

IN BRIEF

Union Minister to take part in KSPP graduation ceremony

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : The Kautilya School of Public Policy (KSPP) is set to celebrate its third graduation ceremony at the GITAM Deemed to be University, here on Wednesday evening.

The event will mark a significant milestone as 30 graduates step into the realm of public policy and governance.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu, will preside as the Chief Guest.

The ceremony will also witness the presence of esteemed dignitaries, including GITAM President M. Sri Bharat, KSPP Co-Founder Prateek Kanwal, GITAM Vice-Chancellor Dr. Errol D’Souza, GITAM (Hyderabad) Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. D.S. Rao, KSPP Dean Amb. Syed Akbaruddin and GITAM Registrar Dr. D. Gunasekaran.

Manipur pays tributes to King Narsingh

Imphal, April 11 (UNI) : The 175th Death Anniversary of Maharaj Narasingh was observed on Friday at Kangla Fort in Imphal. Maharaj Narasingh, a monarch of Manipur, passed away on April 11, 1850. His death anniversary is observed annually on April 11 as a day of historical and cultural significance in Manipur.

He is remembered for his leadership during the First Anglo-Burmese War and his efforts in restoring Manipur’s sovereignty. His death anniversary continues to be a significant occasion for the people of Manipur to honour his legacy.?

Special Commissioner (Art and Culture), M. Joy Singh paid tribute to the revered and valiant Maharaja Narsingh on the occasion of his 175th death anniversary. He noted that the state is honouring the braveheart today with a ceremonial gun salute at his grave.

The Commissioner urged everyone to take this sacred and solemn day as an opportunity to pray to the Almighty and seek the blessings of the late Maharaja, so that peace and harmony may continue to prevail across the state.

CM directs metro rail expansion to Future City

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, April 11 : In a major step toward enhancing urban infrastructure and connectivity, Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has instructed officials to prepare final proposals for extending the Hyderabad Metro Rail to the proposed Future City.

The directive came during a high-level review meeting held at the Command Control Center on Friday. During the review, the Chief Minister took stock of the progress related to the second phase of the Metro expansion project. Officials briefed him that approvals from the Central Government are still awaited, although discussions have already been held with officials in New Delhi.

The state government has submitted the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Phase-II of the Metro project to the Centre. The proposed



expansion spans a total of 76.4 kilometers at an estimated cost of Rs 24,269 crore. The routes covered under this phase include Nagole to Shamshabad Airport (36.8 km), Rayadurgam to Kokapet Neopolis (11.6 km), MGBS to Chandrayangutta (7.5 km), Miyapur to Patancheru (13.4 km), and LB Nagar to Hayatnagar (7.1 km). The project is envisioned as a joint venture

between the Centre and the State Government, with funding responsibilities shared between the two.

The Chief Minister stressed the need for persistent efforts to secure the required approvals from the Centre and directed officials to be ready to commence work immediately once permissions are granted.

In addition to the existing plans, the Chief

Minister proposed a new 40-kilometer Metro corridor connecting Shamshabad Airport to the Young India Skill Development University in Future City.

He underlined the strategic importance of Future City, which is planned to be developed over 30,000 acres, and emphasized that the Metro should be extended further to Mirkhanpet to meet the

city’s future transportation needs.

He instructed officials to prepare a comprehensive DPR for the proposed new corridor, including cost estimates, and to forward it to the Central Government. The Chief Minister also suggested that the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) and the Future City Development Authority (FSDA) be included as stakeholders in the project to ensure coordinated and integrated development.

The meeting was attended by CM advisors Vem Narender Reddy and Srinivas Raju, Special Chief Secretary to the Government Jayesh Ranjan, Chief Secretary to the CM V. Seshadri, Principal Secretary for Urban Development Dana Kishore, and Hyderabad Metro Rail MD NVS Reddy, according to an official statement

Uttam, Mahesh Goud hail fine rice scheme as historic welfare reform

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, April 11 : Telangana’s flagship free fine rice distribution scheme was hailed as a “game changer” by Civil Supplies Minister Capt. N Uttam Kumar Reddy and TPCC President M Mahesh Kumar Goud during a high-level Zoom meeting on Friday.

Joined by senior Congress leaders from across the state, the duo reviewed the ongoing Rabi procurement process and discussed the successful rollout of the welfare initiative, an official statement said.

Calling the initiative a national benchmark in food security, the leaders praised the overwhelming public response and reaffirmed that the scheme, introduced by the Congress government, is here to stay.

Uttam said that fine rice is now reaching 3.10 crore beneficiaries, up from the previous 2.8 crore, and added that the Congress government is spending over Rs 13,000 crore to ensure the poor have access to quality rice. In contrast, earlier governments spent Rs 10,000 crore on what he described as “substandard rice.” The Minister announced that while the scheme’s launch in Hyderabad was delayed due to the Model Code of

Conduct for the MLC elections, it will be officially rolled out in the capital from May 1. He also shared that new ration cards are being issued, with BPL families to receive tri-colour cards and APL families green ones to ensure clarity in benefit distribution.

Highlighting agricultural achievements, Uttam revealed a record paddy harvest on 66.7 lakh acres during the Rabi season. He said the government would purchase every grain at Minimum Support Price (MSP), with an additional ₹500 bonus for fine-quality paddy.

Mahesh Kumar Goud credited the scheme for lifting the dignity of the poor and noted its symbolic launch during Ugadi and Ramzan. He said Telangana is the first state to distribute fine rice through ration shops and reported a sharp rise in cultivation due to farmer incentives. In the last Kharif season alone, 24 lakh tonnes of fine paddy were procured from 4.41 lakh farmers. Both leaders urged Congress workers to take the scheme’s message to every doorstep as part of the ‘Jai Babu, Jai Bhim, Jai Samvidhan’ campaign and to ensure people recognize the Congress government’s role in this transformative welfare initiative.

CID arrests another accused in Rs 95 crore GBR cryptocurrency fraud case

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : In a major breakthrough in the Rs 95 crore cryptocurrency fraud case linked to the fake investment platform GBR, the Telangana Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has apprehended another accused, marking significant progress in the ongoing investigation.

The latest arrest involves Nethala Suresh Kumar, a resident of Hyderabad.

He has been identified as Accused No. 6 (A-6) in the case and was remanded to judicial custody on April 9, a police statement said on Friday. The arrest was made by the CID Economic Offences Wing (EOW) team led by DSP A. Sudhakar, under the instructions of Smt. Shikha Goel, IPS, Director General of CID, Telangana. The fraud, which

amounts to approximately Rs 95 crore, was orchestrated by the prime accused, Kurrimela Ramesh Goud (A-1), a resident of Jangaon district, and his associates.

They created a fraudulent website under the name “GBR” and lured victims through WhatsApp groups by promising high returns on cryptocurrency investments. Believing the false assurances, the complainant, Arra Manoz Kumar of Karimnagar, along with 43 others, invested large sums, which were then diverted by the accused and his family members. None of the investors received their promised returns, and they were ultimately defrauded.

The CID registered the case under Crime No. 13/ 2024 at the CID Police Station, Hyderabad, invoking Sections 420 and

120-B of the Indian Penal Code, Section 5 of the Telangana Protection of Depositors and Financial Establishments Act, 1999, and Section 5 of the Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978.

Earlier, the CID had arrested the prime accused Kurrimela Ramesh Goud and another accused, Y.S. Ravi Kumar Reddy from Chennai. The department continues its efforts to trace and apprehend the remaining accused involved in the scam.

The CID has urged the public to remain cautious of investment schemes promising unrealistic returns and to verify the legitimacy of any financial platform before investing. The investigation into the GBR crypto currency fraud is ongoing.

Where has Rs 10,000 cr ELI scheme disappeared?, Rahul slams PM

New Delhi, April 11 (UNI) : Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday slammed Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the ‘Employment Linked Incentive’ scheme, and asked whether it is “another jumla?” as the government has returned the Rs 10,000 crores allotted to it. Gandhi accused the Modi government of not being serious about creating employment, and of focusing “solely on large corporates and favoring cronies over fair competition”. Taking to his social media handle X, Rahul Gandhi said: “After the 2024

election, PM Modi announced the ‘Employment Linked Incentive’ scheme with much fanfare, promising to provide employment to our youth.” He alleged, “It’s been nearly a year since announcing the scheme, the government hasn’t even defined it, and has returned the Rs 10,000 crores allotted to it. This shows how serious the PM is about unemployment”.

He said, “Jobs can’t be created by focusing only on large corporates, promoting cronies over fair-play businesses, prioritising assembly over production, and disregarding India’s indigenous skills”.

He added that crores of jobs can be generated through significant investment in MSMEs, the creation of fair markets that encourage healthy competition, support for local production networks, and by equipping the youth with the necessary skills.

Expressing concern, Rahul also posed three questions to the Prime Minister: “Prime Minister ji, you announced ELI with great showmanship - but where has this Rs 10,000 crore scheme disappeared? Have you abandoned our unemployed youth along with your promises?”

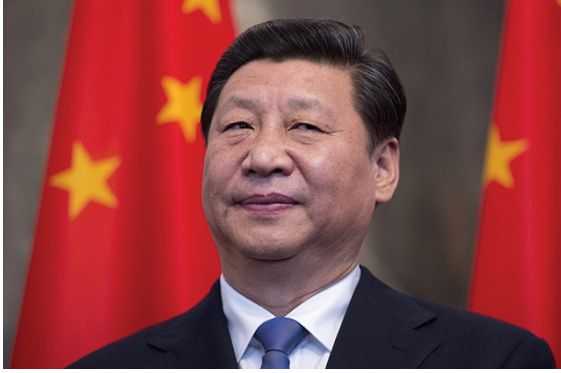


Punjab CM is busy pleasing his boss Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab bleeding: Majithia

: Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) senior leader and former Minister Bikram Singh Majithia today strongly condemned the manner in which a Gursikh woman had been murdered while reciting the Sehaj Path in village Kang in Khadoor Sahib constituency, and asserted that such heinous incidents have become the order of the day under the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government. In a statement released here, Majithia said the incident had sent shock waves in the society. “Just the other day we saw AAP goons belonging to the ruling party gunning down a Sub Inspector and injuring two other police personnel.”

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US, China trade war escalates, Beijing ups retaliatory tariffs



Stock markets in Europe were trading down Friday morning after China hiked its retaliatory tariffs on the United States to 125% from 84%. China said Friday it was raising tariffs on US goods to 125%, the latest development in the escalating trade war between the two countries.

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Kartal shines on BJK Cup debut to give GB lead



Sonay Kartal impressed on debut to give Great Britain a 1-0 lead over Germany in Billie Jean King Cup qualifying. Kartal weathered the big-hitting of an emotional Jule Niemeier to win 6-4 6-2 in the Netherlands.

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Amit Shah to inaugurate All India Forensic Science



Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate on Monday the All-India Forensic Science Summit (AIFSS) organised here by the National Forensic Sciences University. The summit, themed on ‘The Role of Forensic Science in Effective Implementation of New Criminal Laws and Combating Terrorism’, would end on April 15,

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India gifts six school buses to Sao Tome and Principe



New Delhi, April 11 (UNI) : India has gifted six school buses to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, an island country in the Gulf of Guinea, off the western equatorial coast of Central Africa.

In a ceremony held in Sao Tome on April 10, these buses were handed over to Isabel Maria Correia Viegas de Abreu, Minister of Education, Culture, Science and Higher Education of Sao Tome and Principe by Deepak Miglani, Ambassador of India, a

statement said.

India's gift is in response to the request received from the Government of Sao Tome and Principe, seeking India's assistance in making school education more accessible.

This assistance will reinforce the school transport fleet of Sao Tome and Principe, and provide safer commute for students and reduce education costs for families and facilitate their access to school education.

