

## Sebaashray initiative making a significant impact in Diamond Harbour

The healthcare initiative #Sebaashray, launched by MP Abhishek Banerjee, is already making waves in the region. The initiative, aimed at providing affordable and accessible healthcare, is garnering immense appreciation for its seamless execution and compassionate approach. On its first day, #Sebaashray held 41 health camps in Diamond Harbour AC, drawing a footfall of 5,689 individuals. A total of 3,340 patients were treated, and 2,600 people received necessary medicines. Additionally, 181 referrals were made for further medical treatment. **PG 3**



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# Morning India

## PM Modi describes AAP as 'aapda' for Delhi, calls for its defeat in February poll

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Terming the Aam Admi Party (AAP) as an "aapda" for Delhi, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said this "aapda" has taken the national capital in its grip in the past 10 years. Addressing people after launching a slew of developmental and infrastructural projects in the national capital, including in housing and education sectors, the Prime Minister hit out at the AAP government in Delhi and said the situation in the national capital would worsen if it is re-elected and continue its reign. On one hand Centre is making a lot of efforts; on the other, the Union Territory government stands for brazen lies, he said, accusing the AAP government of committing corruption in a host of sectors ranging from school education to

fighting pollution and liquor trade. With the assembly elections likely to be held in the city next month, Prime Minister Modi said Delhi had launched a war on this "aapda (disaster)" and decided to get rid of it. "This year will usher in a new politics of nation-building and people's welfare. Therefore, 'aapda' has to be removed and the BJP brought in," he said. Since the Delhi government not implement the Centre's signature health insurance scheme, 'Ayushman Bharat', and other programmes in the national capital, Modi said he was unable to help the people living here fully despite all out efforts. If highways are being built in the capital and the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has been able to make houses for the poor,

it is because "aapda" does not have much role in these sectors, he added. Taking a swipe at former Delhi chief minister and AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, Modi said he could also have built a "sheesh mahal" for himself but on the other hand his (Modi's) dream was to ensure homes for everyone in the country. "These people commit corruption and then glorify it," he said, accusing AAP of shamelessness and making false promises. The BJP has been targeting Kejriwal for allegedly spending a huge amount of money on his official residence when he was chief minister, and described his erstwhile home as "sheesh mahal". Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the 1,675 newly constructed flats for the

dweller of Delhi's Jhuggi Jhopri (JJ) clusters and handed over keys to eligible beneficiaries at Swahiman Apartments in Ashok Vihar area. Ahead of the inauguration, PM Modi inspected some of the newly constructed flats for the dwellers of Jhuggi Jhopri (JJ) clusters under the In-Situ Slum Rehabilitation Project and interacted with the beneficiaries who expressed their gratitude to PM Modi for receiving the keys of their newly constructed flats. Quoting a beneficiary, the BJP in a post on social media platform X, said, "Modiji does what he says... Modiji had promised 'Jahan jhuggie wahin makaan' (where there is a slum there will be pucca houses) and he fulfilled his promise!" Earlier in his post on X,

the Prime Minister said, "A home is where dreams take root, and we are committed to ensuring proper housing for every Indian. During today's programme, 1,675 newly constructed flats under the In-Situ Slum Rehabilitation Project will be inaugurated. This will ensure better and healthier living for several people. I look forward to handing over the keys of their homes to some of the beneficiaries as well." The objective of the project is to provide the residents of the JJ clusters in Delhi with a better and healthier living environment equipped with proper amenities and facilities. Meanwhile, a government press release has said for every Rs 25 lakh spent on the construction of a flat by the govern-

ment, eligible beneficiaries pay less than 7 per cent of the total amount, amounting to only Rs 1.42 lakh as a nominal contribution and Rs 30,000 for five years of maintenance. PM Narendra Modi also virtually inaugurated two urban redevelopment projects - the World Trade Centre at Nauroji Nagar and GPRA Type-II Quarters at Sarojini Nagar, CBSE's Integrated Office Complex at Dwarka and also laid the foundation of Veer Savarkar College at Roshanpura, Najafgarh. Speaking on the occasion, Delhi's LG VK Saxena said, "PM Modi handed over the keys of flats to the residents living in slums... All these houses have been built as per the vision of our PM... These flats have lifts, parks for children to play and all kinds of facilities..."

## TMC leader Derek O'Brien asked a number of 'hard questions' to PM Modi on Christian minorities



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Continuing his verbal tirade against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government for the second day on Friday, senior Trinamool Congress functionary and its Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien has asked a number of "hard questions" about the condition of Christian community in the country including why incidents of violence against Christians are increasing and why the people of Manipur are being "ignored". In a blogpost on Fri-

day, like the one on Thursday, O'Brien also sought to know from the Prime Minister that "Why did you attempt to turn Christmas Day into 'Good Governance Day'? Why are you weaponising the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) to specifically target institutions run by the Christian community?" He has, however, decided to raise the issue after Prime Minister Modi attended a Christmas celebration hosted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) in Delhi. In his blogpost, O'Brien further stated that as voices were coming up from the Christian community, he thought that he should be raised them to the Union government. "These are the hard questions that must be asked of the prime minister of India", he said adding, many Christmases have now been "demanding the answers". The Trinamool Congress' **►► Continued on page 3**

## Hamid Ansari, Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge attend Manmohan Singh's prayer meeting

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** A host of dignitaries and political leaders paid tributes to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at a prayer meet organised in his memory at Gurudwara Rakab Ganj in the National capital on Friday. Among the top leaders who attended the prayer meeting (Kirtan and Antim Ardas) included Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot.

Former SGPC president Bibi Jagir Kaur, Leader of Opposition in Punjab assembly Pratap Bajwa and former deputy chairperson of the then Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia also attended the prayer.

Others who attended the ceremony included Congress leaders Jairam Ramesh and Pawan Khera, former Union ministers Salman Khurshid and Ajay Maken, and Sukhjinder Randhawa. BJP's Praneet Kaur and Manjinder Singh Sirsa were also present. Earlier, former vice-president Hamid Ansari, Sonia Gandhi and Kharge were among the dignitaries who attended the 'Akhand Path' at the ex-prime minister's residence on Friday.

Former prime minister's wife, Gursharan Kaur sang a 'shabad (verse)' from the Sikh holy scriptures during the 'Akhand path (continuous recitation of Guru Granth Sahib)' at his residence. Singh who breathed his last on December 26 at the age of 92 in a New Delhi hospital, steered the country as prime minister from 2004 to 2014 and was considered the architect of India's economic **►► Continued on page 3**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi hands over a symbolic key to a beneficiary during a public meeting to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects, in New Delhi on Friday.

## Dense fog hits flight operations in Srinagar airport as temperature dips

**MI News Service, Srinagar:** As dense fog engulfed large parts of Kashmir valley with visibility reducing to less than 300 metres in most places, the flight operations were severely affected at Srinagar airport on Friday. To make the matter worse, the minimum temperature in most places of the valley and in the surrounding areas also dipped further to the below freezing point this morning, officials sources confirmed. They said the thick layer of fog that blanketed Kashmir since Friday morning affecting air traffic movement to and from the valley. As a result several flights were delayed or diverted to other airports as the visibility fell to less than 300 metres, as necessary parameter for landing and take off for any aircraft is around 1,100 metres. However, around noon after

visibility improved at the airport the first flight landed in Srinagar after 1200 noon, the official sources said adding that people also faced difficulties while commuting due to the fog. The Met office said light snow at isolated higher reaches was possible on Friday. On Saturday, a moderate to strong western disturbance is likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir and light to moderate snow at most places is possible, with the peak activity from Saturday night till Monday morning. In a related development, the night temperature dipped at most places in Kashmir. Gulmarg, a tourist resort town known for skiing activities in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 4.5 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's minus 5.6 degrees. **►► Continued on page 3**

## Extreme Poverty reduced to minimal in India, SBI Research reveals

**MI News Service, Mumbai:** As the extreme poverty level in India has reduced to minimal, the overall poverty rates in the country has declined below 5 per cent in 2024, a research study by State Bank of India (SBI) has revealed. The report prepared by the country's largest Public sector bank and lender, said "At an aggregate level, we believe poverty **►► Continued on page 3**

rates in India could now be in the range of 4-4.5 per cent with almost minimal existence of extreme poverty." The report also highlighted significant improvements in rural and urban poverty levels over the years, supported by data from the government's Consumption Expenditure **►► Continued on page 3**

## All arrangements have been made to welcome millions of devotees in Mahakumbh Mela

**MI News Service, Prayagraj (UP):** As the highly anticipated Mahakumbh Mela draws nearer, thousands of saffron clad saints and sadhus, covered in ashes, from many Mahanirvani Akharas have reached the Mahakumbh camps at Prayagraj which is now being agog with spiritual fervour.

Accompanied by hundreds of followers, beating Damaru (a small two-headed drum) and chanting "Hara Hara Mahadev", several of these sadhus were seen riding horses on way to their designated camps. Among them were the saints of famous Atal Akhara who arrived at the Mahakumbh camp in a grand procession and were warmly welcomed by state government officials with garlands.

According to several eye-witnesses, it was a grand view to watch that immersed in ashes, wearing garlands, riding horses, and beating drums, they entered the camp area. Some seers were also seen coming carrying their own Akhara flags. Seers from several major Akharas have already arrived at the camp **►► Continued on page 3**

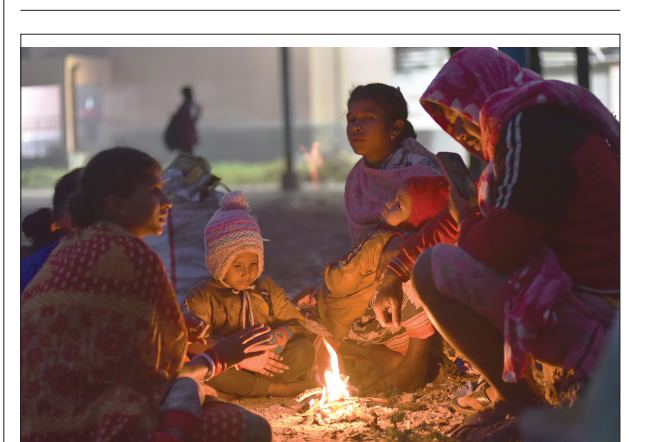
provement since then. My blessings are with the Chief Minister. Narendracharyaji Maharaj said. Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya stated that all preparations have already been completed for the Mahakumbh and hoped that more than ten million people would come and witness the grand Kumbh in Prayagraj. "Prayagraj is fully prepared to welcome and fulfil the responsibility of 'Atithi Devo Bhava'. We have made all necessary arrangements in entire Prayagraj. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has already come and inspected the arrangements at Prayagraj. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath also keeps coming regularly", he said.

About the security arrangements to ward off any trouble or possible mishap during the Purn Kumbh mela, the Deputy Chief minister said "Prayagraj is fully prepared to welcome a massive gathering in the Mahakumbh. "Latest security equipment including drones, have been deployed all across the city to ensure fool proof security during the Mela



site, include those from Niranjani Akhada, Ahwan Akhada, and Juna Akhada, the largest Akhada in the Sanyasi tradition. V i s h w a s a n a n d Saraswati, Acharya of Atal Akhada said, "Everyone should come to Kumbh Mela to witness the unity of the people at large, and they should also promote and establish similar unity elsewhere in country and around the globe. Spiritual leader Jagadguru Narendracharyaji Maharaj, who also participated in 2019 Mahakumbh Mela, was in all praise for the "excellent arrangements" made in this year's mela by the Uttar Pradesh government.

"We are very happy with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who has made excellent arrangements. I was at the Kumbh in 2019, and there is a lot of im-



People take heat by burning fire in very cold weather in Kolkata on Friday.

## Two protesters attempt self-immolation to protest Union Carbide waste disposal

**MI News Service, Bhopal:** Two persons were seriously injured after they set themselves on fire on Friday in protest against the Madhya Pradesh government's planned disposal of 337 tonnes of Union Carbide waste in the industrial town of Pithampur. During a protest against the waste disposal in Pithampur town in Dhar district, two persons suddenly poured kerosene on them and set themselves on fire during a bandh in the town, according to eyewitnesses. Dhar Superintendent of Police Manoj Singh said both the injured have been rushed to a hospital for treatment of burn injuries.

Shops and markets remained closed in the town amid the bandh call by 'Pithampur Bachao Samiti', which claims that the planned disposal of the four decade old Carbide waste in the area would harm the local people and environment.

Located nearly 30 km from Indore, Pithampur has a population of about 1.75 lakh. The Pithampur industrial area has about 700 factories in three sectors. On the intervening night of December 2-3, 1984, methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from the Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal, killing at least 5,479 persons and leaving thousands with serious and long-lasting health issues in Bhopal. The authorities have shifted 337 tonnes of waste from the Carbide factory to Pithampur for scientific disposal, though the move has triggered protests. The material from the Bhopal **►► Continued on page 3**

reached an incineration unit in Pithampur on Thursday packed in steel containers in several trucks. Amid the bandh call in Pithampur, which saw shops and markets remaining closed on Friday, a group of protesters blocked the road near Eicher Motors to stop movement of vehicular traffic, but police prevailed over them and restored normal traffic after resorting to lathi charge. Sandeep Raghuvanshi, who has been on a hunger strike at the bus stand since Thursday, said a large number of people have expressed solidarity with him over his protest against the disposal of the Union Carbide waste in Pithampur.

The Madhya Pradesh High Court had on December 3 rebuked the authorities for not clearing the Union Carbide site in Bhopal despite court directives, including that of the Supreme Court. It had set a four-week deadline to shift the waste, observing that even nearly 50 years after the gas tragedy, authorities were in a "state of inertia". The high court had warned the government of contempt proceedings if its directive was not followed. Meanwhile, heavy police deployment has been made in Pithampur to maintain law and order. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Thursday addressed "doubters" and said the issue should not be politicised. He asserted the waste comprised **►► Continued on page 3**





Traditional Purulia Chau artists perform Chau dance during Sara Bangladesh Lokshilpi Samsad protest rally over their various demands for traditional folk performers in Kolkata on Friday.

