

►► *Continued on page 3*

►► **Continued on page 3**

►► **Continued on page 3**

However, interestingly, the Crude oil prices in the global market have softened over the past from over USD 70 per barrel to USD 63 per barrel on Monday, raising margins for the oil marketing companies (OMCs). This substantial decline in oil prices may have prompted the government to hike the excise duties on petrol and diesel, informed sources said.

Kolkata’s ‘largest handmade telescope’ inaugurated

MI News Service, Kolkata: A group of scientists and optical observers from two organisations in Kolkata have come together to create a telescope, described as the largest in the city.

The 14.5-inch f/5 Dobsonian telescope was inaugurated during the day in north Kolkata’s Shyambazar area, one of the key persons behind the project said.

“It is the largest handmade telescope in the city. It embodies both craftsmanship and scientific ambition. The core of this telescope is its large parabolic primary mirror, which was painstakingly hand-ground and shaped in Kolkata,” said Dr Sudipta Sasmal, co-founder and associate professor of IASES.



Phuguri Tea Estate is home to several wild animals and birds that are often seen during the daytime. On Monday, a deer was spotted within the tea plantation. The garden workers share a loving and friendly relationship with the wild animals, and the animals, in turn, do not pose any harm to the people. As the estate is certified Organic, Rainforest Alliance, and holds several other environmental certifications, no one is allowed to harm or tease the animals in any way. This ensures a safe and healthy environment for wildlife. Other wild animals like leopards and wild boars are also occasionally seen in the area.

Tragic accident claims life of scooter passenger

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a heart-wrenching road accident that unfolded on Monday afternoon, a scooter passenger lost his life after being hit by a government-operated bus in Chingrighata, Kolkata. The deceased, identified as Harmohan, was riding pillion when the vehicle was struck by the bus. In a horrifying sequence of events, the victim fell onto the road and was run over by the same bus, resulting in his immediate death. The scooter was being

driven by Arun Roy, who sustained minor injuries. According to eyewitnesses, the incident occurred at approximately 1:15 PM, when the duo was travelling from Shantinagar towards Garia via Chingrighata on the EM Bypass. As their two-wheeler ascended onto the Chingrighata stretch of the bypass, it was hit from behind by the speeding bus. The impact threw both riders off the vehicle. Harmohan fell in the middle of the road, while Arun Roy landed near the roadside. Tragically, the

bus failed to halt in time and ran over Harmohan’s head. The horrifying accident triggered immediate outrage among local residents. A crowd gathered around the scene and staged a protest against the perceived lack of road safety measures in the area. The agitators alleged that similar accidents have occurred repeatedly on that stretch, yet no concrete action has been taken by the authorities to prevent such mishaps. The sudden agitation led to a temporary traffic snarl on the EM Bypass.

Nadia residents struggle with new electric meters, face recharge issues

MI News Service, Nadia: Residents in Nadia are experiencing problems with newly installed smart meters, which require prepaid recharges similar to mobile phones. The minimum recharge amount is 100 taka, and some users are facing difficulties with the new system. The sudden installation of the meters has caused various issues, prompting concerns among the affected residents.

Residents in Nadia’s Shantipur area have been protesting against the newly installed smart meters, citing difficulties with understanding their electricity bills and a lack of instructions from the electricity department. The smart meters, introduced as part of a larger initiative to improve billing accuracy and efficiency, require prepaid recharges

similar to mobile phones, with a minimum recharge amount of 100 taka.

However, customers have been facing various issues with the new system, including rapid depletion of their recharged amounts and a lack of transparency in billing. Many residents have expressed frustration, stating that they were not provided with adequate instructions on how to use the new meters, leading to confusion and difficulties in managing their energy consumption.

The protests, which took place at the Shantipur Post Office Electricity Office, saw customers demanding that the old meters be reinstated. The residents claimed that they had repeatedly informed the electricity department about their issues, but their concerns were not addressed. In response to

the protests, Shantipur Power Station Manager Manik Tapan Kumar Santra stated that the meters were changed according to the rules and regulations of the power department. However, he acknowledged that some customers had reported problems and assured that the department would work according to the guidelines and decisions issued by higher authorities. The incident highlights the challenges faced by residents in adapting to new technologies and the need for effective communication and support from service providers.

As the use of smart meters becomes more widespread, it is essential for utility companies to ensure that customers are well-informed and equipped to manage their energy consumption effectively.

Tragic encounter, Elephant attack claims two lives forest

MI News Service, Malbazar: The Afalchand forest department has issued a public warning, cautioning people against entering the forest due to a recent surge in elephant attacks, which have resulted in fatalities. The department announcement and ensure public safety.

A devastating incident unfolded in Malbazar, Jalpaiguri, where two separate elephant attacks claimed the lives of two individuals, with two others suffering serious injuries. The incidents occurred on Sunday, sending shockwaves through the local community. Rajen Oran, a 52-year-old resident of Anandpur Tea Garden, ventured into the forest to collect firewood but encountered an elephant, which mauled him to death with its trunk. Forest officials and police from Kranti Police Station swiftly responded to the scene. In a separate

incident, Sofiar Rahman, a 50-year-old from North Bargharfia Afalchand area, met a similar fate while collecting firewood in the forest. He was trampled by an elephant, resulting in his death. Two women accompanying Sofiar Rahman were also injured in the attack, with one sustaining a broken hand and the other a broken leg. They were promptly rescued and hospitalized. The Kranti police station has initiated an investigation into the incidents, with the forest department on high alert following a series of elephant-related fatalities. This double elephant attack has sparked widespread concern, raising questions about human-wildlife conflict and elephant conservation in the region. The local

residents are now demanding increased support and measures from the forest department to mitigate such incidents in the future. The situation remains tense, with many awaiting further developments and solutions to prevent such tragedies. In light of these incidents, it’s essential to consider the broader context of human-wildlife conflict and the importance of responsible firewood collection practices. For those interested in learning more about firewood collection, designated areas and regulations vary by region. In Victoria, Australia, firewood can be collected from designated areas during specific times of the year, such as autumn (March to June) and spring (September to November). In New South Wales, Australia, a firewood permit is required for personal use, which can be obtained online.



The members of West Bengal unit of the all India Income Tax SC/ ST Employees’ Welfare Association presented a floral bouquet to congratulate the newly appointed Principle Chief Commissioner, West Bengal and Sikkim region Neeraj Kumar 1989 batch IRS

Dhupguri teacher speaks out against Chief Minister’s meeting

MI News Service, Dhupguri: Unemployed teacher Debapriya Saha refused to attend an event in Indore, allegedly called by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, citing concerns over her policies. Saha stated that Banerjee tends to protect the incompetent, prompting his decision to distance himself. He emphasized his unwillingness to compromise with the Chief Minister’s stance.

Unemployed teacher Debapriya Saha from Dhupguri High School boycotts Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee’s meeting, citing concerns over her policies. Saha alleges that Banerjee protects incompetent individuals, while deserving candidates are overlooked. According to Debapriya Saha, jobs were given to unqualified individuals through corrupt means, with bribes ranging from

₹20 lakhs to ₹30 lakhs. Meanwhile, he and other qualified teachers were labeled incompetent. Saha’s personal struggles add to his frustration, with a sick mother, a young child and a wife who lost her job at Haldibari Girls High School. Debapriya Saha’s decision to boycott the meeting stems from his distrust in the current system. He questions the Chief Minister’s intentions, particularly regarding the 26,000 job controversy. Saha feels that Banerjee should take a clear stance against corruption and ineligibility. This development comes amid ongoing tensions between the state government and unemployed teachers. Recently, Banerjee urged teachers to “keep working” despite a Supreme Court verdict canceling 25,753 teacher appointments due to irregularities.

Bengal teachers face job losses amid recruitment scam

MI News Service, North Dinajpur: A severe teacher shortage has led to postponement of exams at the local school. With only 7 teacher, including students body has becoming impractical. The school has been forced to delay the exam by seven days to address the staffing crisis.

Goagaon High School in Uttar Dinajpur’s Goalpokhar 1 block is grappling with a severe teacher shortage, forcing administrators to postpone exams for nearly 3,000 students. The crisis began when the Supreme Court canceled the appointments of nine teachers due to recruitment irregularities in 2016, leaving only seven instructors, including Headmaster Kaushar Ahmed, to manage the school. The sudden loss of staff has created uncertainty for students and parents.

“We had prepared, but now we face many problems due to the sudden cancellation,” said Guddi Khatun, a Class 10 student. Parents are also concerned, with local resident Mohammad Abu Taher expressing frustration: “We want the learning environment to return to school

soon.” The school’s administration is seeking government intervention, hoping that a review petition or alternative measures by the Chief Minister might reinstate the terminated teachers. The Uttar Dinajpur District Primary School Council has a list of rejected primary teachers, which might be relevant to this case. This incident is part of a larger issue affecting West Bengal, where 25,753 teachers and non-teaching staff lost their jobs due to similar recruitment irregularities. The West Bengal School Service Commission is expected to conduct fresh exams for 22 lakh candidates, but the process is anticipated to take time. Goagaon High School is struggling to manage with only 7 teacher, including the headmaster. Exams have been postponed for 3,000 students due to the teacher shortage. The school administration is seeking government help to reinstate the terminated teacher. The incident is part of larger issue affecting West Bengal with 25,753 teachers and non-teaching staff losing their jobs due to similar irregularities.

Bus and dumper collide, 6 people injured



MI News Service, Bakura: A serious accident occurred on National Highway 60 in Bakura when a dumper heading towards Midnapore from Bakura collided head-on with a private bus carrying passengers from Bishupur bus stand to Kotulpur.

A devastating head-on collision occurred on National Highway 60 in Bishnupur, Bankura, when a private bus carrying passengers clashed with a dumper on an overbridge. The incident resulted in six passengers being injured, with several in critical condition. According to eyewitnesses, the dumper

was traveling from Bankura to Medinipur, while the private bus was heading towards Kotulpur from Bishnupur bus stand. The two vehicles collided head-on while navigating the overbridge, causing significant damage to the bus’s front section. Prompt rescue efforts by the Bishnupur police station ensured the injured were swiftly transported to Bishnupur Super Specialty Hospital for medical attention. The police have seized both the bus and the dumper, initiating an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the accident. The incident has raised concerns about road safety on National Highway 60, and authorities are working to determine the cause of the collision. Further updates will be provided as the investigation unfolds.

Leopard’s fury, female worker in Alipurduar narrowly escaped attack

MI News Service, Alipurduar: In a harrowing incident, a female tea worker in Alipurduar narrowly escaped a leopard attack by fighting back with a stick. The woman, who was injured in the encounter, is currently receiving treatment at Alipurduar district Hospital.

A disturbing incident occurred in the Majherdabari tea garden area of Alipurduar, where a female tea worker was attacked by the leopard while picking up a tea leaves from the garden. The leopard jumped on her head, attempting to bite her and scratched her neck with its nails. Fortunately, the women managed to fight back with a stick hitting the leopard repeatedly until it retreated. The injured worker was promptly admitted to Alipurduar District Hospital, where she is receiving treatment for her injuries. According to Chinmoy Dhar, the manager of Majherdara Tea garden, the women’s condition is currently stable.



The incident has raised concerns among tea workers, as leopard attacks have become a recurring issue in the tea garden. The garden’s proximity to the Box Tiger Project has created an environment where leopards are frequently present. Despite previous incidents and reports to the authorities and forest department, no effective measures seems to have been taken to prevent such attacks. The tea worker is worried about their safety and this latest incident has highlighted the need for urgent action to address the issue. The management of Majherdara Tea garden and local authorities must safety and prevent future leopard attacks.



Jobless teachers queued up to enter Netaji Indoor Stadium on Monday.

Tension erupts in Shibpur as job seeker clash with police

MI News Service, Howrah: A group of job seeker, who passed the SSC examination in 2016, attempting to forcefully enter Nabanna by removing a guardrail despite tight police security. However, their efforts were thwarted as the police detained them, leading to a tense standoff.

A group of physical education and vocational education job seekers converged on Nabanna, the West Bengal state secretariat, to meet Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, but their protest was met with police resistance. The job seekers, who passed the SSC exam in 2016 and received job recommendation letters in 2022, are still waiting for their appointment letters, sparking frustration and demands for

immediate employment. The protesters attempted to forcefully enter Nabanna by removing a guardrail despite tight police security, but were detained. Nineteen job seekers were arrested by the Shibpur police station on Monday afternoon. The detainees claimed they were unfairly denied appointments, arguing that their panels were corruption-free and not under CBI investigation. “We are candidates for physical education and vocational training. We have no corruption in our panel. There is no CBI either. So why are there no appointments yet? We also took the exam in 2016,” said Mohammad Salman Sheikh, one of the detained job seekers. The incident unfolded against the back-

drop of controversy surrounding the cancellation of around 26,000 jobs, further fueling tensions between job aspirants and government authorities. The Supreme Court is set to hear the SSC case, prompting the job seekers to urge the state government to consider their demands. They are seeking appointments for physical education and vocational education teachers outside the super numerical post. The protesters’ plight highlights the ongoing challenges faced by job seekers in West Bengal, with many still awaiting appointments despite passing the SSC exam years ago. The situation remains volatile, with further protests and demonstrations possible in the coming days.

Ramnavami Violence, Sword leaves young man stabbed in crowd

MI News Service, Ghatol: A shocking incident marred the Ramnavami celebration in Chandrakona, Paschim Medinipur district, where a sadhu allegedly committed to violent act during a procession. The sadhu, armed with a sword, cut a person’s stomach while placing a cucumber on it, sparking widespread concern. The incident also highlighted the presence of armed individual within the procession, raising questions about public safety.



A shocking and disturbing incident occurred during a Ram Navami procession in Chandrakona, Paschim Medinipur district, where a sadhu, dressed in traditional attire, performed a daring and potentially hazardous act. The sadhu, wielding a sword, cut a cucumber placed on a young man’s stomach, sparking a mixture of shock and applause from the onlookers. The incident, which took place amidst a large crowd of Ram devotees, has raised serious concerns about public safety and the role of the administration in ensuring the well-being of citizens. The procession, which featured hundreds of people, including some armed individuals, was marked by a sense of enthusiasm and excitement. However, the sadhu’s actions, which involved swinging a sword and cutting a cucumber on a person’s stomach, have been widely criticized for their reckless and potentially life-threatening nature. The incident has also highlighted the issue of armed processions, which

have been banned in some areas, such as Howrah, but continue to take place in other districts of the state. The presence of armed individuals in the procession has sparked questions about the administration’s ability to regulate and oversee such events. Eyewitnesses described the scene as “thrilling” and “shocking,” with many expressing concerns about the potential risks involved. The young man who was allegedly “cut” by the sadhu was reportedly unharmed and stood up straight after the incident, but the incident has still sparked widespread concern and debate. The incident has sparked a wider conversation about the need for greater regulation and oversight of public events, as well as the importance of prioritizing public safety and well-being. As the state continues to grapple with the challenges of maintaining public order and safety, incidents like this highlight the need for more effective measures to prevent such occurrences in the future.

