Garden Reach building collapse: KMC revokes suspension of 3 engineers

The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has withdrawn suspension of its three engineers who were suspended following the collapse of an unauthorised construction at Garden Reach while the civic body will submit its departmental enquiry report in court. As per notices issued by the municipal commissioner, the suspension of the three engineers concerned Debabrata Ghosh, Subham Bhattacharya and Debaditya Paul — have been withdrawn. All three were allowed to join their duties. The disciplinary proceedings will be concluded in due course as per law. The notice said that all.... PG 3



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CM Mamata Banerjee to visit Gangasagar Mela to review preps



SUMAN GANGULY

CMYK

Kolkata: The stage is set for the grand Gangasagar Mela, which begins this Friday. Preparations are nearing completion as the region gears up for one of India's largest reli-gious gatherings. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is scheduled to visit Gangasagar on Monday to oversee the arrangements and inaugurate several developmental projects.On Saturday, Fire Minister Sujit Bose, Sundarbans Development Minister Bankim Hazra, and Director Abhijit Pandey visited the site to inspect the ongoing preparations. Minister Hazra stated, "Following the Chief Minister's direcallnecessary tives, arrangements have been

made to ensure a safe and smooth experience for the pilgrims. Preparations are almost complete."As per administrative sources, CM Banerjee will reach Gangasagar by helicopter on Monday afternoon. Her itinerary includes offering prayers at the Kapil Muni Temple and visiting the Bharat Sevashram Sangha office. She is also scheduled to meet Gyan Das Mohant, the head priest of the temple. The Chief Minister will inaugurate multiple projects during her visit, including a 100-bed hostel for pilgrims near the Gangasagar Helipad Ground, a new jetty at Patharpratima, and upgraded infrastructure such as additional school classrooms, roads under

the 'Pathashree' project, and Anganwadi centers. She will also meet 95 fishermen and their families recently repatriated Bangladesh.CM from Banerjee will stay at the Public Health Engineering Department's building, Urmimukhar, where she will chair a review meeting with ministers and senior officials to finalize the fair's arrangements.In the lead-up to the event, officials have been actively inspecting critical areas such as Lot-8 in Kakdwip, Kachube-ria Bus Stand, Benubon Jetty, and the Gangasagar Mela grounds. Special attention has been paid to dredging operations in the Muriganga River to ensure smooth navigation.Given the coastal erosion chal-

vears, authorities have rebuilt sea embankments near the temple to provide safety and convenience for pilgrims during the holy dip. Buffer zones have also been created to accommodate the expected influx of visitors.To enhance convenience. lighting arrangements from Kachuberia Bus Stand and Gangasagar Bus Stand to the fairgrounds have been completed. OR codes will be reintroduced this year, al-lowing pilgrims to access vital information on facilities such as drinking water, toilets, health centers, bus stands, and jetty services by simply scanning them.Security measures have also been ramped up, with drones set to monitor the fairgrounds and the Muriganga River. District officials are leaving no stone unturned to ensure the event's smooth conduct.The Gangasagar Mela is not just a reli-gious event but a testament to West Bengal's organizational capabilities, drawing millions of pilgrims annually. With final preparations underway, the administration is fully prepared to deliver a safe and memorable experience for all visitors.

lenges from previous



People in a vintage car taking joy ride infront of Victoria Memorial in Kolkata on Sunday.

Stalin announces decoding Indus

MI News Service, Chennai: The Indus valley script remains an unsolved riddle for over a century, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin said here on Sunday and announced a prize of US dollar 1 million to those who decipher it.

international conference to mark the centenary of the discovery of the Indus civilisation, Stalin said, "We are still unable to clearly understand the script of the Indus valley civilsation that once flourished." Efforts are on to this day by scholars to solve the riddle and in order to encourage such efforts, a prize of US dollar 1 million will be provided to individuals or organisations that solves the riddle, he announced.

The Indus civilsation. one of the earliest, is reputed for its urban cul-

Bengal's Labani Jangi to receive prestigious TM Krishna-PARI Award

MI News Service, Kolkata: An artist and a research scholar from Nadia will receive an award instituted to honour individuals who bridge the worlds of art and journalism.

Bengal'Labani Jangi, who hails from Dhubulia in Nadia district, will receive the prestigious TM Krishna-PARI Award 2024.

The award is a collaboration between T.M. Krishna, Carnatic vocalist, author and activist, and the People's Archive of Rural India (PARI), founded and edited by veteran journalist P. Sainath.

"T.M. Krishna and the People's Archive of Rural India are proud to announce the recipient of the inaugural TM Krishna-PARI Award, instituted in 2024 to honour individuals who bridge the worlds of art and journalism. This prestigious annual award will celebrate contributions through writing or art, with a special focus on professionals from marginalized backgrounds. The award includes a cash

dar airport in Gujarat on

Sunday afternoon, police

The incident took place

said.

prize of 1 Lakh," the organisers said.

At 34, Labani Jangi is a research scholar at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, where she is pursuing a doctoral thesis titled — The lives and world of Bengali migrant labour.

Jangi was a fellow at PARI in 2020. She did a series of illustrations for the platform

"A self-taught artist, her illustrations draw inspiration from her lived experiences and the socio-political realities around her. She sees her art as inherently political, shaped by her identity as a Muslim woman and the daily struggles faced in a world where systemic violence and hatred are increasingly normalised," PARI said. Labani said her illustrations were a medium to preserve and share rural India's cultural and social realities.

"My work focuses on capturing stories that bring attention to both the systemic challenges, and the enduring spirit, of rural life.

he said.

Kanmiya said.

bers were brought out of

the chopper and rushed to

a hospital in Porbandar in

a severely burnt condition,

members died at the hos-

pital, Kamala Baug police

station's inspector Rajesh

All the three crew

Mamata will be in power with at least 250 seats in 2026: Kunal Ghosh

MI News Service, Kolkata: Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Kunal Ghosh said that his party will secure at least 250 seats in the 2026 Assembly election in the state and Mamata



during its regime but the Mamata Banerjee government has brought a sea change in the state. "When Banerjee was attacked in Keshpur, it was the Left Front government in the

Congress has been in

power. Mamata Banerjee

Now, Trinamool

state.

USD 1 million for valley script

Inaugurating a 3-day

Banerjee will become the Chief Minister for the fourth term. His comments came at a time when the Trinamool Congress was starting its preparation for the 2026 Assembly election. The ruling Trinamool Congress organises a programme in Keshpur every year condemning an incident in which Mamata Banerjee was attacked by CPI(M)-backed goons in 2001 when Banerjee was attacked on her way back to Kolkata. As many as 200 vehicles were torched.

Many people were injured in the attack. Banerjee had to be admitted to a local hospital

Ghosh while addressing the programme in

Keshpur gave an account of the development works undertaken by the Mamata Banerjee government. He said that CPI(M) unleashed a reign of terror

government runs 60-70 social schemes. People are not divided under the rule of the current government. Carrying out development for the people is the only aim of the Mamata Banerjee govern-ment," Ghosh said. He further stated: "BJP is making tall claims but you be rest assured Trinamool Congress will come back to power with at least 250 Assembly seats.'

The accident had oc-

curred in the Gharoa area

when a convoy of six vehi-

cles was en route from

Nilam Headquarters to

Balnoi Ghora Post. "Deeply

grieved by the loss of lives

of Indian Army personnel

due to a tragic road acci-

dent in Bandipora. The na-

tion is deeply grateful for

their service and commit-

ment. My condolences to

the bereaved families and

prayers for the speedy re-

covery of the injured" the

Army vehicle falls into gorge killing 4 soldiers

MI News service, Bandipora (J&K): Four army personnel died and another was injured when their vehicle skidded off the road and fell into a gorge due to inclement weather and poor visibility in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora district, the second such tragedy in less than two weeks.

The accident occurred near SK Paven in the north Kashmir district where the soldiers were on duty, officials said.

The region had received snowfall on Thursday and there were foggy conditions

The Army said that

"while performing duty in Bandipora District, a vehicle of Indian Army skid and fell into the gorge due

to inclement weather and poor visibility conditions". "Injured soldiers were promptly evacuated for medical care with assistance from Kashmiri locals, for which we express gratitude towards the citizens in providing immedi-

ate succour," the army's Chinar Corps said in a post on X 'Tragically three

bravehearts lost their lives in the unfortunate accident. Indian Army extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families," it

said and later added that the road and rolled down a "one more braveheart suc-300-ft deep gorge in cumbed to the injuries". Poonch. Jammu and Kashmir

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Con-President Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and other leaders paid tributes to the soldiers. Kharge urged authori-

ties to take appropriate measures to avoid such accidents due to inclement weather conditions.

On December 24, five soldiers were killed and as many injured when an Army vehicle skidded off

►► Continued on page 3

Lieutenant Governor

Clinton, Soros, Messi receive USA's highest Civilian Award

MI News Service, Washington: Outgoing President Joe Biden has presented the US' highest civilian award to 19 people, including former secretary of state Hillary Clinton, football superstar Lionel Messi, controversial philanthropist George Soros and actor Denzel Washington. for their contributions to America and the world. The Presidential Medal of Freedom is presented to individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the prosperity, values, or security of the United States, world peace, or other significant societal, public or private endeavours.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Argentinian football star Messi could not be present in person

at the White House to receive the award from the US president. "For the final time as President, I have the honour of bestowing the Medal of Freedom on our nation's highest civilian honour on a group of extraordinary, truly extraordinary people who gave their sacred effort, their sacred effort, to shape the culture and the

cause of America," Biden said at a glittering function in the East Room of the White House. Former president Bill Clinton, several of his Cabinet members including Defence Secretary Loyd Austin along with several celebrities were present in the East Room of the White

►► Continued on page 3

Coast Guard chopper crash kills 3 at 12.10 pm, Porbandar

Superintendent of Police

Bhagirathsinh Jadeja said.

Helicopter (ALH) of the ICG

with three crew members

onboard crashed during

landing at the Porbandar

The three crew mem-

airport, he said.

The Advanced Light

ture and its script has not been decrypted yet. MI News Service, Porban-The fading away of such der (Gujarat): Three crew a civilisation, and its members were killed after context, also remains a a helicopter of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) crashed riddle. during landing at Porban-

Race begins for Kerala BJP chief's post MI News Service, Kochi:

As the Kerala BJP heads towards a leadership change, two names doing the rounds as the possible successor of state president K. Surendran are Sobha Surendran and M.T. Ramesh.

The BJP, which has no representation in the Kerala Assembly, has its task cut out to choose a leader who enjoys the support of the rank and file and the backing of the RSS as the head of the party in the state. While Sobha is popular among the BJP's women supporters for her fiery rhetoric, BJP state general secretary Ramesh is known for being softspoken. There has been hectic lobbying for the post of Kerala BJP president for the last few months, notably from 51-year-old Sobha. Last Saturday, she met

►► Continued on page 3

Scribe murder: Media bodies demand safeguards for journalists MI News Service, Raipur (chattishgarh): The murder of a 33-year-old freelance journalist who recently alleged corruption in a Chhattisgarh road project has prompted media bodies to demand a thorough probe and safeguards for reporters.

Mukesh Chandrakar, a contributor to several TV channels and known for his investigative reporting, was found dead in a septic tank on a property belonging to local contractor Suresh Chandrakar in Bijapur city of Chhattisgarh, police sources said.

Mukesh's report had prompted the state's BJP government to order an inquiry into the road project, whose contract had been awarded to Suresh, the sources added.

Sources said the Chhattisgarh police had detained three accused, including a cousin of Mukesh who allegedly arranged a meeting between Mukesh and Suresh on January 1, the day the journalist went missing. The police are believed to be questioning several people but Suresh, officers said, was in hiding.

"The young journalist's death is a matter of grave concern as it raises suspicion of foul play," The Editors Guild said in a statement on Saturday.

It asked the state government "to spare no effort in investigating the case speedily and bringing the guilty to book".

Mukesh had reported that the initial tender for the road project, meant to connect Gangalur and Hiroli in the Maoist hub of Bastar, was worth 50 crore but it later rose to 120 crore without any changes to the scope of the work.

Following the report, the state government ordered an inquiry into alleged irregularities involving contractors in



general, creating ripples within the region's powerful contractors' lobby, sources said. The Press Association, a leading body of journalists, on Saturday said the murder had highlighted the need for stronger safeguards to ensure that journalists could work without fear.

A Press Club of India statement, endorsed by the Indian Women Press Corps, condemned the murder and sought timebound action against the perpetrators.It requested the Press Council of India to ask the state government to act.

"The attacks and killings of journalists reporting from Bastar division of Chhattisgarh are not new but the impunity with which such incidents are being carried out is unacceptable and (should) be addressed effectively," the Press Club statement said.

The state government should immediately look into the longstanding demands of local journalists to enact a law to protect journalists." In a Hindi post on X, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said: "According to reports, Mukesh was brutally murdered after he exposed

►► Continued on page 3



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Kolkata, Monday 6 January 2025

BENGAL

Inauguration of 33 rd Rishra Milan Mela: I respect all religion, but donot support fanaticism, says Kalyan Banerjee

MI News Service, Hooghly: Shri Rampur MP Kalyan Banerjee inaugurated the 33rd Rishra Milan Mela by lighting a lamp. On this occasion Chandannagar Police Commissionerate Commissioner Amit P Jawalgi, DM Hoogly Mukta Arya, DCP Rampur Arnab Biswas, ACP Subhankar Biswas, Vice Chairman Rasa Municipality Zahid Hasan Khan, Rushda Police Station Incharge Sanjay Sarkar, TI Rajesh Mandal and almost all the councilors were present. The municipality was present. Apart from them, the vice-chairperson of Bansberia Municipality Silpi Chatterjee was also invited. He was honored with gifts. Chandanna-He was gar Police Commissionerate Commissioner Amit P Jawalgi along with top police officers were hon-Chairman Vijay Sagar ored. Mishra, Vice Chairman Zahid Hasan Khan celebrated MP Kalyan Banerjee on his birthday in a grand manner by cutting a cake. A large crowd gathered on the opening day of the fair. The en-



tire city of Rishra has been decorated with electric lamps. Municipality Chairman Vijay Sagar Mishra said that Rishra is known as Mini India. As two hearts come together, people of all religions and castes enjoy together through the festival. Meanwhile, Kalyan

Banerjee told reporters that people of other religions are being oppressed in India under the guise of fanatical Hindutva. Our struggle against it will continue. I am fighting against the Waqf Amendment Bill. I always remember that I represent a parliamentary

While loitering in Kalyani, police arrests 2

Bangla nationals. One is Kashmir- returned

constituency where 30 to 33 per cent Muslims live. I have to raise their voice and fight for them. Kalyan Banerjee said on the heated clash between Babul Supriyo and Abhijit Ganguly that Abhijit Ganguly can't do that, who gave him the permission to play the hooter, except the ambulance and the police, no one can play the Kalyan Banerjee got hooter. angry and said that Abhijit Ganguly will arrest Babul. If you have so much courage, let them do it. I challenge them. Delhi Police is saying that there is infiltration from the North East and the minister there is Sukant Majumdar, then why is this happening? Re-garding the fair, Chairman of Rishra Municipality Vijay Mishra said that this fair will continue from January 4 to January 16, more than three hundred stalls have been set up here. Colorful events will be held in different ways every day. From the first day of the fair, the crowd of people has started coming.

