

CBI Court show-caused investigating officer in RG Kar corruption case

The special CBI court has issued a show-cause notice to the investigating officer (IO) of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for alleged lapses in the RG Kar Medical College financial corruption case. On Thursday, the judge raised concerns over why the agency had not informed the court that the West Bengal government had granted approval to frame charges against former principal Sandeep Ghosh. The court questioned, "Why was the information not conveyed to the CBI court despite state government approval? Why did it take three days for the special court to learn about this?" **PG 3**

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Mamata Banerjee convenes TMC legislators meeting ahead of crucial state Budget



MI News Service, Kolkata: On the opening day of the upcoming state budget session on February 10, Chief Minister and TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee has convened a crucial meeting of her party legislators in the House.

Though the budget session of the state Assembly will begin on February 10, the budget will be presented by the Finance minister on February 12. This is set to be the last full budget of the state government before the crucial assembly elections next year (2026). As such, the session is expected to be highly significant. Mamata, who serves as both the TMC party leader and the leader of the legislature group in the assembly, is expected to discuss at the February 10 meeting several key issues such as the role of TMC legislators during the session, including the topics which need more attention, and the party's approach to de-

bates.

Mamata has previously convened such meetings during the earlier sessions too, but this time, she has called the meeting at the very beginning of the budget session, signaling its importance. The meeting will take place at the Nausar Ali Hall in the Assembly and all TMC legislators have been instructed to attend without fail. TMC's state president, Subrata Bakshi, will also be present there.

This year's budget session is especially crucial due to the upcoming elections, and the state government is placing extra emphasis on this year's full budget. Since next year the government will be able to present only an interim vote-on-account, which is mandatory on the election year. The meeting of the legislature group will likely to focus on the proposed plans in the budget and discuss how these projects will

move forward in the coming year, given their importance for the state government's political future.

Another key topic to be discussed during the meeting is likely the behavior of TMC legislators. Recently, party members have faced disciplinary actions. Narayan Goswami, the chairman of the North 24 Parganas District Council and MLA from Ashoknagar, was issued a show-cause notice by the TMC parliamentary board. This follows a similar action against Humayun Kabir, MLA from Bharatpur in Murshidabad, last year. During the meeting, Mamata Banerjee is likely to address the issue of discipline among party legislators, potentially delivering a reminder on their expected conduct in the coming session.

Additionally, after a parliamentary party meeting, an organizational meeting is also likely to take place in the last week of February. The meeting, expected to be held at Netaji Indoor Stadium, will be attended by TMC leaders, ministers, and public representatives from various levels of the party. While the final date for this meeting has not yet been confirmed, it will serve as an important occasion to discuss party matters in light of the upcoming elections. Given the political importance of the session and the ongoing preparations for the next election, the TMC legislature group's meeting will likely set the tone for the party's strategy during the budget session and in the months leading up to the election.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays homage to Mahatma Gandhi on Martyrs' Day, observed to mark the death anniversary of the father of the nation, at Rajghat, in New Delhi.

Tripura seeks hike in share of taxes from 16th finance commission



MI News Service, Agartala: The 16th Finance Commission headed by Arvind Panagariya held a detailed discussion on Tripura's financial goals for the upcoming five years, starting from 2026-27 fiscal.

"The Tripura government has presented a projected presentation on its expenditure and revenue collection for five years starting from 2026-27 fiscal. It appears the state's financial position is sound with committed expenditure declining," Panagariya said during a press conference here on Thursday.

He said the Tripura Government has suggested that the 16th Finance Commission incorporate the Infrastructure Index with 5 per cent weightage and the International Border with 5 per cent weightage as additional criteria in revenue distribution, in addition to raising the state's tax share from 42 per cent to 50 per cent.

Panagariya said that Tripura is the 17th state the commission has visited and that they have also consulted with previous Finance Commissions.

"Our mandate will end on October 31, 2025, and we have to submit our report to the President. Today, we had a very detailed meeting with the Government of Tripura in the presence of Chief Minister Manik Saha, Finance Minister Pranajit Singha Roy, along with other Cabinet ministers and Tripura government officials, including Chief secretary JK Sinha, where we had detailed presentations," he said.

He stated that the award period of the 15th Finance Commission is from 2021 to 2026.

"Usually, it is five years, but due to COVID, it became six years. The historical devolution that the 15th Finance Commission recommended and the suggestions given by the Government of

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Section of politicians are hand in glove with those who want to break Manipur, alleges CM Biren Singh

MI News Service, Imphal: Squarely blaming a section of politicians for allegedly joining hands with some secessionist forces and working hand in glove with those who want to break the state, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh has claimed that too much politics over the ethnic issues has confused the people in this North Eastern state and created internal conflicts.

Speaking at a programme in Khangabok in Thoubal district on Thursday, the Chief minister said many people outside the state still do not understand the core of the current issues in Manipur which is gripped by a deep rooted ethnic violence between Meitei and Kuki

communities and left over 250 people dead and thousands homeless since May 2023. He said that the state government's opposition is to the new immigrants in the state who are engaged in drug-related activities and not against anyone who has settled before.

In this connection, he claimed that taking advantage of the present situation some politicians were working in collusion with the forces which are trying to destabilise Manipur.

Addressing the local people, Singh also cautioned them against excessive political interference in the ongoing ethnic turmoil, blaming it for increasing

confusion and internal divisions in the state.

Too much politics has confused the people and created internal conflicts. Even some politicians are hand in gloves with those who want to break Manipur," Singh said, without naming any individual or party. He further alleged that "agents" within Imphal Valley were instigating tensions at the behest of external forces.

Since May 2023, Manipur has been caught in violent clashes between the Meitei and Kuki communities, resulting in over 250 deaths and the displacement of thousands. The crisis erupted over long-standing

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Yogi Adityanath orders Judicial probe into Maha Kumbh stampede and announces compensation

MI News Service, Prayagraj: Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath has ordered a judicial probe into the tragic incident of a stampede at Maha Kumbh ground near here on Wednesday in which least 30 people have been killed, and nearly 100 were injured in the pre-dawn tragedy.

He also announced a compensation of 25 lakh for the families of each of the deceased.

According to official sources till today altogether 25 bodies have been identified and efforts were on to identify the remaining deceased several of whom came from other states including four from Karnataka and one each from Assam and Gujarat.

The police said the stampede took place well after midnight on Wednesday when lakhs of devotees who converged near the Sangam nose from the evening coinciding with auspicious time for Mauni Amavasya, suddenly surged ahead at around 2am and ran over many people sleeping on the



ground causing the disaster

As the news of the stampede spread like a wild fire trapping many pilgrims, several ambulances rushed to the spot within minutes and admitted the injured to the Central Hospital at Mahakumbh Nagar. Those critically injured were, however, referred to the Swaroop Rani Nehru Hospital.

The Maha Kumbh which began on January 13, will continue until February 26.

Meanwhile, the Maharashtra unit of the Congress has held Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath responsible for the tragedy and said both of them should immediately resign taking full responsibility for the stampede at Maha Kumbh.

There is so much of "event baazi" and only banners of PM Modi and Adityanath are seen at the Kumbh, the state party claimed.

Moreover, they said "Both Yogi Adityanath and PM Modi have turned Kumbh into an event. You will see only their posters and banners everywhere. They must take responsibility of the tragedy."

The party also claimed that death toll in the stampede was much higher

than the official figure of 30 so far.

"Both Yogi and Modi must step down from their posts. If you see Kumbh, there is so much of 'event baazi' that you will see only their banners across Kumbh. They have to take responsibility for this incident." Meanwhile, a day after the tragedy, the Uttar Pradesh government has ramped up efforts to ensure crowd management and safety of devotees who continued to flock the Mahakumbh Nagar in large numbers for the religious gathering.

The area would remain a no-vehicle zone until the crowd disperses completely, Superintendent of Police (Traffic) Anshuman Mishra said. Essential services such as police administration vehicles, ambulances and suction machines would only be allowed entry as they are crucial for the smooth management of the Maha Kumbh, Mishra said. However, forgetting the stampede tragedy, millions of devotees who have

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Cal HC orders fresh probe by senior CID officer into death of four undertrials

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major move, the Calcutta High Court has directed the Additional Director General (ADG) of West Bengal CID to nominate an officer of higher rank than that of an inspector to hold a fresh investigation into the death of four undertrial prisoners in different police stations in South 24 Parganas district in 2023.

The court, however, said on Thursday that it is not inclined to transfer the investigation in the case to the CBI as prayed for by the petitioner, since the matter can be inquired into by a higher official of the state's Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

Holding that it is not satisfied with a report of the CID, prepared by an inspector in August 2023 on the death of the four undertrial prisoners, the court scrapped the said report.

The bench said the investigation has to be done by a senior officer of the CID since the allegation is against police officials.

A division bench presided by Chief Justice TS Sivagnanam di-

rected the ADG, CID, to nominate an officer of higher rank than that of an inspector for holding a fresh investigation into the death of the four undertrial prisoners and proceed to take action in accordance with law.

The court said the officer nominated by the ADG should be "young and dynamic" and "will not be persuaded by any statements made earlier, but would conduct a dispassionate inquiry into the matter, regardless of the fact that there are allegations against the officers of the West Bengal police department.

The bench, also comprising Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya, directed that the investigation be completed within eight weeks and a report be filed before the appropriate court. The petition was filed by the Association for Protection of Democratic Rights (APDR), praying for the handing over of the investigation to the CBI for an independent inquiry into the cause of death of the four undertrial prisoners in 2023.

The petitioner claimed that the cause of death of the four undertrials was unnatural and suspicious, alleg-

ing that they died on account of injuries inflicted upon them following their arrest by the police in different cases lodged at Baruipur, Mahesh-tala and Budge Budge police stations in South 24 Parganas district.

The court said after going through the report and submissions of the lawyers, it is of the prima facie view that the cause of death of the four was not owing to narcotic drug use by the accused persons as claimed in the said report.

The bench said the post mortem report clearly shows external injuries.

The state informed the court that it has paid compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the families of each of the deceased undertrial prisoners.

The bench also expressed hope that West Bengal's DGP will invite periodical reports from all the police stations in the state on installation and functionality of CCTV and recording devices.

It also directed the DGP to initiate disciplinary action against those officers not complying with such a directive.

BUDGET-2025

Expectations of Businesses & Trade

MI News Service, Kolkata: MSME DF West Bengal in Association with Nextgen Business Support Services organised an interactive session on Expectations from the Budget 2025 to be presented by the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on 1st February 2025. The session witnessed an interesting pouring of multiple viewpoints by both panelists and attendees alike. The common view point was that complexities of multiple taxation needs to be eradicated and the tax structure needs to provide relief to the middle class. The session supported by CWBTA Confederation of West Bengal Traders Association & Curated by Nova Realtime Solutions LLP had renowned angel investor and Co Founder of Heyo Rimjhim Ray moderate the session and making it very interesting. The panelists comprised of Sushil Poddar - President of CWBTA,

Narendra Kapadia - Jt MD of Rajda Sales, C K Vardarajan - MD of Chemaux Dyestuffs, Rahul Johri-Chairman of Vector Finance, CA Rajev Harlalka - Director of Nextgen, Business Support Services, Sandip Ginodia - CEO of Altius investech, Manoj Bagaria - MD of Ratan Exim & Ankita Dutta who represented Dr CS Mamta Binani President of MSME DF West Bengal and India's first Registered Insolvency Professional. Amongst the attendees were Renowned Investment Professional Anindya Paulchoudhuri, Angshuman Choudhury working in a renowned Stock Exchange, Ashish Agarwal - President of CETA Calcutta Electricals Traders Association amongst others. Sunil Goenka of Nova Realtime Solutions LLP was very impressed with the participants turnout and the content of all that was discussed

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“National and International programme for thalassaemia screening and early Detection, diagnostics, free treatment and control workshop”

MI News Service, Kolkata: We, “The International Mission for Social Welfare and Charity (I.M.S.W.C) is organized its 45th Anniversary of National and International Convention for integrated management legal framework for the Prevention and to fight against thalassaemia. Comprehensive Primary healthcare and to provide Clinical Consequences of iron deposition and chelation therapy in thalassaemia. IMSWC provides increase protection of People and improve monitoring systems to ensure prenatal diagnosis of thalassaemia, sickle cell anemia newborn screening and prevention of parents- to- child transmission of thalassaemia. counseling, free treatment for thalassaemia, free Clinical test and sickle cell anemia newborn screening and prevention of parents- to- child transmission of thalassaemia and implementation of the Workshop “On. 26th January, 2025. at. Madagadi, Vanjor and Polagam village of Karaikal district, within the state of Puducherry. The 794 thalassaemia patients Participated of this Programme. IMSWC provides Free treatment for Combination Chelation Therapy, anemia, bone marrow erythroid hyperplasia, iron overload, promoting HbF synthesis, such as with hydroxyurea or butyrate. Cord Blood test for Participated thalassaemia patients of said workshop. 27th January, 2025, IMSWC organized “Decentralization and Vigorous Campaign to



create public awareness to change mindsets and promote community action against thalassaemia and support services for the people living with thalassaemia are provided with alleviate anemia, to suppress ineffective erythropoietin, to prevent serious growth and skeletal complication of thalassaemia major Ensuring optimal safety, acute reactions transfusion, transmitted infections delayed reactions. follow-up Patient care services and management, Clinical Trials Research groups on contemporary fields such as molecular carcinogenesis, Control, Comprehensive free treatment and to provide Palliative care is conducted by IMSWC. At. Sekhum, Vaisam and runtung village of Junglee district, within the state of Mizoram. The 675 thalassaemia patients Participated of this Programme. IMSWC provides free treatment for transfusion therapy for Participated

thalassaemia patients of said workshop. 28th January, 2025. IMSWC also organized “Integrated development programme for Clinical Consequences of iron deposition and Combination Chelation Therapy, anemia, bone marrow erythroid hyperplasia, promoting HbF synthesis in thalassaemia and prevention intervention for the general community and also provides regular individual contact, offering much needed love and care and ensures their civil, economic and fundamental right of every thalassaemia patients. and adolescent health, capacity development, referral services, community care at. Anandanagar, hirapur and Pukhuria suresh chandra high School of Hooghly district within the state of West Bengal. The 829 thalassaemia patients Participated of this Programme. IMSWC provides Free treatment for Hypersplenism or hepatomegaly, RBCs test for Par-

