



President Droupadi Murmu during the funeral of Pope Francis at the Saint Peter's Basilica, in Vatican City on Saturday.


TN Cabinet rejig likely, two Ministers in judicial dock could face the axe

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : With the ongoing Assembly session to end on April 29, a reshuffle of the Tamil Nadu Cabinet is on the cards with two Ministers--Electricity, Prohibition and Excise Minister V.Senthilbalaji, who had drawn the ire of the Supreme Court in a PMLA case and Forests and Khadi Minister K Ponmudy facing flak for his intemperate remarks against women linking to Hindu religion --likely to face the axe.

If the reports are to be believed, both the Ministers are most likely to be stripped off from their Cabinet posts, in the face of widespread criticisms, which had caused some embarrassment for the DMK government.

While Mr Senthilbalaji, who is out on bail in a Money Laundering case after being incarcerated for more than an year and came back as Minister, was pulled up by the Apex Court over his continuance in the State Cabinet and asked him to decide by Monday on whether he wanted the Minister post or bail, Mr Ponmudy has been facing public and political ire for his derogatory and uncivilised remarks, drawing widespread criticisms from the Opposition and his ouster or removal from the State Cabinet causing head ache for the ruling DMK and Chief Minister M K Stalin. According to reports, the heightened speculation of an impending Cabinet reshuffle arose amid increasing political pressure surrounding the two key ministers, Ponmudy and Senthilbalaji.

The reports said the much anticipated Cabinet reshuffle is expected any moment as Mr Senthilbalaji was running out of time to decide on his stand and the growing demand for the ouster of Mr Ponmudy, who had already been removed from the post of DMK Deputy General Secretary after his remarks went viral on social media. Though the removal of leaders and functionaries from the Party posts would normally be issued by the DMK General Secretary, perhaps, for the first time, Mr



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Pakistan will be brought to its knees, will never think of committing acts like Pahalgam again: Puri

Chandigarh, April 26 (UNI) : Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday said Pakistan will be brought to its knees so that the neighbouring nation will never again think of committing Pahalgam-like despicable terror acts.

Speaking at a Symposium on 'One Nation One Election (ONOE), Reshaping India's Electoral Landscape', organised at Chandigarh University, Minister Puri said: "In 1947, two nations (India and Pakistan) were born from the womb of the same mother.

Here we are the fifth largest economy in the world, and the other country is one which believes in using terrorism as an instrument of state policy. While one country (India) is succeeding, the other country is witnessing terminal decline.

Previous governments used to only condemn the terror attacks like the one on the Indian Parliament and we used to get back to doing business as usual (with Pakistan). But this time it is different, as we have a decisive Prime Minister in PM Narendra Modi." "PM Modi in his statement has categorically said that Pakistan will face the consequences of the act of terror.

It is for the first time that India has decided to make Pakistan pay through the cancellation of the Indus Waters Treaty which governments in the past never considered as a reciprocal action. A country in decline (Pakistan) will be brought to its knees so they never think of such despicable acts again," he said.

On the proposed 'ONOE', Puri said: "Election expense is only one part of the proposal for ONOE but it's absolutely true that it's also very important because the same money can be used for social upliftment and education. ONOE will not benefit the ruling party. This discussion is about democracy; what makes India or Bharat tick. We are more than not just the biggest democracy but we are the mother of democracy, as the oldest democracy."

"According to the IMF, we will be the fourth biggest economy in a very short period of a few months, and the third largest economy by 2027-28. The economic growth requires an enabling environment. The states which provide good enabling environment for entrepreneurs and good law and order are more successful," he added.

India, Pakistan exchange gunfire

Srinagar, April 26 (UNI) : Amid the escalating tensions, Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire overnight across the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir, Army sources said on Saturday.They said the small arms firing was "initiated by Pakistan" and it was "effectively responded to".

Army said during the intervening night of April 25-26, unprovoked small firing was carried out by various Pakistan Army posts all across LoC in Kashmir.

"Indian troops responded appropriately with small arms," they said, adding that no casualties were reported during the exchange of fire.This is the second consecutive night when the Pakistan Army opened small arms fire at several locations along the LoC.Defence officials said Pakistani troops over the last two nights have been resorting to small arms fire along the LoC out of fear that the Indian Army might launch a cross-border operation.

The Srinagar-based defence spokesperson did not respond about the reported exchange of fire along the LoC.

The latest ceasefire violations along the volatile LoC come amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan following the deadly terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, which claimed the lives of 25 tourists and one local resident.

ONOE will strengthen democratic system further: Keshav Maurya

Deputy Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Keshav Prasad Maurya on Saturday said that one nation-one election (ONOE) will further strengthen the democratic system of the country as it will promote economic savings, administrative efficiency and national unity.While addressing the seminar on One Nation-One Election organised by the University Nutan Puratan Educational Family in the Malviya Auditorium of Lucknow University, the Deputy CM said, "Due to frequent elections, administrative work gets disrupted and policy decisions get delayed.

(See on page 2)

Badal appeals to electorate of Ludhiana West to support ...

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal today appealed to the electorate of Ludhiana West to support the SAD in the forthcoming by-election to "pave the way for the end of gangster culture, drug menace and terrorism".

(See on page 3)

Iran, US still have differences over nuclear program : Minister

Tehran and Washington still have differences over Iran's nuclear program, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Saturday."We have disagreements on both general issues and details. Before the next meeting, we will conduct additional analysis in our capitals on how to reduce the disagreements,"

(See on page 5)

Karna Kadur maintains pace to extend lead in APRC

Bengaluru ace Karna Kadur came up with a mature drive to open a sizable lead in the FIA Asia Pacific Rally Championship promoted by Vamcy Merla which is part of the Indu Chandhok Memorial 48th South India Rally, here on Saturday.

(See on page 7)



Larsen & Toubro (L&T) staff and engineers celebrate the break-through of India’s longest rail tunnel in Janasu, Uttarakhand. The 14.57 km long tunnel between Devprayag and Janasu achieved a breakthrough on April 16, 2025 in the presence of Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

Govt should take strict steps against terror: Akhilesh Yadav

Kushinagar (UP), April 26 (UNI) : Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav on Saturday said the central government should take strict steps against terrorism, terrorists and the whole country is with the government.

While talking to the reporters, after paying tribute to former MLA Purnamasi Dehati and former district president Shukrulla Ansar, Akhilesh said, "We hope that the government will take concrete steps. The incident of terrorist attack on tourists in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir is very sad and condemnable. We all are with the martyr families from Uttar Pradesh to Gujarat, Haryana and other states of the country," he said.

He said that in the all-party meeting, all the parties are standing with the government against this attack. "The decisions taken by the government to answer Pakistan and against the terrorists, all are

with the government. The country wants that an incident like Pahalgam should not happen in future," he said.

He said, "The government has support in every way. It is hoped that the intelligence will not fail in future. There will be no lapse in security. Regarding this incident, everyone is saying that there was an intelligence failure of the government. There was no arrangement for the safety of the tourists."

The SP chief said that every citizen of the country, elders, children and everyone is worried about this incident. "The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government has taken all the decisions regarding Jammu and Kashmir in an arbitrary manner."

He said, "The government had assured the people that there would be no terrorist incidents, but it is sad that the incident happened even after that. The BJP

government cannot escape its responsibility. We hope that the government will implement the assurances given regarding the security of the country, protection of borders and economy."

Akhilesh said that our army is very brave but the BJP government has demoralised the youth by bringing the Agniveer scheme in the army. "The youth wants to serve the country by staying in the army. He wants a permanent uniform and a permanent job. Many youth from villages of all the districts of the state including Kushinagar and Ghazipur used to prepare on a large scale to join the army, but there is disappointment among the youth due to the introduction of the Agniveer scheme," he said.

In response to a question, he said that one should not be selective in the matter of visiting someone's house. "I go to many places but BJP people

do not go. SP leaders and workers have already gone to Shubham Dwivedi's house in Kanpur. We did not go but our people went. Our visit is not a matter of politics. BJP and its leaders are doing politics," he said.

Demanding Rs 5 crore rupees and a government job for the families of those martyred in the terrorist incident, he said that the day the government gives Rs 5 crore rupees and a government job, I will also go to the house of martyr Shubham Dwivedi of Kanpur.

The SP chief said that the intentions of the people of BJP are bad. "The government should ban those who give a different direction to the incident. The whole country and all the people are standing in grief of the martyred comrades. BJP should not do politics on this serious issue. The kind of picture posted from the verified social media account of BJP also saddened the supporters of BJP," he claimed.

Joint action by Excise dept, other agencies deal to liquor mafia in UP

Lucknow, April 26 (UNI) : A major crackdown on the illegal liquor trade is underway across Uttar Pradesh with joint operations by the Excise Department, Police and administrative teams leading to extensive raids, vehicle checks and secret investigations, resulting in the seizure of 5,838.57 litres of illicit liquor and the arrest of several offenders across multiple districts, sources said here on Saturday.

Sources said that the joint teams of the Excise Department and Police carried out extensive raids in rural areas across several districts including Moradabad, Sitapur, Unnao, Gorakhpur, Sultanpur, Pilibhit, Gonda, Balrampur, Bahraich, Hardoi, Kushinagar, Gautam Buddh Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Jhansi, Rampur, Prayagraj, Ambedkar Nagar, Barabanki, Siddharth Nagar, Sant Kabir Nagar, Muzaffarnagar, Lalitpur, Mainpuri, Basti, Meerut, Mirzapur, Shravasti, Jaunpur, Sonbhadra, Fatehpur, Hamirpur and Bareilly. Sources said that

among the districts, Lakhimpur Kheri reported the highest seizures. "In Jhansi, authorities recovered 590 litres of illicit raw liquor during operations," they said.

Sources said that in Unnao, raids in villages like Champa Purwa, Mohan, Nyotani, Shakurabad, Rampur, Mawaiya, Kedar Kheda and Rasoolpur Mahgwa led to the seizure of 280 litres of illegal liquor and the destruction of 700 kilograms of molasses.

Sources said that similarly, in Lakhimpur Kheri, operations in villages such as Gulouli Basbirwa, Basantapur, Kusmi Colony, Bhatpurwa, Baikuan Rahjaniya, Nayagaon and Jamuniya Kadhile resulted in the confiscation of 300 litres of illicit liquor and the destruction of 1,270 kilograms of molasses.