### TMC leaders discuss artists' participation in party's events

MI News Service, Kolkata: TMC leaders Kunal Ghosh and Kalyan Banerjee have voiced their positions on the recent controversy surrounding certain artists' participation in events organized by the party, following their criticism of the government.

about the government and its leaders, including calling for the government's ousting and making personal attacks, should not be invited to TMC events. He urged TMC supporters to boycott such artists, stressing the distinction between legitimate protest and personal attacks.

However, Abhishek Banerjee did not support Ghosh's statement, clarifying that no official instructions had been issued by the party regarding the matter. Abhishek emphasized that individuals should have the freedom to make their own decisions and that the TMC does not force anyone to act against their will.

### Youth drowns while retrieving football

MI News Service, Kolkata: A casual game of football turned tragic in Madhyamgram when a young man drowned while attempting to retrieve the ball from a canal. The incident occurred on Friday evening in Diwara village, leaving the community in shock and grief.

### Calcutta HC orders eviction from enemy properties

MI News Service, Kolkata: A Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court, consisting of Chief Justice T.S. Sivaganam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya, issued a directive on Friday for the immediate removal of encroachments on enemy properties in Kolkata.

### Bharat Sevashram Sangha distributes Books and Study Materials to underprivileged students in Sundarban



MI News Service, Kolkata: Bharat Sevashram Sangha Distributes Books and Study Materials to Underprivileged Students in Sundarban. As part of a new academic year's initiative, the Bharat Sevashram Sangha distributed free books and study materials to students up to Class 4 across nearly 42 schools in the remote and underdeveloped areas of the Sundarbans.

## SYNERGY: Empowering Bengal's Enterprise and Business Facilitation Conclave 2024-25 in Hooghly

MI News Service, Hooghly: With the inspiration of the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the Department of MSME & Textiles is organizing Synergy & Business Facilitation Conclave across the State. Synergy is a purely service-oriented business event organized to reach out to the doorstep of entrepreneurs to provide customized solutions to the issues they face for setting up or expanding businesses.

graced by Ranjan Dhara, Sabhadhipati, Hooghly Zilla Parishad, Ram Chakraborty, Mayor, Chandannagore Municipal Corporation, MLAs of Dhaniakhali and Champdani, Sahakari Sabhadhipai, Hooghly Zilla Parishad and Chairman of Hooghly-Chinsurah, Arambag, Uttarpara and Bansberia Municipalities.

besides officials from different banks. Presentation session In this session, Principal Secretary, MSME & Textiles Department made the entrepreneurs aware of the Departmental schemes and programmes for promotion of MSMEs focusing on Bhabishyat Credit Card Scheme, Bangladeshre

latory reforms undertaken by the state government to ensure enabling business environment in the state through power point presentation. Interactive session: In this session, the entrepreneurs directly interacted with the officials, raised their queries, and sought clarification and assistance to resolve their issues in setting up new enterprises and expanding existing enterprises. The concerned officials answered all the queries properly and highlighted how the issues would be addressed.

## Second Tilottama will happen : Superintendent threatens female doctor for rejecting night duty

MI News Service, Nadia: The whole state was in a state of uproar over the Tilottama incident. Doctors took to the streets. The whole state was in an uproar. But this time, there was an even more horrific incident. The hospital superintendent was accused of threatening a female doctor. The superintendent said, "If you don't listen, I will do a second Tilottama."

threatened to create a second Tilottama incident. After that, the female doctor became terrified. Finally, she was helpless and approached the health department and the police station. She filed a written complaint against the accused Tarak Barman at the Shantipur police station. She wants the health department to immediately transfer her from this hospital to another place.

allegations of the female doctor. He said, "I have received the complaint of the female doctor. I have already sent it to the District Health Department. However, the female doctor herself is taking medication for mental illness. I have informed that I have no objection if the Health Department transfers the doctor elsewhere."



Hospital superintendent on the left, female doctor on the right

ment, he forced her to work in the emergency room. It is also reported that she was forced to work on night duty. When she protested, the hospital superintendent threatened her. When she refused to do night duty, he

gations are completely false." However, after that, he did not want to say anything else. He only said that whatever the CMOH has to say, he will say. District Health Officer Jyotish Chandra Das has accepted the

### Seven arrested in connection with TMC councillor's murder

MI News Service, Kolkata: Seven people have been arrested in connection with the murder of Trinamool Congress (TMC) councillor Dulal Sarkar in Malda district, West Bengal, police confirmed on Friday.

Following their interrogation, five more individuals were arrested from their hideout late Thursday night. The exact motive behind the crime remains unclear. On Thursday evening, West Bengal Minister Firhad Hakim confirmed that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had ordered an inquiry into Sarkar's murder. During an administrative meeting at the State Secretariat Nabanna, Chief Minister Banerjee criticized Malda District Police Superintendent Pradeep Kumar Yadav, holding him accountable for the incident.

## 3rd Edition of Manipal Sreebhumi Gold Marathon on January 12th



MI News Service, Kolkata: The announcement of Sreebhumi Sporting Club is going to organise the 3rd Edition of Manipal Sreebhumi Gold Marathon on January 12th 2025 (Sunday) which will start from Sreebhumi-VIP Road and will finish at the same place.

ent to flag off the race on January 12th 2025. The vision of this Marathon is to establish a sustainable community-focused running event, encouraging people to lead healthy lifestyles and to motivate them for enhancing their personal fitness through running.

## Meeting of the 9th Defense Force

Nurul Islam Khan Under the initiative of the West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, the Annual General Meeting was successfully held under the management of the State Armed Ninth Defense Force. Bijitasa Raut, Convener, West Bengal Police Welfare Committee was present at this meeting in Krishnagar. Other Central Leadership of State Welfare Committee, Central Leadership of Retired Police Employees Welfare Board and various officers



and general members of Force were present in the State Armed Defense 9th meeting.

## Kolkata's Omme Ruman seeks urgent support to represent India at International Karate Championship in Indonesia



MI News Service, Kolkata: Omme Ruman, a talented young karateka from Ward No. 28 of Raja Bazar, Kolkata, has once again made the nation proud by being selected to participate in the prestigious King San'yujia International Karate Championship, scheduled to be held in Indonesia. However, financial constraints are posing a significant hurdle for this determined athlete, and time is running out.

5th, leaving Omme with very little time to gather the required funds. "I want to make my country proud again. Karate is my passion, and representing India on the international stage is a dream. I am seeking help from everyone so that I can attend this championship," said Omme.

Residing in Raja Bazar, Ward No. 28, Omme's journey is a story of perseverance and talent. With the clock ticking, she is appealing for immediate help from kind-hearted individuals, organizations, and sponsors. Those willing to support Omme Ruman in her journey can contact her family or contribute through verified donation platforms. Every contribution, no matter how small, will help this young athlete fulfill her dream and inspire countless others in the process.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Public Notice regarding a secured asset enforcement. The notice includes details about the borrower, the property address, and the date of notice. It also provides contact information for the bank's legal department.



TMC leader Derek O'Brien...

**From PG 1**  
(TMC) leader in the Rajya Sabha also asked "Why did you attempt to turn Christmas Day into 'Good Governance Day'?" Turning his attention towards the present situation in strife torn Manipur, O'Brien asked, "Why have you totally ignored the people of Manipur? Why are you encouraging and passing anti-conversion laws that violate fundamental rights under Article(s) 14, 15 and 25 of the Constitution?" Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan". O'Brien also asked why the government was pushing the Waqf bill and "playing minority versus minority", especially in Kerala. "Why don't you ever say a word condemning hate speeches and crude communal slurs?" he further questioned through his blog and reiterated his allegation that attacks on institutions run by minorities were on the rise and why incidents of violence against Christians were increasing in different parts of the country? "Why did India's National Human Rights Commission lose its United Nations accreditation twice since 2014? Do you remember Father Stan Swamy? Sipper? Straw? Death?" he added. Swamy, an 84-year-old tribal rights activist and Jesuit priest, died in custody in July 2021 from cardiac arrest after contracting COVID-19. He was arrested in October 2020 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and spent eight months in a Mumbai prison. He was denied bail on medical grounds several times. O'Brien said "In my two decades in public life, including three terms in Parliament, I have written columns on a range of subjects but never one on the church in India. This is a first. It needed to be written. More silence on the subject would make me complicit". Incidentally PM Modi had attended a celebration hosted by the CBCI in the national capital ahead of Christmas. Earlier in December, several Christian MPs, in a meeting with the organisation, had raised concerns over the state of affairs concerning the minorities. O'Brien said several issues were raised by the Christian MPs at the meeting called by the CBCI, during which they urged the church body to "stop photo-ops". "The Christian leadership should take a stand to call out those who are not protecting the Constitution," the TMC leader added.

Chief Secy and DGP hold high-level team to address Deocha-Pachami project delay

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Following instructions from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, a high-level team comprising Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, DGP Rajeev Kumar, and PDCL Secretary PB Salim arrived in Birbhum on Friday to assess the ongoing delays in the Deocha-Pachami coal mine project and take steps to expedite its progress. The team landed at the Bolpur railway station and directly proceeded to the Mohammad Bazar BDO office for an important meeting with local officials. The meeting was intended to review the current status of the project, discuss the hurdles in land acquisition, and address other critical issues hindering its progress. In addition, the team planned to engage with the local tribal communities to hear their concerns and ensure their cooperation in moving the project forward. This visit follows a sharp reprimand from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee during a meeting at Nabanna on January 2. The Chief Minister expressed her dissatisfaction over the slow pace of land acquisition and project implementation, instructing the District Magistrate Bidhan Roy to submit a report on the reasons behind the delays. The CM emphasized that the project must be expedited, stating that the progress had stalled and needed immediate attention. At the Mohammad Bazar office, the meeting was attended by key officials including District Magistrate Bidhan Roy, BDO Mohammad Bazar, ADG (Western Zone) Ashok Prasad, DIG (Burdwan Range) Shyam Singh, Birbhum SP Rajnarayan Mukherjee, and Birbhum Zilla Parishad Sabhadhipati Kajal Sheik. The discussions focused on the challenges in land acquisition, promises of job opportunities for local communities, and the overall slow pace of the project. Speaking to reporters, Chief Secretary Manoj Pant explained that the team's visit was in response to the Chief Minister's concerns and that the primary objective was to find solutions to expedite the project. "We are here to hold a detailed meeting and discuss the progress of the Deocha-Pachami project. We will also engage with the local tribal communities to address any concerns they may have," Pant said. The Deocha-Pachami coal mine is one of the largest coal projects in the world and is expected to provide significant economic benefits, including job opportunities and infrastructural development. However, delays in land acquisition and issues related to fulfilling job commitments have raised concerns among the local population. The project's successful implementation is seen as vital for the region's development. With the state elections coming up in 2024, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is keen to ensure that such high-profile projects are completed on time. She has stressed the importance of resolving land acquisition disputes and addressing the concerns of local communities to avoid any further delays. The high-level team's report will be submitted to the Chief Minister for further action. As the project progresses, it is hoped that the concerns of local communities will be addressed and the work will resume at a faster pace, ensuring the successful completion of the Deocha-Pachami coal mine.

Extreme Poverty reduced to...

**From PG 1**  
Survey. According to the survey, rural poverty is estimated at 4.86 per cent in FY24, a sharp decline from 7.2 per cent in FY23 and 25.7 per cent in FY12. Similarly, urban poverty has dropped to 4.09 per cent in FY24, compared to 4.6 per cent in FY23 and 13.7 per cent in FY12. Recently PM Narendra Modi had also said that over 23 crore people have come out of poverty in last ten years. The poverty estimates may undergo minor revisions if the 2021 census is done and updated rural-urban population data is published. However, SBI Research believes that urban poverty levels could decline even further in the coming years. It said "It is possible that these numbers could undergo minor revisions once the 2021 census is completed and new Rural Urban population share is published. We believe Urban poverty could decline even further".



Members of the 'Rightful Teachers' Rights Forum (Jogyo Shikshak Shikshika Adhikar Mancha) associated with the SLST 2016 participate in a protest rally and blocked the road and demand for justice for their permanent job at Salt Lake in Kolkata on Friday.

Sebaashray initiative making a significant impact in Diamond Harbour



The Sebaashray health camp, inaugurated by TMC's National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee, witnessed a large turnout, with thousands of residents in Diamond Harbour attending to avail free medical services.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The healthcare initiative #Sebaashray, launched by MP Abhishek Banerjee, is already making waves in the region. The initiative, aimed at providing affordable and accessible healthcare, is garnering immense appreciation for its seamless execution and compassionate approach. On its first day, #Sebaashray held 41 health camps in Diamond Harbour AC, drawing a footfall of 5,689 individuals. A total of 3,340 patients were treated, and 2,600 people received necessary medicines. Additionally, 181 referrals were made for further medical treatment. As the second day unfolds, the response from the public continues to be overwhelming, with people flocking to the health camps in large numbers. The initiative is designed to make healthcare accessible to all, with a focus on comprehensive treatment and well-being for individuals of all age groups. One of the standout features of #Sebaashray is its emphasis on eye care. People in Diamond Harbour are availing themselves of quality eye tests at the health camps, ensuring the care of their vision. This initiative underscores the commitment to providing holistic healthcare to the community. of Diamond Harbour have expressed their gratitude towards their beloved MP, Shri Abhishek Banerjee, for conceptualizing and executing such a compassionate and life-changing initiative. With its focus on accessible healthcare, #Sebaashray aims to bring a significant transformation in the region's healthcare landscape, ensuring a healthier and brighter future for the community. RamanujGangopad-

West Bengal Board issues guidelines for madhyamik exam preps

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Ahead of the Madhyamik (Class 10) examinations, the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education (WBBSE) has issued an 11-point guideline for teachers, outlining their responsibilities to ensure smooth and secure conduct of the exams. The instructions were circulated to schools across the state to eliminate any confusion regarding examination duties. Key Guidelines for teachers issued are that teacher must check the students before entering the examination hall to prevent malpractice. Teachers are required to maintain strict surveillance during exams to ensure fair conduct. Apart from these, Teachers may be asked to visit different examination centers to monitor activities. Teachers must oversee the proper packaging and handling of answer scripts to avoid tampering or loss. Teachers must also attend all preparatory meetings organized by the Board or school authorities. Those assigned invigilation roles must perform them diligently. Meanwhile, it has been issued in the guidelines that the teachers should also refrain from taking up any other tasks during the examination days. Teachers may be required to serve as head examiners or evaluators of answer sheets. Failure to adhere to these guidelines could result in disciplinary actions from the Board. RamanujGangopad- hay, President of the WBBSE, emphasized the necessity of these guidelines. "Teachers often have questions regarding their roles in conducting exams. These 11 points aim to clear any doubts and ensure uniformity in responsibilities," he said. Apart from the core 11 points, the Board has asked teachers to strictly follow any additional instructions issued closer to the exam dates. This includes timely reporting at examination centers, ensuring security, and handling confidential materials like question papers with utmost care. While many teachers welcomed the clarity provided by the guidelines, some expressed concerns about the added workload. "The instructions are detailed, but we hope the Board ensures sufficient manpower to implement them effectively," a teacher said. The Board stressed that adherence to these instructions is crucial for maintaining the integrity of the Madhyamik examinations. Any lapses could compromise the fairness of the process and affect students' futures. With the Madhyamik exams approaching, schools and teachers are gearing up to implement the new directives. The WBBSE's proactive approach aims to ensure that the exams are conducted smoothly, securely, and without any disruptions.

