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Trump Floats Seizure of Iran's Kharg Island as Oil Prices Break Records

The Pentagon has mobilized approximately 10,000 ground troops, including Marine contingents and units

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

President Donald Trump has signaled a potential escalation in the ongoing conflict with Iran, stating he is considering the seizure of Kharg Island, the Islamic Republic's primary oil export terminal.



President Donald Trump waves to the media in Washington on March 29, 2026

Iran's crude exports, would require a sustained U.S. military presence and could further destabilize the Strait of Hormuz.

To facilitate this potential maneuver, the Pentagon has mobilized approximately 10,000 ground troops, including Marine contingents and units from the 82nd Airborne Division.

Despite the aggressive rhetoric, Trump noted that indirect negotiations via Pakistani intermediaries are "making progress".

In an interview published Monday, the President described "taking the oil" as a priority, comparing the strategic move to recent U.S. actions in Venezuela. "Maybe we take Kharg Island, maybe

we don't. We have a lot of options," Trump remarked, asserting that the facility could be captured "very easily" due to degraded Iranian defenses. The comments come as global energy

markets reel from the fifth week of Operation Epic Fury.

Brent crude prices surged past \$115 per barrel in Asian trading on Monday morning,

marking the highest monthly gain since the 1990 Gulf War.

Analysts warn that a ground operation on the island, which handles over 90% of

Tragic Bus Fire in Markapuram Claims 14 Lives; Inquiry Ordered

The collision occurred around 6:00 a.m. on March 26, 2026, near local slate quarries

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

A horrific road accident in the Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh resulted in a major tragedy on March 26, 2026.

At least 14 people, including a five-month-old infant and six women, were killed after a private travel bus collided with a tipper truck and burst into flames near Rayavaram village.

The bus, operated by Harikrishna Travels, was en route from Jagtial in Telangana to Nellore with



Officials are collecting samples from the bus involved in the accident at Rayavaram village

approximately 41 passengers on board.

The collision occurred around 6:00 a.m. on March 26, 2026, near local slate quarries.

According to police reports, the impact

caused the bus's diesel tank to explode, instantly engulfing the vehicle in fire.

Many passengers were trapped inside as the sensor-operated doors jammed upon impact; ten victims were

reportedly burnt alive. Among the survivors, 28 people sustained injuries and were shifted to the Markapuram Government Hospital.

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed deep grief and

ordered a comprehensive inquiry into the incident, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased.

The bus owner and driver, who were reportedly involved in the crash on March 26, 2026, are currently in police custody.

Preliminary investigations suggest a potential steering failure and repeated mechanical breakdowns earlier in the journey contributed to the disaster.

The March Of Time

I N V O G U E

**The New Year dawns, hope with half wish,
 The old seemingly losing dream,
 And March marches, chill left behind,
 In April spring springs forth full brim,
 May-June sizzle in solar noon,
 Mercury up like pressured steam,
 And monsoon turns grey into green,
 Rivers and lakes filled up to rim;
 Autumn-fall then take a due turn,

 Reminding of impending grim
 Of chill again in endless chain;
 All Nature's mortal it may seem;
 Time marches on to chase its dream,
 Seasons stick like a playing team.**

- Aniruddha Pathak

*“Be yourself; everyone else is
 already taken.”*
- Oscar Wilde

Utility Numbers

Police	100	Reservation Enquiry	1345
Fire	101	Disha	112
Ambulance	108		
Rail General Enquiry	131		

VMRDA Invites Global Bids for 40-Sq-Km "Vizag Bay City" Project

The 40-square-kilometer development is structured around three strategic pillars

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The Visakhapatnam Metropolitan Region Development Authority (VMRDA) officially moved forward with its ambitious "Vizag Bay City" initiative this month, inviting global bids on March 19, 2026, to appoint a specialized consultancy firm.

This landmark project aims to transform a 25-kilometer coastal stretch



between Kailasagiri and Bheemunipatnam into a world-class, integrated waterfront hub, drawing inspiration from global

models like Dubai's Jumeirah Beach. The 40-square-kilometer development is structured around three

strategic pillars: coastal tourism, business innovation, and premium living. Key features outlined in the proposal include the development of five major beachfronts, a 75-acre adventure theme park, and a dedicated marina for luxury sailing.

