

Lokesh Urges Stricter Monitoring of Mid-Day Meals and Boosts Digital Learning in AP Schools

Vijayawada, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau:

Andhra Pradesh Education Minister Nara Lokesh has called for stricter monitoring of mid-day meals in government schools and pushed for the accelerated adoption of digital learning tools across the state.



plan to establish more centres in other regions to support children with special needs.

The minister stressed that mid-day meals play a vital role in student health and academic performance. He instructed education officials to implement strict quality standards and ensure regular checks in all government schools.

In addition to nutrition, Lokesh focused on improving digital education in the state. He reviewed initiatives such as clicker-based learning systems and instructed that these should be introduced for Class IX students initially.

The minister also emphasized the role of school management committees, special education services, and the implementation of Right to Education provisions.

Lokesh further highlighted the importance of strengthening school infrastructure, encouraging officials to prioritize the development of facilities that contribute to a better learning environment.

On the cultural and knowledge front, Lokesh approved the proposed design for the State Central Library in Amaravati and urged officials to expedite its construction.

The meeting concluded with the minister directing officials to maintain high standards, ensure accountability, and actively involve parents and communities in monitoring school programmes.



Congress "Dangerous", Vote For 'Viksit Assam': PM Modi's Big Pitch Ahead Of Polls

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Rizvi's Unbeaten 70 Powers Delhi Capitals to Six-Wicket Win Over LSG

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Government Assures Support to Maize Farmers Amid Price Concerns

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Amaravati Cemented as Andhra Pradesh's Sole Capital; CM Launches Welfare Initiatives

Nellore, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu reaffirmed that Amaravati will remain the sole capital of Andhra Pradesh, declaring that no one can move even an inch of it.

Highlighting welfare, CM Chandrababu emphasized the government's commitment to directly serve the poor every month, spending 2,750 crore on pensions.



Deepam 2.0, which distributes three free LPG cylinders per year, and P4 projects for improving rural livelihoods, are in progress.

On infrastructure, the CM outlined Vinjimuru's water security projects costing 34 crore, aiming to fill local tanks by October.

gion is witnessing large-scale industrial development, including Ramaiahpatnam Port, Dugarajapatnam shipbuilding, defense equipment, and UAV manufacturing.

Supporting the handloom sector, CM Chandrababu launched free electricity schemes for 93,000 weaver households (200 units each) and 11,488 power looms (500 units each) at a total cost of 153 crore.

Jagan Mohan Reddy Proposes 'MAVIGUN' Corridor, Slams Amaravati Capital Push

Vijayawada, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and YSR Congress Party president Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has reignited the debate over the state capital by sharply criticizing the ruling alliance's persistent push for Amaravati as the sole capital.



on the state.

Highlighting the demographic and infrastructural advantages of the corridor, Jagan pointed out that Vijayawada and surrounding areas already have nearly 20 lakh residents.

growth.

Jagan argued that his proposal is aimed at long-term development, not opposition to Amaravati itself. He stressed that spreading development across the corridor would benefit a larger section of the population.

sion, transport connectivity, and economic activities across multiple districts. The former CM's remarks come after the recent legislative approval of Amaravati as the sole capital, which was pushed by the ruling alliance despite opposition from YSRCP.

This renewed focus on strategic capital planning underscores ongoing tensions between political visions, with Jagan advocating a distributed, corridor-based model as a practical alternative to the centralized Amaravati plan.

Onthimitta Seetharama Kalyanam Draws 80,000 Devotees

Onthimitta / Tirupati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau:



As part of the annual Brahmotsavam at Sri Kodandarama Swamy Temple, Onthimitta, the grand Sri Seetharama Kalyanam was held on Wednesday night, attracting nearly 80,000 devotees.

extended heartfelt thanks to State Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu for his support.

The event was broadcast in HD quality via SVBC, allowing millions worldwide to witness

the divine kalyanam and partake in the spiritual experience. The arrangements highlighted TTD's commitment to combining devotion, safety, and convenience for the devotees.

Key arrangements included

- Kalyana Mandapam was equipped with 121 spacious galleries, allowing devotees to view the rituals comfortably.
➤ Every devotee received pearl headbands, laddoo prasadam, and sacred bangles.
➤ Devotees were also given kits containing lemon rice, kesari, biscuit packets, mango juice, water bottles, sweets, and essential items.
➤ Service volunteers distributed butter-milk and drinking water continuously in the galleries.
➤ For walking devotees, 11 special sheds were set up, accommodating around 3,000 people, with refreshments, water coolers, and staff support.
➤ 21 LED screens were installed for clear visibility of the kalyanam.
➤ 20 free TTD buses transported devotees from traffic diversion points to the venue.
➤ Health and safety measures: 13 medical camps, staffed by 35 doctors, 250 paramedics, and 8 ambulances, ensured immediate medical assistance.
➤ 250 sanitation workers managed 3,268 toilets to maintain cleanliness.
➤ Around 2,600 TTD, government, and police personnel coordinated to provide seamless services.

Srikakulam Set for a New Ministerial Appointment in TDP Cabinet Expansion

Srikakulam, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Srikakulam district is poised to receive another ministerial post as the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) prepares for a cabinet expansion.

TDP leader Nara Lokesh has reportedly signaled to senior party members and influencers that while new leaders

will get opportunities, some existing ministers may have to step aside. Reliable sources indicate that Bendral Ashok, Palla Srinivasarao, Maddipati Venkataraju, Vemireddy Prasanthi Reddy, and Konathala Ramakrishna are expected to be inducted into the cabinet.

votes and is considered a disciplined, sincere, and humble leader. Being the son of senior TDP leader Bendral Prakash and a doctor, Ashok enjoys significant credibility and respect across caste, religion, and party lines.

suggest major changes, hinting that several current ministers may be sidelined. Among those likely to be included in the new lineup are Palla Srinivasarao, Bendral Ashok, Maddipati Venkataraju, Vemireddy Prasanthi Reddy, and Konathala Ramakrishna.

The TDP leadership appears focused on balancing experience, loyalty, and regional representation in the upcoming cabinet.



Government Assures Support to Maize Farmers Amid Price Concerns

Amaravati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The state government has reaffirmed its full commitment to ensuring fair prices for maize farmers, assuring them that all necessary measures are being taken to prevent any financial losses. Speaking to the press, Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchannaidu emphasized that farmers need not worry about falling prices, as the government is standing firmly behind them.

The Minister stated that Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has raised the issue with the central government, submitting a detailed letter to ensure additional support and funds reach farmers without

creating extra burdens. He expressed confidence that the central government understands the concerns of the state's farmers and will cooperate in providing necessary assistance.

Atchannaidu acknowledged that certain market challenges, such as rising input costs, international conditions, and impacts from the Gulf conflict, have affected commodity prices. Nevertheless, he assured that the state government is taking precautionary steps to protect farmers from losses. He also criticized some political parties for spreading misinformation that maize prices have collapsed, creating unnecessary panic among farmers, which could potentially harm them further.

The Minister cited past interventions where the government directly supported farmers during price drops in various crops including paddy, chili, mango, cocoa, tobacco, onion, tomato, and papaya. In those instances, procurement centers were established and purchases were made through MARKFED to provide financial relief and stability to the farming community. In line with these measures, the government is currently addressing the maize sector responsibly. Farmers are being supported with essential services including electricity, irrigation, water security, and investment assistance. Under the PM-Kisan and Annadata Sukhibhava schemes, the third tranche of financial aid was already deposited into

farmers' accounts last month.

Atchannaidu also urged maize buyers and companies to consider the farmers' expenses while setting procurement prices and to ensure transactions are conducted with mutual trust. The Minister emphasized that cooperation between the government, buyers, and farmers is key to guaranteeing fair prices and safeguarding the welfare of the farming community.

The state government continues to monitor market trends and is actively working to provide both financial and infrastructural support to maize farmers, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to sustaining agriculture and protecting the livelihoods of its cultivators.



AGICL MD Reviews Amaravati Government Complex Construction Projects

Amaravati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Amaravati Growth & Infrastructure Corporation Limited (AGICL) Managing Director SVR Srinivas conducted an on-site review of ongoing construction projects at the Amaravati Government Complex (AGC) on Wednesday. The inspection focused on the High Court building and the Non-Gazetted Officers (NGO) residential towers under development within the capital city.

During the review, SVR Srinivas assessed the progress of both projects, meeting with contractors and engineering staff to ensure that construction is proceeding according to established quality and timeline standards. He instructed officials to maintain strict adherence to specifications, ensuring the timely completion of these critical government infrastructure projects.

NGO Towers: As part of the AGC, the state government is constructing 21 towers (12 + 9) at Nelapadu, Amaravati, to accommodate non-gazetted officers. Spread over 26.61 acres, these towers will provide 1,968 residential units with a total built-up area of 35.63 lakh square feet. The project aims to offer modern, functional housing facilities for government staff while maintaining high-quality construction



standards.

High Court: Near Nelapadu, the High Court building is under rapid construction on a 42-acre site. Designed with a basement, ground floor, and seven additional floors, the High Court will encompass 20.32 lakh square feet of floor space. The project is being executed with a strong focus on quality and structural standards, reflecting the state government's commitment to developing world-class institutional infrastructure in the capital.

The inspection reinforced the AGICL management's emphasis on efficient project execution, safety, and quality control, ensuring that both the High Court and NGO tower projects meet government

standards and deadlines.

SVR Srinivas directed all project teams to continue close monitoring, timely reporting, and proactive problem-solving to prevent delays and maintain construction excellence.

These developments at the Amaravati Government Complex are part of the broader vision to establish a well-planned, modern administrative capital, providing both functional institutional spaces and quality residential facilities for government personnel.

The MD's review underscores AGICL's commitment to transparency, quality, and timely completion of infrastructure projects critical to the capital's development.

Kandula Durgesh Hails Historic Lok Sabha Approval of Amaravati as AP's Permanent Capital

Amaravati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Tourism Minister Kandula Durgesh on Wednesday expressed elation as the Lok Sabha unanimously approved the bill granting statutory recognition to Amaravati as the state's sole capital. Describing the moment as historic, Minister Durgesh lauded the efforts of the central and state governments, Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, Minister Lokesh, and the farmers and women who tirelessly contributed land and effort toward establishing Amaravati as the permanent capital.

Permanent Capital Status Secured

Minister Durgesh emphasized that the state government had, in a special assembly session, resolved to designate Amaravati as the sole capital due to its pivotal role in Andhra Pradesh's long-term development. The recent amendment to Section 5(2) of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, introduced in Lok Sabha by Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai, received unanimous approval. Durgesh stated that the bill is expected to be gazetted shortly and that Amaravati will officially assume full capital status from June 2, 2024. He stressed that with this statutory recognition, Amaravati's status is now permanent and



cannot be altered by future administrations.

YSRCP Criticized for Opposition

Durgesh strongly criticized the YSR Congress Party for opposing the bill, highlighting that Jagan Mohan Reddy, who had supported Amaravati as an opposition leader, stalled progress after coming to power. The minister said YSRCP's walkout during the Lok Sabha vote reflected arrogance, undermining the sacrifices of farmers and women who had provided land and participated in long-term struggles to establish the capital.

Honoring Farmer and Women Sacrifices

According to Minister Durgesh, the approval of the bill recognizes the dedication of farmers and women who contributed their land and resources over several years for the city's development. He highlighted that the coalition government, under Chief Min-

ister Chandrababu Naidu, is committed to transforming Amaravati into a world-class city while ensuring balanced development across all regions of Andhra Pradesh. Durgesh expressed optimism that the Rajya Sabha would also approve the bill shortly.

Vision for a World-Class Capital

Minister Durgesh reaffirmed that the government's focus remains on modernizing Amaravati as an international-standard city, with robust infrastructure and institutional facilities. He credited Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's foresight and determination for achieving permanent statutory recognition, ensuring that Amaravati remains insulated from political changes in the future. The minister concluded that the decision is a milestone in Andhra Pradesh's administrative history, signaling stability, strategic planning, and recognition of citizens' sacrifices.

Free Electricity Scheme Rolled Out for Weavers in Machilipatnam: Kollu Ravindra

Machilipatnam, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh's coalition government has implemented a free electricity scheme for handloom and power loom weavers, fulfilling election promises, said Minister for Mines, Geology & Excise Kollu Ravindra. Handloom units will receive 200 free electricity units per month, while power loom units will get 500 units. The program is expected to benefit around 200,000 weaver families across the state. Minister Ravindra, accompanied by RTC Chairman Konakalla Narayanarao and DCMS Chairman Bandi Ramakrishna, visited Machilipatnam's 29th division to interact directly with weaver families. He assessed their financial conditions and emphasized the government's commitment to enhancing weavers' income and sustaining the traditional craft. "Weavers hold a vital place in India's cultural and economic fabric. With modern challenges threatening this age-old occupation, the government is stepping in to preserve it," Minister Ravindra said. He expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for their leadership and support in implementing the scheme.

The state currently has 194,000 handloom units and 11,488 power loom units. The new initiative will cost the gov-

ernment approximately 150 crore annually. Under this subsidy, each weaving household is expected to save an average of 780 per month on electricity. In Machilipatnam constituency, 122 families in the Urban area and 150 families in Chinapur are set to benefit immediately. Reflecting on past measures, Minister Ravindra noted that between 2014 and 2019, the government launched several welfare programs for weavers, including pensions for those over 50, monsoon season allowances, and subsidized loans for societies.

However, he criticized the previous five-year administration for neglecting the sector, leaving weaver societies in disrepair. "As soon as our coalition government came to power, prioritizing weaver welfare and development became a top focus," he said.

The minister reiterated that the program demonstrates the coalition government's dedication to supporting weavers and preserving traditional crafts. Local officials and community leaders, including former municipal chairman Babaprasad and Market Yard chairman Kunche Durgaprasad, joined the minister during the visit to show solidarity with the weaver community.

This scheme is expected not only to ease the financial burden on weaver households but also to strengthen Andhra Pradesh's handloom industry, safeguarding livelihoods while promoting cultural heritage.

Kandula Durgesh Embarks on Delhi Mission to Boost Andhra Pradesh Tourism with 915 Crore Proposals

Amaravati/New Delhi, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Tourism and Cultural Affairs Minister Kandula Durgesh on Wednesday departed for Delhi to seek central government approval for key pending tourism and cultural projects worth over 915 crore. The move marks a strategic effort to elevate Andhra Pradesh to an international tourism hub in the new financial year. Minister Durgesh is scheduled to meet Union Tourism and Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Thursday morning to present the proposals and expedite project clearances.

Reviving Iconic Tourism and Spiritual Circuits

The proposals include the development of nine major projects under the PRASAD and Swadesh Darshan schemes, aimed at enhancing spiritual and iconic tourism centers across the state. Highlights include Vibrant Beachfront Development in Machilipatnam (120.04 crore), improvements at Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Mangalagiri (95.18 crore), Arasavalli Sri Surya Narayana Swamy Temple (213.72 crore), and other heritage sites including GVR Music and Dance Academy in Vijayawada. The projects also focus on upgrading tourist facilities, cultural



infrastructure, tent cities at key Buddhist sites, and establishing National Institute of Hospitality in Amaravati.

Historic Initiatives in Language and Arts Preservation

Minister Durgesh also intends to push for the reprinting of the legendary Telugu lexicon, Suryarayandhra Nighantuvu, using modern technology and new fonts, following Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's suggestion.

