

## Bengal Global Business Summit 2025: Major investment boost for West Bengal

The eighth edition of the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) commenced at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata on Wednesday, inaugurated by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The event, which spans two days, saw participation from industry leaders across India and delegations from 40 countries. Key figures such as Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani, JSW Group Chairman Sajjan Jindal, and ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri graced the occasion. Bhutan's Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Younten Phuntsho and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren were also present. Former cricketer Sourav Ganguly was the event's star attraction.... PG 3

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# Morning India



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in a talk with Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata on Wednesday. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

## Kolkata will be Reliance Jio's Gateway, announces Mamata Banerjee at Bengal Global Business Summit

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Expressing her gratitude to Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani for his commitment to make further investment in West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced on Wednesday that Kolkata will soon be the future gateway for Reliance Jio.

Making this major announcement on the opening day of the two day Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) 2025 here this afternoon, the Chief minister thanked the Reliance Industries Chairman for his renewed commitment to investing in Bengal.

Since the change in political leadership in Bengal way back in 2011, the government has been hosting BGBS annually to attract large investment and foster economic growth in the state. However, last year due to the Lok Sabha elections, the summit was cancelled at the last moment. But this year this grand event has returned with



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses top industrialists at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit on Wednesday.

full grandeur.

"This summit has representatives from 40 countries, including 25 ambassadors and heads of diplomatic missions. Over 2,000 foreign delegates have also come to attend. Bengal will not forget you, and you cannot forget Bengal," Banerjee remarked adding "Many people question why we host this summit?. But I say, we started it, and now every state is doing the same. This is about encouraging investment and create

employment opportunities for future generations."

Emphasising Bengal's achievements in various sectors, the Chief minister said "We are ranked first in small and medium enterprises and also in women's empowerment. Our government is strong and stable, ensuring zero loss of working days. Earlier, strikes and lockouts were common, but we have put an end to them in the interest of both industry and the common people."

Country's top and wealthiest industrialist and business tycoon Mukesh Ambani, a key participant at the summit, lauded Banerjee's leadership and Bengal's investment potential. He highlighted the state's rich cultural heritage, mentioning Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Kalighat Temple, Baluchari sarees from Bishnupur, and Murshidabad's craftsmanship.

A visibly happy Mamata Banerjee warmly responded, saying, "Mukeshji has said it all. There's nothing left for me to add! He has assured that Kolkata will be Jio's gateway and a major business hub. This is remarkable! I salute him for this. We love Mumbai, Gujarat, Punjab, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan—we love every state."

The Bengal Global Business Summit often faces criticism from opposition parties, who claim that the event generates

big investment promises but little implementation. Banerjee, however, strongly defended the summit's significance.

"People ask about the benefit of this summit. But now, other states are organizing similar events after seeing us. This summit is for future generations. Our government is accountable to the people," she stated.

She also highlighted Bengal's progress: "Earlier, Bengal had frequent strikes that disrupted work. Now, that culture (of strike and cease work) is gone. We have introduced various public welfare schemes. Women receive financial aid through Lakshmir Bhandar, while the Kanyashree scheme has won international recognition. In Parliament, 39 per cent of Bengal's representatives are women. Our 'Duare Sarkar' initiative ensures doorstep services, and we have health insurance coverage also

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## Mamata announces formation of Synergy Committee to boost Business Growth in Bengal

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant move to foster business growth in the state, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced the formation of a new state-level synergy committee on the opening day of the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) here on Wednesday. The committee is set to improve the ease of doing business and create a more favorable environment for investments. Banerjee showcased the state's economic progress, particularly focusing on infrastructure development, including the construction of six economic corridors along national highways. She assured investors of West Bengal's stable governance, stating that under her leadership, "no man-days are lost," which promotes a pro-business atmosphere.

The Chief Minister also emphasized the state's impressive performance, with the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) growing faster than the national GDP in the past year. She highlighted key social welfare programmes such as the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme, aimed at empowering women, and stressed that unity and inclusivity are fundamental to her government's success. With the introduction of this new synergy committee, Banerjee reaffirmed her commitment to facilitating seamless industrial growth and making West Bengal an attractive destination for investments. The summit highlighted the state's continued efforts in strengthening its industrial and economic framework while ensuring equitable development for all.

## 'Work on Deocha-Pachami Coal Mine to begin soon,' announces Mamata Banerjee

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a major announcement during the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) on Wednesday, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee revealed that work on the Deocha-Pachami coal mine in Birbhum district could commence as early as Thursday.

The Chief Minister stated that all infrastructural preparations for the project are complete, and provisions for compensation and employment for the families of landowners have been finalized.

Mamata Banerjee highlighted the immense

potential of the Deocha-Pachami coal mine, which holds an estimated 210.2 million tonnes of coal reserves. It is considered the second largest coal reserve in the world and the largest in Asia and India. She assured that once mining operations begin, the state will be self-sufficient in energy production for centuries to come.

Addressing the gathering of industrialists and business tycoons at the BGBS, Mamata Banerjee emphasized that the state has already completed land acquisition and provided jobs for the families

of the landowners. Additionally, financial assistance for indigenous families has been arranged, further strengthening the inclusive approach of her government.

The announcement marked a significant moment during the summit, where the Chief Minister underscored the industrial-friendly image of Bengal, positioning it as a major player in the energy sector. The Deocha-Pachami coal mine project, she noted, will be a crucial step toward ensuring long-term energy security for the state.

## President Murmu, EAM Jaishankar, Rahul Gandhi and CM Atishi among early voters in Delhi polls

**MI News Service, New Delhi :** About 65 per cent of Delhi's 1.56 crore voters exercised their franchise till 6 p.m. on Wednesday when the voting to elect a 70 member Delhi Legislative Assembly was officially closed.

Informing this the Election Commission of India (ECI) said the voting in all the 70 constituencies was absolutely peaceful and there was no report of any untoward incident from anywhere till the evening. However, long queues of voters were seen in front of a few polling stations even after the closure of the polling at 6 p.m. as the ECI has decided to allow them to vote.

According to ECI, after a slow start because of inclement and cold weather, the pace of voting picked up later in the day to reach the average 65 per cent mark, one of the lowest in the country, in the evening.

Area wise the North-East district of the national capital recorded the highest turnout of 52.73 per cent of voters, with the New Delhi district recording the lowest turnout of only 43.10 per cent voters at the end. As the eagerly awaited elections to the 70 member Delhi Assembly began on Wednesday morning as per schedule, President Droupadi Murmu, Union ministers

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## PM Modi takes holy dip at Maha Kumbh Mela Sangam



**MI News Service, Prayagraj:** As announced earlier Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a holy dip in the Triveni Sangam at the Maha Kumbh here on Wednesday.

Holding 'rudraksha' beads and chanting mantras, the prime minister offered prayers while

standing in the river almost chest deep. Earlier he took a boat ride with Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to reach Triveni Sangam -- the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati. After taking a number of dips at Triveni Sangam, the Prime Minister felt that the moment as of 'divine' connection. Soon afterwards in a post on X, the Modi said he was filled with a spirit of devotion after taking a dip in the Sangam.

"Blessed to be at the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj. The Snaan at the Sangam is a moment of divine connection, and like the crores of others who have taken part in it, I was also filled with a spirit of devotion," PM Modi said on X adding "May Maa Ganga bless all with peace, wisdom, good health and harmony," Maha Kumbh 2025, which commenced on Paus Purnima (January 13),

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## Arvind Kejriwal casts vote along with his family in Delhi

**MI News Service, New Delhi :** Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) National Convener Arvind Kejriwal cast his vote in the Delhi Assembly polls along with his family on Wednesday. Kejriwal, his wife Sunita and his parents - Gobind Ram Kejriwal and Gita Devi went to their designated polling booth at Lady Irwin Senior Secondary School this afternoon and cast their ballots one after another. Later he appealed to all eligible voters in Delhi to vote for the development of the Capital city. "My parents were very excited to cast their votes, and they have put in all their efforts to do that", Kejriwal said adding, "I also appeal to the people of Delhi to come out and cast their ballots for the development of

Delhi. The one who will work for Delhi will get the votes of the public." Speaking to newsmen Sunita Kejriwal asserted that the people of Delhi will make the right choice and won't tolerate 'gundagardi'. "People of Delhi are very intelligent. We trust them. They don't tolerate 'gundagardi'. So, we firmly believe that the people of Delhi will make the right choice," she said. Polling for 70 assembly seats began on Wednesday morning in Delhi, as voters cast their ballots amid tight security. Voting continued till 6.00 pm. AAP, which currently holds 62 seats in the 70-seat assembly, seeks re-election based on its previous terms

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## 'Bengal under Mamata Banerjee means business,' says Mukesh Ambani

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Reliance Industries Chairman and India's top business tycoon Mukesh Ambani showered huge praise on West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) here on Wednesday, emphasizing her transformative leadership quality in driving the state's economic growth.

Ambani explained his affectionate use of "Mamata Didi," saying, "Mamata means empathy, and Didi represents an unwavering leader who tirelessly fights for the welfare of all."

"Bengal under Mamata Banerjee means business," said Mukesh Ambani, also one of the wealthiest businessmen in the world, as he praised the Chief Minister's leadership at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit.

During his address, Ambani outlined Reliance's significant investments in the state, which have



Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani addresses at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata on Wednesday.

grown substantially since his first participation in the summit in 2016. He revealed that Reliance's investments in Bengal have in-

creased 20-fold during the past few years, amounting to 50,000 crore at present. It also resulted in providing over 1 lakh jobs for local residents.

Ambani also highlighted the success of Jio, which began its operations in Bengal and has now become the top telecom service provider in the country. With 1,300 Jio stores already in the state, Reliance plans to open an additional 400 stores in the coming year. He further emphasized the company's commitment to enhancing digital infrastructure in Bengal, including the establishment of AI-ready data centers and a submarine cable landing station in Digha.

Ambani stressed Reliance's vision for a "Solar Bangla" and its commitment to green energy initiatives, pointing out that these efforts would contribute to Bengal's future as a leader in sustainable development. He pointed to the

state's growing role in digital advancement, which will position Bengal as the leader in Eastern India's digital ecosystem.

"We are witnessing a renaissance in Bengal's economy and business," Ambani stated, calling the present time as the best for investment in the state. He also expressed confidence that Bengal's economy, under CM Mamata Banerjee's leadership, is defined by soaring vision, ambitious goals, and efficient implementation.

Ambani concluded by reaffirming Reliance's ongoing support for Bengal and its business-friendly policies and expressed his gratitude for the continued partnership between Reliance and Bengal, marking a prosperous future ahead. This statement by Mukesh Ambani underscores his admiration for the economic progress Bengal

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## Pictures of Indians getting handcuffed, humiliated while being deported from US saddening Cong

**MI News Service, New Delhi :** The opposition Congress and several other political parties have expressed their anger over "pictures of Indians getting handcuffed and humiliated" while being deported from the US and said that America will soon have to regret over the treatment meted out to Indian migrants. In this connection the Congress also referred to the case of Indian diplomat Devyani Khobragade who had to come back here in 2013, forcing the then UPA government to retaliate

sharply. Following the recent Executive order of President Donald Trump, a US military transport aircraft is about to bring back a group of Indian migrants to the country as part of the big crackdown on illegal immigrants by the present US government.

Without directly commenting on the deportation flight carrying the Indians, a spokesperson at the US Embassy in New Delhi said on Tuesday that Washington is tightening immigration laws and removing illegal mi-

grants. Reacting to that Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khara said, "Looking at the pictures of Indians getting handcuffed and humiliated while being deported from the US saddens me as an Indian." "I remember in December of 2013, an Indian diplomat Devyani Khobragade was handcuffed and strip searched in America. Foreign Secretary Sujatha Singh registered a

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Ambuja Neotia Group can invest Rs15,000 cr in next five years: Harshvardhan Neotia



Chairman of the Ambuja Neotia Group, Harshvardhan Neotia addressing during the 8th BGBS 2025 meet in Kolkata.

MI News Service, Kolkata: On the first day of the 2-day World Bengal Business Conference at the Bengal Convention Center of World Bengal. Many industrialists were present. Industrialist Harshvardhan Neotia praised Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. He explained how much scope there is in the industrial sector in the state and what is the role of the state government in expanding it. The industrialist said, "Ambuja Neotia Group has 70 percent of our investments in

the state. Not only in Kolkata, we have investments in the hills and other areas as well. The cooperative environment of the state is very significant." And regarding the role of the Chief Minister in this regard, he said, "The Chief Minister of the state helps us a lot. We have five hospitals in the state. One is in Siliguri and one is in Burdwan." He said that an investment of Rs 13,000 crore has already been made in the hospitality sector. Neotia Group has several hotels in Bengal. Harsh Vardhan said, "We are working in partnership with the Taj Group. We are trying to build our properties in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Gorumara Forest, Digha and Santiniketan. There is an investment of Rs 12,000 crore here. The process of building a hotel in Kolkata and Siliguri is underway." He also said that work is underway to build a golf township worth Rs 1600 crore. That work will be completed within this year. Work is already underway on 9 housing projects of Neotia Group. Rs 6500 crore has been invested in them. The industrialist also said that Ambuja Neotia Group has the potential to invest Rs 15 thousand crore in the next five years.

Majherdabri tea estate introduces 'brew your own blend' concept

MI News Service, Alipurduar: Tourists in Alipurduar now have the option to drink tea blended with extracts of spices, herbs, fruits and flowers.

The Majherdabri tea estate, on the outskirts of Alipurduar town, has introduced the "brew your own blend" concept at its tea lounge near the garden, off NH31. The lounge, which has already gained popularity because of the availability of tea varieties, both for drinking and in packages, has now come up with the concept to draw more tea drinkers. "We are offering different types of flowers, fruits, spices and herbs at the lounge. Anybody can add these to the orthodox, CTC and green teas according to their choice and make their

own blend," said Chinmoy Dhar, the manager of Majherdabri. According to him, it has been found that many tea drinkers want to add the blends to the brew on their own, instead of having it served ready by the lounge staff. "Now, they can decide the proportion of the blend to make the brew more tangy or spicy. They would also be able to sip teas with multiple blends or by adding one or more blends together," Dhar added. He said altogether, 42 different blends were available in the four categories (fruits, flowers, herbs and spices). "For example, if a tea drinker wants his CTC tea with pineapple flavour, a five-gram extract of pineapple will be added," said Dhar.

Rezaul was beaten in train seeming to be Bangladeshi



Nurul Islam Khan Rezaul Karim of Hooghly was recently beaten by some people near Ranaghat in Gede train seeming him as a Bangladeshi. They said, "Bangladesh has been driven out him with the bag! You have come to take over India, this time" saying these words, they attacked more. Rezaul, who is religious, was returning home from a meeting in Hooghly. Then Rezaul posted on his Facebook that he was physically abused by fanatical BJP supporters in various ways.

There were 4 in total. The name of the person who scolded him in this language is Ajay. The matter was reported to Sealdah GRP on Wednesday. Minority Youth Federation Leader Mohammad Kamruzzaman, MLA Naushad Siddiqui, Imtiaz Mollah and prominent people of the society have strongly protested about the issue. Many have said that the alleged activities of RSS have corrupted the society and created an atmosphere of panic. They also said that there is a need for public agitation.

