

The Future of corporate compliance: Key changes in companies Act and LODR

A seminar titled “The Future of Corporate Compliance: Key Changes in Companies Act and LODR” was held at the Merchants’ Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The event featured esteemed speakers, including Savithri Parekh, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer at Reliance Industries Limited, and Rakesh Kumar Tiwari, ICLS Regional Director (Eastern Region) at the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Savithri Parekh discussed key amendments to the Companies Act, focusing on corporate governance, compliance, and shareholder engagement. She highlighted several significant changes, including: Mandatory full-time compliance officers for listed entities,...

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# Morning India

## Mahakumbh has turned into 'Mrityu Kumbh', claims Mamata Banerjee in Bengal Assembly

**MI News Service, Kolkata :**Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, speaking in West Bengal Assembly on Tuesday, slammed the Centre as well as the BJP-led Uttar Pradesh government for the alleged mismanagement at Maha Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj where several innocent lives were lost and many others suffered injuries in stamped .

“Maha Kumbh has turned into ‘Mrityu Kumbh’” Mamata Banerjee said in the Assembly while replying to the Governor’s address at the end of a lengthy discussions.

“I respect Maha Kumbh, I respect the holy Ganga Maa. But there is no planning...How many people have been killed?...For the rich, the VIP, there are systems available to get camps

[tents] for as high as 1 lakh. But for the poor, there are no arrangements at Kumbh...Stampede situation is common in a ‘mela’ but it is important to make arrangements. What planning did you make?” said Mamata Banerjee, attacking the UP CM Yogi Adityanath and his government. At least 30 people were killed and 60 injured in a stampede in the Maha Kumbh Mela last month while 18 other devotees also lost their lives in another recent stampede at the overcrowded New Delhi railway station. Thewre were also reports of several arson in the Mela compound since January 13 when the Mela began for holy dips of over 500 million pilgrims..

The Chief minister also dared

the opposition BJP in the state to prove allegations of her having connection with Bangladeshi fundamentalists, adding that she would resign if the party is able to establish so. “I shall write a letter to Prime minister Narendra Modi and lodge a formal complain to him about his party MLAs in Bengal who have accused me of being hand in glove with Bangladeshi fundamentalists”, Mamata Banerjee said in her stern reply in the House.

BJP is using religion to serve its political interests, alleged Mamata Banerjee and said that “freedom of speech doesn’t allow BJP MLAs to spread hatred and divide people”.

Earlier, Leader of Opposition in the state Assembly Suwendu Adhikari alleged that several

anti-national activities were allegedly being allowed in some areas of the state and blamed chief minister Mamata Banerjee for them.

He alleged that “In the past 2-3 months, many Bangladeshi, Rohingyas and extremists have been arrested by Assam and the Jammu and Kashmir Police. There are 50-55 assembly constituencies and 30-35 police stations where the demography has changed. The state government is directly responsible for this and the Chief minister has failed as a Police and Home minister in Bengal”.

The BJP leaders in the State have been targeting Mamata Banerjee, and charged her government with allegedly giving permission to illegal Bangladeshi

immigrants and Rohingya migrants to settle in the State.

Top BJP leaders, including Prime minister Modi, raised this allegation during the 2024 Lok Sabha election campaign in the state.

Meanwhile, BJP legislators led by Suwendu Adhikari staged a sit-in on the premises of the West Bengal Assembly since morning on Tuesday in protest against what they alleged is appeasement politics by the Mamata Banerjee government.

Shouting slogans like ‘Murti bhangar sarkar aar nei darkar’ (We don’t want a government that cannot stop vandalism of Puja pandals), around 30 BJP legislators squatted on the stairs leading to the main entrance of the Assembly hall.

## Mamata Banerjee visits school during Madhyamik Exams to ease students' tension

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a heartwarming gesture to ease the tension of students during their first major exams, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee paid an impromptu visit to a renowned school in the Bhawanipore area on Tuesday afternoon. The visit took place while the Madhyamik exams were ongoing, and parents were waiting outside the school. The Chief Minister took the time to interact with the parents and assured them, while also discussing the school’s renovation plans with the Principal.

Mamata has a tradition of visiting schools during the Madhyamik exam season. Every year, she takes time out of her busy schedule to visit various examination centers. Her visits are often spontaneous, and she checks in on the examination halls while interacting with school authorities. This year was no exception as she made her way to the school during her trip to the Legislative Assembly.

Upon learning of her visit, the school’s Principal rushed out to greet the Chief Minister, and they had a fruitful discussion about improving the school’s infrastructure. Mamata assured that necessary action would be taken once the exams concluded, and she instructed the Principal to send a report to her regarding the repairs. The Principal was deeply impressed by Mamata’s genuine concern and approach, and the teachers of the school were equally moved by her warm and sincere demeanor. The Chief Minister’s visit gave students and parents a sense of relief during what can be a stressful period. Mamata’s regular visits to schools during exams have become a hallmark of her leadership, demonstrating her commitment to both education and the well-being of students in West Bengal.

## Mamata Banerjee responds to opposition allegations, clarifies past incidents in Parliament and state Assembly



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressing the West Bengal Assembly in Kolkata on Tuesday. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid continuous political attacks against her and her party and counterat-

tacks, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee took up the challenge on Tuesday and ad-

ressed a number of allegations regarding past incidents, including her throwing of papers in

Parliament and the alleged vandalism in the Legislative Assembly. While replying the Gov-

ernor’s speech at the Budget session of the state Assembly, she took aim at the opposition BJP stating, “Freedom of speech does not mean spreading hate speech. They speak every day, but often say things that are unrestrained and incoherent.” The Chief Minister’s response comes amid ongoing political tensions, particularly with the BJP. Mamata criticized the party for spreading slander and propaganda, asserting that during her past actions in Parliament way back in early 2000, when she threw papers at the well of the House, she was alone, unable to speak due to the opposition’s refusal to allow her to address the floor. Responding to these accusations, Mamata explained the reasons behind her actions in Parliament and clarified that, although her party was agitated at the time, she did not engage in any destruction of property. On Monday, a paper-throwing incident occurred in the state

Legislative Assembly when it was allegedly directed towards Speaker Biman Bandyopadhyay. In the aftermath, four BJP legislators, including Opposition Leader Suwendu Adhikari, were suspended for one month. Shuvendu, defending the action, recalled the past incidents, including the one when Mamata herself allegedly instigated the destruction of assembly furniture. He also pointed to an incident in the Lok Sabha where paper and a shawl were thrown at the Speaker and at a minister, claiming these acts were in response to the suppression of Hindu voices. On Tuesday, Mamata addressed these claims during her speech in the Assembly while responding to the Governor’s address. Reflecting on the 2005 Bangladesh infiltration issue that caused an uproar in Parliament, Mamata shared that she was alone when she tore the papers. She highlighted that the BJP,

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## Gyanesh Kumar appointed as new CEC as Congress targets govt over the new appointment

**MI News Service, New Delhi :** Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar has been selected as the new Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India almost a year after his appointment in the three member constitutional body.

Kumar’s appointment was announced on Monday night hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi presided over the high-level meeting of the exclusive panel to select the new CEC to succeed Rajiv Kumar, who is set to retire on Tuesday.

The meeting saw Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi requesting the government to defer the appointment until the Supreme Court decides on the petitions challenging the new appointment process. The Supreme Court is to hear the matter on Wednesday.

Kumar was appointed as the EC on March 14, 2024, less than two months after he retired from the IAS. He assumed office on March 15 and the very next day, the Election Commission of India announced the schedule of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

In the past 11 months, Kumar has been a part of the Commission, with Rajiv Kumar and fellow EC Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, while it conducted the Lok Sabha polls, the first Assembly elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and the Assembly elections in Haryana, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Delhi. His tenure as CEC will last till January 26, 2029, which will not only see him at the helm of the Commission as it conducts 20 Assembly elections, but also the elections for

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## India, Qatar exchange agreement on establishment of strategic partnership

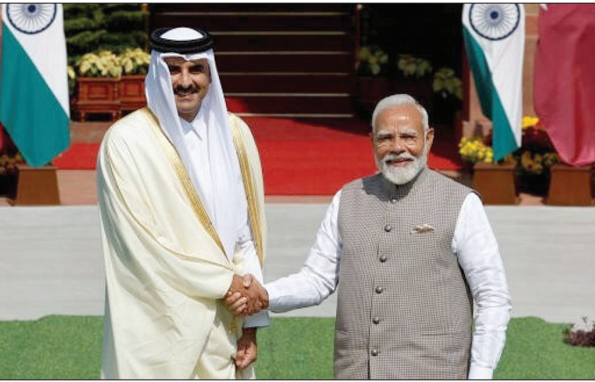
**MI News Service, New Delhi :** Asserting the role of true friendship and cooperation, India and Qatar have exchanged an agreement on establishment of strategic partnership between the two countries.

The documents were exchanged in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani after a crucial meeting between the two leaders here on Tuesday.

The Amir of Qatar arrived here on Monday evening on a two-day state visit.

The MEA earlier said his visit will provide “further momentum to our growing multifaceted partnership”. Prime Minister Modi and the Amir of Qatar held talks at the Hyderabad House. Prime Minister of Qatar and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman exchanged the agreement.

India and Qatar are set to strengthen their economic and trade ties with the India-Qatar Joint Business Forum here in New Delhi. The Joint Business



Jaishankar exchanged the agreement. A revised agreement for avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income, between India and Qatar, was also exchanged, it was announced during the ceremony held at the Hyderabad House. Prime Minister of Qatar and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman exchanged the agreement.

India and Qatar are set to strengthen their economic and trade ties with the India-Qatar Joint Business Forum here in New Delhi. The Joint Business

Forum was organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, who delivered the keynote addresses. The high-level Qatari delegation includes leading enterprises from energy, infrastructure, finance, technology, food security, logistics, advanced manufacturing, and innovation.

The forum also organised three panel discussions on Investment as a vehicle to build long – term strategic partnership between India and Qatar, on Cooperating and leveraging competencies in the fields of logistics, advanced manufacturing and food security and on Promoting and strengthening cooperation in futuristic areas (AI, innovation and sustainability.) These discussions have enabled Indian and Qatari businesses to

ary 17. The business forum was graced by H.E. Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani, Minister of Commerce and Industry, State of Qatar, and Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, who delivered the keynote addresses. The high-level Qatari delegation includes leading enterprises from energy, infrastructure, finance, technology, food security, logistics, advanced manufacturing, and innovation.

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## Mamata Banerjee criticizes Centre over U.S deportees

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday strongly criticized the Union government for its silence over the treatment of Indian deportees from the United States, who were reportedly brought back in chains.

Speaking during a debate in the West Bengal Assembly, she said, “The Prime Minister should have protested against it. The deportees could have been brought with some dignity.”

Mamata argued that the Centre should have taken a more proactive role in ensuring humane treatment for those returning from the U.S. “The government could have used our transport planes to bring them back respectfully instead of allowing such inhumane treatment,” she added.

Shifting her focus to the Maha Kumbh, the Chief Minister sharply criticized the handling of the event, calling it ‘Mrityu Kumbh’ (Death Kumbh). “Why was such hype created over the event without any proper planning?” she asked, questioning the preparedness and safety measures at the religious gathering. The Maha Kumbh, one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, has been under scrutiny due to reports of overcrowding and alleged mismanagement. Ms. Banerjee’s remarks have added to the ongoing de-

bate over the Centre’s handling of the event.

During her speech, Mamata also addressed allegations made against her regarding her political affiliations. “I am accused of being a member of the Muslim League. I strongly condemn such remarks,” she said, dismissing attempts to question her secular credentials.

The Chief Minister further alleged that BJP legislators deliberately avoid debating with her. “BJP MLAs are afraid to face me, which is why they boycott the House whenever I speak,” she claimed.

The Assembly session saw heated exchanges, with opposition members reacting sharply to Mamata’s statements. BJP leaders later defended the government’s handling of both the deportation issue and the Maha Kumbh, dismissing her comments as politically motivated.

Mamata’s criticism comes amid increasing political tensions between the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of the upcoming elections. Her remarks on national issues suggest a continued effort to position herself as a strong critic of the BJP-led central government.

With the Assembly session witnessing sharp debates, the political landscape in West Bengal is likely to see further confrontations in the coming weeks.

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## Ukraine not invited to its own peace talks. History full of such examples – results devastating

**MI News Service, Riyadh :** As the crucial meeting between the new US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov began in the Saudi Arabian capital on Tuesday to kick start the peace process for ending the three year long bloody conflict between Russia and Ukraine without the presence and participation of the later, it has raised many eyebrows within the diplomatic circles of the world about its future consequences. With both the American and Russian top diplomats deciding what peace in the country and in the region might look like in their one on one meeting, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said Ukraine will “never accept” any decisions in talks without its participation to end Russia’s three-

year long conflict since 2022 in the country. A decision to negotiate the sovereignty of Ukrainians without them – as well as US President Donald Trump’s blatantly extortionate attempt to claim half of Ukraine’s rare mineral wealth worth trillions of dollars, as the price for ongoing US support – reveals a lot about how Trump sees Ukraine and Europe. But this is not the first time

that major powers have colluded to negotiate new borders or spheres of influence without the input of the people who live there. Such high-handed power politics rarely ends well for those affected, as these seven historical examples show. 1. The Scramble for Africa . In the

that major powers have colluded to negotiate new borders or spheres of influence without the input of the people who live there. Such high-handed power politics rarely ends well for those affected, as these seven historical examples show. 1. The Scramble for Africa . In the





ICSE Class X exams begin on Tuesday; a glimpse of the exam hall at Rammohan Mission High School.

# Youth arrested for alleged rape and blackmail

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: A Youth has been arrested for allegedly raping a housewife in a godown in the Thakurnagar area of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. The incident reportedly occurred after the accused, identified as Raju, invited the woman to discuss business mat-

ters at his shop during last year's Durga Puja celebrations. He allegedly offered her cold drinks, which caused her to faint, and then raped her in the godown. Furthermore, it is alleged that Raju took intimate photographs of the woman during the assault and subsequent-

ly blackmailed her with these images, coercing her into sexual relations against her will on multiple occasions. Following the woman's complaint filed at Gaighata Police Station on Monday, Raju was arrested and presented before the Bangaon Subdistrict Court.

## Life imprisonment to a man for killing wife

MI News Service, Ranaghat : As soon as she came out of room, her husband fired her from a blank range. Her daughter and sister were the eye witness.It had happened on the judgement day of their divorce case and it occurred at Kaikhali under Hanskhali of Ranaghat police district in Nadia on July 15, 2022. However, as she had died, police arrested the man. Subsequently the Ranaghat Court pronounced the punishment of life imprisonment on Tuesday.



