

# SKYLINE

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## Revanth proposes 'Hybrid Model' for delimitation, calls for national debate



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy took a strong dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for portraying the enactment of the Women's Reservation Bill and the delimitation of the constituencies as a single issue. Demanding the Union government for a debate in the Parliament and all Assemblies, constitute an Expert Committee and consultation with all parties on the delimitation, the Chief

Minister proposed a 'Hybrid Model' in the reorganisation of the constituencies in the country. "Of the 272 seats proposed to be increased, 136 seats should be allocated based on a pro-rata basis and the remaining 136 seats should be allocated based on Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Priority should be given to those states that contribute the largest share to the national gross output" he said.

Turn to Page 2

## Ponnam unveils "Arrive Alive" campaign to reduce road fatalities



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Minister for Transport Ponnababbar released the poster for the "Arrive Alive" road safety campaign at the Khairatabad Transport department office in Hyderabad on Monday, as part of the Praja Palana Pragathi initiative. Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj, Transport Commissioner Ilambarthi, RTC Managing Director Nagi Reddy, JTCs Chandrasekhar Goud, Ramesh, Shiva Lingayya, and other senior officials participated in the

programme. Addressing the gathering, the Minister stated that a joint "Arrive Alive" campaign will be conducted by the police and Transport departments from April 13 to 18 to promote the road safety. He said the initiative aims to identify the causes of road accidents, create awareness on traffic rules, and implement measures to reduce accidents. The Transport department is also taking steps toward environmental protection and will ensure strict enforcement of traffic regulations, he said. The Minister informed

that departmental reviews will be conducted across all districts over six days. He emphasised that the primary objective of the programme is accident prevention and saving lives. Highlighting emergency response, Ponnababbar noted that victims admitted to hospitals within the "golden hour" after an accident are eligible for the Rahaveer Award. "The reforms such as removal of check posts have been implemented. Steps are being taken to educate students in all schools about traffic rules.

## Revanth pays floral tributes to Sripada Rao on 27th death anniversary

**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** On the occasion of the 27th death anniversary of Dudilla Sripada Rao, the former Speaker of the undivided Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy paid floral tributes to his portrait at the latter's residence in Jubilee Hills on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister noted that Dudilla Sripada Rao was a prominent leader who established a significant presence within the Telugu states. He praised Sripada Rao for bringing honour to every position he occupied, from being a Sarpanch to serving as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The Chief Minister highlighted the commendable way in which Sripada Rao conducted the Assembly proceedings, elevating its reputation. Revanth Reddy pointed out that Dudilla Sripada Rao's life continues to be an inspiring example for the younger generation. The event was attended by Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, MP Vem Narender Reddy, and MLA Sanjay.



## Madhu Park Ridge residents seek stakeholder role in Musi project



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Residents, who were relocated from Madhu Park Ridge A Block, presented a request to Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, seeking to be involved as stakeholders in the Musi Rejuvenation initiative. They stated that, as displaced persons, they seek justice and have submitted three proposals for consideration under the state government's prestigious

Musi rejuvenation initiative. The Madhu Park Ridge A Block displaced residents met the Deputy Chief Minister at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad on Monday. The residents expressed their support for the Musi Rejuvenation and development works, clarifying that they have no objections to the project itself. However, they urged the government to include them as partners in the development process. Responding to their

proposals, Bhatti Vikramarka assured them that all three proposals would be examined from a humanitarian perspective and that justice would be ensured. He also directed Musi Riverfront Development Corporation MDE.V. Narasimha Reddy and Rangareddy district collector Narayana Reddy to review the proposals submitted by the residents and submit a report to the Musi Cabinet Sub-Committee.

## Seethakka issues legal notice to KCR over Anganwadi phone 'scam' claims

**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Danasari Anasuya Seethakka on Monday issued a legal notice to former Chief Minister and BRS president K. Chandrasekhar Rao, seeking an unconditional public apology over alleged defamatory statements relating to the distribution of mobile phones to Anganwadi centres.

In the notice sent through her advocate Naguluri Krishna Kumar,

the Minister termed the allegations of a Rs 30 crore scam as "false, baseless and made without verification of official records." She alleged that the claims were circulated through the BRS's official social media handles with "malafide intent" to damage her reputation. The notice called upon K. Chandrasekhar Rao to delete the posts on social media platforms and issue a public apology within 48 hours of receipt of the notice.

Turn to Page 2



## Bhubharati Act marks new era in land rights: Ponguleti



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Minister for Revenue, Housing, and Information Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy stated that the government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, is rebuilding the revenue system that had collapsed during the previous BRS regime. Marking one year since the implementation of the Bhubharati Act, the Minister reviewed its progress with officials at the Secretariat on Monday. The occasion is not just

about completing one year of a law, but the beginning of a new era in protecting land rights in Telangana, he said. "The Bhubharati Act, introduced last year, has emerged as a landmark reform aimed at ensuring transparency, accountability, and corruption-free services in land administration. It has made revenue services more accessible and simplified for the common citizen," he said. The Minister recalled that under the earlier Dharani portal and the 2020 ROR Act, the people have faced significant hardships in proving land ownership, often having to visit multiple offices despite owning land. Fulfilling an earlier promise, the Congress government launched the Bhubharati portal on April 14 last year, on the occasion of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary. Since then, it has played a key role in resolving long-pending land issues and reducing disputes, he reminded.

## Shabbir Ali assures full support to Haj pilgrims at Kamareddy training camp



**From Our Staff Reporter Kamareddy, April, 13 :** Government Adviser Mohammed Ali Shabbir on Monday assured that the Congress government would always stand by Haj pilgrims from Telangana and provide all necessary facilities for a smooth, safe and devout pilgrimage, including special arrangements and assistance services in Mecca. He was speaking after in-

augurating a Haj training camp organised by the Kamareddy District Haj Society at Lakshmedevi Function Hall in Devunipalli for pilgrims undertaking the Haj this year. The training session, which began in the morning and continued till 2 pm, witnessed large participation from Haj pilgrims from across the district, who attended in significant numbers and underwent de-

tailed training. On the occasion, religious scholars explained in detail the key religious practices, mandatory rituals and procedures to be followed during the Haj pilgrimage. They also created comprehensive awareness among pilgrims about precautions to be taken, travel arrangements, accommodation, transportation and other logistical aspects.

Turn to Page 2

## Fuel and LPG Supply Stable in Telangana; Over 2.18 Lakh Cylinders Delivered Daily

**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13 :** Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in Telangana have confirmed that the availability of petrol, diesel, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in the state is sufficient to meet current demand. OMCs have prioritised domestic LPG distribution, ensuring uninterrupted and timely delivery of cylinders. Currently, approximately 2.18 lakh domestic LPG cylinders are being delivered daily in Telangana, as compared



to the pre-war average of 2,15,151 cylinders per day, indicating a stable and robust supply system. Demand for petrol and diesel has moderated and is now comparable to

pre-war levels. LPG refill bookings have also declined significantly, as panic-driven bookings by consumers have reduced considerably.

Turn to Page 2

# The nation need spiritual democracy

## - Prof. Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd

**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13:** Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University organized Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Memorial lecture on "Is Ambedkar Co-optable by Non Buddhist Ideology" as a part of "Social Empowerment Fest" at university campus on Monday.

Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. BRAOU, was the Chief Guest for the program. Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani stated that India can be united through the principles of Buddha and the teachings of Buddhism. He emphasized that B. R. Ambedkar upheld Buddhism as a path toward social equality and justice. He noted that education alone has the power to transform society and uplift marginalized communities. He highlighted the importance of integrating technology to strengthen and expand developmental programs.

Prof. Chakrapani announced the launch of web-based TV and radio platforms on April 14 to enhance outreach and awareness. He added that these platforms will serve as tools for disseminating knowledge and promoting social change.

He concluded by stating that the programs will be regularly evaluated to ensure their effectiveness and impact.

Prof. Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd, Retd. Professor, Osmania University, Hyderabad was the keynote speaker for the program and delivered a lecture on "Is Ambedkar Co-optable by Non Buddhist Ideology" Prof. Ilaiah stated that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar strongly opposed caste discrimination and believed that there was no scope for meaningful reforms within the Hindu religion; furthermore, Ambedkar held the view that embracing Christianity would lead to a loss of one's sense of nationality. He explained that, given the current circumstances, spiritual democracy is a vital necessity in the country, and that without it, social democracy cannot be achieved. Dr. Ambedkar believed Islam did not align with his political and social perspectives and offered only limited scope for reform. He further noted that Ambedkar's adoption of Neo-Buddhism provided an alternative path grounded in equality, rationality, and social justice.

He expressed concern

that contemporary rulers are appropriating Ambedkar's ideas to suit their own agendas, thereby diluting the very essence of his philosophy. He opined that social democracy as envisioned by Ambedkar must be founded upon both social equality and spiritual values. He pointed out that current rulers are neglecting both education and the dignity of labor, emphasizing that education must be accessible to all. He suggested that the contributions made by Adivasis (indigenous communities) to food knowledge and production systems be duly recognized. Noting that these very Adivasi communities often remain excluded from formal education, he remarked that it is a truly commendable initiative for the Ambedkar Open University to provide free education to them. He congratulated Prof. Ghanta Chakrapani for conceptualizing such an innovative idea. He explained the importance of education, libraries, and family values in shaping responsible individuals.

He suggested that, in order to safeguard democracy and ensure an egalitarian social order, the Consti-

tution must be protected at all levels right up to the national capital.

Prof. G. Pushpa Chakrapani, Director (Academic) presided over the function. She stated that B. R. Ambedkar's ideology is rooted in the principle of equity. She emphasized that his vision aimed to ensure fairness and justice for all sections of society.

Dr L Vijaya Krishna Reddy, the Registrar, stated that the transformation of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University is focused on introducing unique fellowships and strengthening skill-based education. He emphasized that these initiatives aim to enhance learners' capabilities and promote inclusive, career-oriented development.

N C Venugopal, Finance officer, Prof. Anand Pawar, Prof. Sudha Rani, Prof. Vaddanam Srinivas, Prof. Rabindranath Solomon, Prof. Pallavi Kabade; Non-Teaching Employees Association members, Kantham Prem Kumar, Miya Janni, P. Vishwanath, Y. Ashok, K. Pandu and Directors, Deans, Heads of the Branches, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff Members participated in the program.

## Union Minister Bandi Sanjay slams CM Revanth Reddy's remarks



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13:** Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Monday lashed out severely at Chief Minister Revanth Reddy over his remarks regarding delimitation (the redrawing of constituency boundaries) of Lok Sabha seats. He expressed strong indignation, asserting that Revanth Reddy's proposals were unconstitutional and detrimental to the interests of marginalized sections of

society. Bandi Sanjay took strong exception to Revanth Reddy's argument that a higher number of seats should be allocated exclusively to regions that generate the highest revenue. "If that logic were to hold true, should all the seats then be allocated solely to Hyderabad? Is there no need to increase the seat count for your own birthplace-Palamuru-or for backward districts like Adilabad," he questioned.

He mocked the Chief Minister asking whether-after years of sending bundles of cash to the Congress High Command-he was now formulating political ideologies based entirely on monetary considerations. Sanjay criticized the Congress party by accusing it of attempting to dismantle the very foundations of the Constitution drafted by Babasaheb Ambedkar. He remarked that CM Revanth Reddy's comments appeared to be designed to undermine Ambedkar's ideals just ahead of his birth anniversary while adding that had Ambedkar been alive today, he would have expelled the Congress party from the country.

He affirmed that the BJP's core objective was to ensure that the fruits of development reach every individual irrespective of their financial status. He clarified that the credit for the deci-

sion to increase the number of the seats in every state by 50 percent-regardless of population size-belongs entirely to Prime Minister Modi.

Bandi Sanjay alleged that the Congress party was unequivocally opposed to the women's reservations. He questioned as to why the Congress party failed to implement the 33 percent reservation quota during its five decades of governance? He pointed out that the Congress party continues to maintain close ties with parties like the RJD and the Samajwadi Party-the very parties that, in the past, tore up copies of the women's reservation bill within the Parliament. Bandi Sanjay alleged that Revanth Reddy's remarks had exposed the true nature of the Congress party and urged him to stop engaging in divisive politics and speak the truth.

## Revanth proposes 'Hybrid Model' for delimitation, calls for national debate

**From Page 1**

Addressing a press conference at the Secretariat on Monday, the Chief Minister took strong objection to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposal of 50 per cent increase in seats and said that this would be detrimental to the very survival of the nation. Revanth Reddy explained that the disparity in seats between Kerala (which has 20 seats) and Uttar Pradesh (which has 80 seats) stands at just 60 seats. If the 50 per cent increase is implemented, this gap would widen to 90 seats. The gap in seats between Telangana and Uttar Pradesh would widen to 94 seats. The Southern states collectively hold 130 seats (if increased by 50 percent). This total would rise to only 195 seats. The Northern states which currently hold 413 seats will have 621 MP seats, he pointed out.

Revanth Reddy also raised the issue of the declining population in the

southern states due to the implementation of family planning and the significant increase of population in the Northern states. The Chief Minister alleged that the Centre was trying to relegate southern states to a politically secondary status. Even smaller states like Delhi and Punjab will lose their political relevance.

This would be an irreparable blow to both the Southern states and the smaller states alike, he said.

Revanth Reddy said he would write a letter to all Southern State Chief Ministers and also small states like Punjab and Delhi seeking their cooperation in the fight against the discrimination against the fast developing states in the delimitation process. The Chief Minister also wondered why the Centre was creating a sense of urgency by summoning a special session of Parliament to address both the delimitation of constituencies and the

Women's Reservation Bill. Revanth Reddy alleged that the Centre was strategically moving to project an impression that the opposition parties were not supporting the women reservation and delimitation. The two important national issues should be seen as separate and discussed separately before finalising the modalities, he said. Referring to the Women's Reservation Bill, the Chief Minister emphasised that a law should be enacted only after the 2026 census and said that if the provisions were amended in accordance with the 2026 census, women's reservations could be implemented in the 2029 Lok Sabha elections, as well as in the Assembly elections of various states. The Chief Minister pointed out that, in 2023, the Congress party has extended its full support to the Women's Reservation Bill and there would have been an opportunity for 181 women to be elected out of

the 543 seats had a 33 per cent reservation been provided for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. The Chief Minister made it clear that the Congress is committed to the women quota and ready to support the Women's Reservation Bill based on the 2026 census. The Chief Minister recalled that the bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha under the leadership of Sonia Gandhi during the Congress rule. However, the Women's Reservation Bill did not get approval because the BJP had not supported it. Revanth Reddy questioned the Centre for advancing the legislation based on the 2011 census instead of completing and implementing the 2026 census.

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Seethakka, Ponnampalankar, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and Vakti Srihari, Government Adviser Keshava Rao and MPs were present in the media conference.

## Seethakka issues legal notice to KCR over Anganwadi phone 'scam' claims

**From Page 1**

It warned that failure to comply would compel her to initiate appropriate civil and criminal defamation proceedings. Refuting the allegations, Seethakka stated that she had no role in the procurement of smartphones. According to the notice, the tender process was handled by Telangana Technology Services Limited, which invited bids and awarded the contract through established procedures. "A Tender Evaluation Committee consisting of senior government officials evaluated the bids and finalised the contract. My client is not a

member of this committee and has no role in awarding the tender," the notice said. Through the legal notice, the Minister questioned the basis of the allegations, pointing out that the total value of the tender was about Rs 44 crore. "When the tender itself is for about Rs.44 crore, it is not understood as to how my client could have indulged in corruption to a tune of Rs.30 crore. Your allegation is prima facie false and absurd," the notice read. The notice also alleged that the posts had gained significant traction on social media and were amplified by multiple accounts affiliated

with the BRS, causing damage to her public image and credibility. Later in the day, speaking to the media, Seethakka said she was compelled to initiate legal action as the BRS had been indulging in a sustained "false and malicious campaign" over the issue.

She demanded that KCR take responsibility for the alleged misinformation being circulated by the party's social media wings, while clarifying that she held no personal animosity against him. The Minister recalled that she had issued similar legal notices in the past in response to what she described as re-

peated instances of false propaganda. Referring to the alleged irregularities, she termed the claim of a Rs 30 crore scam in a Rs 44 crore tender as "ridiculous." Seethakka maintained that the tendering process was carried out transparently through Telangana Technology Services Limited, in accordance with established procedures. She further alleged that the BRS intensified its campaign against her after she categorically refuted similar allegations made by BRS MLA K.T. Rama Rao on the floor of the State Legislative Assembly.

## Fuel and LPG Supply Stable in Telangana; Over 2.18 Lakh Cylinders Delivered Daily

**From Page 1**

According to the State-level Coordinator for OMCs, public sector oil companies are closely monitoring the supply situation and have undertaken necessary measures to streamline logistics and expedite deliveries. OMCs are in continuous coordination with the State Government to address op-

erational issues on a day-to-day basis and ensure smooth and uninterrupted supply of petrol, diesel, and LPG across Telangana. Consumers are being encouraged to book LPG cylinders through SMS, missed call, and IVRS platforms, and to utilise the Delivery Authentication Code (DAC) to ensure delivery to the rightful

beneficiary. The Central and State Governments are also promoting Piped Natural Gas (PNG) as a convenient, safe, and efficient alternative cooking fuel. PNG services are currently available in Hyderabad, Medchal, Sangareddy, Choutuppal, Nalgonda, Warangal, Khammam, Shadnagar, Ramagundam, and other se-

lected towns. Efforts are underway to expand PNG connectivity to additional urban and semi-urban areas in the state. For migrant workers and students without local address proof, 5-kg free trade LPG cylinders are available through authorised distributors upon submission of valid identity proof and a self-declaration.

