

Cal HC dismisses PIL on Christian minority status of several **WB** schools



Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has dismissed a PIL which questioned the Christian minority status of several schools in West Bengal, holding that those institutes do not need to take any certificate from the government to be recognised as so. A division bench presided by Chief Justice T S Sivagnanam said that there are several judgements by the Supreme Court in this regard which clearly state that once a minority organisation, one is always a minority institution.

Expressing doubts about the bonafide of the petitioner in filing the plea, the court said that it is evident that he is unaware of the settled legal principle laid down by the Supreme Court in various decisions.

Citing one such decision of the apex court, the bench, also compris-ing Justice Chaitali Chatterjee (Das) noted that a school which is otherwise a minority school will continue to be so whether the government declared it as such or

It also noted that when the government declares a school as a minority institution, it has only recognised a factual position that the school was established and is being administered by a minority community. The petition, filed in 2019, claimed that some particular schools in the state cannot be treated as Christian minority educational had not obtained any certificate to that effect from the West Bengal Minority Commission.

The petitioner submitted that to be declared so, a school needs to apply before the appropriate authority of the West Bengal government to be first certified to be a minority educational institution.

It was stated by the petitioner that without such a certificate, nobody can claim to be a minority school. The respondent schools' lawyer submitted that these were established in the 19th century and were enjoying Christian minority status. He stated that only after 2010 the West Bengal Minority Commission came into being and that it provides that if an institution wants a certificate it needs to apply before the panel.

He further submitted that the petitioner's case is that they do not enjoy the minority status since they had not obtained the certificate.

The chief justice said that there are several decisions which clarified that to declare a particular institution as a religious minority or a linguistic minority, one cannot insist upon the concerned agency to go to the government every vear to renew the status. He said that the minority status of an institution cannot be taken away by a rule or a commission.

The bench said that the minority commission will provide for a particular methodology and that if one wants a certificate, one can apply



Excited children explore through vibrant heaps of color powders at a roadside stall in Kolkata, eagerly preparing for the

Mamata Banerjee suspends newly formed core committee

MI News Service, Kolkata: Within hours after the newly formed core committee of the Trinamool Congress for the scrutiny of voters list at the district level in West Bengal held its first meeting on Thursday, Trinamool Congress supremo and Chief minister Mamata Banerjee sus-pended the committee and said decisions in this regard will be taken Many are seeing the incident as a

clear 'message' from the party's allpowerful leader Mamata Banerjee to a few 'senior' leaders. Besides, discussions have also started within the ruling party about the method by which the schedule of Abhishek Banerjee's virtual meeting on March 15 was announced in Thursday's meeting. On February 27, Mamata Banerjee had formed a committee at the party workers' meeting at the Netaji Indoor Stadium. Her instructions were that the members of the committee would meet in Trinamool Bhavan, the party headquarters, in turns every week. Eight days later, the first meeting of the committee was held on Thursday. It was announced there that a core committee had been formed to look after the scrutiny work of each district. According to Trinamool Congress sources, party supremo Mamata Baneriee was not aware of any such core committee. She came to know about the matter only in the evening. Accordingly, she decided that the remain postponed. Soon it was announced that the party leader would decide later whether the core committee would be formed or not.



Since state president Subrata Bakshi had announced the formation of the core committee at the Thursday's meeting, many senior Trinamool leaders thought that Mamata Banerjee must have given her approval to the list as Bakshi does not do anything without informing the Chief minister.

In fact, following this new devel-opment a section of senior leaders of the party were shocked no know that such a big organizational decision was taken without informing the allpowerful leader! There was, how-Trinamool Congress till late in the evening about why the formation of the core committee was postponed. However, a leader close to Bakshi

had said on condition of anonymity that since the Lok Sabha and the state Assembly session are scheduled from the second week of March, the Chief minister thought that if MPs and MLAs are kept in the core committee, they will not be able to devote time as are expected from them. There are many MPs and MLAs who need to focus on organizational work rather than the session, she said adding at the same time, some MPs presence are needed inside Parliament or the Assembly. The core committee will be reconstituted based on that indicator.'

However, this argument does not seem 'acceptable' to many as they thought that such a big decision can not be taken in that party without knowing the schedule of Parliament and the Assembly sessions.

It is worth memtioning that on Thursday, the evening edition of the Trinamool mouthpiece reported that the core committee has been formed. But on Friday's morning edition, it was written that the core committee has been suspended. Many consider this change of this decision within a few hours is 'significant' for the internal equation of the ruling party. The 'significance' is that party leader Mamata Banerjee has suspended the core committee formed by Bakshi, from which many are trying to conclude that she also wanted to send a message to the 'senior' leaders of the party. Incidentally, Abever, no official explanation from hishek Banerjee was not present at Thursday's meeting. Although the second name of the

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US Supreme Court rejects Mumbai attack accused Tahawwur Rana's application for stay of his extradition to India

MI News Service, Wasdhington (DC): In a major decision the US Supreme Court has rejected Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Rana's emergency application seeking a stay of his extradition to India. Rana, 64, is currently lodged in the Metropolitan Detention Center in Los Angeles. He had filed an "Emergency Application For Stay" with the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and Circuit Justice for the Ninth Cir-

"Application...denied by Justice Kagan," a note dated March 6, 2025 on the Supreme Court website says.

The application was submitted to Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Elena Kagan.Rana, the key conspirator of the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, had sought to get his extradition to India stopped arguing that he would be subjected to "torture"

According to the US Supreme Court website, Rana, 64, a Canadian citizen of Pakistani descent, is linked to David Coleman Headley, the Pakistani-American terrorist and one of the other main conspirators behind the Mumbai attacks.

In his "Emergency Application for Stay" to the Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court, Tahawwur Rana had requested that his extradition be delayed until all legal appeals are exhausted. He also asserted that his extradition violates all US laws and 'United Nations Convention Against Torture', arguing there are substantial grounds to believe that he would face torture if sent to India. He further claimed that, as a Muslim of Pakistani origin, his chances of being tortured are even higher. The application also highlighted Tahawwur Rana's serious medical conditions. claiming that his extradition to Indian detention would effectively be a "death sentence." According to medical records from July 2024, Rana suffers from several "life-threatening conditions", including multiple heart attacks, Parkinson's disease with cognitive decline, possible bladder cancer, stage 3 chronic kidney disease, and a history of asthma and Covid -19 in-

"Counsel further noted that petitioner is not likely to survive such treatment in light of his continually declining health, which includes multiple acute and life-threatening diagnoses, including a 3.5 cm abdominal aortic aneurysm at immediate risk of rupture under conditions of stress or physical exertion, two other bilateral iliac aneurysms further exacerbating risk of catastrophic internal hemorrhage, multiple documented heart attacks, Parkinson's disease with cognitive decline, a mass suggestive of bladder cancer, stage 3 chronic kidney disease, and a history of chronic asthma, COPD, and multiple Covid-19 infections," Rana's emergency application for stay uploaded on US Supreme Court website read.

Tahawwur Rana's legal team argued that, due to his health and the context of his charges in the Mumbai attacks, he is at a heightened risk of torture, which could lead to his death. They contended that the US government's failure to address these concerns undermines the fairness of his extradition process

Meanwhile, India is in touch with American authorities to work out modalities for immediate extradition of Tahawwur Rana following the US Supreme Court's rejection of his appeal, foreign secretary Vikram Misri said on Friday.

The US Supreme Court denied Rana's petition against his extradition on January 21, paving the way for him to be sent to India, where he is wanted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for his role in planning and executing the terror attacks in Mumbai by Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) that killed 166 people. Rana, had earlier also unsuccessfully appealed against his extradition in lower courts in the US. Following his appeal filed in the Supreme Court in November, the US Solicitor General had filed a response urging that it be rejected.

"I think from recent developments you would be aware that Mr Rana has exhausted all legal avenues in the US with the US Supreme Court also dismissing his appeal," Misri told a media briefing.

"Therefore, we are now in touch with US authorities to work on the logistics of his surrender to Indian authorities. We'll update you as soon as we hear further on this particular matter," he said in response to a ques-

Rana, a former doctor in the Pakistan Army, moved to Canada in 1997 and established an immigration consultancy. After becoming a Canadian citizen in 2001, he moved to Chicago to expand his immigration consultancy. He was detained in the US less than a year after the 2008 Mumbai attacks and subsequently given a 14year prison term for conspiracy to provide support to a terror plot in Denmark and giving material support

CM Omar Abdullah presents JK's first budget in six years

MI News Service, Jammu: Presenting the first budget of Jammu and Kashmir in six years Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday described it as a well calculated roadmap for an all round economic growth of this area and a true reflection of people's aspira-

Tabling the budget in the legislative assembly here, Abdullah, who holds finance portfolio, praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman for their support in various sectors.

"I am happy to present the budget for the first time as the finance minister of J-K. This is a roadmap for all round economic growth and a true reflection of people's aspirations," said the chief minister, who started his budget speech with a Persian couplet.

This is the first budget of the National Conference government after it came to power in October last year, ending six years of central rule.

The last budget session took place in 2018 under the then PDP-BJP government in the erstwhile state of J-K, which was split into two union territories after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019.

"Our challenges are vast and our limitations are many but we must collectively pledge to confront these challenges head on with unwavering resolve," Abdullah told the House.

He said he has endeavoured to prepare this maiden budget as a "true reflection of the dreams of our people, the needs of our future generations and the aspirations of every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir". The restoration of statehood to J-K is a deeply cherished aspiration of the people and "our government remains resolute in working towards its fulfilment", he said.



Before presenting the budget, Abdullah said in a post on X that he could have never imagined that he would be presenting the budget one day.

A little more than 7 years ago, tongue firmly in cheek, I was imitating the ritual of Finance Ministers holding up their briefcases as they enter Assemblies and Parliament to deliver the budget. Never in a million years did I ever imagine I'd be doing this for real," he said.He also shared a picture of himself carrying a briefcase as he walked with the late BJP leader Devender Singh

Rana.

Incidentally only last week Omar Abdullah asserted that there is no need to bring any other resolution on Article 370, as the resolution on special status passed by the J-K Assembly in its first sitting last year has not been rejected by the Central government which is a big thing, Speaking to newsthe Chief minister said in view of this all legislators need to work together to help the government to fulfill its poll priorities for public welfare. "What we have to do was done in the first (assembly) session (in November, 2024). The resolution is still holding after passed by the House. The PDP and others helped us in passing the resolution and it is still holding is a big thing," Abdullah told reporters while responding to a question that some members are planning to bring a fresh resolution to condemn abrogation of Ar-

Please note that the resolution on Article 370, which was passed by assembly was expected to get rejected by some, but in fact it still exists, he

Abdullah said, "We have done what we needed to do in the first session. All parties, including the PDP, supported the bill, which was passed by the House." He further added, "It is the same bill that everyone expected to be rejected, but it was passed by the House. Today, the resolution still exists, and that is a big thing."

Responding to a question on the speculation of a National Conference (NC)-BJP alliance, Omar said, 'There are no talks about any alliance with the BJP, nor is there any need or scope for it. Our thoughts do not align. Our stance on Jammu and Kashmir is entirely different, and we will hold discussions on all issues during the session." Meanwhile, the Omar

Abdullah-led government has decided to seek the Centre's support in tapping the full potential of Jammu and Kashmir's energy sec-

Informing this Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha im his address on the opening day of the Budget session said that Jammu and Kashmir was endowed with an abundance of water resources and that they were yet to be fully harnessed.

"My government is committed to harnessing the full potential of these water resources so that their economic dividend enhances people's lives and Jammu and Kashmir's financial position. My government will seek the supgovernment to make a significant leap in our energy sector," he said.

Over 1,000 illegal arms surrendered in Manipur

MI News Service, Imphal: More than 1,000 arms along with huge number of ammunition were surrendered by the people in strife-torn Manipur during the past two-weeks, responding to the government's directive to them for voluntarily surrendering looted and illegally held weapons in the state till Thursday.

Informing this a senior police officer said on Friday, a day after the deadline expired, that this figure is, however, provisional and the actual number of surrenarms ammunition is likely to go up many folds after taking into account the information from all districts including those surrounding the state capital Imphal. Incidentally this land locked North Eastern state is currently under President's Rule since the resignation of Chief minister N Brien Singh last month.

The officers are yet to segregate the looted arms and illegally purchased weapons, which include revolvers, handguns, machine guns, grenades, mortars, and INSAS and AK-56 rifles.

"A total of around 1,023 arms have been surrendered by members of the public in five valley districts, five hill districts and Jiribam during the surrender period," the officer said. The remaining five

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Indo-China relations made 'positive strides' at all levels after Modi-Xi meeting MI News Service, New

Delhi / Beijing : Ending over four-year-long military standoff in eastern Ladakh, India-China relations have recently made "positive strides" and achieved a series of encouraging outcomes at all levels, remarked Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Friday

Wang's remarks came during his annual press conference in the Chinese capital as he replied to a question on how Beijing views the course of bilateral relations with India after the two countries ended the prolonged stalemate in the ties following the summit level meeting of the top leaders of both the countries and specially after his meeting with Indian External Affairs minister S. Jaishankar.

"China-India relations have made positive strides over the past year after the successful meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping at Kazan in Russia, and after my meeting with Jaishankar," Wang said.

"China stands ready to work with India to sum up past experience and forge a fast forward and advance China-India relations on the track of sound and stable development,' he said

Both Xi and Modi provided strategic guidance for the improvement of ties at the Kazan meeting, Wang said on the sidelines of the annual session of China's parliament currently underway here.

After this, both sides earnestly followed through on the important common understanding of the lead-

ers, "strengthened exchanges and practical cooperation at all levels and achieved a series of positive outcomes", he said.

India and China completed the disengagement process late last year after firming up a pact for the withdrawal of troops from Depsang and Demchok, the last two friction points in eastern Ladakh, ending over four years of freeze in

After the finalisation of the pact, Modi and Xi held talks in Kazan on October 23. In the meeting, the two sides decided to revive the various dialogue mechanisms.

After that, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Wang held the 23rd Special Representatives (SR) dialogue in Beijing on December 18.

On January 26, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri travelled to the Chinese capital and held talks with his Chinese counterpart Sun Weidong under the framework of the 'Foreign Secretary-Vice Minister' mechanism.

In an apparent reference to India stressing the importance of peace at borders for the development of relations, Wang reiterated China's stand that the differences over the boundary or on other issues should not affect the overall bilateral ties.

"As two ancient civilisations, we have enough wisdom and capability to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas pending a fair and reasonable solution" to the boundary issue, said

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Wang, who is also a

Trinamool MLA Raj **Chakraborty Warns of** Potential Unrest Over **Jadavpur Incident**



Barrackpore: Chakraborty, a mool MLA and renowned film director, has issued a stern warning in response to the recent Jadavpur incident. Speaking in the Chakraborty cautioned that it would take only "2 minutes" for his party's workers to become enraged, emphasizing that while they have the capacity for violence, the party does not condone such behavior. Chakraborty's statement comes after several Trinamool MLAs and MPs, including Arup Biswas, Sayani Ghosh, and Debabrata Majumdar, publicly expressed their outrage over the incident. Biswas was seen venting his anger in the Jadavpur area, labeling students who clashed with pro-fessors as "goons". The Jadavpur incident has widespread controversy, with many condemning the violence and calling for peaceful resolution. Chakraborty's warning serves as a reminder of the simmering tensions and the potential for further unrest if the situation is not addressed. In his statement, Chakraborty also took aim at the CPM, suggesting that if a similar incident had occurred during their tenure, the perpetrators would have faced consequences. He emphasized that the Trinamool Congress will not tolerate violence, but his warning hints at the possibility of retaliation if the party's supporters are provoked. The situation remains volatile, with many calling for calm and restraint. As the situation unfolds, it is essential to prioritize peaceful resolution and avoid further

Notorious militant behind Bars. Mobile seizure rocks **Baharampur Jail**



Service, Baharampur: A recent incident at Baharampur Central Correctional Facility in West Bengal has raised concerns about the presence of mobile phones among prisoners, including militants. Two mobile phones were recovered from two prisoners, Jahangir Alam and Mohammad Nasim, who were convicted in drug cases The incident has sparked questions about how the mobile phones reached the jail and the potential role of the police in the matter. Retired police officer Arindam Acharya expressed shock and concern, stating that the presence of mobile phones among prisoners indicates a lack of effective administration . Notably, the notorious ABT militant Tariqul Islam is imprisoned in the same jail, and several undertrial prisoners arrested on suspicion of being ABT militants are also being held there. This has raised concerns about the potential for militants to operate from within the jail. The recovery of mobile phones and other prohibited items, including pieces of stone or brick, rope, wire, blade, and sharpened spoon, during a sudden search of the cell has highlighted the need for increased vigilance and security measures within the correctional facility. The incident is currently under investigation, with Baharampur Central Correctional Facility Superintendent Deepak Kumar Saraki filing a written complaint against the two convicts at

Baharampur Police Station.

