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Jetty project near Gateway of India in disarray

MI News Service Mumbai: The proposed passenger jetty near the Gateway of India here, to be developed by the Maharashtra Maritime Board, has run into rough weather due to opposition from locals who see it as an environment hazard and a threat to heritage sites. As local residents close ranks against the Rs 229-crore project, they have received support from politicians across party lines though the state government has sought to allay their concerns and insisted the jetty-cum-terminal building will serve the cause of ordinary people.

The Gateway of India in Colaba, one of Mumbai's illustrious landmarks, is a hub for ferry traffic, plying daily services to the Elephanta Caves, a popular tourist spot, and Mandwa village, which serves as a gateway to Alibaug, a coastal town frequented by weekend travellers. The proposed jetty and terminal, to be located near the Radio Club -- about 500 metres from the Gateway of India -- is being claimed as an environment hazard and a threat to heritage structures located in the vicinity by locals, who have got together under the banner of Clean Heritage Colaba Residents Association (CHCRA) to oppose the project.

State assembly speaker and local BJP MLA Rahul Narvekar, Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Milind Deora, South Mumbai Lok Sabha MP Arvind Sawant (Shiv Sena-UBT), Samajwadi Party leader Abu Asim Azmi and other politicians have supported the protesting residents. Likely to be completed in two years, the project is expected to reroute all boat traffic from the Gateway of India, reduce existing congestion as well as upgrade the old facilities. The jetty (structure built in water and used by people for getting on and off boats) will have the capacity to accommodate up to 20 boats at a time, allowing for their smoother operations. The terminal building will have a 350-person capacity amphitheatre, a berthing jetty, an approach jetty, a fire safety system, and CCTVs besides gardening and beautification works. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, who holds the finance portfolio, cleared the decks for the project and allocated Rs 229 crore for it in the budget for 2025-26. Ports Minister Nitesh Rane performed the ground-breaking ceremony on March 14. As the project rolled on, local residents got up in arms. Through letters, meetings and an online petition, the protesters called upon MMB authorities to halt all work and demanded the project be moved to some other location in south Mumbai, including near the Princess Dock, Ferry Wharf or Ballard Estate.

Due to the protests, a barge-cum-platform set up for construction of the jetty has been removed. "The proposed jetty near the Gateway of India has sparked widespread concern among citizens, environmentalists and heritage conservationists. This project, if implemented, will disrupt the delicate balance of Colaba's cultural, environmental and social fabric. We have to protect Mumbai's heritage, reduce traffic congestion, and address the growing risks of climate change," Rocky Lobo, a spokesperson of the CHCRA, told PTI. The

►► **Continued on page 3**

Intel, gear, body cameras imperative while covering rallies & meetings: **Manoj Verma**
City police commissioner Manoj Verma urged officers to be alert, have their ears to the ground and be properly equipped and armed with adequate intelligence while covering rallies and meetings, sources privy to what happened at a meeting said. Verma underscored the need for "clear communication" between officers in charge of police stations and the special branch, which collects intelligence on proposed gatherings, sources said. PG 3



Morning India



People at protest rally organized by various left organizations against State and Central Government at Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata on Sunday.

Russia-Ukraine War: Easter ceasefire fails to erase distrust

MI News Service, Moscow: Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a surprise one-day ceasefire in Ukraine on Saturday for Easter, but Kyiv said Russian forces continued artillery fire and called instead for an extended true halt to hostilities. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russia had rejected just such a proposal brokered by U.S. President Donald Trump last month and could not be trusted. Putin's unilateral move, to last for 30 hours, followed Washington's announcement that it could abandon peace talks within days unless Moscow and Kyiv showed they were serious about negotiating. Putin ordered fighting to stop as of 6 p.m. Moscow time (1500 GMT) on Saturday until midnight on Sunday night. "Based on humanitarian considerations the Russian side announces an Easter truce. I order a stop to all military activities for this period," Putin told Valery Gerasi-

mov, Chief of Russia's General Staff, at a televised meeting. "We assume that Ukraine will follow our example. At the same time, our troops should be prepared to repel possible violations of the truce and provocations by the enemy, any aggressive actions."

Shortly after the announcement, around an hour before it was due to take effect, air raid sirens rang out in Kyiv. Another warning was put in place briefly in Kyiv and the region around the capital about four hours after the ceasefire deadline. Zelenskyy dismissed the proposal as "yet another attempt by Putin to play with human lives". As of 45 minutes before the truce was meant to start, Ukrainian planes were repelling Russian air strikes, Zelenskyy said in a post on X.

In a post on social media platform X, Zelenskyy quoted Ukraine's top commander, Oleksandr Syrskyy, as saying that Russian assault oper-



ations "continue on several frontline sectors, and Russian artillery fire has not subsided." "Therefore, there is no trust in words coming from Moscow," Zelenskyy later expanded on Syrskyy's report, saying that Putin's ceasefire did not apply to Russia's Kursk and Belgorod regions, border areas where Ukrainian forces have made incursions and where hostilities were still going on. "Fighting continues, Rus-

sian strikes continue," he wrote, without providing evidence.

Zelenskyy said that in some areas along the front, "Russian artillery still sounds, rather than any promise of silence from the Russian leader. Russian drones are being used. In some sectors it is quieter." He recalled that Russia last month rejected the U.S.-proposed full 30-day ceasefire and said that if Moscow agreed to "truly engage in a format of full and unconditional silence, Ukraine will act accordingly -- mirroring Russia's actions". "If a complete ceasefire truly takes hold, Ukraine proposes extending it beyond the Easter day of April 20," Zelenskyy wrote. In Brussels, a European Union spokesperson expressed caution over the proclaimed ceasefire, saying: "Russia has a track record as an aggressor, so first we need to see any

►► **Continued on page 3**

War against Jihad Israel attack kills more than 90 in Gaza

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israeli strikes in Gaza have killed more than 90 people in the last 48 hours, Gaza's health ministry said. Israeli troops have ramped up attacks to pressure Hamas to release its hostages and disarm. The dead include 15 people who were killed overnight, among them women and children, some of who were sheltering in a designated humanitarian zone, according to hospital staff. At least 11 people were killed in the southern city of Khan Younis, several of them in a tent in the Mwasi area where hundreds of thousands of displaced people are living, hospital worker said. Israel has

designated it as a humanitarian zone. Four other people were killed in separate strikes in Rafah city, including a mother and her daughter, according to the European Hospital, where the bodies were brought. Israel has vowed to intensify attacks across Gaza and occupy large "security zones" inside the strip. For six weeks Israel also has blockaded Gaza, barring the entry of food and other goods. This week, aid groups raised alarm saying that thousands of children have become malnourished, and most people are barely eating one meal a day as stocks dwindle, according to the United Nations.

Modi to host dinner for Vance and Indian-origin 2nd Lady Usha



MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will host a dinner for US Vice President J.D. Vance and Indian-origin Second Lady Usha on Monday evening, after holding talks with the American leader that are set to focus on trade, tariff and several other key issues, people familiar with the matter said. The US vice president, his wife, Usha, and their three children, Ewan, Vivek and Mirabel are scheduled to land at the Palam airbase here at 10 am on Monday on a four-day India visit. The Vances will be welcomed on their arrival by a senior Union minister. Besides Delhi, Vance and his family will travel to Jaipur and Agra.

Vance is expected to be accompanied by at least five senior officials, including from the Pentagon and the State Department, the people cited above said. Hours after arriving in Delhi, Vance and his family are scheduled to visit the

Swaminarayan Akshardham temple and could also go to a shopping complex selling traditional Indian handcrafted goods, they said. At 6:30 pm on Monday, Modi will host Vance for talks that are expected to focus on an early finalisation of the proposed India-US bilateral trade agreement as well as on ways to boost the overall trajectory of the ties between the two countries. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri and Indian Ambassador to the United States Vinay Mohan Kwatra are expected to be part of the Indian team to be led by Modi, the people said. After the talks, the prime minister will host the Vances and the accompanying American officials for dinner. The people cited above said Vance and his family will leave for Jaipur on Monday night. In

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RSS chief seeks unmitigated Hindu Unity, backs 'one temple, one well' mission

MI News Service, Nagpur: Seeking an end to caste differences, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat has called upon members of the Hindu community to strive for social harmony by embracing the principle of "one temple, one well, and one cremation ground" for all.

Bhagwat, on a five-day visit to Aligarh, spoke to 'swayamsevaks' at two 'shakhas' at HB Inter College and Panchan Nagri Park and emphasised that achieving true social unity was paramount for India to fulfil its global responsibility for peace. RSS sources said Bhagwat underscored the significance of "sanskars (values)" as the bedrock of Hindu society, urging its members to build a society

rooted in tradition, cultural values and moral principles. He urged the 'swayamsevaks' to reach out to all sections of society, inviting them into their homes to spread the message of harmony and unity at grassroots level. Bhagwat stated that the "family" remains the fundamental unit of society, built upon strong family values derived from "sanskars." He further encouraged the collective celebration of festivals to strengthen the foundations of nationalism and social cohesion. His visit, which commenced on April 17, involves daily meetings with RSS Pracharaks from the Braj Region as part of preparations for the RSS centenary celebrations starting this Vijayadashami.



Indian Air Force's Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT) performs on the second day at Army Ground, Namkum in Ranchi district, Jharkhand.

1971 Liberation War: B'desh reiterates \$4.5 billion claim against Pak

MI News Service, Dhaka: Bangladesh reiterates its loss in the 1971 Liberation war and formally placed a formal demand of \$4.52 billion in financial claims from Pakistan, covering its share of undivided Pakistan's pre-1971 assets, including foreign aid, unpaid provident funds, and savings instruments. Even as the Muhammad Yunus-led interim regime claimed success for taking up the pending issues with Pakistan and seeking apology for the atrocities committed during the 1971 Liberation War, a large section of Bangladeshi society called it another "insult" to the country's freedom struggle. "They killed 30 lakh people in nine months. More than four lakh women were raped. Thousands of teachers, doctors, lawyers, journalists and

engineers were systematically killed to impede the development of our country," Ahkam-Ullah, general secretary, Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, a platform of civil society organisations. "And our government is approaching the killers with a begging bowl. This is an insult to our freedom struggle and the martyrs," he added, before decrying the Yunus regime's proximity with Islamabad since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government last August. As part of a series of high-level exchanges, the Foreign Office Consultation (FOC) was held between the two nations for the first time in 15 years. Foreign secretary Md Jashim Uddin led the Bangladesh delegation while Pakistan was represented by his counterpart, Amna Baloch.



Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Md Jashim Uddin, right, shakes hands with Pakistan Foreign Secretary Amna Baloch

Following the talks, Jashim Uddin said the pending issues need to be resolved for solid Dhaka-Islamabad relations, an objective that has become a priority for Yunus. A veteran of the Liberation War, on conditions of anonymity, told this correspondent that the approach smacked of an attempt to put value to the lives lost in the freedom struggle. "Pakistan committed unprecedented atrocities on our country. Yunus is putting a monetary value to the lives lost by asking for about Tk 50,000 crore," said the veteran. "Those precious lives, which gave us our freedom, are valued at Tk 17,000. It's a shame," added the veteran, who is in hiding fearing arrest. The growing clout of hardline Islamists belonging to Jamaat-e-Islami, who had opposed the 1971 freedom struggle and colluded with the Pakistanis, on Yunus has made life difficult for the believers in the ideals of the Liberation war. Human rights activist Shahriar Kabir, who did extensive research on casualties during the freedom struggle, has been behind the bars for eight months on murder charges. "This government is against the ideals of the Liberation War. Those who wanted a ban on Jamaat and supported the trials of the war criminals are under attack today," said Ahkam-Ullah, who has been slapped with seven murder cases. "Those who committed genocide on Bangladesh are given red carpet treatment... And Yunus is letting them off lightly by putting a monetary value on lives lost," he added.

National and International Convention for integrated management legal framework on AIDS, HIV, STD, RTI and STIS

MI News Service, Kolkata:“The International Mission for Social Welfare and Charity (I.M.S.W.C) is organized its 45th Anniversary of “National and International Convention for integrated management framework on AIDS, HIV, STD, RTI and STIS and to enable the prevention of HIV and AIDS transmission from Parents-to-Children and among young people. IMSWC ensure provisioning of quality STI and RTI services across in India and abroad and to prevent immense sexual-reproductive morbidity and mortality associated with these infections including screening and management of pregnant women and exposed babies on. 09th April, 2025. at. Kewra, Ponabalia and Chhonauta village of Jhalokathi district within the Barisal Division, within the Country of Bangladesh. The 693 mother's, girls' and HIV and AIDS infected women and girls Participated of this Programme.

10th April, 2025, IMSWC also organized Innovative integrated Programme for high-risk sexual activity(multiple sexual partners, paid commercial sex, sex without condoms, across genders) is a major contributor, to the spread of HIV infection, poverty and migration, injecting practices, virtual solicitation practices, prevention and global campaign to create public awareness and to fight against HIV, AIDS, STD and to provide Socio-economic empowerment of the HIV infected women and girls belonging to low Socio-economic condition in the Society. Prevention, screening and free diagnosis, effective treatment and



management of ICTC, DSRC, ARTC, STI, RTI test and HIV and their complications and also treatment for provisioning of stigma-free, gender-sensitive and community inclusive services. at. Pakuria, Dhatiapara and Kusumhati village of Sherpur district, within the Mymensingh Division, within the Country of Bangladesh. The 768 mother's, girls' and HIV and AIDS infected women and girls Participated of this Programme. 11th April, 2025, IMSWC also organized integrated development programme for identify and treat STI/RTI among high-risk, at-risk and other vulnerable Sections. The strengthening of STI, RTI services under the general health services and to reduce the risk of HIV transmission and acquisition and vertical transmission, free clinical examination of participants clients for STI, RTI, free laboratory test for STI, RTI, EID labs, and VL labs for participants clients of said Pro-

gramme. Prevention of adolescent girls and boys who are sexually active and indulging in unsafe sex and men and women whose jobs force them to be away from their families or regular sexual partners. at Chau-tha, Narakot and Kalikakhetu village of jumla district, within the Country of Nepal. The 686 mother's, girls' and HIV and AIDS infected women and girls Participated of this Programme.

12th April, 2025, IMSWC organized Decentralization, prevention and Vigorous Campaign to Create Public Heightened for protection of women and girls from domestic Violence, reintegration of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual exploitation, rescue, STI management, research and prevent infection among adolescents and young people and protect care and Community support, Counseling Substance abusers, Condom promotion, IMSWC Promote the verbal and non-

verbal communications skills needed for eliciting appropriate history. Free laboratory tests for OSTC, HRG(FSW, MSM, H/TG, PWID)for participants Clients. at. Jangbee, Chela and Darbab village of trongsa district, within the Country of Bhutan. The 587 mother's, girls' and HIV and AIDS infected women and girls Participated of this Programme.

13th April, 2025, IMSWC also organized integrated management workshop on fight against HIV and AIDS related discrimination and to dispel common myths and misconceptions. IMSWC is intensively working towards provisioning of STI, RTI sentries to at-risk and other vulnerable populations. Free laboratory diagnosis of dual RDT screening for HIV and syphilis.STI, RTI can be prevented and treated by safe sex practices, hygiene, Screening , frr diagnosis and provide tailor-made services. at. Jakholi, Kodima and Pokhasari village of Rudraprayag district, within the state of Uttaranchal The 773 mother, girls' and child Participated of this Programme

14th April, 2025, IMSWC also organized Framework Convention on vocational training for the victims of HIV and Aids among women, girls, Sex Workers and girls career guide line and life education skill, bridge education, women and girls suffering the consequences of poor care. IMSWC ensure to medico-legal aspects of HIV and STIs and history taking and quality standardized sexual and reproductive health services and provide free CD4, Viral Load, DBS Sample early diagnosis and free laboratory test coverage.

Television actress Payel Mithai Sarkar becomes a doctorate, gold medalist from Delhi



MI News Service, Kolkata: Payel Mithai Sarkar - An actress, model, producer and social worker at the same time, but Payel's passion is reading story books. It can be said that she has a very unreasonable curiosity to know about various things in the world, and due to that curiosity, she has been researching on the subject of "Social Science" for almost two years and while doing research, she went to different places in the state and conducted surveys. Payel believes that half of those who do social work do not do it out of love because social work is a kind of study and to know that study you have to master the subject of "Social Science" and that is why she received her doctorate from "Mahatma Gandhi International University" in Delhi and became a "Gold Medalist" from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India Constitution Club of India, Delhi. Payel has proven that girls are not inferior in any way and there is no specific age limit for studying and learning, rather if you love from your heart and if your intention is honest then you can make the impossible possible. Payel is a proud woman of our Bengal, she has made our Bengal bright.

