

# "Skill for India, skills for the world" – Dr. Arvind Virmani at MCCI session

The Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) hosted a special session today with Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member of NITI Aayog, titled "Vision of Viksit Bharat 2047," at the MCCI Conference Hall. Dr. Virmani addressed the gathering as the Chief Guest, emphasizing India's future economic growth and the role of skills in national development. PG 3



Rs. 3  
KOLKATA  
SUNDAY, 19 JANUARY, 2025  
PG-8, YEAR-11, ISSUE-230  
(RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803)  
WEBSITE: WWW.LIVETV.COM

# Morning India

## Kolkata court pronounces accused Sanjay Roy 'guilty' of rape-murder of on-duty medic of R G Kar Hospital

MI News Service, Kolkata : In a historic judgement on Saturday, 162 days after the occurrence of one of the most heinous crimes in the country's history in which a 31 year old lady doctor was brutally raped and murdered inside her workplace in R G Kar Medical College and hospital here on August 9 last year, a Kolkata court pronounced the lone accused Sanjay Roy "guilty" under various sections of the crime. The Sealdah court, where Roy's trial was held, will however, declare his sentence on Monday. Anirban Das, the additional district and sessions judge said inside the court..

The judgement was pronounced nearly two months after the in-camera trial commenced in November last year and 162 days after the heinous crime was committed on August 9, 2024, which had sparked not only nationwide but a global protest and outrage among lakhs of people demanding real justice for the hapless victim. The rape and murder case which first took up by the Kolkata police and arrested Sanjay Roy within the next 24 hours, was soon handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for further probe by the Calcutta High Court to find out whether

some other people were also involved in the crime, allegedly committed in the hospital's seminar room from where lady doctor's body was found on August 9 morning.

Sanjay Roy, a civic volunteer with the city police, was charged with the rape and murder. The case had ignited widespread protests by junior doctors fist across Kolkata and later across the whole country along with common people, demanding justice and stronger security measures in government hospitals. The victim's father expressed hope for a fair judgement, highlighting the family's relentless pursuit of justice. At today's hearing, accused Roy claimed his innocence and said that he was not involved in the crime and has allegedly been trapped into the case by the police. But the Court held Roy guilty of rape and murder of the trainee doctor. The judge however, said, "The accused will be heard on Monday. Now he is being sent to judicial custody. His punishment will be announced on Monday. I have fixed the time at 12:30 to hear the case." The judgment was delivered by Anirban Das, the additional district and sessions judge of the Sealdah court, 57 days after the in-camera trial com-



Police personnel keep vigil as Sanjay Roy, accused in the alleged rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, is brought to the Sealdah court in police vehicle on the day of the verdict, in Kolkata.

menced on November 12. The hearing in Roy's trial was concluded on January 9, during which 50 witnesses were examined. The parents of the deceased doctor have claimed that other persons were also involved in the crime and ex-

pected that they would also be arrested and tried before the court. The victim's parents have also filed an application before the court seeking further investigation into the case. Incidentally, after the Calcutta High Court had transferred the

case to the CBI, the agency subsequently filed a separate chargesheet detailing financial irregularities at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital, allegedly involving several

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## Kunal Ghosh backs Kolkata Police's investigation in RG Kar doctor case

MI News Service, Kolkata: Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Kunal Ghosh, strongly praised the Kolkata Police's investigation into the rape and murder of a young doctor at R G Kar Medical College. After the Sealdah Court convicted Sanjay Roy, Ghosh stated, "Today's verdict proves that the Kolkata Police's investigation was absolutely right on the track." Ghosh acknowledged the police's meticulous investigation in solving the case, despite facing significant political and social pressure.

He took aim at left-wing, far-left, and anti-TMC factions, including some medical professionals, who according to him had allegedly politicized the tragedy and attempted to mislead public opinion. Ghosh remarked that these groups had tried to manipulate the emotions of the public for political gains, which caused confusion and diversion in the investigation. However, the court's ruling



validated the police's efforts, confirming that they had been on the right path from the beginning. Ghosh also commended West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her immediate and firm instructions to ensure a thorough investigation. He emphasized that Mamata Banerjee had demanded the stringent punishment for the accused from the very beginning, reaffirming the state government's unwavering commitment to justice. Ghosh further pointed out that the final verdict had

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## Suvendu Adhikari welcomes court's verdict on RG Kar doctor's rape and murder case

MI News Service, Kolkata : Welcoming the Sealdah court's verdict declaring Sanjay Roy "guilty" of raping and murdering an on-duty doctor at the state-run R G Kar hospital, senior BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari has however, called for further investigation into the "larger conspiracy" allegations raised by the victim's parents. "We welcome the judgment. But we would have been happier if the former principal of R G Kar hospital, Sandip Ghosh, and former Kolkata police commissioner Vineet Goyal were also punished today" the opposition leader in the West Bengal Assembly commented here on Saturday after the long-awaited verdict was pronounced. However, he said, the allegations of a bigger conspiracy leveled by the parents of the hapless victim, her colleagues and junior doctors must also be looked into. It must be seen whether anyone else was also involved in the crime or not," Adhikari told reporters. The Sealdah court, where Roy's trial was held, will announce the sentence on Monday. Anirban Das, the additional district and sessions judge, said, Roy was found guilty under Sections 64 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita related to rape, and Sections 66 and 103(1) of the Act, dealing with punishments for death and murder. Section 103(1) provides for a possible punishment of death or life imprisonment. The verdict came nearly two months after the in-camera trial began in November 2024 and 162 days after the brutal crime was committed on August 9, 2024. The judge said Roy was convicted of sexually assaulting the doctor and strangling her to death, with the CBI successfully proving all the charges against him. Roy, who maintained his innocence throughout the trial, claimed he was framed. His statement will be recorded at 12:30 pm on Monday, followed by the sentencing.

## Record 6.5 million Svamitva property cards distributed by PM Modi for poor Indians



MI News Service, New Delhi: Launching the distribution of around 6.5 million Svamitva property cards among the common people here on Saturday, Prime minister Narendra Modi said it will bolster economic activities and help in poverty alleviation in the country. He also interacted with some beneficiaries through video conferencing, and said the scheme will help people in getting loans and benefits of government schemes without any hassle. These property cards are being distributed to beneficiaries across more than 50,000 villages in 10 states namely Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and

two Union Territories off Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. "Around 2.24 crore beneficiaries in villages will now have Svamitva property cards after 6.5 million cards are distributed on the opening day today via digital methods," the prime minister said. "Rights in property is a major challenge across the world. Years ago, the United Nations had held a study, which revealed people did not have legal documents for property rights in several countries. The UN has said property rights are important for poverty alleviation," he said. The prime minister said an eminent economist had opined that property in villages is a "dead capital" because people cannot do anything with it, and it can't help increase

their income. "India was also impacted by this challenge. People in villages have property worth lakhs of crores, but they did not have papers for it. There were disputes, properties were snatched, and even banks did not provide loans over it," he said. "Previous governments should have taken steps to do something about it but nothing much was done," he said adding dalits, backward classes and tribals were the worst affected by this.

"After getting legal property rights, lakhs of people have taken loan. They have used this money to start their businesses. Many of these are farmers, for whom this property cards is a guarantee to financial security," he said. He also said Svamitva and Bhua-Adhaar will become the foundation of development of villages.

Union Minister of Panchayati Raj Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan', Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj S P Singh Baghel and Ministry of Panchayati Raj Secretary Vivek Bharadwaj were also present at the event. It was attended virtually by several chief ministers, Union ministers and state ministers.

Events are also being organised in over 230 districts for physical distribution of property cards. It is expected that around 13 Union ministers will physically join from designated locations from across the country, to oversee regional distribution ceremonies of property cards.

## Kejriwal's car pelted with stones during campaigning, alleges AAP

MI News Service, New Delhi: As the much awaited election to the 70 member Delhi Assembly is barely two weeks away, the electoral battle between the ruling Aam Admi Party (AAP) and the BJP in the capital has taken another twist with both parties blaming each others for organizing attacks on them. AAP national spokesperson Priyanka Kakkar on Saturday alleged that "BJP goons" attacked Former Delhi Chief Minister's car with stones. In a press conference, Kakkar said, "Today again BJP goons attacked Arvind Kejriwal, who was campaigning in New Delhi Vidhan Sabha, with stones. When Parvesh Verma was campaigning on the ground there, he was stunned to see that even after distributing so much money, doing all the black deeds, the public is with Arvind Kejriwal. Because of this, BJP, Parvesh Verma used their goons to attack Arvind Kejriwal," Kakkar

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## Fugitive prisoner Sajjak Alam killed in an encounter with police near Indo-Bangla border



MI News Service, Kolkata: The fugitive prisoner Sajjak Alam who was on the run after injuring two policemen while he was being taken to jail from the court last Wednesday, died in an encounter with the police near the Indo Bangladesh border at Goalpokhar in North Dinajpur district in North Bengal on Saturday..

Announcing the death of the fugitive in a fierce encounter with the police, the Additional Director General of West Bengal Police, Law and Order, Javed Shamim in presence of ADG (South Bengal) Supratim Sarkar, said here on Saturday that Sajjak, an under trial in a murder case, who shot and injured two policemen while he was being taken to jail from the court last Wednesday, was killed in a 'police encounter' while trying to cross over to Bangladesh from Sreepur broder in Sahapur-2 gram panchayat area under Goalpokhar police station this morning. He said after he came face to face with a police team Sajjak opened fire on them. In retaliation the police team returned the fire in which Sajjak was severely injured. However, he succumbed to his injuries on his way to a nearby hospital, Shamim said.

He said the two injured policemen are still undergoing treatment in a hospital in Raiganj. Claiming that a number of police teams and the district administration had left no stone unturned to catch Sajjak since he fled on Wednesday, Shamim said in fact Director General of

the State Police Rajiv Kumar visited the district headquarters on Friday and reviewed the progress of the search operation before the proposed visit of Chief minister Mamata Banerjee to North Bengal from January 20. Within 24 hours of DG's departure Sajjak was gunned down in an encounter with the police. Giving further details of the incident, Javed Shamim said at a press conference this afternoon that the police had come to know through various sources that Sajjak was trying to flee to Bangladesh. Soon after a number of police teams fanned out to different areas including the Indo-Bangladesh border areas. Soon Sajjak was seen trying to cross the open field to Bangladesh near the Sahapur border. But when he was challenged by the police team and was asked to surrender, Sajjak instead of surrendering, opened fire on the policemen. He fired three to four rounds from his firearms, Shamim said adding the police also retaliated immediately and opened fire on him in which Sajjak was severely injured in back, neck and in his leg. But when he was taken to a nearby health centre, the doctors pronounced him 'brought dead', Sahnim informed and said the nabbing and killing of such a dreaded criminal would certainly boost the morale of the state police force which has recently come under severe criticism from the people for its performance in dealing with the criminals with iron hands.

## Hasina claims she escaped death by minutes as she fled Bangladesh in August

MI News Service, New Delhi : In a shocking disclosure deposed Bangladesh Prime minister Sheikh Hasina has said that she and her younger sister Sheikh Rehana escaped death by less than even half an hour on August 5 last year when her Awami League government was toppled in a student-led mass uprising and she fled to India. In a brief audio note released by her party on its Facebook page, Hasina expressed her gratitude to God for her hair breadth escape and for saving her life. She also recalled two previous attempts on her life she narrowly escaped and said she believed that God had saved her life as part of a divine design to get something greater done by her.

Former Bangladesh Prime Minister also alleged on Friday that there were attempts to assassinate her and her sister Sheikh Rehana after she was ousted from power by a student-led protest



movement in her country.. "Rehana and I managed to survive. We barely escaped the clutches of death within a span of 20-25 minutes," Hasina was heard saying in the audio message shared by Awami League Hasina fled to India after resigning as the Prime Minister in August in the face of massive anti-government protests and minutes before an enraged mob ransacked her residence in

Dhaka.. "I feel it is the will of Allah that I have survived the killings on August 21, the bombing in Kotlilpara or surviving on August 5. Otherwise, I would not have been able to survive," she said in Bengali. Hasina was referring to the 2004 Dhaka grenade attack, which killed 24 people. Hasina, a leader of the opposition who was addressing a rally at the time, also sustained some injuries. She also referred to the Kotlilpara bomb conspiracy, when bombs were recovered from a college in 2000 that Hasina was supposed to visit. "You later saw how they planned to kill me. However, it seems to be a mercy of Allah that I am still alive because Allah wants me to do something more," she said in the audio message.

The former Bangladesh PM also broke down while saying, "I am suffering, I am without my country, without my home, everything has been burned."

Bangladesh's interim government has called on the Indian government to extradite Sheikh Hasina and sent a diplomatic note to the Ministry of External Affairs, although the latter did not respond to it. The International Crimes Tribunal for Bangladesh has issued two arrest warrants for her for alleged enforced disappearances during her 15-year rule.

Earlier this month, Bangladesh revoked Hasina's passport citing her alleged involvement in killings and forced disappearances linked to the last year's students protests, along with the passports of 96 other individuals. The tribunal has issued a deadline of February 12 for the apprehension and presentation of all accused parties, including Hasina. Her 15-year tenure saw widespread human rights abuses, including the mass detention and

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**Man sentenced to death 54 days after minor's rape and murder; CM applauds swift justice**

**MI News Service, Hoogly:** A court in Hoogly district on Friday awarded the death penalty to a 45-year-old man for raping and murdering a minor girl in November last year. Chandraprova Chakraborty, the additional district and session judge of the Pocos court at Chinsurah, pronounced the sentence within 54 days of the crime. Ashok Singh had raped and murdered the five-year-old after luring her with a packet of potato chips on November 24. The verdict came a day before the Seal-dah court was scheduled to announce its judgment on the rape and the murder of a junior doctor at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9. Chief minister Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek hailed Hoogly rural district police and its chief Kamanasish Sen for the speedy investigation and for ensuring the capital punishment for the accused within a very short time. "I thank Hoogly Rural District Police for their swift action and thorough probe that ensured speedy trial and conviction in 54 days. My heart goes to the family, and I share their pain and longing," Mamata wrote on her X handle on Friday evening. "A rapist has no place in our world. All of us together will make it a safer place for our children through stringent law, social reforms, effective and unforgiving administration. No such crime will go unpunished," she added. The Hoogly verdict is being billed as the fastest conviction of a rapist as the police ensured the completion of the investigation within 13 days and the capital punishment of the accused within 54 days by producing the necessary evidence in the court.

Earlier, in the case of the rape and murder of a Class IV student at Kulta of South 24 Parganas, a court at Baruipur had awarded the death penalty to the accused within 62 days of the crime. Abhishek Banerjee, the national general secretary of the Trinamool Congress, hailed Bengal's "zero-tolerance approach to crimes against women".

"This serves as a powerful reminder that while others may offer mere lip service to NARI SURAKSHA, Bengal stands firm with a ZERO TOLERANCE APPROACH to crimes against women," the Diamond Harbour MP wrote on X on Friday. The leader of the Opposition, Suwendu Adhikari, welcomed the judgment but said the capital punishment awarded by lower courts was commuted by higher courts because of the apathy of public prosecutors. He gave the example of how those accused in the Kamduni rape and murder incident were relieved of the gallows because of the alleged state's failure. "Madam CM, why are you so eager to promote the Death Sentence so early. Let's wait for at least 10 years to see if the convict is actually hanged or acquitted just like the convicts of Kamduni Case," Adhikari wrote on his X handle. A senior police officer said the punishment was ensured within a very short period as the Hoogly rural police had not delayed the investigation and had taken all possible steps to file the chargesheet as soon as possible.