ticipated thalassaemia patients of said workshop. Mr. Debasish Ghosh- Secretary General of IMSWC and Chief Secretary of Indian Detective and Investigation Organization said that The term thalassaemia was derived from the Greek word “thalassa” meaning the ocean as the patients were initially identified along the coast of Mediterranean Sea by leading scientists Lee and Cooley in 1925. Thalassaemia is an inherited genetic blood disorder where the patients cannot produce adequate healthy haemoglobin resulting in a need for continual blood transfusion. The blood, which saves their lives, creates an iron overload in the system. The excess iron must be chelated out of their system. The process is both painful and costly. Who inherits; A Thalassaemia patient may be born only when both the parents of the patient are carriers of this disease. The carriers are people who carry one good gene and a defective one. Because the good gene compensates for the defective ones, a carrier acts and carries on like a normal person. But when two carriers produce a child there is 25% probability that both their defective genes combine to give birth to a Thalassaemia patient. The need of the hour is to prevent marriage between such carriers or ensure that after marriage, through pre-natal diagnosis, no Thalassaemia child is born. Mali Bagchi- President of IMSWC said that Thalassaemia is a ge-

netically inherited blood disorder that falls under the category of ‘hemoglobinopathies’ in which the haemoglobin produced by the body is abnormal. There are numerous mutations that cause thalassaemia. Renowned and respected personalities Mr. Debasish Ghosh- Secretary General of IMSWC and Chief Secretary of Indian Detective and Investigation Organization, Mali Bagchi- President, IMSWC, Honorable Shri. Prataprao Ganpatrao Jadhav- Minister -of-State, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Honorable Ms. Punya Salila Srivastava-IAS, Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Honorable Shrimoti Chandrima Bhattacharya-Minister of State, Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal, Honorable Sri. Tarun Bhattacharyya- WBCS (Executive), Additional District Magistrate (General), District: Hooghly, Government of West Bengal, Honorable Shri. Niloy Kanti Dutta-District Social Welfare officer, District: Hooghly, Government of West Bengal, Dr. Mrigankamouli Kar-Chief Medical officer of Health, District: Hooghly, Government of West Bengal, Dr. Avijit Pal, Dr. Sharmila Chanda, Srimoth Swami. Lokottarananda Moharaj, Srimoth Swami. Vimalatmananda Moharaj, Srimoth Swami. Madhaveshananda Moharaj were present at this workshop.



DR. ABU KALAM
Eminent social activist and a famous advocate Shantanu Sinha was awarded the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Bharatiya Ratna Samman 2025 from New Delhi on this 23rd January. Besides being an advocate by profession, he founded Ashray Social Welfare NGO in the year of 2016 and as a social worker he was providing appropriate treatment to the mentally challenged and autistic children. In addition, he has previously received an honorary doctorate (PH-D in Social Work) from WHRRC under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India for various social service activities and even oxygen supply to patients affected by Corona during this Covid period. At the beginning of this new year, on 23rd January 2025, he was awarded the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Bharatiya Ratna for his pioneering role in human welfare. Dr. Sinha said that he wants to work on a more comprehensive level for the weaker sections of the society. He believes that “if we all do something for society at our own level then the world can become a better place to live”. Dr. Shantanu Sinha’s life teaches us that true humanity is to rise above our selfishness and live for others. His social service and determination made him a source of inspiration for the society.

Lenskart launches Phonic-a ground breaking audio eyewear

MI News Service, Kolkata: Lenskart has launched Phonic, a groundbreaking audio eyewear designed for multitasking users. Priced at INR 4,000, it integrates Bluetooth audio into lightweight eyewear, allowing users to take calls, listen to music, and

interact with their digital world. Phonic is available in Navigator and Hustlr designs, and can be customized with prescription lenses or sunglasses. Lenskart’s commitment to offering world-class technology at an affordable price is evident.

Union Budget 2025-26-Key Expectations,Reforms and Growth prospects”

MI News Service, Kolkata: Our Honourable Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is all set to present the Union Budget for fiscal year 2025-26 on 1 February 2025. It is anticipated that the Modi 3.0 Government will introduce policies and reforms that would enhance investment in India and help boost the Make in India drive. CA Anup Kumar Luharaka, stated that we anticipate this budget will be progressive and developmental for the economy of India. It is expected that, in this budget, the Government will continue to rationalise tax rates, encourage domestic production, reduce tax litigation, and provide better precision in tax laws. Special attention will be given to development in the areas of infrastructure, green energy and agriculture. Policies for fostering the growth of IT sector are also to be placed in the bench of R&D sector of India. There may introduction of a bunch of new policies under the Digital India Mission to support the technology sector, small and medium-sized businesses (MSME), and startups. In areas such as infrastructure, this budget can include funding for the development of highways, railroads, and airports. It is also possible to announce new incentives to expedite



smart city initiatives. Further, to promote renewable energy sources, tax relief can be given on solar panels, electric vehicles, and battery technology. Special attention can also be given to increasing the reach of Kisan Credit Cards and improving crop insurance schemes to help farmers and promote Indian agriculture. In this budget, there might be a discussion on the new tax regime and old tax regime of income tax, also the exemption limit might be increased in the new tax regime and some deductions can be allowed. There can be discussions about elevating the standard salary deduction amount. Other areas of talk include raising the income tax exemption threshold for home loan interest. In addition, the budget may list initiatives to lowering the LLP (Limited Liability Partnership) tax rate. Many important proposals are expected under GST as well.

MAKAUT Campus video: Prof asks to stop spreading fake controversy

MI News Service, Kolkata: Nadia’s Haringhata campus of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology (MAKAUT) has found itself in the headlines following a viral video. The footage in question shows Payel Banerjee, the Head of the Applied Psychology Department, having a first-year student inside a classroom, as if in a wedding ritual. The video’s circulation has triggered widespread discussion, but Professor Banerjee has firmly stated that the clip is merely a segment from a fresher’s play. “I have been receiving numerous messages and comments since morning, both positive and negative. But the most shocking aspect is that this was just a drama clip, which has now been made viral in a misleading way,” she said. Professor Banerjee explained that their department regularly stages performances, including dance and musical acts, where faculty members also participate. However, she alleged that only a specific part of the psy-

chodrama performance was deliberately chosen for circulation. “This is what surprises me the most. Who did this and with what intention? I won’t speculate, as the authorities are investigating. The truth will emerge,” she remarked. “While people are discussing this video, they are forgetting that my students are also involved. They have careers ahead of them, and such incidents create unnecessary pressure on them,” she added. Through her video message, she urged people to refrain from further amplifying the controversy. “I request everyone to stop spreading this matter. If it were something real, it would be different. But this is a fake controversy, and dwelling on it is a waste of time. The real damage is being done to the students. More than my image, I am worried about their mental health,” she pleaded. She also encouraged people to report any misleading content they come across. “If you see such videos, please report them and support me in stopping this.”



Arunava Midya, Line Producer, Chhaad; Ranajoy Bishnu, Renowned Actor; Paoli Dam, Renowned Actress; Indrani Chakrabarti, Story Writer, Screenplay Writer and Director, Chhaad; Tridib Kr. Chatterjee, President, Publishers & Booksellers Guild; Sudhanshu Shekhar Dey, Honorary General Secretary, Publishers & Booksellers Guild; Raju Barman, Joint Secretary, Publishers & Booksellers Guild during the launch of Chhaad in Kolkata.

Man impersonates Govt. Official, swindles Rs 8lakh for fake job, arrested

MI News Service, Kalyani : Impersonating himself as an official of West Bengal Animal Resources Development Department, one Sk. Rabiul Ali allegedly had offered fake job and managed Rs. 8 lakh from a person. Consequently, he lodged a complaint and the cops of Ranaghat police district in Nadia arrested Rabiul from Barasat Kazipara on Wednesday night, Siddharth Dhapola, the Additional SP, HQ, Ranaghat police district, said. A team of Ranaghat police district



arrested Sk. Rabiul Ali Darshan (30) of North Kazipara, Barasat, for his involvement in a cyber fraud case under Cyber Crime PS, Ranaghat Police District on Wednesday night. The accused had impersonated an official from the West Bengal Animal Resources Development Department and offering a fake job to the complainant. Believing the offer to be genuine, the complainant provided his documents, after which the accused demanded various charges and fees, compelling him to pay over

8 lakh through cash and online transactions. The accused later issued fraudulent joining letters, and the victim realized the scam upon visiting the concerned department. He then lodged a complaint and it came to Cyber Cell of Ranaghat police district. So, they initiated an investigation. During the arrest, multiple fake joining letters, debit cards, mobile phones, and SIM cards were recovered from his possession. The phone numbers used for WhatsApp calls and UPI transactions in the fraud were also seized, Siddharth Dhapola said.



Writer Dr Moinul Hasan inaugurated Faruk Ahmed’s Udar Akash 595 stall at the Kolkata International Book Fair. Eminent litterateur Dr Muhammad Abed Ali and others were also present on the occasion. On the occasion of the book fair, there are also best-seller books including 9 books from the publication.

Photo: Nurul Islam Khan

Howrah Police seizes fake Tata DEF Urea, 1 accused arrested

MI News Service, Kolkata: Based on a complaint lodged by the authorized team of Tata Motors India, the police conducted a raid at a location in Howrah, West Bengal. Acting on the orders of Shri Praveen Tripathi, IPS Commissioner of Police, Howrah, West Bengal, the team of Shri Suvendu Chakraborty, Senior Inspector of Police Station, Shibpur Police Station carried out the operation. During the raid, fake Tata

DEF Urea etc. were seized. The accused identified as Amanjot Singhage, 35 years, has been arrested in connection with the fake Tata DEF Urea case. The police have registered a case under FIR number 0040/2025 and charged the accused under sections 318 (4), 319 (2), 396, 341, 397 and 61 (2) of the BNS Act, 2023 and sections 63, 65 and 68 of the Copyright Act, 1957. The police are further investigating the matter.



Around 130 families from BJP and CPM joined the Trinamool

MI News Service, Ausgram: The district president handed over the key to the party office which was closed by the police in Pubar village of Ausgram. Today, Friday, the office will be opened and washed with Ganga water. Ausgram-2 Block Trinamool President Sheikh Abdul Lalan said this at a party meeting in Ausgram’s Abhirampur on Thursday. He said that some people tried to open the office of the party by dressing up as Trinamool and taking the party flag in their hands. To prevent unrest, the police locked the office. The police gave that key to the district president. On this day, the district president handed over the key to them. Around 130 families from BJP and CPM joined the Trinamool on Thursday, including a member of BJP of Valki

Gram Panchayat, a leader of OBC Morcha of BJP of the state committee, in the day’s meeting. Lalan handed over the party flag to them. District Youth Trinamool Leader Sk Afzal Rahman, Eral Anchal President of TMC Ranjit Mondal and other leaders of the party were present. After defection, state BJP leader Prabir Ghosh vented his anger against BJP state and district presidents. Although BJP claims, Prabir Ghosh came to BJP from Trinamool. He returned to his old team as he could not benefit here. It will not harm the party. Lalan said that those supporters of BJP and CPM have participated in the development of Trinamool. They applied according to the system. They have been included in the team after the approval of the district president.

M.A.Ali honoured with ‘Prince’ title by King at his birthday in Cirebon Palace Indonesia

MI News Service, Cirebon, Indonesia: The grand celebration of His Majesty King Sany Wijaya Natakusuma’s birthday was held today at the historic Cirebon Palace, drawing a diverse gathering of dignitaries, royals, and distinguished guests from around the globe. The event was a magnificent display of unity, culture, and tradition, with representatives from Holland, the USA, the UK, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Argentina, Italy, Singapore, Malaysia, and other parts of the world in attendance. The celebration was graced by the presence of kings, queens, princes, and princesses from several provinces of Indonesia, adding royal splendor to the occasion. Cultural performances from various countries further enriched the event, with captivating Indian classical dances, vibrant Sri Lankan cultural displays, and traditional Indonesian performances mesmerizing the audience. A major highlight of the event was when Dr. M.A. Ali, founder and director of the World Meet, was bestowed with the honorary surname “Natakusuma” by His Majesty King Sany Wijaya Natakusuma.



Along with this esteemed title, Dr. Ali was also presented with a royal certificate, recognizing his tireless efforts in promoting global peace, humanity, and cultural unity. The King expressed his admiration for Dr. Ali, stating, “His vision for a united world and his dedication to peace and brotherhood truly embody the values we uphold.” In his heartfelt speech, Dr. M.A. Ali emphasized the importance of unity among all nations and people. “We are all sons and daughters of Adam,” he said. “There should be no divisions among us. Let us come together, maintain peace, and foster love and brotherhood because the world desperately needs harmony.” The evening’s most memorable moment came when Tony Taylor performed the World Meet theme song, inspiring all attendees to join in dancing together, symbolizing the unity and togetherness the event sought to promote. His Majesty’s birthday celebration at Cirebon Palace was not just a royal affair but a global celebration of culture, peace, and mutual respect, leaving everyone inspired to carry forward the message of harmony and unity.

Section of politicians are...

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demands for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Meiteis, which Kukis strongly opposed. The violence escalated into ethnic confrontations, forcing the state into prolonged instability. The Chief Minister clarified that his government's opposition was not directed at any established community but at "new immigrants" allegedly involved in illegal drug-related activities.

"Our opposition was only to the new immigrants engaged in drug-related activities. Those settled before are all part of our shared history," Singh stated. While Singh reaffirmed his commitment to preserving Manipur's territorial integrity, tensions remain high, with political and civil society groups sharply divided over the ongoing conflict and the role of security forces.

Yogi Adityanath orders...

From PG 1
assembled here from across the country and around the world have resumed their holy dip in the Sangam amid an overwhelming spiritual atmosphere of the holy confluence on Thursday.

devotees took a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam on Wednesday on the religious occasion of 'Mauni Amavasya'. An official statement issued by the Uttar Pradesh Information Department, the next Amrit Snan is scheduled on the Basant Panchami day on February 3.

JPC on Waqf (Amendment)...