Devangana Dash wins the 10th Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 11 books make it to the longlist of the 3rd Edition of Oxford Bookstore Art Book Prize

MI News Service, New Delhi/ Kolkata: Recently Oxford Bookstores announced Devangana Dash as the winner of the 10th edition of Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize at a celebratory event held at the gorgeous lawns of the India Habitat Centre. Dash was awarded for her exceptional cover design of Conversations with Aurangzeb published by Perennial, an imprint of Harper Collins and authored by Charu Nivedita, translated from Tamil by Nandini Krishnan. The winner was felicitated with a trophy, a certificate and a cash prize of 1 Lakh Indian Rupees by a distinguished panel that included Dr. Alka Pande, Museum curator, art historian, author and jury chair; Dr. Shashi Tharoor, author and Member of Parliament; H.E Ms. May-Elin Stener, Ambassador of Norway to India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan, Anja Riedeberger, Director Information Services South Asia Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan; Samar Jodha, Installation Artist, Mentor, and TED speaker and Swagat Sengupta, CEO, Apeejay Oxford Bookstores, in the presence of designers, publishers, art-



L to R- Anja Riedeberger, H.E Ms. May-Elin Stener, Sunaina Anand, Devangana Dash, Dr. Alka Pande, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Samar Jodha

ists and literary enthusiasts from the industry.

Speaking at the ceremony, Devangana Dash, the winner of the 10th Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize said, “Thank you to the 10th edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Prize and its distinguished jury for this incredible honor and opportunity. I extend my congratulations to the award committee for sustaining a space that celebrates good book design and ensures continued conversations around the visual language of books.”

In addition to the winning cover, two other designers were recognized by the jury for their remarkable command of graphics and visual

narratives. These designers include Samar Bansal for the book, ‘Feathers, Fools and Farts’ published by Puffin, an imprint of Penguin Random House; and Sharanya Kunnath for ‘Epicurious’ published by Hachette India Children’s Books.

Announcing the winner of the 10th Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize, Jury Chair, Dr. Alka Pande remarked, “I am truly delighted and impressed by the remarkable breadth, diversity and boundless creativity displayed by Indian designers. Their ability to weave together storytelling, innovation, aesthetics and visual appeal is nothing short of extraordinary.”

West Bengal Board of...

From PG 1
labelled ineligible," she said. "Who conducted the investigation? What evidence has been collected? I will personally look into the specifics," she added, assuring that no hasty action would be taken without proper scrutiny.
The Chief Minister emphasised that should it be conclusively proven that certain individuals were indeed unfit for appointment, the administration would have no choice but to act in accordance with the law. However, she insisted on revisiting the process that led to their disqualification, underlining the need for fairness, transparency, and justice. "Everyone should remain calm," Mamata told the gathering, "I will summon all of you again once I have reviewed the details."
In a sharp political offensive she also questioned the motives behind the original petition, directly targeting veteran CPI(M) leader and senior advocate Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya. "Many irregular-

ities occurred under the previous regime," she claimed, "but despite knowing that, I did not take away anyone's job after assuming power."
Blaming the CPI(M) for initiating what she described as a politically motivated legal battle, Mamata accused them of setting off a chain of events that had now put thousands of livelihoods at stake. "This dirty game began in 2022," she said. "Bhattacharya must answer for filing this case, and CPI(M) must justify their actions to the people."
She also took veiled digs at the BJP, alleging "These people are trying to fool you with theatrical performances," Mamata warned. "They are double-faced snakes. Don't trust them."
Affirming her party's resolve, she declared, "We will fight like Royal Bengal Tigers. We will return every blow. No injustice will be done to anyone as long as our government is here."

Mamata Banerjee extends...

From PG 1
nothing but our jobs back," Parveen said. The apex court had on April 3 invalidated the appointment of 25,753 teachers and staffers in state-run and aided schools in Bengal, calling the entire selection process "vitiated and tainted". The bench of Chief Justice of India, Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar found that the selection process carried out by the West Bengal SSC was based on large-scale manipulations and fraud. "In our opinion, this is a case wherein the entire selection process has been vitiated and tainted beyond resolution. Manipulations and frauds on a large scale, coupled with the attempted cover-up, have dented the selection process beyond repair and partial redemption. The credibility and legitimacy of the selection are denuded", the apex court bench stated in its judgement. The apex court found no reason to interfere with the direction of

the High Court that the services of "tainted" candidates must be terminated, and they should be required to refund any salaries or payments received. "Since their appointments were the result of fraud, this amounts to cheating. Therefore, we see no justification to alter this direction", the bench added.
The top court's verdict came on a petition filed by the West Bengal government that challenged an April 2022 order of the Calcutta High Court which had cancelled the recruitment of more than 25,000 teachers and other staff for state-run and aided schools. The top court had reserved its verdict in the matter on February 10.
Meanwhile, the opposition BJP held a protest demanding Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's resignation. "Mamata Banerjee should go to jail. She is the main beneficiary. Her nephew took a bribe of Rs 700 crore," said West Bengal LoP Suwendu Adhikari.

Supreme Courts of India...

From PG 1
artificial recharge, and rainwater harvesting.
During the event, Union Minister of Jal Shakti, C R Patil, highlighted India's significant achievements under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in providing clean drinking water and sanitation facilities to all citizens. Patil emphasized that this MoU reflects the shared commitment of India and Nepal towards public health, sustainability, and regional cooperation.
Meanwhile, the Minister of Water Supply, Government of Nepal Pradeep Yadav, has commended India's success in implementing large-scale clean drinking water and sanitation initiatives. He stated that Nepal looks forward to learn from India's experience in these sectors and that Nepali officials will visit key sites in India to gain insights and best practices. He further proposed that regular meetings should be held to ensure steady progress and mutual exchange of knowledge.
The ceremony was attended by senior officials from both countries, including Naveen Srivastava, Ambassador of India to Nepal, and Shankar Prasad Sharma, Ambassador of Nepal to India, along with Secretaries Debashree Mukherjee and Ashok Kumar Meena, and other distinguished delegates. This MoU marks a new chapter in the India-Nepal partnership, ensuring that both countries work together for the well-being of their people and for a sustainable future.

SC to consider listing for...

From PG 1
which not only provides equal rights to its citizens but also grants them complete religious freedom". It claimed the Act was a "dangerous conspiracy" to strip Muslims of their religious freedom.
"This bill is a dangerous conspiracy to strip Muslims of their religious freedom. Therefore, we have challenged the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, in the Supreme Court, and

the state units of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind will also challenge the constitutional validity of this law in the high courts of their respective states," the Jamiat stated. "President of Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind, Maulana Arshad Madani, has not only challenged various provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act but has also filed an interim petition in court to prevent the law from coming into effect," it said.

TMC to protest cancellation of 26k SSC jobs

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a sharp political escalation, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has questioned the possible political motivations behind the Supreme Court's recent verdict that invalidated the appointments of over 26,000 teachers and non-teaching staff recruited through the 2016 School Service Commission (SSC) panel. Addressing a gathering at Netaji Indoor Stadium on Monday, the Chief Minister hinted at a "conspiracy" and raised concerns about whether a "game is being played" behind the scenes of the court's decision.
In response, the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) has announced a series of mass mobilisation programmes to protest what they term a "BJP-Left conspiracy" aimed at derailing the state's employment initiatives. At a press briefing held Monday afternoon, TMC's state general secretary Kunal Ghosh unveiled the party's protest plans in detail.

Ghosh stated that on April 9 at 3 PM, the Trinamool Chhatra Parishad (TMCP) — the party's student wing — will lead a protest march from College Square to Dharmatala in central Kolkata. Furthermore, on April 11, statewide protest programmes will be held across all blocks, towns, and wards in West Bengal.
The controversy erupted following a Supreme Court ruling that struck down the entire 2016 SSC recruitment panel, citing large-scale procedural irregularities and unconstitutional appointments. The verdict resulted in the sudden termination of 26,000 school employees, triggering political shockwaves.
TMC leaders have since alleged that the verdict may be influenced by vested political interests. They claim that opposition forces — particularly the BJP and the Left — are conspiring to obstruct the state government's pro-employment policies spearheaded by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

During her Monday address, Banerjee reaffirmed her government's commitment to the affected candidates and hinted that the party would not remain silent in the face of what she described as "justice denied." Her statements echoed the party's earlier stance that the opposition is exploiting judicial channels to destabilise the Trinamool government ahead of the upcoming elections.

Bengal surpasses Centre in GST growth announces CM Mamata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee shared a major economic milestone for West Bengal, revealing a sharp rise in the state's GST revenue collection. In a detailed post on her social media handle, the Chief Minister announced that Bengal has achieved an 11.43% year-on-year growth in GST collections for the financial year 2024-25—an increase of 4,808 crore compared to the previous year. Significantly, this growth rate is 2% higher than the national average of 9.44%, a feat she described as a testament to the state's increasing internal financial strength. "This performance underscores Bengal's steady progress in resource mobilization, fiscal discipline, and self-reliance," Mamata wrote, expressing her gratitude and congratulations to the state's Finance Department for their concerted efforts in achieving this fiscal success.
Apart from GST, the state also saw an exceptional increase in revenue from stamp duty and registration. According to Banerjee, 60,000 more property deeds were registered this year, generating 1,908 crore in revenue—an impressive 31.05% rise over the previous year. The Chief Minister attributed this growth to Bengal's dynamic and active market, which continues to thrive despite various external constraints. In her statement, Mamata Banerjee subtly referenced the financial hurdles posed by the Centre, reiterating the state government's longstanding allegation that the Union government withholds large sums of dues. Such delays, according to the ruling party, hinder the smooth functioning of Bengal's many social welfare schemes. However, despite these challenges, the fiscal data paints a clear picture of Bengal's resilience and growing economic momentum.
Mamata emphasized that this achievement is rooted in the government's belief in self-reliance and efficient administration. She assured the people of Bengal that her government remains committed to financial streamlining, development, and the welfare of all citizens. "Let us move from strength to strength," she concluded.
This fiscal performance places West Bengal in a commanding position among Indian states and marks a significant step forward in its journey toward financial autonomy and governance excellence.

Univ of Calcutta introduces 'Practical Legal Training' for law students

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Department of Law at Hazra Law Campus, University of Calcutta, has initiated a practical legal training programme aimed at equipping law students with real-world courtroom experience. Over 100 students are participating in this hands-on initiative, which began on Monday and will continue until May 28. Under the guidance of Dr. Barun Kumar Das, a prominent human rights lawyer and guest professor, students are visiting key legal venues such as the Civil Court, High Court, Land Tribunal, Alipore Court, and City Sessions Court.
The programme is designed to familiarize students with actual legal proceedings. They are engaged in activities such as drafting legal documents, filing petitions, preparing affidavits, and understanding how to handle evidence and present arguments. These sessions focus on disputes related to property, land, and finance.
Dr. Das, who has been conducting legal education workshops and internships for over 15 years, emphasized the value of direct exposure to legal processes. A notable highlight of the programme is the opportunity for students to meet senior advocates and judges—many of whom are alumni—providing strong inspiration. Final reports on observed cases will be submitted as part of their academic assessment.



University of Calcutta introduces 'Practical Legal Training Programme' for law students under the guidance of Dr. Barun Kumar Das.

HC halts salaries of 131 GTA teachers over illegal appointments

MI News Service, Kolkata: In yet another blow to the West Bengal government following the massive SSC recruitment scam that led to the dismissal of nearly 26,000 teachers and non-teaching staff, the Calcutta High Court has now ordered the suspension of salaries for 131 illegally appointed teachers working under the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA).
Justice Biswajit Basu, while passing the order, strongly criticised the recruitment process, stating, "No established norms were followed during these appointments. The academic qualifications of the appointees were not verified, nor was any evidence of required training produced." The court has given the state government 72 hours to complete the salary suspension process for the implicated teachers.
During the hearing, counsel for the affected teachers argued that they too have families and dependent children, and halting their pay would push them into extreme hardship. In response, Justice Basu remarked, "Just as these teachers have children at home, the students studying in these schools are children too."
This ruling is expected to escalate legal and political pressure on the Mamata Banerjee-led administration, which may now move to challenge the verdict before a division bench.

WBMC enforces new norms for license renewal

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant regulatory shift, the West Bengal Medical Council (WBMC) has introduced a new mandatory requirement for the renewal of medical registrations. From now on, all practicing doctors in the state must earn at least 30 credit hours over a five-year period to be eligible for re-registration. The council has issued an official notification detailing the guidelines, sparking widespread debate and discontent within the medical fraternity. According to the WBMC, the move aligns with the directives of the National Medical Commission (NMC), which recommends a minimum of 30 credit hours for doctors seeking promotions or engaging in research. The council has now made this standard obligatory for continued medical practice in the state. To accumulate these credit hours, doctors will be required to attend educational sessions such as seminars, conferences, training programs, or medical discussions. A doctor would need to participate in approximately six hours of such activities annually to meet the quota within the stipulated five-year timeframe.
However, the new rule has drawn sharp criticism from several doctors' associations. They argue that while continued education is necessary, making it a condition for license renewal imposes unfair logistical and financial burdens—especially on doctors serving in remote or rural areas. Traveling to urban centers like Kolkata to attend eligible sessions may not be feasible for all, they claim.



AIDSO, AIDYO, AIMSS, and KOMSOMOL took out a protest rally demanding 'US-Israel, Hands Off Gaza,' and calling for an end to genocide and war. The rally commenced from Esplanade in Kolkata, on Monday.

Vegetable prices soar across West Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: A sudden surge in vegetable prices from Kolkata to the districts is causing concern among middle-class consumers, as markets report steep increases across a wide range of seasonal produce. While staple items like potatoes continue to sell at a manageable Rs 20 per kilogram, the prices of most green vegetables have witnessed a sharp and unexpected rise, adding to household expenses.
Okra and pointed gourd are now being sold at Rs 70-80 per kilogram, while ridge gourd has reached Rs 60. Even tender coconuts, once a summer essential, are retailing between Rs 50-60 apiece. Additionally, the prices of leafy greens such as red amaranth, spinach, jute leaves, and coriander have also seen notable hikes. This trend, which has emerged just ahead of the Bengal New Year, is compounding the burden on consumers, many of whom are already reeling from the rise in fish and meat prices.
According to vendors and farmers, the unseasonal spike in temperature is a primary factor behind the inflation. Prolonged heatwaves have dried up farmlands across the state, causing significant damage to vegetable crops. Many plants have withered prematurely, resulting in reduced yield. As a result, prices have shot up not only in urban retail markets but also at the source—rural wholesale markets.
Farmers from nearby villages usually bring fresh produce daily to local rural markets, from where vegetables make their way into city markets. But this summer, the supply chain has been disrupted by weather conditions. On Sunday, prices in various rural markets reflected the strain: pointed gourd and okra sold at Rs 70-80 per kg, ridge gourd and jackfruit at Rs 60, flat beans at Rs 80, and cucumber also at Rs 60 per kg.
Urban buyers have expressed frustration at the escalation. Rahul Sengupta, a consumer in South Kolkata, remarked, "Yes, the heat has been intense, but prices for vegetables, as well as fish and meat, have suddenly spiked post-Eid. Just a few days ago, the rates were far more reasonable."
However, farmers remain cautiously optimistic. They assert that the arrival of rain could reverse the trend, replenishing farmlands and restoring balance to the supply chain. Until then, shoppers may need to brace for further increases, especially with festivities on the horizon.