Earlier, in January 2025,

the Government of India sent a consignment of medical supplies, comprising essential and life-saving medicines to buttress the healthcare sector of Sao Tome and Principe.

India and Sao Tome and Principe enjoy close and friendly relations and are diversifying their bilateral cooperation. The gift of school buses to the friendly people of Sao Tome and Principe is part of India's development assistance to the Global South, the statement added.

Interact with people, educate them about the ill effects of drug abuse: Jammu ADM to NGOs

Jammu, April 11 (UNI) : Urging the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to vigorously contribute towards promotion of 'Nasha Mukti Jammu Kashmir Abhiyan' launched by the Government, Additional District Magistrate (ADM) Jammu Ansuya Jamwal on Friday encouraged them to interact with people in neighbourhoods, educate them about the ill effects of drug abuse and help in building a more informed and vigilant society.

Chairing a meeting here with representatives of various NGOs, the ADM highlighted the crucial role NGOs play in spreading awareness by reaching the public directly.

She assured that the district administration would provide resource persons to support the NGOs in conducting awareness campaigns in different localities.

Jamwal stressed that while the administration continues to organise events across the district, NGOs should also take proactive steps to engage the public at the grassroots level.

She further encouraged the NGOs to inform the administration about drug addicts and suspicious elements involved in the drug supply chain and assured complete confidentiality and appropriate action against the perpetrators with the support of the police and concerned agencies.

The ADM invited suggestions from NGOs for a sustained and coordinated fight against drug abuse.

The district administration reiterated its full support to all genuine initiatives aimed at making Jammu a drug-free district.

The meeting was part of the larger strategy to mobilise all sections of society in the campaign against drug addiction.

Punjab CM is busy pleasing his boss Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab bleeding: Majithia

Chandigarh, April 11 (UNI) : Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) senior leader and former Minister Bikram Singh Majithia today strongly condemned the manner in which a Gursikh woman had been murdered while reciting the Sehaj Path in village Kang in Khadoor Sahib constituency, and asserted that such heinous incidents have become the order of the day under the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government.

In a statement released here, Majithia said the incident had sent shock waves in the society. "Just the other day we saw AAP

goons belonging to the ruling party gunning down a Sub Inspector and injuring two other police personnel."

He said the current incident had not only hurt the religious feelings of members of the Sikh community but also shocked people at large.

Majithia said Chief Minister-cum-Home Minister Bhagwant Mann was busy serving his master Arvind Kejriwal who has made Punjab his second home after being rejected in the Delhi Assembly elections.

"Now Kejriwal and his gang have taken over the Punjab government and

distributed all the portfolios among themselves. Public money is also being looted to fill the coffers of the Aam Aadmi Party," he alleged.

Demanding the immediate arrest of the culprit in the latest case, he said the Union Government should review the law and order situation of the border State to ensure anti-national elements do not take advantage of the situation.

He said that Chief Minister Mann should either resign immediately from his post or should start paying attention towards Punjab, whose responsibility Punjabis have bestowed on him.

"J&K's moment to support Muslims nationwide lost forever: Sajad Lone

Srinagar, April 11 (UNI) : Peoples Conference President and Handwara MLA Sajad Lone on Friday launched a sharp attack on the National Conference (NC), accusing it of sabotaging a crucial discussion on the Waqf bill during the last three days of the Assembly session.

In a sharply worded statement, Lone alleged that the NC, despite having a brute majority, chose to indulge in "chaos and theatrics" instead of fulfilling its responsibility to oppose what he termed interference in Muslim religious affairs.

He criticized the NC for bringing an adjournment motion on the Waqf Bill and then refusing to back a no-confidence motion against the Speaker for not allowing a debate. "NC

brings in an adjournment motion on Waqf and the Speaker, who incidentally is an NC member and is the Speaker at the pleasure of these very members, refuses to allow any discussion and says it is sub judice. The tiny Kashmir-based opposition proposes a no-confidence motion against the Speaker in reaction to his refusal to allow any discussion of any sort on the Waqf bill. The same shouting NC brigade refuses to support the no-confidence motion," Lone said. He added that NC has the majority and, by this majority has a Chief Minister, a Speaker, and a Cabinet. "They run the government, they enjoy all the perks of power. The onus of discussing Waqf was on the majority. Is it the speaker's fault? But is the

speaker bigger than the Waqf bill. They could have removed him and gotten a new speaker who would facilitate the discussion on Waqf. So is this majority only to enjoy power? Is this majority not to be used when a powerful message has to be sent, that we are Muslims and will not accept any interference in our religious affairs. Being in power does not mean enjoying power alone. It comes with a set of responsibilities. So NC is okay with enjoying power but is not willing to fulfill its responsibilities," he added

"As much as you use noise as a weapon, the truth stares in our faces. NC sabotaged the Waqf discussion. And used noise and bedlam to camouflage the mother of all betrayals.

Heavy damage to cash crops due to excessive rain and hailstorm in HP

Nahan (HP), April 11 (UNI) : Inclement weather along with hailstorm damaged rabi crops in Sirmour district of Himachal Pradesh in last two days.

According to administration, heavy rain and hailstorm accompanied by sudden strong storm in Shillai area of ??Sirmour district has ruined the hard work of the farmers.

Heavy rain and hailstorm occurred in the area which has damaged the cash crops of farmers and gardeners.

The flowers on horticultural crops like apple, peach, apricot, pear have fallen. On the other hand, the farmers' rabi crops like wheat, barley, peas, mustard, lentils have also been affected by the sudden change in weather at Rohnut and Haripurdhara of the district.

The crops standing in the fields have been destroyed due to hailstorm along with storm. Due to which there is a possibility of a huge drop in production.

On the other hand, the farmers of the area have also appealed to the administration to provide proper compensation for the loss suffered. Rajgarh of Sirmour district is considered the peach valley of Himachal Pradesh.

Civil Surgeon Kapurthala suspended for arrogant behaviour

Phagwara, April 11 (UNI) : The Punjab government has suspended the Civil Surgeon Kapurthala, Richa Bhatia, with immediate effect, for her arrogant behaviour and misconduct with the staff.

Official orders were signed by Principal Secretary Health Rahul Kumar, IAS, and sent to all concerned, including Director Health Services today.

She has been asked to report to the Chandigarh Head Quarters immediately.

It may be mentioned here that the entire clerical staff was demonstrating against the arrogant behaviour of the Civil Surgeon.

The protesting staff staged a dharna on Friday too when the order for the suspension of the Civil Surgeon was being issued.

Only Narendra Modi could have made it possible: Chandigarh BJP chief Malhotra

Chandigarh, April 11 (UNI) : The extradition to India of 26/11 key plotter Tahawwur Rana proves that "when the leadership is strong, no terrorist can escape India's reach. Only Narendra Modi could have made this possible", said Chandigarh BJP President Jitender Pal Malhotra today.

Recounting the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, he said: "The horrific night of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks still lives on in the psyche of every Indian. The screams of innocent people, who became victims of terror without cause, can never be forgotten. Today, as one of the key masterminds behind that pain, Tahawwur Rana, has been extradited from the US to India. This is not just a legal action, it is the first step toward delivering justice to the souls of 1.4 billion Indians."

"This moment brings a ray of hope to every family that lost everything on 26/11," he said. He stated that the Modi government has once again shown that India no longer stays silent, it responds, and responds strongly. "India's policy against terrorism is crystal clear: zero tolerance."

He also praised the unwavering efforts and commitment of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which played a crucial role in bringing this mission to fruition. "Today, the head of the nation is held high. Today, the souls of the martyrs may have found some peace. And today, every Indian has renewed faith that India stands up for its people and ensures justice," Malhotra added with emotion.

Farooq Abdullah welcomes Indo-Pak brigade commander-level meeting at Poonch LoC

Srinagar, April 11 (UNI) : The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Farooq Abdullah on Friday welcomed the recent India and Pakistan brigade commander-level flag meeting along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

The meeting was held to address issues related to border management.

The meeting, which took place at the Chakan-Da-Bagh cross-point and was led by brigadier-level officers from both sides, was praised by Abdullah for its potential to enhance understanding between the two nations, a party statement said.

Abdullah emphasised the importance of continuing such talks to maintain open communication and negotiation channels between the two nuclear-armed nations.

Abdullah stressed the need for both countries to work towards peace and cooperation, as a climate of mistrust and discord between them hinders progress towards

developmental goals in the entire region.

He called on the neighbouring country to take concrete steps towards peace to create a more suitable atmosphere for further cooperation between the two nations.

Meanwhile, NC slammed Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma's comments regarding the restoration of statehood to J&K, saying his remarks directly contradict the promises made by the Prime Minister during his election campaign visits to Srinagar and Jammu.

In a statement, party's State Spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar expressed his disappointment, stating that LOP's comments are a far cry from the commitments made by the Prime Minister and Home Minister to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

He emphasised the challenges faced by the region due to its unique cultural diversity and difficult geography, highlighting the disconnect between BJP leaders and the real issues faced by the people.

Amid Waqf Act row, Mirwaiz Umar placed under house arrest

Srinagar, April 11 (UNI) : Amid the outrage over the Waqf Act, Hurriyat Conference chairman and Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Friday said that he was placed under house arrest again and not allowed to offer the congregational prayers at Jamia Masjid here. Mirwaiz said the restriction is both heartbreaking and outrageous.

"Yet again, this Friday put under house arrest and barred from offering prayers at Jama Masjid. It's is both heartbreaking and outrageous that authorities continue to trample on my basic religious rights — at their will," he said in a post in X. Mirwaiz also shared a video of police deployed outside his Nagin residence, suggesting restrictions on his movement.

The police have not reacted to the claim. House

detention of Mirwaiz is common in Kashmir, but the police rarely admit to such action.

Meanwhile, the Imams and members of the Mutahida Majlis-e-Ulema (MMU), J&K's largest religious representative body, read out the resolution prepared by the council against the Waqf Act in major mosque, khanqahs, shrines, and Imambaras throughout the Kashmir Valley, Chenab region, Jammu, Leh, and Kargil. MMU said Waqf Amendment Act 2025 was categorically rejected across Jammu & Kashmir, with a strong demand for its immediate withdrawal.

In the resolution MMU expressed serious concern over several provisions of the amended Waqf Act, warning that the changes threaten the religious and community-centric character of Waqf institutions in India.

"The new legislation introduces significant changes in the management and supervision of Waqf properties, and many feel that it may diminish the role and authority of the Muslim community in overseeing its religious endowments, which have traditionally been managed in accordance with Islamic principles," the resolution read. The MMU in its resolution reaffirmed its full support to the All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) and will stand by the Board in whatever course of action it deems appropriate to address the issues arising from the new law. The MMU also called upon the Muslim community to remain united, aware, and engaged, and to support all peaceful and lawful efforts for the protection and proper functioning of our religious institutions and endowments.

Rahul Gandhi's 'khata-khat' model fueling corruption in Karnataka: BJP

New Delhi, April 11 (UNI) : The "Khata Khat" model of governance promoted by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has plunged Karnataka into an unprecedented crisis of corruption, claimed BJP national spokesperson Prathyush Kant on Friday, calling it the "most dangerous political experiment" currently unfolding in the country.

Addressing a press conference here, Kant said the much-hyped "Karnataka model", which Rahul Gandhi projects as a governance blueprint for India, is rapidly unravelling into a symbol of largescale corruption, institutionalised favouritism, and developmental stagnation. "This 'Khata Khat' model is not about delivering governance. It's about 'Khata Khat' looting of public money,

Karnataka has become number one in corruption — and the Congress party wears this as a badge of honour," Kant charged.

