# Morning India

#### **State govt** committed to welfare of farmers:



News

Kolkata: West Bengal

Chief Minister Mamata

Service,

Banerjee said her government has taken several initiatives for farmers of the state, and it will continue to work for their welfare. Banerjee, in a post on X, said farmers toil throughout the year, and "I applaud their hard work - they are our pride". "We try to do as much as we can for our farmer brothers and sisters of Bengal within our limited capacity. Financial assistance under 'Krishakbandhu' scheme, monetary help in the event of death while working, bearing the full cost of crop insurance premiums, financial assistance in case of natural calamities, purchasing paddy from farmers at a fair price to stop distress sale of crops, providing farmer pension, starting 186 'Kisan Mandis', providing free agricultural machinery - we have done everything," she

said. The chief minister said the state govern-ment also launched the 'Bangla Sashya Bima' (Bengal Crop Insurance Project) in 2019. "In the days to come, our government will continue to stand by our farmer friends in this manner,' Banerjee asserted.

#### Voice of Trump triumphs over Voice of America

MI News Service, Washington: More than 1,300 'Voice of America' workers were put on leave on Sunday, a day after Donald Trump signed an executive order gutting the government-funded media outlet's parent and other media agen-

Hundreds of employees at Voice of America, Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe and other outlets received a weekend email saying they would be barred from their offices and should surrender press passes and office-issued equip-

Trump, who has already deprived the US global aid agency and the Education Department, on Friday issued an executive order listing the US Agency for Global Media as among "elements of the federal bureaucracy that the president has determined are unnecessary.'

The Agency for Global Media is considered to be an arm of US diplomacy, running media organisations like Voice of America, that transmit the country's domestic news to other countries, often translated into local languages. Radio Free Asia, Europe, and Marti beam news into countries with authoritarian regimes in those regions like China, North Korea, and Russia. By Saturday morn-

ing, many journalists **▶▶** Continued on page 3

**Mamata** 



A giant tortoise seen inside its enclosure, at Zoological Garden Alipore in Kolkata on Sunday.

# **Each attempt at peace** met with hostility: Modi

MI News Service, New Delhi: After years of carefully crafting his media appearances, PM Modi finally has another podcast to his name. After a freewheeling chat with Zerodha cofounder Nikhil Kamath in January, the Indian Prime Minister is now part of a three-hour-long interaction with American scientist Lex Frid-

PM Modi opened the podcast with a message for neighbours Pakistan. He said, "We sincerely hope that wisdom prevails upon Pakistan and they choose path of peace; even people of

Pakistan long for peace."

Modi said that he had invited Pakistan for his swearing-in ceremony to turn over a new leaf, but "but each attempt at peace was met with hostility and betrayal.

Speaking on India's stance on peace, Modi stated, "Whenever we speak of peace, the world listens to us because India is the land of Gautam Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi.'

The Prime Minister also emphasised his deep connection with the people of India, stating, "My strength lies not in my name but in the backing of 1.4 billion Indians and the country's timeless culture and heritage. When I shake hands with world leaders, it's not Modi but 1.4 billion Indians doing so.'

Modi also reflected on his early life, highlighting the hardships he faced. He recalled his childhood in poverty, saying, "My childhood was spent in extreme poverty. I collected used chalk in school to polish my white canvas shoes.

On criticism and democracy, Modi asserted, "I welcome criticism; I have a strong belief that it is the soul of democracy."

During the conversation, Modi also referred to a higher purpose behind his leadership. "I'm here for a purpose, sent by a higher power, but I am not alone; the one who sent me is always with me," he said.

Throughout his ten years as Prime Minister, Modi has drawn criticism for his reluctance to face unscripted media interactions. Even West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee highlighted this pattern last year, challenging Modi to a press conference where journalists could "freely ask their questions."

"Prepare a dais. Come with your teleprompter, as you can't speak without it. I won't have anything and I shall be alone. You may bring 10 of-

MI News Service, New

York: SpaceX's Crew-10

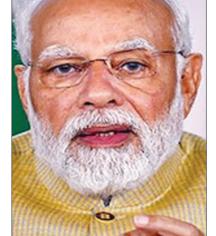
docked at the Interna-

tional Space Station (ISS)

on Sunday, March 16,

mission

successfully



ficers along," Banerjee said at an election rally in May 2024.

Modi's most recent presser happened at the White House when he visited Donald Trump earlier this

Before that, he had held only one press conference during his decade fore the 2019 election results.

Even then, he addressed the media briefly before diverting questions to Amit Shah, who was then the BJP president. Modi justified this approach by stating that "being a disciplined soldier of the party," he couldn't answer questions when the party president was present.

Instead of press conferences, Modi has preferred one-to-one interviews with journalists widely perceived as favorable to his government. Before the general election last year, he gave dozens of such interviews to national TV channels and major newspapers.

Opposition parties have characthese interviews as "scripted," alleging that questions

and answers are pre-decided. Journalists interviewing Modi rarely ask follow-up questions or challenge his statements, even when

In space for nearly a yr, Sunita

Williams to return this wk

as his assertion that he is "convinced that his birth was not biological" and that "God has sent me." When questioned about his

making extraordinary claims - such

avoidance of press conferences during an interview with Aaj Tak, Modi provided an elaborate response that critics say didn't directly address the

"Most of the time, the media has been used [by those in power]. This has become a culture now. They think you don't need to do anything, just control the media and tell them what you want to say, and it will spread around the country. I don't want to follow that path. I want to work hard. I want to reach the poor people's doorsteps," he said. Modi argued that he has "intro-

duced a new work culture" and highlighted that direct communication with people is now possible without involving the media.

Today, you have to talk to the public. There is two-way communication. The public can also speak without the media," he stated.

He further claimed that "today's media is not what it used to be," suggesting that journalists are now identified with their personal views rather than being "faceless" as they were in the past.

Modi made a rare exception to his press-avoidance stance during a visit to the White House in June 2023, where he took questions from journalists. However, this came only after intense negotiations, with Indian officials agreeing to the event

just a day before it took place. According to sources familiar with the arrangements, Biden administration officials had to explain to Modi's advisers that taking questions from the media was a standard part of White House state visits. Even then, the format was more limited than typical press conferences held with foreign leaders.

When pressed on human rights concerns by an American reporter, Modi defended India by saying "democracy runs in our veins" and insisting that there is "absolutely no space for discrimination.

Modi also used the platform to outline his vision for "Viksit Bharat" (Developed India) by 2047, emphasising his focus on "Aspirational India" as the driving force behind his governance.

# State polls warm-up: **Abhishek holds virtual** meet with party leaders

MI News Service, Kolkata: Taking a leaf out of the chief minister and the Trinamul Congress chairperson Mamata Banerjee's book, her nephew and party's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee held a virtual meet with party leaders. He is supposed to have firmed up strategies to go whole hog to cleanse voters' list of alleged fake voters by restructuring committees in the districts and block level.

Banerjee's virtual meeting had over 4,500 Trinamul leaders in attendance, where he asked party leaders to remain circumspect while accomplishing the mis-

sion of cleansing voters' list.

"In Delhi, where the Assembly polls took place after seven months of the Lok Sabha polls, about 4.12 lakh new voters' were added by manipulation in the voters' list. In Maharashtra, 39 lakh voters were added in four months, of which maximum were fake voters to win polls. There are 78 such Assembly constituencies in Maharashtra, where about 18 lakh alleged new voters had been added and of which in 68 Assembly constituencies the BJP came up triumphs. This could not be a coincidence," Banerjee is believed to have told the party leaders. Trinamul national general secretary further said that but their manipulations notwithstanding, "We have seen through their tricks of manipulations and won't let them succeed by repeating the show here.'

will be formed. From 21-27 March, block committees were to be formed, whereas from 28 March-3 April, anchal & ward committees will be formed, he is believed to have said.

Elaborating further, the source further claimed that I-Pac would work in close coordination with the district leaders.

"We have noticed many people are trying to extort money in the name of I-Pac or my office. We filed a police complaint against those," he is supposed to have said. A phone number (8142681426) has been shared to report if anyone tried to claim that he is from I-Pac and dupe or extort money.

He also said that only people from his office can give any instructions. Should such a situation arise, leaders should contact his office first to verify things.

He also cautioned leaders to refrain from indulging any internal bickering that would cost the party dear. Citing some examples, he told them to behave responsibly for sake of the party's success and refrain from any work that would endanger the party's prospects in the upcoming Assembly polls.

A 10-min video was played to train the party leaders. He said that training camps in every Assembly Constituencies will be organised so that ground leaders can carry out verification accordingly.

# **Anti-Shariat: Cleric** targets MD Shami's daughter for playing Holi

MI News Service, New Delhi: A cleric who had claimed cricketer Mohd Shami committed a sin by not fasting during Ramzan has described the Holi celebrations of the pacer's daughter as "illegal" and 'against Shariat".

In a video released, All India Muslim Jamaat president Maulana Shahabuddin Razvi said, "She is a small girl ... If she plays Holi without understanding (it), then it is not a crime." "If she is sensible and still plays Holi, then it will be considered against Shariat," he added.

Razvi said he had advised Shami to follow the tenets of Islam earlier as well. Despite that, a video was released of his daughter celebrating Holi.

"I have appealed to Shami and his family members ... Whatever is not in Shariat, do not let

a very big festival for Hindus but Muslims should avoid celebrating Holi. If someone celebrates Holi after knowing Shariat, it is a crime," he said.

vour children do it. Holi is

He also congratulated the Indian cricket team for its recent victory in the ICC Champions Trophy. "I congratulate Team

India's captain, all the players, and Mohammad Shami from the bottom of my heart on their success," he said. Earlier this month, Razvi had said Shami com-

mitted a sin by not fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramzan. In video message, he

suggested that those, including Shami, who could not keep fast should do it after Ramzan.

Razvi also instructed Shami to urge his family

members not to belittle Shariat.

On March 6, after Shami was seen drinking from a bottle during an ICC Champions Trophy match against Australia, the cleric had said, "In the eves of Shariat, he is a criminal. He should not have done this at all." He had also advised Shami to follow the rules of Shariat.

"It is the responsibility of all Muslims to follow the rules of Shariat. Fasting is obligatory in Islam. If a person does not intentionally keep a fast, he is considered a sinner, according to Islamic law," Razvi had said.

"Playing cricket is not bad but Mohammed Shami should fulfil his religious responsibilities. I advise Shami to follow the rules of Sharia and be responsible towards his religion," he had added.

### **Gunmen shot dead LeT man Abu Qatal,** ally of 26/11 master-mind Hafiz Saeed

MI News Service, Islamabad: Lashkar-e-Taiba's (LeT) top commander --Abu Qatal -- was gunned down in Pakistan, according to reports.

Qatal, whose real name was Zia-ur-Rehman, was a key operative of the terror group, and was a close associate of 26/11 mastermind Hafiz Saeed. He was instrumental in several terror attacks in Jammu & Kashmir, including the June 9 ambush on a bus carrying pilgrims returning from the Shiv Khori temple in Reasi district.

According to sources, the attack took place around 7pm in the Jhelum

area, near Zeenat Hotel close to Dina Punjab University. Oatal was travelling with his security detail when "unidentified gunmen" ambushed his convoy, firing 15 to 20 rounds. Qatal and one of his guards were killed on the spot, while another guard

sustained critical injuries. Despite being under heavy protection from the Pakistan Army, which had assigned both Lashkar operatives and plainclothes military personnel to his security, Qatal was targeted in what appears to be a well-coordinated strike.

Former DGP of Jammu

& Kashmir Sheesh Paul Vaid took to his X handle to say "well done, boys"

Appointed as Lashkare-Taiba's chief operational commander by Saeed himself, he was responsible for executing high-profile terror operations in the region. His name also appeared in the National Investigation Agency's (NIA) chargesheet for his involvement in the 2023 Rajouri attack, which resulted in the death of seven

Authorities are now investigating the motive behind his assassination and the identity of the attack-

#### **BJP govt's 'Bodo Accord' countered Cong's** anti-Assamese policy: Amit Shah

MI News Service, Guwahati: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Congress made fun when the BJP-led government signed the Bodo accord, but it brought peace and development in the re-

Addressing the 57th annual conference of the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) in Assam's Kokraihar. Shah said the Centre gave Rs 1,500 crore for the development of Bodoland, which has a population of 35 lakh.

Shah also exhorted the



clauses of the Bodo accord has been implemented and the remaining will be done in the next two years

Bodo youths preparing for the 2036 Olympics, which is proposed Ahmedabad.

#### bringing hope for the reto enter the ISS after 1:05 turn of two stranded am EST (10:35 am IST), astronauts where astronaut Wilmore Sunita Williams and Butch will greet them. Sunita Williams and Wilmore Wilmore — who have been in orbit for months. have been stranded on the The space capsule, launched on Friday from ISS since June due to technical issues with Boeing's

nauts

Wilmore.

ing themselves with the

ISS alongside NASA astro-

The crew is expected

Williams and

Texas, arrived at the ISS Starliner spacecraft. at 12:05 am EST (9:35 am Their return was IST). SpaceX's Dragon scheduled after the eightday mission, but persist-ent problems delayed capsule took about 28.5 hours to travel from Earth to the ISS. The spacecraft their journey home. Plans to send them back after carried four astronauts — Crew-9's arrival in August Anne McClain and Nichole were also scrapped due to Ayers from NASA, Takuya Onishi from Japan's JAXA, the lack of an emergency and Kirill Peskov from escape pod.

Russia's Roscosmos. Now, with Crew-10 They will spend the successfully docked,

next few days familiariz-Williams and Wilmore will finally get a chance to return to Earth along with Crew-9. Despite the delay, the

mission is now back on track, ensuring that the long-awaited return of the stranded astronauts is just around the corner. Earlier, the astronaut duo were scheduled to return to Earth by March-end but it was preponed after US President Donald Trump urged SpaceX Musk to bring them back early.

to enter the ISS after 1:05 am EST (10:35 am IST), where astronaut Wilmore will greet them. Sunita Williams and Wilmore have been stranded on the ISS since June due to technical issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft.

The crew is expected

Their return was scheduled after the eightday mission, but persistproblems delayed their journey home. Plans to send them back after Crew-9's arrival in August were also scrapped due to the lack of an emergency escape pod. Now, with Crew-10

successfully docked. Williams and Wilmore will finally get a chance to return to Earth along with Crew-9. According to SpaceX

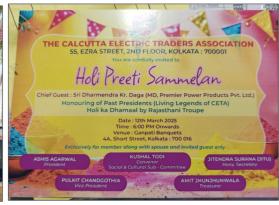
founder Elon Musk, their return flight is expected to begin in the coming days. Crew-10's mission was initially planned for Wednesday evening but was postponed due to an issue with a ground support clamp arm on the

He said 82 per cent of

For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com

# "Holi Preeti Sammelan"





MI News Service, Kolkata: Calcutta Electric Traders Association organized "Holi Preeti Sammelan" at Ganpati Banquet. First of all, the President Mr. Ashish Agarwal welcomed everyone and wished them Happy Holi. The chief guest of the program, Mr. Dharmendra Daga wished everyone Happy Holi. Congratulations were sent; Pradeep Jyoti Agarwal ji, Advisor to the Chairman in Ambuja Group, Susil ji Hirawat of Jigo, Babli bhai of Pritam, Sunil Jain of S.K.Industrial

Grandpa, kid killed in road

MI News Service, Siliguri:

A 55-year-old man and his granddaughter died in a

road accident on the Jal-

paiguri-Siliguri Road on the outskirts of Jalpaiguri

Sources said the victim,

Suku Pal, went to his

daughter's place at Panga

Battala near Jalpaiguri

town, driving his own e-

rickshaw. From there, he

picked up his two-and-a-

half-vear-old granddaugh-

ter, Radhika Roy, planning

to celebrate Holi with her

at his home in Panpara,

ward 16 of Jalpaiguri

While they were on their way to Pal's house,

the e-rickshaw collided

head-on with a goods vehi-

verely damaged in the im-

pact. The other vehicle fled

his granddaughter and rushed them to the Jal-

paiguri Government Medical College & Hospital.

The e-rickshaw got se-

Locals rescued Pal and

However, doctors on duty pronounced them

As the news of the

deaths spread, a section of

local residents blocked the

road at the accident spot

around 2.30pm, alleging

that traffic police should have been able to prevent

police station reached the

spot and cleared the road

a case and are in search of

Trio held with fake notes,

MI News Service, Alipurd-

cannabis in Alipurduar

Police from the Kotwali

Police have registered

the accident.

after an hour.

the other vehicle.

cle at Jha Bari More.

town on Saturday.

accident on Jalpaiguri-

Siliguri Road

were also present; in the Ranga Rang program of Holi Dhamal, first of all all the former presidents of the organization were honored with turban, scarf and memento were presented. President Mr. Ashish Agarwal, Vice President Mr. Pulkit Chandgothia, Secretary Mr. Jitendra Surana, Treasurer Mr. Amit Jhunjhunwala, Convenor Mr. Kushal Todi, Joint Secretary Mr. Manish Gupta and Mr. Prakash Singh honoured everyone. After this, colours were also showered in the colourful songs of Master Bhawar and artists who came from Rajasthan. Children, Old and young alike were seen dancing to Holi songs.