Sadhus relax at a transit camp for Gangasagar at Babughat on Sunday.

CA Students' National Talent Search 2024-25 Regional Level: Sketching and **Best Presenter (PPT) Competition**

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Eastern India Chartered Accountants Students' Association (EICASA) of the Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) hosted the regional round of the CA Students' National Talent Search 2024-25 on January 4, 2025, at ICAI Bhawan in Kasba, Kolkata. This competition focused on two categories: Sketching and Best Presenter (PPT).

The event began with an opening ceremony led by emcees Ms. Gunja Gupta and Ms. SulsaChajjer. CA Vishnu Kumar Tulsyan, Chairman of EICASA and Vice-Chairman of EIRC, and CA Mayur Agrawal, Secretary and Treasurer of EIRC, shared inspiring messages to energize the participants. Judges for the Sketching category, Mr. Kaushik Dutta and Ms. Swagata Chakraborty, and for the Best Presenter competition, Mr. Shila-dityaBasu Ray, Mr. Jatin-Lakhotia, and CA Sumit Kumar Dutt, were honored during the inaugural session.Participants from eight out of the 13 EIRC



branches showcased their talents. The Best Presenter competition explored topics such as Big Data Ana-Cybersecurity, lytics, Éthics in a Digital World, Future Skills, and Career Pathways. Participants shared innovative perspectives and insightful analyses on these subjects. Simultaneously, the Sketching category displayed exceptional creativity, with participants using their artwork to convey profound emotions and concepts.In the Sketching competition, Mr. Saikat-Basak from Guwahati emerged as the winner, while Mr. SouravSaha from Kolkata secured the runner-up position and will participate in National Level. In the Best Presencompetition, Ms. ter from AkphanBehera Bhubaneswar was declared the winner, followed by Mr.ShivamSaha from Kolkata as the first runnerup and Ms. ChitraAjitsaria from Guwahati as the second runner-upand will participate in National Level. The event concluded with a valedictory session, during which Mr. Kalyan Singh, Vice-Chairperson of EICASA, delivered a vote of thanks. The competition provided an inspiring platform for participants to showcase their skills and creativity, leaving attendees enriched and motivated.



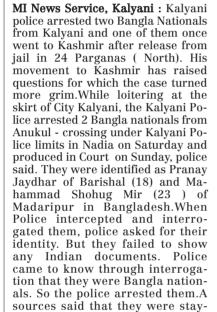
Delhi police drive cloud on 7,000 beneficiaries of Land Boundary Agreement between India and angladesh

MI News Service, Kolkata: Around 7,000-odd beneficiaries of the historic Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) signed by Narendra Modi and Sheikh Hasina in 2015 seem to have become victims of an initiative launched by Delhi Police, which reports to the Union home ministry, to identify illegal Bangladeshi infiltrators

Prime Minister Modi and his then Bangladesh counterpart Hasina had solved a 68-year-old problem almost a decade back to ensure a life of dignity for some 16,000 people, who had been living like refugees, by offering them citizenship and rehabilitation.

The shadow of uncertainty has been looming on the identities of 7,000 of the 16,000-odd erstwhile enclave dwellers in India, who now work in the Delhi and NCR, ever since Delhi police launched a special drive to identi Bangladeshi infiltrators. identify

The Delhi cops have collected the identity proofs of many of these erstwhile enclave dwellers who are now migrant vorkers in Delhi, and visited some of the villages in Cooch Behar to verify the details given by them. According to the LBA, the enclaves 51 Bangladeshi and 101 Indian — merged with the mainlands of the two countries at midnight on July 15, 2015. The Bangladeshi enclaves became Indian villages and vice-versa. While none of the 15,000-odd Bangladeshis who were staying at the Bangladeshi enclaves in India went to their country, around 950 Indians came to India from their Indian enclaves in Bangladesh. In due course, all of them were provided Indian citizenship along with iden-tity proofs like voter and Aadhaar cards.





ing in the home of one Sudhir Shil's at Muratipur under Kalyani police station. The Kalyani police

from around the Shani temple in Anukul More (Crossing) area on Saturday. They were sent to the Kalyani Subdistrict Court on Sunday.According to police sources, Mohammad Sohag Mir was arrested in the same case at Basirhat police station four months ago. He was released on bail from jail. After that, Sohag went to Kashmir recently. From there, he came to Kalyani. He stayed in a rented house there. After coming to Kalyani, he was caught by the police on Saturday. Police said that they did not recover any passports or Indian documents from the arrested duo. They had il-legally migrated to this country. Why are the accused migrating to this country from Bangladesh ? Who are they coming with? What is their real intention ? The Kalyani police s are trying to find out all this.

arrested the two Bangladeshis

Police enhance surveillance and security for Islampur bigwigs after Trinamul **Congress leader's murder**

MI News Service, Islampur: The murder of Trinamool Congress leader Thursday and the involvement of contract killers

Many areas in the Islampur subdivision are connected to Bihar through Dulal Sarkar in Malda on rural roads. Criminals from the subdivision have sneaked into Bihar to evade arrests." said a po lice officer.

Abu Taher, one of the 950 Indians, said they were feeling like they were back to square one now.

"After spending years of misery in an Indian enclave in Bangladesh, we got our identities back in 2015 and felt a sense of relief.... It seems we are back to square one," said Abu Taher. Taher, who got an Indian citizenship and a flat in an apartment in Dinhata of Cooch Behar, eventually shifted to Delhi with his wife and three daughters for a better life.

Taher, who worked as a cleaner in Delhi, returned home to Dinhata recently when the Delhi police sought the identity proof of his parents. "How can I provide that? My parents stayed back in Bangladesh. The way the police questioned me left me wondering as to whether they at all consider me an Indian," he added. Abdullah Sheikh, 23, of Mashaldanga, an erstwhile Bangladeshi enclave which is an Indian village now in Dinhata, faced a similar problem.



West Bengal Khadi and Rural Industries Board was held on January 5. Sunday. The Chief Executive Officer of the Board Mridul Halder, MLA and Board President Kallol Khan, Mayor Moushumi Das, Board Member Ujjwal Pramanik Muzaffar Khan, P.E.O Biswajit Sarkar and other distinguished personalities were present. There was a huge crowd of buyers and visitors at this year's Khadi Fair. MLA and President Kallol Khan said that more extensive preparations will be made in the coming days.

State urban development department sanctions Rs 7.2 crore for dyke shield for Jaigaon

MI News Service, Alipurduar: The state urban development department

has sanctioned a sum of 7.2 crore to construct an monsoons. embankment along the Goborjyoti river that flows through Jaigaon Sharma

town, which sits on the India-Bhutan border in Alipurduar. "Every year, because of landslides and rainfall in Bhutan, the Goborjyoti carries tonnes of debris with it and floods both its banks. It also erodes the banks, damaging land, houses and other properties along the way. The embankment will help address these issues," said Ganga Prasad Sharma, the chairman of the Jaigaon Development Authority (JDA). He said that the sum would be used to build the embankment and lay pavers' blocks

along two prominent roads of Jaigaon. "We have floated the

tender and hope the work ends before the next added

Jaigaon is close to Phuentsholing, the commercial capital of Bhutan. The Alipurduar town is the largest gateway for people intending to enter Bhutan via road.

Along with flash floods, another problem that the residents of Jaigaon face is the deposition of silt near or on their houses. "Even after water recedes, residents living close to the river banks have to clear piles of debris. The houses get

damaged and need repairs." said Jaigaon's Suresh Thakuri, who is associated with the tourism industry.

from Bihar have prompted the Islampur police district in North Dinajpur district to enhance security for po-

litical leaders. Joby Thomas, the superintendent of police of the Islampur police dis-trict, said: "After the recent attack and murder of a political leader in Malda (a neighbouring district), we have tightened the security of such leaders in our area. Also, a set of instructions has been sent to them for their safety. An official of the rank of deputy superintendent of police has been assigned the responsibility to moni-

tor the security of these leaders." "We are also reviewing the security provided to the leaders and if required, there can be certain changes," he added.

In North Dinajpur, different crimes, including murder, by criminals from Bihar had been reported on many occasions.

On July 13, 2024, around 9pm, Bapi Roy, a Trinamool leader, was gunned down in an eatery off NH27 in Srikrishnapur that is adjacent to Islampur town while he was holding a meeting with party workers.

The police found that a contract killer from Kishanganj in Bihar was engaged to kill Roy.

'North Dinajpur shares the border with Bihar.

"Considering the recent incidents and the proximity with Bihar, the leaders have alerted," he added. been

In the new set of instructions, it has been mentioned that any leader who is provided with one or more security personnel should not go out without an armed guard.

"If the security guard is on leave, the leader should inform the local police station in advance so that another person can be assigned to the duty. The leaders should refrain from mingling with the crowd," said a source.

"Those who get mobile police vans should not move out of their houses until such vans reach their places," the source added. Police officers were

asked to monitor the movement of leaders. "If any leader goes on a long trip, he should inform

the local police station so that the information can be shared with other police stations under which iurisdiction he would move," said an officer.

Kanaialal Agarwala, the North Dinajpur district president of Trinamool, said: "We believe the leaders should follow the police instructions for our safety. We hope the police will take necessary steps on their part."

State Minister Aroop Biswas at a programmee regarding 358 th Birth Anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh in Kolkata on Sunday. Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee also paid her tribute to mark the occasion by offering ' Chadar'(Ramala Sahib) in the program-mee apart from conveying her heartiest greetings for the said occasion

Anit Thapa recasts focus on intensifying **BGPM organisational activities in Mirik**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Anit Thapa, who heads the Bharatiya Gorkha Prajatantrik Morcha (BGPM) has recast his focus on intensifying the party's organisational activities in Mirik subdivision of Darjeeling district. As part of the initiative, Thapa has appointed senior party leader Anjul Chouhan as observer of the subdivision. "Along with development work, we need to carry out political activities to expand our party as well as to strengthen its support base. Elected representatives like the sabhasads (members of GTA) and those working in the rural bodies will have to take up this responsibility,"

said Thapa on Saturday in Mirik's Gayabari-Soureni. There, Thapa also inaugurated a community hall.

Despite many development projects being taken up in Mirik, the BGPM's organisational strength in the subdivision has not been strong so far.

This prompted Thapa to declare two new committees to look after the party's activities in the Mirik and Soureni areas. He appointed Dhruv Byomjan and Satish Thapa as the president and secretary-general of Mirik. Chouhan also sought a

full-fledged subdivisional committee of the BGPM withina month. Arun Sigchi, also a sabhasad of

after the organisational activities in Soureni as president. Binay Subba will hold the post of the secretary general of the area. The BGPM leader's focus on intensifying or-

the Gorkhaland Territorial

Administration, will look

ganisational activities in Mirik is significant as the tiny hill subdivision has always been a nightmare for the ruling parties in Darjeeling hills.

For years, Mirik has been known for its anti-incumbent votes. This trend helped Trinamool form its first civic board in Mirik in 2017 at a time when the Gorkha Janmukti Morcha had an absolute majority across the hills.

Not with Ajoy Edwards-led Indian Gorkha Janshakti Front, hill leaders mull alternative

MI News Service, Kolkata: Some prominent political faces from Darjeeling hills, including an elected Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) member, and panchayat members who did not join the Ajoy Edwards-led Indian Gorkha Janshakti Front (IGJF) at the last moment, have started regrouping to explore a new political align-

ment in the hills.

Sources said that more than 30 leaders met at Relli in Kalimpong on January 2 to discuss their way forward.

The group includes independent GTA Sabha member from Kalimpong Palden Tamang; chief convener of the Separate State Coordination Committee Sanjay Thulung (also a former GTA Sabha member); former general secretary of Gorkha Janmukti Yuwa Morcha Priyabardan Rai; chief of United Gorkha Revolutionary Front Ajay Dahal; political activist Bikramaadi Rai and the convener of apolitical Gorkha Gaurav Sanstan Narendra Tamang. Sources said that

this group was set to join Edwards's IGJF but backed off at the last moment.

"This group had agreed that the team would be led by Edwards but they wanted every party decision to be a collective one to be formally announced by Edwards," said a source. After more than four meetings

with Edwards, team members felt that Edwards was more inclined towards making his own decisions, said a source.

He admitted Edwards was to mobilise most of the funds for the party. The source said that this team also did not agree on the name of the party and the design of the flag.

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Army vehicle falls into...

Clinton, Soros, Messi...

From PG 1

said in a condolence message.Chief Minister Abdulextended heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved families, offering his prayers for strength and solace during this difficult time.

"We salute their selfless service to the nation. Our heartfelt condolences to the families of our bravehearts. Our thoughts and prayers are with the injured soldiers and we wish them a complete and speedy recovery," Kharge said in a post on X.

The Leader of Opposi-tion in Rajya Sabha also

House during the awards

ceremony Saturday after-noon. "This group of peo-

ple leave an incredible

mark on our country with

insight and influence that

can be felt around the

globe in major cities and

remote areas of life, find-

ing us closer as people and

showing us that what's

possible as a nation, noth-

ing beyond our capacity," Biden said.

humanitarians, rock stars,

sports stars, you feed the

hungry, you give hope to

those who are hurting, and

you craft the signs and

sounds of our movements

and our memories. It's

amazing ... you inspire, and

you bring healing and joy

to so many lives that other-

wise wouldn't be touched,"

serve and lead others to do

the same thing. You defend

the values of America even

when they're under attack,

which they have been," Biden said after which he

presented the Presidential

Medal of Freedom.

"You answer the call to

the President said.

"As cultural icons, ...

From PG 1

referred to the Poonch incident.

"We urge the authorities to take appropriate measures to avoid such accidents due to inclement weather conditions and take adequate safety measures in the future,"

he said. "I pay tributes to the martyred soldiers and hope for the speedy recovery of the injured. My deep condolences to the be-reaved families," Gandhi said in a post in Hindi on

Apni Party leader Altaf Bukhari also condoled the loss of lives.

Union home minister Amit Shah in New Delhi. Sobha, who is also a member of the BJP national executive, in a post on Facebook said the meeting had boosted her self-confidence to steer the party in the 2026 Assembly elections. Sobha had been trying

From PG 1

Race begins...

to become the first woman BJP state president over the last several years but the coveted post has always eluded her.

'The issue with Sobha is that she has always shown haste in getting the coveted post. If she had shown a little restraint, her graph would have escalated. But it's high time a

Fifty-two-year-old Ramesh's attempt to be-come the Kerala BJP chief

tice, equity and equality, freedom now and in the fu-ture," it said. "As an immigrant who found freedom and prosperity in America, I am deeply moved by this honour," George Soros said in a statement. "I accept it on behalf of

the many people around the world with whom the **Open Society Foundations** have made common cause over the past 40 years," he said.

However, Biden was slammed by Make America Great Again (MAGA) supporters and Republican leadership for giving the award to Soros.