Cyber Help Desk of Haripal Police Station hands over stolen, lost phones to their owners



MI News Service, Hooghly: The Hooghly Gramin Police is constantly in the headlines. Along with other issues, it is also keeping itself alert in the matter of theft and disappearance and this is the reason why lost or stolen mobile phones are being returned to their rightful owners from most of the police stations of the district. While people are breathing a sigh of relief with this action of the police, they are not tired of praising the police personnel. Today, Tuesday, another similar case took place where more than three dozen mobile phones were recovered and handed over to the rightful owners of the phones. This incident is the incident where the Cyber Help Desk of Haripal Police Station under the Hooghly District Rural Police recovered 37 mobile phones

and handed them over to their owners. This movement is being run under the title of "Phere Deva". Present at the event today were Dy sp headquarters of Hooghly Gramin Police Agni Vishwar Chaudhary, CI Tarkeshwar Prashant Kumar Chatterjee, Haripal Police Station In-charge Nazarul Islam and other police personnel and officers. For the past one month, the Cyber Help Desk of Haripal Police Station, led by the Officer-in-Charge of Haripal Police Station, has been conducting a special campaign and recovered mobile phones and today these mobile phones were handed over to the rightful owners. Those whose mobile phones were stolen or lost were seen expressing their heartfelt happiness after getting their mobile phones back today and also thanked the police personnel.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee engages in meaningful conversation with Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and his wife Kalpana Murmu Soren at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Soren advertises Jharkhand on stage at BGBS 2025 to attract investment

MI News Service, Kolkata: Literally a star-studded stage. From Mukesh Ambani to Sajjan Jindal, Sanjiv Goenka - who is not there! Industrialists are praising Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Another Chief Minister praised the Bengal Chief Minister. Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren also praised Mamata.

resources are found here." On the seat were Mukesh Ambani, Sajjan Jindal, Sanjiv Goenka. The Chief Minister of Bengal was also sitting next to them. In front of them, Hemant Soren said about the industrial development and its development in his state, "It has been only 25 years since our state was formed. But the door to overall development has been opened. There are big industrialists of the country and the world. We can inform about various sectors related to mining. Textiles have a big poten-

tial." He also welcomed the industrialists who came to the World Trade Conference to his state. He said, "Those who are here, those who have come, are also welcome to our state. We have a hope to see our state as an enterprise city. Hemant Soren talked about joining hands with Didi to take Jharkhand forward in the industrial sector. However, according to industry experts, Hemant Soren actually came to the World Bengal Business Conference to advertise his own state.

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Biswa Bangla Business Conference is being held at the Biswa Bangla Convention Center. A total of 5,000 prominent industrialists and industry experts, including 200 representatives from the country, are attending this two-day conference. It's like a moon market! Just like Mukesh Ambani, Bhutanese Minister Yonten Phunsuk has come. Bengal's achievements were heard on everyone's lips. Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was also overwhelmed with praise. The Bhutanese minister even called Mamata Banerjee a motherly figure. While reminiscing, he said, "My mother was born in 1955. Mamata Banerjee was also born that year. So I am like her son. She is definitely like a mother to me."

Bhutanese Minister calls Mamata a 'Motherly Figure'

World Bengal Business Conference, he said to Mamata, "Your bold vision is well known in the entire country. We can have a partnership in the field of tourism. We request investors to review the opportunities in tourism." Yonten is also seen explaining why he is talking about working hand in hand in the tourism sector. He claims that Bhutan can be considered for high value low input tourism. West Bengal's relationship with Bhutan is very important for connectivity. He further claims that the Banarhat-Shamsi railway can play the role of a game changer in this regard. He claims that Bhutan is also in a promising place in the field of organic farming and agriculture. At the same time, he believes that Bhutan is also a potential place for renewable energy. In his words, "Bhutan is in an important place in Asia in terms of green energy. In this regard, we can do energy partnership." In short, the minister of the neighboring country talked about a bunch of possibilities from the stage today. Now let's see how much is implemented at the end of the day.

Not only that, highlighting the mutual relations between Bhutan and Bengal, the minister said, Bhutan and Bengal are not just neighbors. We have a cultural connection. There is also a connection in history. There is also a connection in the field of spirituality. He said clearly, Mamata Didi is a familiar name in Bhutan. After that, from the stage of the

Bengal has an industry-friendly environment: ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri

MI News Service, Kolkata: ITC Chairman Sanjeev Puri was full of praise for Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at the World Bengal Business Conference. He said that the picture of Bengal has changed in the last few years under Mamata Banerjee's leadership. In his speech, he also mentioned the Kanyashree, Lakshmi Bhandar, Swasthyasathi projects.



Chairman and MD of ITC Ltd, Sanjiv Puri at the 8th BGBS 2025 meet in Kolkata.

portunity in the hospitality sector in Bengal. We are currently running 6 hotels. That is going to double in the coming days. We have also invested in agriculture. Digital technology is now being used in agriculture." Praising the state, the ITC Chairman said, "The state has also emphasized social development. Which has attracted the attention of the whole world. There is the Kanyashree project for girl children. The Lakshmi Bhandar project to make women financially self-reliant. And there is the Swasthya Saathi project for health insurance for the common man. There are many more like this." At the end of his speech, he again thanked the Chief Minister for this 'change' of Bengal.

Meanwhile, Sanjiv Goenka, Chairman of RPSG Group, said, "Today we are living in a different Bengal. The Bengal that has changed through Mamata Banerjee. The Bengal where the Chief Minister of Bengal intervenes quickly in any problem. We have invested around twenty thousand crores in the last few years. Another ten thousand crores of investment is in the pipeline. We have no complaints. Mukesh Ambani is my role model."

Darj MLA Neeraj Zimba advocates tripartite meeting

MI News Service, Darjeeling: Darjeeling MLA Neeraj Zimba has sent a letter to Union home minister Amit Shah, seeking a tripartite meeting to discuss the "permanent political solution" for the Darjeeling hills.

Zimba is from the Gorkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) but won the 2021 polls on a BJP ticket. The MLA told Shah that although Darjeeling BJP MP Raju Bista had said several times that the home ministry would convene tripartite talks in January, the meeting hadn't been called yet. The tripartite meeting involves the central and state governments and stakeholders of the Indian Gorkha community to address the long-pending political issue. "The delay and apparent reluctance to uphold the commitment not only undermine the faith of the Indian Gorkhas in the democratic process but also cast an unfortunate shadow on the BJP-led central government's sincerity in resolving this issue within the constitutional framework of our great Republic," Zimba has said in his letter. While pointing out that the delay had created an "uneasy and unconducive atmosphere" among the people of the hills, the MLA said since 2009, the BJP had been winning the Darjeeling Lok Sabha seat on the promise of the "permanent political solution".

World Cancer Day celebrated on Feb 4th to increase cancer awareness

MI News Service, Kolkata: World cancer day is celebrated on 4th February every year to increase the awareness about cancer.

Vaccine prevents many cancers - Hepatitis vaccine prevent Liver cancer, BCG prevents Bladder cancer. Oral contraceptive pills prevents ovarian cancer, endometrial cancer, colon cancer. Most important HPV vaccine prevents Cervical cancer most prevalent in India. Every year in India 1.5 lakh of new cases cervical cancer detected. So request to all parents, please vaccinate girls, vaccinating every girl before marriage. It cost 2000 rupees each dose.



On the occasion of World Cancer Day, a seminar was organized by the Indian Medical Association at 33/1B Hemchandra Street Khidirpur Branch. The topic 'Early detection and prevention of cancer' was discussed on how to create awareness among people about a fatal disease like cancer. Prof. (Dr.) Anup Majumdar (Former Head of Department Oncology, SSKM/PG-ME&R) present on the occasion said that cancer detected in the early stage has a much higher survival rate than that diagnosed

at a later stage. Gynecologist Dr. Meenu Kumari Jha said that on this occasion I want to say that cancer screening tests can prove to be effective in early detection of the disease for prevention of cancer. Their purpose is to detect the symptoms of cancer in your body even before it develops. These tests detect the changes in your body before it turns into cancer. Their only disadvantage is that they are not always accurate. While getting cancer screening tests done, you need to get physical examination, lab tests, imaging tests and genetic cancer tests done. He said that Avoid carcinogenic

substances like tobacco, smoking, paan, alcohol. Maintain a healthy lifestyle and body weight. Vaccines prevent many cancers - hepatitis vaccine prevents liver cancer, BCG prevents bladder cancer. Oral contraceptive pills prevent ovarian cancer, endometrial cancer, colon cancer. Most importantly HPV

vaccine prevents cervical cancer which is the most prevalent in India. Every year 1.5 lakh new cases of cervical cancer are detected in India. We want to prevent this. World Cancer Day should be celebrated every year on 4th February to raise awareness about cancer. On this occasion, Dr. M N Haq, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, Prof. (Dr.) Suparna Ghosh. (Head of Department, Oncology, Burdwan Medical College), Dr. Vijay Kumar Jha, Dr. Monika Katiyal and other eminent doctors were present. Dr Monika Katiyal said that cancer cannot always be prevented, especially if there are unavoidable risk factors. However, the following steps can help reduce the risk; Quit smoking and avoid tobacco consumption Include physical activity in your daily routine It is worth noting that according to data from the National Cancer Registry Programme, cancer cases are expected to increase significantly, with an estimated 800,000 new diagnoses per year.



Dr Minu Kumari



Kolkata will be Reliance Jio’s...

**From PG 1**  
under Swasthya Sathi scheme.” In a major policy announcement, Mamata Banerjee introduced a new coordination committee to fast-track industrial approvals. This committee, beyond being a single-window system, will facilitate seamless interaction between various departments, including fire services, environment, land revenue, finance, housing, and industry.

“The committee will meet every fortnight (14 days) to ensure that approvals for investment proposals are not delayed. Any hurdles will be addressed promptly,” she assured.

The summit witnessed strong endorsements from all business leaders. RPG Group Chief Sanjiv Goenka was the first to praise the chief minister, stating, “The best part is, you can always discuss any issue with her directly. There’s no waiting period.” Former BCCI Chief and international cricketer Sourav Ganguly echoed this sentiment: “Didi is always accessible. I am amazed that despite her busy schedule, she always responds to messages.”

Banerjee clarified that while personal accessibility remains important, institutionalized communication is essential

for large-scale investment. The new coordination committee will focus on understanding industry needs and expediting projects accordingly.

According to government sources, the Bengal administration is also considering new incentive schemes for labour-intensive industries. With a population of nearly 80 million, Bengal needs large-scale employment opportunities, making industrial expansion crucial.

Another key announcement made at the summit was regarding the Deocha Pachami coal mine in Birbhum. Banerjee declared, “Coal extraction can begin from Thursday itself. All infrastructure is in place. Land donors’ families will be provided jobs, and compensation has been fully arranged.”

This year’s summit, being held on February 5 and 6 at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in New Town, turned into a grand affair. Over 200 representatives from 40 countries attended, alongside top industrialists like Mukesh Ambani and Sajjan Jindal.

The Bengal Global Business Summit continues to establish itself as a premier investment platform, reinforcing the state’s vision of economic growth and industrial development.

Bengal under Mamata...

**From PG 1**  
has made under Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee’s leadership, particularly in the business and investment sectors. At the Bengal Global Business

Summit, Ambani emphasized the state’s growing role as a hub for business, with Reliance Industries continuing to play a key part in this transformation.

President Murmu, EAM...

**From PG 1**  
S Jaishankar and Hardeep Singh Puri. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Delhi Chief Minister Atishi, were among those who cast their early ballots in an otherwise festive atmosphere.

During the first few hours around 10.5 per cent votes were polled with more and more voters started coming to the polling stations as the day progressed amid a cold and foggy weather condition

Other prominent leaders who came out to cast their vote early in the morning were Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar, AAP leader and former Delhi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva, Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora, and Delhi Chief Electoral Officer R Alice Vaz. AAP’s Greater Kailash candidate Saurabh Bharadwaj, BJP’s Karawal Nagar candidate Kapil Mishra, Congress’ New Delhi candidate Sandeep Dikshit, and Kalkaji candidate Alka Lamba also exercised their franchise soon after voting began at 7 am and will continue till 6 p.m. in the evening.

Describing today’s voting process as a ‘festival of democracy,’ LG Saxena said after casting his vote “I appeal to all Delhiites to participate in this festival.

Today is a day of duty, not a holiday.” Similarly, External Affairs minister Jaishankar said, “I have always been an early voter, a Delhi voter. The people are in a mood of change.”

Delhi CM and AAP’s candidate from Kalkaji, Atishi, offered prayers at the Kalkaji temple before casting her vote. “This election is a battle between good and evil. This is a battle between work and hooliganism,” she said.

“I have cast my vote for better Delhi and for better life of people. I appeal to voters to vote for better education, better health, and other facilities,” AAP candidate from Jangpura constituency Manish Sisodia said.

There are around 1.56 crore eligible voters in the National capital, which is witnessing a triangular contest between the ruling AAP, BJP, and Congress. While the AAP is eyeing a third consecutive term, the BJP and Congress are hoping for a resurgence in Delhi.

Peaceful polling was held at 13,766 stations across Delhi’s 70 assembly constituencies to decide the fate of 699 candidates. The results will be announced on February 8.

In the 2020 assembly polls, Delhi recorded a voter turnout of 62.59 per cent, while only 56 per cent of voters participated in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

PM Modi takes holy dip at...

**From PG 1**  
the world’s largest spiritual and cultural gathering after a gap of 12 years, attracting over 380 million devotees from across the globe. It will continue until Mahashivratri on February 26.

According to Uttar Pradesh government sources, so far over 38 crore pilgrims from across India and the world, took a holy dip in the Sangam and the number is still growing by millions every day. However, the PM’s visit comes amid the day long crucial polling for the Delhi Assembly

During his earlier visit to Prayagraj on December 13, the Prime minister inaugurated as many as

167 development projects worth 5,500 crore, for improving connectivity, amenities and services for the general public.

On Tuesday Bhutan’s King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuk also took a holy dip during his visit at the Mahakumbh and participated in several significant spiritual activities.

In a post on X, UP CM Yogi Adityanath said, “His Majesty King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuk Ji of Bhutan visited the ‘Digital Mahakumbh Experience Centre’ in Prayagraj, the holy symbol of spirituality and modernity, Mahakumbh-2025 on Tuesday and observed the divine, grand and digital form of Mahakumbh.”

Bengal Global Business Summit 2025: Major investment boost for West Bengal

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The eighth edition of the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) commenced at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata on Wednesday, inaugurated by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The event, which spans two days, saw participation from industry leaders across India and delegations from 40 countries. Key figures such as Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani, JSW Group Chairman Sajjan Jindal, and ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri graced the occasion.

Bhutan’s Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Younten Phuntsho and Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren were also present. Former cricketer Sourav Ganguly was the event’s star attraction.

The Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) 2025 witnessed significant investment commitments, with Mukesh Ambani and Sanjiv Puri announcing major projects in West Bengal. Reliance Industries plans to invest 50,000 crore, while ITC is set to launch a Global Centre of Excellence in AI.

Reliance Chairman Mukesh Ambani, addressing the summit, revealed that the company will double its previous investment in the state. A key highlight of this investment is the transformation of its Kolkata data center into an AI data center, expected to be operational within nine months.

“In this new era, AI will be a game-changer. Jio is building AI data centers, and we are bringing this technology to Bengal,” Ambani stated.

“Today Jio is the number one data company in the world and it started from Kolkata,” he said.

Reliance’s investment aims to create 100,000 jobs, strengthening its commitment to digital services, green energy, and retail in the state. Ambani emphasized Bengal’s potential as a strategic growth hub, highlighting the state’s improving business ecosystem.

Meanwhile, Jindal announced two 800 MW power plants worth Rs 16,000 crore at Shalboni in the West Midnapore district where JSW also runs a cement plant.

ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri also made a significant announcement at the event, revealing the launch of ITC’s Global Centre of Excellence for AI near Kolkata. The virtual inauguration was conducted by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

Speaking at the summit, Puri emphasized Bengal’s potential in various sectors. “The state offers immense opportunities, particularly in hospitality. ITC will continue expanding its investments across hotels, manufacturing, IT, and agriculture in Bengal,” he said.

The AI excellence center, located in the New Town area, aims to position Bengal as a leader in artificial intelligence research and innovation.

RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group Chairman Sanjiv Goenka also announced a major investment of 10,000 crore in West Bengal. The funds will be allocated to energy, healthcare, and education sectors, reinforcing Bengal’s role in the country’s economic growth. Speaking at BGBS 2025, Goenka praised the transformation of Bengal under Mamata Banerjee’s leadership. “The state has changed significantly. The Chief Minister’s accessibility and transparent decision-making have created a strong business-friendly environment.”



