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Defence stock to BUY?
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may rally 30%, says
Goldman Sachs

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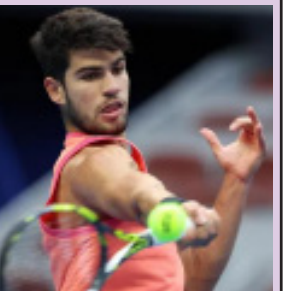


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Highlights Policy Push and
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Sectoral Growth

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Etcheverry to enter
Monte Carlo
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Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu inaugurates Humsafar Express train



Srikakulam, April 13: The long-cherished dream of the people of Srikakulam district has finally come true. The first direct regular train service from Srikakulam to Tirupati has been launched. The Humsafar Express train was inaugurated by Union Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu. Ram Mohan Naidu stated that the Srikakulam railway station has been developed at a cost of ₹35 crore. He expressed happiness that a long-standing demand of the people of

Srikakulam has been fulfilled. He noted that, for the first time in the 75-year history of the district, a direct regular train service from Srikakulam to Tirupati has been introduced. He also mentioned that the Mulapeta Greenfield Port will be completed soon.

The Humsafar Express train will run from Srikakulam Road every Monday and from Tirupati every Sunday. Earlier, Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu had taken the initiative and requested Railway

Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to start a train service between Srikakulam and Tirupati. Responding promptly, the Railway Minister instructed officials, leading to the approval of the regular train service. Accordingly, train number 17439/40 Humsafar Express has now been launched from Srikakulam Road railway station to Tirupati. This train will depart from Tirupati every Sunday evening and from Srikakulam Road every Monday.

Changes in AP Cabinet Agenda Preparation Process

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 13 : The Andhra Pradesh government has taken key decisions to improve transparency and timeliness in conducting state cabinet meetings. It has issued fresh orders introducing new timelines for the preparation of the cabinet agenda and submission of cabinet memos.

As per the new rules, all ministers and officials from various departments must submit their proposals (Cabinet Memos) by 11:00 AM on the day before the cabinet meeting. The government has made it clear that any proposals submitted after the deadline will not be included in the agenda.

After reviewing the proposals received from departments, the cabinet agenda will be finalized with the approval of the Chief Minister. Only highly exceptional or urgent matters will be allowed for discussion as "Table Items" at the last minute, and that too only with the Chief Minister's permission.

Keeping in mind the security of government secrets and transparency, major changes have also been made in the agenda distribution process. The government has decided that the cabinet agenda should not be shared via WhatsApp or other social media groups. Instead, complete information will be made



available only through the e-Cabinet portal to ministers and concerned officials. These strict rules have been introduced to avoid delays that previously occurred in agenda preparation.

This will also help ministers gain a clear understanding of the topics to be discussed in advance. The main objective behind these changes is to strengthen the decision-making

process by increasing speed and integrating technology into governance. The government has instructed all department secretaries to strictly follow these new guidelines.

Pension processing in AP to be done only through the 'NIDHI' portal... Key orders issued!

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 13 : The Andhra Pradesh government has taken another important step to increase transparency and reduce delays in the pension sanction process. It has issued orders stating that all types of pension cases in the state must henceforth be processed only through the NIDHI (RBPS) portal. The government has decided to do away with physical applications and will implement this new rule from May 1. The government has set a deadline for the current paper-based application system. Officials will accept only those physical pension proposals received up to April 30, 2026. From May 1, 2026, no paper applications will be accepted. All pension



applications submitted after that date must be filed online through the NIDHI portal. The government has also directed officials to submit all pending physical applications in various departments to the respective offices before April 30. This digital system, introduced to speed up pension processing, offers several benefits. Applicants can track the sta-

tus of their files online, eliminating the need to visit offices repeatedly. Approvals can be obtained faster through the digital process, and services will be delivered directly to beneficiaries without the involvement of middlemen.

The government has issued key instructions regarding this new system to heads of all departments and

district officials. It has directed that pension papers of employees should be uploaded to the NIDHI portal even before their retirement. This decision is expected to benefit thousands of retired employees and pensioners. The main objective of these orders is to eliminate technical issues in pension approvals and strengthen the overall system.

Home Minister Anita reviews arrangements for Simhachalam Chandanotsavam

Visakhapatnam: State Home Minister Vangalapati Anita visited and offered prayers at Lord Simhadri Appanna Swamy temple. Temple officials accorded her a grand welcome with traditional honors. After the Vedic scholars blessed her.

The Home Minister reviewed the arrangements for the upcoming Chandanotsavam of Appanna Swamy, scheduled to be held on the 20th of this month. She conducted a review with officials on infrastructure, parking, and traffic management to ensure that devotees do not face any inconvenience, and gave several suggestions.

She instructed the police to take precautionary mea-



sures to prevent traffic issues. She also suggested that NDRF and SDRF teams be kept ready at the temple to handle any emergencies. Continuous monitoring through CCTV cameras from the command control room was advised, and she suggested using AI technology if necessary. She

also directed that a large number of ORS packets be made available for devotees.

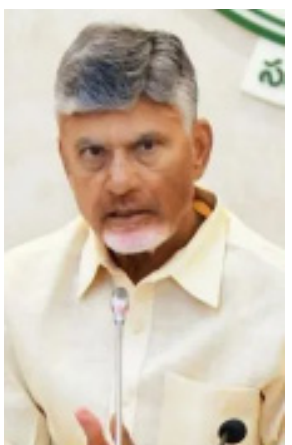
The minister said that Chandanotsavam is a unique and special occasion. She mentioned that devotees from across the state would arrive in large numbers for the "Nijaroopa

Darshan" (true form of the deity). Last year, around 1.2 lakh devotees attended, and this year about 2 lakh devotees are expected. Keeping devotees' convenience in mind, arrangements are being made for medical camps at ten locations, along with drinking water and buttermilk facilities.

CM Chandrababu reviews Real-Time Governance

From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 13 : A Real-Time Governance (RTG) meeting was held at the Secretariat under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu. The meeting took place in the RTGS Conference Hall at the Velagapudi Secretariat, where a high-level discussion was conducted on data-driven decision-making.

The Chief Minister, who focused particularly on the use of data in governance, reviewed the functioning of the Real-Time Governance system. Secretaries of key departments, along with officials from the Finance, Planning, and



Welfare departments, participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, discussions were held on the construction of a data lake, the use of technology, and methods of making decisions

through data analytics. The CM emphasized the need to further enhance the use of technology in governance.

Representatives from RTGS, APSDMA, and APSFL organizations, as well as Digital Corporation, Tricor, and Vassar Labs, were also present at the meeting. Officials from the Anna Canteen Trust and the Gram-Ward Secretariat (GSWS) system also participated.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to take steps toward making decisions based on data analytics. He also directed all concerned departments to work in coordination with each other.

ACB Custody for Shanthi; Son Meeting Plea Verdict Delayed

From Our Staff Reporter Vijayawada, April 13:

The investigation has intensified against K. Shanthi, Assistant Commissioner of the Andhra Pradesh Endowments Department, who is facing allegations in a disproportionate assets case. The ACB court has issued key orders in this matter. After hearing a petition filed by ACB officials seeking her custody, the court granted two days of ACB custody. ACB officials will question her on April 15 and 16. She is currently lodged as a remand prisoner in the Vijayawada district jail in connection with the disproportionate assets case. Meanwhile, the



court also heard a petition filed by Shanthi explaining her personal situation. She stated that she has a two-and-a-half-year-old child and requested permission to meet her young son daily in jail (mulaqat/visitation). After hearing arguments from both sides, the ACB court postponed its verdict on



this petition to April 16. Shanthi, who held a key position in the Endowments Department, is accused of misusing her authority and amassing large amounts of illegal assets. ACB officials conducted raids based on these allegations. Based on crucial documents and details of assets found

during these searches, she was arrested. Officials believe that further benami properties and financial irregularities may come to light during the custody interrogation. The verdict expected on April 16 and the findings from the custody investigation have now become a matter of keen interest.

Car overturns after losing control... two youths killed

Kadapa: A tragic incident occurred in Kadapa district. Two young men lost their lives after a car lost control and overturned. The accident took place on Monday. According to preliminary police investigation, Chenna keshavulu and Shivachandu, residents of Atlur Gopavaram mandal, were traveling in a car. Near Madakalavaripalle on the outskirts of Badvel town, the car went out of control and overturned. As a result, both Chennakeshavulu and Shivachandu sustained severe injuries. Upon receiving information, the police rushed to the spot. With the help of locals, the injured were shifted to a nearby hospital. Doctors who examined them confirmed that they were already dead. The police shifted the bodies for postmortem and registered a case. An investigation is currently underway.

Moola Raghavi who got the job of Income Tax Officer: Acharya Moola



Kadapa (Skyline Daily) April 13: Raghavi secured an All India rank of 59 in the prestigious Staff Selection Commission-Combined Graduate Level (SSCCL) examination. Acharya Moola Mallikarjuna Reddy, president of YSR Kadapa District Writers' Association, said that she got the job of Income Tax Officer. Moola Raghavi, daughter of her brother Mool Ayyavar Reddy, has been selected as an Income Tax Officer. She explained that her hometown, Tudumaladi Nneloprajalandaru, is expressing her happiness. Peddaiya expressed Reddy's happiness and said that our son studied at Intermediate Narayana Vidya saam, and after graduation studied com-

puter science at IIT Dharwada and was selected in the campus interview and joined L&T Infotech System as a software engineer. Later, with the desire to get a government job, she prepared and was first selected as a probationary officer in Canara Bank and performed the job for two months. After that, he wrote the SSC CGL exam and got a job in the Central GST department. Latest that they are performing their duties there. She has been selected as an Income Tax Inspector and this is her 4th government job in a very short period of time. Raghavi responded by attaining All India 59th rank and said that the source of my success was Amman's encouragement and my hard work. On this occasion, the villagers of Tudumaladinne, Mula brothers Ishwar Reddy, Deva Muni Reddy, Siva Prasad Reddy, Chinna Aiyavara Reddy and Shiva Reddy Raghavi wished them good luck and wished them more success in the future.

PGRS applications should be resolved in a timely and quality manner.

Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): As part of the Annamaya District Madanapalle Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) program, District Collector Nishant Kumar received applications from applicants with various types of problems from the respective mandals of the district at the PGRS hall of the Madanapalle Collectorate on Monday. Along with the District Collector, Madanapalle Sub-Collector Challa Kalyani, DRO (FAC) Chandrasekhar Reddy, and GSWS Lakshminipathi received the applications. Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector ordered that special attention be paid to the resolution of applications at the Public Grievance Redressal System and Revenue Clinics. The applications should be resolved expeditiously and with quality. The applications should be resolved without any pending issues, and grievances should be monitored from time to time, and there should be no laxity in this. He instructed the officials of the respective departments to take steps to resolve the problems promptly. He instructed the officials to resolve the petitions within the deadline with the highest quality. Later, petitions were received from the people who came with various problems. In this program, a total of 392 peti-



tions were submitted by the applicants on various types of problems. He issued orders to the concerned officials to resolve all these problems within the stipulated time. District and mandal level officers, staff and others of various departments participated in this program.

