JHARKHAND'S OWN ENGLISH DAILY

THE AVENUE MAIL

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WE'RE READY TO RISE TO THE OCCASION, COYLE CONFIDENT AHEAD OF CLASH - PAGE-11

CEASEFIRE

Trump declares ceasefire, Tehran agrees safe Hormuz transit



Washington/Tehran, April 8 (IANS) : US President Donald Trump says he has agreed to a proposed two-week ceasefire between the US and Iran if shipping traffic is allowed to move through the Strait of Hormuz.In a social media post, Trump said that both sides should agree to a "two-sided ceasefire", claiming the US has already achieved its military goals and that the conflict may be close to being resolved.

Earlier, Trump warned Iran that he could target important infrastructure like power plants and bridges if Tehran did not agree to his demands, which include reopening the Strait of Hormuz. He had set a deadline for this decision for 5:30 AM Indian Standard Time today.On the other side, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also announced that Iran will agree to a ceasefire if attacks against Iran are halted.

In a statement, he announced that for a period of two weeks, safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz will be possible.

He said this will take place via coordination with Iran's Armed Forces and with due consideration of technical limitations. Meanwhile, Iran's Supreme National Security Council claimed a historic victory, asserting the US accepted Tehran's 10-point plan.

Last night, Trump issued a stark warning on a social media post that an entire civilisation could be wiped out, never to return.



Destroyed vehicles following an Israeli strike at the Corniche al-Mazraa neighbourhood of Beirut

Hope agreement 'will lead to lasting peace': India

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) India on Wednesday welcomed the ceasefire agreement reached between the US and Iran and expressed hope that the ceasefire would lead to lasting peace in West Asia.

The MEA stated, "We welcome the ceasefire reached and hope that it will lead to a lasting peace in West Asia. As we have continuously advocated earlier, de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy are essential to bring an early end to the ongoing conflict."

Big day for world peace, Iran can start reconstruction: Trump

Washington, April 8 (IANS) After announcing a two-week ceasefire with Iran, US President Donald Trump on Wednesday said that it was a "big day for World Peace". He said that Iran wanted this to happen as "they have had enough", while adding that Tehran can start the reconstruction. In a statement shared on Truth Social, Trump stated that the US will be helping the traffic buildup in the Strait of Hormuz and mentioned that American troops will "hang around" to ensure everything "goes well".

89 killed, 700 injured as Lebanon faces heaviest Israel strikes

Beiru, April 8 (IANS) A spokesperson for Lebanon's health ministry said that Israel's strikes across Lebanon on Wednesday had killed "89 martyrs and wounded 700 people."The spokesperson said 12 medics were among the dead in southern Lebanon.Meanwhile, the top US general said on Wednesday US troops stood ready to resume fighting if Tehran failed to strike a negotiated settlement as the Trump administration sought to portray the war as a decisive victory against Iran.

Iran's oil refinery hit; missiles pound UAE, Kuwait despite ceasefire

Dubai, April 8 (IANS): The Middle East spiralled back into chaos on Wednesday as Iran, the UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain and Lebanon were all hit by fresh strikes despite a two-week US-Iran ceasefire, casting serious doubts over the truce's durability. A wave of fresh attacks - from Iran's own oil infrastructure being hit to the UAE, Kuwait and Bahrain coming under Iranian missile and drone fire and Israeli strikes intensifying in Lebanon - cast immediate doubt over whether the two-week ceasefire can hold.

Iran begged for ceasefire : US

Washington, April 8 (IANS) The United States has "devastated" Iran's military capabilities and forced it to accept a ceasefire under overwhelming pressure, US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth said Wednesday, describing the outcome of Operation 'Epic Fury' as a "historic and overwhelming victory on the battlefield.""Iran begged for this ceasefire… a big day for world peace," Hegseth said, adding that the campaign had "decimated Iran's military and rendered it combat ineffective for years to come."

In Brief

Storm claims CRPF jawan's life



Chaibasa, April 8 : A CRPF CoBRA jawan, Rakesh Kumar, was killed during an anti-Maoist operation in the Saranda forests of West inghbhum district after a tree fell on him during a severe storm on Tuesday night. The incident occurred near the Babu Dera camp, where security forces are carrying out intensive operations.Police said strong winds uprooted a large tree, which collapsed onto the camp and struck the jawan on the head, leaving him critically injured. He was immediately rushed and later airlifted to Ranchi for advanced treatment. However, he succumbed to his injuries during treatment on Wednesday morning.

Son hacks father to death in Ranchi

Ranchi, April 8 : An elderly man was hacked to death allegedly by his son after he refused to give him money in Jharkhand's Ranchi district early on Wednesday, police said.

The incident took place at Haratand within the Airport police station area around 2 am.Accused Kamal Sahu (32) has been arrested, while the deceased has been identified as Govind Sahu (60).

Saradha chit fund chief gets bail after 13 years

Kolkata, April 8: Sudipta Sen, the main accused in the Saradha chit fund scam, will be released from custody after nearly 13 years following bail granted by the Calcutta High Court. The court cleared his bail in the last two pending cases. Sen, arrested in 2013, was lodged in Presidency Correctional Home.

Govt boosts LPG supply for industries

New Delhi, April 8: The Centre has increased commercial LPG supply to industrial units in key sectors up to 70% of pre-March 2026 levels, with a sectoral cap in place. Migrant workers' access to 5 kg cylinders has also been enhanced. Authorities reported steady domestic LPG deliveries and rising digital bookings.

Adani wins US court hearing

New York, April 8: A US court has granted Gautam Adani a hearing to seek dismissal of an SEC fraud case. The plea argues lack of US jurisdiction and no actionable claims under securities laws. The US Securities and Exchange Commission had alleged bribery and misleading investors, which the Adani Group denies. The court's move allows early arguments that could potentially end the case before trial.

Assam CM prays at Baidyanath Temple

Deoghar, April 8: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma offered prayers at the Baba Baidyanath Temple in Jharkhand's Deoghar district on Wednesday, a day before the high-stakes elections in his state.

Accompanied by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, Sarma arrived under tight security and proceeded directly to the sanctum sanctorum to perform rituals at the revered jyotirlinga.A team of priests assisted him with offerings of bel leaves, sacred water, and chanting of Vedic mantras. Following the ceremony, the temple committee presented Sarma with a symbolic emblem of Baba Baidyanath.



CM raises ST status for Assam tea tribes, calls it historic injustice

Ranchi, April 8: Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Wednesday addressed Adivasi communities in Assam through a social media message, highlighting long-pending demand for Scheduled Tribe status for tea garden workers. He said Adivasi families living in Assam's tea estates for generations have not received constitutional recognition as ST, describing this as a serious national injustice.Soren stated that these communities were brought to Assam during British rule and played a major role in building state's economy through hard labour. Despite decades since independence and multiple changes in governments, he said their condition and status have remained unchanged. He also criticised political parties in power for failing to prioritise this issue, alleging it has not been given adequate space even in election agendas.Calling issue one of justice, dignity and identity rather than politics, Soren urged unity among Adivasi groups and invoked symbols of traditional resistance. He accused ruling establishments of marginalising tribal communities and made a strong appeal for change.



In his message, Soren asked voters to support candidates aligned with his party's symbol, promising efforts toward securing ST status, raising minimum wages to ?500, ensuring safety of minorities, and improving access to education, housing and employment. He concluded by stating that democracy remains incomplete until justice is delivered, while expressing confidence in future upliftment of Adivasi culture and heritage in Assam.

Voting in 2 states, 1 UT today

New Delhi, April 8: More than 6.1 crore voters are set to cast their votes on Thursday as Assam, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry go to the Assembly polls in a single phase. The elections will cover 140 seats in Kerala, 126 in Assam, and 30 in Puducherry, making it a significant political test for both regional and national parties. The results will be declared on May 4, along with those for Tamil Nadu and West Bengal.

In Assam, the BJP-led NDA is aiming to return to power for a third consecutive term under Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma. The Congress, led by state president Gaurav Gogoi, is attempting a comeback with a six-party alliance. The state has over 2.5 crore voters, including 6.42 lakh first-time voters.

In Kerala, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is seeking to retain power for the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front, which made history by winning consecutive terms in 2021. The Congress-led United Democratic Front is aiming to regain control. Kerala has over 2.7 crore voters, with women outnumbering men.

In Puducherry, Chief Minister N. Rangaswamy is looking for another term, leading the NDA alliance. The Union Territory has over 9.4 lakh voters. The elections are expected to play a crucial role in shaping the political landscape ahead.

RBI holds repo rate at 5.25 pc

Maintains neutral instance amid global uncertainty

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday kept the repo rate unchanged at 5.25 per cent, and maintaining the status quo in its latest Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting.

The Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) rate has been kept unchanged at 5 per cent, while the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate remains at 5.50 per cent, RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra said while announcing the MPC decision.

The RBI Governor described 2025 as a challenging year, but noted that inflation has eased since the October policy. He also highlighted improved efficiency in the banking system as a key support for the economy.

"High-frequency indicators up to February indicate sustained strength in economic activity," Malhotra said.



He added that growth continues to be driven by strong private consumption and steady investment demand.

"Growth impulses remain supported by robust private consumption and sustained investment demand," Malhotra noted. Urban consumption is likely to strengthen further aided by the beneficial impact of GST rationalisation and the buoyant services sector, he added.

Mamata files nomination, TMC to move SC

Kolkata, April 8 (IANS) West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) would move the Supreme Court against the freezing of the electoral roll, as she filed her nomination from Kolkata's Bhabanipur. She said the TMC would return to power."I am saddened. Several voters have been deleted. Around 3.2 million of the six million doubtful cases under adjudication were included in the voter list because I moved the Supreme Court," Banerjee said.She said the remaining 2.7 million should be given voting rights. She questioned what purpose it would serve if they were included after the April 23-29 elections. "They would not be able to vote."Banerjee noted that the Supreme Court said that voters, whose names are deleted, may move the appellate tribunals. "Why was the electoral roll frozen? I do not understand this. We will again move the court to seek justice," she said.



Jharkhand HC seeks detailed probe report on HIV-infected blood transfusion in Chaibasa

Ranchi, April 8 (IANS) : The Jharkhand High Court has taken strong exception to the alleged transfusion of HIV-infected blood to minor children at the blood bank of Chaibasa Sadar Hospital, terming the matter "extremely serious".

The court sought a comprehensive status report from the state government on the matter.

Hearing the case on Wednesday, a bench led by Justice Rongan Mukhopadhyay expressed dissatisfaction with the state's response, observing that merely registering an FIR is not enough in a case of such grave consequences.

The court stressed that accountability must be fixed and those responsible for this lapse brought to justice.

The petition, filed by Deepika Hembram and others, had sought the registration of an FIR and the setting up of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged lapse.

The court was informed that FIR No. 18/2026 had already been lodged on February 6 this year. However, the state government failed to provide clarity on the progress of the investigation, drawing sharp criticism from the court.

Making stern observations, the court said the transfusion of HIV-infected blood to young children has had a devastating impact on their lives and future and cannot be treated lightly.

It noted that the affidavit submitted by the state government was limited to confirming the FIR, with no substantive details on the progress of the investigation or steps taken so far.

Taking serious cognisance of the lapse, the High Court directed the state government to file a supplementary affidavit detailing the entire course of the investigation and actions taken to date.

The case came to light in 2025 after five minor thalassemia patients at Chaibasa Sadar Hospital were allegedly administered HIV-contaminated blood during transfusions. The victims' families subsequently moved the High Court seeking justice.

The matter is scheduled for further hearing on April 21.

Mayor committed to improving Mango market infrastructure

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: Mayor of Mango Municipal Corporation (MMC), Sudha Gupta, and her husband, former Minister Banna Gupta, conducted a detailed inspection of the Mango Market area today following consistent public complaints. During the visit, the mayor addressed various infrastructural issues and issued immediate directives to concerned officials.

Local residents and traders highlighted the severe clogged-drain problem, which has led to waterlogging and unhygienic conditions. Expressing her dissatisfaction, the mayor ordered the cleaning staff to overhaul the drainage system and ensure regular monitoring.

The inspection team found dilapidated, low-hanging electrical wires throughout the market. The mayor directed the Electricity Department to secure these wires immediately to prevent potential accidents.

Gupta noted the poor condition of the main roads connecting the market. She instructed the department to begin high-quality road construction and identified the need for a permanent drainage solution along the main road.

To resolve long-standing issues, she directed MMC officials to coordinate with JUSCO and the Market Committee (Bazar Samiti).

"Solving public grievances is our top priority. We will not tolerate any negligence. All departments must complete their tasks in a time-bound manner and submit progress reports," she said. During the inspection, former Minister Banna Gupta assured residents that their demands-including replacing old wires and repairing broken roads-would be met promptly. He emphasized that the mayor is actively working to transform Mango into a clean, safe, and well-organized market hub. (W-sm)

City's first community center for transgender community in Kadma

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: In a major step toward social inclusion, the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC) will construct the city's first community center dedicated to the transgender community. JNAC Deputy Municipal Commissioner Krishna Kumar announced that the facility will be built in Shastrinagar, Kadma, at a cost of Rs 24.87 lakh.

The project has reached a milestone after receiving a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Tata Steel, clearing the path for construction. This will be the first government-backed building of its kind in the city, providing a permanent space for the transgender community. The administration aims to complete the construction within six months. Beyond serving as a meeting place, the building will function as a center for skill development and vocational training to help community members secure better livelihood opportunities. "The transgender community had been demanding a community building for a long time. Now that we have received the NOC from Tata Steel, we are bringing this plan to life. Construction will begin shortly." Krishna Kumar, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, JNAC. (W-sm)

NHES holds orientation for Class XI



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: Narbheram Hansraj English School (NHES), Bistupur, organised an orientation programme for Class XI students and their parents at KusumKamani Auditorium on April 7, 2026. The programme began with a welcome address by the Principal. The session was conducted by Physics HOD, Sujata Sinha. The orientation provided an overview of the school's vision and mission and introduced students to their class and subject teachers. Details about stream combinations were also shared. Important guidelines regarding bell timings, attendance, discipline, punctuality, uniform, project submission, use of the Entab portal, and the role of parents were explained. (W-mb)

Srinath University students visit ICAR-IIAB Ranchi

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: The Departments of Biotechnology and Agriculture at Srinath University organized an educational visit to the ICAR-Indian Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology (IIAB), Ranchi, providing students with hands-on exposure to advanced research and sustainable agricultural practices.

During the visit, students gained valuable insights into Integrated Farming Systems (IFS), learning how agroforestry, livestock and fisheries worked together to create sustainable and profitable farming models. They also observed modern techniques of mushroom cultivation and witnessed live demonstrations of biochar production, which played a key role in improving soil health.

The programme introduced students to cutting-edge research areas such as nanobiotechnology, chromosomal segregation and genome editing for developing stress-resistant crops. A major highlight was the tour of high-tech laboratories, where students saw advanced instruments like Mass Spectrometry, Real-Time PCR, UHPLC and Gel Electrophoresis in action.

The visit concluded with an interactive session with the Joint Director of ICAR-IIAB, bridging the gap between theoretical learning and practical application, and inspiring students toward research-oriented careers. (w/gsd)

Train runs over cattle at Sundernagar

Jamshedpur, April 8: A tragic incident occurred near Sundernagar railway gate on Wednesday morning when a passenger train ran over a group of cattle. A calf died on the spot, while two other animals sustained injuries.

According to eyewitnesses, the cattle were crossing the railway track for grazing when they were suddenly struck by the oncoming train. Following the incident, the train remained halted for nearly half an hour, causing inconvenience to passengers.

Soon after the mishap, a large number of local residents gathered at the site. Expressing concern over frequent such incidents, they demanded the construction of proper safety measures such as boundary walls or fencing along both sides of the railway track to prevent recurrence. (W-pm)

Four trucks seized for illegal sand mining



Jamshedpur, April 8 : In a major crackdown on illegal sand mining, the district administration, under the direction of Deputy Commissioner Karn Satyarthi, conducted an early morning raid on April 8 at around 3 AM. The operation was carried out by the Mining Department in coordination with MGM police.

During the raid, four Hyva trucks bearing registration numbers JH05CJ-5732, JH05BC-8855, JH05BD-7678, and JH05CB-0307 were seized while allegedly transporting sand illegally.

An FIR has been registered at MGM Police Station in connection with the case. The district administration reiterated its commitment to continue strict action against illegal mining, transportation, and storage activities in the region. (W-pm)

Traffic police bypassing CCTV zones, ignoring body camera norms

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: City traffic police have been accused of frequently conducting inspections in "blind spots"-areas entirely devoid of CCTV coverage. The trend has raised serious questions about transparency and accountability, as the failure to utilize available surveillance technology contradicts established protocols.

In 2025, following a heated public dispute at Mango Chowk, authorities had explicitly mandated that all traffic checks occur only where CCTV systems are active. Furthermore, officials had decreed that in areas lacking permanent cameras, the use of body-worn cameras by personnel would be mandatory.

Current evidence suggests these rules are being ignored. Inspections are routinely occurring in high-traffic but unmonitored zones, including:

Bistupur: Diagonal Road Roundabout

Sakchi: Behind the Mini Bus Stand

Mango: Road No. 15 and the NH stretch between Kali Mandir and City Inn Hotel

Other areas: Near Talwar Building, Ulidih TOP, and various internal roads in Baradwari.

Beyond the lack of surveillance, the nature of these inspections is drawing sharp criticism. Public accounts and ongoing scrutiny suggest that police personnel are prioritizing "challan collection" over traffic management or public awareness. Reports indicate that officers are frequently stopping law-abiding motorists-including those wearing helmets-merely to scrutinize documents. Furthermore, critics claim that vehicles carrying women are being disproportionately targeted, as officials allegedly assume these motorists will pay fines quickly to avoid further confrontation. Urban safety experts argue that the absence of technological oversight is eroding public trust. "The use of technology in traffic enforcement is designed to ensure accountability," noted one observer. "When the police bypass these rules, it leaves the public feeling vulnerable and fuels the perception that the drive is purely revenue-driven rather than safety-focused." (W-sm)

18 Tata Steel retirees felicitated by union



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: A total of 18 retired employees of Tata Steel and members of the Tata Workers' Union were felicitated at a farewell function held at the Union premises on Wednesday. The programme was attended by key union office-bearers, including President Sanjeev Kumar Choudhary and General Secretary Satish Kumar Singh.

The officials warmly welcomed the retirees and honoured them with bouquets and gifts in recognition of their dedicated service to both the company and the union. Speakers appreciated their valuable contributions over the years. The retirees were extended best wishes for a peaceful, healthy, and fulfilling life after retirement. (W-mb)

Educationist Brahma Dutt Sharma passes away

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: Renowned educationist, social worker, and founder-director of Govind Vidyalaya, Tamulia, Dr. Brahma Dutt Sharma passed away on April 7, 2026, at 3:00 AM at the age of 85, leaving behind a legacy of dedication to education and social service.

Dr. Sharma's journey in education began in 1960, and over the decades, he made remarkable contributions as a teacher, principal and institution builder. He served as principal of Guru Nanak School, Mango, before establishing Govind Vidyalaya with a vision to uplift rural education. His efforts transformed the institution into a center of learning for countless students.

Govind Vidyalaya pays emotional tribute

He was also associated with literature and social work, serving as editor of the Rajasthani magazine 'Kurjan' and founding several organizations, including Rajasthan Navyuvak Sangh. His contributions earned him numerous accolades in education and literature. Following his demise, a special prayer gathering was organized at the school premises, attended by students, parents, staff and community members. Former Health Minister Banna Gupta and Mango Mayor Sudha Gupta were also present. The gathering observed silence and offered heartfelt tributes, remembering Dr. Sharma as a guiding force whose ideals will continue to inspire generations. (w/gsd)

Spice trader commits suicide

Mail News Service

Seraikela, April 8: A 45-year-old spice trader, Ranjan Sahu, allegedly committed suicide at his residence in the Telisai locality under Seraikela police station limits on Wednesday.

According to initial reports, he hanged himself from a ceiling fan inside his home.