To foster a "Global City" ecosystem, the hub will house dedicated districts for Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and fintech firms.

GVMC Enforces "No Bins, No Trade" Rule to Boost Urban Sanitation

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC) officially launched the "No Bins, No Trade" initiative on March 28, 2026, as part of a rigorous push toward achieving a top national rank in the upcoming Swachh Survekshan survey.

Under this new mandate, all commercial establishments, including hotels, restaurants, and retail outlets, must maintain separate blue and green dustbins for



dry and wet waste. Officials have warned that businesses found operating without these prescribed bins will face immediate trade license suspension.

The campaign, introduced under the slogan "Mana Chetta – Mana Badhyata" (Our Waste – Our

Responsibility), was inaugurated at the RRR Centre in Yendada during the Swarna Andhra–Swachha Andhra programme.

Beyond simple bin placement, the GVMC is also requiring bulk waste generators to establish on-site composting units for organic waste.

VMRDA Allots 3,600 TIDCO Houses to Beneficiaries in Visakhapatnam

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

In a significant move toward urban housing security, the Andhra Pradesh Township and Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDCO) commenced the formal allotment of 3,600 housing units across Visakhapatnam on March 26, 2026.

The project, completed at an investment of ₹323 crore, targets low-income beneficiaries in key suburban pockets including Kommadi, Mantripalem, and Gajuwaka. District Collector A. Mallikarjuna, overseeing



the distribution at the VMRDA Children's Arena, emphasized that these "G+3" (ground plus three floors) apartment complexes are equipped with essential civic amenities, including dedicated underground drainage, 24/7 water supply, and LED street lighting. To ensure transparency, the allotment was conducted via a computerized lottery

system. Each unit, measuring approximately 300 to 430 square feet, represents a major step in the state's mission to eliminate slums and provide dignified living spaces. Officials confirmed that the final phase of registration for the remaining 1,200 units in the Pendurthi corridor will conclude by April 15, 2026.

Visakhapatnam Port Scripts History with Record 90.29 MMT Cargo Throughput

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) achieved a historic milestone on March 28, 2026, by recording its highest-ever annual cargo throughput of 90.29 million metric tonnes (MMT).

This landmark achievement was reached in just 362 days of the 2025–26 financial year, comfortably surpassing the previous record of 82.62 MMT set during the 2024–25 fiscal period.

VPA Chairperson M. Angamuthu credited the success to enhanced operational efficiency, mechanized handling, and the seamless coordination of the port's workforce.

The record reflects significant growth across key segments, including iron ore, coal, and container traffic.

Notably, the port reached the 90 MMT mark three days ahead of the fiscal year-end, reinforcing its position as a premier maritime gateway on India's east coast.



CITY STORY RISES

STATE AFFAIRS

AP Assembly Passes Landmark Resolution Declaring Amaravati Sole Capital

The proposed amendment seeks to explicitly insert the words "at Amaravati" into the Act

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

In a historic legislative move, the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly on March 28, 2026, unanimously passed a resolution declaring Amaravati as the "sole and permanent capital" of the state.



Moved by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu during a special session, the resolution urges the Central Government to grant statutory recognition to the greenfield city by

amending Section 5 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

The proposed amendment seeks to explicitly insert the

words "at Amaravati" into the Act and clarify that the capital encompasses all areas notified under the APCRDA.

CM Naidu emphasized that this legal framework

is essential to provide long-term stability and protect the capital from future political reversals.

The resolution has been forwarded to the Union Home Ministry and the presiding officers of both Houses of Parliament.

With the Union Cabinet expected to review the proposal on April 1, 2026, the state moves closer to ending a decade of administrative uncertainty.

Early Heatwave Grips Andhra Pradesh as 78 Mandals Cross 40°C Mark

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

An intense early-summer heatwave has taken a firm grip on Andhra Pradesh, with at least 78 mandals recording maximum temperatures exceeding 40°C on Sunday, March 29, 2026.



