



Social Welfare Department



**“Education is the most important weapon to
raise the standard of living of the people”**

-Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

135th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Garlanding the Statue of

Architect of Indian Constitution, Great Humanitarian, Bharat Ratna

Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR

April 14, 2026, Tuesday at 10.00 AM
East Gate of Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru



Stage Event

April 14, 2026, Tuesday at 10.30 AM
Grand Steps of Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru



As is enshrined in our constitution, “to value and preserve the rich heritage of
our composite culture” - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.



Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

Secretary to Government
Social Welfare Department



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QUICK READ



Kumaraswamy Credits Return to Divine Will, Public Support

CH NEWS, BENGALURU Union Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy on Monday said his return to Vidhana Soudha after two years will be guided by “God’s will and the blessings of the people,” hinting at a possible political comeback in Karnataka. Speaking to the media during his visit to Vidhana Soudha, Kumaraswamy said destiny and public support would determine his future presence in the state legislature. He added that political developments unfold as per divine will and people’s mandate. He also said that his party remains committed to alliance politics, working in coordination with central and state leaders to regain public confidence.

Bengaluru Pushes Adoption Drive for Community Dogs

CH NEWS, BENGALURU The Bengaluru Central City Corporation has directed officials to launch a citywide campaign promoting the adoption of community dogs. At a meeting with animal husbandry officials and NGOs, Additional Commissioner (Development) Daljit Kumar stressed that adoption initiatives must complement ongoing Animal Birth Control (ABC) and Anti-Rabies Vaccination (ARV) programmes. He instructed that all dogs undergo proper health check-ups and vaccinations before adoption. Officials were also asked to strictly follow Supreme Court of India guidelines on managing community dogs and ensure cleanliness at ABC centres.

IMD issues heat alert as Karnataka temperatures surge

CH NEWS, BENGALURU The India Meteorological Department has issued a warning over rising temperatures across Karnataka, urging residents to take precautions before stepping outdoors. According to officials, cities including Bengaluru are expected to witness a steady rise in temperatures over the next five days. The city, currently recording around 35°C, may see temperatures climb to 37–38°C, with intense heat likely between 11 am and 3 pm. Northern interior districts such as Bidar, Raichur and Kalaburagi could experience extreme heat ranging between 42°C and 44°C, prompting health advisories.

Helipad Plan at Jnana Bharathi to Boost Emergency Care Access

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A proposal to establish an air ambulance helipad at the Jnana Bharathi Campus is under consideration, aiming to significantly improve emergency medical response in traffic-clogged parts of the city.

The initiative was put forward by MLC Dinesh Gooligowda, who highlighted the urgent need for faster healthcare access in a letter to the Higher Education Minister. Acting on the request, the minister has directed authorities to assess the feasibility of

New Bengaluru Civic Bodies Struggle to Find Space for Council Halls

OF THE FIVE CORPORATIONS, FOUR LACK DEDICATED SPACES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

With elections to the newly formed city corporations approaching, officials are grappling with a major logistical hurdle — finding suitable spaces to host council meetings and administrative offices.

Of the five civic bodies, only the existing council building at NR Square, under the Bengaluru Central City Corporation, is currently equipped to conduct council sessions.

The remaining four corporations are yet to identify or develop dedicated “halls of power” for their elected rep-

resentatives. Both the Bengaluru North City Corporation and Bengaluru South City Corporation have allocated funds in their recent budgets but lack concrete infrastructure plans.

Each is expected to accommodate 72 corporators after elections, making space planning an urgent priority.

BNCC Commissioner Pom-mala Sunil Kumar said the corporation is exploring short-term solutions such as renting commercial spaces, particularly along Airport Road, to house council proceedings. However, he acknowledged that this may not be financially sustainable in



the long run. As a permanent solution, BNCC has proposed constructing a dedicated headquarters and council hall, earmarking Rs 40 crore for

the project. The commissioner has approached the University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, seeking 3–5 acres of land. The proposed facility

aims to consolidate currently scattered offices across Bytarayanapura, Dasarahalli and other areas. However, sources indicate that the university has not responded positively so far.

Meanwhile, the South corporation has set aside Rs 150 crore to build its own office complex on a site opposite the Banashankari Temple along Kanakapura Road. At present, it operates from a temporary office in Jayanagar.

With time running out before elections, the race to secure functional administrative spaces has become a pressing concern for Bengaluru’s evolving civic landscape.

Peenya Flyover Load Testing Postponed, Traffic to Move as Usual

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The scheduled load testing of the Peenya Elevated Flyover on National Highway-4 has been postponed, bringing relief to commuters as no traffic restrictions will be enforced for now.

The testing, which was planned from 5 am on Monday until April 17, was part of the final phase following recent cable repair works. Earlier, the Bengaluru City Traffic Police had announced temporary restrictions on all vehicular movement along the flyover during the testing period.

As per the earlier advisory, traffic was to be halted on both sides of the flyover between Kennametal Vidya Upper Ramp and SRS Down Ramp. Commuters travelling from Nelamangala towards the city were advised to use the NH-4 main road and service roads via Dasarahalli, Jalahalli Cross, Peenya Police Station Junction and Gora-guntepalya.

Similarly, those heading towards Nelamangala were to take diversions through SRS



Load testing on Peenya Elevated Flyover postponed; no traffic curbs now.

Junction and surrounding stretches.

However, with the postponement of the load testing, authorities have clarified that vehicular movement will continue without any restrictions, easing concerns for daily commuters and transport operators using the busy corridor.

Meanwhile, in a separate initiative to tackle rising congestion and improve road safety, the traffic police, in

collaboration with the Institute of Road Traffic Education (IRTE) and Diageo India, have conducted a detailed study at key junctions across the city.

Locations including Chalkukya Circle, Cantonment Railway Station Junction and H Siddaiah Circle were analysed for traffic flow, pedestrian movement and safety challenges.

The study has recommended several low-cost improvements such as better lane segregation, pedestrian safety islands, enhanced signal systems and improved signage, aimed at easing congestion and ensuring safer roads in Bengaluru.

Speeding Reversing Car Kills Man near Mysuru Road Bus Stand

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A 45-year-old man was killed in a tragic early morning accident near the Mysuru Road Satellite Bus Stand after a speeding car, reversing recklessly, rammed into him and pinned him against a parked bus.

The deceased, M Swamy Dorai, a fruit vendor from Siddhartha Colony near Sriganthada Kaval, had just returned from Tamil Nadu with his wife Jayashree after attending a relative’s funeral. The couple was standing by the roadside, waiting to cross, when the incident occurred in full view of his wife.

According to police, a Hyundai i10 was parked in a designated area near a hotel close to the Kerala bus exit gate. The vehicle owner had handed over the keys to a parking attendant. However, the accused, identified as Balasubramanyam, a marketing executive, allegedly took the keys under the pretext of repositioning the car, despite not being authorised.

He then reversed the vehicle at high speed, hitting Dorai, dragging him and crush-



ing him against a stationary bus belonging to a blood bank. Dorai died on the spot, while his wife collapsed after witnessing the horrific incident.

The accused fled immediately, but bystanders rushed the victim to Victoria Hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival.

The Byatarayanapura Traffic Police later traced and arrested the accused. An alcometer test revealed a reading of 89 gm/100 ml, indicating heavy intoxication at the time of the incident.

Based on a complaint filed by the victim’s son, a case has been registered under Section 105 of the BNS for culpable homicide not amounting to murder. The accused has been remanded to judicial custody.

High Court Enhances Compensation to ₹51.6 Lakh for Kin of Accident Victim

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has enhanced compensation to ₹51.6 lakh for the family of a deceased government employee, dismissing claims of contributory negligence raised by the insurer of a Kerala-registered car involved in a fatal road accident nearly a decade ago.

The victim, Shahabuddin Khan, was serving as a first division assistant in the revenue department. On October 10, 2016, he was travelling from Bengaluru to Ooty along the Nanjangud-Gundlupet highway

when a car coming from the opposite direction collided with his vehicle. Khan succumbed to severe injuries, while his teenage son and daughter were injured in the crash.

Following the incident, Khan’s wife and children approached the Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, which in June 2023 awarded ₹41.5 lakh to the wife, ₹4.7 lakh to the son and ₹3.5 lakh to the daughter.

The tribunal had fixed full liability on National Insurance Company Ltd, the insurer of the offending vehicle. Challenging the ruling, the insurer argued be-

fore the High Court that contributory negligence by the vehicle in which Khan was travelling had not been considered.

However, the claimants countered this by pointing to the spot sketch, which indicated that the Kerala-registered car had veered to the wrong side and caused the collision.

A division bench comprising Justices S G Pandit and K V Aravind, after examining the evidence, observed that the offending

vehicle had significantly more road space on its side compared to the victim’s vehicle, clearly establishing negligence on the part of its driver.

The court also noted that Khan’s annual military pension of ₹2 lakh, earned as an ex-serviceman, had not been factored into the original compensation calculation. Taking this into account, the bench revised the total compensation to ₹51.6 lakh in the main claim.



Senior Citizen Duped of ₹6.4 Lakh in Fake Old Currency Deal

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A 67-year-old man from Ejipura was allegedly cheated of ₹6.4 lakh in a cyber fraud after being lured with a promise of ₹1.7 crore for his collection of old currency notes and coins.

According to police, the victim came across a Facebook account under the name “Rahul Kumar Jindal” on April 6, which advertised lucrative deals for rare currency collections. Intrigued, he contacted the numbers listed on the profile and shared photographs of his notes and coins.

Soon after, the fraudsters assured him of a payout of ₹1.7 crore and began communicating through multiple phone numbers. They convinced him to transfer money in phases under



Drunk Pub Manager Assaults Cops After Ruckus Outside Closed Bar, Arrested

CH NEWS, BENGALURU

A 26-year-old pub manager was arrested after allegedly assaulting police personnel and creating a late-night ruckus outside a closed bar on Neeladri Road in Electronics City.

The accused, Saikumar Reddy, a resident of JP Nagar, was taken into custody following a complaint by Assistant Sub-Inspector K S Siddarama. The incident occurred around 1.45 am when Siddarama and constable Mutturaj were on night patrol duty.

According to police, the officers received an alert about a man causing disturbance near a bar at a junction off Neeladri Road.

On reaching the spot, they found Reddy in an inebriated state, repeatedly banging on the shutter of the closed SLR bar and shouting abuses at passersby.

Witnesses said Reddy demanded alcohol, yelling “I need a drink, open the door,” and even threatened to damage the shutter with a stone. The bar cashier attempted to calm him, but the situation escalated as the accused claimed he was a pub manager and insisted on being served.

When the police intervened and informed him that the bar was closed, Reddy allegedly turned violent. He reportedly abused the officers, grabbed Siddarama’s uniform, punched him in the face and tore his shirt during the scuffle. Constable Mutturaj, who tried to assist, was also man-handled.

The accused then attempted to flee, pushing the officers and looking for objects to hurl at them.

However, he was overpowered and taken to the station in a Hoysala patrol vehicle. During transit, he allegedly continued to threaten the officers, claiming he could get them dismissed from service.





Trump considered naming Gulf 'Gulf of Trump' once

P10



Jio, Bank of Baroda launch 'bob World Lite' service

P11



MI Stuck in Catch-Up Mode, Admits Hardik After Defeat



Iran warns 'no port safe' as US moves to blockade Hormuz

Tensions surge as Tehran vows retaliation against sweeping US naval blockade

TEHRAN

Iran has issued a stark warning that "no port in the region will be safe" after the United States announced a naval blockade targeting Iranian maritime routes following failed ceasefire talks.

The escalation comes amid the ongoing West Asia conflict, with both sides hardening their positions after 21-hour negotiations in Pakistan ended without agreement. The US military confirmed that the blockade would apply to vessels entering or exiting Iranian ports across the Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

Iranian leaders responded swiftly, warning of broad retaliation. Parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf delivered a blunt message: "If you fight, we will fight." Military officials added that regional security would be "for everyone or no one," signalling potential disruption to key shipping hubs.

The Strait of Hormuz, a critical chokepoint for global



US Action: Naval blockade of Iranian ports and coastal routes

Iran Warning:	Oil Impact:	Global Trade:	Diplomacy:
Threat to target all regional ports	Prices surge amid fears of supply disruption	Strait of Hormuz handles 20% of world oil	Ceasefire talks collapse; uncertainty beyond April 22

energy supplies, has already seen reduced vessel traffic since hostilities began. Analysts warn that the blockade could severely disrupt oil shipments and trigger further volatility in global markets.

US officials, including Vice President J. D. Vance, blamed Iran's refusal to curb its nuclear programme for the breakdown in talks. Meanwhile, Tehran accused Washington of

"maximalist demands" and shifting conditions at the negotiating table.

Despite the rising tensions, some diplomatic channels remain open, with regional players pushing for an extended ceasefire window. However, with threats intensifying and military posturing increasing, the risk of a broader regional conflict looms large.

INDIA GETS FIRST IRANIAN OIL IN SEVEN YEARS

NEW DELHI

India has received its first shipment of Iranian crude oil in seven years, according to ship tracking data from LSEG, marking a notable shift in energy trade flows.

The Iran-flagged VLCC Felicity has arrived at Sikka Port in western India, while the Curacao-flagged vessel Jaya has reached a port in Odisha, the data showed.

The development comes as Indian refiners take advantage of a temporary waiver granted by the United States last month, allowing limited crude purchases from Tehran after a long gap. India, the world's third-largest oil importer, had stopped receiving Iranian oil cargoes since 2019 under US sanctions pressure.

Each very large crude carrier (VLCC) can transport nearly 2 million barrels of crude oil, making the shipments significant for refinery operations and supply planning.

According to reports, Indian Oil Corporation has purchased Iranian crude transported on sanctioned vessels, while Reliance Industries has also been permitted to procure oil from select Iranian shipments.

The current US waiver is set to expire on April 19, adding uncertainty to future imports and refinery sourcing strategies. The arrival of these cargoes marks a rare reopening of a supply channel that had remained closed for years amid geopolitical tensions and sanctions-related restrictions.

Women's Reservation Act will shape India's future, says PM Modi

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said India is on the verge of creating "new history" with the proposed amendments to the Women's Reservation Act, enabling its implementation ahead of the 2029 general elections.

Addressing the 'Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan' at Vigyan Bhawan, Modi said the move would "realise the visions of the past and fulfil the resolutions of the future," emphasising that the legislation would strengthen women's representation in governance.

The law, officially known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, was passed unanimously by Parliament in 2023, providing for 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. However, its implementation was initially linked to the delimitation exercise after the 2027 Census, delaying enforcement until 2034.



Our country's Parliament is close to creating a new history... a decision dedicated to the empowerment of women.
—Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

The proposed changes aim to advance the rollout to 2029, increasing Lok Sabha strength to 816 seats, with 273 reserved for women. Modi noted that even Opposition parties had earlier supported faster implementation, calling it a collective national commitment.

The development marks a significant step toward enhancing gender equity in India's political landscape, with the government positioning it as one of the most consequential reforms of the 21st century.

Guarantee schemes are also a form of development: CM Siddaramaiah

Siddaramaiah noted that Karnataka's GDP growth stands at 8.1%, higher than the Centre's 7.14%.

CHIKKAMAGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that the government's guarantee schemes aimed at public welfare are also a form of development, and asserted that despite these guarantees, the state's financial condition is better than that of the Centre.

