

## Justice Joymalya Bagchi takes oath as SC judge

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna administered the oath of office to Justice Joymalya Bagchi, a judge of the Calcutta High Court, as a Supreme Court judge here on Monday.

The CJI administered the oath to Justice Bagchi in presence of several other Supreme Court judges at a ceremony on the apex court premises.

With the swearing in of Justice Bagchi, the top court will have 33 judges against its sanctioned strength of 34.

Justice Bagchi, a judge of the Calcutta High Court is set to become the Chief Justice of India in 2031.

Justice Bagchi's name was cleared by the central government on March 10 for appointment as a Supreme Court judge.

On March 6, a five-member collegium headed by CJI Khanna recommended his name for Supreme Court judgeship.

The collegium — also comprising Justice BR Gavai, Justice Surya Kant, Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice Vikram Nath — noted that no Calcutta High Court judge had risen to become the CJI since the retirement of Justice Altamas Kabir on July 18, 2013.

Justice Bagchi is poised for a remarkable tenure, serving over six years in the top court, with the added distinction of holding the office of Chief Justice of India. Born on October 3, 1966, Justice Bagchi will assume the office of CJI upon the retirement of Justice KV Viswanathan on May 25, 2031. His tenure will last till his retirement on October 2, 2031.

Justice Bagchi was appointed a judge in the Calcutta High Court on June 27, 2011. He was transferred to the Andhra Pradesh High Court on January 4, 2021. Later in November 2021, he was repatriated to the Calcutta High Court and has been functioning there since then.

He has served as a high court judge for more than 13 years and stands at serial number 11 in the combined all-India seniority of high court judges, including chief justices.

## India and New Zealand ink pacts on Defence and trade

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has conveyed concerns to his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon over certain unlawful elements carrying out anti-India activities in that Pacific island nation, both the countries signed a mega pact on Monday to institutionalise their defence and security ties.

However, setting aside these concerns, both the Prime ministers held wide-ranging talks with a focus on ramping up overall bilateral ties, especially in areas of trade, defence, education and agriculture.

In his media statement, PM Modi said both sides have decided to strengthen and institutionalise defence and security partnership and a roadmap will be prepared for cooperation in the defence industry sector.

"We both are unanimous against terrorism. Whether it is the Christchurch terrorist attack of March 15, 2019, or the Mumbai attack of November 26, 2008, terrorism in any form is unacceptable," he said.

The prime minister further stated that strict action is necessary against those guilty of terrorist attacks. "We will continue to cooperate together against terrorist, separatist and radical elements," Modi said.

"In this context, we shared our concern about anti-India activities by some illegal elements in New Zealand," he said.

PM also Modi said India is confident that it will continue to receive

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## Donald Trump shares PM Modi's podcast on his Social handle

**MI News Service, Washington (DC) :** US President Donald Trump has shared a video link of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's interaction with US-based popular podcaster and computer scientist Lex Fridman on his social media platform Truth Social.

During the interaction lasting over three hours, Modi on Sunday said he and Trump connect well as both put their respective countries first and asserted that their mutual trust remained unshaken even when the Republican leader was out of office during Joe Biden's presidency.

Asked what he likes about Trump, Modi recalled that during his first term, Trump ignored security protocol and agreed to his request to take a lap around the stadium hosting the 'Howdy Modi' event in Houston. "I was touched by his courage and his trust in me," he said, noting that Trump conveyed similar cour Modi said that Trump believes in "America First", and his motto is "nation first" or "India first". He added that this similar spirit makes them connect well.

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## Mamata Banerjee visits Furfura Sharif after nine years, announces key development projects

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Furfura Sharif\Kolkata West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday visited Furfura Sharif in Hooghly district to attend an Iftar gathering, marking her first visit to the prominent Islamic shrine in nine years. This visit coincided with the 86th death anniversary of the revered Sufi saint, Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique, also known as Dada Huzur, making the occasion particularly significant for the local Muslim community.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee attended the Iftar party at Furfura Sharif in Hooghly on Monday.

Upon arrival, Banerjee paid her respects at Dada Huzur's mausoleum, engaging in prayers alongside the shrine's clerics. She then participated in the Iftar event at the Dhanpota Musafir Khana, where she interacted with numerous senior clerics, including Pirzada Imran Siddique, Pirzada Mehrab Siddique, and Pirzada Syed Nazimuddin Hossain. During these interactions, the clerics proposed the establishment of a university named after Dada Huzur to honor his

legacy. In her address, the Chief Minister announced several developmental initiatives for Furfura Sharif:

**Healthcare Infrastructure:** She inaugurated a 100-bed hospital named after Abu Bakr Siddique, aiming to enhance medical facilities in the region.

**Educational Facilities:** Banerjee committed to establishing a polytechnic college to provide vocational training and improve employment

prospects for local youth.

**Transportation Improvements:** She promised the construction of a bus stand to improve connectivity to and from Furfura Sharif.

Additionally, the clerics requested that the death anniversary of Dada Huzur be recognized as a state holiday to commemorate his contributions to societal harmony and communal unity. They also urged the Chief Minister to oversee the activities of the

Furfura Sharif Development Board to ensure the timely completion of ongoing projects.

Banerjee's visit holds political significance, especially in light of her recent meeting with Indian Secular Front (ISF) leader Nawasad Siddique, a descendant of the Furfura Sharif lineage. While Siddique was notably absent from the Iftar gathering, the Chief Minister's outreach is perceived as an effort to strengthen ties with the Muslim community ahead of upcoming elections. Political analysts suggest that this move aims to consolidate minority votes, given Furfura Sharif's influence among Muslims in the region.

The Chief Minister's participation in the Iftar and her developmental promises underscore her administration's commitment to the welfare of all communities in West Bengal. By honoring the legacy of Dada Huzur and addressing the needs of

▶▶ Continued on page 3



West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee interacting with Pirzada in the presence of DGP Rajeev Kumar during her visit to Furfura Sharif in Hooghly for an Iftar party on Monday.

## Mamata Banerjee congratulates Prof Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak for being awarded 2025 Holberg Prize

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has extended her hearty congratulations to renowned scholar Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak on being selected for the 2025 Holberg Prize, one of the most esteemed international awards in human-

ities and social sciences.

In a statement on social media on Monday, the Chief minister acknowledged Spivak's immense contributions to literary theory and philosophy, while also highlighting her deep-rooted engagement in social welfare initiatives. She

praised Spivak's long-standing voluntary work among the rural communities of West Bengal, calling it an inspiring effort to uplift the underprivileged. "I congratulate our Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak on

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## Tension prevails in parts of Manipur following assault of tribal leader and imposition of Prohibitory orders

**MI News Service, Imphal :** The authorities imposed prohibitory orders under 144 CRPC in the entire Churachandpur district and its neighbouring areas in strife torn Manipur on Monday following clashes between the Hmar and Zomi communities, a day after a Hmar tribal leader was assaulted amidst demands from the community to identify the perpetrators, police said.

According to the additional district magistrate, the prohibitory orders have been imposed under Section 163 of the BNSS 2023 also.

"Whereas reports have been received from the Superintendent of Police, Churachandpur, indicating a serious apprehension of a breach of law and order in the district, which is

likely to disturb peace and tranquillity among different communities and may lead to damage to life and public property," the order stated.

Earlier, a day after a leader of the Hmar tribe was assaulted by unknown miscreants in the district headquarters town of Churachandpur in Manipur, tensions escalated on Monday morning as locals demanded the identification of the perpetrators, police said.

However, as a precautionary measure, the additional district magistrate imposed prohibitory orders across the district under Section 163 of the BNSS 2023.

"Whereas reports have been received from the Superintendent of Police, Churachandpur,

indicating a serious apprehension of a breach of law and order in the district, which is likely to disturb peace and tranquillity among different communities and may lead to damage to life and public property," the order stated.

Emphasising the urgent need to maintain law and order and prevent any untoward incidents, the order prohibited unauthorised processions or unlawful assemblies of five or more persons. It also banned the carrying of arms or instruments that can be used as weapons, including sticks, rods and stones. According to police, protesters have been attempting to enforce a shutdown

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## Tulsi Gabbard held talks with Rajnath Singh to boost Indo-US defence ties



**MI News Service, New Delhi :** US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard held talks with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh here on Monday focusing on boosting defence and security ties between the two countries.

Gabbard who is on a two-day visit to New Delhi, is here to find ways to enhance defence and security ties between India and the USA. Several other issues relating to intelligence gathering were also discussed during the hour long meeting between Singh and Gabbard, sources said.

Gabbard arrived in New Delhi early Sunday for her maiden visit, marking the first high-level trip to India by a senior official of the Donald Trump administration.

Soon after her arrival in New Delhi on Sunday morning, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Gabbard and had held a one on one meeting with her. According to sources, during the meeting they had a detailed discussion on several facets of the India-US relationship.

Tulsi Gabbard is visiting India as a part of her multi-nation trip. The Asia leg of Gabbard's visit will culminate in an address on March 18 at the Raisina Dialogue, a multinational gathering of security officials in Delhi, to which Prime Minister Narendra Modi has invited her.

In a social media post, Singh said he was "happy" to meet the US national intelligence chief and that they discussed ways to further deepen the India-US partnership.

Meanwhile, Doval has

also chaired the important security meet with Gabbard and other top intelligence officials including US Director of National Intelligence, Canadian spy chief Daniel Rogers, and UK National Security Advisor Jonathan Powell among others. Discussions were held on how to improve cooperation in dealing with security challenges, including terrorism and the risks from new emerging technologies.

Indo-US military exercises in cooperation with the India-US global strategic partnership were also discussed along with talks on cross-border terrorism. A defence deal was also reportedly discussed.

The development holds special significance in the India-US relations since it marks the first high-level visit to India by a senior official from the Donald Trump administration.

In a one-on-one meeting, talks on how to improve and better the intelligence sharing between the US and India, were held between Doval and Gabbard. Discussions were also carried out on how New Delhi and Washington can work together more closely on security. The key meet also covered security in the Indo-Pacific region, efforts to fight terror funding and money laundering, and topics related to extradition and immigration. The intelligence leaders also reportedly talked about various global issues, including the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war and the conflict in the Middle

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## SC allows RG Kar rape and murder victims' parents to approach Calcutta HC

**MI News Service, New Delhi / Kolkata:** The Supreme Court on Monday granted the parents of the victim in the RG Kar Medical College rape and murder case the liberty to approach the Calcutta High Court, where their plea is already filed.

A bench led by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna allowed the deceased victims' parents to approach the Calcutta High Court, noting that a single judge bench of the High Court is monitoring the case.

The top court was hearing a suo moto case in the rape and murder of a trainee doctor, which took place at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital on August 9 last year. Senior Advocate Karuna Nundy represented the victims' parents.

As per Nundy, the victims' parents today sought a clarification from the apex court about their case filed before the Calcutta HC, seeking further probe into the incident of rape and murder case of a 31 year old lady doctor inside the hospital premises, which shook the entire nation and the world.

After granting the victims' parents liberty to approach the High Court, the CJI Sanjiv Khanna-led bench disposed of their plea filed before it.

On January 29, this

year, the parents of the victim withdrew their plea before the Supreme Court seeking a fresh investigation into the incident.

The victim's parents had filed the (now withdrawn) plea as an Intervention Application (IA) in the suo moto case, which had been registered by the top court in August last year, a few days after the infamous incident took place.

In the January 29 hearing, a Bench led by Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna had asked Karuna Nundy whether the top court should proceed with the case, as a plea regarding similar issues had already been filed before the Calcutta High Court.

After considering the submissions made in the affidavit filed before it, the Court had warned the senior counsel to be cautious with her arguments, as there is already a conviction against the sole accused (now convict) Sanjoy Roy in the case.

The Court had suggested that Nundy withdraw the plea and file a fresh one, noting that the original plea had been filed by the victim's parents before the trial and the conviction in the cases. Following a brief exchange, the parents

▶▶ Continued on page 3





Fine Arts Training Camp organized by the State Fine Arts Council, run by the Information and Culture Department of the Government of West Bengal, with the inspiration of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, President Jogen Chowdhury and other dignitaries formally inaugurated the exhibition at the Gaganendra Art Exhibition Hall on Monday. The event will continue until March 21.

## Panihati Municipality Chairman Malay Roy resigns amid controversy

**MI News Service, Panihati:** Panihati Municipality Chairman Malay Roy has resigned, bringing an end to the speculation surrounding his tenure. The resignation was unanimously accepted by the Board of Councilors on Monday. Roy's resignation comes after he was ordered to step down by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee amid allegations of his involvement in a plan

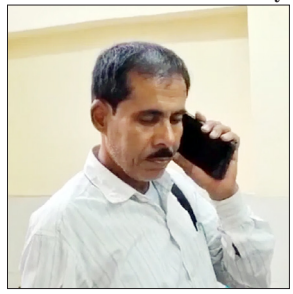
to sell a large part of the Sodepur Amaravati ground. Initially, Roy had refused to resign, demanding to know the reasons behind the Chief Minister's order. However, he eventually submitted his resignation letter to the Sub-Divisional Administrator, citing the Chief Minister's directive. The controversy surrounding Roy's resignation has sparked a war of words between the ruling Trinamool Congress

and the opposition. Former Barrackpore MP Arjun Singh has accused the Trinamool Congress of framing Roy, who he referred to as "our son-in-law." With Roy's resignation, the Panihati Municipality will now have to select a new chairman. The development has brought an end to the uncertainty surrounding Roy's tenure, but the controversy surrounding his resignation is likely to continue.

## Tragic loss of young life: Burdwan University student succumbs to injuries after train accident

**MI News Service, Burdwan:** A devastating incident occurred on Sunday, resulting in the untimely demise of Piyal Pal, a brilliant 22-year-old student of Burdwan University. Piyal, a first-year postgraduate student of physics, was traveling to Kolkata for academic purposes when the tragic accident occurred.

According to reports from the Government Railway Police (GRP) and family sources, Piyal was on board a train headed to Kolkata when it stopped near Shaktigarh station. As the train signaled its departure, Piyal attempted to reboard, but unfortunately,



Father of the deceased student

he lost his footing and fell, sustaining severe injuries.

Eyewitnesses and railway authorities promptly responded to the emergency, rescuing Piyal and rushing him to Burdwan Medical College Hospital for medical attention. Despite the efforts of medical professionals, Piyal succumbed to his injuries on Monday.

Piyal's father, Devdas Pal, expressed his profound grief, stating that his son had been admitted to the hospital on Sunday and passed away on Monday while being transported to Kolkata for further medical treatment. The family, residing in Kantagore, Jajpur, Bankura district, is left to mourn the loss of their young and promising family member.

On Monday, the autopsy of Piyal's body was conducted at the police morgue of Burdwan Medical College, as part of the standard procedure to determine the cause of death.

The incident has sent shockwaves through the academic community at Burdwan University, where Piyal was pursuing his postgraduate studies. The university has lost a bright and talented student, and his peers are left to grapple with the sudden and tragic loss of their friend and classmate.

The accident serves as a stark reminder of the importance of safety precautions while traveling by train. Railway authorities and passengers alike must exercise utmost caution to prevent such tragic incidents from occurring in the future.

As the investigation into the accident continues, the family, friends, and academic community of Piyal Pal mourn the loss of a young life filled with promise and potential.

## Housing scandal rocks Arambagh: allegation of embezzlement and favoritism

**MI News Service, Hooghly:** A controversy has erupted in Arambagh, Hooghly after it was discovered that housing money had been misappropriated and allocated to ineligible beneficiaries. The allegations have sparked widespread outrage, with locals claiming that those who genuinely need assistance have been deprived of benefits. At the center of the scandal is Trinamool member Vandana Kundu, who allegedly received housing money despite already owning a one-story house. Kundu has built an additional two-story structure on top of her existing home, sparking accusations of embezzlement and favoritism. According to reports, many mud houses in the Hajipur Gram Panchayat area are in disrepair,

yet their occupants have not received any financial assistance. Locals have expressed frustration, stating that those in power are prioritizing their own interests over the needs of the genuinely deserving. BJP leader Dolan Das has criticized the situation, questioning the role of local MP Mitali Bagh in addressing the issue. However, MP Bagh has assured that she will investigate the matter and speak with panchayat officials to resolve the issue. The incident has raised concerns about corruption and mismanagement of housing funds in the region. As the investigation unfolds, it remains to be seen how the situation will be addressed and what measures will be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future.

## RPF personnel attacked by drunken youths, wife also assaulted

**MI News Service, Alipurduar:** A shocking incident of violence has been reported in Alipurduar, where a RPF personnel was brutally attacked by a group of drunken youths while trying to intervene in a noisy gathering. The incident occurred on Saturday night in the Railway Institute Colony, where the RPF constable resided. According to eyewitnesses, a group of youths had organized a drinking party in an empty quarter of the colony, which was disturbing the peace. When the RPF personnel attempted to stop the revelry, he was allegedly beaten severely with iron rods and bamboo. The youths also physically assaulted his wife, who was present at the scene. Local residents rushed the injured RPF constable to the Alipurduar Junction Railway Hos-

pital, where he is currently undergoing treatment. A written complaint was filed with the Alipurduar police station on Sunday night, but the perpetrators remain at large. The Trinamool Congress has assured that the police are investigating the matter and the real culprits will be arrested. The incident has raised concerns about the safety and security of RPF personnel and their families, who often face challenging situations while performing their duties. The RPF is entrusted with the responsibility of security of railway property, passenger areas, and passengers. Incidents like these highlight the need for increased vigilance and cooperation between the RPF, local authorities, and the community to prevent such incidents in the future.

