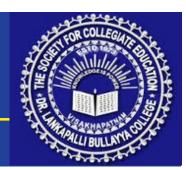
The LBC Times

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2024 VISAKHAPATNAM





The Campus Chronicle

From the Department of Social Sciences





Extreme summer heat forces candidates to tweak campaign timings



Police register attempt-to-murder case in stone pelting on A.P. CM

Phase I of Lok Sabha polls registers 63.89% polling

In 2019, the turnout in these seats was 69.4%.

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

More than 100 million people in 21 states and Union territories exercised their franchise for 102 constituencies in the first phase of the Lok Sabha polls on April 19, ushering in the world's largest democratic exercise, which will last six weeks and involve nearly a billion citizens voting.

The voter turnout was 63.89%. According to a statement from the Election Commission of India (ECI), the voting percentage is likely to rise after reports from all poll-



People waiting in line to vote

ing stations are acquired.

The poll body also praised the "high" voter turnout "despite the heatwave". "Final figures will be known on Saturday after the scrutiny of Form 17A," according to the press release.

In 2019, the turnout in these seats was 69.4%.

The Tripura West constituency in Tripura had the greatest attendance, with Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidate Biplab Kumar Deb facing off against Congress' Asish

Kumar Saha.

The lowest turnout was reported in Nawada, Bihar, where Vivek Thakur (BJP), Shravan Kushwaha (Rashtriya Janata Dal), and Ranjit Kumar (Bahujan Samaj Party) are contesting.

The first phase, the largest of seven, included all seats in Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry.

The other six phases will take place over the next six weeks, with findings due on June 4.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is vying for a historic third consecutive term, trying to become only the second prime minister after Jawaharlal Nehru to do so.

Iran downplays drone 'strike', claims Israel link not confirmed

On April 19 explosions echoed over Iran's Isfahan city

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

On April 19, hours after explosions echoed over Iran's Isfahan city, in what was considered to be an Israeli attack, both sides downplayed the incident, signaling a move toward reducing tensions between the two countries.

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian, on the other hand, stated on April 19 that Iran will reply immediately and to the "maximum level" if Israel acts against its interests.



Israeli military vehicles drive in Tulkarm

Tensions have intensified since Iranian-backed Palestinian factions Hamas and Islamic Jihad launched an attack on Israel on October 7.

Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed proxy in Lebanon, immediately

began attacking Israeli targets, triggering tit-for-tat fighting on a second front, while Iranian-backed militias in Iraq, Syria, and Yemen have fired missiles and drones at Israel throughout the conflict.

According to Reuters, Iranian foreign minister Hossein Amirabdollahian dismissed Friday's drone strike, saying it was "more like toys that children play with".

According to the Iranian minister, the drones took off from within Iran and flew for a few hundred meters before coming down.

While Iran is examining the strikes, there has been no public confirmation of an Israeli involvement.

"There is no proof of a connection between them and Israel...Iran is looking into the problem, but media reports are inaccurate," Amirabdollahian remarked.

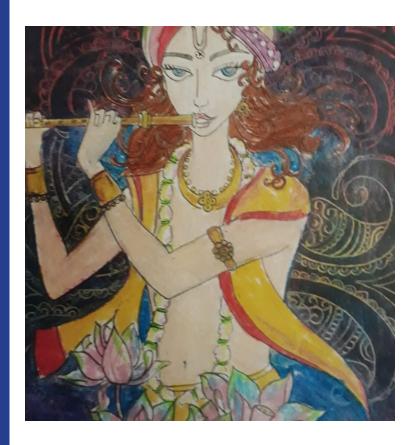
So far, Iran has blamed the strike on "infiltrators" rather than Israel.

Artistic Expression

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

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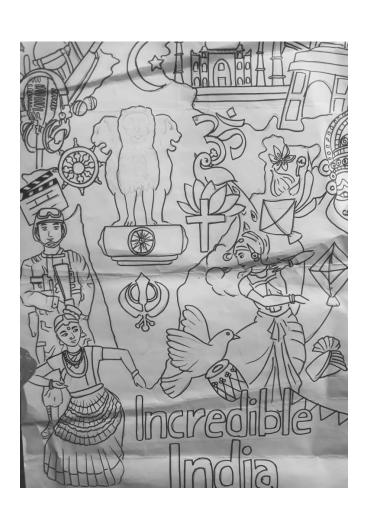


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Expressing inner thoughts, creative ideas,
life experiences through the medium of drawing
and colours is a wonderful
artistic expression to depict
beauty of life and human mind.

