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Reviewed Progress In Sectors, Discussed Gulf Situation: PM After Trump Call



New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral cooperation in their first phone call since Washington and Tehran struck a ceasefire deal. During the call that lasted about 40 minutes, the two leaders also stressed

achieved in our bilateral cooperation in various sectors," the post said. "We are committed to further strengthening our Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership in all areas. We also discussed the situation in West Asia and stressed the importance of keeping the Strait of Hormuz open and secure," he added.

the need to keep the Strait of Hormuz open and secure.

India and the US are committed to strengthening their strategic partnership in all areas, PM Modi said in an online post after the phone call.

"Received a call from my friend President Donald Trump. We reviewed the substantial progress

tion between the United States and India," Gor said.

During the call, PM Modi told Trump, "People of India love you." The two leaders had last spoken on March 24, during which PM Modi told Trump that India supports de-escalation and the restoration of peace in Middle East at the earliest. The two leaders also discussed ensuring that the Strait of Hormuz remains open, secure, and accessible, is essential for the world. The US and Iran are in the middle of a two-week fragile ceasefire as efforts continue for a second round of talks after failed negotiations in Pakistan over the weeks.

BJP's Samrat Choudhary Named New Bihar Chief Minister, Oath Likely today

Patna: It's official. Samrat Choudhary is the new Bihar Chief Minister, becoming the first BJP leader to occupy the top post in the state. The oath ceremony is likely tomorrow and will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said sources. The BJP has Chief Ministers in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, Haryana - across most Hindi heartland states, Bihar was the notable exception. That changed today. "Samrat Choudhary was unanimously elected as the BJP's legislature party leader," Union Minister Shivraj Chouhan, whom the BJP parliamentary board named central observer, declared. Soon after the official declaration, Nitish Kumar garlanded Samrat Choudhary, who sought his outgoing boss's blessings. When Choudhary began to remove the garland, Nitish told him to keep it on. As the MLAs remained seated, Nitish instructed them to stand up and applaud the new leader. Earlier today, Nitish Kumar, who is now a Rajya Sabha member, resigned as Chief Minister. "Now the new



government will look after the work in Bihar. The new government will have my full cooperation and guidance," Kumar, Bihar's longest serving Chief Minister, posted on X. The 57-year-old Choudhary, who was Nitish Kumar's deputy, belongs to the Koeri, or Kushwaha caste, a prominent other backward class (OBC) community that accounts for roughly 6-7 per cent of Bihar's population. Among the backward castes, the Kushwaha community is the largest after the Yadavs. According to sources, the Nitish Kumar's JD(U) had asked the BJP to appoint a Chief

Minister from this very caste group. Choudhary, who entered active politics in 1990, has pulled many a political switcheroo - from Lalu Yadav's RJD to Nitish's JD(U) to finally joining the BJP in 2017.

After joining the BJP, Choudhary emerged as one of the sharpest critics of Nitish Kumar. In 2022, he publicly vowed not to remove his trademark saffron turban until he unseated Kumar. However, things changed after JD(U) reunited with the BJP in 2024. During the 2025 state polls, the JD(U) returned to power and Samrat Choudhary was named the Deputy Chief

Minister. Choudhary was always the frontrunner for the top post, with now-outgoing Chief Minister Nitish Kumar dropping hints all along. During his Samridhi Yatra across the state, Nitish Kumar, 75, placed his hands on Samrat Choudhary's shoulder and urged people to show support for him.

The BJP has been the junior partner in state since 2005, barring a few years in between, but had to wait until today to have its own leader in the top post. Nitish Kumar's party has 85 MLAs in the 243-members Assembly, just four less than the BJP's tally.

"Need Of The Hour, Historic Move": Amit Shah On Women's Reservation Bill



New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday described the "historic" Women's Reser-

vation Bill as the "need of the hour" and urged everyone to support it. "Women's Reservation Bill is the need of the hour. This is the rightful due of our Nari Shakti to contribute to policymaking and empower the nation. The Modi government is resolved to bring and implement this legislation," he said in a post on X. "This is a change that should certainly take place for the better, without delay. I hope everyone will step forward and support this historic move," said HM Shah. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh also wrote an open

letter to women over the bill.

"Our mothers, sisters, and daughters across the country are appreciating the decision to ensure women's reservation from the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections of the year 2029. In this letter dedicated to the women power of India, I have shared my feelings with the fellow citizens on the subject of soon realizing this resolve that has been pending for decades," he said on X.

Red Book is for the betterment of society: Minister Nara Lokesh



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 14 : Andhra Pradesh Education and IT Minister and TDP National General Secretary Nara Lokesh has directed the people to take the ideologies of the Telugu Desam Party strongly. He said that our path is to achieve the aspirations of NTR and Chandrababu. He emphasized that the Red Book is for the betterment of society. He flagged that YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has created

havoc in AP with the Raja Reddy Constitution. He directed that special time be allotted for the TDP and efforts should be made to strengthen the party. Lokesh met with TDP leaders at the Telugu Desam Party office in Mangalagiri today (Tuesday). Minister Nara Lokesh directed the TDP cluster in-charges on several key issues during the 'Coffee Chat' program. Minister Nara Lokesh emphasized that principles are the strength of leader-