**Minor rape survivor consumes poison in Odisha court premises**

**MI News Service, Kendrapara:** A 16-year-old minor rape survivor attempted suicide by consuming poison in the court premises in Kendrapara on Friday, police officials said. The minor attempted to end her life as she had to go to the Kendrapara Additional District Judge-cum-Special Judge (POCSO) here to provide evidence in the court. Her parents had accompanied her for the mandatory deposition of evidence to speed up the prosecution of

**Dakshineswar Adyapeath celebrates founder's birth anniversary with humanitarian efforts**

SUMAN GANGULY

Dakshineswar Ramakrishna Sangha Adyapeath (DRSA) marked a grand celebration of the 134th birth anniversary of its founder, Sri Sri Annada Thakur, alongside the 104th Siddhotsav and the 58th anniversary of Adistha Mandir Establishment. The week-long religious event, which began on 14 January and will continue until 19 January, saw a significant focus on service and unity. The highlight of the event was the distribution of food to 8,000 individuals, along with 5,000 clothing items and 3,000 blankets to those in need. The program was inaugurated by the Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, Biman Banerjee, in the presence of notable dignitaries, including former Justice of Calcutta High Court Tapan Mukherjee and other esteemed personalities. Spreading Messages of Service and Harmony. Speaking on the occasion, Brahmachari Mural Bhai, the General Secretary and Trustee of Adyapeath, shared, "Every year, we serve food and distribute essential items to 8,000 individuals, emphasizing harmony through interfaith unity. With more support in the future, we aim to expand this program further." He reiterated Adyapeath's dedication to blending religious activities with humanitarian service. Addressing the gathering,



Speaker Biman Banerjee emphasized the need to propagate the teachings of Sri Ramakrishna, Maa Sarada Devi, and Swami Vivekananda across India to ensure global welfare. "Adyapeath not only provides education to underprivileged and orphaned children but also nurtures the nation's future by empowering them to become doctors, engineers, professors, and ethical politicians," he said. Banerjee further highlighted the importance of transcending caste and religious divisions to embrace politics rooted in humanity. Referring to the global challenges of terrorism and conflict, he

stressed the need for students to strengthen their moral backbone through Swami Vivekananda's ideals. Adyapeath currently provides shelter and care to over 2,000 residents, including the elderly and orphaned children. Despite financial challenges, the institution continues its mission of serving underprivileged individuals in the community. The event underscored Adyapeath's commitment to combining spiritual teachings with social service, embodying the vision of Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda to create a harmonious and inclusive society.



Aroop Biswas inaugurated the "Shato Kanthe Lokgan" jointly organized by Rangeela Now and Golfgreen Central Coordination Committee. 152 folk artists performed folk songs in unison. Municipal representatives Tapan Dasgupta and Sandeep Nandi Majumdar were present.

**Sub-health center inaugurated in Ward No. 19 under Bansberia Municipality**

**MI News Service, Hoogly:** Bunker prepared for many days in Ward No.19 Sub-Health Center on Saturday by Bansberia Municipality Chairman Aditya Niyogi, Vice-Chairperson Silpi Chatterjee, Dr. RN Ghosh and CIC Minati Dhar by cutting the ribbon. Inaugurated. Ward Counselor Md Shaheed, Md Salahuddin welcomed all the guests with flowers. Dr. RN Ghosh said that all such health centers have been established on the directives of the state chief minister and many such health

minor wounds, gout treatment are done easily. Such facilities will be provided here as well, but since there is a shortage of staff, there will be some problems. But you can trust that the treatment here will be better, that too free of cost and medicine will be given. Chairman Aditya Niyogi said that our Chief Minister has established such a health center in every 15,000 population, due to which the treatment of the poor and needy has become easier. In the end, Ward Councilor Md Shahid



centers have been inaugurated today. He appealed to the people that when the government is providing facilities in the health department, why do you go elsewhere. Here blood test, health check up,

thanked all the guests and said that I am thankful to the State Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Bansberia Municipality and other officials that today, thanks to them, Health Center has been inaugurated.

**Turmeric powder adulteration, mill owner arrested**



**MI News Service, Ranaghat:** Turmeric powder protects the body but adulterated turmeric powder may cause bad effects on the same. Though the traders are adulterating the turmeric powder for more business benefits. Dhantala police in Nadia arrested one turmeric grinding mill owner Di-pankar Halder for adulterating turmeric on Friday night, police said. Based on a sources information, Dhantala police of Ranaghat PD in Nadia laughed a raid at a turmeric grinding mill at

Babupara at Aranghata under Dhantala PS on Friday and arrested the owner. The cops caught him red handed while preparing the adulterating turmeric powder. Simultaneously cumin and coriander too were seized. Police also seized synthetic color, seemingly rice dust, rice like roasted materials, digital weight machine etc. Police has started a case under relevant section of law and produced the accused in court. Side by side police prayed for remand of the accused for further investigation.

**GTA to set up two new healthcare facilities for tourists at Sandakphu**

**MI News Service, Darjeeling:** The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) has decided to set up two new healthcare facilities for tourists at Sandakphu — the highest point in Bengal — and Rohini Gate, the principal point through which visitors enter the Darjeeling hills from the plains. Situated 11,930 feet above sea level, Sandakphu is a major tourist attraction. It is nestled in the ranges of Singalila National Park. From May to December 2024, at least three tourists died because of high altitude ailments. The Sukhiapokhri block primary health centre, the nearest medical facility from Sandakphu, is 20km away. The Darjeeling district hospital is around 40km from Sandakphu. Arun Sigchi, the executive of the GTA's health and family welfare department, said the hill body planned to introduce health infrastructure at Sandakphu and Rohini Gate by March when the next tourist season would begin in the hills. "We have decided to open a health centre at Sandakphu to provide necessary healthcare facilities to tourists, trekkers and other visitors. The centre will be equipped with an ambulance, stretchers and life-saving drugs and manned by trained health assistants, who can provide life-saving support to the visitors in case of any health emergency," Sigchi said on Friday.

**National and International programme for the integrated management framework on Gangasagar Mela pilgrimage workshop, '25**

MI News Service, Kolkata:

We, "The International Mission for Social Welfare and Charity (I.M.S.W.C) is organized its "45th Anniversary of National and International programme for the integrated management framework on Gangasagar Mela pilgrimage workshop. we provides and distributed cooked meal, Packed Premium Drinking Water, Twisters, Fruit Squashes, foodstuffs among Gangasagar Mela pilgrims'. Gangasagar Mela is more than just a pilgrimage; it is the intermingling of emotion, culture, faith, and belief—a celebration of life itself. And religion has always been embedded in the culture of the land. And Gangasagar celebrated on the eve of Makar Sankranti, is no exception. Makar Sankranti holds a special significance in Indian culture. A celebration that becomes a common focal point for the diverse regional cultures, throbbing together as one. The festival is often seen as an ode to Surya Dev (the Hindu sun god), where the devotees express their gratitude to the sun god for blessing them with a good harvest and ideal weather. Keeping faith in this mythology, millions of pilgrims from across the globe visit the Gangasagar Mela during the freezing hours of Makar Sankranti in search of Moksha. A dip in the holy water is thought to wash away all sorrows and sins. With this belief, millions visit the Kapil Muni ashram, chanting the hymn "Sab Tirth Bar Bar Ganga Sagar Ekbar.". at Lot no.8 of South 24 Parganas district, within the State of West Bengal. The 1465 pilgrims' Participated of this Programme. 15th January, 2025, IMSWC also organized Innovative integrated programme for dry foods, cook meal, milk, distribution programme among Gangasagar Mela pilgrims'. We serve primary healthcare, free distributed of free medicines among every pilgrims'. These are the hymns that has been immortalized in the heart of every pilgrim who every year travel across the length and breadth of the country to reach the sacred shores of the Gangasagar. The gravitas of the Gangasagar mela are beautifully encapsulated by the spirit of the devotees who belief that taking a dip in the holy water of Gangasagar will help them to attain moksha.



meal, milk, Sweet and Confectionery among every pilgrims'. Gangasagar is more than just a pilgrimage; it is the intermingling of emotion, culture, faith, and belief—a celebration of life itself. And religion has always been embedded in the culture of the land. And Gangasagar celebrated on the eve of Makar Sankranti, is no exception. Makar Sankranti holds a special significance in Indian culture. A celebration that becomes a common focal point for the diverse regional cultures, throbbing together as one. The festival is often seen as an ode to Surya Dev (the Hindu sun god), where the devotees express their gratitude to the sun god for blessing them with a good harvest and ideal weather. Keeping faith in this mythology, millions of pilgrims from across the globe visit the Gangasagar Mela during the freezing hours of Makar Sankranti in search of Moksha. A dip in the holy water is thought to wash away all sorrows and sins. With this belief, millions visit the Kapil Muni ashram, chanting the hymn "Sab Tirth Bar Bar Ganga Sagar Ekbar.". at Lot no.8 of South 24 Parganas district, within the State of West Bengal. The 1465 pilgrims' Participated of this Programme. 15th January, 2025, IMSWC also organized Innovative integrated programme for dry foods, cook meal, milk, distribution programme among Gangasagar Mela pilgrims'. We serve primary healthcare, free distributed of free medicines among every pilgrims'. These are the hymns that has been immortalized in the heart of every pilgrim who every year travel across the length and breadth of the country to reach the sacred shores of the Gangasagar. The gravitas of the Gangasagar mela are beautifully encapsulated by the spirit of the devotees who belief that taking a dip in the holy water of Gangasagar will help them to attain moksha.

life, death, and existence) to Nirvana (Moksha/Salvance), a journey that has captivated scholars, writers, rationalists, and spiritualists for ages. The myth of Gangasagar is Maharishi Kapil Muni with anger, Sagar Raja sent his 60,000 sons (Sagar Putras) to locate the missing horse. The Sagar Putras decimated everything in their path and reached Sage's ashram. Upon discovering the horse, the Sagar Putras mistook the sage for the thief and started hurling abuse at the meditating sage. The ensuing commotion hindered Sage's tapasya. Enraged, Kapi Muni opened his eyes and blazed the 60,000 Sagar Putras into ashes, condemning their souls to hell. at Chemaguri village of South 24 Parganas district, within the State of West Bengal.

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**Another leopard run over on NH27**

**MI News Service, Siliguri:** A leopard died after being run over by a speeding vehicle on the NH27 near Ghoshpukur, on the outskirts of Siliguri, on Thursday evening. Sources in the state forest department said local people spotted the leopard lying on the highway near Gangarampur tea estate. The injured animal could not stand but crawled into the tea bushes off the highway. A team from the Ghoshpukur forest range rushed to the spot. They recovered the injured animal and took it to the Bengal Safari Park for treatment. There it succumbed to its injuries on Friday morning. "It was a one-year-old female leopard. It had suffered multiple injuries. We took it to the Bengal Safari Park for treatment, and at around 2 am, the animal died," said Devesh Pandey, the divisional forest officer of Kurseong. Earlier, on December 5, another leopard died at the same spot after being run over by a vehicle. "We met the district magistrate of Darjeeling and police officials and requested them to intensify police patrolling and enforce speed limits on the highways. We are checking CCTV footage to identify the vehicle that hit the animal." Pandey added. Soon, the department will launch an extensive awareness campaign for drivers. "We will also tell them that running over a wild animal is a punishable offence under the Wildlife Protection Act," he said.

**Amputee bestowed with award in adventure sport: Uday Kumar scaled Kilimanjaro with one leg**

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** President Droupadi Murmu on Friday conferred the country's highest award in adventure sport on Uday Kumar, a 36-year-old Calcuttan who had lost a leg in a train accident in 2015. The Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award was bestowed on Kumar months after he had conquered air, mountain and water in Africa. "Dreams do come true," he told The Telegraph over the phone from New Delhi soon after receiving the award in the land adventure category. While travelling on a train in Calcutta in 2015, Kumar was using the wash-basin near the door when a jerk flung him onto the

tracks. One of his legs came under the train's wheels which changed the way he looked at life. "Nothing would have been possible without the support of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute (HMI), Darjeeling, the ministry of defence and Group Captain Jai Kishan (former HMI principal) as people don't stand by divyans (differently abled)," said Kumar. Three years after the accident, Kumar began running marathons on one leg and became a well-known face on the circuit. About two years ago, Kumar approached the HMI and expressed his wish to take part in adventure sports activities.

**Calcutta Jito Chepter organized a talk show "Investing Mantra"**

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** People earn money but they do not know where to invest that money. To ease this problem of people, Calcutta Jito Chepter organized a talk show "Investing Mantra" BUY RIGHT & SIT TIGHT" in a five star hotel in Kolkata on Thursday. Present as the chief guest in this program, MD & CEO of MOFSL, Motilal ji Oswal gave many tips to the people from the ups and downs of the stock market to increasing wealth. Vinod Ji Dugar, icon of RDB group Kolkata, also shared many tips and his experience on investment. Regarding this special session, chairman of Calcutta Jito Chepter Dharmendra Jain said that how Bengal can be devel-

oped, how more and more investment can come to Bengal, especially Kolkata, with this objective, today the "Investing Mantra" special session was organized. The country's well-known finance expert Motilal ji Oswal gave many important tips. By following the footsteps shown by him, people will never get into trouble. You will not have to suffer losses in the share market. The special thing about this program was that how women can also move forward in the share market. Information was also given on this, hearing which the women looked very happy. The stage was conducted by JITO Secretary Rishabh Nahta.





West Bengal junior doctors front outside the sealdah court for justice.



Common people along with junior doctors gather in front of Sealdah court to hear the hearing of rape and murder case at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, in Kolkata on Saturday

## State Govt tightens regulations on building work

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In response to the recent Bagajatin building incident, the state government has decided to take stricter measures on house "jacking up" activities. The Department of Urban Development has now made it mandatory for builders to obtain permission from the municipal corporation before proceeding with any work related to house jacking. The municipal corporation has clearly stated that, before any work can begin, the builder must submit a soil testing report. Only after the corporation's approval of a satisfactory report can the work be allowed to proceed. Furthermore, the new directive specifies that the work must be supervised by a structural engineer, and their report will be considered final.

Additionally, the company carrying out the work must have the necessary experience and credibility. If any construction is carried out without proper authorization, the municipal corporation has stated that strict action will be taken. Allegations have emerged that the building's structural problems occurred due to violations of norms in constructing a multi-story building on land meant for other purposes. Moreover, the promoter had hired a company from Haryana to straighten the building without informing the municipal corporation. In the wake of this incident, the municipal corporation and the state's Urban Development Department have tightened regulations on building construction and illegal construction practices. This move aims to prevent further structural failures and ensure that construction activities adhere to safety and legal standards.