Sources said that the excise teams also uncovered illicit liquor production at brick kilns in Gorakhpur, Sultanpur, Pilibhit and Deoria. "In Gorakhpur and Deoria, authorities seized 20 litres

of raw liquor and destroyed 100 kilograms of lahan. In Sultanpur, 35 litres of illegal liquor were seized and 150 kilograms of lahan were destroyed," they said.

Sources said that the crackdown resulted in the large-scale destruction of lahan, which is used in the production of illicit liquor. "A total of 16,280 kilograms (162.8 quintals) of lahan were destroyed across various districts, with major operations in Lakhimpur Kheri (1,950 kg and 1,750 kg) and Jhansi (1,000 kg)," they said.

Sources said that a total of 28 individuals were arrested during the operation. "Arrests included three women and four others in Unnao, two women in Jhansi, one person in Pilibhit and three people in Gautam Buddh Nagar, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, and Fatehpur. Besides, three smugglers were arrested in Unnao for smuggling foreign liquor," they said.

Sources said that District Excise Officers in Rampur and Muzaffarnagar also conducted surprise inspections at liquor shops.

4 killed as loaded truck overturns on ambulance

Nirzapur (UP), April 26 (UNI) : Four persons, including a pregnant woman and her mother, were killed when a truck loaded with gravel overturned on the ambulance near Chhato in Ahraura area of Mirzapur district here in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday, a police officer said here.

Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Manjari Rao said that on Saturday afternoon, Surajbali Kharwar (26), Hiravati Devi (25), residents of Kanhara village under Obra police station area, Malti Devi (45), a resident of Jugail Kothi, her husband Kaushal and relative Suraj were going to a hospital in Varanasi for the delivery of pregnant Hiravati.

He said that near Chhato Trimohani village on the Varanasi-Sonbhadra highway the truck loaded with gravel lost balance and overturned on the ambulance. "The police, who arrived after getting information from the local people, somehow managed to take everyone out with the help of a crane and cutter and took them to the primary health centre where doctors declared Suraj, Hiravati Devi, Malti and ambulance driver Ramu dead," he said. The DSP said that Hiravati's husband Kaushal and ambulance assistant Bhandari Sharma were injured. "Both have been sent to Varanasi Trauma Centre where the condition of both is said to be serious," he said.

Pick-up vehicle runs over sweepers: Six killed, five injured

Chandigarh, April 26 (UNI) : At least six sweepers were killed and five others were injured when a pickup vehicle ran over them on the Delhi-Mumbai Motorway near Ebrahim Baas Village in Firozpur-Jhinka of Nuh district in Haryana, police sources said on Saturday.

Police said that the sweepers were engaged in road cleaning work at around 1000 hrs when the incident occurred.

Injured persons have been rushed to a nearby hospital. Details are awaited.

Six JBT teachers suspended for misconduct, unauthorized absence

Shimla, April 26 (UNI) : The Himachal Pradesh government has suspended six Junior Basic Training (JBT) teachers across the state for alleged gross misconduct, including absence from duty and participation in protests against government policies. In Shimla district, Ranveer Chauhan (JBT) and Dalveer Singh (JBT) from Government Primary School, Shilal, Education Block Kupvi, were placed under suspension after a surprise inspection on April 25.

The Block Elementary Education officer (BEEO) Kupvi found the school premises completely deserted, with both staff and students absent without any prior intimation. All rooms were locked during working hours, leading to serious concerns regarding negligence towards official duties. Among those suspended is Jagdish Sharma (JBT) posted at Government Composite Primary School, Kiartu, Education Block Theog, District Shimla.; Sanjay (Head Teacher) from GPS Hangloh, Education Block Palampur, District Kangra; Pratap Thakur (JBT) of GPS Dhang Ruhana, Education Block Sataun, District Sirmour, and Ram Singh Rao (Head Teacher) of GPS Purana Bazar, Education Block Sundernagar, District Mandi, have been placed under suspension.

UNSC strongly condemns Pahalgam terror attack, asks for perpetrators to be brought to justice

United Nations/New Delhi, April 26 (UNI) : The UN Security Council has condemned in the strongest terms the Pahalgam terror attack and underlined the need to hold its perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors accountable and bring them to justice.

In a statement, the UN Security Council reiterated that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation.

The statement read: "The members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest terms the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April, during which at least 26 people were killed and many more injured.

"The members of the

Security Council expressed their deepest sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims and to the Government of India and Government of Nepal and wished a speedy and full recovery to those who were injured. "The members of the Security Council reaffirmed that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security.

"The members of the Security Council underlined the need to hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of this reprehensible act of terrorism accountable and bring them to justice.

"They stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all

States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard.

"The members of the Security Council reiterated that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"They reaffirmed the need for all States to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts."

Legal action to be taken for flying drones, UAV over Jewar airport: police

Lucknow, April 26 (UNI) : As per the directives of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Directorate General of Civil Aviation and security agencies, Noida International Airport (Jewar) has been declared a Red Zone (No-Drone Fly Zone) from October 8, 2024, a police spokesman said here on Saturday. The spokesman said that flying drones or any type of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) over and around Noida International Airport is completely prohibited. "This ban has been implemented keeping in mind the security of the airport and monitoring of the airspace," he said.

He said that flying a drone without permission in this area is a punishable offence under the Airports Authority of India Act-1934 and the rules related to UAV operations. "Legal action will be taken against any person, institution or group found violating this instruction. All citizens are requested to follow this rule and cooperate with the security system of the airport," he said.

Collector orders correction in Shajra Nasab record of Kanaura tribe

Kinnaur, April 26 (UNI) : District collector Dr Amit Kumar Sharma on Saturday ordered correction of clerical errors in "Shajra Nasab" Records under Section 38-A of the Himachal Pradesh (HP) Land Revenue Act, 1954.

In a notification, the decision was taken on several representations, applications and complaints received in this office from individuals and authorities regarding discrepancies in the entries of caste / tribe names in the Shajra Nasab (pedigree table) and other revenue records in District Kinnaur. H.P.; A single-page order

stated that complainants or grievances have pointed out that the name of the Scheduled Tribe community "Kanaura" / "Kinnara" as recognized under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, is not being reflected accurately in the revenue records. After examination of settlement and field records, it has been observed that the primary tribe name has consistently been recorded as "Kinnaura" in various entries of Shajra Nasab, irrespective of the associated caste or sub-caste description.

Toll in cracker blast rises to four, Stalin announces solatium

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : The toll in Friday night's cracker blast at Omalur in Salem district rose to four with the death of one more person, even as Chief Minister M K Stalin announced a solatium of Rs three lakh each to their family members. An official release said three people Selvaraj (29), Tamilselvan and Karthi (both aged 11) were killed on the spot. On Saturday, one more person, identified as Lokesh (20), who had sustained serious injuries, succumbed to burns at the at the Salem Government Medical College hospital. Mr Stalin expressed deep anguish and grief over their deaths and announced the relief from the Chief Minister's Family Relief Fund and also offered his condolences to their families.

The crackers, stacked in a gunny sack, were being taken to a temple festival in a two-wheeler when the tragedy occurred. The victims were crossing a garbage dump which was burning when a spark from it triggered the explosion, in which three people were charred to death on the spot and one more succumbing to injuries today.



Police detain over 400 suspected immigrants in the wake of Pahalgam terror attack, in Ahmedabad on Saturday.

Short duration hot test of Semicryo engine success : ISRO

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully conduct a short duration hot test of Semicryogenic engine. In an update on Saturday evening, ISRO said a short duration hot test of the Semicryogenic Engine was successfully conducted at the test facility in ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) at Mahendragiri in Tamil Nadu.

The short duration hot test was conducted on April 24, 2025. This ignition test is the second milestone after the successful first hot test on March 28, 2025, that was a major breakthrough in the testing of the Semicryogenic engine test

programme.

In this test, the Engine Power Head Test Article, encompassing all engine systems except the thrust chamber, was subjected to a hot test for a duration of 3.5 seconds, that validated the engine start-up sequence.

During the test, the engine was successfully ignited and operated up to 60% of its rated power level, demonstrating stable and controlled performance.

These tests are part of a planned series of evaluations designed to validate the design integrity and performance of critical subsystems, including the low-pressure and high-pressure turbo

pumps, pre-burner and associated control systems.

The results provided crucial data to finalize the operational sequencing of the full Semicryogenic engine.

Further qualification tests are scheduled to comprehensively validate the engine system, ultimately paving the way for its induction into ISRO's launch vehicles.

US Space Agency NASA and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) are reviewing potential dates for the launch of INDO-US joint NISAR Satellite Mission.

Developed over more than a decade, the NISAR mission is the first Earth-observing satellite to

feature dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar — NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band.

The satellite, to be placed in a Low Earth Orbit, has been tested at ISRO facility in

Bengaluru and will be transported to the spaceport of Sriharikota, about 110 km from here, NASA said in a mission update a few days back. Now it is almost confirmed that he launch will be in June after undergoing further tests of satellite at the SHAR Range.

In an update last week, NASA said work on the NISAR satellite has been completed at the ISRO Satellite Integration and Testing Establishment in

Bengaluru, and preparations are underway to transport it to the launch site at the agency's Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on India's southeastern coast.

NASA and ISRO now are reviewing potential launch dates for the NISAR (NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) mission. Launch services are provided by ISRO, using the Geosynchronous Launch Vehicle Mark-II rocket that will carry the spacecraft into a Low Earth Orbit.

The launch readiness date for the mission will be determined by the two agencies in the coming weeks, NASA said.

In fact, the Satellite was

already shifted to Sriharikota from Bengaluru for the launch but has been taken back due to some technical glitch in reflector antenna, which is a crucial part of NISAR's radar system.

"The NISAR satellite, a joint venture between NASA and ISRO, was indeed taken back from Sriharikota for further testing, specifically for the reflector antenna, which is a crucial component of the NISAR's radar system".

It experienced an issue that required a thermal coating to be applied, leading to its return to the US for rectification.

This delay has pushed the launch date of NISAR to later in the year.

