

"Jhumur" will tell the story of women's power in the fight between man and jackal on the big screen

MI News Service, Hooghly: once interested in politics. His wife has been the Chairperson of Bansberia Municipality. Her husband Satye Ranjan Sil (Sona Sil) is a famous businessman and also a social worker. Thus, he has an old relationship with Bollywood, but now he is going to start his new innings by acting with a film producer in the film "Jhumur", which is showing in theaters today. Jhumur highlights the life of adivasi, gramin, tribals. A tribal girl "Jhumur Murmu" describes her problems, her dreams, her educational interest, and her desire for status in the society. Apart from them, Sona Sil is also in the lead role who is playing the role of Chief Minister. Apart from them, many fa-



mous and well-known actors of Tollywood like Saheb Chatterjee, Kheraj Mukherjee, Laboni Sarkar, Rajesh Sharma, John and other famous actors are included. During a meeting with representative Awami News, actress Rashri said that it took me

two years to prepare for this film. To play the role of an Adivasi girl, she went to a tribal village and stayed with them for several days. Tried to learn their language. Learn ways to live with them. At the same time, he also learned martial arts,

swordsmanship, robbery, kabaddi and football for the film. Jhumur says how a woman should become independent. What is his own strength is described in the movie "Jhumur". He also says that the tribal people fight for life in the villages like jackals and foxes and in the cities they fight with humans. Gets Actor Sona Sil, the producer of the film, says that this film has been inspired by the way Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee performs public services and the way she is active against corruption, and some of my character is similar. People are requested to go to the cinema once and watch this movie. I hope you will learn and understand a lot.

HEALTHY FUTURE: School Kids Get Free Check-Up At SEBAASHRAY Camp

MI News Service, Falta: Ensuring that the benefits of revolutionary health-care initiative SE-BAASHRAY reaches all generations, the children of Falta's Ghoshpur Primary School received free health check-ups in one SEBAASHRAY camp on Thursday.The SE-

BAASHRAY camp in Falta, provided all-round medical support to the school children and conducted a wide range of tests on them which helped in ensuring good health of the kids who are India's next generation. The happy students expressed their gratitude with great joy to

their beloved elder brother, Honourable MP Shri Abhishek Banerjee by saying in unison, "Thank You Abhishek Da."Expressing gratitude for the medical assistance, the principal of the school said, "I, principal of Ghoshpur Primary School, had brought the children

of my school to this SE-BAASHRAY camp organised by Honourable MP Abhishek Banerjee. The children got their tests done and were given necessary medicines. We greatly benefitted from this. For this, I express my sincere thanks to Shri Abhishek Banerjee."



AITC KERALA: AITC Kerala coordinators from eight districts and assemblies, spanning from Ernakulam to Kasargod, participated in an important discussion at Metro Village, Manjeri, in Malappuram district. The purpose of the meeting was to reinforce party leadership and strategise for initiatives that will drive Kerala's progress and development.

Green Ganga Sagar: State govt takes significant steps

MI News Service, Gangasagar: The Administration of South 24 Parganas, in collaboration with Rakshak Foundation (RF), successfully launched the Green Ganga Sagar initiative during the Ganga Sagar Mela. Volunteers from RF actively partici-

pated in promoting environmental awareness, distributing eco-friendly bags, collecting plastic waste, and marching with placards to raise consciousness about the importance of sustainable practices.

The Ganga Sagar Mela which draws colossal numbers of visitors, the volunteers & students from RF and state government officials are instrumental in educating visitors on the importance of reducing plastic waste and encouraging eco-friendly alternatives during the event.

draws colossal numbers of visitors, the volunteers & students from RF and state government officials are instrumental in educating visitors on the importance of reducing plastic waste and encouraging eco-friendly alternatives during the event.

Disparity in prices in online & retail irks AIMRA

MI News Service, Kolkata: The immense disparity in prices of mobiles at online and retail has irked the All India Mobile Retailers Association (AIMRA). According to Mridul Biswas, State

General Secretary, AIMRA, West Bengal, "On one hand, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi talks about "Vocal for Local," the mobile company Samsung is undermining this

call. Although mobile dealers have tried to adjust from all sides, it has crossed all limits. As a result, all mobile retailers have now decided to return all company stock to

the distributors' offices." The President of AIMRA's West Bengal division, Mohan Bajoria, "it has teamed up with foreign companies to harm the local traders."

Kolkata to host International Congress on Glass

MI News Service, Kolkata: The City of Joy, Kolkata, will host the XXVII International Congress on Glass (ICG 2025) from January 20th to 24th, 2025. Organized by CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI), this prestigious event will be held at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre. This marks a significant milestone for CGCRI, as they previously hosted the ICG in 1986.

The inaugural ceremony, scheduled for January 20th, will be graced by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences. Eminent

scientists, industry leaders, and delegates from the International Commission on Glass will also attend. Prof. Bikramjit Basu, Director of CSIR-CGCRI, emphasized at the ICG 2025 curtain raiser press conference that the Congress aims to: -Facilitate a dynamic exchange of ideas and knowledge among participants. -Address critical challenges and explore promising opportunities within the field of glass technology. -Significantly benefit the Indian glass community, encompassing faculty, researchers, students, and industry professionals.

-Cultivate fruitful collaborations with institutions and universities globally, focusing on cutting-edge research, development, and futuristic applications. In conjunction with the main Congress, the 3rd ICG-CGCRI Tutorial on Glass will be conducted from January 17th to 19th, 2025, facilitating knowledge exchange and skill enhancement. The Congress will host over 550 delegates, including 150 international participants from 20 countries. The event will feature 11 Plenary Speakers, 22 Keynote Speakers, and 94 Invited Speakers.

Workshop on "Financing India's Green Transition Plan & Adaptation Needs" in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: A stakeholder consultation workshop on "Financing India's Green Transition Plan and Adaptation Needs" was organized by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India under the ongoing Green Climate Fund Readiness Program

on 16th January 2025 in Kolkata, West Bengal. This workshop is part of an ongoing effort to understand India's climate financing needs and create awareness across stakeholders on the scale of mobilisation needed to accelerate investment in climate resilient development in India.



Volunteers launch a green campaign on Gangasagar Island's beach in South 24 Parganas, following the holy dip marking the conclusion of the Gangasagar Mela. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

In a possible first, Bengal gets a super class vet hosp

MI News Service, Kolkata: The animal rights organizations would be very happy in the state as in a possible first; state's first multi-specialty veterinary hospital comes into existence in Kolkata.

The Seattle Veterinary Hospital is spread across 3,000 square feet at Lake Gardens (south Kolkata). The facility is designed to provide advanced care for pets, including dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, tortoises, and other small mammals.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Sougata Roy, MP, along with Guests of Honour Debasish Kumar, MLA, and Mousumi Das, Councillor.

According to Tania Dutta (Seattle Veterinary Hospital) " This groundbreaking hospital features 24x7 emergency care, ICU facilities, OPD services, grooming, radiography, advanced pathology, endoscopy, laparoscopic surgeries, an in-house pharmacy, and a pet-friendly caf   set to open on April 1. With the capacity to admit over 10 patients simultaneously, it is equipped to handle a wide range of conditions, excluding distemper and rabies.

"The hospital's team includes expert veterinarians from Bangalore, Delhi, and Canada, ensuring round-the-clock care with consultation services available 24/7. Unique features include pick-and-drop emergency services starting from March 1st, specialized care for exotic pets, annual wellness programs, and regular pet care awareness events for the community. Additionally, the pharmacy is open to all, providing essential medications even for those not under treatment." She added.

Caste certificates distributed

MI news Service, Ausgram: Caste certificates were distributed to Scheduled Castes and Tribes at Sonai Hattala at Kopta Gram Panchayat of Ausgram-2 Block on Thursday by holding a special camp. According to the block administration source, these certificates were handed over to 103 beneficiaries on this day. BDO (Ausgram-2) Chinmoy Das, Savapati of Ausgram-2 Panchayat Samiti, Mamata Barui were present in the camp. BDO said that Certificates are issued with in 20 days of



application. It is providing government services by reaching people. On this day, besides lunch, every

consumer is given winter clothes and clothes according to their needs, he said.

Kolkata film director earns accolades

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Kolkata based film director earns accolades, both at national and international level. Kaushik Ghosh's film "Punyabumi" has received the Satyajit Ray Memorial Award.

Kaushik Ghosh's recently made documentary "Abinaswar" has already won the best historical documentary at the Goa In-

ternational Film festival, besides winning the 'Best Director award' at the Mumbai International Entertainment Competition, and Best Writer and Best Screenplay awards at the Divine Film Festival.

His latest venture based on fact. The film also features other notable personalities from Tollywood, political and media fraternity.

Bengal has huge potential in Semiconductor manufacturing: Babul Supriyo

MI News Service, Kolkata: "West Bengal has huge potential in the domain of semiconductor manufacturing", said Babul Supriyo (Minister, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal. He said while attending a programme at SNU. Taking a groundbreaking step toward advancing India's role in the global semiconductor industry, Sister Nivedita University (SNU) has unveiled its first-of-its-kind undergraduate program in VLSI and Semiconductor Engineering. The announcement was made at the "Chip to Career" seminar, a landmark event that brought together industry leaders, academic luminaries and aspiring engineers to discuss the transformative potential of VLSI and semiconductor technologies. The event

was graced by Babul Supriyo, Minister, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Bengal; Prof. Kaushik Roy, Edward G. Tiedemann, Jr., distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Head, Nanoelectronics Research Lab, Purdue University; Prof. Amlan Chakrabarti, Prof. Amlan Chakrabarti, Professor & Director, A K Choudhury School of Information and Technology, University of Calcutta; Dr Rob Roy, EVP and GM of Innovation hub, TEOCO; Mr Satyam Roy Chowdhury, Chancellor, SNU; Dr Dhruvajyoti Chattopadhyay, Vice-Chancellor, SNU and Dr. Sanku Bose, Group CEO and Dean of Engineering, SNU. Babul Supriyo, Minister, Information Technology and Electronics, Government of West Ben-

gal, said, "We are at the cusp of a transformative era where artificial intelligence is not just a tool but a collaborator. While systems like ChatGPT and quantum computing have demonstrated unprecedented capabilities, it is human ingenuity that drives their real-world impact. Kolkata, though often overshadowed by Bengaluru or Gurgaon in tech narratives, has the unique advantage of starting afresh in this rapidly evolving ecosystem. With the groundwork laid by institutions and companies, Bengal can leapfrog into industries like AI, quantum computing and semiconductor manufacturing. The government is committed to supporting such initiatives through policies, infrastructure and fostering industry-academic collaborations."

Countdown starts for mega IKBF

MI News Service, Kolkata: The countdown has already begun for the 48th International Kolkata Book Fair 2025—the largest attended book fair in the world, recognised by IPA Geneva. The fair is scheduled from 28 January to 9 February 2025 at the Boimela Prangan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata.

Last year, 2.7 million people visited the book fair and books worth 23 crores INR were sold.

This year, the International Kolkata Book Fair is becoming an open air book fair in its true sense. There will be no halls where earlier

the English language publishers used to be present. Instead, there will be a designated 'Premier Area' for all English language participants.

Germany (Deutschland) is the Focal Theme Country of the International Kolkata Book Fair 2025.

In the Book Fair, 29 January 2025 will be celebrated as 'Theme Country Germany Day' and 2 February 2025 as 'Children's Day'. On 4 February 2025, Guild will commemorate 'Senior Citizen's Day' in honour of the aged.

For the first time, there will be

a special exhibition in this Book Fair titled 'Engraved Illustrations: Journey of Book Illustrations during the 19th Century in Bengal, curated by Jyotirmoy Bhattacharya. The exhibition will highlight the chronological journey of engraved illustrations in Bengali books from the 1800s to the 1900s. It will also feature original books from the 19th century, woodblocks, and other printmaking exhibits. There will be seminars also featuring renowned printmakers from India and workshops featuring scholars and intellectuals.

Mamata to confer 'Sahitya Samman award' to Abul Bashar

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is going to confer a special Sahitya Samman award to senior litterateur of Bengal Abul Bashar.

According to sources, at the upcoming International Kolkata Book Fair (IKBF), a worth Rs 2 lakh will be handed over to senior litterateur of Bengal Abul Bashar by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Makar Sankranti: Record 1.1 Cr pilgrims take holy dip at Gangasagar

MI News Service, Gangasagar: A record 1.1 crore pilgrims across the state took holy dip at Gangasagar this year, matching the footfall of pilgrims during the previous edition of the Gangasagar Mela. The huge flow of pilgrims this year at Sagar deserves special mention as the Maha Kumbh at Prayagraj is being hosted this year. State

Power minister Aroop Biswas said that pilgrims started coming to Sagar Island from January 1 and devotees are still coming. However, the flow has picked up since Sunday. The district administration of South 24-Parganas will be taking up a large-scale clean up drive on Thursday morning in the beach area.

Mamata suspends 12 doctors...

From PG 1
responsibility of the MSVP (Medical Superintendent and Vice Principal) and the head of the department, asking, "Where were they? As administrative heads, wasn't it their responsibility to know?"

In an effort to prevent similar incidents, Banerjee has directed that CCTV cameras be installed outside all operation theatres in state-run hospitals. She added, "Had there been cameras, the guilty could have been caught red-handed." She instructed Health Secretary Narayan Swarup Nigam to ensure compliance with this directive, emphasizing that objections to this initiative will not be entertained.

The incident occurred on January 8, when five women underwent C-sections at Medinipur Medical College. Toxic saline allegedly led to severe complications, resulting in Ruidas's death. Her newborn, initially discharged, was readmitted with jaundice and later passed away. Three critically ill mothers were transferred to Kolkata for treatment.

While announcing the compensation, Banerjee expressed her condolences to the family and pledged justice. "No amount of criticism will deter us from holding the guilty accountable," she said.

The government's swift action, including suspensions and investigations, reflects its intent to ensure higher standards of care in state hospitals. However, the tragedy has brought to light the urgent need for systemic reforms to prevent such incidents in the future. The Chief minister who also holds the portfolio of Health, highlighted the progress made in

health services of West Bengal during her government's tenure. She said that since independence, the number of medical colleges in the state was only 11. But during her tenure, that number has increased to 37. Of them, the number of government colleges is 24. The number of MBBS seats in the state has increased from 1,350 to 5,650. The number of MD seats has gone up to 1,848. The number of beds in government hospitals has also increased to as many as 97,000. In addition several blood banks and trauma care facilities have been set up during the past one decade, Mamata Banerjee said adding 14,000 doctors have been appointed in the state. More doctors will be appointed after the OBC case is settled. The number of nursing training centers in the state has increased from 57 to 451. Earlier, there were 2,545 seats in the centers, now the number has gone up to as high as 28,467. The number of approved nursing staff and paramedical staff in government hospitals has also increased manifold. The number of ASHA workers has increased by 11,000 in 2 years. Now there are 64,000 ASHA workers in the state, she said..

iShe said "the issue of treatment of patients depends on the doctor, which neither I myself nor the Chief Secretary, nor the Health Secretary could do" adding "the government policy is that government doctors have to remain present in the hospital for at least 8 hours. Providing proper service is their prime responsibility. In the case of some patients, they cannot wait even for a second."