## Ramchander Rao applauds women's role in democracy



**From Our Staff Reporter Hyderabad, April, 13:** On the special occasion of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam, Telangana BJP unit president N. Ramchander Rao held a special and heartwarming interaction with women in Khanapur on Monday.

During the interaction, women from

Khanapur expressed immense enthusiasm and appreciation for the landmark legislation, conveying their gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for ushering in a new era of women-led development.

Addressing the gathering, N. Ramchander Rao highlighted that the Nari Shakti Vandan

Adhinyam marks a historic step towards ensuring greater participation of women in the democratic process.

He noted that by providing enhanced representation for women in legislative bodies, the Act empowers nearly half of the nation's population, whose voices have long remained

underrepresented in policymaking.

He further emphasised that the legislation is not merely a reform, but a transformative milestone that will strengthen institutions, promote inclusive governance, and accelerate India's journey towards becoming a progressive and developed nation.

## Shabbir Ali assures full support to Haj pilgrims at Kamareddy training camp

**From Page 1**

The scholars further explained possible problems that may arise during the Haj journey and the measures to be taken to address them. Special arrangements, including separate seating and guidance, were made for women pilgrims. Pilgrims actively interacted with religious scholars and organisers, directly raising their doubts and getting them clarified. They expressed that the training camp would be highly useful in enabling them to perform the Haj properly, safely and with devotion. Minority religious leaders and Municipal Chairperson Ippa Uma Rani participated in the programme and extended their greetings and best wishes to the pilgrims. Speaking on the occasion, Shabbir Ali said the Congress government stands firmly on the side of the people and considers their problems as its own. He reiterated that

providing timely assistance to those in need reflects true governance. He said the government's objective was to ensure that every Haj pilgrim from Telangana is provided with all required facilities, adding that special arrangements, support services and amenities would be made available in Mecca as well.

**Welfare schemes and CMRF cheques distributed to beneficiaries in Nizamabad**

Earlier in the day, Shabbir Ali and PCC president and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud participated as chief guests in a programme held at the R&B Guest House in Nizamabad town, where welfare scheme benefits and Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques were distributed to eligible beneficiaries.

Under welfare schemes, 404 beneficiaries received Rs 4,04,46,864 under Shaadi Mubarak, while 187 beneficiaries were given

Rs 1,87,21,692 under Kalyana Lakshmi. In total, cheques worth about Rs 5,91,68,556 were distributed.

In addition, CMRF cheques worth Rs 32 lakh were distributed to 54 beneficiaries from various divisions of Nizamabad town.

Mahesh Kumar Goud said the Congress government had fulfilled several key promises within a short period of coming to power and was demonstrating its commitment through action rather than mere words.

He said development and welfare programmes were being implemented uninterruptedly under people-centric governance. He highlighted that schemes such as free bus travel for women, supply of LPG cylinders at Rs 500 and 200 units of free electricity were already being implemented successfully.

He added that programmes like Indiramma housing, farm

loan waiver, Rythu Bharosa, employment opportunities for youth and subsidised rice schemes were aimed at bringing a smile on the face of every poor person.

He said the CMRF scheme was a great boon for people in distress and noted that assistance was being provided in an unprecedentedly transparent manner, without any intermediaries or even a single paisa being charged, directly reaching beneficiaries.

Among those present were Nizamabad Urban MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana, Gadugu Gangadhar, District Congress president Nagesh Reddy, Town Congress president Bobbili Ramakrishna, Mayor Uma Rani, NUDA Chairman Keshavenu, Haj Committee members, district leaders, public representatives, officials and a large number of beneficiaries and Haj pilgrims.

## Tenth Class Examinations Conclude Smoothly Under Tight Supervision

**MEO S.M.N. Khuddus Ensures Smooth, Incident-Free Class 10 Exams in Guntur**



(By Our Staff Reporter)  
Guntur, Apr 13:

The Class 10 public examinations conducted in Guntur city concluded successfully in a calm and orderly atmosphere without any untoward incidents. The efficient performance of Mandal Education Officer S.M.N. Khuddus has drawn widespread appreciation from

the education community. From the very beginning of the examinations, Khuddus remained vigilant and personally inspected several examination centers across the city. By closely monitoring the situation at each center, strict measures were implemented to prevent malpractice and ensure a

fair examination process. Special precautions were taken to avoid any disturbances or irregularities. Following the directions of the District Education Officer, Khuddus provided clear guidance to teachers and staff, enabling them to carry out their duties effectively. Particular attention was given to maintaining a peaceful environment at the examination centers for students.

The efforts of Khuddus played a crucial role in helping students appear for their exams without stress. Parents, teachers, and members of the education sector have appreciated the arrangements, describing the conduct of examinations as exemplary. Education circles opined that the way examinations were managed in Guntur this time can serve as a model for other regions.

## Awareness Program on Foundational Learning Assessment Conducted in Guntur

(By Our Staff Reporter)  
Guntur, Apr 13:

A one-day awareness program on the use of tablets was organized at Mahaveer Junior College in Guntur for selected teachers and DIET students from various districts. Speaking as the chief guest, District Education Officer Dr. Shaik Saleem Basha stated that under the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), 16 schools in Palnadu district and 17 schools in Guntur district have been selected for the Foundational Learning Assessment (FLA). He explained that DIET students selected for this initiative must assess the competencies of Class 3 students studying in Telugu, English, and Mathematics using the provided tablets. He emphasized that no negligence should be shown in carrying out this responsibility. District Educational Development and Monitoring Committee



Secretary A. Tirumalesh said that the Central Government has undertaken this program as a prestigious initiative. Therefore, DIET students must conduct the Foundational Learning Assessment for at least 12 Class 3 students from Telugu, English, and Urdu medium schools using tablets. The training program was attended by Kakumanu Mandal Education Officer K. Vijayabhaskar, Palnadu Additional Mandal Education Officer Poomachandra Rao, DIET senior lecturers Haragopal and Poleramma, and resource persons Bhuvanachandra and Saleem, among others.

## Traffic Woes Trouble Public in Machilipatnam

Machilipatnam Correspondent: Apr 13

Traffic congestion at Kota Thulluru Center on the main road in Machilipatnam has become chaotic, causing severe inconvenience to both pedestrians and motorists. The area, which remains busy throughout the day, is facing heavy traffic jams due to multiple roadside establishments. A wine shop on one side, milk booths on another, along with tiffin stalls, a chicken pakodi cart, and sugarcane juice vendors are occupying space along the main road, leading to frequent traffic blockages. Due to the high traffic volume, a single constable is unable to effectively manage the situation. Additionally, vehicles coming from the Avanigadda bypass road, along with the movement of cattle such as cows and buffaloes, are further worsening the congestion at the junction. The intense summer heat is adding to the hardship, making it diffi-



cult for commuters and pedestrians to cope with both the traffic and weather conditions. Residents have urged authorities to respond promptly by improving traffic regulation and taking strict action against those causing obstructions on the road.

## Appoint Booth Level Agents in Full Strength: District Collector D.K. Balaji



Machilipatnam Correspondent 13th April: District Collector and District Election Officer D.K. Balaji has instructed all political parties in the district to appoint booth-level agents for every polling station across all constituencies before the next review meeting. On Monday morning, the Collector held a district-level meeting with representatives of various political parties at his chamber in the city to review election-related matters. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said that out of 1,769 polling stations in the district, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has appointed 1,710 booth-level agents, though some appointments are still pending in Machilipatnam, Gudivada,

and Gannavaram constituencies. He further stated that the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) has appointed 1,233 agents, but is yet to appoint any in Gudivada and Penamaluru constituencies. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed only 21 agents in Avanigadda constituency. Jana Sena Party has completed the appointment of booth-level agents in Avanigadda. The Indian National Congress (INC), CPI(M), and BSP have not yet appointed any booth-level agents in the district. The Collector directed all parties to complete the appointment process before the next meeting and submit the list of agents to the respective Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) of each

constituency. He informed that the Election Commission of India will soon provide training to booth-level agents, enabling them to work along with booth-level officers in door-to-door verification for preparing an accurate voters' list. He also made it clear that complaints from political parties will not be entertained unless they appoint booth-level agents. Regarding voter list applications, the Collector said that a total of 86,313 applications (Forms 6, 7, and 8) were received, out of which 84,354 have been resolved, while 1,959 applications are still under process. He added that 69% of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) mapping of the 2002 voter list with the 2025 voter list has been completed in the district. District Revenue Officer Chandrasekhara Rao, along with representatives from TDP, INC, BJP, CPI(M), BSP, and YSRCP, including Das, Matin Khan, P.V. Gajendra Rao, Kodali Sharma, Rajesh, Balaji, Upendranath, Silar Dada, and Basha, as well as election staff from the Collectorate, attended the meeting.

## False Allegations Against Committee Are Unacceptable – Politicizing a Sacred Pilgrimage Is Shameful

(By Our Staff Reporter)  
Amaravati, Apr 13:

The Andhra Pradesh Haj Committee has strongly condemned the false allegations being made by certain political forces against the Haj Committee and Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu. The Committee stated that dragging the sacred Haj pilgrimage into political controversies for vested interests is highly unfortunate. Speaking on the occasion, State Haj Committee Chairman Adi Hasan Basha said that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has been consistently working for the welfare of Muslim

minorities. He noted that the Chief Minister holds deep respect and concern for the Muslim community and is ensuring that Haj pilgrims face no inconvenience by issuing clear and timely directions. He further stated that, for the first time, the government is facilitating arrangements for a record number of pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh to undertake the sacred pilgrimage to Mecca. This achievement, he said, is a result of the Chief Minister's commitment and determination. With the support of the Minority Welfare Department, the functioning of the Haj Committee

is being closely monitored, and necessary steps are being taken regarding fund allocation and the safety of pilgrims. He criticized opposition parties for making baseless allegations through the media, stating that such actions are merely attempts to defame and create unnecessary controversy. He clarified that all appointments and activities of the Haj Committee are being carried out strictly as per rules and regulations. Adi Hasan Basha also warned that the Muslim community is closely observing attempts to politicize the Haj pilgrimage. He cautioned that anyone acting



with malicious intent in such a sacred matter will face strong response from the people. He reaffirmed that the Andhra Pradesh Haj Committee remains committed to the welfare of pilgrims and will continue to work towards the development of minorities in line with the vision of the Chief Minister.

## UTI Large Cap Fund Rs. 10 lakhs invested at the inception of fund has grown to Rs. 23.03 crores as of March 31, 2026

Vijayawada, 13th April: UTI Large Cap Fund is India's first equity-oriented fund (launched in October 1986) and has a track record of wealth creation of over 38 years. UTI Large Cap Fund is an open-ended equity scheme which predominantly aims to invest in large cap companies having competitive advantage in their respective fields. It follows an investment style of Blend for stock picking. This means that it's an approach that combines both growth and value stocks to create a balanced, all-weather equity portfolio. The Fund aims to invest in companies that are fundamentally strong with controlled borrowings, consistent revenue growth, focus on profitability, higher return on capital than cost of capital and consistent operating cash-flows generation. Such companies may generate

free cash flows for future expansion and avoid dilution of existing shares. Owing to this Blend approach of UTI Large Cap Fund may invest in companies with competitive franchise were, 1. The market is underestimating the companies' ability to sustain growth over the long term or the benefits of pricing power. 2. The growth trajectory is improving through industry wide phenomena like favourable demand cycle, consolidation, clearances of regulatory hurdles or through company specific factors like cost competitiveness and prudent capacity expansion. 3. The business is capital intensive but the companies invest prudently and execute efficiently. 4. The companies having opportunities to reinvest cash flows at high Return on Capital Employed (RoCE). 5. The rel-



ative valuation within the sector is attractive. This provides the investors an opportunity to create a long-term wealth by owning a portfolio of quality companies. UTI Large Cap Fund has a portfolio of leading companies such as HDFC Bank Ltd., ICICI Bank Ltd., Reliance Industries Ltd., Infosys Ltd., Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Bharti Airtel Ltd., Bajaj Finance Ltd.,

Axis Bank Ltd., and Eternal Ltd., and the top 10 stocks account for about 49% of the portfolio. The Scheme is currently overweight on Consumer Services, Consumer Durables, Information Technology, Construction and Capital Goods, and underweight on Power, FMCG, Financial Services, Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels, and Healthcare as of March 31, 2026. The Fund

has a corpus of over Rs. 11,200 crores as on March 31, 2026. The Fund aims at obtaining capital appreciation / or income distribution over long-term, follows a disciplined approach to invest as stated above and has maintained a stream of annual dividends every year since its inception. UTI Large Cap Fund has distributed a total dividend of about Rs. 4,500 crore.

## Krishna District Police Crack Theft Case at Former Minister's House ; One Arrested; 15 kg of Silver Seized

(By Our Staff Reporter)  
Machilipatnam 13th April:

Krishna District Superintendent of Police (SP) Vidyasagar Naidu presented before the media the accused arrested in connection with a theft that took place at the residence of former state minister Katari Eshwar Kumar. The police arrested an inter-state criminal, Dodloji Babu alias Ravi Babu, who is reportedly involved in 11 cases. From his possession, approximately 15 kilograms of silver articles worth around 15 lakh

recovered. Addressing the media, the SP shared details of the case. He stated that the accused was working as a lorry cleaner and had fallen into bad habits. In an attempt to earn money easily, he resorted to committing thefts. Based on a complaint received regarding the theft that occurred on March 14 at the residence of former minister Katari Eshwar Kumar, located in Anjaneya Peta under Gudivada Two Town police station limits, a case was registered. Despite the lack of initial evidence,



Gudivada Two Town police acted swiftly and intelligently to apprehend

the accused. The SP appreciated the police for solving the case by effectively using technology

along with human intelligence at the crime scene.

## "Mee Kosam" Petitions must be resolved on priority: District Collector D.K. Balaji



Machilipatnam Correspondent 13th April: District Collector D.K. Balaji has directed officials to resolve petitions received under the "Mee Kosam" grievance redressal program on priority and within the stipulated time. On Monday, the Collector, along with senior officials, conducted the program at the Collectorate and received petitions from people across the district. A total of 132 applications were submitted. The Collector patiently heard the grievances and instructed officials to take immediate action. Among the petitions, a resident requested relocation of a TIDCO housing flat from the fourth floor to a lower level due to difficulty in access. Another complaint highlighted alleged threats and encroachment attempts over government land. Representatives of the Krishna District Farmers' Association raised concerns over pending cyclone compensation, silted drains causing flooding of fields, and demanded urgent desilting works and repair of sluices to protect

thousands of acres. Reviewing the performance of officials, the Collector expressed dissatisfaction over improper online updates of petition disposal and warned of showcause notices if negligence continues. He emphasized accountability and timely resolution of grievances. The Collector also instructed officials to maintain cleanliness in government schools, hostels, and institutions by ensuring compost and soak pits. Drinking water sources must be disinfected every 15 days with proper monitoring to prevent contamination. He further directed officials to be prepared for the visit of the State SC Commission on the 17th of this month with complete reports. Applications under the Right to Information Act must be handled online, and all departments should complete their login processes. Officials showing outstanding performance in resolving petitions were appreciated and awarded during the program.

## SKYLINE

Tuesday 14.4.2026

## Urban Fragility

The crisis unfolding across India's cities is not, at its core, about cooking gas. It is about the quiet architecture of exclusion that underpins urban growth. A disruption in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) supplies ~ linked to tensions around the Strait of Hormuz ~ has done much more than inconveniencing households. It has exposed how precariously India's migrant workforce is integrated into city life. For millions of low-income workers, access to cooking fuel is not guaranteed by formal systems but mediated through informal arrangements ~ small refill operators, shared cylinders, and neighbourhood brokers.

These networks function efficiently in normal times but collapse quickly under stress. When they do, the consequences are immediate and personal: kitchens go cold, food security falters, and the cost of daily survival rises sharply. What follows is not merely hardship but withdrawal. Workers begin to leave. This pattern should be familiar. During the Covid-19 lockdown in 2020, India witnessed a mass reverse migration that stunned policymakers and exposed the invisibility of urban labour. What is striking now is that a far less dramatic trigger ~ a supply bottleneck rather than a national shutdown ~ is producing a similar behavioural response. That suggests the underlying vulnerability has not been addressed. At the heart of the problem lies the conditional nature of welfare access.

Schemes designed to subsidise LPG or ensure food security remain tied to fixed addresses and local documentation. Migrant workers, who are by definition mobile and often informally housed, fall through these cracks. Economists have long argued for portability in welfare entitlements, yet implementation remains uneven. The result is a system where those who build and service cities cannot reliably access basic urban amenities. The economic implications are significant. India's micro, small and medium enterprises depend heavily on migrant labour for sectors ranging from construction to textiles. As workers leave, production slows, costs rise, and recovery timelines extend. This is not just a labour issue; it is a demand shock in the making, as departing workers also withdraw their consumption from urban markets. Equally concerning is the environmental regression. Faced with fuel shortages, households revert to firewood, kerosene, or coal ~ undermining years of progress under initiatives like the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. What was framed as a transition to clean energy risks becoming reversible under supply stress. The official position that supplies are adequate may well be accurate at a macro level. But availability is not the same as accessibility. A system can be well-stocked and yet functionally exclusionary. This moment, therefore, is less a supply crisis than a governance test.