## BJP worker arrested for raping housewife in Habra's Goalbati area

**MI News Service, Habra:** A disturbing incident of rape has come to light in the Goalbati area of Habra, where a BJP worker, Viyay Malakar, was arrested for allegedly raping a housewife. The victim, who filed a written complaint with Habra police station on March 16, reported that the incident occurred on March 11, when she stepped out her house at midnight to use the barhroom. According to the victim's statement, Viyay Malakar was hiding in the darkness and dragged her into a secluded area, where he committed the heinous crime. Police sources revealed that Viyay Malakar had been making inappropriate advances toward the housewife for an extended period. Following the complaint, Viyay Malakar was

arrested on the afternoon of March 16 and was subsequently sent to the Barasat court where the police sought a five-day custody. The victim at Habra Hospital as part of the investigation. The arrest has sparked a political uproar, with Municipality Chairman Narayan Shah stating that the law would take its course. BJP leader Biplob Halder echoed similar sentiments, emphasizing that if Viyay Malakar was found guilty, he would face the consequence of his action. The incident has raised concerns about the safety and security of women in the region, highlighting the need for increased vigilance and stricter laws to combat such crimes. As the investigation unfolds, the community awaits justice for the victim and her family.



General Secretary of the All India Trinamool Congress Abhishek Banerjee inspecting Sebaashray Mega Camp at Falta Assembly Constituency on Monday. Seventy five days. Seven Assembly Constituencies. A mission driven by the singular purpose of delivering quality healthcare to all, irrespective of caste, creed, class, or religion. As the mission step into the Mega Camp phase of Sebaashray, Abhishek Banerjee visited Diamond Harbour and Falta on Monday to take stock of the arrangements and ensure seamless service delivery. The dedication of healthcare warriors and the unconditional love and trust of the people continue to be his greatest source of strength. He has no doubt that this 75-day-long journey of Sebaashray will be remembered as a defining chapter in our commitment to public health.

## Hailstorm devastates potato, leaving farmers in distress

**MI News Service, Bankura:** A severe hailstorm swept through Bankura district in West Bengal, causing widespread damage to potato crops and leaving farmers in a state of panic. The unexpected weather event, which occurred yesterday, has destroyed thousands of hectares of potato crops in Bishnupur, Kotampur, and Jajpur blocks of Bankura district.

The hailstorm, which was accompanied by heavy rain, has ruined the crops that farmers had worked tirelessly to cultivate for months. The damage is estimated to be extensive, with eyewitnesses reporting that the fields were completely white due to the hailstorm, and potatoes and other vegetables were severely damaged.

The timing of the hailstorm could not have been worse, as the potato season had started late this year due to low pressure. As a



result, the crops were still lying in the fields, making them vulnerable to the harsh weather conditions. Many farmers had also picked potatoes and stored them in bags in the field, hoping to make extra profit, but the heavy rain has rendered them unusable.

The damage to the crops is not limited to potatoes alone. Other vegetables such as onions, ginger, garlic, and sesame have also been affected. Farmers are now facing a crisis, as the prices of chemicals needed for farming have

doubled in the past few years, while the prices of crops have not kept pace. The loss of their crops due to the hailstorm has pushed them to the brink of financial ruin.

"We are practically on the verge of sitting on the streets," said a potato farmer, highlighting the desperation of the situation. "These soaked potatoes cannot be saved in any way. They are bound to spoil. There was no forecast for such rain in the afternoon. The amount of hail was so much that all the potatoes burst."

The hailstorm has brought attention to the vulnerability of farmers in West Bengal, who are often at the mercy of unpredictable weather conditions. The state government has been urged to provide relief to the affected farmers and to take steps to mitigate the impact of such weather events in the future.

## Factional conflict erupts in BJP's Bishnupur organizational district

**MI News Service, Bankura:** A fresh wave of protests has swept through the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Bishnupur organizational district in Bankura, with a section of party workers openly rebelling against the newly elected mandal president, Arijit Mandal. This development comes on the heels of a similar uprising in Bishnupur mandal number 4, highlighting the deep-seated factional divisions within the party. The controversy erupted shortly after the announcement of the new mandal president, with posters and banners springing up across the district, rejecting the leadership of Arijit Mandal. The dissenting party workers have accused Mandal of disregarding the inter-

ests of grassroots workers and colluding with the rival Trinamool Congress. In a bid to address the growing unrest, a meeting was convened with the aggrieved party workers at the Dharmpur booth in Bishnupur Mandal No. 1. However, the district leadership has sought to downplay the crisis, attributing the protests to minor "family" disputes within the party. The BJP's Bishnupur organizational district has been plagued by internal conflicts in recent months. The party's efforts to revamp its organizational structure ahead of the 2026 assembly elections have triggered a major reshuffle in the mandal president posts. The list of newly elected mandal presidents was released on February 16, spark-

ing widespread discontent among party workers. Debapriya Biswas, spokesperson for the Bishnupur organizational district BJP, acknowledged that the party was facing internal conflicts but expressed confidence that the issues could be resolved through dialogue. "Such problems can arise in the party. However, all problems can be resolved through discussions," Biswas stated. In contrast, the Trinamool Congress has seized upon the BJP's internal divisions, claiming that the party's infighting would ultimately lead to its downfall. With the 2026 assembly elections looming, the BJP's ability to resolve its internal conflicts will be crucial in determining its electoral fortunes.

## Haringhata TMC arranges for 100 e - rickshaws to provide free service to HS students, guardians



**MI News Service, Haringhata:** Following the instruction of Abhishek Bandyopadhyay, the General Secretary of All India Trinamool Congress, the Indian National Trinamool Trade Union Congress (INTTUC), Haringhata Unit in Nadia, provide free e - rickshaw services to the Higher Secondary students and guardians on verge of completion of the HS Examinations on Monday. The students and guardians expressed their gladness for the said service.

According to Mili Sarkar, the leader of the Haringhata Unit, they provided the services to around 650 HS stu-

dents and their guardians on Monday. There are three HS Centres in Haringhata block like Anandapur High School, Rajlaxmi Kanya Vidyalaya and Birohi Netaji Vidya Bhawan.

Mili Sarkar, the President of the said Haringhata Unit, stated that there are three HS Examination Centers in Haringhata and the e - rickshaw services were made free for all the students and guardians. She more said, "We are planning to take different steps for the sake of the students in coming days."

Sushanta Shikdar, a student of Birohi Netaji Vidya bhawan, whose centre was at around 5 km. away near Bara Jaguli, said, "The free e - rickshaw services provided today (on Monday) by TMC for students and guardians is good. But it would have been better, if they could arrange for it from the first day of examinations." Mani Kuntala Pal, a guardians from Birohi said, "We are very much glad, getting the free e - rickshaw services. It has facilitated a smooth journey to back home on the day of all but end of the HS Examinations."

## Trinamool MLA Zakir Hossain exposes corruption in Bangla Awaz Yojana

**MI News Service, Jangipur:** In a shocking revelation, Jangipur Trinamool MLA Zakir Hossain has admitted to corruption in the Bangla Awaz Yojana, a housing scheme initiated by the West Bengal government. Hossain's statement came during a meeting held in Ward No. 11 of Jangipur Municipality in Murshidabad, where he expressed his discontent with the Trinamool-run municipality.

This prompted the MLA to conduct a door-to-door survey to identify the beneficiaries of the Bangla Awaz Yojana and assess whether they have received the benefits of the scheme. Zakir Hossain alleged that many individuals have availed of the scheme's benefits despite owning two-storey houses, while the genuinely poor have been left out. He assured that those who have misused the scheme's funds will be asked to return the money.

The Bangla Awaz Yojana, launched by the West Bengal government, aims to provide financial assistance to individuals below the poverty line for constructing houses. The scheme is part of the government's efforts to provide affordable housing to the poor and needy. Zakir Hossain's revelations highlight the need for greater transparency and accountability in the implementation of government schemes. The MLA's efforts to identify and address the irregularities in the Bangla Awaz Yojana are a step in the right direction towards ensuring that the benefits of the scheme reach the intended beneficiaries.

## Convict's mysterious death in Burdwan central correctional facility

**MI News Service, Burdwan:** A 33 years old convict Biswajit Santra alias Bubai, was found dead in the Burdwan Central Correctional Facility on Saturday. The authorities discovered Biswajit Santra's body hanging from the toilet, and he was later declared dead at the Burdwan Medical College and Hospital. Biswajit Santra, a resident of Kurnul, village in hoogly district's Dhaniakhali life sentence for the 2018 murder of Mrityanjay Bera, the Trin-

amool deputy chief Of Gopinath 2 gram panchayat. The court had ordered life imprisonment for several accused, including Biswajit Santra who was also a Trinamool member. The family of the deceased has demanded a thorough investigation to determine the actual cause of death. The authorities have initiated an inquiry into the accident, and the Burdwan Central Correctional Facility is cooperating with the investigation. The incident raises concerns about the

safety and security of inmates within correctional facilities. In India, to focus on rehabilitation, providing inmates with access to medical care, their families and lawyer. The Burdwan Central Correctional Facility, where Biswajit Santra was being held, is one of the many correctional homes in West Bengal. As the investigation unfolds, the family and community of Biswajit Santra await answers about the events leading up to his tragic.

## Holi Preeti Sammelan organized by Ceta



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** "Holi Preeti Sammelan" was organized by The Calcutta Electric Traders Association at Ganpati Banquet. First of all, President Mr. Ashish Agarwal welcomed everyone and wished them Happy Holi. The chief guest of the program Mr. Dharmendra Daga extended Holi greetings to everyone. Pradeep Jyoti Agarwal, advisor to the chairman of Ambuja Group, Susil ji Hirawat of Jigo, Babli bhai of Pritam, Sunil Jain of S.K.Industrial, Ajayji Chodhary of Manufuli were also present; first of all in the Ranga Rang program of Holi Dhamal, turbans were tied to all the former presidents of the organization. They were honoured

with a scarf and a memento. President Mr. Ashish Agarwal, Vice President Mr. Pulkit Chandgothia, Secretary Mr. Jitendra Surana, Treasurer Mr. Amit Jhunjhunwala, Convener Mr. Kushal Todi, Joint Secretary Mr. Manish Gupta and Mr. Prakash Singh honoured everyone. After this, colours were showered in the colourful songs of master bhawan and artists who came from Rajasthan. Children, old and young all were seen dancing to the Holi songs. There was also a great arrangement of delicious food in this Holi gathering of Seta. There were stalls of delicious food of South Indian, Punjabi, Gujarati, Kashmiri and Chinese which people thoroughly

enjoyed. Women and children attended this family function and made it more dignified. The former president of the organization, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, conducted the stage very efficiently. Everyone was awarded Holi titles. Everyone praised the event wholeheartedly. Mr. Umakant Agarwal, 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 contributed significantly in making this program successful. This event would not have been possible without their support and cooperation.



## India and New Zealand...

**From PG 1** cooperation from the New Zealand government against all these "illegal elements". Referring to the fact that both India and New Zealand have decided to start negotiations for a mutually beneficial free trade pact the prime minister said "This will boost the potential of mutual trade and investment. Mutual cooperation and investment will be encouraged in areas like dairy, food processing, and pharma," he said.

Modi said India and New Zealand support a free, open and secure Indo-Pacific. "We believe in the policy of development,

not expansionism," he said.

The New Zealand Prime minister who is on a five day visit to India from March 16 said Modi and he discussed a challenging strategic outlook in the Indo-Pacific.

"I reiterated our strong commitment to address shared concerns over our respective interests in contributing to a prosperous Indo-Pacific," Luxon said. Prime minister Luxon will visit Mumbai later this week for a meeting with the country's top industrialists to explore more opportunities for further investment in their country.

## Donald Trump shares...

**From PG 1** Without referring to the trade issues involving the two countries, Modi, while speaking of his recent meeting with the US president and his colleagues, noted that Trump seems far more prepared with a clear roadmap and has put together a strong team in his second term. The prime minister also lauded Mahatma Gandhi's legacy and described himself as a peacemaker who has nudged both Russian and Ukrainian leaders to come to the negotiating table.

In the podcast, Modi

also opened up on a host of foreign affairs issues and touched on various aspects of his life journey.

Fridman, who moved to the US from Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, started his podcast in 2018 which was originally titled the Artificial Intelligence Podcast but the name changed to Lex Fridman Podcast in 2020.

Guests on his podcast include Donald Trump, Volodymyr Zelensky, X founder Elon Musk, American businessman Jeff Bezos and Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg.

## Tension prevails in parts...

**From PG 1** Lamka around 7.30pm on Sunday. Strongly condemning the incident, Hmar Inpu issued a statement demanding that the perpetrators be handed over immediately and warned that failure to comply would result in it taking "its own course of action." Sources alleged that Richard Hmar was driving a vehicle which almost hit a two-wheeler rider. This led to a brief altercation that ultimately resulted in the assault.

in the town, urging shops to close immediately. Groups of men carrying sticks were also seen patrolling the streets, trying to impose the shutdown. There have been reports of stone pelting by mobs in some areas, they said.

According to officials, general secretary Richard Hmar of Hmar Inpu, one of the apex bodies of the tribe, was attacked by a group of men inside the VK Montesori complex at Zenhang

## Cong criticises PM's...

**From PG 1** everything else. In the podcast, Modi also hailed Trump as a man of courage who took his own decisions and was unwaveringly dedicated to the United States. He said the same spirit was on display when Trump was shot at by a gunman on the election campaign trail last year.



The prime minister said Trump appeared far more prepared than before in his second term.

Ramesh asked if the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Paris Agreement on climate change are not good for India.

Has the UN, in spite of all its weaknesses, not provided for opportunities for Indian peacekeepers abroad?" asked the Congress leader.

"Multilateralism needs reforms but does not deserve wholesale condem-

nation of the type President Trump and Prime Minister Modi are indulging in," said Ramesh.

In the podcast, PM Modi praised Trump for his "humility" and "resilience" and noted that he seems "far more prepared than before". He said Trump has a "clear roadmap in his mind with well-defined steps, each one designed to lead him toward his goals". He also said while Trump stands for "America First", he stands for "India First".

## SC allows RG Kar rape and...

**From PG 1** withdrew the plea, with the liberty to file a fresh one, as per the top court's order.

Today, the top court noted that the Calcutta High Court is monitoring the case. Thus, the Court disposed of the case filed before it.

On January 20, this year, the Sealdah Civil and Criminal Court convicted and sentenced Sanjoy Roy to life imprisonment till death for the rape and murder of the victim in the RG Kar rape and murder case.

After the trial court's decision, there has been an uproar, especially among a large section of doctors and medical workers and even from Chief minister Mamata Banerjee and her party Trinamool Congress that convict Roy be awarded the death penalty for his gruesome act.

There are also calls for reinvestigation into the matter, as concerns have been raised regarding how the investigation was conducted.

## Tulsi Gabbard held talks...

**From PG 1** abroad since becoming the Director of National Intelligence, and her first to India after she attended the Munich Security Conference in Germany. Notably, Gabbard had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Washington DC.

East. Moreover, Indian officials expressed concerns about anti-India groups operating from other countries, including pro-Khalistan groups, as per the report. This is Tulsi Gabbard's second trip

# Illegal land encroachments: Firhad reaffirms Govt's Stance

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Illegal land encroachments continue to be a persistent issue across both urban and rural areas in Bengal. While the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has taken measures in the city, and the state government has intervened elsewhere, reports suggest that clandestine land grabs and unauthorized construction remain rampant.

Many complaints regarding illegal land occupation and waterbody encroachments have been directly reported to Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim through the Talk to Mayor program, prompt-

ing immediate action. However, the problem persists. Addressing the issue during a question-answer session in the Assembly on Monday, West Bengal's Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Minister, Firhad Hakim, declared that no illegal land acquisition would be tolerated in the state.

His statement came in response to a query by BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh, who raised concerns over unchecked land encroachments. Hakim firmly stated, "No land in Bengal can be allotted without auction or ministerial approval, as per the

state's land policy."

The issue has been a matter of contention for years. Unlawful land grabs have reportedly led to unauthorized constructions across the state, with allegations that promoters are illegally acquiring land for real estate projects. Even street vendors have been accused of forcefully occupying footpaths and public spaces. The recent spate of building collapses in Bengal has further intensified scrutiny on this matter.

A year ago, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee took a strong stand against illegal land occu-

pation, encroachment of water bodies, and unauthorized footpath usage. Following a high-level meeting at Nabanna, she ordered a crackdown on encroachments and illegal parking operations. Her directives led to surveys, eviction drives, and the clearance of illegally occupied spaces. Footpaths were freed from unauthorized vendors, and public lands were reclaimed.

Despite these efforts, reports indicate that illegal land acquisition continues. The government recently conducted surveys across Kolkata and other districts to assess the ex-

tent of encroachments. Chief Minister Banerjee had earlier instructed officials to develop a structured plan to permanently prevent such activities. However, opposition parties have accused the state government of encroaching on people's livelihoods, alleging that a faction within the TMC and local administration is fueling illegal land grabs in exchange for bribes.

Rejecting these allegations in the Assembly, Minister Firhad Hakim reiterated, "Illegal land encroachments will not be tolerated under any circumstances."