MLA Shahjahan Basha, who attended the wedding ceremony of TDP leader Shamsheer's younger brother



Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): On Monday, Madanapalle constituency MLA Shahjahan Basha, who attended the wedding ceremony of Telugu Desam Party leader Shamsheer's younger brother, blessed the couple at the Mangalya Kalyana Mandapam in Madanapalle town, Annamaya district. Town Bank Chairman and APSRTC National Mazdoor Union Annamaya District President Nadella Vidya Sagar,

Telugu Desam Party senior leader Balu Swamy, Prasanna Venkataramana Swamy Devasthanam Chairman Gangarapu Naveen Kumar Chowdhary, Town Bank Directors Mukthiyar, Ratakonda Somasekhar, Jolepalem Chinni, Telugu Desam Party leaders Kamalamarri Krishna, Pula Murali, Srirama Vinod Kumar, Rajasekhar, Tallagiri, CD Ramana, Rajesh and others participated in this program.

May all the people be happy with the blessings of Gangamma

Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): May all the people be happy with the cool gaze of Gangamma, Madanapalle YSRCP Coordinator Nisar Ahmed wished. At the cordial invitation of Madanapalle Mandal, Kothavaripalle Former Sarpanch Mahesh and YSRCP Village Youth Wing President Sahadeva, Madanapalle YSRCP Coordinator Nisar Ahmed attended the idol installation ceremony at the newly built Sri Boyakonda Gangamma Ammavari Temple in Chilakavaripalle under Kothavaripalle Gram Panchayat. On this occasion, YSRCP leaders and villagers gave a grand welcome to Nisar Ahmed. Later, he visited the Goddess and participated in special puja programs as well as the Gopuja program. After the puja programs, Annadanam was organized for the devotees. Later, Nisar Ahmed said that places of worship and temples contribute a lot to establishing spirituality and peace in the society. He wished that people would be blessed with happiness and joy by the grace of the Goddess. He congratulated Sahadeva, the builder of the temple. Former Sarpanch Mahesh, Secretary of the State Intellectuals Forum VS Reddy, Trustee Sahadeva, villagers Balaram, Suresh, Siva, Narasimha Reddy, Jayaram, Sekhar, leaders



former councilor Eswar Naik, Granite Mahesh, Chippili Mallikharjuna Reddy, Vadigala Srikanth Reddy, Malepadu Chalapathi, Bhanu, Mahesh and others participated in the program.

Outsourcing Employee removed for collecting Money from devotees at Luggage Counter

Tirumala, 13 April 2026(skyline daily): The TTD has taken serious note of an incident in which an individual named Narasimha Reddy, working at the luggage deposit center in Tirumala, was found collecting money from devotees. The said outsourcing employee has been removed from his duties with immediate effect. TTD would like to inform all devotees

that the luggage deposit services are provided completely free of cost, and no devotee is required to pay any money for depositing their luggage. Devotees are requested to remain vigilant. If anyone is found collecting money in violation of the rules, they are urged to lodge a complaint with the TTD Vigilance Control Room on 9866898630.

Kavi yakub to receive 2025 Srujana Sahiti Award

Palamaner April 13 (Skyline reporter): The Srujana Sahiti Award, instituted in memory of the late writer, poet, and junior college lecturer K. Sessa Pillai, will be presented to the renowned poet and Kavisa?gamam administrator, Yakub. This was announced by Palamaneru balaji, convenor, chittoor Zilla Rachayithala samakhya. The award was previously given to the famous poet Banda Madhavarao. The award ceremony, along with Kavisa?gamam - Kavitha Workshop/Kavisa?melanam, will be held in Palamner in the first week of June. Yakub has published six poetry collections: "Pravahinchhe Gnepakam", "Sarihaddhu Rekha", "Edategani Prayanam", "Nadeemula?la?i A illu", "Teegalachinta", and "Manushulra Manushulu!" He is known for his creative and socially relevant poetry. Yakub has served as an advisor to the Telangana Language and Culture Department,

president of the Hyderabad Book Fair, and founder of the online poetry platform Kavisa?gamam. He has received several awards, including the Ummidisetty, Free Verse Front, Ismail, Aluri Bairagi, C. Narayana Reddy, Telugu University, and Patna Nayidhar National Awards. The award recognizes Yakub's continuous creative work and his contributions to the development of Telugu language and literature.



Bhashyakarla Utsavam commences in Tirumala



Tirumala, 13 April 2026(skyline daily): The Bhashyakarla Utsavam commenced at Tirumala on a grand religious note on Monday in Srivari temple. This festival will be observed for 19 days and Sri Bhashyakarla Sattumora will be held on April 22. Bhagavad Ramanujacharya wrote a commentary on Mimamsa Grandha called "Sri Bhashyam" on the basis of Vishistadvaita theory. That's why he was named Bhashyakara. Bhashyakarla Sattumora is being observed in Srivari Temple every year in the advent of Arudra Nakshatra on the day in which Sri Ramanuja was born. On the first day of the Bhashyakara Utsavam, on Monday morning, after the first bell in the Srivari temple, a procession of Sri Ramanuja was conducted on a golden Tiruchi in the four Mada streets of the temple. On this occasion, the Jeeyangars conducted a Divya Prabandha Goshti. Pedda Jeeyar Swamy, Chinna Jeeyar Swamy of Tirumala, temple officials were also present.

Donation of Rs.1.01 Crore to TTD

Tirumala, 13 April 2026(skyline daily): Varma Steels Private Limited, based in Hyderabad, donated Rs.1,01,01,116 to the Sri Venkateswara Pranadana Trust of the TTD on Monday. On this occasion, the Managing Director of the company Alluri Verma handed over the donation DD to Additional Executive Officer Ch. Venkaiah Chowdary at the Ranganayakula Mandapam in Srivari Temple.



2016 Breakthrough To 2026 High-Stakes Battle: Bengal's Kharagpur Remains Complex Turf

Kharagpur: In the landscape of West Bengal politics, every election crafts a new political equation in the Kharagpur Sadar Assembly seat. Defined by its industrial character, railway township, migrant population and educational institutions, like the IIT, this seat is regarded not merely as a local constituency but as a microcosm of state-level politics. Electoral data spanning from 2006 to 2021 and the preparations underway for the April 23 polls collectively indicate that the contest here is not a linear battle, but rather a complex struggle layered with multiple dimensions.

2016: The BJP's Historic Entry
The 2016 election proved to be a pivotal turning point for this constituency. BJP's Dilip Ghosh secured 61,446 votes, defeating the Congress candidate by a margin of 6,309 votes. The total voter turnout reached 1,56,000, drawn from an electorate of approximately 2,18,000. With a vote share of nearly 40 per cent, the victory represented far more than the mere capture of a single seat; it served as a definitive harbinger of the BJP's ascendance in Bengal.



2019 By-election: TMC's Comeback
The seat fell vacant after Dilip Ghosh became a Member of Parliament, and in the 2019 by-election, Trinamool Congress candidate Pradip Sarkar secured a victory. This win demonstrated that Kharagpur is not entirely under the exclusive control of any single political party.

2021: A Neck-And-Neck Battle, BJP's Return
The 2021 election established Kharagpur Sadar as a 'swing seat.' The BJP's Hiran Chatterjee secured 79,607 votes, defeating the TMC's Pradip Sarkar by a narrow margin of just 3,771 votes. The vote share stood at 46.4 per cent, with a total electorate of approximately 2.34 lakh voters. This extremely close contest underscores the fact that every single vote counts in this constituency.

The Story Begins In A Congress Stronghold (2006-2011)
In 2006, when this constituency was known as "Kharagpur Town", Congress candidate Gyan Singh Sohanpal secured a victory by garnering approximately 55,000 votes, commanding a vote share of nearly 50 per cent. At that time, the total voter turnout stood at approximately 1,30,000. This era clearly demonstrated the Congress party's robust grassroots base, while the CPI(M) remained a relatively weak force within this urban-industrial belt.

In 2011, a year marked by a sweeping Trinamool Congress wave across the entirety of Bengal, Kharagpur charted a distinct course. Sohanpal once again emerged victorious, securing approximately 74,000 votes. This constituency stood out as one of the select few seats where the Congress party successfully maintained its foothold.

2026: Results Awaited, But Competition Intensifies
Ahead of the 2026 election, political activity has already reached a fever pitch. Among the potential candidates are Dilip Ghosh from the BJP, Pradip Sarkar from the TMC, and Papia Chakraborty from the Congress-Left alliance.

What Defines Kharagpur's True Identity?
Kharagpur is not merely an Assembly constituency. It is, in essence, a 'Mini India'. Here's how:
* Home to one of the country's largest railway workshops
* Host to a national institution of the stature of IIT Kharagpur
* Characterised by a significant population of Hindi-speaking migrant voters
* A unique blend of industrial and railway townships

For these very reasons, elections here are contested not solely on the basis of local issues, but also on national narratives and social equations.

Local Issues That Determine Election Outcome
*Railway Employment and Contract Jobs - A large segment of the population depends on these for their livelihood.
*Urban Infrastructure - Roads, drainage systems and traffic management.
*Industrial Stagnation - A noticeable lack of new investment.

*Migrant vs Local Voters - The dynamic interplay between Hindi-speaking and Bengali-speaking populations.
*Civic Amenities - Water supply, sanitation and other basic public services.
Nature Of The Seat: High-Voltage, Personality-Driven
This constituency is distinctly urban in character, dominated by a migrant population and intensely competitive. Here, the face of the candidate and their local influence matter more than the political party itself.
Dilip Ghosh: The Aggressive Campaign Of The "Tiger Cub"
BJP's firebrand leader, Dilip Ghosh, is once again in the fray. His style is unmistakably aggressive, direct, and confrontational. He asserts, "We have already set the stage on fire in several previous elections. This time, I won't let anyone secure more than 1,00,000 votes." Ghosh projects himself as the face of change, arguing that the 50-year political history of Bengal - comprising 35 years of Left rule and 15 years under the TMC - must now be held to account. "Change is inevitable and the public senses it too," he said. Responding to allegations regarding religion and polarisation, he stated.

EDITORIAL

Will those two states achieve a hat-trick?

Elections are being held in the states of Kerala, Assam and the Union Territory of Puducherry on Thursday (April 9). There is nothing special to discuss about the Puducherry elections this time. It seems that the opposition to the government will not work as a strong factor in Kerala and Assam this time. In Kerala, the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) is currently fighting hard against the opposition to the government expressed among the people and the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF). Although all the members of these two fronts are part of the united opposition platform at the national level, in the state of Kerala they are clashing with each other in a "who are you" manner. As for the BJP, it has yet to prove itself as a major party in state politics. The LDF government led by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is aiming to win for the third consecutive time and score a hat-trick. In 2021, the LDF, which has been in power for decades, rewrote Kerala's political history and came to power for the second time, breaking the tradition of changing the government every five years in Kerala.

Now it is determined to win for the third time and create a historic record. In the last ten years, the LDF has widely advertised that it has implemented schemes like Life Mission, social security pensions, extreme poverty eradication, changes in education and medical sectors, and minimum wage for laborers, and that these will make it win. Under the Life Mission scheme, it has built and distributed five lakh houses for the poor. Under the poverty eradication scheme, it has liberated about 64,000 families. The LDF has focused on 'performance-based politics' rather than personal criticism. However, financial difficulties in the state and delay in pension distribution have led to criticism from the opposition. Meanwhile, the CPM party has faced unexpected resistance this time. Five experienced and key senior leaders have left the party and entered the fray as rebel candidates as independents of the Congress-backed UDF.

