government for organising the Games. In earlier times, they did not get platforms like this, and there was not enough awareness either. That is perhaps why many talented children could not advance further," the 2012 London Olympics bronze medallist boxer said. "But today, thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji's Khelo India and Fit India programmes, children are slowly taking the initiative, participating, and representing the country. This is a tremendous thing for India's sporting future," she said.

## Iyer's fifty powers Punjab Kings past Chennai Super Kings by five wickets



**Chennai:** Skipper Shreyas Iyer's half-century, marked by elegance and aggression in equal measure, was the centrepiece in Punjab Kings' five-wicket win over Chennai Super Kings in their IPL match. Shreyas (50, 29 balls) and his 59-run alliance with Nehal Wadhara for the fourth wicket helped Punjab end up at 210 for five while chasing a competitive 209 on a dewless Chepauk night, also consigning the hosts to their second successive defeat. It was Punjab's second win on the trot, but there were other heroes too on the night for PBKS. Chasing a target at a run-rate close to 11 required consistent and calm run-making, and that was what PBKS did through their top order, with almost everyone chipping in.

Priyansh Arya (39, 11 balls), Prabhsimran Singh (43, 34 balls), and Cooper Connolly (36, 22 balls) all

came up with notable contributions. Arya was quite brutal while attacking the CSK attack. Khaleel Ahmed was hit for a four and a six, while Matt Henry was struck for 4, 6, 4 in his first over that leaked 20 runs. Arya and Prabhsimran added 61 runs in just 4.2 overs, giving a clear indication of the course the match was taking. The Delhi batter was cleaned up by Henry to give some relief to CSK, but none was more significant in PBKS's march than their skipper Shreyas, who played a wide range of shots. Shreyas started a bit slow, reaching 8 off 9 balls, as Connolly was doing most of the scoring. But once the Australian fell to Anshul Kamboj, Shreyas took control of the chase. As expected, he attacked the spinners, and the shot of the innings was an inside-out six off leg-spinner Rahul Chahar. Shreyas brought up his

fifty in 26 balls with a boundary off Kamboj, but soon fell to the bowler while chasing a wide delivery. Wadhara fell off the first ball of the next over to Henry as PBKS slipped to 186 for five from 186 for three. However, that proved a minor setback. Earlier, Ayush Mhatre showcased his talent with a 43-ball 73, powering the Super Kings to a competitive 209 for five. Mhatre and skipper Rituraj Gaikwad (28) added 96 runs for the second wicket after Devon Conway returned to the pavilion early. Conway moved towards the leg side and tried to play Xavier Bartlett's outswinger over covers, but edged it to Prabhsimran behind the wicket.

But his dismissal proved a minor setback, as Mhatre took apart Punjab's bowling with power and precision. Pacer Bartlett suffered early as Mhatre hit him for three fours in a row — a loft through mid-wicket, a flick and a pull. His aggressive approach helped CSK reach 57 for one in the Power Play. Mhatre seemed to have overcome, at least for now, his issues against short-pitched balls, as the Mumbai youngster later pulled Marco Jansen for a six. Mhatre also hit Marcus Stoinis for two sixes in a row, both down the ground, and the first maximum brought up his fifty in 29 balls.

But he struggled against the guile of Yuzvendra Chahal, failing to read him well. The veteran leg-spinner troubled Mhatre, 17 years younger to him, with a series of googlies, but luck was not in favour of the bowler. On 59, Mhatre was dropped by Vijayakumar Vyshak inside the circle and later on 67 by Shashank Singh in the deep.

## RCB environment helped me reset mentally, says Jitesh Sharma

**Hyderabad:** Royal Challengers Bengaluru wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma says last season's title has only strengthened the team's hunger to build something lasting at the franchise. "This is not a one-year thing. We are here to dominate. I want to prove that what happened last season was not a one-off." Reflecting on RCB's title-winning run in the RCB podcast, Jitesh said contributing to the campaign remained a deeply fulfilling feeling. "Winning the first trophy for RCB was a magical feeling. The biggest satisfaction was knowing that I had contributed to it. That is a moment I will always be proud of." On the loss of his father, Jitesh said it was something he continues to carry with him. "When you lose your father, that void never really goes away. I am not trying to forget it. I want to carry that emotion with me and keep moving forward." He also spoke about what it meant that his father had seen him represent India and lift the trophy for RCB. "I am proud that my father saw me wear the India jersey and saw me lift the trophy for RCB. That means ev-

erything to me."

On returning to the RCB setup after a difficult phase, Jitesh said the environment helped him reset.

