## Elite residences in New Town targeted in high-end bicycle theft ring

A sophisticated bicycle theft ring in New Town's elite residential blocks has been busted, following a series of thefts that left residents and police on edge. For months, luxury bicycles parked in residential complexes were being stolen in a string of incidents that baffled authorities. The prime suspect, BhaskarBehera, a 19-year-old resident of Kochpukur near New Town, has been apprehended, bringing partial closure to the escalating thefts. Bhaskar's modus operandi was meticulous. He would observe movements around high-end residences, noting who entered or exited and at what times. Often stationed at tea stalls near the complexes or wandering aimlessly in the vicinity, his behaviour never aroused suspicion. Residents failed to detect his true intentions as he carried out his plans, blending seamlessly into the urban backdrop. PG 3

# Rs. 3 KOLKATA MONDAY, 20 JANUARY, 2025 PG-8, YEAR—11, ISSUE—231 (RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803) WEBSITE: WWW.LIVE7TV.COM

Saif attack: Accused in custody till Jan 24,

police cite



Actor Rituparna Sengupta at the 54th ' The Statesman' vintage and classic car rally in Kolkata on Sunday.

# Stage set for a triumphant Trump-era

MI News Service, Washington: As the new Trump-era all set to begin, a stack of actions designed to reshape government policy will be awaiting the new president's signature as soon as he is sworn in — a dramatic show of force meant to set the tone for the next four years.

Trump is unlikely to wait until he reaches the Oval Office to bring out his Sharpie pen; after musing on the campaign trail of placing a "tiny desk" on the inaugural platform to sign his orders, some will await him at the US Capitol immediately after his swearing-in.

Trump is planning to issue dozens of executive actions — more than 100 just on Day 1, at least in his own telling — within his first week in office, sources familiar with his plans, including those aimed at ramping up US energy production, tightening border security, reeling in regulations and other top policy priorities. He's also seeking options to keep TikTok available in the United States, a task made urgent by a Sunday deadline to ban the app. "I'll be making the decision," he told.

In the eyes of Trump and his team, the flurry of actions on his first regime — a sharp break not only from the last four years but also from the chaos that governed the early days of Trump's first go-around.

This time, the message is one of swift action, on a greater scale and

with better coordination. We want to come in and show just how serious we are. Trump is back, it's go time. Like a shock to the system," one Trump adviser told.

Preparation for Trump's first day in office has been in the works since well before he won last year's election. Conservative groups have spent the last four years exploring the bounds of executive power and looking for avenues Trump could take on a wide array of policies should he return to the White House.

"It's going to be the equivalent of sending George Patton into Europe to win World War II," a second Trump adviser told, describing the "rapid-fire, very intense" executive actions that have been prepared to start crossing off Trump's secondterm policy goals.

More recently, planning for Trump's first day back in the Oval Office has been a top priority for Susie Wiles, the incoming White House chief of staff, who has studied what other presidents have done and has charted a course for what Trump should — and shouldn't — do in the first hours after taking office.

Wiles, the first woman to hold the title and to occupy the corner suite in the West Wing, has consulted with nearly every living former White House chief of staff. She also has strategized with Senate Majority Leader John Thune and House Speaker Mike Johnson about "how the whole team will work as one," a GOP adviser said, mindful that "the clock starts ticking on the Trump term as soon as he takes the oath.

He vowed to work with Congress on the legislative agenda — and signaled his intent to bypass it on his campaign promises — to hit the

international conspiracy angle MI News Service, Mumbai: A Mumbai court on Sunday remanded a man arrested in the Saif Ali Khan attack case in police custody till January 24 after observing that the

> international conspiracy cannot be ruled out. Police told court that the alleged attacker was a Bangladeshi national and there was need to find the motive behind his act. Police also told court they needed to find out if there was an international con-

police's contention of an

spiracy linked to the case. Accepting the police's contention after perusing documents on record, the court said the prosecution's submission of international conspiracy "cannot be said to be impossible"

Earlier in the day, police had told the media that alleged attacker Mohammad Shariful Islam Shehzad was a

Bangladeshi national who had illegally entered India and changed his name to Bijoy Das. He was held from adjoining Thane city.

As per preliminary probe, he had entered the Bollywood star's home, in Satguru Sharan building in Bandra, in the early hours of January 16 with the intention of theft, police had said.

Khan (54) was stabbed multiple times in the attack, after which he underwent a five-hour surgery in nearby Lilavati Hospital.

## BJP, Shiv Sena want tough action against **'Bangladeshi** immigrant'

MI News Service, Mumbai: India woke up on Sunday to the Mumbai police declaring they had nabbed the man who had stabbed Bollywood star Saif Ali Khan at his home early on Thursday, and Maharashtra's ruling combine underlined that the arrested accused was a Bangladeshi.

According to sources, the Mumbai police indi-cates that the attacker is Bangladeshi and had changed his name to Vijay Das after entering

"Mohammad hzad, who attacked Saif Ali Khan, is a Bangladeshi. I thank Mumbai Police for arresting him. I urge Maharashtra Police to send back all Bangladeshis and Rohingyas," BJP leader Kirit Somaiya said in a video clip.

Then came another video, by Krishna Hedge, a spokesperson for Ek-

nath Shinde's Shiv Sena. 'The police have informed that the attacker and the culprit in the Saif Ali Khan case is a Bangladeshi. The Shiv Sena and our founder... have always stood and fought against the infiltration of Bangladeshis. Not only should the accused be punished severely, but there should also be a crackdown on the Bangladeshis who are staying in our country,'

Hedge said. The man, who was nabbed from Thane near Mumbai where he was apparently sleeping in the bushes, first gave his name as Bijoy Das but later claimed his name is Mohammed Sajad, reports quoted police officials as

# Spark of Hindu Nationalism: Gyanvapi Masjid exhibited as Temple in Kumbh Mela

MI News Service, Prayagraj: A model showing the Gyanvapi mosque as a temple is on display at an exhibition at the Kumbh Mela in Allahabad, indicating Hinduism's largest congregation is being used to publicise Hindutva  $\mathbf{a}$ agenda.

The Gyanvapi, which abuts the Kashi Vishwanath Temple Varanasi, is among a dozen-odd Islamic structures that are the subject of court petitions claiming they were built over de-molished temples and should be shifted, with their sites handed over to Hindus.

Swami Narendranand Saraswati, mahant of the Sumeru Mutt in Varanasi, unveiled the exhibition on Saturday. Apart from the Gyanvapi model, whose top half is designed like a temple, it displays 120 pictures — purportedly of various parts of the mosque that feature Hindu figurines and symbols. Some sources claimed

these pictures were taken during a survey of the mosque, carried out in 2023 on the orders of a local court in Varanasi. However, the court never disclosed what the pictures



taken during the survey showed.

The survey pictures were placed before the court in a sealed envelope and were earmarked as confidential, so displaying them would invite contempt. Officially, the exhibition organisers said the displayed pictures had been snapped by photography enthusiasts and were not classified.

"We want to liberate the Gyanvapi by constitutional means. All the Sanatani people (Hindus) must come forward to take this mission forward," the mahant said.

The exhibition is being held by the Sri Adima-hadev Kashi Dharmalay Mukti Nyas, a Varanasi organisation dedicated to "liberating" temples al-legedly controlledby non-

Ram Prasad Singh, a trustee of the Nyas, said: 'We began a Mahayagnya at the (Mela) camp on Saturday to publicise our mission. For this, we have put up banners and posters across the Mela area."

He added: "The Gyanvapi issue is a mission of the entire Hindu community. Our idea behind the exhibition and Mahayagnya in the Mela area is to make people aware of it and mobilise them to the cause.

The Gyanvapi case is being heard in the lower Varanasi court as well as Allahabad High Court. Hindu petitioners have claimed that Mughal emperor Aurangzeb demolished a part of the

**▶▶** Continued on page 3

# Fire breaks out at Maha Kumbh mela

MI News Service, Prayagraj: A massive fire broke out in the Maha Kumbh Mela area on Sunday due to a cylinder blast, police said, but there was no immediate news of any casualty.

Two cylinders exploded in Sector 19 of the Maha Kumbh Mela, causing a massive fire in the camps. Fire fighters are trying to douse the blaze," Akhara Police Station In-charge Bhaskar Mishra

The Maha Kumbh 2025 official X handle posted, "Very sad! The fire incident at #MahaKumbh has shocked everyone. The administration is ensuring immediate relief and rescue operations. We pray Maa Ganga for everyone's safety." It also shared a clip that showed a thick black column of smoke billowing out from the affected area.

# Misleading advts: Arrest warrant on Baba Ramdev



MI News Service, Kochi: A Kerala court has issued a

bailable arrest warrant for Baba Ramdev and his associate Acharya Balakrishna following a complaint filed by Kerala drug regulators against Patanjali Ayurved for alleged misleading advertisements on its healthcare products.

The warrant issued by the Palakkad District Court on Thursday is the first warrant-based summons to Ramdev since a Kerala doctor complained to the Centre about the alleged misleading advertisements nearly three years ago, leading to 10 cases in Kerala and one in Uttarakhand.

The case status on January 16, 2025, as documented by the Palakkad court notes: "Complainant absent. All accused served.

tiple complaints filed by Kannur-based ophthalmologist K.V. Babu, had in November 2023 asked its offices across the state to initiate legal proceedings against Patanjali for allegedly violating the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Obments) Act, 1954.

advertisements had claimed that certain Patanjali Ayurved products could cure high blood pressure and diabetes, among other health disorders, but such claims are prohibited by the DMR Act, which bans advertisements promoting cures for several specific illnesses.

Babu had first complained to central and state authorities about what he had alleged were Patanjali's misleading advertisements in April 2022. After several follow-up complaints, including one in January 2024 sent to the Prime Minister's Office, Uttarakhand authorities filed a case and the Haridwar District and Sessions Court began summoning Ramdev and his associates for hear-

Patanjali Ayurved, founded in 2006 by yoga evangelist Ramdev and Balakrishna, is based in Haridwar. A query sent by this newspaper to Patanjali Ayurved seeking its perspective on the warrant issued by the Palakkad court has evoked no response. 'The Haridwar court has since April 2024 summoned Ramdev for hearings six times —and the

court records suggest that there has been no outcome from those hearings," Babu

In Kerala, under the November 2023 directions of the state drug regulatory authority, several drug inspectors have also filed petitions against Patanjali in various courts, leading to two cases in Kochi, four cases in Kozhikode, three in Palakkad and one in Thiruvananthapuram.

The Palakkad district court's bailable warrant for Ramdev and Balakrishna on January 16 comes a day after the Supreme Court warned states and Union Territories of contempt action if they failed to act against misleading advertisements.

A bench of Justices Abhay Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan on January 15 had noted observations made by senior advocate Shadan Farasat, who is assisting the apex court as an amicus curiae in the matter, that several states have been non-compliant.

"We make it clear that if we find non-compliance by any of the states or Union Territories, we may have to initiate proceedings under the Contempt of Courts Act 1971 against the states concerned," the bench said.

During the Supreme Court hearing on January 15, the amicus curiae noted that affidavits filed by various states and Union Territories suggest that virtually no prosecution was taking place under the 1954 DMR Act. The bench referred to affidavits filed by some states and questioned why they hadn't acted on the basis of the complaints re-

# Galaxy of stars to be at Trump's swearing ceremony

MI News Service, Washington: The Indian industrialist, one of the richest people in the world. Mukesh and Nita Ambani would be at the Trump's swearing – in – ceremony. The power couple has arrived in the US capitol Washington DC on January 18. The festivities linked to the inaugural event with a reception and

destined at the Trump National Golf Club in Vir-

According to the report, Nita and Mukesh Ambani will be with Donald Trump at a "candlelight dinner". Inauguration Day featured several high-profile

Apart from Mukesh

fireworks display has been and Nita Ambani, X billionaire Elon Musk, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg are there in the list of esteemed invitees. French billionaire and tech entre-

> The Ambanis will also attend a black-tie reception on Monday hosted by

preneur Xavier Niel along

with his wife would be also

Republican mega-donor Miriam Adelson and Meta chief executive Mark Zuckerberg. The QUAD foreign

ground running in a way he strug-

result," Thune told reporters after

In addition to the paperwork incoming presidents sign immediately after the inauguration ceremony —

formally nominating members of his

Trump is making plans to sign some

of the executive actions before retir-

ing to the celebratory Senate lunch,

been moved indoors due to the

weather, he's planning a signing cer-

emony in the Oval Office - newly re-

decorated to suit his tastes as he

activity, there's one event that, unlike

prior years, that is not expected to

political identity — immigration —

Trump's team is finalizing an aggres-

sive slate of orders that will be re-

leased only hours after the president-elect is sworn in, kicking

off an immigration crackdown that

will have implications for people na-

to a dramatic shift in immigration policy that will affect immigrants al-

ready residing in the United States

and migrants seeking asylum at the

US-Mexico border. The planning also

**▶▶** Continued on page 3

includes increased ICE personnel

The package of actions amounts

familiar with the discussions.

Amid the flurry of presidential

On the topic most central to his

settles in for the second time.

take place: a press briefing.

Later, after a parade that has

Cabinet and other positions

advisers said.

"We're all in line with getting the

gled to do during his first term.

ministers, including exter-nal affairs minister S Jaishankar, would be there to attend the inauguration.

ally becomes the forty-seventh President of the

Donald Trump eventu-

United States.

### Modi lauds Assam's effort to reduce man-animal conflict

MI News Service, Guwahati: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday lauded an innovative way to tackle man-elephant conflict in Assam's Nagaon district by planting a particular type of grass to feed the jumbos and save crops.

The venture of the villagers in Nagaon was praised by Modi in his monthly Mann ki Baat broadcast.

Sharing an audio clip featuring the 'Haathi Bandhu' (friends of the elephant) initiative on X. the prime minister said: "An effort in Assam's Nagaon to reduce man-animal conflict has the power

to motivate everyone.' Modi said that Nagaon,



with a sizeable elephant population, was facing man-elephant conflict as the pachyderms were destroying crops while in search of food.

He said though the people of about 100 villages in the vicinity were worried over the damage to crops, the villagers also understood that the elephants were turning to the fields to satisfy their A team of villagers was

constituted and named 'Haathi Bandhu', which came out with an innovative idea.

They brought the villagers together to plant Napier grass, a type pre-ferred by the elephants, on about 800 bighas of barren land in the area.

'As a result, elephants started visiting the fields less frequently, bringing much relief to thousands of villagers. It seems that the elephants have also loved ' the PM added.

Chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, in another post on X, said the initiative helped the farmers of Nagaon and Karbi Anglong

while Adarniya Shri @narendramodi ji spoke about the Hathibandhu initiative of Assam in his #MannKiBaat address. The initiative is a natural solution to reduce man-elephant conflicts," Sarma said.