Higher Secondary results to be declared in May, confirms Education Council President

the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education, Chiranjib Bhattacharya, has announced that the results of the Higher Secondary (HS) examinations will be declared by mid-May. Speaking during his visit to Birbhum, he reassured students and parents that the evaluation process will be swift and transparent, with the entire system being digitized for efficiency and ac-

Bhattacharya, who has been inspecting examination centers across various districts, praised Birbhum for its impeccable examination conduct over the past three years. He noted that no major irregularities or disruptions had been reported, and students were generally satisfied with the examination process. He remarked, "I have visited seven centers, interacted with students, and found no com-

Kolkata: Dr. Sukanta Ma-

jumdar, Minister of State,

Ministry of Development of

North Eastern Region, Gov-

ernment of India candidly

mentioned that the "central

government is very keen to

work with the state govern-

ment regarding the industri-

al growth and prosperity of

Dr. Majumdar was speak-

Kolkata: Kolkata Police

is ramping up its efforts to curb cyber fraud, with

the latest crackdown tak-

ing place in Behala'sPar-

nashree area. In a decisive

operation, law enforcement

authorities arrested two

fraudsters operating in the

vicinity. The suspects, iden-

tified as Tanmoy Sarkar (34)

from Satyen Roy Road, Be-

hala, and Dinesh Jana (41)

from Jadu Bhattacharya

Lane, Kalighat, were appre-

hended based on specific

intelligence inputs. Multiple

charges under the Indian

Penal Code have been filed

Acting on a tip-off, po-

in Parnashree

unused), two fingerprint of these illicit activities re-

vestigating whether a larger falsely claiming their veri-

lice raided an office at BB

at 8:35 PM on Wednesday.

Authorities recovered 92

SIM cards (both active and

scanner machines, two mo-

bile phones, and 42,300 in

cash. Investigations reveal

that the suspects were en-

gaged in identity theft and

financial fraud, using sto-

len personal data for illicit

cyber activities. The crack-

down followed a cybercrime

case registered the previous

day, leading police to the

fraudsters' operational hub.

Authorities are now in-

against them.

West Bengal."

papers. Unlike last year, when there were concerns about the difficulty level of Physics, this year, no such issues have

There have been claims circulating on social media and certain media platforms suggesting that the attendance rate for this year's HS exams was unusually low. Some speculated that students enrolled solely to receive the government-provided tablets but did not appear for exams. However, Bhattacharya dismissed these allegations, presenting data that contradicted such reports.

He stated, "In Birbhum, the attendance rate stands at an impressive 95.5%, with only 783 students absent, accounting for just 4.5% of registered candidates. Similar trends have been observed in other districts—North 24 Parganas recorded an absentee rate of

Centre willing to cooperate with Bengal

govt in its industrial revival: Sukanta

Ministry of Development of

North Eastern Region in Kol-

kata. To Majumder, "political

difference cannot be a taboo

in the domain of industrial

revival of West Bengal. Like

Mamata Banerjee, Narendra

Modi too wants the growth

of West Bengal in holistic

terms. But for that we have

to get rid of feeling of ani-

Kolkata Police intensifies crackdown

on cyber fraud, arrests key suspects

lice have assured that they

are aggressively pursuing

all leads to dismantle the

syndicate and prevent fur-

a sensational cyber scam has surfaced, with 24-year-

old Debolina Chakraborty

emerging as Kolkata's most

notorious fake SIM suppli-

er. The young woman, ad-

ept at evading authorities

through frequent identity

changes, was finally nabbed

after a meticulous investi-

gation. According to senior

officials, Debolina had been

blacklisted but had already

issued 785 SIM cards before

These fraudulent SIM

cards were used in vari-

ous cybercrimes, including financial fraud, digital

scams, and hacking. Some

portedly extended beyond

India, reaching Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar.

Kolkata Police has seized

over 2,000 fake SIM cards

in the past month alone,

with more than 200 cyber-

crimes linked to Debolina's

sophisticated modus ope-

randi. Debolina allegedly

manipulated customers by

Investigations reveal a

her name was flagged.

In a related development,

Service, network is involved. The po-

ther cybercrimes.

The minister mentioned

Service, tors Summit organized by

Bhattacharya emphasized that students who missed the exams this year would have the opportunity to reappear in future sessions. He also reiterated that attendance fluctua-

are not an anomaly. Highlighting the transition to a semester system, Bhattacharya explained that the new structure requires conducting exams twice a year, aligning with modern academic practices adopted by several other states. He assured that the council has carefully evaluated this system before

tions have always existed and

its implementation. Regarding the HS result declaration, he confirmed that results will be announced within a week of the Madhyamik results. The entire process will be digitalized, ensuring a quick and error-free evaluation system.

Commenting on a recent only 1.66%, while Jhargram incident of teacher assault

that the development of

North-East is intrinsically

related to the development

of West Bengal. To him, " If

North-East develops, West

Bengal will automatically

develop as West Bengal is

the gate way to the North-

East. " The ports of Bengal

will certainly act as a posi-

tive catalyst in the growth process of West Bengal and North –East as well." He

fication had failed, coercing

them into re-submitting fin-

gerprints. These biometric

details were then misused

to pre-activate SIM cards,

which she subsequently sold

Police have booked Debo-

lina and three accomplices

under multiple sections of

the Information Technolo-

gy Act, including Sections

66C and 66D, as well as

IPC Sections 61(2), 319(2),

318(4), 336(2), 336(3), 338,

and 340(2). Over ten arrests

have been made in connec-

Further investigations

indicate that the fraudsters

exploited telecom point-of-

sale (POS) terminals to acti-

vate counterfeit SIM cards,

which were then sold to

cybercriminals operating

both within India and over-

seas. Kolkata's Joint Com-

missioner of Police (Crime),

Rupesh Kumar, confirmed

that Debolina had been un-

der surveillance for a long

time. Crucial intelligence on

her activities was shared by

the Indian Cyber Crime Co-

ordination Centre (I4C), ulti-

mately leading to her arrest.

mitted to dismantling such

cyber fraud networks, en-

suring stringent action against perpetrators to safeguard digital security.

Authorities remain com-

tion with the case.

to cybercriminals.

firmed that the council has identified the students involved. The incident occurred on March 5 at Chamagram High School in Kaliachak Block 3, where students from three schools were assigned seats. A small group demanded to take the exam without frisking and resorted to violence when denied.

CCTV footage helped identify the culprits, and the council has contacted school authorities for further action. He also stated that special measures were taken to ensure the answer sheets of the accused students were separately packed and secured for fur-

ther scrutiny.
As the HS exams continue smoothly, the focus remains on ensuring a fair and transparent examination process, with reforms aimed at improving efficiency and credibility in West Bengal's educa-

Civic volunteers accused of violence in Malda

Malda: A recent incident in Malda, West Bengal, has brought civic volunteers under scrutiny once again. Three civic volunteers have been accused of stopping a car, dragging the driver out, and severely beating him. The incident occurred at a checkpoint on the Bengal-Bihar border, where naka checking is a regular practice. According to reports, the driver, Ruhul Ali, was transporting cows in a pick-up van when he was intercepted by the civic volunteers. They demanded ₹1,000 to allow the vehicle to pass, and when Ali was unable to pay, they allegedly assaulted him. The entire incident was recorded by a Khalasi who was accompanying Ali. This incident is the latest in a series of allegations against civic volunteers in West Bengal. The RG tax incident in Kolkata had already raised questions about the behavior of civic volunteers, and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had ordered them to be taught a "lesson of discipline." However, it appears that some civic volunteers have not learned from these incidents. The police have launched an investigation into the incident, and a complaint has been filed against the three civic volunteers involved. The injured driver is undergoing treatment at a local hospital. The incident highlights the need for greater accountability and discipline among civic volunteers. It also raises questions about the role of civic volunteers in maintaining law and order, particularly in border areas.

Ayan Seal granted bail in primary hiring corruption case

News Service, Kolkata: Ayan Seal, a key accused in the West Bengal recruitment scam, has been granted conditional bail by a special CBI court in the primary hiring corruption case. Despite this relief, he will not be released from jail immediately, as he remains an accused in the municipal recruitment scam.

Seal, who was arrested by the CBI, was granted bail on Friday on a bond of ₹1 lakh, requiring two sureties of ₹50,000 each. The court has imposed several restrictions, including a travel ban outside Kolkata, North 24 Parganas, and Hooghly.

Ayan Seal first came under scrutiny for his alleged role in the municipal hiring scam, but he was later arrested in connection with the broader recruitment corruption case. In October 2024, the CBI formally charged him. His bail in this case follows similar relief granted to other accused, including Manik Bhat-tacharya, Kuntal Ghosh, and Niladri Ghosh

Previously, in December 2024, Seal secured bail in an ED case related to the scam. He was arrested on March 20, 2023, and granted bail on a ₹10 lakh personal bond. His legal battle, however, is far from over.



Bagula College becomes Champion in Kalyani University Annual Athletic Meet

The Bagula Sri Krishna College in Nadia became the champion and Kalyani University Physical Education Department achieved the second position in the Kalyani University Annual Athletic Meet this year. The two days' long 'meet' at the Kalyani university ground started on

The event was inaugurated by Kallol Pal, the Vice Chancellor of the University. Dr. Tapan Kumar, a swimmer who received the Dronacharya Award, was present as the Chief Guest. Dr. Harisadhan Betal, Prof. Sandeep Shankar Ghosh and many other personalities, Trainers and workers of various levels of the versity attended the program. Occasionally Prof. Ghosh said, "The chance of identifying the good athletes come through the



colleges of Kalyani University participated in 35 events of the Athletic Meet.

Vice Chancellor of Kalyani University stated that many of the KU Atheletes represented the University, State and the

Passing out parade of Agniveer 02/24 batch at INS Chilka

Kolkata/Bhubaneswar: A significant milestone was achieved as 2966 trainees, including 402 women Agniveers, 288 SSR (Med Asst) and 227 Naviks passed out from INS Chilka, Odisha on 07 Mar 25. The Passing Out Parade (POP) marked the culmination of 16 weeks of rigorous ab-initio Naval training, in a unique post-sunset ceremony. The Parade was reviewed by Vice Admiral V Srinivas PVSM, AVSM, NM Flag Officer Commanding - in- Chief, Southern Naval Command. Cmde B Deepak Aneel, Command-

ing Officer,INS Chilka was the conducting Officer. The POP was witnessed by high achiever veterans namely Sureddy Siva Kumar, Ex - SPO, Sandeep Gupta, Ex-POELP, Lohrii Besii, Ex-POELP, GS Kocher, Ex-EMR 1 including eminent sports personali ty Eldhose Paul, CPO COM (TEL). This major event was also witnessed by the proud family members of the passing out course. The POP signifies not only the successful completion of initial training but also marks the commencement of a new chapter in the Indian Navy. The Indian Navy emphasises on a gender neutral environment to transform these men and women into a Combat Ready, Credible, Cohesive, and



Future-Ready force. During his address, FO-

CINC, South congratulated the trainees for the successful completion of the course exemplifying hardwork, discipline and commitment. He impressed upon the Agniveers to hone their skills and be technologically aware, while imbibing the Navy's core values of Duty, Honour and Cour-He urged them to uphold the honour of the Nation while charting their course with courage and determination. He expressed his appreciation to the parents of Agniveers acknowledging their contribution to the Nation. The Chief Guest complimented Team Chilka for their relentless efforts and crucial role in shaping the transformation while living upto the motto of उद्यमेन हि सिध्यन्ति

The Chief Guest award-

ed medals and trophies to meritorious Agniveers. Devraj Singh Rathore, AVR (MR) and Pramodh Singh, AVR (SSR) received the Chief of the Naval Staff Rolling Trophy and Gold Medal for Best Aginveer MR and SSR respectively. Mansa Gulivindhala, AVR (SSR) was awarded the Gen Bipin Rawat Rolling Trophy for Best Woman Agniveer in the overall order of merit. Monit Kumar, NVK (GD) received the Director General, Indian Coast Guard Rolling Trophy and Director General Gold Medal for Best NVK (GD).

Earlier during the Valedictory function, the FO-CINC, South presented the overall Championship Trophy to Angre Division and Runners Up Trophy to Eklavya Division .He also unveiled the 02/24 edition of Ankur, the bilingual trainees' magazine

Massive stockpile of illegal firecrackers seized at Kolkata airport hotel crossing, one arrested

Kolkata: In a significant crackdown on illegal firecracker smuggling, Kolkata Police seized a massive consignment of sound-emitting firecrackers at Hotel Crossing near Kolkata Airport. The operation, led by the Airport Police Station, resulted in the arrest of one

According to police sources, a routine naka-checking operation was underway on Thursday night at Hotel Crossing when officers noticed a truck heading towards the Belghoria Ex-

individual.

pressway. Upon suspicion, the police stopped and inspected the vehicle, leading to the discovery of a huge cache of high-decibel fire-

Upon interrogation, the truck driver confessed that the firecrackers had been loaded from Champahati, a well-known hub for firecracker manufacturing, and were destined for Assam. The authorities are now investigating the intended recipient of the consignment and the scale of the smug-

gling network involved.

The arrested truck driver

is set to be produced before the court on Friday, as police intensify their probe to trace others involved in the operation. This seizure highlights the growing illegal trade of high-decibel firecrackers, which are banned in several states due to their environmental and health hazards.

Police officials have assured that strict action will be taken against those responsible for this smuggling attempt, and further investigations are underway to unearth the larger network behind this operation.

Husband sentenced to life for burning wife to death!

The Barasat court has sentenced a husband to life imprisonment for burning his wife to death. On December 29, 2021, Bidhan Mistry filed a complaint at the Dattapukur police station. Fast Track Second Judge Sanyukta Sengupta of the Barasat court sentenced the accused to life impris-

onment. In 2019, Bidhan's daughter Swapna got married to

Service, of Kabarkhola Nabpalli in Barasat. After marriage, the couple lived in a separate rented house. Allegedly, Swapna was rescued from the rented house in a burnt state on December 28. The next day, Swapna's father filed a complaint against his son-in-law at the police station. He alleged that his son-in-law had set his daughter on fire

and killed her. She filed an FIR at Dattapukur police station. SI Chanchal Das, a resident Manoj Kumar Das started

the investigation. Swapna was undergoing treatment at the hospital with 95 percent burn injuries. Swapna died at Barasat Hospital on January 2, 2022. While undergoing treatment at Barasat Hospital, Swapna gave her post-mortem statement. She said that her husband Chanchal poured kerosene oil on her and lit a match and set her on fire. A chargesheet was filed against the accused under sections 498, 304B and 302 of the Indian Penal Code.

A sister's selfless gift: Disha's journey to

News Panskura: In a heartwarming tale of sibling love and sacrifice, Disha, a student of Panskura Girl's School, is appearing for her Higher Secondary exams, thanks for the unwavering support and selfless donation of her elder sister lisa. Disha's journey has been marked by adversity having been diagnosed with a severe liver problem at the tender age of 5. Her condition necessitated multiple hospitalizeds, including a stint at a private nursing home in Midnapore, Kolkata, and even Hyderabad.

recovery and Higher Secondary Education Service, Despite the efforts of med- determination. In 2023, de ical professionals, Dish's health continued to deteriorate, prompting her family to seek specialized treatment at Max Hospital in Delhi. The co9st of the treatment, approximately Rs 40-45 lakh, posed a significant burden on the family. However , Lisa, Disha's elder sister, stepped forward to donate 60% of her liver, saving her younger sibling's life. The successful transplant took place in 2020, when Disha was just 12 year old. Although Dish's health issue persisted she demonstrated remarkable resilience and

spite being physically unwell, she took Madhyamik exams. Now with her health significantly improved, Disha is appearing for her Higher Secondary Exam, creating Lisa's selfless act for her newfound lease on life. Disaha's story serves as a treatment to the transformative power of sibling love and the impact of organ donation on individuals and families. As she embarks on this new chapter in her academic journey, Disha's gratitude for her sister's gift is palpable saying "My parents gave me birth, but my Didi gave me rebirth".

ASHA Worker Stage Protest: "Can Family Survive on Rs 5,000?"

MI News Service, Bankura: ASHA workers in Bankura, west Bengal stage a massive protest at the Chief Health Office, demanding immediate payment of pending allowance and better compensation for their work. The protesters, numbering around 1,600, are seeking, payment of arrest of 3 to 5 months, an increase in monthly allowance to Rs15,000 and a one time payment of Rs 5 lakh to families of ASHA workers who died on duty. The ASHA workers, who play a crucial role in rural healthcare, are responsible for various government vaccination programs, ensuring safe delivery of pregnant women, and conducting health surveys. Despite their critical responsibilities, they receive a meager allowance of ₹5,250 per month, which is often

pending for several months. The protesters warned that they would stop work across the district if their demands are not met immediately. This move could potentially disrupt healthcare services in the region, highlighting the urgency of the situation. Similar protests have been reported in other parts of the country, with ASHA workers seeking better compensation and working conditions. In Sivasagar, Assam, ASHA workers staged a protest demanding a fixed monthly salary of at least ₹15,000 and regular payment instead of the current stipend system. The Bankura protest underscores the need for policymakers to address the concerns of ASHA workers, who are critical to the healthcare system, particularly in rural areas.

Mamata Banerjee suspends...

From PG 1

committee formed by the Chief minister was Abhishek. The first name was that of Bakshi. It was known only after the meeting at the Trinamool Bhavan that All India General Secretary Abhishek would hold a 'virtual' meeting with the district leaders on March 15 at 4 pm. But the party leaders came to know about Abhishek's meeting later. Many came to know about it after leaving the meeting, while others came to know about it

while leaving. According to Trinamool sources why the virtual meeting of the party's All India General Secretary was announced at the eleventh hour. But many of those close to Abhishek said, "The process of announcing the schedule of the General Secretary's meeting was done responsibly. However, Mamata has repeatedly made it clear over the past few months that she will have the final say in the party and the organization. No one else. Mamata made it clear that the party's thread is still in her hands. If she holds it, she will hold it. If she lets it go, she will

let it go. Earlier TMC launched a rigorous voters list verification process across West Bengal, with a 36-member committee led by state president Subrata Bakshi. Each member has been instructed to meticulously inspect the electoral rolls in their respective areas to eliminate discrep-

ancies and ensure accu-

On Thursday, the com-

mittee convened at Trinamool Bhavan to review the progress of this scrutiny initiative. However, senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee was absent due to prior commitments. The meeting primarily focused on assessing ongoing verification efforts and setting guidelines for further action. It was decided that on March 15 at 4 PM, TMC's National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee will hold a virtual meeting with state committee members, district presidents, and heads of branch organizations. This high-level discussion aims to refine the party's voter verification strategy and address any challenges faced during the process.