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee shares a heartfelt moment with a child during her visit to the Iftar party at Furfura Sharif in Hooghly on Monday.

## Humayun Kabir summoned over controversial remarks against Suvendu

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Trinamool Congress (TMC) MLA Humayun Kabir remains defiant over his controversial "will strike back" remark against Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari. The party's disciplinary committee, dissatisfied with his response to the show-cause notice, has now directed him to appear in person on Tuesday. Speculation is rife in political circles about whether the party will take stricter action against him. The controversy erupted following Suvendu Adhikari's inflammatory comment about "throwing Muslim MLAs onto the streets." In retaliation, Humayun Kabir hit back, stating, "If someone attacks me, should I offer sweets in return? I will strike back. If he has the courage, let him come to Murshidabad, and we will see."

## Mamata Banerjee visits Furfura Sharif after...

**From PG 1** Furfura Sharif, Banerjee seeks to promote communal harmony and socio-economic development in the state. The event concluded with prayers led by Pirzada Hafiz Idris Siddique, seeking blessings for peace and prosperity in the region. In her address Mamata Banerjee strongly defended her visit to Furfura Sharif during the holy month of Ramadan and countered the opposition leaders' allegations. She said instead of creating hatred, she wanted to spread the message of Harmony, peace and unity among all religion. Several of her critics, including Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari, former Pradesh Congress President Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, and ISF MLA Naushad Siddiqui, accused her of

leveraging religious events for electoral gains. The Chief minister dismissed these allegations and emphasized that she has always participated in religious gatherings across communities. "When I celebrate Durga Puja or Kali Puja, no one questions me. Why should my presence at Iftar be scrutinized?" she asked, highlighting her commitment to religious harmony.

Mamata Banerjee said, "Remember, just as I attend Christian celebrations, I also participate in Eid. I personally take part in Iftar, visit Punjab's Gurudwaras, and join every religious event. I believe that the soil of Bengal represents harmony. That's why, just as I extend Holi greetings, I also pray for everyone's blessings during Ramadan."

## Mamata Banerjee congratulates...

**From PG 1** attaining yet another top international recognition," Mamata Banerjee wrote on X adding "She has been chosen this year for the Holberg Prize of Norway, which is considered one of the highest honors in humanities and social sciences. She makes us immensely proud with this achievement." Beyond her academic impact, Spivak has been instrumental in translating timeless Bengali literary classics into English, a project Banerjee lauded as an endeavor of great cultural significance. "Her efforts in making Bengali literature accessible to a global audience are truly commendable and inspire us all," she added. Professor Spivak, an 82-year-old distin-

gished scholar at the Columbia University, USA, was born in Kolkata and is an alumnus of Calcutta University. She is widely regarded for her groundbreaking work in postcolonial studies, feminist theory, and deconstructionist philosophy. According to Columbia University's official website, the Holberg Prize is one of the largest international research awards, amounting to approximately USD 540,000. Established and funded by the Norwegian government, it is awarded annually for outstanding contributions in the fields of humanities, social sciences, law, or theology. Spivak's selection for the 2025 Holberg Prize reaffirms her stature as a leading intellectual and academic.

## Apollo Hosp introduces Joint Preservation Program

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Apollo Hospitals has introduced the Apollo Joint Preservation Program, to enhance joint care through early intervention and personalized treatment. This innovative program aims to help individuals maintain mobility and confidence while minimizing the need for invasive procedures. The event saw the presence of Dr. Sangita Reddy, Joint Managing Director of Apollo Hospitals, along with Dr. Brett Fritsch, an esteemed orthopedic surgeon from Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, and senior orthopedic specialists from Apollo Hospitals. The program is tailored for patients suffering from joint pain, arthritis, ligament injuries, and inflammatory conditions. By incorporating a proactive, lifestyle-focused approach, it seeks to delay or even



prevent surgical interventions. Dr. Sangita Reddy emphasized the program's core philosophy: "The Joint Preservation Program is built around the '3 Ts'—Tailored advice, Treatment (medical and

surgical), and Therapies (including rehabilitation and nutrition). Our goal is to optimize joint function and enable individuals to continue leading active lives." The program integrates Orthobiologic and regenerative therapies, including Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP) therapy and stem cell applications, to enhance joint function and delay surgical interventions. It also offers corrective osteotomies, ligament reconstructions, and Unicodylar Knee Replacement, preserving natural joint architecture. Additionally, patients will receive physiotherapy, nutritional counseling, and rehabilitation services to ensure holistic care. With this comprehensive approach, Apollo Hospitals reaffirms its commitment to improving long-term joint health and overall well-being.

## SC allows Cal HC to hear R.G. Kar case plea

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Supreme Court has permitted the Calcutta High Court to hear the petition filed by the parents of the R.G. Kar Hospital case victim, seeking a fresh investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). On Monday, Chief Justice of India (CJI) Sanjiv Khanna clarified, "We will not comment on this matter. The High Court is free to hear the case." The next Supreme Court hearing on the case is scheduled for May 13. Meanwhile, Justice Tirthankar Ghosh's bench at the Calcutta High Court will hear the victim's family's plea.

On Monday, the Supreme Court bench, headed by CJI Khanna and Justice Joymalya Bagchi, addressed the ongoing investigation. Previously,



the victim's family had approached the Calcutta High Court seeking further CBI investigation. However, as the case was sub judice in the Supreme Court, the High Court had refrained from taking it up, citing the

need for the apex court's approval. The Supreme Court has now granted permission for the High Court to proceed.

During Monday's proceedings, the victim's counsel, Karuna Nundy, urged the Supreme Court to direct the High Court's single-judge bench to mandate further CBI investigation. However, the Supreme Court did not issue any such directive. CJI Khanna stated, "We will not make any observations. The High Court's single bench may hear the petition."

A critical concern raised by the victim's family is that, even after seven months, they have not received the death certificate. Karuna Nundy assured the court that she would look into it.

## JU announces rescheduled exam dates following student boycott

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Jadavpur University has announced new dates for several undergraduate and postgraduate examinations that were boycotted by students earlier this month. The university administration confirmed that the pending exams, covering approximately 30 subjects, will be conducted on March 21, 22, and 28. A detailed notification specifying the examination schedule for each subject will be released soon.

from protests against West Bengal Education Minister Bratya Basu's visit to the university on March 1.

The boycott stemmed

Primarily, students from various engineering disciplines refrained from appearing for their scheduled examinations, alongside a few subjects from the arts faculty. According to Satyaki Bhattacharya, the university's Controller of Examinations, the revised dates have been set to ensure that all pending assessments are completed.

# Centre's advisory on mid-day meal oil usage, teachers demand higher funds for better food quality

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The central government has issued new guidelines recommending a reduction in the use of edible oils in mid-day meals to combat childhood obesity. The Union Ministry of Education highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's concerns about rising obesity among school children, referencing his discussions in programs like ParikshaPeChar-

cha 2025 and Mann Ki Baat. However, teacher associations in West Bengal have criticized this move, arguing that instead of cutting oil, the government should increase funding to ensure nutritious meals for students. However, teacher associations in West Bengal have raised concerns about the feasibility of this directive. They argue that merely reducing oil

content will not improve the nutritional quality of school meals. Instead, they demand an increase in mid-day meal allocations to provide better-quality food. The Bangiya Prathamik Shikshak Samiti pointed out that the current per-student allocation for primary-level mid-day meals is 6.19, while for upper-primary students, it is 9.29—amounts they consider

inadequate for ensuring proper nutrition. Moreover, they argue that edible oil is not heavily used in mid-day meal preparation to begin with. The directive, they claim, is essentially instructing schools to prepare meals without oil, which could further affect meal quality. The Bangiya Shikshak O Shikshakarmi Samiti and the Madhyamik Shikshak O

Shikshakarmi Samiti have also voiced similar concerns, stating that the notification fails to consider the needs of economically disadvantaged students who rely on mid-day meals for essential nutrition. Teacher groups continue to push for increased funding, emphasizing that the real solution lies not in oil reduction but in improving meal quality and ensuring proper dietary balance.

## Kolkata Police nab suspected arms racketeer near Sealdah

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Kolkata Police apprehended a suspected arms racketeer near Sealdah in the Entally police station area early Monday morning. Acting on intelligence inputs, authorities intercepted the individual around 5:30 am

and recovered a cache of illegal firearms and ammunition. The accused has been identified as 42-year-old Hassan Sheikh, a resident of Narayanpur village in Malda district. The seized arsenal reportedly includes two improvised single-

shot firearms, four improvised 7mm semi-automatic pistols equipped with dual magazines, along with two live 8mm cartridges and six live 7.65mm cartridges. Officials indicate that Sheikh is likely to be charged under the

Arms Act. Preliminary interrogation suggests that he allegedly procured the weapons and ammunition from Khagharia, Bihar, a known hub for illicit arms trade. The Special Task Force (STF) of Kolkata Police has

launched a deeper investigation to uncover the full extent of the suspected arms network and identify any potential associates. Authorities remain vigilant amid ongoing efforts to curb illegal arms trafficking in the region.



Name Change
I, Himanshu Pengoria(Old Name) S/O Gopal Sahay Pengoria,Residing At Chitruk Dham,Flat 2/3d,Near Chandiberia Power House, Krishnapur Rajarhat, Gopalpur (M),Po-Krishnapur,Dist-24 Parganas (North),Pin-700102 west Bengal,India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Himanshu Pengoria(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Allpore On 15/03/2025. That Himanshu Pengoria (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rabiullah Rahman Khan (Old Name) S/O Nasrullah Khan Residing At J-64/9, Fatephur Village Road, Garden Reach, District-Kolkata, Pin - 700024 West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rabiullah Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 62/2025 Dated 17/03/2025. Rabiullah Rahman Khan (Old Name) and Rabiullah Khan (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ranjita Shaw,Wife Of Jitendra Shaw, Residing At 6,Neogi Pukur Bye Lane,Po - Entally,Kolkata - 700014,West Bengal,Do Hereby Notified That My Minor Son Jaish Shaw(Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shivam Shaw(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025.That Jaish Shaw And Shivam Shaw Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Amar Kanrar S/O Arun Kanrar Residing at Narna, Domjur, Howrah,have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as AmarnathKanrar as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Alipore Court, Kolkata vide Affidavit No. 1489 Dated, 04.03.2025. Amar Kanrar and Amarnath Kanrar both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Vineet P Shah (Old Name) S/O Parsh Pradyutray Shah Residing at 5, Townshend Road, Bhawanipore, District- Kolkata, Pin - 700025 West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Vineet Shah (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 61/2025 Dated 17-03-2025. Vineet P Shah (Old Name) and Vineet Shah (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Mukhtar Khan (Old Name), Son Of Late Salim Khan,Residing At 1H/3 Kasai Bustee 1st Lane, Narke Idanga, Kolkata - 7000 11, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mukhtar Khan(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025. That Md Mukhtar Khan And Mukhtar Khan All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Santosh Bose S/O- (Late) Kali Pada Bose resident of 5 No. Ichlabad, Chandmari Road, P.O.- Sri-pally, P.S.-Burdwan, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, PIN-713103, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as 'SANTOSH KUMAR BOSE' vide an affidavit before The Executive Magistrate at Purba Bardhaman on 04/08/2021. That Santosh Bose and Santosh Kumar Bose both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Dipak Roy (Old Name) S/o Madhusudan Roy Residing at 21383, Gayeshpur, District - Nadia, Pin - 741234 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Dipak Kumar Roy (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 101/2025 Date 17-03-2025. Dipak Roy (Old Name) and Dipak Kumar Roy (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jiyad Ali Khatun (Old Name) son of Badal Gazi, residing at Vill.-Panitara, P.O. - Panitara, P.S.-Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-743292, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jiyad Ali Gazi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Jiyad Ali Gazi (New Name) and Jiyad Ali Khatun (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Shashi Devi Agarwal W/o, Suresh Kumar Agarwal Residing at Club Town Heights Block -7 , 14, B.T. Road, P.O & P.S. Belgharia, Kolkata - 700056 North 24 Parganas have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shashi Devi as declared before the Notary Public / First Class Judicial Magistrate Court, vide affidavit no- 05AC - 973723 dated, 17/03/2025, Shashi Devi Agarwal and Shashi Devi both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Salahuddin Khan S/o Nazir Khan Residing at Rahmat Nagar Near Igdah, Paschim Burdwan, P.S.-Hirapur, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin- 713325 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Md Salahuddin Khan. I declare that Salahuddin Khan and Md Salahuddin Khan is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 17-03-2025.

Name Change
I, Samachur Nahar Molla (Old Name) son of Abdul Hakim Molla, residing at Vill.- Mir Para, P.O.-Basirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.-North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743411, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samsun Nahar Molla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Samsun Nahar Molla (New Name) and Samachur Nahar Molla (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Suresh Agarwal S/O, Danchand Agarwal Residing at Residing at Club Town Heights Block -7 , 14, B.T. Road, P.O & P.S. Belgharia, Kolkata - 700056 North 24 Parganas have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Suresh Kumar Agarwal as declared before the Notary Public / First Class Judicial Magistrate Court, vide affidavit no 05AC-973724 dated, 17/03/2025, Suresh Agarwal and Suresh Kumar Agarwal both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Shahabuddin Ansari, s/o, late Abdul Latif Ansari, age- 47 years, by faith- Islam, Resident-3H/15, Raja Dinendra Street, P. O.- Raja Ram Mohan Sarani, P. S.-Narkeldanga, Kolkata- 700009, do hereby affirm and declare before an Affidavit sworn before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Sealdah Court vide Affidavit Number- 2394, that my correct and original name is Md. Shahabuddin Ansari but in my Kotak Demat account (a/c. Number- 32401052) is recorded as Mohammed Sahabuddin, I declare that Md. Shahabuddin Ansari and Mohammed Sahabuddin is the same and one identical person. Henceforth I shall known as MD SHAHABUDDIN ANSARI instead of Mohammed Sahabuddin.

Name Change
I, Noor Alam Ansari S/O Mohammad Muslim Ansari on behalf of my minor son Thranviralam (Old Name), residing at DOPERIA, PO-BANIPUR, Barrackpore, 7001 19, W.B, INDIA, have changed my son name and shall henceforth be known as Tanveer Alam (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 13/03/2025. Tanveer Alam (New Name) and Thranviralam (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Prakash Das, Prakas Das, Prakash Kumar Das, Prakash Kr. Das S/O Late Provash Ranjan Das R/A - Akra Krishna Nagar, Madhya Bamun Para, P.O - Akra Krishna Nagar, P.S - Maheshtala, 700140, Dist - 24 PGS(S), (W.B) have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prakash Kumar Das as declared before the Notary Public at Alipore Judge's Court, 24 PGS(S), vide Affidavit No. 06 dated 10/03/2025. Prakash Das, Prakash Kumar Das, Prakash Kr. Das and Prakash Kumar Das all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Arjun Kumar Samai (Old Name) son of Giridhari Samai, residing at Kaigeria, Kalampur Sirirammagar, P.S.- Daspur, Dist-Paschim Medinipur, Pin-721124, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Arjun Samai (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Arjun Samai (New Name) and Arjun Kumar Samai (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Pradip Mondal (Old Name) son of Late Kalipada Mondal, residing at Vill- Basudebpur, P.O.-Panchchali, P.S.- Falta, Dist- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pradip Kumar Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 09/01/2025. Pradip Kumar Mondal (New Name) and Pradip Mondal (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, SABINA KHATUN (OLD NAME), D/O-ASRAF ALI PURKAIT, W/O- MUNSHI MAHMOUD RAHAMAN, Residing at Vill-Humaiapur, P.O-Abdalpur & P.S-Madhyamgram, Dist- North 24 Pgs, W.B, PIN- 700155, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SABINA BEGAM MUNSI(NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court,North 24 Parganas,West Bengal vide affidavit no 1318 Dated 13/01/2020. SABINA KHATUN (OLD NAME) and SABINA BEGAM MUNSI (NEW NAME) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Reena Banerjee (Old Name) wife of Subendu Amarendra Banerjee, residing at Ambey Garden, Flat-2E, Block-1, Rajarhat Gopalpur(M), Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700136, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Subendu Amarendra Banerjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Subendu Amarendra Banerjee (New Name) and Reena Banerjee (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sumit Kumar Agarwal,Son Of Satyanarayan Agarwal,Residing At Dhadka Road, Opposite. Rpf Cello P, Asansol,Post,Dakhin Dhad ka, P.S.Asansol North, Paschim Bardhaman - 133022, West Bengal,Do Hereby Inform That My Minor Son Athrav Agarwal Shall Henceforth Be Known As Athrav Agarwal Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025. That Athrav Agarwal And Athrav Agarwal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person That Is My Son.

