



Appointments

*Sanjay Jaju (IAS: 1992: TG), Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, has been prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre.

*Tenure of Shyam Jagannathan (IAS: 1997: AM), Director General (Shipping), Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary to the Government of India, has been extended for a period of two years beyond 01.06.2026 i.e. up to 01.06.2028.

*Prem Chand (YOA: 2011), presently posted in the Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cabo Verde.

*Muanpui Saiawi (IFS: 2005), presently High Commissioner of India to New Zealand, has been concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Samoa, with residence in Wellington.

*Saurabh Kumar (IAS: 2009: CG) has been empanelled for holding the post of Joint Secretary or equivalent at the Centre.

*Foreign deputation tenure of Debjani Chakrabarti (IAS: 2002: OD) as Minister (Economic & Commerce) in the Embassy of India, Tokyo, Japan has been extended for a period of Eight Months beyond 28.08.2026.

*Gurkaran Singh Bains (IRS C&IT:2006) has been appointed as Director of Customs, Customs Department in Revenue Authority, Port Louis, Mauritius on a three years fixed-term performance whichever contract basis.

*Tenure of Sheetal Verma (IAS: 2007: UP), Director of Census Operations (DCO)/Director of Citizen Registration (OCR), Uttar Pradesh, has been extended for a tenure up to 30.06.2027.

*Tenure of Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, AYUSH, has been extended for a period of one year beyond 28.06.2026 i.e. up to 28.06.2027.

*Tenure of Javvadi V Naga Subramanyam (IAS: 2009: AM), Joint Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, has been revised for an overall tenure of 7 years i.e. up to 15.02.2027.

*Tenure of Anand Bantia (IRAS: 2012), IFA (Director level), has been curtailed in the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). Further Bantia has been appointed as Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Corporate Affairs and Road Transport & Highways Harsh Malhotra in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs at the level of Director, w.e.f. 27.06.2026 for a period up to 26.04.2031.

*Tenure of Ajai Kumar Verma (IDSE: 2000), Director, Central Vigilance Commission, has been extended for a period of nine months beyond 01.07.2026 and up to 01.04.2027. He is on central deputation tenure w.e.f. 02.07.2020.

*Mamta (IES: 2008), Director in the Department of Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade, has been appointed as Director in the Ministry of Steel on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure up to 31.03.2029.

*Vishvas Vidu Sapkal (IFS: 1998), presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Peru, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Slovak Republic.

*Nidhi Khare (IAS: 1992: JH), Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, has been entrusted with additional charge of the post of Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution from 20.06.2026 to 02.07.2026 during the period of absence on leave of Sanjeev Chopra (IAS: 1990: OR).

*Nikunja Bihari Dhal (IAS: 1993: OR), Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, has been entrusted with additional charge of the post of Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice from 20.06.2026 to 26.06.2026 during the period of absence on leave of Niraj Verma (IAS: 1994: AM).

*Amit P Javalgi (IPS: 2006: WB) has been appointed as Inspector General in National Investigation Agency (NIA).

*Sundarraaj P (IPS: 2003: CH) has been appointed as Inspector General in National Investigation Agency (NIA).

*Anil Malik (IAS: 1991: HY), Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, has been entrusted with additional charge of the post of Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs from 16.06.2026 to 01.07.2026 during the period of absence on leave of Ranjana Chopra (IAS: 1994: OR).

*Manoj Joshi (IAS: 1989: KL), Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals, has been entrusted with additional charge of the post of Secretary, Department of Fertilizers till 28.06.2026 during the period of absence on leave of Rajat Kumar Mishra (IAS: 1992: RJ).

*Janmejaya Khanduri (IPS: 2007: UK), Deputy Director, NCRB, has been appointed as Inspector General in Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) up to his remaining tenure i.e. up to 09.02.2030. He counts his central deputation w.e.f. 10.02.2025.

*Dr Rohini Katoch Sepat (IPS: 2008: KN), Deputy Director, SVP NPA, has been appointed as Joint Director in SVP NPA.

*Dr Ram Niwas Sepat (IPS: 2008: KN), Deputy Director, SVP NPA, has been appointed as Joint Director in SVP NPA.

*Nitasha Guria (IPS: 2008: BH), DIG, BPR&D, has been appointed as Inspector General in BPR&D.

*Vikas Burman (IPS: 2008: BH), DIG, ITBP, has been appointed as Inspector General in ITBP up to his remaining tenure i.e. up to 04.09.2029.

Tushar Mehta, Supreme Court Solicitor General (SG) of India re-appointed by the ACC



The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has re-appointed senior Supreme Court advocate Tushar Mehta as the Solicitor General (SG) of India for a further term of three years from July 1, 2026.

Mehta will continue as the Union Government's second-highest law officer and is expected to complete eleven years as SG by the end of this extended tenure. Mehta assumed the SG office in 2018 and has already completed eight years in the role, making him one of the longest-serving SG in India's judicial history.

The ACC also re-appointed three Additional Solicitor Generals (ASGs) — Suryaprakash V Raju, N Venkataraman, Aishwarya Bhati, for a further term of three years with effect from June 30, 2026 while two ASGs — Vikramji Banerjee and K M Nataraj — for a further term of three years with effect from July 01, 2026. Chetan Sharma has been re-appointed as ASG for High Court of Delhi for a further term of six months with effect from July 01, 2026.

Bishwanath Sinha appointed as Kerala Chief Secretary



The Kerala government has appointed senior IAS officer Bishwanath Sinha (IAS: 1992: Kerala) as the next Chief Secretary of the state, reaffirming its long-standing convention of selecting the state's top bureaucrat based on seniority and administrative competence. The decision was taken by the state cabinet on

Wednesday. Sinha, who currently serves as the Additional Chief Secretary (Home), will succeed Dr A. Jayathilak (IAS: 1991: Kerala), who is scheduled to retire on June 30, 2026. Sinha will assume office on July 1 and is expected to remain in service until Sep- 2028.

Prem Chand as Ambassador to Cabo Verde & Muanpui Saiawi as High Commissioner to Samoa



India has announced two important diplomatic appointments aimed at strengthening its engagement with Africa and the Pacific region. Prem Chand, an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 2011 batch, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cabo Verde, while senior diplomat Muanpui Saiawi (IFS: 2005), currently serving as High Commissioner to New Zealand, has been concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Samoa. The appointments reflect India's growing diplomatic outreach in strategically important regions and its commitment to deepening bilateral ties with island nations across Africa and the Pacific.

Prem Chand (YOA: 2011), presently posted in the Embassy of India in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cabo Verde. A career diplomat with more than 15 years of experience in the Indian Foreign Service, Prem Chand has handled several important diplomatic responsibilities during his tenure. His latest appointment marks a significant milestone in his diplomatic career as he assumes ambassadorial responsibilities for the first time. In another significant diplomatic move, Muanpui Saiawi (IFS: 2005), presently High Commissioner of India to New Zealand, has been concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to the Independent State of Samoa, with residence in Wellington.

UPSC Chairman Inaugurates New Office

In a significant move aimed at strengthening its administrative capabilities and supporting its expanding institutional responsibilities, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Thursday inaugurated a new office at the Talkatora Annexe Building in New Delhi.



The new facility was formally inaugurated by UPSC Chairman Dr. Ajay Kumar, a retired IAS officer of 1985 batch from the Kerala cadre, in the presence of Members of the Commission. The office has been established to address the Commission's growing space requirements and enhance its administrative infrastructure as the scope of its functions continues to expand.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Dr. Ajay Kumar highlighted that UPSC has been facing office space constraints for a considerable period due to the steady expansion of its responsibilities and activities.

He noted that the Commission's institutional role has grown significantly over the years, requiring additional infrastructure to support its increasing operational, administrative, and functional requirements.

Three AGMUT cadre IPS officers reshuffle; Ladakh gets new DGP

In a minor reshuffle, three AGMUT cadre IPS officers have been entrusted with new assignments which included appointment of a new DGP of Ladakh. The names and new postings of these officers are as follows:

Anand Jain (IPS: 1999: AGMUT) has been appointed as the new Director General of Police (DGP) of the Union Territory of Ladakh by transferring him from Jammu and Kashmir.

Mandeep Singh Randhawa (IPS: 2006: AGMUT) has been posted to Mizoram after being repatriated to the cadre.

Aslam Khan (IPS: 2007: AGMUT) has been transferred from Delhi to Arunachal Pradesh.

*Vikas Pathak (IPS: 2008: RJ), DIG, BSF, has been appointed as Inspector General in BSF.

*Rahul S (IPS: 2008: PB), DIG, NIA, has been appointed as Inspector General in NIA up to his remaining tenure.

*Davuluri Shravan (IPS: 2008: CH), DIG, NIA, has been appointed as Inspector General in NIA up to his remaining tenure.