He was speaking after inaugurating a bridge built across the Bhadra backwaters connecting Handuru village to Narasimharajapura, along with launching multiple development projects and distributing benefits.

The bridge, constructed at a cost of ₹36 crore, is among several initiatives launched. Hitting back at Opposition criticism that the treasury is empty due to guarantees, he said the government has managed both welfare schemes and development simultaneously.



"Guarantees are also a form of development," he said, adding that B. R. Ambedkar had stressed that political freedom must be supported by economic, social, and educational empowerment.

The CM alleged injustice by the Centre, stating that although ₹5,300 crore was announced for the Bhadra Upper Canal project in the 2023–24 Budget, no funds have been released so far.

He further said the state has spent ₹1.30 lakh crore on guarantee schemes, while accusing

the BJP of criticising them in Karnataka but replicating similar measures elsewhere.

Highlighting economic indicators, Siddaramaiah noted that Karnataka's GDP growth stands at 8.1%, higher than the Centre's 7.14%. He also claimed the state's financial health remains strong and compliant with fiscal responsibility norms.

Accusing the BJP of spreading misinformation, he said the Centre has failed to fulfil promises, while his government has delivered on its commitments.

Bengal will answer bombs with ballots, UCC will follow: Amit Shah

NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday declared that the people of West Bengal would respond to "bombs and bullets with votes," while vowing to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) if the BJP comes to power in the state.

Addressing multiple election rallies across Birbhum and Paschim Bardhaman districts, Shah launched a sharp attack on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the Trinamool Congress (TMC), accusing them of promoting corruption, lawlessness, and appeasement politics. He alleged that political violence has become widespread under the current regime, but asserted that voters would deliver a decisive mandate through the ballot.

"The people of Bengal will reply to bombs with votes. Once BJP forms the government, justice will prevail and those responsible for violence will be held accountable," Shah said.

Reiterating BJP's poll promises, he said the party would

introduce the UCC in West Bengal to ensure equal laws for all citizens. He argued that such a move would promote uniformity and fairness in civil matters across communities.

Shah also accused the TMC government of shielding infiltrators and failing to safeguard the state's borders, claiming that the BJP would take decisive steps to address illegal immigration. He added that border infrastructure, including fencing, would be strengthened within a short time if the party assumes office.

Highlighting alleged scams and governance failures, Shah said funds recovered from corruption cases would be returned to the people, particularly women and youth. He also promised industrial growth and welfare measures as part of the BJP's broader development agenda.

With polling dates approaching, Shah's remarks signal an intensified campaign as the BJP seeks to expand its political footprint in West Bengal.

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Centre clears Bengaluru–Mumbai Vande Bharat sleeper train



NEW DELHI

The Union government has approved a new Vande Bharat Sleeper Train between Bengaluru and Mumbai, enhancing connectivity across Karnataka. Union Minister Pralhad Joshi had urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to improve rail links to North, Central, and Kalyana Karnataka. The train will run from KSR Bengaluru to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, covering Tumakuru, Davanagere, Haveri, Hubballi-Dharwad, and Belagavi. Initially proposed as a super-fast train, it will now be introduced as a Vande Bharat sleeper service. The project is expected to boost regional development, trade, and travel, especially benefiting Kalyana Karnataka.

Nation bids tearful farewell as Asha Bhosle cremated with state honours



MUMBAI

Legendary playback singer Asha Bhosle was cremated with full state honours at Shivaji Park Crematorium on Monday evening, marking the end of an era in Indian music. The final rites were performed by her son Anand Bhosle in the presence of family, dignitaries, and thousands of grieving fans.

The 92-year-old icon, honoured with the Padma Vibhushan, passed away on April 12 at

Breach Candy Hospital following multi-organ failure. Her mortal remains were kept for public homage at her residence earlier in the day, drawing a massive turnout of admirers. Several prominent personalities, including Amir Khan, Vicky Kaushal, Ranveer Singh, Vidya Balan, and Javed Akhtar, attended the funeral to pay their last respects. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis also paid tribute, highlighting her immense contribution to Indian culture.

SC stays HC order on IAS officer Sindhuri case

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday stayed the Karnataka High Court's order directing sanction to prosecute IAS officer Rohini Sindhuri in the alleged 2021 Mysuru "cloth bag scam." A bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Satish Chandra Sharma issued notice on her plea challenging the FIR approval. The case involves alleged inflated procurement of eco-friendly bags, causing losses to the exchequer. The High Court had earlier allowed investigation despite departmental clearance. Proceedings are now paused pending further hearing.



MANGALURU

A wild elephant that fell into an unused open well near Peraje in the Sullia forest range of Dakshina Kannada district was successfully rescued by forest officials on Monday after a swift and coordinated operation.

The incident is believed to have occurred on Sunday night when the elephant accidentally slipped into the several-feet-deep well located at the foothills of the Western Ghats along the Dakshina Kannada–Kodagu border. Forest personnel, alerted early Monday, rushed to the spot and immediately launched rescue efforts.

Officials deployed earthmovers to carefully remove



soil around the well and created a gradual slope to enable the animal to climb out safely.

After hours of effort, the elephant managed to walk out of the pit unhurt and is believed

to have returned to the nearby forest. The operation concluded around 1 pm.

"The elephant has been rescued. No injuries are seen. It is healthy," a senior forest officer said.

Local residents noted that a herd of elephants had been moving through the region in recent days, and the rescued animal may have strayed from the group. Dakshina Kannada district has witnessed frequent human-elephant interactions, often leading to crop damage and safety concerns.

The successful rescue highlights the prompt response and preparedness of forest officials in handling wildlife emergencies, preventing potential harm to both the animal and nearby communities.



Trustees expel Swamiji amid financial dispute row

Trustees removed Swamiji over alleged financial irregularities; devotees demanded accountability, while management cited weakened trust despite denial of misuse

DAVANAGERE

Trustees of the Panchamasali Peeth in Davanagere district have expelled Vachanananda Swamiji following a meeting held at the monastery in Harihar taluk. The decision was taken after 13 of 15 trustees supported the move, citing lack of response to earlier deadlines regarding administrative and financial clarity.

Trustee Basavaraj Dindur said the Swamiji was given time until March 24 to clarify issues, but no satisfactory explanation was provided. The monastery has recently faced demands from devotees for accountability over govern-

ment grants and donations collected over the years. Protests, including a Lekka Kodi agitation, were held outside the math, where supporters sought a detailed financial statement from the management.

Devotees had alleged irregularities in the use of funds, while the Swamiji has denied any personal misuse of money or resources. He had earlier stated that all accounts were transparent and that no monastic funds were transferred to his personal institution. However, trustees maintained that administrative confidence had weakened, leading to the unanimous decision to re-



move him from the Peeth leadership role. Security was tightened at the site as discussions continued inside the monastery while devotees gathered in large numbers outside.

The issue has sparked de-

bate across the community, with calls for transparency, unity, and proper management of religious institutions. Officials said further administrative steps will follow as per trust rules and legal procedures governing the monastery. They also indicated that a review of financial records and organizational structure may be conducted to ensure accountability and restore confidence among devotees and stakeholders in the coming days and maintain trust in the institution going forward through transparent communication and responsible leadership practices system reforms.

DHARWAD

Weeks after the shocking murder of Youth Congress leader Fairoze Pathan in Dharwad, police have arrested nine accused, saying personal enmity was the main motive behind the crime. Police Commissioner N. Shashikumar said all nine suspects have been taken into custody and produced before the court for further investigation.

He added that two bikes and one car used in the murder have been seized by the police. According to police, one of the accused, Mohammad Shah, had a long personal conflict with the victim, which later escalated into violence. Investigators said the group had been tracking Fairoze's movements for several days and planned the attack carefully. Police also said

Police seized vehicles, traced motive to personal conflict, and found planning in Fairoze case; investigation continues with evidence review and assurance of strict action

the attackers struck when they believed no male members were present at the victim's house. Officials said some of the arrested persons have criminal backgrounds and further inquiry is continuing.

Police said the case is being treated seriously and all angles are being investigated to ensure justice. Residents expressed shock over the killing, while police have increased security and urged

people to remain calm as investigation continues. Police said evidence including vehicles, phone records, and witness statements is being examined to strengthen the case in court. Authorities assured that strict action will be taken against all involved and the investigation will bring full

clarity to the murder case soon. Police appealed to the public not to spread rumours and to co-operate with the investigation process for smooth legal proceedings.

They said justice will be delivered based on strong evidence collected during the ongoing investigation. Officials promised fair and transparent probe until case reaches conclusion in court proceedings.



QUICK READ



Free dairy training offered for rural youth

Koppal

Applications are invited for a 12-day training programme on dairy farming and vermicomposting by Canara Bank Deshpande RSET Institute, Haliyal. The training will be held in the last week of April 2026 for youth and women aged 18 to 50 interested in agriculture. The course is free and includes food and accommodation. Priority will be given to rural candidates. The programme covers entrepreneurship skills, business setup guidance, marketing, loan information, government schemes, field visits, yoga, soft skills and project report preparation. Interested candidates can apply through phone numbers 8970145354, 9483485489 or website www.rsetihaliyal.org. This initiative supports self-employment and rural development.

PMFME scheme boosts small food businesses

Gadag

The Government of India has extended the Prime Minister's Small Food Processing Enterprises Regularization Scheme (PMFME) under Atma Nirbhar Bharat until 30 September 2026. Officials have asked banks to clear pending applications and support new ones without delay. Farmers and entrepreneurs above 18 years can apply, and no minimum education is required. Loans are available to start or upgrade small food processing units in Gadag district. Products include roti, snacks, spices, pickles, bakery items, fruit processing, oils and dairy goods. Applicants must submit Aadhaar, PAN, ration card or electricity bill, bank passbook and address proof online. More than 271 units have already received loans in the district so far. For details, contact the Agriculture Department officials in Gadag or call the given helpline numbers. Smt Chetana Patil and officials said people should take benefit of the scheme and improve livelihoods through small scale food businesses with easy loan support and guidance from agriculture department offices in Gadag district area here.

Police crack down on illegal sand mining in Gadag

GADAG

Mundargi police in Gadag district have launched a major crackdown on illegal sand mining and transportation activities in the Tungabhadra river basin. Officials seized more than five tractors used for transporting illegally mined sand during a special raid.

According to police, illegal sand extraction was taking place near Gangapura, Korlahalli and Singatatur villages in Mundargi taluk. Acting on credible information, a team led by PSI Channaiah Deva conducted an operation at the suspected locations.

During the raid, police found tractors engaged in unauthorized sand loading and transportation. The vehicles were immediately seized as part of the enforcement action aimed at stopping illegal mining activities in the region.



Authorities said a case has been registered at the Mundargi police station and further investigation is in progress. Efforts are underway to identify those involved in the illegal sand mining network and take strict legal action against them.

Police officials stated that such operations will continue in order to protect natural resources and prevent environmental damage caused by unauthorized sand extraction from riverbeds.

Locals have welcomed the action, saying illegal sand mining has been affecting river ecology and causing damage to public resources. The police have also appealed to citizens to report any such illegal activities to help curb the menace effectively in the district and ensure strict enforcement of mining laws going forward across all vulnerable river zones.

Hangal taluk begins massive title deed distribution drive

HAVERI

MLA Srinivas Mane said that more than 13,000 families in Hangal taluk, who were earlier living in fear of eviction due to lack of proper documents, are now being given official house title deeds to ensure secure and peaceful living under the land guarantee initiative.

He was speaking after inaugurating a programme held at Chikkashi Hosur village, where title deeds were distributed to over 450 families from Chikkashi Hosur, Kyasanur and Matihalli villages by the taluk administration.

Mane said that the process of distributing title deeds to around 8,000 beneficiaries has already begun, while work is underway to cover another 4,000 families. He added that the government is fulfilling its election promise and described the initiative as



an additional guarantee alongside the existing five guarantee schemes.

He explained that beneficiaries are being provided legal documents along with e-property records and registration certificates. However, he noted that delays are occurring in some cases due to pending house tax payments and urged residents to clear dues for faster processing.

Taluk Tahsildar Renuka S. said that families who had been waiting for decades are

BJYM opposed Kharge's remarks, alleging communal tension, demanded legal action, and urged responsible speech from public leaders

BJYM files complaint over Kharge's snake remark

BANAVASI

The Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) has lodged a complaint with Banavasi police seeking action against AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge over his alleged controversial remarks against the BJP and the RSS.

The complaint was submitted at the Banavasi police station through PSI Mantesh Kumbara, led by BJYM district president Prem Kumar Naik. The youth wing claimed that Kharge's comments made during a rally linked to the Assam Assembly elections were objectionable and provocative.

BJYM leaders objected to Kharge's alleged statement comparing the RSS and BJP to "poisonous snakes" and said such remarks were inappropriate for a senior national leader. They accused him of spreading communal tension and hurting public sentiment.



They further alleged that the remarks encouraged divisive thinking and demanded strict legal action, including his arrest. The complaint also stated that such statements go against constitutional values and could disturb social harmony.

BJYM leaders said public leaders must maintain dignity in speech and avoid statements that may create misunderstanding or unrest among communities.

The complaint was submitted in the presence of several local BJP Yuva Morcha leaders, including Ganesha Sannalinnannavar, Vishwanath

Hadimani, Mrutyunjaya Chowdary, Gautam Naik, Alok Naik, Deepak Kapali, Chandrashekar Gowda, Shambhu Gowda, Santosh Gowda, Darshana Sannalinnannavar, Raju, Guni, Praveen Halappa, Thaksh Naik, and Akshaya Gowda.

Police have acknowledged the complaint, and further action will depend on legal review and investigation procedures.

The issue has triggered political reactions in the region, adding to ongoing debates between rival parties over public statements and political rhetoric.

SFI students felicitated for excellent PUC results

HAVERI

Three Students Federation of India (SFI) office bearers who secured outstanding marks in the second PUC examination were felicitated in Haveri. The programme was held at Bhagat Academy opposite the city bus stand.

The students honoured were Chaitra Koravara, Krishna Nayak and Maruti Lanker, who performed well in the 2025-26 examinations. They were congratulated by district SFI leaders and various social and student organisations for their academic achievement.

District President Basavaraj S said that these students have been actively involved in student movements and struggles related to educational rights. He said they have worked on issues such as hostel facilities, scholarships and transport problems, while also excelling in studies and becoming role models for other students.

Krishna Nayak from Ranabennur scored 93 percent in the Commerce stream, while Chaitra Koravara from G.H. College Science stream secured 83.66 percent. Maruti Lanker from Shivapurvati PU College Commerce stream scored 61.33 percent, and Pakkiresh Magalamani from Government PU College Arts stream secured 60 percent.

Senior leaders from various organisations, including political, student and labour groups, attended the event and appreciated the students' efforts. They presented gifts and extended congratulations to the achievers.

Speakers said that balancing academic success with social involvement is a positive example for youth. They encouraged students to continue their studies with discipline while also participating in activities that support educational rights and social justice in the region.

South Western Railway announces summer special train

HUBBALLI

The South Western Railway has announced a summer special train between Hubballi and Alipurduar to help passengers during summer holidays. Officials said the train will run one trip from Hubballi to Alipurduar via Bengaluru and several stations.