Fostering growth and innovation: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses top industrialists, including Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani, JSW Steel Managing Director Sajjan Jindal, Chairman of Sanjiv Goenka Group Sanjiv Goenka and ITC Chairman Sanjiv Puri, along with Principal Chief Advisor to the Chief Minister Amit Mitra, Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren and other dignitaries at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit 2025, paving the way for a prosperous future, in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Digha’s Jagannath Temple to be inaugurated on April 29, says Mamata

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced that the inauguration of Digha’s Jagannath Temple will take place on April 29. Speaking at the Bengal Global Business Summit, she shared this exciting news, which has delighted local residents. The temple, located on 22 acres of land, is being built at a cost of approximately Rs 250 crore, with the state government covering all expenses for several years to come. The Digha Jagannath Temple will feature separate spaces for offerings, a guest room, a store

room, and a resting area. There will also be a designated area for selling puja materials, where women from self-help groups will be able to sell their goods. Devotees from the Sanatan community will also run shops at the temple. In addition, local sweets like Kheer Gaja, Padda, and Gujiya, similar to those found in Puri, will be sold in designated rooms.

The construction of marble statues is complete, while the making of wooden statues using neem wood is still underway. The temple will house these idols for worship. Another temple dedicated

to Goddess Lakshmi will also be built, alongside a “Chaitanyadwar,” which will feature a statue of Sri Chaitanya Dev. This main entrance will be known as ‘Chaitanyadwar Jagannath Dham.’

The temple will have facilities for raising a flag, similar to Puri’s temple. The Chief Minister has even communicated with members of Puri’s temple to send some experts to Digha to manage flag-raising ceremonies. Additionally, a ghat will be constructed near the maternal home of Jagannath Dev, and the state-owned HIDCO will build it. Plans

also include the construction of a police post, health center, and fire station.

Last year, after inspecting the temple’s blueprint, the Chief Minister announced a personal donation of Rs 5 lakh to ISKCON for creating a golden broom for the Rath Yatra. She also announced the formation of a Trustee Board for managing the temple, which will include the district officials, ISKCON representatives, and those connected to Jagannath’s rituals at Digha. Mamata Banerjee has invited people from across the world to visit the Digha temple.

Soumya Bhattacharya’s unveils ‘Duronto Dupur Bishad Sandhya’ at Kolkata Book Fair

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** At the International Kolkata Book Fair, the concluding parts of Dr Soumya Bhattacharya’s Bengali Renaissance novel series, Duronto Dupur and Bishad Sandhya, were launched as a single volume. Published by Ananda Publishers, this release completes the four-part saga that began with Natun Alo and Sonali Sakal.

In a simple ceremony at the fairgrounds, renowned Jibanananda

scholar Goutam Mitra unveiled the book. Bhattacharya expressed that this release marks the conclusion of his ambitious tetralogy, which explores the Bengal Renaissance between 1899 and 1910—a period of both cultural peak and decline.

The earlier volumes featured iconic personalities like Swami Vivekananda, Rabindranath Tagore, Jagadish Chandra Bose, and Sister Nivedita. The third book, Duronto

Dupur, focuses on Bengal’s anti-partition movement and the rise of extremist politics, while the final volume, Bishad Sandhya, ends in 1910 with Sri Aurobindo’s departure to Pondicherry. Bhattacharya noted that time itself is the true protagonist of this historical epic, with Premankur Atarthi connecting all four books. The novel is available at: Ananda Publishers (Stall 242), Signet Press (Stall 248) and Rik Prakashani (Stall 676).

Jogesh Chandra Law College students demand Firhad Hakim as President

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Despite Saraswati Puja celebrations, students of Jogesh Chandra Law College remain discontent following a recent change in the college’s governing body. A day earlier, Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) Mayor-in-Council member and MLA Debashis Kumar was replaced by state minister Aroop Biswas as the president of Jogesh Chandra College’s governing committee. Now, students of the law college are de-



manding a leadership change in their own institution.

Students have expressed their trust in KMC Mayor Firhad Hakim, believing that “only a father can truly understand a daughter’s struggles.” They seek to replace governing body president Mala Roy with Hakim and have already sent a letter to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urging this change.

The demand comes after recent tensions surrounding Saraswati Puja at the college. Now, students want strong leadership to ensure order on campus.



Women took part in a rally in Kolkata for One Billion Rising (OBR), a global movement against violence towards women.

BGBS 2025: Sourav praises CM, highlights Bengal’s investment potential

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Former Indian cricket captain and business investor Sourav Ganguly, who had previously announced an investment in West Bengal during his Spain tour with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, once again lauded her leadership at the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) 2025.

Speaking at the event, Ganguly affectionately referred to the Chief Minister as “Didi” and shared insights into his long-standing relationship with her. “Mamata Banerjee is the Chief Minister, but for us, she will always be ‘Didi.’ Whenever I message her, she responds, no matter how late it is. I often wonder how a Chief Minister finds so much time,” he remarked.

Among an audience that included business magnates like Mukesh Ambani, Sajjan Jindal, and Sanjiv Goenka, Ganguly

expressed gratitude for being invited to the event. He recalled Banerjee telling him, “You represent Bengal on a global stage, so you must be here.” He observed that each year, the summit grows in scale and influence, successfully bringing industry leaders together to expand Bengal’s industrial footprint.

Ganguly highlighted how the summit addresses diverse sectors, from agriculture and healthcare to education and entertainment. “Despite being from a cricketing background, I am thrilled to see top industrialists eager to invest in Bengal. I thank Mamata Didi for making this possible,” he said.

He also revisited his announcement of a steel plant in Salboni, emphasizing the Chief Minister’s support in facilitating the project. “I am not well-versed in business, but for the past few years, I have

been trying to invest. Mamata Banerjee and her officials have been extremely supportive,” he added.

Ganguly stressed that investment opportunities should not be limited to traditional sectors. “Sports, too, presents a golden opportunity for investment,” he said. Drawing from his own experience, he remarked, “Since my U-15 cricket days, I have witnessed remarkable improvements in Bengal’s sports infrastructure.”

Currently associated with Delhi Capitals in the IPL, Ganguly urged industrialists to consider investing in sports beyond business. “Investment should not be limited to trade; sports needs it too,” he emphasized, reminding business leaders that football, another deep-rooted passion in Bengal, also requires significant financial backing.

Pictures of Indians...

**From PG 1**  
strong protest with the then US Ambassador Nancy Powell,” Kherra said in a post on X. “The UPA government retaliated sharply. Leaders like Ms Meira Kumar, Sushil Kumar Shinde and Rahul Gandhi refused to meet the US Congressional delegation that was visiting India at that time,” he recalled. Kherra also said then PM Manmohan Singh termed the US action ‘deplorable’. India withdrew several perks given to the US embassy, including imports of food and alcohol at concessional rates by embassy staff, he said.

Kherra said in addition Income Tax department started investigating the American Embassy school. “John Kerry expressed regrets at the treatment given to Devyani Khobragade. The US administration called up foreign secretary Sujatha Singh to convey the regrets of the USA,” he said.

A 1999-batch IFS officer, Khobragade was arrested in New York on visa fraud charges, triggering a row between the two countries with India retaliating by downgrading privileges of certain categories of US diplomats among other steps.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Tuesday said the media kerfuffle over the deportation of 150 plus illegal Indian migrants from the United States obscures a few facts.

“This is not the first such planeload, nor is it directly related to the ascent of @realDonaldTrump. There were 1100 Indians deported in the previous fiscal year under Biden, not Trump. As of 2022, there were 725,000 undocumented Indian immigrants in the US -- the third-largest group, outnumbered only by nationals of Mexico and El Salvador, he said.

“Since October 2020, US Customs and Border Protection officials have detained nearly 170,000 Indian migrants attempting to cross the border illegally from either Canada or Mexico. They are all subject to deportation,” Tharoor said.

The US action comes in the midst of India and the US finalising various elements of a likely visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Washington from February 12 to 13.

It is learnt a C-17 Globemaster aircraft of the US Air Force took off with the deported Indians from an airbase near Texas. However there is no clarity on the numbe.

Arvind Kejriwal...



**From PG 1**  
‘achievements’. The New Delhi seat sees a high-profile three-way contest among AAP’s Arvind Kejriwal, BJP’s Parvesh Verma, and Congress’s Sandeep Dikshit.

A total of 699 candidates are in the electoral fray to secure a seat in the 70 member Delhi Legislative Assembly.

Delhi has a total number of 1,56,14,000 registered voters, including 83,76,173 males, 72,36,560 females, and 1,26,7 third-gender voters. The electorate also includes 2,39,905 first-time voters aged 18-19, 1,09,368 elderly voters aged 85 and above, and 79,885 persons with disabilities.



**Name Change**  
I, JIARUL SARDAR (Old Name) S/O MOHAMMAD ALI SARDAR Residing at Vill & P.O.-Gunnarajpur, P.S.-Swarupnagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743273, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD JIARUL SARDAR (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 04-02-2025. JIARUL SARDAR (Old Name) and MD JIARUL SARDAR (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sabita Chakrabarty W/o Subodh Kumar Chakrabarty D/o Adhir Krishna Goswami resident of Tikhahat, Ambagan, P.O Lakurdi, P.S- Burdwan, Dist - Purba Bardhaman, Pin-713102 have changed my name from Sabita Chakrabarty to Sabita Chakrabarty and henceforth shall be known as Sabita Chakrabarty vide affidavit dated 05.02.2025 before Ld. Executive Magistrate at Purba Bardhaman. Sabita Chakrabarty and Sabita Chakrabarty both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Bonoshri Chakrabarty W/o Shantanu Chakrabarty D/o Late Sankar Chandra Das resident of Tikhahat, Ambagan, P.O Lakurdi, P.S- Burdwan, Dist - Purba Bardhaman, Pin-713102 have changed my name from Bonoshri Chakrabarty to Bonoshri Chakrabarty and henceforth shall be known as Bonoshri Chakrabarty vide affidavit dated 05. 02.2025 before Ld. Executive Magistrate at Purba Bardhaman. Bonoshri Chakrabarty and Bono shri Chakrabarty both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Dilsan Mondal (New Name) S/O Mortej Mondal resident of Vill-Chowghuria, P.O- Khalishpur, P.S- Kalna, Dist - Purba Bardhaman have changed my name from Mondal Dilsan Mortej to Dilsan Mondal and henceforth shall be known as Dilsan Mondal for all purpose vide affidavit dated 02.01.2025 before court of the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st) Class at Kalna. Mondal Dilsan Mortej and Dilsan Mondal both are same and one identical person i.e., myself.

**Name Change**  
I, Ashish Hati (old name) S/o Samir Hati Residing at Vill-Uttar Jhapordah Rathitala,P.O.-Uttar jhapordah,P.S.-Domjur,Dist-Howrah -711405,W.B.have changed my name to Ashish Hati (new name) before the notary public at Howrah on 24/01/25.Ashish Hati (Old Name) and Ashish Hati (New Name)both are the same & one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Susanta Roy, S/o Robin Roy, residing at Chamraol Dakhinpara Kalabagan Chamraol, Liluah, Dist - Howrah-711114 declare that in my passport No N4776362 my father's Name has been wrongly recorded as Robin Roy(Old namel)instead of his actual name Rabin Roy(New name) as mentioned in my Aadhar Card, PAN Card. That Rabin Roy(New Name) and Robin Roy (Old Name) both are same and one identical person i.e, my father vide affidavit dated 31.01.25 before in the court of Ld. 1st Class Executive Magistrate at Howrah.

**Name Change**  
I, Joyeeta Paul D/O Late Sushanta Kumar Paul W/O Krishnangshu Das Residing At Permanent & Present Address Be-7/11, Deshbandhu Nagar, Rajarhatgopalpur, P.S.Baguihati, Koljata 700059, My Name In My Daughter's Birth Certificate Has Been Recorded As Joyeeta Paul Das Instead Of My Actual Name Joyeeta Paul Joyeeta Das Paul And Joyeeta Paul Both Are Same And One Identical Person I.E., Myself And Mother Of My Daughter Named Mohittha Das Vide Affidavit Dated 08.08.2024 Before The Ld Judicial Magistrate,1st Class, Dist North 24 Parganas.

**Change of Name**  
It has been declared by swearing an affidavit In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class), Kharagpur vide affidavit No-433-16 dated 27/01/2025 that the names **Ramji Sony & Ram Ji Sony, S/o-Sudarshan Prasad**, residing at Air Force Station Kalaikunda, Paschim Medinipur, WB, are the names of the same, one & identical person. Henceforth will be named & identified as **"Ramji Sony"**. This is for information to all concerned.  
Deponent

**NAME CHANGE**  
I, AKANKSHA DAGA D/o Arun Kumar Daga residing at 11B Baisnang Seth Street Berhampore Street, Kolkata-700006 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my name inadvertently mentioned in **AKANKSHA DAGA** in my **Passport & Birth Certificate** instead of actual name **AKANKSHA DAGA**. That **AKANKSHA DAGA** and **AKANKSHA DAGA** are the same and one identical Person vide affidavit In The Court Of The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata on 23-12-2024.

**Name Change**  
I, Karabi Dasgupta W/o, Late Pranab Dasgupta of 44/1, Aswini Dutta Nagar, Hind Motor, Hooghly, 712233, W.B., hereby declare that I have changed my name from Karabi Dasgupta to Karabi Dasgupta and hereafter be known as Karabi Dasgupta, vide affidavit No. 28475 dated 9.12.24 before the Hon'ble 1st class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore Court, Kolkata.

**Name Change**  
I, Lt.Col.A.Sikdar (Old Name),S/O Rasik Lal Sikdar,Resident Of E-905,Jalvayu Tower Action Area-1d,New Town, Kolkata- 700156, West Bengal, Have Change My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Apurba Sikdar (New Name) Vide Ld 1st Class Judiacial Magistrate At Kolkata On 20/01/2025. Lt.Col.A.Sikdar S/O R.L.Sikdar (Old Name) And Apurba Sikdar S/O Rasik Lal Sikdar(New Name)All Are The Same And Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Mohmmad Khairul Saikh, on behalf of my minor son Moham-mad Jahid Sekh (old name), residing at BAHADURPUR, PO-GOLGRAM, PS-DEBRA, WEST MEDINIPUR-721136, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my son name and he shall henceforth be known as Md Jahid Sk (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Md Jahid Sk (new name) and Mohammad Jahid Sekh (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Budhen Malick (Old Name) son of Pannalal Malick, residing at Vill.- Dulliya Jalar Dhar, P.O.-Dulliya, P.S.- Sankrail, Dist.-Howrah- 711302, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Budhen Chandra Malick (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Budhen Chandra Malick (New Name) and Budhen Malick (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Samchhur Dafader (Old Name) son of Rajibar Dafader, residing at Puratan Helencha, Helencha Colony, Bagdah, North 24 pgs, Pin- 743270, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samsur Dafader (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Samsur Dafader (New Name) and Samchhur Dafader (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Ibrahim Dafader (Old Name) son of Samsur Dafader, residing at Puratan Helencha, Helencha Colony, Bagdah, North 24 pgs, Pin- 743270, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ibrahim Dafader (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Ibrahim Dafader (New Name) and Ibrahim Dafader (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sandipan Ganguli, Son Of Sudhanshu Shekhar Ganguly, Residing At Dl-156,Sector-Ii,Po - Sech Bhawan, Bidhannagar, North 24 parganas - 700091,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sandipan Ganguly Vide An Affidavit No 2 Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 05/02/2024.That Sandipan Ganguli And Sandipan Ganguly Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Smriti Das, Wife Of Agnibes Banerjee, Residing At E3-398, 10th Shibpurpur, Maheshitala, Bengal Harbourn, 700141,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Smriti Das Banerjee Vide An Affidavit No 3 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 04/02/2025.That Smriti Das And Smriti Das Banerjee Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Asit Bhattacharyya (Old Name) son of Late Saroj Kumar Bhattacharyya, residing at Flat-203, 6/5D, Anil Moitra Road, Ballygunge, Kolkata - 700019, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Asit Kumar Bhattacharyya (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Asit Kumar Bhattacharyya (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Maina Rakshit (Old Name) wife of Pradip Rakshit, residing at Vill. & P.O. & P.S.- Kundahit Samtara, Jharkhand (First Class) at Seal-dah vide affidavit no 998 Date 29-01-2025. Sikha Biswas and Maina Rakshit (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sikha Biswas W/o Afsar Khan D/o Late Madan Mohan Biswas Residing at Premises no. 99/H/13/1, Cossipore Road, P.o & Ps - Cossipore, Kolkata - 700002 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Salma Begam as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata on 23-12-2024. I, Sikha Biswas and Salma Begam both as same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, MANOJ KUMAR CHATTERJEE and MANOJ CHATTERJEE (Old Name) S/O SHAMBHUNATH CHATTOPADHYAY Residing at BIL-Bhalukunda P.O.-Ikra Hazrapur, P.S.-Panrui, District -Birbhum, Pin- 731201, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MANOJ CHATTOPADHYAY (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public govt of India vide affidavit Dated 05-02-2025. MANOJ KUMAR CHATTERJEE and MANOJ CHATTERJEE (Old Name) and MANOJ CHATTOPADHYAY (New Name) both are same and one identical person.