Over 1,000 illegal arms...

districts of the Northeastern state are Naga-majority ones where no ethnic violence has been reported since May 3, 2023.

In the other 11 districts, at least 250 people were killed and thousands rendered homeless since that day in clashes between the valley-based Meitei community and the Kukis who are in majority in the hills.

Of the surrendered arms, more than 760 were from the valley districts while the rest were from the hill districts and Jiribam.

"The figures, however, are tentative and we are in the process of categorising the details of the weapons and ammunitions surrendered between February 20 and March 6," the offi-

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla had on February 20 urged warring groups to voluntarily surrender weapons robbed from security forces and other illegally held arms within seven days. He exsurrender of looted and illegal arms till 4 PM of March 6, following demands by people from both hill and valley areas for additional time.

The administration had assured people that no punitive action would be taken against those who would surrendered their weapons within this period, emphasising that "this is the last opportunity for everyone concerned to contribute to peace, communal harmony, the future of our youth, and the security of our society".

Arms surrendered included 9mm pistols, submachine guns (SMGs), colt-machine guns (CMG),

self-loading rifles (SLRs), modified snipers, grenades including Chinese ones, INSAS and AK 56 rifles, they said.

Besides, the people also handed over articles like bulletproof jackets, helmets, radio sets, camouflage uniforms, boots and locally made mortars (Pompi) during the last two

The highest number of arms surrendered was on February 27 when 307 weapons were handed over to the security forces in both valley and hill districts. Of them, 246 were surrendered by Arambai Tenggol, a Meitei

group, police said. March 6, the last day of the amnesty window, witnessed the second-highest number of arms surrendered with 196 weapons being handed over to various police stations in at

least eight districts. After the deadline for voluntarily surrendering arms expired at 4 pm on Thursday, joint security forces conducted combing and search operations in various parts of the state and recovered 36 more arms, 129 rounds of ammunition, seven explosives, 21 miscellaneous items and destroyed 15 illegal bunkers, police said in a statement.

As many as 12 bunkers were destroyed at K Langnom and Khengjang areas while three others were demolished at Haraothel, all in Kangpokpi district.

The Centre has imposed President's rule in the state on February 13 after Chief Minister N Biren Singh resigned. The state assembly, which has a tenure till 2027, has been put under suspended

Indo-China relations made...

From PG 1

member of the powerful political bureau of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC). "We should never allow bilateral relations to be defined by the boundary question or specific differences to affect the overall picture of our bilateral ties," he said.

China believes that as the largest neighbours, both countries should be partners in each other's success. "A cooperative partnership between the dragon and the elephant is the only right choice for both sides," he

"There is every reason for us to support each other rather than undermine each other or undercut each other," he said, adding that both the countries "should work with each other rather than guard

against each other". 'This is the only path that truly serves the funda-



mental interests of the two countries," Wang said.

"As important members of the Global South, we have the responsibility to take the lead in opposing hegemonism and power politics" he said in apparent reference to the United States. "We must not only safeguard legitimate rights and interests of our countries but also uphold the basic norms governing international relations," he said. "If China and India join hands, the prospect of greater democracy in international affairs and the stronger Global South will improve greatly," he said. Wang said 2025 marks the 75th anniversary of China-India diplomatic relations.



'MCCI Women's Achievers Award 2025' Padma Shri Mouma Das (Indian Table Tennis Player & Arjuna Awardee), Churni Ganguly (Actress, Writer & Director), Padma Shri Dr. Sudha Kaul felicitated by Amit Saraogi (President, MCCI) and Deepali Saraogi (Chairman, MCCI Ladies Forum), with the at the Panel Discussion on "The Next Generation of Women Leaders -Unleashing the Power, Thrive and Lead" & Felicitation Ceremony held in Kolkata on Friday.

Abhishek Banerjee champions year-round political commitment through 'Sebaashray'

MI News Service, Kolkata: In the often-cynical landscape of Indian politics, where leaders are frequently dismissed as 'seasonal visitors' who appear only during elections, Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee has made a strong statement against this notion. He asserts that politics is not merely a seasonal engagement but a contin-uous commitment to the people's welfare. His initiative, 'Sebaashray', is a testament to this philosophy, reflecting his party's dedication to serving the public beyond electoral

Taking to his X (formerly Twitter) handle on Friday, Banerjee indirectly criticized politicians who engage with the masses only for votes. Without naming any specific party or leader, he remarked: "For some, pol-itics is a seasonal affair – leaders who surface only when votes are at stake, who feign concern when electoral dividends are on the line. But we stand by the people through joy and despair, through crises and calm. 'Sebaashray' is a manifestation

Highlighting the impact of the initiative, Banerjee revealed that since its inception, Sebaashray has provided professional healthcare services to 9,03,400 patients. On its 63rd day, health camps in Maheshtala alone served 8,888 people. He reaffirmed his commitment, stating, "As long as people stand with us, we will stand by them, every single day, without fail."

The Sebaashray initiative, which was launched in Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency, has already become a major success. It aims to ensure accessible and quality healthcare for all, addressing the medical needs of thousands daily. The project's scale and efficiency underscore Banerjee's vision of seamless public service beyond electoral considera-

This initiative serves not only as a healthcare movement but also as a political message—one that seeks to redefine governance as a year-round responsibility rather than a periodic obligation tied to elections. Abhishek Banerjee has repeatedly emphasized that his engagement with the people extends beyond political campaigns, positioning himself and his party as consistent contributors to public wel-

As the 2024 elections approach, his focus on grassroots healthcare services could play a crucial role in shaping voter perception. With over 9 lakh beneficiaries in just 63 days, the initiative is setting a new benchmark for social service in West Bengal's political landscape.

State to commence OBC Survey from March 8

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is set to launch a comprehensive survey on Other Backward Classes (OBCs) starting March 8, provided there are no lastminute hurdles. A video conference with district officials has already been conducted, and the state administration has issued directives from Nabanna to form specialized teams for the survey. Officials at the block and sub-divisional levels have been instructed to compile a list of personnel to be involved in this survey operation. The primary objective of this initiative is to reassess the eligibility of sub-categories (subcastes) recognized under the OBC classification. Despite the gravity of the issue, officials from the Backward Classes Welfare Department have refrained from commenting. Even Sanjoy Bansal, the department's secretary, remained unreDevelopment Minister Buluchik-Baraik stated, "The matter is sub judice, and I have no comments."

The legal uncertainty surrounding OBC reservations has already created significant disruptions in government employment, scholarships, and admissions. Following the Calcutta High Court's ruling, the West Bengal Public Service Commission (WBPSC) has put several recruitment exams on hold, including the 2024 WBCS examination. Any new government notifications must now include a clear stance on OBC reservations, which has not been possible due to the legal deadlock.

A senior district official admitted that this has affected multiple areas, Including scholarships and college admissions.

In a landmark judgment, the Calcutta High Court's division bench, comprising Justice Tapabrata

cates issued post-2010 were invalid. The court emphasized that the mandatory survey required before granting reservations was not conducted, violating the 1992 Supreme Court judgment delivered by a nine-

However, the High Court also clarified that those who had secured government jobs with OBC certificates between 2010 and 2024 would not lose their employment.

With over 1.2 million OBC certificates now invalidated, the West Bengal government has challenged the High Court's decision in the Supreme Court, but the matter remains unresolved. Additionally, as the Supreme Court has not issued a stay on the High Court's ruling, contempt proceedings against the state government were initiated on March 7.

All eyes are now on the Supreme Court, as stakeholders eagerly await a resolution to this intricate legal im-

Chakraborty and Justice Rajasekharsponsive to queries. When contacted, Mantha, ruled that all OBC certifi-Backward Classes Welfare & Tribal State Health Dept issues alert on substandard

drugs following CDSCO report MI News Service, Kolkata: The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) recently conducted a nationwide qualassessment pharmaceutical drugs, including those sold in West Bengal. In its January report, the regulatory body found that as many as 93 drugs failed to meet quality standards. Shockingly, the list includes widely used medications such as paracetamol, anti-hypertensive drugs, and antia u s e a

across the country.
In response, the West Bengal Health Department has swiftly moved to address the issue, issuing a

stern warning regarding

the sale and distribution of

treatments—common pre-

scriptions in households

these substandard medicines. The department has directed the Central Medical Store to immediately withdraw all non-compliant drugs from state-run hospitals. Additionally, the state's health secretary has issued a circular instructing wholesalers and retailers to cease the sale of these rejected medications with immediate effect. However, the govern-

ment's action is not limited to mere notifications. To ensure compliance, the state's Drug Control Authority will conduct rigorous inspections across retail pharmacies and healthcare institutions. Officials will assess whether any establishments continue to distribute the banned drugs despite the directive. The Health Department has warned that any violation of the order will invite strict legal ac-

The scale of the problem is significant. Reports indicate that between December and February, over 250 drugs were declared substandard, raising serious concerns about the quality of medicines reaching consumers. Since many of the rejected medications are essential for treating common ailments, their sudden withdrawal could create challenges for both patients and healthcare providers.

Recognizing this potential crisis, the West Bengal Drug Control Authority is expected to release an advisory listing suitable alternatives to the banned medicines. This will help

ensure that patients can continue their treatments without disruption.

The development has once again highlighted the pressing need for stringent quality control measures in the pharmaceutical sector. Experts emphasize that regular inspections and stringent regulatory oversight are crucial to preventing such incidents. Public health advocates have also urged consumers to remain vigilant, verify drug authenticity, and rely only on trusted sources for their medications. As authorities work to address this alarming situation, the Health Department reassures the public that steps are being taken to prevent any further risks associated with substandard drugs.

Bengal Chemists & Druggists Association raises alarm on fake drug crisis

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Bengal Chemists and Association (BCDA), an influential member of the All India Organisation of Chemists & Druggists (AIOCD), has sounded the alarm over the rising threat of counterfeit medicines in West Bengal and across India. Representing over 40,000 members in the state, the BCDA has urged swift action to address this escalating crisis. During a recent awareness event,

healthcare professionals, and the public. He also pointed to excessive discounts as a driving factor behind the rise of fake medicines in West Bengal's pharmaceutical sector. BCDA has identified several cities as hotspots where counterfeit drug production is alarmingly high. Many of these illicit drugs are manufactured by unlicensed entities, with some licensed manufacturers also under scrutiny. The organization



Prithwi Bose, General Secretary, Bengal Chemists & Druggist Associate and Sankha Roy, official spokesperson of Bengal Chemists & Druggist Associate at press meet on Rising Fake Drug Menace.

key BCDA officials—including General Secretary Prithwi Bose, Official Spokesperson Sankha Roy Chowdhury, President Pranab Ghosh, Organising Secretary DebashishGuha, Admin Secretary Prodyot Banerjee, and Treasurer Md. Irfan Khan Lodhistressed the critical need for a unified response to combat the spread of fake

Prithwi Bose high-lighted the severity of the issue, stating, "The proliferation of counterfeit medicines is a ticking time bomb. We urge the government to implement stricter regulations, intensify enforcement, and enhance public awareness. This is a battle that requires collective effort.' BCDA has consistently advocated for a multi-stakeholder approach, calling for greater collaboration between regulatory agencies, law enforcement.

has pointed to weak regulatory oversight, inadequate testing facilities, lack of a whistle-blower mechanism, and the absence of specialized courts as major challenges in tackling the crisis. BCDA has urged both state and central authorities to strengthen monitoring in these high-risk areas.

BCDA spokesperson Sankha Roy Chowdhury stated, "Counterfeit drugs pose a severe threat to public health and damage India's pharmaceutical reputation. Immediate intervention is essential.' According to World Health Organization (WHO) estimates, counterfeit medicines accounted for 10% of the market in low- and middle-income countries a few years ago. Recent data suggests this figure has risen by nearly 47%, with fake or illegal drugs now making up around 15% of the total market.



West Bengal Board of Secondary Education employees protest at Salt Lake's Derozio Bhawan against the attack on Bratya Basu by Left student activists at Jadavpur University

Uproar at Park Circus National Medical College over alleged medical negligence

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tension escalated at Park Circus National Medical College and Hospital early this morning following allegations of medical negligence in a maternity case. According to reports, Sonali Das (39), a resident of Park Circus, was expecting a child and had visited the hospital's outpatient department for a routine check-up yesterday. Her delivery was scheduled for April. However, as per the family's claims, doctors advised an immediate cesarean section since the unborn child had already reached a weight of three kilograms.

The family has accused the hospital of negligence, stating that despite admitting Sonali yesterday, no medical attention was provided. They further alleged that Arindam, a postgraduate trainee doctor, misbehaved with them. Matters took a tragic turn today when, according to the family's claims, surgical scissors and gauze were used inside the patient's abdomen, after which the baby reportedly stopped moving. Distressed, Sonali's husband was called in and asked to sign a document. However, the family alleges that they were not informed at that point that their unborn child had already passed away. It was only later that hospital authorities confirmed the tragic news. Outraged by the incident, the grieving family has submitted a formal complaint to the hospital superintendent, demanding strict action against the accused doctor. Responding to the allegations, hospital authorities have promptly formed a nine-member inquiry committee to investigate the matter.

Night-time traffic disruptions on Maa Flyover for maintenance work

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata commuters will face night-time traffic restrictions on the crucial Maa Flyover as the Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA) initiates essential maintenance work. According to a directive issued by Kolkata Traffic Police, all vehicular movement on the eastern flank of the flyover, from Park Circus to the EM Bypass, will be completely suspended be-

tween 12:00 AM and 5:00 AM. The restrictions came in effect from Thursday onwards and will remain in place until the maintenance work is completed.

Authorities have devised alternative routes to minimize disruptions for commuters. During the restricted hours, vehicles intending to access the EM Bypass via the Maa Flyover will have to take detours. The designated alternative route will di-

rect vehicles through Park Circus Seven Point Crossing, Surawardy Avenue, Darga Road, and Bridge No. 4 before reaching the EM Bypass. While this diversion adds a slight detour, it is expected to facilitate smooth traffic movement during the flyover closure.

The Maa Flyover Is a vital arterial link in Kolkata's traffic network, serving as a crucial connector for those traveling to-

wards Salt Lake and New Town via the EM Bypass. The growing volume of bikers using the flyover, often engaging in highspeed rides, has led to a surge in accidents, prompting Kolkata Traffic Police to implement stringent measures aimed at curbing reckless driving. The ongoing maintenance work is part of broader efforts to enhance road safety and structural integrity.

Name Change

, Nabamita Banerjee & Nabamita Bhattacharjee W/o. Amit Banerjee R/o. 75, Tewaripara, Balirmore, Chinsurah, Hooghly-712103, W.B., both are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 414, before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 07/03 /20 25. Shriya Banerjee is my daughter.

Name Change

I, Prasanta Bera S/o Mukunda Bera residing at Vill- Chintamonipur, P.O-Durbachoti, P.S- Patharpratima WB, declare that in my Admit Card, Registration , Marksheet and Pass Certificate of Madhayamik Exam my father's name has been recorded as Sukesh Bera but by virtue of Affidavit sworn before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kakdwip my father henceforth will be known as Mukunda Bera. Prasanta Bera S/o Mukunda Bera and Prasanta Bera S/o Sukesh Bera both are same and one identical person, i.e., myself.

Name Change

(Old Name) BHUBAN KUMAR MANDAL S/o- SUDHAKAR MAN-DAL, Residing at, Vill- Pravakar, Post - Kandi, Ps- Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742137, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from BHUBAN KUMAR MANDAL TO BHUBAN MOMDAL (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) BHUBAN MON-DAL in all purpose Vide an affi-davit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshid-abad On 24 Feb 2025, BHUBAN MONDAL and BHUBAN KUMAR MANDAL both are Same and one

Name Change

(Old Name) MD NASIM HOS SAIN S/o- MUKTAR HOSSAIN Re siding at, Vill- Asrafpara, Post Mahalandi, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Mur gal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from MD NASIM HOSSAIN TO NASIM HOS-SAIN (New name) and hence forth told. I Shall be Known as (New name) NASIM HOSSAIN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Feb 2025, NASIM HOSSAIN and MD NASIM HOSSAIN both are Same and on

Name Change

(Old Name) MD DABIRUDDIN SHAIKH S/o- JARAFAT SHAIKH, Residing at, Vill- Singadanga, Post - Pipulberia, Ps- Murutia, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741152, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from MD DABIRUDDIN SHAIKH TO DABIRUDDIN SHAIKH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) DABIRUD-DIN SHAIKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Feb 2025, DABIRUDDIN SHAIKH and MD DABIRUDDIN SHAIKH both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MIJANUR RA-HAMAN S/o- ANARUL HOQUE, Residing at, Vill- Natungram, Post - Gobarhati, Ps- Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742136, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from MI-JANUR RAHAMAN TO SEIKH MI-JANUR RAHAMAN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SEIKH MIJANUR RAHAMAN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshid JANUR RAHAMAN and MIJANUR RAHAMAN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

(Old Name) SETARA BEGUM W/o- MAHABUB RAHMAN, Residing at, Vill- 16 Mile, Post - Guruing at, vin- 16 Mile, Post - Girtu-tola, Ps- Kaliachak, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732127, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from SETARA BEGUM To SETARA BEGAM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SETARA BEGAM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary pub lic at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Feb 2025, SETARA BEGAM and SETARA BEGUM both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sahbaz Ahmed, s/o, Gulzar Ahmed, aged about 22 years old, by faith- Muslim, Resident- 57, Dr. Abani Dutta Road, Pilkhana, Howrah - 711101, do hereby de clare before an affidavit sworn be fore the Executive Megistrate, 1st Court, Sadar Howrah, vide being number. 2534/25, That my father's actual name and spelling is 'Gulzar Ahmed' which has been recorded in my Aadhar Card vide No. 5815257 56882, Pan Card being number. DJFPA9359M, and Voter Card being No. WBE 2407245. But in My Educational Certificates my father's name has been inadvertently recorded as 'Guljar Ahmed' in place of 'Gulzar Ahmed'. I Declare that 'Gulzar Ahmed' and 'Guljar Ahmed'

are both same and identical person.

