

# MIDNIGHT REPORTER

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## This Mother's Day : Celebrating The **POWER** Of Motherhood

Meet Ratna Debnath, She was just a simple, middle class homemaker. But today, she is the unstoppable force who just crushed the arrogance of the Trinamool Congress in the Panihati constituency, defeating TMC's Tirthankar Ghosh by a massive margin of nearly 29,000 votes!

She isn't just a politician. She is a heartbroken, grieving mother. She is the mother of the innocent young doctor who was the victim of the Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College case in August 2024.

But Ratna Debnath didn't break. She took a chilling, heartbreaking oath, she swore she would not even comb her hair until her daughter got justice. She stepped out of her quiet life and transformed her unbearable agony into a political weapon against the very system that failed her child.

A mother's curse is the heaviest burden on earth and today, the TMC is paying the price for protecting absolute evil. Huge congratulations to Ratna Debnath! You lost your beloved daughter but today, you have become the mother of a revolution for women's safety. Your victory proves that truth wins and the monsters of RG Kar along with their political masters will soon face the ultimate justice. More power to you, Mother! Bengal is finally waking up!

"I am just a protesting mother, and I'll stay the same. The women of Bengal cannot be tied just to Rs 1,500," she said.

On the one hand Debnath credited PM Modi for her victory, and on the other, she refused to take Banerjee's name.



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## CBI Gets New DIG: Ashutosh Singh, IPS Appointed; IRS Shubhendra Katta's Tenure Extended



In a key administrative development, the Government of India has approved the appointment of IPS officer Ashutosh Singh as Deputy Inspector General (DIG) in the Central Bureau of Investigation.

In a related move, the Centre has also extended the deputation tenure of IRS officer Shubhendra Katta as Superintendent of Police (SP) in the same agency.

**Ashutosh Singh Appointed as DIG in CBI**

Ashutosh Singh, a 2012-batch IPS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, is currently serving as Superintendent of Police in the CBI. He has now been elevated to the rank of DIG in the agency.

According to an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on April 21, 2026, the competent authority has approved his appointment to the post until December 25, 2030, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Notably, Singh joined the CBI in December 2025 as SP for a five-year tenure and has now been promoted within a short span, reflecting confidence in his performance.

**Shubhendra Katta's Tenure Extended as SP**

In a parallel development, Shubhendra Katta, an Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes) officer of the 2011 batch, has been granted a one-year extension in his deputation as SP in the CBI.

As per the DoPT order dated April 21, 2026, his tenure has been extended beyond April 28, 2026, up to April 27, 2027, marking his fifth year in the agency.

Katta has been serving in the CBI since April 2022. His original deputation tenure of four years has now been extended, allowing continuity in ongoing investigations and administrative responsibilities.

## Prashant Kumar Mishra, IAS Appointed PS to Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil



In a key administrative appointment, IAS officer Prashant Kumar Mishra (IAS:2014:KN) has been appointed as the Private Secretary (PS) to Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Patil. The appointment, approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, has been made at the Deputy Secretary level in the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. DoPT Order Confirms Appointment and Tenure

According to an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on April 22, 2026, Mishra will serve in the position for a total tenure of five years, up to March 15, 2031. However, his tenure will be:

- Co-terminus with the minister, or
- Until he ceases to function as OSD/PS, or
- Until further orders

—whichever is earlier. To facilitate his new role, Mishra's current assignment as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to the same minister has been curtailed. Notably, he had assumed charge as OSD on March 15, 2026.

## West Bengal DGP Siddh Nath Gupta Gets 6-Month Extension



In a significant move during the ongoing election season, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the tenure of Siddh Nath Gupta, Director General of Police (DGP) of West Bengal, by six months. Gupta, a 1992-batch IPS officer, was originally scheduled to retire on April 30, 2026. The extension comes amid the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct and ongoing Assembly elections in the state.

**Appointment Linked to Election Process**

Siddh Nath Gupta was appointed as DGP by the Election Commission of India on March 15, 2026, shortly after the announcement of Assembly election dates on March 14.

At the time, the Commission had removed interim DGP Peeyush Pandey and directed that he should not be assigned any election-related responsibilities.

The decision to extend Gupta's tenure is being viewed as an effort to ensure continuity in police leadership during a sensitive electoral phase.

Given West Bengal's history of election-related violence, maintaining stable leadership in the police force is considered crucial for law and order.

## How Manoj Ramchandra Patil Became His Village's First Civil Servant



When the Union Public Service Commission announced the final results of the Civil Services Examination 2025, celebrations erupted in Jalihal, a drought-hit village in the southern part of Mangalvedhe taluka in Solapur district, Maharashtra.

For the first time in the village's history, one of its sons had cracked India's toughest examination.

Manoj Ramchandra Patil had secured All India Rank 493.

In a village known more for drought than opportunity, Manoj's success became more than a personal achievement; it became a mo-

ment of collective pride.

People gathered outside his home. Congratulations poured in from villagers and local leaders. For Jalihal, this was history!

**A VILLAGE THAT MIGRATES FOR SURVIVAL**

Jalihal is not an ordinary village. It is a place where drought shapes daily life.

Every year, during the sugarcane harvesting season, many families migrate to other areas in search of work because local employment opportunities are scarce.

The village's farmers struggle

## Love Kumar, IPS term in SPG Extended for Third Year



Senior IPS officer Love Kumar will continue to serve as Inspector General (IG) in the Special Protection Group for another year, as the Centre has approved an extension of his tenure at the IG level.

The decision, cleared by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, follows a proposal from the Office of Secretary (Security) under the Cabinet Secretariat. The order was issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on April 22, 2026.

Third Year at IG Rank in SPG

Mr Kumar has been serving in the SPG since April 2024. Initially, his posting was facilitated by temporarily upgrading his Deputy Inspector General (DIG)-level post to Inspector General (IG) rank for a period of two years.

With the latest approval, this arrangement has been extended by another year beyond April 4, 2026, marking the third consecutive year of his service at the IG level.

**Post Continues as Temporary Upgradation**

The extension maintains the temporary upgradation of the DIG post (Level-13A) to IG level (Level-14), indicating that the position remains non-permanent in nature. Such arrangements are typically made to meet operational requirements in specialized security organisations.

## Who Will Be The Next CBI Chief!

As of April 2026, the selection process for the next Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is underway as incumbent Praveen Sood's extended tenure ends in May 2026. Top contenders reported for the post include senior IPS officers Rajeev Sharma (Rajasthan DGP), Praveer Ranjan (CISF DG), Alok Ranjan (NCRB DG), Amit Garg, Director, NPA and G.P. Singh (CRPF DG).

**Key Contenders for Next CBI Director (2026):**

- Rajeev Sharma: 1990-batch Rajasthan cadre IPS officer and current DGP of Rajasthan, noted for extensive CBI experience.

- Praveer Ranjan: IPS officer currently serving as Director General of CISF.

- Amit Garg, IPS currently working as Director, NPA.

- G.P. Singh: Assam-Meghalaya cadre IPS officer (1991 batch).

because they do not have sustainable water sources. Many landowners, unable to cultivate regularly, have leased their land to solar companies.

The village has educational facilities only till Class 4. After that, children must leave to continue their education elsewhere. In such circumstances, many young people from Jalihal have started seeing competitive examinations as a path to change their future.

**A BRIGHT CHILD FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS**

Manoj comes from a simple family. His father is a retired teacher, and his mother is a homemaker. He began his education at Zilla Parishad Primary School, Solankarwadi, where he studied till Class 4. He then completed his secondary education at Laxmidevi Vidya Mandir, Radde. Later, he pursued higher secondary and college education at Sangameshwar College, Solapur, choosing the science stream.

For engineering, he moved to Government College of Engineering, Sambhajinagar and completed a degree in Civil Engineering.

Even as a child, Manoj stood out. He made it to the district merit list in the Class 4 and Class 7 scholarship examinations. He also ranked among the top at the state level and stood first in the taluka in Class 10.

