

Editor, Morning India

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Underlining the Centre's commitment to expanding power infrastructure and ensuring last-mile electricity delivery, the PM Modi laid the foundation stone for an 800 MW thermal power unit at the Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant in Yamuna Nagar. The Rs 8,470 crore project will be spread over 233 acres and is expected to significantly improve Haryana's energy security and power supply reliability. Furthering the 'Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan' initiative, the Prime Minister also laid the foundation

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The Supreme Court has on various occasions upheld these powers saying Article 324 is a vast reservoir of powers for the poll panel.

“You deleted your tweet after being caught. As a Union Minister, why haven’t you apologised yet for sharing fake communal propaganda which can lead to riots? Or was that your intention all along and you thought you wouldn’t get caught?” Gokhale added.

caus. The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has said the government "has rightfully tried to negotiate a carve-out" and that businesses need a "measured and proportionate approach". Trump has called the proposed new tariffs a "Liberation Day" for the U.S. economy. The action aims to shrink a USD 1.2 trillion global goods trade deficit by raising U.S. tariffs

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Indian Secular Front (ISF) activists took part in a protest rally for Waqf protection, and demanded the withdrawal of recent amendments to the Waqf Bill, in Kolkata on Kolkata

Youth Freed, Visits Ayodhya, Then Murdered

MI News Service, Hooghly: A young man ,Snajy Rajbangshi, was brutally murdered in Hooghly near the local station Sunday night. Recently released from prison and having returned from trip to Adyodya, he was found hacked to death, sparking a police investigation into a suspected revenge killing. A fatal assault Occurred in the Loharpara area of Hooghly district, resulting in the death of Sanjay Rajbangshi. The Chuchura Police station confirmed the incident, stating the victim was discovered deceased late Sunday night. Authorities are investigating the incident as a potential act of revenge. Preliminary reports incident that Sanjay Rajbangshi had recently released from custody following a conviction in a 2019 homicide case. Uttar Pradesh, residence with a relative before returning to West Bengal . Upon his return.. He began operating an auto-rickshaw to support his family. On Sunday evening, Sanjay Rajbangshi departed his residence, informing family members he was attending local puja festivities. When he failed to return, his family initiated a search. Shortly thereafter, they discovered him with severe injuries outside their home. He was transported to Imambara District Hospital in Chuchura, where he was pronounced dead. The Chuchura Police have established cordons and deployed additional personnel to the area as they conduct their investigation. The investigation is ongoing, and further details are expected to be released as they become available.

Bus stand sweet stall, vendor's space crunch

MI News Service, Durgapur: A Durgapur sweet shop sparked outrage by converting a government passenger waiting room into an extension counter, displaying and selling sweets. Bus passengers and locals are protesting the enforcement, claiming administrative inaction and political collusion. While the shop owner cites Poila Baisakh rush and his maintenance of the space. A public passenger waiting room, constructed by the Durgapur Municipal Corporation at Hadko intersection in Ward 27, has been repurposed as an extension counter for a neighboring sweet shop, triggering widespread discontent among bus passengers and local residents. The sweet shop, located adjacent to the shelter, has reportedly occupied the seating area with displays of various confectionery items, including sandesh, clove latika, gaja, and kachori. Furthermore, allegations suggest that the shop's customers are utilizing the shelter's premises for dining, forcing commuters to endure prolonged exposure to the elements while awaiting transportation. Deepak Kumar Paswan, a local resident, asserts that repeated requests for the shop owner to vacate the public space have been disregarded, with the municipal administration failing to intervene. BJP MLA Laxman Ghorui has criticized the situation, alleging administrative complicity and accusing Trinamool Congress leaders of accepting bribes from the sweet shop owner, thereby enabling the encroachment. The shop owner, Gautam Batbhal, defends his actions by citing increased business during the New Year period and claims responsibility for the shelter's maintenance, justifying the placement of his merchandise.

Police intervenes in violent Monk clash

MI News Service, Siliguri: Siliguri is gripped by escalating violence in following alleged attacks on Charak monks. Clashes between two9 groups have erupted in ward number four, resulting in widespread vandalism, shop looting and injuries to police personnel. The unrest, which began two days prior with attacks on Caraks pilgrims, intensified dramatically on Sunday promoting the development of Rapid Action Force (RAF) as authorities struggle to quell the escalating tensions and control the spread of rumors. Siliguri has become the site of significant civil unrest following allegations of attacks against Charak monks. Clashes between two factions

have escalated in Ward number four, resulting in widespread property damage and injuries to law enforcement. The situation, which has been volatile for two days, intensified Sunday with reports of further assaults on Charak pilgrims. Initial incidents involving attacks on pilgrims triggered heightened tensions, which were temporarily mitigated by swift administrative action. However, the situation deteriorated markedly on Sunday, with renewed reports of violence. A large-scale confrontation ensued, involving hundreds of individuals from opposing groups. Multiple commercial establishments were subjected to vandalism and looting, leaving debris

scattered throughout the area. Two police personnel sustained injuries while attempting to restore order. A police spokesperson stated, "Upon receiving reports of projectile attacks, officers were dispatched to the location. The prevailing situation appears to be exacerbated by the dissemination of unsubstantiated rumors. We are urgently appealing to the public to refrain from propagating or acting upon unverified information." In response to the escalating violence, the Rapid Action Force (RAF) has been deployed to the area. The region remains tense, and authorities are conducting extensive patrols to prevent further outbreaks of conflict

Court order ignored, playground fight erupts

MI News Service, Nadia: A violent clash erupted in Nabadwip's Kanainagar Battala area over a disputed playground, eslating into a battlefield. Villagers, attempting to prevent a court-defying occupation by local promoters, were allegedly attacks with firearms. Police responded with lathi charges to quell the unrest, deploying a significant force to restore order. Te dispute centers on the forcible takeover of long-used community playground, triggering widespread local resistance.

A significant disturbance occurred in the Kanainager

Battala area of Nabadwip, Nadia district, stemming from a land disputes involving a local playground. Residence allege that three promoters attempted to forcibly occupy the community recreational space, which has historically served as a playground for local children. The dispute escalated following a court ruling the favored the residents, contingent on the promoter's provision of valid land ownership documentation, which the promoters reportedly failed to produce. Residents claims that the promoters, in defiance of the court's decision, proceeded

to dismantle playground fixtures, including goal posts and pillars. Subsequently residents protests were met with alleged violence as promoters reportedly enlisted external individuals who employed firearms against the villagers. Law enforcement personnel from Nabadwip and Krishnanagar Kotwali police station were dispatched to the scene, employing lathi Charge to restore order. A substantial police presence remains in the area to maintain stability and prevent further escalation. Authorities are currently allegations of illegal occupation and assault.

IFA proposes 7:4 format to boost Bengali footballers

MI News Service, Kalyani: To provide a chance to more Bengali footballers in Kolkata football, the Indian Football Association has taken plans.

As for the lack of Bengali footballers in Kolkata grounds, the Macca of Football, is prominent, the IFA has started to ponder over it. It has taken plans to implement the 7 : 4 formula, said Ajit Bandopadhyay, the IFA President and the elder brother to West Bengal Chief Minister. He said so at Kalyani - Kantaganj in Nadia on Monday. He came here to inaugurate the blood donation camp and cultural function at the Ambedkar Utsava of Kantaganj Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Athletic Club. This is the 27th anniversary of the Utsava. " A team of Kolkata Football will have to follow the 7 : 4 format and there will be minimum 7 local footballers and max-



imum 4 outsiders in a team, if needed. I already have discussed with the big teams in Kolkata, " he added.

It is remarkable that the big clubs in Kolkata, including East Bengal, Mohan Bagan and Mahammad are more inclined to take either foreign

in talent hunt. That's why the district football league goes on and it keep a watch over the matches to find out good footballers.

Suchismita Singha Biswas, Member, Nadia Zilla Parishad too was present in the program as a guest. She said, " Ambedkar was a man of great personality. The backward class people were enlightened profoundly by his great effort and activities. But we have to work more for those people for their all round development."

Corruption claims, Tilottama's mother supports jobless teachers

MI News Service, Panihati: Seeking justice and highlighting widespread corruption, Tilottama's parents will join the unemployed teachers' protest, following their daughter's tragic death, which they attribute to systemic corruption. Tilottama's parents have pledged their support to the upcoming Navanna campaign, organized by unemployed qualified teachers, scheduled for April 21st. Representatives from the Deprived Job Seekers, Employees, and Unemployed Oikyamancha met with the family in Panihati on Monday to extend a formal invitation. The Oikyamancha representatives articulated

that the Navanna campaign aims to address the systemic corruption they allege has deprived qualified individuals of employment opportunities. "Talent is being stifled across Bengal due to corruption," stated a representative, emphasizing that Tilottama's case is symptomatic of a broader issue. "We have appealed to Tilottama's parents and the public to unite in this fight." Tilottama's father reiterated his long-standing demand for justice, stating, "The injustice they have suffered requires adjudication. We will participate in the April 21st Navanna campaign to demand accountability. We urge all conscientious citizens to join this procession." Tilottama's mother

characterized her daughter as a "victim of corruption," extending this designation to all qualified individuals facing unemployment. "While my daughter cannot be brought back, we will remain steadfast in our fight against corruption," she asserted. Tilottama's body was recovered from the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital seminar hall on August 9th of the previous year, prompting widespread public demonstrations. The incident ignited statewide protests, including candlelight vigils. The upcoming Navanna campaign represents the latest manifestation of public discontent, with Tilottama's parents joining the unemployed teachers in their pursuit of justice.

Double death follow suspicious relationship

MI News Service, Tarakeswar: Domestic dispute turns fatal in Tarkeshwar, A vegetable seller Adhir Mondal is suspected of murdering his cloth seller wife Nayantra Mondal,, and then Committing suicide,, amidst accusation of extramarital affair. Authorities are investigating a suspected murder-suicide that occurred in the Talpur Paschimpara area of Tarkeshwar on Monday morning. Adhir Mondal (48), a local vegetable vendor, and his wife, Nayantra Mondal (38), a cloth seller, were found deceased at their residence.

Preliminary reports indicate that Adhir Mondal allegedly assaulted his wife with a sharp object, believed to be a vegetable cutter, before taking his own life by hanging. The incident occurred following a period of escalating domestic discord. According to neighborhood sources, the couple had experienced prolonged marital strife, with Adhir Mondal reportedly harboring suspicions of infidelity. Family sources confirm that the couple had two daughters, one married and the other a minor. The incident unfolded after the couple's younger daughter left for morning tuition. Upon discovering the deceased, local residents alerted the Tarkeshwar Police Station. Officers arrived at the scene, recovered the bodies, and initiated an investigation. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem examination.

The Tarkeshwar Police are currently conducting a thorough investigation to determine the precise sequence of events and the underlying causes of this tragic incident.

Bhangar Chaos: CCTV disabled amid arson attacks

MI News Service, Bhangar: CCTV Targeted, Vehicles Torched in Bhangar Clashes: A Waqf protest descended into violent chaos, with allegations of ISF involvement in the destruction of surveillance equipment and arson attacks on police vehicles.

Renewed violence erupted in Bhangarh during a Waqf protest, resulting in the destruction of CCTV surveillance systems, arson targeting police vehicles, and widespread vandalism. The incident has triggered a wave of accusations between political factions, raising concerns about the instigators of the unrest.

The violence, which unfolded in the Sonpur Bazar area, followed a morning of heightened tension during a procession organized by the Indian Secular Front (ISF). A confrontation between protesters and law enforcement ensued after police intercepted a portion of the march. MLA Naushad Siddiqui led a separate procession, further escalating the already volatile situation.