ship. He commented that it is very important to explain to the people not only the development and welfare programs implemented by his government, but also the party principles behind them. He said that the party will become stronger only if there is unity and discipline among the workers. He explained that long-term political successes are possible only if people build trust based on principles. He said that a leadership that has grown in theory will determine the future of the party. He suggested that six key principles should be taken to the village level. CM Chandrababu Naidu revealed that no matter how many tasks he has, he spends one day every week in the party office, listening to public problems and trying to solve them. Minister Nara Lokesh suggested that every worker should allocate special time for strengthening the party at the field level. He said that the six main principles introduced by the party should be taken to the village level and created awareness among the people. He was angry that in the past, YSRCP leaders had attacked the temple-like Telugu Desam Party office, Chandrababu's house and TDP leaders. He said that the workers were tortured and that they had committed atrocities against SC, ST, BC and minorities. He expressed his grief that Amarnath Goud, Abdul Salam and Thota Chandrayya were chased and killed. They said that Jagan and Co. were responsible for the deaths of children named Dr. Sudhakar, Kodala Sivaprasad and Misbah. They said that Jagan and Co. were involved in destruction, attacks, murders and corruption when they were in power. They said that after losing power, they are spreading malicious propaganda against the coalition government. They called for a united fight to refute the fake information coming from the YSRCP fake factory. Minister Nara Lokesh satirized that Jagan and Co. are mixing whatever soul says with Mavigan.

NDA ready for key meeting.. Women's Reservation Bill to be the main discussion



From Our Staff Reporter Amaravati, April, 14 : Another key event in Andhra Pradesh politics is about to unfold. AP Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu (CM Chandra babu Naidu) .. A high-level meeting of NDA alliance parties (NDA Leaders Meet) will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) evening at his residence in Undavalli. In this meeting, key issues related to the state as well as matters of national importance will be discussed. Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, BJP state president

Madhav and other key leaders of the alliance will attend this meeting. They will discuss the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill, next steps and state development plans. This meeting is not just a casual meeting, but is going to set the future political direction. In the wake of the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill, the leaders will discuss the approach to be taken to publicize it. A clear route map will be prepared on the innovative initiatives that the coalition government will take towards women's

empowerment. The focus will be on further strengthening the coordination at the field level between the TDP, Janasena and BJP parties. The leaders will be given directions on how to take the welfare schemes being implemented by the government to the people. After the discussions at the residence in Undavalli, all the top leaders of the alliance are likely to hold a press conference together. The key decisions taken by the alliance will be officially announced in this meeting. After the coalition govern-

ment came to power in AP, the gathering of top leaders of the three parties at one place to discuss historic issues like women's reservation has become politically significant. Especially, this meeting between Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan will be a platform for future political strategies. This NDA meeting will be held tomorrow evening will be very crucial in Andhra Pradesh politics. There is excitement about what key decisions the coalition government will take on the implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill.

People are being misled in the name of Mavigan.. Anam flag on Jagan and Co.



From Our Staff Reporter Nellore, April, 14 : AP Minister Anam Ramanarayana Reddy made sensational comments on YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. He said that people are being misled in the name of Mavigan for the capital. He said that he is not mentally ill. Here on Tuesday Anam Ramanarayana Reddy

toured Nellore district and participated in several programs. On this occasion, he spoke to the media. He expressed his anger that a wicked person named Jagan has corrupted AP with drug culture. He said that while the coalition government is trying to do good for the fishing community with Juvvaladinne, they are trying to obstruct it. He clarified that out of the total 950 meters in Juvvaladinne, the government is giving only 150 meters to Sagar Defense, and the rest is for the fishermen. He accused the MLAs in the YSRCP government of selling the entire coastal area by making layouts. He questioned under what pretext Jagan will come to the fishermen again.

project was actually stopped and how much water will be supplied to Anantapur. He criticized that they are spreading false propaganda to deceive the people. He reminded that the National Green Tribunal had stayed the Rayalaseema Lift Project on October 29, 2020. He said that after that, a fresh inquiry was held after Telangana CM KCR filed a complaint. He said that the affidavit given by the Chief Sec-

Our priority is the Handreeniva project: Minister Payyavula

From Our Staff Reporter Anantapur, April, 14 : Finance Minister Payyavula Keshav has severely criticized the YSRCP. He commented that the YSRCP leaders, who suffered a crushing defeat in Rayalaseema, have nothing to say. He expressed his anger that the YSRCP leaders are misleading the people by saying that the Rayalaseema Lift Project has been stopped. He asked them to explain when this

project was actually stopped and how much water will be supplied to Anantapur. He criticized that they are spreading false propaganda to deceive the people. He reminded that the National Green Tribunal had stayed the Rayalaseema Lift Project on October 29, 2020. He said that after that, a fresh inquiry was held after Telangana CM KCR filed a complaint. He said that the affidavit given by the Chief Sec-

retary on July 7, 2021 made it clear that the work had been stopped. He questioned how Chandrababu would stop a project that had been stopped in such a situation. He questioned what the YSRCP government, which was in power for four years after the project was stopped, did on this project. Payyavula said that the coalition government is prioritizing the Handreeniva project.