The issue pertained to the NISAR satellite is the reflector antenna, which is 12 meters in diameter, was found to have a potential overheating problem during flight.

TN Cabinet rejig likely, two

(Contd from page 1)

Stalin himself issued a statement removing its Villupuram strongman Ponmudy from the post, after the party faced backlash, not only from the Opposition, but within, indicating that the party had taken a serious view of the issue with the elections less than year away.

Compounding Mr Ponmudy's woes was the Madras High Court initiating suo motu proceedings after the police did not file a FIR against him despite the court orders, and had issued a notice to the Tamil Nadu government, returnable by June 19 (after the court summer vacation) on a plea filed by an advocate seeking his removal from the Cabinet.

If the reports are any indication, a reshuffle of portfolios of some Ministers was also on the cards with former Finance Minister and the present IT Minister Palanivel Thiaga Rajan (PTR) may be given charge of the Electricity Department--held by Mr Senthilbalaji (also facing political heat in the wake of recent ED raids unearthing Rs 1,000 scam in the State-owned TASMAC)--especially after he expressed his displeasure in the State Assembly over

his department not getting adequate financial allocation and authority.

The official announcement on Cabinet rejig is likely to be made in the coming days as Mr Senthilbalaji, the Karur strongman of DMK, who was arrested in the cash for jobs scam in June 2023, continued as Minister without portfolio and later resigned after indictments from the court, before being re-inducted into the Cabinet two days after being granted bail in September last year and now, facing strong criticisms from the

Apex Court over his continuance in the State Council of Ministers.

The Court held that he was granted bail on the ground that he was not a Minister and that he had been under prolonged incarceration and questioned as to how he could become the Minister again while facing a corruption case and that the court would not hesitate to revisit its earlier order on granting bail. Not only Mr Senthilbalaji and Mr Ponmudy, three other Ministers too are facing the political heat, with the Madras High Court reversing the Vellore Special Court orders discharging veteran DMK

leader, party General Secretary and Water Resources Minister Duraimurugan from two disproportionate asset cases on Wednesday and Thursday and the same court passing similar orders against Agriculture Minister MRK Pannneerselvam in a DA case registered by the DVAC.

While the Madras High Court, passing orders on revisions pleas filed by the DVAC against their discharge by the lower courts, directed the Vellore Special Court to conduct day to day trial and dispose of the two cases in six months again

Mr Duraimurugan and his family members, it had on Friday evening passed similar directions to a Cuddalore District court against Mr Panneerselvam, while reversing its discharge order. Another matter is the recent ED raids against the Municipal Administration Minister K N Nehru and his family members. The Principal Opposition had already given no-confidence motion notices against Mr Senthilbalaji, Mr Ponmudy and Mr Nehru, but the Speaker had disallowed them to speak on the issue as the matter was under his consideration, leading to the

ISRO Chief flags off GSLV Second Stage to Sriharikota for NISAR Mission

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : The Second Stage (GS2) of ISRO's GSLV launch vehicle was flagged off to the spaceport of Sriharikota for the Indo-US joint NISAR Satellite launch mission, scheduled for June. The GS2 stage is a key component of the GSLV, utilizing a high-thrust hypergolic liquid propellant Vikas engine for its power, according to ISRO.

It was flagged off by Dr. V. Narayanan, Secretary, DOS/Chairman, ISRO, on April 24, 2025, from the ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri, to the launch complex at Sriharikota. The Directors of ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC) and Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) also participated in the flag off ceremony. This liquid stage is earmarked for the upcoming mission of GSLV (GSLV-F16), that will launch the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite. The launch campaign activities for this mission have already commenced at Sriharikota in the first week of this month (April). NISAR is an advanced microwave remote sensing satellite with dual band synthetic aperture radar featuring sweep-SAR technology. This satellite will map the entire globe in 12 days. NISAR features advanced RADAR imaging that will provide unique data in regard to Earth Observations related to Agriculture, likelihood of earthquakes, landslides etc.

Vaiko leads MDMK protest, demands recall of TN Governor

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : MDMK, a key ally of the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu, staged a protest demonstration on Saturday demanding removal of Governor RN Ravi in the wake of the the Apex Court's observations against him and also against the Centre.

MDMK General Secretary and Rajya Sabha Member Vaiko led the protest demonstration in Chennai and shouted slogans flaying the BJP Government at the Centre for its attempt to divide the people on religious lines and destroying the secular fabric and the pluralistic principles of the country for the last ten years.

The protest demonstration was in all Zones in Chennai, Trichy, Madurai and Coimbatore. The demonstration was also to press for the withdrawal of the Waqf (Amendment) Act which would affect the Minorities and aimed at snatching away the autonomy of Waqf Boards and to condemn the BJP government at the Centre which had been insulting the Constitutional provisions.

“Be ethical, humane, even as Tech transforms healthcare : AFMS Vice Admiral tells doctors

Chennai, April 26 (UNI) : ‘Even as technology is transforming healthcare delivery, doctors should remain ethical, humane, listen and understand the patient’s concerns and treat them with dignity and respect’, Vice Admiral Arti Sarin, Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS), New Delhi, said.

Delivering the 39th Convocation address of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (SRIHER) here today she said “We stand at the crossroads of technology and tradition." Artificial Intelligence, genomics, wearable health monitors, robotic surgeries and drone based medical logistics are today’s realities.

"In the armed forces medical services, we have seen how telemedicine, drone-enabled blood delivery, simulation-based trauma training and AI driven triage systems are saving lives in the most remote terrains", she said, adding, "you must lead this revolution grounded in science, but guided by ethics."

"The nation you serve will look to you not just as a physician but as a leader, educator and innovator. Whether you choose the path of research, clinical service, administration or public health, never forget the larger vision of healthcare equity, rural outreach, gender sensitivity and national resilience", Vice Admiral Arti Sarin said. "You don't need to be in the armed forces to serve the nation. Every committed doctor is a soldier in the battlefield of life", she told the graduating students.

Turning to the teaching faculty she said ‘your guidance ensures that our future doctors are not only proficient in the latest medical practices but also embody the compassion and ethical standards that define exemplary medical care’. She gave away 40 gold medals to 29 candidates. Dr. V. Sanjana got five gold medals for all round performance in MBBS.

Chancellor V.R. Venkataachalam conferred the degrees on 637 Ph.D., UG and PG graduates in medical, engineering and management sciences. He and Pro Chancellor R.V. Sengutuvan distributed the certificates.

Earlier in her report Vice Chancellor Dr. Uma Sekar said many initiatives have been taken to enhance internationalisation, attract foreign students and promote dual and twinning programmes with scholarship activities for students.

MoUs to facilitate research have been signed with IIT-M Pravatark, Universities of Maryland, Michigan and Malaya, Rochester Institute of Technology, Colorado State University and Vellore Institute of Technology.



JOINTELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

(For the State of Goa and Union Territories)
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Udyog Vihar Phase- IV, Sector 18, Gurugram, Haryana 122015
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PUBLIC NOTICE

(Petition No. 136/2025 & 137/2025)

Further to the Public Notice published on 09.04.2025, all interested person(s)/ Stakeholders of the UT of Puducherry are hereby informed that the Public Hearing shall be held on the following petitions admitted by the Commission:

1. Petition No. 136/2025: Filing of the petition of Business Plan for MYT Control Period for FY 2025-26 to FY 2029-30 for the Electricity Department of Puducherry as per Regulation 8 of the JERC (Generation, Transmission & Distribution Multi Year Tariff) Regulations, 2024.
2. Petition No. 139/2025: Petition for approval of the True up of FY 2023 - 24, Annual Performance Review (APR) of FY 2024 - 25, Determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR) and retail supply tariff for the MYT control period from FY-2025-26 to FY-2029-30 for the Electricity Department of Puducherry as pr Regulation 9 & 12 of the JERC (Generation, Transmission and Distribution Multi Year Tariff) Regulation, 2024.

The aforesaid Petition is available on the Commission's website, i.e., www.jercuts.gov.in and on the Petitioner's website, i.e. <https://electricity.py.gov.in>.

Interested persons may give their objections/suggestions/comments on the above Petition, in person/ registered post addressed to- **The Secretary, JERC (For the State of Goa & UTs) 3rd & 4th Floor, Plot No. 55-56, Udyog Vihar Phase IV, Sector 18, Gurugram, Haryana- 122015** or through e-mail at mail id-secy.jercuts@gov.in on or before 29.04.2025 with a copy to the **The Superintending Engineer cum Head of Department, Electricity Department- UT of Puducherry, 117, Nethaji Subash Chandra Bose salai, Puducherry - 605001**, (Email : se1ped.pon@nic.in).

The Commission shall conduct the public hearing on the above-mentioned Petition as per the schedule given below:

S. No.	Date/Day	Time	Mode
1	29th April, 2025 (Friday)	11:30 AM	PMMS Hall, No.81, Laporte Street, Puducherry - 605001.
CBC 34124/12/0006/2526			(SD Sharma) Secretary (I/c), JERC



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान खड़गपुर
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KHARAGPUR

Advt. No.: R/03/2025 dated April 16, 2025

The Institute invites **Online Applications** from Indian Nationals for **various Non-Teaching positions (Medical cadre)**.

For details regarding educational qualification, experience and updates visit:
<http://www.iitkgp.ac.in/non-teaching-positions>

cbc 21255/12/0001/2526**कुलसचिव/ Registrar**

STANDARD POST

'Atmosphere has changed': BSF's vigil sharpens after Pahalgam tragedy

In the wake of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's fiery declaration to "identify, track and punish" every terrorist and their backers involved in the heinous Pahalgam massacre, the atmosphere along the India-Pakistan border has turned electric.

The Border Security Force (BSF) is now in full combat readiness, signalling that India is not just angry -- it's ready to act.

From the dusty stretches of Rajasthan's Jaisalmer to the volatile frontier posts, BSF units are no longer in routine mode.

There's a tense calm — the kind that comes before a storm.

"We are fully prepared to carry out the Prime Minister's announcement against the militants to its final conclusion," declares BSF Company Commandant Akhilesh, his voice steely with resolve.

The situation on the ground has changed dramatically.

A BSF jawan, eyes scanning the horizon, shares the sentiment of many in uniform.

