







Renowned film director Ashok Viswanathan has received this year's best Bengali Cultural Award. Apart from Shri Viswanathan, 11 other people, including 2 children, have received the 'Banga Sanskriti Samman 2025', dedicated by the 'Indian Cultural Association' and organized by 'Sandhya Prakashan'. 'Banga Sanskriti Samman' award ceremony held at the 'Press Club Kolkata' Wednesday afternoon where veteran journalist Jayanta Chakrabarty, writer Nalini Bera, editor of Bangla Nathiyat and head of Sandhya Prakashani Shankar Dutta, Journalists and film producers Ritabrata Bhattacharya, Shyamendu Mitra, Tochan Ghosh and many others were present.

## Bangladeshi national arrested in fake identity and hawala case

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a significant crackdown on cross-border financial crimes, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested a Bangladeshi national, Azad Mallik, also known as Ahmed Hossain, from the Bishorpara area under Airport Police Station in North 24 Parganas district. Acting on multiple allegations, the ED took him into custody late Tuesday night on charges including the fabrication of a fake Indian identity and channeling large sums of money from India to Bangladesh via hawala networks.

Sources within the ED revealed that Azad had been previously arrested in March

2022 under the Foreigners Act. A subsequent investigation uncovered suspicious financial activities involving his bank accounts, which showed transactions amounting to several crores of rupees. This prompted the ED to register a case on March 26 this year under relevant provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

On Tuesday morning, ED officials conducted a detailed raid at Azad's rented residence in Bishorpara. He was taken into custody later that night and produced before the 10th CJM Court of the City Sessions Court. During the court proceedings, the ED argued that Azad is a Bangladeshi citizen

whose immediate family still resides in Bangladesh. They alleged that he had transferred approximately Rs. 2.62 crore to Bangladesh using illegal hawala channels. The ED charged him under Sections 3 and 4 of the PMLA and sought one day's custody for further interrogation. However, the defense counsel contested the claims, stating that Azad is a legal Indian citizen possessing a valid passport and voter ID. He argued that Azad is the proprietor of "Mallik Trading Corporation" and the financial transactions were strictly business-related. The defense also alleged that the ED did not question Azad about the source of the funds before the arrest.

## Dog found gnawing on abandoned infant's body

**MI News Service, Alipurduar:** A gruesome discovery in the Itkholra area near Alipurduar District Hospital has triggered widespread shock and outrage. Residents were horrified to witness a dog chewing on the body of an infant, who had been left tied up in a package amidst garbage. The package reportedly burst open after being run over by a vehicle, revealing a hand that attracted the scavenging animal, leading to the grim discovery and the subsequent gathering of a distressed crowd.

A deeply unsettling incident has come to light in the Itkholra area, located within Ward No. 13 and in close proximity to the Alipurduar District Hospital, where the remains of a newborn infant were discovered being consumed by a stray dog. The horrific finding has sent shockwaves through the local community, triggering widespread outrage and prompting an immediate investigation by law enforcement authorities. Initial reports indicate that the infant's body was found concealed within a package that had been abandoned in the Itkholra area, a populated part of the town. The circumstances surrounding the discovery suggest a trag-

ic sequence of events. It is believed that a vehicle traversing the road may have inadvertently run over the discarded package, causing it to rupture. This breach in the packaging reportedly exposed a limb of the infant, specifically a hand, which then attracted the attention of a stray dog scavenging in the vicinity.

Eyewitness accounts describe the distressing scene that unfolded as the dog began to maul the exposed remains. The unusual activity quickly drew the attention of nearby residents, who were horrified by the gruesome sight. A crowd rapidly gathered at the location, their initial curiosity quickly turning to shock and dismay as the reality of the situation became apparent. Upon being alerted to the incident, local police swiftly arrived at the scene to secure the area and initiate a thorough investigation. The infant's remains were recovered, and forensic procedures are expected to be conducted to determine the exact cause of death and the approximate age of the child. Authorities are treating the case with utmost seriousness, recognizing the gravity of the abandonment and the subsequent desecration of the infant's body. Preliminary inquiries are focused on identifying the indi-

vidual or individuals responsible for abandoning the infant in such a callous manner. Investigators are canvassing the local area, seeking information from residents and examining any potential leads that could shed light on this tragic event. The possibility of identifying the parents or guardians of the child is a key priority in the ongoing investigation. The incident has sparked considerable anger and grief within the Alipurduar community. Residents have expressed their profound sadness and condemnation of the inhumane act. Many are demanding swift and decisive action from the authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice. The discovery has also raised concerns about child safety and the need for stronger measures to prevent such tragic occurrences in the future. This disturbing case serves as a stark reminder of the vulnerability of infants and the critical importance of ensuring their safety and well-being. The authorities are expected to provide further updates as the investigation progresses and more details become available. The community remains in mourning and awaits answers regarding this deeply distressing incident that has shaken the peace of Alipurduar.

## Swapan Samaddar organized a colorful procession on Bengali New Year

**Nurul Islam Khan**  
A colorful procession was organized by Swapan Samaddar, MMIC of Kolkata Municipal Corporation, councillor of Ward 56 and President of North Kolkata INTTUC. This procession traversed various routes of Ward 30 and Ward 56. Swapan Samaddar was also the chief guest of the procession. MMIC of Ward 30 Papiya Ghosh Biswas was present. The procession travelled through various streets of the area. Swapan Samaddar and Papiiya



Ghosh Biswas greeted the residents of the area with a sweet smile and extended her heartfelt New Year

greetings. This procession increased the enthusiasm among the people of the area.

## Kolkata's WBCIL Wins Prestigious National IP Award 2024

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal Chemical Industries Ltd. (WBCIL), a leading Kolkata-based manufacturer of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), has been awarded the National Intellectual Property Award 2024 by the Government of India under the "Top Indian MSME" category for its excellence in Patent filing, Granting, and Commercialization.

The award ceremony was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, and the honour was presented by Union Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal, as part of India's efforts to celebrate and strengthen the intellectual property ecosystem.

WBCIL, with a legacy of scientific excellence and more than 9 Patents granted, is at the forefront of R&D-led innovation in the Pharmaceutical Industry. The Company is known for



its Patent-driven approach to API manufacturing and has made significant strides in Commercializing Patented molecules for both domestic and international markets.

This recognition reaffirms WBCIL's commitment to:

- Scientific Research and IP Development
- Global Pharma Exports to 30+ countries

•Calcutta's Emergence as an R&D Hub  
"This award is not just a recognition of our work, but a celebration of Calcutta's potential to lead on the global innovation map," said a spokesperson from WBCIL.

The award puts WBCIL in the league of India's top innovators and is a proud moment for the MSME sector in Eastern India.

## IMD predicts above-normal monsoon rainfall

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has delivered encouraging news for the upcoming monsoon season, forecasting above-normal rainfall across the country. According to the latest bulletin, India is expected to receive 5% more rainfall than the seasonal average, a development that bodes well for the agricultural sector, particularly in monsoon-dependent regions like West Bengal.

Meteorologists also suggest that Bengal, too, is likely to experience higher-than-usual rainfall this year. Farmers across the state have welcomed the forecast with optimism, hoping for a robust monsoon that would boost paddy production and improve overall yield. Consistent and ample rainfall is critical for rice cultivation, and a favorable monsoon often translates to a stronger rural economy.

In the short term, the weather department has forecast scattered thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and light to moderate rainfall in several districts of western Bengal. These include East and West Midnapore, Jhargram, Purulia, Bankura, and West Bardwan. No severe storm activity is expected, although occasional gusty winds are likely.

The rainfall activity in North Bengal is projected to intensify on Wednesday and

Thursday, while South Bengal, including Kolkata, may witness an increase in rainfall on Thursday and Friday. The IMD has warned of sporadic thunderstorm activity with wind speeds reaching 30 to 50 km/h during this period.

India is likely to receive 'above normal' monsoon rainfall, or 5% more than the historical average of 87 cm, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday (April 15, 2025). Were this to bear out, it would be a second year of 'above normal' rains.

Kolkata recorded a minimum temperature of 24°C on Monday, with the day's maximum temperature climbing to 34.7°C. The relative humidity in the city hovered between 45% and 91%, contributing to a sultry atmosphere.

Despite the pre-monsoon fluctuations, the overall outlook remains positive. The possibility of above-average monsoon rains is expected to alleviate water scarcity concerns and improve groundwater levels, especially in rural zones that have been grappling with prolonged dry spells.

The IMD's early monsoon forecast serves as a beacon of hope for the agrarian community and policy planners alike. With the monsoon being a key driver of India's agricultural output and rural livelihood, this prediction marks a critical step toward economic and ecological stability in the months ahead.

## Bike car collision fatal for couple

**MI News Service, Purulia:** A fatal road accident in Purulia claimed the lives of a couple after their bike collided with a car. Responding to local reports, Balrampur police rescued the severely injured couple and transported them to a local health center, where they succumbed to their injuries. The car driver remains at large, and police have launched an investigation, including questioning eyewitnesses.

A fatal road accident in Purulia's Balrampur area resulted in the deaths of a couple on Wednesday. Local residents reported a collision between a motorcycle and a four-wheeler to the authorities. Upon arrival, officers from the Balrampur Police Station found the couple in critical condition and immediately transported them to the Block Primary Health

Center. Despite medical intervention, attending physicians pronounced both individuals deceased. Subsequent to the incident, the driver of the four-wheeler absconded from the scene. The police have initiated a search operation to locate the individual and are currently questioning local residents to gather further information. The involved vehicle has been impounded as part of the ongoing investigation. Eyewitness Salim Ansari stated, "The motorcycle had penetrated deeply into the vehicle. We promptly informed the police, who arrived swiftly to extricate the injured and transport them to the hospital." The police investigation is currently underway to ascertain the circumstances leading to the collision and to apprehend the driver of the four-wheeler.

## Minor girl allegedly harassed, accused arrested following mob justice

**MI News Service, Bakura:** A minor girl was allegedly harassed by a young man on a crowded Bakura-Tata bus on Wednesday morning near Raipur traffic intersection triggering a commotion. Fellow passengers and locals reportedly forced the accused off the bus and assaulted him before police intervened and made an arrest. The class eight student was on her way to tuition when the incident occurred.

A Wednesday morning commute on a crowded Bankura-Tata passenger bus was disrupted when a minor girl, a class eight student en route to tuition in Raipur, was allegedly subjected to indecent behavior by a fellow male passenger. The incident, which occurred near the Raipur traffic intersection in Bankura, sparked immediate outrage among passengers and local residents.

Eyewitness accounts indicate that a commotion erupted on the bus following the girl's distress. Subsequently, the accused young man was forcibly removed from the vehicle and reportedly assaulted by agitated passengers and locals. Upon receiving information about the incident, officers from Raipur Police Station arrived at the scene and apprehended the accused.

According to local sources, the student alighted from the bus in tears at the Raipur traffic junction and disclosed the alleged harassment she experienced during the journey. This revelation incited the gathered crowd, leading to the physical altercation with the accused. Police have confirmed the arrest and stated that efforts are currently underway to ascertain the identity of the individual in custody. Further investigation into the allegations is ongoing.

## Conviction for killing handicap sister on a land dispute

**MI News Service, Dhantala:** In a shocking case of domestic violence rooted in a land dispute, Asadul Mondal alias Asharul Mondal, a resident of Duttapulia under Dhantala Police Station, has been convicted on Wednesday for the brutal murder of his handicapped sister.

The incident took place on July 4, 2024, when the accused attacked his sister with an iron rod, striking her on the head and causing her death. A case was immediately registered at Dhantala PS in Nadia, and the accused was arrested shortly thereafter. Then the case went on in Ranaghat Court.



Additional District Judge, Fast Track Court, Ranaghat, found Asadul Mondal guilty under Section 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) on Tuesday. The sentencing has been scheduled for Thursday.



Union Minister of State for Education, Sukanta Majumdar, along with victims from Bethona, Dhuliyur, and Samsherganj in Murshidabad, waited outside Bhabani Bhawan – the West Bengal Police Headquarters in Kolkata – to meet the Director General of Police (DGP), West Bengal.

## Thief returns stolen iPhone after change of heart

**MI News Service, Siliguri:** A bizarre incident has unfolded in Siliguri, where a thief, after stealing an expensive iPhone, surprisingly returned it to the owner's doorstep a month later. The perplexed owner, Dawa Narbula Lama, had reported the theft to the Matigara police. The twist in the tale emerged when Lama returned to the police station to withdraw his complaint, revealing the unexpected return of his device. Initial reports suggest the thief was thwarted by the iPhone's robust security features, specifically its unbreakable lock and Face ID system, rendering it unsellable and ultimately leading to its return. This unusual case highlights the challenges faced by thieves and even law enforcement when dealing with the advanced privacy settings of iPhones.

A peculiar case of theft has emerged in Siliguri, where an iPhone, reported stolen a month prior, was unexpectedly returned to its owner. Dawa Narbula Lama, a resident of Baniakhali, had filed a complaint with the Matigara police after his device was pilfered from his residence on March 19th. Following a fruitless search, Lama registered a formal complaint, harboring little hope of recovery. However, in an unusual turn of events, Lama recently revisited the police station, not to inquire further about the investigation, but to withdraw his complaint. The rationale behind this surprising development was the reappearance of his iPhone. Lama reported that the stolen device was discovered abandoned in front of his house, with the perpetrator having fled the scene. According to sources

at the Narbula police station in Chhar Trish, the thief's inability to bypass the iPhone's security features is believed to be the reason for its return. The robust locking mechanism and sophisticated Face ID technology rendered the device unsellable, thwarting the thief's intentions of profiting from the stolen property. Authorities highlighted the inherent security of iPhones, noting the significant difficulty in circumventing their identification protocols. Unlike Android devices which can often be tracked via their IMEI numbers, tracing a lost or stolen iPhone presents a considerable challenge for both victims and law enforcement due to its stringent privacy settings. This incident underscores the effectiveness of Apple's security measures in deterring the illicit resale of their devices.

