

## Building collapse in Baghajatin: Promoter and residents face FIR; demolition underway

A shocking revelation has emerged regarding the tilting of a building in Baghajatin, Kolkata: it was allegedly constructed on reclaimed wetland. Following this disclosure, an FIR has been lodged against the promoter and eight residents of the building. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) started demolition work on the structure early Wednesday morning. The incident occurred on Tuesday afternoon in Baghajatin's Vidyasagar Colony, when the multi-story building tilted, causing the lower floors to collapse. This sparked widespread concern and raised questions about the building's construction and safety. The KMC claims the building was constructed without the necessary permissions and was not legally approved. **PG 3**

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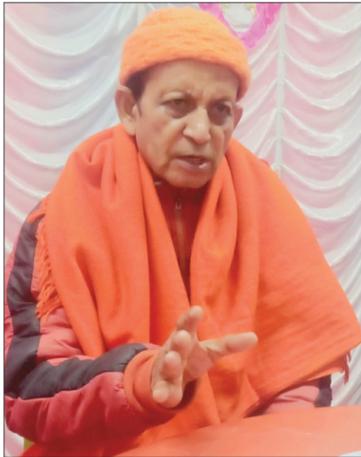
# Morning India

## Demand to grant national fair status to Ganga Sagar Mela gains momentum

SUMAN GANGULY

**GANGASAGAR:** The movement to designate the Ganga Sagar Mela as a national fair has gained new traction, with ISKCON and prominent religious leaders standing in support of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's long-standing demand. Despite repeated appeals, the central government is yet to accord national fair status to this historic event, a decision that has sparked discontent among the state's leaders and religious organizations.

Highlighting the disparity in central assistance, Mamata Banerjee has criticized the Union government for providing thousands of crores of rupees to the Kumbh Mela, while allocating nearly zero fund to Ganga Sagar. On Tuesday, Shankaracharya Jhijanandan-daji Maharaj of Puri fully supported Mamata Banerjee's demand. Joining the call, ISKCON's public relations officer in Mayapur, Rasik Gaurang Das, who also extended his support, said "I want this fair to be recognized as a national fair because of its unique history. However, I am unsure of the criteria for such a designation." ISKCON has played



a pivotal role in helping pilgrims, providing free medical care to thousands and distrib-

uting free meals during the fair. However, infrastructure challenges remained a significant hurdle. Mamata Banerjee also highlighted the lack of central assistance for constructing a bridge over the Muriganga River, a vital link to the fairground. The state government has already initiated the Ganga Sagar Bridge project, investing 1,200 crores. Adding to the political discourse, BJP state president and Union Minister of State Sukanta Majumdar, who visited Ganga Sagar for a holy dip, stated that if the BJP comes to power in West Bengal, the fair would be granted national status. Rasik Gaurang Das, however, dismissed any political involvement, saying, "We do not understand or want politics in Ganga Sagar. There are enough reasons to make this a national fair, but infrastructure development is crucial." As the fair grows in significance, attracting millions of pilgrims annually, the demand for national recognition is increasingly seen as both logical and necessary. Advocates argue that the central government's support could transform Ganga Sagar Mela into a globally recognized spiritual event while preserving its cultural and historical legacy.

## Over 1.1 crore pilgrims gather at Gangasagar Mela amid unprecedented challenges

SUMAN GANGULY



**GANGASAGAR:** The Gangasagar Mela has become a spiritual epicenter, with the number of pilgrims exceeding 1.1 crore this year, as announced by West Bengal Minister Aroop Biswas during a press conference on Wednesday. Describing the event as a "sea of humanity," Biswas emphasized the unwavering devotion that drew crowds despite harsh winter conditions. Pilgrims began assembling as early as 6 a.m. to take the final holy dip at the confluence of the Ganga and the sea. The sacred Makar Sankranti ritual commenced on Tuesday at 6:58 a.m., and thousands continued to participate even in the following day. However, the event witnessed a tragic incident as a pilgrim named Nath from Uttar Pradesh died. The government has stated that several critically ill devotees were airlifted to hospitals for emergency treatment.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee recently compared Gangasagar Mela with

this year's Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh, asserting, "This is no less than the Kumbh Mela, rather it is even bigger!" Highlighting the event's scale, she noted that it attracts devotees from across the nation, requiring multi-lingual announcements to cater to the diverse crowd.

According to minister Biswas, this year's pilgrimage started on January 1 and continued till the Makar Sankranti on Tuesday. However, the extensive use of plastic from Jetty No. 1 to Jetty No. 6 has raised environmental concerns. Despite efforts like the "Clean Ganga" initiative, the administration has expressed concern over the waste accumulation. A large-scale cleanup drive is set to begin on Thursday morning.

Considered the second-largest gathering in the world after the Maha Kumbh Mela, Gangasagar Mela faces numerous other challenges beyond environmental issues. Heightened security measures have been implemented amid reports of illegal cross-border migration from Bangladesh, where tensions are rising. Authorities are actively engaged in identifying infiltrators entering without proper documentation.

To prevent potential threats, enhanced patrolling by security forces have been deployed, including the use of trained sniffer dogs, Bosco and Maxie.

Despite these challenges, the Gangasagar Mela remains a testament to the enduring faith of millions, solidifying its place as a spiritual and cultural phenomenon in India.

## Mamata Banerjee steps in to resolve dispute over Cooperative Bank Election

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Internal conflicts within the Trinamool Congress (TMC) were swiftly addressed with the intervention of TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee. The situation, stemming from a cooperative bank election, was carefully managed after efforts by state party president Subrata Bakshi to mediate failed. Recognizing the need for resolution, Mamata took proactive steps to ensure harmony within the party. On Wednesday, she issued clear instructions over the phone, demonstrating her leadership quality and commitment to maintaining unity and stability within the TMC.

The director elections for the Kanthi Cooperative Bank are scheduled for January 31, 2025, with the elected directors to subsequently choose the Bank's chairman. However, party infighting escalated before the election, as 30 nominations were submitted for the 15 director positions. After receiving approval from both Subrata Bakshi and Mamata Banerjee, a list of candidates was sent to Akhil Giri, a former minister and district president, via WhatsApp. However, allegations surfaced that the list favored Giri's supporters, which led to resistance from leaders aligned with the Uttam Barik faction.

To address the growing conflict, Subrata Bakshi convened a meeting at his residence in Bhawanipur on Wednesday, inviting Akhil Giri, Uttam Barik, district legislators, and other key party leaders. During the meeting, Bakshi made a phone call to Mamata Banerjee, who directly conveyed her message to the gathered leaders. Mamata firmly instructed that Bakshi's panel should be accepted as final, and anyone attempting to create an alternative panel must immediately withdraw their efforts. Additionally, Mamata announced that she would personally select the chairman and vice-chairman of the

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Pilgrims return home by boat after taking a holy dip and attending the Gangasagar Mela on the occasion of 'Makar Sankranti' at Gangasagar Island in South 24 Parganas. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

## Unlike other parties, all TMC workers must follow discipline, as no one is above the party, says Abhishek Banerjee

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Describing that internal squabbling within any political party is quite natural, All India Trinamool Congress General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee, has emphasized that each and every party worker must follow party discipline as "No one is above the party."

He said "if someone thinks that he is someone special and take any wrong step, the party will not hesitate to initiate stern action against him."

Addressing the TMC workers after attending a 'Sevashray' camp in his constituency on Wednesday, the MP from Diamond Harbour said soon after the murder of TMC leader Dulal Sarkar in Malda on January 2, the party's district leader Narendranath Tiwari was not only arrested for his alleged involvement in the crime, but was immediately expelled from TMC also.

About the brutal killing of a TMC worker in Kaliachak, also of Malda district on Tuesday, allegedly as a result of infighting within the party, Abhishek Banerjee said both the state government as well as the party have initiated stern action against all those responsible for the heinous crime.

He said "in West Bengal all investigations are conducted without looking at any party colour, and without the idea of framing someone from the opposition political party. In fact investigations are conducted here as investigations. No matter who is involved. Remember that the name of the Chief minister of this state is Mamata Banerjee. She is also the supreme leader of Trinamool Congress", Abhishek said and once again cited the example of the arrest of a TMC leader in the Dulal Sarkar murder case.

The Trinamool All India General Secretary claimed that there is no such example in the previous Left



Front regime of such impartial and quick action as they used to hide the guilty. Whosoever he might be.

In this connection the TMC General Secretary asked "can you ever show that a BJP leader has been arrested in a crime in Uttar Pradesh? We investigate like an investigating agency. If someone is involved in a crime, no matter what political party he belongs to and no matter what religion or caste he belongs to, a guilty person is a guilty person. A criminal has no caste or religion. We will take action. No one will get away with the criminals." About the alleged increase in the number of factional feud within the party recently, Abhishek Banerjee said "when a political party grows big, it is natural to have factional conflicts. Is there no factional conflict in the BJP? When the CPM was in power in the state, was there no factional conflict?" Abhishek asked adding "If there are six

people in a house, four people quarrel. There is a party where there are hundreds of office bearers, there can be differences, disagreements. That is quite natural."

Abhishek, however, made it clear that Trinamool Congress has already activated its party machinery for repairing this rift and added that "If anyone tried to weaken the party in any way in the past, the party's disciplinary committee took action against him. There will be no exception to this in future too. If anyone is involved in any crime, the police and administration will take immediate action against him. No one will be spared." He further asserted that "even a booth-level worker of Trinamool Congress has to follow discipline, I too have to follow that discipline as the All India General Secretary. But if anyone thinks of himself as someone special, he has no place in the party. No one is above the party and the doors of Trinamool Congress will be closed on them for ever. We all have to be humble and those who think that they will run the party by being arrogant are in real danger because we are responsible to the people. The CPM used to make the same mistake. The BJP is making the same mistake in other states", he said. He said after the Samajwadi Party, the Trinamool Congress has extended its support to the Aam Aadmi Party for the upcoming Delhi elections and questioned "Why should we help the BJP by not supporting AAP?" Abhishek Banerjee says, "When the INDIA alliance was formed, we decided that wherever the regional parties are strong, let them take the fight against BJP. For example DMK in Tamil Nadu, JMM in Jharkhand. So in Delhi, who do you think can beat the BJP? It's AAP. So why shall I not support the party that can defeat the BJP? Ultimately that's the cause. Why shall we help the BJP by not supporting AAP?..."

## India is becoming a major maritime power, says PM Modi

MI News Service, Mumbai:

After commissioning of three 'Made in India' naval warships for the Navy on Wednesday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said "we are becoming a major maritime power and is being recognised as a reliable and responsible partner in the world".

Speaking after commissioning a destroyer, a frigate and a submarine, all indigenously built state of the art warships here, PM Modi said India has always supported an open, secure, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

He said this is for the first time that a destroyer, a frigate and a submarine were commissioned together for the Indian Navy and that all the three are 'Made in India'.

The 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative has made the country strong and self-reliant, the prime minister said.

"We should become a global partner in securing the sea from drugs, weapons and terrorism and make it safe and prosperous. India is becoming a major maritime power and is being recognised as a reliable and responsible



partner," he said adding that in the Indian Ocean region, India has emerged as the "first responder".

The prime minister also noted that India is going to play a major role in giving a direction to the global security, economy and geopolitical dynamics.

"It is important to protect the territorial waters, freedom of navigation, and secure trade supply lines and sea routes," he said and added that India is working for development, and not for expansionism.

He said 33 ships and seven submarines have been inducted into the Navy in the last 10 years. India's defence production has crossed Rs 1.25 lakh crore and de-

fence equipment have been exported to more than 100 countries, he added.

Earlier in the morning, Indian Navy warships INS Surat, INS Nilgiri and INS Vaghsheer were commissioned at the Naval Dockyard here in the presence of PM Modi.

INS Nilgiri, the lead ship of the Project 17A stealth frigate class, represents a significant advancement over the Shivalik-class frigates.

Designed by the Indian Navy's Warship Design Bureau and built at the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL), it incorporates

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## BNP demands general election by July-August in Bangladesh



**MI News Service, Dhaka:** Turning down the recent announcement of Chief Adviser of the interim government Muhammad Yunus that General election in Bangladesh will be held either by this year-end or by mid-2026, the country's main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has demanded that the election must be held by July-August this year. "There is no reason to delay the election that much," said BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul

Islam Alamgir after an overnight meeting of the party's standing committee that was chaired virtually by acting BNP chairperson Tarique Rahman from London.

Alamgir said the standing committee held a lengthy discussion on Yunus's planned election deadline but came up with a conclusion that the polls should not be delayed for so long as voters list updating should not take more than a month and other related tasks would take one to two months at most. "We believe, as the Election Commission has already been formed and there is relative stability in governance, there is no reason to delay the national election further. Delays only deepen the political and economic crises," he said. The BNP also opposed the idea propagated by some leaders of the interim government to hold local government elections before the parliamentary polls. The BNP has demanded that the election must be held by July-August this year. "There is no reason to delay the election that much," said BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul

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Carrying the blessings of Gangasagar and the spirit of 'Makar Sankranti,' pilgrims set sail home, their journey a reflection of faith and serenity after the vibrant Gangasagar Mela in South 24 Parganas. PIC: Prabir Bhattacharya

## MP Abhishek Banerjee Highlights People-Centric Governance Through SEBAASHRAY Initiative

MI News Service, Diamond Harbour: Abhishek Banerjee's visit to Falta's Model camp where the Hon'ble MP took stock of the arrangements today. He also spoke to the family from Khanakul, who came seeking assistance as their child is dealing with a rare spinal issue. Shri Abhishek Banerjee assured them of all the medical assistance and also ensured a physiotherapy session for the child in the current model camp at Falta.



I inaugurated the Sebaashray health camps at Diamond Harbour's SDO Ground on January 11. On the very first day, we received over 5,000 registrations. We organised around 41 camps, which were functioning for 10 days till January 11 in Diamond Harbour AC. The normal camps had two chambers for the doctors and the model camp had three-doctors' chambers, which was later increased to five chambers. We thought that every camp would receive perhaps a 100-150 registration only. I am grateful to all the individuals from the medical fraternity and our volunteers for making this initiative a success. The health camps are being held from 9 AM to 5 PM and there were days when we saw up to 1,000-1,200 registrations being done in a single camp. On

January 11, we had around 80,000 registrations. In just 10 days in Diamond Harbour AC, around 2.5 lakh people have availed our medical services at the Sebaashray health camps. We have received multiple cases of referral. While some were referred to the model camps, the other serious cases were referred to other hospitals in Diamond Harbour and Kolkata too. Today is the fourth day in Falta and yesterday, we had over 13,000 registrations here. This means that on a daily basis, around 300-350 people are turning up at each of the camps. Not just Diamond Harbour, people came from various places in South 24 Parganas. You all saw that a child came from Khanakul, Arambagh. Not just the adjacent ACs, but people are coming from far away places. A child came from

Jalpaiguri who required a cochlear implant because of hearing problem. Yesterday, another such case of a cochlear implant came from Dakshin Dinajpur. We are in contact with the concerned family and also with the company who manufactures the device for cochlear implants. If they [cochlear implant organisation] can't provide it, then we will see what can be done as per our capacity. We will help them and stand by the family like we have been doing. The 3-year-old child who came from Khanakul, Arambagh, can't walk properly because of issues in spinal cord. The child's parents went to a private hospital in Kolkata, but they received a hefty amount as the estimated cost for this treatment. Here, we have arranged for a physiotherapy

session for the child. It is the third day since the child is receiving a physiotherapy session and the same will continue for the next 8-10 days. We have also arranged for the food and accommodation of the child's parents. If this doesn't bring any recovery, we will consult a specialist doctor. Once these camps come to an end, we will have a mega camp from March 16 - 20. We will have 280 follow-up camps, which will be functioning simultaneously, from 9 AM to 5 PM during these five days. For the Swasthya Sathi Card scheme, we follow a 'no questions asked' policy.

However, in the case of Centre's Ayushman Bharat, it has a long list of stringent and restrictive eligibility criteria. As against this, we have given the Swasthya Sathi Card to everyone, irrespective of their caste, creed, religion, and gender. From Sandeshkhali to RG Kar, they tried so hard [to defame us]. But all in vain because the people of Bengal blessed us even more. The more they tried to malign us, the more people supported us. If after this we don't work for the people, then for whom will we work? In Rajneeti, the BJP, CPI(M), and Congress believe in Raj [throne & power], but we believe in Neeti [principles & good governance].