The afternoon witnessed a dramatic escalation, with police vehicles being vandalized and set ablaze. Motorbikes were also targeted, leaving charred wreckage strewn across the streets. Notably, CCTV cameras, installed by the Kolkata Police following the area's jurisdictional transfer, were systematically destroyed. Authorities suggest this targeted destruction indicates an attempt to obstruct identification of the perpetrators. Law enforcement has deployed significant reinforcements to the area, and several arrests have been made. Reports indicate that five police personnel sustained injuries during efforts to quell the violence. Canning East MLA Shawkat Mollah condemned the violence, alleging ISF involvement and characterizing their actions as "anti-social." In response, MLA Naushad Siddiqui challenged the impartiality of police accusations, asserting that Trinamool Congress members were involved in the arson. He called for a thorough investigation based on video evidence, suggesting that individuals were operating under the guise of ISF members.

2,000 Cr shipyard planned for Nandigram

MI News Service, Nandigram: Industrial landscape is sparking controversy. Opposition leader Shuvendu Adhikari claims a 2,000 Cr central government ship repair factory is underway, while port authorities assert private companies and leaning land not receiving direct funding. Past failed promise and election- season activity fuel local skepticism regarding the project's completion.

A dispute has erupted over the development of a ship repair facility in Nandigram, with conflicting accounts from political figures and port authorities. Shuvendu Adhikari, the Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal state assembly, claims the central government has allocated ₹2,000 crore for two factories in Gillingham, including the ship repair facility, a statement made during a Ram Navami event. However, the Haldia Port Authority contradicts this, asserting

that the project involves leasing port land to private companies, with the port generating revenue through rentals, and that the central government is not directly investing in the ship repair factory. The port authority anticipates increased employment opportunities around the Haldia Port area through these private sector developments. Bappaditya Garg, the Trinamool Congress Block President for Nandigram-1, dismisses Adhikari's claims as politically motivated, alleging that the land lease to a private company for ship repair is being misrepresented for electoral gain. Local residents express skepticism, citing a history of unfulfilled industrial promises in the area. Recent infrastructure developments, such as road construction and gate installations in Gangachar, have been met with cautious optimism, as residents recall numerous land surveys and announcements that did not

lead to concrete projects. The industrial history of Gillingham includes the closure of the Burn Standard Factory, which operated on land allocated by the Haldia Port Authority in 1978, and the failure of a 2009 coach factory announcement by then Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee. Currently, the Haldia Port Authority has entered into a 30-year lease agreement with a private company for barge repair and maintenance on approximately 565,848 square meters of land in Gillingham. This agreement stipulates an annual rent and an advance deposit. Alongside this, plans are underway for a railway component manufacturing factory and a small ship manufacturing unit. The discrepancy between political claims and port authority statements has generated uncertainty regarding the project's funding and execution, leading to local apprehension.

Landslides tragedy, child dies playing father devastated

MI News Service, Banshihari: A nine year old boy Nabadwip Sarkar, Tragically died in Banshihari's Moshun village after being buried in a landslide while playing near pond. The incident occurred as he accompanied his father, who was collecting soil. Despite3 immediate rescue efforts by locals, the child was pronounced dead at Rashidpur Rural Hospital. The incident has left the family and the community in deep mourning.

A tragic incident in Moshun village, under the Braj Ballabh Pur gram panchayat of Banshihari police station, resulted in

the death of a nine-year-old boy, Nabadwip Sarkar. The incident occurred on Monday morning when Nabadwip accompanied his father to a local pond.

According to reports, the father was collecting soil when the child began playing near the pond's bank. A sudden landslide caused the bank to collapse, burying the child beneath the earth. Upon realizing the situation, the father raised an alarm, prompting immediate rescue efforts from nearby residents. After approximately ten minutes, locals successfully extricated the child and transported him to Rashidpur Rural

Hospital. Medical personnel at the hospital pronounced the child dead upon arrival. The Banshihari police subsequently recovered the body and dispatched it to Balurghat District Hospital for a post-mortem examination.

The child's father, Tarnikanta Sarkar, expressed profound grief, stating that he had repeatedly cautioned his son against playing in the area. The incident has resulted in significant distress within the local community. Authorities are conducting an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the landslide."

Ganga bath turns fatal for students

MI News Service, Hooghly: Tragedy struck Konnagar's Baro Mandir Ghat today as two school students drowned in the Ganges. The incident occurred after a group of five students, who had finished playing at a nearby field, went for a swim. Despite attempts by three of their friends to escape, the two victims, residents of Rishara NS Road, succumbed to the waters, reportedly unable to swim. The incident has prompted a rescue operation by disaster management teams and cast a pall of grief over the local community.

A tragic incident occurred at Konnagar's Baro Mandir Ghat today, resulting in the drowning of two school students. The students, residents of Rishara NS Road, Hooghly, were part of a group of five who had been playing at the nearby Konnagar Alkali ground. Following their recreational activity, they entered the Ganges to bathe.

According to local sources, the students encountered difficulties in the water, with two succumbing to the currents. While three individuals managed to exit the river, the remaining two were unable to escape. The incident prompted an immediate response from local law enforcement and the disaster management team, who

deployed divers to conduct a search and recovery operation.

"The incident has elicited expressions of grief from the local community. Shwetadra Banerjee, Youth Trinamool President of Ward No. 6, Konnagar, acknowledged the recurring nature of such incidents at the Baro Mandir Ghat, highlighting the challenges associated with regulating access to the sacred site. He emphasized the necessity for heightened vigilance by both the administration and local authorities to mitigate future occurrences. Investigations into the precise circumstances surrounding the drowning are currently underway.



Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Jayanti Celebration Nurul Islam Khan

On Monday, a special program was organized in Ward 30 and Ward 56 to mark the birth anniversary of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar at the initiative of Swapan Samaddar, member of the Kolkata Municipal Council, municipal representative of Ward 56 and president of North Kolkata INTUC. Swapan Samaddar sheds light on Dr. Ambedkar's ideals

and his invaluable contribution to society. The meeting was attended by ward number 30 mayor Papiya Ghosh Biswas, Mukesh Sau, Debashis Biswas, Sameer Saha, Kishore Das, Paresch Roy and Kishore Samanta. Swapan Samaddar inaugurated the meeting and garlanded the portrait of Ambedkar. Educational materials were distributed among the younger students, which was a special highlight of the event.

Anubrata Mondal's plea with folded hands

MI News Service, Birbhum: 'When Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has taken charge of the Waqf Amendment Bill, why should we let the soil of Bengal turn red with blood?' said Anubrata Mondal, the district president of the Trinamool Congress in Birbhum. His clear statement was, "We are all brothers, we will live together. We will not cause any trouble or violence. He gave this message to the workers with folded hands." He was speaking on stage at a meeting in Nalhati, Birbhum on Monday afternoon. He was heard giving this message at that time. Various parts of the state have been in a state of turmoil for the past few days due to the anti-Waqf movement. Pictures of unrest are being seen from Murshidabad, Malda to South 24 Parganas.



On the occasion of the 135th birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Babasaheb Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, Minister Aroop Biswas paid tribute to his portrait at Trinamool Bhavan on Monday, on behalf of the State Trinamool Congress. Trinamool Congress Vice President Jayaprakash Majumdar, MLA Nirmal Majhi, and other party leaders were also present.



Monday on Red Road, Minister Aroop Biswas paid tributes to Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Babasaheb Ambedkar statue on behalf of the State Trinamool Congress. Minister Shobhandev Chatterjee, Jayaprakash Majumdar and other provincial leaders were present.

Country dedicated to...

From PG 1
and best wishes to all fellow citizens. In his inspiring life, Babasaheb created a distinct identity of his own despite facing extreme difficulties and earned respect around the world," President Murmu wrote in a post on X.
Also paying his rich tributes, PM Modi said that it was due to Ambedkar's inspiration that the country was dedicated to realising the dream of social justice. "His principles and ideas will strengthen and speed up the building of an 'aatmanirbhar' (self-reliant) and developed

India," he said in X handle.. Senior Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, and Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge also paid homage to the statue of Dr Ambedkar. Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta was also present to offer the tributes. Every year on April 14, India observes Ambedkar Jayanti, commemorating his birth anniversary. It is observed as a public holiday in several Indian states and is marked by processions, seminars, and cultural events.

Situation in violence-hit...

From PG 1
Three people have died and several others injured in the violence which raged in Suti, Dhulian, Samserganj and Jangipur areas for more than two days since Friday afternoon over the protest against the passing of Waqf (Amendment) Act by the Central government
So far more than 200 people have been arrested in connection with the violence following protests against the new Act till Monday afternoon, he said.
"The situation in and around these disturbed areas is peaceful and under control. There is no report of any untoward incident from anywhere in the district of Murshidabad. Police deployment is there and we will not allow any form of nuisance to disturb peace," another senior police official said adding BSF personnel accompanied by state armed police and RAF conducted route marches along the national highway and

nearby alleys and bylanes. The streets and alleys, however, wore deserted looks as marketplaces, and shops remained shut with people choosing to stay indoors.
At least 18 police personnel were also injured in clashes, some seriously and admitted to different hospitals, he said.
Several vehicles, including police vans, were set on fire, stones were pelted on security forces, shops looted and vandalised, and police kiosks burnt down during the rampage.
As a result hundreds of people affected by such unabated violence in Murshidabad district have crossed the Bhagirathi River and took shelter in adjoining Malda, officials said. The local administration has arranged for accommodation and food for the fleeing riot-hit families and sheltered them in schools, while deploying volunteers at the river bank to assist those arriving in boats.

PM Modi flags off Hisar...

From PG 1
for a Compressed Biogas Plant in Mukarabpur, Yamuna Nagar. With an annual production capacity of 2,600 metric tonnes, the plant will promote organic waste management, clean energy generation, and environmental conservation.
Larter in the day PM Modi also inaugurated the

Rewari Bypass project, a 14.4 km stretch developed at a cost of Rs 1,070 crore under the Bharatmala Pariyojana. This infrastructure boost will help decongest Rewari City, cut travel time between Delhi and Narnaul by approximately one hour, and foster economic and social activity in the region.

US tariffs will "clearly" have...

From PG 1
to levels charged by other countries and counteracting their non-tariff trade barriers.
The British government, which oversees a relatively trade-intensive economy compared with other G20 countries, is seeking to avoid the reciprocal tariffs by negotiating a new economic deal with the United States.
Prime Minister Keir Starmer spoke to Trump on Sunday and the business minister Jonathan Reynolds visited Washing-

ton earlier this month in the hope of securing a deal that would spare Britain the impact of the tariffs.
One option that Britain is considering is softening the impact of its digital services tax on technology companies to help secure a deal, according to a British government official.
Trump has claimed that digital services taxes, and the value added taxes levied by European countries including Britain, are discriminatory against U.S. companies.

Kalighat skywalk....

From PG 1
The footpath along Kali Temple Road has been renovated, too, with newly laid paver blocks, he said adding "We have widened the footpath. Earlier, it was between 6ft and 7ft wide. Now the footpath is 12ft wide. We have demarcated space for hawkers on the footpath, leaving two-thirds of the width free for pedestrians following the street vending rules," said the engineer. The construction of the skywalk and the sprucing up of the pavement and roads have cost more than Rs100

crore, said an engineer.
The construction of the skywalk began in October 2021 with an 18-month deadline. Several new deadlines were set and missed. KMC engineers and officials said multiple challenges had to be overcome. "We had to shift a brick box-drain, high tension electricity lines and three water supply lines. Their shifting on such a cluttered and busy road took time. A redundant gas supply line had to be removed, too." "There were severe restrictions on when we could work.