NTPC CMD's tenure sparks controversy

MI News Service, Kolkata: Gurdeep Singh's tenure as CMD of NTPC has sparked considerable debate, with concerns raised about his appointment, leadership style, and the company's performance under his watch. Appointment Irregularities: His selection allegedly violated PESB eligibility norms, as he lacked the required experience in equivalent senior positions. Despite this, he was appointed and later given a second term extension even before completing his first, raising transparency concerns. Safety Lapses: The 2017 Uncharhar boiler explosion, resulting in over 50 deaths and many injuries, highlighted severe safety and operational oversights under his leadership. Project Delays & Performance: Critics argue that NTPC's growth has stagnated due to delayed projects and questionable decisions, affecting the company's financial health. Erosion of Corporate Structure: The centralization of power and dismantling of NTPC's established structure have undermined departmental efficiency.

Decision-making has become unilateral, sidelining other directors and diluting transparency. Autocratic Leadership: There are allegations of an autocratic work culture, where dissent is suppressed, and Singh's close ties to the PMO reportedly shield him from scrutiny.

This dominance has discouraged internal leadership growth and demoralized senior professionals. Despite these issues, Singh who has been serving in the role since February 2006, his term now has been extended by the appointments committee of the cabinet until July 31, 2025 making him one of the longest serving CMD'S in NTPC history. The narrative that no one else can lead NTPC persists, raising concerns about the future governance of one of India's most critical PSUs.

WB Stamp & Registration Officers Chart New Course



Tapash Roy: The 103rd Half-Yearly State Conference of the West Bengal Registration and Stamp Revenue Service Association concluded on 19th April in the coastal town of Digha. The event saw the presence of notable dignitaries, including Puja Debnath, BDO of Ramnagar I, Association President Mr. Arnab Basu, General Secretary Mr. Soumya Mukherjee, and WBCS officers from various registration offices across West Bengal. The conference covered a wide range of topics, not just concerning departmental matters but also focusing on how to simplify the land and property registration process. Discussions were held on leveraging artificial intelligence and modern technology, increasing state revenue, and improving citizen services. In his address, Association President Mr. Arnab Basu expressed gratitude to the officers for their relentless work that contributed to a record collection of ₹8,000 crore in registration revenue in the last fiscal year. BDO Puja Debnath appreciated the dedication of the officers and assured them of full administrative support while encouraging them to continue their ex-

emplary work. General Secretary Mr. Soumya Mukherjee stated, "Under the inspiration of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Directorate has significantly simplified the registration process through various e-governance initiatives. Despite limited resources, our officers are working tirelessly. However, issues like timely promotions, proper training, and improved work conditions were also discussed. The dedication and sacrifice of our officers deserve greater recognition from both the government and society. It is also essential that other departments, especially law enforcement agencies, deepen their understanding of the Registration and Stamp Acts." President Mr. Arnab Basu further added, "Our Directorate is doing commendable work in areas like digital record preservation and GIS-based services under the umbrella of e-governance. These initiatives will make life easier and safer for citizens while strengthening the state's financial infrastructure." The conference concluded with an appeal to the public to approach the Association for assistance in case of any issues during the registration process.

Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team starts activities in Violence hit areas of Murshidabad



MI News Service, Kolkata: Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team AMURT/AMURTEL relief activities in Violence area at Samsheganj of Murshidabad District, West Bengal. Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team rushed to violence affected people, where Many people have been shifted their residence from existing area to boarder area of Murshidabad & Malda District.. Today AMURT Team consisting of monks and volunteers rushed to the

Samsheganj area of Murshidabad District and they have provided Beaten rice, Gur, milk, cloth and other essential commodities among 500 needy people. AMURT is international social service organisation dedicated to the suffering humanity. Whenever any type of calamities occurs then AMURT Team immediately reach to the disaster area and rendering service to the humanities. Siligri Blossm team, Poonam Pariwal,

Leopard feasting on cattle and poultry from workers' quarters trapped at Jalpaiguri tea garden

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: An adult leopard was trapped at the Nagaisuree tea estate in Matiali block of Jalpaiguri district on Friday morning. Sources said the leopard had entered the garden a few days ago and was hunting cattle and poultry from the workers' quarters. This led to panic among the garden workers, prompting the management to inform the Khunia forest range, which is part of the Gorumara wildlife division. Foresters visited the garden and laid a trap in the plantations. Early Friday morning, local residents found the leopard growling inside the cage. A team from the Khunia forest range rescued the leopard. It will be released in the Gorumara National Park later, a source said.

Admirable feat: Bengal girl swims across Strait of Gibraltar



MI News Service, Kalna: Bengal swimmer Sayoni Das successfully managed to cross the Strait of Gibraltar as reportedly the first Asian woman, yesterday. The 14.2 km-long Strait of Gibraltar connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea and separates Europe from Africa. Out of the three swimmers, who kicked off from Spain, Sayoni and American swimmer Ryan Hideki Utsumi could complete the target, while the third left the challenge midway. Sayoni told The Statesman from Spain: "We completed in much less time than the time we were given. The weather was fine and the ambience too," she said, adding, "My next destination is to conquer the Sagar Channel in Japan before 2027." Das, the 26-year-old girl from Kalna had crossed the 35 km-long North Channel linking Ireland and Scotland as the first woman swimmer from the Asian countries in August, 2024. In April, last year, she crossed the Cook Strait in New Zealand.

River study by team of researchers from North Bengal University focuses on changes

MI News Service, Siliguri: A team of researchers from the North Bengal University (NBU) has been conducting a detailed field study on the changing dynamics of riverine life across Bengal in collaboration with the University of Manchester in the UK and Presidency University in Calcutta. The NBU geography department is at the centre of this academic alliance. It is playing a key role in exploring how the shifting courses of rivers, erosion, silt deposition and environmental degradation are impacting communities along riverside areas. Arindam Basak, the head of the geography department at NBU, said researchers have been travelling across riverine belts since April 4, from the Sunderbans in south Bengal to the riverbanks of the Teesta in the north. "They are studying how these changes and natural calamities are influencing the daily lives, economy and survival of those who depend on rivers. They are gathering data on the ground to understand the broader social and ecological fallout," he said. The team includes the University of Manchester geographer Meheeb Sahana and Siliguri-based economist Upasak Das. Recently, NBU hosted a seminar to present the early findings of the ongoing study. "At the seminar, our talks ranged from the mangrove destruction in the Sunderbans and the erosion-prone riverbanks in Malda and Murshidabad to the dying flow of the Atrerey

river in South Dinajpur district," Basak added. Basak pointed out that the research would also highlight how communities are struggling with shrinking access to clean drinking water, loss of livelihood due to the disappearance of fish in the Ganga, and growing disputes over the ownership of newly formed sandbars. "The aim of this collaborative research is not just to document the problems but simultaneously provide a scientific base for policy change," said the academic. "We want our findings to help preserve biodiversity and improve the lives of people in vulnerable riverine regions," he added.

Sources said that the seminar also referred to natural disasters like the glacial lake outburst flood in Sikkim on October 4, 2023, which led to a devastating flash flood in the Teesta. Incidents like this have made life on the riverbanks more precarious. "The participants noted that hydropower projects in the hills and the changing river routes in the plains have further destabilised these settlements. The study underlines how closely the socio-economic condition of riverbank dwellers is linked with river behaviour," said a senior faculty member of the department at NBU. Tuhin Subhra Mondal, a river expert based in Balurghat who was present at the seminar, said that the findings of the study will be sent to governments, especially to the Union jal shakti ministry.

World Hemophilia Day



Hemophilia Society - Durgapur Chapter and Blood Donors Council, Durgapur jointly organized a blood donation camp

MI News Service, Durgapur: As a part of the celebration of World Hemophilia Day, Hemophilia Society - Durgapur Chapter and Durgapur Blood Donors Council, Durgapur jointly organized a blood donation camp successfully on April 20th at the Society's own building, City Center. A total of 29 blood donors, including seven women and carrier mother donated blood at this blood donation camp in the presence of Dr. N.C. Murmu, Director- CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur, Shri. Biswajit Ghosh, Dy. Magistrate, Durgapur Sub Division Magistrate, Dr. Karabi Kundu, HOD, Blood Bank, Durgapur Sub Division Hospital, Shri Sajal Bose, Secretary, Durgapur Blood Donor's council. Dr. Karbi Kundu thanked Durgapur Chapter for or-

ganizing two consecutive camps within three months. Dr. N.C. Murmu encouraged all the blood donors and congratulated the members of Durgapur Chapter for taking such an initiative amidst this huge crisis across the state. Shri Biswajit Ghosh thanked all the donors for their generosity and positive thinking towards the society. Considering the shortage of blood during the summer, Shri Sajal Ghosh appealed to the society to organize small blood donation camps and keep the government blood bank functioning. On behalf of Hemophilia Society - Durgapur Chapter, Shri Ajay Roy extended his warmest wishes and congratulations to all the warriors. He said, "We will move forward like this with everyone's support, love and blessings."

Jumbo rampage

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: A wild elephant from the neighbouring Diana forest walked into the Khayerbari area of Nagrakata block, Jalpaiguri, early on Friday morning and damaged the house of Manjurul Haque, a local panchayat member. It also devoured banana plants, damaged betel nut plants and killed a cow that came close to it. The elephant finally returned to the forest at around 5.30am. Foresters visited the affected area to assess the loss.

Elephant enters North Bengal University from Bagdogra jungle

MI News Service, Bagdogra: A wild elephant straying into the campus of the North Bengal University (NBU) early on Saturday kept foresters of Kurseong forest division busy throughout the day.

The varsity, spread over 330 acres, is located at Rajarammohanpur on the northwest outskirts of Siliguri. Sources in the forest department said that they had come to know that a loner makna (male elephant without tusks) walked out of the Bagdogra forest on Friday evening.

While tracking its movement, foresters came to know that early on Saturday the elephant entered the sprawling NBU campus after crossing villages like Baunivita, Tarabari and Bharatbusti. "It roamed near the varsity's guest house and the Vidy Sagar Mancha and then went to the sal plantation on the campus, adjacent to the varsity's football ground. It



then stood there throughout the day," said a forester.

At the time this report was filed at 7.20pm, the elephant was still standing there. As it was Saturday, most departments of the varsity were closed and the campus had fewer people than on any weekday. Even then, the NBU authorities issued a written order restricting movement inside the campus. The authorities urged students, faculty, staff members and others living on or visiting the

residential campus to stay indoors because of the elephant. The order, however, did not dissuade many. Many campus residents as well as outsiders tried to catch a glimpse of the elephant even as foresters and the police monitored its movement. Later in the afternoon, as foresters planned to drive it back to the forest, public announcements were made across the Lower Bagdogra panchayat area so that people dwelling in areas like New Rangia and Bauni-

vita would stay inside.

"When we start driving the elephant back to the forest, it will move through these areas. That is why residents have been put on alert," said an official of the Kurseong forest division. Foresters from Bagdogra, Tukuri-ajhar, Panighata and Bamanpokhri forest ranges and the wildlife squads of Bagdogra and Sukna have assembled on the campus. At least 10 patrolling vans and an "Airavat", a special van fitted with equipment to tranquillise elephants, have also reached the NBU to steer the animal back to the forest. "Around 100 forest staffers, along with senior forest officials, vets as well as the policemen of Matigara police station are still trying making every effort to steer the elephant safely back to the Bengdubi forest of the Bagdogra forest range," said a forester.

CPI (M)
blows poll
bugle from
Brigade
rally

MI News Service, Kolkata: Four CPM-backed mass organisations rolled out preparations for the 2026 Assembly elections on Sunday from the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata, where a rally was held against the "anti-people policies" of the central and state governments.

It is for the first time that trade unions — the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS), All India Agricultural Workers' Union (AIAWU) and Paschimbanga Bustee Unnayan Samity — have come up united for the said rally.

Speakers at the rally questioned the central and state governments on a plethora of issues, including demand for scrapping of the Centre's new labour code, controlling price rise, minimum 200 days of job, halt to eviction of slum dwellers, MSP for farm produce and minimum monthly wage of ₹26,000 for working class people. "Poor and downtrodden people, workers and farmers have come together. From our rally at the Brigade Parade Ground, we sent across a message to (chief minister) Mamata Banerjee and (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi that the onslaught that their governments have unleashed on the poor and working-class people would not be tolerated. Sunday's rally has set the stage for a bigger mass movement against these governments," said former MLA and state secretary of the AIAWU Nirapada Sardar at the rally.

A CPM insider said that the rally was in a way an effort to revive the mass organisations of the party outside the SFI, DYFI and AIDWA that had been taking lead roles in movements on the streets.

Jetty project near
Gateway of India
in disarray

From PG 1

A project was a threat to heritage, Lobo said. Heritage sites face a wide range of threats, including, natural disasters, rising sea levels, extreme weather events and climate change due to global warming. If they build pillars as part of the project by drilling or blasting the sea bed, it will have damaging effect, he warned. "We are already facing bad traffic at the heritage site. The Gateway of India is a monument site. Tourists come to see the monument, and (nearby) Taj Hotel. We can shift jetty to other places which have good infrastructure, like Indira Dock or Bhau Cha Dhakka," Lobo maintained. CHCRA president Subhash Motwani said Colaba residents are not against development, but growth has to happen in a responsible manner. Permissions given by various agencies for the project have several loopholes. Colaba is a congested area which faces issues like illegal hawkers and double parking along roads, leaving virtually no space for pedestrians, he averred.

"Permissions were given under political pressure with no application of mind. If you are honest and sincere with your permissions, share them with us, take stakeholders into confidence. After double parking on roads, now attempt is being made to encroach 600-800 metres into the sea. The project is an environment hazard and tampers with nature," Motwani emphasised. Residents will try and explain to the government how the jetty-cum-terminal building will adversely impact the area, he said, adding "If we don't get positive response, we will explore legal options." CHCRA vice president Pervez Cooper claimed the proposed jetty will be a grave security risk for the area where infrastructure has deteriorated and which saw 26/11 terror attacks.



CPI(M) leader Nirapada Sardar, State Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), West Bengal Md Selim, & CPI(M) tribal leader Bannya Tudu at the protest rally against State and Central Government at the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata on Sunday.

Chief Secy mulls speedy implementation of key state projects

MI News Service, Kolkata: Chief Secretary Manoj Pant held a review meeting to monitor the work progress of a dozen departments and passed necessary instructions to speed up work through clearing log-jams taking the district magistrates into confidence. Pant instructed the MSME department to take necessary measures to speed up the process of setting up shopping malls in every district with two floors dedicated to self-help groups, as desired by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

The state Cabinet has already approved the setting up of 9 such malls, including two in Jalpaiguri. The district magistrates who attended the meeting virtually claimed to have identified land in 15 sites across several districts for setting up such malls. The Chief Secretary issued directions to ensure the clearing of such land through coordinated efforts so that the agencies who will be responsible for constructing such malls can be identified. He explained the modalities and the credentials required for the agencies to be allowed to set up malls to the district magistrates.

Pant also took stock of the preparations on the part of the Health department regarding dengue and

malaria and so that all arrangements are in place for awareness and drive with the onset of monsoon. The Chief Secretary also reviewed the progress of various schemes under the Panchayat and Rural Development department and passed instructions for special emphasis on the Jal Jeevan Mission project which has a target of providing potable water to every single rural household by March 2026. He also took stock of the activities of the state Agriculture department as well as the Irrigation department so that all preparations were ready ahead of the monsoon.

Road tax due: State transport dept issues alerts to vehicle owners

MI News Service, Kolkata: Private and commercial vehicle owners have started receiving text alerts and letters from the transport department reminding them of their road tax dues. Sources in the transport department said the primary targets are those who have not paid their dues since 2020. A senior transport department official said the state government can suspend a vehicle's registration and withdraw the permit for a commercial vehicle if the dues are not paid. While the transport department has yet to determine the total number of defaulters, officials said the dues run into several hundred crores. "It was assumed that some of these vehicles, whose owners have not cleared the road tax, had well past their running condition. But footage from toll tax booths and other points revealed they were moving around without clearing their road taxes," a senior transport department official said. "These vehicles have been identified. Reminders are being sent to the owners." The text alert to a vehicle's owner states that the validity of the road tax has expired, and the owner should clear it within seven days of receiving the message. In addition, a letter from the concerned regional transport office, where the vehicle is registered, is also being sent.

"Under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, the state government can move to cancel registration of a vehicle and even withdraw the permit offered to a commercial vehicle on the ground of non-payment of the tax," an official said. "Some vehicle owners have started responding." Recovery of tax dues has remained a challenge for several government departments and urban bodies across the state.

Last year, the transport department floated a waiver scheme to recover pending dues. Vehicle owners were offered a full waiver on road tax penalties if they cleared their dues by March 31. Commercial vehicle owners were offered an 80 per cent waiver on penalties for non-payment of permit fees and non-renewal of fitness certificates if paid up by March 31. "The scheme did not yield the desired results. Against a target of around ₹1,000 crore, the state government could collect around ₹200 crore," the transport official said.