According to the Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (APSDMA), the highest temperature in the state reached a scorching 42.4°C in Gudur, Nellore district. Other significant hotspots included Botlagudur in

Markapuram at 42.6°C and Renigunta in Tirupati at 42°C. The APSDMA has issued severe heatwave alerts for 87 mandals across districts such as Alluri Sitharama Raju, Vizianagaram, and NTR. Managing Director Prakhar Jain warned that

extreme conditions are expected to persist, particularly in North Coastal Andhra, through Monday. Residents have been strongly advised to stay indoors between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and maintain high hydration levels.

"Tirupati One" Integrated Convention Center Gets "Ultra Mega" Project Status

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The Andhra Pradesh state government on March 25, 2026, officially cleared the "Tirupati One" project, a landmark initiative designed to transform the pilgrim city into a global hub for Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE).



Spanning 21.10 acres at Damineedu village, the integrated complex represents an estimated investment of ₹1,226.32 crore and is expected to generate approximately 1,500 direct jobs.

with a seating capacity of 5,000 persons, positioned to compete with major venues in Hyderabad and Bengaluru.

The "Ultra Mega" project features a 300-room wellness zone, a 200-key five-star hotel, and a dedicated cultural theme park.

Builders, the project is eligible for significant state incentives, including 100% SGST reimbursement for 15 years.

This development marks a strategic shift to diversify Tirupati's economy beyond religious tourism, aiming to attract high-value international business events and corporate summits.

At the heart of the development is a world-class convention center

Developed by a consortium of DivyaSree Holdings and Cybercity

AP Fast-Tracks Solar Mission; Targets 2,000 Connections per Constituency

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar has directed power utilities to accelerate the state's renewable energy transition by setting a rigorous target of 2,000 solar rooftop connections per assembly constituency.

During a high-level review on March 27, 2026, the Minister emphasized a "mission-mode" approach to complete these installations by April 14, 2026, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

The initiative primarily focuses on the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, with a special emphasis on providing free solar power to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) households.

In the southern districts alone, APSPDCL has launched a "Suryaghar Utsav" drive to install 25,000 units by the April deadline.



Engineering College organizes “Vizag Tech-Horizon 2026: A Convergence of Minds and Machines”

LBC News Network

College



Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya College of Engineering (Autonomous), Visakhapatnam, in association with Prajna Resources Pvt. Ltd., Institution’s Innovation Council (IIC), and the Council for Skills and Competencies, organized “Vizag Tech-Horizon 2026: A Convergence of Minds and Machines,” a symposium-cum-workshop on “Disruptive Technologies – AI and Quantum Computing” on March 7, 2026.

The event brought together academicians, industry experts, and students for knowledge sharing and hands-on learning. The inaugural session was chaired by President Prof. K.C. Reddy, Secretary and Correspondent Dr. G. Madhu Kumar, who emphasized the importance of equipping students with skills in rapidly evolving technological fields.

A keynote address on “The End of Knowledge, The Start of Wisdom” was delivered by Praveen Garimella from the Indian School of Business, highlighting the transformation of knowledge in the era of AI and data-driven innovation and stressing the need to stay updated with emerging technologies.

Technical sessions by Dr. Anandswaroop (IIIT Hyderabad) and Prof. G. Bhagavannarayan (CSIR) covered LLMs and quantum technologies. Hands-on session on the topics: AI tools and applications, Quantum computing concepts, Vibe coding, JD keyword mapping, IBM Composer demonstrations (from qubits to circuits) was delivered by Dr. G. Durgababu (RGUKT Nuzvid). The event concluded with the launch of “The Global Startup Summit,” marking its grand success.

Department of Zoology organizes a guest lecture on the occasion of World Wildlife Day

LBC News Network

College



The Department of Zoology organized a guest lecture by Smt. G. Mangamma, Curator of the Indira Gandhi Zoological Park in Visakhapatnam, on March 9, 2026. The talk focused on the urgent need for wildlife conservation to ensure ecological balance, as well as animal adaptation programs, animal education, and research for sustainable tourism.