He will advocate for establishing a National School of Drama center in Rajahmundry to revive Telugu theatre, as well as an ICCR branch to promote international cultural exchanges. Regional centers of the Lalit Kala Akademi in Visakhapatnam and a literature academy will further strengthen Andhra Pradesh's cultural outreach.

Past Achievements and Future Vision

Under Minister Durgesh's

leadership, the state has already secured 430 crore in central funding for eight tourism projects. The upcoming Delhi mission is aimed at securing approvals for pending proposals, including critical infrastructure and iconic tourist circuits, to boost domestic and international tourism. The minister emphasized that these initiatives, guided by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's vision, will enhance local employment, strengthen

infrastructure, and increase Andhra Pradesh's global visibility.

Minister Durgesh concluded that the successful implementation of these projects would position Andhra Pradesh as a world-class tourism destination, with improved visitor experiences, cultural preservation, and sustainable economic development, while furthering national and international recognition for the state's rich heritage.

Kollu Ravindra Slams Parninani for Misconduct in Machilipatnam

Machilipatnam, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Mines, Geology & Excise Minister Kollu Ravindra has sharply criticized former MLA and minister Parninani, accusing him of acting like a "buffoon" in Machilipatnam. Speaking to the media, Minister Ravindra condemned Parninani's alleged threats and intimidation, stating that such behavior is unacceptable and legal action will be taken if accusations continue without evidence.

Ravindra questioned what Parninani achieved for Machilipatnam during his five-year tenure, noting that his administration only caused problems for officials and the public. "During the last five years, the former MLA created fear among officials, harassed them, and disrupted governance," Ravindra said, highlighting Parninani's alleged mismanagement of warehouses and misuse of funds.

Addressing claims that the government is illegally dredging ponds, Minister Ravindra demanded proof from Parninani. "If he makes allegations without evidence, we will take strict legal action," he warned. He also condemned Parninani for allegedly trying to profit from land and resources while avoiding accountability.



The minister emphasized that the current coalition government is focused on development and accountability. Efforts in Machilipatnam include a 75-crore drainage development project and distribution of over 2,000 TIDCO houses to beneficiaries. "We are committed to serving the people, and we will not tolerate obstruction from anyone," Ravindra said. Minister Ravindra also spoke about the coalition government's initiatives to restore the historical grandeur of Amaravati. With parliamentary approval for Amaravati as the state capital, he criticized Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's previous

opposition and remarks on multiple capitals, calling them counterproductive. "People have supported Amaravati as the sole capital, contributing 33,000 acres of land. The coalition government is moving ahead with development work, including secretariat and assembly buildings," Ravindra said. He highlighted the government's broader regional development plans: Rayalaseema is being promoted as a hub for horticulture, automotive, and electronics; investments are being attracted to Uttarandhra with projects like Mulapeta Port and ArcelorMittal Steel; coastal areas are being developed with modern ports; and Amaravati is set to host a quantum computing center. Minister Ravindra concluded by warning that any attempts to disrupt development efforts or make baseless allegations against the coalition government will be met firmly. "Our priority is Machilipatnam's progress and statewide development," he added, asserting the administration's commitment to transparency and public welfare.

structure, supporting farmers, and ensuring inclusive growth. The leaders expressed satisfaction over the parliamentary approval of the bill granting legal status to Amaravati as the state capital, calling it a historic moment for the people of Andhra Pradesh. They stated that Amaravati symbolizes the pride of Andhra's citizens and said that the parliamentary approval has removed all doubts about its future. The coalition government is committed to developing Amaravati into a modern, world-class capital while simultaneously promoting balanced regional development across the state.



BC Janardhan Reddy Launches 1.53 Crore Development Projects in Banaganapalle

Banaganapalle, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Andhra Pradesh Roads & Buildings, Investments, and Infrastructure Minister BC Janardhan Reddy inaugurated key development works worth 1.53 crore today in Banaganapalle constituency, focusing on improving local infrastructure and community facilities.

The minister officially opened newly constructed internal CC roads and proper drainage systems in the SC & BC colonies of Cherlopalli village, completed at a cost of 35 lakh. These works aim to enhance connectivity within the colony and provide better living conditions for residents.

Following this, Minister Janardhan Reddy inaugurated a new road constructed from the local R&B road to the SC colony, built with an investment of 40 lakh. This project is expected to improve transportation and accessibility for villagers while boosting local economic activities.

During the event, coalition party leaders, workers, and residents of Cherlopalli village warmly welcomed the minister and appreciated the government's commitment to inclusive development. They highlighted that such infrastructure initiatives not only address immediate civic needs but also contribute to long-term growth

in rural areas.

Overall, the minister inaugurated development works across Sangapatnam and Cherlopalli villages, totaling nearly 1.53 crore, underlining the state government's continued efforts to improve local infrastructure and public amenities in Banaganapalle constituency.

Minister Janardhan Reddy emphasized that the government remains committed to implementing projects that directly benefit the community, particularly focusing on improving connectivity, sanitation, and living conditions in underdeveloped areas. These initiatives also reflect the coalition government's pledge to ensure balanced development across all regions of Andhra Pradesh.

The event showcased the strong engagement of local communities in state-led development projects, reflecting a collaborative approach between elected representatives, government authorities, and residents to uplift rural infrastructure standards.

With these initiatives, the Banaganapalle constituency is set to see tangible improvements in road infrastructure, drainage systems, and overall civic amenities, reinforcing the government's dedication to inclusive and sustainable development.

Pawan Kalyan-Led Coalition Pushes Development, Criticizes Jagan's Governance

Tirupati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

At a media briefing held at the Tirupati Press Club, Dr. Pasupulety Hariprasad, Joint District President of the Jana Sena Party and Chairman of the State Handicrafts Development Corporation, along with city president Raja Reddy, praised the coalition government led by Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan for its efforts to drive welfare and development across Andhra Pradesh. They emphasized that the government is taking concrete steps toward improving rural infrastructure, supporting farmers, and ensuring inclusive growth.

The leaders expressed satisfaction over the parliamentary approval of the bill granting legal status to Amaravati as the state capital, calling it a historic moment for the people of Andhra Pradesh. They stated that Amaravati symbolizes the pride of Andhra's citizens and said that the parliamentary approval has removed all doubts about its future. The coalition government is committed to developing Amaravati into a modern, world-class capital while simultaneously promoting balanced regional development across the state.

Criticizing the previous administration led by Jagan Mohan Reddy, they said that during his five-year tenure, the state was metaphorically "split into three pieces," leaving none of the proposed three capitals functional. They called Jagan "the 23rd Pulikesi of violence" for his alleged mismanagement and warned that he lacks the credibility to comment on Pawan Kalyan's achievements. The leaders highlighted that under Pawan Kalyan's guidance, the Panchayat Raj Department rose from 24th to the number one position, demonstrating effective leadership and focus on grassroots development.



Bharat Ram Protests Illegal Sand Mining in East Godavari

East Godavari, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau:

Former MP and YSRCP National Office Bearer Bharat Ram raised his voice against illegal sand mining and environmental degradation in the East Godavari district on Wednesday. Highlighting the threat to the Godavari river ecosystem, he led a massive roadside protest at the Mallya Peta Paper Mill Timber Depot to condemn unauthorized dredging from the Kotilingala Peta sand ramps.

Bharat Ram alleged that dredging operations, carried out under the watch of ruling party MLAs, are endangering vital infrastructure such as the Godavari bridges, Gaman Bridge, and the Dhavaleswaram barrage. He warned that continued illegal extraction could weaken the foundations of these structures, potentially leading to future collapses. Citing the health risks, he noted that hundreds of sand-laden trucks circulating daily are causing dust pollution, respiratory problems, and skin ailments among Mallya Peta residents.

Targeting the local MLA, Adireddy, Bharat Ram accused him of profiteering from unauthorized sand operations.

"While they claim the sand is free, it is being sold illegally for thousands of rupees. Out of 15 sand ramps in Kotilingala Peta, only two have legitimate permissions; the rest benefit the MLA's associates illegally," he said. He further criticized revenue and mining officials for turning a blind eye to large-scale sand transportation.

Bharat Ram urged the district collector to immediately clamp down on illegal mining and sand transportation. He warned that if the authorities failed to act, the protesters would escalate their campaign and approach the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to protect the river and local communities.

The protest, marked by slogans such as "Save Mallya Peta" and "This is Looting Rajyam", also caused a temporary traffic jam on the Kathedu-Rajahmundry main road. Local women and YSRCP supporters joined in large numbers, voicing concern over environmental destruction and exploitation of natural resources. Bharat Ram's strong stance reflects growing public discontent over unchecked sand mafia activities and calls for urgent government intervention to safeguard both the river and public health.



Illegal Sand Mining Exposed in Pottilanka, Action Taken

East Godavari, April 2, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Illegal sand mining activities in Pottilanka village, Kadim Mandal, Rajahmundry Rural constituency have been brought to light after persistent action by local YSR Congress Party leaders, led by former minister Chelluboyina Venugopal Krishna. The sand mafia, transporting soil from the riverbed with hundreds of trucks, was obstructed by party leaders, highlighting rampant violations of National Green Tribunal (NGT) norms.

The illegal operations were taking place in Survey Number 147, where excavation exceeded the permitted depth of one meter, reaching up to two meters, causing significant environmental damage. Party leaders condemned the inaction of revenue and mining officials, who remained silent despite large-scale extraction. Each truckload of sand was reportedly sold for up to 14,000, generating crores in illicit profits.

Venugopal Krishna alleged that the mafia had backing

from influential individuals, creating fake permits for lands with existing bank loans. He criticized local authorities for ignoring blatant violations right under their supervision. Senior MLA Gorantla Buchchayya Chowdhury questioned why officials failed to act, even in constituencies considered under strict scrutiny, urging immediate on-site intervention.

Following media coverage, the District Collector issued orders to halt sand mining in Survey Number 147 immediately. This action has exposed the scale of the illegal activity and prompted public attention to administrative lapses. Locals expressed mixed reactions, questioning whether official negligence or external pressures allowed the mining to continue unchecked.

The incident has reignited debates on illegal extraction in the district, with citizens demanding stricter enforcement to prevent natural resource exploitation and hold perpetrators accountable.

East Godavari District Prepares for 2026-27 Budget Outreach Meeting

East Godavari, April 02, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a bid to bring the 2026-27 state budget initiatives closer to the people at the grassroots level, the East Godavari district administration is set to hold a Budget Outreach Meeting on Thursday, April 2, at the Collectorate Conference Hall in Bommuru. District Collector Keerthi Chekuri issued an official notification on Wednesday, detailing the programme and emphasizing the importance of full participation by all district officials.

The meeting, scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM, will see the presence of District In-Charge Minister Dr. Nimmala Ramanaidu and State Minister for Tourism and Cultural Affairs Kandula Durgesh as the chief guests. Alongside them, Members of Parliament, Members



of the Legislative Assembly, Members of the Legislative Council, and other public representatives from the district are expected to attend.

The primary aim of the

meeting, as stated by the Collector, is to explain the benefits of the state budget to the public and ensure that the objectives of the announced schemes reach the intended

beneficiaries. The ministers will also conduct a comprehensive review of various welfare and development schemes, assessing their progress and effectiveness in the district.

A key focus of the outreach session will be the allocation of funds, including a detailed discussion on the funds earmarked for the district and their distribution across constituencies. The officials are expected to present a precise account of budget utilization, scheme implementation, and the outcomes achieved so far.

The Collector made it clear that attendance is mandatory for all district-level officers and emphasized that each department should come prepared with complete data, statistics, and relevant documents. She stressed that no absences or lapses will be tolerated, underscoring the

critical nature of the meeting in ensuring transparency and accountability in budget execution. This outreach programme is part of the state government's broader effort to bridge the gap between policy formulation and implementation, allowing ministers and officials to engage directly with the district administration and ensure that financial resources are effectively channeled towards developmental and welfare initiatives.

The event is expected to provide a detailed roadmap for the district, enabling officials to coordinate better and ensure that budget benefits reach the people efficiently. It also serves as a platform for interactive discussions between ministers, public representatives, and district officials, strengthening governance at the local level.

Urban Property Tax Hike Must Be Halted: CPM

Location, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Communist Party of India (Marxist) has urged the state government to immediately halt the ongoing hike in urban property taxes and review the contentious Capital Value-based taxation system.

Senior party leader C.H. Baburao and other state committee members criticized the government for continuing policies introduced in 2020 under the previous YSRCP administration, which replaced the traditional rent-based property tax with a capital value system.



Property tax trajectory highlights

• 2020-21:	100
• 2021-22:	115 (+15%)
• 2022-23:	132 (+17.5%)
• 2023-24:	152 (+19.84%)
• 2024-25:	175 (+22.81%)
• 2025-26:	201 (+26.81%)
• 2026-27:	231 (+30.17%)
• 2027-28:	266 (+34.7%)
• 2028-29:	306 (+39.9%)
• 2029-30:	352 (+45.89%)

The party stresses that immediate corrective action is essential to prevent further economic stress on urban citizens.

The government continues to increase assessed property values and collect higher registration fees, creating a perpetual cycle of rising taxation.

The party highlighted the disproportionate impact on low-income households, especially those living in houses

without official titles. In many cases, such properties are labeled illegal, and penalties of 25% to 100% are imposed annually. Although Executive Order 198 provides for minimal tax collection of 50 for homes under 375 square feet for six months, this provision is re-

portedly not implemented, further burdening poor households. "Rising property taxes do not just affect homeowners; they indirectly increase rents, impacting tenants as well," said Baburao. "Over 1.5 crore urban residents, along with commercial

and industrial establishments, are facing direct and indirect financial pressure due to these hikes." The CPM has called on the government to immediately cancel the Capital Value taxation policy, revoke Amendment 44/2020, and annul Executive Order 198, in line with election promises. The party also demanded that 2026-27 property taxes not be increased and warned that failure to act could provoke widespread public anger.



ABVP Demands Swift Action to Safeguard Student Interests

Kolanukonda, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Akhila Bharata Vidhyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Andhra Pradesh committee has called for immediate measures to protect student welfare and ensure smooth functioning of educational institutions across the state.

In an official statement, ABVP stressed the importance of collaboration between student representatives, political leaders, and educational authorities. The group urged party leaders to support student initiatives, particularly in higher education, and ensure that student voices are included in decision-making processes.

The committee highlighted challenges in campus governance, emphasizing transparent selection of student leaders,

discipline maintenance, and protection of academic standards. ABVP encouraged local units to raise awareness, address grievances, and organize educational and extracurricular activities for overall student development.

The organization also called on authorities to improve campus infrastructure, support underprivileged students, and provide equitable access to academic resources. Safety, housing, and transportation for students were underscored as key priorities. ABVP leadership, including State Coordinator V. Savithri, pledged to monitor implementation of these measures, strengthen student representation, and uphold student rights. The organization reiterated that active student participation, combined with consistent cooperation from authorities, is essential for academic excellence and holistic development in Andhra Pradesh.

NTR Bharosa Pension Scheme Strengthens Social Security for Poor

NTR District, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a significant move to bolster social security for economically vulnerable citizens, the NTR Bharosa pension scheme has successfully reached 2,26,775 beneficiaries in the district, distributing approximately 98.45 crore, according to District Collector Dr. G. Lakshmish.