EDITORIAL

The siege of 'Jalasadhi'
- a threat to peace

The failure of the Iran-US talks has raised the clouds of uncertainty. There is a widespread belief that the issues will be resolved only if the negotiations on other issues, such as the Strait of Hormuz, which is crucial for global oil transportation, and international issues such as nuclear stockpiles and nuclear weapons production, are not included in the agreement. Although the Shah's regime with US support appeared to be strong between 1976 and 1979, public discontent led to the overthrow of the US-backed government in 1979 and the Islamic Revolution. Since then, there have been no close relations or talks between Iran and the US. The resumption of talks between the two countries is a historic event. The fact that these two countries are holding direct face-to-face talks for the first time is a sign of a bad outcome. US Vice President JD Vance told reporters that Iran has not accepted any of the US conditions, including the development of nuclear weapons. The Iranian Foreign Ministry is expressing surprise that an agreement can be reached in just one meeting. The Iranian state newspaper commented that the US is making impossible wishes. The two countries temporarily decided to cease hostilities, and financial markets saw a recovery for a few days. Now, the situation is suddenly in danger of slipping into crisis again. Although the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz and the blockade of shipping are the main crises, no country can say when they will be resolved if they continue without averting them. However, both Iran and the US are giving signals that the talks are not over, which is raising hopes. Iran believes that Vance's failure to reach an agreement does not mean that the talks are over. The Iranian Foreign Ministry has said in its tweet that talks will continue despite the differences between the two countries. However, it has not been made clear when the talks will resume. It is imperative for the two countries to continue talks. Since nuclear issues are complex, they should be separated from other issues and resolved through long-term, continuous talks. It is also urgent that the US restrain Israel from continuing its bombing of Lebanon. Thousands of innocent people who have no connection with Hezbollah are losing their lives due to the bombings. Iran needs to take the initiative to ensure free transportation without seizing the Strait of Hormuz and imposing tolls on shipping vessels. It is reported that some ships have paid Iranian authorities about 2 million dollars (about 16 to 17 crore rupees) for safe passage through the strait. Similarly, UN reports have revealed that 180 million dollars are being illegally collected every month to provide security for ships that are not affiliated with Israel or its allies. In 1982, the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea was drafted and ratified by 168 countries, including Iran. However, although Iran ratified it, it has not been legally implemented. According to this agreement, the rights and responsibilities of each country over the world's oceans and their resources are determined. Now, if either Iran or the United States attacks the Strait of Hormuz, it will be a violation of the UN treaty. US President Trump is confident that closing this strait will not cause any damage to the US, and that US maritime trade through this strait is very small.

But the blockade of the strait will have to face serious consequences for China, India, Japan, and South Korea. Because all these countries import more than 50% of their energy through this strait. Moreover, oil exports from US allies Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates will also be disrupted. It is strange that Trump is using such a crisis as an opportunity to benefit his country. Trump is calling on us to come and buy oil from our country. Trump is fuming that Iran is exploiting the countries of the world by laying mines in the sea and preventing international trade. He is warning that America will not succumb to these threats. Trump has ordered his Navy to thoroughly inspect and intercept any ships that pay unnecessary and illegal tolls to Iran, warning that no ship that does so will have a chance to sail safely in the high seas. These developments indicate how America is asserting its dominance in international politics and how its relations with other countries are changing.

Pakistan Has Already Got Its 'Prize', Even
If The US-Iran Talks Collapsed

Only the eternal optimist or someone completely detached from reality could have expected the Islamabad talks between the US and Iran to lead to an actual peace deal. That the talks collapsed after marathon discussions doesn't come as a surprise. Even the 'event manager' - Pakistan - which was basking in its newfound glory as the global peacemaker, the saviour of the world, and centre of international diplomacy, had started to dampen its expectations. Mouthpieces of the regime had started spinning stories about how Pakistan had fulfilled its duty to the world by organising the talks between the two belligerents. They, however, insisted that the outcome of the parleys depended on the protagonists and not on Pakistan. Of course, had the talks succeeded, Pakistan would have taken the credit.

A Pros And Cons List

As far as Islamabad is concerned, it has already milked the event for whatever it was worth and did all the virtue-signalling possible to burnish its image in the comity of nations. It will now take stock of all its gains and the possible losses it might incur in the coming days, weeks and months because of the role it played as a broker. On the plus side of Pakistan's balance sheet is the profile it believes it has built up for itself as the venue of the talks. While talks between the US and Iran have been held earlier in various cities - Geneva, Muscat, Doha - Pakistan presented the Islamabad talks as something epochal. The hype within Pakistan and its military - and state-controlled private media - was bigger than anything in the international media. The global media mentioned Pakistan, in most part, only as the location of the parleys. The stream of phone calls between Pakistan's (nominal) Prime Minister and global leaders was nothing extraordinary and was part and parcel of the kind of international diplomacy practised in fraught times. It in no way signified Pakistan's centrality to any peace deal. Even so, Islamabad was satisfied that after decades, the country's name was not being taken in a negative context - war, terrorism, double-dealing, instability, insolvency, military rule, stolen elections ... Well, it's a long list.