## INTIME's Resplendent Symposium of Benevolence and Artistry

MI News Service, Behala: The 18th Annual Convocation of INTIME unfolded as a paragon of altruistic commitment to societal welfare, an evening that exuded an aura of benevolent philanthropy. Convened at the Taru Villa in Behala Bakultala on the 12th of January, this gathering emerged as a laudable model that ought to be emulated by other philanthropic entities. The occasion was punctuated by a kaleidoscope of cultural presentations, ranging from evocative dance performances to melodious renditions and eloquent recitations, all performed by prodigious youth in tribute to the venerable Swami Vivekananda on the anniversary of his



birth—a spectacle that garnered effusive acclaim. This noble undertaking witnessed the enthusiastic engagement of the organization's stalwart office bearers, including Deb Kumar Banerjee, Swagato Chakraborty,

Pankaj Kumar Dutta, Biswajit Chakraborty, Snehabindu Sarkar, Prasanta Kumar Hazra, Lata Saha, Swapan Deb Nath, Susanta Kumar Roy, Bani Mukherjee, and a host of other dedicated members, all of whom

contributed to making this event a resounding success.

Amidst the artistic displays, an honorable moment was reserved for the commendation of academic laureates from distinguished institutions such as Jote Shibrampur Girls' High School, Ganipur High School, Sarsuna High School, Shibrampur Nilnil Vidyapith, Universal Smile, Madurdaha Save The Orphans, and Renia Bansdroni, whose exemplary scholastic achievements were duly celebrated by INTIME, reinforcing the organization's unwavering commitment to fostering excellence in education.

## Inauguration of Puchka showroom in Rajarhat Newtown by local MLA

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ashok Kumar Pandit, who came to Kolkata from Vaishali, Bihar to sell Puchka Panipuri, created history. First in Uladanga, Kolkata, then later in Battola, Narayanpur, after struggling for the last 25 years, he was able to get a showroom by selling on the Puchka road, which was auspiciously inaugurated on Wednesday by Rajarhat Newtown MLA Tapas Chatterjee. On the occasion, Tapas Chatterjee said that Ashok worked hard and reached here today. Those who work hard never lose. Local ward number 3 councilor Aritika Bhattacharya



announced for every support. Among the special guests present were Shyam

mal Ghosh, Mithali Khan, Kali Prasad Dubela, Mampi Mandal, Mamuni Mandal, Anil Shao, Shukla Majumdar, Usha Pandit, Preeti Pandit, Shanu Pandit, Dilip Pandit, Singheshwar Pandit, Poonam Jaiswal and theater personality Shiv Jaiswal. On the occasion of the auspicious inauguration, a crowd of passers-by and local people gathered to eat Puchka, Khatta Meetha, Churmur, Chaat Papdi and Dahi Bada. Ashok Kumar Pandit expressed his gratitude while honoring the guests present. All the dignitaries present on Wednesday were fed free Puchka.

## Accused found guilty after 52 days of rape-murder of infant girl in Gurap, sentencing announced on January 17

MI News Service, Gurap: The Chunchura POCSO court convicted Ashok Singh, the accused in the rape-murder case of a girl in Gurap, Hooghly, after 52 days. The sentence is going to be announced on the Jan 17th. The incident took place on November 24 last year. It was alleged that the five-year-old girl was lured by the neighbour Ashok to the house after being lured by chocolate. Meanwhile, the girl was eager to eat meat again at home. That is why fa-

ther went to buy meat from the market. Ashok took advantage of the house being empty. Meanwhile, the father started searching for his daughter after returning home. But, she was nowhere to be found. The commotion started in the area. Neighbours also started searching. But, even then she was not found. In the meantime, the child was rescued from Ashok's house in a bloody state. She was quickly rescued and taken to Dhaniakhali Hospital but could not be

saved. Ashok was severely beaten by the local people. Finally the police came and rescued him and admitted him to Chunchura Imambara Hospital. He was arrested later after filing complaint. Since then the case was going on. The police filed the charge sheet on December 9. Charges were framed on the Jan 11th. Then the testimony began. It is known that a total of 27 people have taken their testimony. The court found the accused guilty in that case.

## Inauguration of Classic Music Conference 2025 at Ektara Muktamancha

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Classical Music Conference 2025, organized by the Government of West Bengal, was inaugurated on Wednesday at Ektara Muktamancha. The event was graced by Minister Indranil Sen, along with renowned musicians Pandit Debojyoti Bose and Pandit Tarun Bhattacharya. The inauguration also saw the presence of eminent artists such as Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Ustad Shahid Parvez, Ustad Nishat Khan, Pandit Kumar Bose, Pandit Swapna Chowdhury, Ustad Sabir Khan, Pandit Anindhya Chatterjee, Pandit Abhijit Banerjee, Pandit Samer Saha, Ritesh Mishra, Rajesh Mishra, and Kabir Suman, among other prominent figures in classical music.

The opening ceremony featured a stunning classical music performance, marking the beginning of this highly anticipated festival. From January 15 to 17, 2025, classical music lovers will have the opportunity to enjoy and experience performances by these esteemed musicians. The festival promises a celebration of music, talent, and cultural heritage.

## 'Dance Bangla Dance' contestant's hanging body rescued

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: The dead body of a minor performer of 'Dance Bangla Dance' was found hanging in the house. This incident happened on Tuesday night in Chandpara area of Bangaon. A suicide note was also found next to the dead body of the year 17. A few local youths were giving her mental pressure! She was being teased for a long time. Because of that he decided to end herself. Such is the demand of her family and locals. The police of Gaighata police station have started the investigation.

In 2016, she participated in the Dance Bangla dance reality show. Her performance was also seen in the Grand Final. It was during that period that she was called to perform in various places. She was well known in the area. Why did this 17-year-old minor make such a decision after all this? The question arises. The names of 3 youths of the area are connected with that incident. According to her father Amal Das and mother Mridula Das, several people including Boulton, Bitu, Sumant put pressure on her. She was forced to mix with them. Minor was also threatened in various ways. This is what the locals and the family of the deceased have complained about. A complaint of incitement to suicide has been filed against three youths at Gaighata police station.

## Dinhata twin murder, police begin investigation

MI News Service, Dinhata: The sensational complaint of a deceased's wife in a double murder in Dinhata. She alleged that her husband had been killed in a planned manner. A local Trinamool village panchayat member was involved in the double murder. Saira Banu Bibi, the wife of the deceased Hasanur Rahman, alleged that four people including Zakir Mia, a panchayat member, killed her husband. She alleges that the other person also killed him because he was obstructed. Last Tuesday night, 2 people were stabbed to death in Betaguri. The names of the deceased are Yusuf Mia and Hasanur Rahman. On this day, Hasanur's wife complained that panchayat member Zakir Mia of Baladanga village in Vettaguri and his companions took her husband from home and killed him due to old enmity. Regarding Yusuf's murder, she said that when her husband Hasanur was killed, Yusuf Mia saw it and tried to stop it. For that he was also killed by the village panchayat member's companions. However, Gram Panchayat member Zakir Mia claimed that the allegation was baseless and fabricated. He said that the two persons who were killed were both anti-social and were in jail. As he is a panchayat member of the area and was intentionally framed in an old case, efforts are being made to frame him this time as well.

## Strict measure to be taken by Bikash Bhavan to rebuild the class room environment in govt schools of state



MI News Service, Kolkata: Clothes are drying on the balcony of a school in Arambagh, cows are grazing in the school grounds, paddy is drying. Because there was only one teacher in the school. The classroom is locked as he retires.

Liquor bottles are scattered on the balcony of a school in Purulia's Dimdiha village. There is no teacher, no student. A picture that is being seen all over the state. This pic-

ture that is being seen all over the state. The poor state of education in the state is repeatedly in the headlines. Meanwhile, several appointments are stuck in the case. In this situation, the school education department took a big decision.

Bikash Bhavan will transfer teachers from one school to another like wartime activities. That is, from those schools where the number of teachers is more, teachers will be sent to those schools where the number of teachers is less. This step is being taken only for government schools.

By January 17, government school teachers have to inform whether they have any physical problems or not. Only then this decision will be effective. This is expected to solve the problem to some extent.



Minister Aroop Biswas at a press conference at Gangasagar Mela on Wednesday.

## Policemen shot while transporting a prisoner

MI News Service, Kolkata: Two police officers were shot while transporting a prisoner from the Islampur court to jail on Wednesday afternoon in North Dinajpur. The officers were left bloodied and were rushed to the hospital. This attack on the

police has raised serious concerns about public safety, with questions emerging about the growing use of firearms in the state. The incident occurred in the Gwalpokhar area of Islampur, where a group of criminals allegedly followed the police vehicle and opened

fire. However, the identity of the assailants has not yet been clarified by the police. The injured police officers have been identified as Nilkant Sarkar and Deben Baishya. The authorities are yet to confirm if anyone else was injured during the attack.

## Mumbai diamond dealer arrested in Chetla's jewel heist

MI News Service, Kolkata: A glittering office in Mumbai's Bandra housed a secret that tied it to a high-profile jewel theft in Kolkata. Inside a small chamber of the office lay a cash box that piqued investigators' interest. Hidden within it was the key to unraveling the mystery behind Chetla's stolen diamond. Mumbai diamond trader Bharat Shah, fearing Kolkata police, switched to commuting by local trains, abandoning his luxurious car. Yet, his precautions failed. He was apprehended by Kolkata police officers, led by Chetla Police Station's Sandeep Pal, who recovered diamonds worth ₹50

lakhs from Bharat's office. The Investigation began after over ₹1 crore worth of gold and diamonds were stolen from a luxury apartment on Raja Santosh Roy Road in Chetla. Police discovered that several domestic workers and caretakers at the apartment were stealing valuables, piece by piece. One nanny, Jhuma Das, meticulously looted the locker, smuggling jewelry in her tiffin box while replacing the stolen items with replicas. By the end of last year, police arrested Jhuma and 10 others, including goldsmiths who processed the stolen items. Though much of the loot was re-

covered, the most valuable diamond remained missing. During interrogations, a suspect named Debraj confessed that Jhuma had handed him the diamond, which he sold to Bharat Shah in Mumbai for ₹22 lakhs. The police tracked Bharat to his Bandra office, where they discovered the diamond wrapped in velvet. Bharat was brought to Kolkata, where investigators are probing his plans to sell the jewel. This case highlights the intricate web of criminal operations stretching from Kolkata to Mumbai, involving domestic workers, jewelers, and traders. Investigations continue to uncover the extent of the network.

## ED launches probe into fake docu rackets for B'deshi infiltrators

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has begun investigating the ongoing crackdown by the West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police against criminal rackets involved in providing fake Indian identity documents, including passports, to illegal Bangladeshi infiltrators. Sources familiar with the case have revealed that the ED has been monitoring the progress of the investigation conducted by the state and city police, including details of the arrests made so far. While ED officials have remained tight-lipped about the specific reasons for their involvement, it is believed that the Central agency has identified a money-laundering aspect linked to the scam, particularly the financial

transactions involved in the creation of fake documents for the infiltrators. At this stage, ED officials are gathering crucial information, and the agency has yet to file an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) on the matter. So far, the West Bengal and Kolkata Police forces have arrested nine individuals in connection with the fake passport racket. The most recent arrest was Abdul Hai, a retired sub-inspector from Kolkata Police, who had been responsible for police verification of passport applicants in the final years of his service. The investigators have uncovered a clear pattern in the operations of these criminal networks. Infiltrators illegally crossing the border into India typically contact local agents,

offering large sums of money in exchange for fake Indian documents. These individuals are first housed in safe locations in villages near the Bangladesh border, both along the land and coastal areas of the state. The agents then arrange for fake ration cards, which serve as the foundation for creating other false identification documents. With these fake ration cards, the infiltrators can acquire EPIC, PAN, and Aadhaar cards, which are ultimately used to obtain fake passports. The ED's growing involvement in the investigation highlights the increasing concerns over money laundering and identity fraud linked to illegal border crossings and the issuance of fake documents in West Bengal.

## ITA submits white paper on Darj tea ind to Bengal govt



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Indian Tea Association (ITA) submitted a white paper to the West Bengal government, addressing the challenges and opportunities facing the Darjeeling tea industry. A team of ITA officials met with Labour Minister Moloy Ghatak in the evening to present the white paper, which provides a detailed analysis of the current state of the industry. The paper highlights several key issues

affecting the Darjeeling tea industry, including production challenges and market dynamics. According to the ITA, one of the major concerns is the impact of climate change, which has exacerbated production difficulties. Additionally, the industry faces the problem of low productivity due to aging tea bushes, as well as reduced profitability, which has made operations increasingly unviable for many producers. The white paper also offers several recommendations aimed at reviving the industry and ensuring its long-term sustainability. ITA stressed that Darjeeling tea is not only an economic asset but also a significant cultural heritage that requires immediate attention from both the central and state governments. The association has called for strategic intervention, including financial assistance, to address the pressing challenges faced by the industry. The submission of the white paper marks a significant step in raising awareness of the issues plaguing the Darjeeling tea sector and seeks to catalyze action from policymakers to secure the future of this iconic industry.

## Mamata Banerjee steps in...

**From PG 1**  
cooperative bank after January 28, further asserting her control over the situation. Her decisive intervention is seen as a move to restore unity within the party and ensure a smooth election

process for the cooperative bank. This action underscores Mamata Banerjee's strong leadership and her proactive role in managing party affairs, especially in resolving internal disputes that threaten to undermine party cohesion.

## India is becoming a major...

**From PG 1**  
It features advanced stealth technology and reduced radar signatures. It is equipped with modern aviation facilities and can operate multiple helicopter types, including the newly inducted MH-60R.

INS Surat, the fourth and final vessel of the Project 15B stealth destroyer class, is a follow-on to the Kolkata-class destroyers.

It incorporates improvements in design and capability, making it a critical addition to the Navy's surface fleet. Like INS Nilgiri, it has also been designed by the Warship Design Bureau and constructed at the MDL.

INS Vaghsheer is the sixth and final submarine under the Scorpene-class Project 75. It is a diesel-electric submarine designed for multiple roles, including anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, and intelligence gathering.

It features modular construction, enabling future upgrades such as air independent propulsion technology.

The Prime Minister further said that, "we gave a mantra of 'SAGAR' which means security and growth for all in the region". He further stated that INS Nilgiri is dedicated to the strength of the Cholas' maritime strength while INS Surat reminisces the tale of when India was connected to West Asia through Gujarat.

He said "India has also emerged as the First Responder across the entire Indian Ocean Region. In the last few months, our Navy has saved hundreds of lives and has protected national-international cargo worth thousands of crores of rupees. This has increased the world's trust in India. It has increased because of all of you. This trust in the Indian Navy and Coast Guard is continuously increasing. Today, you are seeing that whether it is ASEAN, Australia, Gulf, African countries, India's economic cooperation with all is getting stronger..."

Emphasising the resolution of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vishwas', PM Modi said that India believes that the whole world is a

family and on different occasions, it gave several 'mantras', including 'One Earth, One Family and One Future' and 'One Earth, One Health.'

"When India received the chance for the presidency of G20, we gave the mantra of 'One Earth, One Family and One Future. When the world was battling with the Covid-19, we gave mantra of 'One Earth, One Health.' We believe that whole world is family. We believe in the spirit of Sabka Saath Sabka Vishwas, hence, we advocate for security of the region. India's contribution as a 'maritime nation' will be bigger when it will come to global security, economics and geopolitics. It is necessary to protect traditional water, territorial water and ensure freedom of navigation for economic development and energy security," the Prime Minister said.

PM Modi also congratulated the Indian Navy and manufacturers of the three naval combatants on their commissioning into the Naval dockyard while reminiscing about Chhatrapati Shivaji's efforts to strengthen India's maritime border.

PM Modi said, "15 January is also celebrated as Army Day. I salute all the brave who dedicate their life for the security of the country. Today is an important day for Indian Navy's pride history and self-reliant campaign. Chhatrapati Shivaji gave new vision and strength to the Indian Navy. Today, we are taking a huge step to strengthen the Navy of the 21st century from his holy land".

"I congratulate all who are connected to these frontlines, including the Navy, its manufacturers and whole citizens of the nation. This event is connecting our heritage with the future aspirations. We had a long history in long ship travels, commerce, naval defence, ship industry. Today's India is making itself a major maritime power and commissioning of these three frontline platforms are witness of this," he added.

The commissioning of three major naval combatants marks a significant leap forward in realizing India's vision of becoming a global leader in defence manufacturing and maritime security.

## BNP demands general...

**From PG 1**  
party also criticised the interim government's economic policies, particularly its plans for gas price hike and tax increases.