"Giving George Soros the Presidential Medal of Freedom is another slap in the face of America after reducing the sentences of murderers and pardoning his son. 16 days is a long time until the Inauguration. What is he capable of sliding in next? January 20th can't come soon enough," Republica leader Nikki Haley said. Republican

Fannie Lou Hamer, who transformed the "George Soros spent struggle for racial justice millions electing soft-onin America, Ashton Carter, crime politicians that let who served as the 25th Secretary of Defence, Robert Francis Kennedy criminals wreak havoc in our major cities," Montana Senator Tim Sheehy told The New York Post. remembered as an Attorney General who fiercely Tech entrepreneur

Elon Musk said that Biden giving Soros the Medal of Freedom is a "travesty," Alex who received the award on behalf of his father said his father is an American patriot who has spent his life fighting for freedom and human rights.

Hillary Clinton was the White House

clude conservationist Jane

Goodall; longtime Vogue

Magazine editor-in-chief

Anna Wintour; American

fashion designer Ralph

Lauren; American Film In-

stitute founder George

tions

firm.

award.

leader of her stature, who had always stood commitand philanthropist supted to the party, is appointed the state BJP president," a senior BJP leader told . porting key pillars of open societies, rights and jus-

was torpedoed by a section within the party in 2017 that alleged that he had taken a bribe to secure recognition for a private media college founded by a charitable trust in Varkala. However, the internal

probe committee later gave him a clean chit. "Both Sobha and Ramesh have got the sup-

port of the Kerala RSS leadership. It's going to be a tough call for the national BJP leadership as both are excellent leaders who can steer the state BJP in the local bodies election and Assembly

election, which are due in December 2025 and April 2026, respectively," the senior BJP leader said.

A decision on Suren-dran's successor would be taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shah, na-tional BJP president J.P. Nadda and BJP national general scorretary (organi general secretary (organisation) B.L. Santhosh. The new state president is likely to be announced by the end of this month.

Scribe...

From PG 1 corruption in his report. I demand from the state Chouhan. government that stringent and immediate action be taken.... The culprits should be given severe punishment, and proper compensation and a job hayay, who along with should be considered for the family of the de-Principal Secretary Onkar

On George Soros, the

Akhil Bhartiya Rashtriya Shaikshik Mahasangh (ABRSM) activists took part in a protest Rally against the State Government demanding immediate implementation of National Education Policy, in Kolkata on Sunday. WBCS officers get training on Ham radio

MI News Service, Kolkata: The 2023 batch of WBCS (West Bengal Civil Service) officers received training on amateur radio popularly known as ham radio. Hands-on training regarding the establishment of communication through ham radio in case of natural disaster was provided during a session that was held at Netaji Subhas Administrative Training Institute at Salt Lake.

MI News Service, Kolkata:

Bengal Agriculture minis-

ter Sobhandeb Chattopad-

hyay raised the issue of the

increase in price of fertilis-

ers and the "inadequate supply" of NPK variety of fertiliser, which is widely used by farmers in the

state for potato cultivation,

during a meeting chaired

by Union Agriculture min-

Singh

Shivraj

ister

"In case of natural calamities, conventional modes of communication often get jeopardised. During such circumstances, ham radio comes in handy in establishing communication with the state administration. The state government had asked us to provide training in this regard and we acted accordingly," said Ambarish Nag Biswas, secretary of West Bengal Radio Club-

an organisation of ham radio operators in Bengal.

The officers were apprised of the method of sending emergency signals through the ham radio and the new laws associated with ham radio formulated by the Ministry of Telecommunication. They were made aware that wireless sets should not be purchased from open market or internet and used without license.

joined the training programme were given a training book edited by the Indian Academy of Communication and Disaster Management. Apart from Biswas, Jayanta Baidya and Arnab Roy Chowdhury were also present during the session as trainers.

the achievements in the

agriculture sector in Ben-

gal due to the thrust by

Chief Minister Mamata

Banerjee, he reiterated

that the state is at the top

when it comes to farmers'

income in the country. The

state minister in the meet-

ing spoke about the Kr-

ishak Bandhu and Bangla

Shasya Bima (crop insur-

ance) schemes in which

the

They also learnt how to send emails without inter-

> Saras Mela witnesses record breaking goods sales worth Rs 32 Cr

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Saras Mela 2024 organised in New Town by the state witnessed a record breaking sale of goods worth about Rs 32 crore. The 20th Saras Mela organised by the West Bengal State Rural Livelihood Mission (WBSRLM) under the state Panchayat and Rural Development department witnessed a record footfall of buyers which broke the record of 2023. Department officials said, in 2023, goods worth about Rs 20 crore were sold. This time worth about Rs 32 crore were sold. Though the organisers apprehended that the sales would increase but the difference of about Rs 12 crore was not expected. Panchayat and Rural Development department secretary, P Ulaganathan said: "This year's

entire premium amount is borne by the state government, terming them revolutions for the betterment of farmers' condition in Bengal. "Even the share-croppers get benefits of these two schemes," he added. Saras Mela is probably the

Chouhan reviewed varphosphate fertilisers for the larger interest of ious schemes with agriculfarmers," he said. ture ministers across the states seeking their sug-gestions ahead of the Union budget. Chattopad-

The state minister pointed out that the Centre has suggested measures like setting up of research centres for ad-

1.27 lakh MT this year".

ply of NPK and bring down

the price of potassium and

down price of fertilizers: State Agri Min Singh Meena and other vancement of agriculture. "I have made it clear that senior officials, was virtually present in the meeting out of Rs 2,800 crore from Nabanna brought it budget for agriculture in to the Union minister's no-Bengal only 5 per cent tice that in 2021, "5.4 lakh metric tonne (MT) of NPK comes from the Centre for implementation of various was supplied by the Centre schemes. If the share of which has dropped to only the Centre is not increased then, such tall "I have urged (the Centalks about advancement tre) to ensure proper supin agriculture will be a far

cry," he said. He further urged the Union minister to accept economist MS Swaminathan's recommendation that MSP (minimum sup-port price) should be made a statutory minimum price for the benefit of farmers. Highlighting

stands for." net connectivity. 30 odd officers who

Run' MI News Service, Kolkata:

CITY

Kolkata to host 'Ekal



Speaking about the ent, Gaurav Bagla, event, President of FTS Yuva, Kolkata Chapter, said, "We are honored to have Navdeep Singh inaugurate the 6th edition of Ekal Run. His inspiring achievements embody the spirit of perseverance and determination that Ekal Run

only recipient to get a standing ovation.

members.

combatted racial segrega-tion, and George W Rom-

ney, a businessman who

served as the chairman

and president of American

Motors Corporation, were

awarded posthumously. The medals were re-

ceived by their family

"As a lawyer, she defended the rights of children. As First Lady, she fought for universal health care and declared women's rights are human rights," a military aide read the citation as she was presented the medal by the president.

"As Senator, she helped New York rebuild after September 11, 2001. As Secretary of State, she championed democracy worldwide. Her nomination for president broke barriers and inspired generations. Through it all, her career has been dedicated to an eternal truth. America's ideals are sacred, and we must always defend and live by them,' according to the citation.

Alex Soros accepted the award on behalf of his father George Soros, an investor, philanthropist, and founder of the Open Society Foundations.

"Born into a Jewish family in Hungary, George Soros escaped Nazi occupation to build a life of freedom for himself and countless others around the world," said the citation as read by the military aide. "Educated in England, he settled in America as he became an investor said ceased

'Through his network of foundations, partners and projects in more than 120 countries. Soros has focused on global initiatives that strengthen democracy, human rights, education, and social justice.' Soros, 94, in the recent past has spoken openly and his fearless reportage against Prime Minister on local issues. Narendra Modi. The ruling

BJP believe that he tried to Club staged a protest in state capital Raipur interfere in Indian elec-Other awardees in-

Sources said the contractors' lobby in Bastar was often accused of threatening and intimidating local journalists, especially those covering corruption. While Mukesh and

Stevens Jr.: entrepreneur and LGBTO+ activist Tim Gill; scientist Bill Nye and David Rubenstein, cofounder of The Carlyle Group global investment Spanish-American chef Jose Andres, Irish singer-songwriter and activist Bono, Canadian-American activist and retired actor Michael J Fox, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and LGBTQ rights activist Tim Gill and legendary retired basketball player Earvin "Magic" Johnson were also among the recipients of the

Mukesh began his ca-

reer in journalism in 2012, later forming his YouTube channel, Bastar Junction, which has over 1.59 lakh subscribers. A resident of Basaguda village in Bijapur, he was known for his investigative stories

Journalists under the banner of the Raipur Press against the murder.

Suresh have the same surname, it could not be ascertained whether they were related. Former Congress chief minister of Chhattisgarh, Bhupesh Baghel, said: "Journalist Mukesh Chandrakar published a news article five days ago and on the third or fourth day, he was murdered. I personally knew Mukesh and had met him several times. A patriot who was serving society and fulfilling his responsibilities, he risked his life to do so. Anyone who exposes corruption is not safe."

'Sebaashray' records about 5K jump in registrations

Ensure proper supply of NPK & bring

MI News Service, Kolkata: The day 3 of the first-of-its-kind 'Sebaashray' health camps registered a record footfall with a jump of 5,000 in registrations. Around 41 camps were organised in Diamond Harbour Assembly constituency and a footfall of 11,388 was registered on Saturday. As many as 7,053 patients have been treated while 6,537 people were given medicines. Around 253 referrals were made. Economically-weak families and also those from rural areas expressed their gratitude to MP Abhishek Banerjee who has taken a unique initiative, first time by any public representative in the country. In a post on X, Abhishek Banerjee said: "What makes SE-BAASHRAY special is not just its scale but its SOUL. This isn't about ticking boxes; it's about ensuring that healthcare reaches those who need it most, right at their doorstep.

Sebaashray is proof that MEANING-FUL CHANGE begins at the GRASS-ROOTS. Diamond Harbour, your faith and enthusiasm fuel this mission every day. Together, we're setting a precedent for what PEOPLE-FIRST GOVERNANCE truly means." Free medical tests, eye-checkup among essential diagnostic tests offered at 'Sebaashray' camps came as major relief for common people. 'Sebaashray' health camps are offering seven essential diagnostic tests -BMI, blood pressure, blood sugar, haemoglobin, malaria, dengue and ECG - free-of-cost. In addition, advanced services like digital X-rays, cardiac monitoring facility and eye clinics are also available free-of-cost. "Many people cannot afford medical expenses. Poor families often struggle to visit doctors due to financial constraints. 'Sebaashray' camps are bridging the gap and bringing hope

to those in need. I underwent an expensive ultrasound (USG) test here for free. For this kind initiative, I am deeply grateful to our MP Abhishek Banerjee," a middle aged woman shared her experience. A youth who had a cut on his forehead said: "This big initiative taken by Abhishek Banerjee has greatly benefitted the villagers. We are very elated at the free treatment and free medicines provided to us. We express our gratitude to Banerjee. We are proud and very happy." Banerjee on Thursday launched free health camps for 75 days, 'Sebaashray' under which around 300 health camps will be organised in the next 75 days across 7 Assembly constituencies, 71 Gram Panchayats and 93 wards in DH. Around 1,200-1,400 doctors have been brought together under one roof, a feat no one has ever dared to attempt before.

best one ever." The maxi mum demand of the customers were from the home decor segment. Several objects for decorating homes were in high demand while trending apparel comes second on the list of customers' demand. With the overwhelming response from the buyers, the organisers and sellers expect that the two more Saras melas that are going to be organised in Ladies Park and Park Circus Maidan will also record good sales. This is the first such instance where Saras Mela is getting organised in three different places in and around Kolƙata in a few days' interval. This year 233 stalls were set up at the New Town Mela ground. Artisans and members of SHGs from 20 states and 23 districts of Bengal had participated.

Man kills wife, commits suicide

MI News Service, Kolkata: A couple was found dead at a rented house in Mathurapur area of Sonarpur. According to preliminary investigations, the man murdered his wife and then committed suicide by hanging as a fall out of a marital dispute. According to police sources, Sasadhar Halder had moved to a rented house leaving his ancestral house after being pressurised by his wife Payel. Locals said that the

couple had frequent quarrels. Police recovered Sasadhar's body hanging from the ceiling while his wife was found lying on the bed with sharp cut injuries. Neighbours said that at around 8 am, they saw the couple's two-and-a-half-yearold child coming out of the house shedding tears. They suspected something was wrong and when they entered the house, they found the two lifeless bodies. They informed the police

about the incident, after which cops arrived at the scene and sent the bodies for postmortem. The sources said that Sasadhar and his wife Payel, who originally hail from Kulpi in South 24-Parganas, had shifted to Mathurapur area some two-three months back and started living on rent. Sasadhar used to hawk in trains. Sasdahar murdered his wife using a sharp knife and then hanged himself, they said.

Garden Reach building collapse: KMC revokes suspension of 3 engineers

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has withdrawn suspension of its three engineers who were suspended following the collapse of an unauthorised construction at Garden Reach while the civic body will submit its departmental enquiry report in court. As per notices issued by the municipal commissioner, the suspension of the three engineers concerned - Debabrata Ghosh, Subham Bhattacharya and Debaditya Paul — have been withdrawn. All three were allowed to join their duties. The disciplinary proceedings will be concluded in due course as per law. The notice said that all three had appealed to allow them to join duties.

The reason for withdrawal of suspension said that since findings/report in the proceedings have already been submitted there is hardly any scope for them to influence the inquiry proceedings. However, their joining back of duties will also be sub-

ject to the order of the court, if any. Further, departmental action on the basis of the findings, if any, will be

decided in terms of law.

It was learnt that there were two simultaneous investigations conducted, one by the KMC and the other by the police. The engineers were suspended to ensure they don't influence the inquiries. There were no court orders instructing the civic body either to suspend or not suspend the three, said KMC sources. The under construction building at the Garden Reach's Azhar Mollah Bagan area had killed about 12 persons last year. The Building department of KMC had said they were in the dark re-

garding the construction since no sanction was sought for the same. Mayor Firhad Hakim had said that executive engineers were instructed that they must file an FIR with the police once it comes to their notice that an illegal construction is afoot. In case no action is taken after that then the director general of the building department needs to be informed by the engineer concerned so the matter can be further taken up with the municipal commissioner and thereafter with the commissioner of Kolkata Police.

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For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com

Kolkata, Monday 6 January 2025

Miscellaneous

Name Change

I, Ila Sagar May Dutta (old name wife of Sagar May Dutta (of thank) wife of Sagar May Dutta, residing at 605, Radharani Aptt, 3rd FR, 100/1, P.K. Guha Lane, P.S.- Dum-dum, Barrackpore-700028, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ila Dutta (new name) a declared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 03/01/2025. Ila Dutta (new name) and Ila Sagar May Dutta (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Rima Sagar May Dutta (old name) daughter of Sagar May Dutta, residing at 605, Radharani Aptt, 3rd FR, 100/1, P.K. Guha Lane, P.S.- Dumdum, Barrack pore- 700028, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rima Dutta (new name) as de clared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 03/01/2025. Rima Dutta (new name) and Rima Sagar May Dutta (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Pratima Bhattacharya (old name) wife of Late Asok Bhattacharyya, residing at Provash Pally, Ichapur Nawabganj, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743144, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Protima Bhattacharva (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 04/01/2025. Protima Bhattacharva (new name) and Pratima Bhattacharya (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, QURAISHA BEGAM (old name wife of MD LATIF, residing at 6/H/17, MOULANA MD ALI ROAD, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as KO-RAISHA KHATOON (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 03/01/2025. KO-RAISHA KHATOON (new name) and QURAISHA BEGAM (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

l, Mustak Khan (old name) son o Md Hanif, residing at G-229/A, Battikal 2nd Lane, P.O.- Garden-reach, P.S.- Gardenreach, Kolkata-700024, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Mustak (new name) as de-clared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 04/01/2025. Md Mustak (new name) and Mustak Khan (old name) both are same

Name Change

and identical person.