This year, the state government has shied from announcing fresh waiver schemes. Instead, officers said the transport department has decided to send SMS alerts. "Apart from road tax, we have decided to send SMS alerts in case the fitness certificate of a commercial vehicle has expired," he added.

KMC asks hawkers to move next to skywalk



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has asked hawkers at Jatin Das Park, who were relocated from Kalighat to make space for the construction of the Kalighat skywalk, to vacate by the end of April. A new hawkers' corner has been built next to the skywalk and was inaugurated on April 14. Four floors in the five-storey building have been reserved for the 175 hawkers who were shifted when the skywalk construction began in 2021. The stalls at Jatin Das Park in Hazra were set up carving out space from a portion of the park. Hundreds of people visit the park every day and a shrinking of the open space meant more people had to walk or sit in a smaller area. Once the hawkers move out of Jatin Das Park, the KMC will demolish many of the stalls. "We have plans to return this portion to its original form as a park. There was a lawn with hedges around it," said a KMC official. Some stalls, however, will not be demolished. They will be used to rehabilitate shop owners who have to be evicted for the

construction of an extension of Ramrik Das Haralalka Hospital in Bhowanipore.

"We have asked the hawkers at Jatin Das Park to leave by April 30," a KMC official said. The KMC had to pull down the old building of the Kalighat Refugee Hawkers' Corner for the construction of the skywalk. The agreement between the KMC and the hawkers said they would be given temporary space at Jatin Das Park to carry out their trade, and that the civic body would raise a new space for them at the same location. "We were promised we would be brought back to Kalighat within a year, but the construction of the skywalk took so long. We will return after more than three-and-a-half years," said a stall owner.

Satyajit Saha, secretary of the association of shop owners at the hawkers' corner, said all the stall owners have started setting up shelves and other storage facilities in their stalls. "The work has started and we plan to move there on Akshaya Tritiya, April 30," said Saha.

Intel, gear, body cameras imperative while covering rallies & meetings: Manoj Verma

MI News Service, Kolkata: City police commissioner Manoj Verma urged officers to be alert, have their ears to the ground and be properly equipped and armed with adequate intelligence while covering rallies and meetings, sources privy to what happened at a meeting said. Verma underscored the need for "clear communication" between officers in charge of police stations and the special branch, which collects intelligence on proposed gatherings, sources said.

Deputy commissioners in charge of divisions and assistant commissioners should monitor information coming to police sta-



tions about law and order situations and arrangements made to handle them, an officer who was at the meeting quoted Verma as saying.

"The police commissioner said while handling law and order situations, the force must be in proper

gear with helmets, body cameras, batons and shields. Force deployment must be based on proper intelligence," said an officer. Over 15 police officers were recently injured in Bhangar when violent protests broke out over the Waqf Amendment Act and an angry mob clashed with the cops, blocking Basanti Highway for several hours. A section of officers said the situation couldn't be assessed properly because of inadequate information. Officers were outnumbered initially, and the mob set a police jeep and five bikes on fire. Several were arrested in follow-up raids across parts of Bhangar.

Abhishek's best wishes to Dilip's new innings

MI News Service, Kolkata: Trinamool Congress (TMC) national general secretary and Diamond Harbour MP Abhishek Banerjee on Saturday extended his best wishes to BJP leader Dilip Ghosh who got married to Rinku Mazumdar on Friday. Banerjee wished both of them for their married life. In a post on X, Banerjee said: "Warmest congratulations to @DilipGhoshBJP and Smt. Rinku Mazumdar on this beautiful new beginning. Love has its own timing and its own rhythm and your coming together is a beautiful testament to that truth. Wishing you both a lifetime of laughter, peace and companionship as you step into this wonderful new chapter."

Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee on Friday sent a letter, along with flowers and sweets and conveyed her best wishes to the new couple. Former state BJP president Dilip Ghosh married party colleague Rinku Majumdar in a private ceremony at his residence in New Town on Friday. Trinamool Congress leaders Kunal Ghosh, Kalyan Banerjee, Madan Mitra also conveyed their best wishes to the newly married couple.

City hosts Managedia '25

MI News Service, Kolkata: The city of Kolkata recently hosted 'Managedia '25. With the theme "Timeless Odyssey", Managedia 2025 sought to inspire students to harness their imaginations, share their knowledge, and embrace the spirit of evolution — where echoes of the past ignite the ideas of tomorrow. Over 90 colleges participated in more than 60 events. The event was organized by iLead. Dignitaries from various sectors like Jimmy Tangree (Station Head, 91.9 Friends FM), Firdausul Hassan (President of the Film Federation of India and National Award-Winning Producer), Suvo Pal (Associate Director, PayU Finance), and Kaushik Brahmachari (Chief Consultant, Berger Group) graced the opening ceremony. They were recognised for their invaluable contributions to the society at large.

Russia-Ukraine War: Easter ceasefire fails to erase distrust

From PG 1

actual halt of the aggression and clear deeds for a lasting ceasefire." A British foreign ministry spokesperson said: "Ukraine has committed to a full ceasefire. We urge Russia to do the same." Kyiv residents expressed little faith in the ceasefire, saying that similar past moves by Putin had had little effect. "This man is not capable of reaching any sort of a deal. He does not know how to do that," said Tetiana Solovej, 65. "Tonight, in Ukraine and especially in Kyiv, we expect missiles. There will be no ceasefire." Andriy Kovalenko, head of Ukraine's Centre for Countering Disinformation, said Russian forces continued to fire on Ukrainian positions after the truce was meant to have taken effect. The governor of southern Ukraine's Kherson province said Russian air strikes began shortly before the truce was to start and continued after. He posted a picture of a damaged building. "Unfortunately, we are not seeing any sort of calm here. The shelling continues and our civilians are under fire," he wrote on Telegram. Ukrainian bloggers who cover the war said firing continued along the entire line of contact. But public broadcaster Suspilne quoted servicemen on the eastern front as saying the number of Russian attacks had declined. Trump and Secretary of

State Marco Rubio had said on Friday the United States would walk away from efforts to broker a Russia-Ukraine peace deal unless there were clear signs of progress soon. Kirill Dmitriev, an envoy for Putin who travelled to Washington this month, posted news of the ceasefire on X, adding: "One step closer to peace" and an emoji of a dove. Trump has vowed to bring a swift end to the war, while shifting U.S. policy from firmly supporting Kyiv towards accepting Moscow's account of the conflict. Last month, after Ukraine accepted Trump's proposal for a 30-day truce but Moscow rejected it, the sides agreed only to limited pauses of attacks on energy targets and at sea, which each accuses the other of breaking. Putin announced his Easter truce a week after a Russian missile attack killed 35 people and wounded nearly 120 in the Ukrainian city of Sumy, including Christians heading to celebrate Palm Sunday. That attack, the deadliest against civilians of the year so far, spurred Kyiv and its European allies to press Washington to take a tougher line towards Moscow. Putin has proclaimed unilateral pauses in fighting in the past with little impact, including a 36-hour proposed truce for Orthodox Christmas in January 2023, which Kyiv rejected.

Modi to host dinner for Vance and Indian-origin 2nd Lady Usha

From PG 1

Delhi, the US vice president and his family are set to stay in the ITC Maurya Sheraton hotel. On April 22, the Vances will visit a number of historical sites, including the Amer Fort, also known as the Amber Fort -- a UNESCO world heritage site -- the people said. In the afternoon, the US vice president is scheduled to address a gathering at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur, they added. Vance is expected to delve into the broader aspects of the India-US relations under the Donald Trump administration during his speech that is expected to be attended by diplomats, foreign policy experts, Indian

government officials and academia. The US vice president and his family are expected to travel to Agra on the morning of April 23, the people cited above said. In Agra, they will visit the Taj Mahal and Shilpgram, an open-air emporium showcasing various Indian artefacts, they said. After concluding their trip to Agra, the Vances will return to Jaipur in the second half of April 23. Vance and his family will depart for the US from Jaipur on April 24, according to the people cited above. In Jaipur, the Vances are set to stay at the elegant Rambagh Palace, a luxury hotel that once served as a royal guesthouse.

Asiatic society portal provides light into lives of Naga tribes

MI News Service, Kolkata: A website and an app celebrating the culture and heritage of Nagaland were unveiled at a symposium cum exhibition at Asiatic Society recently.

The portal is the result of a year-long initiative that aims to document living traditions, lifestyle, crafts, textile, performing arts and cuisine of the Naga people. "We went to 16 villages in Mon, Mokokchung, Kohima, Phek and Chumoukedima districts, and interacted with their craftspeople, dancers and entrepreneurs. We also held community workshops where we got

contemporary artists to interact with traditional artisans, and trained students how to document heritage. Supported by a grant from the German consulate-general, we could document the lifestyles of five tribes — Ao, Angami, Kuki, Chakhesang and Konyak," said Ananya Bhat-tacharya, secretary of the non-profit Contact Base that works to safeguard living heritage. "This project has been about preservation as also innovation and empowerment," said Andrea Jeske, deputy consul general of Germany. The project was sponsored by the Culture Preservation Pro-



gramme of the German Federal Foreign Office, which has supported such projects around the world since 1981. Madhura Dutta, culture and development specialist of Contact Base, show-

cased the portal, www.nagalandlivingheritage.com, which has audio-visual material and articles on the tribes, their textiles, crafts, festivals and folklore. There are sections on their folk dance and culinary heritage. "They are proud of their heritage and we found excellent museums, which are initiatives of the village community, private individuals or the state," she said.

The project facilitated multidisciplinary artists Swarup Dutta from India and Hege Aasdal from Norway to partner with local artisans and help reimagine the use of their traditional skills to create

products that meet contemporary demands. At the exhibition, Swarup presented a variety of baskets, enhanced with banana fibre, that blended traditional and modern weaving techniques. "We worked with women weavers and were respectful of the context of their craft. One should not barge in and pick up things mindlessly," said the multidisciplinary artist. "Every motif and colour in our tribal art has a significance," pointed out Bambi Kevichusa, a Naga fashion designer, who took part in a discussion with Dutta. The portal empowers by promoting cultural tourism as well. "The

app is completely on tourism. If you reach Kohima, it tells you which villages are worth visiting, who to meet, when their festivals are and where to stay," said Madhura. Several key figures in the conservation movement also attended the symposium — Ked-outsolhi Wetsah, ex-secretary of the Zapami Village Development Board, in Phek district, Chakhesang artist Veswuzo Phesao, Rheiweu Kreoh, working for climate justice and eco theology, and Lanurenla, principal of a Nagaland college who is heading the literature division of the vulnerable.

NAME CHANGE
I, MD FARHAN NASIM, son of Nasim Uddin, residing at Panchpara, Radhadasi, Sankrail, Howrah – 711317, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my names MD FARHAN NASIM and FARHAN NASIM refer to one and the same identical person as affirmed in an affidavit sworn before a First Class Magistrate. I further declare that my mother's names JAINAB KHATOON and ZAINAB KHATOON also refer to one and the same person, as confirmed in an affidavit sworn before an Executive Magistrate. This declaration is made for all legal and official purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I Smt. Joytsna Biswas, W/O. Jiten Biswas, residing at village - Bijan, PS.- Jetia, PIN- 743166, North 24 Pgs. do hereby solemnly affirm & declare that my son Biman Biswas was born on 30.08.1994. By mistake his name was written as Himan Biswas in his Birth certificate, Aadhaar and Voter ID Cards. The mistake was rectified by Affidavit at C.M.M. Court, Kolkata - 1 on 30.12. 2024. Now Biman Biswas & Himan Biswas are the same & identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I,Anup Munshi (As Per DI No WB202004271844), Son Of Anil Basu Munshi, Residing At 93/2 R.k Chatterjee Road, Kasba Kolkata-700042, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Anup Basu Munshi Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 17/04/2025.That Anup Munshi And Anup Basu Munshi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Manikanchan Bera, Son of Paresch Chandra Bera, resident of Vill-Madhyaranga, P.O.- Rajhati Bandar, P.S.-Khadakul, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712417. Vide an (Affidavit No. 8539) on 30/06/2022 before Executive Magistrate, Arambagh sub-divisional. In my son Arjit Bera's birth certificate and educational documents, my name appears as Monikanchan Bera due to an error. Manikanchan Bera and Monikanchan Bera is one, same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I Tapan Sardar, S/O Ananda Sardar, R/O Kasthasali, Purbasathali, Purba Bardhaman- 713513, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tapan Kumar Sardar.Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/04/2025,That Tapan Sardar And Tapan Kumar Sardar All Are The Same And One Identical Person

NAME CHANGE
I, Hriday Bhusan Dey (old name) S/O Manindra Dey, residing at 54, 25/2 G.T Road, Mitra Bagan, P.S.- Baidyabati, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin-712222, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Hriday Dey (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 17/04/2025. Hriday Dey (new name) and Hriday Bhusan Dey (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Yunus (Old Name) Son Of Sk Jamaluddin, Residing At 99/H/22, Cossipore Road, Ps-Cossipore, Kolkata-700002, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Yunus (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/04/2025. That Md Yunus And Md Yunus Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Rajendra Kumar Surana (old name) S/O Late Manik Chand Surana, residing at 136, Jessore Road, Avani Complex, Block-4, Lobby-1, Flat-1B, Lake Town, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700055, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rajendra Surana (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 17/04/2025. Rajendra Surana (new name) and Rajendra Kumar Surana (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sudhansu Adhikari (old name) S/O Late Makhan Lal Adhikary, residing at A-5/137(A), Kalyani, Nadia, Pin-741235, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sudhangshu Adhikary (new name) as declared before the notary public at kalyani, dated 19/04/2025. Sudhangshu Adhikary (new name) and Sudhansu Adhikari (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I,Jyoti Kamawat(old name) W/O Sidharth Surana, residing at 136, Jessore Road, Avani Complex, Block-4, Lobby-1, Flat-1B, Lake Town, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700055, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jyoti Surana (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 17/04/2025.Jyoti Surana (new name) and Jyoti Kamawat(old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Neel Chakraborty (old name) son of Troy Joseph Chakraborty, residing at 54/10 D.C. Dey Road, Kolkata - 700015, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and I shall henceforth be known as Neil Joseph Chakraborty (new name) as declared before the notary public at Kolkata on 17/04/2025. Neil Joseph Chakraborty (new name) and Neel Chakraborty (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Tanveer Alam S/O Menhaj Alam (my and my father old name), residing at 12, Dent Mission Road, P.O.- Khiderpore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, India, have changed my and my father name and we shall henceforth be known as Tanver Alam S/O Minana Alam (my and my father new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 17/04/2025. That Tanver Alam and Tanveer Alam both are same and identical person (myself). That Minana Alam and Menhaj Alam both are same and identical person (my father).

Change of Name
I, Priyanka Singh, wife of Abhishek Kumar Singh, resident of Qtr no- 123/6, SV Area, Air Force Station Kalaikunda, PS- Kharagpur (Local), Dist.- Paschim Medinipur, WB, 741303 have changed my name from **PRIYANKA SINGH** to **PRIYANKA KUMARI** for all purpose vide affidavit No. – RC 3827/2025 dated 27-02-2025 Before the Notary Public at Paschim Medinipur.

Fake recruitment racket busted by CTI/ Incharge and his staff at Howrah Station

MI News Service, Kolkata: The alertness shown by the ticket-checking staff of the Commercial Department of Kharagpur Division helped in busting a possible fake recruitment racket at Howrah station yesterday.

A person impersonating a ticket-checking staff member at the Howrah New Complex was detected by the CTI/Incharge/HWH Shri Debdulal Bhattacharya along with his team yesterday night. Upon rigorous interrogation, a racket of fake recruitment was busted by the CTI/Incharge and his staff.

A person named Rounit Raj Shaw was detected in the uniform of a ticket-checking staff member at the platform of Howrah New Complex. CTI/Incharge found his activities suspicious, and upon confrontation, it was revealed that he is not a genuine railway employee. Many different ID



cards with wrong credentials were found in his possession. He revealed that he, along with his 2 or 3 colleagues, is doing these kinds of activities at Howrah and Sealdah stations regularly. Upon further interrogation, it was found that a racket was involved in this, in which these persons were provided fake training and fake ID cards as railway employees. The detained person was handed over to OC/RPF/E.Rly after observing

all formalities and legal documentation for further course of action.

The division is frequently carrying out preventive drives to nab such imposters and curb the fraudulent activities in coordination with the commercial and the security departments.

The Sr. DCM cum PRO/ KGP, Shri Nishant Kumar mentioned that "Our teams are actively working on the ground to detect and prevent fraudulent activities. The efforts made by CTI/ HWH have set an example for others, encouraging increased vigilance and a commitment to delivering public service with integrity."

DRM/KGP, Shri K.R. Chaudhary has commended the initiative and emphasized the need to intensify the campaign to eliminate such frauds, reiterating that the Railway maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward such deception.