# Heightened vigilance at Indo-Bangladesh border amid rising tensions

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Border Security Force (BSF) has emphasized the need for calm and vigilance amidst increasing infiltration attempts along the Indo-Bangladesh border. Addressing senior officers of the Eastern Command, BSF Special Director General Ravi Gandhi outlined critical measures to tackle infiltration and cross-border provocations. He stressed the importance of remaining composed while handling such situations, warning against falling into traps of provocation. During a high-level meeting, Special DG Gandhi underscored the need to strengthen the BSF's intelligence network in border regions. This includes boosting local sources in villages adjacent to the border and expanding the reach of BSF activities in these areas. The directive is part of a broader strategy to fortify India's frontier defenses. The BSF's Eastern Command, responsible for managing the 4,096-kilometer-long Indo-Bangladesh border, comprises six key

frontier zones: South Bengal, North Bengal, Guwahati, Mizoram-Cachar, Meghalaya, and Tripura. These frontiers are pivotal in addressing the challenges posed by infiltration attempts and cross-border crimes. The meeting with Inspectors General and DIs of the six frontiers yielded a series of directives. Armed retaliation during infiltration attempts, especially when met with violence, has been authorized. Special DG Gandhi emphasized that any BSF personnel found negligent in their duty to safeguard Indian territory would face stringent disciplinary action. The directives come amidst growing concerns over cross-border activities facilitated by Indian intermediaries. These intermediaries reportedly exploit unguarded sections of the border to assist infiltrators under the cover of darkness or fog. According to BSF sources, this issue is now a more significant threat than the challenges posed by gaps in border fencing. Over the past 10 days, 14 incidents of firing have been reported

across various Border Out Posts (BOPs) under the Eastern Command. More than 50 infiltrators have been apprehended during this period. However, the situation remains tense, particularly in sections managed by the Cooch Behar and Tripura frontiers, where infiltration attempts are most frequent. BSF authorities have also expressed concerns over the role of state police in curbing infiltration. During the recent meeting, questions were raised about the effectiveness of local law enforcement agencies in assisting the BSF's efforts. The BSF is under increasing pressure to address these challenges while maintaining border security. Recent instructions from the Union Home Ministry have called for enhanced vigilance and proactive measures to prevent infiltration and cross-border crimes. The BSF's Eastern Command is tasked with safeguarding one of the most sensitive international borders, characterized by diverse terrains and densely populated villages on both sides.

## RG Kar case: Victim's parents demand complete justice

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant development, the Court has convicted Sanjay Roy as the sole perpetrator in the rape and murder case of a young doctor from RG Kar Medical College. Upon hearing the verdict, the victim's parents broke down in tears inside the courtroom. While they thanked the judge for delivering justice, they expressed that the verdict was not "complete justice" as they still believed others were involved in the crime. The victim's parents had consistently claimed that while Roy was guilty, he was not the only one responsible for the heinous act. They have expressed dissatisfaction with the CBI's investigation, believing it overlooked key aspects. After the court's decision, they stated that many questions remained unanswered, implying that the investigation was incomplete. They emphasized that the case was far from over in their view. Following the verdict, the victim's parents expressed their gratitude to

the judicial system, affirming their trust in the courts. The judge acknowledged their statement and promised to listen to their concerns on Monday, during a follow-up hearing. Outside the court, the victim's family made it clear that they were seeking the maximum sentence for Roy and called for punishment for others they believe are involved in the crime. The court is scheduled to announce the sentence on Monday at 12:30 PM. Sanjay Roy has been charged under Sections 64, 66, and 103 of the Indian Penal Code for rape, infliction of injuries leading to death, and murder. These charges carry the potential for the death penalty or life imprisonment. The trial began on November 11, and after five months and nine days, the court delivered its verdict. Sanjay Roy, meanwhile, continued to assert his innocence. In response to the conviction, he claimed, "I was wearing a rudraksha mala, which could have been torn during the struggle."

## Two Rohingya minors and a man arrested at Sealdah

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Railway Police arrested a Rohingya man and two minors at Kolkata's Sealdah on Saturday morning. Initial investigations revealed that they were heading to Kashmir. The man, identified as Abdul Rahman, is being interrogated to determine how they managed to cross the border into India. Police officials noticed the trio—a man and two young girls—loitering suspiciously at the station. Upon questioning, it was revealed that they were Rohingyas who had illegally entered India from Bangladesh. The minors, identified as Noor Fatima and Shabu Ponehar, are under 12 years old, while Abdul Rahman hails from Myanmar's Rakhine province. The trio had fled Myanmar due to military persecution and initially took refuge in a Rohingya camp in Bangladesh. However, facing continued hardships there, they decided to move to India in search of work. The mi-

nors informed the police that Abdul Rahman had promised them work and was taking them to Kashmir. Investigators are now probing whether he had ulterior motives beyond offering them employment. Efforts are also underway to uncover how they managed to bypass strict border surveillance. Preliminary investigations suggest that the group may have entered India through the Nadia or North 24 Parganas border. After crossing into Indian territory, they likely traveled by train to Sealdah. The arrested Abdul Rahman has been produced in court, while the two minors have been sent to a shelter home. Police are working to gather more information about the route taken, possible accomplices, and the broader network facilitating illegal cross-border movement. This incident raises questions about border security and the exploitation of vulnerable individuals fleeing persecution.

## Tension flare up again at Medinipur Med College as junior docs surround new superintendent



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** On Saturday, while Kolkata's attention was on the Sealdah Court for the verdict in the RG Kar rape-murder case, a fresh wave of tension erupted at Medinipur Medical College. Suspended doctors surrounded the principal, superintendent, CMOH, and other officials, continuing their protest and demanding the withdrawal of their suspensions.

A large police force was deployed outside the hospital due to the escalating tension. The newly appointed medical superintendent stated, "We are looking into the matter, and the investigation is underway." Earlier, on Thursday, Mamata Banerjee had announced in a press conference at Nabanna that 12 doctors had been suspended, with the CID tasked to investigate the matter. The incident occurred at Medinipur Medical College, where several junior doctors had called for a full strike on Friday. However, they eventually withdrew from the strike, and the emergency and OPD departments remained operational.

It was stated that further decisions would be made after discussions with the principal on Friday. However, no such discussions took place, and some junior doctors claimed that the principal had escaped through the back door to avoid meeting them.

## A celebration of jewellery in Kolkata

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The 11th Style Addict Anniversary organized by jewellery designer and fashion blogger Uzma Firoz in Kolkata. The event showcased a variety of jewellery, blending modern and traditional styles, which captured the attention of buyers. Shoppers received attractive gifts for purchases above ₹10,000, and three lucky winners took home prizes. The designer shared her vision, emphasizing new jewellery designs at each exhibition and expressing her goal of reaching Bollywood celebrities like Kareena Kapoor, Karisma Kapoor, and Priyanka Chopra in the future.

## Kolkata court pronounces accused Sanjay Roy 'guilty' of rape-murder of on-duty medic of R G Kar Hospital

**From PG 1** other people. The chargesheet named several individuals, including former principal on R G Kar Hospital Sandip Ghosh, and others such as Dr. Ashish Kumar Pandey, Biplob Singha, Suman Hazra, and Afsar Ali Khan. The chargesheet also implicated Sandip Ghosh in financial misconduct, as he also faced questioning regarding the rape and murder case. The CBI's probe included polygraph tests, and delays in filing the chargesheet resulted in bail being granted to some accused, including Abhijit Mondal and Sandip Ghosh. The in-camera trial for the

rape and murder case began on November 12. During the trial's conclusion, the CBI requested the death sentence for Sanjay Roy. The Sealdah court announced that the judgment would be delivered on January 18. Ahead of the verdict, Trinamool Congress (TMC) leader Kunal Ghosh reiterated the party's demand for the death penalty for the accused, emphasizing the swift police action and the CBI's corroboration of guilt. He echoed the Chief Minister's call for capital punishment for the crime, reflecting the gravity and impact of the case on public sentiment and political discourse.

## Kunal Ghosh backs Kolkata Police's investigation in RG Kar doctor case

**From PG 1** refuted the demands for a CBI probe, which had been pushed by political opponents, as the CBI investigation only corroborated the findings of Kolkata Police. He added, "If it hadn't been for the political interference and confusion caused by certain groups, justice for the victim could have been served much earlier." Ghosh stressed that the political atmosphere surrounding the case had been complicated by individuals seeking to exploit the situation for

their own advantage. However, the court's verdict brought closure and confirmed that the police had stayed on track. In conclusion, Kunal Ghosh's statements reflected his belief that Kolkata Police's investigation was thorough, unbiased, and ultimately successful in bringing the criminal to justice. He stressed that the case proved the importance of a fair and objective investigation, free from political meddling, and assured the public that justice had been served.

## Kejriwal's car pelted with stones during campaigning, alleges AAP

**From PG 1** shared a video on their official X handle which purportedly shows a stone being thrown at the Arvind Kejriwal's car. AAP accused the Bharatiya Janata Party behind the attack and claimed that Kejriwal was attacked by the "people" of BJP candidate Parvesh Verma who was also campaigning at that time. Countering the AAP's claims, BJP candidate from New Delhi seat-Parvesh Verma alleged that the former Chief Minister's vehicle "ran over" one of their party workers. Verma said that one of the BJP worker was injured, and he had to be admitted to the Lady Hardinge Medical College for treatment. "The car of Arvind Kejriwal moved ahead despite hitting the BJP worker. This is shameful," the BJP leader remarked. Parvesh Verma also posted a video on the social media platform X, and accused Kejriwal of confronting people who were asking several questions to him and sought convincing reply.

## Hasina claims she escaped death by minutes as she fled Bangladesh in August

**From PG 1** extrajudicial killings of her political opponents. The ICT has lodged several cases against Hasina, including allegations of genocide and crimes against humanity. A commission set up by the interim government reported 1,676 complaints of enforced disappearances during her tenure, with 27 per cent of victims still unaccounted for.

## "Skill for India, skills for the world" – Dr. Arvind Virmani at MCCI session

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) hosted a special session today with Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member of NITI Aayog, titled "Vision of Viksit Bharat 2047," at the MCCI Conference Hall. Dr. Virmani addressed the gathering as the Chief Guest, emphasizing India's future economic growth and the role of skills in national development. Dr. Virmani highlighted that India had previously achieved an average GDP growth rate of 6.8% and a per capita GDP growth of 5.2% in the past decade. He expressed optimism, stating that an average per capita GDP growth of 5.2%-5.6% over the next 25 years is feasible, while a more ambitious target of 5.7%-6% is attainable. Dr. Virmani noted that India's population size and economic diversity provide a significant advantage in producing skilled labor, particu-



Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member, NITI Aayog addressing at the Special Session on "Vision of Viksit Bharat 2047" on Saturday at MCCI Amit Saraogi, President, MCCI on the right.

larly in sectors like agriculture, manufacturing, and services. In his assessment of India's economy, Dr. Virmani predicted that India will reach an economic power index of 0.95. The country aims to

achieve a per capita GDP of \$9,200 by 2023, \$13,000 by 2030, and \$36,800 by 2050. He urged the Chamber of Commerce to take an active role in educating the masses and skilling individuals, stressing

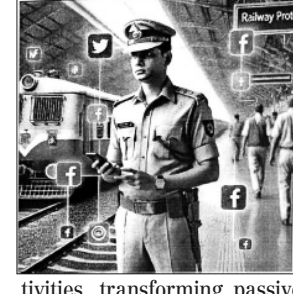
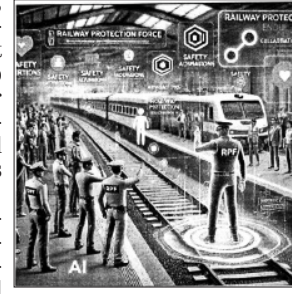
the importance of India's human capital for global competitiveness. Dr. Virmani also discussed the significance of multinational enterprises (MNEs) and multinational corporations (MNCs) in nation-building, highlighting that these companies anchor supply chains contributing to 60%-70% of trade and a significant share of GDP. Amit Saraogi, President of MCCI, shared that India is poised for a transformation and will become the world's third-largest economy by 2027. By 2047, India aims to become a \$30 trillion economy with a high standard of living. He stressed that achieving a per capita income of \$18,000 is key to realizing this vision of a "Viksit Bharat." Sanjib Kumar Kothari, Treasurer of MCCI, concluded the session with a vote of thanks, reinforcing the collective vision of transforming India into a developed nation.



Indian Railways Reimagined: The RPF's Digital Leap in Public Engagement

Harnessing Social Media as a Tool to Foster Security, Inclusivity, and Public Awareness

MI News Service, Chittaranjan: "The function of law enforcement is not just to maintain order but to create the conditions under which all citizens feel protected, empowered, and included in the societal fabric."



This approach is rooted in Habermas's Public Sphere Theory, which conceptualizes social media as a modern public sphere where individuals can engage with institutions and contribute to discourses shaping their lived realities.

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Humanizing the Force: Social Media as a Sociological Catalyst. One of the most profound impacts of social media is its ability to humanize institutions, bridging emotional gaps between organizations and the communities they serve.

Social media is not just a platform for communication but also an integral part of the RPF's crime prevention architecture. The force uses social media to share live updates on potential threats, train disruptions, and safety advisories.

Humanizing the Force: Social Media as a Sociological Catalyst. One of the most profound impacts of social media is its ability to humanize institutions, bridging emotional gaps between organizations and the communities they serve.

Jammu Tawi Railway Station Modernization: A Significant Step Towards Passenger Comfort and Operational Improvement

MI News Service, New Delhi: Northern Railway is undertaking a major modernization project at Jammu Tawi Railway Station. The aim is to enhance passenger convenience, security, connectivity, and improve operations.

Constructing four new platforms equipped with state-of-the-art ballastless track technology. Ensuring smooth operations and cleanliness on the platforms.

The signal control room will be relocated to a new building. Capacity enhancement: The number of washing pit lines will be increased from 3 to 5, allowing for the handling of more trains.

The work to modernize the Jammu Tawi Yard is expected to be completed by March 6, 2025. The redevelopment of the yard is nearly complete, and the non-interlocking work will soon be finished.

Two new 12-meter wide foot-over-bridges will be constructed for easy access to platforms. A 72-meter wide air concourse will be built to connect all seven platforms, improving passenger flow and accessibility.

Replacing old mechanical interlocking systems with advanced electronic interlocking to improve safety and efficiency. This modernization will bring significant improvements to passenger comfort and safety.

Eastern Railway RPF achieves success under "Operation Amanat" and "Operation Dignity"

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway continues to demonstrate its commitment to passenger welfare through its ongoing initiatives, "Operation Amanat" and "Operation Dignity."

officials of Sealdah Division rescued an elderly woman at Kakkidip Railway Station. The woman had become separated from her group while visiting Gangesagar and found herself stranded at the station.

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On January 17, 2025, RPF officials of Howrah, Sealdah, Asansol, and Malda Divisions successfully recovered various items left behind by passengers in trains and at railway premises.

As a sequel to this, two long distance trains viz. 13017 UP Ganadevta Express & 13175 UP Kanchenjunga Express and two passenger trains were detained enroute for short duration.

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One wagon of a goods train derailed near Tarapith Road Station: Minimum effect on train movement

MI News Service, Kolkata: A goods train proceeding to Godda while diverting from UP main line to UP loop line at Tarapith Road station at about 09:40 hrs. today (18.1.2025), one wagon of the goods train with coal freight derailed blocking UP Main line and Reversible line.

As a sequel to this, two long distance trains viz. 13017 UP Ganadevta Express & 13175 UP Kanchenjunga Express and two passenger trains were detained enroute for short duration.