He said it was no longer just the Opposition pointing fingers. "Today, even the Chief Minister's own economic advisor and sitting Congress MLAs have openly admitted that Karnataka has become the most corrupt state in the country. These are not anonymous allegations — they are on record, spoken in official meetings."

Kant further recalled that Karnataka's Revenue Minister himself had recently confessed to "widespread corruption" in his department. "This is unprecedented — the rot is so deep that even ministers can no longer

deny it," he said.

Adding weight to his claims, Kant referred to the Karnataka State Contractors' Association's latest revelation, which said Rs 32,000 crore worth of pending bills are stuck across departments due to alleged interference by an "invisible hand."

"This invisible hand is no mystery. It is the deeply entrenched network of corruption that the Congress has perfected over decades," Kant alleged. "Big contractors with political links get their payments 'Khata Khat' cleared, while small and medium contractors are being strangled by red tape and political bias."

He also accused the Congress government of operating a dual system where only those close to the ruling elite get

favours, while honest businessmen and citizens are left to suffer.

"This is Rahul Gandhi's model: Number one in appeasement, number one in corruption, number one in derailing projects, and number one in betrayal of public trust. And yet he wants to gift this model to the rest of India," Kant said.

He warned that if the rest of the country were to adopt this model, it would lead to "economic collapse, administrative anarchy, and total erosion of public confidence in democratic institutions."

Kant concluded with a strong appeal to the public and civil society to see through the "propaganda" of the Congress and recognise the "damage being done to the soul of Karnataka".



Students of Aliah University take part in a protest rally against the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025, in Kolkata on Friday.

Telangana to develop Dry Port to meet needs for next 100 years

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : Government will develop a 'Dry Port' to meet the states' needs for the next 100 years.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who conducted a high level review on the progress of the works and the construction of the national highways, ordered officials to prepare the designs of the proposed Dry Port.

The Chief Minister emphasised that the Dry Port should be located in a suitable area near RRR (Regional Ring Road).

Following the Union Home Secretary's in

principle approval to the preparation of DPR for the construction of Hyderabad – Vijayawada Greenfield Road project, the Chief Minister asked the officials to focus more on the particular project. The officials have been asked to complete the land acquisition for the Northern part of the Regional Ring Road (RRR) and also complete the DPR consultancy report for the southern part at the earliest.

Revanth Reddy asked the officials to prepare a proposal for a national highway connecting Hyderabad with

Chhattisgarh capital Raipur and send it to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI).

Instructing the officials to prepare proposals for a new National Highway between Hyderabad and Mancherial, the CM enquired about the difficulties faced in land acquisition for the construction of national highways in the state.

Officials briefed the CM that the NHAI has not agreed to pay compensation for the loss of standing crops in many areas. Since the harvest season is almost over, the

CM said the land acquisition should be completed immediately by holding meetings with farmers.

The CM asked Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari to address the hurdles for land acquisition by holding a meeting with the respective District Collectors and also resolve technical and legal problems, if any.

The CM said special attention should be paid to the expansion of radial roads from the Outer Ring Road to the Regional Ring Road and from the RRR to the Telangana border.

Cyber crime police arrests accused in multi-crore investment fraud

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : The Cyber Crime Unit of Hyderabad Police have arrested a key accused in a major investment fraud case linked to over 88 cases across India, including seven in Telangana.

Police seized one laptop, six mobile phones, three bank passbooks, six debit cards, twenty-six cheque books, eight SIM cards, five rubber stamps, two OTP detectors, and two UPI QR codes from him.

Based on complaint cyber crime police arrested Neeraj (31), a private employee residing in South West Delhi, a police statement said on Friday.

Neeraj is believed to be a part of a larger cybercrime racket that targeted individuals across the country by luring them into fraudulent investment schemes. One such case

involved a 39-year-old man from Hyderabad, who was introduced to a suspicious investment application called COSTA WELL GROWN (<https://www.costa.site/appCosta/>) by a friend.

After downloading and logging into the app, the victim initially made small investments in bank accounts linked to the app.

The platform showed daily virtual profits and assured the victim that returns would be transferred to his personal bank account after a deduction of 6 per cent tax. Encouraged by these results, the victim went on to invest a total of Rs 6,16,918.

However, the promised withdrawals were suddenly stopped, and the victim was unable to recover his money.

Police investigations revealed that the fraudsters used social media platforms, WhatsApp, and Telegram to contact victims and attract them with promises of high returns through stock market trading. Their method involved initially showing profits and allowing limited withdrawals to build trust. Once victims were convinced and invested larger sums, the scammers blocked further withdrawals, effectively defrauding them.

During the arrest, The Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police have urged the public to exercise caution and avoid investing through unverified applications or suspicious online platforms, especially those promoting guaranteed or unusually high returns.

Four-day Rythu Mahotsavam begins at Exhibition grounds

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : The four-day Telangana Rythu Mahotsavam 2025 began at the Exhibition Grounds here on Friday. The event was inaugurated by Telangana Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy. As part of its ongoing commitment to empowering India's agri and poultry sectors, IPEMA/Poultry India showcased its initiatives and contributions at this agricultural exhibition.

Organised by the Agri-Horticultural Society in collaboration with the Government of Telangana, Exhibition Society Economic Committee, and

other prominent institutions including NABARD, ICAR, and Gram Bharathi, Telangana Rythu Mahotsavam 2025 served as a vital confluence of agriculture, innovation, and rural empowerment.

The four-day event, which concludes on April 14, and envisioned as a comprehensive platform for the development of agriculture and allied sectors, brought together a vast spectrum of stakeholders—from farmers and scientists to policy makers and industry leaders—across domains like Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Aquaculture, Organic Farming, Agri-

Tech, Finance, and Pharmaceuticals, a release said. As a reputed voice in the Indian poultry industry, IPEMA/Poultry India utilised this platform to engage with key players in agriculture and allied fields, showcasing advanced poultry technologies, sustainable farming practices, and industry solutions. During his visit, Gutta Sukender Reddy, who interacted with President Uday Singh Bayas and Radhika, Senior Operations Head at the Poultry India (IPEMA) stall, appreciated the role of the poultry industry in supporting farmers and enhancing agri-economies.

Faculty from Osmania University and other dignitaries praised his unmatched contribution to public welfare, with several leaders felicitating him during the ceremony.

3-day 17th Edition of Poultry India Expo in Hyderabad from Nov 26

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : The three-day 27th Edition of Poultry India Expo, the flagship annual event of IPEMA/Poultry India, is scheduled to be held at the HITEC Exhibition Centre here from November 26.

"We are delighted to invite all stakeholders, industry professionals, and farming communities to the Expo, with the much-anticipated Knowledge Day on November 25," said President Uday Singh Bayas and Radhika Senior Operations Head at the Poultry India (IPEMA) stall at the Telangana Rythu Mahotsavam 2025, which began at the Exhibition Grounds, here on Friday.

Poultry India Expo continues to be South Asia's largest international poultry exhibition, offering an unmatched platform for exhibitors and visitors to explore cutting-edge technologies, network with global leaders, and gain insights into the evolving poultry landscape, they added.

CM directs fast-tracking of Musi Rejuvenation Project

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has directed officials to expedite the works under the Musi River revitalization project.

As part of the initiative, the Chief Minister reviewed model designs for a proposed bridge over the Mir Alam Tank and the Gandhi Sarovar planned at Bapughat. He instructed officials to call for tenders by June for the construction of the bridge and, in the meantime, prepare a detailed project report (DPR) including all required surveys, reports, proposals, and designs.

The review meeting was held on Friday at the Command Control Center, with the participation of Government Advisors Vem Narendar Reddy and Srinivasa Raju, Principal Secretary of the Municipal Administration Department Dana Kishore, Joint Managing Director of the Musi Riverfront Development Corporation Gauthami, and other senior officials. During the meeting, consultancies presented model designs for the bridge through a

PowerPoint presentation, an official statement said.

The Chief Minister emphasised that the proposed 2.5-kilometer bridge across Mir Alam Tank should be constructed in a grand and aesthetically impressive manner, without compromising on safety for visitors and commuters. He also approved plans to beautify three island-like areas within the tank, aiming to turn them into major tourist attractions.

CM Revanth Reddy suggested that these islands be developed as scenic destinations featuring elements such as bird sanctuaries, artificial waterfalls reminiscent of Singapore's Gardens by the Bay, and public spaces including amphitheatres, adventure parks, and "Dheem Parks."

He also proposed the development of convention centers suitable for weddings and other events, along with boating facilities, resorts, and hotels to encourage tourism.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to include all such proposals in the DPR, including plans

for water purification within the tank and the overall development of the island zone under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. He stressed the need to evaluate the water capacity of Mir Alam Tank and assess the intensity of water flow during floods to design a resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

To this end, he recommended engaging hydrology and environmental experts or renowned institutions to conduct comprehensive surveys and obtain the necessary clearances.

Additionally, the Chief Minister directed that the proposed bridge and the island zone be seamlessly integrated with the adjacent Nehru Zoological Park.

He emphasised the need to upgrade the zoo in alignment with the development plans and instructed officials to consult with zoo authorities while adhering to applicable regulations.

He called for a detailed proposal to enhance the zoo's appeal as part of the broader tourism development strategy.

Farmers' welfare priority for CM Revanth Reddy, says Farmers Commission Chairman

Hyderabad, April 11 (UNI) : Telangana Farmers' Commission Chairman Kodanda Reddy has said that the formers' welfare a priority for Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

Speaking at the Rythu Mahotsavam 2025 and Sendriya Mela held at the Exhibition Grounds in Nampally on Friday, Kodanda Reddy highlighted the Telangana government's efforts under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to strengthen the agricultural sector and support farmers.

Reddy lauded the Agri Hearty Society for organising the event, noting that its members are seasoned experts in agriculture. He also appreciated the commitment of scientists and officials who continue to contribute to the field

even after retirement.

"Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, being a farmer's son, has always had deep empathy for the farming community. Even before assuming office, he was concerned about farmers' issues," said Reddy. "It is because of his roots that several welfare schemes have been introduced for the agricultural sector."

He commended the Telangana government for waiving off Rs 21,000 crore in farm loans—calling it unprecedented in his political career. He also emphasised the significance of bonuses provided to small and tenant farmers, calling them a surprise move that has greatly benefited the community.

Reddy pointed out that the Farmers Commission

was established to cater specifically to farmers' needs and is composed of members with thorough agricultural knowledge. He noted the ongoing support from institutions like NABARD and the importance of collective farming in addressing challenges such as labor shortages and lack of access to farm machinery.

The chairman stressed the role of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and said the commission has recommended expanding FPOs to every district.

"FPO agriculture is a strong pillar for farmer support," he added. A pilot project has already been launched in three villages of the Rangareddy district, where the area under horticultural crops is expected to expand.