From PG 1
in the voting. They also participated in the detailed deliberation and cross-examinations. Commending the JPC efforts, committee member and BJP MP Nishikant Dubey said that no other committee has done as much work as this committee has done in the history of JPC.

to other faiths by the people who claim to be representative of the waqf boards. So both these problems have been addressed effectively by the amendments that the Government and the MPs have introduced in the new Bill. This new bill is going to bring transparency, accountability and professionalism in the management of waqf properties all over the country..." he added.

"We received 1.5 crore representations from all over the nation and 38 meetings of JPC were held...I think after the independence of India no such Bill has been introduced for the rights of the poor Muslim families...The politics of vote bank will come to an end," Dubey said. Another member and BJP MP Tejashwi Surya said that this new bill would bring transparency, accountability and professionalism in the management of Waqf properties in the country.

On Wednesday, the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Waqf Amendment Bill adopted the draft report and the amended revised bill. However, the opposition leaders also submitted their dissent notes on the report.

Surya said, "It's a very important day. The report has been submitted it's a very important day as the report has been submitted to the Speaker. Over the last six months, detailed discussions and deliberations were held by the JPC regarding the amendments to the work factor. For a very long time, work properties were mismanaged. There was opaqueness in the management of the waqf properties. Many people who were in charge of the management of the waqf properties had themselves swindled and encroached the waqf properties."

The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Tuesday cleared the Waqf Bill 1995 with 25 amendments across 14 clauses/sections.

"On the other hand, there was also multiple instances of encroachment of government lands, private lands, lands belonging

The Waqf (Amendment) Bill is likely to be presented during the Budget Session of the Parliament. The Budget session of Parliament will commence on January 31 and continue till April 4, with the Union Budget to be presented on February 1. The Waqf Act of 1995, enacted to regulate Waqf properties, has long been criticised for issues such as mismanagement, corruption, and encroachments.

Tripura seeks hike in share...

From PG 1
Tripura for the 16th Finance Commission was discussed," he told reporters. He said that during the meeting, the state government proposed modifications to the weightages used by the Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV) in revenue distribution among the states.

distribution. Based on population, the 15th Finance Commission said that 15 per cent of the state share should be devised based on that. The Tripura government proposed reducing the weightage for the Population from 15 to 10 per cent, reducing the weightage for Area from 15 to 5 per cent, increasing the weightage for Forest and Ecology from 10 to 20 per cent, raising the Income Distance from 45 to 50 per cent, and reducing the weightage for the Demographic Rate from 12.5 to 5 per cent," he said.

"The Tripura Government suggested incorporating the Infrastructure Index with 5 per cent weightage and the International Border with 5 per cent weightage as additional criteria in revenue

Cal HC orders strict CCTV monitoring in police stations

MI News Service, Kolkata: In the wake of multiple recent crimes, including an incident where a prisoner escaped from a police van and opened fire at officers, the Kolkata High Court has issued stringent directives to all police stations across the state. Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam has instructed that all police stations must ensure their CCTV cameras are fully operational. On Thursday, while hearing a case related to custodial deaths, the Chief Justice warned the state

authorities about the critical importance of CCTV surveillance. He directed the Director General of Police (DGP) to closely monitor the functionality of these systems. Reports on CCTV performance must be sent to the DGP at regular intervals, and the storage and recording devices must also be properly checked to ensure they are functioning without errors. The High Court further mandated disciplinary action against any police officers found violating

CCTV regulations. Any failure in maintaining the surveillance system could lead to charges of misconduct against the responsible officials. The High Court's strict stance on CCTV surveillance is linked to a custodial death case that has been under judicial scrutiny. In 2023, four prisoners died while in custody at Barupur Jail. Following the incident, the Kolkata High Court had ordered an investigation by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID).

DA hike expected in upcoming Budget

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid ongoing demands for Dearness Allowance (DA) hikes for state government employees, West Bengal is set to offer some relief. While central government employees have been receiving consistent DA hikes, with the 8th Pay Commission expected soon, state employees in Bengal have faced stagnation. Despite several protests for a higher DA based

on central rates, the state government has not yet fulfilled these demands. However, reports suggest that the 2024 state budget may bring good news for them. According to multiple reports, DA for West Bengal government employees is likely to increase by 4% to 6%. Discussions on this matter are reportedly underway within the state

finance department, although nothing has been officially confirmed. The government has not yet commented on the specifics. It's worth noting that in the past two budgets, the Mamata Banerjee-led government had raised DA for state employees. The hope is that this year, similar measures will be taken. Currently, under the Sixth Pay Commission, West Bengal

government employees receive a 14% DA. In the 2023 budget, the DA was increased by 3%, while in 2024, it was raised by 4%, bringing the total DA to 14%. In comparison, central government employees currently receive a 53% DA. On the national front, the Central Government has recently approved the formation of the 8th Pay Commission for its employees, which is expected to

be implemented in January 2026. Meanwhile, the Struggling Joint Platform has pointed out that most states across the country are providing dearness allowance based on national indices, but West Bengal has failed to keep pace. The state government's inaction on this matter has led to widespread dissatisfaction among its employees.



Mayor Firhad Hakim unveils the coffee table book 'Paat Rani, Queen of Jute' in the presence of MCCI President Amit Sarangi and Chaitali Das during a special session on the Future of Jute in India & Abroad in Kolkata on Thursday.

Cal HC dismisses petition against 'Swasthya Sathi'

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging the Swasthya Sathi Scheme, a flagship health insurance initiative by the West Bengal government. The petition, filed by an NRI doctor, argued that the scheme was launched with the intention of exploiting the upcoming elections and lacked any real foundation. During the hearing on Thursday, Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam observed that since Swasthya Sathi was a government initiative, created based on specific government policies,

the court had no grounds to intervene in the matter. The judge emphasized that government decisions related to public welfare were not within the court's purview to question unless there were clear violations. The petitioner claimed that despite having Swasthya Sathi cards, many people were unable to access benefits, and several hospitals were refusing to accept the card. He further alleged that the scheme was merely a pre-election gimmick designed to gain political leverage, accusing the government of using it as a tool for

electoral advantage. The petitioner also raised concerns about the equity of the scheme, pointing out that while the government provides Rs 5 lakh insurance cover per family, the number of members per family varies. He questioned how this amount could be the same for families of different sizes. However, the court clarified that since the scheme was aimed at public welfare, and given the government's decision to implement it, the court would not interfere. The state government, in defense, argued that

Swasthya Sathi was part of its commitment to providing healthcare benefits to all citizens. The government also stated that the scheme was designed to be inclusive and accessible, with efforts underway to address any implementation issues, including hospitals not accepting the card. With the court dismissing the petition, the Swasthya Sathi scheme will continue to operate as planned, and the government has assured further improvements in implementation and accessibility for all beneficiaries.

Guv Bose invited to address budget session

MI News Service, Kolkata: After efforts by Governor CV Ananda Bose to foster cordial relations, a shift in dynamics is visible in the state's political landscape. The growing cordiality between the state government and the Governor has led to a new atmosphere of cooperation. As the West Bengal Legislative Assembly prepares for the upcoming Budget Session, the invitation to Governor Bose has been confirmed. The session is set to begin

on February 10, with the State Budget to be presented on February 12. According to Biman Bandopadhyay, the Speaker of the Assembly, the legislative process for the Budget Session will start with the Governor's traditional address, which will then be followed by discussions. This formal commencement is a departure from last year's Budget Session, when the conflict between the state government and the Governor had led to the

session starting without his address. Under parliamentary law, the session can begin without the Governor's speech, and the 2023 winter session ended without the Governor's formal closure. However, the political landscape has shifted, with both sides now seemingly committed to working together. In light of this, Speaker Bandopadhyay confirmed, "We are considering inviting the Governor to address the Budget Session."

CBI Court show-caused investigating officer in RG Kar corruption case

MI News Service, Kolkata: The special CBI court has issued a show-cause notice to the investigating officer (IO) of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for alleged lapses in the RG Kar Medical College financial corruption case. On Thursday, the judge raised concerns over why the agency had not informed the court

that the West Bengal government had granted approval to frame charges against former principal Sandeep Ghosh. The court questioned, "Why was the information not conveyed to the CBI court despite state government approval? Why did it take three days for the special court to learn about this?"

The court has given the CBI 24 hours to submit a written explanation from the investigating officer detailing why the agency failed to notify the court on time. The judge made it clear that any delay in handling sensitive financial corruption cases would not be tolerated. The case was initiated following allegations by

Akhtar Ali, former Deputy Superintendent (Non-Medical) of RG Kar Medical College, who filed a petition in the Calcutta High Court, accusing the institution of massive financial irregularities amounting to several crores of rupees. Based on these allegations, the Calcutta High Court ordered a CBI probe into the matter.

Dr. Sengupta on the upcoming budget

MI News Service, Kolkata: Dr. Pratim Sengupta, Senior Nephrologist comments on the upcoming budget, advocating for an increase in the deduction limits under Section 80DDB of the Income Tax Act. This section currently allows taxpayers to claim deductions for treatment expenses of critical illnesses, with individuals under 60 eligible for up to

Rs 40,000 and senior citizens for Rs 1,00,000. Given the rising incidence of chronic illnesses like renal failure, cancer, and stroke, Dr. Sengupta suggests raising the deduction limit to alleviate the financial burden on affected individuals. He also calls for extending the Pradhan Mantri National Dialysis Programme to standalone dialysis clinics.

K.K. Muhammed unveils Bengali translation of his autobiography

MI News Service, Kolkata: K.K. Muhammed, a renowned archaeologist and Padma Shri awardee, launched the Bengali translation of his autobiography (An Indian I Am) at the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark. The launch event was attended by notable figures, including Swami Suparnananda Maharaj, Secretary of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute, Partha Pratim Bose,

Avisekh Das Choudhury, and Dibban Guha, the translators of the book. The event also featured an interactive session with Muhammed, followed by a lecture on "Archaeology & Conservation of Indian Heritage & Culture." In his autobiography, Muhammed provides a glimpse into his personal experiences, encounters with historical monuments, and the transformative journey.



Congress activists take part in a demonstration to protest against anti people's budget and economic policy, in Kolkata.

SMPK unveils 'Kolkata Shuttle'



MI News Service, Kolkata: Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMPK) has launched the 'Kolkata Shuttle' service, to enhance India's maritime logistics in line with the vision of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat.' In collaboration with the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), the service connects Vizhinjam, a newly developed transshipment port, aiming to boost India's self-reliance in transshipment operations. The first vessel, MV Oel Colombo, arrived at 2 Netaji Subhas Dock (NSD) with 283 TEUs from Colombo. The vessel will export 152 TEUs to Vizhinjam and 261 TEUs to Colombo, marking a significant step toward reduc-

ing India's dependence on foreign ports. This initiative also focuses on curbing foreign exchange outflow and improving trade efficiency. Rathendra Raman, Chairman of SMPK, expressed pride in the port's role in strengthening India's maritime self-sufficiency. He emphasized that the 'Kolkata Shuttle' service marks a transformative shift in India's logistics, positioning SMPK as a key player in lowering logistics costs and driving regional economic growth. This service will help reinforce the country's economic resilience while contributing to the broader goal of fostering a self-reliant maritime ecosystem.

Partha Chatterjee suffers mild heart attack

MI News Service, Kolkata: Former West Bengal Minister and former TMC General Secretary Partha Chatterjee reportedly suffered a mild heart attack while receiving treatment in a private hospital. Chatterjee had recently been transferred from the government-run SSKM Hospital to a private facility in Mukundapur. On the day of his transfer, he appeared to be in relatively good

spirits. However, reports have now emerged that he experienced a mild heart attack while under treatment at the private hospital. Doctors revealed that he is being monitored closely under the care of cardiologist Dr. Anup Khetan. It has also been reported that Chatterjee suffers from anemia, which has raised concerns about whether he will require dialysis.

Tragic incident occurred at Mahakumbh festival resulting in the death of mother

MI News Service, Kolkata: A heartbreaking incident occurred at the Mahakumbh festival, resulting in the tragic death of Basanti Poddar, a senior citizen from Bijaygarh, on the southern fring on city. She had attended the festival with her loved ones to bathe in the sacred waters, but unfortunately, she was trampled to death in the crowd. The family's grief has been compounded by the lack of support from the Uttar Pradesh government. Despite Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's announcement of a compensation of 25 lakh, the family remains uncertain about receiving the aid. The deceased's son has reported that the Uttar Pradesh govern-

ment has not provided a death certificate or any documentation regarding the handover of the body. Local councillor Tapan Dasgupta has raised concerns about the government's handling of the incident, alleging that the body was sent without proper documentation to avoid paying compensation to residents of other states. Tapan Dasgupta has warned of filing a case against the Uttar Pradesh government. In addition, State Minister Arup Biswas has assured that the West Bengal government will provide support to the family, stating that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has ordered that there should be no issues with the cremation of the body.

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Name Change

I. Joyeeta Paul D/O Late Sushanta Kumar Paul W/O Krishnangshu Das Residing At Permanent & Present Address Bc-7/11, Deshbandhu Nagar, Rajarhatgopalpur, Ps.baguihati, Kolkata 700059...

Name Change

I. Joyeeta Paul D/O Late Sushanta Kumar Paul W/O Krishnangshu Das Residing At Permanent & Present Address Bc-7/11, Deshbandhu Nagar, Rajarhatgopalpur, Ps.baguihati, Kolkata 700059...

Change of Name

I. MAHAMMAD ALI MOLLA S/O ANSAR MOLLA Residing at Dakshin Kankhuly Maheshtala, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700066, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MOHAMMAD ALI MOLLA...

Change of Name

I. HANIF HALDER S/O HASEM ALI HALDER Residing at Dakshin Kankhuly Maheshtala, District-South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700066, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as HANIF ALI HALDER...

Change of Name

I. NAKUL CHANDRA MAJI (Old Name) S/O KANAI LAL MAJI Residing at Vill. & P.O. - Debandi, P.S.-Amta, District-Howrah, Pin-711410, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as NAKUL MAJI...

Change of Name

I. Merajul Islam Khan alias Md Merajulislam Khan (Old Name) S/O Ahammed Ali Khan Residing at Vill+Po - Sultan Nagar, P.s - Harishchandrapur, District - Malda, Pin - 732125 West Bengal...

Change of Name

I. Profullo Manna (Old Name) S/O Sital Manna Residing at Vill+Po - Orphuli, Ps - Bagan, District - Howrah, Pin - 711303 West Bengal...