## Ashok Lahiri Set to Lead NITI Aayog as Vice Chairman

In a significant development signalling a possible shift in India's economic policy leadership, senior economist and BJP leader Ashok Kumar Lahiri is set to be appointed as the next Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog. He is expected to replace incumbent Vice Chairman Suman Bery, who has held the post since May 2022.



Alongside Lahiri's expected elevation, noted immunologist and academic Gobardhan Das is likely to be inducted as a member of the government's premier policy think tank. While formal announcements are still awaited, sources indicate that these appointments are part of a long-anticipated restructuring within NITI Aayog.

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# Corridors of Power



## Justice Lisa Gill Sworn In as First Woman CJ of AP High Court

Justice Lisa Gill takes oath as the first woman Chief Justice of Andhra Pradesh High Court in Vijayawada, marking a historic milestone for women's representation in the judiciary and strengthening inclusivity and diversity in India's legal system. Justice Lisa Gill has taken oath as the first woman Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. The swearing-in ceremony was took place in the Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, It is the historic step towards the greater representation of the women in top judicial positions. Her appointment can be seen as the progressive move which will strengthens inclusivity of women and diversity within the India's legal system. Justice Lisa Gill officially assumed the office after taking oath which was administered by the Governor of Andhra Pradesh S Abdul Nazeer.

The ceremony was held at the Lok Bhavan in Vijayawada in the presence of the several senior government officials and the members of the judiciary.



## Anand Is The Police Boss

Big boundary ! Senior IPS officer CV.Anand is back , the officer took over as the DGP of Telangana state. A 1991-batch IPS officer, Anand has held several key positions, including Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad (2013-2016), and later served as Hyderabad Police Commissioner. He was promoted as Additional DGP in 2017 and has held multiple senior roles in the state administration, likewise at ACB & as Special Chief Secretary to the Government, Home Department.Has vast experience in policing and knows the pulse of the state. In a significant shift, the DGP also put an end to the long standing practice of courtesy visits by district officers to the State headquarters. He made it clear that no officer needs to travel to Hyderabad to meet him and instead must ensure their presence in offices on time and focus strictly on law and order duties.

The DGP said special focus would be placed on women's safety, child trafficking and disaster management. He stressed the need for proactive policing to prevent law and order issues and warned that while technology such as CCTV is useful, traditional investigative methods based on evidence collected from crime scenes must not be neglected.



## "Census House listing" launched

Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao has launched " Census House listing " collection program. He has enrolled his details on online. Chief Secretary requested all the employees and other citizens to enroll on online.He said it is simple and easy to fill. Census director, Commir GHMC , Spl CS and other officers met the CS on this occasion. Telangana is set to embark on its first-ever census since the state's formation, with the self-enumeration phase scheduled to commence tomorrow and run until May 10. During a media briefing held at the GHMC headquarters in Hyderabad today, Telangana Census Director Bharati Hollikeri announced that this initiative represents a significant milestone as the country's first digital census and the first since independence to include a caste-based count.

Directorate of Prosecution etc in coordination with the respective HODs and Government.



## Shikha Goel : The New Prl. Sec., Home Dept.

Sr.lady IPS officer Shikha Goel took charge as Principal Secretary, Home Department Telangana. She will continue to hold full additional charge of Director, Cyber Security Bureau and Director, Forensic Science Laboratory. In a statement the officer told "I looking forward to strengthening the various organisations under the Home department like Police , Prisons , Fire services,

Directorate of Prosecution etc in coordination with the respective HODs and Government.



## Priyanka took over as DM Hyderabad

Priyanka Ala, a 2016-batch IAS officer, took charge as the new Hyderabad District Collector , replacing IAS officer Hari Chandana Dasari. A doctor-turned-bureaucrat, she previously served as the collector of Bhadradi Kothagudem and as the Khairatabad zonal commissioner in the GHMC.She told "thank you, Hyderabad, for the privilege of serving as your Collector.A deeply enriching journey of learning service, and responsibility. Grateful always."



## Sacred Commemoration @ Kanha Shanti Vanam

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla graced the occasion alongside former President of India Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand & Retd. Lt. Gen.Gurmit Singh, Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao and Global Guide of Heartfulness, Kamlesh D. Patel (Daaji) at Sacred Commemoration at Kanha Shanti Vanam. This profound gathering commemorates: The 127th Birth Anniversary of Ram Chandra of Shahjahanpur (Pujya Babuji Maharaj).The 350th Shaheedi Diwas (Martyrdom Year) of Guru Tegh Bahadur, honoring his timeless legacy of courage, sacrifice, and spiritual strength Theme: "One Humanity, One Heart: The Teachings of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji" The event brings together dignitaries and seekers in a shared spirit of: Meditation Remembrance Universal Brotherhood A moment to reflect on enduring values of courage, compassion, and unity—guiding humanity towards harmony and inner peace.

## USCG Meets AP CM CBN



U.S. Consul General Laura Williams visited Andhra Pradesh. She met Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N. Chandrababu Naidu and discussed how real-time data governance improves the lives of citizens and how today's American tech investments in A.P. build on decades of progress between the U.S. and India. As per her post, she honored to witness the groundbreaking of the Google AI Hub in Andhra Pradesh! The \$15B investment of the project is a powerful testament to American tech leadership and the global reach of the U.S. AI stack.



## New Beginning

Gareth Wynn Owen, UK Dy.High Commissioner attended MoU signing moment between UKIBC & T Works Hyd. This partnership strengthens the pathway from idea to market, enabling UK businesses to prototype and scale in India, while opening global opportunities for Indian start-ups and MSMEs.

## Turkey CG Interacted With The Students



Turkey Consul General Orhan Yalman Okan interacted with the students of Aga Khan Academy. "I had the pleasure of giving a conference at Aga Khan Academy for the 11th and 12th grade students. We spoke about diplomacy art, Turkish foreign policy, Indo-Türkiye relations and current global issues." Another news is CG had a productive meeting of "Promotion of Türkiye in the Telugu States" with the Board Members of the Travel Agents Federation of India.

## Meeting Of The Month



Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kazakhstan Hyderabad, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh, India visited New Delhi and had the pleasure of meeting His Excellency Azamat Yeskarayev, Hon'ble Ambassador of Kazakhstan; His Excellency Issa Abdullah Saleh Al Shibani, Hon'ble Ambassador of Oman; and His Excellency Uma Shankar Mishra, Hon'ble Ambassador of Saint Kitts and Nevis to Singapore.

Our meetings were warm, cordial, and highly productive, with meaningful discussions focused on strengthening friendship, enhancing trade and investment, and exploring new avenues of cooperation between India, Kazakhstan, and Oman.



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## Shivadhar Reddy's Second Inning:



Appointed as Telangana's State Security Advisor

Telangana government issued orders appointing Director General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy as State Security Advisor (SSA) upon superannuation. A ceremonial farewell parade was held for Mr. Reddy, marking the end of over three decades of service in the police force.

According to the orders, he would advise the government on issues concerning Police, Law and Order, Internal Security, Crime Control, Narcotics Control and Road Safety for a period of three years from the date of assuming the charge. Mr. Reddy would have the status and rank of Chief Secretary.

## Six IPS Officers Promoted to DGP rank



Telangana government promoted six senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officers from the 1995 and 1996 batches to the rank of Director General of Police (DGP). These officers will continue to serve in their current, in-situ positions following this elevation to the HAG+ level.

The officers promoted to DGP rank are:

\*Mahesh Muralidhar Bhagwat (1995 Batch): Currently serving as Additional DGP (Law and Order).

\*Swati Lakra (1995 Batch): Currently serving as Additional DGP (Home Guards).

\*V.V. Srinivasa Rao (1995 Batch): Currently

serving as Additional DGP (Technical Services).

\*V.C. Sajjanar (1996 Batch): Currently serving as Hyderabad Police Commissioner.