It raises a fundamental question: can India's cities sustain growth while treating a large share of their workforce as administratively temporary? Until access to essential services becomes portable, affordable, and independent of rigid documentation, each external shock ~ whether geopolitical or economic ~ will continue to trigger internal instability. The exodus of workers is not an overreaction. It is a rational response to a system that still does not fully recognise them as part of the city they sustain.

## Islamic NATO or Europe: Is Gulf rethinking its options after Trump's 'betrayal'?

Almost two hours before US President Donald Trump's deadline to 'end the whole of civilisation' through massive bombings on the night of April 7, his post on Truth Social announced a two-week-long ceasefire brokered by Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir. Speculations were divided: many doubted Iran would act on Trump's threats, while a significant number believed a strike against Iran's energy infrastructure was imminent. The security landscape in the Gulf has been permanently altered by the ceasefire, which now hangs in limbo as talks between US and Iran held in Islamabad collapsed.

The escalation from the US, Iranian retaliation, and Europe's limits have reshaped Gulf security in ways Washington did not anticipate. Every major war in West Asia has reshaped the region's power politics, with global implications. After the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, the Jewish state emerged victorious with more territory under its control than it had before it. Similarly, the 1956 Suez crisis ended the global influence of Britain and France, the two major colonial empires. The 1967 Six-Day War reestablished Israel's military dominance and laid the groundwork for the present-day Gaza crisis. In 1973, the Yom Kippur War caused a major oil crisis after Saudi-led oil-producing countries refused to sell to the US over its support for Israel. The aftermath of the war saw the emergence of the petro-dollar system and the start of the US-Saudi military partnership in exchange for the trade of oil in dollars. The Gulf wars of 1991 and 2003 weakened and later led to the removal of Saddam Hussein from power, making Iran the sole rival to Saudi Arabia in the region.

Similarly, the 2026 Iran-US war has turned the region increasingly vulnerable, has left its energy infrastructure more exposed, made Iran weaker, and forced the Gulf to rethink its security partnership with the US.

**Gulf Disillusioned?**  
The US and Israel have had strong ties for over eight decades. The Arab world witnessed a thaw in its relations with the Americans, especially with the emergence of the petro-dollar

trading system, which further increased the demand for the US dollar in exchange for security guarantees.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, which include Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, the UAE, and Oman, have invested heavily in their relationship with the US, assuming their interests would be well-considered over Israel's. However, Donald Trump, who is known for being unpredictable, has prioritised Israel's goals over the GCC's. Though Iran has remained a threat to these countries, as neighbours, the GCC and Iran maintained trade relations despite differences.

The primary driver behind the Iranian attacks on its neighbours was the presence of the US military in West Asia, especially in the Gulf. Even in its 10-point peace plan, Iran demanded a US military withdrawal from the Middle East.

The Gulf countries acted cautiously. The crown prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed Bin Salman, reportedly pushed Trump to continue the war, seeing it as an opportunity to reshape the power dynamic in the region. The goals of the GCC were hedged against the assumption that a regime change would take place soon. However, Iran's attacks on oil refineries and natural gas infrastructure continued. According to an assessment from the Stimson Centre, in a month, the GCC received 83% of Iranian drones and missiles compared to just 17% launched at Israel. The message was clear - Iran attacked both military and civilian assets to destabilise the region's energy infrastructure and ensure that the ripple effects of the war go beyond the region. Only a ceasefire has been established, but hostilities remain.

**Is Europe A Safer Bet?**

In this context, Europe can emerge as a better partner for the Gulf than the US. One of the key reasons behind this observation is Europe's stance of not intervening directly in the war. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer vehemently rejected America's request to send British troops to fight the war against Iran; however, the UK allowed the US to use its bases to launch attacks. In response, Iran fired ballistic missiles at Diego Garcia,

located 4,000 km away.

Even so, Europe is unlikely to emerge as a genuine alternative to the US in the near future, largely due to its own continued reliance on American air defence systems for both wide-area and localised protection. This dependence was highlighted, for instance, during the conflict when the redeployment of two Patriot missile system batteries from Germany to Turkey created air defence gaps across Europe.

Secondly, American weapons sales have seen a dramatic increase, soaring from 27% to over 50% following the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine. This is because US-made systems, such as the Patriot, THAAD, NASAMS, and Stinger air defence platforms, remain globally dominant. While the newly elected German Chancellor Friedrich Merz called for Europe to pursue strategic 'independence' from the US in 2025, the continent collectively remains reliant on American defence capabilities. But, despite its military dependency on the US, Europe remains a middle power and a strong economic partner, which can anchor the Gulf countries, and Asian countries such as India, South Korea, and Japan, which in future can help create a military partnership that does not have the US as the foundational pillar.

**US-Europe Fracture**

Trump's rhetoric and actions in West Asia have been more destabilising for Europe than for Russia recently. In 2022, Europe faced an energy crisis due to its reliance on Russian gas. The effects of the energy crisis still exist, though the continent has agreed to phase out its dependence on Russian gas and actively depends on the US, Norway, Algeria and Australia for fossil fuel supplies.

Now, the Iran war has had a disastrous effect on European economies, with at least 18 countries announcing relief packages for their citizens. The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), which Trump withdrew from, is also a case in point. It was considered a European and American diplomatic victory under the Obama regime to stop the Iranian nuclear programme and integrate Iran into the global economy.

Another key takeaway from the war is



Trump's increased skepticism of NATO as an unreliable partner. He has called out members of the alliance for not increasing the defence budget to 5% of the GDP, and laments the US taking the burden of spending more. He has threatened to take Greenland by military force and ranted about NATO allies not supporting the US to reopen the Strait of Hormuz. Last week, he said, "NATO wasn't there when we needed them, and they won't be there if we need them again. Remember Greenland, that big, poorly run, piece of ice!" The US President also betrayed his desperation when he wrote an expletive-laden post on Truth Social on Easter. However, not once has Trump hinted at implementing Article 5 of the NATO charter, which states that any attack on a member will be deemed as an attack on the entire alliance. Article 5 has been implemented only once after the 9/11 attacks in 2001.

Donald Trump's threats to take over Greenland by force, attacking Iran without consulting its European partners, and criticising NATO for not joining in its war efforts have caused friction in their relationship.

**A Catalyst For Islamic NATO?**

A former US security official, who has extensively studied Iran, recently said in London that forming an "Islamic NATO" would be incredibly challenging due to the diverging strategic interests of countries. In the 1950s, the CENTO or Central Treaty Organization was considered an extension of NATO in Asia. It was dissolved in 1979 after the Islamic Revolution in Iran. Pakistan, Turkey, Iran and the UK were members of the military alliance. In 2026, Israel is a military superpower in the region,

along with Saudi Arabia and Turkey, possessing a strong military.

The Gulf countries have had differences with Iran, but they continue to cooperate with Tehran because of the vulnerabilities of their energy infrastructure to any attack from Iran or vice versa. The worst-case scenario, which the US wargamed for years - of Iran's violent strikes on its neighbours - just became real for the Gulf. Despite that, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other countries refused to get actively involved, instead letting the US finish the job. Who would, then, be the adversary if an Islamic NATO were to be established? Pakistan sees Iran as an important neighbour. At the same time, a military alliance without Pakistan, which offers a nuclear umbrella, would be impotent.

Even so, the world has now witnessed Pakistan taking a stronger diplomatic role, and any future engagement concerning Iran would involve Islamabad. A wounded Iran, which is emboldened by its experience of attacking its neighbours and hijacking the global energy supply chain, makes a strong case for Islamic countries in Central Asia to partner militarily.

The war is still on. Iran has reasserted the significance of geography in global politics through its control of the Strait of Hormuz. The conflict allowed Israel to bomb Hezbollah targets in Lebanon south of the Litani River, attacking bridges and railroads, to create a military buffer zone to defend northern Israel. Now, Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu has agreed to speak to Lebanon for a ceasefire. The next two weeks will decide the fate of this war.

## Where a woman works depends on who she is

The increase in women's participation in labour force is generally celebrated as an umbrella statement. According to the PLFS report, the labour force participation rate for urban women has increased from 22 to 22.2 per cent, and their worker population ratio has increased from 20.5 to 20.7 per cent. However, these statistics often do not get into the depth of how these numbers change across caste. Studies have previously shown how caste acts as an important pre-market, social identity which impacts labour market outcomes of the workers.

Since identities of caste have historically arisen through the division of labour, these outcomes can get more complicated when they intersect with the identities of gender. Often, we relegate the impacts of caste to a relic of the past. However, a nuanced analysis can reveal interesting insights into gender and caste, and whether meritocracy has indeed successfully replaced caste-based division of labour. Theoretically, labour markets are not unified spaces where workers compete on equal terms. Instead, they are divided into segments that differ in wages, job security, and mobility. Entry into these segments is shaped not only by skills and education but also by social identity. In India, caste remains a key determinant along which such inequalities are organised. Research shows that caste and gender-

based disparities persist in urban labour markets, influencing who accesses better jobs and who remains confined to precarious work. Data from the PLFS 2023-24 shows the continued relevance of these patterns. Urban women are concentrated in a limited set of industries, with services and manufacturing accounting for the majority of employment. Nearly two-fifths of urban working women are employed in services, while about a quarter are in manufacturing.

Trade and allied activities, along with transport and communication, account for smaller but still significant shares. However, this concentration does not imply equal access within these sectors. A caste-disaggregated view reveals clear differences in how women are distributed across industries. SC women are more likely to be concentrated in sectors such as construction, which is typically associated with lower pay and higher precarity, whereas upper caste women are more prominently represented in services. These disparities extend to occupational distribution.

A large share of the urban working women is concentrated in lower-end roles. Elementary occupations, typically constituting low-skill, routine jobs such as cleaning, sweeping, and other basic service tasks, account for 23.26 per cent of employment. Service and sales roles account for



another 18.5 per cent while 17.36 per cent of women are engaged in crafts and related trades. In contrast, about 18.25 per cent of women are employed as professionals, representing one of the more skilled segments of the labour market. Caste differences within these occupations are stark. Upper caste women, in particular, make up about half of the managers and professionals. In contrast, SC women constitute only 8.32 per cent of managers and 9.71 per cent of professionals, highlighting their limited presence in these occupations and their disproportionate concentration in lower-paying roles. For instance, SC women constitute 30.5 per cent of those in elementary occupations, a category that already represents the largest share of women's work. Education is often expected to

equalise opportunities across social groups. While higher levels of education do improve access to better jobs for all women, they do not fully eliminate caste-based disparities.

Among graduate women, 56.25 per cent of upper caste women are employed in professional occupations, compared to 41.87 per cent of SC women. These differences are even more pronounced in access to managerial roles. Among postgraduates, 10.82 per cent of upper caste women are employed as managers, compared to just 4.58 per cent of SC women. At lower levels of education, SC women remain significantly more concentrated in elementary occupations than their upper caste counterparts. This suggests that while education enhances labour market outcomes, it does not

fully offset the influence of caste. Disparities also extend to the quality of employment.

Regular salaried jobs are those which are generally considered the best types of jobs. These typically come with some amount of security and regularity of income. While nearly half of urban women are engaged in regular salaried jobs, access to such employment varies significantly across caste groups. Upper caste workers have the highest share in regular employment (53.96 per cent) and are almost absent from casual labour (2.64 per cent), indicating strong concentration in secure forms of work.

In contrast, SC workers are significantly more likely to be engaged in casual employment (14.73 per cent), reflecting greater exposure to insecure and low-paying jobs. While urban India may appear more modern, its labour markets continue to reproduce old hierarchies in new forms. Caste continues to shape not only where women work, but the kind of work they access and the security it provides. Education improves outcomes, but it does not level the playing field. As a result, women from marginalised caste groups remain concentrated in lower-paying and precarious jobs, even within the same urban economy. In this sense, the promise of urban meritocracy remains unfulfilled.

## The red revolution on your plate: Why tomatoes are being called nature's ultimate healing secret

A simple kitchen favourite is now grabbing attention for its powerful health benefits. Tomatoes, rich in lycopene and nutrients, may support heart, eyes, lungs, skin, and overall immunity.

It started like a simple kitchen habit: slicing a tomato for salad, but suddenly this humble red fruit is back in the spotlight, and people are talking about it like it's a tiny health superstar hiding in plain sight.

The buzz began after Acharya Balkrishna shared a post on Facebook calling tomato a true blessing for health. And just like that, the internet is once again looking at this everyday ingredient with fresh curiosity.

But is the hype real? Science says: there is more power in this red fruit



than most people imagine. The red secret inside every tomato. Tomatoes are packed with a powerful antioxidant called lycopene, the same compound that gives them their bright red colour. This natural pigment does more than just make

your plate look colourful. It helps protect the body's cells from damage caused by harmful free radicals. Lycopene works like a shield against stress on cells and may help reduce the risk of several serious diseases. Research suggests it can

lower chances of cancers such as lung, stomach, and prostate cancer. Some studies also link it to reduced risk of cancers in the pancreas, colon, throat, mouth, breast, cervix. But lycopene is not alone. Tomatoes also carry potassium, folate, vitamin C, and a mix of vitamins B and E along with flavonoids. These nutrients together help strengthen immunity and support overall body function.

**Heart Health: The hidden support system**

Tomatoes are quietly working for the heart in many ways. Lycopene may help reduce LDL or "bad" cholesterol and may also support healthy blood pressure levels. Both are key factors in preventing heart disease.

Along with that, vitamins B and E and other antioxidants found in tomatoes help improve cardiovascular health and reduce stress on blood vessels.

Studies also suggest that regular tomato consumption may reduce the risk of stroke. This happens because tomatoes may help lower inflammation, support immunity, reduce cholesterol, and even prevent unwanted blood clotting.

Eyes, lungs, and body defense boost

Tomatoes are not just heart-friendly. They may also support your eyes. They contain lutein and zeaxanthin, two powerful compounds that help protect eyes from harmful blue light coming from smartphones, laptops, and screens.

## USD 1 billion, 'most beautiful Turkish woman as wife' or it's all over: Ugandan Army Chief's unusually bizarre ultimatum to Turkey

Diplomacy took a strange turn last week after Ugandan Army Chief Muhoozi Kainerugaba publicly rolled out his bizarre demands to resolve differences with Turkey — USD 1 billion as “security dividend”, the most beautiful Turkish woman as a wife or else he will sever diplomatic relations with Ankara. The demands may sound unusual to a sane mind but this is what Muhoozi Kainerugaba, son of Ugandan “dictator” Yoweri Museveni, has actually asked Turkey to begin talks on resolving the differences. The Ugandan Army chief has accused Turkey of profiting from infrastructure deals in Somalia while his troops have been protecting the African nation for nearly two decades from the al-Shabaab group. Citing this, Kainerugaba said Uganda should receive USD 1 billion as compensation. “On top of



the \$1 billion from Turkey, I want the most beautiful woman in that country for a wife,” he wrote in a series of posts on X. In another post, he added, “If they do not address our problems, we will terminate all diplomatic relations with Turkey within the next 30 days.” After the controversy, the posts have now been deleted and the general reposted a clarification

from Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations, Adonia Ayebare. “Tweets by @mkainerugaba on Türkiye are a reflection of dissatisfaction with the way Uganda’s serious concerns have been handled. Uganda values its partnerships with our Turkish Friends but not at the expense of our sovereignty. Uganda looks forward to good faith talks aimed

at resolving our concerns which I am sure @mkainerugaba supports. There should be no cause for alarm,” the Ugandan diplomat said. Kainerugaba later said he loves the 86 million “brothers and sisters” in Turkey. “I love the 86 million brothers and sisters in Turkey. Twitter insults mean nothing to me. We send all Turkish people love from Uganda,” he added.

## Trump's threat of naval blockade of Iran sparks global energy alarm; key Iranian ports under direct target

The United States has declared to choke Iran's maritime lifelines, with the US Central Command announcing a sweeping naval blockade that halts all shipping traffic to and from Iranian ports from Monday morning. The move, ordered under US President Donald Trump, threatens to rip millions of barrels of oil out of global supply chains and push an already fragile energy market toward crisis. The blockade applies to vessels of all nations entering or exiting Iranian territory, tightening pressure on Tehran while allowing passage only to ships bound for non-Iranian ports. The blockade extends across Iran's entire coastline—from the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Oman—effectively sealing off critical export hubs. Target ports include: Bandar Abbas — Iran's largest and busiest container port; Bandar Imam Khomeini — A crucial bulk cargo and container hub; Bandar-e-Mahshahr — A major oil export terminal; Chabahar — Strategic port

on the Gulf of Oman; Kharg Island — Iran's primary oil export terminal; Bandar-e-Bushehr — Important regional trade hub; Bandar Lengeh — Smaller commercial harbour with regional significance; Assaluyeh — Crucial for gas and petrochemical exports; Strait of Hormuz: Global energy lifeline at risk. At the heart of the crisis lies the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical shipping corridors. Nearly a quarter of global seaborne oil and vast quantities of liquefied natural gas pass through this narrow stretch. Any disruption here does not stay regional; it sends shockwaves across continents. Around 20-25% of global oil trade flows through the strait. Asia absorbs 86% of this supply. China alone accounts for 31% of shipments. India follows with 14%. Oil supply shock looms large. Analysts warn the blockade could trigger the most severe disruption since the oil crisis of the 1970s.



Up to 2 million barrels per day of Iranian oil could be cut off immediately. A broader escalation could impact 9-11 million barrels per day globally. Iranian exports, already near 1.8 million barrels per day, risk collapsing. Even before the blockade, Iran had ramped up shipments, leaving over 180 million barrels floating at sea, a buffer that may only briefly cushion the shock. Global fallout: Prices, trade, and tensions. The crisis is already spilling into global shipping lanes.