PM Modi congratulates...

From PG 1
the way for smooth conduct of ambitious future missions including the Bharatiya Antriksha Station and Chandrayaan 4.

"Congrats #ISRO. Finally made it. SPADEX has accomplished the unbelievable... docking complete... and it is all indigenous 'Bharatiya Docking System'. This paves the way for smooth conduct of ambitious future missions including the Bharatiya Antriksha Station and Chandrayaan 4

and Gaganyaan. PM Sh@narendramodi's continuous patronage keeps the spirits soaring... here at Bengaluru," the Union Minister of State (MoS) for Earth Sciences posted on X.

Earlier, SpaDeX project director N Surendran said that this experiment would prove fruitful for future assignments like the Bharatiya Antariksha Station and the Chandrayaan-4 mission since the docking mechanism was becoming necessary.

Startup India propelled...

From PG 1
empowerment. He said on X on Thursday that "Over the past nine years, this transformative program has empowered countless youngsters, turning their innovative ideas into successful Startups." People would doubt India's ability to thrive in this system just a decade ago, he added.

The prime minister said this "transformative" programme has empowered countless youngsters, turning their innovative ideas into successful startups. From tech-driven solutions to rural innovations, healthcare advancements to biotech breakthroughs, Fintech to EdTech, clean energy to sustainable technology, Indian startups are solving global challenges while at the same time creating employment opportunities and boosting the country's quest towards self-reliance, he added.

Underlining his government's commitment to fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem that uplifts every dream and contributes to 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', he said his dispensation has left no stone unturned to encourage a culture of startups. He said his government's policies have focused on "Ease of Doing Business", greater access to resources and, most importantly, supporting them at every juncture. He said, "We are actively promoting innovation and incubation centres so that our youngsters become risk-takers. I have personally been regularly interacting with upcoming startups." This success of startup India

reflects that today's India is dynamic, confident and future-ready, he asserted. Modi said, "I compliment every youngster in the startup world and urge more youngsters to pursue this. It's my assurance you won't be disappointed." Meanwhile, the National Startup Day celebrates the transformative role of startups and entrepreneurs in shaping economies and societies. It honours innovation, resilience, and creativity, highlighting the impact of startups in driving technological advancements and sustainable solutions. The day also emphasizes the importance of fostering an ecosystem that nurtures bold ideas and empowers entrepreneurs to challenge the status quo and build the future. Amey Kanekar: Co-Founder of FinRight Launched in 2023, FinRight Technologies, a Mumbai-based fintech founded by professionals from CRED and Amazon, is addressing niche personal finance challenges. Its first focus is Employee Provident Fund (EPF), as this space has become increasingly difficult due to intricate rules, lengthy procedures, and a high rejection rate. FinRight has assisted 5000+ customers on their PF issues, offering a personalised tech-driven and human assistance. FinRight also plans to introduce digital automation to tackle EPF issues by integrating EPFO APIs and AI and launch "Get Your EPF Reviewed" digital service, empowering users to identify EPF discrepancies with just a few clicks.



State Minister cleaning the beach following a holy dip, marking the end of the Gangasagar Mela on Gangasagar Island, South 24 Parganas. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

Firhad blames promoter's and engineers' negligence for Baghajatin flat disaster

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim has expressed strong support for the residents of the Baghajatin area after the flat complex, which collapsed recently, leading to severe damage. Speaking at a press conference on Thursday, Hakim blamed the promoter for the incident in Vidyasagar Colony, Baghajatin. The mayor claimed that the Haryana engineering company was lifting the flat using the wrong method.

Mayor Firhad Hakim inspected the damaged flat on Thursday, accompanied by local councilors Debabrata Majumdar and Mitali Banerjee, as well as engineers from the municipality. The mayor, addressing reporters, said, "I was in Gangasagar and I spoke to Debabrata and Mitali. I came here after informing them. This is an engineering fault. Without informing the municipality, the promoter made a fool of him and did this with the advice of the structural engineer, without taking the permission of the municipality. They joined hands with a Haryana Company and used a car-lifting machine, without municipality's approval." Firhad claimed that the Haryana Com-

pany did not understand the nature of the soil and started the lifting work thinking it was rocky ground, which caused a setback.

Hakim further reiterated his accusations against the Left Front. He claimed that during their rule, the practice of manual building plans was common, which led to the lack of online records and difficulty in tracking construction permits. He argued that this practice allowed promoters to carry out illegal constructions. Hakim also mentioned that the current administration has worked to ease the process of obtaining building permits and reduce harassment for residents.

Hakim informed that the complex was built in 2009, during the Left Front government's tenure. The flats were allegedly constructed by filling up a waterbody, an act that Hakim holds the Left responsible for.

While Hakim's comments continue to focus on the Left's role, residents argue that they moved into the flats in 2014, two years after the building was completed. They also claimed that the building began tilting and showed

signs of structural issues soon after they moved in. When they contacted the promoter, they were initially asked to pay 1 lakh for repairs, but later the promoter assured them that no additional money would be required, though the responsibility for repairs would rest with the owners.

Amid these complications, Hakim promised that the flats would be demolished and rebuilt to ensure safety. He acknowledged the distress caused to homeowners, many of whom had purchased their flats with home loans. Due to the illegal construction, residents are unable to claim insurance, which has further compounded their financial issues. Hakim has also ordered an internal investigation into the incident and assured residents that the government would stand by them during this difficult time. In a significant development, the promoter, Subhash Roy, who had gone into hiding after the collapse, was arrested by the police after a two-day search. He was apprehended with the help of Sundarbans district police and is now being brought to Kolkata for further questioning.

State removes spcl secy of Health dept amid Medinipur med college controversy

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government has transferred Chaitali Chakraborty, the Special Secretary of the Health Department in charge of the pharmaceutical division, amid growing controversy over the Medinipur Medical College saline incident. The transfer order was issued late Wednesday, with Subhanjan Das appointed as her replacement.

The state government stated that the transfer is a routine administrative reshuffle. According to government sources, the decision to replace Chaitali Chakraborty was made prior to the BJP's visit to the Health Department. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee reportedly ordered the change during a high-level meeting on Tuesday.

The Medinipur Medical College incident sparked widespread outrage after five women fell critically ill following childbirth, reportedly due to contaminated saline. One of the patients, Mamani Ruidas, succumbed, while the others are undergoing treatment. Their newborns

remain stable.

Subhanjan Das assumed office as the new Special Secretary on Tuesday night, and the government maintains that the reshuffle is unrelated to the political developments surrounding the incident. However, the opposition continues to criticize the administration's handling of the tragedy and its aftermath.

The Medinipur incident has triggered intense scrutiny of the state's healthcare system, with calls for greater accountability and reforms.

hidden firearm, shot two police officers, Nishikanta Sarkar and Deben Baishya, and escaped from the prison van.

It was later discovered that the firearm was smuggled to Sajjak while he was in jail, concealed under a blanket. The escape has triggered a massive manhunt across the state as police scramble to recapture the fugitive.

Visiting the injured officers at a Siliguri hospital, DGP Rajeev Kumar expressed solidarity with his team. Speaking to the media, he said, "Let me make this clear: if criminals fire one bullet at the police, the police will fire four in return. Our officers are trained to handle such situations and will act firmly to deal with these criminals."

The DGP's statements aim to restore confidence within the police force, which has been facing rising violence. His visit and stern message are part of an effort to strengthen the resolve of officers and ensure that such incidents do not undermine their morale.

Bengal police empowered to act firmly against criminals, says DG

MI News Service, Kolkata: Police forces across West Bengal are increasingly coming under attack, with incidents ranging from harassment to physical assault being reported from various districts. The most recent shocker comes from Panjipara in Uttar Dinajpur, where two policemen were shot by a criminal who managed to escape custody. While the injured officers survived, the incident has sparked concerns over the police force's ability to protect them.

In response, West Bengal Director General of Police (DGP) Rajeev Kumar issued a strong message to boost morale among police personnel. During a visit to Siliguri on Thursday, he stated unequivocally that if criminals open fire on the police, officers should retaliate with four bullets. The incident unfolded on Wednesday evening when Sajjak, a murder convict, was being transported back to Raiganj Jail after a court appearance in Islampur. Near Panjipara on National Highway 34, Sajjak allegedly retrieved a

that were outside the prescribed syllabus. Those who qualify as a result must be allowed to proceed to the next stage of the recruitment process. The commission's lawyer, Prateek Dhar, informed the court that eight of the 27 out-of-syllabus questions had already been awarded marks.

Cal HC orders marks for out-of-syllabus questions in Madrasa recruitment exam

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has directed the Madrasa Service Commission to award marks for out-of-syllabus questions in the 2024 Assistant Teacher Recruitment Exam. Justice Saugata Bhattacharya ruled that all candidates must receive marks for the questions

Saratshashi's Book Fair collection published in memory of mother

MI News Service, Kolkata: The invaluable role of mothers in our lives is celebrated through the efforts of Arup Das, a prominent teacher from Shivpur, Howrah, who started the magazine Saratshashi in 1984 in memory of his mother, Saratshashi Das. For 42 years, Das has continued the magazine's legacy. In 1997, with the initiative of Arup and his wife Manju Devi, a special magazine collection was created. On Saratshashi Devi's birth centenary, the book fair collection titled Ma was officially published, featuring memories from renowned individuals honoring their mothers.

Cousin arrested for murder in Golf Green after financial dispute

MI News Service, Kolkata: South Kolkata's Golf Green area was shaken by a gruesome murder this week, raising concerns about safety and security in the city. A month after the initial discovery of a severed head, the remaining body parts of a woman were recovered from a flat in the locality on Wednesday.

The deceased, identified as 40-year-old Nafisa Khatun, lived with her mother in a flat at Rajendra Prasad Colony, Lake Gardens. The case was solved within a day by the police, who revealed that the woman's cousin, Sabir Ali, had killed her over a financial dispute. Sabir, who was arrested shortly after the incident, reportedly confessed to the crime during interrogation.

On December 13, a severed head was found in a vat in the Golf Green area, sparking panic among residents. This discovery led to an intense investigation by the Golf Green Police Station and the Lalbazar Detective Branch. However, it wasn't until Wednesday that the body was found hidden under the bed in Nafisa's flat.

US President Biden warns...

From PG 1
climate change has never been clearer. Just look across the country, from California to North Carolina. That's why I signed the most significant climate and clean energy law ever, ever in the history of the world. And the rest of the world is trying to model it now. It's working, creating jobs and industries of the future. Now we have proven we don't have to choose between protecting the environment and growing the economy. We're doing both," he said.

He added that the 'powerful forces' are using their influence to eliminate the steps taken to tackle the climate crisis.

"But powerful forces want to wield their unchecked influence to eliminate the steps we've taken to tackle the climate crisis, to serve their own interests for power and profit. We must not be bullied into sacrificing the future, the future of our children and our grandchildren. We must keep pushing forward, and push faster. There is no time to waste. It is also clear that American leadership in technology is unparalleled, an unparalleled source of innovation that can transform lives. We see the same dangers in the concentration of technology, power and wealth," he said. Biden quoted Former US President Dwight D Eisenhower, who warned of 'misplaced power' and spoke of military-industrial complex.



"You know, in his farewell address, President Eisenhower spoke of the dangers of the military-industrial complex. He warned us about, and I quote, 'The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power.' Six decades later, I'm equally concerned about the potential rise of a tech-industrial complex that could pose real dangers for our country as well," he said.

Biden warned of the perils of misinformation and lack of free press.

"Americans are being buried under an avalanche of misinformation and disinformation enabling the abuse of power. The free press is crumbling. Editors are disappearing. Social media is giving up on fact-checking. The truth is smothered by lies told for power and for profit. We must hold the social platforms accountable to protect our children, our families and our very democracy from the abuse of power. Meanwhile, artificial intelligence is the most consequential technology of our time, perhaps of all time," he said.

ED raids three locations over Rs 6k-crore bank fraud

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday conducted simultaneous raids at three different locations in Kolkata and Howrah in connection with a Rs 6,000-crore bank fraud case, an ED officer confirmed. The raids were carried out at the residence and offices of a businessman who is allegedly linked to the fraud.

The officer explained that the investigation revealed several shell companies and agencies that were involved in the fraudulent activity. "This person is the director of one such

agency, and we are conducting searches to uncover the links to the fraud and how the money was siphoned off," the officer said. In December, the ED arrested Sanjay Sureka, the promoter of Concast Steel and Power, in connection with the case. The agency had previously seized jewelry worth Rs 4.5 crore and several foreign luxury cars from Sureka's possession.

The case, which was registered in 2022, stems from allegations that Sureka and his associates duped a nationalized bank in Jharkhand.

"Accused handed over weapon in court lockup": IG Yadav after firing incident in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: As two policemen sustained injuries after getting shot in West Bengal's North Dinajpur district, Rajesh Kumar Yadav, Inspector General of Police (IG) North Bengal on Thursday said that the weapon was handed over to the accused in the court lockup.

The official said that one of the constables had undergone laparoscopic procedures so that minor injuries inside the body could be repaired. According to the IG, the preliminary inquiry reveals that the accused was provided with a firearm when he was lodged in the court lockup.

"Investigation is underway and we will soon be able to nab the accused. We have received good leads into the investigation. One of the constables (Deven Baishya) has undergone laparoscopic procedures. The minor injuries inside the body have been repaired. The weapon was handed over to the accused in the court lockup," IG Yadav told reporters.

Two police personnel were injured in the firing by miscreants while taking the accused to the prison van in West Bengal's Uttar Dinajpur district. The injured policemen sustained bullet injuries. They have been identified as Nilkanta Sarkar, who sustained injuries after taking a hit in the chest, and Deven

Baishya, who sustained two bullet injuries.

The incident took place at Panjipara Kalibari area under Goalpokhar police station in North Dinajpur on Wednesday evening.

According to the police, the incident took place while the accused was being taken back from the Islampur sub-divisional court to Raiganj correctional home. The accused requested the policemen to stop the van for nature's call. The accused opened fire while going out to the bathroom. After the incident, the accused fled away.

The two injured policemen sustained a total of three bullets in their chests and were rushed to Islampur sub-district hospital. After this, they were referred to a private hospital in Siliguri as their condition deteriorated.

BJP West Bengal Chief Sukanta Majumdar questioned the state government alleging failure of law and order in the state.

"Shocking breakdown of law and order in Islampur: miscreants opened fire on a police vehicle to free their accomplices, critically injuring several officers. Under the state Home Minister's watch, criminals have grown so emboldened that even the police aren't safe. This is not governance; it's chaos. West Bengal deserves better," he posted on X.