**Building bridges for a brighter future: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee along with Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren with his wife Kalpana Murmu Soren, Managing director of JSW Steel Sajjan Jindal and Special Advisor to Chief Minister of West Bengal on Finance Amit Mitra at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata on Wednesday.**

### Cancellation of trains due to developmental works in Adra Division

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In view of developmental works in Adra Division, the following trains will be cancelled as under:- 1) 18035/18036 Kharagpur-Hatia-Kharagpur Express will remain cancelled from 05.02.2025 to 09.02.2025 2) 18602/18601 Hatia-Tatanagar-Hatia Express will remain cancelled from 05.02.2025 to 09.02. 2025 3) 18114 Bilaspur-Tatanagar Express will remain cancelled from 05.02. 2025 to 08.02.2025 4) 18113 Tatanagar-Bilaspur Express will remain cancelled from 05.02.2025 to 09.02.2025 5)18019/18020 Jhargram-Dhanbad-Jhargram Express will remain cancelled on 07.02.2025 & 09.02.2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Madhumita Ghosh, W/O Swayantan Pal,R/O Flat-K/25/ 502, Sparsh, Sp-Sukhobrishti, Aa-Ili, New Town, Bidhan nagar- 700135,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Madhumita Pal,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/02/2025.That Madhumita Ghosh And Madhumita Pal All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Suparna Dutta (Old Name) wife of Subhas Dutta, residing at Sreenagar Gate No.3 Madhyamgram, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700129, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Suparna Majumder Dutta (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Suparna Majumder Dutta (New Name) and Suparna Dutta (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Seema Sharad Bajaj & Seema Bajaj (Old Names) wife of Sharad Bajaj, residing at P219, Block-A, P.S. - Lake Town, Bidhannagar, Pin- 700089, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Seema S Bajaj (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Seema S Bajaj (New Name) and Seema Sharad Bajaj & Seema Bajaj (Old Names) all are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Prabha Devi (Old Name) wife of Satyendra Kumar Singh, residing at 16/8 Pannalal Basak Lane, Liluah, Howrah, Pin- 71204, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prava Devi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Prava Devi (New Name) and Prabha Devi (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Nargis Ahmed (Old Name) wife of Maswood Ahmed, residing at Green Happy Ville, Rajarhat, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700135, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nargis Begum (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Nargis Begum (New Name) and Nargis Ahmed (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kuldeep Kaur Chandhok (Old Name) wife of Kuldeep Singh, residing at 213/206, Milan Sarani, Parnasree Pally, Kolkata, Pin-700060, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kuldeep Singh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Kuldeep Singh (New Name) and Kuldeep (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kuldeep (Old Name) son of Ganga Singh, residing at 213/206, Milan Sarani, Parnasree Pally, Kolkata, Pin- 700060, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kuldeep Singh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/02/2025. Kuldeep Singh (New Name) and Kuldeep (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

### Under age marriage should be prevented at any cost: Shashi Panja

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** State minister Shashi Panja has given a clarification call to the people to help thwarting 'child marriage' at any cost.Dr. Panja candidly mentioned that the government of West Bengal is trying heart and soul to check ' underage marriage' that still exists in few pockets of West Bengal with iron hand. She mentioned that apart from government initiatives, public awareness is very important in this respect. To her, the boys and girls should come out vehemently against this menace, if possible should go against their families if they are forcing such acts. Dr. Shashi Panja Minister - in-Charge, Women & Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal mentioned it while she was present at the recently held annual sports meet of the community policing wing at Alipore Body Guard Line, Kolkata.

### Uniform toll policy to benefit national highway commuters: Gadkari

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The road transport ministry is working on a uniform toll policy to benefit national highway users, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said. Gadkari also asserted that now India's highway infrastructure matches that of the US. "We are working on a uniform toll policy. It will address the problem faced by the commuters," he told in an interview, without elaborating further. Gadkari was responding to a question on simmering discontent among users of National Highways on account of high toll charges and sub-par road-user experience. The longest-serving road transport and highways minister said that the ministry has decided to initially implement a barrier-less global navigation satellite system (GNSS)-based toll collection system on national highways. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Gadkari said, has been taking the complaints made by commuters on social media very seriously and is taking strong action against contractors involved. At present, while private cars constitute about 60 per cent of the traffic on national highways, the share of toll revenue from these vehicles is barely 20-26 per cent. Toll charges have increased on highways even as more and more stretches have come under the tolling system over the past 10 years, often leading to rising user discontent. Total toll collection in India touched Rs 64,809.86 crore in 2023-24, a 35 per cent rise over the previous year. The collection was Rs 27,503 crore in 2019-20. All user fee plazas on National Highways are established as per the provision

of National Highways Fee (Determination of Rates and Collection) Rules, 2008 and the respective Concession Agreement. Gadkari expressed confidence that in the current financial year, the highways ministry will surpass the previous record of 37 km per day highways construction in 2020-21 financial year. Around 7,000 km highways been constructed so far in the current financial year. Traditionally, the pace of highways construction is higher in the February-March period. The pace of highways construction in the country has touched a record 37 km per day in financial year 2020-21.

The highways ministry had constructed 13,435.4 kilometres in 2020-21; 10,457.2 km in 2021-22; 10,331 km in 2022-23, and 12,349 km in 2023-24. Gadkari also said this financial year, the ministry will award highways projects of 13,000 km. The ministry had awarded highways project of 8,580.5 km in 2023-24. The pace of highway project awards has slowed down considerably in the absence of a new scheme to replace the Bharatmala Pariyojana. According to Gadkari, under the Bharatmala Pariyojana, the ministry had the power to award highway projects of up to Rs 3,000 crore, now the ministry cannot approve any fresh projects under the Bharatmala Pariyojana. "For any project worth above Rs 1,000 crore, now we need to take the approval of the Cabinet. So, we have sent projects worth Rs 50,000-Rs 60,000 crore to the Cabinet for approval," he said. "Once we get clearance, we will start working on those projects," the minister added.

### Reliance to invest Rs 50 K Cr in Bengal

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Reliance Industries Chairman Mukesh Ambani announced a fresh investment commitment of Rs 50,000 crore in West Bengal by the end of this decade.

Speaking at the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) 2025, Ambani said the investment would generate one lakh jobs in the state. "Reliance has already invested Rs 50,000

### PHOTO RELEASE FROM ER



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** On February 4, 2025, a World Cancer Awareness Program was organized at the OPD complex of the Divisional Railway Hospital, Malda. Dr. Prashanto Kr Roy, Assistant Professor, Department of Oncosurgery, Malda Medical College, was the chief speaker.Dr. Roy emphasized the risk factors of cancer, the importance of early detection, and the need for awareness about precancerous conditions that can be identified by individuals if they are well-informed. He also highlighted the significance of early diagnosis and timely management. An interactive session with healthcare workers provided valuable insights into recognizing early signs and symptoms, aiding in better case detection.The event was chaired by Dr. Surajit Bhattacharya (ACMS) and Dr. S. Banerjee (DMO). The program proved highly beneficial for railway staff, enhancing their understanding of cancer screening guidelines and the importance of early intervention.

### Lost Mobile recovered and returned to a commuter

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** On 30.01.2025 at about 13:30 hrs., an on-duty RPF staff at the platform of Howrah Metro station found a mobile phone on the platform. Finding no claimant of this phone and after proper security checking, he deposited it at the Station Master's Office. Thereafter, Station Master made repeated announcements requesting the owner of the phone to collect it from the Station Master's Office and a control message was also communicated to all the stations. After sometime, a commuter came to the Station Master's Office and claimed the ownership of the phone. After proper verification and complying with all official formalities, the phone was handed over to him. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping him to recover his lost phone.

### India to drive global growth in AI, green energy: Naidu

**MI News Service, Hyderabad:** India is set to play a crucial role in artificial intelligence (AI) and green energy sectors, emerging as a major driver of global economic growth, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said.

Speaking at a press conference, Naidu said there was significant global interest in India's development trajectory at the World Economic Forum held in Davos. "India is the pulling factor for the global economic growth," the TDP chief told reporters. Drawing parallels between the IT revolution of 1995 and current developments, Naidu said AI has become the "order of the day" with applications across all sectors. "In 1995, it was information technology and in 2025 it is AI. At that time, I was party to it, and even today I am party and in power," he said. The Andhra CM identified two major themes that dominated Davos discussions - artificial intelligence and green energy initiatives, particularly green hydrogen production. He emphasized the growing focus on reducing global warming through green energy solutions and downstream industries.

### Health Check-Up camp organized at Arunodaya Ghoshapur School



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Under the leadership of Mrs. Seema Deouskar, President, Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (ERWWO), and with the support of the Health & Family Welfare Department, Sealdah, a school health check-up camp was organized at Arunodaya Ghoshapur School. A team of doctors from B.R. Singh Hospital, led by Dr. Mandira Banerjee, ACMS, Sealdah, conducted a comprehensive health check-up for 108 school students from Nursery to 4th Standard. The medical team included Dr. Sayantan Saha, Sr. DMO (Pediatrics), Dr. Rajarshi Kar, DMO (ENT), Dr.

Disha Nagi, Pediatrician, Dr. Bidushi Roy Chowdhury, Ophthalmologist, Dr. Ranita Dey, Dental Surgeon. The event was graced by Dr. Subhasish Das, MD, B.R. Singh Hospital, Dr. Kalpana Mondal, CMS, Sealdah, Dr. Partha Sarathi Mitra, ACMD, H&FW, ER HQ, Mrs. Charul Agrawal, School Incharge, and members of ERWWO. This successful and impactful initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, guardians, teachers, ERWWO members, and the Health & Family Welfare team, Sealdah, reinforcing ERWWO's commitment to the well-being of children and the community.

### India's manufacturing growth hits 6-month high in January

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India's manufacturing sector growth started the year 2025 on a strong footing and touched a six-month high in January, fuelled by the steepest upturn in exports in nearly 14 years, a monthly survey said. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rose from December's one-year low of 56.4 to 57.7 in January supported by the fastest upturn in new export orders since February 2011. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below 50 denotes contraction. "India's final manufacturing PMI marked a six-month high in January. Domestic and export demand were both strong, supporting new orders growth," said Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC. Goods producers attributed the substantial increase in new orders to better domestic demand and a pick-up in international sales. Subsequently, manufactur-

ers in India continued to scale up production volumes. The latest increase was substantial and the fastest since October 2024. Going forward, companies turned more optimistic about output prospects, with nearly 32 per cent of firms forecasting growth and just 1 per cent expecting a reduction. According to panel members, buoyant underlying demand, better customer relations, favourable economic conditions and marketing efforts all bode well for growth prospects. Robust sales gains and upbeat forecasts prompted companies to recruit additional workers at the start of the fourth quarter of this fiscal year. "The employment PMI suggested robust job creation in the manufacturing industry, as the index increased to its highest level since the series was created. Input cost inflation eased for a second month, relieving pressure on manufacturers to raise final output prices," Bhandari noted.



Two-day flower exhibition organized by Horticulture Department and Balagarh Nursery



MI News Service, Hooghly: It is difficult to find a person who does not love flowers! Keeping in mind the interest in flowers, like every year, a two-day flower exhibition was organized in collaboration with the Horticulture Department and Balagarh Nursery Association. It is being held on February 5 and 6 in the premises of the Horticulture Office of Chinsurah Rice Research Center. Today, the flower exhibition was attended by Chinsurah MLA Asit Majumdar, former Balagarh Assembly MLA Asim Kumar Majhi, working president of Balagarh Nursery Association Nabo Kumar Das and several officers of the Horticulture Department. After welcoming all the guests, the flower exhibition and seminar began. On this occasion, highlights were shed on different types of flowers and important things were also told about its trade and business development. Along with this, it was also highlighted how much benefit farmers and flower growers will get from this.

**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**  
e-Open Tender Notice No.: GEM/2025/B/5889989, dated 03.02.2025. e-Open Tender is invited by Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer (Production)/Kharagpur Workshop, S.E. Railway, Kharagpur-721301 for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work: • Description of Work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Bearing Cleaning Plant (2RBC/19) of M/s. Global Engineers Limited, New Delhi, installed in Wheel Shop No. 19 of Kharagpur Workshop for 03 (Three) years. Approx. cost of work: ₹ 17,49,007/-  
Date of closing : 25.02.2025. Website particulars : www.gem.gov.in  
Details of Tender Notice and corrigendum issued from time to time along with the required information are available on the website www.gem.gov.in (PR-1099)

**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
Following E-tender is invited online by the Sr. Divisional Engineer/CHowrah, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway Station, Howrah-711101 from Tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required Financial capabilities including those Registered with Irrigation/CPWD/SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following work: Under Sr. DEN/HQ/Howrah, E-Tender No. 335\_2024-25. Description of work: Provision for sinking of deep tube well (300 x 200 mm) dia EMU/CS/Howrah under AEN/HQ/Howrah. Approx Cost: Rs. 11,49,153.37. Earnest Money: Rs. 23,000/-  
Cost of Tender Form: Rs. 0.00. Completion Period: 03 (Three) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/bandh/ strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However, opening of tenders online will be done next working day. Closing date and time of Tender: 28.02.2025 at 14.00 hrs. The details of tender are available at website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. Payment of EMD & TDC - Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender document cost in respect of E-tendering, should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. NOTE: Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal). No manual offer will be accepted. HWH-585/2024-25  
Tender Notices are also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in  
Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
e-AUCTION NOTICE  
Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 for inviting e-Auction through IREPS portal vide website www.ireps.gov.in for awarding the contract. Details of which are as under:-  
E-Auction Catalogue No.: ASN-ATM-20-02  
Category of Auction: ATM. Name of Station/Location/Train No. & SLR: Installation of ATM at following 03 locations of 02 stations - Sitarampur and Simultala (02 ATMs). Auction Start detail: 20.02.2025 at 12.30 hrs. All prospective bidders are advised to visit the website www.ireps.gov.in for full details and to participate against the above mentioned e-auction as per scheduled given. ASN-317/2024-25  
Tender Notices are also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in  
Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
Following E-tender is invited by the Divisional Engineer (IV), Divisional Railway Managers' Office, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway Station, Howrah-711101 from Tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required Financial capabilities including those Registered with Irrigation/CPWD/SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following work: DEN/4/Howrah, SI. No. 1, E-Tender No. 337\_2024-25 DEN/4/HWH. Description of work: Operation, Maintenance, Repairing and Overhauling of RO (REOS) Plant including supply of chemicals for drinking water at Rampurhat and Pakur under jurisdiction of AEN/Rampurhat on turnkey basis for the period of 3 years for 2 plants. Approx Cost:Rs. 27,93,785.60. Earnest Money: Rs. 55,900/-  
SI. No. 2, E-Tender No. 338\_2024-25 DEN/4/HWH. Description of work: Operation, Maintenance, Repairing and Overhauling of RO (REOS) Plant including supply of chemicals for drinking water for the period of 3 years at Bolpur Shantiniketan under Jurisdiction of SSEW/Bolpur Shantiniketan under AEN/Bolpur Shantiniketan. Approx Cost: Rs. 13,96,892.80. Earnest Money: Rs. 27,900/-  
SI. No. 3, E-Tender No. 339\_2024-25 DEN/4/HWH. Description of work: 1. Strengthening of Existing side pathway and replacement of corroded/perforated M.S. chequered plates by stainless steel chequered plates of gang way, side pathway, man refuse and tolly refuse of Br. No.-5F, 77,89,132,141,143,152,172,UP, 202 UP, 206 UP in SBG Loop and 190 A in main line section of Howrah Division & 2. Provision of Standard Bridge Boulders for major Bridges in the section of Khana-Gumani under DEN/4/Howrah. Approx Cost: Rs. 1,26,74,164.22. Earnest Money: Rs. 2,13,400/-  
SI. No. 4, E-Tender No. 340\_2024-25 DEN/4/HWH. Description of work: Fabrication of Insitu Glued Joints under the Jurisdiction of DEN/4/Howrah. Approx Cost: Rs. 56,67,986.39. Earnest Money: Rs. 1,13,400. SI. No. 5, E-Tender No. 341\_2024-25 DEN/4/HWH. Description of work: 1. Construction of LHS in lieu of LC Gate No. 30/E at Km 105/7-8 between Rampurhat- Adalparah station in Rampurhat-Dumka in Howrah Division & 2. Construction of LHS in lieu of LC Gate No. 29/E at Km 109/7-8 between Rampurhat - Adalparah station in Rampurhat- Dumka in Howrah Division. Approx Cost: Rs. 12,65,41,892.58. Earnest Money: Rs. 7,82,700/-  
Cost of Tender Form (Rs.): Nil. [For SI. No. 1 to 5]. Completion Period: 36 (Thirty six) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter [For SI. No. 1 & 2], 12 (Twelve) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter [For SI. No. 4 & 5] and 06 (Six) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter [For SI. No. 3]. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/ bandh/ strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However, opening of tenders online will be done next working day. Closing date and time of Tender: 24.02.2025 at 14.00 hrs. The details of tender are available at website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Tender document cost, in respect of E-tendering, should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only through above website. NOTE: Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal). No manual offer will be accepted. HWH-584/2024-25  
Tender Notices are also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in  
Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