Two protesters...

**From PG 1**  
60 per cent mud and 40 per cent naphthal used to make pesticide methyl isocyanate (MIC) and was "not at all harmful". Located nearly 30 km from Indore, Pithampur has a population of about 1.75 lakh. The Pithampur industrial area has about 700 factories in three sectors. On the intervening night of December 2-3, 1984, methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked from the Union Carbide pesticide factory in Bhopal, killing at least 5,479 persons and leaving thousands with serious and long-lasting health issues in Bhopal. The authorities have shifted 337 tonnes of waste from the Carbide factory to Pithampur for scientific disposal, though the move has triggered protests. The material from the Bhopal reached an incineration unit in Pithampur on Thursday packed in steel containers in several trucks. Amid the bandh call in Pithampur, which saw shops and markets remaining closed on Friday, a group of protesters blocked the road near Eicher Motors to stop movement of vehicular traffic, but police prevailed over them and restored normal traffic after resorting to lathi charge. Sandeep Raghuvanshi, who has been on a hunger strike at the bus stand since Thursday, said a large number of people have expressed solidarity with him over his protest against the disposal of the Union Carbide waste in Pithampur.

Hamid Ansari, Sonia...

**From PG 1**  
liberalisation and reforms. After Dr Manmohan Singh passed away, taking to X, Kharge wrote, "Undoubtedly, history shall judge you kindly, Dr. Manmohan Singh ji! With the passing of the Former Prime Minister, India has lost a visionary statesman, a leader of unimpeachable integrity, and an economist of unparalleled stature." The dignitaries, along with a large number of well-wishers and family members, paid their tributes to the former prime minister. Sonia Gandhi considered Manmohan Singh a "friend, philosopher and a guide". "In Dr Manmohan Singh's passing, we have lost a leader who was the epitome of wisdom, nobility and humility, who served our country with all his heart and mind. A luminous and beloved guiding light for the Congress party, his compassion and vision transformed and empowered the lives of millions of Indians," Sonia had said in a statement.

Dense fog hits flight...

**From PG 1**  
under the grip of 'Chillai-Kalan' -- the harshest period of winter -- that began on December 21. During the 40 days of 'Chillai-Kalan', the chances of snowfall are the highest and the temperature drops considerably. 'Chillai-Kalan' ends on January 30. It is followed by a 20-day 'Chillai-Khurd (small cold)' and a 10-day 'Chillai-Bachha (baby cold)'. Meanwhile, in a bizzar incident at Kozhikode in Kerala an Air India Express flight from Dubai made a precautionary landing at Karipur Airport near here on Friday after its pilot suspected a failure in the hydraulic system, airport sources said. Flight IX344, however, landed safely at around 8.30 am. Airport sources said. Kashmir is currently

Maa flyover now open for bikes 24/7: New guidelines enforced

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant move, motorcycles are now allowed to use the Maa Flyover at all hours, following the lifting of a previous night-time ban. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's intervention on Thursday prompted this change, addressing concerns about the flyover's role in daily commuting and emergency services. Less than a day later, on Friday, the restrictions were lifted, allowing motorcycles to ply the flyover around the clock. However, riders must adhere to strict speed limits, or face penalties. The decision follows several past accidents on the Maa Flyover. Incidents of reckless bike racing and overspeeding, particularly at night, have resulted in fatalities and severe injuries. These incidents prompted authorities to restrict motorcycle movement from 10 PM to 6 AM. On Thursday, while addressing a gathering at Nabanna, Chief Minister Banerjee highlighted the flyover's critical role in connecting key parts of the city. "This flyover is essential for hospitals and emergency services. Office-goers also need to rush home. Such restrictions

are inconvenient," she said. Following her statement, the administration swiftly revised its earlier directive. According to the administration, the Maa Flyover is a vital corridor connecting Salt Lake Sector V, which houses numerous hospitals. Many patients require emergency medical transportation via this route. Recognizing the importance of uninterrupted access, the government decided to lift the night-time restrictions on motorcycles. However, this relaxation comes with conditions. Riders must maintain regulated speeds to ensure safety. The police will implement stringent measures to monitor compliance and penalize violators. The administration hopes these steps will curb reckless behavior while accommodating the needs of commuters. The Maa Flyover has long been a hotspot for accidents, particularly involving two-wheelers. Reports of high-speed bike races during late hours have alarmed both the public and authorities. In several cases, these races have led to tragic fatalities and serious injuries. In response, the government had earlier imposed a night-time ban on motorcycles, citing public safety concerns. While the move was intended to reduce accidents, it also caused significant inconvenience, particularly for those traveling for medical emergencies or late-night work shifts. The decision to lift the ban has been met with mixed reactions. While many commuters have welcomed the move, citing the flyover's importance for faster travel, others have expressed concerns about safety. "It's good that the flyover is open for all hours, but reckless driving needs to be controlled," said a regular commuter. Traffic experts have also emphasized the need for strict enforcement of speed limits and regular patrolling to ensure safety. "Without proper checks, accidents may continue to occur," one expert noted. The Maa Flyover's round-the-clock accessibility is expected to ease travel for thousands of commuters, particularly those in emergencies. However, the onus remains on both riders and authorities to ensure safety and prevent misuse.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091. CIN No: L65190G1994PLC021012. www.icicibank.com

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on/ Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Preety Gupta/ Asha Kumari/ Rakesh Prasad/ Ward No. 41, Sevoke Road 2nd Mile Near Bansal Wear House 1, Jyoti Nagar, District Jalpaiguri West Bengal Siliguri- 734001/ LBSGI0000608671/ LBSGI0000608686/ LBSGI0000605563	Plot No. 291, Khatian No. 61/5, J.L. No. 85 (107), Touzi No. 91, Ward No. 46, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Police Station Motigara, Mouza Mandlaguri, Pargana Patharghata, Sub-Division Siliguri Adli, District Sub Registrar, Siliguri II, Bagdogra, District Darjeeling, West Bengal Admeasuring An Area of 2 Kathas 8 Chhataks Or 0.041 Acre	November 13, 2024 Rs. 55,86,104.62/-	08/09/2024
2.	Rajendra Gupta/ Tarkeshwar Gupta/ Parwati Gupta/ D. N. P. Building 60, Hill Cart Road Siliguri (M.Corp), Ward No. 10 District Darjeeling West Bengal Siliguri- 734001/ LBSGI00005603667	Deed No. I-1254/ 2021 Plot No. Rs 8286, (Corresponding L.R. Plot No. 4520), Ground Floor, Dnp Building, Opp. Hotel Vinayak, Hill Cart Road, Khatian No. 2383 (Corresponding L.R. Khatian Nos. 3397, 3398 and 3399), J.L. No. 110 (88), Ward No. X, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, P.O. and P.S Siliguri, Mouza R.S. Siliguri (L. R. Siliguri Madhya), District Darjeeling, West Bengal Area Measuring More or Less 780 Sq. Ft. in Ground Floor Together With Parking Area of 1080 Sq. Ft. Together With The Proportionate Share in The Land Measuring More or Less 0.196 Acres On Which The Building Stands Deed No. I-692/ 2021 Plot No. Rs. 8286, (Corresponding L.R. Plot No. 4520), Front Side, 1st Floor, Dnp Building Opp. Hotel Vinayak, Hill Cart Road, Khatian No. 2383 (Corresponding L.R. Khatian Nos 3397, 3398 and 3399), J.L. No. 110 (88), Ward No. 10, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, P.O and P.S. Siliguri, Mouza R.S. Siliguri (L.R. Siliguri Madhya), District Darjeeling, West Bengal Area Measuring More or Less 2730 Sq. Ft. in The Front Side of It Floor of Dnp Building Together With The Proportionate Share in The Land Measuring More or Less 0.196 Acres on Which The Building Stands	November 25, 2024 Rs. 2,30,11,819.86/-	09/04/2024
3.	Tarke Shwar Gupta/ Rajendra Gupta/ Parwati Gupta/ D.N. Tower 60, Hill Cart Road Ward No. 10, Siliguri (M.Corp) District Darjeeling West Bengal Siliguri - 734001/ LBSGI00005535369	Deed No. I-1254/ 2021 Plot No. Rs 8286, (Corresponding L.R. Plot No. 4520), Ground Floor, Dnp Building, Opp. Hotel Vinayak, Hill Cart Road, Khatian No. 2383 (Corresponding L.R. Plot No. 4520), Front Side, 1st Floor, Dnp Building Opp. Hotel Vinayak, Hill Cart Road, Khatian No. 2383 (Corresponding L.R. Khatian Nos 3397, 3398 and 3399), J.L. No. 110 (88), Ward No. 10, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, P.O and P.S. Siliguri, Mouza R. S. Siliguri (L.R. Siliguri Madhya), District Darjeeling, West Bengal Area Measuring More or Less 2730 Sq. Ft. in The Front Side of It Floor of Dnp Building Together With The Proportionate Share in The Land Measuring More or Less 0.196 Acres on Which The Building Stands	November 25, 2024 Rs. 2,31,86,777.12/-	09/04/2024

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower(s) and/or guarantor(s) (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.  
Date: January 04, 2025  
Place: Siliguri

Sincerely, Authorised Signatory  
For ICICI Bank Ltd.



Name Change

I, (Old Name) RIRDOSA BIBI W/O MD MOSHARAFHOSSAIN, Residing at, Vill- Maniknagar, Post-Domkal, Ps-Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742303, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from RIRDOSA-ABIBI To FERDOSA BIBI SEKH (New name) and hence forth I shall be Known as (New name) FERDOSA BIBI SEKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 Dec 2024, FERDOSA BIBI SEKH and RIRDOSA BIBI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Arjun Mahto @ Arjun K Mahto(Old Name), S/O Late Kalicharan Mahto,Residing At New Market Silli, Hahelupung,Ps-Silli, Dist- Ranchi,Pin-835102, Jharkhand,Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Arjun Kalicharan Mahto (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 03/01/2025.Arjun Mahto @Arjun K Mahto (Old Name) And Arjun Kalicharan Mahto (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN S/O- SEKH MD RAHAMATULLA, Residing at, Vill-Maniknagar, Post-Domkal, Ps-Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742303, WestBengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name fromMD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN To MD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN (New name) and hence forth I shall be Known as(New name) MD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN in all purpose Videan affidavit Sworn before the notary public at BerhamporeMurshidabad On 26 Dec 2024, MD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN and MD MOSHARRAF HOSSAIN both are Same and oneidentical person.

Name Change

I, Isha Sharma R/O 8,Sambhunnath Mullick Lane, 4th Floor, Barabazar, Kolkata,70007,West Bengal,Do hereby Notified That My Father Sushil Kumar Sharma Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sushil Sharma,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 23/12/2024,That Sushil Kumar Sharma And Sushil Sharma All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) NOOR ISLAM MULLICK S/O MAOLA MALLICK, Residing at, Vill- Chapra Elenagar, Post-Baganpara, Ps- Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741123, West Bengal.Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from NOORISLAM MULLICK To NUR ISLAM MALLICK (Newname) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) NURISLAM MALLICK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Swornbefore the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 Dec2024, NOOR ISLAM MULLICK and NUR ISLAMMALLICK both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Krishna Sharma,W/O Sushil Sharma,R/O 8,Sambhunnath Mullick Lane,4th Floor, Barabazar, Kolkata,70007,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Krishna Devi Joshi,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 23/12/2024,That Krishna Sharma And Krishna Devi Joshi All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MONIRUL MULLICK S/O- NUR ISLAM MALLICK, Residing at, Vill- Chapra Elenagar, Post-Baganpara, Ps- Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741123, West Bengal.Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name fromMONIRUL MULLICK To MONIRUL MALLICK (Newname) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name)MONIRUL MALLICK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Swornbefore the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 Dec2024, MONIRUL MALLICK and MONIRUL MULLICK both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Partha Mondal S/O. Rajeswar Mondal R/o. 2 No. Rabindranagar, Rabindranagar, Chinsurah, Hooghly-712103, W.B. declared that my father Rajeswar Mondal, Rajeswar Mondal & Rajeswar Mondal all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 29 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 03/01/25.