I, Hachina Biswas S/o Junap Mon dal Residing at Vill +P.o - Ichhapur, P.s - Chapra, District - Nadia, Pin - 741164 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Hachina Mondal. I declare that Hachina Biswas and Hachina Mondal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

Kasem Biswas S/o Salema **Emerging tech** Mondal Residing at Vill +P.o -Ichhapur, P.s - Chapra, District -Nadia, Pin - 741164 West Bengal expected to cre-India shall henceforth be known as Kasem Mondal. I declare tha Kasem Biswas and Kasem Mon-dal is same and one identical ate over 1 mill jobs person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary

2 new green field projects coming up in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal is all set to have two new green field projects, courtesy Nipha. Commenting on their glori-

ous 65-year journey, Chairman of NIPHA, M.C. Shah remarked, "Nipha is doubling down its commitment to West Bengal. With more than 2,000 local employees and seven operational units in the region, we are excited to announce two new Greenfield projects coming within the next 12 months. We are excited about the

industry friendly policy of the state government, hence we want to flourish more in West Bengal creating immense local job opportunities." NIPHA Group, recently

celebrated its anniversary with the launch of Grihasth Rishi, a biography honouring its legendary Chairman Emeritus, Late G. D. Shah. The event was attended by prominent industry leaders, including R. S. Goenka, Founder & Non-Executive Chairman, Emami Group; Saroj Kumar Poddar, Chairman, Adventz Group; Raj Anand, Executive Chairman, Southern States LLC; Satya Narayan and Sharma, Former Minister, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. M. C. Shah, Chairman, NIPHA, led the

celebrations, which concluded with a riveting Sarod performance by Padma Vibhushan Ustad Amjad Ali Khan Saheb and his family, paying a soulful tribute to the company's legacy. At the event, NIPHA

announced its acquisition of a U.S.-based company to bolster its near-shore presence in its largest market and leverage the prevailing China +1 strategy. Additionally, NIPHA revealed plans for two Greenfield projects in Dankuni (1,50,000 sq ft) and Chandannagar (1,35,000 sq ft), along with a Brownfield expansion in Falta (50,000 sq^{ft}).

Sealdah Division Conducts Successful Ticket Checking Drive in Sealdah - Bangaon section

MI News Service, Kolkata:

Sealdah Division conducted a comprehensive ticket checking drive over Sealdah - Bangaon section, led by Divisional Commercial Manager Sri Sashi Ranjan Kumar guided by Sr.Divisional Commercial Manager Sri Pawan Kumar under the dynamic leadership of Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah Sri Deepak Nigam. This initiative aimed to ensure enhance revenue generation, and promote responsible travel practices. Over the course of the drive, ticket checking staff meticulously examined tickets of passengers traveling on various trains within the specified section. This rigorous inspection resulted in the detection of 588 cases including without ticket and un booked luggage of ticketless travel or instances of improper tick-eting. A total of ₹157,755 was collected as fines from the offenders, contributing significantly to railway revenue.

Beyond revenue generation, the primary objec-tive of this drive was to educate passengers on the importance of purchasing valid tickets. By promoting the use of digital ticketing platforms such as UTS on



mobile, the railways aim to provide a seamless and convenient travel experience for all passengers. To avoid queue use also atvm , QR code scanner etc... offers numerous advantages Hassle-free like booking, Time-saving, Pa-perless travel etc.. DRM Sealdah Sri Nigam urge to all passengers to cooper-ate with railway authorities and purchase valid tickets through authorized channels. By adhering to ticketing rules, passengers not only avoid penalties but also contribute to the

betterment of railway services. Digital ticketing provides a convenient and efficient way to book tickets and ensures a hassle-

free travel experience. Eastern Railway's Sealdah Division remains committed to providing a safe and secure travel environment for all passengers. By enforcing ticketing rules and regulations, the rail-ways aim to deter illegal travel practices, ensure fair revenue collection, and continually improve the overall passenger experience.

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

MI News Service, New Delhi: The GST Council has once 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 GSTregistered 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 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 Sec-

tion 17(5) of the CGST Act.

Chitpur Depot Pit Line Extension successfully completed



utilization

of

MI News Service, Kolkata: increased requirement for The Chitpur Depot of Easttrain services and ensuring ern Railway has reached a a more comfortable travel significant milestone with experience for passengers. the successful completion of This development will also the extension work for Pit streamline maintenance op-Line Nos. 1 and 2. The pit erations, as the extended pit lines are now fully equipped lines, previously capable of accommodating 22 Nos. of to handle longer rakes effi-LHB coaches each, have ciently. The result will be reduced downtime, improved been extended by 42 meters, increasing their capacturnaround times, and betity to accomodate 24 Nos of ter LHB coaches. This infraresources. The trail run of structural enhancement will the extended pit lines has facilitate the operation of been successfully comlonger rakes, incraesaing pleted, demonstrating their operational flexibility for the readiness for operational use. This ensures that convenience of passengers.With this extension, pit maintenance work on the line capcity of Chitpur upgraded rakes can com-Depot, Kolkata has been inmence immediately, leading creased which will be effecto a more robust and effitive in addressing the cient rail service

Fire Fighting Training organ-ised at Kavi Subhash Station and Kavi Subhash carshed



MI News Service, Kolkata: supervision of senior offi-Metro Railway takes all cers on 03.01.2025 at Kavi Subhash Metro station and possible measures and care Kavi Subhash Carshed. In for ensuring commuters safety. Shri P Uday Kumar these training pro-grammes, Metro staff were Reddy, General Manager, imparted training to douse Metro Railway regularly monitors and reviews the flame through simulation of various fire and measurements adopted in the 'Lifeline of smoke conditions at sta-Kolkata' to avoid any unto-ward incident like fire. In tions .Staff from Traffic, Electrical, RPF and other order to check the predepartments paredness of Metro staff of these training different departments to grammes. It is expected

UPI Services to all users in India

MI News Service, New Delhi: National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has lifted the limit from onboarding UPI users for the third-party app provider WhatsApp Pay with immediate effect. With this development, WhatsApp Pay can now extend UPI services to its entire user base in India, NPCI said in a statement. Previously, NPCI had permitted WhatsApp Pay to expand its UPI user base in a phased manner, it added.

Notice regarding Power of Attorney as per West Bengal Govt.Order no. 1000-15/22/2024 dated 27/02/2024. his is to notify that Minu Rani Roy wife of Jai ishor Roy resident of 73/3 Grasim Staff Colony,

Birlagram, P.O.- Birlagram, Pin - 456331, P.S.- Bir lagram, Dist. Ujjain in the State of Madhya Pradest has purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no.230505990/2022 from Amit Pa habra son of Satvanal Chhabra resident of S sansol (South), Dist: Paschim Mukherjee Road, lurgasol, Asansol, P.O. - Asansol, P. S. Bard-aman And Amit Pal Chhabra has purchased the alaan and solid and schedule by virtue of deec 0. 230504501/2021 from Balai Sutradhar alia alai Chandra Sutradhar son of Monindranath Su adhar resident of Brahman Para, Kanyapur, P.O. vapur, Pin - 713341, P.S. - Asansol (North st Paschim Bardhaman in the State of West Ben al with the help of Attorney deed no 20505280/2020 dated 22/09/2020 registered a DSR Asansol executed by Zafar Imam Ansari so of Fazlur Rahaman Ansari resident of Sitarampu of Fazur Ranaman Ansan resident of Sitarampur, P.O. - Sitarampur, PIN -713359, P. S. - Kulti, Dist: -Paschim Bardharman and the said applicant has/have applied with the same land schedule for utation vide mutation case no. MN 2024/2305/17179 at the office of the S.D.L.&L.R.O(EP-1) Dist.- Paschim Bardhaman. If here is any objection for mutation in this respect, by concerned principle are requested to submi objection along with relevant documents to the con-cerned Revenue Officer at the office of the S.D.L.&L.R.O (EP-1) within one month from the ate of publication of this notice, otherwise law wi take it own course

Land Schedule

Block :-Sub-Divisional Land and Land Reforms Office (EP-1) Mouza:- Gopalpur **J.L. No.:-** 14 Plot No.:- 50 Name of the recorded owner: Balai Sutradhar Khatian:- 170

NOTICE

My client Shampa Saha and Manoranjan Mandal, Mouja Bag-doba Machibhanga, JL No. 46 of LR Khatian No. 2464 LR Dag No. 1325 1326 Total land 6.50 deci-mal and 1325, 1326, 1347 Total 11th cort land 2637/24 02636/ 11th cent land 2637/24 02636

5986/23 of document no.24 am applying for the case in Ra-arhat, B.L & L.R.O for purchase rom (Ziaul Haque Biswas) in Ammoktarnama, if anyone has any objection please contact the concerned office of as early as ssible. NOTICE

My client Azizul Islam and Mu-jibar Rahman Mistry, Mauza Bishnupur, JL No. 44 of LR Khat-ian No. 1500, 8949 in LR Dag No. 2418 total land 14 decimal of land 15529 and 15527 and 15528 attended in deed Nos. 396/14 and 477/14 (Surab) Ali Mollah) near Applying procase no MN/25329 & 25306 &



promote tourism and lead to overall socioeconomic video conferencing. In a development of the region. key move to further boost Charlapalli New Terminal connectivity in the region, Station in the Medchal-Malkajgiri District of Prime Minister will inaugurate the new Jammu Railway Division. He will also inaugurate the Char-Telangana has been developed as a new coaching terminal along with provilapalli New Terminal Stasion of second entry with a tion in Telangana and lay cost of around Rs 413

public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

I, Attab Ali Biswas S/o Kasem Mondal Residing at Vill +P.o -Ichhapur, P.s - Chapra, District -Nadia, Pin - 741164 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Attab Mondal. I declare that Attab Ali Biswas and Attab Mondal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Nota public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025. Notar

Name Change

Swadesh Metya S/o Shital Met Residing at Manoharpur, P.o Gopmohal, P.s - Ghatal, District West Medinipur, Pin - 721212 West Bengal India shall hence forth be known as Swadesh Mete I declare that Swadesh Metya and Swadesh Mete is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

Soumen Metva S/o Swadesł Aete Residing at Manoharpur, P.o. Gopmohal. P.s - Ghatal, District West Medinipur, Pin - 721212 West Bengal India shall hence forth be known as Soumen Mete I declare that Soumen Metva and Soumen Mete is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

Name Change

Mousumi Metya D/o Chandi Charan Hajra Residing at Manoharpur, P.o - Gopmohal, P.s - Ghatal, District - West Me-dinipur, Pin - 721212 West Ben-gal India shall henceforth be known as Mousumi Mete. I declare that Mousumi Metya and Mousumi Mete is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public,Kolkata on 03-01-2025.

NAME CHANGE

, RAVI YADAV S/o. Ram Chandra Yadav R/o. 91, Mandir Road, Dum Dum(M), North 24 Pgs, Kolkata-28 My father's name has been wrongly mentioned in my school certificate (WBBSE) as SHIW CHANDRA YADAV. So , RAM CHANDRA YADAV & SHIW CHANDRA YADAV are same & one identical person as per affidavit (13386) of Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore Court dated 19.12.2022.

by 2030: Reports

MI News Service, New Delhi: Emerging technologies like quantum computing and Generative AI are expected to create over 1 million jobs by 2030, a report by Quess IT Staffing Pathankot, said underlining just how skills in domains of artificial intelligence and machine learning (ML), cybersecurity, cloud computing, data science, and blockchain are transforming industries.

Emerging technologies also are expected to contribute over USD 150 billion to India's economy by 2030, cementing its position as a global technology leader. In all of this, Bengaluru re-

mains the hotbed of tech hiring. "Emerging technologies like Quantum Computing and Generative AI are expected to create over 1 million jobs by 2030," according to the 'Technology Skills Report 2024'. Capabilities in emerging areas like AI/ML, cybersecurity, cloud computing, data science, and blockchain are transforming industries with innovative applications. "India's technology workforce is witnessing a transformative shift. The synergy of traditional skills like ERP (enterprise resource planning) with breakthrough technologies

such as AI/ML and Quantum Computing presents unparalleled opportuni-Kapil Joshi, CEO of Quess IT Staffing said. Bengaluru continues to dominate the hiring landscape, contributing nearly half (43.5 per cent) of the tech demand, followed by Hyderabad (13.4 per cent) and Pune (10 per cent).

"India's IT sector to add up to 2 million jobs by 2030, with technologies like Generative AI and Blockchain leading the charge.

the foundation stone of crore. This environment Rayagada Railway Division friendly terminal, having Building of East Coast Railgood passenger amenities, will ease congestion on the way. Creation of the Jammu Railway Division, existing coaching termiwith 742.1 KM comprising Pathankot - Jammu - Udnals in the city like Secunderabad, Hyderabad and Kacheguda. Prime Minishampur - Srinagar - Baramulla, Bhogpur Sirwal ter will lay the foundation Batala stone for Rayagada Rail-Pathankot and Pathankot way Division Building of to Joginder Nagar sec-East Coast Railway. It will tions, will significantly improve connectivity in benefit Jammu and Kash-Odisha, Andhra Pradesh mir and surrounding reand nearby areas and lead gions, fulfilling the long to overall socio-economic pending aspiration of the development of the region.

Self-regulation stabilizes micro-finance industry

MI News Service, New Delhi: Self-regulatory measures aimed at managing over-indebtedness are helping to stabilise stress in the microfinance industry

According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) financial stability report, the delinquency rate for loans that are 31 to 180 days past due increased from 2.15 per cent in March 2024 to 4.3 per cent in September 2024. In addition to rising delinquency rates, the share of borrowers obtaining loans from four or more lenders rose from 3.6 per cent to 5.8 per cent over the past three years (from September 2021 to September 2024). The report also indicated that the quarterly average ticket size of microfinance loans increased by 43 per cent, rising from ₹35,299 in Q2 FY22 to ₹50,430 in Q2 FY25

According to Crisil Ratings, four factors have adversely affected the asset quality of microfinance lenders: lending to over-leveraged borrowers, debt waiver campaigns, high attrition rates among field staff, and challenges in debt collection due to extreme weather and elections. "We have issued additional guidelines to our members that, effective from September 2024, households with microfinance exposure exceeding ₹2 lakh should not be granted any additional loans. Furthermore, for every microfinance loan, there should be a comprehensive credit bureau check at the household level," said Jiji Mammen, executive director and CEO of Sa-Dhan. The RBI has established a regulatory framework for microfinance loans, stipulating that loan repayment should not exceed 50 per cent of a household's monthly income. "Based on feedback from the ground, the portfolio at risk (PAR) has not deteriorated further for the quarter ending December 2024 compared with September. We are still awaiting the overall industry figures. Collection efficiency is also expected to improve," Mammen told The Telegraph on Thursday, adding that the self-regulatory measures have generally been effective for the sector.

tackle any fire emergency inside the tunnels or on the viaduct, regular trainings are conducted in Metro Railway. Such fire training programmes for field staff were conducted under the

safety

Economy exhibiting resilience, GDP to grow at 6.6% in 2024-25: RBI omy, FSR said during the

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Indian economy is exhibiting resilience and stability, and the gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to grow at 6.6 per cent in 2024-25, aided by a revival in rural consumption, a pickup in government consumption and investment, and strong services exports, a RBI report said on Monday. The Reserve Bank has released the December 2024 issue of the Financial Stability Report (FSR), which reflects the collective assessment of the Sub-Committee of the Financial Stability and Development Council (FSDC) on the resilience of the Indian financial system and risks to financial stability. "The soundness of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) has been bolstered by strong profitability, declining non-performing assets and adequate capital and liquidity buffers. Return on assets (RoA) and return on equity (RoE) are at decadal highs, while the gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio has fallen to a multi-year low," the report said.