On receiving information, police rushed to the spot, took custody of the body, and sent it for post-mortem examination. An investigation into the incident has been initiated. Seraikela Nagar Panchayat Chairman Manoj Kumar Choudhary also reached the post-mortem house after learning about the incident and extended support to the bereaved family. The deceased is survived by his wife and two young children. At the time of the incident, his wife had reportedly gone to drop the children at school. On returning home in the afternoon, she found her husband hanging, triggering panic and grief in the household. Neighbours immediately alerted the police. Local sources suggest that financial distress may have been a contributing factor behind the tragic step.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Tender Notice No.: CKP-EAST-26-27-02, dated 07.04.2026. e-Tender is invited by Divisional Railway Manager/Engg/Chakradharpur, S.E. Railway, Chakradharpur for & on behalf of the President of India against open tender for the following work. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Name of work:** Upgradation/modernization of infrastructure at existing Goods shed at GUMI (Gorumahisani) station. **Tender value:** ₹ 10,16,28,109.67. **EMD:** ₹ 20,32,600/-. **Cost of Tender Form:** 0.00. **Date of Opening :** 30.04.2026. The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority–Railway Board's letter No. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-26)**

Two RVS students selected by Adhunik Power

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: Two students from RVS College of Engineering have secured placements at Adhunik Power & Natural Resources Limited during a recent campus recruitment drive held at the institute.

Around 50 final-year students participated in the drive, which consisted of three rigorous selection rounds. The first stage was a written examination, in which 30 candidates qualified. These students then appeared for personal interviews, after which 11 candidates were shortlisted for the final HR round.

Following the final stage, two Mechanical Engineering students, Aditya Raj and Md. Asif Ansari, were selected. Both candidates have been offered an annual package of rs 3.5 lakh and have received their official offer letters.

T&P Head Prof. (Dr.) Vikram Sharma stated that the selection process was challenging, but the students performed exceptionally well. Principal Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Kumar Tiwari expressed happiness over the achievement, attributing the success to the continuous efforts of the Training and Placement Department.

Institute Treasurer Shatrughan Singh also congratulated the selected students and wished them success in their professional careers. (w/gsd)

Loyola holds orientation programme for Class XI students

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: Loyola School organized an orientation programme along with a parents' meeting for the new batch of Class XI students, marking the beginning of their Plus Two academic journey. The event witnessed the participation of school management, teachers, parents and students, reflecting a collaborative approach to education.

The programme commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing knowledge and enlightenment, followed by a prayer song presented by the school choir seeking blessings for the academic year ahead.

Rector Rev. Father Michael T. Raj welcomed the gathering and shared his thoughts through a prayer. Principal Rev. Father Vinod Fernandes addressed the audience, emphasizing the importance of Jesuit values in guiding students towards academic excellence and holistic development.

Class teachers introduced themselves and assured students and parents of their continuous guidance and mentorship throughout the session.

Vice Principal (Senior Section) Jayanthi Sheshadri elaborated on the academic structure, expectations and school regulations, while Senior Section Coordinator Victoria Prasad highlighted the importance of discipline and adherence to school rules.

A video presentation on the Tarumitra Project was screened, showcasing the institution's environmental initiatives and commitment to sustainability. (W-pb)

AFFIDAVIT

I, **ASHOK PRASAD,** son of **Shri Parmeshwar Prasad**, by faith Hindu, by nationality Indian, resident of Holding No-365, Road No-09, B/Block, Kalayan Nagar, Hume pipe, Buiyadih, P.O. Agrico, P.S. Sitaramdera, Jamshedpur, 831009, Dist. East Singhbhum, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:

1.That I am an Indian citizen by birth, and residing at the above mentioned address since long.

2.That I am X Service man of Army vide Service No-14810530A, Serial No-6978751, at time of retairment my rank was HAV (MACP NB SUB).

3.That I am Pensioner at office of the Prinnicial Controller of Defence Account (Pensions), Allahabad vide PPO No- 240201902941 in which my son's name has been wrongly mentioned as **ABHISHEKH**, in place of his actual name and correct name is **ABHISHEK KUMAR** mentioned in this Aadhar / UID card no- 6689 5756 3704.

4.That **"ABHISHEK KUMAR** and **ABHISHEKH"** both names are same and one person i.e. my son's name.

5. That I swear this affidavit to confirm the above facts are true and correct and obtain to rectify the correct name of my son from theconcerning authority.

Sl. No. 284

Dt. 08/04/2026 **ADVOCATE**

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Rain, wind lash Jamshedpur; traffic hit at Mango bridge

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: Jamshedpur witnessed a spell of rain accompanied by gusty winds and lightning, leading to disruption in traffic movement, particularly near the old Mango bridge where waterlogging created significant inconvenience for commuters on Wednesday evening.

According to the daily weather bulletin issued from Ranchi on April 8, the city recorded a maximum temperature of 34.2°C, marking a noticeable drop of 4.1°C below normal.

The rainfall recorded in Jamshedpur stood at 2 mm between morning and evening observations.

Across the region, temperatures remained subdued due to changing weather conditions. The highest maximum temperature in the state was recorded at Seraikela AWS at 36.3°C, while Bokaro PTO reported the highest rainfall at 19.4 mm.

The combination of rain, wind, and lightning not only brought temporary relief from heat but also caused localized disruptions, with low-lying areas in Jamshedpur bearing the brunt of water accumulation. Authorities may need to remain alert as such weather conditions could persist intermittently.

Residents described the sudden change in weather as both relieving and disruptive. "I was stuck near Mango bridge for almost 30 minutes. The waterlogging was unexpected and traffic was barely moving," said a daily commuter.

Another resident pointed to the intensity of the weather. "The rain came with gusty winds and lightning. It felt like a storm for a while, though it did bring some relief from the heat," he said. (W-pm)

Advocates protest proposed shifting of Seraikela civil court



Seraikela, April 8: The District Bar Association has strongly opposed the proposed relocation of the Seraikela Civil Court, terming the move arbitrary and against public interest. A memorandum was submitted to Union Minister Sanjay Seth, MPs Kalicharan Munda and Joba Majhi, and MLA Dashrath Gagrai, urging immediate intervention. Advocates argued that sufficient land is available at the current site, making relocation unnecessary. They warned that shifting the court outside the town would severely affect access to justice, especially for poor and rural litigants, increasing both financial burden and hardship. The association demanded construction of a modern court complex at the existing location instead. It also warned of democratic agitation if public sentiment is ignored. Several senior advocates and office-bearers of the association were present during the protest. (W-pb)

Supply department schemes reviewed in Chaibasa



Chaibasa, April 8: A review meeting of schemes under the Supply Department was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Magistrate Chandan Kumar.

The meeting reviewed progress under the Public Distribution System (PDS), including ration card digitisation, doorstep delivery of food grains under NFSA and JSFSS, e-KYC updates, pending applications, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Special focus was given to paddy procurement. Officials were directed to ensure timely receipt of Custom Milled Rice (CMR), lifting of procured paddy, and prompt payments to farmers. Instructions were also issued to prepare proposals for construction of LAMPS warehouses ahead of the upcoming Kharif marketing season.

The Deputy Commissioner directed removal of ineligible ration cardholders and initiation of recovery proceedings where required. He also expressed concern over slow doorstep delivery in Sadar and Tantanagar blocks and sought explanations.

Emphasis was laid on completing e-KYC verification of all beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act to ensure benefits reach genuine recipients. Distribution of Bengal gram and salt was also reviewed. District Supply Officer Sunila Khalkho, Sub-Divisional Officers, Block Supply Officers, and other officials were present. (W-pb)

Govt to set up health cottages in all panchayats

Mail News Service

Ranchi, April 8: A state-level workshop on e-Sanjeevani telemedicine was held at Namkum-based public health institute on Wednesday, where Health Minister Irfan Ansari announced that the government will soon establish health cottages in all panchayats.

He said these centres will not only provide treatment but also promote a health-friendly environment. Emphasising the role of e-Sanjeevani telemedicine, Ansari noted that improved healthcare services will be extended to remote areas through digital platforms.

The event was attended by civil surgeons from across the state, representatives of e-Sanjeevani Tele-MANAS and other health officials. During the programme, Ansari, MP Vijay Hansda and National Health Mission campaign director Shashi Prakash Jha unveiled protocol guidelines for e-Sanjeevani telemedicine. A total of 13 doctors and 12 community health officers were also honoured for their performance.

Ansari said e-Sanjeevani had provided major relief during COVID-19 period and efforts will be made to further strengthen it. He directed doctors to maintain simple and empathetic behaviour with patients so that even poor individuals can share their problems without hesitation.

Highlighting future plans, he said artificial intelligence-based technologies will be integrated into Jharkhand's healthcare system to improve services. He urged civil surgeons to work fearlessly and remain sensitive toward patients.



The minister also announced that a strong monitoring cell will soon be set up to oversee healthcare services, with incentives for good performance and action against negligence. He added that a new blood policy will be introduced to address shortage of blood, including supply through agencies and a toll-free number for public convenience.

Ansari further said a process is underway to open 747 Abua medical stores across the state to ensure easy access to medicines and proper guidance on their use. He made it clear that surprise inspections of health institutions may be conducted at any time to improve system efficiency.

Speaking at the event, Shashi Prakash Jha said e-Sanjeevani telemedicine helps prevent incorrect treatment and confusion, and urged doctors to ensure quality care reaches even remote populations. (W-rg)

Multi-phase training for Census 2027 begins in East Singhbhum

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: Preparations for Census 2027 in East Singhbhum district have gained momentum with the launch of a three-phase Field Trainer training program, as per directives from the Directorate of Census Operations, Jharkhand.

The first phase of training, scheduled from April 8 to April 10, began at the District Council Auditorium in Sakchi. It covers participants from Potka, Patamda, Boram, Jamshedpur, Musabani, Chakulia, and urban bodies including Jugsalai Municipal Council and Chakulia Nagar Panchayat. The second and third phases will follow from April 11-13 and April 15-17, respectively.



The program was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner-cum-Principal Census Officer Karn Satyarthi, along with Deputy Development Commissioner Nagendra Paswan. Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of census data in policymaking and urged trainers to ensure high-quality training.

Master Trainers provided detailed guidance on the roles of Enumerators and Supervisors, along with practical insights into census operations. Officials and staff of the Census Cell were also present during the session.

Three-day Census 2027 training program launched in Seraikela

Mail News Service

Seraikela, April 8: A three-day district-level training program for the House-listing and Housing Census (HLO), the first phase of Census of India 2027, commenced at the Block Office Auditorium in Seraikela. The training, being held from April 8 to April 10, has been organized under the directives of Deputy Commissioner-cum-Principal Census Officer Nitish Kumar Singh.

Participants include Block Development Officers, Executive Officers from Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats, and designated Field Trainers. The sessions are being conducted by state-level Master Trainers Md. Tasikur Rahman and Avinash Thakur, who are addressing queries and ensuring clarity for effective implementation.



On the opening day, district-level Field Trainers received training, after which they will further train Enumerators and Supervisors in their respective areas. Additional District Census Officer Kamlesh Kumar Das and other officials were also present. The initiative aims to ensure a fair, transparent, and efficient census process.

Census 2027 field trainers' programme begins in Chaibasa



Mail News Service

Chaibasa, April 8: A training programme for Field Trainers for Census 2027 commenced at the Sub-divisional Auditorium in Sadar Chaibasa under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner-cum-Principal Census Officer Chandan Kumar.

The training focuses on house-listing and housing census operations, which form the first phase of the national exercise. The programme is being conducted in two batches of 30 participants each. The first batch is scheduled from April 8 to April 10, while the second batch will be held from April 11 to April 13. District-level Master Trainers Sunila Khalkho and Francis Kujur are imparting the training, while Deepak Kumar, Statistical Investigator Grade-I, is attending as District Coordinator representing the Directorate of Census Operations, Ranchi. Addressing the participants, the Deputy Commissioner described the Census as a critically important national exercise and emphasized the key role of Field Trainers in ensuring data accuracy. He noted that the upcoming Census will be conducted digitally, making technical proficiency essential for all personnel involved. Trainers provided detailed guidance on house-listing procedures, mobile app usage, house numbering, HLO form filling, and data management. After completing this training, Field Trainers will train Enumerators and Supervisors at the block level. Senior district officials, including the ADC and Sub-Divisional Officers, were present along with 30 Field Trainers of the first batch. (W-pb)

Jharkhand tender scam: Two retired engineers surrender before court, get conditional bail

Ranchi, April 8 (IANS) : In a key development in the multi-crore tender commission and money laundering case linked to Jharkhand's Rural Development Department, retired Engineer-in-Chief Rajiv Lochan and retired Executive Engineer Anil Kumar surrendered before the Special PMLA Court in Ranchi on Wednesday.

The court subsequently granted them conditional bail upon furnishing personal bonds of Rs 1 lakh each. As part of the bail conditions, both accused have been directed to surrender their passports and refrain from leaving the country without prior permission. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had recently filed a supplementary charge sheet against 14 engineers in the case. Taking cognisance, the court issued a summons to all those named. However, legal troubles continue for the prime accused and former Rural Development Minister Alamgir Alam and his private secretary, Sanjeev Lal. The Supreme Court recently rejected their bail pleas and directed the trial court to record statements of key witnesses within four weeks and expedite proceedings.

So far, the agency has conducted 52 searches across Jharkhand, Delhi and Bihar, and arrested nine persons in connection with the case. Former minister Alam, his personal secretary Lal and associate Jahangir Alam are currently in judicial custody. Alamgir Alam was arrested on May 15, 2024.

Teachers' workshop focuses on enrollment, quality education



Seraikela, April 8: The first block-level monthly Guru Gosthi (teachers' workshop) of the academic session was held at the Block Resource Center in Seraikela. Conducted under the guidance of BEEO Dinesh Kumar Dandpat, the workshop was led by Block Program Officer Santona Jena and Block Resource Person Gautam Kumar. Discussions focused on achieving 100 percent student enrollment, improving quality of education, and creating a joyful learning environment in schools. Reports were presented on UDISE+ IDs, teacher deployment, and progress under programmes such as Prayas, Project RAIL, FLN, Eco Clubs, and Split Syllabus. Head teachers and cluster resource persons from schools across the block attended the workshop. (W-pb)

Hotel raids take dramatic turn, couple marries on street

Garhwa , April 8 (IANS) In an unusual turn of events during a police crackdown on alleged illegal activities, a couple detained from a hotel in Jharkhand's Garhwa district ended up tying the knot on the roadside.

Three other couples caught in the hotel signed written undertakings to marry.

The action unfolded after police, acting on specific Intelligence inputs about the operation of suspected sex rackets, conducted simultaneous raids at several hotels in the district headquarters, including Tiwari Inn, SNC, and RDS on Monday. During the operation, over a dozen couples were caught in a compromising position. Police arrested them along with hotel operators and staff and took them to the police station for questioning.



What followed, however, was unexpected. During interrogation, some of the detained couples told police they were adults and in consensual relationships, claiming they had plans to marry soon. To verify these claims, the police called their family members to the police station.

In a dramatic turn, one couple, with the consent of their families, chose to soleminise their marriage immediately -- right on the road outside of the police station. The two exchanged garlands in full public view, as onlookers gathered and captured the scene on their mobile phone cameras. Videos of the roadside wedding moment quickly went viral on social media. Meanwhile, three other couples submitted written affidavits, pledging to marry soon. After due verification and documentation, they were released by the police.

Meanwhile, authorities have initiated legal proceedings against hotel owners and managers for allegedly facilitating illegal activities. Several individuals have been sent to judicial custody.

The police have also sealed three hotels -- SNC, RDS, and Tiwari Inn -- for violations and suspected involvement in unlawful operations. Officials stated that the crackdown is part of an ongoing drive against immoral trafficking and illegal practices in the city, adding that a detailed investigation is underway to uncover the full extent of the network.

Kharsawan style Chhau dance competition concludes at festival

Chief guest highlights 20 years of efforts in preserving Chhau art

Mail News Service





Seraikela, April 8: The grand Chhau dance competition, part of the State Chaitra Parva and Chhau Festival-2026, concluded today at the auditorium of the Rajkiya Chhau Nritya Kala Kendra, Saraikela. Five rural troupes participated, showcasing the Kharsawan style of Chhau: Bhavesh Chhau Dance Art Center (Dehuridih), Chhau Dance Art Center (Kharsawan), Martial Art Center (Jojodih), Har-Har Mahadev Chhau Dance Committee (Chilku) and Om Shankar Club Chhau Dance Art Committee (Krishnapur). Based on their performances, the Chhau Dance Art Center (Kharsawan) clinched first place, Bhavesh Chhau Dance Art Center (Dehuridih) finished second, and Har-Har Mahadev Chhau Dance Committee (Chilku) secured third. The winners were announced by chief guest Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, chairman of the Saraikela Nagar Panchayat, following the judges' verdict. Judges Guru Nathu Mahato, Guru Rajat Pattanaik and Guru Tarun Bhol were also honoured with bouquets.

During his address, Manoj Kumar Chaudhary praised the 20-year-long dedication to promoting Chhau art, noting that the previously dilapidated art center now stood fully renovated and vibrant.

He emphasized that Chhau was not just entertainment but a spiritual discipline that fostered unity, happiness and prosperity. He encouraged artistes and organizations to continue working together to promote India's cultural heritage. The event witnessed the participation of several distinguished artistes and dignitaries, including Guru Sushant Mohapatra, Guru Manoranjan Sahoo, Guru Brajendra Pattanaik, Guru Tapan Pattanaik, Guru Vijay Kumar Sahoo, Bhola Mohanty, Coordinator Sudeep Kabi, and many others, along with office staff members who contributed to the smooth conduct of the program. Winners were honored on the main stage and offered opportunities to perform at the festival. (w/gsd)

BJP candidate treats ailing party worker amid campaign

Mail News Service



Jhargram, April 8: A compassionate gesture by BJP candidate Dr. Pranat Tudu has drawn appreciation during the ongoing election campaign in the Binpur Assembly constituency.

Dr. Tudu visited the residence of ailing party worker Amal Mandal in the Keudishol area after learning about his prolonged illness.

Demonstrating his medical commitment, he personally examined Mandal using a stethoscope and provided necessary treatment at his home.

Despite his busy campaign schedule, Dr. Tudu continued his outreach efforts throughout the day. He visited several villages, including Barighati, Chirugora and Kushbhala in the Bhulabheda area, where he interacted with residents, listened to their grievances, and assured them of possible solutions. His act of care and concern toward a party worker during the election period has been widely noted and appreciated by locals, highlighting a humane side of political engagement. (w/gsd)

Mamata Banerjee to address major rally



Mail News Service

Jhargram, April 8: Political activities are intensifying in the Junglemahal region as the Assembly elections approach. Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee is scheduled to address a major rally on April 11 at Jamda Circus Ground in Jhargram. Ahead of the event, district TMC leaders inspected the venue, including district president and Nayagram Assembly candidate Dulal Murmu, district sabhadhipati Chinmoyi Marandi and Jhargram Assembly in-charge Prasun Sarangi, along with other party officials.

Following the inspection, the district president stated that the people of Junglemahal continued to have strong faith in "Didi" and expressed confidence that the party aimed to secure all four Assembly seats in the district.

A large turnout is expected at the rally, signaling strong support for the TMC in the region. (w/gsd)

25th Jai Radha Govind Harinam Sankirtan festival celebrated

Manoharpur, April 8: The 25th edition of the 72-hour 'Jai Radha Govind Harinam Sankirtan' commenced on Wednesday at the Sant Mauni Ashram in Manoharpur, promoting peace, harmony and prosperity. The festival began with a ceremonial Kalash Ghat Shobha Yatra, followed by Ghat Sthapan and formal worship rituals.

The Harinam Sankirtan saw participation from six troupes, including local groups and teams from Jharkhand and West Bengal. Notable participants included the Dinesh Chandra Das Kirtan Mandali (Medinipur), Tripti Mahila Sampraday (Purulia) and troupes from Baranga, Raikera, Laxmipur and Ichapid.

The event's success was credited to the contributions of Pandit Anil Tiwari, along with local organizers Rajesh Sahu, Pradeep Mishra, Santosh Gupta, Gudlal and other villagers. (w/gsd)



Union minister gets rousing welcome by BJP workers



Mail News Service

Gamharia, April 8: Union Minister of State for Defence Sanjay Seth was accorded a warm welcome by BJP workers near the Kandra bus stand while he was on his way to Seraikela. The reception was organized under the leadership of BJP leader Vidyasagar Dubey, where the Minister was felicitated with a floral bouquet and a traditional angavastra as a mark of and respect.