Name Change

I, Bapi Ghorai S/O Late Lal Mohan Ghorai Residing at Vill+P.o - Kharar(Ghorai Para), Ps - Ghatal, District - West Medinipur, Pin-721222 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Bapi Ghorai. I declare that Bapi Ghorai and Bapi Ghorai is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

I, Srikanta Das S/o. Mrityunjay Das (old name) R/o. Boinchipota, Singur, Hooghly-712409, W.B. have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shrikanta Das S/o. Mrityunjay Das (new name) vide an affidavit no. 6001 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Chandernagore, Hooghly Court on 03/12/24. Srikanta Das S/o. Mrityunjay Das & Shrikanta Das S/o. Mrityunjay Das both are the same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Surya Ghorai S/O Bapi Ghorai Residing at Vill+P.o - Kharar(Ghorai Para), Ps - Ghatal, District - West Medinipur, Pin- 721222 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Surya Ghorai. I declare that Surya Ghorai and Surya Ghorai is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MATIUR RAHAMAN S/O- NEBBIS SEKH, Residing at, Vill- Kushmore, Post- Kushmore, Ps- Paikar, Dist-Birbhum, Pin-731238, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MATIUR RAHAMAN ToMOTIUR RAHAMAN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MOTIUR RAHAMAN in all purposeVide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at BerhamporeMurshidabad On 26 Dec 2024, MOTIUR RAHAMAN andMATIUR RAHAMAN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Bishnu Pada Datta S/o Late Panchanan Datta Residing at 23/1/8, Bishalaxmi Tala Road, P.O - Parnasree Pally, Ps - Parnasree, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700060, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Bishnu Pada Datta. I declare that Bishnu Pada Datta and Bishnu Pada Datta is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MD HAMIDUR RAHAMAN S/O- JILLAR RAHAMAN, Residing at, Vill- Karaia, Post-Karaya, Ps-Sagarighi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742237, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD HAMIDUR RAHAMAN To HAMIDUR RAHAMAN (Newname) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name)HAMIDUR RAHAMAN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On26 Dec 2024, HAMIDUR RAHAMAN and MD HAMIDURRAHAMAN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, MALOTI BAIN (Old Name) W/O NARAYAN BAIN Residing at Vill+P.O- Purba Noapara, P.S - Dhantala, District - Nadia, Pin-741501 West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MALATI BAIN (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Government of India vide affidavit Dated 03-01-2025. MALOTI BAIN (Old Name) and MALATI BAIN (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) REZUAN SHAIKH S/O- JULHAS SK, Residing at, Vill-Chandpur, Post- Chandpur, Ps-Nowda, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742121, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from REZUAN SHAIKH ToREZUAN SK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) REZUAN SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On26 Dec 2024, REZUAN SK and REZUAN SHAIKH both areSame and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mrs. Papiya Kuthial (Old Name) W/O Sri Sanjib Kuthial residing at Aseemkripa Apartment, Flat-4B, CF-5 Jyagra Ghosh Para, Kolkata -59, North 24 Pgs, Kolkata - 700059, WB, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Papiya Kuthial (New Name) W/O Sri Sanjib Kuthial. Papiya Kuthial (Old Name) and Papiya Kuthial (New Name) both are same and one identical person vide Affidavit dated 21.12.24 before Notary Public at Sealdah.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) KABATULLA SK S/O- CHAPATULLA SEKH, Residing at, Vill- Majhyampur, Post-Bandhpara, Ps- Beldanga,Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742189, West Bengal. Do herebydeclare that I have Changed my name from KABATULLA SK To MD KABATULLA SK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MD KABATULLA SK in allpurpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public atBerhampore Murshidabad On 26 Dec 2024, MD KABATULLASK and KABATULLA SK both are Same and one identical person.

Change of Name

I, Swatleekha Maji @ Swatleekha Maji (Saha) W/O Sandip Maji, residing at Vill- Khalore, VTC Bagnan-1, P.O.- Bagnan, Dist-Howrah, W.B, PIN- 711303 shall henceforth be known as New Name Swatleekha Saha as declared In the Court of the Learned Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata vide Affidavit No. 1752 Dated 10/12/2024. Swatleekha Maji @ Swatleekha Maji (Saha) and Swatleekha Saha both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) SUBHENDU KUMAR SAHA S/O-SUKHENDU KUMAR SAHA, Residing at, Vill- Station Road Deshbhandu Para, Post- Jhaljhalla, Ps- Englishbazar, Dist-Malda, Pin- 732102, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SUBHENDU KUMAR SAHA To SUBHENDU SAHA (New name) and hence forth I Shall be known as (New name) SUBHENDU SAHA in all purpose Videan affidavit Sworn before the notary public at BerhamporeMurshidabad On 26 Dec 2024, SUBHENDU SAHA andSUBHENDU KUMAR SAHA both are Same and one identical person.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal during the inauguration of newly constructed flats for the dwellers of Jhuggi Jhopri (JJ) clusters, at Ashok Vihar, in New Delhi.

# GST Council curb on input tax credit for construction costs firmly in place

MI News Service, New Delhi: The GST Council has decided for all settled two fundamental concepts that underlie the legislation on goods and services tax: the concepts of Blocked Credit and the Functionality Test that work in tandem to formulate the litmus test that determines whether entities are eligible to claim input tax credit.

At its 55th meeting held in Jaisalmer on December 21, the Council clarified the process to avail input tax credit even if this stoked some controversy over the manner in which the Council neutralised the effects of a Supreme Court verdict that had not gone in favour of the indirect tax authorities. Input tax credit has been a hugely contentious issue and has triggered a surge in litigation as GST-registered entities have been frustrated by the denial of access to a fundamental element that lies at the heart of the indirect tax system, which former chief economic advisor Arvind Subramanian had once described as "one of the most ambitious and remarkable tax reforms" in India. Subramanian was also the chairman of the committee

appointed by the Narendra Modi government to prepare the roadmap for the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax designed to transform the country into a single market for the first time. The very familiar concept of Blocked Credit as per the provisions of Section 17(5) of the CGST Act, 2017 restricts availment of Input Tax Credit on specific transactions/purchases which are not in alignment with business expenditures. One such restriction emerging from the provisions of Section 17(5) of the CGST Act is that GST Registered Entities are forbidden to avail Input Tax Credit on expenses incurred pursuant to construction of an immovable property (other than plant or machinery) except where it is an input service for further supply of works contract service. This sparked a major legal quibble over the semantics and the exact contours of this restriction that was spelt out in the provisions of Section 17(5) of the CGST Act. The Supreme Court of India in its decision on 3rd October 2024, in the case of Chief Commissioner of Central Goods and Service Tax v. Safari Retreats Private Ltd has held that Input Tax Credit on goods and services used in the construction of immovable property, such as malls etc, should be

allowed when the property is further used for letting out on rent, which is a taxable supply under the provisions of the GST Law. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has held that the functionality test would need to be applied to determine whether the construction is of a "plant or machinery" to determine credit eligibility. Critical points emerging out of the above mentioned Safari Retreats' case are as follows: The apex court accepted the arguments adduced by counsel for Safari Retreats which was built around the freedoms enshrined in Articles 14, 19 and 300A of the Constitution of India. Counsel claimed that the restriction of input tax credit in the instant case was not constitutionally valid - a view that the court accepted. This brings us to the so-called Functionality Test which is critical in determining whether a building or structure qualifies as a 'plant' under the CGST Act for the purpose of claiming Input Tax Credit. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India drew a distinction between the term 'plant or machinery' in Section 17(5)(d) of the CGST Act 2017 from the expression 'plant and machinery' as defined in the explanation to Section 17 of the CGST Act 2017.

# BIS ties up with premier institutions of Bengal



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) has partnered with premier educational institutions such as Jadavpur University, IIT Kharagpur, and IIST to research the criteria necessary for maintaining product quality," said Sabyasachi Dhar, head of the Kolkata branch office (1) of BIS, under the Union Ministry of Consumer Protection. "These institutions conduct detailed studies on behalf of BIS to determine the aspects that ensure product standards and the methods to achieve them." Speaking at an event in Kolkata, Dhar highlighted BIS's efforts to raise awareness about product quality among the public, particularly the younger generation. "We are forming clubs in schools where students from classes 9 to 12, as well as those from the science departments of engineering and degree colleges, are being included. Over 600 such clubs have already been established in the state. The goal is for students to not only become aware of product quality but also to educate others," he explained. Dhar further emphasized the importance of BIS certification, noting, "While many products are recognized by BIS, certification is mandatory for 650 specific items. To ensure compliance, we provide training to government and administrative institutions, including bodies like the Kolkata Municipality, to guide them in purchasing BIS-certified products. On January 6, we will extend this training to newly joining WBSCS executives." "This is a continuous process," Dhar added. "We regularly seek feedback from industrial organizations to refine our standards and quality criteria. Our mission is to create a robust ecosystem where quality awareness and adherence become a shared responsibility across all levels of society."

# Flagging-off ceremony for the introduction of LHB rake for 13153/13154 Sealdah-Malda Town Gour Express

MI News Service, Kolkata: Fulfilling a long-cherished demand of the people of Malda, the Indian Railways has introduced modern LHB rake service (Linke-Hofmann-Busch coaches) for the 13153/13154 Sealdah-Malda Town Gour Express w.e.f. 28.12.2024. Dedicating the LHB Rake service of Gour Express, a formal flagging off ceremony was organized on 2.1.2025 at Malda Town station. The ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Khagen Murmu and Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly Shri Gopal Chandra Saha, Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, Divisional Railway Manager/Malda and other dignitaries were also present on this occasion. Highlighting the significance of the upgrade, DRM/Malda Shri Manish Kumar Gupta stated that the two rakes of the 13153/13154 Sealdah-Malda Town-Sealdah Gour Express have been converted from conventional Integral Coach Factory (ICF) coaches to state-of-the-art LHB coaches. The upgraded rakes commenced operations with effect from December 28,



2024, departing from both Sealdah and Malda Town. LHB coaches are known for their numerous advantages over conventional ICF coaches, including: • Enhanced safety features to ensure passenger security. • Superior comfort and modern amenities for a pleasant travel experience. • Reduced chances of derailment, ensuring a safer journey. • Noise reduction and better riding quality. During the event, Hon'ble MP Shri Khagen Murmu and Hon'ble MLA Shri Gopal Chandra Saha addressed the media and expressed their gratitude to Indian Railways for fulfilling a long-standing demand of Malda's residents. They lauded the Railways' efforts in enhancing connectivity and providing a safer and more comfortable travel option for passengers commuting between Malda Town and Sealdah. The upgraded Gour Express, with its modern LHB rake, will continue to operate on its regular schedule, catering to the needs of thousands of passengers daily. This development is expected to boost connectivity and contribute to the socio-economic growth of the region. The Gour Express, now upgraded with the modern LHB rake, will continue to operate on its usual schedule, offering passengers a more comfortable, safe, and reliable travel option between Malda Town and Sealdah.

# Metro staff help an indisposed lady passenger

MI News Service, Kolkata: Today i.e. on 03.01.2025 at about 11:55 hrs., on-duty RPF and station staff found a lady passenger aged around 20 years feeling unwell at Park Street station. Seeing her condition, they rushed to her help. Considering the seriousness of the situation, she was brought to the Station Master's Office and given first aid. In the meantime, station staff contacted her family member over the mobile given by her and he was apprised of her condition. After sometimes, her father came to the station. With her father the lady passenger left the station. She and her father thanked Metro Railway authorities for the kind co-operation and help.

# Kanchrapara Workshop launches "Plant 4mother" campaign to combat climate change



MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major step towards environmental sustainability, the Kanchrapara Workshop, Eastern Railway, launched the "Plant4Mother" Campaign under the guidance of EnHM/KPA. The initiative, aimed at planting 4,000 trees across vacant lands of a total 46012.00 meter2 area in the workshop premises, began with a plantation drive at Anand Van, a 450 meter2 green patch. The event was led by Honourable Chief Works Manager (CWM), Subhash Chandra, and Chief Medical Superintendent (CMS), Smt. Gopa Majumdar, along with officials and employees. Together, they

# Regulation of trains for track maintenance work over Howrah Division

MI News Service, Kolkata: In connection with Track maintenance work in various section over Howrah Division, Traffic Block has been planned on 05.01.2025. Consequently following arrangements in train running have been made as under: Cancellation of trains on 05.01.2025: • From Tarakeswar: 37330 • From Howrah: 37319 Rescheduling of trains on 05.01.2025: • 37749 Bandel - Katwa local will leave Bandel at 12:45 hrs. instead of 12:15 hrs. • 53009 Katwa - Azimganj local will leave Katwa at 12:30 hrs. instead of 12:00 hrs.

# ER achieves record freight loading in December 2024

MI News Service, Kolkata: With relentless efforts to explore new freight traffic opportunities, enhanced negotiations with local transporters, and the strategic opening of new freight terminals, Eastern Railway has set a new benchmark in freight operations. In December 2024, Eastern Railway recorded an all-time high of 8.50 million tons in originating freight loading. This marks the best-ever December freight loading in the history of Eastern Railway. This exceptional achievement comes as part of Eastern Railway's continued focus on improving freight services and expanding its customer base. The cumulative freight loading for the period from April to December 2024 in the current fiscal year (2024-25) has reached an impressive 70.80 million tons, reflecting an 18.47% increase compared to the same period in the previous year (59.76 million tons). This growth is indicative of Eastern Railway's consistent efforts in strengthening its freight operations and meeting the demands of various industries across its jurisdiction. In terms of goods revenue, Eastern Railway also achieved a remarkable milestone. In December 2024, the goods revenue reached Rs. 812.06 crores creating a record and also surpassing the previous year's earnings of Rs. 694.24 crores in December 2023. For the period from April to December 2024, Eastern Railway's goods revenue has surged by 27.90%, totalling Rs. 6727.46 crores, compared to Rs. 5259.91 crores in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year (2023-24). This growth in freight loading and revenue is attributed to several key initiatives, including the efforts of the Business Development Units (BDUs), which have worked proactively to unlock new freight traffic opportunities. One notable development is the commencement of freight transport for stone chips from Dumka, a result of the BDU's efforts to explore and expand new freight earning possibilities. Eastern Railway remains committed to continuously improving its freight services by expanding its network, modernizing infrastructure, and fostering partnerships with local transporters. These efforts have positioned Eastern Railway as a reliable and efficient freight transportation partner for industries across India.

# Exhibition of talented photographers in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata recently hosted exhibition of talented photographers of the city. The exhibition was organized by South Kolkata Photogenic Club. It was held at Gallery Gold. It showcased 80 remarkable photographs of 18 young and talented photographers. The exhibition displayed its immense commitment towards socio-economic and political awareness to create a humane-centric narrative.



Color Coding of Yatri Ashrayas at Prayagraj Stations (North Central Railway)

MI News Service, New Delhi: In preparation for the massive influx of devotees during Maha Kumbh 2025, the North Central Railway has introduced a systematic color-coding scheme for Yatri Ashrayas (Passenger Resting Areas) at various stations. This initiative aims to improve passenger convenience by streamlining navigation and facilitating better access to designated waiting areas.



