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Morning India

Digha will be hot spot for international tourism and pilgrimage site

MI News Service, Digha: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced here on Monday that Digha will soon grow into an “international tourist destination” after the newly-built Jagannath Temple is inaugurated on April 30.

Digha is a popular sea resort town in Purba Medinipore district in the southern part of West Bengal.

Speaking to newsmen after reaching here this afternoon to personally see the last minute preparations of the big even on Wednesday, Mamata Banerjee said that the temple will serve as a place for congregation of millions of people and devotees from across the globe for the next several thousand years to become one of the most sought after destination for pilgrimage unlike anywhere else in the country.

Soon after her arrival here, accompanied by several ministers and top government officials, ahead of its formal consecration on Akshaya Tritiya the Chief Minister toured the temple premises and interacted with priests to discuss the even the minute details of the huge event.

Hailing the uniqueness of the temple's architecture and calling it a "fusion of spirituality and harmony" that reflects Bengal's ancient heritage,she expressed hope that the temple would boost tourism in Digha which we have never seen before. " Millions of People who visit Digha for its pristine beaches round the year, will now turn towards the added benefit of offering pujas at this new pilgrimage site and will attract even more visitors."

As the Pre-consecration rituals are already in progress, a Shanti Yajna (peace ritual), led by Rajesh Dayitapatri from Puri Temple, has been going on since last Thursday. ISKCON's Vice President Radharaman Das and around 60 devotees from various ISKCON branches are participating in the ceremonies. Rituals like milk baths for Lord

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Jagannath Dham at Digha, set to be inaugurated by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday, offers a serene and spiritual haven, where tranquility envelops every corner, inviting peace and reflection.
Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

Digha will not only attract tourists, but also large number of pilgrims at Jagannath Dham temple, says Mamata Banerjee

MI News Service, Digha: A new chapter in Digha's history is about to unfold as the pristine beaches of this immensely popular sea resort in south Bengal across the country as a prime tourist destination, is now poised to become a revered pilgrimage site too.

On Wednesday, coinciding with the auspicious occasion of Akshaya Tritiya, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will formally inaugurate the newly constructed Jagannath Dham temple heralding a fusion of tourism and spirituality.

The Chief Minister, accompanied by a number of her cabinet colleagues including Chandrima Bhattacharya, Aroop Biswas and Sujit Basu, besides State Director General of Police Rajiv Kumar and Kolkata ISKCON Vice President Radharman Das, arrived in Digha on Monday afternoon by helicopter.

While speaking to media at the Digha helipad on her arrival, the Chief minister expressed confidence that following the inauguration of the new Jagannath Dham temple, the tourism industry not only in Digha but in neighbouring areas too would flourish further by manifold.. Fueled by the spiritual magnetism of this unique temple from now “ Digha will not only attract more beach loving tourists but simultaneously large number of pilgrims and devotees also from all corners of the country and even from abroad. This new pilgrimage site will provide a fresh dimension to the state tourism industry and revive the local economy to a great extent,” she stated.

Mamata Banerjee also narrated Bengal's rich spiritual heritage and referred to Sri Chaitanya Dev's legendary devotion to Lord Jagannath, symbolically linked to the very seashore where the temple now stands. "This history belongs to our Bengal," she asserted. Before her departure from Dumurjala Stadium in Howrah, the Chief Minister urged everyone to uphold unity, harmony, and peace across the nation, emphasizing, "Stay well, and maintain brotherhood among yourselves."

Meanwhile, a festive atmosphere has gripped



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee conducted an on-site inspection of the preparations and arrangements at Digha ahead of the grand inauguration of the Jagannath Temple scheduled on April 30. As part of the ceremonial proceedings, priests were seen performing yajna to invoke blessings for the wellness and prosperity of the region, in Purba Medinipur on Monday.
Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

the entire resort town of Digha and its neighbourhood ahead of the grand inauguration of the temple on the auspicious Akshaya Tritiya day on Wednesday.

Elaborate arrangements have already been made to ensure a fool proof security of not only in and around the entire temple complex but also in the entire township with hundreds of police personnel and plain clothesmen requisitioned from all nearby districts, are being deployed for smooth management of security and traffic along the national highways and at the adjacent huge parking lots near the temple complex. The new new Jagannath Dham temple of Digha , similar to that of the famous Jagannath temple of Puri in Odisha, is also known for its exquisite

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J-K Assembly passes resolution denouncing Pahalgam attack; CM admits his failure

MI News Service, Jammu : The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly unanimously passed a resolution on Monday expressing deep shock and anguish over the 'barbaric' terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22 and resolved to fight resolutely to defeat the nefarious designs to disturb communal harmony and hinder progress in the Union Territory.

The resolution, moved by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary during a special session of the Assembly, was passed by voice vote.

As soon as the House sat for the one day special session to condemn the heinous attack on innocent tourists and civilians, the members observed a two-minute silence to pay homage to the 26 people killed in the tragedy last week.

"The Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir reaffirms its unwavering commitment to foster an environment of peace, development, and inclusive prosperity for all its citizens, and to resolutely defeat the nefarious designs of those who seek to disturb the communal harmony and progress of the nation and of Jammu and Kashmir," the resolution stated.

Concluding a discussion on the resolution, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also holds the tourism portfolio, condemned the Pahalgam terrorist attack and admitted that he failed in his responsibility of ensuring a safe return for tourists.

"The security in Jammu and Kashmir is not the responsibility of the elected government, but I will not use this opportunity (terror attack) to seek statehood. How can I push for statehood using the Pahalgam terror attack?"