Justice Soumen Sen recuses himself from primary teachers' recruitment scam case

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant development in the high-profile case concerning the alleged corruption in the recruitment of primary school teachers in West Bengal, Justice Soumen Sen of the Calcutta High Court has recused himself from hearing the matter. The case, which involves the cancellation of nearly 32,000 appointments, was scheduled to be heard on Monday by a division bench headed by Justice Sen. However, prior to the proceedings, he formally withdrew, bringing the current bench's jurisdiction over the case to an end. The matter will now be referred to Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, who is expected to constitute a new division bench to continue the hearings. The decision adds a fresh layer of uncertainty to the ongoing legal battle, which has already sent shockwaves through the state's education and legal systems.
The genesis of the case dates back to a directive issued by former Calcutta High Court judge Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay, who ordered the termination of around 32,000 primary school teachers on grounds of irregularities and procedural lapses. The verdict was subsequently challenged by the state government, and the matter escalated to the Supreme Court, which remanded it back to a division bench of the Calcutta High Court for further adjudication.
Justice Sen, alongside Justice Uday Kumar, was overseeing the matter, and had previously sought detailed submissions from all stakeholders. The division bench had questioned the rationale behind the mass terminations and called for clarity on the procedural grounds that led to the disqualification of such a large number of candidates.

Drunk driving horror leaves one dead, eight critically injured

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sources confirmed on Monday morning that a devastating road accident in Kolkata's Thakurpukur area has claimed the life of a local vegetable vendor and critically injured eight others. The tragic incident occurred around 9 AM on Sunday, when a black SUV—allegedly driven by a 35-year-old film and television director Siddhant Das—careened into a crowded market after he lost control of the vehicle.
Preliminary investigations suggest Das was under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident. Witnesses recounted scenes of panic and destruction as the SUV rammed through parked two-wheelers and pedestrians, ultimately coming to a halt only after crashing into another scooter. The deceased vendor died from severe injuries sustained in the collision, while the injured were rushed to nearby hospitals. The condition of several victims remains critical. Das was physically assaulted by enraged locals before being rescued and arrested by police. A woman travelling with him in the front seat was also detained, while a second female passenger reportedly fled the scene. Police recovered four liquor bottles from the vehicle and have filed an FIR.

AC bus catches fire, several injured

MI News Service, Kolkata: Panic gripped the city on Monday afternoon after an air-conditioned private bus caught fire near Paikpara in north Kolkata. The incident occurred on the busy B.T. Road when the bus, originating from Belgharia, suddenly began emitting smoke while in motion. Several passengers sustained minor injuries in the ensuing chaos as panic broke out inside the vehicle. Witnesses reported that the bus was carrying a significant number of commuters when smoke was first noticed. Alarmed passengers attempted to evacuate the vehicle hastily. Within moments, the bus was engulfed in flames, and thick black smoke blanketed the area. Two fire tenders were immediately dispatched to the spot. Firefighters battled the blaze and successfully brought it under control after sustained efforts. The injured passengers received prompt first aid, and no critical injuries have been reported.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Sabir Ali (old name) S/O Mohammad Naeem Uddin, residing at Narayanpur, West Bera Beri, P.O.- Rajarhat, Gopalpur, P.S.- Narayanpur, North 24 Pgs.- 700136, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Sabir Ali (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 04/04/2025. Md Sabir Ali (new name) and Mohammad Sabir Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanjay Laha (old name) S/O Sushil Laha, Date of Birth 03/11/1987, residing at MB- 619, Mahisbathan, Salt Lake, Sector - V, P.O.- Kestapur, P.S.- Salt Lake Electronic Complex, Dist- North 24 Parganas, State- West Bengal, Pin- 700 102, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjoy Laha (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Sanjoy Laha (new name) and Sanjay Laha (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Yogesh Kedia (old name) S/O Krishan Kumar Kedia, residing at Shyam Lake Garden, 202 Jessore Road, P.S.- Lake Town, Kolkata- 700089, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Yogesh Kumar Kedia (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Yogesh Kumar Kedia (new name) and Yogesh Kedia (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sakhina Beowa, Wife Of Late Mahiuddin Mallik, Residing At Satul Uttar Para, Po - Kalsa, Falta, South 24 parganas - 743503, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sakhina Beowa Mallik Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 04/04/2025. That Sakhina Beowa And Sakhina Beowa Mallik Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Tandra Mandal, wife of No. 14502862V Rank Ex- Hony Hav, Name Sadananda Mandal resident of Vill- Kalikapur, P.O- Kalikapur Dist - Purba Bardhaman (WB), Pin-713502 have change my Name from Tandra Mandal to Tandra Mandal vide Affidavit dated 03 Apr 25 before the court of Ld. Sub Div Executive Magistrate (1st Class) Katwa (Purba Bardhaman)

Name Change
I, Imran Ali (old name) S/o. Sk Akbar Ali R/o. Puratan Hattala, Bhastara, Gurap, Hooghly-712 303, W.B., W.B. have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Imran Ali (new name) vide an affidavit no. 1009 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 06/02/20 25. Imran Ali & Sk Imran Ali S/o. Sk Akbar Ali both are the same & one identical person. Sk Akhtar Hossen is my son.

Name Change
I, Amlan Mukhopadhyay S/O Late Bhabadeb Mukherjee residing at Flat 6A, Block B, Swagat Aashiyana, Narayanpur, Rajarhat Gopalpur, Kolkata - 700136 have changed my surname and shall henceforth be known as Amlan Mukherjee as declared before the Learned Judicial Magistrate (1st class), Calcutta In Charge of Affidavit Section, vide affidavit no 1003 on 04/04/2025. Amlan Mukhopadhyay and Amlan Mukherjee both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Ashis Roy, S/O- Padma Palash Roy, Residing at, PD- 88, Arjunpur Paschimpara, Rajarhat Gopalpur (m), Arjunpur, P.S.- Baguiati, Dist- 24 PSG (N), Kol- 700059, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashis Kumar Roy as declared before the 1st class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court, West Bengal vide affidavit no. 1288 Dated 04/04/2025 Ashis Roy and Ashis Kumar Roy both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Doli Rakshit, D/o Hari Das Bose and Nivaran Dose, W/o- Late Kesab Rakshit, residing at 294, Gokulpur, Bedibhawan, Kataganj, PS- Kalyani, Dist.- Nadia, PIN- 741250 has declared that in my father's Service Record 'Form 6' my name has been recorded as Doly. On 05.04.2025 vide an affidavit (no.06) before the 1st Class A.C.J.M. Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that Doli Rakshit and Doly both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Anjali Bose, W/o, Dipak Chandra Basu, R/o- Saheb Bagan, Green Park, P.O.- Samabayapalli, Bally, Howrah, Pin- 711205, W.B., by an affidavit swearing before the Notary public in Calcutta dated 26.03.25 declare that Anjali Bose and Anjali Basu are one and the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Biswajit Muhury S/o. Minu Muhury R/o. 47/1, 3rd Bye Lane, Subhas Nagar, Dum Dum Cantonment, Kolkata-700065, do hereby affirm that my daughter's name has been changed from "Niharika Muhuri" to "Neelashaa Muhury". So, "Niharika Muhuri" & "Neelashaa Muhury" is same & one identical person as per affidavit No.561 of Judicial Magistrate at Calcutta Court dated 4/3/25.

Name Change
I, Nazrul Mohammad Islam (old name) S/O Mohammad Abdul Jawad, residing at Itinda Road Jamrultala Punjabi Mahal, 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 Nazrul Islam Gazi (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Nazrul Islam Gazi (new name) and Nazrul Mohammed Islam (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Jitendra Nath Mondal alias Jiten Mondal (Old Name) S/o Ratan Mandal Residing at Bhaina, Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Jiten Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 07-04-2025. Jitendra Nath Mondal, Jiten Mondal (Old Name) and Jiten Mandal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gulok Mondal (Old Name) S/o Jiten Mandal Residing at Bhaina, Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Golak Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 07-04-2025. Gulok Mondal (Old Name) and Golak Mondal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sabya Sachi Mondal (Old Name) S/o Late Ananta Kumar Mondal Residing at Vill - Bagna, Po+Ps - Gaighata, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743249 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Sabyasachi Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 005 Date 07-04-2025. Sabya Sachi Mondal (Old Name) and Sabyasachi Mondal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swampa Saha Biswas (Old Name) W/o Bhajan Saha Residing at Betna Puratanpara, Betna, Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741505 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Sampa Saha Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 07-04-2025. Swampa Saha Biswas (Old Name) and Sampa Saha Biswas (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sojahid Hasan Khan (Old Name) S/O Late Abul Hasnat Khan Residing At 28/4, Gandhi Sarak, Ps-Serampore, West Bengal, Pin-712248, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sojahid Hussain Khan(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On Dated 04/04/2025. Sojahid Hasan Khan (Old Name) And Sojahid Hussain Khan (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Subrata Chowdhury (old name) S/O Rabindra Nath Chaudhuri, residing at 414/5 Prince Anwar Shah Road, Jodhpur Park, P.O.- Lake Gardens, P.S.- Lake, Kolkata- 700045, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Subrata Chaudhuri (new name) as declared before the Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Alipore, South 24 Parganas, dated 04/03/2025. Subrata Chaudhuri (new name) and Subrata Chowdhury (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sourabh Chowdhury (old name) S/O Subrata Chaudhuri, residing at 414/5 Prince Anwar Shah Road, Jodhpur Park, P.O.- Lake Gardens, P.S.- Lake, Kolkata- 700045, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sourabh Chaudhuri (new name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Alipore, South 24 Parganas, dated 04/03/2025. Sourabh Chaudhuri (new name) and Sourabh Chowdhury (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Rekha Mallick (old name) W/O Ramakanta Mallick, residing at Kharo Belermath Kumra Kashipur, P.S.- Habra, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743271, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rekha Rani Mallick (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Rekha Rani Mallick (new name) and Rekha Mallick (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Jahar Panja, S/O Haradhan Panja, R/O 450/F Upen Banerjee Road, Po- Parnasree Pally, Ps-Parnasree, Kolkata - 700060, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Johar Lal Panja Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/04/2025. That Jahar Panja And Johar Lal Panja Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Monika Agarwal (old name) D/O Mahendra Kumar Agarwal and W/O Sanjay Agarwal, residing at avani Oxford complex phase 1 136, JESSORE ROAD, Block 3 flat 3f lobby 2 SOUTH DUMDUM, BIDHANNAGAR, NORTH 24 PARGANAS, PIN-700055, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Monica Agarwal (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Monica Agarwal (new name) and Monika Agarwal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Maruti Suzuki, Tata Motors to hike vehicle prices from Apr

MI News Service, New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India and Tata Motors announced plans to increase vehicle prices from April, the second time in this year, in order to partially offset the impact of rising input costs. Maruti Suzuki said it plans to hike prices of its entire model range by up to 4 per cent from next month.

Name Change
I, Jahanara begam (old name), W/O, Samsuddin Molla, residing at Y-25, Majher Para, PO- Bartala, P.S. Rajabagan, Kolkata 700018, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Harisaon Bibi, (new name) as declared before the notary public at Kolkata on Jahanara Begam 24/03/2025. Harison Bibi (new name) and (old name) Jahanara Begam, both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Najir Mullick (old name) S/O Akbar Mullick, residing at Mullick Para, Jhingra, Jagatballavpur, Howrah, Pin- 711408, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nazir Mullick (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Nazir Mullick (new name) and Najir Mullick (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Kasnur Khatun (old name) W/O Nazrul Islam Gazi, residing at Jamrultala - Basirhat, 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 Kashnur Khatun (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Kashnur Khatun (new name) and Kasnur Khatun (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Meher Ali Mondal alias Mehar Ali Mondal (Old Name) S/o Sukurli Mandal Residing at Vill - Urmapur, Po - Kumari Ramnagar, P.s - Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Meher Ali Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 07-04-2025. Meher Ali Mondal, Mehar Ali Mondal (Old Name) and Meher Ali Mandal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Seema Rani Dey (old name) W/O Bablu Dey and D/O Dharendra Chandra Karmakar, residing at Chapara, P.O.- Sojibh Garia, P.S.- Baruaipara, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743613, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sima Rani Dey (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Sima Rani Dey (new name) and Seema Rani Dey (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanchita Joardar (old name) W/O Kumaresh Joardar, residing at Uma Niwas 1ST FR A/2,3rd Lane, Ajoynagar, P.O.- Santoshpur, Kolkata- 700075, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanchita Ghosh Joardar (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Sanchita Ghosh Joardar (new name) and Sanchita Joardar (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Shakil Ahmed (old name) S/O Mohammad Bhola, residing at V/L TOPSA 2ND LANE KOLKATA 700039, PS-TILJALA, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shakil Ahmed (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Shakil Ahmed (new name) and Md Shakil Ahmed (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Arsad Ali Mullick (old name) S/O Mohammed Fazilur Karim, residing at Vill- Dandirhat, P.O.- Dandirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Arshad Ali Mallick (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Md Arshad Ali Mallick (new name) and Mohammed Arsad Ali Mullick (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanjoy Mondal (old name) S/O Biswadhe Mondal, residing at Vill- Mauli, P.O.- Malancha, P.S.- Minakhan, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743425, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjay Mondal (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 07/04/2025. Sanjay Mondal (new name) and Sanjoy Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Soham Chakrobarty (Old Name) Son Of Mrinal Chakrobarty, Residing At Flat - 1c, Silver Heights, 17/10a, Jayrampur Bala Road, Po- Parnasree Pally, Ps- Jehala, Kolkata - 700060, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Soham Chakra barty (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/04/2025. That Soham Chakrobarty And Soham Chakrobarty Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Sealdah division completes key Infrastructure Works to enhance Passenger Safety and Operational Efficiency



MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway's Sealdah Division has always been committed to ensuring safe, smooth, and efficient train operations. As part of ongoing infrastructure upgradation and safety enhancement, Sealdah Division successfully carried out several vital engineering works from 23:40 hrs. on 05.04.2025 to 06:40 hrs. on 06.04.2025 within Dum Dum Junction station limits. These works were meticulously planned and executed during the traffic and power block period to avoid inconvenience to passengers and road users.

At Burrabazar, the dismantling of an old Foot Over Bridge (FOB) was completed by taking both train and road traffic blocks. Heavy road cranes were deployed to ensure safe removal of the structure without affecting public safety. At Dum Dum Junction station (DDJ), the

Diamond Switch No. 236A/235B was upgraded. In addition to this, 8 redundant glued joints and 4 compound joints were removed to improve track strength and ensure smoother train operations. Additionally, two vital points No. 21B and 22A at Baranagar station limits were also upgraded. This upgrade will increase the durability and performance of the track switches.

Moreover, 20 rail panels were replaced in the UP CCR line between Bally Ghat and Bally Halt stations. This replacement will improve the reliability of the track and ensure better safety in train movement. These upgrades mark another step toward modernizing the rail network and enhancing the passenger experience. Eastern Railway continues its dedication to better infrastructure, Safety standards and more efficient train operations.