-Art by M. Joshna, BA. HGT, final year Student

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."

- Oscar Wilde

Utility Numbers

Police Fire Ambulance	100 101 108	Reservation Enquiry Disha	1345 112
Ambulance	108		

Rail General Enquiry 131

Extreme summer heat forces candidates to tweak campaign timings

LBCNews Network

Visakhapatnam

Hot and humid weather conditions, as well as heatwaves, led political party leaders in Rayalaseema and coastal Andhra Pradesh (CAP) to adjust their campaign preparations.

Many candidates have commented that it is a difficult assignment given the harsh weather, but they are working in the morning and evening hours to meet



voters.

For the previous few days, parts of the state have recorded temperatures

ranging from 40 °C to 43 °C, indicating heatwave conditions.

High mercury levels are

causing people sweat and suffer in all cities, towns, and rural areas.

To avoid the oppressive heat, the majority of YS-RCP, TDP, BJP, JSP, and Congress candidates are campaigning in two sessions: 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The sweltering heat has ruined the important campaigning period for the past week, making it extremely difficult to get out on the roads between noon and 4 pm.

VSP privatisation appears as a prominent issue in the Vizag election

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

The proposed privatisation of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd, popularly known as Vizag steel plant (RINL-VSP), has become a source of contention among Visakhapatnam's political parties, with each attempting to capitalise on it for electoral benefits in the 2018 elections.

At its meeting in January 2021, the cabinet committee on economic matters authorized in principle the government's 100% strategic disinvestment in VSP.



With TDP forming an alliance with BJP for the 2024 elections, the YSRCP is aiming to corner the opposition.

The ruling party has demanded that the TDP clarify its position on VSP privatisation. On the other hand, the TDP argues that it would keep the factory in the public sector and blames the YSRCP of failing to prevent privatization. Given that the plant employs over 12,000 people and thousands more rely on related industries and enterprises, the votes of these families will be critical in both the Vizag Lok Sabha and the Gajuwaka assembly segment.

Visakhapatnam airport handles 27.84 lakh passengers in 2023-24 fiscal year

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

Passenger traffic at Visakhapatnam International Airport increased by 10.19% between fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

This was despite a decline in passenger traffic from December 2023 to March 2024, which was most likely due to flight schedule disruptions caused by runway resurfacing work.

The airport handled a total of 27,84,428 passengers in fiscal year 2023-24, up from 25,00,654 the previous year, representing a 2,85,974 increase.

According to government data, the increase rate would have been significantly higher if the airport had not been closed at night to permit runway resurfacing work.

Coking coal shortage and upcoming power bills hinder the steel plant

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

A serious lack of coking coal has crippled the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, while pending power bills have skyrocketed.

The Eastern Power Distribution Corporation Limited (EPDCL) has informed the plant management by issuing a notice that it will cease the power supply if the management does not pay more than Rs.70 crore in unpaid bills.

Regarding the coking coal shortage, the management argues that significant disruptions caused by worker



agitation at Adani Gangavaram Port Limited (AGPL) have completely disrupted coal supplies, posing a formidable obstacle to the plant's production.

Despite the challenges, the steel mill's management has undertaken a comprehensive strategy to limit the impact of the disruptions and maintain operational continuity, according to a news release from the plant management.

Meanwhile, plant management stated that it has taken steps to ensure continuous coal supply and safe operations.





Police register attempt-to-murder case in stone pelting on A.P. CM Jagan Mohan Reddy

The event resulted in minor injuries for Jagan and Srinivas

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

On April 18, the North
Zone police of the NTR
Commissionerate detained
Satish, who allegedly threw
a stone at Chief Minister
Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy.
The accused would be
presented in court.