Underlining the impact of the ghastly attack on the entire country, he said, "From north to south and from east to west... from Arunachal to Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir to Kerala... the entire country has been affected by this attack."

Abdullah said the Baisaran attack took place after a gap of 21 years. "We thought such attacks were a story of the past. Unfortunately, this (Pahalgam) attack has recreated a situation we hoped had been left behind. We never know when another such attack might take place. I do not have the words to seek forgiveness from the families who lost their dear ones," he said.

The chief minister, however, noted that even in the face of this inhuman and dastardly attack, a new ray of hope has emerged from Kashmir.

"For the first time in many years, I witnessed protests that were truly unified. No political party or leader orchestrated them, and no

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Delhi govt launches free Rs 10 lakh health scheme for senior citizens of 70 years and above

MI News Service, New Delhi : The three month old Delhi government launched the much-awaited 'Ayushman Vay Vandana' health scheme here on Monday , offering free health treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh each to citizens of 70 years and above in the city.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri distributed the first Vay Vandana cards to beneficiaries at an event in the capital amid huge enthusiasm.

Under this scheme, yearly medical assistance worth Rs 5 lakh will be provided free of cost. Additionally, Rs 5 lakh coverage will be provided under the Delhi government's scheme, making the total health cover Rs 10 lakh for each beneficiary.

Under the Vay Vandana Yojana, each registered senior citizen will be provided with a unique health card. This card will securely store their complete health record, regular health check-up information, and emergency

service details.

Under this scheme, all health tests for citizens aged 70 years and above in Delhi will be conducted absolutely free of cost.

Gupta earlier posted on X, "Serving the elderly is our top priority. Now, the Centre and Delhi governments together are providing health coverage of up to Rs 10 lakh to senior citizens aged 70 and above. Secure the health of your loved ones – get the Ayushman Vaya Vandana Card today.#ViksitDelhi

#AyushmanDelhi70Plus".

Launching this its ambitions health insurance scheme under Ayushman health cards to people aged 70 years and above, making them eligible for free medical treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh, the 'Ayushman Vay Vandana Scheme' is proposed to be offered to six lakh beneficiaries in phases, is part of a promise made by the ruling BJP ahead of Assembly elections which saw the party end its 27-year drought in Delhi politics.

As Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta launched the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari and other senior leaders said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guarantee was now being fulfilled.m The launch event was held at Thyagaraj Stadium, marking a major step in providing free healthcare to Delhi's elderly population. The event saw the participation of top BJP leaders and

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Advanced preparations begin to resume Kailash Manasarovar Yatra

MI News Service, New Delhi / Beijing : Advanced preparations at different levels have started between China and India before the resumption of the much awaited Kailash Manasarovar Yatra for Indian pilgrims in the middle of summer this June, the Chinese Foreign Ministry officials reportedly said on Monday. The Yatra will be resumed after a gap of five years after its initial suspension in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic. Indian pilgrimage to Mt Kailash and Manasarovar in the Tibetan autonomous region of

China is an important part of the cultural and people-to-people exchange between the two countries, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here.

After a gap of nearly five years, India and China will resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from June -- a move being seen as an attempt to normalise their relationship that was severely hit by the eastern Ladakh border standoff. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Monday that the Yatra is set to take place from

June to August via two routes -- Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La in Sikkim. The pilgrimage to Mount Kailash and Mansarovar Lake in China's Tibet Autonomous Region holds religious significance to Hindus as well as Jains and Buddhists. "Kailash Manasarovar Yatra organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is set to take place during June to August 2025," the MEA said. The Yatra was suspended initially in

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Police detain member of United Teaching and Non-Teaching Forum 2016 during their protest in Kolkata.

Tension erupts over anti-India social media post, protests at police station, several detained

MI News Service, Shantipur: A controversial social media post praising Pakistani soldiers and making derogatory remarks about the Indian Army has triggered massive outrage in Shantipur in Nadia district on Monday. The accused, identified as Sharif Sheikh from Tengridanga village under Gayeshpur Panchayat in Shantipur allegedly posted inflammatory comments that quickly went viral. Subsequent

protest. The demonstrators demanded the immediate arrest of the accused and called for sedition charges to be filed against him. They expressed anger over such anti-India sentiments being spread while living on Indian soil, and raised suspicions of the accused's possible links to extremist groups. For nearly an hour, intense demonstrations continued outside the police station, prompting the deployment of a large police force to maintain order. Protesters criticized the authorities for alleged inaction and demanded swift and strict legal action. According to police sources, an investigation has been launched and appropriate action will be taken against the accused.



ly locals demonstrated before Shantipur police station and police detained the concerned youth, police sources said. Following the circulation of the post, hundreds of local residents gathered in front of the Shantipur police station on Monday morning, staging a strong

Wife and son seriously injured in attack by absconding husband

MI News Service, Malda: A shocking incident in Malda's Gajol has left a woman and her teenager son critically injured after the woman's husband allegedly attacked them indiscriminately with a sharp weapon, leaving multiple stab wounds before absconding.

A 32-year-old woman, Monty Barman, and her 14-year-old son are in critical condition at Malda Medical College Hospital following a violent attack in their Saratpally home within the Gajol block. The incident occurred on Monday and allegedly involved Monty Barman's husband, who is now absconding. According to police reports and local sources, the attack stemmed from a family dispute. The accused reportedly used a sharp weapon, believed to be a razor, to inflict multiple stab wounds on both

his wife and son. The son sustained injuries while attempting to protect his mother. The screams of the victims alerted neighbors, who rushed to the scene and facilitated their immediate transfer to Gajol State General Hospital. Due to the severity of their injuries, both were subsequently moved to Malda Medical College Hospital for advanced medical care.