AFFIDAVIT
I, ROZI BEGUM, D/O MD TAQI ALAM present residing at C/O Syed Mohammed Zia(husband), 2A SHAH AMAN LANE, JANKI APARTMENT, Khiddirpore, PO: Khiddirpore DIST: Kolkata, West Bengal 7000 23 by an affidavit in the court of the Ld. 1st class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 02/01/2025 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my name has been recorded as Rozy Begum instead of Rozi Begum and my father name has been recorded as Sk Taki Alam or Shekh Taqui Alam in some documents instead of Md Taqi Alam. In my all documents Rozi Begum and Rozy Begum is same and one identical person. My father Md Taqi Alam, Sk Taqi Alam, shekh Taqui Alam and is also the same and one identical person

Name Change
I, Lila Khatoun (Old Name) W/O Sahid Alam,Residing At 101, Durga Charan Mitra Street, Burtolla, Beadon Street, Kolkata-700006, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Lila Begum(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Alipore On 15/03/2025. That Lila Khatoun (Old Name) And Lila Begum (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Nikunj Lodha,Son Of Pratap Singh Lodha,Residing At 4, Lee Road,3rd Floor,Sumangal Apartment, Bhawanipur, Kolkata - 700020,West Bengal,Do Hereby Notified That My Minor Son Nevaan Lodha(Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shivaan Lodha Jain(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025. That Nevaan Lodha And Shivaan Lodha Jain Jain Both Are The Same And One Identical.

Name Change
I, Sudeshna Gayen, D/o, Palan Chandra Gayen, Residing at 19/1, Madhu Sudan Banerjee Lane, Post and Police Station - Uttarpara, District - Hooghly, West Bengal, Pin-712258. My son's Birth Certificate has been recorded Sudeshna Gayen (Tripathy). Hereby solemnly declare vide affidavit (No. 152), before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Serampore Court, dated 6.1.2025. That Sudeshna Gayen and Sudeshna Gayen Tripathy are one and the same identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanatan Pakra S/O Badal Pakra Residing at Ichhapur, Dafarpur, Domjur, Howrah have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanatan Pakra as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Alipore Court, Kolkata vide Affidavit No. 1488 Dated. 04.03.2025. Sanatan Pakra and Sanatan Pakre both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I,Rajendra Kayan (Old Name),Son Of Radhey Shyam Kayan, Residing At Kayan Kutir,86/1/11,Roy Bahadur Road,Behala, Kolkata - 700034,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rajendra Kumar Kayan(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025. That Rajendra Kayan And Rajendra Kumar Kayan Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, DR. SUMITRA RAJARSHHI ROY, W/O MR. RAJARSHHI N ROY, R/O JC 7/8, Sector-3, Bidhan Nagar, Salt Lake City, Kolkata- 700106, WB. Hereby declares that DR. SUMITRA RAJARSHHI ROY and SUMITRA PURKAYASTHA is the same and one identical person vide Affidavit No. 12083, Dated: 11.03.2025 and shall be known as DR. SUMITRA RAJARSHHI ROY for all future purposes.

Name Change
I, Tapu Rani Das W/o Shivon Das Residing at Vill - Harpur Daspara, Po - Kakkdwip, Ps - Harwood Point Coastal, District-South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743347 West Bengal India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapu Das as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kakkdwip, South 24 Parganas vide affidavit no 4230/25 Dated 05-03-2025. Tapu Rani Das and Tapu Das both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ipsita Purkait (Old Name) wife of Anubhadda Das, residing at 59, M.M Ghosh Lane, Patrabazar, Ward No-23, P.O.- Krishnagar, P.S.- Kotwali, Dist.- Nadia, Pin-741101, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ipsita Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Ipsita Das (New Name) and Ipsita Purkait (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Train arrangement in Howrah Division for IPL Matches

MI News Service, Kolkata: In anticipation of the upcoming IPL T-20 cricket matches at Eden Gardens, Kolkata, Eastern Railway's Howrah Division has arranged to postpone the timings of 37291 Howrah - Bandel EMU local by 10 minutes from its existing timings. To facilitate the spectators of IPL T-20 cricket matches, scheduled to be played at Eden Gardens Kolkata on 22.03.2025, 03.04.2025, 21.04.2025, 26.04.2025, 07.05.2025, 23.05.2025 & 25.05.2025, 37291 Howrah - Bandel EMU Local will leave Howrah at 23:55 hrs. instead of its scheduled departure at 23:45 hrs. on these six (06) days.

Name Change
I, Rafique Khan (Old Name) son of Late Md Jaiuddin Khan, residing at H-102/A, Rammagar Lane, P.O.-Garden Reach, Kolkata- 700024, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Rafi Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Md Rafi Khan (New Name) and Rafique Khan (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Debasish Mandal (Old Name) son of Pranab Mondal, residing at Uchehgharh, Purba, Baidyadhar, P.S.-Shyamnagar, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743126, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Debasish Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Debasish Mandal (New Name) and Debasish Mandal (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Dipa Adhikary (Old Name) wife of Shoaib Khan, residing at 70, Rabindra Sarani Room-119D, Siraj Building Rabindra Sarani of Coluttola Street, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dipa Khan (New Name) as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata, dated 12/03/2025. Dipa Khan (New Name) and Dipa Adhikary (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Subhojit Khan son of Samarjit Khan on behalf my minor son Subhahyesmit Khan (Old Name), residing at Eden Tolly Lakeside, 319 M G Road, Kolkata- 700104, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my son name and shall henceforth be known as Subhahyesmit Roy (New Name) as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata, dated 12/03/2025. Subhahyesmit Roy (New Name) and Subhahyesmit Khan (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Fatema Bibi, wife of Md Ashraf Molla, residing at Vill-Alaqualia, Po-Satbhaiya,Ps-Kashipur, South 24 parganas-700135, W.B, Shall henceforth be known as Fatema Khatun vide an affidavit no 15960 sworn before the Ld 1st class judicial magistrate at Alipore on 27/02/2025.Fatema Bibi and Fatema Khatun both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Dipak Dinda (Old Name), Son Of Narendranath Dinda,Residing At Villo Po - Garbari,Ps -Bhupati-nagar,Purba Medinipur - 721 626,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Dipak Kumar Dinda(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/03/2025. That Dipak Dinda And Dipak Kumar Dinda Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abdur Rakib Shaikh (Old Name) son of Sk Akram Ahmed, residing at Shreenagar Colony, Sainpala Taki Road, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist-North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743411, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Abdur Rakib (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Sk Abdur Rakib (New Name) and Abdur Rakib Shaikh (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Shahid Daiya (Old Name) son of Roshan Ali Daiya, residing at 11, Amra Talla Lane, 1st Floor, Burra Bazar, Kolkata-700001, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Shahid Daiya (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Md Shahid Daiya (New Name) and Mohammed Shahid Daiya (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Ipsita Purkait (Old Name) wife of Anubhadda Das, residing at 59, M.M Ghosh Lane, Patrabazar, Ward No-23, P.O.- Krishnagar, P.S.- Kotwali, Dist.- Nadia, Pin-741101, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ipsita Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 17/03/2025. Ipsita Das (New Name) and Ipsita Purkait (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw while addressing at Rajya Sabha during discussions on Railway Budget upholds the following points pertaining to the improvement of passenger services

o Indian Railways is committed for bringing comfortable Rail journey experience for the lower income and middle income groups. For this more Non AC coaches are being prepared at present compared to the earlier practice. Generally the ratio of Non AC to AC coaches is 2/3 : 1/3 which has been modified 70 per cent : 30 per cent bringing more share for the Non AC coaches among the total number of coaches. o Railway has decided to make special arrangements for festive seasons or seasons of heavy rush. This include creation of holding areas, supply of adequate food and water for the passengers, CCTV monitoring and provision of more walkie-talkie for the rush management. o Railway is completing model coach for its Narrow Gauge heritage service including Kalka-Shimla rail track as well as Darjeeling - Himalaya railways etc. These model coaches will shortly be ready to introduce in this UNESCO recognized heritage rail route for better journey experience of the passengers. New technologies will be implemented to preserve the heritage narrow gauge train operations. o 100 New Amrit Bharat trains with advanced features are being prepared. These Amrit Bharat trains will basically attract the working class

with Vande Bharat like travel experience in these trains with vestibule coach, improved fittings, reduced noise level etc. o Annual calendar for recruitment in Railways for every year for various categories. Recruitment for 5,00,000 posts will be commenced. o 50000 track replacement started for safety. o 12000 Flyovers & underpasses were constructed. o LHB coaches are important in Railways from safety point of view. Manufacturing of 41000 LHB coaches completed. o A total of 34,000 km of new railway lines have been laid, significantly improving connectivity nationwide. o 14,000 underpasses are being constructed to address waterlogging issues, while 460 km of railway tunnels have been laid between 2014 and 2025. o KAVACH: KAVACH installation is continuing in 10000 locomotives & 15000 km of track. Railway will complete KAVACH installation in entire network by 3 to 5 years. o Indian Railways continues to be an environmentally friendly transportation system, achieving 90% less carbon emissions compared to road transport. Additionally, an estimated ₹ 29,000 crore has been saved on diesel consumption due to various energy-efficient measures. o Indian Railways has tied up with 13 engineering colleges to

promote research and development. o Establishment of universities under the Gatishakti initiative to boost technical expertise and infrastructure development. o Tunnel Boring Machine manufacturing factories have been initiated in Chennai to boost indigenous production. (WEST BENGAL related items) o Mentioning about the Railways' progress in West Bengal, Hon'ble Railway Minister mentioned that from 2014 till date 38 Kilometers Metro Railway tracks has been laid compared to only 28 kilometers of track laying in Kolkata Metro during 42 years span of earlier regime. He also mentioned that various stretches of Metro work are at present being jeopardized due to land acquisition related bottleneck like New Barrackpore - Barasat, Baranagar - Barrackpore and Mominpore - BBD Bag stretch of Metro line for which West Bengal Government has to come up to help Railways in a pro active way for land acquisition so that the Railways can complete the work for improving rail infrastructure in this stretch. Hon'ble Railway Minister also mentioned that only 21% of land is available for the Railway projects in West Bengal. The balance of 79% land is required to complete the pending projects.

Additional 80 berths to be Generated in each Trip by Augmenting Air-Conditioned Coach in two Popular Express Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata: The augmentation of additional coaches in popular Express trains is an ongoing initiative aimed at improving overall travel experience for passengers. Accordingly, in response to the overwhelming demand for tickets, Railway has decided to augment additional Air-conditioned coach in following Express trains on temporary basis: One additional AC-3 tier coach will be augmented with 12236/12235 Anand Vihar - Madhupur -Anand Vihar Humsafar Express leaving Anand Vihar from 20.03.2025 to 18.09.2025 & leaving Madhupur from 21.03.2025 to 19.09.2025. Additional 80 berths will be generated in each trip. The train will run with 21 coaches instead of 20 coaches. One additional AC-3 tier coach will be augmented with 22460/22459 Anand Vihar - Madhupur -Anand Vihar Baba Baidy anath Dham Deoghar Humsafar Express leaving Anand Vihar from 17.03. 2025 to 15.09.2025 & leaving Madhupur from 18.03. 2025 to 16.09.2025. Additional 80 berths will be generated in each trip. The train will run with 21 coaches instead of 20 coaches.

Regulation of trains for Bridge Work over North Central Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to Mega Traffic & Power Block on Bridge No. 110 between Kanpur Bridge Left Bank & Kanpur Central over North Central Railway from 20.03.2025 to 30.04.2025, the following arrangements in train running have been made as under: Cancellation of trains: • 09451 Gandhidham - Bha-



galpur Special (journey commencing on 21.03.2025, 28.03.2025, 04.04.2025, 11.04.2025, 18.04.2025 & 25.04.2025) • 09452 Bhalgalpur - Gandhidham Special (journey commencing on 24.03.2025, 31.03.2025, 07.04.2025, 14.04.2025, 21.04.2025 & 28.04.2025) • Diversion of trains: • 13167 Kolkata - Agra Cantt. Weekly Express (journey commencing on 20.03.2025, 27.03.2025, 03.04.2025, 10.04.2025, 17.04.2025 & 24.04.2025) will be diverted via Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Mirzapur - Prayagraj - Kanpur Central instead of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya - Maa Belha Devi Dham Pratapgarh - Lucknow - Kanpur Central with stoppage skipped at Varanasi, Maa Belha Devi Dham Pratapgarh, Amethi, Gauriganj, Raebareilly & Lucknow.

Only one Pair Bandel - Katwa Local cancelled for Track Maintenance Work over Howrah Division

MI News Service, Kolkata: Periodic track maintenance work is crucial to ensure the safe & efficient operation of railway system. Regular and systematic maintenance of this component helps prevent disruption and delays, ensuring trains run on schedule and extend the lifespan of railway infrastructure, contributing to the overall safety & reliability of train operation. Keeping in the mind the need for track maintenance on Down Main Line between Dhatrigram & Bandel stations in Bandel - Katwa section over Howrah Division, 180 minutes Traffic Block has been planned for 16 days from 19.03.2025 to 09.04.2025 intermittently (except Thursday & Sunday). Consequently, 37749/37748 Bandel - Katwa - Bandel local will remain cancelled on 19.03.2025, 21.03.2025, 22.03.2025, 24.03.2025, 25.03.2025, 26.03.2025, 28.03.2025, 29.03.2025, 31.03.2025, 01.04.2025, 02.04.2025, 04.04.2025, 05.04.2025, 07.04.2025, 08.04.2025 & 09.04.2025.

Lost Mobile recovered and returned to a commuter

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 16.03.2025 at about 17.25 hrs. an on-duty lady RPF staff posted at Netaji Bhavan Metro station found one unclaimed mobile phone during a routine check and it was deposited 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 18.00 hrs. a lady passenger came to the Station Master's office of Netaji Bhavan Metro station and claimed the ownership of the mobile phone. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the phone was handed over to her. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping her to get back her lost phone.

Kolkata hosts 'Green Architects 2025'

MI News Service, Kolkata: The city of Kolkata recently hosted 'Green Architects 2025'. 'Green Architects 2025' is an exposition dedicated to fostering sustainability and environmental awareness. The event provided a dynamic platform for organizations to showcase innovative solutions to transform consumer behaviour and promote responsible recycling practices. A key highlight of the event was the presence of Karimul Haque, popularly known as Bike-Ambulance Dada., a Padma Shri awardee recognized for his extraordinary service in transporting villagers of Dhalabari to hospitals using his motorcycle ambulance. The Guest of Honour, Barbara Voss, German Consul General, Kolkata graced the occasion, adding an international perspective to the sustainability discourse.

Nandan Mall (Hulladek Recycling), one of the prime organizers of this event said, "We are honoured to have hosted the Green Architects 2025, a platform that convenes visionary thought leaders and industry experts to drive meaningful conversations on sustainability." The exposition featured a series of insightful panel discussions on key aspects of sustainability, including India's Vision 2047: Uniting industry, innovation, and gender equality for global prosperity, ESG & Generative AI - Clash of the brave new worlds, Waste is not an environmental problem, but a business problem, and Why sustainability is Bengal's biggest business opportunity? These discussions took place in the presence of distinguished industry leaders and experts.

Gross GST collections grow 9.1% to about Rs 1.84 lakh Cr

MI News Service, New Delhi: Gross GST collections rose by 9.1 per cent to about Rs 1.84 lakh crore in February, official data showed. Gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue includes a 10.2 per cent jump in domestic revenues at Rs 1.42 lakh crore and 5.4 per cent rise in revenues from imports to Rs 41,702 crore during February. As per the data, during the month, mop up from Central GST stood at Rs 35,204 crore, State GST at Rs 43,704 crore, Integrated GST at Rs 90,870 crore and compensation cess of Rs 13,868 crore. Total refunds issued during February were Rs 20,889 crore, a 17.3 per cent increase over the year-gro period. Net GST collections during February 2025 grew 8.1 per cent to about Rs 1.63 lakh crore.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE
ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091
CIN No: I6590G1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com
The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.



Recognition from India Book of Records marks an important milestone for Positive Barta in its mission to spread positivity in society

MI News Service, Burdwan: On 18th March, at the Press Club in Kolkata, the India Book of Records will officially confer the prestigious "IBR Achiever" title on Mr. Malay Pit, the visionary behind Positive Barta. The award will be presented in a formal ceremony that afternoon.

to spread positivity in society. The award ceremony will take place on Tuesday, 18 March, at 3 PM, at the Kolkata Press Club.

Positive Barta began as a digital initiative and later expanded to cable networks, aiming to build a positive mindset in society—especially among children—and to foster an industry-friendly, value-based environment through uplifting news.

Acknowledging the platform's vision and mission, the India Book of Records has decided to honour Positive Barta and its founder, Malay Pit. Earlier, on 18th February, this year, the organization officially informed Mr. Pit via email about his selection as an IBR Achiever.

According to representatives from the India Book of Records, the award will be presented during the event at 3 PM on 18 March. Several distinguished guests from various walks of life are expected to attend the ceremony.

In response to the announcement, Malay Pit shared, "This recognition increases our responsibility. People are inherently good and possess a desire to do positive things. But over time, due to various social factors, negative thoughts start to take root. This ultimately impacts society at every level. Through Positive Barta, we aim to awaken positive thinking in people's minds and contribute to social progress by fostering



an industry-friendly environment. If we succeed, we can build a better world—one that is truly liveable for our children. That's why we've always encouraged children between the ages of 3 and 13 to engage with Positive Barta, so they grow up without becoming part of a negative mindset." He also said, "We began broadcasting through digital platforms like Facebook and YouTube. Now, with the support of cable networks and individuals in digital media, Positive Barta has grown significantly. Looking ahead, we plan to broadcast via satellite. Our vision is to use artificial intelligence to present Indian culture, philosophy, and way of life to a global audience."

Mr. Pit added, "This recognition from the India Book of Records will further motivate us in our journey to spread positivity. We feel deeply encouraged and energized by this honour."

