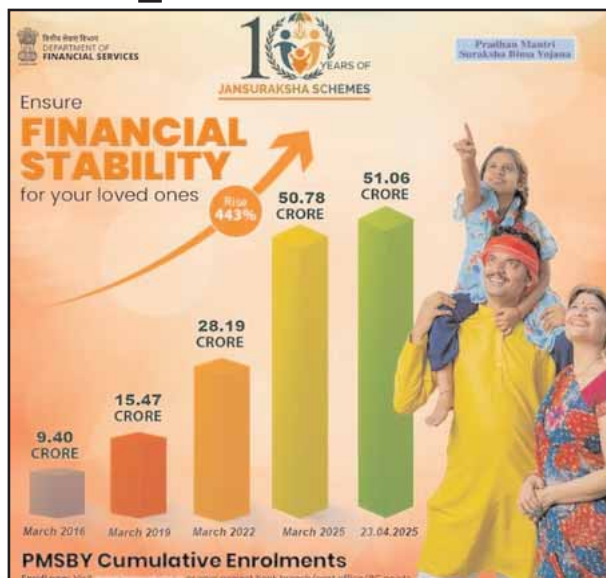


# PMSBY's cumulative enrolments surged by 443 pc since 2016: Centre

The cumulative enrolments under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), -- an accident insurance scheme -- has surged by 443 per cent, since 2016, said the Union government on Friday, as the scheme marks a decade of launch. The scheme provides financial stability and affordable security in case of accidents and loss of lives at just Rs 20 per year.

"Ensure financial stability for your loved ones with PM Suraksha Bima Yojana! Cumulative enrolments under PMSBY have risen by 443 per cent, from 9.40 Cr in March 2016 to 51.06 Cr in April 2025. Affordable security at just Rs 20 per year!" the Ministry of Finance said in a post on social media platform X. Launched in 2015 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana has become a cornerstone of the government's efforts to provide financial safety to the public.

The scheme was officially launched on May 9, 2015, in Kolkata. It covers all Indian residents and non-resident



Indians (NRIs) between the ages of 18 and 70, provided they have a valid bank account. In the unfortunate event of partial disability due

to an accident, the scheme offers Rs 1 lakh directly to the individual's account. In the tragic case of death caused by a road accident or any other unfortunate incident, the family or heirs of the deceased are entitled to a financial support of Rs 2 lakh. The scheme requires an annual premium of just Rs 20, which is automatically deducted from the account of the policyholder. It offers a one-year coverage period, running from June 1 to May 31. The policy is administered through public sector insurance

companies, making it accessible to the masses. In the event of death or full disability, the nominee is entitled to Rs 2 lakh. Full disability is defined as the complete loss of use of both eyes, hands, or feet. Partial permanent disability, such as the loss of one eye, hand, or foot, is eligible for a payout of Rs 1 lakh. However, claims are not accepted in cases of death caused by suicide, alcohol, or drug abuse. In addition, a person must be enrolled in the scheme for at least 45 days before being eligible to make a claim.

# Indian Oil, BPCL assure sufficient fuel supply amid India-Pak tensions

Amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan, state-run oil marketing companies Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) on Friday issued public statements, assuring citizens that the country has sufficient stocks of petrol, diesel and LPG.

They urged people not to indulge in panic buying, emphasising that supply chains remain fully functional across India.

Indian Oil, the country's

largest fuel retailer, took to social media to reassure the public that there is no disruption in fuel availability.

"Indian Oil wants to assure you that there is adequate availability of petrol, diesel, and LPG across the country. Our supply chains are operating smoothly, and all retail outlets have enough fuel and LPG," the company said in a post on X.

The company also appealed to consumers to avoid panic-driven stockpiling, stating that "By staying calm and avoiding unnecessary crowding, we

can ensure uninterrupted availability of fuel for everyone."

Echoing similar sentiments, BPCL -- India's second-largest oil marketing company -- also confirmed that its fuel stations and LPG distributorships across the nation are operating without interruption. "There is no cause for concern or panic buying. Our supply chain operations remain robust and efficient, ensuring uninterrupted supplies," BPCL said in a statement.