\*Charu Sinha (1996 Batch): Currently serving as Anti-Corruption Bureau Director General and CID chief.

\*Anil Kumar (1996 Batch): Currently serving as Greyhounds Chief.

This move increases the total number of DGP-rank officers in the state to 11. Best wishes to the officers.

## Tarun Joshi takes charge as Future City Police Commissioner



Senior IPS officer Tarun Joshi assumed charge as the new Future City Police Commissioner at the commissionerate office in Thukuguda.

He succeeds G. Sudheer Babu, who retired last month. A 2004-batch IPS officer, Joshi previously served as Director of the Anti-Corruption Bureau and also held key positions including Superintendent of Police of Adilabad, DCP of Hyderabad Central Zone & South zone, Joint Commissioner of Police of Special Branch, and Commissioner of Rachakonda. He outlined priorities including law and order, infrastructure, recruitment, tackling drug abuse, cybercrime, and traffic management, with emphasis on technology-driven and citizen-friendly policing.

## B. Sumathi First Women CP of Malkajgiri Commissionerate



Senior IPS officer B. Sumathi on Friday assumed charge as commissioner of police, Malkajgiri Commissionerate, becoming the first woman to hold the post. She was accorded a warm welcome by senior police officials and staff. Addressing the media, Sumathi thanked the government for the appointment, calling it both an honour and a responsibility. "Delivering transparent, efficient and citizen-centric policing is my top priority, strengthened with tech-driven systems," she said.

Highlighting the growing challenge of cybercrime, Sumathi said the department would adopt a process-oriented, result-driven approach to ensure swift justice for victims. She announced plans to utilise

Albated tools such as TG QUEST to strengthen surveillance and crime detection, alongside awareness programmes for the public. She noted Malkajgiri's reputation as a relatively peaceful region and assured that maintaining law and order would remain her key focus. "I will work with my team to ensure effective policing. Advanced technology will aid investigations and help curb crime," she added. Sumathi thanked the government and the DGP for the opportunity, assuring that her team would work in line with government guidelines to deliver effective policing.

## Major reshuffle: Telangana IAS Transfers



In a major reshuffle of IAS officers, Telangana government effected the transfer of senior officials, including Special Chief Secretaries, Secretaries and district collectors.

Sanjay Kumar, Special Chief Secretary in the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development (PR&RD), Rural Water Supply (RWS) and Rural Sanitation departments, has been transferred and posted as Special Officer at Telangana Bhavan in New Delhi.

M. Dana Kishore, Special Chief Secretary, Labour, Employment, Training and Factories (LET&F) Department, will replace him. He will also continue to hold full additional charge (FAC) as Special Chief Secretary to the Governor.

Among other key postings, B. Viziendira has been appointed Secretary to the Social Welfare Department, while also holding additional charge of Secretary, Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TGSWREIS) and Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development.

Hyderabad Collector Harichandana Dasari (2010 batch) has been moved as Secretary to Government, LET&F Department. She will also hold FAC as Secretary, Revenue (Disaster Management). Krishna Aditya S. (2014 batch), Director of Intermediate Education, has been posted as Special Secretary in the Industries and Commerce Department.

Zendage Hanumant Kondiba, Director of Civil Supplies, has been transferred as Chief Executive Officer of the Arogyasri Health Care Trust and will also hold additional charge as Special Secretary in the Public Enterprises Department.

Bhavesh Mishra has been appointed Collector of Nirmal, Prateek Jain as Collector of Sangareddy, Divakara T.S. as Collector of Khammam, Bhorkhade Hemant Sahadeorao as Collector of Mulugu, Chekka Priyanka as Collector of Narayanpet and Hemanta Keshav Patil as Collector of Nagarkurnool.

Anudeep Durishetty, Collector of Khammam, has been transferred to the Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (ITE&C) Department as Joint Secretary. He will also hold additional responsibilities as Director of Mines and Geology and Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of Telangana Mineral Development Corporation.

Abhilasha Abhinav, Collector of Nirmal, has been posted as Director of Intermediate Education. G.V. Shyam Prasad Lal has been appointed Director of Civil Sup-

plies, while G. Mukunda Reddy has been posted as Special Commissioner, Information and Public Relations.

Reshuffle in GHMC

P. Uday Kumar has been posted as Zonal Commissioner, Golconda, while Badhavath Santhosh will serve as Zonal Commissioner, Khairatabad. Narayan Amit Malempati, Vikas Mahato and Mayank Singh have been appointed Zonal Commissioners in Serilingampally, L.B. Nagar and Kukatpally respectively.

IPS Transfers in Telangana

Devendra Singh Chauhan, who has been posted as the Director General (Vigilance and Enforcement) and ex officio Principal Secretary to the Government, General Administration.

Shahnawaz Qasim, who is presently the Director General of Drugs Control Administration, has been posted as the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Multi-Zone 2, and has also been placed in FAC of IGP (Personnel).

Avinash Mohanty, has been posted as the Director General, Drugs Control Administration and Director of Prohibition and Excise. He has also been placed in FAC as Director, ACB.

Kartikya, IGP, Intelligence, has been placed in FAC as the IGP, SIB, Intelligence, duly relieving B Sumathi from the post.

# Love Returns where it Began



Happy Mother's Day



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## Public Sector

### NLC India CMD Receives Prestigious “Pride of Telangana” Award



Prasanna Kumar Motupalli, Chairman and Managing Director of NLC India Limited, has been conferred the “Pride of Telangana” Award at the 4th Telangana Public Relations Conference & National Public Relations Day celebrations by the Public Relations Society of India. The award, presented in Hyderabad, recognises Motupalli’s leadership and contributions to the energy sector, particularly in driving operational excellence, sustainability, and innovation at NLC India. The honour was presented by K. Sreenivas Reddy, Ch. Priyanka, and K. Nageswar in the presence of industry and government dignitaries.

A native of Bhadrachalam, Telangana, Motupalli said the recognition holds special significance as it comes from his home state. Under his leadership, NLC India has expanded its footprint across lignite mining, thermal power generation, and renewable energy, while strengthening governance and operational efficiency. Recognised as a Navratna public sector enterprise, NLC India continues to enhance its position through consistent performance and a focus on sustainable growth.

Motupalli dedicated the award to the employees of NLC India, acknowledging their role in the company’s achievements and reaffirming its commitment to excellence and nation-building.

### Rajesh Kumar Agarwal appointed as PFC Director (Finance)



The Government of India has appointed Rajesh Kumar Agarwal as Director (Finance) at Power Finance Corporation Limited. Agarwal was serving as Executive Director (Finance) at PFC since January 2024. With over 31 years of experience in the power and financial sectors, he brings extensive expertise in corporate accounts, taxation, fund management, lending policy compliance, and asset management. An alumnus in Commerce (Honours) and a member of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India, he has played a key role in driving digital reforms and strengthening financial reporting systems at PFC.

Since joining PFC in 2009, Agarwal has handled multiple cross-functional responsibilities, including fund raising and loan disbursement. Prior to this, he worked with leading power sector organisations such as NTPC Limited, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, and Delhi Transco Limited, where he contributed to tariff matters, power purchase agreements, and sectoral reforms.



### BHEL Reports Strong Revenue Growth in FY 2025–26

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) reported a provisional and unaudited turnover of around ₹ 32,350 crore for FY 2025–26, registering an 18% year-on-year growth, reflecting improved execution and sustained demand across core sectors. During the year, the company secured total order inflows of approximately ₹ 75,000 crore, taking its overall order book to about ₹ 2.4 lakh crore at the close of the fiscal—providing strong revenue visibility going forward.

In the power segment, BHEL maintained its leadership position with significant order wins worth around ₹ 59,000 crore, underlining continued traction in the thermal and allied segments. The industrial business also demonstrated resilience, booking fresh orders of nearly ₹ 16,000 crore across diversified sectors including transportation, transmission, defence, process industries, and industrial equipment—highlighting BHEL’s broad-based engineering capabilities. On the execution front, the company commissioned or synchronised approximately 8.9 GW of power capacity during the year, signalling operational efficiency and a steady project delivery pipeline.