Goons attack Siliguri deputy mayor, 2 held

MI News Service, Siliguri: Siliguri police arrested two persons for allegedly thumping on the vehicle of the deputy mayor of Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) Ranjan Sarkar, and chasing him when he protested.

The motive behind this deed is still not clear, police sources said.

Sarkar said that when he was going to attend the funeral of one of his close acquaintances around 4pm on Saturday afternoon, his vehicle was stopped on Hill Cart Road by the two youths.

The Trinamool Congress leader said that the youths initially thumped on his vehicle.

When the mayor came out of his car and confronted them, they "chased" him.

"When I came out from my vehicle and asked

them why they were creating a nuisance in public, they chased me. However, when local residents recognised me, the youths retreated," said Sarkar.

Hill Cart Road is one of the most important and crowded thoroughfares of Siliguri. The incident occurred in broad daylight.

The deputy mayor filed a complaint with police late on Saturday evening.

"I have been in politics and in public life for the past 40 years but I never experienced something like this before. The police have to find out what was the motive behind the youths creating such a nuisance," Sarkar said.

Police sources said that they had arrested the two culprits in connection with the case. Investigations are on.

Bombay HC discharges Gautam & Rajesh Adani in mkt violation case

MI News Service, Mumbai: The Bombay High Court on Monday discharged Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani and Managing Director Rajesh Adani from a case of alleged violations of market regulations involving nearly Rs 388 crore.

The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) in 2012 initiated the case against the Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL) and its promoters Gautam Adani and Rajesh Adani, and filed a chargesheet that accused them of criminal conspiracy and cheating.

In 2019, the two indus-

trialists filed a petition in the HC, seeking to quash a sessions court order of the same year refusing to discharge them from the case.

The HC's single bench of Justice R N Laddha on Monday quashed the sessions court order and discharged the duo from the case.

A copy of the detailed order would be available later. In December 2019, the high court stayed the sessions court order and it was extended from time-to-time.

In 2012, the SFIO filed a chargesheet against 12 persons, including the Adanis, accusing them of criminal conspiracy and cheating.

But a magistrate's court in Mumbai discharged them from the case in May 2014. The SFIO challenged the discharge order.

A sessions court in November 2019 set aside the magistrate's order and noted that the SFIO had made out a case of unlawful gain by the Adani Group.

The industrialists, in their petition in the HC, termed the sessions court order as "arbitrary and illegal".

The case involved allegations of market regulation violations amounting to nearly Rs 388 crore.

The case stemmed from concerns over regulatory compliance and financial transactions flagged during an investigation by the SFIO.

Delhi airport operator sues govt over commercial flights from def airbase

MI News Service, New Delhi: The operator of the Indian capital's international airport, majority owned by GMR Airports, is suing the government for allowing commercial flights from a nearby defence aerodrome, legal papers show in a case to be heard on Monday.

The airport is one of India's busiest, with about 73.6 million passengers using it last year, though it made a loss of \$21 million because of higher government fees. In contrast, by Sunday, the number of airbase users was

about 1,400. The Delhi airport will become "economically and financially unviable," after the government permitted commercial flights from the defence airbase in Ghaziabad, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) said in the March 10 lawsuit.

In the suit, which Reuters is the first to report, DIAL told the Delhi High Court the government breached aviation rules barring a new airport within an aerial distance of 150 km (90 miles) of an existing one, unless there

is passenger demand. The state-run Airports Authority of India also has a stake in DIAL. India's civil aviation ministry did not immediately respond to e-mails seeking comment. DIAL seeks to overturn the government's decision, and cites media reports for its contention that flights by Air India Express began operating in March from the Hindon Air Force Station, about 30 km (19 miles) from the Delhi airport. DIAL is represented by Trilegal, a law firm based in India.

TUs eye protests as Centre envisages implementing new labour laws

MI News Service, New Delhi: Ten trade unions will meet on Tuesday to chalk out a programme of countrywide protests as the Centre gears to implement new labour laws that opposition from workers has held up for more than four years.

Labour minister Mansukh Mandaviya has held several meetings with the state governments in the past six months to speed up the framing of rules for the four laws: the Code on Wages, Industrial Relations Code, Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code.

Labour being on the Concurrent List, the Centre and the states need to frame the rules together. While the Centre and most of the states have published the draft rules, seeking feedback, none has notified the rules so far.

A labour ministry official

said the government planned to implement the four laws sometime close to the beginning of the financial year 2025-26, which starts next month.

"Meetings have been held with the states and the trade unions to address their concerns. The Union government notified the draft rules four years ago. The government is keen to implement the laws at the beginning of 2025-26," the official said.

RSS labour arm Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) will not participate in Tuesday's meeting, called by the Joint Platform of Central Trade Unions, made up of 10 trade unions and the employees' unions of the central and state governments, public sector banks and public sector undertakings.

Ashok Singh, general secretary of Congress labour arm Intuc and K.N. Umesh, general secretary of CPM-backed Citu, said the new laws — which will replace 29 existing labour laws — would hurt the workers. Singh said the four laws had not been discussed at the Indian Labour Congress (ILC) — a tripartite body representing employees, employers and the government — before being taken to Parliament for passage. "No ILC meeting has been held since 2015," Singh said.

Bengal govt grants oil-drilling operations to ONGC Large-scale opr at 24 Pgs(N)

MI News Service, New Delhi/Kolkata: The West Bengal government granted the central utility oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) necessary clearance last week to commence large-scale oil-drilling operations in Ashoknagar of North 24-Parganas.

This decision follows the discovery of mineral oil in the area, with reserves identified at multiple locations, particularly around Baigachhi in North 24-Parganas.

In December 2020, then Union petroleum minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated commercial oil and gas extraction in the region, laying the groundwork for further exploration.

However, in the absence of a formal nod for extraction from the state government, the endeavour could not see further progress.

Now, with the state government's approval in place, ONGC is set to expand its operations across Bengal. Land-leasing and drilling preparations are nearing completion at four sites in North 24-Parganas, sources said.

Ausgram-1 Dev. Block Guskara : Purbu Bardhaman Abridged e-Tender Notice ENIT. Memo. No. 633/Aus-1 Sd/- Dated: 17/03/2025

Tenders are invited for execution of the schemes, "Constn. Of boundary wall surrounding Nripattigram Graveyard." Date of start of application 17.03.25 upto 05.00 p.m. Last date of submission of application-02.04.25 upto 11.00a.m. & Date & time for opening-04.04.25 at 11.00 a.m. For further details regarding the above ENIT intending participants may contact office of the undersigned on any working day before the last date of application.

Block Dev. Officer, Ausgram-1 Dev. Block

Notice e-Tender

The Pradhan Garipur Gram Panchayat invites e-Tender through e-Procurement System from the bonafied and resourceful Contractors for NIT No. 13/ PRODHAN GARIPUR GP/2024-25. (FOR-7 Nos WORKS) Dated: 12.03.2025. Last date of Bid submission 28.03.2025 upto 02:00 Hours. For details please visit website www.wbtenders.gov.in

Sd/- Pradhan Garipur G.P. DOMKAL BLOCK, MURSHIDABAD

We, Adhir Das S/o, Late Kalipada Das & Parul Das W/o, Adhir Das R/o, Viveknanda no 3, Post 50, Square colony, P.O & P.S - Kalyani-741235, Dist-Nadia, WB do hereby Solemnly Affirm and declare before the Notary public Govt of India no. 85 dated 17/02/2025 at Kalyani court Nadia that we had a Registered Deed no. 114/2005 dated 12/01/2005 & this Deed has been lost by us from our custody on 15/02/2025. We lodged a GDE no 912 dated 17/02/2025 at Kalyani Police station. If anyone finds it please contact- 700330798.

Adv Sourav Kumar Das Kalyani Court PH. No. 9123821869

OFFICE OF THE DHULAIURI GRAM PANCHAYAT Domkal, Murshidabad NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER NO- 26/15 th CFC/2024-25

For and on behalf of the Pradhan, Dhulaiuri Gram Panchayat, invites sealed percentage rate tenders for One work. Source of Fund: 15 th CFC. Intending bidders may download tender documents from e-procurement portal of our website http://wbtenders.gov.in from 17.03.2025 at 12.00 Hours to 25.03.2025 upto 12.00 Hours. The pre-qualification documents alone will be opened on 01.04.2025 at 12.00 hours.

Sd/- Pradhan Dhulaiuri Gram Panchayat

স্বপন কুমার রায় এডভোকেট ১৯৮৩/১১৫০/২০০৪ চন্দ্রনগর কোর্ট

E-Tender

NIT No. 501/GHO/SOLAR SUBMERSIBLE/ 15TH FC (T)/2024-25, Dt- 17/03/2025 Memo No: 495/I/GHO

E.Tenders are invited by the Ghoramara Gram Panchayat of Sagar Block, South 24 Parganas for Installation of Solar operated Submersible Pump near Ecotourism Cottage at Raypara-Bagpara

Land acquisition has also commenced in 20 additional locations — Chapalta gram panchayat in Deganga of North 24-Parganas and Bhagwanpur II block of East Midnapore.

In total, ONGC has identified 13 sites for drilling in North 24-Parganas, three in South 24-Parganas, one in Nadia and five across East and West Midnapore districts.

The selection process for these sites has been completed, sources said.

Each project is expected to require approximately five acres of leased land.

ONGC sources have indicated significant oil reserves across these Bengal districts.

The utility plans to extract oil by taking land on lease in key locations. However, extraction had been on hold pending state government approval. With the cabinet's green light, work is set to resume.

It is hereby notified to all public that Smt. Musumi Singh W/o Sri Amr Singh resident of Aludanga, Sadhanpur PO+PS-Burdwan Sadar Dist-Purbu Burdwan was given the power of attorney to Sri Mrinal Dawn S/o Lt. Prabhat Kumar Dawn resident of Asanpur, PO-Asanpur, PS-Manteswar, Dist-Purbu Burdwan her Property vide a general Power of Attorney deed no 1-7353 in the date of 13/07/2022 duly registered in book no 1, Volume no-203-2022 recorded in page of 187764 to 187780 situated in RS plot No 8777 combined to the LR Plot No-8777 at the Rayen Mouza, J.L No-68 under the Postoffice Burdwan, Police Station Burdwan in area of Rayen-1 gram panchayat for caring & selling severed to several purchasers. One of the purchaser is Sri Milan Choudhury. At present the land owners are presently alive. If any person, company, institution having any objection related to the above deeds & property, May contract undersigned person with document in proof within 15 days from the date of publication, unless no claim whatso ever will be entertained in this matter

Sulogna Kundu Advocate

It is hereby notified to all public that Smt Kakali Majhi W/o Sri Mahadeb Majhi resident of Serpur, PO-Serpur, PS-Madhabdihli, Dist- purba Burdwan was given the power of attorney to Sri Tarapada Dutta S/o Lt. Pasupati Dutta resident of Durgadanga PO-Burdwan, PS-Burdwan Sadar, Dist-purba Burdwan her Property vide a general Power of attorney deed no IV-215 in the year of 2017 duly registered in book no IV, Volume no -203-2017 recorded in page of 2809 to 2818 situated in RS plot No-8777 combined to the LR Plot No-8777 at the Rayen Mouza, J.L No-68, under the Post office -Burdwan, Police Station Burdwan in area of Rayen-1 gram panchayat for caring & selling severed to several purchasers. One of the purchaser is Sri Manik Ghosh. At present the land owners are presently alive. If any person, company, institution having any objection related to the above deeds & property, May contract undersigned person with document in proof within 15 days from the date of publication, unless no claim whatso ever will be entertained in this matter

Sulogna Kundu Advocate

TENDER NOTICE E-Tender for construction of 1 no concrete drain, 2 no.s Market Shed under the jurisdiction of Basanti Block have been invited by the undersigned. Details of which as noted below: Bid Submission Date: 17.03.2025 Bid Closing Date: 24.03.2025, 02.04.2025

Details can be collected from the website http://wbtenders.gov.in & office Notice Board.

Executive Officer Basanti Pachayat Samity South 24 Parganas

According to ONGC officials, full-scale extraction will only begin after thorough assessments of the oil and gas reserves at depths ranging from 2,500 to 6,000 metres.

"If the findings are favourable and conducive, commercial extraction will proceed, unlocking new economic opportunities for the state. We are hopeful that this venture will significantly bolster Bengal's economic landscape, particularly in India's energy sector," said an ONGC official.

Euphoric about the government's nod, opening the scope for further exploration of natural oil resources, North 24-Parganas zilla parishad chief and Ashoknagar MLA Narayan Goswami stressed the economic potential of the project.

"The state government has leased out land to ONGC for the mineral oil project at just ₹1 as a positive gesture. If the extraction project succeeds, it will transform not only Ashoknagar but the entire district as well. I am hopeful that ONGC will be able to extract natural oil from more such places among new drilling spots," he said. ONGC first discovered an oil field in Ashoknagar in 2018 — the first such find in eastern India. By December 2020, Union minister Pradhan had formally inaugurated the natural gas reserves there, which, according to ONGC estimates, have the potential to produce 45,000-50,000 cubic metres of natural gas per day.

ic potential of the project.

"The state government has leased out land to ONGC for the mineral oil project at just ₹1 as a positive gesture. If the extraction project succeeds, it will transform not only Ashoknagar but the entire district as well. I am hopeful that ONGC will be able to extract natural oil from more such places among new drilling spots," he said. ONGC first discovered an oil field in Ashoknagar in 2018 — the first such find in eastern India. By December 2020, Union minister Pradhan had formally inaugurated the natural gas reserves there, which, according to ONGC estimates, have the potential to produce 45,000-50,000 cubic metres of natural gas per day.

Stalls/Outlets at different Stations over Sealdah Division

Under 'One Station One Product' Scheme

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah hereby invites application in sealed packet (single) and in prescribed format from individuals, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Marginalized or weaker sections of society etc., dealing with indigenous products for participation in "One Station One Product" Scheme at 107 nos. Stations over Sealdah Division.

Salient Features of the scheme :- 1. Duration of Project : 30 days. 2. Tenure Start Date of the One Station One Product stalls at various stations : Taki Road - 30 days starting from 31.03.2025. Tala, Baranagar - 30 days starting from 02.04.2025. Majerhat, Taherpur, Arangata - 30 days starting from 03.04.2025. Akra, Santoshpur, Komagata Maru Budge Budge - 30 days starting from 04.04.2025. Dhubulia - 30 days starting from 05.04.2025. Subhasgar - 30 days starting from 08.04.2025. Dakshin Durgapur, Netra, Champahati, Ghutuari Shariff, Magrahat, Mathurapur Road - 30 days starting from 10.04.2025. Bongaon Jn., Duttapukur, Bamangachi, Guma, Bira, Dakshineswar - 30 days starting from 11.04.2025. Hridaypur - 30 days starting from 12.04.2025. Baharu, kakkdwip, Dakshin Barasat, Basirhat, Kalyani Simanta, Kalyani Silpanchati, Madanpur, Barasat - 30 days starting from 13.04.2025. Kalyanpur, Hotor - 30 days starting from 14.04.2025. Majhergram, Bally Ghat, Eden Garden, Laigola, Cossimbazar - 30 days starting from 17.04.2025. Chandpara, Ganganapur, Bagbazar, Shasan Road, Surjyapur, Paglachandi, Gede, Kalinaraynpur Jn., Habibpur, Jagaddal, Titagarh, Ichhapur - 30 days starting from 18.04.2025. BBD Bag, Princepghat, Simurali, Bidyadharpur, Piali - 30 days starting from 19.04.2025. Kashinagar Halt, Bhagwangaola, Taldi, Muragacha, Beldanga, Bethuadahari, Debagram, Rejinagar, Plassey, Shantipur, Majhida, Birnagar, Payradanga, Brace Bridge, Nangi, New Alipur, Khardah - 30 days starting from 20.04.2025. Gopinagar, Barra Bazar, Patipukur, Kalkipur, Basuladanga, Dhapdhai, Bagula, Banpur, Palpara - 30 days starting from 21.04.2025. Badkulla - 30 days starting from 23.04.2025. Gobardanga, Thakurnagar, Ashoknagar Road, New Barrackpore, Habra - 30 days starting from 25.04.2025. Bisharpura Kodalia - 30 days starting from 26.04.2025. Jiaganj - 30 days starting from 27.04.2025. Krishnapur, Murshidabad, Berhampore Court, Phulia, Kalyani Ghoshpara, Ballygunge Jn., Bagha Jatin, Gocharan, Namkhana, Deula, Dhamua, Diamond Harbour, Sangrampur, Canning, Jaynagar Majilpur, Mallickpur, Baruipur - 30 days starting from 28.04.2025. (3) Token Registration Fee : Rs. 2000/- only inclusive of GST for the allotment period of 30 days for each stall. (4) Infrastructure : (i) Stalls/Outlets shall be provided by Railways. (ii) A maximum of 20 units of electricity per One Station One Product outlet shall be permitted for one spell of 15 days as basic facility subsumed in the registration charges. For additional units of electricity over and above the limit of 20 units, the applicable charges shall apply on actual basis. (5) Submission of Application : Within 15:00 hrs of 28.03.2025. Applications in the letterhead of the organization/plain white sheet of paper along with photocopy of document (as mentioned in Eligibility Criteria) addressed to the Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, DRM Building, Room No.-44, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 to be submitted in sealed envelope at designated place in the Office of Station Master/Station Manager/Booking Supervisor of concerned stations. In Case of receipt of more than one application : Open lottery/public draw of lots to be done at above mentioned place at 16:00 hrs. on 28.03.2025. Name of station with identified products, eligibility criteria for participation & supporting documents and EO documents along with the detailed terms and conditions can be seen & downloaded from the official website www.e.indianrailways.gov.in and also can be seen at the Notice Board in the Office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah.