Firhad urges Waqf act protesters to march to Delhi, not disrupt Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: In the wake of rising tensions surrounding the Waqf Act, West Bengal Minister and Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim has categorically dismissed the rationale behind ongoing protests in the state, asserting that the legislation is not being implemented in Bengal. Amid escalating demonstrations led by the Indian Secular Front (ISF), Hakim has called for unified protests in Delhi—where the law originates—rather than causing public inconvenience in a state that has

not adopted the controversial Act. Over the past few days, Murshidabad has witnessed heightened agitation over the Waqf legislation. On Monday morning, ISF workers and supporters launched twin protest marches from Bhangar, led by party MLA Naushad Siddiqui. The destination was Kolkata's Ramleela-Maidan. However, one of the processions was intercepted mid-route by police, prompting protesters to breach barricades in defiance. This led to heated confrontations, physical alterca-

tions, and eventually, police lathi-charge to restore order. Addressing the unrest, Hakim stated, "The Chief Minister has already clarified that the Waqf Act will not be enforced in Bengal. Then why the drama? Why inconvenience the public? When we block roads, all sections of society are affected. If the law isn't even applicable here, what is the purpose of such protests—just to show numbers?" He added pointedly, "If you must protest, why not go to Delhi, where the law is being im-

plemented? That's where opposition makes sense." In a sharp political retort, Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari mocked the ISF-led protest, referring sarcastically to Siddiqui's previous interactions with the Trinamool leadership. "We don't attend BAC meetings, but Naushad does. He even held one-on-one meetings at Nabanna. This wasn't expected after having fish fry together," Adhikari said, insinuating collusion. Despite the chaos, Siddiqui proceeded towards Ramleela-

Maidan with a team, reaffirming that all participants were legitimate ISF workers. "If TMC members pose as ISF and join our march, that's another issue. But our rally was peaceful—we took no provocative steps," he asserted.
As the political temperature rises, the debate over the Waqf Act continues to spark contention, revealing deeper rifts between Bengal's ruling party, opposition, and fringe players navigating sensitive communal and legal narratives.



Hindu devotees hanging on ropes perform rituals during the Charak festival, in Kolkata on Monday.

Bus rams into Park Street divider, 5 injured

MI News Service, Kolkata: A major road accident occurred this morning in the bustling heart of the city, causing panic and highlighting persistent concerns over public transport safety. A government-run bus travelling from Howrah lost control and crashed into the central divider at Park Street, near Chatterjee International in Maidan, around 10:30 AM. The impact was so intense that the vehicle mounted the divider, severely damaging its front portion and forcing emergency crews to cut through both the bus and the divider to facilitate removal.

Preliminary reports suggest the accident may have stemmed from mechanical failure. The driver, upon sensing a malfunction, attempted an emergency stop. However, with several vehicles in close proximity, he swiftly chose to steer the bus into the divider to prevent a larger catastrophe. Fortunately, due to low pedestrian traffic at the time, a major tragedy was averted.
It has also emerged that a reckless race between two buses may have contributed to the incident. Witnesses claim that during the aggressive manoeuvring, the government bus lost control, smashed through a railing, and eventually came to rest atop the divider. The front of the bus bore the brunt of the collision, with multiple components dislodged and strewn onto the road.
At the time of the crash, there were approximately 15 passengers on board. Five were reportedly injured, with one individual requiring hospitalization. Among the passengers were a woman and a child; the child sustained a minor head injury

and was rushed to SSKM Hospital. After receiving preliminary treatment, both were discharged.
The aged concrete divider remains partially broken and unstable, with the bus precariously tilted, posing a risk of toppling. As a precaution, both sides of the affected lane were cordoned off, and vehicular movement in the area was temporarily suspended. Traffic congestion followed, but normalcy was gradually restored after a crane removed the damaged bus.
Authorities have launched a thorough investigation to ascertain the cause of the accident. Key questions have been raised regarding the bus's speed, mechanical upkeep, and whether negligence played a role. Eyewitnesses and local commuters expressed relief that the consequences weren't more severe.

State Edu Dept seeks list of eligible and ineligible candidates from SSC

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant development following the Supreme Court's cancellation of the 2016 SSC recruitment panel, the West Bengal School Education Department has formally requested a district-wise list of eligible and ineligible candidates from the School Service Commission (SSC). This step marks a crucial move by the state government toward resolving the ongoing crisis involving nearly 26,000 terminated school employees.
Sources within Bikash Bhavan confirm that the request specifically pertains to those candidates whose eligibility status remains unclear—those neither explicitly deemed ineligible nor officially validated as qualified. Although the SSC had previously submitted a general list of ineligible and ambiguous cases, this time the department has asked for the classification to be broken down by district, enabling quicker

ground-level assessment by District Inspectors of Schools (Dis). This initiative follows a series of high-profile meetings with affected jobseekers. Just last Monday, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressed a gathering at Netaji Indoor Stadium, urging the dismissed candidates to remain patient and continue attending schools. She assured that "not a single deserving candidate will be deprived of their job" and mentioned that multiple plans were in motion to reinstate eligible individuals. Echoing similar sentiments, Education Minister Bratya Basu held a follow-up meeting where he indicated that the SSC had already begun preparing the eligibility lists.
According to internal sources, a preliminary list of approximately 19,000 eligible candidates has already been emailed to the Education Department. SSC also reportedly included in this updated list those whose names were

not previously tagged as ineligible by the court but were omitted in earlier communications.
The department plans to verify all submitted data thoroughly before taking any administrative action. The next course of action will follow after legal vetting and cross-verification by local education officers. The Education Minister also stated that if all legal consultations align, the final eligibility list will be published by April 21.
The Supreme Court's judgment had earlier labelled the 2016 recruitment process as "unconstitutional" and "institutionally corrupt," leading to the termination of thousands of teaching and non-teaching staff. While the court ruling triggered waves of protest, the state government's ongoing measures signal a renewed effort to distinguish the deserving from the undeserving and deliver justice through a legally sanctioned pathway.

Kunal Ghosh alleges BSF-central nexus behind Bengal unrest

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a startling revelation, Trinamool Congress spokesperson Kunal Ghosh has alleged that a section of the Border Security Force (BSF), in collusion with certain political factions and central agencies, is facilitating the infiltration of violent elements across the border to incite unrest in West Bengal. Addressing a press conference, Ghosh demanded a thorough investigation into the recent disturbances in Murshidabad, warning of a deep-rooted conspiracy aimed at maligning the state.
"Democratic protests, meetings, and rallies are legitimate in any civil society," Ghosh remarked. "However, in areas where violence has broken out, there are serious allegations that some infiltrators, with the tacit support of a segment of the BSF, crossed the border to provoke conflict and damage

Bengal's reputation. Locals are unable to identify the main instigators—those who led the violence seem to be outsiders," he added.
Ghosh went further to implicate a covert alliance between central agencies and select political actors, suggesting the existence of a "blueprint" to orchestrate such disruptions. "There are growing claims that, under the influence or direction of certain central agencies, a section of the BSF was manipulated to allow these instigators in, only for them to vanish after executing their plans," he said. "Why are these individuals untraceable? Why can't locals recognize them? These people lit the fire, both literally and figuratively."
He squarely placed the blame on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), accusing the party of fuelling instability for political gain. "This is the BJP's agenda—provocation and division. I

urge people not to fall into their trap. We demand an impartial investigation to verify the authenticity of these claims. It's a dangerous conspiracy," Ghosh asserted.
Meanwhile, BSF intelligence sources have presented a parallel theory, suggesting that extremist elements from Chhapai Nawabganj in Bangladesh may also be involved in fuelling the recent violence in Murshidabad and Malda. Intelligence reports pointing in this direction have already been submitted to the Inspector General for review.
As the controversy deepens, the political blame game escalates, casting a shadow over law and order in Bengal and raising urgent questions about cross-border infiltration, communal provocation, and the politicisation of national security forces.



A section of teachers rendered jobless by a recent Supreme Court verdict boarded a bus for Delhi on Monday, aiming to broaden their agitation beyond West Bengal. They plan to hold a sit-in protest at Jantar Mantar.

Guv steps in on Murshidabad unrest, talks with CM Mamata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid escalating unrest in Murshidabad over the Waqf Act, West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose has directly communicated with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to assess the ground situation. In a rare move, the Governor released a video message on Sunday evening, declaring that Raj Bhavan is closely monitoring developments in the violence-hit region. Towards the end of his address, Bose also issued a spirited message in Bengali, calling for peace and order.
Over the past few days, Murshidabad has witnessed widespread agitation and communal tension sparked by protests against provisions of the Waqf Act. In response, the administration has deployed police forces along with paramilitary units, including the Border Security Force (BSF), to maintain order. Following directives from the Calcutta High Court, additional central forces were dispatched to the district. On Saturday, Director General of Police Rajeev Kumar visited Murshidabad to take stock of the situation. On Sunday morning, he assured the media that the situation was "fully under control." Anand Rai, Superintendent of Police for the Jangipur Police District, echoed

this sentiment, stating that conditions have improved significantly. However, he raised concerns about misinformation being circulated on social media, urging the public not to fall prey to rumours. As a preventive measure, internet services have been suspended in several parts of Murshidabad. Restrictions have also been extended to select regions in Malda and Birbhum districts, where internet access will remain blocked until 10 PM on Tuesday.
In his official statement, Governor Bose asserted, "I have spoken to the Chief Minister about the Murshidabad situation. Raj Bhavan is keeping a close watch. The Union Home Ministry is also monitoring the developments. Miscreants are being arrested. Neither criminals nor their masterminds will be spared. No one will be allowed to take the law into their own hands. The state police and BSF are working in tandem, and sufficient central forces have been deployed. The Centre is prepared to send more forces if necessary." nln a striking conclusion to his address, the Governor, switching to Bengali, proclaimed, "Sangharsha, hingshahobena, hobena. Chalbena, chalbena"—a resounding call for peace and an end to violence.

Bengal Health Panel bans withholding Bodies over unpaid hosp bills

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a stern move to uphold patients' rights and dignity after death, the West Bengal Clinical Establishment Regulatory Commission has issued a strong directive to private hospitals: no deceased patient's body can be withheld over unpaid medical bills. The commission has also indicated that stringent regulations are on the cards to prevent such practices. This directive follows numerous annual complaints where grieving families were denied custody of their deceased relatives because they couldn't clear pending hospital dues. "Even if there are outstanding bills, no ex-

body" will be tolerated when it comes to releasing a dead body," stated Commission Secretary Arshad Warsi. "Hospitals often appeal to us, citing their financial concerns. But we must prioritise ethics and humanity," he added. The issue came into sharp focus during the recent state conference of the Progressive Nursing Home Association, where All India Nursing Home Association chairman H. M. Prasanna pointed out a "lack of compassion" in many Bengal nursing homes. Warsi echoed the sentiment, citing unethical practices like excessive and often unnecessary testing on critical patients within the first 24 hours of admission, leading to inflated bills. According to Warsi, some patients are billed as much as Rs 50,000 to Rs 60,000 in a single day through tests like MRI and CT scans—many of which may not be medically warranted. This overbilling, he noted, damages trust and burdens families during already traumatic times.

Name Change
I, Matiyar (Old Name),Son Of Matleb Ali Molla, Residing At Bejpara, Karinya, Balagarh, Hooghly - 721246, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Matiar Rahaman Molla(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/04/2025.

