

## Mamata Banerjee confronts Bengal Governor over Kolkata Police Band's exclusion in Republic day programme

MI News Service, Kolkata: Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had a verbal confrontation with Governor CV Ananda Bose on Sunday after a Kolkata Police band was prevented from entering the Raj Bhavan premises to perform on Republic Day.

Instead of the Kolkata Police, the Border Security Force (BSF) performed inside Raj Bhavan during the event. The incident comes months after Raj Bhavan decided to replace Kolkata Police with central forces for securing the premises.

While Mamata Banerjee was arriving at Raj Bhavan around 4 pm, she noticed that the Kolkata Police band was waiting at the gates and was not participating in the event. When she inquired about the situation, she was informed that the band was not allowed to enter. The Chief



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee with Governor C V Ananda Bose and his wife at the ceremonial tea party at Raj Bhavan in Kolkata on the Republic Day.

Minister, along with city Mayor Firhad Hakim, immediately approached Raj Bhavan officials to resolve the issue. Upon learning about the situation, key

state officials including Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, Home Secretary Nandini Chakravorty, and Director General of Police (DGP) Rajeev Kumar

rushed to the spot.

An official source stated that Banerjee, who also holds the Home portfolio, expressed her dissatisfaction over the

treatment of the police force, emphasizing that as the Chief Minister, she took this incident personally. She reminded the Raj Bhavan officials that law and order is a state subject under the Constitution and that the state government takes care of all of Raj Bhavan's needs. The Chief Minister firmly stated that such behavior was unacceptable, particularly since the Kolkata Police band had been invited to perform at the venue.

Raj Bhavan officials claimed that the incident was due to a miscommunication and insisted that there was no intention on their part to exclude the band. After Banerjee's intervention, the Kolkata Police band was allowed to perform inside Raj Bhavan. When the Governor and his spouse came

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## TMC unveils new state health organization under Shashi Panja's leadership

MI News Service, Kolkata: In order to prevent misleading information regarding health services, the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) launched a new organization called the "Progressive Health Association" (PHA) on Monday, under the leadership of state cabinet Minister Shashi Panja.

Announcing the launch of the new organization at a news conference here on Monday, Panja, who is also a doctor by profession, explained why the party needed a new organization, citing the inadequacies of the previous efforts to address the opposition during the R.G. Kar incident.

Discussions had already begun regarding the formation of this new organization, especially since TMC already had a doctors' association called the Progressive Doctors Association. The creation of PHA raised questions about whether it was a response to the opposition's handling of the R.G. Kar incident, during which TMC had found itself in an uncomfortable position but felt its doctors' association failed to respond effectively. Panja confirmed that she would lead the new organization from the front. Condemning the R.G. Kar incident, Panja stated, "The R.G. Kar incident was condemnable, but it was sur-



TMC unveils its new organization of doctors and health workers, the Progressive Health Association (PHA), in presence of the State Minister of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Shashi Panja, at Press Club in Kolkata on Monday.

rounded by misleading information. This could not be handled due to the absence of a strong organization. The state government acted, and attempts were made to suppress those facts. We want to address such situations better in the future." She further emphasized that the formation of PHA was needed because of the ongoing developments in health as seen by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, and it was created to showcase the improvements in health services to the opposition.

PHA will counter government hospital strikes, work stoppages, and misleading campaigns, and will address allegations of negligence in medical care by conducting on-site inspections. Panja also indicated that the

new organization would merge with TMC's previous health and doctor associations. She confirmed that the organization would maintain direct communication with the Health Department. To a query on whether the protesting doctors could join PHA, Panja assured, "Anyone who believes in development will definitely be welcomed." The first Executive Body meeting of PHA will be held on February 8, 2025m she said.

Interestingly, prominent figures like Sudipta Roy and Sushanta Roy were missing at the launch event. Opposition leaders have criticized the formation of PHA, claiming it was an attempt to sideline the doctors who have

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## Amit Shah and family took a holy dip in Maha Kumbh Sangam

MI News Service, Prayagraj (UP): Union Home Minister Amit Shah and his family took a dip in the Triveni Sangam here on Monday amid tight security in the Maha Kumbh.

Shah took the dip around 1 pm, performed 'jal achman' (sipping of holy water) and offered water to the Sun besides performing other rituals under guidance of some top seers.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath who, along with the seers, entered

the holy waters with Shah moved behind when the senior BJP leader took the dip.

Soon, Junapithadheeshwar Mahamandeshwar Acharya Avdheshanand Giri Ji Maharaj asked Adityanath to come and join others in the ritual and the UP CM came forward again. Yoga guru Ramdev was also among those present on the occasion.

The home minister's family members, including son Jay Shah, who is also the chairman of the

ICC, partook in the rituals, including 'aarti' at the Sangam. Amit Shah's wife Sonal, daughter-in-law Rishita and grandchildren also took part in the rituals.

Top seers blessed Jay Shah and Rishita's newborn as the ICC chairman held him in his lap while his elder daughter joined him for the aarti.

Before taking the dip, the home minister held an interaction with Avdheshanand Giri Ji Maharaj and some other top seers in a cottage on a floating

jetty. Shah's visit was marked by unprecedented security cover in the Mela area and in Prayagraj.

While the Mela area was made strictly a no-vehicle zone, Prayagraj city had several route diversions in place, impacting locals and visiting pilgrims.

Earlier in the day, the home minister said in a post on X that "Mahakumbh" is a unique symbol of the continuous flow of Sanatan culture. The Kumbh showcases the life philosophy of

Sanatan Dharma, which is rooted in harmony. "I am eager to take a dip at Sangam and receive the blessings from saints at this great festival of unity and integrity in the holy city of Prayagraj," he added. According to the state government, over 53.29 lakh people had taken the holy bath at the Maha Kumbh on Monday by 10 am. The Mela area was hosting over 10 lakh 'Kalpavasi' and so far more than 13.21

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## Calcutta HC reserves judgement on admission of appeals by Bengal govt and CBI in RG Kar rape-murder case

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major development, the Calcutta High Court on Monday reserved its order on the admission of two separate appeals by the West Bengal government and the CBI, challenging a trial court judgement sentencing the lone convict of the RG Kar hospital rape-murder case, Sanjay Roy to life imprisonment till death.

The court's division bench, presided by Justice Debansu Basak, heard both the state government and the CBI, who argued that the January 20 order of the Sealdah sessions court sentencing Roy, the sole convict in the crime, to life imprisonment till death was inadequate.

Both the CBI and the state government separately prayed for capital punishment for the convict. The CBI claimed before the bench that only it has the right to move an appeal before the high court on grounds of inad-

equacy of sentence since it was the investigation and prosecution agency of the case.

The state government argued that apart from the central agency, it too can move an appeal claiming inadequacy of sentence given by the trial court.

Advocate General Kishore Dutta, representing the West Bengal government, opened the day's arguments before the division bench for admission of the state's appeal.

The parents of the victim doctor and the convict were represented before the court by their respective lawyers as per the earlier direction of the division bench. Roy was sentenced to life imprisonment till the end of his natural life by the Sealdah sessions court here for the rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9, 2024.

## Waqf JPC passes 14 amendments despite Opposition objections

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Joint Parliamentary Committee scrutinising the Waqf (Amendment) Bill on Monday adopted all amendments proposed by the ruling BJP-led NDA members and negated every change moved by opposition members.

The committee chairman Jagdambika Pal told reporters after the meeting that amendments adopted by the committee will make the law better and more effective. He said the amendments were accepted based on a majority vote, with 16 members supporting the changes and 10 opposing them.

"44 amendments were discussed clause by clause. After detailed discussions over 6 months, we sought amendments from all members. This was our final meeting... So, 14 amendments have been accepted by the committee based on a majority. Opposition too had suggested amendments. We moved every one of those amend-

ments and it was put to vote, when 10 votes supported theirs (suggested amendments) and 16 votes opposing it," the JPC Chairperson said.

However, opposition MPs decried the meeting's proceedings and accused Pal of "subverting" the democratic process.

"It was a farcical exercise. We were not heard. Pal has acted in a dictatorial manner," TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee told reporters.

Pal rejected the charge, and said the entire exercise was democratic, and the majority view prevailed. One of the more significant amendments proposed by the committee is that the existing Waqf properties cannot be questioned on the grounds of 'Waqf by user', which existed in the current law but will be omitted in the new version, if the properties are being used for religious purposes. Pal said the amendments moved

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## Indian and Chinese Foreign Secretaries hold talks in Beijing



MI News Service, Beijing / New Delhi: Carrying forward the positive message emanated from the recent top level meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping, the Foreign Secretaries of both the countries on Monday explored the possibilities of further improving the bilateral ties.

Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri who is on a two day visit to Beijing, held a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi soon after his arrival on Monday, where both India and China have decided to implement all important clauses which were agreed upon by Prime Minister Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping during their meeting in

Russia's Kazan last year.

Wang Yi said that India and China have held positive interactions at all levels and accelerated the process of improving bilateral ties. He called for exploring more substantive measures and commitment to mutual understanding, support and achievement instead of mutual suspicion and alienation. The statement released by Chinese Foreign Ministry reads, "Wang Yi said that since the meeting between President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Modi in Kazan last year, the two sides have earnestly implemented the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, carried out

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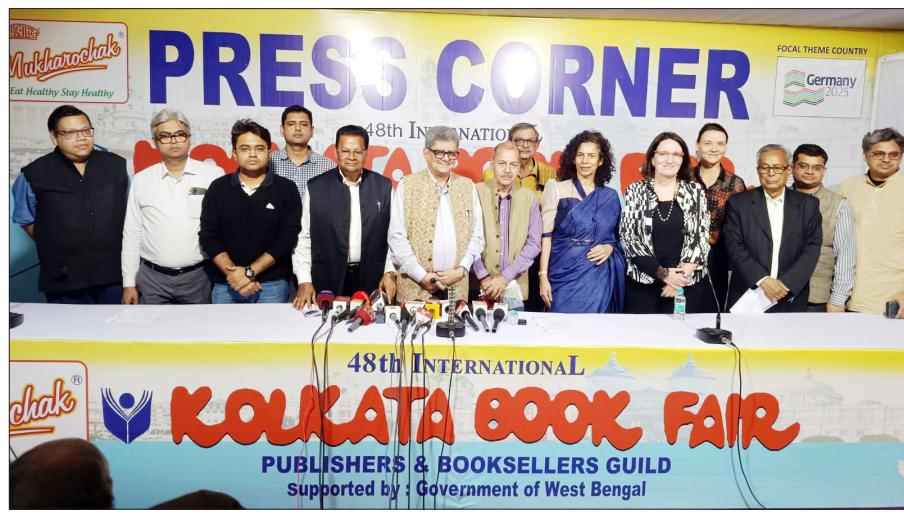
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Pinkal Majumdar, Executive Committee Member, Guild; Milinda Dey, PRO, Guild; Sudipta Dey, Executive Committee Member, Guild; Srijit Bhattacharjee, Executive Committee Member, Guild; Sudhanshu Shekhar Dey, General Secretary, Guild; Tridib K. Chatterjee, President, Guild; Raju Barman, Joint Secretary, Guild; Yogesh J. Tanna, Executive Committee Member, Guild; Anupama Kundu, Renowned Architect, Maria Stuckenberg, Regional Director, Goethe-Institut, South Asia; Anja Riedelberger, Director Information Services, Goethe-Institut, South Asia; Tapas Saha, Vice-President, Guild; Souvik Dey, Executive Committee Member, Guild; Subhanakar Dey, Executive Committee Member, Guild, were present during the press meet for the 48th International Kolkata Book Fair in Kolkata.

### PM Modi applauds JSW MG Motor India's green vision at Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata/ Bhubaneswar: JSW MG Motor India showcased its sustainable mobility innovations at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025, featuring state-of-the-art electric and hybrid vehicles equipped with advanced technologies like autonomous driving and artificial intelligence. The company aligned with India's vision for a greener future and discussed calls for community chargers and a 'right to charge' policy to address residential EV infrastructure barriers.

## Special 76th Republic Day Parade programme celebrated at SMP, Kolkata on Jan 26

MI News Service, Kolkata: The 76th special colourful Republic Day programme was celebrated at Kidderpore Dock premises of SMP, Kolkata Rathendra Raman, Chairperson, SMP, Kolkata unfurled the National Flag at Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) barrack of SMP, Kolkata at 9 a.m. on 26th January, 2025. Raman, Chairperson, SMP, Kolkata accompanied by Ruchi Anand, Sr. Commandant, CISF inspected the columns and took salute at the colourful parade by CISF unit of SMP, Kolkata. On this significant occasion, Rathendra Raman, Chairperson, SMP, Kolkata



appreciated the commendable service rendered by the jawans of CISF. Rathendra Raman also stated that CISF jawans are rendering yeomen's service to the vigilance and protection of voluminous cargo of crores of

rupees within the port area. This has been instrumental in reducing the pilferage in the port and boosting the morale of workers of SMP, Kolkata. With a note of confidence, Rathendra Raman, Chairperson, SMP,

Kolkata further said that due to multi-dimensional development programmes of SMP, Kolkata and with the help of CISF Jawans, active co-operation from the port users, and, above all, because of hard work done by the port and dock workers, in 2024-25, SMP, Kolkata will be able to handle more than 66 million tonnes of traffic despite inherent problem of only reverie port in the country. In this Republic Day Parade special function, HoD's, senior officers and workers of SMP, Kolkata and Central Industrial Security Force along with their family members were present.

## 48th International Kolkata Book Fair 2025 is going to be inaugurated today

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tuesday, when the 48th International Kolkata Book Fair 2025 is going to be inaugurated. The Book Fair & Publishers' Guild would like to mention the following points:

1. Inauguration Ceremony at 4pm by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee along with Dr. Phillip Ackermann, H.E. Ambassador of Germany in India, Dr. Maria Stuckenberg, Regional Director, Goethe Institut, South Asia Abul Bashar and Ministers of Government of West Bengal and other dignitaries.
2. Abul Bashar will be conferred GUILD LIFETIME LITERARY AWARD worth Rs 2,00,000/- in the inaugural ceremony by our Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.
3. Highest number of par-

icipation of book publishers and little magazines around 1000.(Big, medium, small, and Little Magazines).

4. Presence of Germany, USA, UK, France, Russia, Nepal, Spain, Peru, Argentina, Guatemala, Costa Rica and other Latin American countries in the foreign complex. Presence of all National and Multinational publishing houses in the book fair.
5. Major gates - Sail Chowdhury Ritwik Ghat-tak Gate, Goethe Gate, Max Mueller Gate, Hackeschen Hofe Gate, Brandenburg Gate, Biswa Bangla Gate and Jibananda Nazrul Gate.
6. Roads name after eminent German literary personalities like Rainer Maria Rilke, Bertolt Brecht, Franz Kafka, Herta Muller, Thom-

as Mann and others along with eminent personalities and litterateurs of our country.

7. Senior Citizen's Day: 4 February at 4:30pm. Felicitation to author Joy Goswami, Publisher Ranjan Sarkar and Reader Satyabrata Ghoshal.
8. For the first time, Book Fair will have special Mascot, ducks named Haso & Hasi, is ready to greet all the visitors of the Book Fair.
9. The Book Fair is for all. Books never discriminate among people. Books build bridges. This international Kolkata Book Fair is pride of our city and country. Let's all come together and make this international event a grand success once again.
10. Buy books and win a Book Library" - As a

commitment to the society. Guild's initiative to disseminate the opportunity to more and more book lovers. The daily lottery will be organised and every day of the fair 15 lucky winners will win Book Gift Coupons worth Rs.1000/-

11. International Kolkata Book Fair android app to locate any stall in the fair using Google location, created by Sister Nivedita University is now available in the playstore. The app and the ground map with the participant list of the IKBK 2025 will be available just by scanning QR Code which will be placed at different points of the Book Fair.

The Book Fair & Publishers' Guild welcome you all to the 48th International Kolkata Book Fair.

### Meeting of Shabder Jhankar



Nurul Islam Khan On the occasion of Republic Day, a literary festival was organized by Shabder Jhankar Group. The founding editor, late Sunil Mukherjee, was remembered. In this online program, Taapsee Sarkar, Priyanka Mukherjee, Mitali Mukherjee, Riddhima Shasmal, Alpina Mandal Sadhu, Rupa Dutta Chowdhury, Shibben Guha, Shanti Adhikari and other recited their poems. Swapna Banerjee, Shibben Guha, and Devla Bauldia enlivened the meeting with music. Along with this, Aditi Mukherjee Sengupta, Deb-nath Pore, Mitali Mukherjee, Chandana Kundu, Subhasish Chatterjee, Datta Roy, Sushmita Mukherjee and journalist Ghali Islam, many others read patriotic poems. Swapan Pal, one of the editors of the newspaper, was present. The meeting was managed by journalist Nurul Islam Khan. Poets Antara Ghosh Karmakar and Pinky Biswas assisted in organizing the meeting. The newspaper extended floral greetings and heartfelt congratulations to everyone.