The wedding of Sujata and Trishul Biswas of Hanskhali took place about 12 years back. They were blessed with two daughters. But the conjugal unrest led to suit a divorce case in 2022. A several hearings ocured and the final judge-

ment day was on July 15, 2022. Trishul Biswas went to the paternal home of Sujata taking their second daughter on bike. As soon as Sujata (26) came out of room, Trishul fired at him from a blank range. She was taken to the hospital and on duty physician declared her brought dead. Consequently her sister appeared as eye witness and police arrested Trishul. Sunny Kumar Raj, Police Superintendent, Ranaghat police district said, " Our team investigated seriously and 11 persons appeared as witness. It led the court to take final judgement and announced the punishment on Tuesday." SP appreciated the Investigating Officer SI, Bappaditya Mandal and APP Apurba Bhadra for success of the case. Additional SP, HQ, Ranaghat PD, Siddharth Dhapola said, " This judgement shows our serious commitment towards securing conviction in heinous cases which have a huge impact on our society."

## Court sentences convict to death in Bartala child rape case

MI News Service, Kolkata: A footpath dweller was kidnapped from her parents and raped. On Monday, the city sessions court convicted a young man named Rajiv Ghosh for the brutal torture of a seven-month-old baby girl. On Tuesday, the court sentenced the guilty young man to death.

Government lawyer Bibhas Chatterjee said, "The convict has been sentenced to death under the POCSO Act. I was on behalf of the state. The opposing lawyer argued in the court that the boy is young. He has elderly parents at home. We have mentioned several Supreme Court judgments to refute that argument. We feel that the Kolkata Police has created history. The Bengali justice system has become a part of history. Because, we have not seen a death sentence in such a case so far. Here the girl has survived. And the opposing lawyer has repeatedly said, here the girl is alive, so can we ask for the death penalty? However, nowhere in the court's law does it say that the victim has to die to get the death sentence. I have repeatedly told the court that even if the girl recovers and returns home, this incident will give her mental anguish for the rest of her life. The court has called this a rarest of rare cases. " On this day, the court commented, "Such people have no right to live in society. The girl's body has been played with. Therefore, there is no other punishment than the death penalty." Along with this, a fine of Rs 10 lakh has been imposed." Deepak Sarkar, DC North said, "A seven-month-old footpath child does not understand anything. This is a rape incident with him. As soon as we came to know about the matter, we, the Kolkata Police, jumped in and started an investigation. We examined all the CCTV footage for two days. We were able to match the walking style

of the culprit. The DNA of the culprit was tested. The DNA profile of the child was found to match the blood on the clothes of the culprit. We were able to convince the court that this is the rarest of rare cases." It is noteworthy that on November 30, a girl child went missing from Baratola police station. The parents had alleged that they were sleeping in a hut on the side of the road at night. The sleeping child was taken away. Later, the child was rescued from the footpath. After that, a complaint was filed at Baratola police station. On December 4, the police arrested the accused Rajiv Ghosh from Jhargram. After 26 days, the charge sheet was submitted to the court. The youth was identified after seeing the CCTV footage of the road. He was convicted under Sections 137(2), 65(2) of the Indian Penal Code and Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

## LIC unveils "One Man Office"

MI News Service, Kolkata/ Mumbai: In continuation with the sustained efforts to empower our sales force and ensure seamless services to policyholders digitally, on a 24 x 7 basis, LIC on Tu esday unveils the "One Man Office" (OMO) online service through its Agents. Through the One Man Office, LIC aims to provide a comprehensive digital ecosystem for its sales force consisting of Agents, Development Officers, Senior Business Associates, Chief Life Insurance Advisors, LIC Associates and Chief Organizer to aid in their day to day operations, strengthen their efficiency and productivity and ensuring better services to our customers. The service has been launched on 17-02-2025. Speaking on the occasion, Shri. Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD, LIC of India, said it will be a vital tool at the hands of the sales



force to promote life insurance and render service to LIC's customers anytime and anywhere. It will be a shot in the arm for achieving the objective of 'Insurance for All by 2047'. OMO aims to aid our agents in digital sale of policies, after sales servicing for the customers for different types of services, tracking their business and act as a training cum knowledge pool for them. In short, it is a mobile digital office at the hands of sales force and plans to evolve as an easy-

to-use one stop solution for all business and servicing needs, which will be available through their mobile phones, thus making them truly Atma Nirbhar in every sense. These services are offered through the ANANDA (Atma Nirbhar Agents New Business Digital Application) platform for onboarding of customers and will have features like Premium calculator, benefit illustration, E-NACH registration, change of address, online loan request, renewal premium payments, claim related requirement submission etc. It will also have a knowledge centre, various insurance and health related calculators, office locator, NEFT search etc. for assisting Agents to help the customers. LIC plans to add further features to this application in phases to cater to the changing needs of the users.

## Massive fire in Salt Lake: One dead, house destroyed

MI News Service, Kolkata: A devastating fire engulfed a two-story house in Salt Lake's DA Block on Monday night, leaving one dead and causing extensive property damage. Firefighters rushed to the scene, but by the time they managed to control the flames, significant damage had already been done.

The victim, identified as 47-year-old Debarshi Ganguly, was caught in the inferno and succumbed to the blaze. This incident follows a recent fire in Narkeldanga, where makeshift homes were reduced to ashes, killing one person.

Authorities are yet to determine the exact cause of the fire. However, preliminary investigations suggest that a cigarette ash may have triggered the flames inside the house. Fire officials and forensic teams are working to gather evidence and confirm the hypothesis.

State Fire Minister Sujit Bose visited the site to assess the situation. The victim's family and local residents, however, have raised concerns about the fire department's response time, alleging that delays in arrival worsened the tragedy.

While responding to the allegations, Minister Bose admitted that there was a delay but attributed it to a miscommunication regarding the location. "The fire broke out in DA Block, but fire services were directed to BA Block. This address confusion resulted in an unfortunate delay," he stated.

Despite this explanation, the incident has sparked fresh debates on the efficiency of emergency response systems in the city. As recovery efforts continue, forensic experts are set to visit the site today to collect samples for further investigation. Meanwhile, officers from the North Bidhannagar Police Station have launched an inquiry to determine the exact sequence of events leading to the tragedy.

The incident has sent shockwaves through the neighborhood, with residents demanding improved fire safety measures and quicker response times from emergency services. The charred remains of the house serve as a grim reminder of how a single moment of negligence can lead to irreversible loss.

This tragedy underscores the urgent need for better fire safety awareness and stricter enforcement of preventive measures across the city. KBC Global Ltd approves Bonus Equity Share of 1:1

MI News Service, Kolkata: KBC Global Ltd, a construction and real estate development company based in Nashik, has approved a 1:1 bonus issue to boost its business operations and debt reduction. The board also approved a proposal to increase authorized capital and rename KBC Global Ltd to Dharan Infra-EPC Ltd. The company has an order book of over Rs. 260 crore and a market capitalisation of Rs. 300 crore.

MI News Service, Krishnaganj : A violent clash erupted in Krishnaganj village, Panskura block, over a land dispute, leaving three people injured. The incident allegedly began when Sudeep Bansuli, a local resident, blocked a road leading to his land without notifying his neighbors. The neighbors, who had been using the road for 40 years, attempted to stop

# College girl kidnapped and tortured for rejecting marriage proposal

MI News Service, Baruipur : A college student was allegedly kidnapped and tortured for refusing a marriage proposal in Baruipur, South 24 Parganas. The victim, a second-year undergraduate college student at Sushil kar College, was abducted while returning home after her college exams. According to reports, three young men on two scooters accosted the student and threatened to throw acid on her if she refused to go with them. The men then allegedly forced

her onto a scooter and took her to a secluded field, where she was subjected to brutal torture, including beatings that resulted in injuries across her body and even a broken finger. After the assault, the accused left her near her home. The primary suspect has been identified as Sashtava Vaidya, who the victim claims had been harassing and threatening her for a long time after she rejected his marriage proposal. She also stated that Vaidya had recently threatened to shoot

her if she attended college for exams. The victim had reportedly been in a relationship with the accused for three years after which the marriage proposal was rejected. A formal complaint has been registered at the Baruipur Police Station, and the young woman has been hospitalized for treatment. Her mother has expressed serious concern for her daughter's safety and demanded strict action. The incident has caused widespread outrage in the community.

MI News Service, West Medinipur : A dispute over land between two brothers in Hamirpur area of Balichak, Paschim Medinipur reached its seventh level on Tuesday morning. A heated argument started. Within moments, the quarrel took the form of a fight. It is alleged brother Laxman beat up his elder brother Ram so badly that he had to be taken to hospital in critical condition. Family mem-

bers quickly rescued Ram and admitted him to Debra Super Specialty Hospital. Ram's family members have already filed a written complaint with Debra police station. The police have started investigating the incident. The family members are being questioned. There is tension in the area over the incident. Ram's family members have demanded the strictest punishment for Laxman.

MI News Service, Kolkata : A fresh wave of crime has hit the city, with yet another robbery reported in Tollygunge. Armed robbers stormed a flat near Dasani Studio on Moore Avenue, targeting a lone woman and fleeing with gold and cash. The crime occurred in the evening when the victim, a lone woman, was overpowered and left bound as the criminals looted valuables before fleeing.

According to police sources, the victim, Sonali Biswas, was at home alone when the incident occurred. Her husband had left for work in the morning, and she had stepped out briefly in the afternoon. When she returned in the evening, she was unaware that danger lurked inside her flat. As soon as she unlocked the door, two masked intruders ambushed her from behind, pushing her forcefully onto the floor. The

impact left her injured, and she soon lost consciousness. Taking advantage of the situation, the robbers searched the house at knifepoint, threatening her with dire consequences if she made any noise. To prevent her from alerting neighbours, they stuffed a cloth into her mouth, tied her hands and feet, and left her restrained before making a swift escape with cash, gold, and valuables.

# Women face widespread harassment amidst land disputes

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complaint has been lodged at the Regent Park police station, and law enforcement officials have launched a thorough investigation. Police are examining CCTV footage from the building to identify the culprits and determine how they managed to carry out the crime in a supposedly secure area with surveillance cameras in place.

According to police sources, the robbers stole approximately 100 grams (10 tolas) of gold along with cash. The incident has raised concerns about how the criminals knew about the presence of such a large quantity of gold in the house. Local sources suggest that the family had been preparing for their son's wedding, which may explain why the valuables were being stored at home. However, this has led to suspicions that the robbers

had prior knowledge of the Household's assets and were monitoring the house before striking. This robbery follows a concerning pattern of crimes in the city, where criminals are targeting homes when residents are alone, assaulting them to disable resistance, and making off with valuables before escaping unnoticed.

Authorities suspect an organized gang may be operating in the city and have intensified efforts to track down those responsible. Residents have been advised to remain vigilant, avoid keeping large amounts of valuables at home, and enhance security measures to prevent further incidents. Police have assured the public that a thorough investigation is underway and efforts are being made to bring the culprits to justice.

MI News Service, Kolkata: The International Mission for Social Welfare and Charity (I.M.S.W.C) is organized its 45th Anniversary of National and International Convention for integrated management framework on Prevalence of tobacco use among adults and young people, reduce tobacco product consumption, Increase quitting and contribute to reductions in tobacco-related diseases and deaths. IMSWC Promote to Prohibition on smoking in a public place, prevent kids from starting to smoke, help adult smokers quit, Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programme On. 08th February, 2025. at. sasthanamangalam, kadakampathy and iroopara village of thiruvananthapuram district, within the state of kerala. The 672 tobacco addicts, Participated of this Programme.

09th February, 2025, IMSWC also organized Innovative integrated Programme for Substantially and effectively reduce tobacco use, save lives, decline in adult smoking is attributable to youth prevention strategies and that the significant, reduction in smoking among young adults will reduce future health care, to promote smoke-free housing units, Apartment and Condominium and to create a smoke free environment helps create a safe, healthful workplace. Medicaid provided reimbursement to healthcare professionals for tobacco, Prohibiting tobacco specialty stores from operating retail outlets in close proximity to schools, day care centers, parks, and Working with Retailers to Reduce Youth Smoking. at. Balbirnagar, sakdarpur and dwarkapuri village of shahdara district, within the state of Delhi. The 856 tobacco addicts, Participated of this Programme.

10th February, 2025, IMSWC also organized integrated development programme for comprehensive tobacco prevention and cessation Workshop, IMSWC promote quitting of tobacco use among young people and adults, eliminate nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke, and identify and eliminate disparities related to tobacco use and to ensure Cessation counseling quit medications, free nicotine replacement therapy and to prevent e-cigarettes among students. at. Pukhri, dhanara and haripur village of chamba district, within the state of Himachal Pradesh. The 549 tobacco addicts, Participated of this Programme.

11th February, 2025. IMSWC organized Decentralization, prevention and Vigorous Campaign to Create Public Heightened awareness through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, e-mail, sms of the need for Secondhand smoke, Boys use tobacco products much more than girls but use among girls is increasing. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. IMSWC provides to the physician with healthcare providers has led to a large increase in adult tobacco users who are seeking help to quit smoking, oral health promotion, cessation medications and the behavioral, techniques for an effective tobacco intervention is the classroom. Peer-to-peer interaction. at. Somdal, mapum and changa village of Ukhrul district, within the state of Manipur. The 746 tobacco addicts, Participated of this Programme.



12th February, 2025. IMSWC also organized integrated management workshop on tobacco control, Oral health through plaque control, dietary intervention or tobacco use prevention and cessation. IMSWC works to protect the public's health by preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability, and premature death; assuring access to affordable, quality health care; and promoting healthy lifestyles. Increasing Access to Tobacco Cessation Services, Prevention of chronic conditions such as cancer, heart disease, and respiratory illness. Smoking among pregnant women affects the health of the mother and the baby, quitting smoking during pregnancy Prevent initiation of tobacco use among young people. at. Daklane, kachai and jotsoma village of kohima district, within the state of Nagaland. The 495 tobacco addicts, villager Participated of this Programme.

13th February, 2025, IMSWC organized access to integrated development workshop for tobacco prevention and cessation programme and to prevent and reduce tobacco use especially among kids, and more smoking-caused disease, tobacco-related causes. Diseases caused by smoking include esophageal, laryngeal, lung, oral, and throat cancers; cervical, kidney, pancreatic, bladder and stomach cancers; acute myeloid leukemia; pneumonia; chronic lung disease; cataracts; periodontitis; aortic aneurysm; and coronary heart and cardiovascular disease. respiratory diseases and to prevent environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), is associated with an increased risk for lung cancer and coronary heart disease in non-smoking adults and an increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome, asthma, bronchitis, ear infections, and pneumonia in young children. at. Birpara, dhulagaon, and Garopara bidhan chandra high School of alipurduar district within the state of West Bengal. The 928 tobacco addicts, Students' Participated of this Programme. Renowned and respected personalities Mr. Debashish Ghosh-Secretary General of IMSWC and Chief Secretary of Indian Detective and Investigation Organization, Miss. Mali Bagchi-President of IMSWC, Honorable Shrimoti, Anupriya Singh Patel-Minister-of-State, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Honorable Ms. Punya Salila Srivastava-IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Honorable Shrimoti, Chandrima Bhattacharya-Minister of State, Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal, Honorable Shri, Aswini Kumar Roy-WBCS(Executive)-Additional District Magistrate(General), District: alipurduar, Government of West Bengal, Honorable Shri, Dibyendu Dutta-WBCS(Executive), District Social Welfare officer, District: alipurduar, Government of West Bengal, Dr. Sumit Ganguli-Chief Medical officer of Health, District: alipurduar, Government of West Bengal, Dr. Biplob Mukherjee, Dr. Partha Chakraborty, Srimooh Swami. Muktidananda Moharaj, Srimoth Swami. Bodhasarananda Moharaj, Srimoth Swami. Suvirananda Moharaj were present at this Programme.