There was also a great arrangement of delicious food at this Holi gathering in Seta. There were stalls of delicious food from South Indian, Punjabi, Gujarati, Kashmiri and Chiwhich people thoroughly enjoyed. Women and children attended this family function and made it more dignified. The former president of the organization, Mr.

Sanjay Kumar Singhi, conducted the stage very efficiently. Everyone was awarded Holi titles. Everyone praised the event wholeheartedly. Mr. Gautam Begani, Mr. Minesh Thakrar, Mr. Saurabh Somani etc. played a significant role in making the

program successful.
CETA is grateful to all the former presidents and sponsors who played a significant role in making this program successful. This event would not have been possible without their support and cooperation.

# Loan takers allegedly kill usurer

MI News Service, Nadia: Two youths were accused of killing a usurer (creditor) and floating his body in a river on the night of Dol. The body was recovered on Saturday afternoon. The family of the victim had accused the duo. The incident took place at Taherpur police station area under Ranaghat police district in Nadia, police said. Police have already started investigating the murder case. The CCTV footage in the area are being examined.It was reported that a body was recovered from the Churni river at Taherpur police station limits under Nadia's Ranaghat police district on Saturday afternoon. The doctors on duty declared the man dead when he was taken to the hospital. The name and

identity of the deceased

was later known. The family of victim Nasuram Biswas (58) alleged that the two loan recipients had called Nasuram to a liquor party and they murdered him to syphon the loan amount. Police have not yet arrested anyone in the incident. However, investigators said that police was in search for the two accused.The deceased was identified as Nasuram Biswas. According to local and police sources, Nasuram, a resident of Basbpur under Taherpur PS area, was an usurer (pawn broker). A few days ago, he provided a lot of money to two local youths as loan on interest. The family alleged that those two youth had called Nasuram to a liquor party on the day of Dol. While Nasuram got intoxicated (drunken), the duo

hit him with sharp weapons. After the murder, they floated the body in the water of the Churni river.On Friday, the family did not find Nasuram overnight. Police recovered an unidentified body on Saturday afternoon. As police was aware about the issue of missing of Nasuram, informed his family to the spot where the body was recovered. The family there identified the body. It was Nasuram.After this, the police suspected that the two youths had planned to kill Nasuram to absorb the loan amount.Ranaghat Police District Superintendent Sunny Raj said, "The body has been recovered and sent to the autopsy. On the basis of the allegations, the police have launched an investigation into the



Congress activists took part in a protest rally against the BJP in Kolkata on, Sunday.

### 3,000 hardy saplings for orange growers: Cofam aims to revive hill agriculture

uar: Alipurduar police on Saturday arrested three The Centre of Floriculture persons, including a woman, and seized narand Agri-Business Mancotics and fake Indian currency notes (FICN) from agement (Cofam), which functions under the North Bengal University (NBU) them. The arrested trio of here, has come up with re-Saidul Mian, Nur Islam fined saplings to help orange growers in the hills.
"We have grown and Mamata Dutta are

from Choudhurihat area of have grown around 3,000 the neighbouring Cooch orange saplings. These have been Behar district. Police sources said a sourced through advanced team of the Samuktala pografting techniques. They have improved disease relice station acted on a tipoff on Saturday morning sistance and a better surand intercepted an e-rickvival rate. The saplings shaw in Haldibari, a localwill ensure a higher yield NH31C in and start bearing fruits in Samuktala. three years," said Amaren-

dra Kumar Pandey, the

practical demonstrator of

According to him, Cofam will distribute the

saplings among orange

growers of Darjeeling and

saplings will also be

planted in vacant plots of

tea gardens. We will dis-

cuss this initiative with the

Kalimpong.

"Some

"The trio started from Choudhurihat on an erickshaw and travelled a distance of around 70km to reach Haldibari," said a

As they were searched, 10.4 kilos of cannabis in two packets, and fake Indian currency of a face value of 12,500 in denominations of 500, were seized from them.

Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) and want to provide a sustainable solution for farmers grappling with shrinking orange orchards and falling productivity," added

> In the Darjeeling hills, orange production has declined over the past decade due to pest attacks and poor farming practices. According to sources, the annual orange production has come down to 29 metric tonnes in recent years from its peak of 52 metric

> "A combination of climate change, erratic weather patterns, and increasing vulnerability to pests and diseases, has led to a sharp decrease in both yield and fruit quality. The farmers are unable to cope with these difficulties and some of them have begun shifting to other crops or, in some cases, leaving land

> fallow," said Pandey. Altogether, orange is

mated area of 4,150 hectares in the hills.

The representatives of Cofam said they would distribute the saplings in orange plantation zones like Mirik, Kurseong, Bunkulung, Tode and some other

A source in the NBU said Cofam's initiative was not just about reintroducing saplings but also about bringing the farmers back into citrus farming, ensuring they had proper trainresources

support. "We are also working on a plan to increase the production of such grafted saplings, which take about three years to yield fruit. If more such saplings are planted, it is expected that saplings will bring a significant turnaround in output and help both small and large-scale farmers to regain their confidence in orange farming," said the

# **GST Amnesty Scheme Section 128 A-A Resolution to Tax Disputes**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Many amendments have been made in GST since its inception in 2017, the government has been constantly trying to ensure that the business class does not face any inconvenience.

Recently, Morning India had a conversation with renowned Chartered Accountant Mr. Anup Kumar Luharukaof Kolkata regarding the GST Amnesty Scheme which has become applicable from 1st November

He stated that Section 128A of the CGST Act has been implemented from November 1, 2024 and the scheme is aimed at providing relief to the business person and taxpay-

CA AnupLuharuka said, This scheme provides for complete waiver of interest or penalty or both to eligible taxpayers under section 128A of the CGST Act, in respect of tax demands arising for the financial year 2017-18, 2018-19 or 2019-20, if the taxpayer has paid the tax demand by March 31, 2025.

The scheme provides complete waiver of interest or penalty or both for the financial years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 in the follow-

The taxpayer has been issued a notice under section 73,

Order u/s Section 73 has

The taxpayer has filed an appeal or an appeal order has been

Appeal has been filed in higher jurisdiction, but the order has not yet been issued.

If we understand these things in simple language, then if the taxpayer has paid the complete amount of tax in any level i.e, adjudication or appeal or higher appeal, then he is eligible to get relief of complete waiver of interest or penalty or both.

This scheme is not applicable for cases of fraud under Section 74 of the CGST Act, and, Tax demand in case of erroneous refund.

Also, those taxpayers who have already paid the interest and penalty will not get the benefit of this

GST Department has prescribed Form SPL 01 and SPL 02 for integrating section 128A into the GST portal and eligible taxpayers can avail the benefit of the same through

the online portal.

SPL 02 is live on the portal through which taxpayers can apply for the Amnesty Scheme for the financial year 2017-18, 2018-19 or 2019-20. This form is easy and user friendly but the taxpayers are facing a lot of technical glitches in the portal leading to inconveniences while filing of SPL 02, we hope that attention should be paid to the grievance of SPL 02 so that maximum number of taxpayers can use SPL 02 in a smooth and simple way and avail the benefit of the amnesty scheme.

Eligible taxpayers can avail the benefit of the amnesty scheme by filing the SPL 02 form till June 30, 2025. However, for those cases pending under section 75(2) ,where appeal has been filed to bring the order of section 74 under section 73, the time limit for payment of tax under the amnesty scheme and filing of SPL 02 is 6 months from the date of the 75(2) order, hence taxpayers can avail the benefit of the amnesty scheme by paying the tax within 6 months from the date of the order and filing SPL 02.

### Muslim youth donates blood for Hindu woman.

MI News Service, Kalyani: A Muslim vouth donated blood for a Hindu woman during observation of the 'Roja' (fast). The woman is a kidney patient. She has to have blood transfusions occasionally. This incident clearly showed that humanity is greater than the religion. This incident of blood donation took place at a Pashupatinath Multi-Hospital in specialty Sunday. Kalyani on Sunday. Sangeeta Ghosh of Majdia in Nadia is a kidney patient. She has to give blood occasionally. She was needed blood on Sunday as well. On Sunday afternoon, an Emergency Blood Service

didn't feel the need to know to whom or what religion the blood would be given. organisation called 27vear-old Nasim Malita, a resident of Palashi, in need of blood. He stays in Kalyani now for studies. As usual, he rushed to donate blood. As soon as the call

other. However, Sanju also never asked whom the blood to donate. Whenever rushed

nated blood to a Hindu woman while fasting, is a matter of humanity.Sanju Ghosh, son of the lady patient also a blood donor of the same organisation where Nasim is a member and used to donate blood without knowing the religion of the blood reexpressed his gratitude to

#### Because he is a blood he received calls from their donor, a good human being. He occasionally dosocial organisation, just and donated blood.Listening to the incinates blood through the said voluntary organizadent, a senior citizen said, tion.Sanju Ghosh, the son ' I remember that poem by of the concerned Hindu poet Nazrul, 'Who asks that woman is also a blood they are Hindus or Muslims ceipant.However, ?'Amid the present situadonor of the same organicame, Nashim rushed. He zation. They know each tion, a Muslim youth do-

# **Not sorry for remarks on Suvendu Adhikari:** TMC MLA Humayun Kabir

MI News Service, Bharatpur: Humayun Kabir, the TMC MLA from Bharatpur in Murshidabad responded to the showcause notice served on him by the disciplinary committee of Bengal's ruling party, standing firm on his controversial comments against the leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari.

Humayun justified his comments and refused to retract them in his reply, adding he did not say anything against the party.

The showcause notice was issued to him by Sovandeb Chat-topadhyay, TMC veteran and the state agriculture minister, on March 13 following an instruction by chief minister Mamata Baner-

Mamata had expressed her displeasure over the comments of two TMC members, Siddiqullah Chaudhury and Humayun Kabir, against Adhikari after his inflammatory comments against minority MLAs in the state Assembly, sources said. "The chief minister asked

Chaudhury to remain silent on the issue and asked Sovandeb Chattopadhyay to issue a show cause notice to Humayun soon after the cabinet meeting at Nabanna on Thursday," said a source.

In reply to the showcause notice, Humayun gave a two-page reply on Saturday morning. In his response, Kabir stated that he did not regret his remarks and did not consider them a breach of discipline. He said he would not withdraw his comments.

"I was served a one-page showcause notice, and I have provided a two-page reply. I forwarded my response to the Whatsapp number from which the notice was sent," Kabir said.

He alleged that the notice was based on only 31 seconds of

footage from a video that was over 10 minutes long. "It is unfortunate that only 31 seconds of a 10minute 29-second video was considered while issuing the showcause notice. I have explained the circumstances under which I made the statement. I have not apologised for my comments. The party will now decide its course of action," said the MLA. "I did not make any comments against my party." Kabir has a history of making controversial remarks that embarrassed his party in the past.

Trinamool had slapped a showcause notice on him for making anti-party statements in November last year. After the TMC fielded Yusuf Pathan, the former Indian cricketer, from Baharampur Lok Sabha constituency in the 2024 general elections, Kabir had taken jibes at his party leadership for fielding an "outsider" from the constituency.

# Centre is examining ST demand for Gorkha communities, says Jual Oram

MI News Service, Darjeeling: The central government is examining the longstanding demand to confer Scheduled Tribe (ST) status on 11 Gorkha communities in the Darjee-

Jual Oram, the Union minister for tribal affairs, wrote a letter to Darjeeling BJP MLA Neeraj Zimba, saying he was aware of the demand to declare 12 communities as STs. Of the 12 communities, one is in Sikkim.

"I am getting the same examined," read the letter written by the minister.

On February 5, Zimba, who is from the GNLF and got elected to the Assembly on a BJP ticket, sent a letter to Oram, requesting him to address the long-pending issue of identity and constitutional recognition of and socio-political justice for

the Indian Gorkhas.

'The minister's confirmation of having received my letter and his assurance of a due examination is an important step forward as far as the demand (for the ST status) is concerned," Zimba said on Saturday.

"This institutional acknowledgement marks a decisive shift from bureaucratic inertia to active consideration. The ministry's serious engagement with the issue is a positive signal. The Indian Gorkha community has waited long for this recognition, and this development fuels hope for justice through constitutional means," read a statement by

Political veterans in the hills said the GNLF, an ally of the BJP, was exerting pressure on the saffron camp on some of the key demands in the hills ahead of the Assembly elections next year.

A few days ago, GNLF president Mann Ghisingh had said the Centre should immediately initiate talks on the demand for "a permanent politi-

"This time, the Darjeeling MLA has flagged another important issue and wants the Centre to act. These moves by GNLF leaders indicate that the party wants to send a message to the hill population that it is sincerely pursuing the principal demands, said an observer.

"As the Assembly elections draw near, there will be more such moves by the GNLF. It would be interesting to see how the BJP placates its ally and whether the GNLF continues to back the BJP even if the demands are not met," he added.

### Meet Malda's golden javelin girl: Schoolgirl Mishti Karmakar sets national record

MI News Service, Malda: Sixteen-year-old athlete Mishti Karmakar has given her hometown Malda a golden gift for Holi.

The teen bagged the gold medal in the javelin throw at the 20th edition of the

National Youth Athletics Championship last Wednesday. The event was held at the Pataliputra stadium in Patna, Bihar. Mishti, a Class X

threw the javelin at a distance of 45.40 metres as a member of the Bengal state team. "She has won gold in the Under-18 girls' javelin throw category and set a new student of Malda Railway High School, record at this level," said Asit Pal, who

had been coaching her since her childhood. The girl, who lives in Kuldip Mishra Colony of Malda town, had to struggle a lot to prove herself and continue with her practice because of financial adversities.



For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com







Fruits and other food items are being sold at different markets accross the city during the ocassion of Ramadan in Kolkata on Sunday.

#### Voice of Trump triumphs...



**▶▶From PG 1** 

and other employees at Voice of America were informed they were being placed on administrative leave, according to an email reviewed by a news paper. Journalists there said the cuts were so widespread that they would effectively shut down the international broadcaster. Taking to LinkedIn, Voice of America director Michael Abramowitz said that the entire staff of his organisation, including him and fellow journalists, were put on leave.

"I am deeply saddened that for the first time in 83 years, the storied Voice of America is being silenced. I learned this morning that virtually the entire staff of Voice of America—more than 1,300 journalists, producers and support staff—has been placed on administrative leave today. So have I," he said.

According to a report, the US Agency for Global Media (USAGM), a government-funded agency that is the parent company of VOA, also terminated its grants to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. The channel broadcasts to countries in Eastern Europe, including Russia and Ukraine. Grants to Radio Free Asia, which broadcasts to China and North

Korea, were also gutted. Abramowitz, in his LinkedIn post, said that Voice of America needs a thoughtful reform but the latest action will stop it carry out its critical mis-

"VOA needs thoughtful reform, and we have made progress in that regard. But today's action will leave Voice of America unable to carry out its vital mission. That mission is especially critical today, when America's adversaries, like Iran, China, and Russia, are sinking billions of dollars into creating false narratives to discredit United the States," he said.

"VOA promotes freedemocracy around the world by telling America's story and by

providing objective and balanced news and information, especially for those living under tyranny. Even if the agency survives in some form, the actions being taken today by the Administration will severely damage Voice of America's ability to foster a world that is safe and free and in doing so is fail-ing to protect U.S. interests," the director added.

For more than 80 years, Voice of America has been a priceless asset for the United States, playing "an essential role in the fight against communism, fascism, and oppression, and in the fight for freedom and democracy around the world."

"Today, VOA reaches more than 360 million people every week, in 48 languages. In many dictatorships, VOA is often the only reliable source of news and information," he

Kari Lake, Trump's senior adviser to the agency, posted on X on Saturday that employees should check their email. That coincided with notices going out placing Voice of America staff on paid administrative leave.

A video posted on X by Lake talked about costcutting measures, not mentioning the employees and the mission of Voice of America. Her video was made at a building leased by VOA that Lake described as a waste of money. She said she would try to break the agency's 15-year lease on the build-

"We're doing everything we can to cancel conthat can be tracts cancelled, save more. downsize, and make sure there's no misuse of your dollars," she said.