Chandannagar Police earned fine of Rs 7.75 crore from 64,233 cases

MI News Service, Hooghly: A fine of Rs 7.75 crore has been collected in 64,233 cases. Chandannagar Police has released the traffic year book and informed about it. Chandannagar Police's Road Safety Week program was launched on Monday.

Chandannagar Police Commissioner Amit P. Javalgi launched the Road Safety Week at Chunchura Ghari More. DCP Headquarters Ishani Pal, DCP Serampur Arnab Biswas, DCP Chandannagar Alaknanda Bhowal, ADSP Traffic Debashis Sarkar, ACP DD Suman Banerjee, TI and police personnel were present.

The Chandannagar Police released the Traffic Year Book at the event. This information highlights how the Chandannagar Police has been able to reduce accidents. The Motor Vehicle Department filed more than 64,000 cases last year. It collected fines worth about eight crore taka.

Chandannagar Police has 187.59 sq km area of State Highway GT Road, Delhi Road and National Highway. Many accidents happen there every year. After emphasising on road safety, accidents have reduced significantly.

The Police Commissioner said, "Lights have been installed on Delhi Road. Traffic infrastructure has been improved. Above all, deaths in accidents have been reduced due to the hard work of police officers and traffic workers." A road safety awareness rally was held in Chunchura town with school students. Traffic home guards who did good work are also being rewarded.

## Police recovers half-naked bride's body, in-laws absconding

MI News Service, Malda: The body of a housewife, almost naked, was recovered from her in-laws' house. All the members of the in-laws fled after leaving the body. The police recovered the body of the housewife from the house with the help of the residents of the area. Tension prevailed in Sonakul village of Harishchandrapur police station over the incident.



The deceased housewife's name is Nurjahan Khatun (21). A complaint has been filed with Harishchandrapur police station against a total of eight people, including the husband of Nurjahan's in-laws, in this incident. The people of Nurjahan's in-laws are absconding. The police have sent the recovered body to Malda Medical College for autopsy.

According to local and police sources, three years ago, Masud Ali of the neighboring Sonakul village married Nurjahan, daughter of Mansur Ali of Tal Bangra village in

Harishchandrapur police station area. Nurjahan's father's family alleged that since six months after the marriage, Nurjahan was repeatedly pressured to bring money from her father's house. It is known that Masud was given a dowry of 85 thousand taka at the time of marriage. But even then, she was repeatedly pressured to bring 2 lakh taka from her father's house. Allegedly, the in-laws used to physically and mentally torture Nurjahan. Her father received news of her daughter's

death from the neighbors of Nurjahan's in-laws' house. The daughter went to her in-laws' house and found her lying half-naked in a room. There was a rope mark on her neck. There was blood all around. All the members of the in-laws' family are absconding. After that, he informed the Harishchandrapur police station. The police recovered the body that day and sent it for autopsy. Nurjahan's father's family alleged that the daughter was strangled to death after extreme torture.

### Shooting breaks out in Naihati during picnic

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: The incident of shooting during picnic has created an uproar in Naihati. The police have arrested two youths. A 7mm pistol has been seized. According to the arrested, they fired blank bullets just to scare people.

## 2 Rohingyas arrested within 2 km of bunker recovery spot

MI News Service, Krishnaganj: 2 Rohingyas were arrested within two kilometers of the spot of bunker recovery at Nadia's Krishnaganj.



Police arrested two Rohingyas within 2 kilometers after four bunkers were recovered within 50 meters of Majdia Sudhir Ranjan Laheri College in Krishnaganj, on the India-Bangladesh border in Nadia. Local residents detained them after seeing to roam around the area and handed them over to the police after questioning. The four bunkers recovered by the BSF. There is a tin house on top of them. Evidence of people living there was also found. So, weren't such infiltra-

tors taking shelter there? Naturally, questions have started to arise. People in the area are in panic. It is learned that the two arrested Rohingyas were living in a Rohingya camp in Bangladesh. They were the residents of Myanmar.

They were identified as Md. Yadav and Mohammad Noor. According to police sources, they entered India illegally a year ago. After that, they went to Hyderabad for work. Then, the two youths were planning to escape to Bangladesh again. Then, the local residents became suspicious after seeing them roaming around Krishnaganj Bhajanghat area in Nadia. Then, the local residents informed the Krishnaganj police. When police reached the spot, the two Rohingyas were handed over to the police. Police arrested them for not having any valid documents. The arrested were produced before the Krishnaganj court on Monday.

## State eyes Coal Gasification at Deocha-Pachami block for sustainable energy

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is charting new territory by exploring underground coal gasification (UCG) for 30% of the Deocha-Pachami coal block, where conventional mining methods face limitations. As one of the largest coal reserves globally, this block holds immense potential, with the remaining 70% to be mined using open-cast and underground techniques. The open-cast mining phase is scheduled to begin in early February.

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd (WBPDCL) is leading operations in the Deocha-Pachami block, located in Birbhum district. To initiate the process, the mining development and operator (MDO) will first focus on removing overburden to access the coal. WBPDCL Managing Director P.B. Salim confirmed the state's commitment to

incorporating advanced technology. "We have held discussions with Indian and global experts to assess the feasibility of UCG. Our plan involves 30% coal extraction via open-cast methods, 40% through underground mining, and the remaining 30% using gasification. This is the only sustainable method to fully utilize the block's potential," Salim stated.

The Deocha-Pachami project, valued at Rs 35,000 crore, is expected to transform the industrial and energy landscape of the Birbhum region. The state aims to execute coal gasification alongside conventional mining, ensuring that both processes progress simultaneously. Salim further revealed that a global tender for underground mining has already sparked considerable interest, while gasification plans span a 1,000-acre area.

To evaluate the viability of gasification, a pilot project will be launched in areas where coal is situated at depths of up to 400 meters. "Depending on the results, we will approach the central government for approval and assistance," said a senior WBPDCL official.

The Deocha-Pachami-Harisingha-Dewanganj coal block, allocated to the state in 2018, boasts an estimated reserve of 1,200 million metric tonnes of coal. However, mining is complicated by basalt rock layers. To address this, the state government has enlisted a mine developer and operator, with a revenue-sharing agreement that gives 71% of basalt mining proceeds to the government.

This integrated approach to mining and gasification underscores West Bengal's commitment to sustainable resource utilization. If successful, the Deocha-Pachami initiative could establish the state as a leader in innovative energy solutions, while creating jobs and fostering economic development.

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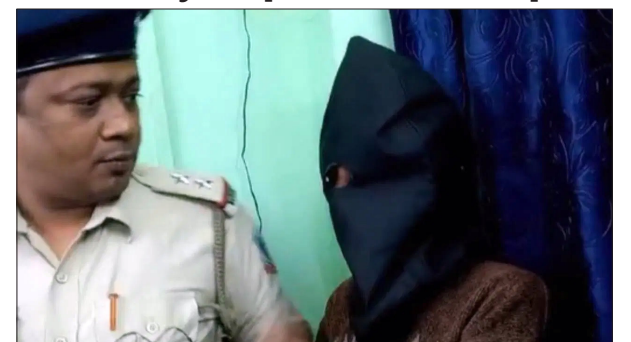
The Police Commissioner said, "Lights have been installed on Delhi Road. Traffic infrastructure has been improved. Above all, deaths in accidents have been reduced due to the hard work of police officers and traffic workers." A road safety awareness rally was held in Chunchura town with school students. Traffic home guards who did good work are also being rewarded.

## Son-in-Law arrested for murdering mother-in-law over money dispute in Kachrapara

MI News Service, North 24 Parganas: Son-in-law was caught in the police net for murdering his mother-in-law. The incident took place in the Jethia area of Kachrapara. Police said that the name of the deceased is Fuljan Bibi.

According to police and local sources, on the 23rd, Fuljan's body with his throat slit was recovered from his house. The floor was covered in blood. His daughter was the first to see his mother in a bloody state. She died on the way to the hospital. Based on the daughter's complaint, the Jethia police station launched an investigation.

Then the police came to Fuljan Bibi's house to investigate. The inves-



tigators were talking to the daughter, when her son-in-law, Akher Ali, was feeding the pet goat at home. Police noticed something unusual in his behavior. The police suspected the action and the culprit was duly arrested. Police claim that Akher confessed to the mur-

der during investigation. Fuljan had saved 10,000 taka as widow's allowance. Akher wanted to take that money. The mother-in-law and son-in-law had a dispute over it. And amidst the dispute, Akher killed the mother-in-law with a fruit knife.

## Woman linked to knife attack on Saif Ali Khan, arrested by Mumbai Police



MI News Service, Chapra: Mumbai Police found out a link of a Nadia woman with attack on Bollywood film hero Saif Ali Khan and arrested her on Monday.

After Shariful Islam Shehzad, now Khukumani Sheikh is in the net of Mumbai Police from Chapra in Nadia in connection with the attack on Bollywood 'Nawab' Saif Ali Khan.

According to the information that emerged during the investigation, after entering India from Bangladesh, this Khukumani had bought a mobile SIM in the name of Jahangir Sheikh. Then, after going to Mumbai in search of work, Jahangir entered Saif's house to rob. When he was stopped, he injured the actor himself with a knife attack.

Now, Mumbai Police has traced Khukumani based on the mobile SIM. A 2-mem-

ber Mumbai Police representative arrived in Kolkata on Sunday to investigate the attack on Saif. It is reported that four more police officers have arrived in Kolkata on Monday following the investigation. They may take Khukumani to Mumbai on transit remand. Shariful is in police custody there. Investigators are desperate to find out Khukumani's link with him.

Actor Saif Ali Khan was injured in a knife attack at his residence late on the night of the 15th. The assailant, Shariful Islam Shehzad, was arrested from Bandra Station within 48 hours of investigating the incident. The Mumbai Police received several pieces of information after taking him into their custody. Shariful is actually Bangladesh.

The investigators learned that Shariful had infiltrated Bengal through the Siliguri

border about six months ago. There, he met Khukumani. Khukumani is actually a resident of Bara Andulia in Nadia's Chapra. The SIM card that Shariful used was obtained using Khukumani Jahangir Sheikh's identity card. The SIM card was obtained from Pani tanki in Siliguri. The police arrested Shariful in the attack on Saif by tracking the location of the mobile tower through that SIM card. It is learned that Shariful had also spent a few days in Kolkata.

So, a Mumbai Police team came to Kolkata on Sunday in search of Shariful. Along with gathering information about Shariful, the search was also on for Khukumani Jahangir Sheikh.

Khukumani was caught while searching in Bara Andulia, Chapra in Nadia on Monday morning. The investigators have learned that Khukumani was married to a man named Jahangir many years ago. But for the past three years, Khukumani and Jahangir have not been living together. But the exact relationship between Khukumani and Shariful is still a mystery to the investigators.

Chapra MIA Rukbanoor Rahaman said, "I have heard the incident of arrest from Chapra. But I have no official confirmation."

### Massive fire breaks out at plastic warehouse

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: A devastating fire broke out at a plastic warehouse in the DangaDhinga area of Khardah, located within an industrial zone under the jurisdiction of the Rahara police station. The blaze quickly spread to adjacent factories, destroying goods and property in three different establishments. The fire started early in the morning and has been burning continuously since then. The incident has caused widespread panic in the surrounding area. To control the fire, five fire engines were deployed to the scene. As of now, the fire's cause is under investigation by the fire department and the Rahara police. Preliminary reports suggest that the damage could run into lakhs of rupees. Many workers from Khardah and surrounding areas were employed at the affected factories, but fortunately, no casualties have been reported, as the fire broke out during the early hours. Authorities are working to determine the exact cause of the fire, and further details are awaited as the investigation progresses.

## ED raids Kolkata call center linked to fraud, recovers gold and cash

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major crackdown on an international fraud network, Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials conducted a city-wide search in Kolkata, focusing on call centers allegedly involved in large-scale financial scams. During the raids, ED officers recovered significant amounts of gold and cash, with reports indicating that over Rs 1.8 crore worth of gold was seized. According to sources, investigators suspect that the gold,

which was purchased using proceeds from the call center scam, was hidden in the homes of key directors involved in the fraudulent activities. Raids were also carried out at the residences of these directors, as the investigation deepens. This week, the ED launched raids at 10 different locations as part of its investigation into the scam. The targeted call centers were accused of deceiving foreign nationals by offering fake software services and other fraudulent promis-

es. The call centers allegedly used these deceptive tactics to extract bank account details from victims in countries such as the United States, Canada, and Australia. The fraud also involved false immigration services, with the perpetrators promising to help individuals relocate to foreign countries. The ED's investigation revealed that cryptocurrency transactions amounting to Rs 25-30 crore were funneled abroad as part of the scam's operations.

## Mamata Banerjee confronts..

**From PG 1**  
out to welcome the Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee reportedly remarked, "This is not done, you can't make the prestigious Kolkata Police band stand outside."  
Later, while speaking to the media at the venue, Banerjee voiced her concern, stating: "We have no objection to other bands

performing, but trying to exclude the Kolkata Police band was uncalled for. Every year, traditionally, the Kolkata Police band performs at this event. Why were they not even allowed inside this time?" The incident highlighted ongoing tensions between the state government and Raj Bhavan over issues of protocol and coordination.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee participated in the 76th Republic Day celebrations at Red Road in Kolkata.

## TMC unveils new state...

**From PG 1**  
been criticizing the R.G. Kar episode, with some even labeling it as a new version of the "North Bengal lobby." The stage was predominantly occupied by doctors from North Bengal, including the Medical Officer from Malda, CMOH from South Dinajpur, and health officials from Jalpaiguri. This raised concerns about whether the organization would influence transfers and promotions within the Health Department. Notably, Panja referred to the approval of the Chief Minister when mentioning the direct connection between the organization and the Health "department."

Addressing the initiative of Diamond Harbour MP Abhishek Banerjee's ongoing "Seva Shree" programme in the district, Panja stated, "We, as legislators, also provide health-care services in our areas. Seva Shree is just another such initiative, and there's no controversy around it." When asked about the actions of the West Bengal Medical Council regarding the harassment of junior doctors Asfaquallah Naya and Kinjol Nanda, Panja responded, "If a letter comes, we'll respond to it. Done." She concluded the news conference by clarifying, "We do not dislike doctors. We are upset by the disruption of services."

## Amit Shah and family took...

**From PG 1**  
cabinet ministers have also visited the Mahakumbh and took a dip at the Triveni Sangam. Recently, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet also went to Prayagraj for a meeting and then took a dip at the Triveni Sangam. The Mahakumbh is held every 12 years and a huge turnout of devotees is expected in Prayagraj from January 13 to February 26.

Meanwhile, after the holy dip and later in the afternoon the Union Home minister went to Juna Akhara and met the Maharaj and other saints of the Akhara there. He also had his lunch with the seers there. Before returning to Delhi in the evening Shah also visited Guru Sharananand Ji's Ashram, where he met Guru Sharananand Ji and Govind Giri Ji Maharaj apart from holding a separate meeting with the Shankaracharyas of Sringeri, Puri, and Dwaraka.

Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath and Yog guru Baba Ramdev also perform a Yoga pose at Mahakumbh 2025 in Prayagraj on Monday. Till now, several Union Ministers, including Defence minister Rajnath Singh and several other

Mahakumbh, which commenced on January 13 with the auspicious Poush Purnima, has already witnessed an overwhelming turnout, with over 110 million devotees taking a holy dip in the sacred waters of Prayagraj during the first 14 days on Sunday.

According to tradition, pilgrims flock to the Sangam--the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati (now extinct) rivers--to take the holy dip believed to absolve sins and grant moksha (liberation).

Routed in Sanatan Dharma, the event signifies a celestial alignment that creates an auspicious period for spiritual cleansing and devotion. The Mahakumbh Mela is expected to host over 45 crore visitors, marking a historic occasion for India.

## Waqf JPC passes 14 amendments.

**From PG 1**  
by the NDA members in 14 of the Bill's clauses have been accepted. Opposition members moved hundreds of amendments in all 44 clauses and all of them were defeated by vote, he added.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) has approved 14 amendments to the Waqf Amendment Bill, despite strong objections from Opposition parties. The Waqf Amendment bill aims to overhaul the Waqf Act of 1995, which governs the management of Waqf properties in India. The bill has been a subject of controversy, with opposition parties alleging that it undermines the rights of Muslims and the federal structure of India. After the meeting of the JPC on the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024, one of its members - BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi said that the opposition members proposed amendments concerning 43 proposals of the government.

