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Khelo India
Tribal Games-2026



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CHIEF EDITOR DESK



Dear Readers,

On behalf of National Awareness Times (India's National Weekly), the editorial board and the team of our journal would like to wish all the readers a wonderful week ahead to all.

A new sporting chapter opened in India this spring when Chhattisgarh hosted the first ever Khelo India Tribal Games, a national event created exclusively for tribal athletes.

In a historic milestone for space exploration, NASA successfully launched the Artemis II mission from the Kennedy Space Center.

In a significant boost to its maritime defense capabilities, India has inducted its third nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arindhaman, into the Indian Navy.

In a dramatic turn of events amid rising tensions in the Middle East, Donald Trump publicly claimed that Iran had requested a ceasefire.

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KHELO INDIA TRIBAL GAMES-2026

By Editor – Gaurav Singh



A new sporting chapter opened in India this spring when Chhattisgarh hosted the first ever Khelo India Tribal Games, a national event created exclusively for tribal athletes. Held from March 25 to April 3 across Raipur, Jagdalpur and Surguja, the Games brought together tribal sporting talent from across the country and turned long ignored promise into national visibility. Officially, the event was designed as the first national multi sport competition under the Khelo India umbrella dedicated solely to tribal athletes, with participation drawn from 30 states and Union Territories. Different official updates during the event described the scale in slightly different ways, putting participation at over 2,300 athletes, over 2,500 athletes, and more than 3,000 athletes when athletes and wider contingents were counted. What remained constant was the message: this was a major national platform for tribal sport.

The significance of the Games was not limited to numbers. It was symbolic, political, cultural and deeply emotional. For decades, India's tribal belts have produced remarkable runners, archers, footballers, wrestlers and swimmers, often without infrastructure, media attention or institutional support. The Khelo India Tribal Games changed that equation. Athletes from tribal communities in Odisha, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Nagaland, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, West Bengal and many other regions stepped into a national arena meant specifically for them. The programme featured seven medal sports, namely archery, athletics, football, hockey, swimming, weightlifting and wrestling, while Mallakhamb and kabaddi appeared as demonstration sports, giving the event a wider Indian sporting identity rooted in both competition and tradition.

At the heart of the opening narrative

was Union Sports Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, who framed the Games not as a ceremonial event, but as a structural intervention. His words gave the event its political and emotional spine. He said sporting talent is not limited to metropolitan cities and thrives in tribal villages and remote regions of the country. He described the Tribal Games as an effort to identify and promote this untapped potential. He also said that Sports Authority of India coaches would be present at the venues to scout talent and guide athletes through structured pathways such as Khelo India Centres and Centres of Excellence. Most significantly, he called the event a historic beginning for Chhattisgarh as a permanent host, saying the Games would now be organised annually across Bastar, Surguja and Raipur. That statement transformed the event from a one time festival into the beginning of an institution.



Karnataka Team

Odisha Team

Jharkhand Team

Karnataka emerged as the overall champion with 23 gold, 8 silver and 7 bronze medals.

Odisha finished second with 21 gold, 15 silver and 21 bronze.

Jharkhand secured third with 16 gold, 8 silver and 11 bronze.

The final standings also revealed how broad the competitive spread had become, with states from different regions pushing forward and showing that tribal sporting excellence is not confined to one belt of India.

ANJALI MUNDA YOUTH STAR OF KHELO INDIA TRIBAL GAMES



Among the brightest faces of the Games was **Anjali Munda** of Odisha, one of the breakout stars of the entire tournament. At just 15, the swimmer from Jajpur district became the first woman gold medallist of the Khelo India Tribal Games and then went on to build a remarkable medal run. Reports from the Games described her as one of the most impressive names in the swimming competition, collecting five gold medals in the 200 metre freestyle, 200 metre individual medley, 100 metre backstroke, 50 metre backstroke and the 4 x 100 medley. Her story carries the kind of emotional force that great magazine profiles need. She is the daughter of a van driver, comes from Gahiragadiya village in Odisha, and began swimming only after a sports teacher asked students to choose a sport. She chose water, and the choice changed her life.

MANIKANTA L DOMINATOR OF KHELO INDIA TRIBAL GAMES



Karnataka's Manikanta L emerged as one of the most dominant swimmers of the Games, leading his state to the top of the standings. He set the tone early with a hat-trick of gold medals, including a standout win in the men's 200 metre individual medley. Maintaining his momentum, he went on to secure multiple gold medals along with a silver, showcasing both versatility and consistency across events. His performances were not just about winning races, but about controlling them with confidence and precision. What made his run even more remarkable was his ability to stay composed under pressure, delivering strong finishes and setting a high benchmark in every race he entered. His success energized the Karnataka contingent and played a crucial role in their overall dominance in swimming. More than just a medal winner, Manikanta became the backbone of Karnataka's campaign, turning every swim into a statement. In a competition designed to highlight emerging tribal talent, he didn't just shine he proved his authority and set himself apart as one of the defining athletes of the Games.