*Tenure of D Thara (IAS: 1995: GJ), Additional Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has been extended for a period up to 05.12.2026 by continuing the temporary upgradation of the post.

*Niraj Verma (IAS: 1994: AM), Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, has been entrusted with additional charge of the post of Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from 13.06.2026 to 19.06.2026 during the period of absence on leave of Nikunja Bihari Dhal.

*Mrunmai Shashank Joshi (IAS: 2013: KL), Deputy Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat, has been appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure up to 21/03/2027.

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Corridors of Power



One More Jewel in the Crown

Big boundary! “Received the Institutional Performance Award for State Police from Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar at Passport Seva Divas 2026, New Delhi on behalf of every officer of Telangana Police. The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India has conferred this prestigious recognition upon Telangana Police for its outstanding performance in passport verification services acknowledging our department as a model for other states across the country.” Said Telangana DGP CV.Anand after receiving the award. The 7th national-level award in pass-

port services since 2014 a record that reflects consistent excellence. “A key driver of this achievement is VeriFast - a software developed in 2014 when I was CP Cyberabad and later adopted by the entire state. Our AI-powered, technology platform developed in-house by Telangana Police. Integrating applicant data with CCTNS, prior passport records, and criminal databases, VeriFast enables rapid detection of discrepancies and ensures accurate, tamper-proof verification.” Mr.Anand added.



It’s official: Sanjay Jaju appointed as Telangana CS

Senior bureaucrat Sanjay Jaju was appointed as the Chief Secretary of Telangana , replacing K Ramakrishna Rao. Jaju will continue to hold the full additional charge (FAC) as the Special Chief Secretary of the Industries and Commerce and Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (ITE&C) departments, and as the Special Chief Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Industry and Investment Cell in the Chief Minister’s Office and Smart Proactive Efficient and Effective Delivery (SPEED). Born on February 26, 1969, Sanjay Jaju, whose domicile state is Madhya Pradesh, is a 1992 batch IAS officer of Telangana cadre.He has worked in various capacities in the central ministries including but not limited to Defence, Information and Broadcasting, Communications and Information Technology, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Water Resources, Command Area Development, Urban Development, Municipal Administration, Land Revenue Management, Personnel and General Administration.



KRR All Set For Second Innings

Senior IAS officer K. Ramakrishna Rao has been appointed as Advisor and Ex-officio Special Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister of Telangana. The appointment takes effect upon his superannuation and retirement from service. After stepping down as the Telangana Chief Secretary on his retirement date, K. Ramakrishna Rao moves directly into the senior advisory role under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy. The appointment aims to leverage his extensive administrative and financial experience,

bringing critical money management skills to the state government at a time of high fiscal pressure.

N. Sridhar As Prl. Sec., to CM & Ajith Reddy as CEO, Invest Telangana



In a major reshuffle of senior IAS officers, the state government on appointed 1997 batch IAS officer N. Sridhar as principal secretary to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, while transferring the Chief Minister’s special secretary B. Ajith Reddy as chief executive officer of Invest Telangana, the investment promotion agency created under the industries and commerce department.

A native of Metpally in Karimnagar district, Sridhar has nearly 29 years of administrative experience. He has served as district collector of Anantapur, Krishna, Warangal and Rangareddy districts. Between 2010 and 2014, he worked as secretary to then Chief Minister N. Kiran Kumar Reddy in undivided Andhra Pradesh. Following the formation of Telangana in 2014, then Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao appointed Sridhar chairman and managing director of SCCL, where he served for a record nine-year tenure from 2015 to 2023. After the Congress assumed power in December 2023, Sridhar was appointed principal secretary in the social welfare, panchayat raj and rural development, and mines departments.

Ajith Reddy, an officer of the Indian Defence Estates Service (IDES), had taken charge as special secretary in the Chief Minister’s Office soon after Revanth Reddy assumed office in December 2023. Prior to that, he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Secunderabad Cantonment Board.



Retd IAS officer is Telangana RERA chief

The state government has appointed retired IAS officer K S Sreenivasa Raju as the chairperson of the Telangana Real Estate Regulatory Authority (TG-RERA) under the provisions of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016. The Metropolitan Area and Urban Development (MAUD) Department.

Raju’s appointment comes at a crucial juncture as Telangana’s real estate sector continues to witness robust residential and commercial growth. As the regulator, TG-RERA plays a key role in ensuring transparency, promoting compliance, safeguarding the interests of homebuyers and fostering a fair and accountable real estate ecosystem across the state. A 1999-batch IAS officer, Raju is best known for his long tenure as joint executive officer of the TTD.

Raju served as principal secretary to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy from May 2025. Earlier, he was appointed as the government’s adviser on Infrastructure and Projects in July 2024.



Big Dreams Lead to Big Success, Says Governor

Hon’ble Governor of Telangana, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, inaugurated the Annual Mass Notebook Distribution Programme organised by Bharat Sevashram Sangh and distributed notebooks to students of Lok Bhavan Government School, Hyderabad.

Addressing the students, the Governor said that just as a sapling grows into a mighty tree with care and protection, children too can become great citizens through education, discipline and strong values.

He urged students to stay away from drugs and the negative effects of social media, focus on academics, sports and creativity, and strive for excellence in their chosen fields. The Governor also encouraged students to draw inspiration from young cricket sensation Vaibhav Suryavanshi, whose achievements demonstrate that age is no barrier to success when backed by hard work, dedication and self-belief.

Historic Moment For US Consulate In Hyderabad



A historic moment in Hyderabad! In honor of America’s 250th birthday, Telangana’s Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu unveiled the plaque officially renaming the road beside the U.S. Consulate as Donald Trump Avenue. U.S. Ambassador to India and Special Envoy to South and Central Asia, Sergio Gor and U.S. Consul General to Hyderabad Laura Williams were also present on the occasion. “A heartfelt

thank you to the people of Telangana for this incredible recognition, a testament to our ever-strengthening partnership”. Said



New Beginning

UK Dy. High Commissioner Gareth Wynn Owen inaugurated the ITU Construction Academy, an important step in building a skilled, future-ready construction workforce.

In the post the diplomat said “Pleased to see M&J Group UK’s support powering this initiative, alongside strong UK-India collaboration.”

Turkey CG Visited EFLU



Orhan Yalman Okan visited English and Foreign Languages University. “I had a productive meeting with Prof. N. Nagaraju, Vice Chancellor of the English and Foreign Languages University. Ms.Sini Manchala (Registrar), and Prof. Syed Rasheed Naseem (Dean of the School of Arab and Asian Studies) were also present in the meeting.”



Dr.Nasir Ali Khan Meets Ambassador, USA to India

H.E. Dr. Nawab Mir Nasir Ali Khan, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Hyderabad and Promoter & Managing Director of MAK Projects Pvt. Ltd., met H.E. Sergio Gor, Ambassador of the United States of America to India, during the celebrations marking the 250th Anniversary of American Independence in Hyderabad.

The discussions focused on real estate investment and development opportunities in Central Asia, including Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan, with particular emphasis on luxury golf communities, branded residences, and mixed-use developments.

Dr. Khan also briefed Ambassador Gor on BTR Greens, MAK Projects’ flagship sustainable luxury golf villa community in Hyderabad.



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e-Autos are far more than just vehicles...!



On the occasion of Helen Keller’s birthday, who fought lifelong for the rights of divyangas, the Telangana government has taken another key step in the welfare of divyangas, said State Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Women and Child Welfare Minister Dr. Danasari Anasuya Seethakka. She spoke while inaugurating e-autos to 14 neighborhood centers in the state.

Under the leadership of SERP CEO Divya Devarajan and Director Krishnamurthy, in a short time, divyangas have been organized, and over 13,000 divyangas self-help groups have been formed across the state, she said. Currently, more than 82,000 members are in these groups, she added. Loans worth Rs. 38.16 crore through Stree Nidhi, Rs. 4.13 crore through village women’s groups, savings of Rs. 11.62 crore, and livelihood opportunities provided to 2,248 people are a testament to the government’s clear intent, she remarked.

The Minister said the e-Autos are far more than just vehicles, they are vehicles of hope that will bring confidence, dignity, and opportunity to persons with disabilities and their families.

Former DGP Anjani Kumar wins gold at Telangana shooting meet



Anjani Kumar, former DGP, Telangana, got a gold medal in the 25-metre pistol event at the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh shooting competition held at the Gachibowli firing range in the city. At the XII Telangana State Shooting Championship Competitions in Rifle / Pistol Events, Anjani Kumar won the gold medal. Shafath Ali Khan won the silver, while Aga Mohammed Hussain claimed bronze. “Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C.Sajjanar in his X post congratulate former Telangana DGP on winning the gold medal. He wished him many more such achievements in the years ahead.”