It also said that macro stress tests demonstrate that most SCBs have adequate capital buffers relative to the regulatory minimum threshold even under adverse stress scenarios. Stress tests also validate the resilience of mutual funds and clearing corporations. On the econthat such trainings will sharpen the skill and alertness of Metromen to respond to any emergency situation and minimize the rescue time and restore

normalcy at the earliest.

first half of 2024-25, real

GDP growth (y-o-y) moder-

ated to 6 per cent from 8.2

per cent and 8.1 per cent

growth recorded during H1

and H2 of 2023-24, respec-

tively. "Despite this recent

deceleration, structural

growth drivers remain in-

tact. Real GDP growth is ex-

pected to recover in O3 and O4 of 2024-25 supported by

dynamics.

in Rajarhat, B.L. L.R.O for transfer of name by purchase, if anyone has any ob jection please contact concerned office of as early as possible.

নোটিশ

আমার মক্তেল কাশী দাস, পিতা শ্রী হারান চন্দ্র ৰাস, সাং-চামরাইল, মহাশয় গত ইং ২৮/৬/২০২৩ ারিখে হাওডা এ্যাডিঃডিঃ সাব রেজিস্ঠী অফিসে রেজিষ্ট্রীকৃত বুক নং-১, ভ্যলুম নং-০৫০২- ২০২৩, পাতা নং- ১৮৯০৩১ হুইতে ১৮৯০৫১ বিযিং াং- ০৫০২০৬৬৭১ নং পাওয়ার অফ এট্যর্নী বা আমমোক্তার নামা দলিল বলে চামরাইল মৌজায জেঃ এলঃ নং- ১০৫) হাল ৬০৪ নং খতিয়ানে সাবেক ৫০৯ নং দাগের হাল ৫২৬ নং দাগের অংশে ০৫ শতক শালি জমি ১। শ্রী রমেশ পাত্র, ২। শ্রী নাথ কুমার পাত্র উভয়ের পিতা ঠাকুর দাস পাত্র, ৩ শ্রীমত্যা আরতী প্রামানিক, স্বামী রাধাকান্ত প্রামানিক, । শ্রীমত্যা রবিশশী বৈদ্য, স্বামী শিবনাথ বৈদ্য, ৫ শ্ৰীমতী ছবিতা মালিক, স্বামী গোপাল মালিক, ৬ গ্রীমত্যা কৃষ্ণা পাত্র, ৭। শ্রী তনয় পাত্র, ৬নং স্বামী ও ৭নং পিতা কাৰ্ত্তিক পাত্ৰ মহাশয় / মহাশয়া গণদের াকট হইতে বিক্রয় করিবার জন্য ক্ষমতা প্রাপ্থ হইয়াছেন, উক্ত বিষয়ে কারোর যদি কোনও আপত্তি াকে তাহলে তিনি বালী জগাছা বি.এল.এ্যান্ড.এল আর ও অফিসে যোগাযোগ করিবেন।

TENDER

pick up in domestic drivers, Sealed tenders are invited mainly public consumption from bonafied Contractors for and investment, strong 9 works noticed in 04/Dap service exports and easy fi-2024-25 and another 1 wor nancial conditions," the RBI noticed vide 05/Dgp/2024-25 said. On inflation, the re-Communicated under memo port said that going forno 3(8)/dgp dated 03.01.2025 ward, the disinflationary & 4(8)/dgp dated 03.01.2025 effect of a bumper kharif respectively.For both two notices last date for online harvest and the rabi crop submission up to 17.01.2025 prospects are expected to upto 18:00 hours. For details soften prices of foodgrains. please see the office notice On the flipside, the rising board as well as website frequency of extreme wbtenders.gov.in. weather events continues to Sd/- Prodhar pose risks for food inflation

TARAKESWAR MUNICIPALITY

Dharampur GP

e-Tender Notice

The Chairman, Tarakeswar Municipality invites of e-tender for Providing Delineators, Crash barriers, Signages etc of Municipal Road regarding Road Safety Measures within Tarakeswar Municipality.

SI.		e-Bid submission	e-Bid submission	Technical Bid
No.		Start Date	end Date	Opening date
1.	2025_MAD_794763_1	06.01.2025	22.01.2025	24.01.2025

Details information will be available from the website- http:/ wbetenders.gov.in

Chairman Tarakeswar Municipality

For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com



Kolkata, Monday 6 January 2025

Nation

Curbs under stage 3 of GRAP back in **Delhi-NCR**

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Centre's panel on Delhi-NCR's air quality on Friday brought back stage 3 curbs under the Graded Response Ac-tion Plan amid a rise in oir pollution budg outing air pollution levels owing to unfavourable meteorological conditions, ac-cording to an official order. Delhi's air polluorder. Defin s air poliu-tion levels showed an in-creasing trend and the 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) stood at 371 at 4 pm. According to forecasts from the India Meteoro-

from the India Meteorological Department and the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, the air quality situation is predicted to deteriorate further owing to un-favourable meteorological conditions.

The Commission for Air Quality Management, responsible for strategizresponsible for strategiz-ing air pollution mitiga-tion in Delhi-NCR, directed authorities in the region to immediately implement curbs pre-scribed under stage 3 to prevent further worsen-

prevent further worsen-ing of the situation. GRAP Stage 3, which was lifted last Friday, entails a ban on non-essential construction work. Classes up to grade V are required to shift to hybrid mode under Stage 3. Par-ents and students have the option to choose online education wherever available.

Under Stage 3, the use of BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel cars (4-wheelers) is restricted in Delhi and nearby NCR districts. Persons with disabilities are exempt. Stage 3 also bans non-es-sential diesel-operated medium goods vehicles with BS-IV or older standards in Delhi.

Man gets death penalty for murdering 3 children & attempt to murder on wife

MI News Service, Mangaluru: A court here has convicted and sentenced

Railways Enhances Prayagraj's Charm for Mahakumbh 2025 with "Paint My City" Campaign

MI News Service, Kolkata: In preparation for the grand Mahakumbh 2025, Indian Railways has ac-tively contributed to Prayagraj's beautification Under the "Paint My City" campaign, all railway stations in Prayagraj, such as Prayagraj Junction, Naini Prayagi aj Sunction, Nami Junction, Phaphamau, Prayag Junction, Jhunsi Railway Station, Rambagh Railway Station, Cheoki Railway Station, Prayagraj Sangam Bailway Station Sangam Railway Station, and Subedarganj Railway Station have been transformed into artistic hubs, with walls adorned with captivating murals in-spired by Hindu mythology. Themes such as Ramayan, Krishna Leela, Lord Buddha, Shiva Bhakti, Ganga Aarti and



women empowerment bring the city's cultural and spiritual legacy to life, welcoming pilgrims with a vivid narrative of faith and tradition. These wall paintings not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the stations but also reflect the

soul of Prayagraj as a cen-ter of spirituality and cultural heritage. The artworks depict the city's deep-rooted traditions, in-

cluding rishi parampara (sage traditions), guru-shishya lineage, and the harmonious blend of

Indo-French strategic tie-up: Nuclear-powered Charles de Gaulle in India



(frigates and supply ships),

have made a stopovers in

MI News Service, New Delhi: The French Navy's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle and its entire carrier are now in India. It is being seen as a powerful demonstration of growing India-France strategic ties.

Goa and Kochi, the French embassy said. Maritime cooperation between India and France has witnessed a major expansion in the last few years. "Currently, the CSG is

deployed in the Indian A carrier battle group Ocean, where it is conducting joint training sessions with its regional partners and allies, notably India, before moving on to the Indonesian zone for exercise La Perouse, and then to the Pacific Ocean for exercise Pacific Steller," the embassy said. It also highlighted the growing strategic partnership between India and France. "India has been France's foremost strategic partner since 1998, and the excellent Indo-French military cooperation is characterised by numerous bilateral exercises such as Shakti on land, Varuna at sea and Garuda in air," the embassy said in the readout. India also plays host for numerous operational stopovers made by French

Navy vessels, accounting for 16 port calls since 2022, it noted. During Mission CLEMENCEAU 25, the Charles de Gaulle CSG and Indian navy ships will take part in the 42nd annual Varuna bilateral exercise. The aim of this aero-naval training is to develop inter-

knowledge and renunciation, offering visitors a glimpse into its timeless essence. The vibrant mu-rals on the walls of rail-way stations align with the larger effort to present Prayagraj as a city steeped in faith and tradition, ensuring that every corner resonates with the grandeur of Mahakumbh 2025. The Railways' ef-forts in beautifying these stations resonate with the spirit of Mahakumbh, creating a visually immersive experience for millions of pilgrims and tourists. By integrating art with infra-structure, the initiative ensures that Prayagraj's cultural vibrancy leaves an indelible impression on all who arrive to partake

Pushpa 2 stampede case: NHRC seeks ATR from Hyd police chief

MI News Service, Hyder-abad: The NHRC has sought an Action Taken Report (ATR) within four weeks (A1R) within four weeks from the Hyderabad police chief on the death of a woman in a stampede at a theatre in the Telangana capital early December where 'Pushpa 2' movie was screened, according to the case's proceedings case's proceedings. The National Human Rights

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has also said that the allegations in the stampede case be in-quired by a senior rank po-lice officer and sought "needful action" on it. The complaint was filed with the NHBC on December 5 and NHRC on December 5 and registered on December 17, registered on December 17, as per the proceedings. The commission took action on January 1 and has sought a detailed action taken report "within four weeks". A 35-war old woman diad during year-old woman died during the stampede at the Sandhya Theatre in Hyderabad on December 4 where the Allu Arjun-starrer 'Pushpa 2' movie was screened and her eight-year-old son was hospitalised. Following the incident, a case was regis-

Metro Railway connects Central and Shyambazar receiving substations through energy efficient highly conductive aluminum third rail

MI News Service, Kolkata: Metro Railway, Kolkata has achieved the first ment of Steel third rail by highly conductive Alu-minum third rail.Installation of the highly conductive Aluminum third rail Shyambazar and Central station of the DN line has been completed.The length of this section is approximately 4 kms. This Aluminum third rail may be seen at Shyambazar, Shovabazar-Sutanuti, Girish Park and Mahatma Gandhi Road stations in the DN Line all who arrive to partake in this historic event.

(towards Kavi Subhas). Earlier Metro Railway, Kolkata had made trials in the month of September to November 2024 in ber to November 2024 in different sections like Girish Park, Maidan sid-ings and Central Main line. The work has started in full steam in the month of December 2024. Around 3500 mtr rail has been replaced in the month of December 2024. Now, approxi-mately 4000 mtr will be replaced every month. The work of re-placement in the under-ground section has been targeted for completion within August 2025 within August, 2025. Earlier, the rail was being replaced after tak-ing power blocks on Saturday nights. Now, the replacement is being replacement is being done on weekdays also.The replacement work is extremely chal-lenging as delay in com-pletion of day's work may lead to traffic disruption in the morning. So, all steps are monitored crit-ically and after detailed ically and after detailed minute to minute planning, back up planning and fall back strategy in place the work is exe-First cuted. new pedestals are made of appropriate height with best material available in the market (M65 pre mix concrete to avoid any adulteration and quality

between

site and kept in safe location. One day before the scheduled work, the shroud boards of existing rails are removed. On the execution day, existing steel rails are cut at marked locations and dismantled. New GRP (Glass Reinforced Plastic) insulators are placed on the pedestals. Then the new highly conductive Aluminium third rail is placed on the insulators after adjusting height and distance. Interconnection with the existing power supply system is done with cables. After all adjustment of midpoint anchor, expansion joints and cable connectors, one final checking of tightness of all fasteners are done. Finally, the shroud boards are placed on the rail. This highly conductive Aluminum third rail has the capacity to reduce the system voltage drops and subsequent energy losses, thanks to its superior electrical conductivity. This less voltage drop in compromise). Then all the third rail will help to materials like third rail achieve faster acceleracomponents and shroud tion of the running Met-ros. That will be an boards are brought to the

improvement in the efficiency of Metro operations. In this new system a huge amount of energy will be saved which will in turn help the Metro Railway to reduce its operational cost. As a result, the entire expenses for replacing this third rail could be realized within three years by saving this operational cost Additionally Alucost. Additionally Alu-minium third rail shall reduce carbon emission by 50000 ton in its lifetime.Apart from this, Aluminium third rail will require less maintenance and will be highly reli-able and stable. In a hot and humid city like Kolkata, this replace-ment will be very much beneficial and inside the tunnel lesser heat will be generated during the time of contact of Third Rail Current Collector (TRCC) with this third rail. For maintenance work the new third rail will not require any welding as two such rails can be joined with the help of splice joint. It will help to maintain the air quality inside the tunnels.

man to death for allegedly murdering his three children and attempting to kill his wife by pushing them into a well. Third Additional District and Sessions Court judge Sandhya handed the death sentence to Hitesh Shettigar on December 31 for his heinous acts.