Change of Name

I. Parvin Bibi D/o Noor Islam Bypari Residing at Vill - Baganpara, Po - Nepalganj Kulerdari, P.s - Bishnupur, District - 24 Pgs(S), Pin- 700103 West Bengal...

Change of Name

I. Anup Samanta S/O Late Subal Samanta Residing at Vill - Nachak, P.O - Nowpala, Ps - Bagan, District - Howrah, Pin- 711303 West Bengal...

Change of Name

I. Bistupada Biswas (old name) son of Late Matin Biswas, residing at Vill & P.O- Kalupur, P.S- Bongaon, Dist: North 24 Parganas, Pin : 743235, West Bengal...

Change of Name

I. Deprasad Biswas (old name) son of Bishnupada Biswas, residing at Vill & P.O- Kalupur, P.S- Bongaon, Dist: North 24 Parganas, Pin : 743235, West Bengal...



Hitendra Malhotra, Member Operations & Business Development, Railway Board visited South Eastern Railway(SER) Headquarters, Garden Reach on Jan 30 2025 and held a high level meeting with Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, South Eastern Railway. Soumitra Majumdar, Additional General Manager and other Principal Head of the Departments of SER were also present during the meeting. Malhotra also held a review meeting of Operating and Commercial Departments of South Eastern Railway on Jan 30 2025.

Name Change

I, Manik Mondal S/o. Ashok Mondal R/o. 1, Niranjanagar, Chandannagar, Hooghly-712136, W.B. declared that my son Riddhiman Mondal & Riddhiman Mondal is the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 16, did. 02/01/2025 before Judicial Magistrate, Chandannagar, Hooghly Court.

NAME CHANGE

I Md Shakil Ahmed (Old Name) S/O Md Rafique residing at 73C Topsis Road, Tijjala, Kolkata - 700039 have change my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Shakil (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public/ First Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore Court, Kolkata vide No. 1135 dated 22.01.2025 that Md Shakil Ahmed (Old Name) and Md Shakil (New Name) are the same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mostak Ali Molla & Mostak Molla (old names) Son of Late Moktar Ali Molla, residing at Gholar Khal Para Atharo Banki, Baruipur, Pin-743329, P.S.-Jibantala, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mostaque Ali Molla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Mostaque Ali Molla (New Name) and Mostak Ali Molla & Mostak Molla (Old Names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Prosenjit Ghosh (old name) Son of Debashish Ghosh, residing at 8/2 Old Nimta Road, Nandan Nagar, Belgaria, Barakpore, Pin-700083, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prasenjit Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 27/01/2025. Prasenjit Ghosh (New Name) and Prosenjit Ghosh (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Abul Hai Piyada (old name) Son of Late Jahangir Piyada, residing at Mandal Para, P.O.- Suryanagar, Sundarban, Pin- 743374, P.S.- Harwood Point Coastal, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Hai Piyada (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kakdwip, South 24 Pgs, dated 17/01/2025. Abdul Hai Piyada (New Name) and Abul Hai Piyada (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Chandan Sur (Old Name) son of Ashutosh Sur, residing at 41, G B Mondal Road, Sasitola Nawabganj, Ichapur, Dist-North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743144, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Chandan Kumar Sur (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Chandan Kumar Sur (New Name) and Chandan Sur (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Samrat Sinha (Old Name) son of Late Kalyan Sinha, residing at Boral Majherpara, P.O.- Boral, P.S.-Narendrapur, Dist. South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700154, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samrat Singh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Samrat Singh (New Name) and Samrat Sinha (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Seemanta Chakrabarti (Old Name) son of Late Sankarananda Chakrabarti, residing at 6 Pranabananda Road, Opposite Lokenath Ashram, Kolkata, Pin- 700084, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Seemanta Chakrabarti (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Seemanta Chakrabarti (New Name) and Seemanta Chakrabarti (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Bula Chakrabarty (Old Name) wife of Seemanta Chakrabarti, residing at 6 Pranabananda Road, Opposite Lokenath Ashram, Kolkata, Pin- 700084, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bula Chakrabarti (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Bula Chakrabarti (New Name) and Bula Chakrabarty (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Sk Sharfuddin (Old Name) son of Sk Samsuddin, residing at 7/3, Abinash Choudhury Lane, Gobinda Khatic Road, Kolkata- 700046, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Sarafuddin (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Sk Sarafuddin (New Name) and Sk Sharfuddin (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Ohab Ali Sardar (Old Name) son of Samsar Ali Sardar, residing at Jadabpur, Jadabpur Gaighata, North 24 Parganas, Pin-743273, P.S.- Gaighata, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Ohab Sardar (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 29/01/2025. Abdul Ohab Sardar (New Name) and Md Ohab Ali Sardar (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Ashis Kumar Mondal (Old Name) son of Mohanlal Mondal, residing at Village & Post Office - Pantihal, District - Howrah, Police Station - Jagatballypur, Pin-711410, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashish Kumar Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Executive Magistrate 1st Class at Howrah, dated 07/01/2025. Ashish Kumar Mondal (New Name) and Ashis Kumar Mondal (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Rajesh Koyal (Old Name), Son Of Suresh Koyal, Residing At Vill-Goanara, Po-Goanara Gobindpur, P.S.-Rammagar, South 24 Parganas-743368, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rajes Koyal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Diamond Harbour On 27/01/2025. Rajesh Koyal And Rajes Koyal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Shakil Ahmed, Son Of Khalil, Residing At 18 Nil Madhab Sen Lane, Po-Chittaranjan Avenue, Kolkata-700073, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known Md Shakil Ahmed Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 30/01/2025. That Shakil Ahmed And Md Shakil Ahmed Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Saghir Alam, Son Of Md Salim, Residing At 18 Nil Madhab Sen Lane, Po-Chittaranjan Avenue, Kolkata-700073, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Sagir Alam Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 30/01/2025. That Saghir Alam And Md Sagir Alam Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Sambhu Biswas, S/O- Panchanan Biswas, Residing At Chhutipur, Rammagar, Kumari Rammagar, Nadia, Pin-741502, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shambhu Nath Biswas Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 30/01/2025. That Sambhu Biswas And Shambhu Nath Biswas Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Kanan Bala Ghosh, Wife Of Manirang Ghosh, Residing At 1/B Indraloke, Sodepur, North 24 Parganas - 700110, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Kanan Ghosh Vide An Affidavit No 21 Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 28/01/2025. That Kanan Bala Ghosh And Kanan Ghosh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Md Salahuddin (Old Name) son of Md. Gayasuddin, residing at 26/1, Debendra Chandra Dey Road, Tangra, Kolkata- 700115, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md. Salahuddin Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Md. Salahuddin Khan (New Name) and Md Salahuddin (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Apoorv Maheshwari Binendra Maheshwari (Old Name) son of Binendra Maheshwari, residing at 1, Raja Santosh Road, Alipore, Kolkata- 700027, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Apoorv Maheshwari (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Apoorv Maheshwari (New Name) and Apoorv Maheshwari Binendra Maheshwari (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Nasulla (Old Name) son of Late Saheed, residing at 4 No, Sambhu Chatterjee Street, College Street, Barabazar, Kolkata- 700007, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nasulla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Nasulla (New Name) and Md Nasulla (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

124 Kg of cannabis seized from secret car chamber

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major crackdown on drug trafficking, Kolkata Police's Narcotics Cell seized 124 kg of cannabis hidden inside a secret chamber of a vehicle in the Hastings police station area on Wednesday night. Acting on a tip-off, officers intercepted the vehicle and conducted a thorough search, leading to the discovery of the concealed drugs.

Sources revealed that the large consignment of illegal cannabis was being transported from Angul in Odisha to Mandirbazar in South 24 Parganas. Based on intelligence inputs, police set up surveillance near AJC Bose Road and Belvedere Road, where they intercepted a white goods transport vehicle.

Initially, the search yielded no suspicious items, but upon closer inspection, officers discovered a false compartment cleverly hidden within the vehicle's structure. The chamber was sealed with metal grids to evade detection. Once accessed, the police recovered 123 kg 802 g of cannabis, a substantial haul in the ongoing fight against narcotics smuggling.

Two individuals were arrested in connection with the case: Sourav Banik (25) from Mandirbazar and Kamal Sardar (21), also known as Bidda, from the same locality.

Authorities suspect that these two were acting as couriers for a larger smuggling network, responsible for distributing illegal drugs across various districts. The arrested duo has been charged under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and is currently in police custody for further questioning.

Police officials believe that the operation is part of a larger drug syndicate, with potential links to interstate smuggling rings. Investigators are now focusing on: Identifying the suppliers and financiers behind the shipment; by tracing the intended recipients of the consignment and by determining if similar hidden compartments were used in previous smuggling attempts.

The seized vehicle has been impounded as forensic experts analyze its modifications, hoping to uncover further evidence.

This seizure highlights the increasing use of innovative methods by drug smugglers to transport contraband across state borders. Law enforcement agencies have intensified efforts to combat drug trafficking, with recent seizures of cannabis, heroin, and synthetic drugs in various parts of West Bengal.

Officials have urged citizens to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities to help curb the growing menace of narcotics smuggling.

Working hours of reservation offices during Saraswati puja

MI News Service, Kolkata: All Computerised Reservation Offices over Kolkata and Howrah area will function in the first shift only from 8.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs. on Feb 3 .2025 (Monday) and remain closed in the 2nd shift from 14:00 hrs. to 20:00 hrs. on the occasion of Saraswati Puja. However, current booking counters at Howrah, Sealdah and Kolkata Terminal will function as usual.

Timings of Sainthia - Andal Memu passenger to be revised

MI News Service, Kolkata: For the convenience of the passengers, Railway has decided to revise the timings of 63536 Sainthia - Andal MEMU Passenger with effect from Feb 1 2025 as under: 63536 Sainthia - Andal MEMU passenger will leave Sainthia at 16:25 hrs. to reach Andal at 18:05 hrs. on the same day. The train will stop at Mahishadahari (Arr-16:33 hrs./Dep.- 16:34 hrs.), Kumuri (Arr- 16:37 hrs./Dep.- 16:38 hrs.), Siuri (Arr-16:44 hrs./Dep.- 16:45 hrs.), Kochujor (Arr- 16:52 hrs./Dep.- 16:53 hrs.), Chinpai (Arr- 16:58 hrs./Dep.- 16:59 hrs.), Dubrajpur (Arr- 17:04 hrs./Dep.- 17:05 hrs.), Panchna (Arr- 17:10 hrs./Dep- 17:11 hrs.), Bhimgara (Arr- 17:17 hrs./Dep.- 17:18 hrs.), Pandabeswar (Arr- 17:22 hrs./Dep.- 17:23 hrs.), Ukhra (Arr- 17:32 hrs./Dep.- 17:33 hrs.), Siduli (Arr- 17:36 hrs./Dep.- 17:37 hrs.) & Kajragram (Arr- 17:42 hrs./Dep- 17:43 hrs.) stations between Sainthia and Andal.

Two express trains to be cancelled

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to operational reason, 12307 Howrah - Jodhpur Express (journey commencing on Feb 4 2025), 12308 Jodhpur - Howrah Express (journey commencing on Feb 6 2025), 22307 Howrah - Bikaner Express (journey commencing on Jan 30 2025) and 22308 Bikaner - Howrah Express (journey commencing on Feb 1 2025) will remain cancelled.

General manager inspects Jai Hind Bimanbandar to it centre station stretch of orange line



MI News Service, Kolkata: P. Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager, Metro Railway inspected the progress of work of the stretch between Jai Hind Bimanbandar station and IT Centre station of Orange Line on Tuesday, the Jan 30 2025. Senior officers of Metro Railway and Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) accompanied him during this inspection.

Reddy inspected the Box Pushing location inside Airport Authority of India (AAI) premises on Thursday. He also inspected City Centre-2 station's Entry and Exit points, Platforms and Electrical Sub-station. At IT Centre station, he inspected the AFC-PC Gates, Platforms etc.

He instructed officials to complete the scheduled work within the stipulated deadline.

Name Change

I, Sourav Chatterjee (Old Name) son of Shyamal Chatterjee, residing at 194/1, Shibpur Road, P.O.- Shibpur, P.S.-Shibpur, Howrah, Pin- 711102, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sourav Chatterjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Sourav Chatterjee (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Asraf Halsana (Old Name) son of Khodabaks Halsana, residing at Vill.-Khajuri, P.O.- Ghataswar, P.S.- Dhubulia, Dist.- Nadia, Pin- 741154, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashraf Hossein Halsana (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 30/01/2025. Ashraf Hossein Halsana (New Name) and Asraf Halsana (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Glaucoma Awareness Session Conducted at Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda



MI News Service, Kolkata: Glaucoma, a leading cause of irreversible blindness, often progresses silently without noticeable symptoms. Recognizing the critical need for early detection and management, the Divisional Railway Hospital (DRH), Malda, organized an interactive health education and awareness session on glaucoma as part of Glaucoma Awareness Month on January 28, 2025.

Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that damage the optic nerve, usually due to increased intraocular pressure. Since the disease develops gradually without

apparent symptoms, it often remains undiagnosed until significant vision loss occurs. Awareness about risk factors, including aging, family history, diabetes, and prolonged steroid use, is essential for early detection and intervention.

The session was chaired by Dr. Anupa Ghosh, Chief Medical Superintendent (CMS), Malda, and Dr. L. M. Adhikari, Additional Chief Medical Superintendent (ACMS), Ophthalmology, DRH Malda. The key speaker, Professor Dr. Anindya Gupta, Head of the Department (HOD), Ophthalmology, Malda Medical College, provided an in-depth dis-

ussion on glaucoma, covering its causes, risk factors, diagnostic methods, and management strategies. Dr. Gupta emphasized that glaucoma often presents no symptoms in its early stages, making regular eye check-ups crucial. He highlighted subtle signs such as frequent changes in prescription glasses and minor vision disturbances that may indicate the onset of the disease. Early detection through regular screenings can prevent blindness by enabling timely medical or surgical intervention.

The awareness session proved to be highly beneficial, reinforcing the importance of routine eye examinations and educating attendees on preventive measures. The Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda, remains committed to organizing such initiatives to promote public health and ensure better eye care services for the community.