Dayal Upadhyay (DDU). ●Gate No. 1, Ashray No. 1: Towards Kanpur Each enclosure will be equipped with all basic amenities to ensure the comfort and safety of the passengers.

Three new trains flagged off & One new Road Over Bridge dedicated

MI News Service, Guwahati: In line with Prime Minister's vision to improve rail connectivity, three new trains were flagged off and a new Road Over Bridge (ROB) at Telitia station yard constructed by Northeast Frontier Railway was dedicated to the nation on Friday from Guwahati.

MoU signed between NIELIT and Tata Electronics Pvt. Ltd New FM Radio Centre of Akashvani at Kokrajhar launched



has been recognized as a Deemed to Be University under distinct category by the University Grants Commission. With the main campus in Roper, along with its 11 constituent units in Agartala, Aizawl, Ajmer, Aurangabad, Calicut, Imphal, Itanagar, Kohima, Gorakhpur, Patna and Srinagar, NIELIT Deemed to be university is set to redefine learning. It will provide undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD programs in emerging digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Semiconductor design & manufacturing, Cyber Security & Forensics, Internet of Things, Automotive Electronics, Machine Learning, Blockchain Technology etc.

CPI(M)'s invitation to Bangladeshi singer sparks controversy

MI News Service, Kolkata: Controversies have erupted over CPI(M)'s decision to invite popular Bangladeshi singer Rezwana Choudhury Bannya for a cultural event organized by the Jyoti Basu Centre for Social Studies and Research at New Town this month. The event, part of the CPI(M) central committee meeting from January 17-19, will be attended by CPI(M)'s national politburo coordinator Prakash Karat.

Award in April last year. "There is an attempt to create a religious divide in the country over the ongoing political crisis in Bangladesh, whose relations with India have been cordial traditionally. Our intention is to maintain that spirit of unity through cultural exchange" said a central committee member of CPI(M).

Last month, similar objections were raised when Bannya was listed to perform at the "ParibeshMela" in Madhyamgram Municipality. A local civil society group, "MadhyamgramNagarikbrinda," appealed via social media for the singer's exclusion, asserting that no Bangladeshi artist should be part of the event, citing national interests.

Winter chill in Bengal to ease, snowfall expected in Darjeeling

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal is currently grappling with a cold wave, with minimum temperatures remaining consistently low across the state. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicts no significant change in temperatures over the next few days. As winter continues to play its elusive game this season, briefly showing up before disappearing within a day or two. This ongoing pattern has led to a noticeable dip in temperature over the past two days, thanks to strong northern winds, much to the delight of winter enthusiasts in Bengal.

until Saturday. The weather will change over the weekend, leading to a gradual rise in temperatures. By Sunday, temperatures will begin to increase, and Monday and Tuesday are expected to see partly cloudy skies. On Friday morning, Kolkata's minimum temperature dropped to 13°C, while the western districts recorded temperatures below 10°C.

Eastern Railway achieves record freight loading in December 2024

MI News Service, Guwahati: With relentless efforts to explore new freight traffic opportunities, enhanced negotiations with local transporters, and the strategic opening of new freight terminals, Eastern Railway has set a new benchmark in freight operations. In December 2024, Eastern Railway recorded an all-time high of 8.50 million tons in originating freight loading.



BJP leader Kushboo demands 'justice' in Anna University's sexual assault case

MI News Service, Madurai: After being released from detention BJP leader Kushboo Sundar demanded "justice" for the student who was allegedly sexually assaulted at Anna University in Chennai. "We need justice," the BJP leader told reporters.

brutally raped," he added. Addressing a press conference on the issue, Rajeev Chandrasekhar said that this type of "lawlessness" prevails in the INDI alliance, DMK-governed Tamil Nadu. "On December 23, 2024, in the middle of Chennai...in Anna University campus, a second-year engineering student, a young lady was sexually assaulted by a group of men...her companions subjected to violence. It has become obvious and clear...the perpetrator of this crime was a man called Ganasekharan, he was arrested due to public outrage. It has come to light that Ganasekharan is not a simple sexual offender, but a DMK functionary with many instances, photographs and evidence of him hobnobbing with top leadership of the DMK party. This type of lawlessness prevails in INDI alliance, DMK governed Tamil Nadu," the BJP leader said.

Utshasree Portal closure: Cal HC demands report from state

MI News Service, Kolkata: The prolonged closure of West Bengal's Utshasree Portal, which facilitated online transfer applications for teachers, has drawn judicial scrutiny. The Calcutta High Court has now directed the state government to submit a detailed report on the portal's current status by January 21. The directive came during a hearing before Justice Saugata Bhattacharya.

record and also surpassing the previous year's earnings of Rs. 694.24 crores in December 2023. For the period from April to December 2024, Eastern Railway's goods revenue has surged by 27.90%, totalling Rs. 6727.46 crores, compared to Rs. 5259.91 crores in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year (2023-24). This growth in freight loading and revenue is attributed to several key initiatives, including the efforts of the Business Development Units (BDUs), which have worked proactively to unlock new freight traffic opportunities. One notable development is the commencement of freight transport for stone chips from Dumka, a result of the BDU's efforts to explore and expand new freight earning possibilities.

Executive officer, Nandigram-II Panchayat invites online Tender Notice against Tender Memo No. 02, Dated-02.01.2025 for 3(Three) Nos Scheme out of 15th CFC Fund-2024-2025

Executive officer, Nandigram-II Panchayat invites online Tender Notice against Tender Memo No. 02, Dated-02.01.2025 for 3(Three) Nos Scheme out of 15th CFC Fund-2024-2025. Last Date of application for above Tenders is On 10.01.2025 upto 2:00 P.M. Executive officer, Nandigram-II Panchayat invites online Tender Notice against Tender Memo No. 01, Dated-24.12.2024 for 3(Three) Nos Scheme out of 15th CFC Fund-2024-2025. Last Date of application for above Tenders is On 10.01.2025 upto 3:00 P.M. Details of tender are available in WB Govt.tender site. Sd/- Executive Officer Nandigram-II Panchayat Samity

Executive officer, Nandigram-II Panchayat invites online Tender Notice against Tender Memo No. 02, Dated-02.01.2025 for 3(Three) Nos Scheme out of 15th CFC Fund-2024-2025

Executive officer, Nandigram-II Panchayat invites online Tender Notice against Tender Memo No. 02, Dated-02.01.2025 for 3(Three) Nos Scheme out of 15th CFC Fund-2024-2025. Last Date of application for above Tenders is On 10.01.2025 upto 3:00 P.M. Details of tender are available in WB Govt.tender site. Sd/- Executive Officer Nandigram-II Panchayat Samity

11 বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর

আমার মক্কেল অমিত মেহের, পিতা শান্তিগোপাল মেহের, সাং বাসিষ্টিকুলী খালদায়গাড়া। মহাসম গতে ইং ০৯/১০/২০২৩ তারিখে ডিঃ সাং রেজিষ্ট্রী-১, গুজরাট অফিসে রুক নং-১, ভান্ডন নং-০৫০১-২০২৩, পাতা নং- ১৮৫২৫৭ হইতে ১৮৫১৭৬, বিধি নং-০৫০১০৫০৭৩ নং পাঞ্জার বর্ক এন্ট্রী বা আমোক্তার নামা দলিল বলে শী কলিকতা চুক্তি, পিতা হরিলাল মোহ মহাসমের নিকট হইতে দেবীপাড়া সৌভাগ্য (জে.এল.নং-৩) সাক্ষে ১৮৫ নং হাল ১০০৬ নং খতিয়ানে সাক্ষে হাল ১০২ নং দাগে কলকাতা ও কলকাতা মহানগর নিকট হইতে কলকাতা সৌভাগ্য (জে.এল.নং-১১১) হাল ১১০৬ নং খতিয়ানে সাক্ষে ১১৭৪ নং হাল ২৫৭৪ নং দাগে কলকাতা ১ কঠা ১৪ হালিক বিক্রয়ের জন্য কলকাতা হইতে উক্ত বিষয়ে কারো কোনও আপত্তি থাকে, তাহলে তিনি বাসি-জগাধা বি.এল. আত এল.আর.ও. অফিসে যোগাযোগ করিবেন।

11 বিজ্ঞপ্তি নম্বর

সেখ আজহার আলী প্রসঙ্গে আজহার আলী পিতা সেখ আলি শোভান হাল সাকিম বি৩/১২ ইকোনিম এগারপোস্ট, জে. সি. খান রেজি, মানকুড়, উত্তরবঙ্গ, হুগলী-৭১১০০৬, সাক্ষে সাকিম জগাধাখাড়া, রোমনা, পাঞ্জা, হুগলী-৭১১০১৪ বিপঃ ইং 31/07/2023 তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর, চুত্তা, হুগলী, অফিসে রেজিষ্ট্রীকৃত I-7191/2023 নং আমোক্তারনামা দলিল মূলে আমোক্তার (আসিফ আলি পিতা সেখ আজহার আলি সাকিম জগাধাখাড়া, রোমনা, পাঞ্জা, হুগলী-৭১১০১৪) কলকাতা হইতে আমোক্তার নিয়ুক্ত করেন ও উক্ত আমোক্তারনামা বলে নিয়ুক্ত করিয়া বর্ণিত সম্পত্তি আমি বিপত ইং 14/05/2024 তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর, চুত্তা, হুগলী, অফিসে রেজিষ্ট্রীকৃত I-5092/2024 নং বিক্রয় কোর্স দলিল মূলে সেখ হাফিজুর রহমান পিতা সেখ আব্দুল আদেব সাকিম জগাধা, গুটান, নান্দপুর, হুগলী-৭১১০০৫ মহানগরে বিক্রয় করি। প্রদর্শিত - জেতা হুগলী, থানা দানপুর, সৌভাগ্য গোমে, ৩২ নং জে.এল. ফুল, হাল এল.আর. ১৬/৬ নং খতিয়ানে, সাক্ষে ৩৬ নং তথা হাল ১৮ শতক আমোক্তারনামা বলে বিক্রয়কৃত সম্পত্তি হইতেও একত্রায় সকলকে অবশ্যই করা যাইবে যে, বর্তমান জেতা সেখ হাফিজুর রহমান পিতা সেখ আব্দুল আদেব উক্ত সম্পত্তি সম্পত্তি নিজ নামে পলন করিবেন অন্য বি.এল এল.আর.ও. পেলব-দানপুর, রুক অফিসে আবেদন করিয়াছেন। ইহাতে কাহারও কোন আইনমূলক আপত্তি থাকিলে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রচার ইহার আপত্তি ১ মাসের মধ্যে সংশ্লিষ্ট অফিসে আপত্তি জারিহইতে পরিবে, অন্যথাই নিয়ম অনুসারে কার্য করা হইবে। ইতি-আসিফ আলি আমোক্তার

Notice inviting e-Auction for Leasing of Parcel Space of SLRs in passenger carrying trains originating from Howrah Division

Railway Administration invites e-Auction for the following work: Name of Work : e-Auction for 03 Nos. of SLRs in 03 passenger carrying trains originating from Howrah Division for two years through e-Auction module of IREPS website. Non-transferable Auction catalogue containing detailed terms and conditions are available at www.ireps.gov.in The bidding for the instant e-Auction is to be submitted through e-Auction module on www.ireps.gov.in For participation in e-Auction process, one time Registration of merchants through e-Auction module in website www.ireps.gov.in is mandatory. Merchants are also required to take digital signature of Class-III. Auction Catalogue details : Auction Catalogue No. : PCL-HWH-25-1B. Train: 03 Nos. of SLRs in 03 passenger carrying trains. Auction start date & time : 14.01.2025, 13.00 hrs. Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Howrah Eastern Railway, Howrah, 4th Floor, Rail Yatri Niwas Building, (HWH-521/2024-25) near Howrah station, Howrah-711101 Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

Office of the Block Development Officer Sagar, South 24 Parganas

Notice No. 06(50) and 07(50) Dated 02/01/2025 It is hereby notified to all Govt Contractors to submit Tender for installing Tubewell and improvement of Office with help of 5th Financial Commission. Last date of Submitting e-Tender : 10.01.2025 & 17.01.2025 at 2 P.M For details please contact at Office of Executive Officer, Sagar Panchayat Samity. Website : http://www.etender.wb.nic.in/ Sd/- Block Development Officer Sagar Panchayat Samity

MALIGRAM GRAM PANCHAYAT PINGLA . PASCHIM MEDINIPUR

Notice Inviting Tender The e-tenders are invited by the undersigned for (A) 10 nos sinking of submersible pump with water tank and 3 nos sinking of Tube Well and 4 nos Construction of water tank from 15th CFC (Tied) Fund. Tender Id- 2025\_ZPHD\_793737\_1 to 17 through e-tendering. The intending tenderers may visit website www.wbtenders.gov.in for details. Bid submission Start date - 03/01/2025 from 6.00 P.M onwards. Bid submission closing date - 11/01/2025 10.00 A.M Opening date of Technical Bid (online) - 13/01/2025 10.00 A.M Sd/- Pradhan Maligram Gram Panchayat

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091 CIN No: L65190G1994PLC021012. www.icicibank.com

The following borrower/s have defaulted on the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facilities obtained by them from ICICI Bank. The loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Securities Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act), at their last-known addresses. However, it was not served and hence they are being notified by way of this public notice.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower/Guarantor (Loan Account Number) & Address, Description of Secured Asset to be Enforced, Date of Notice Sent/Outstanding as on Date of Notice, NPA Date. Row 1: Ratan Kumar Chatterjee/ Namita Chatterjee/C/o Bijan Kumar Laha Boro Kaberipara, P.O. Chandannagar District Hooghly West Bengal, Settlement In The Name of Foral Bela Roy Chowdhury Khatun No. 141, Ward No. 6, Sheet No. 3, Mouza Chandannagar, Thana Chandannagar, Sub Registry Sampurur Joint Singur And Chandannagar, District Hooghly, West Bengal. (Admeasuring An Area of 4 Katha)

These steps are being taken for a substituted service of notice. The mentioned Borrower/s and/or their Guarantor/s (as applicable) are advised to clear the payment of the outstanding dues within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the SARFAESI Act. Date : January 04, 2025 Authorised Officer Secured Creditor Place : Kolkata



# 'One of most important species for science' how humble fruit fly transformed 4 fields of research

**Melbourne :** (The Conversation) The common fruit fly (*Drosophila melanogaster*), more correctly called the vinegar fly, is a frequent visitor to ripe fruit in households around the world, where it often deposits eggs on rotting flesh without being noticed. We have probably all consumed different body parts of fruit flies - without any known ill effects.