Train number 07323 will leave Hubballi on April 15 at night and reach Alipurduar after a long journey. The return train 07324 will depart Alipurduar on April 19 and arrive Hubballi on April 23 morning. The route includes major stops such as Davangere, Arsikere, Tumkur, Bengaluru, Vijayawada, Bhuvaneshwar, Kharagpur, and New Jalpaiguri.

The train has 20 LHB coaches with AC, sleeper and general class facilities. Officials said it aims to provide comfortable travel for holiday passengers across India during summer season. This service connects southern and eastern regions through a single rail link improving mobility and tourism. South Western Railway officials also highlighted recent approval of Vande Bharat sleeper train between Bengaluru and Mumbai. They said this shows growing focus on fast modern rail connectivity in India.

Passengers have welcomed the summer special train as it helps reduce crowding during peak holiday period. Railway authorities said timings and routes were planned to ensure smooth operations and better passenger comfort. They urged travellers to book tickets in advance and follow guidelines for safe journey during the summer rush.

The service is expected to boost connectivity between Karnataka and West Bengal during peak travel demand period.



CELEBRATION OVER PROTEST

Call to restrict protests ahead of Ambedkar Jayanti

DHARWAD

Ahead of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary on April 14 (today), a controversy has emerged in Dharwad over proposed protests by various organisations demanding the filling of vacant government posts.

Members of Bhima Shakti staged a demonstration in front of the Dharwad Suburban Police Station and sub-

mitted a memorandum to the Police Commissioner. They requested that no organisation be allowed to hold protests on Ambedkar Jayanti, saying the day should be reserved for peaceful celebrations.

They stated that allowing multiple protests on such an important day could disturb the dignity of the occasion, as several groups are already preparing for grand celebrations in honour of Ambedkar.



On the other hand, some organisations had sought per-

mission to stage protests at Jubilee Circle, raising de-

mands related to government recruitment. However, police officials reportedly denied permission for demonstrations on April 14.

Authorities have warned that legal action may be taken against anyone who violates the restrictions and proceeds with protests.

Police officials said the decision was taken to maintain law and order and ensure smooth observance of

Ambedkar Jayanti events across the city.

The situation has created mixed reactions, with some supporting the restriction while others insist on their right to protest.

Police monitoring has been increased in sensitive areas to prevent any untoward incidents during the day of celebrations and planned gatherings in honour of the constitutional architect.



QUICK READ

Koppal hosts walk-in interview for youth drive

Koppal

The District Employment Exchange Center in Koppal has arranged a walk-in interview on April 18 from 10 am to 1.30 pm at the District Administration Building. Candidates who have passed PUC or any degree, including pass or fail, can attend. Youth between 18 and 30 years are eligible. Interested job seekers must bring two copies of educational certificates, Aadhaar card, biodata, and two passport size photographs. The Employment Officer said this programme aims to support unemployed youth by giving job opportunities and guidance. Candidates may contact the District Employment Exchange office in Koppal for details today now.

Free army training offered to youth

Gadag

The Backward Classes Welfare Department of Karnataka is offering free career guidance and training for candidates who want to join the Indian Army and other uniformed services. Eligible candidates can get application forms from District or Taluk offices and submit them in person or by registered post to the District Backward Classes Welfare Officer. They can also download the form from <https://udupi.nic.in> and send it to the given address. Last date for submission is 27-04-2026. Officials said interested youth should apply before deadline for free training and better opportunities in defence and uniformed services careers across Karnataka region state wide.

Seeking ministerial post is a common practice: MLA

Siddaramaiah to continue two years; Congress confident of 2028 win, praises welfare schemes, supports reservation, seeks fair delimitation

GANGAVATI

MLA Basavaraj Rayareddy said that MLAs going to Delhi for ministerial berths are doing nothing wrong and it is their democratic right. He added that seeking ministerial positions is a normal part of politics. He also expressed good wishes to all legislators who are trying for cabinet posts.

Rayareddy said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will continue in office for the next two years and the government is providing stable governance. He said cabinet reshuffle decisions will be taken by the party high command and senior leaders. He expressed confidence that the Congress gov-



ernment will return to power in 2028 again with public support. He also said guarantee schemes have benefited many people across Karnataka and improved welfare.

On the issue of women's reservation bill, he welcomed the proposal and said it is a positive step. However he

urged that delimitation should not be rushed and all states should be treated fairly. He said the Prime Minister should consult all political parties before taking major decisions. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah separately said the high command will decide on cabinet reshuffle timing based

on political and administrative needs. He added that elections in five states and the budget session are reasons for delay.

Many Congress MLAs from Karnataka have reportedly travelled to Delhi seeking ministerial berths and organizational responsibilities. Party sources said discussions are ongoing with central leaders regarding cabinet expansion and power sharing. Leaders maintained that final decisions will be taken after consultation with the high command only. Supporters say the political atmosphere remains active as aspirations among MLAs continue ahead of possible reshuffle and party unity continues strong

Speakers recalled Jallianwala Bagh tragedy, honored martyrs, emphasized patriotism, discipline, youth education, and value-based skill development camps

Gadag remembers Jallianwala Bagh with emotional tribute

GADAG

A solemn program was held in Gadag to remember the victims of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of April 13, 1919. The event was organized by Darideep Mahila Multipurpose Sansthan at Sadguru Sachchidananda Math.

Shakuntala Mulgund, president of the organization, said the tragic day remains a dark chapter in India's freedom struggle. She explained that innocent people gathered for Baisakhi were fired upon by General Dyer, leaving hundreds dead and injured. She added that the sacrifice of those martyrs helped India

gain freedom, and young people must learn this history.

C.G. Sonnad, secretary of the Ex-Servicemen's Association, praised the effort, saying such programs help children remember the nation's past. K.S. Hiremath stressed the need to teach discipline and patriotism from an early age. Vijayalakshmi Asuti said the camp builds skills while also sharing values and culture. Jyoti Desai Gowda urged families to tell children stories of soldiers to shape responsible citizens.

Children and guests paid tribute by lighting candles and observing silence for the departed souls. The glowing candles symbolized respect,



peace, and gratitude for the martyrs. Parents, students, and members attended the emotional gathering, making it a meaningful remembrance for future generations.

The speakers reminded everyone that freedom was not easy and came with great sacrifice. They encouraged schools and families to regu-

larly discuss such events so history stays alive. The program ended with a message of unity and responsibility towards the nation. Organizers thanked all participants for joining and honoring the martyrs with respect and sincerity. They said such efforts will continue to inspire young minds across the country.

Poetry born from pain and human emotion

HAVERI

Creation is the basic quality of poetry, said senior writer Shakuntala from Siggavi while addressing a district-level poets' conference held in Ranebennur. The program was organized by the Karnataka Sahitya Academy, Haveri District Chakora Sahitya Vichar Vedike, and the District Kannada Sahitya Parishad at the Kannada Sahitya Parishad Bhavan.

Shakuntala said poetry is born from strong emotions such as anger, pain, sorrow, and inner struggle. She explained that a poet is one who transforms personal and social suffering into meaningful words. She added that simple writing alone cannot become poetry unless it carries deep feeling and artistic expression.

She also stressed that reciting poetry is as important as writing it, and poets must develop the skill of presenting their work effectively to listeners. According to her, po-



ets carry the responsibility of reflecting society's problems, culture, and values through their creative work.

Dr. Mallikarjuna B. Manpade, member convener of the Karnataka Sahitya Academy, inaugurated the event. He said literature should act as a tool for social change rather than just entertainment. He described poetry as a powerful medium to express human emotions in a subtle and meaningful way.

The program featured participation from several literary figures and poets across the district. Around 25 poets recited their works. Organizers said such events encourage young writers and help preserve Kannada literary culture in the region.

Ambedkar's economic vision that built India

GADAG

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary reminds India of his great role in building the nation's economic and constitutional foundation. Many people know him only as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, but he was also a brilliant economist. His education in economics from Columbia University and London School of Economics shaped his thinking on financial systems. He studied India's currency problems deeply and wrote about inflation, stability and banking reforms.



His famous work The Problem of the Rupee explained solutions for a strong monetary system. Ambedkar played an important intellectual role in shaping ideas that led to the creation of a central bank in India. The Hilton Young Commission studied India's financial system and recommended setting up a central bank for stability. These ideas later supported the establishment of the Re-

serve Bank of India in 1935. The Reserve Bank of India helped regulate currency control inflation and strengthen banking services across the country. It became the backbone of India's financial system and ensured economic stability for growth. Ambedkar's vision of social welfare industrial growth and farmer support continues to inspire policy makers even today. His contribution goes beyond law and shows his deep understanding of economic development for India. On his birth anniversary the nation remembers his service with respect and gratitude. His ideas remain relevant for building a strong and fair economy for all citizens.

The Reserve Bank of India continues to play a key role in managing currency policy and supporting economic stability in modern India while following principles that reflect Ambedkar's economic vision for inclusive national development and financial discipline nationwide.

Farmers allowed to challenge insurance rejections now

KOPPAL

The Horticulture Department in Gangavathi has allowed farmers to raise objections to rejected proposals under the 2025 winter weather-based crop insurance scheme Senior Assistant Director said notices were issued for proposals not matching chilli crop survey data Details have been displayed at Tahsildar office Gram Panchayat and Naad offices Farmers who insured green plantain crops and faced rejection can submit objections They must attach land records and other required documents linked to insured fields Objections should be submitted to the Gangavathi Horticulture office by April 23 officials said in the notice for necessary verification and further approval



Village programme spreads awareness on child safety

KOPPAL

An awareness programme on child rights, laws, and safety was held at the Srimariamma Devi Temple premises in Chikka Madinal village of Kanakagiri taluk. The event was organised jointly by the district administration, police department, health officials, and local gram panchayat.

District Child Protection Officer Sindhu Angadi explained the importance of laws designed to protect children from abuse. She highlighted the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, stating that strict punishment, including long-term imprisonment and fines, is given to offenders involved in crimes against minors.

She said abuse can occur in many forms, including physical, verbal, and written acts, and warned that even those who support or encourage such acts can face similar punishment. She also expressed concern that children are sometimes misled through social media and emotional influence.

Officials stressed the need to prevent child marriage and create awareness at the village level. They encouraged active discussions through Child

rights awareness held in Kanakagiri; officials explained POCSO Act, warned against abuse, social media risks, and stressed strict punishment for offenders

Protection Committees to safeguard children and promote their rights.

Legal and Probation Officer Shivleela Vannuru spoke about government efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality and prevent child marriage. She explained that marriage below 18 years for girls and 21 years for boys is illegal, and those involved can face imprisonment.

Basavaraj Sankanal, Panchayat Development Officer, presided over the programme. Several officials, health workers, and community members attended the event. The programme aimed to educate villagers and ensure a safe environment for children while working towards making the district free from child marriage and abuse. The event concluded with a call for collective responsibility to protect children and uphold their rights.

Massive preparations begin for Huligemmma Jatra festival



KOPPAL

District Collector Dr. Suresh B. Itnal held a preparatory meeting for the Sri Huligemmma Devi Jatra Mahotsava and directed officials to make strong arrangements for lakhs of devotees expected in Huli-gi from May 10 to 14. He said public should not face any inconvenience during the festival.

He stressed cleanliness drinking water supply lighting and proper roads in the village and temple area. Temporary health centres ambulances and medical staff were ordered along with ORS stocks due to summer heat. Strict police security arrangements fire services and traffic control were also directed.

The collector ordered a ban on animal sacrifice and liquor sale during the jatra and asked officials to spread awareness. Food quality of temple prasad and drinking water will be tested before distribution. He instructed removal of encroachments around temple roads and premises as per

rules. Signboards for directions toilets water and rest areas will be installed for devotees.

Officials including Additional Deputy Commissioner Sidrameshwara Additional SP Hemanth Kumar and others attended the meeting. The meeting also focused on parking facilities vehicle management and crowd safety measures. Drinking water sources will be checked and unsafe borewells will be sealed. Fire safety teams will be kept ready near sensitive areas. River bathing areas will have warning boards and security support for devotees.

He said encroached shops will be removed without hesitation to ensure smooth movement. Coordination between all departments was emphasized for successful conduct of the fair. The administration aims to ensure safety cleanliness and comfort for all devotees visiting Huli-gi. Officials said they will work together to complete preparations on time without any gaps ahead smoothly

DEVOTIONAL UNITY GATHERING

Grand Jain festival celebrates unity and spiritual growth

KOPPAL

Panchakalyana Mahotsava, a sacred Jain festival, was celebrated with devotion in Nilogalla village of Kushtagi taluk, highlighting spiritual growth and unity. The event marked the reconstruction of a 300-year-old Basadi and the installation of a new Parshvanatha idol along with a four-faced Jinabimba on the Manastambha.

Dr. Appanna Hanje, History Professor at K.H. Patil Gov-



ernment First Grade College, Hulakoti, spoke about the importance of Jainism in Koppal

district. He said the region has long been a major Jain pilgrimage center, where many

sages practiced penance, making it spiritually significant.

He explained that Panchakalyana Mahotsava follows ancient traditions performed after building or renovating Basadis and installing Tirthankara idols. The festival celebrates five key life events of Tirthankaras—conception, birth, initiation, enlightenment, and liberation. Devotees dress in traditional attire and take part in rituals guided by spiritual leaders.

Committee President Abhi-

nandan Gogi appreciated the support from both Jain and non-Jain communities, calling it a strong example of unity and mutual respect.

The festival, held from April 10 to 12, saw participation from leaders, officials, and devotees. His Holiness Swastishree Bhattakalanka Bhattarak Pattacharya Mahaswamy said the festival promotes values like non-violence, truth, and self-discipline, guiding people towards a better life.

QUICK READ



Blood donation camp marks Ambedkar Jayanti

CHITRADURGA
A blood donation camp will be held on April 14 at Sri Maharshi Valmiki Bhavan in Chitradurga to mark the 135th birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution. The programme will begin at 11 am. It is jointly organised by the district administration, Zilla Panchayat, Social Welfare Department and the Municipal Council. The camp will be conducted with City Health Care Society and Vasavi Blood Center, opposite Basappa Hospital on Turuvanur Road. Officials urged the public and youth to participate in large numbers and donate blood.

Applications open for prestigious school admissions

CHIKKABALLAPURA
Applications have been invited online at www.sw.kar.nic.in for 2026-27 admission to prestigious schools for Scheduled Caste students in Chikkaballapura district. Last date is May 4. Eligible students must submit caste income Aadhar and 5th class marksheet with bank passbook copy. Only SC students with above 60 percent marks are eligible. Family income limit is two lakh rupees. Selection will be through district level entrance exam. Two children per family allowed. Details of schools include Agalpurki Chintamani Madanahalli Chikkaballapura Gudibande institutions are listed. Students should apply carefully through the website and submit documents to social welfare department offices.

Challakere labour office relocated to new premises

CHITRADURGA
The Labour Inspector's Office in Challakere has been shifted from near Pyramid Park in Thyagaraja Nagar to a new location at Challakere Circle. From March 1, 2026, the office will function in a building near Gayatri Kalyana Mantapa Road, close to Karnataka Gramin Bank in Valmiki Nagar. Officials said citizens can visit the new office address for services and information. The Labour Inspector requested the public to use the relocated office for assistance. Residents of Challakere and nearby areas are informed that all labour related services will now be available at the new office location without difficulty.