"JPC on Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was held today in a very democratic manner. The Chairperson's Jagdambika Pal tried to hear everybody out and gave sufficient time for everybody to move the amendment that everybody wished. There are 44 amendments to the Princi-

pal Act 1995 that had been proposed by the government and had been tabled before all of us to deliberate upon. 34 sittings have already taken place for deliberating on the entire matter. 108 hours have been dedicated to this job. More than 284 stakeholders have been consulted and their views have been given due importance," Sarangi said. "As far as today's meeting is concerned, let me tell you that against these 44 amendments, the Opposition part MPs had proposed amendments concerning 43 proposals of the govt. As far as NDA MPs are concerned, they have moved 24 proposals. Every proposal moved either by the Opposition or the Ruling Party was put to debate and voting was done by raising of hand. The voting was mostly 10:16. There were 10 members and we were 16..Today also they started creating a ruckus and the entire Opposition team was led by Kalyan Banerjee...This particular Bill has been deliberated upon very extensively, very thoroughly. This committee had also gone to a couple of states to hear the organisations which have not been able to come to Delhi. So, I think the entire procedure has been done in a very democratic manner," the BJP MP added.

## TVS' King EV MAX

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** TVS Motor Company announced its Bluetooth-connected electric three-wheeler, the TVS King EV MAX, offering eco-friendly urban mobility. Equipped with TVS SmartXonnect™, the vehicle provides real-time navigation, alerts, and diagnostics via smartphones. With a 179 km range on a single charge and quick charging (2 hours 15 minutes for 80%), it features excellent performance, comfort, and connectivity. Available now in select states, the King EV MAX promises efficient travel with a top speed of 60 km/h.

## Four senior doctors under scrutiny by State Medical Council

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** After Asfaquallah Naya and Kinjol Nanda, four senior doctors are now under investigation by the State Medical Council. Subarna Goswami, Utpal Banadopadhyay, Ranjan Bhattacharya, and Manasgumar have been accused of obstructing the normal operations of the council. A complaint has been filed against them at the Bidhannagar Electronics Complex police station. These doctors were reportedly involved in the RG Kar movement. Previously, Asfaquallah Naya faced accusations of falsifying degrees and practicing privately, leading to police investigation and searches at his residence. The police issued a notice summoning him to the Bidhannagar Police Commissionerate, while the Kolkata High Court granted Naya an interim stay on the police probe. In a similar case, as per sources, the State Medical Council has sought information from the principal of RG Kar Medical College regarding Kinjol Nanda. Allegations of negligence in duty have been raised against Nanda, who reportedly took time off while being a PGT, allegedly using the time to shoot for advertisements and films. The council has sent a letter to RG Kar Medical College seeking answers to several queries regarding Nanda's attendance, leave records, stipend, and whether he took NOC for his film activities.

## State Govt introduces special bus services for Kolkata Book Fair

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The International Kolkata Book Fair, a major event for book lovers, is set to begin tomorrow, Tuesday. This year marks the 40th edition of the fair, and the city is already abuzz with anticipation. Enthusiasts are eager to explore new book launches, while students from schools and colleges have started planning their visits to the grand festival. Every year, the book fair attracts massive crowds, with lakhs of people gathering to celebrate the written word. Recognizing the transport challenges that come with such an event, the West Bengal Transport Department has stepped in with an extensive plan to en-

sure smooth travel for visitors. Special government bus services will be in operation throughout the duration of the fair, from January 28 to February 9, offering attendees a hassle-free journey. For those unable to use other modes of transport, these buses will provide direct access to the fairground and surrounding areas. The special bus services are designed to accommodate attendees from diverse locations, ensuring they can travel conveniently to and from the event. The Transport Department has confirmed that the increased services aim to make the fair accessible for everyone, especially those who do not have direct trans-

port options. To handle the anticipated surge in commuters, the government will deploy hundreds of additional buses on key routes connecting Salt Lake Karunamoyee, the fair's location, to various parts of the city. Both air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned buses will be available for the convenience of passengers. Areas such as Garia, Jadavpur, Ballygunge, Tollygunge, Joka, Barasat, the airport, and Behala will be covered by these services.

Transport Minister Snehasis Chakraborty recently held a meeting with representatives of all government bus organizations to finalize the arrangements. Decisions were made to introduce event-specific routes and enhance connectivity for passenger-heavy areas. As a result, attendees can expect reliable and frequent bus services, with buses running until late at night. The initiative has been well-received, as it promises to alleviate travel concerns for book enthusiasts. The Transport Department's efforts to ensure a seamless experience reflect their commitment to making the International Kolkata Book Fair accessible to all. With these arrangements in place, the city is all set to welcome book lovers from across the region to one of the year's most anticipated cultural events.

## 'Vibrant Republic Day Celebrations Unfold on Kolkata's Iconic Red Road'

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** India Celebrates 76th Republic Day with Grandeur. On January 26, 2025, India proudly commemorated its 76th Republic Day. The nation awakened to the melodies of patriotic songs, setting the tone for a day filled with festivities and national pride. In Kolkata, the Red Road was adorned with the tricolor, hosting the Republic Day parade. The Indian Army showcased its latest advancements, including the 'Pinaka' multiple rocket launcher produced in India and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) for the Indian Army, and the main attraction of this parade: robotic dogs, known as "MULE" (Multi Utility Legged Equip-



Band performs during the 76th Republic Day parade at Red Road in Kolkata on Sunday.

ment). The robotic dogs, named "Sanjay," made their debut in West Bengal's Republic Day celebrations, captivating the audience. The event was graced by the presence of West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

The parade commenced with the flag-hoisting ceremony, followed by a floral shower and the national anthem. The Parade led by the brigade, Ajoy Kumar Das-The Kolkata Police also participated in the parade, displaying their Disaster Management Group Led by the Sergeant Dhrubajyoti Roy., Rapid Action Force (RAF) led by Sergeant Swarup Pal and Traffic Service Group led by Inspector Krishnendu Majumdar with the theme "Save Drive, Save Life" was promoted through the traffic service group. Local schools, including Badshah Khan Centenary Girls High School and St. Xavier Collegiate School, participated in the celebrations. West Bengal's rich cultural heritage was showcased through folk and tribal performances, featuring Baul, Nepali Khukurri Dance, and Adivasi tribal groups. The event concluded with the national anthem, marking a fruitful and vibrant celebration of India's 76th Republic Day.

## KMC and Forest Dept to resolve tree-cutting permission dispute

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In Kolkata, obtaining permission from the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) is mandatory for any construction work. However, if a tree needs to be cut for the project, approval must also be secured from the Forest Department. Recently, disagreements have arisen over which authority should grant permission first, leading to delays in construction projects across the city. To address this issue, the KMC has scheduled a meeting with Forest Department officials on Tuesday to resolve the procedural conflict. Tree preservation is a crucial aspect of maintaining Kolkata's ecological balance and controlling pollution. According to the rules, if a tree is cut down for any construction activity, the responsible party must plant 20 trees in compensation. Despite this, dis-

putes between the KMC and the Forest Department have stalled several public and private construction projects in recent months. Officials from the Forest Department insist that applicants seeking permission for tree removal must first obtain approval from the KMC. Only after the KMC issues its consent will the Forest Department process the application. On the other hand, KMC officials argue that since tree removal is linked to forestation matters, initial approval should come from the Forest Department, based on which the KMC will grant its permission. The ongoing disagreement has caused a tug-of-war between the two authorities, prompting the need for Tuesday's meeting. The Forest Department officials will convene at KMC's central office, where the building department, responsible for

decisions on construction and tree-cutting, will represent the municipal body. Senior KMC officials have directed the building department to lead the discussions with the Forest Department to resolve the procedural deadlock. Both sides aim not only to clarify the tree-cutting approval process but also to strengthen the city's tree plantation initiatives. Ensuring that compensatory afforestation requirements are strictly adhered to will remain a priority. The outcome of this meeting is expected to streamline the process for securing permissions and prevent future delays in construction activities while maintaining the city's green cover. By addressing these administrative hurdles, Kolkata's authorities hope to strike a balance between urban development and environmental sustainability.

## Another tilting high-rise in Kolkata raises concerns: Kalikapur flats in danger

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** After incidents in Bagajatin, Tangra, Baguiati, and South Narayanpur, yet another high-rise in Kolkata is tilting dangerously. This time, the issue has emerged in Kalikapur, where one of the residential buildings has started leaning to one side, raising alarm among the residents. De-

spite multiple attempts by the residents to reach out to the promoter, no resolution has been found, leaving them in a state of uncertainty. Following the Bagajatin building collapse, a series of similar incidents involving tilted buildings has come to light. Many of these buildings had been leaning for a long time, but

residents found no support from the promoters, even after repeated requests. A similar situation has now unfolded in Kalikapur, located near the Bypass. The building, which consists of two adjacent residential blocks, has one block tilting towards the other, putting its inhabitants at great risk.

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## Indian and...

**From PG 1**  
positive interactions at all levels, and accelerated the process of improving China-India relations. "The two sides should seize the opportunity, meet each other halfway, explore more substantive measures, and commit to mutual understanding, mutual support, and mutual achievement, rather than mutual suspicion, mutual alienation, and mutual consumption. The improvement and development of China-India relations is fully in line with the fundamental interests of the two countries and their people, is conducive to safeguarding the legitimate rights and interests of the global South countries, and is conducive to making contributions of the two ancient civilizations to peace, stability, development and prosperity in Asia and the world," it added.

During the meeting, Misri acknowledged that India and China have conducted several meetings in accordance with the consensus reached by PM Modi and Chinese President Xi in Kazan. He also expressed India's willingness to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with China and fully support China's work as the chair of the SCO.

The statement released by Chinese Foreign Ministry reads, "India and China have conducted a series of beneficial dialogues and communications in accordance with the consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries in Kazan, properly managed and resolved differences, and promoted the restart of practical cooperation in various fields." Vikram Misri is on a two-day visit to Beijing for a meeting of the Foreign Secretary-Vice Minister mechanism between India and China. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that the resumption of this bilateral mechanism flows from the agreement at the leadership level to discuss the next steps for India-China relations, including in the political, economic, and people-to-people domains.

While addressing a media briefing on January 24, Jaiswal said that Misri will meet with the Vice Minister of China and discussions between the two countries will be held on all areas of bilateral interest. On being asked about Foreign Secretary's visit to China and whether issues such as visa and direct air connectivity would come up in the discussions, Jaiswal said, the Foreign Secretary will be meeting his counterpart, the Vice Minister in China, where all issues of bilateral interest will be discussed. This meeting flows from the understanding that the leaders reached in Kazan, and subsequent to that, we've had meetings at the special representatives' level, and we've had foreign minister-level meetings as well. Once the discussions and talks happen then you get a readout of what was discussed, what issues were taken up but all issues of mutual interest will be discussed."

When asked about the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra, Jaiswal said, "During the Foreign Secretary's visit all matters of mutual interest will be discussed that would include Kailash Mansarovar Yatra as well." India and China had reached an agreement in October on patrolling arrangements in the Depsang Plains and Demchok, two friction points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). The understanding was reached after earlier disengagement in other friction points in eastern Ladakh following meetings at diplomatic and military levels.

Name Change I, Navin Rustogi alias Navin Rustogi (Old Name) S/o Ajay Kumar Rustogi Residing at 89/300/301, Bangur Park, 10th Lane, Green Park Apartment, 3rd Floor, F-03/04, Rishra, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712248 India shall henceforth be known as Navin Rustogi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 77/2025 Dated 27-01-2025. Navin Rustogi, Navin Rustogi (Old Name) and Navin Rustogi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mohammad Azad (Old Name) Son of Reaazuddin, residing at 10, Mackenzie Road, Kamarhati, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700058, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Azad (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 24/01/2025. Md Azad (New Name) and Mohammad Azad (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, MD ZUBAIR (old name) S/o late NAJIR AHMED, residing at RAIL PARK, T. ROAD JAHANGIR MOHALLA near Dubai Building asansol po dakhin dhadka ps asansol (north) DIST PASCHIM BARDHAMAN WEST BENGAL PIN 713302, West Bengal, INDIA have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD ZUBAIR AHMED (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 27/01/2025. MD ZUBAIR AHMED (new name) and MD ZUBAIR (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, MD DIN MOHAMMAD (Old Name) S/O SEKENDAR ALI Residing at Digha Uttarpara, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743248, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as DIN MAHAMMAD (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 27-01-2025. MD DIN MOHAMMAD (Old Name) and DIN MAHAMMAD (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Ashwami Bazaz (Old Name), S/O-Nirmal Kumar Bazaz, Resident Of-R.N Tagore Road , Usha-gram, Asansol-7133 03 Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashwami Bazaz(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 14/01/2025.Ashwami Bazaz (Old Name) And Ashwami Bazaz (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Soma Das,Wife Of Pranab Kumar Das, Residing At 1b,Nebru Bagan Bye Lane, Po - Bagbazar, Kolkata - 700003,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Soma Bhattacharya Das Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 27/01/2025.That Soma Das And Soma Bhattacharya Das Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, SHAIZI PARVEEN (Old Name) D/O ABDUL HAFIZ Residing at 37/B, Taltala Lane, Park Street, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700016, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SHAZIA PARVEEN (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 27-01-2025. SHAIZI PARVEEN (Old Name) and SHAZIA PARVEEN (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SEKH JAKIR S/O-LATE JAILIL, Residing at, Vill- Nagrai, Post- Kolkamari, Ps- Pukhuria, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732208, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SEKH JAKIR To JAKIR (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) JAKIR in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. JAKIR and SEKH JAKIR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sawhti Ghosh, wife of Provash Ghosh, residing at 33/1,Anjan Garh, PO - Birati,PS - Airport, North 24 Parganas, Pin - 7000 51,West Bengal,shall henceforth be known as Swati Ghosh vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 27/01/2025. That Sawhti Ghosh and Swati Ghosh both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Ankita Shaw (Old Name) D/o Manoj Kumar Shah Residing at 3A, Gopal Ghosh Lane, District-Kolkata, Pin- 700023 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Ankita Shah (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Sealdah vide affidavit no 11779 Dated 20-12-2024. Ankita Shaw (Old Name) and Ankita Shah (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) AMINA BIBI W/o-LATE SK JAILIL, Residing at, Vill- Nagrai, Post- Kolkamari, Ps- Pukhuria, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732208, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from AMINA BIBI To JAITUN BEWA (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) JAITUN BEWA in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. JAITUN BEWA and AMINA BIBI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Pravash Ghosh, son of Late Nani Gopal Ghosh, residing at 33/1, Anjan Garh, PO - Birati, PS - Airport, North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700051, West Bengal, shall henceforth be known as Provash Ghosh vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 27/01/2025. That Pravash Ghosh and Provash Ghosh both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, ABDULLA MOLLA and MD ABDULLA MOLLA (Old Name) S/O MD MOKTAR ALI MOLLA Residing at Jalkhura (South), Sadukhla Para, P.O. & P.S. - Mahesh-tala, District- South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700141, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD ABDULLAH MOLLA (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 24-01-2025. ABDULLA MOLLA and MD ABDULLA MOLLA (Old Name) and MD ABDULLAH MOLLA (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MANGAL SARKAR S/O- LATE RANJIT SARKAR, Residing at, Vill- Shakuntala park Ghorapir, Post- Malda, Ps- Eng-lishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MANGAL SARKAR To MANGAL KUMAR SARKAR (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) MANGAL KUMAR SARKAR in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. MANGAL KUMAR SARKAR and MANGAL SARKAR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Swapan Dey, Son Of Sarada Charan Dey, Residing At 174/15/1, N.S.C Bose Road, 700 40, P.O. Regency Park, Kolkata- Flat- 40, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Swapan Kumar Dey Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/01/2025. That Swapan Dey And Swapan Kumar Dey Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, NEETU AGARWAL (Old Name) W/O DEEPAK AGARWAL Residing at 52, N.S. Road, P.S.-Howrah, District - Howrah, Pin - 711101, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as NITU AGARWAL (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 27-01-2025. NEETU AGARWAL (Old Name) and NITU AGARWAL (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MUNSUR ALI & MANSUR S/O- LATE EKLAKH HOSSAIN, Residing at, Vill- Lakshmi pur, Post- Malha, Ps- Eng-lishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732102, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MUNSUR ALI & MANSUR To MANSUR ALI (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) MANSUR ALI in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. MANSUR ALI and MUNSUR ALI & MANSUR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sanjoy Kumar Das (Old Name) Son of Late Subodh Chandra Das, residing at Vill. - Arjibar, P.O.-Pairachali, P.S.- Chandipur, Dist.-Purba Medinipur, Pin- 721633, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjay Kumar Das (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Executive Magistrate, 1st Class at Tamluk, Purba Medinipur, dated 20/01/20 25. Sanjay Kumar Das (New Name) and Sanjoy Kumar Das (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, SYED SHABIR AHMED, S/o Md. Shakil residing at 73C, Topsis Road, Tiljala Kolkata-700039, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my father's original name is Md. Shakil which is recorded in my Aadhaar card via AADHAAR NO. 4516 5748 0725. That's my father's name mistakenly has written & recorded in my School Examination Certificate via Certificate no. BM 10017922 as Md. Shakil Ahmed instead of Md. Shakil. By an affidavit (No. 1135) before the 1st Class LD Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 22.01.2025 that Md. Shakil and Md. Shakil Ahmed is the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Monalisa Sen, D/o Deb Prakash Sen, residing at 132/2/5, Narkeldanga Main Road, Kolkata - 700054, W.B., declare that, I have lost my Mark Sheet and Pass Certificate of 10 th Class in the year 2000 under ICSE from my custody. I lodged a GDE vide no 1305 on 18.12.2024. As per affidavit vide before the Notary Public, at Sealdah on 18.12.2024 I am informing that above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name Change I, Ashok Kedia (Old Name) Son of Late Puran Mal Kedia, residing at 202 Jesoree Road, Shyam Lake Garden, Block C, 4th floor, North 24 Parganas, Pin-700089, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashok Kumar Kedia (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 27/01/2025. Ashok Kumar Kedia (New Name) and Ashok Kedia (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Kochu Koshy (Old Name) S/o Koshy Kunnumpurathu Gheevarghese resident of 6/2A/3, Banamali Ghoshal Lane, Behala, Kolkata - 700 034, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kunnumpurathu Koshy Kochukoshy (New Name) vide affidavit sworn before Notary Public Kolkata on 27.01.25. Kochu Koshy and Kunnumpurathu Koshy Kochukoshy both are same and identical person, i.e., myself.