Reddy voiced strong concern over the control of

seed production by multinational companies. "Seed is the farmer's right, and its production should remain in the hands of farmers," he said. He also condemned the increasing role of middlemen in markets and the exploitation of farmers due to policies of previous governments. He welcomed the new Record of Rights (RoR) Act introduced by CM Revanth Reddy and expressed hope about the upcoming Seed Act.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
Tender No. 30255356, Dt.: 08.04.2025
Name of the work: SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF AUTOMATED WAYSIDE WHEEL PROFILE MEASUREMENT SYSTEM (AWWPMs). (WARRANTY PERIOD: 30 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF DELIVERY). QUANTITY: 1 SET, INSPECTION BY TPI AGENCY.
NOTE: MATERIAL TO BE SUPPLIED WITHIN 45 DAYS.
Date & time of opening of tenders at 1500 hrs. of 07.05.2025.
Complete details available at www.treps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Materials Manager/ PR-28/Q/25-26 Waitair

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
E- TENDER NOTICE NO. 4 FOR 2025-2026

Online E- Tenders in B-1 Form For the Following Work are invited by the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, PWD, 2nd floor Bandhakam Bhavan, 25 Murzban Road, Fort, Mumbai-400 001 (Tel. No-22016975 / 22016977) from contractors registered in interior category appropriate class of the Public Works Department. Right to reject/accept of all or one tender is reserved.

| Sr. No. | Name Of Work | Amt Rs. (in Lakhs) |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Renovation of ACP & DCP Office of State Wireless Cel at 20 th Floor of New Administrative Building at Madam Cama Road, Mumbai. | 83.87 |

Issue Date :- 11.4.2025 To 21.4.2025
Opening Date :- 22.4.2025

All the corrigendum/Changes pertain to notice will not published in newspapers that will published in E-tendering process.
All the detail Information is available on following websites
1) www.mahapwd.com
2) www.mahatenders.gov.in

No.PD/ TC/ 4364
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Presidency Division, P.W.D., 2nd floor,
Bandhakam Bhavan, 25, Murzban Road,
Presidency Division, Mumbai.
Fort, Mumbai 400 001
Email : presidency.ee@mahapwd.gov.in
Date : 8/4/2025

V. A. Pataskar
(V. A. Pataskar)
Executive Engineer
Presidency Division Mumbai.

DGIPR/2025-26/186

STANDARD POST

About half of aspirational districts witness sharp drop in multi-dimensional poverty

Nealy half of aspirational districts in the country have seen a quicker drop in multi-dimensional poverty levels, with Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Tamil Nadu leading the pack.

According to data from Niti Aayog’s ‘Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023,’ 46 per cent of the 106 aspirational districts have witnessed a drop in multidimensional poverty.

Traditionally, poverty has been measured by assessing monetary resources available for an individual or household. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is now considered as a more direct and comprehensive measure of people’s deprivation and poverty.

It captures and reveals the outcome of economic growth and development, income and its distribution and various development initiatives of the State.

Besides, it has been globally realised that non-monetary measures complement monetary measures to capture diverse dimensions of poverty.

This granular approach proves essential in India’s diverse context, enabling targeted interventions to address acute poverty and uphold the principle of inclusivity, ensuring that “no one is left behind.”

According to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, some of the aspirational districts had done better than national and state average.

“Earlier, the government had announced 100 districts as backward, many of them in the Northeast and tribal belts. We changed this approach and called them aspirational and implemented schemes in mission mode. Reputed institutions and journals have praised India's aspirational districts move,” PM Modi said during an event in the national capital this week.

Meanwhile, an SBI Research report earlier this year showed that India's rural poverty ratio has registered a dramatic decline to 4.86 per cent in the financial year 2023-24 from 25.7 per cent in 2011-12 while urban poverty has fallen to 4.09 per cent from 4.6 per cent during this period.

"At an aggregate level, we believe poverty rates in India could now be in the range of 4 per cent-4.5 per cent with almost minimal existence of extreme poverty," the report said.

The sharp decline in the rural poverty ratio is on account of higher consumption growth in the lowest 0-5 per cent decile with significant government support.

Better Infrastructure, Better Technology, Better Trains – Indian Railways Set to boost better services in Mumbai suburban network

(Standard Post Bureau)

In a media interaction on the theme Themed “Better Infrastructure, Better Technology, Better Trains” held today in Mumbai, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis and the Union Minister of Railways, Information & Broadcasting and Electronics and IT, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw jointly addressed the press to highlight the transformative progress in railway infrastructure across Maharashtra. Indian Railways’ commitment to modernization, improved commuter experience, and enhanced regional connectivity, with a special focus on the Mumbai Suburban Railway Network.

Better Infrastructure: Union Minister Shri Vaishnaw emphasized that infrastructure development is the cornerstone for increasing suburban services. Projects worth nearly ₹17,000 crore, covering more than 300 kilometers of new lines, are currently underway at a rapid pace. These initiatives aim to decongest existing lines, improve service frequency, and cater to the ever-growing demand of Mumbai’s suburban commuters.

Better Technology: Shri Vaishnaw announced the upcoming launch of Kavach 5.0, a state-of-the-art safety and signaling system tailored for the suburban section. Kavach 5.0 is expected to significantly reduce the inter-train headway, enabling more trains to run safely and efficiently.



Better Trains: In a major upgrade to passenger comfort, the Union Minister revealed that 238 new Air-Conditioned suburban rakes will soon be introduced. These rakes have been uniquely designed keeping in mind the needs of Mumbai’s commuters, promising a more comfortable and reliable travel experience.

Maharashtra CM Shri Fadnavis also elaborated that Mumbai One Card, will soon be launched, which is a single and all integrated card set to transform public transport across MMR region for passengers traveling in suburban trains, metro rails, mono-rail, BEST buses, etc.

Together this infrastructure, technology, and rolling stock advancements are expected to increase the number of suburban services,

dramatically improving daily transit for millions of Mumbaikars.

First Indian Institute of Creative Technology, an institute of National Importance in creative sphere will come up at Mumbai and this will be transformative for Indian Creative industry to make it a world class infrastructure hub.

Strategic Rail Projects in Maharashtra:

A major announcement during the interaction was the doubling of the Gondia–Ballarshah railway line, a 240 km strategic corridor with an investment of ₹4,819 crore. This key project connects Vidarbha and Marathwada, easing congestion and enabling faster passenger and freight movement. It will also strengthen Maharashtra’s rail links with Andhra Pradesh and

Chhattisgarh, boosting regional trade and integration.

This major infrastructure push was announced on April 7, 2025, when the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, had approved four projects of Ministry of Railways with total cost of Rs. 18,658 crore (approx.).

Mr Vaishnaw stated today that this transformative project is set to play a pivotal role in enhancing passenger and freight connectivity between northern and southern India. The approved project encompasses comprehensive upgrades along the 240 km of existing track, including modernization of 29 railway stations, construction of 36 major bridges, 338 minor

bridges, and 67 Road under-bridges (RUBs) to streamline operations and enhance safety.

“With this doubling, connectivity between North and South India will be vastly improved. Aspirational districts in the region will witness rapid development”, stated Shri Vaishnaw. The Union Minister further stated that this will be a game-changer for both passenger commuters and industries dependent on rail logistics. He also said that this upgradation will boost regional economy and tourism.-

Other notable railway projects include:

In addition, 132 stations across Maharashtra are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. Of the 1,300 stations nationwide under this initiative, many are

nearing completion, with significant progress reported at many others.

A Vision for the Future: These ambitious undertakings—alongside the Mumbai–Ahmedabad Bullet Train, Dedicated Freight Corridors, and large-scale station redevelopment works—are set to revolutionize transportation in Maharashtra.

The Indian Railways has committed an unprecedented ₹1,73,804 crore of investment in the state, underscoring Maharashtra’s strategic importance in the national rail network and its future growth trajectory.

Maharashtra CM underlined the importance of WAVES (World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) preparations in view of inauguration by Hon’ble PM in the month of May this year, importance of a record budget allocation by Indian Railways to Maharashtra, benefits to the region by doubling of railway line between Gondia - Ballarshah stations. He also announced running of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and the Glorious Maratha Tour train by IRCTC soon. A special curated tour to showcase the glorious history and the grand heritage of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj along with other cultural and pilgrimage destinations of Maharashtra in 10 days journey by Bharat Gaurav Tourist train was also stated by the Maharashtra CM.

A New Breakthrough in Cancer Treatment!



(Standard Post Bureau)

A major step forward has been taken in the battle against cancer. A new revolutionary approach has emerged — Dendritic Cell Therapy (DCT). This treatment involves extracting dendritic cells from the patient’s blood, concentrating them, and injecting them back into the body.

These dendritic cells activate the body’s T-cells, which are natural cancer fighters. They help detect and destroy cancer or bacteria-related cells throughout the body.

Though it falls under immunotherapy, this method is significantly different from existing ones, according to Dr. Sadat A. Ali, an

orthopedic surgeon and professor of regenerative medicine at Stem Cells Regenerative and Research Labs in Hyderabad, where this therapy is being offered.

Cancer has become increasingly widespread in India. As per WHO statistics, over 1.4 million new cases were reported in 2022 alone, with nearly 900,000 deaths. DCT provides new hope in this context. Not only do dendritic cells directly attack cancer cells, but they also awaken dormant T-cells to fight more effectively.“

India already offers several treatments for cancer, such as chemotherapy and monoclonal antibody therapy. When combined

with DCT, these treatments become more potent, leading to faster cancer reduction. While DCT was discovered in the 19th century, it received approval from the US FDA in 2010. It has shown significant success, particularly in treating metastatic prostate cancer, where cancer spreads from the prostate to other parts of the body.

“Compared to traditional treatments, DCT is far more effective and has minimal side effects. Patients undergoing this therapy have shown significant improvement in both life expectancy and quality of life. It can reduce the tumor burden by over 65%. When administered

in the early stages, DCT can reduce the chances of metastasis by four to five times more than other treatments. Scientifically, it’s proven to boost the effectiveness of chemo and radiotherapy by two to three times.

The process involves collecting 5-10 mL of blood from the patient, along with tissue samples from the tumor. These samples are processed in the lab for 5-7 days to produce around 10 million dendritic cells. These are then injected under the skin, into the muscles, nerves, or directly into the tumor. Initial results are visible within the first three months, with full results taking around 6 to 9 months.

Currently, there are very few labs offering this treatment in India. For the southern states — Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka — the only available lab is in Hyderabad. Established in 1999 in collaboration with the U.S. Consultancy for Applied Research in Illinois, the lab provides injections once every two weeks (3-4 doses) or a set of 10 injections every 3-4 weeks.

This cutting-edge therapy offers hope where traditional treatments fall short — and all at a significantly more affordable cost compared to other regions.

SahiBandhu Rebrands to Manipal Fintech Amid Surge in Gold-Backed Credit Demand

SahiBandhu, India’s most trusted gold loan enablement platform, today announced its rebranding as Manipal Fintech Private Limited. This strategic evolution reflects the company’s accelerated growth, evolving business vision, and future-focused approach to delivering tech-enabled financial solutions. Rooted in the values of the Manipal Group, the company enters this new chapter with a strong legacy and a renewed focus on innovation, agility, and scalable growth. Over the years, SahiBandhu has built a robust and trusted ecosystem in the gold loan segment, enabling seamless lending journeys in partnership with leading banks across India. The platform has consistently delivered impact by simplifying access to credit, and this shift to Manipal Fintech marks a step forward in delivering simpler, more inclusive, and technology-led financial solutions. Announcing the rebranding, Puja Singh, CEO, Manipal Fintech said, “The transition to Manipal Fintech is more than a rebranding, it is a reflection of the evolution we have undergone as a company and the future we are committed to building. Over the years, we have earned the trust of customers and banking partners by delivering transparent, secure, and seamless gold loan services. With this transformation, we are scaling our efforts to make finance more accessible, seamless, and secure for every Indian. Backed by the Manipal Group’s legacy of trust, we are positioned to lead the next phase of financial innovation, delivering long-term value to customers and partners.”

This rebranding highlights the company’s strategic roadmap, which includes entering adjacent financial services categories, expanding its footprint in untapped regions, investing in next-generation fintech infrastructure, and strengthening its partnerships across the financial ecosystem. With this renewed identity, Manipal Fintech is committed to bridging the gap between traditional banking and modern financial expectations, delivering solutions that are faster, smarter, and more accessible to all. The transition to Manipal Fintech comes with a refreshed visual identity. The logo features a bird forming the letter ‘M’, symbolizing financial freedom, progress, and upward momentum.