I, SHOVAN BISWAS, my name as per Birth Certificate my DOB is 09/01/ 2006 S/o Mahananda Biswas service No-JC 264659N Rank EX SUB DMT at vill-Adwaita Lane, PO/PS-Santipur, Dist Nadia,W.B Pin-741404, my name from Shavon Biswas as per my father Discharge Book to Shovan Biswas proposed Nev Name date 06/02/25 Judicial Magistrate Court Affidavit Ranaghat Nadia says Shovan Biswas and Shavon Biswas are

NAME CHANGE

Palashi Biswas, W/O-Mahananda Biswas service No-JC 264659N, Rank EX SUB/DMT, R/o: Village-Adwaita lane PO/PS- Santipur Dist-Nadia, W B, Pin 741404, spouse PPO and Extended Army Group Insurance Cerificate Vide no 40637398 to Palashi Biswas date of birth is 14/05/1973 proposed New Name date 06/02/25 Judicial Magistrate Cour Affidavit Ranaghat Nadia says Palash Biswas and Palashi Bala are one and the same person

Araku coffee gets organic certification, enters Euro mkts

MI News Service, Hyderabad: Andhra Pradesh's Girijan Cooperative Corporation Ltd (GCC) has achieved a significant milestone with its organic certification for Araku coffee, enabling it to enter several European markets and secure a major domestic buyer in Tata Consumer Products, who will handle the marketing and sale of the coffee. GCC Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Kalpana Kumari, said the response to this initiative has been overwhelmingly positive. Building on this success, the corporation plans to extend its organic certification efforts to include pepper, in partnership with Tata Consumer Products. "With an organic certification in place, GCC has started marketing organic coffee separately. The response has been encouraging, with orders already received from Tata Group domestically and buyers from Germany and Italy internationally," Kumari

GCC and Tata Conmer Products have sumer inked an agreement to market and sell certified Araku Coffee, an organic product grown by tribals in the Paderu Agency area. "We have an agreement with Tata, they will be purchasing certified organic coffee. It is organic but the first time we have got certified organic coffee from the Araku area," Kumari said. She noted that Araku coffee has always been an

In a major step towards sustainable agriculture, GCC has successfully launched a pilot project for organic certification of coffee in the Paderu Agency

organic product, the certi-

fication it has achieved

marks a major milestone

in its journey.

Launched in 2019, this initiative has brought tribal farmers across 2,275 hectares in Chintapalli and GK Veedhi mandals under organic cultivation, the official said. According to the GCC managing director, organic

process, which requires three years to complete, demanding strict adherence to organic farming

To ensure compliance, an Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) approved certification body has been conducting periodic inspections and audits of farmers' records, said Ku-

Recognizing the efforts of these farmers, the GCC has announced a premium procurement price for organic coffee this year.

Arabica Parchment is being procured at Rs 450 per kg, compared to Rs 400 for the regular variety while Arabica Cherry fetched Rs 330 per kg, up from Rs 250 for the regular variety. This initiative has not only increased awareness about organic cultivation among the tribal farmers but has also incentivized more growers to adopt sustainable farming practices.

In collaboration with the Tata Group, GCC aims to create a steady market for the tribal produce, Araku Coffee, along with ensuring fair pricing and sustainable growth opportunities for farmers.

As part of the deal with organic pepper, the first supply consignment to Tata Consumer Products is scheduled in April. "By promoting organic cultivation and securing premium markets, GCC is enhancing the livelihoods of tribal farmers while positioning Andhra Pradesh as a key player in the organic produce sector, both in India and globally," Kumari added. Established in 1956 under the Cooperative Societies Act, GCC is committed to uplifting the lives of tribals living in undivided

Andhra Pradesh. As many as 20,000 tribal families are supported by GCC's market intervention programme, empowering them with access to the coffee industry and equipping them with the necessary tools and resources to flourish in the

global economic challenges.

Experts see GST growth as sign of economic revival

MI News Service, New Delhi: Gross GST collections rose by 9.1 per cent to about Rs 1.84 lakh crore in February, boosted by domestic consumption and indicating po-

tential economic revival. As per the official data released on Saturday, on a gross basis, mop up from Central GST stood at Rs 35,204 crore, State GST at Rs 43,704 crore, Integrated GST at Rs 90,870 crore and compensation cess of Rs 13,868 crore. GST revenues from domestic transactions jumped 10.2 per cent to Rs 1.42 lakh crore while that from imports grew 5.4 per cent to Rs 41,702 crore during February. Total refunds issued during February were Rs 20,889 crore, a 17.3 per cent increase over the year-ago period. Net GST collections during February 2025 grew 8.1 per cent to about Rs 1.63 lakh crore. Gross and net GST revenues in February 2024 were Rs 1.68 lakh crore and Rs 1.50 lakh crore, respectively. The gross GST collections in February 2025, at Rs 1.84 lakh crore are, however, lower than Rs 1.96 lakh crore collected in January 2025. EY Tax Partner Saurabh Agarwal said the robust GST collection figures indicate that the Indian

economy is withstanding Name Change

Sulata Das, W/O Sukhchand Das, R/O Mobarakpur Haripur Chhitka ,Nadia 741163,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Purnima Das.Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 20/02/2025, That Sulata Das And Purnima Das All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

The consistent rise in domestic GST revenue compared to import-related collections points to the effective implementation of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat policies. "Furthermore, the government's increased disbursement of domestic and export refunds, including those related to inverted duty structures, demonstrates its commitment to easing working capital pressures on businesses." Agarwal said. KPMG, Indirect Tax Head & Partner, Abhishek Jain said, "GST collections growth of 10.2 per cent on domestic supplies and overall growth of 9.1 per cent indicates a potential revival of economy for Q4. If the Maha Kumbh effect comes into play, next month's revenue growth could be even better". Deloitte India Partner MS Mani said while GST collections in large manufacturing and consuming states like Haryana, UP, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, MP, Karnataka have shown handsome increases in the range of 10-20 per cent, a detailed evaluation on the reasons for the low growth in the range of 1-4 per cent in Telangana, Gujarat, Assam, AP and Odisha could provide reasons on the factors responsible for growth in GST collections". Tax Connect Advisory Services LLP Partner Vivek Jalan said this vear's GST collection is almost on target and that is one of the reasons for revised estimates pegging fiscal deficit for FY24-25 lower

at 4.8 per cent.

Saving in Traction Energy Consumption: ER's endeavour in Preserving Fossil Fuel

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway continuing its endeavour for reducing consumption of fossil fuel by saving trac-tion energy consumption both in terms of reduction in consumption of electric traction as well as diesel traction. Though electric traction apparently a green energy but the generation of it requires fossil fuel input and saving in electric energy consump-tion will also ultimately contribute to the reduction in carbon footprint.

In January this year only, Eastern Railway has saved Rs. 32.61 lakh in respect of traction energy bill by improvement in Power Factor which is a mark of efficient utilisation of energy. Cumulative saving over Eastern Railway by improving power factor stood at Rs. 3.67 crore up to January in the Financial Year 2024-25.

Eastern Railway has a population of 362 three phase electric locomotives. The energy regenerated during brake application in three phase locomotives over Eastern Railway recorded as 1,80,51,558 KWh. Due to energy regeneration from this fleet of 362 three phase electric locomotives in February 2025 the energy saving in monetary terms recorded

as Rs 13.47 crore (approx). Moreover, Railway has adopted a measure of shutting down of diesel locomotives when not in use for reducing consumption of High Speed Diesel (HSD). During January 2025 due to shutting down of 877 Diesel locos when not in use, saving of 390.532 Kilolitre of HSD oil has been achieved amounting to corresponding saving of Rs 3.64 crore. Eastern Railway continuously adopting various innovative techniques for reducing oil consumption. Diesel shade/Andal has designed and fabricated a Lube Oil Cell Trolley, equipped with a drained oil storage compartment at the bottom. Earlier, removed lube oil cells from locomotives resulted in oil spills on the floor, posing a safety risk. This innovative trolley features a built-in tray that collects lube oil and pre-

also saved With all these initiatives Eastern Railway is marching ahead towards a green Railway for a sustainable development for environmental stability.

vent/ minimises spillage.

The oil stored/collected in

the tray can be re-used in

the loco. Manpower re-

quired for screening these filters and cleaning of pit is

ER achieves Over 15% growth in cumulative Freight **Loading upto February**



MI News Service, Kolkata: Railway recorded its highest-ever freight loading for the month of February 2025, achieving 8.50 million tonnes (MT), marking a 0.47% increase compared to last year's 8.46 MT. This notable achievement underscores Eastern Railway's continued commitment to improving its freight services and enhancing its contribution India's to economic growth.The remarkable performance in February is part of a larger trend, as Eastern Railway's tentative freight loading up to February 2025 has reached a total of 88.25 million tonnes, reflecting a sub-

stantial 15.47% growth over the 76.43 MT recorded during the same period last year. The increase in freight loading is driven by Eastern Railway's continuous efforts to optimize operations, improve infrastructure, and expand its services to cater to the growing demand for freight transport. The railway zone's proactive approach in ensuring timely and efficient transportation of goods has been crucial in achieving these milestones.

Eastern Railway remains focused on further enhancing its freight capacity and providing seamless services to meet the diverse transportation needs of its

Today a high level meeting was held headed by Minister of railways Shri Ashwini Vaisnaw on crowd control at stations. Following decision has been taken



 Permanent outside waiting areas at 60 stations: • During the festival season of 2024, waiting areas were created outside stations. These waiting areas were able to hold large crowds at Surat Udhna, Patna and New Delhi. Passengers were allowed only when the train came to the Similar platform. arrangements were made during Mahakumbh at nine stations of Prayag area. • Based on the experience of these stations, we have decided to create permanent waiting areas outside stations at 60 stations across the country which periodically face heavy crowds. • Pilot projects have started at New Delhi, Anand Vihar, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Patna stations. • With this concept, the sudden ground

to platforms only when the trains arrive at the platform. This will decongest the stations.

2.Access control: • Complete access control will be initiated at the 60 stations. Passengers with confirmed reserve tickets will be given direct access to the platforms. • Passengers without a ticket or with a waiting list ticket will wait in the outside waiting area. • All unauthorised entry points will be sealed.

3. Wider foot-over-bridges (FOB): • Two new designs of 12 metre wide (40 feet) and 6 metre wide (20 feet) standard FOB have been developed. These wide FOBs with ramps were very effective in crowd management during Mahakumbh. These new standard wide FOBs will be installed in all the stations. 4.Cameras: • Cameras helped crowd management in a big way during Mahakumbh. A large number of cameras will be installed in all stations and adjoining areas for close monitoring.

5. War rooms: • War rooms at large stations will be developed. Officers of all departments will work in the war room during crowd situations.

6. New generation communication equipment: • Latest design digital commu nication equipment like walkie-talkies, announcement systems, calling systems will be installed on all heavy crowd stations.

7. New design ID card: All staff and service persons will be given a new design ID card so that only authorised persons can enter the station.

8. New design uniform for staff: • All staff members will be given new design uniforms so that they can be easily identified during a crisis situation.

9. Upgradation of station director post: • All major stations will have a senior officer as station director. All other departments will report to the station director. • Station director will get financial empowerment so that he can take on-the-spot decisions for improving the station.

10. Sale of tickets as per capacity: • Station Director will be empowered to control the sale of tickets as per capacity of the station and the available

Chahak Kids Academy gets

New School Building at Sealdah

Running of Holi

concept, the sudden crowd

will be contained within

the waiting area. Passengers will be allowed to go

MI News Service, Kolkata: It has been decided to run Holi Special trains as per following schedule:

hrs and will reach Katihar at 02.00 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08182 Katihar-Tatanagar Special will leave Katihar on 13.03.2025 at 03.50 hrs and will arrive Tatanagar at 16.00 hrs, the same day. The Special train will have stoppages at Chandil, Purulia and Joychandi Pahar 06541/06542 SMVT Bengaluru-Santragachi-SMVT Bengaluru Special: 06541 SMVT Bengaluru-Santragachi Special will leave SMVT 11.03.2025 & 15.03.2025 at 15.50 hrs and will reach Santragachi at 06.00 hrs, the third day. In the return direction, 06542 Santragachi-SMVT Bengaluru Special will leave Santragachi on 13.03.2025 & 17.03.2025 at 12.10 hrs and will arrive SMVT Bengaluru at 20.10 hrs, the next day. The Special train will have stoppages at Baleshwar and Kharagpur in SER jurisdiction.

Special Trains

08181/08182 Tatanagar-Katihar-Tatanagar Special: 08181 Tatanagar-Katihar Special will leave Tatanagar on 12.03.2025 at 13.00

> MI News Service, Kolkata: Welfare jurisdiction. conducting Bengaluru on children.

Eastern Railway Women's Organization (ERWWO) is engaged in a range of philanthropic activities which include empowerment of women, vocational training programme and community service activities such as disaster relief, environmental conservation and welfare programs for the benefit of Railway employees, their families and the society at large. As a part of that multidimensional noble endeavour, ERWWO/Sealdah runs a honorary Primary School "Chahak Kids Academy at Sealdah to spread education amongst underprivileged and impoverished Chahak Kids Academy commenced its educational

journey from April 2013 with 30 students, 3 dedicated teachers and one non-teaching staff with a devotion to spread education amongst poor and destitute children. The school was temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Subsequently, the coveted educational institution reopened on 03rd July, 2023. Nowadays it runs with 65 students and 3 devoted teachers to embark on a new chapter of learning and growth. Emboldened by the relentless support ERWWO/Sealdah, from Chahak Kids Academy celebrates opening of its new school building which is equipped with 3 modern classrooms, 1 teacher's

room and 1 toilet, marking a significant milestone in its journey of providing quality modern education to young minds. Smt. Seema De-Eastern Railway inaugurated the new school building of Chahak Academy today (07.03.2025), in presence of Smt. Gunjan President Nigam. ERWWO/Sealdah, members of ERWWO, Railway officials and other digni-

All the students of this academy are provided with free books, school bags and uniforms. Over the years. the school established itself as a nurturing ground for early childhood education. fostering a love for learning and holistic development of its students.

Smt. Seema Deouskar, President/ERWWO, in her brief address stated that, we are thrilled to open the doors of new building of Chahak Kids Academy. The past COVID era was indeed challenging, but our belief in the power of education has remained steadfast. We are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment where our students can thrive. The opening of Chahak Kids Academy School building is a testament to the resilience and determination of ERWWO. The school's mission is to provide a strong foundation for young learners, equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their academic and personal lives.

Metro Staff help an indisposed Lady Passenger

On-duty Metro staff and RPF personnel have once again come forward to help an indisposed lady commuter in the Metro premises during peak hours at the right time. On 06.03.2025 at about 10.40 hrs., a lady commuter aged around 35 years suddenly started feeling unwell at platform area of Maidan Station. On-duty station staff and RPF personnel immediately attended her after seeing her condition. Considering the seriousness of the situation, she was brought to the Station Master's Office and given first-aid. After sometime she felt well and left the station. She expressed heartfelt gratitude for the kind and timely help rendered by the station staff of Metro Railway.

Volkswagen to launch Golf GTI & Tiguan R-Line in India

MI News Service, Berlin/New Delhi: German carmaker Volkswagen will be driving in its two globally acclaimed performance models Golf GTI and Tiguan R-line in India as part of its steps to enhance brand positioning in the country, a senior company official said on Monday. Volkswagen India will be launching the two models latest by the second quarter of 2025 by importing as fully built units under the 'GSR 870 rule' as a result of which volumes will be limited, Volkswagen India Brand Director Ashish Gupta told. "We are calling 2025 the year of 'Progressive Performance' for us... we want to make sure that we continue to grow in the Indian market. We want to make sure that we take the brand even higher up in terms of customer accessibility in terms of awareness and also in terms of brand image," he said.

While the company has been able to establish the VW brand on the credentials of German engineering, fun to drive safety and build quality, he said, "We now want

to take it up a notch higher with the introduction of our global iconic products, which signify performance". As early as the second quarter of 2025, Gupta said VW India will launch the Golf GTI and the all-new Volkswagen

Tiguan R-line as part of the brand en-

hancement exercise. "Golf is a legend worldwide with 50 years of legacy behind it and on top of that, the Golf GTI is our highest selling performance oriented 'Golf' worldwide. So that's something which we are bringing to India," he said.

On the all-new Tiguan R Line, he said, "It is not the normal Tiguan. We are bringing the top spec R-Line into India, a totally new third generation Tiguan, which is Volkswagen's one of the best sellers after the Golf worldwide." When asked about sales expectations from the upcoming two models, he said as these will be imported as fully-built units 'GSR 870 rule', he said volumes will be limited.

Under the GSR 870 rule, VW will be importing these models certified by European authority allowing it to sell in India without homologation but will be restricted to only 2,500 units a year, across models imported as fully-built units by the group. For Golf GTI in the first batch, the company is looking at getting around 150 cars in Q2 and for the Tiguan R-line,

around 300 units, he added. When asked about the overall sales prospects in 2025, Gupta said VW is also aligned with the industry outlook of 4-5 per cent growth, adding in the first two months of the year sales have been muted with about 2-3 per cent growth.