62,300 berths to be Generated by Running Three Summer Special

MI News Service, Kolkata: 62,300 berths will be generated by running three Summer special trains between Kolkata and Dibrugarh, Kolkata & Silchar and Malda Town & SMVB Bengaluru. Eastern Railway remains committed to prioritizing passenger comfort and convenience, especially during periods of increased demand such as the summer season. By proactively addressing passenger needs and introducing these special trains, Eastern Railway reaffirms its dedication to providing quality transportation services and ensuring a positive travel experience for all passengers. The decision to introduce these summer special trains aims to alleviate the extra rush of passengers and ensure smooth and convenient travel. By offering additional train services, Eastern Railway aims to ensure that passengers have access to adequate transportation facilities, thereby enhancing their travel experience and meeting their evolving needs. 05932 Dibrugarh - Kolkata Summer Special will leave Dibrugarh at 17:20 hrs. on every Saturday between 12.04.2025 & 28.06.2025 (12 trips) to reach Kolkata at 00:30 hrs. on the 3rd day and 05931 Kolkata- Dibrugarh Summer Special will leave Kolkata at 02:30 hrs. on every Monday between 14.04.2025 & 30.06.2025 (12 trips) to reach Dibrugarh at 06:30 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at 23 stations including Naihati, Bandel, Nabadwip Dham, Katwa, Azimganj, Jangtpur Road, New Farakka & Malda Town stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute. The train

will have general second class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations. 05639 Silchar - Kolkata Summer Special will leave Silchar at 05:00 hrs. on every Thursday between 10.04.2025 & 26.06.2025 (12 trips) to reach Kolkata Station at 12:05 hrs. on the next day and 05640 Kolkata - Silchar Summer Special will leave Kolkata at 13:15 hrs. on every Friday between 11.04.2025 & 27.06.2025 (12 trips) to reach Silchar Station at 23:50 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at 29 stations including Naihati, Bandel, Nabadwip Dham, Katwa, Azimganj, Jangipur Road, New Farakka & Malda Town stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute. The train will have Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations. 06565 SMVB Bengaluru - Malda Town Summer Special will leave SMVB Bengaluru at 23:40 hrs. on every Sunday between 13.04.2025 & 27.04.2025 (03 trips) to reach Malda town at 16:30 hrs. on the 3rd day and 06566 Malda Town - SMVB Bengaluru Summer Special will leave Malda Town at 16:00 hrs. on every Wednesday between 16.04.2025 & 30.04.2025 (03 trips) to reach SMVB Bengaluru at 12:45 hrs. on the 3rd day. The train will stop at 28 stations including New Farakka, Rampurhat, Bolpur, Bardhaman & Dankuni stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute. The train will have Air-Conditioned accommodations. The date of booking of above summer special trains will be notified shortly.

ER organized 127th ZRUC meeting



MI News Service, Kolkata: The 127th Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee (ZRUC) meeting of Eastern Railway was held under the chairmanship of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway today (7.4.2025) at Kolkata. About 21 members of ZRUC were present in the meeting including Shri Khalilur Rahaman, Hon'ble MP, Smt. Rachana Banerjee, Hon'ble MP and Shri Lalan Kumar, Hon'ble MLA, Bihar Legislative Assembly, Shri Hemlal Murmu, Hon'ble MLA, Jharkhand Legislative Assembly were present in the meeting. Nominees & Representatives of various dignitaries like Shri Shantanu Thakur, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Smt. Mitali Bag, Hon'ble MP, Shri Kamlesh Paswan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State and members of various Chambers of Commerce from different locations including West Bengal, Bihar & Jharkhand were also present in the meeting. Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway welcomed all the Members of ZRUC. In the meeting, General Manager upholds various achievements of Eastern Railway during 2024-25 like Zero consequential accidents with augmented safety, loading of record amount of freight over 100 million tonne, extension of platforms at Sealdah Main station to accommodate 12-coach EMU locals, improving punctuality of train services with 84% in respect of Mail/Express trains and

87% in case of suburban train services. In connection to this GM intimated that Eastern Railway has enhanced the sectional speed to 130 kmph for 139 route kilometre and 110 kmph for 389 route kilometre. Introduction of 3 new Vande Bharat Express trains between Howrah - Gaya, Howrah - Bhagalpur & Varanasi - Deogarh. General Manager also mentioned about Eastern Railway's initiative for augmenting passenger amenities at different stations viz. installation of 18 Lifts & 2 Escalators.

Moreover, General Manager also mentioned that during 2024-25 Eastern Railway has provided Train Indication Boards at 38 stations and Coach Indication Boards at 19 stations where Mail/Express trains have stoppages. Besides, new platform sheds, foot over bridges, steel benches & chairs, water coolers have been provided at different stations. During the meeting, Hon'ble MPs & Hon'ble MLAs and other members of ZRUC placed their various demands & suggestions to Eastern Railway officials. Shri Khalilur Rahaman, Hon'ble MP suggested for new Road Over Bridge at Dhulianga and Berhamphore and running of north Bengal bound trains through newly constructed Nasipur bridge along with other demands. He praised Eastern Railway's various passenger friendly initiatives. He also requested for upgradation of Jangipur station. Smt. Rachana Banerjee, Hon'ble

MP upheld that Railway is doing well in all fronts, however she requested for creation of Halt station between Khamargachi & Jirat stations, ladies special train over Howrah - Bardhaman Chord line during peak hours, new Foot Over Bridges at Gurap station. Shri Lalan Kumar, Hon'ble MLA & Shri Hemlal Murmu, Hon'ble MLA were also requested for various amenities & facilities at different stations within their jurisdiction. Other members of ZRUC were also placed requests for various initiatives and projects.

General Manager gave a patient hearing to all the demands and suggestions. The General Manager assured the Members that Eastern Railway is always keen to carefully examine the suggestions of the Members and to implement the various suggestions offered after detailed deliberation of the same. Principal Heads of Departments like Dr. Uday Shankar Jha, Principal Chief Commercial Manager, Shri Vikram Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer, Sri P. K. Sharma, Chief Administrative Officer/Construction, Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar Agrawal, Principal Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Shri Paramshiv, Principal Chief Security Commissioner and other senior officers were also present in the meeting. The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks by Shri Ved Prakash, Deputy General Manager (G), Eastern Railway.

Running of Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata: It has been decided to run Special trains as per following schedule:
06559/06560 SMVT Bengaluru-Narangi-SMVT Bengaluru Special: 06559 SMVT Bengaluru-Narangi Special will leave SMVT Bengaluru every Tuesday from 08.04.2025 to 29.04.2025 at 23.40 hrs and will reach Narangi at 05.00 hrs, the fourth day. In the return direction, 06560 Narangi-SMVT Bengaluru Special will leave Narangi every Saturday from 12.04.2025 to



26.04.2025 at 05.30 hrs and will arrive SMVT Bengaluru at 09:45 hrs, the third day. The Special train will have stoppages at Baleshwar, Kharagpur and Andul in SER jurisdiction.
07325/07326 SSS Hubballi-Katihar- SSS Hubballi Special: 07325 SSS Hubballi-Katihar Special will leave SSS Hubballi every Wednesday from 09.04.2025 to 30.04.2025 at 15.15 hrs and will reach Katihar at 14.00 hrs, the third day. In the return direction, 07326 Katihar-SSS Hubballi Special will leave Katihar every Saturday from 12.04.2025 to 26.04.2025 at 14.30 hrs and will arrive SSS Hubballi at 10.50 hrs, the third day. The Special train will have stoppages at Baleshwar, Kharagpur and Andul in SER jurisdiction.

Regularation of train of Construction Of Limited Height Subway (Lhs) between Pichkurir Dhal & Bhedia Stations over Howrah Division

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant stride towards enhancing safety and convenience for local commuters, Eastern Railway is constructing Limited Height Subway (LHS) in lieu of Level Crossing Gate No. 5/B/T between Pichkurir Dhal & Bhedia Stations in Khana - Gumani section. Local residents and commuters using this gate will experience increased convenience and reduced travel time, contributing to an improved quality of life. The LHS also significantly reduce the risk associated with Level crossing providing a safer passage for both pedestrians and vehicles. Accordingly, for construction of this Limited Height Subway, 360 minutes (from 03:30 hrs. to 09:30 hrs.) Traffic and Power Block has been planned on 09.04.2025. Consequently, following arrangement in train running have been made as under:

Cancellation of Trains on 09.04.2025 (Wednesday)
• From Bardhaman: 63063, 63011, 63581 • From Rampurhat: 63582, 63012 • From Tinpahar: 63064 • From Azimganj: 63021
Diversion on 09.04.2025:
• 13017 Howrah - Azimganj Ganadevta Express will be diverted via Bandel - Katwa - Azimganj with stoppages at Bandel, Katwa & Azimganj. • 12378 New Alipurdur - Sealdah Padatik Express will be diverted via New Farakka - Azimganj - Katwa - Bandel with stoppages at Jangipur Road, Azimganj, Katwa, Nabadwip Dham & Bandel. • 13150 Alipurdur - Sealdah Kanchankanya Express will be diverted via New Farakka - Azimganj - Katwa - Bandel with stoppages at Jangipur Road, Azimganj, Katwa, Nabadwip Dham & Bandel. •

53048 Rampurhat - Howrah passenger will be diverted via Ahmedpur - Katwa - Bandel with stoppages at Katwa, Nabadwip Dham & Bandel.
Rescheduling of train on 09.04.2025:
• 13428 Sahibganj - Howrah Intercity Express will leave Sahibganj at 06:00 hrs. instead of 05:20 hrs. • 13012 Malda Town - Howrah Intercity Express will leave Malda Town 06:00 hrs. instead of 04:30 hrs. Moreover, 13182 Kaziranga Express, 22309 Howrah - Bhagalpur Vande Bharat Express and 13175 Kanchenjunga Express will be controlled for 40 minutes, 25 minutes & 15 minutes respectively enroute.

EASTERN RAILWAY

Open Tender Notice No.: GSU/Elect/ASN/2025/03, Date: 03.04.2025. E-Tenders are invited by Dr. Chief Project Manager/Elect, Gati Shakti Unit, Asansol, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 for the following works from required tenderers having valid Electric contractor license & Supervisory license and capable to complete the following work financially. **Tender Case No.: GSU-Elect-ASN-2025-03. Name of the Work:** Provision of escalators works under Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan at station nominated under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. (Part-II Ancillary electrical works related to power supply for provision of escalator works under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. (Total-05 Nos., Dumka-02 Nos., Deogarh-02 Nos. & Andol-01 No.) at stations for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in Asansol under Jurisdiction of Gati Shakti Unit, Asansol.). **Tender Value:** ₹ 32,26,623.50; **Earnest Money (Rs.):** ₹ 64,500/-; **Date and Time of Closing:** 30.04.2025 at 12.00 hrs.; **Completion Period for the Work:** 9 (Nine) Months from the date of issue of letter of acceptance. **Validity of Offers for the Work:** 45 days from the date of closing. Complete details can be seen in the Railway website www.ireps.gov.in ASN-13/2025-26

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.iranianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway)
[@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

Police nab 3 illegal Bangla intruders, deported

MI News Service, Guwahati: Three Bangladeshi nationals were apprehended in Assam's Sribhumi district for illegally entering India and were deported to their country on Saturday. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

The infiltrators were identified as Noorjan Begum, Md Iyat Ali and Md Rakib Shaikh. "sribhumipolice continues its crackdown on infiltration, 3 Bangladeshi nationals apprehended. All of them have been promptly pushed back across the border," Sarma posted on X.

College student missing after jumping from boat

MI News Service, Nabadwip: A college student, identified as Barnali Dutta, went missing after allegedly jumping from a boat in the middle of the Ganga River on her way from Nabadwip to Mayapur on Sunday night, police said.

According to family sources, Barnali had informed her family that she was going to a café earlier in the evening.

However, she was later found to have boarded a boat, from which she reportedly jumped mid-river under unclear circumstances.

Barnali Dutta is a resident of Banknagar, falling under Ward 1 of the Nabadwip Municipality. Search operations are currently underway, and local authorities are investigating the incident.

Bus hits tree, 30 injured



MI News Service, Haringhata: Around 30 passengers were injured after a route bus crashed into a roadside tree at Milan Pally under Haringhata Police Station limits in Nadia district. The accident occurred around 4:30 pm. on Monday, police said.

The bus, operating on Route 22, runs between Nagarukhra in Nadia and Kanchrapara in North 24 Parganas. At the time of the accident, it was headed towards Nagarukhra.

Most of the injured passengers were taken to Kalyani JNM Hospital for treatment.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), S.E. Railway, Kharagpur-721301 invites e-tenders for the following work before 12:00 hrs. on the date mentioned against items. SI No. 1, Tender Notice No. 114-ELC-G-KGP-24-25-43R1. Power Supply Arrangement for installation of 04 nos. Escalators (Jhargram-JGM-02 nos. and Ghatsila-GTS-2 nos.) under ABSS scheme. Tender Value: ₹ 30,51,344.71. Bid Security/E.M.D.: ₹ 61,000/-, (ii) 114-ELC-G-KGP-24-25-50. Electrical work for Construction of high level platform beside 3rd line at Kokpara-Gidhi stations. Tender Value: ₹ 74,79,337.40. Bid Security/E.M.D.: ₹ 1,49,600/-. Date of Opening: 23.04.2025 for each. Cost of Tender Document: ₹ Nil for each. Completion Period: 06 months for SI. No. (i) and 12 months for SI. No. (ii), from the date of issue of Letter of Acceptance. Date of Submission: up to 12:00 hrs. of 23.04.2025. Interested Tenderers may visit website www.irops.gov.in for full details, description and specification of the tender and submit their bids online. In no case manual tender for this work will be accepted. Note: Prospective bidders may regularly visit www.irops.gov.in to participate in all tenders.

(PR-21) Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Santragachi), South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur Division acting on behalf of President of India invites open tender, through e-Tendering in www.irops.gov.in website as per details mentioned below. Eligible contractors are requested to apply for the same through online only, in www.irops.gov.in website. No offline tender will be accepted for this tender. Please read the tender document carefully uploaded in the documents section for details. SI. No., Tender Notice No., Name of the work, are as follows: 1. E-lect-CHG-25-26-ILum-3, Temporary Lighting requirements/ Illumination for Festivals (Durga Puja, Diwali, Christmas, New Year National and all other festive occasions)/Departmental programmes/insurgation functions at Santragachi Station, Shalimar Station and other station building over Santragachi jurisdiction for one year. Tender Value: ₹ 16,32,331.29. EMD/Bid Security: ₹ 32,700/-. 2. E-lect-CHG-25-26-SSI-1, Electrical work for Elimination of LC SSI in between Santragachi-Shalimar by construction of RUB with provision of U type retaining wall, sump, pump. Tender Value: ₹ 26,48,890.25. EMD/Bid Security: ₹ 53,000/-. 3. E-lect-CHG-25-26-LC-2, Electrical work for Elimination of LC No. 6 in between Santragachi-Howrah by construction of RUB with provision of U type retaining wall, sump and cover shed. Tender Value: ₹ 37,70,162.05. EMD/Bid Security: ₹ 75,400/-. Tender Closing date & time: 05.05.2025, 10:30 hrs. for each. Tender Notice, tender document and other details are given in the www.irops.gov.in at (PR-27)

Coopers Municipality provides assistance to specially abled on World Health Day



MI News Service, Ranaghat: On the occasion of World Health Day, the Coopers Municipality in Nadia's Ranaghat handed over assistive devices to 11 specially abled persons on Monday. These include 4 hearing aids, 4 tricycle and 3 wheelchairs, said DM, Nadia, S. Arun Prasadh. Side by side, around 200 people availed the services of blood test and dental check ups.The program took place at Coopers Municipality in Nadia.

SDO Ranaghat Bharat Singh said during his speech that recently an Urban Health Centre was inaugurated in the Municipal limits. "It provides free healthcare services. In addition, the municipality has

also introduced garbage - collecting vehicles to improve cleanliness and reduce the spread of disease in the area," he added.

However, doctors from a private clinic, State government medical officer and health workers from the Coopers urban hospital and wellness Centre, provided the free Medical Services at the camp.

There were Nadia DM, S. Arun Prasadh, SDO, Ranaghat, Bharat Singh, MLA Ranaghat South, Mukut mani Adhikari, MD of a private clinic, Regional Manager of RBI of SBI Krishnanagar branch, AC-MOH and many other government officials in the event.