Some of them have been contesting seats like Kanchukota and Payannur for the CPM since 1967. In Kerala, the allegations that these three alliances are fighting fiercely on the outside but are making agreements for mutual benefits on the inside are creating excitement among the voters. As for the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF), it is hopeful of winning these assembly elections with the enthusiasm it achieved in the 2025 Lok Sabha and local body elections. It has won four corporations in the recent local body elections. It is noteworthy that the Muslim League has achieved better results than the CPM in the local body elections in strong seats like Malappuram. After the defeat in the 2021 assembly elections, the UDF has given opportunities to new and young people as candidates. The Congress is planning to implement the model of promises that were successful in Telangana in Kerala.

It has announced six guarantees to attract students, women and youth. These include interest-free loans of up to Rs 5 lakh for small traders and special support price of Rs 250 per kg for rubber farmers. Looking at the Assam Assembly elections, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma is hoping to become the Chief Minister for the second time and the NDA government to win for the third time. Sharma is strengthening the Hindutva ideology and turning the anti-Muslim argument into a serious form. Moreover, he is known for making hate speeches. His election affidavit of 2018 revealed that 40 cases were registered against him. Most of these cases are related to hate speeches. Here, the main goals of the BJP are to eradicate Muslim infiltrators. Development projects and Hindutva extremism. It cites cow violence, love jihad and religious conversion as the main issues.

Under the Arunodaya scheme, 40 lakh people are directly receiving Rs 1250 per month in their bank accounts under the welfare scheme. It is said that it is imperative to drive out infiltrators from the state and prevent illegal encroachments. The CM has made serious allegations that Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi has links with Pakistan, and in return, Gogoi has made sensational allegations that CM Sharma's wife has passports from three countries, including the UAE, Egypt, and Barbours, and is ready to flee abroad if she loses. In Puducherry, the NDA government under the leadership of All India NR Congress leader N Rangaswamy has been in power since 2021. Although there are only 30 constituencies here, the personal prestige of the candidates, their connection with the people, and social relations are the reasons for their success rather than party politics.

Three Things May Happen At The End Of The 14-Day Ceasefire (Or Earlier)

The two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran, announced on April 7, 2026, has provided a temporary halt to what had become an accelerating cycle of escalation. US President Donald Trump framed it as a victory, claiming the US had met its military objectives and that a longer agreement was close to finalisation. Iran accepted the ceasefire on the condition that ships transiting the Strait of Hormuz would do so in coordination with its armed forces. Both sides had reasons to welcome an off-ramp. Neither side has fully stopped fighting. The ceasefire, as it stands, may be better understood as a pause rather than a settlement.

What Iran Wants From This Deal

After months of experiencing constant high-alerts, missile strikes, and assassinations, Iran's primary incentive for accepting a two-week pause for talks has been a promise of breathing space. Iran's agreement to the talks despite the temporary two-week window, countering the very first point of its 10-point proposal, only confirms this theory. In these two weeks, irrespective of the negotiation's outcome, Iran is looking to recover and regroup, in terms of military strength, public morale and broader political consolidation under the new leadership. However, hours after the ceasefire announcement, Israel has reportedly continued its strikes on Iran, as confirmed by Israeli military officials. These Israeli strikes may derail US-Iran negotiations, as proven twice in the past. The IRGC may not observe a political agreement that does not address the core condition of a ceasefire. These reported ceasefire violations are not marginal complications. They suggest this deal rests on the assumption that US agreement ensures Israel's alignment. This assumption, however, might not hold true in reality.

The Hormuz Question

The ceasefire is conditional on Iran reopening the Strait of

Hormuz. This can be considered the primary point in Iran's proposal that incentivised the US to accept it as a framework for negotiations. Iran has agreed to allow passage, but emphasised that this will be under the supervision of its armed forces. This is not a full return to pre-war conditions. Iran's parliament has already passed legislation formally enshrining a toll system on Hormuz traffic. The IRGC has been operating a de facto vetting and fee arrangement since mid-March. The ceasefire does not appear to resolve either of these developments. Splitting this transit fee between Iran and Oman might also draw criticism from other Gulf nations like the UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, which are key US allies in the region. The UAE has already expressed opposition, stating that the waterway cannot be held hostage by any single country and that free navigation must be part of any final settlement. Their exclusion from the transit arrangements is likely to be a source of friction in the weeks ahead.

The broader stakes of Hormuz extend beyond the immediate conflict. Control and assured access to the sea lanes of communication has been a foundational pillar of US power projection for decades. Iran's ability to impose coordinated passage through the Strait represents a structural shift in the waterway's legal and strategic status. While the successful blockade has emerged as proof of Iran's dominance over the Strait of Hormuz at a military level, this transit fee is a step toward institutionalising control. Should that arrangement become codified through any longer-term agreement, the US may find itself under pressure to counter it, regardless of the diplomatic framing around the current pause.

The Gaza-Lebanon Problem

Within hours of the announcement, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu



made clear that the ceasefire did not include Lebanon. Israel's strikes against Hamas have also continued despite a ceasefire in early 2025. Pakistani mediators had urged all warring parties to observe a ceasefire everywhere, and Islamabad initially indicated that Lebanon was covered. Netanyahu and US Vice-President JD Vance have directly rejected that reading. In mid-March, Israel launched a ground invasion of southern Lebanon, and its forces have remained in active combat with Hezbollah ever since. Fighting between Israel and Hezbollah is, therefore, expected to continue regardless of what is agreed between Washington and Tehran. Despite mentioning it in their proposal as a symbolic gesture, Iran does not expect Israel's attacks on Hamas and Hezbollah to end either.

The Three Outcomes

These challenges and conditions surrounding the ceasefire could result in three likely scenarios. The first scenario is where the ceasefire sustains in a meaningful way, becoming a means for advanced talks on contested topics of Strait of Hormuz, nuclear enrichment, the role of non-state actors, and sanctions against Iran. This ideal scenario would, however, need the full

participation and compliance of the US and Iran, along with Israel and the GCC countries. The second scenario is that, as was the case during June 2025 and February 2026, the talks are used by Israel and the US to launch another wave of surprise attacks. However, considering the statements by US and Israeli officials that their military objectives have been achieved and that Iran no longer poses an imminent threat, this scenario is less likely. Unlike June 2025, this confrontation has also considerably exhausted American and Israeli military resources while proving Iran's capability to survive, retaliate and retain control of the Strait of Hormuz. This substantially enhances the overall deterrence in the current talks as compared to the talks in June 2025 or February 2026.

A War Without The US?

The third scenario to consider is one where Iran and Israel continue to engage militarily while the US exits direct conflict, maintaining support for Israel on an indirect basis. Israel's recent record with ceasefires, as seen in the case of Gaza since 2025 and Lebanon since 2024, are key indications in this direction. Reports of continued exchange of fire between Israel, Iran and the Gulf countries after the

ceasefire announcement are also cases in point. Iran's sustained interest in the ceasefire and talks with the US despite Israel's strikes on Lebanon and the UAE's attacks on Iran's oil facilities further supports the likelihood of this scenario. Similarly, a stable US interest in continuing the talks despite Iran's reported strikes against Gulf countries, threats to renew the blockade of straits and bombing Tel Aviv is also an important point hinting at this direction. Beyond the control of Hormuz, the Trump administration's domestic pressures would be a key driver of an American exit. However, long-standing US commitments to Israel would ensure that the US continues to support it through military aid and equipment at least in the short-term. The ceasefire is a meaningful development. A pause at this level of escalation indicates that off-ramps remain available. Whether it translates into something more durable will depend on whether Lebanon, Hormuz and Iran's nuclear posture can be addressed in a framework acceptable to the Gulf states, Israel and the IRGC. That is a substantial set of conditions. The next two weeks are more likely to clarify the distance between the parties than to close it.

Over 1 Lakh US Troops Are Stationed In Europe. What Happens If They Leave?

Wednesday was the day after the United States and Iran had agreed on a two-week ceasefire. Obviously, the pause in the West Asia war was going to dominate the press conference at the White House. During the press briefing, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt dropped a bombshell. In response to a question, she casually revealed that President Donald Trump would be discussing the US's potential exit from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) with Secretary General Mark Rutte later that day. Trump has been angry over the fact that several European NATO members refused his call to support the US-Israeli military campaign against Iran. Only days earlier, he had signalled how far he was willing to go, saying America's membership was not "beyond reconsideration". Then came the meeting itself. Trump and Rutte spoke privately for nearly two hours, described afterwards as a blunt and tense exchange. If there had been hope that diplomacy might cool tempers, it faded quickly. Within minutes, Trump took to Truth Social and delivered a pointed message: "NATO WASN'T THERE WHEN WE NEEDED THEM, AND THEY WON'T BE THERE IF WE NEED THEM AGAIN."

The Leaked Messages

One could see it coming. Last year, in an accidentally leaked WhatsApp chat, Vice President JD Vance and War Secretary Pete Hegseth called the Europeans "free-loading". There is a strong feeling in the Trump administration that Europe has taken the US for a ride for far too long. "Yeah I think they've been freeloading,"

Trump had told reporters back then, when asked if he agreed with Hegseth, who was quoted as saying in the leaked Signal chats. A user identified as Vance had even said, "I just hate bailing Europe out again", and a user identified as Hegseth replied: "I fully share your loathing of European freeloading. It's PATHETIC." Will the US, however, really leave the 32-nation alliance? If America, its most powerful member, were to leave, defence experts in Europe believe the consequences would extend far beyond the continent.

The Unmistakable Numbers

To understand the scale of such a move, it is important to begin with what the US currently provides to NATO. Around 1 lakh highly trained American troops are stationed across Europe. The US has air bases in Germany and Italy, naval facilities in Spain, intelligence hubs, logistics networks, missile defence systems and rapid response units across Europe. These forces are deeply integrated into NATO command structures and would be among the first to respond during a crisis. Needless to say, their presence acts as a deterrent in a big way, particularly against Russia. It is to be noted that the American role is not limited to troops. The US makes up the backbone of NATO's nuclear deterrence. It is no secret that American nuclear weapons are stationed in several European countries under NATO's nuclear-sharing arrangement. More important than the weapons is the guarantee behind them. The credibility of NATO rests on the assumption that the US would come to Europe's defence. If

Washington were to withdraw, that assumption would certainly weaken. Even if treaties remained, the psychological impact would be immediate, because deterrence depends as much on perception as on capability.

America Is, After All, The Strongest

The first impact of a US withdrawal would, therefore, be operational. European militaries are bound to face capability gaps. The US currently provides much of NATO's airlift capacity, intelligence-gathering, missile defence and long-range strike capability. European forces have strengthened since 2014, especially after Russia's actions in Crimea (Ukraine), but the gap remains large. Without American support, coordination would slow. Command structures would need redesigning. Joint operations would become more complicated. The alliance would still exist, but it would function differently and with reduced capacity. The second impact would be psychological. American troops in Europe serve, many say, as a tripwire. Their presence automatically links European security with American involvement. If they were withdrawn, that automatic link would disappear. Countries close to Russia, especially in Eastern Europe, worry that this ambiguity could invite testing actions below the threshold of full conflict. Even small incidents could become more likely if adversaries believe America is not directly engaged. In security terms, perception matters and withdrawal would change perceptions overnight.

Slower To Act

Let's consider logistics, too.



