



# Regional Developments

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024



## Andhra Pradesh

### VIT-AP University signs MoU to boost knowledge & research in AI

In an effort to boost knowledge and research in artificial intelligence (AI), the Vellore Institute of Technology, Andhra Pradesh (VIT-AP) University has inked an MoU with Neuralix Inc. The latter is an AI firm that specialises in digital transformation across many industries.

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### Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam RTA achieves highest revenue collection

The regional transport authority (RTA) in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam achieved the highest revenue collection among all the districts in the state in the 2023-24 fiscal. The district RTA earned INR 450 crore or 64.1 per cent of its annual revenue target.

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### Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam admin launches 'Pradhan' digital platform

Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam administration has launched a digital platform, called 'Pradhan', to create awareness among the electorate on the importance of voting in the upcoming Lok Sabha (LS) elections. This will help citizens connect with their local leaders apart from bringing out in public the real problems being faced by them.

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### Amara Raja Infra bags 500 MW solar project from Greenko in Andhra Pradesh

ARIPL has achieved a significant milestone in the renewable energy sector by securing a solar BoS project of 500 MW/700MWp from Greenko. The project spans across an area of 2,200 acre site near Uyyalavada Town in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh.

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## Goa

### Eco-friendly township to be developed near Manohar International Airport

An eco-friendly township will be developed near Manohar International Airport in Mopa, Goa. The township aims to capitalise on the area's enhanced connectivity and burgeoning tourism prospects. It will incorporate a range of innovative solutions aimed at minimising environmental impact and fostering a more harmonious relationship with the natural world.

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### Marksans Pharma's Goa unit concludes USFDA inspection with observations

The Company has received 5 inspectional observations in form 483. There is no data integrity observation. The Company will work closely with the USFDA and is committed to address these observations comprehensively within the stipulated time.

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## Gujarat

### Robotic & Knee Replacement Centre inaugurated in Gujarat

The Robotic & Knee Replacement Centre has been inaugurated at the Nirali Hospital in Gujarat. The facility has been equipped with state-of-the-art technology, including the cutting-edge second-generation CORI system. The aim is to transform joint replacement procedures and enhance patient outcomes.

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### FDCA approves 133 allopathic drug manufacturing plants in Gujarat in 23-24

The Gujarat State Food and Drug Control Administration (FDCA) has approved 133 allopathic drug manufacturing plants in the state in the financial year 2023-24. This marks a significant milestone, with record investment commitments exceeding INR 10000 crore.

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### Gujarat Gas, Indian Oil inks MoU to broaden services

Gujarat Gas (GGL) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL) have entered into a non-binding memorandum of understanding (MoU) to expand the scope and accessibility of energy solutions for consumers. This alliance between both the companies will deliver an extensive range of products and services throughout GGLs authorized areas.

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## Jharkhand

### Govt plans to open 3 coking coal mines in Jharkhand this fiscal

The government is planning to open three coking coal mines in Jharkhand this fiscal with capacity ranging from five million tonnes to 6.5 million tonnes. The move comes amid the government's efforts to reduce imports of coking coal.

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### Simpolo Vitrified strengthens position in Jharkhand with Opening showroom

Simpolo inaugurated its first exclusive tiles and sanitary ware own showroom at Tulsyan Distributors. Ranchi Simpolo Vitrified, one of the leading players in the Indian ceramic industry recognized as most innovative player and pioneers of large format Sintered compact surfaces.

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### Jharkhand Achieves Ninth Rank in Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission

Jharkhand has been recognized for its significant strides in rural development, securing the ninth position under the SPMRM, which is a prestigious national initiative aimed at reducing the rural-urban divide by fostering sustainable development.

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## Punjab

### 10,403 MT of wheat procured in Punjab's Mohali

The arrival of wheat has commenced in the mandis of Mohali. Around 98 per cent of the total produce that arrived has been procured so far. According to deputy commissioner Aashika Jain, out of 10,588 metric tonnes (MT) of wheat arrived at mandis, nearly 10,403 MT has been procured.

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### Punjab makes arrangements for safe procurement of foodgrains

The Ludhiana administration has made arrangements for safe procurement of foodgrains amid inclement weather. Adequate number of tarpaulins have been made available in the markets to cover heaps of grains brought by farmers.