Researchers develop blood test method for early detection of Parkinson's disease

Jerusalem, April 11 (UNI) : Israeli researchers have developed a new RNA-based blood test for detecting Parkinson's disease long before symptoms emerge, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HU) said in a statement on Friday.Parkinson's is often diagnosed only after significant brain damage has occurred, when most relevant neurons are already lost, underscoring the need for early detection.

The new method, detailed in Nature Aging, measures specific RNA fragments in the blood. It focuses on two key biomarkers: a repetitive RNA sequence that accumulates in Parkinson's patients, and mitochondrial RNA, which declines as the disease progresses.By measuring the ratio between these fragments, the test can identify the disease in its early stages. In experiments, the test successfully distinguished pre-symptomatic Parkinson's patients from healthy controls with an accuracy of 86 percent, outperforming current diagnostic methods.Notably, the study also found that levels of the first type of fragments drop after deep brain stimulation, linking them to disease mechanisms and treatment responses.

The researchers said that this discovery paves the way for early interventions and treatments that could change the course of the disease, potentially improving patient outcomes through timely diagnosis and care.

Sri Lankan think tank suggests global response to Trump's reciprocal tariffs

Colombo, April 11 (UNI) : A Sri Lankan think tank, Verite Research, has suggested a global response to Trump's reciprocal tariffs Instead of individual countries rallying against the move.

It urged the Sri Lankan Government and the world for a multilateral 'Cooperative Common Response' to the US tariff hike to stop further damage to the rules-based trade order in the world.“As countries line up to negotiate bilaterally with the United States on exceptional arrangements, to mitigate the individual country impact of the unilateral action, Verité Research.. is calling its government and the world to forge a multilateral approach instead,” it said in a statement, according to EconomyNext.Earlier, Trump had imposed a 44 percent reciprocal tariff on Sri Lanka, on which he announced a 90-day pause on Wednesday.

Türkiye urges immediate halt to Israeli attacks, supports Gaza reconstruction

Ankara, April 11 (UNI) : Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan on Friday called for an immediate cessation of Israeli military operations, emphasising the necessity of a permanent ceasefire and the reconstruction of Gaza."We reject any plan to force Palestinians to leave their homeland. We support the plan for the reconstruction of Gaza adopted by the Arab League," he said.

The Turkish foreign minister made the remarks during a joint press conference following a meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and Arab League Ministerial Committee, held on the sideline of the Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF).

"Israel's attacks must be halted without delay. We discussed steps toward achieving a lasting peace and a two-state solution. A permanent ceasefire should be established promptly," he added.

Fidan expressed Türkiye's support for the ceasefire negotiations led by Qatar, Egypt, and the United States, and endorsed the Gaza reconstruction plan approved by the Arab League.

Themed "Reclaiming Diplomacy in a Fragmented World," the fourth edition of the ADF kicked off in Türkiye's resort city Antalya on Friday.

More than 20 heads of state and government and over 50 foreign ministers were expected to attend the three-day gathering, the Anadolu Agency reported.

China approves its first gene therapy for rare disease hemophilia B

Shanghai, April 11 (UNI) : China has approved its first gene therapy for hemophilia B, an inherited bleeding disorder caused by the deficiency of the clotting protein factor IX (FIX).

The National Medical Products Administration has officially approved BBM-H901 (Dalnacogene Ponparvovec Injection) for the treatment of adult patients with moderate to severe hemophilia B, Belief BioMed and Takeda China jointly announced on Friday.The new gene therapy is developed and manufactured by Belief BioMed, a pharmaceutical company based in Shanghai. Takeda China is responsible for its commercialization in the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong and Macao.This is the first hemophilia B gene therapy drug and the first recombinant adeno-associated virus (rAAV) vector gene therapy drug developed and manufactured in Asia, marking a new milestone in China's gene therapy industry, according to the Shanghai Medical Products Administration and Shanghai Municipal Commission of Science and Technology.

"As the first hemophilia B gene therapy drug independently developed in China, BBM-H901 will provide a new treatment option for hemophilia B patients, which is expected to provide patients with an innovative treatment solution and help them return to a normal life," said Xiao Xiao, co-founder, chairman and chief science officer of Belief BioMed.

US, China trade war escalates, Beijing ups retaliatory tariffs to 125 pc

London/Beijing, April 11 (UNI) : Stock markets in Europe were trading down Friday morning after China hiked its retaliatory tariffs on the United States to 125% from 84%.

China said Friday it was raising tariffs on US goods to 125%, the latest development in the escalating trade war between the two countries.

It said the higher tariffs would take effect on Saturday."The US alternately raising abnormally high tariffs on

China has become a numbers game, which has no practical economic significance, and will become a joke in the history of the world economy," a Commerce Ministry spokesman said in a statement."If the U.S. insists on continuing to substantially infringe on China's interests, China will resolutely counter and fight to the end."

Chinese President Xi Jinping struck a defiant tone in his first public comments on the trade war,

saying his nation was “not afraid”.Europe’s benchmark Stoxx 600 index opened higher but was trading down 0.9% by 4.40 a.m.ET, while France’sCAC 40 index and Germany’s DAX index were down 0.9% and 1.2% respectively, CNN reported.

London’s FTSE 100 was trading down 0.2%.

President Donald Trump’s universal tariffs on China now total 145%. Notably, President Trump did not include a 20% tariff tied to the country’s role in

fentanyl production in his announcement on Wednesday.China's Commerce Ministry said on Friday that it had filed another complaint with the World Trade Organization over US tariffs.

"On 10 April, the United States issued the Executive Order, announcing a further increase of the so-called 'reciprocal tariff' on Chinese products. China filed a WTO complaint against United States' latest tariff measures," a statement from China's mission said.



An army personnal uses a robotic mule for rescue operation in earthquake-hit Myanmar on Friday.

New study reveals accelerated warming trend on Tibetan Plateau

Beijing, April 11 (UNI) : Chinese researchers have revealed that the Tibetan Plateau is expected to experience accelerated warming in the next 10 years, according to the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

While traditional climate projections can highlight long-term trends, the temperature changes on the Tibetan Plateau over the next decade remain highly uncertain due to substantial internal climate variability.However, the new study utilising decadal climate prediction -- an emerging tool that combines the initial state of the climate system with external forcing -- suggests improved accuracy in regional climate forecasts.

The researchers from the IAP analysed advanced international decadal prediction systems to assess the predictability of temperature changes on the Tibetan Plateau.

Their findings indicate that between 2025 and 2032, the region's annual mean temperature will rise by 0.98 degrees Celsius compared to the 1991-2020 baseline. This warming rate is 1.75 times faster than the observed increase from 2016 to 2023.Using the Open Global Glacier Model (OGGM), the researchers simulated the impact of accelerated warming on the Tibetan Plateau glaciers. The results suggest that the warming is projected to reduce glaciervolumebyapproximately 1.4 percent, leading to faster melt rates that threaten water security for hundreds of millions across Asia.

Indian electricity supply to Bangladesh increases following rising public demand

Dhaka/New Delhi, April 11 (UNI) : The supply of Indian electricity to Bangladesh has increased rapidly, following increasing demand in the country. Currently, 17.13% of the total electricity produced in Bangladesh is coming from India, with the majority of it being supplied by the Adani Group.

Asked about importing electricity from India, Bangladesh's Power Development Board (PDB) member (Production) Zahirul Islam said: “April and May are summer and irrigation seasons, making electricity supply a major challenge for us during this time. We try to increase production from every possible source. The increase in electricity supply from India is also for the same reason. As demand has risen, the supply has increased,” the Dhaka Tribune reported.

He added: “Electricity

import from India depends on the contract... As long as the electricity is available under the agreement and we need it, we will ask for it. Besides this, there are plans to increase production at several other power plants.”

Electricity exports by India to Bangladesh had reduced recently, particularly by the Adani Group which cut off half its supply to Dhaka due to non-payment of its long-pending dues. However, Bangladesh has managed to clear the payments.

According to the website of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB), on Monday at 1pm, 1303 megawatts of electricity came from Adani, 907 megawatts via the Bheramara HVDC, and 42 megawatts through Tripura.However, during peak hours at night, the amount of electricity imported increases further.

Nepali authorities in fix over four disowned Bhutanese refugees

Kathmandu/Thimphu, April 11 (UNI) : Authorities in Kathmandu are in a fix

regarding what to do about four Bhutanese nationals who have been left stranded in Nepal after being disowned by Thimphu.The four refugees had earlier left for the US via Nepal but were then deported back to Bhutan where the Thimphu authorities expelled them from the country.

As per The Kathmandu Post, the now detained Bhutanese nationals had crossed the Indian border via Jaigaon and Siliguri and sneaked into Nepal, where the immigration authorities detained them in the Jhapa

district under the tenets of immigration law.

While officials had expected the Nepali Prime Minister to raise the issue of the refugees with his Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobay on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC meeting in Thailand, “they did not touch on this issue,” said one Nepali official who was part of the prime minister’s delegation in Bangkok. “Perhaps as this matter is in a nascent phase, it didn’t surface in the meeting.”

The topic has already become a hot issue for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Home Affairs in Kathmandu. The

four Bhutanese nations were part of a 10-member group which left the country and headed off to Nepal via India, to go to the US.However, all 10 were deported by the US for unknown reasons. The issue has now come under the radar of the Global Campaign for the Release of Political Prisoners in Bhutan (GCRPPB), a Bhutanese human rights group. The organisation expressed deep concern over the forced deportation of 10 Bhutanese refugees from the United States, calling it a case of renewed statelessness and a humanitarian crisis.

“These individuals,

Israel orders evacuations in Gaza City amid military operations

Jerusalem, April 11 (UNI) : The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on Friday issued an urgent evacuation order for residents in several neighborhoods of eastern Gaza City as military operations intensified in the area. In a message posted on social media X, IDF Arabic language spokesperson Avichay Adraee called on civilians to move westward for their safety."The IDF is working intensively in your areas to destroy terrorist infrastructure," he wrote. "For your safety, you must evacuate immediately to the known shelter centers in western Gaza City."

Meanwhile, the IDF said in a statement that it had

killed Hamas militant Ahmad Iyad Muhammad Farhat during a recent operation in Tel al-Sultan refugee camp in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip.

According to the IDF, Farhat was the head of sniper operations for Hamas' Tel al-Sultan Battalion and was responsible for organising and carrying out attacks on Israeli forces.

The IDF also reported additional operations since Thursday across the southern and northern Gaza Strip, in which several Hamas militants were killed.

The military added that it had dismantled Hamas' military infrastructure and neutralised booby-trapped buildings during these efforts.

BGB writes to BSF requesting flag meeting for release of two Bangladeshi nationals

Dhaka, April 11 (UNI) : The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) has written to the Border Security Force (BSF) requesting a flag meeting for the release of two Bangladeshi nationals, who were detained along the Nagorvita border under Baliadangi upazila of Thakurgaon.The two detainees, Md Abdul Hamid, 38, of Moshaldangi Coloni village, and Md. Ibrahim, 45, are both residents of Kherbari village in the same upazila.Lt Col Tanjir Ahmed, commanding officer of the 50 Thakurgaon Border, BGB, told The Daily Star that that the two individuals were apprehended by patrolling members of the Tingaon BSF camp in the morning around 500 yards inside Indian territory, near Pillar No 376/4-S, on charges of intrusion.

Following the incident, BGB officials have sent a letter requesting a flag meeting to negotiate the return of the Bangladeshis.The issue of border security between the bodies has been a contentious one, as the BSF has repeatedly arrested Bangladeshi nationals who have been involved in drug or human trafficking, cattle smuggling, robbery, assault, arms smuggling, and even carrying out attacks against BSF officials when stopped.