The Real 'Medal Of Honour'

Pakistan can also claim to have won the goodwill of the Trump administration. After all, it went out of its way in trying to bail out Trump by pushing for a ceasefire. Not only did the Pakistanis copy-paste messages handed down to them from Americans, but they also tried to align Turkey, Egypt and even Saudi Arabia behind its efforts to push for peace talks. This drew appreciation from the US Vice-President, who thanked them quite profusely. For the Pakistanis, who have done everything possible to woo Trump & Co - from nominating him for the Nobel Peace Prize to signing crypto and mining deals with his buddies, and even entering into an agreement on the Roosevelt hotel in New York City - getting a pat on the head from the Americans will be worn as a medal of honour. More substantively, the Pakistanis seem to have managed the Saudis rather well. Not only did they avoid jumping into the fray against Iran in defence of Riyadh, but they also managed to convince the Saudis that they were doing this to protect the interests of the Kingdom. In doing so, they even managed to ingratiate themselves with the Saudis to a point that there were reports that Pakistan would be given a deposit of \$5 billion by the Kingdom to build up its foreign exchange reserves, which were depleted after the UAE asked them to pay back their money. There are also reports that Qatar will aid

Pakistan financially and that the Saudis could make some big investments in Pakistan.

A Bigger Role In Middle East?

In other words, the Pakistanis believe that, in tangible terms, they have managed to make some much-needed money by playing peacemaker. There is also an expectation that Pakistan has positioned itself to play a significant role as a net security provider and security guarantor in the Middle East. This would open up enormous diplomatic, political, economic and strategic opportunities for the country. Domestically, the regime has cemented its position by creating an impression that the opposition can forget about any pressure from outside over the incarcerated Imran Khan.

The 'Peacemaker's' Perils

There is, however, also a downside to the role Pakistan has played, especially since the talks collapsed and there is a real possibility of hostilities re-starting. Worse, the second round of war could be far more destructive and could pull Pakistan into the vortex. Under its mutual defence agreement with the Saudis, Pakistan is reported to have dispatched thousands of soldiers and some fighter aircraft to the Kingdom, presumably to support it against Iranian attacks if hostilities resume. If Pakistan gets dragged into the war, then Iran could be forced to target infrastructure in Pakistan. The damage to Pakistan's economy, in such a

case, would be crippling. And the Middle East's regional instability will also spill into Pakistan. For all the brand packaging Pakistan has done in the last few days on the international stage, the backstage scenario remains pretty dangerous. If anything, Pakistan itself is in a very precarious state - its economy is on the brink of collapse, poverty, unemployment, inflation are rising, growth is anaemic, industry is collapsing, two provinces are in the throes of full-blown insurgency, the eastern and western borders are active, and internal political divisions have left the regime with very little political capital. In such a situation, few can think about investing in the country, given especially the spectre of instability looming over the region. Of note is the fact that the governance record of Pakistan's unelected regime has received a thumbs-down from even benefactors like the Saudis, who have complained that the country failed to come up with any bankable projects to invest in the country.

Diplomatic Limits

Pakistan's vulnerabilities will not end because it played event manager. If the Saudis pump money into Pakistan, they will expect it to deliver its side of the bargain. One consequence of this will be the severe constriction of Pakistan's ability to resist political, military or even diplomatic demands made on it by external donor countries. Already, Islamabad

appears to have attracted the ire of countries like the UAE and a few other Gulf states, which are incensed at what they see as Pakistan's efforts to bail out Iran. As for Iran, which has quite cleverly played along with Pakistan's diplomatic efforts, it could have a falling out if the latter is pushed into opening up a front against it. Over the last 40 days, Iran has been successful in stringing Pakistan along. Upon Islamabad's request, it agreed to limit attacks on Saudis, lauded Pakistan's peace efforts, and responded positively to Pakistan's diplomatic efforts. All that is not out of conviction, but convenience and cunning. Iran wants to ensure that Pakistan remains focused on diplomacy and stays away from making any military moves. There is also a rather awkward scenario. What happens if the Gulf states develop their relations with Israel to build a common front against a common enemy? Such an eventuality could complicate matters for Pakistan, which does not even recognise Israel. While there is some concern within Pakistan over the fallout of the failed peace talks in Islamabad, by and large, the regime and the people are, for now, revelling in their fifteen minutes of fame. In a country where the future is always at a discount, it is the present that counts. The possibility that their expectations might come crashing down in the not-too-distant future is simply an afterthought. At least for now.

The Great North-South Debate,
And Prickly Questions About 'Fairness'

The ongoing debate over delimitation and parliamentary representation, provoked by the government calling a special three-day session of Parliament this week to debate constitutional amendments on the Women's Reservation Bill (but really to alter the delimitation of constituencies in the North's favour before the 2029 elections) has reopened one of India's most sensitive political and constitutional fault-lines. The core question is: how should a diverse federal union balance the democratic principle of "one person, one vote" with the need to ensure that smaller states or states with slower-growing populations retain a meaningful voice in national decision-making? The issue has acquired renewed urgency as population growth diverges sharply between regions, raising concerns that strict population-based seat allocation could deepen the emerging North-South divide.

This dilemma is not unique to India.

The European Union has grappled with a similar challenge for decades: how to design a representative assembly for a political union in which

Germany and Malta, or France and Estonia, must coexist as equal members. The EU's solution - degressive proportionality - offers a useful framework for India's current debate.

Europe balances democracy and federal equity through a clever formula set into law under the Treaty of Lisbon. Under it, the European Parliament is built on three constraints that together preserve both democratic legitimacy and federal balance:

* A minimum threshold: No member state can have fewer than six seats.

* A maximum ceiling: No state can have more than 96 seats.

* An inverse ratio: The larger a state's population, the more citizens each representative must correspond to.

This means that while Germany has far more Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) than Malta, a Maltese MEP represents roughly 80,000 citizens, while a German MEP represents around 850,000. The system ensures that the "Big Four" - Germany, France, Italy, and Spain - cannot dominate the Parliament simply by virtue of population. Smaller states

retain a meaningful voice, preserving the federal spirit of the Union.