"When I walked back into Chinnaswamy and saw the red and blue again, I felt reborn. Being back in that environment made me feel like myself again." Jitesh credited Dinesh Karthik for helping shape his growth over the past year. "A lot of the credit for my growth goes to DK 'anna'. He helped me understand my game better, use my strengths properly and improve mentally." He added that Karthik also encouraged him to step away briefly and recover emotionally. "DK asked me to take a break, put the bat away for a while and spend time with my family and friends. That helped me reset." On his batting approach, Jitesh said he has simplified everything to one core thought. "For me, it comes down to one thing: watch the ball. If you are present and watching the ball well, everything else takes care of itself."

Speaking about his role as a cricketer, Jitesh said he now sees himself in broader terms. "I do not see myself only as



a wicketkeeper now. I see myself as a finisher and a fielder as well. My job is to find a way into the team, whatever role that requires." On missing out on India selection, he said the larger ambition remains unchanged. "Playing for India is still the ultimate goal. I felt I did my part, so I have no regrets. Now it is about staying ready and finding the next opportunity." He also spoke about how leadership brings the best out of him. "I have always enjoyed leadership. When you lead, you stop thinking only about yourself and start thinking about how to bring the best out of others. That has always helped me grow." On his crucial 24 off 10 in last year's final,

Jitesh said his focus was on making a decisive impact. "My only thought in the final was to make a difference. I did not want to just survive the situation; I wanted to change the game." On the closing moments of the title win, he admitted those were the most tense of the season. "The last over of the final felt like the longest six balls of my life. We wanted that moment so badly." With RCB entering the new season as defending champions, Jitesh said he is ready for the challenge ahead. "Teams will come harder at us this season, and that excites me. I enjoy that challenge. I want people to come hard at me, because I will come hard at them too."

## Ousmane Dembele Leads PSG To Victory Ahead Of Liverpool Tie

Ousmane Dembele scored twice, including a stunning opening goal on the volley, as Paris Saint-Germain warmed up for their Champions League quarter-final showdown with Liverpool by beating Toulouse 3-1 on Friday to cement their place at the top of Ligue 1. Last year's Ballon d'Or winner smashed in a superb strike to give PSG the lead and then got the second from close range just after the half-hour mark, but in between Toulouse were gifted an equaliser after calamitous goalkeeping from home shot-stopper Matvey Safonov.

Substitute Goncalo Ramos wrapped up the win at the death, and the result ensures that Luis Enrique's side will finish the weekend on top of the French table. Their advantage is now four points from second-placed Lens, who play Lille away on Saturday. PSG came into the weekend with a game in hand and their scheduled trip to title rivals Lens next weekend has been controversially postponed until May to allow them extra rest in between the two legs of the Liverpool Champions League tie. The reigning European champions host Liverpool in the first leg of their quarter-final clash next Wednesday before going to Anfield for the return on Tuesday, April 14 in a tie that is a repeat of the last-16 encounter last season which PSG won on penalties. Retaining the Champions League crown is the absolute priority for PSG but they remain well on course to claim a fifth consecutive Ligue 1 title, and a 12th in the last 14 years. Toulouse, meanwhile, are in



mid-table and their season will now be defined by the outcome of their French Cup semi-final tie away to Lens, set for April 21. Luis Enrique gave a rest at kick-off to several players who had just returned from long trips away on international duty, including captain Marquinhos and the Portugal trio of Nuno Mendes, Vitinha and Joao Neves.

**Safonov howler**  
Among the players coming into the line-up was Brazilian centre-back Lucas Beraldo, who was surprisingly selected in central midfield. Dembele, who starred in the France side that beat Brazil in the United States last week, started a Ligue 1 game for just the eighth time

this season. He marked it in style with his strike to give PSG the lead midway through the first half, nonchalantly swinging out his left leg on the edge of the box to meet a Mark McKenzie clearance and send the ball soaring into the top corner. Toulouse nevertheless drew level only four minutes later after a disastrous sequence of play by Safonov. The Russian initially came racing out of his box to attempt a headed clearance, only to be completely caught out by the bounce of the ball. He was saved by his defence who conceded a corner, but Safonov then failed to hold onto the resulting delivery and Danish defender Nicolaisen gratefully

headed in for Toulouse. However, Safonov's blushes were soon saved by Dembele, who was left with an easy close-range finish on 33 minutes after Khvicha Kvaratskhelia nodded down a corner. Dembele is now on his own as PSG's leading scorer this season on 14 goals in all competitions, with 10 coming in Ligue 1 including four against Toulouse. The second half was almost entirely devoid of interest until Ramos swept in his team's third goal in injury time with a low shot from outside the area. The Portuguese striker has now scored 12 goals in all competitions for his club this season, despite having started only 12 times.