Three trains to originate from Bhubaneswar New Station

Bhubaneswar: Railway (ECoR) has planned to announce the originating and terminating of three important Trains from/at Bhubaneswar New Station which will soon originate from Bhubaneswar New Station. These trains include _ Bhu-baneswar-Mumbai Konark Bhubaneswar-Secunderabad Visakha Express and Bhubaneswar-Visakhapa-

EASTERN RAILWAY

Following E-tenders are invited online by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building, near Railway Station. Howrah-711101 from tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required financial capabilities including those Registered with Irrigation/CPWD/ SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following works: [Sr.DEN/3/Howrah], Sl.No.-1, E-Tender No.: 363_2024-25, Date: 06.03.2025. Description of work: Replacement of Steel O.H. tank by RCC O.H. Tank of capacity 50000 gallon at Katwa (04 nos.) under AEN/Katwa. Approx. Cost: ₹ 6,34,13,006.04. Earnest Money: ₹ 4,67,100. Sl.No.-2. E-Tender No.: 364_2024-25, Date: 06.03.2025. Description of work: Replacement of Steel O.H. tank by RCC O.H. Tank of capacity 50000 gallon along with pipe line and other ancillary works at Azimganj (01 no.) and Salar (01 no.) under AEN/Katwa and at Nabadwip Dham (01 no.) & Tribeni (01 no.) under AEN/Nabadwip Dham Approx. Cost: ₹ 6,69,54,320.85 **Earnest Money:** ₹ 4,84,800. Completion Period: 12 (twelve) months from the date of issue of acceptance letter (for SI.No. 1 & 2 each). In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/bandh. strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However, opening of tender online will be done on next working day. Closing date and time of tender: 27.03.2025 at 14.00 hrs. (for Sl.No. 1 & 2 each). The details of tender are available at website: www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderers are requested to submitheir offer online on the above website. Payment of EMD & TDC-Payment of earnest money deposi-[EMD] & Tender document cost, ir respect of E-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. Note: Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited

(HWH-652/2024-25) Tender Notices are also available at website: vww.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.ir Follow us at: ⊠@EasternRailway easternrailwayheadquarter

on IREPS (e-tender portal), No

manual offer will be accepted.

Tender Notice No.: 222-S/1/W-II, dated: 07.03.2025. Following e tender is invited online by the Divisional Engineer/HQ, Eastern Railway, Control Building, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: Tender No.: TN-255-24-25. Name of the work: At B.R. Singh Hospital: Development of Cabins and corridor including Sister work station at 2nd floor of Metro Block including all other ancillary work under SSE/W/B.R. Singh Hospital in the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer/W/1/Sealdah. Tender value: ₹ 1.08.45.459.40. Earnest Money Deposited: ₹ 2,04,200. Completion period for the work 09 (nine) months. Date and time of closing of tender: 02.04.2025 at 15.00 hrs. The tender documents and other details are at www.ireps.gov.in. The bidding for the tender is to be submitted through the e-tendering on above website Manual offers will be summarily rejected. Date and time of opening of tender is 02.04.2025 at 15.00 hrs. (SDAH-376/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.i easternrailwayheadquarter

(PR-1214)

Service, tnam Intercity Express. The benefit, as many hospitals are date of implementation for these changes will be announced shortly.

The introduction of these originating trains from Bhubaneswar New Station will provide immense benefits to passengers from the northern parts of Bhubaneswar and adjacent areas. These trains will also provide stoppage at Mancheswar Railway Station for two minutes each. Better Accessibility for Stu-

lents: The station will serve as a convenient hub for students studying in the numerous engineering, medical, and other educational institutions located in North Bhubaneswar.

Improved Connectivity to Hospitals: Passengers requirsituated in this part of the city.

Ease of Travel for Residents: With these trains originating from Bhubaneswar New Station, local residents will experience enhanced travel convenience and reduced congestion at Bhubaneswar Main Station.

Redevelopment of Bhubaneswar New Station is also proposed under the Amrit Station Scheme, with a primary focus on enhancing passenger amenities. The major works being planned include: Expansion and improvement of circulating area.

Provision of additional Foot Over Bridge (FOB).

Modern waiting rooms and toilets for enhanced passen-

Improvement of existing Platforms and its illumination. Installation of Coach Wa-

tering Facilities Provision of Lifts in all the

Platforms. Upgradation of existing

Station Building.
With these developments. Bhubaneswar New Station is poised to become a crucial hub catering to the travel needs of students, travelers, residents of North Bhubaneswar and adjacent areas. The move will significantly enhance rail connectivity and ease travel experience for many passengers.

East Coast Railway remains committed to providing better train services and seamless travel experiences for its pas-

IAF Jaguar fighter jet crashes near Ambala, pilot ejects safely

Panchkula: An Indian Air Force (IAF) Jaguar fighter aircraft crashed near Ambala in Haryana on Friday, with the pilot ejecting safely, IAF officials said.

According to officials, the aircraft had taken off from the Ambala Air Force base for a routine evening sortie when it encountered

a system malfunction and The IAF has ordered a

Court of Inquiry to determine the cause of the acci-The IAF said that the pi-

lot successfully maneuvered the aircraft away from inhabited areas before eject-

in a Cooperative Bank, a TMC leader arrested

during a routine training sortie today, after encountering system malfunction. The pilot maneuvered the aircraft away from any habitation on ground, before ejecting safely. An inquiry has been ordered by the IAF, to ascertain the cause

ing safely. of the accident," the IAF said in a post on X. Allegations of miss appropriation of Rupees 14 cr

Dipankar Krishnanagar: namool leader was arrested in Nadia for charge of misappropriation of crores of rupees. The arrested person is known as Shivnath Chowdhury. The misappropriation allegedly took place at Kalinagar Colony Credit So-

EASTERN RAILWAY

Following E-tender is invited by Divisional Engineer/IV, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building, near Railway Station, Howrah-711101 from tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required financial capabilities including those Registered with Irrigation/CPWD/ SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following work: [DEN/4/Howrah]. E-Tender No.: 360 2024-25, Date: 04.03.2025. Description of work: (1) Raising of Platform at Ahmadpur, Bolpur Shantiniketan, Bhedia, Gadadharpur, Prantik, Bataspur & Noadar Dhal station under the jurisdiction of SSE/W/Bolpur Shantiniketan. (2) Construction of retaining wall cum drain at Sainthia-Andal line at KM from 70-23 to 70-37A under AEN/Bolpur Shantiniketan. (3) Repair and renovation of quarter at Bolpur Shantiniketan in the section of SSE/W/Bolpur Shantiniketan. Approx. Cost: ₹ 7,28,10,228.05 Earnest Money: ₹5,14,100. Tender Form Cost: Nil. Completion Period:

12 (twelve) months from the date o ssue of acceptance letter. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holidav/bandh/strike on anv account. the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However opening of tender online will be done on next working day. Closing date

and time of tender: 26.03.2025 at 14.00 hrs. The details of tender are available at website: www.ireps.gov.in. Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. Payment of earnest money deposit [EMD] & Tender document cost, in respect of E-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only through above website. Note: Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) will not be accepted as EMD for tenders invited on IREPS (e-tender portal). No manual offer will be

accepted. (HWH-649/2024-25) Tender Notices are also available at website: ww.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at: ⊠@EasternRailway Follow us at: ⊠@EasternRailway easternrailwayheadquarter

Principal Chief Materials Manager/GRC

ciety Cooperative Limited A source stated that there was a misappropriation of about rupees 14 crore

here. The arrested person was sent to Krishnanagar court and given a four-day police remand. When the 80 years old person was taken to court, he became ill and was sent for treatment. It is known that the arrested person was once

the vice-president of Krishnanagar Central Cooperative Bank. He also held an important position in Kalinagar Cooperative sometimes ago. He also held the post of president of Krishnanagar city Trinamool sometimes ago. His arrest is now being discussed in the political circles of the district.

He was arrested by the cops of Kotwali police station on Friday. However, the accused Trinamool leader has refuted all the allegations against him. He claimed that he was framed through a conspiracy

nanagar of Trinamool. Not coming days.

only that, he was also the chairman of Kalinagar Society. He held several other important positions.

Although claimed that several people complained that they were not getting their money back while he was in job there. But later their money was returned. Then how are there allegations of fraud? The leader is raising such questions about the police arrest. He claimed that there is

political conspiracy behind this arrest. He has been framed for political reasons. He said that cases have been filed against him since the Central Cooperative Bank elections. It is all a conspiracy. On the other hand, the complainant Nandita Ghosh says, "He misappropriated 14 crore rupees from Kalinagar Society. The officers in that office were afraid. They could not take action. So I approached the High Court. Finally, the administration has taken ac-

Krishna Roy, the current in-charge of the Kalinagar Cooperative, said that the superior has informed that tnose wnose money are Shivnath was also the stuck in the cooperative town president of Krish- would be returned in the

Kodalia-I Gram Panchayat Chinsurah St. Road, Chinsurah, Hooghly

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-Tender is invited from Reputed, Bonafied Tenderer for execution of 05 nos. of development work vide NIT No.: 1009/1(8)/25 SL_1 to 5 Date: 06.03.2025. Bid Submission Start Date & Time: 07.03.2025 at 11.00 AM. Bid Submission End Date & Time: 19.03.2025 up to 11:00 AM. Bid Opening Date & Time: 21.03.2025 at 11:30 AM. For detailed information visit www.wbtenders.gov.in & undersigned GP Office

Prodhan Kodalia-I Gram Panchayat

BAGNAN-I PANCHAYAT SAMITY

NIET NO: WB/HZP/BAG-I/NIET-17/2024-25 Dated: 06.03.2025 A e-Tenders is floated for various construction & development works within Bagnan-I Panchayat Samity jurisdiction. Details are available in https://wbtenders.gov.in portal Sd/-

Executive Officer Bagnan-I Panchayat Samity Bagnan, Howrah

Pratapadityanagar Gram Panchayat Nayapara, kakdwip

e-Tender is invited by the undersigned for

Website: https://pratapadityanagargp.com

1. NIT No: 042/NIT/PNGP/CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING/2024-25 Date: 08/03/2025

Last Date of Dropping: 18/03/2025 up to 5.00PM Details available at the office of the undersigned in the

Prodhar

Pratapadityanagar Gram Panchayat

Jamna Gram Panchayat

Raijamna, Pandua, Hooghly Notice Inviting e-Tender Tender is hereby invited from the experienced and resourceful bidders for execution of the ork(s) under 5th SFC Tied fund & details mentioned below:-

Solar Street Lighting Installation at Sansad III to IV. 540273.00 2% of the Bid Submission Start Date (Online): 06.03.2025 at 05:00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Dat Online): 21.03.2025 up to 12:00 PM. Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal (Online 24.03.2025 at 12:00 PM. For details visit <u>www.wbtenders.gov.in</u> & undersigned GP Office.

Jamna Gram Panchaya

JAGADISHPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Jagadishpurhat, Howrah

E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE lectronic Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafied and resourcefu dders for different development works vide Tender Reference no. WB/HOW/BJPS/JGP-372/NIT-37/2024-25, ii) WB/HOW/BJPS/JGP 374/NIT-39/2024-25, iii) WB/HOW/BJPS/JGP-375/NIT-40/2024-25, dated-06.03.25, SI-1. Fund:15[™] FC (TIED) (UNTIED). Bid submission start date: 07.03.2025 at 10.00 AM. Last date of Bid submission: 12.12.2024 up to 09.00 AM. Date of opening: 14.03.2025 at 10.00 AM. Details are available in https://wbtenders.gov.in & ht

JAGADISHPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT

Court dismisses Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra's plea against summoning order in MCC violation case

MI News Service, New Delhi : The Rouse Avenue Court on Friday dismissed Delhi Law Minister Kapil Mishra's revision plea, in which he had challenged the trial court's cognizance and summoning order in a case related to an alleged violation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC).

The trial court had taken cognizance of the charge sheet in 2020, which pertained to a statement allegedly made by Kapil Mishra in January 2020, when the MCC was in force during the Delhi Assembly

"The word 'Pakistan' is very skillfully weaved by the revisionist in his alleged statements to spew hatred, careless to communal polarisation that may ensue in the election campaign, only to garner votes," the court said while dismissing the plea.

Special Judge Jitendra Singh dismissed the revision petition, saying, "The Election Commission is under a constitutional obligation to prevent the candidates from indulging in vitriolic vituperation with impunity, vitiating and contaminating the atmosphere for free and fair

"Therefore, this court is in complete agreement with the Trial Court that the complaint filed by the returning officer, notification of the Election Commission and other documents were sufficient to take cognizance of the offence punishable under section 125 of the RP Act. Accordingly, the instant revision petition is dismissed," the order stated.

The court also observed, "In fact, at this stage, the alleged statements of the revisionist (Kapil Mishra) appear to be a brazen attempt to promote enmity on the grounds of religion by way of indirectly referring to a 'country' which unfortunately in common parlance is often used to denote the members of a particular religion." The court rejected the con-

tention that the alleged matter doesn't attract section 125 of

It was submitted that his alleged statement nowhere

nath said that after the

development activities car-

ried out in Ayodhya and

Prayagraj, it was now the

turn of Mathura and Vrin-

davan to witness the reviv-

al, and the state govern-

ment would spare no effort

He offered prayers at

Shri Radha Bihari Inter

College in Barsana, Mathu-

ra, after inaugurating Ran-

gotsav 2025. CM Yogi said,

sana are getting the facility

of the ropeway for the first

time. Development works

worth 100 crores are ongo-

ing. Under PM Modi's guid-

ance, Kashi has been re-

vamped. Ayodhya has been

revived. Now it is the turn

of Mathura, Vrindavan, and Barsana, Govardhan.

There won't be any stone

Mandirbazar

Panchayat Samiti

South 24 Parganas

Memo No: 59/MBPS,

Dated: 07.03.2025

different development works under

Mandirbazar Panchayat Samiti from 15th FC(2024-25). Bid Submission

End Date for both Tender

19.03.2025 at 18.00 Hrs. Date of

Opening of Technical proposal for

Hrs. respectively. For details visit-

www.wbtenders.gov.in and office

Executive Officer

Mandirbazar Panchayat Samiti

OFFICE OF

BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Salboni, Paschim Medinipur

E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No-344/EO/SALBONI PS/6

NIT2024-25 Dated-05.03.2025 e

tender is invited by the E.O

Salboni Panchayat Samity for 2

No of civil work under Salboni

Panchayat Samity. For details pl

visit: www.wbtenders.gov.in

& www.salboni.in

Bid Publishing date: 06.03.2025

Bid Closing date: 20.03.2025

Bid Opening date: 22.03.2025

Sd/-

Executive Officer

Salboni Panchayat Samity

e-Tender Notice

The Head Master, Amdabad

High School (H.S.) invites

percentage rate e-Tender.NIT

No. - DSE/HM/NIT

01/2025/(3rd Call) Dated-

03/03/2025. Last date of

Bidsubmission is on

11.03.2025 upto 18-00 hours.

Information details are

available in the website

Head Master,

Amdabad High School (H.S.)

https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/-

of the undersigned.

both Tender- 20.03.2025 at 12.00

E-Tenders are invited for 3 nos

Those who come to Bar-

to develop the region.

refers to any caste, community, religion, race and language but has referred to a country which is not prohibited under section 125 of RP Act.

The court said that this submission is simply preposterous and outrightly untenable; the implicit reference underlying the particular 'country in the alleged statement is an unmistakable innuendo to persons of a particular 'religious community,' apparently to generate enmity amongst religious communities. This can be effortlessly understood even by a layman, let alone by a reasonable man.

The court said that accepting the submission since the revisionist has not referred to any grounds mentioned in Section 125 of the RP Act (religion, race, caste, community and language) explicitly and hence Section 125 of the RP Act is not attracted would be a blatant negation of and brutal violence with, the spirit underlying the provision of Section

"One cannot be allowed to

do something that has been prohibited by Section 125 of RP Act, indirectly, if he cannot do it directly", the court said.

Kapil Mishra had filed a revision plea against the summoning order of June 22, 2024, passed by the Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate of Rouse Avenue District Court and all consequential proceedings pending in the Criminal Case against him under section 125 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 (RP Act).

Senior Advocate argued for Kapil Mishra that the offence under 125 of RP Act is a non-cognizable offence in view of the findings of the High Court of Karnataka in case titled as 'Srikrishna Upadyaya' and Prabhakar Bhat.

An FIR was filed upon receipt of a letter dated 24.01.2020 from the office of the Returning Officer, Assembly Constituency Model Town, addressed to DCP, North West, regarding Mishra's violation of the Model Code of Conduct

Colors of Joy: 'Laddu Mar' Holi celebrations start at Shri Ladliji Maharaj Temple in Barsana

The vibrant festival of Laddu Mar Holi kicked off with great enthusiasm on Friday at the Shri Ladliji Maharaj temple in Barsana, Uttar Pradesh.

This marks the beginning of Holi celebrations in Barsana, which is renowned for its unique Holi traditions. The temple premises resonated with devotional songs and chants as priests and devotees participated in the age-old ritual.

One of the highlights of Barsana's Holi celebrations is the famous 'Lathmar Holi', where women playfully hit men with sticks, reenacting Krishna's legendary visit to Radha's village.

This year, Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurated Rangotsav 2025 at Shri Radha Bihari Inter College in Barsana, Mathura, and showered the gathered crowd with flower

We must host the Olympics, says **Mahesh Bhupathi**

MI News Service, Kolkata Former Indian tennis star Mahesh Bhupathi said that India must nost the Olympics and also talked about the challenges non-cricket sports face in India.

Bhupathi was speaking at the at Trailblazers 3.0 Conclave organised by RevSportz in Kolkata.