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw holds consultations with news media organisations ahead of WAVES 2025

MI News Service, New Delhi: The world of creators and their economy is going through a fundamental change. Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said this while interacting with the news mediators ahead of the maiden World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit scheduled in Mumbai from 1st to 4th May. The interaction was attended by about 20 media houses from the national as well as regional news media. Talking on the challenges faced, the Union Minister said that with the advent of technology, the old model is giving way to the new model, creating opportunities as well as challenges. The shape of the media world is changing, he said and stressed on the collective need as a country to respond to the new model. Giving an example, he said that gone are the days when a big studio was needed for creating content. Today a creator from a remote village from Jharkhand or Kerala can create good quality and get millions of views.

He mentioned that the creator's economy is growing exponentially. The Minister said that our visionary Prime Minister acknowledged the work of the creators and their contribution in the economy by promoting India's soft power globally. WAVES seeks to evolve itself as a global platform for media & entertainment, just as Davos serves as a global platform for economic policies, he added.

Kolkata hosts Jago India Jago fitness campaign

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata recently hosted the 'Jago India Jago Fitness Campaign'. "Jago India Jago Fitness Campaign," was designed to inspire Indians to embrace a healthier and more active lifestyle while addressing the country's growing obesity crisis. Iconic Soumen's Workout (No Machine Zone) initiated this movement nationwide which eventually became the talk of the nation.

Soumen's Workout has built a community of fit individuals, empowering people across generations to lead healthier lives through sustainable, equipment-free fitness practices.

'Jago India Jago Fitness' campaign is driven by a singular goal to fight obesity and transform India into a nation of health-conscious individuals.

Over the past year, the campaign has made a significant impact, covering 15 major cities, including Kolkata, Delhi, Jaipur, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur, Chennai, Guwahati, Goa, Ahmedabad, Amritsar and etc. Thousands of participants, from ages 5 to 90, actively engaged in expert-led fitness sessions, personalized workouts, and motivational activities.

The campaign's distinctive "No Machine Zone" approach provided an alternative to traditional gym workouts, making fitness more accessible and engaging for people from all walks of life.



where creators can offer their content & firms can source quality creative work.

Participating in the interaction, heads of various media organisations congratulated the Government for conceptualising a novel concept in the form of WAVES to bring policy makers, creators, industry stalwarts, tech giants and start-ups in the M&E sector on one platform.

Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Shri Sanjay Jaju welcomed the participants and dignitaries, highlighting the significance of collective dialogue in shaping the future of the media landscape. He emphasized the Ministry's commitment to engaging with stakeholders across platforms and appreciated the active participation of media organizations in the lead-up to WAVES 2025.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata recently hosted the 'Jago India Jago Fitness Campaign'. "Jago India Jago Fitness Campaign," was designed to inspire Indians to embrace a healthier and more active lifestyle while addressing the country's growing obesity crisis. Iconic Soumen's Workout (No Machine Zone) initiated this movement nationwide which eventually became the talk of the nation.

Soumen's Workout has built a community of fit individuals, empowering people across generations to lead healthier lives through sustainable, equipment-free fitness practices.



guished poet and writer, Dr. Swapan Kumar Nath. The nominees were selected by famous linguist Professor

Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Jamshedpur, Chennai, Guwahati, Goa, Ahmedabad, Amritsar and etc. Thousands of participants, from ages 5 to 90, actively engaged in expert-led fitness sessions, personalized workouts, and motivational activities.

The campaign's distinctive "No Machine Zone" approach provided an alternative to traditional gym workouts, making fitness more accessible and engaging for people from all walks of life.

MI News Service, Murshidabad: Murshidabad is always at the news, but not always for wrong reasons. A historical literary event was recently held at the auditorium Hall of Murshidabad University under the intervention of the university and the initiative by the International Malat Sahitya Patrika. The editor of the magazine, Professor Dr. Swarup Malakar, a professor of English presided the programme where various poets, writers, professors and thinkers were felicitated.

The special literary award was received by the distinguished

of acclaimed artist's Malay Saha's exhibition 'Silent Narratives', courtesy The Bridging Culture & Arts Foundation (B-CAF).

NAME CHANGE
I, Zahida Sha Hossain (old name) Wife of Shake Sha Hossain, residing at 13/H/11, Mayur Bhani Road, P.S.- Ekbalpore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Zainul Abidin (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 17/04/2025. Md Zainul Abidin (new name) and Zahida Sha Hossain (old name) both are same and identical person.

Lost mobile recovered and returned to a commuter

MI News Service, Kolkata: On 18.04.2025 at about 19.00 hrs. an on-duty RPF staff posted at Kalighat Metro station found one unclaimed mobile phone during a routine check and it was deposited to the Station Master's office of this station.

Thereafter, the Station Master made repeated announcements with a request to the owner to collect the mobile phone from the Station Master's Office of this station and a control message was communicated to all stations.

At about 20.30 hrs. a passenger came to the Station Master's office of Kalighat Metro station and claimed the ownership of the mobile phone. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the phone was handed over to him.

He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping him to get back his lost phone.

A train detained for short duration due to brake binding

MI News Service, Kolkata: 02023 UP Howrah - Patna Special Detained Between Palla Road & Shak-tigarh Station On Up Chord Line (Hbc) From 15:18 Hrs. To 15:35 Hrs. Due To Brake Binding. It Was Rectified By Guard & Assistant Loco Pilot And The Train Proceed To Destination. Further Checking At Bardhaman Also Revealed That There Train Is Fit To Run. The Train Is Now On Its Proper Path. There Was No Abnormality In This Incident.

Pirzada Mehrab Siddiqui at a meeting of millions of people

Nurul Islam Khan: On Sunday, a huge rally was held at the Barasat Milan Sangha Football Ground, with lakhs of people gathering to protest the new Waqf Act passed by the Central government. The organizer was Furfura Sharif's century-old organization Jamiat Ulama-e-Bangla Assam.



Chairperson of Jamiat Ulama-e-Bangla Assam Pirzada Mehrab Siddiqui, Pirzada Junaid Siddiqui, Shri Shankh Chatterjee, Maharaj Mahbub Hasan Sardar, Ahsanul Habib, Samiul Islam , Md. Shahrukh and Mohammad Salim were present.

Howrah venue for prestigious Bengal Karate Championship

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Seishinkai Shitoryu Karate Do Championship, recently held at Dasnagar's Alamohan Stadium witnessed an unprecedented level of enthusiasm and participation, with 1,500 students from all 24 districts coming together to showcase their karate skills. This extravagant event was not just a celebration of martial arts but a testament to the relentless efforts of Premjit Sen, the renowned coach and President of Bengal Hanshi.

Under his stellar leadership and the visionary guidance of Swapan Banerjee, Chairman of the All India Trinamool Congress sports wing and brother of the Chief Minister, this championship has set a new benchmark for sports events in the state. The presence of Kamlesh Chatterjee, Vice President of the Bengal Olympic Association, added to the prestige of the event, highlighting the strong support for grassroots sports development.

The championship was a grand spectacle, featuring high-caliber players and national champions, all competing under the watchful eyes of well-qualified and respected referees. In a remarkable gesture, Premjit Sen handed over a cheque of ₹11,000 to 11 districts to foster the growth of karate in the state.

Swapan Banerjee lauded Premjit Sen for his unwavering dedication to promoting karate in West Bengal, assuring full support for future initiatives. Kamlesh Chatterjee echoed the same.

This event has not only elevated the profile of karate in West Bengal but has also set the stage for a brighter future for young athletes across the state. This Championship is a pioneering initiative aimed at promoting martial arts and nurturing young talent across the state.

Sealdah div. successfully completed limited height subway in Krishnanagar-Lalgola section to enhance track safety and reliability

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway's Sealdah Division has successfully executed the major engineering Development work for insertion of LHS (Limited Height Subway) and simultaneous closure of Level Crossing gate No. 117/E. This critical work was carried out between Beldanga and Sargachhi station in Krishnanagar-Lalgola section on 19.04.2025. The LHS also significantly reduce the risk associated with Level crossing providing a safer passage for both pedestrians and vehicles. Construction of Limited Height Subway was undertaken using the cut and cover method during the traffic block from 10:15 hrs to 16:04 hours. A total of 10 RCC boxes, each measuring 4.65 m x 6.0 m, were used, resulting in a total subway length of 15.3 meters. To ensure safety during the block, 16-meter sheet piling was carried out on both ends before the block commencement.

The critical work executed and completed within the stipulated targeted time successfully. This development will improve under-track connectivity and significantly enhance road user safety by eliminating level crossing dependence.

In addition to the box insertion, several important maintenance and safety-related works were efficiently completed during the block period. A major activity included the distressing of 3.2 km of track between Bhabta and Sagardighi, which helps relieve longitudinal stress in rails and improves track stability. Alongside this, ERC (Elastic Rail Clip) greasing was also completed over the same 3.2 km stretch to ensure smoother and noise-free rail fastening.

One Switch Expansion Joint (SEJ) was successfully replaced between Debagram and Bethuadahari station, contributing to better thermal expansion control in the rails. In addition, 132 isolated casual sleepers were replaced between Rejinagar and Saragchhi, reinforcing track durability and alignment. Also 6 nos welding of Rail Joints carried out between Jagannaj and Bhagwanga to enhancing joint integrity. Furthermore, 2 nos Glued joints were inserted between Krishnapur and Lalgola to strengthen rail continuity and ensure long-term reliability.

Sealdah division to allow male passengers in three coaches of Matribhumi locals

MI News Service, Kolkata: At present, Sealdah Division is running six pairs of Matribhumi EMU locals across Sealdah North, Main and South sections. Out of them, two pairs are plying in Sealdah Main (towards Krishnanagar and Ranaghat), two pairs in Sealdah North (for Bangaon and Barasat) and the rest two pairs in Sealdah South (towards Canning and Baruipur). Right now, all the ladies special trains are running with 12 car EMU rake (in comparison to earlier 9 coach locals) after infrastructure development works at Sealdah Station.

After critically examining the average petronisation figure of the all six pairs of Matribhumi locals it transpires that, the maximum seating occupancy



is 75%. Hence, in order to utilise vacant seats/spaces and to facilitate/accommodate more office going daily passengers, the vacant 25% which translates to 3 coaches have been earmarked for general passengers. Hence, Sealdah Division has decided to allow male passengers in 3 coaches of Matribhumi locals, i.e., 4th, 5th and 6th coaches from Sealdah end. A notification in this regard has been issued by the Railway for implementation.

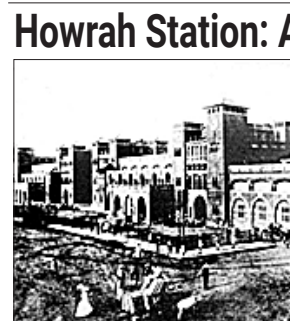
In this connection it is reiterated that, Sealdah Division has recently decided to augment one more ladies coach in EMU service and accordingly all the EMU rakes are now equipped with extra ladies coaches to cope up with the massive

rush of female passengers particularly during peak hours. Taking into consideration the capacity enhancement for female passengers and comparatively lower occupancy in Matribhumi locals, the decision of allowing male passengers to board in 3 earmarked coaches (4th, 5th and 6th from Sealdah end) of Matribhumi locals will certainly streamline passenger flow and will ensure comfortable and safe journey for the millions of passengers.

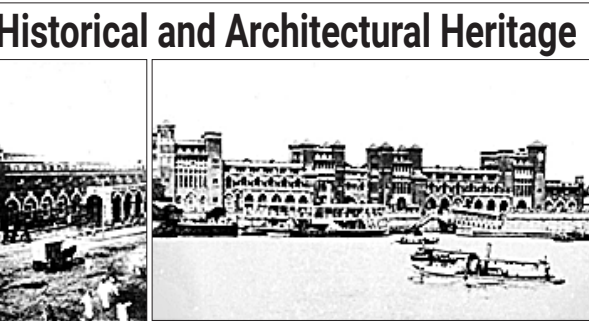
All our esteemed Rail users are requested to co-operate with the Railway in running a smooth, safe and comfortable mass transportation system connecting Kolkata with Suburbs with improved operational efficiency by effectively reducing congestion.

MI News Service, Kolkata: As Howrah Division celebrates 100 years of its existence in 2025, Howrah Station stands as a remarkable symbol of India's architectural and cultural heritage. In the early part of 19th Century, the place where Howrah Station came up, there was an orphanage run by the Dominican Sect of a group of Portugese Missionaries. It was sold to the East Indian Railways, where work soon began for the Howrah Station. Most historians are of the view that Howrah station started off with one platform and a "mud hut". However, there is evidence which suggest that the old Howrah Station building was a spacious, columnar structure close to river Hooghly which was perhaps demolished later at the time of construction of the new station building.

The historic Howrah Station structure was detailed by Kalidas Moitre of Serampore in his 1855 historical text "The Steam Engine & the EIR." This design corresponds with the location shown in the Howrah Land Acquisition Plan (EIR No.1). A couple of Kolkata's historic buildings are evocative of the architecture of the old Howrah Station building, which features round, towering columns. It is not surprising to learn that the historic Howrah Station building may have once been influenced by the layout of Kolkata's Town Hall.



The first station was a modest structure of red brick with a roof of corrugated iron sheets and one platform. Another platform was added in 1865 to facilitate arrival and departure of trains separately. An additional platform was provided



in 1895. The platforms were not very big, and sometimes as many as five carriages extended beyond the platform. Passengers had to "stumble on signal wires and switch rods, between the train and the pier of the over-bridge lighted only by a few hand lanterns. The single story station of red bricks had one room with a small window, which served as the 'ticket office'.

The need for a new station building became imperative as soon as Bengal Nagpur Railway laid a line connecting Howrah. The Ricardo designed "new station building" had a north wing with 6 platforms. A grand architectural feat of imposing stature, Howrah Station was designed in a manner fit for the British capital of India and with its grand public concourse and various other facilities, it soon became a landmark on the Eastern India skyline.

Designed by Halsey Ricardo the Romanesque style primarily for accommodating large crowds, this iconic railway station has been a testament to architectural brilliance since its opening in 1905. The design feature consisted of brick built arches and windows articulated by eight square towers on the front elevation from the east. The construction which began from 1901 carried on till 1911. The building with its towers looked impressive even when seen from the opposite bank, standing there like a sentinel, as if guarding the quiet flowing river Hooghly. The grand concourse inside was equally impressive. A picture of geometry in rhythm, the building plan and elevation, its symmetrical repetition of arches and circular cut-outs give the building a unique identity, thereby enhancing its landmark quality. A huge clock was strategically installed on the top of the north-eastern corner tower facing eastward so that people crossing the river from Calcutta go to see the time from distance.

The station's grand façade is marked by its imposing central dome, which dominates the skyline and is surrounded by intricately detailed arches and columns. The Romanesque influence is evident in the robust, yet graceful design that blends functionality with artistry. The central clock tower, another striking feature, serves as a constant reminder of Howrah's timeless significance in the lives of millions of commuters who pass through it daily.

Beyond its functional role, Howrah Station is a piece of living history. The ornate detailing of its exterior, with decorative stonework and archways, reflects the influence of British colonial architecture, while its strategic design ensured the station could handle the burgeoning rail traffic of early 20th-century India. The blend of classical design with the station's operational needs made Howrah an architectural marvel of its time.

Today, Howrah Station continues to operate as one of the busiest and most important railway stations in India. As we mark a century of the Howrah Division, we also celebrate the station's enduring legacy as an architectural masterpiece that stands proudly as a link between the past, present, and future of Indian railways.

3, including 2 children, dead as landslide hits Ramban; over 200 houses damaged

MI News Service, Ramban: Three people, including two children, lost their lives after a landslide hit Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Sunday, Deputy Commissioner Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary said.

Speaking to ANI, Chaudhary said that around 200-250 houses have been damaged in the incident.

"Due to incessant rainfall and cloudburst, the National Highway was closed at several places. In Ramban, houses and hotels have been damaged. Two houses collapsed due to a landslide in Bagahana village, where 3 people have lost their lives. Around 200-250 houses have been damaged. Maximum damage occurred in Ramban town. A rescue operation is being carried out. NDRF team is on the way and all local teams are also deployed here," he said.

Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Surinder Chaudhary, has reached Ramban to assess the situation following the flash flood and landslide.

Heavy rainfall in Ram-

ban on Sunday triggered landslides that blocked the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44), damaging many houses and vehicles.

Authorities have urged people to avoid travelling on the highway until the weather improves and clearing operations are completed.

Earlier in the day, People's Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti expressed deep concern over the landslides and flash floods in Ramban. She urged the Omar Abdullah-led Jammu and Kashmir government to evacuate vulnerable people and provide essential supplies.