"We have repeatedly said there is no alternative to elected government and this is the most important factor for democracy," Alamgir said.

He called upon the "government, the Election Commission and political parties" to take steps to hold the elections by mid-2025 in the "greater interest of the country". Yunus and his advisers or de facto ministers said reforms and preparedness for elections were going on, suggesting that polls should be staged after accomplishment of some basic reforms.

But Alamgir said it is a continued process and the BNP was committed to reforms.

The BNP secretary general said "there is no

question of holding local government elections before the national parliamentary election. Our demand is for the national election first".

Alamgir said during the Awami League rule, the last three national elections could not be held properly, and the people want to ensure a democratic transition through elections.

Ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina, 77, has been living in India since August 5 last year when she fled Bangladesh following a massive student-led protest that toppled her Awami League's 16-year regime.

Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) has issued arrest warrants for Hasina and several former Cabinet ministers, advisers, and military and civil officials for "crimes against humanity and genocide".

## Abhishek Banerjee comments on Medinipur hospital toxic saline incident

**MI News Service, Medinipur:** Trinamool Congress leader and MP Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday addressed the recent toxic saline incident at Medinipur Hospital, calling it "extremely unfortunate." Speaking at an event in Falta, Banerjee assured that the state government was closely monitoring the situation, and an investigation had already begun.

Banerjee's comments come after the tragic death of Mamoniruidas, a pregnant woman, and the severe illness of

four other expectant mothers at Medinipur District Hospital. It is alleged that these women were administered toxic saline at the hospital, which led to their deteriorating health.

The incident occurred a few days ago when five pregnant women, who had given birth at Medinipur Medical College Hospital, fell seriously ill shortly after the deliveries. One of them, Mamoniruidas, tragically passed away at the district hospital. This led to widespread speculation

that toxic saline had been used in the treatment of these patients.

Following the incident, the state health department took immediate action, suspending the use of Ringer Lactate saline, which was believed to be involved. The investigation was handed over to the CID for further inquiry into the matter.

Banerjee expressed deep concern over the loss of life and stated that strict action would be taken if any wrongdoing

or negligence was found. "The death of the pregnant woman due to the saline incident is heartbreaking. If anyone is found guilty, strict action will be taken. We will ensure justice," he said.

On Tuesday, a team from the CID visited Medinipur Medical College Hospital to speak with officials and investigate further. Three critically ill pregnant women were transferred to Kolkata's SSKM Hospital, while one remains under treatment at the Medinipur facility.



Pilgrims return to their homes as the Gangasagar Mela concludes on Gangasagar Island, in South 24 Parganas on Wednesday. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

## Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charchakendra organizes 7th National Theatre Festival

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charchakendra, under the Department of Information and Culture, Government of West Bengal, is hosting the 7th National Theatre Festival from January 18 to January 26, 2025. The event is part of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's initiatives to promote theatre in the state.

The festival was officially announced today at AbanindraSabhagar by BratyaBasu, Chairman of Minerva Natya Sanskriti Charchakendra, and Vice Chairman Arita Bose, alongside other dignitaries. The festival will take place at Madhusudan Mancha and Girish Mancha.

A 10-member selection committee, comprising renowned theatre personalities from West Bengal, was formed by the Minerva Theatre Culture Centre to choose the participating theatre groups. After screening, 17 theatre groups were selected, with 7 from West Bengal and 10 from other states, including Bihar, Uttar

Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Delhi, and Karnataka.

BratyaBasu shared, "We advertised this festival and received requests from across India. After careful selection, 17 renowned theatre groups were chosen. This festival is happening with the encouragement of our Chief Minister."

The festival will feature plays in various languages, including Hindi, Bangla, and Kannada. To ensure accessibility, non-Hindi and non-Bengali plays will have subtitles. The event is open to all, with no tickets required.

In 2011, after the new government came to power in West Bengal, the Minerva Theatre Culture Centre expanded its role, not just producing plays, but also organizing theatre festivals, discussion circles, and training camps annually to promote the development of theatre. The first National Theatre Festival was held in 2015.

## Kolkata's nostalgia trams set to travel to Vancouver for FIFA World Cup

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Kolkata's iconic trams are set to make their way to Vancouver, Canada, to showcase a piece of the city's nostalgia during the FIFA World Cup. As part of the celebrations, two trams will be sent to Vancouver city, where they will run during the World Cup period. This initiative follows a proposal from the Council of General of India on November 19, which suggested sending the trams to Canada for the FIFA World Cup.

In response to the proposal, the state government has decided to send the two trams to Vancouver, but the move requires approval from the court due to an ongoing case related to tram preservation.

The hearing for this case took place on Tuesday, during which the state's lawyer requested permission from the High Court to transfer the trams to Van-

couver for the FIFA 2026 World Cup.

Vancouver city authorities had requested the trams to be operated on a special 1.7 km route as part of a cultural display during the World Cup. In the court, Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam inquired, "Will the trams be returned after the World Cup?" The lawyer informed the court that Vancouver city authorities had stated that if deemed appropriate by the Indian and state governments, the trams would be gifted to Canada instead of being returned after the event.

Justice Sivagnanam responded, "Our cultural heritage is going abroad, and we should be extremely happy about that." However, due to the ongoing court case, the state government is unable to proceed without the court's approval. The High Court directed the state's

lawyer to file a separate petition for the matter.

Meanwhile, the High Court's division bench, led by Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharya, continued to stress the importance of preserving the trams. The court directed that all efforts be made to save the trams, and ordered that any work to dismantle the tramline be stopped immediately. It also instructed the state to restore any dismantled parts. The court further directed the state to submit a report with images to confirm that its directives were being followed. The bench emphasized, "Trams are part of the state's heritage. It's not easy to remove them. The state must take steps to preserve them. Trams operate in many countries, sometimes right through the middle of roads."

## TMC reshuffles Minority affairs leadership ahead of 2026 elections

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant administrative reshuffle, the West Bengal government has made changes to the leadership of the West Bengal Minority Development and Finance Corporation. The current Chairman, PB Salim, has been removed from his post, with Itahar's TMC MLA and State Minority Cell Chairman, Mosharrarf Hossain, appointed as his successor. This move is expected to strengthen coordination between the party and the administration.

With the state's Assembly elections approaching in 2026, the reshuffle aims to accelerate work for the minority community. By appointing Mosharrarf Hossain, a recognized figure from the minority community, the government seeks to streamline communica-

tion and make direct connections with the community.

Hossain's appointment also provides a visible face for the minority community within the government.

Although PB Salim has been removed as Chairman, he will continue to serve as the principal secretary of the state's Minority Affairs Department. His role as Chairman of the Minority Finance Corporation was an additional responsibility. The new leadership changes are valid until July 31, 2026, by which time the election results will have been declared, potentially leading to further changes.

Sources suggest that these changes are strategically aimed at improving the TMC's performance in North Bengal during the upcoming Assembly elec-

tions. The minority vote is a crucial factor in West Bengal's elections, and both the ruling and opposition parties are keen not to lose this valuable voter base.

With Hossain now leading the Minority Development and Finance Corporation, local residents can expect improved access to services. Reflecting on his new role, Mosharrarf Hossain expressed his commitment to the development of the minority community, stating, "I will work diligently to meet the needs of the people. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, significant steps have been taken for the development of minorities, but there is still work to be done. I will do my best to push forward the community's development."

## State prohibits use of all pharmaceuticals from WB pharma following saline controversy

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The West Bengal government has escalated its response to the saline-related controversy by issuing a complete ban on all drugs produced by West Bengal Pharmaceuticals. Following Monday's directive, which prohibited the use of seven specific medicines, a further notification clarified that no drugs from the company are permissible for use, even if stock is available. The Central Medical Store issued this directive to all medical colleges and hospitals across the state.

Initially, the focus was on Ringer's Lactate saline, but the Tuesday notice extended the ban to include

additional drugs like Ranitidine (used for acidity), Ceftriaxone (an antibiotic), Ondansetron (to reduce nausea), Fentanyl Citrate (a painkiller), and Oxytocin (used to accelerate labor and stop postpartum bleeding). The prohibition applies regardless of existing supplies in hospital inventories.

The controversy began after the death of a pregnant woman at Midnapore Medical College and Hospital. Initial investigations suggested that faulty saline might be responsible. Doctors at the hospital's obstetrics department raised this theory, but the special investigation committee has not yet con-

firmed saline as the definitive cause of death.

This incident has led to a broader scrutiny of pharmaceutical safety in the state. Experts are urging the government to enforce stricter quality control measures for medical supplies and drugs to avoid future tragedies. Meanwhile, hospitals have been directed to discard any existing inventory from the company to prevent further risks.

The saline issue highlights significant challenges in maintaining healthcare safety and accountability. As investigations continue, public trust in the state's healthcare system remains fragile.

## Building collapse in Baghajatin: Promoter and residents face FIR; demolition underway

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A shocking revelation has emerged regarding the tilting of a building in Baghajatin, Kolkata: it was allegedly constructed on reclaimed wetland. Following this disclosure, an FIR has been lodged against the promoter and eight residents of the building. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) started demolition work on the structure early Wednesday morning.

The incident occurred on Tuesday afternoon in Baghajatin's Vidyasagar Colony, when the multi-story building tilted, causing the lower floors to collapse. This sparked widespread concern and

raised questions about the building's construction and safety. The KMC claims the building was constructed without the necessary permissions and was not legally approved.

The FIR names the promoter, Subhash Roy, and eight residents, accusing them of carrying out unauthorized maintenance work without informing the authorities. The complaint also highlights the dangerous practice of 'hydraulic jacking'—raising the building's foundation—being carried out without proper soil testing. The work was conducted by Roy's company, Nagra Construction Private Limited.

Demolition of the building began on Tuesday night and continued with full force on Wednesday morning. According to KMC sources, the building had been constructed several years ago. Recently, cracks had appeared in the structure, and the residents alerted the promoter about the issue. He had assured them of repairs, but despite this, the building continued to show signs of distress. After the cracks were noticed, some residents were evacuated for their safety. However, it was revealed that the promoter did not seek permission from the local councillor before commencing repair work.

## State Govt enforces stricter rules to prevent illegal construction

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The West Bengal government has taken a firm stand against illegal constructions by making Completion Certificates (CC) mandatory for selling flats. Under the new directive issued by the Department of Urban Development and Municipal Affairs, promoters must obtain a CC from the local municipal authority after constructing a building. Violators face hefty fines and legal action.

According to the guidelines, building plans must first be approved by the local

municipality before construction begins. Once the building is completed, the municipality inspects whether it adheres to the approved plan. Only after verification is a CC issued. However, many unscrupulous developers bypass this process and sell flats without a CC, causing significant issues for buyers.

"Having a CC ensures the building complies with the approved municipal plan," an official explained. Without it, buyers face problems during property

mutation, as municipalities refuse to proceed without a valid CC. This has left many flat owners in legal limbo, unable to secure formal ownership despite spending significant sums. The lack of CC also affects municipal tax collection. Residents of such properties enjoy civic amenities like roads, water, and electricity but evade property tax payments due to unregistered ownership. Additionally, many buyers who take bank loans struggle as banks often require a copy of the CC for dis-

bursement. The government directive has made it mandatory for all promoters to secure a CC before selling flats. As per Section 212 of the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993, selling flats without a CC is a punishable offense. Municipalities have been empowered to impose fines on defaulting promoters and take legal action if necessary. This strict enforcement aims to protect buyers and ensure compliance with building norms, addressing longstanding issues in the real estate sector.

## NCIL opens fifth renal care unit

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Nephro Care India Ltd (NCIL) has inaugurated its fifth renal care unit in Shyambazar, North Kolkata, to offer advanced diagnostic and pharmacy support to kidney disease patients. This marks the beginning of NCIL's expansion plans, aiming for 22 clinics by March 2026, including nine across West Bengal. Dr. Sa-

shiPanja, State Industries Minister, inaugurated the clinic. NCIL plans to establish 300 renal care units nationwide over the next 10-15 years to address India's growing kidney disease epidemic, which affects millions. The company also works on developing affordable, AI-enabled dialysis machines to reduce treatment costs.

## Jyotipriya Mallick granted bail in ration scam case

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant development, former West Bengal Food Minister Jyotipriya Mallick was granted bail in connection with the ration scam case inves-

tigated by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). On Wednesday, the special ED court in Kolkata approved his bail on a personal bond of 50 lakh.

**Name Change**

I, Uttam Kumar Paul S/o Late Amulya Ratan Paul Residing at 20, Bakshipally(Bidhanpally), Ideal Apartment, Flat no. A1, 1st Floor, P.O - Garia, P.S - Banssroni, District - 24 Pgs(S), Pin- 700084 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Uttam Paul. I declare that Uttam Kumar Paul and Uttam Paul is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 08-01-2025.

**Name Change**

I, Senehera Khatun (Old Name) W/o Md. Abdul Salam Residing at Vill - Dakshin Madhusudanpur, P.O - Malaya, P.S - Dhola, District - 24 Pgs(S), Pin - 743329, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Senehera Khatun Bibi (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (First Class) at Alipore vide affidavit no 3989 Date 14-01-2025. Senehera Khatun (Old Name) and Senehera Khatun Bibi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Chirasee Datta D/o Amal Bikash Dutta Residing at A-9/2 Satyen Park, P.O - Joka, P.S - Haridevpur, Kolkata - 700104 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Chirasee Sarkar. I declare that Chirasee Datta and Chirasee Sarkar is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public, Kolkata on 15-01-2025.

**Name Change**

I, SANJAY PODDAR (Old Name) S/O JUGAL KISHORE PODDAR Residing at Shankmani Swara, Flat-9B, 9th Floor, Block-1, P.S.-Haridevpur, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700082, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SANJAY KUMAR PODDAR (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public of India vide affidavit Dated 14-01-2025. SANJAY PODDAR (Old Name) and SANJAY KUMAR PODDAR (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, GOUTAM KUMAR BAGCHI (Old Name) S/O Late PRITHWIS BAGCHI Residing at 1849, Rajdanga Main Road, Block-FC-37, P.O.-E.K.T.P., P.S.-Kasba, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700107, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as GOUTAM BAGCHI (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public of India vide affidavit Dated 14-01-2025. GOUTAM KUMAR BAGCHI (Old Name) and GOUTAM BAGCHI (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, AKBAR ALI (Old Name) S/O ALI AHAMMAD Residing at Vill-Dugdia, P.O.&P.S.-Sasan, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743423 West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as AKBAR ALI (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public of India vide affidavit Dated 14-01-2025. AKBAR ALI (Old Name) and AKBAR ALI (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, BARAKAT GOLDER (Old Name) S/O JINAT ALI GOLDRAR Residing at Panapukur, P.O.-Chandpur, P.S.-Rajarhat, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700135 West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as BARKAT ALI GOLDER (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public of India vide affidavit Dated 14-01-2025. BARAKAT GOLDER (Old Name) and BARKAT ALI GOLDER (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Mohammed Irfanul Ghani (old name) son of Mohammed Usman Ghani, residing at 21 Afzal Husain Lane, Pucca Bazar, P.O.-Asansol, P.S.-Asansol (South), Dist.-Paschim Bardhaman Pin-713301, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Md Irfanul Ghani (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Asansol on 13/01/2025. Mohammed Irfanul Ghani and Md Irfanul Ghani both are the same and one identical person.

**Change of Name**

I, Dandapati Mohan Rao, residing at Holding No- 653/95, Ward No- 10, Khidirpur, P.O.-Nimpura, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist.-Paschim Medinipur, PIN- 721304 solemnly affirm and declare that have changed my wife's name from B. SUNITA D/o Kisan to Dandapati Sunita W/o Dandapati Mohan Rao for all purpose as declared in the Court of the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kharagpur vide Affidavit No. 08/08 Dated 02/01/2025. B. SUNITA D/o Kisan and Dandapati Sunita W/o Dandapati Mohan Rao both are same and identical person.