## "Don't trust Dinhata," Minster's fear fuel's controversy

**MI News Service, Dinhata:** North Bengal Development Minister Udayan Guha's recent statement expressing distrust in Dinhata's voters has sparked political controversy. Despite a landslide 2021 victory, he fears losing in the next election. His remark, made at a swimming pool foundation event, reflects Trinamool's anxiety amid BJP's strong regional presence and past electoral clashes. Guha's history of controversial remarks and vote-rigging allegations further fuels speculation about his insecurity.

North Bengal Development Minister, Udayan Guha, has raised eyebrows and sparked political speculation with his candid expression of electoral uncertainty during a public event in Dinhata. Addressing attendees at the foundation stone laying ceremony for the town's sole swimming pool on Tuesday,

Guha openly questioned his prospects for re-election, despite securing a substantial victory in the 2021 assembly elections. "I have informed the construction company that the project must be completed within six months," Guha stated, "so that I can inaugurate it while still holding ministerial office. I do not possess confidence in the Dinhata electorate's decision to grant me a second term."

Guha's remarks suggest a perceived vulnerability within his constituency, particularly given the BJP's strong electoral performance in North Bengal during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. While the Trinamool Congress recently reclaimed the Cooch Behar Lok Sabha seat, the region remains a fiercely contested political arena. The minister's urgency to complete the swimming pool project within a six-month timeframe underscores his apprehension. "I wish

to personally inaugurate this project," he explained, "rather than witnessing a subsequent individual claim credit for its completion. This is a matter of personal significance." Political analysts attribute Guha's anxieties to several factors, including the BJP's persistent presence in the region, the history of intense electoral clashes, and the minister's own track record of controversial statements. Furthermore, allegations of past electoral irregularities, coupled with a public reprimand from Trinamool Congress leadership, may have contributed to his expressed lack of confidence.

Guha's public admission of electoral doubt has injected a layer of uncertainty into the development project and the political landscape of Dinhata. It remains to be seen how his comments will resonate with the electorate as the next elections approach.

## Mob burns Rs 5 lakh, grieving couple sifts through ashes

**MI News Service, Murshidabad:** Elderly Couple's Life Savings Turn to Ash Amidst Violence. In a heart-wrenching scene from Bethona, Samsherganj, Murshidabad, an elderly couple, Ganesh and Sumitra Ghosh, were seen sifting through the charred remains of their home, their hopes and life savings reduced to burnt currency notes. Having sold their land to build a new house for their family, the ₹5 lakh they had kept in their residence fell victim to the widespread unrest.

The aftermath of recent unrest in Bethona, Samsherganj, has left an elderly couple, Ganesh and Sumitra Ghosh, in profound distress. Their residence was among those targeted by violence, resulting in the complete destruction of their property and the loss of their life savings, amounting to ₹5 lakh. Eyewitness accounts depict a scene of utter devastation, with Ganesh Ghosh meticulously sifting through the ashes of his burnt home, salvaging charred currency notes – primarily ₹200 and ₹100 denominations – and placing them on a plate. Overcome with grief, Mr. Ghosh lamented the total loss of their belongings, alleging that the perpetrators looted the house before setting it ablaze. Tragically, even the couple's livestock were not spared, reportedly locked inside a room and set on fire. The Ghosh couple had sold their ancestral land and were in the process of constructing a new, more spacious house on an adjacent plot. The ₹5 lakh, intended for this construction, was kept in their now-destroyed home. Speaking through tears, Mr. Ghosh expressed

his despair, stating, "Everything was burnt... We have sold all our land and savings. We were building a shelter for our sons' future. It is all over." His wife, Sumitra Ghosh, remains in shock. Their four sons managed to escape to safety elsewhere during the violence. The elderly couple voiced their deep insecurity and uncertainty about the future, questioning how they will rebuild their lives and their home after this catastrophic loss. "I do not have the confidence to start anew," Mr. Ghosh stated, highlighting the pervasive sense of oppression and fear of further incidents. This incident underscores the severe human cost of the recent unrest in Murshidabad, leaving vulnerable families like the Ghoshes to grapple with unimaginable loss and an uncertain path forward.

## Dog walks with severed head, horrifying truth unveiled

**MI News Service, Hooghly:** A shocking incident unfolded in Begumpur, Chanditala, Hooghly on Wednesday morning as locals witnessed a dog carrying a severed human head. The discovery triggered immediate alarm and led to a police investigation the uncovered a tragic accident on the nearby Howrah-Burdwan railway line, where the dismembered body was subsequently found.

Dog Found with Severed Human Head, Railway Mishap Suspected  
A distressing incident occurred in the Begumpur area of Chanditala, Hooghly district, on Wednesday morning, where a canine was observed carrying a severed human head. The discovery, made near the Begumpur 20 rail gate

around 9:00 AM, prompted immediate concern among local residents.

Responding to the alarming reports, personnel from both the Kamarkundu Government Railway Police (GRP) and the Chanditala Police Station arrived at the scene. Subsequent investigation led authorities to the Howrah-Burdwan Cord railway line, situated approximately 300 feet from where the head was initially found, where the corresponding body was located. Preliminary findings from police sources suggest a tragic accident. It is believed that the deceased individual, a passenger on a long-distance train, sustained fatal head trauma after striking an electric post while leaning out of the moving train.

Evidence of bloodstains was reportedly found on the post. The identity of the deceased young male remains unknown at this time. The recovered severed head has been sent for post-mortem examination as part of the ongoing investigation.

Monirul Ali, a local resident, recounted the initial discovery, stating, "We were working in the factory and had been hearing screams. I then saw the police with the severed head and alerted the village. Initially, there was suspicion of a murder." Authorities have secured the scene and are continuing their inquiries to formally identify the deceased and gather further details surrounding this unfortunate event.



### Robert Vadra appears...

**From PG 1**  
Parliament too. This is misuse of agencies and this is political vendetta". Vadra, said he is hopeful for a resolution. "Nobody is evading anything. I am here today... I am expecting a conclusion. I am waiting for a conclusion". When I speak in favour of the country, I am stopped, Rahul is stopped from speaking in Parliament. BJP is doing it. This is a political vendetta," he said, adding, "People love me and want me to join politics... When I express my willingness to join politics, they bring up old issues to bring me down and divert from the real issues..."

Vadra further claimed that there is no merit to the case. "There is nothing in the case. I have been summoned 15 times and interrogated for more than 10 hours every time for the last 20 years. Organising 23000 documents is not easy," he said.  
Vadra was first summoned by the ED on April 8 but he did not appear.  
Once he appears, the agency is expected to record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the sources said.  
He has previously been questioned by the federal agency in another money laundering case.

### 'Will not be cowed down...

**From PG 1**  
PMLA, 2002.Special Judge Vishal Gogne stated that as per the submission of the counsel representing the ED, the predicate offence recorded under complaint case No. 18/2019-includes charges under Sections 403, 406, and 420, read with Section 120(B) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860, and is currently under trial at the Rouse Avenue Courts in New Delhi.  
The court observed that under Section 44(1)(c) of the PMLA, the predicate

offence must be tried in the same court that has taken cognisance of the money laundering offence under Section 3 of the PMLA. The court further noted that both offences—the predicate offence and the PMLA offence—must be adjudicated in the same jurisdiction. The National Herald case is being heard in a Delhi court. The complaint was filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy against Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, their associated companies, and other individuals.

### Justice BR Gavai recommended...

**From PG 1**  
Gavai practised mainly before the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court. An expert in Constitutional Law and Administrative Law, he was the Standing Counsel for Municipal Corporation of Nagpur, Amravati Municipal Corporation and Amravati University. Justice Gavai also appeared regularly for various autonomous bodies and Corporations like SICOM, DCVL, and various Municipal Councils in the Vidarbha region. Justice Gavai was also appointed as the Assistant Government Pleader and Additional Public Prosecutor in the High Court of Judica-

ture at Bombay, Nagpur Bench, from August 1992 to July 1993. He was appointed as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor for the Nagpur Bench on 17th January, 2000 and was elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court on 14th November, 2003. Justice Gavai became a permanent Judge of the Bombay High Court on 12th November 2005.He Presided over Benches having all types of assignments at the Principal Seat at Mumbai as well as Benches at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji. He was Elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24th May, 2019.

### China now faces up to 245 pc...

**From PG 1**  
agreements. Trump's reciprocal tariffs have led to a broad-based fall in financial markets globally, with markets in every continent plunging. The reciprocal tariffs have set off a sell-off in equities globally, and the US itself is no exception. Investors fear that the moves concerning global trade may rise inflation, risking economic growth.  
Since assuming office for his second term, President Trump has reiterated his stance on tariff reciprocity, emphasising that the United States will match tariffs imposed by other countries, including India, to ensure fair trade.  
White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said "The President has made his position on China quite clear. The ball is in China's court. China needs to make a deal with us. We don't have to make a deal with them." She elaborated, "There's no difference between China and any other country, except they are much larger. She further added, "The President again has made it quite clear that he's open to a deal with China, but China needs to make a deal with the United States of America."  
Meanwhile, reacting to the White House's announcement stating China

now faces up to 245 percent tariffs on imports to the US, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said they should ask the US side for the "specific tax rate figures."  
While addressing a press briefing in Beijing on Wednesday, Lin said that China has repeatedly stated its solemn position on the tariff issue. He said that the tariff war was initiated by the US and that Beijing has taken only counter-measures to protect its legitimate rights and interests and international fairness and justice, terming it completely "reasonable and legal."  
He noted that tariff and trade wars have no winner. However, he said that China does not want to fight these wars but is not scared of them. He expressed China's commitment to joining hands and removing barriers.  
Earlier in a statement shared on X, Lin Jian stated, "In a world full of uncertainties, China remains committed to joining hands, not throwing punches; removing barriers, not erecting walls; promoting connectivity, not pursuing decoupling."  
While sharing the statement on X, Lin wrote, "China is the world's market and a source of opportunities for every country."

# Mamata vows to repeal 'anti-people' laws, slams Yogi over Murshidabad remarks

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo Mamata Banerjee has strongly asserted that once the government changes at the Centre, the controversial and allegedly anti-people laws introduced by the current BJP regime will be repealed. Addressing a gathering amid unrest triggered by the Waqf Amendment Act, Banerjee delivered a clear message: "A lot will change in Delhi in a year. There will be a new government. The day BJP is ousted from power, these anti-people laws must be overturned. We must wait for a better future."  
Speaking directly to

minority communities, Banerjee called for restraint and patience. "If problems arise, we must wait for the right time to resolve them," she said, urging calm while voicing serious concerns over the recent legislative actions by the BJP-led Centre.  
Banerjee also questioned why the BJP government avoided a constitutional amendment while altering the Waqf Act. "If you intended to change the Waqf Act, why didn't you amend the Constitution? You bypassed that route because it requires two-thirds majority support," she said, accusing the Centre of exploiting legislative loopholes. She also pointed out that



many Hindus have historically donated land to Waqf boards, further debunking communal narratives. Alleging a deeper conspiracy, Banerjee said, "You want state Waqf boards to be dismantled. How much more power do you want? You don't even have a single-party majority anymore, yet you push such divisive policies. Leaders like Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar remain silent in exchange for a little power."  
Her comments came a day after Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath blamed her for the violence in Murshidabad during protests over the Waqf Act.

Adityanath had remarked, "Bengal is burning, and the Chief Minister is silent. Rioters only understand the language of the stick."  
In response, Banerjee hit back sharply: "Yogi is the biggest 'Bhogi' (materialist). So many lives were lost during the Mahakumbh stampede. People die in fake encounters in Uttar Pradesh. He bans peaceful rallies. Bengal still upholds freedom of expression and peaceful protest." The political crossfire highlights the growing tensions as the Waqf Act protests stir unrest and fuel a larger national debate on secularism, governance, and civil liberties.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, during a meeting with imams, muezins and religious leaders from the Muslim community, over the Waqf Amendment Bill, at Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata on Wednesday.

### Mamata Banerjee says BJP,...

**From PG 1**  
if it brings good to the country. But what is their plan? To engage in riots by using certain agencies that facilitate movement of people from there? I saw a tweet yesterday quoting Home Ministry sources that Bangladesh is involved in this. If that is the case, the Central government is responsible since BSF guards the borders, not us. State government doesn't have the responsibility to guard the borders. Why did they allow BJP thugs from outside to come and create chaos before fleeing the scene? It is a pre-planned riot," the Chief minister alleged. Referring to the Waqf Act, she asked the Muslim brothers to organise protests in the national capital and seek an appointment from the President and the Prime Minister over the issue. "Go to Delhi and do movement. Seek appointment from the President and PM. Do programmes in Delhi, stay there. Do your movement there. I assure you TMC MPs will be there," she said. Meanwhile, a National Commission for Women delegation has decided to visit violence-hit areas of West Bengal tomorrow.