Tensions flare during BJP's 'KalighatChalo' rally

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata witnessed intense chaos on Monday as BJP YuvaMorcha's 'KalighatChalo' rally led to violent confrontations between party supporters and police personnel at the Exide crossing. Defying police barricades, BJP leaders and cadres attempted to march forward, triggering high-voltage tensions in the heart of the city. Eyewitnesses reported physical altercations between BJP activists and the police, prompting law enforcement to detain several demonstrators to bring the situation under control.

Among those detained was BJP leader and former Member of Parliament Locket Chatterjee, who was present at the protest site along with other senior party figures. Anticipating unrest, a heavy police presence had already been deployed in the area. However, despite security measures, the protest quickly descended into chaos as BJP supporters clashed with police.

Police arrest 3 for duping retired Kerala HC judge

MI News Service, Kochi: Three people have been arrested for allegedly cheating a retired Kerala High Court judge of Rs 90 lakh through a fake share trading application, police said on Saturday.

The arrested have been identified as Mohammed Sha (33) of Kannur, and Mirshad N (32) and Mohammad Sharjil T (22), both natives of Vadakara in Kozhikode district.

According to the police, the trio allegedly swindled Justice Sashidharan Nambiar, who retired from the Kerala High Court in 2013 and currently resides in Kochi, by luring him into investing in a bogus share trading platform they operated.

'IOS SAGAR' to be on month-long deployment in IOR

MI News Service, Eastern Railway, Howrah-711101 invites Open e-Tenders for the under-mentioned electrical works: SI. No. 1, Tender No.: EL-HWH-25-21-3339. Name of work: 1) Electrical (G) work in connection with "Construction of Limited height subway (By cut and cover method) in lieu of Level Crossing No. 14/C/E at Km.37/1-2 in Ahmadpur-Katwa section under AEN/Katwa". 2) Electrical (general) work in connection with "Improvement with up-gradation of existing subway by provide roof covering of both approaches, cleaning of sump with water storage reservoir, drainage arrangement at both end etc. of Br. No. 77 at Bandel under jurisdiction of AEN/Bandel". 3) Electrical (General) work in connection with "Improvement with upgradation of existing subway by providing roof covering of both approaches, cleaning of sump with water Storage reservoir, drainage arrangement at both end etc. of Br. No. 87 & 98A under jurisdiction of AEN/Bandel". Tender Value: Rs. 47,74,532/-, Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit): Rs. 95,500/- SI. No. 2, Tender No.: EL-HWH-25-21-3381-R. Name of work: 1) Electrical general work for Chitra - Upgradation and modernisation of Chitra goods sheds over Howrah Division under SR.DEN/4/HWH. 2) Electrical (general) work in connection with Upgradation and modernization of Rajgram Public Sliding goods shed over Howrah Division under SR.DEN/4/HWH. 3) Electrical general work for Upgradation and modernisation of Sainthia goods sheds over Howrah Division under SR.DEN/4/HWH. 4) Electrical General work for Upgradation and modernization of Kulapahar (Tilbhati) goods sheds over Howrah Division under SR.DEN/4/HWH. 5) Electrical General work for Upgradation and modernisation of Pakur goods sheds over Howrah Division under SR.DEN/4/HWH. Tender Value: Rs. 3,66,87,969/-. Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit): Rs. 3,33,400/- Completion period: 180 days (for SI. No. 1 & 2 each). Closing date and time of tender: 25.04.2025 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 irops.gov.in Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website.

MI News Service, Bengaluru: Karnataka home minister G. Parameshwara has once again courted controversy — this time over a remark many say trivialises women safety issues on the streets of Bengaluru. Speaking in response to a CCTV clip that went viral last week, the senior Congress leader said incidents like these are "common in big cities," a comment that has ignited public fury and drawn criticism. "Incidents like these tend to happen here and there in a big city like this," Parameshwara told reporters on Monday, adding, "Whatever legal action needs to be taken will be done in accordance with the law. I have also instructed our commissioner to increase beat patrolling." An unidentified man groped a woman in Bengaluru's BTM layout in the early hours of April 3.

HW-2025-26 Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.irops.gov.in Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

Kunal Kamra: Madras HC extends interim anticipatory bail till Apr 17

MI News Service, Chennai: The Madras High Court extended comedian Kunal Kamra's interim protection from arrest till April 17, which was set to end today, in connection with an FIR lodged in Mumbai over his 'traitor' jibe at Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

The stand-up comedian's advocate approached the court today to inform them that three new FIRs have already been lodged against him in Maharashtra since the last hearing. He further submitted that the officials even visited his ancestral home in Mumbai, disturbing his aged parents.

On March 28, the court had granted interim anticipatory bail to Kamra till April 7. Meanwhile, Kamra has approached the Bom-

bay high court to quash the FIR registered against him by the Maharashtra police. An urgent mention was made before the division bench headed by Justice Sarang Kotwal today, who agreed to hear the case tomorrow.

The comedian has failed to appear before the Mumbai police for questioning despite three summons issued to him.

Kamra performed a parody song during a show in Mumbai which allegedly made veiled references to Shinde.

During a show, Kamra had taunted Shinde, without taking his name, using a modified version of a Hindi song from the film Dil To Pagal Hai where he called him a gaddar (traitor).

The comedian went on

to joke about how Shinde rebelled against Uddhav Thackeray.

After the video of the comedy show was uploaded on his YouTube channel on February 23, 2025, a group claiming to be political activists vandalised the venue where the show was performed at Khar in Mumbai. On the same day, a local MLA lodged a police complaint accusing the petitioner of having defamed Shinde by making slanderous comments about the latter's conduct.

Following a complaint by Shiv Sena MLA Murji Patel, the police here registered the FIR against Kamra under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections 353(1)(b) (statements conducing to public mischief) and 356(2) (defamation).

Elephant attacks kill Kerala youth

MI News Service, Kochi: Kerala Forest Minister A K Saseendran announced that an inquiry will be launched to ascertain if there was any lapse on the part of forest officials in the Mundoor wild elephant attack in which a youth was killed on Sunday.

Speaking to reporters on Monday, Minister A K Saseendran said that strict action would be taken if any lapses are found. "Preventive measures are already in place, but the elephant broke through the solar fencing, and two or three wild elephants entered the residential area," he said.

Minister added that a review meeting was held with the District Collector and forest officials to assess the situation and a report is sought from the Collector. Forest officials have already identified the locations where the elephants are currently camping, the minister said.

More Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) will be deployed in the area, he said adding that the concerns of the public are being taken seriously and will not be ignored. The region where the elephant attack occurred has a history of similar incidents and precautionary measures have been put in place earlier.

"It wouldn't be fair to say that actions aren't aligned with public expectations. However, it's clear that the measures taken to deter wild animals have been ineffective," he admitted.

Efforts to restore peaceful life in the affected areas are ongoing under the District Collector, the minister added.

"Although several measures have been adopted to prevent wild animal attacks, it's evident that there has been little noticeable improvement so far," he said.

He also added that an alternative approach, known as 'Ele-fencing', has been identified to tackle the threat posed by wild animals.

This method is currently being tried at two locations in Wayanad, and if found effective, steps will be taken to implement it on a wider scale, Saseendran said.

Alan (25), a resident of Kayaramkodu, was killed in a wild elephant attack in Mundoor near here, on Sunday night.

His mother Viji sustained serious injuries in the incident and is currently receiving treatment at Thrissur Medical College Hospital.

The attack occurred around 8 pm while the mother and son were walking home. Locals rushed to the scene and took them to the hospital, but Alan succumbed to his injuries.

According to the police, his body has been moved to the district hospital mortuary, and the postmortem will be conducted on Monday. Reacting to the incident, the ruling CPI(M) party has called for a hartal in the Mundoor area, alleging that the forest department failed to alert the public even after wild elephants had taken shelter in the Mundoor-Kayaramkodu region.

Applications are invited from bonafied contractors/agencies vide e-Tender bearing no. 193, 194, 195/AGP/TN/2025 & NIQ bearing no. 196/AGP/QN/2025 on dated 07.04.2025 under 15th CFC. Last date for submission of Bids for e-Tender is 21.04.2025 (upto specified time in portal) & scheduled to be opened on 23.04.2025. For more details visit - <https://wbntenders.gov.in>.

Notice of Inviting e-Tender Applications are invited from bonafied contractors/agencies vide e-Tender bearing no. 193, 194, 195/AGP/TN/2025 & NIQ bearing no. 196/AGP/QN/2025 on dated 07.04.2025 under 15th CFC. Last date for submission of Bids for e-Tender is 21.04.2025 (upto specified time in portal) & scheduled to be opened on 23.04.2025. For more details visit - <https://wbntenders.gov.in>.

Notice of Inviting e-Tender Applications are invited from bonafied contractors/agencies vide e-Tender bearing no. 193, 194, 195/AGP/TN/2025 & NIQ bearing no. 196/AGP/QN/2025 on dated 07.04.2025 under 15th CFC. Last date for submission of Bids for e-Tender is 21.04.2025 (upto specified time in portal) & scheduled to be opened on 23.04.2025. For more details visit - <https://wbntenders.gov.in>.

Notice for Mutation on the Basis of Power of Attorney

For public information hereby declare that my client Dinabandhu Roy S/o Anil Roy has purchased the scheduled property mentioned below from 1) Mr. Uttam Hazra, S/o Sri Ramjukta Hazra & 2) Ramprasad Das through Power of Attorney (being Deed No. -I-2877 of 2022 dated 16.03.2022) in the registry office A.D.S.R. Bardhaman, Dist. - Purba Bardhaman vide their Deed No. I-4157/11 dated 01.06.2011. This plot for mutation applied to the B.L. & L.R.O. Burdwan-II. If anyone has any objection in this matter, he/she may contact with B.L. & L.R.O. Department Bardhaman-II with proper documents within Fifteen days, otherwise his claim or objection cannot be considered.

:SCHEDULE: District Purba Bardhaman, Block Bardhaman-II, Barsul, Mouja - Kalyanpur, J.L. NO. 71, R.S. Khatian No. 68, R.S. Plot No. - 359, L.R. Khatian No.- 343, L.R. Plot No. 359, Classification Shal, Total measuring area - 125 Sq.ft.

Sd/- Soumen Bhattacharjee Advocate Burdwan Judges' Court

Notice My client Md Idrish s/o Md Aslam r/o kazi mahalla Panchberia, Nama of Power of Attorney in Panchberia Mouza (I-5264/23) 12.06.2023. Buying land with Firdos Hussain from father late Mehedi Hussain Deed No 10917/13 Mouza Panchberia JL No 233 RS khatian 784/1 LR khatian 3674, RS Plot 211 LR Plot 3401 area 3.50 decia. My client Md Idrish wants to record in his name, so if anyone has any objection about the ownership of the land, you have to inform immediately (within 15 days) otherwise the complaint will not be accepted, can be informed through mobile.

Advocate Rajan Gupta Reg.No. F/300/ 2008 Mob 7872139055

Notice My client Rahima Khatun d/o Md Aslam r/o kazi mahalla Panchberia, Nama of Power of Attorney in Panchberia Mouza (I-5264/23) 12.06.2023 Firdos Hussain buys land from late Mehedi Hussain Deed No 10916/13 Mouza Panchberia JL No 233 RS khatian/784/1 LR khatian 3674, RS Plot 211 LR Plot 3401 area 3.50 decia. My client Rahima Khatun wants to record in her name, so if anyone has any objection to the ownership of the land, you have to inform immediately (within 15 days) otherwise the complaint will not be accepted, can be informed through mobile.

Advocate Rajan Gupta Reg.No. F/300/ 2008 Mob 7872139055



Minister Aroop Biswas inaugurated the renovation and beautification of Rifle Club Pond in Ward 113 of Tollygunge. Present were MP Sayani Ghosh, local municipal representative Anita Kar Majumdar and municipal representative Biswajit Mondal.

Sitharaman refutes false claims on 'ONOE'

MI News Service, Chennai: Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday dismissed the false propaganda surrounding the 'One Nation, One Election' (ONOE) concept, clarifying that it will not be implemented in the upcoming elections.

Speaking at an event near here, she noted that around Rs 1 lakh crore was spent during the 2024 Lok Sabha elec-

tions, and such a massive expenditure could be saved through simultaneous elections.

"If simultaneous elections are held for electing the members of Parliament and Assembly, about 1.5 per cent growth will be added to the country's GDP. In value terms, Rs 4.50 lakh crore will get added to the economy. This is a black and white example of One Nation One Election' concept", she said.

Police arrest man with 2 kg ganja, illegal weapon

MI News Service, Jammu: Police arrested a suspected criminal during a routine patrol in Jammu district and seized 2 kg of ganja and an illegal weapon from his possession, officials said.

was travelling to Bhagatpur via Ring Road when he tried to flee after seeing the police, but the alert cops caught him on the spot, the officials said.

A search of his bag led to the recovery of about 2 kg of ganja and a pistol, she said.

Painta-I Gram Panchayat Chhotobainan, Purba Bardhaman Notice Inviting e-Tender e-Tender is hereby invited from the resourceful and experienced bidders for execution of 1 no. development works vide NIT No.: 10/151/P-I/25/2nd Call, Date: 07.04.2025. Bid Submission Start Date (Online): 07.04.2025 at 06:00 PM. Bid Submission End Date (Online): 21.04.2025 up to 06:00 PM. Technical Bid Opening Date (Online): 24.04.2025 at 12:00 Noon. For details visit website www.wbtenders.gov.in & undersigned GP Office. Sd/- Pradhan Painta-I Gram Panchayat

Summer Special Trains

Between Malda Town & SMVT Bengaluru, Kolkata & Dibrugarh and Kolkata & Silchar

To clear extra rush of passengers during Summer Season 06565/06566 SMVT Bengaluru – Malda Town – SMVT Bengaluru Special, 05932/05931 Dibrugarh – Kolkata – Dibrugarh Special & 05639/05640 Silchar– Kolkata – Silchar Special trains will run as per following abstract timings, dates of run, stoppages and composition:-

06565/06566 SMVT Bengaluru – Malda Town – SMVT Bengaluru Special									
SMVT Bengaluru - Malda Town Special			06565 06566		Malda Town - SMVT Bengaluru Special				
Day	Arr.	Dep.	Stations		Arr.	Dep.	Day		
Sun	–	23.40	↓ SMVT Bengaluru		12.45	–	Fri		
Mon	12.50	13.00	Vijayawada		22.45	22.55			
Tue	01.45	01.50	Bhubaneswar		07.10	07.15	Thur		
	07.15	07.25	Kharagpur		00.45	00.55			
	11.22	11.24	Barddhaman		20.51	20.53	Wed		
			16.30	–	Malda town	↑	– 16.00		

The above special trains will also stop at Krishnarajapuram, Bangarapet, Jolarpettai, Katpadi, Renigunta, Gudur, Ongole, Rajahmundry, Duvvada, Kottavalasa, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam Road, Palasa, Brahmapur, Balugaon, Khurda Road, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Balasore, Andul, Dankuni, Bolpur (Shantiniketan), Rampurhat and New Farakka stations enroute in both directions. Dates of run: From SMVT Bengaluru – 06565 on 13/04, 20/04 & 27/04/2025 (Sunday) = 03 trips and From Malda Town – 06566 on 16/04, 23/04 & 30/04/2025 (Wednesday) = 03 trips. Composition: AC-2 tier – 04, AC-3 tier Economy – 06, AC-3 tier – 05 and Power Car – 02 = 17 coaches. Category: Mail/Express.