Local residents have indicated a history of discord between Monty Barman and her husband. Following the incident, the accused fled the scene and remains at large.

The Gajol police have launched a comprehensive investigation into the attack and have initiated a search operation to apprehend the accused. The incident has caused significant alarm and concern within the local community.

Dark days for Khanakul Hospital, 24-hours without electricity

MI News Service, Hooghly: Patients at rural hospital Khanakul, Hooghly are enduring sweltering heat and complete darkness as the facility has been without electricity for 24-hours, raising care and concerns about patients care and promoting some suggest treatment at home.

A critical power outage has left patients at a rural hospital in Khanakul, Hooghly, in complete darkness for the past 24 hours, raising serious concerns about the delivery of essential healthcare services. The absence of a functional generator to provide backup power during the outage has exacerbated the already challenging conditions within the facility. Patients are reportedly enduring sweltering heat and relying on makeshift lighting, such as torches, to navigate their surroundings. The prolonged power cut has prompted some local residents to question the preparedness of the emergency institution, with some suggesting that treatment at home might be preferable under such circumstances. The hospital authorities have yet to provide a public explanation for the extensive power outage and the lack of immediate backup. Local

residents have highlighted that the power disruptions extend beyond the hospital, with the entire Khanakul area frequently plunged into darkness even after minor rainfall, indicating a broader infrastructure issue. They describe the rural hospital's current state as reflective of this persistent problem. Amidst the crisis, political tensions have surfaced. Khanakul BJP MLA Sushant Ghosh has alleged that his efforts to donate a 63 KV generator to the hospital were thwarted by members of the Trinamool Congress. He further claimed that he is being obstructed from utilizing his allocated funds for essential improvements, lamenting the daily occurrence of darkness within the hospital, which he argues severely impedes medical procedures. "Even a doctor will struggle to administer an injection accurately in such conditions," he stated. However, these accusations have been strongly refuted by local Trinamool leaders, setting the stage for a political dispute amidst the ongoing healthcare crisis in Khanakul. The focus remains on the urgent need to restore power to the hospital and implement reliable backup systems to ensure uninterrupted patient care.

Boy ends life fearing low marks, actually scored 70%

MI News Service, North Dinajpur: In a tragic incident in Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, a 12-year-old Class VI student of Coronation High School, Ayush, died by suicide, mistakenly believing he had failed his exams and would be scolded by his parents. A suicide note was found, revealing his fears. School sources later confirmed that Ayush had actually scored between 60 and 70 percent, with marks above 70 in most subjects, highlighting the devastating impact of misinformation and anxiety.

A pall of grief has fallen over Raiganj following the suicide of a 12-year-old Class VI student from Coronation High School. The young boy, identified as Ayush, reportedly took this extreme step out of fear of parental reprimand after mistakenly believing he had performed poorly in his recent examinations.

According to school sources, the distribution of report cards was scheduled for Monday. However, Ayush had somehow received erroneous information suggesting he had obtained low marks. Tragically, the actual results revealed that he had secured between 60 and 70 percent overall, even exceeding 70 percent in the majority of his subjects. This misinformation apparently triggered significant mental distress and anxiety in the young boy, leading to his devastating decision. A suicide note was recovered from the scene.

The headmaster of Raiganj Coronation High School expressed profound shock and sadness over the incident. He emphasized the critical importance of heightened parental awareness and vigilance regarding their children's emotional well-being. The body of the deceased student was sent to the Raiganj Medical College morgue for post-mortem examination on Monday.

3 Children all under 9, found dead in water

MI News Service, Birbhum: Resident of Bara village in Birbhum discovered the bodies of three children, aged 4, 5, and 8 floating in the local pond on Monday, after they went missing while playing nearby.

A pall of grief has descended upon Bara village under the Nalhati police station following the tragic drowning of three young children. The incident, which occurred on Monday, claimed the lives of Nasrin Khatun (4), Noorani Khatun (5), and Tamim Sheikh (8).

According to local sources, residents of the Uorpara area of Bara village discovered the children floating in a local pond. Despite immediate rescue efforts, all three were pronounced dead. Preliminary investigations suggest the children may have accidentally fallen into the pond and drowned while playing unsupervised near the water's edge.

A neighbor of one of the deceased children recounted that the three were playing on the pond's bank unattended. After approximately half an hour, their families initiated a search, which tragically led to the discovery of their bodies in the water. It has been reported that two of the three children belonged to the same family.

Upon receiving news of the devastating incident, officials from the Nalhati-2 block administration and officers from the Nalhati police station promptly arrived at the scene. The community is now grappling with the profound loss of these young lives.

Cyber Crime awareness program

MI News Service, Kolkata: Cyber Crime awareness program was held in Loyala High School, Mominpore on April 23 2025, Wednesday for classes 10, 11 and 12. It was attended by around 200 students. Safe use of Digital gadgets and do's and don'ts of online transactions and digital crime were discussed. DC sir addressed the gathering and requested the safe and inevitable use of digital technology. Dr Sanjay Gupta requested the students to spread the Digital knowledge imparted by Kolkata Police to their friends and family members and elders also.

Hospital faces negligence claim in youth's death, chaos erupts

MI News Service, Durgapur: Accusations of medical negligence have engulfed a private hospital in Durgapur following the death of a 32-year-old man, Niranjana Dewasi, who was initially admitted with chest pain. After being transferred from ESI Hospital, his death was announced on Monday morning, triggering angry protests and allegations from his family, who claim negligence and cite disturbing observations of his condition before his passing.