She said, "The devastating landslides triggered by relentless rains along the Ramban section of the Jammu-Srinagar Highway have claimed lives, buried vehicles, and stranded many. Urge the administration to prioritise the immediate evacuation of vulnerable groups--elderly, women, and children--while providing food, water, and medical aid. Swiftly clear debris,

restore connectivity and implement long-term measures like early warning systems and infrastructure upgrades to prevent such tragedies."

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah also expressed grief over the incident.

In a post shared by the Chief Minister's Office on X, Abdullah said, "Extremely anguished by the tragic landslide and flash flood in Ramban, which has caused considerable damage to life and property. My thoughts are with the affected families in this difficult hour. We are in touch with the local administration to ensure immediate rescue efforts wherever needed. Later today, I will be reviewing restoration, relief, and repair plans. For now, the focus remains on managing the situation on the ground. Citizens are advised to follow travel advisories and avoid non-essential movement in vulnerable areas."

He also extended condolences to the families of the victims and assured them that rescue and relief work is underway.

"Huge loss, urge Centre for support": NC chief Farooq Abdullah on Ramban landslides, flash floods

MI News Service, J&K: National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah on Sunday expressed concern over the heavy damage caused by landslides and flash floods in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district.

He said lives were lost, infrastructure was damaged, and many vehicles were trapped under debris and urged the central government to provide support and compensation.

"A huge loss has occurred in Ramban. There is a report of three deaths. Many vehicles are stuck under the debris. A lot of damage has been incurred. A bridge near a tunnel is damaged. There is a huge loss in Banihal as well. The Deputy Chief Minister has left for Ramban. Our ministers are also reaching out from Kashmir," Farooq Abdullah told the media.

He assured that all help would be provided by the Jammu and Kashmir government and requested help from the Centre.

"This is a disaster and we will provide all the possible assistance we can. We have also requested that the centre help us in managing this disaster and compensate for the loss to some extent," he said.

Several vehicles and people were feared trapped after a landslide hit the Shan Palace area in Ward No. 2 of Ramban following heavy rains.

Local police and hotel staff quickly reached the spot and rescued those who were trapped.

Visuals from the site showed vehicles buried under mud, stones, and debris. Shops and a restaurant were also damaged. Locals were seen standing on rooftops, trying to assess the extent of the damage.

So far, there is no official confirmation on the exact number of people trapped or any further casualties.

Earlier in the day, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed his grief over the situation and said that restoration and relief work would be reviewed later in the day.

In a post on X, the Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister's Office quoted Omar Abdullah as saying, "Extremely anguished by the tragic landslide and flash flood in Ramban, which has caused considerable damage to life and property. My thoughts are with the affected families in this difficult hour. We are in touch with the local administration to ensure immediate rescue efforts wherever needed. Later today, I will be reviewing restoration, relief, and repair plans. For now, the focus remains on managing the situation on the ground. Citizens are advised to follow travel advisories and avoid non-essential movement in vulnerable areas."

He offered his condolences to the affected families and assured them that rescue work was underway.

Due to the landslides, the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) remains completely blocked. Commuters have been advised not to travel on this route until the weather improves and the debris is cleared.

Deputy Traffic Inspector Javed Kataria told ANI, "The national highway (Jammu-Srinagar NH in Ramban district) is completely blocked (due to landslides). Avoid this highway till the weather improves. Clearance work is ongoing, but it does not seem that the highway will open before evening or tomorrow because it is raining continuously."

Eight committees formed to implement Ayushman Bharat in Delhi

MI News Service, New Delhi: In a major step towards implementing the central government's flagship health scheme, Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PM-JAY) in the national capital, Delhi government's Department of Health and Family Welfare has formed eight committees for the effective implementation of the scheme.

With this implementation, Delhi becomes the 35th state or Union Territory to implement this health scheme.

Eight committees have been formed by the department to ensure the smooth functioning of the scheme, covering the entire process from enrollment to completion, said an official.

Out of the eight committees formed, the major one is the State Empanelment Committee, along with sev-

en other committees, which are as follows: The State Empanelment Committee will be chaired by the CEO of AB-PM-JAY and will oversee hospital registrations, disciplinary actions, and inspections of registered hospitals.

The second one is the District Empanelment Committee, which will handle timely hospital registrations, document verification, and field verification.

The third one is the District Implementation Committee, which will assist in creating Ayushman cards, conducting awareness campaigns, and resolving grievances of beneficiaries.

The fourth one is the State Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC), which will provide a final resolution to complaints related to beneficiaries and hospitals.

The fifth one is the State Anti-Fraud Cell, which will

frame policies to prevent misuse of services and monitor fraud.

The sixth one is the State Claim Review Committee (CRC), which will review rejected claims and conduct random audits.

The seventh one is the State Medical Committee, which will help in decision-making by reviewing Unclear Surgical Packages (USP).

The eighth one is the State Appellate Authority, which will serve as the final decision-making body for complaints.

The Ayushman Bharat scheme will cover 1,961 medical procedures across 27 specialties and will provide patients with free and cashless treatment in hospitals. Delhi has become the 35th state/union territory in the country to implement the said scheme.

Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Delhi government and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for implementing Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana in Delhi on April 5, 2025.

After signing the MoU, the Delhi government officially launched PM ABHIM and started distributing Ayushman Bharat cards under PM-JAY on April 10, 2025.

The MoUs were signed in the presence of Union Health Minister JP Nadda, Chief Minister of Delhi, Rekha Gupta, along with other leaders and officials of the Delhi Government. The Delhi government would be giving an additional top-up of 5 lakh over and above the 5 Lakh cover being provided by the Central government.

He also criticised the recently passed Waqf Act, questioning its relevance to the problems faced by farmers.

"Will the income of farmers be doubled after the Waqf Bill is passed? These people want to create trouble. If you see a riot anywhere, the Bharatiya Janata Party is behind it... This army is Yogi Army, Yogi Ji is hell-bent on destroying Uttar Pradesh."

9 including women, minors held in Seelampur murder case, say police

MI News Service, New Delhi: Nine people, including women and minors, have been held by the Delhi Police in connection with the murder of a 17-year-old boy in the Seelampur area.

According to Delhi Police, the main accused, 'Lady Don' Zikra, along with Sahil (18), Zahida (42), Nafish (32), Sohai (35), Aneesh (19), Vikas (29) and two minors aged about 17 and 15 years, have been taken into custody.

Police teams from the North-East District carried out raids across Delhi-NCR, including Ghaziabad, Meerut, Moradabad, and Amroha in Uttar Pradesh. Based on technical surveillance, clues, and local inputs, the suspects were arrested on April 20.

During the investigation, evidence was collected against Zikra, Sahil, and two minors referred to as "Children in Conflict with Law" (CCCLs). Police allege that these individuals planned the attack on the victim, Kunal.

The police said, "Relevant evidence was collected, which confirmed the involvement of the accused in this heinous crime

during the probe."

It was revealed that Sahil had an old rivalry with Kunal. On April 17, the group allegedly caught Kunal and stabbed him multiple times.

Giving more details, police said, "On April 17, at about 7:38 PM, information regarding the stabbing of a person in J-Block, Jhuggi Seelampur, was received at the Seelampur Police Station."

When the police team reached the location, they found the victim had already been taken to JPC Hospital by his family, where doctors declared him dead.

The victim was identified as Kunal, a 17-year-old boy from the New Seelampur area in Delhi.

A case was registered at Seelampur Police Station under Sections 103(1)(3)(5), and an investigation began. Given the seriousness of the case, the Operations Wing of North-East Delhi joined the Seelampur Police team. Multiple teams were formed to trace and arrest those involved.

Based on the evidence collected from different sources, the suspects were identified. Zikra, one of the key accused, was arrested

on the evening of April 18.

On Saturday, Delhi's Karkardooma Court remanded Zikra to two days of police custody in connection with the case. She will be produced before the court again on Monday after her police remand ends.

During questioning, Zikra told the police that her cousin Sahil was attacked in November last year by two boys named Lala and Shambhu, who were friends of Kunal. Kunal was also present at the time, but his name was not mentioned in the FIR because he was a minor.

Zikra and Sahil believed Kunal was responsible for that attack, and they carried out this act as "revenge." Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta reacted to the incident and said, "I have spoken to the Police commissioner about the murder of a 17-year-old boy, Kunal. He was attacked with knives and was rushed to the Jai Prakash hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival."

Following the murder, Kunal's relatives and residents in Seelampur held protests demanding justice.

"HP govt creating fake narrative," Union Minister JP Nadda slams Congress allegations on Centre

MI News Service, Dharamshala: Union Minister and BJP National President JP Nadda on Saturday criticised the Congress-led Himachal Pradesh government, accusing it of misleading the public by claiming that the Centre has not supported the state. He asserted that all major developments in the state have taken place only under NDA-led governments.

Speaking to the media in Dharamshala, JP Nadda said, "The Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu government is trying to create a narrative that the Centre hasn't provided funds or cared about Himachal. I want to clarify that if even an inch of development has happened, it has been under an NDA-led Prime Minister."

Recalling contributions made under the NDA government, Nadda said, "When Atal Bihari Vajpay-

ee was PM, Himachal received a special package. But when the Congress was in power at the Centre, they deprived the state of the benefits it deserved as a special category state. This is the history of Congress -- not a single major project was initiated during their tenure."

He added that development has continued under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

"Every significant contribution to Himachal's growth has happened under the NDA -- first with Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and now with Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said.

"This is the reason I dispel this narrative towards the Centre by the Himachal Pradesh government," he added.

To support his statement, Nadda said that the Centre has allocated Rs 11,806 crore for Himachal Pradesh's development in

the current financial year. He also highlighted the progress made in the Chamba district under the Aspirational Districts Program launched by Prime Minister Modi in 2018.

"I was in Chamba yesterday for the Aspirational District Program meeting. PM Modi initiated the concept in 2018, and Chamba was among the districts selected. When I look at the parameters, I feel satisfied that Chamba has progressed well in a short period, especially in areas like financial inclusion, education, agriculture, infrastructure, and irrigation," Nadda said.

However, he also pointed out that there is still room for improvement.

"There are a few points which bothered me as well, and I have informed the district administration about them," he added, without specifying the concerns.

Taj Mahal gears up ahead of US Vice President JD Vance's visit

MI News Service, Agra: The world-famous UNESCO World Heritage site, the Taj Mahal, is being prepared for the upcoming visit of US Vice President JD Vance to India.

The monument, which has welcomed many global leaders over the years, will now see Vice President Vance and his wife walking through the mausoleum and admiring its timeless beauty.

Earlier, in 2020, US President Donald Trump visited the Taj Mahal along with First Lady Melania Trump.

During his visit, Trump

had described the monument by saying, "Taj Mahal inspires awe, a timeless testament to the rich and diverse beauty of Indian culture! Thank you, India."

Sunil Shrivastava, a local, while speaking to ANI on the visit of the US Vice President, said, "It is a matter of good fortune for the residents of Agra that US Vice President JD Vance is coming to Agra. He will also visit the Taj Mahal, and we will get a very good response because of this."

He also expressed hope that a meeting between JD

Vance and Prime Minister Narendra Modi on trade issues such as tariffs would bring positive outcomes for India. He said this could open up new opportunities and help control inflation.

Shrivastava added that Vance's visit might also bring benefits to the tourism and visa sectors.

According to the official website of the Taj Mahal, the monument is considered the finest example of Mughal architecture--a style that blends Persian, Indian, and Islamic elements. In 1983, it was declared a UNESCO

World Heritage Site and described as "the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage."

Vice President JD Vance will be in India from April 21 to 24. He is scheduled to arrive in New Delhi on Monday, April 21. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said he will be received at the Air Force Station in Palam at 10:00 am. A formal meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled the same day at 6:30 pm at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg.

Office of the MADHURKUL GRAM PANCHAYAT Vill+P.O.- Madhurkul, P.S.- Domkal, Dist.-Murshidabad, (W.B.) UNDER DOMKAL BLOCK NIT No: 14(3rd Call)/2025-26 Publishing & Submission Start Date: 19.04.2025 from 10.00AM . Bid Submission Closing Date: 24.04.2025 up to 12.00 P.M. Bid Opening Date: 26.04.2025 after 12.00 P.M. Details See in: www.wbtenders.gov.in PRODHAN MADHURKUL GRAM PANCHAYAT	E-Tenders e-tenders are invited by Prodhnan, Ranmagar Gram Panchayat under Aushgram-II Dev. Block, Dist-Purba Bardhaman from resourceful/bonafide contractors with experience and requisite credential from 15th FC Fund vide Memo No. - 497/RGP/2025-26 & NIT No. - 05/RGP/2025-26, Memo No. - 498/RGP/2025-26 & NIT No. - 06/RGP/2025-26, Memo No. - 499/RGP/2025-26 & NIT No. 07/RGP/2025-26, Memo No. -500/RGP/2025-26 & NIT No. - 08/RGP/2025-26. Date of closing of submission of Technical Bid & Financial Bid on 30/04/2025 up to 5.00 P.M. For details visit the Website http://wbtenders.gov.in PRODHAN RANMAGAR GRAM PANCHAYAT
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MALE COMMUTERS CAN NOW TRAVEL IN SPECIFIED COACHES OF MATRIBHOOMI EMU LOCALS ACROSS SEALDAH DIVISION
In order to ensure full capacity-utilization of Matribhoomi Locals which are presently running with lower occupancy and to provide convenience to general passengers, it has been decided to allow general passengers including male passengers to travel in 4th, 5th & 6th coach from Sealdah end of all Matribhumi Locals running in Sealdah North & Central sections (i.e. in Train No. 33401/33402 Barasat-Sealdah-Barasat, 33801/33802 Bangaon-Sealdah-Bangaon, 31601/31602 Ranaghat-Sealdah-Ranaghat & 31801/31802 Krishnanagar City Jn.-Sealdah-Krishnanagar City Jn.) likewise allowed accommodation for general passengers in Matribhoomi Locals running in Sealdah South section (i.e. in Train No. 34501/34502 Sealdah-Canning-Sealdah & 34601/34602 Sealdah-Baruipur-Sealdah). Further to increase passengers' convenience Sealdah Division has already expanded 12 coaches service instead of 09 coaches service in all EMU trains including all Matribhoomi Locals. Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah
Eastern Railway Follow us at : @EasternRailway f @easternrailwayheadquarter



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CIN: U15419WB1994PLC064993

Regd.Office:3 Pretoria Street, Chandrakunj Building, 2nd Floor, Kolkata - 700071, West Bengal
Website: www.amboagritec.com EmailID: info@amboagritec.com Phone No.: 03346020333

NOTICE OF EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY TO BE HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING (VC) / OTHER AUDIO VISUAL MEANS (OAVM)

Members are hereby informed that the Extra Ordinary General Meeting ('EGM') of the Shareholders of Ambo Agritec Limited ("the Company") will be held on **Thursday, 15th May, 2025, at 1.00 p.m. (IST)** through Video Conferencing ('VC')/Other Audio Visual Means ('OAVM'), in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Rules made thereunder ("Act") and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 read with all the applicable circulars on the subject matter issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs ("MCA") and the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"), to transact the business as set out in the Notice of EGM.

Members will be able to attend and participate in the EGM by VC/OAVM only. Members attending the EGM through VC/OAVM will be counted for the purpose of reckoning the quorum under Section 103 of the Act. In compliance with the applicable circulars issued by the MCA and SEBI on the subject matter, Notice of EGM will be sent only by electronic mode to all the members whose email addresses are registered with the Depository Participants/Registrar and Transfer Agent/ Company. Members holding shares in dematerialized mode are requested to register / update their email addresses with their Depository Participants ("DP") by following procedure prescribed by DP.

The Company has engaged services of National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") for providing remote e-voting facility ('remote e-voting') to all its members to cast their vote on all resolutions set out in the Notice of EGM. Additionally, the Company, through NSDL, is providing the facility of voting through e-voting system during the EGM ('e-voting').

The details such as manner of (i) registering / updating email addresses, (ii) casting vote through remote e-voting/e-voting for the members including those who are holding shares in physical form or those who have not registered their email addresses with the Company; and (iii) attending the EGM through VC / OAVM has been set out in the Notice of the EGM which will be emailed in due course.

The members are requested to carefully read all the Notes set out in the Notice of EGM (being sent electronically) and in particular, instructions for joining the EGM, manner of casting vote through remote e-voting or through e-voting facility at the EGM.

The Notice of EGM will also be made available on the Company's Website at : www.amboagritec.com, and website of the stock exchange, i.e., BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com.

For Ambo Agritec Limited
Sd/-
Umesh Kumar Agarwal
Managing Director
DIN - 00210217

Date: 21st April, 2025
Place: Kolkata

With Easter around the corner, you'll have seen chocolate Easter eggs on supermarket shelves. Maybe you've bought some already.

But is there a difference between Easter chocolate and the everyday kind? Does Easter chocolate really taste better, as some people say?