Dr. Lakshmish participated in the pension distribution program held in the Seetannapeta area within the Vijayawada urban jurisdiction on Wednesday. During the event, he observed the distribution process firsthand, ensuring that the pensions were delivered directly to beneficiaries at their homes. He engaged warmly with senior citizens, inquiring about their well-being and any difficulties they might be facing.

Speaking on the occasion,

Dr. Lakshmish emphasized that the pension distribution in the district is conducted transparently and efficiently. He assured that the government remains committed to ensuring that all eligible individuals receive the benefits of social security schemes without disruption.

"The NTR Bharosa pension program is a cornerstone of government social security initiatives, providing financial stability, dignity, and access to health care for the elderly, differently-abled, and other deserving groups," the Collector noted. He highlighted that these measures not only support the day-to-day lives of the underprivileged but also strengthen the broader framework of social welfare in the district.

The initiative demonstrates the district administration's ongoing efforts to enhance the reach and effectiveness of wel-

fare programs. By directly engaging with beneficiaries, authorities aim to identify and resolve any challenges promptly, ensuring that the scheme fulfills its goal of providing economic and social security to marginalized communities. The government's proactive approach in delivering pensions at the doorstep underscores its commitment to inclusivity and welfare, especially for senior citizens and vulnerable groups who depend heavily on such financial assistance. The NTR Bharosa scheme has become a lifeline for thousands, affirming the district administration's focus on equitable social development and sustained support for those most in need.

The program and its outcomes were officially reported through the District Information Public Relations Officer (DIPRO), I & PR, NTR District.



Vijayawada Municipal Commissioner Inspects Anna Canteens

Vijayawada, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Vijayawada Municipal Commissioner Dhyanchandra conducted an on-site inspection of the Anna Canteen located on RTC Workshop Road on Wednesday. The Commissioner reviewed the quality of food, hygiene standards, and service procedures, emphasizing the need to provide the public with efficient and uninterrupted services.

During the visit, Commissioner Dhyanchandra stressed strict daily monitoring of the canteens. He instructed nodal officers to ensure adherence to food quality and cleanliness standards at all times and to promptly address any complaints from citizens.

The Commissioner interacted directly with the patrons of the Anna Canteen to gather

their feedback on facilities, food quality, and service punctuality. According to his observations, the public expressed satisfaction, reporting no issues with the services or arrangements provided.

"This initiative aims to provide a healthy and hygienic environment at Anna Canteens while ensuring that citizens receive high-quality meals efficiently," the Commissioner noted. The municipal administration continues to oversee these facilities closely, making sure that service standards remain consistent and any public grievances are addressed immediately. This inspection underlines the commitment of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation to public welfare and citizen-centric services.

The update was officially released through the Public Relations Officer of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation.



JanaSena Distributes Insurance Cheques to Families of Late Party Activists

Andhra Pradesh, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a compassionate move to support the families of deceased party activists, the JanaSena Party distributed insurance cheques to the next of kin of 13 members who recently lost their lives in various accidents across West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam, and Nellore districts. Each family received 5 lakh, totaling 65 lakh in insurance benefits.

The cheques were handed over by JanaSena Party Chief Pawan Kalyan's political secretary and Government Whip in the Legislative Assembly, Pidugu Hariprasad, at a ceremony held on Wednesday at the Mangalagiri central office. During the event, Hariprasad personally inquired about the welfare of the bereaved families. He stated, "Our party president Pawan Kalyan believes in standing firmly with the families of our activists. This insurance scheme was introduced to provide them financial securi-

ty and moral support during difficult times."

Hariprasad reaffirmed that the party remains committed to assisting its members and their families in all possible ways. The event also saw the participation of prominent leaders, including Chillapalli Srinivas Rao, Chairman of Andhra Pradesh Medical Services and Infrastructure Development Organization, and party figures Bonaboyina Srinivas Yadav, Bandreddy Ramakrishna, and Buragadda Srikant, among others. The initiative demonstrates JanaSena's continued effort to provide not only political but also social and financial support to its grassroots workers and their families. By directly engaging with the families and understanding their needs, the party aims to ensure that activists' sacrifices are recognized and their families are cared for. This distribution program underscores the party's commitment to solidarity, welfare, and support for those who dedicate their lives to public service.

Eagle Cell Launches 'Safe Campus Zone' Operation in Vijayawada

Vijayawada, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a major drive to curb the sale of narcotics and tobacco products near educational institutions, the Eagle Cell conducted extensive inspections under the "Operation Safe Campus Zone" on Wednesday in Vijayawada. The operation was carried out following directives from respected IGP Shri A.K. Ravikrishna, IPS, and was led by Eagle Inspector M. Ravindra, with RSI P. Rambabu and team members coordinating the field actions.

The inspections focused on areas around NSM School, Municipal Girls High School, and

Govinda Rajulu School within the Patamata Police Station jurisdiction. During the operation, seven pan shops violating regulations by selling tobacco and related products were raided. Patamata SI Maddela Seetharam and his team assisted the Eagle Cell in executing these actions.

As a result, fines were imposed on the shop owners under the COTPA Act 2003 for selling restricted products within 100 meters of educational institutions. The Eagle Cell emphasized strict enforcement of the law, stating, "Under the COTPA Act, selling tobacco or related products within 100 meters of schools is

illegal. We are committed to protecting students' futures by rigorously implementing these regulations, and strict action will be taken against violators."

The Eagle Cell further appealed to the public and shopkeepers to cooperate in maintaining healthy surroundings near campuses and to ensure that youth stay away from intoxicants and tobacco products. The initiative reinforces the police department's ongoing commitment to student safety and community health, combining legal enforcement with public awareness to create safer educational environments across Vijayawada.



Badde Nayak Extends Lifeline to Farmer Battling Paralysis

Kalyanadurgam, April 1, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In a remarkable act of compassion, Badde Nayak, Chairman of Infinity Charitable Trust, extended urgent financial support to a farmer suffering from paralysis in Y.C. Palli (Eguvapalli) village, Kambaduru Mandal. The farmer, Chendrayudu, has been bedridden due to complications from a road accident that occurred over a decade ago. With his wife Gauthami working as a laborer to sustain the family and his elderly father Chen-

nappa providing constant care, the family faced severe emotional and financial distress, worsened recently by the passing of Chendrayudu's mother Sarojamma. Upon learning of their plight through local youth, Badde Nayak immediately responded, personally ensuring that the family received 20,000 to cover urgent medical expenses. Speaking on the occasion, Nayak said, "Saving a life and bringing light to a struggling family is the greatest service. Chendrayudu must recover soon, and Infinity Trust will al-

ways stand by them." Accompanying him, Vice Chairman Suresh Kumar and other Trust members, including Tippeswami, personally handed over the assistance to the family. Local villagers, including Ramu and Venugopal, praised Nayak's generosity and his hands-on approach in reaching out to those in need. This intervention is yet another example of how Infinity Charitable Trust, under Nayak's leadership, serves as a pillar of support for vulnerable communities. By providing timely aid and

showing empathy, Nayak has reinforced the value of social responsibility and inspired others to contribute to the welfare of the disadvantaged. His consistent efforts to help marginalized families have earned widespread admiration in the constituency, with villagers hailing him as a dependable "friend in distress." Through such acts, Infinity Charitable Trust continues to impact lives, offering hope and stability to families in crisis and setting a benchmark for charitable work in the region.



Sri Sathya Sai District TDP Office Inaugurated in Puttaparthi

Puttaparthi, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

With the blessings of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, the Sri Sathya Sai District Telugu Desam Party (TDP) office in Puttaparthi was inaugurated in a grand ceremony. The event was presided over by District In-Charge Minister Anagani Satya Prasad, who officially opened the office by cutting the ceremonial ribbon. The newly constructed office, overseen by District TDP President M.S. Raju, was designed to strengthen the party's presence and serve as a hub for district-level activities.

The inauguration began with the unveiling of the party flag near the Amulya Layout, followed by a special pooja inside the office premises. Minister Anagani Satya Prasad was joined by District Minister Savita, local MLAs, and senior party leaders, who also participated in the ribbon-cutting for various sections of the office. The program attracted party leaders, workers, and supporters from across the district, filling the venue with energy and enthusiasm. During the event, leaders



emphasized that the office would remain open 24 hours for party workers and would focus on their welfare. Minister Anagani Satya Prasad and District Minister Savita highlighted that the office would play a central role in strengthening TDP across the district. M.S. Raju, acknowledged for his tireless work, was felicitat-

ed with shawls and floral tributes, reinforcing his role in energizing the party and inspiring young leaders. The inauguration concluded with party leaders assuring continuous support for workers and promising that the office would serve as a strong base to make Sri Sathya Sai District a cornerstone of TDP's

growth, reflecting the party's commitment to grassroots empowerment and organizational excellence. Attendees included MLAs Palle Sindhura Reddy, Kandikunta Venkataprasad, former Minister Palle Raghunath Reddy, ex-MLC Gundumala Tippeswami, and Paritala Sriram, among other party leaders and activists.

Free Electricity Scheme for Weaver Workers in Srikakulam

Srikakulam, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh government has launched a free electricity scheme for handloom and power loom workers to ease their financial burden. Under the initiative, each handloom worker will receive 200 units per month, while power loom workers will get 500 units of free electricity, announced State Agriculture Minister Kinjarapu Atchennaaidu.

The announcement was made during a social pension distribution program at Kotabommali Hadco Colony, where the minister, along with District Collector Swapnil Dinakar Pundkar, visited homes and distributed benefits. Minister Atchennaaidu emphasized that all eligible beneficiaries would receive assistance transparently, with field-level feedback being collected to ensure proper implementation. He also highlighted several ongoing development projects in Kotabommali, including a 1 crore shopping complex, a 60 lakh Primary Agricultural Co-operative Bank, and the con-



struction of cement roads in villages previously lacking proper infrastructure. Hood housing projects, previously stalled, were completed with 8 crore, ensuring homes reach eligible poor families. The minister further announced 620 crore projects to provide clean drinking water to every household in the constituency over the next two years.

Industrial development, including the ArcelorMittal Steel Plant and a Google center, is expected to generate employment for over 50,000 people in

northern Andhra Pradesh. Atchennaaidu reaffirmed the government's commitment to Amaravati as the sole capital, with assembly approval and the parliamentary bill in progress. District officials, PACS leaders, and local community members actively participated in the event. This initiative underscores the state government's focus on welfare, infrastructure development, and economic growth, improving the lives of weaver families in Srikakulam while fostering broader regional development.

Development Drive in Nellore City Led by Minister Narayana

Nellore, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

Nellore city witnessed a major development drive under the leadership of State Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister Dr. Ponguru Narayana. Minister Narayana inaugurated several infrastructure projects aimed at improving drainage and road facilities across key urban divisions. At the 15th Division, Balajinagar Ugadi Center, he performed the ground-breaking ceremony for a 30 lakh drainage construction project. He then moved to the 46th Division, Radhamadhav Sandu, to lay the foundation for a CC road and drain project worth 28 lakh. Following the formalities, the minister interacted with local shopkeepers along Trunk Road, discussing their concerns and development needs. Minister Narayana emphasized that the coalition government is focusing on development and public welfare. He criticized the previous YSRCP



administration for mismanaging systems and diverting central funds, asserting that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's governance experience has successfully attracted 25% additional investments into the state. He also highlighted plans to boost industrial development to increase employ-

ment and restore the state's former glory, ensuring that all election promises are fulfilled. Minister Narayana further directed the construction of modern markets to provide better facilities for traders and the public. The event saw participation from several senior officials and party leaders, includ-

ing Commissioner Nandan, Mayor Sujata Ashok, Deputy Mayor Roop Kumar Yadav, former Municipal Chairperson Tallapaka Anuradha, corporators Venkateshwar, Kartam Pratap Reddy, cluster heads Ucci Bhuvaneshwari Prasad, Balaji, Anchooru Srinivasulu, PuttA Ajay, division presidents

Penchal Chaudhary, Mahendra, Pakala Penchalayya, and TDP Parliament Women President Kapira Revathi. The drive reflects the government's commitment to revive Nellore's infrastructure, improve urban amenities, and ensure transparency in public welfare projects.



Amaravati Secured as Andhra Pradesh Capital, Says Minister Narayana

Nellore, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

State Municipal Administration Minister Dr. Ponguru Narayana expressed elation as the Lok Sabha passed the Amaravati Capital Bill, granting official legislative sanction for Amaravati as the capital of Andhra Pradesh. Speaking on the occasion, the minister credited the success to the unrelenting efforts of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, and Education Minister Nara Lokesh, along with the support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Minister Narayana announced that Amaravati will officially become the state capital from June 2, 2024, marking a historic milestone for the region. He emphasized that the long struggle of farmers who fought for Amaravati's development was the true victory, and assured that no one will be able to move even an inch of the capital from its rightful place. Highlighting the government's development vision,

Narayana stated that while Amaravati is being built as a modern and well-planned capital, the coalition administration is committed to comprehensive development across all regions of the state. He underscored that the initiative is not just about Amaravati but about ensuring balanced growth, improved infrastructure, and better livelihoods for people in every district.

The minister's announcement was welcomed by political leaders, officials, and local stakeholders, reflecting widespread approval for the permanent establishment of Amaravati as Andhra Pradesh's seat of governance. With the Lok Sabha's backing, the coalition government aims to accelerate urban planning, infrastructure projects, and inclusive regional development alongside the capital's construction.

Amaravati's recognition as the official capital marks a new chapter in Andhra Pradesh's history, combining farmer-led victories, strategic governance, and long-term development planning.

Chandrababu Free Electricity Scheme Benefits Weavers in Kovuru

Nellore, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

In a significant boost for local weavers, the Chandrababu Chandana Welectricity Scheme was launched today in Kovuru, providing free electricity to eligible weaving families. Kovuru MLA Vemireddy Prashanthi Reddy visited Inumadugu village's weaver colony to distribute eligibility certificates and explain the scheme benefits.

Under the scheme, each eligible handloom worker household will receive 200 units of free electricity per month, while households with power looms will get 500 units free

monthly. In Kovuru constituency alone, 531 weaver families are set to benefit from the initiative.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Prashanthi Reddy highlighted that the government aims to reduce electricity costs for weavers, thereby increasing their disposable income. She explained that across the state, the scheme will cost the government around 150 crore annually, with a single handloom family saving 720 per month, totaling 8,640 per year. For power loom families, monthly savings would reach 1,800, totaling 21,600 annually. The MLA also emphasized

that the coalition government is committed to financial empowerment of all sections of society, ensuring that welfare schemes reach those who need them most. The launch event witnessed the participation of local weaver association leaders and senior TDP coalition party representatives, who lauded the scheme as a timely support for the weaving community.

This initiative not only eases the economic burden on weavers but also strengthens the handloom sector, encouraging sustainable livelihoods and growth in Nellore district's weaving clusters.



Chittoor Residents Receive NTR Social Security Pensions

Chittoor, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

In a major welfare initiative, the coalition government is delivering social security benefits across Chittoor district. MLA Gurjala Jagan Mohan and Collector Sumith Kumar personally distributed NTR social security pensions to senior citizens, widows, and single women in Ward 35, Kayanikat-tu Street, Chittoor.

The team visited beneficiaries' homes, ensuring the pension amounts reached them directly. Engaging warmly with the recipients, MLA Jagan Mohan explained that each eligible person receives 4,000, a distinctive initiative aimed at providing maximum support to the elderly and vulnerable. In Chittoor urban limits alone, 16,032 beneficiaries will receive a total of 7.11 crore.