**Change of Name**

I, AMAL KUMAR MAJUMDAR S/o Late Sushil Kumar Majumdar, residing at Manikpur, Midnapore, Dist.- Paschim Medinipur, W.B, PIN-721101 shall henceforth be known as AMAL MAJUMDAR as declared in the Court of the Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Midnapore vide Affidavit No. 786 Dated 13/01/2025. AMAL KUMAR MAJUMDAR and AMAL MAJUMDAR both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Krishna Roy (old name) wife of Sudhir Chandra Roy, residing at 112, Gold Edge Village 50, Kali Bari Road, P.O.- Badu, Madhyamgram, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700128, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Krishna Ray (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 15/01/2025. Krishna Ray (new name) and Krishna Roy (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Kuduch Ali Sardar (old name) son of Late Kharsed Sardar, residing at Merigunj, Kachiamara, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743329, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Kuddus Ali Sardar (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 15/01/2025. Kuddus Ali Sardar (new name) and Kuduch Ali Sardar (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Farida Shakil, Wife Of Shakil Akhter, Residing At 2 Debendra Mullick Street, Kolkata-700073, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Farida Bano Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 15/01/2025. That Farida Shakil And Farida Bano Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**

I, Shadab Akhter, Residing At 34 Harin Bari Lane, P.S.-Bowbazar, Kolkata-700073, West Bengal, Do Hereby Notified That My Father Atiqur - Shall Henceforth Be Known As Atiqur Rahman Vide An Affidavit 0327 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 13/01/2025. That Atiqur And Atiqur Rahman Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**

I, Sk Mokaram Hossain, Son Of Late Golam Tahir Sk, Residing At 9e/1, 1st Floor , Topsis 2nd Lane, P.O & P.S- Tiljala, Kolkata- 7000 39, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md. Mukarrom Hossain Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 15/01/2025. That Sk Mokaram Hossain And Md. Mukarrom Hossain Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**

I, A. Hussain, Son Of Md. Farooque, Residing At 3, Kustia Masjid Bari Lane, P.O & P.S- Tiljala, Kolkata- 700039, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Afzal Hussain Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 15/01/2025. That A. Hussain And Afzal Hussain Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**

I, Jiarul Sha(Old Name),S/O Late Sukhlal Sha, Resident Of Vill & Po - Bhatkul, P.S - Bhatkul Dist - Purba Bardhaman, Pin-713125, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Jiyarul Sha (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/01/2025. Jiarul Sha(Old Name) And Jiyarul Sha(New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**

I, Amin Ali (old name) son of Umed Ali Sekh, residing at Bhabagachi, Dogachhia, P.S.-Naihati, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743130, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Amin Ali Sekh (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Barrackpore on 14/01/2025. Amin Ali Sekh (new name) and Amin Ali (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Swapan Routh (old name) son of Late Abani Mohan Routh, residing at 56/1A, Siddhinath Chatterjee Road, Behala, Kolkata-700034, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Swapan Kumar Routh (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 15/01/2025. Swapan Kumar Routh (new name) and Swapan Routh (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Kahar Molla (old name) son of Deloar Molla, residing at Vill- Paschim Jouthia, P.O.- Baisha, Barulpur, Pin- 743338, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Abdul Kahar Molla (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 15/01/2025. Abdul Kahar Molla (new name) and Kahar Molla (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Marjina Bibi (Old Name) C/o Sk. Akhter, Residing at Uttar Roypur, Kalim Beria, B.B Chatterjee Road, Budge Budge, Kolkata - 700137 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Morjina Bibi (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (First Class) at Alipore vide affidavit no 3988 Date 14-01-2025. Marjina Bibi (Old Name) and Morjina Bibi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**

I, Kanhaijal Agarwal S/o Late Mangtu Ram Agarwal Residing at 114, Nandan Nagar, P.O.- Belghoria, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin- 700083 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Kanhaijal Lal Agarwal. I declare that Kanhaijal Agarwal and Kanhaijal Lal Agarwal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 15-01-2025.

**Free Dental Checkup programme organized by ERWWO, Howrah at Gyandeep Sishu Mandir**

**MI News Service, Howrah:** The Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organization (ERWWO), Howrah, reaffirmed its commitment to community welfare by organizing a free dental checkup programme titled "SMILE FOR A LIFE" at GYANDEEP SISHU MANDIR for school children today. This initiative aimed to promote oral health and hygiene among children. The programme was graced by the presence of Mrs. Reena Jaiswal, President of ERWWO, Howrah, along with other esteemed members of the organization. The dental checkup was conducted by Dr. Saumya Prakash, BDS, a renowned dental surgeon, who provided his expertise to examine the children and offer personalized guidance. During the event, Dr. Prakash emphasized the importance of maintaining proper oral hygiene. He conducted an interactive session, sharing practical tips on effective brushing



techniques and the significance of regular dental care. The demonstration was designed to instill healthy habits in children and raise awareness about oral health. The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from the children and faculty of GYANDEEP SISHU MANDIR. Parents and teachers lauded ERWWO's thoughtful effort in addressing this critical aspect of health and well-being, especially for school-aged children. Speaking on the occasion, Mrs. Reena Jaiswal

said, "ERWWO is dedicated to the holistic well-being of the community. Our aim to educate and empower children to prioritize their health, starting with oral hygiene. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Saumya Prakash for his invaluable contribution to this noble cause." The programme concluded successfully with the distribution of dental hygiene kits to all participating children, encouraging them to adopt and maintain good oral care practices.

**Karnataka HC instructs to issue modified birth, death cert for trans-genders**

**MI News Service, Bengaluru:** The Karnataka High Court has instructed the Registrar of Births and Deaths to issue modified certificates for transgender individuals who have undergone gender reassignment. These certificates must reflect both the previous and revised names and genders of the individuals. This directive will remain effective until necessary amendments are made to the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, which currently does not allow for changes in gender on original birth or death certificates. The court also urged the Karnataka Law Commission and the state government to review the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, and propose amendments to the 1969 Act and its Rules to align with the intent of the 2019 Act. Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued these orders while resolving a petition from a 34-year-old transgender woman who had her gender reassignment surgery and sought to update her name and gender on her birth certificate. The Mangaluru City Corporation's Registrar of Births and Deaths had earlier denied her request, citing the lack of provisions in the 1969 Act.

**Two more Dalian rakes reach Noapara Carshed**



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Two new rakes (MR-504 and MR-512), popularly known as Dalian Rake, have reached Noapara Carshed of Metro Railway, Kolkata on 14.01.2025. These rakes have been procured through global tender, reached Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Port in a ship (Violet Ace) on 12.01.2025. Total 16 coaches were lowered from the ship and joined before sending it to Noapara Carshed with the help of a Diesel engine. These rakes are packed with special features to increase comfort of passengers and ensure enhanced riding experience in Metro Railway, Kolkata network. The salient features of the new MR-504 and MR-512 rakes are as follows:-

**Passenger amenities features:** Wider doors in these rakes will facilitate easy Entry and Exit of passengers specially during the peak hours. Enhanced features of these rakes will also provide jerk-free ride. CCTV coverage inside the coach, modular and wider vestibules, enhanced seating capacity including provision of more seats for senior citizens and specially abled are some of

**Complex shoulder joint replacement surgery successfully performed at Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A significant milestone in advanced medical care was achieved on January 14, 2025, at the Divisional Railway Hospital (DRH), Malda, with the successful completion of a Cemented Humerus Hemiarthroplasty with Tuberosity Reconstruction. This complex shoulder joint replacement surgery was performed on a 39-year-old male loco pilot under the esteemed guidance of Dr. Anupa Ghosh, Chief Medical Superintendent (CMS), DRH Malda. The patient suffered a NEER 4-part fracture of the left proximal humerus with a shattered shoulder following a slip and fall while deboarding a train. To ensure



an optimal outcome, the medical team meticulously performed tuberosity reconstruction, incorporating autologous cancellous bone grafting. This innovative approach facilitates secure healing of the tuberosity over the implant while maintaining the prosthesis's height and retroversion for optimal functionality. The surgery was successfully led by Dr. S. Banerjee, Divisional Medical Officer (Orthopedics), with anesthesia administered by Dr. P.P. Bhattacharya, Divisional Medical Officer (Anesthesia), both from DRH Malda. This achievement highlights the advanced medical expertise at Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda, and its unwavering commitment to providing exceptional healthcare to railway employees.

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**Xiaomi Unveils Redmi 14C 5G**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Xiaomi India recently announced the global debut of the Redmi 14C 5G, redefining innovation in the budget smart phone segment. Designed to deliver cutting-edge features, seamless performance, and blazing-fast 5G connectivity, the Redmi 14C 5G is poised to meet the evolving needs of Indian consumers. The launch of the Redmi 14C 5G is complemented by the remarkable success of the Redmi Note 14 5G Series, which achieved an incredible milestone of ₹1000 crore in revenue within just two weeks in India—a testament to the unwavering trust and love from the customers.

**Medical miracle at BRSH ITU: Patient recovers after 45 days of ventilation**



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a remarkable display of medical expertise and teamwork, B.R. Singh Hospital (BRSH), Eastern Railway, has achieved a significant medical breakthrough. A 65-year-old female patient, who faced recurrent episodes of respiratory distress, hypercarbia, and the need for ventilatory support during every admission, has successfully recovered after 45 days in the Intensive Therapy Unit (ITU). Initially diagnosed as a case of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), it was observed that the patient experienced apnoea during sleep and had a "white-out" left lung. Bedside bronchoscopy revealed a mucus plug, which was successfully removed. Despite these interventions, the patient struggled with difficult weaning and was referred to a higher center, where a tracheostomy was performed. Further investigations revealed an Anti-MSK antibody positivity, and Rituximab therapy was prescribed. Unfortunately, her condition deteriorated, leading her family to bring her back to

BR Singh Hospital for further care. At B.R. Singh Hospital, a Neostigmine challenge test confirmed the diagnosis of a neuromuscular condition. The medical team initiated treatment with steroids and pyridostigmine, later incorporating Azathioprine into the regime. Over time, the patient's muscle strength improved significantly, allowing her to be weaned off the ventilator and facilitating the closure of the tracheostomy. After facing near-cardiac arrest situations three times during her 45-day stay, the patient is now stable and ready to be transferred from the ITU to the ward—a testament to the unwavering efforts of the medical team, paramedical staff, and the faith of the patient's family. Dr. Chayan Bhattacharya, Assistant Chief Health Director and ITU In-charge, played a pivotal role in this recovery. Supported by a dedicated team of resident doctors, nurses, and staff, their relentless commitment and expertise have turned a critical situation into a story of hope and recovery.

**Insurance sector demands lower GST rates, revised tax exemption on health premium**

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The insurance industry has sought some reliefs in the budget such as the lowering of GST rates on insurance and the revision of tax exemption on health insurance premium. They also want tax relief for annuities and the introduction of tax savings retirement security bonds. The industry pointed out to four data points — India's insurance penetration has marginally declined to 3.7 per cent in 2023-24 from 4 per cent in 2022-23 and country's medical inflation is estimated at around 14 per cent. Besides, National Health Accounts estimates out-of-pocket expenditure at around 44.1 per cent of household health expenditure and the World Economic Forum estimates retirement savings gap of India at \$85.4 trillion by 2050. Insurance regulator IRDAI has initiated discussions with the companies on the optimal GST rates and the majority of the industry is in favour of a reduction from 18 per cent to 12 per cent. There is also a call for a revision of tax exemption on health insurance premium, available under the old tax regime, under section 80D of the Income Tax Act. It has been 10 years after the limit was raised from ₹15,000 to ₹25,000 in the union budget of 2015. Industry body Ficci has proposed doubling the deduction of health insurance premium under section 80D to ₹50,000 along with an increase in the preventive health check-up to ₹20,000 from ₹5,000.

**Short Termination & Short Origination of Trains**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In view of developmental works over South Western Railway, it has been decided to short Terminate and Short Originate the following trains:

Journey Commencing On	Short Termination/Short Origination
16.01.2025, 18.01.2025, 20.01.2025, 21.01.2025, 23.01.2025, 25.01.2025, 27.01.2025, 28.01.2025, 30.01.2025, 01.02.2025, 03.02.2025, 04.02.2025, 06.02.2025, 08.02.2025, 10.02.2025, 11.02.2025, 13.02.2025, 15.02.2025, 17.02.2025, 18.02.2025, 20.02.2025, 21.02.2025, 23.02.2025, 25.02.2025, 27.02.2025, 28.02.2025, 30.02.2025, 01.03.2025, 03.03.2025, 05.03.2025, 06.03.2025, 08.03.2025, 10.03.2025, 11.03.2025, 13.03.2025, 15.03.2025, 17.03.2025, 18.03.2025, 20.03.2025, 22.03.2025, 24.03.2025, 25.03.2025, 27.03.2025, 29.03.2025, 31.03.2025, 01.04.2025, 03.04.2025, 05.04.2025, 07.04.2025, 08.04.2025, 10.04.2025, 12.04.2025, 14.04.2025 & 15.04.2025	Short Terminated at SSS Hubballi
19.01.2025, 21.01.2025, 23.01.2025, 24.01.2025, 26.01.2025, 28.01.2025, 30.01.2025, 31.01.2025, 02.02.2025, 04.02.2025, 06.02.2025, 07.02.2025, 09.02.2025, 11.02.2025, 13.02.2025, 14.02.2025, 16.02.2025, 18.02.2025, 20.02.2025, 21.02.2025, 23.02.2025, 25.02.2025, 27.02.2025, 28.02.2025, 02.03.2025, 04.03.2025, 06.03.2025, 07.03.2025, 09.03.2025, 11.03.2025, 13.03.2025, 14.03.2025, 16.03.2025, 18.03.2025, 20.03.2025, 21.03.2025, 23.03.2025, 25.03.2025, 27.03.2025, 28.03.2025, 30.03.2025, 01.04.2025, 03.04.2025, 04.04.2025, 06.04.2025, 08.04.2025, 10.04.2025, 11.04.2025, 13.04.2025, 15.04.2025, 17.04.2025 & 18.04.2025	Short Originated from SSS Hubballi

**ER to augment sleeper class and air-conditioned coaches in three Express Trains**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The augmentation of Sleeper Class coaches and Air - Conditioned class coaches in Popular Mail/Express trains is an ongoing initiative aimed at improving overall travel experience for passengers. Accordingly, in response to the overwhelming demand for tickets, Eastern Railway has decided to augment air-conditioned and Sleeper class Coaches by replacing general second class coaches in following Express trains on temporary basis: • Two Ad-

ditional Sleeper Second Class Coaches will be augmented with 13147/13148 Sealdah - Bamanhat - Sealdah Uttarbanga Express by replacing of Two General Second class coaches leaving Sealdah with effect from 16.01.2025 to 31.01.2025 & leaving Bamanhat with effect from 17.01.2025 to 01.02.2025. • One Additional Sleeper Second Class Coach will be augmented with 13149/13150 Sealdah - Alipur Duar - Sealdah Kan-chankanya Express by replacing of One General

Second class coach leaving Sealdah with effect from 16.01.2025 to 31.01.2025 & leaving Alipur Duar with effect from 17.01.2025 to 01.02.2025. • One Additional Sleeper Second Class Coach and One Additional Air Conditioned (AC 3 tier) Coach will be augmented with 13189/13190 Sealdah - Balurghat - Sealdah Express by replacing of Two General Second class coaches leaving Sealdah with effect from 16.01.2025 to 31.01.2025 & leaving Balurghat with effect from 17.01.2025 to 01.02.2025

**Baghajatin: We are victims of CPIM's sinful act, says Mayor**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The mayor of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) Firhad Hakim clearly mentioned that "KMC is still facing the music of the sinful deeds committed during CPIM regime, both at state government and corporation level." He was speaking regarding the recent Bagha Jatin house collapse. To Mayor, innumerable buildings got due permission to be developed during CPIM regime. The era of CPIM also created lots of lacuna at administrative and operational level at KMC. Hence, the present government now has to tackle the misdeeds of its predecessors.

Challenges in Safeguarding Railway Infrastructure in Remote Areas



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Indian Railways is lifeline of the country and one of the largest & most intricate rail networks globally. It is playing a crucial role in the transportation of passengers and freight.

Geographical Challenges: Remote areas often present significant geographical obstacles, such as difficult terrain, forests, mountains, and deserts. These locations are typically harder to access, making it difficult to patrol the railway lines effectively.

problematic in regions like the northeastern states, Jammu and Kashmir, and parts of Central India, where tracks pass through dense forests and hilly terrains. Moreover, some of the railway infrastructure, such as bridges, tunnels and stations, is located in remote regions that are susceptible to natural disasters like landslides, floods, or earthquakes.

Remarkable growth in passenger footfall and revenue during Ganga Sagar Mela 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Ganga Sagar Mela, an annual pilgrimage of immense cultural and spiritual significance, attracts lakhs of devotees from across the country to the sacred confluence of the Ganga and the Bay of Bengal.

Eastern Railway has undertaken a proactive approach to ensure a hassle-free travel experience for pilgrims attending the Ganga Sagar Mela 2025. Special efforts are being made to facilitate ticketing and ensure compliance

with valid travel documentation, enabling a smooth and comfortable journey for passengers. On 14th January 2025, Namkhana and Kakkwip stations witnessed a significant increase in passenger footfall due to the ongoing Mela. Ticket sales at these key stations surged by 79%, with earnings showing an impressive growth of nearly 100% compared to the corresponding date last year.