With a robust order backlog, consistent revenue growth, and strong execution momentum, BHEL enters FY 2026–27 on a solid footing. The company reiterated its focus on infrastructure development, indigenisation, and long-term value creation for stakeholders.

### GAIL to Develop 600 MW Solar Power Facility in Uttar Pradesh



GAIL (India) Limited has signed contract agreements with TUSCO Limited to develop a 600 MW solar power project at a solar park in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, marking a key step in its clean energy expansion strategy.

The project will be integrated with a 550 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to ensure reliable and efficient power supply. It will primarily meet the captive energy requirements of GAIL’s petrochemical plant at Pata in Auraiya

district, while also supporting additional demand from electrification of gas-based equipment and upcoming CBG plants in the state. Senior officials from both companies, including R K Singhal, Director (Business Development), GAIL, and Anil Tyagi, CEO, TUSCO, were present during the signing of the agreement. The initiative aligns with GAIL’s strategy to diversify into low-carbon and sustainable energy solutions, while strengthening its operational footprint in Uttar Pradesh.

BPCL Appoints Sanjay Khanna as Chairman and Managing Director

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has announced the appointment of Sanjay Khanna as its Chairman and Managing Director (C&MD), following approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

The appointment, based on recommendations from the Search-cum-Selection Committee under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, will be effective from the date of assumption of charge. Khanna will serve until his superannuation on May 31, 2029, or until further orders.

Currently serving as Director (Refineries), Khanna brings over three decades of experience in refinery operations, project execution, and technical services. His elevation is expected to strengthen BPCL’s strategic focus on value-added products, petrochemical integration, and operational efficiency, while advancing long-term energy security and sustainable growth initiatives.

An alumnus of National Institute of Technology Tiruchirappalli and the University of Mumbai, Khanna has played a key role in expanding BPCL’s refining and petrochemical capabilities. He has previously led both Mumbai and Kochi refineries, driving capacity expansion and operational improvements.

### NMDC Limited Hits All-Time High with 53 MT Iron Ore Output



NMDC Limited, India’s largest iron ore producer, has recorded a historic production of 53.15 million tonnes (MT) in FY26, becoming the first mining company in the country to cross the 50 MT annual output mark.

The state-owned miner reported a 21% year-on-year growth in production, while sales rose 13% to 50.23 MT, marking its highest-ever volumes.

In March alone, the company produced 5.35 MT and sold 5.90 MT, registering sharp growth of 51% and 40%, respectively, over the previous year. The strong performance was driven by key mining assets, including Kirandul and Bachel in Chhattisgarh and Donimalai in Karnataka, all of which delivered record output during the fiscal. FY26 also saw several strategic developments, including: Launch of NMDC’s international office in Dubai, Operationalisation of its first coal mine in Jharkhand, Commissioning of Deposit 4 at Bailadila, Chhattisgarh, The company’s high-grade iron ore continues to support India’s leading steel producers, reinforcing its role in infrastructure growth and industrial expansion. Looking ahead, NMDC aims to scale production capacity to over 100 MT by 2030, supported by new mining projects, capacity expansion, and infrastructure development. CMD Amitava Mukherjee said the company has “set a decisive pace for FY27” and remains aligned with the broader vision of powering a *Viksit Bharat*.



### Power Grid Appoints Vamsi Rama Mohan Burra as CMD

Vamsi Rama Mohan Burra has taken charge as Chairman and Managing Director of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSE under the Ministry of Power. Prior to this appointment, he served as Director (Projects) at POWERGRID, bringing over three decades of experience in power transmission and telecom sectors.

An engineering graduate with advanced qualifications in project management and business administration from Management Development Institute, Burra has also completed leadership programmes at Indian School of Business and the Harvard Manage Mentor programme.

A member of POWERGRID’s first batch of Executive Trainees in 1993, he has held key roles across projects, procurement, regulatory affairs, asset management, and telecom, contributing to strategic and operational growth.

Burra played a pivotal role in establishing the company’s regulatory framework and driving its participation in competitive bidding in the power transmission sector. As former CEO of Powergrid Teleservices Limited, he led expansion in telecom operations and initiated the company’s first data centre project.

His leadership has been marked by a strong focus on digitalisation and operational efficiency, with reforms in project execution and monitoring enhancing transparency and delivery outcomes. The appointment underscores continuity in leadership as POWERGRID advances its infrastructure expansion and digital transformation agenda.

### Big Defence Deal: Bharat Electronics Limited Wins ₹ 1,950 Crore Radar Contract



Ministry of Defence India has signed a ₹ 1,950 crore capital acquisition contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) for the procurement of two advanced Mountain Radar systems for the Indian Air Force.

The contract, awarded under the ‘Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured)’ category, underscores the government’s push towards self-reliance under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India initiatives. The radar systems have been indigenously developed by the Electronics and Radar Development Establishment, a key arm of the Defence Research and Development Organisation, with BEL responsible for manufacturing and delivery.

Once deployed, the systems are expected to significantly enhance surveillance capabilities in mountainous regions, strengthening India’s air defence network and overall national security framework. The procurement is also set to boost the domestic defence manufacturing ecosystem by promoting indigenous design, reducing reliance on imports, and driving technological advancement within the sector.

### Coal India Limited Enters Energy Storage Space with ₹ 1,057 Crore Project in Telangana

Coal India Limited (CIL) has received a Letter of Award (LoA) from Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited to develop a 750 MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Choutuppal, marking a strategic push into the energy transition segment.

The project, with a capacity of 187.5 MW for four hours, entails an investment of ₹ 1,057.09 crore and is expected to be completed within 18 months from the signing of the Battery Energy Storage Purchase Agreement (BESPA).

Under the agreement, CIL will supply power at a tariff of ₹ 3.14 lakh per MW per month. The company is required to submit performance bank guarantees and complete formalities within 15 days before execution of the final agreement.

The contract, awarded by a domestic entity, does not involve any related party transactions, the company said in its regulatory filing.

The development underscores CIL’s ongoing diversification beyond coal mining, with increasing focus on renewable and energy storage solutions as part of its long-term growth strategy.

On the market front, CIL shares closed 0.32% higher at ₹ 445.10 ahead of the announcement. The stock has gained over 14% in the past six months and is up 11.15% year-to-date, reflecting sustained investor confidence.





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### “Hum Desh Premi” web series poster officially released

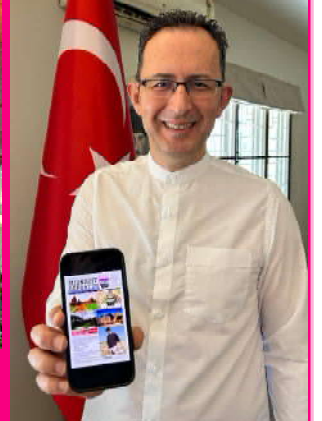
The 18th Convention of Rashtriya Sainik Sanstha was successfully completed with great enthusiasm at Gandhi Satyagraha Mandap, Rajghat, New Delhi. On this auspicious occasion, the poster of the web series “Hum Desh Premi” was officially released. Chief Guest: His Excellency Lt. General Gurmit Singh Ji, Governor of Uttarakhand, Guests of Honour: Pujya Swamy Chidanand Saraswati Maharaj Ji Acharya Dr. Lokesh , Shri Vijay Goel , Former Union State Minister, Government of India Shri Rajan Chibbar , Senior Adviser, Skoda Group Other Dignitaries: Prof. Dr. Pawan Sinha, Maj. Gen. N. Srinivas Rao , Former GOC Telangana & Andhra Pradesh Maj. Gen. Anuj Mathur , VSM Maj. Gen. M. L. Aswal , Former Divisional Officer, Ordnance Corps, Dehradun Col. Rajesh Tyagi , SM, Director, Subharti Defence Academy, Meerut attended the event. The program was presided over by Shri Tejenderpal Tyagi , National President, Rashtriya Sainik Sanstha. More than 500 distinguished guests participated in the event. The Chief Guest conveyed his best wishes to active blood donor Dr. Yogesh Raj Srivastav for the success of the “Hum Desh Premi” web series and, in his address, emphasized that people should come forward for Blood Donation and Organ Donation.