Since Trump took office, billionaire Elon Musk and his Department of Government Efficiency have sought to drastically reshape the federal government by cutting staff and programs. On Tuesday, the education department announced it was firing more than 1,300 workers, and after hundreds accepted separation packages, the agency is set to be left with roughly half the number of employees that it started the year with. Musk's group has trumpeted saving taxpayers billions of dollars, though its claims have been undermined by posting error-filled data.



Under construction building collapse at Muktarambabu Street in Kolkata on Sunday

# Kolkata to receive more hot & sweaty days: MeT Dept

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Met office has already sounded a heat wave alert for the western districts of Bengal. But the conditions there will be a lot drier than in Calcutta and other coastal regions of south Bengal, said a Met

The next few days are likely to be hot and humid in coastal and semi-coastal areas of south Bengal, including Kolkata. The western districts of Bengal will be under the grip of dry heat. The Celsius is likely to breach the 40degree mark at multiple places,' said an official at the Regional Meteorological Centre in Alipore.

Doctors advised people to be on guard against the soaring Celsius. Any relief in the form of thunderstorms is not likely before a week, said the weather-

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ja-

davpur University (JU) will write

to the Union education ministry to

return 75 per cent of the 1 crore

application fee the varsity gave the

UGC because the regulatory body

has since denied JU the status of

an Institute of Eminence (IoE),

vice-chancellor Bhaskar Gupta

during whose tenure the univer-

sity applied for the IoE tag, said

the regulatory body was bound to

return 75 per cent of the fee ac-

cording to one of the application

aided university had been short-

listed in 2018 was supposed to

istry wrote to JU about the rejec-

sociation in a letter signed by the

association's secretary Partha

Pratim Roy urged VC Gupta to

write to the ministry seeking a 75

per cent refund of the application

fetch JU 1,000 crore in grants.

The status for which the state-

In June 2023, the Union min-

Last week, JU's teachers' as-

Former JU VC Suranjan Das,

relative humidity in Alipore was 60 per cent. This means the level of moisture in the atmosphere during the driest part of the day was 60 per cent. On Thursday, it was 27 per cent.

The high moisture content prevented the day temperature from shooting up. The maximum temperature on Saturday was around 34 degrees Celsius, normal for mid-March. But the humidity also made the night warmer than usual. At 26.3 degrees, the minimum was close to four degrees above normal.

The real effect of the high humidity was beyond Met readings. People sweated and fretted throughout the day.

Around 3.30pm, a display board at the exit of Esplanade Metro station showed a reading

"We will write to the ministry

JU has been in turmoil since

Amid the row, the question of

next week. 75 lakh means a lot

for a university that is facing a

the state education minister was

heckled by a section of students

missing eminence returned to the

fore following what Sukanta Majumdar, BJP's Bengal president,

who is also the Union minister of

state for education, said in Parlia-

tacharva asked for the reason be-

hind JU missing the IoE tag in the

Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, Ma-

jumdar said in reply: "Mamata Banerjee's apathy killed Jadavpur

University's IoE dream. While the

chief minister spends crores on

freebies and PR gimmicks, Ben-

gal's top university was aban-

Centre responsible for the univer-

sity missing out on the status be-

cause of a sudden change in

Many in JU, however, hold the

doned by her government.

When BJP MP Samik Bhat-

funds crunch," Gupta told.

On Saturday, the minimum of 39 degrees Celsius. Around the same time, a phone screen in Behala showed a temperature of 35 degrees and a RealFeel of 39.

A weather scientist attributed the difference in the temperature readings to the "heat-island effect". An urban heat island is a metropolitan area that is significantly warmer than other areas because of concrete density and dwindling greenery and water bodies, among other factors.

The elevated temperatures result from the heat trapped by the excessive occurrence of concrete surfaces in cities.

The city's maximum temperature, on paper, 34 degrees, was the Met reading at Alipore, recorded around an hour earlier. The Met office compound in Alipore is nestled in a lot of green-

Kolkata is likely to go up, said the Met official.

"The maximum is expected to reach 36 degrees in a couple of days. The relative humidity will go down marginally but the conditions will still be uncomfortable," said the official.

The Met office has offered hope after the long period of

are active in the western districts Bengal. Moisture-laden southerly winds are active in the coastal regions. The convergence of these two sets of winds is expected to help in the formation of thunderclouds.

"Scattered thunderstorm activities are expected across south Bengal on March 20 and 21," the Met official said.

had also said JU had submitted a

proposal for 1,015 crore of funds

payable over five years as per a

2021, they scaled down the fund

requirement to 600 crore under

the IoE scheme and wrote to the

Centre that if the education min-

istry would consent to pay 75 per

budget, then the university would

Bengal's former higher educa-

tion department secretary Manish

Jain had requested the UGC to

source the remaining amount.

cent or 454 crore of the revised

On Saturday, Das said that in

December 2017 deadline.

#### would collect their bank details and defraud them, police said. Hot and dry westerly winds Mohammad Sahil was

arrested in Anandapur's Gulshan Colony. "It is still too early, but our preliminary investigation has revealed that Sahil was involved in multiple ATM fraud cases in different parts of the city in

Police arrest 1 for 'trapping'

**ATM** cards

MI News Service, Kolkata:

A 36-year-old man has

been arrested in Ananda-

pur, in the southeast of the

city, for allegedly sticking a

machine to ATMs in un-

guarded kiosks to trap

users' cards to trick them

into dialling a "helpline"

number. Once the users

called the number, he

for fraud

the past month," a senior Kolkata Police officer said. Officers said Sahil would use a "machine" that he would stick to the IoE denial: JU wants back 75% of Rs 1 Cr application fee

card's

the card.

"Several

The machine ensured the user's ATM card got

stuck. Usually, the victim would try to retrieve his or her card for some time and then look around and spot

a helpline number pasted on the kiosk's wall. Once the user dialled that number, he or she would be asked to type the

PIN to unlock it, the officer said.

The victim would then be asked for other inconsequential details and instructed to turn up at the nearest branch of the bank

that issued the ATM card

to register a complaint and

collect a duplicate copy of

helpline numbers on paper

strips were recovered from

Sahil along with plastic

rolls bearing the name of a

nationalised bank. Some

machines that he had al-

legedly used were seized.

the police their cards got

locked in the ATM slot and

helpline number stuck in-

side the kiosk, they were

told to provide their PINs

to unlock their cards, they

The victims had told

When they called a

too," the officer said.

did not come out.

had told the cops

money was gone.

sharing the PINs, their

Balai Sardar of Singhabari

in Kalikapur off EM By-

pass, said he lost around 25.000 after his card got

stuck in an SBI ATM near

The ATM kiosk, adjoin-

ing a bank branch, did not

Kishore Bharati stadium.

One of the victims,

minutes of

Within

have a guard.

The UGC scrapped the revised proposal in June 2023.

Since the status has been denied, JU is entitled to seek a refund of 75 per cent of the 1 crore application fee. Anna University of versity which was shortlisted, has since withdrawn from the scheme and has been refunded 75 per cent of the application fee," said

The university had paid the application fee in 2017. Former VC Das said the uni-

versity was on a shortlist of eight 'public institutions" drawn up by the UGC's empowered expert committee for the eminence tag in July 2018. The university was told the status would ensure 1,000 crore over five years, Das

But in a letter to the Bengal chief secretary on August 6, 2019, the Union education ministry referred to a 3,000-crore budget purportedly set by the university under the scheme. Of this, the Centre said, it was ready to provide 1,000 crore and the remaining amount of 2,000 crore would have to be forked out by the state government and the uni-

The Bengal government refused to oblige and accused the Centre of deviating from the original plan.

In 2019, then VC Das had told this newspaper he was not aware of any budget of 3,000 crore that the Centre's letter mentioned. He

"keep Jadavpur University in the list of eminent institutions, as per the revised scheme"

# Murder of domestic help at PK's residence

MI News Service, Kolkata: A domestic help who stayed at late footballer Pradip Kumar (PK) Baneriee's house in Salt Lake's GB block was murdered.

Police said Gopinath Muhuri, in his late thirties, succumbed to multiple stab injuries in his abdomen and chest. The family's driver, Barun Ghosh, in his forties, has been arrested for allegedly murdering Gopinath.

A Bidhannagar court remanded him in police custody.

"Primarily, it appears there was a heated discussion between the two at night over money that went missing from one of the two daughters of P.K. Banerjee. Gopinath and Barun kept blaming each other over a drink," a senior officer of the Bidhanagar police commissionerate said under cover of anonymity as he is not authorised to speak on the issue.

"During the altercation, Barun allegedly stabbed the victim, and he succumbed to the injuries." Since March 2020, when

Banerjee — popularly known as - passed away, his two daughters have been regular visitors to the Salt Lake house. A team of domestic help stays in the house and so does Barun, the family's driver, the police said.

Investigators have learnt that one of PK's daughters recently returned from a trip abroad and said 5,000 was missing from her purse. She asked the domestic staff and the driver if anyone knew about the money and did not hide her disappointment over being unable to trace it, an officer

"We have learnt that on night, a few of the family's helps and Barun came together to share a drink on the ground floor balcony of the house. After some time, a blame game began, with Barun and Gopinath accusing each other of lifting the money," the officer

In the middle of the altercation, Gopinath allegedly rushed to the ground-floor kitchen and returned with a knife. "He attacked Barun. The driver ducked and managed to save himself. Barun then overpowered Gopinath. snatched the knife and stabbed Gopinath several times in his abdomen," the officer said.

Some of those present took Gopinath to the Bidhannagar State General Hospital, where he

A team of officers from the Bidhannagar South police station arrested Barun. The murder spot, the balcony leading to the main entrance of the house on the ground floor with a shoe rack placed on the right, has been cordoned to help forensic experts collect evidence. On Saturday, a car remained parked in the parking lot of the three-storey house. The police said they would

scan footage from CCTV of the house and the ones on the road leading to it and also speak to the family members. But before that, they said, they wanted to interrogate Barun to find out if his action was the result of just a fit of anger during a heated altercation or if there was something more to it. Barun denied stealing any

"I have not stolen any money," he said on his way to the court.

"Gopinath attacked me with a knife and kept abusing me. I never used to visit the upper floors of the house. A resident of Asansol, Gop-

nath's family members said he has been serving the Banerjees for over a decade and remained one of the trusted hands "Everyone in the family used

to trust my uncle blindly. We can't believe he was murdered at the house where he has been staying for over a decade," Tanushree Ghosh, Gopinath's

No one from the family could be reached for comment.

PK, who won an Asian Games gold as a player, is among the greatest footballers to have turned out for India.

### Another victim, Arup

Jyoti Pradhan, said he was instructed to use a code to cancel the last transaction using the card stuck in the ATM slot. Then he was told to use his PIN to block the card and meet bank officials the next day to apply for a new card. "After I returned

home, a series of transactions worth 10,000 each were carried out in a flash. The messages just kept coming one after another. I lost around 1.3 lakh, Pradhan had said.

#### 151 yrs of legacy: New Market still awaits 'New' look Holi: Police arrest 160 for 'disorderly conduct' in city

News Service. Kolkata: More than 160 persons were arrested for "disorderly conduct" from different parts of the city during Holi on Friday and also on Saturday, police said.

There were few com-

plaints of forcible splash-

ing of colours, but the

majority of the arrests

were related to drunken

brawls, blocking roads

playing Holi, drinking in the open and creating a nuisance, officers of Kolkata Police "We have seized over

33 litres of liquor from different areas," said a senior police officer.

Over 500 pickets were set up across the city and 28 heavy radio flying squads kept crisscrossing the city's different pockets throughout the Hooghly in a drunken the day, senior officers said. Police personnel were also deployed on motorbikes for fast access to trouble spots inside lanes and bylanes.

Arrangements were made at over 60 ghats where teams of Kolkata Police's disaster management unit were posted to prevent any untoward incidents over bathing in

state. Senior officers said police teams were present at the ghats to stop revellers from jumping into the waters in an inebriated state. "The police personnel were provided with loudhailers to send across the message of bathing carefully and not to go into the water in a drunken state," an officer said.

#### MI News Service, Kolkata: take off. Traders at SS The 151-year-old New

Market is crumbling. Fragments from the wooden spire of its clock tower are breaking apart, the roof leaks and the electrical wiring is crying out for an immediate overhaul.

A renovation project for which the state government allocated money to the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) more than a year ago has yet to Hogg Market — or New Market, as it is popularly called — told that repairs were needed urgently. The drainage inside the complex is in bad shape and the market gets flooded every wet season. The walkways are broken and the toilets barely usable. A two-member team of professors from Jadavpur University's construction engineering

department, whose advice the KMC has sought for New Market's renovation, has recommended strengthening the foundation, walls and the vault roof. The team has also suggested measures to make the structure earthquake-resistant. That will, however, require a large number of traders to be shifted, a tricky path the KMC appears wary to tread.

For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com



#### Name Change

Joyanti Panja (Old Name) wife of Late Dipak Kumar Panja, resid-Tamluk, East Medinipur, Pin-West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall Panja (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Jayanti Panja (New Name) and Joyanti Panja (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

Choudhury Kamal Uddin (Old Name) son of Choudhury Abdul Mannan (father), Choudhury Atima Khatoon (mother), residing at 14B Braun Field Row, Kolkata-700027, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Chowd-hury Kamal Uddin (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Chowdhury Kamal Uddin (New Name) and Choudhury Kamal Uddin (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Tapati Devnath (Old Name) wife of Subrata Debnath, residing at Hemanta Basu Sarani, Netaji Sangha, Uday Rajpur, P.S.- Mad-hyamgram, Dist-North 24 Par-ganas, Pin-700029, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapati Debnath (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial magistrate 1st Class at Barasat, dated 05/03/2025. Tapati Debnath (New Name) and Tapati Devnath (Old Name) both are same and

#### Name Change

Choudhury Arjina khatoon (Old Name) wife of Chowdhury Kamal Uddin, residing at 14B Braun Field Row, Kolkata- 700027, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Chowdhury Arjina khatoon (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03 2025. Chowdhury Arjina khatoon khatoon (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

I, SK AKHTAR ALI s/o SK DILWAR HOSSAIN & father of SK AMIR AL residing at V-131/A, S.A. Farooque Road, PO-Bartala, PS-Rajabagan, Kolkata-700018 Inadver tently my name 'AKHTAR ALI' has been printed in my son's' old Pass port (M1111349). On 12/03/2025 before the Notary Public at Alipore, Dist. South 24 PGS my name is treated as 'SK AKHTAR ALI' everywhere. That SK AKHTAR ALI and AKHTAR ALI are the same one identical person indicating me only. Affidavit no. 38AA 495654.

#### Name Change

Sudipta Mandal W/O- Prasenjit Mondal resident of Vill- Bohar, P.O.- Bohar, P.S.-Memari, Dist-Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, PIN-713430, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as 'SUDIPTA DAS' vide an affidavit before the Notary Public at Purba Bardhaman on 13/03/20 25. That Sudipta Mandal and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Prasenjit Mandal S/O- Sasanka Mondal @ Sasanka Mandal resident of Vill- Bohar, P.O.- Bohar, haman, West Bengal, PIN-713 430, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as 'PRASENJIT MONDAL' vide an affidavit before the Notary Public at Purba Bardhaman on 13/03/2025 That Prasenjit Mandal and Prasenjit Mondal both are same and one identical person.