Several prominent leaders and party members were present on the occasion, including BJP District President Hare Krishna Pradhan, Adityapur Municipal Corporation Mayor Sanjay Sardar, Sunita Mishra, Amresh Goswami, Vijay Srivastava, along with a large number of party workers.

The event reflected strong organizational enthusiasm and support among local BJP members during the Minister's visit to the region.

Senior rail officials conduct inspection at Shalimar station

Mail News Service



Kharagpur, April 8: Senior railway officials conducted a high-level inspection of the proposed passenger holding area and amenities at Shalimar Railway Station to improve passenger convenience and infrastructure. The inspection was led by Sonali Mishra, Director General of Railway Protection Force, along with Sarvapriya Mayank, Additional Director General, RPF, and South Eastern Railway GM Soumitra Majumdar. Other senior officials, including Sanjay Kumar Mishra (IG cum PCSC/RPF), Navin Chandra Kumar (PCCM), and Lalit Mohan Pandey (DRM/Kharagpur), also participated. Officials reviewed the passenger holding area, focusing on flow, comfort, cleanliness, accessibility, and security. Instructions were given to ensure timely completion and maintenance of high standards. The inspection reflected Indian Railways' commitment to providing a safe, organized and passenger-friendly travel experience amid increasing footfall and future operational demands. (w/gsd)

Panchayat workers demand immediate release of pending honorariums



Manoharpur, April 8: Concerns have emerged over the non-payment of honorariums to Panchayat and village-level cadres in the Manoharpur block, with dues reportedly pending for nearly a year. The affected workers have urged the administration to take swift action to clear the backlog and ensure timely payments in the future. According to sources, several categories of grassroots workers including G-CRPs, BRP-LHs, Senior AKSs, ANSs, CLMs, APSs, Sakriya Mahilas (Active Women), Bank Sakhis, and Setu Didis had not received their honorariums since April 1, 2025. Additionally, the honorarium for G-CRPs dating back to November 2023 was also said to be unpaid. Workers claimed that despite consistently carrying out their responsibilities, the prolonged delay in payments had created serious financial strain. Many were finding it increasingly difficult to manage their daily expenses and support their families, which in turn were affecting their ability to perform their duties effectively. In response, all affected cadres had jointly submitted a memorandum to the Block Development Officer (BDO) of Manoharpur. In their appeal, they had demanded the immediate clearance of all pending dues and called for a system to ensure regular monthly disbursement of honorariums going forward. The workers emphasized that timely payments were essential not only for their livelihoods but also for the smooth functioning of grassroots development initiatives.

Malaria training and 'Scan & Share' OPD registration launched



Manoharpur, April 8: As part of the third phase of the Intensive Malaria Eradication Program, a training session was held at the Community Health Center for Community Health Volunteers working in high-risk areas. The program focused on malaria prevention, detection and treatment, empowering volunteers to raise awareness in their communities. Present at the training were Dr. Anil Kumar (Medical Officer-in-Charge), BPM Anuj Kumar, BDM Sandeep Datta, MPW Dulichand Mahto and Block Coordinator Sanjeev Kumar.

On the same day, the Manoharpur CHC also launched the 'Scan and Share' OPD registration system, providing patients with a quick, digital registration process.

Dr. Anil Kumar highlighted that the initiative would improve efficiency, transparency and convenience in healthcare services. Officials present included Dr. Vijay Shankar Jogyani, Anuj Kumar, Sandeep Datta, Ashish Gupta, ANMs, and Sahaiyas. (w/gsd)

Citizens felicitate athletes and social workers



Jamshedpur, April 8: Prominent citizens of Jamshedpur honored athletes and social workers at a program held at the Human Welfare Trust office. The event celebrated their contributions and achievements, creating a warm atmosphere of recognition and appreciation.

J.P. Singh, Officer-in-Charge of Govindpuri Police Station in Dhanbad and an international basketball coach, and social worker Mehtab Alam were felicitated with mementos and shawls by Vishnu Prasad Raut, acknowledging their dedication to sports and community service. (w/gsd)

Poila Boishakh a spl day for Bengali women, says Kolkata model Soma

By Debosmita Chatterjee



Kolkata, April 8: Not an ordinary date on the calendar, Poila Boishakh is characterised by vibrant festivities and mouth-watering dishes. For Bengali women, the essence of this day lies in their red and white sarees - an emblem of their unwavering love for tradition through the ages.

Rising model from Dum Dum of Kolkata Soma Halder said, "The classic red and white combination is not just about fashion. For most women, it is but a reflection of deep-rooted cultural symbolism. Red, the colour of passion, energy, and vitality, is believed to ward off evil spirits and bring good fortune. It signifies the vibrancy and dynamism of life itself. On the other hand, white represents purity, peace, and new beginnings.

Together, these colours capture the essence of Poila Boishakh, marking the transition from the old to the new with hope, optimism, and fervour. Soma Halder said, "For Bengali women, the red and white saree is a tradition passed down through generations. Many families have heirloom sarees that are worn specifically for Poila Boishakh, carrying with them the memories of past celebrations and the anticipation of those yet to come.

The meticulous craftsmanship, intricate designs, and fine fabrics make these sarees a treasured possession, to be worn with pride and reverence on this special day."

Soma has recently worked with her mentor Sudeshna Sarkar on modelling assignment at Parasnath temple in north Kolkata along with half-a-dozen other models.

Mother of JMM leader passes away



Mail News Service

Potka, April 8: Bharati Bhagat, mother of Hitesh Bhagat, senior leader and former vice-president of the JMM Potka Block Committee, passed away, leaving her family and well-wishers in grief.

Potka MLA Sanjib Sardar visited the family, offered condolences and prayed for the departed soul, while expressing support and strength to the bereaved family during this difficult time. (w/gsd)

Three major resolutions adopted in ABGP National General Assembly

Mail News Service



Haridwar, April 8: The two-day National General Assembly of Akhil Bharatiya Grahak Panchayat (ABGP) was held on April 4 and 5 at Gayatri Teerth Shantikunj, Haridwar, bringing together representatives from across India to deliberate on consumer rights, organizational development and social responsibility. The Assembly featured nine sessions focusing on strengthening the organization, raising consumer awareness and promoting social responsibility. National President Narayan Bhai Shah, in his address, emphasized the need for balanced coordination between consumers and traders while encouraging the development of informed and responsible consumers. The event also saw the release of the national souvenir, Grahak Drishti, with its Hindi section edited by Jharkhand State president Dr. Kalyani Kabir. The publication included contributions from activists nationwide, with nine articles from Jharkhand highlighting consumer awareness.

Yogendra Giri, during the release, invoked the ideals of Pandit Shriram Sharma Acharya, stressing the importance of responsible citizens for national development.

During the Assembly, three key resolutions were unanimously passed: first, to curb the commercialization of education and ensure accessibility for all; second, to impose restrictions on certain social media platforms for children under 16 to mitigate adverse effects; and third, to express appreciation to the Government of India for managing the energy crisis and stabilizing prices amidst global challenges.

Reports on organizational activities and future action plans were presented by state and departmental heads. The Jharkhand delegation, including Regional Organization secretary Shivaji Kranti, state president Dr. Kalyani Kabir, vice president Anjil Upadhyay, and others, received special appreciation for their initiatives in environmental and women awareness programs.

Over 250 delegates from across the country attended the Assembly, with key office bearers including secretary Jayant Kathiriya, organization secretary Dinkar Sabnis and vice president Asha Singh contributing to discussions and deliberations.

The Assembly concluded with a commitment to strengthen consumer rights, enhance social responsibility and expand awareness campaigns nationwide, reaffirming the organization's vision for an empowered and informed citizenry. (w/gsd)

Sanjay Seth reviews development schemes, directs timely completion



Mail News Service

Seraikela, April 8: A high-level meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) was held in the District Collectorate auditorium, presided by Union Minister of State for Defense, Sanjay Seth. The meeting was attended by MP (Khunti Lok Sabha Constituency) Kalicharan Munda, MP (Singhbhum Lok Sabha Constituency) Joba Manjhi, various MLAs, the Mayor, Deputy Commissioner Nitish Kumar Singh, Superintendent of Police Mukesh Lunayat, District Divisional Forest Officer Saba Alam, District Council Chairperson Sonaram Bodra, Mayor of Adityapur Municipal Corporation Sanjay Sardar, Chairperson of Seraikela Nagar Panchayat Manoj Kumar Chaudhary, Chairperson of Kapali Nagar Parishad, Deputy Development Commissioner Reena Hansda and Additional Deputy Commissioner Jayavardhan Kumar, along with officials from various departments and elected representatives.

Officials reviewed the implementation of various schemes under departments including Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), electricity, drinking water, sanitation, MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), education, health, social welfare and road construction.

The minister directed the completion of all pending and slow-moving projects within a fixed timeline.

For electricity, officials were instructed to repair damaged wires and poles to ensure uninterrupted supply. In the water sector, repair of faulty hand pumps, extension of the 'Nal-Jal' scheme to all households and regular inspections were emphasized. Contractors failing quality standards were warned of strict action. Road works, including PMGSY projects, were to be expedited, with negligent contractors facing potential blacklisting.

In healthcare, officials were instructed to ensure the presence of doctors, ANMs, and CHOs at all centers, prioritize cervical cancer vaccinations and enhance public awareness campaigns in local languages. Free dialysis centers and ambulance services were to be made widely accessible. Education-related directives included provision of basic amenities and sports facilities in all schools and ensuring full enrollment.

Social welfare measures focused on Model Anganwadi Centers and effective operation of 'Toy Banks.' Urban development directives emphasized regular waste collection, uninterrupted water and electricity supply and public awareness campaigns on plastic and thermocol hazards.

The minister also directed rural children to be taken on educational tours to Parliament and other important sites and stressed the formulation of action plans for women's empowerment, self-employment and livelihood initiatives. (w/gsd)

Nagar Panchayat chairman raises public welfare issues at DISHA meeting



Seraikela, April 8: During the DISHA meeting, Saraikela Nagar Panchayat Chairman Manoj Kumar Chaudhary highlighted several critical public welfare issues across multiple departments, urging prompt action. In healthcare, Chaudhary advocated integrating all district hospitals with the Ayushman Card scheme, installing informative display boards at blood banks, ensuring smooth operations of the '108' ambulance service and creating separate consultation chambers outside the Sadar Hospital Emergency Ward. In education, he proposed developing 13 schools as 'Model Schools' under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, providing all basic amenities, constructing boundary walls and demolishing dilapidated school buildings to prevent accidents. For Women and Child Welfare, he suggested relocating two Anganwadi centers to safer locations and improving the functioning of the 'One Stop Sakhi Kendra' and 'Child Helpline.'

Regarding roads, Chaudhary emphasized repairing the Chowka-Chaibasa road, restoring the Saraikela-Rajnagar route and filling potholes at Birsa Chowk. In sports, he proposed transferring Birsa Munda Stadium to the Sports Department for better management and providing power for high-mast lighting.

He concluded that all these initiatives were crucial for the welfare of the public and the region's overall development, urging concerned departments to act immediately. (w/gsd)

Dilapidated Seraikela-Rajnagar road raises safety concerns



Seraikela, April 8: The Seraikela-Rajnagar main road has deteriorated significantly within two years of its construction, raising serious safety concerns. BJP leader Sumit Kumar Choudhary highlighted that large potholes have developed across the stretch, making commuting difficult for both heavy and small vehicles. He noted that accidents are increasing and the situation worsens after rainfall when potholes fill with water, posing risks especially for two-wheelers.

Appealing to the district administration, he demanded immediate repair of the road to prevent further inconvenience and accidents.

School kits for children



Jamshedpur, April 8: Seventy-five schoolchildren from Classes 1 to 5 received educational materials, including books and school kits, at the Primary School on Road No. 1, Bagbera Colony Panchayat area. Panchayat Samiti member Sunil Gupta and Deputy Mukhiya Santosh Thakur distributed the materials, continuing the tradition of supporting students' education and bringing smiles to the children's faces. (w/gsd)

Health awareness programme marks World Health Day

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 8: The District Health Department organized an awareness programme at Sadar Hospital to mark World Health Day, focusing on promoting a healthy lifestyle and environmental responsibility. The programme was held under the guidance of Civil Surgeon Dr. Saryu Prasad Singh and chaired by Deputy Superintendent Dr. Nakul Prasad Choudhary.

Doctors, including Dr. Anirban Mahato and Dr. Bhupesh Chandra Mahato, along with health workers, participated in the initiative.

Speaking on this year's theme, "Together for Health, Stand with Science," experts emphasized the importance of maintaining a clean and green environment.

They highlighted measures such as tree plantation, water conservation, and reducing pollution to ensure sustainable access to clean resources.

Participants were also encouraged to adopt healthy habits such as consuming nutritious food, avoiding intoxicants, and maintaining hygiene.

The programme further addressed the growing impact of climate change on human health and stressed the need for collective action to safeguard both the environment and public well-being.

Public grievances taken up at weekly hearing in Seraikela

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 8: A weekly public hearing was conducted at the District Collectorate under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Nitish Kumar Singh, where a wide range of grievances from residents across blocks and panchayats were taken up. Among the key issues raised were land disputes, delays in old age and family benefit pensions, and non-receipt of benefits under the Jharkhand Chief Minister Maiyaan Samman Yojana.

Residents also complained about pending online entries in Register-2 in the Rajnagar zone, the need for a new ration dealer shop in Ward No. 3 of Kapali Municipal Council, and compensation for families affected by road accidents.

Additional concerns included non-vacation of a rented government quarter by a Home Guard jawan in Adityapur Housing Colony and incomplete works under the Jal Jeevan Mission in Tentoposhi and Barakankada, which have affected water supply in these areas.

Taking serious note of all applications, the Deputy Commissioner directed concerned officials to ensure prompt investigation and timely resolution.

He stressed that public grievances must be addressed with transparency and accountability, warning that negligence at any level would not be tolerated.

He also instructed that cases requiring immediate action be resolved without delay, while others be processed swiftly so that beneficiaries receive government scheme benefits on time.

He urged citizens to approach the administration without hesitation.

Skill development initiative introduced at Manoharpur

Mail News Service

Manoharpur, April 8: An inclusive programme focusing on skill development and holistic education was organized at Shrihari Gaurhari High School, Urkia, in Manoharpur block.

School secretary Om Prakash Mahato outlined plans to introduce a new academic structure aimed at improving educational outcomes. Under the proposed system, classes from Nursery to Grade 5 will be conducted entirely in English medium, while classes 6 to 8 will follow a bilingual approach in English and Hindi. The curriculum for classes 9 and 10 will be aligned with the Jharkhand Academic Council.

The initiative also includes incorporating skill development programmes to equip students with practical knowledge and enhance employability.

Emphasis will be placed on the overall development of students by integrating value-based education and spirituality alongside academics.

100-day TB screening campaign draws 178

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 8: As part of the ongoing 100-day tuberculosis (TB) patient screening campaign, a health camp was organized at the Aam Madhu Bazar Clinic in Ward No. 14 of Chaibasa, West Singhbhum.

The camp, presided by Ward Councilor Dharmavir Paswan (Sunny Paswan), witnessed active participation, with 178 individuals undergoing screening.

Among them, 56 vulnerable individuals were subjected to chest X-rays using a hand-held X-ray machine.

The success of the camp was made possible through the collective efforts of healthcare workers and local representatives. Key contributors included Dr. Sana Parveen, Staff Nurse Guruwari Sundi, MPW Bhagwan Chandra Sundi, BTE Somnath Murthy, STS Avneesh Kumar Singh, and other supporting staff and volunteers.

The initiative aimed to identify and treat TB cases at an early stage, thereby contributing to improved public health outcomes in the region. (w/gsd)

Awareness rally promotes healthy lifestyle and yoga

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 8: A morning procession was organized in the town on the occasion of World Health Day to promote awareness about healthy living and the importance of yoga in daily life.

The rally witnessed the participation of several judicial officers, including Principal District and Sessions Judge Ramashankar Singh, along with other members of the judiciary and the District Legal Services Authority. Paralegal volunteers and court staff also actively joined the procession.

Organized under the direction of the Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, the programme focused on spreading awareness about physical and mental well-being. The theme of the rally, "Healthy Lifestyle and Yoga Campaign," highlighted the need for regular exercise, balanced diet, and stress management. Addressing the participants, judicial officials emphasized that incorporating yoga into daily routines can lead to a balanced and healthy life. Similar awareness programmes were also conducted at the grassroots level to reach a wider section of society.

Active participation key to organisational growth: Birsa Soy

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 8: A meeting of the Brihad Jharkhand Morcha was held at the Kharsawan Road Inspection Bungalow under the chairmanship of its Central President Birsa Soy. During the meeting, a review of the organisation's activities over the past year was conducted.

It was unanimously decided to dissolve all existing units and reconstitute them within a month to strengthen the organisation at the grassroots level. Birsa Soy stressed that active participation would be the primary criterion for assigning responsibilities within the organisation. He also announced plans to expand the party beyond Kolhan division. He raised concerns over unemployment among local youth despite Jharkhand's mineral wealth, alleging that successive governments failed to generate adequate employment opportunities. He also pointed out gaps in basic services like education, healthcare, and irrigation. Several party members and office-bearers attended the meeting.

Blood donation camp in memory of martyrs



Jamshedpur, April 8: A blood donation camp was organized at Red Cross Bhawan in Sakchi under the joint initiative of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), East Singhbhum District Branch, Purva Sainik Seva Parishad, and Lions Club of Jamshedpur North. The camp was held in memory of freedom fighter Late Chittaranjan Mukherjee and martyred soldiers on the martyrdom day of Shaheed Mangal Pandey. A total of 104 donors participated, making the event a meaningful contribution to humanitarian service. The camp was coordinated by Sudipto Mukherjee and Sushil Singh, while the overall program was managed by Bijay Kumar Singh, Honorary Secretary of IRCS East Singhbhum and Chairman of the Jharkhand State Branch. The presence of an Army Commanding Officer inspired participants, as he praised the spirit of veterans and emphasized the importance of the "Country First" principle in overcoming challenges and serving society selflessly.

Civil Defence imparts disaster management training to loco pilots

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 8: Rail Civil Defence conducted an extensive training programme for trainee loco pilots at the Electric Loco Pilot Training Centre, focusing on disaster management and emergency response.

Inspector Santosh Kumar trained participants on identifying and managing burn injuries, including the classification of burns and first aid procedures. He explained that first-degree burns affect the outer skin, while higher-degree burns can cause severe damage to deeper tissues and require immediate medical attention. The training also covered the Rule of Nine for assessing burn severity and determining compensation in accident cases. In the second phase, demonstrator Shankar Kumar Prasad conducted practical sessions on CPR, fire safety equipment usage, rescue techniques such as the Heimlich manoeuvre, and methods of preparing makeshift stretchers through mock drills. Around 200 loco pilots from Chakradharpur, Kharagpur, Ranchi, and Adra divisions participated in the programme. The participants appreciated the modern training methods and hands-on approach adopted by the Civil Defence team, which enhanced their preparedness for emergency situations.

Malda gherao sparks poll integrity concerns

The gherao (encirclement) of seven judicial officers by a mob in Malda on April 1 has emerged as a deeply troubling episode, casting a shadow over West Bengal's already tense election environment. The Supreme Court has strongly condemned the incident, describing it as a "premeditated" attempt to obstruct the judicial process. In response, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has sought a probe by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), underlining the seriousness of the situation. The episode has now become a flashpoint in the ongoing friction between the Trinamool Congress (TMC)-led state government and the ECI, particularly over the controversial Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

While election-related violence has significantly declined across most parts of India, West Bengal continues to remain an exception. The persistence of such unrest reflects a deeper structural issue rooted in the state's political culture. Historically, elections in West Bengal have not merely been democratic exercises but fierce contests for territorial dominance. During the decades of Left Front rule, electoral politics often revolved around control over local areas, with the Trinamool Congress emerging as its principal challenger. This legacy of intense rivalry continues to shape the state's political landscape.

The early establishment of Panchayati Raj institutions in West Bengal, though progressive in intent, contributed to the politicization of grassroots governance. In a state where industrial growth has been limited and the economy remains largely agrarian, political power has often been closely tied to access to state resources and patronage networks. Electoral victories, therefore, are perceived not just as political achievements but as gateways to economic influence.