KOMALIKA BARI A COMPETITIVE RISING STAR



Komalika Bari, a name already known in Indian archery circles, but one that added prestige and competitive sharpness to the Tribal Games. Representing Jharkhand, Komalika won gold in the women's recurve individual event. She also won gold in the mixed team event, while the women's team had to settle for silver after losing a close final to Nagaland. What made her presence special was that she did not treat the Games casually. She saw them as valuable match practice ahead of bigger selection trials. That attitude elevated the quality of the event. Komalika's journey, from shooting with a bamboo bow in her early years to becoming a world youth level champion and a serious contender in Indian archery, perfectly fitted the larger theme of the Games: talent from the margins rising to the centre

TSUCHOI T FROM NOKLAK TO THE NATION



Another story of quiet power came from Nagaland. **Tsuchoi T**, a 26 year old athlete from Noklak district, won bronze in the women's 5000 metres and helped place Nagaland firmly on the medals map of the tournament. For a state and region that often remain under represented in mainstream national sports narratives, her podium finish carried significance beyond athletics. It represented presence. It represented distance overcome. It represented the moment when a runner from the Northeast could stand before the nation and say, we are here too. .

EVENTS



The Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Jual Oram addressing the gathering at the 8th Foundation Day celebration of the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, in New Delhi.

The Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh laid the foundation stone of the state-of-the-art Large Cavitation Tunnel (LCT) facility to boost naval research & testing capabilities at the Naval Science & Technological Laboratory (NSTL) – A premium laboratory of DRDO at Visakhapatnam, in Andhra Pradesh.



The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah filled the self-enumeration form as the first phase of the Census 2027, in New Delhi.



The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman addressing at the Golden Jubilee Celebrations, in New Delhi.

The Union Minister of Textiles, Shri Giriraj Singh interacting with the stakeholders of the footwear industry, in New Delhi.



The Vice-President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan visited Charkha Park and the Mahatma Gandhi Satyagraha Smarak in Motihari, in Bihar and paid floral tributes.

NASA LAUNCHES ARTEMIS II THE NEW SPACE ERA



In a historic milestone for space exploration, NASA successfully launched the Artemis II mission from the Kennedy Space Center. The launch represents a major step forward in humanity's return to deep space and signals renewed ambition to explore the Moon and beyond. As the first crewed mission of the Artemis program, Artemis II has captured global attention and reignited excitement about the future of space travel.

The Artemis II mission is designed to send astronauts on a journey around the Moon, marking the first time humans will travel beyond low Earth orbit in decades. Unlike its predecessor, Artemis I, which was an uncrewed test flight, Artemis II carries a team of astronauts tasked with evaluating the spacecraft's systems in real conditions. This mission is a critical step toward establishing a sustainable human presence on the Moon.

At the heart of the mission is the powerful Space Launch System (SLS) rocket, one of the most advanced rockets ever built. Combined with the Orion spacecraft, it provides the capability to carry astronauts safely into deep

space. The successful liftoff from Kennedy Space Center demonstrated the reliability of these systems and showcased NASA's technological advancements.

The crew aboard Artemis II includes highly trained astronauts who will perform a series of tests during the mission. Their primary objective is to assess the performance of life support systems, navigation controls, and communication systems while traveling beyond Earth's orbit. The mission will also test the ability of the spacecraft to re-enter Earth's atmosphere safely, a crucial requirement for future lunar missions.

One of the most exciting aspects of Artemis II is its role in paving the way for future lunar exploration. NASA's Artemis program aims to land astronauts on the Moon again, including the first woman and the first person of color. These future missions will focus on exploring the lunar surface, conducting scientific research, and developing technologies for long-term human presence.

The launch of Artemis II is not just significant for the United States but for the entire world. Space

exploration has always been a global endeavor, and the Artemis program involves collaboration with international partners. Agencies from different countries are contributing technology, expertise, and resources, highlighting the importance of cooperation in advancing human knowledge. Beyond its scientific and technological importance, the mission also carries symbolic value. It represents humanity's enduring curiosity and desire to explore the unknown. The success of Artemis II serves as a reminder of what can be achieved through innovation, determination, and collaboration. The mission also has potential economic and educational impacts.