The lecture was followed by an active interaction session with undergraduate life sciences students. Dr. G. Madhu Kumar, Secretary and Correspondent, generously contributed to the Animal Donation Fund.

Dr. G.S.K. Chakravarty, Principal of the college, felicitated Smt. G. Mangamma on behalf of the management. The program was organized by Dr. P. Surekha, Vice Principal; Dr. B. Sailaja, Head of the Zoology Department; and Dr. P. Kiran Kumari, acting as program coordinators. The event concluded successfully with enthusiastic participation from faculty and students in the life sciences.



College organizes a program on the occasion of World Water Day

LBC News Network

College



Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya College, in collaboration with Bharathi Theertha, organized a significant program on the occasion of World Water Day 2026 under the theme “Water – Gender: Where Water Flows, Equality Grows.” The event featured a keynote address by Dr. Prakasam B. Tata, an internationally acclaimed environmental scientist, engineer, educator, and humanitarian. A Ph.D. graduate from Rutgers University and former faculty member at Cornell University, Dr. Tata has served for nearly three decades with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in key leadership roles. He has also advised global organizations such as the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, authored over 150 publications, and received prestigious honors including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

In his address, Dr. Tata highlighted that the global water crisis disproportionately affects women and girls, who collectively spend 200–250 million hours daily collecting water, often walking long distances under challenging conditions. He emphasized that access to safe drinking water and sanitation is a fundamental human right and plays a crucial role in improving health, education, economic opportunities, and community resilience. He also pointed out that despite their central role in water management at the household level, women are often excluded from decision-making processes, stressing the need for their inclusion in water governance and policy-making. Referring to the UN message “Where water flows, equality grows,” he underscored that improved water access promotes gender equality and sustainable development. Linking these ideas to Indian cultural values such as “Mathru Devo Bhava,” he highlighted the importance of respecting and empowering women. The program concluded with a strong message on the need for gender-sensitive approaches to address global water challenges.

CSE student gets recognised by the World Book of Records for creating a portrait of Ratan Tata

LBC News Network

College



Dwarapudi Arun Sai, a CSE student, was recognized by the World Book of Records for creating a portrait of Ratan Tata that measures just 1.5 cm by 1.2 cm in only six minutes using a mechanical pencil. His inspiration came from his brother, who has set multiple records, including Indian, Asian, and Guinness World Records.

Secretary & Correspondent, Dr. G. Madhu Kumar, congratulated Arun on his impressive achievement.

Students secure runner-up position in Kho-Kho Competition

LBC News Network

College



Our students secured the Runner-Up position in the Andhra University Inter-Collegiate Women’s Kho-Kho Competition, held at the AU Campus on March 26, 2026.

Inauguration of a prototype compost digester

LBC News Network

College



As part of the SIDAR project, a prototype compost digester was inaugurated by Professor K.C. Reddy, Prof.D.Harinarayana, Dr. G. Madhu Kumar, Professor S. Ramakrishna Rao, Prof.S.V.Sudhakar, Dr.Prakasam and Prof. V. Balamohandas. The Principal and Vice Principals of both the undergraduate and postgraduate colleges were also in attendance. Dr. S. Sharmila Begum, Head of the Department, Associate Professor, and SIDAR Fellow Member, organized this event in the Department of Biotechnology. A poster presentation showcasing various projects was conducted by second-year Biotechnology students.

Department of PG Microbiology organizes one-day seminar

LBC News Network

College



The Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya College, Department of PG Microbiology and Research Centre, organized a one-day seminar and competitions on “Antimicrobial Resistance – A Silent Pandemic” on Tuesday.

The programme was conducted under the leadership of Prof. K. Suribabu, Head of the Department, along with faculty members Dr. M. Sashi Prabha and Dr. Sri Lakshmi Balakrishna.

The event featured student competitions including poster and model exhibitions, 3-minute talks, and one-minute reel presentations, with active participation from students of 34 colleges across Visakhapatnam.

Dr. G. Sairam, MD (Microbiology), Senior Resident, Gayathri Vidya Parishad Institute of Healthcare and Medical Technology, delivered the keynote address. He emphasized the dangers of antimicrobial resistance and the importance of responsible antibiotic use.