Today, if Russia attacks a European country, arranging logistics would be a nightmare for Europe without the US's help. American bases in Europe serve to defend the continent. They are also staging grounds for operations in the Middle East, Africa and surrounding regions. If those bases were gone, NATO's ability to deploy quickly outside Europe would shrink. Crisis response missions, evacuations, maritime patrols and humanitarian operations would be delayed. European countries would then face a clear choice. Either they in-

crease defence spending significantly and build independent capabilities, or they accept reduced readiness. Some movement in this direction has already begun. Germany has increased its defence budget. Poland is expanding its armed forces. France has long argued for European strategic autonomy. However, building military capability takes time. Procurement cycles run for years, and training soldiers and integrating systems takes longer. A sudden American withdrawal would create a gap that Europe could not immediately fill.



Nifty below 23,850, Sensex down 703 points

Indian equity indices ended on a negative note on April 13 with Nifty below 23,900. At close, the Sensex was down 702.68 points or 0.91 percent at 76,847.57, and the Nifty was down 207.95 points or 0.86 percent at 23,842.65. We wrap up today's edition of the Moneycontrol live market blog, and will be back Wednesday morning with all the latest updates and alerts. Please visit <https://www.moneycontrol.com/markets/global-indices> for all the global market action.

Defence stock to BUY? Solar Industries India may rally 30%, says Goldman Sachs



New Delhi : Defence Stock to BUY: Shares of Solar Industries India were in the spotlight again on Monday, ending the day over 3 per cent higher at around Rs 14,526. The stock has been seeing steady interest, largely because of strong demand in the defence and explosives space. The latest trigger came from Goldman Sachs, which has maintained its "buy" rating on the stock. The brokerage has set a target price of Rs 18,900, suggesting an upside of roughly 30 per cent from current levels. In simple terms, that points to a potential gain of about Rs 4,300 per share if the target is achieved.

Why the brokerage is positive on Solar Industries Goldman Sachs believes the company is in a sweet spot right now. One of the key reasons is the rise in explosives prices, which is helping improve realizations. At the same time, input costs have also moved up. Ammonium nitrate, which is a key raw material, has become more expensive. But the company has managed to pass on this increase to its customers.

That means margins are not taking a hit, which is a big positive.

Business mix working in its favour

Solar Industries operates in multiple segments, including industrial explosives, mining services and defence ammunition. Demand across these areas has remained strong. The company supplies to large clients like Coal India and is also expanding its footprint in defence. Its product range includes detonators, rocket propellants and other high-energy materials used in defence applications. It is not just a domestic story either. The company has operations in more than 80 countries, which gives it access to global demand as well.

Strong numbers back the story

Apart from the sector tailwinds, the company's financial track record has also been solid. Over the past five years, profits have grown at a pace of more than 36 per cent annually. Return ratios are also strong. The company's return on equity is above 30 per cent, which usually in-

dicates efficient use of capital. Over a longer period, revenue growth has remained steady as well. Another positive is that the company has been reducing its debt, which adds comfort from a balance sheet perspective.

But valuations are high

That said, the stock is not cheap as indicated by its price-to-earnings ratio at multiple of over 90, which is generally considered expensive by most standards. Because of this, some caution is still warranted. Even if the business continues to do well, the high valuation leaves less room for error.

What investors should make out of this

Solar Industries outlook is likely to remain strong helped by the defence demand and steady growth in its main business. But the point to be noted here is that, at current levels, optimism around the stock is more or less priced in. For those investors who are looking to enter the stock, it may be a good idea to wait for some correction instead of chasing the stock at elevated valuations.

Noida Protest: CM Yogi calls unrest a 'conspiracy'; govt forms high-level panel on wage row

New Delhi : Noida Protest News: Amid escalating labour unrest in Noida's industrial belt, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday termed the protests a "conspiracy to spread unrest" and urged workers to remain calm. Even as violence, road blockades and traffic disruption hit parts of Delhi-NCR, the state government moved swiftly, directing the labour department to form a high-level committee to address workers' concerns and restore industrial stability.

CM Yogi calls unrest a 'conspiracy', appeals for calm

Addressing a gathering in Muzaffarnagar, Adityanath struck a firm yet conciliatory tone, alleging that certain elements were attempting to incite unrest to derail Uttar Pradesh's progress. He urged workers not to fall prey to misinformation and reiterated that the government remains committed to their welfare. Highlighting the "double-engine government" model under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister said the state is focused on security, employment generation and industrial growth. At the same time, he assured labourers that their concerns would be addressed through dialogue, not disruption.

Govt forms high-level

committee to resolve labour dispute Following the Chief Minister's directive, the labour department has taken a major step in favour of workers by constituting a high-level committee to address industrial unrest in Noida. The panel will be chaired by the Industrial Development Commissioner and will include senior officials such as the Additional Chief Secretary (MSME) and the Principal Secretary (Labour & Employment). **Importantly, the committee will also include representation from both sides:** Five members from workers' unions and three representatives from industry bodies. The move is aimed at initiating structured dialogue between stakeholders and resolving wage-related disputes that have triggered protests across the industrial belt. **Why workers are protesting?** The protests stem from long-pending demands for wage revision and better working conditions. Thousands of workers from multiple industrial units gathered across Noida, particularly in Phase 2, raising slogans and blocking roads. Their key demands include higher minimum wages, fair overtime pay, regulated working hours, timely sal-

ary payments and improved workplace safety. The unrest intensified after comparisons with neighbouring Haryana, where wages were recently revised upwards, widening the gap and fuelling dissatisfaction among workers in Uttar Pradesh.

Violence, traffic disruption and police action

The protest turned violent in parts of Noida, with incidents of stone-pelting, arson and vandalism reported from sectors 59, 60 and 62. Vehicles were set on fire and factory premises were damaged as tensions escalated. The unrest also triggered massive traffic disruption across Delhi-NCR, with key routes blocked and long queues of vehicles stretching for kilometres during peak office hours. Heavy police deployment, including PAC and RAF units, was made across sensitive areas. Authorities said only one location witnessed violence and the situation was brought under control using minimal force. Police also clarified that no firing took place during the incident.

FIRs filed over misinformation, police issue warning

Uttar Pradesh Police said FIRs are being registered against social media handles accused of spreading rumours and misleading information about the protest.

Silver Rs 2 lakh cheaper, gold Rs 51,000 down: Buy before Akshaya Tritiya or wait? Motilal Oswal explains



New Delhi : Gold and silver prices have corrected sharply from their record highs, even as geopolitical tensions linked to Iran and a surge in crude oil prices continue to unsettle global markets. Silver is now about Rs 2,00,891 cheaper than its all-time high of Rs 4,39,337, while gold is down nearly Rs 51,434 from its peak of Rs 2,02,984. The unusual trend - where safe-haven assets are falling despite rising global uncertainty has left investors divided ahead of Akshaya Tritiya on April 19. As of around 1:15 pm, MCX gold was trading at Rs 1,51,801, while silver stood at Rs 2,38,720, both extending losses amid weak global cues and macroeconomic pressure.

Gold, Silver Prices Today: Why bullion is falling despite global tensions?

Bullion markets opened the week on a weak note, with both metals seeing sharp intraday declines. Gold slipped close to Rs 1,000, while silver dropped nearly Rs 5,000 before recovering slightly.

The fall reflects global trends where precious metals have been under pressure despite heightened geopolitical risks.

Gold and silver crash from record highs: How much have prices fallen?

The correction from peak levels has been significant: Silver has declined about Rs 2,00,891 from Rs 4,39,337. Gold has fallen roughly Rs 51,434 from Rs 2,02,984. This sharp drop has made prices appear attractive compared to earlier highs, but volatility remains elevated.

Motilal Oswal Explains Gold Fall: Iran tensions, US blockade, inflation impact

According to Motilal Oswal, gold prices slipped after posting a weekly gain as US-Iran talks failed over the weekend, leading to fresh escalation around the Strait of Hormuz.

Although sentiment improved briefly after US President Donald Trump announced a temporary truce, uncertainty over its sustainability has kept investors cautious. Contin-

ued Israeli strikes on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon and mixed signals on negotiations have added to market nervousness.

After talks between US and Iran leaders failed, the US signalled a blockade response, raising concerns over disruption in the Strait of Hormuz - a key route for global oil supply.

At the same time, focus has shifted to US inflation data. March CPI showed a sharp rise driven by higher energy prices, highlighting the inflationary impact of the conflict. While core inflation remained relatively stable, elevated inflation expectations have complicated the outlook for the Federal Reserve.

Crude Oil Surge Above \$100: How rising energy prices hit gold, silver?

The rally in crude oil has become the biggest factor influencing bullion: Brent crude is near \$103. WTI crude has crossed \$105.

Higher oil prices are fueling inflation concerns globally. This reduces the like-

lihood of interest rate cuts and strengthens the case for a prolonged high-rate environment - typically negative for gold and silver.

Gold under pressure as higher interest rates reduce appeal

Gold is currently facing a tug-of-war between supportive and negative factors:

Geopolitical tensions are supporting prices

High inflation and interest rate expectations are capping gains. Globally, gold has declined over \$40 recently and is down more than 6 per cent in the past month. The expectation that interest rates may remain higher for longer is limiting upside in bullion.

Silver Falls Faster Than Gold: Why the metal is underperforming?

Silver has seen a sharper correction due to its industrial demand component.

Prices have dropped nearly Rs 5,000 in a single session. Global silver prices are down over 8 per cent in a month.

The metal has corrected more than 20 per cent during the recent conflict phase.

Concerns over global growth, triggered by rising energy costs, are weighing more heavily on silver.

Akshaya Tritiya 2026: Is this the right time to buy gold or silver?

With Akshaya Tritiya approaching on April 19, lower prices may attract buyers. However, market conditions remain uncertain due to multiple global factors.

While festive demand

could support prices, further downside cannot be ruled out if oil prices continue to rise or inflation remains elevated.

Buy Gold Or Wait: Motilal Oswal explains

Motilal Oswal advises investors to avoid aggressive buying in the current environment and instead follow a measured approach. The brokerage recommends not investing a lump sum at once, but gradually accumulating on dips while staying cautious amid high volatility. It notes that gold is currently caught between geopolitical support and macroeconomic headwinds, making its price movement highly sensitive to inflation trends, interest rate expectations, and ongoing developments in the Middle East.

What investors should watch before buying gold, silver

The near-term direction in bullion will depend on a mix of key global and domestic triggers. Investors should closely monitor India's inflation data (CPI) and US existing home sales figures, as both will influence interest rate expectations and overall market sentiment. At the same time, movements in crude oil prices remain critical, given their direct impact on inflation. Developments around Iran-related tensions will also play a major role, as any escalation or easing could shift safe-haven demand. Together, these factors will shape global liquidity conditions and drive investor sentiment in the bullion market.

Tata Sons listing buzz explained: What's driving the rally in Tata Chemicals and Tata Investment Corporation?

New Delhi : Shares of Tata Chemicals and Tata Investment Corporation ended Monday's session on a strong note, as fresh developments around a potential listing of parent company Tata Sons kept investors engaged throughout the day. Both stocks saw sharp intraday gains of up to 12 per cent before giving up part of those gains by the close. Tata Chemicals settled at Rs 715, up Rs 25.10 or 3.64 per cent, while Tata Investment Corporation closed at Rs 709, rising Rs 43.35 or 6.51 per cent. The rally stood out against a relatively weak broader market, indicating stock-specific triggers at play. The primary trigger behind the surge was renewed commentary from the Shapoorji Pallonji Group (SP Group), which has once again called for Tata Sons to be listed. The SP Group, which owns an 18.4 per cent stake in Tata Sons, has been pushing for this move for some time, arguing that it would help unlock value for shareholders. This has direct implications for Tata



Chemicals and Tata Investment Corporation because of their ownership structure. As of the latest available data, Tata Sons holds about 31.9 per cent in Tata Chemicals and a significant 68.5 per cent stake in Tata Investment Corporation. Because of this, any news or speculation around Tata Sons tends to reflect quickly in the share prices of these companies.