Special Ticket Checking Drive at Bally Station in Howrah Division

MI News Service, Kolkata: To curb ticketless travel and ensure strict adherence to railway regulations, the Howrah Division of Eastern Railway conducted a Special Ticket Checking Drive at Bally (BLY) Station on 29th January 2025. The intensive drive was carried out under the supervision of Principal Chief Commercial Manager (PCCM) Dr. Uday Shankar Jha with team of commercial officers and commercial staffs.



During the operation, 756 passengers were found traveling without valid tickets and were penalized as per railway rules. This initiative is part of Eastern Railway's continuous efforts to protect revenue and encourage responsible travel among passengers.

Eastern Railway strongly advises all passengers to purchase tickets before boarding trains to avoid penalties and ensure a hassle-free journey. Tickets can be purchased through

multiple convenient modes, including: Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) Counters at railway stations.

Online booking via the UTS Mobile App, which allows passengers to buy paperless tickets easily.

Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), available at many stations for

quick and contactless ticket purchases.

Eastern Railway remains committed to maintaining discipline and fairness in travel and will continue conducting similar special drives in the future. Passengers are encouraged to cooperate and contribute to a more efficient and transparent railway system.

Regulation of train services in Sealdah South section for non interlocking work at Ballygunge & Kankurgachi from midnight of Feb 1-3 (04:00 am)

MI News Service, Kolkata: In yet another mega infrastructure development endeavour, the existing Route Relay Interlocking System (RRIS) will be replaced by Electronic Interlocking System (EI) at Ballygunge and Kankurgachi in Sealdah South Section. Ballygunge Junction is one of the biggest and busiest Junctions in the Sealdah Suburban Section with movement in 4 directions. Also, Kankurgachi Road Junction is one of the important junctions in the Sealdah Suburban Section which involves all movements in the Sealdah Main line and this is interlocking junction for Sealdah Main and Sealdah South Section. The existing Route Relay Interlocking (RRIS) Systems at Ballygunge and Kankurgachi were commissioned in 1994 & 1993 respectively. The earlier systems were based on old technology and it were prone to failure because of its age. It was hard to provide spare material for day to day maintenance because of old technology. To overcome this challenge Railway has decided to equip Ballygunge and Kankurgachi with the state of Art Electronic Interlocking Systems.

erational at Ballygunge and Kankurgachi to monitor train movements.

For the sake of giant non interlocking work, there will be regulation in train operations from Midnight of 1st February to 04:00 AM of 3rd February, 2025. This crucial non interlocking (NI) maintenance work is aimed at augmenting safety, security operational efficiency, flexibility and sectional speed. This improved Electronic Interlocking System will provide a safe and efficient way to control seamless movement of trains, which in turn will reduce delays, risk of accidents, maintenance costs etc. This cutting edge EI technology can be easily integrated with other Railway systems for ensuring an efficient rail network.

REPERCUSSION: 1) Train services in Sealdah North/Main i.e. from Sealdah to Nahiti and beyond will remain normal services. 2) Train services in Sealdah Central section i.e. from Sealdah to Barasat, Hasnabad, Bangoan Jn. Will remain normal services 3) Train services will also remain normal from Sealdah (South) towards different destinations like Diamond Harbour, Lakshmikantapur, Namkhana and Canning. 4) Frequency of services in between Sealdah South and Baruipur Jn. will be reduced from 6 minutes to 12 minutes during the morning and evening hours. 5) Services in between Sealdah South and Budge Budge will be Short Originated / Short Terminated from/to New Alipur instead of Sealdah South and will run as per scheduled timings. 6) Direct EMU services via Kankurgachi Rd. Jn. (Cabin) - Sir Gurudas Banerjee Halt - Ballygunge Jn. Chord section will be

restricted/ diverted to Sealdah North due to the designated work site.

7) Therefore, passengers from Sealdah North to South section and vice-versa travelling via chord line will have to change train at Sealdah.

8) Nahiti - Majerhat local trains which are running via Chord line will be diverted via Circular Railway section.

9) Barasat - Dum Dum Special service during the morning peak hours will be run for Dum Dum bound passengers.

10) 2 numbers of Sealdah - Nahiti Passenger Special will be provided during the evening peak hours.

SPECIAL TRAINS: Total 06 trains will be run on Saturday and Sunday to facilitate commuters:- i) Dumdum- Barasat Special - From Dumdum at 18:00 Hrs. ii) Sealdah - Ranaghat Special - From Sealdah at 19:00 Hrs. iii) Sealdah - Nahiti Special - From Sealdah at 15:05 Hrs. iv) Budge Budge - New Alipur Special - From Budge Budge at 17:30 Hrs. v) New Alipur - Budge Budge Special - From New Alipur at 20:12 Hrs. vi) Sealdah - Baruipara Special - From Sealdah 17:43 Hrs.

In order to minimize disruptions in service and inconvenience of commuters, the huge Non interlocking work has been planned on Saturday & Sunday only. Sealdah Division sincerely apologizes to Rail users for possible inconvenience on Saturday & Sunday. The changes are essential for long term benefits of Rail infrastructure improvement, passenger safety and average speed enhancement of trains. Passengers are advised to plan their journeys well in advance and check the detailed train schedules before their departure.

Vibrant Buildcon 2025: One Nation One Expo to Propel Industry Growth
Vibrant Buildcon 2025: India's Premier Building Material Expo to Propel Industry Growth

New Delhi : The highly anticipated Vibrant Buildcon 2025, India's largest building material expo, is set to take place from April 13 to 16, 2025, at the prestigious Yashbhooni Exhibition and Convention Centre, New Delhi. Spanning a massive area of 50,000 square meters, the expo is poised to attract over 150,000 domestic visitors and more than 2,000 international buyers, creating a dynamic platform for global collaborations and business growth. Showcasing Innovation and Excellence

Bollywood icon Suniel Shetty, the brand ambassador of Vibrant Buildcon 2025, is lending his support to this remarkable initiative, emphasizing its importance for the industry. Vibrant Buildcon 2025 will feature participation from 600+ exhibitors, each bringing cutting-edge innovations in building materials to the forefront. From sustainable solutions to digitalized manufacturing techniques, the expo promises to be a showcase of India's advancements in the sector, reflecting the country's prowess in meeting global standards and demands. A Boost for India's Economy Supported by the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, Vibrant Buildcon 2025 is envisioned as 'One Nation One Expo,' promising to become a landmark event in the future of the building materials industry. Supported by the Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Commerce, Vibrant Buildcon 2025 emphasizes local manufacturing and innovation.

Lenovo Strengthens Retail Presence in the North with over 17 new store launches

Lenovo Launches First Exclusive Store in Chapra, Expanding Reach in Eastern India

Lenovo expands its retail presence with 50+ stores across East India. Chapra: Lenovo, the global technology powerhouse, strengthened its retail presence across East India with the opening of 8 new, and refreshed stores, further solidifying its position as a market leader in the region. With this expansion, Lenovo now boasts 50+ stores across East India, underscoring its commitment to driving regional growth and enhancing accessibility. Located in key cities such as Raipur, Korba, Bilaspur, Guwahati, Kolkata, Chapra, and Ranchi, these stores offer a comprehensive range of Lenovo's AI-driven consumer and gaming products, from laptops and desktops to monitors and accessories. The store promises an engaging experience, featuring interactive displays and innovative product showcases that invite first-hand exploration and a knowledgeable staff ready to provide product demos, technical support, and even customization options. Shoppers can explore newly launched devices in India, such as the LOQ, Legion, IdeaPad, Yoga, ThinkPad, and ThinkBook series, tailored to meet their needs. Raghavendra Araveeti, Sales Head, North and East - Consumer Business, said, "Expanding our retail footprint in India reinforces our commitment to bringing smarter technology closer to



consumers. These new stores act as innovation hubs, offering personalized service and enabling customers to explore our diverse product range and experience AI-driven technology firsthand. Our portfolio of devices and services offer students, gamers, professionals, and businesses with features designed to enhance productivity, learning, and creativity. The new outlets cater to the growing demand for technology in these areas, providing customers with access to Lenovo's extensive range of AI-enabled gaming, consumer, and commercial devices. In addition to the new locations, several existing stores have been refreshed and relocated to serve as hubs for innovation and engagement within dynamic tech ecosystems. Lenovo will now offer express delivery in these regions, with the delivery time as short as 4 hours.

Lenovo has transformed its stores in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan, bringing its retail presence to 180+ stores in the northern region. Patna: Lenovo, the global technology powerhouse, cements its retail presence in North India with the opening of 17 new,

hybrid, and refreshed stores further solidifying its position as a market leader in the region. Strategically located across Bhopal, Indore, Gwalior, Chattarpur, Noida, Kanpur, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Allahabad, Faridabad, Hissar and Panipat will provide an engaging experience to customers. The stores are

designed to deliver an engaging shopping experience, featuring interactive displays, innovative product showcases, and knowledgeable staff providing personalized assistance, product demos, and technical support. With this expansion, Lenovo boasts 180+ stores across North India, underscoring its commitment to driving regional growth and enhancing accessibility. One of the highlights of this expansion is a hybrid store in Faridabad, Haryana, which features a dedicated gaming zone. Designed to provide an immersive experience, this space allows gaming enthusiasts to explore Lenovo's latest innovations in gaming technology firsthand. Shoppers can explore newly launched devices in India, such as the LOQ, Legion, IdeaPad, Yoga, ThinkPad, and ThinkBook series, tailored to meet the needs of students, gamers, and professionals. Raghavendra Araveeti, Sales Head, North and East - Consumer Business, said, "Expanding our retail footprint in India reinforces our commitment to bringing smarter technology closer to consumers. These new stores act as innovation hubs, offering personalized service and enabling customers to explore our diverse product range and experience AI-driven technology firsthand. Our portfolio of devices and services offer students, gamers, professionals, and businesses with features designed to enhance productivity, learning, and creativity. The new outlets cater to the growing demand for technology in these areas, providing customers with access to Lenovo's extensive range of AI-enabled gaming, consumer, and commercial devices. In addition to the new locations, several existing stores have been refreshed and relocated to serve as hubs for innovation and engagement within dynamic tech ecosystems. Lenovo will now offer express delivery in these regions, with the delivery time as short as 4 hours.

UK's quantum leap: How atomic clock is poised to define future of warfare



In what has been billed as a leap forward in improving intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance by decreasing the reliance on GPS technology, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) of the UK developed an atomic clock that will make military operations more secure through experimental quantum technology.

According to UK ministry of defence (MoD), the precision of the clock is so refined that it will lose less than one second over billions of years, allowing scientists to measure time at an unprecedented scale.

Besides, it is also expected to support navigation systems, secure communication networks, and increase the accuracy of advanced weaponry. By decreasing the reliance on GPS technology—which can be disrupted and blocked by adversaries—the atomic clock will strengthen national security, making it less vulnerable to disruptions through various techniques.

Further improvement to GPS accuracy could transform global navigation systems, aiding in everything from satellite communication to aircraft navigation.

Some of the key benefits of the technology include enabling more precise and independent navigation systems, reducing reliance on GPS satellites, which are vulnerable to jamming or destruction in conflict scenarios; secure communications systems, such as encrypted military networks, which depend on highly synchronised time-keeping; enhancing the accuracy of advanced weapon systems, like guided missiles, which rely on accurate timing to calculate trajectories and coordinate attacks; and allow UK armed forces to gain an edge over adversaries in timing-critical operations, especially in areas like cyber warfare, where milliseconds can make a difference.

"Integrating cutting-edge technology into existing capabilities exemplifies the government's commitment to innovation in the defence sector, and to ensuring our armed forces have the best kit possible to keep us secure at home and strong abroad," said Maria Eagle, Minister for Defence Procurement and Industry.

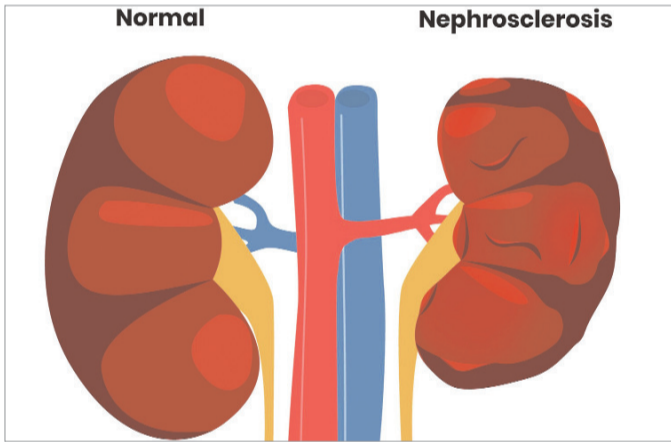
Himachal's second space lab becomes functional

Bilaspur (HP) Himachal Pradesh's second space lab was inaugurated here on Tuesday to provide school students with hands-on experience in space science, robotics, and aerospace technology. The first space lab is already functioning at Ghumarwin School in Bilaspur district. There are plans to set up five such labs in the district, an official statement said. "A space lab is a crucial step to inspire school children and kindle their interest in space science and technology," Technical Education Minister Rajesh Dharmani said after inaugurating the space lab at a government school.

The space labs are integral to Bilaspur's educational reform initiative, established to spark students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), he said.

The lab is equipped with drones, 3D printers, telescopes, and models of Indian Space Research Organisation missions. Students will be introduced to in-depth knowledge of subjects like satellite communication and aerospace engineering, which are becoming globally important, he said. The minister said children from nearby schools can visit the lab and it will serve as a regional centre for science education. Additionally, educational trips to ISRO's Space Application Centre in Ahmedabad are being organised, he said, adding so far, 10 students have been there, and preparations are underway to send 50 more. Dharmani also inaugurated the first Activity-Based Learning (ABL) classroom in Bilaspur district. The ABL approach deviates from traditional learning, focusing instead on interactive and real-life experiences.

Simple measurement may predict risk of worsening kidney disease: Study



WASHINGTON DC [US] : Aarhus University researchers discovered a simple way for predicting which people are most likely to develop chronic kidney disease rapidly. This could be a key step towards improved prevention and treatment.

About ten percent of the Danish population suffers from chronic kidney disease, and some individuals experience rapid deterioration after the diagnosis is made.

Now, a team of researchers from Aarhus University in a comprehensive study has investigated the precise risk of rapid progression, and the result could be a significant step towards more effective treatment of the disease.