### Grand EID MILAP Hosted

WAAIF Hassan Lateef & Sons hosted a grand Eid Milap gathering, bringing together prominent personalities, community leaders, and distinguished guests in a celebration of unity, harmony, and shared cultural values.

The event was graced by Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Hon'ble Speaker of the Telangana Legislative Assembly, who attended as the Guest of Honour, adding prestige and significance to the occasion. The gathering also witnessed the presence of respected speakers and dignitaries, including V. Satyanarayana, Former IG, whose presence added immense honor to the occasion. Alongside him, notable personalities such as Mr. Shakeeb Haroon, Mr. Mohd Jahangir Khurram Seth, Mr. Habeeb Khader, Mr. Masi Ullah, and Mr. Umeed Khan Mr .Sohel Mateen attended and contributed to the success of the event. The gathering served as a platform to strengthen communal bonds and promote peace, reflecting the true spirit of Eid. Speakers highlighted the importance of unity, mutual respect, and collective progress within society.



### Midnight Reporter's March Edition Released

Midnight Reporter Marvelous March edition is out with a bang released by versatile diplomat Mr.Orhan Yalman Okan , Turkey Consul General, Hyderabad.

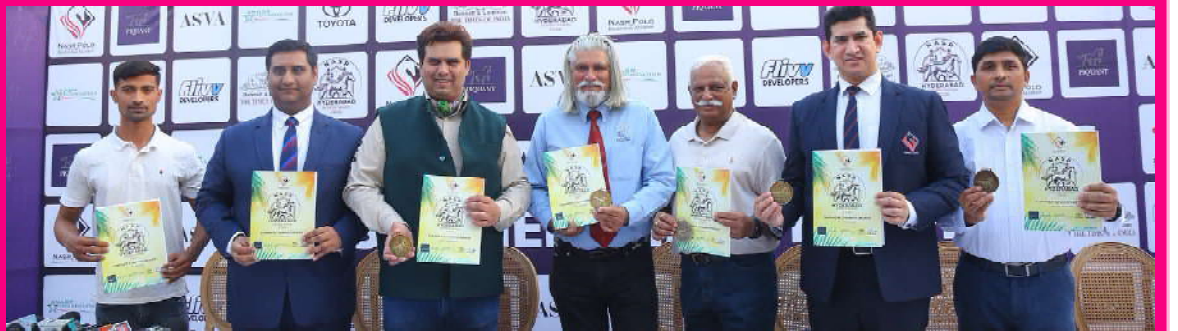
Click the link for epaper : [https://midnightreporter.com/March\\_2026.pdf](https://midnightreporter.com/March_2026.pdf)



### Evwaah Weavers Hub Exhibition Organised

Actress and Blue Cross of Hyderabad Co- Founder Amala Akkineni inaugurated the 2-day, Evwaah – Weavers Hub exhibition at Firewater Neo Bar & Kitchen, Banquet hall -12th Level, Financial District, Nanakramguda. The exhibition is being organized by socialite Alekhya Reddy.

Speaking on the occasion, Amala said that, handloom and silk hold a unique and prestigious place in Indian culture. Addressing the gathering, organizer Alekhya Reddy said the exposition features an exclusive collection of traditional and handcrafted textiles, with more than a thousand varieties of handloom sarees on display. The exhibition includes renowned weaves such as Pochampally, Paithani and Patan Patola. Main social objective of the handloom exhibition to promote weavers and provide a



### Hyderabad Horse Show 2026 – Summer Championship in July

The much-anticipated Hyderabad Horse Show 2026 Summer Championship will be held from July 24 to 26, 2026, at the Nasr Polo & Equestrian Academy, bringing together top riders, elite horses and leading clubs for a spectacular three-day event.



### IIID-HRC Design Excellence Awards 2026 held

The IIID-HRC Design Excellence Awards 2026 were held in grand style at ITC Kakatiya, bringing together leading architects, designers, and creative professionals from across the region. Organized by the Institute of Indian Interior Designers – Hyderabad Regional Chapter (HRC), the prestigious event celebrated innovation, creativity, and excellence in interior design. The ceremony witnessed participation from top industry experts, emerging designers, and eminent guests, making it a vibrant platform for networking and recognition. The awards honored outstanding projects across multiple categories, highlighting cutting-edge design concepts and sustainable practices. Winners were felicitated for their remarkable contributions to the evolving design landscape, reflecting a blend of aesthetics and functionality. The evening was marked by inspiring interactions, exchange of ideas, and a shared vision to elevate design standards in India, reaffirming Hyderabad's growing prominence as a hub for creative excellence.



### Hyderabad Pearl Ladies Circle 153 celebrated 100<sup>th</sup> meeting

The Hyderabad Pearl Ladies Circle 153 marked a significant milestone by celebrating its 100th meeting with great enthusiasm and camaraderie in Hyderabad. The landmark gathering brought together members, past chairpersons, and special invitees to reflect on the circle's journey of service, friendship, and empowerment. The event featured engaging activities, recognition of dedicated members, and a renewed commitment to social initiatives, highlighting the group's impactful contributions to the community while strengthening bonds among its members.



### Utkarsh Installation Ceremony ‘On screen’

The Utkarsh Installation Ceremony 2026–2027 was held with great enthusiasm and grandeur, marking the formal induction of the new leadership team for the upcoming term. The event brought together distinguished guests, senior members, and young achievers, creating an atmosphere of pride and celebration. The newly installed office bearers pledged to uphold the values of the organization and work collectively towards growth, innovation, and community engagement. The ceremony also highlighted past achievements while setting an ambitious roadmap for the year ahead, reflecting a renewed commitment to excellence and impactful initiatives.



### Top Unified Council Olympiad Achievers Felicitated

The Unified Council hosted its Olympiads Annual Awards Celebrations – 2026 at Ravindra Bharathi , recognizing outstanding students from national and international Olympiads. The award ceremony honoured top performers in the (NSTSE), (UICO), (UIEO), (UIMO), Unified (UIGKO). Chief Guest, Etela Rajender Honble member of Parliament, joined by distinguished Guests of honours including Dr.B.V.R. Mohan Reddy Founder Chairman & Board Member, Cyient, Srinivasa Rao Mahankali Independent director and board advisor, ASCI, Dr.N.Sesha Reddy Chancellor – Aditya University, Sudhakar Gande Tech Entrepreneur, K.V.Pradeep Actor & Motivational Coach Speaking to media Said Srinivas Kalluri, CEO unified council said that, Unified Council, a pioneer in educational assessment and a leader in Olympiad-based learning, continues its mission of strengthening students' fundamentals and nurturing analytical thinking.



# Floating Sofa Ideas for Modern Living Room Magic You Can't Miss

Reimagine your living room with floating sofa layouts. Discover creative ideas to maximise space, enhance style, and create a modern, inviting ambience.

Tap into the latest furniture trend— the floating sofa. The blog offers stylish and functional ideas to elevate your space through furniture placement. By placing your sofa strategically, you can create distinct zones, maximise space, and add a contemporary flair to your home. Floating layouts also enhance the flow of natural light and make your living room feel more open and inviting.

### Benefits of Using a Floating Sofa

Why should you pull that heavy couch away from the wall? The benefits go far beyond just looking incredibly chic.