"30 hectares of pvt land has been planted with napier grass in Nagaon & Karbi Anglong," he said. Man-elephant conflict

has been a major issue in Assam, with the pachyderms venturing into human habitations in search of food, officials

Bailable warrant to all acillegal cused.' Kerala's drugs control department, acting on mul-



# Saplings gift at picnic by Sagardighi Wiener Welfare Trust

MI News Kolkata: At the beginning of the new year, everyone enjoying the picnic season and at this time saplings were gifted to many people who came to Lalbagh Motijheel Park for picnic on the initiative of Sanjib Das, Secretary of Sagardighi Winner Welfare Trust, one of the voluntary organizations

Sagardighi. Various species of saplings have been gifted to create a healthy environment. Among the plants were rose, jackfruit, lemon, guava etc. Secretary and nature lover Šanjib Das,President Radharani Das, Kazi Selimuddin head of Sagardighi Model School,



Trust members Mithun Das, Rahul Bhakat, Jazbul, Azahar Samad Sheikh, Sabir Mandal, Sujan Das,

Biswajit Saha, Sabirul Sheikh, Sharif, Mallick, Suraj Mandal and many others were present

in that programme. A wonderful example of how to do something for nature and people despite their own happiness is shown by the Winner Welfare Trust. Everyone is happy to be gifted with different types of saplings.Sanjib Das, secretary of the trust, said in this regard, "For the sake of human welfare and environment protection, we do such sapling distribution programs frequently in dif-ferent ways. I always express my special thanks to Ardhendu Biswas, the leader of Baharampur Mission Green Universe Foundation, who supports us with saplings.

# More than a hundred people share stories of recovery from cancer and thalassemia

MI News Service: Cancer doesn't mean the end of life, nor does thalassemia signify counting down to death. More than a hundred individuals shared how they overcame these challenges to lead normal individuals lives.These were once diagnosed with severe blood cancers or genetic disorders like thalassemia. Many had lost hope after their diagnosis, but with proper treatment, they saw a ray of hope and ultimately returned to healthy, normal lives. Today, they have reintegrated into society and are living fulfilling lives.Their stories of recovery were shared to inspire those still awaiting complete healing. The event, Ujjiban Patient Survivor Meet 2025, was held on Saturday at Mahajati Sadan in Kolkata. It was organized by the volunteer organization Picnic Gardens Leela Seva So-



ciety. The participants emphasized that recovery from cancer and thalassemia is not only possible but that it's entirely feasible to return to a normal life after overcoming these life-threatening diseases.Over the years, renowned hematologistoncologist,

merous cancer and thalassemia patients, helping them return to normal lives. Responding to his invitation, hundreds of canand thalassemia survivors attended this angathering.At the event, they shared their

personal recovery journeys and participated in various cultural programs.Dr. Soumya Bhattacharya stated, "These individuals are living examples that even the most complex cancers and thalassemia can be cured with accurate diagnosis and proper treatment."

#### Mystery shrouds the death of a teen cricketer

MI News Service, Kolkata: The mysterious death of 15-year-old cricketer Deb Ghosh at SSKM Hospital on Sunday has led to wide-spread tension and protests at the hospital premises. Deb, a resident of Napara in Hasnabad, had been missing since Saturday morning. His family claims that he was abducted from outside Science City, leading to a tragic turn of events that culminated in his death.

According to hospital authorities, Deb died due to food poisoning. How-ever, his family has raised allegations of negligence, stating that the hospital moved his body to the morgue without informing morgue without informing them. This prompted Deb's relatives to stage a protest at the hospital, which eventually escalated into scuffles with the police.

Deb's mother recounted that he left home on Saturday at 6 a m. stat-

on Saturday at 6 a.m., stating he was heading to Tollygunge for a cricket match. By 8 a.m., his phone was switched off, and the family could no longer contact him. Despite filing a missing percomplaint Hasnabad police station, the police refused to take immediate action, citing the 24-hour waiting rule.

#### **West Bengal captures** first image of tiger from Jharkhand, teams mobilized for capture

MI News Service, Kolkata: On Saturday night, West Bengal received its first confirmed sighting of a tiger believed to have migrated from Jharkhand, after a trap camera successfully captured its image. The discovhas prompted a full-scale operation involving forest officials, guards, and a special team equipped with tranquillizer guns, all working to sedate or capture the animal.Debal Roy, the head of the forest force in the state, confirmed the news, stating, "One of our trap cameras was able to take its pictures. The situation remains the same, and we are tracking the tiger." According to S Kulandaival, Chief Conservator of Forests, the tiger is currently located in the forest area of Purulia district in Bengal, near the border with Jharkhand. "We have placed many trap cameras around the area where the tiger is located. One of them was able to take two pictures while it passed by. The tiger is in the Raika Hill area," he said.

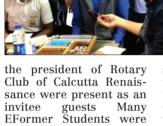
# **Most Prevalent Health Care**

**NURUL ISLAM KHAN** 

SUKHO DRISTI 9 For the Correction of Blurry Vision Caused by a Refractive Error - Which is by far one of the Most Prevalent Health Care issues today, an eye check up camp as held on Saturday. For Supporting Healthy

Vision, in association with

the help of Vision RX Lab organised Eye Wellness Check Up & Free Distribution of Spectacles Camp Supported by St Pauls School Alumini Association was organised at 203 year Old St Paul's School Premises, Amherst St, Kolkata. Headmaster Sri Nripanjan Mondol, Rev. Saikat Nath Secretary, Alumini President Dr kanchan Pathak, Rotary Dist Zonal Secretary Rtn Nilanjan Mitra, Rtn Anamika Mitra IPP Rotary Amelia ,Rupa Majumdar, Founder Director of Raunaq Publication and



present in this event. A total of 101 beneficiaries registered their names and were checked up and 78 were enlisted for spectacles BY VRX

With the help of Shusrut Eye Foundation & Research Center 83 got tested their eyes, as 7 Patients were detected for Cataract Operation which will be done on 25th Janu-

We tried to help the people from the under privileged section of Society & feel blessed to help some poor people to improve their eyesight for healthy vision, the organiz-



#### MP Mahua in RKS meeting of JNM Hospital



MI News Service, Kalyani: The Rogi Kalyan Samiti of College of Medicine and JNM Hospital in Nadia's Kalyani is going to step up to remove the infrastructural deficiencies in the basic facilities in JNM hospital, said Krishnagar MP, Mahua Maitra, the Public Representative of RKS of

this hospital.After becoming the PR of Rogi Kalyan Samiti, Mahua Moitra visited Kalyani College of Medicine and Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Hospital for first time on Saturday afternoon and appeared in the meeting of RKS. Hospital Super Atanu Biswas said, "This was

the first meeting of the new RKS and various issues were discussed there." The Superintendent, the Principal, the Head of the nurses, some other physicians, officials and two medical students from UG and PG appeared in the meeting, Super added.After the meeting of around two hours, that initiated at 2.10 pm., Mahua Maitra talked to media. She said that the RKS would look into the required infrastructural facilities including the reshuffling of security arrangements, CCTV. The safety of the patients will also be addressed.The next meeting will take place within 45

The auspicious beginning of the Sri Sri Gopal Ban Bhojan Mahotsav, organized by the Belgharia Rathtala Sri Sri Jagannath Mahaprabhu Temple, was attended by Kamarhati Assembly MLA and former minister Madan Mitra Mahashay and the convener, Municipal Representative Somnath Chowdhury. It is worth noting that Gopal Puja, Aarti and various types of items were offered since the morning. About 400 Gopal ji participated in this program.

# **Haldia Literary Festival**

Nurul Islam Khan and Sahanara Khatun

Like every year, this year too, the 3-day World Bengali Literature and Culture Festival was held in Haldia. On Saturday, there was a Haldia Poetry Festival ,more than 400 poets and writers participated . The 21st World Bengali Literature and Culture Festival has started on the premises of Haldia Institute of Health Science College. This famous festival began on January 17. It was becoming an excellent center for poetry, literature, and culture in the presence of people from the world of Bengali literature and culture. The World Bengali Literature and Culture Festival was founded by poet Tamalika Pan-dasheth. This literature and culture festival, organized by the news weekly Apanjan and IKEA Education Institute, was inaugurated by former MP and educationist Laxman Seth. The inaugural ceremony was attended by renowned personalities like poet Shirshendu Mukherjee, Amar Mitra, Ramkumar Mukherjee, writer Ranjan Banerjee, actress Savitri Chatterjee, Postmaster General Riju Gangopadhyay and others.

The president of the festival committee, writer Nalini Bera, said that one of the most important additions o the festival this time is the publi-

cation of a special Indian postal cover by the Indian Postal Department, one of the figures of Haldia literature and culture and the founder of Apanjan Patrika. Former CEO of Prasar Bharati and former member of Rajya Sabha, Jahar Sarkar, eminent physician and orator Kunal Sarkar participated in the discussion. The topic of the poet Tamalika Pandasheth memorial lecture on the inaugural day was 'Rabindranath and Kadambari'. Literary Ranjan Banerjee delivered speech on this

The chairman of the organiza-tion, Laxman Seth, and editor Ashish Lahiri spoke on 'His contribution to the education sector in West Bengal'. Later, Jahar Sarkar expressed his views on the 'Reservation Policy in the Indian Constitution'.

Festival Committee General Secretary Poet Shyamalkanti Das said that this time, in addition to the districts of North Bengal and South Bengal, 30 poets and writers from many states including Delhi and Jharkhand in different languages have joined the festival. 3 poets also came from Dubai and America. In total, the number of poets, writers and artists were more than four hundred this time. Editor of Icare Ashish Lahiri and Editor of Apanjan Sudiptan Seth were present.

This time too, Apanjan awards have been given to poets, writers and newspapers from three districts of Akhand Medinipur in four categories. There were pleasant cultural

# Neuberg Diagnostics secures INR 940 crores from Kotak Alt in the largest-ever primary fund-raise in the Indian diagnostics sector

MI News Service: Founded in 2017 and headquartered in Chennai, Neuberg has rapidly emerged as the fastest-growing, largest integrated diagnostics player in the country and one of the top 4 diagnostics largest providers of Indian origin. Speaking about the fundraise, Dr GSK Velu, Founder and MD of Neuberg Diagnostics, said, "We are thrilled to an-



nounce that Neuberg Diagnostics has secured an investment from Kotak Alt marking a significant milestone in our journey toward becoming one of the largest diagnostics chains of Indian origin. This funding will enable us to enhance our capabilities in the areas of personalised medicine, integrated diagnostics and inorganically expand our footprint across the country.

# Annual sports ground in Kalyani Ward 12 turns message field for 'Save Environment'.

MI News Kalyani : The annual sports of Kalyani Ward 12 was held on Sunday. Every year, an annual sports competition is organized in every ward of Kalyani Municipality. The residents of the respective ward participated. This year was no exception. Keeping in mind that tradition, the annual sports competition of Ward 12 was held on Sunday. This was said by Ward 12 Coun-

was the head of this competition. The field was decorated from the morning. Many placards were put up with various appeals to the society. It was also decorated with many flowers. In a word, this sports competition started in a charming atmosphere. The initial stage of the competition, which started with a march past of young and old women, ended with a

cilor Nivedita Basu. She

torch race. After that, the main sports competition started. More than 250 competitors participated in it. Nivedita Basu said that the events that are usually associated with any sports competition were also included in this competition. Among the guests present on this day were, the International Handball Coach Ziarul Rahaman Mondal, Kalyani Munici-

Vice Chairman,

Balaram Majhi and people from all walks of life of ward number 12. Various messages were spread around the fish to give the message of keeping the environment healthy. In addition, the packet that was prepared to hand over the gifts to the guests was made of newspaper. Through this, Councilor Nivedita Basu gave a special message of protecting the environment.

# 100 Days Intensified TB elimnination programme activities in CLW

pality

MI News Service: KG Hospital CLW is conducting mass awareness, screening camps and training and CMEs as a part of 100 Days Intensified TB elimnination programme, a priority project of Govt of India and Ministry of railways a goal for TB free IndiaRegular IEC and awareness materials are displayed at KG Hospital and health unit premisesOn 11.1.25 a high risk testing sputum case screening camp was organised at KG Hospital LabOn 17.1.25 at CLW training and awareness programme on 100 days Intensified TB elimination campaign, recent guide-



lines and Nikshay mitra conducted the training proscheme conducted in colgramme for IRHS cadre, laboration with District Tu-Nursing staff and other berculosis office. speakers Health care workers of from DTC, STSU (WB Min-CLWIEC materials, audioistry of health) and STS visual messages are regu-

larly displayed on CLW ofwebsiteWeekly ficial awareness drives conducted in different floors of workshop by TB nodal officer Dr Bhaskar Ganguly

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

# 20 January 2025

# **Expansion of services in Duare Sarkar Project**

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Your Doorstep) initiative is set to expand its range of services, with new additions designed to bring government schemes closer to the people. Starting from January 24, 2025, this statewide campaign will offer 37 types of services, including financial assistance for purchasing agricultural equipment. This marks a significant step in the government's efforts to make welfare schemes more accessible to the masses.

The state government is treating this year's program as a celebration. Manoj Panth, the Chief Secretary of West Bengal, recently held a meeting with district magistrates to finalize the operational details. As part of the preparations, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was issued on Saturday, outlining the structure and guidelines for the program.

The campaign will run from

January 24 to February 28, with all applications submitted by February 1 expected to be processed by the end of February. This streamlined timeline reflects the administration's commitment to efficient service delivery.

The Duare Sarkar initiative encompasses a wide array of welfare programs aimed at addressing diverse social and economic needs. Key schemes under this initiative include KhadyaSathi, which ensures food security, and SwasthyaSathi, providing health insurance coverage. Additionally, the program facilitates the issuance of physical disability certificates and caste certificates for Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Educational assistance is offered through Medhashree and Shikshashree, while women's empowerment is promoted through schemes like Kanyashree and Rupashree, supporting their educaand marriage. LakshmirBhandar ensures direct

cash transfers to women, and Joy Johar focuses on tribal welfare.

Furthermore, the Students' Credit

Card Scheme provides financial support for higher education. Together, these initiatives form a comprehensive framework designed to improve the quality of life for citizens and foster inclusive development.

These, along with several others, aim to address a wide range of social and economic needs.

To ensure no area or community is left out, the administration has issued strict instructions to cover all regions, including the most remote ones. Mobile camps will be set up in 30% of the designated areas to extend the reach of the initiative. Larger wards in Kolkata will host mini mobile camps to cater to the densely populated areas.

This year's program emphasizes reaching those who have traditionally been excluded from government schemes. By targeting underserved regions and underprivileged communities, the government seeks to bring its welfare schemes directly to those who need them most.

Particular attention is being paid to remote and tribal areas, ensuring that even the most isolated communities can access services like disability certification, caste validation, and financial support. This inclusive approach aims to bridge gaps in service delivery and ensure equitable access for all.

The Duare Sarkar initiative has gained significant traction over the years as a model of grassroots governance. By enhancing service delivery and expanding its scope, the program continues to strengthen the relationship between citizens and the

As the campaign unfolds, its success will depend on the smooth coordination among various departments and the active participation of the public. For many, this initiative represents an opportunity to access critical services that can transform lives and empower communities across West Bengal.

# History runs on Kolkata's streets

On Sunday, January 19, 2025, the 54th edition of its Vintage and Classic Rally, drawing a crowd of automotive enthusiasts. Held at the RCTC ground, the event saw the parties the event saw the participation of 150 classic cars. The program kicked off at 8:30 AM, with the official flag-off taking place at 10:00 AM. The rally then made its way through the heart of Kolkata, with the historic cars capturing the imagination of the crowd as they paraded through the city streets. Each car on display had a unique and storied history.