TRADITIONAL FOLK PRESERVATION

Theatre festival revives values, culture

CHITRADURGA
A vibrant theatre festival in Chitradurga highlighted the importance of drama in shaping values and preserving culture. The Shivasachara Drama Festival-2025 was held at Bapuji Educational Institution in Pillekrenahalli under the joint efforts of several cultural and educational groups. Presiding over the event, Shivsharan Madara Chanayya Mahaswamy said theatre is a simple and powerful way to teach life lessons and

Spl revenue sub-village campaign launched in dist

SUDHAKAR LAUNCHED REVENUE VILLAGE CAMPAIGN, TARGETING 1.4 LAKH BENEFICIARIES, ISSUING PHASED TITLE DEEDS AND OWNERSHIP DOCUMENTS STATEWIDE



CHIKKABALLAPURA
Higher Education Minister and District In-charge Minister Dr. M. C. Sudhakar launched the Special Revenue Sub-Village Creation Campaign in Kotagal village of Chintamani taluk on Monday. He said the district has identified around 1.4 lakh beneficiaries under the Revenue Village Campaign scheme aimed at providing permanent land ownership records. He explained that after the

current government came to power, several reforms have been introduced in the Revenue Department. As part of the Special Revenue Village Campaign 2.0, houses built on both government and private land without proper documents have been identified, and survey and measurement work has already been completed for these properties. The minister said the process of issuing title deeds to eligible beneficiaries is being taken up in a

phased manner. He added that except for properties involved in court cases, all others will be provided ownership documents through a large-scale distribution programme, which is planned to be held in the presence of the Chief Minister. He informed that the target is to issue 15,202 title deeds in Chintamani taluk alone. He also said Chikkaballapura district has been selected as a pilot under the Bhu Suraksha Yojana, under which 3.5 lakh

pages of land records are being digitised. The work in several taluks has already been completed, and the remaining will be finished in the next two months. The minister added that online access to nearly 2 lakh pages of documents has already been provided to the public. Deputy Commissioner G. Prabhu said that 1,700 revenue villages will be formed in the coming 10 months and survey work has begun from Kotagal village.

Tumakuru to host Sambhram media festival 2026

TUMAKURU
Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwar announced that he will take part in the alumni interaction programme during the upcoming media festival "Sambhram-2026" organised by Sri Siddhartha Media Studies Centre in Tumakuru. He said the event will be a meaningful platform for former students working in the media field to reconnect, share experiences, and discuss present challenges in journalism. The Home Minister released the festival poster and also inaugurated the alumni association nameplate after meeting members who invited him to the programme. He appreciated the initiative and said such gatherings help strengthen professional networks and encourage new ideas in the media sector. Organisers said "Sambhram-2026" will bring together more than 400 journalism and degree students from across Karnataka. The two-day festival will include workshops, expert talks, exhi-



bitions, and interactive sessions. The theme of this year's event is "Environmental Journalism", focusing on the role of media in protecting nature and raising awareness. As part of the programme, around 35 civic workers of Tumakuru city will be honoured for their contribution to maintaining cleanliness and supporting environmental protection. The event is dedicated to environmental activist Saalumara Thimmakka in recognition of her lifelong tree-planting work. Students will also participate in eight competitions including radio jockey performance, news reading, photography, and reporting tasks. Free accommo-

Parameshwar to attend Sambhram-2026 media festival in Tumkur, promoting alumni networking, environmental journalism theme, workshops, and participation of over 400 students statewide

modation and food will be provided to participants. Organisers said experts from the media industry, government advisors, and journalists will attend as guests and guide students. The festival aims to build skills, encourage environmental awareness, and create stronger connections between media students and professionals across Karnataka.

Padma Shri Kaka sacrifice beyond value

VIJAYAPURA
Lawyer KF Ankalagi praised Padma Shri Kaka Karkhanis during a five-day literary fair in Vijayapura, saying his sacrifice cannot be measured in money and seeing him was like seeing Mahatma Gandhi. He spoke at the May Sahitya Mela held from April 10 to 14 at Darbar High School grounds, organized by Dalit and progressive groups along with a Buddha, Basava and Ambedkar book fair. A procession was taken out by students of Kaka Karkhanis Boarding School and their families from the school to the book fair venue, creating slogans praising Kaka for educating Dalits and women. He also said that using remaining donation money from Kaka centenary celebrations a memorial high school was built which stands as an important contribution to education.

Farmers and activists oppose wildlife sterilisation plan, calling it unscientific; demand data, better corridors, and humane solutions

Farmers protest wildlife sterilisation plan sparks anger

CHAMARAJANAGAR
Farmers and environmentalists have strongly opposed a government plan to sterilise wild animals to reduce human wildlife conflict. In Chamarajanagar district, members of the Karnataka State Sugarcane Growers Association blocked the Bangalore Dindigul National Highway near Mariala flyover in protest. They called the idea unscientific and demanded that the project be withdrawn immediately. Leader Halikerehundi Bhagyaraj said sterilising wildlife is inhuman and harmful to biodiversity. He added that officials should first present scientific data before taking such steps. Environmental activist Joseph Hoover also criticised the proposal, saying there is no proof that elephant numbers have

gone beyond control. He suggested strengthening elephant corridors and using better scientific methods instead of sterilisation. Experts warned that similar experiments elsewhere have sometimes increased aggressive animal behaviour. Farmers warned of continued protests if the plan is not dropped. They said they will intensify agitation to protect their agricultural fields and safety. Officials from the Forest Department maintained that the proposal aims to reduce increasing incidents of conflict between humans and wild animals near farmlands and villages. They said the idea is still under discussion and no final decision has been taken, while consultations with experts and local communities will continue in the coming.

Health officer urges lifestyle change

CHITRADURGA
On the occasion of World Health Day, Taluk Health Education Officer B. Moogappa urged people to change their daily habits and adopt a healthier lifestyle to improve their future well-being. He was speaking at an awareness

program organized by the Health Department, Indian Red Cross Society, and NSS unit at Government Arts (Autonomous) College in Chitradurga. Moogappa advised people to stay away from harmful habits, follow a balanced diet, and focus on cleanliness. He said that changing small habits

can lead to a better and healthier life. He added that modern science and technology are helping people live longer, and everyone should make use of these benefits responsibly. He also stressed the importance of preventing both communicable and non-communicable diseases such as diabetes,

blood pressure, and cancer. He encouraged people to maintain hygiene and support efforts to build a disease-free society. Government Arts College Principal Prof. Tarini Shubhadayini said that health is the greatest wealth and everything becomes possible when people are healthy.

5 LAKH SAPPLINGS DRIVE LAUNCHED FOR GREEN FUTURE

CHIKKABALLAPURA
A large-scale tree plantation initiative aimed at environmental conservation was launched in Chikkaballapura district, with a target of growing five lakh saplings. Principal District and Sessions Judge T. P. Ramalingegowda inaugurated the programme at Indira Gandhi Residential School premises in Appegowdanahalli, Shidlaghatta taluk. He said the initiative is part of efforts linked to Environment Day and reflects social responsibility towards protecting nature. The State Legal Services Authority has entered into an agreement with Dhara Foundation to plant and nurture five crore

saplings across the state. The judge emphasized that planting trees alone is not enough and stressed the importance of protecting them for at least three years until they grow fully. He said the district target of five lakh saplings will be achieved with cooperation from the district administration, forest department, and social forestry department. As part of the programme, around 400 saplings were planted at the school campus on the launch day. He appealed to non-governmental organisations and the public to actively participate and take responsibility for protecting planted saplings. District Magistrate G. Prabhu said that about three lakh

saplings are already planted annually in the district and this new initiative will further strengthen green cover. He added that regular monthly monitoring will be done to ensure at least 80 percent survival of saplings. Officials said that increasing green cover will also help improve groundwater levels and contribute to ecological balance in the region. Senior Civil Judge B. Shilpa, Conservator of Forests Girish, and other district officials attended the programme along with teachers and students. The initiative is expected to create long-term environmental benefits while encouraging public participation in conservation efforts.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AMBARISH SALAGUNDI S/o SIDDANGUDA SALGUNDI, R/o 41, Ward No 06, Arali Oni, Karatgi, Gangavathi, Koppal, Karnataka-583229, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SAMARESHA.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, CHITRA H ANKOLEKAR alias CHITRA NARAYAN SINGANNANAVAR W/o LATE NARAYAN SINGANNANAVAR, R/o 5/2, Shri Manjunatha Nilaya, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Cross, Opp Kabbadi Ground, Govindarajnagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560040, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as CHITHRA.

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR C.Ms.No. 7/2026

Sri Muniraju S/o late ByanjappaAged about 40 years.R/At: Gundasandra Village, Doddaballapura Taluk. ...Petitioner

V/s The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura. ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Petitioner has filed the above petition under Sec 13 (3) Registration of Birth and Death Act 1969, R/W Rule 9 of Karnataka Registration of Births and Death Rules, seeking death certificate of his father by name BYLANJINAPPA S/o LATE NARASIMHAIAH died on 06-06-1980 at at Gundasandra Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura taluk. In this regard it is hereby notice that, whoever has interested in the said matter may appear in person or through an advocate duly authorized, before the above said court on 15.05.2026 at 11 O clock will be heard and disposed off an ex-parte order. Given Under my hand and seal of the Court on the day of 09.04.2026

By the order of the court
Chief Ministerial officer,
PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
Advocate for the Petitioner: Channegowda

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MADHUKAR S R alias MADHUKAR RAMAMURTHY SARODE S/o S RAMAMURTHY, R/o Flat No A-303, 3rd Floor, Temple Bells Apartment Survey No-41/6, 23rd Main, Ideal Homes Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Near Bata Showroom, Bangalore South, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560098, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MADHUKAR RAMAMURTHY SARODE.

DECLARATION

I, Mr. Ritesh Dija, aged 52 years, residing at No. A/401, Saimitra Meadows, 1st A Cross, Kagga Dasapura, CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore - 560095, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1. That Ms. Swetha, Aadhaar No. 3929 3071 0272, daughter of Mr. Rudraswamy, native of Gulbarga District, aged 41 years, was employed as domestic help at my residence since the year 2014.

2. That she has voluntarily expressed her intention to discontinue her services and to reside with her relatives.

3. That I have accepted her decision, settled all dues payable to her in full and final, and confirm that she vacated my residence on 11 April 2026, carrying all her personal belongings. There is nothing pending to her from my side.

4. That from the aforesaid date, I have no further association, responsibility, or liability towards her safety, wellbeing, or conduct.

RITESH DIJA Date: 12-04-2026

Place: Bangalore

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR C.Ms.No. 8/2026

Sri Muniraju S/o late ByanjappaAged about 40 years.R/At: Gundasandra Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk. ...Petitioner

V/s The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura. ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Petitioner has filed the above petition under Sec 13 (3) Registration of Birth and Death Act 1969, R/W Rule 9 of Karnataka Registration of Births and Death Rules, seeking death certificate of his Grandmother by name SIDDAGANGAMMA W/o LATE NARASIMHAIAH died on 18-06-2016 at at Gundasandra Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura taluk. In this regard it is hereby notice that, whoever has interested in the said matter may appear in person or through an advocate duly authorized, before the above said court on 15.05.2026 at 11 O clock will be heard and disposed off an ex-parte order. Given Under my hand and seal of the Court on the day of 09.04.2026

By the order of the court
Chief Ministerial officer,
PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
Advocate for the Petitioner: Channegowda

NAME CHANGE

I, SADIYA AJAZ AHMED MERCHANT, w/o. Ajaz Ahmed Merchant resident of : R C Elite residency, GF 001, no. 65, Hutchins Road, 2nd Cross, Cooke Town, St. Thomas Town Post, Bangalore - 560084. have changed my name to SADIYA AJAZ MERCHANT, vide affidavit dated: 11.04.2026, before Notary N NAGAPPA, Bengaluru.

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE I-ADOL CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT K.G.F. C.M.C. No: 106/2026.

PETITIONERS: 1. SMT. CHENNAMMA W/o Late Shankarappa Aged about 65 years, 2. SMT. KANTHAMMA D/o Shankarappa W/o H.N.Krishnappa Aged about 60 years, Both are R/At: Nallagattur Village, Srinivasandra Post, Kyasamballi Hobli, KGF Taluk. ...-VS-

RESPONDENT : THE TAHSILDAR, KGF TALUK KGF.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the petitioner are filed a Petition under section 13(3) of Registration of Birth & Death Act 1969, for obtaining the Death Certificate of the Petitioner No.1 deceased Husband SRI. SHANKARAPPA, S/o late Venkataramappa & late Akkayamma, was died on : 14-04-2002 due to ill-health at Nallagattur Village, Srinivasandra Post, Kyasamballi Hobli, KGF Taluk, Karnataka State. The hearing date of the case is posted on: 19.05.2026 if any person having any claim or objection has to appear before this Hon'ble Court in person or by pleader in the above said hearing date at about 11.00am to answer the same, failing which the petition will be disposed off as ex-parte. Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this 24/3/2026.

By The Order of the Court
CHIEF MINISTERIAL OFFICER
PRL CIVIL JUDGE AND JMFC COURT
KOLAR GOLD FIELDS.

Advocate for Petitioners : SRI. SUHAS RAI, R. B.A., LL.B., Advocate, K.G.F. PLACE: K.G.F. DATE: 24-03-2026.

IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR C.Ms.No. 9/2026

Sri Muniraju S/o late ByanjappaAged about 40 years.R/At: Gundasandra Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk. ...Petitioner

V/s The Tahasildar, Doddaballapura Taluk, Doddaballapura. ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

WHEREAS, the Petitioner has filed the above petition under Sec 13 (3) Registration of Birth and Death Act 1969, R/W Rule 9 of Karnataka Registration of Births and Death Rules, seeking death certificate of his Aunt by name SIDDAGANGAMMA W/o LATE HANUMAIHAH died on 02-06-1993 at at Gundasandra Village, Doddaballavangala Hobli, Doddaballapura taluk. In this regard it is hereby notice that, whoever has interested in the said matter may appear in person or through an advocate duly authorized, before the above said court on 15.05.2026 at 11 O clock will be heard and disposed off an ex-parte order. Given Under my hand and seal of the Court on the day of 09.04.2026

By the order of the court
Chief Ministerial officer,
PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE AND J.M.F.C AT DODDABALLAPUR
Advocate for the Petitioner: Channegowda

QUICK READ

Ambedkar Jagjivan Ram awards announced

CHITRADURGA

District administration has announced district level Dr B R Ambedkar and Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram awards for 2026. Winners were selected for their service to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward communities. The awards will be given at Ambedkar Jayanti programme at Sri Mahharshi Valmiki Bhavan. Awardees for Ambedkar category include D Kumaraswamy, K Ramachandrappa, T Vijayakumar and others. Babu Jagjivan Ram awardees include K Rajanna, B L Narasimha Murthy, Veerabhadrappa and others. Officials said the recognition highlights social service and community development efforts in the district. Public leaders appreciated the contribution of all selected awardees.