Name Change I, Binoy Biswas (Old Name) S/o Harindranath Biswas Residing at Pakhiura, Kumari Ramnagar, Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Binay Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 27-01-2025. Binoy Biswas (Old Name) and Binay Biswas (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SK SOHRAB S/O-BANKU SEIKH, Residing at, Vill- Naohati, Post- Amadpur, Ps-Memari, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, Pin- 713154, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SK SOHRAB To SOHRAB SEIKH (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) SOHRAB SEIKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. SOHRAB SEIKH and SK SOHRAB both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Archana, Spouse Of No 14241674m, Ex Hony Nib/Sub Sajeeb Kumar Maomondar Resident Of Vill. Sanghati Palli, P.O. Guskara, Dist. Purba Bardhaman, (WB), Pin- 713128 Have Changed My Name From Archana To Archana Maomondar Vide Affidavit Dated 03.01.2025 Before The Court Of Executive Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman.

Name Change I, Ajay Kr Rustogi alias Ajay Kumar Rustogi (Old Name) S/o Guljarilal Rustagi Residing at On Enclave, 89/323, 12th Lane, Bangur Park, 4th Floor, Flat-4B, Rishra, Near NGO Blind School, Rishra(M), District - Hooghly, Pin - 712248 India shall henceforth be known as Ajay Kumar Rustagi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 78/2025 Dated 27-01-2025. Ajay Kr Rustogi, Ajay Kumar Rustogi (Old Name) and Ajay Kumar Rustagi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) NEPAL CHANDRA BALA S/O- SHYAMAL BALA, Residing at, Vill- Baranbaria Purbapara, Post- Baranbaria, Ps-Dhantala, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741504, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from NEPAL CHANDRA BALA To NEPAL BALA (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) NEPAL BALA in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. NEPAL BALA both are Same and one identical person.

Change of Name I, Sanjay Kumar Jamatia, residing at 381 DSC Platoon, AF Station Kalaikunda, P.S. : KGP (L), Dist.- Paschim Medinipur, PIN-721303 have changed my daughter's name from SHENI JAMATIA to SEMI JAMATIA for all purpose as declared vide Affidavit No. 321/02 Dated 20/01/2025 In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kharagpur. SHENI JAMATIA and SEMI JAMATIA both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Abhishek Ghosh D/o Ashok Ghosh Residing at 20, Rai Charan Ghosh Lane, P.O-Ps - Tiljala, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700039 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Abhishek Ghosh. I declare that Abhishek Ghosh and Abhishek Ghosh is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 24-01-2025.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MD RABBEKUL SK S/O- ABDUR RASID, Residing at, Vill- Kutubpur, Post- Panchnagram, Ps- Nabagram, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742184, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD RABBEKUL SK To MD RABBAKUL SK (New Name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) RABBAKUL SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 06 Jan 2025. MD RABBEKUL SK and MD RABBEKUL SK both are Same and one identical person.

# Finishing school prog for Bengal & Bihar students

MI News Service, Kolkata: A big finishing school programme awaits students of Bihar and West Bengal. The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Kolkata, announced the launch of the "Finishing School Program on 3D Printing & Additive Manufacturing Technology". The program is designed to empower engineering students from West Bengal and Bihar with advanced skills in additive manufacturing, fostering entrepreneurship and employment generation. It marks a significant step towards bridging the gap between academic knowledge and industry requirements while creating sustainable employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for the youth of West Bengal and Bihar. The event was graced by prominent dignitaries, including Tulika Pandey, Scientist 'G' and Group Coordinator, IIRD, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India; Prof. Tapas Chakraborty, Vice-Chancellor, MAKAUT, Government of West Bengal, said, "As the only Technical University in West Bengal, affiliating nearly 200 engineering, pharmacy and management colleges, MAKAUT plays a vital role in the region. This initiative offers a transformative solution, not just for West Bengal but for the entire Northeast and neighbouring regions.

Computer Science and Engineering, Central Institute of Technology, Assam; Shri Sanjeet Kumar, Industry Expert and DGM at SANDHAR; Dr. Ch A S Murty, Scientist 'G', CISO & Director, C-DAC Kolkata; and Shri Asit Kumar Singh, Chief Investigator of the Project, C-DAC Kolkata. The program aims to train 16,000 engineering graduates and final-year students through full-time courses with an additional 4,000 students participating in boot camp programs. It also focuses on establishing eight advanced laboratories to support start-ups, SMEs and large industries while delivering comprehensive product prototypes with technical documentation, material specifications and cost analysis. Prof. Tapas Chakraborty, Vice-Chancellor, MAKAUT, Government of West Bengal, said, "As the only Technical University in West Bengal, affiliating nearly 200 engineering, pharmacy and management colleges, MAKAUT plays a vital role in the region. This initiative offers a transformative solution, not just for West Bengal but for the entire Northeast and neighbouring regions.

# Train operations in Sealdah - Dankuni Section restored in record time - CCR Bridge regirding accomplished well within 100 hours block

MI News Service, Kolkata: Steel girder replacement of Rail Over Bridge in between Dumdum and Dankuni has been completed on time and train operations in Sealdah Dankuni section is resumed exactly at 04:00 AM today (27.01.25). The massive work of regirdering at Bridge nos. 10, 11, 15 & 19 are successfully over. Laying of ballasted track in the all important section has also been done. The stupendous project started in wee hours on 23rd January and the herculean infrastructure development work has been completed just before scheduled, i.e., 04:00 hours on 27th January. This mega project is crucial for the growth and development of Railway transportation network, the lifeline of the nation. It will certainly augment safety, security, sectional speed and operational flexibility of the Sealdah - Dankuni section, through which about 40 Mail/Express trains and 22 pairs of EMU locals ply every day. Over 1000 labourers worked day and night throughout the 100 hours block, in tandem with engineers and officials of Eastern Railway.

# Metro Railway observes 76th Republic Day



MI News Service, Kolkata: On Sunday, 26th January, 2025, Metro Railway, Kolkata has observed the 76th Republic Day with enthusiasm and fervour. Shri P. Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager, Metro Railway unfurled the National Flag at Metro Rail Bhavan this morning and took the Guard of Honour from Metro RPF.

MI News Service, Kolkata: In his address to the officers & staff of Metro Railway and Media persons, he spoke about the spectacular achievements of Metro Railway in various spheres in recent time, its glorious past and highlighted the phenomenal growth in passenger traffic by improving asset utilisation and efficiency in operations as well as opening new Metro routes. General Manager specially focused on the achievements of Passenger Amenities & Passenger Security. Shri Reddy has informed that the section of East-West Metro Corridor from Esplanade to Sealdah (2.45 km), Section of Yellow Line from Noapara to Jai Hind BimanBandar (7.04 km) and Section of Orange Line from Hemanta Mukhopadhyay to Belegata (4.39 km) will be commissioned in this year. QR Code Based Paper Ticketing System has been introduced in all the stations of Blue Line. Both Mobile QR code and Paper based QR code has been introduced in Metro, Shri Reddy added. Different digital payment modes introduced for the convenience of the commuters in different corridors has been well accepted and are becoming popular everyday. The Operating Ratio of Metro Railway has improved in the financial year 2024-25 to 235 % in comparison to 254% during the corresponding period of the last year. Metro staff and their wards presented a cultural programme to mark the occasion.

Later, an Open Gym and a Children Park were inaugurated by Smt. P Sreelatha, President, Metro Railway Women Welfare Organization (MRWWO) and other members of the organisation, in presence of Shri P Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager. They also planted saplings here. A solar power plant of 148 KW capacity was also inaugurated at Belghata Quarter Complex by Shri Dilip Karmakar, Technician-II, in presence of Shri P Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager and other senior officers, President and other members of MRWWO.

Completion of this massive project is a testament to resilience and perseverance of dedicated and concerted endeavour by team Sealdah under inspiring leadership of Shri Milind K. Deouskar, General Manager/Eastern Railway. Regirdering and laying of track in the busy CCR section was plagued by numerous challenges including complex geological hurdle, steep height of the track and safety concerns as the entire Vivekananda Bridge, where the major rectification work took place, is situated on the river Ganges. Despite many obstacles, the dedicated construction team persevered, employed cutting edge technologies and innovative techniques to brave the impediments. This is yet another stellar performance by Sealdah Division. It is pertinent to mention that, in the last June Sealdah division had upgraded all the platforms of Sealdah station to accommodate 12 coach trains. This instant feat of engineering in CCR Link will not only enhance connectivity, sectional speed and operational flexibility of Dumdum - Dankuni section but also demonstrates Sealdah Division's capabilities in undertaking complex infrastructure projects.

# SEBI to start pre-listing trading in IPO to curb grey market activity

MI News Service, Mumbai: SEBI is looking at introducing a system where an investor can sell shares as soon as they are allotted in an Initial Public Offering (IPO) to curb grey market activity, chairperson Madhabi Puri Bhagat said.

The chief of the capital markets regulator also announced that the top two proxy advisory firms are on the verge of launching a portal which will be a repository of related party transactions and will be useful in judging the governance standards in a company for any stakeholder. It can be noted that many IPOs in the recent past have seen very high subscriptions, and many of the issuances have also made huge listing-day gains which result in the grey market activity of passing on allotted shares. Buch, an i-banker turned markets regulator, reminisced that during her banking days, this grey market activity used to be called "curb trading". "We feel that if anyway investors want to do that, why not give them that opportunity in a proper regulated way?" Buch said, addressing an Association of Investment Bankers of India (AIB) event here. "The idea is whatever is the grey market that is going on, pre-listing, we think that is not suitable. If you got an allotment and want to sell your right, sell it in the organised market," she explained reporters later.

MI News Service, Kolkata: K. Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, conducted an inspection of the Liluah Workshop on 25th January 2025, highlighting the workshop continued excellence and innovation in railway maintenance and sustainability initiatives. During the inspection, Shri Deouskar inaugurated the first-ever computerized RMPU (Roof Mounted Package Unit) testing facility in Indian Railways. This state-of-the-art maintenance facility enhances the efficiency and accuracy of RMPU testing, setting a benchmark for other railway workshops. Shri Yatish Kumar, Chief Works Manager, Liluah Workshop, in presence of Sheelendra Pratap Singh, Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer, Eastern Railway, showcased its first Mid-Life Rehabilitation (MLR) of an LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) coach. The MLR process transformed the coach into a state-of-the-art asset, comparable to a brand-new coach. Key upgrades include new berths and panels to enhance passenger comfort, upgraded toilets with advanced fittings for better hygiene, amenity fittings improved to meet passenger satisfaction, anti-graffiti coating protecting the coach's aesthetic appeal and durability. These enhancements ensure an elevated passenger experience and extended service life of the coach. The event also marked the launch of Eastern Railway's first air-

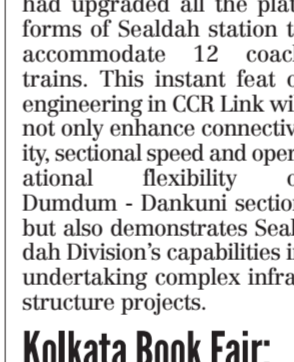
# GM, ER, conducted an inspection of the Liluah Workshop on 25th January



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conditioned Railway Camping Coach (RCC), specially designed for track maintenance staff. Key features of the RCC include air-conditioned comfort ensuring better living conditions for staff during operations, equipped with modern fittings, machinery, and plants for track maintenance. Yatish Kumar also highlighted two innovative monitoring systems developed by Liluah Workshop, water level monitoring system for real-time updates on water levels in coach water tanks, ensuring uninterrupted water supply, and temperature monitoring system ensuring optimal air-conditioning for improved passenger comfort. Shri Deouskar lauded the Liluah Workshop for its advanced rolling stock maintenance practices, which ensure passenger safety and satisfaction. Seema Deouskar, President of the Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organization (ERWWO), in the august presence of Milind K Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, inaugurated "Kabeer Park", an inspiring sustainable initiative by the staff of Liluah Workshop and dedicated to the staff. Smita Goyal, President ERWWO, Liluah, illustrated to Deouskar, about Kabeer Park, a remarkable transformation of a once barren and dilapidated patch of land, now features medicinal plants Promoting natural healing and ecological balance, eco-friendly but constructed using hatches and wood.

# GM, ER, conducted an inspection of the Liluah Workshop on 25th January



# Kolkata Book Fair: Airtel to offer seamless connectivity to visitors

MI News Service, Kolkata: Big news awaits avid book readers of Kolkata, including the book fair enthusiasts as Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), has augmented its network in and around the venue of the 48th International Book Fair in Kolkata that starts on 28th January. The company has installed 5 dedicated sites at the Boimela Prangan in Salt Lake City which will help in offer seamless connectivity to all book lovers coming to the mela.

# Metro Railway shows humane face again

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 24.01.2025, a lady passenger, aged around 20 years, with her two friends boarded a Metro at 14.43 hrs. from Salt Lake Sector V for Sealdah. During this journey, she started feeling unwell and got down at Karunamoyee station at around 14:45 hrs. with her friends. On seeing her condition, on-duty RPF staff rushed to her help and brought her to the Station Master's room. She was immediately administered First-Aid. Later, it was decided to shift her to nearby SEVA Hospital, Bidhannagar for further treatment. After complying with all official formalities, she was sent to that hospital in a car. She and her friends expressed heartfelt gratitude to Metro authorities for kind co-operation and timely help.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ayan Sarkar, CEO, West Bengal & Orissa, Bharti Airtel, said, "The Kolkata Book Fair is one of the largest congregations for book enthusiasts, and we take pride in partnering them each year by providing an exceptional network experience. Airtel has consistently led the way in delivering superior network services in the city, and we are committed to offering connectivity that enhances the essence of literature, education, and cultural exchange." As Asia's largest and the world's third-largest annual gathering, this event is expected to draw millions of literary aficionados from different walks of life to be a part of this 13 day event.

# CLW celebrates 76th Republic Day

**MI News Service, Chittaranjan:** The 76th Republic Day was celebrated with patriotic fervor in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), on 26th January, 2025. Shri Vijay Kumar, General Manager / CLW, hoisted the National flag at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar sports Complex.



Members of CLW, Sr.Officers, members of associations & unions, were also present on the occasion. A colorful & vibrant parade was presented by the RPF Jawans, volunteers of Bharat Scouts and Guides, Civil Defence volunteers and St. John's Ambulance brigade. Colourful cultural programmes were presented by school children & CLW cultural Association, which

journey to independence and sovereign Republic under the democratic system since the implementation of the Constitution in 1950.

Shri Kumar noted the completion of a successful 75-years of glorious journey in manufacturing over 12,500 locomotives, contributing significantly to Indian Railways' self-reliance in electric locomotive production and bolstering the national economy.

He has also stated CLW's future plans for the coming months.

The National flag was also hoisted in the Arms wing premises of Railway Protection Force & other places and in the Dankuni unit of CLW, symbolizing unity & patriotism

# Bengal's handicrafts find place in Bollywood

**MI News Service, Kolkata/Mumbai:** Handicrafts made by Bengal's artisans namely Terracotta products and Madhubani designs are being exported to Mumbai for decorating the sets in Bollywood movies. The initiative of the Refugee Handicrafts under the state Micro Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) and Textile sector department has brought economic growth to the marginalised refugee artisans.