05932/ 05931 Dibrugarh - Kolkata - Dibrugarh Special

Dibrugarh - Kolkata Special		05932 05931		Kolkata - Dibrugarh Special			
Day	Arr.	Dep.	Stations		Arr.	Dep.	Day
Sat	–	17.20	↓ Dibrugarh		06.30	–	Tue
Sun	05.15	05.20	New Bongaigoan		19.00	19.05	Mon
	12.05	12.15	New Jalpaiguri		13.45	13.55	
	17.10	17.20	Malda Town		09.10	09.20	
			00.30	–	Kolkata	↑	– 02.30

The above special trains will also stop at Dhemaji, North Lakhimpur, Harmuti Jn. Viswanath Chariali, Rangapara North, Udalguri, Rangiya, Kokrajhar, New Alipurduar, New Coochbehar, Aluabari Road, Kishanganj, Barsoi, New Farakka, Jangipur Road, Azimganj, Katwa, Nabadwip Dham, Bandel and Naihati Jn. stations enroute in both directions. Dates of run: From Dibrugarh – 05932 on 12/04, 19/04, 26/04, 03/05, 10/05, 17/05, 24/05, 31/05, 07/06, 14/06, 21/06 & 28/06/2025 (Saturday) = 12 trips and From Kolkata – 05931 on 14/04, 21/04, 28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05, 26/05, 02/06, 09/06, 16/06, 23/06 & 30/06/2025 (Monday) = 12 trips . Composition: AC-2 tier – 02, AC-3 tier – 06, Sleeper Class – 07, General Second Class (LS) – 04 Power Car – 01 and LSLRD – 01 = 21 coaches. Category: Mail/Express.

05639 / 05640 Silchar - Kolkata - Silchar Special

Silchar-Kolkata Special		05639 05640		Kolkata-Silchar Special			
Day	Arr.	Dep.	Stations		Arr.	Dep.	Day
Thur	–	05.00	↓ Silchar		23.50	–	
Fri	15.25	15.40	Guwahati		12.30	12.35	Sat
	00.30	00.40	New Jalpaiguri		01.45	01.55	
	04.50	05.00	Malda Town		21.00	21.10	Fri
			12.05	–	Kolkata	↑	– 13.15

The above special trains will also stop at Badarpur, New Harangajao, New Haflong, Maibong, Lumding, Lanka, Hojai, Kamakhya, Goalpara Town, New Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Gosaingaon Hat, New Alipurduar, New Coochbehar, Dhupguri, Aluabari Road, Kishanganj, Barsoi, Kumedpur, New Farakka, Jangipur Road, Azimganj Jn., Katwa, Nabadwip Dham, Bandel and Naihati Jn. stations enroute in both directions. Dates of run: From Silchar – 05639 on 10/04, 17/04, 24/04, 01/05, 08/05, 15/05, 22/05, 29/05, 05/06, 12/06, 19/06 & 26/06/2025 (Thursday) = 12 trips and From Kolkata – 05640 on 11/04, 18/04, 25/04, 02/05, 09/05, 16/05, 23/05, 30/05, 06/06, 13/06, 20/06 & 27/06/2025 (Friday) = 12 trips. Composition: AC-2 tier – 01, AC-3 tier – 04, Sleeper Class – 13 and GSLR – 02 = 20 coaches. Category: Mail/Express.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager

EASTERN RAILWAY Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter



Keto diet metabolite may power up CAR T cells to kill cancer: Study

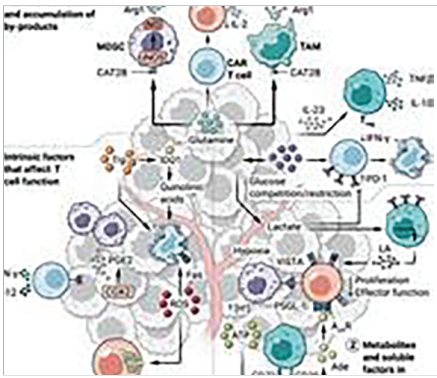
PENNSYLVANIA [US] : Researchers at Penn Medicine's Abramson Cancer Centre and the University of Pennsylvania's Perelman School of Medicine have found that a straightforward dietary supplement may offer a novel way to enhance CAR T cell performance.

The early research, presented at the 66th American Society of Haematology (ASH) Annual Meeting and Exposition (Abstract 4), suggests a potentially economical way to enhance CAR T cell function and cancer-fighting capabilities, even though the strategy needs to be evaluated in clinical trials.

CAR T cell therapy is a personalized treatment approach, pioneered at Penn Medicine, that reprograms patients' own immune cells to kill their cancer.

"Thousands of patients with blood cancers have been successfully treated with CAR T cell therapy, but it still doesn't work for everyone," said co-lead author Shan Liu, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow who presented the study at ASH. "We took an outside-the-box approach to improve CAR T cell therapy, by targeting T cells through diet rather than further genetic engineering."

Liu co-led the study with Puneeth Guruprasad, PhD, who earned his PhD at Penn and is now a medical student in the Perelman



School of Medicine. The lead authors worked under the mentorship of co-senior authors Marco Ruella, MD, an assistant professor of Hematology-Oncology, a researcher with the Center for Cellular Immunotherapies and the scientific director of Penn Medicine's Lymphoma Program; and Maayan Levy, PhD, an assistant professor of Microbiology.

First, the research team tested the effect of several different diets, including ketogenic, high-fiber, high-fat, high-protein, high cholesterol, and a control diet, on CAR T cell's tumor-fighting capabilities using a mouse model of

diffuse-large B-cell lymphoma. They found improved tumor control and survival in the mice receiving a ketogenic diet compared to all other diets. In subsequent studies, they found higher levels of beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHB), a metabolite produced by the liver in response to a ketogenic diet, was a key mediator of this effect. The research builds on previous work from Levy's team, which found that BHB strongly suppressed the growth of colorectal tumors in lab experiments. "Our theory is that CAR T cells prefer BHB as a fuel source rather than standard sugars in our body, such as glucose," Guruprasad said. "So, increasing the levels of BHB in the body gives the CAR T cells more power to take out the cancer cells." Next, the research team tested a BHB supplement combined with CAR T cell therapy in laboratory models of human cancer (on a standard diet); the results showed complete obliteration of the cancer in the vast majority of mice and resulted in higher CAR T cell expansion and activation. To see if BHB, which occurs naturally at various level in our bodies, had a similar effect in humans, the team assessed blood samples from patients who had recently received CAR T cell therapy and found that greater BHB levels were associated with better CAR T cell expansion in patients.

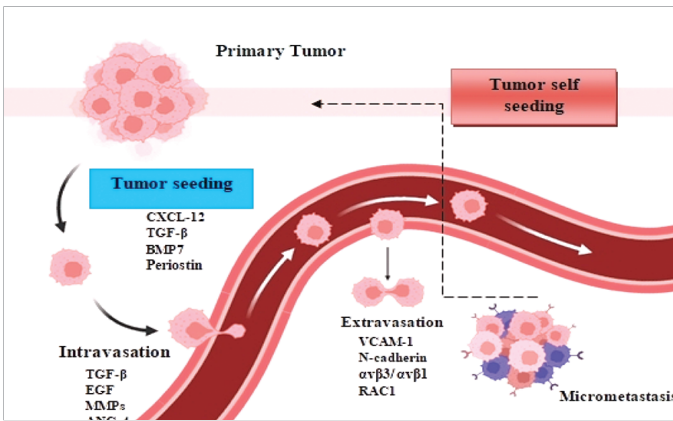
Researchers discover that unique immune cells stop metastatic cancer

New York [US] : The majority of cancer deaths are caused by metastatic disease, which occurs when cancer spreads from the primary tumour to other areas of the body, and researchers understand how cancer cells escape the primary location to seed new tumours, it is unclear why some cancer cells produce new tumours decades later and others do not.

A research team at the National Cancer Institute-designated Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Centre (MECCC) has uncovered a natural immunological response in mice that prevents escaping cancer cells from growing into tumours elsewhere in the body. The study was published today in the journal Cell.

"Preventing or curing metastases is the most critical challenge in cancer," said study leader Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, Ph.D., director of MECCC's Cancer Dormancy Institute. "We think our findings have the potential to point to new therapies to prevent or treat metastatic disease." The study's co-first authors are Erica Dalla, Ph.D., a former student, and Michael Papanicolaou, Ph.D., a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso's lab.

Cells that migrate from primary tumors and seed metastatic tumors are called disseminated cancer cells (DCCs). Some DCCs



behave aggressively, immediately starting tumors in new tissue, while others remain in a state of suspended animation referred to as dormancy. "It's long been a mystery how some DCCs can remain in tissues for decades and never cause metastases, and we believe we've found the explanation," said Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso, who is also professor of cell biology, of oncology, and of medicine and the Rose C. Falkenstein Chair in Cancer Research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

Breast cancer and many other types of cancer metastasize to the lungs. In research involving three mouse models of metastatic breast cancer, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso and colleagues determined that when breast cancer DCCs spread

to the lung's air sacs (alveoli), they are kept in a dormant state by immune cells known as alveolar macrophages.

"Alveolar macrophages are the lung's first responders, defending the organ against bacteria and dangerous substances like environmental pollutants," said Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso. These specialized macrophages, he notes, appear early in embryonic development and reside within lung tissue for life.

"Our findings demonstrate a new role for these macrophages, in which they recognize DCCs and actively interact with them, and--by secreting a protein called TGF-β2--produce signals in the cancer cells that keep them in a dormant state," Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso said.

"Since every organ in the body has its own set of tissue-resident macrophages, they may function to keep DCCs in check in those organs as well. Our study has shown for the first time that these specialized macrophages function to actively induce dormancy in DCCs."

Confirming the importance of alveolar macrophages in keeping DCCs dormant, Dr. Aguirre-Ghiso and his team found that depleting them in the mice significantly increased the number of activated DCCs and subsequent metastases in their lungs compared to mice with normal levels of the immune cells.

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

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

Researchers find how cells recognize, repair DNA damage

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

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

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

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

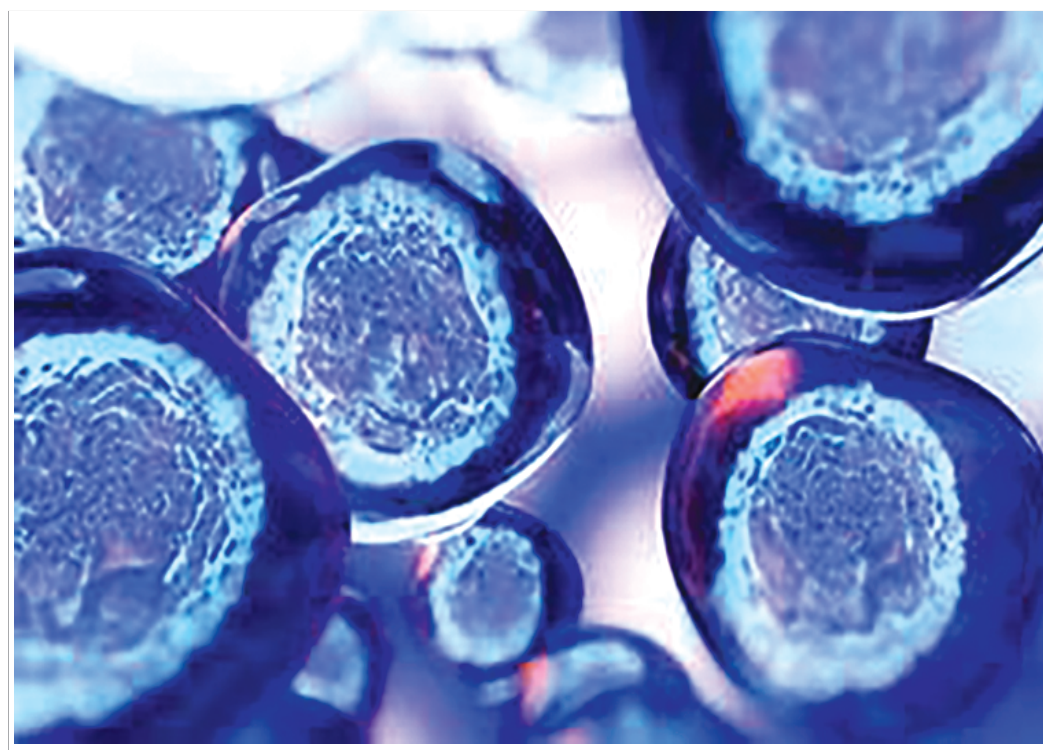
"In our study, we focused on so-called long non-coding RNA

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

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

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

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



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

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

can recognize and repair DNA damage highly efficiently.

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

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

Career Center for Cancer Research (MSNZ) in Wurzburg.

Whenever cells divide, there is a high risk of damage to the genetic material. After all, the cell has to duplicate its entire genetic material and copy billions of genetic letters before it divides. This repeatedly results in "reading errors" of the genome. However, other factors are also responsible for the accumulation of DNA damage in the course of a person's life: exposure to sun light, alcohol and cigarettes are just a few examples of factors that are known to damage the genetic

Researchers identify new potential treatment for cardiac arrhythmias

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

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

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

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



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

Currently, SK channels are the only known potassium channels that are upregulated in heart failure, and their regulation plays a critical role in cardiac excitability and how disturbances in the heart's rhythm develop.

Atrial fibrillation, commonly called AFib or AF, causes about 1 in 7 strokes, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is associated with a significant increase in the risk of morbidity and mortality. More than 12 million people are expected to have AFib by 2030, according to the American Heart Association, and current treatment paradigms remain inadequate, researchers say. Proteins involved in physiological processes of the heart have been a target of research for AFib for some time. Until recently, most research suggested that treating AFib through inhibition of specific small-conductance calcium-activated potassium channels, or SK channels, could either reduce or worsen arrhythmias under different conditions. "Our study used pioneer-

ing experimental and computational approaches to decipher how the human SK2 channel can be dynamically co-regulated. The study is especially timely considering inhibitors of SK channels are currently in clinical trials to treat AFib, making further insight into their regulatory mechanisms paramount," said Nipavan Chiamvimonvat, MD, chair of the Department of Basic Medical Sciences at the U of A College of Medicine - Phoenix. The paper, "Atomistic Mechanisms of the Regulation of Small Conductance Ca2+-Activated K+ channel (SK2) by PIP2," was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Science. The research team examined the role of a lipid - phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate, or PIP2 - in regulating the SK2 channel. PIP2 is an integral component of all plant and animal cell membranes and acts as a messenger for a variety of signaling pathways in the body.

"Because PIP2 plays such an essential role in multiple ion channels, regulating cardiac ion channels through PIP2 presents a new mechanism for the lipid regulation of cardiac excitability and function," said computational biologist Ryan Woltz, PhD, the paper's co-first author and an assistant research professor at the College of Medicine - Phoenix.

Currently, SK channels are the only known potassium channels that are upregulated in heart failure, and their regulation plays a critical role in cardiac excitability and how disturbances in the heart's rhythm develop.

"Since PIP2 is known to be dysregulated in heart failure, our study provides critical translational insights into possible mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias in heart failure," said co-first author Yang Zheng, PhD, a postdoctoral research fellow at the College of Medicine - Phoenix. Using comparative modeling, the research team generated human SK2 channel models in closed, intermediate and open states. They then used molecular dynamics simulations to explore the molecular mechanisms of SK2 channel modulation by PIP2. "Structural insights from our study will be useful to design novel inhibitors of SK2 channels to treat cardiac arrhythmias," said Vladimir Yarov-Yarovoy, PhD, a professor at UC Davis Health.