Applications open for horticulture training programme

GADAG

Ten-month horticulture training will be held for farmers' children from May 2, 2026 to February 28, 2027. Applications are open until April 20. Selected centres and schedule have been fixed. Candidates must have passed SSLC. Parents or guardians should own land, with revenue department proof required. Age limit is 18 to 33 years for SC/ST and 18 to 30 years for others. Application fee is Rs 30 for general and Rs 15 for SC/ST, payable by IPO or DD. Interviews will be held on April 23 at 11 am near Bheeshmana Lake at Deputy Director office. Forms available online. Officials said interested candidates should apply in time without delay for selection process successfully now.

Gadag marks Ambedkar Jayanti with tributes events

GADAG

The Health Department Employees Association and several staff groups in Gadag along with Karnataka State Chalavadi Mahasabha and Karnataka State Bhalgai Union are observing Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar's 135th birth anniversary with programmes in the district today.

At Gadag Betageri Municipal Council premises, employees will gather at 10 am to garland Dr Ambedkar statue and pay tribute. The event will include speeches by district leaders and participation from health staff union members. Separately, Chalavadi Mahasabha leaders have organized another.

PESTICIDE MARKET REGULATION

Strict rules issued for fertiliser dealers in Challakere

CHALLAKERE

Agriculture department officials in Challakere have warned fertiliser, seed, and pesticide dealers of strict legal action if rules are violated or products are sold at inflated prices.

Deputy Director of Agriculture Dr. D. Umesh said that shop owners must mandatorily display available stock of seeds, fertilisers, and pesticides for the benefit of farmers. He stressed that proper maintenance of stock registers and matching them with physical inventory is essential.

MLA orders urgent action to prevent water crisis

Bidar MLA directed urgent measures for summer water shortage, including tankers, pipeline repairs, and new water sources

BIDAR

Bidar South MLA Dr. Shailendra Beldale has directed officials to take immediate steps to address the growing drinking water shortage during the summer season. He said the issue is not just an inconvenience but a serious concern affecting the daily lives of people.

He was speaking at a task force meeting held at the Taluk Panchayat Hall in Bidar city. The meeting was attended by officials from various

departments and focused on reviewing drinking water supply and ongoing development works.

The MLA instructed officials to prepare clear action plans to resolve water shortages in affected areas. He suggested using tanker water supply systems where needed, repairing old pipelines, and identifying new water sources immediately.

He emphasized that rural areas must receive equal attention and that no village should suffer due to lack of

drinking water facilities. He also ordered the implementation of emergency water supply systems in severely affected regions. Dr. Beldale directed officials to work responsibly and ensure that citizens do not face hardships during the peak summer period. He asked departments to speed up ongoing development works and complete them without delay. He reviewed the progress, quality, and timelines of various projects and warned officials to improve efficiency to avoid public inconvenience.

Officials present at the meeting included Taluk Panchayat Executive Officer Manikarao Patil, Tahsildar Ravikumar Dama, Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department AEE Rajkumar Dasare, and other departmental officers. The MLA stressed that quick response and better coordination between departments are essential to solve the drinking water crisis and ensure smooth public services across the constituency during summer.



Use Vishwakarma Scheme: MP to youths

CHIKKABALLAPURA

Member of Parliament Dr. K. Sudhakar has urged young people and traditional workers to make full use of the Central Government's Vishwakarma Scheme, saying it helps artisans become job creators instead of job seekers.

He was speaking at the PM Vishwakarma Toolkit Distribution and Awareness Programme organised by the Postal Department at Kannada Bhavan in Chikkaballapura. On the occasion, toolkits were distributed to around 300 artisans.

Dr. Sudhakar said the scheme trains artisans to produce goods according to current market demand, which helps them earn better income. He explained that products made using outdated designs may not find buyers, and stressed the need to adapt to changing customer preferences.

ences.

He said the scheme provides financial support, including loans starting from Rs 1 lakh and going up to Rs 2 lakh, along with free training. He added that interest on loans is very low and a major portion is supported by the government. The MP said that artisans such as carpenters, blacksmiths, goldsmiths, masons, basket makers, and others form the backbone of rural economy and cultural heritage. He stressed the importance of respecting and supporting their work. He also highlighted that nearly 1.49 lakh beneficiaries across the country have received loans worth Rs 1,190 crore under the scheme. So far, about 12,000 artisans have received toolkits. Dr. Sudhakar said India should promote local industries globally under the "Vocal for Local" vision, citing examples like Channapana



tna toys that have strong export potential. He called on youth to identify traditional skills in villages and develop them into strong businesses that can compete in international markets. Officials said the programme aims to strengthen rural entrepreneurship and preserve India's traditional crafts while improving income opportunities for artisans.

Sudhakar highlighted artisan scheme offering training, loans, and toolkits, supporting rural craftsmen, boosting income, and benefiting thousands under government-backed financial assistance programme nationwide

Kaka Karkhanis legacy inspires Dalit education movement

VIJAYAPURA

Senior researcher Krishna Kolhar Kulkarni said that Ganesh Govinda Karkhanis opened schools and a boarding facility for Dalit students in Vijayapura district before Dr. B R Ambedkar's influence spread here. He said Kaka Karkhanis faced untouchability and social boycott but chose to live among Dalits and formed the Harijan Sevak Sangh. He taught Bhagavad Gita to Dalit students and encouraged them to study and compete with Brahmin students, where many won top ranks. He also worked closely with Kaujalagi Hanamantaraya and started education programs for Devadasi women through the Har-

ijan Kanya Mandir in Vijayapura. Karkhanis not only educated Dalits but also helped them find jobs and arranged marriages, which people remember as his key social service. Speakers at the Vijayapura book fair praised his life and said his work is a model for social change in India. In 1939, Dr. B R Ambedkar visited Vijayapura for a court case and held a public meeting where he met Karkhanis and appreciated his efforts. Karkhanis was a lifelong bachelor, a yogi, and lived for nearly a hundred years, remembered for discipline and service. He once trained at Sabarmati Ashram and protested there against the practice of showing his diary to Gandhi. He also wrote a

book on Devadasis and worked for their dignity and education throughout his life. Retired judge Vasant Mulasavalagi said society should remember him and celebrate his birth anniversary every year. Other speakers at the event said his efforts against untouchability and for education changed many lives. The program was attended by writers, social workers, students, and members of Karkhanis's school family and organization. Anil Hosamani conducted the session at the Buddha Basava Babasaheb Ambedkar Book Fair. Organisers of the book fair said the aim of the event is to highlight the work of social reformers like Karkhanis who fought caste discrimination and promoted education.

Awareness drive planned on women reservation bill

KALABURAGI

BJP state spokesperson Surabhi Hodigere said that special awareness programs on women's rights will be conducted over the next ten days in the backdrop of the "Nari Shakti Vandan" Bill. She was speaking at a press conference held at Patrika Bhawan in Kalaburagi.

She said a special Parliament session will be held from April 16 to 18 regarding the implementation of women's reservation. Hodigere urged all political parties to support the bill, stating that it will create more opportunities for women experts in politics and other fields.

KKCCI welcomed confirmed Kalaburagi-Bengaluru rail route, calling it historic, crediting Ministry of Railways coordination



Kalaburagi set to benefit from Vande Bharat route

KALABURAGI

The Kalyana Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KKCCI) has welcomed the decision to route the proposed Mumbai-Bengaluru Vande Bharat Sleeper Train through Kalaburagi, calling it a major boost for regional development and connectivity.

In a statement issued on Monday, KKCCI president Sharanabasappa M. Pappa and secretary Shivaraj V. Inginshetty said the confirmation of the route has removed earlier confusion about the train's alignment. They described the decision as a historic step for the Kalyana Karnataka region. The chamber said it had been continuously working with the Ministry of Railways to improve rail connectivity between Kalaburagi and Bengaluru. Earlier, a delegation met Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw in December 2025 and submitted a detailed representation requesting better rail infrastructure for the region. The group also met Union Minister Prahlad Joshi on April 8, following up on the demand for improved transport links.

KKCCI said it later received confirmation from Mr. Joshi that the Vande Bharat Sleeper Train will pass through Kalaburagi after consultations with senior railway officials.

According to the chamber, the inclusion of Kalaburagi in this high-speed rail corridor will greatly improve passenger travel between Mumbai, Kalaburagi, and Bengaluru. It is also expected to support trade, business activities, and industrial growth across the region.

KKCCI said better connectivity will help reduce travel time, improve mobility, and create new economic opportunities for local industries and entrepreneurs.

The chamber expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna, and Union Minister Prahlad Joshi for considering the long-pending demand. Officials said the project marks an important step toward strengthening infrastructure and boosting economic development in northern Karnataka.

DSS workers stage protest at Slum Development Office

VIJAYAPURA

Members of the Dalit Swarajya Sene (DSS) staged a protest and laid siege to the Slum Development Board office in Vijayapura, accusing officials of negligence and improper behaviour.

The protesters alleged that Assistant Executive Engineer Shivananda Rathod had failed to respond to long-pending issues in several slum areas. They demanded immediate action to address drinking water shortage and basic civic facilities in the city's slum settlements.

DSS district president Gowdappa Badigera said that during the summer season, drinking water should be supplied through tankers to affected areas. He also demanded relocation of unsafe slum zones such as Kanaki Bazaar and Kumbara Galli, stating that these areas are unfit for human habitation.

He further said that basic infrastructure in slums including Bharat Nagar, Shikharthane, Maddina Galli, and Harana Shikari areas must be improved without delay. He urged officials to implement already prepared rehabilitation plans effectively.

Other protest leaders accused officials of behaving in an arrogant manner when residents approach them with complaints. They also alleged poor quality in existing housing projects built by the Slum Development Board.

They demanded that contractors responsible for substandard houses be blacklisted and that repairs including doors, windows, and basic utilities like water and electricity connections be completed immediately. The protesters warned that if their demands are not met, they will launch a day-and-night dharna in front of the office along with affected slum residents. Several DSS members including Prashant Gaddarigi, Parashuram, Prakash Shabarad, Tippanna, Kiran Kumar, Sharanu, Manjunath Kavale, Hulagappa, Viresh and others participated in the demonstration.

Officials are yet to issue an official response regarding the allegations made by the protesters.



BENGALURU

Bengaluru has entered a new phase of industrial growth with the launch of major international exhibitions at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), highlighting the growing role of artificial intelligence in manufacturing and construction sectors. The mega event brings together six major trade expos under one roof, including Print & Packaging Expo, Label & Barcode Expo, Paper India Expo, India Paint & Coating Expo, Advanced Building Materials Expo, and Doors, Windows & Facades Expo. Organisers said the combined platform is creating new opportunities for industries and entrepreneurs. The exhibitions focus strongly on AI-based innovations, especially in paint and coating technology. One of the main attractions is automated painting machines powered by artificial intelligence, capable of painting high-rise buildings, apartments, and houses without human intervention. Experts said these technologies represent a major shift in industrial practices and are expected to improve efficiency, safety, and productivity in the construction and manufacturing sectors.

At the inauguration, dignitaries said Bengaluru, already known globally as India's IT hub, has the potential to become a leading global centre for paint, coating, and building technology industries as well. Industry leaders including G.S. Prasad Murthy, Kamal, Kaushik Jain, Vikram Agarwal, Arun Patel, Danappa, and Ramesh Shivanna attended the event and highlighted the importance of innovation-driven growth.



ical inventory is essential.

He also instructed that farmers must be issued proper receipts with signatures for every purchase, and all transactions should strictly follow the Fertiliser Control Order, Seeds Act, and related regulations.

The directions were issued during a workshop on safe pesticide use and a meeting

with agricultural input dealers organised by the Agriculture Department at the Taluk Panchayat Hall.

Officials said that Aadhaar-based documentation should be followed while distributing agricultural inputs, and fertilisers must be supplied based on crop requirement and field needs. Assistant Director of Agriculture (Vigilance Bureau) Mallanagowda said that fertilisers and seeds must be distributed in a transparent and regulated manner to avoid misuse.

Assistant Director S. T. Ra-

mesh warned that dealers selling products above the prescribed price will face strict legal action. He also said that artificial scarcity of seeds and fertilisers must not be created under any circumstances.

Officials further advised dealers to avoid hoarding and ensure timely supply of quality inputs to farmers. They also urged shopkeepers to behave politely and responsibly with farmers and provide proper guidance.

The department emphasized that poor quality seeds or unfair practices

QUICK READ

Mumbai
Crash Toll Rises to Eleven**Mumbai**

The death toll in a tragic road accident near Kalyan in Mumbai rose to 11 after two injured persons died in hospital on Monday.

The crash occurred around 11 a.m. near Rayta Bridge on the Kalyan-Murbad road when a car collided head-on with a mixer truck. Eight people died on the spot, while others later succumbed to injuries. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis expressed grief. Police have launched an investigation, suspecting overspeeding or loss of control as possible causes.

Minor Girl Poisons Parents over Marriage Plan**Morena**

In a shocking incident, a minor girl in Madhya Pradesh's Morena allegedly tried to kill her parents by mixing rat poison in chapati dough. Police said she took the step to clear the way for her marriage with her boyfriend. After eating the food, her parents fell seriously ill and were later shifted to a hospital in Gwalior for treatment. Their condition remains critical, while police have started an investigation into the case.

Elderly Man Dies after Lift Shaft Fall**Valsad**

An elderly man died after falling into a lift shaft in a residential society in Gujarat's Valsad district, with his body found two days later. The incident occurred at Nirmal Society, where a technical fault reportedly caused the lift door to open without the cabin present. The victim, a gardener, stepped forward and fell from the third floor. Police recovered the body after residents noticed a foul smell. A case has been registered, and an investigation into maintenance lapses is underway.

Six Arrested Over Jana Nayagan Film Leak Case**Chennai**

Tamil Nadu cybercrime police have arrested six persons for leaking actor Vijay's film Jana Nayagan online in HD before its release. The film was leaked on April 10, leading to widespread outrage. Police registered a case and tracked the accused through digital investigation. Over 300 piracy links have been blocked. The accused shared the film through cloud platforms and links. Officials warned that sharing or watching pirated content is a punishable offence.

President, Vice President mourn pilgrims killed in Gujarat accident

Seven pilgrims died after a speeding truck hit them during an early morning journey in Gujarat

NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the tragic road accident that claimed seven lives in the district. The President, who is currently visiting Gujarat, said the incident was extremely sad and offered condolences to the families of the victims. She also prayed for the speedy recovery of those injured in the mishap.

The Vice President also

shared his grief and extended support to the affected families during this difficult time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had earlier expressed similar sorrow and said the incident was deeply distressing. According to officials, the accident happened around 1.20 a.m. on the Lakhtar Viramgam highway. A speeding dumper truck reportedly hit a group of pilgrims from behind while they were walking along the road-



The victims belonged to the Bharwad community and were travelling from Gadgha village in Rajkot district for temple darshan and a ritual. They were part of a larger group of hundreds of devotees on pilgrimage. At least four people were seriously injured and were admitted to hospital for treatment. Police said the truck driver fled the scene after the accident and a case has been registered. Emergency teams reached quickly and shifted

the victims for medical care and post mortem procedures. Officials said an investigation is underway to find the exact cause of the accident and to identify any lapses in safety measures. Authorities have urged drivers to follow speed limits and remain alert on highways, especially during night hours. Locals also demanded stricter checks to prevent such incidents in future. Meanwhile and assistance are being provided to the injured and bereaved families by authorities.