Name Change
I, Bapi Ghosh, Army no. 1515451SP, Rank-Hav, Unit-22 med Regt. S/O Sushil Ghosh Residing at Vill & P.O-Bahadurpur, P.S-Dhubulia, Dist-Nadia, Pin-741125, West Bengal. My Mother actual name & Date of birth is Minati ghosh & Dob 30/08/1954 instead of Minoti Ghosh & Dob 01/07/1958 sworn before the Ld. Executive Magistrate, Krishnagar, Nadia, W.B. On 14.01.2025. That Minati Ghosh and Minoti Ghosh both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SK Jaled Rahaman S/O Sk Asiya Tulla H/O SK Ajмира Residing at Vill-Atpara,P.O-Rangopapur,P.S-Galsi, Dist-Purba Bardhaman, Pin-713403, West Bengal.Shall Henceforth be known as SK Jeled Rahaman as Declared before the Notary Public at Puba Bardhaman vide affidavit no 1331 Dated 13.01.2025. SK Jeled Rahaman and SK Jaled Rahaman both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I am Amita Kar, husband Dulal Kar, address Ghasiara, Madhyapara, post office +, police station, Sonarpur, Kolkata, 700150. I have two daughters, 1) Nandita Kar, 2) Sangeetha Kar. Their birth certificates mistakenly show my name as Babli Kar. On 06/01/2025, by order of the Alipore First Class Judicial Magistrate Court, I changed from Babli Kar to Amita Kar. Babli Kar and Amita Kar are one and the same person.

Name Change
I, Mridula Banerjee W/o Chanchal Bandyopadhyay R/A - 1/37/20 Bijoygarh P.O. Jadavpur University, P.S. Jadavpur Kolkata - 700032 (W.B) have declared before the Notary Public, Alipore Judges Court, (W.B) vide an Affidavit (No 37/15/1/25) dated 15.01.2025 that Mridula Banerjee and Mridula Bandyopadhyay both are the same and identical person

Name Change
I,Sri Badal Ghosh, S/O Sri Manaranjan Ghosh alias Manoranjan Ghosh, residing at I/B, Indraloke, P.O-Sodepur, P.S- Ghola, District-North 24 Parganas, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my mother Name wrongly recorded as Kanan Bala Ghosh in place of original Name Kanan Ghosh in my passport being No 5916489, issued by Regional Passport Office, Calcutta. That my mother's Kanan Ghosh w/o Manaranjan Ghosh and Kanan Bala Ghosh w/o Manaranjan Ghosh is the same and one identical person, Vide an affidavit (No 36AA 285393) sworn before in the court of Ld Judicial Magistrate 1st class at Barrackpore date 09/01/2025

Name Change
I, Beauty Ray Biswas, w/o Sujit Ray, aged 38 years, Hindu, Housewife, Nationality -Indian, R/a-Vill& P/O- Hingnara, PS-Chakdaha, Dist-Nadia, Pin-741223 (WB) have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Beauty Ray as declared before the Notary Public at Kalyani Court, Nadia (WB) vide affidavit (no. 76) dated 15/01/2025, Beauty Ray Biswas and Beauty Ray both are same and identical person.

CHANGE OF NAME
Before the Notary Public at Kolkata Affidavit Cum Declaration Date: 13 Jan, 2025.
I, SEKH AIJUDDIN, Aadhaar No. - 2448 7848 5919, son of SEKH RAOSON ALI, by faith -Muslim, by occupation - Business, residing at Monoharpur, Sekhpara, P.O. & P.S. Dankuni, District - Hooghly, West Bengal, Pin Code- 712311. Do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as that my actual name is "SEKH AIJUDDIN", which is correctly mentioned in my Aadhar Card Being Number 2448 7848 5919. That in my passport being number N4876922, my name is written as "SHAIKH AIJUDDIN" in place of my actual name "SEKH AIJUDDIN". That 'SHAIKH AIJUDDIN' & 'SEKH AIJUDDIN' are the same and one identical person and I will be known and called as 'SEKH AIJUDDIN' in place of 'SHAIKH AIJUDDIN'. That I am Indian by birth. That the statements made herein are true to my knowledge and belief.

Change of Name
I, Nazir Hussain (Old Name) S/O Akbar Residing at Line no 75/c,VTC Chandpani, P.O-Angus PS-Bhadreswar, Dist-Hooghly, Pin-712221. West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Md Nazir Husen (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (First Class) at Chinsurah Hooghly.on 14.01.2025.Nazir Hussain and Md Nazir Husen both as same and one identical person.

Change of Name
I, Shafquat Naz S/O Late Mohammed Dawood Nadeem Residing at 141C/H/2, Kabitirba Sarani, Po-Khidderpore, Ps-Watunge, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700023 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Shafquat Naaz. I declare that Shafquat Naz and Shafquat Naaz is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-01-2025.

Change of Name
I, Laxmi Das S/O Late Kartick Biswas Residing at 187, Satin Sen Nagar, Po -I.S.I, Ps -Barnagar, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin- 700108 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Lakshmi Das. I declare that Laxmi Das and Lakshmi Das is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-01-2025.

General Manager handed over Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar to Metro Railway employees



MI News Service, Kolkata: Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar Ceremony was held in Metro Railway on Thursday the Jan 16 2025 to recognise the outstanding performance of Metro employees of different departments during the year 2024. P. Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager presided over this prize distribu-

tion ceremony and inaugurated the programme by lighting a traditional lamp in presence of other senior officers of Metro Railway. Congratulating all the awardees, Reddy hoped that this award will encourage them to continue to do the good work in future and motivate their colleagues to excel in their respective

fields. The awardees also shared their experiences about the outstanding works done by them.

The General Manager handed over merit certificates and medals to the awardees on this occasion. Apart from these, he also handed over the shields to different departments for their outstanding performance.

Change of Name
I, Mohammed Mohidul Islam S/o Mohamad Moazzem Hossain Residing at Vill+Po - Nehalpur, Ps - Matia, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin- 743437 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Md Mohidul Islam. I declare that Mohammed Mohidul Islam and Md Mohidul Islam is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-01-2025.

Change of Name
I, Basudeb Chatterjee (old name) son of Late Bijay Chatterjee, residing at 25, Mallroad, PO & PS - Dum Dum, District: North 24 Parganas, Kolkata - 700080, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Basu Chatterjee (new name) as declared before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Barasat vide affidavit no. 257 dated 15/01/2025. Basudeb Chatterjee (old name) and Basu Chatterjee (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I Sanjoy Kumar Jaiswal (@ Sanjay Jaiswal (Old Name),S/O C.k.jaiswal,Aged About 58 Yerars Old Religion Hindu, Resident Of 260/1B.A.P.C.Road,Beadon Street, Kolkata-700006, My Name Has Been Wrongly Recorded In My Adhar Card Being No.3927 9043 8115 And Also In Pan Card Being No.agppj0250). Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sanjay Kumar Jaiswal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Chandernagore Vide Affidavit No.43 On 30/12/24 . Mayan Guha Roy(Old Name) And Maya Guha Roy(New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I,Mayan Guha Roy(Old Name),W/O Dilip Guha Roy, Resident Of 38, Gopal Bag, Po & Ps - Chandannagar, Dist -Hooghly, Pin-712136, West Bengal have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Maya Guha Roy(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Chandernagore Vide Affidavit No.43 On 30/12/24 . Mayan Guha Roy(Old Name) And Maya Guha Roy(New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I, Sanjib Guha S/O Late Motilal Guha Declare That My Father Said Name Mohit Lal Guha, Mohit Guha (Old Name), Residing At 4Th Street,37,Sen Bagan, Agarpara, Panihati, P.s.- Khardah, Dist -24 Parganas (North),Pin- 700109, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Father Name And He Shall Henceforth Be Known As As Motilal Guha (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/01/2025. Motilal Guha (New Name) And Mohit Lal Guha,Mohit Guha (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Nasim Akhtar (Old Name) Son Of Md Mustaque Ahmed, Residing At 16A/1, Linton Street, Entally, Kolkata- 700014, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Nasim Akhtar (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/01/2025. Md Nasim Akhtar (New Name) And Nasim Akhtar (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Faruqul Hassan (Old Name) Son Of Late Mohammed Khalilur Rahman, Residing At 35/H/1, Gora Chand Road, Kolkata-700014, Po.- Entally, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Faruqul Hossain (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/01/2025. Faruqul Hossain (New Name) And Faruqul Hassan (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Yasmin Tarafdar (Old Name) Wife Of Syed Mahadi Hassan, Residing At 46, Dilkhusa Street, Karaya, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Yasmin Hassan (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/01/2025. Yasmin Hassan (New Name) And Yasmin Tarafdar (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Dipak Kumar Das Adhikary, Son Of Kanai Das Adhikary, Residing At Betkundu, Po-Jagatpur, Ps-Mahishadal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Dipak Das Adhikary Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025.That Dipak Kumar Das Adhikary And Dipak Das Adhikary Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Chirashree Chowdhury (Old Name) Wife Of Subhrajyoti Basu, Residing At D-7/3, Hayat Restaurant Kolkata West International City, Po.-Bankra, P.s.- Domjur, Howrah- 711403, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chirashree Chowdhury Basu (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025. Chirashree Chowdhury Basu (New Name) And Chirashree Chowdhury (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Limpa Adhikari (Old Name) Daughter Of Hem Chandra Biswas, Residing At 81/30, Sahid Ananta Dutta Sarani, North Dumdum (M), North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700081, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Limpa Adhikary (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025. Limpa Adhikary (New Name) And Limpa Adhikari (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Pramila Kumari Gupta (Old Name) Wife Of Ajay Kumar Gupta, Residing At 1/6, Mir Para Road, Bally, Bally Municipality, Howrah- 711203, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Pramila Gupta (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025. Pramila Gupta (New Name) And Pramila Kumari Gupta (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Samsur Ali Shaikh, Son Of Late Sk Abdul Haque, Residing At Bardhwaia, Ramchandrapur, Po - Alipur, Howrah - 711315, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Samsur Ali VideAnAffidavitSwornBeforeTheNotary Public Kolkata On 16/01/2025. That Samsur Ali Shaikh And Sk Samsur Ali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Runa Awatramani And Runa Mondal, Daughter Of Late Ramendra Prasad Mondal, Wife Of Omprakash Pahilaj Awatramani, Residing At B/35, Chirantani Park, Banshodri, Kolkata-700070 Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Runa Omprakash Awatramani As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide An Affidavit No 10 Dated 16/01/2025,Runa Awatramani And Runa Mondal And Runa Omprakash Awatramani All Are Same And Identical Person.

Name Change
I Omprakash Awatramani And Omprakash Pahilaj Awatramani, Son Of Pahilaj Awatramani, Residing At 14/107, Seeta Niwas, Nehru Road, Old Anand Nagar, Santacruz East, Mumbai-400055, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Omprakash Pahilaj Awatramani As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide An Affidavit No 08 Dated 16/01/2025, Omprakash Awatramani And Omprakash Pahilaj Awatramani And Omprakash Pahilaj Awatramani All Are Same And Identical Person.

Name Change
I Chhaya Ramendra Prasad Mondal,Wife Of Late Ramendra Prasad Mondal, Residing At 32/F, Nakuleshwar Bhattacharjee Lane, Kalighat, Kolkata -700026 Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chhaya Mondal As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide An Affidavit No 09 Dated 16/01/2025,Chhaya Ramendra Prasad Mondal And Chhaya Mondal Both Are Same And Identical Person.

Cyclist narrowly escapes death

MI News Service, Siliguri: A cyclist narrowly escaped death in a tragic road accident near the NJP Railway Hospital in Siliguri on Thursday. The incident occurred when Hiranlal Kumar, a resident of Jalpai More, was traveling towards Ambika Nagar for work. While cycling near the Railway Hospital More, he was struck from behind by a speeding vehicle, causing him to be thrown several meters off the road.

Fortunately, Kumar survived the incident with only minor injuries. However, the accident raised serious concerns about the safety of cyclists and pedestrians on busy roads in the area. Witnesses to the incident immediately rushed to his aid, and local authorities were alerted to the scene.

Upon receiving the news, officials from the NJP Police and Traffic department quickly arrived at the location. Traffic was temporarily halted to manage the situation, and emergency services provided medical assistance to the cyclist. Kumar was later taken to a nearby medical facility for a check-up, where he was reported to have minor bruises and scratches but no life-threatening injuries.

The vehicle involved in the accident, a speeding car, was detained by the police and was taken to the NJP Police Station for further investigation. Authorities are working to identify the driver of the vehicle and determine whether the incident was due to negligence, speeding, or other violations. The car's registration details were also collected, and the driver will be questioned once located.

Name Change
I,Vivekananda Adhikari (Old Name) Son Of Bimal Adhikari,Residing At 81/30, Sahid Ananta Dutta Sarani, North Dumdum (M), North 24 Pgs, Pin-700081, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Vivekananda Adhikary (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025. Vivekananda Adhikary (New Name) And Vivekananda Adhikari (Old Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Ashok Kumar Saffar (Old Name),Son Of Shyam Sunder Saffar, Residing At 93/4, Karaya Road, Kolkata - 700019,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashok Saffar (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 16/01/2025. That Ashok Kumar Saffar And Ashok Saffar Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sarbani Bera (Old Name),Wife Of Bimal Kumar Bera, Residing At Vill & Po-Bhata, Ps-Tarakeshwar, Hooghly-712410, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shrabani Bera (New Name), Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 10/01/2025. That Sarbani Bera And Shrabani Bera Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
After accepting Islam on & from 06/11/2024, I, Santosh C/o. Muragavel M/o. Kala,C/o. Akash Khan, R/o. Meshera, Kala Chara, Haripal, Hooghly-712403, known everywhere as Arman Khan. I, Arman Khan & Santosh C/o. Muragavel M/o. Kala is the same self & one identical person vide affidavit no. 31, dt. 06/11/2024 before S.D.E.M., Sadar, Hooghly Court.

Nikshay shivir successfully conducted at Rampurhat Railway Health Unit

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a remarkable step towards eliminating tuberculosis (TB), the Rampurhat Railway Health Unit, under the aegis of the Divisional Railway Hospital, Howrah, in collaboration with the West Bengal Health and Family Welfare Department (WBHF&W), successfully organized a two-day NIKSHAY SHIVIR on January 14 and 15, 2025. This initiative was part of the 100-day TB Screening Program under the National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP).

The camp saw enthusiastic participation from 132 individuals, underscoring the increasing public awareness of health and wellness. Attendees benefited from a wide range of diagnostic and preventive health services, which included:

Height (Ht), Blood Pressure (BP), Pulse, and Body Mass Index (BMI) assess-



ments, Random Blood Sugar (RBS) testing, HIV and Syphilis co-testing, Sputum collection for TB diagnosis, and General and systemic physical examinations.

The program's primary focus was to identify and screen high-risk individuals for TB and related health conditions, ensuring early detection and prompt

treatment. Additionally, it aimed to enhance awareness about TB prevention and the critical importance of timely intervention.

The event was supervised by a team of distinguished healthcare professionals, including Dr. M.K. Mandal (ADMO/RPH), Dr. A. Saha (DyCMOH-1 cum DTO), Dr. D. Dafadar (MO/UPHC), Dr.

R. Bhagat (GDMO/RPH), Dr. A. Shamim (GDMO), Dr. S. Bhattacharya (MO-DTC).

They were ably supported by a dedicated group of paramedical staff, whose efficiency and professionalism earned widespread appreciation from the participants.

The initiative is a testament to the Divisional Railway Hospital, Howrah's commitment to contributing to the government's mission of a TB-free India. Participants lauded the health unit for its proactive approach, meticulous execution, and dedication to fostering a healthier society.

As the campaign concluded, the Divisional Railway Hospital, Howrah, reaffirmed its commitment to organizing more such initiatives to provide comprehensive healthcare services and raise public health awareness across the community.