Collector Sumith Kumar stated that comprehensive arrangements were made to deliver pensions door-to-door,

maintaining transparency and convenience for all recipients. Across Chittoor district, a total of 2,38,880 beneficiaries will re-

ceive 100.53 crore in NTR pensions, reflecting the government's commitment to inclusive welfare.

The distribution event also saw participation from Commissioner P. Narasimha Prasad, Chuda Chairperson Kathari Hemalatha, former Mayor S. Amud, former MLC B.N. Rajasimha, Deputy Commissioner Avineni Prasad, MHO Dr. Lokesh, former Deputy Mayor Rajesh Kumar Reddy, along with local representatives, TDP city committee members, and coalition party leaders.

This hands-on approach underscores the coalition government's promise of direct and accessible welfare for citizens, ensuring that social security measures reach those who need them most. The initiative has been widely appreciated by residents, reinforcing public confidence in government-led development and support programs.



Apollo University Launches Movie Club to Foster Student Creativity

Chittoor, 01-04-2026 | TPN Bureau

The Apollo University in Chittoor inaugurated its Movie Club in a grand ceremony on April 1, aiming to cultivate creativity, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of cinema among students. The event was attended by university officials, faculty members, and a large number of students.

The inauguration was presided over by Vice-Chancellor Dr. H. Vinod Bhatt, along with special guest Professor Vardesh Hiregange, former Director of the Gandhian Center for Philosophical Arts and Sciences, and Professor at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education. The official logo of the Movie Club was unveiled during the event.

Addressing the gathering, VC Dr. Vinod Bhatt emphasized that cinema is not merely a source of entertainment but a powerful medium to enhance students' analytical thinking and creativity. He noted that films both reflect society and are influenced by it, making it essential for students to under-

stand cinema deeply. He highlighted that the Movie Club would serve as a platform not just for entertainment but for intellectual and creative development.

Professor Vardesh Hiregange added that cinema acts as a mirror to society and encouraged students to approach films with a critical perspective, which would broaden their thinking and analytical skills.

The program also saw participation from Registrar Dr. M. Potharaju, Additional Registrar S. Anil Kumar, AIMSAR Dean Professor Alfred J. Augustine, Associate Dean Dr. Ramya Ramakrishnan, Nursing College Vice Principal Dr. Jinto Mathew, Student Affairs Director Professor Muralikrishna S., and Movie Club Faculty Coordinator D. Abhilash.

The launch of the Movie Club marks a step toward enriching student life at Apollo University by blending creativity with intellectual growth, making cinema a tool for both learning and critical engagement.

District Collector Inspects Midday Meal Program at ZP High School

Venkatagiri, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar conducted a surprise visit to the Zilla Parishad Boys' High School in Venkatagiri to review the Dokka Seethamma Midday Meal Scheme. During the visit, he sat down with the students and shared the midday meal, engaging warmly with them and interacting closely to understand their needs and aspirations.

To assess students' proficiency in English and their confidence levels, Dr. Venkateshwar posed several questions and encouraged their participa-

tion. During the interaction, he recognized the talent of a sixth-grade student, presenting the child with a pen as a special reward and appreciating their efforts with a "Shabash," earning admiration from everyone present.

The Collector expressed satisfaction with the taste, nutritional value, and quality of the meals, praising the hygiene standards, preparation, and distribution processes maintained by the school authorities. He acknowledged the District Education Department's efforts to ensure that students receive wholesome and quality meals.

Accompanying the Collector were District Trainee Collector Sandeep Raghu Vancey, Sri Kalahasti RDO Bhanuprakash Reddy, District Education Officer K.V.N. Kumar, along with the school's headmasters and teaching staff, who coordinated the visit and shared insights about the program's implementation.

The visit highlighted the government's commitment to student welfare and nutrition, emphasizing that midday meals not only support health but also encourage learning, attendance, and overall student development in the district.



Chintamohan Advocates SC Status for Dalit Christians

East Godavari, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Former Union Minister and senior Congress leader Chintamohan has called for a constitutional amendment to grant Scheduled Caste status to Dalit Christians. Speaking at a press conference at Manjeera Convention Hall, Rajahmundry, he emphasized that ensuring social justice for Dalits requires immediate legislative intervention. He promised that once Congress comes to power, the party would implement this reform.

Chintamohan sharply criticized the NDA government for politicizing the judiciary, claiming that appointments and verdicts are increasingly influenced by political considerations. He questioned bureaucratic control, asking, "Should a judge need government permission to transfer from Hyderabad to Bengaluru?" He recalled that under Congress, the collegium system was prioritized to maintain judicial independence.

Addressing the Amaravati capital issue, Chintamohan stirred controversy, asserting that the capital's shift is inevitable and depends on political

decisions. He alleged that past administrations, including Chandrababu Naidu, engaged in speculative land leasing and commercial exploitation, failing to fulfill their development promises.

Highlighting Dalits as future leaders, he predicted that by 2029, they would dominate both state and national politics. He personally committed to including Dalit Christian reservations in Congress's manifesto and ensuring their implementation. Critiquing current political wealth accumulation, he questioned how leaders from humble beginnings, including Chandrababu Naidu and Jagan Mohan Reddy, amassed crores, neglecting the poor.

Chintamohan also expressed concern over local economic issues, citing the Godavari Basin gas project exporting to Europe while local communities face unemployment, and highlighted Congress's historic diplomatic successes under Rajiv Gandhi. The event saw participation from SC leaders, including Jeda Mohan, and reinforced Congress's commitment to social justice, transparency, and empowering marginalized communities.

'Yashoda' Offers New Hope for Parkinson's Patients

East Godavari, April 2, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Parkinson's disease, a severe neurodegenerative disorder commonly known as the "shaking disease," is increasingly affecting people worldwide, irrespective of age. Highlighting the growing concern, Dr. Rajesh Alugolu, Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon and Clinical Director at the Movement Disorders Research Center, Yashoda Hospital, Hyderabad Hightech City, addressed a media briefing in Rajahmundry, providing crucial insights into modern treatments for this condition. Dr. Alugolu explained that approximately 42 to 60 individuals per 100,000 population suffer from Parkinson's in India. Patients like Ashok Reddy from Huzurabad and Sangeeta from Kapite recently underwent successful surgeries at Yashoda Hospital using Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) technology. Both patients have regained full independence and are performing their daily activities with ease. Medical experts noted that Parkinson's, like hyper-



tension or diabetes, is a lifelong condition, with symptoms intensifying over time. While medications provide relief during the first three to four years, their effectiveness gradually declines. For patients with advanced symptoms, DBS—approved by US-FDA and DCGI—is the only effective treatment. This technique involves implanting electrodes in specific regions of the brain, controlled by a small device placed in the chest, significantly improving patients' quality of life. Yashoda Hospital, with a 2,000-bed capacity, offers international-standard super-specialty care. The hospital

combines cutting-edge technology with accessible treatment costs, making advanced therapies like DBS available to ordinary patients. Hospital representatives, including Santosh Kumar and Ramakrishna, emphasized that such interventions provide permanent relief from tremors and movement disorders, offering renewed hope to Parkinson's sufferers.

Dr. Alugolu stressed that timely intervention with DBS can restore independence and transform the daily lives of patients, reinforcing Yashoda Hospital's commitment to world-class care for complex neurological conditions.



Central Govt. Clarifies Policy on Solar Carports, Parking Lots

Chittoor (Delhi), April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Chittoor MP Daggumalla Prasad Rao raised questions in the Lok Sabha regarding the central government's policy measures to promote solar power in carports and parking lots, seeking details on support for India's renewable energy capacity and any pilot projects with private players in Andhra Pradesh.

In response, the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy clarified that no separate incentives currently exist specifically for carports, and opportunities are available primarily under the PM Surya Ghar scheme, operational since February 2024. The written reply, provided by Union Minister Sripada Yesso Naik, also outlined that group housing societies and residential welfare associations can set up solar plants for their shared amenities, which may include EV charging points and solar carports, and financial support is available under this framework. The MP expressed gratitude to the Union Minister for the detailed response. He emphasized that while no standalone policy exists for solar carports, initiatives under PM

Surya Ghar allow residential and institutional stakeholders to adopt renewable energy solutions.

The reply also highlighted successful projects across India:

- Chandigarh: Solar carports with a capacity of 3,745 kW across 22 locations.
- Gujarat: Carports at Modhera Sun Temple, Gandhinagar Secretariat, and Statue of Unity, Kevadia, equipped with Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).
- Jharkhand: 2 MW solar carport at the Jharkhand High Court premises.
- Ladakh: Advanced solar carport with battery storage in Leh, implemented by CESL.

Daggumalla Prasad Rao highlighted that such infrastructure supports clean mobility and renewable energy adoption and called for further expansion of similar initiatives nationwide to strengthen India's renewable energy capacity.

The discussion underlined the government's ongoing efforts to integrate solar energy into urban infrastructure while clarifying existing policy limits and opportunities for financial assistance.

Chittoor District Collector Cracks Down on Drugs and Medical Violations

Chittoor, April 01, 2026:

Under the leadership of District Collector Dr. S. Venkateshwar, a review meeting on drug and medical regulations was conducted at the Chittoor Collectorate today. The meeting was attended by representatives of the E-Gal Cell, Drug Inspectors, and members of the Medical Association to address rising concerns over illegal drug sales and misuse of medical kits in the district.

The collector highlighted the increasing misuse of abortion kits and instructed authorities to maintain strict surveillance on their sale. He emphasized

the prevention of illegal gender determination tests, citing their adverse impact on the district's sex ratio and the risks of female foeticide. Members of the Medical Association were urged to actively discourage such practices.

Regarding narcotic drugs and intoxicant powders, the collector stressed that no medicinal outlets should sell such substances without proper prescriptions. He instructed strict action against dealers violating regulations. All medical agencies and drug sellers were directed to maintain accurate stock registers and billing records, and to supply kits only

on the basis of valid doctor prescriptions.

In ongoing legal measures, the collector ordered the Drug Inspector to proceed under the PD Act against individuals involved in two already registered cases. Citizens with information on illegal sales or other unlawful activities were encouraged to report immediately via the E-Gal toll-free number 1972.

The collector concluded by warning all medical professionals and dealers that responsible conduct is mandatory, and violations of regulations would invite strict legal action.



Vizianagaram Hosts “Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme-2026”

Vizianagaram, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, successfully conducted the “Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme (VBYCP)-2026” at the University Seminar Hall, aiming to cultivate leadership qualities and social responsibility among the youth.

Prof. Jitendra Mohan Mishra, In-charge Registrar and Chief Guest, highlighted the vital role of youth in nation-building. He emphasized that education, skill development, and innovation are critical for realizing the vision of a developed India. Prof. Mishra urged students to recognize their

potential, channel creativity, and contribute actively to society.

Dr. Balumuri Venkateswarlu, Nodal Officer and In-charge Head of the Department of English, welcomed the gathering and outlined the objectives of the programme. He stressed that VBYCP provides an important platform for enhancing social awareness and leadership skills among young participants.

Guest of Honour, Ms. Suhani Pandey, Consultant, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, explained the various government schemes and opportunities available for youth. She encouraged students to harness their talents, develop practical skills, and approach social responsibilities with commitment and awareness, highlighting the impor-

potential, channel creativity, and contribute actively to society.

The Youth Icon, Shri Kusumba Bala Sri Nandak, inspired participants by sharing his personal experiences. He emphasized that success requires clear goals, discipline, perseverance, and self-confidence, encouraging every young person to strive to become a role model in society.

The programme saw participation from Dr. Bontu Kotaiah, Dean of Student Welfare, department heads, faculty, research scholars, and students. The event successfully fostered creativity, leadership, and social responsibility among the youth, reflecting the university’s commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.



Andhra Pradesh Rural Telecom Connectivity Boosted with Rs. 2,404 Crore in Five Years

Nellore, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

In response to a question raised by Nellore MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy on March 28, 2026, the Union Minister of State for Information and Rural Development, Dr. Pemasani Chandrababu Naidu, provided a detailed written update on rural telecom and digital connectivity in Andhra Pradesh.

As of December 31, 2025, Andhra Pradesh has 24.12 million telecom subscribers in rural areas, with a broadband penetration of 54.39%. Out of 17,328 villages, 16,944 are covered by mobile networks, and 12,817 villages have Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) connectivity. The total wireless data usage in the state stands at 844,992 terabytes. The minister noted that telecom subscription and data usage statistics are maintained at the Licensed Service Area (LSA) / state and UT level.

To strengthen rural digital infrastructure, the govern-



ment released Rs. 2,404.08 crore under the Digital India Fund (DBN) over the last five financial years (2020-21 to 2024-25). These funds have been utilized to enhance mobile connectivity, internet access, and broadband subscriptions across rural and remote regions, including Nellore. Several crit-

ical rural infrastructure projects were initiated using these funds, focusing on mobile towers and BharatNet-based broadband connectivity. By January 2026, 23,994 mobile towers were commissioned, benefiting 2,14,921 gram panchayats across the state.

New Water Plants Launched to Ensure Safe Drinking Water in Chandragiri Villages

Tirupati District, Chandragiri, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

Chandragiri MLA Pulivarthi Nani inaugurated new water treatment plants under the NTR Sujala Sravanthi Scheme in Adenapalli, Pulivarthivarpalli, and Shankamviri Palli villages of Pakala Mandal on Thursday. The initiative aims to provide safe and clean drinking water to rural communities and strengthen public health infrastructure across the constituency. The MLA was welcomed by mandal-level officials, coalition leaders, and local workers, highlighting the community’s enthusiasm for improved water facilities. The new plants, funded with approximately Rs. 28.15 lakh under TUDCA grants, were officially launched by switching on the plant motors. Following the inauguration, purified water was distributed to village women through taps, ensuring immediate access to safe drinking water.



Addressing the gathering, MLA Pulivarthi Nani emphasized the government’s commitment to public health, stating, “Providing safe drinking water in every village is a key objective of the coalition government. Our firm resolve is to ensure that every resident has access to clean water, which is essential for health and well-being.” Officials and local leaders praised the project, noting that it would significantly reduce waterborne illnesses and

improve overall community health. The MLA also reiterated that the government is focused on expanding water infrastructure across all rural areas to ensure equitable access and sustainability. This project is part of the broader NTR Sujala Sravanthi initiative, which aims to upgrade rural water facilities, enhance water management, and promote public health in Andhra Pradesh. By implementing mod-

ern water treatment systems, the government hopes to provide long-term solutions for safe drinking water in villages and set a benchmark for rural development. The inauguration ceremony reflected the joint effort of government authorities, coalition leaders, and local communities, demonstrating the state’s commitment to health, hygiene and inclusive rural development.

Tirupati Police Warn Public Against Fake Online Trading Apps

Tirupati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Tirupati District Police have registered a cyber fraud case after a resident was duped through a fake online trading application. The incident occurred within the Alipiri Police Station jurisdiction, involving a fraudulent app called “AIKYA-LP” and a WhatsApp group named “Victory Pioneers Capitals.”

According to the complaint filed by P. Firoz Babu (42), Shivajyoti Nagar, Tirupati, unknown individuals misled him with promises of high profits, persuading him to invest through the trading signals shared in the WhatsApp group. Initially, the app showed fake



gains of up to Rs. 60 lakh, but when Mr. Babu attempted to withdraw funds, access was blocked. Between February 26 and March 10, 2026, the fraudsters reportedly extorted Rs.