Today, the political contest is primarily between the Trinamool Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), with the Left reduced to a marginal presence. The Trinamool's strategy, often described by scholars as a "franchise model of politics," relies heavily on the personal appeal of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, supported by a network of local power brokers. The BJP, on the other hand, is attempting to replicate a similar structure while incorporating its ideological emphasis on Hindutva. This evolving rivalry has introduced new dimensions of political confrontation, often accompanied by sporadic violence.

The current electoral cycle has been further complicated by the SIR exercise, which has triggered widespread controversy. The revised electoral rolls indicate a significant drop in the number of registered voters-from 7.6 crore in 2024 to 7.04 crore now. Around six million voters remain under scrutiny due to "logical inconsistencies," and a substantial proportion of claims processed so far have been rejected. Judicial officers, functioning under the Supreme Court's supervision, are working to address this backlog.

However, the situation has been exacerbated by allegations that the ECI relied on flawed software in filtering applications, leading to large-scale discrepancies. Although the Supreme Court has permitted the creation of appellate tribunals for those whose names have been excluded, doubts remain about whether all cases can be resolved before the elections.

Public anger over potential disenfranchisement has reached a critical level, particularly among minority communities who allege disproportionate removal of their names from the rolls. This growing frustration has, in some instances, manifested in unlawful protests such as the Malda gherao.

Much of this unrest could have been mitigated through a more transparent and voter-friendly approach by the ECI, along with timely and effective judicial intervention. At this sensitive juncture, it is imperative for political leaders across party lines to exercise restraint. Escalating rhetoric will only deepen divisions and undermine public trust. Ensuring a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process must remain the foremost priority.

From the Editorial Desk

Intensive fight and unpredictable result in Keralam

Dr. Duggaraju Srinivasa Rao



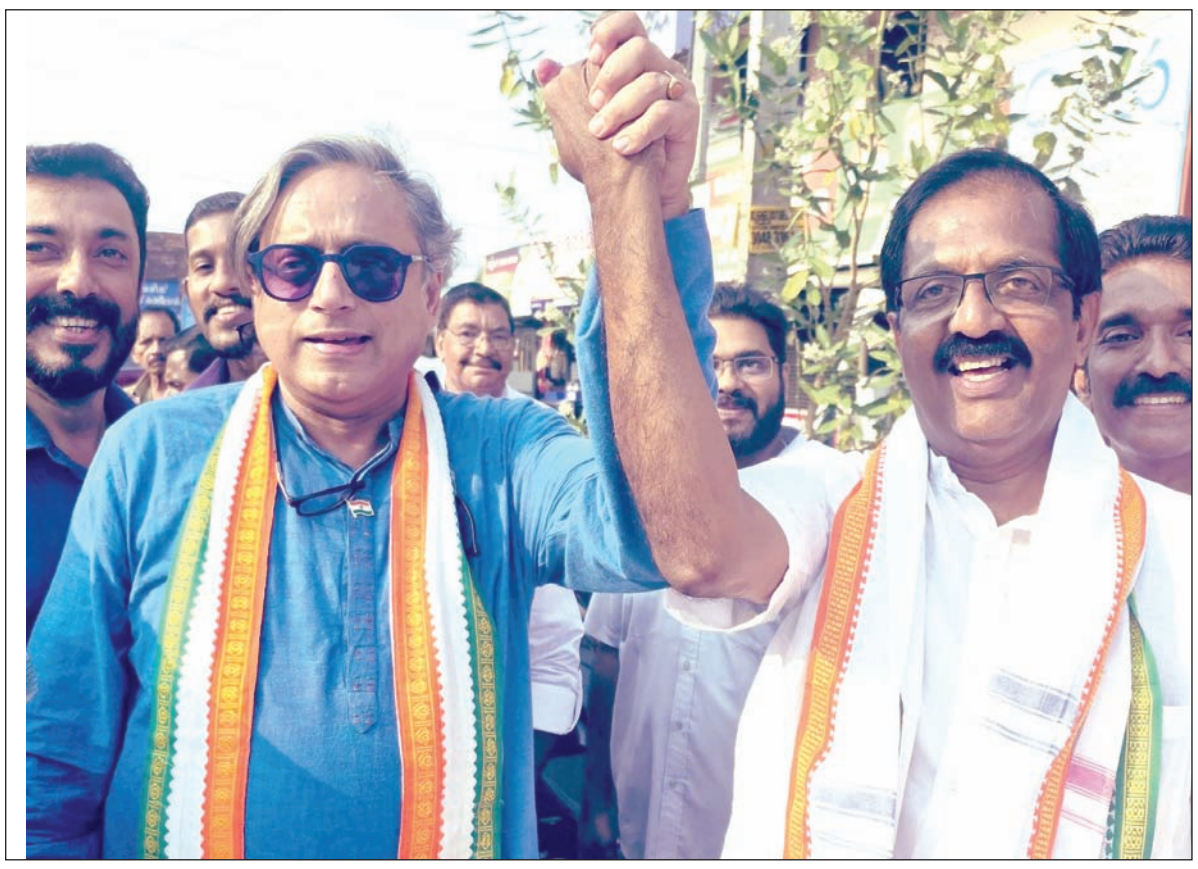
Kerala state has changed its name to Keralam and along with the name the politics of that state also seems to have changed. Till now Kerala had ths history of alternatively opting to one of the alliances of the state, while for the first time the voter is now givengot the opportunity to experiment with the with a third alternative NDA, led by BJP. Though no one is imagining NDA upsetting the established political narrative of Kerala, which is going to polls on the 9th of this month, the two traditional rival alliances LDF and UDF are worried about the mood of the Malayalam voter's likely changed preferences. In their worry to stop the drifting of Hindu vote to BJP, both the alliance leaders are tactfully accusing the other camp as a colluder of BJP. How the voter take this changed message and respond will be known on this week, though the final results will be out only on 4th May. Both LDF and UDF are in serious fight to finish mode though for different causes. The CPM led LDF is fighting for a hat trick victory, unheard in Keralam political history and Congress led UDF for its own survival and to score a consolation victory amidst a series of defeats in the state elections in the near past. Going by the voting pattern in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections and 2025 local body elections the observers predicted a walkover for the Congress led UDF. It is to the credit of CPM, it's CM Pinarayi Vijayan and other Left parties in the state which recovered the lost ground and could make it a fight worth remembering, though still the scales are tilted away from them. Those two elections reported a huge anti-incumbency, but for that BJP couldn't have snatched Tiruvananthapuram Corporation from the CPM, which was holding that for over 3 decades. The defeat in the state capital has certainly worried the CPM and started its campaign with some amount of seriousness. The intensity of fight between those camps can be gauged from the kind of language used and issues being raked up by LDF and UDF leaders. The CPI national general secretary D. Raja called Congress "an ideological bankrupt party" while Rahul Gandhi saying "the Left is on a weakened ideological foundation". For a change Rahul Gandhi was right when he referred to ideological weakness of Left. To the surprise the Left leaders, both CMP and CPI, surprisingly walked into rival alliance when denied tickets. But what surprised is the CPI and CPI leaders, former MLAs joining the saffron camp lead by BJP, whom till recently they claimed to be their ideological rival. Congress leaders, including the kin of former Congress CM Karunakaran, A.K. Antony, are now clad in saffron shawl and are proudly saying that they were respected by PM Modi and BJP, the kind of respect they expected and not received when they were in Congress. The LDF and UDF are worried at the growing acceptability of BJP in Keralam, the state till recently used to display 'no entry' board to BJP. Their worry is understandable as the fight is intense and running neck to neck, the possibility of no alliance gaining sufficient number of seats to form the government staring, the very thought of approaching BJP for the government formation or considering BJP for power sharing is giving them sleepless nights.

Thus both LDF and UDF may be regretting for placing BJP into electoral focus with allegation and counter allegation of collusion with BJP but there is no way they can now change the track of campaign as very few hours of campaign is left. Whatever may be their initial strategy but the ruling LDF and opposition UDF have offered undue publicity to BJP. The Congress alleges that LDF victory in 2021 was a result of collusion with between CPM and BJP. It was that understanding CPM had with BJP which saved them from the gold smuggling case, the Sabarimala temple gold theft case etc.

They show the top BJP brass's low intense criticism on LDF as the evidence for the current collision. The CPM on the other hand alleges Congress joining hands with BJP to dislodge Communists from power in Keralam. They show the kind of weak candidates Congress put up in constituencies to ensure victory to BJP. Keralam, the state where minorities form near 45% of the population, till now politics were minority centric. Even now the parties are still appeasing them, the Hindu appeasement is forced on the main parties because of the BJP and its high decibel campaign. Congress with IUML on its side is hoping to garner major chunk of Muslim vote. Though the LDF tried its best to appease the Muslim voters, somehow the IUML drifted away and with that some loss of votes from that community. The Christian community is divided basing on their denominations. At least in three districts the results are decided on Christian votes. These votes are divided between three alliances including small chunk going in NDA way. This division of votes made for the first time in Keralam the Hindu vote count.The change in their stance on Sabarimala temple entry for woman by the ruling CPM is obviously to pacify angry Hindu community. Pinarayi Vijayan government has changed its stand, totally contrary to the earlier stand, and the Supreme Court was requested to review its earlier decision. The SNDP Yogam, the Nair society is given prominence to please Hindu community. Thus the so called secular state of Keralam is now turned into communal vote catching ways and every part is guilty of religion, caste based strategy and campaign focus in the state. Keralam is no more a state with a difference it is as good or as bad like any other state. The freebie culture has entered the state and there is a competitive freebies and social welfare scheme promises from all the three alliances. There is nothing to choose basing on the manifestos. So it is left to the religion and caste factors, and how one manages and pleases them is the decisive factor in determining the winner. With clear division in every social group the election is very closely fought and results will be surely surprising to every party.

(Author is retired professor. Views expressed are personal.)

Chengannur: A high stakes duel where familiar faces test voter mood



As Kerala heads into the final phase of polling, the Chengannur Assembly constituency in Alappuzha district is shaping up as one of the most closely-watched contests, marked by a compelling mix of incumbency, grassroots connect, and shifting political undercurrents.

At the centre of the battle is two time legislator and State Fisheries Minister, Saji Cherian, of the CPI(M)-led LDF, who is seeking a third-consecutive victory.

Up against him is Congress candidate Abey Kuriakose, a familiar face in the constituency with nearly three decades of grassroots engagement.

Adding a third dimension to the contest is BJP's M.V. Gopakumar, who had secured an impressive 23.5 per cent vote share in the 2021 elections.

Cherian, who had won by a commanding margin of over 32,000 votes last time, exudes confidence of bettering his performance.

Banking on his track record, he points to visible development and sustained welfare outreach.

Known for his accessibility and connect with the lower strata, Cherian's campaign has been built around continuity and delivery.

However, Kuriakose is mounting a spirited challenge, leveraging deep personal connections with voters.

His ability to engage at an individual level often knowing voters by name, has become a key campaign strength.

He is also counting on a perceived anti-incumbency sentiment against the state government and points to past controversies surrounding Cherian as factors that could tilt the balance.

With both principal candidates belonging to the Christian community, which holds significant sway in Chengannur, the battle for consolidation of this vote bank is intense.

Yet, an external factor the ongoing West Asian crisis has cast a shadow, as the constituency has a sizeable diaspora population.

Fewer returning expatriate voters could influence turnout dynamics.

Complicating the electoral arithmetic further is the presence of veteran leader G. Sudhakaran, a four-time former CPI(M) MLA, now contesting as an Independent with reported backing from Congress sympathisers.

In a district considered a CPI(M) stronghold after Kannur, Sudhakaran's entry introduces an element of uncertainty.

While Cherian's camp dismisses him as a non-factor, the Opposition sees his candidacy as a potential disruptor, especially given his past role in mentoring Cherian.The triangular nature of the contest, combined with local equations and broader state level narratives, makes Chengannur a microcosm of Kerala's larger political battle.

As campaigning draws to a close, both camps remain optimistic, each reading the ground differently.The final verdict, however, will rest with the electorate and only on counting day will it become clear whether Chengannur endorses continuity or scripts a surprise turnaround.

Asif's Kolkata threat under lens; agencies suspect bid to incite terror in West Bengal



India's security agencies are closely examining the remarks made by Pakistan's Defence Minister, Khawaja Asif, where he made a reference to Kolkata. Asif warned that if India attempted any 'false flag operation', then Pakistan's response would extend to Kolkata. "If India tries to stage any false flag operation this time then God-willing, we will take it to Kolkata," Asif said.

A false flag operation is a covert action designed to look as though it was carried out by another party, often used to justify retaliation or manipulate public opinion.

Experts say that Asif's statements are clearly aimed at taking a defensive posture, while trying to project India as the aggressor.

A top-ranking official said that India's position when it comes to Pakistan is very clear. If Islamabad indulges in any misadventure, then India would hit back like it did during Operation Sindoor, the official said.

"The doctrine is clear that any cross-border terror attack by Pakistan would be viewed as an act of war. We have repeatedly told Pakistan that India will talk once they shut down their terror facilities," the official also added.

Another official said that Asif's statement relating to Kolkata must also be viewed in the context of the ongoing election process in West Bengal. He is attempting to incite terror groups such as the Harkat-ul-Jihad Islami (HuJI) and Jamaat-ul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) to carry out an attack so that the election process could be disrupted.

An Intelligence Bureau official said that there are plenty of intercepts suggesting that groups such as the JMB and HuJI are attempting terror strikes both in poll-bound West Bengal and Assam.

Asif has assumed that India is planning a false flag operation and suggested that Kolkata would be attacked in retaliation, the official said.

Pakistan is also frustrated with the fact that ties between India and Bangladesh have been reset. Both nations are working closely on strengthening cooperation both on the economic and security front.

Pakistan has been trying to incite the terror groups operating in Bangladesh to carry out strikes in West Bengal and the Northeastern states. Such an attack could potentially strain ties and this is what Islamabad hopes for.

Another official said that the cooperation between India and Bangladesh has improved remarkably. Both sides are working closely on stopping illegal infiltrations and also rein in those terror groups that pose a threat to the region, the official added.

A senior official added that Asif's statements make it clear that Pakistan is planning something big in India. A direct reference to Kolkata clearly signals that. "He is just running a fake narrative about an Indian aggression to justify an attack in Kolkata," the official added.

Further, Islamabad is also trying to build a global narrative against India. It wants to portray New Delhi as the aggressor, so that it can justify an attack.

The Pakistani establishment has been under tremendous pressure from its terror groups to help carry out an attack in India. Operation Sindoor decimated a lot of terror infrastructure in Pakistan. The rebuilding of these terror groups has been harder than what they may have imagined. A big strike in India is something that the ISI is looking for so that it could act as a morale booster for these terror groups, officials say.Pakistan is facing a severe crisis within as it continues to battle against the Afghan Taliban, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA). To battle these forces, it has been seeking help of outfits such as the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) and Lashkar-e-Tayiba.

However, this is not enough for the youth in Pakistan to join the terror ranks. A major recruitment strategy has always been an attack on India. This is why such desperate statements are being made, an official added.

Market cheers ceasefire in biggest rally this year so far, Sensex jumps nearly 2,950 points

Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Indian stock markets extended their rally for the fifth straight session, with both the Nifty and the Sensex posting strong gains.

The positive momentum came amid easing global tensions and steady domestic policy signals.

The Nifty closed 3.78 per cent higher, gaining 873.70 points to end at 23,997.35. Meanwhile, the Sensex surged 3.95 per cent, rising 2,946.32 points to settle at 77,562.90.

Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that from a technical standpoint, the 23,700-23,600 zone remains a key immediate support.

"A breakdown below this range could trigger profit booking. On the upside, a decisive breakout above the 24,500 resistance zone is required to confirm continuation of the current uptrend and unlock further upside potential," an analyst stated.



Investor sentiment improved significantly after geopolitical concerns showed signs of cooling and the central bank maintained policy stability.

Among the top performers in the Nifty index were Shriram Finance, Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles, and Adani Enterprises, which saw strong buying interest.

Broader markets also participated in the rally. The Nifty MidCap index climbed 4.03 per cent, while the Nifty SmallCap index rose 4.39 per cent.

On the sectoral front, the Nifty Realty and Nifty Auto indices led the gains -- reflecting strong performance in real estate and automobile stocks.However, the Nifty IT index lagged behind and recorded the smallest gains among sectors.

Domestically, the Reserve Bank of India provided stability by keeping key interest rates unchanged in its April monetary policy review.

No major governance concerns found in HDFC Bank: RBI Governor

Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Sanjay Malhotra on Wednesday said that the Reserve Bank of India has not found any major governance issues in HDFC Bank, even after the bank's chairman stepped down citing ethical disagreements.



Speaking after the monetary policy announcement, the RBI governor said that based on regular supervision, there are no material concerns about the bank's governance.

"Existing banking laws are clear and effective, and there is currently no need for any changes," he said.

"However, the central bank would review the situation if required," Malhotra stated.

Malhotra also reassured that there are no broader concerns in the banking sector. "The system remains safe and stable, and such individual incidents do not affect the overall health of banks," he explained.

"There are no systemic issues related to profitability or financial strength in HDFC Bank," Malhotra mentioned.

His comments come after recent developments at HDFC Bank, where the chairman resigned suddenly, pointing to differences over values and ethics.

The development had raised questions about governance at the country's largest private lender.

The RBI governor also said that the central bank is planning to update guidelines for bank boards.

Indian steel industry clocks robust 10.7 pc growth in 2025-26

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) India's steel industry clocked a robust 10.7 per cent year-on-year growth in production at around 168.4 million tonnes during 2025-26, consolidating its position as the world's second-largest producer while navigating global uncertainties and price pressures, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Steel on Wednesday.



Domestic demand remained the key growth driver with finished steel consumption at 164 million tonnes, expanding by about 7-8 per cent, driven by increased activity in infrastructure, construction, railways, and manufacturing sectors.

The government's continued push on large-scale infrastructure projects and urbanisation played a pivotal role in boosting steel consumption during the period, the statement said.

A major highlight of FY 2025-26 was India's strong export performance. Finished steel exports surged by 35.9 per cent, reaching over 6 million tonnes during April-March, while imports declined sharply by 31.7 per cent. This shift enabled India to regain its position as a net exporter of steel, strengthening its footprint in global markets such as the Middle East, Europe, and Southeast Asia, the statement explained.

The growth in exports was also supported by diversification of markets and improved competitiveness of Indian steel products.

The industry witnessed continued investments aimed at expanding production capacity. India's total steel capacity, touched 220 million tonnes in FY 2025-26 and is projected to reach 300 million tonnes by 2030, supported by both public and private sector investments.

Major players such as SAIL, Tata Steel and JSW Steel continued to invest in capacity expansion, technology upgrades, and value-added steel production, reflecting confidence in long-term demand growth.

Social media mocks Galgotias University ads after AI Summit row

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Galgotias University on Wednesday found itself at the centre of a social media storm after releasing full-page advertisements in leading Indian newspapers claiming global recognition.



The advertisements, which highlighted the university as "ranked globally" and "committed to making India proud", triggered a wave of online criticism, with users flooding platforms with memes and sarcastic remarks.

Many questioned the credibility of the claims, especially in light of a viral incident from the India AI summit that had already put the institution under scrutiny.

Social media users were quick to mock the campaign. One user joked that the "two top universities" were "WhatsApp University and Galgotia University".

Others took a more critical tone, with comments suggesting reputational damage, saying people "laugh when they hear the name" and that parents would "think twice before admitting their children".

Several posts also sarcastically linked the university's academic focus to memes, further amplifying the backlash.

The outrage comes after an incident at the summit held at Bharat Mandapam, where the university was asked to vacate its stall, following allegations that a robotic dog displayed at its pavilion as an in-house innovation was actually a commercially available product.

Observers identified the robot, showcased as "Orion," as the Unitree Go2, developed by Chinese robotics company Unitree Robotics.

Critics argued that showcasing an imported product as indigenous innovation at a flagship national AI event raised serious concerns about transparency and credibility.

Manappuram Finance reports insider trading code violation, imposes Rs 20,000 penalty

Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Manappuram Finance Limited on Wednesday said that it has reported a violation of its code of conduct under insider trading rules, involving a transaction carried out through the portfolio management services (PMS) account of one of its independent directors.