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## Maharashtra

### Sugar production in Maharashtra reaches 10.9 mt

Mills have crushed 106.7 million tonnes (mt) of sugarcane to produce 10.9 mt of sugar till date. Reportedly, the crushing season 2023-24 in the state is likely to end soon even as 196 mills have stopped crushing out of the total 207 sugar mills.

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### Maharashtra's first ARESA centre to be inaugurated in Nashik

Maharashtra's first Assam Rifles Ex-Servicemen Association (ARESA) centre will soon be inaugurated in Nashik. The centre will provide a range of welfare facilities, like healthcare assistance, vocational training, counselling services, etc., to veterans.

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## Haryana

### Haryana's Sirsa tops in procurement of mustard

Haryana's Sirsa district has topped in the procurement of mustard and payment to farmers in state so far. The Haryana State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED) has paid INR 210 crore to mustard farmers in the district.

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### Haryana's power demand expected to exceed 14,000 MW during summer

Haryana is expected to witness a surge in power demand exceeding 14,000 MW during the summer months. This marks a substantial rise in the state's power demand from last year when it consumed 13,055 MW.

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## Himachal Pradesh

### Centre gives FCA clearance for construction of Shinku La tunnel in HP

The central government has given the Forest (Conservation) Act (FCA) clearance for construction of Shinku La tunnel in Himachal Pradesh (HP). The 4.1-km-long tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity from Manali to Leh via the Nimu-Padum-Darcha road.

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### Kaurik, Guea villages in Himachal Pradesh get mobile connectivity

The remote villages of Kaurik and Guea in Lahaul & Spiti district of Himachal Pradesh have got mobile connectivity. Situated at an altitude of 14,931-feet above sea level, residents of these villages can now access communication channels and information.

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### HP govt to establish ICE units in 9 districts lacking cyber police stations

The state police has decided to establish Integrated Cyber Extended (ICE) units in nine districts lacking cyber police stations. These include Lahaul & Spiti, Una, Bilaspur, Sirmaur, Chamba, Kullu, Hamirpur, Solan and Kinnaur.

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## Karnataka

### BWSSB plans to supply treated water for construction projects in Bengaluru

Karnataka's Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has announced its willingness to supply 10 million litres per day (MLD) of treated water to address the water needs of construction projects. This will benefit the construction sector by guaranteeing continuous development and encouraging environmental-friendly water usage methods.

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### BMRCCL to construct new pedestrian bridge over Bengaluru-Mysuru NH

Karnataka's Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCCL) has announced the construction of a new pedestrian bridge over the Bengaluru-Mysuru national highway (NH) near Challaghatta station. The project is expected to be finished by the end of Sept 2024.

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### Japanese technology to be used to treat chemical wastewater in Bengaluru

Karnataka's Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is planning to put into service cutting-edge Japanese technology to treat chemical wastewater produced in the Peenya Industrial Area. The move aims to make the area more environmental friendly.

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## Kerala

### SPACE inaugurated at Kulamavu in Idukki, Kerala

A state-of-the-art Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation and Evaluation (SPACE) was inaugurated by the Union ministry of defence at Kulamavu in Idukki, Kerala. The facility has been established at the underwater acoustic research facility.

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### Suzuki Motorcycle India opens new outlet in Thiruvananthapuram

The dealership, located at Sarada Complex, Step Junction, Near Bharat Petroleum Pump, Mannanthala, aims to cater to various sales needs and provide high-quality After Sales Service. Mr. Devashish Handa, Executive Vice President, Sales & After Sales, Suzuki Motorcycle India, expressed gratitude to the promoters of Indus Motor Company.

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### Kerala's first double decker train to commence operations soon

Indian Railways (IR) is likely to launch Kerala's first double decker train soon. The trial run of the double decker coaches of Kerala's Coimbatore-Bengaluru Uday Express commenced.

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## Rajasthan

### Rajasthan govt plans a boost for its artisans in handicrafts, MSME sectors

The state is planning to implement an 'integrated cluster development scheme', which will help boost the productivity and quality of handicrafts, handlooms, and micro, small & medium enterprises (MSME) sectors. It will also build the capacity of MSMEs, making them market-oriented and competitive.