Srilakshmi Made Special Chief Secretary Before The Retirement



Senior IAS officer Y. Srilakshmi, a 1988-batch Andhra Pradesh cadre officer, was appointed Special Chief Secretary in the general administration department (GAD), just four days before her retirement on June 30. Chief Secretary K. Sai Prasad issued orders assigning her charge of the Administrative Reforms Department. She replaces Shamsher Singh Rawat, who had been holding the portfolio as an additional charge. The appointment has drawn attention in bureaucratic circles as Srilakshmi had remained without a posting for nearly two years after the NDA coalition government led by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu assumed office in June 2024. During the previous YSRC government led by Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, she held key positions in the municipal administration department and was regarded as one of the government’s most influential officers.

Her career has also been marked by legal controversies. Her appointment shortly before retirement has therefore attracted attention, bringing to an end a prolonged period without an official posting.



Hyderabad Collector In Working Mode

The new Collector is hectic in routine meetings & inspections! District Collector Dr. Priyanka Ala inspected the ongoing construction of the Academic Block, Hostel Block, Auditorium, Sports Complex, Library and other facilities at Veera Naari Chakali Ailamma Women’s University, Koti. Reviewing the progress, the Collector directed officials to accelerate the pace of execution to ensure the prestigious redevelopment project is completed within the stipulated timeline. The Collector also inspected the temporary air-conditioned portable cabin accommodation provided for students, reviewed sanitation, drinking water and other basic amenities, and directed officials to ensure that students face no inconvenience during the construction period. Interacting with students, the Collector also joined them for lunch and personally reviewed the quality of food being served.



Walkathon For Wellness

On the eve of GST Day, N. Balram, IRS, Additional Commissioner, CGST & Customs with group of officers participated in the Walkathon held at RK Beach, Visakhapatnam for promoting fitness, wellness and the spirit of public service.

N. Balram is the new Addl. Commissioner of Customs and CGST in Hyderabad. Before his posting with the GST and Customs department, Mr. Balram

held significant leadership roles in the region, including serving as the Finance Director and CMD of the state-owned Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). He is widely recognized in Telangana for his extensive environmental advocacy and tree-planting initiatives, earning him the nickname “Treeman of Telangana”. Best wishes.

Mass IAS transfers in Telangana

In yet another transfer of IAS officers in Telangana, the State government on Friday issued orders transferring 13 IAS officers across departments, including the Chief Minister’s Office.

Sabyasachi Ghosh, Special Chief Secretary (Implementation of Flagship Welfare & Developmental Schemes Unit and Corporate Social Responsibility), has been placed in Full Additional Charge (FAC) of the post of Special Chief Secretary to Government (Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts), I&C Department, as Shailaja Ramaiyer has been transferred. He has also been given the FAC of Director, Handlooms & Textiles, VC & MD, TG Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd and Managing Director, TGCO, duly relieving Shailaja Ramaiyer from the FAC of the said posts. Sabyasachi Ghosh continues to hold the FAC as Special Chief Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department and Special Chief Secretary, Welfare.

Shailaja Ramaiyer, Principal Secretary (Endowments), Revenue Department, has been transferred and posted as Principal Secretary, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, as Ahmad Nadeem has been transferred. She has been

given FAC as Principal Secretary (Endowments), Revenue Department, and FAC as Director General, EPTRI, duly relieving Ahmad Nadeem from the FAC of the post.

On transfer, Ahmad Nadeem has been posted as Principal Secretary to Government (Political), GAD, duly relieving M Raghunandan Rao from the FAC of the said post. He has been given FAC as Principal Secretary, Minorities Welfare Department.

On return from leave, Rahul Bojja has been posted as Principal Secretary, Disaster Management, Revenue Department, duly relieving Harichandana Dasari from the FAC of the post. He continues to hold the FAC of Principal Secretary, BC Welfare Department. M Raghunandan Rao, Secretary to Government (CT & Excise), Revenue Department, has been given FAC as Secretary (Mines & Geology), Industries & Commerce Department, as N Sridhar has been transferred.

Md Musharraf Ali Faruqui, Chairman & Managing Director, Telangana Rythu Power Distribution Company Limited (TGRPDCL), has been placed in FAC of the post of VC & MD, TGREDCO. P Katyayani Devi, Joint Managing Director, State Finance Corporation, has been transferred and posted as Special Secretary.

Come See the Lord Who Comes to See You.



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‘World-first’ vaccine designed by AI tested on humans: Will it live up to the hype?



The world’s first human vaccine designed by artificial intelligence (AI) and developed by scientists at the University of Cambridge has passed its initial testing successfully and is currently undergoing further testing.

What makes this vaccine different from traditional vaccines is that, instead of being developed in response to current strains, it uses a predictive design.

To achieve that, scientists used AI to analyze multiple coronaviruses to create a “super antigen”. With this super antigen, they were able to target the common features of viruses in the coronavirus family and, in a sense, future-proof the vaccine against current and future coronavirus mutations.

The vaccine also has a needle-free design, using a specialized jet injector via the PharmaJet Tropis system. Rather than piercing the skin with a traditional metal syringe, it uses fluid dynamics to deliver the vaccine ingredients exactly where they need to go.

However, the technology remains highly experimental, and the first human trial included only 39 people.

The results of the trial were published in the Journal of Infection.

To decipher what this trial means for the future of vaccine development and how this technology works, *Medical News Today* spoke to two experts who were not involved in the research:

What the phase 1 trial results show

The trial was small, with only 39 people as participants, and was designed to test the vaccine’s safety. A second trial involving 200 participants is currently underway to determine how effective it is.

The vaccine produced what scientists described as a “modest” immune response in humans. This, compared to a higher result in mice, shows that the real test will be whether it can trigger a robust, lasting immune response in a highly diverse human population.

“The trial achieved what phase 1 trials are mainly meant to test: early safety and tolerability. It also showed some evidence that the design can focus responses on conserved sarbecovirus regions,” Boubnovski said.

He also reiterated that the vaccine needs to undergo much larger trials before it is deemed safe and effective for the real world.

“[The trial] did not yet show the strong, broad immune response you would want before calling it a protective universal coronavirus vaccine,” Boubnovski said.

Meanwhile, Gandhi pointed out an important fact regarding individual and herd immunity against SARS-CoV-2.

“I was not surprised that the population [in the trial] already had good immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 by the time the study was conducted. The COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020, and virtually every adult across the planet has been exposed to the virus already, generating strong immune responses, or has received a vaccine,” she said.

How was this AI vaccine designed?

“The computational design platform is sophisticated and ambitious, but the paper does not let us judge whether the AI algorithm itself is exceptionally advanced compared with other state-of-the-art antigen-design methods,” Boubnovski told *MNT*.

“It’s not ‘pure AI’ in the sense of a system that designs a vaccine end-to-end by itself. It’s more like computer-aided engineering for vaccines,” he explained.

“The researchers used computational biology to compare related coronaviruses, identify conserved parts of the spike receptor-binding domain, and design a synthetic antigen intended to focus the immune system on shared weak spots across that virus family,” he continued.

“The computer helps generate and prioritize candidates, but biology still gets the final vote through lab testing, animal studies, and human clinical trials,” he added.

The intellectual property for the vaccine is owned by DIOSynVax Ltd, University of Regensburg, and Cambridge Enterprise Ltd.

Designing a vaccine for a virus yet to exist?

Boubnovski urged caution in overinterpreting the abilities of AI-designed vaccines to protect against viruses that are not yet known. The science shows that AI employs advanced pattern recognition to identify how viruses in a particular family operate.

“[This technology] cannot design a guaranteed vaccine for an entirely unknown virus. What it can do is design against a family of related viruses. That is why the claim should be limited. It is plausible for related future variants or related viruses, not for a completely unrelated new pathogen,” he underscored.

“[The research] was heartening in that immune responses were generated to SARS, SARS-CoV-2, and related Sarbeco-Coronaviruses by this AI-generated vaccine because common elements from each virus were quickly determined by the AI platform, and then a vaccine was generated against those common elements. This is exactly how this technology could design a vaccine against a virus that doesn’t exist yet,” she said.

Gandhi said that a vaccine that can generate an immune response against common elements of coronaviruses would help provide broader protection, including “even ones that have not evolved yet in nature.”

“These elements are called ‘conserved’ and that just means that they are pieces of the viruses (often buried deep in the virus) that are the same across species, or common, and don’t change much even when a new coronavirus emerges,” she said.

And could this vaccine technology help against other diseases?

The researchers behind this vaccine are currently applying the same AI technology to develop universal vaccines for influenza (the flu) and Ebola.