Advances in space technology often lead to innovations that benefit life on Earth, including improvements in communication, materials, and energy systems. Additionally, missions like Artemis II inspire young people to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, helping to build the next generation of innovators.

Despite the success of the launch, the journey is not without challenges. Deep space missions involve complex operations and significant risks. However, each successful step brings scientists and engineers closer to overcoming these challenges and expanding the boundaries of human exploration.

In conclusion, the successful launch of Artemis II marks a turning point in the history of space exploration. As astronauts venture farther into space than ever before, they carry with them the hopes and dreams of humanity. This mission not only brings us closer to returning to the Moon but also lays the foundation for future exploration of Mars and beyond, opening a new chapter in humanity's journey into the cosmos.

INS ARINDHAMAN STRENGTHENING INDIA'S UNDERWATER POWER



In a significant boost to its maritime defense capabilities, India has inducted its third nuclear-powered submarine, INS Arindhaman, into the Indian Navy. This development marks another important milestone in India's journey toward strengthening its naval strength and achieving greater strategic deterrence in the region. The induction of INS Arindhaman reflects India's growing technological and defense capabilities. Nuclear-powered submarines are among the most advanced and complex military assets in the world. Unlike conventional submarines, they can remain submerged for extended periods without needing to surface, making them highly effective for stealth operations. This capability significantly enhances India's ability to monitor and respond to potential threats in its maritime domain. INS Arindhaman is part of India's long-term plan to develop a credible nuclear triad, which includes land-based missiles, air-delivered weapons, and sea-based nuclear capabilities. The addition of this submarine strengthens the sea-based leg of this triad, ensuring a more secure and reliable second-strike capability. This is considered a crucial element of modern nuclear deterrence, as it ensures that a country can respond effectively even after facing a first strike.

The submarine is believed to be equipped with advanced missile systems, allowing it to carry and launch nuclear-capable ballistic missiles. These missiles can strike targets at long distances, providing India with enhanced strategic reach. The combination of stealth, endurance, and firepower makes INS Arindhaman a powerful addition to the nation's defense arsenal. The development and induction of such submarines also highlight the success of India's indigenous defense programs. Over the years, India has made significant progress in building advanced military platforms with domestic expertise. The construction of nuclear submarines involves complex engineering, including nuclear propulsion systems, advanced navigation technologies, and robust safety mechanisms. Achieving this capability places India among a select group of nations with advanced submarine technology. From a strategic perspective, the induction of INS Arindhaman is particularly important in the context of regional security dynamics. The Indian Ocean region has become increasingly significant due to rising geopolitical competition and growing maritime activities. By strengthening its underwater capabilities, India aims to ensure the security of its sea lanes and protect its national interests.

The presence of nuclear-powered submarines also acts as a strong deterrent against potential adversaries. Their ability to operate undetected makes them a critical component of modern naval warfare. This ensures that any potential threat is met with a credible and effective response, thereby maintaining stability and balance in the region. In addition to its military significance, the induction of INS Arindhaman also has symbolic importance. It reflects India's growing status as a major global power with advanced defense capabilities. The achievement demonstrates the country's commitment to self-reliance in defense production and its ability to develop cutting-edge technologies. However, the development of such advanced military systems also comes with responsibilities. Ensuring the safety and security of nuclear-powered assets is of utmost importance. Strict protocols and advanced safety measures are required to prevent any risks associated with nuclear technology. India has consistently emphasized its commitment to responsible use of nuclear capabilities and adherence to international norms. Looking ahead, the induction of INS Arindhaman is expected to pave the way for further advancements in India's naval capabilities. Continued investment in research, technology, and infrastructure will be essential to maintain and enhance this strategic advantage. The Indian Navy is likely to expand its fleet with more advanced submarines in the future, strengthening its position in the global maritime landscape. In conclusion, the induction of INS Arindhaman marks a major step forward in India's defense journey. It enhances the country's strategic deterrence, strengthens its naval capabilities, and reflects its growing technological prowess. As India continues to modernize its armed forces, such developments will play a crucial role in ensuring national security and maintaining regional stability.

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TRUMP'S CEASEFIRE CLAIM TRUTH OR TACTIC?