#### **Name Change**

Sasanka Mandal S/O- Bhajahari Mondal resident of Vill- Bohar P.O.- Bohar, P.S.-Memari, Dist Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, PIN-713430, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as 'SASANKA MONDAL' vide an affidavit before the Notary Public at Purba Bardhaman or 13/03/2025. That Sasanka Mandal and Sasanka Mondal both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

, Mamtaj Sekh @ Mamataj Bibi,W o- Samsul Sk @ Sk Samsul, residing at Vill.- Warishpur, PO-Bannabagram, PS-Ausgram, Dist.-Purba Bardhaman, W.B., PIN-713152, shall henceforth be known as Mamataj Sekh, W/o-Samsul Sekh as declared before the First Class Jucidial Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman vide an affidavit no. 977, dated- 13.03. 20 25. Mamtaj Sekh @ Mamataj Bibi and Mamataj Sekh both are same and one identical person. Samsul Sk @ Sk Samsul and Samsul Sekh are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Nelema Ghosh, Wife of No 684115H Rank Ex Sgt Name Tapas Kumar Ghosh resident of Vill- 4 No Ichlabad P.O- Sripally Dist - Purba Bardhaman, (WB), Pin 713103 have change my name & Date of Birth from Nelema Ghosh & 20 Apr 1975 to Nilima Ghosh & 22 Feb 1972 vide Affidavit dated 10.03.25 before the Executive Magistrate of Purba

#### **Change of Name** I **Madan Kumar** s/o Vijay Sukne

R/o Vill. - Sukni, Tehsil- Udgir, Distt. Latur (Maharashtra) present R/o 25 P&S Unit, Air Force Station Hindan, Ghaziabad (UP) shall henceforth be known as Madan Vijay Sukne as declared before the Notary, Ghaziabad (UP) vide affidavit No 68AD 224325 Dated 28th November 2018. Madan Kumar and Madan Vijay Sukne both are same and identical

#### Name Change

(Old Name) PRADIP GHOSH S/o-CHANDI CHARAN GHOSH, Residing at, 25, Goalpara road Gorabazar, Post - Berhampore, Ps-Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742101, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from PRADIP GHOSH To PRADIP KUMAR GHOSH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) PRADIP KUMAR GHOSH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn all purpose viae an amount sworm before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 11 March 2025, PRADIP KUMAR GHOSH and PRADIP GHOSH both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Shanawaz Ali(Old Name As Per Voter Id Card No Wb/23/ 152/033369), S/O Golam Nabi, R/O 5/2, Bright Street, Kolkata - 700 017, West Bengal, Shall Hence forth Be Known As Azhar Imam (New Name). Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 11/03/20 25,That Shanawaz Ali And Azhar Imam All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

I, Yasmeen Khan (Old Name) daughter of Abdul Mazid Khan, residing at 4C Hazi Lane, P.O.- Entally, P.S.- Beniapukur, Kolkata-700014, West Bengal, INDIA, nave changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Yasmin Khan (New Name) as declared be-fore the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Yasmin Khan (New Name) and Yasmeen Khan Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

Rashmi Patwari (Old Name) wife of Late Anil Kumar Patwari, residing at 32C, New Road, Block-D-2, Alipore, Kolkata- 700027, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rashmi Devi Patwari (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Rashmi Devi Patwari (New Name) and Rashmi Patwari (Old Name) both are same and identical person

#### Name Change

Nondini Show (Old Name) daughter of Late Amrendra Kumar Shaw, residing at B/17/H/19, Chaul Patty Road, P.S.-Beliaghata, Kolkata- 700010, W.B, and shall henceforth be known as Nandini Shaw (New Name) as de-clared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Nandini Shaw (New Name) and Nondini Show (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

, Babita Show (Old Name) daughter of Jogindra Shaw, residing at B/17/H/19, Chaul Patty Road, P.S.eliaghata, Kolkata- 700010, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Babita Shaw (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Babita Shaw (New Name) and Babita Show (Old Name) both are same

#### Name Change

Suman Devi (old name) W/O Ashok Kumar Tiwari, residing at 6 Lal Mohan Mukherjee Lane, P.O.-Liluah, P.S.- Belur, Howrah-711204, WB, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Suman Tiwari (new name) as declared before the Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata Incharge of Affidavit Section vide affidavit no. 1636, Dated 10-03-2025. Suman Tiwari (new name) and Suman Devi (old name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

,Md Hasan Ali Mollah and Esmail Molls (old name) (Khatian No-219, Mouza- Urala, J.L.No-17),son f Abdul Gaffar Molla, resident of Vill- Urala, P.O.- Kanchiara, P.S. Amdanga, Dist.- North 24 Par-ganas, Pin- 743711, West Bengal, India shall henceforth be known as Hasan Ali Mollah (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Barasat on 06/01/2025.That Md Hasan Ali Mollah and Esmail Molls (old name) and Hasan Ali Mollah (new name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Atif Ali (old name) son of Sheikh Farooque, resident of 6/C/H/5, Convent Lane, P.S.- Entally, Kolkata- 700015, West Bengal, ndia shall henceforth be known as Md Atif Ali (new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary oublic at Kolkata on 13/03/ 2025 That Atif Ali (old name) and Md Atif Ali (new name) both are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Madhumita Rana (Old Name) wife of Palash Rana, residing at Vill- Raidighi Mundapara, P.O. & P.S.- Raidighi, South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743383, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Madhu-mita Rana Paul (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Madnumita Rana Paul (New Name) and Madhumita Rana (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### Name Change

Kausik Panja & Kousik Kumar Panja (Old Name) son of Late Dipak Kumar Panja, residing at Ward No-12, Padumbasan Tamluk, East Medinipur, Pin- 721636, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kausik INDIA, Kumar Panja (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Kolkata, dated Kausik Kumar Panja (New Name and Kausik Panja & Kousik Kumar Panja (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

#### **Lost Mobile recovered and** returned to a Commuter

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 15.03.2025 at about 16:42 hrs., an on-duty RPF staff during a routine check in the train at Kavi Subhash Metro station found a mobile phone in a coach. After proper security check, he deposited it to the Station Master's office of this station. Thereafter, the Station Master made repeated announcements with a request to the owner to collect the mobile phone from the Station Master's Office of this station and a control message was communicated to all stations.At about 16.50 hrs., a male passenger came to the Station Master's office of Kavi Subhash Metro station and claimed the ownership of the mobile phone. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the phone was handed over to him. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping him to get back his lost phone.

Name Change Shruti Kumari Jain D/o Dhar mendra Singh Jain Residing a 60/10, Gouribari Lane, P.o Shyambazar, P.s - Manicktala District - Kolkata, Pin- 700004 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Shruti Jain. I declare that Shruti Kumari Jain and Shruti Jain is same and one identical person by virtue of an af-fidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 13-03-2025.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) MUSARAP DAFA DAR S/o- GAFUR DAFADAR, Residing at, Vill- Umarpur, Post-Kumari Ramnagar, Ps- Hanskhali, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741502, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from MUSARAP DAFADAR To MUSA RAF DAFADAR (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MUSARAF DAFADAR (New Haine) MUSARAF DAFADAR in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 11 March 2025, MUSARAF DAFA DAR and MUSARAP DAFA DAR both are Same and one identical

#### Name Change

(Old Name) GOLAM RABBAN KHAN S/o- ABDUS SOVAN KHAN, Residing at, Vill- Begundihi, Post - Debaipur, Ps- Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742135, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from GOLAM RABBAN KHAN To GOLAM RABBANI KHAN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) GOLAM RABBANI KHAN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 11 March 2025 GOLAM RABBANI KHAN and GOLAM RABBAN KHAN both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, (Old Name) NUR ISLAM S/o-KHOKAN SK, Residing at, Vill-Baruipara, Post - Baruipara, Ps Palashipara, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741156, West Bengal. Do hearby leclare that I have Changed m name from NUR ISLAM To NUR SLAM SK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) NUR ISLAM SK in all puroose Vide an affidavit Sworn be fore the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 11 March 2025, NUR ISLAM SK and NUR ISLAM both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Seraj Alam(Old Name) S/O Late Ali Hasan,Residing At 31f, Rai Charan Ghosh Lane.Ps-Tiliala,Kolkata-700039,West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Siraj(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/03/2025. That Sera Alam (Old Name) And Md Siraj New Name) Both Are The San And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

I,Md Ayaan Ahmed (Old Name) S/O Sami Ahmad,Residing At Ns Asansol,Po-Asansol,Dist Paschim Bardhaman,Pin-713301 West Bengal,India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ayaan Ahmad(Nev Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/03/2025.Md Ayaan Ahmed(Old Name) And Ayaan Ahmad (New Name) Both Are Same And Iden-

#### **Name Change**

Md Sami Ahmed & Sami Ahmed Old Name) S/O Late Mohammad Khalil,Residing At Ns Road,Asan-sol,Po-Asansol,Dist-Paschim Bardhaman,Pin-713301,West Bengal,India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sami Ahmad(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkataon 13/03/2025 Md Sami Ahmed And Sami Ahmed(Old Name) And Sami Ahmad (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

#### Name Change

.Rabiya Bibi(Old Name) D/O Lat Sk Abdul Rasid And W/O Sk Al Akbar,Residing At Vill & Po -Ne-halpur,Ps-Matia,Dist Basirhat,Pin 743437, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rabiya Khatun(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/03/2025.Rabiya Bibi(Old Name) And Rabiya Khatun (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

# **Recovery of Arms, Ammuni**tion, and Incriminating Articles under 'Operation Satark'

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant achievement under Operation Satark, officials of the RPF, with the assistance of GRPS personnel, Kamarkundu, successrecovered arms, ammunition, and other incriminating articles from the possession of an suspicious individual at Janai Road Railway Station 13.03.2025. Head Constable R. K. Mondal of RPF Post Dankuni was performing duty at Janai Road Railway Station and assisting officials of GRPS/Kamarkundu in a routine checking operation. During the checking period, at around 21:05 hrs, the joint team noticed a person behaving suspiciously on Platform No. 3/4 of Janai Road Railway Station. The individual was promptly detained and identified as Rajib Sikdar (Male, 22 years), S/O Anil Sikdar, a resident of Sukanto Pally,

P.O. & P.S. - Mogra, Distt. Hooghly, West Bengal. Upon thorough interrogation by security personnel, it was found that the individual was in a drunken condition. His belongings, including a backpack, were searched in the presence of witnesses, leading to the recovery of: One improvised country-made firearm resembling a pistol, three rounds of live ammunition,



card-sized photographs of

an unknown person. The accused individual failed to produce valid documents for the possession of the illegal arms, ammunition, and other weapons. As a result, the items were seized on 14.03.2025 by SI Mrinal Roy of GRPS, following all legal formalities, and the accused was taken into custody. A case has been registered against the accused under Section 25(1A) of the Arms Act, 1959, at GRPS/Kamarkundu. The arrested individual has been forwarded to the Ld. Court at Chandannagar for further legal proceedings. Eastern Railway remains committed to ensuring the safety and security of passengers and railway premises through coordinated operations like Operation Satark.

### **Inauguration of State-Of-The-Art** renovated Gymnasium at Belvedere Park Railway Officer's Club



MI News Service, Kolkata: On Meach 13, 2025, Shri. Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway & Patron of Belvedere Park Railway Officer's Club, and ident of Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organization, inaugurated a renovated state-of-the-art gym nasium at Belvedere Park Railway Officer's Club. The ceremony was attended by Shri. Sumit Sarkar, Additional General Manager of Eastern Railway & President of Belvedere Park Railway Officer's Club, and Shri. Deepak Nigam, Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah Vice President of Belvedere Park Railway Officer's Club. Other Principal Heads of Departments and members of the ERWWO were honored to attend the inauguration program. The

gymnasium is equipped with the state-of-the-art equipment, including the Leg Press, Treadmill, Rowing Machine Power Rack, Leg Curl Machine, and other beneficial equipment. These machines will assist railway officers in maintaining their fitness levels. Regular gym workouts provide numerous physical and mental benefits. They aid in weight management and endurance while improving posture, bone density, and immunity. Exercise encardiovascular health, reduces the risk of chronic diseases, and promotes better sleep. Mentally, it boosts mood, cognitive function, and stress resilience while fostering discipline and confidence. Additionally, consistent training supports longevity and overall well-being.

### **ERWWO/Sealdah organised special** health check up camp for differently abled children of 'Asha Kiran' with the support of Health & Family welfare dept



MI News Service, Kolkata: Mrs. Gunjan Nigam, President, ERWWO, SDAH with the support of Health & Family welfare dept, Sealdah, a health camp for differently abled students of Asha Kiran" school, was organised on 12.3.25 at "Sagar", Sealdah. A team of doctors of B R Singh Hospital, led by Dr Mandira Banerjee, ACMS/H & FW/ SDAH, consisting of Dr Chaitali Patra/Sr DMO/Pediatrics, Dr Rajarshi Kar/DMO/ENT, Dr Disha Nagi, Pediatrician, Dr Lovely Singh, Ophthalmologist. Mr Somnath Chakraborty, Asst Dietary officer, Dr Disha Ghosh, Dental surgeon, Dr Debangana Saha, Gynaecologist and Mr Souvanik Mondal ,Senior Physiotherapist were present for health check up.Dr Kalpana Mandal/CMS/SDAH was instrumental in smooth organisation of the programme. The programme was a unique one & very successful with the participation of school students, ERWWO/Sealdah & Health & Family welfare team, Sealdah.

# **Electronics Technology for Hyperloop** Project to be developed at ICF Chennai: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

MI News Service, Chennai: Union Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Information Tech-Shri Vaishnaw, informed that the electronics component technology for the Hyperloop project will be developed at the Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai. He visited the Hyperloop testing facility at IIT Madras Discovery Campus and witnessed a live demonstration. Ashwini Vaishnaw, stated that the 410-meter-long Hyperloop test tube located at IIT Chennai is the longest Hyperloop test facility in Asia. Speaking to the journalists, the Minister said that the entire testing system for Hyperloop transportation has been developed using indigenous technologies, and he congratulated all the young innovators for this achievement. The Minister expressed confidence that India will soon be ready for Hyperloop transportation, as the Hyperloop transportation technology, which is currently under development, has yielded good results in the tests conducted so far. The Railway Ministry has been provided financial funding and technical assistance to the Hyperloop project, and now, all the electronics technology for this Hyperloop project will be developed at ICF Chen-



nai. The Minister stated that highly skilled experts at the ICF factory have successfully developed larhe electronics systems for Vande Bharat high-speed trains, and the electronics technology for this Hyperloop project will also be developed at ICF. The Minister congratulated the young innovators team of IIT Chennai and the Avishkar organization for this successful testing.

Later, the Minister visited the IIT Chennai campus in Guindy, where he inspected the exhibition organized by the IIT's Center for Innovation titled Open House 2025. He interacted with students and young innovators. During the inter-action, he stated that India will become a leading country in all sectors under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Minister noted that the youth are

## **Successful Complex Angioplasty Performed at Advanced Cardiac** Centre, BR Singh Hospital, ER

gists at the Advanced Cardiac Centre of B.R.Singh Hospital, Eastern Railway, achieved a significant medical breakthrough by successfully performing a complex angioplasty on a 56-year-old male patient suffering from a critical cardiac condition.The patient was diagnosed with

tam, Sr. DMO/IC/Cardiology, BRSH, and his team, under the expert guidance of Dr. Shubhanan Roy, Consultant Cardiologist. The angioplasty was performed using Intravascular Ultrasound (IVUS) guidance, ensuring preciand accuracy throughout the proce-



an 80% critical LAD (Left Anterior Descending) ostial lesion along with left main artery disease—a condition that usually requires Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG). However, considering the relatively young age of the patient, the medical team opted for a less invasive approach through angioplasty.The procedure was

Wagon examination points

hemodynamically stable. marking a remarkable achievement for the Advanced Cardiac Centre at BR Singh Hospital.This success story highlights the hospital's dedication to providing top-notch cartreatment options, making specialized healthcare accessible to railway benefi-

#### **Another new Intensive Wagon Exami**nation Point introduced at Ballygunge MI News Service, Kolkata:

in Railways are crucial for ensuring safety, operational flexibility and efficiency of traffic by providing a systematic way to identify shortcomings and address potential problems with coaches, thereby preventing accidents, wastage of expenditure and delay in goods operations.In a bid to streamline goods operations, a new intensive wagon examination point has been commissioned at Ballygunge Line no. 8 for early examination of Goods Wagons manufactured by Hindustan Engineering and Industries Ltd. (HEIL) and Bhartia Electric Steel Company Ltd (BESCO). It's pertinent to mention here that, both HEIL & BESCO are leading manufacturer of Railway Rolling Stock and components, including wagons, EMU, and Railway castings. The new examination point at Ballygunje (BLN) has been operationalised and first such newly built rake from HEIL got end to end examined on 13.03.2025.Benefits:-1. The



movement of newly built empty wagons to examination points at distant points like Naihati and Chitpur will be stopped, thereby significantly improving mobility of suburban trains.2. This change will enhance the overall punctuality performance of the Sealdah Division.3. It will also optimise crew utilisation for running of these empties to train examination points.In a nutshell, introduction of new Wagon Examination Point at Ballygunge will play a vital role in ensuring safety, maintenance efficiency, regulatory compliance economic benefits of Railway operations.

performing efficiently in the fields of data science, artificial intelligence, and semiconductors, and that India has the highest number of skilled youth in the world, who will play a significant role in making India a devel-

oped nation. He also announced that presently there are five semiconductor facilities operational in the country and the first India made semiconductor will be rolled out by the end of this year.

#### **Legal Notice** Sheikh Imtaz Ali, father-

Sheikh Mumtaz Ali, Address-24E, Ghulam Jilani Khan Thana-Kolkata- 700039, has purchased 2 (two) Katha land at Plot No. 313, Chaubaga (J.L. No. 03) Mouza under Kolkata Block in the year (Document 17208/2024) from Shri Niharendu Bera (Power Docunent No. 00398/2022) Sir, Power of Attorney, Attorney Holder was appointed by Shri Nirmalendu Bera Sir.I have then applied for mutation of the said land (Case No. MN/2025/1630 / 3655). If any person has any complaint then within one month from the date of advertisement, Kolkata B.L.L.R.O. Please report the complaint to the office (Address- K.M.C. Building, Room No. 328, 5 S.N. Banerjee Road, Kolkata-700013) or via email (bllroatm@gmail.com).