Here are the top reasons to make the switch:

- Creates Intimate Conversation Zones: Pushing seating together makes chatting much easier. You no longer have to yell across a massive coffee table.
- Improves Traffic Flow: Moving the couch to the centre creates natural walkways around the perimeter. This stops people from cutting directly through your conversation area.
- Divides Open Floor Plans: If your kitchen, dining, and living areas share a single large room, a floater sofa serves as a physical boundary to separate the zones.
- Showcases Architectural Details: Got beautiful windows or a stunning fireplace? Floating your couch lets those features shine instead of blocking them.

### 1. What is a floating sofa in interior design?

A floating sofa is a couch placed in the middle of a room, away from the walls. This arrangement creates a central seating zone, improves traffic flow, and beautifully divides large open-concept spaces.

### 2. How much space should be behind a floating sofa?

You should leave at least 30 to 36 inches of space behind the couch to create a comfortable, clear walkway for foot traffic.

### 3. Is a floating sofa suitable for small living rooms?

Yes! Pulling the couch slightly away from the wall creates depth and makes the space feel airy. It is one of the best sofa ideas for small living room layouts.

### 4. How do you decorate the space behind a floating sofa?

Place a narrow console table behind it and top it with lamps, books, and decor. You can also use large potted plants to add visual interest to the exposed back.

### 5. Can a floating sofa work in rectangular living rooms?

Absolutely. Floating sofas help break up a long, narrow room into multiple functional zones, preventing the space from feeling like a bowling alley.

### 6. Where should the TV be placed with a floating sofa?

Mount the TV on the primary focal wall, and align your floater sofa directly parallel to it. Ensure the viewing distance is comfortable based on your screen size.



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## अमरिकी डिनर में ब्रिटिश किंग ने ट्रंप पर कसा तंज, 250 साल पुराना इतिहास दिलाया याद



अमेरिका दौरे पर पहुंचे ब्रिटेन के राजा चार्ल्स तृतीय ने व्हाइट हाउस में आयोजित स्टेट डिनर के दौरान अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप पर हल्के-फुल्के अंदाज में तंज कसा, जिसने सबका ध्यान खींच लिया। चार्ल्स ने मजाकिया अंदाज में कहा कि अगर ब्रिटेन ने इतिहास में भूमिका न निभाई होती, तो आज अमेरिकी लोग फ्रेंच बोल रहे होते। उनका इशारा उस दौर की ओर था जब उत्तरी अमेरिका पर कब्जे को लेकर ब्रिटेन और फ्रांस के बीच संघर्ष हुआ था, जिसमें आखिरकार ब्रिटेन विजयी रहा।

दरअसल, यह टिप्पणी ट्रंप के पहले दिए गए बयान के जवाब में थी, जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर अमेरिका ने द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध में हस्तक्षेप न किया होता, तो यूरोप में लोग जर्मन या जापानी बोल रहे होते। चार्ल्स ने उसी संदर्भ में हल्के अंदाज में यह जवाब दिया, जिससे माहौल हल्का हो गया लेकिन संदेश गहरा था। चार्ल्स ने अपने भाषण में कई ऐतिहासिक घटनाओं का जिक्र किया। 1814 में ब्रिटिश सैनिकों द्वारा White House को जलाए जाने की घटना पर मजाक किया। Boston Tea Party का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि आज का डिनर उससे "काफी बेहतर" है। इन टिप्पणियों से उन्होंने दोनों देशों के जटिल लेकिन मजबूत इतिहास को हल्के अंदाज में पेश किया।

चार्ल्स ने अपने संबोधन में यह भी कहा कि अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन का रिश्ता सिर्फ इतिहास तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह भविष्य के लिए भी बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है।

उन्होंने NATO जैसे गठबंधनों को मजबूत बनाए रखने और वैश्विक चुनौतियों से मिलकर निपटने की जरूरत पर जोर दिया। चार्ल्स ने ट्रंप को द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध की एक ब्रिटिश पनडुब्बी HMS की घंटी भी भेंट की और मजाक में कहा—“अगर हमें बुलाना हो, तो बस घंटी बजा दीजिए।” यह दौरा ऐसे समय में हुआ है जब ईरान मुद्दे को लेकर अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन के बीच कुछ मतभेद भी रहे हैं। ऐसे में चार्ल्स का यह दौरा रिश्तों को संतुलित और मजबूत करने की कोशिश माना जा रहा है।

## ईरान युद्ध रोकने की डेडलाइन करीब, अपने ही बुने जाल में फंस सकते ट्रंप



अमेरिका में ईरान के खिलाफ जारी सैन्य कार्रवाई को लेकर बड़ा संवैधानिक संकट खड़ा हो गया है। राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के सामने अब कानूनी समयसीमा तेजी से खत्म होने जा रही है, जिससे उनकी मुश्किलें बढ़ सकती हैं। दरअसल, अमेरिका के 1973 के War Powers Resolution के अनुसार, कोई भी राष्ट्रपति कांग्रेस की अनुमति के बिना केवल 60 दिनों तक ही सैन्य कार्रवाई जारी रख सकता

है। इसके बाद या तो कांग्रेस को युद्ध की मंजूरी देनी होती है या राष्ट्रपति को अपनी सेना वापस बुलानी पड़ती है। ट्रंप प्रशासन ने 2 मार्च को कांग्रेस को इस सैन्य कार्रवाई की जानकारी दी थी, जिसके बाद 60 दिन की समयसीमा 1 मई को समाप्त हो रही है। लेकिन अब तक कांग्रेस ने इस युद्ध को मंजूरी नहीं दी है।

क्या कहता है कानून ?

इस कानून के तहत राष्ट्रपति को 48 घंटे के भीतर कांग्रेस को सैन्य कार्रवाई की जानकारी देनी होती है इसके बाद 60 दिन की समयसीमा शुरू होती है। अगर मंजूरी नहीं मिलती, तो सैन्य कार्रवाई रोकनी जरूरी होती है। कांग्रेस चाहे तो इस अवधि को अधिकतम 30 दिन तक बढ़ा सकती है, लेकिन इसके लिए दोनों सदनों की मंजूरी जरूरी होती है।

ट्रंप के लिए राजनीतिक मुश्किलें भी—

ईरान के खिलाफ यह युद्ध ट्रंप के लिए राजनीतिक रूप से भी मुश्किल बनता जा रहा है। एक सर्वे के मुताबिक, केवल 34% अमेरिकी नागरिक ही इस युद्ध का समर्थन कर रहे हैं। रिपब्लिकन पार्टी के कुछ नेता भी अब असहज नजर आ रहे हैं। उदाहरण के तौर पर, सीनेटर श्रवीद ब्लतजपे ने साफ कहा है कि अगर कांग्रेस की मंजूरी नहीं मिलती, तो वह इस युद्ध का समर्थन नहीं करेंगे।

कानून को नजरअंदाज कर सकते ट्रंप

संभावना है कि ट्रंप इस कानून को नजरअंदाज कर सकते हैं या इसे असंवैधानिक बताते हुए अदालत में चुनौती दे सकते हैं। पहले भी कई अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति बिना कांग्रेस की मंजूरी के सैन्य कार्रवाई करते रहे हैं।

ट्रंप यह तर्क भी दे सकते हैं कि अमेरिकी सेना सीधे युद्ध में शामिल नहीं है, बल्कि सिर्फ नाकेबंदी और रणनीतिक कार्रवाई कर रही है इसलिए यह कानून लागू नहीं होता। अगर ट्रंप 1 मई के बाद भी सैन्य कार्रवाई जारी रखते हैं, तो कांग्रेस उनके खिलाफ कानूनी कार्रवाई कर सकती है, डेमोक्रेट्स अदालत का दरवाजा खटखटा सकते हैं, अमेरिका में बड़ा संवैधानिक टकराव हो सकता है।

विशेषज्ञ मानते हैं कि यह मामला पिछले 50 साल में पहली बार War Powers Resolution को वास्तव में प्रभावी बना सकता है