Among the standout vehicles in the rally were a

Volkswagen Beetle, a 1965 Hillman, a 1852 Stude-baker, and a 1925 Rolls-Royce, to name a few. The owners of these vintage automobiles shared personal anecdotes about how they preserve and maintain these historical machines, along with the stories behind their ownership. One memorable account came from the owner of a 1935 Ford C, a car that had been driven by legendary actor Uttam Kumar in his 1958 film SudhuEktiBochor. owner proudly shared, "I'm the fourth owner of this car. We've been driv-

In addition to the classic cars, the rally also featured a collection of vintage motorcycles. Some participants have been involved in the rally since its inception, while for others, this was their first time participating, marking it as a moment of great pride.

This annual event added another chapter to Kolkata's rich automotive legacy, taking place on a beautiful winter morning. The rally concluded with an awards ceremony and a musical concert, celebrating the history and charm of vintage and classic vehicles in the City of Joy.

### Spark of...

From PG 1

original Kashi Vishwanath temple and built the Gyanvapimosque over it.

After the 2023 survey. the Varanasi court had last year handed the basement of the mosque over to Hindus to pray before idols that had allegedly been locked up there for years.

Muslims still pray on the ground floor of the mosque every day and gather in large numbers for Friday prayers.

The mosque committee has approached the high court challenging the Hindu petitioners' plea on the ground that it runs counter to a 1991 law that forbids the conversion of any religious structure into that of another religion, barring the Ramjanmab-hoomi-Babri Masjid.

The Supreme Court is currently hearing challenges to the constitutionality of this law, the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act 1991.



General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Prakash Karat, along with Md Salim, addressing a press meet at the CPI(M) Party Office in Kolkata on Sunday.

## Stage set for...

on the ground targeting undocumented immigrants with criminal backgrounds who are eligible for removal in major metropolitan areas, like Washington, DC; Denver; and Chicago, along with others who may be encountered in those operations, according to a

team preparing to launch negotiations to reimplement what was previously known as Asylum Cooperative Agreements, sources said.

The agreements — initiated during Trump's first term — marked a significant shift in US asylum policy as migrants who may have legitimate claims for asylum could be sent to other countries to make their cases. Energy

During Trump's first days in office, the new administration is expected to unleash a wave of executive orders dismantling Biden's energy policies, according to sources briefed on the effort, with orders aimed at slashing regulations and oversight for fossil fuel projects.

Trump is expected to instruct the Department of Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Interior to review all Biden-era energy with major policies. changes expected to come at those agencies. Trump is expected to undo much of that work by once again withdrawing from the Paris accords, undoing Biden limits to drilling offshore and on federal lands, and rescinding orders to prioritize climate issues in foreign policy. Trump is also expected to reverse Biden's pause on the export of liquefied natural gas, which he halted in 2022 amid high energy prices. The Trump team is also drafting executive order language to halt offshore wind activities on the East Coast and seek more lasting roadblocks for offshore wind energy, which Trump has long disliked.

# State Health Dept issues guidelines for nurses

MI News Service, Kolkata: On Monday, the verdict for the Sanjay Roy case at the RG Kar Hospital will be delivered, marking the announcement of his punishment. Ahead of this, the Health Department has issued new guidelines for nurses, fol-lowing complaints about their behaviour towards patients and their families. While the department had previously issued directives for doctors, the focus is now on nurses, whose treatment of patients has come under scrutiny. Families of many patients have raised concerns about inappropriate behaviour and lack of care by nursing staff, prompting the Health Department to step in with clear instructions.

The new guidelines emphasize the importance of nurses' conduct in patient care. According to the instructions, nurses must treat patients and their families with respect and compassion, as it is their duty to provide care with a positive attitude. The guidelines explicitly state that any nurse found to be mistreating patients or neglecting their duties

will face strict action. Furthermore, the Health Department reminded nurses of their oath to always be compassionate and committed to the well-being of patients, stressing that they begin their profession after undergoing extensive training and a commitment to standing by people in their times of need. The Health Department's increased vigilance follows recent incidents, particularly after the Medinipur Medical College case, which heightened awareness within the sector. In the wake of the saline controversy, where 12 doctors were suspended, the Health Department has sought to ensure better standards in healthcare facilities. Now, attention has shifted to nursing staff, with a clear message about their role in maintaining a respectful and caring environment.

The new guidelines highlight four key principles that nurses should always remember in their work:Good behaviour, Compassionate treatment, Polite communication and

Dedication to patient care. Many complaints have arisen due

to the perceived lack of empathy in nursing staff, particularly in addressing the emotional aspects of patient care. Patients often experience fear and anxiety, and nurses are expected to handle such situations with humanity and understanding. The guidelines have been issued in response to numerous complaints received by the Health Department.

In some cases, nurses have played a pivotal role in improving patient outcomes by recognizing serious health situations and promptly calling doctors. The Health Department hopes to see this proactive atmaintained across all healthcare settings. The aim is to ensure that nurses remain a positive influence in patient care and that every healthcare facility adheres to these ethical standards.

As the Health Department continues to address these issues, the new guidelines aim to enhance the quality of patient care and promote a more respectful and compassionate environment in hospitals across the

# KMC takes major step to promote Bengali language on signboards

ing this beauty for four

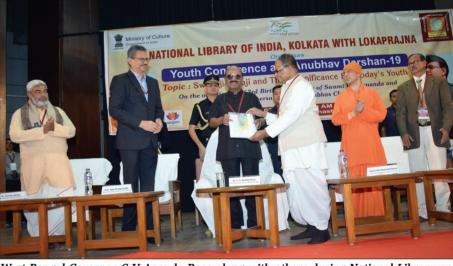
MI News Service, Kolkata: As Kolkata gears up to commemorate the importance of the Bengali language on February 21st, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has launched a major initiative aimed at ensuring that Bengali continues to have a strong presence in the city. In an effort to promote and preserve the Bengali language, KMC is encouraging the use of Bengali on all signboards across the city, with names prominently displayed in Bengali along-side other languages, including English, Hindi, and Urdu.

This move is part of a broader initiative to strengthen the role of Bengali in the public sphere, ensuring that the language remains central to the identity of the city and its residents. KMC officials have advised all establishments within the city to prioritize Bengali on their signboards, promoting its visibility and use across a wide range of sectors, from businesses to government of-As part of this initia-

tive, several members of the mayoral council have taken the lead by displaying their names on the signboards outside their offices in Bengali. Prominent mayor-in-council members such as Debashis Kumar, Debabrata Majumdar, AbhijitMukherjee, Sandeep Boksi, and SandipanSaha have already begun the practice of including Bengali in the signage outside their offices. Their signboards now prominently feature names in Bengali, with English versions also displayed alongside. This

dual-language approach ensures that Bengali is prioritized, but the inclusion of English allows for wider communication, especially in a cosmopolitan city like Kolkata.

In addition to these councilors, even CouncilorTarak Singh has chosen to display his office signboard in Bengali, further demonstrating the growing importance of the language. The decision to feature Bengali on public signboards is seen as a gesture of respect for the language's rich cultural heritage, and these leaders are leading by example in this regard. Even some non-Bengali councilors have joined the indicating a effort, broader commitment to recognizing and promoting Bengali as an essential part of the city's



West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose along with others during National Library and Lokaprajna organized by Youth Conference on topics related to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Swami Vivekananda, in Kolkata on Sunday.

# Elite residences in New Town targeted in high-end bicycle theft ring

MI News Service, Kolkata: A sophisticated bicycle theft ring in New Town's elite residential blocks has been busted, following a series of thefts that left residents and police on edge. For months, luxury bicycles parked in residential complexes were being stolen in a string of incidents that baffled authorities. The prime suspect, BhaskarBehera, a 19year-old resident of Kochpukur near New Town, has been apprehended, bringing partial closure to the esca-

Bhaskar's modus operandi was meticulous. He would observe movements around high-end residences, noting who entered or exited and at what times. Often stationed at tea stalls near the complexes or wandering aimlessly in the vicinity, his behaviour never aroused suspicion. Residents failed to detect his true intentions as he carried out his plans, blending seamlessly into the urban

The thefts had become a significant concern for New Town police, particularly in the upscale Action Area blocks. Following complaints from victims, authorities launched



an investigation and heightened surveillance. Their efforts paid off on Saturday night when a police patrol team spotted a suspicious youth loi-tering near Tank No. 3 in Action Area III. On seeing the police van, the suspect tried to flee but was swiftly caught.

Upon questioning, Bhaskar confessed to stealing bicycles from residential parking lots. Eight high-end bicycles, collectively valued at several lakhs, were recovered from his possession. According to police sources, Bhaskar is a key figure in a larger theft ring targeting expensive bicycles in the area.

Police revealed that the group specifically targeted bicycles parked in residential block parking lots during the night. Bhaskar played a pivotal role in executing the thefts, which were carried out with precision. His arrest has provided crucial leads, and the police are now working to dismantle the rest of the network. The suspect was presented at the Barasat court, and police custody was sought to facilitate further investigations.

The thefts had become a growing concern in the affluent neighborhood, where residents take pride in their state-of-the-art facilities and high-security measures. The incidents not only highlighted vulnerabilities in residential security systems but also underscored the audacity of organized theft rings operating in the

While the recovery of stolen bicycles has brought relief to some victims, the police remain focused on identifying and apprehending other members of the gang. With heightened vigilance and continued efforts, authorities hope to prevent such incidents in the future and ensure greater security for residents of New

## **Principal of Medinipur Med College requests** revocation of suspension for PG trainees

MI News Service, Kolkata: In the aftermath of a patient's death due to toxic saline at Medinipur Medical College, the hospital's principal, MausumiNandi, has sent a letter to the Health Department requesting the revocation of the suspension of postgraduate trainees (PGTs). In her letter, Nandi clarified that the junior doctors were not responsible for the patient's death due to any negligence. To protest the suspension, the PGT doctors at Medinipur Medical College began a partial strike on Saturday. Following this, the principal has expressed her support for the

Nandi stated in her letter that the seven junior doctors who had been suspended had performed their duties diligently, which is clearly recorded in the operation theatre attendance log. She emphasized that it was inappropriate to impose suspension on them despite their adherence to duty. The Indian Medical Association (IMA) also sent a letter to the Health Department, echoing Nandi's stance, stating that the seven junior doctors had followed all protocols and performed their responsibilities according to the rules. Apart from that, 38 doctors of state-run Medinipur Medical College and Hospital in West Bengal are on a marathon hunger strike to protest against the state government's decision to suspend 12 of their colleagues.

The junior doctors began their protest late Saturday night. Last week 12 doctors were suspended over the death of a woman and newborn baby allegedly after being administered with expired Ringer's Lactate.

The Health Department had suspended 12 doctors, including six senior and seven junior doctors, in connection with the toxic saline incident at Medinipur Medical College. However, instead of taking action against the suppliers of the toxic saline, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee claimed that several doctors at the hospital were working at other locations at the time of the incident, which led to the patient's

## Two arrested in Rs 1cr robbery in Narkeldanga

MI News Service, Kolkata: Narkeldanga Police arrested two suspects on Saturday night in connection with a 1 crore robbery, after analyzing CCTV footage. The police questioned the suspects overnight, trying to make sense of the incident, but the investigation remains inconclusive. Similarly, three individuals were arrested in a recent robbery case in Park Circus. The robbery took place around 9 a.m. when 42-year-old Iftikhar Ahmed Khan, a goat trader, was walking through the Narkeldanga area carrying a bag filled with cash. The attackers, riding two motorcycles, approached Khan, and one sprayed a chemical in his eyes, while another threatened him with a knife. Despite his attempt to resist, the assailants slashed his hand with the knife and snatched the bag before fleeing.Local business owners claim the bag contained nearly 1 crore, suggesting that the robbers may have conducted prior reconnaissance. They were likely waiting for the right moment to strike, and that opportunity came that morning.

**Construction work of 2 Limited Height Subways** 

in new Farakka – Azimganj Section: A step

further towards improving Safety & Mobility

#### **Name Change**

I, Jigar Viresh Kamdar (old nam son of Viresh Kamdar, residing a 25/7, Karunamoyee Apartments 2nd Floor, Mahendra Nath Sen Lane, Near Japanease Ambasy Tollygunge, Kolkata- 700040, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Jigar Kamdar (new name) vide an affidavi sworn before the notary public a Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Jigar Kamdar (new name) and Jigar Viresh Kamdar (old name) both are the same and one identical

#### Name Change

, Mohammed Safiar Rahman (old name) son of Md Abdus Samad Molla, residing at Vill.- Hari-harpur, P.O.- Kensily, P.S.- Usthi, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin 743375, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Md Safiar Rahaman Molla(new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Md Safiar Rahaman Molla (new name) and Mohammed Safiar Rahman (old name) both are the same and on identical person

#### Name Change

Najimaddin Sekh (old name son of Nader Ali Sekh, residing a Vill.- & P.O.- Chak Enayetnagar, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Najimuddin Sekh (new name vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Alipore, South 24 Parganas, on 13/01/2025. Na-jimuddin Sekh (new name) and Najimaddin Sekh (old name) both are the same and one identica

#### **Name Change**

I, Md Niyajyul Sekh (old nam son of Attar Hossen Sekh, residing at Vill.- & P.O.- Chak Enayet nagar, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist. South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Md Niyajul Sekh (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Alipore South 24 Parganas, on 09/01/2025. Md Niyajul Sekh (new name) and Md Niyajyul Sekh (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Eid Mohammad Khan (old name) son of Ramjanali Khan, re siding at Vill.- Enayetnagar, P.O. Chak Enayetnagar, P.S.- Bish-nupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin-743503, West Bengal, India, shal henceforth be known as Idmahammad Khan (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Alipore, South 24 Parganas, on 09/01/2025. Idmahammad Khan (new name) and Eid Mohammad Khan (old name) both are the same and one iden tical person

#### Name Change

I, Bandana Das (old name) wife o Kalyan Kishor Das and daughter of Anil Chandra Dey, residing at 4 Najrul Sarani, Italgacha, Dist. North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700079 West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bandana Das Dey (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 17/01/2025. Bandana Das Dey (new name) and andana Das (old name) both are

#### **Name Change**

Yousuf Ighal (old name) son o Ahmed Iqbal, residing at 101/1B, Karaya Road, Kolkata- 700017 West Bengal, India, shall hence forth be known as Mohammad Yousuf Iqbal (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notar public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025 Mohammad Yousuf Igbal (new name) and Yousuf Iqbal (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

## **Name Change**

I, Ashabul Islam Gazi (old name) son of Md Saheb Ali Gazi, residing at Vill.- Basirhat Trimohini, P.O. Basirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.-North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743411, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Md Ashabul Islam Gazi (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Md Ashabul Islam Gazi (new name) and Ashabul Islam Gazi (old name) both are the same and one

#### Name Change

I, Humaira Igbal (old name) wife of Mohammad Yousuf Iqbal, residing at 101/1B, Karaya Road, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Humaira Yousuf (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Humaira Yousuf (new name) and Humaira Iqbal (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Nur Didar Sk And Dalim Sk,Son Of Imamul Seikh, Residing At Margram, Murushidabad - 7421 47, West Bengal.Shall Henceforth Be Known As Dalim Seikh Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notar Kolkata On 17/01/ 25. That Nur Didar Sk And Dalim Sk Also Dalim Seikh All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

I,Bidyut Kanti Pal,son Manoranjan Paul, residing at 21, Shibachal Road, North Dumdum (m), Birati, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal,Pin - 700051,shall henceforth be known as Bidyut Paul vide an affidavit sworn be fore the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025.That Bidyut Kanti Pal and Bidyut Paul both are the same and one identical person.