Youth dies in road accident, fiancée commits suicide for the intolarable loss

MI News Service, Tehatta : A youth got into a bike accident and died two days back. His fiancée, a girl student of class ten failed to tolerate the loss and committed suicide by hanging. It happened at Tehatta Bajitpur in Nadia on Wednesday, a police sources said. Police has recovered the body.  
A local sources said that two days ago, her lover lost his life in a road accident. The teenage girl could not tolerate the news. She spent two days in severe mental agony. Allegedly she thought that there was no value of life without her fiancé. So the class ten student from Betai, Nadia, took the extreme decision of ending her life.  
Taking advantage of the empty house, she committed suicide by hanging in room on Wednesday. It is the assumption of the family. The incident casts a shadow of grief on the village of Bajitpur Tabupara in Betai. The police have recovered the body of the teenager and started investigating.  
Four students from the



Kanthalia area of Tehatta Nadia were returning on a bike after seeing Saraswati Puja at night on Sunday. All of them were between the ages of 16 and 18 years. At that time, a terrible accident occurred. The bike lost control in the Kanaikhal area of Karimpur police station. Eyewitnesses claim that the bike first hit a truck and then the shutter of a closed shop.  
Four were seriously injured and locals took them to block hospital. Two were declared dead by the doctors there. The remaining two were taken elsewhere but could not be saved. They also died.

Delhi witnesses 57.70% voter turnout till 5 pm

MI News Service, New Delhi: A voter turnout of 57.70 per cent was recorded till 5 pm on Wednesday in the single-phase Delhi assembly elections, according to the Election Commission of India (ECI).  
The North-East district of the national capital continues to lead the way with the highest turnout of 63.83 per cent turnout among all districts.  
The lowest turnout of 53.77 per cent was recorded in the South East district just behind the New Delhi district where a turnout of

54.37 per cent was recorded at 5 pm.  
According to the ECI, the South West district recorded a turnout of 58.86 per cent, East 58.98 per cent, North 57.24 per cent, North West 58.05 per cent, Shahdara 61.35 per cent, South 55.72 per cent, Central 55.24 per cent and West 57.42 per cent, as of 5 pm.  
As of 3 PM today, a voter turnout in the Delhi Assembly elections was recorded at 46.55 per cent, according to the Election Commission.  
Meanwhile, the Milkpur assembly constituency recorded a turnout of 65.25 per cent in the bye-assembly elections. The Erode (East) constituency of Tamil Nadu witnessed a turnout of 64.02 per cent as of 5 pm in the by-polls.

**Mirzapur Bankipur Gram Panchayat**  
Mirzapur Bankipur, Singur, Hooghly, 712409  
Notice Inviting e-Tender  
e-Tenders are invited from bonafied resourceful contractor for execution of 08 nos. development works under 15<sup>th</sup> FC(Tied & Untied) Fund vide Memo No.: 31/MB/2024-25/15<sup>th</sup> FC/MB/2024-25/15<sup>th</sup> Untied & 33/MB/2024-25/15<sup>th</sup> Untied, Date: 31.01.2025. Bid Submission Start Date (Online): 01.02.2025 (NIT-31, 32), 03.02.2025 (NIT-33) at 06.00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date (Online): 11.02.2025 (NIT-31, 32), 13.02.2025 (NIT-33) up to 05.00 PM. Bid Opening Date: 14.02.2025 (NIT-31, 32), 17.02.2025 (NIT-33) at 10.00 AM. For details please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in & undersigned GP office.  
Sd/-  
Pradhan  
Mirzapur Bankipur Gram Panchayat

**Notice Inviting Tender**  
It is hereby notified that a E-Tender is invited as per Memo No 394/RKGP /15<sup>th</sup> FC/UNTIED/2025 OF 15<sup>th</sup> FC UNTIED CC ROAD AT MAITIR CHAK AND CC ROAD AT BALADEVPUR  
ANOTHER 396/RKGP/15<sup>th</sup> FC/UNTIED/2025 OF 15<sup>th</sup> FC TIED FUND DRAIN AT BALADEVPUR 396/RKGP/OSR/2025 OF OSR FUND CC ROAD NEAR NONA MATHE 397/RKGP/ 5<sup>th</sup> SFC/2025 CC ROAD AT MAITIR CHAK  
Last Date of Submission and will be opened on 12.02.2025  
For More Details Available At The Office Of The Undersigned And Website Of www.wbtenders.gov.in  
Sd/-  
Pradhan  
Sri Sri Ramkrishna GP

**OFFICE OF THE**  
**HATINAGAR GRAM PANCHAYAT**  
Nimtila, Berhampore, Murshidabad.  
Notice inviting e-Tender No- eNIT 04/2024-25 & 05/2024-25 dated :-04/02/2025  
1. Date of NIT Documents publish: 04/02/2025 from 5.00 P.M. 2. Documents last start date: 04/02/2025 from 5.00 P.M. 3. Date of start of submission of Technical & Financial Bid: 04/02/2025 from 5.00 P.M. 4. Date of closing of submission of Technical Bid & Financial Bid: 12/02/2025 from 2.00 P.M. 5. Bid opening date & time for Technical Bid: 14/02/2025 from 2.00 P.M.  
Bid opening date & time for Financial Bid After finalized Technical Bid  
For details logging on to https://wbtenders.gov.in the contractor is to click on the link for e-Tendering site as given on the web portal.  
Sd/-  
Pradhan  
Hatnagar, Murshidabad

**Office of the**  
**BHAKURI-II GRAM PANCHAYAT**  
Vill.- Belpukur, P.O.- Balarampur, P.S. & Block- Berhampore  
Dist.- Murshidabad, Pin-742165  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER No- 05 of 2024-25/ 5th SFC Tied.  
Name of work: Construction Culvert with guardwall at canal near Gajgharpara sub Center at Gajgharpara under Bhakuri-II GP.  
1) Download tender document from- 07/02/2025 at 13:00 hours., 2) Tender documents submission from- 07/02/2025 at 13:00 hours., 3) Tender documents submission upto- 24/02/2025 at 17:00 hours., 4) Technical bid opening- 26/02/2025 17:00 hours, 5) Financial bid opening- 28/02/2025 at 11:00 hours  
Please visit website- http://wbtenders.gov.in  
Sd/-  
PRADHAN  
Bhakuri-II Gram Panchayat  
Berhampore Block, Murshidabad

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
**See Section 82 Cr.P.C.**  
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Badru Alam, C/o S.K. Raju, R/o Village Kusmasul, Post Office Patharchapri, Birbhun, West Bengal** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 410/2018, U/s 420/120B IPC, P.S. Rajinder Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Badru Alam** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Badru Alam** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).  
Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Badru Alam** accused of **FIR No. 410/2018, U/s 420/120B IPC, P.S. Rajinder Nagar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **27.03.2025**.  
By Order  
Ms. Preeti  
Judicial Magistrate First Class-03  
Central District, Room No. 150  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi  
DP/1183/CD/2025

Exit polls predict BJP victory in Delhi polls, downward plunge for AAP

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is poised to form the next government in Delhi with the ruling AAP falling behind, most exit polls predicted on Wednesday and said that Congress likely to continue its dismal run in the assembly polls.  
The exit polls varied in their prediction of margin of BJP victory with one poll saying that the party could win 51-60 out of 70 assembly seats in Delhi. Two polls also predicted AAP victory. The exit polls came with their predictions after the conclusion of voting in Delhi assembly polls on Wednesday.  
According to P-MARQ exit poll, BJP is likely to win on 39-49 assembly seats, Aam Aadmi Party 21-31 seats and Congress 0-1 seats.  
Matrize exit poll predicted a close contest between BJP and AAP. It said BJP is likely for win on 35-40 seats and AAP 32-37 seats. It said Congress can win one seat.  
Peoples Pulse exit poll said BJP could win 51-60 assembly seats and AAP 10-19 seats. The exit poll did not give any seat to Congress.  
As per People's Insight exit poll, BJP is likely to emerge victorious in 40-44 seats and AAP 25- 29 seats. The Congress, it said, can win 0-1 seat.  
JVC exit poll gave 39-45 seats to BJP, 22-31 to AAP and 0-2 seats to Congress.  
Chanakya Strategies predicted 39-44 seats for BJP, 25-28 seats for AAP and 2-3 seats for Congress.  
Poll Dairy exit polls predicted that BJP will win 42-50 seats, AAP 18-25 and Congress 0-2 seats.  
WeePreside exit poll said AAP could win 46-52 seats, BJP 18-23 seats and Congress 0-1 seat.  
Delhi recorded a turnout of 57.70 per cent till 5 pm on Wednesday. Votes will be counted on February 8.  
AAP has dominated the last two assembly polls in Delhi. In the 2020 assembly elections, it won 62 out of 70 seats and BJP won eight. Congress, which ruled the national capital for 15 years, failed to open its account in the last two assembly polls.



Building bridges for a brighter future: Special Advisor to Chief Minister of West Bengal on Finance Amit Mitra along with Managing director of JSW Steel Sajjan Jindal, ITC Chairman Sanjeev Puri, Chairman and Managing Director of Reliance Industries Limited Mukesh Ambani and other Industrialists at the 8th Bengal Global Business Summit in Kolkata on Wednesday.

If action not taken against DCP and SHO, I would approach SC: AAP's Saurabh Bharadwaj as Delhi polls concludes

MI News Service, New Delhi: As voting for the Delhi Assembly elections concluded, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) candidate from Greater Kailash Vidhan Sabha Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) and Station House Officer (SHO) at East of Kailash were trying to influence the elections and if action is not taken against them he would approach the Supreme Court.  
Saurabh Bharadwaj said, "I have posted both videos on 'X' and tagged the Police Commissioner and the Election Commission on it. One is from East of Kailash Sarodaya Kanya Vidyalaya No.1. People were getting down from car parked just in front of booth and gave their votes while a women who came in auto to vote was stopped 200mts away. Should the DCP and

SHO not be suspended? They were doing duty for BJP. They are trying to influence the elections but no action is being taken. Both EC and Police Commissioner have not answered to my tweet. If no action is taken, I will approach the SC."  
"In Chirag Delhi and Shahpur JAT which is our stronghold, village people wake up early. Women went to vote at 7 am. I tweeted that lights were switched off at polling booths, when I went to Shahpur Jat then a senior women told that allegations are correct. The lights in the booth were switched off. This was a conspiracy. If the police and EC are involved, I will go to SC," he added.  
Saurabh Bharadwaj cast his vote at an MCD School in Chirag Delhi on Wednesday.  
Earlier Saurabh Bharadwaj,

on Wednesday alleged that the Delhi Police were trying to stop people from casting their votes at a polling station in Chirag Delhi.  
Speaking to the media, Bharadwaj claimed that the police were putting up barricades and attempting to influence the election in all 17-18 polling booths in Chirag Delhi.  
"You have been standing here since morning to influence the elections. Why are the barricades being put up? Which senior officer of the Delhi Police has instructed them to do so? This is all being done to disturb the poor villagers. Malviya Nagar ACP and SHO are openly doing this wherever there is a stronghold of AAP. The SHO even raided our private premises last night," he said.  
"21,000 people cast their votes here. The police are doing this in all 17-18 polling booths in Chirag Delhi. People can't come from the metro or the roads to

cast their votes. Did Virendra Sachdeva or President Murmu get out of the car 200 meters away from the polling station? There are no guidelines," the AAP leader added.  
However, South Delhi DCP Ankit Chauhan said that the police would investigate the concerns raised by the AAP leader.  
"There is an exception for the elderly and those who cannot walk. For them, bringing their car inside is allowed. This rule is being implemented everywhere. We will investigate the places where Saurabh Bharadwaj is raising concerns," Ankit Chauhan said.

**DEBRA THANA SAHID KSHUDIRAM SMRITI MAHAVIDYALAYA**  
(Autonomous, Government Aided, NAAC Accredited "A" Grade College, affiliated to Vidyasagar University)  
P.O.-: CHAKSHYAMPUR • Dist.- Paschim Medinipur • PIN- 721124, W.B.  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
E-Tender (ID-2025\_DHE\_811196\_1) dated: 05/02/2025  
Tender Reference No. dtsksm/NIT66/25  
E-Tenders are invited from eligible Contractors / Firms/agencies/ having successfully completed similar nature of works with adequate working experience and financial capabilities. Intending bidder may download the tender documents from the website https://wbntenders.gov.in.  
Information about the work:  
Name of the work Providing and fixing of 1.8 M(6-0) RCC Prestressed Precast Boundary Wall  
Bid Submission Start Date 05-02-2025 at 6 PM  
Bid Submission End Date 19-02-2025 at 4 PM  
Sd/-  
(Dr. Rupa Dasgupta)  
Principal  
Debra Thana Sahid Kshudiram Smriti Mahavidyalaya  
Chakshyampur, Debra, Paschim Medinipur

**নোটিস**  
আমার মক্কেল শ্রী অনিত ভক্ত, পিতা- বিভ্রম ভক্ত, জেলা- নদীয়া, থানা- চাকমার, এর ১১ নং খতিয়া মোতার ৪২৭ নং দাপ্ত ১০২৫ খতিয়ান থেকে চাকমার সারথিস্ট্রি ০৮৮৭/১০২৪ দলিলে ৪১৫৫ শতক জমি ক্রয় করিবে যাচা চাকমার সারথিস্ট্রি বুক ৪ আশোজারনামা নং ০০৯৬/২০২২ সাথে সম্পর্কিত সম্পত্তি নাম পত্তনে দখলকরী। এই বিঘাে যে কোন আপত্তি ১৫/০২/২০২৫ তারিখের এর মধ্যে ১৪০৮২২৮১৮ মোবাইল নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করিবে।  
প্রবীর কুমার সরকার - আইনজীবী

**Lost & Found**  
Lost my Pass Certificate of ICSE exam, 1994 with name Debashish Baroi, Index no. T/445/002 of Mary Immaculate School, Berhampore Murshidabad, Pin-742101. Ref. Gariahat P.S. G.D.E No. 230 dt 4.2.25. Founder inform at - 8296725599

**PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE**  
**ICICI Bank**  
Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal- 700091.  
CIN No: L65190G/1994PLC021012. www.icicibank.com  
The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.  
Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.  
Sr. No. Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs) Name of Branch  
1. Arti Kamandal/ Rakesh Kumar Kamandal/16/103 Larica Township, Flat No. 203, First Floor, South East Corner, Building No.16, R.S. And L.R. Ddg Nos. 34, 340, 366,342, 347, 350, 348,352, 357, 359, 360, 361, 362,379, 349,356, 336,339, 329,355/1225 & 358, 370, 338, 341,345, 351,364, 365 & 331, L.R. Khation No. 2153, Mouza Baluria, J.L. No. 37, Municipal Holding No.295, Baluria Uttar/ Barrackpore Road (Tali Khola), Ward No. 05 (Previously 26), Barasat Municipality, Pargana Anowpar, Tuzi No. 146, A.D.S.R.O. Kadambarogochi, Police Station- Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. (Admeasuring An Area Of Super Built Up Area 795 Sq. Ft. More Or Less Together With Proportionate Undivided Share/ Date Of Physical 01.02.2025)  
February 04, 2023 Rs. 21,86,849/- Calcutta  
The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.  
Date: February 06, 2025  
Place: Calcutta  
Sincerely Authorised Signatory  
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

**Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Sashastra Seema Bal Office of the Commandant 43 Bn SSB Siddharthnagar (UP)-272207 Control Room No. 05544-222832**  
No. 43 BnSSB/PF/15031275/CT(GD)/D.S./2024/1647-57 Dated 27/01/2025 To,  
**UIN 15031275 Constable (GD) Dharmendra Singh, S/o Sh. Mahendra Singh,** permanent resident of Vill- 10 Elias Road, PO-Kamarhati, Distt- North 24 Paraganas, West Bengal- 700058  
**SUB: Second Show Cause Notice Under Rule-21**  
1. Whereas, you proceeded 15 days Casual Leave w.e.f. 07.10.2024 to 27.10.2024, but after expiry of leave, you have failed to report to this unit on 28.10.2024 (FN) and also not assumed his duty despite of repeated reminders.  
2. And whereas, letters have been issued to you from 43rd Bn with direction to assume your duty at Bn Hqrs immediately vide Memo No. I/PP/CT(GD)/D.S./CRC/43 Bn/23/17905-08 dated 06.11.2024 and No. I/PP/CT(GD)/D.S./ CRC/43 Bn/23/18282-84 dated 16.11.2024, at your home/ leave address as mentioned in service record at the time of your enrollment wherein, you were directed to join your duties.  
3. Whereas, you have not joined 43rd Bn on 28.10.2024 without sufficient cause and despite issuing of re-joining notice(s), you have failed to report at 43rd Bn SSB Siddharthnagar till date.  
4. Whereas, circumstances of the Court of Inquiry under Section 74 of the SSB Act was conducted accordingly to enquire into the aforesaid absence and the said Inquiry declared your absence as unauthorized.  
5. Whereas, Apprehension Roll was issued to concerned Police Authority to apprehend you vide letter No. 43 BnSSB/PF/15031275/CT(GD)/D.S./2024/19029-34 dated 07.12.2024 and No. 43 BnSSB/PF/15031275/CT(GD)/D.S./2024/19265-71 dated 13/12/2024. You have not reported for duty after the said declaration by the Court of Inquiry and also not surrendered or apprehended by the Police as such you are deemed to be a deserter within the ambit of Section-74 of said Act vide No. 43 BnSSB/PF/15031275/CT(GD)/D.S./2024/ 19743-47 dated 27/12/2024 and the said offence is punishable under SSB Act 2007.  
6. Whereas, in the facts and circumstances of the case, the undersigned is satisfied that your trial by Force Court for the said offence of desertion under the SSB Act is inexpedient and impracticable and is of the tentative opinion that your further retention in the service is undesirable.  
7. And whereas, a copy of the Court of Inquiry referred to in para-4 above containing statements of witnesses, and nature of allegations are annexed hereto as Annexure-1.  
8. And whereas, a Show Cause Notice was served upon you vide letter No. 43BnSSB/ PF/15031275 CT(GD)/D.S. /2024/576-80 dated 09.01.2025 to submit your explanation and defence in respect of above allegation(s) by 24.01.2025, but you failed to submit the same.  
9. In view of the above, you are hereby called upon to submit in writing your explanation and defence in respect of above allegation(s) by 21.02.2025 as to why action to dismiss or remove you tentatively from service for said mis-conduct should not be initiated against you under Rule-21 of the SSB Rules 2009. In case, you fail to file any reply within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that you have nothing to put forth in your defence and action to terminate your services as proposed above within the ambit of SSB Rule-21 shall be initiated against you ex-parte.  
Commandant  
43rd Bn SSB Siddharthnagar (UP)





# Justice on Wheels is the best medium to get easy and speedy justice : Diwakar Pandey

**Ranchi** : The “Justice on Wheels mobile Van” operated by Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, Ranchi was flagged off today by the Ld. Judicial Commissioner, Ranchi, Shri Diwakar Pandey. This Mobile Lok Adalat will go to the remote areas of various blocks of Ranchi district for a whole month and organize legal awareness camps to make people aware. Along with this, various types of reconcilable (pre-litigation) cases will be heard in the Mobile Lok Adalat and their quick disposal will also be done. For this, a team of LADCs has been formed in the Mobile Lok Adalat.

On this occasion, Ld. Judicial Commissioner, Shri Diwakar Pandey, Princiapal Judge, Family Court, S.S. Fatmi, AJC-1 Mr. Yogesh Kumar, Additional Principal Judge-II, Addl. Family Court Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, AJC-3 Mr. Anand Prakash including all the Judicial officers of Civil Court Ranchi, President of Ranchi District Bar Association, Mr. Shambhu Prasad Agarwal,



General Secretary Mr. Sanjay Kumar Vidrohi, all the officers of the RDBA, Advocates and PLVs were present.

In this episode, an awareness program was organized in Kanke block today on 04.02.2025. On this occasion, LADCs Advocate, Kavita Kumari Khatri, Sweekriti Vinaya, Law Students, PLVs Jamil Akhtar, Babita Kumari, Sarita Devi, Sharda Devi, Maltibhanu Devi, Mashira Khatoon, Devanti Devi, Sangeeta Devi and Raja

Verma were present. LADCs Advocate, Kavita Kumari Khatri focused on the Special Lok Adalat related to marriage and N.I. Act cases to be held on 22 February and the National Lok Adalat to be held on 08 March. He said that Lok Adalat is the easiest way to get easy and cheap justice. You can get your cases settled by appearing on the said date.

Apart from this, he informed about crimes against women, domestic violence, divorce, main-

tenance, women's right to residence, POCSO Act and Electricity Act.

LADC Advocate, Sweekriti Vinaya informed about child marriage, child labour, witch-hunting, victim compensation and Motor Vehicle Act.

PLVs working in DLSA gave detailed information about widow pension, old age pension, job card, ration card and beneficial schemes run by the government. He also focused on mediation, Lok Adalat and National Lok Adalat. In the end, related leaflets and pamphlets were also distributed by the PLVs. Jamil Akhtar and Babita Kumari informed about the facilities available from District Legal Services Authority, Ranchi and also informed about the measures to get justice in matters like child marriage, dowry system, witch hunting, female foeticide, victim compensation etc. It should also be known that people were made aware through mobile van in Kanke block area and related pamphlets and leaflets were also distributed.

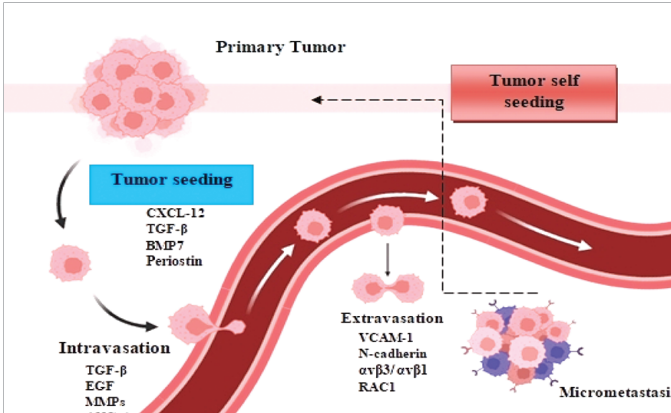
# Researchers discover that unique immune cells stop metastatic cancer

**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-β2--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.

As DCCs become more aggressive, the researchers found, they become resistant to the pro-dormancy signals produced by alveolar macrophages. Ultimately, this evasion mechanism enables some DCCs to "wake up" from dormancy and reactivate to form metastases.

"Understanding how immune cells keep DCCs in check could lead to new anti-metastatic cell therapies among other strategies," Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso said. For example, he noted, it may be possible to strengthen macrophage signaling so that DCCs never awaken from dormancy or find ways to prevent other DCCs from becoming resistant to dormancy signaling.

# Researchers find how cells recognize, repair DNA damage

**Wurzburg [Germany]** : When cells divide, there is a substantial risk of genetic harm. After all, the cell must repeat its whole genetic material, including billions of genetic letters, before it can divide. This repeatedly produces "reading errors" in the genome. Other factors, including as exposure to sunlight, alcohol, and cigarettes, are also responsible for the buildup of DNA damage over a person's lifetime.

Of course, the cell is not impotent in the presence of such injuries. It contains a large library of biological mechanisms that are activated in response to DNA damage. The precise term for this is DNA damage response (DDR). Specific signaling pathways are usually responsible for the immediate recognition and repair of DNA damage, ensuring the cell's survival.

A team of scientists from Julius-Maximilians-Universitat Wurzburg (JMU) in Bavaria, Germany, has recently conducted a closer examination of one of these signaling routes. The researchers discovered a new mechanism for the DNA damage response that is mediated by an RNA transcript. Their findings serve to widen the conceptual perspective of the DNA damage response and link it more closely with RNA.

Dr Kaspar Burger, junior research group leader at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was responsible for this study. The group has published the results of their investigations in the journal Genes & Development.

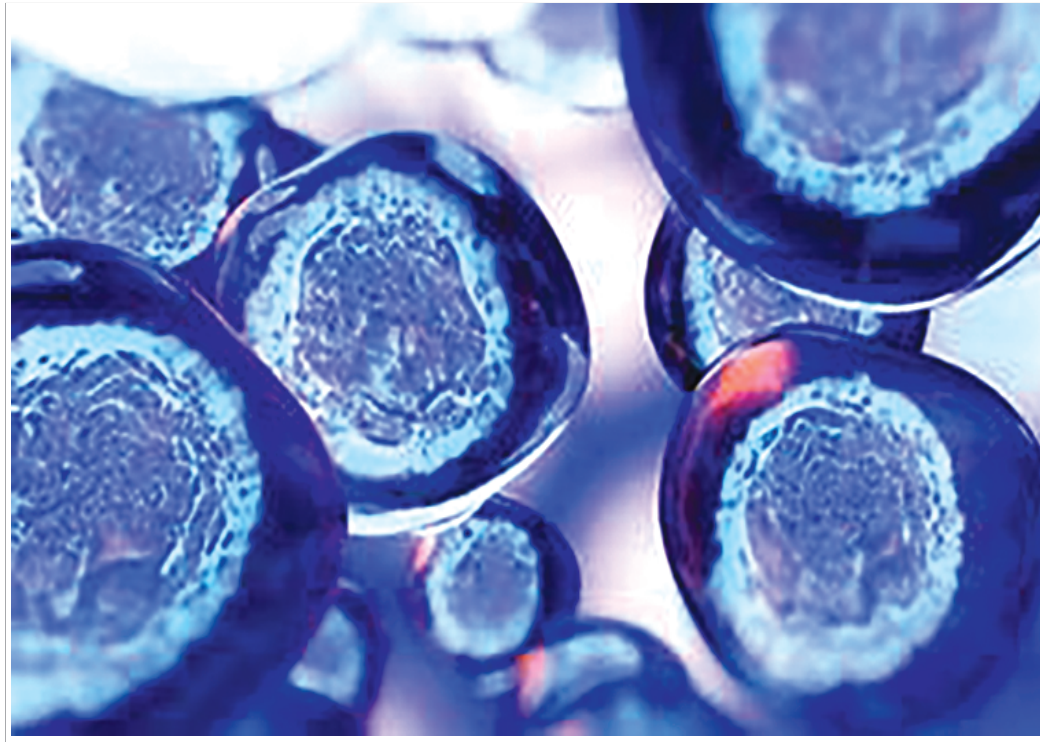
"In our study, we focused on so-called long non-coding RNA

transcripts. Previous data suggest that some of these transcripts act as regulators of genome stability," says Kaspar Burger, explaining the background to the work. The study focused on the nuclear enriched abundant transcript 1 - also known as NEAT1 - which is found in high concentrations in many tumor cells. NEAT1 is also known to react to DNA damage and to cellular stress. However, its exact role in the DNA damage response was previously unclear.

"Our hypothesis was that RNA metabolism involves NEAT1 in the DNA damage response in order to ensure the stability of the genome," says Burger. To test this hypothesis, the research group experimentally investigated how NEAT1 reacts to serious damage to the genome - so-called DNA double-strand breaks - in human bone cancer cells. The result: "We were able to show that DNA double-strand breaks increase both the number of NEAT1 transcripts and the amount of N6-methyladenosine marks on NEAT1," says the scientist.

Methyladenosine marks on RNA transcripts are a topic that scientists have not been dealing with for very long. They fall into the area of epitranscriptomics - the field of biology that deals with the question of how RNA modifications are involved in the regulation of gene expression. Methyl groups play a key role in this. It is known, for example, that RNA modifications are often misplaced in cancer cells.

The experiments conducted by Kaspar Burger and his team show that the frequent occurrence of DNA double-strand breaks causes excessive methylation of NEAT1,



which leads to changes in the NEAT1 secondary structure. As a result, highly methylated NEAT1 accumulates at some of these lesions to drive the recognition of broken DNA. In turn, experimentally induced suppression of NEAT1 levels delayed the DNA damage response, resulting in increased amounts of DNA damage.

NEAT1 itself does not repair DNA damage. However, as the Wurzburg team discovered, it enables the controlled release and activation of an RNA-binding DNA repair factor. In this way, the cell

can recognize and repair DNA damage highly efficiently.

According to the scientists, knowledge about the role of NEAT1 methylation in the recognition and repair of DNA damage could open up new therapeutic options for tumors with high NEAT1 expression. However, it must first be clarified whether these results, which were obtained in simple cell systems, can also be transferred to complex tumor models.

Kaspar Burger's research was supported by the German Cancer Aid and the Mildred Scheel Early

# Researchers identify new potential treatment for cardiac arrhythmias

**Arizona [US]** : A recent study by researchers at the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix and the University of California Davis Health discovered a new target for developing a medication to treat atrial fibrillation, the most prevalent kind of irregular heart rhythm.

According to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, atrial fibrillation, also known as AFib or AF, accounts for approximately one in every seven strokes and is associated with a considerable increase in morbidity and death. The American Heart Association predicts that more than 12 million people will have AFib by 2030, and existing treatment approaches are inadequate, according to researchers.

Proteins involved in physiological processes of the heart have been a target of research for AFib for some time. Until recently, most research suggested that treating AFib through inhibition of specific small-conductance calcium-activated potassium channels, or SK channels, could either reduce or worsen arrhythmias under different conditions.

"Our study used pioneering experimental and computational approaches to decipher how the human SK2 channel can be dynamically co-regulated. The study is especially timely considering inhibitors of SK channels are currently in clinical trials to treat AFib, making further insight into their regulatory mechanisms paramount," said Nipavan Chiamvimonvat, MD, chair of the Department of Basic Medical Sciences at the U of A College of Medicine - Phoenix. The paper, "Atomistic Mechanisms of the Regulation of Small Conductance Ca2+-Activated K+ channel (SK2) by PIP2," was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

The research team examined the role of a lipid - phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate, or PIP2 - in regulating the SK2 channel. PIP2 is an integral component of all plant and animal cell membranes and acts as a messenger for a variety of signaling pathways in the body. "Because PIP2 plays such an essential role in multiple ion channels, regulating cardiac ion channels through PIP2 presents a new mechanism for the lipid regulation of cardiac excitability and function," said computational biologist Ryan Woltz, PhD, the paper's co-first author and an assistant research professor at the College of Medicine - Phoenix.

Currently, SK channels are the only known potassium channels that are upregulated in heart failure, and their regulation plays a critical role in cardiac excitability and how disturbances in the heart's rhythm develop. "Since PIP2 is known to be dysregulated in heart failure, our study provides critical translational insights into possible mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias in heart failure," said co-first author Yang Zheng, PhD, a post-



doctoral research fellow at the College of Medicine - Phoenix. Using comparative modeling, the research team generated human SK2 channel models in closed, intermediate and open states. They then used molecular dynamics simulations to explore the molecular mechanisms of SK2 channel modulation by PIP2.