Why the listing debate is important

Shapoorji Pallonji Mistry, chairman of the SP Group, has said that listing Tata Sons should be viewed as a natural next step for the con-

glomerate. According to him, going public would benefit a wide base of investors across listed Tata companies and create a more transparent structure for dividend distribution. He has also pointed out that such a move could improve visibility into how funds flow to Tata Trusts, which is the majority shareholder in Tata Sons. In his view, there is no strong argument to suggest that a listing would harm the Trusts or their philanthropic activities.

The regulatory backdrop

The discussion around listing is not just driven by investor demand. There

is also a regulatory angle involved. In 2022, the Reserve Bank of India classified Tata Sons as an upper-layer non-banking financial company (NBFC). Under current guidelines, such entities are required to list within a specified timeframe. This classification has added to the urgency around the issue, even though there has been no official confirmation from Tata Sons regarding any listing plans.

Internal differences remain

Despite the push from the SP Group, the proposal is not without resistance. Tata Trusts, which holds a majority stake in

Tata Sons, has historically been opposed to a public listing. The concerns are largely centred around maintaining control over the group's companies and avoiding dilution. These differing views mean that while the conversation is active, any final decision is likely to take time and may involve multiple rounds of discussion.

What should investors watch

For now, the rally in Tata Chemicals and Tata Investment Corporation is being driven by expectations rather than confirmed developments. The market is reacting to the possibility that a listing of Tata Sons could unlock significant value. At the same time, the lack of clarity means that volatility could remain high. Any fresh update—either confirming or rejecting the listing idea—could lead to sharp moves in these stocks. In the near term, both stocks are likely to remain in focus, with investors closely tracking developments around Tata Sons and any signals from key stakeholders.

9th India Pharma Highlights Policy Push and Innovation Driving Sectoral Growth

- India Poised to Lead Global Pharma Landscape with Focus on Biosimilars and Specialty Medicines: J.P. Nadda, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers
- Pharma Sector should intensify its focus on innovation-driven segments says Anupriya Patel Union Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers; Calls for strengthening of industry-academia collaboration.



New Delhi, April 13 (PIB): The 9th edition of India Pharma 2026, the flagship event of the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India, commenced in New Delhi. Organized in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), the two-day conference (April 13-14) brings to-

gether key stakeholders from across the global pharmaceutical and healthcare ecosystem, with a strong focus on innovation, self-reliance, and global leadership. Addressing the inaugural session virtually Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Shri J.P. Nadda, emphasized that the platform reflects both the strength and growing global relevance of India's

pharmaceutical sector. He noted that while India has long been recognized as the "pharmacy of the world" due to its leadership in affordable generic medicines, the global landscape is now rapidly shifting towards biologics, biosimilars, and specialty medicines. "In this evolving environment, India is well positioned not only to adapt but to emerge as a global leader," he stated. Reaffirming the Government's commitment



to fostering innovation and strengthening research capabilities, he highlighted the recently launched Biopharma Shakti Initiative with an outlay of ₹10,000 crore, aimed at advancing capabilities in biopharmaceutical innovation under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He further underscored complementary initiatives such as the PRIP scheme for promoting research in pharmaceuticals and medical technology, which seek to deepen industry-academia collaboration and accelerate the development of innovative therapies. Strengthening domestic manufacturing remains a key priority, supported by

schemes like the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes and the development of bulk drug parks to enhance self-reliance and resilient supply chains. He also reiterated the Government's commitment to affordable healthcare through initiatives such as the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana, which continues to expand access to quality medicines at affordable prices across the country. He added that India Pharma 2026 provides a vital platform to foster dialogue, partnerships, and a forward-looking roadmap for the sector. Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Smt. Anupriya

Patel, highlighted that India is undergoing a significant transition from being a global generics leader to an emerging biopharma innovation hub. She noted that India currently contributes nearly 20% of global generic medicines and meets around 70% of global vaccine demand, underscoring the country's robust manufacturing capabilities. Emphasizing future opportunities, she stated that the global demand for biologics and biosimilars is expanding rapidly, with the biosimilars market projected to reach \$75 billion by 2030. She further pointed out that innovative drugs account for nearly 87% of the global pharmaceutical market value, underlining the need for India to intensify its focus on innovation-driven segments. Smt. Patel also outlined the integration of artificial intelligence in drug discovery and development. She emphasized the importance of strengthening human capital through premier institutions such as NIPERs and IITs to support advanced research and innovation.

NHRC, India to hear online 216 cases of alleged bonded labour in the brick kilns across various districts of Uttar Pradesh on 16th April 2026

- Chairperson, Justice V. Ramasubramanian to preside over the virtual hearing
- The Chief Secretary of the state or his nominee, Labour Commissioner and all District Magistrates concerned asked to be present during the hearing
- Authorities expected to present detailed reports on actions taken for identification, release, skilling and rehabilitation of bonded labourers as well as their registration on the e-Shram portal

New Delhi, April, 13 (PIB): The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India will hold an online hearing of 216 cases of alleged bonded labour in the brick kilns across various districts of Uttar Pradesh at its premises in New Delhi on 16th April 2026 from 11.30 am. NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice V. Ramasubramanian will preside over the virtual hearing. This underscores the Commission's commitment to eradicating bonded labour and ensuring strict compliance with the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and the monitoring assigned by the Supreme Court of India. The Commission has directed the presence of the Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh or his nominee, Labour Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh and all District Magistrates (DMs) concerned during the online hearing. They are expected to present detailed reports on actions taken for identification, release, skilling and rehabilitation of bonded labourers as well as their registration on the e-Shram portal.

Key focus areas:

- Assessment of action taken by the District Magistrates on the complaints sent to them by the NHRC with status of compliance to the provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, orders of the Apex Court in Bandhua Mukti Morcha and Asiad Workers' case;
- Status of rehabilitation packages, including financial aid, skill training and alternate livelihoods;
- Progress on e-Shram portal registrations to secure social security benefits for rescued labourers; and
- Preventive measures against recurrence in identified districts.

The hearing is part of NHRC's ongoing suo motu interventions and complaints received on bonded labour.

National Health Authority Invites Innovators to Join AB PM-JAY Auto-Adjudication Hackathon 2026

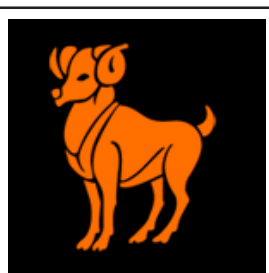
- The AB PM-JAY Auto-Adjudication Hackathon seeks innovative digital solutions to integrate with existing systems, reduce manual work, speed up claim processing, and create a scalable, future-ready adjudication framework
- 2,600+ Participants Registered So Far; Registrations Close on 13th April, Masterclass Series Begins on 13th April



New Delhi, April, 13 (PIB): The Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), the flagship health assurance scheme implemented by the National Health Authority (NHA) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, is driving digital health transformation in India, processing nearly 50,000 claims daily across 1,900+ treatment packages. At this scale, speed, accuracy and compliance in claims adjudication are critical. While 15-20% of claims are currently auto-adjudicated, the need for a scalable, package-agnostic solution remains significant. Given the volume and complexity of claims, there is a growing need for an advanced auto-adjudication system capable of handling diverse treatments and document formats. Leveraging automation, AI-based fraud detection, standardised documentation and real-time verification can help fully digitise claims processing while delivering faster, more consistent and transparent outcomes. The AB PM-JAY Auto-Adjudication Hackathon aims to catalyse innovative digital solutions that seamlessly integrate with the existing AB PM-JAY infrastructure, reduce manual effort, accelerate processing timelines, and build a scalable, future-ready adjudication framework for the entire ecosystem. The National Health Authority (NHA) has received an enthusiastic response to the AB PM-JAY Auto-Adjudication Hackathon 2026, with 2,600+ participants registered so far across the country.

Grand Finale at IISc Bengaluru
 The hackathon will culminate in a two-day offline finale on 8-9 May 2026 at the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, where winning teams will present their solutions before an eminent jury comprising leaders from healthcare, technology and public policy. Winners will also receive attractive cash prizes of Rs.5 lakh, Rs.3 lakh and Rs.2 lakh for each problem statement, along with an opportunity for potential collaboration with NHA.

Today's Horoscope



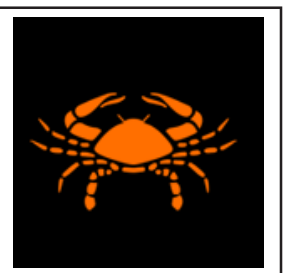
Aries
 Tooth ache or stomach upset may create some problems for you. Take a physician's advice to get relief immediately. Any of your chronic diseases may bother you today, due to which you may have to go to the hospital and spend a lot of money. Spending time with children will be important. Those who stay away from their lover can miss them deeply today. Because of this, you can talk to your beloved on the phone for hours during the night. Tact will be required while handling colleagues. Someone from your past is likely to contact you and make it a memorable day. Today, you will experience that the love of your partner forgets you about the pains of life.
 Remedy :- Keep water in a Copper vessel near bedside at night, and next morning, pour this water at the root of a nearest tree, for excellent health benefits.



Taurus
 Your energy level will be high. There is a possibility of money loss today, hence you are required to remain alert while making transactions or signing any document. Enjoy a peaceful and quiet day with family members-If people approach you with problems- Ignore them and don't let this bother your mind. Some difference may crop up with your darling-You will have difficulty trying to make your mate understand your position. Your partner will be hard to deal with. While spending free time with your spouse tonight, you will realize how important it is to give them more time. Work pressure had been hampering your married life since long. But today, all the grievances will be vanished.
 Remedy :- For enhanced financial condition, plant a banana tree, tend to it and worship it.



Gemini
 A beneficial day and you may be able to find relief from a prolong illness. An old friend can ask you for financial help today. However, your assistance can weaken your financial conditions. Children need to concentrate on studies and plan for the future. You are likely to be dazzled by some natural beauty today. You will make beneficial career changes if you present yourself in a professional manner. You should try to understand the things in the right manner, otherwise you'll waste your free time just thinking about such scenarios continuously. Today, you will realize that all the vows taken on your marriage were true. Your spouse is your soulmate.
 Remedy :- Financial life will become better by using green vehicles.



Cancer
 Misusing personal relations to fulfil your expectations would annoy your wife. You will possess a considerable amount of money today, and with it there will be peace of mind. You will also make important contacts through friends. The ecstasy of entire universe is held between the two who are in love. Yes, you are the lucky one. You need to focus on your way of working to get good results at the workplace, otherwise your negative image can get created in the eyes of your boss. Today, you will be able to spend time with your lover and put forward your feelings in front of him/her. Today, your partner might take you in the realm of a different world of love and sensations.
 Remedy :- Wear Green Coloured clothes



Leo
 Your mind will be disturbed with recent events. Meditation and yoga will prove to be beneficial for spiritual as well as physical gains. At the beginning of the day, you may suffer from any financial loss, which can spoil the whole day. Try to be reasonable especially with people who love and care for you. Exciting day of romance- Plan something special for the evening and try to make it as romantic as possible. Great day to implement new projects and plans. You have spare time today for socializing and follow up with things that you love doing the most. Your partner might do something fabulous unintentionally, which will be really unforgettable.
 Remedy :- For a good financial life, keep green stones in flower pots, keep plants in green bottles, and also have green tiles in bathroom.