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NAME CHANGE I, Nazima Begam (Old Name), Wife Of Md. Sakil, Residing At 5/A, Abul Kalam Azad Road, Konnagar, Chandannagar, Hooghly - 712235, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Nazima Khatun (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Ronendra Nath Mitra, Son Of Late Rathindra Nath Mitra, Residing At 32/3 Motilal Mallick Lane, Baranagar, North 24 Parganas - 700035, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ranendra Nath Mitra Vide An Affidavit No 32 Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Sushmita Mohanty (Old Name) Wife Of Ashok Kumar Mohanty, Residing At P-141, Metropolitan, Housing Society, Sec-A, Dhapa, P.S.- Pragati Maidan, Kolkata- 700105, West Bengal, India. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Susmita Mohanty (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Brijvan Shaw son of Shrimangal Shaw (old name of my father), D.O.B - 10/07/1989, residing at A-16, Chhayanganj, Salt Lake, Sector - 4, P.O. - Noubhanga, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700105, WEST BENGAL, INDIA have changed my name and my father name and we shall henceforth be known as Brij Bhan Gupta son of Shiv Mangal Gupta vide an affidavit sworn before the Ld. 1ST class judicial magistrate at Kolkata 20/12/2024.

NAME CHANGE I, Ronendra Nath Mitra, Son Of Late Rathindra Nath Mitra, Residing At 32/3 Motilal Mallick Lane, Baranagar, North 24 Parganas - 700035, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ranendra Nath Mitra Vide An Affidavit No 32 Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

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NAME CHANGE I, Gauri Basu Sharma, Gouri Sharma & Gouri Basu, Wife Of Saibal Kumar Basu, Dob-01/01/1984, Residing At VIII-Barmanikpur, Jorapuruk, Post-Medinipur, Pskotwali, Dist-Paschim Medinipur, State-West Bengal, Pin-721101, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Gouri Basu Sharma Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Md Shakir Hossain (Old Name) Son Of Md Iqbal, Residing At Building: 22B/H/1, Street/Road/Lane, Reck Bagan Row, P.o.- Circus Avenue, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Shakir Hussain (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Ashok Mohanty (Old Name) Son Of Madhusudan Mohanty, Residing At P-141, Metropolitan, Housing Society, Sec-A, Dhapa, P.S.- Pragati Maidan, Kolkata- 700105, West Bengal, India. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashok Kumar Mohanty (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Rama Devi (old name) daughter of Late Harendra Nath Bala, residing at 11, Sabuj Sarani, P.O.- Rabindra Nagar, P.S.- Dum Dum, Dist-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700065, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Rama Chakraborty (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 16/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Debashish Deb (Old Name) Son Of Naren Deb, Residing At 40A/20/1, K.c.c Mitra Street, Belgaria, North 24 Parganas, Pin-700056, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Debashish Deb (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Ajit Molla (Old Name), S/O Late Arjet Ali Molla, Residing At VIII-Ramnathpur, Po - Kharupala, P.S.-Haroa, Pin-743425, Dist-24 Parganas (North), West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ajit Ali Molla (New Name) As Declared Before The Ld.1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Basirhat On 24 /07/2024.

NAME CHANGE I, Arkaprovo Bhattacharjee, son of Partha Sarathi Bhattacharjee, residing at Address: E4, Jaysree Park, Behala, Kolkata - 700034, West Bengal, shall henceforth be known as Arkaprovo Bhattacharjee vide an affidavit no 22 sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Md Azhar S/O Md Tayab Azzi, Declare That My Father Said Name T K Aziz (Old Name), Residing At 74 Phears Lane, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Father Name And He Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Tayab Azzi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 18/12/2024.

NAME CHANGE I, Parsh Chandra Natyakar @ Poresh Nattkar @ Paresh Chandra Nattkar (Old Name), S/O Late Nitai Nattkar, Residing At VIII-Rasulpur, Pohandekola, P.S.-Gopal Nagar, Pin-743290, Dist-24 Parganas (North), West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Paresh Nattkar (New Name) As Declared Before The Ld.1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Bongaon On 06/12/2024.

NAME CHANGE I, Ronendra Nath Mitra, Son Of Mandira Chakraborty, Residing At 32/3 Motilal Mallick Lane, Baranagar, North 24 Parganas - 700035, West Bengal. Shall Henceforth Be Known As Pushpa Devi Kedia (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 17/01/2025.

NAME CHANGE I, Md Azhar S/O Md Tayab Azzi, Declare That My Father Said Name T K Aziz (Old Name), Residing At 74 Phears Lane, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Father Name And He Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Tayab Azzi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 18/12/2024.

NAME CHANGE I, Parsh Chandra Natyakar @ Poresh Nattkar @ Paresh Chandra Nattkar (Old Name), S/O Late Nitai Nattkar, Residing At VIII-Rasulpur, Pohandekola, P.S.-Gopal Nagar, Pin-743290, Dist-24 Parganas (North), West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Paresh Nattkar (New Name) As Declared Before The Ld.1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Bongaon On 06/12/2024.

Amplifying Awareness: Campaigns That Resonate. Social media's network effect empowers the RPF to amplify its awareness campaigns, reaching millions across urban, peri-urban, and rural demographics.

Real-Time Information Sharing: Quick dissemination of safety alerts, updates on services offered by RPF to the passengers, and guidelines during emergencies.

Interactive Public Engagement: Direct interaction with passengers for queries, grievances, and feedback. Crowdsourcing Intelligence: Leveraging user-reported information for monitoring suspicious activities.

Bridging the Gap: From Authority to Accessibility. Social media has redefined the traditional dynamic between law enforcement and the public by enabling real-time, two-way communication.

Operation Meri Saheli, for example, benefits from emotive storytelling, where the RPF shares real-life accounts of women passengers receiving timely assistance.

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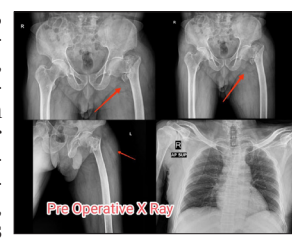
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Pioneering orthopedic procedure successfully performed at Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a groundbreaking medical achievement, Closed Reduction and Internal Fixation (CRIF) with short percutaneous femur nailing has been successfully performed at the Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda.

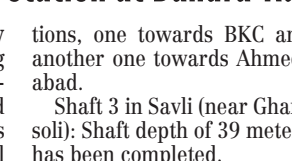


The procedure was conducted on a 71-year-old male patient suffering from a left Basiscervical fracture neck femur under the expert guidance of Dr. Anupa Ghosh, Chief Medical Superintendent, Malda.

The procedure was conducted on a 71-year-old male patient suffering from a left Basiscervical fracture neck femur under the expert guidance of Dr. Anupa Ghosh, Chief Medical Superintendent, Malda.

Ashwini Vaishnav inspected under construction tunnel between Mumbai bullet train underground station at Bandra-Kurla Complex and Shilphata in Maharashtra.

MI News Service, New Delhi: A 394-meter-long ADIT tunnel is already completed in May 2024 (record time to 6 months). This has facilitated two additional NATM faces for the excavation work in addition to Shilphata.



Shaft 3 in Savli (near Ghanoli): Shaft depth of 39 meters has been completed. Tunnel portal at Shilphata: This is the NATM end of the tunnel. Portal work is already completed and 602 meter of tunnel work out of 1628m (N3TM) has been achieved so far.

Shaft 3 in Savli (near Ghanoli): Shaft depth of 39 meters has been completed. Tunnel portal at Shilphata: This is the NATM end of the tunnel. Portal work is already completed and 602 meter of tunnel work out of 1628m (N3TM) has been achieved so far.

Shaft 1 at Mumbai HSR station construction site: Shaft depth of 36 meters, excavation work is currently underway. Shaft 2 in Vikhroli: Shaft depth of 56 meters is completed. This shaft will be used to lower two tunnel boring machines in two different directions.

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Fresh tussle starts between BJP, AAP ahead of Delhi polls



MI News Service, New Delhi: A fresh tussle has started between the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of the upcoming Delhi assembly polls. Earlier in the day, AAP accused the BJP "goons" of attacking its national convener, Arvind Kejriwal...

last 10 years. This is illegal and action can be taken under section 107 of the Motor Vehicle Act... he told ANI. BJP candidate from the New Delhi assembly seat, Parvesh Verma also meet the injured youth. The BJP candidate had alleged that the youth were injured after being allegedly hit by the car of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal...

After meeting those injured after being allegedly hit by the car of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal, BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj said, "I am a resident of the (New Delhi) constituency. We just went there to ask him about jobs. Arvind Kejriwal signalled the driver of the car to hit us..."

Countering the allegations of stone pelting, Vishal one of the injured said, "I am a resident of the (New Delhi) constituency. We just went there to ask him about jobs. Arvind Kejriwal signalled the driver of the car to hit us..."

The BJP MP alleged that Kejriwal is backtracking on his promises and threatened that the party is mulling criminal action. "This is an example of petty politics. This shows that he is afraid of his defeat... Arvind Kejriwal is running away from his promises... How can the VVIP (AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal) who is always guarded by Punjab Police get frightened by three youths?... The party (BJP) will take whatever criminal action that needs to be taken," he said.

Dr Prashant told reporters "We have seen their injuries and they have injuries on their legs. We have given them first aid and now their X-ray is being conducted..." Delhi will go to the polls on February 5 and the counting of votes will take place on February 8. The New Delhi Assembly seat will see a triangular contest between Kejriwal, Congress and BJP...

Joining his colleague, BJP spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari alleged that Kejriwal is attempting to crush the youth who dare to hold him accountable for eleven years of his work. "...The big thing is that Arvind Kejriwal knows that he is losing the election from New Delhi. Now he is trying to crush the youth of New Delhi with his car, who are asking him for an account of his work of the

BJP's Parvesh Verma accuses Kejriwal of 'attempt to murder', says he asked driver to 'crush' three youths

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bharatiya Janata Party candidate Parvesh Verma launched a scathing attack on Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal alleging that his car ran over three youths, in what, he called an "attempt to murder".

Verma added that he, as well as the three victims will file an FIR for 'attempt to murder' case against Kejriwal. "AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal's car hit the three youths and the driver of the car applied brakes after seeing the three youths but Arvind Kejriwal signalled the driver to crush them... They have been injured... This is an attempt to murder and I am going to the police station... The three youths will also file an FIR and a case of attempt to murder will also be registered," Verma added.

Verma termed the allegations as baseless and said the former CM Kejriwal is 'scared' of defeat in the upcoming polls. "They are injured and are being treated in the hospital. All the allegations of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal are baseless... All the three injured are residents of this assembly constituency, and they were hit by the car of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal. Arvind Kejriwal is afraid of his defeat..." he told ANI.

Delhi will go to the polls on February 5 and the counting of votes will take place on February 8. The New Delhi Assembly seat will see a triangular contest between Kejriwal, BJP's Parvesh Verma and Congress' Sandeep Dikshit. The last date for filing nominations is January 17. The date for scrutiny of nominations is January 18. The last date for withdrawal of candidature is January 20.

A three-way contest is on the cards in Delhi between the ruling AAP, BJP and Congress, Congress, which was in power for 15 consecutive years in Delhi, has suffered setbacks in the last two assembly elections and has failed to win any seat. AAP dominated the 2020 assembly elections by winning 62 out of 70 seats while the

Office of the Block Development Officer Chanditala-I Development Block Mashat : Hooghly E-tender is invited from the Bonafide & successful agencies as per criteria mentioned in the tender website. e-NIT No. 02-BDO/CH/124-25 dt 17.1.2025, having tender IDs 2025\_ZPHD\_803089\_1 to 2025\_ZPHD\_803089\_4 e-NIT No. 03-BDO/CH/124-25 having tender IDs 2025\_ZPHD\_802971\_1 to 2025\_ZPHD\_802971\_6 Last date of Bid submission 24.1.2025 for e-NIT No. 02-BDO/CH/124-25. Last date of bid submission 31.1.2025 for e-NIT No. 03-BDO/CH/124-25 For details P contact the office of the Block Development Officer, Chanditala-I Dev. Block, Mashat, Hooghly. Visit : https://wbenders.gov.in Sd/ Block Development Officer Chanditala-I Dev. Block Mashat, Hooghly

"When AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal was campaigning door-to-door near Lal Bahadur Sadan, people of New Delhi Assembly constituency were asking questions to AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal about employment etc," Verma told reporters. "When three residents named Vishal, Abhishek and Rohit who are unemployed tried to ask questions to AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab Police beat them up and a worker's phone was broken," he added.

Dr Prashant gave an update on the condition of three youths. "We have seen their injuries and they have injuries on their legs. We have given them first aid and now their X-ray is being conducted," he said. Earlier, Aam Aadmi Party alleged that former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Ke-

riwal's car was attacked during the election campaigning on Saturday. AAP shared a video on their official X handle which purportedly shows a stone being thrown at the Arvind Kejriwal's car. AAP accused the Bharatiya Janata Party behind the attack and claimed that Kejriwal was attacked by the "people" of BJP candidate Parvesh Verma who was also campaigning at that time.

Fearing defeat, BJP panicked, got its goons to attack Arvind Kejriwal While BJP candidate Praveesh Verma was campaigning, goons of BJP candidate Praveesh Verma attacked Arvind Kejriwal with bricks and stones and tried to hurt him so that he could not campaign. BJP people, Kejriwal ji is not going to be scared of your cowardly attack, the people of Delhi will give you a befitting reply," AAP wrote on X.

Verma termed the allegations as baseless and said the former CM Kejriwal is 'scared' of defeat in the upcoming polls. "They are injured and are being treated in the hospital. All the allegations of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal are baseless... All the three injured are residents of this assembly constituency, and they were hit by the car of AAP National Convener Arvind Kejriwal. Arvind Kejriwal is afraid of his defeat..." he told ANI.

Rahul Gandhi slams CM Nitish Kumar calls caste census 'fake'

MI News Service, New Delhi: Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi lashed out at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, calling the state's caste census a "fake" one.

Saif Ali Khan attack case: Suspect detained in Chhattisgarh, Mumbai Police to take charge of accused



Speaking at the 'Samvidhan Suraksha Sammelan' in Patna, the Congress MP said, "Caste census should be conducted to understand the true situation of the nation. It will not be like the fake caste census that has been conducted in Bihar... A policy should be made based on the caste census... Congress will pass the caste census in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. We will demolish the barrier of 50 per cent reservations..."

MI News Service, Durg: A suspect in connection with the stabbing attack on Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan has been detained in Durg, Chhattisgarh, the police said on Saturday. The suspect has been identified as Akash Kanojia and was travelling from the Jnaneswari Express train when he was nabbed.

Power of Attorney

This is to notify that Smt 1) Pramila Burmal 2) Kailash Burmal S/O Bhuvneshwar Burmal Address Sodepur 9/10 no Inlepar Pas-Kulti Dist Paschim Bardhaman Has/Have Purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed/deeds no 5237 Dated 04.07.2024 A.D.S.R. With help power of Attorney deed no 2530 Dated 24.07.2023 A.D.S.R Executive by Smt/miss 1)Apmal 2) Subhadra pal D/O Manik pal Address Uttar Dhadka Asansol P.S-Asansol(N) Dist-Paschim Bardhaman and the said applicant Has/have applied with the same land schedule for mutation vide mutation case no Mn/2025/2305/1077.Mn/2025/2305/1078 at the office of the S.D.L & L.R.O(EP-1) Dist - Paschim Bardhaman. If there is any objection for mutation in this respect any concerned principle are requested submit objection along with relevant documents to the concerned revenue officer at the office of the S.D.L&L.R.O(EP-1) within one month from the date of publication of this notice. Otherwise law will take it own course.