Name Change
I, Gobinda Prasaad Maity (old name) S/O Surendra Maity, residing at Ruinan, P.S.- Sabang, Paschim Medinipur, Pin- 721144, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gobinda Maity (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Gobinda Maity (new name) and Gobinda Prasaad Maity (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Pragati & Km Pragati (old names) W/O Abhigyan Kotnala, residing at 3003, Tower 12, Elita Garden Vista, Action Area-3, Newtown, P.S.- Technocity, Bidhannagar, Pin- 700135, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pragati Kotnala (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Pragati Kotnala (new name) and Pragati & Km Pragati (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Abdul Rahman s/o late Sher Mohammad Khan residence of Segun Bagan Lane.Po Telinipara .of dist Hooghly pin 712125.My actual name is Abdul Rahman and my son name is Abid Khan, but inadvertently my name wrongly written or recorded as Abdul Rahman Khan instead of Abdul Rahman in said s/o Telinipara (Abid Khan) MP examination (WBBSSE) examination 2007.That Abdul Rahman 'Abdul Rahman Khan and Ab Rahman is same and one identical person.Vide an Affidavit sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Chinsurah (Sadar) Hooghly on 10th April 2025.

Name Change
I, BINOD RUNGTA (Old Name) S/o. Lt. Basudeo Rungta, residing at 53/C/2 And 3, BON BEHARI BOSE ROAD, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL - 711 101, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as BINOD KUMAR RUNGTA (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata vide Affidavit No. 2497 dated 11/04/2025, BINOD RUNGTA (Old Name) and BINOD KUMAR RUNGTA (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Lipi Gharai Mukherjee D/o Late Hiralal Mukherjee, W/o Late Dilip Gharai resident of Adarsha Pally, 5th Lane, Birati, North 24 Parganas Kolkata - 700051 declare that in my Aadhar Card No. XXXX XXXX 0266 my name has been recorded as Lipi Gharai Mukherjee D/o Hiralal Mukherjee, in my PAN Card No. ASXP65864B my name has been recorded as Lipi Gharai and in my Bank A/c in SBI, Shakespear Sarani Branch Kolkata jointly with my deceased husband Late Dilip Gharai my name has been recorded as Mrs. Anuradha Garai. That Lipi Gharai Mukherjee D/o Hiralal Mukherjee, Lipi Gharai and Mrs. Anuradha Garai all are same and one identical person, i.e., myself vide affidavit No. 1433 dated 07.03.2025 before the court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Kolkata.

Name Change
I, AHAD ALI KHAN son of LATE ABED ALI KHAN residing at R-38, Garden Reach Road, P. O & P.S. Garden Reach, Kolkata 700024.South 24 Parganas, West Bengal do hereby affirm and declare that my correct and actual name is AHAD ALI KHAN and my father's name is LATE ABED ALI KHAN which has been mentioned in my Aadhaar Card no.5705 2551 5124 . Inadvertently my name has been wrongly recorded as M.Ahad Ali and also my father's name recorded M.Abed in my Voter ID Card no. FK1201631 in place of my correct name AHAD ALI KHAN and my father's name is LATE ABED ALI KHAN. By an affidavit no. 19438 before the LD Judicial Magistrate 1st.Class at Alipore on 19.03.2025 that AHAD ALI KHAN son of LATE ABED ALI KHAN and M. Ahad Ali son of M. Abed is the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Rozi Begum, D/o- Md. Taqi Alam, W/o- Syed Mohammed Zia, residing at 2A, Shah Aman Lane, Janki Apartment, Khiddirpore, P.O.- Khiddirpore, Dist.- Kolkata, West Bengal-700023. In my some documents my name has been recorded Rozy Begum instead of Rozi Begum. so vide affidavit before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 02/01/2025 that Rozi Begum & Rozy Begum is same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swapan Ganguly son of Late Mahadeb Ganguly residing at 94/4, P. Road, Netajigarh, Belgachia, P.S.- Dasnagar (Old P.S.- Liluah), Dist.- Howrah, 711108, have changed my name and he shall henceforth be known as Swapan Kumar Ganguly as declared before Notary Public at Howrah Court, Howrah, West Bengal Vide Affidavit No. K/Apr/246/25 Dated 09.04.2025 Swapan Ganguly and Swapan Kumar Ganguly both are same and identical person.

Metro to run 236 services in Blue Line And 90 services in Green Line-1 On Good Friday (18.04.2025)

BLUE LINE
Metro will run 236 (118 UP + 118 DN) services in Blue Line on 18.04.2025 (Friday) instead of 262 daily services.
First Service :- At 06:50 hrs. from Noapara to Kavi Subhash (No Change) At 06:50 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dakshineswar (No Change) At 06:55 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Kavi Subhash (No Change) At 06:55 hrs. from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar to Dakshineswar (No Change)
Last Service :- At 21:30 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dakshineswar (No Change) At 21:28 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Kavi Subhash (No Change) At 21:40 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dum Dum (No Change)

Special night Metro services in Blue Line will be available from Kavi Subhash and Dumdum stations at 22:40 pm as usual on that day.
GREEN LINE-1
Metro will run 90 services (45 UP + 45 DN) from 06:55 hrs. to 21:40 hrs at an interval of 20 minutes.
First Service :- At 06:55 hrs. from Sealdah to Salt Lake Sector V (No Change) At 07:05 hrs. from Salt Lake Sector V to Sealdah (No Change)
Last Service :- At 21:35 hrs. from Sealdah to Salt Lake Sector V (No Change) At 21:40 hrs. from Salt Lake Sector V to Sealdah (No Change)

Normal services will be available in Green Line-2, Purple Line and Orange Line on that day.

Name Change
I, Debananda Adhikari (old name) S/O Kartick Chandra Adhikari, residing at Kalipur Gobra Purbasha, Kalipur, P.S - Dankuni, Hooghly - 712708, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Debananda Adhikari (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Debananda Adhikari (new name) and Debananda Adhikari (old name) both are same and identical person.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Jayanti Debnath, Jaydev Debnath my father, residing at 525 Purba Sintehe Bye Lane, Near Natun Bazar, Dum Dum, VTC South Dum Dum (M), P.O. Ghughudanga, Dist. 24 PGS (N), PIN - 700030, W.B. shall henceforth be known as Jaydev Chandra Debnath vide an affidavit dated 03.04.2025 before the Notary Public, Kolkata. Jaydev Debnath & Jaydev Chandra Debnath both are same and one identical person i.e. my father.

Name Change
I, Abdullaah Sekh, s/o Salam Sekh, residing at Vill-Chandpur, P.O.-Bitra, P.S.-Kalna, Dist. Purba Bardhaman do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that in my Passport in father's column my father name written as Abdul Salam Sekh. That Salam Sekh and Abdul Salam Sekh is the same and one identical person vide an affidavit no. 11, date 11/03/2025 before In The Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Kalna.

DATE OF BIRTH CHANGE
I, SAKUNTALA SINGH, wife of Ganeswar Singh, Residing at AT-Salabani, Post-Rangamatiya, Dist-Mayurbhanj, State-Odisha, Pin-757049, and present residing at Salt Lake, Sector-5, Kolkata, West Bengal, That my actual and correct date of birth is 15/06/1995 which has been recorded in my Pan Card and High School Certificate Examination (GANESWAR SINGH) Service Recorded as 15/06/1991 in place of my correct date of birth 15/06/1995 the authority concerned should be rectified it. vide Affidavit before the Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta Incharge of Affidavit Section, Solemnly affirmed and declared before me at Calcutta No. 759 on 3rd April 2025.

DATE OF BIRTH CHANGE
I, MOUSAM RANI, daughter of Manoj Kumar Pandey, (D.O.B. 20/12/2000), residing at Ward No. 13, Nayan Sukh Nagar, Bhawanipur, Antichak, Bhagalpur, Bihar-813203, India, That my wrong date of birth is 20/12/2000 which is recorded and appeared in my School record lying with Army Public School, Ferozpur Cantt. vide GSE Affiliation No. 163048 School No. 04596, Book No. 25, SL No. 4902, Admission No. 29323. That on earlier occasion at the time of my Acknowledgement No. Aadhaar Card in UDAI enrolment wherein my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 20/02/2000 vide 1119/201881/4509 dated 14/03/2013, as That afterwards in my Aadhaar Card vide No. 8384-6891-1234 wherein again my date of birth correctly recorded 20/12/2004. That henceforth I swear this affidavit for the purpose of rectification of my date of birth as 20/02/2000 & 20/12/2000 which is/are incorrectly mentioned in the aforementioned documents and also to insert my correct date of birth as 20/12/2004 as per record in my school documents and this date of birth is evident and authentic before any competent authority as and when required, vide Affidavit before the Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta Incharge of Affidavit Section, Solemnly affirmed and declared before me at Calcutta No. 2708 on 11th April 2025.

Cleanliness Awareness Programme Conducted at Ballygunge Railway Station

ER Continues Its Drive to Promote Hygiene and Responsible Behaviour

MI News Service, Kolkata: A comprehensive cleanliness awareness programme was organized at Ballygunge (BLN) Railway Station on April 14, 2025, with a focus on sensitizing passengers, vendors, and



other railway users about the importance of maintaining a clean and hygienic environment within station premises. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about proper waste disposal practices, discourage littering, and reinforce the prohibition of spitting in and around the station area including Railway track. As part of the campaign, passengers and stakeholders were actively engaged and educated on their role in keeping railway premises clean and

Rs 4K Cr fraud: SC scraps bail of 13

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court set aside the anticipatory bail granted to 13 individuals accused of corporate fraud involving over ₹4,000 crore of public funds. Punjab and Haryana High Court had earlier granted anticipatory bail to the accused, but the Supreme Court deemed the decision "perverse and untenable" after the ministry of corporate affairs' Serious Fraud Investigation Office challenged the high court's order. The accused had defied arrest warrants and the proclamation order issued by a special court in Gurgaon. "Even though the non-bailable warrants were issued from time to time against the respondents, and even though the proclamation proceedings were initiated against them, the high court has passed the impugned orders. "The said orders have been passed in utter disregard of the mandatory conditions contained in Section 212(6) of the Companies Act, and also ignoring the conduct of the respondents accused. Such orders being in the teeth of the legal position settled by this court, as also in the teeth of Section 212(6) of the Companies Act, would fall into the category of perverse orders and therefore untenable at law," a bench of Justices Bela M. Trivedi and Prasanna B. Varale said.

Name Change
I, Shukrata Mondal, Wife Of Nur-jamal Mondal, Residing At Chandpur, Dhantala,Nadia-741202,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sukrata Khatun Mondal Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/04/2025. That Shukrata Mondal And Sukrata Khatun Mondal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Bablu Mondal (old name) S/O Gobinda Mandal, residing at Vill & P.O.- Haldi Para, P.S.- Hanskhali, Ranaghat, Pin- 741502, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bablu Mandal (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Bablu Mandal (new name) and Bablu Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Poushali Adhikari (old name) D/O Debananda Adhikari, residing at Kalipur Gobra Purbasha, Kalipur, P.S - Dankuni, Hooghly - 712708, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Poushali Das Adhikari (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Poushali Das Adhikari (new name) and Poushali Adhikari (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sadhana Ghosh (old name) S/O Gobinda Ghosh, residing at BANPUR SANGLANGA PASCHIM PARA,PO BANPUR,PS KRISHNAGANJ,NADIA-741503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sadhan Ghosh (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Sadhana Ghosh (new name) and Sadhana Ghosh (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Nazreen Begum (old name) W/O Md. Hanif, residing at House No.11, Road No-01, Old Purulia Road, Zakirnagar, Mango, Jamshepur, Jharkhand, Pin-832110, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nazrin Perween (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 11/04/2025. Nazrin Perween (new name) and Nazreen Begum (old name) both are same and identical person.

of whom played an instrumental role in the effective execution of the awareness drive.In addition to the awareness campaign, enforcement measures were also taken. A total fine amounting to ₹2,500 was collected from 16 individuals found violating cleanliness norms. Eastern Railway remains committed to fostering a culture of cleanliness and responsible civic behaviour across its network through regular awareness drives and enforcement initiatives.