The EU's approach is not perfect, but it reflects a recognition that pure proportionality can undermine the cohesion of a political union. Representation must reflect population, but not only population: it must also cater to needs of state identities. India, of course, faces a similar challenge.

Since, unlike the EU, we are one country, India's federal structure is more deeply rooted in our constitution and more politically consequential than the EU's. Yet the underlying tension is similar. States that successfully implemented population control - Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, and others - now face the prospect of losing relative political influence if Lok Sabha seats are reallocated strictly on the basis of population. Conversely, states with high population growth - Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, all in the Hindi heartland - stand to gain significantly.

This raises a fundamental issue: should states be penalised or rewarded for their demographic behaviour? And

should political power shift dramatically in ways that could destabilise the federal compact?

The concern is not merely theoretical. A strict population-based delimitation could produce a Lok Sabha in which a handful of large northern Hindi-belt states hold a permanent majority, enabling them to shape national policies even against the preferences of the rest of the country. This would mirror the very scenario the EU sought to avoid.

The government has cleverly sought to divert the public conversation toward the case for women's representation - an important reform, but one that enjoys broad consensus and does not address the structural challenge at hand. Its real objective is to use women's representation as a "hook" to permit delimitation ahead of the constitutionally-mandated 2027 Census, which would otherwise give us new constituencies only in time for the 2034 elections.

Sensing its own vulnerabilities in 2029, the ruling party wishes to advance that deadline by implementing women's reservation along with an ex-

panded parliament and newly-delimited constituencies in time for the next general elections. Hence the unseemly rush to meet this week, even as election campaigning is going on in Tamil Nadu and Bengal.

The government's cleverness is not just to cloud the issue by presenting it as being about women's representation. It is also by seeming to address the concerns of Southern states by retaining the present proportion of seat differences between them and the North, by the simple expedient of raising all states' seats by 50%. The government argues that this would ensure that ratios between states remain the same: for example, UP's 80 seats would become 120 and Kerala's 20 seats would become 30, but the ratio between them remains 4:1. This masks the fact that the absolute difference in the number of MPs between these states changes from 60 (80 versus 20) to 90 (120 versus 30), giving more UP MPs a say in determining who forms the next government. That, in fact, is really the point of the entire exercise, which is why the Opposition parties have publicly expressed scepticism about it.

Grand Ambedkar Jayanti Celebrations Held at Rampachodavaram



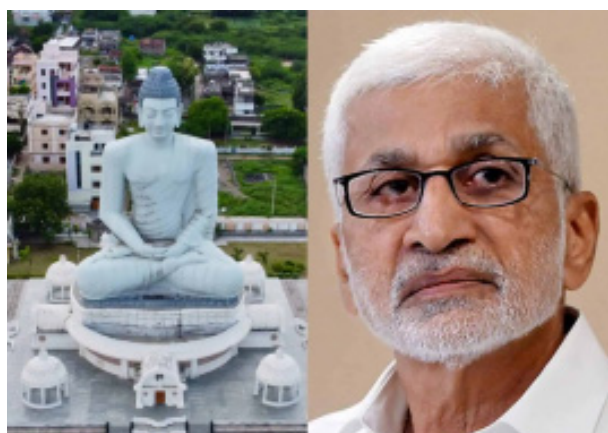
Rampachodavaram, April 14: The 135th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was celebrated grandly at the ITDA office in Rampachodavaram. District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar, State ST Commission Chairman S. Bojjireddy, and Member Gorle Sunitha attended as chief guests and paid floral tributes. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector highlighted that the Constitution drafted by Dr. Ambedkar ensured equal rights for all and paved the way for the abolition of untouchability and implementation of reservations. Officials urged tribal communities to utilize government welfare schemes for development. Tributes were also paid at the Ambedkar statue, with participation from officials, public representatives, and community leaders.

Ambedkar Remembered as Global Champion of Human Rights



Bapatla, April 14: District Collector Dr. Vinod Kumar described as a global intellectual who fought for human rights, at his 135th birth anniversary celebrations held at the Collectorate. Floral tributes were paid, and welfare benefits worth Rs.1.22 crore were distributed to 94 beneficiaries. The Collector urged youth to follow Ambedkar's path through education and service to society. SP B. Umamaheswar stressed that Ambedkar ensured equality and rights through the Constitution, while other speakers highlighted his contributions to social justice, women's rights, and upliftment of weaker sections.

Sai Reddy's Amaravati Idea: A Slow-Cooked Slum Strategy



From Our Staff Reporter
Amaravati, April 14: Vijayasai Reddy seems to share the vision of his former leader, Jagan Mohan Reddy as far as Amaravati is concerned. A message he posted on X this morning makes us to think so.

Sai Reddy says, "Bengaluru was founded in 1537 by Kempe Gowda, Hyderabad in 1591 by Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah, and Chennai in 1639 by the British East India Company under Francis Day. It took 500, 430, and 380 years respectively for them to become the metropolitan cities they are today. Amaravati cannot be manufactured overnight with borrowed money and grand illusions, especially when it is not self-financing as claimed."