The company said the trade was linked to Abhijit Sen, who serves as an Independent and Non-Executive Director and is also the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

According to the disclosure, the transaction took place on February 3, 2026, and involved the purchase of 2,111 shares worth about Rs 6.15 lakh.

Manappuram Finance clarified that the transaction happened due to an operational lapse by the PMS provider, despite clear instructions from the director to block trading in the company's shares.

The securities were supposed to be placed under a "prohibited category" to avoid any dealings, but this restriction was not implemented properly at the system level.

The company said the director had no role in executing the trade and had not given any instructions for it.He also confirmed that he did not have access to any unpublished price-sensitive information at the time and had no intention of violating insider trading rules.

Hyundai Motors announces 1 pc hike in car prices from May 1

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Leading automobile manufacturer Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) on Wednesday announced a price increase of 1 per cent across its portfolio, effective from May.

The company cited various cost escalations as the reason behind price hike adding that the quantum of increase will vary based on the variants and models, according to an exchange filing."The company's endeavour is always to absorb rising costs to safeguard our customer from price fluctuations. However, the escalating input costs have necessitated passing on a part of this impact through a marginal price revision," HMIL said in an exchange filing.

HMIL posted a 2.5 per cent YoY growth in sales at 69,004 units in March 2026 including domestic sales of 55,064 units. The company recorded its highest-ever domestic sales for any March month with 6.3 per cent YoY growth.

Total sales touched 2,08,275 units in the January to March 2026 period, up 8.7 per cent YoY.It comprised domestic Q4 sales of 1,66,578 units, up 8.5 per cent YoY, the company's highest-ever quarterly tally for domestic sales since inception, the company had said in a statement.

Crude oil prices tank up to 20 pc over Iran ceasefire announcement

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Global crude oil prices on Wednesday plunged sharply up to 20 per cent, after US President Donald Trump announced a two-week ceasefire with Iran that includes a pledge to restore navigation through the Strait of Hormuz -- the narrow waterway at the heart of the world's most acute energy crisis in decades.

The international benchmark Brent crude futures shed nearly 16 per cent or $17.39 to $91.88, hitting an intraday low, while US WTI crude declined almost 20 per cent or $21.90 to $91.05.

The Strait of Hormuz, through which roughly a fifth of global oil flows, has been at the centre of the conflict. Iran had restricted passage for several weeks, contributing to rising prices and supply concerns. Markets had been on edge ahead of Trump's deadline for Iran to reach a deal, with traders fearing a major escalation could disrupt shipments across the Gulf and send prices sharply higher.

RBI raises India's real GDP growth to 7.6 pc for FY26, pegs FY27 at 6.9 pc



New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday estimated India's real GDP growth at 7.6 per cent for FY26 under a new GDP series, while flagging emerging risks from geopolitical disruptions.

The FY26 growth reflects resilience supported by strong services activity, manufacturing expansion and robust domestic demand.

For FY27, the Central Bank has projected growth at 6.9 per cent, indicating a moderation as external risks and cost pressures begin to build, said RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra after the MPC meeting.

The GDP growth for Q1 FY27 has been revised to 6.8 per cent from 6.9 percent, while Q2 FY27 growth has been lowered to 6.7 per cent from 7 per cent amid global headwinds due to Iran war.

"Global growth faces increasing downside risks as the sharp rise in energy rises have stoked inflation fears," said Malhotra.

The GDP growth stood at 7.8 per cent in the December quarter of FY26, from 8.4 per cent in the preceding quarter.

The RBI expects the revival in private sector investment to sustain on back of high capacity utilisation. Also, food price outlook remains comfortable in near term, said the Governor.

Overall CPI inflation for FY27 is projected at 4.6 per cent. For Q1, it is estimated at 4 per cent; 4.4 per cent for Q2; 5.2 per cent for Q3; and 4.7 per cent for Q4.

RBI projects India's inflation at 4.6 pc for 2026-27 amid robust Rabi crop

Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday projected the country's inflation rate based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for 2026-27 at 4.6 per cent as the near-term food supply prospects have been boosted by a robust Rabi crop which provides some comfort amid rising oil prices in the international market due to the Iran war.

RBI Governor Sanjaya Malhotra said, "The pass-through of higher global energy prices has resulted in price increases in select fuels such as premium petrol and LPG and diesel for industrial use. On the other hand, the near-term food supply prospects have been boosted by robust Rabi crop providing some comfort."

Considering all these factors, CPI inflation for 2026-27 is projected to be at 4.6 per cent with Q1 at 4.0 per cent; Q2 at 4.4 per cent; Q3 at 5.2 per cent; and Q4 at 4.7 per cent, said the RBI Governor.

However, persistently elevated energy prices due to the West Asia conflict and possible El Niño conditions (which could have a negative impact on southwest monsoon) pose upside risks to inflation, he observed.

Malhotra said that India's core inflation, which excludes food and fuel prices, is projected at 4.4 per cent for 2026-27 and, excluding precious metals, it is even lower, indicating that underlying inflation pressures are expected to remain contained.

India ranks 3rd largest in renewable energy capacity; eyes 500 GW by 2030: Minister

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) Pralhad Joshi on Wednesday said that India has ranked third globally in renewable energy installed capacity, surpassing Brazil.



According to the latest data released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), domestic installed renewable energy capacity stood at 250.52 GW as of December 2025, placing the country behind China and the US, while moving ahead of Brazil and Germany in the global rankings.

The minister told the media that the country added a record 55.3 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity during 2025-26, which is the highest-ever annual increase, compared to 29.5 GW added in 2024-25.

Moreover, he highlighted that India's total non-fossil fuel-based installed capacity reached 283.46 GW as of March 31, 2026, including 274.68 GW from renewable sources and 8.78 GW from nuclear energy.

Joshi also highlighted that renewable energy met a record 51.5 per cent of India's electricity demand in July 2025, the highest-ever share, reflecting the growing contribution of clean energy to the country's power mix.

India's total power generation stood at 1,845.9 billion units (BU) in 2025-26, of which 538.97 BU or 29.2 per cent, came from non-fossil fuel sources.

The country achieved the milestone of 50 per cent cumulative installed electricity capacity from non-fossil sources in June 2025, five years ahead of its 2030 target under the Paris Agreement, the minister said.

PMMY reflects economic ethos where opportunities are accessible, every dream given support to grow: PM Modi

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) reflects an economic ethos where opportunities are accessible, initiatives are encouraged, and every dream is given the support to grow.

Taking to social media platform 'X', the PM Modi said, "PM Mudra Yojana reflects an economic ethos where opportunities are accessible, initiatives are encouraged and every dream is given the support to grow."

He also shared a post by MyGovIndia, highlighting the scheme's achievements over the years.

"For 11 years, the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana has acted as an 'Anjali Mudra', a dedicated offering to the country's entrepreneurial energy. By bridging the gap between ambition and credit, it has transformed over 52 crore job seekers into business owners," the post stated.

According to MyGovIndia, the scheme has redefined access to credit by empowering millions with both the confidence to dream and the means to fulfil those aspirations. By removing barriers and trusting the potential of citizens, it has strengthened the spirit of enterprise across the country.

Highlighting the transformation in business financing, the post noted that the scheme has reshaped access to credit by eliminating collateral requirements, enabling small businesses, and supporting first-time entrepreneurs across India.

It stated that earlier, loans required guarantees that discouraged many aspiring entrepreneurs. Today, under PMMY, collateral-free loans of up to Rs 20 lakh are available, helping individuals start their business journeys with confidence.



The initiative has also addressed concerns around funding first-time founders.

"The belief that new entrepreneurs are too risky has changed significantly. Over 12 crore entrepreneurs have been funded, with more than Rs 12 lakh crore extended to support new business ventures," the post said.

PMMY offers structured loan categories Shishu, Kishor, Tarun, and Tarun Plus designed to support businesses at different stages of growth, replacing the earlier norm of limited financial support for new enterprises.

The scheme has significantly widened access to credit, with over 56 crore loans sanctioned and more than Rs 40 lakh crore disbursed to support enterprises across sectors.

Women entrepreneurs have emerged as key beneficiaries of the initiative.

"Nearly 65 per cent of Mudra loans have been extended to women, including support for Self-Help Groups through collateral-free loans," the post added.

The scheme has also reached communities that were historically excluded from formal credit systems. Nearly 49 per cent of loans have been extended to SC, ST, and OBC groups, while over Rs 3.50 lakh crore has been disbursed to more than 6 crore minority borrowers.

Repeat borrowing trends indicate growing trust in the scheme. Entrepreneurs are increasingly returning for higher-value loans, with the share of Kishor category loans rising from 5-6 per cent in 2016 to 40-45 per cent in 2025.

A new generation of first-time entrepreneurs is emerging across India under PMMY. From small shops to local service providers, individuals are turning ideas into sustainable livelihoods, contributing to grassroots economic growth.

The scheme has also helped recognise skill as a form of capital by supporting micro-businesses such as vendors, shopkeepers, and home-based enterprises, enabling them to monetise their abilities.

Furthermore, PMMY has expanded opportunities beyond urban centres, reaching Tier 2, Tier 3, and rural regions. By extending credit access to underserved communities, it is fostering inclusion and driving decentralised development.

MyGovIndia further said that Mudra is strengthening India's formal economy by bringing informal businesses into the credit ecosystem. The massive expansion of MSME credit supports jobs, production, and decentralised growth.

Govt strengthening India's clean energy ecosystem: PM Modi

New Delhi/Itanagar, April 8 (IANS) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said that his government is strengthening India's clean energy ecosystem while accelerating development in the Northeast region.

His comments came after the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by him, approved an investment of Rs 14,105.83 crore for the construction of the Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project (HEP) on the Lohit river in Anjaw district of Arunachal Pradesh.

In addition, the CCEA has also cleared an investment of Rs 26,069.50 crore for the construction of the Kamala Hydro Electric Project (HEP), spanning Kamle, Kra Daadi, and Kurung Kumey districts of Arunachal Pradesh.



Taking to his X account, Prime Minister Modi said: "With the Cabinet approval of the Kamala Hydro Electric Project, we are strengthening India's clean energy ecosystem while advancing integrated development across Arunachal Pradesh, with a focus on power, infrastructure and community welfare."

"A major boost to clean energy and development in the Northeast! The approval of the Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project in Arunachal Pradesh will strengthen power supply, generate sustainable energy, and bring infrastructure and opportunities to the region," he said in another post.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for approving the two major hydropower projects in the state.

In a post on his X handle, the Chief Minister said: "Heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji for approving the Rs 14,105 crore Kalai-II Hydro Electric Project in Anjaw district. With a capacity of 1,200 MW, this project on the Lohit river will strengthen power supply, support grid stability, and bring infrastructure, employment, and development to the region."



Fake Dummy Model of Nuclear Weapon carrying 'Agni' – A 5 Missile of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) put at a wall near Nirmala College in Doranda in Ranchi,Photo By-Rajesh Kumar

BJP seeks EC notice on Kharge remark

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday lodged a complaint with the Election Commission over Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's 'poisonous snake' jibe and demanded removal of 'despicable and derogatory' remarks from all social media handles and digital platforms. It also urged the EC to issue a show-cause notice to the Congress president over remarks he made during an election rally in Assam and pressed for a public apology for the blatant violation of the model code of conduct.

In a seven-page complaint to the EC, the BJP listed out objectionable and distasteful remarks made by Kharge twice - one about illiterate Gujaratis and the other about likening the BJP and Sangh to poisonous snakes and demanded that the poll body issue a formal



censure against the party as well as its president.

Mallikarjun Kharge, while addressing a poll rally in Assam, sparked off a political storm as he compared the BJP and RSS to serpents and called for crushing them, even if it meant taking a break from prayers.His comments, made apparently at a gathering of minorities, drew strong condemnation from the BJP.Kharge made the highly controversial remarks at an election rally in Assam's Nilambazar, in the run-up to Assembly elections, slated for April 9."If you are offering namaz [Islamic prayer] and a poisonous snake comes, you must abandon the namaz and kill it - this is what the Quran says. The RSS and the BJP are these poisonous snakes. If you do not kill them, you will not survive," Kharge said, as per the BJP complaint to the poll panel.In its complaint to the EC, the BJP has accused him of inciting communal hatred and promoting enmity between religious and political groups.

NHRC seeks report on alleged torture of journalist by Rajkot police

New Delhi, March 30 (IANS) The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has taken suo motu cognisance of a media report alleging illegal detention and torture of a journalist by the Rajkot Crime Branch police in Gujarat.

Observing that the contents of the media report, if true, raise a serious issue of violation of human rights of the victim, the apex human rights body has issued a notice to the Gujarat Director General of Police (DGP) seeking a detailed report within two weeks.

The NHRC said the report is expected to include the present status of the investigation as well as the health condition of the victim.

According to the media report, the incident occurred on March 22, when the journalist, who runs an online media outlet, was allegedly apprehended in an unlawful manner by the Rajkot Crime Branch police.

The report further alleged that the victim was stripped naked, suspended upside down and subjected to severe physical torture, resulting in serious injuries.

Sobha Surendran rejects bribery claim

Palakkad (Kerala), April 8 (IANS) NDA candidate Sobha Surendran on Wednesday strongly denied allegations that a BJP worker distributed money to a voter in Palakkad, terming the charge a "scripted attempt" to malign her during the final phase of campaigning.

The BJP leader asserted that she would pursue the matter legally, including filing a police complaint against a media organisation and its reporter, whom she accused of conspiring to damage her public image.

Addressing the media, Surendran maintained that her visit to Kannadi panchayat had nothing to do with electioneering malpractice and was solely to meet a cancer patient.

She dismissed the accusations as baseless and politically motivated, claiming that her growing acceptance among voters had unsettled



her opponents.

"Votes will be sought only on the basis of politics and development. I will not withdraw from this stand until the truth is established," she said.The BJP leader also alleged that Congress workers followed her vehicle during the visit, prompting her to question their actions.According to her, the situation escalated when one of the individuals accompanying the car made an inappropriate gesture.

"If anyone behaves in a manner that would offend a woman, I will question it. That is exactly what I did," she said, adding that such incidents were being orchestrated in anticipation of a BJP victory in Palakkad.

Govt hikes natural gas supply to fertiliser units as Gulf situation eases

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The government announced on Wednesday that, based on available inventory and scheduled LNG cargo arrivals, the overall gas allocation to fertiliser plants is being further enhanced by 5 per cent to reach approximately 95 per cent of their six-month average consumption, with effect from April 9.

The announcement comes in the wake of the ceasefire between the US and Israel, which is expected to open up the Strait of Hormuz for ships stranded in the Persian Gulf to sail through with their oil and gas cargoes.

All Indian seafarers in the Gulf region are safe, and no incident involving Indian-flagged vessels has been reported in the past 24 hours. The Directorate General of Shipping, in coordination with ship owners, recruiting agencies and Indian Missions, continues to closely monitor the situation, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Shipping and Ports

India has sufficient coal stock, supply adequate amid West Asia crisis

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The government on Wednesday said that India currently has sufficient coal stocks at mines, with enough fuel available to meet power generation demand.

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Sanjeev Kumar Kassi, said during an inter-ministerial briefing on recent developments in West Asia, that the government has asked coal companies to ensure adequate supply amid global uncertainties.

The ministry has issued guidance to coal producers to keep supplies steady despite rising input costs, he said.

An affordability-focused approach has been adopted, with Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited absorbing higher costs to avoid passing on the cost burden to consumers.

Coal India also increased the frequency of e-auctions in March, helping ensure smoother access to coal for buyers, Kassi said, adding that domestic coal availability remains comfortable.



CNG Auto Drivers raise slogans in demand to reduce the amount of Permit and Toll Tax during 24 Hour Strike outside Lok Bhavan, Governor House in Ranchi. Photo By-Rajesh Kumar

Nitish to take oath as Rajya Sabha member on April 10

Patna, April 8 (IANS) In a major political development in Bihar, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is set to take oath as a member of the Rajya Sabha on April 10.

State Water Resources Minister Vijay Kumar Chaudhary confirmed that Nitish Kumar will travel to New Delhi on April 9 and take oath in the Rajya Sabha on April 10.

Following this, he will step down as Chief Minister, paving the way for the formation of a new government in the state.

Chaudhary stated that after Nitish Kumar's resignation, all constituent parties of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will hold a meeting to finalise the next Chief Minister and government structure.

When asked about potential candidates for the CM post, he remarked, "Whoever's name you (the media) circulate will be in the race," hinting at ongoing speculation but no official decision yet.

A crucial meeting of the Janata



Dal(United) is scheduled in Delhi on April 9, where senior leaders, including Union Minister Lalan Singh and acting national president Sanjay Jha, are expected to participate.

Sources indicate that discussions will focus on the transfer of power in Bihar, the selection of the new Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, and JD(U)'s role in the upcoming government.

Nitish Kumar, who also serves as JD(U)'s national president, will play a key role in these deliberations.

Mamata Banerjee files nomination papers; proposers list reflects Bhabanipur's cosmopolitan nature

Kolkata, April 8 (IANS) West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday filed her nomination from her native Assembly constituency of Bhabanipur in South Kolkata.

The list of proposers in her nomination form reflected the "cosmopolitan" nature of Bhabanipur, which is considered a cauldron of people from almost the entire country.

The proposers in her nomination form include Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim's wife, Ismat Hakim (representing the Muslims), actress-turned-politician and Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha member Koel Mallick's husband, Nishpal Singh Rane (representing the Punjabis), local Trinamool Congress block President Bablu Singh (representing the Biharis) and Bhabanipur Education Society representative Miraj Shah (representing the Gujaratis).

The Chief Minister started from her residence at Harish Chatterjee Street in South Kolkata and walked down, leading a procession to submit her nomination at the Alipore Survey Building, which is barely a kilometre away from her residence.

She was accompanied while leading the procession by Firhad Hakim, her brothers Kartik Banerjee and Swapan Banerjee, her sister-in-law Kajari Banerjee, and the local party councillor, Sandip Bakshi, among others.

After filing her nomination, the Chief Minister spoke to the media persons and said that she stays with the people of Bhabanipur round the year. "My entire life has revolved around Bhabanipur. I have stayed in this constituency since my childhood and will continue to stay here forever. My entire life and political career have revolved around Bhabanipur. So today I take the opportunity to thank and bow to the people of Bhabanipur," the Chief Minister said.



A worker paints Zebra Crossing Divider in the shape of Metropolitan Town outside Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC) in Ranchi,Photo By-Rajesh Kumar

Delhi HC issues notice to Centre on PIL challenging Transgender Rights Amendment Act, 2026

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued a notice to the Centre on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) challenging the constitutional validity of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Act, 2026.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia sought the response of the Central government and listed the matter for further hearing on July 22.The plea, filed under Article 226 of the Constitution, raises questions over whether the impugned legislation can subject the recognition of



gender identity to medical certification and verification by authorities, rather than recognising self-perceived identity.The petition challenges the 2026 Amendment Act on the ground that it dilutes the statutory recognition of self-identified gender, and introduces a regime of state-controlled verification, certification and screening of gender identity.

It argues that such provisions amount to a legislative rollback of fundamental rights recognised by the Supreme Court, particularly the right to dignity, autonomy and personal liberty under Articles 14, 19(1)(a) and 21 of the Constitution.

Referring to the landmark National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) judgment, the plea states that the top court had unequivocally held that gender identity is an intrinsic part of an individual's personality and must be based on self-perception, free from biological or medical scrutiny.

The petition contends that the impugned amendment violates the right to privacy and decisional autonomy by subjecting a deeply personal aspect of identity to intrusive government control, and is manifestly arbitrary and disproportionate.

Donald Trump claims Iran reset, orders nuclear dust cleanup



Washington, April 8 (IANS) US President Donald Trump on Wednesday announced what he called a "very productive regime change" in Iran, saying the US would eliminate uranium enrichment and work to dig up and remove deeply buried nuclear "dust".

In a series of posts, Trump outlined a framework that combined nuclear restrictions, sanctions relief and sharp trade penalties.