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works 134th Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R Ambedkar Celebrated in CLW



MI News Service, Chittaranjan: 14.04.2025,The 134th birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution of the country, was celebrated in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) on 14 April. The program was organized with great fervor in the Baghwar Hall of the Technical Training Center. On this occasion, Shri Vijay Kumar, General Manager, who was present as the chief guest, garlanded and paid floral tribute to the portrait of Baba Saheb. Apart from this, the President, Secretary and officials of the SC ST Association, the principal head of the departments, officers and employees also paid floral tribute to the portrait of Dr. Ambedkar. In his address, Shri Kumar said that the biography of Baba Saheb is inspiring. We all need to learn from his biography. The country will always remember his role as a social reformer. The secretary of SC ST Association also expressed his views on this occasion.Mr. Kumar, General Manager felicitated and congratulated the successful participants in the essay competition organized on the life & times of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

ER'S continuous endeavor to Keep Station Premises & Track Clean



***Howrah Division of Eastern Railway Promotes Cleanliness at Purbasthali and Pundooah railway station** The **MI News Service, Kolkata:** Eastern Railway's Howrah Division took a proactive step towards promoting cleanliness and hygiene at Purbasthali and Pundooah railway stations and its surrounding areas through a comprehensive awareness drive conducted on 14.04.2025.

The initiative, led by the division's Environment and Housekeeping Management (EnHM) and health department, with the active participation of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and local shopkeepers. The campaign aimed to raise awareness among the passengers, vendors, and other rail users about the importance of responsible waste disposal, discouraging littering, and reinforcing the prohibition of spitting at Railway premises and other public areas. Special emphasis was laid on the pressing issue of plastic pollution. Officials educated the travellers and railway users about the harmful effects of plastic waste on the environment and public health, urging a shift toward sustainable, eco-friendly alternatives. Railway users were encouraged to utilize the designated waste bins placed throughout the station and to adopt practices such as using reusable bags, bottles, and containers.

Dry-up fear on Nainital Lake as water level drops to 4.7 ft

MI News Service, Nainital: The water level of the Naini Lake, considered the lifeline of Nainital, has dropped to 4.7 feet, the lowest in five years, causing concern among residents and the authorities. Scanty rain and snowfall in the tourist town this winter has increased the chances of the lake hitting a record low in the summer months of April, May and June. Last year, the hill station in Uttarakhand faced a similar situation but the monsoon more than compensated and replenished the lake abundantly, raising its level to 12ft. However, this year, there has been very little rain and snowfall. Nainital received snowfall only twice last winter — December 9 and January 12 — which was insufficient to replenish the lake, its control room in-charge, Ramesh Gaida, said. Now, with the water level continuously depleting and the summer and tourist season yet to begin, the situation has become a cause for concern, he said.

Miscellaneous

Critical Bridge Girder replacement completed successfully in Asansol Division



MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway continues its unwavering commitment to enhancing the safety and efficiency of train operations through timely infrastructure upgrades. In line with this, the Asansol Division has successfully completed the replacement of girders of the old Bridge No. 114A (originally constructed in 1946) on the Down Line between Siuri and Kunuri stations. The replacement was executed on 13th April 2025 during a scheduled traffic and power block from 06:55 hrs. to 14:15 hrs. The bridge comprises two spans of girders measuring 9.15 metres each and one span of 15.85 metres. The work was completed within the allotted block period with utmost precision and adherence to safety protocols. In addition, a series of critical safety and maintenance works were also undertaken in the Andal (UDL) – Sainthia (SNT) section during this period, further strengthening

Revised regulation of trains for Non-Interlocking Work over North Eastern Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to Non-Interlocking work for 3rd line between Gorakhpur & Gorakhpur Cantt. stations (3.5 km.) in connection with Kusmhi-Gorakhpur Cantt.-Gorakhpur Jn. 3rd line (14 km.) over North Eastern Railway, Railway was decided to regulate a few trains which was informed earlier through Press Release, has been modified as under :
13019 Howrah-Kathgodam Bagh Express (Journey Commencing from 15.04.2025 to 02.05.2025 = 18 trips) will run via proper route i.e. via Chhapra Jn.-Gorakhpur Jn.-Gonda-Barabanki Jn. and 13020 Kathgodam-Howrah Bagh Express (Journey Commencing from 15.04.2025 to 02.05.2025 = 18 trips) will run via revised diverted route i.e. via Barabanki Jn.-Ayodhya Cantt.-Jaunpur Jn.-Varanasi Jn.-Varanasi City-Aunrihar Jn.-Mau Jn.-Bhatni Jn.-Chhapra Jn. and skipping stoppages at Jarwal Road, Gonda Jn., Mankapur Jn., Babhan, Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur Jn., Chauri Chaura, Deoria Sadar.

Eastern Railway's RPF Rescued 63 Passengers in Distress During FY 2024-25

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway has been relentlessly working round the clock to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of railway passengers. With a steadfast commitment to service, RPF personnel continue to uphold the highest standards of vigilance and responsiveness through various missions across the zone. During the financial year from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, under Mission Jeevan Raksha, RPF personnel displayed extraordinary bravery and presence of mind by saving the lives of 63 passengers in distress. These passengers were found in life-threatening situations, including:
Slipping while boarding or de-boarding moving trains
Falling into the gap between the platform and a running train
Attempted suicides
Accidental trespassing on railway tracks
In each of these incidents, RPF staff risked their own lives to act swiftly and rescue the passengers from fatal consequences. These acts of courage not only reflect the humane side of the Force but also inspire confidence among the travelling public.

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.



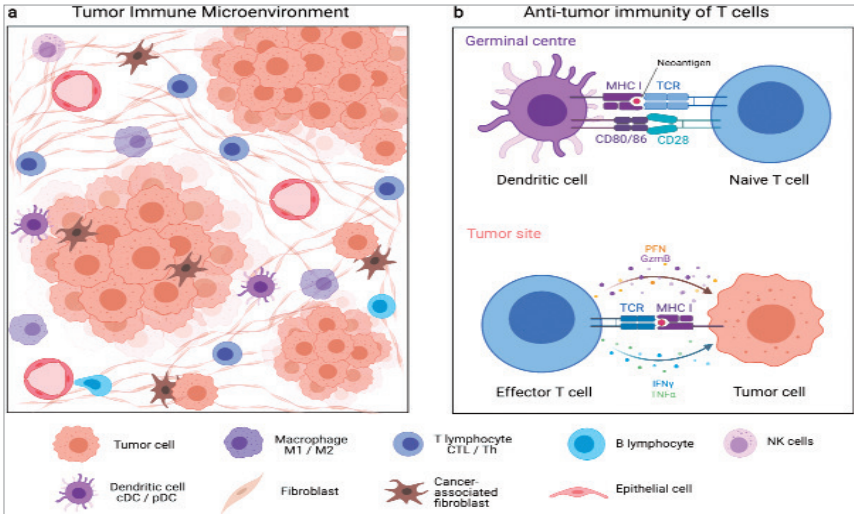
Researchers discover that unique immune cells stop metastatic cancer

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-b2--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 older DCCs from becoming resistant to dormancy signaling.

Simple measurement may predict risk of worsening kidney disease: Study



WASHINGTON DC [US] : Aarhus University researchers discovered a simple way for predicting which people are most likely to develop chronic kidney disease rapidly. This could be a key step towards improved prevention and treatment.

About ten percent of the Danish population suffers from chronic kidney disease, and some individuals experience rapid deterioration after the diagnosis is made.

Now, a team of researchers from Aarhus University in a comprehensive study has investigated the precise risk of rapid progression, and the result could be a significant step towards more effective treatment of the disease.

The study, which is based on data from Danish health registers, provides healthcare professionals with new insights into how to better identify patients at high risk of rapid worsening of kidney disease.

"We chose to investigate chronic kidney disease because some of the patients experience rapid deterioration of their condition without us knowing exactly who. Our goal was to understand which patients are most at risk and whether we can intervene early to delay or even prevent this progression," says Professor at the Department of Clinical Medicine at Aarhus University, Christian Fynbo Christiansen, one of the authors of the study.

A simple measurement The study showed that patients with newly diagnosed mild to moderate chronic kidney disease within three years have a 15 percent risk of rapid progression, which could lead to severe cardiovascular disease or even death.

Surprisingly, the study also showed that the risk of rapid progression varied significantly among patients.

A simple measurement of protein in the urine proved to be a strong indicator of the course of kidney disease. For women without diabetes or elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular

disease and without the protein albumin in their urine, the risk of rapid progression was seven percent, while the risk peaked at 47 percent for men with both diabetes, elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease, and albumin in their urine.

"This is an important finding since albumin can be used as an indicator of kidney disease progression, thereby making it possible to identify patients at high risk of rapid deterioration of the disease, and it can improve the prevention of complications and hopefully increase patients' quality of life," explains Christian Fynbo Christiansen, adding:

"It underscores the need to use this simple test to a far greater extent."

Benefit for patients and society

The measurement can help healthcare professionals to target treatment and follow-up to patients at high risk. This could potentially be a significant gain for patients both in Denmark and the rest of the world.

"We hope that this result can contribute to increased awareness of the importance of using readily available markers - including albumin in the urine - to identify patients at high risk of rapid progression," says Christian Fynbo Christiansen.

And it's not only the patients who can benefit from the results. Faster and more effective prevention could also potentially help to reduce healthcare costs.

"I think we will focus much more in the future on patients with milder stages of the disease, like those we included in this study. If we get better at preventing and treating chronic kidney disease and its associated complications, it could potentially benefit both patients and society," explains Christian Fynbo Christiansen.

He emphasizes that further research and development of precise treatment methods are still needed. Although the study provides important insight into risk groups, a precise model for predicting individual patient outcomes is still lacking.

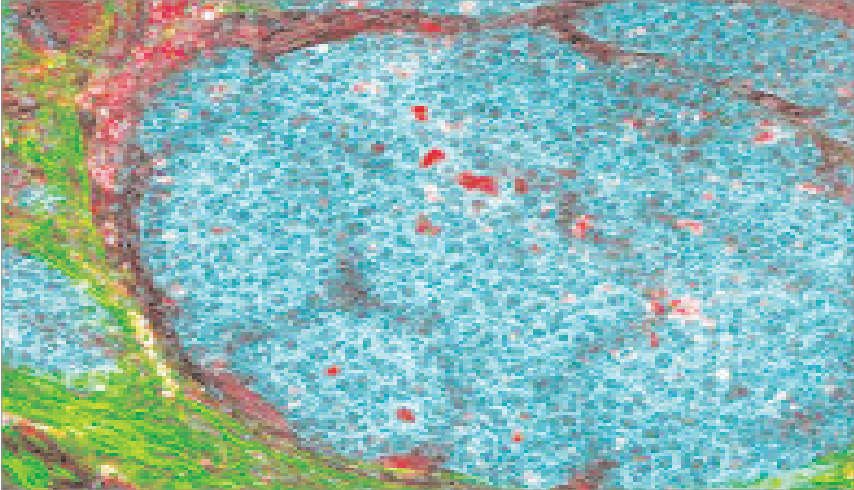
Researchers discover that unique immune cells stop metastatic cancer

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-b2--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 older DCCs from becoming resistant to dormancy signaling.

Researchers find clues about dementia's behavior changes

MICHIGAN [US] : When most people think of dementia, particularly Alzheimer's disease, they often think of memory loss first.

However, dementia alters a person's behaviour, whether it leads them to become agitated or worried, melancholy, nervous, or apathetic, or even changes their entire personality.