In a major boost to the state MSME, the state government has already taken several initiatives to sell handicrafts made by Bengal artisans in the Mumbai market and also abroad. The handicrafts prepared by the artisans from different districts are already

being sent to Mumbai and elsewhere for decorating movie sets. It has brought economic stability in the lives of these artisans. The Bengal government under the leadership of the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, has seen a sea change in the MSME sector.

The Refugee Handicrafts was set up in 1950, with an aim to provide a means of livelihood to refugees. They used to prepare different handicraft products and the state government used to support them to sell them in the market. Various handicrafts were also imported to Dubai in the UAE in the past.

The project had then immensely helped the refugees in earning their livelihood. But later, the organisation had almost lost its signifi-

cance due to the apathy of the erstwhile Left Front government. After the change of guard in the government, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had involved former footballers from the state in Refugee Handicrafts for making footballs. The Refugee Handicrafts had taken the step for necessary expansion to rope in more people in making footballs under "Joyee". After coming to power the Mamata Banerjee government has taken several steps to strengthen the MSME sector in Bengal and help the artisans grow their business. The present government conducts fairs across the state to give a platform so that the artisans from all the districts can come and sell their products in these fairs.

# J&K grapples with mysterious illness; over 200 quarantined

**MI News Service, Rajouri:** Over 200 individuals, who came in contact with the affected families of the 17 people who died due to the mysterious illness in Rajouri, have been quarantined as a precautionary measure, an official said on Thursday.

Four people, including three sisters, have been shifted to hospitals, with three airlifted to a hospital in Jammu.

Top health officials have identified a common factor among all those who lost

their lives in Badhaal village as involvement of the brain and damage to the nervous system.

National Conference (NC) leader and local MLA Javid Iqbal Choudhary on Thursday demanded the imposition of a medical emergency to save people and contain the spread of such a mysterious illness.

Over 200 individuals who came into contact with the affected families have been relocated to a quarantine centre set up in the building of a nursing college and

GMC hospital in Rajouri, she said.

A new quarantine centre was set up in nursing college on Wednesday. As a precautionary measure, these relocated individuals include close relatives of the deceased. Several individuals who had contact with the affected families, from those who took children to the hospital to those who participated in burials, have also been identified.

These individuals have been moved away from the village as a precaution to break the chain, officials said.

Strict security measures have been implemented at the quarantine centre located in the nursing college building in Rajouri, designated specifically for quarantine purposes. The facility has been secured with fencing and rigorous monitoring, they said.

Before admission to the centre, all individuals are being screened. Arrangements have been made to accommodate those affected at the nursing college at Gujjar Mandi.

"Keeping in view seriousness, the government should declare Medical emergency to save the population", the MLA told reporters here.

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**e-Tender Notice No. : MC\_SC\_KRP**  
**Cleaning\_R2024, dt. 22.01.2025.**

Sealed Open tenders are invited by Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Sealdah, Room No. 42, 1st Floor, DRM Building, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 on "Two Packet System" in prescribed tender forms from reputed contractors with adequate experience and financial capability for the under mentioned work : **Name/Description of Work :** "Cleaning work of Round Trip maintenance coaching train at Krishnapur for the three years".

**Tender Value :** ₹ 3,26,48,834.48

**Earnest Money :** ₹ 3,13,300.00. **Cost of Tender Document :** ₹ 5,000.00

**Contract Period :** 03 years. **Bidding Start Date :** 31.01.2025. **Date and time of closing of tender :** 14.02.2025 at 11.00 hrs. **Date and timing of tender Opening :** 14.02.2025 at 11.00 hrs.

Tender document including e-tender notice and eligibility criteria of the work may be seen and downloaded from [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) (Website URL). No manual offer will be accepted.

SDAH-336/2024-25

Tender Notice is also available at websites : [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in)

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**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. ST-OT-MISC-**  
**LHS-WORK-459, Dt: 21.01.2025**

**NAME OF WORK: SIGNAL & TELECOM WORK FOR LIMITED HEIGHT SUBWAY (LHS) AT 336/19-21 BETWEEN KORAI HALT-JAJPUR KEONJHAR ROAD-KENDUJHARGARH ROAD, ROAD OVER BRIDGE (ROB) AT LEVEL CROSSING NO. 169KM 383/15-17 BETWEEN DHANMANDAL-BYREE, BROAD GAUGE MAIN LINE (BGML) AT CUTTACK-PARADEEP, BROAD GAUGE MAIN LINE (BGML) & REVISED BROAD GAUGE (R.G.) AT JAKHAPURA-CUTTACK-PARADEEP SECTION & CUTTACK-KHURDA ROAD SECTION OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION.**

**Tender Value :** ₹ 4,46,56,014.03. **EMD :** ₹ 3,73,300/-

**Bidding Start Date :** 29.01.2025.

**Tender Closing Date and Time :** At 11:00 Hrs. of 12.02.2025.

No manual offers sent by Post/ Courier/ Fax or in person accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on file & letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above tender is available in website : [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in)

**Note:** The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website 15 days before the date of closing of tender to note changes / corrigendum issued for this tender.

**Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, PR-922P/24-25** Khurda Road

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. : SG Tender/DSTE/SDAH/530, dated 24.01.2025.** e-tender is invited by Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, 2nd Floor, Control Building, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work : **e-Tender No. : SDSTE/Sig/T/43/24-25/RRSK.**

**Name of work with its location :** Signalling work in connection with Sealdah Division - TTR (FS + TWS + WCMS) - 49 Sets (1:8.5). **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,64,49,339.32. **Earnest Money/ Bid Security to be deposited :** ₹ 2,32,300.00. **Cost of tender document :** Nil. **Completion period of the work :** 12 months. **Tender Submission Start Date :** 07.02.2025. **Tender Submission End Date :** 21.02.2025 upto 14.00 hrs. **Tender Bid Opening Date :** 21.02.2025 at 14.30 hrs. Details may be available at [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) Technical Eligibility Criteria: The tenderer must have successfully completed or substantially completed any one of the following categories of work(s) during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: (i) Three similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, or (ii) Two similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, or (iii) One similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender. **Financial Eligibility Criteria:** The tenderer must have minimum average annual contractual turnover of V/N or 'V' whichever is less; where V = Advertised value of the tender in crores of Rupees, N = Number of years prescribed for completion of work for which bids have been invited. The average annual contractual turnover shall be calculated as an average of "total contractual payments" in the previous three financial years, as per the audited balance sheet. However, in case balance sheet of the previous year is yet to be prepared/audited, the audited balance sheet of the fourth previous year shall be considered for calculating average annual contractual turnover. The tenderers shall submit requisite information as per Annexure-VIB of GCC 2022 (Form-6 of the instant tender document), along with copies of Audited Balance Sheets duly certified by the Chartered Accountant/ Certificate from Chartered Accountant duly supported by Audited Balance Sheet. **Other document to be submitted:** As mentioned in the tender document. **Similar nature of work:** Any work of "Panel Interlocking or Route Relay Interlocking or Electronic Interlocking or IBI or Automatic Signalling or LC Gate Interlocking or AFTC or SSDAC or MSDAC" to be considered as similar nature of work for the instant tender work. **Note:** The tenderer shall submit along with the tender offer, documents in support of his/her claim to fulfill the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the tender document. Each page of the copy of documents/certificates in support of credentials, submitted by the tenderer, shall be self-attested/digitally signed by the tenderer or authorized representative of the tendering firm. Self-attestation shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). SDAH-338/2024-25

Tender Notice is also available at websites : [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in)

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**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

**Tender Notice No. : PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/25/06 Dated: 22.01.2025.** PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the following. The following E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website [www.irps.gov.in](http://www.irps.gov.in) for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Description of Cost; Quantity; Due On; Tender**

**Store as follows: [018]; 31242681A;** Set of EIT and Shrink Down Sleeves for KAVACH wiring in 3-ph Loco as per Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0154/S; **As Per Tender/Document;** 14/02/2025; ₹ 0.00. [019]; 25242693; L-Nozzle with SS-Sheet Fitting with Complete Accessories at Both Ends for WAG-9 Loco As Per Specn.4TPM.096.041 Alt.1; **As Per Tender/Document;** 19/02/2025; ₹ 0.00. [020]; 31242739A; Fire Detection Equipments Along with Connector in SB2 As Per Specification No. CLW/ES/3/0057; **As Per Tender/Document;** 24/02/2025; ₹ 0.00. [021]; 31242535C; 1. Single Core Cable 4GKW-AX1.5, 1800V, BK, As Per Spec.No. -CLW/ES/3/0458/E, 2. Single Core Cable 4GKW-AX6, 1800V, BK, CLW/ES/Spec.No.CLW/ES/3/0458/E, 3. Single Core Cable 4GKW-AX25, 1800V, BK, As Per Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0458/E, 4. Single Core Cable 4GKW-AX50, 1800V, BK, As Per Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0458/E; **As Per Tender/Document;** 25/02/2025; ₹ 0.00.

PR/6782 PCMM/CLW/Howrah  
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# Bengal to have global AI hub of excellence

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Global AI Centre of Excellence (CoE) is likely to be set up in Bengal. ITC Infotech, the wholly owned subsidiary of diversified corporate giant ITC, is going to set up the central hub. It was learnt that the project would eventually have two global hubs, one in Kolkata and another in Bangalore.

The formal announcement on this would be done during the forthcoming Bengal Global Business Summit on February 5 and 6, sources in the state government said. The Global AI Centre of Excellence (CoE) may act as a central hub for ITC Infotech, through which it will serve its global clientele while acting as the core for ITC Group's digital initiatives.

ITC Ltd chairman Sanjiv Puri earlier had told media that he felt Kolkata was the optimal place for its first cutting-edge global AI hub. He also said that Kolkata is an optimal and logical location for their first cutting-edge global AI hub in the state as it has a talent pool of engineering/AI/statistics. The Bengal government under the leadership of the

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has been extending all support. The hub will not only promote AI skills and capabilities building and collaborate with academia in Bengal but will also create employment opportunities. The global hub would be housed at ITC Green Centre Campus, which is a state-of-the-art IT facility with an investment outlay of Rs

1,600 crore when complete. Kolkata is the ideal place for the hub to set up as the city can supply the talent pool from the premier institutions like IIT, ISI, IIM. Road infrastructure has immensely improved across Bengal. Incidentally, ITC Infotech currently has a total manpower of 11,000 globally, and in Kolkata, the number of employees is around 1,000.

# India to be 'vishwa guru' by 2047: Dhankhar

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar lavished praise on the Narendra Modi government, asserting that the country has witnessed "unparalleled" growth in the last decade, on Friday - even as India's private sector output fell to a 14-month low.

"The growth witnessed by the country in the last 10 years is unparalleled. We are already the fifth largest economy and in five years from now, we will occupy the third spot... Viksit [developed] Bharat is not a pipedream. It will be realised by 2047, when we celebrate the centenary of Independence. Bharat shall become the vishwa guru," Dhankhar said.

Dhankhar, meanwhile, lauded Modi for bringing in schemes that improved the quality of life of the common people by providing them with gas connections, electricity and toilets "zealously (junoon ke saath)".

With the timeline set for India becoming vishwa guru, here's a look at other targets that this government has set.

Under this much touted project, the government pledged to raise the share of manufacturing to 25 per cent of GDP - the overall measure of goods and services - by 2025.

# Balasaheb should be given 'Bharat Ratna': Shiv Sena (UBT)

**MI News Service, Mumbai:** The Shiv Sena (UBT) demanded the Bharat Ratna for Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray.

Speaking on the occasion of the late leader's 99th birth anniversary, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut said the BJP-led government has in the last ten years conferred the country's highest civilian honour on some persons who did not deserve it.

"But the man who truly sowed the seeds of Hindutva in the country must also be given the Bharat Ratna. Why has he not been given Bharat Ratna? 'Hindu-hriday Samrat' Bal Thackeray must be honoured with the award. This is Shiv Sena (UBT)'s demand," he said.

Raut noted that Thackeray's birth centenary was a year away.

"Before the centenary starts, it is necessary that he gets the Bharat Ratna. You could not give the Bharat Ratna to Veer Savarkar. If you give Bharat Ratna to Bala-saheb, it will also be an honour for Veer Savarkar," the Rajya Sabha member further said.

His party colleague and Mumbai South MP Arvind Sawant also made the same demand, saying that Thackeray showed the country what "Hindutva ideals" are.

"The government (at the Centre) which calls itself pro-Hindutva must honour him with Bharat Ratna. We strongly demand this," he said after paying respects to Thackeray at his memorial at the Shivaji Park in central Mumbai.

Raut, meanwhile, took a swipe at the rival Shiv Sena led by Maharashtra deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, likening it to Chinese firecrackers that won't burst.

The real Shiv Sena is at 'Matoshri', the Thackeray family's residence in Bandra where Uddhav Thackeray lives with his family, he said.

"There are counterfeit medicines, clothes in the market....There are Chinese crackers. They don't burst but there are only sparks. Such products are being brought by the BJP," he said.

# Orissa HC seeks affidavit on declassification of info on Netaji

**MI News Service, Cuttack:** The Orissa High Court has asked the state and Centre to file replies through affidavits on a petition seeking direction for declassification of transfer to power agreement of year 1947, including of intelligence bureau secret files regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and acceptance of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry report on mysterious disappearance of the great freedom fighter.

A Division Bench of Acting Chief Justice Arindam Sinha and Justice M.S.Sahoo adjourned the matter to 12 February while hearing a petition on Wednesday by

Pinakpani Mohanty, a resident of Odisha's Cuttack district.

The petitioner sought the High Court's intervention for authorities to declare Netaji as a national son and, inter alia, his birthday to be observed as national day. He also sought for the birthplace of Netaji at Cuttack city to be declared as a national museum.

Further, he prayed for direction for declassification of transfer to power agreement of 1947 including intelligence bureau secret files regarding Netaji and direction for acceptance of the Justice Mukherjee Commission of Inquiry report.

The petitioner further

wrote to the Prime Minister, who referred it to the Home Ministry. The Home Ministry did not act to address his grievance in the representation, the petitioner maintained.

"We have not taken the memo on record because action/inaction of the Home Ministry may be a separate cause of action for the petitioner. The advocates representing the Union and State will be heard on adjourned date. They have leave to file an affidavit, if they will, to be accepted on adjourned date upon advance copy served", the Division Bench stated in the order

while posting the matter for further hearing on 12 February.

In compliance with the circular no. DNBS (PD)/CC.NO.11/02.01/99-2000 issued by the Reserve Bank of India on 15.11.1999 as amended from time to time, notice is hereby given that the directorship of M/s Vaikunth Motor Finance Private Limited (CIN: U65929WB1996P TC151085) of 18 Rabindra Sarani, Poddar Court, Gate No. 2, 3rd Floor, Room No 309, Kolkata-700001 has changed as Mr. Sanjay Kumar Sanganeria (DIN: 10915266). Son of Mr. Giridhar Sanganeria of Vinayak Garden, Block-B, Flat-2C, 41B Simla Road, Beadon Street, Kolkata-700006 by occupation businessman, has been appointed as an Additional Director in the company w.e.f.22nd of January, 2025.

# Sometimes violence imperative to protect idea of non-violence: RSS leader

**MI News Service, Nagpur:** Senior Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) leader Bhaiyaji Joshi said that violence is sometimes "necessary" to protect the idea of non-violence, underscoring that India has to take everyone along on the path to peace.

He was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the 'Hindu Spiritual & Service Fair', also known as 'Hindu Adhyatmik Seva Mela', at the Gujarat University here.

"Hindus are always committed to protecting their religion. To protect our 'dharma', we have to do even those things which others will label as 'adharma' and such things were done by our ancestors," he said.

Citing the battle of Mahabharat, he said Pandavas kept aside the rules of the war to eliminate 'adharma'.

"There is no denying that the Hindu religion has the element of non-violence (embedded in it). However, sometimes we have to resort to violence to protect the idea of non-violence. Otherwise, the idea of non-violence will never be safe. Our great ancestors gave that message to us," said Joshi.

According to the RSS leader, the people of India have to take everyone along on the path to peace because the one who is capable of taking everyone along is the one who can establish peace.

He said there will be no peace if a religion does not allow others to follow their respective faiths.

"There is no country other than India capable of taking along all other nations. 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' (the world is one family) is our idea of spirituality. If we consider the entire world as a family, there will not be any conflict," he said.

"When we say that India should become stronger, we are actually giving

# Defence Ministry declares 2025 as 'year of reforms'

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India declared 2025 as the year of defence reforms and that the aim will be to facilitate rolling out integrated theatre commands to bolster synergy among the three services and transform the military into a technologically-advanced combat-ready force. The broader aim of the reforms planned by the defence ministry would be to make the defence acquisition procedures simpler and time-sensitive, ensure deeper collaboration among key stakeholders, break silos, eliminate inefficiencies and optimise utilisation of resources.