## Mamata urges INDIA Bloc to unite against Waqf Amendment Bill

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, during a significant meeting with imams and muezins at Netaji Indoor Stadium on Wednesday, issued a forceful appeal to the INDIA alliance to initiate a nationwide protest against the recently passed Waqf Amendment Bill. Describing the law as "deeply unjust and divisive," Banerjee advised Bengal's minority leaders to maintain peace locally and take their protest to Delhi instead.  
"There is no need for agitation in Bengal. I am here to protect your rights. But go to Delhi and make your voices heard. Seek time from the Prime Minister and President if necessary," Mamata said, underscoring that the real battlefield against this legislation lies at the national level.  
She criticised the conspicuous silence of NDA

allies such as Chandrababu Naidu and Nitish Kumar on the issue and called upon leaderships from all states to stand in solidarity with the minority community. "Don't fall for BJP's provocations. If there is unrest, contain it. We must protest, but peacefully and with purpose," she added.  
Addressing the recent violence in Murshidabad and Malda, Banerjee dismissed BJP's claim that Bangladeshi elements were involved. "BSF guards the borders. If infiltration happened, it is the Centre's failure, not ours," she retorted, pointing a finger at the Union Home Ministry's report.  
Speaking on the violence in Murshidabad, Mamata alleged that the unrest was incited and pointed fingers at the Congress. "The area where the violence took place doesn't fall under Murshidabad's parliamentary seat—it's under

Malda's constituency, which is won by the Congress," she noted, referring to Congress MP Isha Khan Choudhury, who represents Malda South.  
She further criticised the Congress for being absent during the crisis. "You win seats during elections but disappear when there's trouble. That is unacceptable. Elected representatives must stand with the people when incidents happen," she said. She also claimed that homes of three Trinamool MLAs were attacked during the unrest, questioning, "If TMC had sparked the violence, why were the homes of our legislators attacked? Even our party offices were vandalized."  
Her speech strongly indicated that while Trinamool may contest elections independently, the party is prepared to unite on central issues, reaffirming its commitment to the broader goals of the INDIA alliance.

## Three jobless youths detained outside Sourav Ganguly's house

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a politically sensitive development ahead of a major protest march, three unemployed individuals were detained by police from outside former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly's Behala residence on Tuesday. The individuals, members of the 'Paschim Banga Banchita Chakriparthi, Chakriji O Chakrihara Oikya Mancha' (West Bengal Forum of Deprived Jobseekers, Employees, and Unemployed), had gone to personally invite Ganguly to their scheduled Nabanna Abhijan (march to the state secretariat) on April 21. According to sources, the group reached Ganguly's residence with the intention of handing him a formal invitation and

of the organization reached the location, they were intercepted and detained by officers from Thakurpukur Police Station.  
The detained individuals were taken to the police station for questioning. Though no formal charges were immediately pressed, their sudden detention has sparked concerns about freedom of movement and political expression in the run-up to the high-stakes protest.  
The group has also issued open invitations to public figures, including the parents of children in Kolkata, urging them to stand in solidarity during the April 21 march. Speaking from the police station, one of the detained protesters



seeking his support. However, Ganguly was not present at the residence during the time of their visit. Even before they could arrive, police personnel had been deployed at the site. As soon as the three representatives

said, "Sourav da has a cordial relationship with Hon'ble Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. We hoped he could convey our plight to her directly and help us find a solution. That's why we came to invite him."

## Job scam under guise of central govt employment

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A major case of job fraud has come to light in Kashipur, where two individuals were allegedly duped of Rs 16 lakh under the false promise of employment in a central government-run ammunition and cell factory. The victims have lodged a formal complaint with the Kashipur Police Station, triggering a police investigation into what could be a multi-crore recruitment scam.  
According to police sources, the accused has been identified as Mrityunjay Prasad, a resident of Baruiapur. Prasad allegedly posed as a high-ranking official in the central government sector and claimed to have the authority to offer jobs through a special quota. Relying on his convincing claims and forged credentials, the victims handed over large sums of money in exchange for promised government positions.  
To make the scam appear legitimate, Mrityunjay reportedly provided the vic-

tims with forged appointment letters and fake identity cards. Trusting the documentation, the victims proceeded to report to their designated workplaces—only to discover the shocking truth. Upon arrival, officials at the factory denied any record of their recruitment, revealing that both the appointment letters and ID cards were fraudulent. Following this revelation, the defrauded individuals filed a complaint, prompting immediate police action. Investigators believe that the scope of the fraud may extend beyond these two complainants, and that more victims may come forward. Authorities suspect that the total amount embezzled could run into crores.  
The police have launched a manhunt for Mrityunjay Prasad, who is currently absconding. An official said that if more complaints surface, all related cases will be consolidated under a single comprehensive investigation.

## Fresh bomb threat sparks panic in Kolkata schools

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Amid the celebrations of Bengali New Year, Kolkata was once again gripped by bomb scare panic after four prominent schools in the city received threatening emails claiming bombs had been planted on their premises. The emails, reportedly sent from a foreign IP address, have triggered high-level investigations by the Special Task Force (STF) and the Intelligence Wing of Kolkata Police. According to sources at Lalbazar, the headquarters of Kolkata Police, the threatening email was received on Monday. The message, originating from an international IP,

warned that bombs had been placed in the buildings of four reputed schools across Kolkata. Since the day was a public holiday, police initially kept the matter under wraps to avoid public alarm. A senior officer from the Intelligence Division, speaking on condition of anonymity, stated, "There has been unrest in several parts of the state recently. In such a sensitive atmosphere, we aimed to prevent further panic by keeping the development confidential during initial verification." STF officials revealed that the email included a reference to Brazilian terrorists, although the credibility of

this claim remains unverified. Authorities are actively working to trace the origin of the message and identify the sender. An FIR has already been registered, and cyber experts are currently analyzing the metadata and routing of the email. As soon as the schools reopened on Tuesday, bomb disposal squads and sniffer dog units were immediately deployed to the affected campuses. Extensive searches were conducted, but no explosives were found. Officials now believe the threat may have been a hoax aimed at disrupting public peace and triggering mass hysteria.

## Cal HC halts illegal construction on wetlands near city outskirts

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Fresh allegations of illegal high-rise construction on reclaimed wetlands near Kolkata's outskirts have drawn judicial intervention. The Calcutta High Court has ordered an immediate halt to the ongoing construction activities and directed the Block Land and Land Reforms Officer (BLRO) to inspect the site and submit a detailed report within a month. The case concerns a local real es-

tate firm accused of illegally filling a waterbody near Foyra Bhaban under Rajarhat Police Station to erect a multi-storey building. The matter reached the High Court after public interest litigation was filed by Prashanta Ghosh. During the hearing, the Division Bench led by Chief Justice T. S. Sivagnanam took serious note of the encroachment and issued a directive to cease all construction operations at the site.



**Name Change**  
I, Md Nurhasan (old name), S/O Md Kausar Seikh residing at Village+ Post Office-Tentulia Pin-743286, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nur Hasan Seikh (new name) as de-  
clared before the notary public at Kolkata on 09/04/ 2025. Nur Hasan Seikh (new name) and Md Nurhasan (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sk Mainuddin (old name), S/O Azmat Hussain, residing at Vill.- Majbaulia, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, 843104, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Moimuddin (new name) as declared before the No-  
tary Public at Kolkata on 16/04/ 2025. Sk Moimuddin (new name) and Sk Mainuddin (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Gargi Chakrabarti (old name) W/O Sandeep Mitra, residing at Flat 2D, Block-3, Rohra Address Apartment, Street No.73, Block-AA, New Town Action Area 1, P.S., New Town, Bidhannagar, South Dum-  
pargas, Pin- 700156, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gargi Chakrabarti (new name) as de-  
clared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Gargi Chakrabarti (new name) and Gargi Chakrabarti (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Salima Bibi (old name) W/O Md Abdul Hannan, residing at Mo-  
barekpur, P.O.- Lauhati, P.S.- Ra-  
jarhat, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-700135, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall hence-  
forth be known as Salima Khatun Bibi (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Salima Khatun Bibi (new name) and Salima Bibi (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Farzana Bibi (old name) W/O Sk Kharul, residing at Rabindra Nagar, Kankhuli, Maheshtala (M) P.O., Bidhargarh, P.S.- Rabindra Nagar, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin-700066, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall hence-  
forth be known as Farzana Khatoun (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Farzana Khatoun (new name) and Farzana Bibi (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Dharmendra Roy (old name) S/O Rajendra Prasad Roy, residing at 12A, Rajendra Lal Street, P.S.- Narkeldanga, Kolkata- 700006, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dharmendra Kumar Roy (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Dharmendra Kumar Roy (new name) and Dharmendra Roy (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kartick Jana (Old Name) S/O Mohan Jana, Residing At Vill-Udayachak, Po-Bhuvan, Ps-Daspur, Dist-West Medinipur, Pin- 721211, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Kartik Jana (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/20 25.Kartick Jana (Old Name) And Kartik Jana (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Km Neetika & Km Nitika Singh (Old Name) Wife Of Mayank Singh,Residing At Natural City Lake Town,Block-9,Flat-9b,1204, Dakshindhuri Road,Lake Town, Po-Sreebhum,Dist-24 Parganas (North),Pin-700048,West Bengal, India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Neetika Singh(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/2025 Km Neetika And Km Nitika Singh (Old Name) All Are Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Md Taqi Alam, s/o Wali Alam, re-  
siding at 155/H/8, Kesab Chandra Sen Street,Dist-Kolkata,West Bengal 700009.In some documents of my daughter Rozi Begum ,my name has been recorded as Md Taki Alam, Shekh Taqui Alam ,in-  
stead of Md Taqi Alam.So vide af-  
fidavit before the Ld.1st class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 02/01/2025 do and hereby affirm and declare that Md Taqi Alam, Shekh Taqui Alam & Md Taki Alam is same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
After accepting Islam on & from 28/03/2025, I, Laxmi Sau D/o. Akbar Ali R/o. Bhushnara, Khal-  
isani, Chandernagore, Hooghly- 712135 known everywhere as Laxmirunesa. I, Tahirunesa & Laxmi Sau D/o. Akbar Ali is the same self & one identical person vide affidavit no. 1599, dt.16/04/ 2025 before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

**Name Change**  
After accepting Islam on & from 01/01/2025, I, Tania Chakraborty d/o. Samiran Chakraborty known everywhere as Tania Bibi. I, Tania Bibi & Tania Chakraborty D/o. Samiran Chakraborty is the same self & one identical person vide affidavit no. 1111, dt.16/04/2025 before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

**Name Change**  
I, Paras Patawari (Old Name) S/o Madan Chand Patawari resident of 456 , G.T. Road (South), Block-A. 14th Floor, Flat-14F, P.O.- Shibpur, Howrah- 711102 have change my name and henceforth shall be known as Paras Mal Patawari (New Name) as declare before Notary Public at Kolkata vide affidavit dated 16.04.25. Paras Patawari (Old Name) and Paras Mal Patawari (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sharuk Ali (old name) S/O Ansar Ali Sha, residing at Rameshwar, P.O.- Pindira, P.S.- Kalna, Purba Bardhaman, Pin- 712146, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shahrukh Ali Sha (new name) as declared before the no-  
tary public at kolk ata, dated 16/04/2025. Shah rukh Ali Sha (new name) and Sharuk Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Farheen Ahmad (old name), wife of Mohammed Ershad Ahmed & daughter of Asit Das, residing at 22/A Kumarjala Road Serampore, Chandannagar, Pin- 712203, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rinku Das (new name) as declared before the notary public at Kolkata on 16/04/2025. Rinku Das (new name) and Farheen Ahmad (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Debashish Paul, Son Of Sukumar Paul, Residing At 83/2,Nikhil Aich Sarani,Rabindranagar,South Dum-  
durg, North 24parganas - 700065, Shall Henceforth Be Known As De-  
bashis Paul Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/ 2025.That Debashish Paul And Debashis Paul Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Arshad Khan (old name) S/O Late Md Anwar Khan, residing at G-97/A, Battikal 1st Lane, Garden Reach, Kolkata- 700024, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mohammad Arshad Khan (new name) as declared be-  
fore the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Mohammad Arshad Khan (new name) ) and Arshad Khan (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sufia Begum (old name) W/O Mazharul Haque, residing at 61/H/17, Moulana Md Ali Road, P.S.- Ekbalpore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Safia Begum (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Safia Begum (new name) and Sufia Begum (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Anjila Bibi (old name) W/O Abdul Hamid Mondal, residing at Hatpukur, P.O. & P.S.- Memari, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, Pin- 713146, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anjila Khatun Mondal (new name) as de-  
clared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Anjila Khatun Mondal (new name) ) and Anjila Bibi (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Lala Shourav Dey & Lala Sourav Dey (Old names), S/O Lala Ramaprasanna Day, residing at 2/13, Vidyasagar, Kolkata - 7000 86, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall hence-  
forth be known as Lala Sourav Kanti Dey (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 16/04/2025. Lala Sourav Kanti Dey (new name) and Lala Shourav Dey & Lala Sourav Dey (old names) all are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sanjay Surana/Sanjay gulab chand surana(Old name), S/O Gulab Chand Surana, residing at 42B Shakespeare Sarani, 53 Shalimar Apartment, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjay Kumar Surana (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 16/04/ 2025. Sanjay Kumar Surana (new name) and Sanjay surana/ Sanjay gulab chand surana (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Ritu Sanjay Surana & Ritu Surana (Old names), W/O Sanjay Surana, residing at 42B Shake-  
speare Sarani, 53 Shalimar Apart-  
ment, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ritu Jain (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 05/04/20 25. Subrat Kumar Behera (new name) and Ritu Sanjay Surana & Ritu Surana (old names) all are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Subrat Kumar Behara (Old name), S/O Srinivas Behera residing at 71/A,Short Street, Kolkata, Pin- 700017, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall hence-  
forth be known as Subrat Kumar Behera (new name) as declared be-  
fore the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata on 05/04/20 25. Subrat Kumar Behera (new name) and Subrat Kumar Behara (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Riya Basu (old name) W/O Basab Basu, residing at Vill.- Ganapatipur, NR Basirhat High School, SDM Road, P.O.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743411, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Riya Basu Hari (new name) as declared before the no-  
tary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Riya Basu Hari (new name ) and Riya Basu (old name) both are same and identical person.