Mamata Banerjee...

**From PG 1**  
Congress, and CPM had united against her, denying her the right to speak for seven consecutive days. "Despite securing 39 per cent of votes in 2004, I was not allowed to speak in Parliament. They wouldn't let me make any special mentions or answer questions," she said. In this connection she also referred to one of her poems Eka ("Alone"), which she wrote during that period, symbolizing her feelings of isolation and struggle for a voice in the Parliament.

She continued, "The situation is different now. We believe in democracy, and everyone is allowed to speak. But if the intention is just to create chaos, what else can be said?"

Addressing the alle-

gations of vandalism in the Legislative Assembly in 2006, Mamata denied any personal involvement. She explained, "I did not destroy any furniture in the Assembly. My party was agitated, but I did not indulge in vandalism. Some members of my party might have acted impulsively, but I remained calm."

Mamata further clarified that currently, the opposition is allotted 50 per cent of the time in the state Assembly to voice their concerns. Despite this, she accused the opposition of continuing to spread falsehoods about her government. "Even though the opposition is given adequate time to speak, they continue to make baseless allegations against us," she stated.

India, Qatar exchange...

**From PG 1**  
explore joint ventures, foreign direct investment (FDI), technology partnerships, and policy-driven collaborations. Representatives from both governments and leading industry players have also contributed in shaping a forward-looking trade and investment framework.

India and Qatar enjoy a robust economic partnership, with bilateral trade expanding across multiple sectors. Qatari firms have invested in India's technology, infrastructure, and manufacturing sectors, while Indian companies have established a strong presence in Qatar. Keeping this in mind the forum

have highlighted strategic investment opportunities aligned with Make in India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat, and India's infrastructure growth initiatives. Key areas for investment include logistics, warehousing, ports, airports, railways and highways, semiconductors, food security, tech and innovation, space, biosciences, banking and fintech, smart cities, pharmaceuticals, electric vehicles, and renewable energy. Additionally, the India-Qatar Startup Bridge is fostering innovation-driven partnerships in AI, fintech, and deep tech, strengthening bilateral economic cooperation.

Gyanesh Kumar appointed...

**From PG 1**  
the President and Vice-President in 2027, and prepares for the 2029 Lok Sabha elections. A 1988-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Kerala cadre, Kumar served as the Secretary of the Cooperation Ministry at the time of his retirement in January 2024. In his career, he also served as Parliamentary Affairs Secretary, Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), and Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence. In Kerala, he worked across several departments, including Public Works Department and Finance. He was also the Resident Commissioner at Kerala House in Delhi from 2012 to 2016.

An Additional Secretary in MHA from 2018 to 2021, Kumar played a pivotal role when Article 370 was abrogated in 2019 and Jammu and Kashmir was split into the two Union

Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir. The Narendra Modi government's trust in Kumar as a bureaucrat is illustrated by the fact that he was not only given the responsibility of formulating the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, one of the most secretive Bills ever brought by a government but also that he was involved in the setting up of the Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust.

During his tenure as Cooperation Secretary, the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (MSCS) (Amendment) Act, 2023, was passed with the aim of increasing transparency and accountability in the cooperatives sector.

However, as soon as his name was finalised as the new CEC, the Congress slammed the government for "hastily" appointing him in that prize post, saying it undermines the spirit of the Constitution and free elections.

Ukraine not invited to its own peace talks...

**From PG 1**  
many and the United States held a conference and forced an agreement on the Samoans to split their islands between the two powers. This was despite the Samoans expressing a desire for either self-rule or a confederation of Pacific states with Hawai'i. As "compensation" for missing out in Samoa, Britain received uncontested primacy over Tonga. German Samoa came under the rule of New Zealand after the first world war and remained a territory until 1962. American Samoa in addition to several other Pacific islands, however, remain US territories to this day.

3. The Sykes-Picot Agreement . As the first world war was well under way, British and French representatives sat down to agree how they'd divide up the Ottoman Empire after it was over. As an

enemy power, the Ottomans were not invited to the talks. Together, England's Mark Sykes and France's François Georges-Picot redrew the Middle East's borders in line with their nations' interests. The Sykes-Picot Agreement ran counter to commitments made in a series of letters known as the Hussein-McMahon correspondence. In these letters, Britain promised to support Arab independence from Turkish rule. The Sykes-Picot Agreement also ran counter to promises Britain made in the Balfour Declaration to back Zionists who wanted to build a new Jewish homeland in Ottoman Palestine. The agreement became the wellspring of decades of conflict and colonial misrule in the Middle East, the consequences of which continue to be felt today.

State Govt to take over management of Bantala Leather Complex

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The West Bengal government has decided to take full control of the management of Bantala Leather Complex, which was previously overseen by the Calcutta Leather Complex Tannery Association (CLCTA). According to sources from Nabanna, the decision was conveyed to CLCTA officials during a high-level meeting on Monday. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, along with Urban Development Minister Firhad Hakim, Disaster Management Minister Javed Khan, Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, and other senior officials, was present at the meeting. The chief minister firmly stated that the state government would now handle the administration of the leather complex. Following her announcement, CLCTA representatives expressed their agreement

with the proposal. Discussions were also held on the transition process, with sources indicating that the Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA) will take charge of its operations.

Currently, Sector 5 IT Hub is managed by the Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority. Similarly, since 2015, Bantala Leather Complex has been officially designated as part of the Sector 6 Industrial Township under the Urban Development Department. However, until now, CLCTA was responsible for handling various operational services within the complex. The state government's decision to assume control comes in the wake of a recent tragedy in the leather complex, where three workers lost their lives due to toxic gas exposure while cleaning drainage channels. The

incident prompted the government to take strict action, ensuring that such accidents do not occur in the future. Although the families of the deceased workers have been compensated, the administration is keen on implementing long-term safety measures.

As part of this transition, the management of water supply, drainage, lighting, and other essential services within the leather complex will now fall under the jurisdiction of KMDA. Following the meeting, CLCTA officials indicated their willingness to accept the government's proposal. The association's joint secretary, Zia Nafis, stated, "The state government has proposed this arrangement, and we are in agreement. We will discuss the matter with our members before conveying our final decision."

The CLCTA is expected to submit its official response by March 18. Meanwhile, Urban Development Minister Firhad Hakim held a separate meeting to outline how services such as water supply, drainage, and street lighting will be managed under KMDA's supervision.

This move marks a significant shift in how the Bantala Leather Complex is managed. By bringing it under government control, authorities aim to improve infrastructure, enforce safety measures, and enhance overall operational efficiency. The transition is expected to provide better oversight of industrial activities, ensuring worker safety and environmental compliance, while also streamlining essential services for businesses operating within the complex.

Exhibition on Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's life opens at Asiatic Society

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A special exhibition on the life and works of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu has opened at the Asiatic Society's Heritage Building in Kolkata. Organized by the Asiatic Society and the Bhaktiviedanta Research Centre, the exhibition highlights the Gaudiya tradition and its global influence.

Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, a 16th-century saint, played a pivotal role in the Bhakti Movement in Bengal. His teachings were later carried forward by spiritual figures like Bhaktivinoda Thakur, Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Prabhupada, and A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. The exhibition, running from February 17 to 21, features rare manuscripts, paintings, and replicas. Among the key exhibits are replicas of Mahaprabhu's handwritten manuscripts from Nabadwip and paintings from The Asiatic Society's collection, including works by Dipen Bose. Daily discussions on Mahaprabhu's teachings are also scheduled. The event was inaugurated by renowned scholar Nrsingha Prasad Bhaduri, with Lt. Col. Anant Sinha, Dr.Sumanal Rudra, and industrialist Nupur Desai in attendance. Speakers highlighted Mahaprabhu's contributions as a social reformer and his enduring spiritual legacy.



State Minister for Finance (Independent Charge) Chandrima Bhattacharya, along with State Assembly Speaker Biman Banerjee and Deputy Speaker Ashish Banerjee, during a press meet at the State Legislative Assembly in Kolkata on Tuesday.

New Quarantine Center planned for Alipore Zoo's animals

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation (HIDCO) has proposed setting up a dedicated quarantine center for animals near the Alipore Women's Correctional Home. Sources confirm that land identification for the project has already been completed.

The move comes as the Alipore Zoo had to relinquish around 250 cottahs of land to the Forest Department for commercial development under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. In return, HIDCO will establish a state-of-the-art quarantine facility for newly arrived animals. The affected land, located opposite the zoo, currently houses a veterinary hospital, an aquarium, and residential quarters for zoo veterinarians and staff. While the veterinary hospital will remain untouched, the rest of the area is being handed over to HIDCO for commercial development. A

multi-story complex will be constructed, featuring government-run stalls on one floor while private businesses will operate on other levels. This initiative aims to generate revenue for the state government.

As a trade-off, the zoo will receive a 2,000-square-meter plot to construct a modern quarantine center. The proposed location near the Alipore Women's Correctional Home has been identified for this purpose. HIDCO is expected to oversee the project's execution.

Quarantine facilities are essential for newly acquired zoo animals, as they may carry viruses or diseases. Standard protocol requires keeping them in isolation for a specific period before introducing them to the zoo's main enclosures. However, Alipore Zoo currently lacks a dedicated quarantine center. Instead, incoming animals are temporarily housed in an isolation unit within the zoo premises, which poses

a risk of disease transmission to other animals.

A senior zoo official emphasized the need for a separate quarantine facility outside the zoo. "Having the isolation unit inside the zoo increases the risk of infection among existing animals. A separate quarantine center would eliminate this risk," the official stated.

The proposed location near the correctional home is considered ideal due to its proximity to the zoo. Experts believe this will ensure efficient management and smooth transportation of animals without logistical challenges.

Once completed, the new quarantine center will enhance Alipore Zoo's biosecurity measures, reducing health risks for its animal residents. The project also aligns with the state's broader goal of optimizing land use while balancing commercial interests with wildlife conservation.

Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata Hosts 44th All India Major Port Basketball Championship

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The 44th All India Major Port Basketball Championship commenced on Tuesday at the Eastern Railway Sports Academy Complex in Kolkata. The tournament was inaugurated by Rathendra Raman, Chairperson of Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata (SMPK). This prestigious championship features top teams from Chennai Port Authority, Paradip Port Authority, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, V.O. Chidambaram Port Authority, New Mangalore Port Authority, Murmugao Port Authority, and the host team, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata. Declaring the tournament open, Raman emphasized the importance of sports in team building and stress relief. He noted that active participation in sporting events enhances overall performance in professional settings. Congratulating all teams, he encouraged them to uphold the spirit of fair play. The Major Port Sports Control Board (MPSCB) flag was hoisted by the SMPK Chairperson, marking the official start of the event. The opening match witnessed an exciting contest between Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Kolkata



(SMPK) and New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA). SMPK secured a dominant 38-18 victory over NMPA, setting a strong tone for the tournament. Upcoming matches, including Paradip Port Authority vs. Visakhapatnam Port Authority, SMP Kolkata vs. V.O. Chidambaram Port Authority, and V.O. Chidambaram Port Authority vs. Chennai Port Authority, are expected to showcase skill, teamwork, and dedication, fostering camaraderie and healthy competition among the participating athletes.

Sarbananda Sonowal Inaugurates IWT Terminal at Jogighopa

**MI News Service, Jogighopa:** Marking a significant milestone in India's inland waterways infrastructure, the Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal on Tuesday inaugurated the Inland Waterways Terminal (IWT) at Jogighopa. He flagged off MV Trishul along with Barges Ajay and Dikshu, carrying 110 metric tonnes of coal and stone chips to Bangladesh. The terminal, whose foundation was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2021, is expected to enhance trade with Bangladesh and Bhutan.

Highlighting inland waterways' potential, Sonowal added, "Developing this sector can transform logistics by making transportation cost-effective and sustainable. Under PM Modi's leadership, key legislations like the National Waterways Act, 2016, and the Inland Vessels Act, 2021, have strengthened the ecosystem."

Strategically located, the terminal is 91 km from Gelephu in Bhutan, 108 km from the Bangladesh border, and 147 km from Guwahati. It is a key port of call under the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol on Inland Water Transit & Trade (PIWT&T) and is projected to handle 1.1 million tonnes of cargo annually by 2027.

Dignitaries present included Lyonpo Namgyal Dorji, Bhutan's Minister of Industries, Commerce & Employment, Assam ministers Ranjeet Kumar Dass and Bimal Borah, and IWAI Chairman Vijay Kumar.

Speaking at the event, Sonowal stated, "This is a historic day for the country's waterways sector. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, the transformation of waterways is driving India's logistics growth, aligning with his vision of 'Viksit Bharat.' This terminal will boost connectivity and trilateral trade with Bhutan and Bangladesh, strengthening regional economic ties under the 'Neighbourhood First' policy." India is actively establishing itself as a crucial waterways hub through agreements with Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar. The Jogighopa terminal,

The Northeast region is seeing major inland waterway investments, including projects like the NW-2 development and a ship repair facility at Pandu. The IWT sector has grown significantly, with cargo traffic rising from 18 million tonnes a decade ago to 133 million tonnes in 2023-24.

India is also boosting cruise tourism, with projects like the MV Ganga Vilas and the 'Cruise Bharat Mission,' aiming for 100 river cruise terminals by 2029. A world-class cruise terminal is being developed in Guwahati. The Jogighopa terminal is linked to a multimodal logistics park via a four-lane road, enhancing connectivity with Kolkata and Haldia. Future developments include a railway siding and expanded cargo handling capacity.

The Future of corporate compliance: Key changes in companies Act and LODR



Savithri Parekh, Company Secretary & Compliance Officer, Reliance Industries Limited along with Amit Saraogi, President, MCCI, addressing the session in Kolkata.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A seminar titled "The Future of Corporate Compliance: Key Changes in Companies Act and LODR" was held at the Merchants' Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The event featured esteemed speakers, including Savithri Parekh, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer at Reliance Industries Limited, and Rakesh Kumar Tiwari, ICLS Regional Director (Eastern Region) at the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Savithri Parekh discussed key amendments to the Companies Act, focusing on corporate governance, compliance, and shareholder engagement. She highlighted several significant changes, including: Mandatory full-time compliance officers

for listed entities, Integrated filing systems, Exemptions for immaterial related-party transactions (RPTs), Post-facto ratification of RPTs by audit committees and Quarterly statements on investor grievance redressal.

She also clarified the concept of "Limited Disclosure" and its implications, explaining how it balances transparency with regulatory efficiency. Additionally, she touched upon the growing role of artificial intelligence (AI) in ensuring compliance through MCA filings, Amit Saraogi, President of the Merchants' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, delivered the welcome address, emphasizing SEBI's proposal to mandate electronic payments for dividends and payouts.