## Nikhat, Priya, Preeti assure India three medals at Asian Boxing Championships

**Ulaanbaatar:** India confirmed three medals at the Asian Boxing Championships 2026 as Nikhat Zareen, Priya, and Preeti Pawar registered impressive victories to advance to the semifinals in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Leading the charge, Nikhat Zareen was in complete control in the women's 51kg quarterfinal, sealing a first-round RSC victory over Xian Baguhin (PHI) in a dominant

outing. She now faces her toughest test yet against China's Wu Yu, the Paris 2024 Olympic gold medallist, in the semifinals. In the women's 60kg category, Priya showed composure and tactical maturity to defeat China's Chengyu Yang by 4-1, continuing her impressive run in the tournament. She will next take on Mongolia's Namun Monkhor for a place in the final. Meanwhile, in the women's 54kg category, Preeti Pawar, the gold medallist at the World Boxing Cup Finals, delivered one of the most clinical performances of the day, outclassing Mungunsetseng (MGL) with a 5-0 unanimous decision victory.



### YSRCP's social media failure is very high in showing off what the YSRCP government has done



Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily): YSRCP's social media failure is very high in showing off what the YSRCP government has done, and from now on we should be at the forefront in using social media, Madanapalle YSRCP coordinator Nisar Ahmed has directed the YSRCP ranks. On Tuesday, a meeting of representatives of SC, ST, BC, minority, women, youth, IT departments and key leaders was held at the YSRCP office on Avenue Road, Madanapalle town. Madanapalle constituency observer Anusha Reddy was the chief guest for this program. Speaking on the occasion, Nisar Ahmed asked the village, mandal and constituency level committee members to cooperate in the villages. He assured that every leader who works hard as a member of the village panchayat will have full level recognition in Jagan 2.0. He suggested that the digitalization process of YSRCP village, mandal and municipal ward organizational committees should be completed quickly and party identity cards should be issued. He congratulated the coordinators and observers who organized the committees and formed the committees for about 2 months in the constituency. He said that Jaganmohan Reddy in particular has the credit of

providing development and welfare schemes like no other Chief Minister in the country has done. He suggested that everyone should realize that the YSRCP social media and leaders have distanced themselves from power due to their failure to tell the people what they have done. He explained that ignoring the promises given by the coalition government and boasting on social media that we are doing everything even though they have not been fully implemented has become a routine. He suggested that there is a need to inform the people once again about the benefits that we have directly benefited the beneficiaries through 'Navaratnalu' and welfare schemes. Observer N Anusha Reddy, intellectuals Forum State Secretary VS Reddy, Constituency Youth Wing President D Harshavardhan Reddy, Digital Coordinator Yasin, Chippili Mallikharjuna Reddy, Nawaz, Avula Somasekhara Reddy, Majjiga Keshava Yadav, Chenna Krishna, Granite Mahesh, Vadigala Srikanth Reddy, Charan, Nazir, Sarada Reddy, Nagamani, Ravi Teja, Ramana, Damodar, Mahesh and party leaders, fans and women from various mandals participated in this program in large numbers.

### Diseases Increasing with Changing Lifestyle: Warning by Dr. Chandrasekar

(By our Skyline Staff Reporter) Pileru, April 7: On the occasion of World Health Day, extensive awareness programs were conducted at the Government Area Hospital in Pileru. Speaking on the occasion, Hospital Superintendent Dr. Chandrasekar stated that belief in science is essential for building a healthy society. He emphasized that only through a scientific outlook and increased medical awareness can a disease-free society be achieved. As part of the program, awareness seminars were organized within the hospital premises, and a rally was conducted through the main streets of the town. A large number of medical staff, ASHA workers, and health department personnel participated in the program to spread awareness about health among the public. Dr. Chandrasekar highlighted the impact of changing lifestyles in the present era. He warned that lifestyle-related diseases are rapidly increasing due to factors such as contaminated food, mental stress, and lack of physical activity. He stressed the importance of following healthy practices throughout one's life. He explained that a balanced diet, regular exercise, and mental well-being play a crucial role in maintaining good health. Indian Medical Association General Secretary and Talupula Medical Officer Dr. Chandrasekar Naik, speaking



at the event, said that human life is closely connected with nature. He explained that animals, plants, and the environment around us have a direct impact on human health. He cited examples showing that environmental pollution can make even breathing difficult. Therefore, he emphasized that environmental protection is also an integral part of healthcare. The program was attended by Talupula Medical Officer Dr. Chandrasekar Naik, Dr. Nagaveni, Deputy HEO Kondaiah, TB Supervisor Mohan, Srinu, ANMs, CHOs, ASHA workers, and other health staff. The organizers stated that the main objective of the program was to create awareness among the public about health.