# **Body of missing** minor found in septic tank of jute mill in Hooghly

MI News Service, Hooghly: A tragic incident unfolded in the Champadani town of Hooghly district on Sunday, as the body of a missing minor was recovered from a septic tank inside a jute mill. The child had been missing since January 16, and his body was found on January 19, raising several questions surrounding the circumstances of hisdeath. According to sources,

the minor, identified as the Mohammed of Mukhtar, a resident of KBM Road, had disappeared last Thursday. After his family filed a missing person report with the police, an extensive search was conducted. On Sunday, the police discovered the body inside the septic tank at the local jute mill. The Bhadrashwar Police were responsible for recovering the body, and the minor's father was brought to the station by local councillor Arun Mishra and neighbors, where he identified the body. The cause of death re-

mains unclear, and an autopsy will be conducted to determine the exact cause. Reports suggest that on the day of his disappearance, the boy had gone out to play with friends. According to police sources, the minor was playing with three of his friends when the incident occurred. Initially, when the three friends were questioned they claimed to know nothing about the situation. However, after further investigation on Sunday, the friends revealed that the boy had reportedly fallen after receiving an electric

The investigation into circumstances surrounding the boy's death is ongoing, and the police are working to determine whether foul play was involved or if it was an accidental death.

#### Name Change

Chhandabani Ray(Old Name), Residing At Be-120, 1584, Rajdanga Main Road,Shanti Pally, Ps Kasha Kolkata-700107 West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known Chhandabani Manna (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/01/2025 Chhandabani Ray(Old Name) And Chhandabani Manna (New Name) Both Are The Same

#### **Name Change**

Viresh Rajnikant Kamdar (old name) son of Rajnikant Kamdar, residing at Vill.- Hariharpur, P.O.-Kensily, P.S.- Usthi, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743375, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Viresh Kamdar (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Viresh Kamdar (new name) and Viresh Rajnikant Kamdar (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Jigar Viresh Kamdar (old name) son of Viresh Kamdar, residing at 25/7, Karunamoyee Apartments, 2nd Floor, Mahendra Nath Sen Lane, Near Japanease Ambasy Tollygunge, Kolkata- 700040, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Jigar Kamdar (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Jigar Kamdar (new name) and Jigar Viresh Kamdar (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Mohammed Safiar Rahman (old name) son of Md Abdus Samad Molla, residing at Vill.- Hariharpur, P.O.- Kensily, P.S.- Usthi, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin-743375, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Md Safiar Rahaman Molla(new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Md Safiar Rahaman Molla (new name) and Mohammed Safiar Rahman (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Viresh Rajnikant Kamdar (old name) son of Rajnikant Kamdar, residing at Vill.- Hariharpur, P.O.-Kensily, P.S.- Usthi, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743375, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Viresh Kamdar (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/01/2025. Viresh Kamdar (new name) and Viresh Rajnikant Kamdar (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

# **ER Organizes 1st Sports Meet**



MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway Sports Association successfully organized the 1st Sports Meet on January 18 and 19, 2025. Sports events were organized at different venues - Behala, Majerhat Belvedere kolkata.

The event witnessed active participation from railway employees representing four divisions—Sealdah, Howrah, Asansol, and Malda-as well as three workshops-Kanchrapara, Liluah, and Jamalpurand the headquarters. Employees as well as their children both male and female participated in the participants meet.The competed in a variety of including cricket, table tennis, volleyball, badminton, and tugclosing ceremony was held today, with Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager of East-

ern Railway, gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest. Smt. Seema Deouskar, President of the Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation, Shri Satyaki Nath, President of the Eastern Railway Sports Association, and other senior officers were also present at the event.Sealdah Division emerged as the overall champion of the Sports Meet. Shri Deouskar GM/ER and Smt. Deouskar President ERWWO handed over the Champions Trophy, along with medals and certificates, to the participants.In his address, Shri Deouskar encouraged the employees and emphasized the importance of such events in promoting sports and athleticism among railway employees.The event successfully fostered camaraderie, team spirit, and enthusiasm for sports within the

Eastern Railway family.

# Khalpara Outpost distributes blankets to 200 underprivileged individuals

MI News Service, Siliguri: In a heart-warming welfare initiative, the Khalpara Outpost of the Siliguri Metropolitan Police distributed blankets to 200 underprivileged individuals, offering them muchneeded warmth during the winter months. The event, which aimed to support the local community, was attended by several key figures from the Siliguri Police, including the IC of Siliguri Police Station, Prasenjit Biswas, and the IC of Khalpara Outpost, Sudip Dutta, along with other police personnel.

The distribution of blankets took place at the Khalpara Outpost, where local residents gathered to receive the much-needed assistance. The initiative is part of a broader effort by the Siliguri Metropolitan Police to extend their supticularly during the harsh winter season. The event highlighted the importance of community outreach and solidarity, as the police force recognized the pressing challenges faced by the underprivileged members

of society. Speaking at the event, Prasenjit Biswas, the IC of Siliguri Police Station, expressed his unwavering commitment to the welfare of the community. He emphasized that the police are always ready to assist and support the people, especially in times of hardship. "We are here not only to maintain law and order but also to stand by the community. Our work goes beyond just policing, and initiatives like these are part of our continued effort to make a positive impact

on the lives of those in

need," Biswas remarked. Similarly, Sudip Dutta, the OC of Khalpara Outpost, reiterated the police's commitment to community service. "Our role is not only to enforce the law but also to ensure that we are actively contributing to the well-being of our citizens. We will continue such efforts in the future and strive to help those who need our support," he stated. Dutta also highlighted the significance of community-oriented initiatives and the role of the police in fostering a sense of trust and security among

The blanket distribution event was a timely reminder of the importance of collective action in addressing social issues. As temperatures continue to drop in the region, the support provided by the Siliguri Metropolitan Police expected to make a significant difference in the lives of many individuals who struggle to stay warm during the winter months. The event was well-re-

ceived by the local community, with many expressing their gratitude for the police's efforts. The distribution of blankets is just one of several initiatives undertaken by the police to support vulnerable groups in the area, and it is hoped that such initiatives will continue to grow in the future. By engaging in these welfare activities, the Siliguri Metropolitan Police have demonstrated a strong commitment to not only maintaining law and order but also supporting the community in times of need, reinforcing their role as a pillar of strength and assistance for the public.

## 13147/13148 Uttarbanga Express & 22201/22202 Duronto Express to be terminated at/originated from Howrah Station instead of Sealdah Station

MI News Service, Kolkata: In connection with construction of Road Under Bridge between Bally Ghat & Bally Halt stations by providing RCC Boxes over Sealdah Division, 13147/13148 Sealdah Bamanhat – Sealdah Ut-tarbanga Express and 22201/22202 Sealdah -Puri - Sealdah Duronto Express will be terminated at/originated from Howrah

station as per schedule. 13148 Bamanhat Sealdah Uttarbanga Express leaving Bamanhat 22.1.2025 25.1.2025 will be terminated at Howrah station. 13147 Sealdah - Bamanhat Uttarbanga Express will be originated from Howrah station at 20:10 hrs. from 23.1.2025 to 26.1.2025. 22202 Puri -Sealdah Duronto Express leaving Puri on 23.1.2025 & 25.1.2025 will be terminated at Howrah station. 22201 Sealdah - Puri Duronto Express will be originated from Howrah station at 20:00 hrs. on 24.1.2025 & 27.1.2025.

### **Metro Staff rescue an** indisposed passenger

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 18.01.2025 at 19:00 hrs, a passenger aged about 40 vears felt unwell at Mahanayak Uttam Kumar station. Seeing his condition, on-duty station and RPF staff rushed to his help. He was brought to the Station Master's Office and administered the first-aid. After a while, he started feeling well and wanted to go home with his wife who was accompanying him. After sometimes, complying with all official formalities, he was allowed to leave the station with his wife. Both of them thanked Metro Railway authorities for the kind co-operation and help before leaving the station.

MI News Service, Kolkata: As step further towards augmenting safety vis-à-vis improving mobility, Eastern Railway's Engineering Department has completed the RCC box insertion works for 2 Nos. of Limited Height Subways (LHS) for replacing of two Level Crossing gates between New Farakka - Azimganj section of Eastern Railway's Malda Division on 18.1.2025. Among these 2 Limited Height Subways, one of dimension 6 meter x 4.5 metre has been constructed near Gankar station to replace the level crossing gate No. 20/B/T and another of dimension 6 metre x 3.5 metre between Ballalpur & Sankopara stations replacing the

level crossing gate No. 58/C/E. This work for

replacing the level crossings with subways

will help in achieving seamless movement of

both road traffic and train traffic improving

the operational efficiency. A number of other

works have also been in the shadow of traffic block so that there is minimum disturbance to train movement as these critical works would have also required separate blocks. These are Continuous Track Renewal Work Primary (CTRP) by using Plasser Quick Relaying System(PQRS) method at a stretch of 0.790 TKm between Dhulianganga & Nimtita, Switch Conversion in point Zone area of Jangipur Road station & Sujnipara station, Plain Track Tamping work over 8.4 KM between Jangipur & Sujnipara and Dhulianganga & Nimtita stations. Tamping work of 2 sets of turnouts at Nimtita station, rail piling at Level Crossing gate No. 47, 18 nos of welding of rail joints have also been completed. These works are directly related to safety & mobility and in turn will help in improving services over New Farakka - Azimganj section.

# Byte of Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw before his departure to Davos to participate in World Economic Forum '25

MI News Service, Kolkata: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has put huge focus on inclusive development and a growth which brings a big transformative change in lives of the people at the bottom of pyramid, people who have been left out of development over many decades in the past. Whether it is bank accounts, whether it is providing toilets, gas connections, having tap water connections, getting the basic infrastructure in villages done, infrastructure in urban areas done, this is something which world wants to understand. In World Economic forum in Davos, there is lot of interest

in understanding our thought process, PM's economic policy, about the digital transformation, about the way India has created new digital architecture under the digital India programme of PM Narendra Modi ji and also the way technology has been democratised by our Prime Minister's digital India programme. There is a lot of interest on this.

There will be a detailed discussion in the World Economic Forum about inclusive growth, about the investment in social, physical and digital infrastructure and on democratising tech-

# NJP police arrest youth and recover 11 stolen bicycles

MI News Service, Siliguri: In a successful operation by the Anti-Crime Wing of NJP Police, a youth has been arrested and 11 stolen bicycles recovered. The arrested individual has been identified as Shib Choudhury, a resident of Maharaj Colony in Siliguri. The incident has raised concerns about a possible theft ring operating in the area. According to reports, the arrest took place on Saturday night when police officers, acting on a tipapprehended the suspect near the Rail Hospital Crossing. During the initial search, the police recovered one stolen bicycle from Choudhury. However, further questioning led to the discovery of 10 more stolen bicycles stored in an abandoned quarter in Kashmir Colony, a locality in

Siliguri. It is believed that the bicycles had been stored in the abandoned quarter with the intent to sell them in the local market. The swift action by the NJP Police prevented the items from being sold and potentially reaching unsuspecting buyers. Following the arrest, Choudhury was presented before the Jalpaiguri Court on Sunday, where legal proceedings regarding his detention were initiated. The recovery of such a large number of stolen bicycles has raised alarms about a larger network of thefts in the region. The NJP Police have launched a full-scale investigation to determine whether other individuals are involved in the theft ring. The authorities are examining the possibility that the bicycles were stolen

safety of the community.

from various locations in and around Siliguri, and they are working to track down any additional stolen goods. The police are also investigating whether there is a pattern to the thefts or if the bicycles were targeted randomly. The investigation is ongoing, with the aim of identifying other suspects and dismantling any potential criminal networks involved in bicycle theft. The arrest and recovery of stolen property have been met with praise from the local community, as residents have expressed relief at the swift action taken by the NJP Police. The police have assured the public that they will continue to monitor the area and take strict action against any criminal activity that disrupts the peace and

# বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারনকে জানানো যাইতেছে যে, মৌজা-রাজগ্রাম, J.L. NO- 196 L.R. Plot No- 296 এর মধ্যে ১) সন্তোষ সাঁতরা, পিতা-"প্রভাস সাঁতরা ২) মনোরঞ্জন সাঁতরা, ৩) চিত্তরঞ্জন সাঁতরা, ৪) নিরঞ্জন সাঁতরা এর পক্ষে নিযুক্ত আমমোক্তার সূভাষ প্রসাদ গুপ্তা পিতা- রাজেন্দ্র প্রসাদ গুপ্তা মহাশয়কে IV-123/15 নং আমমোক্তা অনুসারে ২২/০৭/২০১৫ তারিখে এবং বন্দনা ভৌমিক, স্বামী- নিমাই ভৌমিক এর পক্ষে নিযুক্ত আমমোক্তার মনোরঞ্জন সাঁতরা, পিতা- অমূল্য রতন সাঁতরা মহাশয়কে IV-131/11 নং আমমোক্তার অনুসারে ২৪/০৫/২০১১ তারিখে বিক্রয় করার জন্য অনুমতি দেয়।উক্ত সম্পত্তি লইয়া কাহারো কোন আপত্তি থাকলে তাহা অত্ৰ বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১৫ দিনের মধ্যে লিখিত ভাবে জানাতে অনুরোধ করা হইতেছে, নতুবা কাহারো কোন আপত্তি গ্রহ্য হইবে না।

Tarakeshwar Chatterjee Advocate Midnapore Judge Court F-1190/591/2005 M-9733806771/9474061761

# OFFICE OF THE BLOCK DEVELOPMENT **OFFICER**

Notice Inviting e-Tender Tenders are invited vide **eN**l No.-WB/PURBA-BWN/KAT-II/24 25/040, Date: 15<sup>™</sup> January, 2025 by the BDO, Katwa-II Dev. Block Dainhat, Purba Bardhamar Intending bidders are requested to

www.wbtenders.gov.in/ for details ast date of Tender submission 24.01.2025 upto 18:00 hours. B.D.O.