"The United States will work closely with Iran, which we have determined has gone through what will be a very productive regime change!" he wrote on Truth Social, a day after the US and Iran agreed to a two-week ceasefire and reopening of the Strait of Hormuz.He asserted that Iran would no longer be allowed to enrich uranium. "There will be no enrichment of Uranium," Trump said, adding that the United States would work with Iran to "dig up and remove all of the deeply buried (B-2 Bombers) nuclear 'dust.'"

Trump said the material remained under strict monitoring. "It is now, and has been, under very exacting Satellite Surveillance (Space Force!). Nothing has been touched from the date of attack," he said.

The President also pointed to ongoing negotiations that could ease economic pressure on Tehran. "We are, and will be, talking tariff and sanctions relief with Iran. Many of the 15 points have already been been agreed to," he said, without detailing the terms or the parties involved.

New regime shifts Iran's stance: Hegseth



Washington, April 8 (IANS) The United States said a shift in Iran's leadership has altered its negotiating posture, with Secretary of War Pete Hegseth asserting that a "new regime" in Tehran has been forced to rethink its approach after sustained US military pressure.

"This new regime… has a new calculus about what it means to negotiate with us," Hegseth said, linking the change to the scale of destruction inflicted during Operation Epic Fury.

He described the current leadership as emerging in the aftermath of heavy losses among Iran's top military and political ranks.

"You heard the list that I read… " It's a new group of people who've seen the full capability of the United States military," Hegseth said.

US officials argued that this leadership shift was a key factor behind Iran's decision to accept a ceasefire and enter negotiations.

"That's why they came to the table… wanting a ceasefire and shooting to stop," he said.

The Pentagon briefing outlined the extent of leadership disruption, with senior Iranian figures across military, intelligence, and defence structures said to have been eliminated or incapacitated during the campaign.

Hegseth said the new leadership now faces limited options."This new regime is out of options and out of time… so they cut a deal," he said.

No nuclear arms for Iran 'non-negotiable' condition: US

Washington, April 8, (IANS) The United States has made clear that Iran will never be allowed to possess nuclear weapons, with Secretary of War Pete Hegseth calling it a "non-negotiable" condition under the emerging ceasefire framework.

"It's always been non-negotiable that they won't have nuclear capabilities," Hegseth said, outlining Washington's red line as talks move forward following weeks of military confrontation.

The statement comes amid intensified US scrutiny of Iran's remaining nuclear material, which officials say is currently being monitored closely after large-scale strikes on Tehran's nuclear infrastructure.

"Right now, it's buried, and we're watching it… we know exactly what they have," Hegseth said.

He said Iran would be required to hand over any enriched material or face further action.

"They will either give it to us… or if we have to do something else ourselves… we reserve that opportunity," he said.

Musk seeks removal of OpenAI CEO Altman, Brockman amid legal battle



New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Elon Musk -- who was a co-founder of OpenAI -- has sought the removal of current CEO Sam Altman and President Greg Brockman as part of his legal challenge to the Artificial Intelligence firm's shift to a for-profit structure, according to reports.

In a court filing on Tuesday, Musk said his lawsuit aims to reverse OpenAI's restructuring and restore its status as a non-profit research organisation, they said.

He also requested that any damages awarded in the case be directed to OpenAI's charitable arm, stating that the legal action is intended to prevent a public charity from being subordinated to private, for-profit interests.

Musk has sued OpenAI and Microsoft, alleging that the company deviated from its founding mission after taking billions of dollars in funding and pursuing a for-profit model. He had earlier indicated he may seek damages of up to $134 billion.

Israel backs US 'Pause' on attacks against Iran

Tel Aviv, April 8 (IANS) Israel on Wednesday expressed support for the United States decision to suspend military action against Iran, while clarifying that the proposed two-week ceasefire arrangement does not extend to Lebanon.

US President Donald Trump stepped back from the brink of a major military escalation with Iran by announcing a conditional two-week pause in planned strikes, linking the move to efforts aimed at reopening the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz. The development has brought significant relief amid rising global concerns over a potential conflict in the region.The decision was taken just 90 minutes before Trump's self-imposed 8 p.m. EST deadline for Iran to agree to terms, following intense backchannel diplomatic efforts that reportedly involved Pakistan. Iran signalled tentative acceptance of the proposal. Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi stated that Tehran would halt its military operations if attacks against it cease."For a period of two weeks, safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz will be possible via coordination with Iran's Armed Forces and with due consideration of technical limitations," he said, outlining the conditions tied to the arrangement.

Discussed strong future of India-US ties: Gor after meeting Trump

Washington, April 8 (IANS) US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor met US President Donald Trump in Washington and discussed the future trajectory of India-US relations, along with what he described as the American President's "unwavering determination to bring global stability". Taking to X, Gor shared details of the interaction, stating, "Just had an outstanding dinner with President Trump. We discussed his unwavering determination to bring global stability, the historic achievements of his presidency, the strong future of India-US ties, and so much more! A very memorable evening as history unfolded in real time."The post came shortly after Trump announced a two-week suspension of planned military strikes on Iran, while Tehran indicated its willingness to reopen the strategically significant Strait of Hormuz, signalling a possible easing of tensions.In a separate engagement, Gor also met US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, where discussions focused on strengthening the commercial roadmap between India and the United States, including efforts to expand access to a vast consumer base.

India and Turkey discuss bilateral ties

New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) India and Turkey held the 12th round of Foreign Office Consultations in New Delhi on Wednesday, reviewing bilateral ties with a focus on diverse sectors such as trade and investment, tourism, technology and innovation, energy, cooperation in educational and cultural fields, people to people ties and fight against cross border terrorism.Secretary (West) at the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Sibi George and Turkey's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Berris Ekinci co-chaired the meeting. The two sides also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest."The 12th round of India-Turkey Foreign Office Consultations were held in New Delhi on 8 April 2026, co-chaired by Secretary (West) Sibi George and and Ms. Berris Ekinci, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. Both sides reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral relations with focus on trade and investment, tourism, technology and innovation, energy, cooperation in educational and cultural fields, people to people ties and fight against cross border terrorism.

झारखण्ड शिक्षा परियोजना, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

आम सूचना

एतत् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि जिले में संचालित मुख्यमंत्री उत्कृष्ट विद्यालयों यथा – DISTRICT CM SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, B.P.M. BURMAMINES, JAMSHEDPUR, CM SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE GIRLS, SAKCHI, JAMSHEDPUR तथा KGBV CM SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, JAMSHEDPUR के सत्र 2026–27 में वर्ग 6 से 9 में नामांकन हेतु प्रथम औपबंधिक मेधासूची जारी कर दी गई है।

अभ्यर्थी संबंधित विद्यालय से संपर्क कर आवश्यक दस्तावेजों के साथ तीन दिनों के अन्दर अपना नामांकन कराना सुनिश्चित करेंगे।

ह0/–
जिला शिक्षा पदाधिकारी–सह–
जिला कार्यक्रम पदाधिकारी,
झारखण्ड शिक्षा परियोजना, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर।

PR.NO.377004 School Education and Literacy(26-27):D

e-Procurement Cell
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Building Construction Department, Building Division, Chaibasa

e-Procurement Notice
(Short Tender)

Tender Ref. No.-BCD/EE,Building Div.Chaibasa- 03/2026-27 Date:-08/04/2026

क्र०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF 6 CLASS ROOM IN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANALATA AT SIMIDIRI PANCHAYAT UNDER CHAKARDHARPUR BLOCK (2nd Call)	Rs. 56,53,600	06 (Six) Months
2.	RENOVATION OF VISTARIT KHAND (3 Unit) BUILDING IN THE MANDAL KARA CHAIBASA WEST SINGHBHUM	Rs. 91,10,900	08 (Eight) Months
3.	RENOVATION OF PURANA KHAND BUILDING IN THE MANDAL KARA CHAIBASA WEST SINGHBHUM	Rs. 56,51,700	06 (Six) Months
4.	RENOVATION OF PERIMETER WALL IN THE MANDAL KARA CHAIBASA WEST SINGBHHUM	Rs. 88,24,000	08 (Eight) Months
i	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	15/04/2026 को पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे से	
ii	बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि/समय	21/04/2026 को पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे	
iii	निविदा खोलने की तिथि/समय	22/04/2026 को पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे	
iv	निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का नाम एवं पता	Office of the Executive Engineer, Building Construction Department, Building Division, Chaibasa	
v	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या	7739288270	
vi	ई–प्रोक्योरमेंटसेल का हेल्पलाईन संख्या	7739288270	

- इस निविदा से संबंधित किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना/बदलाव/संशोधन का अवलोकन http://jharkhandtenders.gov.inij किया जा सकता है।

Note : New Updated UCAN Registration is mandatory for all Bidders.
: The Amount of BOQ May increase or decrease.

Nodal Officer,
e-Procurement Cell,
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Building Construction Department,
Building Division, Chaibasa

PR 376992 (West Singhbhum) 26-27 (D)

Jharkhand Industrial Area Development Authority
(JIADA)
(A Govt. of Jharkhand Undertaking)
Regd. Off: 3rd floor, JIADA building, Namkum
Industrial Estate, Namkum, Ranchi, Jharkhand – 834010
E-mail-mdjiada@gmail.com, web-jiada.jharkhand.gov.in

Letter No.350 Date:-07.04.2026

Tenders Cancellation Notice

Due to unavoidable circumstance tender is cancelled, tender invited vide NIT No. JIADA/02/ Adityapur Region/2026-27 for the Construction of RCC Culvert Near Bihar Electrical 2nd Phase Adityapur Industrial Area JIADA, is hereby cancelled.
PR No. 376457.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
JIADA, Ranchi.

PR 376920 RIADA (JIADA)(26-27).D

कार्यालय – अधीक्षक, एम0 जी0 एम0 मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल, जमशेदपुर
Email ID : superintendentmgmmch@gmail.com

Bidding Document No :- 1230 / 2026 Dated :- 07/04/2026

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

एम0 जी0 एम0 मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल, जमशेदपुर के रक्त केन्द्र के लिए Fully Automated ELISA Processor के कय एवं आपूर्ति हेतु ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

A.	Important dates for Tenders	Timelines/other particulars
1.	Date of Publishing of bidding document on GeM Portal	On 10.04.2026
2.	Pre bid meeting	On 13.04.2026 at 12:30 pm
2.	Date of start for submission of Bid	On 16.04.2026
3.	Closing date of online submission	On 24.04.2026 till 05.00 P.M.
4.	Hard Copy of Tender Documents	25.04.2026 till 05.00 pm (by registered post/speed post only)
5.	Opening of technical bid	On 27.04.2026 at 12:30 P.M. All the bidders must have submit Online Bid Security/EMD 100000/- in In favour of Superintendent, M.G.M. Medical College Hospital, Jamshedpur, Payable at Jamshedpur. The tenders of only those bidders will be opened, who have submitted the Hard copy & EMD.
6.	EMD (Refundable)	All the bidders must have submit Online Bid Security/EMD Rs. 100000.00 Note : The tenders of only those bidders will be opened, who have submitted the Hard copy.
7.	Name of the Tender Inviting Officer & Address	Superintendent, MGM Medical College Hospital, Jamshedpur – 831020

Note :
01. For details of tender terms, conditions & specification please visit website www.jharkhandtender.gov.in
02. Any information/corrigendum regarding the tender will be given only on the website: www.jharkhandtender.gov.in
03. TIA have reserved the right to make changes in terms & conditions & schedule of tender as per need and reserves the right to reject the tender without assigning any reason.

Superintendent
M.G.M. Medical College Hospital
Jamshedpur

PR 376906 Health Med Edu and Family Welfare(26-27)#D

जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, पूर्वी सिंहभूम

विशेष लोक अदालत का आयोजन . दिनांक 25 अप्रैल 2026

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि माननीय झारखंड राज्य विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण (JHALSA) के कर–कमलों द्वारा अप्रैल 2026 माह में राज्य के सभी जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरणों (DLSA) में मासिक लोक अदालत के साथ–साथ विशेष लोक अदालत एन.आई..एक्ट (N.I. Act) के वादों के आयोजन की स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है।

यह विशेष लोक अदालत दिनांक **25 अप्रैल 2026** (शनिवार) को एन.आई..एक्ट (N.I. Act) के वादों, के निराकरण हेतु आयोजित की जाएगी।

अतः ऐसे सभी वादकारीगण जिनके मामले उपरोक्त वर्गों में आते हैं, वे इस अवसर का लाभ उठाकर अपने मामलों का त्वरित, सुलभ एवं सौहार्दपूर्ण समाधान प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। संबंधित पक्षकार, अधिवक्ता एवं आमजन से अनुरोध है कि अधिक से अधिक संख्या में विशेष लोक अदालत में भाग लेकर न्यायिक सेवाओं का लाभ उठाएं।

स्थानः सिविल कोर्ट, जमशेदपुर एवं घाटशिला
तिथिः शनिवार, 25 अप्रैल 2026
समयः पूर्वाह्न 8:00 बजे से

अधिक जानकारी हेतु अपने जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण जमशेदपुर एवं अनु मंडल विधिक सेवा समिति घाटशिला से संपर्क करें।
Phone NO.: 15100 (Toll Free), 9430780325 (Jsr), 9955116992 (Gts)

सचिव,
जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण,
पूर्वी सिंहभूम

PR 376986 Judicial Academy Jharkhand(26-27).D

कार्यालय, जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक-सह-नोडल पदाधिकारी आरटीई, पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

गैर मान्यता प्राप्त विद्यालयों हेतु आवश्यक सूचना :-

सचिव, स्कूली शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग, झारखण्ड के पत्रांकः–17/विविध–06/2025/25 दिनांकः– 09.01.2026 से प्राप्त निदेशानुसार पूर्वी सिंहभूम जिले में संचालित वैसे सभी गैर मान्यता प्राप्त निजी विद्यालय जहॉ किसी भी स्तर पर प्रारंभिक कक्षाओं (वर्ग 01 से 08) की पढ़ाई होती है, को झारखण्ड निःशुल्क एवं अनिवार्य बाल शिक्षा का अधिकार नियमावाली, 2011 (यथा संशोधित, 2019 एवं 2025) में निर्धारित मापदण्डों, मानकों एवं शर्तों के अनुरूप मान्यता प्राप्त किया जाना अनिवार्य है।

मान्यता प्राप्त करने हेतु विभागीय स्तर पर बनाये गये पोर्टल– https://rte.jharkhand.gov.in पर जाकर अपने विद्यालय का ऑनलाईन आवेदन दिनांक 20.04.2026 तक निश्चित रूप से अपलोड करना सुनिश्चित करें। गैर सरकारी निजी विद्यालयों के मान्यता हेतु User Manual एवं मान्यता प्रमाण–पत्र का प्रारूप https://rte.jharkhand.gov.in से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। निर्धारित समय–सीमा के अंदर विद्यालय प्रबंधन के द्वारा ऑनलाईन आवेदन समर्पित नहीं करने कि स्थिति में झारखण्ड निःशुल्क एवं अनिवार्य बाल शिक्षा का अधिकार नियमावाली, 2011 के नियम–12(6) में निहित प्रावधान के आलोक में वर्णित मापदण्डों, मानकों और शर्तो के अनुरूप नहीं होने पर वैसे सभी विद्यालयों को बंद करने हेतु नियम संगत कार्रवाई प्रारम्भ की जायेगी।

ह0/–
जिला शिक्षा अधीक्षक–सह–
नोडल, पदाधिकारी, आर0टी0ई0
पूर्वी सिंहभूम, जमशेदपुर

PR 376932 School Education and Literacy (26-27)_D

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ।
Office Address- Building Division, Seraikella-Kharsawan, Jharkhand-833219
Email :- eebcdsaraikela@gmail.com

अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0– 2/2026–27(2nd Call)

1. विज्ञापन दाता का नाम, पदनाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ।
2. परिमाण विपत्र निर्गत की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 16/04/2026 के अपराहन 10:30 बजे से 02:00 बजे तक।
3. निविदा प्राप्ति की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 17/04/2026 के अपराहन 2:00 बजे तक।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक 17/04/2026 के अपराहन 3:00 बजे।
5. परिमाण विपत्र बिक्री का स्थान :– (1) कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ। (2) अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, छोटानागपुर अंचल, राँची। (3) सहायक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन अवर प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला।
6. निविदा प्राप्ति एवं खोलने का स्थान :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ के कार्यालय में।
7. कार्य का विवरण :–

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि रू0	अग्रधन की राशि रू0	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य रू0	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि।
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Construction of Toilet for Transgender in Sub- Divisional court Chandil Campus Dis-Seraikella-Kharsawan	4,04,005.00	8,100.00	750.00	04 माह

नोट :– (1st Call) प्रकाशित पी0आर0 संख्याः– PR 375135 Building(24-25)D द्वारा प्रकाशित की गयी थी।
- वैसे संवेदक जिनका निबंधन नवीकरण लंबित है वे निविदा में भाग नहीं लेंगे।
- प्राक्कलित राशि घट–बड़ सकती है। परिमाण विपत्र अंकित प्राक्कलित राशि, अग्रधन की राशि एवं परिमाण विपत्र मूल मान होगा।
- परिमाण विपत्र निबंधित संवेदक या उनके द्वारा विधिवत प्राधिकृत व्यक्ति को (प्राधिकार पत्र में अंकित पहचान दस्तवोज की छायाप्रति के साथ मूल प्रति प्रस्तुत करने पर निर्गत किया जायेगा।
- भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट/ड़िमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर चेक ही मान्यता होगा। बैंक ड्राफ्ट/ड़िमाण्ड ड्राफ्ट/बैंकर चेक कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ के पक्ष में एवं भारतीय स्टेट बैंक में भुगतेय होगा, जिसे लौटाया नहीं जायेगा।
- निविदा की शर्तें अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर उपलब्ध है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
भवन प्रमण्डल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ।

PR.NO.376933 Building(26-27):D

पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर

अति अल्पकालीन ई0 निविदा सूचना संख्याः–06/2025–26 (4th Call) दिनांक 06.04.2026

1	विभाग का नाम	पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची।
2	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांकः– 10.04.2026, समय 2.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
3	निविदा प्राप्ति (Online Bidding) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांकः–17.04.2026 को अपराहन समय 4.00 बजे तक
4	सरकार के सचिव, सूचना प्रौद्यौगिकी एवं ई0– गवर्नेस झारखंड मंत्रालय के ज्ञापांक 120, दिनांक 03.10.2023 के आलोक में विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि ऑनलाईन जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांकः–17.04.2026, समय 4.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
5	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांकः–18.04.2026 समय 4.30 बजे अपराहन
6	तकनीकी बीड खोलने का स्थान	कार्यपालक अभियन्ता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर।
7	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम/पदनाम	ई0 सुनील कुमार, कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर।
8	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले कार्यालय का दूरभाष संख्या	9430158557
8	ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन नं0	0651–2480345

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	ग्रुप संख्या	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	Construction of Water Supply Scheme with 1.0 HP DC Solar motor pump complete set & sanitary well for Panchayat- Forest Block, Village- Forest Block, Tola- Kolabariya (Jojodih Tola), Block Gurabandha in the District East Singhbhum.	GUR/ Drinking -04	991041.00	20000.00	1250.00	3 Month

नोटः– केवल ई0 निविदा ही स्वीकार किये जायेंगे। साथ ही प्राक्कलित राशि घट या बढ़ सकती है।
अधिक जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, जमशेदपुर

PR 376925 Drinking Water and Sanitation(26-27)#D

झारखंड सरकार, कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, आदित्यपुर

अति–अल्पकालीन ई0 निविदा सूचना संख्या – ADP/DWSD/17/2025-26(3rd Call) दिनांक 08.04.2026

1	विभाग का नाम	पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची।
2	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 09.04.2026, समय 2.00 बजे अपराहन में।
3	निविदा प्राप्ति(ऑन लाईन बिडींग) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 16.04.2026, समय 3.00 बजे अपराहन तक।
4	सरकार के सचिव, सूचना प्रौधोगिकी एवं ई–गवर्नेस, झारखंड मंत्रालय के ज्ञापांक 120 दिनांक 03.10.2023 के आलोक में विपत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि Online जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 16.04.2026, समय 3:00 बजे अपराहन तक।
5	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 17.04.2026, समय 4.00 बजे अपराहन में।
6	तकनीकी बीड खोलने का स्थान	कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, आदित्यपुर।
7	निविदा आमंत्रित करनेवाले पदाधिकारी का नाम/पदनाम	कार्यपालक अभियन्ता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, आदित्यपुर
8	प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन नं0	0657–2372314, 7541824824
9	ई–प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन नं0	0651–2480345

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	ग्रुप संख्या	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपये में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	Repair & Maintenance of Solar Based Mini Water Supply Scheme in Boram Block, Including One (01) Years maintenance of the concern item, under Drinking water and sanitation, Division Adityapur for the year 2025-26.	01	2453185/-	49100/-	5000/-	3 Month
2	Repair & Maintenance of Solar Based Mini Water Supply Scheme in Patamda Block, Including One (01) Years maintenance of the concern item, under Drinking water and sanitation, Division Adityapur for the year 2025-26.	02	2438737/-	48800/-	5000/-	3 Month
3	Repair & Maintenance of Solar Based Mini Water Supply Scheme in Potka Block, Including One (01) Years maintenance of the concern item, under Drinking water and sanitation, Division Adityapur for the year 2025-26.	03	2461695/-	49300/-	5000/-	3 Month

निविदा की शर्तें, परिमाण विपत्र एंव योजनाओं की विस्तृत विवरणी विभागीय वेबसाईट http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in से Download की जा सकती है। प्राक्कलित राशि घट या बढ़ सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियन्ता,
पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमण्डल, आदित्यपुर

PR 376984 Drinking Water and Sanitation (26-27)_D

Imtiaz Ali reveals why he gravitated more towards A. R. Rahman than Pritam for 'Main Vapas Aaunga'



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Indian auteur Imtiaz Ali, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film 'Main Vapas Aaunga', has shared the reason behind choosing to work with the Oscar and Grammy-winning music composer A. R. Rahman.