"The atmosphere has changed... it's tense now. What happened in Pahalgam was very painful. We are keeping a special watch on Pakistan," he says grimly, his finger resting lightly on the trigger.

BSF Assistant Company Commandant Parimal Das reveals a subtle but telling shift across the border.

"There has been a reduction in movement near the border, but they've increased their deployment. They know the Prime Minister has spoken -- and this time, action will follow..."

Even as the political message from Delhi echoes with intensity, it's on these frontlines that the response will be shaped.

The BSF is not just watching — it's waiting for the order.

In what seems like a synchronised tightening of the belt, the entire security apparatus -- especially along the western front -- has gone into alert mode.

Reports suggest additional deployments, advanced surveillance, and silent communication drills are already underway. The message from the border is clear -- the countdown has begun.

Earlier on Saturday, BSF Company Commandant Akhilesh further added: "The BSF is fully prepared and has increased its vigil across the border with Pakistan. Our preparations are complete, we are capable of responding, we have increased all our logistics, we have also increased manpower on the border, the atmosphere on the border is tense right now but we need an order from the higher headquarters."

The BSF soldiers are keeping an eye on every movement by the enemy nation Pakistan and its backed terror groups, he said. The International Border between India and Pakistan in Rajasthan is more than 1,000 km long.

"In the 1971 war, Pakistan was defeated from the border with India in Rajasthan," he added.

"After Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistan is scared and knows that India will give a reply with full preparation, that is why there is a lot of commotion on the other side of the border. As a result of this Pakistan has increased the strength of its army."

"BSF, Intelligence and other central agencies along with BSF jawans are keeping a close watch on every move of the enemy nation."

BSF soldiers are keeping a vigil on the India-Pakistan International Border, he noted.

"While keeping vigil, the BSF soldiers said that we are ready to deal with any situation, including the terrorists who carried out the horrific incident in Pahalgam. Since then, there is anger not only among the people of the country but also within us (the security personnel). We will give a befitting reply to any action of the enemy."

World Art Day 2025 Kicks Off with a Global Celebration of Creativity and Community



(By Prabuddha Ghosh)

The global art community ushered in World Art Day 2025 with the launch of the first phase of celebrations under this year's compelling theme: "A Garden of Expression: Cultivating Community Through Art." This international observance, officially proclaimed by UNESCO in 2019, continues to honor the indispensable role of art in shaping societies, bridging divides, and nurturing creativity beyond borders.

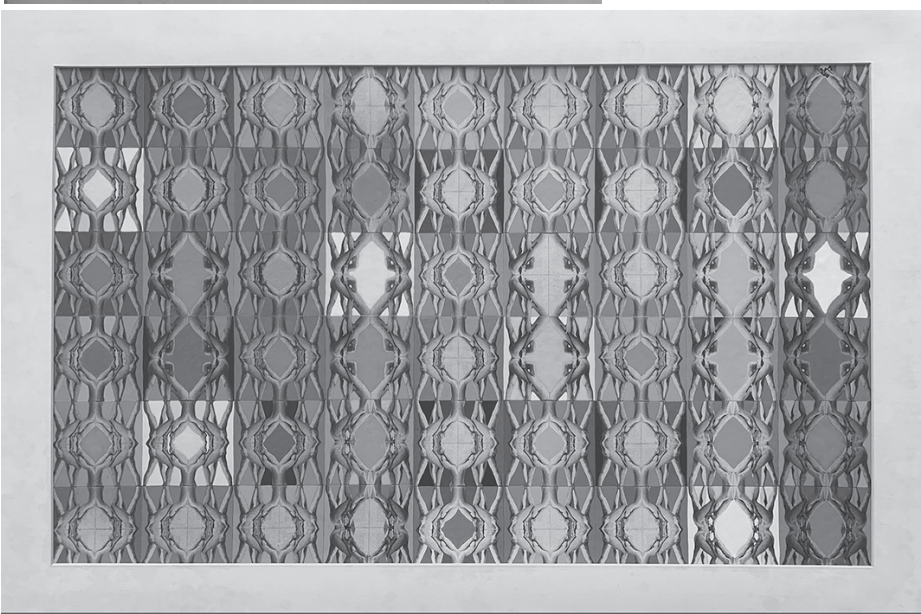
At the forefront of this year's celebration is an innovative international online exhibition, curated by acclaimed Indian artist and curator Prabuddha Ghosh, with the support of the Indian non-profit Art Insight Medium (AIM). A special message of goodwill was also shared by Ajay Jadhav, Founder President and Trustee of AIM, emphasizing the organization's enduring commitment to empowering artists globally.

Commemorated on the birth anniversary of Leonardo da Vinci, the Renaissance icon whose legacy symbolizes peace, freedom, and multicultural harmony, World Art Day is more than a tribute — it's a clarion call. In times of

growing conflict and ideological polarization, this year's theme invites the global creative community to cultivate spaces of empathy, diversity, and healing.

The online exhibition brings together 27 artists from 11 countries, creating a vibrant tapestry of cross-cultural perspectives. Each artist was thoughtfully introduced to the audience, with curator Prabuddha Ghosh offering insightful commentary and live demonstrations to deepen viewer engagement and understanding. The exhibition serves not just as a showcase of talent, but as a meaningful dialogue across generations and geographies.

Among the featured artists, Prof. Renata Bonter-Jędrzejewska of Poland impressed audiences with her deeply emotive ceramic works, while Dr. Fassih Keiso, based in Australia and originally from Syria, presented poignant mixed-media pieces reflecting themes of displacement and cultural memory. Marko Brajković of Croatia captured attention with line-driven narratives unfolding on canvas, and from India, Zen Vartan mesmerized viewers with his meditative "No Mind"



brushwork rooted in spiritual practice.

A notable strength of the exhibition is its intergenerational reach. From emerging voices like Fish Jaafar (Singapore) and Vatsya Padia (India) to seasoned practitioners such as Atul Padia, Jayanta Khan, Rajiv Kapoor, and Sunita Lamba, the show

reflects a diverse spectrum of thought and expression. Veteran banker Anil Oberoi drew particular admiration for his tree-root sculptures — natural elements transformed into soulful artworks. Printmaker Yatthesha showcased his technical mastery in etching, and Prabuddha Ghosh himself contributed

enriched the exhibition. Emilie Moreau of France explored her emotional kinship with wild animals through organic imagery, while Modesto Furchi (Italy) combined sketching and sculpture in a striking portrayal of form and feeling.

AIM, through this initiative, has reaffirmed its



ethereal miniature paintings and deeply symbolic photography rooted in spiritual inquiry.

International contributions further

mission to create a strong platform for artists, giving them global exposure and fostering connections among creatives. By spotlighting artists from across the globe — from students to masters — the exhibition truly embodies the essence of this year's theme: cultivating community through creative expression.

"As artists, we are gardeners of culture," said curator Prabuddha Ghosh. "Our role today is not only to reflect the times but to imagine new ways of being — more inclusive, more compassionate, more connected."

World Art Day 2025's opening phase serves as a powerful reminder:

Art is not merely what we create — it is what we awaken. In every stroke, sculpture, and song, there lies a call — to listen, to feel, and to build a more harmonious world.

As the celebrations continue, this global garden of expression is just beginning to bloom — and everyone is invited to witness its unfolding beauty.

Condemnation by AILU and Demand for Strict Action Regarding the Assault on Woman Advocate Gyaneshwari Anjan in Sanagav

On 14th April 2025, in Sanagav village of Ambajogai Taluka, Beed District, woman advocate Gyaneshwari Anjan, who practices at the Sessions Court, was brutally assaulted by the village Sarpanch Anant Anjan and his nine associates. The incident occurred over a dispute related to noise pollution. Advocate Anjan suffered from migraines triggered by the loud sound of religious loudspeakers and the constant noise from nearby flour mills. She had initially approached the Sarpanch with a complaint, requesting that the noise levels be reduced. Though the Sarpanch promised action, no steps were taken. Subsequently, she lodged a formal complaint at the Yusuf-Wadgaon Police Station, after which the noise had temporarily subsided.

However, on 14th April, the Sarpanch and his associates came to Advocate Anjan's house and threatened her. They asked, "Will you permit the



religious rituals of the village to continue?" Following this, they forcibly took her to a field and brutally assaulted her using sticks and iron pipes. She sustained severe injuries and was immediately admitted to a hospital. Although she has since returned home, as of 18th April 2025, none of the accused have been arrested. The accused remain absconding and have resumed operation of the flour mills, in addition to issuing further threats to

Advocate Anjan's family.

The All India Lawyers' Union, Maharashtra State, strongly condemns this incident. Lawyers are an integral part of the judicial system, and such an attack on an advocate is a direct challenge to law and order. Advocate Gyaneshwari Anjan was merely exercising her fundamental rights, yet she was violently assaulted in a mob-like manner, which is utterly deplorable. The police's failure to take concrete action thus far



raises serious concerns about the safety of advocates.

The All India Lawyers' Union, Maharashtra State, demands the immediate arrest of the Sarpanch and his associates, and strict legal action against them. It is also demanding for enactment of a special law and establishment of a

protection mechanism for the safety of advocates. AILU further demands for an impartial and swift investigation by the police to ensure that the culprits are brought to justice and for strict enforcement of noise pollution regulations, with stringent action against violators.

Badal appeals to electorate of Ludhiana West to support SAD in by-election

Ludhiana, April 26 (UNI) : Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal today appealed to the electorate of Ludhiana West to support the SAD in the forthcoming by-election to "pave the way for the end of gangster culture, drug menace and terrorism". Addressing the media at the residence of SAD candidate Parupkar Singh Ghuman, he said: "The people of the State have experimented with both the Congress and AAP. Punjab has witnessed a steep decline in all parameters and now the situation has become such that even the common man is not safe. The State needs a decisive government like the SAD which will eradicate gangsters and drug traffickers besides bringing back peace and ensuring communal harmony."

Badal also attacked the AAP Delhi leadership for taking over the Punjab government.

Ham as releases video showing rescue of Israeli hostage after tunnel bombing in Gaza

Gaza, April 26 (UNI) : Al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, on Saturday released a video purportedly showing the rescue of an Israeli hostage following the bombing of a tunnel by the Israeli army in the Gaza Strip a few days ago.