Katwa-II Development Block

#### E-Tender

GUSHKARA MAHAVIDYALAYA

ids are invited from eligible onafide manufacturers/organi-cations with requisite credentials or procurement & installation olar Power Plant under RUSA The tender forms and other 2.0. can be details obtained from www.wbtenders.gov.in Last date of submission of e-tenders 05.02.2025. Please follow our website college www. gushkara nahavidyalaya.ac.in

**Principal** Gushkara Mahavidyalaya

রেজিষ্ট্রিকৃত আমমোক্তার দাতাঃ (১) শ্রী প্রবী পাইন, (২) শ্রী সুবীর পাইন, উভয়ের পিত স্বর্গীয় বলরাম পাইন, উভয়ের ঠিকানা-সাং সাচক, পোঃ- চাঁপাডাঙ্গা, থানা-তারকেশ্বর জেলা-হুগলী, পিন-৭১২৪০১, পঃবঃ, এনা পক্ষে রেজিষ্ট্রিকৃত আমমোক্তার গ্রহীতা-সহদে মালিক, পিতা-শ্রী তপন মালিক, ঠিকানা-সাং সাচক, পোঃ- চাঁপাডাঙ্গা, থানা-তারকেশ্বর (जना-छशनी, शिन-१५२, १०५, १९४) <del>দম্</del>পত্তির পরিমান- ৫ (পাঁচ) শতক সম্পত্তি চাঁপাডাঙ্গা গ্রাম পঞ্চায়েত অধীন, মৌজা-সাচক জে.এল. নং-৬৮. এলআর খতিয়ান নং-৪৬০ ১, আর.এস. দাগ নং-৩৯০, এল.আর. দাং নং-৫০৯, শ্রেনী-শালা, এই স্থিত সম্পতি আমার মক্কেল খরিদ করিয়াছেন এবং মিউটেশ এর জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট দপ্তরে আবেদন করিয়াছেন যাহার নং MN/2025/0608/337. উর সম্পত্তি লইয়া কাহারও বৈধ আপত্তি থাকিলে অদ্য ১৮*।* ০১*।* ২০২৫ তারিখ হইতে ৩ (ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে তারকেশ্বর বি.এল. এব এল.আর.ও. অফিসে অথবা নিম্ন ঠিকানায় বৈ কাগজপত্র লইয়া যোগাযোগ করুন, অন্যথা ময়াদান্তে কাহারও দাবী বৈধ হইবে না।

<u> এ্যাডভোকে</u>

রেজি. নং. ঃ F1182/202 ভীমপুর, তারকেশ্বর, হুগলী, পিন-৭১২৪১ মোবাইল নং-৯৯৩২৬৮৭৩০২

#### <u>বিজ্ঞপ্তি</u> রেজিষ্ট্রিকৃত আমমোক্তার দাতা ঃ শ্রী প্রদীপ কুমা:

ব্যানাৰ্জ্জী, পিতা স্বৰ্গীয় আদিত্য মোহন ব্যানাজ্জী ঠিকানা-সাং-জয়কৃষ্ণবাজার, পোঃ ও থানা তারকেশ্বর, জেলা-হুগলী, পিন-৭১২৪১০, প বঃ, এনার পক্ষে রেজিষ্ট্রিকৃত আমমোক্তা গ্রহীতা-শ্রী রবীন্দ্রনাথ মুখার্জী, পিতা-স্বর্গীয় শশধ মুখার্জী, ঠিকানা-সাং- পূর্ব রামনগর, পোঃ রামনগর, থানা-তারকেশ্বর, জেলা-হুগলী, পিন ৭১২৪১০, পঃবঃ, সম্পত্তির পরিমান- ৬.২৫ (ছয় দশমিক দুই পাঁচ) শতক সম্পত্তি, বালিগোড়ী (১)নং গ্রাম পঞ্চায়েত অধীন, মৌজা বাসদেবপুর, জে.এল. নং-৩৪, এলআর খতিয়া নং-৮১৫. আর.এস. দাগ নং-৪১৫. এল.আর দাগ নং-৪৬৮, শ্রেনী-বাস্তু, এই স্থিত সম্পতি আমার মক্কেল খরিদ করিয়াছেন এবং মিউটেশ এর জন্য সংশ্লিষ্ট দপ্তরে আবেদন করিয়াছেন যাহার নং MN/2025/0608/342, উত্ত সম্পত্তি লইয়া কাহারও বৈধ আপত্তি থাকিলে অদ্য ১৮। ০১। ২০২৫ তারিখ হইতে ৩ (ত্রিশ) দিনের মধ্যে তারকেশ্বর বি.এল. এর এল.আর.ও. অফিসে অথবা নিম্ন ঠিকানায় বৈ কাগজপত্র লইয়া যোগাযোগ করুন, অন্যথা ময়াদান্তে কাহারও দাবী বৈধ হইবে না।

ঋত্বিক কোরে এ্যাডভোকো রেজি. নং. ঃ F1182/202 ভীমপুর, তারকেশ্বর, হুগলী, পিন-৭১২৪১ মোবাইল নং-৯৯৩২৬৮৭৩০২

# **Western disturbance and eastern winds** clash, changing weather patterns in Bengal

MI News Service. Kolkata: The weather in West Bengal is set to undergo a significant change as a clash between the western disturbance and the strong eastern winds is expected to alter the region's weather patterns. The Alipore Weather Department has forecasted light rainfall and even a possibility of snowfall in the hilly areas of North Bengal. However, the weather in South Bengal is likely to remain dry over the next four to five days, with no significant chances of rainfall.

In the coming days, moderate to light fog may prevail in the northern regions, while southern parts may experience light fog only in the early morning hours. On Sunday, Kolkata recorded a minimum temperature of 14.8°C, and it is expected that the temperature will remain in the range of 14°C to 15°C for the next few days. The maximum temperature on Saturday was 24.5°C, with humidity levels fluctuating between 52% and 89%. The minimum temperature is not expected to change drastically in the coming days,

with conditions remaining relatively sta-

The evening and early morning will offer a slight winter chill, though there is no immediate expectation of intense cold waves. In North Bengal, temperatures are also expected to remain fairly constant over the next four to five days. The weather department has noted that the ongoing western disturbances are entering northwest India consecutively, with their impact on Sikkim and the northern regions yet to be fully determined. The flow of northern winds will largely depend on the progression of these disturbances, with meteorologists closely monitoring the

The western disturbances have already caused some disruptions in the northern winds, preventing any strong cold air from settling in the region. While the winter chill had temporarily diminished, the meteorological office is now keeping an eye on the upcoming disturbance expected on January 22.

Notice Regarding Power of Attorney as per West Bengal Govt. Order no.1000-15/22/2024 dated 27/02/2024 This is to notify that sri/smt/miss PUNAM KUMARI BAMBAM KUMAR ASANSOL (N)

8/W/D of Address BELDANGA. ASANSOL OFWID OF AUDITION AS BELDANISAL ASANSOLIC
PS Below mentioned land schedule by 
virtue of deed/deeds no. 9422 Dist. 
PASCHIM BARDHAM Aas/have purchased 
the 4/12/2024 (ADSR..dated /DSR/ADSR) 
with the help of Power Of Attorney deed no. 7695,or,7971 dated 29/68/624, 1/10/2024 AD.S. R. ORAM PRAKASH SINGH

ADSR) executed by Sri/Smt/Miss RAM NARESH SINGH PRASADI SINGH NARESH SINGH PRASADI SINGH SWI/D OF Lt, Siya Lai Singh, Ailis Siyalal MAHTO\_Address\_ROPAL\_NAGAR\_P.o. KALLA\_(C.H.) PS ASANSOL (Dist PASCIM BARDHAMAN and the said applicant has/ 16093 Have applied with the same land schedule for mutation vide mutation Case No MN/2024/2305/1643 Dist. PASCIM BARDHAMAN at the office of the S.D.L.& ..R.O (EP1) Dist.- Paschim Bardhhamar f there is any Objection for mutation in thi respect, any concerned principle Are re-quested to submit objection along with rel-evant documents to the concerned Revenue Officer at the office at the office of S.D.L & L.R.O (E.P1) within one month rom the date from the date publication of

Sub-Division Land And Land Reforms Of fice (EP-1) Mouza: DAKSHIN DHADKA SIYA LAL MAHATO

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# **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, New Delhi: "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." - James Q. Wilson

In the digital era, social media has transcended its original purpose as a communication tool to become a powerful driver of social change, participatory governance, and public accountability. For the Railway Protection Force (RPF), responsible for the safety of over 20 million daily passengers across the vast Indian Railways network, social media represents a platform of great strategic value. Forums such as Twitter, Facebook, Insta-gram, and YouTube are leveraged not only to communicate but also to build trust, foster inclusivity, and amplify awareness campaigns. This sophisticated integration of digital engagement aligns with theories of participatory communication, public sociology, and digital citizenship, establishing the RPF as a forward-thinking law enforcement agency in the global context. 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. For the RPF, this interactive digital interface acts as a bridge, narrowing the psychological and operational gap between citizens and authorities. Verified handles on platforms like Twitter and Facebook provide passengers with an asynchronous communication channel to report grievances, seek assistance, and receive critical updates, enhancing both accountability and operational transparency. 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. By prioritizing responsiveness and accessibility, the RPF reinforces its legitimacy as a citizen-centric service-oriented organization, shifting the public perception of law enforcement from that of distant authority to collaborative ally. For vulnerable groups, particularly women and children, this digital accessibility represents a lifeline. The RPF's ability to respond swiftly to distress signals posted on social media, combined with its proactive outreach, demonstrates the application of proactive policing frameworks within a digital these responses builds trust and positions the RPF as a dependable institution safeguarding mass public transport network. Amplifying Awareness: Campaigns That



law enforcement from rigid au-

thority to empathetic protectors.

Posts celebrating women officers

leading security operations or videos showcasing the rescue of

trafficked children are not merely

content-they are cultural artifacts

teractionism, a sociological frame-

work suggesting that meaning is

constructed through shared sym-

bols and interactions. By sharing

moments of bravery, compassion,

and dedication, the RPF not only

reinforces its institutional values

but also strengthens its relational

equity with the public. Behind-the-

scenes glimpses into operations

and personnel narratives further

align with Authenticity Theory,

creating a perception of trans-

parency and accountability. More-

over, the RPF's digital storytelling

strategy helps build a resonant

identity, fostering a deeper emo-

tional connection with passengers.

This connection extends to pro-

moting gender inclusivity, as posts

featuring women-led security

teams challenge entrenched

stereotypes and inspire broader

societal shifts in perceptions of

Leveraging Social Media as a

Social media is not just a plat-

form for communication but also

an integral part of the RPF's crime

prevention architecture. The force

uses social media to share live up-

dates on potential threats, train

disruptions, and safety advisories.

ensuring passengers have access

women in law enforcement.

Crime Prevention Ecosystem

This aligns with Symbolic In-

that reinforce societal trust.

Resonate

Social media's network effect empowers the RPF to amplify its awareness campaigns, reaching millions across urban, peri-urban, and rural demographics. Initiatives like Operation Meri Saheli (for security of women traveling alone in long distance trains), Operation AAHT (Action Against Human Trafficking), and anti-trespassing drives leverage digital platforms to educate passengers, promote vigilance, and encourage participatory safety practices. Operation Meri Saheli, for example, benefits from emotive storytelling, where the RPF shares real-life accounts of women passengers receiving timely assistance. These narratives, supported by compelling visuals and infographics, employ the Narrative Transportation Theory, which avers that audiences are more likely to engage with and act upon emotionally resonant stories. Similarly, Operation AAHT uses behavioural design principles to educate the public on recognizing signs of trafficking and reporting suspicious activities, transforming passive audiences into active participants in combating transnational crimes.

By tailoring content using algorithmic targeting, the RPF ensures that its messages reach the intended audiences, maximizing impact. This strategy aligns with Lasswell's Communication Model, emphasizing the importance of addressing the "who," "what," "how," and "to whom" in communication efforts. Through platform-specific strategies, the RPF achieves not only visibility but also meaningful engagement.

**Humanizing the Force: Social** Media as a Sociological Catalyst One of the most profound im-

conversations for distress signals, suspicious activities, and emergent security concerns. By analyzing hashtags, geotags, and user-generated content, the RPF incorporates predictive analytics into its operational framework. This approach aligns with Predictive Policing Models, enabling the force to preemptively address threats and allocate resources efficiently. For instance, during large-scale events or emergencies, the RPF uses Twitter as a crowdsourced intelligence platform, allowing passengers to share on-ground observations. This participatory approach exemplifies Community Policing Theory, fostering a collaborative relationship between law enforcement and the pacts of social media is its ability public. to humanize institutions, bridging emotional gaps between organizations and the communities they serve. For the RPF, this capability transforms public perceptions of

Digital Literacy and Bridging the Digital Divide

to real-time situational aware-

ness. These updates align with the

Time- Sensitive Communication

Paradigm, prioritizing timely dissemination of critical information

to mitigate risks effectively. In ad-

dition to broadcasting updates, the

RPF actively employs social media

intelligence tools to monitor digital

While social media enhances engagement, its effectiveness depends on the audience's ability to navigate digital platforms. Recognizing this, the RPF's strategy includes promoting digital literacy to ensure equitable access to information and services. Posts explaining the use of the RailMadad app, helpline numbers, and online grievance redressal systems are designed to bridge the digital divide, ensuring that passengers across all socio-economic strata can benefit from the RPF's initiatives. This effort aligns with Rogers' Diffusion of Innovations Theory, which emphasizes the role of communication channels in the adoption of new technologies and practices. By producing multilingual content and simplifying complex processes, the RPF addresses disparities in digital accessibility,

fostering inclusivity.
Celebrating Milestones: Building Social Capital

Social media provides the RPF with a platform to celebrate achievements, from rescuing trafficking victims to apprehending criminals and executing high-impact campaigns. These celebrations not only enhance institutional morale but also build social capital, reinforcing public trust in the force's capabilities. By highlighting milestones, the RPF employs the Self-Determination Theory, which underscores the importance of recognition in fosacknowledgment of these successes reassures passengers of their safety and inspires confidence in the RPF's operational ex-

# **Railway Protection Force apprehends** 586 bangladeshi and 318 rohingya to prevent illegal migration, since 2021

# RPF collaborating with Border Security Force, local police, and intelligence units to secure railway networks against illegal infiltration

Railway Protection Force (RPF) has successfully apprehended 916 individuincluding Bangladeshi nationals and 318 Rohingya since 2021, showing their commitment to safeguard the nation. In June and July 2024, RPF apprehended 88 Bangladeshi and Rohingya migrants in areas under the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR). Some of

these individuals confessed to entering India illegally and were intercepted while traveling by train to destinations such as Kolkata. In October 2024, reports highlighted that despite increased security measures along Bangladesh border, illegal migrants continue to infiltrate India, using Assam as a transit route and railways as their preferred mode of travel to reach other parts of the country. These incidents underscore the challenges faced by Indian authorities in monitoring and securing railway networks against

MI News Service, Kolkata: illegal infiltration. The use of railways by infiltrators not only facilitates their movement across states but also complicates efforts to detect and prevent unauthorized entry into the country. For considering the above issue, the RPF has intensified its efforts by collaborating with key security agencies such as the Border Security Force (BSF), local police, and intelligence units. This inter-agency approach has significantly enhanced operational efficiency, en-abling swift identification and detention of individuals involved in illegal mi-

gration. Despite its significant contributions, the RPF is not directly empowered to prosecute apprehended individuals. Instead, detained persons are handed over to police and other authorized agencies for further legal proceedings. In the light of recent political turmoil going on in the neighboring countries such as Bangladesh and Myanmar and geopolitical

developments and socioreligious factors in these regions have led to an influx of individuals seeking refuge, employment, and shelter deep within India's hinterlands. It remains a significant concern for national security.

While precise statistics on the number of infiltrators using railways are limited, recent reports indicate that illegal migrants often utilize railway networks to transit through regions like Assam and Tripura en route to other parts of India. The Railway Protection Force has risen to the challenge of addressing this critical issue, playing a pivotal role in identifying and apprehending illegal migrants attempting to penetrate India's borders. These individuals are not only a matter of national security concern but are also highly vulnerable to exploitation, including human trafficking for bonded labor, domestic help, prostitution, and even organ har-

# Centre revokes GRAP 3 curbs in Delhi-NCR

MI News Service, New **Delhi:** The Centre's panel on Delhi-NCR's air quality revoked Stage-III curbs under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) amid a dip in air pollution levels due to favourable meteorological conditions, according to an official order. Light rainfall in and around Delhi triggered by a Western Disturbance --weather systems that originate in the Mediterranean region and bring winter rain and snow to northwest India -- significantly improved the city's air quality. The national capital's air quality index (AQI) stood at 278 at 4 PM on Sunday, 72 points below the 350-mark threshold for the implementation of Stage-III curbs, which include a ban on non-essential construction work.