But the fruit fly is much more than an annoying house guest.

In fact, *Drosophila melanogaster* has been one of the most important species for science for more than a century.

Were it not for these flies, some of the most significant scientific discoveries might never have been made.

The origin of the fruit fly  
The species has its origins in the woodlands of south-central Africa, where it relied heavily on the marula fruit. This fruit was - and remains - part of the human diet in this region too, leading to fruit flies developing an association with human communities and settlements.

In time, this association would lead to fruit flies first spreading throughout Africa, then into Asia, Europe and - within the past few centuries - North and Central America and Australia.

It is important to distinguish *Drosophila melanogaster* and its close relatives from the larger and more colourful "true" fruit flies, several of which are found in Australia.

Also called tephritid flies, these attack fruit well before it rots. Millions of dollars have been spent (ultimately unsuccessfully) trying to keep them out of parts of Victoria and South Australia.

*Drosophila* flies do become hugely abundant in some places, with clouds emerging from heaps of rotting fruit in wineries, stone fruit orchards and banana plantations during harvest. However, these cases are unusual and the fly is rarely considered a pest species.

Inherently suited to science

While most non-pest insects receive little scientific attention, the fruit fly is an exception.

Some of the properties which make



fruit flies such a popular research organism are inherent. They are small, easy to feed, have a very quick life cycle and can produce hundreds of offspring.

However, the findings of today's *Drosophila melanogaster* researchers also owe a great deal to decades of genetic tool development.

These allow us to create almost any genetic variant we wish. For example, we can modify the sequence of a vinegar fly gene so that the protein it encodes becomes fluorescent. We can even take genes from other organisms and study their effects in fruit flies. Combined, these factors help explain why the fruit fly has played a major role in four fields of research in particular.

1. Understanding genes  
The fruit fly has a long history of use in genetics research and teaching.

It was in *Drosophila melanogaster* that genes were found to be bundled up in chromosomes, through crosses between red-eyed and mutant white-eyed flies. While this research was conducted more than a century ago, such crosses remain a powerful way of illustrating the principles of inheritance.

The fruit fly also remains a power-

house for biological discovery. Its genome was sequenced in the 1990s. This was done in part as a trial run for assembly of the human genome, but also to allow for comparisons of genes across animals.

Many vinegar fly genes show clear relationships to specific human genes, including around 65% of genes associated with human diseases. This allows research into processes from embryonic development and disease progression to learning and ageing to be conducted in the vinegar fly.

2. Understanding tissue damage  
Animals vary greatly in their capacity to regenerate damaged structures. For example, if you cut certain flatworms in half, both sections can regenerate the rest of the body.

While fascinating, these do not provide a good model for the more modest - but still crucial - human capacity for wound healing. Fruit flies, which like humans are composed of numerous complex tissues, have been crucial in mapping the molecular interactions involved in allowing cells to migrate and stitch together to repair tissue damage.

Perhaps surprisingly given their short lifespan (no more than a few months even

under optimal conditions), fruit flies are also a favourite model for cancer research.

They offer alternatives to traditional cell-culture-based methods for evaluating the activity of chemotherapeutic drugs, which cannot reflect the complexities of how a tumour interacts with surrounding tissues, and are especially popular in screening for effective combinations of chemotherapeutic treatments.

3. Understanding disease control  
Beyond providing tools and biological understanding applicable to medicine and biology, *Drosophila melanogaster* has contributed directly to disease control.

Specifically, *Wolbachia* bacteria isolated from this species are being used to suppress the transmission of dengue disease and other human viral diseases transmitted by mosquitoes.

A strain of *Wolbachia* living inside the tissues of fruit flies and passed from mother to offspring was transferred through microinjection to *Aedes* mosquitoes.

The *Wolbachia* bacteria interact with viruses in such a way as to prevent viral build-up in the salivary gland of the mosquitoes.

This work has already prevented many cases of dengue transmission in northern Australia and in many countries overseas.

4. Understanding evolution

Finally, fruit flies provide useful experimental systems for investigating evolution, particularly in the context of threatened species conservation. This work has established the value of maintaining genetic variation in threatened species to preserve their ability to evolve and counter the effects of disease and climate change. Fruit fly populations in the field are currently being tracked to see if the species is adapting to the warmer and drier conditions we are experiencing. So this summer, look carefully at your fruit bowl and see if you can spot a small yellow-brown insect flying around it. Then remember all the ways *Drosophila melanogaster* has contributed to our well-being. Perhaps admire it rather than reaching for that can of fly spray. (The Conversation)

## Why do disinfectants only kill 99.9 of germs Here's the science



**Melbourne :** Have you ever wondered why most disinfectants indicate they kill 99.9% or 99.99% of germs, but never promise to wipe out all of them? Perhaps the thought has crossed your mind mid-way through cleaning your kitchen or bathroom.

Surely, in a world where science is able to do all sorts of amazing things, someone would have invented a disinfectant that is 100% effective?

The answer to this conundrum requires understanding a bit of microbiology and a bit of mathematics.

What is a disinfectant?

A disinfectant is a substance used to kill or inactivate bacteria, viruses and other microbes on inanimate objects.

There are literally millions of microbes on surfaces and objects in our domestic environment. While most microbes are not harmful (and some are even good for us) a small proportion can make us sick.

Although disinfection can include physical interventions such as heat treatment or the use of UV light, typically when we think of disinfectants we are referring to the use of chemicals to kill microbes on surfaces or objects. Chemical disinfectants often contain active ingredients such as alcohols, chlorine compounds and hydrogen peroxide which can target vital components of different microbes to kill them.

The maths of microbial elimination

In the past few years we've all become familiar with the concept of exponential growth in the context of the spread of COVID cases. This is where numbers grow at an ever-accelerating rate, which can lead to an explosion in the size of something very quickly. For example, if a colony of 100 bacteria doubles every hour, in 24 hours' time the population of bacteria would be more than 1.5 billion.

Conversely, the killing or inactivating of microbes follows a logarithmic decay pattern, which is essentially the opposite of exponential growth. Here, while the number of microbes decreases over time, the rate of death becomes slower as the number of microbes becomes smaller. For example, if a particular disinfect-

tant kills 90% of bacteria every minute, after one minute, only 10% of the original bacteria will remain. After the next minute, 10% of that remaining 10% (or 1% of the original amount) will remain, and so on. Because of this logarithmic decay pattern, it's not possible to ever claim you can kill 100% of any microbial population. You can only ever scientifically say that you are able to reduce the microbial load by a proportion of the initial population. This is why most disinfectants sold for domestic use indicate they kill 99.9% of germs.

Other products such as hand sanitisers and disinfectant wipes, which also often purport to kill 99.9% of germs, follow the same principle.

Real-world implications

As with a lot of science, things get a bit more complicated in the real world than they are in the laboratory. There are a number of other factors to consider when assessing how well a disinfectant is likely to remove microbes from a surface. One of these factors is the size of the initial microbial population that you're trying to get rid of. That is, the more contaminated a surface is, the harder the disinfectant needs to work to eliminate the microbes.

If for example you were to start off with only 100 microbes on a surface or object, and you removed 99.9% of these using a disinfectant, you could have a lot of confidence that you have effectively removed all the microbes from that surface or object (called sterilisation).

In contrast, if you have a large initial microbial population of hundreds of millions or billions of microbes contaminating a surface, even reducing the microbial load by 99.9% may still mean there are potentially millions of microbes remaining on the surface. Time is a key factor that determines how effectively microbes are killed. So exposing a highly contaminated surface to disinfectant for a longer period is one way to ensure you kill more of the microbial population. This is why if you look closely at the labels of many common household disinfectants, they will often suggest that to disinfect you should apply the product then wait a specified time before wiping clean.

### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ASTROPHYSICS ANNOUNCES LOGO DESIGN CONTEST FOR UPCOMING PLANETARIUM IN MYSURU

**BENGALURU :** The Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru on Wednesday announced a logo design contest for the world's first tilted LED Dome planetarium that is being built in Mysuru. The Cosmology Education and Research Training Centre (COSMOS-Mysuru) is an upcoming state-of-the-art planetarium and data training centre in Mysuru, being built by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics in the campus of University of Mysore, stated a press release by IIA. The contest is open to all Indian citizens or residents of India, who are at least 14 years of age, said the release. Top three entries picked by a committee will get book vouchers - first place will receive vouchers worth 10,000, second place Rs 8,000 and third place Rs 7,000. In addition, the three winners will be invited to stay for two nights at any of IIA's observatories in India along with an accompanying person, added the press release.

## TN to harness CSIR-NIIST technologies for agriculture

**Thiruvananthapuram :** (PTI) Tamil Nadu's Industries Minister, T R B Rajaa, stated on Monday that the state aims to leverage innovative technologies from CSIR-NIIST to enhance productivity in agriculture, industry, and MSMEs.

During his visit to the CSIR-National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST) campus at Pappanamcode, Rajaa held discussions with CSIR-NIIST Director C Anandharamakrishnan and senior scientists of the institute, an official release stated.

The minister stated that Tamil Nadu would explore opportunities for collaborative initiatives with CSIR-NIIST, a premier research and development institute in the country, which has successfully developed and transferred technologies and solutions for the sustainable development of the industrial and agricultural sectors.

Rajaa stated that Tamil Nadu aims to leverage the institute's advanced research and



technological expertise to address the challenges faced by the state's industries and farming communities.

"We want farmers to benefit through increased

productivity. The Tamil Nadu government is actively seeking fresh ideas and innovative solutions to uplift our agricultural, industrial, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sectors. Collaborations with premier institutions like CSIR-NIIST will pave the way for transformative advancements that benefit all stakeholders," Rajaa said, as quoted in a NIIST release.

Rajaa also emphasised the Tamil Nadu government's commitment to fostering innovation and ensuring that scientific advancements directly benefit farmers and industrialists by enhancing productivity and profitability.

The minister toured the state-of-the-art research facilities on the campus.

During the interaction, Anandharamakrishnan highlighted the institute's ongoing efforts in developing scalable technologies and expressed a willingness to work closely with the Tamil Nadu government to implement solutions tailored to the state's needs, the release said.

"The minister's visit underscores Tamil Nadu's proactive approach to fostering partnerships with premier research institutions to drive inclusive growth and sustainable development," Anandharamakrishnan said.

The collaborative effort promises to usher in a new era of innovation, ensuring tangible benefits for the people of Tamil Nadu, he said.

The discussions explored multiple areas of potential collaboration, including agri-based industries, where developing value-added products and technologies could enhance farmers' income and promote sustainability initiatives. Possibilities for improving Tamil Nadu's healthcare sector, advancing the hydrogen value chain, and supporting MSMEs were also discussed, the release said.

Additionally, the seamless integration of CSIR-NIIST's innovations into Tamil Nadu's industrial ecosystem through technology

# Hundreds of different dinosaur footprints discovered in UK's Oxfordshire

**London :** Researchers from the Universities of Oxford and Birmingham have uncovered a huge expanse of quarry floor filled with hundreds of different dinosaur footprints. In a stunning find, the teams uncovered multiple enormous trackways dating back to the Middle Jurassic Period (around 166 million years ago).

The trackways form part of a huge 'dinosaur highway' and include footprints from the nine-metre ferocious predator *Megalosaurus*, and herbivorous dinosaurs up to twice that size. The excavation will be broadcast on BBC Two's Digging for Britain on January 8 and featured in a new public exhibition Breaking Ground at Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH).

These footprints offer an extraordinary window into the lives of dinosaurs, revealing details about their movements, interactions, and the tropical environment they inhabited.

The dig, carried out at Dewars Farm Quarry in Oxfordshire, uncovered five extensive trackways with evidence of more in the surrounding area. The longest continuous trackway measured more than 150 metres in

length. Four of the trackways were made by gigantic, long-necked, herbivorous dinosaurs called sauropods, most likely to be *Cetiosaurus*, an up to 18-metre-long cousin of the well-known *Diplodocus*. The fifth trackway was made by the carnivorous theropod dinosaur, *Megalosaurus* which had distinctive, large, three-toed feet with claws.

One area of the site shows the carnivore and herbivore tracks crossing over, raising questions about whether and how the two were interacting.

*Megalosaurus* was the first dinosaur worldwide to be scientifically named and described in 1824, and kick-started the last 200 years of dinosaur science. Dr Emma Nicholls, Vertebrate Palaeontologist at OUMNH,

explained: "Scientists have known about and been studying *Megalosaurus* for longer than any other dinosaur on Earth, and yet these recent discoveries prove there is still new evidence of these animals out there, waiting to be found."

The footprints were buried under mud but came to light when quarry worker Gary Johnson felt 'unusual bumps' as he was stripping the clay back with his vehicle,



in order to expose the quarry floor. At this point, the experts were called in. Working closely with Dewars Farm and Duns Tew Quarry Manager Mark Stanway, and his staff, the Universities of Oxford and Birmingham co-led a team of more than 100 people on a week-long excavation in June 2024. Together, they painstakingly uncovered around 200 footprints and built detailed 3D models of the site using aerial drone photography - documenting the footprints in unprecedented detail for future research. Professor Kirsty Edgar,

Professor of Micropalaeontology at the University of Birmingham, said: "These footprints offer an extraordinary window into the lives of dinosaurs, revealing details about their movements, interactions, and the tropical environment they inhabited."