Around 3,200 vessels are reportedly stranded west of the strait. Insurance costs and freight rates are expected to surge. Supply chains for fuel, fertilisers, and industrial goods face severe disruption. Blocking Iranian exports removes a key supplier from the market, but the greater danger lies in escalation. A wider shutdown of traffic through the Strait of Hormuz could send oil prices soaring worldwide, deepen inflation, and strain economies already under pressure.

## China calls for unobstructed navigation through Strait of Hormuz amid Trump's blockade warning



While the United States has enforced a maritime blockade on Iran, China has stressed the need for free and safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz. Responding to the developments, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun said safeguarding stability and ensuring uninterrupted navigation in the Strait of Hormuz is in the shared interest of the global community. He also reacted to Washington's warning of

tariffs if Beijing is found supplying arms to Iran, saying trade wars benefit no one and reiterating China's long-standing position against such measures. “China's position is very clear: tariff wars have no winners,” he said, as cited by Global Times. The tensions come ahead of a likely visit by Trump to Beijing in mid-May for talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping. The visit, originally expected earlier in

April, was postponed after Trump said he needed to remain in Washington to monitor the ongoing conflict involving Iran. Earlier this month, China again underlined its role in promoting stability in the Middle East. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said Beijing remains committed to encouraging dialogue and the peaceful resolution of tensions. Her remarks followed

claims by Trump that China had helped bring Iran to the negotiating table during recent diplomatic efforts. At the same time, diplomatic activity between Beijing and Moscow is set to continue, with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov scheduled to visit China for talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi. Discussions are expected to cover bilateral ties as well as key regional and global issues.

## From Netanyahu's side to Mossad's helm: Roman Gofman to lead Israel's intelligence agency

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has named his military secretary, Major General Roman Gofman, as the next head of Mossad, backing a close aide with battlefield experience to lead the country's top intelligence agency. The appointment, cleared by an advisory panel on senior positions, comes at a time of heightened regional tensions, with Israel's security establishment navigating ongoing conflict and evolving threats. Netanyahu calls Gofman “bold and creative”. Confirming the decision in a post on X, Netanyahu said he had approved Gofman's appointment after it was vetted by a committee led by former Supreme Court President Asher Grunis. “Major General Gofman has served as my military secretary for the past two years. He is an outstanding officer—bold and creative—who has demonstrated throughout the war a perspective outside the box and impressive



resourcefulness. I wish Major General Gofman great success in his next role as Mossad chief, and I am confident that he will do much for Israel's security,” Netanyahu stated. When Gofman takes charge and who he replaces According to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office, Gofman will take over as Director of the Israeli Institute for Intelligence and Special Operations on July 2, 2026, for a five-year term. As reported by The Times of Israel, he will succeed outgoing Mossad chief David Barnea, whose tenure is set to conclude in June.

Close aide with operational and strategic roles Gofman is considered a trusted associate of Netanyahu and has served as his military secretary for nearly two years. In that role, he travelled on behalf of the prime minister on various assignments and helped oversee the execution of directives within the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), the Times of Israel reported. Born in Belarus, Gofman moved to Israel with his family in 1990 at the age of 14. He later built his career in the IDF Armoured Corps, eventually rising to the rank of division commander

before stepping away from frontline roles. Injury during October 7 attack, policy views spark debate During the October 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack, Gofman was commanding the Tzeelim training base. He reportedly rushed to the Gaza border and was seriously injured in a fire-fight with militants near Sderot. Before taking up his current role in 2024, he had authored a policy paper suggesting that Israel retain military control over Gaza after defeating Hamas, a proposal that triggered debate within policy circles.

## 'No cards...very desperate Iran': Trump orders oil blockade, says 'I don't care' if talks collapse

US President Donald Trump on Sunday (local time) doubled down on Washington's hardline approach towards Iran, calling the country “very desperate” and confirming that a US-led blockade aimed at cutting off its oil exports will take effect at 10 am on Monday. The announcement follows a 21-hour round of talks in Islamabad that ended without agreement, leaving both sides entrenched even as a ceasefire in the region continues to hold for now. Speaking to reporters, Trump made it clear that the United States would proceed regardless of diplomatic uncertainty. “The blockade will go into effect tomorrow at 10 am,” he said, adding that “there are many boats heading toward our country to fill up with oil.” US blockade targets Iran's oil exports, Strait routes The blockade is aimed at restricting Iran's ability to sell oil, a key source of revenue that Washington believes funds its nuclear ambitions. Trump said other countries were cooperating with the move. “Other nations are working so that Iran cannot sell oil,” he said, without naming them.



He also pointed to attempts to bypass traditional shipping lanes, including the Strait of Hormuz. “They are not going through the Hormuz Strait. And ultimately, that will be corrected,” he said. In a Truth Social post, Trump confirmed that the US Navy would begin intercepting vessels. “Effective immediately, the United States Navy, the Finest in the World, will begin the process of BLOCKADING any and all Ships trying to enter, or leave, the Strait of Hormuz.” “I don't care”: Trump shrugs off return to talks Trump dismissed the possibility of renewed negotiations with Tehran after the Islamabad talks ended in a stalemate.

left in negotiations. “They have no cards... Their Navy is gone. Their Air Force is gone. Totally gone. They have nothing,” he said. He asserted that Iran's missile stockpiles and manufacturing capacity had been “largely depleted” after US military operations. “We've destroyed most of those weapons,” he said. Referring to Iran's past rhetoric, Trump added, “For years, I've had to listen to them say, death to America... death to Israel.” Projecting confidence in the US position, he said, “I told my people I want everything. I don't want 90 per cent. I don't want 95 per cent. I told them I want everything.” NATO criticism surfaces amid escalation Trump also used the interaction to criticise NATO, expressing dissatisfaction with the alliance. “I'm very disappointed in NATO, they weren't there for us. We pay trillions of dollars for NATO and they weren't there for us,” he said. He declined to respond to questions on Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban and ended the exchange shortly after.

## 'Hungary has chosen Europe,' says EU Commission President as poll results show victory for Magyar



President of the European Union, Ursula von der Leyen on Monday said that Hungary chose Europe, after Hungary's long-serving Prime Minister Viktor Orban conceded defeat in the parliamentary elections. Von der Leyen said that the European Union has now become stronger. In a post on X, she said, “Hungary has chosen Europe. Europe has always chosen Hungary. A country reclaims its European path. The Union grows stronger. Hungary has chosen Europe. Europe has always chosen Hungary. A country returns to its European path. The



Union grows stronger.” Earlier in the day, Hungary's partial official results indicated a decisive victory for Peter Magyar and his Tisza party, marking a significant political shift in the country after 16 years of continuous rule by Fidesz. With 97.35 per cent of precincts counted, official results reported by Al Jazeera showed that Magyar's centre-right Tisza party secured 138 seats in the 199-member parliament, winning 53.6 per cent of the vote. In contrast, Orban's nationalist Fidesz party managed to secure 55 seats with 37.8 per cent of the vote, reflecting a sharp

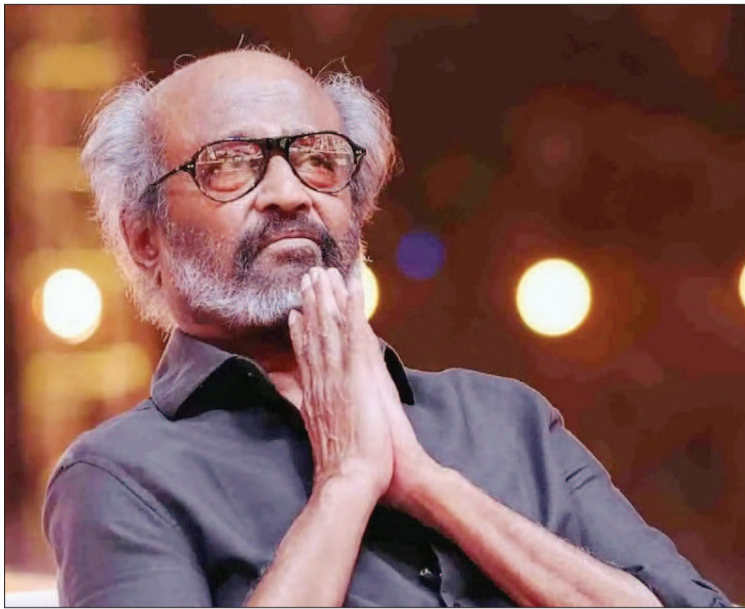
decline in support compared to previous elections. Following the announcement of the early results, Orban accepted the outcome, effectively conceding defeat as it became clear that his party would not be able to form a majority government. The results are being widely seen as one of the most significant electoral reversals in Hungary's recent political history. In his victory speech delivered before thousands of supporters gathered in central Budapest, Magyar said his government would seek to reposition Hungary more firmly within the European mainstream and strengthen ties with Western allies. He emphasised that Hungary's future direction would be closely aligned with European institutions and values. “Hungary will once again be a strong ally representing Hungarian interests, because our country's place is in Europe,” Magyar said, Euro News reported. Outlining his immediate foreign policy priorities, Magyar said his first official visits would include Warsaw and Vienna, followed by a trip to Brussels. There, he said, he would work to secure the release of billions of euros in suspended European Union funds.

## A Truly Unexpected Crisis for Rajinikanth Films

Uncertainty continues to surround Thalaivar 173, as the much-awaited next project of Rajinikanth finds itself stuck in a cycle of directorial changes. What initially looked like a straightforward collaboration has now turned into one of the most talked-about developments in Kollywood.

The film was first entrusted to Sundar C, but he reportedly stepped away following creative differences and script revisions. Soon after, Cibi Chakravarthy was officially announced as the director, raising expectations among fans.

However, the latest reports indicate that he too has exited the project, adding to the growing uncertainty. Now, Ashwath Marimuthu has emerged as the



frontrunner to take over the film. While there is no official confirmation yet, the constant reshuffling has sparked confusion and concern among fans.

Interestingly, the film is said to be backed by Kamal Haasan's production banner, making the stakes even higher. Adding to the superstar's challenges is the ongoing chatter around Jailer 2, which is already facing criticism for its rumored cameo.

For a superstar like Rajinikanth, these unexpected hurdles have certainly become a talking point across the industry. With one project dealing with creative clutter and the other struggling to lock a director, the situation appears far from ideal for Rajinikanth.



## Good news Mega Fans - Chiru Bobby look test today

After the pooja ceremony was postponed due to the unfortunate piracy issue surrounding Jana Nayagan, the Chiranjeevi-Bobby project faced uncertainty. However, reports of a look test happening today bring renewed hope. This development signals positive momentum, hinting that the much-awaited film may finally move ahead without further delays. Today, director Bobby and KVN Productions producer met Pawan Kalyan to personally invite him for the launch event of Chiru - Bobby's upcoming film. The event is scheduled for April 11. However, there is still no clarity on whether Pawan will attend, as he is currently busy with his administrative...



Megastar Chiranjeevi has got super busy after coming back to movies. He has signed back-to-back films and is also acting as the industry head looking into the various issues of the industry. Chiru, who is waiting for the release of Acharya, is going to have a blast for his birthday... Megastar Chiranjeevi's Next

with Bobby will officially launch on April 11. Reports reveal Priyamani will play the lead opposite Chiru, while Anaswara Rajan is set for a key role. The film has been long-awaited, and this launch news has sent waves of excitement among fans eager for updates on the...

## Godari Gattupaina finds a slot in summer



Sumanth Prabhakar's upcoming film Godari Gattupaina has locked its release date. Co-starring Nidhi Pradeep, the movie is set to hit theatres on May 8th, right in the middle of the summer season.

It's a strategically chosen date, as schools and colleges will begin their summer break by then, giving the film the advantage of a long holiday window. The release-date poster features Nidhi in a white bridal gown, her expression tense and uncertain, as though caught between two difficult choices.

To her left stands Sumanth in casual attire, looking slightly away with a conflicted expression. To her right, Jagapathi Babu appears in a serious, almost stern mood as he looks toward her.

Directed by debutant Subash Chandra and produced by Red Puppet Productions, Godari Gattupaina is billed as a rustic, emotional, and rooted love story.

The film has already created a positive impression with its songs and glimpse, and the team is gearing up to unveil more promotional content in the coming days.

## Nagabandham's Sura Sura to celebrate Indian wedding culture!

The buzz surrounding Abhishek Nama directorial Pan-India epic Nagabandham: The Secret Treasure has reached a fever pitch with glimpse and first single. Young leading man Virat Karma's massive transformation to play Lord Shiva and his performance have been talk of the town. Today, the makers have announced the release of the film's second single, Sura Sura, on April 19th.

Director Abhishek Nama is crafting this high-budget venture by seamlessly blending mythology, history, and action. While the film promises intense sequences, Sura Sura is designed as a grand wedding celebration song.

The musical duo Junaid Kumar and Abhe have composed this lively anthem, combining traditional folk rhythms with cinematic orchestration. To elevate the visual experience, the legendary Ganesh Acharya has choreographed the song. The song features an incredible lineup of vocalists, including Anurag Kulkarni, Kaala Bhairava, Mangli, and Nalgonda Gaddar, bringing a unique blend of contemporary and folk textures. With lyrics penned by Kasarla Shyam, the track perfectly aligns with the theme of togetherness. Produced by NIK Studios and Abhishek Pictures, the film features a stellar cast including Nabha Natesh, Ishwarya Menon, Jagapathi Babu making this release a significant milestone for the project.



## Telugu Producer Moves Council Against Tamil Director Over Rs.5 Cr

A Telugu Producer has dragged a Tamil Director to Tamil Producers Council. The director is none other than Cibi Chakravarthy who was supposed to direct #Thalaivar173. There are reports that he is now dropped.

Coming to the topic, The producer of the planned Telugu film with Nani is Chitturi Srinivasa. Cibi narrated a storyline to Nani and the actor sent it to Chitturi. The director said he would finish the film in 65 Crore without

remunerations which was fine for the Producer. Chitturi gave him a team of writers and opened an office in Chennai.

The director developed the story and gave another narration to Nani which the actor again liked. But this time, he went to the producer and said it would cost 150 Crore. He also refused to give any breakup for the Producer to see how the budget increased.

"If the budget shoots from 65 Crore to 150 Crore even before the

## Gopichand's Bharata Varsha Glimpse: Monumental

T Gopichand teams up with director Sankalp Reddy for a grand historical action drama, produced by Srinivasaa Chitturi under Srinivasaa Silver Screen and presented by Pavan Kumar. The makers unveiled the film's title with a powerful, action-packed glimpse that showcases its massive epic scale.

Set in 642 AD, the glimpse opens in the land of Shula. Enormous battle sequences, intense sword and axe combat, and fiery visuals make the promo strikingly cinematic.

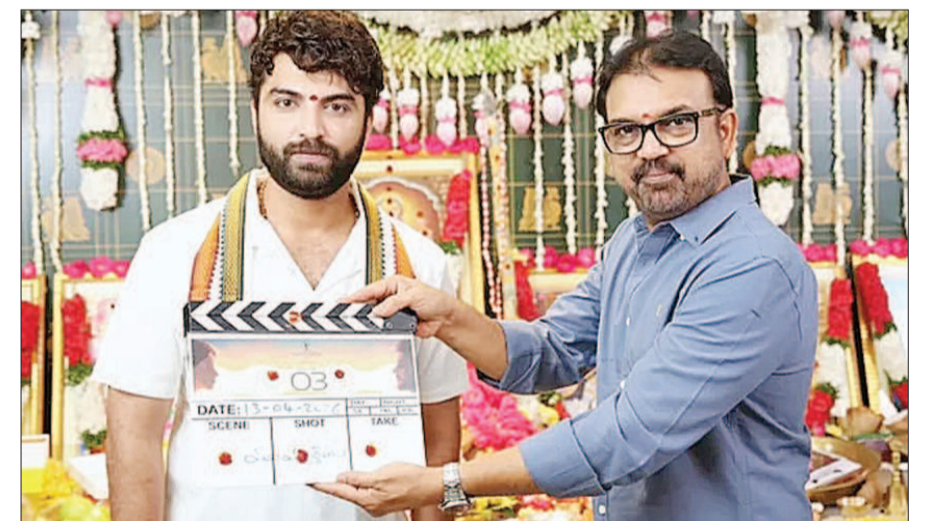
The title Bharata Varsha appears with force-echoing pride, power, and the spirit of ancient Bharata. Sankalp Reddy brings an overlooked chapter of Indian history to life with scale, authenticity, and depth.



Gopichand undergoes a complete transformation, portraying a fearless warrior with commanding intensity. His appearance, body language, and screen presence stand out. Production designer Chinna creates detailed and immersive sets, while cinematographer Soundar Rajan captures the period with grandeur. Anudeep Dev's background score amplifies the drama and

emotion. With outstanding technical finesse and production value, Srinivasaa Silver Screen is mounting an ambitious theatrical experience. The teaser clearly signals something monumental. With shooting nearing completion, Bharata Varsha is gearing up for its theatrical release.

## Mass Ka Das Vishwak Sen Begins His Next Big Journey



A new film starring Vishwak Sen has officially started its journey. This movie is being produced by Yuvasudha Arts as their third project. The banner is already known for backing successful films and this new venture has created good excitement among fans.

The film began with a traditional pooja ceremony. Many well wishers and team members attended the event. It marked a positive start for the project. Director Koratala Siva gave the first clap at the ceremony. Producer Shyam Prasad Reddy handed over the script. The camera was also

switched on as part of the ritual. These moments are considered very special in Indian cinema as they bring good luck to the film.