A private hospital in Durgapur is facing serious allegations of medical negligence following the death of a 32-year-old man, Niranjana Dewasi, a resident of the Gangbil area of Kanksar. Dewasi, a contract worker at a private steel factory in Angatpur, Durgapur, was admitted to ESI Hospital in Durgapur after experiencing chest pain while at work. He was subsequently transferred to the private hospital on Sunday night.

The situation escalated on Monday morning when hospital authorities informed Dewasi's family of his demise. Enraged and alleging medical negligence as the cause of death, family members and relatives immediately initiated a protest. The main entrance of the hospital was reportedly blocked, and heated arguments ensued between the protestors and hospital administration. Upon the arrival of law enforcement, the demonstrating crowd allegedly surrounded the police and continued their agitation.



According to the deceased's family, Dewasi was initially admitted to ESI Hospital due to chest pain. His transfer to the private medical college hospital followed. The family further alleges that they were initially denied access to see Niranjana and were only permitted to see him briefly later. They claim to have expressed their desire to transfer Niranjana to another medical facility, but were assured by the hospital that he would recover. On Monday morning, some family members reportedly gained forceful entry to see Niranjana, at which point they claim to have observed blood emanating from his mouth and his limbs restrained. Shortly thereafter, doctors declared Niranjana deceased. The family firmly believes that his death was a direct result of medical negligence on the part of the hospital. As of now, no official statement or response has been issued by the hospital authorities regarding these serious allegations. The situation remains tense as protestors demand accountability.

Chandannagar lights adorn Digha temple, artist's 200 kin work tirelessly

MI News Service, Chandannagar: Digha is aglow with Chandannagar lights as artist Jayanta Das and his 200 workers tirelessly decorate the Jagannath Temple premises for its April 30 inauguration by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The temple and surrounding areas are being illuminated with Jagannath-themed designs, creating a festive atmosphere in the coastal town.

The coastal town of Digha is currently undergoing a vibrant transformation as elaborate Chandannagar lighting installations illuminate the Jagannath Temple and its surrounding areas. Preparations are in full swing for the inauguration of the newly constructed temple on April 30th, coinciding with Akshaya Tritiya, an event slated to be officiated by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

ter Mamata Banerjee.

Esteemed Chandannagar-based light artist Jayanta Das was awarded the contract to undertake this significant decorative endeavor. Over the past month, Das and his team of approximately 200 artisans have been diligently crafting and transporting intricate lighting structures from Chandannagar to Digha. Shipments of lights commenced on April 18th, with further consignments arriving as recently as Monday.

The illumination extends across several kilometers of Digha's thoroughfares, stretching from New Digha to Old Digha. Impressive high-rise light gates and structures featuring artistic renditions of deities Jagannath, Balaram, and Subhadra now adorn the roads. The diverse lighting techniques employed include LED strips integrated into iron frameworks, glossy signage, and thematic displays vividly portraying Jagannath Dev. Accompanying these central figures are illuminated depictions of traditional symbols such as weapons, flowers, and conch shells.

The areas immediately surrounding the Jagannath Temple are expected to be fully illuminated by the eve of the inauguration. Despite intermittent Kalbaisakhi storms, the dedicated workforce is committed to completing the intricate lighting arrangements expeditiously. The increasing influx of visitors to Digha underscores the anticipation surrounding the temple's opening and the captivating spectacle of Chandannagar's renowned light artistry.

Indian Army to deploy with arms in North Bengal next week

MI News Service, Siliguri: Amidst heightened national tension following the Pahalgam incident and increased military activity across the Eastern Command activity across the Eastern Command and border regions, the Indian Army is set to conduct a significant military drill in North Bengal on May 8, involving both conventional weapons and artillery.

In the aftermath of the Pahalgam incident, the Indian Army is gearing up for a significant military exercise in North Bengal, scheduled for May 8. This development follows increased aerial activity in the region, with Rafale fighter jets observed in the skies, and coincides with heightened military movements across the Eastern Command and deployments along the Pakistan border in Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Punjab, as the army undertakes special operations in Kashmir.

While speculation arises whether this major drill is intended as a deterrent to neighboring nations like Pakistan and China, army sources indicate a broader context of heightened national security. According to these sources, a "wartime atmosphere" has permeated the country since the Pahalgam attack, prompting the armed forces to adopt a posture of maximum readiness. Current military activities are reportedly being conducted with a potential for armed conflict in mind. As part of this comprehensive preparedness strategy, emphasis is also being placed on the mental resilience of soldiers, with increased focus on meditation and yoga practices. The upcoming drill in North Bengal is not limited to small arms exercises but will involve the deployment and utilization of artillery. Furthermore, a coordinated message of readiness is being conveyed by other branches of the Indian military. On Sunday, the Indian Navy released a video on social media showcasing its BrahMos missile capabilities, demonstrating its capacity to engage distant adversaries from the Arabian Sea. Similarly, the Indian Air Force has signaled peak levels of preparedness. These concerted actions across the armed forces have intensified following the Prime Minister's strong condemnation of the Pahalgam attack and his pledge of "severe punishment." Experts suggest that the Ministry of Defense is likely to announce significant strategic measures in the near future, underscoring a heightened state of alert and readiness within the Indian military apparatus.