Man allegedly kills wife and child before taking own life

MI News Service, Siliguri: In a heart-wrenching incident that has shaken the peaceful neighborhood of Bowbazar in Uttar Samar Nagar, Shyamol Roy is believed to have tragically taken the lives of his wife, Pinky Roy, and their 5-year-old son, Pintu Roy, before ending his own life. The devastating event has left the local community in deep shock and grief.

Preliminary investigations suggest that mounting financial debt may have pushed Shyamol to commit this horrific act. According to the police, upon receiving distressing information, Bhakti Nagar police quickly arrived at the scene. They recovered the bodies of the family members and immediately sent them for post-mortem examinations to determine the exact cause of death.

The tragedy unfolded when Pinky Roy's father became concerned after being unable to reach his daughter and son-in-law on the phone. In a state of worry, he rushed to their home and was met with an unimaginable sight. He found Shyamol Roy hanging from a ceiling fan, while his daughter Pinky and grandson Pintu lay lifeless on the bed in a pool of blood.

Pinky Roy's father, in his grief, speculated that Shyamol had slit the throats of both his wife and son before taking his own life. The gruesome scene has left the family and local residents devastated, struggling to comprehend the motive behind such a tragic incident.

The Bhakti Nagar police are conducting a thorough investigation into the matter; examine the circumstances leading up to this tragic event. The police suspect that Shyamol's severe debt burden, which had been escalating for some time, may have played a role in his decision to commit this act. Investigators are working to uncover any additional evidence that may provide insight into his state of mind in the days leading up to the tragedy.

As the investigation continues, the community remains in mourning, grappling with the tragic loss of three lives. The police have assured that they are taking all necessary steps to uncover the full sequence of events, and are providing support to the grieving family.

This incident serves as a stark reminder of the devastating impact of financial stress, and the urgent need for awareness and support systems for individuals facing overwhelming debt. The Bhakti Nagar police are committed to bringing clarity to the case and ensuring justice for the victims.

Howrah division organizes full-day sensitizing training programme on disability matters



MI News Service, Kolkata: Howrah Division, Eastern Railway, under the leadership of Divisional Railway Manager Shri Sanjeev Kumar, conducted a Full-Day Sensitizing Training Programme on Disability Matters on 16th January 2025. The session, held at the PBRC Hall, DRM Building, aimed to enhance awareness and sensitivity among staff to-

wards disability-related matters, focusing on applicable rules and regulations.

The training programme emphasized the importance of fostering an inclusive and supportive workplace by addressing key topics such as the legal framework governing disability rights, workplace accommodations, and best practices for accessibility.

Participants were encouraged to engage in discussions and explore practical ways to create a respectful and barrier-free environment within the organization.

The session was attended by all members of the Personnel Branch as per directives and was spearheaded by Assistant Personnel Officer (3), with active support and guidance from Assistant Personnel Officer (2). Their leadership facilitated an interactive and enriching learning experience for the participants.

This initiative underscores Eastern Railway's commitment to promoting diversity, equality, and inclusion. The successful completion of this sensitization programme reflects the organization's dedication to ensuring respect, support, and opportunities for all employees, irrespective of their abilities.

PM Modi approved the 8th central pay commission for central government employees

MI News Service, Kolkata/ New Delhi: A wave of joy is spreading among central government employees. This will benefit more than 45 lakh central government employees, and more than 68 lakh pensioners. Duration of 7th pay commission was from 2016 to 2026, and approval came well before the tenure. Dr M. Raghavaiah, General Secretary (NFIR)/Leader/ Staff Side/ NC(JCM) and Shri Shiva Gopal Mishra, Secretary/ Staff Side/ NC(JCM), GS (AIRF) met Ashwini Vaishaw and thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for approving eighth pay commission 1st Pay Commission May 1946 - May 1947 Chairman: Srinivasa Varadachariar Focused on rationalizing the pay structure after India's independence. Introduced the concept of the "living wage." Minimum salary: Rs 55/month; maximum salary: Rs 2,000/month. Beneficiaries: Around 1.5 million employees. 2nd Pay Commission August 1957 - August 1959

Chairman: Jaganath Das Focused on balancing the economy and living costs. Recommended the minimum wage of Rs 80/month. Introduced the "socialistic pattern of society." Beneficiaries: Approximately 2.5 million employees. 3rd Pay Commission April 1970 - March 1973 Chairman: Raghubir Dayal Recommended minimum pay of Rs 185/month. Emphasized salary parity between public and private sectors. Addressed inequalities in the pay structure. Beneficiaries: About 3 million employees. 4th Pay Commission September 1983 - December 1986 Chairman: P.N. Singhal Recommended a minimum salary of Rs 750/month. Focused on reducing disparities in salaries across ranks. Introduced a performance-linked pay structure. Beneficiaries: Over 3.5 million employees. 5th Pay Commission April 1994 - January 1997 Chairman: Justice S. Ratnavel Pandian

Recommended a minimum pay of Rs 2,550/month. Suggested reducing the number of pay scales. Focused on modernizing government offices. Beneficiaries: Around 4 million employees. 6th Pay Commission October 2006 - March 2008 Chairman: Justice B.N. Srikrishna Introduced Pay Bands and Grade Pay. Minimum salary: Rs 7,000/month; maximum salary: Rs 80,000/month. Emphasized performance-related incentives. Beneficiaries: Nearly 6 million employees. 7th Pay Commission February 2014 - November 2016 Chairman: Justice A.K. Mathur Minimum pay raised to Rs 18,000/month; maximum pay Rs 2,50,000/month Recommended a new pay matrix instead of the grade pay system. Focused on allowances and work-life balance. Beneficiaries: Over 10 million (including pensioners). 8th Pay Commission announced on January 16th 2025

Multi-Disciplinary Safety Seminar in SDAH division

MI News Service, Kolkata: Multi-Disciplinary Safety Seminar in SDAH division A comprehensive Multi-Disciplinary Safety Seminar was successfully conducted at Rabindra Sabha Kakhya,Sealdah in Sealdah Division. The seminar, organized by Sri Pankaj Yadav, Sr.DOM/Sealdah, was presided by Sri Deepak Nigam, DRM/ Sealdah, and saw the participation of 102 employees (TI & CYM) from various station across the division

The seminar focused on crucial safety aspects such as

1. Emphasizing the importance of adherence to standard operating procedures during shunting operations to prevent accidents.
2. Highlighting the need for proper securing of all railway vehicles to ensure their stability and prevent derailments.
3. Underscoring the critical role of alertness and vigilance among all railway employees during their duty hours.
4. Emphasizing the importance of regular counselling sessions for operational staff to address any concerns, enhance safety awareness, and improve overall performance.
5. Discussing the significance of conducting regular ambush checks and surprise inspections to identify and rectify potential safety hazards.
6. Also focusing on the safe and efficient op-



eration of level crossings, including the proper functioning of sliding barriers and discuss the importance of maintaining a clear line set against the block line to prevent accidents and ensure smooth train operations.

The seminar effectively conveyed the critical importance of safety, competence, and vigilance at all levels within the railway system. All attendees actively participated in the discussions, emphasizing the need for proactive reporting of safety concerns and strict adherence to operational rules.

DRM/Sealdah Sri Deepak Nigam, in his address, commended the efforts of the Sr.DOM/ Sealdah and all participants for their active involvement in the seminar. He reiterated the commitment of the division to prioritize safety and ensure the well-being of all employees. The seminar served as a valuable platform for enhancing safety awareness and promoting a culture of safety within the Sealdah Division.

Indian Railways Expands Infrastructure with Bargarh Road-Nawapara Road New Railway Line Project, Key Land Acquisition Milestone Reached

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: In a significant development towards enhancing regional connectivity and supporting economic growth, the Indian Railways has made substantial progress in the construction of the 138.32 km new railway line connecting Bargarh Road to Nawapara Road. This Special Railway Project is expected to transform the transportation landscape in Odisha by offering a new, shorter, and more efficient route for both passenger and freight services.

Project Sanctioned and Financial Overview

On September 10, 2024, the Railway Board approved the Bargarh Road-Nawapara Road line with a total cost of ₹2,621.92 crore. The financial breakdown of the

project is: Civil Engineering: ₹2,107.30 crore; Electrical Engineering: ₹305.55 crore; Signal & Telecom Engineering: ₹209.07 crore.

The Government of Odisha has played a pivotal role in supporting this ambitious project, offering both land free of cost and a grant of ₹300 crore to ensure its smooth execution.

Land Acquisition Progress

A crucial component of the project is the acquisition of 924.64 hectares of land, with an estimated cost of ₹364 crore. This land includes 752.524 hectares of private land, 123.233 hectares of government land and 48.913 hectares of forest land.

In line with the commitment to expedite the process, the competent authorities for land acquisition in both Bargarh and Nawapara districts are appointed.

The land acquisition for the first block section, which spans between Bargarh and Samsara in the Bargarh Tehsil and involves five villages, is progressing rapidly. On October 25, 2024, the railway submitted the land acquisition proposal for the first block section, and district officials completed verification of the land schedule for the five villages by December 28, 2024.

The 20 A notification under the Railway Amendment Act is expected to be published soon, facilitating the timely acquisition of land for this key section.

Expedited Land Acquisition and Tender Process

In an effort to fast-track the process, a tender was floated to assist the Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) in the acquisition process, with bids opened on December 26, 2024. These efforts reflect the Indian Railways' commitment to ensuring that land acquisition proceeds without delays, so the project can continue its momentum towards completion.

Key Features of the Project

This new rail line will be an electrified broad gauge (BG) main line, offering a more efficient alternative route for traffic that currently passes through the congested Jharsuguda-Bilaspur-Raipur corridor. Key benefits of the project include:

- Reduction in travel distance: The new route will cut travel by 53 km compared to the Sambalpur-Jharsuguda-Raipur route and by 87 km compared to the Sambalpur-Tilagarh-Raipur route, improving transit times for both passengers and freight.
- Improved freight handling capacity: The new line will enhance freight capacity between Odisha and Chhattisgarh, allowing the movement of goods more efficiently. This is particularly beneficial for industries like steel plants, coal transportation, and iron ore shipping to key locations like Raipur.

The new line will support the transportation of finished steel from steel plants, coal from Angul, and iron ore from Daitary and Gandamardhan, significantly reducing logistics costs and improving trade efficiency.

Public Aspiration and Regional Development

The new railway line is poised to greatly impact the public aspirations of the people in the remote and underserved areas along the route. For years, these regions have faced challenges with limited access to essential services, transportation, and economic opportunities. The establishment of this line is expected to address many of these issues by providing better connectivity to major cities, improving access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, and empowering local communities. The enhanced rail infrastructure will foster social and economic inclusion,

enabling people from rural and remote villages to actively participate in the region's growth, while opening up avenues for tourism and business development.

Boosting Regional Development and Connectivity

With the active support of the Odisha Government and local authorities, this project will not only improve passenger transportation but also serve as a critical enabler for regional economic growth. The line will benefit a wide range of industries, including steel, cement, food grains, and coal, and improve access to important industrial hubs such as JSW Steel in Lapanga, Vedanta Aluminium Ltd. in Jharsuguda, and ACC Bargarh Cement Works in Bargarh.

The Bargarh Road to Nawapara Road railway line is a vital infrastructure project that will reshape transportation in the region, providing a direct link to industrial centers and reducing congestion on existing rail routes. With successful land acquisition and continued collaboration with the state government, the Indian Railways remains committed to ensuring the project's timely completion for the benefit of the people of Odisha and beyond.

IMD issues Orange alert till January 17 for Prayagraj, possibility of rain, fog in Kumbh Mela

MI News Service, New Delhi: India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an Orange alert for Prayagraj for today and tomorrow where the Kumbh Mela is currently going on. IMD Scientist Soma Sen Roy said that there is a possibility of rain and fog conditions in the Kumbh Mela area on Thursday and Friday.

Soma Sen Roy said, "There is a possibility of rain and fog

conditions today in south-east UP, where the Kumbh Mela is currently going on. Even if the fog is not too dense, its impact will be high, and because of this, we have issued an Orange alert for today and tomorrow in this area. Rain is expected to increase from 18 January, especially in the hill states. A third WD is expected on the 21-22 January. So there is a possibility of rain over planes."

She further said, "Today western disturbance is over Pakistan and induced cyclonic circulation is over South Haryana. Many places in north India experienced rainfall yesterday. This WD is moving eastwards, due to which there's a possibility of thunderstorm activity in hilly areas and west UP, and snowfall in hill states today. From 18-19 January, another WD is expected to occur."

She further said that generally before western disturbance the temperature rises and after it the temperature reduces.

She said, "There is a possibility that temperatures will drop by 2-3° C in the next 2 to 3 days and fog conditions could increase in northwest India, causing dense fog in Punjab, Haryana, north UP, and Delhi on 17-18 January. Temperatures will fall in Delhi from tomorrow morning onwards and fog will prevail moderate to dense on 17 and 18."

She said that IMD has issued a Yellow alert of dense fog in Punjab, Haryana and west UP for today and tomorrow. "Heavy rainfall of 13 centimetres was recorded in Tirunelveli yesterday. Heavy rainfall is expected in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands today. By 18 January, there is a possibility of moderate to heavy rainfall in Tamil Nadu. We have issued a Yellow alert for this," she further added.