NOTICE This is to inform that, my client Carlyle Ralph Vanjour S/o Gilbert Vivia Vanjour residing at Sonamukhi, P.O. Hijli, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB-721306 executed General Power of Attorney in respect of 0.087 Dec. property, vide Deed No IV-57 at Kolkata A.D.S.R on 25/01/ 000 in favour of Anita Uttam W rem Uttam, R/o- 53, Road, Kolkatta, WB-700020, i espect of 0.087 Dec. property, R.S. Plot No. 963 & LR Plot No. 3068 (hatian No. 424 (R.S.), 1440 (L.R.) J.L. No.188, Mouza- Sónamukhi, P.Ś KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipu Then said attorney are sold out appro 0.087 Dec. area of the said property to Sylvia Mary Chakravarty Vanjou W/o Tapan Chakravarty R/o c Sonamukhi, P.O.- Hijli, P.S.- KGP (T Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB-72130 through the Deed No. 4486 c Kharagpur A.D. S.R. on 20/07/ 2001 diac care and advanced That, if any person have any objection then he/ she may communicate wit me within 30 days after publication

> **BRAJADULAL ADHIKAR** Advocate, Enro: F/683/1144/2014 KGP SDO Court, Paschim Medinipu

otherwise his/her claim shall not be

itled as per law

#### EAST COAST RAILWAY

File No. DRM/Engg/KUR/24-25 E-Tender/116, Dt. 11.03.2025 (1) Tender No. e-Tender-estatekur-337-Dtd.: 27.02.2025

DESCRIPTION : INTERIOR WORK OF RECEPTION AREA AND CUP BOARDS IN ACCOMMODATION ROOM AT RAILWAY INDOOR STADIUM Approx. Cost of the Work :<mark>₹28.55 Lakh</mark>

(2) Tender No. e-Tender-CENTKUR-338-2024, Dtd.: 05.03.2025 DESCRIPTION : CONSTRUCTION OF RPF POST BUILDING AT ANGUL OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION. Approx. Cost of the Work : ₹ 134.4

Lakh, EMD : ₹2,17,200/-Completion Period: 06 (Six) Months (fo SI. No. 1) and 12 (Twelve) Months (for SI

Tender Closing Date and Time : At 1500 Hrs. of 26.03.2025 (for both the Tenders) Courier/ Fax or in person shall b

accepted against such e-tenders eve f these are submitted on firm's lette head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summari ithout any consideration. Complete information including tender documents of the above

e-Tender is available in website www.ireps.gov.in Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (Ten ays before the date of closing ender to note any changes orrigenda issued for this tender. Th

Digital Signature Certificate and mus be registered on IREPS Portal. Only egistered tenderer(s)/ bidder(s) ca participate on e-tendering. Divisional Railway Manager (Engg) PR-1086/P/24-25

tenderers/bidders must have Class-II

17 March 2025

For TV, Epaper & News visit: www.live7tv.com

### Karnataka's biggest drug bust: Police seize Rs 75 Cr MDMA; arrest 2 **South Africans**

MI News Service, Man**galuru:** Mangaluru Police seized over 37 kg of MDMA valued at Rs 75 crore, the biggest-ever drug haul in the state, a police official said on Sunday.

Two South African nationals were arrested in Bengaluru in connection with this case, the official said. Addressing a press conference, Mangaluru Police Commissioner Anupam Agarwal stated that the operation stemmed from an earlier arrest six months ago. In September, police apprehended one Haider Ali in Pumpwell, Man-galuru, and confiscated 15 grams of MDMA from him. Subsequent investigations led authorities to a Nigerian national named Peter, who was arrested in Bengaluru with MDMA worth Rs 6 crore. Further probes pointed to an international drug network with links to traffickers using air routes between Delhi and Bengaluru, he said. Acting on intelligence, the Mangaluru Central Crime Branch (CCB) police arrested two South African nationals --Bamba Fant (31) and Abigail Adonis (30)-- upon their arrival in Bengaluru on March 14. The suspects were taken into custody in Neeladri Nagar, Electronic City in Bengaluru, the senior police officer said. Authorities discovered MDMA concealed in their trolley bags, alongside four mobile phones, passports, and Rs 18,000 in cash. Police sources indicate that the arrested individuals were allegedly supplying drugs to Nigerian peddlers operating in Bengaluru and other regions. Additionally, they are suspected of using forged passports and visas for travel. The investigation is ongoing to trace the larger network behind the illicit drug trade, offi-

#### Kumbh, Holi strong message to those against Sanatan: Yogi Adityanath

MI News Service, Lucknow: Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said that after the Maha Kumbh Mela, Holi has "given a strong message to those opposing Sanatan

Adityanath was ad-dressing a 'Holi Milan' event in Gorakhpur. "Holi itself is an answer to those who question and criticise its traditions. Those who malign Sanatan Dharma by falsely claiming it is divided by caste, sect, region, or language have received a clear response – first through the grand Maha Kumbh and now through Holi." He said, "On Holi, every Indian, every follower of Sanatan Dharma, embraced one another, applied colours and strengthened India's eternal traditions with joy and enthusiasm. This is our greatest strength." He emphasised that Sanatan Dharma is not divided, saying that the idea of division exists only in the minds of those who try to defame it. "The real division lies in the thinking of those who spread negativity about Sanatan Dharma. Their minds are polluted," he remarked. The CM said India endured foreign invasions in the past and invaders attempted to disrupt festivals such as Holi, Diwali and grand events such as Maha Kumbh, but the "deep faith of Sanatanis always prevailed." He said Sanatan Dharma is "not just a religion but a way of life, one that continuously evolves and corrects itself through festivals and traditions. Adityanath said he personally monitored Holi celebrations across UP, ensuring that people enjoyed the festival with joy

and enthusiasm.



# Nitin Gadkari rejects caste politics: Will kick those who talk about religion

MI News Service, Nagpur: Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Saturday reaffirmed his strong opposition to caste-based politics, stating that a person's value is determined by their qualities, not their caste, religion, language, or gender. Speaking at the convocation ceremony of the Central India Group of Institutions in Nagpur, he made it clear that he would not engage in identity-based politics, even if it cost him votes. Recalling a 2024 incident where people approached him on the basis of caste, Gadkari shared how he had once addressed a gathering of 50,000 people, stating, "Jo karega jaat ki baat, uske kass ke maarunga laat (I will kick hard anyone who talks about caste)." Despite the deep-rooted role of caste in Indian politics, the senior BJP leader dismissed its relevance in his own political career. "I am in politics, and here all of this goes on, but I refuse to participate in it, even though it may or may not get me votes," he said.

His friends cautioned him that such remarks could hurt his political prospects, but he remained resolute.

MI News Service, Cuttack:

Five murders in 24 hours

curbed the Holi celebratory

spirit in Odisha with most

curred in Bhubaneswar,

one each was reported in

Sambalpur in western

Odisha, Berhampur in

southern Odisha and Angul

in central Odisha. A violent

group clash was also re-

ported in Cuttack where

two persons were injured

after both groups resorted

to stone pelting. The first

murder took place at the

Shantipalli slum at Saheed

Nagar in Bhubaneswar.

The victim Gopi Guli, in his

thirties, was stabbed to

death in front of his wife

and relatives while they

were celebrating Holi. The

four accused were report-

edly intoxicated at the time

of the attack. The victim's

brother said: "They killed

my brother in front of us.

Four people came in an

inebriated condition. We

knew them. They started

playing Holi. A scuffle en-

sued between them. The

verbal brawl took an ugly

turn. Suddenly they at-

tacked my brother with a

knife. I could not rescue him." The local people

rushed the victim to the

hospital but he was de-

clared dead. The murder

took place around 1.30pm.

The accused were also

Guli's brother added:

"Police reached the spot

later but failed to initiate

any steps." The second

murder took place at

Bhubaneswar. The youth,

who was stabbed to death

at Semiliguda, has been

identified as Anshuman

Pati, who was in his twen-

ties. "My nephew had quar-

rels with some goons today.

from the same slum.

Mancheswar

The local people

While two murders oc-

victims being youths.

Holi: 5 murders rock

Odisha, 2 injured in

violent clash

While he was returning

after playing Holi, the

goons started chasing him.

While he was trying to run

away, the goons chased

him and then stabbed him

to death," said the victim's

uncle. The third murder

took place at Sahu Colony

in Sambalpur town in west-

ern Odisha. The victim,

Aditya Shalma, 18, was

lured out of his house and

killed. Police suspect that

previous enmity could be

the main reason for the

murder. The family did not

hand over the body, de-

manding the immediate ar-

rest of the accused. The

incident took place around

2.30pm. "The accused

came to our house and

asked him to come out to

play Holi. I do not know

why he stabbed him. I will

ensure the accused is pun-

ished," the aggrieved mother said. "We have ar-

rested the youth, Sahul

Singh. Sudden provocation

could be one of the reasons

for the murder," said Sam-

balpur additional SP, Ajya

Mishra. The fourth incident

occurred around 4pm

Chanakyanagar under the

Baidyanathpur police sta-

tion in Berhampur. The vic-

tim, T. Ramchandra Patra,

was a contractor. Sources

said the accused Pappun,

who worked under Patra,

asked for money to buy liquor. However, Patra re-

fused. Pappun, who was in

an inebriated condition,

stabbed him to death and

fled from the spot. In the

fifth incident, a youth Azad

Hussain was stabbed to

death in the afternoon at

Nakhara Sahi in Angul dis-

trict. He was rushed to the

hospital but declared dead.

Police suspect previous en-

mity could be one of the

reasons for the murder.

the Lanjipalli



"I am not concerned about it. One does not lose his life if he loses elections. I will stick to my principles," he said. "A person is not known by their caste, sect, religion, language, or sex, but only by their qualities. That is why we will not discriminate against anyone based on these factors," Gadkari said, stressing the need for fairness and equal treatment. Currently serving as the Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Gadkari has been widely credited for spearheading the expansion of road infrastructure across the dents that titles and degrees alone do

Education is not just about securing a degree; it benefits society and the nation. Knowledge is power, and imbibing this power should be your mission," he told the graduating students. He also addressed misconceptions about his own academic background, revealing that despite holding 12 D.Litt degrees, he does not use the 'Dr' title. "My story was different. When the Emergency began in 1975, I was in Class 11. I got involved in the movement against it, and my studies suffered. I couldn't qualify for engineering. So, how can someone who doesn't qualify for engineering get a doctorate? That's why I don't use the title," he ex-

Encouraging students to take the path of entrepreneurship, he urged them to create opportunities rather than seek them. "Knowledge of entrepreneurship is very important. My advice to you is - don't be a job-seeker, be a job creator," he said, in-

## spiring the young graduates to contribute to the nation's progress. country. However, he reminded stu-Centre allots Rs 338 Cr for widening & up-gradation Kalimpong Rd

Kalimpong: The Centre has sanctioned a sum of ₹338 crore for widening and upgradation of the road from Pedong to Lava in Kalimpong district.

The National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL) has decided to upgrade the road into a two-lane with a paved shoulder through an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract. In the EPC mode, the entire project is managed by one agency responsible for designing, procuring and constructing the project. "On behalf of the people from Darjeeling Lok Sabha constituency, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi ji, and Hon'ble MoRTH Sh. Nitin Gadkari ji for allocating ₹338 crores for the expansion and widening of road connectivity between Pedong and Lava," Darjeeling BJP MP Raju Bista's written statement read. The 18km road is to be completed within 30 months from the start of work with a 60-month maintenance period. The stretch witnesses heavy traffic when NH10, the road link for Sikkim with the rest of the country, gets disrupted. "The people of

Pedong, Lava and surrounding areas had to endure major problems this past monsoon..... Small road, and increased traffic had led to massive congestion and inconvenience to the people in this region,' stated Bista. The Darjeeling legislator claimed that the Centre was addressing issues of the region one at

a time. "One by one, the development gaps of our region are being addressed (by the BJP-led Centre). I assure the people (here) that in a similar manner all the social and political issues confronting our region too will be resolved," said Bista. The BJP government is under pressure for failing to resolve the most important political issue of the Darjeeling region. The BJP had in its 2019 Lok Sabha election manifesto promised a "permanent political solution (PPS)", but without actually defining the term. Most residents, however, thought that it referred to the proposed state of Gorkhaland, which is a longstanding demand of the region. Ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP did not raise the PPS issue. Until now not much headway has been made by the Centre in resolving the political issue of Darjeeling.

# **Electric mobility sector: Britain** envisages investment in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: Britain has shown interest in investing in Bengal's electric mobility sector. A team of British industrialists, facilitated by the British Deputy High Commission in Kolkata, met state Transport minister Snehasis Chakraborty recently. The minister requested a detailed proposal outlining their plans, including e-vehicle manufacturing, charging stations and battery production. The effects on both finances and society will also be evaluated.

# BJP playing tricks: Punjab CM joins Stalin in chorus against delimitation

MI News Service, Chandigarh: Joining the chorus against the delimitation proposed by the Centre, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Saturday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of playing "dirty games" and deliberately attempting to reduce the number of Lok Sabha seats in those states where the saffron party cannot win and increasing seats where it is sure of

This is the first time that Mann has spoken against the impending delimitation of constituencies. Responding to a query by the media after sending off a group of teachers to Finland, Mann said, "I have spoken to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin over the phone. He is sending two of his ministers to Punjab. The BJP-led Centre is playing tricks, reducing the seats of states where they cannot win and increasing in the states where they are winning." He said it was ironic that while the Centre has a policy of controlling population and keeping the size of families



smaller across the country, on the other hand, the number of parliamentary and Assembly constituencies is being increased in those states where this policy is not being followed. "If the number of seats is increased or decreased on the basis of population policy, then it will affect Punjab. Of course, one or two seats will increase in Punjab, but it will not be in the same proportion as it will increase in other states," Mann said. Stalin had recently written a letter to the chief ministers of non-BJP ruled states and called upon them to formulate a strategy on opposing de-

spoken to Mann. Earlier, Punjab Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)'s chief spokesperson and MP from Anandpur Sahib, Malvinder Singh Kang, had stated that they have similar apprehensions like southern states that the criterion of delimitation will weaken Punjab as "it would affect the representation of Punjab state in the Parliament besides being a threat to India's federal structure.

Kang told that as MPs, he and his party colleagues will raise the issue in the next session of Lok Sabha. "Before that, the state government will also write to the Centre rejecting the criterion of basing the delimitation on population. This is injustice being meted to us. The Government of India has appealed to the states from time-totime to keep a check on the burgeoning population. Punjab is among those states that checked the population considerably just like the Southern states. We should not be made to pay for following the flagship schemes of the Centre," Kang said

#### Apple to begin AirPods production in Hyd

MI News Service, Hyderabad: Apple is planning to start production of airpods for exports at the Foxconn plant in Hyderabad from April, sources said. Airpods will be the second product category that Apple will start producing

in India after iPhones. "Production of Airpods is going to start in India at Foxconn's Hyderabad facility. It will begin from April but it will be only for exports as of now," an industry source told PTI.

Foxconn had approved USD 400 million, about Rs 3,500 crore, to set up the factory in August 2023. Apple has been a leader in the global TWS (true wireless device) segment.

According to Canalys, the company had 23.1 per cent market share in 2024 -- about three times more than its nearest competitor Samsung that the research firm estimates to be pods production in India assumes significance amid speculation that Apple may cut production in the country in the aftermath of reciprocal tariffs announced by US President Donald Trump and especially after the company announced USD 500 billion investment in the US over the next four years in manufacturing units. According to data shared by India Cellular and Electronics Association, India imposes 20 per cent import duty on hearables and wearables while it is nil in the US.

#### Police seize drugs worth Rs 88 Cr, 4 drug cartel members nabbed

MI News Service, Guwahati: A massive consignment of methamphetamine tablets worth Rs 88 crore was seized and four members of an international drug cartel were arrested in Imphal and Guwahati zones, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Sunday. Shah also said the drug haul is a testament to the stellar performance of the bottom-to-top and topto-bottom approach towards investigation and asserted that the Narendra Modi government's crackdown on drugs will continue. "No mercy for drug cartels. Accelerating the Modi govt's march to build a drug-free Bharat, a masconsignment of methamphetamine tablets worth Rs 88 crore is seized, and 4 members of the international drug cartel are arrested in Imphal and Guwahati zones," he wrote on X. The home minister expressed his

heartfelt congratulations

to the Narcotics Control

Bureau for the success.