'I will not return home without my husband': BSF Jawan's wife leaves for Pathankot with determination

MI News Service, Hooghly: The government is making all efforts to bring back BSF jawan Purnam Kumar from Pakistan Rangers. Meanwhile, the pregnant wife of the BSF jawan has prepared to go to Pathankot. Purnam's wife, Rajni Saw, is ready to go wherever necessary to bring back her husband. It is reported that a group of six, including Rajni Saw, left for Pathankot on Monday. Their eight-year-old child is also accompanying them. Before leaving for Pathankot, Rajni announced that she would go as far as possible to bring back her husband. She further said that if nothing is resolved in Pathankot, she would take the matter to the Prime Minister but would not return without her husband.

Meanwhile, Purnam's father, Bholanath Saw, expressed his frustration. He called on the Indian government to put pressure on Pakistan to bring his son back. On Monday morning, three BJP MLAs—Biman Ghosh of Purshura, Ambika Roy of Kalyani, and Pawan Singh of Bhattapara—visited Purnam Saw's house in Rishra. They spoke with the soldier's father and wife. Later, West Bengal Congress observer Amba Prasad also visited the house.

The BSF has assured that all possible assistance will be provided to Purnam's family. However, no new information has been provided about Purnam Kumar Saw, who was captured by Pakistan, causing increased anxiety for the family. Rajni stated, "BSF called me and offered help, but I can't trust them in any way. Six days



have passed, and I still don't understand what happened. If I don't get any response, I will go to Delhi. They keep saying he is fine, but he's not in India—he's in the hands of an enemy country. How can I not worry about him? I know the whole country is worried about my husband, but I don't know anything about his condition. How is he? Thinking all this, I had to leave the house. If I had known that he was fine, I wouldn't have been in this situation."

She added, "Everyone is focused on the incident in Kashmir. But if this continues for a year, will my husband be stuck there for a year? They aren't even telling us why they are holding him. A BSF jawan has been serving for 17 years and doesn't know his limits? They are saying he crossed the border!"

Rajni left her home in Rishra for Kolkata air-

Ganja Smuggling Attempt Foiled; One Arrested

MI News Service, Balurghat: Authorities in Balurghat have apprehended a 32-year-old individual, Kanchan Haldar, in connection with an attempt to smuggle a significant quantity of Manipuri ganja. The operation was disrupted on Monday following the interception of the contraband in the Bakshiganj area of Hili, believed to be destined for Bangladesh.

According to police reports, the ganja was initially transported by bus from Siliguri and unloaded in Patiram. Subsequently, it was moved towards Hili using a cart. Law enforcement officials successfully recovered the illicit substance before it could be smuggled across the border. The arrested individual, Kanchan Haldar, is a resident of Trimohini, Hili. A press briefing was convened at the Hili Police Station on Monday afternoon by DSP Headquarters Vikram Prasad, with Hili Police Station IC Shirshendu Das also in attendance. The Hili Police Station is currently conducting a thorough investigation to determine the precise route used for transporting the marijuana, its origin, and the potential involvement of other individuals in this smuggling network. The arrested suspect is scheduled to be presented before the Balurghat District Court today, with a request for a 13-day police custody to aid the ongoing investigation.

Lakhs in fake currency seized in Shamsherganj

MI News Service, Shamsherganj: Amidst recent tensions surrounding the Waqf Act in Shamsherganj, police have seized counterfeit currency worth approximately ₹1.6 million and arrested two youths, Alamin Sheikh (20) and Mr. Sheikh (21), from the Dhulian Gangaghat area. The suspects, residents of the Vaishnavnagar police station area in Malda, were transporting the fake ₹500 notes from Malda towards Shamsherganj when they were apprehended following a tip-off. Authorities are now investigating the origin and intended destination of the fake currency, as well as potential involvement of others in the racket.

tensions in Shamsherganj related to opposition to the Waqf Act.

Acting on confidential intelligence, law enforcement officials conducted a raid in the Dhulian Ghat area. During the operation, a substantial quantity of fake ₹500 denomination notes was discovered in the possession of the two suspects, leading to their immediate arrest.

The investigation indicates that the arrested individuals were transporting the counterfeit currency from Malda towards Shamsherganj. Following their apprehension, Alamin Sheikh and Mr. Sheikh were presented before the Jangipur court. The police have subsequently filed a request for a seven-day custodial remand to facilitate further inquiry into the matter.

Authorities are currently focused on ascertaining the precise intended destination of the fake currency and identifying the source of the counterfeit operation. The Shamsherganj police are also actively exploring the potential involvement of other individuals in this illicit trade.

In the Dhulian Gangaghat area of Shamsherganj, police have apprehended two individuals, identified as Alamin Sheikh (20) and Mr. Sheikh (21), both residents of the Vaishnavnagar police station jurisdiction in Malda district, in connection with the seizure of counterfeit Indian currency valued at approximately ₹1.6 million. The recovery follows a period of heightened local

'High zest Fashion Diva Season-2'



MI News Service, Kolkata: On April 27, at Park Prime Hotel in Kolkata, organized by Glamour Glow Fashion and its Founder Mousumi Bardhan, in associate with the Reporters and Photographers Association, the conceptual beauty pageant show 'High zest Fashion Diva Season-2' was held to honor the best Bengalis of Bengal. Best Bengaliana Award' to honor the best Bengalis | The ceremony was inaugurated by lighting the lamp on this day. Among the special personalities present were the organizer of the event, Mousumi Bardhan, designer Shyam Sundar Basu, actress Brinda Mukherjee, members of the Reports and Photographers Association Editor Anup Kumar Bardhan, Groomer Vihan Singh, Businessman Ratan Jhavar, Lawyer Devyani Ghosh and others.