Another Western Disturbance is likely to affect northwest India around

January 14–15. GRAP Stage 3, which was brought back on Thursday, entails a ban on non-essential construction work. Classes up to grade V are required to shift to hybrid mode under Stage 3. Parents and students have the option to choose online education wherever available. Under Stage 3,



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

During winters, the Delhi-NCR region enforces restrictions under GRAP, which categorizes air quality into four stages – Stage I (Poor, AQI 201-300), Stage II (Very Poor, AQI 301-400), Stage III (Severe, AQI 401-450), and Stage IV (Severe Plus, AQI above 450). Unfavourable meteorological conditions, combined with vehicle emissions, paddy-straw burning, firecrackers, and local pollution other sources, lead to hazardous air quality levels in Delhi-NCR during winters.

#### Nation's first rooftop helipad service in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata once again leads a new phenomenon and becomes yet another trend

Country's first & only hospital with rooftop helipad is now in Kolkata. The Desun hospital in

Kolkata now gains the distinction of becoming India's first and only hospital with a rooftop helipad, as the first chopper landed on the raised platform recently. The rooftop helipad at the said Hospital, marked as "Latitude 22.30 degrees North and Longitude 88.11 East", set at an elevation of 52.45 Meters, was ready with all safety equipment, and other necessary gear to ensure landing was uneventful.

The hospital received the final go-ahead from the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on 14th January 2025, with instructions to undertake the first landing as a trial. DGCA authorized agency, OSS Air Management Pvt Ltd conducted the flight with DGCA observer on board. The hospital updated the Airports Authority of India (AAI) about the flight plan and landing for all necessary coordination as per standard operating

# **Army chief Dwivedi calls upon Nepal for Gorkha troops**

MI News Service, New Delhi: The army chief, General Upendra Dwivedi, has requested his Nepali counterpart to revive the recruitment of Gorkhas in the Indian Army, which has not taken place in four years because of the pandemic and then the Himalayan nation's refusal to allow its ethnic community to join the Indian armed forces under the controversial Agnipath scheme.

"I have personally requested the Nepal Army chief to revive the recruitment of the ethnic Gorkha community in the Indian Army. I am very hopeful that it will resume sooner than later," Dwivedi

The recruitment of soldiers from Nepal has been suspended since 2020 following the Covid-19 pandemic and the introduction of the Agnipath scheme in 2022, under which soldiers, called Agniveers, are recruited for four years and have no retirement benefits. They are not entitled to gratuity or pension and 75 per cent of them will be demobilised after the completion of four years while the rest retained as regular cadre based on merit and organisational requirements.

Before the scheme, a fit general-duty soldier had to serve 15-18 years in the army. Nepal did not agree to the terms of the Agniveer scheme for its citizens, saying that it violated the provisions of the tripartite India-Nepal-Britain Agreement of 1947. The Himalayan nation had also voiced concern over the re-employability of Gorkha soldiers after the expiry of their four-year term.

The 1947 tripartite pact allowed Indian and British armies to continue the recruitment of Gorkhas. Under the pact, six Gorkha regiments went to independent India while four remained with the British Army. India's seven Gorkha Rifles regiments have a history that dates back to the early 19th century when they

served the Sikh Army under Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Nepali Gorkhas, known for their grit and bravery, have fought in India's wars with China and Pakistan and have strong ties with the Indian military.

At present, the Indian Army has seven Gorkha regiments, with about 34,000 Nepali citizens serving in these units. The Indian Army annually hired 1,200-1,500 Gorkhas from Nepal until the freeze.

Sources in the Indian Army said close to 14,000 Gorkha troops had retired since 2020 and these vacancies had not been filled up from Nepal, leaving gaps in the posted strength of operational battalions.

"In a bid to fill the shortfall, the Gorkha Rifles is hiring India-domicile Gorkhas from Darjeeling, Dehradun, Dharamshala and other regions, along with Garhwalis and Kumaonis, but is unable to bridge the gap," said an army official, adding the army has a shortage of over 12,000 Nepali Gorkhas.

A former lieutenant general told that Nepal's Gorkha soldiers serving in the Indian Army had been an important facet of bilateral relations. "India should show a higher degree of statesmanship to bring back the Gorkha soldiers into the Indian Army's fold for improving overall bilateral relations amid China's growing strategic

inroads into Nepal," he told. Prem Singh Basnyat, a Nepalese military historian and retired army officer, had last year said the short-term military recruitment scheme could increase the country's risk from insurgents. "There is a danger that a person with four years of military combat training can be recruited by any insurgent group in the country or

even by foreign mercenaries," he said. India's military veterans have also criticised the Agnipath scheme, prompting the Opposition to accuse the government of bulldozing it through without any consultation with the stakeholders.

# **Centre sanctions 2 new** battalions for CISF

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Union government has sanctioned two fresh battalions comprising more than 2,000 personnel for the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) guarding vital installations like airports and nuclear power plants.

Once raised, the strength of the force will touch about 2 lakh personnel."The ministry of home affairs (MHA) has sanctioned significant expansion of the CISF by giving the goahead for creation of two new battalions."This decision, coupled with the recently-approved mahila (women) battalion, will augment the force's capacity, strengthen national security and create new employment opportunities for over 2,000 persons," a CISF spokesperson said.

The sanction was received on Monday, the spokesperson said. Late last year, an all-

women battalion was sanctioned for the force. The force currently has 12 reserve battalions on ground with a strength of 1,025 personnel in each.

These upcoming battalions, the spokesperson said, will also be vital in catering to the "increasing" demands on the CISF by creating a pool of trained personnel to fulfill immediate induction requirements relating to internal security.

consist of personnel specifically trained and equipped who are experienced in handling security of high security hails and other undertakings, the spokesper-

GICICIBank

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Bhangagarh. Assam, Guwahati-781005

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASS

[See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

	Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Price Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Property Inspection	Time of E-Auction
ı	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
		Bordoloi (Borrower) Umeshchandra Bordoloi (Co- Borrower) LBJRH00005463503	G+1 Storied Residential Building Known as Row House including garden being Bungalow No. 6, R.S. and L.R. Dag No. 9, R.S. Khatian No. 74, L.R. Khatian No. 1521, J.L. No. 43, R.S. No. 20, Touzi 98, Police Station Bishnupur, Bakhrahat Gram Panchayet, Mouza Sanjua, Pargana Magura, District South 24 Parganas, West Bengal-743377. All that piece and parcel of Land measuring about 1 Cottah 6 chittacks more or less together with G+1 storied residential building known as Row House including garden for the purpose of bungalow no.6 having total super built up area 1043 sq.ft out of which ground floor measuring 521.50 sq.ft super built up area more or less and first floor measuring 521.50 sq.ft super built up area more or less.	Rs. 20,46,836/- as on December 30, 2024.	Rs. 28,00, 000/- Rs. 2,80,000/-	February 18, 2025 From 01:00 P.M. to 04:00 P.M.	February 26, 2025 From 10:30 A.M. onwards

The online auction will be conducted on the website (https://disposalhub.com) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by February 25, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 1st Floor, Shanti Complex, G.S Road. Bhangagarh. Assam, Guwahati-781005 on or before February 25, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before February 25, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, 1st Floor, Shanti Complex, G.S Road. Bhangagarh. Assam, Guwahati-781005 on or before February 25, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Guwahati. Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Guwahati.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9163343439.

Please note that Marketing Agency 1. M/s. NexXen Solutions Private Limited, 2. Girnarsoft Pvt Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date : January 20, 2025 Place: Kolkata (West Bengal) **Authorized Officer** 

# **Decreasing stu**dents, increasing schools: Is education not conducive?

The number of government schools is increasing, but student enrollment is declining. In Haryana, the enrollment in government schools in 2023-24 was 22.30 lakh, down from 24.64 lakh in 2022-23. Also, the total enrollment in the state in 2023-24 was 56.41 lakh, while it was 57.76 lakh in 2022-23. The enrollment of girls (secondary) was 4.4 percent in 2022-23, which came down to 4.2 percent in 2023-24. The enrollment of boys fell from 5.7 percent to 5.4 percent in two years. There are some challenges in the education system due to which India is not able to meet optimal development. To improve the education scenario in India and increase the enrollment of students, there is a need to work strictly on policies that ensure a quality education system in India.

#### PRIYANKA SAURABH

According to the latest report of the Integrated District Information System for Education, the number of schools in India is increasing, but the number of school students is decreasing. The decrease in the number of school students is not only worrying and thought-provoking but is also a major obstacle to building a new India-Strong India. The number of schools in India has increased by about 5,000. According to the report, there are 14, 89, and 115 schools in India, including primary, secondary, and senior secondary levels. These schools teach 26, 52, 35, and 830 students. Some of these schools get high student enrollment due to their reputation, years of establishment, significant school results, marketing strategies, etc. But between the years 2022-23 and 2023-24, the enrollment of students decreased by 37 lakh. This situation raises many questions. Is school education out of reach of most children? Has the attraction of education decreased compared to before?

Despite the excellent facilities available in government schools, the number of students getting enrolled is not increasing. Despite the better facilities in government schools, poor quality education, inadequate teacher training, lack of accountability, competition from private schools, and the availability of good government schools in some areas, the perception that private schools offer better learning outcomes often leads to low student enrollment; this leads parents to opt for private schools even if they can afford government education. As we all know, nowadays students and their parents prefer to enroll in private schools over government schools. We see the same trend in rural areas as well, where most of the parents are dependent on agriculture and belong to the lower economic class.

Recently, the Supreme Court has directed state governments and union territories to provide basic facilities in schools to attract more students to in government schools. The main reasons for low enrollment in government schools despite improved facilities are inadequate teacher training, low motivation, and high absenteeism. Teachers can significantly impact the quality of learning in government schools, leading parents to opt for private

standards. Even when government schools have good infrastructure, there is a perception among parents that private schools provide better education, leading to a preference for private institutions. Poor monitoring and evaluation systems in government schools can lead to inconsistent quality of education, further eroding parental confidence.

The rapid growth of private schools with facilities and marketing strategies often drives students away from government schools, even in areas where there are good public education options. In some cases, parents may choose private schools due to social pressure or a desire to access a network of peers from socio-economic backgrounds. Government schools may not always update their curriculum and teaching methods to align with modern educational practices, leading to a gap in quality. We have to accept the truth, however bitter it is. Inadequate facilities, low teacher attendance, and outdated teaching methods are some of the reasons why people are abandoning free govern-ment schools and choosing expensive fee-paying private institutions, which is not a very good sign.

The problem is not just that private schools have higher enrollments than government schools. There will be less care and attention in government schools. There will be mediocre oversight over the process in government schools. There is no question of the availability of proper infrastructure. This is very common with most schools running with inadequate staff. There is no accountability to parents, primarily towards their children's eaucation. wniie private schools will have the above strategy formulations available, commercial gimmicks will also be added to increase the school's capacity. The improvement in the country's school infrastructure also gives a glimpse of the major problems that remain to be addressed. The decline in the number of students despite the improvement in the state of infrastructure is a matter of intense

Prioritize teacher training, recruiting qualified teachers, and performance-based incentives to improve teaching standards in government schools. Implement strong systems to monitor school performance, identify areas of improvement, and hold schools accountable for student learning outcomes. Involve parents and community leaders in school decision-making to build trust and promote government schools. Regularly review and update the curriculum to ensure relevance and alignment with current needs. Continue to invest in improving physical infrastructure in government schools to provide a conducive learning environment. Run campaigns highlighting the quality of education available in government schools to dispel negative perceptions and encourage enrollment.

There are some challenges in the education system due to which India is not able to meet the optimum development. To improve the education scenario in India and increase the enrollment of students, there is a need to work strictly on the policies that ensure a quality education system in India.



Jagjot Singh Rubal, an artist from Amritsar gives final touches to the painting of the President of United States of America Donald J Trump on the eve of his oath-taking ceremony, in Amritsar on Sunday.

# **EMPOWERING YUVA SHAKTI: THE VIKSIT BHARAT** YOUNG LEADERS DIALOGUE

#### DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA

As India approaches its centenary of independence in 2047, our youth stand at the forefront of our mission to build a Viksit Bharat. Guided by the Hon'ble Prime Minister's clarion call to engage one lakh youth in politics with no political background, we have reimagined the National Youth Festival into something extraordinary "The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue 2025." This dialogue is not just an event, it's a movement, a vibrant celebration of youth empowerment, leadership, and actionable ideas that align with India's vision for "Viksit Bharat.

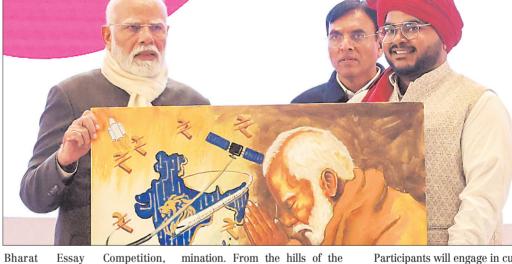
Reimagining National Youth Festival

For over two decades, the National Youth Festival has been a symbol of cultural exchange and youthful energy. This year, however, we dared to think differently. On November 18, 2024, we announced a groundbreaking transformation of the festival, placing leadership, innovation, and nation-building at its core.

Central to this reimagining is the Viksit Bharat Challenge, a three-stage competition meticulously designed to identify and nurture India's brightest minds. The challenge is rooted in merit, inclusivity, and transparency, ensuring every young Indian, regardless of geography or background, has an equal opportunity to contribute.

The first stage, the Viksit Bharat Quiz, saw participation from around 3 million youth across the nation. Conducted in 12 languages, it tested their knowledge of India's progress over the past decades, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility.

The second stage, the Viksit



encouraged participants to delve deeper into pressing issues. Over two lakh essays were submitted. exploring ten thematic areas such as leveraging technology for development, embracing sustainability, preserving cultural heritage, and making India a global sporting powerhouse. These essays, evaluated by expert panels, provided profound insights into the creativity, analytical thinking, and originality of our youth.

The final stage, the Viksit Bharat Vision Deck Competition, brought top participants to statelevel championships. Here, young leaders presented innovative ideas to panels of domain experts and leadership moderators. This stage emphasized grassroots perspectives and regional diversity, showcasing the ability of young Indians to think globally while acting locally.

The journey through these stages has been marked by inspiring stories of resilience and deter-

Northeast to the villages of Rajasthan and Gujarat to the coastal towns of Tamil Nadu, we witnessed young leaders overcoming societal barriers, logistical challenges, and personal hardships to present their visions for Viksit Bharat- A Bharat that they

envision for. The Grand Dialogue: A Historic Gathering

On January 10, 2025, the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue will officially begin at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, bringing together 3,000 participants in a historic gathering. The event comprises 1,500 participants from the Viksit Bharat challenge track, representing the top 500 teams from state championships, 1,000 participants from the traditional track, showcasing India's cultural diversity through performances selected from statelevel youth festivals and 500 Pathbreakers, trailblazers chosen for their groundbreaking contributions across thematic tracks.