Repeated bomb threats to Delhi Assembly raise concerns

NEW DELHI

The Delhi Assembly received another bomb threat through email on Monday, raising serious security concerns and prompting Speaker Vijender Gupta to seek urgent action from the Delhi Police.

According to officials, the threatening email was received at 11.12 a.m. on the Assembly's official email ID. It contained alarming claims about explosives being used inside the Assembly premises. This is not the first such incident in recent weeks. Earlier, on March 25, a similar email claimed that 16 RDX based improvised explosive devices had been planted inside the



Assembly building and would be detonated before the House session. However, after a thorough search, the threat was found to be a hoax. In a letter to Delhi Police Commissioner Satish Golcha, Speaker Gupta highlighted the repeated threats sent to both the Assembly's official email and his personal email. He said these messages are creating fear among staff and

affecting the normal functioning of the institution.

Gupta stressed that the Assembly is an important democratic institution and any threat to it must be taken seriously. He urged the police to trace the source of these emails, take strict action against those responsible, and strengthen security measures around the premises. The Assembly has also witnessed other security incidents recently. On April 6, a man drove through the high security gates of the complex and managed to escape. In another case on April 9, the Delhi Secretariat also received a bomb threat email, which later turned out to be false.

TRS name row triggers fresh political clash

HYDERABAD

A new political dispute has emerged within the family of former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao over the use of the Telangana Rashtra Samithi name. The issue began after his daughter K. Kavitha indicated that her proposed political party may use the TRS name. In response, her brother K.T. Rama Rao said the Bharat Rashtra Samithi is also considering returning to its original name. Kavitha, who separated from the BRS after her suspension last year, is preparing to launch a new party. She has said the TRS name is currently unused and open for anyone to adopt.

Delhi Police bust interstate cyber fraud racket, arrest accused

**NEW DELHI**

Delhi Police Crime Branch has busted an interstate cyber fraud network and arrested a key accused from Kerala involved in handling cheated money. The accused, identified as Jamsheed K., 33, from Malappuram district, was allegedly part of a well organised gang running fake investment schemes. Police said he played a major role in managing and transferring funds collected from victims.

The case came to light after a complaint by Sandeep Kumar, who was contacted through Facebook and added to a WhatsApp group promoting a trading platform. He was asked to download an app named INDIAN NIVESH and invest money with promises of high returns.

Trusting the claims, the victim transferred Rs 45.9 lakh into several bank accounts.

Later, the app showed a fake profit of around Rs 7 crore. When he tried to withdraw the amount, his request failed. The fraudsters then asked him to deposit more money, and when he refused, they blocked his account and stopped all communication.

During investigation, police traced Rs 10 lakh to a bank account linked to a firm in Kerala. The account showed multiple suspicious transactions and was connected to more than 21 cyber fraud complaints across states.

A special police team tracked the accused to Kerala and arrested him on April 5 with local support. Police said he earlier worked abroad and later rented his bank accounts to fraudsters after his business failed.

An FIR has been registered and further investigation is underway to identify other members of the network.

CITIZENS UNITE TO PROTECT MUMBAI GREEN SPACES

MUMBAI

Nearly 300 citizens gathered at Versova Beach to protest and demand protection of Mumbai's mangroves, forests, and open spaces from unchecked development activities.

The peaceful protest, called "Green Mumbai Sunday," was organised by Save Mumbai Mangroves on April 12. It brought together people from various groups like Save Aarey and Save SGNP, along with several citizen led initiatives working to protect the city's environment.

Participants marched from the beach entrance to the Seven Bungalows rocks, raising slogans against environmental damage. The rally ended with speeches, songs, and poetry focused on conservation. A human chain was also formed along the shoreline to show unity and commitment to saving green spaces.

Members of the Koli fishing community joined the protest and spoke about the importance of mangroves. They said these ecosystems support marine life, provide

income for fishermen, and even have medicinal value. They warned that destruction of mangroves would harm both nature and local livelihoods.

Several speakers claimed that local communities are often not properly consulted before major coastal or infrastructure projects are approved. They called for more transparency and public participation in decision making.

The protest comes amid concerns over the proposed Versova Bhayandar Coastal Road project, which activists say could affect over 45,000 mangroves. The project had received approval from the Bombay High Court in December 2025.

Activists said they are preparing to challenge the project legally on new grounds. They stressed that development should be balanced with environmental protection.

Organisers said the event highlights the importance of public involvement and warned that Mumbai's ecological future depends on responsible planning and continuous citizen action.



Maharashtra ties up to fight childhood diseases

MUMBAI

The Maharashtra Public Health Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with AIIMS Nagpur to improve prevention and treatment of childhood non communicable diseases across the state. The agreement was signed with support from UNICEF Maharashtra in the presence of Health Minister Prakash Abitkar and other officials.

The initiative comes as cases of childhood diseases such as type one diabetes asthma and obesity are rising and affecting children at younger ages leading to long term health problems and financial pressure on families.

To address this issue the partnership will follow a systems based approach. AIIMS Nagpur will act as a technical centre while UNICEF Maharashtra will help plan and support implementation within the government health system.

The programme will develop standard operating protocols for six major conditions including type one diabetes asthma obesity mental health disorders congenital heart disease and sickle cell disease.

It will also set up special clinics for children in ten district hospitals and train health workers in selected areas to



Maharashtra partners with AIIMS Nagpur and UNICEF to tackle rising childhood diseases through better care, early screening, and stronger public health systems across the state.

handle these cases effectively.

The plan further aims to improve screening at community level so that children can be identified early and referred for timely treatment.

Dr Prashant Joshi of AIIMS Nagpur said the effort connects medical knowledge with public health services and helps create models that can be expanded across the state.

Officials said UNICEF Maharashtra helped unite departments, experts, and partners to design the programme and ensure equal child healthcare access. They added the pact will strengthen the health system, improve response to rising child diseases, and raise awareness on early detection and prevention.

Vijay transforms campaign strategy in Tamil Nadu elections

**CHENNAI**

A new style of election campaigning has emerged in Tamil Nadu, with actor turned politician Vijay appearing as a 3D hologram to reach voters across constituencies.

The technology was first used in Kumbakonam on April 12, where a life sized digital projection of Vijay appeared alongside party candidate Vinoh Ravi. The hologram delivered a synchronised speech from a campaign vehicle, creating the impression that the IWWearer was present in person and attracting large crowds. Party leaders said the idea was introduced to manage the challenge of campaigning in more than 200 constituencies. They explained that it is not possible for Vijay to visit every location physically, so the hologram helps share his mes-

sage widely.

The project was developed by Praveen K, a 20 year old student, who created a short AI based video that was turned into a hologram within three days. He said the technology has received strong interest from other political parties as well. According to estimates, each hologram campaign may cost between Rs 2 lakh and Rs 3 lakh. Analysts believe this modern approach is aimed at attracting young voters and setting the party apart from traditional campaign methods used by others. Meanwhile, Vijay continues limited physical campaigning and recently attended events in Kanyakumari. With elections scheduled on April 23 across all constituencies, parties are trying new strategies to connect with voters and increase their outreach effectively across the state.

Tejashwi attacks Bihar government over governance, remote control rule

PATNA

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav on Monday criticised the Bihar government, alleging poor governance and claiming the state is being controlled from outside. Yadav targeted the BJP JD(U) alliance, accusing it of failing to address key development issues in the state. He claimed that people linked to the BJP were influencing governance, including within the JD(U), affecting law and order. He said Bihar continues to face serious challenges such as poverty, low per capita income, weak education and healthcare systems, and lack of industrial growth despite years of rule by the current alliance.

Yadav also criticised the government's economic performance, alleging that resources have been exhausted

without meaningful progress. He said public concerns like unemployment, inflation, migration, and problems faced by farmers are being ignored.

The RJD leader further alleged administrative slowdown, claiming that Cabinet meetings have not been held for months and decision making has been delayed. He also raised concerns about rising crime and corruption, and said many election promises remain unfulfilled.

Referring to political developments, Yadav hinted at internal changes within the ruling alliance while commenting on recent poster updates featuring Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Repeating his "remote control" remark, he claimed that real power in Bihar lies outside the state leadership.

LPG SUPPLY

Delhi assures steady LPG supply, urges calm

NEW DELHI

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday assured residents that LPG supply in the city remains stable and sufficient, asking people not to panic or believe rumours circulating on social media. She said there is no shortage of cooking gas or any other fuel in the capital.

Sharing details, the Chief Minister said that on Sunday, 1,11,766 domestic LPG bookings were recorded, while oil companies delivered 1,30,094 cylinders. This shows that



supplies are more than demand and pending orders are being cleared quickly. She added that the average deliv-

ery time has improved to 3.87 days from 4.24 days earlier.

On the commercial side, Delhi has a daily quota of

6,480 LPG cylinders. However, the average daily use over the past week was only 4,268 cylinders, including smaller 5 kg cylinders. This clearly shows that supply is higher than consumption.upta appealed to commercial users not to stockpile cylinders unnecessarily. She said the distribution system across the city is working smoothly and enough stock is available for all users. To help consumers, a control room has been set up by the Food and Civil Supplies Department. People facing issues can contact helpline

numbers between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. any day.

The Chief Minister also encouraged people to use Piped Natural Gas wherever available, as it offers a steady and safe fuel supply. Hospitals, schools, and other large users have been advised to switch to PNG soon.

She added that people can also consider electric or induction cooking as a long term option. The government is monitoring the situation daily to ensure uninterrupted LPG supply across Delhi without disruption.

QUICK READ



Boat Tragedy:
Death Toll Rises to
Fifteen

MATHURA
The death toll in the Yamuna river boat capsizes in Mathura has risen to 15 after two more bodies were recovered on Monday. Police identified the victims as Monika and Yash Bhalla (22). Yash, a student from Ludhiana, had joined a pilgrimage group and was seen playing a drum before the accident. One person, Par-kaj Malhotra, is still missing. Rescue teams, including NDRF and SDRF, continue search operations. The boat had capsized after hitting a floating drum near Kesi Ghat in Vrindavan.

Godman Sent To
Custody in Third Rape
Case

NASHIK
A court in Maharashtra's Nashik has sent self-styled godman Ashok Kharat to seven-day judicial custody till April 20 in a third rape case. He is accused of sexually exploiting a seven-month pregnant woman, wife of his staff member, between 2023 and 2025. The case surfaced after the victim's husband recorded evidence using a hidden camera. Police said objectionable videos were submitted. Kharat, arrested in March, will also be produced in court in a fourth case on Tuesday.

HEALTH HACKATHON

NHA Invites Innovators for Health Hackathon 2026

NEW DELHI

The National Health Authority has invited innovators across India to participate in the AB PM-JAY Auto-Adjudication Hackathon 2026 to improve digital health systems and claims processing efficiency nationwide.

The Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, one of India's largest health schemes, currently processes around 50,000 claims daily across more than 1,900 treatment packages. At this scale, maintaining speed, accuracy, and compliance in claims settlement is very important. Officials said that only 15 to 20 percent of claims are currently processed automatically, showing the need for a more advanced and scalable system.

The hackathon aims to develop innovative solutions that can automate claims adjudication, reduce manual work, and improve transparency. Authorities are encouraging the use of artificial intelligence,

Kanimozhi Attacks Centre over NEET, Seeks Voter Support

TIRUNELVELI

DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi campaigned in Tirunelveli, urging voters to support the party's "Rising Sun" symbol and continue its development agenda.

Addressing the public, she said the government led by Chief Minister M. K. Stalin has fulfilled several key promises. She highlighted welfare schemes for women, students, and farmers, stating these initiatives have improved lives across Tamil Nadu and would be expanded further.

Kanimozhi criticised the Centre over the NEET exam and the National Education Policy, claiming they limit opportunities for students in the state. She also targeted the AIADMK-BJP alliance led by Edappadi K. Palaniswami, accusing it of failing to protect Tamil Nadu's interests.

She stressed the importance of education, social welfare, and inclusive growth, pointing to student aid, skill



Modi Congratulates Magyar on
Hungary Election Victory Shift

HUNGARY WITNESSED A MAJOR POLITICAL SHIFT AS PETER MAGYAR SECURED A LANDSLIDE VICTORY, ENDING LONG-STANDING LEADERSHIP

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday congratulated Peter Magyar after his Tisza Party won a decisive mandate in Hungary's parliamentary elections. The victory marks a significant change after 16 years of rule by Viktor Orban's Fidesz party. In a message shared on social media, Modi highlighted the strong and historic ties between India and Hungary, describing them as rooted in shared values and mutual respect.

He also expressed his willingness to work closely with the new leadership to strengthen bilateral cooperation and further develop the India-European Union strategic partnership for mutual growth and prosperity. Magyar's victory is being seen as a turning point that could reshape Hungary's domestic



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policies and its role within the European Union.

After the results, outgoing Prime Minister Viktor Orban accepted defeat and personally congratulated Magyar on his success. According to official figures, the Tisza Party secured 138 seats in the 199-member parliament, winning 53.6 percent of the vote. In comparison, Fidesz managed 55 seats with 37.8 percent support.

The election outcome received positive reactions from several global leaders. Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez described the result as a

win for European values and democracy. Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz also congratulated Magyar and expressed hope for stronger cooperation in building a united and secure Europe.

The wave of international support reflects the importance of Hungary's political shift on the global stage. With a strong mandate, Magyar is expected to bring policy changes and strengthen Hungary's engagement within Europe. Further developments are anticipated as the new government prepares to take charge.

Hormuz Blockade
Uncertainty
Raises Global Oil
Supply Concerns

NEW DELHI

Rising tensions over a possible Strait of Hormuz blockade have created uncertainty for global oil trade and regional stability.

Foreign affairs expert Robinder Sachdev said there is still no clear picture of how the proposed US-led blockade of the Strait of Hormuz will be implemented. He explained that ships loading oil from Iran, especially from Kharg Island, could face strict sanctions similar to those imposed in 2018. These may include freezing of financial assets, blocking of dollar transactions, and visa restrictions for associated individuals. Sachdev noted that the United States aims to stop Iran from earning revenue through oil exports, which currently stand at about 1.8 million barrels per day. However, enforcing such sanctions could be complex, especially if ships use alternative payment methods like cryptocurrencies or yuan.

He added that vessels passing through the Persian Gulf and paying tolls to Iran may also face penalties. Verifying such payments could lead to further tensions, including possible boarding of ships by US forces, which may trigger diplomatic disputes.

The expert also pointed out that recent talks involving Iran failed due to differences over nuclear issues, particularly uranium enrichment. While the US accused Iran of pursuing nuclear weapons, Iran reportedly insisted on maintaining enrichment for peaceful purposes. Sachdev said the Strait of Hormuz is a key strategic tool for Iran, and any blockade could have serious consequences. It may affect India's energy imports and raise costs due to disrupted supply chains. Possible Chinese support to Iran could worsen tensions, while US plans to block Iranian ports raise global oil concerns.

Rahul Backs Khera in Passport Row

NEW DELHI

Congress MP Rahul Gandhi on Monday extended strong support to party leader Pawan Khera amid the ongoing passport controversy involving Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his wife Riniki Bhuyan Sharma.

In a post on social media, Gandhi described Sarma as the "most corrupt" Chief Minister in the country and alleged misuse of state power to target political opponents. He stressed that the allegations raised by the Congress must be properly investigated, highlighting the importance of transparency, accountability, and rule of law in a democracy. Gandhi also made it clear that the Congress party would stand firmly with Khera and would not be intimidated.