Over time, these behavioural changes can cause as much disruption in their life as losing their capacity to think and remember effectively.

Now, a team of University of Michigan researchers reports new clues about what might be happening in the brains of people experiencing even the earliest signs of dementia-related behavior changes.

Using two types of advanced medical imaging to study the brains of 128 people in the early stages of dementia, they show links between one of the brain's most crucial communication networks, a protein called tau, and the level of behavioral symptoms a person has.

This goes beyond the role of tau that scientists have already known about in people with more advanced dementia: causing tangled nerve fibers in brain regions involved in thinking and memory.

The new study suggests that tau disrupts the integrity of the brain's salience network. This highway of connections between specific brain regions is key to our ability to understand and decide how to react to things that are happening around us. It also helps us process our own thoughts and

emotions. The researchers showed that the more a person's salience network had been disrupted in the presence of tau, the more behavioral changes that person would experience. They report their findings in Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association.

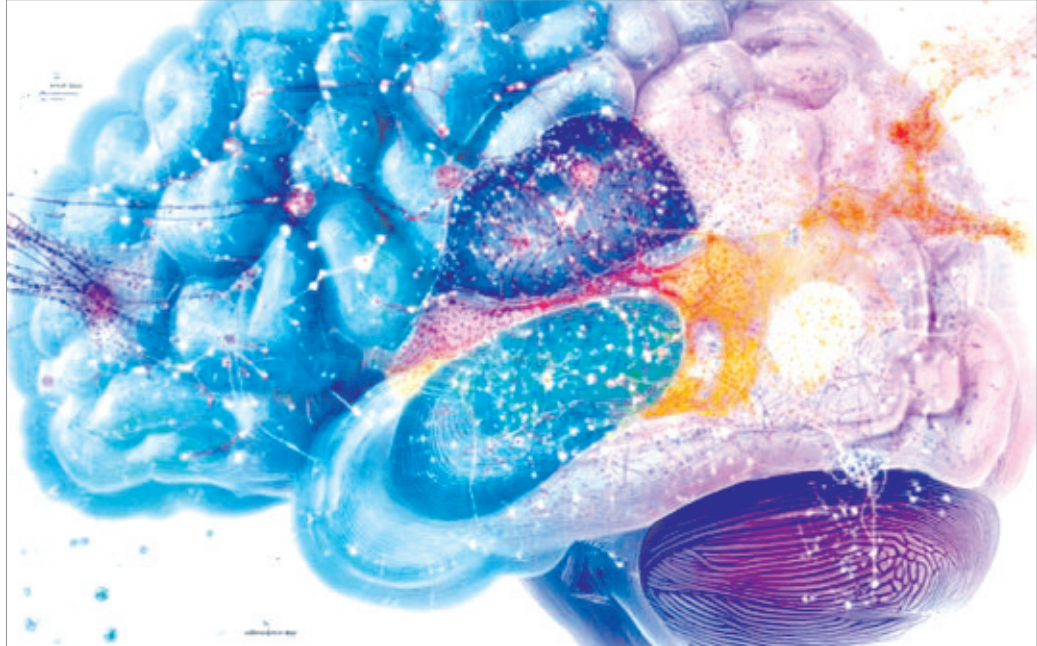
While the one-time imaging of these 128 research volunteers can't show cause and effect, the strong association between tau, salience network disruption and behavior change is intriguing, the team says.

They call for further study of the potential connection in other populations, and for research to evaluate change over time to explore what might be going on within the pathways of connected brain cells that make up the salience network, and explore how it relates to tau buildup and behavioral changes over the course of years.

They also hope to test whether they could slow behavioral change in people with early-stage dementia by targeting the salience network with mild electrical current or magnetic fields applied from outside the skull and guided by precise imaging.

The researchers, from the Research Program on Cognition and Neuromodulation Based Interventions (RP-CNBI), are led by Alexandru D. Iordan, Ph.D. and program leader Benjamin M. Hampstead, Ph.D. Both are faculty in the U-M Medical School's Department of Psychiatry.

Iordan, a neuroscientist who is



"This is the first study that links the biomarker status of an individual with the dysfunction of this network, and behavioral symptoms, in people on the Alzheimer's disease spectrum." The team used functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, to study each volunteer's brain and trace three different networks that each connect far-flung areas of the brain. They used a measure called the network segregation index, to gauge how functionally independent each network was relative to other brain networks.

They combined fMRI findings with results from a battery of neuropsychological tests and behavioral questionnaires the volunteers took. They also looked at results from positron emission tomography, or PET, scans that showed whether the person's brain contained excess tau protein as well as beta amyloid, another Alzheimer's-related protein.

lead author of the new study, says, "What we see is that the presence tau pathology relates to behavioral symptoms not in a direct relationship, but rather through

dysfunction of a specific network in the brain -- the salience network. The more affected this network is, the more severe the behavioral symptoms." He adds,

"This is the first study that links the biomarker status of an individual with the dysfunction of this network, and behavioral symptoms, in people on the Alzheimer's

disease spectrum." The team used functional magnetic resonance imaging, or fMRI, to study each volunteer's brain and trace three different networks that each connect far-flung areas of the brain. They used a measure called the network segregation index, to gauge how functionally independent each network was relative to other brain networks.

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The salience network was the only one of the three networks whose level of integrity correlated with the presence of tau and the severity of dementia-related behavioral issues. The default-mode network appears to be involved as a supporting player. The third network studied, called the frontoparietal network, was not related to behavioral symptoms. The new study showed that unlike tau, the presence of just amyloid in some volunteers' brains was not related to issues with the salience network or linked to that person's level of behavioral symptoms.

Iordan notes that the salience network is also known to be involved in some psychiatric disorders and in frontotemporal dementia, a type of early-onset, rapidly progressing dementia

marked mainly by behavioral and personality changes.

Iordan notes that PET scans for tau and amyloid are now used clinically in the diagnosis of dementia, and in managing treatment with new medications that aim to reduce the buildup of amyloid, with the goal of slowing cognitive decline.

But blood tests that can also detect the presence of tau and amyloid, and use them as biomarkers of dementia risk, have also started to become available. Since they're much less expensive than PET scans, they might also be useful in future studies of tau's role in behavioral changes too, he says.

Further research could also help explain and even predict variation in the onset of behavioral changes in people with dementia, and the pace of decline. It might also lead to ways to identify people whose behavior changes are their earliest detectable sign of dementia risk, even before cognitive ability changes.

But the most exciting thing to Iordan and his colleagues?

"Our findings provide us with a functional target for potential intervention," he said. "We will soon be able to see if brain stimulation changes these relationships thanks to a larger study led by Dr. Hampstead that evaluates the effects of different doses of weak electrical currents applied to the brain. This larger study is nearing completion, and we are very excited to see what the results show, so stay tuned!"



Over 250 ex-Israeli intelligence officials urge end to Gaza war, return of hostages

MI News Service, Jerusalem: More than 250 former officials of Israel's Mossad intelligence agency have signed a letter urging the government to immediately end the war in the Gaza Strip and bring about the release of the Israeli hostages still held there, Israel's state-owned Kan TV News reported.

According to the report, the signatories include three former Mossad chiefs: Danny Yatom, Efraim Halevy, and Tamir Pardo, as well as dozens of other veteran officials in the service. The ex-Mossad members said, "Continued fighting endangers the lives of the hostages and our soldiers, and every possibility must be exhausted to reach an agreement that will end the suffering. We call on the government to make courageous decisions and act responsibly for the country's security." They expressed support for hundreds of military aircrew members, in reserve or retired, who signed a similar letter, calling for a cessation of hostilities and the return of the hostages. Xinhua news agency reported. Following the publication of the aircrew members' letter on Thursday, Israeli Air Force Commander Tomer Bar decided to terminate the service of active reservists among the signatories. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu backed the dismissal decision and lashed out at such letters, calling the signatories "an extremist fringe group" attempting to "break Israeli society from within." Also on Sunday, about 200 Israeli military doctors signed a petition with the same demand for stopping the fighting and bringing home the hostages, according to several media outlets that published a copy of the letter. "The continued fighting in Gaza is primarily intended to serve political and personal interests, without any security purpose, and endangers the lives of soldiers and hostages," it said.

Thousands rally across Turkiye against Israel's attacks on Gaza

MI News Service, Ankara: Thousands of people across Türkiye took part in a protest Sunday against Israel's attacks on Gaza under the motto "Gaza is Dying! Rise Up!" People in several provinces of the country expressed their support for Palestine. Hundreds gathered at Beyazıt Square in Istanbul for a march that the Turkish non-governmental organization the IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation had called for days in advance to draw attention to Israel's attacks on the Gaza Strip since Oct. 7, 2023, which have claimed thousands of lives. Starting at 2 p.m. local time, participants marched along Yeniceri Street chanting slogans such as "Murderer Israel, get out of Palestine" waving Turkish and Palestinian flags. Members of the Ankara Palestine Solidarity Platform (ANFI-DAP) staged a protest in front of the US Embassy in Ankara.

Social Economic Development and Challenges on USBRL Project



MI 26 Helicopter transporting a Dumper from Jammu to Surukote in October 2010, a remote location between Reasi and Sangaldana

MI News Service, Kolkata: Brief history and time line: Linking Kashmir with Indian Railway network is centuries old dreams. The first idea for building a narrow gauge rail link to the Kashmir Valley was mooted over a century ago, when foundation stone laid for Jammu – Srinagar rail link by Maharaja Pratap Singh on 1st March 1892, later in 1898 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh. Four viable routes were found to link Punjab with Srinagar and the Kashmir Valley, the Banihal route from Jammu, the Poonch route via the Jhelum Valley, the Panjar route from Rawalpindi also via the Jhelum Valley and the Abbottabad route from Kalako Serai though Hazara in the upper Jhelum Valley. Detailed surveys were conducted for a mix of meter and broad gauge tracks. However, the inhospitable climate, the tricky terrain, restricted resources and history confined this idea to survey reports and drawing boards. In 1905 the British also revisited the idea and Maharaja Pratap Singh agreed to the line between Jammu and Srinagar via Reasi following the Moghul road. This plan envisaged a narrow gauge track to cross the Pir Panjal range, but the project remained a dream only. The project was considered several times after independence also, but it was only in the year 1981 sanction was given for the Jammu-Udhampur Rail link project. In 1994-95, the final Rail link between Udhampur– Srinagar–Baramulla (USBRL) was sanctioned and in the year 2002, the central government declared this Railway line a National Project. Some of the important key events/ mile stones during the journey of making reality the dream of connecting Kashmir valley with the

network of Indian Railways are as follows:

- 1981: Jammu – Udhampur Rail Link Sanctioned
- 1994: Extension of Rail link to Srinagar announced.
- 1995: Works on Udhampur – Katra Rail Link Started.
- 1999: Works on Qazigund – Baramulla Rail Link started.
- 2002: Works on Katra – Qazigund Rail Link started.
- 13 Apr 2005: Jammu – Udhampur Section opened.
- 11 Oct 2008: Mazhom – Anantnag Section opened.
- 14 Feb 2009: Baramulla – Mazhom Section opened.
- 28 Oct 2009: Anantnag – Qazigund Section opened.
- 26 June 2013: Banihal-Qazigund Section opened.
- 4 July 2014: Udhampur-Katra section opened.
- 20 Feb 2024: Banihal-Sangaldana section opened.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:

1. **Employment generation:** a. Direct employment by Railways for land loser: Government has issued a policy for appointment of member of land losers, whose more than 75% land acquired by Railways. Against this policy, government jobs for 804 No. eligible beneficiaries were given by Railways. b. Indirect employment through executing agencies: In this project, 14069 No. employment was given by project executing agencies during construction period. Among which 65% employment given to locals of J&K. c. More than 525 lacs man days of employment have been generated on this project.
2. **Skilled development for local artisan:** All the works on USBRL project whether, tunneling, bridge works, electrification, track laying, electro-mechanical works are highly specialized and executed through state-of-the-art technology and methods. Tremendous skill development of



Helilifting of Excavator to Surukot on 31.10.2010

the local artisans and workers were resulted and now these workers are successfully working as trained skilled workers on other precious projects of the country. 3. **Accessibility:** The project sites were highly inaccessible and militancy intensified during the period of inception. With the inception of this project, construction of access road commenced in these remote locations. USBRL has constructed more than 215 km approach roads to provide access for tunnel and bridges sites. The construction of these approach roads are very challenging in itself due to difficult climatic conditions, treacherous terrain, unstable Himalayan geology and law & order issues. With a view to accelerate progress of construction of Approach road up to most remote part of project, i.e. Sawalkote, airlift of heavy construction machineries using army helicopters from Jammu airport was done. A table top helipad was constructed by levelling a 100 m x 40m stretch of land near Surukote village in between Dugga and Sawalkote using mere hand tools. MI-26 Helicopters was used for heli-lifting of heavy construction machines, sorties had been conducted and 226 MT load was air lifted to Surukot (Photo enclosed).