Lost bag returned to a Metro Commuter

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 05.04.2025, at 15:30 hrs, an on-duty lady RPF staff posted at Masterda Surya Sen Metro station while conducting a routine patrolling recovered an unclaimed bag from the platform and deposited it to the Station Master's Office of the station. After opening the bag, some valuable items were found therein. Thereafter, Station Master made repeated announcements requesting the owner of the bag to collect it from the Station Master's Office and a control message was also communicated to all the stations. After sometime, a lady commuter came to the Station Master's Office of Masterda Surya Sen Metro station and claimed the ownership of the recovered bag and the items containing therein. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the bag along with all other items were handed over to her. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping her to get back the lost bag along with all other items.

Hamas asked USD 500M from Iran to fund Oct 7 attack: Israel

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israel has made public an intelligence document that, according to its officials, reveals a direct financial and operational link between Hamas and Iran, including a request for USD 500 million to carry out its plans to invade Israel — an attack that was executed on October 7, 2023. Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz shared the document and accompanying video on social media platform X, stating, "I am presenting here for the first time a document that was found in the tunnels of senior Hamas officials in Gaza, which proves a direct relationship between Iran and Yahya Sinwar and Muhammad Deif, as part of Iran's support for the Hamas plan to destroy Israel." According to Katz, the document outlines Hamas's request to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds Force for USD 20 million per month over two years. The stated goal — to "uproot this monstrous entity" and "end this dark period in the history of our nation." Katz also claimed that Hossein Akbari Izadi, head of the IRGC's Palestinian department, responded by assuring Hamas of continued support despite Iran's economic hardship, affirming Tehran's strategic priority of opposing Israel and the United States. "In the document, Hamas demands USD 500 million from the IRGC's Quds Force to fund Israel's destruction," Katz said, further asserting, "Iran is the head of the snake." He added that Iran's support extends beyond Gaza to other regions, including Lebanon, Syria, Judea and Samaria, and Yemen's Houthis, branding it a broad "axis of terror." "Israel will do whatever it takes to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and will continue striking its terror proxies until the Iranian axis of evil is dismantled," the Defence Minister declared.

East Coast Railway Breaks Records with Significant Infrastructure Development in 2024-25 Financial Year

• 73.16 Kms Rail Line of Khurda Road-Balangir Rail Line Project Completed and Commissioned in 2024-25 FY only. • Other Rail Line projects in Odisha are also in progress.

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: East Coast Railway (ECOR) has achieved a remarkable milestone in the 2024-25 financial year, setting new records in railway infrastructure development. The railway zone has successfully added a total of 281.5 kilometers of new lines and multi-tracking, marking an impressive 50% increase over the previous fiscal year's achievement of 187.2 kilometers. This remarkable achievement is a result of consistent efforts and dedication. Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager of East Coast Railway, congratulated the entire team involved in these projects. ECoR's Construction team has made significant strides in accelerating project timelines and enhancing the quality of infrastructure development with regular coordination with state Govt authorities and other stakeholders. This substantial progress also underscores ECoR's commitment to enhancing the region's railway network, ensuring smoother operations, and improving transportation efficiency for both freight and passenger services.

Key Highlights:
281.5 Kms of new lines and multi-tracking added in the 2024-25 fiscal year.
50% increase compared to the 187.2 Kms achieved in the previous fiscal year (2023-24).
The New Lines and Multi Tracking projects completed are ... Lakshampur Road-Singaram-Tikiri a distance of 22.94 Kms of Koraput-



Singapur Road (Rayagada) Doubling Project; Dantewada-Kamlur Section and Bacheloi-Kirandul Section, a stretch of total 23.64 Kms of Kirandul-Jagadalpur Doubling project; Dhenkanal-Sadashivpur-Hindol Road, a stretch of 40.62Kms of Budhapank-Koraput Doubling Project; Ranital (Bhadrak) Junction Cabin-Bhadrak, a distance of 5 Kms of Bhadrak-Nergundi 3rd Line Project have already been commissioned. Apart from this, Samal-Parabil (6.53Kms) of Talcher-Bimalagarh New Line; Darliput-Padua (9.77Kms), Karakavalasa-Similiguda (9 Kms) & Suku-Koraput (11.16Kms) of Kottavalasa-Koraput Doubling project; Hindol Road-Meramundali (27.28kms) of Budhapank-Salegaon 3rd & 4th Line project; Baiguda-Kakiriguma (12.39 Kms) of Koraput-Singapur Road Doubling; Talcher-Talcher Road (6.50Kms)

of Jarapada-Budhapank 3rd & 4th Line project; Manabar-Jarati (9.34 Kms) of Koraput-Jagadalpur Doubling project and Baitarani Road-Jajpur Keonjhar Road (11.60Kms) of Bhadrak-Nergundi 3rd Line project have also been completed. The ambitious expansion and investment in infrastructure are part of ECoR's broader strategy to modernize its railways and contribute to the national objective of improving rail connectivity, promoting economic development, and ensuring a sustainable and efficient transportation system.

ECoR's focus on construction and modernization not only boosts operational efficiency but also creates new opportunities for trade and industry, benefiting millions of passengers and businesses across the region. The achievements in 2024-25 serve as a foundation for future growth, with continued commitment to safety, sustainability, and customer satisfaction as the core values driving ECoR's vision for the future.



People walk past the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) building, in Mumbai. Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty fell over 5 per cent in early trade on Monday. BSE Sensex tumbled 3,939.68 points to 71,425.01 and NSE Nifty slumped 1,160.8 points to 21,743.65.

Japan launches new maritime unit to counter China amid tensions over Taiwan Strait

MI News Service, Hiroshima: Japan's Defence Minister Gen Nakatani on Sunday expressed commitment to enhancing the transport capabilities of the Self-Defense Forces for remote southern islands via a newly established unit focused on maritime logistics amid rising tensions over the Taiwan Strait, as reported by Kyodo News.

"The unit will facilitate quicker and more secure troop deployments," Nakatani stated during a ceremony in Kure, Hiroshima Prefecture, commemorating the establishment of the Maritime Transportation Group, which was formed on March 24 and is located in the city, Kyodo News reported. The group, which operates under the direct control of Japan's Defence Minister, comprises approximately 100 personnel. It aims to acquire 10 transport vessels by March 2028, with two already constructed, according to the Self-Defense Forces (SDF). The captains of the two ships are members of the Maritime Self-Defense Force, while most other crew members are from the Ground Self-Defense Force, with training support provided by the MSDF. Nakatani said, "It is a historically significant milestone that we established the new unit with collaboration between the GSDF and the MSDF." Japan's action comes as China intensifies its pressure on Taiwan, a democratic island self-governed but claimed by Beijing, which has not dismissed the possibility of using force to assert control over it, according to Kyodo News.

Pirsabebs of Furfura Sharif join movement against passed Waqf Bill



Nurul Islam Khan

A meeting of all Pirsabebs was held in Furfura Sharif on Monday. This meeting was mainly held to join the movement against the recently passed Waqf Amendment Bill. Many including Pirzada Imran Siddiqui, Pirzada Mehra Siddiqui, Pirzada Qasem Siddiqui and Pirzada Sawban Siddiqui said that preparations have been made to join this movement along with the All India Muslim Personal Law Board. Pirzada Tamim Siddiqui, Pirzada Saferi Siddiqui, Pirzada Ammar Siddiqui, Pirzada Sanaullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Najmus Siddiqui, Pirzada Koyhafa Siddiqui and Pirzada Syed Mahtab Hossain, along with numerous other Pirs, are of the opinion that the common people should be made aware of this bill. They first spoke about holding a protest in Furfura Sharif against this black bill. Then the Pirs have announced a large-scale meeting in Kolkata with the concerned board. It is learnt that plans are being made to bring all the Pirs under one umbrella against this bill.

Dangerous conspiracy: Jamiat moves SC challenging validity of Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025

MI News Service, Delhi: The Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind has filed a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, which was passed after intense debates in Parliament. The Act, given assent by President Droupadi Murmu, has sparked controversy, with several petitions seeking its invalidation. Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind has condemned the law as a "dangerous conspiracy" designed to undermine Muslims' religious freedom. In its petition, the organization argues that the Act attacks the Constitution's provisions for equal rights and religious freedom. The group claims that the law would strip Muslims of their rights and has taken the matter to the Supreme Court, with its state units planning similar challenges in various high courts. Additionally, the

Samastha Kerala Jamiathul Ulema, a religious body of Sunni Muslim clerics from Kerala, has filed its own plea, arguing that the Act infringes upon the right of religious denominations to manage their affairs. Their petition, filed by advocate Zulfikar Ali P S, asserts that the amendments would distort the religious character of Waqfs and negatively affect the democratic process of managing Waqf properties. The plea further contends that the law violates Article 26 of the Constitution, which protects the right of religious communities to manage their own religious affairs.

The 2025 Act has also been criticized for centralizing control over Waqfs, with state governments and State Waqf Boards losing their authority. This shift of power to the Central government, according

to the plea, would be detrimental to Waqfs and the Muslim community, particularly regarding the management of Waqf properties.

Several prominent figures, including Congress MP Mohammad Jawed, AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi, and AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan, have filed petitions against the Act. Jawed's petition claims that the Act imposes arbitrary restrictions on Waqf properties, which undermine the religious autonomy of the Muslim community.

Owaisi's plea asserts that the Act discriminates against Muslims by reducing protections for Waqfs, while keeping similar protections intact for other religious endowments. He argues that this constitutes hostile discrimination against Muslims, violating Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution.

Pakistan: Farmers to launch nationwide protest against corporate farming on April 13

MI News Service, Islamabad: Farmers in Pakistan have decided to start a nationwide protest on April 13 against corporate farming, which is being implemented under the Green Pakistan Initiative (GPI), Dawn reported. Rallies and conventions will be carried out in various towns and at public-sector farms on April 13. The decision was taken by a joint sitting of the Pakistan Kissan Rabita Committee, Anjuman Mazareen Punjab, Hari Jedojehad Committee, Crofter Foundation, and others. Through the protest, the participants will call for an end to corporate farming and the eviction of peasants from the lands they have been cultivating for generations, as per the Dawn report. The participants will also demand a ban on the construction of controversial canals in southern Punjab, the distribution of all public sector agricultural lands among the peasants, the withdrawal of notices to tenants for payment of outstanding dues worth millions of rupees, and the fixation of the wheat purchase price at Pakistani Rupees (PKR) 4,000 per 40 kg during the ongoing harvesting season. The GPI is the federal government's initiative aimed to enhance agricultural development and tackle environmental issues by transforming uncultivated land into high-yield farms using modern technology.

Mohun Bagan perish Jamshedpur to enter ISL Cup Final



MI News Service, Kolkata: Mohun Bagan SG are into the final of the Indian Super League (ISL) Cup, yet again. They trample Jamshedpur FC 2 - 0 at Salt Lake Stadium on Monday. Mariners lost the first leg of the ISL Cup semifinal 1 - 2 at Jamshedpur. Needed a desperate win at Salt Lake Stadium in 2nd leg of the semi final, Mohun Bagan created massive pressure on the visitors from the very beginning of the match. Cummings scored in the 51st minute to make the Agg 2-2. Just when it was looking that the match is going to extra time, Apuia scored a stunning goal via curling long ranger deep into the added time (94') to secure a 2 - 0 victory over Jamshedpur (Agg: 3-2). Mohun Bagan will face Bengaluru FC in the final of the ISL Cup on April 12.

Gujarat: Muslim group files complaint after questionnaire on UCC circulated in govt school

MI News Service, Gandhinagar: The Minority Coordination Committee (MCC) has filed a formal complaint regarding a controversy that emerged in Vadodara, where students from various schools under the city's Education Committee were allegedly given Uniform Civil Code (UCC) forms by their principals and teachers. The students were reportedly instructed to have their parents sign these forms and submit them, which sparked concern and led to the MCC lodging a com-

plaint on Saturday with the panel tasked with assessing the UCC's need in Gujarat. The complaint centers on a questionnaire, allegedly being circulated in government-run schools, which asks for opinions on contentious aspects of the proposed UCC. The questionnaire, titled "A Questionnaire on Uniform Civil Code - Gujarat," includes questions on issues such as inheritance rights in live-in relationships, divorce laws, and personal laws based on religious beliefs.

Bangaon's historic Isale Sawab concluded



Nurul Islam Khan

Waqf is our ancestral property. It is our responsibility and duty to protect it. The central government is forcibly occupying the properties left by our ancestors and destroying democracy and the constitution. The above mentioned words were spoken by Pirzada Sawban Siddiqui of Furfura Sharif. On Sunday, in memory of Pir Abu Bakr Siddiqui, thousands from the audience

roared at the three-day historic Isale Sawab of Furfura Sharif at Khanqah Sharif in Bangaon Matiganj. A threat of launching a larger movement was given on this issue. The message of protecting the constitution was given in the 81st Isale Sawab organized by Pir Shaikhul Islam Ala Hazrat Baro Huzur, the head of Furfura Sharif. The Pirsabebs called for maintaining peace and harmony in the state. This annual traditional meeting of the

district is held on 21, 22 and 23 Chaitra. Free education arrangement has been established here for orphan children. The Hafiziya Qurania Madrasah is being run on the initiative of Hezbollah. The founder is Hazrat Pir Allama Abu Ibrahim Siddiqui. Pir Hazrat Abdullah Siddiqui addressed the meeting. He prayed for the welfare of mankind, especially for the innocent people and children of Palestine, prayers were offered while

Bangladesh sees riots against brutalities in Gaza

MI News Service, Dhaka: Protests erupted across Bangladesh, including the capital Dhaka, on Monday against Israeli brutality in Gaza. Various political, social, cultural, religious, and professional organizations protested on the streets of Dhaka. Organizers say they are holding the demonstrations as part of a global campaign to protest the brutal attacks on Palestinians in Gaza. Students have boycotted the classes and exams to participate in protests.

Officials and professionals have observed strikes. The organizers have urged the people to

boycott Israeli goods. "We support humanity first of all. The things that Israel has been doing to Palestine to remove their identity from the world are brutally bad. As a human, if I don't support Palestine right now, my humanity will be lost," said a student who joined the protest at Dhaka University. Protesters have strongly criticized the United States for supporting Israel in its attacks on Gaza, as well as the silence of organizations such as the United Nations, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and the Arab League. She said, answering a

question about the US role, "They have been doing this for power, nothing else. If they had humanity in their hearts, they would not be doing this to the people right now." "We are demanding to stop the genocide and to stop the killing of people," she added. Protesters carried Palestinian flags and displayed placards expressing solidarity with the people of Palestine. They also burnt an effigy of Netanyahu. The US has been criticised over Trump's proposal to forcibly relocate Palestinians to make way for the redevelopment of Gaza. Arab nations have decried the plan, and

rights groups have called it ethnic cleansing. Protesters also condemned US crackdowns on Palestinian activism on university campuses, as reported by Al Jazeera. At least 57 people have been killed in Gaza in the past 24 hours, and 137 injured, Gaza's Government Media Office said in a latest update. Since Israel resumed attacks on Gaza on March 18, the death toll has reached 1,391, while 3,434 were injured. The overall number of casualties since October 7, 2023, now stands at 50,752 killed and 1,15,475 injured, Al Jazeera reported.