Posted on Hamas' official Telegram channel, the video appears to document part of a rescue operation by Al-Qassam fighters. In the footage, fighters are seen digging through the rubble of a collapsed tunnel using their hands and basic tools under difficult field conditions.A barefoot individual, identified as an Israeli hostage, is shown being pulled from the debris, appearing exhausted and immobile. The video also shows the person receiving a respirator to assist with breathing.No additional information regarding the individual's condition or identity was provided by Al-Qassam. The authenticity of the footage has not been independently verified, and the Israeli army has not commented on the video.

A few days ago, the Israeli military announced that it had targeted and bombed a network of tunnels across different areas of the Gaza Strip, describing them as being used for "military purposes."The release of the video comes as fierce clashes continue between Israel and Palestinian factions in Gaza, amid ongoing regional and international efforts to broker a ceasefire.

Israel receives 3 new F-35i stealth fighter jets

Jerusalem, April 26 (UNI) : The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said on Friday that its Air Force had received three new F-35i stealth fighter jets.

According to an IDF statement, the three jets landed Thursday evening at Nevatim Airbase in the Negev Desert, southern Israel.

Also named "Adir", meaning "mighty" in Hebrew, the F-35i is a modified variant of the F-35 Lightning II, manufactured by the U.S.-headquartered Lockheed Martin Corporation.The new jets have joined the Air Force's 140 Squadron, known as Golden Eagle, which is Israel's first F-35i unit, established in 2016 with the arrival of the first two jets.

Israel was the first country to purchase the F-35 as part of a foreign military sale with the United States in October 2010.According to the IDF statement, since the start of its multi-front conflicts in the region, the Adir formation has been operating at "an unprecedented operational load", participating in both defensive and offensive missions.Israel's state-owned Kan TV News reported that the Israeli Air Force now fields 45 F-35i jets out of the 75 included in procurement agreements with the U.S. government.

Iran, US still have differences over nuclear program : Minister

Tehran, April 26 (UNI) : Tehran and Washington still have differences over Iran's nuclear program, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Saturday."We have disagreements on both general issues and details. Before the next meeting, we will conduct additional analysis in our capitals on how to reduce the disagreements," Araghchi said on air of Iranian television.Iran and the United States exchanged written views and outlined their positions during indirect talks in Oman, the foreign minister said.

Trump, EC head agree to meet soon - Diplomatic Source

Moscow, April 26 (UNI) : European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and US President Donald Trump have agreed to hold a meeting in the near future, a European diplomatic source told RIA Novosti."The head of the European Commission and the US president, while in Rome, agreed to hold a meeting in the near future, but no specific date has been set yet," the source said.The source added that von der Leyen would meet with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Rome on Saturday afternoon.

"Yes, such a meeting is scheduled," the source said.Earlier this week, European Commission spokeswoman Paula Pinho told a briefing in Brussels that von der Leyen did not have any confirmed plans to meet with Trump, but would take the opportunity to make contact with him in Rome.

Nepali people stage protest outside Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu against Pahalgam attack

Kathmandu, April 26 (UNI) : Nepali people held a large demonstration outside the Pakistan Embassy in Kathmandu against the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir, in which a Nepali tourist was among the 26 people killed.The country's Rashtriya Prajatantra Party condemned the terror attack and staged a protest against Pakistan's state-sponsored-terrorism.

The protesters held the Nepali national flag and a photo of the deceased Sudeep Neupane (27), demanding justice for him.The protesters were heard chanting cries such as "Down with Islamic Terrorism", "Pakistan Terrorist Army", and "Stop Killing Hindus".

A video on X (formerly Twitter) showed the protest, which was marked by high emotion. The protesters also sent a note to the Pakistani Embassy and asked it to stop supporting terrorism.

A separate protest was also carried out by Nagarik Yuva Shakti Nepal who condemned the terror attack, and raised calls for bringing the perpetrators to justice, and asked for a stop to the targeted killing of Hindus.

5 killed, over 700 wounded in blast at southern Iranian port



Tehran, April 26 (UNI) : At least five people were killed and more than 700 others injured in a huge explosion that occurred on Saturday at a port in Iran's southern province of Hormozgan, media reported.

The casualties were announced by Mehrdad Hassanzadeh, director general of the provincial crisis management organization, in an interview with Fars.

He added that those wounded in the incident

were hospitalized in different medical centers across the southern port city of Bandar Abbas in the province.

According to China's Consulate General in Bandar Abbas, three Chinese citizens sustained minor injuries in the explosion. They are now in good condition after receiving medical treatment.

In an earlier report, the official news agency IRNA said the blast occurred at a gas tank at the Port of

Shahid Rajaei, causing extensive damage to nearby buildings and cars.

In remarks to Fars later, Hossein Zafari, spokesman for the National Disaster Management Organization, said the blast was caused by chemical materials in a container at the port.

Meanwhile, the Iranian government's spokeswoman, Fatemeh Mohajerani, warned against any "hasty speculations" about the cause of the incident before relevant authorities

Anti-canal protests continue in Sindh, as sit-ins disrupt transportation

Karachi, April 26 (UNI) : Protests over the controversial canal project in Sindh is seeing no end, as protesters have staged multiple sit-ins across the province, bringing all transportation to a halt. This comes despite the Pakistan government halting the project until a consensus is reached.

The sit-ins carried out en-masse by protesters have disrupted traffic across several districts in the province, once again stalling transportation significantly, stranding thousands of trucks and effectively disrupting the province's whole supply chain.

According to Dawn, Tariq Gujjar, president of the Transport Goods Association (TGA), said more than 10,000 to 15,000 trawlers, containers, trucks and oil tankers remain stuck in the Sukkur-Larkana division and around Bahawalpur due to ongoing road blockades.

"Drivers have reported that goods movement, especially from the Sukkur-Larkana region to the Bahawalpur area, is still

paralysed," he said.

He added that lawyers are still not ready to call off their protests, and are reportedly waiting for the notification on May 2 making the rollback of canal projects official.

The trucks have been carrying food items, sacrificial animals, fertilisers, machinery, medicines, and other critical assets for import and export.

While there has been headway between the PPP (Pakistan Peoples Party) and the ruling PML-N (Pakistan Muslim League – Nawaz) over halting the project until a mutual consensus was reached via mechanisms of the Council of Common Interests, the protesters have not been satisfied in the least.

In Khairpur, the sit-in by lawyers entered its ninth day at the Babarlou Bypass on the National Highway. In Ghotki, two sit-ins continue — one by nationalist groups at the Mangrio Pump site near Daharki, and another by lawyers at the Sindh-Punjab border near Kamo Shaheed, The News International reported.

Both groups have

vowed to maintain their protests until a notification confirming the project's cancellation is issued — despite Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's assurance that no canal would be built sans consensus.The ongoing demonstrations, joined by members of the civil society, have led to the complete suspension of goods transport between Sindh and Punjab.

The Sindh Bar Council also declared a province-wide strike, causing widespread disruption in legal proceedings. Courts in Hyderabad, Larkana, Nawabshah, Jacobabad, and other cities were boycotted, with City Court remaining locked even on Friday. Hundreds of cases were adjourned without hearing, leaving litigants distressed.

The transport blockade has had serious repercussions beyond Sindh. In Faisalabad, over 1,000 containers belonging to the textile sector — loaded with export and import goods — remain stranded due to road closures in Sindh. This has caused a critical shortage of

complete the investigations, the semi-official Fars news agency reported.

She added that what had been confirmed so far was that there were containers, probably with chemical materials, at a corner of the port.

Rapid reaction and rescue teams have been dispatched to the scene, and all port activities have been suspended, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported, adding that the number of injured is likely to increase.

In a post on social media platform X, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian extended sympathy to the victims of the explosion, announcing that he had issued a directive for the investigation of the blast as well as the cause of the incident.He added that Iran's Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni had been dispatched to the province to ensure the necessary coordination and address the condition of the injured.

raw materials, disrupting factory production.

According to Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce officials, two export vessels have already been missed, impacting exports that were scheduled two weeks ago.

Attempting to call off the protests, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah urged demonstrators to open blocked highways and allow goods movement to resume.

"Peaceful protests are acceptable, but public disruptions are not," he said, as per Dawn.

The blockade has alarmed industry leaders who say the economy is already bearing the brunt of the prolonged unrest.

Jawed Bilwani, president of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, estimated cumulative losses of over PKR 500 billion (\$1.8 billion) in export orders and local production over the past 10 to 12 days. This includes four days of transport delays due to a separate strike by truckers protesting new fitness certificate regulations.

At least 21 Palestinians killed in Israeli attacks on Gaza: Civil Defence

Gaza, April 26 (UNI) : At least 21 Palestinians were killed on Friday in Israeli airstrikes across the Gaza Strip, according to Gaza's civil defence authorities.

Mahmoud Basal, spokesperson for the civil defence, reported that nine people were killed and several others injured when Israeli aircraft struck a house east of al-Fakhari town, southeast of Khan Younis in southern Gaza.

Additional airstrikes were reported in Gaza City and other areas around Khan Younis, Basal added.

The Israeli army has not issued a comment regarding these incidents.

In Gaza City, heavy clashes erupted between Palestinian armed factions and Israeli forces in the Shuja'iyya and Tuffah neighbourhoods. The confrontations were accompanied by intense Israeli air and artillery bombardments, as well as smoke shells. Multiple explosions were heard, with thick plumes of smoke rising over the area, according to Palestinian sources.

In a statement on Friday, Israeli army spokesperson Avichay Adraee said that troops from the 401st Brigade of the 252nd Division had been

operating in the area for several weeks, targeting "terrorist organisations". He noted that an Israeli drone had killed the members of a Palestinian cell responsible for firing an anti-tank missile from a building. No Israeli casualties were reported in that incident.

Meanwhile, in southern Gaza, six Israeli soldiers were wounded during what was described as a "security incident", with one in serious condition, according to Israel's state-owned Kan TV. Adraee confirmed that a reservist from the 5250th Battalion was seriously wounded during clashes in the southern Gaza Strip.

Abu Obeida, spokesperson for the al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas, said in a separate statement that their fighters carried out ambushes and targeted Israeli troops.