Imtiaz, who spoke with IANS during the promotions of the film, majorly works with either Pritam or A.R. Rahman, and with both of them, he has a terrific track record.

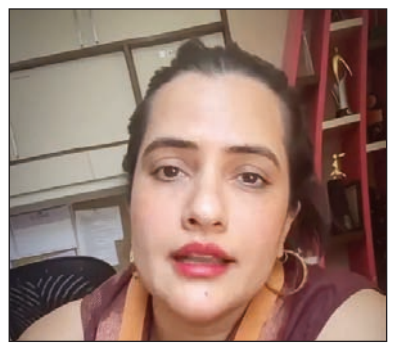
When asked what compelled him to gravitate more towards A. R. Rahman for 'Main Vapas Aaunga', he told IANS, "Well, I felt that there is a music of Punjab or the music of India of a certain era. But it is for a contemporary film. So, I had to be true to that era, but I had to be extremely relevant and entertaining for the present time. So for this, I wanted to go with A.R. Rahman, also because I wanted to be authentic to the western music that was going on at that point of time. There was swing and dance".

He further mentioned, "Then there were other styles of western music that were going on. And that was mixing very seamlessly with the folk music of the time. So we tried to do that in one song, you know, so there was a lot of that kind of experiment, which is trying to read all of that music as the basis of the recreation of a certain era".

The film marks Imtiaz and Rahman's 5th collaboration after massive chartbuster albums of 'Rockstar', 'Highway', 'Tamasha' and 'Amar Singh Chamkila'.

Produced by Sameer Nair and Deepak Segal of Applause Entertainment, along with Mohit Choudhary and Shibasish Sarkar of Window Seat Films. 'Main Vapas Aaunga' is set to release in cinemas on June 12, 2026.

Sona Mohapatra supports Alia Bhatt amidst trolling over award show hosting: Learn to laugh a little



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Singer Sona Mohapatra has expressed her support for actress Alia Bhatt after she was trolled for her hosting skills during a recently held award ceremony.

In her primary attempt at hosting, Alia was seen sharing the stage with comedian Zakir Khan and actor-comedian Sunil Grover.

Commenting on Alia's performance as a host, users criticised her performance, terming it as "overacting", "high-pitched", and "nervous." It was further noted by some that a few of the jokes did not resonate with the audience.

On Wednesday, Sona shed light on how difficult it is to perform live on the stage like this.

She was heard saying in her Instagram post, "I'm weighing in on the Alia Bhatt Screen Awards monologue, which has been all over the place and being trolled. First things first, guys, it was live. Live means no retake, no edit, no filter, no rethink. And honestly, doing such authentic work in Bollywood is a big stunt. Most desi actors won't even pick up that mic. She gave it a shot and that itself is amazing".

"It is brave. Secondly, let's talk about the audience. Performance is not only on stage when it's live. The audience and the room in front of you also have to perform. It's their duty. And the Bollywood room, they are dead on arrival. I know I've performed in these rooms many times I can give you the example of the Mijwan fashion show to illustrate. Shabana Azmi ji does it to raise funds for the Mijwan weavers. And it is full of stars, designer outfits, flashbulbs. Even when they're around for a good cause, they're like dead. Their vibes there will be, 'My outfit is better than hers', 'Which important actor, director's eye can I catch?' And oh my God, it's a tough, tough audience," Sona went on to add.

Addressing Alia's comparison with Zakir, the singer shared, "He's an ustad of stand-up. Try getting him to act or dance like Alia, you'll get your answer. Or importantly, he was facing a Bollywood audience, not their direct competition. So they would have been even kinder to him."

Expressing her faith in the 'Jigra' actress Sona, concluded, saying, "Next time, I think Alia will do even better. Or Bollywood, learn to laugh a little. It won't kill you."

Varun Dhawan & Mrunal Thakur make for a dreamy couple in 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai'



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) After raising the excitement with the first look of his next "Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai" with Pooja Hegde, Varun Dhawan has now treated the movie buffs with another glimpse from the much-awaited romantic comedy, alongside Mrunal Thakur.

In the latest still from the movie dropped by Varun on his official social media handle, he is seen embracing Mrunal from behind, sparking a fiery chemistry between the co-stars.

"Lekin jawani mein ishq baar baar hota hain," read the caption of the joint post by Varun and Mrunal.

Expressing their excitement about the new Bollywood pair, one of the users penned in the comment section, "Can't wait to witness Mrunal and Varun!". Another one commented, "The chemistry is serving".

"Good luck @varundvn and @mrunalthakur for this upcoming and exciting movie", read the third comment.

While Mrunal is posing in a short black dress with golden embellishments, Varun accompanies her in a faded brown jacket with complementary trousers.

On Tuesday, Varun unveiled the primary look from the movie on social media in which he was seen enjoying a cosy pose with Pooja Hegde on the bank of a river. "Ishq sirf ek baar hota hain!!! #haijawaanitohishqhonahai," Varun wrote along with the photo.

Made under the direction of David Dhawan, "Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai" enjoys an ensemble cast with Mouni Roy, Chunky Panday, Maniesh Paul, Jimmy Shergill, Rakesh Bedi, and Ali Asgar in crucial roles, along with others.

For the unaware, the project marks the fourth collaboration between Varun and his father, David Dhawan. Before this, they joined forces for "Main Tera Hero" (2014), "Judwaa 2" (2017), and "Coolie No. 1" (2020). Backed by Ramesh Taurani under the banner of TIPS, "Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai" is expected to reach the cinema halls on 12th June.

Rakul Preet Singh commences dubbing for 'Pati Patni Aur Woh Do'



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Actress Rakul Preet Singh will soon be seen sharing the screen with Ayushmann Khurrana, Sara Ali Khan, and Wamiqa Gabbi in the eagerly-awaited romantic comedy, "Pati Patni Aur Woh Do".

As movie buffs look forward to witnessing the drama on the big screen, Rakul has shared an update on social media, revealing that she has commenced the dubbing for "Pati Patni Aur Woh Do".

She took to the stories section of her official Instagram handle and posted a photo of herself from the dubbing session.

The text, along with the still went like this, "Jab 'woh' do ho jaaye...tab asli story shuru hoti hai...Dubbing for Pati Patni Aur Woh Do (sic)".

In February, Rakul provided the users with an exciting glimpse of her rehearsal for one of the songs from the drama.

Her story on Instagram had her getting ready to practise those graceful moves with her choreographer, while an upbeat number played as the background score.However, Rakul did not reveal the song she was practising for in "Pati Patni Aur Woh Do".The text overlay on the post read, "And then we rehearse for a super fun song", along with a red heart emoji.

It might be exciting to know that the director of the drama, Mudassar Aziz, has also helmed the 2019 outing "Pati Patni Aur Woh". The project, which is a retelling of the 1978 film of the same name, features Kartik Aaryan, Bhumi Pednekar, and Ananya Panday as the core cast.The movie shares the tale of a married couple, Chintu (Played by Kartik) and Vedika (Played by Bhumi). Everything is smooth until Chintu finds himself attracted to Tapasya (Played by Ananya), a young fashion designer.

Big B calls truth elusive as he reflects on life's unanswered questions

Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Cine icon Amitabh Bachchan shared that he spent a "quiet contemplated day" as he reflected on the uncertainties of life and the constant search for meaning. He wrote on his blog: "A quiet contemplated day .. with the self and the surroundings and the circumstances .. so many thoughts and chatters within the self , addressing to the self .. seeking answers .. getting some responses , but mostly almost none and vague .."Pondering over his thoughts and unanswered questions, he spoke about the elusive nature of definitive answers and the ongoing journey of self-introspection."Each day in the quiet of the moment , the wonder of the World, the wonder of the why what and where .. but never secure in the responses it keeps manufacturing .. so many have spent their life in finding out the why .. the how .. but even they converge on some words that seem to analyse the thought, but never is able to give a finite definitive response.."

Kriti Sanon says, shooting for 1st song from 'Cocktail 2' felt like perfect summer in company of friends



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Bollywood actress Kriti Sanon has shared that shooting for the song 'Jab Talak' from her upcoming film 'Cocktail 2', felt like living the perfect summer with friends.

The song was unveiled on Wednesday, and captures the youthful, sun-soaked spirit of the film. The track is composed by Pritam, crooned by Arijit Singh and Akasa, and written by Amitabh Bhattacharya.

Talking about the song, actress Kriti Sanon shared, "'Jab Talak' carries such a beautiful, feel-good vibe. Shooting for it felt like living the perfect summer with friends, filled with laughter, music, and pure masti against the stunning backdrop of Sicily. I had an absolute blast filming with Shahid and Rashmika, and it was amazing to see even the international crew and dancers humming along and soaking in the energy of the song".

For Shahid Kapoor, the song is "incredibly special" as it marks the first song from the film. He said, "There was such a positive energy on set while shooting it, we truly had a great time together. Everything felt easy, warm, and effortless, and I believe that translates beautifully on screen. I'm confident audiences will connect with the honesty and joy that the song brings".

Rashmika Mandanna shared, "For me, Jab Talak is about love, friendship and carefree holiday moments you want to hold on to forever. The song has the perfect breezy and happy vibe. To add to that, working with Shahid and Kriti was too much fun".

'Cocktail 2' is the sequel to the 2012 film 'Cocktail', and features a fresh starcast. The film is written by Luv Ranjan and Tarun Jain, and continues the legacy of the beloved franchise with a fresh, contemporary narrative.

The film is set to bow in cinemas on June 19, 2026.

HEALTH

'Poshan Pakhwada 2026' to focus on maximising brain development in 1st 6 years of life



New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) The government is set to celebrate the 8th edition of 'Poshan Pakhwada', reaffirming the commitment to improving nutritional outcomes across the country.

According to the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Pakhwada from April 9-23 focuses on "Maximising Brain Development in the First Six Years of Life", recognising that early childhood - particularly the first 1,000 days - is critical for brain development, physical growth, and overall well-being.

Scientific evidence indicates that over 85 per cent of brain development occurs by the age of six, underscoring the importance of optimal nutrition, responsive caregiving, and early learning.

Underscoring the importance of nutrition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasised that "a well-nourished child is the foundation of a strong nation. Poshan Abhiyaan is not just a government programme, but a people's movement to ensure holistic nutrition for every mother and child."

The national launch of 'Poshan Pakhwada 2026' will take place in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, under the visionary leadership of Union Minister for Women and Child Development, Annpurna Devi, in the presence of Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Savitri Thakur.

The key focus areas under this year's theme include Maternal and Child Nutrition; Early Stimulation for Brain Development (0-3 years); Play-Based Education in Early Years (3-6 years); Role of Parents and Community in Minimising Screen Time; and Strengthening Anganwadi Centres through Community Participation - Enhancing infrastructure and service delivery through Jan Bhagidari and CSR.

During the Pakhwada, activities will be organised across states and Union Territories through Anganwadi Centers, with participation from mothers, caregivers, families, community institutions, and local bodies. These will include Poshan Panchayats, awareness sessions, early stimulation activities, play-based learning initiatives, and campaigns promoting healthy lifestyles and reduced screen time among young children, according to the government.

Milind Soman enjoys a 20km swim in Goa, calls it a 'beautiful experience'



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Actor and fitness enthusiast Milind Soman loves to push his limits. Marking a new milestone, he recently completed a 20-kilometer swim during his visit to Goa.

Milind informed through his latest social media post that he was able to complete the distance within 8 hours.

Elated to have swam such a long distance for the first time, the 'Emergency' actor called it a "beautiful experience".

Milind's life and fitness partner, Ankita Konwar, also swam 8 kilometers.

Sharing a couple of snippets from the latest challenge, Milind penned on his official Instagram handle, "Swam 20km for the first time ! Took around 8hrs .. Super happy swimming long distance in the sea is one of the most beautiful experiences, so unpredictable, tides, weather, currents, all make it an epic adventure .. big thank you to @ankita_earthy who also swam 8km and my friends Elias, Nicole and Mihir from the Goa Open Water Swim Club for always being there #worldhealthday (sic)"

Reacting to the post, Ankita commented, "It was sooo much fun!! And you my love are a sight to behold".Milind continues to be a poster boy for fitness even at the age of 60.In March, the 'Bheja Fry' actor shared his thoughts on the growing desire among people to move out of Mumbai for more space, greenery, and a quieter lifestyle.

Pointing out the sudden shift in mindset, Milind told IANS during an exclusive conversation, "A lot of people feel that 'I want my garden and I want trees, good space and those people move out."

Massive crowd gathers outside Allu Arjun's house on his birthday, brother Allu Sirish shares a video



Mumbai, April 8 (IANS) Actor Allu Sirish shared a video on his social media account that highlighted the immense love and massive fan following that his brother and South superstar Allu Arjun enjoys.

In the video posted by him, a massive crowd of fans can be seen gathered outside Allu Arjun's house at midnight to celebrate his birthday on the 8th of April.

In the video, the fans can be seen holding up their phone flashlights at night and shouting out Allu Arjun's name wishing him on his birthday.

The visuals clearly highlight the scale of the South superstar's popularity.

Allu Sirish, who seems to have become emotional witnessing the overwhelming love and admiration for his brother share the heartfelt moment on his social media account.

He wrote, "Happy birthday @alluarjunonline

May you always be celebrated like this."

For the uninitiated, the South Indian star, Allu Arjun, on the professional front, achieved massive success with the blockbuster franchise Pushpa: The Rise, where he starred opposite Rashmika Mandanna.

The actor, in the past has delivered umpteen hits over the years, including the popular dance number 'A Ante Amalapuram'.

On the personal front, Allu Arjun tied the knot with Sneha Reddy in March 2011

The two reportedly fell head over heels in love after meeting through mutual friends.

On March 6, the actor celebrated his wedding anniversary with his wife Sneha Reddy by sharing a heartfelt message and romantic pictures on his social media account.Marking 15 years of togetherness, the actor had posted a couple of stunning photographs of the two on his social media account.He had written, "Happy Anniversary, Cutie. 15 years of togetherness. The journey could not have been this without you."

The couple are parents to two children, son Allu Ayaan and daughter Allu Arha.

Sindhu, Prannoy prevail; Lakshya, Kidambi bow out

Badminton Asia C'ships



Ningbo, April 8 (IANS) Two-time Olympics medallist P. V. Sindhu and H.S. Prannoy overcame a tough first-round challenge, while LakshyaSen and KidambiSrikanth faced an unexpected exit as Indian fortunes varied on the first day of the Badminton Asia Championships on Wednesday.

Sindhu was tested by Malaysia's Wong Ling Ching before securing a hard-fought victory in three games. After dropping the opener 15-21, the Indian shuttler regrouped, taking control of the second game 21-11.

The deciding game turned into a tense battle with frequent momentum shifts. With the scores locked at 19-19, Sindhu relied on her experience to clinch the final two points and seal the match in one hour and seven minutes. The Indian ace will next play Wang Zhi Yi of China in the second round.

In contrast, Lakshya's campaign came to an abrupt end after a straight-games defeat against Hong Kong's Lee CheukYiu. The Indian, who had entered the tournament on the back of an encouraging run at the All England Championships, went down 12-21, 19-21 in a 41-minute encounter.

Lakshya failed to settle into the contest in the opening game, and although he mounted a stronger challenge in the second, Lee's control in crucial exchanges and ability to close out points proved decisive.

Tennis: Zheng Qinwen withdraws from WTA Stuttgart Open due to injury; Top four in fray



Stuttgart, April 8 (IANS) China's ZhengQinwen has withdrawn from next week's WTA 500 event in Stuttgart due to injury, the tournament organisers announced on Wednesday. The main draw of the Stuttgart Open will be held from April 13 to 19 and will involve some of the world's top players. Zheng's withdrawal from the Stuttgart Open means her clay-court debut of the 2026 season will be delayed. Alexandra Eala of the Philippines, currently ranked world No. 46, will replace Zheng Qinwen in the main draw, reports Xinhua. In a statement, the Stuttgart Open said: "We wish Qinwen a speedy recovery and hope to see her back on the court in Stuttgart very soon." Zheng's most recent tournament appearance came at the WTA 1000 Miami Open in March, where she lost 6-3, 6-4 to world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus in the fourth round and missed out on a place in the quarterfinals. Known as the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix, the Stuttgart Open was held on indoor hard courts from 1978 to 2008. Held a few weeks before the French Open at Roland Garros, the Stuttgart Open has been contested on indoor clay courts since 2009.

Monte Carlo Masters: Berrettini stuns Medvedev to reach third round



Monte Carlo, April 8 (IANS) Wildcard entrant MatteoBerrettini produced a stunning performance to dismantle World No. 10 Daniil Medvedev 6-0, 6-0 in just 49 minutes and storm into the third round of the Monte-Carlo Masters on Wednesday. The Italian dominated from start to finish against an unusually erratic Medvedev, who failed to create a single game F322 aspoint on his own serve. The defeat marked the first time the Russian has lost a tour-level match without winning a game.

Berrettini has now gone through his opening two matches in the Principality without dropping a game. In the first round, the 29-year-old was leading 4-0 when Roberto Bautista Agut retired due to injury.

The former World No. 6 also registered his first Top-10 victory since defeating Alexander Zverev at the same tournament last year. It was also the first time Berrettini recorded a 6-0, 6-0 win at the tour level.

Medvedev, who was playing his first clay-court match of the season after winning titles in Dubai.

ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol: Indian men miss out on 10m Pistol final spots



New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Indian shooters missed out on a place in the final of the Men's 10m Air Pistol event in the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol at the Las Gabias shooting range in Granada, Spain, on Wednesday. Mukesh Nelavalli, who won gold in the 10m mixed team event on Tuesday, finished highest among the Indians in 14th place. In the 86-man qualification group, Mukesh shot 579-21x (94, 98, 98, 97, 95), two points below the final qualification place, which was secured by Anton Aristarkhov with a score of 581-20x. China's Xie Yu topped the qualification with a score of 588-18x. The best performance among the Indians, though, was by AakashBharadwaj, who shot 580-26x, to finish 10th in the standings, but he was only competing for ranking points.

Among the other Indians in the fray, Ujjawal Malik finished in 22nd place with a score of 577-17x, and Parmod Kumar ended 39th with a score of 574-16x. Varun Tomar.