The study, which is based on data from Danish health registers, provides healthcare professionals with new insights into how to better identify patients at high risk of rapid worsening of kidney disease.

"We chose to investigate chronic kidney disease because some of the patients experience rapid deterioration of their condition without us knowing exactly who. Our goal was to understand which patients are most at risk and whether we can intervene early to delay or even prevent this progression," says Professor at the Department of Clinical Medicine at Aarhus University, Christian Fynbo Christiansen, one of the authors of the study.

A simple measurement The study showed that patients with newly diagnosed mild to moderate chronic kidney disease within three years have a 15 percent risk of rapid progression, which could lead to severe cardiovascular disease or even death.

Surprisingly, the study also showed that the risk of rapid progression varied significantly among patients.

A simple measurement of protein in the urine proved to be a strong indicator of the course of kidney disease. For women without diabetes or elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular

disease and without the protein albumin in their urine, the risk of rapid progression was seven percent, while the risk peaked at 47 percent for men with both diabetes, elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease, and albumin in their urine.

"This is an important finding since albumin can be used as an indicator of kidney disease progression, thereby making it possible to identify patients at high risk of rapid deterioration of the disease, and it can improve the prevention of complications and hopefully increase patients' quality of life," explains Christian Fynbo Christiansen, adding:

"It underscores the need to use this simple test to a far greater extent."

Benefit for patients and society

The measurement can help healthcare professionals to target treatment and follow-up to patients at high risk. This could potentially be a significant gain for patients both in Denmark and the rest of the world.

"We hope that this result can contribute to increased awareness of the importance of using readily available markers - including albumin in the urine - to identify patients at high risk of rapid progression," says Christian Fynbo Christiansen.

And it's not only the patients who can benefit from the results. Faster and more effective prevention could also potentially help to reduce healthcare costs.

"I think we will focus much more in the future on patients with milder stages of the disease, like those we included in this study. If we get better at preventing and treating chronic kidney disease and its associated complications, it could potentially benefit both patients and society," explains Christian Fynbo Christiansen.

He emphasizes that further research and development of precise treatment methods are still needed. Although the study provides important insight into risk groups, a precise model for predicting individual patient outcomes is still lacking.

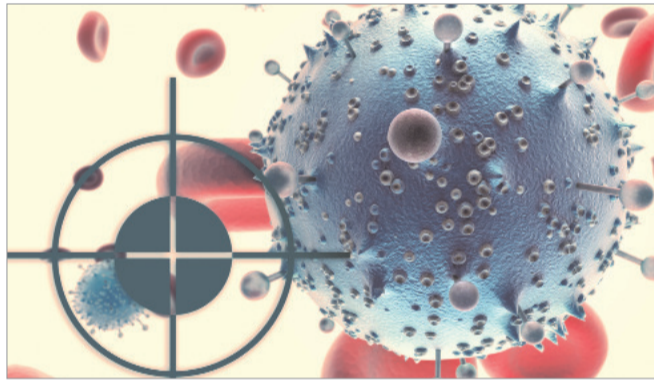
Researchers discover that unique immune cells stop metastatic cancer

NEW YORK [US] : The majority of cancer deaths are caused by metastatic disease, which occurs when cancer spreads from the primary tumour to other areas of the body, and researchers understand how cancer cells escape the primary location to seed new tumours, it is unclear why some cancer cells produce new tumours decades later and others do not.

A research team at the National Cancer Institute-designated Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Centre (MECCC) has uncovered a natural immunological response in mice that prevents escaping cancer cells from growing into tumours elsewhere in the body. The study was published today in the journal Cell.

"Preventing or curing metastases is the most critical challenge in cancer," said study leader Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D., director of MECCC's Cancer Dormancy Institute. "We think our findings have the potential to point to new therapies to prevent or treat metastatic disease." The study's co-first authors are Erica Dalla, Ph.D., a former student, and Michael Papanicolaou, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso's lab.

Cells that migrate from primary tumors and seed metastatic tumors are called disseminated cancer cells (DCCs). Some DCCs behave aggressively, immediately starting tumors in new tissue, while others remain in a state of suspended animation referred to as dormancy. "It's long been a



mystery how some DCCs can remain in tissues for decades and never cause metastases, and we believe we've found the explanation," said Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso, who is also professor of cell biology, of oncology, and of medicine and the Rose C. Falkenstein Chair in Cancer Research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Breast cancer and many other types of cancer metastasize to the lungs. In research involving three mouse models of metastatic breast cancer, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso and colleagues determined that when breast cancer DCCs spread to the lung's air sacs (alveoli), they are kept in a dormant state by immune cells known as alveolar macrophages.

"Alveolar macrophages are the lung's first responders, defending the organ against bacteria and dangerous substances like environmental pollutants," said Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso. These specialized macrophages, he notes, appear early in embryonic

development and reside within lung tissue for life.

"Our findings demonstrate a new role for these macrophages, in which they recognize DCCs and actively interact with them, and by secreting a protein called TGF- β 2—produce signals in the cancer cells that keep them in a dormant state," Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso said. "Since every organ in the body has its own set of tissue-resident macrophages, they may function to keep DCCs in check in those organs as well. Our study has shown for the first time that these specialized macrophages function to actively induce dormancy in DCCs."

Confirming the importance of alveolar macrophages in keeping DCCs dormant, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso and his team found that depleting them in the mice significantly increased the number of activated DCCs and subsequent metastases in their lungs compared to mice with normal levels of the immune cells.

Researchers find self-monitoring improves physical activity of elderly who require care

WASHINGTON DC : Self-monitoring of physical activity with an accelerometer and feedback is an effective method for improving physical activity in the elderly who need long-term care.

The Kobe University study is the first to show that this demographic's physical activity can be increased using simple and safe methods, potentially lowering long-term care costs and preventing serious illness.

Taking more steps and sitting less is well understood to have a significant impact on a variety of noncommunicable diseases, including heart disease, diabetes, orthopaedic diseases, and stroke.

This is particularly problematic in senior citizens who depend on long-term care such as in day-care centers, as it is known that they take fewer steps and spend more time sitting than healthy people of similar age. The resulting higher risk of falling ill not only decreases health-related quality of life in these people, it also stretches already scarce resources in healthcare systems. And while it is known that self-monitoring can improve the physical activity even among the elderly, the effectiveness of this approach has not been shown for this high-risk demographic. The Kobe University research team of health scientists IZAWA Kazuhiro and KITAMURA Masahiro filled this gap by conducting a comparative analysis with 52 long-term care patients at a day care center in Japan on the effectiveness of self-monitoring of physical activity.

They educated the participants on the importance of increasing physical activity and asked participants to wear



accelerometers that record steps, sitting time and activity of various intensity. The 26 participants in the intervention group were additionally asked to record their progress in a calendar daily and received weekly feedback and advice.

The results now published in the journal European Geriatric Medicine show that the intervention group took more steps, spent less time sitting and were more engaged in light physical activity. The authors write, "The results of this intervention promoting physical activity in this target population were novel to this study. Older people with long-term care needs have reduced mobility and activity compared to healthy older people, so increasing physical activity is not easy. However, goals such as increasing the number of steps can be easily understood and practiced, and

reducing the time spent in sedentary behavior, such as by standing or taking a short walk, are activities that can be performed indoors and do not require high mobility."

Since this was the first study to include not only on steps in the self-monitoring but also time spent sitting, it is possible that these two affected each other. The Kobe University researchers explain, "A previous study in healthy older people reported that moderate to vigorous physical activity increases when sedentary behavior decreases, which is somewhat similar to the findings in the present study." Izawa adds, "While traditional self-monitoring interventions have focused primarily on the number of steps taken, this study focused on both steps taken and sedentary behavior. As a result, we believe this may have facilitated their behavior change."

While this study clearly shows the effectiveness of such simple measures as wearing an accelerometer, self-monitoring and receiving feedback on one's progress on the physical activity, its five-week period was too short to capture actual benefits on health-related quality of life.

Izawa and Kitamura said, "The results of this study may serve as an important foundation for future research on promoting physical activity among older adults in need of assistance. In particular, self-monitoring interventions have been shown to contribute to improved physical activity and can be applied to care prevention strategies. Future studies should include larger samples, a broader range of activities and long-term follow-up to verify the sustained effectiveness of the intervention."

"Reza-e-Habib Conference on the occasion of " Dastar e Hifz



MI News Service, Hooghly: "Madrasa Reza-e-Habib" Jinnati Masjid, Islampara, Bansberia, on Friday after Isha prayers, a grand conference called "Reza-e-Habib Conference on the occasion of the celebration of the preservation of the headscarf " Dastar e hifz is going to be held in the premises of the Jinnati Masjid. This program is going to be supervised by Hazrat Allama Maulana Mati-ur-Rehman Misbahi, Khatib and Imam of Jinnati Masjid and Nazim-e-Ala of Madrasah Reza-e-Habib. Maulana Asif Raza Misbahi, Sadr-e-Madrasain Madrasa Reza-e-Habib, Deputy Imam of Jinnati Masjid and all members of Madrasa Reza-e-Habib. In this program, the zenat jalsa of Pir Tariqat Rahbar Shariat Nabirah Shuaib Auliya Hazrat Allama Maulana Asif Raza Alvi Azhari Damat Barakatham Qudsiyyah who is coming from the land of Brown Sharif, UP. The publisher of the Aala Hazrat, Hazrat Allama Maulana Tahir Hussain Misbahi (Tikiya Para), Hazrat Allama Maulana Tufail Ahmad Zia (Champdani),

the poet of Ahle Sunnah, Hazrat Aamir Raza (Howrah) and all the scholars, imams and admirers of Khair-e-Anam of the area are coming. Alhamdulillah, the name of the child whose head is tied is Muhammad Shafi-ur-Rehman (Khagra Jal Chinsurah, Hooghly). He has memorized the Holy Quran in a short period of one year and has brought glory to his parents and the madrasa. Insha Allah, on the golden occasion of the tie, the head of this child will be decorated with a tie by the holy hands of all the scholars, great masters. A day ago, on Thursday, from 2 pm, a program for women in Islam was also held in Madrasa Reza e Habib Hall. In which a distinguished scholar is coming from outside. "Madrasa Raza e Habib" near the Jinnati Masjid Islam Para, Bansberia, Hooghly. It is a religious educational institution that was established in the year 2000 in the premises adjacent to the Jinnati Masjid. It has been moving towards its objectives since the first day. In which the education

of memorization, recitation is given along with training. Approximately 150 local and residential children are studying in this institution. There are teachers for the education of boys and teachers for the education of girls. There is also a kitchen for the food and drink of the residential children. The expenses of which are covered by the salaries of the teachers and other needs of the madrasa, which is met by the donations of Allah and the general public. The madrasa also holds a gathering of women of Islam every Sunday from 2:00 PM. But due to the shortage of space, there is a lot of difficulty in advancing the education, training and missionary mission, so a land has been arranged nearby to pave the holy path of education and missionary work, which requires a lot of money to build and form. We request all the well-wishers to actively participate in this noble cause and become worthy of the rewards. Md Asif Raza Misbahi, Head of Madrasa Raza e Habib.

Stop atrocities, uphold human rights: Conference in London sheds light on Sindh, Balochistan plight

MI News Service, London: A conference held at the House of Commons on January 29, 2025, drew attention to the ongoing human rights abuses in Sindh and Balochistan. Organised by the Asian Human Rights Forum (AHRF) in partnership with the World Sindh Congress (WSC) and the Baloch Human Rights Council (BHRC), the session was hosted by British MP Bob Blackman and attracted human rights advocates and community members from across the globe. Bob Blackman opened the session by reaffirming Britain's strong commitment to human rights worldwide. Expressing concern over the misuse of British aid, Blackman referenced the AHRF brochure that detailed disturbing human rights trans-

gressions in Pakistan. "We must ensure that aid given to Pakistan supports its people, not fuels their oppression," he said, calling for a thorough review of Pakistan's human rights record. Hidayatullah Bhutto of the WSC provided an in-depth look at the systematic exploitation of Sindh. He highlighted how Pakistan's military unlawfully took control of agricultural land under the guise of corporate farming, depriving Sindhis of their rightful resources. Bhutto also condemned the ongoing erosion of Sindh's civil, political, and cultural rights. Khurshid Karim from the BHRC focused on the severe situation in Balochistan, describing the grim reality of mass disappearances and the discov-



ery of mass graves linked to the Pakistani military. Karim also spoke of the exploitation of Balochistan's natural resources, contrasting this with the area's lack of basic services such as healthcare and education. AHRF Executive Director Arif Ajakia expressed his gratitude to Bob Blackman for hosting the important event. Ajakia reflected on his personal connection to Sindh and described the

dire state of Karachi, a city that was once a thriving cosmopolitan hub but is now suffering from deteriorating infrastructure, a lack of safe drinking water, and no mass transit system. "Since 1991, Pakistan Rangers, a regular battalion of the Pakistan Army, have been stationed in Karachi, effectively ruling Sindh," he said, underscoring the extent of military overreach in the region. Ajakia also criticised

Pakistan's use of foreign aid, claiming it funds human rights violations instead of development. "Our government must pressure Pakistan to protect its citizens' fundamental rights," he stated. He emphasised the need for urgent international action, pointing to the widespread lack of municipal services and the military's involvement in land grabs across Sindh and Balochistan. The conference concluded with a unanimous vote of gratitude to Bob Blackman and a call for the British government to exert pressure on Pakistan to restore the human rights of its citizens. The event served as both a call for justice for the oppressed people of Sindh and Balochistan and a stark reminder of the continuing abuses they endure.

Hamas hands captive Israeli soldier Agam Berger over to Red Cross in Gaza

MI News Service, Gaza Strip: Hamas on Thursday, January 30, handed captive Israeli soldier Agam Berger over to the Red Cross in the Gaza Strip. Thursday's release is part of a ceasefire that began January 19. It is aimed at winding down the deadliest and most destructive war ever fought between Israel and the Hamas militant group.

The fragile deal has held for over 10 days, halting the fighting and allowing for increased aid to flow into the tiny coastal territory. A total of 33 Israeli hostages are expected to be freed in exchange for nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners during the truce's initial six weeks. Israel says it has received information from Hamas that eight of those hostages were either killed in Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack or have died in captivity.