It added that BPCL remains committed to providing energy accessibility

and reliability, even during times of uncertainty.

The assurances came in the backdrop of increasing military activity between India and Pakistan following "Operation Sindoor", a retaliatory strike by Indian forces on May 7 in response to a terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22.

While India avoided targeting civilian or military infrastructure, Pakistan has attempted to strike Indian assets using drones and other weapons, particularly along the western borders and the Line of Control (LoC).



However, Indian forces have effectively neutralised all such attempts. India's homegrown mis-

sile systems are proving to be a formidable deterrent to Pakistan's imported military assets.

# IPO-bound Ravi Infrabuild clocks over 10 pc net profit dip in FY24 as expenses rise

Infrastructure firm Ravi Infrabuild Projects Limited, which is preparing to launch an initial public offering (IPO) to raise up to Rs 1,100 crore, has reported a decline in net profit for the financial year 2023-24 (FY24), even as its income and revenue saw growth.

According to financial data available on the company's official website, the firm's net profit fell by 10.46 per cent, dropping from Rs 98.49 crore in

FY23 to Rs 88.19 crore in FY24.

The dip in profitability came despite a 32.68 per cent increase in revenue from operations, which rose to Rs 1,285.16 crore in FY24 from Rs 968.58 crore the previous financial year.

The company's total income also climbed by 33.01 per cent year-on-year (YoY), reaching Rs 1,303.89 crore.

However, this growth in income was accompanied

by a sharp rise in total expenses, which increased by 31.99 per cent to Rs 1,129.16 crore in FY24, up from Rs 855.53 crore in FY23. Among the major cost drivers were a 53.49 per cent rise in employee benefits expense, which grew to Rs 62.79 crore, and a 70.21 per cent increase in depreciation and amortisation, which stood at Rs 31.25 crore in FY24. Additionally, the cost of materials consumed jumped by 47.21

per cent, rising from Rs 318.19 crore in FY23 to Rs 468.38 crore in FY24.

The Udaipur-based company, known for its work in highways, ropeways and railway infrastructure, has filed its draft red herring prospectus with market regulator SEBI to raise Rs 1,100 crore through a fresh issue IPO.

There will be no offer-for-sale (OFS) component, and the proceeds will be used to purchase equipment, invest in sub-

sidaries, repay debt, and for general corporate purposes. The company is led by promoters Narayan Singh Rao, Dilip Singh Rao, and Ravi Singh Rao, who together hold 84 per cent of the pre-issue equity share capital.

Ravi Infrabuild has executed projects for the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and several state governments.

# SIP inflows hit all-time high of Rs 26,632 crore in April: AMFI data

India's mutual fund industry saw a historic surge in systematic investment plan (SIP) contributions in April, with investors pouring in a record Rs 26,632 crore last month, according to data by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) released on Friday.

This marks the highest-ever SIP inflow for any month, the report said.

In April, 1.36 crore SIP accounts were either closed or matured as part of this process. However, investor interest remained strong. The number of active SIP accounts grew to 8.38 crore in April, up from 8.11 crore in March, showing that people are still keen on building long-term wealth through mutual funds.

April also saw the creation of 46 lakh new SIP accounts, higher than the 40.19 lakh new accounts opened in March.

AMFI said the spike in account closures was due to a planned clean-up and is likely to reduce sharply from May onwards.

"The sustained inflows underscore improving investor sentiment, supported by strong corporate earnings, resilient

macroeconomic fundamentals, and a continued tilt towards equities as the preferred asset class," said Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director, Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India.

Notably, the absence of any major new fund launches during the month indicates that investors largely allocated capital to existing schemes -- a testament to their confidence in the long-term growth prospects of Indian equi-

ty markets, he added. The record-breaking investment came even as the industry undertook a large clean-up of inactive accounts.

Despite a slight dip in inflows into equity mutual funds, the overall mutual fund industry continued to grow rapidly. Total assets under management (AUM) reached an all-time high of Rs 70 lakh crore in April. This is a big jump from Rs 65.74 lakh crore recorded in March -- showing strong investor confidence in the market.