Speaking at the conclave, Bhupathi said, "We must host the Olympics, be it in 2036 or

Notably, India has expressed interest in hosting the 2036 Summer Olympics.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA), on October 1 last year, formally sent a 'Letter of Intent' to the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Future Host Commission, expressing India's interest in hosting the Olympics and Paralympics Games in 2036.

On challenges faced by India in other sports, Bhupathi "The BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) filters down the money to the under-14 level, to the districts and villages. The BCCI is a private organisation. It has the money. But other sports cannot do that.

Bhupathi also spoke about young up-and-coming tennis star Maaya Rajeshwaran, who has won six International Tennis Federation (ITF) singles titles at the age of 15 and is shaping up to be the next big star from India in the sport. He said about Maaya, "Tennis is a big world and we are talking about just one Maaya. In Spain, for example, they have 30-40 Maayas.

Indian squash ace, Saurav Ghosal, also agreed with Bhupathi on India hosting Olympics saying, "It is important to create that impe-

The former All England

champion and Indian badminton chief coach Pullela Gopichand also spoke on how India failed to carry momentum after the 2010 Commonwealth Games, which were hosted in New Delhi and saw India win 101



region. Now there is a BJP government in Delhi and Yamuna will be cleaned

The Uttar Pradesh CM extended his greetings ahead of Holi in the state. He further said, "During Mahashivratri, lakhs of people visited Kashi. From January 13 to Feb 26, in Prayajraj, Mahakumbh was organised, which broke all the records. The and the gathering was witnessed by the world. Despite many people raising rumours about Sanatan dharma the believers proved them wrong. It is great fortune that UP is the birthplace of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna.

He further said that those who visited Mahakumbh and Ayodhya and now in Barsana are witnessing the development works carried out under PM Modi. He further said that Holi is a festival of uniting people.

"The message of Mahakumbh is further strengthened by Holi. All the problems will be taken care by the double engine govern-

Holi Special Train Between Lal Kuan & Kolkata and Kanpur Central & Kolkata

To clear extra rush of passengers during ensuing Holi Festival, following Holi Special trains will run between Lal Kuan & Kolkata and Kanpur Central & Kolkata as per following abstract timings,

05060/05059 Lal Kuan - Kolkata - Lal Kuan Holi Special								
Lal Kua	n - Kolk	ata	(05060) (05059)	Kolkata - Lal Kuan				
Day	Arr.	Dep.	Stations	Arr.	Dep.	Day		
Thursday		13.35	Lal Kuan	15.45		Sunday		
	02.05	02.15	Gorakhpur Jn.	2.35	2.45	Juliday		
	17.50	17.52	Jasidih Jn.	11.23	11.25			
Friday	19.42	19.47	Asansol Jn.	09.08	09.13	Saturday		
	23.55		Kolkata		05.00			
Friday	23.55				05.00	,		

The above Special Trains will also stop at Kichha, Bhojipura Jn. Pilibhit Jn., Puranpur, Mailani Jn., Gola Gokarannath, Lakhimpur, Sitanur Jn., Burhwal Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Khalilabad, Kaptanganj Jn., Padrauna, Tamkuhi Road, Thawe Jn., Siwan Jn., Chhapra Jn., Haiipur Jn., Muzaffarpur Jn., Samastipur Jn., Barauni Jn., Kiul Jn., Jhajha, Madhupur Jn., Chittaranjan, Durgapur, Barddhaman Jn., Bandel Jn. and Naihati Jn. stations enroute in both directions. • Day / Date of Run : From Lal Kuan : 05060 on 13.03.2025, 20.03.2025 & 27.03.2025 (Thursday). From Kolkata: 05059 on 15.03.2025, 22.03.2025 & 29.03.2025 (Saturday). ● Composition : AC 2-Tier - 01, AC 1st Class cum AC 2-Tier - 01, AC 3-Tier Economy - 04, 2nd Class (LHS) - 04, Sleeper Class - 06, Power Car - 01, SLRD - 01 = 18 Coaches. Category : Mail/Express.

04153/04154 Kanpur Central - Kolkata - Kanpur Central Holi Special							
Kanpur Ce	ntral - K	olkata	(04153) (04154)	Kolkata - Kanpur Central			
Day	Arr.	Dep.	Stations	Arr.	Dep.	Day	
Monday Thursday		14.00	Kanpur Central	04.30	ı	Wednesday	
	16.40	16.45	Prayagraj Jn.	01.05	01.10	Saturday	
Tuesday Friday	02.50	02.55	Asansol Jn.	13.52	13.57	Tuesday	
	04.56	04.58	Barddhman	12.20	12.22	Friday	
	07.50		Kolkata		10.45		
The above Special Trains will also stop at Fatebour Mirzanur Pt							

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Sasaram, Dehri on sone, Gaya, Koderma, Gomo, Dhanbad & Durgapur stations enroute in both directions. ● Day / Date of Run: From Kanpur Central: 04153 on 10.03, 13.03, 17.03, 20.03, 24.03, 27.03 & 31.03.2025 (Monday & Thursday). From Kolkata: 04154 on 11.03, 14.03, 18.03, 21.03, 25.03, 28.03 & 01.04.2025 (Tuesday & Friday). • Composition: AC 2-Tier - 02, AC 3-Tier - 05, AC 3-Tier Economy - 07, Sleeper Class - 04, Power Car - 02 = 20 Coaches. Category : Mail/Express.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager EASTERN RAILWAY Follow us at : X @EasternRailway P @easternrailwayheadquarter

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE Branch office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091 CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby continued not to deal with the

property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.								
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch				
1.	Roopkatha Creations Private Limited/ Pradeepto Mazumder/ Sudipta Sanyal (Guarantor)/ 188 79 Prince Anwar Shahwest Bengal Calcutta- 700045/ LBCAL00005047121	Flat Being No. 4B, In Fourth Floor, Buildinhg Known As Heaven Villa, Portion of R.S Dag No. 621(Part), And L.R Dag No. 654, R.S Khatian No. 1426, L.R Khatian No. 1232/1, J.L No. 48, R.S No. 131, Touzi No. 253, Mouza-Kumrakhali, P.O. & P.S - Sonarpur, Ward No. 27, And Rajpur Sonarpur Municipal Premises/ Holding No. 389 Uttar Kumrokhali, Adsr Sonarpur, District South 24-Parganas Together With Ground Plus Four Storied Building Known As Heaven Villa, Admeasuring An Area of 1106 Sq. Ft Super Built Up Area With Covered Car Parking Space on Ground Floor./ Date of Physical 04.03.2025	23-06-2021 Rs. 49,63,558.00/-	Calcutta				
T1	The color of the c							

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: March 07, 2025, Place: Calcutta Sincerely Authorised Signatory, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

South Eastern Railway We serve with a smile

S.E. RAILWAY - TENDER

Tender Notice No. PCMM/GENL/TP/2025/07 Dated: 07.03.2025

The Principal Chief Materials Manager, South Eastern Railway, Hd. Qrs. Office (5th Floor), New administrative Building, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043 for and

on behalf of the President of India invites open E-tenders which have been uploaded

on website www.ireps.gov.in as follows. All the tenders will be closed at 14.00 hrs.

SI. No.; Tender No.; Due Date; Brief Description; Quantity; EMD Amount (in Rs.)

(1); 65245070; 08.04.25; PIT TRAVERSER 8OT etc. (Prebid Meeting on

25.03.2025 at 12:00 hrs. in PCMM Meeting Room/SER/GRC/Kol-43.; 01 No.

₹3,12,000.00; (2); 60250004; 21.03.25; Manufacture and Supply of Elastic Rail Clips

(ERC-J) etc.; 500000 Nos.; ₹8,96,800.00; (3); 81251885A; 25.03.25; Inoculum

(Anaerobic Bacteria for Bio toilet tanks of Indian Railways Coaches) etc.; 746600 Ltr.

₹81,52,872.00; (4); 38253337; 02.04.25; Knuckle for up-graded HTCBC etc.; 5700

Nos.; ₹11,79,200.00; (5); 38253867; 09.04.25; POH Kit for EL 60 (APM) for BOXNHL

Wagon for KNORR BREMSE Design BMBS.; 4900 Set.; ₹3,46,920.00; (6);

75241788B; 24.03.25; Vinyl coated upholstery fabric (Artificial leather) for Non AC Coaches etc.; 77553 Mtr.; ₹3,00,870.00; (7); 29244638; 19.03.25; Set of Diaphragm

& O-ring. ; 137 Set. ; ₹1,18,720.00 ; (8); 29243236A ; 19.03.25 ; Main Contractor to

MSI Part No LTHS 170025A00 ; 06 Nos. ; ₹1,87,010.00 ; (9); 25255002 ; 03.04.25 ;

Supply and commission of single phase ; 30 Nos. ; ₹20,00,000.00. Interested

tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification

of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items

will be accepted. N.B: Prospective Bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in

to participate in all other tenders & any corrigendum published thereafter.

US Commerce Secy optimistic about India-US trade ties, stresses from fake loan providers : Kavita Kumari Khati

Secretary Howard Lutnick on Friday expressed optimism about India-US trade ties, emphasizing the need for India's agricultural President Donald Trump's plans to impose reciprocal tariffs on US trading partners, including India.

Speaking virtually at the India Today Conclave, Lutnick acknowledged that finding a mutually beneficial solution would require understanding and cooperation from both sides.

He said India's agricultural trade cannot just remain closed, and suggested that it can be smarter while dealing with the most "important trading partner" US on the other side of the table.

The Indian market for agriculture, it has to open up," the US Commerce Secretary said at the India Today Conclave. He asserted that the "good thing" about the Indian government is that it "truly understands" its market and "we understand ours"

The Secretary was asked whether some of what America has been pushing for, for example, lowering the import duty on some agricultural products, would be politically suicidal for Prime Minister Modi if he ever went down that route. How does America look at the sensitivity?

"The good thing is your government truly understands your market, and we understand ours. And the key is to try to find that place. So yes, the Indian market for agriculture, it has to open up,

"It can't just stay closed. Now, how you do that and the scale by which you do that, maybe you do quotas, maybe you do limits. You can be smarter when you have your most important trading partner on the other side of the table,"



from running deficits and printing

money. India and your economy

and all the people...they under-

stand that tariffs have not created

inflation in India. So my opinion to

that is that's nonsense," he

On the bilateral trade agree-

ment that is expected to be inked

by the fall of 2025, the Secretary

said the right way to do it is on a

broad-based trade agreement

with India that takes everything

into account, and that, I think, can

of thinking, big thinking, things

that your prime minister can do,

because your prime minister has

President Trump," he said, being

hopeful that an agreement will get

something grand, something that

connects India and the United

States together but does it on a

broad scale, not product by prod-

uct, but rather the whole thing.

Let's bring India's tariff policy

towards America down, and

America will invite India in to have really an extraordinary

"It will require a different kind

great relationship with

"It's time to do something big,

"The United States is interested in doing a macro, large-scale,

macro level

be done," he said.

Lutnick suggested that India could adopt smarter strategies, such as quotas or limits, to open up its agricultural market. He emphasized the importance of putting everything on the table and negotiating thoughtfully to craft a sensible agreement.

"Maybe certain products have quotas. Maybe certain products have limits. Maybe certain products you do in certain ways. And then we do the same thing on the other side and we craft an agreement that is sensible between the two of us," he further said.

Concerning concerns that tariffs would be inflationary for American consumers, Lutnick dismissed the idea, citing India's high tariff rates without corresponding inflation. He reiterated the US stance on reciprocal tariff treatment, emphasising that India's high tariffs would need to be reevaluated.

"There is no inflation from tariffs. As you know, I mean, India has amongst the highest, if not the highest, tariff rate in the world, the second highest tariff rate in the world. And because you have such high tariffs, do you have inflation? Of course not. Remember, inflation only comes opportunity and relationship with

The US is keen on negotiating a broad-based trade agreement with India, taking into account the entire trade relationship rather than individual products.

Referring to the Trump administration's reciprocal tariff treatment, the secretary said, "How you treat us is how we would like to treat you." He added that India has some of the highest tariffs in the world and that this will require a rethink.

Since assuming office for his second term, President Trump has reiterated his stance on tariff reciprocity, emphasising that the United States will match tariffs imposed by other countries, including India, to ensure fair

During the recent meeting between President Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the two leaders resolved to expand trade and investment to make their citizens more prosperous, nations stronger, economies more innovative, and supply chains more resilient.

They resolved to deepen the US-India trade relationship to promote growth that ensures fairness, national security and job creation. To this end, the leaders set a bold new goal for bilateral trade - "Mission 500" - aiming to more than double total bilateral trade to USD 500 billion by 2030.

India's Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal was in the US this week. This follows Trump-Modi's plans to negotiate the first tranche of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) by the fall of 2025. The two leaders had committed to designating senior representatives to advance these



Ranchi: On the instructions of Hon'ble JHALSA, under the guidance of Hon'ble Judicial Commissioner-cum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Ranchi, an awareness program was organized in Muralidih vil-lage of Tamar block today on o7.03.2025 under the 90-day awareness program. On this occasion, LADC Deputy Chief, Smt. Kavita Kumari Khati, PLV

Pooja Kumari, Kunal Mahato, Praveen Kumar Munda, Parinika Kumari, Mahavir Singh Munda and Raja Verma were present.

LADC Deputy Chief, Smt. Kavita Kumari Khati talked about avoiding fake loan providers. She said that fake companies are cheating uneducated women by giving them fake loans, which is wrong, women should avoid this. She

gave information about laws related to children like JJ Act POCSO Act etc. She focused on drug eradication and said that do not take drugs, drugs have a bad effect on both wealth and health. She focused on prevention of child marriage and Child Marriage Act. Apart from this, she gave information about Maiya Samman Yojana and Samridhi Yojana.

India Ireland agree to set up Joint **Economic Commission to boost trade ties**

London: India and Ireland have agreed to set up a Joint Economic Commission to increase bilateral trade, investment and technology ties, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar announced after a meeting with his Irish counterpart in Dublin on Friday

He met Tánaiste (foreign minister) Simon Harris over a working breakfast meeting at the Department of Foreign Affairs. The duo also clinched an "Action Plan" to enhance the India-Irish partnership as a highlight of the first visit by an Indian external affairs minister (EAM) to Ireland and the first high-level political visit from India since the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2015. "We discussed our bilateral cooperation, including a new Action Plan to reinvigorate ties. Agreed to set up a Joint Economic Commission (JEC) to increase our trade, investment and technology linkages," Jaishankar posted on social media. "Exchanged views on the recent developments in our respective regions and globally, including the Ukraine conflict, West Asia, Afghanistan and the Indo-Pacific. Also spoke about India-EU cooperation and multi-lateralism," he said. The government of Ireland said in a statement that the JEC, once established, will serve as a vehicle to enhance internal cooperation and coordination, and strengthen the "likeminded partnership with one of the largest economies in the world". "With two-way trade already at EURO 16 billion, we're committed to strengthening every opportunity for growth, invest-ment, and collaboration," said Harris. "I was pleased earlier this week to secure government approval for adoption of an Action Plan for enhancing Ireland's engagement with India. This is a clear demonstration of Ireland's commitment to deepening our engagement with India as a key bilateral partner," he said.

The Irish minister said the first practical outworking towards this plan was the signing by both ministers of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on diplomatic exchange of officials.

"Minister Jaishankar and I also discussed a range of bilateral issues including Ireland and India's cultural and people-topeople links, our engagement with India as committed members of the European Union and global issues such as Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, the situations in the Middle East and the Indo-Pacific region and common challenges such as climate change," stated Harris. "We agreed that by working more closely together at the multilateral level, we can better address bilateral and global issues in a mutually beneficial manner," he added. Following the dialogue, Jaishankar concluded his Ireland tour with tributes at a memorial to Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore at the St Stephen's Green Park in Dublin.

The EAM is scheduled to inaugurate new Consulate Generals of India in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Manchester, England over Friday and Saturday before concluding his week-long tour of the UK and Ireland.

'Sehar Khan', traditional Ramzan drum beaters, still playing their role in Kashmir

Bhaderwah (Jammu and Kashmir): Amid the ongoing holy month of Ramzan, traditional drummers -- known as Sehar Khans in Kashmir have been carrying on with the ritual of waking people up by beating drums for Sehri, the pre-dawn meal before the fast-

A traditional drum beater in Bhaderwah spoke to ANI and said, "This is a ritual of worship. This has been going on for centuries. Hindus also used to participate in it. Today there are mobiles, TV, alarm, but people say that without Sehar Khans rituals are incomplete. This is a month of worship. This is a tradition of brotherhood and extending

greetings. We have been doing it for 30 to 35 years. There is a maximum of 4 people." $\,$

In the era of technology, when many people rely on alarm features on various gadgets, these traditional drum beaters make it a

point to continue the legacy.

Earlier, Jammu and Kashmir Chief
Minister Omar Abdullah on March 1 held a meeting with officials of the different departments in view of the holy month of Ramzan.

During the meeting, CM Omar Abdullah instructed officials to ensure the proper supply of electricity and other basic services throughout the month.

"It is the responsibility of the government

to provide facilities to the people. In this connection, a meeting was held today during which a review was taken of every department. Everyone was clearly instructed that there should be no shortcomings in the sup-ply of electricity, especially during the Sehri (pre-dawn meals) and Iftaar (fast-breaking evening meal) timings, water supply, ration, cleanliness, sanitation, and traffic," Omar told reporter.

The Holy month of Ramzan, a period of 30 days of fasting, started on March 2. It is followed by Eid-Ul-Fitr, marking the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of

base provides.