According to police, the incident occurred on June 23, 2022, in Padmanoor village. The accused allegedly pushed his three children into a well, lead-ing to their deaths. He also attempted to murder his wife, Lakshmi, by pushing her into the same well. Investigation revealed that the accused was unemployed and frequently quarrelled with his wife. On the day of the incident, driven by re-sentment, he waited until his children returned from school before committing the crime. When the woman screamed for help, a flower vendor working nearby heard her cries and rescued her by climbing into the well. During the investigation, it was discovered that the eldest daughter had tried to save herself by clinging to a pump pipe installed in the well. However, the accused severed the pipe with a knife, ensuring she could not escape. Based on a complaint, a case was registered at Mulki Police Station under the Indian Penal Code Sections 302 (murder) and 307 (attempt to murder). Following a detailed in-vestigation led by Inspector Kusumadhara and assisted by ASI Sanjeeva, a chargesheet was submitted to the court. Pros-ecutor Mohan Kumar presented strong evidence during the trial, which confirmed the accused's guilt.

carrier strike group (CSG) is a mega naval fleet comprising an aircraft carrier, accompanied by a large number of destrovers, frigates and other ships. At present, the French CSG is deployed in the Indian Ocean where it is conducting joint training sessions with its regional partners and allies, including India. India has been France's foremost strategic partner since 1998, a French readout said, announcing the CSG's visit to

the country. Deployed in the Indian Ocean as part of Mission CLEMENCÊAU 25, the French carrier strike group, comprising the aircraft carrier Charles De Gaulle, its embarked air fleet and escort vessels

operability between the two navies and prepare crews to deal with a multimilieu threat in the domains of air, surface and submarine. "As resident nations of the Indian Ocean, France and India regularly cooperate to contribute to maritime safety in the region," the embassy said. "Since 2008, France has been a member of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS), which was initiated by India, and brings together 25 navies from countries of the Indian Ocean," it said. The aim of this forum is to increase collective effectiveness in tackling a range of maritime issues, including illegal trafficking, illegal fishing, search and rescue at sea, and pollution.

tered against Allu Arjun, his security team, and the the atre management under different sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the Chikkadpally police station based on a complaint by the deceased woman's family. Allu Arjun was arrested by the city police in connection with the death of the woman on December 13. The Telangana High Court granted him a four-week interim bail on the same day and he was released from a prison in Hyderabad on December 14. According to the proceedings, the complainant has drawn attention of the commission towards death of a woman allegedly "due to lathi charge" by the police of Chikkadpally who accompanied Allu Arjun during a promotional show 'Pushpa 2'.

safe abode for the passenger with constant Security **Surveillance**

MI News Service, Kolkata:

Howrah Station is

Howrah station of Eastern Railway is a safe abode for the passengers with continuous security surveillance on 24x7 basis. Every nook & cor-ner of the passenger waiting area and platforms of Howrah station are provided with CCTV cameras centrally monitored through an integrated security surveillance system. Howrah Railway Station, renowned for its robust security measures, is equipped with 220 CCTV cameras, three luggage scanner machines, and 200 security personnel, ensuring continuous surveillance and passenger safety. CCTV cameras are installed over different platforms and other areas of Howrah station premises to monitor each and every activity round the clock. About 200 nos of RPF personnel are deployed to patrol over every corner of Howrah station and platforms on round the clock basis in different shifts. The security control room of the integrated security system having monitors for every inch is also operational round the clock to keep a close eye and record of every activity at the station area. The RPF personnel on duty at Howrah station are very prompt and keep an eye on the slightest deviation from the normal and acts as a saviour to the passengers.

FR'S Malda Division conducts intensive ticket checking drive



MI News Service, Kolkata: As per the instructions of Shri Uday Shankar Jha, Principal Chief Commercial Manager (PCCM), Eastern Railway and under the dynamic guid-ance of Shri Sudeb Bhattacharya, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Malda, a dedicated team of Commercial Officers, Commercial Inspectors, Ticketchecking staff, and Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel conducted an inticket-checking tensive drive on Saturday the (04.01.2025)in evening. The operation targeted the railway platforms at Malda Town Station and several trains originating from and passing through Malda Town Station. The drive aimed to ensure compliance with ticketing rules, improve passenger discipline, and curb revenue loss. During the operation,132 passengers were found traveling without tickets and this proactive enforcement effort resulted in the collection of ₹46,130/- in penalties.In addition to the ticket-checking drive, the Malda Division has also observed a significant boost in the sale of tickets at the Malda Town Station counters. This increase in

growing awareness and willingness of passengers to adhere to the proper procedures for ticketing, further supporting the division's commitment to a disciplined and regulated experience.The travel Malda Division remains committed to ensuring a seamless and disciplined travel experience for passengers. Regular ticketchecking drives, such as this one, serve as a deterrent to unauthorized travel and encourage passengers to adhere to railway regulations. The Malda Division appreciates the cooperation of the Railway Protection Force for their active support during the drive, which ensured the smooth execution of the initiative. Such collective efforts contribute to strengthening the integrity of railway services and fostering an environment of accountability.Malda Division urges all passengers to ensure they have valid tickets before traveling and to cooperate with railway authorities to ensure a smooth and orderly travel experience. The division remains committed to providing secure, efficient, and environmentally friendly services to all travelers.

counter sales reflects the

Kasganj violence: Spl NIA court sentences 28 convicts to life imprisonment

MI News Service, Kasganj: A spe-cial NIA court here sentenced 28 convicts to life imprisonment in connection with the Kasganj violence case. Special judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi also imposed a fine of Rs 80,000 on each convict. The special NIA court here convicted 28 people in con-nection with the murder of Chandan Gupta, who was shot dead in a communal clash that broke out during a 2018 Tiranga Yatra in Kasganj. The accused were convicted on charges of murder, attempted murder, rioting and insulting the national flag. The case drew significant attention after Chandan Gupta's death sparked riots in the region. The court sentenced the convicts to life imprisonment. Earlier, on the quantum of sentence, the court heard the pleas of the defence as well as the prosecution, which had demanded the severest punishment for all the

convicts. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) court acquitted Nasiruddin and Asim Qureshi, citing a lack of sufficient evidence to convict them. On the morning of January 26, 2018, Chandan Gupta and his brother Vivek Gupta took part in a Tiranga Yatra. When the procession reached the Government Girls Inter College gate on Tehsil Road, a group, including Salim, Wasim and Naseem, al-legedly blocked the road and stopped the procession, a government counsel said.When Chandan objected, the situation escalated and stone-pelting began from the side of the accused, the lawyer said. Salim, one of the main accused, shot Chandan, he said. Despite the grave injury, Vivek and their companions managed to rush Chandan to the Kasganj police station, from where he was immediately transferred to the district hospital where he was declared

dead shortly after arrival. The murder of Chandan led to widespread riots in Kasganj for three days, fueling communal tensions in the region. Chandan's father Sushil Gupta lodged a murder complaint. In September 2019, the Kasganj Sessions Court framed charges against 23 individuals. Later, in November 2019, charges were framed against

an additional seven persons. The charges included Sections 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting with deadly weapons), 307/149 (attempted murder), 302/149 (murder), 341 (wrongful restraint), 336 (endangerment), 504 (intentional insult), 506 (criminal intimidation), and Section 124K (insult to national flag) of the Indian Penal Code. Additionally, several of the accused faced charges under the Arms Act for possession of firearms. The trial was transferred to the Lucknow court after initial proceedings in Kasganj.

For TV, e-paper & news visit: www.live7tv.com Morning India MONDAY, KOLKATA, JANUARY 6, 2025

MIXED BAG

Rural credit ecosystem in India getting formalised: **NABARD Chairman**

NEW DELHI: India's rural credit ecosystem is increasingly getting formalised and borrowers across the country are preferring formal sources due to a variety of reasons, including interest subventions and subsidised credit, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Chairman Shaji KV told reporters on Sunday. "The access of credit

from informal sources is actually coming down very drastically. That means that a formalisation of rural credit is happening. (Formalisation of rural credit) in itself will leave a lot of margins at the hands of the rural people, because if you access an informal source, the rate of interest will be higher, thus margins before them will be lower," Shaji KV told a press conference at the ongoing six-day Grameen Bharat Mahotsav in Bharat Mandapam here.

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Interest-subvented loans through Kisan Credit Cards, agri fund schemes, and a cap on the rate of interest on informal means put together helped formalisation of rural credit, he said.

Rural consumption in India is improving and the rate of growth in rural consumption is better than urban consumption, creating a lot of demand in the rural pockets.

Going ahead, with farmgate infrastructure being set up across the country, Shaji KV said there now is a need to shift people out of agricultural production to value-added processing through a value chain development.

He said agri credit growth is expected to be more than 13 per cent this fiscal 2024-25. Agri credit growth has been on an average at 13 per cent over the past ten years.

This year we will be

products of rural artisans products of tribal people, products of women entrepreneurs, products of SHGs, FPOs, and such other things," the NABARD chairman said.

NABARD is also handholding rural artisans to market their produce on the internet, including the flagship digital public infrastructure ONDC.

Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is aimed at promoting open source networks for all to exchange goods and services on the internet, and most importantly it is independent of any specific platform. "We are working in dif-

ferent states with different groups for improving their productions and improving their visibility," the NABARD chairman said.

The Niranjana (Phalgu) river has its special place in the cultural and religious heritage of India. This river, which originates from Chatra in Jharkhand and flows through Gaya in Bihar, is not just a stream of water but is a symbol of spiritual faith and cultural identity for the followers of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism. But with time, due to decreasing water flow, pollution, siltation, and encroachment, this holy river is now facing an envi-ronmental crisis. Today this river is losing its natural purity and uninterrupted flow, said an official statement from the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

In such a situation, taking an important initiative towards the conservation and revival of the Niranjana River, an important meeting was organized under the leadership of Rajiv Kumar Mittal, Director General of National Clean Ganga Mission. Executive Director Brijendra (Project) Swaroop, SMCG, Gokul Foundation (NGO) and vari-

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Devotees take a dip at the Sangam of the Ganga, the Yamuna and Saraswati (mythical) Rivers on a foggy and cold winter day, in Prayagraj on Sunday.

Shaping India's Digital Future: A Citizen-Čentric Approach to Data Protection

ASHWINI VAISHNAW

"When we talk about the global future, then human-centric approaches should be foremost." These words from our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the recent United Nations 'Summit of the Future' reflect India's vision of putting people first. This philosophy has guided our efforts in shaping the Draft Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Rules, 2025. The rules, after being finalized, would operationalize the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, bringing to life our commitment to safeguarding citizens' right to personal data protection. A New Era of Empowerment The Indian citizen lies at the heart of the DPDP Rules, 2025. In a world increasingly dominated by data, we believe it is imperative to place individuals at the heart of the governance framework. These rules empower citizens with rights such as informed consent, data erasure, and the ability to appoint digital nominees. Citizens will no longer feel helpless in the face of breaches or unauthorized data usage. They will have tools to protect and manage their digital identities effectively. The rules are designed with simplicity and clarity, ensuring that every Indian, regardless of their technical knowhow, can understand and exercise their rights. From ensuring consent is sought in clear terms to mandating that information be provided to the citizens in English or any of the 22 Indian languages listed in the Constitution, the framework reflects our commitment to inclusivity.



We have opened a 45-day public consultation period, inviting feedback and suggestions from citizens, businesses, and civil society. This engagement is a testament to our belief in collective wisdom and the importance of participatory policymaking, while ensuring that the framework is not only robust but also adaptable to the unique challenges of our socio-economic landscape.

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To ensure citizens are aware of their rights and responsibilities widespread awareness initiatives will be undertaken to educate the citizens about their rights on their personal data.

achieving around 27 to 28 lakh crore in agriculture credit," the NABARD chairman said.

The NABARD chairman was also asked to respond about the regional imbalance in agri credit, particularly in east and northeast India. He said the lack of digitised land records was an impediment.

... for any credit to grow there needs to be a linking of the KYC with the activity which they are doing. So in the case of certain areas, there is still a problem of land records being made available. So that is what is preventing. To address this, the government is now going for this digitisation,' he said.

A lack of data is creating that imbalance, he stressed. "So we are addressing that imbalance through making available the data and making it easier for banks to lend credit," he supplemented. Asked whether only subsidization of fertilizer will help augment the agricultural sector, Shaji KV argued that subsidization of fertilizer will definitively help, and in the same breath added that irrigation, better roads, highyielding crops, credit availability at subvented or subsidised rates were also key.

The ongoing six-day Grameen Bharat Mahotsav in the national capital is aimed at improving the visibility of rural Indian products to urban consumers. NABARD is India's apex development bank, established in 1982 under an Act of Parliament to promote sustainable and equitable agriculture and rural landscapes. "We are showcasing

their specialised products, especially the GI ta products, organic products, ous technical institutions participated in the meeting.

In the meeting, projects and strategies for the rejuvenation of the Niranjana River were discussed in detail. During this, the Director General emphasized adopting an approach based on science, community participation, and sustainable development to ensure the conservation and revival of the river. He also highlighted the challenges

and solutions that would help in securing the future of the river. It was informed in the meeting that a multipronged strategy has been prepared for the revival of

the Niranjana River However, the road to rejuvenation of the Niranjana river is fraught with challenges. Decreasing groundwater levels. unplanned urbanisation, and untreated waste, as well as climate change, have had a profound impact on rainfall patterns and river flow, further complicating the situation. However, the project is expected to improve groundwater recharge and ecological stability . Also, a sustainable model for sus-

tainable water management will be developed while encouraging community participation. The Niranjana River Revival Project is a unique

initiative aligned with the national goals of "Namami Gange", which is not only an effort to conserve the river but also a symbol of a wonderful confluence of culture and environment. The aim of this project is not only to revive the flow of the river but the mission is to make it a source of inspiration and

role model for present and

future generations.

Safeguarding children

Children requires special care in the digital age. Recognizing this, the rules mandate verifiable parental or guardian consent for processing the personal data of minors. Additional safeguards ensure that children are shielded from exploitation, unauthorized profiling, and other digital harms. These provisions reflect our dedication to creating a safer digital space for the future generation.

Balancing Growth with Regulation

India's digital economy has been a global success story, and we are determined to keep this momentum alive. Our framework ensures personal data protection for the citizens while enabling innovation in the digital economy. Unlike some international models

that lean heavily towards regulation, our approach is pragmatic and growth-oriented. This balance ensures that citizens are protected without stifling the innovative spirit that drives our startups and businesses.

Small businesses and startups will face lower compliance burdens. The rules are designed with graded responsibilities, taking into account the varying capacities of stakeholders. Larger companies, based on assessment of data fiduciaries, will have higher obligations, ensuring accountability without disrupting growth. A Digital-First Philosophy

At the core of these rules is a "digital by design" philosophy. The Data Protection Board, tasked with resolving grievances and enforcing compliance, will function predominantly as a digital office. By leveraging technology, we ensure efficiency, transparency, and speed. Citizens can file complaints, track progress, and seek resolutions without unnecessary physical interactions. This digital-first approach extends to consent mechanisms and data management workflows. By streamlining processes, we make it easier for fiduciaries to comply, and for citizens to engage, fostering trust in the system.

Inclusive Approach

The journey to these rules has been as inclusive as their intent. Grounded in the principles of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, the draft rules are a product of wide ranging inputs gathered from various stakeholders and study of global best pracA Vision for the Future

As we unveil these rules, we are not merely addressing present challenges but laying the groundwork for a secure and innovative digital future. The Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2025, reflect India's leadership in shaping global data governance norms. By placing citizens at the center and fostering a conducive environment for innovation, we are setting a precedent for the world to follow. Our commitment is clear: to protect, empower, and enable every Indian in this digital age. I encourage every citizen, business, and civil society group to participate in this dialogue by sharing comments and suggestions during the consultation period. Together, let us refine these rules to create a framework that truly represents the aspirations of a secure, inclusive, and thriving digital India.

The Author is the Hon'ble Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Information & Broadcasting, and Railways

ZELENSKYY CLAIMS UKRAINE ATTACKED BY 103 DRONES ON SATURDAY, OVER 600 DRONE STRIKES IN PAST WEEK

KIEV: President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy has asked to increase sanctions on Russia after he claimed that Ukraine was attacked by 103 Shahed drones and over 600 drone strikes in the last week along with several guided aerial bombs and missiles which comprise of over 50,000 components sourced from across the world.