“If we know that influenza viruses and coronaviruses are the two types of viruses that have the most pandemic potential because they are easily transmitted from human to human by respiratory contact, we know a novel coronavirus (such as SARS-CoV-2 in 2020) can be very dangerous to a non-immune public,” Gandhi said, highlighting how this technology could be helpful in preventing future outbreaks.

Regular home blood pressure checks linked to fewer heart attacks and strokes



High blood pressure, or hypertension, affects millions of people worldwide and nearly half of U.S. adults. It is a major risk factor for cardiovascular

disease, such as heart attack and stroke.

Health experts often refer to hypertension as the silent killer. As such, regular monitoring of blood pressure levels is considered essential for effective management.

Hypertension screening and management have primarily relied on measurements taken in office settings, but home monitoring can provide valuable information for confirming and managing hypertension.

Now, a large study from researchers in Scotland has found that those who used a digital home blood pressure monitoring system experienced fewer cardiovascular complications, hospitalizations, and deaths than those who received standard care.

The research, published in *European Heart Journal – Digital Health*, suggests that people with high blood pressure who regularly monitor their readings at home and share the results with their healthcare team may have a lower risk of serious cardiovascular events, such as heart attacks and strokes.

What did the study find?

Researchers from Edinburgh Napier University and the University of Edinburgh analyzed health records from nearly 450,000 people with hypertension across Scotland between 2019 and 2022.

Among them, around 9,500 participants used a telemonitoring program called Connect Me BP. This remote monitoring pathway allows users to measure their blood pressure at home and automatically share readings with healthcare professionals. The system also provides reminders to encourage regular monitoring.

The researchers found that participants using the telemonitoring service achieved reductions in blood pressure within the first 3 months. These improvements were maintained for at least 1 year.

More notably, people using the system experienced significantly lower rates of cardiovascular events, hospital admissions, and death compared with those receiving standard hypertension care.

Kanwar Kelley, MD, JD, triple board certified in Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery (ENT), Obesity Medicine, and Lifestyle Medicine, and co-founder and CEO of Side Health, a telemedicine practice, in Orinda, CA, who was not involved in the study, emphasized the potential of telemonitoring for blood pressure management to *Medical News Today*.

Why might home monitoring help?

Previous studies have shown that home blood pressure monitoring can improve blood pressure control. However, evidence linking telemonitoring to improvements in long-term clinical outcomes, such as heart attack, stroke, and heart failure, highlights the need for further research.

The study researchers suggest that regular self-monitoring may help individuals become more engaged in managing their condition, while also enabling clinicians to identify and respond to concerning trends more quickly. Automated reminders may also encourage better adherence to treatment plans and monitoring schedules.

“The act of taking and recording the blood pressure between visits leads to more engagement in patients and taking a stake and ownership in improving blood pressure,” Kelley added.

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death globally, and are also responsible for a significant number of disabilities. Telemonitoring appears to reduce these risks by helping people maintain better blood pressure control and offers a convenient way for people to participate in their own care.

The study findings provide strong evidence that blood pressure monitoring may not only help reduce blood pressure but also reduce major cardiovascular events. The researchers also emphasize the importance of expanding access to telemonitoring technology, particularly in more deprived communities, which typically experience a higher risk of hypertension. “The important work comes between visits to your doctor’s office,” Kelley notes. “Knowing and tracking your blood pressure outside of the clinic may help treat and lead to better outcomes. Being active in your care by watching and acting on trends may prevent more problems down the line.”

“When advising my patients, I make them aware that one blood pressure reading is not the end of the world. We look for highs, lows, and the aggregate to better treat blood pressure,” he pointed out.

Digital health tools can help manage chronic conditions

The findings add to growing evidence that digital health tools could play an important role in managing chronic conditions, such as hypertension.

Public Sector

NMDC Steel Turns Profitable in FY26; Records Best-Ever Production and Sales



NMDC Steel Limited (NSL), one of India's youngest integrated steel producers, has announced its financial results for FY26. NMDC Steel Limited (NSL) delivered a landmark performance in FY26, achieving profitability and registering best-ever production and sales during the year, while also recording its best-ever quarterly performance in Q4, FY26.

NMDC Steel recorded its highest-ever annual production of 23.25 lakh metric tonnes and sales of 24.55 lakh metric tonnes during FY26, registering growth of 62% and 74% respectively over the previous year. The strong operational performance reflects improved capacity utilisation, enhanced efficiencies and growing market acceptance of NSL's products across key sectors.

NSL has now achieved average capacity utilisation of 80% of its rated production capacity within two years of commencing its operations, marking a significant milestone in the operational stabilisation of the Nagarnar Steel Plant. This achievement places NSL among the fastest ramp-ups witnessed in the Global Steel Industry for a greenfield integrated steel project.

Commenting on the results, Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Chairman and Managing Director, NMDC Steel Limited, said: "FY26 marks a defining year in NMDC Steel's journey. Achieving profitability, recording our highest-ever production & sales and reaching nearly average capacity utilisation of 80% within two years of operations reflect the successful stabilisation of the Nagarnar Steel Plant. As we continue to improve efficiencies, expand our product portfolio and strengthen our market presence, we remain committed to progressing towards full capacity utilisation of NMDC Steel Plant, while supplying high-quality steel products that contribute to India's infrastructure and industrial development."

NLC India CMD Meets Tamil Nadu CM C. Joseph Vijay



NLC India Limited CMD Prasanna Kumar Motupalli met Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay in Chennai to discuss cooperation on sustainable development, energy security, and infrastructure growth. The meeting highlighted NLC India's commitment to supporting Tamil Nadu's long-term development agenda through power generation, renewable energy, and nation-building initiatives.

NLC India Limited Chairman and Managing Director Shri Prasanna Kumar Motupalli called on Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Shri C. Joseph Vijay at the Secretariat in Chennai, to discuss key areas of cooperation aligned with the state's development priorities.

The meeting centered on strengthening collaboration between the Government of Tamil Nadu and NLC India Limited in areas that support the state's long-term economic growth, infrastructure development, and energy requirements. During the interaction, NLC India reaffirmed its commitment to contributing to Tamil Nadu's development vision through its expertise in power generation, mining, and renewable energy. The company highlighted its continued efforts in promoting sustainable development initiatives, strengthening energy security, and supporting nation-building projects that contribute to economic and social progress.

SBI Hands Over Rs 8,813 Crore Dividend to Centre, Reflecting Strong FY26 Performance



India's largest public sector lender, State Bank of India, on Monday presented a dividend cheque worth Rs 8,813 crore to the Central government for the financial year 2025-26. The dividend cheque was handed over by C. S. Setty, Chairman of SBI, to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi.

The dividend payout underscores SBI's strong financial performance and its continued role as a major contributor to the government's non-tax revenue collections. The development was officially shared by the Finance Minister's Office on social media platform X.

According to the Finance Ministry, the dividend payment reflects the strong profitability and financial strength of the country's largest lender. The payout forms an important component of government revenue generated through investments

in public sector enterprises and financial institutions.

The substantial dividend distribution comes amid continued growth in SBI's banking operations, digital services, and lending activities.

Over the years, SBI has strengthened its position across: Retail banking · Corporate lending · Digital banking · Financial inclusion initiatives · Payment services · Rural banking operations

The bank remains a critical pillar of India's financial system, serving millions of customers across urban and rural markets.

Dividend payments from public sector enterprises and financial institutions contribute significantly to the government's non-tax revenues.

The Rs 8,813 crore payout by SBI highlights: Strong earnings generation · Healthy balance sheet position · Improved operational efficiency · Sustainable profitability

The dividend will support government finances while demonstrating the strength of India's public sector banking ecosystem.

BHEL Secures Rs 21,000 Crore Mega Power Project Contract



State-run engineering major Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited witnessed strong investor interest on Friday after securing a mega engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract worth more than Rs 21,000 crore.

The order, awarded by Meja Urja Nigam Pvt Ltd (MUNPL), relates to the development of the 3x800 MW Mega Supercritical Thermal Power Project Stage-II in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

Following the announcement, BHEL shares rose as much as 2.86% intraday

to Rs 400.35 on the stock exchanges. The contract encompasses the complete EPC package for the thermal power project, including:

Design and engineering · Manufacturing and supply of equipment · Construction and erection works · Testing and commissioning · Project execution and integration

According to BHEL, the order was secured through an international competitive bidding process, underscoring the company's strong position in India's power equipment and infrastructure sector. The project is scheduled for completion within 70 months, or nearly six years, from the issuance of the notification of award.

The Meja Stage-II project will add 2,400 MW of thermal power generation capacity through three supercritical units of 800 MW each.

MUNPL is a joint venture between: NTPC Limited · Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited The project is expected to strengthen power generation infrastructure in Uttar Pradesh and support rising electricity demand in the region.