As we'll see, any difference is less about the ingredients and more about how we experience the chocolate when we eat it.

What do they contain?

When we compared the ingredients and nutrients of Easter egg chocolate and regular chocolate from the same company, we found no major differences.

Cadbury Dairy Milk hollow Easter egg and Cadbury Dairy Milk chocolate block both contain per 100 gram: about 2,200 kilojoules of energy
7g protein
31g fat
55g sugar

Both products have a minimum 24% milk solids. The egg has a marginally higher percentage of cocoa solids (28%) than the block (27%).

So if they contain pretty much the same ingredients, what else is going on?

It's more about the taste, texture and smell

The difference between Easter chocolate and regular chocolate is more about how we experience the flavour of chocolate – via taste, texture and smell.

Taste is the recognition of simple ingredients dissolving in saliva and entering the taste pores on our tongue. In the case of chocolate, we perceive the taste as sweet (sugar), fatty (cocoa butter) and potentially bitter (caffeine and other cocoa-based compounds).

However, texture and smell make us most likely to tell the difference between Easter and regular chocolate.

The mouth is incredibly sensitive to the texture of foods. We perceive multiple physical qualities of a food, which we call “mouthfeel”.

Smoothness, creaminess and mouthcoating (for example, an oily feeling) are important components of chocolate's mouthfeel.

Consumers also expect round-shaped chocolate to be creamier than angular-shape chocolate.



EASTER EGG CHOCOLATE

Recipe 1: Homemade Chocolate Easter Eggs (by Taste of Home)

Ingredients:
- 2 packages (3.4 ounces each) chocolate cook-and-serve pudding mix
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1/2 cup 2% milk
- 5 to 6 cups confectioners' sugar
- 2 cups peanut butter (creamy)
- 4 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 teaspoons shortening (or coconut oil)
- Assorted sprinkles and candies

Instructions:
1. Make the dough filling: Combine pudding mixes, butter, and milk in a saucepan. Cook

and stir over medium heat until the mixture thickens. Remove from heat and stir in confectioners' sugar and peanut butter.

2. Shape the dough into eggs: Scoop out 1/2 cupfuls of dough and shape into egg shapes. Refrigerate until set.

3. Melt the chocolate: Melt chocolate chips and shortening in a microwave or double boiler.

4. Dip and decorate the eggs: Dip egg shapes in melted chocolate and decorate with sprinkles and candies.

Recipe 2: Chocolate Easter Egg (by Simon Knott, Professional Chocolatier)

Ingredients:
- Good quality couverture chocolate (dark, milk, or white)
- Easter egg molds (silicone or polycarbonate)

- Disposable gloves
- Double boiler or thermometer
- Optional decorative items (icing, food dye, sprinkles, etc.)

Instructions:
1. Prepare the chocolate and molds: Melt the chocolate and temper it. Prepare the molds by washing, drying, and polishing them.

2. Fill the molds: Fill the molds with tempered chocolate, either making solid eggs or hollow eggs with a thin shell.

3. Set and join the eggs: Allow the chocolate to set, then join two egg halves together by melting the edges.

4. Decorate the eggs: Use colored chocolate compound, melted chocolate, or icing to decorate the eggs.

“The difference between Easter chocolate and regular chocolate is more about how we experience the flavour of chocolate – via taste, texture and smell. Taste is the recognition of simple ingredients dissolving in saliva and entering the taste pores on our tongue. In the case of chocolate, we perceive the taste as sweet (sugar), fatty (cocoa butter) and potentially bitter (caffeine and other cocoa-based compounds).”

So even before we've taken a bite, we perceive a chocolate egg will be creamier than a block. These expectations can shape how we experience the flavour of chocolate.

However, if the chocolate egg is not as creamy as expected, this can be disappointing.

The temperature at which chocolate is made and stored also impacts its texture. Sometimes chocolate gets a whitish haze on its surface called chocolate bloom. This is when the fat and sugar separate from each other, forming fat or sugar crystals.

It is safe to eat chocolate with bloom, but it may taste less creamy or more gritty than chocolate without bloom.

Because the demand is so high during Easter, chocolate manufacturers sometimes use rapid-cooling techniques to produce hollow Easter eggs at a faster rate. This may make them more susceptible to chocolate bloom.

Cheaper Easter chocolates using these rapid procedures may have a different texture than chocolate made the traditional way.

Finally, smell contributes the most to how we perceive flavour in foods. When chocolate starts to melt in our mouth, aromas are released. These aromas make their way through

the back of the nose where we smell the complex scents and notes of chocolate. Depending on the chocolate, this could include fruity, earthy, buttery or floral aromas.

The shape of chocolate influences how creamy we think it is. But the shape of chocolate also influences other aspects of our eating experience.

Easter chocolate in the shape of an egg or an animal provides a large contact area inside the mouth meaning it will melt faster than a block. This impacts how quickly aroma compounds are released from the chocolate.

Biting into hollow chocolate, such as eggs and animals, may also require more time to chew and swallow. This results in Easter chocolate spending longer in our mouths with a greater release of aromas. This means we perceive a greater intensity or diversity of flavours compared to eating small squares.

Are you a sucker or a chewer?

How someone eats chocolate can also change its flavour. One study categorised people who ate chocolate as “suckers” or “chewers”.

Chewers tend to swallow chocolate more quickly and may perceive it to have a weaker flavour because of the shorter time for aromas to be released.

So how a person eats Easter chocolate may also impact whether they prefer it over regular chocolate.

Easter is only once a year

Last of all, eating Easter eggs (and hunting for them) are often part of a shared family ritual. This can make Easter chocolate seem special. No wonder we enjoy the whole Easter egg experience. So whether you are a sucker or a chewer, Easter is a great time to slow down and celebrate with loved ones. Enjoy and savour your Easter chocolate in moderation, egg-shaped or otherwise.

ASTRONOMERS FIND STRONG HINTS OF BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OUTSIDE THE SOLAR SYSTEM

WASHINGTON DC: Astronomers have detected the most promising signs yet of a possible biosignature outside the solar system, although they remain cautious.

Using data from the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST), the astronomers, led by the University of Cambridge, have detected the chemical fingerprints of dimethyl sulfide (DMS) and/or dimethyl disulfide (DMDS), in the atmosphere of the exoplanet K2-18b, which orbits its star in the habitable zone.

On Earth, DMS and DMDS are only produced by life, primarily microbial life such as marine phytoplankton.

While an unknown chemical process may be the source of these molecules in K2-18b's atmosphere, the results are the strongest evidence yet that life may exist on a planet outside our solar system.

The observations have reached the 'three-sigma' level of statistical significance – meaning there is a 0.3% probability that they occurred by chance.

To reach the accepted classification for scientific discovery, the observations would have to cross the five-sigma threshold, meaning there would be below a 0.00006% probability they occurred by chance.

The researchers say between 16 and 24 hours of follow-up observation time with JWST may help them reach the all-important five-sigma significance. Their results are reported in The Astrophysical Journal Letters.

Earlier observations of K2-18b—which is 8.6 times as massive and 2.6 times as large as Earth and lies 124 light years away in the constellation of Leo, identified methane and carbon dioxide in its atmosphere.

This was the first time carbon-based molecules were discovered in the atmosphere of an exoplanet in the habitable zone. Those results were consistent with predictions for a 'Hycean' planet: a habitable ocean-covered world underneath a hydrogen-rich atmosphere. However, another, weaker signal hinted at the possibility of something else happening on K2-18b.

"We didn't know for sure whether the signal we saw last time was due to DMS, but just the hint of it was exciting enough for us to have another look with JWST using a different instrument," said Professor Nikku Madhusudhan from Cambridge's Institute of Astronomy, who led the research.

To determine the chemical composition of the atmospheres of faraway planets, astronomers analyse the light from their parent star as the planet transits, or passes in front of the star as seen from the Earth.

As K2-18b transits, JWST can detect a drop in stellar brightness, and a tiny fraction of starlight passes through the planet's atmosphere before reaching Earth.

The absorption of some of the starlight in the planet's atmosphere leaves imprints in the stellar spectrum that astronomers can piece together to determine the constituent gases of the exoplanet's atmosphere.

The earlier, tentative inference of DMS was made using JWST's NIRISS (Near-Infrared Imager and Slitless Spectrograph) and NIRSpec (Near-Infrared Spectrograph) instruments, which together cover the near-infrared (0.8-5 micron) range of wavelengths.

The new, independent observation used JWST's MIRI (Mid-Infrared Instrument) in the mid-infrared (6-12 micron) range.

"This is an independent line of evidence, using a different instrument than we did before and a different wavelength range of light, where there is no overlap with the previous observations," said Madhusudhan. "The signal came through strong and clear."

"It was an incredible realisation seeing the results emerge and remain consistent throughout the extensive independent analyses and robustness tests," said co-author Mans Holmberg, a researcher at the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, USA.

DMS and DMDS are molecules from the same chemical family, and both are predicted to be biosignatures.

Learning about social interaction by studying dancing

WASHINGTON DC [US], April 14 (ANI): Dancing fluidly with someone requires social coordination. This skill requires coordinating movements with others while also processing dynamic sensory input, such as sounds and visuals.

Felix Bigand and Giacomo Novembre from the Italian Institute of Technology in Rome, together with others, report on how the brain drives social coordination during dance.

The researchers recruited pairs of inexperienced dancers and recorded their brain activity, whole-body movements, and muscle activity as they danced to the same or different songs. The researchers also manipulated whether dancers could or could not see each other. These methods unveiled distinct neural signals for music processing, self-generated movements, movements generated by following a partner, and social coordination.

Neural signals for social coordi-



THE RESEARCHERS RECRUITED PAIRS OF INEXPERIENCED DANCERS AND RECORDED THEIR BRAIN ACTIVITY, WHOLE-BODY MOVEMENTS, AND MUSCLE ACTIVITY AS THEY DANCED TO THE SAME OR DIFFERENT SONGS. THE RESEARCHERS ALSO MANIPULATED WHETHER DANCERS COULD OR COULD NOT SEE EACH OTHER. THESE METHODS UNVEILED DISTINCT NEURAL SIGNALS FOR MUSIC PROCESSING, SELF-GENERATED MOVEMENTS, MOVEMENTS GENERATED BY FOLLOWING A PARTNER, AND SOCIAL COORDINATION.

nation that enabled synchronized movements between people occurred only when dancers were moving to the same song and could see each other.

Bigand said, "What was perhaps most peculiar was we found that out of the 15 different movements we recorded, the brain was most sensitive to bouncing or flexing of the knees [during social coordination]. This was strange because bouncing had relatively weak amplitudes (or strength) compared to most of the other movements. For the brain to respond more to a weaker movement, like bounce, suggests it has a unique role in social coordination."

According to the authors, this work advances our understanding of social interaction beyond dancing because it sheds light on how the brain supports socially engaging activities while integrating dynamic sensory information. Bigand also emphasizes that the methods used to unravel distinct neural signals for different kinds of sensory information processing may improve the applicability of future preclinical work to reality.

New human ‘multi-zonal’ liver organoids improve injury survival rate in rodents

WASHINGTON DC: One of the reasons our livers excel at clearing waste from our blood system is because the organ functions according to three key “zones” that perform specific major tasks.

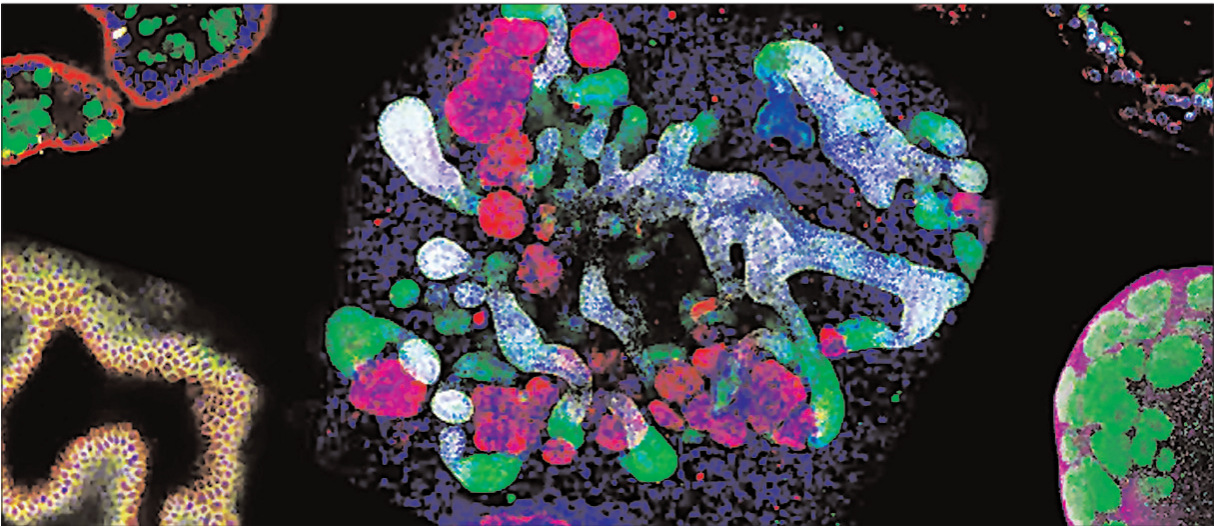
So, if scientists hope to create self-growing patches of liver organoid tissue that could help repair damaged organs, it's important that the lab-grown tissue faithfully reproduces such zones.

In a groundbreaking paper published April 16, 2025, in the journal Nature, a team of organoid medicine experts at Cincinnati Children's reports achieving just such a milestone --

made from human stem cells.

When these humanised organoids were transplanted into rodents whose own liver-bile duct system had been disconnected, the improved organoids nearly doubled the rodents' survival rate.

"The research community has long needed a better model for studying human liver biology and disease, because there are outstanding hepatocyte diversity and associated functional orchestrations in the human liver that do not exist in rodents," says Takanori Takebe, MD, PhD, the study's corresponding



author.

"This new system paves the way for studying, and eventually treating, a wide range of otherwise fatal liver disorders."

Takebe is Director for Commercial Innovation at Cincinnati Children's Center for Stem Cell and Organoid Medicine (CuSTOM). He has been studying methods for growing liver organoids for over 13 years.

Breakthroughs from his lab include producing the first connected set of three organoids grown together, a novel way to mass produce liver organoids for research purposes, and gene-engineered liver organoids that

may someday help treat severe jaundice.

In the short term, these multi-zonal liver organoids will help scientists shed new light on diseases including diabetes, drug-induced liver injury, alcohol-related liver disease, and viral hepatitis. In turn, such work could accelerate drug development and other approaches to restore liver health.

Longer-term, for people on waiting lists for liver transplantation, this study moves the medical community one step closer to "growing" a patient's own liver replacement tissue instead of relying on organ donation.

Shut Parliament if Supreme Court makes laws: BJP's Nishikant sparks row

MI News Sevice, New Delhi: BJP MP Nishikant Dubey stirred controversy on Saturday with a pointed statement seemingly aimed at the judiciary amid the Supreme Court's ongoing review of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. Dubey questioned the judiciary's role in legislative matters, suggesting that if courts begin to take over the task of making laws, the relevance of Parliament is effectively nullified.

Taking to social media platform X, Dubey posted in Hindi, later translated into English: "If the Supreme Court is going to make the laws, then the Parliament building should be shut down." His remark was widely interpreted as a veiled criticism of the Supreme Court's scrutiny of a law that had recently cleared both houses of Parliament.

The Supreme Court began hearing petitions on Wednesday that challenge the con-



stitutional validity of the amended Waqf Act. Petitioners argue that certain provisions violate fundamental rights, particularly the inclusion of non-Muslims in Waqf Boards and Councils, and the legal removal of "Waqf-by-user" properties—those historically used for religious purposes but not formally registered as Waqf.

During the proceedings, the apex court noted key assurances given by the Central Government. The Union Government pledged that, until further notice, no non-Muslim would be appointed to Waqf Boards or the Central Waqf Council. Additionally, it assured the court that no changes

would be made to the classification of Waqf properties, including those categorized as "Waqf-by-user," during the interim phase. District Collectors were also barred from taking any action that might alter the current status of such lands.

Previously, the Supreme Court had indicated that it may consider staying certain provisions of the Act—particularly those involving the role of non-Muslims in Waqf administration and the powers granted to Collectors over disputed properties.

After noting the Centre's commitments, the bench granted the Union Government one week to file its preliminary response, accompanied by all relevant documents. The case will next be heard on May 5, when the court is expected to delve deeper into the constitutionality of the contentious provisions.

Bangladesh seeks Interpol Red Notice against ousted PM Sheikh Hasina

MI News Sevice, Dhaka: Bangladesh has requested Interpol to issue a red notice against former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and 11 others in connection with a case alleging conspiracy to overthrow the Muhammad Yunus-led interim government, according to local media reports.