In a dramatic turn of events amid rising tensions in the Middle East, Donald Trump publicly claimed that Iran had requested a ceasefire. His statement quickly drew global attention, sparking debates over its accuracy and the broader implications for international diplomacy. At a time when relations between the United States and Iran remain highly sensitive, such a claim added a new layer of complexity to an already volatile situation. According to Trump's statement, Iran's leadership was allegedly willing to step back from escalating conflict and explore the possibility of peace. He presented this as a sign of strategic success, suggesting that pressure from the United States had forced Iran into a position where it had no choice but to consider a ceasefire. This narrative positioned the United States as being in control of the situation, reinforcing a message of strength and influence on the global stage. However, the response from Iran was swift and firm. Iranian officials denied any such request, stating that no formal or informal communication had been made

regarding a ceasefire. This contradiction created confusion and highlighted the deep mistrust that exists between the two nations. The disagreement also raised questions about the reliability of public statements in high-stakes geopolitical situations. The controversy surrounding the claim reflects a larger pattern in international politics, where narratives can be used as strategic tools. By announcing that Iran had requested a ceasefire, Trump may have been attempting to shape global perception and gain a diplomatic advantage. In modern geopolitics, controlling the narrative can be as important as controlling events on the ground. Statements made by powerful leaders often influence not only public opinion but also the actions of other countries. At the same time, there were indications that some level of communication or negotiation might have been taking place behind the scenes. While no official confirmation supported Trump's claim, the possibility of informal discussions cannot be entirely ruled out. In many international conflicts, negotiations often occur

privately before being made public. This makes it difficult to determine the exact truth based solely on public statements.

The situation also had broader global implications. Any suggestion of a ceasefire between the United States and Iran can significantly impact global stability. The Middle East is a region of strategic importance, particularly in terms of energy resources and trade routes. Even a temporary reduction in tensions can influence international markets, diplomatic relations, and security policies across the world. Another important aspect of this issue is the role of media and public communication. In today's fast-paced digital environment, statements by political leaders spread rapidly and are often interpreted in different ways. This can lead to confusion, especially when there are conflicting claims from different sides. It also highlights the importance of critical thinking and careful analysis when evaluating such statements. The debate over Trump's claim also underscores the challenges of diplomacy in a complex and interconnected world. Resolving conflicts between nations like the United States and Iran requires careful negotiation, mutual trust, and a willingness to compromise. Public statements that are not fully aligned with reality can complicate these efforts and make it harder to achieve lasting peace.

In conclusion, the claim that Iran requested a ceasefire remains a subject of debate and uncertainty. While it may reflect an attempt to project strength and control, the lack of confirmation from Iran suggests that the situation is more complex than it appears. This episode serves as a reminder that in global politics, words can be as powerful as actions, and understanding the truth often requires looking beyond official statements.

RAMAYANA FIRST LOOK TEASER INTRODUCES RANBIR KAPOOR AS LORD RAMA



The much-awaited film Ramayana has finally unveiled its first teaser, giving audiences a glimpse of Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Rama. Directed by Nitesh Tiwari and produced by Namit Malhotra, the film is being mounted as a grand two-part global cinematic spectacle.

The teaser highlights the emotional depth of the story, focusing on themes of duty, sacrifice, and moral choices rather than just the battle between good and evil. Ranbir Kapoor shared that portraying Rama has been a deeply humbling journey, while Tiwari emphasized staying true to the human and emotional essence of the epic.

The film features a powerful ensemble cast, including Yash as Ravana, Sai Pallavi as Sita, Sunny Deol as Hanuman, and

Ravie Dubey as Lakshman, along with several other prominent actors.

Enhancing its global appeal, the music is composed by Hans Zimmer and A. R. Rahman, with world-class VFX support. Planned as one of the most ambitious Indian films ever, Ramayana will release its first part in Diwali 2026, followed by the second in Diwali 2027.

ROHAN SHANKAR BREAKS SILENCE, CALLS EXIT REPORTS 'FAKE NEWS'



The buzz surrounding Hera Pheri 3 refuses to die down, and the latest controversy involves writer Rohan Shankar, who has now addressed rumours about his alleged exit from the much-anticipated comedy sequel. After several reports claimed that the writer had stepped away from the project, Shankar has firmly denied the speculation, calling it misleading.

Taking to social media, the writer clarified that the claims were baseless and stemmed from a misinterpretation of his earlier comments. He stated, "Some fake news is being spread in my name about a big film. It's completely false

and has almost no truth in it. A simple interview about my work and cinema has been taken out of context and made into a clickbait headline. Please ignore it."

The confusion appears to have originated from a recent interview where Shankar spoke about the challenges surrounding the film's development. While he acknowledged being in discussions for the screenplay, he also pointed out that the project is currently facing delays due to ongoing legal complications. His remarks about scheduling issues, including director Priyadarshan being occupied with other projects, were reportedly misconstrued as confirmation of his exit.