With the completion of these approach roads, the connectivity of large number of surrounding villages such as Guni, Paikhad, Gran, BatalGala, Bakkal, Kauri, Dugga, Surukot, sawalkot, Basindhadhar, Ind, Baralla, Sangaldan, Talwa, Dharam, Kholi, Megdar, sumbar, urnihal, siran, kundana, khari, Hingni, Arpinchala, Tatnihal, Chaplain, Bankoot etc. to name a few

in Jammu & Kashmir have drastically improved. It has ensured connectivity to about 70 villages consisting of about 1.5 lacs population. Earlier, the access to these villages was primarily through footpaths or by boat to some extent. Locals would walk along slippery slopes and rock ridges of the hardest, torn terrain to reach to township having roads and means of transport to travel to district headquarters and other places. These villages were cut off from civilization due to lack of roads. It would be worthwhile to witness the changing landscape of commercial activities in these villages with the opening of market places, repair workshop, roadside local restaurants (dhabas) etc. it has opened up new avenues and vistas of opportunities to remotely located population. These remote villages and towns, which were bereft of even the most basic facilities, are becoming centre of learning and commercial activities.

4. **Enhanced Connectivity, and Improved Transportation:** The USBRL project provides faster and more reliable transport options, reducing travel time significantly. This improved connectivity benefits both people and goods, enabling better movement between remote and urban areas. The railway line connects key pilgrimage sites like Shri Amarnath Cave temple, Hazratbal shrine, Charar-e-Sharif etc. and beautiful picturesque Kashmir valley, attracting more devotees and tourists to the region. This boosts the tourism industry, leading to increased business for local hotels, restaurants, and other services.

5. **Economic Growth:** i. Boost to

Local Businesses: With improved access to national markets, local businesses, especially those involved in agriculture, handicrafts, and local products, can now reach larger markets, driving sales and revenue growth. ii. Industrial Development: The rail link facilitates the transportation of raw materials and finished goods, encouraging the establishment of new industries, particularly in manufacturing, agriculture, and technology sectors. This could lead to the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the region. iii. Boost to Agriculture and Trade: The railway network will help in the smooth transportation of Kashmir's agricultural products like saffron, apples, and handicrafts to other regions, boosting trade and exports of agricultural products. iv. Access to National and International Markets: Farmers and local businesses will be able to sell their products beyond the region, giving them access to larger markets and promoting economic diversity in the region.

6. Social Integration and Cohesion:

The railway line will connect different communities, promoting social integration and cohesion across regions. People from various parts of Jammu & Kashmir, as well as other states, will be able to interact more frequently, fostering a sense of unity. With improved transportation, cultural exchange will increase, bringing people together to share experiences, traditions, and resources, contributing to greater cultural understanding and tolerance.

7. National Security and Strategic Importance:

The railway will also contribute to national security by facilitating quicker mobilization of resources, including military supplies, and improving strategic movement within the region. This strengthens the overall security infrastructure and creates a sense of stability, which is essential for sustained socio-economic development.

8. **Environmental Benefits:** The introduction of an electrified railway line reduces dependence on road transport, which is more carbon-intensive. It provides an environmentally friendly mode of transportation, contributing to a reduction in the region's overall carbon footprint.

The construction of the new railway line in the USBRL project will significantly impact the socio-economic development of Jammu & Kashmir. It will improve infrastructure, generate employment, boost trade, and enhance connectivity, leading to long-term economic prosperity. Additionally, it will contribute to greater social integration, better access to essential services, and overall improved living standards for the people of the region. This multifaceted development ensures that the USBRL project plays a crucial role in transforming the socio-economic landscape of Jammu & Kashmir.

Uttarakhand: Atleast 170 madrasahs sealed, Chief Minister calls it 'historic step

MI News Service, Dehradun: In recent days, over 170 madrasahs have been sealed across Uttarakhand, with state authorities citing the absence of registration with the Madrasah Board or the education department as the primary reason. This crackdown has sparked concern, particularly in Muslim-majority areas such as Banbhalpur in Haldwani, where a joint team from the district administration, municipal corporation, and local police conducted inspections on Sunday, April 13.

Seven madrasahs were sealed during the operation for allegedly running without valid documentation.

According to a state-

ment from Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama's office, the action follows findings from comprehensive surveys carried out by government-appointed teams. The Chief Minister described the move as a "historic step," emphasizing that institutions believed to be fostering radicalism under the guise of education would not be allowed to operate.

He maintained that the state is committed to preserving educational integrity and national security.

Officials indicated that this may be the initial phase of a broader effort, with nearly 500 madrasahs currently under investigation. Notably, many of the sealed institutions have been op-

erating for decades, prompting concern among local residents and educators. Community members fear that long-standing schools are being shut down without due process or clear criteria.

Civil rights groups and Muslim religious leaders have responded with calls for a fair, transparent review process. They warned that mass closures lacking proper justification could deepen feelings of alienation among minority communities and erode trust in state institutions.

They urge the government to distinguish between unregistered but legitimate institutions and those that may pose genuine concerns, ensuring that educational access is not unfairly restricted.

Outrage in Tamil Nadu, the Governor asks students to chant 'Jai Sri Ram'

MI News Service, Chennai: Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi, who was invited as the Chief Guest for an event at Madurai's Thiagarajar Engineering College, is reported to have urged the students to chant the 'Jai Sri Ram' slogan. The event, titled 'Kambar in Educational Institutions', was organised at Madurai's Thiagarajar Engineering College, a Government-aided college, to distribute prizes to the winners in a literary contest. The Governor, while delivering his keynote address in his closing remarks, asked the students to chant the slogan 'Jai Sri Ram.' This act of the Governor has started a turf war between the representatives of Aryavarta and the people living in Dravidian or Tamil Nadu. In Tamil Nadu's educational curriculum, particularly in the Tamil language, "Kambar's Ramayanam, written by Tamil poet Kambar, is being taught, which is very different from the Ramayana written by Valmiki and later Tulsi Das.

While Tulsi Ramayana has transcended from a work of fiction to "religious scripture," in Aryavarta, the Kambar Ramayana remains a work of literature in Tamil Nadu. The State Platform for Common School System (SPCSS), an organisation comprising educationists, in a statement, has demanded the immediate removal of Tamil Nadu Governor from his post for "violating his oath of office." "Mr. R. N. Ravi was invited as the Chief Guest in his capacity as the Governor of the State of Tamil Nadu. He was not invited as a preacher of a particular religion. He was not asked to give a religious sermon," the statement said.



Recently, Pirzada Mujahid Siddiqui, the grandson of the great Huzur, Mohammad Ali Yusuf Sambil, was speaking at a historic Isa-le-Sawab in Howrah district.

Jasimuddin receives 'Mahaprana Smriti Gold Medal' in court journalism



Nurul Islam Khan

On Monday, on the birth anniversary of Dr B R Ambedkar, various awards were given by 'Ambedkar Cultural College' at Swami Vivekananda Hall of Moulali Bhavan. 'Court correspondent' Molla Jasimuddin was felicitated with the 'Mahaprana Smriti Gold Medal'. He is a 'High Court correspondent' of a widely circulated daily. For 5 years, he has been appointed as a 'Bench Member' in the National People's Court, Howrah District Court and Serampore Sub-division Court. Jasim's late father Moham-

mad Nurul Hoda Molla, a 'non-advocate mediator' of the High Court, was one of the state's toppers in the 1983 judicial examination. Upon receiving this honor, Jasimuddin said - "Any award further develops the pace of work." Dilip Biswas, head of the entrepreneurial organization, Dr. Nirmal Majhi, Padma Shri recipient folk singer Ratan Kahar, former public relations officer Shri Sameer Goswami, eloquent artist Sonali Kazi, environment-loving police officer Samarendu Chakrabarty, poet Sheikh Abdul Jabbar, Swapan Dutt Baul and others were present.

Madrasah Welfare Association Seminar at Kolkata Press Club

Nurul Islam Khan

A meeting of Bengal Madrasah Welfare Association was held at Kolkata Press Club on Monday. State Minority Commission Chairman Ahmad Hasan Imran, Pirzada Alhaj Sawban Siddiqui, eminent educationist Abu Saleh Rezwani Karim, former Superintendent Mufti Azam Sahib, organization president Maulana Mashiur Rahman, editor Dr. Ashraf Hossain and Maulana Nurullah and many other leaders were present. Ahmad Hasan Imran said, Madrasah education in the state is a traditional and ancient education system. The education system has been formed by ideal individuals, families and the country. Millions of well-educated students have made outstanding contributions to society. Haji Mohammad Mohsin, Shaheed Titumir, Maulana Abul Kalam



Azad, Sir Syed Amir Ali, Mujaddide Zaman Pir Abu Bakr Siddique (Rah) and others were given gifts. Pirzada Sawban Siddique said in his meaningful speech that the prominent freedom fighter and the first education minister of independent India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, along with numerous other luminaries, are the shining stars of this madrasah. Five huzurs, including Pir Dada Huzur of Furfura Sharif, have established thousands of maktab madrasahs.

The current Madrasah Education system is being appreciated outside the country as well. The recent verdict of the Supreme Court of India has also declared Madrasah Education as constitutional. As a result, employment opportunities are increasing. It is worth mentioning that the former Alia Madrasah has been upgraded to a university focusing on Madrasah Education and has achieved U.G.C. recognition. It has spread extraordinary

education in all aspects. Madrasahs are run in two processes: Senior and High. Government recognized M.S.K. and Un-Aided Madrasahs are also run in two parts. Maulana Mashiur Rahman presented the information and said that according to Act-1994, Islamic religious education and culture will be provided in senior madrasahs to the fullest extent along with the addition of general education as needed. The institutions built on land donations of crores of rupees by the marginalized communities, Zakat, and Fitra have lost their real purpose and importance. But Dr. Ashraf Hossain expressed his anger that madrasah education is being destroyed due to the central government's attack. The organizing organization has submitted some demands expressing gratitude and appreciation to the Honorable Chief Minister. The following de-

mands were raised in the meeting. The recitation of the Holy Quran from senior madrasahs, the history of Islam was deleted from the portal, the names related to madrasahs like Alim 1st year and Alim 2nd year were abolished, the posts of theology that are the lifeblood of the madrasahs were destroyed. The damage has already been done by bringing the 'portal', the center of the academic subjects of the madrasahs, under the School Education Department. (Note-Departmental Portal under School Education, Madrasah Service Commission Act-2023) Needless to say, as a result of the said decision, despite being a minority religious educational institution, senior madrasahs are losing their independent existence and high madrasahs are struggling to maintain their madrasah-related identity.