Books on regional history CPI M plan to combat Sangh Parivar's 'cultural nationalism'

Kollam(Kerala) : CPI(M) state secretary M V Govindan on Friday said that the party discussed preparing extensive writings and books about the regional history and culture in order to oppose the RSS and Sangh Parivar's "cultural nationalism" of allegedly "poisonous history and culture". Govindan was speaking to reporters here about the issues discussed during the ongoing CPI(M) state conference which began on Thursday and

will end on Sunday. The CPI(M) state secretary said that the RSS and Sangh Parivar's "cultural nationalism" of poisoning history and culture was discussed along with their alleged attempts at "saffronisation and commercialisation" of higher educational institutions and the methods to oppose the same. He said that party leaders and members were of the view that the RSS and Sangh Parivar's "cultural nationalism" can be opposed by bringing out "extensive writings and books about regional history, culture and lives" for the benefit and understanding of future generations.

Govindan said that such writings have been completed in a few districts like Kollam and Malappuram, but it has to be prepared and made available in all districts of the state.

Another important issue discussed in the conference was the need to increase the internal revenue of the state in view of the Centre's alleged financial restrictions, reduction in grants and lack of adequate assistance for rehabilitation of the Wayanad landslides victims, he said.

The Marxist veteran said that various methods, including inviting capital investment "without any threads attached" and levying fees for government services based on an individual's income status, to increase the state's own revenue were discussed in the conference. "However, these are all pos-

sibilities only. Nothing has been finalised. Any final decision would be taken only after extensive discussions with all stakeholders," he added. He also made it clear that no

steps which are against interests of the people and the state, would be taken.

It is the last state conference of the party in the country ahead of the CPI(M)'s 24th party congress scheduled from April 2 to 6 in Madurai, Tamil Nadu.

SBI launches collateral-free loans for women entrepreneurs Mumbai: SBI on Friday for consumption purposes. As prise units through a digital and

launched a dedicated collateralfree low-interest rate loan offering for women entrepreneurs.

The country's largest lender launched the product christened 'Asmita' on the eve of the International Women's Day under which it aims to offer lowinterest rate funding alternatives to women. The launch comes within days of Transunion Cibil flagging a low preference for business borrowing by women, who tend to prefer borrowing

per the leading credit information company, only 3 per cent of the borrowings by women were for business purposes while a major 42 per cent was for personal finance products like personal loans, consumer durable loans, home ownership and 38 per cent against gold.

The bank's chairman CS Setty said the newly launched product will provide faster and easier finance to women-led micro, small and medium enterself-initiated process. Its MD Vinay Tonse called the new offering a blend of technological innovation and social engineer-

The state-run bank also launched the 'Nari Shakti' platinum debit card powered by RuPay, which is designed exclusively for women.

Its peer Bank of Baroda on Friday launched an initiative for women in the Indian diaspora, which will also help it tap into

the deposit opportunity that the

The 'Bob Global Women

NRE and NRO Savings Account' comes with benefits, such as an auto sweep facility to help customers earn higher interest, concessional rates on home loans and auto loans along with reduced processing charges, 100 per cent concession on locker rent and a customised debit card with free domestic and international lounge access at airports, as per a statement.

Long-term sleep deprivation raises insulin resistance in

WASHINGTON DC [US] : Chronic sleep deprivation, according to one study, can raise insulin resistance in otherwise healthy women, with postmenopausal women seeing the most severe conse-

The study, which was financed by the National Institutes of Health and published in Diabetes Care, stresses the importance of obtaining adequate sleep in lowering the risk of type 2 diabetes, a condition in which the body is unable to use insulin, a critical hormone, to keep blood sugar levels in check.

"Women report poorer sleep than men, so understanding how sleep disturbances impact their health across the lifespan is critical, especially for postmenopausal women," said Marishka Brown, PhD, director of the National Center on Sleep Disorder Research at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), which co-funded the study with the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), both part of NIH.

Previous studies have shown that sleep restriction can elevate the risk for conditions such as cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and disordered glucose metabolism, which can lead to insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. However, many of those studies were done only in men or focused on shortterm, severe sleep restriction.

The current study enrolled only women and sought to determine if a prolonged, mild restriction of sleep - a reduction of just 1.5 hours each night increased women's blood glucose and insulin levels. Insulin helps regulate glucose in the body, and when the body's cells build resistance to insulin, they become less able to use it effectively which can cause a person's risk for prediabetes and type 2 diabetes to rise dra-

For the study, researchers recruited 40 women, aged 20-75, who had healthy sleep patterns (at least 7-9 hours per night), and normal fasting glucose levels, but had elevated risks for cardiometabolic disease due to being overweight or obesity or a family history of type 2 diabetes, increased lipid in the blood, or cardiovascular disease.

To establish a baseline for the study, women wore a sensor on their wrists to record their sleep and determine their typical sleep patterns for two weeks and kept nightly sleep logs. The women then completed two six-week study phases in



a random order - one where they continued to follow their healthy sleep patterns, and one where sleep was restricted. In between they took a six-week break to recalibrate.

During the adequate sleep phase,

participants maintained their typical bed

and wake times. On average, they slept

for 7.5 hours per night. In the sleep

restriction phase, participants delayed their bedtime by 1.5 hours per night, while maintaining their typical wake-

During this phase, they slept 6.2 hours per night, which reflects the average sleep duration of U.S. adults with insufficient sleep. At the beginning and end of each study phase, participants completed an oral glucose tolerance test to measure glucose and insulin blood levels, along with an MRI scan to measure body composition.

The researchers found that restricting sleep to 6.2 hours or less per night over six weeks increased insulin resistance by 14.8 per cent among both preand postmenopausal women, with more severe effects for postmenopausal women - as high as 20.1 per cent.

In premenopausal women, they found that fasting insulin levels rose in response to sleep restriction, while levels of both fasting insulin and fasting glucose tended to increase in post-

menopausal women. "What we're seeing is that more insulin is needed to normalize glucose levels in the women under conditions of sleep restriction, and even then, the insulin may not have been doing enough to counteract rising blood glucose levels of postmenopausal women, said Marie-Pierre St-Onge, PhD, associate professor of nutritional medicine and director of the Center of Excellence for Sleep and Circadian Research at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, and senior author on the study. "If that's sustained over time, it is possible that prolonged insufficient sleep among individuals with prediabetes could accelerate the progression to type 2 diabetes.'

The researchers also looked at whether changes in body weight explained the changes they saw in insulin and glucose levels, as people tend to eat more in sleep-restricted states. However, they found that effects on insulin resistance were largely independent of changes in body weight, and once the women started sleeping their typical 7-9 hours per night again, the insulin and glucose levels returned to normal.

"This study provides new insight into the health effects of even small sleep deficits in women across all stages of adulthood and racial and ethnic backgrounds," said Corinne Silva, PhD, Program Director in the Division of Diabetes, Endocrinology, & Metabolic Diseases at NIDDK.

Researchers are planning additional studies to further understand how sleep deficiency affects metabolism in men and women, as well as explore sleep interventions as a tool in type 2 diabetes prevention efforts.

Nolkata, Satur 8 March 2025 Kolkata, Saturday

Taiwan MOFA fends off Chinese cyberattack as U.S. indicts Beijinglinked hackers

MI News Service, Taipei: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) confirmed yesterday that it was targeted by hackers from China but assured that no data was compro-mised. This follows a Wednesday indictment in the US of a group of alleged Chinese hackers who supposedly aimed at US government agencies, MOFA, and several other foreign governments, according to a report by Taipei Times.

US federal authorities have charged 10 individuals with collaborating to illegally access data from their targets and have imposed sanctions on a Chinese tech firm due to what they described as a prolonged espionage campaign that resulted in the theft of information both in the US and globally, as reported by Taipei Times.

As per the Taipei Times, eight of the indicted individuals were employed by Anxun Information Technology, commonly referred to as i-Soon, while two were af-filiated with the Chinese Ministry of Public Security.

The indictment, along with a separate announcement from the Manhattan District Attorney's office, indicated that i-Soon is recognized as "a significant player in the PRC's [People's Republic of China's] hacker-forhire ecosystem," as cited by Taipei Times. These cyberattacks targeted the US Defense Intelligence Agency, the US Department of Commerce, and the foreign ministries of Taiwan, South Korea, India, and Indonesia, as well as news outlets critical of China and the New York State Assembly, according to the report from Taipei Times. The ministry stated that it has consistently been a target of Chinese cyberattacks due to the sensitive nature of its operations. It confirmed awareness of these hacking attempts and mentioned that a comprehensive investigation had been initiated, concluding that none of the attempts to breach its system were successful, as highlighted by Taipei Times

Australia deploys warships and surveillance aircraft to track Chinese naval task groups near its waters

MI News Service, Canberra: The Australian Navy has deployed three ships and surveillance aircraft to "closely monitor" a Chinese task group operating "near Australia" since mid-February, according to a report by Radio Free Asia (RFA). Richard Marles, also serving as deputy Prime Minister, stated on Thursday that the three Anzac-class frigates - HMAS Stuart, HMAS Warramunga, and HMAS Toowoomba - were tracking the Chinese warships, which were located approximately 500 kilometers (310 miles) northwest of Perth, as reported by RFA. "From the moment this task force entered the vicinity of Australia, in an unprecedented manner, we have been observing their movements," Marles mentioned. "We intend to continue monitoring them as long as they remain in the vicinity of Australia," he added, as cited by RFA. The Chinese task group consists of the Jiangkai-class frigate Hengyang, the Renhaiclass cruiser Zunyi, and the Fuchi-class replenishment vessel Weishanhu.



Ramadan, Friday and the second day of Furfura Sharif's Isa-e-Sawab



MI News Service, Kolkata: Friday was the second day of Furfura Sharif's Isale Sawab. Along with this, people got Friday day as an additional benefit. Naturally, the crowd of people to offer holy prayers gradually went on increasing on this day. Lakhs of religious people appeared at the invitation of Pir Ala Hazrat Dada Huzoor of Furfura Sharif in the state of fasting. As a result, the area of prayer increased by several km with crossing the main court to offer prayers. Prayers were recited from the ancient historical Isa-le-Sawab court established by Dada Huzoor with a prayer. Pir Hazrat Abdullah Siddiqui offered prayers. Pirzada Maulana Sawban Siddiqui delivered an enlightening speech. On this day, Pir

Ansar Siddiqui Hazrat Pirzada Huzur's son Mustafa Madani Siddiqui offered a short prayer from Khanqah. Namaz, Pir Baro Huzur. Pirzada Maulana Ziauddin Siddiqui, Pirzada Ammar Siddiqui and Pirzada Minhaj Siddiqui were busy with philanthropic activities including Iftar.A book titled "Baro Huzur o Furfura Sharif" written by Dr. been published. The highly research book costs onlyRs 200. It is available at the Khangah and the office of Hezbullah. There is a continuous crowd at the shrine. The rare scene of orderly prayers enriched the mahfil. There wass also a large crowd at Pirzada Taha Siddiqui's house. People from different walks of life are attending

Chakraborty attended the Mahfil in the evening and he met the Pirsahebs and requested for prayers. Pirzada Sattar Siddiqui, Pirzada Ehia Siddiqui, Pirzada Ishaq Sid-Pirzada Junaid Siddiqui, Pirzada Uzair Siddiqui, Pirzada Nurullah Siddiqui and Pirzada Affan Siddiqui, Pirzada Naushad Siddiqui, Pirzada Montakim Siddiqui and many other Pirzadas are serving the guests. Many Pirsahebs are sincerely ready to provide emergency services at the police camp, medical camps on behalf of various organizations and the common people. Prayers are being offered for the welfare of the state, the counthe entire try and humanity.

Minister

the Iftar Majlis. MLA and

Snehashis

Banned Islamist group Hizb ut-Tahrir holds first open rally in Bangladesh

MI News Service, Dhaka: Hizb ut-Tahrir, a radical Islamist organisation banned in Bangladesh since October 2009, carried out its first open rally in Dhaka on Friday.Joined by thousands of its members, the group began the rally from the north gate of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque after Friday prayers. The rally was titled "March for Khilafah." Dhaka Tribune reported that a clash erupted between police and members of the banned organization near the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque in Dhaka, Law enforcement intervened to stop the procession, leading to a violent altercation. To disperse the crowd and regain control, police fired tear gas shells and sound grenades. Demonstrators scattered temporarily but they later regrouped and attempted to continue their procession, reported Dhaka Tribune. Hizb ut-Tahrir advocates for the establishment of a global Islamic Caliphate, or Khilafah, which it claims would unite all Muslim-majority countries under a single Islamic government. Earlier in February, Nazmul Ahsan Kalimullah, Professor, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka, admitted that Islamist groups in Bangladesh have got more freedom after Sheikh Hasina left the country. Kalimullah, while speaking to ANI, said that several banned Islamist outfits are active in Bangladesh and are even holding press conferences.

US, Ukraine to hold peace talks in Saudi Arabia next week, Zelensky says

OUR!!!VOICES

MI News Service, Kyiv: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has said that he would travel to Saudi Arabia on Monday for a meeting with Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman ahead of diplomatic-level talks later in the week with US officials. "Next week, on Monday, my visit to Saudi Arabia is planned to meet the Crown Prince. After that, my team will remain in Saudi Arabia to work with our American partners. Ukraine is most interested in peace," Zelensky said.

US President Donald Trump's special envoy, Steve Witkoff, said earlier on Thursday that a meeting with the Ukrainians was planned for next week in Saudi Arabia. He also said discussions were underway with Kyiv for a peace agreement framework and an initial ceasefire.

Witkoff said that Trump was pleased by Zelensky's letter after last Friday's disastrous meeting in the White House. "He felt that Zelensky's letter was a very positive first step. There was an apology. There was an acknowledgement that the United States has done so much for the country of Ukraine and a sense of gratitude," he added. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and others are expected to depart for Riyadh on Tuesday to attend the meeting, which will include Andriy Yermak, a top aide to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenski, media reported.

Donald Trump said he would visit the Kingdom probably over the next month and a half but did not mention a date. "I'm going to Saudi Arabia. I said, I'll go if you pay a trillion dol-



lars, \$1 trillion to American companies, (spreading) the purchase over a four-year period, of a trillion dollars. They've agreed to do that, so I'm going to be going there," Trump said, suggesting a major investment deal with Saudi Arabia.

The meeting signals a warming in US and Ukraine relations since the Oval Office blow-up between Trump and Zelensky last week. Following the row, the US cut off military aid for Ukraine and shut down intelligence sharing with the Ukrainian armed forces.

The announcement came as Zelensky met European Union leaders for an emergency summit in Brussels on the Russia-Ukraine war and security in Europe. The European Union leaders backed new defence spending plans aimed at freeing up billions of euros for the continent's security after the Trump administration signalled that Europe would have to fend for itself in future. The 27 leaders signed off on a move to loosen budget restrictions so that willing EU countries can increase their military spending. They also urged the European Commission to explore new vays "to facilitate significant defence spending at national level in all

Member States," a statement said. The EU's executive branch estimates that around 650 billion euros (\$AUS1.1 billion) could be freed up in this way. Several East European leaders at the summit also welcomed French President Emmanueal Macron's plan of sharing his country's nuclear force to deter attacks. But it was dismissed by the Russian government as "extremely confrontational". The EU's 27 leaders on Thursday greenlit a plan drawn up by the European Commission that aims to mobilize €800 billion to "rearm Europe" against the perceived threat from Russia

Sri Lankan Navy arrests 14 Indian fishermen from Pamban for fishing across border



Service, Lankan Navy arrested 14 fishermen from the Pamban area for fishing across the border and took them to the Mannar Naval Base for investigation, according to the Rameswaram Fishermen Association. The Sri Lankan Navy patrolling the area arrested the fishermen belonging to Salalanga and the 14 fishermen on board for fishing across the border. They have been taken to the Mannar Naval Base for investigation. Earlier on February 27, a group of 25 Indian fishermen who were sent back from Sri Lanka arrived at the Chennai International Airport.

Visuals showed the fishermen arriving at the Chennai Airport. The fish-ermen were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy on charges of crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) and were released from prison. A total of 32 fishermen were arrested on February 23, and their boats were seized. On February 23, fishermen in 440 boats went to sea from Rameswaram. While they were fishing in the Palk

in a patrol boat. They caught 5 boats and apprehended 32 fishermen claiming that they were

fishing across the border. On February 23, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin expressed concern over the increase in the capture of Indian fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy, urging the Centre to convene a Joint Working Group (JWG) to find a permanent solution to the issue. Highlighting the recent arrest of 32 fishermen by Sri Lankan authorities, Stalin had written to the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and said that the JWG would ensure the secure release of all the arrested fishermen and

their boats. The Tamil Nadu CM pointed out that arrests of fishermen from the state are on the rise despite repeated requests to the Sri Lankan government to prevent these arrests. He apprised about the arrests of fishermen in eight separate incidents in 2025, saying that 119 fishermen and 16 boats have been apprehended by the Sri Lankan

US lawmakers call for crackdown on China's illegal trade practices, call for Section 301 investigation

MI News Service, Washington DC: Chairman John Moolenaar and Ranking Member Raja Krishnamoorthi of the Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party have sent a letter to US Attorney General Pam Bondi, Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer urging them to take further action against China's illegal trade practices, according to a report from the Select Committee on CCP (SCCCP). They called for a Section investigation into China's transshipment

makers urged the three ofconduct tee investigations and implement appropriate enforcement measures against companies

that evade US trade laws by unlawfully routing products through third countries. It underscored the significant damthese practices have

caused to various US industries, including automotive parts, textiles, and apparel support, as well as the trafficking of precursor chemi-cals used in the production of fentanyl by China, SCCCP

said in a press release. "The PRC's systematic abuse of US trade laws and protective mechanisms through transshipment, forced labor, and other illicit trade practices represents a clear and urgent threat to American industry and workers. The Select Committee's bipartisan investigative and oversight work

has exposed many examples of relevant concerns. Given such evidence of systemic fraud, we urge your agencies to strengthen enforcement against the PRC's unlawful trade practices, including by criminally prosecuting trade criminals, stepping up civil enforcement, and self-initiating a Section 301 investigation into PRC transshipment schemes", the letter read

"We are reaching out today to urge your agencies to take further actions to enforce US, trade regulations and to address the unlawful practices of the People's Republic of China merce. The Select Commiton the Strategic

Competition between the United



Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has revealed multiple instances of actors based in the PRC violating U.S. trade laws, including the transshipment of products through third countries,' SCCCP press release said.