According to reports, the request was submitted by the Bangladesh Police Headquarters amid an ongoing investigation into charges of inciting civil war and plotting to unseat the transitional administration.

Leading Bangladeshi daily, The Dhaka Tribune, quoted Assistant Inspector General (Media) Enamul Haque Sagor as confirming the development.

"These applications are filed in connection with allegations that emerge during investigations or through ongoing case proceedings," he stated.

The red notice, once issued, would enable law enforcement agencies globally



to locate and provisionally detain the accused individuals pending extradition or other legal actions.

"Interpol plays a key role in identifying the locations of fugitives residing abroad. Once the whereabouts of any absconding individual are confirmed, that information is relayed to Interpol," said Sagor, adding that the red notice request is currently being processed.

The Daily Star noted that the police undertake such procedures based on appeals from courts, public prosecutors, or investigating agencies.

The Chief Prosecutor's Office of the International Crimes Tribunal had previously urged the police to seek Interpol's assistance for

Hasina's arrest. That formal appeal was made in November last year.

Hasina, who is currently facing over 100 cases ranging from mass murder to corruption, fled Bangladesh on August 5 last year following a massive student-led movement that resulted in the collapse of her 16-year rule under the Awami League.

Hasina, the daughter of Bangladesh's founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, is reported to be residing in India since then.

Most of her former ministers and top party leaders have either been arrested or have fled the country in an attempt to evade trial on serious charges, including crimes against humanity.

While addressing the Awami League supporters online from India in February, the ousted Prime Minister of Bangladesh accused the Yunus-led interim government of turning the nation into an alleged hub of "terrorism" and "lawlessness."

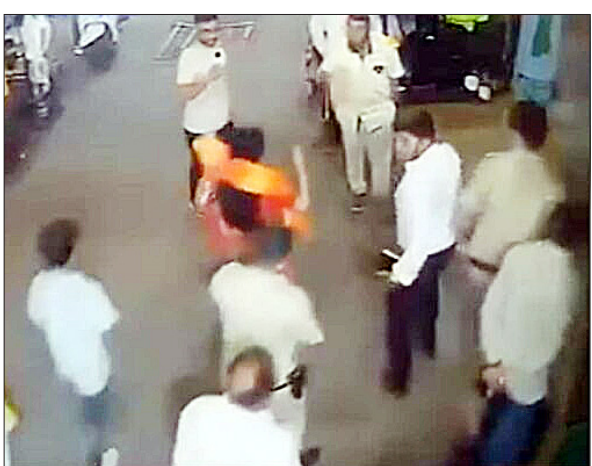
BJP MP seen threatening Dargah members over azan in Pune; members demand action

MI News Sevice, Pune: An MP from Bharatiya Janata Party, Medha Kulkarni allegedly threatened members of a dargah committee in Maharashtra's Pune district during Hanuman jayanti celebration.

A video of the incident has gone viral on social media which occurred on April 12. The video shows Kulkarni along with her followers approaching members of Muslim community near Punyashwar Temple and Salahuddin Dargah. She allegedly tried to stop the azan, Muslim call to prayer; she accused the members of playing the azan at a very high volume.

After the incident the members of the Dargah demanded strict action against the MP. However, Kulkarni has denied all the allegations and has threatened to file a defamation case against the members if the claims are proven to be wrong.

Kulkarni alleges, "while



the aarti and Hanuman chalisa were going on, Dargah members played the azan loudly. We requested them to lower the volume but they argued with me."

"I was unaware of the development as I was travelling, however I learnt about the videos of the incident going viral on social media. In the clips, it is clear that I covered my ears because

of the loud sound. They argued when I requested them to reduce the volume, the image just also shows them to lower the volume but they argued with me."

However, in the video's audio, only Hindu religious songs can be heard.

IPS officer Nurul Hoda resigned from his job in protest against new Waqf law

MI News Sevice, Sitamarhi: Senior IPS officer Nurul Hoda, a 1995 batch officer and a native of Sitamarhi, Bihar, has announced his resignation from the Indian Police Service in protest against the Waqf law. Known for his dedication and integrity, Hoda has also been deeply involved in social work.

He provides free education to nearly 300 underprivileged children in his native village, believing that education is the key to real empowerment.

Throughout his distinguished career, Hoda served in several sensitive and high-pressure zones including Dhanbad, Asansol, and the Delhi division. He is credited with implementing innovative strategies in railway security, Naxal control, and crime prevention.

His exemplary service has



earned him the prestigious Vishisht Seva Medal twice, as well as the Director General Chakra on two occasions.

After decades in uniform, Hoda has now decided to take a new path. Hanging up his khaki, he plans to don khadi and enter public life. His decision to step into politics is driven by a desire to serve both his community and the nation on a broader platform.

With his administrative

experience, ground-level engagement, and commitment to justice, he hopes to bring meaningful change through democratic means.

It is to be mentioned that thousands of protest progs were continued through out the country agaisnt new Waqf law. The largest was at Kozhikode Beach in Kerala on last Wednesday evening to protest the Union government's newly passed Waqf Amendment Act, 2025. Organised by the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), the rally saw a sea of people from across the state, with organisers claiming a turnout of over two lakh, calling it the largest protest in India against the controversial law. Protesters arrived in large numbers, holding placards and banners condemning the Act, which they allege undermines the constitutional rights of the Muslim community.

MI News Service, New Delhi: With mental disorders as the second most common cause of years lived with disability (YLDs) and suicide as the third most common cause of death in many states, India is experiencing a serious mental health crisis. According to national research, 15% of Indian adults have mental health problems that need to be treated, yet between 70 and 92 percent of them do not receive treatment, depriving millions of people of access to therapy. In India, more than 11 crore individuals still struggle with mental health issues, and 80% of them choose not to get treatment. Over 1 lakh people commit suicide every year, and many more make suicide attempts, highlighting the critical need for action.

The Campaign: BREAKING STIGMA ONE MILE AT A TIME is a campaign to:

- Raise awareness about mental health issues
- Encourage young people to seek professional help if they face mental health issues
- Foster a supportive environment for those affected by mental illness

The campaign was conceived by Seher Hashmi and has been joined by Dev Desai, a well-known social activist, Nazneen Shaikh, a self-taught singer, Samanyu Shukla, a filmmaker and Mehraj U Din, the driver.

Seher Hashmi's Journey Seher Hashmi is a motivational speaker and a fashion stylist. Seher Hashmi's journey with mental health began in her teens, when she was diagnosed with clinical depression and borderline personality disorder. According to her first psychiatrist the childhood trauma, when she was relinquished at 9 months in an orphanage by her biological parents, left deep scars on her unconscious mind. One of the reasons of mental illnesses among others is childhood trauma.

For over a decade, she fought to reclaim her life, supported by psychiatrists, therapists, family, activists, and friends. However, Seher soon realized that she was one of the lucky ones. Many people in India suffer

in silence, unable to access professional help due to the stigma surrounding mental illness. Determined to change this narrative, Seher began sharing her story through powerful videos and workshops. Her efforts have already made a significant impact. Seher has conducted workshops in colleges, schools, villages, and NGOs and has helped a number of mental health patients in times of distress.

The Journey Begins

On April 20, Seher and Dev Desai are embarking on a journey on Royal Enfield motorbikes from Delhi to Kupwara and back. Dev Desai, a well-known social activist. Dev has over 15 yrs of experience of working in the field as a grass roots activist. His engagement with mental health issues deepened during Covid when he reached out to over 90 psychiatrists, counsellors, therapists and helped organize free online counselling services Talk It Out for young people struggling with mental health issues.

The other three team members – Nazneen Shaikh, Samanyu Shukla – filmmaker and Mehraj U Din, a BSC Medical graduate- will be traveling in a car. They will cover the following 21 cities and villages -Anantnag, Baramulla, Chandigarh, Delhi, Handwara, Hoshairpur, Jalandhar, Jammu, Kangra, Khumriyal, Kupwara, Ludhiana, Mukerian, Narwana, Ramban, Rohtak, Sogam, Sopore, Srinagar, Pattan, Wavoor and conducting 30 interactive sessions. During this campaign, they will be conducting sessions on mental health, interacting with students and young people in schools and colleges, men and women in village communities, and mental health facilities to fight the stigma around mental illness and encourage people facing mental health issues to access professional help.

The campaign was flagged off from New Delhi by Seher's psychiatrists Dr Amit Sen and Dr Rajiv Mehta and her therapist Khilly Marwaha along Prof Mridula Mukherjee, Prof Aditya Mukherjee and Prof Apoorvanand. Over 100 well-wishers, friends and

Breaking stigma one mile at a time



family members gathered to give the team their best wishes for the important journey and campaign.

The Team's Mission Seher, as a survivor of mental health issues, motivates people to fight the stigma. Dev Desai will be networking with local professionals and groups working on the issue. Nazneen Shaikh will be using her music skills to sing at every program and talk about the power of music in dealing with mental health issues. Samanyu is documenting the campaign and proposes to make a film on the campaign. The team will also be providing written material in the form of a folder about mental health and its various aspects, as well as a list of helplines that can be accessed by those in need.

Join the Movement BREAKING STIGMA ONE MILE AT A TIME is a call to action to join the movement to break the stigma surrounding mental illness. Let us come together to create a supportive environment for those affected by mental illness and encourage those who need help to seek professional assistance.

Profiles of the Team Seher Hashmi is a motivational speaker and a fash-

ion stylist. Seher Hashmi's journey with mental health began in her teens, when she was diagnosed with clinical depression and borderline personality disorder. For over a decade, she fought to reclaim her life, supported by psychiatrists, therapists, family, activists, and friends. However, Seher soon realized that she was one of the lucky ones. Many people in India suffer in silence, unable to access professional help due to the stigma surrounding mental illness. Determined to change this narrative, Seher began sharing her story through powerful videos and workshops. Her efforts have already made a significant impact. Seher has conducted workshops in colleges, schools, villages, and NGOs.

Dev Desai, a well-known social activist. Dev has over 15 yrs of experience of working in the field as a grass roots activist. His engagement with mental health issues deepened during Covid when he reached out to over 90 psychiatrists, counsellors, therapists and helped organize free online counselling services Talk It Out for young people struggling with mental health issues. The initiative had a team

of 140 members, of which 100 were trained and consulting psychologists. They received calls from more than 300 people, in which 40 people called from all over India, four calls came from Indians living abroad and the rest came from different parts of Gujarat. Most of the people used to call for questions and advice around mental health and volunteers used to arrange online sessions for them with psychologists and counsellors according to their problems.

Samanyu Shukla is a practitioner of art who has been honing his craft as a visual storyteller for a decade. From a young age, his keen eye and creative spirit have allowed him to capture and curate stories that resonate with the soul. Samanyu has dedicated himself to creating visuals that ignite profound thoughts and evoke powerful emotions. Primarily known for his prowess as a filmmaker and photographer, Samanyu's creative journey has found a focal point in the captivating world of narrative documentaries. Through his lens, he weaves compelling tales that not only inform but also touch the core of human experiences. Beyond his remarkable artistic endeavors, Samanyu extends his influence as an educator. He has derived workshops on visual storytelling across various corners of the country, inspiring students to harness the power of visuals to convey stories that resonate.

Nazneen Shaikh is a self-taught singer and an organiser. She has experience in coordinating campaigns and programs. Her soothing and melodious voice helps in supporting mental health and well-being by reducing anxiety and stress levels. Music can be particularly beneficial for individuals who have experienced trauma, providing a safe and creative outlet for expression and healing.

Mehraj U Din is BSC in Science. He runs a bakery and offered to join the team and drive them Delhi to Kupwara and back. He lives in Khumriyal, Kupwara.

Israeli PM Netanyahu says Israel has 'no choice' but to continue fighting in Gaza

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated on Saturday that Israel has "no choice" but to continue its military campaign in Gaza until Hamas is dismantled, the remaining hostages are freed, and the territory no longer poses a threat to Israel. Netanyahu also reaffirmed his commitment to preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

His remarks come as he faces increasing domestic pressure. Families of hostages, reservists, and retired soldiers have begun to question the ongoing war, especially after a ceasefire broke down last month. Netanyahu claimed that Hamas had rejected Israel's latest proposal, which included the release of half the remaining hostages in exchange for a renewed ceasefire.

Over the past 48 hours, Israeli airstrikes have killed more than 90 people in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Among the casualties were women and children, including 11 people killed in Khan Younis. Several victims were inside a tent in the Muwasi area—designated by Israel as a humanitarian zone—where displaced civilians have sought refuge. Witnesses described scenes of mourning, with grieving relatives cradling the bodies of loved ones. In Rafah city, four more civilians, including a woman and her daughter, were killed. Another person died in a strike near Nuseirat in central Gaza.

The Israeli military said it had killed over 40 Hamas militants over the weekend. However, the conflict also claimed the life of an Israeli soldier—the first since hostilities



resumed on March 18. Hamas' armed wing, the Qassam Brigades, claimed responsibility for the ambush that led to the soldier's death in Gaza City's al-Tuffah neighborhood.

Israel continues to expand its operations and has announced plans to maintain large "security zones" within Gaza, even as calls grow for its forces to withdraw. Meanwhile, the territory remains under a strict blockade that has lasted six weeks, with

Israel barring food and other essential supplies from entering. Aid organizations have raised alarms, reporting that many children are malnourished and most people are surviving on less than one meal per day. The United Nations and health officials have urged the U.S. and Israel to allow humanitarian aid into the strip.

The ongoing war, which began on October 7, 2023, when Hamas launched an

attack that killed about 1,200 people in Israel and took 251 hostages, has led to immense destruction across Gaza. Gaza's Health Ministry reports over 51,000 Palestinians killed, mostly women and children. The war has devastated infrastructure, destroyed much of Gaza's food production, and displaced around 90 percent of the population. Hundreds of thousands now live in makeshift shelters and damaged buildings.

Public frustration is mounting. Protests against Hamas have occurred inside Gaza, while Israeli citizens continue to stage weekly rallies demanding a hostage deal. On Saturday night, thousands gathered in Tel Aviv. Former hostage Omer Shem Tov addressed the crowd, urging the government to bring all the remaining captives home, even if it means ending the war

Three killed, four wounded in fresh US airstrikes on Yemen: Houthis

MI News Sevice, Sanaa: At least three people were killed and four others wounded in fresh US airstrikes on Yemen's capital Sanaa, its outskirts, and other provinces.

The US military launched 21 airstrikes on Sanaa and its western outskirts, killing two people and wounding two others in the Al-Nahda neighbourhood, northern Sanaa. A third one was wounded in a cemetery in the Safiah neighbourhood in southern Sanaa. Xinhua news agency reported quoting Houthi-run al-Masirah TV.

In the Bani Matar district in Sanaa's western outskirts, the airstrikes killed one person and wounded another one, said the Houthi television

The report did not specify whether the victims were civilians or Houthi operatives.

The airstrikes on the capital also targeted several other locations, including weapons depots in the Al-Hafa military camp in the Mount Nuqum in eastern Sanaa, and two military sites in northeastern Sanaa, according to Sanaa's residents.

The roar of the fighter jets speeding at full throttle could be heard across the capital before and after the strikes hit.

Ambulances were seen in Sanaa's streets rushing to the targeted sites as the Houthi-controlled police cordoned off the targeted areas.

Meanwhile, the US fighter jets conducted 13 airstrikes against the Houthi-controlled Hodeidah Airport and the Navy Base in the Red Sea port city of Hodeidah, western Yemen, according to the Houthi television and local residents.

You people are tube lights': Owaisi blasts BJP MP over judiciary remarks

MI News Sevice, Hyderabad: All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimin (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi, on Sunday, April 20, lashed out at BJP MP Nishikant Dubey after the latter questioned the judiciary's role amid the ongoing Supreme Court review of the Waqf (Amendment) Act.

Owaisi said Dubey's comments were a blatant attempt to intimidate the judiciary.

In a sarcastic tone, he indirectly referred to Dubey as 'tubelight.' "You people are tube lights... Do you know what Article 142 (of the Constitution) is? It was framed by BR Ambedkar," he said.

Owaisi further accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of threatening to incite a religious war. "You people are in power and you have become so radicalised that you are threatening court of a religious war...Modi ji, if you don't stop these people, the country will be-

come weak. Country won't forgive you and tomorrow you won't be in power," Owaisi said.

The previous day, Dubey questioned the judiciary's role in legislative matters, suggesting that if courts assume the task of lawmaking, the existence of Parliament becomes redundant.

Taking to the social media platform X, Dubey posted in Hindi (translated in English): "If the Supreme Court is going to make the laws, then the Parliament building should be shut down."

The post was widely interpreted as a veiled criticism of the judiciary's involvement in scrutinizing and possibly suspending aspects of the legislation.

A Supreme Court lawyer representing one of the litigants in the Waqf Act case has written to Attorney General R Venkatramani seeking consent to initiate contempt proceedings against Dubey over

his "grossly scandalous" remarks "aimed at lowering the dignity" of the top court.