Police are investigating to determine whether anyone else was involved in the incident.

The incident occurred last Saturday during Jagan's 'Memanta Siddham' tour at Vivekananda School at



Basavapunnaiah Stadium, Ajit Singh Nagar in Vijayawada.

A complaint was filed under Section 307 IPC based on the report provided by Vijayawada West MLA Velampally Srinivas.

The event resulted in minor injuries for Jagan and Srinivas. In response, City

Police Commissioner Kanti Rana Tata appointed eight special squads, including two extra DCPs, to continue the probe.

The special teams analyzed 50 CCTV footages, mobile phone recordings, interrogated suspects, examined tower dumps, and recorded eyewitness testimony.

Satish was brought before the court on Thursday, and the judge remanded him in judicial prison for fourteen days.

Number of candidates in AP increasing with each election

LBC News Network Vishakapatnam

In the 1955 Andhra Pradesh assembly elections, an average of three candidates ran for each constituency.

Salur had up to 11 aspirants, which was considered noteworthy at the time and the maximum for any constituency. The 1977 elections saw four candidates competing for each constituency.

The number of candidates from each seat was limited to seven. By the 1989 elections, the average number of candidates had increased to six, and by 1999, it had



risen slightly to seven.

In 2019, 34 candidates competed in Guntur West, setting a new record for the largest number of aspirants in any constituency.

In the 2019 elections, 2,118 candidates competed in 175 assembly constituencies, with an average of 12

candidates per constituency. In the previous election, the state required a minimum of six candidates from any constituency, Bobbili.

Several reasons have contributed to the increase in the number of candidates, the most noteworthy of which is greater political awareness.

IMD forecasts hot weather, thunderstorm till April 23

LBC News Network Vishakapatnam

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has expected hot, humid, and uncomfortable weather in isolated areas across coastal Andhra Pradesh and Rayalaseema until April 23.

However, thunderstorms with lightning are anticipated to affect CAP and Rayalaseema over the same time period.

Gusty gusts of 30 to 40 kmph are expected in isolated areas across the state between April 20 and April 23.

Many sections of the state continue to suffer from blistering heat as dry south-westerly winds singed AP, causing mercury values to increase.

On Friday, most sections of the state recorded high temperatures ranging from 40°C to 44°C. The tribal pockets likewise had the greatest temperatures, ranging from 34°C to 37°C.

Seizures by EC authorities in Andhra Pradesh cross Rs 126 crore

LBC News Network

Vishakapatnam

From March 1 to April 13, the Election Commission confiscated cash, booze, narcotics, precious metals, gifts, and other inducements totaling Rs 126 crore in Andhra Pradesh.

So far, cash seizures totaled Rs 32 crore, booze (Rs 20 crore), drugs (Rs 4 crore), precious metals (Rs 57 crore), and freebies and other inducements (Rs 13 crore).

"This was made possible through the leadership of



Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Mukesh Kumar Meena and his regular reviews with election officers, 20 enforcement agencies, and others," said a news release from the CEO's office on Monday.

Furthermore, watertight monitoring mechanisms, such as state-wide

checkpoints, interstate checkpoints, and round-theclock police security, have permitted the seizures.

The Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha polls for 175 Assembly and 25 Lok Sabha seats in Andhra Pradesh are scheduled on May 13 and the results will be declared on June 4.



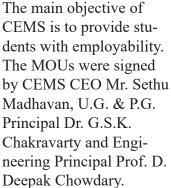
Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya Colleges signs an MOU with Centre of Excellence in **Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS)**

LBC News Network College

On March 28, 2024 Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya Colleges signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS) during the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the College.

The main objective of CEMS is to provide students with employability. The MOUs were signed Madhavan, U.G. & P.G. Principal Dr. G.S.K. Chakravarty and Engineering Principal Prof. D. Deepak Chowdary.

xcellence



Bullayya students' talent in All India **Inter University Kickboxing Championship competitions**

LBC News Network College

The students of Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya performed well in the All India Kickboxing Women's and Men's Championship competitions organized at Swami Vivekananda Subharti University in

month.