KMC and Kolkata Police evacuated the footpath near Yogayog Bhavan at Central Avenue, in Kolkata.

CCTV cameras installed in CM's assembly chamber for enhanced security

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant security move, CCTV cameras have been installed inside Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's chamber in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly. The decision was executed amid the ongoing budget session, with the state administration priori-

tizing enhanced security measures. The installation, managed by the Public Works Department (PWD), was completed discreetly, with no official statement provided on the exact reason behind the move.

While no specific threats have been

reported against the Chief Minister, past incidents have raised security concerns. Sources within the police indicate that the decision was driven by precautionary measures rather than any immediate danger. Mamata Banerjee, known for her simple lifestyle, has faced security

breaches before. In one instance, an individual managed to enter her Kalighat residence and spend the night undetected before being apprehended the next morning. On another occasion, an intruder with a fake identity was caught attempting to enter her residence.



**Name Change**  
I, Ruksana Khanam(Old Name, Wrong Date Of Birth 10/10/1980 As Per Voter Card No Xoa 2056 224), Daughter Of Late Abdul Rauf Khan,Wife Of Md Kalimud-din Khan, Residing At 5 No Jan Nagar 2nd Lane,Entally,Ps - Be-niapukur,Kolkata - 700014, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rukhsana Khanam (New Name, Correct Date Of Birth 01/01/1974 As Per Aadhar 705841643536) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Howrah On 04/02/2025,That Ruksana Khanam And Rukhsana Khanam Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Joydeb Mondal (Old Name) S/o Jiten Mondal Residing at Vill+P.o - Sanekpur, Bongaon, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin - 743701 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Jaydeb Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no. 28/2025 Date 18-02-2025. Joydeb Mondal (Old Name) and Jaydeb Mondal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Shukur Ali Mandal (Old Name) (Date of Birth- 01-01-1963) S/o Noor Ali Mandal Residing at Vill - Gorai Nagar, P.o - Aziznagar, Ps - Deganga, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin - 743425 India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shukur Ali Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide af-fidavit no 31/2025 dated 18-02-2025. Shukur Ali Mandal (Old Name) and Shukur Ali Mandal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Payel Chatterjee (Old Name) W/o Khasas Chandra Das Residing at Setna Road, Near Uma Apart-ment Shyampur, Maheshtala (M), Budge Budge, District - 24 Pgs(S), Pin - 700137 India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Payel Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 30/2025 Dated 18-02-2025. Payel Chatterjee (Old Name) and Payel Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Musammat Minara Khatun (Old Name) W/o Fazlul Rahman Khan Residing at Boga Nowapara, Ma-heshtala(M), District - 24 Pgs(S), Pin - 700141 W.B India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Minara Khatun (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 29/2025 Dated 18-02-2025. Musammat Minara Khatun (Old Name) and Minara Khatun (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Ajoy Himatsingka S/o Rajendra Kumar Himatsingka Residing at Flat No-53, Block-1A, Clu-btown Gate-way, Roypara Purbapara, Ha-tiara, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin - 700157 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Ajoy Kumar Himatsingka. I declare that Ajoy Himatsingka and Ajoy Kumar Himatsingka is same and one iden-tical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public, Kolkata on 18-02-2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Hazi Md Abdul Hai alias Hazi Md Abdul Hai Goldar S/o Chhafar Ali Residing at Anowar Beria, Manik-tala, Habra-1, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin - 743263 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Abdul Hai. I declare that Hazi Md Abdul Hai, Hazi Md Abdul Hai Goldar and Abdul Hai is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary public,Kolkata on 18-02-2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Khalek Tarafdar S/o Late Ma-hata Ali Tarafdar Residing at Vill - Burushailee Para, Ps - Gopal Nagar, District - 24 Pgs(N), Pin- 743262 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Abdul Khalek Tarafdar. I declare that Khalek Tarafdar and Abdul Khalek Tarafdar is same and one identical person by virtue of an af-fidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 18-02-2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Md Shahanzaj Ansari S/o Md Kasim Ansari Residing At 43/E/4, Narayan Roy Road, Barisha Sil-para, P.o - Barisha Sakher Bazar, Ps - Thakurpukur, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700008 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Md Shahnazaj Ansari. I declare that Md Shahanzaj Ansari and Md Shahnazaj Ansari is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 06-02-2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Mohammed Shahid Mush-taque S/o Mohammed Mush-taque R/o 11/H/14 Alimuddin Street Kolkata 700016 have changed my name to Mo-hammed Shahid Mushtaque for all future purposes

**Change of Name**  
I, Sunil Kumar Bijlani S/o Sanmukh Lal Bijlani R/o- Anandanagar, P.O.- Indrapur, P.S.- KGP (T), Distt.- Paschim Medinipur, 721305, W.B solemnly affirm and declare that in my Driving Licence vide no- UP6519990021047 dated 07/08/1999 issued at Varanasi my, my father's name & DOB have been wrongly written as **S.K. Bijlani** (DOB: 17/09/1980) S/o **S.L. Bijlani** (instead of **Sunil Kumar Bijlani** (DOB: 17/08/1971) S/o Sanmukh Lal Bijlani vide affidavit no 713/08 Dated 11/02/2025 In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Kharagpur. **Sunil Kumar Bijlani** (DOB: 17/08/1971) S/o **Sanmukh Lal Bijlani** and **S.K. Bijlani** (DOB: 17/09/1980) S/o **S.L. Bijlani** is same one and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kulsuma Khatun,W/O Sk Sera-fat Hossain,R/O Gopimohanpur, Paschim Para Nandigram,Ps-Nandigram,East Medinipur, 721 631,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Umme Kulsuma Khatun,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/02/2025,That Kul-suma Khatun And Umme Kul-suma Khatun All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sk Sarafat Hossain, S/O Sk Faziluddin, R/O Gopimohanpur, Paschim Para Nandigram,Ps-Nandigram, East Medinipur, 721 631, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Serafat Hossain, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/02/2025,That Sk Sarafat Hossain And Sk Serafat Hossain All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Panchanon Sarkar (Old Name) son of Gopal Chandra Sarkar, residing at 72, Postal Park, P.O. & P.S.- Bans-droni, Kolkata- 700070, West Ben-gal, INDIA, have chan ged my name and shall henceforth be known as Panchanan Sarkar (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 18/02/2025. Pan-chanan Sarkar (New Name) and Panchanon Sarkar (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Jakir Hosen (Old Name) son of Sekh Bilat Ali, residing at Chaket-bati, Bawali Budge Budge-II, South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743384, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sekh Jakir Hossen (New Name) as de-clared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 18/02/2025. Sekh Jakir Hossen (New Name) and Jakir Hosen (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Subhra Kanti Jana, Residing At Jhargram,West Medinipur - 721507, Do Heroby Notified That My Father Name Recordd Some Document As Kishor Kanti Jana And Some Other Document As Kishore Kanti Jana,That Kishor Kanti Jana And Kishore Kanti Jana Both Are The Same And One Identical Person Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/02/2025.

**Name Change**  
I, Rajkamal Bangur(Old Name), W/O Hari Mohon Bangur,R/O 34,New Road,Alipore, Kolkata-700027,West Bengal, Shall Hence-forth Be Known As Rajkamal Devi Bangur(New Name), Vide An Af-fidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/02/ 20 25,That Rajkamal Bangur And Ra-ajkamal Devi Bangur All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sri Rupa Samanta (Old Name) daughter of Late Krishna Chandra Samanta,date of birth 04/01/ 19 85,residing at Rabindra Abasan, Flat-6, Block-D, 2244, Mahatma Gandhi Road, P.S.- Haridevpur, Kolkata- 700082, West Bengal, INDIA, have chan ged my name and shall henceforth be known as Srirupa Chakr aboty (New Name) as declared before the Notary Pub-lic at Kolkata, dated 18/02/ 2025. Srirupa Chakraborty (New Name) and Sri Rupa Samanta (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Fehmida Bai Vana & Fehmida Vana (Old Name) W/O Firoz Ali-hai Vana Resident Of 8,Marquis Street, 2 Nd Floor,Po & Ps - Park Street,Kolkata-700016,West Ben-gal.I Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Fehmida Firoz Vana(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before the Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/02/2025. Fehmida Bai Vana And Fehmida Vana (Old Name) And Fehmida Firoz Vana (New Name)All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Baijit Molya (Old Name), S/O Romjan Molya,Residing At Vill & Po - Murarishpa,Ps - Hasnabad, North 24 Parganas,Pin - 743456, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Baijit Molla (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Be-fore The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/02/2025,That Baijit Molya And Baijit Molla Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Projesh Ghosh (Old Name) son of Late Protsanta Kumar Ghosh, residing at 100/2, Flat 3C, N.S.C Bose Road, P.S.- Regent Park, Kolkata- 700040, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Projesh Kumar Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the No-tary Public at Kolkata, dated 18/02/2025. Projesh Kumar Ghosh (New Name) and Projesh Ghosh (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Saswati Roy (Old Name) wife of Malay Kumar Roy, residing at Ruchira Residency Tower-7, Flat No-2/2, 369, Purbachal Kalitala Main Road, Haltu, Kolkata- 700078, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saswati Roy Bhaumik (New Name) as de-clared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 18/02/2025. Sasw ati Roy Bhaumik (New Name) and Saswati Roy (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sahidur Rahaman Mondal (Old Name ),Son Of Rajjak Mondal, Re-siding At Vill - Uttar Sultanpur, Po - Bhebia, Ps - Minakhan,Dist - North 24 parganas, Pin - 743456, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chayidur Mondal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before the Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/02/ 2025,That Sahidur Rahaman Mon-dal And Chayidur Mondal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.



Sadhus of 'Avahan Akhara' take part in a procession, in Varanasi.

## Over 29,500 regis-tered drones in India; Delhi leads with 4,882: Reports

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** More than 29,500 drones are registered in India, with the national capital having the maximum number at 4,882, according to official data. After the national capital, the highest numbers of registered drones are in Tamil Nadu and Maharastra at 4,588 and 4,132, respectively. The data from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) updated till January 29 showed that there were 29,501 registered drones. Other states that have a high number of registered drones include Haryana (3,689), Karnataka (2,516), Telan-gana (1,928), Gujarat (1,338) and Kerala (1,318), as per the data shared by the civil aviation ministry with the Rajya Sabha this week. So far, the regulator has issued 96 Type Certifi-cates to different Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) mod-els or drones, and out of them, 65 models are for agriculture purpose. Each registered drone is issued a Unique Identification Num-ber (UIN) from the Digital Sky Platform, which is op-erated by the DGCA. DGCA-authorised Remote Pilot Training Organisations have issued 22,466 Remote Pilot Certificates (RPCs).

**Name Change**  
I, Swapan Majumder (Old Name) son of Surendra Majumder @ Surendra Nath Majumder, resid-ing at I-FR 1805 BD-67 RAJ DANGA MAIN ROAD, SHANTI PALLY, KOLKATA- 700107, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Swapan Kumar Ma-jumder (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/02/2025. Swa-pan Kumar Majumder (New Name) and Swapan Majumder (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Dipanwita Roy (Old Name) W/O Mantu Roy Resident Of 59/4,Old Calcutta Road,Talpurkur,Ps-Tita-garh,Dist-North 24 Parganas,Pin-700123,West Bengal.I Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Dipan-wita Biswas(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The No-tary Public At Kolkata On 17/02/2025. Dipanwita Roy(Old Name) And Dipanwita Biswas (New Name)All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Papia Kar (Old Name) W/O Sne-hashish Kar Resident Of 156,Belegatha Main Road,Po & Ps- Beliaghata,Kolkata-700010, West Bengal.I Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Papiya Kar(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld.1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Sealdah On 05/09/ 2003 Vide Affidavit No.8799. Papia Kar (Old Name) And Papiya Kar (New Name)All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Firozbbhai Vana & Firoz Vana (Old Name) S/O Late Alibhai Vana & Ali Bhai Resident Of 8,Marquis Street, 2 Nd Floor, Po & Ps - Park Street, Kolkata-700016, West Bengal.I Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Firoz Al-libhai Vana(New Name) Vide An Af-fidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/ 02/2025. Firozbbhai Vana And Firoz Vana(Old Name) And Firoz Alibhai Vana (New Name)All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Saifuddin Firozbbhai Vana (Old Name) S/O Firoz Alibhai Vana Resident,Of 8,Marquis Street, Po & Ps - Park Street,Kolkata-7000 16,West Bengal.I Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Saifuddin Vana( New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/02/2025. Saifuddin Firozbbhai Vana(Old Name) And Saifuddin Vana (New Name) All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

## US tariffs will not go unanswered': EU

**MI News Service, Berlin (Germany):** European Union Chief Ursula von der Leyen vowed that US tar-iffs on steel and aluminum “will not go unanswered,” adding that they will trig-ger tough countermea-sures from the 27-nation bloc. “The EU will act to safeguard its economic in-terests,” von der Leyen said in a statement in reac-tion to US President Don-ald Trump’s imposition of tariffs on steel and alu-minum the previous day. “Tariffs are taxes — bad for business, worse for consumers,” von der Leyen said. “Unjustified tariffs on the EU will not go unan-swered — they will trigger firm and proportionate countermeasures.” In Ger-many, home to the EU’s largest economy, Chancel-lor Olaf Scholz told parlia-ment that “if the US leaves us no other choice, then the European Union will react united,” adding that “ultimately, trade wars al-ways cost both sides pros-perity.” Trump is hitting foreign steel and alu-

minum with a 25% tax in the hope that they will give local producers relief from intense global competition, allowing them to charge higher prices. He imposed similar tariffs during his first presidency but the move damaged relations with key US allies and drove up costs for “down-stream” manufacturers that buy steel and alu-minum. EU Commission vice-president Maroş Şe-fcovic said that the tariffs are “economically counter-productive, especially given the deeply integrated production chains estab-lished through our exten-sive transatlantic trade and investment ties.”

“We will protect our workers, businesses and consumers,” Şeċcovic said, but added that “it is not our preferred scenario. We remain committed to con-structive dialog. We stand ready for negotiations and to find mutually beneficial solutions where possible.” “There is a lot at stake for both sides,” he told the EU legislature.

## IT Dept activates section wise mapping of IT Act & Tax bill



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Income Tax payers can now match the sec-tions of the I-Tax Act, 1961, with the correspon-ding clauses in the sim-plified I-T Bill, 2025, on the tax department portal.

Also, Section to Section mapping as per Income Tax Act, 1961 and Section number as per New In-come Tax Bill has been up-loaded on the I-T department’s website. A simplified Income Tax Bill, 2025, was introduced in the Lok Sabha on February 13 by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The Bill, once enacted, will re-place the 64 years old In-come Tax Act which has become bulky over time with its traditional style of drafting and numerous amendments. The sim-plified Bill has a word count of 2.6 lakh, lower than 5.12 lakh in the I-T Act. The number of Sections is 536, as against 819 effec-tive sections in the existing law. The number of chap-ters also have been halved to 23 from 47 currently. The Bill has 57 tables, compared to 18 in the ex-isting act, besides formu-lae which make it easier for a taxpayer to calculate tax liability. It has removed 1,200 provisos and 900 ex-planations.