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Sealdah

Eastern Railway

Follow us at: @EasternRailway | easternrailwayheadquarter

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091

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

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

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession, Date of Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch

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

Date: March 18, 2025 Place: Purbu Medinipur & Howrah Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: EL/HWH/25/12 (Notice) /652, Dated : 13.03.2025. Open e-Tenders are invited by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, near Railway station, Howrah-711101 for the under mentioned electrical works: SI. No. : 1. Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-334-R1; Name of Work : Upgradation of electrical assets for fire safety at Eastern Railway HQ building, Fairlie Place; Tender Value: Rs. 2,45,48,293.00; Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit) (Rs.) : Rs. 2,72,800.00; SI. No. : 2. Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-3307; Name of Work : 1) Electrical (General) work in connection with "Provision of new FOB (6m width) at Agrawidip under the jurisdiction of AEN/KWAE". 2) Electrical (General) work in connection with "Provision of new FOB (6m width) at Dainhat under the jurisdiction of AEN/KWAE". 3) Electrical (General) work in connection with "Provision of new FOB at Bishunpriya Halt (6m width) under the jurisdiction of AEN/KWAE". 4) Electrical (General) work in connection with Provision of new FOB at Sahebatala Halt (6m width) under the jurisdiction of AEN/KWAE". Tender Value: Rs. 32,76,270.00; Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit) (Rs.) : Rs. 65,500.00; Completion Period : 180 days for SI. No. 1 & 2; Closing Date and Time: 07.04.2025 at 15:00 hrs. In case the date of closing mentioned in the notice inviting tender is declared a holiday/bandh/strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However, opening of tenders online will be on any convenient day after closing date and time of the tender. The details of tender are available at website: www.ireps.gov.in

Tenders are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. (HWH-680/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.e.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: @EasternRailway | easternrailwayheadquarter

Metro Railway, Kolkata

Corrigendum No. 1

Corrigendum No. 1 issued against Open Tender Notice No. S&T/Works/07-2025 on 13.03.2025 against the work "Setting up of Metro Railway Training Institute at Noapara" for more details visit website on www.ireps.gov.in

Asstt. Signal & Telecom Engineer Signal

Follow us at: @metrorailwaykol | metrorailkolkata



## Academic scores cannot define true abilities exams small part of growth journey: PM Modi

**New Delhi** : Academic scores alone cannot define a student's true abilities and exams are just a small part of the larger journey of knowledge and self-growth, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said.

In a podcast with Lex Fridman released on Sunday, Modi said a strange mindset has developed in society today where even schools measure their success by students' rankings.

"Families too feel pride when their child achieves a high rank because they believe it improves their educational and social status. This mentality has resulted in increased pressure on children. Kids also began feeling that their entire lives depend on 10th and 12th grade exams.

"We have introduced significant changes in our new education policy to address this issue. But until those changes take effect on the ground, I feel another responsibility. If our children face challenges, it is my duty to listen to them, understand them, and ease their burden," he said.

The prime minister noted that when he conducts 'Pariksha Pe Charcha', he gets insights directly from the students, understands their parents' mindset, as well as the perspectives of people in the educational field.

"So these discussions don't just benefit the students. They benefit me too," he said. Modi



asserted that exams are valuable for assessing knowledge in a specific domain but they cannot become the sole measure of someone's overall potential.

"Many people may not score high academically, yet can hit a century in cricket because that is where their true strength lies. When the focus shifts to actual learning, scores tend to naturally improve," he said.

During the over three-hour interaction, the prime minister also advised parents to understand that life is not just about taking exams. "Families should

understand that their children aren't trophies meant to be displayed or models to show off in society. It is not about saying, 'Look, my kid scores so high'. Parents really need to stop using their kids just as status symbols. "Secondly, students should always keep themselves well-prepared beforehand. Only then can they appear for exams feeling stress-free and confident. They should have complete trust in themselves and their abilities. Sometimes I see students panic over the smallest issues during exams," he said. "Those lacking confidence con-

stantly keep looking for distractions. But if you are confident and have genuinely worked hard, just take a minute, take some deep breaths, relax your mind and refocus your attention calmly," he added.

During the podcast, Modi also shared anecdotes about innovative ways used by teachers during his childhood that helped him grasp concepts better.

Sharing his mantra of always focusing on learning, the prime minister said he used to learn a lot from reading, but these days, more and more he learns by being fully present.

"Whenever I meet someone, I am fully present in the moment. I give them my full attention. This complete focus allows me to grasp new concepts quickly. When I am with you, I am fully present, grounded in the moment. No calls or messages can pull me away from this moment with you. I am fully present focused on the here and now. That's why I always believe this is a habit everyone should embrace. "It will sharpen your mind and improve your learning ability. Besides, knowledge alone cannot light the way. You must immerse yourself in the flow of practice. You cannot master driving merely by reading the life stories of great drivers. You must get behind the wheel and take the road yourself," he said.

## MIT researchers devise process to convert skin cell directly into neurons

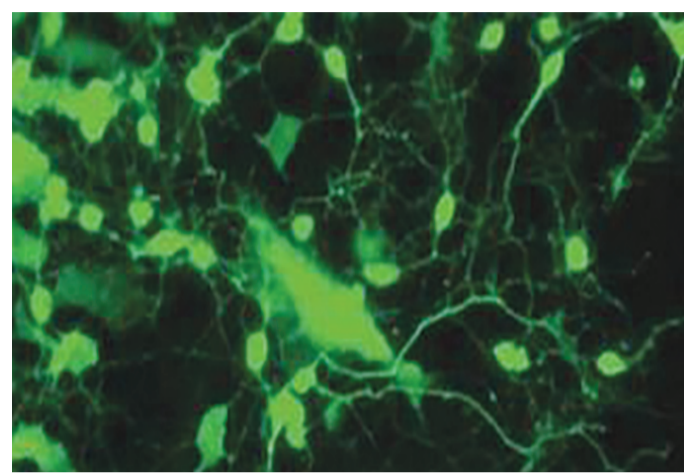
**Washington DC [US]** : Researchers devised a process to convert a skin cell directly into a neuron, eliminating the need to generate induced pluripotent stem cells. Such neurons could be used to treat spinal cord injuries or diseases such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

Converting one type of cell to another -- for example, a skin cell to a neuron -- can be done through a process that requires the skin cell to be induced into a "pluripotent" stem cell, and then differentiated into a neuron.

Researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have now devised a simplified process that bypasses the stem cell stage, converting a skin cell directly into a neuron.

Working with mouse cells, the researchers developed a highly efficient conversion method that can produce more than 10 neurons from a single skin cell. If replicated in human cells, this approach could generate large quantities of motor neurons, which could potentially be used to treat patients with spinal cord injuries or diseases that impair mobility.

"We were able to get to yields where we could ask questions about whether these cells can be viable candidates for the cell replacement therapies, which we hope they could be. That's where



these types of reprogramming technologies can take us," said Katie Galloway, the WM Keck Career Development Professor in Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering.

As a first step toward developing these cells as a therapy, the researchers showed that they could generate motor neurons and engraft them into the brains of mice, where they integrated with host tissue.

Galloway is the senior author of two papers describing the new method, which appears today in Cell Systems. MIT graduate student Nathan Wang is the lead author of both papers.

The MIT team also hopes to increase the efficiency of this

process for human cell conversion, which could allow for the generation of large quantities of neurons that could be used to treat spinal cord injuries or diseases that affect motor control, such as ALS.

Clinical trials using neurons derived from induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) to treat ALS are now underway, but expanding the number of cells available for such treatments could make it easier to test and develop them for more widespread use in humans, Galloway says.

The research was funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences and the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

## New antibody reduces tumor growth in treatment-resistant breast, ovarian cancers: Study

**London [UK]** : Immunotherapy, or antibody treatment that activates the patient's own immune system against cancer, is increasingly being studied as an alternative to chemotherapy and radiotherapy. This is because it directly targets cancer cells, reducing the negative effects associated with more conventional treatments.

Tumours, such as some breast and ovarian cancers, can express the marker HER2. HER2 is responsible for cancer growth and is the target of existing therapies, such as the most commonly used type of antibodies, IgG. However, this treatment is not always effective in some patients.

Now, scientists have investigated a different antibody type, IgE, which activates the patient's immune system in different ways than IgG. As they act on different immune cells to IgG, IgE antibodies uniquely stimulate otherwise inactive immune cells in the 'microenvironment' surrounding the tumour to target the cancer cells directly.

In the study, led by Dr Heather Bax at King's College London, the team engineered IgE versions of existing IgG therapies and tested their ability to activate immune cells against HER2-expressing cancer cells.

IgE was shown to direct immune cells against HER2-expressing cancer cells, and slowed tumour growth in mice.



The tumours grown in mice are known to be resistant to conventional treatments, suggesting this new treatment could be an option for patients who don't respond to existing therapy.

Further investigation revealed that IgE antibodies stimulated and reprogrammed the 'immune microenvironment' around the tumours themselves, shifting from an immunosuppressive to an immunostimulatory response. This means the immune system was activated to target the cancer cells and overcome the tumour's actions to suppress attack.

The study has shown the potential of IgE as a new therapy for HER2-expressing cancers, including those resistant to other treatments. The researchers believe that, with the right investment and development, this approach could be used in humans in as soon as 3-5 years.

Senior Author Dr Heather Bax, Postdoctoral Research Fellow in St. John's Institute of Dermatology, at King's College London, said, "Around 20% of breast and ovarian cancers express the marker, HER2. By generating anti-HER2 IgE antibodies equivalent to the clinically used IgGs, for the first time we demonstrate that IgEs harness unique mechanisms to reprogramme the immune microenvironment, switching immune cells to effectively target HER2-expressing cancers, including those resistant to existing therapies.

"Our findings indicate that IgE antibodies could offer a potential new therapy option for patients with HER2-expressing cancer." Co-Author Professor Sophia Karagiannis, Professor of Translational Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy, in St. John's

## Study finds how to treat aggressive cancers

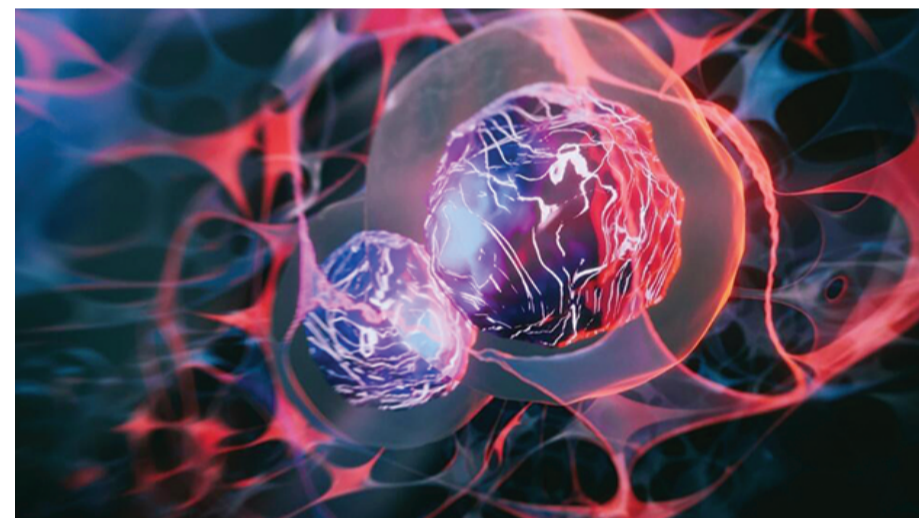
**California [US]** : Alternative RNA splicing is similar to a movie editor cutting and rearranging scenes from the same video to produce distinct versions of a film. By deciding which sequences to keep and which to cut, the editor can create a drama, a comedy, or even a thriller from the same raw material.

Similarly, cells splice RNA in various ways to make a wide range of proteins from a single gene, fine-tuning their activity to meet specific needs. However, when cancer rewrites the script, this process is disrupted, promoting tumor growth and survival.

In a recent study, scientists from The Jackson Laboratory (JAX) and UConn Health not only show how cancer hijacks this tightly regulated splicing and rearranging of RNA but also introduce a potential therapeutic strategy that could slow or even shrink aggressive and hard-to-treat tumors. This discovery could transform how we treat aggressive cancers, such as triple-negative breast cancer and certain brain tumors, where current treatment options are limited.

At the heart of this work, led by Olga Anczukow, an associate professor at JAX and co-program leader at the NCI-designated JAX Cancer Center, are tiny genetic elements called poison exons, nature's own "off switch" for protein production. When these exons are included in an RNA message, they trigger its destruction before a protein can be made--preventing harmful cellular activity. In healthy cells, poison exons regulate the levels of key proteins, keeping the genetic machinery in check. But in cancer, this safety mechanism often fails.

Anczukow and her team, including Nathan Leclair, an MD/PhD graduate student at UConn Health and The Jackson Laboratory who spearheaded the research, and Mattia Brugiolo, a staff researcher who contributed his expertise, discovered that cancer cells suppress poison exon activity in a critical gene called TRA2b. As such, levels of TRA2b protein



increase inside cancer cells, causing tumor proliferation. Furthermore, the team found a correlation between levels of poison exons and patient outcomes. "We've shown for the first time that low levels of poison exon inclusion in the TRA2b gene are associated with poor outcomes in many different cancer types, and especially in aggressive and difficult-to-treat cancers," said Anczukow. These include breast cancer, brain tumors, ovarian cancers, skin cancers, leukemias, and colorectal cancers, Anczukow explained.

Anczukow, Leclair, and Brugiolo then went on to see if they could increase the inclusion of the poison exon in the TRA2b gene and reactivate the kill switch. They found their answer in antisense oligonucleotides (ASOs)--synthetic RNA fragments that can be designed to increase poison exon inclusion in specific ways. When introduced into cancer cells, ASOs effectively flipped the genetic switch, restoring the body's natural ability to degrade excess TRA2b RNA and inhibit tumor progression.

"We found that ASOs can rapidly boost poison exon inclusion, essentially tricking the cancer cell into turning off its own growth signals," said Leclair. "These poison exons work like a rheostat, quickly adjusting protein levels--and that could make ASOs a highly precise and effective therapy for aggressive cancers."

Interestingly, when researchers completely removed TRA2b proteins using CRISPR gene editing, tumors continued to grow--suggesting that targeting the RNA rather than the protein could be a more effective approach. "This tells us that poison-exon-containing RNA doesn't just silence TRA2b," explained Anczukow. "It likely sequesters other RNA-binding proteins, creating an even more toxic environment for cancer cells."

Further studies will refine ASO-based therapies and explore their delivery to tumors. However, preliminary data suggest that ASOs are highly specific and do not interfere with normal cellular function, making them promising candidates for future cancer treatments.

## Par panel recommends single independent drug controller for AYUSH

**New Delhi** : A parliamentary committee has recommended the consolidation of all AYUSH drug-related standard-setting processes under a single independent drug controller in alignment with the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, and its associated rules.

To achieve this, the ministry should establish a streamlined and inclusive mechanism that actively involves stakeholders in the development of pharmacopoeial standards, ensuring greater efficiency and uniformity, said the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare in a report presented in the Rajya Sabha this week.

Additionally, the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) and Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) may come together to coordinate and collaborate in this initiative, the committee emphasised in its 165th report on "Demands for Grants 2025-26 (Demand No. 4) of Ministry of Ayush".

This will enhance the scientific testing and evaluation of a larger number of ASU&H (Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, and Homoeopathy) drug samples to ensure safety, efficacy, and quality, strengthening the foundation of research and standardisation in the sector.

The committee flagged that the state-wise reach of Arogya Fair/Ayurveda Parv is less compared to the size of India with its 28 states and eight Union Territories.

It recommended that the reach should cover 50 per cent of Indian states in the coming year and eventually all of the country in the near future to propagate the Ayush System for the prevention and treatment of common ailments.

It recommended that the ministry leave no stone unturned in efficiently and effectively implementing the IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) Scheme, thus generating awareness amongst the common masses, especially in rural, urban slum, hilly and tribal areas.

The committee also took note of the financial and physical performance made under the international cooperation scheme with respect to budgetary allocation and set objectives. It recommended that going forward communication should be made with first-world countries like the UK and the



US for promoting AYUSH among the Indian diaspora as well as their native citizens.

Underlining the potential in promoting AYUSH-related healthcare travel to India, the panel said that the Ministry has to chalk out strategies to vigorously promote the AYUSH system of medicine in international markets, and support invest-

ment and exchange of exports to boost Ayush products in the global market.

"The Ayush Ministry should keep the consideration that Ayush Vision@2047 has a target to enhance the contribution of the Ayush Sector up to 7.7 per cent of GDP," it said.

It suggested that the strategic course of action -- viz. road

shows abroad, CMEs for the foreign audience, familiarisation trips, strategic marketing communication through a professional agency, collateral audio-video content and social media marketing -- can further be taken up by the Ministry for the achievement of the Mission Objective of the scheme.