8,50,000 from him. The Alipiri Police have launched an investigation to identify the cybercriminals, freeze the associated bank accounts, and recover the de-

frauded money. Tirupati SP L. Subbarayudu, IPS, warned the public about sophisticated online scams using modern technology, particularly targeting unsuspecting investors with promises of high returns. He advised people to remain vigilant and avoid investing in unknown apps or joining suspicious WhatsApp/Telegram groups. Precautionary measures suggested by Tirupati Police:

- Avoid joining unknown WhatsApp or Telegram groups.
- Be skeptical of promises of unusually high returns.
- Do not download unverified mobile apps.

- Invest only in SEBI-registered trading platforms.
- Verify company credibility before transferring money.
- Report any suspicious activity immediately to the 1930 Cybercrime Helpline or register complaints online at <https://cybercrime.gov.in>.
- Inform your bank immediately to potentially freeze transactions and prevent further loss.

The Tirupati Police reiterated that timely reporting significantly increases chances of fund recovery. Authorities continue to take strict action against cyber frauds while urging residents to stay alert and exercise caution online.

Rare Urology Surgeries Successfully Performed at SVIMS, Tirupati

Tirupati, April 01, 2026 | TPN Bureau

The Urology Department at Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS), Tirupati has recently conducted several rare and complex surgeries, the hospital’s Medical Superintendent, Dr. Ram, announced.

Dr. Anil Kumar, Head of the Urology Department, stated that patient inflow has significantly increased from across Andhra Pradesh and neighboring states, with thousands of urology operations performed annually. Among these, several rare and challenging surgeries were successfully carried out in recent months.

1. A 49-year-old patient from Aitepalli, Tirupati district, suffering from kidney cancer along with kidney stones, underwent a “multiple minimally invasive” and “nephron-sparing” surgery. Using a combination of endoscopic and laparoscopic techniques, doctors removed the cancerous portion and stones while preserving the kidney. Previously, such cases often required complete kidney removal. The patient recovered fully

and was discharged within three days.

2. A 7-year-old boy from Srikalahasti diagnosed with testicular cancer underwent surgery to remove the affected testis while preserving the remaining one, thereby safeguarding future fertility.

3. A 19-year-old youth from Madanapalli suffering from tuberculosis-related testicular masses had only the affected tissue removed, preserving the healthy portion of the testis.

Dr. R.V. Kumar, Deputy Director of SVIMS, praised Dr. Anil Kumar and the team for conducting these exceptional surgeries. He highlighted that such rare procedures are performed regularly at SVIMS, fully funded under Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva and Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) life-saving schemes, ensuring patients receive treatment free of cost.

Additionally, children holding Dr. NTR Vaidya Seva cards or EHS cards are eligible for free urology treatment. Authorities urged the public to take full advantage of these life-saving medical services.

Kurnool, April 2, 2026 | TPN Bureau

District Collector Dr. A. Siri has directed strict action if the quality of food served in student hostels is found lacking, emphasizing the importance of nutrition and overall welfare for students. On Wednesday, Dr. Siri conducted a surprise inspection at the Government Girls’ Welfare Hostel in Gonegandla Mandal, reviewing kitchen stores, food supplies, and hostel facilities.

During the inspection, the Collector checked the store room, noting some dried chillies and expressing dissatisfaction with the overall quality of vegetables. He instructed officials to main-

tain high standards in food provision, ensure cleanliness in hostel premises, and provide nutritious, tasty meals to students without compromise. Officials were reminded that the government continuously monitors food, education, and hostel services, and any lapses must be addressed immediately.

Dr. Siri also interacted with students to understand their experiences regarding food quality, weekly nutrition like eggs and pulses, drinking water, toilet hygiene, and other hostel amenities. He stressed that the student phase is the foundation of life, and by setting high goals and working diligently, students can achieve success in the future. The Collector addressed is-

issues of child marriage, advising students that marriage should occur only after achieving stability in life. He encouraged students to face challenges with courage, focus on studies, avoid distractions from social media, and cultivate discipline and perseverance to reach greater heights.

The inspection and awareness initiative included participation from District Social Welfare Officer Radhika, BC Welfare Officer Prasoon, and MPDO Mani Manjari. The Collector reiterated that student welfare, education, and proper nutrition are critical priorities, and officials must ensure all measures are implemented effectively and responsibly.



Congress "Dangerous", Vote For 'Viksit Assam': PM Modi's Big Pitch Ahead Of Polls

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a sharp attack on the Congress during his campaign for the 2026 Assam Assembly elections, calling the party "dangerous" for the state and urging voters to support development under the BJP. The remarks came during his first election rally at Gogamukh in Assam's Dhemaji district ahead of polling scheduled for April 9.



Addressing the rally, the Prime Minister criticised the Congress for attempting to introduce the Communal Violence Bill before the 2014 general elections. He claimed that such policies would have harmed Assam's social fabric

and created divisions in society. Modi argued that the Congress had consistently pursued policies that threatened peace

"Viksit Assam" (developed Assam), highlighting development projects undertaken in the state over the past decade. He said the BJP government had focused on infrastructure growth, economic progress and improving living standards, contrasting this with what he described as the Congress's record of instability.

The Prime Minister also expressed confidence that the BJP would return to power for a third consecutive term in the state. He emphasised that continued support for the party would ensure faster development and long-term growth for Assam. The BJP is aiming for a hat-trick victory in the north-eastern state, where elections

for all 126 assembly constituencies will be held in a single phase.

The Assam Assembly elections are scheduled for April 9, with counting of votes set for May 4. Political campaigning has intensified across the state, with both the BJP and Congress stepping up efforts to win over voters.

Modi's remarks mark a strong start to the BJP's campaign push, signalling a development-focused narrative while sharply criticising the opposition. With voting just days away, the contest in Assam is expected to witness intense campaigning from all major political parties.



Census 2027 Kicks Off Today; 33 Questions In Six-Month Phase 1

India's Census 2027 has officially begun on April 1, marking the start of the first phase of the country's largest population-mapping exercise. The initial phase, known as house-listing operations, will run until September 30, with each state and Union Territory conducting the survey within a designated 30-day window. The second phase, population enumeration, is scheduled to begin from March 1 next year.

During Phase 1, officials will ask 33 questions focusing on households, housing conditions and access to amenities. The data collected will serve as the foundation for the next stage of population enumeration. The exercise aims to create a comprehensive database covering living conditions, infrastructure availability and socio-economic indicators across the country.

The questions will include details such as building number, type of house, construction material used for floor, walls and roof, number of rooms and households residing in the structure. Enumerators will also gather information on access to basic facilities like drinking water, electricity, toilets, internet connectivity and availability of assets such as vehicles.

Officials will further collect

demographic details including the name and gender of the head of the household, ownership status of the house, and whether the family belongs to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Other questions will relate to living arrangements, number of married couples, and household consumption patterns. Census 2027 will be conducted in two phases, with the first focusing on housing data and the second covering population details. The reference date for the population count is set for March 2027. This census also marks a significant shift as it introduces digital tools and self-enumeration options, allowing citizens to submit details online before enumerators visit households.

The upcoming census is particularly significant as it will include caste enumeration, a long-standing demand from several political parties and social groups. The move comes more than six decades after caste data was last fully collected nationwide.

Conducted once every ten years, the census plays a crucial role in policymaking, welfare planning and resource allocation. With the launch of Phase 1, India begins one of the world's largest data-collection exercises aimed at providing updated demographic and socio-economic information.

MK Stalin Kickstarts Poll Campaign, Slams AIADMK Ahead Of Tamil Nadu Elections

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Tuesday launched his campaign for the upcoming Assembly elections, launching a sharp attack on the opposition AIADMK and its alliance partners. The campaign kickoff comes ahead of the single-phase polling scheduled for April 23 in the state.

Addressing supporters, Stalin criticised AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami, claiming he lacked long-term vision and leadership qualities. He also targeted the AIADMK-BJP alliance, describing it as an "anti-Tamil and opportunistic alliance" that, he alleged, would not serve the interests of the state.

The Chief Minister used the rally to highlight his government's welfare initiatives and development projects, urging voters to back the ruling DMK for continuity and stability. Stalin emphasised that his administration had focused on infrastructure growth, welfare schemes and economic development during its tenure.



He also announced that free pump sets without electricity meters would be provided to more than 20 lakh farmers, calling it a major initiative aimed at boosting agricultural productivity and supporting rural communities. The promise is part of the DMK's broader election strategy targeting farmers and rural voters.

Stalin further alleged that the opposition alliance lacked unity and clear policy direction. He argued that the AIADMK-BJP partnership was driven by political compulsion rather than shared goals, and urged voters to reject what he

described as divisive politics.

The Tamil Nadu Assembly elections will be held on April 23 to elect all 234 members, with counting of votes scheduled for May 4. Political campaigning has intensified across the state, with major parties stepping up outreach efforts in the final weeks before polling.

The launch of Stalin's campaign marks the beginning of an intense political battle in Tamil Nadu, with the ruling DMK seeking a second consecutive term while the AIADMK-led opposition attempts to regain power.

RBI's New Digital Payment Rules From April 1: What Changes For UPI, Cards, Wallets

The Reserve Bank of India has introduced new digital payment rules effective April 1, aimed at strengthening security and reducing fraud in online transactions. The changes will affect users of UPI, debit and credit cards, and mobile wallets across the country.

Mandatory Two-Factor Authentication

Under the new framework, two-factor authentication (2FA) is now mandatory for all digital transactions. This means payments made via UPI, cards, or wallets will require two independent verification steps instead of relying only on OTPs. OTPs will still be used, but they must be combined with another factor such as PIN, password, fingerprint, or facial recognition.

OTP Alone No Longer Enough

The RBI has effectively ended OTP-only payments, which were considered vulnerable to fraud. Now, every transaction will require an additional verification layer to improve security and reduce cybercrime risks.

Risk-Based Authentication Introduced

Banks and payment platforms will implement risk-based authentication, meaning



high-value or suspicious transactions may require extra verification steps. Low-risk transactions on trusted devices may still be processed smoothly with minimal friction.

Stronger Protection Against Fraud

The new rules also increase bank accountability for digital fraud. Financial institutions will be required to improve fraud detection systems and speed up complaint resolution. In certain cases, customers may also be eligible for compensation if fraud occurs.

What Changes For Users

• Payments may take slightly longer due to additional

verification

• UPI, cards, and wallet transactions will become more secure

• New devices or large payments may need extra authentication

• Fraud protection and dispute resolution mechanisms will improve

The RBI's move comes as India's digital payments ecosystem continues to expand rapidly, increasing the need for stronger safeguards. While users may experience an extra step during transactions, the changes aim to make online payments safer and more reliable.



'Where Was PM?': Kharge, Rijiju Clash In Rajya Sabha Over West Asia Crisis Discussion

A heated exchange broke out in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday as Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju sparred over the Opposition's demand for a discussion on the ongoing West Asia crisis and its impact on India.

Kharge criticised the government for not agreeing to a detailed debate in Parliament, questioning Prime Minister Narendra Modi's absence from the all-party meeting on the crisis. He also raised concerns over the impact of the conflict on LPG supplies, fuel prices and inflation, urging the government to address the issue comprehensively in the House.

During the discussion, Kharge asked, "Where was your PM?" and accused the government of avoiding parliamentary scrutiny on an issue affecting millions of citizens. He argued that the crisis in West Asia, including disruptions to shipping routes, could significantly affect India's energy security and lead to rising costs for households.

Responding to the criticism, Rijiju rejected the Opposition's allegations and said the government was not running away from any discussion. He pointed out that ministers had already made statements in Parliament regarding the West

Asia situation and its potential implications.

The exchange turned sharper when Kharge accused the Treasury benches of not allowing adequate discussion, prompting Rijiju to counter that the government had been transparent and responsive. The verbal duel led to tense moments in the House as members from both sides intervened.

The Opposition has been demanding a full-fledged debate on the crisis, citing concerns over rising fuel prices, LPG shortages and the broader economic impact. The government, however, maintained that the matter had already been addressed through ministerial statements and briefings.

The ongoing West Asia conflict has triggered global oil price volatility and concerns about supply disruptions, making it a key political issue domestically. The Rajya Sabha exchange reflects growing political tensions over how the government is handling the situation and communicating its strategy to Parliament.

The sharp confrontation underscores the political heat surrounding the crisis, with the Opposition pushing for accountability and the government defending its response amid growing economic concerns.

Commercial LPG Prices Hiked By 195.5; No Change In Domestic Rates

Commercial LPG cylinder prices were increased by 195.50 on April 1, driven by a surge in global oil prices linked to the widening West Asia conflict. The hike affects businesses such as restaurants, hotels and catering services that rely on commercial gas cylinders.

Following the revision, a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi now costs 2,078.50, according to state-owned oil companies. The latest increase comes after a previous hike of 114.50 per cylinder on March 1, reflecting continued volatility in

global energy markets. Despite the increase in commercial cylinder rates, domestic LPG prices remain unchanged. A 14.2-kg household cooking gas cylinder continues to cost 913 in Delhi, with the last revision being a 60 increase on March 7.

The price hike is largely attributed to rising crude oil prices amid geopolitical tensions in West Asia, which have disrupted supply chains and increased global fuel costs. Commercial LPG prices are revised monthly, and fluctuations are typically influenced by international energy markets and currency

movements.

Commercial LPG cylinders are primarily used by hotels, restaurants and other businesses, while domestic cylinders are meant for household consumption. By keeping domestic rates unchanged, authorities aim to limit the financial burden on households despite global price pressures. The latest revision marks another increase in fuel costs amid rising geopolitical uncertainty. Analysts expect prices to remain volatile in the coming weeks, depending on global crude oil trends and developments in West Asia.



Kolkata Industrialist Pawan Ruia Arrested Over 315 Crore Cyber Fraud

Kolkata-based industrialist Pawan Ruia has been arrested by the Cyber Crime Wing of West Bengal Police in connection with an alleged 315-crore cyber fraud case, officials said on Tuesday. The arrest was made near a five-star hotel in the New Town area on the outskirts of Kolkata.

According to police, the case came to light after a senior citizen from Salt Lake was allegedly cheated of 93 lakh through a fraudulent mobile application that promised high investment returns. Investigators later traced the defrauded funds to bank accounts linked to shell companies allegedly connected to Ruia and his associates.

Authorities said the case appears to be part of a larger interstate cyber fraud racket. During the investigation, officials found that the money was routed through multiple corporate bank accounts and layered financial transactions before being laundered, allegedly using cryptocurrency and shell companies.

Police sources revealed that the network may be linked to

as many as 1,379 cyber fraud complaints across the country, indicating the scale of the alleged operation. Investigators also suspect that the proceeds were transferred abroad through complex financial channels.

The arrest followed a decision by the Calcutta High Court to vacate interim protection earlier granted to Ruia and his family members, clearing the way for police action. Officials said further arrests may follow as the probe expands into the wider network.

Ruia has been booked under charges including cheating, criminal breach of trust and forgery. Police have also indicated that other members of the Ruia family are under investigation.

Authorities are continuing to examine financial records, digital devices and banking transactions as part of the ongoing investigation. The case highlights growing concerns over sophisticated cyber fraud networks using shell companies and cryptocurrency to move illicit funds across borders.