The third installment of the beloved franchise, featuring the iconic trio of Akshay Kumar, Suniel Shetty, and Paresh Rawal, has been facing multiple hurdles since its announcement. One of the major issues revolves around a legal dispute over the rights to the franchise, which is currently being contested in court.

Additionally, the film has also seen internal challenges, including reported creative differences that briefly led to Paresh Rawal stepping away from the project earlier this year. However, the situation was later resolved, with Suniel Shetty reportedly playing a key role in bringing the team back together.

Despite these setbacks, Hera Pheri 3 continues to generate strong interest among fans eager to see the return of the beloved characters. However, with legal matters still unresolved and the creative team juggling other commitments, the timeline for the film remains uncertain.

WHY GHEE IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH



Ghee, also known as clarified butter, has been an essential part of Indian kitchens and traditional medicine for centuries. Widely used in cooking and in Ayurveda, ghee is valued not only for its rich flavor but also for its numerous health benefits. When consumed in moderation, ghee can be a powerful addition to a balanced diet.

One of the primary benefits of ghee is that it is a rich source of healthy fats. These fats provide long-lasting energy and help in the absorption of fat-soluble vitamins such as vitamins A, D, E, and K. Unlike many processed oils, ghee contains natural saturated fats that support brain function and overall cellular health.

Ghee is also known to improve digestion. In Ayurveda, it is believed to stimulate digestive fire (Agni), helping the body break down food more efficiently. It contains butyric acid, a short-chain fatty acid that supports the health of the intestinal walls and reduces inflammation in the gut. This makes ghee particularly beneficial for people who suffer from digestive issues like bloating or constipation.

Another important advantage of ghee is its role in boosting

immunity. It contains antioxidants that help the body fight off infections and strengthen the immune system. Regular consumption of ghee can help protect the body from seasonal illnesses and improve overall resistance to diseases.

Ghee is also beneficial for skin and hair health. It acts as a natural moisturizer, keeping the skin soft and hydrated. Many people use ghee externally to treat dry skin, chapped lips, and even minor burns. When included in the diet, it nourishes the body from within, giving the skin a natural glow and improving hair strength and

texture.

In addition, ghee supports heart health when consumed in appropriate amounts. While it contains saturated fats, it also helps increase good cholesterol (HDL) levels in the body. This balance can contribute to better cardiovascular health when combined with a healthy lifestyle.

Ghee is also lactose-free, making it suitable for people who are lactose intolerant. During the preparation of ghee, milk solids are removed, leaving behind pure fat. This allows individuals who cannot digest dairy products easily to still enjoy its benefits.

Another notable benefit is its high smoke point, which makes it ideal for cooking. Unlike many oils that break down at high temperatures and release harmful compounds, ghee remains stable and safe for cooking, frying, and sautéing. In conclusion, ghee is a nutritious and versatile food that offers a wide range of health benefits. From improving digestion and boosting immunity to enhancing skin health and providing essential nutrients, ghee truly deserves its place as a superfood. However, like any other food, it should be consumed in moderation to enjoy its benefits without adverse effects.



**PIC OF
THE WEEK**



Alia Bhatt

**Ladies and gentlemen boys and girls last night was spent celebrating
the magic ON screen and the magicians OFF screen**

Source: Instagram

06 April, 2026

GURU TEGH BAHADUR JI JAYANTI A LEGACY OF COURAGE AND SACRIFICE



The birth anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, known as Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Jayanti, is celebrated with great devotion and respect across India, especially among the Sikh community. It honors the life, teachings, and sacrifices of the ninth Sikh Guru, who is remembered as a symbol of courage, spirituality, and selfless service.

Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji was born in 1621 in Amritsar. From an early age, he displayed deep wisdom, humility, and a strong commitment to truth and righteousness. His teachings focused on inner peace, detachment from materialism, and devotion to God. He encouraged people to live a life of honesty, compassion, and fearlessness.

The significance of this day goes beyond celebration it is a reminder of his ultimate sacrifice. During the reign of Aurangzeb, when religious intolerance was rising, Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji stood firmly for the rights of all individuals to practice their faith freely. He gave his life in 1675 in Delhi while protecting the religious freedom of Kashmiri Pandits, making his sacrifice unique in world history.

On this occasion, devotees visit gurudwaras, participate in prayers, kirtans, and langars, and reflect on his teachings. Processions known as Nagar Kirtans are also organized in many places to spread his message of unity, peace, and equality.

Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji Jayanti is not just a religious observance but a celebration of universal values. It inspires people to stand against injustice, respect all religions, and uphold truth and humanity in every situation.

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