**KULPI PANCHAYAT SAMITY**  
**KULPI, SOUTH-24 PARGANAS**

**e-TENDER NOTICE**

E-Tenders are hereby invited by the E.O. Kulpi under 15th FC fund vide **NIT No. - 107/KLP/15th FC/2024-25 & 2025\_ZPHD\_807256\_1**. 2. Bid Submission Last Date: 03/02/2025. For details visit Website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in>

Sd/-  
**Executive Officer**  
**Kulpi Panchayat Samity**

**Notice**

My client Shri Shubhankar Halder, son of Shri Ranajit Halder, address: 159, South End Park Cultural Society, P.O.: Pailan, P.S.: Bishnupur, Kolkata: 700104, is purchasing a land of Mouza Kalua of Block Kolkata, L.R. Daag: 354, 11041 and 3518 L.R. Khaityan, more or less 2 cottaah land of deed I-8901/2024 from the vendors Shri Rajanikanth Das, Shri Bapi Mondal, Shri Subhash Das, Shri Narayan Halder. According to A.D.S.R Bejala, Book no. 1, vol. 1604/2024, page 261095-261121, Being Number 8901/2024 Shri Bapi Mondal, Shri Subhash Das, Shri Narayan Halder are appointed Power Of Attorneys by the vendor Rajanikanth Das. In present days my client is the possessor of the land, book no. 1, vol. no. 1604-2023, page 302520-302540, Being no. 9732/2023. We are going to appeal for mutation for this land BL and LRO, Kolkata Block, the office address: KMC Building, S.N.Banerjee Road, Kolkata: 700013. It is requested that if any person has any objection regarding this land then they need to inform the office within a month of the notice.

Advocate  
SELIM SEKH  
Regd.No.F-1157/70

**LOST & FOUND**

I have lost One Deed no. 6341/1989, Deed no. 6341/1989 got lost in Bansdroni market area on 20/01/2025 if found please contact.

**Mobile.**  
**9088696198**

Office of the  
**Councillors of Haringhata Municipality**  
Subarnapur, Haringhata, Nadia.

**Notice Inviting e-Tender**

Chairman, Haringhata Municipality invites e-Tender No. - WBMAD/ULB/HM/NIT-4e(2nd Call)/2024-25, Memo. No- 201/HM/2025 Dated: 27/01/2025. Tender Id: 2025\_MAD\_807133\_1  
Date of Publishing: 27/01/2025  
Bid Submission Closing Date: 27/02/2025, For details please visit-  
[www.wbtenders.gov.in](http://www.wbtenders.gov.in)

Sd/- CHAIRMAN  
HARINGHATA MUNICIPALITY

**Sapuipara Basukati Gram Panchayat**  
Sapuipara, Nischinda, Howrah - 711 227

**Notice Inviting Re-tender**

Re e-Tenders are invited from the resourceful and experienced bidders for execution of 2 nos. development work vide **Memo No. - 307/NIT/15th CFC UNIFIED/SB/24-25, 308/NIT/15th CFC TIED/SB/24-25 & e-NIT No. WBI/HOW/BS/GR/RE-NIT 26/24-25, WBI/HOW/BS/GR/RE-NIT 27/24-25, Date: 27.01.2025.** Documents Download/Sale & Bid Submission Start Date (Online): 27.01.2025 at 06:00 PM. Bid Submission End Date (Online): 01.02.2025 up to 06:00 PM. Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Online): 04.02.2025 at 11:00 AM. For details visit [www.wbtenders.gov.in](http://www.wbtenders.gov.in) & undersigned GP Office.

Sd/-  
Pradhan  
Sapuipara Basukati Gram Panchayat

**Rescheduling of trains for Track Maintenance work over Malda Division**

In continuation to the previous notification regarding rescheduling of trains due to Traffic Block for track maintenance work between Jangipur Road & Sujinpara stations in Poradanga-Sujinpara section over Malda Division, next 15 days (Beyond 28.01.2025) Traffic Block (from 13.30 hrs. to 17.30 hrs.) on UP line will be necessary on 30/01, 01/02, 04/02, 06/02, 08/02, 11/02, 13/02, 15/02, 18/02, 20/02, 22/02, 25/02, 27/02, 01/03 & 04.03.2025 (every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday). Consequently, (1) 53053 Katwa-Nimitta Passenger will be rescheduled by 02 hours from Katwa, (2) 53027 Azimganj-Malda Town Passenger will be rescheduled by 01 hour & (3) 53029 Azimganj-Bhagalpur Passenger will be rescheduled by 30 minutes from Azimganj on above mentioned days of block. Inconvenience is regretted.

**Divisional Railway Manager, Malda**

**Eastern Railway**

**PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank** Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091  
CIN No: L65190G1994PLC021012, [www.icicibank.com](http://www.icicibank.com)

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount of Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Subhashish Majumdar/ Ananya Majumdar Sarkar / 86/60, Parui Das Para Road / Parui Sanghatanee Club, Jhawa Tala Sarsana Thakurpukur Maheshta District South 24 Parganas West Bengal Kolkata - 700061/LBCAL00005524796 & LBCAL00005524798	Dag No. 64, Khatian No. 126, Daspara Kali Mandir End, 145, Parui Das Para Road, R.S. No. 82, J.L. No. 15, Touzi No. 351, Borough 14, Ward No. 128, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, P.S. Parnahase, Mouza Basudevpur, Pargana Balia, Sub Registry Office Balah, District Registry Office Alipore, West Bengal, Admeasuring An Area of Land Measuring about 01 Cottaah 13 Chittacks Along With One Thee Shed House Measuring About 100 Sq.ft/ Date of Physical 22.01.2025	April 16, 2024 Rs. 46,52,108.00/-	Kolkata
2.	Dhuraaba Jyoti Guha/ Srabani Guha/ 114/29 Choubaga Road Tiljala S O, West Bengal Calcutta - 700039/ LBCAL00005120472, LBCAL00005309170	Flat on The Third Floor, South East West Side, Premises No. 14/29, Choubaga Road, Ward No. 66, P.S. Tiljala, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, District South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, Kolkata 700039, Admeasuring An Area of 800 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area Together With Undivided Impartible Proportionate Share of Land/ Date of Physical 22.01.2025	September 13, 2023 Rs. 25,61,040.00/-	Calcutta

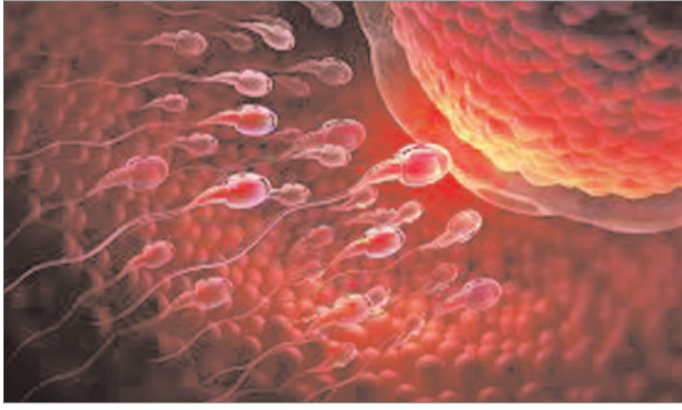
The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be

## Male fertility is on a downward spiral, what's causing the alarming decline?

The decline in male fertility is a pressing concern that warrants serious attention. Studies have suggested that sperm counts have plummeted by over 50 per cent in the past four decades, with the trend showing no signs of slowing down. Though the causes of this decline vary, a new study has revealed high-altitude hiking, and sleep apnoea among other conditions that can deprive a man's testes of oxygen, contributing to a decline in fertility over the past 50 years.

The study published in the *Nature Reviews Urology* journal, reveals how exposure to low oxygen levels can impact sperm quality and the overall reproductive health of men. Experts have revealed that 'testis hypoxia' is a condition that could be critical to declining male fertility.

There is infertility and sub-fertility in men. Infertility refers to



the inability to achieve pregnancy after at least 12 months of regular unprotected sex. However, sub-fertility is a less intense situation, where the chances of conceiving are lowered.

What is testis hypoxia? Testis hypoxia refers to a condition where the testicles are

experiencing a lack of oxygen. According to Tessa Lord, a reproductive biologist, testis hypoxia is caused by chronic medical conditions including sleep apnoea or varicocele (enlarged veins in the scrotum).

Up to 45 per cent of men struggle to conceive due to varicocele,

Lord was quoted by PTI. Other factors affecting male fertility

Medical factors include:  
Low sperm count - Having fewer than 1.5 million sperm per millilitre of semen.  
Poor sperm mobility - Sperm that do not move properly or are slow  
Abnormal sperm morphology - Sperm with irregular shape or structure  
Hypogonadism - Low testosterone levels  
Epididymitis - Inflammation of epididymis  
Prostatitis - Inflammation of the prostate gland  
Lifestyle factors include:  
Smoking  
Excessive alcohol consumption  
Obesity  
Stress  
Poor diet  
Lack of exercise

## Study gives more insight into neuroblastoma treatment

Chicago [US] : Developing nerve cells outside the brain is where neuroblastoma, a common childhood disease, starts. Over 40 per cent of patients with high-risk neuroblastoma currently do not survive, despite the fact that patient's chances of survival have increased with more aggressive treatments.

New treatment strategy for neuroblastoma may involve focusing on RNA alterations linked to the condition, according to recent study from the University of Chicago. Researchers have shown in a new study that was published in *Cell Reports* that the proliferation of neuroblastoma cells was inhibited by a pharmacological molecule that is intended to block proteins that modify RNA transcripts. The medication appeared to be a promising therapeutic approach, as it also inhibited the growth of neuroblastoma tumors in mice models.

"High risk neuroblastoma remains very difficult to cure with current approaches, and survivors are at high-risk for treatment-related toxicities, including severe chronic health conditions and second cancers," said Susan Cohn, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, and senior author of the new study. "We are testing a completely different therapeutic strategy using drugs that change gene expression by inhibiting RNA modifying proteins. If future studies validate our findings, this strategy may transform our approach for treating neuroblastoma patients."

Advances in genetic sequencing, data analysis, and chemical biology have identified countless genetic links to cancer, yet DNA doesn't tell the whole story. Sometimes, molecules are added to DNA bases and RNA tran-



scripts, affecting the way genes are expressed or how they get translated into proteins. These modifications to DNA and RNA act as molecular switches, determining whether a gene is turned on or off, thus influencing cellular processes, tissue development, and disease progression.

Cohn and her team partnered with Chuan He, PhD, the John T. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor of Chemistry and Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at UChicago, to study these effects in neuroblastoma. He is a pioneer in the fields of RNA and DNA modification research, known as epitranscriptomics and epigenetics, respectively. His lab has uncovered new regulatory pathways through RNA methylation. One of the most common messenger RNA modifications is N6-methyladenosine (m6A), which gets added to an RNA transcript by "writer" proteins, including a complex formed between methyltransferase-like 3 (METTL3) and methyltransferase-like 14 (METTL14). High levels of METTL3 and METTL14 are known to drive the growth of many adult cancers, so Cohn and He wanted to look at its effects in

neuroblastoma. The team, led by Monica M. Pomaville, MD, a former pediatric resident who trained with Cohn and He and is now a fellow at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, showed that high levels of METTL3 expression in neuroblastoma tumors were associated with significantly lower survival rates in patients. This suggests that METTL3 may drive tumor growth.

To investigate how METTL3 affects neuroblastoma, the team created a genetically modified version of neuroblastoma cells in which METTL3 expression was knocked down, or diminished. They also tested an inhibitor called STM2457 that inhibits the function of METTL3, synthesized by He's team based on a published molecule structure.

Both approaches decreased neuroblastoma cell growth. METTL3 inhibition also increased the expression of genes that regulate the differentiation of neurons, or development into mature cells. They even saw this increased extension of neurites, which eventually develop into axons and dendrites, a hallmark of neuroblastoma differentiation.

## Study finds how birdwatching helps students reduce distress, improve mental health



North Carolina [US] : Birdwatching could be an option for college students looking to enhance their mental health.

According to a recent study, persons who have nature-based experiences report higher levels of well-being and lower levels of psychological discomfort than those who do not. Birdwatching, in particular, produced encouraging effects, with bigger gains in subjective well-being and more distress reduction than more general nature exposure, such as walks. Because birdwatching is a simple sport, the findings are positive for college students, who are among those most likely to have mental health issues.

"There has been a lot of research about well-being coming out through the pandemic that suggests adolescents and college-aged kids are struggling the most," said Nils Peterson, corresponding author of the study and a professor of forestry and environmental resources at North Carolina State University. "Especially when you think about

students and grad students, it seems like those are groups that are struggling in terms of access to nature and getting those benefits.

"Bird watching is among the most ubiquitous ways that human beings interact with wildlife globally, and college campuses provide a pocket where there's access to that activity even in more urban settings."

To quantitatively measure subjective well-being, researchers used a five-question survey known as the World Health Organization-Five Well-Being Index (WHO-5). This tool asks participants to assign a rating of zero through five to statements about well-being, depending on how often they have felt that way in the last two weeks. For example, given the prompt "I have felt calm and relaxed," a participant would mark a zero for "at no time" or a five for "all of the time." Researchers can calculate a raw well-being score by simply adding the five responses, with zero being the worst possible and 25 the best

possible quality of life.

Researchers split the participants into three groups: a control group, a group assigned five nature walks and a group assigned five 30-minute birdwatching sessions. While all three groups had improved WHO-5 scores, the birdwatching group started lower and ended higher than the other two. Using STOP-D, a similar questionnaire designed to measure psychological distress, researchers also found that nature engagement performed better than the control, with participants in both birdwatching and nature walks showing declines in distress. This study differed from some previous research, Peterson said, in that it compared the effects of birdwatching and nature engagement to a control group rather than a group experiencing more actively negative circumstances. "One of the studies that we reviewed in our paper compared people who listen to birds to people who listened to the sounds of traffic, and that's not really a neutral comparison," Peterson said. "We had a neutral control where we just left people alone and compared that to something positive."

The study supports the idea that birdwatching helps improve mental health and opens up many avenues for future research. For example, future study could examine why birdwatching helps people feel better or the moderating effects of race, gender and other factors. The paper, "Birdwatching linked to increased psychological well-being on college campuses: A pilot-scale experimental study," is published in *Environmental Psychology*. Co-authors include Lincoln Larson, Aaron Hipp, Justin M. Beall, Catherine Leroise, Hannah Desrochers, Summer Lauer, Sophia Torres,

## Study reveals key role of Galectin-3 in brain tumour development

Seville [Spain] : A research group at the University of Seville's Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology has achieved great progress by identifying the critical role of the protein Galectin-3 in the progression of several forms of brain tumours.

The most prevalent immune system cells in malignant tumours, microglia and macrophages, overexpress Galectin-3, creating an immunosuppressive environment that prevents other immune cells from attacking cancer cells.

In vitro findings have shown that specific inhibition of Galectin-3 in microglial cells promotes expression of pro-inflammatory markers and reverses the presence of key immunosuppressive biomarkers. In vivo models of brain metastases of breast cancer and glioblastoma, two of the most common and aggressive types of brain tumours in the population, have validated these results. In genetically-modified models where Galectin-3 was knocked out, microglia cells and macrophages displayed a more inflammatory and anti-tumour state, leading to a reduction in the size of primary tumours and brain metastases by up to fivefold. These results, although preclinical, have clear translational potential. Thanks to collaborations with Lund University, the research group has access to the TD006 antibody, a selective inhibitor of Galectin-3 currently being tested in clinical trials in Alzheimer's patients. The team is currently working to improve Galectin-3 inhibitors so that they can improve their efficiency in reaching brain tumours.

## Study reveals how children with hypertension at higher long-term risk for serious heart conditions



Washington [US] : According to a recent study, young people with high blood pressure are almost four times more likely to be at long-term risk of developing major heart problems including stroke and heart attack.

The McMaster University-led study was presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) 2024 Meeting, which takes place in Toronto.

Researchers claim that one in fifteen children and adolescents worldwide suffer from hypertension, a condition that is becoming more and more concerning. In spite of this, it remains unknown what will ultimately happen to these kids. 25,605 youth in Ontario who were diagnosed with hypertension between 1996 and 2021 were compared to classmates who were not affected by the illness.

The study found that during average follow-up of 13 years,

youth with hypertension were at two to four times higher risk of experiencing heart attack, stroke, heart failure, or cardiac surgery compared to youth without hypertension. Experts say that improved blood pressure screening and treatment during childhood may reduce the risk of serious cardiovascular disease as an adult.

"Devoting more resources to pediatric blood pressure screening and control could lower the risks of long-term heart conditions in children with hypertension," said Cal H. Robinson, MD, pediatric nephrology fellow at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) and presenting author. "More awareness about the importance of regular screening and follow-up for pediatric hypertension may prevent children from developing significant adverse heart outcomes later in life."