The programme concluded with an interactive session, prize distribution, and vote of thanks.

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Interesting facts about Literature

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Get ready to dive into a world of fascinating literature! Here are some captivating facts that will spark your curiosity and deepen your appreciation for the written word.

World's first known author: Enheduanna, who lived between 2285 and 2250 BCE, stands as the world's first known author with a name, marking a remarkable milestone in history.

As an influential Akkadian poet, her contributions to poetry, psalms, and prayers have resonated through the ages, inspiring countless literary adaptations and translations in English.

Beyond her literary prowess, Enheduanna was a high priestess dedicated to the moon god Nanna. Appointed as a leader of a religious cult in the ancient city-state of Ur, she played a pivotal role in blending the Akkadian and Sumerian faiths, leaving an indelible mark on the spiritual landscape of her time. Her legacy continues to captivate and inspire, showcasing the power of words and the depth of cultural fusion in ancient societies.

First published book: The Diamond Sutra, known in Sanskrit as the Vajracchedika Prajnaparamita Sutra, translates to the 'diamond-cutting perfection of wisdom.'

This remarkable text holds the title of the earliest known printed book, dating back to May 11, 868, and was discovered in the stunning Mogao Caves, often referred to as the 'Caves of a Thousand Buddhas.'

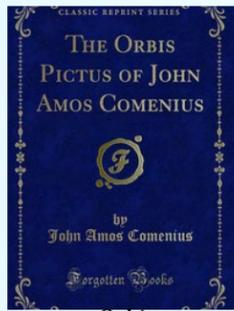
As one of the most significant Mahayana scriptures in East Asia, the Diamond Sutra offers profound insights.

According to FuongGungPedia, a resource dedicated to Humanistic Buddhism, its teachings center around four core principles: to

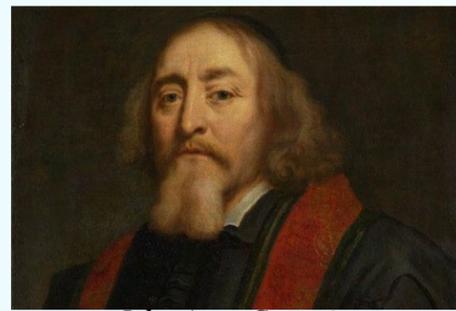


The Diamond Sutra

give generously without attachment, to free all beings without a sense of self, to live without clinging, and to cultivate wisdom without the desire for attainment. At its heart, the Sutra emphasizes two essential concepts: prajñā (wisdom) and the notion of emptiness. These timeless teachings continue to inspire and guide seekers on their spiritual journeys.



Orbis



John Amos Comenius



"The History of Little Goody Two-Shoes" by John Newberry

First Children's book author: John Amos Comenius (1592-1670) was a visionary educator with a passion for making learning accessible to everyone.

Often celebrated as the first children's book author, he had a remarkable goal: to create a textbook that could cater to all levels of ability.

In 1658, he achieved this with the publication of 'Orbis Sensualium Pictus' or simply 'Orbis' a

groundbreaking illustrated book designed for children under six who were just starting to read. 'Orbis' is regarded as the first-

ever picture book made explicitly for children. Bursting with 150 stunning illustrations, it explores a wide array of topics, from animals and nature to the elements and even religion.

John Newbery (1713-1767) is recognized as the first English publisher to create books specifically

for children. His first children's book, "A Little Pretty Pocket-Book," was published in 1744 and featured simple rhymes for each letter of the alphabet.

His most famous work, "The History of Little Goody Two-Shoes," published in 1765, is considered the first children's novel.

World's first e-book: In a groundbreaking move, Michael S. Hart launched Project Gutenberg, the world's

first provider of free e-books.

On July 4, 1971, he digitized the U.S. Declaration of Independence, marking it as the very first e-book ever created.

First recorded film to be based on literature: In 1899, the silver screen first came alive with two enchanting silent films: 'Cinderella,' inspired by the timeless fairy tale by Charles Perrault, and 'King John,' adapted from the classic play by William Shakespeare.