A total of 48 contestants participated in this beauty pageant competition in various rounds in the Miss and Mister categories. Among the winners of this competition, Mousumi Pal won first in the Miss category, Bipasha Acharya and Subhecha Bagchi were the first and 2nd runners-up. Suman Gayen won first in the Mister category, Arnab Mitra and Akash Pandey were the first and 2nd runners-up. The special attraction of this event was the 'Best Bengali Award'. Those who were honored today include actor Bhaswar Chatterjee, actress Maubani Sarkar, director Parmिता Munshi, lawyer Debjani Ghosh, singers Sanchita Bhattacharya, Tania Kar, Deep Chatterjee, Abhishek Singh, and designer Shyam Sundar Basu. The entire program was hosted by supermodel Saptami Banerjee

Digha will not only attract...

►► **From PG 1**

architecture. However, prior to the formal inauguration of the temple a week-long yagna has been organised in anticipation of the opening ceremony.

On Monday, after reaching Digha Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee meticulously inspected the final touches at the temple premises, while expressing her admiration for the rapid but timely construction of this massive architecture marvel of the East. "The temple is architecturally magnificent. I thank all those who worked tirelessly to complete it in such a short time," she remarked. The ceremonial opening of Jagannath Dham temple is scheduled between 2:30 PM and 3:00 PM on Wednesday, after which the devotees will be allowed their first darshan of the deity. With the fusion of spiritual devotion and coastal allure, Digha stands on the brink of transforming into one of India's most cherished pilgrimage-tourist hubs.

J-K Assembly passes resolution.

►► **From PG 1**

organised banners or candlelight marches were planned. The outrage and grief were spontaneous, coming straight from the hearts of the people. Every mosque observed silence" he said.

Abdullah emphasised that this change must be encouraged and strengthened. "We must boost and nurture this spirit of unity, compassion, and resilience that has emerged from among the people themselves," he added.

Earlier in his speech while moving the resolution, Deputy CM Choudhary said, "This House expresses its profound shock and anguish at the barbaric and inhumane attack on innocent civilians in Pahalgam on April 22, 2025."

He reiterated the House's unequivocal condemnation of the heinous and cowardly act that resulted in the loss of innocent lives.

Quoting the resolution, Choudhary said, "Such acts of terror are a direct assault on the ethos of Kashmiriyat, the values enshrined in our Constitution, and the spirit of unity, peace, and harmony that have long characterized Jammu and Kashmir and our nation. This House stands in full solidarity with the victims and their families, the document stated. "We extend our deepest condolences to those who have suffered irreparable loss and affirm our collective resolve to share in their grief and support them in their hour of need." It mentioned the supreme sacrifice of pony ride operator Syed Adil Hussain Shah who laid down his life while trying to save the tourists from the terrorist attack. "His courage and selflessness embody the true spirit of

"This House is mindful of the sinister design behind the selective targeting of the victims of this attack. It appeals to all sections of society, and in particular the media, to not fall victim to this sinister plot by irresponsibly inflaming passions. The need to remain united in the face of this attempted division cannot be over emphasised."

It appealed to all states and Union territories to ensure the safety, dignity and well-being of Kashmiri students and citizens residing or travelling there, and to take all necessary measures to prevent their harassment, discrimination or intimidation.

"This House calls upon all political parties, religious and community leaders, youth organizations, civil society groups, and media houses across the nation to maintain calm, reject violence and divisive rhetoric, and work collectively to uphold peace, unity, and constitutional values," the resolution stated.

India signs Rs 63,000 crore...

►► **From PG 1**

Indian side in presence of several top officials of both the countries.. The Defence Ministers of both countries also attended the signing ceremony through video conferencing. Though the French Defence Minister was scheduled to attend the signing ceremony in person, he cancelled his visit due to personal reasons at the eleventh hour.

The country's both aircraft carriers urgently require new combat fighter jets for deployment, as the existing fleet of MiG-29 K fighters has reportedly underperformed due to maintenance-related issues. The Rafale combat aircraft is expected to be deployed on India's largest aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, which is currently in service, the sources said.. The government-to-government contract includes 22 single-seater and four twin-seater

Rafale M jets, customised for Indian requirements and carrier integration.

These carrier-borne fighters are being acquired as a stopgap solution until the development of India's own carrier-borne fighter jet is completed. The contract also encompasses a comprehensive package for maintenance, logistics, training, and indigenous component manufacturing.

The Rafale M jets will operate from INS Vikrant and support the existing MiG-29K fleet.

The Indian Air Force already operates a fleet of 36 Rafale aircraft acquired under a separate deal signed in 2016. These aircraft are based at Ambala in Punjab and Hasimara in West Bengal..

The new deal will raise the total number of Rafale jets in India to 62, significantly boosting the country's fleet of 4.5-generation fighter aircraft.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee visits Jagannath Temple in Digha to oversee preparations for its grand inauguration scheduled for April 30 (Wednesday), on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya, in Purba Medinipur.

Kolkata introduces 'Green Buffer' plan amid rising heat

MI News Service, Kolkata: With the scorching summer sun now blazing overhead, Kolkata's streets have become increasingly inhospitable for pedestrians seeking shade. However, large trees—once a familiar refuge—are rapidly disappearing from the cityscape. Due to natural calamities and indiscriminate cutting, iconic trees like the Krishnachura and Radhachura have dwindled in number, according to data from the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC). Faced with this environmental challenge, the KMC has introduced an innovative solution: the creation of "green buffers" along major roads. The initiative seeks to address multiple issues simultaneously—providing much-needed shade, reducing urban heat, enhancing oxygen levels, and curbing pollution. Officials believe the move will significantly benefit Kolkata's residents.