## NPG reviews 4 infrastructure projects of railways, highway development to boost Gati Shakti initiative

New Delhi : The 86th meeting of the Network Planning Group (NPG), evaluated four projects (2 railways and 2 projects of highway development) for their conformity to the principles of PM GatiShakti, according to a release by Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Chaired by Joint Secretary, E Srinivas, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the meeting was convened on 24th January 2025 to evaluate infrastructure projects in the Road and Rail sectors.

The NPG NMP focuses on the integrated development of multi-modal infrastructure, last-mile connectivity to economic and social nodes, intermodal connectivity, and synchronised project implementation.

These projects are anticipated to play pivotal roles in the region by boosting logistical efficiency, reducing travel time and delivering substantial socio-economic benefits to the regions they serve, the Ministry added.

Upon completion, these projects are anticipated to significantly strengthen India's infrastructure network, ensuring that the benefits of seamless connectivity reach every part of the country, the Ministry said in the release.

The NPG evaluated quadrupling between Vadodara and Ratlam (258.94km), a project of the Ministry of Railways (MoR). This project will add a third



and fourth railway line alongside the existing route between Vadodara (Gujarat) and Ratlam (Madhya Pradesh) spanning 258.94 km, easing congestion on one of Western Railway's busiest corridors.

By enhancing freight and passenger capacity, it is expected to reduce detentions and improve connectivity to important industrial and port hubs.

It will also strengthen multi-modal integration by linking major routes like the Mumbai

New Delhi corridor and adjacent sections in Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh, as per the Ministry.

Murara - Barharwa 3rd Line (48.9 km) was the second project evaluated by the NPG. This Brownfield railway project in West Bengal and Jharkhand spanning 48.9 km, aims to address growing passenger and freight demands in a congested corridor. The existing section is operating at more than 134 per cent capacity, handling coal, iron ore, fertilizers, and other bulk commodities.

The addition of a third line will reduce waiting times, improve train punctuality, and increase overall logistics efficiency. Upon completion, it is expected to handle additional bulk traffic for key industries in the region.

The NPG also evaluated the construction/upgradation of existing roads to two lanes with paved shoulders for the stretch of Tikamgarh - Badagon - Ghuwara - Shahgarh, a project by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

(MoRTH). This project will upgrade a key stretch of 80.70 km of NH-539 in Madhya Pradesh to two lanes with paved shoulders, improving inter-state connectivity between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, bypassing Tikamgarh city.

It aims to reduce congestion, support the transport of agricultural produce (such as wheat and pulses) and stimulate tourism in places such as Orchha, renowned for its cultural heritage, the Ministry said.

Another project evaluated by the NPG was a four-lane greenfield access-controlled highway from Sultanpur (near village Ahimane) to Ayodhya (Ring road of Ayodhya town) of NH-330.

This Greenfield four-lane highway having a length of 65 km with service roads will bypass heavily built-up areas along NH-330 in Uttar Pradesh. The new corridor will feature major upgrades, including a flyover, ROBs, and dedicated utility ducts.

Designed under the Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM), it will significantly shorten travel times, enhance safety through access-controlled design, and improve regional links among Ayodhya, Prayagraj, and Lucknow, the Ministry's release added.

The project is also poised to spur tourism around Ayodhya and bring broader economic benefits to local communities, according to the Ministry.

## 11 killed, 83 injured by Israeli gunfire in Lebanon

**MI News Service, Beirut:** The death toll from Israeli gunfire targeting crowds of Lebanese trying to return to their homes in southern Lebanon has risen to 11, with 83 others injured, the Lebanese Health Ministry said on Sunday. Ten of the eleven victims were civilians trying to return to their still-occupied hometowns along Lebanon's southern border with Israel, while the eleventh was a soldier killed in al-Dahira, also in southern Lebanon, Xinhua news agency reported.

"Conditions are not yet in place for the safe return of citizens to their villages along the Blue Line," Chief of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) Aroldo Lazaro Saenz, and United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, said on Sunday in a joint statement following the incident. "Displaced communities, already facing a long road to recovery and reconstruction, are therefore once again being called on to exercise caution."

Meanwhile, Lebanese President Joseph Aoun urged residents of southern Lebanon on Sunday to exercise restraint and trust the Lebanese Armed Forces to safeguard security and sovereignty.

## NASA astronaut shares stunning images of 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela from ISS

**MI News Service, Prayagraj:** NASA astronaut Donald Pettit recently shared breathtaking images of the 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela taken from the International Space Station (ISS). In his post on X (formerly Twitter), Pettit remarked: "2025 Maha Kumbh Mela Ganges River pilgrimage from the ISS at night. The largest human gathering in the world is well lit." His perspective highlights the grand scale of the event, which has attracted millions of devotees from around the globe. The ongoing Maha Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj has already seen over 110 million people join in the first 14 days of the religious festival, marking it as one of the largest spiritual gatherings in the world. The event, which occurs every 12 years, is expected to continue drawing an immense crowd until its conclusion on February 26, 2025. With millions of devotees arriving from all corners of the globe, the festival serves as a vibrant celebration of faith and unity.

Pilgrims travel to the Sangam--the confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and the Saraswati rivers (now extinct)--to take a ritual bath, believed to wash away sins and pave the way to moksha (liberation). This sacred dip is central to the spiritual significance of the festival, which is rooted in Sanatan Dharma. The gathering occurs during a celestial alignment that creates a rare and auspicious window for spiritual cleansing and devotion. The Maha Kumbh Mela not only brings together millions of religious devotees but also carries profound spiritual and cultural meaning. Despite the cold weather, large congregations of devotees have braved the cold to bathe in the sacred waters of the Sangam. The event is a poignant symbol of collective spirituality, transcending boundaries of language, lifestyle, and tradition. As the festival continues, authorities are making extensive preparations for the upcoming Mauni Amavasya on January 29, expecting even larger crowds.

# ER celebrated 76th Republic Day

General Manager/Eastern Railway Unfurled the National Flag **MI News Service, Kolkata:** Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway unfurled the National Flag on the occasion of 76th Republic Day celebration by Eastern Railway, at E.Rly's Sports Complex, James Long Sarani, Behala, Kolkata on Sunday, 26th January, 2025. He also received the salute of RPF contingent on this occasion.

Addressing the Railwaymen & their family members, General Manager, Eastern Railway, Shri Milind Deouskar said that officers and employees of Eastern Railway are discharging their duties and responsibilities with utmost sincerity & devotion.

General Manager/Eastern Railway said that, Eastern Railway has been successful in increasing its total originating revenue by 21% and the total originating revenue earned this financial year till December stands at Rs. 10163 crore.

Heralding in a new era of comfortable and enhanced rail travel experience, Eastern Railway rolled out three (03) new Vande Bharat Express between Howrah & Gaya, Howrah & Bhagalpur and Deogarh & Varanasi. This indigenously built state-of-the-art high speed train Howrah - Bhagalpur - Howrah Vande Bharat Express, Howrah - Gaya - Howrah Vande Bharat Express and Deogarh - Varanasi - Deogarh Vande Bharat Express was flagged off by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15.09.2024. 8 trains have been



converted from ICF to LHB this year increasing the total number of LHB trains of Eastern Railway to 114. Additionally, 2,135 Train on Demand (TOD) services were run, marking a 175% increase over the previous year.

Several significant infrastructure projects have been completed and others are currently in progress at Eastern Railway. The Critical Section of Maynapur - Baragopinathpur (7.7 Km) of the Tarakeswar - Bishnupur New Line Project (82.57 Km) was successfully commissioned on 27th December 2024. The extension of Sealdah Station Platforms Nos. 1 to 5 has been completed to accommodate 12-coach EMU trains, increasing passenger carrying capacity in 300 EMU locals which augmented daily passenger capacity by 3 lakh. Passenger services have also commenced over the Nishipur Railway Bridge on 2nd October 2024 connecting both sides of the Bhagirathi River through Azimganj - Murshidabad new line project (6.9 km). For introducing

train between Bankura to Howrah directly via Masagram, surface connectivity from ER network with South Eastern Railway network has been commissioned on 17.11.24. Two new Gatishakti terminal projects have also been commissioned this year, one at Janai Road and another at Kurva.

Safety in train operations is of paramount importance. There were no consequential accidents in Eastern Railway in 2024. This year 16 manned level crossing gates have been eliminated and 06 level crossing gates have been interlocked. Work is going on at full swing to introduce KAVACH system in Howrah - Chhota Ambana section (260 km). Automatic block signalling system has been provided between Masagram & Shaktigarh (11.2 RKM), 8 Nos. of Electronic Interlocking/Panel Interlocking have been commissioned in 2024-25. scrap sale value of Eastern Railway has touched a record high of Rs. 372 crores upto December, 2024. A number of environment initiatives have been taken at East-

ern Railway. This year, 8.5 MW Solar Plants have been installed in Eastern Railway. Taking the total installed capacity to 25MW. Sealdah Station has been awarded Gold certification by CH-IGCB this year for their environment friendly systems and facilities. The RPF of Eastern Railway is doing commendable job in ensuring passenger safety. During this financial year from April to December 2024, 804 children (505 boys and 299 girls) under operation "Nanhe Farishtey" were rescued & 77 children (71 boys and 6 girls) were rescued from Traffickers and handed over to Child Welfare Committee for their rehabilitation. Under operation "Amanat", RPF personnel helped retrieve 2883 passenger's belongings/luggage worth Rs. 3.55 Cr and handed them over to its owners. Under mission "Jeevan Raksha", RPF personnel risked their own life to save lives of 51 passengers who had slipped between platform & Train while boarding/de-boarding between trains. Moreover, in the year 2024, under operation "Yatri Suraksha", RPF arrested 329 criminals, involved in passenger crime related to theft, snatching, robbery, dacoity, drugging, pick pocketing etc Eastern Railway earned a number of accolades this year for its superlative performance. On the occasion of Railway Week Central function-2024, 2 coveted shields viz. Commercial Shield and Sales Management Shield has been conferred to Eastern Railway by Railway Minister.



On the occasion of Republic Day, Minister Javed Ahmed Khan and Councillor Fayyaz Khan hoisted the national flag at various places in Topsis. Under their leadership, the special day was also celebrated with respect at Team Brick Field Lane. Md Shamsuddin, Md, Nuruddin and Md, Intekhab Uddin were present.

Photo: Nurul Islam Khan

## Mujaddide Caterer's blood donation



Nurul Islam Khan

With the slogan 'Blood donation is life', a voluntary blood donation camp was organized on the premises of Ban Harishpur High Madrasah in Panchla on Republic Day by Mujaddide Caterer. Panchayat Samiti Executive Director Abdul Momin and Gulzar Khan were present at the camp. The role of committee president Sheikh Nur Gulzar, secretary Sheikh Habibur Rahman, Abid Middy, Sahil Mallick, Nur Islam and Sheikh Manzur Elahi was commendable. A total of 70 people donated blood in the camp on the day. Social organization Mujaddide Caterer has been playing an active role in multifaceted philanthropic activities for 10 years.

## Holocaust one of the greatest tragedies that befell on humankind: MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Minister of State for External Affairs (MoS) Kirti Vardhan Singh on Monday termed the holocaust as "one of the greatest tragedies that befell humankind." He stressed that they should not forget the holocaust and have to learn from it and evolve their policies and outlook towards humanity. On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Kirti Vardhan Singh said, "The Holocaust was one of the greatest tragedies that befell on humankind. There's an old saying that if we forget history, history is bound to repeat itself. We must not forget this, one of the darkest chapters in human history, and we have to learn from it and evolve our policies, our outlook towards humanity very much in the way of the Indian sense, where in our country we welcome all faiths, all cultures, all people for ages, and that is what makes our country great. That is what makes our civilization great and this is what we must remember."

He made these remarks while speaking to reporters after attending the event on International Holocaust Remembrance Day in Delhi. The United Nations General Assembly has designated January 27 as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. Kirti Vardhan Singh expressed hope that the release of hostages and the peace talks will pave the way for a lasting solution to the Israel-Hamas conflict. "Regarding the recent conflict, I'm very happy to note that the progress that has been made to resolve the conflict is very much underway. The release of the hostages and the peace talks will hopefully pave the way for a lasting solution to this conflict there, and there will be peace and that region will be at peace again because it has seen so much war, so much bloodshed, so much loss of innocent lives, and now it's time to rebuild the people that live there," he said.

## SER celebrates 76th Republic Day



Anil Kumar Mishra, GM, SER inspecting the Parade on the occasion of 76th Republic Day celebrations at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The 76th Republic Day was celebrated at South Eastern Railway's Headquarters, Garden Reach with great enthusiasm on 26.01.2025. Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, South Eastern Railway unfurled the National Flag and took salute at the ceremonial parade presented by the contingents of Railway Protection Force (RPF), Civil Defence, St John Ambulance and South Eastern Railway Bharat Scouts & Guides. Highlighting the achievements of SER in recent times, General Manager said that South Eastern Railway, popularly known as the Blue Chip Railway, is among the top three high-

est freight loading zones of Indian Railways. During the period from April to December 2024, SER achieved a commendable loading of 157 million tonnes of freight which is about 2% higher than the corresponding period of previous year. General Manager added that in order to increase operational capacity, 49.3 km of doubling/3rd line work has been completed so far this year.

General Manager stated that with a view to provide more amenities to the passengers, 57 lifts and 32 escalators have been commissioned at various stations so far. These apart, raising of height at 27 platforms, in-

crease in length of 28 platforms have been completed and 99 bays platform shelters have been provided at 37 stations. During the current financial year, 1039 special trains have been run to clear the extra rush of the passengers. Safety of passengers is of paramount importance and as a major step towards free from level crossing, SER has completed the construction work of 5 Road Over Bridges and 11 Subways in current financial year. Moreover, 15 level crossings have been eliminated upto December, 2024.

Presently 10 pairs of Vande Bharat Express trains are running. He added that 72 stations of SER are being developed under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and 190 stalls have been made operational at different stations of South Eastern Railway under "One Station One Product" scheme. Mentioning the special efforts of RPF, General Manager stated that "Operation Nanhe Farishtey" campaign being operational.

RPF personnel of South Eastern Railway in "Operation Jeevan Raksha", saved the precious lives of 17 male and 30 female passengers by risking their own lives. He also stated that South Eastern Railway is conducting an intensive 100-day campaign under the TB elimination program launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

## GM, SER administers pledge for 100 days TB elimination campaign



Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, SER administering the pledge towards winning against Tuberculosis during the "100 days TB elimination campaign" at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach on 27.01.2025.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** As a part of the 100 days TB elimination campaign - a bold step taken by India on 7th December, 2024 to intensify elimination of Tuberculosis (TB), a disease that continues to affect millions across the nation, Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, S.E. Railway along with Dr. Anjana Malhotra, Principal Chief Medical Director has taken the pledge towards winning against Tuberculosis, at the SER Headquarters on 27.01.2025 along with all other PHODs, Departmental Officers & Staff. The ambitious 100 day TB elimination campaign has been launched with a target of improving case detection, reducing diagnostic delays and enhancing treatment outcomes particularly for vulnerable populations. This campaign spans across 347 Districts across 33 States and Union Territories. As per laid down protocols, IEC (Intensifying Information, Education, and Communication efforts) has been initiated by South Eastern Railway Zone under the leadership initiative of Cen-

tral Hospital, Garden Reach, which falls under one such District- Mansatala. For encouraging widespread community involvement, the Medical Department of S.E. Railway has already initiated Awareness Camps at Railway colonies, Scouts and Guides Den, St. John Ambulance Bridge, Departmental Offices, Schools, Railway Out-houses, Railway Stations (with audio & video clippings), Wayside Offices and has also conducted Rallies at divisions. Posters and banners have also been put up at strategic locations to educate the mass. The Medical Department has planned to exhibit Nukkad Natak at Headquarters and Divisions, Walkathons at Headquarters (08.02. 20 25) & Divisions, Inter Department Quiz Competition at Headquarters, walk-in awareness and screening camp at PCMD's Office, screening of Staff involved directly in patient care activities, slogan writing competition involving students of adjoining schools at HQ. The Divisions will also be doing similar work.

## "Never again is now": Israeli Deputy Ambassador warns of rising anti-semitism

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** On the occasion of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Fares Saeb, Deputy Ambassador of Israel to India, delivered a poignant address, reflecting on the Holocaust and cautioning against the alarming resurgence of anti-Semitism globally.

"Jacqueline, born in 1940 in France, suffered immense personal losses, losing her father, grandparents, and other family members at Auschwitz. Approximately 78,000 Jews were deported from occupied France to concentration camps, with most never returning. Six million Jews never returned from the death camps," Saeb said.