In a post on X, the de-partment on February 14 said it has activated the utility to check Section of the Income Tax Act, 1961, vis-a-vis corresponding clause of the new Income Tax Bill. A taxpayer can

select the section of I-T Act, 1961, from a drop down menu and accord-ingly the corresponding clause in the I-T Bill will appear. Besides, a section wise mapping has been given in tabular format for taxpayer convenience.

The Bill uses shorter sentences and has been made reader-friendly with the use of tables and for-mulae. Tables have been provided for provisions re-lating to TDS, presumptive taxation, salaries, and de-ductions for bad debt. The Bill introduces a new con-cept of ‘tax year’ as the 12-month period beginning from April 1. This would replace the present con-cept of assessment and previous year. Currently, income earned in the pre-vious year (PY) say in the year April 2024 to March 2025 will be assessed in assessment year (AY) 2025-26.

The Bill will come into effect from April 1, 2026, after it is vetted by a Select Committee of the Lok Sabha and cleared by Par-liament. The new bill has omitted redundant sec-tions, like those relating to Fringe Benefit Tax. The Bill is free from ‘explana-tions or provisos’, thereby making it easier to read and comprehend.

Also, the word ‘notwithstanding’, which was used excessively in the Income Tax Act, 1961, has been done away with in the new Bill and almost everywhere replaced with the term ‘irrespective’.

## Cancellation and rescheduling of trains

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** 12339 Howrah – Dhanbad Coalfield Express Schedule to leave Howrah at 17:20 hrs on 18.02.2025 will remain cancelled as link Down Train is cancelled by East Central Railway. Moreover, following trains have been rescheduling due to late running of Cor-responding Down Link Train

- 22405 Bhagalpur – Anand Vihar Terminal Garib Rath Express will leave Bhagalpur at 23:00 hrs instead of its schedule departure at 13:55 hrs which was earlier resched-uled at 19:30 hrs on 18.02.2025. • 04154 Bha-galpur – Kanpur Central Kumbh Mela special will leave Bhagalpur at 21:00 hrs instead of its schedule departure at 11:00 hrs which was earlier resched-uled at 16:00 hrs on 18.02.2025.

## Trains rescheduled

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Due to late running of Down link trains, following trains are rescheduled as under:- • 20975 Howrah – Agra Cantt. Chambal Ex-press schedule to leave Howrah at 17:45 hrs on 18.02.2025 has been rescheduled at 23:55 hrs. • 12333 Howrah – Prayagraj Rambag Vibhuti Express schedule to leave Howrah at 19:55 hrs on 18.02.2025 has been rescheduled at 01:30 hrs on 19.02.2025. • 13009 Howrah - Yog Na-gari Rishikesh Doon Ex-press schedule to leave Howrah at 20:25 hrs on 18.02.2025 has been rescheduled at 03:30 hrs on 19.02.2025. • 12307 Howrah - Jodhpur Express schedule to leave Howrah at 23:30 hrs on 18.02.2025 has been rescheduled at 04:00 hrs on 19.02.2025. • 12331 Howrah - Jammu Tawi Himgiri Express schedule to leave Howrah at 23:55 hrs on 18.02.2025 has been rescheduled at 05:00 hrs on 19.02.2025.

## Regulations Of Trains

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Railway has decided to regu-late following trains due to Op-erational reason.

- Cancellation of Trains** • 12311 Howrah – Kalka Netaji Express (Journey commenc-ing on 18.02.2025 & 19.02.2025) • 12312 Kalka - Howrah Netaji Express (Jour-ney commencing on 18.02.2025 & 19.02.2025) • 12367 Bhagalpur – Anand Vihar (T) Vikramshila Express (Journey commencing on 18.02.2025 & 19.02.2025) • 12368 Anand Vihar (T) – Bha-galpur Vikramshila Express (Journey commencing on 18.02.2025 & 19.02.2025) • 12176 Gwalior – Howrah



- Chambal Express (Journey commencing on 18.02.2025) • 12175 Howrah – Gwalior Chambal Express (Journey commencing on 19.02.2025) • 22911 Indore – Howrah Shipra Express (Journey com-mencing on 18.02.2025) • 22912 Howrah – Indore Shipra Express (Journey com-mencing on 20.02.2025) • 22466 Anand Vihar Terminal - Madhupur Baba Baidyanath Dham Deoghar SF Express (Journey commencing on 19.02.2025) • 22465 Mad-hupur - Anand Vihar Terminal Baba Baidyanath Dham Deoghar SF Express (Journey commencing on 20.02.2025)

- Diversion of Trains** • 12330 Anand Vihar (T) – Seal-dah Sampark Kranti Express (Journey commencing on 19.02.2025 & 26.02.2025) will be diverted Via Kanpur Cen-tral – Lucknow – Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya instead of Kanpur Central-Prayagraj Jn. – Mirzapur - Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhaya • 12329 Sealdah-Anand Vihar (T) Sampark Kranti Express (Journey com-mencing on 18.02.2025 & 25.02.2025) will be diverted Via- Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhaya-Baranasi – Janghai-Unnao Jn. – Kanpur Central instead of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhaya - Mirzapur - Prayagraj Jn. – Kanpur Central.

## Miscellaneous

## Indian Railways facilitat-ing the grandest spiritual gathering on earth

## Maha Kumbh 2025

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Maha Kumbh 2025 in Prayagraj has already wit-nessed an astonishing 53 crore sacred baths (स्नान), making it the largest reli-gious gathering in the world. With millions of devotees arriving daily, the Indian Railways is playing a pivotal role in managing the seamless transporta-tion of pilgrims. A massive logistical effort with ₹5,000 Cr work done in the last 3 years for Maha Kumbh area has been un-deraken to ensure a smooth experience for all travelers. This includes among other things, up-graded railway stations, over 13,000 trains sched-uled to be run, and ad-vanced crowd management systems. Have a look at how the In-dian Railways is facilitat-ing this grand spiritual spectacle:

### 1. Massive Railway Op-erations for Maha Kumbh 2025

#### Train Diversions for Seamless Travel

All goods trains have been diverted in the Dedi-cated Freight Corridor (DFC) to prioritize passen-ger movement. 200 rakes with train sets or engines on both sides are deployed to avoid shunting opera-tions.

#### Unprecedented num-ber of Train Services

13,000 trains were planned till 26th February 2025, out of which 12,583 had already run by 16th February 2025.

**IR handling the Peak Passenger Flow:** Since 13th January 2025, 3.09 crore pilgrims have been handled by IR in the Prayagraj Kumbh area.

On 17th 18.60 lakhs passenger and 16th Febru-ary 2025, 18.48 lakh pas-sengers handling, one of the highest passenger movements in last two days.

#### Other significant peak dates:

15th February: 14.76 lakh passengers, 12th February: 17 lakh passengers, 10 th & 11 January : More than 14 lakh passengers, 30th Jan-uary: 17.57 lakh passen-gers, 29th January: 27 lakh passengers, 28th Jan-uary: 14.15 lakhs passen-gers, 14th January: 13.87 lakh passengers, 2. Pas-senger Facilities at Rail-way Stations

**To accommodate the massive influx of devotees, Indian Railways has en-sured the following:**

#### Improved Infrastruc-ture

9 railway stations with second entries to manage crowd flow.

48 platforms (PF) & 21 Foot Over Bridges (FoB) for smooth passenger movement. Indian Rail-ways has installed 1,186 CCTV cameras across nine stations in the Prayagraj Mela region as part of a comprehensive surveil-lance system. 23 perman-ent holding areas to manage waiting passen-gers. Announcements in 12 languages at major sta-tions: Prayagraj, Naini, Cheoki, and Subedarganj Ticketing Enhancements 554 ticketing arrange-ments, including 151 mo-bile UTS ticketing points, to streamline the ticketing process.

### 3. Major Railway Infra-structure Upgrades

The Indian Railways has invested heavily in in-frastructure to ensure seamless travel: ₹3,700 crore investment for major railway infrastructure projects, including: Ba-naras-Prayagraj rail dou-bling, including a new Ganga Bridge. Phaphamau-Janghai rail doubling to increase train capacity. 21 new Road Over Bridges (ROB) and Road Under Bridges (RUB) to enhance road and rail mobility. Color-Coded Sys-tem for Easy Passenger Navigation Colour coding of Yatri Ashryas, holding areas and tickets has done for easy identification and direction-wise segregation of passengers:

**Red:** Lucknow, Ayod-hya and Varanasi **Blue:** DDU, Sasaram, Patna **Yel-low:** Manikpur, Jhansi, Satna, Katni (Madhya Pradesh area) **Green:** Kan-pur, Agra, Delhi

### 4. Robust Security & Crowd Management

**Given the high volume of travelers, railway au-thorities have imple-mented extensive security measures:** Control Centers established at multiple lev-els Station level, Division level, Zonal level, and Rail-way Board level.

#### Security Deployment

13,000 Railway Protec-tion Force (RPF) person-nel. 10,000 Government Railway Police (GRP) & paramilitary staff sta-tioned at key locations. 3,000+ running staff as-signed to ensure smooth train operations. With 53 crore snans already per-formed at Maha Kumbh 2025, the Indian Railways is ensuring that millions of devotees can travel safely and comfortably. From special trains to advanced crowd control measures, the railway network is effi-ciently handling the world’s largest religious gathering.

## Complete block on Green Line from 20.02.2025 to 23.02.2025

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Metro Railway, Kolkata is going to grant another complete Traffic Block from 20.02.2025 to 23.02.2025 (four days including Saturdays and Sun-days), as announced earlier, for testing of Commu-nication-Based Train Control (CBTC) System on the entire East-West Metro Corridor (Green Line) from Howrah Maidan to Salt Lake Sector V. No services will be avail-able during that period on East-West Corridor only. Blue Line, Purple Line and Orange Line will be fully opera-tional during these days as per original time table . In-convenience caused to the Green Line Metro passengers is deeply regretted.

## ED restitutes assets worth over Rs 30 Cr to SBI in Telangana

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) said it has restituted assets worth more than Rs 30 crore to a bank as part of a money laundering investigation against a Telangana-based refinery company accused of committing a loan fraud of about Rs 190 crore. The case pertains to the company named Sheetal Refineries Limited and some other linked entities. "Directorate of Enforce-ment, Hyderabad zonal office has successfully accom-plished the process of restitution of properties worth Rs 30.71 crore to the State Bank of India in connection with a money laundering case against Sheetal Refineries Limited (SRL) and others," the ED said in a statement. The com-pany availed credit facilities from a consortium of banks, including SBI and Punjab National Bank, which later turned into non-performing asset (NPA), it said. The firm availed 21 "fraudulent" Letters of Credit from these banks, based on fake and forged invoices, without any actual supply of material or legitimate business transactions.







# Study finds how certain diabetes medications might prevent dementia

WASHINGTON [US] : The effect size may have been exaggerated in this observational analysis, the researchers add, and they now state that randomized controlled trials are required to corroborate these results.

According to the World Health Organization, the number of people with dementia globally is expected to reach 78 million by 2030 and type 2 diabetes is associated with a greater risk of developing dementia. A recent study of over 655 with type 2 diabetes suggested a decreased risk of dementia associated with SGLT-2 inhibitors versus another type of diabetes drug, dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP-4) inhibitors. But the effects on younger people and specific types of dementia (eg, Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia) remains unclear. To address this, researchers used the Korea National Health Insurance Service database to identify 110,885 pairs of adults with type 2 diabetes aged 40-69 years who were free of dementia and started taking either an SGLT-2 inhibitor or a DPP-4 inhibitor between 2013 and 2021. All participants (average age 62; 56% men) were matched by age, sex, use of the diabetes drug metformin, and baseline cardiovascular risk and were followed up for an average of 670 days to see who developed



dementia. Potentially influential factors including personal characteristics, income level, underlying risk factors for dementia, other conditions and related medicine use, were also taken into account. Over the follow-up period, a total of 1,172 participants with newly diagnosed dementia were identified. Dementia rates per 100 person years were 0.22 for those using SGLT-2 inhibitors and 0.35 for those using DPP-4 inhibitors, corresponding to a 35% reduced risk of dementia associated with use of SGLT-2 inhibitors compared with DPP-4 inhibitors. The researchers also found a 39% reduced risk for Alzheimer's disease, and a 52%

reduced risk for vascular dementia associated with SGLT-2 inhibitors compared with DPP-4 inhibitors. What's more, the effect of SGLT-2 inhibitors seemed more pronounced with longer treatment duration. A 48% reduced risk of dementia was seen for more than two years of treatment versus a 43% reduced risk for two years or less. This is an observational study so no firm conclusions can be drawn about cause and effect, and the authors note that details of health behaviours (eg, smoking and alcohol consumption) and duration of type 2 diabetes were not fully available. However, they point out that

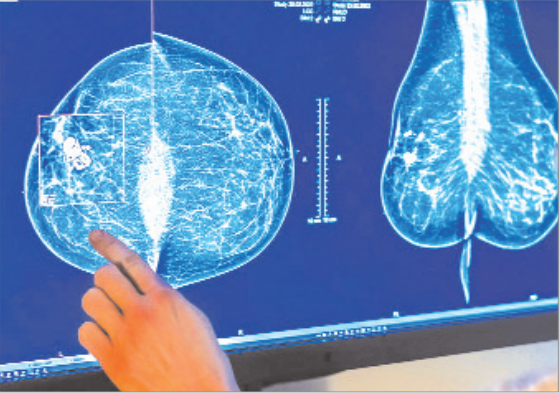
this was a large study based on nationally representative data that included relatively younger people with type 2 diabetes, and results were highly consistent across subgroups. As such, they say SGLT-2 inhibitors might prevent dementia, providing greater benefits with longer treatment, and they call for randomised controlled trials to confirm these findings. This study reports promising results that have important implications for clinical practice as well as from a public health perspective, say researchers from Taiwan in a linked editorial. They agree that further trials are needed to confirm these findings, and suggest that studies are also needed "to explore the underlying mechanisms of any neuroprotective effects of SGLT-2 inhibitors." As no cure currently exists for dementia and few effective treatment options are available, strategies that can potentially prevent onset are critically important, they write. Given the substantial socioeconomic and public health burdens associated with both dementia and type 2 diabetes, they also recommend that clinical guidelines and healthcare policies should be updated regularly to incorporate latest best evidence on the potential benefits of SGLT-2 inhibitors, including reduced dementia risk.

# Study reveals how new breast imaging tech transforms cancer diagnosis

ILLINOIS [US] : A new breast imaging technique detects cancer with high sensitivity while significantly lowering the likelihood of false-positive results, according to a study published today in Radiology: Imaging Cancer, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America.

Researchers believe the method can deliver more reliable breast cancer screening to a larger range of individuals. Mammography is an effective new breast imaging technique detects cancer with high sensitivity while significantly lowering the likelihood of false-positive results, according to a study published today in Radiology: Imaging Cancer, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America. The screening method for early detection of breast cancer; however, its sensitivity is reduced in dense tissue due to the masking effect of dense fibroglandular tissue.