As part of the build-up to World Environment Day on June 5, a large-scale plantation drive has been planned across Bengal. However, within the densely packed urban fabric of Kolkata, space constraints make planting large trees exceedingly difficult. Major open spaces like the Maidan, where trees planted decades ago by the Forest Department continue to thrive, are rare exceptions. Most of those trees—banyan, sirish, and others—are now 30–35 years old.

In recent times, both the KMC and the Forest Department have planted saplings along stretches of the EM Bypass. KMC sources state that the Parks and Gardens Department is currently aiming to plant around 5,000 trees. Yet, space limitations persist, especially in North and South Kolkata. Plans are being drawn up to plant larger trees along Central Avenue, Rashbehari Avenue, Jadavpur, and Garia.

Repeated natural disasters have uprooted many mature trees, and though replanting efforts have been extensive—planting up to 50,000 saplings—soil erosion remains a major challenge. A recent survey by the State Horticulture Department found that the soil in much of Kolkata has become too loose, complicating the planting of large species like banyan, mahogany, and peepal.

To preserve Kolkata's green lungs, instructions have been sent to various agencies, including Metro Rail, Kolkata Airport, and the Port Trust, urging them to undertake tree-planting initiatives. As part of the green buffer plan, trees will now be planted in the central medians of roads where possible, instead of along the crowded pavements.

Though fast-disappearing Krishnachura trees remain a concern, small trees planted in the road dividers are already making a measurable difference—reducing pollution slightly and increasing oxygen levels across the city.

Hearing on cancellation of 32,000 primary teacher appts deferred in Cal HC

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant development regarding the alleged primary teacher recruitment scam, the hearing on the cancellation of 32,000 appointments has been postponed. The matter was listed for hearing before a Division Bench of the Calcutta High Court on Monday. However, the court has now rescheduled the proceedings, announcing that the hearing will formally commence from May 7.

Concerns have been mounting over the fate of the primary teachers impacted by the recruitment irregularities. Earlier, under an order issued by then Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay, the appointments of approximately 32,000 primary teachers were invalidated. The state government had subsequently challenged that decision before the Division Bench. As a result, uncertainty loomed large over the future of thousands of primary teachers whose appointments had been called into question.

Today's hearing was scheduled before the Division Bench headed by Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty. However, the court clarified that due to the scale and complexity of the case, and considering the large number of legal representatives involved, a structured procedure would be followed. Specifically, the court directed that only one advocate would present arguments on behalf of each side on common issues, rather than allowing individual submissions from all lawyers separately. The court has also instructed all parties to submit their written arguments and relevant documentation in advance to streamline the process.

The origins of this case trace back to the 2014 Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for primary education, where approximately 1.25 lakh candidates qualified. In 2016, the recruitment process commenced, eventually resulting in the appointment of 42,949 candidates. However, allegations surfaced that around 32,000 among them were "untrained" and that multiple irregularities had marred the recruitment process, including claims that proper interviews and aptitude tests had not been conducted.

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant development impacting the city's night-time traffic, Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Verma recently announced that vehicular movement on the Maa Flyover will remain suspended for seven hours every night over the course of one month. The move is aimed at facilitating essential maintenance work on the crucial arterial structure.

According to the announcement, starting from April 28 — that is, from the upcoming Monday — and continuing until May 27, the Maa Flyover will be closed to all vehicles daily between 11 PM and 6 AM. Maintenance operations will be actively conducted during these hours to ensure the structural integrity and long-term sustainability of the flyover, which serves as a key connector between the eastern and western parts of Kolkata.

In order to minimize inconvenience to commuters, Kolkata Police have devised and publicized an alternative traffic plan. Vehicles that typically travel from the EM Bypass towards the western sectors of the city via the Maa Flyover will now be rerouted. The alternative route will guide vehicles from the EM Bypass through Parama Island, along the PC Connector, over the No. 4 Bridge, onto New Park Street, through Amir Ali Avenue, and finally onto the AJC Bose Road Flyover (commonly known as the AJC Flyover).

Officials have clarified that while the night-time traffic suspension will remain strictly enforced during the maintenance period, daytime vehicular movement on the Maa Flyover will continue as usual. This arrangement has been made keeping in mind the city's heavy daytime traffic and to prevent large-scale disruption during peak hours.

The decision to undertake extensive night-time maintenance on the Maa Flyover underscores the administration's proactive approach towards infrastructure upkeep and road safety. Given the critical role that the Maa Flyover plays in Kolkata's daily commute, authorities have urged citizens to cooperate and plan their journeys accordingly during this period.

Maa Flyover to remain closed for seven hours every night for a month

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West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee held talks with priest, along with State DGP Rajeev Kumar, while inspecting the preparations ahead of the inauguration of the Jagannath Temple at Digha in Purba Medinipur on Monday.

Delhi govt launches free...

►► **From PG 1**

ministers. Apart from Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Delhi Health Minister Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Ministers Kapil Mishra, Ashish Sood, and BJP MP Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, were present alongside several party MLAs.

Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra remarked, "These schemes could have been implemented in Delhi earlier, but the previous government halted all the central health schemes. Today, every guarantee is being fulfilled. This was Prime Minister Modi's guarantee, and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has fulfilled this guarantee."

Bidhuri, who chaired the BJP's Delhi manifesto committee, said, "In our party's manifesto, we promised that the first Cabinet decision would be to implement Ayushman Bharat in Delhi. That promise has been kept."