**affidavit**  
I, Shobha, D/o Rajan, aged 22 years, residing at Nihari Sector - 31, P.O. Noida, District Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301, have voluntarily converted from Hinduism to Islam without any pressure or influence. I have adopted Islam with full faith and devotion. After conversion, I have assumed a new name: Asifa Khatoun. Henceforth, I shall be known as Asifa Khatoun for all purposes.



Congress members stage a protest after the Enforcement Directorate filed a chargesheet against Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi and LoP in the Lok Sabha and party leader Rahul Gandhi in the National Herald case, in New Delhi.

## Retail inflation drops to near 6-yr low in Mar

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Retail inflation touched a near six-year low of 3.34 per cent in March, fuelled by falling vegetable prices. The easing of Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation has given the requisite room for a consumption boost, which is expected to aid the country's economic growth. CPI inflation was 3.61 per cent in February and 4.85 per cent in March last year. During March, a sharp decline of 106 basis points was observed in food inflation compared with February 2025. Food inflation in March 2025 is the lowest after November 2021. "The significant decline in headline inflation and food inflation during March 2025 is mainly attributed to the decline in inflation of vegeta-  
bles, eggs, pulses and products, meat and fish, cereals and products and milk and products," a statement from the Union ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MOSPI) said. The key items having the lowest year-on-year in-  
flation in March were ginger (-38.11 per cent).

**Name Change**  
I, Ashoke Lal Mitra (old name) S/O Sankar Lal Mitra, residing at 59B/2, Baghbazar Street, P.O.- Baghbazar, P.S.- Shyampukur, Pin-700003, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall hence-  
forth be known as Ashoke Lall Mitra (new name) as declared be-  
fore the notary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/2025. Ashoke Lall Mitra (new name) and Ashoke Lal Mitra (old name) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Chanda Dutta, W/O Sumon Dutta,R/O 64,Shahid Ananta Dutta Sarani,North Dum Dum,Bar-  
rackpore,Ps-Nimita,700081,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chanda Dutta Chowdhury,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The No-  
tary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/20 25.That Chanda Dutta And Chanda Dutta Chowdhury All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Gobindo Das, S/O Sudhir Das,R/O Raja Ramnohan Path,Nabana-  
gar,North Dum Dum,Ps-Nimita,Bi-  
rati Nimita North 24 Parganas- 700 051, West Bengal, Shall Hence forth Be Known As Gobinda Das,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/2025, That Gobindo Das And Gobinda Das All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Santoshi Debi (old name) W/O Ayanand Pandey, residing at Near Shib Mandir Laxmipur Molla Pota, Keota, P.O.- Sahaganj, P.S.- Chinsurah, Dist.- Hooghly, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Santoshi Debi Pandey (new name) as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Hooghly, Chinsurah, dated 16/04/2025 Santoshi Debi Pandey (new name ) and Santoshi Debi (old name ) both are same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Shiv Sevak Singh (Old Name) S/O Late Shiv Pratap Singh,Resid-  
ing At Vill-Barsawan,Po-Kandara-  
van,Ps- Unchahar, Dist-Raebarelli, Uttar Pradesh, Pin -229404, India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shiv Sevak Singh (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/04/2025.Shiv Sevak Singh (Old Name) And Shiv Sevak Singh (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Ansar Ali (old name) S/O Late Ebadati Sha, residing at Ramesh-  
war,P.O.- Pindira, P.S.- Kalna, Purba Bardhaman, Pin- 712146, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ansar Ali Sha (new name) as declared before the no-  
tary public at kolkata, dated 16/04/ 2025. Ansar Ali Sha (new name) ) and Ansar Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

## USA top trading partner of India for 4th straight yr

**MI News Service, New Delhi/Washington:** The US remained India's largest trading partner for the fourth consecutive year in 2024-25 with bilateral trade valued at USD 131.84 billion, while the country's trade deficit with China widened to USD 99.2 billion during the same pe-  
riod, government data showed. In the last fiscal, India's exports to China contracted 14.5 per cent to USD 14.25 billion as against USD 16.66 billion in 2023-24. The imports, however, rose by 11.52 per cent in 2024-25 to USD 113.45 billion against USD 101.73 billion in 2023-24. The trade deficit with China has widened by about 17 per cent to USD 99.2 billion in the last fis-  
cal from USD 85.07 billion in 2023-24. China contin-  
ues to be the second largest trading partner of India with USD 127.7 bil-  
lion two-way commerce in 2024-25 as compared to USD 118.4 billion in 2023-24. According to the com-  
merce ministry data, China was India's top trading partner from 2013-14 till 2017-18 and also in 2020-21. Before China, the UAE was the country's largest trading partner. The US has been the largest partner since 2021-22.

During the last fiscal, the UAE with USD 100.5 billion was the third largest trading partner of India. In the last fiscal, India's exports to the US

rose by 11.6 per cent to USD 86.51 billion as against USD 77.52 billion in 2023-24. The imports were up by 7.44 per cent in 2024-25 to USD 45.33 billion against USD 42.2 billion in 2023-24.

The trade surplus with America has touched USD 41.18 billion in the last fis-  
cal from USD 35.32 billion in 2023-24.

In 2024, India's main exports to the US included drug formulations and bio-  
logicals (USD 8.1 billion), telecom instruments (USD 6.5 billion), precious and semi-precious stones (USD 5.3 billion), petroleum products (USD 4.1 billion), gold and other precious metal jewellery (USD 3.2 billion), ready-made gar-  
ments of cotton, including accessories (USD 2.8 bil-  
lion), and products of iron and steel (USD 2.7 billion). Imports included crude oil (USD 4.5 billion), petro-  
leum products (USD 3.6 billion), coal, coke (USD 3.4 billion), cut and polished diamonds (USD 2.6 billion), electric machinery (USD 1.4 billion), aircraft, spacecraft and parts (USD 1.3 billion), and gold (USD 1.3 billion). The bilateral trade between India and the US is expected to get a boost in the coming years as both are negotiating a trade agreement. The aim is to increase two-way commerce in goods and services to USD 500 billion by 2030 from USD 191 bil-  
lion at present.

## Housing sales fall 19% in Jan-Mar across top 8 cities



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Housing sales declined 19 per cent annually in Janu-  
ary-March across eight major cities to 98,095 units on high prices and lower launches, according to PropTiger. Real estate consultant PropTiger, which is part of REA India that also owns Housing.com, on Wednesday noted that rising property prices and slowing growth forced buyers to ex-  
ercise caution. In its report 'Real Insight', PropTiger also mentioned that new supply dropped 10 per cent in the first quarter of the calendar year, as developers adjusted with the market situation. "The huge spike in prices had already started to show its adverse impact on sales. With a global trade war now bringing new uncertainty, it is only natural for buyers to adopt a cautious approach to investment, particularly in something so big as real es-  
tate," said Dhruv Agarwala, Group Chief Executive Officer, Housing.com and PropTiger. As per the PropTiger data, housing sales in Ahmedabad fell 17 per cent to 10,730 units in January-March from 12,915 units in the year-age period.

In Bengaluru, however, sales rose 13 per cent to 11,731 units from 10,381 units. Chennai too saw an increase of 8 per cent in housing sales to 4,774 units from 4,427 units. Bengaluru and Chen-  
nai were the only two cities which saw higher sales. Housing sales in Delhi-NCR fell 16 per cent to 8,477 units from 10,058 units. Hyder-  
abad saw a 26 per cent decline in sales to 10,647 units from 14,298 units, while Kolkata witnessed a 1 per cent fall to 3,803 units from 3,857 units. Housing sales in Mumbai Metropolitan Re-  
gion (MMR) decreased 26 per cent to 30,705 units from 41,594 units. In Pune, the sales of residential prop-  
erties declined 25 per cent to 17,228 units during Janu-  
ary-March 2025 from 23,112 units in the same pe-  
riod last year.

New supply declined 10 per cent to 93,144 units from 1,03,020 units during the period under review. Delhi-NCR includes Gurugram, Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad and Faridabad. Mumbai Metropolitan Re-  
gion includes Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and Thane markets.

## Only One Pair Bandel – Katwa Local to be Short Originated/ Short Ter- minated/ Short Ter- minated Work over Howrah Division

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Due to track maintenance work on Down Main line be-  
tween Dainhat & Dhatri-  
gram stations in Bandel –Katwa section, 180 minutes Traffic & Power block has been planned for 14 days from 16.04.2025 (Wednes-  
day) to 05.05.2025 (Monday) intermittently (except Thursday & Sunday). Ac-  
cordingly, Railway decided to cancel 37749/37748 Ban-  
del – Katwa – Bandel local for 14 days which was in-  
formed earlier through Press Release, has been modified as under.

37749 Bandel – Katwa local will be short termi-  
nated at Dhatrigram on those days. 37748 Katwa – Bandel local will be short originated from Dhatrigram on those days.

## Gems, jew- ellery exports dip 11.72%

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India's overall gems and jewellery exports declined 11.72 per cent to \$28.5 bil-  
lion (around ₹2.41 lakh crore) in 2024-25 compared with the previous financial year on continued geopoliti-  
cal tensions, according to the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC). The overall gems and jew-  
ellery exports stood at \$32.2 billion (₹2.67 lakh crore) in 2023-24, according to GJEPC data.

However, in March, the exports improved slightly, witnessing a growth of 1.02 per cent at \$2,582.97 million (₹22,340.89 crore) com-  
pared with \$2,556.97 mil-  
lion (₹21,228.71 crore) in the same month of the previous year. "The decline in gems and jewellery exports is mainly due to the continuous dip in demand in China as well as the US, India's key export markets, due to the ongoing geopolitical ten-  
sions. Also, the correction in rough diamond prices by 10-15 per cent impacted the value, causing the overall decline in exports," GJEPC chairman Kirit Bhansali told PTI.

The overall exports of cut and polished diamonds dipped 16.75 per cent to \$13,292.0 million (₹1.12 lakh crore) compared with \$15,967.02 million (₹1.32 lakh crore) for the same pe-  
riod of the previous year. The export of polished lab-grown diamonds for the pe-  
riod of April 2024-March 2025 declined 9.64 per cent at \$1,267.26 million (₹10,716.13 crore) from \$1,402.44 million (₹11,612.36 crore) in the previous year. Total gold jewellery ex-  
ports during FY25 showed a decline of 0.11 per cent at \$11,215.46 million (₹94,937.78 crore) against \$11,227.72 million (₹93,066.82 crore) in FY24. Silver jewellery exports in FY25 dipped 40.58 per cent at \$961.79 million (₹8,115.32 crore) compared with \$1,618.63 million (₹13,424.4 crore) in the previous year.

## Govt to mobilise Rs 8 lakh cr via bonds

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The Centre plans to raise Rs 8 lakh crore through dated securities during April-September period of 2025-26 to fund the revenue gap, the fi-  
nance ministry said.

Out of gross market borrowing of Rs 14.82 lakh crore estimated for 2025-26, Rs 8 lakh crore, or 54 per cent, is planned to be borrowed in the first half (H1) through issuance of dated securities, including Rs 10,000 crore of Sovereign Green Bonds (SGRBs), an official statement said. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in the Budget proposed to borrow Rs 14.82 lakh crore by issuing dated securities to meet revenue shortfall in the next financial year.

## Howrah Division completes 100 Glorious Years Of Service



**MI News Service, Howrah:** Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah, addressed a press meet today (16.04.2025) at the Confer-  
ence Hall to mark the completion of 100 Glorious Years of Service of Howrah Division. He also briefed the media about the on-  
going infrastructural devel-  
opments in the Division. On this occasion, the official logo commemorating "100 Glorious Years of Service" was formally unveiled. The event was graced by the presence of Ad-  
ditional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations), Ad-  
ditional Divisional Railway Man-  
ager (Administration), and senior branch officers of Howrah Division.Howrah Division of Eastern Rail-  
way completes 100 years of service in 2025. In a his-  
toric development on 1st January 1925, the admin-  
istration of the erstwhile East Indian Railway was taken over by the British Indian Government, lead-  
ing to the formation of six divisions, including Howrah.The DRM in-  
formed the media about a

series of month-long celebratory events planned to mark the centenary, which include running of EMU trains featuring heritage photographs inside coaches, heritage-themed painting of a Rajdhani Ex-  
press locomotive, release of a commemorative postal stamp and cachet, inaugu-  
ration of the new DRM Building, RPF Barracks, and a CT Scan facility for staff welfare at Howrah Orthopaedic Hospital, or-  
ganization of "Prabhat Pheri" and cleanliness drives including Shram-  
daan at various stations across the Division.Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager/Howrah also elaborated on key in-  
frastructure projects to be undertaken by Howrah Division in the next 2-3 years, along with their ten-  
tative timelines. He out-  
lined the vision and future goals of the Divi-  
sion and as-  
sured that every effort is being made to further en-  
hance passenger amenities and operational effi-  
ciency.Several journalists, and representatives from leading news channels at-  
tended the press confer-  
ence. All queries from the media were duly ad-  
dressed by Divisional Rail-  
way Manager /Howrah, who reiterated the Divi-  
sion's commitment to service excellence and innovation as it embarks on its next century of oper-  
ations.