"Structural insights from our study will be useful to design novel inhibitors of SK2 channels to treat cardiac arrhythmias," said Vladimir Yarov-Yarovoy, PhD, a professor at UC Davis Health.

Co-senior author Igor Vorobyov, PhD, an associate professor at UC Davis Health, said the team is already using similar computational approaches to study other SK channel subtypes.

"I am thrilled to participate in this collaborative multi-university and multidisciplinary research study and looking forward to a continued collaboration," Vorobyov said. "We are currently working on applying a similar pioneering experimental/computational approach to modulation of SK channels by drug molecules, which may enhance or inhibit function of these ion channels and can be used as prospective treatment options for AFib and other cardiovascular diseases." A new study by researchers at the University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix and the University of California Davis Health identified a new target for developing a therapy to treat atrial fibrillation, the most common type of abnormal heart rhythm.

Atrial fibrillation, commonly called AFib or AF, causes about 1 in 7 strokes, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is associated with a significant increase in the risk of morbidity and mortality. More than 12 million people are expected to have AFib by 2030, according to the American Heart Association, and current treatment paradigms remain inadequate, researchers say. Proteins involved in physiological processes of the heart have been a target of research for AFib for some time. Until recently, most research suggested that treating AFib through inhibition of specific small-conductance calcium-activated potassium channels, or SK channels, could either reduce or worsen arrhythmias under different conditions. "Our study used pioneering experimental and computational approaches to decipher how the human SK2 channel can be dynamically co-regulated. The study is especially timely considering inhibitors of SK channels are currently in clinical trials to treat AFib, making further insight into their regulatory mechanisms paramount," said Nipavan Chiamvimonvat, MD, chair of the Department of Basic Medical Sciences at the U of A College of Medicine - Phoenix. The paper, "Atomistic Mechanisms of the Regulation of Small Conductance Ca2+-Activated K+ channel (SK2) by PIP2," was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

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100-Meter-Long ‘Make in India’ Steel Bridge Constructed on Four Railway Tracks in Surat, Gujarat for Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train Project

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has constructed a steel bridge over four railway tracks—two of Western Railway and two Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation (DFCC) tracks—between Kim and Sayan for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train project.

This bridge consists of two spans: 100 meters and 60 meters, facilitating a dual-line standard gauge rail track. This significant infrastructure development involves crossing four major tracks—two of Western Railway and two of DFCCIL—as well as an irrigation canal. The 100-meter span was launched over the Western Railway and DFCC tracks between January 28, 2025, and February 5, 2025, while the 60-meter span will be constructed over the irrigation canal near the track. For the construction of the 100-meter-long steel bridge, weighing 1,432 metric tons, an 84-meter-long launching nose weighing approximately 525 metric tons was used. This 100-meter steel bridge, with a width of 14.3 meters and weighing 1,432 metric tons, was fabricated at an RDSO-approved workshop in Bhuj, Gujarat, and transported to the site via road for installation. The 100-meter span was assembled at a temporary structure at the Ahmedabad end of the site, 14.5 meters above the ground, and was pulled using 50 mm diameter Mac-Alloy bars with a semi-automatic mechanism featuring two 250-ton capacity jacks. The pier height at the construction site is 12 meters.

Approximately 60,000 torque-shear type high-strength (TTHS) bolts were used for the 100-meter span bridge assembly, designed for a lifespan of 100 years. Both spans of the bridge have been painted using the C5 system painting and will be placed on elastomeric bearings. The bridge launching was carried out with intermittent traffic blocks on both Western Railway and DFCCIL tracks. These traffic blocks were necessary to ensure the safety and precision of the bridge launch and were planned in phases to minimize disruptions to regular train and freight services. This project is being executed with meticulous planning, maintaining the highest standards of safety and engineering excellence. Leveraging Japanese expertise, India is rapidly utilizing its own technical and material resources under the "Make in India" initiative for infrastructure development. The construction of steel bridges for the bullet train project is a prime example of this effort.

Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs set to visit India from February 6-7

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr.BadrAbdelatty, is set to visit India from February 6-7. The Ministry of External Affairs in a statement said that the Egypt's Foreign Minister will arrive in New Delhi in the early hours of February 6 and later in the day, call on President Droupadi Murmu at RashtrapatiBhavan. Following this, he will pay tribute at Rajghat with a wreath-laying ceremony. In the evening, he is scheduled to meet with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at Hyderabad House. The visit will conclude with his departure in the early hours of February 7.

PHOTO RELEASE FROM ER



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Divisional Railway Hospital/ Asansol observed World Cancer Day on February 4, 2025, at the New Coaching Complex, Asansol. The event was attended by Dr. Rajani Sinha, Divisional Medical Officer/Health & Family Welfare/Asansol, along with SSE/IC/Coaching, field workers, and other staff of the Coaching Complex. Dr. Rajani Sinha introduced the program, highlighting this year's theme, "United by Unique." She emphasized the importance of a patient-centered approach to cancer care, recognizing that each individual's experience with cancer is unique and requires personalized treatment and support. She also called for collective action to ensure equitable access to quality cancer care for all. The session included a PPT presentation, and an in-depth discussion on various types of cancer, the need for early detection, symptoms, treatment options, and the role of a healthy lifestyle in prevention. An interactive session followed, where queries from the audience were addressed.

"Unacceptable, absurd": World reacts to Trump's plan of US "taking over" Gaza

**MI News Service, Washington, DC:** World has reacted to US President Donald Trump's announcement that United States will "take over" Gaza Strip, dismantle dangerous weapons, get rid of the destroyed buildings and work for economic development of the area. Calling Trump's plan "ridiculous and absurd," senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri said they consider the plan a "recipe for generating chaos and tension in the region." Abu Zuhri said, "Trump's remarks about his desire to control Gaza are ridiculous and absurd, and any ideas of this kind are capable of igniting the region." He added, "We consider them [the plan] a recipe for generating chaos and tension in the region because the people of Gaza will not allow such plans to pass."

Hamas spokesman Abdel Latif al-Qanou said, "the American racist stance aligns with the Israeli extreme right's position in displacing our people and eliminating our cause."

Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Secretary-General Hussein al-Sheikh said the PLO rejects all calls for the displacement of the Palestinians from their homeland, according to Al Jazeera report. In a post on X, he stated, "The Palestinian leadership affirms its firm position that the two-state solution, in accordance with international legitimacy and



international law, is the guarantee of security, stability and peace." Palestinian delegation to the United Nations leader, Riyadh Mansour, said Palestinians in Gaza should be allowed to go back to what were once their "original homes" in Israel.

Mansour said, "For those who want to send the Palestinian people to a 'nice place', allow them to go back to their original homes in what is now Israel." "The Palestinian people want to rebuild Gaza because this is where we belong," he added. Saudi Arabia reiterated its support for independent

Palestinian state and said that it would not diplomatic ties with Israel until the creation of such a state with East Jerusalem as its capital. In a statement on Wednesday, Saudi Arabia's Foreign Ministry stated that country's stance on the establishment of a Palestinian state is "firm and unwavering" and recalled the statement made by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud during his speech at the opening of the first session of the ninth term of the Shura Council on September 18 last year.

DFCCIL Setting New records in Freight Transportation Highest number of freight trains run in DFC during Jan 2025.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) has reached a significant milestone in freight train operations during January 2025, marking a new benchmark in India's logistics and transportation efficiency.

★ Total Trains Operated: 391 trains per day (average) on DFC tracks ★ Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC): 209 trains per day (average) ★ Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC): 182 trains per day (average)

This achievement reflects the increasing reliance on DFC for seamless and efficient freight transportation, reinforcing its role as a backbone for industrial and economic growth. Highest MUNU Rake handling at New Unchdih station which is connected to Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited. Meja Urja Nigam Private Limited was connected to DFCCIL at Station New Unchdih on 09.12.2023. In January 2025, 175 MUNU rakes were handled, the highest ever recorded, reflecting the growing efficiency of DFCCIL in meeting industrial demands. DFC's shouldering Prayagraj Division in seamless Maha-Kumbh Mela Train Operations

The Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) is playing a crucial role in supporting the Prayagraj Division during the Maha-Kumbh Mela, ensuring the smooth and efficient movement of both passenger and freight trains. With millions of pilgrims expected to visit Prayagraj for this grand religious gathering, the seamless operation of train services becomes a top priority. Successfully diverted 100% freight traffic from East Central Railway and North Central Railway to EDFC, has provided much-needed relief to the adjacent zonal railways and enabling the smooth operation of Mahakumbh Special trains on the saturated routes. Only due to diver-

sion, an average of 155 freight trains running daily on the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) during the SNAN Days commencing from 11 Jan 25 to 31 Jan 25. The EDFC is playing a vital role in decongesting the Prayagraj Division of North Central Railway (NCR). This strategic shift of freight traffic is not only easing congestion but also enabling the smooth operation of Maha-Kumbh Mela Special trains, ensuring devotees can travel conveniently for their holy dip in the sacred waters. DFCCIL Exhibition Camp in Sector-25, Arai at Prayagraj Shri Praveen Kumar, Managing Director of DFCCIL, visited the DFCCIL exhibition camp and expressed his appreciation for the overwhelming response from the visitors. The Exhibition Camp has successfully provided visitors with a comprehensive understanding of DFC's construction journey, its state-of-the-art infrastructure, and the technologies driving freight operations. Such initiatives play a vital role in highlighting India's progress in modern rail logistics and inspiring future developments in transportation infrastructure.

Pictorial banners of Major Bridges, Minor Bridges, Engineering Marvels, Technological advancements utilized in constructing DFC, various models of Engines, Wagons, Operation Control Centre are kept in Exhibition Camp. Various dignitaries have visited Exhibition Camp which includes, Director Finance, Director (Project Planning), Retd. Director (Operations and Business Development) of DFCCIL. The Exhibition Camp showcasing the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) has received an overwhelming response, with more than 750 visitors attending the camp. Visitors have expressed high appreciation for the technological advancements, engineering marvels, and infrastructure

milestones achieved during the transition from the construction phase to the operations phase of DFC.

Significance of the Exhibition: ✓ Public Awareness – Educating visitors about India's largest freight corridor project. ✓ Technological Showcase – Demonstrating modern rail logistics and automation. ✓ Stakeholder Engagement – Strengthening industry partnerships and knowledge-sharing.

Shri Praveen Kumar, Managing Director of DFCCIL, inspected the Operation Control Centre in Prayagraj and congratulated the team for their excellence in ensuring seamless and efficient operations during Mahakumbh-2025. He appreciated all officers for breaking records and achieving new milestones in train operations. During his visit, he also interacted with the maintenance team, advising them to adopt technological advancements for better monitoring and efficiency. Additionally, he acknowledged the dedication and tireless efforts of officers and their teams in swiftly normalizing traffic following the derailment of locomotives and a wagon on 04.02.25. He extended his heartfelt congratulations to all team members for their unwavering commitment and excellence, encouraging them to maintain their high momentum and continue setting new benchmarks in the future. During the Inspection, Shri Devendra Singh, Chief General Manager, Prayagraj West, Shri A B Saran, Chief General Manager, Prayagraj (East), Shri Ashish Mishra, General Manager/ Security, Shri Shashikant Dwivedi, General Manager (Electrical), Shri Mannu Prakash Dubey, Additional General Manager (OP&BD), Prayagraj, Shri Vivek Kumar, Deputy General Manager (Traction and Rolling Stock) and other Officials from DFCCIL were available.

Ongoing Works on provision of Foot over Bridges (Fob) at several stations over Sealdah Division

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** As part of its continuous efforts to enhance passenger safety, convenience, and accessibility, Eastern Railway is implementing significant infrastructure improvements across the Sealdah Division. A major initiative under this plan is the construction of 12 new Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) at key stations within the division. These developments aim to ensure safer pedestrian movement, reduce congestion on platforms, and enhance the overall travel experience for passengers.

With increasing footfall at major stations like Naihati, Krishnanagar City, and Berhampore Court, the provision of safe and efficient pedestrian crossings has become a priority. In response, Eastern Railway has sanctioned the installation of FOBs at 12 stations, namely Basuldanga, Naihati, Mathurapur Road, Jaynagar Majilpur, Magrahat, Krishnanagar City, Bethuadahari, Berhampore Court, Shantipur, Bongaon, Cossimbazar, and Beldanga. Construction work has already commenced at these

locations, ensuring that passengers will soon benefit from safer and more convenient access between platforms.

The newly constructed FOBs will play a vital role in enhancing passenger safety by eliminating the need for pedestrians to cross railway tracks at ground level. This will significantly reduce the risk of accidents, especially at busy stations like Naihati, Krishnanagar City, and Berhampore Court, where high passenger volumes make safe crossing a necessity. Moreover, special provisions such as ramps and accessible staircases will be incorporated at stations like Jaynagar Majilpur, Magrahat, and Shantipur, ensuring easier access for elderly passengers, people with disabilities, and children. To address peak-hour congestion, the new footbridges at stations like Bongaon and Bethuadahari will facilitate smooth movement between platforms, preventing overcrowding and enabling better traffic flow within station premises. This will improve operational efficiency, reducing

delays and ensuring a seamless commuting experience. Furthermore, passengers at Cossimbazar, Beldanga, and Basuldanga will experience enhanced convenience, as the FOBs will provide quicker platform connections, minimizing waiting times and streamlining onward travel. These developments are a crucial step in modernizing station infrastructure and ensuring that stations under the Sealdah Division remain well-equipped to handle increasing passenger demand. Eastern Railway remains committed to upgrading infrastructure and enhancing passenger comfort. The installation of these FOBs aligns with its vision of providing safer, more accessible, and passenger-friendly railway stations. The construction work is being carried out in phases to ensure minimal disruption to train services and passenger movement. Once completed, this project will significantly improve safety and accessibility at key stations, making travel more convenient for all passengers.

EAM Jaishankar holds talks with UNGA President, discuss UN agenda

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday met Philemon Yang, President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly and discussed various issues on UN Agenda. Jaishankar said that they exchanged views on regional, global and developmental issues. Yang arrived in New Delhi on Tuesday for a four-day visit to India at the invitation of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar

In a post on X, Jaishankar said, "Pleasure to meet President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly Philemon Yang this afternoon in Delhi. Discussed various issues on UN agenda, including the need for reformed multilateralism. Also exchanged views on regional, global and developmental issues. Appreciate his leadership and guidance at the UN." The visit is expected to focus on key multilateral and regional issues, with discussions between EAM Jaishankar and Yang scheduled to address matters of mutual interest. Yang will also call on President DroupadiMurmu, further strengthening India's ties with the United Nations. RandhirJaiswal, Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, posted on X (formerly Twitter), saying: "Warm welcome to Mr Philemon Yang to India. An opportunity to enhance India-UN engagement in the lead up to the 80th anniversary of the United Nations. Yang, who assumed office as UNGA President on September 10, is also scheduled to travel to Bengaluru. There, he will visit Infosys and the Indian Institute of Science, where he will have the opportunity to interact with experts on India's innovations in various fields such as sustainability, digital public infrastructures, and more, as stated by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Under Yang's leadership, the United Nations adopted "A Pact for the Future," a vision document aimed at realising "multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow." Yang, who previously served as Cameroon's Prime Minister, has been a vocal advocate for global unity, peace, and human dignity. He also praised India's role in advancing the interests of the Global South during his meeting with Jaishankar.

Nepal bans solo expedition of 8000er's including Mount Everest



**MI News Service, Kathmandu:** Nepal has officially banned solo expeditions to all mountains above 8,000 meters, including Mount Everest, by amending its mountaineering regulations, according to the government publication, Nepal Gazette. The Sixth amendment of the mountaineering regulation was released late on Tuesday evening after which climbers were banned from solo expedition in all the 8000ers peaks

As per the new regulations, every two members of a mountaineering team must be accompanied by at least one altitude worker or mountain guide. This rule applies to all mountains above 8,000 meters, including Mount Everest. "When climbing a mountain peak with an altitude of more than eight thousand meters, every two members of the mountaineering team must be accompanied by at least one altitude worker or mountain guide, and when climbing other mountains, the mountaineering team must take at least one mountain guide with them," the latest introduced provision states

This new provision now is applicable for all the mountains above 8000 meters including the Highest Peak Mount Everest. With new regulation in effect, solo climbing era on the peaks has formally ended with government determined to not let anyone regardless their experience to go solo to the mountain. This now will be applicable for alpine-style or the expedition-style climbers as well.