B. Asrita, a first year student of degree, won the gold medal in the 50 kg category. Similarly, K. Prithviraj, a first year student of B.Sc., won the bronze medal in the 63 kg category.



Awareness program held on water conservation

LBC News Network College

NDLI Club in association with Dept. of Basic Sciences and Humanities organized an awareness program on water conservation on the theme "Leveraging Water for Peace" on the account of "WORLD WATER DAY"

on 22nd March 2024.

Led by Dr. N. Swathi and student coordinator Sharon Rayapati, the event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 8 teams with engaging paper and poster presentations, involving nearly 110 participants.

Guest Lecture on National Education Policy-2020 held

LBC News Network College

On April 2, 2024, a seminar on National Education Policy 2020 was conducted in Block 5 Seminar Hall. All staff members of Inter, UG, PG, and Engineering participated.

The guest speaker, Dr.C.V.

Chalapathi Rao, Ex- Chief Scientist, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur, who is a national education policy advisor for Andhra University, enlightened the gathering about the National Education Policy, how it came to be, its significance, and hurdles in implementing it.



Interactive session between media per-

Management club activity held on April 1st

LBC News Network College

Management club activity was conducted on April 1st by the Department of Management Studies under the mentorship of the head Dr. Anjana Raviprolu. The

MBA students of both 1st and 2nd year gave presentations on topics "Ratan Tata- The entrepreneur" and "Artificial Intelligence & Management ". Team based activities were also conducted.

sonalities and journalism students held

LBC News Network College

As a part of Golden Jubilee celebrations, the management has decided to honour various segments in the society.

As one such occasions, the college organised an interactive session between media personalities and final year students of Journalism on 12th April 2024.





Z Z

Increasing heat & Climate Change

Fahrenheit) compared to

pre-industrial levels.

This El Niño not only

hottest in history.

broke but demolished pre-

vious records. Four consec-

utive days in July were the

The Northern Hemisphere

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

What is Climate Change?

Climate change is a longterm change in the average weather patterns that have come to define Earth's local, regional and global climates. These changes have a broad range of observed effects that are synonymous with the term.

Changes observed in Earth's climate since the mid-20th century are driven by human activities, particularly fossil fuel burning, which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth's atmosphere, raising Earth's average surface temperature.

Natural processes, which have been overwhelmed by human activities, can also contribute to climate change, including internal variability.

Scientists employ data from the ground, air, and space, as well as computer models, to track and research past, current, and future climate change.

Climate data records show evidence of key climate

door-to-door campaigning.

The Election Commission of India has issued a heatwave advisory, but it only affects polling booths. Heat waves and other extreme weather conditions endanger human health and lives.

Climate change has con-



the frequency of extreme weather events such as heatwaves, torrential rainfall, unseasonal snowfall, and hailstorms in recent decades.

This requires immediate action, as well as mitigation measures such as reduced emissions. However, climate change is absent from the election agenda. Several variables contribute to this condition. Climate change is a complex problem that politicians struggle to understand for themselves, let alone break

winter, according to scientific records. By the end of 2023, Earth's average temperature was 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than the preindustrial norm, and 0.2 degrees Celsius (0.36 degrees Fahrenheit) greater than climate modelers expected, even accounting for El Niño.

What can you do to reduce climate change?

Keep fossil fuels in the ground. Coal, oil, and gas are examples of fossil fuels, and the more of them extracted and consumed, the worse climate change becomes.

Invest in renewable energy. The greatest method to phase out the use of fossil fuels is to transition to clean and renewable energy sources. These include technologies such as solar, wind, wave, tidal, and geothermal energy.



Switch to sustainable transport. Fossil fuels are used in gasoline and diesel cars, as well as airplanes and ships. Reducing car use, moving to electric vehicles, and limiting air travel will

not only help to combat climate change, but will also cut air pollution.

Improve farming practices and promote vegan diets. One of the most effective methods for individuals to help against climate change is to reduce their meat and dairy consumption or to become completely vegan. Businesses and food retailers may assist individuals make the transition by improving farming techniques and offering more plantbased options.