How has Nicholas Pooran fared against CSK in IPL?

LUCKNOW : Ahead of his side's Indian Premier League (IPL) clash against Chennai Super Kings (CSK), all eyes will be on the West Indies and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) southpaw Nicholas Pooran, who is the top-run-getter so far in the tournament.

The fourth-placed LSG (with four wins and two losses in six games) will be aiming to continue their fine home run against a bottom-placed CSK, who have secured just one win in six matches so far. After their win in the campaign opener against Mumbai Indians (MI), they went on to suffer five successive losses, with three of them coming at the home venue of Chepauk Stadium.

In the ongoing season, Pooran is at the top of the Orange Cap leaderboard for most runs, with 349 runs in six matches at an average of 69.80 and a strike rate of over 215. He has smashed four fifties so far, with the best score of 87*. He has smashed 26 fours and 31 sixes in IPL 2025 so far, one less six than CSK's six tally in the season so far.

the most by a batter.

However, Pooran does not have a very exciting record against CSK, having made 249 runs in 10 innings and 11 matches at an average of 35.57 and a strike rate of 157.59, with one half-century and best score of 64*. His record against CSK consists of largely cameo knocks of 20s and 30s, along with three single-digit outings.

Squads: Lucknow Super Giants Squad: Aiden Markram, Rishabh Pant(w/c), Nicholas Pooran, Ayush Badoni, David Miller, Abdul Samad, Himmat Singh, Shardul Thakur, Akash Deep, Digvesh Singh Rath, Avesh Khan, Ravi Bishnoi, Prince Yadav, Shahbaz Ahmed, Matthew Breetzke, Shamar Joseph, Mitchell Marsh, Manimaran Siddharth, Aryan Juyal, RS Hangargekar, Yuvraj Chaudhary, Akash Maharaj Singh, Mayank Yadav, Arshin Kulkarni

Chennai Super Kings Squad: Rachin Ravindra, Devon Conway, Rahul Tripathi, Vijay Shankar, Shivam Dube, Ravindra Jadeja, MS Dhoni(w/c), Ravichandran Ashwin, Noor Ahmad, Anshul Kamboj, Khaleel Ahmed, Deepak Hooda, Matheesha Pathirana, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Shaik Rasheed, Jamie Overton, Shreyas Gopal, Sam Curran, Mukesh Choudhary, Nathan Ellis, Gurjapneet Singh, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Andre Siddarth C, Vansh Bedi.

"Never seen someone play against Bumrah like this": Basit Ali hails Karun Nair for explosive display

ISLAMABAD : Former Pakistan batter Basit Ali was left gobsmacked after witnessing Karun Nair toying with the world's best Jasprit Bumrah with a technically sound and magical strokeplay in the ongoing 18th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025.

Even though Delhi Capitals antagonistically succumbed to a 12-run defeat while pursuing Mumbai Indians' daunting 206-run target, the high-scoring fixture will be remembered for Nair's valiance.

He singlehandedly carried Delhi's hopes of ending Mumbai's flawless record while defending a 200-plus target. On his return to the cash-rich league after three years, Nair decimated Mumbai's pace express and toyed with the spinners in his explosive 89 from a mere 40 deliveries without breaking a sweat.

The highlight of his swash-buckling effort in the high-scoring Arun Jaitley Stadium was how effortlessly he demolished Bumrah's prowess in the white-ball format. Basit struggled to remember a top-class batter in the past five to six years who



made Bumrah tilt at the windmills the way Nair did in Delhi's home ground. For the former Pakistan batter, Nair is a "very big player."

"In the last five to six years, I have never seen someone play against Bumrah like this. Even if the top-class batters in the world, including Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Joe Root, Steve Smith, Jos Buttler or Travis Head,

nobody has played against him like that. The way Karun Nair counterattacked Bumrah made it feel like someone was playing cricket. The way he scored over extra cover, he is a very big player," Basit said on his YouTube channel. By varying his pace, Bumrah tried to put Nair in an awkward spot, but the in-form star read him like a book. It was

the final over of the powerplay, where Nair flaunted his power-hitting prowess. He began the over by smoking the ball past the boundary rope for a maximum.

He topped it up by dispatching the ball for a boundary on the third delivery. On the penultimate delivery of the over, he picked up the slower delivery and lofted it over long-off for another maximum. Nair celebrated his half-century with a double on the final ball and mustered 18 runs from the over. He faced nine deliveries and garnered a whopping 26 runs, laced with three fours and two towering maximums, leaving Bumrah dismayed. For the 54-year-old, even if Nair had just 49 runs to his name instead of 89, his remarks about the Indian's stellar performance would have remained the same. "I was told he scored 300 against England in a Test. How did he drop out of the squad? Youngsters in India and Pakistan should play with this much confidence. DC should have won. I can't understand how they lost the game. Even if he scored 49, my comments would be the same. When he played shots,



Mumbai Indians' Jasprit Bumrah and teammates celebrate after winning the IPL 2025 match against Delhi Capitals, at Arun Jaitley Stadium, in New Delhi on Sunday. (ANI Photo/Shrikant Singh)

Madrid, Bayern, Dortmund, Villa face do-or-die situations in UEFA Champions League Quarter-finals Leg 2



NEW DELHI : After a thrilling first leg filled with goals and some nerve-wracking fixtures, the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals now head into the decisive second leg, where Real Madrid, Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund, and Aston Villa face uphill battles to overturn unfavourable results against their respective oppositions.

tail order for Dortmund.

Barcelona's attacking trio continues to dominate both in La Liga and the Champions League, and all eyes will be on their captain, Raphinha, who now leads the charts for both goals and assists in the ongoing season.

In the second fixture on Wednesday, Aston Villa will aim to capitalize on their home advantage against a confident PSG side, fresh off clinching the Ligue 1 title under manager Luis Enrique. After a 3-1 loss in the first leg, the English side faces a stiff challenge.

PSG, known for their swift counterattacks, will look to maintain a compact defensive structure while waiting for openings, as Villa are expected to attack relentlessly in search of a turnaround.

The quarter-final action will continue on Thursday as Inter Milan hosts Bayern Munich at San Siro. Inter Milan stormed into the second leg with a narrow lead, having executed a brilliant defensive performance in Munich.

Their disciplined 3-5-2 system, built around midfield control and a patient build-up, contrasts with Bayern's fast-paced and direct attacking approach. It will be up to Harry Kane and his teammates to break through Inter's resilient setup and keep their European hopes alive.

Finally, defending champions Real Madrid face an almost insurmountable challenge against Arsenal, trailing 3-0 from the first leg. While the odds are stacked against Madrid, Los Blancos have a history of producing dramatic comebacks in the competition, most notably in 2022 against Manchester City.

Real Madrid will look to draw on that spirit once again and rely on their big-match mentality to try and pull off another unforgettable night in Santiago Bernabeu in Champions League history. All the action will be live on the Sony Sports Network from Wednesday.

Trials underway in Sonipat for second Asian Yogasana Sport Championship

SONIPAT : The Sports University of Haryana in Sonipat is hosting the national trials for the upcoming 2nd Asian Yogasana Sport Championship. These trials will determine the athletes who will represent Team India at the prestigious championship, scheduled to take place from April 25 to 27, 2025, at the Indira Gandhi Arena in New Delhi.

The trials have drawn an impressive 252 participants from across India, including 123 male and 131 female athletes, a release said.

Competitors will perform across 12 events, each designed to showcase the power, discipline, balance, and athletic spirit of Yogasana as a competitive sport. The events run from 8:30 am to 8:00 pm, offering a packed schedule of engaging performances and high-level competition.

The initiative is being led by the Asian Yogasana Sports Federation, a registered body recognized by the Olympic Council of Asia and affiliated with World Yogasana. The selected athletes from these trials will have the honour of representing India at the Asian level, contributing to the global evolution of Yogasana from an ancient discipline to a modern sport.

"These trials are not only a gateway to international competition but also a celebration of India's cultural and physical heritage. We are witnessing the next generation of Yogasana athletes who are combining spiritual depth with athletic excellence," Jaideep Arya, secretary general of Yogasana Bharat and World Yogasana, said, according to the release.

Sanjay Malpani, President of the Asian Yogasana Sports Federation, said the response to this championship from across Asia has been overwhelming.

"It is clear that Yogasana is gaining recognition as a true sport that demands immense physical and mental discipline. India, being its birthplace, has a crucial role in leading this movement."

Udit Sheth, President of the National Yogasana Sports Federation, shared, "We are proud to see such strong participation and performance at the trials. These athletes are pioneers—building the foundation of a sport that bridges tradition with modern competitive standards. The upcoming championship in New Delhi will be a historic moment for Yogasana sport in Asia."

ITTF World Cup 2025: Manika Batra, Sreeja Akula start off campaign with wins



MACAU : Paris Olympians Manika Batra and Sreeja Akula kickstarted their International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) World Cup campaign with wins on Monday.

While the world number 30th Manika defeated the world number 186 Maylis Giret of New Caledonia 4-0 (11-1, 11-2, 11-6, 11-4) in the Group 16 match, the world number 34 Akula beat Australia's Constantina Psihogios, 68th in the women's singles table tennis rankings, 3-1 (11-9, 11-4, 11-8, 6-11), as per Olympics.com.

Manika's next challenge will be the Brazil's Bruna Takahashi, while Akula will lock horns with three-time Olympian and current European Games champion Bernadette Szocs of Romania in her final group stage match. The World Cup is held in two stages, group stage and knockouts. The men's and women's players have been divided into 16 groups featuring three players each and the group toppers will make it to the knockouts.

India does not have any participants in the men's draw. The group stage matches have four games each and players will be ranked based on the overall win-loss ratio across both fixtures and players with the best ratio in terms of games won across both their matches will qualify for the knockouts.

Cricket South Africa announce women's squad for ODI tri-series against Sri Lanka, India



JOHANNESBURG : Cricket South Africa (CSA) on Monday announced the Proteas women's squad for the upcoming triangular ODI series against India and hosts Sri Lanka.

Three players have received their maiden call-ups to the national side, with Karabo Meso and Seshnie Naidu, who featured in the ICC U19 Women's T20 World Cup earlier this year, included in the tri-series squad. All-rounder Miane Smit, who was a travelling reserve at last year's ICC Women's T20 World Cup, also makes the cut, as per the ICC.

Alongside the youngsters, Nondumiso Shangase returned to the national side for the first time since the Proteas Women's tour to India in June last year.

These four players come in as replacements for seamer Ayanda Hlubi, wicketkeeper Mieke de Ridder and opening batter Lara Goodall. Meanwhile, Marizanne Kapp will miss the series as she continues her conditioning block in preparation for the upcoming tours and the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup in India.

"It's a very good squad. The mixture of youth and experience helps. It's an opportunity for these girls to show what they can do. Hopefully, whatever we've covered at the camp can be applied in Sri Lanka when we take the field," Proteas Women head coach Mandla Mashimbyi said, according to ICC.

The tri-series will begin on April 27 and will be played entirely at the R. Premadasa International Cricket Stadium in Colombo.

South Africa squad: Laura Wolvaardt (Captain), Anneke Bosch, Tazmin Brits, Nadine de Klerk, Annerie Dercksen, Sinalo Jafta, Ayabonga Khaka, Masabata Klaas, Sune Luus, Karabo Meso, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Seshnie Naidu, Nondumiso Shangase, Miane Smit, and Chloe Tryon.