Bharat Dynamics Q4 Earnings Hit as Profit Slides 59.5%



Defence PSU Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL) reported a sharp decline in fourth-quarter earnings for FY26, with profit and revenue falling significantly amid weaker operational performance. The company posted a net profit of Rs 113 crore in Q4 FY26, marking a 59.5 per cent year-on-year decline from Rs 273 crore reported in the corresponding quarter of FY25, according to its stock exchange filing.

Revenue from operations dropped 73 per cent to Rs 480 crore during the January-March quarter, compared to Rs 1,777 crore in the same period last fiscal.

At the operational level, EBITDA fell 81.5 per cent to Rs 55.2 crore, down from Rs 299 crore reported a year earlier. The company's EBITDA margin narrowed to 11.5 per cent, compared with 16.8 per cent in Q4 FY25, indicating pressure on profitability.

Profit before tax (PBT) stood at Rs 153 crore, declining from Rs 378 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous financial year.

BDL's total income also declined 68 per cent year-on-year to Rs 599 crore, compared to Rs 1,876 crore in the March quarter last year. Despite the weak quarterly performance, the company's board recommended a final dividend of Rs 0.40 per share with a face value of Rs 5 each for FY26. The company said the dividend, subject to shareholder approval at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM), will be paid within 30 days of AGM approval.

Ahead of the earnings announcement, BDL shares closed 3.51 per cent lower at Rs 1,283.40 on the BSE. The defence stock has witnessed heightened volatility in recent weeks, declining 1.57 per cent over the past week, 5.65 per cent in two weeks, 1.43 per cent over the last month, and 13.33 per cent on a year-to-date basis amid broader market weakness.

ONGC Q4 FY26 profit jumps 53% to ₹ 13,678 crore



State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), maharatna psu under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on Tuesday reported a 53 per cent jump in consolidated net profit to ₹ 13,678 crore for the January-March quarter (Q4) of FY26, driven by improved performance across subsidiaries and strategic offshore developments.

The company's consolidated gross revenue rose 3.6 per cent to ₹ 1,73,805 crore

during the quarter. For the full financial year FY26, consolidated net profit increased nearly 30 per cent to ₹ 49,793 crore.

On a standalone basis, ONGC posted Q4 net profit of ₹ 6,650 crore, up 3.1 per cent from the year-ago period, while FY26 standalone profit stood at ₹ 32,894 crore.

The ONGC Board recommended a final dividend of ₹ 1 per share, taking the total FY26 dividend to ₹ 13.25 per share. The total payout stands at ₹ 16,669 crore, the highest in the company's history. ONGC said growth initiatives in Western Offshore are expected to support future production. The company has started gas monetisation from the Daman Upside Development Project (DUDP), which is expected to add nearly 9 per cent to current gas production. Projects worth ₹ 33,075 crore are currently under execution in the region.

The company also highlighted early success in Mumbai High after onboarding BP as technical service provider, with oil and gas production exceeding baseline targets.

NTPC Q4 PAT Jumps 75% on Strong Operational Performance

State-owned power major NTPC Limited on Saturday reported strong financial results for the fourth quarter and full financial year ended March 31, 2026, driven by operational gains, capacity additions and improved efficiencies. The public sector utility posted a 75 per cent quarter-on-quarter rise in standalone profit after tax (PAT) for Q4 FY26 at Rs 8,747 crore, compared with Rs 4,987 crore reported in the previous quarter. For the full financial year, standalone PAT increased 18 per cent to Rs 23,162 crore from Rs 19,649 crore in FY25. NTPC's total income for the January-March quarter stood at Rs 44,030 crore, registering a 6 per cent increase over the preceding quarter. The company attributed the profit growth to fresh capacity additions, stronger operational efficiencies, lower finance costs and revisions in deferred tax and regulatory deferred account balances. On a consolidated basis, NTPC Group reported a 15 per cent increase in net profit for FY26 at Rs 27,546 crore, compared with Rs 23,953 crore in the previous financial year. Group profitability was supported by stronger contributions from joint ventures and subsidiaries. Profit contribution from joint ventures rose 29 per cent to Rs 2,864 crore during FY26, while subsidiaries collectively reported profits of Rs 3,312 crore. Consolidated group PAT for Q4 FY26 surged nearly 90 per cent to Rs 10,615 crore from Rs 5,597 crore in Q3 FY26, reflecting broad-based operational strength across the group.



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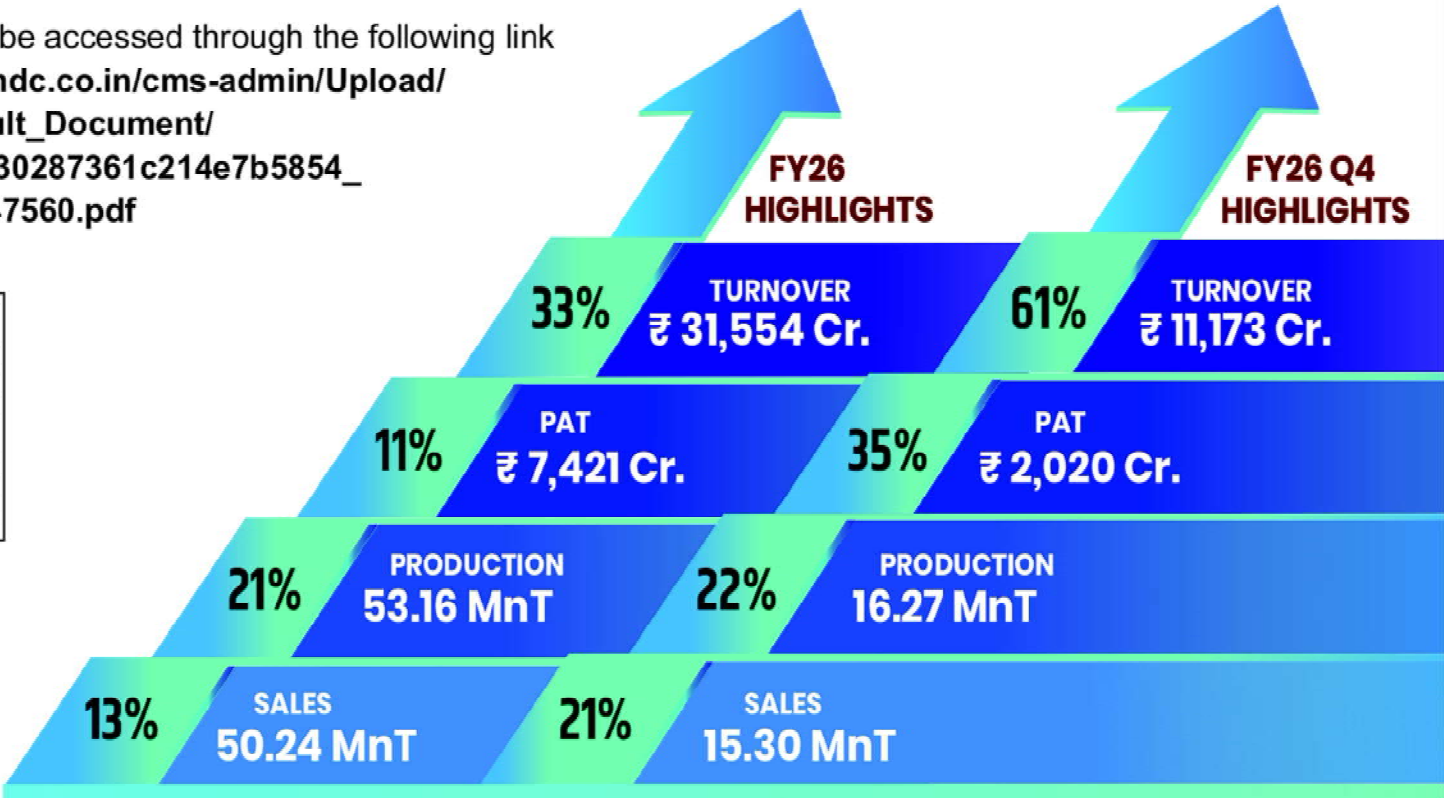
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20260529205647560.pdf](https://www.nmdc.co.in/cms-admin/Upload/Financial_Result_Document/2b078d60fd6f430287361c214e7b5854_20260529205647560.pdf)
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(Amitava Mukherjee)
Chairman-Cum-Managing Director
DIN: 08265207
Date: 29 May, 2026
Place: Delhi

Durga Jewels



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Historic Guinness World Record 2k Drummers Performed Together

In a remarkable celebration of music, unity, and social responsibility, "Rhythm – World's Largest Djembe Drum Circle," organised an ambitious Guinness World Record aiming to bring 2,000 drummers together and to perform in unison, to create a powerful symbol of collective harmony and positive social change.

The event is organized by The Djembe Circle, under the leadership of its Founder and CEO, Sai Kumar Yeleswarapu, and will take place at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium.