# Stalin's criticism of Modi govt doing injustice to south **India: G Kishan Reddy**

MI News Service, Chennai/New Delhi: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin's criticism that the Modi government is doing injustice to south India and the meeting on delimitation convened by him are purely politically moti-vated, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy alleged on Sunday.

In the run-up to the Assembly elections in Tamil Nadu, the DMK is carrying out a "fresh make-up to an old drama" to escape opposition among people to its rule and the alleged corruption and dictatorial attitude of Stalin's family, the BJP leader told reporters. Against the backdrop of corruption, heavy taxes, power tariff hike and the inability to implein Tamil Nadu, the DMK is trying to provoke people by showing PM Narendra Modi, Hindi and delimita-

tion as evil, he charged. The DMK is also trying to divert attention from the recent allegations against its leaders in liquor supply, he said. The DMK did not oppose when the Congress government at the Centre introduced education policy in 1986, claimed Kishan Reddy, president of BJP in Telangana. The Kothari Commission on education appointed by the Congress government in

the past had strengthened the three-language for-mula, he said. Observing that the three language system began during the British era, he said there has been no instance of imposition of Hindi on any individual or state after the Modi government assumed office. The Modi government is the first government to promote all regional languages in the country, emphasizing on studying in the mother tongue, he said. "Despite knowing all this, Congress and DMK start a vicious campaign, mud-slinging when elections are round the corner," he said. The New Education

Policy of the NDA government promotes diversity of languages in the country, is no opposition to the allparty meeting convened by Stalin, Kishan Reddy, however, said false information should not be spread. Referring to the recent comments of Stalin, Telangana CM Revanth Reddy and BRS that Lok Sabha seats in the south would decline following delimitation of constituencies, Reddy said census has to take place for delimitation to be undertaken. "There is no clarity about when the census would begin. Centre is discussing with all sections," he said.

### State govt mulls bill regulating pvt school fee structure

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tuesday. Basu appealed to The state Education department will introduce a Bill in the state legislative Assembly for regulating the fee structure in private schools across Bengal. "A large number of private schools in the state affiliated to the Central boards like the CBSE and ICSE impart quality education and students who pass out from these schools perform very well. But arbitrary increases in fees by these schools create problems for the middle class parents. There are also complaints related to corporal punishment and other irregularities too. We feel that there should be some sort of regulation in the fee structure. So, we have prepared a draft in this regard and have sent it to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for her approval. We are hopeful of tabling a Bill in the Assembly soon," said state Education minister Bratya Basu, during the question answer session in the state Assembly on

the BJP legislators to see to it that the Bill after getting passed in the Assembly gets the final nod of the Governor in quick time. Basu referred to the West Bengal Clinical Establishment Regulatory Commission set up in the year 2017 that has been instrumental in addressing issues of huge bills and other irregularities associated with a section of private hospitals to a reasonable extent and said that the Education Commission that will be constituted will function similar in nature as the Health Commission. Assembly speaker Biman Banerjee thanked Basu for taking initiative in introducing a Bill to put a leash in the fee hike by private schools. The minister further informed the state Assembly that several seats in the state-aided colleges across Bengal have remained vacant this year after the admission was held online through a centralised online portal.

# Researchers discover protein that help prevent cancer treat-ment-related heart damage



Washington [US]: Blocking the protein CDK7 could prevent heart damage caused by a routinely used cancer chemotherapy treatment, according to a study conducted by scientists at Washington State University. Importantly, the researchers discovered that blocking CDK7 could improve the medication's cancer-killing efficacy.

Based on an animal model, the study's findings potentially lay the groundwork for future treatment options to decrease chemotherapyrelated heart damage and improve treatment efficacy. This has the potential to help people with cancer live longer lives. Heart damage caused by chemotherapy can manifest decades later and lead to heart attacks, heart failure, cardiomyopathy, and other types of heart dis-

The findings of the study were published in

study focused on doxorubicin, a chemotherapy drug used to treat breast cancer, lymphoma,

leukemia and other cancers. Capable of killing a wide range of cancer lls, doxorubicin and other similar chemotherapy medications are known to be toxic to the heart. Despite this toxicity, the drug still sees a lot of use.

"Doxorubicin remains the mainstay treatment for certain cancer types for which targeted therapies or other better treatments are not available," said senior study author Zhaokang Cheng, an associate professor in the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.Cheng has been working to unravel the underlying mechanisms of doxorubicininduced heart toxicity to make the use of doxorubicin safer for patients who rely on the drug. This new study builds on findings from earlier research that showed that doxorubicin activates a protein known as CDK2. That protein then activates another known as FOXO1, which causes heart cells to die. Cheng's team collaborated with WSU cancer biology researcher Boyang (Jason) Wu to take a closer look at CDK7, a protein that helps fuel cell growth and has been shown to play a role in the development of cancer.

The researchers found that CDK7 activated CDK2, which set off the chain of molecular signals that eventually led to heart cell death. They also showed that mice that lacked the CDK7 gene were protected from doxorubicininduced heart toxicity. Next, they used a CDK7 inhibitor drug known as THZ1 to block the protein's activity and examine the impact on heart health and cancer growth. A similar inhibitor is currently being tested as an anticancer drug in clinical trials, but its effect on the heart is still not clear.

"We are the first to study the effect of THZ1 on the heart and tumour growth in the same model," said study first author Jingrui Chen, a WSU research associate. "And what we found is that this CDK7 inhibitor drug can increase heart function and at the same time inhibit tumour growth.'

Though more research is needed, the researchers said their findings suggest that combining doxorubicin and THZ1 could help prevent heart damage and increase the effectiveness of chemotherapy treatment.

The researchers' next step is to test the effect of THZ1 on heart damage and cancer growth in younger mice and follow them longer. This would more closely mimic longterm doxorubicin-induced heart toxicity seen in childhood cancer survivors. They also plan to look at other proteins that may somehow be involved in the signaling pathway that under-

# Study reveals key protein that helps prevent excessive bone loss in osteoporosis

Tokyo [Japan], Osteoporosis, a disorder characterised by porous and weak bones, is a major hazard to skeletal health. As the foundation of the human body, bones provide critical structural support. When bone mass decreases, it not only weakens this support but also lowers general function, resulting in a lower quality of life

With an ageing population and a rise in osteoporosis cases, the burden on healthcare resources for long-term care is clear. As a result, there is a need to understand the mechanisms that cause osteoporosis and develop effective targeted therapeutics to mitigate its long-term effects.

Osteoblasts and osteoclasts are two types of cells that play critical roles in bone tissue maintenance and remodelling. Osteoblasts are bone-forming cells that synthesise and deposit new bone tissue, whereas osteoclasts break down and remove old or damaged bone tissue. Increased proportion of osteoclasts causes bone mass loss in situations such as osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis (joint inflammation), and bone metastases (cancer that has spread to the bones). Osteoclasts develop from the development of macrophages or monocytes, two types of immune cells. Suppressing osteoclast differentiation could thus be used as a therapeutic technique to prevent bone loss. However, the precise molecular pathways driving the complicated process of bone remodelling are unknown.

In a new groundbreaking study, Professor Tadayoshi Hayata, Mr. Takuto Konno, and Ms. Hitomi Murachi from Tokyo University of Science, along with their co-workers, delved deeper into the molecular regulation of differentiation. Receptor activator of nuclear factor kappa B ligand (RANKL) stimulation induces the differentiation of macrophages into osteoclasts. Further, bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) and transforming growth factor (TGF)-b signaling pathways have been implicated in the regulation of RANKL-mediated osteoclast differentiation. In the current study, the researchers Ctdnep1 - a phosphatase (an enzyme that removes phosphate groups) that has been reported to suppress BMP and TGF-b signal-

Giving further insight into their work set to be published on July 30, 2024, in Volume 719 of Biochemical and Biophysical esearch Communications, Prof. Hayata states, "RANKL functions as an 'accelerator' for osteoclast cell differentiation. Driving a car requires not only the accelerator but also the brakes. Here, we find that Ctdnep1 functions as a 'brake' on osteoclast cell differen-

First, the researchers examined the expression of Ctdnep1 in mouse-derived macrophages treated with RANKL and untreated control cells. They noted that Ctdnep1 expression remained unchanged in response to RANKL stimulation. However, it localized in the cytoplasm in granular form in the macrophages and differentiated into osteoclasts, distinct from its normal peri-nuclear localization in other cell types, indicating its cytoplasmic function in osteoclast differentiation.

Further, Ctdnep1 knockdown (downregulation of gene expression) resulted in an increase in tartrate-resistant acid phos-phatase-positive (TRAP) osteoclasts; wherein TRAP is a marker for differentiated osteoclasts. Additionally, Ctdnep1 knockdown led to an increase in the expres-

Researchers use 'cloaked' proteins to deliver

sion of crucial differentiation markers including 'Nfatc1', a RANKL-induced master transcription factor for osteoclast differentiation. These results support the 'brake function' of Ctdnep1, whereby, it negatively regulates osteoclast differentiation.

Moreover, Ctdnep1 knockdown also led to increased absorption of calcium phosphate, suggestive of the suppressive role of Ctdnep1 in bone resorption. Lastly, while, Ctdnep1 knockdown did not alter BMP and TGF-b signaling, cells deficient in Ctdnep1 showed elevated levels of phosphorylated (activated) proteins downstream of the RANKL signaling pathway. These findings suggest that the suppressive effect of Ctdnep1 in osteoclast differentiation may not be mediated by BMP and TGF-b signaling, but, through the negative regulation of RANKL signaling and Nfatc1 protein levels.

Overall, these findings provide novel insights into the process of osteoclast differentiation and reveal potential therapeutic targets which can be pursued to develop treatments that address bone loss due to excessive osteoclast activity. In addition to diseases characterized by bone loss, Ctdnep1 has also been reported as a causative factor in medulloblastoma - a childhood brain tumor. The authors are, therefore, optimistic that their research can be extended to other human diseases

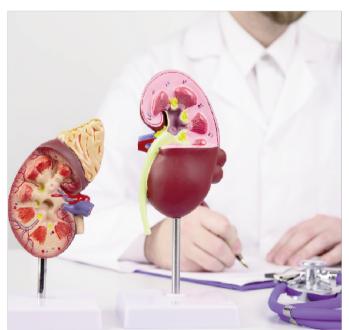
## Semaglutide ingredient can help protect kidney function in people with obesity: Study

WASHINGTON Semaglutide, a glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonist, has been shown in the SELECT Trial to be effective in preventing the loss of kidney function in people who are overweight or obese and have established cardiovascular disease but do not have dia-

The remarkable secondary analysis from the SELECT (Semaglutide Effects on Heart Disease and Stroke in Patients with Overweight or Obesity) experiment, a randomised trial with a participant pool of 17,604 researchers today at the 61st ERA

The study's findings, according to experts, give individuals who suffer from obesity hope since this illness is known to increase the risk of renal function decline and macroalbuminuria, or abnormally high levels of the albumin protein

With an average follow-up of approximately 3.5 years, among patients who were administered a once-weekly subcutaneous injection of semaglutide 2.4 mg (n=8,803) adverse kidney-related events were experienced by 22% fewer persons (1.8%) compared to those receiving placebo (n=8,801) (2.2%) (p<0.05). These events included death from kidney causes, initiation of chronic kidney replacement therapy, significant (>= 50%) decline in kidney function, or onset of persistent macroalbuminuria. Semaglutide's ability to prevent the onset of macroalbuminuria was highlight-



the likelihood of kidney-related complications

The study also assessed the impact of semaglutide on estimatglomerular filtration rate (eGFR), a measure of kidney function in removing waste and excess water from the blood through urine. The findings indicated a significantly lesser decline in eĞFR among semaglutide recipients compared to the placebo group, with the effect being more pronounced in participants with baseline eGFR below 60 mL/min/1.73 m2 (p<0.001). These results indicate the potential for semaglutide to particularly protect kidney function in individuals with a pre-existing kidney

impairment. The reduction in urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio (UACR) further substantiated semaglutide's beneficial effect on kidney health, with a significant decrease observed in semaglutide-treated individuals compared to placebo (p<0.001). UACR analysis measures the ratio of albumin (a protein) to creatinine (a waste product) in urine, aiding the detection of albuminuria, which can signal kidney damage or dysfunction. With semaglutide, there was a net 8.1% decrease in UACR in those with normal albumin levels at baseline, a 27.2% decrease in those with microalbuminuria (slightly raised albumin) at baseline, and a 31.4% decrease in those with macroalbuminuria at baseline relative to placebo. Importantly, the study found

no increased risk of acute kidney injury associated with semaglutide treatment, irrespective of baseline kidney function.

Over one billion people worldwide are affected by obesity.3 Rates of obesity are rising significantly, having doubled among adult women (8.8% to 18.5%) and nearly tripled in adult men (4.8% to 14.0%) between 1990 and 2022. The total number of children affected by obesity in 2022 was nearly 160 million, compared to 31 million in 1990

Professor Helen M. Colhoun, lead study author, commented, 'By addressing key markers of kidney health, semaglutide 2.4 mg weekly may contribute to a significant reduction in the risk of kidney-related complications, including chronic kidney disease and end-stage renal disease. This could lead to improved management of comorbidities and, ultimately, enhance the quality of life

for individuals with obesity. "The observed benefits in eGFR and UACR are particularly encouraging, suggesting potential for the enhanced management of kidney complications in the patient population with overweight and obesity without diabetes. The findings also underscore the importance of continued research into the possible renal benefits of semaglutide and highlight its role as a promising therapeutic option in the multifaceted management of cardiovascular and renal health in this high-risk



have created a generalized method for "cloaking" proteins, which may allow for the recycling of materials like antibodies for biological research and therapeutic applications.Lipid nanoparticles, which resemble tiny bubbles of fat, have the ability to ensnare the "cloaked" proteins. Because of their microscopic size, these bubbles are able to secretly deliver their cargo into living cells, where the proteins unfold and begin to work as medicine. The group's paper published in ACS Central Science. The lead author is doctoral student Azmain Alamgir, who works in the labs of the paper's co-senior authors, Chris Alabi, associate professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering, and Matt DeLisa, professor of engineering.

For some drugs to impact a cell's biology, and ultimately treat disease, they need to get inside the cell and reach a specific space. Protein-based therapeutics have



more specific effects, with lower toxicity and diminished immune response - but ease of delivery is not one of them. Proteins are large and cumbersome and don't freely diffuse into cells as easily as small molecules do. "We had been looking for a

clever way to efficiently get our engineered proteins inside of cells, especially in a translational context that would not only work in lab-cultured cells, but that would also be effective and safe in animal models and eventually in humans," DeLisa said. The researchers had the broad idea of using a bioconjugation approach that would allow the proteins to be loaded into lipid nanoparticles, which form around nucleic acids.

ticles were a key component in the successful COVID-19 vaccines developed by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna. Those vaccines worked by delivering a payload in the form of messenger RNA, which are nucleic acids. The researchers now would use the same lipid nanoparticle delivery concept the same materials even - but with a protein payload. The trick would be to make proteins look more like nucleic acids. The researchers found they could accomplish this by "cloaking" the proteins with a negatively charged ion, so they would join with the positively charged lipids electrostatically.

"The crux of our strategy is conceptually very simple," Alamgir said. "We're taking proteins and specifically remodeling their surfaces with negative charges, so they look like nucleic acids and can similarly assemble into nanoparticles when formulated with the characteristic lipids.

# Light therapy helps in brain connectivity following injury

Illinois [US]: A study suggests that lowlevel light treatment may have an impact on the healing process in the brains of individuals who have experienced serious brain injuries.

The findings of the study were published in Radiology, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America

The ability of various wavelengths of light to heal wounds has been researched for many years. Low-level light treatment was used by researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) on 38 patients who had experienced moderate traumatic brain injury, which is defined as a head injury severe enough to affect cognition and/or be detectable on a brain scan. Within 72 hours of their injury, patients underwent light therapy using a near-infrared lightemitting helmet.

"The skull is quite transparent to near-infrared light," said study co-lead author Rajiv Gupta, M.D., Ph.D., from the Department of Radiology at MGH.

"Once you put the helmet on, your whole brain is bathing in this light.

The researchers used an imaging technique called functional MRI to gauge the effects of the light therapy. They focused on the brain's resting-state functional connectivity, the communication between brain regions that occurs when a person is at rest and not engaged in a specific task. The researchers compared MRI results during three recovery phases: the acute phase of within one week after injury, the subacute phase of two to three weeks post-injury and the late-subacute

phase of three months after injury.
Of the 38 patients in the trial, 21 did not receive light therapy while wearing the helmet. This was done to serve as a control to minimize bias due to patient characteristics and to avoid potential placebo effects.