Mark Stanway and his team at Smiths Bletchington provided an enormous amount of support from the initial discovery through to the full excavation. They were invaluable in providing both their extensive expertise in the local geology, and operating specialist equipment

such as excavators and rock saws. The new trackways connect to discoveries made in the area in 1997, where previous limestone quarrying revealed more than 40 sets of footprints, with some trackways reaching up to 180 m in length. At the time, the site provided major new information on the types of dinosaurs present in the UK during the Middle Jurassic Period. The site was recognised as one of the most scientifically important dinosaur track sites in the world and subsequently designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest. However, the

original site is largely no longer accessible and, since the findings predated the use of digital cameras and drones, there is limited photographic evidence. The new trackways add to the significance of the area, and even though the discoveries are separated by just thirty years, modern techniques and technology mean the prints can be recorded much more comprehensively than ever before. Professor Richard Butler, Professor of Palaeobiology at the University of Birmingham, said: "There is much more that we can learn from this site, which is an important part of our national Earth heritage. Our 3D models will allow researchers to continue to study and make accessible this fascinating piece of our past for generations to come."

During the new excavation, more than 20,000 images were created of the prints. These will provide a wealth of material for further study and education and could yield valuable insights into how these dinosaurs walked, including speeds, how large they were, and if and how they interacted. Dr Duncan Murdock, Earth Scientist at OUMNH, said: "The preservation is so detailed that we can see how the mud was deformed as the dinosaur's feet

squashed in and out. Along with other fossils like burrows, shells and plants we can bring to life the muddy lagoon environment the dinosaurs walked through."

The BBC's Digging for Britain team filmed the work as part of a new series due to be broadcast next week. Presented by Professor Alice Roberts, who is also the University of Birmingham's Professor of Public Engagement in Science, the programme will be available on iPlayer from 7th January, and broadcast on BBC Two on 8th January 2025. The dig will also feature in the exhibition Breaking Ground at OUMNH, which tells the story of major developments in our understanding of the history of life and Earth. Visitors will be able to view the *Megalosaurus* fossils used in the first description of a dinosaur, see photographs and video footage from the dig site, and learn about the latest techniques used by palaeontologists to study dinosaurs. The excavation was funded by the Geologists' Association, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham, and the University of Birmingham Alumni Fund.



Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains to soon bring world class travel experience to long distance Rail commuters

MI News Service, Kolkata: New year is all set to bring faster & safer rail travel to commuters in India. After successfully giving faster, safer & world class travel experience to people travelling short & medium distance chair car trains, Indian Railways is making this a reality for long distance trains also. Peak speed of 180 km per hour alongside the comfort: The Vande Bharat sleeper train has achieved a peak speed of 180 km per hour in its multiple trials in the last three days. The trails will continue till this month end before this world class travel for long distance travel is made available to the rail commuters across the nation. Sharing a video of a successful trial in Kota Division, Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav on X mentioned the speed in his post. The video shows a nearly full to brim glass of water adjacent to a mobile on a plain surface inside a Vande Bharat sleeper train. The

Water level remaining static can be seen in the video as the moving train achieves near constant peak speed of 180 km per hour exhibiting the element of comfort in the high-speed rail travel. The post came after 3 days of successful trials, which concluded on 2nd January, in which a Vande Bharat sleeper train in its loaded condition touched the peak speed. On Thursday, during a 30 km long run between Kota & Laban in Bundi district of Rajasthan, the train reached a peak speed of 180 km/hour. A day earlier, i.e. on the first day of 2025, in a 40 km long trial run between Rohal Khurd to Kota, Vande Bharat sleeper train touched the peak of 180 km per hour. On the same day, peaks of 170 km/hr & 160km/hr were achieved on Kota-Nagda & Rohal Khurd-Chau Mahla sections. These trials will continue for the month of January under the supervision of RDSO, Lucknow. Once these trials are over, the

train will be evaluated by the Railway Safety Commissioner at the maximum speed. Only after passing the final stage, Vande Bharat trains will be officially certified & handed over to Indian Railways for induction & regular service. Vande Bharat: Transforming Long-Distance Rail Travel with Speed and Luxury These Vande Bharat sleeper trains are designed with features like automatic doors, ultra comfortable berths, on board WiFi & an aircraft-like design. Passengers in India are already enjoying reclining seats & world class travel experience through 136 Vande Bharat trains running across the country on the medium & short distances. The real challenge for Railways was to add berths & test the trains for full passenger & luggage load conditions in order to convert them into Vande Bharat sleeper coaches while achieving the peak speed of 180 km/hour. With these successful trials, rail

commuters can hope for world class travel experience in long distance travel like Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Delhi to Mumbai, Howrah to Chennai and many other routes also. They will benefit as travel time will come down considerably. The current average speed of Mumbai Delhi long-distance travel is 90 km/hr with maximum permissible speed of 140 km/h for Tejas Rajdhani Express, which is fastest among all Rajdhani train services in India. Vande Bharat trains are now available in many Shatabdi train routes. Vande Bharat Express is India's fastest train and capable of reaching speeds up to 180 km/h. As of now, it connects major cities at short & medium distance apart like Delhi and Varanasi and offers a luxurious travel experience. Vande Bharat trains provide a seamless blend of speed and comfort. It's not just a mode of transportation but an experience of modern Indian engineering.

ER's Sealdah division tackles ticketless travel and promotes electronic ticketing

MI News Service, Kolkata: On January 1, 2025, the Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway conducted an extensive ticket checking drive across various stations. A total of 1,830 cases of ticketless travel were detected and penalized. The breakdown of the violations is as follows: 997 cases at Sealdah Base, 227 at Naihati Base, 62 at Barasat Base, 149 at Sonarpur Base, 70 at Behrampur Base, and 325 at Ranaghat Base. The authorities are committed to enforcing regulations and ensuring passengers comply with the ticketing rules. Passengers traveling in the Sealdah Division are encouraged to purchase tickets through multiple convenient channels. Traditional ticket counters are available at every station, where passengers can easily purchase tickets for their journey. Additionally, for those seeking a more modern and efficient option, the UTS (Unreserved Ticketing System) app is available for both Android and iOS. This mobile app allows passengers to buy tickets digitally for unreserved services, providing a faster and more convenient method of ticket purchase. Moreover, Ticket Vending Machines (TVMs) are installed at several stations, offering a quick and easy way to buy tickets, especially for short-distance travel. Passengers can also purchase e-tickets for specific routes via the IRCTC



website. In an effort to promote digital solutions, the Sealdah Division encourages the use of the UTS mobile app, which enables passengers to travel paperless. Once a ticket is purchased through the app, a QR code is generated, which serves as the travel ticket. This QR code is scanned during entry and exit, ensuring a smooth and efficient travel experience without the need for a physical ticket. The UTS app offers several benefits for passengers. It provides ultimate convenience, allowing tickets to be bought anywhere and anytime, eliminating the need to stand in long queues at the station. The mobile ticketing system also promotes faster boarding since passengers do not have to wait for ticket verification at counters. Moreover, it is an environment-friendly solution that reduces the consumption of paper. Most importantly, the app eliminates the possibility of ticketless travel, as passengers always have access to a valid ticket on their mobile phones, reducing the risk of being penalized. To make use of the UTS app, passengers simply need to download it from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store, register their details, and select the departure and destination stations. They can then choose the type of ticket (platform, journey, season, etc.) and complete the payment through mobile options. A QR code is generated, which serves as the official ticket for their journey.

No safety for civilians anywhere in Gaza: UN humanitarians

MI News Service, United Nations: There is no safety for civilians anywhere in Gaza, with more than 80 per cent of the Gaza Strip under Israeli evacuation orders, UN humanitarians said. Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner-general of the UN relief agency for Palestinian refugees, known as UNRWA, said on social media platform X, "There is no humanitarian zone left alone a 'safe zone.'" He called for an end to misleading evacuation orders and the killing of civilians, warning that every day without a ceasefire brings more tragedy. Xinhua news agency reported. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said the Israeli military ordered the evacuation of large areas within Gaza, citing rocket fire into Is-

rael. The office said an initial analysis indicates the new orders cover about 3 square km in North Gaza and Deir al Balah governorates. Strikes have been reported in the Al Mawasi area, where people were ordered to move and take shelter. "Over 80 per cent of the Gaza Strip is under unrevoked Israeli evacuation orders. Amid this situation, OCHA warns that the ability of humanitarian organisations to support people in need across Gaza is further diminishing," said OCHA. The humanitarians said some of the most onerous restrictions on humanitarian movement were recorded last month, including blocking access to border areas for collecting supplies, denying attempts to deliver goods and services, or assessing needs across Gaza.

Historic Isale Sawab concludes at Furfura Sharif's prestigious Darussalam



Mohammad Islam Khan

The traditional gathering ended on Friday with the presence of millions of people. The 63rd annual gathering of Darussalam, Dhaka's traditional Shirk Bidat Mukta organized by Pir Baro Huzur of Furfura Sharif, began on Tuesday, December 31. The gathering ended on Friday with the presence of millions of people. The gathering was inaugurated by the recitation of the Holy Quran by the renowned Pir Shaikhul Hadith Allama Shaikh Mishkat Siddiqui of Furfura Sharif. This Mahfil is being conducted under the initiative of World Islam Mission Qurani Sunni Jamiatul Muslimeen Hizbullah. Shere Furfura Hazrat Pir Allama Abul Ansar Siddiqui and Pir Hazrat Allama Abu Ibrahim Muhammad Obaidullah Siddiqui have been conducting this Mahfil with great fame

for a long time. In the Annual Waz Mahfil Isale Sawab, Pir Allama Abu Bakr Muhammad Abdullah Siddiqui delivered a meaningful speech. The meeting was conducted by Pir Dada Huzoor's successor, Furfura Gaddishin Pir Shaikhul Hadith Abu Bakr Abdul Hai Mishkat Siddiqui. The sermons were delivered by Shaikhul Hadith Allama Ubaidullah Farooq, Peerzada Maulana Mustafa Madani Siddiqui, Peerzada Maulana Mujahid Siddiqui, Peerzada Maulana Shah Fateh Ali Ayatullah Siddiqui, Peerzada Maulana Sawban Siddiqui and Peerzada Maulana Miftahul Jannah Siddiqui. Renowned speakers from across the country gave constructive speech. On this day, the Pirs honored numerous students and adorned them with turbans. Prayers were offered for the welfare of humanity throughout the world.

Pakistan: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police struggle to combat militant presence in southern districts

MI News Service, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Pakistan): Despite the volatile law and order situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, senior police officials indicate that terrorists are focusing on the southern districts, owing to their proximity to Afghanistan and the continued presence of a functional network across the border, according to a report by Dawn. During a meeting on Tuesday, officials informed lawmakers that terrorists had established safe havens in southern districts such as Dera Ismail Khan, Tank, Bannu, and Lakki Marwat. The meeting, chaired by Provincial Assembly Speaker Babar Saleem Swati, was attended by lawmakers primarily from the merged districts and parliamentary leaders from all political parties. Police Chief Akhtar Hayat Khan provided a briefing to the attendees. According to sources familiar with the meeting, lawmakers were presented with an overview of the current law and order situation, the operations conducted against terrorists, and the capabilities of the police force. Dawn reported. "From this meeting, I would say some 30 percent of Dera Ismail Khan district, the hometown of Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur and police chief Akhtar Hayat Khan, is, if not totally, under control of militants to some extent," a lawmaker told Dawn. He said that police could not patrol in Kulachi, Draband and many other areas of the district. "Militants come out during the night and disappear in the day," the lawmaker said. Sources familiar with the meeting reported that the police chief was inundated with questions, many of which remained unanswered. "Mr. Khan also left several questions unresolved, directing lawmakers to pose them to others, specifically the army," they noted. The police chief informed the lawmakers that the police were taking the lead in operations across all merged districts, except for Bajaur, where the military was leading anti-terrorist operations. He explained that terrorists had been targeting the merged districts, benefiting from a still intact supply line, referring to the Afghan Taliban's support for banned groups carrying out militant attacks in Pakistan. He further stated that the network was interconnected.

ICICI Bank TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET UNDER SARFAESI Act, 2002. Public Notice for Sale of Immovable Property/ Security Asset. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the properties more fully described hereunder ("Secured Asset") mortgaged to ICICI Bank Limited ("Secured Creditor")... SCHEDULE-I DESCRIPTION OF SECURED ASSETS/IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES. Property Details, Boundaries.

PUBLIC NOTICE ICICI Bank. The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice. Sr. No., Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address, Description of Secured Asset to be enforced, Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice, NPA Date.



# BGT 2024-25: Boland-Starc rip through Indian line-up; Bumrah gives India some cheer on final ball (Day 1, Stumps)

**SYDNEY [AUSTRALIA]** : A fine bowling performance by red-hot Scott Boland pushed India to a low score despite fighting knocks from Rishabh Pant and Ravindra Jadeja but a wicket from skipper Jasprit Bumrah on the last ball of the day's play gave India something to cheer about in the fifth and final Test against Australia at Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) on Friday.

Australia ended the session at 9/1, with Sam Konstas (7\*) unbeaten.

India resumed the final session at 107/4, with Rishabh Pant (32\*) and Ravindra Jadeja (11\*) unbeaten.

India's struggles against Scott Boland continued as a fine delivery from him saw Pant mistime a shot and throw the ball into hands of skipper Pat Cummins at mid-wicket. Pant was gone for 40 in 98 balls, with three fours and a six.

India was 120/5 in 56.4 overs. Boland was on a hat-trick as just on the next ball, he got the big wicket of in-form Nitish Kumar Reddy for a duck after being caught by Steve Smith at slips. India was 120/6.

Jadeja's fighting knock of 26 in 95 balls, with three fours was also ended by Mitchell Starc, who trapped him leg-before-wicket. India was 134/7 in 62.4 overs.

Later in a controversial decision, Washington Sundar was given out for just 14 in 30 balls, as he fell to skipper Cummins. He was caught behind by Alex Carey while attempting a pull, but despite doubts over whether the ball hit his bat or gloves, he was given out. India was 148/8 in 66 overs.

Prasidh Krishna was next to go, dismissed by Starc and caught by Sam Konstas at deep backward



square leg for just three. India was 168/9 in 68.2 overs.

Bumrah's fighting knock of 22 in 17 balls, with two fours and a six was ended by Cummins, with

an easy catch to Starc at mid-wicket. India was bundled out for 185 in 72.2 overs.

Boland (4/31) was the pick of the bowlers for the Aussies and

once again a thorn in the eyes of Indian batters. Starc took 3/49 while Cummins got 2/37.