These adaptations mark the dawn of cinematic storytelling, blending the magic of literature with the art of film and captivating audiences long before the age of sound.

Writing mediums: In the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt, one of the most remarkable inventions was the use of papyrus as a writing medium.

Imagine a material that resembled thick paper, coming from the very heart of the lush Nile Delta, one of the largest river deltas on the planet.

The process of creating papyrus was a true art form; the stalks of the papyrus plant were carefully harvested, and their inner fibers were sliced into thin strips, pressed together, and dried until they formed a smooth, sturdy writing surface.

This innovative material paved the way for the creation of scrolls books of their time used to record sacred texts and invaluable knowledge. To inscribe their thoughts and ideas, the ancient scribes relied on cleverly crafted tools; they wielded sharpened reeds known as calamus or even delicate bird feathers, adding a unique touch to their writings.

-By LBC Editorial Team

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UNESCO Reports 273 Million Children Out of School as Progress Stalls

Progress has slowed significantly since 2015, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The global education crisis has reached a critical tipping point, with the number of out-of-school children and youth rising for the seventh consecutive year to 273 million.



According to UNESCO's 2026 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report released on March 25, one in six school-age children worldwide is now excluded from education, while only two in three

students manage to complete secondary school. The report identifies rapid population growth, persistent regional conflicts, and shrinking

national budgets as the primary drivers of this decline. Progress has slowed significantly since 2015, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, where

instability has forced millions out of classrooms.

Despite these setbacks, the report notes long-term gains, with global enrollment increasing by 30% since 2000. However, UNESCO warns that without targeted policy interventions such as school meal programs and stricter child labor laws the 2030 goal for universal inclusive education remains dangerously off track.

Middle East Conflict Triggers Economic Strain and Energy Supply Concerns

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The escalating conflict in the Middle East, primarily centered on the U.S.-Iran maritime standoff, has begun to significantly impact India's economic landscape.



With global crude oil prices surging past \$111 per barrel following the 48-hour ultimatum regarding the Strait of Hormuz, the Indian Ministry of Finance has flagged a potential moderation in national growth momentum.

threatened the stability of India's energy imports. In response, the Union Government on March 26, 2026, slashed the Special Additional Excise Duty on petrol and diesel by ₹10 per litre to shield consumers from inflationary pressure.

Petroleum has assured the public that India maintains strategic oil reserves sufficient for 60 days.

However, industry experts warn that a prolonged closure of the Strait of Hormuz could further strain the fiscal deficit and trade balance through the next quarter.

Russia Unleashes Record Aerial Barrage as Ukraine Strikes Baltic Ports

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The Russia-Ukraine war reached a new peak of intensity this month, marked by one of the largest aerial bombardments since the 2022 invasion.

Between March 23 and 24, Russian forces launched nearly 1,000 drones and missiles in a relentless 24-hour cycle. The strikes targeted 11 regions, hitting a UNESCO World Heritage site in Lviv and severely damaging Ukraine's already strained power grid.

On March 28, a Russian drone strike on a maternity hospital in Odesa killed two people and injured 14, an act condemned by President Zelenskyy as "pure terror." Ukraine has retaliated with a sophisticated long-range campaign, utilizing its new domestic Flamingo cruise missiles. On March 29, Ukrainian drones struck the Ust-Luga oil terminal in the Baltic Sea for the second time in a week, successfully disrupting Russian energy exports.

The disruption of key shipping lanes in the Persian Gulf has spiked logistics costs and

Despite the regional volatility, the Ministry of

PM Modi Inaugurates Noida International Airport; Phase I Operations to Begin Soon

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Prime Minister Narendra Modi officially inaugurated Phase I of the Noida International Airport (NIA) in Jewar on March 28, 2026. Developed at an investment of approximately ₹11,200 crore, the greenfield project marks a milestone in India's aviation sector, making Uttar Pradesh the only state with five international airports.



Airport to relieve chronic congestion.

In its initial phase, the airport features a 3,900-metre runway and a terminal capable of handling 12 million passengers annually.