Earlier IMD predicted that the Prayagraj region, where the Maha Kumbh is taking place, to have a partly cloudy sky with light rain and dense to very dense fog on Thursday, January 16.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of the President of India, DRM(Engg)/Adra, South Eastern Railway, Adra invites 01 (One) nos. e-tenders for RCC Tank Works as mentioned hereunder: No.: **E-DRM-Engg-ADRA-05-25, Dated : 15.01.2025.**

Description of Works : Replacement of old dilapidated and over aged RCC Tank by RCC over head tank at Purulia in Adra Division of S.E. Railway; **Tender Value :** ₹2,63,34,248.72; The closing date and time of e-tenders is on 14.02.2025 at 15.00 hrs. Details of above e-tenders may please be seen at website www.ireps.gov.in (PR-1019)

EASTERN RAILWAY

Bid No.: GEM/2025/B/5822205, Dated: 15.01.2025. Chief Medical Superintendent, Eastern Railway, Kanchrapara, Pin-743145, 24-North Parganas, West Bengal invites open GeM service tender for **Mechanized Cleaning at Workshop Railway Hospital, Kanchrapara. EMD: ₹ 1,10,744. ePBG: 2%** of P.O. value. **Estimated value of tender: ₹ 55,37,235.65. Date and time of opening: 25.01.2025 (Saturday)** at 18.30 hrs. **Period of completion:** One (01) year. The GeM service Bid documents will be available at GeM site (Government e-Marketplace) i.e. GeM Portal <https://gem.gov.in> and rates are to be quoted online and submitted online through GeM portal i.e. <https://gem.gov.in>. (MED-13/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at website: www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender No.: W7_Ballast_PKR_2025, dated: 14.01.2025. General Manager/Engineering, Eastern Railway, 17, Netaji Subhas Road, Fairlie Place, Kolkata-700001 invites open E-Tender in two packet system for the following work. **Name of the work:** Supplying, leading and loading of 3,86,750 Cum machine crushed hard stone track ballast into BOBYN type wagons F.O.R. Pakur Quarry for Howrah, Sealdah, Malda and Asansol Divisions of Eastern Railway. **Advertised Value: ₹ 73,23,22,727.50. Earnest Money: ₹ 38,11,600. Tender Document Cost: ₹ 0. Tender Closing Date and time : 12.02.2025 at 15.30 hrs. Bidding Start Date : 29.01.2025. Date and time of uploading tender: 14.01.2025 at 10.48 hrs. Pre-Bid Conference Date, time: 22.01.2025, 15.30 hrs. Validity of Offer : 90 Days. Period of Completion: 24 months. Website particulars from where tender paper can be downloaded: www.ireps.gov.in Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. (MISC-310/2024-25)**

Tender Notices are also available at website: www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

Metro Railway, Kolkata

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/M/Blue Line, Metro Railway, Kolkata for and on behalf of the President of India invites tender for the following work: **Name of Work:** Design, Supply, Installation, testing & Commissioning of Air Conditioning System in new floors (11th to 14th) along with all-inclusive maintenance after expiry of warranty period at Metro Railway Bhawan in Metro Railway Kolkata. **Advertised Value:** ₹3,28,79,720.60/- only. **Date and Time of Closing:** 12.02.2025 at 15:00 Hrs. Notice Board Address : Office of the Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, Metro Railway, 33/1, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700071. The Tender Document and other details can be obtained from the website <https://www.ireps.gov.in>

Tender No.: ELM137_VRFAC_MB_D50-12-24

Follow us at: @metrorailway @metrorailkolkata

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/CL/W/HWH/E-Procurement/25/02 Dated: 10. 01.2025. PCMM/CL/W/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the following: The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website www.ireps.gov.in for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Quantity ; Due On; Tender Cost** are as follows: **[003]; 14243005; (1)** Small Fabricated Items (SS)-2 Category- Structural For WAG-9HC Loco For CLW/CSRI As Per Drg. No. CLW/ES/3/0119/G & CLW/ES/3/0152/A Specn; CLW/ES/3/0119/G & CLW/ES/3/0152/A (As per Scope of supply attached). **(2)** Small Fabricated Items (SS)-2 For WAG-9HC Loco / Category-Structural For CLW/CSRI As Per Drg. No. CLW/ES/3/0119/G & CLW/ES/3/0152/A Specn; CLW/ES/3/0152/A (As per scope of supply attached) [Quantity Tolerance (+/-):5% age, Item Category : Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; **As Per Tender/Document;** 28/01/2025^{₹ 0.00} **[005]; 25245159A;** Rotary Gelation Plant, Qty. 08 nos., as per specification no. MT/2354 dated 27.07.2024. HSN Code 8514; **As Per Tender/Document;** 07/02/2025; **₹ 0.00, [006]; 30242545;** Dextrine yellow as per CLW's Specification: SF/SPEC/ DEXTRINE REV -3; **As Per Tender/Document;** 25/01/2025; **₹ 0.00, [007]; 312427239;** Fire Detection Equipments Along With Connector For CLW/CSRI As Per Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0057; **As Per Tender/Document;** 17/02/2025; **₹ 0.00, [008]; 31242667B;** (1) Shrink Down Sleeve DTMS 3/16 as per Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0154/S, (2) Plate TMS-CM 10-50 YEL as per Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0154/S; **As Per Tender/Document;** 11/02/2025; **₹ 0.00, [009]; 31242539A;** Key Multiplier Set for Panel to CLW Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0049/F; **As Per Tender/Document;** 05/02/2025; **₹ 0.00, [010]; 31242711;** Set Of Copper Sleeve For WAG - 9 As Per Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0205/F (Set details as per tender book attached in supply of the following: **[004]; 14242709;** Set of Other Hoses For WAG-9HC Locomotive As Per CLW

PR5/773) PCMM/CL/W/HOWRAH
Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

Rahul Gandhi in complete grip of Urban Naxals: BJP's Ravi Shankar Prasad on 'Indian state' remark

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bharatiya Janata Party MP Ravi Shankar Prasad on Thursday hit out at Lok Sabha LoP and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi over his remark on "fighting the Indian State" and alleged that he is in complete grip of the "Urban Naxal thinking process" and needs to change his "tutor".

Addressing a press conference in Delhi, BJP MP and spokesperson, Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the Indian state represents the "constitutional identity" of the country as a "free country".

"Rahul Gandhi yesterday said that our fight is against the Indian state. I reiterate, he needs to change his tutor... He is the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha. Do you (Rahul Gandhi) understand the meaning of the Indian state? You are saying to fight with that...The Indian state represents the constitutional identity of India as a free country," the BJP MP said.

"When you say something, do you understand that? When will you start understanding?" he questioned the Congress leader.

Further sharpening his attack on Rahul Gandhi's criticism of Sangh (RSS), Prasad said that actually

RSS has done great work for society.

"He criticises the Sangh (RSS) a lot; your ancestors used to do the same. You kept on criticising, but see where RSS has reached. Look where the BJP is. Because Sangh is a nationalist organisation. It had done great works for the society," he said.

"Rahul Gandhi is in the complete grip of Urban Naxals thinking process," the BJP leader added.

Notably, while inaugurating the party's new headquarters, 'Indira Bhawan,' on Wednesday, Rahul Gandhi alleged that the Congress and other opposition parties

were not just fighting the BJP but "the Indian state itself."

"Our ideology, like the RSS ideology, is thousands of years old, and it has been fighting the RSS ideology for thousands of years. Do not think that we are fighting a fair fight. There is no fairness in this. If you believe that we are fighting a political organisation called the BJP or RSS, you have not understood what is going on. The BJP and the RSS have captured every single institution of our country. We are now fighting the BJP, the RSS, and the Indian state itself," the Lok Sabha LoP said.

ties were not just fighting the BJP but "the Indian state itself."

"Our ideology, like the RSS ideology, is thousands of years old, and it has been fighting the RSS ideology for thousands of years. Do not think that we are fighting a fair fight. There is no fairness in this. If you believe that we are fighting a political organisation called the BJP or RSS, you have not understood what is going on. The BJP and the RSS have captured every single institution of our country. We are now fighting the BJP, the RSS, and the Indian state itself," the Lok Sabha LoP said.

Maha Kumbh: Over 2.5 million devotees take holy dip at Triveni Sangam on fourth day

MI News Service, Prayagraj: More than 2.5 million devotees took part in the holy dip at Triveni Sangam, a sacred confluence of Rivers Ganga, Yamuna and 'mystical' Saraswati on Thursday evening, the fourth day of Maha Kumbh.

According to the data released, by 5 pm on Thursday, over 2.5 million people visited the Maha Kumbh at Prayagraj and took a holy dip at the Sangam, with more than 1 million Kalkpavis and 1.5 million additional pilgrims.

Over 60 million devotees have participated in the world's biggest religious congregation; over 35 million on the occasion of Makar Sankranti on January 14.

Given the massive influx of pilgrims, the Prayagraj administration established an AI-based computerised

lost and found centre.

Sharing details, Additional Mela Adhikari Vivek Chaturvedi told ANI, "An AI-based lost and found centre has been set up. Arrangements are made there for accommodation, clothes and food for the people who are lost. There has not been a single case in which we have not been able to reunite children or lost people with their relatives. We have received a good response from the computerised lost and found centre. If there is a case in which we have not been able to reunite a person with his relatives, then the administration takes them to their home at its own expense."

On Wednesday, a 21-member delegation from 10 countries arrived at Arai Tent City in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj to take a holy dip at Triveni

Sangam.

The delegation, invited by the External Publicity and Public Diplomacy Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, will take a sacred dip at Triveni Sangam on Thursday.

Speaking to ANI, Denesh Persaud from Guyana, expressed his joy and fulfilment after taking a holy dip in the River Ganges.

"It's a dream come true. I always wanted to come here and take a holy dip in the River Ganges. I have fulfilled that wish," Persaud said.

Sally El Azab from United Arab Emirates, is among the many international pilgrims who have travelled to Prayagraj, to experience the Kumbh Mela, the largest religious gathering in the world.

The visiting group included representatives

from Fiji, Finland, Guyana, Malaysia, Mauritius, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This showcases the global interest in this spiritual event.

The statement noted that the Mahakumbh, organised under the leadership of the Yogi government, has drawn global attention this year. Their accommodations were arranged at the Tent City in Arai, an initiative by the Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation.

Maha Kumbh, which began on January 13, will continue until February 26. The next key bathing dates include January 29 (Mauni Amavasya - Second Shahi Snan), February 3 (Basant Panchami - Third Shahi Snan), February 12 (Maghi Purnima), and February 26 (Maha Shivaratri).

Union Cabinet approves establishment of third launch pad worth Rs 3984.86 crore for ISRO at Sriharikota

MI News Service, New Delhi : The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Thursday approved the establishment of the third launch pad (TLP) at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, a release said.

The Third Launch Pad project envisages the establishment of the launch infrastructure at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, for the Next Generation Launch Vehicles of ISRO and also to support the second launch pad at Sriharikota as a standby launch pad. This will also enhance the launch capacity for future Indian human spaceflight missions.

TLP Project, which is of national importance, is designed to have a configuration that is as universal and adaptable as possible that can support not only NGLV but also the LVM 3 vehicles with a semi-cryogenic stage as well as scaled-up configurations of NGLV.

As per the release, it will

be realised with maximum industry participation, fully utilising ISRO's experience in establishing the earlier launch pads and maximally sharing the existing launch complex facilities.

TLP is targeted to be established within a duration of 48 months or 4 years. The total fund requirement is Rs 3984.86 crore and includes the establishment of the launch pad and the associated facilities.

The project will boost the Indian space ecosystem by enabling higher launch frequencies and the national capacity to undertake human spaceflight & space exploration missions, a release said.

As of today, Indian Space Transportation Systems are completely reliant on two launch pads: the First Launch Pad (FLP) and the Second Launch Pad (SLP).

FLP was realised 30 years ago for PSLV and continues to provide launch support for PSLV and SSLV. SLP was established primarily for GSLV and LVM3 and also functions

as a standby for PSLV. SLP has been operational for almost 20 years and has enhanced the launch capacity towards enabling some commercial missions of PSLV and LVM3 along with the national missions, including the Chandrayaan-3 mission.

SLP is also getting ready to launch the human-rated LVM3 for the Gaganyaan missions.

The expanded vision of the Indian Space Programme during the Amrit Kaal, including the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) by 2035 and an Indian-crewed lunar landing by 2040, requires a new generation of heavier launch vehicles with new propulsion systems, which cannot be met by the existing launch pads.

The expeditious establishment of a third launch pad to cater to a heavier class of next-generation launch vehicles and as a standby for SLP is highly essential so as to meet the evolving space transportation requirements for another 25-30 years, a release said.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal- 700091
CIN No: L65190G13994PC021012, 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.

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 8 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 (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Borrower M/S Bhabani Service Station & Co-borrowers Gautam Paul (Partner) And Chaitali Paul (Partner) & (guarantors) Baddhadev Paul and Bhobani Paul & (mortgagor) Bhobani Paul Represented By Partners Gautam Paul & Chaitali Paul 42 Benaras Road Belgachia, P.S Bantra West Bengal Howrah- 711101/ 160605500713	Land Along With A Commercial Unit Lying And Situated At East Side of Amalgamated Property With A Petrol Pump Running By Customer And Being Holding/premises No 42, Benaras Road, Bantra, Ward No 9, Within The Limits of Howrah Municipal Corporation At Belgachia More, P.S. Bantra, Howrah 711106 (Admeasuring an area of Land Measuring 2 Cottahs, 10 Chittacks And 22 Sq Ft Along With Commercial Unit Measuring 435 Sq Ft) / Date of Symbolic: 13/01/2025	03/09/2024 Rs. 9,39,044.77/-	Howrah
2.	Borrower S. D. Enterprise & (Guarantors) Sankar Das And Nupur Das & (Mortgagor) Sankar Das/ Represented By Proprietor Sankar Das 860, Saradinu Palit Road Kundlughat, Chandan Nagar West Bengal Hooghly- 712136/ 040505500575	R.S. Dag No 219, Hal L.R. Dag No. 273, R.s. Khatian No 134, Hal L.R. Khatian No. 273/1, Sheet No 5, Mouza Chandan Nagar, J.L. No. 1, Holding No. 860 (Old), 820 (New), Ward No 4, Mohalla Palit Road, Chandan Nagar Municipal Corporation, Mahakuma, Sahar, Thana & A.D.S.R.O. Chandan Nagar, District Hooghly, West Bengal (Admeasuring an area of 0.017 Acre Bastu Land Together With Two Storied House Measuring 1283 Sq Ft/ Date of Symbolic: 14/01/2025	29/10/2024 Rs. 24,70,711/-	Hooghly
3.	Borrower Surya Enterprise & Co-borrower Paramita Manna & (Guarantor and Mortgagor) Biswajit Manna/ Represented By Proprietor Paramita Manna Ground Floor, 0,0.39, Manikpatala, 1st Byleone, Balitkuri Max Life Insurance West Bengal Howrah- 711113/ 255405001619	R.S. & L.R. Dag No. 1542, Hal L.R. Khatian No. 5016, Sabek J.L. No. 1, Hal J.L. No. 101, Mouza Balitkuri, Holding No. 39, Manikpatala 1st Byleane, Ward No. 49, Howrah Municipal Corporation, Sabek Thana Jagacha, Hal Thana Dasnagar, District Sub Registry office Howrah, Additional District Sub Registry office Dumjuri, District Howrah (admeasuring an area of 2 Cottah 3 Chittack 22 Sq Ft Bastu Land Together With Two Storied Residence House (G+1) Where Ground Floor Is 1144 Sq Ft & 1st Floor Is 1280 Sq Ft/ Date of Symbolic: 14/01/2025	16/09/2024 Rs. 52,51,660/-	Howrah

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(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 17, 2025
Place: Howrah & Hooghly

Sincerely Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Miracle Surgery: Reimplantation Restores Finger of 4-Year-Old Child

Finger reimplantation is a microsurgical marvel, a testament to the intricate skills of plastic surgeons. When a child, especially a young boy, suffers a finger amputation, the prospect of reattachment can offer hope for regaining function and preserving hand appearance. However, this delicate procedure presents unique challenges.

In a remarkable display of modern medical expertise, a 4-year-old child recently underwent successful finger reimplantation surgery at Peerless Hospital following a traumatic accident. The intricate procedure, carried out by Dr. Akhilesh Agarwal, plastic surgeon. It has given the young patient a new lease on life and highlights the extraordinary possibilities of modern technology.

A 4year old kid suffered a severe injury while playing with a kitchen knife. The accident resulted in the amputation of his right index finger. Thanks to the quick actions of those his parents, the severed finger was immediately retrieved, cleaned, and preserved in a sterile, cool environment-a critical step that increased the chances of successful

reattachment. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was rushed into emergency surgery. The procedure, which lasted over several hours, involved meticulous repair of the finger's structures, including bones, tendons, blood vessels, and nerves. Using advanced microsurgical techniques, Dr.Agarwal reconnected arteries as small as 1 millimeter in diameter, restoring blood flow to the reattached digit.

Dr. Akhilesh Agarwal, the lead surgeon, described the operation as "a race against time." He explained, "In such cases, every minute counts. The quicker we can restore blood circulation, the higher the chances of survival for the amputated. Time is of the essence in finger replantation. The severed finger must be preserved in a cool, moist environment, such as a plastic bag filled with ice water. Prompt medical attention is crucial to maximize the chances of successful reattachment.