Because nearly half of the screening population has dense breasts, many of these individuals require further breast imaging, usually with an MRI, following mammography. Low-dose positron emission mammography (PEM) is a novel molecular imaging technique that provides improved diagnostic performance at a radiation dose comparable to that of mammography. For the study, 25 women, median age 52, recently diagnosed with breast cancer, underwent low-dose PEM with the radiotracer fluorine 18-labeled fluorodeoxyglucose (18F-FDG). Two breast radiologists reviewed PEM images taken one and four hours post-18F-FDG injection and correlated the findings with lab results. PEM displayed comparable performance to MRI, identifying 24 of the 25 invasive cancers (96 per cent). Its false-positive rate was only 16 per cent, compared with 62 per



cent for MRI. Along with its strong sensitivity and low false-positive rate, PEM could potentially decrease downstream healthcare costs, as this study shows it may prevent further unnecessary work compared to MRI. Additionally, the technology is designed to deliver a radiation dose comparable to that of traditional mammography without the need for breast compression, which can often be uncomfortable for patients. "The integration of these features--high sensitivity, lower false-positive rates, cost-efficiency, acceptable radiation levels without compression, and independence from breast density--positions this emerging imaging modality as a potential groundbreaking advancement in the early detection of breast cancer," said study lead author

Vivianne Freitas, MD, MSc, assistant professor at the University of Toronto.

"As such, it holds the promise of transforming breast cancer diagnostics and screening in the near future, complementing or even improving current imaging methods, marking a significant step forward in breast cancer care."

Low-dose PEM offers potential clinical uses in both screening and diagnostic settings, according to Dr Freitas.

"For screening, its ability to perform effectively regardless of breast density potentially addresses a significant shortcoming of mammography, particularly in detecting cancers in dense breasts where lesions may be obscured," she said.

"It also presents a viable option for patients at high risk who are claustrophobic or have contraindications for MRI."

The technology could also play a crucial role in interpreting uncertain mammogram results, evaluating the response to chemotherapy, and ascertaining the extent of disease in newly diagnosed breast cancer, including involvement of the other breast. Dr Freitas, who is also a staff radiologist in the Breast Imaging Division of the Toronto Joint Department of Medical Imaging, University Health Network, Sinai Health System, and Women's College Hospital, is currently researching PEM's ability to reduce the high rates of false positives typically associated with MRI scans. "Should PEM successfully lower these rates, it could significantly lessen the emotional distress and anxiety linked to false positives," Dr Freitas said. Additionally, it might lead to a decrease in unnecessary biopsies and treatments.

# Do you know genetic malfunction causes rare lung disease? Study finds

NEW YORK [US] : One of the most significant cells in the body is the macrophage. This immune cell, dubbed "big eater" in Greek, eats and breaks down dangerous substances like dust, debris, bacteria, and cancer cells. Macrophages play a particularly important role in the lungs, where they combat bacterial infections and remove excess surfactant, a lipid- and protein-rich covering that is essential for lung health but can accumulate sticky matter if left unchecked.

Researchers from Rockefeller University and other institutions have discovered a hereditary illness that causes defective cell function that was previously unknown.

By noticing an unexpected link between a particular subset of sick kids, the researchers were able to make their breakthrough. These nine youngsters had fought lifelong battles with life-threatening conditions such as progressive polycystic lung disease, pulmonary alveolar proteinosis (PAP), and recurring viral and bacterial infections that frequently left their lungs riddled with cysts and left them gasping for air. But as genomic data revealed, the children shared another characteristic: the absence of a chemical receptor that is supposed to call alveolar macrophages into action. It's the first time that this missing receptor, called CCR2, has been linked to disease. The researchers, including Rockefeller's Jean-Laurent Casanova and Institut Imagine's Anna-Lena Neehus, recently published their results in Cell.

The study also found that the children are missing half of their alveolar macrophages, which are located in the air sacs of the lungs.

"It was surprising to find that CCR2 is so essential for alveolar macrophages to properly function," said Casanova. "When it comes to lung defense and cleanup, people without it are operating at a double loss."

More formally known as C-C motif chemokine receptor 2, CCR2 sits on the sur-

face of alveolar macrophages, a kind of monocyte (or white blood cell). It responds to the presence of a chemical ligand, or binding molecule, known as CCL-2, which is also expressed by monocytes.

The receptor and ligand work together to summon macrophages to the site of an infection, and to maintain the appropriate level of surfactant; too little can lead to collapsed lung tissue, and too much can result in narrowed airways.

It was among these immune cells that first author Neehus, of Casanova's lab at the Institut Imagine in Paris, was seeking evidence of genetic deficiencies that might



alter their behavior. While combing through the genomic data on 15,000 patients in a database, she found two Algerian sisters, then aged 13 and 10, who'd been diagnosed with severe PAP, a syndrome in which surfactant builds up and the gas exchange that takes place in alveoli is hindered. About 90 per cent of PAP cases are caused by anti-

bodies that cripple a protein that stimulates the growth of infection-fighting white blood cells. The girls, however, didn't have the PAP autoantibodies. Instead, they had no CCR2--a newly identified genetic mutation. Perhaps its lack was connected to their pulmonary conditions, Neehus thought.

"It looked interesting and promising," she recalled. She soon found seven other children in the cohort who had the same CCR2 mutation and serious lung conditions: two more pairs of siblings, and one trio of siblings. They were from the United States and Iran. To explore the impact the variant might have on the children, the researchers

analyzed the children's clinical histories, lung tissue samples, and genetic data.

Several key findings emerged. "First we discovered that these patients have only half the normal counts of pulmonary alveolar macrophages, which explains the different types of lesions they have across the pulmonary tissues," says Casanova. With

only half a crew, the reduced cleanup unit couldn't keep up with its workload, leading to tissue injury.

The macrophages were otherwise normal, as were the children's other immune cells. Without CCR2 signaling, monocytes have no idea where they're needed. In the study, a live-imaging analysis of the monocytes from the lungs of a 10-year-old girl with CCR2 deficiency showed the cells milling about aimlessly, unsure where to go. (See gif at top.) In contrast, live imaging of monocytes from a healthy control patient shows them migrating in the same direction, summoned by the teamwork of CCR2 and CCL-2.

This directionlessness also makes those with a CCR2 deficiency more susceptible to mycobacterial infections, because the macrophages can't find their way to the tissue clusters where mycobacteria take up residence, and thus digest the invaders. This had dire effects for three of the children in the study, who developed bacterial infections after being vaccinated with a live-attenuated strain of Mycobacterium bovis, an agent of tuberculosis. Their immune systems failed to assemble a legion of macrophages at the vaccination site in the shoulder, causing tissue destruction or hard nodes that had to be surgically removed, or lymph node infections. (All of the children were effectively treated with antibiotics.)

The children inherited the deficiency from their parents--and yet their parents were healthy. "Each of the parents carries one disease copy of the gene, and both parents gave the affected copy to their children," said Neehus. "The parents aren't affected because they each only have one copy, whereas the kids have two."

Several children were the result of consanguineous marriages, in which the parents are related. The offspring of such pairings have a higher risk of inheriting the mutation that causes CCR2 to disappear.

# Study finds temperature can influence microbial competition in rivers

LOS ANGELES [US] : Wastewater-derived antimicrobial resistance genes (ARGs) can penetrate and initially join natural biofilms after being injected into a river, a study said. Although, they may not last long, researchers reported this week in mSphere.

However, as the river's temperature rises, the frequency of invasive ARGs reduces considerably, indicating that the preexisting microbial community is removing the resistant intruders. In barely two weeks, the concentration of ARGs in river water at 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) returned to its initial level.

The finding suggests that rivers may offer a kind of defence against the spread of ARGs in wastewater. It was also contrary to what the researchers expected.

Most ARGs in wastewater originate in human faeces and thrive at the temperature of the human body, which is higher than most waterways. The microbiologists anticipated that warm rivers would be a welcome environment. "We thought they should be rather well-adapted to higher temperatures," said microbiologist Uli Klumper, PhD, at Technische Universitat Dresden's Institute of Hydrobiology.

"So if river temperatures are rising with climate change, we wanted to know if these bacteria from wastewater would have an easier time integrating with the natural biofilms."

Klumper co-led the study with his PhD student Kenyum Bagra, who joined TU Dresden on a DAAD exchange fellowship from the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, who led the study. The work was funded through the ANTIVERSA project by BiodiversA, a European biodiversity organization.

Klumper, Bagra and their colleagues first immersed 27 glass slides in the Lockwitzbach River,



in eastern Germany, for a month. "It's relatively pristine," Klumper said.

They collected the slides, which had amassed a natural biofilm from the river, and immersed them in artificial river systems at 1 of 3 temperatures. After a week, they observed that the abundance of naturally occurring ARGs increased in the warmest water, at 30 degrees Celsius.

Then, they exposed all the test slides to wastewater for 1 day and monitored the abundance of ARGs, both those that occurred naturally and those from wastewater, over the next 2 weeks. The ARGs from the wastewater readily invaded the biofilm in all 3 cases, with no difference in abundance by temperature.

"The introduction seems to be temperature independent," Klumper said.

But that's where the similarities ended. In the warmest water, the abundance of the invasive ARGs dropped significantly over 2 weeks. By the end of the experiment, the overall level of ARGs had returned to its initial, natural abundance, and the invasive ARGs had all but vanished.

# Study finds how new type of cell therapy help ARDS patients

LOS ANGELES [US] : A novel form of cell therapy may help patients who are critically ill with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) brought on by severe COVID-19, according to a study. Professor Justin Stebbing of Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) is a co-senior author of a recent study that examines the application of agentT-797, an allogeneic, unmodified invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell treatment developed by MiNK Therapeutics. The work was published in the journal Nature Communications. The iNKT cell therapy has the effect of rescuing depleted T cells and inducing an anti-inflammatory cytokine response, perhaps activating antiviral immunity to assist these patients fight infection while also reducing severe, pathogenic inflammation of the lung. The new research was carried out at three medical centres and found that agentT-797, which is also under investigation in cancer trials, could be manufactured rapidly, had a tolerable safety profile and appeared to have a positive effect on mortality among critically unwell COVID-19 ARDS patients receiving intensive care. The exploratory trial included 20 mechanically ventilated patients with severe ARDS secondary to Covid-19. Of the 20 patients in the trial, 14 survived (70 per cent) at 30 days (compared to a control group of 10 per cent), and there was an 80 per cent lower occurrence of bacterial pneumonia amongst those who received the highest dosage of agentT-797, compared to those who received fewer cells. Twenty-one patients were treated overall (the main trial, plus one under compassionate use), which included five who were also receiving veno-venous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VV-ECMO), known as 'the most aggressive salvage therapy' for critically ill patients with ARDS. In

VV-ECMO, deoxygenated blood is pumped through a membrane lung and returned to the body via a cannula. This trial is believed to be the first immune cell therapy of any type to be used in critically unwell patients undergoing VV-ECMO. Survival of the VV-ECMO cohort was 80 per cent after 30 and 90 days, and 60 per cent after 120 days. This compares favourably to the overall survival of 51 per cent for patients with Covid-19 who were treated with just VV-ECMO at the same institution, during the same time-frame. Joint senior author Justin Stebbing, Professor of Biomedical Sciences at Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) in Cambridge, England, said, "During this small, exploratory study we observed that MiNK's iNKT cell treatment, which is also being advanced for people with cancer, triggered an anti-inflammatory response in ARDS patients."

"Despite a poor prognosis, critically ill patients treated with this therapy showed favourable mortality rates and those treated at the highest dose also had reduced rates of pneumonia, underscoring the potential application of iNKT cells, and agentT-797 in particular, in treating viral diseases and infections more broadly."

"AgentT-797 was manufactured rapidly and as opposed to using patients' cells, it is 'off-the-shelf' and made from healthy donors' cells. The potential of this therapy to be used across a number of severe infections warrants randomised controlled trials."

Dr Marc van Dijk, Chief Scientific Officer at MiNK and co-author of the study said, "These published findings reinforce the unique power and potential of iNKT cells to mitigate severe acute respiratory distress. "The data demonstrate agentT-797's encouraging survival benefit, ability to help clear secondary infections, and tolerable administration in ventilated patients and those on VV-ECMO support."





Myanmar arrests  
273 illegal foreign  
entrants in telecom  
fraud crackdown

MI News Service, YAN-GON: Myanmar authorities on Monday arrested 273 foreign nationals who had illegally entered the country in Myawaddy township of Kayin state, the Information Team of Myanmar's State Administration Council said. The team said they were arrested in the areas of Shwe Kokko and KK Park.

A total of 1,303 foreign nationals were arrested for illegally entering Myanmar from Jan. 30 to Monday, the team said. These are part of the government's efforts to crack down on illegal online gambling, telecom fraud, and crimes in border areas, it added. This photo taken on Feb. 17, 2025 shows law enforcers processing arrested illegal foreign entrants in Myawaddy township of Kayin State, Myanmar. Myanmar authorities on Monday arrested 273 foreign nationals who had illegally entered the country in Myawaddy township of Kayin state, the Information Team of Myanmar's State Administration Council said. A total of 1,303 foreign nationals were arrested for illegally entering Myanmar from Jan. 30 to Monday, the team said.

Bangladesh plans military training for youths

MI News Service, Dhaka: The Bangladeshi interim government is planning the possibility of introducing military training for the youth. Abdul Hafiz, special assistant to the Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, made the announcement, saying the issue was discussed at the final session of a three-day conference of senior government officials in Dhaka Tuesday. "A proposal has been made to provide universal military training for the youth on behalf of the deputy commissioners during the conference," he said.

He also expressed the opinion that the country's young generation can contribute to national defense when necessary if they receive military training.

Netanyahu rules out  
Palestinian Authority's  
rule in post-war Gaza



MI News Service, Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed the possibility of the Palestinian Authority (PA) governing post-war Gaza. In a response to media reports that Hamas had expressed willingness to relinquish control of the enclave to the PA, Netanyahu said in a statement: "As I promised -- the day after the war in Gaza, there will be no Hamas and no Palestinian Authority." He reiterated his support for former U.S. President Donald Trump's plan for Gaza, which includes the transfer of the enclave's Palestinian population to neighboring countries. Arab leaders have rejected the proposal. "I am committed to President Trump's plan for creating a different Gaza," Netanyahu said. Israel objects to Palestinian sovereignty in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, and East Jerusalem, territories it seized in the 1967 Middle East war.



From left, Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Indian President Droupadi Murmu and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi pose for a photograph during the ceremonial reception of Emir at the Indian presidential palace in New Delhi.