Designed to transcend cultural, linguistic, and social boundaries, the event aimed to demonstrate the transformative power of rhythm while positioning Hyderabad on the global map through an unprecedented musical gathering. The record attempt will be officially adjudicated by Mr. Richard Stenning, Official Adjudicator, Guinness World Records.

Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Special Chief Secretary, Government of Telangana, and Anup Rubens, Indian Music Director grace the occasion as guests.

Speaking ahead of the historic attempt, Sai Kumar Yeleswarapu, Founder & CEO of The Djembe Circle, said: "Rhythm is a universal language that connects people beyond all differences. This Guinness World Record attempt represents far more than a milestone achievement—it is a celebration of unity, collective energy, and a shared commitment to building a healthier and more positive society. Through the power of music, we hope to inspire communities and reinforce the message of a drug-free future."



Samanvay Ladies Club Holds 14th Installation Ceremony 2026–27

The 14th Installation Ceremony of Samanvay Ladies Club for the year 2026–2027 was held with grandeur at Taj Deccan, Hyderabad. The event witnessed the presence of distinguished guests, club members, and prominent personalities from various fields. The newly elected office bearers were officially installed amidst a celebratory atmosphere, reaffirming the club's commitment to women empowerment, social service, and community welfare. The ceremony was marked by inspiring speeches, cultural performances, and a spirit of camaraderie, making it a memorable occasion for all attendees.



12th International Day of Yoga

Country Club Hospitality & Holidays Ltd., one of India's leading leisure and hospitality companies, celebrated the 12th International Day of Yoga across its extensive network of properties nationwide on Sunday. The occasion also marked the launch of a new premium business vertical, "Country Caterers," alongside key announcements on international expansion and future growth initiatives.

The yoga celebrations were inaugurated by Country Club Founder and Chairman, Y. Rajeev Reddy, at Country Club Hyderabad. Bollywood actress and model Vedvika Soni, Actress Dollysha attended the Program as Guest, adding glamour to the wellness-focused celebrations. Actress Dollysha and Vedvika Soni joined Mr. Reddy in officially launched Country Caterers, a premium event management and catering venture specializing in destination weddings, birthday celebrations, and corporate events across Country Club properties.

The yoga session was hosted by celebrity emcee, actor, television anchor, and keynote speaker Anukriti Sharma, who guided participants through Hatha Yoga, Pranayama, Yoga Nidra, Surya Namaskaras, and Chandra Namaskaras.



Free Residential NEET Coaching for Medical Aspirants

QT UNA NEET Mission 100, a first-of-its-kind 14-day free residential NEET coaching initiative by Quality Thought in association with Unacademy Centre, Madhapur, was officially launched on at the Unacademy Centre, Madhapur. The programme aims to provide aspiring medical students with an opportunity to experience high-quality NEET coaching in a competitive academic environment completely free of cost.

The initiative was launched by Mr. Ramana Bhupathi, Founder of Quality Thought and Unacademy Centre Franchise Partner, Madhapur, in the presence of Mr. Krish Chintaluri, Founder of IKON Foundation; Dr. Venkat Pavan, Head of General Surgery; Dr. Venugopal, Head of Anaesthesia; Dr. Rajasekhar Madala, Senior Plastic Surgeon; and Dr. Damodar Kakumanu, Trauma Surgeon, ALIMs. The distinguished guests appreciated the initiative and encouraged students to make the best use of this unique opportunity.

Addressing the media, Mr. Ramana Bhupathi announced that the QT UNA NEET Mission 100 programme will be conducted from July 1 to July 14, 2026. He said that the initiative has been designed to ensure that financial limitations do not prevent deserving students from accessing quality NEET coaching.



Grand Launch Of Clique Ladies Club

CLIQUE - CIRCLE OF STRENGTH a Women's Club was Launched yesterday at Medley in Jubilee halls by 4 Friends RAAHAT KHAN, ALPA DESAI, PREETI MOHAN & PRATIBHA BURLE who are now Founders of this Club

Our Vision is to create a warm, empowering sanctuary where women can step away from their daily routines, rediscover their self-worth, and celebrate their unique identity.

Our Mission is to weave a supportive circle of strength that fosters wellness, lifelong friendships, and personal growth through shared experiences and meaningful connection.



Mr. Jayesh Ranjan Released MR's 14th Anniversary Edition

Talk to the town !! Versatile officer Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Telangana, MAUD released Midnight Reporter's 14th anniversary edition. Click the link from epaper : https://midnightreporter.com/May_2026.pdf



96 Women Leaders Honoured at Women of Impact Awards 2026

Triumphs of Talent, one of India's leading recognition platforms, successfully organized the Women of Impact Awards 2026 – Masquerade Edition Season 3 at Quake Arena, CMC Enclave, Kondapur, Hyderabad. The prestigious event recognized 96 exceptional women leaders and changemakers across 10 categories, celebrating their remarkable contributions to leadership, entrepreneurship, technology, human resources, social impact, sustainability, academia, influence and community development. The event was graced by Ms. N. Bhavani Sri, IAS, Secretary, National Turmeric Board, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, and Ms. Shilpa Reddy, Mrs. India, Fashion Designer, Entrepreneur and Holistic Lifestyle Influencer.

Sumadhura Vysya Limelight Awards 2026



The 11th edition of the Sumadhura Vysya Limelight Awards for Men 2026, powered by Manepally Jewellers and co-sponsored by PSK and Snow Kingdom, was held at Pradhan Convention, Financial District, Gachibowli, Hyderabad. The prestigious event brought together entrepreneurs, industrialists, professionals, philanthro-

pists, and community leaders to celebrate excellence, leadership, and legacy within the Arya Vysya community. The event was graced by T. G. Bharath, Minister for Industries, Commerce and Food Processing, Government of Andhra Pradesh, and T. G. Venkatesh, Former Member of Parliament and Senior Industrialist, as Chief Guests. They congratulated the award recipients and lauded the Arya Vysya community for its contribution to economic growth, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and social development. Organized by Vysya Limelight Awards (VLA), the ceremony recognized outstanding individuals and families who have made significant contributions across business, entrepreneurship, healthcare, science, technology, publishing, entertainment, renewable energy, and community service.

भारत की सैन्य ताकत होगी और घातक, अमेरिका ने 4555 करोड़ की रक्षा डील को दी मंजूरी



भारत-अमेरिका रक्षा सहयोग को और मजबूत करते हुए अमेरिका ने भारतीय सेना के 1-64th अपाचे अटैक हेलीकॉप्टरों और ड777 12 अल्ट्रा-लाइट हॉवित्जर तोपों के लिए 482.2 मिलियन डॉलर (लगभग ₹ 4,555 करोड़) के सपोर्ट पैकेज को मंजूरी दे दी है। इस पैकेज में रखरखाव, तकनीकी सहायता, स्पेयर पार्ट्स और अन्य लॉजिस्टिक सेवाएं शामिल हैं। अमेरिका की कमिटेड मैम्बनतपजल ब्वचमतजंपवद 1हमदबल (कै॥) ने 17 जून को इस प्रस्तावित सौदे की आधिकारिक सूचना जारी की। यह एजेंसी अमेरिकी सरकार के फॉरेन मिलिट्री सेल्स (थ्डे) कार्यक्रम का संचालन करती है।

इससे पहले अमेरिकी विदेश विभाग ने भी अमेरिकी कांग्रेस को इस संभावित रक्षा सौदे के बारे में जानकारी दी थी। भारत में अमेरिका के राजदूत मतहपव ळवत ने कहा कि दोनों देश प्रतिदिन रक्षा सहयोग को मजबूत करने के लिए मिलकर काम कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि ड777 12 हॉवित्जर तोपों के लिए लगभग 230 मिलियन डॉलर का सपोर्ट पैकेज भी अंतिम चरण में है। राजदूत ने कहा कि यह प्रस्ताव अमेरिका के राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा हितों के अनुरूप है और साथ ही भारत की रक्षा क्षमताओं को बनाए रखने और मजबूत करने में मदद करेगा।

भारत ने ड777 12 अल्ट्रा-लाइट हॉवित्जर तोपों को अमेरिका से खरीदा था। इन हल्की लेकिन अत्यधिक प्रभावी तोपों को विशेष रूप से पहाड़ी और दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में तेजी से तैनात करने के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है। लड़ाख और उत्तरी सीमाओं पर इनकी भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण मानी जाती है। वहीं, भारतीय वायुसेना और थलसेना के पास मौजूद 1-64th 1चंबीम हेलीकॉप्टर दुनिया के सबसे उन्नत लड़ाकू हेलीकॉप्टरों में गिने जाते हैं। ये सटीक हमले, टैंक रोधी अभियानों और युद्धक्षेत्र में सैनिकों को समर्थन देने में सक्षम हैं।