The US lawmakers noted that failure to hold China accountable for these "unlawful practices" would lead to actors "continuing to inflict severe harm on American industries and

Pakistan: Women's March demands recognition of International Women's Day as national holiday

MI News Service, Islamabad: Organisers of the Women's March held a press conference at the National Press Club on Thursday, urging the government to recognise International Women's Day, marked on March 8, as a national public holiday in Pakistan, Dawn reported.

During the press conference, prominent social activists, including Farzana Bari, Burghari, Nishat Maryam, Zainab Jamil, and Jiya Jaggi, outlined a series of urgent demands aimed at addressing human rights, social justice, and environmental issues in the country.

They emphasised the need for immediate action on gender-based violence, calling for a zero-tolerance policy against all forms of patriarchal violence, as well as the eradication of child marriages.

The activists also demanded the strict enforcement of laws against violence and full implementation of the Transgender Rights Protection Act. They highlighted the importance of ensuring equal



rights for religious minorities, specifically calling for measures to provide them with better access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, Dawn reported.

In addition, the Women's March organisers expressed concerns over the misuse of blasphemy laws, urging immediate amendments to prevent their exploitation.

They also condemned the persecution of Christian, Hindu, Shia, and Ahmadi communities, demanding the protection of their social, political, and economic rights. A significant portion of the press conference focused on the organisers' ongoing strug-

The activists criticised the government for obstructing their efforts to hold gatherings, especially pointing out the repeated difficulties in obtaining Objection Certificates (NOCs) for their events since

gle for the right to peaceful as-

2020, Dawn reported. growing momentum for gender equality and human rights activism in Pakistan.

Union Sports Minister chairs 'Chintan Shivir' to strategise for 2028 LA Olympics, strengthen India's bid for 2036 edition



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday chaired a Mansukh two-day Chintan Shivir focused

on India's preparations for the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics and strengthening the country's bid to host the 2036 Summer Olympics

Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports, Raksha Khadse, was also present on the occasion. The Shivir brought together sports ministers from various States/UTs, senior sports administrators, key government officials, and domain experts to exchange ideas and craft a roadmap for India's emergence as a global sports powerhouse, the ministry said in a release.

Union Minister Mandaviya emphasized that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has envisioned India hosting the 2036 Olympics and urged states to actively contribute to making this ambition a reality. "Chintan Shivir is an initiative guided by the Prime Minister's vision of good governance. This forum allows us to

The Chintan Shivir facilitated dialogue on critical areas such as talent identification, coaching methodologies, sports infrastructure, and sustainable development of sports. Representatives from multiple States/UTs, including Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Haryana, Bihar, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh, shared their best practices, with Dr Mandaviya stressing the importance of learning from each other to accelerate

Highlighting India's vision for becoming a global sporting powerhouse, Dr Mandaviya stated, "Making India a Viksit Bharat by 2047 requires a well-structured collaborative approach towards sports. While sports is a

A key area of discussion was the impact of the Khelo India initiative in identifying and nurturing young athletes. Dr Mandaviya noted that over 2,800 Khelo India academies have been established, and 937 out of 1,045 Khelo India Centres are currently operational. He emphasized the importance of creating a national athlete repository with unique IDs to track talent and ensure their growth within the system.

"We cannot afford to let talent slip through the cracks. A scientific approach in talent identification and management, along with participation from National Sports Federations, is crucial for the Olympic mission,

Dr Mandaviya also underlined

letes between the ages of 9 and 14 and nurturing them for longterm Olympic preparation. He announced that new initiatives under Khelo India, such as beach games, water sports, and indigenous games, will be introduced to encourage regional participation and enhance India's sports cul-

Sports governance was another key theme of the discussions. Delegates underscored the need for enhanced transparency in National Sports Federations to ensure fair selection processes and build confidence among parents to encourage their children to take up sports as a career. The deliberations focused on improving coordination among all stakeholders to foster an athlete-cen-

tric governance model. Infrastructure development

"Out of our hands, wouldn't

coach on travelling to Dubai for

playing CT final against India

worry about it much...": NZ

emphasis on optimizing the utilization of sports infrastructure of States, PSUs, Ministries, and the private sector. The discussions highlighted the need for a sustainable model where stadiums and existing infrastructure are used efficiently. It was also discussed to establish District-Level Sports Schools (DLSSs) by upgrading existing schools to increase grassroots-level talent

scouting and training.

During the day, participants engaged in a meditation session led by Padma Bhushan Daaji, fostering mindfulness and focus. In the evening, a vibrant cultural program was organized, showcasing India's rich cultural heritage through traditional music, dance, and artistic performances, celebrating the nation's diversity

ICC PLAYER OF THE MONTH NOMINEES ANNOUNCED: SHUBMAN GILL. GLENN PHILLIPS, STEVE SMITH SHORTLISTED FOR FEB 2025 AWARD

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Australian batting icon Steve Smith, Indian opener Shubman Gill and New Zealand all-rounder Glenn Phillips were shortlisted for the ICC Men's Player of the Month for February 2025 by ICC on Friday.

These picks were chosen considering some strong performances during the Australia tour of Sri Lanka, India's home white-ball series against England, the tri-nation series between Pakistan, New Zealand, and South Africa in Pakistan, and the ICC Champions Trophy, as per the

Smith's experience and excellence in Asia shone brightly during the Test series against Sri Lanka. He scored 141 and 131 in the two matches his side played there, with a strike-rate of 136.00. He was named Player of the Series in recognition of those efforts.

In the one-day series, he scored 12 and 29, and then, going into the ICC Champions Trophy - which turned out to be his last international tournament in the format - he go five against England and then not out against Afghanistan.

Coming to Gill, in his five ODIs over the course of February, he made 406 runs, averaging 101.50 at a strikerate of 94.19.

That included three great knocks against England in their three-match series - 87 in Nagpur, 60 in Cuttack, and 112 in Ahmedabad, which earned him the 'Player of the Series' award, the number one ranking spot in ICC ODI Rankings and plenty of momentum ahead of the ICC Champions

Trophy. It was no surprise that his first knock in the tournament was an unbeaten 101 against Bangladesh, followed by a valuable 46 against Pakistan.

Finally, always brilliant in the field, Phillips weighed in with the bat over the month for the Black Caps.

KKR's IPL 2024 Trophy Tour makes grand entrance in Patna

PATNA: Kolkata Knight Riders' landmark Trophy Tour continued its journey to celebrate their third TATA IPL title, making a memorable stop in Patna to engage with passionate fans in the city.

In Patna, the trophy was showcased at the historic Golghar, where fans gathered to catch a glimpse of the prestigious silverware. The trophy was also displayed in all its magnificence along the banks of river Ganga at the cultural landmark, Bhadra The tour made its final stop in

Patna at City Center Mall, where enthusiastic supporters had the opportunity to interact with the trophy and celebrate KKR's triumphant 2024 campaign. With the enthusiasm for the

upcoming season building up, KKR's historic Trophy Tour continues to engage with fans across the region. Before the trophy returns to Kolkata, March 9 will see the prestigious award in Durgapur, as the tour reaches its



Kolkata Knight Riders will kick off their TATA IPL 2025 campaign Royal Challengers Bengaluru on March 22 at the iconic Eden Gardens.

Please find the images for the Trophy Tour attached.

The Knight Riders brand is a global brand in International Cricket, with eight trophies to its name and four professional franchises under its wings - Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the TATA IPL, Trinbago Knight Riders (TKR) in the Caribbean Premier League, Abu Dhabi Knight Riders (ADKR) in UAE's International League T20 and Los Angeles Knight Riders (LAKR) in USA's Major League Cricket, making it one of the most versatile brands in T20

ances in the TATA IPL final, winning the championship thrice (2012, 2014, 2024). They finished runners-up in the 2021 season, staging one of the most remarkable comebacks in the tournament's history. TKR's Men's Team has won the CPL championship 4 times in 10 years since the Knight Riders took over the franchise. They are the most successful team in the Caribbean and hold a unique feat of having won the trophy in 2020 without losing a single game in the whole tournament. TKR Women, the Knight Riders' first ever Women's Team, were champions of the inaugural WCPL in 2022.

For many years now, the Knight Riders Academy has been actively scouting talented cricketers from across India and around the world. The sole objective of the Academy is to identify and help cricketers make an overall round-the-year improvement in their cricketing skills and

team would not worry too much about change in venue from "Amelia Kerr was brave enough to toss the ball Lahore to Dubai from semifinal to the title clash, saying that the situation is "out of their hands" and since they have played a game against India in Dubai

up": Mithali Raj praises Kerr's tactical brilliance



LUCKNOW (UTTAR PRADESH): A stellar all-round performance from Amelia Kerr guided Mumbai Indians (MI) to a commanding sixwicket victory over UP Warriorz in their Women's Premier League (WPL) clash in Lucknow. While Hayley Matthews set the tone with a crucial half-century, it was Kerr's exceptional bowling that stole the show as she dismantled

the opposition with figures of 5/38. Speaking exclusively on JioHotstar, former India captain Mithali Raj praised Kerr's approach, highlighting her tacti- a match-winner.

"At one point, when the UP Warriorz had a strong opening partnership, it seemed like Mumbai Indians were searching for a breakthrough. But once they got that wicket, Amelia Kerr was brave enough to toss the ball up even to Kiran Navgire and Chinelle Henry. She adjusted her line to be a little wider, ensuring they couldn't play within their preferred arc," Mithali explained.

Kerr's ability to read the conditions and execute her variations

made the difference in the game. "Today, she bowled with a clear plan, adapting well to the surface and using her variations effectively. The best part was how she dismissed Deepti Sharma and Chinelle Henry--bowling with a wider line and tossing it up,

Mithali added. Kerr's impact has been immense for Mumbai Indians this season. Even when her contributions with the bat have been limited, she has consistently delivered with the ball, proving her worth as Dinesh Vrinda (10) provided a

she has proven this season that even when she isn't delivering with the bat, she remains a match-winner with the ball for Mumbai Indians," Mithali con-

With this win, MI has climbed up to the second spot with four wins and two losses, giving them eight points, strengthening their playoff qualification prospects.

MI won the toss and opted to field first. Openers Grace Harris and Georgia Voll gave the hosts a fine start, stitching a 74-run stand in eight overs. Matthews got the crucial wicket of Grace for 28 in 25 balls, with three fours and a

Voll also cruised to her fifty in 29 balls, with 11 fours. However, Amelia started her reign of spin by removing Kiran Navgire (0), while Nat-Sciver Brunt removed Voll for 55 in 33 balls, with 12 fours. UPW was 90/3 in 10.2 overs

After skipper Deepti Sharma (27 in 25 balls, with two fours) and overs, Kerr took some crucial wickets in the middle order, reducing UPW to 125/7 in 17

Sophie Ecclestone's quickfire 16 took UPW to 150/9 in their 20 overs. Kerr (5/38) was the top wicket-taker for MI, while Matthews took two wickets. Nat Sciver and Parunika Sisodia got a

scalp each. In the run-chase of 151 runs, Chinelle Henry got back at Amelia, removing her for 10, leaving MI at 24/1 in three overs. However, a 92-run stand between Hayley and Nat Sciver (37 in 23 balls, with seven fours) pretty much snatched the game from UPW, taking MI beyond the 100-

run mark in 11 overs. However, Grace removed Nat Sciver and Matthews was also cleaned up for 68 in 46 balls, with eight fours and two sixes. Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur was also removed for four by Grace, leaving MI at 137/4 in 16.3 overs in a

undefeated in the tournament so far, and the Kiwis have looked rock solid with bat and ball under Mitchell Santner's cap-The clash promises to be an epic sequel to the 2000 ICC Champions Trophy final, which New Zealand won. Men in Blue would like to avenge losses to the Blackcaps in the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup semifinal and

World

Championship final.

DUBAI [UAE] : Ahead of the ICC

Champions Trophy final clash

against India, New Zealand head

coach Gary Stead said that his

before during the group stages,

tney will be using it as a learning

in the final of the ICC Champions

Trophy on March 9 at the Dubai

International Stadium. India is

India will play New Zealand

experience.

India did not travel to Pakistan due to security reasons and played all their matches in Dubai, unlike other teams in the tournament who had to travel from Pakistan to Dubai and viceversa during the league stage and semifinal for their matches. With teams having to adapt to different playing conditions, it has generated some controversy in cricketing circles, with excricketers like Nasser Hussain and Michael Atherton being among the personalities having alleged that the scheduling offers an advantage to India because they have a massively reduced travel time, play at just one venue where they know the conditions well and selected their squad keeping Dubai in

Speaking on the situation to the media, Stead said, "Decision around that it is out of our hands. We will not worry about that too much. India have got to play all their games here in Dubai, but as you said, we have had a game here, and we will learn very quickly from that experience. When you come to this stage of the tournament, it is always exciting to be in this situation. If we are good enough to beat India on Sunday, then I am sure we will be very happy."

"I think there is no doubt that coming here or playing Lahore and we had a full day of travel yesterday, then it just takes it out of you a little bit, but we have got a couple of days now of a little bit of recovery and a little bit of planning and training towards the game, but I guess we are deep into the tournament now and sometimes it is not always a lot of training that you need. It is just getting your body and your mind right to compete in the final and that will be our key focus over the next two days," he

Stead said that regarding travelling from high-scoring, batting friendly conditions in Pakistan to more bowlingfriendly surfaces in Dubai, it is all about adapting.
"I think that is just about

adapting and working out on your feet what you think the pass score is for the day and I guess trying to be a little bit ahead of that. I think the danger is you come from scoring 360odd in a game, and you think you will do that again immediately, and you go a little bit hard. So for us it is just working out what are the right tactics on the day, who we are faced up against as well, and then adapting to that," said Stead.

Notably, after India marched to the final with a four-wicket win over Australia, head coach Gautam Gambhir quickly dismissed the idea that his side had received such an advantage. He went on to state in a hypothetical scenario that if India travelled to Pakistan, they would have still gone for two front-line spinners, considering the subcontinental conditions.

"First of all, this is as neutral a venue for us as it is for any other team. We have not played here. I don't remember which tournament we played in this stadium last. And in fact, we didn't plan anything like that. The plan was that if you pick two front-line spinners in the 15man squad, then even if we played in Pakistan or anywhere, we would have picked two frontline spinners because it was a competition on the subcontinent. So, it was nothing like we wanted to set up a spinners' trap. If you look at it, we only played one front-line spinner in the first three matches," Gambhir said during the post-match press

Gambhir went on to take an aim at "perpetual cribbers" and asked them to grow up while ruling out the probability of India receiving an undue advantage. "We only played two front-

"My dream is to help India win World Cup": India all-rounder Sayali Satghare



LUCKNOW (UTTAR PRADESH): India all-rounder Sayali Satghare, currently playing for Gujarat Giants in the Women's Premier League (WPL), has set her sights on making the national squad for the upcoming ICC Women's Cricket World Cup. With the tournament set to be hosted in India this year, Satghare is determined to contribute to India's dream of lifting the trophy.

MYK

"First, the goal is to win the WPL trophy. Looking ahead, we have a home World Cup, and my dream is to be a part of that team and help India win," Satghare

"Playing a World Cup at home will be an incredible experience,

Satghare's rise in Indian cricket has been a story of perseverance. Reflecting on her journey, she recalled how she was initially picked as a replacement for Gujarat Giants last season but did not get a chance to play.

"After that, my focus was on working hard and improving in all aspects of my game. I spent the next three to four months pushing myself to get better," she

"Later, we had a camp at the National Cricket Academy (NCA), which led to my selection for

India A's tour of Australia. I performed well there and followed it up with a strong domestic season. It has been a journey of ups and downs, but staying consistent and believing in myself has helped me. Playing for India has been a dream come true since childhood," she added.

Playing for Gujarat Giants has been a valuable experience for Satghare, who spoke highly of the environment within the team.

"For the past two seasons, the franchise has taken great care of us. Being part of the WPL is a massive opportunity, especially playing alongside overseas players. You get to learn so much from them," she said.

"Our foreign players have been incredibly supportive, always sharing their experiences. The coaching staff has also placed a lot of trust in us," she

The all-rounder praised Gujarat Giants' captain Ashleigh Gardner, highlighting her calm demeanour on the field.

"She's very composed, which helps us in tough situations. On the field, she constantly communicates with us about our game plans, making sure everything is clear," Satghare noted.

She also spoke about wicketkeeper-batter Beth Mooney's influence. "Beth Mooney is in exception-

al form. From the time I have seen her play for Australia, I don't think I've ever seen a match where she hasn't scored. So, actually, we always talk to her about how she's consistent in any situation or any condition whether she's playing in Australia or India. When she's playing elsewhere, she's always

scoring runs. So, we try to pick her mindset," she said.

Among her teammates, Satghare mentioned the West Indies cricketer Deandra Dottin as someone she looks up to.

"Her self-belief is incredible. No matter the situation, she backs herself completely. That's something we can all learn from," she added.

As an all-rounder, Satghare draws inspiration from Australian cricketing stars.

'Ellyse Perry has always been an inspiration, but currently, the all-rounder I admire most is Annabel Sutherland. She is young but makes significant contributions with both bat and ball. I really like how she approaches the game," she said.

Gujarat Giants had an inconsistent start to the tournament but bounced back strongly.

line spinners in this match or the previous match. So, it was nothing like that.

conference.