Participants will engage in cultural and thematic presentations. competitions, and excursions to like iconic sites Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya and the National War Memorial. An exclusive dinner with various Union Ministers and Members of Parliament will provide a rare platform for informal dialogue, bridging the aspirations of youth

with policymaking insights. The dialogue will momentum on January 11th with a grand inaugural session featuring national icons, thought leaders, and innovators. This highprofile discussion will set the stage for thematic deliberations across ten critical tracks, led by

mentors and domain experts. The evening will come alive with "Colours of Viksit Bharat" cultural show, showcasing India's artistic heritage, and symbolizing the limitless potential of our youth. The day strikes a perfect balance between intellectual stimulation and cultural celebration, inspiring partici-

pants to dream big and act deci-

National Youth Day: A Vision for Viksit Bharat

The final day, January 12, celebrated as National Youth Day to honour the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and his enduring legacy of youth empowerment, will be a defining moment for every participant. The top ten ideas from thematic trackers will be a proported disaster. tracks will be presented directly to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, providing an inspiring platform for innovative minds to shine. tive minds to shine.

This interaction emphasizes India's commitment to involving youth in governance and decision-making. Following this, participants will also have the opportunity to interact with the Hon'ble Prime Minister and other eminent leaders, over lunch, fostering meaningful conversations and leaving them with lasting memories and a sense of empowerment.

The day will also feature a grand plenary session led by the Prime Minister himself. This session will reinforce the transformative potential of India's youth in shaping a developed India, leaving participants empowered and motivated to act as catalysts

for change. The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue stands out for its scale, inclusivity, and impact. From its transparent selection process to its focus on actionable ideas, this initiative exemplifies our government's commitment to youth empowerment. By providing a platform for innovative ideas and direct interaction with PM Narendra Modi along with national and global icons, this dialogue sets a new benchmark for youth engagement in gover-

# **UNION MSME MINISTRY ENCOURAGES VISITORS TO JOIN KHADI INDIA PAVILION AT MAHAKUMBH 2025**

PRAYAGRAJ: The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has set up the India Pavilion at Mahakumbh 2025 and encouraged visitors to join the exhibition which honours India's timeless legacy and its commitment to promoting sustainable, locally-made products, according to the Ministry of Culture press release.

Khadi India Pavilion at Mahakumbh 2025 showcases India's rich heritage in local crafts, textiles, and indigenous industries, with a focus on Khadi.

The exhibition will be held in Prayagraj till February 26 and will showcase a total of 152 stalls, with 98 displaying Khadi products and

54 products from village industries. The exhibition features products from more than 20 states, added the release

The pavilion highlights the integration of tradition, sustainability, and craftsmanship, offering an in-depth view of Khadi's role in fostering unity and preserving cultural values. Set against the historic backdrop of the Maha Kumbh Mela, it underscores India's commitment to promoting local industries and sustainable practices.

A vibrant display at the Khadi Utsav exhibition in Prayagraj showcasing India's love for Khadi and its transformative journey under Prime Minister Narendra



Modi's, 'Vocal for Local' initiative, the release added.

huge number of visitors showing interest in Khadi Utsav organised The exhibition is witnessing a by the Ministry of Micro, Small

and Medium Enterprises (MSME) celebrating local craftsmanship and heritage.

At the exhibition site, the Ministry has given tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, highlighting the 'self-reliant' theme Atmanirbhar Bharat at the Khadi Utsay -2025.

This occasion emphasises the nation's dedication to fostering local industries while upholding sustainability and cultural preser-

vation, stated the release. As Mahakumbh Mela is proiected to attract about 40-45 crore (400-450 million) pilgrims, it has proved itself as a significant instrument to showcase the success stories of various initiatives.

# **OUR!!!VOICES**

# Israel Hamas ceasefire: 735 Palestinian prisoners to be released in 1st phase

News Service, Jerusalem: Israel is set to release 735 Palestinian prisoners in the first phase of the Isreal Hamas ceasefire deal, the Israeli Ministry of Justice announced on Saturday, January 18

This initial phase, set to commence on Sunday, January 19 and span 42 days, will see Israel gradually release the prisoners as well as 1,167 residents detained from Gaza. In return, Hamas is expected to release 33 Israeli hostages currently held in Gaza.

Hundreds of Palestinian detainees are to be released as well, and the largely devastated Gaza should see a surge in humanitarian aid. Israeli forces will also pull back from many areas in Gaza during the first phase of the ceasefire and hundreds of thousands of Palestinians will be able to return to what's left of their homes.

Israel said that many of the prisoners on the list were convicted of murder, such as Ahmed Barghouti, who was serving 13 life terms for the murder of 12 Israelis, and Majdi Zaatari, sentenced to 23 life terms plus 50 years for facilitating a 2003 suicide bombing in Jerusalem that killed 23 people.

Also slated for release is senior Hamas member Salim Hajja, who was serving 16 life terms for his involvement in a suicide bus attack in Haifa in 2001, in which 15 people were killed, and Mohammed Naifa, a senior militant in the Tanzim militant faction, who was convicted of murdering 13 Israelis and sentenced to 13 life terms.

The list also includes Zakaria Zubeidi, com-mander of Fatah's Al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades in Jenin, West Bank, Xinhua news agency reported. Israeli citizens, particularly victims' families, are allowed to petition the High Court of Justice to challenge the release of specific prison-

Earlier in the day, the Israeli government approved a ceasefire agreement aimed at the release of hostages held in the Gaza Strip, following a lengthy cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister's Office said. At the meeting, 24 ministers voted in favour and eight against.

Three Israeli women held in Gaza and 95 Palestinian prisoners are set to be released on Sunday as part of the deal's first

The full cabinet meeting was held after Israel's restricted security cabinet voted in favour of the Gaza ceasefire-for-hostage agreement on Friday.

Itamar Ben-Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich, two farright ministers, opposed the agreement and demanded a government commitment to resume fighting in Gaza once the first phase of the deal, in which Hamas would re-lease 33 Israeli hostages, is completed.

Disputes have been resolved, Hamas said on Friday, a day after the group affirmed its commitment to the full terms of the accord in a statement.



Participants gather at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus for the TATA Mumbai Marathon 2025, in Mumbai.

# Gaza ceasefire-hostage deal comes into effect after Israel confirms getting list of hostages

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Following a delay over Israel demanding the list of hostages to be released by Hamas, the implementation of the first phase of the ceasefirehostage deal in Gaza between Hamas and Israel, came into effect

The Office of the Prime Minister of Israel confirmed that the deal would take effect at 11:15 am (local time) on Sunday.

Notably, the deal was earlier set to take effect on Sunday, January 19, at 08:30 (local time).

"Pursuant to the framework for the release of the hostages, the ceasefire of the first stage in Gaza will take effect at 11:15," the Israeli Prime Minister's Office stated

Earlier, the Israel PM Office confirmed that it received the list sentatives. We request the media

of hostages who were expected to be released today by Hamas in accordance with the framework of

It further informed that Brigadier General Gal Hirsch will act as the coordinator for hostages and the missing. The Israel PM Office also called for the protection of the privacy of the families of the hostages to the media and the

"Israel has received the list of the hostages who are due to be released today according to the framework. The security establishment is now checking the details," the Israeli PMO stated.

"Coordinator for the Hostages and the Missing Brig.-Gen. (Res.) Gal Hirsch has initially notified the hostages' families via IDF repreand public not to circulate the details of the list, act with caution and safeguard the privacy of the families," it added in a subsequent

Notably, the ceasefire deal suffered a delay hours before the implementation of the deal, when İsraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated that Israel would not proceed with the agreed framework until Hamas provided the list of hostages to be released, adding that any violations of the agreement would "not be toler-

"We will be unable to move forward with the framework until we receive the list of the hostages who will be released, as was agreed. Israel will not tolerate violations of the agreement. Hamas PMO quoted Netanyahu as saying. Earlier this week, the Israeli government approved the ceasefire and hostage release deal with Hamas by a vote of 24-8, according to a report by Times of Israel.

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 cease-

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 triggered by Hamas' Octo-

# **US** sanctions Chinese company and individual over cyberattacks

MI News Service, Washington DC: The Biden administration made one last effort to reveal what they claim is a widespread Chinese cyber-espionage operation. They identified a company and an individual they say were responsible for two major hacks targeting senior US officials, as reported by CNN.

According to CNN, a senior US official said that the goal is to "make hackers pay" for trying to harm US democracy and way of life. However, stopping China from stealing sensitive information from US networks is a challenge that has been going on for decades and will continue under the Trump adminis-

The US announced sanctions from the Treasury Department against a Chinese tech company. The company is accused of being involved in a large cyberattack telecommunications companies, which was revealed last year. The hackers specifically targeted the phone communications of President-elect Donald Trump, Vice President-elect JD Vance, and senior officials in the Biden administration, CNN re-

The Treasury also im-

son from Shanghai, accusing them of being involved in a different hack of the Treasury Department. The hackers went after unclassified information from Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and her deputy, Wally Adeyemo, as part of an intelligence-gathering mission. They also breached the US government office that examines foreign investments for national security risks, according to CNN.

CNN further reported that Trump's administration will include several Cabinet members and senior staff who have pushed for stronger actions against China due to national security concerns. This includes Rep. Mike Waltz, who will be the national security adviser, and Marco Rubio, Trump's pick for secretary of state.

Therefore, the Biden administration's efforts to expose Chinese cyber-espionage highlight ongoing national security concerns. Despite sanctions targeting Chinese companies and individuals, stopping these attacks remains a longterm challenge. The administration, Trump with key officials advocating stronger measures, will continue to address

these critical issues.

# Best president in my entire life, Trump's supporters cheer ahead of his inauguration

MI News Service, Virginia: **US President-Elect Donald** Trump's supporters braved the icy polar vortex on Saturday (local time) to catch a glimpse of the inaugural events leading up to his swearing-in cere-

Several supporters were seen filming the fireworks that took place at Trump National Golf Club and wearing "Make America Great Again" (MAGA)

Michael, a supporter of Trump, said that he was the best President in the US. "I live in Fairfax, Virginia. And this is one of the most exciting inaugurations that we're just about to see here in Washington. President Trump is on his way back. We can't wait. He's the best president in my entire life. The world needs a leader like Donald Trump. And thank God for Donald Trump and our next President of the United States. God bless you, Donald Trump. We love you!" he told ANI.

Dong Xu, another supporter of Trump, said that he would improve the economy and grant employment. He further hoped that Republicans would work together with Democrats for the country's sake.
"I'm from Ashburn,

Virginia. I am here, for Trump. I, the number one, I think it's the economy, employment. And also, I want Trump to do some good work to unite the whole country together. Democrats and Republicans should work together to solve the major issues our country faces. Best wishes for the next four years," he said.

As meteorologists predicted one of the coldest inauguration days in recent history, Trump moved his upcoming inauguration ceremony indoors, Al Jazeera reported.

"There is an Arctic blast sweeping the Country. I don't want to see people hurt, or injured, in any way," Trump wrote on his platform Truth Social.

Traditionally, the ceremony has taken place outdoors, most commonly on the marble steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC, Al Jazeera reported.

For Monday, the National Weather Service is projecting temperatures to peak at a frosty -6 degrees

# 44 incidents of violence against shrines reported in Bangladesh since **August 4: Official Statement**

MI News Service, Dhaka: A total of 44 incidents of vandalism on 40 shrines (Mazar/Sufi graveyards, dargahs) have been reported to the Bangladesh Police from across the country since August 4 last year. The incidents include vandalism and attacks on shrines and devotees, looting of shrine properties, and setting fire to the shrines, the statement released by Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus' Press Wing stated. The interim government led by Muhammad Yunus reaffirmed that the government holds a "zero-tolerance policy" towards attacks on shrines and authorities have been directed to take stringent actions against

those responsible. The highest number of incidents has been reported in Dhaka Division, which is 17, whereas 10 and seven

reported, respectively, in Chattogram Division and Mymensing Division. Four attacks were carried out on a single shrine in the Sherpur District under the Mymensingh According to the police, legal actions have been taken in all of the 44 attack incidents. These actions include the filing of 15 regular cases and 29 general diaries (GDs) with different police stations on receiving complaints from the aggrieved persons or suo moto by the police.

A total of 23 culprits

attack incidents have been

have been arrested in those criminal cases. Charge sheets have already been submitted to the court in two regular cases. Investigations in 13 other regular cases and 29 general diaries are going on now, the

# Taiwan slams China's "erroneous claim" on sovereignty, reaffirms independence

MI News Service, Taipei: Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) criticised China for its "erroneous claim" about Taiwan and restated that Taiwan is a sovereign and independent country, as reported by the Taipei

Taipei Times reported that the ministry's response came after Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke about Taiwan's sover-eignty during a phone call with the US President-elect Donald Trump on Friday.

The ministry emphasised that Taiwan and the People's Republic of China are not controlled by one another, and this is a wellknown fact that reflects internationally accepted "status quo."

Taiwan said it looks forward to strengthening its cooperation with the new Trump administration, building on the strong and friendly relationship



between Taiwan and the US. The two sides aim to work together to maintain peace, stability, and prosperity in the Taiwan Strait and the region, the Taipei Times reported.

In a statement, China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs shared that Xi Jinping told Trump it was natural for two large countries to disagree on some issues. Xi also said the Taiwan issue is a matter of China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the US should handle it carefully, the Taipei Times reported.

According to Taipei Times, Li Da-jung, a professor at Tamkang University, said the call came earlier than expected and showed Trump's proactive style. Li also suggested that despite Trump's appointments of tough China critics, phone calls and meetings between Trump and Xi would likely increase after Trump takes office. Li believes one of Trump's main goals is to address the "unfair" trade imbalance with China.

Wang Hung-jen, a professor at National Cheng Kung University, suggested that Trump sees the US-China rivalry as an important issue to address the issues right away. While the conversation seemed positive, it doesn't necessarily mean Trump will ease his stance on trade, the Taipei Times reported.

# Minister calls for increased security in Jerusalem



MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Minister of Jerusalem Affairs Meir Porush has urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his cabinet to boost security measures in Jerusalem, mirroring recent reinforcements approved for Judea and Samaria

In a letter to the cabinet, Porush expressed concern about the planned release of Palestinian security prisoners to Jerusalem as part of the upcoming hostage deal. He emphasised that Jerusalem lacks security buffers between parts of the city where the terrorists will return to and the rest of the city, potentially affecting millions of residents and visitors.

"While strengthening security in Judea and Samaria is welcome, we cannot ignore the unique challenges facing Jerusalem," Porush wrote. He called for an urgent security cabinet meeting to assess risks and allocate additional resources to the Jerusalem Police, General Security Service, and urban policing units.