The lately adopted changes also has formally publicized the hike in royalty fee for the foreign climbers attempting to summit Mount Everest from the standard south route in spring to 15000 USD per person. The spring season

expedition which sees high influx of climbers in the Himalayan Nation from the month of March to May previously used to be 11,000 USD. The new regulation also has increased the climbing royalty for the autumn season, running from September to November to 7,500 USD from existing 5,500 USD Similarly, the Winter expedition which runs from December to February and monsoon from June to August also has been revised to 3,750 USD from existing 2,750 USD. The updated provision also has incorporated the revised fees for other 8000ers. The royalty of spring expedition has increased by nearly two folds from 1800 to 3000 USD. The autumn fee now stands at 1500 USD from existing 900 USD while the winter and monsoon expedition has become dearer as it has been revised from 450 USD to 750 USD.

In regards to Nepali climbers, the royalty for normal route in spring season has doubled from Nrs. 75,000 to 150,000. Nepal in the year 2015 had revised the royalty fee by switching from a group-based system to a uniform fee of USD 11,000 per climber for Everest's spring season via the normal route. In regards to the slow changes that the Himalayan Nation has adopted lately, the family members of the climbers, guides and high-altitude base camp workers are also banned from the base camp. In case of prior approval from the tourism department, the family members can be exempted for a stay at the base camp not exceeding two days, the new regulation states. In addition, the new regulatory measures also have assigned the high-altitude guides to "self-declare" their clients successful summit of the peak.



# Abhishek Sharma moves to second spot in ICC T20I rankings, Chakrvarthy climbs up 3 spots

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Indian opener Abhishek Sharma climbed up a whopping 38 places to reach the second spot among batters in the ICC Men's T20I Rankings among batters, issued on Wednesday, according to ICC Cricket's website.

A pair of India's in-form white-ball players have been rewarded for strong performances during the recent home series against England by making giant strides on the latest ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings.

Abhishek produced the best innings of his fledgling international career when he smashed a quickfire 135 in the fifth and final match of the series in Mumbai and shot up a whopping 38 places on the T20I rankings for batters as a result. Abhishek's innings came from just 54 deliveries and was the highest individual innings made by an Indian men's player in the shortest format. As a result, the 24-year-old rose to second in the latest rankings for batters, as per ICC.

He ended the series as a lead-



ing run-getter, with 279 runs at an average of 55.80 and a strike rate of 219.68, with a century and a fifty each.

Australia star Travis Head remains out in front of the rankings for T20I batters, but Abhishek is just 26 rating points behind him following his record-breaking efforts at Wankhede as a trio of players from India hover inside the top five.

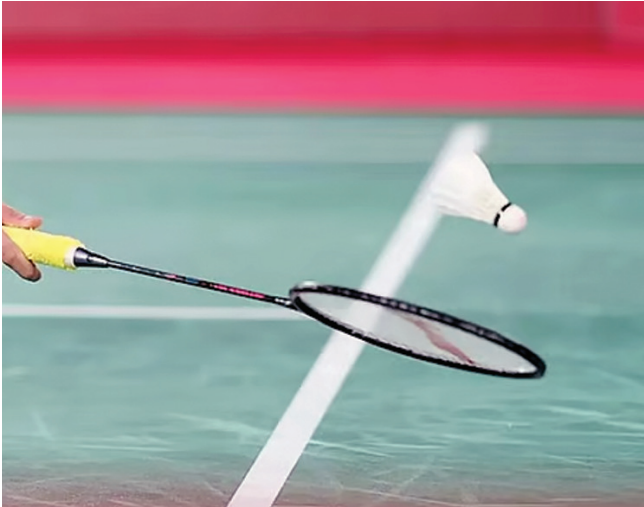
Tilak Varma is third and skipper Suryakumar Yadav has dropped to fifth and all within striking distance of Head, while India teammates Hardik Pandya (up five rungs to equal 51st) and Shivam Dube (up 38 spots to 58th) also make big moves up the rankings for T20I batters following some good scores against England. It is a similar story on the latest rankings for T20I bowlers, with spinner Varun Chakravarthy moving up three places to equal second on the back of his 14 wickets (including a fiver) and Player of the Series effort against Jos Buttler's side.

Teammate Ravi Bishnoi (up

four places to sixth) also climbs the list for T20I bowlers following five wickets for the series against England. There is yet another change at the top as West Indies spinner Akeal Hosein re-claims his spot as the No.1 bowler after he lost the mantle to Adil Rashid a week earlier. The latest Test rankings saw a host of Australian players gain ground and that should come as no surprise given their impressive effort in defeating Sri Lanka by an innings and 242 runs during the recent first Test in Galle. Stand-in skipper Steve Smith gained three places to move up to fifth on the updated rankings for Test batters following his 35th Test century, while opener Usman Khawaja gained six places to rise to 11th after contributing his highest Test score of 232 during the romp.

It is almost a carbon copy job in the rankings for Test bowlers, with veteran spinner Nathan Lyon improving two spots to jump to sixth overall and pacer Mitchell Starc up two places to 12th following their efforts in Galle.

## BAI announces India's 17-member squad for Dutch and German Junior Internationals



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : National U-17 champion Gnana Dattu T, junior world number six Raunak Chouhan, Adarshini Shri, doubles specialists Bhavya Chhabra and Param Chaudhary, and others will headline India's challenge in the Yonex Dutch Junior International 2025 and the German Junior 2025 badminton tournaments to be played in February and March this year.

The Dutch Junior International will be played in Haarlem from February 26 to March 2 while the German Junior will be held in Muelheim an der Ruhr from March 5-9, as per a press release from the Boxing Federation of India (BFI).

The 17-member Indian contingent will have four boys and girls singles players each, two boys doubles and two girls doubles combinations, and two mixed doubles pairs. The Indian squad was selected based on the BAI Selection Committee's guidelines, granting direct entry to winners of the All India Junior Ranking Tournament (U-19) in Hyderabad, while the remaining spots were filled through selection trials held in New Delhi, featuring top-ranked players and semifinalists from the Hyderabad event.

"The Dutch Junior International and the YONEX German Junior competitions have been important tournaments as stepping stones for the development of young athletes. Indian players have been making a mark in these competitions over the last few years before transitioning to the senior circuit. This augurs well for the junior development plan that BAI has been focusing on

for the last few years, especially with 10 players currently in the top ten of the BWF World Junior Rankings. I am confident that this contingent will also put their best foot forward in the two competitions and make us proud," said Badminton Association of India General Secretary, Sanjay Mishra.

Surya Charisma Tamiri had bagged the girls' singles bronze medal in the 2024 YONEX German Junior while Ayush Shetty had won the boys' singles bronze medal a year earlier before going on to clinch the 2023 world junior bronze.

RMV Gurusai Dutt is the only Indian boy's singles player to win the YONEX Dutch Junior International gold medal back in 2008-the same year he also clinched the Commonwealth Youth Games gold and the world junior bronze medal.

India will be hoping for a couple of medals from both competitions this year as most of these players have been active on the international circuit with BAI already providing them exposure tours at various age group levels.

Full India squad:

Boys Singles: Rounak Chouhan, Gnana Dattu TT, Suryaksh Rawat, Pranav Ram N

Girls Singles: Adarshini Shri, Tanoo Chandra, Rujula Ramu, Tanvi Reddy Andluri

Boys Doubles: Bhavya Chhabra/Param Chaudhary, Mithilesh PK/Vishnu Kedar Kode Girls Doubles: Pragati Parida/Vishakha Toppo, Anaya Bisht/Angel Punera

Mixed Doubles: Bhavya Chhabra/Angel Punera, Lairamsanga C/Vishakha Toppo.

## WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE 2025: GUJARAT GIANTS APPOINT ASHLEIGH GARDNER AS CAPTAIN

AHMEDABAD (GUJARAT)[INDIA] : Gujarat Giants has appointed Australian all-rounder Ashleigh Gardner as the team captain for the upcoming season of the Women's Premier League (WPL). Gardner, a key figure in Australian cricket, made her debut in 2017.

The all-rounder is a two-time Belinda Clark Award winner and she played a significant role in Australia's 2022 Commonwealth Games gold medal success. She was the Player of the Tournament at the T20 World Cup in South Africa in 2023.

Gardner has been an integral part of Gujarat Giants since the league's inception. Over the last two seasons of WPL, she has scored 324 runs and bagged 17 wickets.

"It is an absolute honour for me to be named the captain of Gujarat Giants. I have loved being a part of this team and I am excited to lead this fantastic group in the upcoming season. We have a great mix of young and experienced players and plenty of Indian talent in our squad. I am looking forward to working with the team and making our fans proud," Gardner said.

The team's head coach Michael Klinger expressed his confidence in Gardner's leadership. "She is a fierce competitor. Her game awareness, tactical acumen, and ability to inspire players make her the ideal choice to captain Gujarat Giants. We believe she will lead from the front and guide the team towards a successful campaign," he said.

Last season, the team was led by Beth Mooney. Speaking about the former captain, Klinger said, "I would like to thank Mooney for her highly valued leadership. Now, she will be able to focus on wicketkeeping and opening the batting lineup. She continues to be a major leader of our group."

Sanjay Adesara, Chief Business Officer, Adani Sportsline, said, "Gardner embodies the spirit of Gujarat Giants with her dedication, skill, and leadership. Her appointment as captain reiterates our commitment to building a world-class team that competes at the highest level. We are confident that under her captaincy, the team will put up a stellar performance in WPL."

## Rotterdam Open: Carlos Alcaraz secures hard-fought win on tournament debut

ROTTERDAM [NETHERLANDS] : Spanish tennis star Carlos Alcaraz had a tough debut at the Rotterdam Open, securing a hard-fought win against Dutch wild card Botic van de Zandschulp on Wednesday, according to the ATP Tour website.

Alcaraz was put through paces, but secured a tough 7-6(3), 3-6, 6-1 win against Botic to make it to the second round. Alcaraz, who was stunned by Botic during the US Open second round last year, struggled to find his perfect game throughout the match but managed to dominate well in the final set to secure a win in two hours and 33 minutes.

Speaking after the match, Alcaraz said as quoted by the official ATP website, "I think there were a lot of ups and downs in the match. Being set point down in the first set, I think Botic played a really solid match. Not too many ups and downs for him, really consistent throughout the match. I am just really happy to get through. [I had to] be really focused in the tough moments, to keep pushing and trust the good tennis will come again. I'm happy to get through a difficult match and have a chance to get better in the next round."

Alcaraz managed to improve his record against Botic to three wins and a loss. Despite his 16 tour-level titles, Alcaraz is yet to reach a final in indoor tournaments. In the second round, against qualifier Andrea Vavassori or two-time titlist in 2025, Felix Auger-Aliassime.

"It was different, it is totally different when you are competing than in the prac-



tices," Alcaraz said about the conditions in the match.

"I started really nervous, I think it is normal. The first match in every tournament is never easy. I just had to get used to my first match here in Rotterdam. You have to get used to playing with a full crowd, it is totally different. I'm just happy to get used to it," he added.

Also, Holger Rune secured an entry into the Rotterdam Open second round for the third successive year, beating Australian Open quarterfinalist Lorenzo Sonego 7-6(4), 6-4 in a match that lasted two hours and 11 minutes. Rune hit 30 winners and had 27 unforced errors, as compared to Italy's 23 winners and 39 unforced errors.

# Gerald Coetzee returns as South Africa announce squad for ODI tri-series in Pakistan



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : After recovering from a left hamstring injury, right-arm seamer Gerald Coetzee made a comeback to the national team as South Africa announced the squad for the ODI tri-series in Pakistan.

Rob Walter, South Africa's white-ball coach, named a 12-man squad for the first match of the series, including Coetzee, who has recovered from an injury setback.

Coetzee played his last match for South Africa before the injury setback against Sri Lanka in the first match of a two-match Test series on November 27, 2024, as per the ICC.

For the opening match of the ODI tri-series, South Africa also have an array of new options to look at with six uncapped players also added in

the Temba Bavuma-led side.

Meeka-eel Prince, Gideon Peters, Eathan Bosch, and Mithali Mpongwana are all uncapped at the international level so far, while Matthew Breetzke has already featured in Tests and T20Is, and Senuran Muthusamy has played four Tests for the Proteas. The squad will be updated for the remainder of the series following the conclusion of the ongoing SA20 league in South Africa, with players like Keshav Maharaj and Heinrich Klaasen set to be available from the second game of the series.

The tri-series will kick off with New Zealand squaring off against Pakistan in the Gaddafi Stadium on February 8. The Kiwis will then face South Africa on February 10 in a day

match. After the conclusion of the first two games, the ODI action will move from Rawalpindi to Karachi, with the Men in Green taking on the Proteas on February 12 in a day/night match. The final of the tri-series will be held on February 14 at the same venue, five days before the tournament opener. The tri-series in Pakistan comes as a precursor to the ICC Champions Trophy which begins February 19.

South Africa squad (For the first ODI): Temba Bavuma (capt), Eathan Bosch, Matthew Breetzke, Gerald Coetzee, Junior Dala, Wiaan Mulder, Mithali Mpongwana, Senuran Muthusamy, Gideon Peters, Meeka-eel Prince, Jason Smith, Kyle Verreynne.

# Odisha FC chase first-ever ISL win against FC Goa to enter playoff positions

MARGAO (GOA) [INDIA] : FC Goa will lock horns with Odisha FC in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Goa on Thursday.

According to a release from ISL, the Gaurs are aiming for a third league double against Odisha FC, since they had won the reverse fixture by a 4-2 margin on January 4. FC Goa have won seven out of the 11 encounters against the Juggernauts against the ISL. This makes them only one of the two teams in the league history, besides Mohun Bagan Super Giant (against East Bengal FC), to stay unbeaten against a single opponent after facing them over 10 times.

In their previous clash, FC Goa lost 1-3 to Jamshedpur FC, which snapped their 12-game-long unbeaten run that comprised eight tri-

umphs. The Gaurs will be eyeing to avoid consecutive defeats in the same season for the first time since April last year, when they were defeated by Mumbai City FC twice.

Odisha FC, on the other hand, have momentum in their side, since they won their last away game by 3-2 against Bengaluru FC, and then drew 2-2 at home against NorthEast United FC. Prior to the match against the Blues, the Sergio Lobera-coached side was on a three-game-long winless streak on the road (D2 L1). The Juggernauts have previously managed back-to-back away wins only twice, between November-December 2024 and December 2023-February 2024.

FC Goa are placed third in the points table with 33 points from 18 matches, as they have won nine encounters and drawn six times.



They will want to surpass the second-placed Jamshedpur FC (34), whereas Odisha FC are also three points (25) adrift the sixth-placed Mumbai City FC (28).

FC Goa have emerged victorious in all three home matches against Odisha FC, scoring exactly three goals in each encounter.

Odisha FC have scored the second-most goals in the ISL (36), averaging two strikes per game thus far. Diego Mauricio leads their charts by finding the back of the net nine times, followed by Jerry Mawihmingthanga (5), Mourtada Fall (4).

Mourtada Fall has recorded 21 blocks this season, making him one of only two players to surpass 20 blocks (alongside Alex Saji - 23). Fall is three blocks away from equaling the record for most in a single ISL season by an Odisha FC player (24 - Steven

Taylor, 2020-21).

FC Goa head coach Manolo Marquez encouraged his team to rediscover their form after their 3-1 loss to Jamshedpur FC.

"We need to play in the way that we were doing, at least, to be competitive like in the previous games," Marquez was quoted in a release from ISL as saying. Odisha FC assistant coach Anthony Fernandes spoke about his team's playing template.

"We love to have possession of the ball and we do that to a great extent. We create plenty of chances and that shows our creativity," Fernandes said.

The two teams have faced each other 11 times in the ISL, with FC Goa winning seven times and four games producing draws. An average of 3.27 goals has been scored in this fixture.