Virgo
 If possible try to avoid long journey as you are too weak to travel and this could put further weaken you. Today, you are likely to attain benefits from the help of your brother or sister. Think before sharing your confidential information with your spouse. If possible, try to avoid as she might reveal it to someone else. Be careful your romantic partner may flatter you- don't leave me alone in this lonely world. Bold steps and decisions would bring favourable rewards. 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. Your spouse will be full of energy and love today.
 Remedy :- Include use of white clothes in your daily wear for good health.



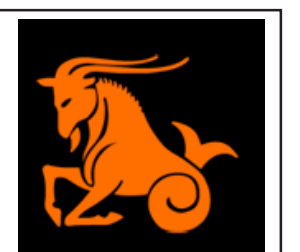
Libra
 Work pressure might bring some stress and tension today. It should be well understood that in the hour of grief, your accumulated wealth will only help you tackle the situation. Hence, start saving from today and avoid excessive spending. A better understanding with your spouse brings in happiness-peace and prosperity at home. Your work will take a backseat- as you find comfort-pleasure and extreme ecstasy in the arms of your beloved. You will be in a strong position to put together a team and work toward a collective goal. Today, you would like to do all the things that you used to love during your childhood. Romantic songs, aromatic candles, good food, and some drinks; the day is all about this with your spouse.
 Remedy :- Distribute sweets and savouries made of ground yellow chana dal to needy people for amazing health benefits.



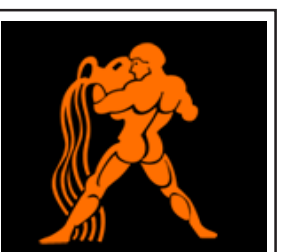
Scorpio
 Astrological guidance by a friend will encourage you to improve your health. Try to control your spending- and buy only the essential items today. Good time to get involved into activities that include youngsters. Erratic behaviour of your darling might make your mood upset. This is an excellent time for developing professional contacts in other countries. Good day for some recreation and entertainment. Rude behavior of your spouse might take a toll on you today.
 Remedy :- Offer seven almonds and seven grams of black grams in Shani temple and build a strong love life.



Sagittarius
 Outings-parties and pleasure jaunts will keep you in good mood today. Money can be required anytime, so plan your finances and start saving now as much as possible. Let family tension not divert your attention. Bad times give us much more. You will be in a loving mood- so be sure to make special plans for you and your beloved. New assignments undertaken would fall short of expectations. Travel and educational pursuits will enhance your awareness. Those who say that marriage is all about sex, they lie. Because today, you will know what true love is.
 Remedy :- For enhanced career/work life/business, brush your teeth with herbal-based toothpaste such as neem and babool.



Capricorn
 Your frank and fearless views could hurt the vanity of your friend. It's another high-energy day and unexpected gains are foreseen. You will upset your spouse if you spend money on things that you don't immediately require. Beloved will be in a romantic mood. Daydreaming will bring your downfall- Do not count on others to do your work. You need to remember that god helps those who help themselves. Today, you will fall in love with your spouse again.
 Remedy :- Maintain harmony and balance in the family by switching on a white-light zero watt bulb in the Northwest direction.



Aquarius
 Health will be perfect today. If you were about to take a loan and had been engaged in this work for a long time, then today is your lucky day. Domestic work keeps you busy most of the time. Love will show positive vibes Good day for businessmen. A sudden trip undertaken for business purpose will yield positive results. Today, you can think of spending your free time carrying out religious work. During this time, do not get into unnecessary conflicts. Today, you will forget all the hardships of your life with the love of your spouse.
 Remedy :- For enhancing positive experiences in the family, offer 28 drops of mustard oil near Peepal or banyan tree or in a pot filled with mud at home.



Pisces
 Cheer up as good time ahead and you will have additional energy. You may get into a fight with your spouse today over money-related matters. However, you will fix everything with your calm attitude. A wonderful day to enjoy the company of guests. Plan something special with your relatives. They would also appreciate it. A good communication or a message from your beloved or spouse will enhance your morale today. Added knowledge that you acquire today would give you an edge when dealing with peers. Amidst your busy life, you will get enough time for yourself today and be able to do your favorite things. Marriage had never been so wonderful before than today.
 Remedy :- Accept rice and silver from your mother and keep it in your home to improve your financial condition.

Sreeleela to pair up with Ajith Kumar in his next?



Sreeleela is steadily gaining offers in Tamil cinema despite not scoring a hit yet. Her first Tamil film "Parasakthi", released earlier this year, did not perform well. However, she has already moved on and is currently working with Dhanush. Movie Premiere Access The latest buzz suggests that she might bag a role in Ajith Kumar's next film.

Ajith Kumar, one of the top stars of Tamil cinema, has been selective about signing new projects as he is currently more focused on car racing. He takes up

films only occasionally.

The director has reportedly approached Sreeleela for a role in the film. Interestingly, she is nearly 30 years younger than Ajith Kumar. In recent years, Ajith has mostly paired up with senior actresses like Trisha Krishnan, Nayanthara, and Manju Warrier.

It remains to be seen whether Sreeleela will be cast as the female lead or in another key role.

Meanwhile, Sreeleela is also lining up multiple projects in Bollywood.

Kantara franchise may not continue henceforth



"Kantara" emerged as a pan-Indian blockbuster, turning Kannada actor-director Rishab Shetty into a nationwide sensation. He followed it up with the prequel "Kantara: Chapter 1", which became an even bigger success. However, the future of the franchise now appears uncertain. Reports suggest that no further sequels may be made.

However, the future of the franchise now appears uncertain. Reports suggest that no further sequels may be made.

Rishab Shetty is currently busy playing Lord Hanuman in Prashanth Varma's "Jai Hanuman", which is being produced by Mythri Movie Makers and is slated for release next year. The actor-director is said to be charging around Rs 60 crore for his projects, with his wife also coming on board as co-producer, taking the overall budget higher. This reportedly made Hombale Films reconsider initiating further "Kantara" projects, leading to the current situation.

Zero hype for LIK, Pradeep Ranganathan faces test

Pradeep Ranganathan made a mark in the Telugu market with a string of successful films. His debut as a lead actor, "Love Today", turned out to be a decent success, followed by "Return of the Dragon" and "Dude", both performing well. Telugu Language Learning Despite delivering three hits, his latest film "LIK" aka "Love Insurance Kompany" has failed to generate any buzz in Telugu. The hype around the film is almost negligible, and there are no aggressive promotional activities either. As a result, the film now largely depends on word of mouth after its release.

"LIK" is directed by Vignesh Shivan and stars Krithi Shetty as the female lead. S. J. Suryah plays the antagonist. Movie Premiere Access

After this release, Pradeep Ranganathan is expected to move on to new projects, hoping to maintain his momentum. The film arrives in theaters on April 10, 2026.



Neha Sharma : Crazy, Cute, Powerful



Varun Tej begins Korean Kanakaraju promotions



Varun Tej has kickstarted promotions for "Korean Kanakaraju", a film that is partly set in South Korea. He plays a quirky character obsessed with Korea, and the story also takes him to Seoul, where key sequences were recently filmed. Film Industry Insights The team is now gearing up to announce the release date. As part of the promotions, the makers have unveiled details about the first single.

Titled "Kamsahamnida", the song composed by S Thaman will be released on April 11, officially marking the beginning of the film's promotional campaign.

Directed by Merlapaka Gandhi, the film is being jointly produced by UV Creations and First Frame Entertainments. Ritika Nayak plays the female lead, and this will be her next release after the blockbuster "Mirai".

"Korean Kanakaraju" is aiming for a summer holiday release. The film is crucial for Varun Tej as he looks to bounce back after a series of setbacks. Comedian Satya plays a key role, with the film banking heavily on comedy elements.

Why Mrunal Thakur appears moody on sets revealed

Mrunal Thakur is quite popular in both Bollywood and Tollywood, but her success rate has been stronger in Telugu cinema. She has delivered notable films like "Sita Ramam", "Hi Nanna", and "Kalki 2898 AD", and is now gearing up to impress as Saraswathi in "Dacoit", which is set to hit theaters tomorrow (April 10). Telugu Cultural Events An interesting aspect about her behavior on sets has now come to light. According to her "Dacoit" co-star Adivi Sesh, she often appears moody during shoots.

"She turns angry sometimes.



Some days she is chirpy and fun. Some days she appears sad throughout the day.

Falaknuma FC get walkover in TFA C-Division league

Hyderabad: Falaknuma FC got a walkover as the opponents, Reserve Bank of India, failed to turn up in the TFA C-Division Football League Championship at Gymkhana Ground here on Monday. On Tuesday, Bolarum Sporting FC will take on Social Sporting FC at the same venue at 3.30 pm.

SPORT

From backyard cricket in Guyana to RCB: Romario Shepherd reflects on journey and inspiration

Hyderabad: Royal Challengers Bengaluru all-rounder Romario Shepherd reflected on his journey from growing up in Linden, Guyana, to representing one of the biggest franchises in the IPL, while also speaking about his early cricketing days, inspiration from Dwayne Bravo, his breakthrough in white-ball cricket, and life inside the RCB dressing room. Named after football legend Romário, Shepherd recalled his earliest memories of cricket when he had to improvise with whatever was available. "I used to play cricket in a small opening in my yard. Sometimes we made the ball with wood or used coconut branches to make a bat," he recalled. "Whenever the ball hit your shin, there were no pads because we were barefoot, so you had to defend your foot." His journey into organised cricket began during his school years. Notably, he was not always the destructive six-hitter he is known as today. "In the first game I played, I scored 129 and batted through the 40 overs, with no sixes. At that time I was not a big hitter. All I knew was to find the gaps."



As Shepherd progressed through age-group cricket, his role gradually evolved into that of a multi-dimensional player inspired by one of West Indies' modern greats. "Whenever you listened on the radio, there was always one name you heard doing everything, batting, bowling and fielding, and that was Dwayne Bravo," Shepherd said. "I wanted to be like that guy." His breakthrough in white-ball cricket came in 2018 during the Caribbean Premier League, where his performances quickly began drawing attention. "2018 is when people started taking my white-ball cricket seriously," Shepherd said. "I started bowling a lot of yorkers and hitting the ball, and commentators like Ian Bishop were saying this kid has something about him." One of the moments that stood out that season came when he faced his childhood inspiration. "The first ball I faced was from Dwayne Bravo and I hit it for six way back in the crowd," Shepherd said. "That was big for me because he was someone I looked up to." Shepherd's

journey eventually brought him to the IPL and Royal Challengers Bengaluru. "When I was watching cricket growing up, RCB was always one of the teams West Indians supported because Chris Gayle was on that team," Shepherd said.