The committee also recommended that the ministry give equitable impetus to all sub-components of the capacity building and continuing medical education (CME) in Ayush under the Ayurgyan Scheme.

Underlining the vital role of research and innovation in Ayush Drugs for prioritised diseases, the committee recommended collecting data on safety, standardisation and quality control for Ayush products and practices in order to develop evidence-based support on the efficacy of Ayush drugs and therapies.

In order to inculcate scientific aptitude and expertise relating to Ayush systems, the ministry should chalk out a strategy for the development of potential human resources and their management in the Ayush system, the report said.

The committee reiterated its recommendation that the outcome of the research scheme should successfully demonstrate the effectiveness of Ayush systems and the novel technology successfully developed out of such research and development must harness the potential of Ayush in the interest of public health delivery.

Further, noting that the scheme is one of the most significant schemes under AYUSH, the panel recommended extending it in financial years beyond 2025-26 with adequate budgetary allocation.

The committee expressed happiness and welcomed the laying of the foundation of a WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC) at Jamnagar, Gujarat and said that increasing collaboration with WHO in the Ayush Sector is significant in the global acceptance of traditional medicine and Ayush healthcare.

Such events will certainly help with the rapid growth of traditional medicine and healthcare.

It recommended that steps be taken on priority to complete the project early and make the GTMC functional.



### In push to end Ukraine war, Trump to discuss ceasefire with Putin today

**MI News Service, Washington DC:** US President Donald Trump has said he will speak with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday as part of efforts to end the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Speaking to reporters on Air Force One while travelling from Florida to Washington on Sunday, Trump said, "We will see if we have something to announce maybe by Tuesday. I will be speaking to President Putin on Tuesday." He added that significant progress had been made over the weekend, stating, "We want to see if we can bring that war to an end", reported by Associated Press (BBC).

The war, which began three years ago with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, is still ongoing. While Moscow did not succeed in overthrowing the Ukrainian government, it continues to control large parts of the country.

Trump said that key topics in the talks would include land and power plants. "We will be talking about power plants," he explained, describing the discussions as "dividing up certain assets".

### At least 53 killed in US airstrikes on Yemen's Houthis

**MI News Service, Sanaa:** The Houthi-run Health Ministry has said that the overnight US strikes killed at least 53 people, including five women and two children, and wounded more than 100 people in Yemeni state capital Sanaa, media reported. The US has escalated its strikes against Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis, with President Donald Trump vowing on Saturday to use "overwhelming lethal force" against the rebels who have attacked international ships in the Red Sea in 'solidarity' with Gaza. Multiple US strikes in Yemen's capital Sanaa and other areas have resulted in numerous casualties with the militants also vowing escalation as they face one of the most extensive attacks since the war in Gaza began in October 2023.

The US conducted overnight airstrikes on multiple targets in Yemen starting around midnight on Sunday, targeting the capital Sanaa, and other places, including the Houthi stronghold province of Sadaa. Trump said that the Houthis must stop their attacks on international ships in the Red Sea, one of the busiest shipping routes in the world. If they don't, the US President vowed that 'hell will rain down' on them like 'nothing you have seen before'. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio told CBS News on Sunday that the strikes will continue until the Iran-backed militants "no longer have the capability" to attack international ships.

## Polytechnic College to be named after Dada Huzur, Mamata announces in Iftar Majlis of Furfura

Nurul Islam Khan

After a long wait, Mamata Banerjee finally came to Furfura Sharif after 9 years on Monday. Today, she joined the government-run Iftar Majlis. With this, Mamata came to Furfura Sharif three times. She came in 2012, 2016 and 2025. In fact, today was a historic day. Furfura Sharif's Pir Mujaddede Zaman Ala Hazrat Dada Huzur passed away 86 years ago, i.e. on March 17, 1939. On that special auspicious day, she came to Furfura and won the hearts of most of the Pir Sahibs. On Monday, the state's honorable Mamata Banerjee first prayed at the Mazar Sharif of Dada Huzur. The Pir Sahibs were ready to receive her. Then she went straight to Dhanpotar Musafir He participated in the Iftar Majlis at Khana. Many of the elderly Pirsahibs were present there. The Chief Minister of the state sat for a long time and listened to the various things of the Pirsahib. Pirzada Imran Siddiqui, Pirzada Mehrab Siddiqui, Pirzada Syed Nazimuddin Hossain and many others said that Dada Huzur had spoken about establishing a new university in his name. Pirzada Saferi Siddiqui and Pirzada Tamimuddin Siddiqui spoke. Furfur Abu Bakar inaugurated a 100-bed hospital. On this day, Mamata Banerjee herself promised to build a bus stand in Furfura Sharif. Along with this, she also said that she would establish a polytechnic college to provide employment to the children. However, many of the Pirsahibs insisted that a government holiday be declared to commemorate the day of Dada Huzur's passing away. Pirzada Hafez Idris Siddiqui prayed for the Iftar Majlis. Pirzada Kashem Siddiqui and Pirzada Nurullah Siddiqui also said that Mamata Banerjee should pay attention to the work of the De-



velopment Board. After that, Mamata Banerjee met the senior Pir Allama Qutub Uddin Siddiqui of Furfura Sharif. He himself presented the Iftar items to the Pir Saheb. Pirzada Taha Siddiqui was the head of the Orphan Foundation. This Iftar Mahfil was organized by the government. The district sub-division administrator, state police chief Rajiv Kumar and many police officers were present on the day. Pirzada Shahin Siddiqui, Pirzada Syed Aftab Uddin Hossain and many Pir Sahebs were present on the day. Pirzada MLA Naushad Siddiqui was not present at the meeting. However, the political equation surrounding Mamata's meeting has become quite intense. Many have said that her visit to Furfura Sharif is to strengthen the votes of the minorities in the upcoming assembly elections. A large section of the devotees of Pir Dada Huzur of Furfura Sharif are guided by Furfura's ideology. Political analysts are giving importance to Ma-

mata's visit to retain that vote banker. The day is very important on the occasion of the death anniversary of Pir Dada Huzur of Furfura. That is why today was very significant. Dada has served the nation for 50 years. He has made an outstanding contribution in establishing communal harmony in this state. On the death anniversary of that brave scholar, prayer mahfils were held in different parts of the state with due dignity. Dada Huzur was a reformer and freedom fighter of the era. Pir Dada Huzur, a renowned personality of the subcontinent. On this day, prayer gatherings were held at various places including the Furfura Sharif Mosque. Like every year, numerous Pir Sahebs were present at the Islamic Jalsha in the court of Hazrat Chhota Huzur Pir Saheb. Prayers were sought for the welfare of the people. Many Pir Sahebs said that Dada Huzur should be given government honors or recognition.

## Financial Position is Strong, Providing More Subsidy to Passengers: Railway Minister

• The cost of train travel per kilometer is ₹1.38, but passengers are charged only 73 paise  
• This year, 1,400 locomotives were produced, exceeding the combined production of the U.S. and Europe  
• By March 31, Indian Railways will be among the world's top three freight carriers with 1.6 billion tons of cargo  
• All ICF coaches will be converted to LHB during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term  
• Ten crucial steps have been taken to prevent incidents like the New Delhi railway station accident  
• Our commitment is to the poorest of the poor: Railway Minister

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & IT, Ashwini Vaishnav, highlighted the achievements and future plans of Indian Railways during a discussion in the Rajya Sabha on Monday. He stated that Indian Railways is providing safe and high-quality services to passengers at affordable fares while securing a leading position globally. Comparing Rail fares, he mentioned that fares in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are higher than in India, while in Western countries, rail fares are 10-20 times higher than in India. On the subsidy provided to passengers, the Railway Minister said that while the cost of train travel per kilometer is ₹1.38, passengers are charged only 73 paise, meaning a subsidy of 47% is provided. In the financial year 2022-23, passengers received a subsidy of ₹57,000 crore, which increased to approximately ₹60,000 crore in 2023-24 (provisional figures). He emphasised that the goal is to provide safe and improved services at minimal fares. Highlighting the benefits of Railway electrification, the Minister noted that despite an increase in the

number of passengers and cargo, energy expenses have remained stable. Indian Railways aims to achieve Scope 1 net zero emissions by 2025 and Scope 2 net zero emissions by 2030. This non-fossil energy-based goal will completely offset the Railways' carbon emissions. The Railway Minister also announced that locomotives manufactured at the Madhepura factory in Bihar will soon be exported. Indian Railways is exporting passenger coaches to Mozambique, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, while locomotives are being exported to Mozambique, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Bangladesh. Additionally, bogie underframes are being exported to the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, France and Australia, while propulsion parts are being sent to France, Mexico, Germany, Spain, Romania and Italy. This year, India produced 1,400 locomotives, surpassing the combined production of the U.S. and Europe. Additionally, 200,000 new wagons have been added to the fleet. The Railway Minister stated that in FY 2024-25, Indian Railways will transport 1.6 billion tons of cargo, making it one of the world's top three freight carriers, alongside China and the U.S. This underscores the increasing capacity of Indian Railways and its crucial role in the logistics sector. He further stated that 41,000 LHB coaches have been manufactured with a strong focus on railway safety. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's third term, all ICF coaches will be replaced with LHB coaches. The implementation of long Rails, electronic interlocking, fog safety devices and the 'Kavach' safety system is progressing rapidly. Expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Vaishnav mentioned that earlier, Indian Railways

received ₹25,000 crore in financial support, which has now increased to ₹2.5 lakh crore. This funding has led to significant infrastructure improvements, including the construction of 50 Namoo Bharat trains designed for short-distance travel, offering both AC and non-AC options. Regarding the recent incident at New Delhi Railway Station, the Railway Minister informed the House that a high-level committee is investigating the unfortunate accident. All CCTV footage and relevant data have been secured and approximately 300 individuals have been interviewed to verify facts. Ten critical measures have been taken to prevent such incidents in the future. The Railway Minister reiterated the government's commitment to serving the poorest sections of society. He emphasised that the number of general coaches is being increased to 2.5 times that of AC coaches. Under the current production plan, 17,000 non-AC coaches are scheduled for manufacturing. He also stated that Indian Railways' financial position is strong, with continuous efforts to improve it. The Railway sector has successfully overcome challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, with passenger numbers increasing and growth observed in both passenger and freight transportation. He reminded that Indian Railways has an annual revenue of approximately ₹2.78 lakh crore and expenditures of ₹2.75 lakh crore. The Railway's major expenses are being met through its own income, which is a result of its strong performance. Concluding the discussion, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav assured that Indian Railways will continue to evolve into a more modern, safe and environmentally friendly transportation system in the future.

### World Uyghur Congress hails US sanctions on Thai officials over Uyghur deportations

**MI News Service, Munich:** The World Uyghur Congress (WUC) has expressed its appreciation for the recent sanctions imposed by the US State Department on Thai officials involved in the deportation of Uyghur refugees to China.

In a statement shared on the social media platform X, WUC stated, "The World Uyghur Congress welcomes and thanks the US Department of State for imposing sanctions on Thai officials involved in the deportation of Uyghurs to China. This decisive action sends a strong message that complicity in persecution of Uyghurs will not go unpunished. We urge other governments to follow this example and take concrete measures to protect Uyghur refugees and hold those responsible for their deportation accountable."

The US State Department announced on Friday that it would impose sanctions on an undisclosed number of current and former Thai officials involved in deporting at least 40 Uyghur men to China, despite concerns they could be imprisoned or even executed there. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio stated that he has swiftly taken action to enforce visa restrictions on those responsible for the deportations. The deportation of Uyghur refugees from Thailand to China has been a long-standing point of contention for human rights organisations. Human rights organisations have urged countries to adopt policies that protect the rights and safety of Uyghur refugees, ensuring they are not forcibly returned to a country where they face grave human rights abuses. Earlier, Amnesty International had also condemned Thailand's decision to deport Uyghur detainees to China, calling it "unimaginably cruel." Sarah Brooks, Amnesty's China Director, emphasised that returning these Uyghurs to China exposes them to serious human rights violations, including torture, arbitrary detention, and enforced disappearance, as seen in Xinjiang. Brooks highlighted that the men had already suffered over a decade of arbitrary detention in Thailand after fleeing repression in China. The Uyghurs, a Muslim ethnic group in China's Xinjiang region, face severe persecution, including mass detention in "re-education" camps, forced labour, surveillance, cultural suppression, and torture.

### 15 people killed in Gaza by Israeli strikes: health authorities

**MI News Service, Gaza/Jerusalem:** At least 15 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip were killed by Israeli military strikes over the past 24 hours, the enclave's health authorities said on Sunday. Among the dead, nine people were killed on Saturday by Israeli drone attacks in northern Gaza, which targeted a group of people in Beit Lahia and bombed a vehicle, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported. The Israel Defense Forces confirmed its attack on Beit Lahia in a statement, saying the targets were "terrorists." Israeli forces have recently intensified airstrikes in Gaza amid uncertainty over the durability of a phased ceasefire agreement reached between Israel and Hamas in January. The first six-week phase of the deal expired on March 1, and negotiations on the second phase remain stalled. The death toll from Israeli attacks in Gaza since the start of the conflict on Oct. 7, 2023, has topped 48,000, with more than 111,000 others injured, according to the latest data from the Gaza-based health authorities.

## New Fueling Points for Diesel Locos at Chitpur and Ranaghat to improve operational efficiency



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** As part of Eastern Railway's continuous effort to enhance operational efficiency, the Sealdah Division has introduced an innovative measure aimed at decentralizing the fueling process for diesel locomotives. This initiative marks a significant step towards reducing operational costs, increasing fuel efficiency, and easing traffic congestion on busy railway routes.

Two new fueling points have been established at Chitpur and Ranaghat, complementing the existing centralized fueling center at the Beliaghata Shed. These fueling stations are equipped to receive High-Speed Diesel (HSD) oil supplied by lorries or other fuel containers, which can then be decanted into reservoirs to service diesel locomotives. Previously, locomotives operating in and around Chitpur and Ranaghat were required to travel to Beliaghata Shed for fueling, leading to unnecessary travel time, crew costs, and increased congestion on tracks. With the introduction of these decentralized fueling stations, diesel locomotives in these areas can now be fueled locally, significantly reducing the need for long-distance travel.

This strategic move not only leads to savings in op-

erational costs but also has a direct positive impact on the overall efficiency of train operations. The reduction in travel time for fueling will decrease crew requirements and fuel costs, while simultaneously easing congestion on the tracks. As a result, suburban train services on Sealdah Division will see improved mobility, benefiting millions of daily commuters.

**Key Benefits:**  
\* Reduction in Operational Costs: Local fueling minimizes the need for long-distance travel to the central fueling point.  
\* Improved Efficiency: The decentralized fueling process ensures a faster turnaround time for diesel locomotives.  
\* Decreased Traffic Congestion: The reduction in train movements to the Beliaghata Shed allows for smoother suburban train services, improving daily commute times for passengers.  
\* Environmental Impact: The reduction in travel distance also contributes to lower fuel consumption and a reduction in emissions. The Sealdah Division remains committed to implementing innovative solutions that optimize resources and ensure better service for passengers, and this new fueling arrangement is a testament to that commitment.

## Qatar, Russia discuss cooperation, Ukraine crisis



**MI News Service, Doha:** Qatar Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani met here on Sunday with Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov to discuss bilateral cooperation, particularly in trade, economic, and technical fields, according to a statement by Qatar's Foreign Ministry. The two sides also reviewed developments in the Ukraine crisis and several other regional and international issues of mutual concern. Additionally, Al Thani and Manturov co-chaired the fifth session of the Qatari-Russian Joint Committee on Trade, Economic, and Technical Cooperation. During the session, Al Thani reaffirmed Qatar's support for all international

efforts toward a peaceful resolution to the Ukraine crisis through dialogue and diplomacy. He further emphasized the "urgent need" to implement the Gaza ceasefire agreement to bring the Gaza war to an end and pave the way for a just, comprehensive, and sustainable peace in the region. On Sunday, Manturov also met with Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani on bilateral ties and the Ukraine crisis. Manturov's visit followed recent U.S.-Ukraine talks in Saudi Arabia's port city of Jeddah, which concluded with Kiev okaying a U.S.-proposed 30-day ceasefire plan and Washington consenting to lift its pause on military aid to and intelligence sharing with Ukraine.

### Sudiksha Konanki case: Interpol issues alert for missing Indian-origin student in Dominican Republic

**MI News Service, Lyon (France):** Sudiksha Konanki missing case: The warm beaches of Punta Cana in Dominican Republic were meant to be a fun escape for Sudiksha Konanki and her friends. However, what began as a spring break getaway has spiralled into an Interpol alert, as the 20-year-old Indian-origin student vanished without a trace. Konanki, a University of Pittsburgh student and Virginia resident, was last seen in the early hours of March 6, walking toward a beach near the Riu Republica Hotel with her friends. But when they returned, she was missing.