UK to Lead Global Effort With 35 Nations to Reopen Strait of Hormuz

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has announced plans to bring together 35 countries in a coordinated effort to reopen the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, following rising tensions in the Middle East that have disrupted global shipping and energy supplies. The initiative comes amid growing concerns about economic instability, fuel shortages, and increasing energy prices worldwide.

Starmer said the United Kingdom would host an urgent international meeting aimed at developing diplomatic and security solutions to restore safe passage through the narrow but cru-

cial waterway. The participating countries have already agreed to collaborate on ensuring freedom of navigation, protecting commercial vessels, and stabilizing global energy markets affected by the disruption.

The proposed plan involves a two-stage approach. First, diplomatic discussions will focus on reducing tensions and facilitating negotiations between regional stakeholders. Once conditions improve, military and security planners from participating nations will work together to design measures that ensure long-term maritime security in the region. The objective is to prevent further disruptions and guarantee safe

transit for ships carrying oil, gas, and other essential commodities.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most vital maritime routes, with roughly one-fifth of global oil and gas shipments passing through it daily. Any disruption to this route has immediate consequences for global energy markets, leading to price fluctuations, supply shortages, and economic uncertainty. Starmer warned that prolonged instability could trigger a global economic shock similar to past energy crises, affecting both developed and developing economies.

The announcement also comes at a time of height-

ened diplomatic tensions between Western allies. The United States has criticized several countries for not participating in military actions in the region, urging them instead to take responsibility for securing their own energy supplies. Despite this pressure, the United Kingdom has maintained its stance of prioritizing diplomacy and coordination rather than direct military involvement.

Starmer emphasized that the UK remains committed to working with international partners to stabilize the situation and protect global trade. He highlighted that cooperation among nations is essential to maintaining eco-



economic stability and preventing further escalation. The initiative to unite 35

countries marks a significant international effort to reopen one of the world's

most critical shipping routes and restore confidence in global energy markets.

Oil Disruptions From Iran War May Double This Month, Europe Also at Risk

Global oil supply disruptions caused by the ongoing Iran conflict are expected to double this month and begin affecting Europe, the head of the International Energy Agency (IEA) has warned. The crisis, triggered by escalating tensions in the Middle East and disruption to key shipping routes, is already being described as one of the biggest energy shocks in modern history.

According to the IEA chief, the closure and instability around the Strait of Hormuz have significantly reduced oil supplies. Around 12 million barrels of oil per day have already been lost due to the conflict, and the agency expects losses in April to be twice as high as those recorded in March. The disruption is already affecting Asian markets and is likely to hit European countries in the coming weeks as supply shortages worsen.

The situation has been aggravated by damage to energy infrastructure across the Middle East. Reports suggest that nearly 40 major energy facilities have been affected during



the conflict, slowing production and export capabilities. The resulting supply gap is pushing up fuel prices and raising concerns about inflation and slower economic growth globally.

Experts warn that shortages of jet fuel and diesel are particularly concerning. These fuels are essential for transportation, aviation, and industrial operations, and reduced availability could disrupt supply chains and economic activity. European economies, which rely heavily on imported energy, are especially vulnerable if disruptions continue.

The energy agency is also considering releasing additional emergency oil reserves to stabilize markets. Earlier,

member countries released a record volume of oil from strategic reserves to offset supply losses, but analysts caution that continued disruptions could outweigh these efforts.

The Strait of Hormuz remains one of the world's most important energy chokepoints, handling roughly one-fifth of global oil shipments. Any prolonged disruption to this route could lead to significant price increases and economic uncertainty worldwide. With tensions still high and energy infrastructure damaged, the IEA warned that the current crisis could evolve into one of the largest global energy disruptions ever, affecting not just Asia and Europe but economies across the world.

Iran War May End in 2 Weeks, But Oil Supply Could Take Longer to Stabilise: Trump

US President Donald Trump has suggested that the ongoing Iran war could end within two weeks, raising hopes of easing global tensions. However, analysts warn that even if fighting stops soon, disruptions to global oil supplies—particularly through the Strait of Hormuz and Bab-al-Mandab—could take significantly longer to normalise.

Trump made the remark while responding to concerns over rising fuel prices and supply shortages caused by the conflict. He indicated that the United States could conclude military operations quickly, potentially without securing an agreement to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil transit routes. This has sparked concern that the war may end before energy supply chains are fully restored.

Experts say that reopening shipping lanes and restoring oil flows is a complex process that could take six to eight weeks even after hostilities end. They also warn that every additional week of fighting



could delay recovery by another seven to fourteen days, prolonging instability in global energy markets. The Strait of Hormuz handles nearly one-fifth of global oil shipments, making it one of the most important chokepoints for global energy supply. Meanwhile, tensions have also spread to the

Bab-al-Mandab Strait, another critical route linking the Red Sea to global markets. Disruptions in both locations have intensified fears of prolonged shortages and rising fuel prices worldwide.

Even if the conflict ends quickly, analysts caution that logistical challenges such as

clearing shipping backlogs, repairing damaged infrastructure, and restoring tanker traffic could slow recovery. Insurance costs for vessels and continued security concerns may further delay normal operations. Markets have reacted cautiously to Trump's comments. While hopes of a shorter conflict have provided some relief, uncertainty over energy supply remains high. Experts warn that global oil prices could remain volatile until maritime routes are fully reopened and supply chains stabilise. The situation has also raised concerns for countries heavily dependent on imported energy, including those in Asia and Europe. Prolonged disruptions could lead to higher fuel prices, inflation, and slower economic growth worldwide.

Although Trump's statement suggests a possible end to the conflict in the near future, the timeline for restoring global oil supply remains uncertain. Analysts believe that even with a ceasefire, the economic effects of the crisis could continue for several weeks, keeping energy markets under pressure.



Iranian Crude Set to Return to India as First Tanker Since 2019 Heads to Gujarat

India may soon receive its first shipment of Iranian crude oil in nearly five years, as a tanker carrying about 600,000 barrels is expected to dock at a Gujarat port this week. The development comes amid the ongoing Iran-US conflict and growing concerns over global oil supply disruptions.

The tanker, named Ping Shun and flying the Eswatini flag, is currently sailing from Iran's Kharg Island—the country's main oil export hub—and is expected to reach Vadinar in Gujarat around April 4. If the shipment arrives as planned, it would mark India's first import of Iranian crude since May 2019, when purchases were halted following US sanctions on Tehran. The identity of the buyer remains unclear, but Vadinar hosts a major private refinery operated by Russia-backed Nayara Energy. The port also serves as a distribution hub supplying crude to other inland refineries, including facilities in Madhya Pradesh. This has raised speculation that Indian refiners may be looking to revive oil imports from Iran, even if temporarily, to ease supply pressures caused by the ongoing conflict.

Market analysts say the ship-

ment could signal a possible revival of India-Iran oil trade. Data from commodity tracking firm Kpler indicates the vessel loaded crude in early March and has declared Vadinar as its destination. However, analysts caution that such tankers sometimes change routes mid-journey, especially when carrying sanctioned oil, making the final destination uncertain.

The timing of the shipment is significant. The Iran war has disrupted oil supply chains, forcing countries to look for alternative sources and rebuild strategic reserves. Indian refiners are also facing tightening inventories, making Iranian crude an attractive short-term option if geopolitical conditions allow.

India was once one of Iran's largest oil buyers, importing substantial volumes before sanctions forced a halt in 2019. The arrival of the Ping Shun tanker could mark a temporary easing of restrictions or a strategic move to secure additional supplies during the ongoing crisis.

While it remains uncertain whether this shipment will lead to sustained imports, the development signals a potential shift in India's energy strategy amid global oil market volatility.

Saudi Arabia, UAE Ready to Send Ground Forces to Reopen Strait of Hormuz: Report

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are reportedly considering sending ground troops to help reopen the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, marking a major escalation in the ongoing Iran conflict. The move comes as global oil supplies remain disrupted and pressure mounts to restore one of the world's most important energy routes.

According to reports, the UAE is reviewing how it could play a direct military role in securing the Strait of Hormuz, following Saudi Arabia's earlier willingness to take similar steps. The development comes amid growing regional tensions and continued disruption to shipping lanes caused by the ongoing conflict.

The proposal reportedly includes forming a coalition with the United States and other al-



lied countries to forcibly reopen the waterway if diplomatic efforts fail. UAE diplomats are said to be pushing for a United Nations Security Council resolution that would authorise military action to restore safe passage through the Strait. Bahrain, a close US ally that hosts the US Navy's Fifth Fleet,

is also supporting the move, with a vote on the proposal expected soon. The latest development follows comments from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who indicated that Israel is building new alliances with key regional countries to counter Iran. The possibility of Gulf nations joining

the conflict directly signals a significant shift in regional dynamics and raises concerns about further escalation.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most critical oil chokepoints, with a large portion of global crude oil shipments passing through the narrow waterway each day.

Continued disruption has already affected global energy markets, pushing up fuel prices and raising fears of supply shortages in Asia, Europe, and other regions dependent on Middle East oil.

Security experts warn that deploying ground forces to reopen the Strait could increase tensions and risk direct confrontation with Iran. However, Gulf countries argue that prolonged disruption threatens their economies and global energy stability, making intervention increasingly likely.

The willingness of Saudi Arabia and the UAE to put "boots on the ground" marks a turning point in the conflict. If implemented, the move could significantly expand the scale of the war, while also increasing efforts to restore oil flows and stabilize global energy markets.

Iran Leaders Appear in Public, Outline Conditions to End War



Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and President Masoud Pezeshkian made a rare public appearance in Tehran, outlining how the ongoing war could come to an end while signalling that Iran is prepared to continue fighting if necessary. Their appearance comes amid escalating tensions and growing speculation about possible diplomatic efforts to end the conflict.

The two leaders were seen in public for the first time since recent US-Israeli strikes that killed several senior Iranian officials. The last time they were seen together publicly was during Iranian Quds Day, just days before Iran's security chief Ali Larijani was killed in the attacks. Their appearance was widely viewed as an at-

tempt to project stability and confidence amid the ongoing conflict.

Speaking to media, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi stressed that Iran is capable of defending itself and would

continue to resist military pressure. He indicated that Iran was not seeking to escalate the conflict but would respond strongly if attacks continued. Araghchi also signalled that diplomacy remained pos-

sible, provided Iran's sovereignty and security concerns were respected.

President Masoud Pezeshkian also outlined conditions under which Iran would consider ending the war. He said Iran is willing to stop fighting if there are guarantees that future attacks will not take place and if the country's rights and security interests are acknowledged. The president added that Iran has both the will and capability to continue the conflict if those conditions are not met. The leaders' statements come at a time when the war continues to expand across the region, affecting energy supplies and global markets. Iran has repeatedly said it is open to a "permanent end" to hostilities but insists that any agree-

ment must prevent future conflicts and respect its strategic interests. Meanwhile, Israel has signalled that its military campaign will continue. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recently stated that operations against Iran were "not over" and vowed to keep targeting what he described as threats from Tehran.

The public appearance by Iran's top leadership is seen as a significant moment in the conflict, as it signals both readiness for diplomacy and determination to continue fighting. While the possibility of negotiations remains uncertain, the statements suggest that Iran is open to ending the war—but only under conditions it considers fair and lasting.

Markets Rally On De-Escalation Hopes; Nifty Above 22,600, Sensex Jumps 1,187 Points

Indian equity markets staged a strong rebound on April 1, with benchmark indices ending sharply higher amid hopes of easing geopolitical tensions and broad-based buying across sectors. The rally helped markets snap a two-day losing streak and begin the new financial series on a positive note.

The BSE Sensex surged 1,186.77 points, or 1.65 percent, to close at 73,134.32, while the NSE Nifty gained 348 points, or 1.56 percent, to settle at 22,679.40, comfortably above the 22,600 mark. Despite some intraday profit-

booking, markets held firm and ended the session with solid gains.

The broader market outperformed the benchmarks, with mid-cap stocks rising 2.2 percent and small-cap shares advancing 3.3 percent. Sector-wise, most indices ended in the green, reflecting strong investor sentiment across the board. Defence stocks led the rally, with the sector index surging more than 5 percent. Capital goods, media, and PSU bank indices gained around 3 percent each. Other sectors including auto, consumer durables, IT, metals, realty, FMCG, telecom, and

private banks also posted gains ranging between 1 and 2 percent. Pharma was the only sector to end in the red, slipping about 1 percent.

The rally was largely driven by improving global sentiment after signs of de-escalation in tensions between the United States and Iran. The easing concerns boosted investor confidence and triggered widespread buying across sectors.

Global cues also supported the domestic markets, with international equities rising on optimism around geopolitical stability. Investors also returned to riskier assets fol-

lowing recent volatility, contributing to the strong recovery.

Analysts noted that the market opened on a positive note with a gap-up start and maintained momentum throughout the session, despite minor profit-taking during the day. The strong close reflected sustained buying interest and improving risk appetite among investors.

The sharp rebound marks a strong start to the new financial period, with investors now watching global developments, crude oil prices, and institutional flows for further direction.



PC Jeweller Shares Snap Two-Day Losses, Jump 9%

Shares of PC Jeweller rebounded sharply on Wednesday, rising nearly 9 percent and snapping a two-day losing streak amid a broader market rally and strong buying interest.

The stock had fallen around 7 percent over the previous two sessions but recovered most of the losses as investor sentiment improved across the market. The surge also came in line with gains in benchmark indices, which ended higher on hopes of easing geopolitical tensions.

During the session, PC Jeweller shares witnessed strong buying and settled with solid gains. The recovery follows recent volatility in the stock, which had been under pressure in recent trading sessions.

The broader market sentiment remained positive, with mid-cap and small-cap stocks also witnessing strong buying interest. Analysts attributed the rally to improved global cues and renewed risk appetite



among investors.

PC Jeweller has seen heightened volatility in recent weeks. The stock had earlier touched a fresh 52-week low after a series of declines, making Wednesday's rally a notable turnaround in the short term.

Market participants are now watching whether the stock can sustain the momentum after

the sharp rebound. Technical analysts note that continued buying interest and positive broader market sentiment will be key factors influencing the stock's near-term direction.

Despite the recent surge, experts advise investors to remain cautious, citing the stock's history of volatility and sharp price movements.

15% India Sell-Off Didn't Create 'No-Brainer' Bargains: Bernstein

Despite a nearly 15 percent correction in Indian equities this year, the sell-off has failed to create widespread bargain opportunities, according to a report by global brokerage Bernstein. The firm noted that while investors expected attractive valuations after the decline, clear "no-brainer" buying opportunities remain limited.

Bernstein reviewed 94 large-cap and mid-cap companies—excluding financials—to assess whether the correction had made stocks significantly cheaper. However, the analysis found that the market still lacks broad-based undervaluation, contrary to expectations following the sharp fall.

The report highlighted that Indian stocks are down about 15 percent year-to-date, yet bargains remain scarce. Instead, the brokerage observed that the market has become increasingly polarised, with limited middle ground between expensive and attractive



stocks.

Bernstein pointed out that consumer discretionary companies have been among the hardest hit, witnessing both earnings downgrades and share price declines. However, even after the correction, valuations in many sectors still do not qualify as compelling buy-

ing opportunities.

The brokerage suggested that investors should shift focus from broad market calls to stock-specific opportunities. "The best way to approach investing at this stage is to identify stock-specific dislocations across sectors," Bernstein said, indicating selective in-

vesting may outperform broader market bets.

The report also noted that large-cap stocks have been trading below their 10-year average relative to mid-caps since May 2023, marking one of the longest such stretches in recent years. This trend reflects shifting investor preferences and uneven performance across market segments.