The remarks came after Assam Police moved the Supreme Court challenging the Telangana High Court's order



granting Khera transit anticipatory bail for one week starting April 10. As per the court's direction, Khera must approach a competent court in Assam for further relief.

The controversy began after Khera alleged that Riniki Bhuyan Sharma possessed multiple passports and that the family had business interests worth Rs 52,000 crore in the United States. However, the Chief Minister denied all allegations, calling them baseless.

Following the claims, Sharma filed an FIR against

Rahul Gandhi backed Pawan Khera in the passport controversy, accused Assam CM of corruption, and demanded a fair probe while political tensions in the state continue to rise.

Khera, leading to police searches at his residence. The issue has intensified political tensions in Assam, with leaders from both sides exchanging sharp remarks.

Assam Congress president Gaurav Gogoi also criticised Sarma, claiming the Chief Minister was in "panic mode" due to the widespread attention the allegations received. He said strong reactions from the Chief Minister reflected desperation and insisted that facts cannot be changed through pressure or authority.

The matter remains under legal and political scrutiny, with further developments expected.

Shubhanshu Shukla Marks
Cosmonautics Day With
Inspiring Message

NEW DELHI

Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla extended greetings on the 65th anniversary of human spaceflight and encouraged people to explore space. In a video shared by the Russian Embassy in India, Shukla recalled the historic journey of Yuri Gagarin, who became the first human to travel to space on April 12, 1961.

He said this landmark event continues to inspire generations and is celebrated every year as International Cosmonautics Day.

Shukla highlighted the courage shown by Gagarin, noting that at the time of the mission, very little was known about how the human body would react in space. Despite the risks, Gagarin successfully completed the mission, making it a symbol

of hope and progress for humanity. Encouraging young people and space enthusiasts, Shukla urged everyone to remain excited about space exploration and to carry forward the spirit of discovery. He said exploring space brings purpose and inspiration, and called on people to look towards the future with confidence and determination.

Shukla, who trained at Russia's Star City between 2020 and 2021, has been an important figure in India's growing space journey. Earlier this year, he was awarded the Ashok Chakra, India's highest peacetime gallantry award, by President Droupadi Murmu during Republic Day celebrations. He made history by becoming the first Indian to visit the International Space Station, marking a major milestone for the country's space programme.

KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPUR

Registrar Office, Vijayapur - 586108.

Phone:08352-297064, Website: www.kswu.ac.in

No:KSAWU/ADM/Notification/2026-27/182 Date: 08.04.2026

NOTIFICATION

17th Annual Convocation of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura

It is proposed to organise 17th Annual Convocation of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women University, Vijayapura at the Jnanashakti premises on 21.04.2026. The candidates who have studied in the affiliated colleges/Post-graduate departments/Post-graduate colleges passed various degree examinations during the academic year 2024-25 and B.Ed Examination during December-2024 to receive various degrees are eligible to receive convocation. For further details regarding convocation fees and submission of convocation applications you are informed to visit university website: www.kswu.ac.in

Sd/- Registrar,
Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's University, Vijayapura

ವಾಸಾಸಂಖ್ಯೆ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/23/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂ‌ವಿ/2026-27

Government of Karnataka

Public Works Department,
Special Division, Hunsur

Tender Notification

(Through <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>)

IFT No: 01/2026-27 Date: 09-04-2026

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka the undersigned has invited itemised tender for 13-works related to Hunsur Division as per terms and conditions of "standard tender documents" KW-3 & KW-4 from the eligible registered contactors under PWD through KPPP Portal. Maximum amount put to tender Rs.687.27 lakhs and Minimum amount put to tender Rs.42.34 lakhs, Maximum EMD amount of Rs.10,31,000/- and Minimum EMD amount of Rs.42,350/- Tender documents downloaded from <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> website on Dt: 09-04-2026 and Last date for submission of filled tender documents is, as per tender notification works Sl.no 1 to 12 Dt: 24-04-2026 and Sl.no 13 Dt: 11-05-2026 Period for completion of works (including monsoon) Maximum 11-Months & Minimun 2-Months For more details visit the undersigned during office working hours.

Note: 1) The employer reserves the rights to Reject or Accept any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. 2) Tender extension/Addendum/Corrigendum etc, will be notified only in KPP Portal and will not be published in news papers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division,Hunsur

DIPR/DDMYS/47/KSMCA/41/2026-27

Executive Engineer

Public Works Department

No.1 Building Division, S.J.P. Campus,
Bengaluru. Ph: 080-22255210

No. EE/Bld.1/AE- 3/2026-27/02 Date: 10.04.2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK (<http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>) from eligible Tenderers for providing repair and renovation of 16 No.s of toilets, partition works, renovation of car parking shed, fabrication, providing and improvements to Fire Fighting System, PMC (Project Management Consultancy) services for the work of Construction of Retaining Wall and other development works, **total of 03 works** at various notified places. Approx. value of work: **Min. Rs. 6.52 lakhs, Max. Rs. 281.43 lakhs.** EMD: **Min. Rs. 16,400/-, Max. Rs. 4,22,500/-.** Cost of Document: As in e-portal. Period of Completion for each work: **from 3 Months to 9 Months (including rainy season).** Last date for downloading Tender through e-procurement portal and submission through online: **17.04.2026 up to 5.00 PM.** Date of opening the Tender: as per e-procurement guidelines. Further information, brief details of the works, approx. amount, EMD and mode of payment, Reservation, etc. can be obtained from the above office or from e-procurement portal <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

DIPR/DD-C.P/160/KSMCA/2026-27 Sd/- Executive Engineer

Government of Karnataka

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION,
KALABURAGI

No: EE/PRED/KLB/KKRDB /TS-5/2026-27/ 65 Date: 08/04/2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through E-Procurement Two Cover System)

1) Name of work : 1. Development of Sri Kattimani Sansthanmath Hiremeth Sukshetra Halkatti at Halkatta Village in Taluka, 2. Development work of Kambaleshwara Math at Chittapur town in Chittapur taluka, 3. Development work of Sri.Bhojalingshwar Math at Sugur(N) village in Chittapur Taluka, 4. Development work of Sri.Siddalingeshwar Math at Pethasisoor Village in Chittapur Taluka, 5. Development work of Siddalingeshwar Kattimani Hiremath at Mugulnagaon Village in Chittapur Taluka, 6. Construction of warehouse to store pottery scraps in Melkunda K village of Kalaburagi South Assembly constituency in Kalaburagi Taluka and Construction Public toilet at Buddha Nagar of Tarfil colony in Kalaburagi Taluka, 2) Head of account CM Infrastructure Development Project 2025-26, 3) Amount put to tender **Minimum : Rs.67,20,681.41, Maximum: Rs.1,27,00,300.38**, 4) Class of Contractor Class- II & Class-III and Above, 5) Issue of Blank Tender Documents **09.04.2026 to 23.04.2026 upto 4.00 pm** , 6) Tender Form Fee As per KPPP Norms, 7) E.M.D. Fee **Minimum Rs.84,000.00, Maximum Rs.2,00,000.00**, 8) Receipt of completed tender documents, **09.04.2026 to 23.04.2026 upto 4.00 pm** 9) Technical Bid Opening Date: **24.04.2026 After 4.00 pm**, 10) Financial Bid opening Date: **27.04.2026 After 11.00 am**, 11) For more details contact Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division Opp: Karnataka Grameen Bank (PKGB) Head office, Kusnoor Road, RajapurKalaburagi, 12) Website Address www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Kalaburagi/32/ Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Deshpande Publicity/2026-27 Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Kalaburagi



QUICK READ

Asia flight chaos leaves thousands stranded across airports

New Delhi

Aviation across Asia faced severe disruption as over 1,400 flights were delayed and 67 cancelled, leaving thousands of passengers stranded. Major hubs including Delhi, Tokyo, Dubai, Bangkok, Singapore, Jakarta, Mumbai, and Bengaluru reported heavy operational strain. Airports experienced long queues, issued connections, and overcrowded terminals as delays cascaded across regional and international networks. Jakarta and Bangkok recorded the highest disruption levels, while Tokyo and Delhi also saw significant impact. Airlines such as IndiGo, Air India, Emirates, and Singapore Airlines were among those affected.

Lula faces tightest first-round contest since 2002: Datafolha poll

Brazil

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is facing his most competitive first-round election scenario since his 2002 victory, according to a new Datafolha survey. The poll indicates that Lula's lead in early voting intentions has narrowed significantly, placing him in a tightly contested race against major opponents in the 2026 presidential election. The data reflects a broader trend of increasing polarization in Brazil's political landscape, with opposition candidates closing gaps as voter concerns over the economy and governance rise. While Lula remains a frontrunner in several scenarios, the shrinking margins suggest a far more

Lufthansa strike cancels hundreds of flights across Germany

New Delhi

Lufthansa has cancelled hundreds of flights after pilots and cabin crew launched strikes over pay, pensions, and working conditions. The industrial action caused major disruption across Germany, with Frankfurt Airport reporting around 580 cancellations and Munich Airport about 400. The union said participation was extremely high, leading to widespread grounding of Lufthansa Airlines and its subsidiary CityLine. While some flights operated through partner carriers like Austrian Airlines and Eurowings, most services were severely affected. The strike coincided.

Russia allegedly planned fake Orban assassination plot

Alleged Russian intelligence plans reportedly aimed to influence Hungary's elections through a staged political assassination scenario.

HUNGARY

A reported intelligence document has alleged that Russia's foreign intelligence service, the SVR, drafted a plan to stage a fake assassination attempt on then-Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban ahead of the country's recent parliamentary elections, in an effort to influence voter sentiment. The alleged operation, described in a report cited by The Washington Post, was internally code-named "The Gamechanger" and was intended to shift Hungary's election discourse away from economic issues toward emotional themes such as national security and political stability. The document reportedly sug-



gested that a staged attack could consolidate support for Orban's ruling party by reshaping public perception in the final phase of campaigning. According to the report, the SVR assessment also analyzed Hungary's political landscape, claiming significant voter dissatisfaction even in traditional ruling-party strongholds. It also character-

ized opposition leader Péter Magyar as aligned with Western interests, while outlining broader influence operations involving disinformation campaigns and AI-generated content. The Kremlin has denied the allegations, with spokesperson Dmitry Peskov dismissing the claims as disinformation. Russian officials and the SVR have not public-

ly confirmed any such plan.

The report further comes amid broader concerns within the European Union about intelligence-sharing and alleged political influence operations. Some EU officials have reportedly raised concerns over Hungary's ties with Moscow, leading to increased caution in intelligence cooperation.

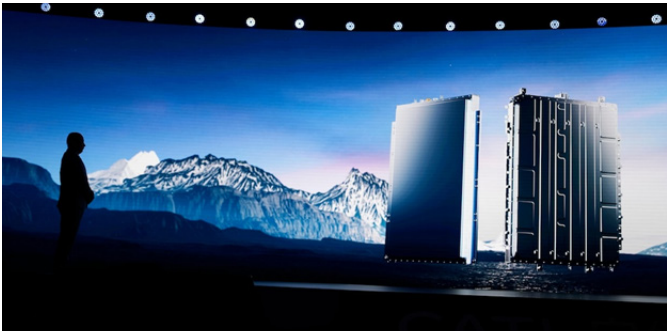
The election ultimately resulted in a victory for the opposition, with Magyar's party securing a parliamentary majority, marking a significant political shift in Hungary. The allegations, however, have added to ongoing debates over foreign interference, hybrid warfare, and the role of information operations in modern democratic elections.

The Iran conflict-driven global energy crisis is accelerating renewable adoption, strengthening China's dominance in clean technology markets worldwide.

Iran conflict boosts China's clean tech advantage globally

HONG KONG

The ongoing Iran conflict and resulting global energy disruptions are accelerating a structural shift in the world energy landscape, strengthening China's position in clean technology manufacturing and exports. With instability around the Strait of Hormuz disrupting oil flows, energy-importing nations across Asia and beyond are facing rising fuel costs and supply uncertainty. This has increased urgency for alternative energy solutions, particularly renewable power and electric mobility. At the center of this shift is China, which already dominates global production of electric vehicles, batteries, and solar equipment. Companies such as BYD and CATL are expected to benefit from rising global demand as countries diversify away from fossil fuels. China produces a majority share of global EVs and battery cells and continues to expand exports to Southeast Asia, Europe, and other energy-im-



port-dependent regions. Analysts note that rising oil prices often make electric vehicles and solar systems more economically attractive, further boosting demand for Chinese clean tech products. The United States, which has emphasized fossil fuel production and energy exports, is seen as pursuing a different energy strategy, creating what analysts describe as a "diverging energy path" between global powers. Countries such as Pakistan, Indonesia, and several European economies are increasingly investing in renewable infrastructure, including solar and battery storage systems, to reduce exposure to

volatile fuel markets. Early indicators suggest rising EV adoption and stronger demand for clean energy imports in these regions.

Experts say the current energy shock may accelerate long-term structural change rather than temporary demand spikes, as governments and industries reassess energy security strategies.

Overall, the crisis highlights how geopolitical instability is reshaping global energy economics, potentially reinforcing China's leadership in clean technology while pushing more countries toward electrification and renewable energy adoption.

US HINDI BOOK EVENT CANCELLED AMID IDEOLOGY ROW

MARYLAND

A planned Hindi-language library event in Maryland, US, was cancelled after controversy over alleged ideological affiliations and protests from multiple community groups. The event, titled "Many Languages, One Library: Celebrating Hindi," was organized to mark the addition of more than 160 Hindi-language books to a public library collection in Montgomery County. It was partly supported by the Balvihar Hindi School, which is linked to the Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America. However, a coalition of civil rights and advocacy groups objected to the involvement of

the organization, alleging that it promotes "Hindutva ideology" and could introduce political or exclusionary narratives into public institutions. The groups argued that cultural programming in public libraries should remain neutral and inclusive. Following the backlash, Montgomery County Public Libraries (MPCL) announced the cancellation of the event, stating that it would reconsider how to celebrate the Hindi-speaking community in a more inclusive and community-focused manner.

The decision sparked strong reactions from supporters of the VHPA, who accused opposing groups of spreading misinformation and expressed

concern over what they described as bias against Hindu cultural organizations. They maintained that the initiative was purely aimed at promoting language and literature, not political ideology. Community leaders and local political candidates also weighed in, with some emphasizing the importance of distinguishing between cultural celebration and ideological promotion, while others stressed the need to ensure public institutions remain free from perceived political influence.

The controversy highlights ongoing debates in the United States around cultural representation, ideological concerns.

Trump considered naming Gulf 'Gulf of Trump' once

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump revealed that he once seriously considered renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the "Gulf of Trump," before deciding against the idea during internal discussions on geographic renaming initiatives.

Trump said the suggestion emerged while he was advancing a broader policy push to rename the body of water. He explained that the idea was part of a series of informal proposals linked to his effort to reshape federal geographic naming conventions under a national branding framework.

Trump noted that although the "Gulf of Trump" name was briefly discussed, he ultimately concluded it would not be a practical or appropriate choice. Instead, he moved forward with an alternative renaming, officially designating the area as the "Gulf of America" through an executive order issued earlier in his second term.