Power of Attorney

This is to notify that sir Upendra Kumar S/O Risaal Mahata Address Kedareswarapeta Ps-Vijayawada Dist-Andhra Pradesh Has/Have Purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed/deeds no 9423 Dated 04.12.2024 A.D.S.R. With help power of Attorney deed no 7095 or 7971 Dated 29/08/2024, 11/10/2024 A.D.S.R Executive by Sni/smt/miss 1) Ram Prakash Singh 2) Ram Naresh Singh 3) Prasad Singh S/W/D of Lt Siyalal Singh, Alias Siyalal mahata Address Gopal Nagar, Po- Kallia(C.H) P.S-Asansol North Dist-Paschim Bardhaman and the said applicant Has/have applied with the same land schedule for mutation vide mutation case no MN/2024/2305/16124 Dist - Paschim Bardhaman at the office of the S.D.L & L.R.O(EP-1) Dist - Paschim Bardhaman. If there is any objection for mutation in this respect any concerned principle are requested submit objection along with relevant documents to the concerned revenue officer at the office of the S.D.L&L.R.O(EP-1) within one month from the date of publication of this notice. Otherwise law will take it own course.

আইনি বিজ্ঞপ্তি আমার মক্কেল শ্রী শিরিন সাত্তার, পিতা শ্রী সুরজিৎ সাত্তার, সাং আমরে, থানা ডোমজুড়, জেলা-হাওড়া। শ্রীমতী সৌমিত্রা ঘোষ, স্বামী শ্রী সন্দীপ ঘোষ-এর পরে নিম্ন উক্ত আমোক্তার শ্রী হেমাঙ্গ দাস -এর নিকট হইতে এ.ডি.এস.আর. ডোমজুড় অফিসে রেজিস্ট্রিকৃত ০৫০৪০০০৯/২০২৪ নং আমোক্তার নামা দলিল গ্রাণা থানা ডোমজুড়, মৌজা-দক্ষিণ বাঁধাডহর, জে.এল. নং ১৫, হাল বটিয়ান নং ৯৭২৩, সাবেক দাগ নং ২৮০৪, হাল ২৪৩৪ নং দাগে ৩.০৩০ শতক জমি ০৫০৪০০০৯/২০২৪ নং দলিল মূল্য এ.ডি.এস.আর. ডোমজুড় অফিসে ক্রয় করে নাম পরিবর্তনের আবেদন করেন। উক্ত বিষয়ে দাড়া বা স্বার্থ সন্নিবিষ্ট কাহারো কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১ (এক) মাসের মধ্যে ডোমজুড় বি.এল. এন্ড এল.আর.ও.-এর নিকট আপিল জানাবেন। অন্যথা আইনানুগ কার্য হইবে। JOYDIP CHATTOPADHYAY Advocate Judges' Court, Howrah

আইনি বিজ্ঞপ্তি আমার মক্কেলগণ স্বাক্ষরকেন সৌমেন দাড়া, অসীম কুমার সাধু, জয়রানী সাধু, অমিত ঘোষ, ময়নেন দাস, মহতা সাধু, সর্ব সাং ডোমজুড়, হাওড়া, শ্রী বনমালী বানার্জী শিগের পরে নিম্ন উক্ত আমোক্তার শ্রী হেমাঙ্গ দাস -এর নিকট হইতে এ.ডি.এস. আ, ডোমজুড় অফিসে রেজিস্ট্রিকৃত ০৫০৪০০২২/২৪ নং আমোক্তার নামা দলিল গ্রাণা, থানা ডোমজুড়, মৌজা-ডোমজুড়, জে.এল. নং ৩৩, হাল বটিয়ান নং ২২০৪, ৩১৭৩, ৩৪৯২, সাবেক ৪৯২২ নং দাগ হইতে হাল ৪০০২ নং দাগে কামেশী ৪০ শতক জমি ২০২৪ হাল ৩২২২, ৩৪২২, ৩৪২৩, ৩৪২৫, ৪০১৩, ৪০১৫ নং দলিল মূল্য এ.ডি.এস.আর. ডোমজুড় অফিসে ক্রয় করে নাম পরিবর্তনের আবেদন করেন। উক্ত বিষয়ে দাড়া বা স্বার্থ সন্নিবিষ্ট কাহারো কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১ (এক) মাসের মধ্যে ডোমজুড় বি.এল. এন্ড এল.আর.ও.-এর নিকট আপিল জানাবেন। অন্যথা আইনানুগ কার্য হইবে। JOYDIP CHATTOPADHYAY Advocate Judges' Court, Howrah

Amit Shah orders to constitute inter-ministerial team to probe mysterious deaths in J-K's Rajouri

MI News Service, New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday ordered the constitution of an inter-ministerial team led by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to investigate the causes of unexplained deaths in three incidents reported over the past six weeks in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district. As per Shah's direction, the team will visit the affected village to ascertain the causes of death.

Lost Mobile Recovered Returned To Commuter

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 17.01.2025 at about 10:00 hrs., an on-duty lady RPF staff at the platform of Rabindra Sadan Metro station found a mobile phone at the platform. Finding no claimant of this phone and after proper security checking, she deposited it at the Station Master's Office. Thereafter, Station Master made repeated announcements requesting the owner of the phone to collect it from the Station Master's Office and a control message was also communicated to all the stations. After sometimes, a lady commuter came to the Station Master's Office and claimed the ownership of the phone. After proper verification and complying with all official formalities, the phone was handed over to her. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping her to recover her lost phone.

Amit Shah orders to constitute inter-ministerial team to probe mysterious deaths in J-K's Rajouri

derstand the causative factors of deaths," it added. This comes after the mysterious deaths continued in the Pir Panjal Valley's Rajouri on January 17 as the death toll touched 17 with three more deaths reported in the past three days. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also chaired a high-level meeting to address the "alarming situation" on Friday. The latest victim, Jatti Begum, 60, wife of Mohammad Yousuf, succumbed within 12 hours of admission at the Government Medical College, Rajouri. Since December 7 last year, three major waves of deaths struck Badhal village and left 16 dead and at least 28 affected by unknown causes. All the deaths were reported within three families. Among the deceased were 11 children and a pregnant woman. A Special Investigation Team (SIT), comprising police and medical experts, has also been constituted by the Jammu and Kashmir administration after several national-level testing centres ruled out any spread of disease among those found dead so far.

Nisichinda Gram Panchayat Bally, Howrah

Re Electronic Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafied and resourceful bidders for different development works vide e-NIT No. 59/ PGP/2024-25 & 62/PGP/24-25. Published date: 18/01/2025 at 09:00 AM. Last date of Bid submission: 25/01/2025 up to 12:30 PM. Date of opening: 27/01/2025 at 12:45 PM. Details are available in https://wbenders.gov.in & https://etender.wb.nic.in and Office Notice Board. Sd/- Pradhan Nisichinda Gram Panchayat

Notification Names of the Power of Attorney

1) Srimati Ramala Bhattacharyya, wife of Ashutosh Bhattacharyya, resident of 358 (62), Ram Mohan Sarani, Baidyabati, Serampur, Hooghly-712222. 2) Srimati Chaiti Ghosh, wife of Sri Tarak Ghosh, daughter of Ashutosh Bhattacharyya, resident of 82/1, Ram Mohan Sarani (Ram Mohan Pal), Baidyabati, Serampur, Hooghly-712222. These individuals, on 28/06/2019, executed a Power of Attorney document (No. IV-0130/2019) at the ADSR office in Serampur. Hooghly, appointing 1) Anup Bhattacharyya and 2) Anjan Bhattacharyya, both sons of Ashutosh Bhattacharyya, resident of 358 (62), Ram Mohan Sarani, Baidyabati, Serampur, Hooghly-712222, as their attorneys with authority over approximately 0.16 acres or 10 kathas of property. Subsequently, using this Power of Attorney, Anup Bhattacharyya and Anjan Bhattacharyya sold approximately 1 katha land of land to Sri Kamal De, son of Krishna Pada De, resident of L.J. Road, Champadani Das Bigha, Baidyabati, Badheswar, Hooghly-712222, through a Sale Deed (No. I-2862/2019) registered at the ADSR office in Serampur, Hooghly on 09/07/2019. However, it has come to light that Sri Kamal De, without transferring the purchased property to his name, appointed Sri Arvind Makar, son of Sri Brnna Prasad Makar, resident of 737/1, Ram Mohan Sarani, Baidyabati, Serampur, Hooghly-712222, as his Power of Attorney through a document (No. IV-0200/2019) registered at the ADSR office in Serampur, Hooghly on 17/09/2019. Using this Power of Attorney, Sri Arvind Makar sold the 1 katha land to my client, Srimati Asha Das, wife of Sri Prashant Das, resident of 222, S.C.M. Road, Ran Ghat, Baidyabati, Serampur, Hooghly-712222, through a Sale Deed (No. I-0151/2024) registered at the ADSR office in Serampur, Hooghly on 20/12/2024. The property details are as follows: District: Hooghly, Mouza: Station Serampur, Mauza Dirghang, included in J.L. No. 4, formerly 228 and currently LR No. 303 Khatian, RS 1985 and currently LR No. 2467 plot, 4 katha residential land, sold through Power of Attorney. It is hereby informed to all that my client Smt. Asha Das, wife of Sri Prashant Das, has applied to the BL & LRO, Serampur, Block Office to register the purchased property in her name. If anyone has any legal objection to this, they can file an objection with the concerned office within 1 month of the publication of this notice, otherwise, the matter will be processed as per rules. Advocate: Sanat Kumar Seal, District Judge Court, Chuchura, Hooghly

EASTERN RAILWAY E-Auction Notice

No. COM-PUB-E-Auction-SDAH, Dated : 17.01.2025. E-Auction is invited by Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd Floor, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 through IREPS Portal at www.ireps.gov.in Admin Unit/Zone: Sealdah Division - Commercial/Eastern Railway. Auction Catalogue No. ADVT-01-25-01. Auctioning Authority: Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah. Auction Start (All Lots): 21.01.2025, 12:00 hrs. Auction Close Date/Time: 21.01.2025, 15:00 hrs. Auto Extension Zone: 120 seconds. Auto Extension Duration: 120 seconds. Initial Cooling Off Period: 30 minutes. Successive Lots Closing Interval: 10 minutes. Maximum Auto Extensions: 10 Times. Details of the e-Auction Catalogue are as follows: Seq. No.; Lot No./Category; Description; TSDP/Days; Lot End Date/Time respectively: AA/1; ADVT-LOCO-SDAH/ADVT-55-23-1(Advertising Loco Exterior); Advertisement Rights for displaying of Commercial Advertisement by way of branding (by the mean of PU Painting) on the exterior surface of Electric Locomotive VAB-7 primarily maintained by Sealdah Division; 1096; 21.01.2025 at 12:30:00; AB/1; ADVT-SDAH-BL-OH-20-22-2(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for advertisement at outside station area of Cluster-XIII Stations (Belgharia-Titagarh); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 12:40:00; AB/2; ADVT-SDAH-RH-OH-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of 04 level Crossing Gates grouped into 01(One) Cluster(LC-A); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 12:50:00; AB/3; ADVT-SDAH-BDZ-OH-11-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights of advertisement at the identified locations of 13 level Crossing Gates grouped into 01(One) Cluster(LC-B); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:00:00; AB/4; ADVT-SDAH-DEB-OH-12-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for advertisement at the identified locations of 03 level Crossing Gates grouped into 01(One) Cluster(LC-C); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:10:00; AB/5; ADVT-SDAH-SDAH-OH-2-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Sealdah Railway Colony (RC-1); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:20:00; AB/6; ADVT-SDAH-SDAH-OH-3-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Narkeldanga Railway Colony (RC-2); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:30:00; AB/7; ADVT-SDAH-SGBA-OH-4-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for advertisement at the identified locations of Mughalbagh Railway Colony (RC-3); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:40:00; AB/8; ADVT-SDAH-KOAA-OH-5-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Dakshindari Railway Colony (RC-6); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 13:50:00; AB/9; ADVT-SDAH-BLN-OH-6-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Ballygunge Railway Colony (RC-7); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 14:00:00; AB/10; ADVT-SDAH-NH-OH-7-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Naihati Railway Colony (RC-10); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 14:10:00; AB/11; ADVT-SDAH-KYL-OH-8-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Kalyani Railway Colony (RC-11); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 14:20:00; AB/12; ADVT-SDAH-KNJ-OH-9-22-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for display of advertisement at the identified locations of Krishnanagar City Railway Colony (RC-12); 1096; 21.01.2025 at 14:30:00; AB/13; ADVT-SDAH-KOAA-OH-14-23-1(Advertising-Out of Home); Bulk rights for commercial publicity at Zone B (Circulating area) outside Kolkata Station; 1096; 21.01.2025 at 14:40:00; AC/1; ADVT-SDAH-SDAH-OH-SD-61-24-1(Advertising-On Station Premises (Digital)); Digital display of commercial advertisement along with Railway related information on 50:50 time/space sharing basis through Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Digital screens at Sealdah Railway Station (Zone A1); 1826; 21.01.2025 at 14:50:00; AC/2; ADVT-SDAH-BNKR-OH-58-24-1(Advertising-On Station Premises (Digital)); Digital display of commercial advertisement along with Railway related information on 50:50 time/space sharing basis through Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Digital screens at Bidhanagar Road Railway Station; 1826; 21.01.2025 at 15:00:00; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee for AA/1, AB/1 to AB/13 and AC/1 TO AC/2 each. Min. Inere(%): 0.2 for AA/1, AB/1 to AB/13 and AC/1 TO AC/2 each. Lot Status: New in Draft Catalogue for AA/1, AB/1 to AB/13 and AC/1 TO AC/2 each. SDAH-329/2024-25 Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

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. 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 3(1)(2) 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 Notice (Rs.) Name of Branch 1. Sadananda Jana/ Dipali Jana/ Village Beldanga Chaipat P.O. Chaipat, P.S. Daspur Beldanga Chaipat Primary School, District Paschim Midnapore West Bengal. RMDE0000665361/ LBLA0000676220/ TBMEDE000665906/ LBLA00006701734 Sabek Dag No. 11992, Hal Dag No. 6477, (L.R.A.) Khatian No. 3068, J.L. No. 216 S No. Chaipat Gram Panchayat, Mouza Chaipat, Thana Daspur, A.D.S.R.O. Daspur, District Paschim Midnapore, West Bengal. Admeasuring An Area of 06 1/5 Satak/ Date of Symbolic 15.01.2025 September 23, 2024 16,93,359.00/- Rohini (West Bengal) 2. Sadananda Jana/ Dipali Jana/ Amal Kumar Jena (Guarantor)/ Village Beldanga Chaipat P.O. Chaipat, P.S. Daspur Beldanga Chaipat Primary School, District Paschim Midnapore West Bengal. RMDE0000665361/ LBLA0000676220/ LBGHT0005945729 Sabek Dag No. 11992, Hal Dag No. 6477, (L.R.A.) Khatian No. 3068, J.L. No. 216 S No. Chaipat Gram Panchayat, Mouza Chaipat, Thana Daspur, A.D.S.R.O. Daspur, District Paschim Midnapore, West Bengal. Admeasuring An Area of 06 1/5 Satak/ Date of Symbolic 15.01.2025 September 23, 2024 17,291,16.94/- Rohini (West Bengal) The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged property 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 18, 2025 Place: Rohini (West Bengal) Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.