Additionally, Bernstein warned that current macroeconomic conditions differ from previous market troughs. Rising geopolitical tensions, fuel supply risks and fiscal pressures are creating uncertainty, limiting the potential for a broad-based market rebound.

Overall, Bernstein believes that while the correction has improved valuations marginally, investors should avoid expecting easy gains across the board. Instead, careful stock selection and sector-specific opportunities may be the key strategy in the current market environment.

Kay Jay Forgings Files Draft Papers With SEBI To Raise 360 Crore Via IPO

Auto components manufacturer Kay Jay Forgings has filed draft papers with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to raise 360 crore through an initial public offering (IPO), according to its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP).

The proposed IPO will consist of a fresh issue of equity shares worth 300 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 60 crore by existing promoters. The company may also consider a pre-IPO placement of up to 40 crore, which, if completed, will reduce the size of the fresh issue accordingly.

Kay Jay Forgings plans to utilise the proceeds from the fresh issue primarily for capital expenditure, debt reduction and general corporate purposes. Around 118.8 crore will be used to set up a new forging and machining facility along with a solar power plant, while 90.51 crore will be allocated toward repayment of borrowings. The remaining funds will be used for general corporate needs.

Headquartered in Ludhiana, Kay Jay Forgings operates as a business-to-business precision engineering company that manufactures machined com-

ponents for original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) in the automotive sector. The company also caters to select non-automotive segments including farm equipment, mining equipment and consumer appliances.

The company is one of India's largest suppliers of crankshafts and crankshaft assemblies for two-wheelers, with an estimated market share of around 36 percent in FY25. This strong presence in the auto components segment has supported its growth and expansion plans.

Founded in 1983, Kay Jay Forgings has expanded its manufacturing footprint and product portfolio over the years, supplying precision-engineered components to domestic and international clients. The proposed IPO is expected to support its capacity expansion and strengthen its balance sheet.

The filing comes amid growing activity in the primary market, with several companies tapping capital markets to fund expansion plans and reduce debt. Market participants will now watch for SEBI approval and further details regarding pricing, timelines and listing plans.

Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar, Sai Parenteral's, Powerica Shares To List; What Latest GMP Signals

Shares of Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar (Exports), Sai Parenteral's, and Powerica are set to make their stock market debut on April 2, with grey market premium (GMP) trends indicating modest listing gains, particularly for Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar.

Among the three IPOs, Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar (Exports) is commanding the highest grey market premium. The stock is trading at a GMP of around 3.75, suggesting a potential listing gain of about



1.7-2 percent over the issue price. The 440-crore IPO was

subscribed 3.23 times during the March 24-27 bidding period, reflecting decent investor interest.

In contrast, Powerica is showing muted grey market signals, indicating limited listing gains. Earlier trends suggested the stock was trading at a minimal premium, pointing to a largely flat debut. Despite attracting investor funds, market expectations for listing gains remain subdued.

Similarly, Sai Parenteral's IPO is also expected to see a

subdued listing. Grey market data previously showed negligible or zero premium, suggesting that the shares may list close to their issue price. Investor demand for the issue remained relatively modest compared to Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar.

All three IPOs had opened for subscription between March 24 and March 27 and witnessed mixed investor participation amid volatile market conditions and geopolitical uncertainties. Market sentiment

during the period remained cautious, which also affected subscription levels and grey market trends.

Analysts note that while grey market premium provides an indication of listing expectations, it is unofficial and subject to change depending on market conditions at the time of listing. With subdued GMP trends and cautious market sentiment, investors are expected to watch the debut closely to gauge appetite in the primary market.

Online Travel Platform Travomint Files Confidential IPO Papers With SEBI

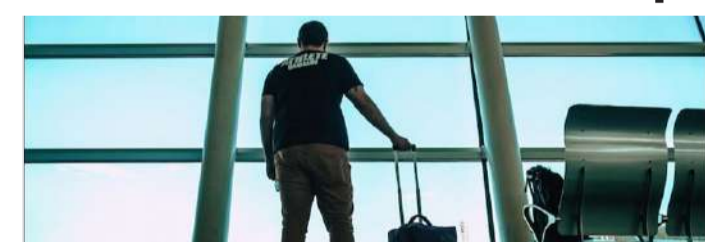
Online travel platform Travomint has filed confidential draft papers with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for an initial public offering (IPO), marking its first step toward a potential public listing. The filing was made by SNVA Traveltech Ltd, the company that operates the Travomint platform.

In a public notice, the Noida-based firm confirmed that it submitted its pre-filed draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) to SEBI and stock exchanges on March 30 through the confiden-

tial filing route. This method allows companies to seek regulatory feedback and refine IPO plans before publicly disclosing detailed financial information.

The confidential pre-filing route has gained popularity among companies planning to go public, as it provides greater flexibility in timing the issue and adjusting plans based on market conditions. Firms can also delay disclosure of sensitive financial data until they are ready to launch the offering.

Founded in 2017, Travomint



is a technology-driven online travel platform offering a comprehensive range of travel services. The company provides booking options for flights, hotels, car rentals, airport transfers and travel insurance through its website and mobile applications available on both

Android and iOS platforms.

The company caters to customers globally and positions itself as an all-in-one travel booking solution. Its business model focuses on digital-first services, aiming to simplify travel planning through integrated offerings and technolo-

gy-enabled platforms.

Details such as IPO size, offer structure, and timeline have not yet been disclosed, as the confidential filing allows the company to finalize these aspects after receiving regulatory feedback. The move comes amid rising IPO activity in India, with several technology-driven and consumer-internet companies preparing to tap public markets. Investors will now watch for further updates once Travomint moves ahead with a public filing and announces key details of the proposed offering.

Europe Stocks Surge Most In A Year On Hopes Of Iran War Conclusion

European stock markets recorded their biggest rally in a year as investors reacted positively to growing hopes that the Iran conflict could soon come to an end. The surge helped markets recover part of the heavy losses seen in March, when geopolitical tensions weighed heavily on investor sentiment.

The pan-European STOXX 600 index jumped about 2.5 percent, marking its strongest single-day gain in a year. The rally was broad-based, with energy, industrial and travel

stocks leading the gains as investors shifted back toward riskier assets.

Companies that had suffered steep declines last month led the recovery. Jet engine maker Rolls-Royce and German turbine manufacturer Siemens Energy rebounded sharply, gaining as much as 10 percent. The rebound reflected renewed confidence after investors moved away from defensive positions amid improving geopolitical outlook.

The rally came as global markets responded to signals suggesting the Iran

conflict could ease soon, reducing fears over energy supply disruptions and economic slowdown. Investors had earlier pulled back from equities due to concerns about rising oil prices, inflation risks and global growth uncertainty.

Banking and travel stocks also gained strongly, as falling oil prices and easing geopolitical tensions improved the outlook for economic activity. Lower crude prices typically benefit airlines and consumer-focused sectors by reducing operating costs and boosting demand.

European markets had faced significant pressure in March, with the STOXX 600 dropping around 8 percent — its steepest monthly decline in nearly four years — amid escalating Middle East tensions and oil price volatility. Wednesday's rally therefore marked a strong recovery from recent losses.

Despite the sharp rebound, analysts warned that volatility may persist until there is greater clarity on geopolitical developments. Market participants remain cautious, noting that sudden shifts

in the conflict could again impact energy prices and investor sentiment.

Global equities also climbed alongside European markets, supported by optimism over possible de-escalation. Investors are now closely monitoring diplomatic developments and oil market trends for further direction. The rally underscores how quickly investor sentiment can shift in response to geopolitical developments, with hopes of a resolution to the Iran conflict driving one of Europe's strongest market gains in the past year.



IPL 2026: KKR Face SRH in Crucial Early-Season Clash at Eden Gardens



The Eden Gardens surface is traditionally batting-friendly with good bounce and pace, making it ideal for stroke-play. However, spinners often come into play as the match progresses. Teams winning the toss may prefer chasing, especially with dew expected to influence the second innings.

Predicted XI

Kolkata Knight Riders:

Finn Allen, Cameron Green, AngkrishRaghuvanshi (wk), Rinku Singh, Ramandeep Singh, Anukul Roy, Sunil Narine, Varun Chakaravathy, Vaibhav Arora, Blessing Muzarabani, AjinkyaRahane (c)

Sunrisers Hyderabad:

Travis Head, Abhishek Sharma, Ishan Kishan (c & wk), Nitish Kumar Reddy, Heinrich Klaasen, Salil Arora, Aniket Verma, Harsh Dubey, Harshal Patel, JaydevUnadkat, Eshan-MalingaWith explosive batting lineups on both sides and favorable batting conditions, fans can expect a high-scoring contest in Kolkata as both teams search for their first win of IPL 2026.

Kolkata Knight Riders and Sunrisers Hyderabad will lock horns in an important early-season encounter of IPL 2026, with both teams looking to bounce back after defeats in their opening matches. The contest assumes significance as an early win could help build momentum in the tournament.

Kolkata Knight Riders hold a strong advantage in head-to-head encounters between the two sides. Out of 30 matches played, KKR have won 20 while Sunrisers Hyderabad have managed 10 victories. The historical dominance gives Kolkata a psychological edge heading into the match.

KKR are expected to rely

heavily on their spin attack, with Sunil Narine and Varun Chakaravathy likely to play key roles on the Eden Gardens pitch. The batting lineup featuring Finn Allen, Cameron Green, Rinku Singh and captain AjinkyaRahane will be tasked with delivering a strong performance after a disappointing start.

Sunrisers Hyderabad, on the other hand, boast a powerful batting unit led by Travis Head, Abhishek Sharma and Ishan Kishan. The presence of Heinrich Klaasen in the middle order further strengthens their batting depth. Their bowling attack is expected to be led by Harshal Patel and JaydevUnadkat.

Rizvi's Unbeaten 70 Powers Delhi Capitals to Six-Wicket Win Over LSG

In a thrilling IPL 2026 clash at the Ekana Stadium in Lucknow, Delhi Capitals (DC) bounced back from an early collapse to defeat Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) by six wickets, thanks to an outstanding unbeaten innings from Sameer Rizvi.

Chasing a target of 142 runs, DC lost four early wickets for just 26 runs, leaving the team in a precarious position. The top order's collapse put immense pressure on the Capitals, with LSG bowlers dominating the initial overs. However, Rizvi steadied the innings and formed a resolute partnership with Tristan Stubbs.

Rizvi scored a brilliant 70 not out off 47 balls, including five fours and four sixes, showcasing both composure and aggression under pressure. Stubbs supported him with a crucial 39 not out, and the duo shared an unbeaten 119-run partnership that carried DC over the line with 17 balls to spare. Their stand not

only stabilized the innings but completely shifted momentum in DC's favor after the early setbacks.

Earlier, Delhi's bowling unit had restricted LSG to 141 all out. Lungi Ngidi and T Natarajan were the standout performers with three wickets each, while Kuldeep Yadav contributed two more. For LSG, Abdul Samad (36) and Mitchell Marsh (35) offered resistance, but it was insufficient to set a challenging target. Rizvi's heroics earned him Player of the Match honors. The victory gave Delhi Capitals an early boost in the points table and highlighted the depth and resilience of their batting lineup. Fans and analysts praised Rizvi and Stubbs for transforming a difficult situation into a comfortable win, signaling DC's potential as strong contenders this season. With this win, Delhi Capitals have set a high benchmark for themselves, while LSG will need to regroup and strength-



en ahead of their upcoming fixtures. The match served as a reminder of the unpredictable and thrilling nature of the IPL, with young talents like Rizvi rising to the occasion when it mattered the

most. This performance underlined the importance of partnerships and composure under pressure, giving Delhi Capitals momentum and confidence for the matches ahead.

"RajbhogMithai": VaibhavSooryavanshi Reveals Secret Diet After 15-Ball Fifty

Rajasthan Royals teenage sensation VaibhavSooryavanshi grabbed headlines after smashing a sensational 15-ball half-century against Chennai Super Kings in IPL 2026 — and later revealed a surprising "secret" behind his explosive innings. The 15-year-old lit up the contest with a blistering knock during Rajasthan Royals' chase, helping his team secure a comfortable victory. His half-century, which came off just 15 balls, is the third-fastest in IPL history and underlined his growing reputation as one of the league's most exciting young talents. After the match, Sooryavanshi had a light-hearted exchange with teammate DhruvJurel, who congratulated him on the remarkable performance. In response, the youngster jokingly revealed his



pre-match "diet". "AajRajbhogmithaikhakegayaath match mein," he said, indicating he had eaten Rajbhog sweet before the game. The humorous remark quickly went viral among fans,

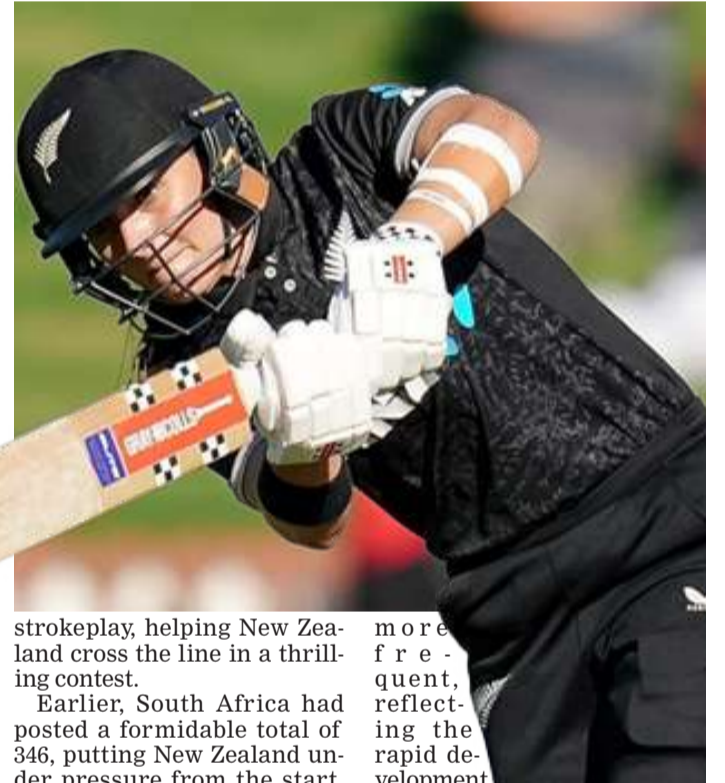
adding a playful touch to what was already a memorable performance. Sooryavanshi's fireworks came during a modest 128-run chase, where he dominated the bowlers with fearless strokeplay. His aggressive bat-

ting ensured Rajasthan Royals chased down the target comfortably with plenty of overs to spare. The teenage batter, who turned 15 only days before the match, smashed five sixes and four boundaries during his innings. His fearless approach against experienced international bowlers drew praise from fans and experts alike. Sooryavanshi has been regarded as a rising star since becoming one of the youngest players to make headlines in the league. His latest performance has further strengthened expectations that he could emerge as one of IPL 2026's breakout players. With explosive batting, fearless temperament and now even a viral "Rajbhog" diet story, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's IPL 2026 campaign has started in spectacular fashion.