This movie is directed by Rajath. It is said to be a modern romantic comedy. The story is expected to be fresh and entertaining. Vishwak Sen who is popularly called Mass Ka Das will be seen in a new style in this film. Fans are already eager to see him in this genre.

The technical team also looks strong. Aravind Vishwanathan will handle the cinematography. He is known for giving rich visuals. The music will be

composed by Thejas Krishna. Good music always plays a big role in romantic films and the team is confident about the songs.

The production house Yuvasudha Arts gained attention with their previous big project Devara. Now with this new film, they are aiming to continue their success. Even before shooting begins the movie has created strong buzz. This shows the trust audience has in the team. The shooting of the film will begin soon. More details about the cast and release date will be announced later.

## Tollywood heroines struggle continues in Kollywood too

Oftentimes, the heroines from other languages test their luck in Telugu, and sometimes, those who are successful in Telugu also test their luck in other languages. Sometimes, it is because of the opportunities, and sometimes, it is because of the lack of opportunities and back-to-back failures.

Sreeleela and Krithi Shetty, who rose to fame in Telugu cinema, are struggling to find success in Telugu and have ventured into Tamil cinema. Unfortunately, their struggle is never-ending in Tamil as well.

Sreeleela, who thought that Sivakarthikeyan's Parashakti would bring her huge success, failed to make it big. The film flopped, denting her opportunities. The last few movies that Sreeleela did in Telugu ended as flops, and



she is no longer a primary option for many actors and filmmakers. Kriti Shetty is also facing a similar fate now.

Krithi Shetty faced a flop in the form of Annagaru Vostaru in January and now, she has another failure in the form of Love Insurance Kompany. Pradeep Ranganathan's starrer could not help the actor win big at the box office.

She also tasted success in Telugu long back and is unable to revive her glory.

Having said that, the two actors are still in the game. The buzz says that Krithi will next be seen in Venkatesh's film, directed by Anil Ravipudi. On the other hand, Sreeleela will be seen in Dhanush's next film. The two films could be their other ticket to victory.

## NTR's beast mode for Dragon leaves fans stunned

One upcoming pan-India film which has been regularly making headlines due to frequent rumours about its shooting formalities is NTR's much anticipated action saga with director Prashanth Neel. Tentatively titled Dragon, the big-budget entertainer has been in the making for nearly a year, but not even a single poster or glimpse has been unveiled so far. Despite not giving any update, the team is maintaining that the shooting is progressing at a brisk pace. With NTR's birthday arriving in just over a month, fans have been waiting with a bated breath for the first glimpse from this film. As there is no hint about this big news from the makers so far, reports are making rounds that there won't be any glimpse on May 20 as expected.

Meanwhile, NTR has stunned his fans with a scintillating picture from his rigorous workout earlier today. He gave a sneak peek into his chiseled look from behind showing his well sculpted physique and captioned it



'Built, Not bought'. This amazing picture has now become a trending topic on social media platforms and fans started going gaga over his transformation journey.

NTR has instantly drawn the attention with his unexpected treat and left the fans elated. Moreover, this has given hope that there is something big loading very soon from Dragon as it has been quite a while since the project went on floors and did not make any noise unlike all other upcoming

pan-India biggies which are already making a lot of noise with frequent updates.

If the makers come up with a glimpse for NTR's birthday, it is likely to create a massive buzz on the film as there are huge expectations on this combination from the day it was announced. The genre and storyline have been kept under wraps so far to build the anticipation. So, the first content might drop some hints on what is Neel cooking this time after KGF and Salaar.



Muhurtham. One can not imagine how much it will become by the time of the

release," the producer lamented. He informed the hero and

they mutually decided to call off the project. Its been two and a half years now and Chitturi approached the Tamil Producers' Council asking the director to payback 5 Crore which they invested on the project for Advances, Office Expenses, Salaries, and Interests. The director is only in favor of returning the advance he took. Meanwhile, it is rumored that Nani is still interested in doing the film and asked another Producer to stay in touch with Cibi.

# ICC announces record prize pool for WT20 WC, winners to get USD 2.34 mn



Dubai, April 13 : The International Cricket Council (ICC) has unveiled a record prize fund of USD 8,764,615 for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026, reflecting a 10 per cent boost compared to the 2024 edition.

This amount surpasses the USD 7,958,077 shared among the 10 participating nations in the United Arab Emirates two years ago, as the tournament is set to expand to 12 teams for the first time. The 2026 edition will feature hosts England

joined by Australia, Bangladesh, India, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies. The winners will once again receive USD 2,340,000, while the runners-

up will get USD 1,170,000. Losing semi-finalists will earn USD 675,000, and each group match victory will be rewarded with USD 31,154. All 12 teams participating are guaranteed a minimum prize of USD 247,500, the ICC said in a release.

The news arrives just 60 days before the tournament begins on June 12, when England will face Sri Lanka at Edgbaston, Birmingham. The 33-match event will take place across seven venues over 24 days, with teams competing for the top prize.

ICC CEO, Sanjog Gupta, said, "The growth of women's cricket continues to accelerate, and the expansion of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup to 12 teams, combined with a record prize pool, underlines our commitment to building a stronger, more competitive global game."

"The continued rise of women's cricket through increased investment and opportunity reflects the growing influence and impact of female athletes on the global stage. With that same momentum building across every aspect of women's cricket, this event is shaping up to not only set a host of new attendance and viewing records in the sports and media ecosystems but also leave a lasting impact on the

wider socio-cultural landscape across the world."

All roads now officially lead to England and Wales this summer, thanks to the ICC Trophy Tour, which kicks off Monday and will travel across Europe in the weeks before the competition.

The Trophy Tour begins in London, where it will be displayed in the square at Lord's Cricket Ground, the venue for the final and known as the Home of Cricket. It will be showcased with a spectacular projection—making it the first time anything has ever been projected onto the ground's renowned pavilion.

The trophy will travel to the Netherlands, Ireland and Scotland, the tournament's qualified European member nations, before embarking on an extensive tour of the tournament's host cities through May, building excitement ahead of the tournament's first ball on 12 June.

The tour will feature visits to major locations with multiple fan engagement opportunities across the host cities, including Millennium Square (Leeds), St Peter's Square (Manchester), Bullring (Birmingham), Cabot Circus (Bristol), Guildhall Square (Southampton), and Trafalgar

Square (London).

Tournament Director Beth Barrett-Wild said, "The ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 is set to be a landmark moment for the game - on course to become the most attended women's cricket event in history, with record-breaking ticket demand and the largest-ever prize pot for a global women's T20 competition. That level of investment, alongside prize money that matches the men's game, is a powerful reflection of the status, quality and global appeal of women's cricket today."

"That same ambition is shaping how we build towards the tournament, with the trophy tour playing a key role in taking the game to new audiences, building excitement across England and Wales, and showcasing women's cricket on the biggest stages as we count down to an unforgettable summer."

The ICC Women's T20 World Cup trophy will visit the host cities on the following dates:

Scotland: May 7 to 10  
Netherlands: May 11 to 14  
Ireland: May 15 to 18  
Leeds: May 19 to 24  
Manchester: May 25 to 27  
Birmingham: May 28 to 29  
Bristol: May 31 to June 1  
Southampton: June 3 to 4  
London: June 5 to 8

## Kohli, Rohit are striking at 152, feels like they're driving a Ferrari: Aakash Chopra

New Delhi, April 13 : Former India opener Aakash Chopra has highlighted the shift in batting approach of modern-day greats Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma in the IPL, noting a rise in their strike rates over the last two seasons, and stating that seeing them bat at a powerful strike rate 'feels like they're driving a Ferrari.' Kohli and Rohit, traditionally seen as key players in T20 cricket, have adjusted their playing styles to meet the format's evolving pressures, adopting a more aggressive approach since 2024. At the ongoing IPL 2026, both players have been performing exceptionally well for their teams.



since 2024; they are striking at 152. It almost feels like they are driving a Ferrari now," Chopra told JioStar. Meanwhile, former India captain Anil Kumble offered a technical breakdown of why emerging spinner Digvesh Rathi has been difficult for batters to read, particularly due to the subtle variations in his wrist and finger positions. "There isn't much difference between a leg-spin

delivery that goes away from the batter and the googly in the way that he bowls, so it's not easy to read. His grip on the ball remains almost the same, with his thumb on the side, the index finger on top of the seam, and the old middle finger. He just positions his index finger a little differently on his inward-turning ball, which is the googly, but that too isn't easy to pick. His speeds are also very good, so if you don't

pick the length correctly, there's a high chance of getting out," he noted. The legendary leg-spinner also shared advice for young bowlers aiming to develop spin skills, emphasising the importance of practice and building finger strength from an early stage. "You can definitely start practising spinning the ball with a rubber ball or a tennis ball, because you'll need to squeeze the ball a bit to bowl the carrom ball. So, if you start from there, first focus on getting the turn, and later work on control by simply bowling as much as you can. After that, when you move to a cricket ball, you might be able to execute this skill properly, because the key is learning how to hold the ball tightly and making your fingers strong enough to spin it and then just try and perfect it," he said.

## IPL 2026: 'Wanted to keep the batsman guessing,' says Krunal on his strategy in RCB's win over MI

Mumbai, April 13 : Following Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) 18-run victory over Mumbai Indians (MI) at the Wankhede Stadium, all-rounder Krunal Pandya shed light on the tactical execution that helped swing the game decisively in his side's favour.



Krunal emphasised that the young spinner's growth has been a product of consistent behind-the-scenes work. "He (Suyash) has been getting better. I'll give a lot of credit to Malolan (Rangarajan), who is our spin-bowling coach. He has been constantly working with Suyash in the off-season as well as during the season. He is always having conversations with him. And credit goes to Suyash that he has been able to adapt to things and he has been able to be consistent as a bowler, which always helps in a game where batters are taking you every ball," he said. The match started as a high-scoring affair, with RCB accumulating 240/4 thanks to quick half-centuries from Phil Salt and Rajat Patidar, while Virat Kohli provided stability with a reliable fifty. However, Krunal highlighted that modern T20

strategies, particularly the Impact Player rule, have considerably increased the challenges faced by bowlers. "I have never shied away from trying different and new things. Because if you see, with the impact player rule, previously without an impact player, you had No. 6 allrounder or No. 7 allrounder. Batsmanship was quite different. But now, having eight pure batters and the skill set, you see young boys like Mukul and Vaibhav, so many of them are just coming and hitting from ball one consistently. So again, as a bowler, I always want to be one step ahead with the skill set as well as with the mental battle as well," the spinner stated. Krunal also spoke about his evolving methods, including the occasional use of bouncers, a rarity for finger spinners, as he looks to stay unpredictable in a format domi-

nated by power-hitting. "Whether it's me bending my knee and bowling a bouncer, I'm glad that it is coming out well and hope that in this format, there are fingerspinners who will survive and who can take something out of it and do well in this format. Because for fingerspinners, with flat tracks and eight batters, it has become very difficult. I don't pre-plan that I want to bowl a fourth- or a fifth- or a sixth-ball bouncer. "There are days where I'll bowl two bouncers back-to-back, and suddenly I'll bowl the first ball and a sixth ball. So there are no such plans. But yeah, it's more sort of a gut feeling when to bowl which ball and I just commit 100% to that. I've been able to get batsmen out with spin and deceiving flight. I don't practise that much where I go and bowl bouncers. It is just I bowl in the game," he mentioned. Although Mumbai made a late push, the middle-overs pressure from Krunal and Suyash kept the required run rate rising. Ultimately, this phase, characterised by control, variation, and effective partnership bowling, was crucial in securing RCB's third victory of the season.

## 'He took Indian cricket to a different level': Yuvraj reflects on Gary's Kirsten impact on India's rise

New Delhi, April 13 : Former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh has highlighted the transformative impact of former head coach Gary Kirsten on Indian cricket, recalling how his man-management and belief in players played a defining role in the team's success between 2008 and 2011. Speaking to former England captain Michael Vaughan on India's white-ball growth during Kirsten's tenure from 2008-2011, Yuvraj reflected on the South African's arrival at a crucial phase, when India were building towards a period of sustained dominance across formats. "I think Gary Kirsten was a big influence in that moment. Gary was a good man. We needed a good guy. That's all we wanted. Someone who said, 'Guys, let's be one on the park. Let's be together.' And Gary was very hard-



working." Yuvraj said in a video shared by 'Stick to Cricket' podcast on Monday. "And I think the day he came, he said that in the next four years, till the 2011 World Cup, we are going to be the number one T20 side. We are going to be the number one Test side. And we are going to be the number one ODI side. And a couple of guys looked at each other. 'What are you saying?' And that's what we did in the next four years. While Australia was dominating as well. So, I think his intention was good. He is a good man. And he

took Indian cricket to a different level," he added. Kirsten's tenure coincided with one of India's most successful phases, culminating in the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup triumph and consistent top rankings across formats. Yuvraj, one of the key architects of that era, also emphasised the role of the coach in instilling confidence, noting how belief from the leadership group helped players unlock their potential. "It's also about the confidence level of the coach, right? If I come to you and say, 'You're my match winner, I want you to go and win

the game for me. I don't care how many failures you've had, just go and win the game.' Then, suddenly, your mindset switches that the team and the coach believes in me, that they want me to go and win the game, they have the confidence in me. And Gary always told me, 'You're a game changer.' He said, 'If you bat 20-25 overs you're going to change the game. Go do that.' Even in whatever Test cricket I played, he told me the same. 'Go and play your game. If you do that, you're going to win for India.' That gave me a lot of confidence to go out and bat," the all-rounder added. Under Kirsten's guidance, players like Yuvraj flourished in clearly defined roles, with the coach's emphasis on unity, clarity, and belief becoming central to India's rise as a dominant force in world cricket.

## IPL 2026: 'It's always winning and learning, never losing,' says Hardik after MI's third straight defeat



New Delhi, April 13 : After a frustrating loss at the Wankhede Stadium, Hardik Pandya chose reflection over reaction, delivering a calm but purposeful message to his Mumbai Indians squad in the dressing room following their 18-run defeat to the Royal Challengers Bengaluru. Drawing from

head coach Mahela Jayawardene's philosophy, Pandya urged his players to confront the setback collectively rather than retreat into isolation. "Taking from what MJ (Mahela Jayawardene) said, I think here there are two options we can do. One is, go back in our rooms, go back in our

cocoon spaces and try to figure it out. I know it's tough, losing is always tough, but let's learn, let's not disappear. It's always winning and learning, never losing," he said in a video shared by the franchise on X. So, let's do that, that's what something which tonight, after the game, once we go back to the hotel, let's have meal together; we'll figure something out. We'll talk about cricket, we'll talk about something else, but we'll figure it out," Pandya added. The address came after Mumbai slumped to their third consecutive defeat, falling short despite a spirited late surge. The match itself had been defined by

RCB's dominant batting display, powered by aggressive half-centuries that set a daunting target. RCB posted a massive 240/4, powered by explosive half-centuries from Phil Salt (78 off 36) and Rajat Patidar (53 off 20), while Virat Kohli added a steady 50. In reply, MI started well but suffered a major setback when Rohit Sharma retired hurt. Despite fighting knocks from Hardik Pandya (40), Ryan Rickelton (37), and a late blitz by Sherfane Rutherford (71\*), they finished at 222/5, falling short. MI will next play the Punjab Kings at the same venue, their home ground, on Thursday.

## Sachin Tendulkar breaks down while paying his last respects to Asha Bhosle

Mumbai, April 13 : Cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar was overcome with emotion as he paid his last respects to legendary singer Asha Bhosle, who was laid to rest with full state honours on Monday. Tendulkar and his wife, Anjali, who share a close, deeply personal bond with the iconic vocalist, arrived early to stand with the grieving family. Known to regard Bhosle as a maternal figure, the former India captain appeared visibly shaken during the final rites, as the nation mourned the loss of one of its most celebrated cultural figures. In recognition of her extraordinary contribution to Indian music, Bhosle's mortal remains were draped in the national tricolour, while the Mumbai Police ceremonial band paid tribute with a final salute, marking the end of a remarkable career that spanned over eight decades. In a nod to her personal taste, the legendary singer was dressed in a striking blue saree, a colour she was fond of and often chose for public appearances, adding a poignant, per-



sonal touch to the solemn ceremony. The relationship between Tendulkar and Bhosle extended beyond public admiration, rooted in mutual respect and familial warmth. Over the years, Bhosle had often spoken about Tendulkar's humility and values, embracing him as one of her own rather than as a sporting superstar. Bhosle's final public appearance came earlier this year at the wedding of Tendulkar's son, Arjun Tendulkar, on March 5, where she was seen warmly interacting with guests and posing for photographs, an appearance that, in hindsight, marked her last before her brief hospitalisation and passing. Following her demise, Tendulkar took to social media to express his grief in a heartfelt tribute: "A deeply sad day for India, and for music lovers across the world. For us, Asha Tai was family. Today, words feel too small for the loss we feel. One moment, the heart falls silent, and the next, it drifts through the countless melodies she gifted all of us. It feels as though time itself has paused."