## Additional 6400 berths to be gener- ated by running of Malda Town – Digha - Malda Town Summer Special

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Additional 6400 berths will be generated by running of Malda Town – Digha - Malda Town Summer special train to clear the extra rush of passengers. The Malda Town -Digha Special is a boon for travelers who want to escape the hustle and bustle of city life and enjoy the serene beauty of Digha's beaches during summer season. Recognizing the significant demand for travel during this summer season, Eastern Railway aims to provide convenient and comfortable transportation options for passengers. The increased demand for travel during this season often leads to challenges in securing train tickets. Eastern Railway has de-  
cided to run 03465/03466 Malda Town – Digha - Malda Town Summer special.

03465 Malda Town – Digha Summer Special will leave Malda Town at 13:10 hrs. on every Satur-  
day between 19.04.2025 & 14.06.2025 (09 trips) to reach Digha at 02:00 hrs. on the next day and 03466 Digha - Malda Town Summer Special will leave Digha at 05:00 hrs. on every Sunday between 20.04.2025 & 15.06.2025 (09 trips) to reach Malda Town at 18:30 hrs. on the same day. The train will stop at Rampurhat, Sainthia, Andar, Anansul, Adra, Bankura, Bishnupur, Midnapore, Kharagpur, Panskura, Tamluk and Kanthi stations enroute in both directions. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class & Air-  
Conditioned accommoda-  
tions. The date of booking of 03465 Malda Town – Digha Summer Special will be notified shortly.

## Eastern Railway to Augment Additional General Second Class Coaches to Accom- modate Extra Rush of Passengers

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In order to accommodate the increased rush of passengers and ensure a more com-  
fortable travel experience, Eastern Railway has decided to augment additional General Second Class coaches in several Passenger trains under its jurisdiction.

The augmentation will be implemented on a perma-  
nent basis in the following trains:  
Trains to Run with 12 General Second Class Coaches After Augmentation:

Train No.	Train Name
53406	SAHIBGANJ – RAMPURHAT Passenger
53403	RAMPURHAT – GAYA Passenger
53404	GAYA – JAMALPUR Passenger
53408	JAMALPUR – RAMPURHAT Passenger
53479	JAMALPUR – KIUL Passenger
53480	KIUL – JAMALPUR Passenger

❖ Trains to Run with 14 General Second Class Coaches After Augmentation:

Train No.	Train Name
53415	SAHIBGANJ – JAMALPUR Passenger
53416	JAMALPUR – SAHIBGANJ Passenger
53435	KATWA – AZIMGANJ Passenger
53436	AZIMGANJ – KATWA Passenger
53433	AZIMGANJ – BARHARWA Passenger
53434	BARHARWA – AZIMGANJ Passenger
53412	SAHIBGANJ – BARHARWA Passenger
53411	BARHARWA – SAHIBGANJ Passenger



Received Rs 5,990 Cr grants under SC, ST sub-plans: Jharkhand FM

MI News Service, Ranchi: Jharkhand Finance Minister Radha Krishna Kishore on Monday claimed that the state received Rs 5,990.6 crore in grants under sub-plans for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) over the past three years since 2021-22.

He alleged that the central government had reduced funding under the SC and ST sub-plans over the past decade, and the grants allocated to the state were meagre in proportion to the population of tribal and Dalit communities in the state.

"In Jharkhand, the SC population is 39 lakh and the ST population is 86 lakh. Between 2021-22 and 2023-24, the state received Rs 3,515.11 crore under the ST sub-plan and Rs 2,475.49 crore under the SC sub-plan," Kishore said while addressing the media at the Congress headquarters here.

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. : 222-S/1W-II, dated 12.04.2025.** Following e-tenders are invited online by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, Remote Control Building, DRM Building, Room No.-44, Kaizer Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following works : **Sl. No. 1. Tender No. : TN-11-25-26. Name of the work :** Construction of RCC Over Head Tank of 100000 gallon capacity for supply of water to Sealdah station, NCC Yard various offices at Sealdah Station including all ancillary works under Sr. Divisional Engineer (HO)/ Sealdah. **Tender Value :** ₹ 2,70,87,973.16. **EMD :** ₹ 2,86,900/-. **Completion period for the work :** 12 (Twelve) Months. **Sl. No. 2. Tender No. : TN-12-25-26. Name of the work :** At New Alipore Railway Officers' Colony and Burn Standard Colony (14 Alipore Avenue and 26 Raja Santosh Road):- Special repairs, colour washing, painting etc. and special repairs to bathroom, kitchen including replacement of Mosaic flooring to Vitrified flooring in Type-IV & Type-V Quarters with all other ancillary works under Senior Section Engineer (Works)/New Alipore in the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer (Works)/I/Sealdah. **Tender Value :** ₹ 82,80,232/-. **EMD :** ₹ 1,65,600/-. **Cost of Tender document (non-refundable) :** NIL for both. **Completion period for the work :** 06 (Six) Months. **Date and time of closing of tender :** 08.05.2025 at 15.00 hrs. for both. **Date and time of opening of tender:** 08.05.2025 at 15.30 hrs. for both. The Tender Documents and other details are at [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) The bidding is to be submitted through the e-tendering on above website. Manual offers will be summarily rejected. (SDAH-12/2025-26)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : [www.war.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.war.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender No. : MC-ECA-LHB-2024, dated 15.04.2025.** Open Tender is invited by Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Chg. & T/S), Howrah, DRM Building, near Howrah Railway Station, Howrah-711011 for the following work : **Name of the work:** Eddy Current Array (ECA) Testing of Wheel Sets of LHB Coaches of Tikiapara and SYAE Coaching Depot for a period of Three Years. **Tender value :** ₹ 3,32,31,419.79. **Earnest Money to be deposited :** ₹ 3,16,200/-. **Period of Contract :** 36 months from the date of commencement of work. **Website particulars for submission of Tender online :** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) **Bid closing date and time :** 05.05.2025 upto 15.00 hrs.

(HWH-29/2025-26)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : [www.war.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.war.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

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**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**

**e-Tender Notice No. : DCE-CON-II KGP-2-2025.** For and on behalf of President of India, the Dy. Chief Engineer (Con-II), Kharagpur invites e-tenders for the following work. Following tender has been uploaded on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) The tender will be closed at 12.00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works:** Execution of camp office at Baripada (BPO), Bangriposi (BGY) and Chakulia (CKU) AXEN/C office and other miscellaneous repairing works under Dy. CE/Con-II/Kharagpur, S.E. Railway. **Cost :** ₹ 9,63,66,801.94. **EMD :** ₹ 6,31,800/-. **Closing Date :** 13.05.2025. **Completion period :** 18 (Eighteen) months. Interested tenderers may visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B. :** Prospective bidders may regularly visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) to participate in all tenders. (PR-53)

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Allotment of 04 nos. of General Minor Unit (GMU) for Provision of Catering Services over Sealdah Division**

e-Tender is invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial), Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd Floor, Room No. 44, Control Building, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 in competitive, Single stage, Two packet system from Food and catering service provider, an individual or sole-proprietor firm or a Company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013 or a Partnership Firm registered under the Partnership Act, 1932 having three years of catering business experience and other financial eligibility criteria for the following work : **Name of Work:** Provision of Catering Services through Modular Catering Staff for five (05) years only at different Railway stations/Locations in Sealdah Division. **Sl. No. & Station; Station Class; Unit No.; Location; Annual Minimum Reserve Price; Earnest Money (EMD); Cost of Bid Document** respectively : **(1) Sealdah;** A1; SDAH/5-19A; P.F. 12/13 (as per Drawing); ₹ 30,18,784/- ₹ 3,14,000/-; ₹ 5,600/-; **(2) Barrakpore;** C; BP-2/79/A; P.F. 2/3 (as per Drawing); ₹ 2,85,489/-; ₹ 29,700/-; ₹ 2,240/-; **(3) Majherhat;** C; MJT-2/1/1; P.F. 2 & 3 (as per Drawing); ₹ 2,32,223/-; ₹ 24,200/-; ₹ 2,240/-; **(4) New Alipur;** C; NACC-1/1/1; P.F. 1 (as per Drawing); ₹ 2,33,532/-; ₹ 24,300/-; ₹ 2,240/- **Category :** General for each. Tender documents containing Reserve Price, Cost of Tender document, Earnest Money Deposits, detailed terms and conditions are available at [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) The bidding for the instant tender is to be submitted only through the e-tendering on the said website. **Bid closing date & time :** 01.05.2025 at 14.00 hrs. (SDAH-14/2025-26) **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Sealdah** Tender Notice is also available at websites : [www.war.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.war.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

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## Article 370: Farooq’s ‘RAW’ deal ignites controversy

MI News Service, Srinagar: A political storm has erupted in Jammu and Kashmir following revelations from former R&AW chief A.S. Dulat's upcoming book, 'The Chief Minister and the Spy, in which he claims veteran politician and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah privately supported the abrogation of Article 370.

Farooq Abdullah dismissed the claims as fiction. "Dulat sahab's book is full of so many inaccuracies, I can't even begin to describe them," he said. "It's unfortunate — if he really considers me a friend, then he wouldn't have written such things."

But the claim, made by someone considered close to Abdullah, has fuelled accusations of hypocrisy, betrayal, and political opportunism in the valley.

Sajad Lone, president of J&K People's Conference and Handwara MLA, called the claim "very credible" coming from Dulat.

"Dulat sahib is the closest ally of and friend of Farooq sahib. Virtually his alter ego," Lone wrote on X. "Of course NC will deny it. Call it yet another conspiracy

against NC. They have perfected playing the victim card. I personally am not surprised at this revelation. It now seems 2024 was a prize for services rendered in 2019. Of course in national interest."

Lone's comments made reference to the August 4, 2019 meeting between Farooq Abdullah, his son Omar Abdullah, and the Prime Minister, a meeting that occurred just before the central government stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special status.

"I can visualise Farooq sahib saying, Humey roney deejie, Aap apna kaam karein, hum aap kay Saath hain (let us cry, but you go ahead with your work we are with you)," Lone wrote. "The theatre they enact in Assembly and outside assembly is in national interest."

Waheed Para, Pulwama MLA and PDP youth leader said, "Dulat's revelations today rip off the last remaining mask."

"The fiery speeches, the staged outrage, the carefully crafted image of 'fighting the BJP', it was all theatre. The truth is harsh but undeniable: generation after

generation, the NC has built its political fortunes on the back of our dispossession," Para added.

Ilitja Mufti, daughter of PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti, pointed at Abdullah's absence from Parliament on the crucial day of abrogation. "With this it's clear that Farooq sahab chose to stay in Kashmir instead of the Parliament to help normalise the gutting of J&K's constitution & subsequent betrayal."

The J&K Peoples Democratic Party's official handle posted a quote attributed to Abdullah from the book: "We would have helped (pass the proposal). Why were we not taken into confidence?"

"This sums up everything," the PDP captioned the post.

Former Srinagar mayor Junaid Azim Mattu said, "Something seems to have fallen out of NC's bag YET AGAIN and it does seem to be a cat. Commiserations to the vulnerable, gullible people of Kashmir."

Tasaduq Hussain, political secretary of the J&K People's Conference said, "History has a way of revealing truths—eventual-

ly. As Dulat's book reveals, Dr. Farooq Abdullah privately backed the abrogation of Article 370. The public stance was just theatre. This sums up the duplicity we've long sensed."

Tanvir Sadiq, NC chief spokesperson and MLA, said Dulat is creating a controversy to sell his book. "In the book, he says that the Central Govt kept an eye on Farooq Abdullah for 7 months. I think this is just an attempt to create a controversy. He is trying to sell his book, and what better than creating a controversy related to Jammu and Kashmir? What happened in 2019 was a betrayal for the people of J&K. We believe that was wrong. We were the only ones who went to the Supreme Court to fight against Article 370."

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and Farooq Abdullah's son, Omar Abdullah said on Tuesday, "We think the appropriate time has come, six months have passed since the Assembly elections. I am still hopeful that J&K will soon get its statehood back."

## Central govt plans 50 airport projects in 5 yrs

MI News Service, New Delhi: The government plans to take up 50 airport development projects, including new airports, in the next five years as holistic efforts are being made to boost the country's aviation ecosystem.

Currently, there are 159 operational airports in the country and the number has doubled compared to 74 in 2014.

Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam on Wednesday said efforts are being made in a holistic manner to develop the aviation ecosystem, including supporting airlines and scaling up flying training organisations.

In five years, the plan is to have 50 airport development projects.

This will include new airports as well as significantly enhancing existing airports,

he said.

While emphasising that the government is focused on Public Private Partnership (PPP) for development of airports, the secretary said there is also a "well-oiled mechanism" for land acquisition for airport projects.

Land for airports are provided by the respective state governments.

He was speaking at the ACI Asia Pacific & Middle East Regional Assembly in the national capital.

Airports Council International (ACI) represents airports.

An analysis by ACI Asia Pacific & Middle East showed that capital expenditure worth USD 240 billion will be required for brown-field and greenfield airports in the region. India is one of the world's fastest growing civil aviation markets.