# Global leaders call for action on AI, regional reforms at WEF

Leaders from various countries called for action on artificial intelligence and reforms as they brainstormed here during the five-day World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, which ends on Friday. In a special address, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez called for a reform of social media governance across the European Union to curb misinformation and cyber harassment. He urged for stronger enforcement of the Digital Services Act and expanded powers for the European Centre for Algorithmic

Transparency. He emphasised that "the values of the European Union are not for sale" and called for increased funding for research into social media algorithms to ensure Europe's brightest minds address this critical challenge.

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres issued a stark warning about two escalating global threats: the unchecked expansion of artificial intelligence and the climate crisis. These challenges, he warned, pose unprecedented risks to humanity and demand

immediate, unified action from governments and the private sector.

On artificial intelligence, Guterres acknowledged its immense potential but cautioned against the risks of leaving AI ungoverned. He emphasised the need for international collaboration, pointing to the Global Digital Compact adopted at the United Nations as a roadmap for harnessing digital technology responsibly. President of the Democratic Republic of Congo Felix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo announced the creation of the world's largest tropical

forest reserve. The Kivu to Kinshasa Green Corridor Reserve will protect over 550,000 sq km of forest throughout the Congo River Basin.

This historic, unprecedented initiative will transform not only our natural landscapes, but also the livelihoods of millions of our citizens, he said, adding that the initiative goes far beyond environmental preservation and includes economic development.

As he prepares to assume the ASEAN chairmanship, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim expressed optimism about the 10-nation union's future and Malaysia's role in it. "The spirit of collaboration and esprit de corps between (ASEAN) leaders is unique," he said, point-

ing to the contributions that closer regional integration in green energy has made to Malaysia's emergence as a high-tech manufacturing powerhouse.

Anwar noted that while the US remained the largest single investor in Malaysia, the nation's "closeness, investment and trade with China are growing. Stressing the importance of dialogue over conflict, he remarked: "We don't go to war or threaten, we discuss, get a little angry, but focus on economic fundamentals and move on." "We must collaborate so that all countries and people benefit from AI's promise and potential to support development and social and economic progress for all," he said.

## Check It Daily Horoscopes

### Your day today

By Dr C.V.B. Subrahmanyam



**Aries:** New contacts at the professional front would bring lucrative opportunities. A very demanding approach can create tensions in your love life.



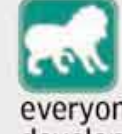
**Taurus:** A favourable time to start new projects and a happy day of wooing and courtship. Guard against being overly dominating when putting across your views at home.



**Gemini:** Cultivate a harmonious nature to kill your hatred because it is more powerful than love and deadly affects your body. Romantic influence is strong.



**Cancer:** The romantic life is becoming interesting. You are observing your love life, as it is blowing hot and cold. Act immediately as tomorrow may be very late.



**Leo:** You desperately need some activity to keep fit. Festive atmosphere all round keeps everyone in high spirits. On your part develop a harmonious relationship with all and win your opponents by love.



**Virgo:** Visit those who are less fortunate than yourself and help them with their personal problems. Loved ones will be hard to get along with. Group events will be far too expensive for you to organize.



**Libra:** Romantically a glittering bait awaits you to be trapped. Your affairs seem to go well on the surface. There are people in the background who don't wish you well in love. Stomach issues may rise.



**Scorpio:** Some of you will need to keep your temper under control, even under grave provocation. Your childish approach can thwart your romantic aspirations.



**Sagittarius:** You will have to do something different to make your lover enjoy your company. Your efforts at work get recognized, so cash in on this development.



**Capricorn:** Good earning will make you splurge on the romantic front. Speculative activities should be avoided. Those burdened with work will have to do something about the resulting fatigue.



**Aquarius:** Think wisely before loaning money to a friend as early return is not foreseen. Help and assistance will be forthcoming from close ones in getting a matrimonial alliance for the eligible.



**Pisces:** Monetary gains will keep you in a buoyant mood. This is the day when you can find everything topsy-turvy on the professional front. Those in private companies can face a salary cut.

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