While the formal ribbon-cutting is complete, commercial flight operations are expected

to commence in mid-April 2026, following the recent issuance of the aerodrome license by the DGCA.

Launch carriers including IndiGo, Akasa Air, and Air India Express have confirmed domestic services to hubs like Mumbai and Bengaluru.

The facility (IATA: DXN) is designed to serve as the second major gateway for the Delhi-NCR, complementing IGI



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IPL 2026: RCB Crushes SRH in Record-Breaking Opener

The defending champions reached 203/4 in just 15.4 overs

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) began their title defense in clinical fashion, pulling off the fastest 200-plus run chase in IPL history on Saturday, March 28, 2026.

Chasing a target of 202 at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, the defending champions reached 203/4 in just 15.4 overs,



defeating Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) by six wickets with 26 balls to spare.

The chase was anchored by a historic performance

from Virat Kohli, who remained unbeaten on 69 off 38 balls, becoming the first player in IPL history to surpass 4,000 runs in run-chases. He was brilliantly supported by

Devdutt Padikkal, who smashed 61 off 26 balls.

Earlier, SRH recovered from a shaky 29/3 to post 201/9, led by stand-in captain Ishan Kishan's 80. However, the standout performer was RCB debutant Jacob Duffy, whose early spell of 3/22 dismantled SRH's top order, earning him the Player of the Match award and cementing RCB's status as favorites this season.

India Breaks Relay National Record; Qualifies for World Event

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

India's relay prospects reached a new high at the 3rd National Open Relay Competition held at the Sector 7 Sports Complex on Saturday, March 28, 2026.

The standout moment belonged to the India B quartet comprising Lalu Prasad Bhoi, Unnathi Aiyappa, Harita Bhadra, and Jayaram Dondapati who clocked a blistering 42.30 seconds in the mixed 4x100m relay.

This performance shattered the previous



national record of 43.44 seconds by over a second.

The India A team also surpassed the old mark, finishing second at 42.34 seconds. Crucially, these timings have propelled India into the top 24 of the global rankings, effectively securing their

qualification for the World Athletics Relays in Gaborone, Botswana, this May.

Chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair lauded the team's "flawless baton exchanges."

Champions League: Elite Eight Set for Quarterfinal Showdown

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

The UEFA Champions League has entered its most high-stakes phase following the conclusion of the Round of 16 on March 18-19, 2026.

Defending champions Paris Saint-Germain cruised into the quarterfinals with an 8-2 aggregate demolition of Chelsea, while Real Madrid ended Manchester City's campaign with a hard-fought 5-1 total victory.

In a scoring frenzy at the Spotify Camp Nou, FC Barcelona advanced after an 8-3 aggregate win over Newcastle United.

The quarterfinal draw, finalized at UEFA headquarters, has set the stage for two colossal April matchups.

Real Madrid will face Bayern Munich in a clash of European titans, while Liverpool, fresh off a 4-1 aggregate win over Galatasaray, is slated to meet PSG.

F1: The Antonelli Era Begins as Teenager Takes Championship Lead

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Mercedes sensation Andrea Kimi Antonelli has scripted history by becoming the youngest-ever driver to lead the Formula 1 World Championship.

Following a maiden victory in China, the 19-year-old Italian secured his second consecutive win at the Japanese Grand Prix today.

Despite a difficult start that saw him drop to sixth, Antonelli capitalized on a Lap 22 Safety Car triggered by Oliver Bearman's crash to reclaim the lead. Antonelli's clinical 13.7-



second victory over McLaren's Oscar Piastri propelled him to 72 points, nine clear of teammate George Russell.

The result underscores Mercedes' early dominance under the radical 2026 technical regulations, which feature a 50-50 power split between combustion and electrical energy.

This hybrid overhaul also introduces 100%

sustainable fuels and active aerodynamics.

With the Bahrain and Saudi Arabian rounds cancelled, F1 enters a five-week hiatus before the Miami Grand Prix, with the "Silver Arrows" firmly established as the team to beat in this highly competitive and sustainable new era of racing.