The days following the surgery were critical. The medical team at PICU lead by Dr Saheli Dasgupta, monitored the child closely to ensure proper blood flow



to the reimplanted finger and to prevent complications such as infection or clotting. Fortunately, the recovery has been smooth, with the young patient regaining partial sensation and movement in the finger within weeks of the surgery.

"The determinant for successful reimplant is proper transport of part. First the part has to be washed and dried. Place it in a plastic bag or container. Then put it on ice" added Dr.Agarwal of Peerless Hospital

This groundbreaking success is a testament to advancements in medical technology and the dedication of healthcare professionals. Additionally, the coordinated efforts of critical care intensivist , surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and physical therapists ensured the best possible outcome.

While the child faces months of physical therapy to fully regain function, the prognosis is optimistic. Children have a remarkable ability to heal and adapt, and Dr.Agarwal believes that the young patient will regain most of the finger's functionality over time. The time in which the parts can be reimplanted

varies depending on level of amputation. Hand and fingers can be reimplanted upto 20-24 hrs. Similarly foot has the same time frame.

The family expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the medical team, saying, "We are forever thankful for the doctors and nurses of Peerless Hospital who worked tirelessly to save our child's finger. Their compassion and skill have made all the difference."

The successful reimplantation of a 4-year-old's finger is a beacon of hope and a reminder of the incredible capabilities of modern medicine. As the child embarks on the road to recovery, their story serves as an inspiration and a testament to the power of human resilience and innovation. Finger replantation is a complex and challenging procedure, but it offers a remarkable opportunity for children to regain hand function and appearance. The expertise of plastic surgeons, coupled with advanced microsurgical techniques and dedicated Paediatric Critical Care and rehabilitation, provides hope for a positive outcome in these delicate cases.

Unmatched safety: Škoda Kylaq secures a 5-star rating in Bharat NCAP crash test

Patna : Škoda Auto India's Kylaq, its first sub-4m SUV, has achieved the prestigious 5-star safety rating in the Bharat NCAP (New Car Assessment Programme). This makes the Kylaq the first Škoda vehicle to participate in Bharat NCAP testing, continuing the brand's legacy of safety excellence established by the Kushaq and Slavia. Both Škoda Auto India's 2.0 cars have achieved 5-star safety ratings in their respective Global NCAP crash tests for both Adult and Child Occupant protection.

Petr Janeba, Brand Director, Škoda Auto India said, "Safety is intrinsic to the Škoda DNA and since 2008, every Škoda car has been crash-tested globally, and in India, with a 5-star safety rating. Škoda Auto has been leading the campaign on car safety in India, with a fleet of 5-star

variants. Built on the robust MQB-A0-IN platform, the Kylaq combines advanced engineering and innovative features tailored to Indian roads and driving conditions. With six airbags, Electronic Stability Control, Roll Over Protection, Hill Hold Control, Multi-Collision Braking, and XDS+ included as standard from the base variant, the Kylaq sets a benchmark for safety. The hot-stamped steel construction and redesigned crash management system further enhance cabin protection and crash resilience, reinforcing its safety-first approach.

Key Highlights:

- * The Kylaq secured 30.88 points in Adult Occupant Protection out of 32.00 (97%) and 45.00 points in Child Occupant Protection out of 49.00 (92%), making it the best performing vehicle in the ICE



sub-4-metre compact SUV segment

- * In the frontal offset barrier test for adult occupant protection, the Kylaq scored 15.035 points out of 16 (94%), with both the occupant compartment and footwell

rated as stable

- * In the side-moving deformable barrier test for adult occupant protection, the Kylaq achieved 15.840 points out of 16 (99%)
- * For child occupant protection, the Kylaq earned the maximum possible score of 16 points (100%) in the frontal offset barrier test and full 8 points (100%) in the side-moving deformable barrier test for 1.5 and 3-year-old children
- * The Kylaq also secured maximum points in the recommended child seat assessment, and an impressive 9 points out of 13 (69%) in the vehicle-based assessment

Research reveals artery calcification more common in night owls



Stockholm [Sweden] : According to a study from the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, artery calcification is nearly twice as common in night owls as it is in early birds. Circadian function appears to be crucial in the early stages of cardiovascular disease.

Atherosclerosis involves fatty deposits accumulating on the inside of the arteries, making it harder for blood to pass through. The disease develops over a very long period of time and is not noticed until it leads to blood clots causing angina, heart attack, or stroke. Previous research has shown that people with late-night habits have an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, but this is the first study to show how circadian rhythms specifically affect calcification of the arteries.

Coronary artery calcification

The study, which has been published in the journal Sleep Medicine, involved 771 men and women aged between 50 and 64, all of whom are part of the larger population study SCAPIS. The degree of artery calcification in the heart's coronary arteries was examined using computer tomog-

raphy. Participants themselves indicated their so called chronotype on a five-point scale: extreme morning type, moderate morning type, intermediate type, moderate evening type, or extreme evening type. Of the 771 participants, 144 identified as extreme morning types, and 128 as extreme evening types. Among the group who were most alert in the morning, 22.2% had pronounced artery calcification - the lowest proportion of all five chronotypes. The extreme evening type group had the highest prevalence of severe coronary artery calcification, at 40.6%.

The first author of the study is Mio Kobayashi Frisk, a doctoral student at Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg: "Our results indicate that extreme evening chronotype may be linked not only to poorer cardiovascular health in general, but also more specifically to calcification in the coronary arteries calcification and atherosclerosis," Mio Kobayashi Frisk says.

Preventive treatment

The statistical analysis considered a range of other factors that

can affect the risk of atherosclerosis, including blood pressure, blood lipids, weight, physical activity, stress level, sleep, and smoking.

The last author of the study is Ding Zou, a researcher at Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg: "As well as the previously known factors, the individual circadian rhythm also appears to be an important risk factor for atherosclerosis. We interpret our results as indicating that circadian rhythms are more significant early in the disease process. It should therefore particularly be considered in the preventive treatment of cardiovascular diseases", says Ding Zou.

Self-reported chronotype

Those who had experienced a heart attack were excluded from the study, meaning that the study participants were healthier than the general population. Another weakness identified by the researchers is that participants themselves provided their chronotype.

Each chronotype can be said to have an average time when half of the night's sleep has passed. In a previous study on the same population, though not necessarily the same individuals, this time occurred at 02:55 AM for the extreme morning type group and at 04:25 AM for the extreme evening type group. With the remaining chronotype groups' mid-sleep times were somewhere in between these extremes.

SCAPIS stands for Swedish CardioPulmonary bioImage Study. It is a research project within the field of cardiac, vascular, and pulmonary disease. As part of the project, 30,000 randomly selected Swedes aged 50-64 have undergone extensive health examinations: blood sampling, functional tests, and radiological advanced imaging of organs and blood vessels.

Discovery of brain cells raises hopes for fertility treatments



Washington DC [US] : Researchers from Nagoya University's Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences and Japan's National Institute of Physiological Sciences have demonstrated how a specific type of neuron in the brain influences the release of hormones that control ovarian function in females, such as follicular development and ovulation. These discoveries, published in the journal Scientific Reports, could help researchers better understand and treat reproductive diseases in both animals and humans.

Kisspeptin neurons in the brain regulate the release of hypothalamic gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) and pituitary follicle-stimulating hormone/uteinizing hormone (LH). This process is important for reproduction, as pituitary hormones stimulate the ovaries to perform their reproductive functions. Examples include follicular development and ovulation in all mammals, including humans.

There are two main areas of the brain involved in the process: the arcuate nucleus (ARC), in which kisspeptin neurons maintain the regular rhythmic (pulsatile) secretion of GnRH/LH that maintains normal follicular development and sex steroid production; and the anteroventral periventricular nucleus (AVPV), in which kisspeptin neurons trigger a surge of GnRH/LH that leads to ovulation.

The researchers focused on the fact that kisspeptin neurons in the ARC produce and respond to dynorphin, an inhibitory substance. "Kisspeptin neurons in the ARC express both dynorphin and its receptor, whereas those in the AVPV express the receptor only, suggesting a particular role of such kisspeptin neurons in fertilization," Mayuko Nagae, a postdoctoral fellow, and Yoshihisa Uenoyama, an associate professor at Nagoya University in Japan and corresponding author of the paper, explained in a joint statement. "However, the exact role of dynorphin and its receptor in the regulation of kisspeptin neurons was not clearly understood."

To investigate this, the researchers genetically modified female rats to delete Kiss1, a gene that codes for kisspeptin, only in neurons that expressed the dynorphin receptor. They found that the genetically modified rats with deleted Kiss1 in dynorphin receptor-expressing cells had only 3% of kisspeptin neurons in the ARC and 50% in the AVPV. The rats were still fertile, but they had a longer estrous cycle, lower ovarian weight, and fewer pups than normal rats.

The results indicate that kisspeptin neurons with dynorphin receptors are important for normal female rat reproduction, as they allow proper hormone secretion and ovulation. "This is the first report to show that kisspeptin neurons receiving direct input of dynorphin are needed to fully generate the GnRH/LH pulse and surge in female rats," says Professor Hiroko Tsukamura from Nagoya University, the principal investigator of the research group and another corresponding author of the paper.

Professor Tsukamura is excited about the prospect of more studies to understand the molecular mechanism that controls kisspeptin neuronal activity. She says, "Our findings can help our understanding of the central mechanism underlying reproduction and have applications in the treatment of ovarian disorders in livestock and infertility in humans."

Scientists unveil comprehensive cell map of mammalian brain

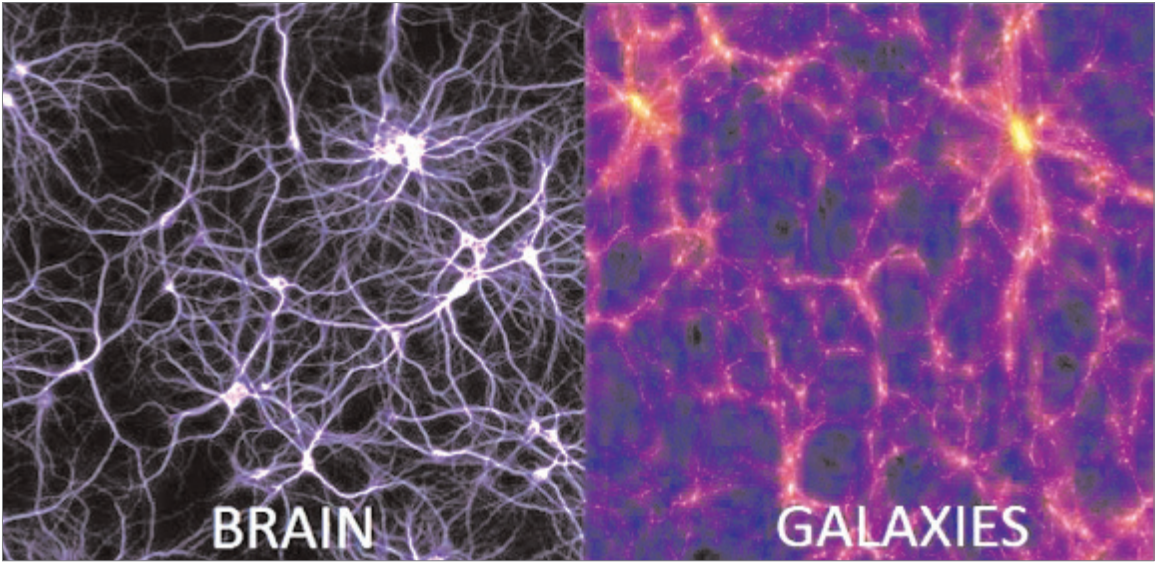
Washington DC [US] : An international team of researchers has constructed a full-cell atlas of an entire mammalian brain for the first time.

This atlas serves as a map of the mouse brain, describing the kind, location, and chemical information of over 32 million cells as well as information on cell connectivity.

The mouse is the most often used vertebrate experimental model in neuroscience research, and its cellular map paves the door for a better understanding of the human brain - probably the world's most powerful computer. The cell atlas also provides the groundwork for a new generation of precision treatments for those suffering from mental and neurological illnesses of the brain.

The findings were published in Nature.

"The mouse atlas has brought the intricate network of mammalian brain cells into unprecedented focus, giving researchers the details needed to understand human brain function and diseases," said Joshua A. Gordon, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the National Institute of Mental Health, part of the National Institutes of Health. The cell atlas describes the types of cells in each region of the mouse brain and their organization within those regions. In addition to this structural



information, the cell atlas provides an incredibly detailed catalog of the cell's transcriptome -- the complete set of gene readouts in a cell, which contains instructions for making proteins and other cellular products. The transcriptomic information included in the atlas is hierarchically organized, detailing cell classes, subclasses, and thousands of individual cell clusters within the brain. The atlas also char-

acterizes the cell epigenome -- chemical modifications to a cell's DNA and chromosomes that alter the way the cell's genetic information is expressed -- detailing thousands of epigenomic cell types and millions of candidate genetic regulation elements for different brain cell types. Together, the structural, transcriptomic, and epigenetic information included in this atlas provide an unprecedented map

of cellular organization and diversity across the mouse brain. The atlas also provides an accounting of the neurotransmitters and neuropeptides used by different cells and the relationship among cell types within the brain. This information can be used as a detailed blueprint for how chemical signals are initiated and transmitted in different parts of the brain. Those electrical sig-

nals are the basis for how brain circuits operate and how the brain functions overall. "This product is a testament to the power of this unprecedented, cross-cutting collaboration and paves our path for more precision brain treatments," said John Ngai, PhD, Director of the NIH BRAIN Initiative." Of the 10 studies included in this collection, seven are funded through the NIH BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN), and two are funded through the larger NIH BRAIN Initiative. The core aim of the BICCN, a groundbreaking, cross-collaborative effort to understand the brain's cellular makeup, is to develop a comprehensive inventory of the cells in the brain -- where they are, how they develop, how they work together, and how they regulate their activity -- to better understand how brain disorders develop, progress, and are best treated. "By leveraging the unique nature of its multi-disciplinary and international collaboration, the BICCN was able to accomplish what no other team of scientists has been able to before," said Dr. Ngai.

"Now we are ready to take the next big step -- completing the cell maps of the and the nonhuman primate brain."

Sports at Ghutiari Senior Madrasah



Nurul Islam Khan

The Annual Sports Festival was celebrated for two days at Ghutiari Sharif Makhailola Senior Madrasah.

Students participated in various competitions like 400 meter race, high jump, long jump, biscuit race, spoon shooting, musical chair, as you like.

The first, second and third place winners were awarded. Madrasah Superintendent Maulana Yusuf,

Staff Council President Abdul Wahid, Tarafdar Nazir Hossain Dhali, Ramiz Raja Dipankar, Sir Sukumar Mondal, Abdul Wajid Biswas, Lutfar Rahman Azmat Ara, Ayesha Madam Madhavi Farida Khatun,

Maulana Anwar Hossain Qasemi and other teachers were present. In addition, Managing Committee President Amirul Laskar, Secretary Jahangir Laskar and prominent people of the area were present.