In a post on X, Zelenskyy said, "Almost every day, we defend our skies against Russian missiles and drones. Just last night, Ukraine was attacked by 103 Shahed drones, which contained 8,755 foreign-made components. Over the past week, Russia has used more than 630 strike drones, approximately 740 guided aerial bombs, and nearly 50 missiles of various types - totaling over 50,000 sanctioned components sourced from around the world.

He noted that the sanctions pressure on supply chains for foreign components remains insufficient and said that "Russia continues to acquire the components and manufacturing tools it needsalmost globally - and uses them in the weapons it employs to terrorize Ukraine.

He gave a call for continuing to strengthen cooperation with all the partners of Ukraine on sanctions, air defence systems, longrange weapons, and support for the Ukrainian soldiers.

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"These priorities will help protect our cities, villages, and positions on the frontline. I am grateful to every partner helping us with this", the post concluded.

The post also comprised of a video which showed the areas of Ukraine which were subjected to attacks in the last week. These included Kiev, Chernihiv, Sumy, Donetsk, Kherson, Kharkiv and Dnipro. The video reiterated the message which the Ukrainian President has emphasised time and again, that is to increase support and air defence for Ukraine.

Earlier this week, US President Joe Biden on Monday announced additional security assistance support to meet Ukraine's critical

HE NOTED THAT THE SANC-TIONS PRESSURE ON SUPPLY CHAINS FOR FOREIGN COM-PONENTS REMAINS INSUFFI-**CIENT AND SAID THAT "RUSSIA CONTINUES TO ACQUIRE THE COMPONENTS AND MANUFACTURING** TOOLS IT NEEDS- ALMOST **GLOBALLY - AND USES THEM** IN THE WEAPONS IT **EMPLOYS TO TERRORIZE** UKRAINE."

security and defence needs, a statement by the US Department of Defence said. The package includes authori-

zation of a Presidential Drawdown

Authority (PDA) package, which has an estimated value of USD 1.25 billion, to provide Ukraine additional capabilities to meet its most urgent needs, including missiles for air defence; munitions for rocket systems and artillery; and anti-tank weapons, as per Department of Defence.

In a post on X, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, "As part of the surge in security assistance for Ukraine that President Biden announced in September. the United States is providing USD 1.25 billion in weapons and equip-ment today for Ukraine's selfdefence. The United States and more than 50 nations stand united with Ukraine.

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07 Kolkata, Monday 6 January 2025

US plans \$8 billion weapons sale to Israel: Report

MI News Service, Washington DC: The US State Department on Friday informed Congress of its plan to approve USD 8 billion worth of arms sales to Israel, according to the department's office presiding weapons transfers, the New York Times reported.

The proposed sale includes bombs, artillery shells, missiles for fighter jets and helicopters, and GPS guidance systems for bombs, as per a notification sent to two congressional committees. Some weapons systems are expected to enter production pipelines, with deliveries taking up to two years.

However, certain munitions, in-cluding 2,800 MK-82 bombs--500pound unguided weapons--could be delivered as early as this year if Congress and the State Department provide final approval, a US official said on Saturday. About USD 6 billion of the USD 8 billion package is made up of four cases, or sets of sales, and those are mainly bombs and GPS



guidance systems for unguided bombs, said the official, on the condition of anonymity, the New York Times reported. Notably, this package could mark the final arms sale to Israel under President Joe Biden's

administration. Meanwhile, Israeli forces killed at least 70 Palestinians in 30 separate attacks across the Gaza Strip on Saturday, medics and rescue workers say, with the victims including

many children, Al Jazeera reported. Also, Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz indirectly said that talks with concerned parties are in progress for the return of captives held in Gaza. Katz's remarks came while speaking with parents of Liri Elbag, whose video was released by Hamas. In a rough translation of a post on X on Saturday, Katz wrote, 'I spoke this evening with Shira and Eli, the parents of Liri Elbag, who was kidnapped by the terrorist organisation Hamas." Katz added, "I told them how

important and meaningful the excit-ing sign of life received from Liri was, along with her impressive resilience and mental strength under impossible conditions. I would like to offer my condolences and hugs to the family. I told them that it is important that they know that all parties are working in every possible way to bring Liri home as soon as possible, along with all the abductees.

Meeting for peace and amity amid hatred and crimes



Nurul Islam Khan

"Humanity is above of allthings"--- a pleasant discussion was held on Sunday under this title. It is worth mentioning that a pleasant meeting on Payame Insaniyat was held at Sundarban Al Manar Girls Mission. Distinguished guests gave meaningful speeches.Present were

Maulana Abdus Salam Nadvi, Hafiz Abu Bakr, Maulana Shabbir Nadvi, Hafiz Abdullah, Maulana Khurshid Nadvi, Dr. Sarfaraz Adil,Maulana Mufakkir Hossain, Abdul Oavvum, Mohammad Sohrab Hos-

sain and others were present. The entir management was done by Maulana Anwar Hussain Qasemi. Maulana Idris Nadvi and Basanti Imam Muazzin Committee's Maulana Abdur Razzak Maulana and Abdus Salam Maulana Muhibullah were present on this day." Amid a situation, when people are dying in an unsanitary environment all around, street crimes are going on, violence and religious hatred have been created among people, this kind of meeting can create an atmosphere of harmony in the society", said the organization.

UN warns of impending disruption in services for Palestinian refugees

MI News Service, Gaza: The UN agency for Palestine refugees warned that its operation could be crippled as an impending Israeli ban on it is expected to take effect by the end of January.

In a brief statement, the UN Relief and Works for Palestine Agency Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) on Saturday said, "Time is running out for a possible ban on the agency that would prevent it from providing services to mil-lions of Palestinian refugees," Xinhua news agency reported. The statement added that the United Nations "does not plan to replace the agency, and the Knesset, the Israeli parliament, must reverse its decision to ban it. "On October 28, 2024, the Israeli parliament approved two laws — one bars UNRWA from operating in Israel, set to take effect in three months, while the other ends all Israeli dealings with the UN agency, nullifying all previously signed agreements.

The UN has expressed grave concern over the adoption of the laws, calling on the Israeli government continue to allow



Border Security Force (BSF) personnel stand guard along the India-Pakistan border fence during a cold and foggy winter morning, at Border out Post (BOP) Pulmoran, near Amritsar.

Pakistan: PTI condemns internet 'throttling,' cites economic fallout

MI News Service, Islamabad: Pakistan result in losses ex-The opposition Pakistan ceeding PKR 1.3 billion, Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has criticised the government for

Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) which he attributed to accused the Israeli Defense "short-sighted and ineffec-Forces (IDF) of destroying its

army infra in Lebanon **MI News Service, Beirut:** The United Nations Interim

UNIFIL accuses Israel of de-

stroying its property, Lebanese

Spoljaric said during her visit to Lebanon that "civilsuspended operations due ians cannot afford for the to icy conditions, delaying ceasefire to lapse, plunging dozens of flights. Three UAE aid them back into heavy fighting that would bring more death and destruction.' "Maintaining the ceasefire is convoys arrive essential for families to return home, rebuild their in Gaza Strip lives, and for humanitarian assistance to reach those in need," Spoljaric was quoted as saying in an ICRC statement. "The scale of destruction and the staggering humanitarian needs in Lebanon could have been significantly mitigated if the parties to the conflict had fully adhered to the rules of MI News Service, Gaza war," she said. A ceasefire, City: Three UAE convoys loaded with various hubrokered by the US and France, went into effect on manitarian aid crossed November 27, 2024, aiming this week into the Gaza to halt nearly 14 months of Strip through the Egyptian fighting between Israel and Rafah Border Crossing. This is part of the Hezbollah. The terms of the UAE's efforts to support ceasefire agreement include and provide relief to the Israel's withdrawal from Lebanese territory within 60 days, with the Lebanese Palestinians during the current circumstances in army deploying on the line with "Operation Chivalrous Knight 3". The Lebanese-Israeli border and in the south, taking over seconvoys consist of 29 curity there, and banning trucks carrying more than any presence of weapons 364 tonnes of humanitarian aid. This includes food, and militants. winter clothing, shelter tents and other essential needs. This brings the number of aid convoys that have entered the Gaza partisan inquiry led by the House Strip through Egyptian Select Committee on the Strategic border crossings as part of Competition Between the United Operation Chivalrous States and the Chinese Communist Knight 3, to 150 convoys Party, which raised alarm over the consisting of 2,319 trucks potential national security threats transporting more than posed by these foreign-made 29,025 tonnes. drones, particularly those from Chi-nese manufacturer DJI. The inquiry, Since the start of the crisis, the UAE has provided 46,659 tonnes of urlaunched in June, underscored concerns about the increasing presence gent relief supplies to the of Chinese drones near sensitive US Gaza Strip. This aims to military installations, with implicacontribute to alleviating tions for espionage and surveillance. According to the Select Committee, the difficult conditions suffered by the people of these drones pose "significant risks" Gaza. Operation Chivalrous Knight 3 seeks to as-sist all affected groups in to US security and the privacy of American citizens. In response to the the Gaza Strip, especially inquiry, the Commerce Department has begun the process of considering children and women. The actions to restrict drones made in UAE is keen to intensify re-China under its authority over inforlief efforts and promote mation and communications techhumanitarian work for nology and services (ICTS). Palestinians.

sures. Kansas City International Airport temporarily

The NWS has warned

Antony Blinken to visit South Korea, Japan and France from January 4 to 9

MI News Service, Washing-ton DC: Amid the ongoing political turmoil in South Korea, United States secretary of State Antony Blinken is set to visit the nation and will discuss how both the countries can boost efforts to promote a "free, open, and prosper-ous Indo-Pacific." Blinken will also travel to Japan, France along with South Korea from January 4-9.

particularly along the In-In a press release, the terstate 70 corridor, which US Department of State runs through major cities said, "Secretary of State like St. Louis and Indi-Antony J. Blinken will anapolis. In response to the worsening weather, states including Missouri, Kentucky, and Arkansas travel to the Republic of Korea (ROK), Japan, and France January 4-9. In the ROK, Secretary Blinken will have declared states of meet with senior ROK govemergency. In central ernment officials to reaf-Kansas, icy roads caused firm the ironclad US-ROK multiple truck accidents, alliance and discuss ways leading to highway cloour two nations can build on our critical cooperation on challenges around the world based on our shared values. The Secretary will also discuss how the United

Meanwhile, Blinken on Saturday also spoke with Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty. The US State Department said that the Secretary and Foreign Minister discussed the latest developments in ongoing efforts to reach a ceasefire in Gaza that secures the release of the hostages, increases the flow of humanitarian aid into Gaza, and brings an end to the war.

will reaffirm the impor

tance of the alliance in addressing a range of bilateral, regional, and global issues and continue to build on the momentum of US-Japan-ROK trilateral cooperation.'

RELAT

In France, Secretary Blinken will meet with senior French officials as part of our vital partnership to address challenges in Europe, the Middle East, and beyond.

UNRWA to operate and to respect Israel's obligations under international law.

Earlier, UN humanitarians said that Israelis have ordered more relocations in besieged North Gaza because of impending attacks in retaliation for rocket fire into Israel.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said the latest directive was for civilians in the Al-Bureij area of Deir al Balah governorate to move west, Xinhua news agency reported.

OCHA said the newest evacuation order came as Israeli authorities continued to deny United Nations' attempts to coordinate the safe movement of humanitarian workers. Most people across the Gaza Strip, already displaced multiple times, are often forced to flee amid intense bombardment with almost none of their belongings into unsafe areas that lack the basics for human survival.

allegedly reducing internet speeds under the pretext of addressing security concerns. The party claims that this policy disproportionately targets PTI while having grave economic consequences for the nation, Dawn reported. PTI officials urged the government to reconsider its approach, citing the detrimental effects of internet restrictions on Pakistan's economy and global standing. In a statement reacting to a report by Top10VPN.com, PTI Central Information Secretary Sheikh Waqqas Akram highlighted that Pakistan incurred the highest economic losses globally due to internet shutdowns in 2024, amounting to USD 1.62 billion. "Despite a 15.8 per cent worldwide decline in costs associated with internet shutdowns, Pakistan topped the charts," he stated, calling this an alarming trend.

policies." Sheikh Waqqas also condemned the Minister of State for IT and the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) chairman for repeatedly using security concerns as a justification for restricting internet access. He emphasised that the root cause of security issues lies in "misguided priorities and flawed policies," contrasting this with what he described as a period of "exemplary peace" during the PTI-led government under Prime Minister Imran Khan, reported Dawn. He blamed the resurgence of terrorism on the policies of the current administration, which he accused of prioritising self-interest over national welfare. "The power-hungry clique's ill-advised policy will have far-reaching devastating economic consequences for the country, including the loss of substantial foreign He added that the financial exchange earnings and poimplications of a single 24tential business contracts," hour internet shutdown in Waqqas asserted.

property and a Lebanese army's infrastructure in southern Lebanon. "This morning peacekeepers observed an IDF bulldozer destroying a blue barrel marking the line of withdrawal between Lebanon and Israel in Labbouneh, as well as an observation tower belonging to the Lebanese Armed Forces immediately beside a UNIFIL position there," UNIFIL said on social media platform X. "The IDF's deliberate and direct destruction of both clearly identifiable UNIFIL property and infrastructure belonging to the Lebanese Armed Forces is a flagrant violation of resolution 1701 and international law," it said. UNIFIL called on all actors to avoid any actions, including the destruction of civilian property and infrastructure, that could jeopardise the cessation of hostilities, Xinhua news agency reported. Also on Saturday, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) President Mirjana States and the ROK can strengthen key efforts to promote a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific, as well as trilateral efforts with Japan," the US Department of State said. It added, "In Japan, Secretary Blinken will meet with senior Japanese government officials to review the tremendous progress the US-Japan alliance has made over the past few years. Secretary Blinken

3 dead after fishing boat hits rocks off southwestern coast in S Korea

MI News Service, Seoul: Three people died after a fishing boat carrying 22 struck rocks off South Korea's southwest coast Saturday, officials said.

According to Yonhap News Agency, the Coast Guard and other authorities reported receiving a

call around 10:30 am about the boat crashing into rocks near Gageo Island in Sinan. South Jeolla Province. The other 19 people were rescued by the Coast Guard and a nearby vessel, and were not in any life-threatening conditions.



Pirzada Maulana Ayatullah Siddiqui Saheb, the younger son of Pir Hazrat Ansar Siddiqui of Furfura Sharif, is giving sermons at the Qayem Maqam Islamic Markaz in Furfura Sharif. Pic: Nurul Islam Khan

China condemns US' consideration of new rule to ban Chinese-made drones

MI News Service, Beijing: After US President Joe Biden's administration announced on Thursday its consideration of a new rule that could restrict Chinese-made drones in the United States, China condemned the move as an "overstretching" of the concept of national security. The US Department of Commerce had initiated a rulemaking period to evaluate the possibility of banning or restricting drones manufactured in China. China's Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Mao Ning during a Ministry regular press briefing on Friday said that such actions disrupt normal economic and trade exchanges. Mao said, "China firmly opposes the US overstretching the concept of national security, which disrupts and restricts normal economic and trade exchanges, and undermines the security and stability of the



industrial and supply global chains." She warned that China would take all necessary measures to protect its legitimate rights and interests. "We will take all measures necessary to firmly safeguard our lawful rights and interests," China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson said. Notably, the move by US to restrict Chinese-made drones followed a bi-

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SPORTS & GAME

Border-Gavaskar Trophy returns to Australia after 10 years following 6-wicket triumph against India at SCG

SYDNEY : Australia broke the 10 year-long hiatus and successfully reclaimed the Border-Gavaskar Trophy after conquering India at the Sydney Cricket Ground and thumping its authority in the fierce rivalry with a 3-1 series win

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Rohit Sharma, who decided to sit out in the final Test, saw his side with downcast eyes. Head coach Gautam Gambhir looked dejected as he saw India's growing misery on the field. The emotions of the two stalwarts summed up the SCG Test.