The order instructed federal agencies to update official documents, maps, and communications to reflect the new designation. It also emphasized the geographical significance of the Gulf, which borders several US states including Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. The renaming has sparked



Trump says he once considered renaming the Gulf of Mexico "Gulf of Trump" but dropped the idea after concluding it would not work well.

considerable political and diplomatic attention. Mexican officials have opposed the change, arguing that the term "Gulf of Mexico" has been in use for centuries and remains globally recognized in international geography and maritime references. Trump's comments highlight how naming decisions can carry symbolic political weight beyond administrative changes. Such actions often become part of broader debates about national identity, historical interpretation, and diplomatic sensitivity. While the "Gulf of Trump" proposal was ultimately abandoned, the revelation adds another layer to ongoing discussions surrounding the administration's approach to symbolic rebranding and its impact on international perceptions.

Russia offers Iran uranium transfer in peace plan

RUSSIA

Russia has said it is ready to take custody of Iran's enriched uranium as part of a potential peace framework linked to stalled negotiations with the United States, according to the Kremlin.

The proposal, originally put forward by Russian President Vladimir Putin, is aimed at supporting diplomatic efforts to resolve long-running tensions over Iran's nuclear program. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov confirmed that the offer remains valid and has been communicated to both US officials and regional stakeholders, although it has not yet been acted upon.

The development comes after recent diplomatic efforts involving the United States and Iran failed to produce a breakthrough. Talks held over the weekend reportedly ended without agreement, further delaying progress on a broader settlement to ease escalating tensions in the region.

Russia's plan involves transferring Iran's enriched uranium to Russian custody as a confidence-building mea-

sure, potentially reducing concerns over nuclear escalation while negotiations continue. Moscow has positioned itself as a mediator willing to support long-term stability and prevent further deterioration of the conflict.

The announcement follows renewed instability in the Middle East, where ongoing hostilities have already disrupted energy markets and international shipping routes. The situation has heightened global concern over supply chain security and regional economic stability.

Russia's diplomatic engagement underscores its continued role as a key external actor in Middle East negotiations, particularly in efforts involving Iran and the United States. Officials in Moscow reiterated their support for dialogue and emphasized that a negotiated settlement remains the preferred outcome.

Overall, the proposal highlights ongoing international attempts

to manage nuclear tensions through indirect mechanisms while broader peace talks remain stalled.

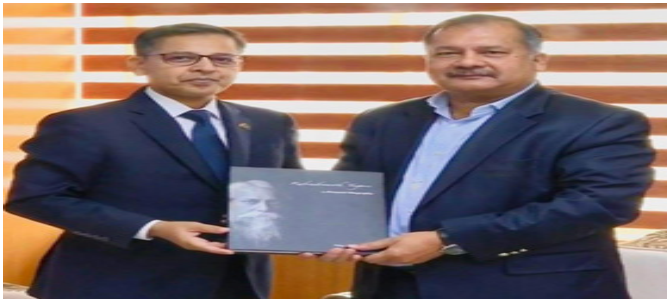


CROSS BORDER MEDIA

India, Bangladesh expand media exchange cooperation

DHAKA

India and Bangladesh have agreed to strengthen cooperation by enhancing exchange visits of media delegations, aiming to improve mutual understanding and promote closer ties between the two neighbouring countries. The agreement was reached during discussions between officials from both sides, focusing on expanding people-to-people contact and fostering better communication between media professionals. The initiative is intended to create op-



portunities for journalists to observe each other's media ecosystems, reporting practices, and institutional frameworks more closely. Under the arrangement, media delega-

tions from India and Bangladesh will undertake reciprocal visits, allowing journalists to engage with news organizations, government institutions, and cultural centres in both

countries. The exchanges are expected to help build trust, reduce misinformation, and encourage more balanced coverage of bilateral issues.

Officials noted that media cooperation plays an important role in strengthening diplomatic relations, particularly in a region where shared history, culture, and economic ties are significant. The initiative is also seen as part of broader efforts to deepen connectivity and collaboration across multiple sectors, including trade, education, and cultural exchange. The agreement reflects

ongoing engagement between the two countries to maintain stable and constructive relations. Both sides emphasized the importance of open communication channels and responsible journalism in shaping public perception and regional harmony. Overall, the media exchange initiative is expected to contribute to greater understanding between India and Bangladesh, while supporting long-term diplomatic and cultural cooperation through sustained interaction between journalists and media institutions in both nations.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

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8	3	6	7	2	4	5	9	1
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Fill a 9x9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3x3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.





QUICK READ

Government eases CAFE 2027 norms for automakers relief

New Delhi

The government has proposed softer CAFE 2027–2032 fuel efficiency norms, easing compliance pressure on automakers. The revised draft by the Ministry of Power and Bureau of Energy Efficiency replaces a rigid target system with a phased tightening approach. It reduces earlier advantages for heavier vehicles while introducing a flatter compliance curve through 2032. Super credits for electric and hybrid vehicles allow them to count as multiple units for emission compliance. Credit trading between manufacturers has also been permitted to provide additional flexibility. Small manufacturers producing fewer than 1,000 units annually are exempt from compliance obligations. Penalties remain significant for large automakers, making EV adoption and hybrid credits financially important mechanism.

India-UK build propulsion testing facility unmanned aviation

New Delhi

India and the United Kingdom have partnered to develop a propulsion testing facility for unmanned aviation under a collaboration between the Technology Development Board (TDB) and Gurugram-based Casey Aviation Private Limited, with UK-based ARC Aerosystems Ltd. The project focuses on hybrid propulsion and Jump Take-Off systems for unmanned aerial platforms, enabling short and near-vertical take-off capabilities. It will also establish North India's first dedicated test bench facility for rotorcraft propulsion validation, supporting startups and aerospace developers in advanced air mobility. The initiative aims to improve disaster response, logistics, medical evacuation and surveillance operations in remote regions while strengthening India's unmanned aviation ecosystem through international research cooperation and sustainable aviation innovation development efficiency.

Pi data centers to launch 3MW Mumbai facility in August

New Delhi

Pi Data Centers will launch a 3MW data centre in central Mumbai in August 2026, marking Phase I of its expansion into India's growing digital infrastructure market. Pi Data Centers is also planning a larger 23MW expansion for hyperscale, colocation, and cloud services, with advisory support from JLL. The new facility complements its existing 60MW capacity in Amaravati and an upcoming 3MW site in Hyderabad. The project targets rising demand from AI workloads, cloud adoption, and data localisation. India's data centre sector is expanding rapidly, driven by strong enterprise and hyperscaler demand. The Mumbai launch strengthens low-latency access, scalability, and infrastructure resilience across key markets in the coming years ahead.

Nifty, Sensex recover partially; Defence stocks outperform

The Nifty 50 and Sensex recovered from intraday lows as defence stocks rallied amid global geopolitical tensions.

MUMBAI

The Nifty 50 and Sensex recovered from deeper intraday losses on Monday, as last-hour buying helped trim declines, though overall sentiment remained cautious amid global geopolitical tensions.

Both benchmark indices ended lower, with the Nifty closing down nearly 208 points and the Sensex falling over 700 points. However, sharp recovery from day's lows indicated selective buying interest, particularly in defence-related stocks, which



outperformed broader markets.

Defence stocks attracted strong investor attention, supported by expectations of increased government spending and heightened geopolitical uncertainty in West Asia. This sectoral strength helped cushion overall market weakness during the final trading hours.

Broader markets also mirrored the recovery trend, although mid-cap and small-cap indices still ended in negative territory. Selling pressure was visible across multiple sectors, including auto, oil and gas, FMCG, and IT, reflecting widespread risk aversion among investors.

Within the benchmark indices, select banking and financial stocks provided support, while auto and consumption-related shares remained among the top laggards. Heavyweights such as ICICI Bank and Axis Bank helped limit deeper losses.

Analysts noted that key technical levels are likely to guide near-term market direction, with resistance expected around higher psychological levels and support zones emerging after recent consolidation.

Overall, while late-session buying offered temporary relief, market sentiment remained fragile, influenced by global uncertainty and fluctuating risk appetite. Investors are expected to remain cautious in the near term, closely tracking geopolitical developments and crude oil price movements.

Reliance Jio and Bank of Baroda introduce bob World Lite, enabling secure digital banking access for feature phone users across India.

Jio, Bank of Baroda launch 'bob World Lite' service

MUMBAI

Reliance Jio has partnered with Bank of Baroda to launch 'bob World Lite', a mobile banking solution designed specifically for feature phone users, marking a significant step toward digital inclusion in India. The initiative aims to bring essential banking services to millions who do not use smartphones, particularly in semi-urban and rural regions.

The 'bob World Lite' app has been introduced on the JioPhone Prima 4G device, making it one of the first comprehensive banking applications tailored for feature phones. Unlike traditional mobile banking apps that require smartphones, this platform is built with a lightweight design, low bandwidth



usage, and keypad-based navigation, ensuring ease of use for a wider population.

Through this application, users can access key banking services such as UPI payments, money transfers, bill payments, and mobile recharges. The app also supports simple onboarding, allowing both existing Bank of Baroda customers and new users from other banks to join

conveniently.

The collaboration leverages Jio's vast digital reach and Bank of Baroda's strong banking network to expand access to financial services. With millions of feature phone users still present across India, this initiative aligns with broader national efforts to enhance financial inclusion and promote digital payments adoption.

By integrating banking services directly into affordable devices, the partnership addresses a critical gap in accessibility. It demonstrates how technology and finance can work together to bridge the digital divide, enabling more people to participate in the formal financial ecosystem and benefit from secure, convenient banking solutions.

Mineral auctions expanded in India: G Kishan Reddy

NEW DELHI

India has significantly expanded its push to secure strategic resources by auctioning 46 critical mineral blocks and launching the seventh round of auctions with 19 additional blocks, according to statements from Union Minister G Kishan Reddy. The initiative is aimed at strengthening domestic supply chains for essential minerals used in clean energy, defence, and advanced manufacturing.

The move comes as part of India's broader strategy to reduce import dependence on critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements, which are vital for batteries, electric vehicles, and high-tech industries. By accelerating exploration and commercial allocation of mineral-rich blocks, the government seeks to boost



self-reliance and attract private investment into the mining sector.

Officials highlighted that the ongoing auction process reflects a structured approach to unlocking India's geological potential. The inclusion of new blocks in the seventh round signals continued momentum in policy reforms designed to streamline approvals, improve transparency, and encourage participation from both domestic and glob-

al players.

The critical mineral push also aligns with India's energy transition goals, particularly the expansion of renewable energy capacity and electric mobility. Securing stable raw material supplies is considered essential for sustaining long-term industrial growth and technological advancement.

Industry observers note that the auction strategy could help position India as a more competitive player in the global minerals market, while also strengthening supply chain resilience amid geopolitical uncertainties.

Overall, the initiative reflects a strategic effort to integrate resource security with economic development, ensuring that India is better prepared for the demands of a rapidly evolving global energy and technology landscape.

KSE-100 index plunges after Iran port blockade shock

NEW DELHI

Pakistan's KSE-100 Index fell sharply after geopolitical tensions escalated following reports of a blockade on Iranian ports, triggering panic selling across markets.

The index dropped more than 5,000 points in intraday trade, sliding from its previous close near 167,000 levels to an early low of about 161,600 before partially recovering later in the session. Despite brief rebounds, volatility remained elevated as investors reacted to fast-changing developments in West Asia.

The sell-off followed heightened uncertainty after escalating conflict dynamics involving the Strait of Hormuz, a critical global oil shipping route. Concerns over potential disruption to energy flows intensified risk aversion in regional equities, including Pakistan's market.

Broader sentiment was also affected by fears that prolonged geopolitical instability could impact trade, inflation, and foreign investment inflows. Banking, energy, and industrial stocks witnessed the steepest declines, reflecting widespread pressure



Pakistan's KSE-100 index plunged over 5,000 points amid geopolitical tensions after reported Iranian port blockade, triggering sharp volatility and broad-based selling across markets.

across key sectors.

Earlier in the month, the KSE-100 had seen a strong rally driven by optimism over a temporary ceasefire, marking one of its biggest single-day gains in history. However, the latest reversal underscores the market's sensitivity to geopolitical headlines.

Analysts noted that continued uncertainty around global oil supply routes and diplomatic tensions is likely to keep volatility high in the near term. Investors are expected to remain cautious until clearer signals emerge regarding stability in the region and the status of key maritime routes.

Sagar Adani meets Qatar Central Bank Governor



DOHA

Sagar Adani of Adani Green Energy recently met Sheikh Bandar bin Mohammed bin Saud Al-Thani in Doha, reflecting a growing dialogue between major energy players and global financial institutions. Their conversation focused on evolving trends in global finance and investment, particularly at a time when markets are adjusting to shifts in sustainability priorities, geopolitical dynamics, and capital flows.

The meeting signals a broader alignment between infrastructure-driven companies and sovereign financial bodies. As the head of the Qatar Central Bank and a key figure connected to the Qatar Investment Authority, Sheikh Bandar represents significant financial influence, especially in long-term global investments. Engaging with such institutions allows companies like Adani Green to explore funding avenues, strategic partner-

ships, and expansion opportunities beyond domestic markets.

For Adani Green, which operates at the forefront of renewable energy development, discussions around global investment trends are especially relevant. The energy sector is undergoing a transformation, with increasing emphasis on clean energy financing, cross-border collaboration, and large-scale infrastructure deployment. Conversations like these often lay the groundwork for future cooperation, even if no immediate agreements are announced.

More broadly, the interaction underscores strengthening economic engagement between India and Qatar. It reflects how business leaders and financial policymakers are working together to navigate a rapidly changing economic landscape, where sustainability, capital access, and international partnerships play an increasingly central role.

EV STOCKS SURGE

EV stocks rally on Delhi petrol vehicle phase-out plan

NEW DELHI

Shares of electric vehicle companies rallied after the Delhi government released its draft Electric Vehicle Policy 2026–2030, which outlines an aggressive roadmap to phase out petrol and CNG-powered vehicles in key segments and accelerate the adoption of clean mobility solutions.

The policy proposes a gradual restriction on new fossil fuel vehicle registrations, including a plan to stop new petrol two-wheeler registrations from April 2028 and CNG three-wheelers from January 2027. It is designed to reduce air pollution in the capital by pushing a faster transition toward electric mo-



bility, especially in high-usage urban transport segments.

Market participants reacted positively to the announcement, with strong buying interest seen across EV-related stocks. Ather Energy surged over 5 percent during intraday trade, reflecting optimism about future demand for electric scooters. JBM Auto gained more than 2.5 percent,

supported by expectations of increased electric bus and fleet orders. Meanwhile, Olectra Greentech also advanced nearly 3 percent as investors priced in stronger long-term growth prospects.

The draft policy also includes fiscal incentives such as a full waiver of road tax for electric vehicles and a 50 percent concession for hybrid

vehicles priced up to ₹30 lakh. Instead of direct subsidies, the focus is on tax benefits and infrastructure expansion to encourage adoption.

The policy has been opened for public consultation until May 10, allowing stakeholders to provide feedback before finalization. Authorities have emphasized that the initiative aims to create a cleaner, more sustainable transport ecosystem while addressing rising urban pollution levels.

Overall, the announcement strengthened investor sentiment in the EV sector, highlighting expectations of accelerated policy-driven growth in India's electric mobility market.