### Tirupati Regional Office Canara Bank distributes school bags to SIRDS Akshra Yagnam children



Tirupati, April 07(Skyline daily): With the financial support of Canara Bank, Tirupati Regional Office, distributed school bags to 300 children in Akshra Yagnam Study Centers run by Social Integrated Rural Development Society, at Damineedu. Chakravarthy, General Manager, Canara Bank Circle Office, who was the chief guest at the program, said that apart from Canara Bank's financial af-

fairs, school bags were distributed to 300 children in the Akshra Yagnam project run by SIRDS today as part of social service. Stating that all children should study well and rise to a higher status, he said that Canara Bank is always ready to help in the educational development of poor children. Also participating in the program, Tirupati Regional Office Canara Bank Deputy General Manager Ram Mohan said that Canara Bank helps in pursuing higher education and also helps in going to other countries and pursuing higher education there, so all the children should study with love instead of working hard. Later, Canara Bank Regional Office Regional Manager Suvarna Krishna said that it was a great pleasure to distribute school bags to 300 children at Akshra Yagnam Study Centers and that Canara Bank will help in the educational development of the children. Speaking at the event, SIRDS General Secretary Marupuri Sekhar said that 65 centers are running under the Akshra Yagnam project, and there are about 1400 children in all the centers, and it is a great joy that Canara Bank is providing school bags to 300 children in Damineedu. SIRDS Project Incharge Tejavathi, Coordinators Lalitha Kumari, Ashwini, Geetha, Supriya, Teachers Aruna Lokitha, Nagaratna, Sandhya and others participated in the event.

### Additional EO conducts inspections in Tirumala

Tirumala, 07 April 2026(skyline daily) : The TTD Additional Executive Officer Ch. Venkaiah Chowdary conducted inspections on Tuesday to identify a suitable place to construct a centralized TTD Administrative Building in Tirumala. On this occasion, he examined the site located opposite the Ram Bageecha Bus Stand. Later, the Additional EO also visited the Akashaganga area, where he inspected shops and issued certain instructions to the officials concerned. He also inspected the labour sheds situated adjacent to the Srivari Seva Sadan. Subsequently, he reached the ATC area in Tirumala and reviewed the site proposed for cottage allotment to the Revenue Department, and offered further directives to the officials. Tirumala Estate Officer Venkateswarlu, VGO Surendra, EEs Srinivasa Rao, Venu Gopal, DE Chandrasekar, and other officials participated in the inspections.



# World Health Day



Palamaner, April 7: (By our Skyline staff reporter) On the occasion of World Health Day, an organ donation awareness rally was organized on Tuesday in Palamaner town, under the aegis of the Krishnamma Gari Jeevanadhara Foundation. The rally proceeded from the NGO's office to Ambedkar Circle. Speaking on the significance of World Health Day, Janardhan the Founder-President of the Krishnamma Gari Foundation stated that health is the greatest wealth in society and emphasized that everyone should strive to remain healthy. He noted that people are currently facing various chronic ailments, both mental and physical. He urged everyone to increase their awareness regarding health issues so that diseases can be detected early and prevented. He further asserted that organ donation should be regarded as a noble act of charity, and that while we are alive, we should live healthily. He expressed that, even after our passing, our organs should

serve a purpose by benefiting another human being. Dr. Nagaraju, orthopedic specialist, attended the event as the chief guest, he flagged off the rally and formally inaugurated the proceedings. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Aneesh and Dr. Janakiram advised the public to proactively identify potential health issues within society, enhance their understanding of such conditions, and adopt a healthy lifestyle. They also extended their greetings on the occasion of World Health Day. Furthermore, they commended Janardhan for the various service activities undertaken by the Krishnamma Gari Jeevanadhara Foundation, specifically praising him for organizing this organ donation awareness rally. Foundation members Ramesh Babu, Anil, Murali, Palamaneru PMP Division Convener Manohar, Co-convener Aruna, as well as Prasanna, Rahina, Lakshmi, Hemagiri, Charan, Yuvaraju, Rana Pratap, and others participated in this programme.