For India, the three days were a mix of seeing dreams and then watching them crumble right in front of their eyes. The six-wicket defeat ended India's hopes of reaching the World Test Championship final for the third successive time.

On the other hand, the triumph in Sydney booked Australia's date with South Africa in the WTC final at the iconic Lord's. The Baggy Greens will step into the venue with the ambition of successfully defending the WTC mace.

The victory in Perth became a distant memory when India crumbled in the opening hour of Day 3. Australia captain Pat Cummins forced out an edge from Ravindra Jadeja, who tried to cover his line but failed miserably. The Australian skipper nipped one back in to clean up Washington Sundar for 12(43).

Jasprit Bumrah, who left the field to go for scans and later returned to the dressing room on Day 2, stepped up on the crease to lead his side with the bat. He straightaway cleared his intentions by going after the bowlers. He went for a wild swing on the



done by Scott Boland.

Before wrapping up India's innings, Boland continued to haunt the visitors with his fiery spells. He lured Mohammed Siraj to give away an outside edge to Usman Khawaja.

Just a ball later, he clicked 133.1 kph and got enough moment to see the ball crash into the top of the leg stump. Bumrah went for a wild swing but missed the line of the ball completely. His dismissal saw India bundle out on 157, setting a target of 162 runs

for Australia to chase down. Australia had a paltry 162-run target to chase down, and Sam

The stand-in skipper Jasprit Bumrah's involvement with the ball was a concern after he suffered from back spasms on

Day 2. There were initial hopes about the prospect of seeing him deliver with the new ball after he came out to bat. However, the hopeful eves were soon filled with disappointment when Bumrah was nowhere to be seen on the field.

Bumrah's In absence. Mohammed Siraj spearheaded the attack and bowled in tandem with Prasidh Krishna. With a shining kookaburra in his hand, the dream start by the Indian team faded away.

Konstas went straight after a Bumrah-less Indian bowling Siraj's mind and eventually got The pressure played tricks on

line and lengths and gave away 13 runs in the opening over.

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It seemed as if the pressure also caught up to Prasidh Krishna, who also wavered in his consistency and gave away 13 runs in just the second over.

With Australia running high on momentum and Sam Konstas dominating the proceedings, India needed some inspiration from its established pace duo.

The motivation came from Prasidh Krishna, who reduced Australia down to three wickets at the stroke of lunch. It all started with Konstas miscuing his shot to Washington Sundar.

Marnus Labuschagne casually edged it away to Yashasvi Jaiswal,

while Steven Smith fell short of entering the 10,000 Test runs club

In front of his home crowd, Smith stood one shot away from celebrating a massive milestone in his career. However, Prasidh extracted extra bounce from the surface and forced Smith to commit to the shot.

Smith looked helpless while trying to fend off the rising delivery, eventually slicing it to Yashasvi Jaiswal, who dived from the third slip to take a stunning catch. Jaiswal broke off in a sprint to celebrate, while Prasidh punched the air in jubilation over the crucial wicket.

As the game progressed in the second session, wickets in a flurry was what India needed, but the moment never came. Siraj lured out an edge from Usman Khawaja, but it wasn't enough to push India's case for victory.

The bowlers kept at it, but Travis Head and Beau Webster held firm in their stance while taking Australia closer to a famous win at the SCG and in the context of BGT.

The body language of Indian players slowly dropped as the hosts, with beaming smiles, cruised towards glory. Debutant Webster finished it off in style by finding the boundary rope, bringing the BGT back to Australia. Head and Webster returned unbeaten with scores of 34(38) and 39(34).

Brief Scores: India: 185 & 157 (Rishabh Pant 61, Yashasvi Jaiswal 22, Scott Boland 6/45) vs Australia 181 & 162/4 (Travis Head 34*, Beau Webster 39*; Prasidh Krishna 3-65).

Harbhajan Singh to spin magic for Haryana Gladiators in Legend 90 League



ner Harbhajan Singh is all set to showcase his skills for Haryana Gladiators in the upcoming Legend 90 League, scheduled to be played in February. Harbhajan, a veteran of 103 Tests and 236 ODIs, will bring his unmatched experience to the Gladiators.

Joining Harbhajan in the Haryana Gladiators lineup are former Australian cricketer Ben Dunk, Sri Lankan all-rounder Asela Gunaratne, and bowler Pawan Suyal. Indian players Anureet Singh and Praveen Gupta will also don the hat for Haryana Gladiators. Together, they promise to form a formidable unit in the

fast-paced 90-ball cricket. The Haryana Gladiators franchise is owned by Shubh Infra.

Speaking about the team, Harish Garg, Director of Shubh Infra said, "The Haryana Gladiators are a team built on the values of courage, determination, and excellence. With Harbhajan Singh leading the charge alongfident of making a strong mark in the Legend 90 League," as quoted by a release from Legend 90 League Sunny Sehgal, also a Director

at Shubh Infra, said, "The Gladiators' lineup is a blend of iconic cricketing talent with fresh energy. This league is an opportunity to showcase the true spirit of cricket, and we are proud to be part of this journey.

Last month, Haryana Gladiators unveiled their logo of the team, a majestic depiction of a roaring lion symbolizing courage, strength, and resilience.

Legend 90 is an exhilarating cricket tournament that unites legendary players in an innovative and fast-paced 90-ball format.

The League will feature seven franchises and showcase the skills of legendary players. With its dynamic format and participation from iconic cricketers, the Legend 90 League promises to be a spectacular sporting extravaganza.

Indian Super League: Struggling Punjab FC to lock horns with Kerala Blasters

NEW DELHI : Punjab FC will host Kerala Blasters FC in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 on January 5, Sunday, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.

The kick-off is scheduled at 7:30 pm IST.

A win here will make Kerala Blasters FC the first team that Punjab FC defeated in three consecutive ISL matches. Kerala Blasters FC, on the other hand, are looking to bounce back from a 2-1 loss to Punjab FC earlier this season, as per a press release



up play will be important in unlocking Punjab FC's defence, as he can hover around their backline to explore and maximise scoring opportunities. The Kerala Blasters FC will need to address their penalty concession issues, having already given away five spot-kicks this season, which is the most among all teams. Conceding fouls inside the 18-yard box put them back in the proceedings by a yard, something that the visitors will need to correct urgently. In their ISL encounters, Punjab FC and Kerala Blasters FC have faced each other thrice. Punjab FC have won twice, whereas the Kochi-based unit has emerged victorious once.





from ISL

Punjab FC are on a difficult run, losing their last three ISL matches and conceding three or more goals in their last two games. Another high-conceding performance would see them create an unwanted record of conceding three or more goals in three consecutive matches for the first time in ISL history.

Punjab FC will also want to improve their recent home form, having lost their last game at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium to Mohun Bagan Super Giant (1-3). A second consecutive home defeat would mark only the second time they have suffered back-to-back home losses in the competition.

They will also be dealing with the absence of their important attacking outlets, i.e. Luka Majcen and Ezequiel Vidal, who are sus-

and Vidal (4) have together notched nine of the 20 goals netted by them this season. They are the respective top scorers for them so far, and Majcen and Vidal have also assisted three and two goals each. Will Punjab FC discover a way to overcome this impediment? Kerala Blasters FC have their struggles away from home, having conceded in each of their last 14 away matches, their longest such run. They are 10th in the table currently, with 14 points from as many matches, whereas Punjab FC is positioned eighth with 18 points from 12 matches. Can the Kerala Blasters FC rebound to keep their season on track?Punjab FC have conceded

pended for this match. Majcen (5)

just six first-half goals this season, the joint-lowest in the league, showcasing their ability to remain compact early in games. Kerala Blasters FC will have to either unravel this defensive organisation at the start or sustain their offensive intensities till the end to crack open the home team's defence. Ravi Kumar's six saves against Mohun Bagan Super Giant highlighted his importance in goal. Another standout performance could be important for Punjab FC's chances, with Noah Sadaoui readying to pounce upon the Punjab FC backline.

Noah Sadaoui's creativity in the final third has been vital, with four assists to his name and a league-leading xA (5.91). His link-

Punjab FC head coach Panagiotis Dilmperis said that his side will not want to hit the panic button going into the next game.

"After losing three games, we cannot be satisfied. It is a new game with different challenges, but we have to address this game like a regular one," he said as quoted by an ISL press release.

Kerala Blasters FC interim head coach TG Purushothaman said that his team needs to embrace a positive outlook for the coming encounter.

"For the coming match, we are planning to work (on the learning) that we got from the last game. We want to be positive and work as a team," he said.

NEW DELHI : India's top junior players, Senthil Kumar and Maaya Rajeshwaran Revathi, will lead the country's challenge in the boys and girls categories, respectively, at the ITF J300 event, starting on Mondav at the DLTA complex. Apart from Senthil, who made a number of finals on the ITF junior circuit in season 2024, India's other top-5 players, Hitesh Chauhan (R3), Arnav Paparkar (R4), and Varun Verma (R5) -have also secured their places in the main draw of the boys tournament.From among the players from abroad, Nikta Bilozertsev, the world number 87 from

Ukraine and Turkey's Haydar Cem Gokpinar (R111) will also vie for the top honour. World number 51 Yoana Konstantinova from Bulgaria, world number 71 Eleejah Inisan from France and her compatriot Daphnee Mpetshi Perricard (R73) are the top draws in the girls' singles event.Ada Kumru (R74) and Petra Konjikusic (R75) are the other top 100 players to feature in the tournament. Rishita Reddy Basireddy is the only other Indian player in the girls' singles main draw while several others will strive to make their way from the qualifying event."It is our endeavour to give

Indian players enough opportunities to earn ranking points. DLTA has hosted a number of J200 events but for the first time we are hosting a J300 event, which is the second highest in the order after J500 and I believe this event will be a great way to bring more and more opportuni ties for India players ," Rohit Rajpal DLTA President, said. "It's a highly competitive field that features a number of top-100 players in the junior women's event. It will be good exposure for Indian players. Indian tennis needs a lot of tournaments and we are committed to conduct as many as possible, Rajpal said.

"We deserve to win": Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid Jamil on victory over Bengaluru FC

JAMSHEDPUR: Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid Jamil lavished praise on his players' hard work and team unity in the aftermath of their impressive 2-1 comeback victory against Bengaluru FC in the Indian Super League (ISL).

On Saturday night, Bengaluru FC took an early lead through Alberto Noguera, but Jamshedpur FC replied strongly in the second half with goals from Jordan Murray and Muhammad Uvais, sealing a crucial 2-1 victory. The sensational comeback triumph was their eighth win of the season

Reflecting on his team's second-half resurgence, Jamil highlighted the players' hard work again and urged them to maintain the momentum.

"Because of the players, they have worked very hard. We deserve to win this game because the players are working very hard. They have unity among themselves. That is a good point. You must keep it up like this and maintain the record," he said as guoted from ISL.com.

After the result, Jamshedpur FC moved up to the fourth position in the ISL standings, accumulating 24 points from 13 matches. "They (the players) are mature. I don't have to give them instruc-

tions. They are solving the problem. And they are having that feeling that we must come back again," he said.

Jamil went on to praise the team's unity and the contributions of every player and said, "Jordan(Murray), (Javier) Siverio, even Javi (Hernandez), he tried his best. Rei (Tachikawa) also, did a good job. Lazar Cirkovic..he also worked hard. Ritwik Das. Albino Gomes. Muhammad Uvais, and Nikhil Barla also did a good job ... everybody worked very hard. That is a good point.

Jamil also praised the fans and hauled their contribution in their home win. The JRD Tata Sports Complex has been a fortress for the Men of Steel this season with Jamil's side suffering just one defeat at home. The majority of their wins have come on their home turf.

"It is very important (the support of the fans). They must support us. And the players are motivated. Because of the support, we got these points," he added.

DCCI announces squad for upcoming Physically Disabled Champions Trophy

NEW DELHI The National Selection Panel (NSP) of the Differently-Abled Cricket Council of India (DCCI) has today announced the Indian squad for the upcoming Physically Disabled Champions Trophy to be held in Sri Lanka from January 12 to January 21. This is the first time that the tournament is being held since 2019 and India begins its campaign by playing Pakistan on January 12.

The team was picked during an intensive training camp in Jaipur headed by Rohit Jalani who is also the head coach of the Physically Indian disabled cricket team. The camp was specially organized for players to showcase their potential to the selection panel. After intense consideration, the selection panel has picked a 17-member squad for the prestigious tournament.

Speaking about the team, Jalani said, "It is a very balanced Team which is equipped to take on any opponent. Team India is going to create history at this tournament and this is time to cheer and support the team and give huge support. I urge each cricket fan to cheer our players on social media



Using hashtag #dumhaiteammai." All India matches will be telecast on DD Sports.

Speaking about India's participation Ravi Chauhan, General Secretary, DCCI said, "We are confident that India will do very well. I am happy that many stakeholders have come together to make India's participation possible. Out main sponsor, Svayam, an accessibility organization that has been associated with us for a long time,

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has been a huge support for the team.

The selected team is: 1Vikrant Keni Ravindra (Captain) (Mumbai) 2 Ravindra Gopinath Sante (Vice-Captain) (Mumbai) 3 Yogender Singh (W.K) (M.P) 4 Akhil Reddy (A.P) 5 Radhika Prasad (U.P) 6 Dependra Singh (W.K) (U.P) 7 Akash Anil Patil (Mumbai) 8 Sunny Goyat (Haryana)

10 Jithendra (Karnataka) 11 Narendra (Karnataka) 12 Rajesh (Karnataka) 13 Nikhil Manhas (J & K) 14 Amir Hassan (J & K) 15 Majid Magray (J & K) 16 Kunal Dattatray Phanase (Maharashtra) 17 Surendra (Rajasthan) Non-Travelling Players

9 Pawan Kumar (Haryana)

1 Jaswant Singh (Rajasthan) 2 Sadiq (Delhi)

3GSShivashankara (Karn ataka)

Support Staff

1Rohit Jhalani Head Coach (Former Rajasthan Ranji Captain) 2 Ramswaroop Saini-Strength & Conditioning Coach (RCA Academy Strength Conditioning Coach) 3 Ravindra Patil-Asst. Coach 4SanketKhedkar-Video Analyst 5 Rohit Sharma-Fielding Coach 6 Mayank Pushkar-Physio Schedule of only India matches: 12th January 2025 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM - India vs Pakistan 13th January 2025 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM - India vs England 15th January 2025 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM - India vs Sri Lanka 16th January 2025 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM - India vs Pakistan 18th January 2025 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM - India vs

England 19th January 2025 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM - India vs Sri Lanka 21st January Mega Final.