EASTERN RAILWAY AUCTION CATALOGUE. Admin Unit/Zone: Sealdah Division-Commercial, Eastern Railway. Auctioning Authority: Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Sealdah. Auction Catalogue No.: SDAH-PARCEL-38. Auction Start (All Lots): 29.01.2025, 11.00 hrs. Auction Close Date/Time: 29.01.2025, 13.10 hrs.

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EASTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No.: ENGG-07/24-25 (OPEN), Dated : 13.01.2025. E-Tenders are invited by Chief Works Manager/Eastern Railway/Kanchrapara Workshop, Pin-743145, 24-North Parganas, West Bengal through website www.ireps.gov.in from reputed Contractors with sufficient experience and financial capability who have executed similar nature of work in the past preferably with Railway/CPWD/PWD/MES/Irrigation or any other public sector undertakings for the following works: SI.No.-1. Tender No.: WT-17-24-25. Description of works: At Kanchrapara Workshop- Upgradation of Training facilities at MDSTC & MDWTC/Kanchrapara. Tender Value: ₹ 1,19,84,912.35. Earnest Money/Bid Security: ₹ 2,09,900.

Mark Zuckerberg falsely claims that incumbent Indian govt lost elections due to weak COVID 19 response, draws sharp reaction from Union Minister Ashwini Vishnav

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 10th January 2025 In an interview with popular podcaster Joe Rogan, Mr Zuckerberg wrongly claimed that most incumbent governments, including India, lost elections in 2024. Mark Zuckerberg stated, "2024 was a very big election year around the world, and all these countries, India, and tons of other countries had elections. The incumbents basically lost every single one."

and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnav fact checked Mark Zuckerberg's statement. Ashwini Vaishnav tweeted, "As the world's largest democracy, India conducted the 2024 election with over 640 million voters. People of India reaffirmed their trust in the NDA led by PM Narendra Modi. Zuckerberg's claim that most incumbent governments, including India, in the 2024 elections, lost post-Covid is factually incorrect."

any democratic country tarnishes its image. The organisation will have to apologise to Parliament and the people here for this mistake." On 14th January 2025 Shivnath Thukral, Vice President of Public Policy at Meta India, issued an apology on behalf of Meta in response to the minister's tweet. He replied: "Dear Honourable Minister @AshwiniVaishnav, Mark's observation that many incumbent parties were not re-elected in 2024 elections holds true for several countries, BUT not India. We would like to apologise for this inadvertent error. India remains an incredibly important country for @Meta and we look forward to being at the heart of its innovative future."

Mark Zuckerberg, the Chairman and CEO of Meta Platforms Inc. stirred controversy with his comments on India in a Joe Rogan podcast. He cited India as an example while discussing the dissatisfaction among the citizens across the world with their governments' handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. His statement further suggested that, following the pandemic, most incumbent governments, including India, lost in the subsequent elections.

ton of countries that had elections and incumbents basically lost every single one. There is some sort of global phenomena where the it was inflation because of the economic policies to deal with covid or just how the governments dealt with covid, seems to have this effect that's global not just the US, but like a very broad decrease in trust at least in the set incumbents and maybe in sort of these democratic institutions overall."

On 13th January 2025 The statement was factually incorrect regarding India, where the incumbent government (NDA) led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi retained power in the 2024 elections. In response, India's Union Minister for Information

and Broadcasting, Ashwini Vaishnav fact checked Mark Zuckerberg's statement. Ashwini Vaishnav tweeted, "As the world's largest democracy, India conducted the 2024 election with over 640 million voters. People of India reaffirmed their trust in the NDA led by PM Narendra Modi. Zuckerberg's claim that most incumbent governments, including India, in the 2024 elections, lost post-Covid is factually incorrect."

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Mark Zuckerberg's comments drew sharp criticism from across the spectrum. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav quickly pointed out factual inaccuracies in his statements. Minister Vaishnav commented on the Joe Rogan's podcast too calling out the facts.

Talcher-Bimalagarh Rail Link Project Accelerates with New Tender for Remaining Stretch

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: In a significant development aimed at completing the long-awaited Talcher-Bimalagarh New Broad Gauge (BG) Rail Link Project, the Ministry of Railways has invited tenders for the balance stretch of the project. This new rail link, spanning 149.78 km, is set to connect Talcher with Bimalagarh in Odisha, and the invitation for tender covers vital work including earthworks, bridge construction, station facilities, drainage systems, and more. The estimated cost for the tender is ₹ 726.129 crore.

The Talcher-Bimalagarh rail link was initially sanctioned in 2003-04 but has faced numerous delays over the years due to land acquisition issues, legal hurdles, and other challenges. Despite these setbacks, approximately 26% of the project has already been completed, with 20 kilometers of the rail line constructed between Talcher and Sunakhani. Additionally, ongoing construction has extended the rail link another 30.5 kilometers towards Khamar, Angul district, with a goal of completing the project at the earliest.

construction, work has been initiated from both ends of the rail line: Talcher and Bimalagarh. The Bimalagarh-Mahuldiha section is already under construction, and the recent floating of a tender for the remaining 30.625 km stretch between Fallahara and Mahuldiha is expected to expedite progress significantly. The Talcher-Bimalagarh project, which has faced delays of nearly 12 years, is now gaining momentum with proactive measures taken by the East Coast Railway (ECoR) administration. These measures include close coordination with state and district authorities to resolve issues related to land acquisition and litigation. The Ministry of Railways has made this project a priority, with Union Railway Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnav personally advising officials to

expedite the construction and ensure the project's completion. Recently, a key milestone was achieved when the ECoR engineering team successfully carried out the final detonation in the 840-meter-long tunnel at Baruan Hill, located between Sunakhani and Samal stations. This breakthrough overcomes significant geographical challenges and is a crucial step forward in the project's progression. The economic benefits of this rail link will be substantial. Once completed, it will reduce the distance between Raurkela and Talcher by approximately 126 kilometers. This rail line will facilitate the efficient transportation of export-quality iron ore, boosting the local economy and benefiting industries in the region. Additionally, the project will play a vital role in promoting economic development in the

interior districts of Angul, Deogarh, and Sundargarh. The East Coast Railway has also appointed dedicated Land Acquisition Officers to ensure the speedy completion of land acquisition and to maintain steady progress on construction. Regular reviews of the project's status at the highest levels are being conducted, with officials receiving instructions to meet critical deadlines. The Talcher-Bimalagarh rail link remains one of the most closely monitored infrastructure projects, reflecting the government's commitment to improving regional connectivity and operational efficiency in Odisha. Under the leadership of Shri Ashwini Vaishnav, efforts are underway to streamline traffic movements and improve facilities for the benefit of local stakeholders and industries.

Intensive ticket checking drive at Kakkwip station

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ganga Sagar Mela 2025, drive is being conducted to ensure passengers have hassle free journey with a valid ticket. Eastern Railway's Principal Chief Commercial Manager (PCCM), Dr. Uday Shankar Jha along with Divisional Commercial Manager/Sealdah Sri Sashi Ranjan Kumar, Asstt. Commercial Manager/Sealdah Sri Ravi Shankar Prasad and Asstt. Security Commissioner Sri Alok Jena has initiated an intensive ticket checking drive in Kakkwip to ensure a seamless travel experience for passengers those who are visiting Kakkwip and Ganga Sagar. As part of this campaign, Sealdah Division has implemented several passenger-friendly measures under the dynamic leadership of Sri Deepak Nigam, DRM/Sealdah. To avoid long queues, additional ticket counters have been

set up on both sides of the station. Mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (M-UTS) has been deployed, allowing booking clerks to approach passengers directly and issue tickets, eliminating the need for passengers to stand in line. For pilgrims (Male, Female & Divyanjan) commissioned modern toilets. Medical booth has been stationed at the station premises to provide immediate medical assistance to passengers in need a team of St. John Ambulance deployed in this booth. RPF and GRP personnel have been deployed at the station, and CCTV cameras have been installed to monitor the premises. Civil defence personnel are assisting passengers with boarding and de boarding trains, to ensure smooth and orderly flow of passengers.

LEGAL NOTICE We, AMARJIT KUMAR, s/o Lakhman Roy, ANARJEET YADAV, s/o Laxman Yadav and AMIT KUMAR YADAV, s/o Laxman Yadav have purchased a land /property from RAM RATAN PRASAD, son of Late Ganesh Prasad in the year of 2023 at PLOT NO-2, Krishnanagar road, Ward no-142, previous P.S. Thakurpukur now P.S-Haridevpur, Kolkata-700104 lying which is measuring 2(two)cottah 00(zero)chitak 00(zero)ft and situated at J.L-28, R.S no-276, Touzi no-216, R.S Dag No-131, L.R Dag No-155, R.S Khatian No-174, L.R Khatian No-1314 at mouza -krishnagar, Joka 1 Gram Panchayat under kolkata Municipal Corporation. Schedule stated below from power of attorney holder :- Anjali Verma Daughter of Sanjay Kumar Verma Deed No-1-1603-10639 dated 19/07/2023 Serial No- dated 19/07/2023 If anybody has any objection on this land please inform of A.D.S.R.-III, Alipore, South 24 Parganas within one month from the date of this advertisement. I have applied for mutation and make a public notice. Date:06/01/2025.

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Office of the MADHURKUL GRAM PANCHAYAT VIII-P.O.-Madhukul, P.S.-Domkal, Dist.-Murshidabad, (W.B.) UNDER DOMKAL BLOCK NIT No: 10/2024-25 & 11/2024-25 Publishing & Submission Start Date: 15.01.2025 from 3.00PM Bid Submission Closing Date: 25.01.2025 up to 5.00 PM Bid Opening Date: 28.01.2025 after 12.00 PM Details See in: www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/-, Pradhan Madhukul Gram Panchayat

Notice Inviting Tender The sealed tenders are invited from the agencies for the NIT no NIT REF NO - NIT NIT REF NO- 21/ CH-II PS/ 2024-25 DT. 14.01.2025(Tender ID- 2025\_ZPHD\_800760\_1 to 2) and 20/CH-II BDO/ 2024-25 DT. 08.01.2025(Tender ID- 2025\_ZPHD\_797075\_1 to 2). For more details please log into www.wbtenders.gov.in or contact with office of the Chanditala II Development Block. Sd/- Executive Officer Chanditala-II Panchayat Samiti Hooghly

GARBHETA-I DEVELOPMENT BLOCK Garbheta, Paschim Medinipur ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE e-NIT No.- WBPMD/GBTI/BDO/RIDE XXX/e-NIT-32/2024-25, Dated-13/01/2025 I(One) no e-Tender is invited by the Block Development Officer, Garbheta-I Dev. Block from the reliable bonafide resourceful bidders of the following works under RIDF-XXX fund in Garbheta Gram Panchayat having e-Tender ID:2025\_DMPMM\_799855\_1. Details may be had from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in. Publishing Date 13.01.2025 at 6:00PM. Bid submission start 14.01.2025 from 10:00 AM. Bid submission end 27.01.2025 upto 02:00 PM. Sd/- Block Development Officer , Garbheta-I Development Block

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Notice Inviting Tender The sealed tenders are invited from the agencies for the NIT no NIT REF NO - NIT NIT REF NO- 21/ CH-II PS/ 2024-25 DT. 14.01.2025(Tender ID- 2025\_ZPHD\_800760\_1 to 2) and 20/CH-II BDO/ 2024-25 DT. 08.01.2025(Tender ID- 2025\_ZPHD\_797075\_1 to 2). For more details please log into www.wbtenders.gov.in or contact with office of the Chanditala II Development Block. Sd/- Executive Officer Chanditala-II Panchayat Samiti Hooghly

GARBHETA-I DEVELOPMENT BLOCK Garbheta, Paschim Medinipur ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE e-NIT No.- WBPMD/GBTI/BDO/RIDE XXX/e-NIT-32/2024-25, Dated-13/01/2025 I(One) no e-Tender is invited by the Block Development Officer, Garbheta-I Dev. Block from the reliable bonafide resourceful bidders of the following works under RIDF-XXX fund in Garbheta Gram Panchayat having e-Tender ID:2025\_DMPMM\_799855\_1. Details may be had from the website https://wbtenders.gov.in. Publishing Date 13.01.2025 at 6:00PM. Bid submission start 14.01.2025 from 10:00 AM. Bid submission end 27.01.2025 upto 02:00 PM. Sd/- Block Development Officer , Garbheta-I Development Block

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Ref NIT No: 404/Community Sanitary Complex/SBM(G), Dated: 13.01.2025 E-Tender are invited from bonafied resourceful contractors for development works. For Scheme details, other Terms and Conditions please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in Documents Download Date: From 14.01.2025 at 02.00 PM to 24.01.2025 up to 02.00 PM. Bid Submission Date: 14.01.2025 at 02.30 PM to 24.01.2025 up to 02.30 PM. Date of Technical Bid Opening: 27.01.2025 at 02.30 PM. Sd/-, Executive Officer Chinsurah-Mogra Panchayet Samity

Durgapur Abhoynagar-I Gram Panchayat Samabayaply, Nischinda, Howrah - 711205 Notice Inviting e-Tender E-Tender is invited from the experienced and resourceful bidders for execution of 4 (Four) nos. different development work(s) vide NIT No. (i) WB/HOWB/JDAIGP/NIT01/5th SFC Untied/2025, (ii) NIT No. WB/HOWB/JDAIGP/NIT02/UNTIED/2025, dated 03.01.2025, (iii) NIT No. WB/HOWB/JDAIGP/NIT 03/ UNTIED/2025, (iv) NIT No. WB/HOWB/JDAIGP/ NIT 04/ Tied Drinking Water/2025, dated 06.01.2025. Tender ID: 2025\_ZPHD\_794532\_1, 2025\_ZPHD\_794549\_1, 2025\_ZPHD\_795569\_1, 2025\_ZPHD\_795575\_1. Bid submission end date: 18.01.2025 up to 11.00 A.M. Technical Bid opening date: 20.01.2025 at 11.00 A.M. Details are available in https://wbtenders.gov.in & https://etender.wb.nic.in and Office Notice Board. Sd/- Sonali Samadhar Pradhan Durgapur Abhoynagar-I Gram Panchayat

Office of the Executive Officer Singur Panchayat Samity Singur, Hooghly NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Notice inviting e-Tender for 07 no of works, e-NIT No. 08/2024-25 bearing Memo no-1027/EO/Singur, Dated-13/01/2025 respectively of the Office of the Singur Panchayat Samity, Singur, Hooghly, mentioned in the portal www.wbtenders.gov.in. For more details related to this e-NIT please login website : - www.wbtenders.gov.in/Closing date:- 20/01/2025 at 6:30 PM Sd/- Executive Officer Singur Panchayat Samity Singur, Hooghly

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REGARDING ENERGIZATION Line of NCC/Pit - 01 at Sealdah Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed sections of the undernoted section of Eastern Railway, that the 25000 volt, 50 Hz., A.C. overhead traction wires will be energized on or after 14.02.2025. On and from 14.02.2025 the overhead traction line shall be treated as live and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line. Section: Electrification of Existing un-wired Railway line of NCC/Pit-01 at Sealdah from Loc. No. NCC/3/5, Ch.0/74.0 (from Sealdah) to Loc. No. NCC/1/1, Ch.0/701.0 (from Sealdah) [0.701TKM] of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway for public carriage of goods and passenger traffic (Electrified Section) Date of Energization : 14.02.2025 Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Sealdah

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE Branch Office: ICICI Bank LTD Office Number 201-B, 2ND Floor, Road No 1 Plot No -B3, W/IFI IT PARK,Wagle Industrial Estate, Thane (West)- 400604. The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited. Sr. No. Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs) Name of Branch 1. Sabera Bibi & Monirul Molla- LBMJUM00005261208 Property 1 Flat No. 22, 2nd Floor, (Front Side As Per Site), Municipal Premises No. 118, Bosepukur Road, Near Bosepukur Club, RB Connector To Dr G.S. Bose Road, Ward No.67, J.L. No. 13, Khatian No. 1242, Dog No. 1843, Kasba Police Station, Mouja Kasba, Kolkata-700042 Property 2- Flat No. 12, 1st Floor, (Front Side As Per Site), Municipal Premises No. 118, Bosepukur Road, Near Bosepukur Club, RB Connector To Dr G.S. Bose Road, Ward No. 67, J.L. No. 13, Khatian No. 1242, Dog No. 1843, Kasba Police Station, Mouja Kasba, Kolkata- 700042/ January 10, 2025 September 19, 2024 Rs. 53,64,069.76/- Mumbai

## While the Kumbh Mela has often been associated with mammoth crowds and spiritual enlightenment, this year is all the more special



While the Kumbh Mela has often been associated with mammoth crowds and spiritual enlightenment, this year is all the more special, due to a rare celestial alignment that occurs only once in 144 years. "While the Ardh Kumbh Mela happens every six years, the Purna Kumbh Mela happens every 12 years. But this is the Maha Kumbh Mela and that happens only every 144 years," says Vikram Rana, a certified guide with UP Tourism who is currently based in Prayagraj. This once-in-144-years excitement is palpable on the streets of Prayagraj, formerly known as Allahabad. Sadhus arrive every day from various parts of India and set up makeshift tents on the banks; their home for a month or so.