## Study shows stress affects brain, psyche via immune system



ZURICH [SWITZERLAND] : Chronic stress has a wide-ranging impact on our bodies. Many stress-related mental disorders, including depression, are associated with immune system abnormalities. However, the basic mechanisms dictating how these changes affect the brain are largely unknown.

Enzyme from immune cells in the blood affects nerves in the brain

An international research team led by the University of Zurich (UZH), and the University Hospital of Psychiatry Zurich (PUK) and the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, has now uncovered a novel mechanism. "We were able to show that stress increases the amount of the matrix metalloproteinase-8 (MMP-8), an enzyme in the blood of mice. The same changes were found in patients with depression," says first author Flurin Cathomas. MMP-8 travels from the blood to the brain, where it alters the functioning of certain neurons. In the affected mice, this leads to behavioral changes: they withdraw and avoid

**"Blood analyses of patients with depression indicate that the findings from the mouse models are also relevant for humans: both the monocytes and MMP-8 were increased in the blood of people with depression in comparison to healthy participants."**

social contact. Potential for new treatments for depression According to Cathomas, the findings are novel in two respects: "Firstly, they indicate a new 'body-mind mechanism', which might be relevant not only for stress-related mental illness, but also for other diseases that affect both the immune and nervous systems." And secondly, says the psychiatrist, identification of the specific MMP-8 protein could be a potential starting point to develop new treatments for depression.

Changes to brain extracellular matrix  
The researchers were able to use animal models to show that stress increases the

migration of a specific type of white blood cells called monocytes into the vascular system of the brain, particularly into the reward center regions. These monocytes produce MMP-8. MMP-8 is involved in the restructuring and regulation of the net-like frame that surrounds neurons in the brain - called the extracellular matrix. "If MMP-8 penetrates the brain tissue from the blood, it changes the matrix structure and thus disrupts the functioning of the neurons. Mice who are affected by this process display changes in behavior that are similar to those seen in humans with depression," says Flurin Cathomas.

In order to prove that MMP-8 was really responsible for the behavioural changes, the researchers removed the MMP-8 gene from some of the mice. Compared to the control mice, these animals did not display stress-related negative behavioral changes. "Blood analyses of patients with depression indicate that the findings from the mouse models are also relevant for humans: both the monocytes and MMP-8 were increased in the blood of people with depression in comparison to healthy participants."

Clinical studies with patients planned  
Many more studies are needed before the results can be implemented in clinical practice. Nevertheless, says Cathomas, "our work once again demonstrates the importance of the interaction between the immune system and the brain in the development of psychiatric disorders. These insights are already being incorporated into psychiatric treatment today." On the PUK's special ward for integrative care led by Cathomas, the clinicians take a holistic mind-body approach based on the latest scientific findings when treating their patients.

The research team is now planning clinical studies to investigate the extent to which the immune system can be influenced by stimulating certain areas of the brain. They will also look at whether any changes in the immune system cells of depressive patients influence their behaviour.

## Pregnant women should try to avoid ultraprocessed, fast foods: Study

WASHINGTON DC [US] : According to a study published in the journal Environmental International, pregnant women should think twice before eating a cheeseburger or a boxed pastry. Surprisingly, the report focuses not on the food itself, such as fries, burgers, shakes, and cakes, but on what comes into contact with the meal before it is consumed.

Research shows that phthalates, a class of chemicals associated with plastics, can shed from the wrapping, packaging and even from plastic gloves worn by food handlers into food. Once consumed during pregnancy, the chemicals can get into the bloodstream, through the placenta and then into the fetal bloodstream. The chemical can cause oxidative stress and an inflammatory cascade within the fetus, researchers noted. Previous literature has indicated that exposure to phthalates during pregnancy can increase the risk of low birth weight, preterm birth and child mental health disorders such as autism and ADHD. This is the first study in pregnant women to show that diets higher in ultraprocessed foods are linked to greater phthalate exposures, the authors wrote.

"When moms are exposed to this chemical, it can cross the placenta and go into fetal circulation," said senior author Dr. Sheela Sathyanarayana, a UW Medicine paediatrician and researcher at the Seattle Children's Research Institute. This analysis involved data in the Conditions Affecting Neurocognitive Development and Learning in Early Childhood (CAN-DLE) research cohort, which comprised 1,031 pregnant individuals in Memphis, Tenn., who were enrolled between 2006 and 2011. Phthalate levels were measured in urine samples collected during the second trimester of pregnancy. The researchers found that ultraprocessed food composed 10% to 60% of participants' diets, or 38.6%, on average. Each 10% higher dietary proportion of ultraprocessed food was associated with 13% higher concentration of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, one of the most common and harmful phthalates. The phthalate amounts were derived through urine samples taken from the women in the study.

Ultraprocessed foods, according to the researchers, are made mostly from substances extracted from foods such as oils, sugar and starch, but have been so changed from processing and the addition of chemicals and preservatives to enhance their appearance or shelf life that they are hard to recognize from their original form, researchers



added. These include packaged cake mixes, for example, or packaged french fries, hamburger buns and soft drinks. When it comes to fast food, gloves worn by the employees and the storage, preparation, serving equipment or tools may be the main sources of exposure. Both frozen and fresh ingredients would be subject to these sources, said lead author Brennan Baker, a postdoctoral researcher in Sathyanarayana's lab. This is the first study, researchers say, to identify ultraprocessed foods as a link between exposure to phthalates and the socio-economics issues facing the mothers. The mothers' vulnerability might stem from experiencing financial hardships and from living in "food deserts" where healthier, fresh foods are harder to obtain and transportation to distant markets is unrealistic.

"We don't blame the pregnant person here," said Baker. "We need to call out manufacturers and legislators to offer replacements, and ones that may not be even more harmful."

More legislation is needed, the authors said, to prevent phthalate contamination in foods by regulating the composition of food wrapping or even the gloves that food handlers may use. What should pregnant women do now? Sathyanarayana said that pregnant women should try to avoid ultraprocessed food as much as they can, and seek out fruits, vegetables and lean meats. Reading labels can come into play here, she added.

## Pregnancy complications can also affect child's health later in life: Study



LOS ANGELES [US] : Two of the most frequent pregnancy problems are hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (HDP) and gestational diabetes (GDM), which increase pregnant people's risk of developing cardiovascular disease later in life.

A new study to be presented at the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine's (SMFM) annual meeting, The Pregnancy Meeting, suggested that pregnancy problems may lead to poor cardiovascular health for the kid.

The findings were published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

In a secondary analysis of 3,317 maternal-child pairings from the prospective Hyperglycemia and Adverse Pregnancy Outcome Follow-up Study (HAPO FUS), researchers examined whether there was a connection between hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and gestational diabetes and a child's cardiovascular health.

On the maternal side, 8 per cent developed high blood pressure during pregnancy, 12 per cent developed gestational diabetes, and 3 per cent developed both high blood pressure and diabetes.

Researchers then examined the child's cardiovascular health 10 to 14 years after delivery. Cardiovascular health was evaluated based on four metrics: body mass index, blood pressure, total cholesterol, and glucose level. Pediatric guidelines categorized each metric as ideal, intermediate, or poor.

Researchers found that before the age of 12 (median age: 11.6), more than half of the children (55.5 per cent) had at least one metric that was non-ideal, which puts them at greater risk of heart disease and stroke.

"These findings are important because traditionally, the thinking has been that a person's risk of developing cardiovascular disease starts after birth -- that everyone starts at the same point," said the study's lead author Kartik K. Venkatesh, MD, PhD, a maternal-fetal medicine subspecialist and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynaecology and assistant professor of epidemiology, and Director of the Diabetes in Pregnancy Program at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus.

## Researchers find how fatty acids plays key role in creating memories

WASHINGTON DC [US] : Researchers at the University of Queensland have demonstrated the vital role that saturated fatty acids play in the brain's storage of memories.

A new cure for neurodegenerative illnesses may now be possible, thanks to research conducted by Dr Isaac Akefe of the Queensland Brain Institute at the University of Queensland. He has also discovered the genes that underlie the process of memory creation.

The findings were published in the EMBO Journal.

"We've shown previously that levels of saturated fatty acids increase in the brain during neuronal communication, but we didn't know what was causing these changes," Dr Akefe said.

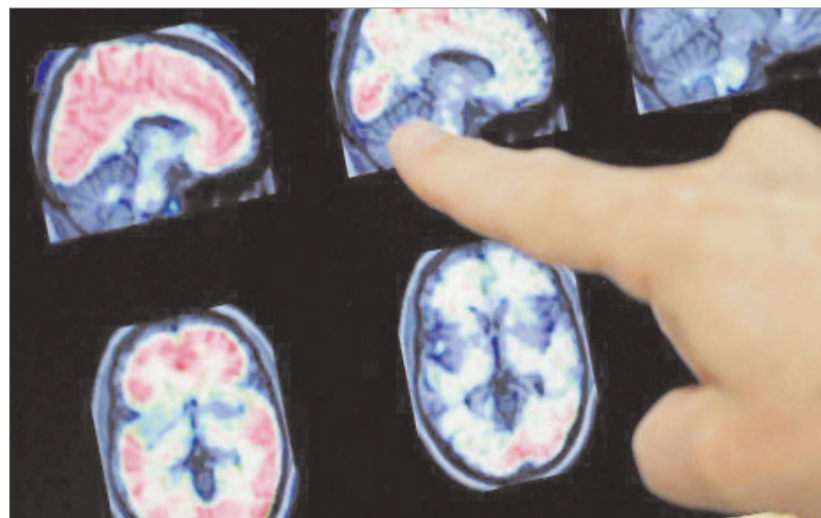
"Now for the first time, we've identified alterations in the brain's fatty acid landscape when the neurons encode a memory."

"An enzyme called Phospholipase A1 (PLA1) interacts with another protein at the synapse called STXBP1 to form saturated fatty acids."

The brain is the body's fattiest organ, with fatty compounds called lipids making up 60 per cent of its weight. Fatty acids are the building blocks of a class of lipids called phospholipids.

The work done in Professor Frederic Meunier's laboratory has shown that STXBP1 controls the targeting of the PLA1 enzyme, coordinating the release of fatty acids and directing communication at the synapses in the brain.

"Human mutations in the PLA1 and



STXBP1 genes reduce free fatty acid levels and promote neurological disorders," Professor Meunier said.

"To determine the importance of free fatty acids in memory formation, we used mouse models where the PLA1 gene was removed. We tracked the onset and progression of neurological and cognitive decline throughout their lives. We saw that even before their memories became impaired, their saturated free fatty acid levels were significantly lower than control mice. This indicates that this PLA1 enzyme, and the fatty acids it releases, play a key role in memory acquisition."

The research has important implications for understanding of how memories

are formed. "Our findings indicate that manipulating this memory acquisition pathway has exciting potential as a treatment for neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's," Professor Meunier said.

The research team acknowledges the contributions of PhD candidates Saber Abd Elkader from the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, and Benjamin Matthews from the Queensland Brain Institute.

This is a collaborative study with the University of New South Wales, University of Strasbourg, University of Bordeaux, the Scripps Research Institute and the Baylor College of Medicine.

## Plant-based diet linked to better sexual health in males treated with prostate cancer: Study

WASHINGTON DC [US] : According to a new study, a diet low in meat and dairy but high in fruits, vegetables, grains, and nuts is associated with lower rates of erectile dysfunction, urinary incontinence, and other frequent side effects in prostate cancer patients.

Led by researchers at NYU Grossman School of Medicine and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the analysis of more than 3,500 men with prostate cancer explored whether eating a more plant-based diet was associated with quality-of-life issues that often arise after treatment. Sorting patients into five groups (quintiles) based on the proportion of plant versus animal foods the men said they eat, the authors found that the quintile that consumed the most plants scored 8% to 11% better in measures of sexual function compared with the group that consumed the least.

Similarly, the results revealed up to 14% better scores for urinary health, with fewer instances of incontinence, obstruction, and irritation. The authors further found up to 13% better scores in hormonal health (which assesses symptoms like low energy, depression, and hot flashes) among the highest quintile of plant-based diet compared with the lowest.

"Our findings offer hope for those looking for ways to improve their quality of life after undergoing surgery, radiation, and other common therapies for prostate cancer, which can cause significant side effects," said study lead author and urologist Stacy Loeb, MD. "Adding more fruits and vegetables to their diet, while reducing meat and dairy, is a simple step that patients can take," added Loeb, a professor in the Departments of Urology and Population Health at NYU Langone Health.

Prostate cancer is among the most common and deadliest forms of cancer among American men, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Previous research by



the same team had already found that eating a plant-based diet may reduce the risk of developing the disease in the first place. Other investigations have connected this diet to a lower risk of sexual dysfunction in general but not specifically for those with prostate cancer, who are at particularly high risk for such issues.

The new study, publishing online Feb. 13 in the journal Cancer, is also believed to be the first of its kind to show better urinary health in these patients based on nutrition, says Loeb.

For the research, the team analyzed data from the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study, an ongoing investigation begun in 1986 and sponsored by Harvard Chan School. The data set is composed of information on more than 50,000 male dentists, pharma-

## Kia India unveils the New EV6 at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 & showcases World of "Inspiring Innovations"

NEW DELHI: Kia India, a leading mass premium carmaker, unveiled the new EV6 at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025. Kia India also announced that bookings for the new Kia EV6 start today, marking another milestone in the brand's electric journey. The new Kia EV6 continues to set the standard for safety, equipped with our ADAS 2.0 package, which includes 27 advanced safety and driver assistance features. As compared to previous EV6 we have added five additional ADAS 2.0 features - Front Collisions Avoidance assist (FCA) - City/Pedestrian/Cyclist/Junction Turning, Forward Collision Avoidance (FCA) - Junction crossing, Forward Collision Avoidance-Lane Assist Change (FCA) - Oncoming & Side, Forward Collision Avoidance assist (FCA) - Evasive Steering and Lane Follow Assist (LFA). These features are derived from the cutting-edge technology from our flagship model, EV9 and include improvements to collision safety, structural rigidity, and enhanced occupant protection. With the added strength and enhanced ADAS package, you can drive with confidence, knowing that the EV6 is designed to protect. The EV9 stands as Kia's flagship electric SUV, setting new standards for technology and innovation in the



automotive industry, globally. Having crowned as the prestigious WCOTY 2024, the vehicle is powered by a 99.8 kWh battery, the EV9 offers an impressive range of up to 561 km on a single charge, making it suitable for both city commutes and long-distance travel. Its ultra-fast charging capability allows the battery to recharge from 10% to 80% in just 24 minutes with a 350kW DC charger. Kia India is also showcasing its legacy of pushing boundaries by seamlessly harmonizing global technology, luxurious design, and sustainable engineering with its product range including the newly debuted Kia Syros. The immersive display at Bharat Mobility pavilion aligns with Kia India's commitment to driving the future of automotive excellence while supporting India's vision for a sustainable and innovative transportation ecosystem.

rists, optometrists, osteopaths, podiatrists, and veterinarians. The project was designed to better understand how nutrition influences risks related to cancer, heart disease, and other serious illnesses. As part of the project, men with prostate cancer answered a questionnaire every four years about the kinds of foods they ate and in what proportions. Another survey, which was administered every two years, assessed frequency of incontinence, difficulties maintaining an erection, and problems with bowels, energy, and mood, among many other health concerns. Most of the patients (more than 83%) had received prostate cancer treatment, Loeb notes, and all included in the current study had early forms of the disease that had not yet spread to other organs. She adds that when searching for potential connections between plant-based diet and health, the research team took into account weight, physical activity, and many other factors that could affect quality of life.