# Srikakulam Road - Tirupati Humsafar Express lagged off

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 13 In a historic milestone aimed at enhancing passenger convenience and strengthening rail connectivity in the region, the Humsafar Express connecting Srikakulam Road to the world-renowned Hindu pilgrimage destination, Tirupati, was flagged off for the first time at Srikakulam Road Railway Station.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Shri K. Ram Mohan Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Government of India, in the august presence of Shri K. Ravi Kumar, Hon'ble MLA of Amudalavalasa; Shri G Shankar Hon'ble MLA



Srikakulam: Divisional Railway Manager Shri Lalit Bohra; District Collector Srikakulam Shri Swapnil Dinakar and other distinguished dignitaries. The introduction of Train No. 17440 Srikakulam Road - Tirupati Weekly Humsafar

Express is expected to significantly benefit passengers from the region by providing improved connectivity to Tirupati, Vijayawada, and other intermediate destinations. This service has been introduced in response to the long-standing demand of the

public and aligns with the vision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Minister of Railways to strengthen regional connectivity and promote the vision of a Viksit Bharat. This new train service will greatly enhance access to



pilgrimage, education, improving passenger amenities, enhancing connectivity, and responding proactively to public needs through such passenger-friendly initiatives. SRIKAKULAM ROAD - TIRUPATI - SRIKAKU-

LAM ROAD WEEKLY HUMSAFAR EXPRESS (TRAIN Nos. 17440/17439) The Train No. 17440 Srikakulam Road - Tirupati Weekly Humsafar Express train will leave from Srikakulam Road on Mondays at 15:00 hrs with effect from 13.04.2026 and will reach Duvvada on the same day at 17:58 hrs and departure at 18:00 hrs and will reach Tirupati at 08:10 hrs on Tuesday. In the return direction, Train No. 17439 Tirupati - Srikakulam Road Weekly Humsafar Express train will leave from Tirupati on Sunday at 16:55 hrs with effect from 19.04.2026. The train will

reach Duvvada on the next day (Monday) at 09:33 hrs and departure at 09:35 hrs and will reach Srikakulam Road at 12:30 hrs. Composition: The pair of trains will consist of total 22 coaches, comprising: 3rd AC - 15, Pantry Car - 01, Sleeper Class coaches - 04, Generator Class cum Luggage Van - 02 coaches. Stoppages: Chipurupalli, Vizianagaram, Kottavalasa, Pendurthi, Duvvada, Anakapalli, Elamanchili, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Eluru, Vijayawada, Tenali, Bapatla, Chirala, Ongole, Nellore, Gudur and Renigunta between Srikakulam Road - Tirupati stations both directions.

## Tribal villagers protest delay in issuing death certificates



By Skyline Staff Reporter Paderu (ASR District), April 13: In a unique and emotional protest, tribal residents of Buriga and Chinna Konela hilltop villages in Ananthagiri mandal on Sunday knelt with folded hands, appealing to officials to issue pending late death certificates. The villagers said that as many as 18 applications for death certificates were submitted at the Rompilli Secretariat nearly a year ago, and the required challans were also paid. However, "even after one year, the certificates have not been issued," they alleged, expressing distress over the delay.

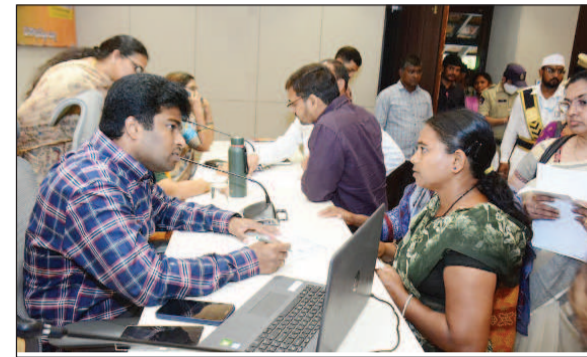
They urged the district collector to intervene and resolve the issue at the earliest. "If our problem is not addressed, we will undertake a padayatra from Buriga village to the Ananthagiri Mandal Revenue Office," they warned. Around 70 families live in the remote hill-top villages under Rompilli panchayat. Villagers said they have to travel nearly 12 km to reach the secretariat at Rompilli, while the mandal headquarters Ananthagiri, is about 70 km away. The district headquarters at Paderu is nearly 150 km from their villages, making access to

services difficult. Former ward member Somulu Appalaraju and tribal farmers' leader Vanaparthi Simhachalam said that earlier there was little awareness about the need for birth and death certificates. "After the village secretariat system was introduced, we came to know through volunteers that death and legal heir certificates are necessary," they said. Villagers, including Badnani Kothamma and Somulu Errayya alleged that despite following due procedure, revenue officials have failed to respond to their applications.

## PGRS requests should be addressed with quality solutions

District Collector M. Abhishikth Kishore instructions to the officials

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 13 : District Collector M. Abhishikth Kishore has ordered that quality solutions be provided to the complaints received from the public through the PGRS platform and satisfactory action be taken. In the PGRS review held at the Collectorate meeting hall on Monday morning, he gave clear directions to the officials. He said that each petition should be



read thoroughly and suggested that the concerned officials should

speak directly to the complainant. Later, the complaints from the public were received. The problems raised by the people were listened to carefully. Appropriate orders were issued to the concerned officials on the actions. Meanwhile, a total of 334 complaints were registered in the PGRS program held on Monday. Out of them, 59 were from the Revenue Department, 83 from the GVMC, 23

from the Police Department, and 169 from other departments. In the PGRS, the District Collector, Joint Collector Gobbilla Vidyardhari, DRO M. Visveswara Naidu, and ADC Satyaveni received complaints from the people, while RDOs and Tahsildars took complaints from the people at the Revenue Clinic. Officers of all departments were present.

## The first installment of the Chandanam Aragaditha festival begins with grandeur

The first installment of the three-manufactured sandalwood offering on the night of the Chandan Festival Participating in festivals is a good deed from a previous birth - Gantla

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 13 : The Simhachalam Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple, which is a famous pilgrimage site in the world, will host the Simhadri Nadudu Chandanotsavam on the 20th of this month with great pomp. This festival, which is traditionally held on the Vaishaka Shuddha Tadiya every year, will be held with great pomp this year as well. The arrangements for the festival are

being completed at a rapid pace under the guidance of the temple EO J. Venkata Rao. On the night of the Chandan festival, devotees will offer three handfuls of sandalwood to Lord Simhadrinadhudu in a grand manner, after having darshan. On Monday, on the occasion of the Ekadashi festival of the Vaisakh month, the first phase of the sandalwood aragaditha program was started after special pujas in the early morning. Temple chief



priests Godavarthy Srinivasacharyulu, Kari Seetharamacharyu, Sthanacharyulu TP Rajagopal, temple EO J Venkatrao AEO

Thirumaleswara Rao, former members of the Simhachalam Devasthanam Board of Trustees, special invitees National Journalists Association Secretary Gantla Srinu Babu and others participated in the sandalwood aragaditha program. First, the priestly groups started the sandalwood aragaditha. Gantla Srinu Babu said that participating in the most glorious Simhadrinath festival is considered a blessing from a previous birth.

## Waqf Board provides financial assistance to Iran women

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 13 : The Waqf Board has provided financial assistance of Rs 1,50,000 to Iran women stranded in Visakhapatnam due to the war in Pachhimasia. The Waqf Board office in the District Collectorate came to know that two Iran women were facing hardships and provided them with their help. The members of the Muslim Welfare Society said that they had provided financial assistance to two women, Zeinab Mohammadi and Salman Mohammadi, who had come to study pharmacy, who were facing financial



difficulties due to the war. The Iranian women were emotional and expressed happiness as the members of the society provided heartfelt help. They said that their family members were in touch until ten days ago, but since then they have not been able to contact them. They

expressed their concerns that they are facing financial difficulties. Mecca Masjid President S.K. Abdul Munir, Secretary Syed Amir Jan, Haji Ikram Ali, Chirag Ali, Shakeel, Ahmed Ali, Iniyatullah Baig and others participated in the program.

By Skyline Staff Reporter Visakhapatnam, April 13 : A grand gathering of Padmasali doctors was held at a hotel in the city under the auspices of the Padmasali Employees Welfare Association. The meeting, chaired by renowned Emergency Medicine Professor Dr. Siddhanati Naveen, was attended by doctors from Visakhapatnam, Uttarandhra and East Godavari districts. In particular, the strengthening of the doctors' association and issues related to the Doctors' Day celebrations to be held in Guntur on July 5th were discussed.



All Padmasali doctors should remain united and achieve further strength. On this occasion, many senior and junior doctors who have rendered special

services in their respective fields also provided advice and suggestions. It was decided to hold a meeting of doctors' intimate gathering every three

months and to appoint district committees and state committees. In this meeting, the association's state general secretary Raparthi Venkat Rao, Vizianagaram

doctors Dr. Tirumala Prasad, Dr. Uday Bhaskar, Dr. Ande Venkateswara Rao, Dr. Kollu Jaikishan participated as chief guests, while Visakhapatnam president Mittipati Mohan Murali, Padimi Venkata Satyanand, Bosetti Venka teswara Rao, Akula Visveswara Rao, Dr. Sivaramakrishna, Leela, District Padmasali Emplo yees Association representative Neelam Jogiraju and many other members of the association participated. Doctors from Kakinada and Rajah mundry districts to Srikakulam district attended in large numbers.

## Strengthening cooperatives key to farmers' growth: Nagarjuna

By Skyline Staff Reporter Cheepurupalli (Gurla), April 13 Highlighting the crucial role of cooperative societies in supporting the farming community, Vizia nagaram DCCB Chairman Kimidi Nagarjuna called for more efficient and accountable functioning of these institutions. As part of his field visit, he inspected the Kella PACS in Gurla mandal and reviewed its overall performance. He closely examined the implementation of crop loans, fertilizer and seed distribution, and assessed the recovery of loans. During the inspection, he also reviewed godown facilities, stock availability, and record maintenance, stressing the need for systematic management and transparency in all operations. Addressing officials and staff, Nagarjuna made it clear that farmers should receive uninterrupted and fair services, without any political influence. He directed that all transactions must be recorded transparently and that eligible



farmers should receive loans without delay. He also warned that any negligence or irregularities would invite strict action, and emphasized maintaining the quality of stored agricultural inputs. Local leaders, including Mandal

Party President Chanamala Maheswara Rao, PACS President Vimala Rani, former Sarpanch Karrotu Govinda, along with officials, staff, and farmers, participated in the visit.

## Poshan Pakhwada Awareness Drive Conducted in Geddapuvvalasa

By Skyline Staff Reporter Cheepurupalli (Garividi), April 13 An awareness programme was organized at Geddapuvvalasa village under the ICDS Garividi Project as part of the 8th Poshan Pakhwada, being observed from April 9 to April 23, 2026. The initiative aims to strengthen awareness on nutrition and brain development during the first six years of a child's life, which is considered crucial for overall growth. This year's campaign highlights the importance of holistic development and community participation, with a special focus on increasing men's involvement in nutrition practices. During the session, health officials educated pregnant women and lactating mothers on essential nutrition practices. They emphasized the importance of consuming home-cooked and traditional foods, maintaining proper dietary habits, and



avoiding junk and packaged foods, which can lead to various health issues. Officials also explained how balanced nutrition supports both physical health and cognitive development in children.

The programme was attended by CDPO Arudra, Supervisors Jyothi and Varalakshmi, School Headmaster Ravi Kumar, along with several mothers, pregnant women, and community members.

## One Camera Equals 100 Police: DGP Shivdhar Reddy Launches 490 CCTV Cameras in Adilabad



**Skyline Correspondent Adilabad : April-13** To prevent crimes across the district and to ensure effective detection of inci-

idents, a total of 490 CCTV cameras have been newly installed. Out of these, 207 cameras have been set up in the town and 283 cam-

eras in various mandals and villages across the district. These were inaugurated today by State DGP B. Shivdhar Reddy at the Command Control Center in the town. "With this addition, surveillance is now being carried out with around 700 CCTV cameras across the district. The DGP stated that CCTV cameras play a crucial role in crime control and that one camera is equivalent to 100 police personnel. He called upon the public and business establishments to voluntarily come forward and install CCTV cameras in their villages, towns, and streets. He added that criminals tend to avoid committing crimes in areas where CCTV cameras are installed. District SP Akhil Mahajan, Additional SPB. Surender Rao, Administrative Additional SP P. Mounika, Trainee IPS Rahul Kant, DSP L. Jeevan Reddy, along with town CIs, SIs, reserve staff, and others participated in the program.

## Awareness Rally on Road Safety Conducted Under Praja Palana Pragathi Programme in Husnabad

**Skyline Correspondent Husnabad : April-13** As part of the Praja Palana Pragathi Programme, an awareness rally was conducted in Husnabad under the supervision of the RTC, Police, and Transport Department. "On this occasion, officials advised vehicle users to follow road safety rules and reach their destinations safely. They emphasized that two-wheeler riders must wear helmets and strictly avoid driving under the influence of alcohol." Officials stated



that more than 6,000 people lost their lives in road accidents last year, with an average of 18 people affected daily. They explained that the state government has

initiated this programme with the aim of preventing road accidents. "As part of the 'Arrive Alive' campaign, which will continue until the 18th

of this month, SI Lakshma Reddy and RTA officials informed that those without driving licenses will be assisted in obtaining them.

## ACB Inaugurates New Office in Nizamabad to Strengthen Anti-Corruption Efforts



**Skyline Correspondent Nizamabad : April-13** The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has inaugurated a

new office in Nizamabad, which will cater to the districts of Nizamabad and Kamareddy. The office has been set up at the Old R&B Guest House in Subash Nagar to provide an accessible platform for the public to report corruption. "Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya, IPS, formally inaugurated the office and highlighted the significance of eradicating corruption from society. "The event was attended by D.

Kamalakar Reddy, Deputy Director (West Zone), ACB Telangana; G. Shekar Goud, DSP, ACB Nizamabad Range; and Inspectors M. Venukumar, G. Nagesh, along with other officials. "The ACB has appealed to citizens to report corruption through its toll-free helpline 1064. People can also contact the DSP, ACB Nizamabad Range at 91543-88950, or the Inspectors at 91543-88923 and 91543-88951.

## "Arrive Alive" Campaign Launched in Jagtial to Promote Road Safety Awareness

**Skyline Correspondent Jagtial : April-13** Road accident prevention is possible only through the collective efforts of all sections of society, said District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad, IAS, District Superintendent of Police Sri Ashok Kumar, IPS, urged people to strictly follow traffic rules to prevent accidents. "As part of the State Government's prestigious 99-Day People's Governance Progress Plan, the 'Arrive Alive' road safety awareness campaign is being implemented across the district from April 13 to 18. The campaign aims to reduce road accidents and instill a sense of responsibility among the public regarding traffic rules. "He pointed out that over-speeding, drunk driving, use



of mobile phones while driving, and violation of traffic rules are the primary causes of road accidents. He appealed to the public to drive responsibly and protect not only their own lives but also the lives of others. He warned that even minor negligence can lead to major accidents, resulting in irreparable loss to families. "District Collector Satya Prasad appreciated the Police Department for orga-

nizing the "Arrive Alive" campaign. He emphasized that accidents can be minimized if people drive carefully and strictly follow rules and regulations. He noted that road safety is not solely the responsibility of the Police Department, but a shared social responsibility. "He advised everyone to remember the slogan "Speed Thrills but Kills" and avoid over-speeding. He also stressed that

two-wheeler riders must wear helmets compulsorily and urged parents to educate their children about helmet safety. "The programme was attended by RDO Madhusudan, DSP Raghu Chander, RTO Srinivas, Municipal Chairperson Samindla Vani Srinivas, police officials, municipal councillors, and around 300 students and members of the public, who gained awareness about road safety.

## Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers Must Consume Nutritious Food: ICDS Supervisor Rajeshwari

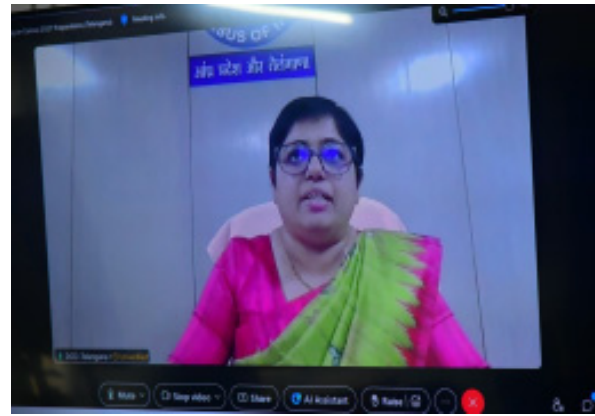
**Skyline Correspondent Dubbaak : April-13** ICDS Supervisor Rajeshwari stated that if pregnant women and lactating mothers consume nutritious food, the baby will be healthy. On Monday, as part of the Poshan Pakhwada program, an awareness program was conducted at Anganwadi centers in Rudram village of Akbarpet-Bhoompally mandal. "Speaking on



the occasion, she said that Anganwadi centers have been established to provide

timely nutritious food to pregnant women and lactating mothers in rural areas. She advised pregnant women to consume the nutritious food provided at Anganwadi centers. She further explained that daily intake of milk, eggs, and leafy vegetables helps pregnant and lactating women stay healthy. School Headmaster Srinivas Reddy, Anganwadi teachers Surekha, Padma, Renuka, along with ANMs and others participated in the program.

## Preparatory Arrangements for Census Reviewed via Video Conference



**Skyline Correspondent Mahabubnagar : April-13** State Census Director Bharati

Holikkerry conducted a video conference from Hyderabad on Monday and provided

guidelines to District Collectors and Municipal Commissioners regarding the preparatory arrangements for the Census. "On this occasion, she issued several important instructions to the officials. In particular, she directed that the appointment of Enumeration Supervisors and the formation of House Listing Blocks (HLBs) should be completed within two days. "She also ad-

## CP Sai Chaitanya Extends Support to Elderly Orphans, Distributes Fruits in Nizamabad

**Skyline Correspondent Nizamabad : April-13** Nizamabad Police Commissioner Shri P. Sai Chaitanya visited the Nirmal Bhavan old age orphanage located in Shastri Nagar and distributed fruits to the elderly residents. During his visit, he interacted warmly with the senior citizens and enquired about their health and daily needs. "Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner stressed that caring

for elderly orphans is a shared social responsibility. He called upon citizens to come forward with a spirit of service and compassion. "Even a small act of kindness can bring great happiness to the elderly. True satisfaction comes from showing humanity," he remarked. "ACP In-charge Raja Venkatarreddy, Traffic ACP Masthan Ali, and other officials were also present at the event.