Since Israel resumed its intensified military campaign on March 18, at least 2,062 Palestinians have been killed and 5,375 injured, bringing the overall death toll in Gaza since the war began in October 2023 to 51,439, with a total of 117,416 people injured, according to health authorities in Gaza.

Trump, Zelensky meet on sidelines of Pope's funeral

Rome, April 26 (UNI) : U.S. President Donald Trump met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Saturday on the sidelines of Pope Francis' funeral in Vatican City, media reports said.

A spokesperson from Kiev was quoted by Italian broadcaster Rai News as saying that Zelensky and Trump held a meeting ahead of the funeral, without providing further details.The White House also confirmed the meeting, describing their conversation as "productive.", Xinhua news reported.Several media outlets also reported that Trump and Zelensky agreed to meet again on Saturday following the funeral.

The two leaders' meeting came just one day after Trump said Russia and Ukraine were "very close to a deal," following talks between his envoy, Steve Witkoff, and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow on Friday.

Ham as says open to releasing all hostages for 5-year truce: Source

Cairo, April 26 (UNI) : A Hamas delegation led by senior leader Khalil al-Hayya agreed on Saturday in Cairo to release all Israeli hostages in exchange for a five-year truce, according to an Egyptian security source.

The source described talks on Saturday as "very important" for advancing efforts to end the war in Gaza, noting that the Hamas delegation accepted the five-year truce proposal after reviewing various offers.

So far, Israel has not formally responded to any of the proposals, but has given the green light for negotiations to continue regarding the release of hostages, the source added.Egypt's Al-Qahera News TV channel reported the Hamas

delegation would also discuss a comprehensive deal that ensures the full withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Gaza, and securing the delivery of humanitarian aid to the enclave. Talks are expected to include the formation of a committee to manage Gaza's administration.Israel halted the entry of aid supplies into Gaza on March 2, following the expiration of the first six-week phase of a ceasefire agreement with Hamas that started on Jan. 19. Israel claimed the move was due to Hamas' rejection of its offer to extend the first phase. Israeli forces then resumed strikes across Gaza on March 18, effectively ending the phased truce.



Home & Garden

Useful flooring tips

Dark floors can be intimidating for some but it is one of the easiest ways to give a large room a chic makeover.



When dark works best

If you have a high ceiling and walls that are tall, dark floors are ideal. Very large rooms can benefit from the grounding effect that a dark floor has.

Helps disguise dirt

Spills, stains, hair, pet fur and dirt are friendlier with dark flooring. It works for bathrooms and kitchens too. It can be a blessing for the working busybee and also for the lazy ones, who can't find time to clean up too often.

Adds character

Dark hardwood floors add immense character to a large room. It is popular with celebrities and business tycoons. They have the incredible ability to embrace all kinds of decor schemes.

Floor and furniture

You could choose to have light-coloured furniture for a dramatic effect. If needed, use a rug that helps to provide this contrast.

Complements minimalist decor

Modern furniture that has the minimalist look, is great for dark floors.

Get your creative best for your

Child's room



Induce creativity:

Your bundle of joy needs to be gently nudged into a world of imagination and wonder. Grab his or her interest in all things creative and stimulating by infusing an element of magic, fantasy and popular kids' literature into their rooms. Think of bedsheets and pillows with cartoon characters, wall motifs that make them want to read fairytales and wall decals with famous animated movie figures.

Splash colours:

Most parents understand that a child's room must exude bright happiness in terms of the colour scheme. Yet many desist from undertaking the project of altering the way the room looks. This is because the traditional belief is that to spruce up the room, one has to invest in recolouring the walls. However, this isn't true. In fact, most contemporary designers believe that it's better to have the walls painted in a sober shade and splash vibrancy in other ways through upholstery, accessories, exuberant rugs, beanbags and lots of visually pleasing books.

Go natural:

Children love the outdoors and nature, and if you don't want them to end up as couch potatoes once they grow up a little, it will be best to encourage this feeling of oneness with all things natural. Boost their love for the wild by cleverly infusing quirky elements into their abode. Wallpapers that represent forests or mountains and ceilings with stars that shine in the dark usually work well. Wooden furniture and flooring best complement such a theme.

Create space:

When designing an interior scheme for your baby's room, it's essential to keep in mind that he or she needs a lot of space. If you have one room for two children, a bunk bed is a great idea. Not only do children find it cool and fun, it also makes way for an activity area. Just spread a funky carpet, scatter a few toys here and there and the perfect playroom is ready. Your little princess can also lay her Barbie set here and delve into her beautiful world of fantasy.

From splashing colours to going natural -- you can use your creativity to make your child's room a true fairyland.

Create a container Garden in your home

A container garden is a great way to utilise the space in your house and also add greenery. This is how you can do it...



Map the area where you want to make the garden

Since this type of a garden can make your home look cluttered, always select one specific area in your house where you would like to have it. This can be a space, either in your living area, your balcony or a place in your dining room. Go for plants that can sustain for a long duration

Mostly built indoors, choose plants that can survive with minimum or no sunlight for days at end. However, you must remember to water them from time to time, so that they remain fresh.

Go for bright blooms

Instead of going in only for green plants, you can also opt for flowers in bright colours — marigolds, lilies, etc

are good options. They not only add to the beauty of the room, but also lend a calming effect. Make sure you choose flowering plants that are not seasonal.

Do not opt for too many planters

Build the garden in such a way that it does not overpower your room. Since you also have to maintain uniformity, having about three to four planters placed side by side will make the garden look complete. This will also lend a neat look to your room and the plants will have enough breathing space.

Place them on faux grass

To give the garden a more authentic look, you can have the planters placed on fake grass. If you are planning to do

this in your bedroom, make sure that you choose an area (possibly near the windows, so that your plants can get sunlight). You can alternatively also use pebbles for non-flowering plants that need less water to keep them clean.

Designing homes the Feng Shui Way



When it comes to locating plots, buildings, orienting homes, placing decor and even planning gardens the first thing which would come to our mind is unhindered flow of energy and a feel good factor.

This is quite possible when we plan our home keeping in mind some important tenets of Feng Shui in terms of decor, alignment and design.

The adaptation could extend beyond the framework of building design as it can be used to enhance the interiors, furnishing, decor and other aspects of the design elements in a space. A simple approach to Feng Shui would be in terms of providing the right plot levels, set backs, proper layout and allocation of rooms. How do we go about this? The basic understanding to allocate rooms in the right sectors is a step after getting to know the interpretation of the magnetic fields and compass directions. Presuming that one has got to know the axis of the plot and located the cardinal magnetic directions, it becomes a lot easier to design a home as per Feng Shui tenets.

Some of the very generic rules in Feng Shui home design are:-

Main door: The main door should be the largest door in the home and the door should not open into a kitchen area. Moreover the position of the main door is critical and would vary depending upon the direction and axis of the plot, however doors right on the cardinal directions are considered bad positioning.

Kitchen: What we eat, where we eat and how we eat are all part of the science of health and vitality; hence kitchen location is vital to the overall harmony of the home. Kitchen as many elements which operate in tandem or could be

conflicting like water, fire (stove /electricity), metal (utensils) etc. In addition locating the stove and sink is of great importance so having the water body away from the fire is quite important.

Master bedroom: This is one of the most important rooms in a home. It is said that deep sleep is when we reunite with the source, hence if we sleep deeply we awaken refreshed ready for the new day. Quality of sleep is far more important than the length of time. Certain locations are more conducive to peaceful sleep than others. Using wooden bed/cot is preferred as wood is benign and warm as against metal beds, which are cold and oppressive, and metal is said to be associated with the planet Saturn.

Living room: This room is the sanctuary for relaxation. Feng Shui treatises says that the centre portion or the 'tai chi' of the house is not conducive for major activities as it receives least amount of cosmic energy, hence it is beneficial if a major portion of the living room occupies the central zone of the building. Remember to orient your sofas and heavy furniture's such that they occupy the south and west sectors of the room and avoid furniture or blockages at the northeast sector of the room which is the knowledge sector.

Toilets: In the earlier days the toilets were away from the main house and later they were made 'en-suite' or attached. Toilets should not be too close to kitchen as the food energy and toilet energies are incompatible.

Feng Shui reminds us of the basic relationship between earth, man and cosmos. By adapting these principles our lives, we can create a healthy environment with harmonious living and working environment.



CAB pay tribute to victims of Pahalgam terror attack

Kolkata, April 26 (UNI) : In a gesture of respect and solidarity, the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) paid tribute to the victims of the terror attack in Pahalgam before the IPL match between Kolkata Knight Riders and Punjab Kings at the iconic Eden Gardens on Saturday.

To honour those who lost their lives, a minute's silence was observed before the start of play.

The customary Eden bell, which has been rung for several years before the start of a match, was not done so on Saturday to pay tribute to the victims.

Present for the occasion were CAB President Snehasish Ganguly, CAB Secretary Naresh Ojha,

CAB Treasurer Prabir Chakrabarty, CAB Vice President Amalendu Biswas, CAB Joint Secretary Debabrata Das along with other CAB officials and members. Also present was former Australia cricketer Brad Haddin.

Jackson goal sends Chelsea back into Champions League places

London, April 26 (UNI) : Chelsea edged back into the Champions League places with a one-goal victory over Everton at Stamford Bridge.

The win moves the Blues up to fourth in the Premier League, level on points with Nottingham Forest and a point ahead of Newcastle, who play Ipswich later on Saturday.

With Forest and Aston Villa in FA Cup semi-final action this weekend, Chelsea will hold on to a top-five spot at least until Thursday, when Forest host Brentford.

The crucial three points were sealed by striker Nicolas Jackson, who ended a 13-match goalless run stretching back to December, the BBC reported.

He drilled an instinctive 20-yard effort beyond Jordan Pickford and into the bottom corner in the 27th minute.

Despite being the better side, Chelsea were unable to kill the game off and, given the tight nature of the race for Champions League football and the Blues' difficult league fixtures before the end of the season, there were uncomfortable moments when Everton improved in the final quarter.

But the hosts' keeper Robert Sanchez saved well from both Beto and Dwight McNeil low to his right when needed.