अमेरिकी रक्षा विभाग का कहना है कि यह पैकेज भारत को मौजूदा और भविष्य के सुरक्षा खतरों का सामना करने में मदद करेगा। इससे भारतीय सेना के महत्वपूर्ण हथियार प्लेटफॉर्म अधिक समय तक प्रभावी और संचालन योग्य बने रहेंगे। विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि यह सौदा केवल उपकरणों के रखरखाव तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि यह हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बढ़ते रणनीतिक सहयोग और भारत-अमेरिका रक्षा संबंधों की गहराई को भी दर्शाता है। विश्लेषकों के अनुसार, भारत की सीमाओं पर बढ़ती सुरक्षा चुनौतियों और हिंद-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में बदलते सामरिक समीकरणों के बीच यह सौदा भारतीय सेना की परिचालन क्षमता को मजबूत करेगा। साथ ही यह दोनों लोकतांत्रिक देशों के बीच रक्षा सहयोग के लगातार विस्तार का संकेत भी है।

‘अमीरों के लिए भारत से बेहतर कोई जगह नहीं’; कारोबारी के बयान से भूचाल, सवाल उठे तो दिया करारा जवाब



क्या करोड़ों की संपत्ति रखने वाले लोगों के लिए भारत में रहना विदेशों में बसने से बेहतर है? यह सवाल एक बार फिर चर्चा के केंद्र में आ गया है। उद्यमी और लेखक संदीप मॉल (दकममच डंसस) के एक सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट ने इस मुद्दे पर नई बहस छेड़ दी है।

दिल्ली-एनसीआर के रहने वाले संदीप मॉल ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर लिखा कि जो लोग नौकरी, करियर या बेहतर अवसरों के लिए विदेश जाते हैं, उनकी वजह समझ में आती है। लेकिन जिन लोगों के पास पर्याप्त धन-संपत्ति है, उनके लिए भारत में जीवन कहीं अधिक आरामदायक और सुविधाजनक हो सकता है। उन्होंने सवाल उठाया कि आखिर हाई नेटवर्थ इंडिविजुअल्स (भ्रष्ट) विदेशों में बसना क्यों पसंद करते हैं।

आलोचकों ने उठाए सवाल- संदीप मॉल की इस टिप्पणी के बाद सोशल मीडिया पर तीखी प्रतिक्रियाएं सामने आईं। कई लोगों ने कहा कि भारत में पैसा होने के बावजूद कुछ समस्याओं से बचना मुश्किल है। बेंगलुरु के टेक प्रोफेशनल शांतनु गोयल ने लिखा कि अमीर और गरीब दोनों को खराब सड़कों, ट्रैफिक जाम और सार्वजनिक सुविधाओं की कमी का सामना करना पड़ता है। उनके अनुसार, करोड़पति भी सड़क पर निकलने के बाद उन्हीं चुनौतियों से जूझते हैं जिनसे आम नागरिक जूझता है। एक अन्य यूजर नितिन सिन्हा ने कहा कि आलीशान गेटेड सोसायटी के अंदर ज़िंदगी भले ही आरामदायक लगे, लेकिन बाहर निकलते ही प्रदूषण, अव्यवस्थित ट्रैफिक, खराब इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर और सफाई की समस्याएं सामने आ जाती हैं। कई लोगों ने यह भी तर्क दिया कि विदेशों में साफ हवा, बेहतर सार्वजनिक परिवहन, मजबूत कानून व्यवस्था, बच्चों की सुरक्षा और उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली सार्वजनिक सेवाएं जीवन की गुणवत्ता को बेहतर बनाती हैं।

संदीप मॉल का जवाब- आलोचनाओं के जवाब में संदीप मॉल ने कहा कि जिन लोगों के पास पर्याप्त संसाधन होते हैं, वे शुद्ध पानी, बेहतर भोजन और स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं जैसी कई समस्याओं का समाधान स्वयं कर सकते हैं। हालांकि उन्होंने यह भी स्वीकार किया कि यदि वे स्वयं विदेश जाने पर विचार करते, तो सबसे बड़ी वजह सामाजिक भरोसे की कमी और बढ़ता नैतिक भ्रष्टाचार होती।

भारत का अपनापन दुनिया में अलग- बहस के दौरान कई लोगों ने भारत के पक्ष में भी मजबूत तर्क दिए। कुछ यूजर्स का कहना था कि यदि किसी व्यक्ति की वार्षिक डिस्पोजेबल आय 20 से 25 लाख रुपये या उससे अधिक है, तो भारत दुनिया के सबसे अच्छे देशों में से एक हो सकता है, जहां अपेक्षाकृत कम लागत में घरेलू सहायता, स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं और सुविधाजनक जीवनशैली उपलब्ध है।

US में मां को बचाते जान गंवाने वाले भारतीय के नाम पर बनेगा कानून, विधेयक का नाम बदलकर रखा ‘रोमांस लॉ’



न्यूयॉर्क में घोड़ा-गाड़ी पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए पेश किए गए एक विधेयक का नाम बदलकर, सेंट्रल पार्क में घोड़ा-गाड़ी से जुड़े एक दर्दनाक हादसे में जान गंवाने वाले भारतीय किशोर के नाम पर रखा जाएगा। पिछले सप्ताह 18 वर्षीय भारतीय युवक रोमांच महाजन की सेंट्रल पार्क में घोड़ा-गाड़ी से गिरकर गंभीर रूप से घायल होने से मौत हो गई थी। दरअसल महाजन की मां अचानक घोड़े के बेकाबू होने से घोड़ा-गाड़ी

से गिर गई थीं, जिसके बाद महाजन ने अपने मां को बचाने के लिए गाड़ी से छलांग लगा दी थी जिसमें वह गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गया था और बुधवार को उसकी मौत हो गई थी। महाजन की मां को मामूली चोटें आई हैं। इस हादसे के बाद सोमवार को सेंट्रल पार्क में एक श्रद्धांजलि सभा आयोजित की गई, जिसमें उन्हें श्रद्धांजलि दी गई।

न्यूयॉर्क सिटी काउंसिल के सदस्य क्रिस्टोफर मार्टे ने यह कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया था। इस दौरान मार्टे ने घोषणा की कि उन्होंने न्यूयॉर्क शहर में घोड़ा-गाड़ी पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए ‘राइडर्स लॉ’ नामक विधेयक पेश किया है और अब उसका नाम बदलकर दिवंगत किशोर के सम्मान में ‘रोमांच’ लॉ किया जाएगा। उन्होंने पहले इस विधेयक का नाम 26 वर्षीय घोड़े ‘राइडर’ के नाम पर रखा था। इस घोड़े को अगस्त 2022 में जबरन गाड़ी खींचने के लिए मजबूर किया जा रहा था और इस दौरान वह गिर पड़ा था। राइडर की उस वर्ष अक्टूबर में मौत हो गई थी। इसके बाद ‘एनिमल लीगल डिफेंस फंड’ सहित कई पशु अधिकार एवं संरक्षण समूहों ने न्यूयॉर्क शहर में घोड़ा-गाड़ी सेवाओं पर प्रतिबंध लगाने और उन्हें पूरी तरह समाप्त करने के लिए कानून बनाए जाने की मांग शुरू कर दी। मार्टे ने श्रद्धांजलि सभा में कहा, ‘पिछले सप्ताह जो हुआ, वह हमारे शहर पर एक कलंक है। हम तुरंत कार्रवाई क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं?’