## New Committee Elected for Town Leader Federation in Mulugu



**Skyline Correspondent Mulugu : April-13** A meeting of women's groups under the Municipal Pov-

erty Alleviation Mission (MEPMA) within Mulugu Municipality limits was held on Monday at the

Mulugu Municipal Office under the supervision of ADM C Wahida. "During the meeting, a new com-

mittee for the Town Leader Federation was formed under the name "Sri Moksha." The members of the federation elected the new committee through voting. "Bandari Rajitha was elected as President, Ameena Sultan as Vice President, Zarina as Secretary, Sunkari Haimavathi as Treasurer, and Dasu Rajeswari as Assistant Secretary. The program was attended by women's group presidents, RPs, and other members.

## 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.

**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 ap-

proximately 74,000 votes. This constituency stood out as one of the select few seats where the Congress party successfully maintained its foothold.

**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 ascendancy 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.

**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.

## Congress Leader Pujala Harikrishna Slams BRS Over Housing, Inaugurates Indiramma House in Siddipet



**Skyline Correspondent Siddipet : April-13** Pujala Harikrishna, Congress in-charge of Siddipet constituency, inaugurated a newly constructed house of beneficiary Korthivada Lakshmi Srikanth under the Indiramma Housing Scheme, implemented by the Congress government for the welfare of the poor, in Tornala village of Siddipet Rural

mandal. "Speaking on the occasion, he said that a house for the poor is not just a shelter but a symbol of their self-respect. He stated that after coming to power, the Congress government is fulfilling the dream of housing for every eligible family and bringing light into the lives of common people. He emphasized that the welfare and development

of people are the primary goals of the Congress party. "He also launched strong criticism against former minister Harish Rao. He alleged that the BRS government, which was in power for ten years, completely neglected the housing needs of the poor. He criticized that despite thousands of poor people in Siddipet constituency waiting for houses, Harish Rao failed to sanction even a single house. "BRS spoke a lot during its ten-year rule but did not address the problems of the poor. In contrast, within just a few months of coming to power, the Congress government has sanctioned Indiramma houses and is completing their construction. Speaking is BRS's job, but delivering results

is Congress's work," he remarked sharply. "He further said that 80% of the houses in the first phase have already been completed and that the second phase will begin soon. He added that the first phase payments have already been credited to all beneficiaries. He accused the BRS government of deceiving the poor, while stating that the Congress government stands firmly with them. "The program was attended by Congress mandal president Gurram Anji Reddy, village Congress president Mahipal Reddy, Rikkala Mahender Reddy, Narahari, Kodari Malla Reddy, Erra Mahender, Errabola Rajireddy, Aravind, Rakesh, and other Congress leaders and workers.

## 150 CCTV Cameras Inaugurated in Jagtial to Enhance Public Safety and Crime Control



**Skyline Correspondent Jagtial : April-13** Citizens should install CCTV cameras for their personal safety, said District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad, IAS, District Superintendent of Police Sri Ashok Kumar, IPS, and Municipal Chairperson Smt. Samindla Vani Srinivas. "District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad described CCTV cameras as the "third eye" of the police. "They act as a strong preventive measure against crime. The fear of being recorded discourages criminals," he said. "The Collector urged citizens to install CCTV cameras in their homes, business establishments, apartments, and commercial complexes. He emphasized that installing cameras on main roads, junctions, busy commer-

detection. "In today's modern era, CCTV cameras have become an essential tool for crime prevention, case investigation, and ensuring public safety. As part of a Community Policing initiative, 150 CCTV cameras installed across Jagtial town were inaugurated on the occasion. "The cam-

eras were formally inaugurated by District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad, IAS, District SP Sri Ashok Kumar, IPS, and Municipal Chairperson Smt. Samindla Vani Srinivas. "District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad described CCTV cameras as the "third eye" of the police. "They act as a strong preventive measure against crime. The fear of being recorded discourages criminals," he said. "The Collector urged citizens to install CCTV cameras in their homes, business establishments, apartments, and commercial complexes. He emphasized that installing cameras on main roads, junctions, busy commer-

cial areas, and market-places is especially important for strengthening security. "The District SP appreciated the cooperation extended by local colleges, school managements, businessmen, and various organizations in setting up the cameras. He stressed that public participation is key to the success of such initiatives and appealed to people in other areas to come forward with similar support. "The programme was attended by RDO Sri Madhusudan, DSP Sri Raghu Chander, Municipal Chairperson Smt. Samindla Vani Srinivas, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Municipal Councillors, and other officials.

## District Collector Congratulates Minority School Students for Excellence in Intermediate Exams

**Skyline Correspondent Rajanna Sircilla : April-13** District Collector Garima Agrawal on Monday congratulated students of minority educational institutions in the district who performed excellently in the Intermediate examinations. "As the results of the first and second-year Intermediate exams were announced, students from Minority Welfare Residential Schools in Thangallapalli and Vemulawada achieved outstanding marks. "On this occasion, the students met the Collector at the Integrated District Offices Complex, where she appreciated their achievements. She advised the students that success can be achieved through discipline, setting

clear goals, and working with determination. "In the second-year BiPC stream, M. Nandini scored 977 marks out of 1000, while Subiya Tabassum secured 969 marks. In the MPC stream, Busra Kausar scored 985 marks, and K. Namita secured 979 marks, showcasing their excellence. "In the first-year MLT stream, C.H. Manoj and K. Niranjan scored 488 marks out of 500, securing the district's first rank. B. Sukumar scored 481 marks. "In the second-year MLT stream, U. Hemanth scored 982 marks out of 1000, followed by MD Shadul with 973 marks and L. Muninder with 967 marks. "In the LM&D&T stream, S.K. Aadil scored 977 marks, J. Abhishek se-



at the state level. "In the second-year MLT stream, U. Hemanth scored 982 marks out of 1000, followed by MD Shadul with 973 marks and L. Muninder with 967 marks. "In the LM&D&T stream, S.K. Aadil scored 977 marks, J. Abhishek se-

cured 959 marks, and P. Raju scored 924 marks, all showing commendable performance. "District Minority Welfare Officer M.A. Bharati, school principals Uroos Fatima and Lakshminarayana, and others participated in the program.

## Do Not Keep Prajavani Petitions Pending: District Collector Garima Agrawal

**Skyline Correspondent Rajanna Sircilla : April-13** District Collector Garima Agrawal instructed officials not to keep Prajavani petitions pending. "The Prajavani program was conducted on Monday at the auditorium of the Integrated District Offices Complex, where the District Collector personally received petitions from the public. "A total of 270 applications were received during the Prajavani. The Collector forwarded them to the concerned departmental officials and directed them to resolve the issues promptly. "The petitions

were distributed among various departments as follows: "District Planning Officer, CDE Section, Tahsildar Offices of Rudrangi and Sircilla, Forest Department, District Excise Officer, Executive Officer of Vemulawada Sri Raja Rajeshwara Temple, R&B Department, Government General Hospital (GGH) Sircilla, Municipal Commissioner Vemulawada, District SC Welfare Officer, Animal Husbandry Department, Mining Department, Sub-Registrar Sircilla, District Public Relations Officer (DPRO), District Agriculture Officer, and Coopera-



tive Department — 1 petition each. "Civil Supplies Department, Irrigation Department, District Medical Officer, Tahsildar Office Chandurthi, Special Deputy Collector — 2 petitions

each. "Additional Collector Gaddam Nagesh, RDOs Venkateswarlu and Radhabai, Housing PD Venkata Madhava Rao, and other officials participated in the program.

## Extensive Road Safety Awareness at Village Level — Preventing Accidents is the Primary Goal

**Skyline Correspondent Bhadradi Kothagudem : April-13** As part of the 99-day Praja Palana Pragati program, District Collector Ankit stated that road safety awareness programs are being conducted across the district during Road Safety Week. On Monday, the Collector attended a Gram Sabha held at the Chunchupalli Gram Panchayat office as the chief guest and addressed the gathering. "The Collector mentioned that measures are being taken such as identifying accident-prone black spots, clearing roadside vegetation, and implementing safety precautions in high-risk areas. He further explained that through these Gram

Sabhas, aspects like timely availability of ambulance services and connectivity to nearby hospitals are also being reviewed. "He suggested that creating awareness among school students about road safety would encourage them to educate their parents on the importance of wearing helmets and seat belts. He emphasized that road safety is not the responsibility of a single department, and only coordinated efforts by all departments can help achieve an accident-free district. "He also noted that innovative measures like "No Helmet — No Entry" implemented in some districts have yielded good results and suggested adopting similar initiatives in this



district. He pointed out that most accidents are caused due to over-speeding, drunk driving, not wearing helmets, and not using seat belts, and called for widespread awareness to prevent such incidents. "He urged all departments to work in coordination to make the Road Safety Week celebrations

successful. Later, he administered a road safety pledge to the villagers. "Sarpanch Bhukya Shanthi Sri, Tahsildar Nagaraju, Panchayat EO Venkateswarlu, and officials from transport and police departments, along with others, participated in the program.

## Let's Build a Drug-Free India: Awareness Program Held in Siddipet



**Skyline Correspondent Siddipet : April-13** As part of the Telangana State's 99-day Praja Palana Pragati Plan, an awareness program titled "Towards a Drug-Free Society" was organized in Peddagundavelli village of Dubbaka mandal under the supervision of the Department of Women and Child Welfare and the Child Protection Unit (Child

Helpline), Siddipet district. "On this occasion, Siddipet District Child Protection Representative Bayikadi Laxman stated that drugs and narcotic substances have become highly dangerous in today's society. He expressed concern that nearly 30% of youth are falling prey to these harmful substances. He explained that

alcohol, tobacco, whitener, and tube solutions are affecting people from all sections of society, becoming a major social issue. "He further said that those addicted to drugs face severe health problems such as mental retardation, loss of vision and hearing, lung and liver damage, cancer, psychological disorders, and loss of self-control. He also

warned that drug abuse can lead to increased violence, unrest, and even terrorism in society. "He advised youth to stay away from bad habits and move forward with the resolve of "Nasha Mukta Bharat" (Drug-Free India). He added that some anti-social elements are spreading drug use to weaken society and the nation. Youth should seek happiness not in clubs and pubs but in contributing to the nation's development and service. "He emphasized that youth should use their knowledge, intelligence, education, and values not for selfish purposes but for the welfare of their families, society, and the country.

## 63 Grievances Received at Praja Vaani; Collector Orders Swift Resolution



**Skyline Correspondent Jagtial : April-13** District Collector Sri B. Satya Prasad, IAS, directed officials to ensure prompt resolution of all grievances received under the Praja Vaani programme by conduct-

ing thorough inquiries. "On Monday, the Praja Vaani programme was held at the Collectorate Auditorium, where the District Collector, along with the Additional Collectors and Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs), personally

received petitions from the public. "Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said that people from the district headquarters as well as various mandals are coming forward to present their issues through Praja Vaani. He instructed officials to address grievances related to their respective departments in a positive and responsive manner. "He emphasized the need for detailed inquiry into each petition and directed officials to take proactive steps for their resolution. The Collector also instructed that all applications should be reviewed regularly and no petition should remain pending. "A total of 63

grievances were received during the programme. The Collector directed the concerned officials to take immediate action and ensure speedy resolution. "Later, the District Collector unveiled posters for the 8th Poshan Pakhwada and the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme. "The programme was attended by Additional Collector (Revenue) Smt. B.S. Latha, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Sri B. Raja Goud, RDOs of Jagtial and Korutla — Sri Madhusudan and Sri Jeevakar Reddy, along with district officials, Tahsildars, and other concerned staff.

## Follow Traffic Rules, Reach Home Safely — Road Safety Awareness Program Held in Siddipet

**Skyline Correspondent Siddipet : April-13** As part of the "Arrive Alive" program aimed at preventing road accidents, a Road Safety Gram Sabha was conducted in Ensanpally village of Siddipet Urban Mandal. "The awareness program was organized under the supervision of Traffic SI Vijay Bhaskar and SI Mallesham. "As part of village development initiatives, a special Village Road Safety Committee was formed in co-

ordination with village members. SI Vijay Bhaskar advised that all vehicle users and villagers must strictly follow traffic rules, wear helmets, and control over-speeding to save lives. "Traffic police administered a pledge to the villagers, public representatives, and staff to follow road safety rules. Responding to the villagers' request, dangerous potholes on the road were filled with the support



of the village Sarpanch as part of improving road safety. "The program was attended by Ensanpally village Sarpanch Nagula Sravanthi Prashanth,

Deputy Sarpanch Srikanth Reddy, Panchayat Secretary Narsinga Rao, ASHA workers, Anganwadi teachers, traffic staff, and villagers.

## Dr. Naga Mohan Assumes Charge as In-Charge Superintendent of Nizamabad GGH

**Skyline Correspondent Nizamabad: April-13** Dr. Naga Mohan has taken charge as the In-Charge Superintendent of the Government General Hospital (GGH), Nizamabad. Earlier, he was serving as Professor of Forensic Medicine at the Government Medical College, Nizamabad. "Dr. Naga Mohan succeeded Dr. P. Srinivas, who has been transferred to the Government General Hospital in Nalgonda. On this occasion, the Principal of the Government Medical College, Dr. Nagaraj, along with other staff members, congratulated Dr. Naga Mohan on assuming his new responsibilities.



# NDWU 38th Foundation Day celebrated grandly



(District Correspondent / Skyline)

**Sangareddy, April.13:** The 38th Foundation Day of the National Defence Workers Union (NDWU-INTUC & INDWF) was celebrated with great enthusiasm

at the Ordnance Factory, Yeddumailaram, on Monday. On this occasion, various sports competitions were organized from April 3 to April 11 to promote unity, sportsmanship, and collective spirit among

employees. Competitions in cricket, football, volleyball, and badminton witnessed active participation from the staff. Chief General Manager S.S.Prasad attended as the chief guest and distributed prizes to the winners, at

the factory stadium. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized that sports play a vital role in keeping employees health and strengthening unity. He also appreciated the union for organizing the event. The program was attended by All India Mahila Congress National Secretary Bindu Gongati, JCM-3 member P.Janardhan Reddy, JCM Staff Leader K.Ravinder Goud, IR Mechanism member K.Narendra Reddy, Sangareddy District INTUC President K.Narsimha Reddy, Medchal District INTUC President Kuna Bharat Goud, Union President Subedar Manikishan, General Secretary Y.Sridhar Reddy, Employees and others.

# Hostel Rooms must be built Spacious and Comfortable

(District Correspondent / Skyline)

**Sangareddy, April.13 :** Jaggareddy, the TPCC Working President has instructed officials to ensure that the hostel buildings currently being constructed to accommodate students both male and female must be spacious and comfortable. He warned that overcrowding in cramped rooms lacking proper ventilation and natural light would lead to difficulties, creating situations where students cannot even comfortably sit and play indoor games like chess or carroms within their hostel rooms. Jagga Reddy and Nirmala advised officials to prioritize a design that incorporates spacious rooms during the construction phase. These suggestions were offered in the context of a decision to construct new hostel buildings and additional rooms for students studying in government schools and



colleges across the Sangareddy constituency. Accompanied by Additional Collector Pandu and BC Welfare Officer Jagadish, he inspected the BC Girls Hostel building, which is currently under construction. He conducted a thorough inspection of the premises, examining not only the rooms designated for the students' accommodation but also the restrooms, dining hall, and kitchen. He remarked to the officials that the current design was excellent and would ensure a comfortable

living environment for the female students. He further instructed the officials to replicate this model similar to the BC Girls Hostel building for the construction of all other hostels within the Sangareddy constituency. He directed them to prepare and submit the financial proposals for these projects by the 25th of this month. BC Welfare Officer Jagadish informed that a total of ₹2.9 crores has been sanctioned for the hostel building currently under construction. He noted that

₹1.5 crores has been released so far and emphasized the need to ensure the speedy release of the remaining funds. He added that he would bring this matter to the attention of the Minister for BC Welfare, Ponnampalanki Prabhakar, and senior officials of the BC Welfare Department very shortly. He assured them that he would take the initiative to facilitate the release of the necessary funds, thereby ensuring the rapid completion of the BC girls hostel building.

# Failed in Intermediate, two students commit suicide

(District Correspondent / Skyline)

**Narayankhed, April.13 :** Two Students committed suicide, as they failed in intermediate. Intermediate examination results released on Sunday, Ramesh (17)—a resident of N.G.Hukrana village in Manoor Mandal committed suicide by hanging himself for a tree. According to villagers, Ramesh the son of Premkumar, the Deputy Sarpanch of N.G.Hukrana was a first-year Intermediate student in the BiPC stream at the Nallavagu Gurukul. On Sunday morning, his parents left for Bidar in the neighboring state of Karnataka to attend a family function, before leaving, they instructed



Ramesh to look after the cow and livestock kept at their farm. Upon failing the results announced on Sunday, Ramesh told villagers that he was going to fetch the cow from the farm; instead, he went to the field and committed

suicide by hanging himself for a tree. Meanwhile, in Nagalgidda Mandal, Ravi of Karamungi village had migrated to Hyderabad in search of a livelihood. His daughter, Nandini (17), was a first-year Intermediate student at a private

college. Although Nandini secured 325 marks out of a total of 470 in the results, she failed in one subject. She committed suicide by hanging herself inside her home; her final rites were performed in the village on Monday.