Seamless arrangements ensured for Kumbh Mela  
Special Train Passengers at Asansol Station

MI News Service, Asansol: Kumbh Mela, one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, attracts millions of pilgrims from across the country. To facilitate the smooth movement of devotees traveling to the sacred event, Asansol Division of Eastern Railway implemented well-planned arrangements at Asansol Station, ensuring a hassle-free and organized journey for passengers boarding Kumbh Mela Special Trains. Vehicle entry was restricted, and designated holding areas were developed to streamline passenger flow. Temporary sheds were constructed to provide relief from the sun. Passengers were systematically segregated as per their respective trains, and CCTV surveillance was utilized for effective crowd monitoring. Queues were managed efficiently by RPF personnel, ensuring an orderly boarding process. Passengers were guided from the hold-



ing areas, entering the station one by one under strict supervision. Adequate drinking water facilities were made available, and a 'May I Help You' booth was set up to assist passengers. RPF personnel and railway staff provided necessary assistance to ensure a hassle-free and safe boarding experience for passengers of the 03505 Maha

Kumbh Mela Special Train from Asansol to Tundia. Additionally, other special trains, including those passing through Asansol also witnessed well-coordinated crowd management. The coordinated efforts of staff & officers of Asansol Division/Eastern Railway ensured that all arrangements functioned smoothly.

Kamruzzaman felicitates  
Parveena, who topped the  
All India examination



Nurul Islam Khan

All Bengal Minority Youth Federation felicitated Parveena, who topped the All-India ITI examination. On Tuesday, a delegation led by Muhammad Kamruzzaman, state secretary of the All Bengal Minority Youth Federation and member of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, felicitated her. Parveena, daughter of Taldi of remote Canning, is happy to receive this felicitation. In this regard, Muhammad Kamruzzaman, state secretary of the All Bengal Minority Youth Federation, said that it is a matter of great pride for us because the girls of our house are also now moving forward in the education movement at the same pace. In fact, if there is talent, it will definitely blossom. He commented that the boys and girls of the village should advance in education through talent. Nasiruddin Gharami, Hafizul Islam Laskar and others were in the delegation.

Japan to allow Taiwan as place  
of origin in family registry

MI News Service, Tokyo: Japan will allow people from Taiwan to list the island as their place of origin in the country's family registry instead of China, a justice ministry official said on Tuesday (Feb 18). When a Japanese citizen marries someone from overseas, the spouse's nationality and name are recorded in the registry system that local governments must maintain by law. Currently people from Taiwan -- regarded as a region, not a country under a policy in place since 1972 when Tokyo normalised ties with Beijing -- are described as from China. But "from May, after revisions to ministry rules, a name of a region can be written

in the nationality field", a justice ministry official told AFP. The change follows requests from Taiwanese spouses who want to express their regional identity, he added. Taiwan's government welcomed the decision, foreign ministry spokesman Hsiao Kuang-wei told reporters on Tuesday. The move will "demonstrate respect for the identity of Taiwanese residents in Japan" and "will also provide greater clarity in identification", he said. Japan's residence certificates for mid-to-long-term foreign residents already allow Taiwanese to describe themselves as being from Taiwan, the Japanese official noted.

Holy Urs of Moula  
Pak at Medinipur

MI News Service, Medinipur: The 124th annual Urs Anniversery of the Sufi saint Hazrat Saiyed Shah Murshed Ali Al Quaderi Al Baghdadi, also known as 'Moula Pak', was celebrated with great pomp on Monday (4th Falgun, 1431, as per the Bengali Calendar) in Medinipur city. On this occasion, devotees and pilgrims flocked to his mausoleum at the Jora Mosque, at Dayera Pak,

Al-Quaderi is known as 'Qutub-e-Bari Pak'. He moved to Roushanganj in the Purnia district of Bihar. Their great-grandson, 'Moula Pak' was born on 16 July 1852. Under his father's tutelage, he acquired a remarkable knowledge of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and other languages and Quran-Hadith and religious scriptures at an early age. It is of little surprise that he was con-



and also at Istriganj Pak, located on the banks of the Kansabati River. 'Moula Pak' is the 32nd direct descendant of Prophet of Islam Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) as well as the 19th descendant of 'Boro Peer Saheb Hazrat Abdul Quadir Jilani (AS), founder of Sufi Qaduria Tariqa. About 250 years ago, Hazrat Saiyed Shah Abdullah Al-Jili Al-Baghdadi arrived in India from Baghdad to spread the true spirit and teachings of Islam among the people. He was the 15th descendant of Hazrat Saiyed Shah Abdul Qader Jilani and the 28th descendant of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). After staying there for a few days, he returned to his hometown leaving behind his two sons to carry forward his work. His eldest son Hazrat Saiyed Shah Zaker Ali Al-Quaderi is known as 'Ghouse Sani Pak'. He stayed at Manigalkote. His Urs is celebrated there every year on the 5th of Zilhaj. His younger son, Hazrat Saiyed Shah Roushan Ali

sidered the best scholar of the age and Islamic scholars across the state acknowledged his excellence and people from far and wide flocked to see him. His notable writings include the Persian and Urdu book 'Dewan Pak' which is a treasure trove of Sufi mysticism and spiritual theory. He also wrote a biography of his father, 'Ala Huzoor Pak', in Persian named 'Togra-e-Mahamed'. In every age, an heir of the Prophet holds the highest status in the Sufi world. As the custodian and guardian of the Tariqa, he carries out all necessary duties and responsibilities and is called 'Sajjadanshin' or hereditary administrator. On August 16, 2021, following the passing away of 'Boro Huzur Pak', Great Grandson of 'Moula Pak', Hazrat Saiyed Shah Yasooab Ali Al-Quaderi Al-Baghdadi succeeded him and is the current Sajjadanshin cum Mutawalli of Jora Masjid and Mazar Sharif at Medinipur. This Urs is organized under his supervision.

Europe should continue supporting  
Ukraine, reject peace of dictate: Scholz

MI News Service, Paris: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has said on that Europe should continue to support Ukraine, emphasizing that no peace of dictate can be imposed on the country. "Ukraine should have confidence in us. It is clear that we should continue to support Ukraine," Scholz said after attending an emergency meeting convened by French President Emmanuel Macron on the eve of the Russian-U.S. talks set to take place Tuesday in Riyadh. "No peace of dictate can be imposed on Ukraine... Ukraine cannot

accept everything that is presented to it under any conditions," he added. The German chancellor urged Europe and the United States to act together for collective security. "There must be no division of security and responsibility between Europe and the United States," he said. "NATO is based on the fact that we always act together and share the risks... This must not be called into question." Regarding reports on the possibility of European countries sending ground troops to Ukraine as part of a

"peacekeeping" mission, Scholz dismissed these discussions as "totally premature." However, he stated that European nations are prepared to "spend at least two percent" of their gross domestic product on strengthening Europe's defense. "If European states spend more, Germany supports ensuring that this expenditure is not factored into European budget deficits calculations," he added. Monday's gathering brought together leaders of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Commission.

Sudanese army  
reports advance-  
ments in fight  
against paramilitary  
forces



MI News Service, Khartoum: The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) on Monday announced that its forces had made advancements in their fight against the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on different fronts. In the fight in Bahri city, north of the capital Khartoum, the SAF has taken full control of the Kafouri area, the last stronghold of the RSF in the city. "The SAF special forces at Al-Markhiat Military Base are advancing steadily ... in the Kafouri neighborhood after successful, intense operations, cleaning the area of the militia forces," the SAF said in a statement on its Facebook page. The capture of the Kafouri area marks a significant milestone in the army's military campaign across the major cities of Khartoum, Omdurman, and Bahri. Previously, Kafouri served as a key stronghold for the RSF and a platform for launching artillery attacks on army-held areas in Omdurman. In another development, the SAF announced that it had controlled Al-Rahad city in North Kordofan State following fierce battles with the RSF that lasted for days.

"The armed forces continue their victories, advancing along Al-Rahad axis in North Kordofan and decisively crushing the militia," the SAF said in another statement on its Facebook page on Monday.

Ground units of the Sudanese army have been engaged in intense fighting in North Kordofan State in central Sudan. Al-Rahad is the second city in the state to be recaptured by the army, following the recovery of Um Ruwaba, the state's second-largest city, on Jan. 30. Al-Rahad is located approximately 30 km west of El Obeid, the capital of North Kordofan State, and holds significant strategic importance due to its position at the crossroads of major roads. It is also a vital station on Sudan's railway line, linking the west of the country to the eastern and central regions. Since January, the RSF has been withdrawing from several areas in central Sudan, losing control of strategic territories in Gezira and Sinnar states. Additionally, the RSF has lost key areas in Khartoum, including the Khartoum Oil Refinery in the Al-Jaili area, north of Bahri.

Sudan has been gripped by a devastating conflict between the SAF and the RSF since mid-April 2023, which claimed more than 29,680 lives, according to the latest estimates by international organizations.

**Ujjivan Small Finance Bank**  
Registered Office: Grape Garden, No.27, 3rd "A" Cross, 18th Main, 6th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560095, Karnataka.  
Branch Office: 4th Floor, Rishi Tech Park, Premises No. 020360, Plot No. DH/6/2, Action Area 1D, New Town-700160, Kolkata.

POSSESSION NOTICE					
WHEREAS, the Authorised Officer of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued demand notices to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrower(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.					
Sl. No	Loan No	Name of Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagees	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) As on	Date & Type of Possession	
1	33842100 80000011	1) Bishnu Pada Samanta 2) Sudipta Samanta	23.10.2024 / Rs. 6,54,930.92 As on 23.10.2024	13.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring 64 Decimals (Equitable mortgage created on 10 Decimals) situated Mouza Saharra, Police station- Egga, J.L.No.86, L.R. Khata No. 1386, R.S. and L.R. Dag No. 1902, under Saharra Gram Panchayat, Holding No. 441, District Purba Medinipore and all improvements thereon. Boundaries: North: Jagyeswar Samanta; South: Jagyeswar Samanta; East: Hemanta Mahapatra; West: Hemanta Sar, Owned by Mr. Bishnu Pada Samanta (No. 1 among you) vide Registered Gift Deed dated 13.11.2000 registered before the office of ADSR- Egga, Being No. 287 for the year 2001.					
2	33592100 40000034	1) SK Nijamuddin 2) Hiranman Seikh	23.10.2024 / Rs 7,70,507.03 as on 23.10.2024	14.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Bastu Land and building admeasuring 2.34 Decimal in R.S & L.R. Plot 189, L.R. Khata No. 1886 and 13 Decimal in R.S & L.R Plot No. 191, L.R. Khata No. 1888, situated at Mouza - Jotsadi comprised in J.L.No. 10, P.S.-Raina, District - Purba Bardhaman under Hjalina Gram Panchayat holding no. 1474 and all improvements thereon. Boundaries as per Deed: North: Property and House of Kamaluddin; South: Property of Omar Ali; East: Property in Plot No. 192 and 6' Wide Katcha Road; West: Property of Kamaluddin; Owned by Hiranman Sekh (No. 2 among you) vide Registered Gift Deed dated 22.02.2018 before the office of DSR-1, Burdwan being No. 731 for the year 2018.					
3	33592101 70000065	1) Debbas Pramanik 2) Mousumi Pramanik Patel	23.10.2024 Rs. 17,17,533.10 as on 23.10.2024	15.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Bastu land and building admeasuring 3 Decimals, situated within Taldangra Gram Panchayat, Mouza - Chenchura, J.L.No. 70, L.R Khata No. 1740, L.R Plot No. 2099, P.S - Taldangra, District - Bankura, Pin- 722152 and all improvements thereon. Boundaries as per deed: North: house of Tarun Kumar, South: Land of Kalipada Majhi, East: House of Halodhar, West: 8th Road and land of Swapna Majhi Owned by Mousumi Pramanik (No.2 among you) vide registered Sale Deed dated 18.05.2022 before the office of DSR Bankura, being No. 2656 for the year 2022.					
4	33602101 70000044	1) SK. Azizul Ali 2) Tanuja Begum	23.10.2024 Rs. 11,70,893.86/ as on 23.10.2024	15.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Bastu land admeasuring 2 Decimal, situated within Arambagh Municipal Corporation, Mouza - Chandur, J.L.No. 8, R.S. Plot No. 2770/3325, L.R Plot No. 3104, P.S - Arambagh, District - Hugli and all improvements thereon. Owned by Tanuja Begum (No.2 among you) vide Gift Deed, registered on 15.06.2018 before ADSR Arambagh, being No. 2991 for the Year 2018. All that piece and parcel of Bastu land admeasuring (7.92) Decimal situated within Arambagh Municipal Corporation, Mouza - Chandur, J.L.No. 8, R.S. Plot No. 2770/3325, L.R Plot No.3104, P.S - Arambagh, District - Hugli and all improvements thereon. Boundaries as per Deed: North: House of Tanuja Begum; South: House of Sk. Fatik; East: House of Sk. Fatik; West: Mettalic Road of Arambagh Municipality; Owned by Sk. Ajijul Ali (No.1 among you) vide Gift Deed, registered on 14.01.2022 before ADSR Arambagh, being No. 0273 for the year 2022.					
5	33132301 10000001	1) Prawn Fish Traders 2) Firoj Rahaman Molla 3) Firoza Bibi	27.11.2024 / Rs. 55,55,684.52 as on 27.11.2024	15.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land and with all improvements thereon admeasuring 11 decimals in total (of which 7 Decimals under LR Dag 120 and 4 Decimals under LR Dag 121) together with single stories residential building measuring about 1948.50 sq. ft. lying and situate at Mouza-Piara, Police Station - Haroa, J.L.no. 67, Touzi no. 23, Khata no. 531, L.R. Khata no. 709, R.S. Dag no. 82/385 and 82/381, L.R. Dag no. 120 and 121, Dist. 24 Parganas. Boundaries as per Deed: In respect of Dag no. 120: North: Other Co-owners; South: Pucca road under Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana; East: Vendors own land; West: Vendors own land. In respect of Dag no. 121: North: other Co-owners; South: Unuch Molla; East: Vendors Land; West: Pucca road under Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana. Owned by Firoj Rahaman Molla a.k.a Firoz Rahaman Molla (No.2 among you) vide registered Deed of Sale dated 16.09.2020 before ADSR Deganga being Deed No. 151004721 for the year 2020.					
6	33602101 70000014	1) Rajkumar De 2) Mina Dey	16.11.2024 / Rs. 54,256.40 as on 16.11.2024	15.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of Bastu Land admeasuring 4 Decimal lying and situated at Mouza - Nobson, comprised in J.L.No.47, L.R. Khata No.1002, R.S Plot No. 979, L.R. Plot 1034, at P.S. - Khanakul, District - Hooghly, under Khanakul II, Gram Panchayat, and all improvements thereon. Boundaries as per Deed: North: House of Arun Seth in R.S. Plot No. 979; South: 6' wide Panchayat Dhali Road; East: House of Ganesh De in R.S. Plot 979; West: House of Aish De in Plot No. 982; Owned by Mina Dey (No.2 among you) vide Registered Gift Deed dated 19.02.2020 before the office of ADSR-Khanakul, Hooghly, being No.1117 for the year 2020.					
7	36192100 80000007	1) Sushanta Ghosh 2) Reba Ghosh 3) Ambika Ghosh	23.10.2024 Rs. 6,15,193.91 as on 23.10.2024	17.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of land situated at - District: Burdwan, P.S: Purbasthali, Mouza: Konrapur, Khata No. LR 41, Plot No. LR-360, Area of land: 6 decimals with structure under jurisdiction of Dogachhia Gram Panchayat, West Bengal and all improvements thereon. Boundaries: North: Property of Nitai Pandit; South: Rest Property of Dhananjay Ghosh; East: Property of Purna Chandra Ghosh; West: Rest Property of Prasanjay Ghosh; Owned by Mr. Sushanta Ghosh (No. 1 among you) by virtue of Gift Deed registered in Book -1, Volume No. 0211-2018, Page from 6319 to 6335 being Deed No. 6768 dated 29.12.2017 before Office of A.D.S.R. -Purbasthali, District: Burdwan, West Bengal.					
8	33862101 70000012	1) Abdulla SK 2) Tahmina Begam	16.09.2024 / Rs.11,16,09.15 as on 30.09.2024	17.02.2025	/ Symbolic Possession
Description of the Immovable Property: All that piece and parcel of residential land admeasuring 4.75 Decimals, situated at Mouza- Muktarpur, J.L. No.- 19, Plot No. R.S. 4136 corresponding LR. Plot No. 4146, Khata No. L.R. 4500, ADSR- Berhampur, P.S. -Berhampur under- Radharghat 2 Gram Panchayat, District- Murshidabad, West Bengal and all improvements thereon. Boundaries (as per Deed): North: By P/o. Jiten Mondal; South: P/o. Sherral Sekh; East: 10 ft Road; West: By P/o Adhir Mondal; Owned by Abdulla SK (Nos. 1 among you) vide Registered Sale Deed dated 16.11.2021 Registered before the office of ADSR- Berhampur being No. 18777 for the year 2021.					
Whereas the Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has taken possession of the properties/secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's and Co-Borrower's/ Mortgagee's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower's/Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagees mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.					
Place : West Bengal Date : 13.02.2025, 14.02.2025, 15.02.2025 & 17.02.2025				Sd/- Authorised Officer, Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	