Openers Usman Khawaja and Sam Konstas came out for Australia. On the last ball of the session, Khawaja lost his wicket to Bumrah for just two runs, giving KL Rahul a catch at slips. Australia ended the day on a poor note, with momentum on India's side.

At Tea, India stood at 107/4, with Rishabh Pant (32\*) and Ravindra Jadeja (11\*) unbeaten on the crease.

India resumed the second session at 57/3, with Virat Kohli (12\*) unbeaten at the crease and tried to build on a partnership with Rishabh Pant, who replaced Gill after Lunch.

At a time when the Aussies were disciplined with their bowling attack, the Indian batters

looked unsettled at the crease.

One of the main talking points from the second session will be Pant's attacking approach which continued at the Sydney Test. The India wicketkeeper-batter suffered three body blows against the Aussie pacers in the second session. The Australian bowling attack didn't show any mercy on the visitors as they continued to deliver bouncers.

India crossed the 100-run mark in the 48th over. All credit goes to the partnership of Jadeja and Pant, who cemented a 35-run stand after facing 111 balls.

India scored 50 runs in the second session, meanwhile, the Aussie bowling attack could take just one wicket.

In the 32nd over, Scott Boland got rid of Virat Kohli for 17 runs. Kohli's performance will be a talking point after the end of the pres-

tigious series, as the talisman India batter was dismissed in the same manner after getting an outside-off edge.

Earlier in the day, India won the toss and decided to bat against Australia in Sydney. Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul opened for the tourists.

However, the Indian openers failed to cement a solid partnership.

In the fifth over, star Australian pacer Mitchell Starc drew the first blood as he removed KL Rahul from the crease for just four runs.

Within the next few overs, Yashasvi Jaiswal succumbed to Scott Boland. The Aussie pacer removed him for 10 runs in the eighth over.

Seconds before the first session ended, Nathan Lyon picked up a crucial wicket as he dismissed Shubman Gill for 20 runs.

### "TIME COMES WHEN YOU HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION": MADAN LAL WEIGHS IN ON ROHIT'S RETIREMENT

**NEW DELHI [INDIA]** : Former cricketer Madan Lal weighed in on India captain Rohit Sharma sitting out in the Sydney Test and whether he should consider retiring from the format after the conclusion of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

All eyes were in Sydney during the time of the toss, eagerly waiting to see which player would come out to lead India. Speculations were already building around Rohit sitting out the Test when head coach Gautam Gambhir came out for the pre-match press conference on Thursday.

While addressing the media, Gambhir was asked about Rohit's place in the team, and the head coach decided to remain lip-tight while speaking on the matter.

Eventually, the speculations and rumours came true when Jasprit Bumrah returned to lead India, just like he did in Perth.

"Rohit Sharma is my favourite cricketer. Rohit Sharma has not been

benched, but the management must have consulted him, and I think it's his decision not to play (in the 5th Test)," Madan Lal told ANI. The rumour mill has been proactive while suggesting Rohit's time in the Test format could conclude when the final chapter of the series concludes. While the 1983 World Cup-winning player refrained from delivering a verdict, he admitted that a time comes when a player has to decide his future. "I won't say about his retirement, but I have enjoyed his batting. He has entertained a lot and won a lot of matches for India. But a time comes when you have to make a decision. You feel that you can't pull the weight of the team anymore. Rohit knows that he is struggling to perform, so is it right for me to play for India or not?" he added. In Rohit's absence, India's batting woes continued to haunt them in the overcast sky of Sydney. India folded on 185 but found some reprieve when Bumrah forced out an edge from Usman Khawaja.

With Australia still trailing by 176 runs, Madan Lal believes if India ends up conceding a heavy lead, it will be very hard for the touring party to make a comeback.

"Every player in the dressing room is professional, and they all want to play better. Our team is not bad, but they need to analyze where the shortcomings are otherwise we won't win. If Australia take a 200-run lead, then it will be very difficult for India to make a comeback," Madan Lal said.

MAHARASHTRA : India's promising Air Rifle Shooters will fight it out at the 15th Lakshya Cup 2024 starting from Saturday at the Lakshya Shooting Club at Karnala Sports Academy, Panvel, Navi Mumbai.

The reigning men's and women's national air rifle shooting champions, Shahu Mane, an alumnus of Lakshya Shooting Club, and Ananya Naidu will be among the leading air rifle shooters from the country who will be vying for top honours at the 15th RR Lakshya Cup.

Also featuring will be Olympians including Divyansh Singh Panwar, Arjun Babuta and Sandeep Singh.

The premier annual invitational shooting competition conducted by Lakshya Shooting Club, the brainchild of Olympian, Arjuna Awardeed and 'Dronacharya' Suma Shirur, has only grown from strength to strength.

Suma Shirur, High-Performance Director, Lakshya Shooting Club, said, "At RR LAKSHYA Cup, we aim to recognize talent, reward excellence and provide a platform for shooters to showcase their skills at the highest level. This tournament is not just a competition. It's a celebration of hard work, dedication and the spirit of sportsmanship. It's a great prospect to see the current national champions square off against each other for the coveted silver trophy. That's what the Lakshya Cup stands for."

Mahendra Kabra, MD, RR Global, said, "We, at RR Global, value Lakshya Shooting Club's contribution to Indian sport and have been the proud supporters of the RR Lakshya Cup since 2017. Through our CSR partnership with Lakshya Shooting Club led by 'Dronacharya' Suma

Shirur, we remain committed to supporting the growth of Indian sport."

The RR Lakshya Cup is a top-notch 'By Invitation Only' event, showcasing the top 20 Air Rifle shooters of India. It holds the distinction of being the first competition of its kind to promote gender equality with men and women competing together for the coveted all-silver rotating cup, which is currently held by Himanshu Talan of the Indian Army.

As Founder and President of the Club, Suma first mooted the idea that men and women should shoot equal number of shots in a match. And, since the first edition of the Lakshya Cup in 2008, this competition has been following that. The move was vindicated when in December 2017, the

Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry had arrived. Players of many teams also practiced in Birsa Munda Stadium. The camp of Jharkhand team has also been shifted from Khelgaon to Morhabadi Birsa Stadium.

State Program Officer, Dheersen Soreng, Treasurer of Jharkhand Olympic Association Shivendra Dubey were present on the occasion.

## SGFI ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP TO KICK OFF FROM TODAY



**RANCHI** : Preparations for the SGFI Athletics Championship in Ranchi have been completed. Education Minister Ramdas Soren will inaugurate the competition on Sunday at 3 pm.

About 1600 players from 36 teams from all over the country are participating in this athletics mega show.

This information was given by State Project Director Shashi Ranjan in the office of Jharkhand Education Project Council on

Friday. He said that this competition will be held at Birsa Munda Stadium in Morhabadi. A 49-member team of Jharkhand will participate in it.

Shashi Ranjan said that the Education Department is going to host four other games along with this competition. Committees have been formed for the accommodation, medical, food and other facilities of the players participating in it. He told that the boy players are

being accommodated in hotels and the girls in the hostels of JCERT and JUT. The facility of medical team is being provided at the venue and residential place. A control room has also been set up to avoid any kind of trouble.

Teams reached Ranchi, practiced in the stadium

Meanwhile, the arrival of teams for participation in the competition has started. On Friday, teams from states like

## INDIA'S TOP AIR RIFLE SHOOTERS READY TO COMPETE AT LAKSHYA CUP 2024

**MAHARASHTRA** : India's promising Air Rifle Shooters will fight it out at the 15th Lakshya Cup 2024 starting from Saturday at the Lakshya Shooting Club at Karnala Sports Academy, Panvel, Navi Mumbai.

The reigning men's and women's national air rifle shooting champions, Shahu Mane, an alumnus of Lakshya Shooting Club, and Ananya Naidu will be among the leading air rifle shooters from the country who will be vying for top honours at the 15th RR Lakshya Cup.

Also featuring will be Olympians including Divyansh Singh Panwar, Arjun Babuta and Sandeep Singh.

The premier annual invitational shooting competition conducted by Lakshya Shooting Club, the brainchild of Olympian, Arjuna Awardeed and 'Dronacharya' Suma Shirur, has only grown from strength to strength.

Suma Shirur, High-Performance Director, Lakshya Shooting Club, said, "At RR LAKSHYA Cup, we aim to recognize talent, reward excellence and provide a platform for shooters to showcase their skills at the highest level. This tournament is not just a competition. It's a celebration of hard work, dedication and the spirit of sportsmanship. It's a great prospect to see the current national champions square off against each other for the coveted silver trophy. That's what the Lakshya Cup stands for."

Mahendra Kabra, MD, RR Global, said, "We, at RR Global, value Lakshya Shooting Club's contribution to Indian sport and have been the proud supporters of the RR Lakshya Cup since 2017. Through our CSR partnership with Lakshya Shooting Club led by 'Dronacharya' Suma

Shirur, we remain committed to supporting the growth of Indian sport."

The RR Lakshya Cup is a top-notch 'By Invitation Only' event, showcasing the top 20 Air Rifle shooters of India. It holds the distinction of being the first competition of its kind to promote gender equality with men and women competing together for the coveted all-silver rotating cup, which is currently held by Himanshu Talan of the Indian Army.

As Founder and President of the Club, Suma first mooted the idea that men and women should shoot equal number of shots in a match. And, since the first edition of the Lakshya Cup in 2008, this competition has been following that. The move was vindicated when in December 2017, the

International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) adopted the equal shots rule for both men and women.

Among the star-studded shooters who were previously seen in action in the past at the world-class shooting range in Navi Mumbai equipped with Megalink Electronic Targets include:

1. Odisha-born Shriyanka Sadangi, winner of the 13th RR Lakshya Cup 2022, won the Quota Place for India for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in 50m Rifle 3 Positions.

2. Rudranksh Patil of Maharashtra, apast ISSF President's Cup winner and world champion. Patil, winner of the 2021 RR Lakshya Cup edition, was a gold medallist at the Cairo



World Championships in 2022 and also a Paris 2024 Quota place winner for the country.

3. Divyansh Singh Panwar of Rajasthan, 2018 winner, an Olympian and Junior National Champion 2022

4. Aishwary Pratap Tomar of Madhya Pradesh, an Olympian, a 2019 winner of Lakshya Cup

5. Kiran Jadhav from Navy and Lakshya SC trainee, Asian Airgun Championship 2022 silver medallist

6. Hriday Hazarika of Assam, a former Junior World Champion

7. Ashi Chouksey of Madhya Pradesh, ISSF World Cup 2022 medallist

8. Deepak Kumar (2017) and Meghana Sajjanar (2016) are among the past winners

## Second edition of Ice Hockey League to begin in Ladakh



**LEH (LADAKH)** : The Ice Hockey League returns to Ladakh for its second season, scheduled to take place from January 4 to January 13 at the Nawang Dorjay Stobdan (NDS) Stadium, Leh.

This year's league aims to build on the momentum of its inaugural edition, which saw a total of 6000 spectators, once again bringing together local talent from across the region.

The Ice Hockey League 2025 will feature a total of 30 matches - 23 in the men's category and 10 in the women's, over a span of 10 days. The men's tournament is structured into two groups of five teams each, with the top two teams advancing to the semi-finals. The women's tournament will also follow a two-group round-robin format, with three and two teams in each group, followed by semi-finals and then finals on January 12. The men's championship final is set for January 13.

The League, set to take place following the Losar festivities, aims to provide a sense of community engagement while encouraging players to remain active during the winter months. The initiative is part of Royal Enfield's Social Mission in Ladakh to show-

case local talent and also foster the development of Ice hockey as a key sport in the region.

Teams and Tournament Details

- Men's Teams:
- Changla Blasters
  - Kangs Sing
  - Zangskar Chadar Tamers
  - Maryul Spawo
  - Shakar Chiktan Royals
  - Sham Wolves
  - Purig Warriors
  - Changthang Shans
  - United Nubra
  - Humas Warriors
- Women's Teams:
- Maryul Spamo
  - Sham Eagles
  - Changla Lamo
  - Skara Chiktan Queens
  - Humas Queens

In preparation for the league, Royal Enfield conducted extensive training and scouting camps across Ladakh, including Drass, Zanskar, Nubra, Kargil, Shakar Chiktan, Leh and Changthang. The players were trained by coaches who underwent specialized training in Delhi in December 2024 under the mentorship of Darryl Easson, an IIHF-certified coach-instructor who has previously coached for the national teams in the UK and Hungary.

## Scott Boland continues rampaging form, completes 50 Test wickets for Australia

**SYDNEY [AUSTRALIA]** : Australian pacer Scott Boland continued his rampaging form in the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy, completing his 50 Test wickets on Friday.

Boland reached this milestone during his side's fifth and final Test against India at Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG).

Boland was exceptional in the first innings, removing four players for just 31 runs in his 20 wickets at an economy rate of 1.60. He got scalps of dangerous Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli and Nitish Kumar Reddy and troubled the batting line-up with his impeccable lines and lengths.

He is the fifth-highest wicket-taker in the series so far, with 15 scalps in three matches at a brilliant average of 15.46, with best figures of 4/31. He has taken the prized scalp of Virat three times in the series and troubled him with the outside-off-stump length.

In 13 matches, Boland has taken 50 wickets at a sub-20 average of 18.88, with best figures of 6/7. His record in home conditions remains incredible, with 43 scalps in nine matches at an average of 13.34 and best figures of 6/7.

Against India in five Tests, Boland has taken 20 wickets at an average of 18.55, with best figures of 4/31.

At the age of 35 years and 267 days, he is the oldest seamer to get to 50 Test wickets since New Zealand's Bevan Congdon (37y 10d) reached the milestone in February 1975.

Coming to the match, India won the toss and elected to bat first. India was off to a disappointing start yet again as the top order threw away their wickets, especially Virat Kohli (17) who continued his struggles with outside off-stump deliveries.

However, the fight by Rishabh Pant (40 in 98 balls, with three fours and a six), Ravindra Jadeja (26 in 95 balls, with three fours) and skipper Jasprit Bumrah (22 in 17 balls, with three fours and a six) pushed India to 185/10 in 72.2 overs.

Boland (4/31) was the pick of the bowlers for the Aussies and once again a thorn in the eyes of Indian batters. Mitchell Starc took 3/49 while Pat Cummins got 2/37.