He further says, "Build the basics first, Assembly, Secretariat, High Court, and essential housing for government employees and stop there. Let Amaravati grow organically with people, business, and time. A capital city must rise from strength, not debt. Indiscriminate spending on fancy designs and oversized infrastructure is not vision; it is financial recklessness. Every unwarranted rupee spent today becomes a burden on the people of Andhra Pradesh tomorrow. Loans for non-revenue-generating projects do not build prosperity, they strain public finances". This is pretty much what Jagan Mohan Reddy says but Sai Reddy stopped just before supporting MA-VI-GUN. Keeping aside the political rhetoric, let us look into the argument - 'let Amaravati rise grow organically with people, business, and time'. Unplanned Cities are nothing but unlivable cities with endless traffic, pothole roads, waterlogging every monsoon, and zero reliable public transport. Almost every city in the country is unplanned and now, those living there are suffering there. We have seen investors lament about the traffic snarls in Bengaluru and vent their frustration on Social Media. There are companies that shift out of Bengaluru just because of the Traffic. And then, we have Hyderabad where the Government and GHMC is scratching their heads and are coming up with numerous flyovers and underpasses only to understand that nothing is enough and nothing will help the cause.

Self-Enumeration for Census-2027 from April 16

Rajahmendravaram, April 14: District Collector Keerthi Chekuri instructed officials to ensure coordinated arrangements for the successful conduct of Census-2027 in East Godavari district. She stated that self-enumeration will be conducted from April 16 to 30, 2026, allowing citizens to register their details online through the official portal. A 15-day awareness campaign has been planned by the state government to encourage participation from various sections, including public representatives, officials, students, women groups, workers, and others on scheduled dates. Officials at village and ward secretariats have been directed to motivate at least 10-20 people per day for self-registration. The process is voluntary, and no one should be forced to participate. The Collector also advised people to log in to the portal, complete their details from home, and safely keep the generated ID number after submission.

Work for Ambedkar's Ideals : Collector Vijaya Sunitha



Markapuram Rural, April 14: District Collector Vijaya Sunitha urged everyone to strive for the ideals of on the occasion of his 135th birth anniversary. She attended the celebrations organized at Clock Tower Center under the leadership of district president Nandam Sekhar and paid floral tributes to Ambedkar's portrait. The Collector later inaugurated an annadanam (food distribution) program. Several local leaders and members participated in the event.

Ambedkar Jayanti Celebrated with Grandeur in Paderu



Paderu, April 14: Officials in Alluri Sitharama Raju district celebrated the birth anniversary of at the District Police Office. District Collector T. Nishanthi and Superintendent of Police Amit Bardar attended as chief guests and paid floral tributes. They praised Ambedkar as the architect of the Indian Constitution and a champion of social justice, highlighting his message of equality and empowerment. The SP emphasized the responsibility of police in maintaining law and order, while the Collector stressed coordination between police and revenue departments for overall district development. Police officials and staff also participated in the event.

Ambedkar Statue Inaugurated in Vizianagaram



Vizianagaram, April 14: Minister Sandhya Rani inaugurated a statue of at the Municipal Shopping Complex on the main road. She described Ambedkar as a beacon of hope for weaker sections and praised his journey from poverty to becoming a distinguished scholar and architect of the Indian Constitution. Addressing the gathering, she highlighted his contributions as Chairman of the Drafting Committee and his role in guiding the nation towards equality and justice. Teachers and political leaders attended the event.

Three Police Stations Inaugurated in a Single Day



Anakapalli, April 14: Speaker and Home Minister inaugurated three newly constructed police stations at Nathavaram, Krishnadevipeta, and Golugonda in Narsipatnam constituency, built at a cost of Rs.7.5 crore. During the visit, they also paid tributes to on his 135th birth anniversary and launched a solar house under the PM Surya Ghar scheme.

Addressing a public meeting, the Speaker directed police to take strict action against drug trafficking and rowdism, while the Home Minister stated that the modern facilities in the new stations would improve public service. Officials and local leaders attended the programme.

Ambedkar Jayanti Celebrated at Vignan Institute



Visakhapatnam, April 14: Ambedkar Jayanti was celebrated at Vignan Institute of Information and Technology, Duvvada, under the aegis of the Student Activity Council. The event highlighted the ideals and contributions of. Elocution and essay writing competitions were conducted to create awareness among students, who participated enthusiastically. Winners and participants were awarded certificates. Principal Dr. J. Sudhakar emphasized the importance of education, equality, and constitutional values, while Rector Dr. V. Madhusudana Rao urged students to follow Ambedkar's principles and contribute to social justice.

Safety of Women and Children is Everyone's Responsibility: ASP



Paderu, April 14: ASP Navajyoti Mishra emphasized that the safety of women and children is a shared responsibility. A rally was conducted from Chintapalli Old Bus Stand to Hanuman Junction under the supervision of ASP Mishra and CI M. Vinod Babu. She advised women to report harassment immediately and use the emergency helpline 112 in urgent situations. Parents were urged to be vigilant about children's safety and cautious about strangers. She also highlighted the need for safe use of mobile phones and social media to prevent cybercrime. Police assured full support to women and stressed that public cooperation is essential to ensure a safe environment. Around 200 police personnel, women, and students participated in the rally.

Jaladhara-Jalaharathi Works Worth Rs.26.46 Crore

Narasaraopet, April 14: District Collector Kritika Shukla announced that works worth Rs.26.46 crore will be taken up in Palnadu district over the next three months to improve groundwater levels. A total of 357 works will be executed through 274 water user associations. Approvals were given on Tuesday at the Collectorate under the Jaladhara-Jalaharathi programme. The initiative is expected to raise groundwater levels by 3 to 6 meters. Desilting works will be carried out in 227 tanks along with canal restoration to enhance irrigation and drinking water supply, thereby improving groundwater resources.