New Zealand Women Script History, Break India's World Record in ODI Cricket

New Zealand Women created history after pulling off the highest successful run chase in Women's One-Day International cricket, surpassing India's previous world record. The landmark achievement came during the second ODI against South Africa at the Basin Reserve in Wellington. Chasing a massive target of 347 runs, New Zealand captain Amelia Kerr produced a sensational unbeaten knock of 179 runs off 139 balls to guide her side to a dramatic two-wicket victory. Her innings, which included 23 fours and a six, played a decisive role in helping New Zealand chase down the record total and level the three-match series 1-1.

The successful chase became the highest ever in Women's ODI history, breaking India's previous record set during the 2025 Women's Cricket World Cup. The match is now considered one of the greatest run chases in women's cricket history. New Zealand's chase was built around Kerr's calm yet aggressive approach. Despite losing wickets at regular intervals, the captain held the innings together and guided the team home in a tense finish. Her innings showcased a blend of composure and attacking



strokeplay, helping New Zealand cross the line in a thrilling contest. Earlier, South Africa had posted a formidable total of 346, putting New Zealand under pressure from the start. However, Kerr's remarkable performance ensured that the hosts achieved the target and kept the series alive. The victory not only marked a historic moment for New Zealand Women but also highlighted the growing competitiveness in women's cricket. Record-breaking chases and high-scoring encounters have become

more frequent, reflecting the rapid development of the women's game. With the series now level at 1-1, both teams will head into the deciding ODI with momentum and confidence. However, the match will be remembered primarily for Amelia Kerr's outstanding innings and New Zealand's record-breaking chase that rewrote the history books.

Lionel Messi In Tears During Emotional Argentina Farewell, Retirement Speculation Grows

Lionel Messi was overcome with emotion as he played what is expected to be his final match on Argentine soil, sparking fresh speculation about his international retirement after the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

The 38-year-old appeared visibly emotional before Argentina's international friendly against Zambia at La Bombonera in Buenos Aires. As fans filled the stadium with chants and tributes, Messi struggled to hold back tears while standing alongside his teammates, marking what could be his last appearance at home for the national team.

Despite the emotional atmosphere, Messi delivered a memorable performance, helping Argentina secure a convincing 5-0 victory. The Inter Miami star



set up the opening goal for Julián Alvarez before scoring himself just before half-time, registering his 116th international goal.

Messi also showed his trademark leadership during the match when Argentina were awarded a penalty. Instead of taking the shot himself, he handed the opportunity to veteran defender Nicolás Otamendi,

who converted successfully to extend Argentina's lead. The gesture drew praise from fans and highlighted Messi's influence on the team beyond goals. Argentina's dominance continued with an own goal from Zambia followed by a late strike from Valentín Barco, sealing a comfortable 5-0 win in what became an emotional night for the hosts.

The match served as a send-off ahead of Argentina's 2026 World Cup campaign, where they will face Algeria, Austria and Jordan in the group stage. Messi is expected to captain the defending champions as they aim for back-to-back titles.

While Messi has not officially confirmed his retirement, reports suggest the 2026 World Cup could mark the final chapter of his international career. His emotional reaction at La Bombonera only intensified speculation that the legendary forward is nearing the end of his remarkable journey with Argentina.

For fans, the night was more than just a victory — it was a heartfelt farewell to one of football's greatest players on home soil.

Tears And Despair As Italy Miss Out On FIFA World Cup Again

Four-time world champions Italy suffered another heartbreaking setback after failing to qualify for the FIFA World Cup 2026, triggering emotional scenes among players and fans. The Azzurri were eliminated after a dramatic playoff defeat to Bosnia and Herzegovina, marking their third consecutive absence from football's biggest tournament.

Italy entered the decisive playoff match with high expectations but endured a devastating finish. The game ended 1-1 after regulation time, forcing a penalty shootout where Bosnia and Herzegovina prevailed 4-1 to secure qualification. The defeat sparked scenes of heartbreak, with Italian players collapsing on

the pitch while Bosnia celebrated a historic achievement.

The loss extended Italy's World Cup drought, with the former champions now missing three straight editions — 2018, 2022, and 2026. It marks a remarkable fall for one of football's most decorated nations, which last appeared at the World Cup in 2014.

Italy had taken the lead in the contest, raising hopes of qualification. However, the momentum shifted dramatically after a red card reduced them to ten men. Bosnia equalised later in the match, setting up a tense finish before sealing victory in the shootout.

The final whistle triggered emotional scenes as Italian players were seen in tears



while fans reacted with shock and disbelief. The result sparked widespread criticism and renewed debate about the state of Italian football, with

calls for major reforms growing louder. Bosnia and Herzegovina, meanwhile, celebrated a historic qualification. The victory secured their place at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, where they will compete alongside the world's top teams. Italy's latest failure highlights a dramatic decline for a team that once dominated global football. After winning the World Cup in 2006 and regularly featuring in the tournament for decades, the Azzurri now face serious questions about their future. For Italian fans, the defeat represents another painful chapter — one filled with tears, despair, and disbelief as the footballing powerhouse once again misses out on the World Cup stage.

"Iran Will Be At The World Cup, Everything Is Fine": FIFA Chief Gianni Infantino

Gianni Infantino has dismissed concerns over Iran's participation in the 2026 FIFA World Cup, stating that the team will compete as scheduled despite ongoing geopolitical tensions.

Speaking during a friendly match between Iran and Costa Rica in Turkey, the FIFA president expressed confidence that Iran's World Cup campaign would proceed without disruption. "Iran will be at the World Cup," Infantino said, adding that he had met the players and coaching staff and that "everything is fine."

Infantino's comments come amid uncertainty surrounding Iran's participation due to the ongoing conflict in the region and concerns over security. However, the FIFA chief made it clear that there were no plans to alter the schedule, stressing that matches would be played according to the original draw. FIFA has maintained that politics should not interfere with the tournament, which will be jointly hosted by the United States, Canada and Mexico. The 2026 World Cup is scheduled to begin on June 11, with Iran placed in Group G.

Iran are set to open their campaign against New Zealand in Los Angeles on June 15.



They will then face Belgium, also in Los Angeles, before taking on Egypt in Seattle in their final group-stage match.

Infantino's visit to the Iranian team was unannounced and widely viewed as a show of support. He said he was pleased with the team's preparations and described Iran as a strong side capable of performing

well in the tournament. The statement is expected to ease concerns about Iran's participation and bring clarity amid growing speculation. With the World Cup just weeks away, FIFA's stance indicates that the tournament will proceed as planned, with Iran fully involved.



Andrea Jeremiah Not Part of YuganikiOkkadu 2

Andrea Jeremiah has confirmed that she will not be part of the sequel to YuganikiOkkadu. The original film, starring Karthi and directed by Selvaraghavan, enjoys a cult following among audiences and performed particularly well in Telugu.

The sequel, which was announced a few years ago, is expected to feature Dhanush in the lead role. However, the project has seen limited progress and has remained in development for some time. In a recent interview, Andrea Jeremiah, who played a crucial role in the first film, was asked whether she would return for the sequel. The actress clarified that she would not be part of the second installment. She stated

that working with director Selvaraghavan was extremely demanding, adding that the first film required around 200 days of shooting.

Andrea also mentioned that the experience of working on the first part helped her grow as an actor and prepared her to handle challenging roles in later projects. Despite stepping away from the sequel, she expressed respect for the project and wished the team well. YuganikiOkkadu, originally released in Tamil as AayirathilOruvan, became a cult classic over time, with fans eagerly waiting for updates on its sequel. Andrea's confirmation now clarifies that she will not reprise her role, even if the sequel moves forward.



Project Hail Mary Creates Box Office Storm, Earns \$322 Million in Just 10 Days

The Hollywood science-fiction film Project Hail Mary is creating a massive storm at the global box office. The film, which released recently, has received strong positive word-of-mouth and has already crossed \$322 million worldwide within just 10 days of its release, marking a sensational start.

Made on a budget of around \$200 million, the film opened to impressive collections from day one and continues to attract audiences across regions. After its initial release in the United States, the movie expanded to international markets including India, where it has also registered strong num-

bers and steady growth. In India, the film has surprised trade analysts by collecting 17.28 crore during its opening weekend. The day-wise performance also remained strong, with 2.8 crore on day one, 3.33 crore on day two, followed by consistent growth over the next few days. These figures highlight the growing interest among Indian audiences for high-concept science-fiction films. The film has also broken several records for Hollywood science-fiction movies in India. Reports suggest that Project Hail Mary has already collected 53% more than Interstellar, 35% higher than Dune: Part Two, and 89% more than The

Martian in comparable early-stage collections. The film stars Ryan Gosling in the lead role and is directed by Phil Lord and Christopher Miller. The story follows a physics teacher who is sent on a space mission to save Earth after scientists discover that the Sun's energy is declining, threatening life on the planet. With strong reviews, emotional storytelling, and grand visuals, Project Hail Mary is being compared to classic space dramas and is quickly emerging as one of the biggest Hollywood hits of 2026. If the momentum continues, the film is expected to achieve even bigger milestones in the coming weeks.

Melody Song "IdhiKalano" From Vijay Antony's Vanda Devullu Released

After delivering a blockbuster like Bichagadu, the multi-talented Vijay Antony is teaming up once again with director Sasi for their upcoming film Vanda Devullu. The project is produced by RamanjaneyuluJavvaji under the Sarvanth Ram Creations banner, presented by Vijay Antony Film Corporation and Fatima Vijay Antony. The film features Vijay Antony, Swasika, Ajay, Kavya, Shakthi, Padini, Karnas, BalajiSakthivel, Divakar, Aruldoss, Bucks, Vinodhini, Munishkanth, and Kodangi Vadivel in key roles. The recently released first-look poster has already generated strong buzz, especially with the intense, mass-appeal appearances of Vijay Antony and Swasika receiving terrific response. Now, the team has unveiled the soothing melody 'Idi Kalano', and it has instantly struck a chord with listeners. BalajiSriram's composition stands out as the heart of the song. The tune flows

like a gentle breeze. It's soft, immersive, and emotionally resonant. The arrangement beautifully blends subtle orchestration with a warm melodic structure, allowing the emotions to breathe. The interplay of strings and soft percussion elevates the romantic mood, making it a classic Vijay Antony-style soulful number with a fresh musical texture.

Lyricist Bhashyasree contributes deeply poetic lines that perfectly capture the delicate emotions of love, longing, and dreamlike connection. His writing paints vivid emotional imagery, making the song feel intimate and heartfelt. The soothing vocals of Shibhi Srinivasan and SreerashaBhagavatula further enrich the song. Their voices complement each other beautifully, delivering a calm yet emotionally charged performance. The tenderness in their rendition amplifies the song's romantic flavour, making every note

linger in the listener's mind.

The visuals featuring Vijay Antony and Swasika add another layer of charm. Their screen presence, subtle expressions, and the graceful way they portray their blooming affection make the song visually captivating. SB D a r - shanK - rirish handles the cinematography. B a l a - rirish is the music director, H a r - ish Yuvaraj serves as the editor, and Bhashyasree has penned the dialogues. The team promises more exciting updates in the coming weeks. Vanda Devullu is gearing up for a grand summer release in May, aiming to delight audiences as a special seasonal treat.



Ram Charan's Peddi Postponement Buzz – Real Delay Or Planned Leak?

Speculation is growing around Ram Charan's upcoming film Peddi, with reports suggesting the movie might not release as scheduled. The film was earlier expected to hit theatres on April 30, but fresh rumours claim the release could be pushed further, creating confusion among fans and industry circles.

The buzz intensified after producer SKN made comments during a recent event. While speaking about another film, he mentioned that June 26 was being considered for release because Peddi was also expected around the same time. His remarks quickly triggered speculation that the Ram Charan starrer might be postponed again.

However, the makers have remained silent so far, which has only added fuel to the rumours. With no official clarification



yet, the industry is divided on whether the postponement is genuine or if the leak was intentional to build hype around the film.

Interestingly, this is not the first time the film's release has been pushed. Initially planned for March, the makers later shifted the date to April 30 to

avoid compromising on quality and to complete pending work. Director BuchiBabu Sana is reportedly focusing heavily on delivering high production val-

ues, which could also contribute to the delay.

Meanwhile, industry insiders suggest that if Peddi misses the April slot, a late June release could be considered. This uncertainty has also prompted other filmmakers to closely watch the release calendar and adjust their own plans accordingly.

Adding to the speculation, recent reports also hinted at possible delays due to production schedules and promotional planning. Some sources indicate that the makers may deliberately allow such leaks to create curiosity and sustain buzz around the film.

Peddi, starring Ram Charan alongside Janhvi Kapoor, is one of the most anticipated pan-India films. With expectations already high, fans are now eagerly waiting for an official announcement regarding the release date.

Not Just A Star, But A Man With A Golden Heart: Prabhas Supports His Own People

Prabhas is widely known as a global star with massive box-office success, but beyond his on-screen image, the actor continues to win hearts with his humility and generosity. Despite achieving international fame, Prabhas remains grounded and maintains strong bonds with his friends and colleagues in the film industry.

One such example is his close friendship with Sharwanand. Their bond has been well-known in the industry, and Prabhas has often extended support to Sharwanand's films in the past, including Run Raja Run and Express Raja. Now, Prabhas has once again stepped forward to support his friend's upcoming biker-based



film. To promote the project, Prabhas recreated his iconic bike sequence from Mirchi, a scene that had earlier become

a sensation among fans. The recreated video, made especially for the biker film team, quickly went viral on social

media and grabbed widespread attention.

Known for his "Darling" persona, Prabhas continues to remain approachable and supportive of those close to him. Despite his global recognition and busy schedule, he frequently finds time to encourage friends and extend help whenever needed, further strengthening his reputation as a star with a golden heart. Over the years, Prabhas has earned admiration not only for his blockbuster films but also for his humble nature and strong relationships within the industry. His latest gesture once again proves that beyond the stardom and records, Prabhas values friendship and loyalty above all.

"King Buddha – We Want World Peace" Title Song Launched in Hyderabad

The title song of the upcoming international film King Buddha – We Want World Peace was officially launched by Dr. Sunil Senevi at a grand event held at ITC Kakatiya in Hyderabad.

Addressing the gathering, Dr.Senevi praised director Satya Reddy for initiating a film aimed at promoting global peace. He highlighted the importance of ending ongoing conflicts across the world, including tensions between Iran and Israel, as well as the war between Russia and Ukraine. He appreciated the film's strong message advocating peace and harmony.

Dr.Senevi expressed happiness that the film was initiated in the United States and is being shot across several Bud-



dhist nations including Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Indonesia. He also assured full support from Sri Lanka for upcoming shooting schedules, noting that the film would stand as a unique project in world cinema for being shot across multiple Buddhist nations. Recalling the devastating atomic bombings

of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Dr.Senevi stressed the need to avoid another global war and urged nations to adopt the path of peace. He added that Buddhism continues to guide global harmony, mentioning that thousands of Buddhist monks are currently conducting peace marches worldwide.

Dr.Senevi also revealed that

he had watched portions of the film shot in Hollywood and praised director Satya Reddy for his exceptional work. On the occasion, the King Buddha team honoured the minister with floral garlands and traditional shawls. Speaking at the event, Satya Reddy said that after a 30-year career in cinema, bringing the story of Gautama Buddha to global audiences through King Buddha is a dream come true. He announced plans to release the film worldwide in over 100 languages in 2027, adding that the project is being made using cutting-edge technology. Currently, key sequences depicting the birth, childhood, and education of Gautama Buddha are being filmed in Nepal, including locations in the Himalayas, Lumbini, and Kathmandu.