'Kiev carries out 5 strikes on Russian Energy Facilities in past day'

Moscow, April 11 (UNI) : Kiev has carried out five attacks on Russian energy facilities over the past day, the Russian Defence Ministry said on Friday."The Kiev regime, in violation of the Russian-US agreements on the cessation of strikes on energy facilities for 30 days starting March 18 this year, continued unilateral attacks on the Russian energy infrastructure. Over the past day, the Ukrainian armed forces have carried out five attacks on Russian energy facilities," the ministry said in a statement.

Energy facilities in Bryansk, Kursk, Zaporizhzhya regions and in the Lugansk People's Republic (LPR) were attacked by the Ukrainian armed forces, the ministry said.

originally evicted from Bhutan in the 1990s, had been legally resettled in the US under the UNHCR resettlement programme. Despite this, they were forcibly removed and sent to Bhutan, arriving at Paro Airport on March 27, 2025,” a statement by the GCRPPB said.

“Rather than allowing them to remain, Bhutanese authorities expelled them to India, where they were left without any legal status or support,” said GCRPPB. Indian security forces then transferred them to the Nepal-India border at Panitanki.

All four people were apprehended by Nepali

authorities after reaching the Bhutanese refugee camp in Beldangi for illegally entering Nepal without legal documents.

“Their fate remains uncertain as they now face potential deportation back to India. The whereabouts of the remaining seven deportees remain unknown, raising serious concerns over their safety and well-being,” the statement said.

Govinda Prasad Rijal, director general of the Department of Immigration, told the Post that an investigation over the detention of the former Bhutanese refugees continues.

Career&tech

False flattery at work can ruin your Career

Sycophancy may get you noticed but it will do no wonders for your career in the long run. ?



Every workplace has its share of sycophantic employees; these are the people who use tools like flattery, deference and obsequiousness towards their superiors to accelerate their careers. They build a special relationship with their bosses and utilise the same to create an unwarranted, elevated place for themselves in the organisation.

Udit Mittal, MD, Unison International tells us the potential effects on one's career if one is surrounded by sycophantic peers, "Being surrounded by sycophants might bring negative effects to one's career because there is a possibility of remaining unnoticed by seniors in the bleak environment created by flattery. Sycophancy creates emotional disturbances and eventually affects performance." As bosses, it is important for professionals to not be susceptible to sycophancy from their juniors. Chitbhanu Nagri, global head HR, Tavant Technologies, explains, "For leaders who want to achieve overnight success, sycophants act like 'fuel to fire'; they create an illusion of grandeur and make them believe that everything is hale and hearty. Leaders rationalise this as the organisational sentiment, get defensive when they hear divergent views and ultimately, the ones with differing views either distance themselves or move on to take up other opportunities. Sycophants can use this opportunity to get a larger share of the pie. However, reality catches up soon; either the

leaders realise their mistake and take corrective actions, or become hugely unpopular and ineffective in the organisation." Harvey Deutschendorf, author of 'The Other Kind of Smart: Simple Ways to Boost Your Emotional Intelligence for Greater Personal Effectiveness and Success' tells us why professionals adopt sycophancy, "People may have started out with the notion that talent and abilities will be recognised when it comes to promotions, but then they witnessed others who they see as less capable but more pleasing to their superiors being chosen above them. As a result of observing this, they may have come to see sycophancy as being the path of least resistance and the easiest way to get ahead."

Undeserved promotions are the most critical consequence of sycophantic employees. Vivian Fernandes, HR head, Opus Consulting, explains, "As bosses, it may sometimes be difficult to see the right picture immediately, but with experience, it becomes easy to understand who is a sycophant and who the real hard workers are. If an organisation has clearly chartered out the parameters KRAs for promotions and does stringent reference checks, such situations of unwarranted promotions can be avoided."

Rajiv Burman, managing partner, Lighthouse Partners gives some tips on dealing with sycophantic peers, so as to not let them dictate one's behaviour or career:

Firstly, it is important to recognise that there is no point in talking to the sycophantic peers as they behave in the manner that they do because they think it gets them brownie points from the boss.

The best step is to talk to your boss in a non-confrontational way with facts and figures about your performance and express your disappointment that a lesser deserving peer has been given preferential treatment.

If this does not work, then seek a meeting with the skip-level boss; if this too fails, then talk to the HR manager. If none of these measures bring favourable results, then it is best to look for another job.

Thus, it is important for an organisation to encourage a merit-based culture, rather than sycophancy among their employees.

Lethargic employees can not only affect a team's output, but also individual attitudes towards work. Lalitha balsubramanian shares tips on how leaders can re-align the focus of such workers and improve their performance



Very often, employees have to endure colleagues who spend time lazing around or talking endlessly on their cell phones during office hours.

Besides being a source of irritation, their laziness could sometimes dampen the congenial atmosphere at the workplace.

Impact on team

Additionally, such workers can make an otherwise efficient team under perform. Says Kala R, an employee with a leading financial consultancy firm, "In processes where projects are supposed to be completed by a team, the major pre-requisites for success is teamwork, cooperation and mutual understanding between colleagues, and shirking any of these responsibilities by even one member can cause the project to fail."

It is usually the team leader who bears the brunt of the issue, as such problems may not be as easily solvable as lodging a complaint with the senior management. Such exercises tend to create a sense of apprehension among team members and dampens the cordial atmosphere at the office. So, how do you deal with such colleagues?

Key concerns

Advise K Ramakrishnan, vice president, Hazira Central Services, Larsen & Toubro Ltd, "It is imperative to communicate to the employee that the interest of the organisation is paramount. Arranging a meeting with the employee and senior members of the group is one of the best ways to deal with such a situation. He she must be given appropriate feedback about how their attitude is impacting the team's efficiency. It is also equally important to assure the employee of any help they may require." However VR Ganapathi, retired senior manager, Andhra Bank, offers a counter view, "Many a time, a colleague could face genuine issues in executing the tasks entrusted to him/her. Many are hesitant to express their discomfort in the presence of other team members. Hence, confronting such workers should be

How to deal with lethargic Employees

done in private and steps should be taken to either clear their doubts and apprehensions while also allowing them to switch to other projects if the scope to do so exists."

Remotivate the employee

Ganapathi says, "A good way to realign an employee's focus towards work is by illustrating the achievements of the organisation's top executives who have reached their present positions through sheer hard work. This could motivate the reluctant worker to show renewed interest at work."

However, most efforts to remotivate employees who give into laziness crash when one fails to gauge the worker's response to such initiatives. Even a slight change in their attitude or productivity can signal success. According to Ramakrishnan, "If the member does step up and do a good job, the leader must recognise his/her efforts. A positive response is often appreciated and acts as a motivator. A weekly or monthly review of his/her work could further improve a lazy worker's performance."

Lend them a ear

Many a time, those who work sincerely, suddenly start showing signs of negligence. However, it may not be advisable to dismiss their under productivity as laziness. Personal issues, such as caring for ailing parents or tending to their own health problems are often a cause for an apparent disenchantment from work. Lending a ear to their problems and counselling them can relieve their tension and bring their focus back to the job at hand. tions, it is time for strict actions. Inform the senior management of such colleague's behaviour and illustrate instances where their negligence has impacted their work.

However, be sure to back your claims with evidence.

Concludes Ramakrishnan, "If you are the boss, or the team leader, deal with the situation by giving them a clear message --perform or perish--as the organisation cannot afford to suffer due to one employee's negligence."



Preparing for a new role at a new office is both exciting and intimidating. The enthusiasm of starting something new, establishing fresh credentials as an add-on to one's existing achievements, meeting new people and gathering new experiences is undebatable. The intimidation often comes from not knowing the everyday work culture, the fear of being judged by existing employees, the uncertainty of how the organisation and

Familiarising oneself with a new workplace is akin to finding one's way through a maze. here are a few steps that can help you settle in at your new office.

teams work and whether one would fit in. Clearly, settling and adjusting well when moving in to a new workplace is an adventure with a few hiccups.

So how does one take steps to familiarise oneself with the new work environment?

Connect with employees

It pays to be better-informed before joining the workplace. Says Naresh Garg, AVP, Grex Alternative Investments Private Ltd, "Doing some prior research on the organisation you will be joining makes it easier to adapt to the culture of the place. It helps one prepare for any surprises that may crop up." He adds, "Just like in my case, often friends refer

How to Settle in at your new office

you for jobs. In such a case, it is easy to talk to the people who have informed you about the opening as well as existing employees to get some first-hand information about the work culture. For places, where you don't know anyone personally, online forums and social media groups are good arenas to begin with. One may get insights from existing or previous employees who are often willing to share information."

Accept the environment and people

While prior research can be a great place to start, the real adventure of adjusting to a new place only begins on entering the office. Keep an eye out for the enthusiastic popular colleague who is willing to introduce you to any and every other employee. In case that does not happen and you are left with an employee handbook or organisational processes handouts to study before any real human interaction takes place, accept the scenario. Not having expectations can be helpful. Most organisations conduct induction sessions for new employees. Make sure to attend one to not only to understand the organisation's goals, but also clarify

your doubts on everyday procedures and protocols. Who knows, you may also end up making new friends among the other joiners.

Avoid comparisons

Trying to seek all the positives one had at the old workplace or drawing comparisons is a strict no-no. Seeking interactions is a must, be it with colleagues in the next cubicle, on the lunch table or even with one's own team leaders/seniors. Interacting with colleagues and people around will help you build a network in office. Advises Nandini Saraf, who recently joined a publishing house as a copy editor, "In spite of knowing that some of the friendships you form during your initial days will not last long, it is important to make friends from day one. You need to mingle and avoid being alone. Your new friends will give you a clear picture of how things are. At times, they may also become your go-to buddies when you are given a whole lot of work that you are initially not well acquainted with."

Be honest

Lastly, the traditional advice of being honest, acknowledging mistakes, asking questions, taking notes, dressing well, etc, holds true even today.

To sum up, adjusting to a new role takes some time. All you need is to be patient with the processes and people around.

Narine's all-round brilliance powers KKR to thumping win over CSK

Chennai, April 11 (UNI) : Sunil Narine starred with both ball and bat as Kolkata Knight Riders handed Chennai Super Kings a crushing eight-wicket defeat in their Indian Premier League clash at the MA Chidambaram Stadium here on Friday.

The veteran spinner first wreaked havoc with the ball, claiming 3 for 13 in his four overs to stifle CSK's innings. Then, opening the batting, he smashed a whirlwind 44 off just 18 balls, studded with five towering sixes, to dismantle any hopes the hosts had of defending their paltry total.

Asked to bat first after losing the toss, CSK never found their footing and limped to 103 for 9 in their allotted 20 overs. Apart from Shivam Dube (31 not out off 29) and Vijay Shankar (29 off 21), the rest of the batting order faltered against a disciplined KKR attack. Varun Chakravarthy (2/22) and Harshit Rana (2/16) offered excellent support to Narine, while Moeen Ali and Vaibhav Aroora chipped in with a wicket each.

In response, KKR raced to the target in just 10.1 overs. After Quinton de Kock (23) gave a brisk start, Narine tore into the CSK bowling, treating the Chepauk crowd to a six-laden spectacle. His dismissal in the eighth over did little to slow down the charge, as skipper Ajinkya Rahane (20 not out) and Rinku Singh (15 not out) completed the formalities with ease.

PowerLifting India nominates Kewal Singh Pathania as Manager of Indian PowerLifting Team

Dharamshala, April 11 (UNI) : Kewal Singh Pathania MLA and Deputy Chief Whip, also the Senior Vice President of Power Lifting India and President of HP PowerLifting Association, called on Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu in New Delhi on Friday.