DWMA PD Siddalingamurthy, Groundwater Department Officer Ram Balaji Reddy, and others were present.

Ambedkar Ideals Guide Social Development: Officials



Vijayawada, April 14: District Collector Dr. G. Lakshminisha and MLA stated that the ideals of are key to social progress, emphasizing equality, social justice, and education. They paid floral tributes at Ambedkar Smruti Vanam on the occasion of his 135th birth anniversary and urged people to follow his vision for building a progressive society. Leaders highlighted Ambedkar's lifelong efforts to eradicate caste discrimination and uplift weaker sections, calling on citizens to utilize government welfare schemes and strive for overall development.

Minister Subhash Pays Tribute to Ambedkar



Kakinada, April 14: Labour Minister paid rich tributes to on his 135th birth anniversary, describing him as a beacon of hope for the oppressed. The Minister visited several villages in Kajuluru mandal and garlanded Ambedkar statues. Addressing gatherings, he highlighted Ambedkar's contributions to social justice, equality, women's rights, and labour welfare, as well as his role in shaping the Constitution and economic policies. He urged people to follow Ambedkar's ideals in practice and later participated in a community meal with locals.

Fire Service Week Inaugurated in Markapur



Markapur, April 14: Fire Service Week was inaugurated at the local fire station with District Collector M. Vijaya Sunitha as the chief guest. She launched the programme and advised staff to create widespread public awareness on fire safety until April 23. The Collector urged people to take precautions during summer, keep children away from matchboxes, lighters, firecrackers, and other flammable materials, and ensure proper ventilation in kitchens. She also stressed vigilance against gas leaks to prevent accidents. Later, she unveiled a Fire Service Week poster along with school students. Fire department staff and others participated in the programme.

Online Self-Enumeration for Census-2027 from April 16: Collector

Rampa Chodavaram, April 14: District Collector K. Dinesh Kumar has directed officials to make comprehensive arrangements for the successful conduct of Census-2027 self-enumeration, starting April 16. He said that, for the first time, citizens can register their details online from April 16 to 30 through a dedicated portal. A 15-day awareness campaign will be held from April 15 to 30, covering various sections of society each day. Officials were asked to ensure coordination and promote at least 10-20 registrations daily through village and ward secretariats. The Collector clarified that the process is voluntary and urged wide publicity through media and social media for maximum participation.

Speaker, Home Minister Visit Nathavaram; Stress on Development & Anti-Drug Drive



Anakapalli, April 14: Assembly Speaker and Home Minister visited Nathavaram, paid tributes to, inaugurated a solar house under PM Surya Ghar scheme, and opened a new police station built at Rs.2.5 crore. The Speaker directed strict action against ganja trade and rowdism, warning that no one involved in illegal activities will be spared. Leaders stated that about Rs.425 crore has been allocated for Narsipatnam constituency development, including Rs.45 crore for Nathavaram, with focus on employment, education, and healthcare. Modern police stations with advanced facilities will improve public services, they added.

Mrunal & Pooja's Multi-Starrer Teaser Faces Heavy Trolling

The teaser of Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai is finally out, and it has sparked a mixed response from audiences. Directed by Dawid Dhawan, the film features Varun Dhawan romancing Pooja Hegde and Mrunal Thakur in what appears to be a classic commercial entertainer. The teaser opens with an unusual narrative twist, where two kids talk about their respective mothers, only to reveal that they share the same father. This segment, reportedly enhanced using AI, has caught attention but also drawn criticism for looking exaggerated and over the top.

Beyond this hook, the film seems to rely on a familiar, age-old storyline with a presentation that some viewers feel lacks freshness. Social media reactions so far have been divided, with a section calling it outdated while others see it as a potential mass entertainer.

Despite the criticism, films of this genre have often worked well



with family audiences and single-screen viewers. For Varun Dhawan, who is in need of a solid

box office success, this film could be a crucial turning point. Releasing on May 20, it remains to be

seen whether the film connects with the masses and delivers the much-needed hit.

Ram Charan Showers Praises On Sesh's Dacoit

Adivi Sesh's Dacoit continues its strong run, marking what is being seen as a hat-trick of successes for the actor, with the film reportedly entering the profit zone and producer Supriya Yarlagadda already seeing returns.

Meanwhile, Mega Power Star Ram Charan's latest tweet has become a celebratory moment for the Dacoit team, as the star shared his admiration for the film after a recent screening. His message, filled with warmth and enthusiasm, adds star-powered credibility to the movie's growing acclaim.

Charan praised Adivi Sesh for delivering a memorable performance as Hari, noting how fully the actor immersed himself into the role. He also highlighted Mrunal Thakur's work,

calling her terrific and appreciating the emotional substance she brings to the narrative.

The actor extended his appreciation to Anurag Kashyap and the ensemble cast, pointing out how each one stood out with strong, convincing performances. Equally noteworthy was Ram Charan's recognition of producer Supriya Yarlagadda and Annapurna Studios. Their unwavering belief in the project and their commitment to high technical standards, he said, truly elevated Dacoit on screen.