The crowd of guardians on the playground was noticeable. All the students participated in the game with a cheerful heart.

UN agencies welcome Gaza ceasefire amid frustration in aid delivery

MI News Service, United Nations: UN relief agencies and humanitarianians, led by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the Gaza ceasefire accord reached between Israel and Hamas, and called for a massive scaling up of humanitarian operations.

Guterres said the world body's priority must be to ease suffering caused by the conflict once the ceasefire takes effect, scheduled for Sunday, calling for rapid, unhindered, and safe humanitarian relief for all needy civilians, Xinhua news agency reported.

"It is imperative that this ceasefire removes the significant security and political obstacles to delivering aid across Gaza so that we can support a major increase in urgent lifesaving humanitarian support. The

humanitarian situation is at catastrophic levels," he said.

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Tom Fletcher, the UN relief chief, said in a statement that the ceasefire agreement offers much-needed hope to millions of people whose lives have been devastated by the conflict.

Anticipating the accord, he said that humanitarian agencies have been mobilising supplies outside Gaza to scale up aid delivery across the strip.

"We will do our utmost to respond with the ambition, creativity, and urgency this moment demands, despite the significant security and political challenges to our work," Fletcher said. "To help us save lives, we urge all parties to adhere fully to international humanitarian

law."

He said that means protecting civilians and civilian infrastructure, allowing aid workers safe, unfettered access to people in need, whoever and wherever they are, and removing all obstacles to the entry of essential aid.

Fletcher said it will be critical for the Israelis to enable entry of commercial supplies in addition to admitting to Gaza UN humanitarianians and their partners.

Catherine Russell, executive director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), welcomed the ceasefire announcement long overdue for the children and families of Gaza who have endured more than a year of bombardment and deprivation and for the hostages in Gaza and their families in Israel.

Not correct to call Mumbai unsafe: Devendra Fadnavis after Saif Ali Khan attack

MI News Service, Mumbai: Speaking out on the attack on actor Saif Ali Khan after his government faced flak from opposition leaders and some people from the film fraternity, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis - who also holds the Home portfolio - has said what happened was unfortunate, but it would not be correct to say that Mumbai is unsafe.

Speaking to reporters on Thursday afternoon after attending a special screening of the movie 'Emergency', starring Kangana Ranaut, Mr Fadnavis said, "Among all the megacities in the country, Mumbai is the safest. It is true that some incidents take place sometimes and they should be treated with seriousness but to say, based on one incident, that Mumbai is unsafe would not be correct. This tarnishes Mumbai's

image. But the government is working to make Mumbai even safer."

After the early morning burglary attempt at Saif Ali Khan's home in Bandra, during which the actor was stabbed six times but is out of danger, Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) leader and Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi was among the first to hit out at the government, asking, "If celebrities are not safe, who in Mumbai is?"

"What a shame that Mumbai sees another high-profile attempt on life, the attack on Saif Ali Khan yet again raises questions on Mumbai Police and the Home Minister. This is after a series of incidents that show there is a deliberate attempt to undermine Mumbai by targeting big names," she wrote on X.

The MP also brought up the murder of former Ma-

harashtra minister Baba Siddique in October last year and the firing outside actor Salman Khan's home in April. Both of these incidents had also taken place in Bandra, which is one of Mumbai's poshest areas and is home to many of the city's rich and famous.

'In A Shambles'

Expressing relief that Mr Khan is stable, Aaditya Thackeray, who is also a Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and son of former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray, said the incident highlights the poor law and order situation under the BJP-led government in the state.

The intrusion and knife attack on Saif Ali Khan is shocking.

We are relieved to hear that he is stable and recovering, and we pray that tough times are over, and he bounces back to normalcy at the earliest.

China's new "special-purpose barges" heighten fears of Taiwan invasion

MI News Service, Taipei: China's development of "special-purpose barges" has raised alarm among analysts, fuelling concerns over the country's potential plans to invade Taiwan, as reported by Radio Free Asia.

RFA reported that according to experts, these vessels could enhance Beijing's ability to rapidly deploy troops and equipment to Taiwan, particularly in the face of challenges posed by the island's rough, difficult-to-navigate waters.

At least five of these massive barges are being built at Guangzhou Shipyard International (GSI) on Longxue Island, a facility known for constructing unconventional vessels. The barges, which are flat-bottomed for optimal use in shallow waters, are designed to carry

heavy cargo, including military vehicles, and unload efficiently without the need for port infrastructure.

According to RFA, the barges feature unusually long road bridges, exceeding 120 meters (393 feet), that extend from their fronts. This design enables them to reach coastal roads or hard surfaces beyond beaches, facilitating the off-loading of trucks and tanks. Some barges are also equipped with "jack-up" pillars, which can stabilize the platform in rough sea conditions, ensuring that unloading operations can continue even in adverse weather.

Radio Free Asia reported that Chieh Chung, a research fellow at Taiwan's Association of Strategic Foresight, explained that China has been working

for over two decades to improve its "pier-free unloading" capability. While previous attempts, such as using floating bridges and artificial piers, faced difficulties in rough seas, the new barges address these issues by operating closer to shore and using the road bridges' pillar support to counteract challenging conditions.

Michael Hunzeker, associate director at George Mason University's Center for Security Policy Studies, noted that these developments underscore Beijing's serious intentions regarding Taiwan, RFA reported.

He suggested that the construction of these vessels signals that China continues to view force as a viable option for achieving its goal of annexing Taiwan, a region it considers a part of its territory.

Convoy carrying aid attacked in Kurram: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police

MI News Service, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: A convoy transporting food and medical supplies to Parachinar was attacked in the Bagan area of Lower Kurram on Thursday, according to police officials.

The attack disrupted the delivery of essential goods to a region already grappling with severe shortages due to prolonged road blockades, Dawn reported.

The region has seen ongoing clashes rooted in decades-old land disputes, leading to at least 130 deaths since November. These disputes, along with road blockages, have left Parachinar facing critical shortages of food and medicine, with roads remaining blocked for weeks, cutting off vital supplies.

Despite a peace agreement signed on January 1, restoring full access to the key route connecting Parachinar has proven difficult. A previous government convoy was ambushed near Bagan on January 4, injuring Kurram's deputy commissioner and stranding the vehicles.

Efforts to stabilise the region have been ongoing. On Monday, Barrister Mohammad Ali Saif, Adviser to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister, confirmed that steps outlined in the



peace agreement, such as dismantling bunkers in Kurram, had begun. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif expressed optimism on Tuesday, stating, "The situation in Kurram is returning to normal," after a second convoy of 25 vehicles successfully reached the district with essential supplies.

However, Thursday's attack underscored the region's continuing volatility. Hangu Assistant Commissioner Saeed Mannan confirmed that a convoy of 35 vehicles, en route from Thall to Parachinar, came under fire. "The administration is working to bring the situation under control after the attack in Bagan," he said. Sajid Turi, a former federal minister from Kurram, described the intensity of the assault, noting that both small and large weapons were used in the attack.

Despite the January 1 peace agreement, Parachinar remains isolated, with

road access still blocked, worsening the region's humanitarian crisis.

The ongoing blockade, now exceeding two months, has caused severe shortages of food, medicine, and other vital supplies, affecting around 500,000 residents.

Sajid Turi emphasised that the government must ensure the safe passage of convoys. "If the government fails to resolve the issue, it will only worsen," he said.

Turi criticised the government for not consulting the jirga on decisions and claimed militants in Kurram have outside support. Meanwhile, local authorities continue to push for reopening access routes, with some frustration as vehicles have already returned to Peshawar due to the lack of progress.



The four-day Taty Drama Festival, which entered its seventh year, was recently held. This drama was organized by Salkia Agantuk Natya Sangstha. This drama festival was celebrated with a collection of different plays every evening. A total of 12 groups participated. The play was inaugurated by noted playwright and director Bijoy Mukherjee, noted playwright, director Murari Mukherjee, North Howrah MLA Gautam Chowdhury. The play festival was held at Salkia Anglo Sanskrit High School
PIC: Nurul Islam Khan

36 reported dead, 528 injured in Karachi in 2025

MI News Service, Karachi: Two weeks into the new year, Pakistan's Karachi witnessed an alarming rise in fatalities from road accidents, robbery resistance and aerial firing, ARY News reported on Thursday, quoting Chipa Foundation report.

According to the foundation, 36 citizens lost their lives in various traffic accidents, while 528 others, including children, elderly, and young adults, sustained injuries, ARY News reported.

The Chipa Foundation report further highlighted that in incidents of robbery resistance, three individuals were killed over the past two weeks, while over 15 were injured in such incidents since the start of the year.

The murder of two residents in Zaman Town within 12 days created major uproar. The first victim, Saahil Masih, was murdered during a robbery attempt, followed by Asif, who was killed at Ghaghar Phatak.

In another case, Hafiz Muzafar was shot after he raised an alarm upon encountering robbers, as per ARY News.

ARY News reported that

despite such incidents, police in Malir and Korangi are yet to arrest any suspects involved in these crimes, raising concerns over the city's law enforcement efficiency.

Aerial firing has also claimed lives, with one person reported dead during the same period. Additionally, 11 individuals, including nine men and two women, sustained injuries from celebratory gunfire, a practice that continues to pose a grave threat to public safety.

On Wednesday, a Karachi man was shot dead after he resisted a robbery, ARY News reported.

According to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Korangi Kamran Khan, five robbers entered a house with the intention of committing a crime. As the robbers attempted to flee, a youth who had come to offer Fajr prayers raised an alarm, catching their attention. The SSP said that in retaliation, the robbers fired at the youth, resulting in fatal injuries.

Earlier a man was killed while resisting a robbery attempt at his tyre shop near the government Islamia Law college in Karachi.

We've pulled ahead in our competition with China, US President Biden says



MI News Service, New Delhi: US President Joe Biden on Thursday said that the US is ahead of China in their competition.

Biden, while delivering his final address from the Oval Office, emphasised that the US should lead in the development of AI, and not China.

"We've pulled ahead in our competition with China. And so much more. I'm so proud of how much we've accomplished together for the American people, and I wish the incoming administration success. Because I want America to succeed," he said.

Biden said that as a 'Land of Liberty', the people must govern in the age of AI.

"In the age of AI, it's more important than ever that the people must govern. And as the Land of Liberty, America -- not China -- must lead the world in the development of AI," he said.

Biden flagged his concerns related to Artificial Intelligence and said that humans need to make sure that AI is safe for use.

"Nothing offers more profound possibilities and risks for our economy, and our security, our society, for humanity. Artificial intelligence even has the potential to help us answer my call to end cancer as we know it. But unless safeguards are in place, AI could spawn new threats to our rights, our way of life, to our privacy, how we

work, and how we protect our nation. We must make sure AI is safe and trustworthy and good for all humankind," he said.

Biden also emphasised on the need to reform the tax code, which will make the wealthy pay taxes proportionately. "You know, in the years ahead, it's going to be up to the president, the presidency, the Congress, the courts, the free press, and the American people to confront these powerful forces. We must reform the tax code. Not by giving the biggest tax cuts to billionaires, but by making them begin to pay their fair share," he said.

Biden said that the American constitution must be reformed, and 'dark money' must 'get out'.

"We need to get dark money -- that's that hidden funding behind too many campaign contributions -- we need to get it out of our politics. We need to enact an 18-year time limit, term limit, time and term, for the strongest ethics -- and the strongest ethics reforms for our Supreme Court. We need to ban members of Congress from trading stock while they are in the Congress. We need to amend the Constitution to make clear that no president, no president is immune from crimes that he or she commits while in office. The president's power is not limit -- it is not absolute. And it shouldn't be," he said.

Bandish Foundation came forward to stand by the weak people

Nurul Islam Khan

Like every year, this year too, the voluntary organization Bandish Foundation came forward to stand by the weak people

On Thursday, winter clothes were handed over to children, women and the sick on behalf of the foundation. Books, notebooks, pens and financial assistance for admission were handed over by the invited guests of Bandish Foundation

They said that this organization has already announced to undertake a project called Abul Anam Afzan Smriti Shiksha Britti (Scholarship) to make arrangements for the interest of students in studying. In addition to the huge amount of various financial resources, it can be



Dr. Tania Islam handing over gifts to Shambhu Ruida who is suffering from osteoporosis.

hoped, scholarships and incentive allowances that have been introduced by the state government to increase the motivation for education, if such organizations come forward, it can undoubtedly

ly bring good results in the field of education and society. On behalf of Bandish Foundation, Dr. Tania Islam, Sardar Alim, Shah Nawaz Mondal Romeo and others handed over the gifts.

At least seven people forcibly disappeared in Balochistan, triggering widespread unrest

MI News Service, Balochistan: At least seven people have been forcibly disappeared allegedly by Pakistani forces from different parts of Balochistan, sparking widespread protests throughout the region, as reported by the Balochistan Post.

According to the Balochistan Post, two individuals -- Muzir, son of Nazir, and Jassim, son of Ahmed -- were taken by Pakistani forces from the Saidan area of Panigur late last night. In response, their families have organized a sit-in protest, blocking roads in Saidan and halting traffic in a bid to demand the immediate release of their loved ones.

The Balochistan Post has further reported that protests have also erupted in Khuzdar district, where

residents are calling for the recovery of those forcibly disappeared. In a recent incident, Pakistani forces attempted to abduct Mohammad Saleem, son of Rustam Khan, while he was tending to his cattle in Zehri Tarasani. However, local residents and Saleem's family intervened, preventing the abduction. Despite this, Saleem's family remains fearful for his safety, and they have warned authority Bilal Balochies that they will hold the state accountable if harm comes to him. Over the past few days, 12 individuals have reportedly been forcibly disappeared in Khuzdar tehsil, prompting families to block roads in protest.

In Turbat, similar incidents have sparked further unrest. Pakistani forces are

said to have raided homes in New Bahman Dannuk around 2 am, detaining Bilal Baloch, son of Haider Ali, and Ismail Baloch, son of Hair Mohammad. Both men were taken to an unknown location, the Balochistan Post reported.

The forced disappearances in Turbat have led to protests along the Turbat-Quetta M-8 CPEC Highway near Shapuk, where women, children, and youth have blocked the road. They are demanding the release of Munir Ahmed, Shakeel Rind, and Sheyhaq Gulam Qadir, who were detained on January 12, 2025, near the Dukram cattle market. Seven additional families, whose relatives have also gone missing, have joined the protests, amplifying the growing calls for justice.

Maha Kumbh Goes Global: 21-member team from 10 countries visits Sangam in Prayagraj

MI News Service, Prayagraj: The grand Maha Kumbh organised by the Uttar Pradesh government is now capturing global attention. As part of this, a 21-member delegation comprising representatives from 10 different countries visited the Sangam in Prayagraj on Thursday.

Speaking to ANI, Denesh Persaud from Guyana, expressed his joy and fulfillment after taking a holy dip in the River Ganges

"It's a dream come true," Persaud said. "I always wanted to come here and take a holy dip in the River Ganges. I have fulfilled that wish."

Persaud encouraged others to participate in the event and experience the significance of the holy dip. "I encourage those who are here to come to this event and take a dip in the holy River Ganges," he added.

Sally El Azab from United Arab Emirates, is among the many international pilgrims who have travelled to Prayagraj, to experience the Kumbh Mela, the largest religious gathering in the world.