## DGCA may review framework for pilot fitness

MI News Service, New Delhi: Aviation regulator DGCA is likely to review the framework in place for pilot fitness aspects and response system at airports in case of medical emergencies, according to a senior official. The plan also comes against the backdrop of the death of an Air India Express pilot due to a medical condition in the national capital earlier this month soon after operating a flight from Srinagar.

The pilot operated the flight from Srinagar to Delhi and was not feeling well after landing at the Delhi airport. He was taken to a hospital where he died, a source had said.

The senior official said the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is likely to review the framework to assess pilot fitness, medical emergency response system at airports and other related aspects.

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in this regard are likely to be reviewed by the watchdog.

Specific details could not be immediately ascertained.

Last week, the Airline Pilots' Association of India (ALPA) said there is an urgent need to put in place transparent regulations that prioritise rest for pilots, safety and humane scheduling practices.

ALPA, which claims to represent around 800 pilots of various domestic airlines, is part of the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Association (IFALPA).

The association had also said the untimely death of the Air India Express pilot raises troubling questions about pilot welfare, mental health, and working conditions in the Indian aviation industry.

Further, the grouping had stressed the need for having comprehensive mental health support systems within airline organisations and not merely as checkboxes but as active, accessible, and stigma-free services.

Meanwhile, airlines are set to implement the revised norms on duty and rest hours for pilots in a phased manner starting July 1 that will provide more rest hours for pilots.

## In a first in India, ATM installed onboard train on a trial basis

MI News Service, Mumbai : In a first, Indian Railways has installed an ATM on a trial basis -- on the Mannad-CSMT Panchvati Express in Maharashtra.

Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has shared a video of the ATM on a train on his X timeline.

ATM On Wheels initiative is in accordance with the Railway Board's directive to explore innovative methods to boost railway revenue through non-fare revenue.

A meeting was held with all potential vendors on March 25, 2025. During the meeting, the concept of installing mobile ATMs on trains was proposed.

Similarly, a trial run was conducted on April 10, 2025, on 12110 Manmad-CSMT Panchvati Express. The mini pantry space was converted by the mechanical team into an ATM installation area.

"The ATM was properly secured for its maiden journey with rubber pads and bolts for vibration isolation. Two fire extinguishers have also been provided in the allotted space," railways said.

In the quest to Viksit Bharat 2047, Indian Railways continued its transformative journey, paving the way for a new era of modernization and progress.

ernization and progress.

With a strong focus on meeting world class travel experience, boosting freight efficiency, and adopting advanced technologies, the Railways has solidified its role as a catalyst for national growth.

Modern stations, state-of-the-art trains, and innovative safety systems are reshaping the landscape of rail travel.

Under 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme', 1,337 stations have been identified for redevelopment.

Indian Railways achieved 6,450 km of complete track renewal, 8,550 turnout renewals, and raised speeds to 130 kmph over 2,000 km in 2024

Indian Railways electrified 3,210 Rkm in 2024, extending the electrified BG network to 97 per cent with renewable energy capacity reaching 2,014 MW.

A record 136 Vande Bharat trains and the first Nammo Bharat Rapid Rail were introduced, alongside 21,513 special train trips during peak seasons.

10,000 Locos being equipped with Kavach safety technology, 9000 technicians trained and bids invited for 15,000 Rkm.

## Justice BR Gavai recommended as next Chief Justice of India

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Chief Justice of India, Sanjiv Khanna has officially recommended Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai as his successor, forwarding the proposal to the law ministry as part of the formal appointment process. Currently, Justice Gavai holds the position of the senior-most judge in the Supreme Court, after CJI Khanna.

Justice Gavai is set to assume office as the 52nd Chief Justice of India on May 14, succeeding CJI Khanna, who will retire on May 13. President Droupadi Murmu will administer the oath of office.

Justice Gavai's tenure as Chief Justice will span approximately six months, concluding with his retirement in November 2025.

Gavai was born on November 24, 1960, at Amravati. He joined Bar on 16th March, 1985. Worked with late Bar Raja S Bhonsale, former Advocate General and Judge of the High Court, till 1987. He practised independently at the Bombay High Court from 1987 to 1990. After 1990, practised mainly before the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court.

Gavai practised in Constitutional Law and Administrative Law. He was Standing Counsel for Municipal Corporation of Nagpur, Amravati Municipal Corporation and Amravati University. Appeared regularly for various autonomous bodies and Corporations like SI-COM, DCVL, etc., and various Municipal Councils in the Vidarbha region.

Gavai was also appointed as Assistant Government Pleader and Additional Public Prosecutor in the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench, from August 1992 to July 1993. He was appointed as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor for the Nagpur Bench on 17th January, 2000. Was elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court on 14th November, 2003.

Gavai became a permanent Judge of the Bombay High Court on 12th November 2005. Presided over Benches having all types of assignments at the Principal Seat at Mumbai as well as Benches at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji. Elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24th May, 2019. Due to retire on 23rd November, 2025.

### E - AUCTION NOTICE

E - Auction forms are invited from interested buyers for disposal, strictly on "As is Where is" basis, **Accident / Damaged Consignment of Bxsn / Wheel Sets-1000 Dia-Approx Quantity-27,000 Kg (18 Wheel), belonging to M/s. Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd;** Salvage of the above materials can be inspected at **M/s. Texmaco Rail & Engineering Ltd, Agarpara Work station, Kolkata - 700056, between 17/04/25 to 24/04/25** after taking prior appointment from **Mr B.E Pratihar Mob:-9830131816.**

E-Auction to be held on **25/04/25.** For E - Auction forms, Contact **Mr. Neeraj Sadana at Mob:- 8434304000**

### E-Auction Insights Private Limited (Auctioneers)

Address:-148, Street #11, Bhakhra Enclave, Near Gurudwara Sahib Malomajira, Tehsil and District Patiala, Punjab - 147001, or for more details email to us : [info@auctioninsightsprivate.com](mailto:info@auctioninsightsprivate.com) Last date for submission of E-Auction form is **24/04/2025 before 05:00 PM**

Office of the  
**GARAMARI GRAM PANCHAYAT**  
VIII+P.O.- GARAMARI, P.S.- Domkal, Dist.-Murshidabad, W.B.

**Notet No: 01/2025-26 & 02/2025-26**  
Publishing & Bid Submission Start Date: **11/04/2025 from 5.00 PM.** Bid Submission Closing Date: **18/04/2025 upto 5.00 PM.** Bid Opening Date: **21/04/2025 after 12.00 PM**  
Details See in : [www.wbtenders.gov.in](http://www.wbtenders.gov.in)

Sd/- **PRODHAN GARAMARI GRAM PANCHAYAT**

### NOTICE

My Client "Sefali Builders And Developers Pvt. Ltd. of Domjur (Kacharbari), P.O. & P.S. Domjur, Dist. Howrah-711 405; rep/ by Director Sri Sallendranath Dutta S/o. Late Sobinda Dutta of Domjur (Baruipara), P.O. & P.S. Domjur, Dist. Howrah-711405. 1) Sri Sunil Dey & 2) Sri Amarnath Govind Dey alias Amar Dey, as their Constituted Attorney Sri Krishna Dutta through two registered Power of Attorneys at D.S.R. Howrah - II, respectively Being No. 051304855/2023 & 051305025/2023 transferred Bagan Property at Mouza Domjur, J.L. No. 33, P.S. Domjur, Dist. Howrah within Dag No. 2/22 (R.S.) & 2/23 (L.R.) Half R. Khatian No. 1207, measuring 1.66 Sataks Clients purchase being Sale Deed No. 050405207/2024 at A.D.S.R. Domjur, to that effect if the attornies and others have any objection then a file objection before the B.L. & L.R.O. Domjur within one month from the date of Publishing this Notice.

Sd/-  
**Apurba Kumar Ghosh Advocate**

## "Manipur situation coming back to normal...not our fault that debate in Parliament came after midnight": Kiren Rijiju

MI News Service, New Delhi: Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Wednesday said that Manipur is not a case where the central government can be put to the test and that the situation in the state is coming back to normal.

In an interview with ANI, Rijiju said the government cannot be blamed for the debate concerning President's Rule in Manipur having been taken up late at night in Parliament, saying the opposition wanted more time for the debate on the Waqf Amendment Bill.

"Initially, I said we could take six hours' discussion (on the Waqf Amendment Bill)

because enough has been deliberated in the JPC. Whatever we have to say, let us discuss for six hours. Finally, I agreed for eight hours. But the opposition kept on insisting 12 hours beyond, saying that the chair should take the sense of the house and discuss for a longer period of time and we acceded to it. So, it is not our fault that the Manipur case came right after the Waqf Amendment Bill. As Lok Sabha passed the bill at midnight, we only had one day left in Rajya Sabha," the Union Minister said.

He said it was a constitutional obligation to undertake the ratification process of President's Rule in two months.

"If we don't take up immediately, then it is a constitutional obligation that within two months, the ratification has to take place when there is a proclamation of President's Rule. After six months, it has to be extended through the discussion in the Parliament. Parliament has to pass it. So these are constitutional requirements. Nobody should blame that we took up the Manipur case at midnight," he added.

Answering a query, Rijiju said while there was an incident in Manipur, states in the northeast were seeing rapid progress.

"After 2014 northeast is seeing the true light of devel-

opment. Barring the Manipur incident every other north-eastern region is having an era of peace, tranquillity and development. Manipur issue is not a case where the government can be put to the test. We are not at fault. Before we came to power in 2014, Manipur used to face blockades, ethnic war, ethnic conflicts, so many incidents happening and state used to be under this kind of violence for years, where thousands have already lost their life," Rijiju said.

He also referred to the opposition's demand for Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit Manipur and to the violence the state had witnessed before the Modi government came to

power at the Centre.

"Did we ever say that the Prime Minister should go there? Why Manipur is happening? Those initial days, all the struggle in the Manipur, all the undergrounds, the militants, they were against the state. This incident in Manipur is not against the state. This is neither a creation of the Central government nor this fight is against the Government of India. It is between two brothers," he said.

He stated that the trigger point of the ethnic clashes was an outcome of the judicial pronouncement, which said that a particular community should be given Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.







Cow dung on DU classroom wall: Student union defaces principal's office

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** A controversy at Delhi University's Lakshmi Bai College escalated on Tuesday when Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) president Ronak Khatri smeared cow dung on the walls of the principal's office. This act was a response to a viral video that showed principal Pratyush Vatsala applying cow dung to classroom walls, claiming it was a sustainable method to cool the rooms. Khatri, while confronting a faculty member inside the office, stated that no consent was taken from students before implementing such a measure. "If you want to do research, do it at your home," he said, criticizing the principal's decision to experiment within the college premises. He added that students were never consulted and that such practices should not be imposed in educational spaces without their input.

The original video, which sparked widespread debate on social media, showed Principal Vatsala applying cow dung to the walls of classrooms in the C Block of the college. In her defense, she stated on April 13 that the initiative was part of an ongoing research project led by faculty members. The goal, she said, was to explore indigenous and eco-friendly cooling techniques amid the capital's rising temperatures. She clarified that the application was limited to porta cabins and the research was still in progress. "It is under process. I will be able to share details of the full research after a week," she said, urging people not to spread misinformation. "There's no harm in touching natural mud," she added. The principal had reportedly shared the video in a teachers' WhatsApp group, presenting the effort as a positive step toward making the classrooms more comfortable. "Those who have classes here will soon get these rooms in a new look. Efforts are being made to make your teaching experience pleasant," she wrote.

Israel says no humanitarian aid to enter Gaza

**MI News Service, Jerusalem:** Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said on Wednesday that Israel has adopted a policy of blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza to undermine Hamas' control over the population.

In a statement a day after a field visit to Gaza with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and senior military commanders, Katz outlined Israel's broader war strategy, which he said aims to secure the release of hostages and ultimately defeat Hamas.

"Israel's policy is clear -- no humanitarian aid is about to enter Gaza," Katz said. "No one is currently preparing or intending to bring any humanitarian aid into Gaza under the current circumstances," he added. Israel resumed its blockade on the entry of food, water, medicine, fuel, and other supplies on March 2.

Today's Bharat's longest transport tunnel Tunnel no 8 of Rishikesh - Karnaprayag project tunnel braking ceromany witnessed by Ashwini Vaishnav, Minister of railways, IT & Meity, CM Uttarakhand and Local MP Anil Balono ji

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Tunnel No. 8 having length 14.58 km in Rishikesh- Karanprayag Railway Project is going to be the longest transport tunnel in India. Presently Rail Tunnel – 12.75 Km between Khari and Sumber Stations on Katra-Banihal Section of Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Road Tunnel- 9.02 Km- Atal tunnel regarded as longest road tunnel in Manali-Leh Highway.

**Salient features:** 12 stations, 19 major bridges , 38 minor bridges  
**Total length of project :** 125.20 83 % of this is tunnel ( 104 km) 14.72 % is open cutting embankments ( 18.4 km) 2.21 % is important bridges ( 3.07 Km ) Total length of main tunnel 104 km and no of tunnel is 16 Total tunnel length of the project is 213.57 km ( 16 Main tunnel of 104 km , 12 escape tunnel of 97.72km and 7.05km cross passage)

**Longest Tunnel :** 14.58  
**Bridge length :** half a Km Srinaragar Bridge no 09  
Bridge height 46.9 m Gauchar Bridge 15  
**Longest span bridge :** 125 m Devprayag bridge 06  
**Tunnel:** Beyond km 6.00, the alignment is in tunnels. 16 tunnels have been divided in 10 packages. DD&PMC contracts completed the design work in all the packages. Tunneling works of all tunnels started simultaneously. Present Tunneling progress (including Main Tunnel, Escape Tunnel, Adits & Cross passage) is 195 km against a total scope of 213 km. Eight Adits in various tunnels were identified for creating additional work faces of tunnel excavation for facilitating early completion of long tunnels and were completed before the start of Main Tunneling work.