In his letter to the attorney general, advocate Anas Tanveer said Dubey's remarks are "deeply derogatory and dangerously provocative".

"I am writing this letter under Section 15(1)(b) of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, read with Rule 3(c) of the Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court, 1975, to humbly seek your kind consent for initiating criminal contempt proceedings against Shri Nishikant Dubey, Hon'ble Member of Lok Sabha from Godda parliamentary constituency in Jharkhand, for statements made by him in public that are grossly scandalous, misleading, and aimed at lowering the dignity and authority of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India," the letter said.

IPL 2025 : Virat, Padikkal fifties guide RCB to effortless 7 wicket win over PBKS

MULLANPUR : Half centuries by Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal helped Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) continue their brilliant away run, registering their fifth successive win away from home after beating Punjab Kings (PBKS) by seven wickets at Mullanpur on Sunday.

With this win, RCB has managed to avenge their five-wicket loss to PBKS at their home stadium of M Chinnaswamy Stadium and secured their fifth win of the season. They are in third spot, with five wins, three losses and 10 points. With a same win-loss ratio, PBKS is at fourth spot.

During the run chase of 158 runs, RCB was off to a poor start as Arshdeep Singh removed Phil Salt for one run in three balls. RCB was 6/1 in one over.

In the next few overs, Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal stitched a partnership, collecting boundaries against pace and spin alike. RCB reached the 50-run mark in 5.5 overs.

At the end of the powerplay in six overs, RCB was 54/1 in six overs, with Virat (31*) and Padikkal (22*) unbeaten.

The duo reached the 50-run partnership in 31 balls.

At the end of 10 overs, RCB looked right on track, at 88/1 with



Padikkal (49*) and Virat (37*) unbeaten.

Padikkal reached his first fifty of IPL 2025 in just 30 balls, with four boundaries and three sixes, and he continued his streak of fine attacking knocks in the tournament.

Padikkal continued to pick apart pacers, bringing up the 100-run stand in 65 balls.

However, the 103-run stand between Padikkal and Virat was ended by Harpreet Brar, with

Nehal Wadhwa getting a safe catch at long-on. The left-hander departed for 61 in 35 balls, with five fours and four sixes. RCB was 109/2 in 12.3 overs.

Next up on the crease was skipper Rajat Patidar. He carried the chase forward with Virat, who reached his 67th IPL fifty and fourth this season, in 43 balls, with five fours.

However, Rajat's innings was short-lived as he was caught by Marco Jansen on a Yuzi Chahal

delivery for 12 in 13 balls, with a four. RCB was 143/3 in 16.4 overs.

Thanks to a six from Jitesh Sharma, RCB ended on the winning side, finishing at 159/3 in 18.5 overs, with Jitesh Sharma (11*) and Virat (73*) in 54 balls, with eight fours and a six) unbeaten.

Arshdeep Singh, Brar and Chahal got a wicket each for PBKS.

Earlier, RCB spinners played a pivotal role in restricting Punjab Kings (PBKS) to 157/6 in their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 clash in Mullanpur.

After winning the toss, RCB skipper Rajat Patidar opted to bowl first, a decision that proved effective, thanks to disciplined spells from his spin duo, Krunal Pandya and Suyash Sharma. While Pandya finished with figures of 2/25, Suyash was equally impressive, bagging 2/26 in his four overs.

PBKS got off to a flying start, with openers Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh launching a quickfire partnership of 42 runs. However, Krunal Pandya broke the momentum by dismissing Arya for 22. Punjab brought up their fifty in just 5.1 overs and reached 62/1 at the end of the powerplay, but the flow of runs

soon dried up after Pandya struck again just after the powerplay, removing the dangerous Prabhsimran Singh for 33.

The middle order struggled to build momentum, with captain Shreyas Iyer falling for a sluggish 6 off 10 balls to Romario Shepherd, who was playing his first match of the season. A mix-up between Nehal Wadhwa and Josh Inglis led to a run out, sending Wadhwa back for just 5.

Inglis, however, showed some resistance with a handy 29 off 17 deliveries before being bowled by the crafty Suyash Sharma. The leg-spinner soon added another to his tally by cleaning up Marcus Stoinis for just 1, leaving Punjab reeling at 114/6 in 13.5 overs.

It was then left to South African all-rounder Marco Jansen and Shashank Singh to steady the ship. The duo stitched together an unbeaten 41-run stand for the seventh wicket, guiding PBKS to a respectable total. Shashank remained unbeaten on 31 off 33 balls, while Jansen contributed a valuable 25 off 20 deliveries.

Brief Scores: PBKS: 157/6 (Prabhsimran Singh 33, Shashank Singh 31*, Krunal Pandya 2/25) lost to RCB: 159/3 in 18.5 overs (Virat Kohli 73*, Devdutt Padikkal 61, Harpreet Brar 1/27).

Anahat Singh, Veer Chotrani advance to World Squash Championships



KUALA LUMPUR : Indian squash stars Anahat Singh and Veer Chotrani have advanced to the World Squash Championships 2025 following wins in their respective finals at Asian qualifiers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Sunday.

The 17-year-old Anahat will be India's lone player in the women's singles competition at the World Squash Championships, which are scheduled in Chicago, USA, from May 9 to 17, as per Olympics.com.

Anahat, an Asian Games bronze medalist, who was seeded fifth in the Asian qualifiers, defeated Hong Kong's Toby Tse 3-1 (11-4, 9-11, 11-2, 11-8) to secure her spot in the top tournament in Chicago. The current world number 63 did not drop any game in the qualifiers before the final.

Another Indian, Akanksha Salunkhe, the world number 70 and second seed, advanced to the quarterfinals but lost to Tse by 3-1.

Tanvi Khanna, who knocked out Hong Kong's top seed Cheng NgaChing in the women's singles opener, could not make it past the

quarterfinals.

Anahat will be making her senior squash world championships in Chicago and is in line to lock horns with world number 23 England's Katie Maliff in the first round. Also, another player making her debut in the championships is Veer Chotrani. The 23-year-old was the second seed and beat the local favourite Ameeshenraj Chandan, the third seed, 3-0 (11-3, 11-4, 11-8) in the final to secure his spot for Chicago. He will be joining fellow Indians Ramit Tandon, Abhay Singh and Velavan Senthilkumar in the men's singles draw in the World Squash Championships 2025. His campaign opener will be against the 25th-seeded Englishman Declan James, while Ramit Tandon, the 32nd seed, will face Japan's Ryunosuke Tsukue. Senthilkumar will be taking on defending world champion Diego Elias of Peru in the first round, and Abhay Singh will kickstart his campaign in Chicago against Switzerland's Nicolas Mueller.



Gurugram athletes, MMF unite to combat pollution with urban forests

GURUGRAM : Gurugram's athletic community has joined forces with the Million Miyawaki Foundation (MMF) in an initiative to tackle air pollution. Led by Ironwoman triathlete Rani Maheshwari, The Good Sole Club (TGSC), a collective of passionate runners, cyclists, and triathletes, collaborated with MMF to plant a dense mini-forest at Suraj School, Sector 56, Gurugram.

Inspired by MMF's vision of uniting communities for cleaner air, Maheshwari, one of only eight Indian women to complete an Ironman, rallied TGSC to address Gurgaon's severe air quality issues. The Million Miyawaki Project, spearheaded by MMF with support from Rise Foundation, has already successfully cultivated 34 urban forests in the Delhi-NCR region. Utilizing the innovative Miyawaki technique, these compact 2000 sqft plots rapidly grow into self-sustaining forests of 600 native trees within two years, each hosting 20-25 species. A unique aspect of this project is the active engagement of school children. MMF partners with schools, empowering students to become environmental ambassadors. They learn firsthand how each mature mini-forest can generate enough oxygen for over 2,400 people, reduce dust, and lower local temperatures, creating vital pockets of clean air within urban environments, according to the MMF press release. MMF actively seeks the involvement of diverse communities--including groups like TGSC, schools, colleges, corporations, and Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs)--to drive urban rewilding through collective action and foster a positive shift in the environmental landscape.

Reliance Foundation athletes brace for Asian Championships with record contingent at Federation Cup



NEW DELHI : Athletes supported by Reliance Foundation will be setting their sights on securing their berths at the Asian Championships next month when they take part in the 28th Federation Cup in Kochi from April 21 to April 24. Thirty-nine athletes from Reliance Foundation will be competing at the event.

Reliance Foundation, in collaboration with the Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital, will also be setting up a recovery centre at the competition after the success of the initiative at the National Games earlier this year, where Reliance Foundation athletes recorded their best performance ever, a release said.

A total of 11 athletes from Reliance Foundation, including national record holders Jyothi Yarraji and Gurindervir Singh, have already breached the qualification mark for the Asian Championships.

Gurindervir shattered the 100m national record last month and is eager to continue his fine form. "I'm really looking forward to this competition and am confident of doing well because I have worked very hard in the build-up and put in a lot of work in the pre-season with the coaches and the support staff at Reliance Foundation."

James Hillier, Athletics Director at the Reliance Foundation, said, "It's an extremely important competition. Our athletes have been in fine form with as

many as 11 meeting the qualification standard for the Asian Championships, with a few of them doing it in multiple events. A lot of our other athletes have come very close to the qualification standard. So we expect them to be able to achieve it in this competition."

"We are taking this Championships extremely seriously as our ultimate goal is to develop athletes who can succeed at the international stage and this competition will serve as the selection trial for the Asian Championships. We have focused on our athletes being the best prepared and peaking at the right time and then building up to the continental championships. We also have 22 support staff members travelling with our athletes to keep them in the best possible shape."

Apart from Jyothi (100m hurdles and 200m) and Gurindervir (100m), Kishore Jena and Vikrant Malik (javelin throw), Moumita Mondal (long jump), Savan Barwal (5000m and 10000m), Kiran Matre (5000m and 10000m), Manikanta Hoblihar (100m) and Mohammed Afsal (800m) will all be aiming for a top two finish after already meeting the Asian Championships qualification standard earlier in the year.

National record holders Tejas Shire (110m hurdles) and Amlan Borgohain (200m) as well as Jesvin Aldrin (long jump) and Animesh Kujur (100m and 200m) will be among the other big names in action at the championships.

Pakistan T20I captain Salman Agha hints at return of Farhan, Hasan to national team

KARACHI : Pakistan T20I captain Salman Ali Agha hinted at the prospect of opener Sahibzada Farhan and seasoned seamer Hasan Ali returning to the national setup by citing their blistering performances in the ongoing Pakistan Super League (PSL).

Salman, a member of Islamabad United, the defending champions, has mapped out his goals for the 10th edition of Pakistan's premier T20 tournament. He aims to contribute to Islamabad's pursuit of the fourth PSL trophy while also scouting for future players for Pakistan's national team.

"My effort is to perform for Islamabad United while also monitoring players who could serve Pakistan in future. I'll be watching the form and fitness of players who might play for Pakistan in future under my captaincy," Agha told Geo News.

Salman remained tight-lipped about naming specific youngsters who have caught his attention. However, he didn't shy away from singing a verse in praise of Hasan and Farhan, the two standout performers in the PSL, who have been missing from the national fold since January 2024 and January 2025, respectively.

"Only 2-3 matches have been



played so far - it's early in the tournament. After 7-8 matches, we'll see who performs consistently. But the way Ali is bowling is commendable and Farhan's current form can't go unnoticed," he

added.

Farhan has played a fundamental role in Islamabad's unbeaten run in the tournament. With his rollicking performances, Farhan has hammered 184 runs in three innings at an emphatic average of 61.33 and is the leading run-getter in the tournament.

Meanwhile, Hasan, the all-time leading wicket-getter in PSL, has been the Karachi Kings' prime weapon with the ball in the ongoing edition. With his lethal pace and tenacious lengths, Hasan has scythed eight scalps in three innings at a mouth-watering average of 12.37 and occupies the second spot in the list of leading wicket-takers in the current season. Salman gave his take on the current trend in modern-day cricket where batters unleash a relentless onslaught on the bowlers, resulting in high-scoring affairs. In such a scenario, Pakistan have struggled to meet the current standard of T20 cricket. Their recent 4-1 T20 series defeat in New Zealand serves as a reminder of their shambolic run in the format in the international circuit. Despite their woes, Salman expressed confidence in the current pool of players to match the standards of modern-day cricket.

IPL 2025: HPCA officials offer special prayers at Indru Nag Dev Temple to organise successful matches in Dharamshala

DHARAMSHALA : The officials of Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA) offered special prayers at the Indru Nag Dev Temple in Khaniyara village near Dharamshala on Sunday morning.

Before every match, HPCA offers prayers at the Indru Nag Temple in Dharamshala, seeking blessings of Lord Indra for the successful conduct of the match and that rain will be kept at bay.

Three matches will be played here on May 4, 8 and 11. Punjab Kings will play its first match with Lucknow on May 4, second with Delhi on May 8 and third match with Mumbai Indians on May 11.

Vishal Sharma, Joint Secretary, HPCA, stated that the cricket association seeks the guidance and blessings of Lord Indra for conducting successful matches. He expressed confidence in organising the three matches of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 by HPCA at the Dharamshala Cricket Stadium, with the support of HPCA officers and members.

"Whenever HPCA has to organise a successful event and whenever it gets any event from the Board, HPCA always comes under the refuge of Indranathji, and blessings are taken from here. We will successfully organise the match, which includes all three matches we have got. All the officers of HPCA are here, and other members are also present," Sharma told ANI.

In IPL 2025, Punjab Kings (PBKS) have scheduled three matches to be played at the HPCA Stadium in Dharamshala. These matches include: Punjab Kings vs Lucknow Super Giants on May 4th, Punjab Kings vs Delhi Capitals on May 8th, and Punjab Kings vs Mumbai Indians on May 11th.

Punjab is placed in third position in the points table with five wins out of their seven matches so far in the ongoing IPL. PBKS last played Royal Challengers Bengaluru in a rain-interrupted match, which was reduced to 14 overs per side. Punjab won the match by five wickets.

The Shreyas Iyer-led PBKS are all set to lock horns with Rajat Patidar's RCB in Match 37 of the ongoing IPL 2025 at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Cricket Stadium in Mullanpur on Sunday, April 20.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru Squad: Philip Salt, Virat Kohli, Rajat Patidar(c), Liam Livingstone, Jitesh Sharma(w), Tim David, Krunal Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Josh Hazlewood, Suyash Sharma, Yash Dayal, Devdutt Padikkal, Rasikh Dar Salam, Manoj Bhandage, Jacob Bethell, Swapnil Singh, Lungi Ngidi, Romario Shepherd, Nuwan Thushara, Mohit Rathee, Swastik Chikara, Abhinandan Singh.

Punjab Kings Squad: Prabhsimran Singh, Priyansh Arya, Shreyas Iyer(c), Nehal Wadhwa, Shashank Singh, Josh Inglis(w), Marcus Stoinis, Marco Jansen, Harpreet Brar, Xavier Bartlett, Arshdeep Singh, Yuzvendra Chahal, Vijay Kumar Vyshak, Glenn Maxwell, Suryansh Shedge, Praveen Dube, Yash Thakur, Vishnu Vinod, Aaron Hardie, Azmatullah Omarzai, Kuldeep Sen, Harnoor Singh, Musheer Khan, Pyla Avinash.

Odisha inaugurates Khelo India Centers in every district

BHUBANESWAR : In a significant step towards strengthening grass-roots sports infrastructure, Khelo India Centers have been inaugurated across all districts of Odisha under the joint support of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and the State Sports and Youth Services Department. The initiative, launched under the guidance of Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, aims to develop world-class sports infrastructure and nurture young talent across the state.

These centers are designed to provide athletes with access to quality training and modern facilities for a range of sports, including football, volleyball, hockey, athletics, kho-kho, kabaddi, and more. All essential amenities required for athletes' development will be made available.

To ensure efficient operation and management, each center will receive an annual grant of Rs. 5 lakh from the government.

Marking the occasion, Odisha Sports Minister Suryabanshi Suraj told the reporters, "In every district of Odisha, Khelo India Centers have been established. Starting today, the Kalinga Super Cup -- one of the elite football tournaments in the country will be held at the iconic Kalinga Stadium, creating a vibrant atmosphere for football lovers across the region." The stage is set for the fifth edition of the Kalinga Super Cup, kicking off on Sunday in Bhubaneswar. Since its inception in 2018, the tournament has grown into India's premier domestic knockout football competition. This year's edition carries added significance, with a coveted spot in the AFC Champions League 2 Preliminary Round on the line, according to the official website of ISL.

So far, ISL sides have dominated the tournament, with Bengaluru FC, FC Goa, Odisha FC, and East Bengal FC lifting the trophy. Notably, the Blues, the Red and Gold Brigade, and the Kalinga Warriors are the only clubs to have reached the final more than once.