Some of them arrive in grand processions, while some others walk discreetly and settle down. And, for this grand event, braving the bitter Uttar Pradesh winter where temperatures can dip down to 7 degree celsius, devotees from across the world make a beeline to participate in the festivities and take a dip in the holy waters. **The sadhus of the Kumbh** The major attraction during the Kumbh Mela is the Akharas (or Akhadas) — groups deeply rooted in the traditions of Hinduism. Akharas — said to be formed by Adi Shankaracharya to propagate spiritual learning and physical training — are currently 13 in number, falling under three sects or pants (the Shaivite, Vaishnavite and the udasin).

Sadhus (ascetics) from different centres belonging to these Akharas are currently camping at Prayagraj, for the Maha Kumbh Mela, which takes place till February 26. Some of them have travelled from places like Varanasi, Haridwar, Rishikesh and Ujjain, while a few have come all the way from the Himalayas, where they spend years in meditation and penance. The Naga sadhus are fascinating, with their unique appearances and rituals. We meet a sadhu who, for a decade now, has not sat down or attempted a typical sleeping position — he meditates with his arms resting on a mat. Another sadhu practises his yoga and penance with his hand tied up; his disciples say he has practised

this form of hatha yoga for many years now. Another sadhu has had his left hand up in the air for many years now. Covered with ash and mostly naked, these sadhus evoke fear, admiration and respect from devotees, who seek their blessings, which also entail slapping the devotees hard on the back. "They (Naga sadhus) are the ferocious ones. They have even helped fighting against invaders in the past," explains our guide, Vikram. All these fascinating elements about the 2025 Maha Kumbh has led to an economic boost in Prayagraj, which is gearing up to provide for the surge in attendees. With about 40 crore people expected to experience the Mela, Prayagraj is among the most-discussed destinations this time of the year.

## Criticism vs. Reality: The True Value of Insurance

Mr. Tapan Singhel, Chairman, General Insurance Council and MD & CEO, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

Insurance—the industry that has safeguarded millions of citizens and many businesses, often faces situations that cast a shadow on its efforts. Recent media reports have once again opened a wave of criticism. This raises a pertinent question: Has sensationalism overtaken reason? While much has been said about these reports, it is time to dwell deeper into the issue and look at the ground reality.

**The Unseen Good: A Silent Majority:** As per the IRDAI annual report, last year, the General Insurance industry settled crores of claims worth ₹ 1.72 lakh crore, out of which it paid more than ₹ 80,000 crore towards health insurance. Yet those who benefit rarely make the news. On the flip side, isolated grievances and odd bad experiences become the face of the industry. Also, the claim settlement ratio in the industry is more than 80%. The 20% of claims that are rejected are on the account of fraud, or non-admissibility and yet there is an uproar about this. After all, insurance is public money, and insurers should be lauded for handling this money responsibly.

**The Price of Safety:** Let's say it is not making a difference, and we decide to shut down the industry but without it what would happen?

Some argue that individuals can self-insure by saving for medical expenses. However, consider this: out-of-pocket (OOP) health expenses in India currently stand

at 60%, as per a report by NITI Aayog. Without insurance, this figure would soar to 100%, leaving households entirely at the mercy of skyrocketing medical costs. For families without significant savings, medical bills would push them below the poverty line. Currently, approximately 7% of India's population already face this reality annually due to health-care costs. Without insurance, this number would worsen, and the government would face increased pressure to subsidise healthcare, diverting resources from other critical sectors. Such a scenario would derail our demographic dividend and exacerbate poverty. Are we ready with an alternate safety net for citizens if insurance shuts down?

The motor industry, thriving thanks to insurance-backed accident protection, will falter as claims payouts—approximately ₹ 55 thousand crore—cease to exist. The motor industry thrives partly due to insurance-backed accident protection. Without insurance, the financial burden of accidents would fall entirely on vehicle owners, leading to increased economic instability and decreased vehicle sales. Insurers also play a crucial role in covering Motor Third Party claims, which is a mandatory requirement in our country. As per the recent IRDAI annual report, in FY 23-24, the industry paid claims amounting to over ₹ 27,000 crore in Motor TP claims. If the insurance industry were to close, who will bear this cost of compensation? It will further burden the government treasury of a fast developing nation.



## Diabetes medicine may lower risk for colorectal cancer

Washington DC: A revolutionary study by Case Western Reserve University researchers reveals that a class of medications used to treat type 2 diabetes may also lower the risk of colorectal cancer (CRC).

The findings, published in the journal JAMA Oncology, support the need for clinical trials to determine whether these medications could prevent one of the deadliest types of cancers. Eventually, the medications may also show promise in warding off other types of cancer associated with obesity and diabetes.

"Our results clearly demonstrate that GLP-1 RAs are significantly more effective than popular anti-diabetic drugs, such as Metformin or insulin, at preventing the development of CRC," said Nathan Berger, the Hanna-Payne Professor of Experimental Medicine at the Case Western Reserve School of Medicine and the study's co-lead researcher.

Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists, or GLP-1 RAs, are medications to treat type 2 diabetes. Usually given by injection, they can lower blood-sugar levels, improve insulin sensitivity and help manage weight. They've also been shown to reduce the rates of major cardiovascular ailments.

Importantly the protective effect of GLP-1 RAs are noted in patients with or without overweight/obesity.

"To our knowledge," said co-lead researcher Rong Xu, a professor at the School of Medicine, "this is the first indication this popular weight-loss and anti-diabetic class of drugs reduces incidence of CRC, relative to other anti-diabetic agents."

Berger and Xu are members of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center.

**National health problem** Being overweight or obese or having diabetes are risk factors for increasing incidence of CRC and for making its prognosis worse.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) defines being overweight and obese as an increase in size and amount of fat cells in the body above certain levels. These conditions are common nationally and are caused by several factors -- among them diet, lack of sleep or physical activity, genetics and family history. Healthcare providers use body mass index to measure body fat based on height and weight. Nearly 75% of adults ages 20 or older in the United States are either overweight or obese, and nearly 20% of children and teens ages 2 to 19 have obesity, according to the NIH.

Obesity is a chronic health condition that raises the risk for heart disease -- the leading cause of death in the United States -- and is linked to many other health problems, including type 2 diabetes and cancer.

## researchers explore how baby brain responds to touch



Tokyo: Metropolitan University researchers have studied how an infant's brain reacts to touch based on the amount of oxygenated haemoglobin in their blood. They discovered that while the amount of variation in levels over time changes with infant age, the moment at which their peak remains constant.

They made this discovery using spectroscopic techniques and external sensors applied to the scalps of sleeping babies. Findings such as these provide insight into the development of neonatal physiology.

The first phase of a newborn's life is a dazzling array of rapid developmental changes. Neuroscience is giving us unprecedented insight into these processes, powered by state-of-the-art measurement techniques. Two key tools on this journey are functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) and near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) of the brain. With NIRS, an array of external sensors placed on an infant's head lets scientists track how the flow of different compounds in the brain changes over time. There is a particular focus on haemoglobin, the key oxygen-carrying component of our blood. As the brain responds to input from the outside world like light, heat, and touch, oxygen rushes to the brain; NIRS lets us pick out levels of haemoglobin, even telling apart whether it is carrying oxygen or has already delivered its cargo.

Now, a team led by Assistant Professor Yutaka Fuchino from Tokyo Metropolitan University have applied NIRS to study how infant brains respond to touch. Looking at a range of infants aged zero to one, the team placed sensors on infants' scalps as they slept, and tracked how oxygenated

haemoglobin levels changed over time as their limbs were given a very gentle shake. Interestingly, infants at different ages over their first year showed a very similar response time, with a small peak in haemoglobin appearing a few minutes after the stimulus began. The fact that infants in their first month responded in basically the same way as those over six months suggests that the factors determining the speed of the response are complete at birth.

However, they also noticed that the range over which the signal varied, or the amplitude, was markedly different between infants in different age groups. The change was also not linear, in that it dipped for infants 1 to 2 months old then increased again as the age increased. This curious behaviour could be attributed to certain aspects of a newborn infant's first few months. For one, when they are born, there is a rapid rise in oxygen levels due to being able to breathe normally for the first time. This inhibits the production of erythropoietin, a small protein responsible for stimulating red blood cell production; this leads to temporary anaemia over the first few months. Levels gradually recover as erythropoietin production ramps up again to compensate. Other factors include developments in nerves, veins, and levels of blood flow. Importantly, the team's work highlights how NIRS statistics of haemoglobin levels in the brain can reflect developmental changes. Future studies promise to compare other physiological responses to changes in blood flow dynamics, yielding further insights into how the brain and its interactions with the body develop.

## Researchers reveal new ways to identify bacteria more easily

Antibiotics are used far too frequently all over the world. Bacteria are getting resistant as a result. Curing bacterial infections is becoming increasingly challenging because antibiotics are one of our most powerful tools in the fight against them.

The good news is that finding better ways for identifying infections is a crucial step towards requiring fewer antibiotics.

"We have developed a simple tool that can identify all of the genetic material in bacteria. This allows us to find out more quickly what kind of bacteria a sick person or animal is affected by, or what kind of bacteria are found in food or the environment. We can then also decide whether it is necessary to use antibiotics against the bacterium, and if so what kind, so we don't have to use as much medication," says Professor Erika Eiser at Norwegian University of Science and Technology's (NTNU) Department of Physics.

An international research group is behind the latest findings. The results have been presented in the prestigious Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)



journal. Playing a key role in the work was Dr Peicheng Xu from the Institute of Physics Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, for whom Eiser was previously an academic supervisor. One reason why the new method is faster is that users do not have to go through a step called 'gene amplification'. This involves making several copies of the genetic material so it is easier to analyse, but this step can now be skipped. "We can analyse all of the bacterium's DNA without gene amplification by using a method previously

used in simulations," says Professor Eiser. Eiser was part of a research group led by Tine Curk from Johns Hopkins University that developed the theory behind the method, which also works in reality.

"We get excellent results when we apply the theoretical method to real samples," said Professor Eiser. This paragraph might be a bit difficult to understand, but basically, DNA is made up of rows of so-called nucleotides. The new method enables researchers to find short sequences of the bacte-

ria's DNA. They do this by seeing how these sequences bind to different variants of DNA that are grafted onto colloids, which are particles dissolved in a liquid. If you are interested in finding out more, you can read about the process in more detail here. What it means, however, is that researchers can quickly identify the bacteria, because they bind themselves to these colloids in various ways and cause them to clump together.

The bottom line is: you don't have to analyse so much material. You can skip the step of having to copy them, and this saves time and money.

"Using this method, we saw how as few as five E. coli bacteria caused the colloids to create clusters," said Professor Eiser. All of this is currently in its early stages. Eiser has published a proof-of-principle experiment. This means that there is still a lot of work to be done before it becomes a widely used method.

"The findings can provide us with a reliable method for identifying pathogens in disciplines such as food safety, disease control and environmental monitoring," said Professor Eiser.

## Why might nonfermented milk increase heart disease risk in women?

A board-certified interventional cardiologist and medical director of the Structural Heart Program at MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center in Laguna Hills, CA, who was not involved in this study, spoke with Medical about its findings.

Reflecting on why there would be an association of an increased risk in women who consume nonfermented milk developing heart disease or heart attacks compared to men, Chen said it remains unclear.

"It is possible that sex-specific differences in the metabolism of milk components such as lactose result in differences in degradation products, which can potentially cause differences in oxidative stress and inflammation," he suggested. "This could then lead to increased risk of developing heart disease."

Chen also discussed how fermented milk could potentially offer heart-protective benefits.

"Fermented milk products such as yogurt are rich in bacteria (for example, Lactobacillus) that influence the composition of our gut microbiome," he explained. The beneficial effects of yogurt are likely related to its benefit to the microbiome.

Chen further noted that while more research is needed about the microbiome and heart health, "many studies have found that different compositions



of the microbiome can help with decreasing the risk of high blood pressure, diabetes, and even heart disease."

a cardiologist at UTHealth Houston, also spoke with MNT about the study.

Higgins, who was not involved in this research, did not find the study results on nonfermented milk surprising. He told us that:

"Given that there are effects of increased inflammation, especially in women, that is not surprising. Men appear to be [better able] to break down some inflammatory products in the non-fermented milk."

He also spoke on how fermented milk could offer more cardiovascular

benefits, noting that "fermented milk is loaded with vitamin B12, D, riboflavin (B2), calcium, magnesium, and protein, which has been associated with reduced inflammation."

"Also, it promotes an improved microbiome (gut health), improved immunity, reduced stress, and helps maintain blood sugar levels," he added.

While the study authors say more research is necessary, the study does lend to the possibility of dietary guidelines one day being changed to include fermented milk.

"Fermented milk products appear to be safe for both men and women, so they probably should be preferred in future guidelines," Higgins said.

## STUDY FINDS HOW MRNA USED TO TARGET ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : Researchers at The Florey have created a method using mRNA technology to specifically target the harmful protein tau, which accumulates in dementia patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other conditions. mRNA has primarily been utilised in vaccinations up to this point, notably those meant to combat COVID-19. The Florey is now recognised as a major leader in the field of mRNA thanks to new research that was published today in Brain Communications. Dr Rebecca Nisbet is leading the technology in this new direction. "This is the first time mRNA has been explored for use in Alzheimer's disease," Dr Nisbet said. "Our work in cell models demonstrates that this technology can serve purposes other than vaccine development." She likened mRNA to an instruction manual for cells. "Once delivered to the cell, the cell reads the mRNA and makes an antibody." The Florey team used mRNA to instruct cells in cell models to create RNJ1, an antibody Dr Nisbet developed to target tau, a protein that clumps in the brain cells of dementia patients. "This is the first time, to our knowledge, a tau antibody has been able to directly engage tau within the cell." First author on the paper, PhD student Patricia Wongsodirdjo said: "Our technique can be applied to any therapeutic antibody, and we envision that this strategy, when combined with nanoparticle packaging, will enhance targeting of toxic molecules in the brain and improve patient outcomes compared to conventional strategies.

"Dr Nisbet said RNJ1 still needed further research. She said emerging Alzheimer's treatments, such as lecanemab, which is approved in the USA and under consideration.

# Challenges in Safeguarding Railway Infrastructure in Remote Areas

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Indian Railways is Lifeline of the country and one of the largest & most intricate rail networks globally. It is playing a crucial role in the transportation of passengers and freight. However, safeguarding its infrastructure, particularly in remote areas presents a unique set of challenges. The security of railway assets, both for passengers and freight, is essential to maintain operational efficiency, prevent sabotage, and mitigate the risk of disruptions. In this article, we explore the primary challenges faced by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in safeguarding railway infrastructure in remote areas.

**Key Challenges:** Geographical Challenges: Remote areas often present significant geographical obstacles, such as difficult terrains, forests, mountains, and deserts. These locations are typically harder to access, making it difficult to patrol the railway lines effectively. The ruggedness of the terrain can also delay the deployment of security personnel or emergency response teams in case of any sabotage or security breach. This is especially problematic in regions like the northeastern states, Jammu and Kashmir, and parts of Central India, where tracks pass through dense forests and hilly terrains. Moreover, some of the railway infrastructure, such as bridges, tunnels and stations, is located in remote regions that are susceptible to natural disasters like landslides, floods, or earthquakes. This makes it a challenge not only to protect against human threats but also to ensure the durability and integrity of the infrastructure in such challenging conditions. Proximity to International Borders: Many remote railway locations, such as Banihal, Nischintapur (Tripura), Dimapur, and Zubza, are situated close to international borders. Cross-border smuggling, insurgency spillover, and strained relations with neighbouring countries can directly impact railway operations and security.