Among the findings, the researchers say, eating high amounts of any plant-based food was linked to better sexual health, urinary health, and vitality scores, regardless of demographic factors, lifestyle differences, or history of other medical issues such as diabetes. Eating more healthy plant-based food was also associated with better bowel function, which, Loeb says, may be explained by the dietary fiber found in plants.

"These results add to the long list of health and environmental benefits of eating more plants and fewer animal products," said Loeb. "They also clearly challenge the historical misconception that eating meat boosts sexual function in men, when in fact the opposite seems to be the case." Loeb cautions that the men assessed in the study were mostly White healthcare professionals. As a result, she says the team next plans to expand their research to a more diverse group of patients and to those with more advanced stages of the disease.



# Israel-Hamas ceasefire is going into effect today at 8:30 am

**MI News Service, Cairo:** The ceasefire between Hamas and Israel will go into effect in less than 24 hours, Qatar's foreign ministry said on Saturday.

In a post on X, foreign minister Majid al-Ansari said the ceasefire will start at 8:30 am (6:30 GMT) on Sunday, and advised people to exercise caution and wait for directions from officials.

Early Saturday morning, Israel's Cabinet approved the deal for a ceasefire in Gaza that would release dozens of hostages and pause the 15-month war with Hamas, bringing the sides a step closer to ending their deadliest and most destructive fighting ever.

Despite the ceasefire news, sirens sounded across central Israel on Saturday, with the army saying it intercepted projectiles launched from Yemen.

The Iran-backed Houthis have stepped up their missile attacks in recent weeks. The group says the attacks are part of its campaign aimed at pressuring Israel and the West over the war in Gaza.

Under the first phase of ceasefire, 33 hostages are set to be released over the next six weeks, in exchange for hundreds of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel.

The remainder, including male soldiers, are to be released in a second phase that will be negotiated during the first.

Hamas has said it will not release the remaining captives without a lasting ceasefire and a full Israeli withdrawal.



However, key questions remain about the ceasefire, — the second achieved during the war — including the names of the 33 hostages who are to be released and who among them is still alive.

Hamas has agreed to free three female hostages on Day 1 of the deal, four on Day 7, and the remaining 26 over the following five weeks.

Palestinian detainees are to be released as well.

Israel's justice ministry has published a list of more than 700 people who are to be freed in the deal's first phase, and said the release will not begin before 4 pm local time on Sunday.

All people on the list are younger or female.

Also during the first phase, Israeli troops are to pull back into a buffer zone about a kilometre wide inside Gaza, along its borders with Israel.

The move will allow displaced Palestinians to return to their homes, including in Gaza City and northern Gaza.

With most of Gaza's population driven into mas-

sive, squalid tent camps, Palestinians are desperate to get back to their homes, even though many were destroyed or heavily damaged by Israel's campaign.

The largely-devastated territory is expected to see a surge in humanitarian aid. Trucks carrying aid lined up on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing into Gaza on Friday.

On Saturday, two Egyptian government ministers arrived in the northern Sinai Peninsula to oversee the preparations for the delivery of aid and to receive the evacuation of wounded patients, the health ministry said.

Hamas triggered the war with its October 7, 2023, cross-border attack into Israel that killed some 1,200 people and left some 250 others captive.

Nearly 100 hostages remain in Gaza.

Israel responded with a devastating offensive that has killed more than 46,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not distinguish between civilians and militants but say women and children make up more than half the dead.

# Palestine ready to assume full responsibility in Gaza: President Mahmoud Abbas

**MI News Service, Ramallah:** Following the ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas, President Mahmoud Abbas called for a full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, stating that Palestine is ready to "assume full responsibility" in Gaza.

Emphasising Gaza as an integral part of Palestine, the Palestinian President in a statement said, "The Presidency affirmed its firm position of the necessity of an immediate ceasefire in and full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. The Presidency reiterated that it was necessary to establish an immediate ceasefire and Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, and pave the way for the State of Palestine to assume full responsibility for the Gaza Strip as an integral part of the occupied territory. The State of Palestine has legal and political jurisdiction over the Strip as it is the case with the rest of the occupied territory of the West Bank and Jerusalem, while affirming rejection of any carving up of the Gaza Strip and forced expulsion of any Palestinian from their homeland."

It added, "The Palestinian government has completed all preparations to assume full responsibilities in the Strip and that the government administrative and security personnel were fully prepared to carry out their tasks in order to alleviate the suffering inflicted on the Gaza population, allow displaced persons to return

to their houses, restore essential services to the Strip, assume responsibility for the border crossings and help commence Gaza reconstruction."

It also urged international support for humanitarian aid, reconstruction efforts, and a political resolution aligned with UN resolutions.

"The Presidency urges the international community along with neighbouring and donor countries to offer urgent humanitarian aid to enable the government to shoulder its responsibilities towards the Palestinian people, whether in the Gaza Strip which has been subjected to a genocidal war or in the West Bank and Jerusalem which have been subjected to grave Israeli violations," the Palestinian Presidency said.

It added, "The Presidency reiterates the urgent need for a political solution based on the United Nations resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative by holding an international peace conference to mobilize international recognition of the State of Palestine and support its quest for full membership of the United Nations in order to bring about regional security and stability conducive to ending the occupation and realise the establishment of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, on the 1967 borders, in line with international law and the relevant UN resolutions."

# Israel govt approves ceasefire-hostage deal with Hamas



**MI News Service, Tel Aviv:** The Israeli government has approved the ceasefire and hostage release deal with Hamas, according to a report by Times of Israel.

By a vote of 24-8, the cabinet approved the deal, which is set to take effect on Sunday. The deal was approved in the early hours of Saturday.

The agreement will initiate the first phase of the ceasefire in Gaza and facilitate the release of both Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners.

The Times of Israel further reported that as the government has now approved the agreement, opponents of the deal can petition the High Court of Justice against the release of Palestinian security

prisoners who are set to be freed, though the court is unlikely to intervene.

On Friday, the Israeli security cabinet had approved the hostage release-ceasefire deal with Hamas and recommended the government to adopt it.

The Israel government's hostages and missing persons coordination unit on Friday notified the families of the 33 Israeli hostages expected to be set free in the first phase of the Gaza ceasefire deal.

Israel has not been told how many of the 33 are alive, though it expects the majority are. Israel will receive a full status report on all those on the list seven days into the ceasefire. The order of release is not yet known. The identities

of those set to return are expected to be provided 24 hours before each release, as reported by Times of Israel.

Beyond the 33 hostages set for release in phase one, Israel says 65 more hostages are currently held in Gaza, including the bodies of at least 36 confirmed dead. As the first phase progresses, talks will focus on the release of remaining hostages, ending the war, and Gaza's future reconstruction.

Netanyahu's far-right coalition allies have pressured him not to agree to end the fighting, with families of the remaining 65 hostages fearing the second phase may never happen, and their loved ones could remain in terrorists' hands.

# Pakistan: Imran Khan condemns court's verdict in Al-Qadir Trust case, vows to "fight till last ball"

**MI News Service, Islamabad:** Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan condemned the court's verdict in the Al Qadir Trust case, calling it "mockery" of justice and pledged to fight till the last ball and refuse any deals, The Express Tribune reported.

In a statement shared on social media platforms Facebook and X, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan condemned court's decision in the Al Qadir Trust case, calling it a premeditated move with the verdict and sentencing already leaked to the media before the official announcement.

Khan called the judicial process a "mockery" of justice and said that the individuals who wrote the judgement leaked it to the media, undermining the integrity of the legal system, according to The Express Tribune report. PTI founder reiterated his stance against the "military-backed regime" and vowed to never accept it.

He said, "I will continue my struggle for true freedom and democracy, even if it means spending more time in jail," while emphasising that he will make no compromise on his principles or the fight for Pakistan's true independence, The Express

Tribune reported.

Imran Khan pledged to continue fighting for democracy, the rule of law, and true freedom for the people of Pakistan. He said, "We will fight till the last ball, and I will not make any deals. I will face all the false cases brought against me."

He called on people of Pakistan to read the Hamoodur Rahman Commission Report and compare it to the actions of General Yahya Khan, who he claimed similarly caused the downfall of Pakistan. He said that the current rulers were following the same path, acting in their personal interests and pushing Pakistan towards destruction.

On Al-Qadir Trust case, PTI founder accused the judiciary of causing further damaging to its credibility and added that judges who backed "military rule" and acted as per their instructions were given rewards. He said that the case should have been focused on Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif and his son for allegedly selling their property worth 9 billion pound to a business tycoon for 18 billion pound, raising questions on the source of their wealth and why they had not given the requested receipts in the Panama Papers case.

# China's population decline accelerates amid falling births and rising deaths

**MI News Service, Beijing:** China's population continued its downward trend for the third consecutive year, with deaths surpassing the slight rise in births, raising concerns over the nation's long-term demographic and economic outlook, as reported by the Taipei Times.

According to the latest data from the Chinese National Bureau of Statistics, the population declined by 1.39 million to 1.408 billion in 2024, down from 1.409 billion in 2023, the Taipei Times reported.

This marks the third year of population contraction, a shift that experts warn could accelerate in the years ahead.

While births increased modestly from 9.02 million in 2023 to 9.54 million last year, the number of deaths also decreased slightly, from 11.1 million in 2023 to 10.93 million in 2024. Despite the uptick in births, the overall birth rate remains low, rising to 6.77 births per 1,000 people, up from 6.39 per 1,000 in the previous year, the Taipei Times reported.

According to the Taipei Times, the population decline is largely attributed to the legacy of the one-child policy, which was enforced from 1980 until 2015, and its lasting effects on China's demographic structure. Al-



though the policy officially ended in 2016 and families were allowed to have up to three children by 2021, economic factors such as high living costs, stagnant wages, youth unemployment, and societal expectations on women have discouraged many young people from starting families.

By the end of the century, the number of women of reproductive age in China, defined by the UN as ages 15 to 49, is projected to decline by more than two-thirds, falling to under 100 million. At the same time, the population aged 60 and over, typically considered retirement age, is expected to grow sig-

nificantly, reaching over 400 million by 2035, up from approximately 280 million, as reported by Taipei Times.

Taipei Times further reported that demographers emphasize that the challenges go beyond policy changes. Yun Zhou, a sociologist at the University of Michigan, pointed out that without significant structural reforms, including better social safety nets and addressing gender inequality, the population decline is unlikely to reverse. This trend poses a growing risk to China's economy, as a shrinking workforce and consumer base threaten economic growth.

# Indian Naval Ship Mumbai to participate in multi-national Exercise La Perouse

**MI News Service, Jakarta:** Indian Navy's mission deployed indigenous guided missile destroyer INS Mumbai, has arrived at Indonesia's Jakarta, to participate in multi-national exercise La Perouse. Navies from India, France, Indonesia, Australia, US, UK, Malaysia, Singapore and Canada will participate in this exercise.

The exercise aims to develop common maritime situational awareness by enhancing the cooperation in the field of maritime surveillance, maritime interdiction operations and air operations along with the conduct of progressive training and information sharing, according to Ministry of Defence press release. The exercise provides an opportunity for like-minded navies to develop closer links in planning, coordination and information sharing for enhanced tactical interoperability.

In a press release, Ministry of Defence stated, "The indigenously designed and built guided missile destroyer INS



Mumbai is participating in the fourth edition of the Multinational Exercise LA PEROUSE. This edition will witness participation of personnel/surface and sub-surface assets from various maritime partners including Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Royal Navy, United States Navy, Indonesian Navy, Royal Malaysian Navy, Republic of Singa-

pore Navy and Royal Canadian Navy."

The exercise will witness complex and advanced multi-domain exercises including surface warfare, anti-air warfare, air-defence, cross deck landings and tactical manoeuvres, as also the constabulary missions such as VBSS (Visit, Board, Search and Seizure) operations, according to

Ministry of Defence press release.

In a post on X, Indian Navy spokesperson stated, "Indian Navy's mission deployed indigenous guided missile destroyer #INSMumbai arrived at Jakarta, #Indonesia on #15Jan 25 to participate in multi-national exercise #LAPEROUSE25. Exercise #LAPEROUSE will witness navies

from France, Indonesia, India, Australia, United States, United Kingdom, Malaysia, Singapore and Canada engaging in advanced level exercises in all three domains of maritime warfare. The exercise provides an opportunity for the participating navies to exchange best practices and further the long standing cooperation among the like-minded nations enhancing collaboration towards safer and secure maritime domain."

Participation of Indian Navy in the exercise showcases the high levels of synergy, coordination and interoperability between the like-minded navies and their commitment to a rules-based international order in the maritime domain, according to the press release.

In a press release, Ministry of Defence noted, "This visit is in consonance with India's vision of SAGAR (Security and Growth for All in the Region) to enhance maritime cooperation and collaboration for safer and secure Indo-Pacific Region."

# IDF prepares for return of hostages as ceasefire agreement with Hamas set to take effect

**MI News Service, Tel Aviv:** The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on Saturday announced that preparations have begun for the implementation of the hostages' return agreement between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, after the ceasefire deal was approved by the Israeli security cabinet on Friday.

The deal is set to take effect on Sunday, January 19, at 08:30 (local time), the IDF stated.

Taking to X, the IDF said that its troops would carry out operational procedures on the ground in the region in line with the established terms of the deal. The military is preparing to receive the hostages after their release from Hamas captivity and is working to provide necessary physical and psychological support, it

added. Earlier on Friday, the Israeli security cabinet approved the hostage release-ceasefire deal with Hamas and recommended the government to adopt it, the Israeli Prime Minister's Office said.

The government later approved the deal by a vote of 24-8 during the early hours on Saturday.

The agreement will initiate the first phase of the ceasefire in Gaza and facilitate the release of both Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners. According to the agreement, 33 hostages are set to be released in phase one of the deal.

Israel has not been told how many of the 33 are alive, though it expects the majority are. Israel will receive a full status report on all those on the list sev-



en days into the ceasefire.

"The IDF is preparing to implement the agreement for the return of the hostages that was approved by the political echelon overnight (Saturday). The agreement will take effect on Sunday, January 19th, at 08:30, and as part of it, IDF troops will implement the operational procedures in the field in accordance with the set agreements. The IDF has been preparing to receive the hostages after their release from Hamas captivity and is operating to provide suitable physical and psychological support, with careful attention to every detail," the IDF said.

The IDF emphasised its continued commitment to securing the safe return of all hostages while also ensuring the security of Israeli citizens, particularly those in communities near Gaza.

"Alongside the agreement and our commitment to bringing home all the hostages, the IDF will continue to operate in order to ensure the security of all Israeli citizens, particularly those in communities near Gaza," it further

stated. The order of release is not yet known. The identities of those set to return are expected to be provided 24 hours before each release, as reported by the Times of Israel.

Israeli and Hamas negotiating teams signed the deal in Doha early Friday after clearing the final hurdles. Both the US and Qatar, who mediated the negotiations, announced on Wednesday that an agreement had been reached to end the 15-month war in Gaza.