Ending his tweet with heartfelt congratulations, Ram Charan's endorsement serves as both encouragement for the makers and a nudge to audiences, signaling that Dacoit is a film worth watching.



Toxic Makers Should Break Silence as Doubts Mount on Release



Speculation is steadily mounting around the release of Toxic, with trade circles increasingly questioning whether the film will make its announced June 4 date. With roughly 40 days left, the silence from the makers has only intensified the uncertainty all over. There has been no major promotional activity or official update, which is unusual for a project of this scale and has raised concerns about its readiness. One of the key reasons behind this delay is said to be the complications faced by the banner, KVN Productions, following the leak issue surrounding Jana Nayagan, a film which they also produced. The situation has reportedly diverted both attention and resources, slowing down progress on multiple fronts. In fact, the ripple effect is being felt elsewhere too, as the much-anticipated film of Chiranjeevi with director Bobby, backed by the same banner, has also seen delays in its commencement. Adding to this is the unavailability of lead actor Yash, who is currently busy with overseas promotions for Ramayana in the US. His packed schedule has further complicated timelines for Toxic. Given these factors, industry insiders believe the makers may opt for a safer release window to ensure a smooth rollout. Interestingly, this potential shift could benefit Ram Charan's Peddi, which is eyeing the same June 4 slot. The makers are trying hard to grab this date and are waiting for the makers of Toxic to announce their postponement. With no official confirmation yet, the next few days will be crucial in deciding the fate of Toxic at the box office. Let's see what happens in the days to come.

Samantha's Maa Inti Bangaram first song is Thassadiya

The promotional campaign for "Maa Inti Bangaram" has begun, with the makers gearing up to release the film's first single. Starring Samantha Ruth Prabhu, the film is slated to hit theaters in just about 30 days. The first song, titled Thassadiya, is designed as a vibrant family celebration track. Featuring Samantha and the ensemble cast in traditional sarees, the song captures a lively wedding atmosphere with energetic dance moments. The makers have announced that the track will be released on April 19. Directed by Nandini Reddy, "Maa Inti Bangaram" blends family drama with action elements. Samantha plays a layered role, portraying a soft-spoken daughter-in-law who also leads a secret life as an undercover agent. The film is being produced under Samantha's own banner, Tralala Moving Pictures, with music composed by Santhosh Narayanan. With the first single set to launch, the film's promotional activities are expected to pick up pace in the coming days.



Vishwak Sen's Genre Gamble : Smart Move or Big Risk?

A new project from Yuvasudha Arts has officially gone on floors, marking Production No.3 with Vishwak Sen in the lead. Popularly known as Mass Ka Das, Vishwak is teaming up with director Rajath for a fresh new-age rom-com. Interestingly, this project highlights the diverse choices Vishwak Sen is making in his career. His upcoming lineup already includes Cult, which is said to feature extreme violence, and Legacy, an intense political drama. Adding a breezy romantic comedy to this mix shows his intent to explore varied genres. While this versatility reflects confidence and ambition, it also raises questions about consistency. Instead of building a strong streak in a particular genre, Vishwak seems to be experimenting aggressively. It's a risky yet intriguing strategy that could either establish him as a versatile performer or affect his box office momentum depending on how these films perform. It remains unclear whether Vishwak Sen is deliberately exploring multiple genres



in parallel to discover the one that truly connects with audiences. If that is the case, this approach carries significant risk, especially at a time when viewers are quick to reject in-

consistent lineups lacking clear direction. Without maintaining steady momentum in at least one space, this experimentation could either pay off big or disrupt his rising trajectory.

Before Kaithi 2, Karthi Set to Bring Another Cult Sequel?



Director H. Vinoth is reportedly lining up an exciting slate of projects after Jana Nayagan. According to the latest buzz, his next film will be with Karthi, and it is said to be a sequel to the blockbuster Theeran Adhigaram Ondru. The original film, also known as Khakee in Telugu, was a massive success and enjoys a strong fan base in Telugu states to date. On the other hand, director Lokesh Kanagaraj has already indicated that Kaithi 2 will begin only after his film with Allu Arjun. This timeline could allow Karthi to complete the Theeran sequel beforehand. If both Khakee 2 and Kaithi 2 materialize, it could mark a massive career boost for Karthi. As he needs a solid hit to make a comeback, these promising films can make his comeback even smoother. Let's see how things work out in the days to come.

'God of War' Confusion to End on NTR's Birthday?

Speculation is building around Jr. NTR's upcoming projects as his birthday approaches, with fans eagerly waiting for clarity on multiple fronts for May 20, 2026. While most are expecting a powerful teaser or glimpse from the much-hyped film with Prashanth Neel, another discussion has started gaining traction among fan circles.

There has been ongoing confusion surrounding God of War, the ambitious project helmed by Trivikram Srinivas. Ever since reports emerged about possible casting changes, debates have intensified between fans of Jr. NTR and Allu Arjun regarding who will ultimately headline the film.

Now, many believe that Jr. NTR's birthday could finally bring much-needed clarity. There is news that the film has locked its title, which sounds powerful. Fans are hoping that the makers will at least release a title poster or a subtle hint confirming that the project still belongs to



Tarak. Even a small update could go a long way in ending the speculation. With expectations sky-high, all eyes are now on this special occasion. Whether it's a glimpse from the Neel project or clarity on God of War, Jr. NTR's birthday might just turn out to be a crucial day for his fans. Let's see what happens.