He's instilled fear into bowlers: Steyn on Vaibhav's heroics against Bumrah

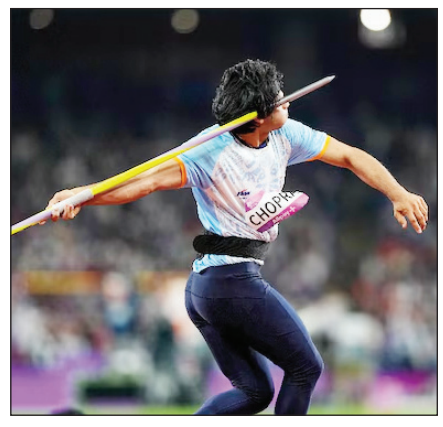


New Delhi, April 8 (IANS) Former South Africa pacer Dale Steyn believes that the Rajasthan Royals (RR) opener VaibhavSooryavanshi has already begun to create a psychological edge over bowlers, even forcing the likes of JaspritBumrah into rare errors. Steyn pointed to the moment when Sooryavanshi launched Bumrah over mid-on off the very first ball in the Rajasthan Royals clash against the Mumbai Indians on Tuesday, suggesting that the youngster's aggressive reputation is already influencing how bowlers approach him. "I think that's what he's done. I mean, honestly, he's created and instilled the fear into bowlers that he's going to hit you for boundaries," Steyn told ESPNCricinfo. Highlighting the influence of Sooryavanshi, Steyn added that even the premier Indian pacer, Bumrah, appeared to be second-guessing himself and missed his mark, which is very rare for a bowler of his calibre.

"That delivery from Bumrah, that's in the slot. That's so rare of Bumrah. So even the great Bumrah is thinking in the back of his mind: 'don't get it wrong, because if I get it wrong, this guy's going to hit me for six'," he said. "I feel, if you think like that, more often than not, you do get it wrong. You can see even when he's hit him for six, he almost started to laugh afterwards and then go, 'I knew that was going to happen if I got it wrong'.

And that's exactly what happened," he explained.

World Athletics postpones Doha Diamond League



Doha, April 8 (IANS) World Athletics has postponed the season-opening Doha Diamond League event due to concerns over athlete and spectator safety amid ongoing tensions in the Middle East.

The meeting, originally scheduled for May 8 in Qatar's capital, will now take place on June 19, subject to the security situation in the region. The global athletics body cited the continuing conflict linked to the US-Israel war involving Iran as the primary reason for the postponement. It confirmed that the event will proceed on the revised date only if conditions permit.

Warner admits drinking wine as new details emerge in drunk driving case



Sydney, April 8 (IANS) Fresh details have emerged in the drink-driving case involving former Australia opener David Warner, with reports revealing that the veteran cricketer told police he had consumed alcohol shortly before being stopped in Sydney's eastern suburbs. Warner allegedly informed officers that he had been drinking with a friend prior to getting behind the wheel on Easter Sunday, stating he had consumed three glasses of wine before attempting to drive back to his residence in Maroubra, NewsCorp reported.

The 39-year-old was intercepted during a random breath-testing operation, where police observed a van stopping and parking just short of the checkpoint.

Officers then approached the vehicle and conducted a roadside test, which returned a positive reading for alcohol.

Warner was then taken to Maroubra Police Station for further analysis, where he allegedly recorded a blood alcohol level of 0.104, more than twice the legal limit.

Seraikela teams deliver strong performance in state rugby championship

Mail News Service



Seraikela, April 8: The Seraikela-Kharsawan district teams showcased commendable performance in the 8th Jharkhand State Junior and Senior Rugby Championship held at Chaibasa.

The senior men's team reached the final and finished as runners-up after a competitive tournament, while the junior girls' team secured third position, reflecting the growing strength of rugby in the district.

Officials of the district rugby association, including Kamal Thapa, along with coaches Krishna Singh Sardar and Thakur Besra, congratulated the players for their achievements.

Jamshedpur FC host Mumbai City in top-of-the-table clash

We're ready to rise to the occasion, Coyle confident ahead of clash

Mail News Service





Jamshedpur, April 8: The 2025-26 season of the Indian Super League resumes with a high-stakes encounter as Jamshedpur FC take on Mumbai City FC at the JRD Tata Sports Complex on Thursday, April 9. The match kicks off at 7:30 PM IST and is expected to play a key role in the title race.

Jamshedpur FC, currently placed fourth with 14 points from seven matches, will look to capitalise on their home advantage and turn recent draws into wins. The Men of Steel come into the match after a fighting 1-1 draw against MohunBagan Super Giant.

A win on Thursday could take them level on points with table-toppers Mumbai City. Head coach Owen Coyle acknowledged the scale of the challenge ahead but made it clear that his side is ready to rise to the occasion.

"We know Mumbai have been the best team so far and they deserve to be at the top," Coyle said. "But what we also know is that when we are at our very best, we can win these games. That has to be our focus going into tomorrow." Historically, Jamshedpur have enjoyed an edge in this fixture, winning eight of their 16 meetings against Mumbai City, with four losses and four draws.

Their last meeting in January 2025 ended in a dominant 3-0 win for Jamshedpur. Coyle also emphasised the importance of maintaining standards against top opposition.

"To be in the mix for the Shield, you have to beat champion teams," he added. "Mumbai have shown their quality over the years, but we're looking forward to the game and we want to make sure we're at our best in front of our fans." Defender Lazar ?irkovi? said the team is determined to return to winning ways after three winless games.

While acknowledging the challenge posed by Mumbai, he stressed that the squad is not satisfied with draws and is pushing for full points.

Mumbai City FC, led by coachPetrKratky, arrive at the top of the table with 17 points. They recently secured a 1-0 win over Odisha FC and will aim to extend their lead.

Known for their possession-based play and solid defence, Mumbai will rely on key performers like goalkeeper PhurbaLachenpa. With both teams among the league's strongest contenders, the clash is set to be a decisive moment in the race for the ISL title.

Bayern beat Real Madrid to take advantage in UCL quarter-final



Madrid, April 8 (IANS) FC Bayern Munich beat Real Madrid 2-1 int he quarterfinal first leg to put themselves in a promising position to reach the Champions League semifinals. Luis Diaz and Harry Kane scored for Bayern, while Kylian Mbappe replied for Madrid on a night when both sides created chances, but the record German champions will feel they should have put the tie beyond doubt. Madrid coach Alvaro Arbeloa handed a start to young midfielder ThiagoPitarch, with Trent Alexander-Arnold and Alvaro Carreras selected at fullback.

Bayern, meanwhile, were boosted by Kane being fit enough to start, reports Xinhua.

Kane nearly made an immediate impact, heading a free kick into the path of DayotUpamecano, who squandered a clear chance from close range. Bayern controlled the early exchanges, but Manuel Neuer was required to make sharp saves after 16 minutes, first denying Mbappe following a precise pass from ArdaGuler, then stopping Vinicius Junior on the break.

Saryu Roy Cup cricket tourney to start on April 11

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: The first edition of the Saryu Roy Cup cricket tournament is set to begin on April 11 at the Co-operative College ground. The two-day tournament, scheduled for April 11 and 12, is being organized by Hemant Pathak, Saheb Bagti, and Shambhu Nath, with Ashutosh Roy, trustee of the Swarnarekha Area Development Trust, serving as its patron. Posters and official T-shirts for the tournament were unveiled ahead of the announcement. Addressing the media, Ashutosh Roy said that preparations for the event had been underway for several months. He informed that participation was limited to 16 teams with each required to pay an entry fee of Rs 3,500. The winning team would receive a cash prize of Rs 31,000, while the runner-up would be awarded Rs 21,000. Matches will follow ICC norms, and external umpires would officiate to ensure fairness and transparency.

Each match will be of 8 overs, while the final will be played over 10 overs. Several local supporters were also present during the announcement. (w/gsd)

West Singhbhum defeats Deoghar, captain Priyanka Sawaiyan shines

Mail News Service



Chaibasa, April 8: West Singhbhum secured a thrilling four-wicket victory over hosts Deoghar at the K.K.N. Stadium, winning with three balls to spare and confirming their place in the Super Division.

The outcome of their final league match against Dhanbad will determine whether the team travels to Chaibasa or Giridih for their next fixtures. West Singhbhum captain Priyanka Sawaiyan won the toss and invited Deoghar to bat first. Deoghar posted 134 for six in 20 overs, with opener Pinky Kumari top-scoring with 54 runs, including six boundaries. Purnima Kumari added 21, Sonia Kumari 17 and Sarita Soren 12. Bowling for West Singhbhum, Yashoda Kumari took two wickets for 23 runs, while Priyanka Sawaiyan and Chandmuni Purty claimed one wicket each; two batswomen were run out. Chasing 135, West Singhbhum reached the target in 19.3 overs for the loss of six wickets. Captain Priyanka led the way with 40 runs, including six boundaries, while Jaya Kumari contributed 36 and Rashmi Guriya 27 runs. For Deoghar, Sunita Kumari and Purnima Kumari took two wickets each, with Sonia Kumari claiming one.

Priyanka Sawaiyan was awarded 'Player of the Match' for her outstanding innings and received a cash prize of Rs 5,000 from Match Observer Manoj Singh during the post-match awards ceremony. (w/gsd)

Massive crackdown on suspicious youths in Jsr

82 locations raided, 44 vehicles seized

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: In a sweeping and coordinated enforcement drive, East Singhbhum police launched a massive crackdown on illegal activities across the city, sending a strong message against youths involved in suspicious acts.

Acting on the directives of Piyush Pandey, Senior Superintendent of Police, a special raid campaign was carried out on April 7, 2026, simultaneously covering 82 identified locations under various urban police station jurisdictions. The operation targeted hotspots suspected of harboring networks operating under hotels, lodges, and other establishments.



During the intensive drive, police teams verified a total of 88 individuals found at these locations. Officials stated that background checks and identity verifications were conducted on the spot to ascertain involvement in illegal activities.

In a significant action to dismantle the logistical backbone of such networks, police also seized 44 vehicles allegedly linked to the operation and movement of individuals involved in the activities. Authorities believe that these vehicles were being used to facilitate transportation and coordination within the network.

Police sources indicated that the raids were based on prior intelligence inputs and growing complaints regarding the rise of organized crime in certain urban pockets. The synchronized operation reflects a strategic effort to curb the spread of such activities and restore law and order.

Officials further stated that detailed investigations are underway to identify key operators, handlers, and possible links to larger organized networks. Strict legal action is expected against those found guilty, including property owners and facilitators who knowingly allow such activities on their premises.

"The district police have reiterated their commitment to maintaining public decency and have warned that such drives will continue with increased intensity in the coming days. Citizens have also been urged to report suspicious activities to help authorities take timely action," said an official

The crackdown marks one of the largest coordinated operations in recent times, underscoring the administration's zero-tolerance approach towards illegal and exploitative activities in the city. (W-pb)

Delay in execution of civic projects raises concern

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: Jamshedpur West MLA Saryu Roy has written to the Deputy Commissioner of East Singhbhum, Karn Satyarthi urging the later for immediate implementation of pending development projects under the Jamshedpur Notified Area Committee (JNAC) and Mango Municipal Corporation. In his letter, Roy requested the district administration to expedite the execution of approved schemes and ensure administrative clearance for projects awaiting approval at the Urban Development Department. He highlighted that as many as 50 projects in the JNAC area, recommended by him and approved by the District Planning Selection Committee, remain stalled despite their foundation stones being laid on March 14, 2026, following completion of the tender process.

Similarly, 81 projects in the Mango Municipal Corporation area, which were inaugurated on December 30, 2025, are yet to commence. Roy further pointed out that five projects worth approximately Rs 3.32 crore have already received technical approval after preparation of estimates but are still pending administrative sanction at the departmental level for a prolonged period. He urged the Deputy Commissioner to intervene and direct the concerned authorities to fast-track both approvals and on-ground execution to ensure timely delivery of public welfare schemes. (W-pm)

Lightning strike kills youth near Dimna lake

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8 : A tragic incident was reported near Dimna Lake under MGM police station limits, where an unidentified youth lost his life after being struck by lightning.

According to reports, the youth was sitting under a tree when the weather suddenly deteriorated. Amid strong thunder and lightning, a bolt struck the tree directly, leaving him severely burnt. He died on the spot due to the impact.

Local residents and police rushed to the scene soon after receiving information.



The body has been taken into custody and sent for post-mortem examination. The identity of the deceased is yet to be established, and police are questioning nearby people to gather clues.

Authorities have urged the public to avoid open areas and taking shelter under trees during adverse weather conditions, citing serious risks from lightning strikes. (W-pm)

Four held with arms for plotting dacoity

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: Police in the Parsudih thana area have arrested four individuals allegedly involved in plotting a dacoity while in possession of illegal firearms. The arrests were made at a primary school in Bhumij Tola, Gadra, where the suspects had reportedly gathered to plan the crime.

The accused have been identified as Roshan Singh alias Paka (30), a resident of Driver Colony in Gadra; Roshan Kumar alias Golu Bengali (23) from Barigora Gramin Bank area; Azad Pal alias Bobby Pal (27) of Rahargora; and Shivnarayan Rajak alias Chintu from the Parsudih thana jurisdiction.

According to City SP Kumar Shivashish, police acted on a tip-off regarding a group assembling at the



school premises with intentions to execute a dacoity. A special raiding team was constituted, leading to the arrest of three suspects from the spot.

During search, officers recovered one country-made pistol, three live cartridges, and three mobile phones of different brands.

The fourth accused , Shivnarayan Rajak, was later apprehended from Parsudih. Police officials stated that all four individuals have prior criminal records and were in the process of forming a new gang. Notably, Roshan Singh has also been declared externed in the past.

All four accused have been sent to judicial custody as further investigation continues. (W-pm)

Deputy Municipal Commissioner reviews library operations



Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: A week after its inauguration, the Dishom Guru Memorial Municipal Library was inspected by Deputy Municipal Commissioner Krishna Kumar to review its functioning and facilities.

During the visit, he assessed key aspects of the library, including seating arrangements, reading rooms, book collections, and the membership process. He also interacted with readers and staff members to understand their needs and gather suggestions for improvement.

Kumar directed officials to further develop the library into a premier study hub for students, researchers, and book enthusiasts in the city. He emphasized maintaining cleanliness, discipline, and continuously enriching the book collection. The Dishom Guru Memorial Municipal Library is emerging as a significant initiative aimed at promoting a culture of learning and knowledge in Jamshedpur. (W-pm)

Fishes die in Beldih lake, raises environmental alarm

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8 : A serious environmental concern has surfaced in the city after thousands of fish were found dead in Beldih lake at Dhatkidih on Wednesday.

This marks the second such alarming incident in recent days, following a similar mass fish death reported earlier in the Subernarekha river. Local residents were the first to notice the disturbing scene early in the morning, spotting large numbers of dead fish floating along the pond's edges. Panic quickly spread across the area, prompting immediate notification to the authorities.

Responding swiftly, teams from the municipal administration and the fisheries department reached the site to assess the situation. Preliminary findings suggest that the incident may have been caused by a sharp depletion of dissolved oxygen in the water or the presence of



toxic substances.

As an emergency measure, officials have begun spraying chemicals in the pond to purify the water and prevent further loss of aquatic life. Water samples have been collected and sent to laboratories for detailed analysis. The back-to-back incidents have intensified public concern over rising water pollution levels, with residents urging authorities to take stringent and timely action to prevent further ecological damage. (W-pm)

Minor's arrest sparks row in Telco

Mail News Service



Jamshedpur, April 8: A controversy has erupted in the Telco police station area following the arrest of a youth, with his family alleging serious procedural lapses by the police. According to the family, their 16-year-old son was wrongly recorded as a 19-year-old adult and subsequently sent to jail. Police had reportedly arrested the youth with 10 live cartridges, but the case has now taken a new turn after the family raised questions over the circumstances of the arrest. They claim that authorities have failed to clearly explain the grounds for detention. Family members allege that despite multiple visits to the police station, they were neither provided satisfactory information nor allowed to meet the youth, leading to growing anxiety and anger among them. Demanding a fair and impartial inquiry, the family asserted that if the accused is indeed a minor, the case should have been handled under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act.

As of now, no official statement has been issued by the police. The incident has raised serious concerns over police procedure and accountability. (W-pm)

Man arrested and jailed in Chakulia rape case

Jamshedpur, April 8: A man accused of raping a woman in the Chakulia police station area of East Singhbhum district has been arrested and sent to judicial custody, police said on Wednesday. According to officials, the survivor, a resident of a village in the Bardikanpur area, lodged a complaint alleging that the accused, identified as Duladula Hansda, sexually assaulted her on the afternoon of April 1. She stated that despite her repeated cries for help, the accused continued the assault. After managing to escape, the woman returned home and informed her family about the incident, following which the police were contacted. Acting swiftly on the complaint, a police team conducted a raid at the residence of the accused and apprehended him. A formal FIR has been registered in the case, and the accused has been remanded to judicial custody. (W-pm)

DC hears public grievances, orders time-bound redressal

Jamshedpur, April 8: In a citizen-centric initiative aimed at strengthening administrative responsiveness, Karn Satyarthi conducted the weekly Public Grievance Redressal Day at the Collectorate, where he personally heard complaints and demands from people arriving from various blocks and urban areas of the district.

A large number of applicants submitted petitions on a wide range of issues, reflecting the diverse challenges faced by citizens. The Deputy Commissioner patiently listened to each case and issued clear directives to concerned departmental officials to ensure timely, transparent, and quality disposal of all applications. He stressed that matters related to public interest must be treated on priority and warned that unnecessary delays would invite accountability.

The grievances raised during the session covered multiple sectors, including medical assistance, family disputes, pending payments under the Abua Awas housing scheme, delays in honorarium disbursal, support for single women, land disputes, complaints against fee hikes in private schools, ration card issuance, shop allotment, removal of encroachments, BPL quota admissions, fee waivers, employment-related issues, rent fixation, land mutation, promotions from Sahayika to Sevika posts, construction of approach roads, and deviations in building plans.

Taking a firm stand on efficient governance, the Deputy Commissioner directed all departments to maintain regular monitoring of pending cases and ensure their swift resolution. He emphasized that issues concerning vulnerable and marginalized sections must be handled with utmost sensitivity and urgency. (W-pb)

Police bust illegal consignment of cough syrup

Mail News Service

Jamshedpur, April 8: A disturbing trend is rapidly gripping the city's younger generation, as easy access to over-the-counter medicines is fuelling a silent addiction crisis. Cough syrups, tablets and even injectable sedatives—readily available at local medical stores-are increasingly being misused by youths seeking a quick escape from depression, stress, and failure.

What was once considered harmless medication has now turned into a dangerous intoxicant. Codeine-based cough syrups and sedative tablets are being consumed like liquor, often in open spaces such as hotels, lodges, and other public spots. These substances provide a temporary "high," making them a popular yet hazardous choice among young users.

Local sources reveal that medical shops across the city are witnessing an unusual surge in the sale of cough syrups, with many youths purchasing them in bulk without prescriptions. The unchecked availability of such drugs has raised serious concerns about regulatory lapses and the urgent need for stricter monitoring by district drug authorities.

Amid growing alarm, East Singhbhum police launched a major crackdown on Wednesday, exposing the scale of the illegal trade. In a raid conducted in the Jugsalai area, police seized a large consignment of banned cough syrup from a transport agency operating under the name Bole Bum.

Acting on specific intelligence inputs, a team from Jugsalai police station raided the premises and recovered around 20 boxes filled with codeine-based cough syrup. These substances fall under strict regulations of the Narcotic



Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act due to their high potential for abuse.

Police officials stated that the consignment was being transported under the guise of regular goods and was likely intended for illegal distribution within the region. The seizure has pointed towards the existence of a well-organized network involved in the smuggling and supply of such pharmaceutical drugs.

A case has been registered, and investigations are underway to trace the origin of the consignment and identify those responsible for sending and receiving it.

Authorities are also probing the role of the transport agency to determine whether it was complicit or unknowingly used as a transit channel.

Senior police officials indicated that the probe could uncover links to a larger inter-state drug trafficking syndicate. Further raids and arrests are expected in the coming days as the investigation progresses.

The crackdown is part of a broader initiative by East Singhbhum police to curb the illegal drug trade and address the growing misuse of pharmaceutical substances among the youth. Authorities have issued a stern warning, stating that strict action will be taken against anyone found involved in the sale, distribution, or transportation of banned drugs.

"With addiction quietly spreading among the city's youth, the incident has once again highlighted the urgent need for coordinated action by law enforcement and drug control authorities. Without immediate intervention, the easy availability of such medicines could lead to a full-blown public health crisis," said a social worker. (W-pb)