**Tunneling and T-08 tunnel:** IR has total tunnel length till 2014 was 125 km and since 2014 tunneling done is 468.08 km ie 3.7 times This is first successful TBM use in tunneling in Himalayan geological terrain and first in IR TBM single shield 9.11 meter excavation dia has tunneled 10.4 km NATM has tunneled 4.11 km. First 600 mt from portal o1 was done by NATM to launch TBM . From portal 2 Janasu end NATM worked continuously .

**1. Geological Setting:**  
**Formation:** The tunnel predominantly traverses the Chandpur Formation of the Jaunsar Group. **Rock Type:** The principal rock unit is Chandpur Phyllite, which includes: Quarzitic and Schistose Phyllite with Interlacations of Quartzite Rocks Presence of Quartz Veins  
**2. Rock Mass Characteristics:**  
**Structure:** Closely to very closely jointed and Foliated **Weathering &**



**Strength:** Slightly to moderately weathered and Moderately weak to moderately strong rock mass **Geological Variability:** High variability in rock mass conditions along the tunnel alignment.

**3. Investigation Constraints:**  
**Access Difficulty:** Challenging access due to rugged Himalayan terrain, leading to limited geological data. **Geological Investigations:** Initial Boreholes: 7 nos., total length 1196 m. Additional Boreholes: 2 nos., total length 1077 m  
**4. Overburden:** Maximum Overburden: 800 m ( Approx 1 KM ), Minimum Overburden: 70 m  
**5. Tunnel Behaviour:** Squeezing, very high Squeezing behaviour anticipated, especially under average to high overburden conditions due to weak rock mass conditions and depth.

**Key Challenges in TBM Tunnel Construction**

**1. Geological Complexity:** Presence of heterogeneous rock conditions—ranging from poor to medium and hard rock—poses significant challenges for excavation and support. Squeezing ground conditions in approximately 20% of the tunnel route, requiring uninterrupted TBM operation except at designated stops. Medium to high overburden and deep seated landslides could involve large deformations/movements.

**2. TBM Operation & Constraints:** Need for non-stop TBM progress along with ongoing geological and geophysical investigations during construction. Risk of TBM entrapment in squeezing zones. TBM must navigate through difficult terrain and varying ground conditions without unscheduled stoppages, demanding high system reliability and responsive support.

**3. Water Ingress:** Significant water inflow identified in two major

zones, with a maximum inflow rate of 2000 lpm, posing risks to equipment, safety, and progress rates. Probable water in Nallas locations.

**4. Other Challenges:**  
**Logistics & Transportation:** Continuous transport of materials and segments along a 30 km national highway, complicated by Monsoon season impacts (e.g., landslides, road closures) and Yatra (pilgrimage) season traffic congestion Material and segment delivery must remain uninterrupted, placing pressure on logistics and supply chain reliability.

**Backfill Grouting System:** Grout pipeline system spans over 11 km, requiring frequent cleaning and maintenance; Adaptation to different mix designs across tunnel segments due to varied geological and structural conditions

**Parallel Construction Activities:** Simultaneous execution of multiple construction activities: Cross passages, Tunnel excavation and TBM operation logistics

**Railway Bridges:** Total 19 major bridges , 5 important and 38 minor bridges. Important bridges are 1 over Ganga ji , 1 over Chandrabhaga ji and 3 over Alaknanda ji 08 major Bridges completed out of 19 major bridges. Three important bridges completed, one on Chandrabhaga Ji and two over Alaknanda Ji. One ROB & One RUB over NH/SH at Rishikesh has been completed. 03 Major Road bridges for accessibility to work sites at Gauchar, Srinagar & Sivai are completed. Work on Balance Important & Major Bridges (11 Nos) is in an advanced state of progress. **Commissioning Targets:** Virbhadra - Yog Nagari Rishikesh section commissioned on 20.03.2020. The tunneling works in the project are targeted to be completed by financial year end of 2026-27. Track works, electrical, OHE and S&T works have been planned and will commence soon.

Trump calls Harvard a 'joke' university that 'teaches hate and stupidity'

**MI News Service, Washington:** US President Donald Trump renews his attack on top university Harvard, whose federal funding and tax-exempt status he has threatened to remove over its refusal to submit to wide-ranging government oversight. "Harvard can no longer be considered even a decent place of learning, and should not be considered on any list of the World's Great Universities or Colleges," Trump says on his Truth Social platform. "Harvard is a JOKE, teaches Hate and Stupidity, and should no longer receive Federal Funds." The US federal government said Tuesday it was freezing more than \$2.2 billion in grants and \$60 million in contracts to Harvard University after the prestigious institution said it would defy the Trump administration's demands to overhaul its admissions, hiring, and disciplinary processes, made largely in the name of combating anti-Semitism.

Lebanese army arrests members of Hamas in Lebanon

**MI News Service, Riyadh:** The Saudi Al-Hadath channel reports that the Lebanese army arrested Hamas operatives in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon -- Ain al-Hilweh and Nahr al-Bared -- and that a senior Hamas official requested a meeting with the head of Lebanese army intelligence.

The report has not been officially confirmed by the Lebanese army.

The reason for the arrest is unclear. However, earlier, Jordan's King Abdullah II spoke with the Lebanese President Joseph Aoun regarding the exposure of a terror cell that had manufactured rockets in Jordan and was allegedly linked to Hamas. Jordan stated yesterday that the members of the cell who were arrested had trained in Jordan.

Iran's FM says "principle" of Tehran's uranium enrichment non-negotiable

**MI News Service, Tehran:** Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi said on Wednesday that "the principle" of his country's uranium enrichment is non-negotiable, according to the official news agency IRNA. He made the remarks in an address to reporters on the sidelines of a cabinet meeting while commenting on certain "contradictory" positions adopted by U.S. officials on Iran's nuclear program and uranium enrichment following the first round of the indirect talks between Tehran and Washington in Oman last week. Araghchi said,

"What is certain is that Iran's enrichment is a real, accepted and undeniable fact, and we are ready to build confidence regarding the possible concerns. However, the principle of the enrichment itself is not negotiable."

MASTERMIND MOSSAD

By: Siddhartha Albertt Majumder

Referring MOSSAD to something more than a 'myth' would not be a misnomer. Its glorious heritage in dealing with the domain of intelligence service has reached the apex long back with trail of intelligence and counter intelligence stories only exemplify Mossad's unmatched accuracy and ruthless precision.

'Mossad' is a Hebrew word which means "Central Institute for Intelligence and Special Operations". It is the prime intelligence organisation of Israel. There are other intelligence organizations in Israel like Aman (military intelligence) and Shin Bet (internal security). The Mossad is concerned with foreign intelligence gathering, intelligence analysis, and covert operations. Since its creation in 1948, the State of Israel has met its obvious need for intelligence and counterintelligence with services that have gained a first-class reputation. One mark of their professionalism is that less is known about them than about other systems.

The Israeli intelligence establishment comprises several autonomous organizations. The Central Institute for Intelligence and Security, popularly known as Mossad, carries out foreign espionage and covert political and paramilitary operations, including the assassination of Palestinian terrorists and other figures. Its head reports directly to the prime minister. Post world war Mossad's biggest success was to nab the iconic Nazi general Adolf Ichmann, the architect of Jewish holocaust in gas chambers during the Second World War. Ichmann was nabbed from Argentina where he was living a rather low profile life, quite purposefully to keep him safe. But that proved quite incommensurate as he was nabbed from Argentina after living many years in exile. He was arrested and put to trial and was eventually hanged. As mentioned earlier, Mossad, Israel's national intelligence agency, is widely regarded as one of the most efficient and effective intelligence agencies in the world. Its efficiency is often attributed to several key factors:

**HIGHLY SKILLED PERSONNEL:** Mossad recruits individuals with exceptional intelligence, skills, and dedication. Many operatives have backgrounds in military, intelligence, technology, or other specialized fields, which makes them particularly effective in their roles.

**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY & SURVEILLANCE:** Mossad is known for its advanced use of technology in intelligence gathering, including cutting-edge surveillance techniques, cyber operations, and communication interception. The agency is quick to adopt emerging technologies to maintain an edge in intelligence gathering.

**GLOBAL REACH:** Mossad operates in many countries, often with clandestine operations far beyond Israel's borders. They are known for carrying out covert operations worldwide, from espionage to intelligence gathering, and even high-profile operations like the capture of Adolf Eichmann in Argentina.

**FOCUS ON HIGH-IMPACT OPERATIONS:** Mossad is renowned for its precision in targeting high-value operations. For example, their operation to capture Eichmann, one of the architects of the Holocaust, was not only successful but also carried out with careful planning and minimal exposure. Mossad typically focuses on high-priority targets and is known for executing operations with extreme care.

**INTELLIGENCE COLLABORATION:** Mossad frequently collaborates with other intelligence agencies

around the world, including the CIA, MI6, and others. These partnerships allow them to share intelligence and leverage global networks to gather and act on crucial information.

**TRAINING AND PREPARATION**

Mossad places a strong emphasis on the training of its agents, including mental toughness, survival skills, languages, and cultural understanding. Operatives are trained to blend into different environments and effectively gather information without drawing attention to them.

**RESOURCEFULNESS & ADAPTABILITY:**

The agency is known for its ability to adapt to various challenges and innovate under pressure. Mossad's operations often involve resourcefulness, where agents make the best use of available assets, improvising solutions as needed.

**SECRECY AND OPERATIONAL SECURITY:**

Mossad maintains an extremely high level of secrecy, often working in a manner that ensures minimal exposure. This operational security ensures that their actions are not exposed until they are completed, making their operations less prone to failure due to leaks or premature discovery.

**POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC IMPACT:**

The Mossad's efficiency extends beyond just intelligence gathering. The agency's operations often have far-reaching political and strategic impacts. Their ability to protect Israel's security interests through intelligence and targeted actions has played a significant role in the country's defense policy. Apart from capturing the iconic German commander Adolf Ichmann, Mossad has conducted innumerable operations throughout the world at different times.

One of the top two widely known operations are furnished below in nutshell: Operation Entebbe: Mossad played a major role in rescuing hostages from a hijacked plane in Uganda, showcasing its ability to conduct complex military and intelligence operations. Operation Wrath of God: A series of covert operations aimed at capturing or eliminating those responsible for the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre, which demonstrated Mossad's commitment to justice and its reach in executing high-profile operations.

In present days, Mossad has increased their area of operations, especially in middle-east regions while fighting the battle against Islamic imperialistic forces. Mossad's biggest challenge is to counter two dreadful Jihadist organizations, Hezbollah and Hamas who vows to make the middle-east a 'Non-Muslim free zone'.

Israel is waging a 'Holy war' against Palestine to make it free from the clutches of Islamic powers like Hamas, aided by Hezbollah and to bring back a civilized world order in Palestine. Though Mossad's efficiency is highly praised, it has not been without its controversies. Some operations have been criticized for their legality, ethics, or the collateral damage caused. Last but not the least, Mossad throughout the ages has become the epitome of magical mastermind approach that still receives the highest applause worldwide despite caustic criticism for wrong reasons.

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In this image released by @IndiainMyanmar via X, Next set of pre-fab office or housing units carried by an Indian Air Force C17, upon arrival at Mandalay airport, in earthquake-hit Myanmar.

Balochistan reports 181 enforced disappearances, 12 extrajudicial killings in March, says Paank

**MI News Service, Balochistan:** Paank, the human rights division of the Baloch National Movement (BNM), has said that there were at least 181 cases of enforced disappearances and 12 extrajudicial killings recorded in Balochistan during the month of March.

The group reported that Pakistani security forces, along with allied armed groups known locally as "death squads," carried out widespread abductions and enforced disappearances, primarily targeting students, activists, and civil society members. Many of these arrests were allegedly

made without warrants or any judicial process. The Balochistan Post reported. Out of those who were forcibly taken, 87 individuals were eventually released. Several of them reportedly endured harsh physical mistreatment while in custody, as reported by the Balochistan Post.

The highest number of enforced disappearances in March was reported in Quetta and Kalat, with 37 cases. Other areas affected included Dera Bugti (18 cases), Gwadar (15), Nushki (13), Dera Ghazi Khan (10), Kech (9), Barkhan (8), Awaran (7), Karachi

(6), Lasbela (5), Mastung (4), Panjgur (3), and Naseerabad (2). Single cases were also reported from Islamabad, Kachhi, Jaffarabad, Jacobabad, and Khuzdar. The Balochistan Post reported.

According to Paank, several of those killed extrajudicially had previously been reported as forcibly disappeared. One such case was Nizam Baloch, who was abducted from Gilli, Buleda, on March 11 and found dead the following day. His brother, Shah Nawaz Baloch, was subsequently shot and killed in Kech. Another

victim, Shah Jahan Kurd--the brother of Zahid Baloch, a forcibly disappeared leader of the Baloch Students Organisation (BSO)--was killed in the Naal region of Khuzdar, the Balochistan Post reported.

On March 21, three people were shot and killed during a protest demanding the release of missing persons. Paank identified the victims as 12-year-old Naimat Baloch, Habib Baloch, and Imdad Baloch, describing Naimat's death as "a symbol of state oppression."