On October 7, 2023, Hamas launched a horrific terror attack on Israel, killing over 1200 civilians and holding over 250 as hostages, of which around 100 are still in captivity. In response, Israel launched a massive counter-attack targeting Hamas units in the Gaza Strip.

The response, however, has also drawn criticism from several humanitarian groups over the high number of civilian killings. According to the Gaza health ministry, over 45,000 people have been killed in Gaza, with half of whom are women and children.

# UAE delegation meets French officials to strengthen cooperation

**MI News Service, Paris:** A high-level delegation from the United Arab Emirates, led by the General Secretariat of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Illegal Organisations Committee (NAMLCFTC), visited Paris to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the UAE and France in combating financial crimes and strengthening international economic security.

The mission aimed to present the UAE's National Strategy 2024-2027 in combating financial crimes, reflecting the UAE's proactive efforts to strengthen international partnerships and exchange expertise in this field. The visit highlights the UAE's commitment to activating effective communication channels to reduce financial crimes in alignment with its strategic goals and global AML/CFT standards.

Hamid Saif Alzaabi, Secretary-General of the General Secretariat and Vice Chairman of NAMLCFTC, emphasised the importance of enhancing international cooperation in tackling financial crime, stating, "France is one of the UAE's largest trade partners, and likewise, the UAE is France's primary trade partner in the region. This necessitates strengthening our partnership to address illicit global financial flows. This visit is part of our commitment to and belief in the importance of fostering international cooperation and exchanging expertise."

"Discussions focused on enhancing partnerships across various areas and with several partners, including the Ministries of Treasury, Justice, and Interior, the Financial Intelligence Unit, and others. We look forward to continuing our work with French partners, especially on priority issues such as global organised crime, combating drug trafficking, and mitigating shared risks between our countries."

Fahad Saeed Al Raqbani, UAE Ambassador to the French Republic, commended the close bilateral relations between the UAE and the French Republic, saying, "This visit marks a significant milestone to enhance the strategic and enduring partnership between the UAE and France, rooted in close cooperation and our shared commitment to global economic security and the fight against international financial crime. Through strengthened collaboration and the exchange of expertise, we aim to advance international efforts to confront financial security challenges."

He added, "The delegation, led by the General Secretariat of the National Anti-Money Laundering and Combating Financing of Terrorism and Financing of Illegal Organisations, discussed the comprehensive approach adopted by the UAE in addressing financial crimes. Furthermore, the delegation participated in technical discussions on key priority issues with our French partners."



# Virat Kohli, KL Rahul pull out their name from Ranji Trophy second round matches

NEW DELHI (INDIA) : Star India batters Virat Kohli and KL Rahul informed the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) medical team that they are battling with niggles because of which they won't be able to participate for their domestic teams Delhi and Karnataka respectively in the second round of the ongoing Ranji Trophy 2024-25 season, reported ESPNcricinfo.

As per ESPNcricinfo, Kohli is suffering from a pain in his neck. Kohli informed the BCCI medical staff that he took an injection on January 8 but still, there is a pain in his neck because of which he had to miss Delhi's upcoming

clash against Saurashtra in Rajkot.

The 36-year-old's last appearance in Ranji was back in November 2012 against Uttar Pradesh, in which he was dismissed for 14 and 42 runs in both innings by pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar. In 155 first-class matches, Virat has scored 11,479 runs at an average of 48.23, with 37 centuries and 39 fifties in 258 innings, with the best score of 254\*.

On the other hand, KL Rahul is dealing with elbow issues because of which he is set to miss Karnataka's next-round fixture against Punjab in Bengaluru.



The right-handed wicketkeeper-batter made his last Ranji appearance in 2020 March for Karnataka against Bengal, scoring 26 and 0 during the semi-final, which his team lost.

BCCI on Thursday released new policies for Team India, making it "mandatory" to participate in domestic matches to remain "eligible" for selection in the national team and for the central contracts.

In the policy, BCCI stated that taking part in domestic cricket will remain connected to the cricket ecosystem. The statement added that any exceptions to taking part in domestic cricket will

be considered only under extraordinary circumstances.

"Participation in Domestic Matches is mandatory for players to remain eligible for selection in the national team and for central contracts, as per BCCI guidelines. This policy ensures that players remain connected to the domestic cricket ecosystem, fostering talent development, maintaining match fitness, and strengthening the overall domestic structure. It also inspires emerging players by providing them opportunities to compete alongside top cricketers, ensuring continuity in talent progression. Any exceptions to this man-

date will be considered only under extraordinary circumstances and will require formal notification and approval from the Chairman of the Selection Committee, ensuring fairness and transparency in the process," BCCI said in a statement.

In recent days, young stars Rishabh Pant (Delhi), Shubman Gill (Punjab) and even Yashasvi Jaiswal (Mumbai) along with experienced all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja (Saurashtra) are among the ones who have reportedly confirmed their participation in upcoming Ranji Trophy matches.

## There's never going to be lack of intent in Sharjah Warriorz's line-up, says coach JP Duminy

SHARJAH (UAE) : A brilliant counter-attacking innings by the Sri Lankan Avishka Fernando helped propel the Sharjah Warriorz to the second spot on the points table, as they defeated the Dubai Capitals in Sharjah. The Sharjah Warriorz, who were playing their first home game this season, won by 5 wickets and 11 deliveries to spare, a release from the league said.

Speaking after the match, captain Tim Southee said as quoted by an IIT20 press release, "To chase down a score like that and that innings from Fernando was incredible. To get off the plane in the morning and do that is special. Fernando was outstanding for us."

The captain further added, "There's plenty of things to improve, the fielding and with the ball, which is always easy to do after a win. It was a good wicket, if you executed with the ball it was good but if you missed it made it slightly, then it is a different story. Couple of guys were sick and it shows the depth of the team when others come and perform."

Coach JP Duminy also stated, "Fielding is an area of our game that we can work on. We try to collectively put in a big effort in the field. So, that's something we want to work on and fielding is something we want to be better at for sure."

"Focussing on my natural game and thank the lord for today's knock. The wicket was nice to bat today, the thoughts when chasing 200 was to be positive, it came naturally and thankful for that. I did not realise that I have broken the record for the fastest-ever 50," said Avishka Fernando, who scored 81 from 27 deliveries, with 8 maximums and 6 boundaries.

Avishka, who scored the fastest-ever 50 in the history of the IIT20, earned high praise from his coach. JP Duminy said as the press release added, "Just the mindset that he came in with, he got off the plane last night and got introduced to the team after that. And to have the confidence to arrive and play the way he did, shows, not only his character but also his ability. And just for him to feel at ease in our environment is something we (Sharjah Warriorz) strive for, but that was certainly one of the most special knocks we have seen."

At the half-way stage, the Sharjah Warriorz had their task cut out with a chase in excess of 200. But the coach explained the team talk was more along the lines of keeping things simple. "The conversation with the team was quite light-hearted. We knew it was a good pitch, and we just had to play to our ability, and I think we did that. There's never going to be a lack of intent in this lineup, and now we just need to find consistency."

Sharjah Warriorz next take on the MI Emirates at Sharjah on Sunday.



## Shami back, Siraj dropped as Team India announce squad for Champions Trophy 2025 and England ODI series

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : India's right-arm seamer Mohammed Shami was named in the ODI squad after more than a year as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Saturday announced the squad for the upcoming ICC Champions Trophy which is scheduled to begin on February 19 in Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates.

Shami has also been included in the T20I squad for the five-match series against England. The speedster had made an impressive comeback to competitive cricket, having last featured in the ODI World Cup 2023 final. Following ankle surgery and overcoming a series of setbacks, he returned to action for Bengal in a Ranji Trophy match against Madhya Pradesh in November.

Rohit Sharma will be the captain of the side and right-hand batter Shubman Gill will be his deputy. There are two wicket-keeper-batters in the squad who are KL Rahul and Rishabh Pant.

In the batting department along with Rohit, Rahul, Pant and

Gill, there will also be likes of stalwart batter Virat Kohli, and Shreyas Iyer in the line-up.

Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Ravindra Jadeja, and Washington Sundar are the all-rounders picked for the mega event. In the spin department, Men in Blue have included the likes of experienced left-arm spinner Kuldeep Yadav who will get support from Axar, Jadeja, and Sundar.

Shami will get support from Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh in the fast-bowling. The big names missing from the team are wicket-keeper-batter Sanju Samson and right-arm fast bowler Mohammed Siraj.

The newly appointed BCCI secretary, Devajit Saikia also arrived to attend the team selection meeting for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 in Mumbai.

The freshest challenge awaiting India is the ICC Champions Trophy, starting from February 19 till March 9. It will be hosted by Pakistan and UAE, with India playing its matches in UAE under a hybrid model. The eight-team



tournament will feature 15 50-over matches and will be played across Pakistan and in Dubai. The biggest match of the tournament between two arch-rivals India and Pakistan will be played on February 23. India will start its campaign against Bangladesh on February 20. India's last league match will be against New Zealand on March 2. The Rohit

ICC Champions Trophy 2025: Rohit Sharma (C), Shubman Gill (VC), Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (WK), Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja.

Before the ICC Champions Trophy, India will play a three-match ODI series against England which will be kicking off on February 6. The squad for this series is the same as that for the ICC Champions Trophy but there is one change Harshit Rana will play in place of Jasprit Bumrah.

Before the ODIs, a five-match T20I series against England will start from January 22 onwards.

The five-match T20I series will commence 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.

## Countdown to the 38th National Games to be hosted by Uttarakhand begins

DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND) : The countdown to the 38th National Games has officially begun. Hosted by the Uttarakhand Government, from January 28 to February 14, this prestigious event promises to highlight Indian athletes worldwide while motivating the next generation to push their limits and achieve greatness in their respective arenas, as stated in a release from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

The 38th National Games aim to celebrate the unifying power of sports, bringing together diverse cultures and traditions and above all fostering athletic excellence. The Games will not only showcase top-tier talent but also inspire unity across the country through the shared spirit of competition.

Preparations in place are underway, with a special focus on providing a seamless experience for the press, visitors, guests, and athletes. A major highlight of the

Games will be the much-anticipated Torch Relay, which symbolizes the spirit of the event. In line with the Games' commitment to sustainability, organizers have implemented a robust waste management programme and collaborated on a clean water initiative with reusable bottles, promoting environmental consciousness.

A unique and engaging element of the Games will be the mascot, Mauli.

As quoted in a release from MYAS, Amit Kumar Sinha, CEO of the 38th National Games, shared, "This initiative connects the Games with pop culture and fosters public engagement. Mauli is more than just our mascot; she embodies the spirit of the Games, representing Uttarakhand's vibrancy, exuberance and the joy of sports. Bringing her to life in such a creative way makes the Games both accessible and exciting for all."

While not competing in the Games, the presence of legendary athletes such as PV Sindhu (Badminton), Srihari Nataraj (Swimming), Sarabjot Singh (Shooting), Swapnil Kusale (Shooting), Sathiyam Gnanasekaran (Table Tennis), Manika Batra (Table Tennis), Sreeja Akula (Table Tennis), Mandeep Singh (Hockey), and the iconic P.T. Usha will serve as a tremendous source of inspiration. Their extraordinary achievements serve as a reminder of what can be accomplished through dedication and hard work, encouraging all participants to strive for excellence and represent India with pride.

The National Games offer an important platform for athletes, often acting as a stepping stone to international competitions like the Olympics. They provide a glimpse of the future of Indian sports on the global stage.

## Jamshedpur FC's Khalid Jamil satisfied with 'good point' after Mohun Bagan SG draw

JAMSHEDPUR (JHARKHAND) : Jamshedpur FC head coach Khalid Jamil commended his players' effort as the Men of Steel held table-toppers Mohun Bagan Super Giant by a 1-1 scoreline in the Indian Super League (ISL) at the JRD Tata Sports Complex in Jamshedpur on Friday.

The Mariners broke the deadlock in the opening half courtesy of Subhasish Bose's backheel goal inside the opponent's box. However, the hosts bounced back strong in the second half thanks to Stephen Eze's spectacular finish at the hour mark. The Nigerian defender attempted a darting run, edging past the Mariners' defence line with ease and producing a powerful finish to bring the Men of Steel back in the game. With that, Eze scored his sixth goal in the ISL and his second of the ongoing season.

Despite the visitors generating numerous chances in the final phase of the game, Albino Gomes' crucial saves and resilient Jamshedpur FC defence line led by Eze helped Khalid Jamil's men secure a crucial point against the Mariners.

The Jamshedpur FC head coach shared his delight with his team's response after conceding and underscored the significance of getting a crucial point against a formidable foe like Mohun Bagan SG. "Yes (happy about the game). We got a point that is also good because we played against a good team, attacking-wise," Jamil said in the post-match press conference.

"They have quality players in all departments; whether defensive or attacking, they are very strong. They are doing well in the league. We came back again; that is a good point," he added.

The hosts made a couple of changes at the start of the second half that changed the dimension of the game. Jamil brought in Javier Siverio, Seiminlen Doungel, and Mobashir Rahman in place of Sourav Das, Imran Khan, and Lazar Cirkovic. Jamil believed that these changes worked well and played a pivotal role in leveling the scoreline.

Speaking in context, Jamil remarked, "We made the substitutions according to the situation because we thought that we conceded an early goal, and it was our home ground, so we tried to use two strikers; we put (Javier) Siverio in, and Imran (Khan) got injured, so that is why we bring in Seiminlen (Doungel). That's why we made the changes, and we put Mobashir (Rahman) in because he can play long balls. His long ball is good. And the only reason is to come back and bounce back."

The Indian head coach also acknowledged that his team could have scored the winner considering the time they had after equalising in the second half.

"We scored an early equalizer (in the second half), so I thought to come for another, maybe for another goal, maybe to get the three points, but it is all right sometimes. But I am very happy with the performance of the players; they are working very hard. They must keep the spirit like this," Jamil concluded.



## Hyderabad Toofans ends Tamil Nadu Dragons' unbeaten streak (4-0)

PC JHA

with 15 points.

RANCHI: Ranchi's Jaipal Singh Astroturf Stadium, witnessing most of the goals through field and stick work in Women's most of HIL matches but on Saturday the same astroturf ground saw several penalty corners converting into goals in the men's hockey encounters.

The Hyderabad Toofans delivered a commanding performance to defeat league leaders Tamil Nadu Dragons 4-0 in the Ranchi leg of the Hero Hockey India League at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Stadium on Saturday. The victory marked the Dragons' first loss of the season.

Gonzalo Peillat (21', 48'), Arthur de Sloover (31'), and Tim Brand (33') scored for the Toofans, lifting their team to second place in the league standings with 13 points from seven matches, just behind the Dragons, who remain on top

Hyderabad Toofans following them with 13 points out of 7 matches surprised Tamil Nadu Dragons through continuous attacking game and earned several penalty corners during the match. Hyderabad closed the match with 18 penalty corners, dominating possession and applying relentless pressure.

The Dragons struggled to find their rhythm as Hyderabad's solid defense kept them at bay. Peillat struck again in the fourth quarter, converting the Toofans' 17th penalty corner with a precise flick between the goalkeeper and the post defender.

The Toofans took the lead in the 21st minute after winning a penalty corner. Peillat capitalized on the opportunity, firing a powerful drag flick into the top corner of the net.

With this emphatic win, the Toofans are back in contention, keeping the race for the league title wide open.