Restore nature to absorb more carbon. The natural world does an excellent job of cleaning up our pollution, but we must protect it. Planting trees in the appropriate locations or returning land to nature through 'rewilding' programs is a fantastic place to start. This is because photosynthesising plants absorb carbon dioxide as they develop,

Reduce plastic. Plastic is derived from oil, and the process of obtaining, refining, and converting oil into plastic (or even polyester for clothing) is shockingly carbon intensive.

-Garima Goyal



change indicators such as rising global land and ocean temperatures, rising sea levels, ice loss at the Earth's poles and in mountain glaciers, changes in the frequency and severity of extreme weather events such as hurricanes, heatwaves, wildfires, droughts, floods, and precipitation, and changes in cloud and vegetation cover.

Is climate change in the election agenda?

Most of the country is in the midst of an election campaign, with political rallies, roadshows, and

down for voters and offer urgent and practical remedies. Addressing climate change requires a long time horizon, whereas political parties operate on a fiveyear cycle.

Increasing heat

When the Earth entered an El Niño climate cycle, which causes warming in the Pacific Ocean, scientists predicted record-breaking temperatures.

El Niños cause temperature rises on Earth, which has already warmed by 1.2 degrees Celsius (2.2 degrees

storing it in soil.

Indian crew member from ship seized by Iran, returns home

The ministry said its Tehran mission is in contact with 16 additional Indian crew members who are still aboard the vessel

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

An Indian lady who was a crew member aboard the MSC Aries cargo vessel seized by Iran on April 13 has returned home, India's foreign ministry announced on Thursday.

The ministry said its
Tehran mission is in contact
with 16 additional Indian
crew members who are still
aboard the vessel, which
was captured by Iran's
Revolutionary Guards in



the Strait of Hormuz.

"The crew members are in good health and are in contact with their family members in India," the government stated.

The vessel was detained

days after Tehran promised to retaliate for a suspected Israeli attack on its Damascus consulate on

This week, Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar spoke with his Iranian

April 1.

colleague Hossein Amirabdollahian in an effort to secure the release of the Indian crew members.

The Iranian officials had previously stated that the cargo vessel had "violated international maritime law."

On April 13, a special forces team of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) captured the container ship MSC Aries in the Strait of Hormuz. The 17 Indians were among the 25-person crew.

Extreme Dubai rainfall linked to climate change, not cloud seeding: Scientists

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

This week, a storm slammed the United Arab Emirates and Oman, causing record rainfall that flooded highways, submerged residences, gridlocked traffic, and stranded individuals in their homes.

At least 20 people were reported dead in Oman's downpour, while another was killed in floods in the UAE that closed government offices and schools for days.

According to experts, the heavy rainfall was most likely caused by a typical weather system amplified by climate change.

A low pressure system in the high atmosphere, along with low pressure at the surface, operated as a pressure'squeeze' on the air, according to Esraa Alnaqbi, a senior forecaster at the UAE government's National Centre of Meteorology.



Xi Jinping orders China's biggest military reorganisation

LBC News Network
Visakhapatnam

On April 19, China's military, directed by President Xi Jinping, announced a powerful information warfare support force as part of a significant reorganization of a highly opaque structure of strategic units aimed at assisting "military struggles" across the board.

China will disband the Strategic Support Force, which was established more than eight years ago to improve capabilities in space, cyber, political, and electronic warfare, the official Xinhua News Agency reported on Friday.



Xi, in turn, is forming a new branch dubbed the Information Support Force.

The aerospace and cyber units that were previously part of the Strategic Support Force will now be organized in parallel with the newly formed Information Support Force, according to a Defense Ministry statement.

Xi reiterated the

Communist Party's control over the army, claiming that the new force will give "key support in coordinating the construction and utilization of the cyber information system."

The restructure comes as the world's second-largest economy competes with the US for global dominance, with cyber warfare emerging as a vital battleground.

Fossils of massive snake found in Gujarat

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

Fossils discovered in Kutch, Gujarat, could be the remains of one of the world's largest snakes, known as "Vasuki," which was estimated to be 49 feet (15 meters) long, larger than a T. rex, according to study undertaken by the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee.

The fossils were unearthed in a lignite mine near Panandhro in the Kutch district.