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इसी दौरान उन्होंने घोषणा की कि ‘राइडर्स लॉश का नाम बदलकर ‘रोमांचशस लॉ’ रखा जाएगा। श्रद्धांजलि सभा के दौरान मार्टे ने महाजन के परिवार का एक पत्र भी पढ़ा, जिसमें पिछले सप्ताह हुई इस दुखद घटना के बाद न्यूयॉर्क शहर में घोड़ा-गाड़ी पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की मांग की गई है। महाजन परिवार के पत्र के कुछ अंश एबीसी7एनवाई न्यूज ने प्रकाशित किए हैं। उसमें कहा गया, ‘शमेरे भतीजे की मौत के लिए जिम्मेदार यह उद्योग इस मंगलवार से फिर से पर्यटक यात्राएं शुरू करने की तैयारी कर रहा है, जैसे रोमांच की जान जाना मामूली बात हो।

व्हाइट हाउस में ऑनर समारोह दौरान बेइज्जत हुए ट्रंप, वीर सैनिक को सम्मानित करते फंस



व्हाइट हाउस के ईस्ट रूम में आयोजित एक प्रतिष्ठित सैन्य सम्मान समारोह उस समय चर्चा का विषय बन गया जब अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप को देश के सर्वोच्च सैन्य सम्मान Medal of Honor को पहनाने में परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा। इस दौरान मौजूद लोगों की हंसी छूट गई और घटना का वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर तेजी से

वायरल हो गया। यह समारोह सेवानिवृत्त अमेरिकी सेना के मेजर Nicholas Dockery को सम्मानित करने के लिए आयोजित किया गया था। डॉकेरी को वर्ष 2012 में अफगानिस्तान में तालिबान के घातक हमले के दौरान असाधारण बहादुरी दिखाने के लिए यह सम्मान दिया गया।

मेजर डॉकेरी की वीरता की प्रशंसा करने के बाद ट्रंप उनके पास पहुंचे और मेडल ऑफ ऑनर उनके गले में पहनाने लगे। लेकिन पदक के रिबन के पीछे लगे क्लैस्प को बंद करने में उन्हें कठिनाई हुई।

कई बार कोशिश करने के बावजूद जब क्लैस्प सही तरह से नहीं लगा तो ट्रंप ने अंततः रिबन के सिरों को एक गांठ में बांध दिया और सम्मान प्रक्रिया पूरी की। घटना के दौरान ट्रंप ने डॉकेरी से कुछ हल्की-फुल्की बातें भी कीं और बाद में उनके कंधे पर हाथ रखकर बधाई दी। समारोह में मौजूद वरिष्ठ सरकारी अधिकारी, सैन्य कमांडर और अन्य अतिथि इस अप्रत्याशित स्थिति पर मुस्कराते और हंसते नजर आए। हालांकि कार्यक्रम बिना किसी बाधा के आगे बढ़ा और सम्मान समारोह की गरिमा बरकरार रही। घटना का वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर तेजी से वायरल हो गया। कई लोगों ने इसे औपचारिक समारोह में ट्रंप के लिए असहज पल बताया। कुछ टिप्पणीकारों ने इसे शर्मनाक स्थिति करार दिया। ट्रंप समर्थकों ने कहा कि मेडल ऑफ ऑनर के औपचारिक क्लैस्प अक्सर जटिल होते हैं। लाइव टेलीविजन कार्यक्रमों में ऐसी तकनीकी दिक्कतें किसी के साथ भी हो सकती हैं।



Kerala to rebrand wellness tourism as foreign tourist arrivals increase

Kerala is set to place its centuries-old ayurveda tradition at the heart of a new tourism strategy, with the state government announcing plans to rebrand wellness tourism amid an 11.24% increase in foreign tourist arrivals in the first quarter of 2026. Tourism Minister P C Vishnunadh said the state would undertake a major exercise to reposition ayurveda and wellness tourism as its flagship global brand.

“Kerala has a long-standing legacy and credibility in ayurveda. But we cannot rely on that heritage alone. Tourism today is a highly competitive global industry, and Kerala is competing with countries across the world, not just other Indian states. We need to reposition and rebrand our wellness offerings,” Vishnunadh said.

He said the 13th edition of the Kerala Travel Mart will be a key platform to showcase

Kerala’s evolving tourism products including wellness tourism, homestays, backwater experiences, and responsible tourism. Meanwhile, the state has recorded a 10.98% increase in domestic tourists and 11.24% increase in foreign arrivals in the first quarter of 2026 compared to the same period last year. Tourism Secretary Biju K told TNIE that the wellness sector has witnessed a surge globally, driven by post-pandemic health consciousness, demand for digital detox experiences, and increasing interest in holistic well-being.

“Ayurveda remains Kerala’s signature product but wellness tourism today encompasses a much larger market that includes yoga, integrated wellness practices, and nature-based healing experiences. Kerala’s natural beauty, clean environment, and authentic ayurveda tradition provide a strong foundation to capitalise on this growing segment,” he said.

VP Radhakrishnan Calls For Sustainable, Tech-Driven Tourism At Leadership Summit 2026



Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan said tourism serves as a bridge between cultures, a driver of economic opportunity and a powerful instrument of soft diplomacy, while calling for sustainable and technology-driven growth in the sector.

Addressing the Tourism Leadership Summit 2026 in New Delhi, organised by the US-India Partnership Forum in collaboration with the Sankala Foundation, the Vice-President said the platform would help chart a strategic roadmap for strengthening the India-US economic corridor in travel and hospitality.

He noted that tourism between India and the United States reflects deep people-to-people ties, shared values, entrepreneurial energy and the vibrancy of the Indian diaspora. Emphasising that tourism is more than just an industry, he described it as a sector that fosters mutual understanding while generating significant economic benefits.

Referring to the government’s forward-looking initiatives, the Vice-President said that under the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has announced Tourism Vision 2029. The initiative aims to develop at least one world-class tourist destination in every State, supported by robust infrastructure and global hospitality standards.

He said the programme focuses on building holistic tourism ecosystems, including seamless connectivity, smart amenities, safety, sustainability, digital integration and enriched visitor experiences, rather than mere beautification projects.

GovT. Committed To Making India Globally Competitive Tourism Destination: Shekhawat

Union Tourism and Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Monday reaffirmed the government’s commitment to reforms aimed at making India a globally competitive tourism destination, while chairing a high-level consultation with industry stakeholders on ease of doing business in the tourism and hospitality sector.

The interactive session, organised by the Ministry of Tourism in New Delhi, brought together representatives from leading industry bodies, including FAITH, ASSOCHAM, PHDCCI, WTTCL, TGFI, ABTO, CII, IAAPI and FICCI, to discuss reforms required to unlock the sector’s growth potential and create a more investment-friendly business environment.



Addressing the gathering, Shekhawat stressed the importance of continuous engagement with industry stakeholders to identify regulatory bottlenecks and facilitate sustainable growth through greater ease of doing business. He said the government remains committed to promoting investment, innovation and competitiveness across the tourism ecosystem.

During the meeting, the Ministry of Tourism presented its reform agenda and highlighted initiatives already undertaken, including delinking licenses from the ministry’s classification of hospitality units. Industry representatives shared recommendations on simplifying regulations, reducing compliance burdens and improving the overall business environment for tourism and hospitality enterprises.

Tourism Secretary Bhuvnesh Kumar proposed simplifying the hotel classification system by moving from inspection-based assessments to a self-declaration model, reducing checklist requirements and minimising mandatory certifications in a time-bound manner. The proposals received positive feedback from industry participants.

The discussions also focused on streamlining visa processes, rationalising taxation frameworks, simplifying clearances for tourism projects and defining timelines for approvals and licenses. Stakeholders emphasised the need for enhanced destination marketing, tourism infrastructure development and stronger coordination among ministries and state governments to improve India’s competitiveness in the global tourism market.

Participants highlighted the importance of digital governance and discussed innovative solutions such as an Entity Locker for the tourism and hospitality sector to facilitate document sharing, verification and regulatory compliance. The role of data-driven decision-making was also underscored, with industry representatives recommending the creation of a comprehensive database of hotels, homestays, tour operators, guides and other stakeholders to support policy formulation and investment planning.

The consultation further explored ways to improve visitor experience through better visa facilitation, digital services, connectivity and adoption of global best practices. Special attention was given to emerging segments such as experiential tourism, live events, amusement parks and homestays, which stakeholders said have significant potential to generate employment, stimulate local economies and diversify India’s tourism offerings.

Sikkim Tourism Department Launches E-Office System To Boost Transparency And Efficiency



Sikkim has taken another step toward strengthening digital governance with the launch of an e-office system in its Tourism and Civil Aviation Department. The web-based application, introduced on Wednesday, is designed to digitise and streamline the processing of official work, ensuring faster and more transparent public service delivery.

Tourism and Civil Aviation Minister Tshering T Bhutia, who formally launched the platform, said the initiative was rolled out under the direction of Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang. He explained that once documents are scanned and uploaded, the system allows real-time tracking and monitoring of proposals, enabling officials to review and act on submissions digitally.

Bhutia described the platform as a time-saving measure that connects district tourism offices directly with the department’s head office. He added that tourism information centres will also be integrated into the system in the near future, further expanding its reach.

Highlighting the department’s commitment to adapting to evolving technological requirements, the minister noted that the e-office system reflects a broader push for efficiency, transparency, and accountability in governance.

Plans to launch ‘Namma Guide’ app to boost Karnataka tourism



The Department of Tourism is developing a new online platform, “Namma Guide”, to enhance tourism services in the state.

The website and app will help tourists easily connect with local guides, similar to systems used in other countries, enabling smoother booking and better on-ground assistance at tourist destinations.

Officials said local guides play a key role in explaining the history, culture, and significance of tourist spots, and the platform aims to make their services more accessible to both domestic and international visitors. The initiative is also expected to boost local economies and diversify Karnataka’s tourism offerings.