## NASA announces Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore's return date to Earth

**MI News Service, Washington, DC:** NASA astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore, stranded at the International Space Station for over nine months, will return to Earth on Tuesday evening, NASA announced in a statement. Williams and Wilmore are scheduled to travel back to Earth alongside Nick Hague and Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov aboard a SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft. NASA will provide live coverage of the agency's SpaceX Crew-9 return to Earth from the International Space Station, beginning with Dragon spacecraft hatch closure preparations at 10:45 pm EDT on Monday. NASA and SpaceX met on Sunday to assess weather and splashdown conditions off Florida's coast for the return of the agency's Crew-9 mission from the



International Space Station. In a statement, NASA stated, "NASA will provide live coverage of the agency's SpaceX Crew-9 return to Earth from the International Space Station, beginning with Dragon

spacecraft hatch closure preparations at 10:45 p.m. EDT Monday, March 17." "NASA and SpaceX met on Sunday to assess weather and splashdown conditions off Florida's coast for the return of the agency's

Crew-9 mission from the International Space Station. Mission managers are targeting an earlier Crew-9 return opportunity based on favorable conditions forecasted for the evening of Tuesday, March 18," it added. According to a NASA statement, the updated return target continues to allow the space station crew members time to complete handover duties while providing operational flexibility before less-favourable weather conditions are expected later in the week. However, the spacecraft came back to Earth unmanned in September. This came after NASA and Boeing identified "helium leaks and experienced issues with the spacecraft reaction control thrusters" on June 6 as Starliner approached the space station.



### IPL 2025: Delhi Capitals fly off to Visakhapatnam for season opener against Lucknow Super Giants

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : After completing their short camp in New Delhi, the Delhi Capitals franchise was off to Visakhapatnam on Monday, their second home base for the opening matches of the upcoming Indian Premier League 2025 season.

Delhi Capitals are prepared to start their campaign on Monday, March 24, against Rishabh Pant's Lucknow Super Giants at the Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium in Visakhapatnam.

The players who flew to Vizag today were former South Africa captain Faf Du Plessis, left-arm seamer T. Natarajan, veteran batter Karun Nair, fast bowler Mukesh Kumar and young Ashutosh Sharma.

The remaining overseas and Indian players will join the team soon in Vizag as they gear up for



the new season.

Earlier in the day, Du Plessis was named as the vice-captain of the Delhi Capitals (DC) team for the 18th edition of the cash-rich league.

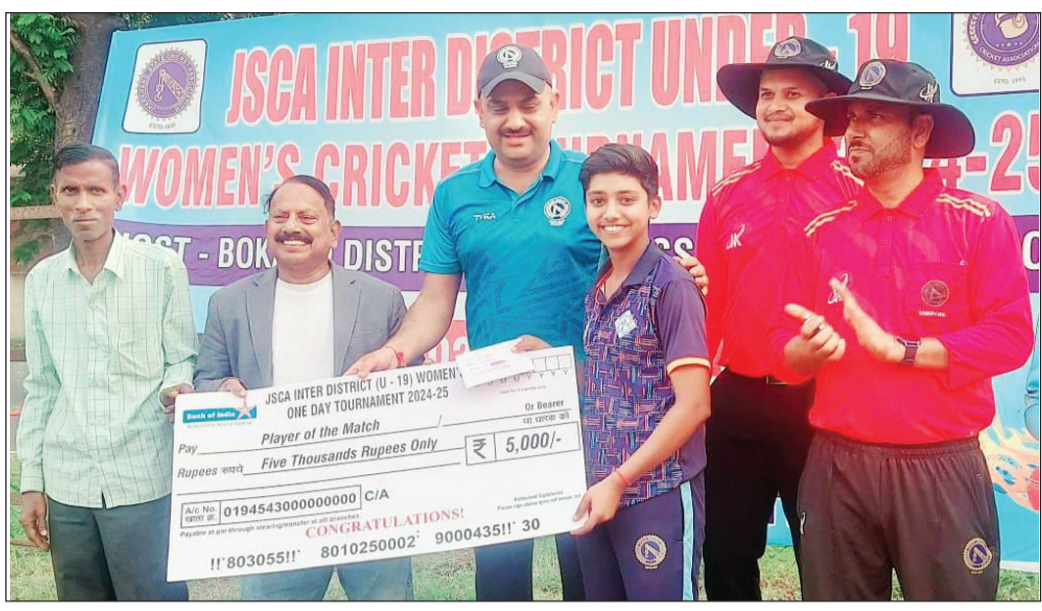
DC made the announcement

on their official X handle by posting a video in which Faf could be seen talking to someone on the phone, saying phrases like "I am at home," "Delhi has been great, and boys have been fantastic" to express his closeness with the

team. He also confirmed that he "is the vice-captain of Delhi Capitals and is very excited."

Faf has played 404 T20s so far for his country and franchises across the globe and is still going strong at the age of 40 in leagues all over the world. He has made 11,236 runs at an average of 32.66 with six centuries and 78 fifties in 383 innings.

Faf comes with plenty of IPL experience, including three seasons worth of captaincy experience with Dubai, taking the franchise to playoffs in two seasons. In 145 IPL matches, Faf has made 4,571 runs at an average of 35.99 and a strike rate of over 136, with 37 fifties and best score of 96. Du Plessis, who is also a two-time IPL winner with Chennai Super Kings (CSK), was brought by DC for Rs 2 crores during the auction last season.



### Ranchi beats Ramgarh by 195 runs

MI CORRESPONDENT

RANCHI : Ranchi Girl's registered 195 runs thumping victory over Ramgarh in the JSCA inter-district under-19 women's cricket tournament being played at Bokaro on Monday.

Batting first, Ranchi scored 338 runs for the loss of 4 wickets in 35 overs, thanks to Kumari Palak's brilliant century of 174 not out. Gurleen scored 52 and Priyanshree scored 34 runs. Shrey Priya took 2 wickets for Ramgarh. Ramgarh's entire team, which

came to play the reply innings, was all out after scoring 143 runs in 33.3 overs. Ishika Priya scored 35 and Priyanka scored 32 runs for the team. Ragini Kumari took 4 wickets for 19 runs for Ranchi. Kumari Palak was selected as the Player of the Match. While in the men's senior group, Ranchi defeated West Singhbhum of the HB Bodhan Wala Trophy by a huge margin of 125 runs in their first match played at JSCA Stadium, Ranchi. Batting first, Ranchi scored 218 runs in 45.1 overs and were all out. Captain

Nazim Siddiqui scored 78, Shikhar Mohan 29, Mohit 27 and Shrestha Sagar scored 25 runs for the team. Tanmay took 5 wickets for 31 runs for West Singhbhum. Coming to play the reply innings, West Singhbhum's team was all out for just 93 runs in 20 overs. Jai Prakash scored 33 and Kumar Karan scored 20 runs for the team. Rajandeep Singh took 4 wickets for 29 runs. Pankaj Yadav and Shubh Sharma got 2-2 wickets. Nazim Siddiqui of Ranchi was selected as the Player of the Match.

### OVER 5000 PARTICIPANTS MAKE MUMBAI WALKATHON GRAND SUCCESS

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : The inaugural edition of the Mumbai Walkathon saw an overwhelming response. More than 5,000 participants took to the streets of Maximum City, embracing the joy of walking for fitness and community bonding.

The iconic event was flagged off at JVPD Grounds by Bhushan Gagrani, IAS Officer, Municipal Commissioner of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC); Rear Admiral Anil Jaggi, Flag Officer Commanding Maharashtra Naval Area; Dhanushkodi Sivanandhan, Ex-Commissioner of Police, Maharashtra; Shilpa Khanna CFO Fast&Up; Vinay Bhartia, Co-Founder, JustWalkIndia and featured a scenic route passing by Mr. Amitabh Bachchan's bungalow, leading to Juhu Beach, and culminating back at JVPD Grounds.

The event kicked off with the 10 KM Pro Walk at 6:00 am, witnessing the participation of 42% dedicated walkers, followed by 44% walkers in the 5 KM Family Walk at 6:20 am and 14% participants in the 3 KM Fun Walk at 6:40 am.

SK Maulud Islam, a Professional Walker Athlete from Pune, said, "This type of event will help a professional athlete grow, and he or she will enjoy competition. Such events will help spread awareness of walkathons through this event."

One of the most inspiring highlights of the Walkathon was the participation of 10 individuals with prosthetic legs who walked with remarkable energy and determination, truly embodying the spirit of resilience and perseverance.

In this inaugural edition, women have outnumbered men by 52% to 48% across all three categories.

75-year-old Urmila Bhatia said "It was a great event and enjoyed walking and has been walking since her childhood. She wants the younger generation to move on from the TV screens and mobile phones and start walking and be part of such events to keep themselves fit," added Bhatia.

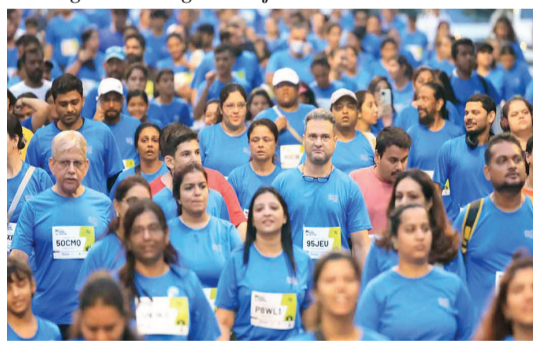
The Family Walk was a heartwarming spectacle, reinforcing the motto, "A family that walks together, stays fit together." Adding to the celebration, eight participants marked their birthdays at the event, gifting themselves a memorable and healthy start to their special day.

Wheel-chair participant Niranjan Jadhav, said, "This type of event will give everyone confidence and make people come out and keep themselves for. It is a simple way of keeping fit through walking."

With participants collectively taking over 44,000 million steps, the inaugural edition of the Mumbai Walkathon successfully promoted fitness, inclusivity and the joy of walking as a lifestyle.

Vinay Bhartia, Co-Founder, JustWalkIndia, said "The aim of Fast & Up Mumbai Walkathon has been to give our citizens a platform to kickstart their fitness journey. It has been a humbling experience to welcome over 5000 participants. We are sure this will further encourage and boost many more to join us."

He further added, "Registration is now open for the Walkathon in Delhi, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Pune and Ahmedabad, all set to take place in 2025. The Walkers can register through [www.justwalkindia.com](http://www.justwalkindia.com)."



### National Women's U-21 Hockey League to kick off today



PC JHA

RANCHI : The final phase of the inaugural National Women's Hockey League 2024-25, supported by Coca-Cola India and its foundation Anandana, is set to commence on March 18 at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh AstroTurf Hockey Stadium at Ranchi.

The U-21 Women's tournament will see eight of the top state teams of the country compete for the title in a round-robin league format from March 18 to March 28.

The teams participating are Hockey Haryana, Hockey Maharashtra, Hockey Jharkhand, Hockey Madhya Pradesh, Hockey Bengal, Hockey Mizoram, Manipur Hockey, and Hockey Association of Odisha.

The tournament will be played in a single pool with each team facing the other once. The winner of each match will be awarded three points, while draws will secure a single point. The team standing on top of the points table at the end of the league matches will be crowned champions of the elite domestic tournament.

In Phase 1, played last year, Hockey Haryana finished first with 16 points in seven matches, followed by Hockey Jharkhand and Hockey Association of Odisha, just one point behind in second and third place, respectively.

Hockey India President Dr. Dilip

Tirkey stated, "We are excited to see the young players compete at such a high level. It is crucial to have youngsters compete in domestic tournaments all around the year for their growth. I wish all the players and coaches all the best and hope we get to see some great matches and rising talents in the ranks. We recently saw a brilliant level of hockey being played in the Senior Women National Championship and I am expecting to see that from the junior players as well."

Echoing the same sentiment, Hockey India Secretary General Bholu Nath Singh stated, "It will be interesting to see which team wins the first-ever National Women's Hockey League tournament. In such league tournaments, consistency is very important and the team that can play well in all of their seven matches is likely to emerge victorious. All the very best to the teams participating. I urge everyone to give it their best on the field."

The opening match is set to be played between Hockey Haryana and Manipur Hockey on March 18 at 7:00 AM IST, followed by clashes between Hockey Association of Odisha and Hockey Bengal and Hockey Madhya Pradesh and Hockey Maharashtra at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM respectively. The last match of the day will see Hockey Jharkhand face Hockey Mizoram at 6:30 PM.

### RR's 13-year-old star Vaibhav Suryanishi unleashes "dhoom dhadaka" of hits during training session

JAIPUR (RAJASTHAN) : The 13-year-old Rajasthan Royals (RR) batter Vaibhav Suryanishi, the youngest Indian Premier League (IPL) player ever, unleashed a flurry of attacking hits ahead of the start of his franchise's campaign during a training session at Jaipur.

RR's first match during the IPL 2025 is at Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad against the Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) on March 23.

Taking to the official X handle, RR posted a video of Vaibhav unleashing some "dhoom dhadaka".

Earlier, speaking on JioHotstar,

RR captain Sanju Samson heaped praises on the young batter, saying that he is IPL-ready.

Speaking to JioHotstar as a part of the 'SuperStar' programme, Samson said that young players today do not lack confidence and understand the brand of Indian cricket that needs to be played.

"For me, rather than giving advice, I prefer observing first—how a youngster wants to play his cricket, what he likes, and what kind of support he needs from me. Then, I work my way around that. Vaibhav looks very confident; he was hitting sixes out of the ground at the academy. People were



already talking about his power-hitting. What else can you ask for? It is all about understanding his strengths, backing him, and being there for him like an elder brother," he added.

Sanju feels that Vaibhav, who has already made his T20 debut for Bihar during last year's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, looks ready to contribute.

"The key is to keep him in the best shape and provide a relaxed environment, which is something the Rajasthan Royals (RR) is known for. We ensure a positive atmosphere in the dressing room and back our players. You never know--

he might end up playing for India in a couple of years. I feel he is ready for the IPL. He looks capable of landing a few solid punches here and there. Let us see what the future holds," he added. During the IPL mega-auction last year, one of the biggest surprises that emerged was Suryanishi becoming a Royal for Rs 1.1 crore. Born on March 27, 2011, in Bihar, Vaibhav is the youngest player on the list. He made his first-class debut for Bihar in January 2024 at just 12 years and 284 days old. Last year, he was part of India U19's match against Australia in Chennai, where he smashed a 58-ball century.

### HOCKEY INDIA NAME 36-MEMBER CORE PROBABLE GROUP FOR SENIOR MEN'S NATIONAL COACHING CAMP

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The Indian Men's Hockey Team has returned to the National Coaching Camp here in SAI, Bengaluru on Monday after a jubilant Hockey India Annual Awards held on Saturday in New Delhi. Hockey India has called up 36 players for the camp which concludes on March 28.

The list of players in the core probable group includes goalkeepers Krishan Bahadur Pathak, Pawan, Suraj Karkera and Mohith Honnenahalli Shashikumar. Among defenders, Jarmanpreet Singh, Amit Rohidas, Sumit, Sanjay, Jugraj Singh, Amandeep Lakra, Nilam Sanjeev Xess, Varun Kumar, Yashdeep Siwach have been called up for the camp.

Meanwhile, midfielders Rajkumar Pal, Shamsher Singh, Manpreet Singh, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Nilakanta Sharma.

Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh, Mohd. Raheel Mousen, Vishnukant Singh, Rajinder Singh and Poovanna CB have been named in the core probable group.

Among forwards, Abhishek, Sukhjeet Singh, Lalit Kumar Upadhyay, Gurjant Singh, Angad Bir Singh, Aditya Arjun Lalage, Bobby Singh Dhami, Sudeep Chirmako, Selvam Karthi, Shilanand Lakra, Dilpreet Singh and Uttam Singh have been called up for the short two-week camp. In their recent outing in the



FIH Hockey Pro League (Men) 2024-25, the Indian team impressed with five wins out of the eight matches they played at home to begin their Pro League campaign for the year. They are

currently placed third in the points table with 15 points, only behind England and Belgium who occupy the first and second place respectively with 16 points each. Speaking about the camp,

Chief Coach Craig Fulton said as quoted by a Hockey India press release, "It has been a busy season for the players with back-to-back events and high-quality matches. During this camp, our focus will be more on fitness and conditioning apart from introspecting on the recent performances and where we stand in terms of key focus areas. Our efforts now will be towards building up for the matches in the next phase of Pro League in Europe and I will also be interested in seeing how some of the fresh talents live up to the billing."

- CORE PROBABLE GROUP:**  
**Goalkeepers:**  
 1. Krishan Bahadur Pathak  
 2. Pawan  
 3. Suraj Karkera  
 4. Mohith Honnenahalli Shashikumar  
**Defenders:**  
 5. Jarmanpreet Singh  
 6. Amit Rohidas  
 7. Sumit  
 8. Sanjay  
 9. Jugraj Singh  
 10. Amandeep Lakra  
 11. Nilam Sanjeev Xess  
 12. Varun Kumar  
 13. Yashdeep Siwach  
**Midfielders:**  
 14. Rajkumar Pal  
 15. Shamsher Singh  
 16. Manpreet Singh  
 17. Hardik Singh  
 18. Vivek Sagar Prasad

19. Nilakanta Sharma  
 20. Moirangthem Rabichandra Singh  
 21. Mohd. Raheel Mousen  
 22. Vishnukant Singh  
 23. Rajinder Singh  
 24. Poovanna CB  
**Forwards:**  
 25. Abhishek  
 26. Sukhjeet Singh  
 27. Lalit Kumar Upadhyay  
 28. Gurjant Singh  
 29. Angad Bir Singh  
 30. Aditya Arjun Lalage  
 31. Bobby Singh Dhami  
 32. Sudeep Chirmako  
 33. Selvam Karthi  
 34. Shilanand Lakra  
 35. Dilpreet Singh  
 36. Uttam Singh.