Reflecting on his time with the franchise, Shepherd spoke about the strong environment within the dressing room. "Everyone knows TD (Tim David) is my guy. Salt, Bethell, even VK, I did not know he was this funny," Shepherd said with a smile. "You see Virat Kohli on the cricket field and he is so intense, but off the field he is actually a very funny guy." He also highlighted the influence of senior players and the positive atmosphere within the squad. "These guys make me

happy, especially when you are away from home for so long," Shepherd said. "It is an unbelievable group of guys both on and off the cricket field. RCB is blessed to have senior players mixed with younger players in one dressing room." For Shepherd, representing RCB also comes with a unique global connection with fans. "RCB gave me a chance and the opportunity to go out there and represent one of the biggest franchises in the IPL," he said. "It changes the way people follow you." "Even when I am playing for West Indies in other parts of the world, people are still chanting 'RCB, RCB'," Shepherd added. "When you walk out to represent RCB, you realise it is more than just a franchise. It feels like a family."

Indonesia beat India; Korea and Thailand continue strong in Billie Jean King Cup

New Delhi: India went down to Indonesia in their third match in the Billie Jean King Cup Group I - Asia/Oceania at the DLTA Complex in New Delhi on Thursday, with the visitors clinching both singles rubbers to take an unassailable lead. Indonesia's win keeps them firmly in the race to finish on top of the standings, while Korea Republic also continued their unbeaten run with a victory over New Zealand. Thailand, meanwhile, bounced back strongly with a clean sweep against Mongolia. In the opening singles rubber, Vaishnavi Adkar was edged out in a hard-fought three-set battle by Priska Madelyn Nugroho, going down 7-6(3), 6-7(3), 6-3. The contest swung both ways, with Adkar showing resilience to force a decider after dropping the first set in a tiebreak, but the Indonesian held her nerve in the third to seal the win. Sahaja Yamalapalli found the going tough against Janice Tjen in the second singles rubber, with the Indonesian delivering a clinical performance to secure a 6-2, 6-1 victory and seal the tie for her team. Rutuja Bhosale and Ankita



Raina were in doubles action at the time of writing against the Indonesian pair of Aldila Sutjiadi and Janice Tjen. Elsewhere, Korea Republic extended their perfect start with a solid win over New Zealand. Dayeon Back overcame Valentina Ivanov 7-5, 6-3, while Sohyun Park dominated her match against Monique Barry, cruising to a 6-0, 6-1 victory to seal the tie.

Korea top the table alongside Indonesia, with both teams winning all their matches so far. Thailand also returned to winning ways in emphatic fashion, sweeping Mongolia 3-0 without dropping a set. Thasaporn Naklo opened the tie with a 6-1, 6-0 win over Anu-Vjin Gantor, before Patcharin Cheapchandej mirrored that scoreline against Khongorzul Aldarkhishig.

Peangtarn Plipuech and Kamonwan Yodpetch then completed the rout, defeating the Mongolian doubles pair 6-0, 6-0. All six teams continue to compete in a round-robin format through Saturday, with the top two nations advancing to the next stage.

Results:
Indonesia def. India 2-0 (Priska Madelyn Nugroho (INA) def. Vaishnavi Adkar (IND) 7-6(3), 6-7(3), 6-3; Janice Tjen (INA) def. Sahaja Yamalapalli (IND) 6-2, 6-1; Doubles ongoing at the time of writing)

Korea Republic def. New Zealand 2-0 (Dayeon Back (KOR) def. Valentina Ivanov (NZL) 7-5, 6-3; Sohyun Park (KOR) def. Monique Barry (NZL) 6-0, 6-1; Doubles ongoing at the time of writing)

Thailand def. Mongolia 3-0 (Thasaporn Naklo (THA) def. Anu-Vjin Gantor (MGL) 6-1, 6-0; Patcharin Cheapchandej (THA) def. Khongorzul Aldarkhishig (MGL) 6-1, 6-0; Peangtarn Plipuech/Kamonwan Yodpetch (THA) def. Jargal Altansarnai/Oyungereel Khasbaatar (MGL) 6-0, 6-0)

Hockey India appoints Tim White as coach of junior women's team

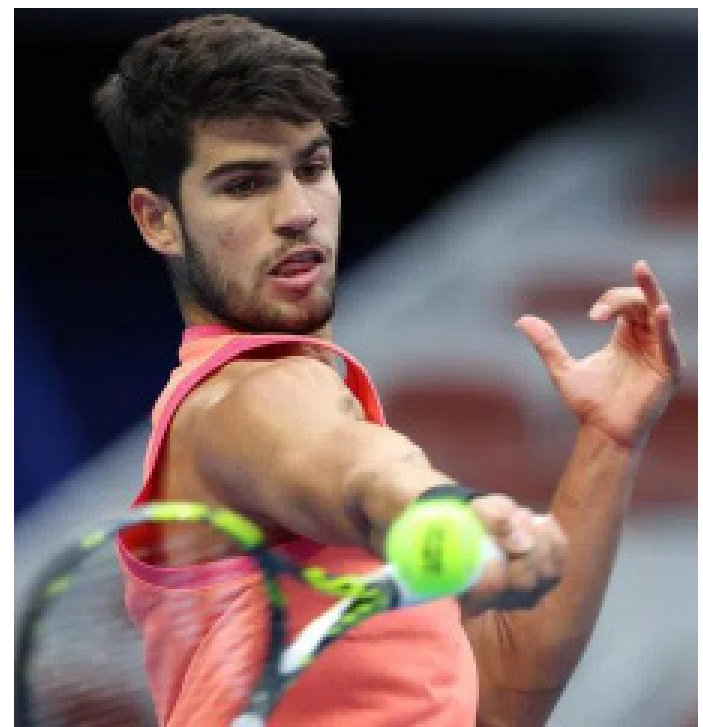


Hyderabad: Hockey India officially announced the appointment of Tim White as the Coach of the Indian junior women's hockey team. The Australian high-performance coach, who recently served as the Head Coach of the Accord Tamil Nadu Dragons in the Hero Hockey India League (Hero HIL) in January 2026, takes over the role with a clear focus on developing the next generation of international stars. Tim White's distinguished coaching career includes recent success in Belgium and past experience with Australia. Prior to his arrival in India, White served as the Coach for the Belgium Under-21 Women's Team, guiding them to a Bronze Medal at the 2025 Junior World Cup in December. Between 2021 and 2024, he was also an integral part of the Belgium Women's National Team coaching staff, during which time the team significantly improved its world ranking from #12 to #3, notably achieving a semi-final finish at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. Earlier in his career, he held the position of National Junior Coach for Australia, where he also secured a Bronze Medal at the Junior World Cup. Commenting on his appointment, Tim White said, "Having recently spent time in India as the coach of the Tamil Nadu Dragons, I was drawn back by the country's incredible passion and rich hockey culture."

Carlos Alcaraz beats Etcheverry to enter Monte Carlo quarter-finals

Monte Carlo: World No 1 Carlos Alcaraz overcame a tough challenge from Tomás Martín Etcheverry to reach the quarter-finals of the Monte-Carlo Masters on Thursday. The Spaniard started strongly but was pushed into a three-set battle before winning 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 in the Round of 16 clash on Court Rainier III. Alcaraz dominated the opening set, winning the first eight points of the match and finishing the set comfortably. However, his level dropped in the second set as he made 23 unforced errors, allowing Etcheverry to bounce back. The Argentine raised his game and won four straight games to take the set 6-4. In the deciding set, Alcaraz regained control. He improved his shot selection and hit 13 winners to close out the match and keep his title defence alive.

"I was playing really well in the first set. I was feeling the ball 10/10. Then I started pretty well in the second set as well and had a chance to break his serve in the second game, but I didn't take it. When you don't take the opportunities at this level, you have to run back. He played more aggressively after that, but I would say it was a great fight in the end," Alcaraz



said on the court after winning the match. Alcaraz served five aces compared to Etcheverry's one and won 98 total points against 83. The Spaniard also won 56 service points and 42 receiving points, both higher than his opponent.

Alcaraz converted five of 12 break points, while Etcheverry managed two of six. The top seed also won 67 per cent of points on his first

serve and 62 per cent on his second serve, compared to 61 and 50 per cent respectively for the Argentine. With this win, Alcaraz extended his clay-court winning streak to 15 matches. He will next face eighth seed Alexander Bublik in the quarter-finals. Earlier in the day, Jannik Sinner also advanced after a three-set win, staying in contention for the World No 1 ranking.

Meenakshi enters Asian Wrestling final; Hansika and Neha win bronze

New Delhi: Two-time national champion Meenakshi Goyat staged a stunning comeback to defeat South Korea's Seoyoung Park and enter the women's 53kg final, while Hansika Lamba (55kg) and Neha (59kg) secured bronze medals for India at the Senior Asian Wrestling Championships in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Meenakshi, who earned her place in the Indian squad by defeating two-time World Championships bronze medalist Antim Panghal, was trailing 0-2 until the closing 30 seconds of her semifinal bout. The 25-year-old turned the contest on its head with a decisive four-point throw and held on to her advantage to book a place in the final. The former Asian U-23 champion will now face China's Jin Zhang, who advanced after defeating Japan's Moe Kiyooka by fall.

Later, Hansika Lamba and Neha added two more bronze medals to India's tally, following a strong showing by the men's Greco-Roman wrestlers, who had already secured two silver and three bronze medals in the opening three days of competition. In the women's 55kg bronze medal bout, Hansika showed patience early on against Kyrgyzstan's Aruuke Kadyrbek Kyzy before taking control in the second round. The 19-year-old executed a successful leg attack to register a takedown and went on to dominate the bout, sealing a 6-1 victory.

Neha then claimed India's seventh medal of the competi-



tion with a commanding 10-4 win over Mongolia's Bolortuya Khurelkhuu in the women's 59kg bronze medal playoff. Meanwhile, Harshita (72kg) and Monika (65kg) will look to secure bronze medals on Friday. Harshita lost her semifinal 2-7 to Japan's Mahiro Yoshitake, the 2024 Asian Championships gold medalist, and will now face Uzbekistan's Sevinchoy Polvonova in the bronze medal bout. In the 65kg category, Monika suffered a quarterfinal

defeat to eventual finalist Nana Ikehata of Japan and will now take on South Korea's Hanbit Lee in the bronze medal match. Minakshi (57kg) and Mansi (62kg) also remain in contention after advancing to the repechage rounds following losses to finalists in their respective categories. Minakshi will face Kyrgyzstan's Tancholpon Kybalbekova, while Mansi will take on Mongolia's Tserenchimed Sukhee.

Jannik Sinner beats Tomas Machac to reach Monte Carlo quarterfinals

Monte Carlo: World No.2 Jannik Sinner battled past Tomas Machac in a three-set contest to reach the quarterfinals of the Monte-Carlo Masters at Court Rainier

III. The second seed secured a 6-1, 6-7(3), 6-3 victory in just over two hours, though not without facing a strong challenge from the Czech player. Sinner began the match domi-

nantly, taking the opening set 6-1 with controlled and aggressive play. However, the momentum shifted in the second set, where he struggled with consistency and fell behind 2-5.