Enzo Maresca's Chelsea now play leaders Liverpool at Stamford Bridge next Sunday, then visit fellow Champions League chasers Newcastle, before hosting Manchester United, and travelling to Forest on the final day.

Everton have only won one of their past nine matches and remain 13th.



Participants perform yoga postures during the 2nd Asian Yogasana Sport Championship, in New Delhi on Saturday.

Chongqing hosts 10th international high-heel color run

Chongqing, April 26 (UNI) : The 2025 "Love Fuling" Consumption Season and the 10th International High-Heel Color Run kicked off on Saturday at the Mexin Red Wine Town in Fuling District, southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

The event attracted over 100 participants from more than 10 countries and regions, including Poland, Thailand, Zimbabwe, and Pakistan, all racing in high heels with a minimum height of seven centimeters, blending sports, fashion, and tourism in a vibrant celebration.

First launched in 2014, the International High-Heel Color Run has been held in Fuling for over a decade and is now regarded as one of China's most creative and popular fun runs.

This year's event embraced the theme

"Running for Ten Years, Forward with Passion," highlighting international flair and fashionable energy.

The race is open to participants of all genders and nationalities, inviting anyone brave enough to run in high heels to join. This year's race featured a variety of exciting challenges, including a 100-meter sprint, obstacle courses, and a mystery shoe run. Alongside the competitions, there were creative costume contests, a mass fitness run, a night market, and an outdoor music festival, transforming the event into a dynamic showcase of the integration of sports, culture, and tourism.

Set amidst picturesque natural scenery and styled after European wineries, Meixin Red Wine Town offered an immersive

tourism experience. During the event, organizers introduced various discounts, including promotional park passes and cable car ticket packages. Hotels and guesthouses in the scenic area provided special offers for runners and visitors. Over 100,000 yuan (about \$13,723) in prizes and cultural gift packs featuring local specialties such as Fuling pickles and black pork rice dumplings were also prepared for participants.

"It's my first time running in high heels, and it feels fresh and fun," said Meili, a student from Zimbabwe studying at the International School of Yangtze Normal University.

"This event helped me better understand Chongqing and make more Chinese friends. I hope to join similar events in other

Chinese cities in the future."

"Santa, a runner from Thailand, said sports can bring people together and spread unity and love.

As a student in China, he found more and more Chinese joined running and even marathon, "I will definitely join this event next year if I get the chance." After a hard-fought race, Zheng Wendi won the women's division with a time of 15:41, while Liu Qingsong won the men's division, clocking 13:20. International competitors also received participation honors.

In recent years, Fuling has actively promoted the integration of sports, culture, and tourism by developing unique international IP events aimed at enhancing the city's image and sharing

China's creative cultural stories with the world.

Mohun Bagan SG edge past Kerala Blasters to enter Kalinga Super Cup semi-finals

Bhubaneswar, April 26 (UNI) : The young guns of Mohun Bagan SG defeated Kerala Blasters FC 2-1 in the quarter-finals of the Kalinga Super Cup 2025 here on Saturday.

The ISL Shield and Cup-winning Mariners, fielding an all-Indian squad except for Portuguese defender Nuno Reis, scored once in each half through Sahal Abdul Samad (22') and Suhail Ahmad Bhat (51'). Sreejuttan MS (90+4') pulled one back for the Blasters, but it was too little, as Mohun Bagan SG, helped by a solid performance from goalkeeper Dheeraj Singh Moirangthem, entered the semi-finals. Bastab Roy's side will face the winners of the clash between FC Goa and Punjab FC in the semi-final on April 30.

The game began at a leisurely pace, with both teams not committing many bodies in the opposition half. After 20 minutes of no goalmouth action, Mohun Bagan SG churned out the opener with their first meaningful attack of the match. With some lightning-quick footwork, Salahuddeen Adnan twisted and turned past left-back Naocha Singh and slipped a cross into the

six-yard box. Getting on the end of it was Sahal Abdul Samad, who, with a drop of a shoulder, swiftly evaded Ruivah Hormipam's challenge and dinked the ball over goalkeeper Sachin Suresh to make it 1-0 in the 22nd minute.

From then on, it was all Kerala Blasters, who were left rattled by the Mariners and grew desperate for the equaliser. Noah Sadaoui, scorer of a stunning long ranger against East Bengal, tried the same trick once again, cutting in from the right and shooting from distance. But he didn't get enough elevation, and the ball landed straight into the gloves of Dheeraj Singh.

The Blasters became increasingly dangerous from short corners. In the 30th minute, after playing a one-two with Vibin Mohanan, Sadaoui drilled a low cross that was hacked clear by Dipendu Biswas. Later, from another short corner, Hormipam's cross-turned-shot almost landed into the top corner, with Dheeraj doing well to tip it over. In the first-half added time, Mohammed Aimen was fed on the left wing by Vibin. The midfielder cut in from the left before seeing his right-footer swerve over the bar.

Curran urges Zimbabwe to stay grounded ahead of second Test

Sylhet, April 26 (UNI) : Zimbabwe are riding high after a thrilling three-wicket win here, chasing down 174 runs – their highest successful chase in Test history.

The victory not only marked their first Test win since 2021 but also their fourth overseas triumph.

Opening batter Ben Curran has called on his teammates to guard against complacency as they gear up for the second and final Test against Bangladesh, set to begin in Chattogram on April 28. Speaking to the reporters in Sylhet, Curran emphasized the importance of maintaining focus.

"We are expecting Bangladesh to come really hard at us. We are not expecting this to be an easy game. We have to work hard for every moment. We can hopefully put in a similar performance to last game," Curran said. For

Curran, the Sylhet Test win was personally significant, as it marked his first victory in the longest format since making his debut in early 2024. The left-hand batter made 18 in the first innings, but stepped up with a crucial 44-run knock that came in handy in a 95-run opening wicket stand alongside Brian Bennett, an ICC report said.

Blessing Muzarabani starred with a sizzling nine-wicket haul, including picking six in the second innings that turned out to be the chief architect in Bangladesh's collapse.

"It is a great feeling, having put in a lot of hard work leading into the series. Obviously, the series is not done. There's a big game to come in the next few days," Curran said.

The 28-year-old batter noted that confidence within the Zimbabwe squad is high following the

historic win, but warned that they must quickly adapt to different conditions expected in Chattogram. "Winning Tests always gives guys confidence. Everyone is going to take different learning from the win in Sylhet. As long as we are prepared to move forward as individuals, we are in a good place," he said.

Curran further credited Zimbabwe's senior players, Sean Williams and Craig Ervine, for helping him find his feet in international cricket. "I am relatively new in international cricket so I am like a sponge trying to learn as much as I can from Sean and Craig. It will help my development. I will be silly if I didn't try to tap into their experience," he acknowledged.

The second Test begins on April 28, at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram.

Aizawl International Half Marathon 2025 concludes on a high note

Aizawl, April 26 (UNI) : Mizoram's first-ever international half marathon, the Aizawl International Half Marathon 2025 (AIHM 2025), concluded successfully this morning with a vibrant closing and felicitation ceremony held at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium, Aizawl.

Organised jointly by the Sports & Youth Services Department of the Government of Mizoram, the Athletic Federation of India, and Innovations India Pvt. Ltd., the event drew over 1,500 enthusiastic participants across multiple categories.

The races, flagged off at 6:30 AM by Sports & Youth Services Minister Lalnghinglova Hmar, featured four segments: the Half Marathon (21.1 km), Open Race (10 km), Fun Race (5 km), and Junior Category (5 km). Competitors followed a scenic route from Rajiv Gandhi Stadium along

World Bank Road before returning to the stadium. A total prize pool of Rs 10 lakh was awarded to winners in the various categories.

At the felicitation ceremony, Mizoram Governor General (Dr) Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd), who is also the Patron of AIHM 2025, lauded the organisers for successfully hosting the international event. In his address, he emphasised the need for even larger and more inclusive marathons in the future, encouraging greater public participation and sustained efforts towards promoting health and fitness. He congratulated the Sports Minister, the Athletic Federation of India, Innovations India Pvt. Ltd., and all associated stakeholders for their dedication. The Governor also expressed confidence that the Aizawl International Half Marathon would soon emerge as one of the most popular sporting events in

India. Sports & Youth Services Minister Lalnghinglova Hmar, in his remarks, expressed gratitude for the enthusiastic response from runners, especially those from outside Mizoram. Announcing that the next edition of the Aizawl International Half Marathon is scheduled for February 14, 2026, he called for even greater participation and extended an open invitation to all.

Among those present at the closing ceremony were PWD Minister Vanlalhlana, Environment, Forest & Climate Change Minister Lalthansanga, Deputy Speaker Lalfamkima, Adviser to Chief Minister Lalmuanpuia Punte, MLA Jeje Lalpekhlua, Capt. Rahul Bali, CEO of Innovations India Pvt. Ltd., and other dignitaries and officials. The winners of the Aizawl International Half Marathon 2025 in various categories were felicitated at the event.

Indian Women's Hockey Team go down 3-5 to Australia A

Perth, April 26 (UNI) : The Indian Women's Hockey Team fought valiantly but fell short in their opening game of the Australia Tour, going down 3-5 against a clinical Australia A side at the Perth Hockey Stadium on Saturday. India found the back of the net through Mahima Tete (27'), Navneet Kaur (45'), and Lalremsiami (50'), while Neasa Flynn (3'), Olivia Downes (9'), Ruby Harris (11'), Tatum Stewart (21'), and Kendra Fitzpatrick (44') scored for Australia A. The match began at a frenetic pace, with Australia A asserting early control and breaking the deadlock through goal by Neasa Flynn (3').

The home team continued to press hard, and in quick succession, Olivia Downes (9') and Ruby Harris (11') capitalised on defensive lapses to score two more field goals, ending the first quarter with a commanding 3-0 lead. Australia A carried their momentum into the second quarter, putting

relentless pressure on the Indian defence. After earning back-to-back penalty corners, Tatum Stewart (21') converted one, stretching their advantage to 4-0.

Despite the early onslaught, India showed resilience, and Mahima Tete (27') pulled a goal back with a sharp field goal, injecting some energy into the Indian side as they headed into half-time trailing 1-4.