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### Avaada Energy inks INR 4,471 crore refinancing pact with NaBFID

Avaada Energy said it closed a refinancing deal of INR4,471 crore with National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) for its four solar projects in Rajasthan. The financing from NaBFID will enable Avaada Energy to prepay existing loans to multiple lenders.

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### Tesla Eyes Rajasthan For Potential Electric Car Manufacturing Hub In India

Tesla, the US-based EV titan, seeks an entry into the Indian market, the state of Rajasthan has rolled out the red carpet with enticing proposals. Joining the race are Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra, all eager to host Tesla's potential manufacturing facility.

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## Madhya Pradesh

### Medical Devices Park gets proposals from 28 industries

MPIDC has allotted land to 28 industries so far until March in the Medical Devices Park. Samson Scientifics and Surgicals, Omexa Formulary Pvt Ltd, US Herbals, Bhandari Labs Pvt Ltd, SPM Medicare Pvt Ltd, Yuvitel Technologies Pvt Ltd and Bionic Meditech were a few new allotments in the Medical Devices Park, according to MPIDC.

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### CASE India rolls out 20,000th vibratory compactor from Pithampur, MP, facility

CASE Construction Equipment has achieved a significant milestone of producing 20,000th Vibratory Compactors, from its state-of-the-art facility in Pithampur, Madhya Pradesh. The facility is the sole manufacturing hub for CASE's compactors globally in CNH.

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## Odisha

### All-women metre testing Laboratory of TPSODL gets NABL accreditation

The National Accreditation Board for Testing & Calibration Laboratories (NABL) has accredited the all-women Metre Testing Laboratory of TP Southern Odisha Distribution Limited in Odisha's Ambagada. The cutting-edge facility aims to empower local women by giving them access to opportunities and employment in sophisticated technology.

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### OSDA partners with Meesho to carry out Swakalpa programme in Odisha

With the goal of assisting 10,000 people, the OSDA has partnered with online retailer Meesho to carry out the Swakalpa programme. 1,000 people have been selected under the scheme's first phase for comprehensive mentorship and enterprise setup support.

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### Green ammonia production facility to come up in Odisha

ReNew Energy Global Plc. has signed an MoU with the JERA Co. to jointly develop a green ammonia production facility in Odisha. To create green hydrogen, a necessary feedstock for green ammonia, the project will make use of about 500 MW of high-CUF renewable energy.

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### TPSODL deploys mobile sub-stations in Odisha for power supply in summers

In an effort to meet the excellence in providing power supply in summer emergencies, the Tata Power Southern Odisha Distribution Limited (TPSODL) has launched a new project. As part of it, it has deployed mobile sub-stations in each of the six circles of Odisha.

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## Tamil Nadu

### Tamil Nadu saw record USD 9.6 billion electronics exports in 2023-24

Tamil Nadu's electronics exports reached a record USD 9.6 billion in 2023-24, which accounted for nearly 33 per cent share of India's total electronics exports during the year. The share of electronics exports almost doubled from USD 5.4 billion in 2022-23.

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### Tamil Nadu's Uthukuli butter gets GI tag

Tamil Nadu's Uthukuli butter has been granted the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. This butter is produced in the Uthukuli region of Tiruppur district. The recognition will celebrate unique qualities of the butter and honour the cultural heritage & traditions of the region.

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### State ranks first in export of textiles, readymade garments, leather goods

According to the National Import-Export Record for Yearly Analysis of Trade (NIRYAT), Tamil Nadu has ranked first in terms of export of textiles, readymade garments and leather goods. It accounts for 22.5 per cent of the textiles exported from the country. In case of export of leather goods, it contributed 43.2 per cent of the national tally.

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## Telangana

### Peak power demand crosses 4,000 MW mark in Telangana's Hyderabad

The prevailing heatwave conditions in Telangana have led to a significant surge in energy demand. The peak load crossed the 4,000 MW mark in Greater Hyderabad. The Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TSSPDCL) reported a substantial increase in peak load this year, ranging between 16-20 per cent.

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### 3 new archaeological sites discovered in Telangana

A unique Iron Age megalithic site has been discovered at Ooragutta near Bandala village in SS Tadvai mandal of Mulugu district in Telangana. A team led by Yogi Vemana University researcher Ch Praveen Raju and University of Hyderabad history professor KP Rao has found the site in the district's woodland region, which is dominated by tribal people.