## The legalization of Amaravati as the permanent capital of AP is historic



Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily): The legalization of Amaravati as the permanent capital of Andhra Pradesh in Parliament and its approval by the President is a historic chapter, said senior Telugu Desam Party leader RJ Venkatesh. He participated in a press conference organized at the Telugu Desam Party Rajampet Parliament office in the town on Tuesday along with TDP town president Nadella Arun Teja, AP Haj Committee Director Pathan Khader Khan, Ratakonda Madhubabu, SA Mastan, Dadu and others. Speaking on the occasion, RJ Venkatesh said that after the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, the Telugu Desam Party came to power in 2014, and at that time, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu declared Amaravati, the central point of Rayalaseema and the northern coast, as the capital and acquired about 33 thousand acres of land from farmers. He said that the Prime Minister of the country, Narendra Modi, also approved this and said that he would cooperate with its development. He said that the then opposition leader and former Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy also supported Amaravati. He expressed his anger that the YSRCP, which came to power in 2019, and the then Chief

Minister Jaganmohan Reddy played a three-faced game in the name of three capitals and spread poison on Amaravati. He also said that he had brought great pressure on the Chairman of the Legislative Council, Mohammed Sharif, but he did not give in. He said that as soon as the coalition government came to power in 2024, the development of Amaravati would be going on rapidly, and with the support of Prime Minister Modi, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan brought legality to Amaravati as the permanent capital of AP, and that it was a matter of pride that the entire country welcomed this decision. However, Jagan, who could not digest this, came up with a new proposal called Mavigan, which he mocked, saying that this was a proof of his foolishness. Seeing that the entire country is accepting Amaravati as the capital of AP, but seeing that former CM Jagan and YSRCP leaders are not supporting this, it is like saying, 'If the whole village is one way - the one who is built is one way', he said. He advised former CM Jagan Mohan Reddy to abandon such policies and contribute to the development of the capital Amaravati and the state.

## Are you going on a trip? Be careful not to be caught by thieves!

Madanapalle, April 07(Skyline daily): When the summer holidays come, everyone has a habit of going on vacations or visiting their homes with their children. However, thieves watch for the time when you lock your houses and go, so people should be vigilant and protect their properties, Annamaya District SP Dheeraj Kunubilli has urged. On Tuesday, he issued several key security instructions to the people of the district. To keep your house safe. Before locking your house and leaving, double-check whether the main door as well as the back doors and windows are properly closed, the SP advised. He warned that by posting Facebook and WhatsApp statuses saying, "We are going to a certain village.. We are there now," you are telling thieves that no one is at home. He said that a light should be kept on outside the house at night and that the house should be kept under surveillance by informing the neighbors or trusted people. He suggested that it is best to store valuables like cash and gold in bank lockers instead of keeping them at home. Child Safety-Parental Responsibility.. With the exams over and the holidays starting, the SP asked parents to keep a special vigil on the safety of students and young children. He said that children should

not go near dangerous ponds, wells and canals for fun. He said that there is a risk of losing their lives without knowing the depth of the water. He asked that children should be careful about who they are hanging out with and where they are going, especially children should be made aware of 'good touch - bad touch'. He suggested that children should be directed towards games, story books or summer camps during the holidays and make good use of their time. Cooperate with the police.. The SP asked that police vigilance has been increased across the district and if anyone is seen suspicious, they should immediately dial 100/112 or inform the local police. He also warned people to be vigilant against cyber criminals and not to believe calls asking for bank details. He appealed to the people of the district to follow traffic rules while traveling, wear helmets and reach their destinations safely.



## 'Gadiaram' in historical poetry: Dr Siva Reddy

Kadapa (Skyline Daily) April 07: Dr. Chintakunta Sivareddy, Assistant Researcher of CP Brown Research Center stated that Meti Shikharam Da Chakram Venkata Seshashastri, who made the history of Shivaji into a his torical poem called Shiva Bharata, is the most fam ous. Tuesday at the CP Br own Language Research Center of Yogi Vemana University Mahakavi and Satavadhani Dr. Gadia Ram Venkata Seshashastri celebrated his 133rd birth anniversary. The staff and students of CP Brown Research Center first paid tribute to the portrait of Dr. Gadia Ram Venkata Sesh ashastri by offering flowers. Kavyam Sivabharata is a poem written by Venkata Seshashastri, filled with the spirit of Tyrodyama. In this program, CP Brown Res earch Center Junior Assist ants R. Venkataramana, M. Maunika, Staff P. Sumathi, Rani, Aruna



Kumari, Readers J. Subbareddy, B, Chandraya, G. Dinkar, Bellam Suribabu, K. Prabhakara Rao, G. Dakshinamurthy, T. Pawan Kalyan and others participated.