On March 23, Ehsan Baloch--

a Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) activist and shopkeeper--was killed in Khuzdar. Paank referred to his death as "a premeditated targeted assassination."

Three days later, the mutilated bodies of Tohseef, Zahoor, and Irshad Baloch--who had reportedly been abducted earlier--were discovered in Mashkay, as reported by Balochistan Post.

Additionally, the bodies of Saif Baloch and Anas Baloch, who had been missing for several months, were found during the same month.



# MayankYadav joins Lucknow Super Giants camp ahead of IPL 2025 clash against Rajasthan Royals



**"THE WAY HE PERFORMED TODAY WAS REALLY, REALLY COMMENDABLE": NEHALWADHERA PRAISES YUZVENDRACHAHAL AFTER HIS MATCH-WINNING SPELL**

**CHANDIGARH (PUNJAB) :** After registering a win over defending champion Kolkata Knight Riders in the 31st encounter of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025, Punjab Kings (PBKS) left-hand batter NehalWadhera lauded leg spinner YuzvendraChahal's exceptional bowling performance in the game Chahal bowled magnificently well in the game as he snapped four wickets in his spell of four overs, where he conceded 28 runs at an economy of 7. He took the wickets of A j i n k y a R a h a n e , AnkrishRaghuvanshi, Rinku Singh and Ramandeep Singh in his spell and was awarded the Player of the Match for this brilliant performance. Speaking about the 34-year-old's performance, Wadhera, while speaking at the post-match press conference, said, " Looking at his stats today, he picked four crucial wickets despite being left-handers there. He got wicket of Rinku Singh which was very crucial for us. I think the way he was paced today, bowling wide slower balls, and he showed us all today mixing his pace, so I think this is what experience does to a bowler. He totally won us the game today. The way he performed today was really, really commendable." Further, the uncapped Indian batter hailed other bowlers' performance as well, such as Marco Jansen (3/17 in 3.1 overs), Arshdeep Singh (1/11 in 3 overs), Glenn Maxwell (1/5 in 2 overs), and Xavier Bartlett (1/30 in 3 overs) who played a crucial role in defending a mere total of 112 runs "We were never short of confidence. We know that our bowlers are capable of doing well here. YuzvendraChahal, Marco Jansen, Arshdeep Singh and Xavier Bartlett, the way all of them performed was really commendable. I think all the credit goes to the bowlers for the win. The batters didn't have a great day with the bat. I think they really compensated the game today," NehalWadhera added. In one of the most astonishing feats in Indian Premier League (IPL) history, Punjab Kings (PBKS) pulled off a remarkable 16-run victory over defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in a low-scoring thriller at Mullanpur in the IPL 2025 season. The match will be remembered for PBKS successfully defending the lowest total ever in the league's history -- 111 runs. With this victory, PBKS is at the fourth spot, with four wins and two losses and eight points. KKR is at the sixth spot, with three wins, four losses, and six points.



**NEW DELHI (INDIA) :** Ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 clash against the Rajasthan Royals (RR), Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) right-arm speedster MayankYadav joined the Rishabh Pant-led side ahead of the team's eighth game of the ongoing 18th edition of the cash-rich league after recovering from his injury. Mayank is likely to play LSG's next game against the Rajasthan Royals (RR) on Saturday in Jaipur, as per ESPNcricinfo report. His availability will be a massive boost for LSG, who started the competition without him. The Lucknow Super Giants franchise took to their social media handle and shared a video

where MayankYadav got a warm welcome from the hotel staff at the destination. He also gave autographs to the entire hotel staff. Mayank, 22, was recovering from a back injury and had been out of action since October 2024, when he made his international debut and played three T20Is against Bangladesh at home. He missed the entire domestic season due to a back injury sustained in the series and recovered at the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. Just ten days back, LSG head coach Justin Langer had watched the videos of the bowler operating

at "90 to 95 per cent" and said that the pacer would be joining the LSG camp soon. Mayank had an injury-ridden 2024. After rising to fame with two 'Player of the Match' performances in his first three Indian Premier League (IPL) games, during which he troubled plenty of sports stars with his consistent 150 mph-plus pace, accurate and controlled line-and-length, he faced an abdominal issue that ruled him out of the tournament. After recovering from that injury at the National Cricket Academy (NCA), he picked up another injury there while bowling. In his debut IPL season, he had taken seven scalps in four games.



## Jharkhand, Punjab FC crowned champions of Dream SportsChampionship Football 2025

**PANAJI (GOA) :** On Tuesday, the renowned RAIA Sports Ground in Goa hosted the grand finale of the Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 National Finals, witnessing remarkable talent and competitive spirit from young footballers across the country. The tournament saw Jharkhand FA triumph in the girls' category while Punjab FC successfully defended their title in the boys' category. The event was graced by distinguished guests, including former Team India legends Subrata Paul and BhaichungBhutia, as well as ShriRohanKhaunte, Minister for Tourism, IT, E&C and Printing and Stationery; ShriMauvinGodinho, Minister of Transport; ShriDigambarKamat, Margao MLA and Former Chief Minister of Goa; Smt. Varsha Sharma, IPS, DIG, Goa Police; and Dr. CaitanoFernandes, President, Goa Football Association, who participated in the presentation ceremony and recognised the outstanding performances of these young athletes. The Girls National Finals produced a thrilling contest between Jharkhand FA and Odisha FA, with Jharkhand emerging victorious after securing a narrow 1-0 win. AnamikaSanga proved to be the hero for Jharkhand, scoring the match's only goal in the 20th minute. Despite Odisha's best efforts to equalise, Jharkhand's defence, led by skipper ChandaniKumari, held firm till the end. "Winning the championship was crucial for our team. Our strategy to keep the ball forward protected our narrow lead. All the arrangements were excellent -- from the venue setup to the amenities provided. The competitive environment really pushed us to give our best. This platform has given young footballers like us an opportunity to showcase talent and move closer to representing India--a dream my family fully supports," said an elated Chandani, skipper of Jharkhand, after her team's victory. Commenting on the DSC as quoted by the Dream Sports Foundation press release. Meanwhile, the Boys National Finals saw Punjab FC retain the trophy with a convincing 2-0 victory over MohunBagan Super Giant. PFC took an early lead through SubhamGurung in just the 10th minute of play, before doubling their advantage in the second half when AshishLohar struck in the 64th minute, effectively sealing the championship for his team. "Our team remained unbeaten throughout the tournament, which shows how the months of dedicated training and preparation have paid off. This competition has been invaluable for our development, allowing us to face tough competition, including international teams like Norwich City FC. It provides an excellent platform for developing young talent, and the organisation's commitment to youth development is truly admirable. Retaining the trophy is a testament to our academy's strong foundation and team spirit -- proof that our unity was the key to our success," said Punjab FC skipper AniketYadav after his team's win. "I'm delighted to be here in Goa, the heart of Indian football, for the Dream Sports Championship Football 2025 National Finals. Tournaments like these are key to shaping the future of Indian football in our country, offering young girls and boys the competitive platform necessary for their development. The passion and quality on display from all corners of the country throughout the tournament have been incredible. And seeing these promising athletes compete fills me with tremendous hope for the future of Indian football," shared former Team India skipper BhaichungBhutia. The first edition of the Dream Sports Championship, which was held in 2024, saw 17 participants earning coveted spots in the Indian U-17 national camp. This achievement underscores the tournament's significance as a stepping stone for Indian football's future, transforming promising young athletes into tomorrow's heroes.

## Rajinder and Hardik Singh reflect on Hockey Punjab's 15th Senior Men National Championship 2025 title win

**JHANSI (UTTAR PRADESH) :** Hockey Punjab lifted the coveted 15th Hockey India Senior Men National Championship 2025 title as they defeated Hockey Madhya Pradesh 4-1 in the final in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh. Hockey Punjab won the tournament in 2023; however, in the last edition, they were knocked out in the quarterfinals by Hockey Maharashtra. This time, led by Captain Hardik Singh and Coach Rajinder Singh, Hockey Punjab claimed the championship again, as per the Hockey India press release. Hockey Punjab finished second in Division 1, Pool A, three points behind Hockey Madhya Pradesh, who dealt them their only defeat in the tournament. In the quarterfinal, Hockey Punjab earned a 3-2 win over Hockey Haryana, followed by a 4-3 victory against Uttar Pradesh Hockey in the semifinal. Despite their earlier loss, Hockey Punjab ensured they learnt from their



mistakes and defeated Hockey Madhya Pradesh comfortably in the final. Jugraj Singh was in top form for Hockey Punjab, having finished the tournament as the second-highest goalscorer with five goals and even recording a crucial brace in the final. Young sensation Arajjeet Singh Hundal also played a crucial role in the attack and

claimed three goals to his name. Reflecting on the tournament, Hockey Punjab coach Rajinder Singh stated as quoted by the Hockey India press release, "It was a very good tournament for us, and we gave a solid performance overall. The loss against Hockey Madhya Pradesh was truly a turning point for us. We knew we were a strong side, but after

## YashVir Singh outshine Kishore Jena to clinch Indian Open Athletics 2025 meet

**CHENNAI (TAMIL NADU) :** YashVir Singh outclassed Asian Games silver medallist Kishore Jena to win the men's javelin throw title at the Indian Open Athletics 2025 meet in Chennai on Tuesday, as per the Olympics.com. Competing at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Chennai, YashVir Singh produced his best effort of 77.49m on his fifth attempt. Kishore Jena's 75.99m throw came on his fourth attempt. However, both distances breached the Athletics Federation of India's (AFI) entry standard of 75.36m in the men's javelin throw for the Asian Championships 2025. Braveman Heart, who finished third with a distance of 72.36m, missed out. This year's Asian Championships will be held in Gumi, the Republic of Korea, in May. The final selection for the meet, however, is at the AFI's discretion. The Chennai event marked Kishore Kumar Jena's first com-

petition since the Paris 2024 Olympics, where he finished 18th with an 80.73m effort. His best of 87.54m came at the Asian Games 2023, where he claimed the silver medal behind national record holder Neeraj Chopra. The Chennai meet featured some of the top Indian athletes. Among other standout performers, Asian Championships silver medallistShailli Singh won the women's long jump event with a distance of 6.45m, breaching the Asian Athletics Championships qualification mark of 6.41m. VithyaRamraj, the Asian Games 2023 bronze medallist in the women's 400m hurdles, won her event with a time of 56.90. India's 110m hurdles national record holder TejasShirse, competing with a strapping on his leg, came second in his pet event with a timing of 13.96s - 0.02s behind. Manav R. MuhammedLazan was third with a time of 14.37s. Paris 2024 Olympian JeswinAldrin, who holds India's



national record of 8.42m in the men's long jump, logged 7.36m for seventh place. Aditya Kumar Singh won the men's long jump on Tuesday with a 7.74m effort.

The Indian Open Athletics competition features a series of meets that will be held across the country. The next one will also be held in Chennai on April 21.

## "Next two to three years are crucial for women's hockey": DilipTirkey ahead of India vs Australia five-match Hockey series

**BHUBANESWAR (ODISHA) :** Hockey India President DilipTirkeyemphasised that the next two to three years will be crucial for Indian women's hockey. With the Asian Games, the World Cup, and the Olympics on the horizon, along with several important tournaments in between, the team is entering a pivotal phase. The Indian women's team is set to tour Perth, Australia, where they will play five matches. The tour will begin with two games against Australia A, followed by three matches against the senior Australian team. All fixtures will be held at the Perth Hockey Stadium. This tour is seen as a key preparatory assignment ahead of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, which is scheduled for June. "The next two to three years are crucial for women's hockey... This month, five matches will be played in Perth, Australia... For the first time, five young players who per-

formed well in the Hockey India League have been selected for this team... Many important tournaments are coming up after that, like the (Women's FIH) Pro League and the Asia Cup, and then the Olympics and World Cup next year. Looking at future tournaments, it is important for young players to gain experience. So the Australia round is important for young players," DilipTirkey said while speaking to ANI. Five new players have received their first senior national call-ups. This tour is particularly important for the young players as it offers them a valuable opportunity to gain experience by playing alongside and against senior international players. Touring Australia is especially significant for the youngsters, as they will be tested against high quality opposition in challenging conditions a crucial step in their development at the international level. Hockey India announced a

26-member squad on Monday for the upcoming tour, which will take place from April 26 to May 4. The squad will be led by dynamic midfielder SalimaTete, with experienced forward NavneetKaur serving as the vice-captain. The tour will be a crucial preparatory assignment ahead of the team's European leg of the FIH Pro League 2024-25, set to be held in June, as per the Hockey India press release. Seasoned goalkeeper Savita and young talent Bichu Devi Kharibam will share responsibilities between the posts, providing a strong last line of defence, Hockey India said. Jyoti Singh, IshikaChaudhary, SushilaChanuPukhrambam, SujataKujur, Suman Devi Thoudam, Jyoti, AjminaKujur, and SakshiRana will feature in the defensive lineup, reflecting a mix of experience and promising young talent. In the midfield,



captainSalimaTete will marshal the centre with support from VaishnaviViithalPhalke, Neha, Sharmila Devi, ManishaChauhan,

SunelitaToppo, MahimaTete, PoojaYadav, and Lalremsiami, bringing depth and creativity to the side, Hockey India said. The forward line comprises

of NavneetKaur, Deepika, RutajaDadasoPisal, Mumtaz Khan, BaljeetKaur, DeepikaSoreng, and Beauty Ddungdung.