## अमेरिका में भूखे सो रहे हैं 41 प्रतिशत कॉलेज छात्र



अक्षय पात्र फाउंडेशन से प्रेरित एक वैश्विक भोजन पहल ने US में कॉलेज छात्रों के बीच भोजन की कमी की चुनौती से निपटने की जरूरत पर जोर दिया है और भारतीय-अमेरिकी समुदाय से अपना समर्थन देने की अपील की है। वहीं आंकड़ों के अनुसार करीब 41 प्रतिशत अमेरिकी छात्र भोजन की कमी (Food Insecurity) का सामना कर रहे हैं। न्यूयॉर्क में भारत के महावाणिज्य दूतावास ने वर्ल्ड फूड मूवमेंट (WFM) के सहयोग से सोमवार को यहां शनो वन हंग्री (कोई

भूखा न रहे) शीर्षक से एक विशेष कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया।

वर्ल्ड फूड मूवमेंट जो स्थित एक गैर-लाभकारी संगठन है, ने पिछले साल सितंबर में न्यूयॉर्क, न्यू जर्सी, बोस्टन और कैलिफोर्निया के कम्युनिटी कॉलेजों में छात्रों को गर्म और पौष्टिक भोजन उपलब्ध कराने की एक पहल शुरू की थी। इसका लक्ष्य 2030 तक पूरे US में सालाना दस लाख (एक मिलियन) भोजन परीसना है। दूतावास में आयोजित कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए अक्षय पात्र फाउंडेशन और वर्ल्ड फूड मूवमेंट के सह-संस्थापक और उपाध्यक्ष श्री चंचलपति दास ने कहा कि मैं विभिन्न समुदायों के छात्रों को भोजन और शिक्षा में से किसी एक को चुनने के लिए संघर्ष नहीं करना चाहिए।

वहीं दासा ने आंकड़ों का हवाला देते हुए बताया कि मैं के कॉलेज परिसरों में लगभग 41 प्रतिशत छात्र भोजन की कमी का सामना कर रहे हैं। देश के 91 संस्थानों के 74,000 से अधिक छात्रों से जुटाए गए इन आंकड़ों से यह भी पता चला कि सामाजिक-आर्थिक रूप से वंचित समूहों के आधे से अधिक छात्र कॉलेज परिसरों में भूखे रहते हैं। उन्होंने कहा, यह सब देखकर और सुनकर हमने वर्ल्ड फूड मूवमेंट को एक चैरिटी के रूप में स्थापित किया ताकि मुख्य रूप से कॉलेज परिसरों में और साथ ही कुछ ऐसे समुदायों में भी भोजन की कमी की समस्या का समाधान किया जा सके जहां भोजन की उपलब्धता कम है।

## तैयार हो जाइए! अब आसमान में भी दौड़ती नजर आएंगी कारें, बदल जाएगा आपके सफर का अंदाज



क्या आपने कभी सोचा है कि आप सड़क पर कार चला रहे हों और ट्रैफिक जाम देखते ही आपकी कार पंख फैलाकर उड़ने लगे? नहीं न, तो तैयार हो जाइए! यह सब अब हकीकत बनने जा रहा है। बता दें कि चीन की मशहूर इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन कंपनी ग्मदह ने साल 2027 तक तकनीक की दुनिया को पूरी तरह बदलने का मास्टर प्लान तैयार कर लिया है। फ्लाइंग कार यानी उड़ने वाली करें अब आसमान में उड़ती हुई नजर आएंगी। आइए जानते हैं यह कैसे संभव हो पाएगा?

जानकारी के लिए बता दें कि ग्मदह का सबसे क्रांतिकारी प्रोजेक्ट फ्लाइंग कार है। कंपनी का दावा है कि 2027 तक इन उड़ने वाली कारों का बड़े पैमाने पर प्रोडक्शन (Mass Production) शुरू हो जाएगा। यह कार सामान्य गाड़ियों की तरह सड़क पर तो चलेगी ही, लेकिन जरूरत पड़ने पर यह हवा में भी उड़ने में सक्षम होगी। इससे शहरों में घंटों तक लगने वाले ट्रैफिक जाम से निजात मिलेगी और यात्रा का समय काफी कम हो जाएगा। हालांकि इसे सुरक्षा मानकों और सरकारी मंजूरी की प्रक्रियाओं से गुजरना बाकी है लेकिन कंपनी का कहना है कि उसे अभी से भारी संख्या में प्री-बुकिंग और लोगों की दिलचस्पी मिल रही है।

2026 में आएंगे Humanoid Robot

ग्मदह सिर्फ कारों तक सीमित नहीं है। कंपनी ऐसे ह्यूमनॉइड रोबोट बना रही है जो बिल्कुल इंसानों की तरह दिखेंगे और काम करेंगे। ये रोबोट चल-फिर सकेंगे, सामान उठा सकेंगे और इंसानों से भी बातचीत कर पाएंगे।

जानिए कहां होगा इसका इस्तेमाल

शुरुआत में इन्हें ऑफिसों, होटलों और दुकानों में 'कस्टमर सर्विस' के लिए तैनात किया जाएगा। ये रिसेप्शनिस्ट बनकर मेहमानों का स्वागत करेंगे और उनके सवाल के जवाब देंगे।

## हथियारों की दौड़ तेज, भारत का रक्षा बजट 92 अरब डॉलर पार

वैश्विक स्तर पर बढ़ते तनाव और युद्धों के बीच दुनिया में सैन्य खर्च लगातार बढ़ रहा है। Stockholm International Peace Research Institute की ताजा रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, 2025 में दुनिया का कुल सैन्य खर्च बढ़कर 2887 अरब डॉलर तक पहुंच गया, जो लगातार 11वें साल वृद्धि को दर्शाता है।

इस रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, पदकप ने भी अपने रक्षा बजट में बड़ा इजाफा किया है। भारत का सैन्य खर्च 8.9: बढ़कर 92.1 अरब डॉलर हो गया है, जिससे वह दुनिया का पांचवां सबसे बड़ा सैन्य खर्च करने वाला देश बन गया है। यह बढ़ोतरी मुख्य रूप से क्षेत्रीय तनाव और सुरक्षा जरूरतों को ध्यान में रखते हुए की गई है।

रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि मई 2025 में भारत-पाकिस्तान के बीच हुए संघर्ष ने इस खर्च को बढ़ाने में अहम भूमिका निभाई। इस संघर्ष में लड़ाकू विमान, ड्रोन और मिसाइलों का इस्तेमाल हुआ था, जिसके बाद भारत ने अपनी सैन्य तैयारियों को और मजबूत करने पर जोर दिया। वहीं Pakistan ने भी अपने सैन्य खर्च में 11: की बढ़ोतरी की है, जो 11.9 अरब डॉलर तक पहुंच गया। पाकिस्तान ने यह बढ़ोतरी मुख्य रूप से चीन से नए हथियारों और सैन्य उपकरणों की खरीद के कारण की है। दूसरी तरफ China ने अपने रक्षा बजट में 7.4: की वृद्धि की, जो अब 336 अरब डॉलर हो गया है। यह लगातार 31वां साल है जब चीन ने अपने सैन्य खर्च में इजाफा किया है, जिससे उसकी सैन्य ताकत लगातार बढ़ रही है। वैश्विक स्तर पर सबसे ज्यादा सैन्य खर्च करने वाले देशों में United States पहले स्थान पर है, हालांकि उसका खर्च 2025 में 7.5 प्रतिशत घटकर 954 अरब डॉलर रह गया।

इसके पीछे मुख्य कारण यूक्रेन को दी जाने वाली सैन्य सहायता में कमी बताया गया है। यूरोप और एशिया में सैन्य खर्च तेजी से बढ़ा है। यूरोप में 14: की वृद्धि देखी गई, जबकि एशिया और ओशिनिया में 8.1 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई। इसका कारण रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध और अन्य क्षेत्रीय तनाव हैं, जिनके चलते देशों ने अपनी सैन्य ताकत बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया है।

## Tourism



### UP Tourism aims to raise total tourism-led employment to 5% by 2047

In line with this approach, the dept. has invited proposals under the category of 'New Tourism Startup Units'; Wider tourism roadmap targets rise share in India's tourism GVA to 16% through phased expansion.