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### Hyderabad emerges as offshoring powerhouse with 53 pc YoY growth

Hyderabad's offshoring market witnessed a substantial leasing volume of 6.6 million square feet (mn sq ft) in the calendar year 2023, according to a report by Knight Frank.

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## North-East

### SJVN Green Energy incorporates JV named SGEL Assam Renewable Energy

SJVN Green Energy has incorporated a Joint Venture Company with Assam Power Distribution Company named SGEL Assam Renewable Energy vide Certificate of Incorporation dated issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India.

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### 74.2 per cent voter turnout recorded in Meghalaya LS polls

A voter turnout of 74.2 per cent was recorded in the Meghalaya Lok Sabha (LS) elections on 19 April 2024. The Shillong LS seat recorded 71.9 per cent, while Tura seat registered a turnout of 78 per cent. The voting passed off peacefully at 3,512 polling stations spread across 60 Assembly constituencies of the state.

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### 69.1 per cent voter turnout recorded in phase-I of LS polls in Manipur

A voter turnout of 69.1 per cent was recorded in phase-I of Lok Sabha (LS) polls in Manipur, voting for which was held on 19 April 2024. Several incidents of violence, including gunfire and damaging electronic voting machines (EVM), were reported.

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## Union Territories

### Delhi to Gurugram in 7 minutes : InterGlobe to bring air taxis in 2026

InterGlobe Enterprises, parent company of IndiGo, and Archer Aviation plan to launch all-electric air taxi services in India by 2026, cutting travel time from Delhi's Connaught Place to Gurugram to 7 minutes.

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### J&K Bank appoints Fayaz Ganai as CFO

Jammu & Kashmir Bank announced that its board has appointed Fayaz Ahmad Ganai as the chief financial officer (CFO) of the bank for three years with effect from 16 April 2024. Ganai is a qualified chartered accountant with an experience of 15 Years in large corporate/ financial institution of which five years under senior management level i.e. scale IV.

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### Ladakh's first luxury 5-star hotel takes MICE to the next level at 11562 ft.

Ladakh's first luxury 5-star hotel takes MICE to the next level at 11,562 ft. As one of the most sought-after tourist hotspots and a rapidly emerging MICE destination in India, The Grand Dragon Ladakh offers state-of-the-art conference facilities and diverse leisure options.

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## Uttar Pradesh

### UP govt plans to utilise water bodies for setting up floating solar farms

The Uttar Pradesh government is planning to utilise water bodies for setting up floating solar farms and generate almost 11,000 MW of green energy. This has come as the state government is targeting to generate around 22,000 MW of solar energy in four to five years.

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### First phase of upcoming international airport in Noida to cost INR10,056 crore

The first phase of the upcoming international airport in Noida will cost INR10,056 crore. So far, around INR7,100 crore has already been spent on it. Being developed in 1,300 hectares, the first phase of the airport is scheduled to open for flight operations by September 2024.

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### INR32,000 crore investment to boost UP's hospitality and tourism sector

The Uttar Pradesh government is eyeing investments of INR32,000 crore in the hospitality and tourism sector. The investment would likely create an additional 80,000 accommodation units by way of hotels and resorts to bridge the deficit in room availability.

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### 6 more items from Uttar Pradesh granted GI tag

Six more items have been given the geographical indication (GI) tag. These include the Tirangi Barfi of Kashi, Banaras metal casting craft, Lakhimpur Kheri tharu embroidery, Bareilly cane & bamboo craft, Bareilly zardozi craft and Pilkhuwa hand block print textile.

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## Uttarakhand

### MoEFCC to grant EC to rebuild Phata Byung Hydroelectric Project

The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) has commenced the process of granting environmental clearance (EC) to rebuild a hydropower project in Uttarakhand. According to the Hindustan Times, the Phata Byung Hydroelectric Project was almost fully washed away during the 2013 flash floods that killed over 6,000 people.

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### IHG Hotels signs Crowne Plaza Dehradun, Uttarakhand

IHG Hotels & Resorts has signed a management agreement with IVY Hotels & Resorts to set up its first Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. The upcoming 'Crowne Plaza Dehradun Rajpur Road' hotel will cater to both leisure and corporate travellers seeking a memorable premium hospitality experience.

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