“We have someone like Ajinkya in our team, who is very composed and calm”: Venkatesh Iyer on Rahane’s captaincy



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Kolkata Knight Riders Vice-captain Venkatesh Iyer has reflected on KKR skipper Ajinkya Rahane's captaincy and his leadership style and how he supports him both on and off the field.

Speaking on JioHotstar's special show Gen Bold, he acknowledged the different leadership styles of captains and highlighted Ajinkya Rahane's composure and his own dynamic approach. He appreciated the diversity of skills and mindsets within the team and valued communication and collaboration with Ajinkya both on and off the field.

"I think every captain has a different approach to the game. We have someone like Ajinkya in our team, who I feel is very composed and calm under pressure. My style of captaincy is a bit more dynamic, and that's the beauty of

cricket--people with different skill sets and mindsets coming together to contribute to the team. Ajinkya has already taken the initiative to speak to players, and I've been in regular conversation with him regarding the team--not just on-field strategies but also life off the field. I'm really happy to be playing under him." Venkatesh Iyer said while speaking exclusively on JioHotstar's special show Gen Bold. 'Iyer has made quite a name with his hard-hitting batting and useful bowling. During KKR's victorious IPL campaign last season, Iyer scored 370 runs, including four half-centuries and was bought back by the franchise for INR 23.75 Crore at the IPL 2025 mega auction. Rahane's credentials as a batter is well known. An experienced campaigner with over 4500 runs in the Indian

Premier League, Rahane was picked by KKR ahead of the 2025 IPL mega-auction for INR 1.5 crore. This is his second stint with the Kolkata franchise. He has also slammed 2 centuries and 31 half-centuries, with his highest IPL score being 105* runs.

He scored over 500 runs in two IPL seasons for Rajasthan Royals and has also led Mumbai to the Syed Mushtaq Ali title in 2022-23. Kolkata Knight Riders: Ajinkya Rahane (Captain), Manish Pandey, Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Rinku Singh, Luvnith Sisodia, Quinton de Kock, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Sunil Narine, Andre Russell, Ramandeep Singh, Anukul Roy, Rovman Powell, Venkatesh Iyer, Moeen Ali, Varun Chakravarthy, Harshit Rana, Vaibhav Arora, Mayank Markande, Umran Malik, Anrich Nortje, Spencer Johnson.

Harry Brook appointed as England's new white-ball captain

LONDON [UK] : Young batter Harry Brook was announced as England's new white-ball captain following Jos Buttler's resignation from the position following a dismal and winless ICC Champions Trophy campaign.

The announcement was made on Monday. Brook, who has been part of the white-ball setup since 2022, has been pivotal to England's batting lineup across formats.



Jos Buttler had stepped down from the role following a dismal ICC Champions Trophy 2025 campaign.

Currently ranked number two in the ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings, Brook has spent the past year as vice-captain in both ODI and T20I formats, as per the ICC.

He made his captaincy debut against Australia last September in Buttler's absence, earning praise for his tactical awareness and calm leadership. The series was a closely contested one which Australia won 3-2. The burden of captaincy also did not seem to affect Brook as he top-scored in the series with 312 runs in five matches at an average of 78.00 and a strike rate of over 127, with a century and two half-centuries.

Brook was also the captain of England U19s in the Men's U19 World Cup 2018. In that tournament, Brook made 239 runs in five matches with a century and two fifties to his name. England finished at seventh spot in the competition.

"It is a real honour to be named England's white-ball captain," Brook said in a press statement by England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), as quoted by ICC.

"Ever since I was a kid playing cricket at Burley in Wharfedale, I dreamed of representing Yorkshire, playing for England, and maybe one day leading the team. To now be given that chance means a great deal to me."

"I want to thank my family and coaches who've supported me every step of the way. Their belief in me has made all the difference, and I would not be in this position without them."

"There is so much talent in this country, and I am looking forward to getting started, moving us forward, and working towards winning series, World Cups and major events. I am excited to get going and give it everything I have got," he concluded.

Buttler's tenure as captain began on a high note with England's victory in the 2022 Men's T20 World Cup. However, England have been under the scanner in their recent outings at the ICC tournaments, with a dismal Cricket World Cup in 2023 (a seventh place finish after just three wins and six losses) followed by another unsuccessful title defence at the T20 World Cup in 2024, where they lost to India in semifinals.

During their white-ball tour of India and the Champions Trophy earlier this year, England managed to win only one out of the 11 matches they played across formats, eventually leading to Buttler's resignation from the captaincy. However, the swashbuckling batter confirmed he will continue to feature across formats.

The new skipper's first assignment will begin when England take on West Indies at home across three ODIs and as many T20Is from May 29, followed by a white-ball series against South Africa at home in September.

Kalinga Super Cup 2025 fixtures announced

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The fixtures for the Kalinga Super Cup 2025 are announced. The tournament, which will be played in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from April 20 to May 3, will see the participation of 16 clubs (13 from the Indian Super League and three from the I-League) in a single-elimination knock-out format. All matches will take place at the Kalinga Stadium.

The ISL teams were seeded for the round of 16 according to their final league position in the 2024-25 season. Three I-League teams confirmed their participation - Churchill Brothers FC Goa, Inter Kashi and Gokulam Kerala FC. They will face the top three ISL teams (Mohun Bagan Super Giant, FC Goa and Bengaluru FC). These three matchups will be decided by a draw on Wednesday, April 9.

The round of 16 will be played on April 20, April 21, April 23 and April 24, the quarter-finals on April 26 and April 27, the semi-finals on April 30, and the final on

May 3. If the scores are level at the end of 90 minutes in the round of 16, quarter-finals and semi-finals, there will be no extra time, and a penalty shoot-out will determine the winner. If the scores are level at the end of 90 minutes in the final, there will be extra time, followed by a penalty shoot-out to determine the champion.

The winners of the Kalinga Super Cup 2025 will qualify for the 2025-26 AFC Champions League Two Preliminary Round. East Bengal FC are the defending champions, having beaten Odisha FC in the 2024 final in Bhubaneswar. Odisha FC (2023), FC Goa (2019) and Bengaluru FC (2018) have been the past champions of the Super Cup.

Kalinga Super Cup 2025 Fixtures Round of 16 (seeds in bracket):

Sunday, April 20 (16:30) -- Kerala Blasters FC (8) vs East Bengal FC (9)

Sunday, April 20 (20:00) -- Mohun Bagan SG (1) vs I-League



Club - TBC

Monday, April 21 (16:30) -- FC Goa (2) vs I-League Club - TBC

Monday, April 21 (20:00) -- Odisha FC (7) vs Punjab FC (10)

Wednesday, April 23 (16:30) -- Bengaluru FC (3) vs I-League Club - TBC

Wednesday, April 23 (20:00) -- Mumbai City FC (6) vs Chennaiyin

TTSL Maharashtra brings local table tennis talent to fore as Phantom Stars storm to title win



MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : Blending a showcase of Maharashtra's finest talents with top-tier team performances, Phantom Stars capped off a dominant campaign by clinching the inaugural Table Tennis Super League (TTSL) Maharashtra title with a flawless triumph, winning all seven ties across the league and knockout stages, including a commanding 14-8 victory in the final against PBG Pune Jaguars on Sunday.

The league also spotlighted the next generation of table tennis talent in Maharashtra, with teenagers Divyanshi Bhowmick (PBG Pune Jaguars) and Prateek Tulsani (Mumbai Mozartt) being named Best Women's and Men's Players, overall, as per a TTSL press release.

"It was an amazing run for me in TTSL Maharashtra as I sailed past all my opponents without dropping a single game in my Singles while winning all the Doubles matches. The victory could have been sweeter had our team won the title, but nevertheless, it was a terrific experience playing for PBG Pune Jaguars and I really can't wait for the next edition to happen," said 14-year-old Bhowmick, who came into TTSSL Maharashtra after competing in the main draw of WTT Star Contender Chennai 2025.

An initiative by Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT) to strengthen grassroots talent development and elevate state-level competition nationwide, TTSL Maharashtra provided a high-stakes, professional platform for the state's top paddlers. With a total prize pool of Rs 6.25 lakh--including INR 3.5 lakh for champions Phantom Stars--the four-day league at NSCI, Mumbai, featured six teams battling it out in a showcase of emerging talent and competitive depth.

After storming past Century Warriors in the semifinals, Phantom Stars, the would-be champions, started the final on the back foot, with Senhora D'Souza losing the opening Women's Singles match to the seasoned Reeth Rishya 2-1. However, three successive 3-0 blanks, courtesy of Deepit Patil, Arnav Kshirsagar, and the Aarav Vora/Onkar Jog pair put the Phantom Stars back on track, and within four games of the championship title.

Despite a minor fightback by PBG Pune Jaguars, led by the prodigious Bhowmick,

Phantom Stars held firmly onto their lead and confirmed their victory through Kshirsagar and Swara Jangade in the Mixed Doubles match.

Earlier in the day, Mumbai Mozartt staged a remarkable comeback to take third place in TTSL Maharashtra. Having lost the first four matches of the third-place tie by an identical 2-1 margin, Mumbai Mozartt fought back to win the next four, with the Shubham Ambre/Taneesha Kotecha pairing and Zain Shaikh blanking their respective opponents 3-0, en route to a 14-9 win.

Among the best individual performers across age groups were Param Bhiwandkar (U-13 Boys), Swara Jangade (U-17 Girls), Arnav Kshirsagar (U-17 Boys), and veteran star Onkar Jog--all of whom left a lasting mark on the tournament. Pritha Vartikar (Mumbai Mozartt) and Deepit Patil (Phantom Stars), who are set to feature in UTT Season 6 in Ahmedabad from May 29, were named the best in the Women's Senior and Men's Senior categories.

Final Standings

Phantom Stars (1st Place): Deepit Patil, Senhora D'Souza, Aarav Vora, Arnav Kshirsagar, Swara Jangade, Onkar Jog

PBG Pune Jaguars (2nd Place): Anish Sontakke, Reeth Rishya, Nirav Mulye, Mayuresh Sawant, Divyanshi Bhowmick, Kedar Kasbekar

Mumbai Mozartt (3rd Place): Sagar Kasture, Pritha Vartikar, Prateek Tulsani, Yuvraj Yadav, Sukrati Sharma, Suraj Chandrasekharan

Player Awards

Best Player, U-13 Boys: Param Bhiwandkar (Ping Panthers)

Best Player, U-17 Girls: Swara Jangade (Phantom Stars)

Best Player, U-17 Boys: Arnav Kshirsagar (Phantom Stars)

Best Player, Veterans: Onkar Jog (Phantom Stars)

Best Player, Women's Senior: Pritha Vartikar (Mumbai Mozartt)

Best Player, Men's Senior: Deepit Patil (Phantom Stars)

Best Men's Player (Ovr): Prateek Tulsani (Mumbai Mozartt)

Best Women's Player (Ovr): Divyanshi Bhowmick (PBG Pune Jaguars),

Pakistan penalized for slow over-rate in third ODI against New Zealand

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Pakistan has been penalized five percent of their match fee for having a slow over-rate against New Zealand in the third ODI in Mount Maunganui on Saturday, according to a press release from the ICC.

Jeff Crowe from the Emirates ICC Elite Panel of Match Referees applied the penalty after it was determined that Mohammad Rizwan's team was one over short of the mark after accounting for time allowances.

In accordance with Article 2.22 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to minimum over-rate offences, players are fined five per cent of their match fee for every over their side fails to bowl in the allotted time.

Rizwan pleaded guilty to the offence and accepted the proposed sanction, so there was no need for a formal hearing. On-

field umpires Chris Brown and Paul Reiffel, third umpire Michael Gough, and fourth umpire Wayne Knights leveled the charge.

Ben Sears's second five-wicket haul on the trot inspired New Zealand (NZ) to whitewash Pakistan (PAK) with a 3-0 ODI series triumph, following their 43-run success in the third and final series clash at Bay Oval on Saturday.

The third and final ODI was reduced to 42 overs due to a wet outfield. Pakistan's attempt to chase a target of 265 ultimately fell short as they were bowled out by New Zealand for 221 in 40 overs. During the run-chase, Babar Azam (50 in 58 balls, with four boundaries and a six) did score a fifty along with useful 30s from Abdullah Shafique, Mohammed Rizwan and Tayyab Tahir. Still, Ben Sears (5/34) made sure Pakistan faced a clean sweep, skittled out for 221 in 40 overs. New Zealand captain



Michael Bracewell received the player of the match award for his outstanding fifty and one wicket.

Pakistan Squad: Abdullah Shafique, Imam-ul-Haq, Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan(w/c),

Salman Agha, Tayyab Tahir, Faheem Ashraf, Mohammad Wasim Jr, Harris Rauf, Akif Javed, Naseem Shah, Sufyan Muqeem, Irfan Khan, Abrar Ahmed, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Ali.

EC of AIFF formed eight-member task force to discuss MRA

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The All India Football Federation's Executive Committee met at the Football House on Monday to discuss the Master Rights Agreement (MRA) proposal given to the federation by Football Sports Development Ltd.

AIFF President Kalyan Chaubey chaired the meeting, which was attended by Vice President NA Haris, Treasurer Kipa Ajay, Deputy Secretary General Satyanarayan M, along with members Arif Ali, GP Palguna, Lainghiglova Hmar, Menla Ethenpa, Mohan Lal, Neibou Sekhose, Syed Husnain Naqvi, Syed Intiaz Hussain, Valanka Alemao, Vijay Bali, Thongam Tababi Devi, Pinky Bompal Magar, Shabbir Ali, Bhaichung Bhutia and Climax Lawrence.

The committee deliberated in detail about the MRA, and decided to form an eight-member task force to look into the MRA negotiations with FSDL. The task force will consist of the AIFF President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Chairperson and Deputy



Chairperson of the Finance Committee, and the Chairperson of the League Committee.

Arjuna awardee Subrata Paul, the Director of National Teams, submitted a report on India's AFC Asian Cup 2027 Final Round Qualifier against Bangladesh, held on March 25, 2025, at Shillong.

The committee proposed a set of communications guidelines be set for all AIFF affairs, including national teams.

The house further proposed appointing a spokesperson who would be authorised to issue

statements on behalf of the AIFF.

Kalyan Chaubey proposed that two renowned coaches - Bimal Ghosh and Armando Colaco - who were recently conferred with the Dronacharya Award, be nominated as advisors to the AIFF President. Ghosh and Colaco, in coordination with Technical Director Syed Sabir Pasha, National Teams Director Subrata Paul, Technical Committee Chairperson IM Vijayan, Padmashree Awardee, and Deputy Chairperson Shabbir Ali, Major Dhyan Chand Awardee, will support the chief coaches of

the men's and women's national teams across all age categories.

They will coordinate with the coaches on matters such as the requirement for the duration of camps, scouting, and exposure matches for the respective teams. The aforementioned task force will also submit a quarterly report on the same to the AIFF.

The Executive Committee suggested that a Normalization Committee be formed that will expedite the conduct of elections in the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association and the Tamil Nadu Football Association.

The committee proposed the formation of a four-member task force, consisting of DIG CISF Mr. Jitender Rana, IPS, Secretary, Services Sports Control Board, Varun Singh, Secretary, Railway Sports Promotion Board, Prem Chand Lochab, and Dronacharya awardee Bimal Ghosh, former coach of Air India.

The task force is to prepare a feasibility report on the institutional League/tournament that the AIFF intends to revive and submit a report to the federation within 30 days.