Release of July 2026 Darshan Quotas



Tirumala, 13 April 2026(skyline daily) : TTD has announced the schedule for the release of various darshan and accommodation quotas for July 2026. The details are as follows: Arjitha Seva Tickets The quota

for Arjitha Sevas such as Suprabhatam, Thomala, Archana, and Ashtadala Pada Padmaradhana will be released online on April 18 at 10 AM. Devotees can register for the electronic dip (e-dip) for these sevas until 10 AM on April 20. Those who are allotted tickets through the dip must complete the payment between April 20 and April 22 before 12 noon, after which the tickets will be confirmed. Release of Other Arjitha Seva Tickets - April 21: Tickets for Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva, Arjitha Brahmotsavam, and Sahasra Deepalankara Seva will be released online on April 21 at 10 AM. Virtual Seva Quota: The quota for Virtual Sevas and their associated darshan slots will be released on the same day at 3 PM. Angapradakshinam Tokens - April 23: Tokens for Angapradakshinam will be released online on April 23 at 10 AM. Srivani Trust Darshan: The quota for Srivani Trust Darshan tickets will be released on April 23 at 11 AM. Darshan for Senior Citizens and the Differently Aabled Free special darshan tokens for senior citizens, differently abled persons, and those with chronic illness will be released online on April 23 at 3 PM. Special Entry Darshan - April 24: The quota for Special Entry Darshan (Rs.300 tickets) will be released online on April 24 at 10 AM. Accommodation in Tirumala and Tirupati: The quota for accommodation (rooms) in Tirumala and Tirupati will be released online on April 24 at 3 PM. Devotees are requested to book Arjitha Sevas, Darshan tickets, and accommodation only through the official TTD website: <https://ttdevasthanams.ap.gov.in/>

Promotion of CRE Incentives – Expansion of Natural Farming

(By Skyline Staff Reporter)Kambhamvaripalli, April



13: The Council for Rural Enlightenment (CRE) is making significant efforts to promote natural farming in rural areas and improve the livelihoods of farmers. As part of this initiative, the villages of Manchalamanda, Nadimpalli, Toorpu Palli, Padamatipalli, Sibbalavaripalli, and Cheepatavaripalli have been selected as a cluster, with a target of implementing natural farming practices among 250 farmers. Since last year, the organization has been conducting regular meetings with farmers in these villages, organizing training programs and exposure visits to in-

crease awareness about natural farming. These activities are instilling new enthusiasm among farmers and encouraging them to shift from conventional farming methods to natural farming. CRE representatives explained that natural farming significantly reduces input costs, improves crop quality, and enables the production of healthier food. As a result, farmers are showing increasing interest in adopting this method. Meanwhile, the founder of the APF Foundation, which is financially supporting this initiative, visited these villages on April 9 and 10. During the visit, they interacted directly with farmers, observed the natural farming practices being implemented, and expressed satisfaction. They appreciated the farmers' enthusiasm and assured continued support in the future. Local residents believe that this initiative is a positive step toward strengthening rural farmers both economically and health-wise, while also promoting environmentally friendly farming practices.

Viswam Alumnus Pavana Narasimha selected to NDA

Tirupati April 13 Skyline Daily Staff Reporter

Tirupathi Viswam Educational Institutions proudly announced that its former student, Amaravathi Pavana Narasimha, has been selected in the National Defence Academy (NDA) national-level entrance examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), said Dr. N. Viswanatha Reddy, Chairman of Viswam Educational Institutions and State Vice President of the Coaching Federation of India. On this occasion, Pavana Narasimha was felicitated with a memento by Dr. N. Viswanatha Reddy, Correspondent N. Thulasi, and Academic Director N. Viswachandan Reddy, who congratulated him on his remarkable achievement. Speaking on the occasion, they stated that Viswam Educational Institutions in Tirupati has been consistently providing excellent coaching along with the school syllabus for national-level competitive exams such as Sainik School, Navodaya, and Military Schools, achieving outstanding results every year. They further mentioned that Pavana Narasimha, who trained at Viswam School, secured State First Rank in the Sainik School Entrance Examination held in 2021. They also highlighted that in the recent Sainik School Entrance Examination 2026, Viswam student Geethika scored 285 out of 300 marks and secured State First Rank at the Andhra Pradesh and Telangana level, bringing further prestige to the institution. They attributed these achievements to proper guidance from an early age, disciplined preparation, and quality coaching provided by the institution. Dr. N. Viswanatha Reddy stated that students who prepare



from a young age for Sainik and Military School entrance examinations can go on to succeed in national-level exams like NDA and serve as officers in the defence services of the country. He added that over the past 36 years, more than 2000 students trained at Viswam have secured selections in Sainik, Navodaya, and Military Schools at the national level. Speaking on the occasion, the student's father, Mr. Siva Prasad, expressed pride that Pavana Narasimha secured a seat in Korukonda Sainik School through Viswam's coaching, which laid the foundation for his selection into NDA. He thanked Viswam Educational Institutions for their guidance and support in his son's success.

Telugu Yuvatha Vice President Praveen Joins the "Our Village, Our MLA" Programme

Palamaner, April 13:(By our Skyline staff reporter)

As part of the final day of the "Our Village, Our MLA" programme, N. Amarnath Reddy former Minister and current MLA of Palamaner constituency is touring various panchayats within the V. Kota Mandal. Pagadala Praveen, the Constituency Vice President of Telugu Yuvatha from Turlapalli Panchayat in Peddapanjani Mandal also participated in this tour. He accompanied MLA Amarnath Reddy to several villages, inquiring about the well-being of the residents. Along with Praveen, Balaji, Srinivasulu, and others also took part in this programme.



Ashv 2K26- National Level Techno Cultural Sports Fest is not just a victory rally but also a celebration of student leadership



Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): The victory rally was celebrated grandly at MITS (Madanapalle Institute of Technology & Science) Deemed to be University near Madanapalle. Speaking at the event, MITS University Founder and Chancellor Dr N Vijaya Bhaskar Chowdhary said that this event is not just a victory rally but a celebration of student leadership. He congratulated the students who displayed their leadership, talent and potential through this event. He said that every student who participated in the event has become a leader and advised them to take every challenge as an opportunity and move forward. He advised students to grow in every field, look at the policies implemented in institutions like IIM Bangalore and IIT Tirupati and actively participate in activities like placement teams and sports teams from the second year onwards. He said that MITS University is ready to provide the necessary support and resources, and called on the students to come forward and demonstrate leadership. Stating that everyone who participated in this program is a leader, he hoped that more students would participate in the future and showcase their talents. He said that it was a great pleasure to organize this program to-

gether with the students and to encourage everyone with their cooperation. He said that the team spirit was a great feeling in every student. He also announced that music and dance classes would be started at MITS University, and invited those interested to send their resumes to the Registrar. Speaking at the event, Vice Chancellor Dr C Yuvaraj said that in the two-day event held on March 25th and 26th, on the first day, Rakasa Movie Team Konedala Niharika, Hero Sangeeth Shobhan, Heroine Nayan Sarika, Getup Seenu, Singers Sagar, Mounika Yadav, Lipshika Bhashyam participated and on the second day, Hero Sharwanand, Heroine Malavika Nair, Jabardasth Team Saddam Hussain, Bindas Bhaskar Nava Sandeep and Jabardasth Puli participated and entertained the students. He gave away certificates and mementos to the students who participated in the event. MITS University Founder and Chancellor Dr N Vijaya Bhaskar Chowdhary, Pro Chancellor N Dwaraknath, Registrar Dr D Pradeep Kumar, Principal Dr P Ramanathan, Convener Dr Kamal Basha, Co-Convener Y Pradeep Kumar, President Harsh Vardhan, Senior Vice President Jayaram Reddy, faculty and students participated in the program.

Advocates Need a Protection Act — V.R. Reddy, Member, State Bar Council

Palamaner, April 13: (By our Skyline staff reporter)

V.R. Reddy, a member of the State Bar Council, stated that there is a pressing need for a protection act for advocates. V.R. Reddy, who was recently elected as a member in the State Bar Council elections, visited the Palamaner Bar Association on Monday. On this occasion, the members of the Palamaner Bar Association accorded him a grand felicitation. Speaking at the event, he expressed his gratitude to everyone for electing him as a State Bar Council member and for giving him the opportunity to serve the legal fraternity for a second time. He assured the advocates that he would wage a relentless struggle to resolve their issues and pledged to remain accessible to them at all times. He stated that he would do his utmost to address matters such as the allocation of house sites, insurance coverage, welfare funds, and retirement benefits for advocates. He further affirmed that they would work vigorously to ensure the enactment of an Advocates Protection Act. Bar Association President Irshad Ali Khan, former President L. Bhaskar, Vice President Krishnamurthy, Treasurer Munirajulu, former Vice Presidents Sheikh Sharif and Chandra Sekhar, and senior advocate P. Advocates Paramashivappa, K. Lakshmi pathi, B. Mohan Reddy, B.



Raja Reddy, S. Lakshman Reddy, E. Krishnappa, Arifullah Khan, Narayana Reddy, Ibrahim, K. Ranjith Kumar, Ashok, Maheshwari, and Madhavi participated in this programme.

B Pavani takes charge as DSP of Madanapalle

Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): B Pavani took charge as the new DSP of Madanapalle Police Sub-Division on Monday. This is her first posting as she was directly selected as DSP in the 2023 batch. After taking charge, she politely met Annamayya District SP Dheeraj Kunubilli at the District Police Headquarters in Madanapalle. On this occasion, the SP presented a flower plant to the DSP and informed him that he had joined the duties. The SP congratulated the DSP, who reported that he had joined the duties, and directed him to maintain law and order within the sub-division.



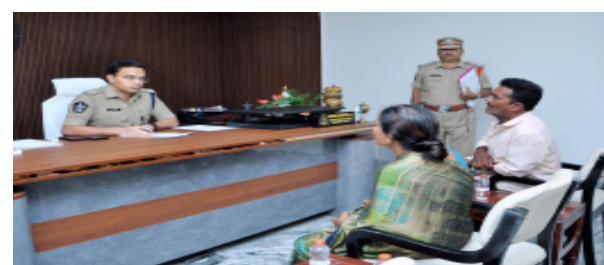
The SP specifically discussed the traffic congestion that has become a major problem in Madanapalle town. He said that strong measures should be taken to ensure that vehicular movement is not hampered at the main intersections of the town. He said that people should be freed from traffic troubles by taking strict action against illegal parking and encroachments on roads. He also said that it is a good development to come to a key division like Madanapalle as the first responsibility as a DSP, and he advised to work without compromising his power and earn the respect of the people. He ordered to take strict action against illegal trafficking of ganja, cricket betting, and cyber crimes, to increase patrols for the protection of women and students, and to take an iron fist on anti-social activities. He clarified that the staff should work so that the

victims come to the station bravely and express their problems, and that they should work with the aim of immediate justice.

Later, the DSP also politely met the District Additional SP (Administration) M Venkatadri. Speaking on the occasion the DSP Pavani thanked the higher officials who had trusted her and entrusted her with responsibilities. She stated that she will work in a planned manner to solve the traffic problem in Madanapalle town as per the SP's instructions and will not compromise on maintaining law and order anywhere.

Justice should be given to the victims within the legal framework

Madanapalle, April 13(Skyline daily): On Monday, District SP Dheeraj Kunubilli organized the Public Grievance Redressal Platform (PGRS) program at the Annamayya District Police Headquarters. The District SP directly listened to the problems of the people and received the petitions of the complainants from all over the district. The SP himself conducted an inquiry into family disputes, cyber frauds, land property disputes, fake documents, high interest rates, online frauds, frauds in the name of love and other issues. The SP spoke to the concerned police officers over the phone on public complaints and clarified that immediate justice should be provided within the legal framework. He ordered that there should be no laxity in this. He clar-



ified that detailed reports should be sent to the District Police Headquarters as soon as legal action is taken.