Australia A upped their ante and were rewarded for their efforts as Kendra Fitzpatrick (44') netted another goal for her side to

make it 5-1. The Indian team launched a counterattack and their efforts bore fruit when Vice-Captain Navneet Kaur (45') found the back of the net, narrowing the gap to 2-5. In the final quarter, both teams continued to create scoring opportunities. India showcased their fighting spirit once again when Lalremsiami (50') slotted home a fine field goal, keeping India's hopes of a comeback alive. Despite some late pressure, India could not find the net again, and the match concluded with Australia A securing a 5-3 victory.

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ECoR, DRM inspects Jagdalpur - Kottavalasa Line and NMDC



(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, April 26 : Mr Lalit Bohra Divisional Railway Manager conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Jagdalpur-Kottavalasa section and NMDC today (26.04.2025). During the inspection, he reviewed various works at railway establishments, stations, sidings, and the NMDC mining site. He also carried out a detailed window trailing inspection of the section, assessing the track condition, curves, bridges, points, and

crossings.

Chief Engineer/Construction Shri Gourishankar Rao, Branch officers of Waltair accompanied DRM during his inspection. Key focus of the inspection was the ongoing doubling work of the Jagdalpur-Koraput-Kottavalasa line, station development activities, Safety aspects and the development of siding facilities. DRM also reviewed the wagon discharge silo system at NMDC, which aims to significantly reduce wagon

loading time, enhancing operational efficiency.

Divisional Railway Manager held discussions with senior NMDC officials regarding improving freight loading operations. These discussions are expected to enhance rake loading capacity, increase traffic for both Railways and NMDC and generate additional revenue for both parties. During his visit to Jagdalpur, Amagura stations, Mr Lalit Bohra interacted with station staff and reviewed the progress of various developmental activities.

Grand Felicitation Ceremony of Sonu Kumar Jha Will Soon : Dr Adinarayana



(Standard Post Bureau)

News Delhi, April 26 : Adi Leela Foundation National President Dr. Adinarayana, Announced that Grand Felicitation Ceremony of Sonu Kumar Jha Will be held Soon. Prominent BJP leader, social worker, hope of the weaker sections, Sonu Kumar Jha's services are commendable, said Dr. Adinarayana, Said That.

At a time he is emerging as an exemplary leader by organizing many service programs not only in the states of Bihar and Gujarat but also in many states of the country, Adi Leela Foundation and Matru Deo Bhava Satsang organizations have expressed their full support. In a joint statement, Dr. Adinarayana and National President of Matru Deo Bhava Satsang Mr KB Sridhar said that in the current contemporary political context, Sonu Kumar Jha are very necessary for the society and the country, and it is our responsibility to encourage and support such leaders.

They said that a grand felicitation ceremony will be organized for him soon under the auspices of both organizations. Sonu Kumar Jha is currently MLA and serving as a Pradesh adyakhsh and mahamantri in Bihar.

E-office system implemented in MSETCL

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 26 : E-office system was inaugurated in Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company Limited (MSETCL) by Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (IAS), Chairman and Managing Director of (MSETCL). On this occasion, Director (Operations) Satish Chavan, Director (Projects) Avinash Nimbalkar, Director (Finance) Mrs. Trupti Mudholkar, Director (HR) Sugat Gamare, Chief Engineer Sunil

Suryavanshi, Bhushan Ballal, Mahendra Walke, Piyush Sharma, Mrs. Juilee Wagh, Chief General Manager (Finance & Accounts) Mrs. Anju Gupta, Kishor Garud, Chief General Manager (Information Technology) Nagsen Wankhede, Superintendent Engineer (Civil) Sachin Khadgi, Nachiket Gade, Bhushan Salunkhe were present.

E-office system was introduced to make administrative processes more efficient, transparent and dynamic by using modern technology. In

the first phase, this system was launched for the federal office located in Mumbai and offices under Vashi Circle. Paperless office transactions will be possible through this system and this new digital platform has been provided for file management, registration, tracking and exchange of information. This system will speed up the office work and save time and resources. Employees and officers will be able to work on the file at the workplace or even remotely. This will help in

making the decision-making process more dynamic and accurate. General Manager (HR) Raju Gaikwad, Deputy General Manager (HR) Abhay Rohi, Deputy General Manager (Information Technology) Mrs. Varsha Asolkar, Chandrashekhar Borade, Babasaheb Kamble, Anil Sonawane, Anand Gaikwad, Gajanan Rathod worked hard to implement this system. Chief General Manager (Information Technology) Nagsen Wankhede expressed gratitude.

MSETCL steps towards digital: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar

(Standard Post Bureau)

Mumbai, April 26 : "Under the leadership of the Chief Minister and Energy Minister of the state Shri. Devendra Fadnavis and under the guidance of Additional Chief Secretary (Energy) Mrs. Abha Shukla, . Various projects of MSETCL are currently being implemented in digital and online manner. E-governance, e-office will help in bringing speed and transparency in the work. We are trying to keep MSETCL at the forefront by making maximum use of information technology and artificial intelligence. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar (IAS), Chairman and Managing Director of MSETCL said .



Flag march conducted by RPF and GRP

(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, April 26 : Flag marches were conducted at railway stations over Waltair Division of East Coast Railway by Railway Protection Force and the Government Railway Police to maintain order and deter crime. They are a visible demonstration of authority and can be used in response to situations like violence or unrest. Flag marches serve as a deterrent to potential lawbreakers and ensure that law and order is



maintained

Strengthening security measures at railway stations, the Railway

Protection Force conducted a flag march at the Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam

Road, Rayagada, Jagdalpur, Lakshmiapur Road, Koraput and other important railway stations over the Division.

Congress Workers candle light rally at Necklace Road against Terrorist Attack

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, April 26 Congress workers across Telangana state take out candlelight marches in solidarity with the victims of the horrific Pahalgam terror attack and to reaffirm unity against terrorism. As per the instructions of Col. Rohit Choudhary, National Chairmen Ex-Servicemen Dept AICC New Delhi P. Rajendran, Chairman, Ex. Servicemen Dept/TPCC, P. Gunashekar, General Secretary, Combined Defence Ex. Servicemen Welfare Association of Telangana State, M. Raju, Treasurer CDEWA along with large



number of Servicemens joined Chief Minister of Telangana to express the solidarity, where Ministers, MPs, MLAs, DCCs and

thousands of Congress workers gathered in the candle light rally against the heinous terrorist attack on innocent pilgrims at

Pahalgam, at Indira Gandhi statue, Necklace Road, Where Hundered of Congress Worker gathered and Strongly Condemn this attack.

ECoR GM inspects key Rail Infrastructure Projects in Western Odisha

(Standard Post Bureau)

Bhubaneswar, April 26 : East Coast Railway (ECoR) General Manager Parmeshwar Funkwal on Saturday conducted a comprehensive inspection of critical rail infrastructure and traffic facility works across the Sambalpur-Jharsuguda Railway Section in Western Odisha. The inspection included visits to Jharsuguda Road, Brundamal, Lapanga and Sarla stations with a detailed review of ongoing projects and railway sidings that support the region's industrial growth. Key projects inspected

included BPSL Siding at Lapanga, Jharsuguda Road Station, Brundamal-Jharsuguda Flyover, MAVB Siding at Brundamal, Brundamal Yard and Sarla Freight Examination Depot Funkwal reviewed traffic facilities, railway infrastructure and operational enhancements with Divisional Railway Manager of Sambalpur Division Subash C Chaudhary and other senior ECoR officials.

A major milestone during the visit was the inspection of the newly commissioned Freight Train Examination and Routine Overhauling

(ROH) Facility at Sarla Station, which is set to Handle 90-100 train examinations and 100 wagon ROHs per month. Improve operational efficiency and reduce turnaround time for BTAP wagons by 30 percent and enhance freight handling capacity and safety.

The facility is expected to significantly boost economic activity by supporting the needs of key regional industries, including steel, aluminum & coal, and fostering job creation and revenue growth.

The ECoR General Manager also emphasized

the importance of stakeholder coordination and industrial collaboration to maximize railway efficiency and national economic development.

During the inspection, the General Manager also stressed the importance of strengthening safety measures across stations and rail yards, and enhancing passenger amenities such as improved waiting areas, upgraded lighting, drinking water facilities, and better signage—ensuring a safe and comfortable experience for travellers while maintaining operational excellence.

Woman dies, 6 hospitalised after fire breaks in Mumbai residential building

Mumbai, April 26 (UNI) : A 34-year-old woman died, and six others were hospitalised after a fire broke out early Saturday morning in a Mumbai residential building located at Broke Land Building, near Ashok Academy Lane in Lokhandwala, Andheri (West). The fire erupted around 2:39 am and was reported by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC)'s Mumbai Fire Brigade (MFB) at approximately 3:13 am.

According to fire officials, the fire was confined to a flat on first floor of the ground-plus-eight-storey building. The fire affected electric wiring, electric installations, split wooden furniture, documents, mattresses, clothes and other household items.

A total of seven people suffered smoke inhalation during the incident. They were promptly rescued by firefighters and transported to nearby hospitals, including Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital, Cooper Hospital and Trauma Hospital,



(Standard Post Bureau)

Visakhapatnam, April 26 : In view of the rising temperatures and the anticipated increase in passenger footfall during the summer season, Waltair Division of East Coast Railway has proactively implemented a series of precautionary and passenger-friendly measures to ensure comfort, safety, and smooth operations across all major stations under its jurisdiction. Divisional Railway Manager Shri Lalit Bohra has given directives to take all possible measures to ensure comfortable journey of the passengers during the summer.

The precautionary measures includes Ensuring sufficient availability of packaged drinking water and potable drinking water at all major stations, Waltair Division has made special arrangements.

Water booths have been inspected regularly by the officials for functionality and water supply to serve passengers efficiently.

Free Drinking Water facility, particularly catering to general coach passengers, have been set up at the ends of platforms by NGOs at Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam Road and will also be provided at Duvvada, Rayagada etc stations. Civil Defence personnel and Scouts & Guides were engaged at the stations for distribution of the safe drinking water at the stations. Directives have been issued for availability of running water in all station toilets and waiting halls, timely announcement of train arrival and departures, proper queue management and holding areas have been designated to streamline boarding and alighting during peak hours.