According to the journal



Scientific Reports, researchers uncovered 27

"mostly well-preserved" bones that make up the snake's spinal column, or vertebra, with some connections intact. They termed the snake "Vasuki Indicus" (V.Indicus), implying that it would have resembled a modern-day big python without venom.

Vasuki belongs to the "Madtsoiidae snake family," which appeared around 90 million years ago and went extinct about 12,000 years ago. This snake family occupied parts of Africa, Europe, and India

Lucknow beats Chennai by eight wickets

LSG defeated a target of 177 with an over to spare

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) captain KL Rahul hit 82 in 53 balls as part of a 134-run opening combination with Quinton de Kock as the team defeated Chennai Super Kings (CSK) by eight wickets.

LSG defeated a target of 177 with an over to spare, securing their fourth win of the season.



Earlier, LSG held CSK's hitters back for much of the innings, but a late burst led by MS Dhoni allowed the defending champions beyond the 170-run barrier.

Dhoni finished unbeaten

on 28 runs in just nine deliveries, leading CSK to a score of 176/6. Ravindra Jadeja was at the other end, scoring 57 off 40.

Rahul had won the toss and announced that the home

team would bowl first.

CSK stayed with their new opening combo, Ajinkya Rahane and Rachin Ravindra. Ravindra's struggles didn't end there, as he went for a golden duck in the second over.

Marcus Stoinis, Henry's compatriot, reiterated his comments, emphasizing the importance of the opening pair's role in chasing down 177

India's men's hockey team loses 1-5 to Australia

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Australia beat the Indian men's hockey team 1-5 in Perth on Saturday in the first Test of the five-game series, defying predictions that they would put up a good fight.

From start to finish, the Australians controlled the pace of the game.

The Indians showed some promise in the fourth quarter, but it was too late.

Tom Wickham scored twice in the 20th and 38th minutes, while the winners also got goals from Tim Brand



in the third, Joel Rintala in the 37th, and Flynn Ogilvie in the 57th.

Gurjant Singh scored India's only goal in the 47th minute.

The Kookaburras displayed good purpose from the outset, taking the lead in the third minute thanks to

Brand, who stunned India with brilliant individual skills from the left side.

He took a long pass from the deep, outfooted Jarmanpreet Singh with his stick work, and pushed the ball past veteran Indian goalkeeper PR Sreejesh.

Verstappen wins first sprint race of the F1 season

LBC News Network

Visakhapatnam

Max Verstappen, Red Bull's quadruple world champion, won the opening sprint race of the Formula One season at the Chinese Grand Prix on Saturday.

The Dutch 26-year-old outpaced Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton by 13.043 seconds in the 19-lap race at the Shanghai International Circuit, increasing his championship lead over teammate Sergio Perez, who finished third, to 15 points.

Ferrari drivers Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Lando Norris of McLaren began on pole but slid wide on the first lap as he battled with Hamilton, finishing sixth.

For the last point, teammate Oscar Piastri finished seventh while Mercedes' George Russell came in eighth.

Sabalenka knocked out of Stuttgart Open by Vondrousova

LBC News Network Visakhapatnam

World number two Aryna Sabalenka's ambitions of reaching a fourth straight Stuttgart Open final were dashed on Friday when she was defeated 3-6 6-3 7-5 by Marketa Vondrousova, while winner Iga Swiatek kept her flawless record at the event.

Swiatek's run in the tournament now stands at 10-0, and she is two wins away from winning her third Stuttgart title in a row after defeating Briton Emma Raducanu 7-6(2) 6-3.

She will compete against



fourth seed Elena Rybakina for a spot in Sunday's final.

Sabalenka had won her previous four matches against Vondrousova, and after winning the first set, the Australian Open champion appeared to be on track to advance.

Wimbledon winner Vondrousova led 4-1 in the second set before Sabalenka closed the gap to 4-3, but the Czech sixth seed broke for the third time and held serve to force the final.

Sabalenka led 5-4 in the final set before Vondrousova won three straight games to advance to the semi-finals, where she will face either American third seed Coco Gauff or Marta Kostyuk of Ukraine.