**Limited Local Awareness About Railway Operations:** The local population often has limited understanding of railway operations, leading to inadvertent disruptions. Additionally, locals may resort to practices like rent-seeking from railway employees and contractors. Instances of damage to railway property, including cables, signals, and tracks, are common, and their restoration in remote areas is both time-consuming and resource-intensive. Political and Social Sensitivities: Railway projects in remote areas often face resistance from local communities due to land acquisition disputes, environmental concerns, or socio-political issues. These tensions can escalate into security threats.

**Law and Order Concerns:** Remote areas are often prone to activities from anti-social elements, insurgent groups, and terrorist organizations, which may target critical infrastructure for various purposes, including disrupting the national economy or creating political instability. These areas, often near international borders or conflict zones, are more vulnerable to attacks. For instance, insurgency-prone areas in the north-eastern states, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh etc have witnessed frequent attacks on railway tracks, stations, and trains by militant groups. For instance, two explosions occurred on the railway track in the Sonua-Lotapahar section of the Chakradharpur division in 2021, followed by another explosion in the Derwan-Posoita section of

the same division in 2023. All three locations are located in the state of Jharkhand. The presence of these groups makes it difficult for railway authorities to ensure the safety of passengers and railway workers. The possibility of derailments, blasts, requires enhanced vigilance and targeted countermeasures to deter such activities.

Railway infrastructure in remote areas is highly susceptible to vandalism and theft. Remote stations, tracks, and signaling equipment are prime targets for scrap metal thieves and vandals who dismantle components such as copper wiring, railway signals, and other valuable parts. This not only disrupts services but also incurs significant costs in repairs and replacements. Additionally, sabotage in the form of track tampering and deliberate obstruction of rail services is a serious concern. While such activities may be sporadic, they can have catastrophic consequences, especially when perpetrated in remote locations where quick responses are difficult. Resource Constraints: Ensuring a steady supply of resources, including manpower, equipment, and logistical support, remains a persistent challenge due to the remoteness and inaccessibility of these areas.

**Poor Telecommunication and Connectivity:** In many remote railway locations, communication infrastructure is underdeveloped. This hampers real-time monitoring, coordination, and quick response during emergencies.

**Complexity Due to Bridges and Tunnels:** The presence of numerous bridges and tunnels in remote railway projects adds an additional layer of complexity. These structures are highly vulnerable to sabotage and require constant monitoring and specialized security measures.

**Single-Line Sections:** Most of these locations are single-line sections. Any disruption in these areas can bring the entire movement to a halt, causing significant delays, economic losses, and potential unrest among the affected population.

Lack of Community Engagement and Local Support: In many remote areas, there may be limited engagement with local communities, who are key players in identifying and preventing security risks. In some regions, a lack of trust or coordination between railway authorities and local populations can lead to a lack of intelligence gathering or reluctance to report suspicious activities. Without community support, it becomes challenging to identify potential threats or prevent illegal activities from occurring.

**RPF's proactive steps towards overcoming these challenges:** To address the challenges faced in safeguarding railway infrastructure in remote areas, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) has implemented a multi-faceted approach that combines technology, collaboration, community engagement, and specialized training to enhance security in vulnerable regions.

**Enhanced Surveillance and Patrolling:** The RPF intensifies patrols and uses advanced surveillance technologies like CCTV, Face Recognition System, drones, GPS tracking system, VHF sets etc. in vulnerable areas. Regular foot and vehicle patrols help identify threats early. The eyes have it | India News - The Indian Express With improved lighting, 605 cameras, nine Central Railway stations got brighter and safer in 2021 Mysuru railway station to get luggage scanner - The Hindu RPF forms spe-

cial team, start patrolling after train engine

**Collaboration with Local Security Agencies:** Understanding that security concerns in remote areas often extend beyond the railway system, the RPF has formed strong partnerships with local law enforcement, paramilitary forces, and intelligence agencies. The RPF is also utilizing the Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) platform to facilitate the sharing of intelligence among various security and intelligence agencies. This collaborative approach allows for effective sharing of information, pooling of resources, and coordinated responses to security incidents. Community Engagement and Intelligence Gathering: In remote areas, the RPF also engages with local communities to build trust and gather intelligence. Through community outreach programs, awareness campaigns and establishing rapport with village leaders, the RPF encourages residents to report any information related to security threats. This grassroots intelligence network helps the RPF to take preventive measures and disrupt potential attacks before they occur.

**Use of Technology:** To further enhance security, the RPF has integrated advanced technology into its operations for rapid threat responses. For example, in Jammu and Kashmir, most tunnels are equipped with CCTV cameras integrated with Facial Recognition Software (FRS). Additionally, bulletproof vehicles are being procured for RPF personnel to improve their safety and operational effectiveness. Similarly, solar-powered CCTV cameras are being installed, and small, military-grade drones are being deployed at strategic locations along the KK line (East Coast Railway) in Chhattisgarh. Furthermore, a GPS tracking system has been acquired for live tracking, movement monitoring, and real-time surveillance to prevent any untoward incidents. The system also features ge-fencing, playback capabilities, live map view, SOS alerts, SMS alerts, control room messaging, report history and distance measurement on the map, enhancing overall operational efficiency and safety. Special Training and Capacity Building: RPF personnel are regularly trained in handling security challenges unique to remote and high-risk areas. Special training programs focus on counter-insurgency techniques, crowd control, crisis management, and handling explosives.

**The Way Forward:** The security of railway infrastructure in remote areas is a multifaceted challenge that requires strategic planning, robust technology, and extensive collaboration between various security agencies, local communities, and the railway authorities.

While the Railway Protection Force (RPF) plays a pivotal role in ensuring the safety of passengers and railway infrastructure, overcoming these challenges demands a combination of technological innovation, resource optimization, and community support. To address these challenges effectively, there is a need for more integrated surveillance systems, better coordination with local law enforcement agencies, and advanced infrastructure that can withstand the environmental challenges posed by remote regions. By continuing to invest in training, technology, and resource deployment, Indian Railways can enhance the security and resilience of its infrastructure, ensuring safe and smooth operations for passengers and freight across the country.



The Industry Conference "Synergy" was held on Wednesday at Sarat Sadan, graced by notable dignitaries including Ministers Arup Roy, Chandranath Sinha, and Tajmul Hossain. Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, Principal Secretary of the Industries Department Rajesh Pandey, President Kaveri Das, Vice President Ajay Bhattacharya, District Magistrate P. Deepap Priya, Police Commissioner Praveen Kumar Tripathi, and Superintendent of Police Subimal Pal were in attendance. Municipal Administrator Dr. Sujoy Chakraborty, MLA Dr. Rana Chattopadhyay, Gautam Chowdhury, Nandita Chowdhury, Priya Pal, Dr. Nirmal Maji, Sukant Pal, and Kalyan Ghosh also participated in the event.

## 16 popular express trains to run with more General second class coaches for common Railway Passengers

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Sixteen (16) popular Express/Mail trains will run with more General Second Class coaches. The augmentation of General Second Class coaches in Popular Mail/Express trains is an ongoing initiative aimed at improving overall travel experience for passengers. Accordingly, in response to the overwhelming demand for tickets throughout the year, Eastern Railway has decided to augment additional General Second class coaches by replacing air-conditioned and Sleeper class coaches in following Express trains on Permanent basis:

- One General Second Class Coach will be augmented with the following Express trains by replacing of one Sleeper Class coach: -
- 12319/12320 Kolkata - Gwalior - Kolkata Express leaving Kolkata with effect from 22.01.2025 & leaving Gwalior with effect from 23.01.2025.
- 12357/12358 Kolkata - Amritsar - Kolkata Express leaving Kolkata with effect from 18.01.2025 & leaving Amritsar with effect from 20.01.2025.
- 13135/13136 Kolkata - Jaynagar - Kolkata Express leaving Kolkata with effect from 18.01.2025 & leaving Jaynagar with effect from 19.01.2025.
- 13151/13152 Kolkata - Jammu Tawi - Kolkata Express leaving Kolkata with effect from 16.01.2025 & leaving Jammu Tawi with effect from 18.01.2025.
- 12329/12330 Sealdah - Anand Vihar - Sealdah Express leaving Sealdah with effect from 21.01.2025 & leaving Anand Vihar Terminal with effect from 22.01.2025.
- 12379/12380 Sealdah - Amritsar - Sealdah Express leaving Sealdah with effect from 17.01.2025 & leaving Amritsar with effect from 19.01.2025.
- 12343/12344 Sealdah - Haldibari - Sealdah Darjeeling Mail leaving Sealdah with effect from 16.01.2025 & leaving Haldibari with effect from 17.01.2025.
- 12377/12378 Sealdah - New Alipurduar - Sealdah Padatik Express leaving Sealdah with effect from 16.01.2025 & leaving New Alipurduar with effect from 17.01.2025.
- 12361/12362 Asansol - Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (Mumbai) - Asansol Express leaving Asansol with effect from 19.01.2025 & leaving Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal (Mumbai) with effect from 22.01.2025.
- 12376/12375 Jasidih - Tambaram - Jasidih Express leaving Jasidih with effect from 22.01.2025 & leaving Tambaram with effect from 25.01.2025.
- 12335/12336 Bhagalpur - Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Bhagalpur Express leaving Bhagalpur with effect from 17.01.2025 & leaving Lokmanya Tilak (T) with effect from 19.01.2025.
- 22311/22312 Godda - Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Godda Express leaving Godda with effect from 19.01.2025 & leaving Lokmanya Tilak (T) with effect from 23.01.2025.

## PoGB advocate raises voice against authorities for basic rights and facilities

**MI News Service, Gilgit:** Muhammad Jalil, an advocate from Pakistan-occupied Gilgit Baltistan, has raised a strong voice in support of the legal community in PoGB, calling attention to the lack of essential facilities and services that are available to their counterparts in other provinces of Pakistan. Lawyers in Pakistan-occupied Gilgit Baltistan (PoGB) are demanding equal rights and access to basic facilities, such as healthcare and specialized courts, which are available to their counterparts in other parts of Pakistan.

They highlight the absence of dedicated courts in PoGB, leading to significant delays in delivering justice to the local population.

According to Jalil, the region's legal professionals are facing severe disadvantages, as they do not have access to crucial support systems such as health protection and specialized courts, which are available in other provinces. In an interview, Jalil highlighted the stark differences in the legal infrastructure between PoGB and other parts of the country.

## 26th Urs of Hazrat Yusuf Ali Shah celebrated



**MI News Service, Hooghly:** The 26th Urs of Hazrat Yusuf Ali Shah traditionally observed on January 11, was celebrated on Wednesday, January 15, this year due to some reasons. Organized under the guidance of Ward 19 Councilor Md Shaheed of Bansberia Municipality, the event featured Qawwali performances and Langar distribution. Md Shaheed shared that the Urs has been celebrated at the dargah of Yusuf Ali Shah, located in the Old Line area of Ganges Jute Mill, for the past 25 years. He explained that the date was shifted to January 15 this year due to necessary circumstances.

## SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata (West Bengal - 700091, CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com)

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Anuja Kumar Mohanty/ Jolly Das/ P- 11, Jogendra Garden Road, (South), Haltu, Kasba West Bengal Kolkata- 700078/ LBCAL00002257271	One Residential Flat, Fourth Floor (North-East Side), Premises No. 75, One Residential Flat, Fourth Floor (North-East Side), Premises No. 75, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, Mouza Kasba, Sub Registry Office Previously Alipore At Present A.D.S.R. Office At Sealdah, District South 24 Parganas, Kolkata- 700078, West Bengal, Admeasuring An Area of Flat Measuring More or Less 780 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area/ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	October 25,2024 Rs. 23,77,178.83/-	Kolkata/ Bhubaneswar
2.	Shilpe Banerjee/ Sanjay Banerjee/ Genexx Valley, Flat 4E Tower 11, D.H. Road West Bengal Kolkata- 700104/ LBCAL00002905301	Flat/Unit No. E, 4th Floor, Building No. 11, Plot Nos. 665, 666, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692/1017, 694, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705/1014, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 713/1018, 713/1019, 716, 716/1059, 726, 727, 789, 798, 799, 799/1051, 802, 803, Khatian No. 1287/1 and Plot Nos. 797, 800, 812, Khatian Nos. R.S. 533, 556, 517 Diamond Harbour Road, Touzi No. 4, J.L. No. 21, Mouza Joka, Joka II Gram Panchayat, Police Station Thakurpukur, Pargana Balia, District 24 Parganas (South), Kolkata-700104, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of 1039 Sq.ft. Super Built Up Area (Be The Same A Little More or Less) Together With One Open Car Parking Slot No. 98 (area 135 Sq.ft.) Be The Same A Little More or Less Together With Proportionate Share In The Land/ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	August 07,2024 Rs. 21,21,009.13/-	Kolkata
3.	Alok Sinha/ Arpita Sinha/ BI Ct, Fl 201, 261, Mangalam Park, 14 Hochimim Sarani, Behala Chowrasta, West Bengal Kolkata- 700034/ LBCAL00000840040	"Prachi Apartment", Flat No. 1-B, Block No. A, 1st Floor, Premises No. 127, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Postal Address 20, Biren Roy Road (West), Dag Nos. 67, 68, 69 & 70, Khatian No. 113 & 114, J.L. No. 14, Mouja, Sarkarat, P.S. Thakurpukur, Ward No. 126, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, Dist. South 24 Parganas, Kolkata- 700008admeasuring An Area of Measuring 1031 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area Including Motor Car Parking Space Being No. 4 In The Ground Floor In The Said (G+4) Storeyed Building Complex Together With Undivided Proportionate Share of The Said Land and All Proportionate Share of and Interest In The Common Portions Areas, Facilities Attached To The Said Building. Admeasuring Qan Area of Measuring 1031 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area Including Motor Car Parking Space Being No. 4 In The Ground Floor In The Said (G+4) Storeyed Building Complex Together With Undivided Proportionate Share of The Said Land And All Proportionate Share of And Interest In The Common Portions Areas, Facilities Attached To The Said Building./ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	20/09/2024 Rs. 7,31,667.64/-	Kolkata
4.	Zakir Hossain Zamder/ Ishrat Jahany/ Flat No. 11, 3rd Floor 2B Dr Biresh Guha Street P.O. Circus Avenue, P.S. Karaya Thana West Bengal Kolkata- 700017/ LBCAL00002089395	Hiland Greens", Apartment No. 5A2, 5th Floor, Building No. 6, Premises No. 1, New Bata Road, Bata Nagar, Khatian No. 3, J.L. No. 42, R.S. Dag No. 12, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 1/43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 60, 77/37/102, 38/103, 39/104, 40/106, 41/107, 42/108, 45/109, Ward No. 27 & 28, Mouza Mirpur, P.S. Maheshtala, P.O. Bata Nagar, Maheshtala Municipality, Additional District Sub Registration Office Behala, Dist. 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal Admeasuring An Area of Carpet Area 468 Square Feet Alongwith Balcony Area of 18 Square Feet Built Up Area 548 Square Feet Admeasuring An Area of Carpet Area 468 Square Feet Alongwith Balcony Area of 18 Square Feet Built Up Area of 548 Square Feet Area No. H668 In The Project, together With Proportionate and Impartible Share Land./ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	September 30,2024 Rs. 9,63,788.39/-	Kolkata
5.	Hari Om Shaw/ Parvati Debi Shaw/ Parashnath Shaw/ 3, Jadunath Dey Road Bowbazar West Bengal Kolkata- 700012/ LBCAL00003684791	Alcove Gloria, Residential Unit No. 9-F, 9th Floor, Tower No. 01 Municipal Premises No. 403/1, Dakshindari Road (Which Is A Divided and Demarcated Portion of The Original Previous Premises No. 2, Dakshindari Road), Old Municipal Holding Nos. 211, 212 and 213, Dag No. 281 And 282, Khatian No. 480, 481, and 235, Old Khatian No. 70, Zamindari Khatian No. 234, J.L. No. 28, Police Station Lake Town, South Dum Dum Municipality, Mouza Kankuri District North 24 Parganas, Kolkata 700048, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of Super Built Up Area of About 1615 Square Feet (Built Up Area Being 1211 Square Feet) Be The Same A Little More or Less Together With One Car Parking Space No. 103 On The Lower Basement Floor Measuring About 100 Square Feet/ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	October 25,2024 Rs. 60,74,134.58/-	Kolkata
6.	Nilesh Kumar Shaw/ Pawan Kumar Gupta/ Bunty Shaw/ Hatiara, Babur Bagan Rajarhat Gopalpur District North 24 Parganas West Bengal Kolkata- 700157/ LBCAL00006269077/ TBHOW00006254742	C.S. Dag No. 4116, R.S./ L.R. Dag No. 4126, Hatiara Babur Bagan Sardar Park, R.S. Khatian No. 760, L.R. Khatian No. 19218, K.B. Khatian No. 9162, 9163, 9164, Touzi No. 169, J.L. No. 14, Resa No. 188, Ward No. 14 Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, Mouza Hatiara, District 24 Parganas (North), Kolkata- 700157, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of Land Measuring 1 Cottah 8 Chittack More or Less With Brick Built Residential Structure Having Ground Floor Area About 452 Sq. Ft., First Floor Area About 697 Sq. Ft. and Second Floor Area About 317 Sq. Ft. More or Less And The Said Land And Building/ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	October 21,2024 Rs. 13,01,989.74/-	Kolkata
7.	Nilesh Kumar Shaw/ Pawan Kumar Gupta/ Bunty Shaw/ Hatiara, Babur Bagan Rajarhat Gopalpur District North 24 Parganas West Bengal Kolkata- 700157/ LBHOW00005395001	C.S. Dag No. 4116, R.S./ L.R. Dag No. 4126, Hatiara Babur Bagan Sardar Park, R.S. Khatian No. 760, L.R. Khatian No. 19218, K.B. Khatian No. 9162, 9163, 9164, Touzi No. 169, J.L. No. 14, Resa No. 188, Ward No. 14 Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, Mouza Hatiara, District 24 Parganas (North), Kolkata- 700157, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of Land Measuring 1 Cottah 8 Chittack More or Less With Brick Built Residential Structure Having Ground Floor Area About 452 Sq. Ft., First Floor Area About 697 Sq. Ft. and Second Floor Area About 317 Sq. Ft. More or Less/ Date of Symbolic 10.01.2025	October 21,2024 Rs. 20,12,951.78/-	Kolkata

The above-mentioned borrowers (s)/guarantors (s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: January 16, 2025 Place: Kolkata

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

### Tamil Nadu Dragons team appreciates Simdega's hockey development efforts

PC JHA

RANCHI : Tamil Nadu Dragons former Olympians foreign players visited Simdega Hockey Centre and met with young players and appreciated district hockey efforts for the development of hockey.