"I am coming from the Middle East to India... It is a wonderful event," El Azab said, praising the organisation of the event. "It is the largest religious gathering in the world... Here, everything



is well organised to another level. The police are there for safety. The government has arranged it all very well," he added.

The delegation, invited by the External Publicity and Public Diplomacy Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, arrived on Wednesday. Arrangements for the delegation's stay have been made at the Tent City in Arail, developed by the Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation.

The international delegation includes representatives from Fiji, Finland, Guyana, Malaysia, Mauritius, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Thousands of devotees

took a holy dip at Triveni Sangam here on Thursday morning, the fourth day of the 45-day-long Maha Kumbh.

Over 6 crore devotees have participated in the world's biggest religious congregation; over 3.5 crore on the occasion of Makar Sankranti on January 14. Meanwhile, given the massive influx of pilgrims, the Prayagraj administration has established an AI-based computerized lost and found centre.

Sharing details about the centre, Additional Mela Adhikari Vivek Chaturvedi told ANI, "An AI-based lost and found centre has been set up. Arrangements are made there for accommodation, clothes and food for the people who are lost..."

Gautam Gambhir spoke about 'indiscipline' in dressing room during BCCI meeting: Sources



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Following a disappointing display of cricket in Sri Lanka, Australia as well as in the home series against New Zealand, India head coach Gautam Gambhir opened up about 'indiscipline' in the Indian dressing room during the review meeting on Thursday, according to a source from the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

The former Indian opener said that indiscipline is the reason why BCCI will be going back to pre-Covid rules of allowing families for two weeks of the tour. Gambhir and the players were on the same page on the topic of family stay.

There were some more points in the meeting which were highlighted by Gambhir during the meeting. The 43-year-old said that only one team dinner happened during the 1.5-month-long tour in Australia.

There were also talks on the match fees in the meeting. One senior player who was in the meeting suggested the idea to the

Indian Cricket Board of not distributing the match fee because players are not giving priority to domestic and national teams.

According to a source from the BCCI, Team India assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate and Abhishek Nayar's roles are under scanner as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) aren't happy with the apparent 'Kolkata Knight Riders touch' in the team management. Former Indian all-rounder Abhishek Nayar and former Netherlands star Ryan Ten Doeschate joined Team India's support staff as assistant coaches during the white-ball tour of Sri Lanka. Nayar and Doeschate were also the assistant coaches at KKR and worked with Gambhir.

BCCI sources also said that former Saurashtra cricketer Sitanshu Kotak is set to join Team India as an assistant batting coach soon.

Sitanshu Kotak played 130 first-class matches and 211 innings, where he scored 8061

runs at an average of 41.76, laced with 15 centuries and 55 half-centuries in first-class cricket. He also appeared in 89 List A matches, where he scored 3083 runs in 86 innings at an average of 42.23.

This development comes ahead of the upcoming home series against England, where India will play 5 T20Is followed by 3 ODIs.

It is also understood that on the sidelines of the first T20 vs England in Kolkata, a meeting may happen between Gautam Gambhir and BCCI.

Top seamer Mohammed Shami made a return to the India squad as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Saturday announced the 15-member squad for the upcoming T20I series against England.

The five-match T20I series will kick off on January 22 in Kolkata. The second and third matches will be held on January 25 and 28 in Chennai and Rajkot, respectively. The fourth game of the series will

be played on January 31 in Pune. Mumbai will host the final match of the T20I series on February 2.

India's squad for the T20I series: Suryakumar Yadav (C), Sanju Samson (WK), Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma, Hardik Pandya, Rinku Singh, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Axar Patel (VC), Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Mohammad Shami, Varun Chakravarthy, Ravi Bishnoi, Washington Sundar, Dhruv Jurel (WK).

England T20I Squad for T20I series: Jos Buttler (C), Rehan Ahmed, Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Jamie Smith, Liam Livingstone, Adil Rashid, Sagib Mahmood, Phil Salt, Mark Wood. (ANI)

Speaking about the BGT 2024-25 series, team India conceded a disappointing 3-1 defeat to Australia in the recently concluded Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2024-25 and lost the opportunity to

qualify for the World Test Championship (WTC) Final at Lord's.

Skipper Rohit Sharma and star batter Virat Kohli came under fire for an underwhelming Border-Gavaskar Trophy campaign and overall a very disappointing 2024/25 season of Test cricket. Sharma (31 runs in three matches and five innings at an average of 6.20) and Virat Kohli (190 runs in five matches and nine innings at an average of 23.75 with a century) lacked big time with the bat. Virat fell for the outside-off-stump trap throughout the series, most notably by pacer Scott Boland who dismissed him four times.

The 2024-25 season of Tests has been miserable for 'Ro-Ko' (Rohit and Kohli). While Rohit scored just 164 runs in eight matches and 15 innings at an average of 10.93 with best score of 52, Virat scored a shambolic 382 runs in 10 matches and 19 innings at an average of 22.87, with just a century and fifty each.

WPL 2025: MUMBAI INDIANS UNVEIL NEW JERSEY DESIGN CELEBRATING MODERNITY, HERITAGE

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : Mumbai Indians revealed their new WPL 2025 team jersey on Thursday, featuring a distinctive design that pays homage to Mumbai's coastal heritage while embracing modernity.

The jersey maintains the team's signature blue and gold while introducing striking coral accents, creating a perfect blend of tradition and contemporary style, according to the MI media team.

The design draws inspiration from Mumbai's iconic coastline, incorporating a unique pattern that symbolizes the steadfast rocks along the Arabian Sea. This element represents the team's unwavering determination and resilience, qualities that define both the city of Mumbai and its cricket team.

"The carefully chosen palette tells its own story, the classic blue represents the team's strong foundation and trustworthy character, while the gold elements symbolize their championship aspirations. The addition of coral brings a fresh energy to the design, marking an exciting new chapter in the team's journey," the franchise's media team stated. The inaugural Women's Premier League (WPL) champions, Mumbai Indians have retained a strong core, including skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, West Indies star Hayley Matthews, England's Nat Sciver-Brunt, and New Zealand's Amelia Kerr. The retained players also include Amandeep Kaur, Amanjot Kaur, South Africa's Chloe Tryon, Jintimani Kalita, Keerthana B, Pooja Vastrakar, Saika Ishaque, Sajana Sajeevan, South African pace veteran Shabnim Ismail, and Indian wicketkeeper-batter Yastika Bhatia. During the mini-auction, Mumbai Indians, added four players to complete the 18-member squad by getting South African all-rounder Nadine de Klerk and Madhya Pradesh all-rounder Sanskriti Gupta and Rajasthan pacer Akshita Maheshwari in addition to Kamalini. After winning the inaugural title in 2023, MI were eliminated by eventual champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the WPL 2024 eliminator.Mumbai Indians also managed to add the highly rated and much coveted G Kamalini to the roster. The 16-year-old from Tamil Nadu made her India U19 debut against Pakistan U19s in the U19 Asia Cup. In the auction, the 16-year-old's bid was zoomed to Rs 1.6 crore and confirmed her spot in the Mumbai-based franchise's squad.

NEW YEAR NEW THREADS

Men's HIL matches on January 18 Gonasika Vizag sweat it out at Jaipal Singh AstroTurf

PC JHA

RANCHI : Ranchiites would witness the excitement of Men's HIL encounter after Women's Hockey India League matches scheduled on January 18 when Hederabad Tufan will take on Tamil Nadu Dragon at the Jaipal Singh Munda AstroTurf Stadium, Morhabadi from 6 pm while Gonasika Vizag would meet UP Rudras at 8pm on the same day.

The Gonasika Vizag team sweated it out on Thursday at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh AstroTurf Hockey Stadium. Led by former Indian captain Manpreet Singh, they are preparing for their upcoming match against UP Rudras on January 18. Currently, Gonasika Vizag is placed second last on the Hero Hockey India League 2024-25



men's table, with 7 points from six games.

Hyderabad Toofans Update

The Hyderabad Toofans also practiced today at the Marang

Gomke Jaipal Singh AstroTurf Hockey Stadium. The team, led by captain Sumit and coached by Pasha, is gearing up for their next game against the Tamil Nadu

Dragons on 18 January 18.

Currently, they hold the third spot on the Hero Hockey India League 2024-25 men's table, with 10 points from six games.

Shitanshu Kotak to join Team India as assistant batting coach: BCCI Source

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Former Saurashtra cricketer Sitanshu Kotak is set to join Team India as an assistant batting coach soon, according to Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) sources.

Sitanshu Kotak played 130 first-class matches and 211 innings, where he scored 8061 runs at an average of 41.76, laced with 15 centuries and 55 half-centuries in first-class cricket. He also appeared in 89 List A matches, where he scored 3083 runs in 86 innings at an average of 42.23.

This development comes ahead of the upcoming home series against England, where India will play 5 T20Is followed by 3 ODIs.

According to a source from the BCCI, Team India assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate and Abhishek Nayar's roles are under scanner as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) aren't happy with the apparent 'Kolkata Knight Riders touch' in the team management.

Former Indian all-rounder Abhishek Nayar and former

Netherlands star Ryan Ten Doeschate joined Team India's support staff as assistant coaches during the white-ball tour of Sri Lanka. Nayar and Doeschate were also the assistant coaches at KKR and worked with Gambhir.

Under Gambhir's mentorship, the Kolkata-based franchise won the 2024 edition of the Indian Premier League after beating Sunrisers Hyderabad by eight wickets.

Meanwhile, Team India conceded a disappointing 3-1 defeat to Australia in the recently concluded Border-Gavaskar Trophy 2024-25 and lost the opportunity to qualify for the World Test Championship (WTC) Final at Lord's.

Skipper Rohit Sharma and star batter Virat Kohli came under fire for an underwhelming Border-Gavaskar Trophy campaign and overall a very disappointing 2024/25 season of Test cricket. Sharma (31 runs in three matches and five innings at an average of 6.20) and Virat Kohli (190 runs in five matches and nine innings at



an average of 23.75 with a century) lacked big time with the bat. Virat fell for the outside-off-stump trap throughout the series, most notably by pacer Scott Boland who dismissed him four times.

The 2024-25 season of Tests has been miserable for 'Ro-Ko'

(Rohit and Kohli). While Rohit scored just 164 runs in eight matches and 15 innings at an average of 10.93 with best score of 52, Virat scored a shambolic 382 runs in 10 matches and 19 innings at an average of 22.87, with just a century and fifty each.

Ireland penalised for slow over-rate in 3rd Women's ODI game against India

RAJKOT (GUJARAT) [INDIA] : Ireland on Thursday was penalised for a slow over-rate in the recently concluded third Women's ODI game against India, as reported by ICC.

Match Referee GS Lakshmi of the ICC International Panel of Match Referees imposed the sanction after Ireland was found to be two overs short of the required target, even after accounting for time allowances.

As per Article 2.22 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which pertains to minimum over-rate offences players are fined five per cent of their match fee for every over their side fails to bowl within the allotted time.

The charge was levelled by on-field umpires Kim Cotton and Akshay Totre, along with third umpire Virender Sharma and fourth umpire Vrinda Rath.

Ireland captain Gabi Lewis accepted the sanction and pled guilty to the offence, eliminating the need for a formal hearing. India won the third ODI between the two sides, securing a record victory to take the series 3-0.

In the third ODI match of the series, opener Pratika Rawal's exceptional batting performance stormed the Indian side to a mammoth victory of 304 runs over Ireland Women in the third and final ODI of the series at the Niranjan Shah Stadium in Rajkot on Wednesday.

Chasing a huge total of 436 runs in the last match of the series, the visitors were bundled out for a mere total of 131 runs in the 32nd over of the inning.

The run-getters for Ireland's side in this match were Sarah Forbes (41 runs off 44 balls with seven fours) and Orla Prendergast (36 runs from 43 balls, six fours). Leah Paul (15 runs in 25 balls with two fours) and Laura Delany (10 runs off 20 balls, 1 four) also scored some runs for their team but it was enough.

For India, three wickets were snapped by Deepti Sharma in her spell of 8.4 overs where she conceded just 27 runs and bowled two maiden overs. Two wickets were grabbed by Tanuja Kanwar in her nine overs where she gave away 31 runs and bowled two maiden overs.



Set-pieces take centre stage: Game-changers in ISL 2024-25's playoffs race

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : The Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 season has delivered its dose of excitement, but as the race for playoffs intensifies, one tactical element has stood out -- set-pieces. Be it perfectly executed free-kicks, clever corners, or clinical penalties, set-pieces have been pivotal in defining team performances this season.

With Mohun Bagan Super Giant sitting comfortably atop the table (35) and teams in the middle vying for crucial playoff spots, the ability to capitalize on dead-ball scenarios is shaping the fortunes of many, according to a release from ISL.

At this stage of the league, Odisha FC and NorthEast United FC have scored the joint-most goals (31) closely followed by the Mariners (30). While there have been some exceptional goals from open play, set-pieces have also been instrumental in teams' gameplay this season, with units resorting to them regularly to



break down the opponents.

Leading the table with 35 points, Mohun Bagan has showcased remarkable efficiency, with half of their 30 goals coming from set-pieces. Greg Stewart's pinpoint deliveries and the finishing prowess of Alberto Rodriguez (4), Tom Aldred (2), and Subhasish Bose (3) have made them a force to reckon with. Their ability to find the net through set-pieces has been a consistent fallback when the team isn't firing on all cylinders.

Odisha FC (31 goals), with 12 goals from set-pieces, has thrived on the brilliance of Ahmed Jahouh and Hugo Boumous, while Diego Mauricio's flair for free-kicks has been nothing short of sensational. The Brazilian is easily one of the best free-kick takers in the league right now as he possesses the ability to score some stunners from absolutely dire situations. He has recorded 11 goal contributions, comprising seven goals and four assists this

season.

Meanwhile, Jamshedpur FC, powered by their star quartet of Jordan Murray, Javier Siverio, Javi Hernandez, and Rei Tachikawa, have struck 10 goals from set-pieces, underlining their tactical nous. The quartet has contributed to 18 of the team's 22 goals this season, showcasing the relentless consistency and impact of their attacking contingent.

With 13 goals conceded from set-pieces, Kerala Blasters FC's defensive (27 goals conceded) vulnerabilities have been exposed time and again. The team has lacked a leader of men in their backline, someone who can marshal the troops and keep the defence together all the time.

A standout performer in dead-ball defence, conceding just three goals from set-pieces despite overall defensive challenges. The likes of Hijazi Maher, Hector Yuste, Anwar Ali and Lalthungnunga haven't been

regularly robust, with East Bengal conceding 21 goals in 15 matches this season.

Bengaluru FC (BFC) and Hyderabad FC (both 10) have conceded the second-most goals from set-pieces. The Blues (BFC) hadn't conceded a single goal in their first five games but in the next 10 games, the floodgates opened as they conceded as many as 20 goals. What looked like an organised backline has suddenly become prone to errors, opening opportunities for their opponents.

As the league heads into its final stretch, set-pieces are proving to be the difference-makers in a tightly contested season. For title favourites like Mohun Bagan, their dominance in this area adds an extra layer of security. For others like Odisha FC and Jamshedpur FC, it represents an opportunity to stay competitive, while teams with defensive frailties need urgent adjustments to avoid slipping down the