# Amritsar artist paints Trump's portrait ahead of swearing-in

MI News Service, Amritsar : The love for the US President-elect is on the rise in India, as Jagjot Singh Rubal, an artist from Amritsar painted his 5X7 feet portrait as a congratulatory message from India. Rubal, while talking to ANI, said that India-US friendship is beneficial for all. "First of all, I would like to congratulate Trump, who is going to be the second president of the US. He is going to have an official ceremony tomorrow. I also wished him a painting from India," he said. "The relations between the US and India are very beneficial for both our countries," he added. Rubal said that he had painted portraits of several world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for which, he was heaped with praise. "I have

already painted previous three presidents of India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. I have also received praise for them. The painting measures 5\*7 feet," he said. Meanwhile, as Trump's inaugural ceremony is kicking in, he announced that the celebrations will be held indoors after being faced with an icy polar vortex, Al Jazeera reported. Traditionally, the ceremony has taken place outdoors, most commonly on the marble steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC. But with meteorologists predicting one of the coldest inauguration days in recent history, Trump decided on Friday that safety mandated the venue change, as per Al Jazeera. "There is an Arctic blast sweeping the Country. I don't want to see people hurt, or injured, in



any way," Al Jazeera quoted Trump from his post on Truth Social. Trump's ceremony, scheduled for Monday, will now take place beneath the Capitol Rotunda, its curved sandstone walls covered with paintings from American history. India's love for Trump is not new, and Indians have gone as far as conducting 'havans' or religious practises to ensure his safety.

In a gesture of solidarity and support, the Hindu Sena in Delhi conducted a grand 'Hawan' on July 16 aimed at ensuring the well-being Trump. This ritual, which took place at Maa Baglamukhi Shanti Peeth in Dilshad Garden, came after assassination attempt on Trump during a campaign rally in Penn-

# Australian Open: Djokovic, Alcaraz set up mouth-watering quarterfinal clash



MELBOURNE: Serbian tennis icon Novak Diokovic stormed into the quarterfinals of the ongoing Australian Open, setting up a clash with rival Carlos Alcaraz following a win over Jiri Lehecka in fourth-round match on Sunday.

At the Rod Laver Arena, Djokovic stormed past the 24th seed by 6-3, 6-4, 7-6(4) within two hours and 39 minutes. He has now equalled legendary Roger Federer's record of reaching most QFs in Australian Open history, with 15 each.

Djokovic dominated from the baseline, putting on a fine display of tennis. He produced just 21 unforced errors as compared to Jiri's 44."I felt great. A couple of hiccups here and there, a loose game after I broke his serve in the third. After that L had chances to break him, but every time I had an opportunity to break him, he would serve big. Just very powerful and precise," said Djokovic after the match as quoted by ATP's official website.

"Obviously a little bit of a different opponent compared to my last-round opponent, but there were quite a few similarities, with a flat backhand and quite an aggressive style. I think I handled the pressure moments well and played some great points towards the end," he added.

On the other hand, the Spanish sensation Alcaraz's dream of becoming the youngest Career

withdrew due to injury on Sunday. During their fourth-round clash, Alcaraz was leading 7-5, 6-1 when Draper, who had played five sets in each of his first three matches, was forced to stop as the British star was managing tendinitis in his hip throughout the week. Alcaraz has reached the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam for the 10th time. Speaking after the match as quoted by the official ATP website, "It is not the way I want to win the match to get through to the next round. I am just happy to play in another quarter-final in Australia but a

alive as he also progressed to the

quarterfinals of the ongoing

Australia Open after Jack Draper

little bit sad for Jack, he is a nice person. He does not deserve to get injured.

"He could not prepare for the start of the season well because of an injury. We should have done a good week of preseason [together], but we could not because of an injury as well. I am just a little bit sad for him but I am sure he is going to come back stronger and I want to wish him a speedy recovery," he added.

In the first set, Alcaraz had secured a 5-2 lead and looked in control, but inconsistency in later games helped Draper secure a scoreline of 5-5. From there onwards, Alcaraz looked majestic, producing some unbe-lievable shots and winning eight out of the next nine games.

"I am just happy with the level that I am playing on the court. Off the court, I am feeling really comfortable here in Australia. I think it is pretty good. Physically I am feeling great so coming into the second week of a Grand Slam it is really important to feel well physically because right now the matches are even tougher. I am just ready. I think I am doing great things off the court as well," Alcaraz said. "I am excited about playing my second quarter-final in Australia and hopefully getting further this year," he added.

Reaching his 10th quarterfinal in a Grand Slam, Alcaraz has equalled an Open Era record of most Grand Slam QF appearances by men's players aged 21 or less. The current number three in the ATP Rankings, is looking to complete his full set of Grand Slam titles after winning the French Open (2024), Wimbledon (2023, 2024) and the US Open (2022).

# **Defending champions India dominate West** Indies in ICC Women's U19 T20 World Cup

KUALA LUMPUR : Defending champions India began their ICC Women's U19 T20 World Cup 2025 campaign on a high note, delivering a dominant performance against the West Indies at the picturesque Bayeumas Oval in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday, accord-

Having got the Windies bowled out for 44 in the first innings, India managed to chase down the total in 4.2 overs with nine wickets in hand.

After winning the toss and opting to bowl first, India put in an all-round effort with the ball and in the field to take control of the proceedings.

Joshitha VJ opened the deadlock as she trapped West Indies skipper Samara Ramnath plumb in her second over. The pacer then followed it up with a second wicket off the next delivery, sending Naijanni Cumberbatch back in the hut for a duck.

The spin duo of Aayushi Shukla and Parunika Sisodia also got into the act as India tightened their grip on the Group A fixture. While Shukla also registered a brace, Sisodia went on to finish with a three-wicket haul.

Later in the innings, Indian fielders helped clean up the tail, inducing three runouts as the Windies batters were unable to stitch a partnership.

Chasing the total, India lost opener G Trisha in the first over. However, Kamalini G and Sanika Chalke ensured that India wrapped up a win without losing another wicket.

The result sees the defending champions sit atop Group A after the first round of matches, with two points and a commanding NRR of +8.646.

Earlier in the day, in the other Group A fixture, Chamudi Praboda and Dahami Sanethma emerged as the star performers as Sri Lanka pinned down hosts



Malaysia by a 139 runs in their ICC Women's U19 T20 World Cup opener on day two of the tourna-

Defending a challenging total, Sri Lanka were on top from the get-go, removing three wickets in the powerplay starting off with Rashmika Sewwandi, who claimed opener Irdina Beh in the first over to hand her team an early advantage.

It was followed by twin strikes from Praboda, who got the better of Nazatul Hidayah Husna and Nur Izzatul Syafiqa in the second over of the innings.

Just as the hosts were reeling from the early wickets, Manudi Nanayakkara made her mark with the wickets of Nur Aliya and skipper Nur Daniya Syuhada in the same over as half of the Malaysian batting returned back with only 14 runs on the board.

Aseni Thalagune also got into the thick of the action with a stunning direct hit to remove Nuriman Hidayah out of the equation with a run out.

Limansa Thilakaratne then got rid of Suabika Manivannan and Nur Ain in successive overs from her end before Praboda returned to clinch her third, finishing with figures of 3/5. Another run out came as the final blow for the hosts, who were bowled out for

Earlier, Dahami Sanethma anchored the Sri Lankan innings with the first half-century of the tournament. Returning with 55 runs off 52 deliveries, Dahani composed her knock with five boundaries as Sri Lanka closed the innings with 162/6 on the

Opener Sanjana Kavindi (30 off 13 balls) and Hiruni Kumari (28 off 21 balls) in the middle order were also key contributors for the Sri Lankans.

Hosts Malaysia did pull the run rate back thanks to wickets in the middle overs. The pick of the bowlers Siti Nazwah removed Hiruni and Rashkima Sewwandi in the same over to carve an opening for the hosts. But thanks to some late fireworks, courtesy of Sanethma and Shashini Gimhani, Sri Lanka leaped past the 150-run

Malaysia had won the toss and elected to bowl in the nation's capital, and there were emotional scenes when Marsya claimed the hosts' opening wicket, a catch off her own bowling to dismiss Kavindi in the fourth over.

After morning play, defending champions India meet the West

# Sajid Khan's impressive nine-wicket haul powers Pakistan to 127-run win over West Indies in 1st Test



MULTAN: An incredible ninewicket haul by spinner Sajid Khan helped Pakistan register a 127run win over West Indies in the first Test at Multan on Sunday.

With this win, Pakistan is 1-0 up in the two-match series, with the second Test in Multan from January 25.

Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat first. The duo of Gudakesh Motie (1/48) and Jayden Seales (3/27) had Pakistan down to 46/4. From then on, a 141-run stand for the fifth wicket between Saud Shakeel (84 in 157 balls, with six fours) and Mohammad Rizwan (71 in 133 balls, with nine fours) helped Pakistan get back in the game. Jomel Warrican (3/69) wiped out the tail quickly, skittling out Pakistan for 230 runs in 68.5

In the first innings of WI,

Pakistani spinners Sajid (4/65) Noman Ali (5/39) and Abrar Ahmed (1/6) unleashed ultimate destruction, sharing among them all 10 wickets. Lower order of Jomel Warrican (31 in 24 balls, with four boundaries and a six), Seales (22 in 13 balls, with three sixes) and Gudakesh Motie (19 in 25 balls) lifted WI to 137 all out from an extremely poor position at 66/8. Pakistan led by 93 runs.

In their second innings, Pakistan started well with a partnership of 67 runs between skipper Shan Masood and Muhammad Hurraira (29 in 58 balls, with three fours). Though Masood hit a half-century and ended with a well-compiled 52 in 70 balls (with two fours and two sixes), Pakistan was skittled out for 157 runs, thanks to an incredible spell by spinner Jomel Warrican (7/32). Pakistan led by 250 runs and set Windies 251 runs to win.

In the run-chase, Alick Athanaze (55 in 68 balls, with four boundaries) did score a half-century, but fine spells from Sajid (5/50) and Abrar Ahmed (4/27) helped Pakistan bundled out WI for just 123 in 36.3 overs, win by 127 runs with two days left in action.

Sajid earned the 'Player of the Match' award.

# National Kabaddi stars gear up for global Indian Pravasi Kabaddi League



GURUGRAM: National-level players have already begun rigorous training for the upcoming Global Indian Pravasi Kabaddi League (GI-PKL), which will feature participation from countries such as Egypt, Kenya, Argentina, Taiwan, and Poland. With the players' draft approaching, both men's and women's athletes are intensifying their preparations to compete in the League.

Prominent players like Sawin Narwal, Sandeep Kandola, Ajay Kumar, and Kapil Narwal are leaving no stone unturned in their training. National gold medalists such as M Anitha, Indra Rohini, Arul Santhiya, and Selvarebiksha have also started practice sessions in their respective states.

Sawin Narwal, a rifleman in the Indian Army currently stationed in Ranchi, is honing his Kabaddi skills within his battalion. Having competed in numerous Kabaddi leagues, Sawin, a national-level player, is eager to participate in GI-PKL. "The training is going on very well for the Global Indian Pravasi Kabaddi League. I'm also looking forward to play in the friendly Kabaddi matches organised inside the campus. I'm actually very excited for GI-PKL,' said Sawin Narwal as quoted by a GI-PKL press release.

Echoing similar sentiments, Kapil Narwal said, "I'm very excited to be a part of GI-PKL. I've already played with international players and I'm looking forward to bringing my A-game again on the mat.

Sharing her enthusiasm, M Anitha said, "I'm thrilled to be part of the GI-PKL. Sharing the dressing room with international players will be a great learning experience and an opportunity to understand different playing

Arul Santhiya also expressed her excitement, stating, "It's an incredible feeling to be part of a league that unites players from across the globe. I look forward to sharing strategies and learning from international players. This experience will surely enhance

Speaking about the players' participation and excitement, anthi D. Suresh, President of the Holistic International Pravasi Sports Association (HIPSA), said, as per the press release,"The excitement around GI-PKL highlights the popularity of Kabaddi and the power of sport to unite cultures and break barriers. The overwhelming response from global and domestic players underscores our vision to create an inclusive and dynamic platform for kabaddi.

The inaugural season of GI-PKL will feature 12 teams--six women's teams and six corresponding men's teams--each representing the cultural and linguistic diversity of India. The teams have been strategically named to reflect their regional identities.

Teams: Marathi Women's Falcons, Bhojpuri Leopardess, Telugu Cheetahs, Tamil Lioness, Punjabi Tigress, and Haryanvi Eagles. Men's Teams: Marathi Vultures, Bhojpuri Leopards, Telugu Panthers, Tamil Lions, Punjabi Tigers, and Haryanvi

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Women's Teams: Marathi Falcons, Bhojpuri Leopardess, Telugu Cheetahs, Tamil Lioness, Punjabi Tigress, and Haryanvi Eagles.

# "Feel blessed": India's Gowtham MK after reaching Kho Kho World Cup 2025 final

NEW DELHI: The Indian men's Kho Kho team has secured a spot in the World Cup 2025 finals after a thrilling 62-42 victory over South Africa at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on Saturday. The team will face Nepal in the final on

Sunday, January 19. After entering the finals after defeating South Africa, Indian players Sachin Bhargo and Gowtham MK expressed their feelings

"We are in the finals and I feel blessed... We never thought they'd (South African team) be leading after the third turn. It was against our plan. It was a tough match. We didn't expect it, but it was a good game. They played well... Immediately after winning this match, the Captain told us to focus, so we are following his guidance," Gowtham MK said

while speaking to ANI. Further, another India Kho finals. "The team, our coaches, and our families are all very happy. We will continue to play matches according to the team's planning and we will win. We played fast against Sri Lanka, because of which 2-3 of our players got injured. That's why we played a safe game (against the South African team) to avoid injuries before the final," Sachin Bhargo said "We are in the finals and I feel

blessed... We never thought they'd (South African team) be leading after the third turn. It was against our plan. It was a tough match. We didn't expect it, but it was a good game. They played well... Immediately after winning this match, the Captain told us to focus, so we are following his guidance," Gowtham MK said.

The match showcased exceptional defensive prowess and Kho player, Sachin Bhargo shared strategic gameplay from both



sides before India pulled away in the decisive final turn. A strong start from the South

Africans prevented Pratik Waikar and Aditya Ganpule from going on a Dream Run, with a lot of the

credit going to their Wazir. Their attackers then got Mehul and Sachin Bhargo in a tough fight for

dragged his batch to 2 minutes and 38 seconds. This summed up Turn 1, as the South Africans managed to score 18 points, a release from Kho Kho World Cup 2025 stated. An attacking Indian team came back hard in Turn 2. with Nikhil B in fine form as they had a tough fight on their hands. With just 14 points compared to the South Africans' 20 points, Aditya Ganpule and Gowtham M got the team back into the game with their expansive play, ensuring the score was 24-20 at the end of Turn 2. Khozi of South Africa was the main threat to the Indian defenders in Turn 3. He ensured that the Men in Blue were all out within 2 minutes to prevent the Dream Run, equalizing the score in the process. Ramji Kashyap, Pabani Sabar, and Suyash Gargate improved this time to 2 minutes and 30 seconds for batch 2, as the South Africans increased the lead

to 38. As Turn 3 came to an end the score was at 42-28, setting up an exciting final turn in the search for a place in the final.

Akash Kumar got Khoza and Mehul to give India an extremely important start to Turn 4. With 5 minutes and 10 seconds left on the clock, the score difference was just 4 points, but the skipper and Wazir Pratik Waikar got Khoza with an exceptional skydive. It was at this point that Mehul turned up the heat with a move that took them above their opponents. The match eventually ended with an impressive score line of 62-42, despite a tough fight from the South Africans. The Indian team will face Nepal in the final at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on Sunday, January 19. The Nepal Men qualified for the finals of the Men's division of the Kho Kho World Cup 2025 after beating IR Iran 72-29 in their semifinal clash.