Kewal Singh Pathania told UNI on phone that he has apprised the Chief Minister that PowerLifting India has nominated him as Manager of the Indian PowerLifting Team of 80 Indian players who would participate in the World Classic and Equipped Bench Press Championship to be held at Drammen, Norway from May 17 to 24, 2025. He said that 82 countries are participating in this event and added that he had earlier visited US, Germany, Canada, UK, Dubai and Hong Kong with the team. He informed the Chief Minister that he would spread awareness about Himachali handicrafts and organic farming during his visit to Norway.

The Chief Minister congratulated him for the honour and added that it was an honour to the state too.



HPRC President R. Chaitania Kumar presenting the Best Sports Photographer Award to Mohd Waheed Uddin at the World Arena Polo Championship 2025, held at HPRC, Hyderabad. Also seen are HPRC Secretary (Admin) Reaz Ahmed and HPRC Vice President Sri. Kunwar Sai Vijender Singh. (Photo by SNAPS INDIA)

Kartal shines on BJK Cup debut to give GB lead

London, April 11 (UNI) : Sonay Kartal impressed on debut to give Great Britain a 1-0 lead over Germany in Billie Jean King Cup qualifying.

Kartal weathered the big-hitting of an emotional Jille Niemeier to win 6-4 6-2 in the Netherlands.

World number 60 Kartal looked comfortable on the clay, moving well and often beating Niemeier in exchanges from the back of the court, the BBC reported.

British number one Katie Boulter will look to

seal the tie for GB when she faces Tatjana Maria in the second singles match, before Olivia Nicholls and Harriet Dart play Laura Siegemund and Anna-Lena Friedsam in the doubles.

Germany face an uphill battle to qualify having lost 3-0 to the Netherlands on Thursday. GB face the Netherlands on Saturday, with the group winners advancing to September's eight-team finals.

Kartal watched GB's triumph against France in last year's qualifiers from

afar, having spent three months out with a health issue. However, she has risen up the rankings in the past 12 months, clinching her first WTA title on the clay, she played confidently in a first set that saw seven breaks of serve in 10 games, adjusting well to Niemeier's pace.

Kartal served for the opener at 5-3 but was broken, before two double faults from Niemeier handed the Briton the set.

Germany's Niemeier,

heavily beaten against the Netherlands and struggling for form, covered her face with her towel at the end of the set as she became visibly upset. Kartal reeled off five games in a row to lead Niemeier by a set and a break, redirecting the German's pace around the court, before serving out victory.

"I'm super proud of that debut match," Kartal said.

"It is obviously nerve-racking when you're the first match on, but I'm proud of my performance."

Teenagers die as fans & police clash in Chile

Rio De Janeiro, April 11 (UNI) : Two teenagers died following confrontation between fans and police before Chilean club Colo Colo's game against Brazilian side Fortaleza in the Copa Libertadores.

The deaths occurred following fighting after police blocked about 100 fans as they tried to enter the Monumental Stadium in Santiago, the BBC reported.

"What is known is that one of the fences crushed these two and an investigation is under way into whether a police car was involved in the death," said local prosecutor Francisco Morales.

Local media have said the victims were aged 13 and 18. Police general Alex Bahamondes said a police officer had been charged in the case and that "statements are being taken regarding the events".

The group match in the Copa Libertadores did start but was later cancelled.

Udayan Mane builds two-shot lead at Indorama Ventures Open Golf Championship

Ahmedabad, April 11 (UNI) : Olympian Udayan Mane shot a resolute four-under 68 to build a two-shot lead at a total of 14-under 202 after round three at Indorama Ventures Open Golf Championship being played at the Kalhaar Blues & Greens Golf Club here on Friday.

Pune-based Mane (69-65-68), a winner of 12 titles and former PGTI Order of Merit champion, was rock-solid as he extended his lead by one shot despite conceding an early double-bogey. The 34-year-old, who also pocketed an eagle, five birdies and a bogey on day three, is now well-placed to end an over three-year-long victory-

drought.

Bengaluru's Khalin Joshi (70-65-69), another former PGTI No. 1 and winner of six titles who grew up playing junior and amateur golf alongside Udayan, struck a 69 featuring four birdies and a bogey on the penultimate day to continue in second place and keep hopes alive of ending his winless streak that has lasted over two years.

Faridabad's Abhinav Lohan (68) ended the day in third place at nine-under 207 while Chandigarh's Angad Cheema (70) was a further shot back in fourth position.

Ahmedabad's Varun Parikh carded a 69 to

occupy tied eighth place at five-under 211.

The swirling wind troubled Udayan Mane early on as he dropped a double-bogey on the second hole. Mane then picked up five birdies till the 12th hole thanks to his outstanding drives and tee shots as well as a 30-foot conversion on the seventh.

Udayan bogeyed the 13th but came back strong once again with his best drive of the day followed by a chip-in for eagle on the 14th. He was five-under on the four par-5s in round three. Yuvraj Sandhu (72), Sachin Baisoya (70) and Ajeetesh Sandhu (72) were tied for fifth place at seven-under 209.

AIFF bids for hosting AFC Asian Cup 2031 in India

Kuala Lumpur, April 11 (UNI) : In a significant development for Indian football, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) has officially submitted its bid to host the AFC Asian Cup 2031, joining six other contenders in a record-breaking response to the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) call for Expressions of Interest (EoI). The AFC, which confirmed receiving seven EoIs by the March 31 deadline, described the unprecedented number as the highest ever in the tournament's modern history. The announcement was made during the 6th AFC Executive Committee meeting chaired by AFC President Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa in Kuala Lumpur on the eve of the 35th AFC Congress.

Alongside India, six other bidders have submitted Expressions of Interest to host the AFC Asian Cup 2031, including Football Australia, the Football Association of Indonesia, Korea Football Association, Kuwait Football Association, United Arab Emirates Football Association, and a joint bid from the Kyrgyz Football Union, Tajikistan

Football Federation, and Uzbekistan Football Association.

Salman praised the Member Associations for their enthusiastic participation, calling it a reflection of the growing stature of Asia's premier men's football competition.

"The AFC Asian Cup is undoubtedly one of the greatest success stories and the last edition in Qatar firmly cemented Asia's flagship as one of the best football competitions in the world," he said.

"The record number of bids that we have received is further testament to the stature and appeal of the AFC Asian Cup, and on behalf of the AFC Executive Committee, I would like to put on record our sincere appreciation to all our MAs for outlining their ambition to extend and expand on our proud legacy."

The 18th edition of the tournament, held in Qatar, broke spectatorship records at FIFA World Cup-standard venues and generated a staggering 7.9 billion digital impressions. Broadcast in over 160 countries by 60 partners, the event underscored the AFC Asian Cup's global appeal. India's bid, if

successful, will mark a historic milestone for the country's football journey. The AIFF has been actively working to raise the sport's profile domestically through infrastructure upgrades, grassroots development and international exposure.

Salman said that hosting the tournament offers both tangible and intangible benefits, from infrastructure and organisational growth to enhancing technical standards and positioning the host nation as a global sporting destination.

"The unprecedented level of interest we have witnessed reflects both the high ambitions of the AFC's Member Associations and their increasing confidence in their own capacities and capabilities to host a tournament as significant as the AFC Asian Cup," he added. With Saudi Arabia already confirmed to host the 2027 edition, the decision on the 2031 host is expected to further reinforce Asia's footballing rise. The AFC will now coordinate with the bidding Member Associations to facilitate the submission of necessary documentation as per established timelines.

Aizawl to host first-ever International Half Marathon on April 26

Aizawl, April 11 (UNI) : The first-ever Aizawl International Half Marathon (AIHM) will be held on April 26, in the Mizoram capital, bringing together elite runners from India and abroad in a landmark event that aims to empower athletes and showcase the region on the global sporting map.

Jointly organised by the Government of Mizoram and Innovations India, and accredited by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI), the AIHM is supported by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), NF Railway, Mizoram Athletics Association, and several government departments, public sector units, and corporate sponsors.

Sports and Youth Services Minister Lalnghinglova Hmar said the initiative aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of developing the Northeast and nation-

building through sports. "This marathon is not just about running—it's about empowering our youth and sportspersons. It is a platform for Mizoram to shine globally and to inspire a new sporting culture in the Northeast," Hmar said. He added that the event would be an annual affair aimed at nurturing sporting talent and enabling athletes to represent India at various national and international platforms. More than a

thousand participants from across the country and overseas are expected to compete in this year's event. International athletes from Kenya and Vietnam have already confirmed their participation, while runners from major Indian cities such as Shillong, Delhi, Gurugram, Dimapur, Noida, Mirzapur, Itanagar, Lakhimpur, Varanasi, Alwar, Ayodhya, Haridwar and Indore have registered.

Mohun Bagan SG lock horns with Bengaluru FC in a blockbuster title clash

Kolkata, April 11 (UNI) : Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) will face Bengaluru FC in the final of the Indian Super League (ISL) match at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) here on Saturday at 7:30 PM IST.

Speaking at the pre-match press conference here ahead of the final, Mohun Bagan Super Giant Head Coach Jose Molina stressed on the importance of looking forward and not worrying about the past.

"I don't care about what happened in the past. I am trying to do my best for Mohun Bagan Super Giant.

We did well to win the League Shield and we are motivated to win the ISL Cup too. I don't need extra motivation from the fact that we lost the final last year. We are already motivated enough," he said.

Bengaluru FC Head Coach Gerard Zaragoza, who showed exemplary camaraderie by helping a translate a question for his counterpart Molina, was chuffed about playing the big final in Kolkata.

"We are very motivated for the finals and excited for the game. Everything is fine. We are confident and Kolkata is almost like our

second home, because we were here for the Durand Cup. We had a good playoffs and we are looking forward to the grand finale," he said. His sentiment was echoed by BFC goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, who spoke fondly about his long association with the city.

"As you know, my journey as a professional footballer started here and I was very lucky to be getting opportunities to play matches from the beginning. I am grateful for the journey. If you get an opportunity to play big games, big finals, in front

of big crowds as a player, it's a great experience and I am lucky to be here for the match in Kolkata," Gurpreet said. Gurpreet also reserved some special praise for the opponents, saying, "Mohun Bagan Super Giant have been the standout team this season and there is no denying that, which is why they won the League Shield."

Mohun Bagan Super Giant captain Subhasish Bose, who Molina jokingly referred to as a striker in light of his goalscoring form in this edition, shed light on the significance of the venue as a local boy.

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Western Railway to run summer special train between Vapi - Danapur - Valsad

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 11 : For the convenience of passengers and with a view to meet the travel demand especially during the summer season, Western Railway has decided to run Special Train on Special Fare between Vapi – Danapur – Valsad.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Shri Vineet Abhishek, the details of the special train is as under:

Train No. 09063/09064 Vapi - Danapur - Valsad Weekly Special [22 Trips]
Train No. 09063 Vapi -

Danapur Special will depart from Vapi on every Saturday at 22.00 hrs and will reach Danapur at 08.00 hrs, on Monday. This train will run from 19th April to 28th June, 2025.

Similarly, Train No. 09064 Danapur – Valsad Special will depart from Danapur on every Monday at 11.00 hrs and will reach Valsad at 18.00 hrs, the next day. This train will run from 21st April to 30th June, 2025.

Enroute this train will halt at Navsari, Bhestan, Chalthan, Nandurbar, Amalner, Dharangaon, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Khandwa, Itarsi, Pipariya,

Narsinghpur, Madan Mahal, Katni, Satna, Manikpur, Prayagraj Chheoki, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara station in both directions. Train No. 09063 will have an additional halt at Valsad station.

This train comprises of Sleeper Class and General Second Class Coaches.

The booking for Train No. 09063 will open from 13.04.2025 at all PRS Counters and on IRCTC website. For detailed information regarding timings of halts and composition, passengers may please visit www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in.