UAE celebrates Chinese New Year

MI News Service, Abu Dhabi: The Chinese New Year celebrations across the United Arab Emirates highlighted the deep-rooted historical and strategic ties between the UAE and the People's Republic of China. In Abu Dhabi, grand festivities took place, with Umm Al Emarat Park hosting a major cultural event organised by the Chinese Embassy in collaboration with China Media Group. As part of the global Chinese New Year celebrations, Abu Dhabi was selected among seven cities worldwide to host these festivities, underscoring the strength of bilateral relations and cultural exchange between the two nations, particularly as they mark 40 years of diplomatic ties. Meanwhile, in Dubai, the Chinese New Year celebrations commenced on 24th January and will continue until 2nd February. Organised by the Consulate General of China, the festivities feature six major events, including an electric car showcase and the Lantern Festival, which is part of the Chinese Spring Festival, one of China's most significant traditional holidays. Dubai Festivals and Retail Establishment (DFRE) has also introduced a series of special events spotlighting Chinese culture, along with exclusive promotions and prize draws offering rewards of up to AED 50,000, including luxury cars. High-end brands are participating in the celebrations by offering significant discounts on fashion, cosmetics, and electronics. The celebrations also include a variety of entertainment and cultural performances, notably a concert by the Firdaus Orchestra at Expo Dubai on 26th January. Other highlights feature dazzling fireworks displays, unique culinary experiences, and exclusive hotel packages designed to offer guests an immersive festive atmosphere. Chinese New Year festivities in the UAE have become a significant annual event, reflecting the strong bilateral relationship between the two nations. With approximately 400,000 Chinese residents in the UAE, the celebrations provide an opportunity for them.

Trump signs Laken Riley Act, allows detention of undocumented migrants accused of criminal offences

MI News Service, Washington DC: United States President Donald Trump on Wednesday (local time) signed the Laken Riley Act, which mandates pre-trial detention of illegal immigrants accused of theft, burglary or shoplifting. The Hill reported.

The passing of the act in the House marked Trump's first legislative victory as the bill received 263-156 vote, with 46 Democrats supporting it after the Senate approved the measure in a bipartisan 64-35 vote. "This is a very important law, this is something that has brought Democrats and Republicans together. That's not something that's easy to do -- Laken did it. America will never, ever forget Laken Hope Riley," Trump said at the bill signing, calling it "a landmark law" that can "save countless innocent American lives."

The bill is named after Georgia nursing student

Laken Riley, who was killed by a Venezuelan migrant who was arrested for shoplifting ahead of the attack after he was paroled into the country. Trump thanked the Republicans for voting for the bill, as well as the Democrats who voted across party lines and warned that those who didn't vote for it "are going to be sorry."

Additionally, Trump said that he will sign an executive order to prepare a facility at Guantanamo Bay to house deported migrants, during the signing of the Lake Riley Act. The Hill reported. The order will direct the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security to prepare a 30,000-person migrant facility at Guantanamo Bay. The facility in Cuba has been used to house military prisoners, including several involved in the 9/11 attacks. The Hill reported. "We have 30,000 beds in

Guantanamo to detain the worst criminal illegal aliens threatening the American people," Trump said during an event to sign the Laken Riley Act into law. "Some of them are so bad we don't even trust the countries to hold them because we don't want them coming back, so we're going to send them out to Guantanamo," Trump added. "This will double our capacity immediately. And tough, it's a tough place to get out of."

This order is the latest step in Trump's effort to deport immigrants from the United States. Guantanamo Bay is known US military base where terror suspects are held. It came into bad light amid accusations of torture and abuse by the US in their war against terrorism. Former President Joe Biden administration wind down operations at the facility. There are 15 detainees still there, The Hill reported.

European Parliament launches 'Friends of Tibet' to champion Tibetan rights and cultural preservation

MI News Service, Brussels: The European Parliament officially established the European Parliamentary Friends of Tibet group in Brussels today, according to Central Tibet Administration (CTA). Over 20 Members of European Parliament (MEPs) from several major political groups supported this initiative, which was led by Lithuanian MEP Dainius Zalimas and demonstrated a shared commitment to the Tibetan cause, CTA reported.

Seven MEPs and several Parliamentary Assistants from 12 EU member states participated in the event, which was held in the midst of the Holocaust remembrance commemoration. Their attendance demonstrated how critical it is to address Tibet's worsening human rights situation on the European scene as per a report by CTA.

Subodh Sarkar releases 'Bhasha Nagar' magazine



Nurul Islam Khan

Minister Indranil Sen inaugurated the book fair Number Bhasha Nagar Patrika at the Bhasha Nagar Poetry Car at the Kolkata International Book Fair on Wednesday. Popular poet Subodh Sarkar, the editor of Bhasha Nagar, has himself enthralled the audience by reading several poems on this day. Poet Bibhash Chowdhury lit the lamp and many dignitar-

ies including Shivashish Mukherjee were present on the occasion. One of the highlights of the book fair, this vehicle of poetry has attracted the attention of many readers. There's poetry in this car, Bhashanagar, Belur to Basnapur, Mallika Sengupta's 'Kabita Samagra' and many other important books have been included in this vehicle. Popular poet Subodh Sarkar formally inaugurated the book fair

issue of poet Tumpa Roy Chowdhury's poem 'Tumi Aparajeyo'. Poet Tumpa Roy Chowdhury handed over a book to Minister Indranil Sen. On the occasion of the publication of the Bhasha Nagar magazine in the car of poetry, the interest of the people was visible. A large number of people attended the meeting and recited poems and short speeches. The meeting ended with a song by Kamalika Chaudhary.

Israel to sever ties with UN Palestinian refugee agency



MI News Service, Jerusalem: Israel said it would sever all ties with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) starting on Thursday, accusing the agency of employing Hamas operatives and enabling "terror activity" in Gaza. "UNRWA is riddled with Hamas," Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Oren Marmorstein said on social media platform X. "Beginning January 30, Israel will cease all engagement with UNRWA in accordance with Israeli law," he wrote. Marmorstein reiterated Israel's commitment to humanitarian aid reaching Gaza but said assistance would be

channeled through "alternative organizations," including other UN agencies, international NGOs, and foreign governments, Xinhua news agency reported. An Israeli law passed in October 2024 mandates an end to UNRWA's operation on Israeli land — including East Jerusalem, which Israel annexed in a move not recognised internationally — and contact with Israeli authorities from Thursday. It also bars Israeli officials from any contact with UNRWA. The move has drawn condemnation from international leaders and aid groups. UNRWA, which provides vital healthcare, education, and emergency services to millions of Palestinians, denied the allegations and

said it has received no formal evidence from Israel to substantiate the claims. UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said on Tuesday that the agency has been the target of a "forceful information campaign" to "portray the agency as a terrorist organization." The headquarters of UNRWA is facing an immediate shutdown due to bans passed by the Israeli legislature in October. These restrictions threaten the organization's operations across the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, where UNRWA provides crucial support to around 2 million Palestinians, many of whom are homeless as a result of the ongoing 15-month Israel-Hamas war.

Commissioning of Auto Signalling for more Safety & Mobility

Non-Interlocking work at Ballygunge Jn. & Kankurgachi Road Jn. over Sealdah Division Regulation of some Local Trains on Saturday & Sunday

For commissioning of Hot Standby Dual Visual Display Unit Electronic Interlocking system with two (02) nos. 65 inches VDU-Monitor to replace Old RRI Panel at Ballygunge Jn. and Kankurgachi Road Jn. with provision of Multi Section Digital Axle Counters (in place of Track Circuits) in connection with the commissioning of Automatic Section in between Ballygunge Jn. and Kankurgachi Road Jn. (Chord Line) in Sonarpur-Ballygunge Jn.-Kankurgachi Road Jn.-Dum Dum Jn. section of Sealdah Division, 52 hours Non-Interlocking work will be undertaken at Ballygunge Jn. from 00.00 hrs of 01.02.2025 (Saturday) to 04.00 hrs of 03.02.2025 (Monday) and 28 hours Non-Interlocking work will be undertaken at Kankurgachi Road from 00.00 hrs of 02.02.2025 (Sunday) to 04.00 hrs of 03.02.2025 (Monday). Consequently, arrangements in train operation will be as under :

ON SATURDAY (01.02.2025)	ON SUNDAY (02.02.2025)
<p>● CANCELLATION : Sealdah-Baruipur Jn. : Up : 34611, 34613, 34617, 34621, 34623, 34601, 34625, 34627, 34629, 34649, 34633, 34651, 34637, 34639, 34643, 34645, 34647. Down : 34612, 34614, 34616, 34618, 34620, 34622, 34624, 34626, 34628, 34650, 34632, 34652, 34636, 34638, 34642, 34644. Sealdah-Sonarpur Jn.: Up : 34411, 34419, 34429, 34431. Down : 34412, 34414, 34416, 34418, 34432, 34434. BBD Bag-Baruipur Jn.: Up : 30451. Sealdah-BBD Bag : Up : 30411. Down : 30412, 30416. Canning-Barasat : Up : 33061. Champahati-Majerhat : Up : 30511. Majerhat-Ghutiari Sharif : Down : 30552. Madhyamgram-Majerhat : Up : 30357. Down : 30358. Sealdah-Barasat: Down : 33438. Sealdah-Naihati : Down : 31422, 31442. K Budge Budge-Naihati : Up : 31051, 31053, 31055.</p> <p>● SHORT TERMINATION/SHORT ORIGINATION : At New Alipore (Kolkata) : Up : 30111, 34165, 34111, 34113, 34115, 34117, 34119, 34121, 34123, 34125, 34127, 34129, 34133, 34137, 34141, 34167, 34145, 34149, 34151, 34153, 34155, 34157, 34159, 34161, 34163. Down : 30122, 34112, 34114, 34116, 34118, 34120, 34122, 34124, 34126, 34128, 34130, 34132, 34136, 34140, 34168, 34146, 34148, 34150, 34154, 34156, 34158, 34160, 34162, 34164, 34166. At Majerhat : Up : 34147. Down : 34152. At Sonarpur Jn. : Up : 30711, 34899, 34641. Down : 30712, 34898. At Barasat : Up : 30317, 30361. Down : 34062. At Prinsep Ghat : Up : 30313. Down : 30314. At Dum Dum Jn. : Down : 30142.</p> <p>● DIVERSION : (1) 30152 Naihati-Majerhat, (2) 30154 Naihati-Majerhat, (3) 34052 Naihati-K Budge Budge, (4) 34054 Naihati-K Budge Budge, (5) 34056 Kalyani Simanta-K Budge Budge will be diverted to Sealdah (Main & North).</p>	<p>● CANCELLATION : Sealdah-Baruipur Jn. : Up : 34611, 34613, 34621, 34623, 34625, 34627, 34649, 34633, 34651, 34637, 34639, 34643, 34645, 34647. Down : 34612, 34614, 34620, 34622, 34624, 34626, 34650, 34632, 34652, 34636, 34638, 34642, 34644. Sealdah-Sonarpur Jn.: Up : 34411, 34417, 34429. Down : 34412, 34414, 34416, 34432. BBD Bag-Baruipur Jn.: Up : 30451. Sealdah-BBD Bag : Up : 30411. Down : 30412, 30416. Canning-Barasat : Up : 33061. Champahati-Majerhat : Up : 30511. Majerhat-Ghutiari Sharif : Down : 30552. Madhyamgram-Majerhat: Up : 30357. Down : 30358. Sealdah-Barasat : Down : 33438. Sealdah-Naihati: Down : 31422, 31442. K Budge Budge-Naihati : Up : 31051, 31053, 31055.</p> <p>● SHORT TERMINATION/SHORT ORIGINATION: At New Alipore (Kolkata) : Up : 30111, 34165, 34111, 34113, 34115, 34117, 34119, 34121, 34123, 34125, 34129, 34133, 34137, 34141, 34167, 34145, 34149, 34151, 34153, 34155, 34157, 34159, 34161, 34163. Down : 30122, 34112, 34114, 34116, 34118, 34120, 34122, 34124, 34126, 34128, 34130, 34132, 34136, 34140, 34168, 34146, 34148, 34150, 34154, 34156, 34158, 34160, 34162, 34164, 34166. At Majerhat : Up : 34147. Down : 34152. At Sonarpur Jn. : Up : 30711, 34899, 34641. Down : 30712, 34898. At Barasat : Up : 30317, 30361. Down : 34062. At Prinsep Ghat : Up : 30313. Down : 30314. At Dum Dum Jn. : Down : 30142.</p> <p>● DIVERSION : (1) 30152 Naihati-Majerhat, (2) 30154 Naihati-Majerhat, (3) 34052 Naihati-K Budge Budge, (4) 34054 Naihati-K Budge Budge, (5) 34056 Kalyani Simanta-K Budge Budge will be diverted to Sealdah (Main & North).</p>
<p>SPECIAL TRAINS (WITH STOPPAGE AT ALL STATIONS ENROUTE) : (1) Dum Dum Jn.-Barasat Special (from Dum Dum Jn. at 08:10 hrs.), (2) Sealdah-Ranaghat Special (from Sealdah at 19:00 hrs.), (3) Sealdah-Naihati Special (from Sealdah at 15:05 hrs.), (4) K Budge Budge-New Alipore (Kolkata) Special (from K Budge Budge at 17:30 hrs.), (5) New Alipore (Kolkata)-K Budge Budge Special [from New Alipore (Kolkata) at 20:12 hrs.], (6) Sealdah-Baruipur Jn. Special (from Sealdah at 17:43 hrs.).</p>	<p>SPECIAL TRAINS (WITH STOPPAGE AT ALL STATIONS ENROUTE) : (1) Dum Dum Jn.-Barasat Special (from Dum Dum Jn. at 08:10 hrs.), (2) Sealdah-Ranaghat Special (from Sealdah at 19:00 hrs.), (3) Sealdah-Naihati Special (from Sealdah at 15:05 hrs.), (4) K Budge Budge-New Alipore (Kolkata) Special (from K Budge Budge at 17:30 hrs.), (5) New Alipore (Kolkata)-K Budge Budge Special [from New Alipore (Kolkata) at 20:12 hrs.], (6) Sealdah-Baruipur Jn. Special (from Sealdah at 17:43 hrs.).</p>

There may be delay in train services during this period. Inconvenience which is likely to be caused to the commuters, is deeply regretted.

Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah

EASTERN RAILWAY

Khawaja, Smith along with Inglis power Australia to domination (Day 2)



GALLE [SRI LANKA] : A maiden double hundred by Usman Khawaja and terrific centuries from Steve Smith and Josh Inglis helped Australia end the second day of the first Test against Sri Lanka on a high, posting their highest-ever total in Asia at Galle on Wednesday.

At the end of the day's play, Sri Lanka was 44/3, with Dinesh Chandimal (9*) and Kamindu Mendis (13*) unbeaten in reply to Australia's 654/6 declared in the first innings. They trailed by 610 runs.

Australia started the day at 330/2, with Usman Khawaja (130*) and Steve Smith (104*) unbeaten on the crease.

Khawaja and Smith offered no respite to Sri Lankan bowlers, soon bringing up their 200-run partnership and Khawaja reaching 150 runs in 223 balls, with 10 fours and a six.

Nishan Peiris, Prabhath Jayasuriya and Jeffrey Vandersay had no reply for the

Australian dominance as they kept being hit for boundaries now and then. Australia reached the 400-run mark in 99.1 overs.

The 266-run partnership between Khawaja and Smith was undone by Vandersay, who trapped the batter leg-before-wicket for 141 in 251 balls, with 12 fours and two sixes. Australia was 401/3 in 99.5 overs.

Inglis, the Test debutant was on the crease next and got off the mark in Tests with a boundary against Vandersay on his first-ever ball. While Inglis piled on runs against spinners, Khawaja made history by reaching his first-ever double century in Tests in 290 balls, with 16 fours and a six.

Australia ended the first session at 475/3, with Khawaja (204*) and Inglis (44*) unbeaten.

In the second session, Inglis raised his bat for a fifty in 51 balls, with five fours.

Australia reached the 500-run mark in 118.5 overs and both batters had a century stand in just

116 balls. Inglis was racing towards his maiden ton but Australia faced a setback in the form of Khawaja being dismissed for 232 in 352 balls, with 16 fours and a six. He was caught behind by Kusal Mendis on a Jayasuriya delivery. Australia was 547/4 in 128.3 overs.

Inglis became the 21st Australian to score a century on Test debut, in just 90 balls, with 10 fours and a six. However, an easy catch to Kamindu Mendis at covers on a Jayasuriya delivery brought an end to his 94-ball 102-run knock. Australia was 570/5 in 133 overs.

All-rounder Beau Webster and wicketkeeper-batter Alex Carey were the fresh pair on the crease, taking Australia to the 600-run mark in 142.4 overs.

Webster lost his wicket to Vandersay after a 59-run stand, for 23 runs in 50 balls. Australia was 629/6 in 149.2 overs. Australia declared their

innings at 654/6, with Carey (46* in 69 balls, with a four) and Mitchell Starc (19* in 19 balls, with two fours and a six) unbeaten, breaching the score of 617 against Pakistan in Faisalabad in 1980 to establish a new record of their highest total in Asia.

In the first innings of Sri Lanka, the hosts had a nightmarish start as they lost Oshada Fernando (7) leg-before-wicket to Matthew Kuhnemann, Dimuth Karunaratne (7) caught by Nathan McSweeney to Starc, who completed his 700 international wickets and Angelo Matthews to Lyon (8).

Kamindu and Chandimal made sure Sri Lanka finished the day without any further loss of wickets.

Brief Scores: Sri Lanka: 44/3 (Kamindu Mendis 13*, Dinesh Chandimal 9*, Nathan Lyon 17) trail Australia: 654/6 declared (Usman Khawaja 232, Steve Smith 141, Jeffrey Vandersay 3/182) by 610 runs.

Sussex acquire Australian quick Gurinder Sandhu for two months

SUSSEX [UK] : County Championship side Sussex announced the signing of the experienced Australian Gurinder Sandhu for the 2025 season.

The right-arm Australian quick has joined Sussex for two months. He will be available for Sussex's first four games in the County Championship and the T20 Vitality Blast if required.

"Sussex Cricket is delighted to announce the additional overseas signing of Gurinder Sandhu for June and July 2025. Sandhu will be available for four games in the County Championship this summer and will also be available for the T20 Vitality Blast if required," Sussex said in a statement.

Sandhu's signing will provide additional cover to Sussex due to a change in the availability of Indian seamer Jaydev Unadkat in 2025. Unadkat will be available for the final three red-ball games in September.

With the latest edition, Sussex completed the overseas signings for the 2025 campaign, with Seales, Unadkat, Hughes and McAndrew returning to Hove this season.

Sandhu, who stands at 6'3" has represented Australia in two ODIs. He burst onto the Australian domestic scene in the 2012-13 season after earning a New South Wales rookie contract for the first time.

The right-arm quick is the winner of the prestigious Steve Waugh Medal. Sandhu is renowned for his ability to generate bounce and swing. He has featured in 55 first-class matches, taking 151 wickets at an average of 30.52 while maintaining his economy at 2.84.

Sandhu also had a brief stint in the cash-rich Indian Premier League (IPL) with Delhi Daredevils (now Delhi Capitals). In his three appearances, Sandhu returned with a sole scalp.

"I'm incredibly excited to be joining Sussex Cricket Club and can't wait to step out onto the field at Hove. I'm looking forward to contributing to the team in both the red and white ball formats and experiencing the rich cricketing traditions Sussex is known for," Gurinder said as quoted from a statement by Sussex.

Paul Farbrace, Sussex's head coach, said, "We are delighted that Gurinder has decided to join us for the four County Championship matches in June and July, he will add real skill and experience to our bowling attack for those games."

"He is a vastly experienced performer and is very skilful with the ball. The fact that all four games are being played with a Kookaburra ball means he will be very comfortable with that type of ball," he added.



Maharashtra Government honours KhoKho world cup winners, awards Rs 2.25 crore to players



MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : The Maharashtra government on Thursday honoured nine state players who were part of India's victorious men's and women's teams at the inaugural KhoKho World Cup 2025, held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in New Delhi. In recognition of their achievement, each player was awarded Rs 2.25 crore, while the coaches received Rs 22.5 lakh each, said an official statement from KhoKho Federation of India (KKFI). The Government of Maharashtra honoured nine state players as per the state's sports policy, as they were part of the victorious Indian men's and women's teams at the inaugural edition of the KhoKho World Cup 2025, held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium under. The felicitation ceremony recognised their outstanding contribution to India's success in the tournament, with a majority of the players coming from Maharashtra. They have also been offered jobs with the government, boosting the prospect for the sport among the aspiring KhoKho players in the state, as per the KhoKho Federation of India (KKFI) press release. Further the statement citing Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Ajit Pawar stated that he lavished praise on the players and tweeted, "The players of the Indian men's and women's teams, who became world champions in the first World KhoKho Championship held in New Delhi, and their coaches paid me a cour-

tesy call in Pune. On this occasion, I sincerely congratulated all of them and felicitated them. My best wishes to all the players for their future successful careers!"

Each player was awarded Rs 2.25 crore, while the coaches received Rs 22.5 lakh each as a token of appreciation for their remarkable achievement. The ceremony was particularly notable for the presence of team skippers

THE FELICITATION CEREMONY RECOGNISED THEIR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO INDIA'S SUCCESS IN THE TOURNAMENT, WITH A MAJORITY OF THE PLAYERS COMING FROM MAHARASHTRA.

Pratik Waikar and Priyanka Ingle, whose leadership played a crucial role in India's victory, the statement added.

Sudhanshu Mittal underlined the importance of this achievement in promoting KhoKho globally. "This historic victory has demonstrated India's dominance in KhoKho on the world stage. These awards will inspire the next generation of players to pursue excellence in this traditional sport as we look to take KhoKho to the next level, which is the Olympics. I am extremely grateful for the support from the Maharashtra

Government in promoting KhoKho and these incentives are a step in the right direction," Sudhanshu Mittal said as quoted by a KKFI press release.

Further the release stated, Maharashtra has always been the breeding ground for sports, especially KhoKho. There are some brilliant players who have come from the state as KhoKho is a very popular sport there. Each and every kid plays KhoKho in that region. Also, there is club culture in Maharashtra which creates some good rivalry among the players to do well eventually helping KhoKho on the whole.

Moreover, the KhoKho players get good job options which creates a sense of security among the players. Each player of the team that wins the national gets INR seven lakh in the prize money. There is also the Shiv Chhatrapati Award which is a prestigious annual sports award given by the Government of Maharashtra to recognise the achievements of athletes and sports contributors in the state.

The government's generous reward acknowledges the players' dedication and hard work while highlighting Maharashtra's leading role in promoting KhoKho in the state that is considered the birthplace of the sport.

This recognition is expected to boost the popularity of KhoKho among young athletes and contribute to its continued growth at both national and international levels.

Harbhajan Singh advises Virat Kohli to 'Enjoy' cricket amid Ranji trophy return

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : "Enjoy" is the simple message former spinner Harbhajan Singh had for Indian cricket stalwart Virat Kohli, who is currently playing in the ongoing Ranji Trophy match for Delhi against Railways.

The hometown hero returned to the Arun Jaitley Stadium for his first Ranji Trophy match since 2012. Fans turned up in large numbers and filled the stadium to catch a glimpse of their beloved star in action.

The crowd went wild when a fan managed to slip past the security and made his way onto the field to touch Virat's feet while he was stationed at the slips.

For Harbhajan, whether Virat scores runs or not is a different matter altogether. He just wants Virat to enjoy cricket and impart knowledge to India's young crop of talent.

"Virat Kohli is a role model. Youngsters will look up to him. If he scores runs or doesn't, it is a different matter. If I was Virat Kohli, it would be to enjoy. When we start playing cricket because we enjoy it," Harbhajan said on his YouTube channel.

"When you reach Virat's level, the pressure and expectations take the front seat while enjoyment takes the back seat. I want him to enjoy the game and tell youngsters how to be Virat Kohli," he added. Virat's return to the domestic circuit comes during a phase when runs have eluded him. Last year, the 36-year-old had an underwhelming run across all formats, considering the standards he has set for himself.

Virat ended 2024 with just 655 international runs in 23 matches and 32 innings, averaging 21.83, with one century and two fifties. His best score of the year was an unbeaten century in Perth against Australia.

When one takes a closer look at his statistics, Virat's prolonged dry spell in red-ball formats stands out. In 10 Tests last year, the seasoned star scored just 417 runs at an average of 24.52, with only one century and one fifty.

Harbhajan had a simple solution for Virat to cure his run-scoring woes: "Occupy the crease." The former spinner believes that if the 36-year-old spends time on the crease, runs will naturally flow from his bat.

"When he goes out to bat, he should occupy the crease and spend three to four hours. Even if Virat scores zero, he will still be Virat Kohli. He will never be a lesser player. His achievements are very big. He should occupy the crease, and if he does that, he will score runs," he added.



GI-PKL unveils captains of men's, women's teams ahead of inaugural season

GURUGRAM (HARYANA) : Global Indian Pravasi Kabaddi League (GI-PKL) on Thursday announced the captains of the men's and women's franchises ahead of the much-awaited kick-off. The league will witness participation from countries such as Egypt, Kenya, Argentina, Taiwan, and Poland, amongst others showcasing the growing global reach of Kabaddi, in the quest to promote the sport globally.

The GI-PKL inaugural season will feature 12 teams--six women's teams and six corresponding men's teams--each embodying the cultural and linguistic richness of India, as per the GI-PKL press release.

The teams have been strategically named to reflect their regional identities:

Men's Teams: Marathi Vultures, Bhojpuri Leopards, Telugu Panthers, Tamil Lions, Punjabi Tigers, and Haryana Sharks.

While Shiv Prasad has been handed the captain duties for

Bhojpuri Leopards, Vikash Dahiya will lead Haryana Sharks. Marathi Vultures and Punjabi Tigers have named Kapil Narwal and Sawin Narwal as captains respectively. Sunil Narwal will lead the Tamil Lions and Sandeep Kandola will captain the Telugu Panthers.

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

Pushpa Rana will lead the Haryana Eagles and Meena Kadyan will captain the Bhojpuri Leopardess. Marathi Falcons and Punjabi Tigress have named Tanu Sharma and Meera as captains respectively. While Julie Bhati will lead Telugu Cheetahs, Suman will oversee the captain's duties for Tamil Lioness.

All the captains boast of a strong record in the sport at both National and International levels.

Speaking about the captains Kanthi D. Suresh, President of



the Holistic International Pravasi Sports Association (HIPSA), said as quoted by a GI-PKL press release, "The announcement of

captains marks an exciting milestone in GI-PKL's journey. These players are not just leading their teams but are also playing a cru-

cial role in inspiring them. We believe their leadership and dedication will set the tone for a competitive season."

Each franchisee will own both a men's and a women's team, a first-of-its-kind arrangement in kabaddi, promoting equality and inclusivity. Meanwhile, players have already begun rigorous training for the League and are leaving no stone unturned in their training. Sawin Narwal, Sandeep Kandola, Ajay Kumar, and Kapil Narwal are among the players who have started practicing. National gold medalists like M. Anitha, Indra Rohini, Arul Santhiya, and Selvarebiksha have also commenced training sessions in their respective states.

HIPSA's past initiatives underline its commitment to Kabaddi's global growth. In March 2024, HIPSA ensured the Sport of Kabaddi was included in the Guinness World Record for an event held in Panchkula's Tau Devial Stadium.

In December 2023, HIPSA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Haryana State Government to promote the sport of Kabaddi, globally. As per the MOU, HIPSA

and the Haryana Government together shall endeavor to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the advancement of linkages and cooperation to promote Kabaddi as a sport across the globe, with a vision to also have the Sport of Kabaddi, included in the Summer Olympics.

Men's Teams and Captains:

Marathi Vultures - Kapil Narwal.

Bhojpuri Leopards - Shiv Prasad.

Telugu Panthers - Sandeep Kandola.

Tamil Lions - Sunil Narwal.

Punjabi Tigers - Sawin Narwal.

Haryana Sharks - Vikash Dahiya.

Women's Teams and Captains:

Marathi Falcons - Tanu Sharma.

Bhojpuri Leopardess - Meena Kadyan.

Telugu Cheetahs - Julie Bhati.

Tamil Lioness - Suman.

Punjabi Tigress - Meera.

Haryana Eagles - Pushpa Rana.