Patients who received low-level light therapy showed a greater change in resting-state connectivity in seven brain region pairs during the acute-to-suba-



cute recovery phase compared to the control participants.

There was increased connectivity in

those receiving light treatment, primarily within the first two weeks," said study coauthor Nathaniel Mercaldo, Ph.D., a

statistician with MGH. "We were unable to detect differences in connectivity between the two treatment groups long term, so although the treatment appears to increase the brain connectivity initially, its long-term effects are still to be

The precise mechanism of the light therapy's effects on the brain is also still to be determined. Previous research points to the alteration of an enzyme in the cell's mitochondria (often referred to as the "powerhouse" of a cell), Dr. Gupta said. This leads to more production of adenosine triphosphate, a molecule that stores and transfers energy in the cells. Light therapy has also been linked with blood vessel dilation and anti-inflammatory effects.

There is still a lot of work to be done to understand the exact physiological mechanism behind these effects," said study coauthor Suk-tak Chan, Ph.D., a biomedical engineer at MGH.

While connectivity increased for the light therapy-treated patients during the acute to subacute phases, there was no evidence of a difference in clinical outcomes between the treated and control participants. Additional studies with larger cohorts of patients and correlative imaging beyond three months may help determine the therapeutic role of light in traumatic brain injury.

The researchers expect the role of light therapy to expand as more study results come in. The 810-nanometerwavelength light used in the study is already employed in various therapeutic applications. It's safe, easy to administer and does not require surgery or medications. The helmet's portability means it can be delivered in settings outside of the hospital. It may have applications in treating many other neurological conditions, according to Dr. Gupta.

There are lots of disorders of connectivity, mostly in psychiatry, where this intervention may have a role," he said. "PTSD, depression, autism: these are all promising areas for light thera-



# **OUR!!!VOICES**

# **Medical Department of ER Organises Awareness Programme on adolescent** substance abuse & Childhood Obesity

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Medical Department of Eastern Railway, in association with the West Bengal Academy of Paediatrics, organised an awareness programme on Adolescent Substance Abuse & Childhood Obesity at various key stations and railway hospitals across the Eastern Railway jurisdiction today. As part of the awareness drive, two informative movies produced by the Indian Academy of Paediatrics were displayed on the giant screen at Sealdah station to spread awareness about substance abuse and childhood obesity. These movies were also shown at the B R Singh Hospital OPD complex, Howrah Railway Station, Asansol Railway Station, Orthopaedic Hospital Howrah, Asansol Railway Hospital, and Railway Hospital, Andal.At Sealdah station premises, the programme was conducted in the presence of Dr. Atanu Bhadra, Hony Treasurer, Dr. Kalpana Mandal, CMS/Sealdah, Dr. Mihir Sarkar, Hony Secretary, West Bengal Academy of Paediatrics; and Dr. Agnimita Giri, renowned Paediatrician from the Institute of Child Health, Kolkata. The event was coordinated by Dr.

atrics/B.R.Singh Hospital.The programme commenced with an introductory address by Dr. Mandira Banerjee, ACMS/Health & Family Welfare/Sealdah, who highlighted the critical importance of addressing adolescent substance abuse and the growing concern of childhood obesity.Renowned doctors, including Dr. Agnimita Giri, Dr. Mihir Sarkar, Dr. Chaitali Patra, and Dr. Sayantan Saha, spoke extensively about substance abuse, its warning signs, prevention, treatment, and the vital role of parents in combating these issues. They also delivered an engaging talk on childhood obesity, its harmful effects, lifestyle modifications, and management techniques.Dr. Atanu Bhadra actively interacted with the audience, including railway commuters and the general public, addressing their queries and concerns.Dr. Kalpana Mandal, CMS/Sealdah, played a key role in organising this initiative in collaboration with the Indian Academy of Paediatrics. The Medical Department

of Howrah Division, Eastern Railway,

organised a similar programme in

emy of Paediatrics, taking a significant step to combat the rising threats of childhood obesity and substance abuse among adolescents. As part of this health promotion campaign, two short films produced by the Indian Academy of Paediatrics were showcased today on the giant screen at Howrah station premises. These films effectively highlighted the dangers and long-term consequences of childhood obesity and substance abuse, with the goal of educating and empowering the public, particularly parents and young individuals.Simultaneously, at Andal Railway Hos-Tanmay Biswas, DMO/Paediatrics, along MS/IC/Andal, conducted an awareness programme on adolescent substance abuse and childhood obesity for railway beneficiaries at the OPD complex. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from various departments, including the Health & Family Welfare Department, Sealdah Division, B R Singh Hospital, the Indian Academy of Paediatrics, the general public, railway com-

### ER to run more two Holi Specials

• More than 4,200 berths to be generated. MI News Service, Kolkata: To clear the expected rush of Honorable Chief Minister passengers during Holi, Railway has decided to run more two Holi special trains be-tween Kolkata & Raxaul and Kolkata & Darbhanga. These special trains will offer additional capacity and flexibility to accommodate the extra rush of passengers for Holi festival period. Additional 4,200 berths will be generated by running these Holi festival specials. 05506 Rax-aul – Kolkata Holi Special will leave Raxaul at 09:00 hrs on 16.03.2025 (01 trip) to reach Kolkata at 05:50 hrs on the next day and 05505 Kolkata · Raxaul Holi Special will leave Kolkata at 07:25 hrs on 17.03.2025 (01 trip) to reach Raxaul at 04:00 hrs on the next day. The special train will stop at 19 stations including Naihati, Bandel, Barddhaman, Bolpur (Shan-Rampurhat, Barharwa, Sahibganj, Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur, Sultangani, Bariarpur and Monghyr stations over Eastern Railway iurisdiction in both directions enroute. The train will have Second Class, General days! What message will Sleeper Class & Air-condiaccommodations. Mamata give when she 05512 Darbhanga – Kolkata comes to Furfura? Of Holi Special will leave Darbcourse, the opinion of the hanga at 12:05 hrs on Pirsahebs is that there 17.03.2025 (01 trip) to reach Kolkata at 05:50 hrs on the next day and 05:511 Kolkata

– Darbhanga Holi Special
will leave Kolkata at 07:25
hrs on 18.03.2025 (01 trip) to reach Darbhanga at 00:20 hrs on the next day. The special train will stop at 17 stations including Naihati, Bandel, Barddhaman, Bolpur (Shantiniketan), Ram-

### **Regulation of trains** for Maintenance **Work over South ER**

purhat, Barharwa, Sahib-ganj, Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur,

Sultanganj, Bariarpur and

Monghyr stations over East-

ern Railway jurisdiction in

both directions enroute. The

train will have General Sec-

ond Class, Sleeper Class

& Air-conditioned accommo-

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to Rolling Block programme in Adra Division over South Eastern Railway 17.03.2025 23.03.2025, the following arrangements in train rununder:Cancellation of trains: • 68046/68045 Asansol -Adra - Asansol MEMU passenger (journey commencing on and from 17.03.2025 23.03.2025).• 63594/ 63593 Asansol – Purulia – Asansol MEMU passenger (journey commencing on 17.03.20 25, 19.03.2025 & 22.03. 2025).Short termination/ short origination of trains:• 68056 Tata -Asansol MEMU passenger will be short terminate at Adra on 17.03.2025, 18.03.2025, 19.03.2025 & 22.03.2025. • 68000 Assassing the short terminate at Adra on 17.03.2025 & 22.03.2025. - Barabhum MEMU passenger will be short originated from Adra on 17.03.2025, 18.03.2025, 19.03.2025 & 22.03.2025. 13503/13504 Barddhaman - Hatia - Barddhaman MEMU Express (journey commencing on 17.03.2025, 20.03.2025 & 22.03.2025) will be short terminated at /short originated from Gomoh.

### **Running of Holi Special** Trains Between Visakhap-

stoppages

#### Mamata Banerjee is scheduled to visit Furfura Darbar Sharif day. On this day, she will attend the Iftar Majlis under the patronage of the government at Musafir Khana in Dhanpota, Furfura. All the Pir Sahibs of Furfura Sharif and prominent people of the area will be present. Officially, under the supervision of the Hooghly District Administration, the SDO of Serampur and the BDO of Jangipara have gone door to door to the Pir Sahibs and delivered the invitation letters. As usual, there is a flood of joy in Furfura Sharif with this Iftar Party. Festive arrangements have been made in the region. The Pir Sahibs have also congratulated Mamata. But why did Mamata is visiting Furfura after a long 10 years? This question has arisen in the minds of the common people. Some have said that this government has imprisoned Bhaijaan MLA Naushad for 41

have been some developments in Furfura under Mamata's leadership. Some have said that Mamata has come to manage the upcoming elections for Pirsaheb? This day, Monday, March 17, is the death anniversary of Hazrat Dada Huzur, the Pir Mujaddid of Furfura Sharif. Is there any secret behind Mamata's arrival in Furfura Sharif on that great historical day? Even after 86 years of his death, Dada Huzur has not received any government honor! It is known that the common people of the area have

for bestowing proposed honor. There is a strong possibility that MLAs and Pirzada Naushad Siddiqui and Pirzada Abbas Siddiqui will also be present at the Iftar Party. However, at this moment, Furfura Sharif is surrounded by tight security. There is also tight security at the Musafir Khana. Mamata visited Furfura in 2012, 2015 and 2015. In a word, Mamata's visit turned into a hattrick. It goes without saying that Mamata's visit is important from a politi-

# Mamata Banerjee visits Furfura Sharif today

# **Malda Division Strengthens** Fire Safety Measures Along **Railway Tracks for Safe Travel**



MI News Service, Kolkata: hance passenger safety and ensure smooth train operations during the upcoming summer months, Malda Division of Eastern Railway has intensified its fire prevention measures along railway tracks. As dry grass risk of trackside fires, the division is taking comprehensive steps to mitigate potential hazards and maintain uninterrupted railway services. Under the directive of the General Manager, Eastern Railway, and under the leadership of the Divisional Railway Manager, Malda, large-scale clear-

ance operations are being sections, including Bhagalpur and Jamalpur. Railway teams, equipped with both manual and mechanized tools, are actively engaged in removing dry vegetation and jungle growth along gthen fire prevention efforts, regular inspections and awareness campaigns are being conducted among railway staff and local residents near railway premises. Additionally, patrolling and monitoring of railway tracks have been intensified to detect and mitigate po-

thorities and fire departments ensures a swift response to any emergen-Passengers and the public are urged to cooperate by refraining from activities

that could cause accidental fires, such as discarding burning cigarette butts, lighting fires near railway tracks, or improper waste disposal. The Railway Administration also appeals to local communities to support cleanliness and safety initiatives to prevent fire-related disruptions. Malda Division remains committed to maintaining a safe and seensuring seamless train operations and a comfortable travel experience. This initiative reinforces Malda Division's dedication to safety, efficiency, and public welfare. The Railway Administration cooperation of the public in keeping railway premises clean and firefree.

#### Lost purse returned to a Metro Commuter



MI News Service, Kolkata: On 14.03.2025 at about 17:40 hrs., an on-duty RPF staff posted at Rabindra Sarobar Metro station while conducting a routine patrolling recovered an unclaimed purse and deposited it to the Station Master's Office of this station. After opening the purse, some valuable items were found inside it. Thereafter, Station Master made repeated announcements requesting the owner of the purse to collect it from the Station Master's Office and a control message was also communicated to all the stations. After sometime, a lady commuter came to the Station Master's Office of Rabindra Sarobar Metro station and claimed the ered purse and the items containing therein. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the purse with other items were handed over to her. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping her to get back the lost purse along with

#### 3 Bihar labourers killed in Bengaluru during **Holi celebrations**

MI News Service, Bengaluru: A get-together during Holi celebrations in Bengaluru turned tragic when three labourers from Bihar were murdered following an altercation at a construction site on Saturday evening. According to police, the de-

ceased— plumbing and construction workers Radhe Shyam, 23, Deepu, 22, and Ansu, 19-had invited fellow labourers from nearby sites, most of whom hailed from Gopalganj district like them, to a Holi party in Anekal. According to sources, trouble began when one of the victims received a phone call from the sister of one of the labourers they had invited over. The two had been in touch with each other for some time, which enraged the woman's brother and led to a heated argument. The confrontation soon escalated into violence, with the labourers attacking one another using bottles and iron rods. "We received a call about a murder at the construction site and rushed to the spot. Upon arrival, we found three labourers dead,"

# **UK: World Sindhi Congress** stage protest against Pakistan govt amid Sindh canal issue MI News Service, London:

On International Rivers Day, the World Sindhi Congress organized a protest in front of the Pakistan High Commission in London, condemning the construction of six illegal canals on the Indus River by the federal and Punjab governments of Pakistan, Jeay Sindh Freedom Movement (JSFM) said in a post on Facebook. Various nationalist leaders,

human rights activists, intellectuals, and political workers supported the protest, rallying against what they called an unconstitutional act that threatened the livelihoods of local communities in Sindh. JSFM chairman Sohail Abro of the issue, calling it a matter of life and death for the people of Sindh. In a post shared on Facebook, he emphasized that the construction of these canals would worsen the water crisis, adversely impacting the region's agriculture and daily life. The protesters also condemned the suppression of voices in Sindh, including the mysterious



cluding prominent figures like World Sindhi Congress chairman Lako Mal Lohano, Hidayat Bhutto, and Ayman Zainoor, voiced strong condemnation of the canal projects. They argued that these actions are part of a broader conspiracy aimed at undermining Sindh's rights to its water resources. The participants expressed outrage over the fact that the construction is being carried out without the consent of the Sindhi

people, further aggravating tensions between Sindh and the central government.

The protestors chanted slogans against the federal and Punjab governments, demanding the immediate cessation of the canal projects. They vowed to continue their fight until their rights are recognized and the people of Sindh are protected from what they consider an unjust and oppressive policy. protest garnered widespread attention, underthe growing tensions over water rights and political autonomy in

# Iran denies aiding Yemen's Houthi rebels after US strikes, threat from Trump

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran on Sunday once again denied aiding Yemen's Houthi rebels after the United States launched a wave of airstrikes against them and President Donald Trump warned that Tehran would be held "fully accountable" for their actions. The Houthirun Health Ministry said the strikes killed at least 31 people, including women and children, and including

wounded over 100. The rebels said one strike hit two homes in northern Saada province, killing four children and a woman. The rebel-run Al-Masirah TV showed images of what it said were the bodies. The Houthis have repeatedly targeted international shipping in the Red Sea and launched missiles and drones at Israel in what the rebels said were acts of solidarity with the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, where Israel has been at war with Hamas, another Iranian ally. The attacks stopped when a fragile Israel-Hamas ceasefire took hold in Gaza in January, but the

Houthis had threatened to

renew them after Israel cut off the flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza this month. The US and others have long accused Iran of providing military aid to the Houthis and the US Navy has seized Iranianmade missile parts and other weaponry it said were bound for the militant group, which controls Yemen's capital, Sanaa, and the country's north. Gen. Hossein Salami,

head of Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, denied his country was involved in the Houthis' attacks, saying it "plays no role in setting the national or operational policies" of the militant groups it is allied with across the region, according to state-run TV.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, in a post on X, urged the US to halt the strikes and said Washington cannot dictate Iran's foreign policy. The crew is expected to enter the ISS after 1:05 am EST (10:35 am IST), where astronaut Wilmore will greet them. Sunita Williams and Wilmore have been stranded on the ISS since June due to technical issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. Their return was scheduled after the eight-day mission, but persistent problems delayed their journey home. Plans to send them back after Crew-9's arrival in August were also scrapped due to the lack of an emergency escape pod. Now, with Crew-10 successfully docked, Williams and Wilmore will finally get a chance to return to Earth along with Crew-9.