He marked the liberation of Auschwitz, 80 years ago, as the conclusion of "a systematic death machine that killed more than one million people." He referenced Elie Wiesel's speech on the 50th anniversary of Auschwitz's liberation, stating: "After Auschwitz, the human condition is not the same. Nothing will be the same. Here heaven and earth are on fire. I speak to you as a man who, 50 years and 9 days ago, had no name, no hope, no future, and was known only by his number 7713." Reflecting on his own experiences, Saeb shared, "I remember as a child during the shoah memorial, my mother would

ask us to stand in silence during the siren. Once I asked her why--we are not Jewish, and shoah, did it happen to us? She replied, 'If you don't respect and remember this day, it will happen again, even to us.'"

He warned of the rising tide of anti-Semitism in recent years, fuelled by various sources. "We have witnessed the rise of anti-Semitism in various countries and the emergence of new forms of hatred against Jews. This includes hatred stemming from radical Islamism and anti-Semitism that masquerades as anti-Israel or anti-Zionism. Since the October 7 massacre--the largest single-day pogrom against Jews since the shoah--we have seen these three forms of hatred uniting, feeding off each other, and being fuelled by individuals, organisations, and even countries." Saeb highlighted the role of social media and technology in spreading these ideologies. "Using social media and emerging technologies such as AI and deep fake as tools to spread radical ideologies and ideas influences especially the young generation," he said. He also criticised the global reluctance to address anti-Semitism. "Many prefer to view anti-Semitism as a Jewish or Israeli problem rather than confronting the radicalisation within their own societies.

## Balochistan rights group condemns extrajudicial killing of Pindok by Pak security forces, urges global action against human rights abuses

**MI News Service, Balochistan:** Paank, the human rights wing of the Baloch National Movement (BNM), strongly condemned the extrajudicial killing of Pindok, son of Somar, by Pakistani security forces in Mazarabad of Awaran district's Mashkai in Balochistan. According to the statement shared by Paank, Pindok was abducted on January 14, 2025, along with two others, Shoaib and Ayoub, and was subjected to severe torture before being killed. It further said that Ayoub and Shoaib were released earlier. However, Pindok's body was handed over to his family on January 25. This incident highlights the pervasive human rights abuses in Balochistan, including enforced disappearances, torture, and extrajudicial killings. Paank urged the international community to take action to ensure justice for the Baloch people and hold the Pakistani government responsible. In the post, Paank highlighted that this heinous act showcases the widespread violations of human rights in Balochistan, which include extrajudicial executions, torture, and enforced disappearances. In addition, intentional internet shutdowns are used to quiet victims and censor evidence. Previously, Paank published a study detailing grave violations of human rights in Balochistan in December 2024. The report details five extrajudicial deaths and 22 examples of enforced disappearances, primarily attributable to Pakistani intelligence and military services. The Balochistan Post reported.

## Republic Day celebrated in Kharjia



Nurul Islam Khan

On the occasion of Republic Day, national flag was hoisted at Furfura Fatihia Kharjia Darul Madrasah,

founded by Pir Dada Huzur of Furfura Sharif, and the day was celebrated with due dignity. Teacher Nazmus Shayadat, Mufti Mirajul Islam Nadvi, Maulana Rustam Ali Nadvi, Mufti Mashiur Rahman Qasimi, Maulana Alauddin Qari, Abdullah Hafiz Amir Hossain and many others were present.

## CK Nayudu Trophy Under-23 Cricket

SHIKHAR MOHAN'S UNBEATEN CENTURY BRINGS  
JHARKHAND BACK IN MATCH, LEADS BY 289 RUNS

PC JHA

RANCHI : Jharkhand has reached a good position against

Madhya Pradesh in a match of the CK Nayudu Under-23 Cricket Tournament being held at Madhya Pradesh, thanks to

Shikhar Mohan's unbeaten brilliant century (190).

After trailing by 94 runs in the first innings, Jharkhand

## Ranchi defeated Lohardaga by 7 wickets

RANCHI : In the JCCA Inter District 19 Cricket Tournament Elite Group held at Dhanbad, Ranchi defeated Lohardaga by 7 wickets in its first match today.

Batting first, Lohardaga scored 151 runs after losing all wickets in 37.4 overs. Lakshya Kaushik contributed 52 runs and Himanshu Ranjan contributed 20 runs. Anmol Raj took 3 wickets for Ranchi, Ishan Om

and Prashant Suman took 2-2 wickets.

In reply, Ranchi team scored 154 runs after losing 3 wickets in 27.1 overs.

Aman Kumar scored 63, Lavanya remained unbeaten on 42 and Vatsal Tiwari scored 30 runs. Tushar took 2 wickets for Lohardaga. Man of the Match award was given jointly to Aman Kumar and Anmol Raj.

had scored 383 runs for 9 wickets in their second innings till the end of the third day's play today.

At that time Shikhar Mohan was the Nawab after scoring 190 runs. While Shamshad, who is supporting him, was unbeaten on nine runs. In this way, now Jharkhand has a lead of 289 runs. Tomorrow is the last day of the game. Now this match will either be drawn or both Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh can win this match.

Shikhar Mohan hit three sixes and 22 fours from Jharkhand's side. He shared a partnership of 87 runs with Robin Mini. Robin scored 65 runs with the help of one six and 10 fours. Apart from this, Satya Setu contributed 22 runs and Rajan Deep contributed 37 runs. It is known that Jharkhand had scored 222 runs in its first innings in this match. Whereas Madhya Pradesh had scored 316 runs and India achieved the target of 94 runs. Under-19 cricket

England unveil  
unchanged playing XI  
for third T20I against  
India in Rajkot

RAJKOT (GUJARAT) : England announced an unchanged playing XI on the eve of the third T20I against India in Rajkot, Gujarat.

England continued the trend of announcing their playing XI a day before the T20I. The Three Lions are on the brink of losing the T20I series after suffering defeats in the first two games.

For the third T20I, Ben Duckett and Philip Salt will open the innings for England, with captain Jos Buttler coming in at the number three spot. Harry Brook, Liam Livingstone, Jamie Smith, and Jamie Overton will form a formidable middle order. Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer, and Mark Wood will lead the pace attack, with Adil Rashid featuring as the sole specialist spinner. As in the previous T20Is, Livingstone may chip in with his leg-spin for a couple of overs.

With the series on the line, the third T20I will be of great significance for the English side. The Jos Buttler-led team was comprehensively defeated in the series opener but managed to give India a tough fight in Chennai.

In the first T20I at Eden Gardens in Kolkata, the English

batters were bamboozled by the Indian bowlers. Left-arm quick Arshdeep Singh made quick work of the opening pair of Duckett and Salt. Spinner Varun Chakravarthy proved to be a mystery for the opposition batters as India bowled England out for a meager total of 132. In reply, Abhishek Sharma's fireworks against a toothless English attack helped India secure a 7-wicket win.

In the second match, T20I action returned to Chennai after seven years. India needed something special to cross the finish line. A quick cameo of 31(17) from Brydon Carse helped England reach 165/9. In reply, India lost wickets in quick succession, leaving the hosts in a tough spot. However, Tilak Varma shouldered the responsibility of guiding his team across the finish line, executing his plan to perfection with an unbeaten 72(55) to bring India home with a 2-wicket win.

England (Playing XI) for the third T20I: Ben Duckett, Philip Salt(w), Jos Buttler(c), Harry Brook, Liam Livingstone, Jamie Smith, Jamie Overton, Brydon Carse, Jofra Archer, Adil Rashid, Mark Wood.

Barcelona superstar  
Pedri can become 2034  
World Cup ambassador  
if he moves to Saudi

Saudi Arabia has offered to make Barcelona superstar Pedri an ambassador for the FIFA 2034 World Cup if he agrees to make a switch to the Saudi Pro League, a report said. Spaniard Pedri, who has verbally agreed to remain in Barcelona at least until 2030, is likely to receive an offer beyond his wildest dreams if he is willing to relocate to the desert nation, the report added.

FIFA recently confirmed Saudi Arabia will host the 2034 edition of the FIFA World Cup. While Pedri's current Barcelona contract runs out in 2026, the 22-year-old midfielder's decision to further extend his stay at Camp Nou may create some hurdles before Saudi's elaborate plans. In that scenario, Saudi officials would likely have to meet Pedri's huge 1 billion r elease clause in order to make the transfer possible.

Saudi is expected to keep pushing until Pedri inks a new deal with the Catalan giants, the report added.

Héctor Peris, CEO of Pedri's agency LEADERBROCK Sports Group, was in Saudi when Barca played Real in the Super Cup. The Saudi authorities made most of the opportunity and conveyed their intentions to Peris, SPORT said in a report.

Vinicius Jr and Pedri are two youngsters who have been on the radar of the cash-rich Saudi clubs for some months now. The arrival of Kylian Mbappe at Real Madrid has not unsettled Vinicius as many expected and the Brazilian knows who has a better chance of winning the Ballon D'Or if he remains in Europe.

According to reports, Saudi clubs are willing to pay up to 350 million euros for the Real Madrid winger.

Jasprit Bumrah named ICC Men's  
Test Cricketer of the Year for 2024

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Indian pace sensation Jasprit Bumrah has been honoured as the ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year for 2024, following his finest-ever performance in the red-ball format, according to the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Bumrah was the standout bowler in the world in 2024, excelling in both home and away conditions and playing a key role in keeping India in contention in the ICC World Test Championship standings.

Marking his return to Test cricket in late 2023 after a long absence due to a back injury, Bumrah amassed an incredible wicket tally and set multiple records.

The right-arm quick was instrumental in home conditions as India registered series wins against England and Bangladesh, and he also rose to the occasion in away conditions in South Africa and Australia.

Bumrah was the leading wicket-taker in Test cricket in 2024, topping the charts with 71 wickets, well clear of second-placed Gus Atkinson of England (52 wickets in 11 matches). He bowled an eye-watering 357 overs in the format, maintaining a phenomenal average of 2.96 in a quick-scoring era of Test cricket.

His average across the year was an outstanding 14.92, and he ended 2024 with an annual strike rate of just 30.1.

Bumrah's 71-wicket haul makes him just the fourth Indian bowler to take more than 70 Test wickets in a calendar year, follow-



ing in the footsteps of Ravichandran Ashwin, Anil Kumble, and Kapil Dev.

None of the 17 bowlers in Test history who have taken 70+ wickets in a calendar year did so with an average as low as Bumrah's.

Bumrah's remarkable 2024 haul began with India's memorable Test win in Cape Town against South Africa, where he claimed eight wickets across two innings as India pinned down the Proteas by eight wickets.

He then bagged 19 wickets during the five-Test series at home against England, as India triumphed 4-1.

However, the seasoned pacer delivered his magnum opus in the high-stakes Border-Gavaskar Series in Australia, finishing with an incredible 32 wickets from five Tests and being named Player of the Series. It was during the series in Australia that Bumrah crossed

the 200 Test wickets milestone, becoming the 12th Indian bowler to do so. He also set a unique record, becoming the only bowler in Test history with a minimum of 200 wickets to have an average of less than 20 (19.4).

Among his standout performances, Bumrah's best came in the series opener against Australia in Perth. As India started without full-time skipper Rohit Sharma, Bumrah assumed the leadership role and led from the front in a famous win.

After India was bowled out for 150 on the opening day, Bumrah wreaked havoc with the ball, taking five wickets for 30 runs to wrestle back the momentum. Later, after India set a mammoth total of 534, Bumrah returned with three more wickets to seal a monumental 295-run win, taking 3/42 as Australia suffered their first loss at the venue.

Afghanistan Women's XI to play  
historic exhibition match in Melbourne

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : Cricket Australia (CA) Chief Executive Nick Hockley has described the upcoming exhibition match featuring the Afghanistan Women's XI in Melbourne as a beacon of hope and a significant milestone in the team's journey back to international cricket.

The Afghanistan Women's XI, composed of refugees who now reside in Australia, will play a T20 match against a Cricket Without Borders XI at the Junction Oval on Thursday morning. The game precedes the opening day of the day-night Women's Ashes Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

This marks the first time the Afghanistan Women's team has reunited since fleeing their home country following the Taliban's takeover. The players are now divided between Canberra and Melbourne, and the match represents a pivotal moment in their cricketing journey.

At a press conference on Monday at the Junction Oval, Hockley spoke alongside players Nahida Sapan and Firooza Amiri, with Sapan announced as captain for the match. Cricket Without Borders Chair Clare Cannon, Director Ken Jacobs, and Australia's Federal Assistant



Minister for Foreign Affairs Tim Watts were also in attendance, highlighting the collaborative efforts of Cricket Australia, Cricket Without Borders, and the Australian government in organizing the event.

Hockley expressed optimism that this match would pave the way for future opportunities for the Afghanistan women's team. He also noted that the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is eager to support their cause, with England captain Heather Knight having recently met the exiled Afghan players in Melbourne.

"I think this is a first step," Hockley said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"We've got colleagues from the ECB coming out for the women's Ashes, and there are conversations happening to support from England as well as from Australia. So I think the first piece is awareness.

But I think it's going to be such an exciting day on Thursday, and my hope is that promotes lots of conversations, that this becomes an annual thing and then ultimately, that this team were able to compete on the international stage as is their want," he added.

"I don't think any of us can comprehend what they've been through moving to a new country in such difficult circumstances,

not speaking the language. I'm just inspired by their resilience, their love for the game and hopefully this game just raises awareness, a real beacon of hope," he said.

"I was privy to a moment where they got to see their playing shirts for the first time with their names and numbers on the back, and you can just see how much it means to them.

So I really hope this is kind of the first step of a really successful journey for this group, but also that this match shines a light on the fact that in places around the world not every woman and girl has a chance to play," he noted.

Nahida Sapan, who plays club cricket in Melbourne for Carnegie, and Firooza Amiri, who represents Dandenong, both shared their excitement about representing the Afghanistan Women's XI.

Amiri, a vocal advocate for Afghan women cricketers, expressed her joy at the team coming together for the first time.

"It's really special for us, especially for Afghan women because this is a very historic moment for all Afghan women," Sapan said, as quoted by ESPNcricinfo.

"We have a big hopes for this match, because this match can

open doors for Afghan women, for education, sport and future. We don't want this to be our first and last match. We want more matches. We want more support," she added.

While Australia currently does not engage in bilateral series with Afghanistan, the two teams continue to compete in ICC tournaments. They are set to face each other in the upcoming Champions Trophy, scheduled to take place in Pakistan and the UAE next month.

"We are going to represent millions of Afghan women that they are in Afghanistan and denied for their rights," Amiri said, as quoted by ESPNcricinfo. "And also it's very special for all of us to get back together after three years, leaving everything and losing everything back home in Afghanistan," she added.

"It's going to be very exciting for all of us to play together.

We had couple of camps together, but it's going to be our first match. We're looking for a win," she said.

Hockley and the organizers remain hopeful that this symbolic match will spark conversations globally, shining a light on the resilience of Afghan women cricketers and their unwavering passion for the sport.

Russian expert to oversee  
India's elite javelin throw  
programme ahead of 2025  
World Championships

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The country's leading javelin throwers, including double Olympic Games medalist Neeraj Chopra and Annu Rani, will have the opportunity to receive coaching tips from Russian javelin expert Makarov Sergey Aleksandrovich.

The 51-year-old Aleksandrovich, a winner of multiple global medals, including bronze at the 2000 Sydney and 2004 Athens Olympic Games, has been appointed with the next Olympic Games cycle in mind, said Chief National Coach Radhakrishnan Nair.

"The Russian javelin throw expert arrived earlier this week and will be based at Patiala's National Institute of Sports in Punjab. Aleksandrovich's vast experience as an athlete and coach will surely give a fillip to the development of the javelin throw in the country," said the coach as quoted by a press release from the Athletics Federation of India (AFI).

At the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, India's ace javelin thrower Chopra added a silver medal to the gold he won at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. At the 2023 World Athletics Championships, three Indian javelin throwers finished in the top six, with Chopra winning the gold medal. The double Olympic medalist had previously won silver at the 2022 Eugene World Athletics Championships.

In addition to overseeing the elite Indian javelin throw program, the Russian coach will also interact with Indian coaches periodically to enhance their knowledge.

According to the chief national athletics coach, the primary focus will be the 2025 World Athletics Championships, starting on September 13 in Tokyo, Japan. "The Asian Championships in May is another important event this year," Nair said.

The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) recommended Aleksandrovich's name to the sports ministry, which approved his appointment to oversee the training of elite Indian javelin throwers.

Aleksandrovich has an impressive profile. His personal best of 92.61m, a Russian record, was set in 2002 in Sheffield. During his competitive career, he recorded throws over 90m four times. He also won bronze medals at the 2003 Paris World Athletics Championships and the 2005 Helsinki World Championships in Finland. Aleksandrovich served as the coach of the Russian national team from 2012 to 2018.