Uttar Pradesh is sharpening its focus on tourism-led job creation as part of its broader USD 1 trillion economy vision, with the aim to increase total tourism-led employment to 5% by 2024, in a phased manner, which is currently at around 1.4%. The sector is expected to play a much larger role in employment over the next two decades.

Officials say the strategy hinges on expanding tourism infrastructure, improving visitor experiences, attracting private investment and unlocking new opportunities through innovation-led enterprises.

In line with this approach, the UP Tourism Department has invited proposals under the category of 'New Tourism Startup Units', aimed at bringing technology-driven, experience-based and sustainable projects into the sector. The category covers projects and services that use new technologies, promote sustainability and create a positive impact on local communities

through innovation. The move is aligned with the state's Tourism Policy, which focuses on boosting private participation, local entrepreneurship and job creation across tourism value chains.

The wider tourism roadmap also targets a rise in the sector's contribution to State GVA from the current 1.2% to 5% by 2047, while Uttar Pradesh aims to raise its share in India's tourism GVA to 16% through phased expansion.

Tourism and Culture Minister Jaiveer Singh said, "Tourism in Uttar Pradesh is no longer limited to sightseeing. It is emerging as a smart, experience-driven sector with strong potential for employment and investment. Through startup-led innovation, we are creating new opportunities that will contribute significantly to the state's economic growth and help achieve the USD 1 trillion economy target."

He added that tourism's ability to generate decentralised employment across hospitality, transport, food services, handicrafts and local enterprises makes it one of the strongest growth engines for the state.

### J&K : Reopening of All Closed Tourist Destinations by May



Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah announced in the Assembly that all currently closed tourist destinations are expected to reopen by May. Our Correspondent reports that the Chief Minister also revealed that the Government is working on plans to introduce nine new tourist destinations to further strengthen and diversify the tourism industry in the Union Territory.

Winding up the discussion on Demands for Grants in the legislative Assembly, Mr Abdullah said, his Government worked "step by step" to revive tourism in the aftermath of

the April 22, 2025, Pahalgam terror attack, at a time when many in the industry believed visitors would not return to the Union Territory for years. The Chief Minister mentioned that government is committed to address gaps in tourist infrastructure in Pahalgam, Gulmarg, and Sonamarg. He noted that some projects are nearing completion, including Jammu Lake and the Jammu Riverfront.

### Arunachal plans Subansiri tourism ecosystem



Arunachal Pradesh is planning to transform the Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project pondage into a world-class mountain-cum-river tourism hub, integrating ecotourism, adventure, and cultural experiences.

Located on the Subansiri River, the 2,000 MW project—India's largest hydroelectric initiative—is expected to be fully commissioned by December 2026. The reservoir created by the project is being positioned as a high-value tourism asset within a

biodiverse river ecosystem. Chief Minister Pema Khandu has sought support from Narendra Modi and multiple central ministries, advocating a coordinated, whole-of-government approach to develop the destination. The proposed tourism model includes ecotourism, water sports, cultural tourism, inland fisheries, and luxury river cruises—drawing inspiration from global destinations like Phewa Lake, Lake Como, and Milford Sound.

A strong focus has been placed on community participation, with local and tribal populations positioned as key stakeholders and beneficiaries. The project aims to generate over 2,500 jobs and attract around 1.5 lakh tourists annually in the medium term.

### From Bodh Gaya to Lumbini: IRCTC Bets Big on Spiritual Tourism Surge

The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has announced a 20% promotional discount on its Buddhist Circuit Special Tourist Train for select departures between December 2026 and March 2027, as it looks to tap growing domestic and international demand for spiritual tourism. The discounted departures are scheduled for December 19, 2026; January 2, February 20, and March 20, 2027. Under the offer, the all-inclusive package starts at ₹ 76,905 per person (approximately \$920–\$930, depending on exchange rates) on a twin-sharing basis. The seven-night, eight-day journey originates from Safdarjung Railway Station in New Delhi and covers some of the most revered sites associated with Gautama Buddha's life and teachings — including Bodh Gaya, where he is believed to have attained enlightenment; Nalanda via Rajgir, an ancient center of Buddhist learning; Varanasi with nearby Sarnath, where he delivered his first sermon; Lumbini in Nepal, his birthplace; Kushinagar, where he attained Mahaparinirvana; and Shravasti, where he spent a significant part of his monastic life. The itinerary also includes a visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra.

Spiritual and geopolitical significance- The Buddhist Circuit is widely regarded as one of the most important pilgrimage routes in the world, particularly for followers from East and Southeast Asia. Countries such as Sri Lanka, Thailand, Japan, South Korea and Vietnam collectively account for millions of Buddhist pilgrims annually, many of whom view these sites as central to their religious identity. India has been actively promoting the circuit as part of its broader tourism and cultural diplomacy strategy, positioning it as a bridge to Buddhist-majority nations. The government has also invested in infrastructure upgrades across key sites to improve accessibility and visitor experience.

### Outlook for 2026: continued growth amid a challenging environment



International tourism is expected to grow 3% to 4% in 2026 compared to 2025, assuming that Asia and the Pacific continues to recover, global economic conditions remain favorable and geopolitical conflicts do not escalate. Uncertainty from current geopolitical tensions and conflicts pose an increasing risk for tourism in 2026.

- UN Tourism's prospects for 2026 reflect a normalization of growth rates after a strong rebound in international arrivals in 2023 (+34%) and 2024 (+11%) and a 4% increase in 2025.

- This positive outlook is confirmed by the latest UN Tourism Confidence Index and survey among the Panel of Experts. 58% of experts foresee better or much better performance in 2026 than in 2025, while 31% expect similar results and 11% worse.

- Survey respondents pointed to economic factors, high travel costs, and geopolitical risks as the main challenges international tourism could face in 2026. These factors were viewed as the most relevant by about half of all experts.

- While headline inflation has receded globally in 2025, inflation in tourism-related services remains elevated by historical standards. Against this backdrop, tourists are expected to continue to seek value for money according to the Panel of Experts.

- While positive prospects for the global economy and lower oil prices could favour tourism performance in 2026, uncertainty derived from geopolitical risks and ongoing conflicts, trade tensions and extreme weather events could weigh on traveller confidence.

- International tourism in 2026 will be driven by solid consumer demand, enhanced air connectivity and growing outbound travel from emerging markets. Major international events such as the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics (Italy) and the FIFA World Cup 2026 (Canada, United States and Mexico) will also contribute to international travel.

### No selfies, no phones: Why wildlife destinations are starting to say 'no' to tourists



As Indian tiger reserves implement a full ban on mobile phones during safaris, do we need to rethink how we behave as wildlife tourists?

You're riding in a Jeep through a sun-dappled forest in India, when right before your eyes, a majestic tiger appears from the undergrowth. You immediately reach for your phone, angling it so you can capture your awestruck face and the

majestic cat in the same frame. Success – you get the shot right before the predator slinks away. Capturing such an image is the stuff of travel dreams. But thanks to a ruling from India's Supreme Court, it's a scene India's forests won't see for much longer.

A supreme court ruling passed in November 2025 has led to the banning of mobile phones from the core tourism zones of some of the country's tiger reserves, deeming the devices – and the behaviour safari tourists exhibit when using them – too dangerous to humans and wildlife alike.

This February, a shocking viral video illustrated how bad things have got. In it, a wild tiger in Ranthambore National Park, Rajasthan is surrounded by multiple safari vehicles and is forced to pick its way around them to escape to the forest, while metres away, tourists snap photos and shout. The tiger appears cornered and stressed. In India, these kinds of overcrowded wildlife moments, termed "safari jams", are increasingly common.