According to SpaceX founder Elon Musk, their return flight is expected to begin in the coming days. Crew-10's mission was initially planned for Wednesday evening but was postponed due to an issue with a ground support clamp arm on the rocket. Despite the delay, the mission is now back on track, ensuring that the longawaited return of the stranded astronauts is just around the corner. Earlier, the astronaut duo were scheduled to return to Earth by March-end but it was preponed after US President Donald Trump urged SpaceX Musk to bring them back early.

atnam And Shalimar MI News Service, Kolkata: It has been decided to run Visakhapatnam-Shalimar-Visakhapatnam Holi Special trains as per following schedule: 08577/08578 Visakha patnam- Shalimar-Visakhapatnam Special: 08577 Visakha patnam-Shalimar Special will leave Visakhapatnam on 16.03. 20 25 at 11.20 hrs and will arrive Shalimar at 03:00 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08578 Shalimar-Visakhapatnam Special will leave Shalimar on 17.03. 2025 at 05.00 hrs and will reach Visakhapatnam at 20. 50 hrs, the next day. The Special train will Santragachi, Khara gpur and Baleshwar in SER ju-

# Bansberia's Nurain Hayat selected as multi-tasking staff in the Revenue Department

Bansberia city has received another honor and after a remarkable success in the field of education, a girl has made not only herself but also her guardian and locality proud by getting a government job. This small city of Bansberia, which was once tagged as a suburb, can now proudly say that we too are capable and this has been proven by the young children here. Today, in Bansberia, doctors, engineers, IT, military, teachers, bank employees, professors, advocates seem to be working in all sectors today. Today, another name has been added to this list. Which is a matter of pride for the entire residents of Bansberia. Nurain Hayat bint Muhammad Jafar Sadiq, a resident of Bansbeia Qazi Mohalla in Hooghly district, West Bengal, has made the nation and nation proud by excelling in the MTS 2024 examination conducted by the Staff Selection Commission and being selected as a multi-tasking staff for the Central Board of Indi-

MI News Service, Hooghly:

(CBIC), Kolkata, Revenue Department under the Union Ministry of Finance. Her parents, relatives, friends and residents of Bansberia were overjoyed at her success and showered her with lots of good wishes and prayed for her to progress further in life and attain higher and higher positions. She has proved to be a brilliant student by avoiding grammar and staying away from mobile and social media since childhood. She received her primary, secondary and higher  $\stackrel{o}{\text{education}}$ secondary through English medium from Bandel Auxilium Convent School. She completed her graduation from Hooghly Mohsin College and post-graduation from Burdwan University. Looking at the competitive examinations, she has made it possible to reach MTS, Intelligence Bureau (IB) Graduate Level Interview and WBCS MAINS. All these achievements of hers are an inspiration and role model for today's students,

especially girls.

rect Taxes and Customs

### Trump administration invokes 18thcentury law to deport Venezuelan gang members

MI News Service, Washington DC: The Donald Trump administration on Saturday (local time) invoked an 18th-century law, the Alien Enemies Act of 1978, to speed up the deportations of migrants affiliated with the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua, CNN reported. This rarely used law, which has been invoked only three times before, grants the president broad authority to target and remove und o c u m e n t e d immigrants. The Alien Enemies Act of 1798 can be invoked if the US is at war with another country or a foreign nation has invaded the US or threatened to do so. The White House designated the Venezuelan gang as a foreign terrorist organization and said in a presidential proclamation that many of them have "unlawfully infiltrated the United States and are conducting irregular warfare and undertaking hostile actions against the States."The proclamation calls for all those subject to the measure to be immediately arrested.



Mumbai Indians Women players celebrate with the trophy after winning the Womens Premier League 2025 final match against Delhi Capitals Women, at Brabourne Stadium, Mumbai on Saturday.

# **Jamieson, Duffy breathe fire** as NZ beat Pak by nine wickets

from pacers Jacob Duffy and Kyle Jamieson did not allow a new-look Pakistan led by Salman Agha to kickstart their new era with their fearless cricket as intended and the visitors were crushed by nine wickets in the first T20I on

Now, with this win, Kiwis are 1-0 up in the five-match T20I series. After bundling Pakistan out for just 91 runs in 18.4 overs, NZ chased it down in just 10.1 overs with just one wicket lost.

NZ won the toss and elected to

Jamieson and Duffy unleashed a reign of terror on Pakistani batters, as they sunk to 11/4 in 4.4 overs, with their key batters including Mohammad Haris (0) and Shadab Khan (6) gone. Skipper Salman Agha (18 in 20 balls, with two fours) and Khushdil Shah (32 in 30 balls, with three sixes) put on a bit of a fight with a 46-run stand, however, Ish Sodhi opened the floodgates for another collapse.

Pakistan was skittled out for just 91 runs, with Jahandad Khan (17) saving Pakistan from some extra embarrassment.

and Duffy (4/14 in 3.4 overs) were the top bowlers for Kiwis. Sodhi (2/27) and Zakary Foulkes (1/11) also bowled well.

Jamieson (3/8 in four overs)

This was Pakistan's lowest total in NZ, outdoing their 101 against Kiwis at Wellington back in 2016.

During the run-chase, Kiwis started out with a bang, with the pair of Finn Allen and Tim Seifert dealing in fours and sixes. At the end of powerplay, NZ was 53/1 as compared to Pakistan's 14/4. Spinner Abrar had removed Seifert for 44 in 29 balls, with seven fours and a six

#### **SPORTS BRIEF**

**NEP 2020 INTE-GRATES SPORTS INTO FORMAL CURRICU-LUM: MOS JAYANT CHAUDHARY** 

**BENGALURU:** Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and MoS for Education Jayant Chaudhary on Saturday highlighted that the National Education Policy 2020 is integrating sports into the formal curriculum, enabling the country to build a strong sports ecosystem. Speaking on the second day of the RCB **Innovation Lab Indian Sports** Summit Powered by Leaders at the Padukone Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence, Chaudhary said that India is on the cusp of a sports revolution, driven by the progressive National Education Policy 2020. This policy emphasizes the need for a multidisciplinary approach, giving students the freedom to explore their talents and interests. "Now we have a progressive policy, the National Education Policy 2020, which understands that you need to give a lot of freedom and exposure and to be a multidisciplinary approach. You need to suss out the talent and equity in access to school children of all ages. Let them understand what their talent is, what drives them and give them that capacity to innovate and think out of the box. Once we have that policy structure. which is so progressive, it enables us to build sports into the formal curriculum. said Chaudhary. The sports sector is already showing promising signs, with sporting goods manufacturing employing over 500,000 people in India. The establishment of sports universities in Uttar Pradesh and Telangana

# **ISL 2024-25: Top** home performers from the league stage

NEW DELHI: The Indian Super League (ISL) has consistently proven itself to be a source of captivating football action, and the current season is certainly maintaining that high standard. A particular highlight this season has been the strength displayed by several teams on their home turf, as per the official website of

Five teams, in particular, have truly distinguished themselves with remarkably dominant performances in front of their supporters, creating an electric atmosphere. They have managed to consistently harness the energy of their home crowds to their advantage, securing crucial victories and showcasing their skills. What makes their accomplishments especially noteworthy is the consistency with which they brought their A-game whenever they stepped onto the pitch in front of their sup-

Leading the charge in home performances this season with 11 home wins is Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG), boasting a blend of youthful exuberance and seasoned leadership. Mariners lifted their home ground game to another level this season at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium.

Their attacking style of play has not only yielded goals but has also captivated fans with entertaining football. Stars like Jamie Maclaren, Jason Cummings, and Greg Stewart have been instrumental, regularly finding the back of the net and assisting fellow teammates. Their home record stands out, earning 34 points with a remarkable 20goal difference.

Close behind MBSG is FC Goa, who have turned the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium into a fortress. This season. they've mastered the art of playing under pressure, and their home games have become a difficult outing for any visiting team, with a

**PLAYOFFS: DATES** FOR KNOCKOUTS, **SEMI-FINALS, FINAL ANNOUNCED** 

The dates for the Indian

Super League (ISL) 2024-25 Playoffs are announced with the League stage concluded on March 12. The Knockouts will be played on March 29 and 30, followed by the twolegged semi-finals on April 2-3 & 6-7. The muchanticipated Final of the 2024-25 season will be played on Saturday, April 12, as per the official website of ISL. Mohun Bagan Super Giant created history by clinching the League Shield for the second season in a row, becoming the first team in the competition to do so. The ISL champions' journey in the 2024-25 season has been quite different from what it was in 2023-24. While the League Shield battle went down to the wire until the final fixture.

**Playoffs Schedule:** \* March 29: Knockout 1 -Bengaluru FC (home) vs Mumbai City FC \* March 30: Knockout 2 -NorthEast United FC (home) vs Jamshedpur FC \* April 2: Semi-final 1 (First leg) - Winner of Knockout 1 (home) vs FC

\* April 3: Semi-final 2 (First leg) - Winner of Knockout 2 (home) vs Mohun Bagan Super Giant \* April 6: Semi-final 1 (Second leg) - FC Goa (home) vs Winner of Knockout 1 \* April 7: Semi-final 2 (Second leg) - Mohun Bagan Super Giant (home) vs Winner of Knockout 2 \* April 12: Final - Winner of Semi-final 1 vs Winner of Semi-final 2.

resilient defence led by Sandesh Jhingan and Odei Onaindia. FC Goa have limited their opponents' chances while being clinical in attack. The consistency of their home performances, highlighted by 11 wins and 26 points, saw them finish second and secure a direct semi-final spot, all thanks to the passionate support of their local fans.

Another team making waves at home this season is Jamshedpur FC. Their home matches have had a drastic change in terms of the football they played this season, where fans have witnessed some extraordinary displays. Players like Javier Hernandez, Javi Siverio and Jordan Murray have delivered while young talents like Mohammed Sanan, Nikhil Barla and others have dazzled with their skills. Head coach Khalid Jamil has been lauded for his strategic brilliance, making astute substitutions to gain control of the game and keep his players fresh. This season, Jamshedpur FC have emerged as one of the most formidable teams to play against away from home, with the Men of Steel recording eight home wins and 25 points, knowing they can rely on home support to lift them in critical moments.

Bengaluru FC are placed fourth, whose vibrant atmosphere at Sree Kanteerava Stadium has played a crucial role in their success this season. The team has thrived on the energy generated by their fans, and this season has seen them rack up a string of impressive performances compared to last year's slump at home where they couldn't qualify for the playoffs.

With different players stepping up at crucial moments, the team's chemistry on the pitch has been palpable. Their tactical discipline and commitment have made them hard to beat, resulting in a string of seven home victories that resulted in 23 home points, bolstering their standings in the league.

#### **CHENNAI SUPER KINGS WILL DO VERY WELL IN THE IPL 2025:**

**KRISHNAMACHARI SRIKKANTH CHENNAI:** Former Indian player and selector Krishnamachari Srikkanth has expressed his thoughts on the IPL 2025 clash between Chennai Super

Kings (CSK) and Mumbai Indians (MI), which will take place on Sunday, March 23. Speaking to ANI, Srikkanth praised CSK and said they would do very well in the tournament. He also said this 2025 IPL season will be great and very exciting. "Chennai Super Kings (CSK) will do very well (in the IPL 2025)...The opening match between Mumbai Indians and Chennai Super Kings is going to be a great match. It will be a great and exciting season. Krishnamachari Srikkanth said, speaking to ANI. This prominent matchup will be among the most awaited events of the season, as standing rivalry and have a strong fanbase. Chennai Super Kings is recognized for its reliability and superiority in the IPL. At the same time, Mumbai Indians are five-time titleholders and have been among the most accomplished teams in the

tournament's past. **CSK Squad:** Ruturaj Gaikwad, (C), MS Dhoni, Ravindra Jadeja, Shivam Dube, Matheesha Pathirana, Noor Ahmad, Ravichandran Ashwin, Devon Conway, Syed Khaleel Ahmed, Rachin Ravindra, Rahul Tripathi, Vijay Shankar, Sam Curran, Shaik Rashid, Anshul Kamboj, Mukesh Choudhary, Deepak Hooda, Gurjanpreet Singh, Nathan Ellis, Jamie Overton, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Ramakrishnan Ghosh, Shreyas Gopal, Vansh Bedi, Andre Siddarth.

### **WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS**



# **THIS teenager will** replace injured Neymar in Brazil-Arg clash

ing their talisman Neymar in against arch-rivals Argentina in the World Cup qualifiers were dashed after he was ruled out due to an injury.

The 33-year-old, along with goalkeeper Ederson and defender Danilo, will not play the qualifiers against Colombia and Argentina this month, coach Dorival Junior said in a video.

Neymar, who returned to the field with Santos in January after a long injury layoff, last played on March 2, and was substituted after a left thigh injury. He could not play the Sao Paulo state championship semifinal against Corinthians because of the injury. The former Brazil captain sus-

tained an ACL injury in October 2023 during Brazil's World Cup qualifier against Uruguay, and was recuperating since then. He joined his boyhood club Santos on a six-month deal following the termination of his contract with Saudi Arabian club Al Hilal by mutual agreement.

Neymar scored three goals and provided three assists in seven matches at Santos, prompting coach Junior to pick him in the national squad. Neymar has played 128 matches for Brazil and scored a record 79 goals, surpass-

ing Pele's tally of 77. Young Brazilian sensation Endrick will replace Neymar in the Brazilian squad for the two World Cup qualifying matches. The 18-year-old Real Madrid striker has scored three goals in 13 matches for the senior Brazilian team.

Ederson was replaced by Lyon's Lucas Perri, while Flamengo's Alex Sandro has been named the replacement for defender and his clubmate Danilo.

Brazil are fifth in South American qualifying, and will host Colombia on March 20 and then take on Argentina five days later in Buenos Aires.

The Indian senior men's team arrived in Shillong on Friday, March 14, ahead of their first match of the AFC Asian Cup 2027 Qualifiers against Bangladesh (March 25). In preparation for that, the Blue Tigers will face Maldives in a friendly on March 19, which is set to be a historic occasion as the Meghalaya capital will witness the Indian men's team in action for the first time, according to the AIFF Media Team.

On their way to the team hotel, Manolo Marquez and his men were greeted by large posters and advertisement boards in various parts of Shillong. The least surprising element of it was the return of Sunil Chhetri in the middle of all those posters. There will be debuts of sorts - Chhetri's 'second debut' for the country, while Meghalaya prepares to make its international debut.

Already on a high after hosting the Indian Super League (ISL) for the first time this season, the arrival of the Indian contingent in the city has skyrocketed that buzz to the next level. The tickets for India's matches against Maldives and Bangladesh went on sale on

# Sachin's 100 international centuries: A breakdown in numbers

legendary Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar registered his 100th century in international cricket, becoming the first and till yet, the only cricketer to do so.

is set to create new avenues

and jobs for retired sports

Additionally, the centre of

excellence at IIT Madras for

a testament to India's grow-

ing focus on sports tech.

sports analytics and science is

persons and coaches.

During the Asia Cup clash against Bangladesh at Mirpur, Sachin raised his bat for the 100th time as a centurion, scoring 114 runs in 147 balls, with 12 fours and a six, powering India to 289/5. Though India lost the match, it was a memorable outing for Sachin and world cricket because of this milestone.

As the world of cricket celebrates 13 years of this feat, let us have a look at a breakdown of master's 100 hundreds, by num-

Tests: In Tests, Sachin reigns



supreme with 51 tons in 200 matches, the most by any batter. To go with it, he has scored 15,921 runs, the highest-ever by a batter.

ODIs: In ODIs, Sachin has made 49 tons, the second-most by a player after Virat Kohli (51) tons. With it, he has made 18,426

runs in 463 matches, the most by

First: August 14, 1990 vs. England at Manchester, 2nd Test

Last: March 16 vs Bangladesh at Mirpur, Asia Cup, 2012 at 38 years of age

Countries where Sachin hit centuries: 42 in India in 258 matches, 10 in Sri Lanka in 56 matches, 9 in South Africa in 56 matches, 7 in Australia (67 matches), England (43 matches), UAE (42 matches) and Bangladesh (23 matches), 3 in New Zealand (33 matches) and Pakistan (23 matches), one each in Malaysia (four matches), Singapore (five matches) and West Indies (19 matches).

Sachin's centuries, sorted by opponents: 20 versus Australia in 110 matches, 17 versus Sri Lanka in 109 matches, 12 versus South Africa in 83 matches, nine versus England (69 matches) and New

sus Zimbabwe in 43 matches, seven each versus Pakistan (87 matches) and West Indies (60 matches), six versus Bangladesh in 19 matches, four centuries versus Kenya in 10 matches, one cen-

tury versus Namibia in one match. The year during which Sachin hit the most centuries: 12 centuries in 1998 in 39 matches.

Years during which least: One century each in 1990 (in 18 matches), 1995 (in 15 matches) and 2010 (in 19 matches; no centuries in 1989 (in five matches), 1991 (in 16 matches) and 2013 (in six matches).

Centuries scored in winning cause: 53 in 307 matches

cause: 25 in 256 matches

Centuries scored in losing

tain: 87 in 566 matches Sachin's centuries in ICC tournaments: Seven in 61 matches (Six

during ICC Cricket World Cups in 45 matches and one in ICC Champions Trophy in 16 matches)

Centuries scored during

Centuries coming after batting

Centuries coming after bowling

Centuries scored as a captain:

Centuries scored as non-cap-

draws/ties/no result: 22 in 101

first: 61 in 312 matches

first: 39 in 352 matches

13 in 98 matches

matches

Centuries scored during tournament knockouts and finals: Seven in 53 matches (six during tournament finals in 40 such matches and one in quarterfinals in four matches).