Gondia - Balharshah Doubling project will immensely benefit Marathwada and Vidarbha region of Maharashtra and adjacent States of Telangana and Chhattisgarh

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 11 : Mr Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, Communications and IT, Information and Broadcasting stated that Gondia - Balharshah Doubling project which has been approved by the Central Cabinet will immensely help in the movement between Northern & Southern States both in terms of Passenger and Freight transportation. The doubling project between Gondia - Balharshah for a distance of 240 route kms is being taken up with an expenditure of Rs.4,819 crore. Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Hon'ble Railway Minister and Shri Devendra Fadanavis, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra state addressed Media personnel at Mumbai through virtual means today i.e., 11th April, 2025. Shri Bharthesh Kumar Jain, Divisional Railway Manager, Secunderabad Division, South Central Railway along with senior officials of the division participated in the virtual press conference at



Sanchalan Bhavan, Secunderabad.

He also stated that this doubling project will improve economic activities in Vidarbha & Marathwada regions of Maharashtra state and also many districts in Northern Telangana region. Gondia, Bhandara, Gadchiroli, Chandrapur Districts of Maharashtra and Komaram Asifabad

District of Telangana will be immensely benefitted on completion of this project. The section between Gondia – Balharshah consists of 29 stations, 36 bridges, 338 minor bridges and 67 RUBs. The project also helps in operating more freight and passenger trains through Kazipet – Balharshah Grand trunk route, apart from giving

boost to the tourism sector. Later, Hon'ble Railway Minister gave a brief power point presentation about the 132 stations pertaining to Maharashtra that are being developed under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and 1300 stations are taken up for the redevelopment across Indian Railways, he added. Later, Mr Bhartesh

Kumar Jain, Divisional Railway Manager, Secunderabad Division briefed about the benefits of the sanctioned doubling project between Gondia – Balharshah and its uses in terms of improved connectivity for the trains passing through Balharshah junction which happens to be the Inter-change point for SCR Jurisdiction.

Aakriti Art Foundation to organize its 22nd International Art Exhibition in Mumbai



Glimpses of various attractive artifacts to be displayed in the upcoming art exhibition of Aakriti Art Foundation in Mumbai.

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 11 The country's leading cultural, social and artistic organization "Aakriti Art Foundation" is organizing its 22nd International Group Art Exhibition in Mumbai from 17th April, 2025 to 20th April, 2025.

Sharing this information, Manmohan Jaiswal, Founder Director of Akriti Art Foundation, said that this organization has been organizing

various programs at national and international level in the field of art & culture for the last 17 years. In this sequence, it has been decided to organize the 22nd International Art Exhibition of the organization at Simroza Art Gallery located near Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai. He informed that apart from India, about 50 skilled artists from various European countries along with Australia and

Lithuania are participating in this exhibition. More than one hundred wonderful works of art by various talented artists including renowned painters M.F. Hussain, T. Vaikuntham, Amrita Shergil, Robin Hicks, Audra Brajwaskaite, Kishore Kavad and Sohan Chaudhary will be displayed in this exhibition. In the opening ceremony of the exhibition, Lodha Foundation Chairperson Mrs. Manju Lodha, famous singer Padma Shri Anup Jalota, renowned classical singer Padma Shri Dr. Soma Ghosh, senior politicians Milind Deora, Rakesh Bhaskar and Padma Shri Dr. Prakash Kothari will be present as special guests.

Apart from these, many art lovers, interior designers, architects and representatives of the music and literature world will also be present. This grand exhibition will start with the lighting of lamps. Mr. Jaiswal stated that for the last 17 years, this organization has been organizing two art exhibitions and two award shows every year, besides programs related to music, fashion and social, religious concerns. In these, artists from the country and abroad get a great opportunity to exhibit their beautiful art.

MANUU Job Mela for Teacher's on April 20

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, April 11 : The Job Mela for Teacher's is going to be held at Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) on 20th April 2025. The students of MANUU (Regular & Distance) modes and other qualified candidates can register at the link <https://forms.gle/hBnahGxEKcbABYXp6> free of cost.

The interested Colleges/Schools/ Institutions who have faculty requirements/ vacancies are requested to participate with a registration fees of Rs. 5,000/- by 18th April 2025. The Registration Link for Colleges / Schools / Institutions is <https://forms.gle/zP3fiL965PAk5AETA>.

According to Dr. Mohd. Yousuf Khan, Director, Training & Placement Cell, MANUU, the Job Mela will help the institutions to get competent teachers / human resources for their Schools / Institutions and a good number of reputed Colleges / Schools / Institutions are expected to participate in the fair. For more details contact phone numbers 9848171044, 8688477911 and 9044145228.

Summer special trains : East Coastal Railway

(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, April 11 : In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Summer season, East Coast Railway will be operating special trains between Visakhapatnam –Kurnool City- Visakhapatnam, Visakhapatnam - Tirupati - V i s a k h a p a t n a m , Visakhapatnam - SMV Bengaluru as detailed below:

A.VISAKHAPATNAM –KURNOOL CITY - VISAKHAPATNAM

1. Train No.08545 Visakhapatnam –Kurnool City Special Express will leave Visakhapatnam at 19.00hrs on Tuesdays from 15.04.2025 to 27.05.2025 which will reach Kurnool City at 09.35 hrs. (7 Trips)

2. In return Direction Train No.08546 Kurnool City – Visakhapatnam Special Express will leave Kurnool City at 16.10hrs on Wednesdays from 16.04.2025 to 28.05.2025 which will reach Visakhapatnam at 08.00hrs on next day.(7 Trips)

Stoppages: Duvvada, Anakapalle, Tuni, Annavaram, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Eluru, Vijayawada, Guntur, Narasaraopet, Vinukonda, Markapur, Cumbum, Giddalur, Diguvametla, Nandyal and Dhone between Visakhapatnam–Kurnool City.

Composition: 1- Divyangjan Sitting cum Luggage rake, 4 - General Second Class Coaches, 08- Sleeper class Coaches, 2- 3rd AC Economy, 3- 3rd AC Tier Coaches, 2-2nd AC Coach & 1- Generator Motor Car.

B.SPECIAL TRAINS B E T W E E N V I S A K H A P A T N A M – SMV BENGALURU

1. The train No. 08581 Visakhapatnam – SMV Bengaluru Special Express train will leave Visakhapatnam at 15.20 Hrs on Sundays from 13.04.2025 to 25.05.2025 and will reach SMV Bengaluru on next day at 12.45Hrs.

2. In return direction the train no. 08582 SMV Bengaluru –

Visakhapatnam Special Express train will leave SMVT Bengaluru at 15.50 Hrs on Mondays from 14.04.2025 to 26.05.2025 which will reach Visakhapatnam on next day at 13.30 Hrs

Stoppages: Special train will be having the following stoppages at Duvvada, Anakapalli, Yelamanchili, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Eluru, Vijayawada, Ongole, Nellore, Gudur, Renigunta, Jolarpetai, Kuppam, B a n g a r p e t , Krishnarajapuram between Visakhapatnam – SMV Bengaluru- Visakhapatnam.

Composition: These pair of trains will have 2nd AC –02, 3rd AC -3, 3rd AC Economy – 02, Sleeper class coaches-08, General Second Class-04, Second class cum luggage/ Divyangjan -01, Motor Car-01 in its composition.

VISAKHAPATNAM- T I R U P A T I - V I S A K H A P A T N A M SPECIAL

The train No. 08547

Visakhapatnam- Tirupati weekly special train will leave Visakhapatnam on Wednesdays at 19.00hrs from 16.04.2025 to 28.05.2025 which will reach Tirupati on the next day at 09.15hrs. (07 Trips)

In return direction the train No. 08548 Tirupati-Visakhapatnam weekly special will leave Tirupati at 21.50hrs on Thursdays from 17.04.2025 to 29.05.2025 which will reach Visakhapatnam on the next day at 11.30 hrs.

Stoppages: Duvvada, Anakapalle, Yelamanchali, Annavaram, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Nidadavolu, Tanuku, Bhimavaram Town, Kaikaluru, Gudivada, Vijayawada, Tenali, Chirala, Ongole, Nellore, Gudur, Srikalahasti and Renigunta between Visakhapatnam and Tirupati

Composition: 2nd AC-2, 3rd AC-3, 3rd AC Economy-2, Sleeper Class-8, General Second Class-4, Second class cum luggage/ Divyangjan coaches-1, Generator Motor car-1 LHB Coaches.

Amit Shah to inaugurate All India Forensic Science Summit on April 14

New Delhi, Apr 11 (UNI) Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate on Monday the All-India Forensic Science Summit (AIFSS) organised here by the National Forensic Sciences University.

The summit, themed on 'The Role of Forensic Science in Effective Implementation of New Criminal Laws and Combating Terrorism', would end on April 15, an official statement said on Friday. On April 13, two events will be held simultaneously at Vigyan Bhawan – Film Forensics Symposium and Forensic Hackathon.

JM Vyas, Vice Chancellor of NFSU,

emphasised the need to bridge the silver screen with forensic science to optimise criminal investigations and justice using the power of cinema through the World's First "Film Forensics Symposium".

The Hackathon will bring together experts in forensic sciences, cybersecurity, and related domains, while the Film Forensics symposium will showcase forensic research and crime investigation through compelling, scientifically accurate stories.

The summit will host over 1,600 experts, including judges, law enforcement officials,

researchers, students, and industry specialists.

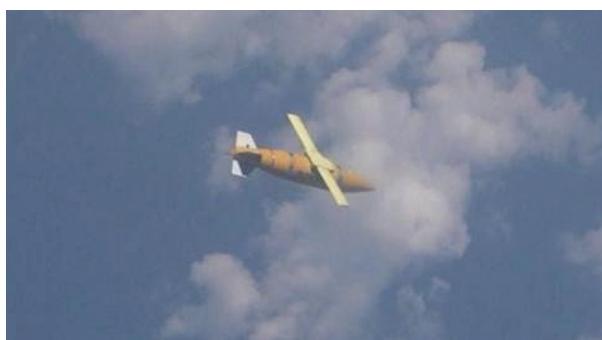
Vyas further said that the three-day events aim to revolutionise the criminal justice delivery ecosystem, bringing together multi-stakeholder perspectives to tackle challenges and explore forensic science and judicial systems breakthroughs. Through dynamic panel discussions and technical sessions, the event will spotlight the vital role of scientific evidence in boosting conviction rates and fortifying legal frameworks, paving the way for a more efficient and equitable justice system.

DRDO conducts successful Release Trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb 'Gaurav' from Su-30 MKI aircraft

(Standard Post Bureau)

New Delhi, April 11 : Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully conducted the Release Trials of Long-Range Glide Bomb (LRGB) 'Gaurav' between April 08-10, 2025 from the Su-30 MKI aircraft. During the trials, the weapon was integrated to multiple stations in different warhead configurations, with land target on Island. The trials successfully demonstrated range close to 100 kms with pin-point accuracy.

LRGB 'Gaurav' is a 1,000 kg class glide bomb, designed and developed indigenously by Research Centre Imarat, Armament Research and Development



Establishment and Integrated Test Range, Chandipur. Senior officials of DRDO and the Indian Air Force (IAF) participated and reviewed these trials.

The system has been realised with the support of

Development-cum-Production Partners - Adani Defence Systems & Technologies, Bharat Forge and various MSMEs. The trials are paving the way towards induction of the weapon into the IAF. The

Centre for Military Airworthiness & Certification and Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance contributed towards Certification and Quality Assurance.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh complimented DRDO, IAF and industry for successful development trials of 'Gaurav'. He said the development of LRGB will further enhance the capabilities of the Armed Forces to a great extent.

Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat also congratulated the entire DRDO team on conducting the successful release trials.