# Innovative tribute to Dr.B.R.Ambedkar

(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

**Narayankhed, April.13 :** On the occasion of the birth anniversary of the architect of Indian Constitution, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar, a young artist Gundu Shivakumar paid tribute in an innovative way. Dr.Ambedkar's birth anniversary, which is being celebrated on April 14, he expressed his admiration by carving Ambedkar's picture on a watermelon. Speaking on the occasion, he praised Dr.B.R.Ambedkar, who was born on April 14, 1891, as a great man who rendered immense services to India. Known as a prominent lawyer and economist, he fought for the abolition of untouchability and social equality throughout his life. He said that he made special efforts as the first Law Minister of independent India and the architect of the Constitution. He said that he is proud to pay tribute to him in his special form of art on the occasion of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar's birth anniversary.



# Vigilance & Enforcement inspection under CURE



(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

**Patancheru, April.13 :** As part of monitoring the improvement of public services and implementation of industrial regulations, Vigilance & Enforcement RC Puram Unit officials under Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) conducted inspections in Patancheru and Bollaram industrial areas. During

these inspection, it was found that several industries were operating without trade license, fire safety NOC, boiler license, and labor department permits. Lacking of industrial safety

standards, negligence in record maintenance, and violations of legal metrology rules also came to light. Similarly, officials found that electricity dues of Rs.2.65 crore were pending in the Patancheru TGSPDCL office. Instructions were issued to the relevant departments to take immediate action. These inspections were conducted under the supervision of Vigilance SP Sruthakeerthi, while Tahsildar Madhavi, Inspectors Shashikant Reddy, Prashanth, AG Harikrishna, AO Koteswar Reddy and other officials participated.

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# Motorists Urged to Follow Road Safety Norms in Rajanna Sircilla



(Skyline Correspondent Rajanna Sircilla : April.13

District Transport Officer V. Laxman stated that every motorist traveling on roads should take safety mea-

asures as a social responsibility. On Monday, weekly programs were being conducted at the District Transport Department office in Rajanna Sircilla as

part of the "Praja Palana - Pragati Pranalika" 99-day program. "Speaking on the occasion, Laxman urged all motorists to follow safety standards such as wearing helmets, using seat belts, driving at a moderate speed, and obeying road safety rules. He emphasized that everyone should work towards safe travel and strive for an accident-free society. He said that human lives are precious and preventing accidents should be treated as a social

responsibility. "He advised motorists not to drive under the influence of alcohol and stated that accidents can be avoided if individuals take proper precautions. On this occasion, a pledge was administered to the motorists who visited the office, and awareness about road safety was created. "AMVI Prithviraj Varma and Transport Department staff members Kalpana, Ramya, and Soumya participated in the program.

# Come forward to prevent road accidents

(By Our Reporter / Skyline)

**Patancheru, April.13 :** Prabhakar, the Patancheru DSP called on everyone to accept responsibly to prevent road accidents. On Monday, a "Arrive Alive" road safety awareness program was organized in Bhanoor and Nandigama villages under the aegis of BDL CI Vijay Krishna. In Bhanur village, an actor dressed as Yama created awareness



about the dangers of motorists traveling without helmets. Those who were not

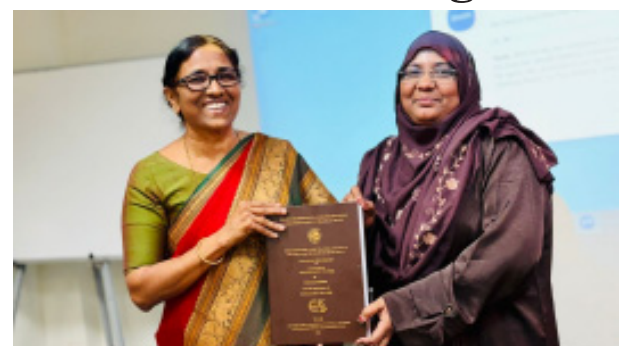
wearing helmets were given roses and promised to wear helmets. Road safety com-

mittees were also formed in the villages. Speaking on the occasion, DSP said that most of the deaths in road accidents were caused by two-wheelers who were not wearing helmets. He said that black spots would be identified and the problems would be solved. The Program was attended by MPDO Yadagiri, Sarpanchs Shantaiah, Vikram Goud, CI Vijay Krishna, and police personnel.

# Adilabad Lecturer Mumtaz Begum Awarded Ph.D

(Skyline Correspondent Adilabad : April-13

Dr. M. Shiva Krishna, Principal of Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Degree College, Adilabad, proudly announced that Ms. Mumtaz Begum, a Degree Lecturer at the institution, has been awarded the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree. "A native of Adilabad, Ms. Mumtaz Begum completed her early education in an Urdu-medium government school in



the district. She later transitioned to English medium for her higher studies, showcasing remarkable

academic determination and adaptability. "She pursued her doctoral research at the Centre for

Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad, which is affiliated with Telangana University. Her thesis, titled "Islamic Microfinance: A Tool for Financial Inclusion - A Case Study of Telangana," was completed under the supervision of Prof. E. Revathi. "Dr. M. Shiva Krishna congratulated her on this significant academic achievement and wished her continued success in her future academic and professional endeavors.

# MLA Payal Shankar Meets Telangana DGP, Discusses Law and Order in Adilabad

(Skyline Correspondent Adilabad : April-13

On Monday, MLA Payal Shankar paid a courtesy visit to the Telangana State Director General of Police (DGP), who visited the town for the first time. On this occasion, the MLA warmly welcomed him by presenting

a bouquet and extended his congratulations. "The Adilabad District Superintendent of Police (SP) also participated in the meeting. Discussions were held on maintaining law and order in the district and providing better policing services to the public. "The MLA ap-

preciated the efforts being made by the police department towards district development and ensuring public safety. He also suggested that the police should work with greater coordination to enhance the safety and security of the people in the district.



# PMR attends Walima ceremony

(District Correspondent / Skyline)

**Sangareddy, April.13 :** Pulimamidi Raju, the State Congress leader attended the ceremony of his friend Ajaz's son Syed Aquib Zeeshan's wedding reception held in Sangareddy town and blessed the newlyweds. On this occasion, he participated the program along with his family members and accepted their hospitality. The Program was attended by Friends Shakeel, Faheem, Ajaz, Vishnu, Narsimlu, Anil, Gunakar, Congress leaders, and others.



## Workers Urged to Prepare for Protests to Safeguard Singareni Industry



**Skyline Correspondent Peddapalli : April-13** At a meeting of key members of the Singareni Collieries Workers Union (BMS), president Yadagiri Sattayya, who attended as the chief guest, called upon workers of the Singareni industry to be ready to protect the organization. "He stated that workers, who perform their duties efficiently with their sweat for the nation's wealth, are equal to soldiers. He added that workers in this historic organization possess a

fighting spirit and demanded that the state government refrain from interference. "He emphasized that the Singareni Collieries Workers Union (BMS) has responsible leadership capable of addressing issues and is committed to the development of coal mines. He noted that vast coal reserves exist across six districts from Goleti to Sathupalli in the Godavari basin, as confirmed by exploration and survey department reports. "He demanded

that the state government take urgent steps to clear pending electricity coal dues amounting to ₹51,149 crore owed to Singareni by various power generation corporations, including Telangana State Power Generation Corporation Limited, Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Limited, National Thermal Power Corporation, Maharashtra State Power Generation Corporation Limited, Karnataka Power Corporation Limited, Tamil Nadu State Power Distribu-

tion Corporation Limited, and Telangana State Power Coordination Committee. "He concluded by stating that BMS, as one of the largest national unions with strong membership, is committed to workers' welfare, social security, education, and healthcare, and will continue to mobilize workers for the progress of the Singareni company through the development of new coal mines. "The meeting, held under the leadership of Area Vice President Karravula Mahesh, was attended by Ellavula Kotaiah, Gangishetti Narasimhulu, Palle Srinivas, Penchala Venkataswamy, Palle Ravinder, Puppala Nagendra Prasad, and Meda Ajay Kumar, among others.

## District Collector Khushboo Gupta Directs Immediate Disposal of Prajavani Pending Files



**Skyline Correspondent Mahabubnagar : April-13** District Collector Khushboo Gupta has instructed officials to resolve all pending Prajavani files immediately. "A total of 113 grievances were received

during the Prajavani program. "The District Collector directed officials to promptly address all pending Prajavani applications. "On Monday, the Prajavani program was conducted at the

Collectorate meeting hall, where District Collector Khushboo Gupta participated. On this occasion, she received petitions from applicants coming from various parts of the district and interacted with them, patiently listening to their issues. She assured that the district administration would make sincere efforts to resolve their problems at the earliest. "During the Prajavani program, officials registered 113 complaints related to various departments including Municipal Administration, Police, Housing, Education, Health, Employment, Welfare, Panchayat Raj, and others. "Speaking on the

occasion, the Collector instructed officials to carefully examine each application received through Prajavani, understand the issues thoroughly, and take immediate action for resolution. She emphasized that under no circumstances should the grievances remain pending and that officials must resolve them promptly to instill confidence among the public. "The meeting was attended by Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Madhusudhan Naik, Additional Collector (Revenue) J.L.B. Haripriya, DRO Ram Reddy, RDO Naveen, district officials, applicants, and others.

## District Collector Khushboo Gupta Inspects Old Palamuru Urban Primary Health Centre



**Skyline Correspondent Mahabubnagar : April-13** District Collector Khushboo Gupta inspected the Old Palamuru Urban Primary Health Centre in Mahabubnagar district headquarters on

Monday. "On this occasion, the Collector reviewed the medical services being provided at the health centre. She interacted with the medical staff and inquired about the available healthcare facilities and ser-

vices being provided to patients. She asked whether there was any shortage of medicines and about the daily outpatient (OP) registrations. The Medical Officer informed her that there was no shortage of medicines and that around 100 to 150 outpatients visit the hospital daily. "The Collector also spoke to a pregnant woman who had come to the health centre and enquired about her health condition. She asked about her hemoglobin levels and whether she was undergoing regular monthly check-ups. "Later, the Collector discussed with the medical staff about the implementa-

tion of the Health Screening Pilot Project recently launched by the State Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha for women Self-Help Group (SHG) members. She instructed that, in coordination with the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) officials, 30 types of medical tests should be conducted for SHG members, and health screening along with health profiling should be completed. "During the inspection, Urban Primary Health Centre Medical Officer Dr. Mamatha, other medical staff, and officials accompanied the Collector.

## BJP Protests Outside Ramagundam MRO Office Over Absence of Tahsildar



**Skyline Correspondent Peddapalli : April-13** Leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) expressed anger over the absence of a Tahsildar at the Ramagundam MRO office for the past 15 days, which has been causing severe inconvenience to the public. They stated that essential services such as

income certificates, land-related issues, passbooks, and other certificates have come to a halt, creating hardships for common people, farmers, and students. In this context, a large-scale protest was organized by the BJP in front of the Ramagundam MRO office on Monday. The

protest was led by BJP Ramagundam in-charge Kandula Sandhya Rani, with a large number of party leaders and activists participating and condemning the government's negligence by displaying placards. "Several party leaders and members including Sulava Lakshmi

Narasayya-Padma, Tadagonda Narasayya, Mandal President Bodakunti Subhash, Urakonda Aparna, Velturi Rajitha Rajayya, Gogula Ramesh, Alakunta Mahesh, Chiluveri Kumar, Boodida Harsha, Ramagiri Naresh, Ande Raj Kumar Chari, Balasani Sattayya Goud, Ankari Bharat, Kotte Naresh, Jakkana Balu, Hanumantha Venkatesh, Jakkula Praveen-Padma, Shilarapu Kalyan, Srikanth, Erukonda Tirupati, Eltapu Raju, Bandari Shyam Patel, Bityyala Srikanth, Bunga Mahesh, Shankaramma, Teegutla Naveen, Madara Boyina Rakesh, Sunil, Aillesh, Sai, Koduri Satish and others participated.

## Road Accidents Can Be Reduced Only Through Responsible Behavior: Peddapalli DCP Ram Reddy

**Skyline Correspondent Peddapalli : April-13** Road accidents can be reduced only if everyone behaves responsibly, said Peddapalli DCP B. Ram Reddy. "As per the directions of higher officials, an awareness program was conducted under the "Arrive Alive" campaign at Indira Nagar under Godavarikhani One Town Police Station limits in the Ramagundam Police Commissionerate. The program aimed to create awareness among the public about the increasing road accidents in Godavarikhani town. It was organized under the leadership of One Town Inspector Indrasena Reddy. "Peddapalli DCP B. Ram Reddy, Ramagundam Mayor Mahankali Swamy, and ACP M. Ramesh attended the event as chief guests. "The Mayor ex-



pressed concern over the increasing use of ganja and other intoxicants. He said that youth are being misled into harmful habits, affecting families negatively. He pointed out that the issue is more prevalent in Indira Nagar and Sanjay Gandhi Nagar areas and requested the police to take special measures. "DCP Ram Reddy emphasized that following road safety and traf-

fic rules is everyone's responsibility. He advised wrong-route driving, drunk driving, and using mobile phones while driving. He stated that police efforts alone are not enough without public cooperation, and only collective action can reduce accidents. "During the program, Police Officer Ramesh from the 46th Division of Ramagundam Municipal

Corporation administered a pledge to officials, public representatives, youth, and citizens to follow road safety rules and encourage others to do the same. "The event was attended by One Town CI Indrasena Reddy, SI Anusha, Blue Colts staff, patrol car personnel, 46th Division President Anil, local public representatives, citizens, and a large number of youth.

## 'Arrive Alive' Road Safety Awareness Campaign Launched in Kamareddy District from April 13

**Skyline Correspondent Kamareddy : April-13** As part of the Public Governance Progress Plan, special programs titled "Arrive Alive" are being organized across the district to raise awareness on road safety. District Collector Ashish Sangwan stated that extensive awareness activities will be conducted from April 13 to 18 with the coordination of Police, Transport, R&B, Education, and Health departments. "Marking the launch of these programs, a poster unveiling



ceremony was held on Monday in the Collector's chamber under the leadership of District Collector Ashish Sangwan and District SP Rajesh Chandra. "Senior officials from various departments participated in the event. Speaking on the

occasion, the Collector emphasized that creating awareness among the public about road safety is extremely important. He instructed officials to implement all planned activities efficiently and successfully. "The District SP stated that the

programs are designed to create awareness at the grassroots level among pedestrians and vehicle drivers regarding road safety. He called upon all concerned department officials to put in their full efforts to ensure the success of the campaign.

## Special Heatwave Awareness Campaign from April 16 to May 15 in Kamareddy



**Skyline Correspondent Kamareddy : April-13** District Collector Ashish Sangwan unveiled a poster on precautions to prevent heatstroke in view of the intense summer heat. "Speaking at a meeting held at the Collectorate on Monday, the Collector advised people to remain alert as severe heatwave conditions are being recorded during the summer. He stated that the district

administration is implementing a comprehensive action plan to prevent adverse health effects caused by heatstroke. "He mentioned that coordinated efforts are being made by all government departments, including ensuring drinking water supply, setting up cooling centers, maintaining adequate stocks of medicines and ORS in health centers, and conducting awareness programs in public places.

Special measures are being taken to protect vulnerable groups such as laborers, the elderly, children, and pregnant women. "People were advised to avoid going out between 12 noon and 4 PM unless absolutely necessary. They should drink plenty of fluids like water, buttermilk, and coconut water, and wear light clothing. In case of heatstroke symptoms, people should immedi-

ately contact the nearest health center. "Officials were also instructed to arrange drinking water and shaded areas at bus stands, markets, and workplaces across the district. Awareness campaigns are being widely conducted to educate the public. "The Collector appealed to everyone to follow precautions and cooperate in reducing the impact of heatwaves.

## Follow Road Safety Rules to Prevent Accidents: Karimnagar CP Ghouse Alam



**Skyline Correspondent Shankarapatnam : April-13** Karimnagar Commissioner of Police Ghouse Alam stated that accidents can be prevented if every vehicle driver follows road safety rules. At Molangur Cross Road in Shankarapatnam mandal, accident-prone black spots were identified, and along with ACP Madhavi, a warning sign-

board was installed. "Later, an awareness program on road accident prevention was conducted for the public and drivers at the premises of the Molangur Primary Health Centre under the ship of village Sarpanch Pudari Raju. Speaking on the occasion, the CP emphasized that wearing a helmet is mandatory while riding

two-wheelers. He also warned against driving under the influence of alcohol. "ACP Madhavi said that poor eyesight can lead to road accidents while driving and advised all drivers to undergo regular eye check-ups. She stressed that good vision is very important for drivers. "Under the supervision of the CP and

Deputy DMHO Dr. Shruvan, a free eye medical camp was organized for drivers at the rural health center. Doctors conducted eye tests and distributed spectacles to those in need. Helmets were distributed to two-wheeler riders, and dress codes were provided to drivers. "The program was attended by urban and rural CIs S. Ramakrishna Goud, Puli Kota Venkat, Lakshminarayana, SI Shekhar Reddy, and sarpanches, medical staff, drivers, and villagers from Keshavapatnam, Molangur, Lingapur, Metpalli, Chinthalapalli, Gudatpalli, Nalla Venkiahpalli, Vankayagudem, and other villages.