Former Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar plays a shot during a practice session ahead of the International Masters League T20 2025, in Mumbai on Tuesday. (ANI Photo)

## SESA Football Academy, Football 4 Change Academy secure spots in Dream Sports Championship National Finals



**GUWAHATI (ASSAM) :** The final lineup for the Dream Sports Championship U-17 tournament National Finals is taking shape as both SESA Football Academy and Football 4 Change Academy secured their spots through impressive victories in their respective regional finals.

In Guwahati, Football 4 Change Academy demonstrated their prowess with a commanding 4-0 victory over BBFS Shillong in the regional final.

The match saw Kishor Tiwari open the scoring in the 8th minute, followed by Mangminlun Touthang's brace (28' and second half) and another goal from Tiwari through a penalty kick in the 40th minute.

The event was attended by Nandita Garlosa, Minister of

Sports and Youth Welfare of Assam, who emphasized the importance of sports development. "Sports is something that we should always encourage to play. The teams from Manipur and Meghalaya reached the regional final in Guwahati, and congratulations to Football 4 Change for making it to the National Finals. A big thank you to the Dream Sports Foundation for their good work in trying to keep up the pace with the government as they try to help with development at the grassroots level. Due to this U-17 tournament, I hope to see participation from more players from the NorthEast," as quoted from a release by Dream Sports Championship.

Meanwhile, in Goa, SESA Football Academy secured their

spot in the National Finals after a thrilling penalty shoot-out victory over Dempo SC. The match, played at the Fields of Dreams, ended in a 2-2 draw before SESA emerged victorious with a 4-2 win on penalties.

SESA took an early lead through Aniket Terane in the 14th minute and extended their advantage when Pramod Gawas scored in the 63rd minute. However, Dempo SC mounted a remarkable comeback with Jonathan Silva reducing the deficit in the 73rd minute, followed by Jodric Branches' equalizer in stoppage time.

In the ensuing penalty shoot-out, SESA goalkeeper Sakib Lamture emerged as the hero, with his team successfully converting four penalties through Aniket, Pramod, Leo Soram, and Lamture himself. For Dempo, only Jodric and Pradip Kullu managed to score, while Favio Martins missed his attempt and Juvenio Simoes' spot-kick was saved.

Following their brilliant show, Football 4 Change Academy will now join SESA Football Academy (Goa), Dempo SC (Goa), Punjab FC (Delhi), Chennaiyin FC (Bengaluru), Reliance Foundation Young Champs (Mumbai), Mohun Bagan Super Giant (Kolkata), in the final line-up for the National Finals in Goa in April 2025.

## ICC Champions Trophy: BCCI's U-turn? Players can bring their families, but 'conditions apply'

**W**eeks after the BCCI brought in a 10-point diktat to promote "discipline and unity" in the team post India's disappointing performances against New Zealand and Australia, it is learnt that the Board has allowed the cricketers to bring over their families to Dubai for the upcoming ICC Champions Trophy 2025.

As per the policy, which was introduced last month, only a two-week window was allowed for families to stay with the players during overseas tours that exceed 45 days.

However, it has now come to light that the BCCI has allowed the families of the players to be present for any one game of the tour-



nament. It has been left to the players to decide which game they choose, said a report in Dainik Jagran. Prior permission must be sought from the Board accordingly. India are in Group A with Pakistan, Bangladesh and New Zealand. They will take on Bangladesh on February 20 in the opener, followed by the high-

stakes clash against the hosts on February 23, and round up the group stage with the match against the Kiwis on March 2. All the matches will be played at the Dubai International Stadium, along with the semifinal and the final if they qualify for it.

Along with the restriction on families, curbs were put on personal staff and commercial endorsements during series, and players were asked to travel with the team to and from matches and practice sessions. Making participation in domestic matches mandatory and charging the players for excess baggage were some of the other measures put in place to crack down on the star culture in the team.

## Kyle Jamieson approved as replacement for Lockie Ferguson in New Zealand squad

**DUBAI [UAE] :** The Event Technical Committee of the ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 has approved Kyle Jamieson as a replacement for Lockie Ferguson in the New Zealand squad, according to International Cricket Council (ICC).

Thirty-year-old Jamieson, who has played 13 ODIs, was named as a replacement after Ferguson was ruled out due to an injury to his right foot, the ICC said.

The replacement of a player requires the approval of the Event Technical Committee before the player can be officially added to the squad.



The Event Technical Committee of the ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 consists of Wasim Khan (ICC General Manager - Cricket), Sarah Edgar (ICC Senior Manager - Events), Usman Wahla (PCB Director - International Cricket Operations), Shaun Pollock (Independent Representative).

New Zealand will kickstart their campaign against Pakistan in Karachi on February 19. It will be followed by matches against Bangladesh (February 24 at Rawalpindi) and against India (March 2 at Dubai). This time around, Kiwis are heading into the tournament with a healthy mix of youth and experience, under the leadership of new white-ball skipper, Mitchell Santner.

Heading into the tournament, Kiwis have participated in four bilateral/tri-nation events, winning three of them. A 2-0 loss to Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka is the only blot on their resume. Otherwise, Kiwis have played some impressive cricket to place themselves in good stead ahead of the tournament. In a total of 11 ODIs since the end of the 2023 World Cup, NZ has won seven and lost four.

Kiwis have plenty of winning momentum heading into the tournament, having won seven of their 11 ODIs and having lost only four. They also secured a competitive tri-nation series in host nation Pakistan just days back, which will keep them motivated and confident about their brand of cricket.

Just days before the tournament, New Zealand have gained plenty of experience of playing in Pakistan, having played three ODIs in the tri-series and winning them all. This has given them a head start over other teams in their group, Pakistan (tri-series finalists), India and Bangladesh.

The ex-New Zealand captain is in form of his life as far as ODIs are concerned. Since the 2019 World Cup, Kane Williamson has missed plenty of ODIs but has made his presence count. In 19 ODIs after the 2019 WC, Williamson has scored 903 runs in 18 matches at an average of 64.50, with a strike rate of 80.26, a century and seven fifties in 18 innings. His best score is 133\*.

Kiwis are extremely lucky to have plenty of young talent which can change the game within no time. Be it the left-handed batting prodigy Rachin Ravindra, who has enjoyed a fine run in ODIs following the 2023 World Cup, the 'complete package' Glenn Phillips who can bat, bowl useful spin, keep wickets and turn around matches with his Superman-like catches and run-outs or the young 23-year-old pacer Will O'Rourke, Kiwis have youngsters who can become household names in years to come and drastically affect outcomes in the Champions Trophy.

For Kiwis, this will be the first ICC tournament in a long while without their veteran pacers Trent Boult and Tim Southee. While the former has chosen the T20 league money and family time after years of excellent service, Southee has retired from international cricket. In their absence, the pace attack will be spearheaded by Matt Henry (155 wickets in 87 ODIs), but he will miss having experienced campaigners on his side as O'Rourke (14 wickets in nine ODIs), Jacob Duffy (19 wickets in 11 ODIs), Nathan Smith (six wickets in six ODIs) have very little experience.

Also, pacer Ben Sears is out of the competition due to a hamstring tear. Their absence has weakened the Kiwi pace attack. Lockie's experience and ability to deliver express pace will be missed as he is ruled out.

New Zealand squad: Mitchell Santner (c), Michael Bracewell, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Kyle Jamieson, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Will O'Rourke, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Nathan Smith, Kane Williamson, Will Young, Jacob Duffy.

## ICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2025: WHY DID INDIA'S BOWLING COACH MORNE MORKEL RETURN HOME?

With only a couple of days to go for India's opening match of the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, against Bangladesh, the team was dealt a blow as bowling coach Morne Morkel had to leave the Indian camp in Dubai and return home.

The former South African pacer has returned home because of the death of his father, reported Dainik Jagran. Morkel, who was appointed in September last year, was in Dubai along with the Indian team in Dubai and had attended the team's first training session on Sunday, where he had spent a considerable time with pace spearhead Mohammed Shami, who recently made a comeback from injury in the white-ball series against England.

Morkel was absent from the training session on Monday, and it is yet unclear when he will be rejoining the squad.

India are without the services of their ace bowler Jasprit Bumrah, who is recovering from a back injury. Shami will be leading a young pace attack comprising Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana.

After their match against Bangladesh at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, India will play arch-rivals Pakistan on February 23, and New Zealand on March 2. India are playing all their matches in Dubai, and not in the host country Pakistan, because of safety concerns.

India squad for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025: Rohit Sharma (c), Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul, Rishabh Pant, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Harshit Rana, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, Ravindra Jadeja, Varun Chakravarthi.



## Babar Azam receives ICC 'Team of the Year' 2024 cap ahead of Champions Trophy opener

**NEW DELHI [INDIA] :** Ahead of the Champions Trophy, Pakistan's premier batter Babar Azam received his International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's T20I Team of the Year for 2024 cap.

Last month, the 31-year-old prolific batter was named in the star-studded ICC T20I Team of the Year 2024 for his blistering run in the format.

On the eve of the Champions Trophy opener between Pakistan and New Zealand, ICC shared a video on Instagram of the former skipper receiving the cap.

"The ICC T20I Team of the Year 2024 cap fits perfectly on Babar Azam," the ICC captioned the post.

In 2024, Babar continued to shine as Pakistan's batting anchor, amassing 738 runs in 24

matches, including six half-centuries. After recognised and praised for his consistency and sublime stroke play, Babar played a starring role for the Men in Green last year.

He began 2024 with three consecutive fifties against New Zealand and continued to be the backbone of Pakistan's top-order. His ability to deliver under pressure reaffirmed his place among the world's finest cricketers in 2024.

After establishing his dominance in T20Is last year, Babar will look to weave his magic in the ODIs in the Champions Trophy, which begins on Wednesday in Karachi.

During the build-up to the marquee event, Pakistan tried to find its rhythm in the ODI tri-

nation series against New Zealand and South Africa. On the home turf, the Blackcaps left the defending champions exposed twice.

Pakistan lost the opener and then lost the final against the Kiwis. Along with Pakistan, Babar fell flat in his attempt to find consistency. In three matches, he mustered up a mere 62 runs at an underwhelming average of 20.67. The Men in Green would hope that their star batter returns to form in their title defence.

Pakistan: Mohammad Rizwan (c), Babar Azam, Fakhar Zaman, Kamran Ghulam, Saud Shakeel, Tayyab Tahir, Faheem Ashraf, Khushdil Shah, Salman Ali Agha, Usman Khan, Abrar Ahmed, Haris Rauf, Mohammad Hasnain, Naseem Shah, Shaheen Shah Afridi.

# GOKULAM KERALA FC SEND DELHI FC FURTHER DEEP INTO THE WOODS

**KOZHIKODE (KERALA) :** Gokulam Kerala FC registered a brilliant 6-3 win over Delhi FC in the I-League 2024-25 encounter at the EMS Corporation Stadium, as per the AIFF Media Team. Gokulam's half a dozen came in a game where they went down to an early goal. The win took them into the top half of the table with 22 points from 15 matches, while deepening Delhi's woes. The visitors are rooted to the foot of the table with just two points in their last nine games and overall 10 points after Round 15.

In a blistering start, Delhi shocked the hosts by taking an early lead, when Gwagsar Gayary gave them the lead in the third minute of the game. The young forward had been played into the box by a brilliant reverse pass from Samir Binong, and Gayary showed remarkable composure to finish smartly with a low shot into the far corner.

The lead didn't last long, as Gokulam equalised ten minutes later. A cut back by V Suhar fell to Martin Chaves inside the box. The

Uruguayan was brought down inside the six yard box, and as the Delhi players looked around, he got back and slammed a low shot from an acute angle into the goal. The visitors had paid the price for not playing to the whistle.

Eight minutes later Gokulam took the lead, Adam Niane brilliantly heading in Ignacio Abeledo's cross at the near post. Niane could well have had himself a hat-trick in the first half itself, missing two chances right at the end of the period, when it was perhaps easier to score than most.

The Malian forward made up for those misses with a second in the 54th minute, that effectively killed the game, capitalising on a defensive mix up after Chaves' cross had caused chaos to slam the ball home from five yards.

The pick of the goals arrived three minutes later, when Gokulam were already playing the tunes of a victory procession. Having picked up Niane's pass inside the box, Abeledo cut past Lalmuansanga, shifted the ball on to his left foot



and unleashed a brilliant curler into the far corner. Three Delhi defenders had hit the line hoping to make a save. None had a chance.

Hridaya Jain reduced the deficit in the 64th minute, brilliantly turning in a cross from the left on the volley. It didn't matter though as Delhi's defence continued to capitulate. In the 75th minute, Abeledo snuck in behind to volley a Chaves' cross from close angle to make it five for the home side.

Cameroonian Stephane Binong scored a third for Delhi in the 81st minute, bullying Gokulam's defenders inside the box before slamming home a loose aerial ball into the net. Buoyed by the goal, Delhi kept coming forward in numbers searching for an improbable end to the game and at least a point from it.

Gokulam took full advantage of it and Ranjeet Pandre won the ball deep in their half before finishing smartly from outside the box to make it half a dozen for the hosts in the 90+9th minute, and wrap up the points.