Members of Tamil Nadu Dragon were very happy to see the enthusiasm of the district's trainee players and Tamil Nadu Hockey President cum Hockey India Treasurer Shekhar J Manoharan also talked about taking the players of the district to Rourkela to show them HIL match in the last week of January as soon as the cold subsides.

Foreign players and coaches included in the Tamil Nadu Dragons team who cheered the district trainees on the Astro turf at Simdega were Head coach : Rein Van Eijk - Netherlands, Analytical coach : Garreth Ewing - South Africa, David Harte - GK - Ireland, Jip Janssen - Defender - Netherlands, Moritz Ludwig - Defender - Germany, Tom Craig - Mid - Australia, Thomas Sorsby - Mid -



Australia, Martin Zwickler - Mid-Germany, Blake Govers - Mid - Australia, Nathan Ephraums - Mid - Australia.

All players including their coach share their experiences and said about their success, shared their knowledge of hockey stick and ball with the young players, encouraged the young players by distributing T-shirts as gifts to more than 100 players.

HIL Hockey India League Women and Men is currently

being organized in Ranchi and Rourkela from December 28 to February 1. Teams consisting of Indian and foreign players are continuously arriving in Ranchi, Rourkela via Simdega.

The Tamil Nadu Dragons team visited the Astro turf Hockey Stadium of Simdega, Jharkhand while going from Rourkela to Ranchi for their next match. The young players met more than 100 trainee players receiving training and discussed hockey with them.

Players like Martin Zicker, who has played more than 300 international matches including 3 World Cup Olympics for his country Germany in the last 17 years, penalty corner specialist Nathan Ephraums from Australia, Amit Rohidas, the strong wall of the current Indian hockey team, told the trainee players of the district about the secret of their success.

In this 40 member group, 8 foreign and 16 Indian players were present among the 24

international players and coaches like ELJK REIN VAN, DIXON CHARLES, EWING GARRRETH. All of them shared their knowledge with the players of Simdega.

All the foreign and domestic guest players also explained the hockey skills with the trainee players of the district with hockey stick and ball in the Astro turf Hockey Stadium. They were very happy to meet so many players together in Simdega, more than 100 players from 8 to 18 years of age, and encouraged all the trainee players present by giving them T-shirts on behalf of Tamil Nadu Dragon.

Simdega is a big centre of hockey in India, where the grassroots development programme has produced more than 50 international players. Hockey Simdega President Manoj Konbegi welcomed everyone and told about Simdega and said that from this ground, a dozen players including the current captain of the Indian women's hockey team Salima Tete, Sangeeta Kumari, Beauty Dzungdung have emerged in the last 10 years.



### East Bengal FC leave it late to snatch full points

KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL) : East Bengal took their second straight win of the season in the IWL 2024-25, beating citymates Sribhumi FC 1-0 at the East Bengal ground on Wednesday, as per the official website of I-League.

Soumya Guguloth scored the only goal of the match in the 76th minute. This was newly-promoted Sribhumi's second straight defeat after losing to Sethu FC in Chennai.

East Bengal's formidable squad had underwhelmed in their opening encounter, and perhaps keen to make amends kicked things off in a flurry, creating and spurning a host of early chances. The first arrived as early as the fourth minute, when Soumya Guguloth volleyed a loose ball inside the box, only for a Sribhumi defender to block it away from goal.

Waves of East Bengal attacks produced similar results, their inability to finish also due in part to some brave Sribhumi defending. In the 14th minute though East Bengal had perhaps the clearest chance at goal anyone will get this season. A long ball played out from midfield fell into Resty Nanziri's brilliant run towards goal.

A panicked and over eager Monalisha Devi rushed out of goal, outside the box, in an attempt to intercept, only to be beaten by Nanziri. The Ugandan rounded the goalkeeper, drove into the box, and with an empty target awaiting, shot wide.

Her luck would not turn. Four

minutes later, Guguloth's work on the right wing saw her cut a teasing low cross towards the centre of the six-yard area just inches away from Nanziri's foot. Any connection would have given the hosts the lead. Devi made amends for her earlier rush of blood by making a smart save from Elshaddai Acheampong, after the forward had picked up a headed through ball to shoot towards goal. Half time beckoned, and Sribhumi went off for the break, relieved.

The trend continued in the second half, East Bengal's wingers in particular constantly dropping in dangerous crosses, unfortunately often with no one to finish them.

Sribhumi slowly grew into the game in the final twenty minutes, and even created some chances of their own. In the 72nd minute, they had a great chance to go in front, when Rimpa Haldar was played through on goal. The forward cut into the box and found the net, but a defender's intervention unfortunately did not carry enough power to trouble Panthoi Chanu.

East Bengal made the visitors pay for that missed chance four minutes later -- and earned due reward for their own efforts. From a corner, the ball bounced around on the left edge of the box, Nanziri's cross blocked into the path of Sulanjana Raul.

The substitute's low cross flew to the other end of the box, to an unmarked Soumya, who duly smashed it in. East Bengal rode out the game comfortably to take their second successive victory.

### Yuki Bhambri-Albano Olivetti crashes out of Australia Open 2025 losing in first round of men's doubles

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : The pair of Yuki Bhambri and Albano Olivetti bowed out of the first round of the ongoing Australia Open 2025 as they lost to the Australian duo Tristan Schoolkate and Adam Walton in the first round on Wednesday.

Bhambri, a silver medal winner in singles at the 2010 Youth Olympics, and Olivetti went down in straight sets, losing 6-2, 7(7)-6(3) against the Australian wildcards at Melbourne Park.

Bhambri, 32, and Olivetti, 33, were broken in the fourth game on the Indian's serve as the Australian pair took a 3-1 lead.

The Indo-French duo had an opportunity to bounce back in the very next game but Schoolkate and Walton saved a break point before extending their lead to 4-1.

The Aussie duo pressed their advantage and broke Bhambri once again to close the first set eight games in.

The second set saw Bhambri and Olivetti squander two break points in the opening game, which would eventually prove detrimental to their cause.

Both Bhambri and Olivetti as well as Schoolkate and Walton would hold their serves for the remainder of the second set to force a tie-breaker, which the Australians won 7-3 to secure their victory.

After Rohan Bopanna exited the men's doubles event on Tuesday and Bhambri's first-round ouster on Wednesday, India's hopes in the draw now rest on N Sriram Balaji and Rithvik Bollipalli.

Balaji will team up with Mexico's Miguel Angel Reyes-Varela while Bollipalli is partnering with USA's Ryan Seggerman in the first Grand Slam of the year. Both pairs are scheduled to play on Thursday.

Rohan Bopanna and Shuai Zhang of the People's Republic of China, a two-time Grand Slam champion and former World No. 2, will also be seen in action in mixed doubles.

In singles, Sumit Nagal was eliminated in the first round by Czechia's Tomas Machac.



### U19WC 2025 warm-ups: Nigeria shine, Bangladesh edge super over

KUALA LUMPUR [MALAYSIA] : Nigeria, the Africa qualifiers, made a strong statement in the ICC Women's U19 World Cup, comfortably chasing down Scotland's target of 62 in just 11.3 overs during Wednesday's warm-up match at the Royal Selangor Club, as per ICC.

Elsewhere, New Zealand hit back after a warm-up outing defeat to the USA on day one, claiming victory over West Indies in their second practice outing with a confident performance at the UKM Oval.

The USA went two from two with a victory over Nepal, while there were morning victories for Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, with the latter claiming a Super Over win over England.

Alongside the Nigerians there were wins for Ireland, Australia and India.

Lilian Ude ensured there was no respite for the Scots in Nigeria's push, claiming 3/15 to back the work of opening bowlers Peace Usen and Muhibat Amusa. Pippa Sproul's 25 helped Scotland's pushback, but the wickets kept tumbling at the other end.

Captain Piety led Nigeria in the chase, finishing 28 not out from just 16 balls, hitting three sixes, with Victory Igbinedion making another score of note (25) after her work against Pakistan two days ago to close out the win.

At the picturesque Selangor Turf Club, reeling at 66/8 at one stage, England had recovered to 113/9 from their 20 overs, with



Prisha Thanawala (28) and Tilly Corteen-Coleman (23 not out) putting on 46 for the ninth wicket. Phoebe Brett's 3/32 and Davina Perrin's 2/6 ensured a tough defence of the low total, with a run out from Charlotte Lambert and Corteen-Coleman denying a match-winning run off the final ball of Bangladesh's innings.

A six from Sadia Akter lifted Bangladesh's Super Over total to 113, before the calm of Habiba Islam Pinky closed out a tense win. It was a successful hit out for the Kiwis in their victory over the West Indies, with Emma McLeod (50) and Kate Irwin (46) both coming off the ground to hand Eve Wolland (22) and Anika Todd (20) the chance to bat, posting 151.

Seven of New Zealand's 10 bowlers went on to claim wickets for their side, bowling the Windies out for 72.

USA meanwhile made another statement, restricting Nepal to just 58, passing the target inside 14 overs.

Six bowlers shared wickets for the Americans, with Isani Vaghela leading the side to victory, even after resistance from Riya Sharma, who claimed three wickets for Nepal.

At the Kolej Tuanku Ja'afar Ground, a five-wicket haul from Limansa Thilakarante ensured a Sri Lankan victory despite being held to 114 in a spirited Samoan bowling performance.

Australia posted 137 and were largely untroubled, as Kate Pelle, Ines McKeon, Eleanor Larosa and Grace Lyons all enjoyed time in the middle.

Rain affected India's meeting with South Africa, as Niki Prasad's team won by six wickets on the DLS method.

### Djokovic battles past another debutant to advance at Australian Open

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : For the second consecutive match in his Australian Open campaign, Novak Djokovic faced a four-set challenge from a Grand Slam debutant. After overcoming 19-year-old Nishesh Basavareddy in the first round, Djokovic defeated 21-year-old qualifier Jaime Faria 6-1, 6-7(4), 6-3, 6-2 on Wednesday, continuing his pursuit of a 25th Grand Slam singles title and 100th ATP tour-level title.

Similar to his opener against Basavareddy, Djokovic encountered resistance from his younger opponent but eventually took control to secure a comfortable victory. The 37-year-old got off to a strong start, establishing a lead of one set and a break, but his level dipped, allowing Portugal's Faria to win four consecutive games and make his mark on Rod Laver Arena. Though Djokovic forced a tiebreak, Faria, ranked No. 125 in the ATP Rankings, used his serve and forehand effectively to take the second set.

"I think I responded very well in the third and particularly fourth set, the way I ended the match," said the Serbian, as per



the official website of ATP. "He was playing lights-out tennis towards the end of the second set and beginning of the third. I had to weather the storm. He's been practically serving two first serves the entire match. It's not easy to play someone like that who doesn't have obviously anything to lose coming out. He's a big guy, very young... so I told him

at the net, the future is bright for him, he should keep going," he added.

With guidance from his coach, Andy Murray, urging him to play more aggressively, Djokovic regained control in the third set. He faced only one break point in the final two sets, dominating his first-serve points (90% according to Infosys Stats) and closing out the match in

three hours. Djokovic now advances to the third round, where he will face 26th-seeded Czech player Tomas Machac. Machac edged past Reilly Opelka in a grueling five-set match earlier on Wednesday, winning 3-6, 7-6(1), 6-7(5), 7-6(4), 6-4. The two players have met twice before, splitting their encounters in 2023 and 2024. Machac claimed their most

recent match in the Geneva semi-finals, while Djokovic prevailed in their first meeting in Dubai, winning a decisive tiebreak.

This marks Djokovic's 17th appearance in the Australian Open third round out of 20 tournaments. By contesting his 430th Grand Slam singles match, he surpasses Roger Federer to set the all-time record for most major singles matches played by any player, male or female.

"I love this sport. I love competition," Djokovic said.

"I try to give my best every single time. It's been over 20 years that I've been competing in Grand Slams at the highest level. Whether I win or lose one thing is for sure: I'll always leave my heart out on the court," he noted, as quoted by the official website of ATP.

At 37 years and 249 days by the tournament's end, Djokovic is vying to become the oldest Grand Slam champion in the Open Era. The current record is held by Ken Rosewall, who won the 1972 Australian Open at 37 years and 62 days.

### India's no.1 female chess player, Humpy Koneru, returns to Norway Chess Women 2025

STAVANGER [NORWAY] : India's top-ranked female chess player, Humpy Koneru, will return to compete in Norway Chess Women 2025. Currently ranked World No.6 in women's classical chess, Humpy aims to make her mark in the prestigious chess tournament.

Humpy Koneru's return to Norway Chess Women highlights her remarkable career, filled with significant milestones. In 2002, she became the first Indian woman to achieve the Grandmaster title, securing her place in chess history. Today, she remains India's No.1 in women's chess and a respected figure worldwide.

Her achievements include winning the World Rapid Championship title twice--in 2019 and 2024. She was also named BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year in 2020, recognizing her contributions to Indian sports. Her victories in the Olympiad, Asian Games, and Asian Championships have further confirmed her status as one of the top female players in chess.

Norway Chess 2025 will give Humpy the opportunity to demonstrate her skills once again. As one of only two female players in chess history to cross the 2600 rating mark, she has consistently broken barriers and paved the way for women's chess. Her participation this year reflects her determination and drive to compete at the highest level.

"It's an honour to play in the prestigious Norway Chess Women tournament," said Humpy Koneru, as per a release from Norway Chess.

When asked to describe herself, she chose the word "self-disciplined," a quality that defines her approach to chess and her rise to the top. This discipline has helped her remain focused, consistent, and resilient, even against tough opponents.

Humpy's participation in global tournaments continues to inspire aspiring chess players, particularly young women in India and around the world. Her journey is a testament to how determination and discipline can lead to extraordinary success.

"Humpy's achievements speak volumes, and we are delighted to welcome her back to Norway Chess Women 2025," said Kjell Madland, Founder and Tournament Director of Norway Chess.

Humpy Koneru's return to Norway Chess Women is highly anticipated. With her proven track record, and being no. 3 of the highest rated female players in Norway Chess Women 2025, she is a strong contender for the title. Norway Chess is one of the world's premier chess tournaments, bringing together the top male and female players in a distinctive 6-player double round-robin format. The introduction of Norway Chess Women in 2024, with equal prize funds for men and women, underscores the event's commitment to gender equality and innovation in the sport. Norway Chess 2025 will take place from May 26 to 6 June.