Minister Ashish Sood praised the leadership, saying, "Under the guidance of Prime Minister Modi, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has fulfilled the announcement made by her."

Health Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh added, "I am deeply grateful that this is happening through my efforts. The Prime Minister's vision is now being realised on the ground."

BJP MLA Satish Upadhyay said, "From today, all senior citizens aged 70 and above will receive the Vay Vandana scheme card. Under the Prime Minister's Jan Arogya Yojana, everyone will be able to avail of cashless treatment in hospitals."

The Ayushman Vay Vandana Card will allow senior citizens to access cashless treatment at a vast network of empanelled hospitals.

Distribution of the cards began on Monday, with government officials stating that all eligible residents aged 70 and above would be gradually covered under the scheme.

Advanced preparations...

►► **From PG 1**

2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequently because of the military standoff between the two sides on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh. The militaries of India and China completed disengagement of troops at the two remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang under a pact sealed on October 21 last year. Two days later, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks in the Russian city of Kazan and agreed to revive various bilateral dialogue mechanisms.

Following the Modi-Xi talks, the two sides held a series of meetings in the last few months which were aimed at normalising the bilateral relations. In January, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri visited Beijing and held talks with his Chinese counterpart Sun Weidong. In the meeting, the two sides decided to resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra and agreed to take certain people-centric steps to "stabilise and rebuild" ties. "This year, five batches, each consisting of 50 Yatis, and 10 batches, each consisting of 50 Yatis, are scheduled to travel through Uttarakhand State crossing over at Lipulekh Pass, and through Sikkim state crossing over at Nathu La Pass, respectively," the MEA said.

The applications for the Yatra can be submitted at the website: kmy.gov.in, it noted. It said the Yatis will be selected from among applicants through a "fair, computer-generated, random and gender-balanced" selection process.

"Since 2015, the entire process commencing with on-line application till selection of Yatis is a fully computerised process," according to the MEA.

"Therefore, applicants do not need to send letters or fax to seek information. The feedback options on the website can be used for obtaining information, registering observations or making suggestions for improvement," it said.



Swapan Sadan Bose resigns as Mohun Bagan President

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a surprising turn of events, Swapan Sadan Bose known as Tutu, the long-time president of the prestigious Mohun Bagan Club, has resigned from his position, triggering a wave of speculation about the club's future direction. A significant figure in the club's history, Bose has been associated with the century-old institution for decades, bringing numerous successes to Mohun Bagan alongside his son, Srijan Basu. Under their leadership, the club has overcome multiple financial challenges and invested their personal resources to keep it running, including covering player expenses and infrastructure costs.

Notably, it was Bose and his son who facilitated Mohun Bagan's partnership with Sanjiv Goenka, a collaboration that has yielded major victories, including this season's Indian Super League Shield and Knockout Trophy.

In a statement released on Monday afternoon, Bose announced his resignation from the president's post, citing the upcoming elections as the driving force behind his decision. Speculation suggests that the recent "Green-Maroon Victory Festival" organized by the Kashipur Baranagar Members Forum, where Bose's younger son, Soumik Basu (Tublai), was seen alongside current secre-

Digha will be hot spot for international tourism...

►► **From PG 1**

Jagannath, Balam, Subhadra, and Sudarshan, along with other deities, have been completed. A grand Maha Yajna will be held on Tuesday, followed by the Pran Pratishtha (consecration ceremony) on Wednesday. Meanwhile, as part of an enhanced security measures more than 800 police men and women have been deployed around the temple, with additional forces brought in from neighboring districts. Strict traffic restrictions are in place on National Highway 116B from Old Digha to New Digha until Wednesday to ensure smooth proceedings. Mmamata Banerjee's visit underscores the state government's emphasis on religious tourism and cultural heritage, with the temple expected to emerge as a major spiritual destination in coastal Bengal. The grand inauguration on Akshaya Tritiya is anticipated to draw large crowds of several thousand devotees and tourists alike. The building of this unique temple is one of the Mamata Banerjee government's most ambitious projects, with the entire being borne by the state government.. The grand opening, which will follow a major Mahayajna ceremony scheduled for Tuesday. During her visit, Mamata Banerjee acknowledged the impact of the coastal environment on the region, noting that Digha is frequently affected by storms.

Name Change
After accepting Islam on & from 24/07/2023, I, Shyamali Murmu D/o. Sanatan Hansda known everywhere as Shyamali Bibi. I, Shyamali Bibi & Shyamali Murmu D/o. Sanatan Hansda is the same self & one identical person vide affidavit no. 18, dt. 28/04/2025 before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

Name Change
L.Ashok Kumar Pan (Old Name) S/O Kalachand Pan,Residing At D/20,Burdge Town,Ps-Kotwali, Dist -West Medinipur,Pin-721101,West Bengal,India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashok Pan (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. Ashok Kumar Pan (Old Name) And Ashok Pan (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Aftabuddin Khan (Old Name) S/O Mobarak Khan,Residing At Vill-Mirpur,Po-Chand Enayetnagar,Bishnupur,Dist-24 Parganas South, Pin-743503,West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Aftabuddin Khan (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/04/2025.Md Aftabuddin Khan (Old Name) And Aftabuddin Khan (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Dipanwita Das (Old Name) W/o Bijan Das Residing at Purbapara Uttar, Bagula, Vte-P.o - Bagula, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Dipanwita Das Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 65/2025 Dated 28-04-2025. Dipanwita Das (Old Name) and Dipanwita Das Mandal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Biplab Kumar Poddar (Old Name) S/o Late Narendranath Poddar Residing at Vill-P.o - Pallia, Ps - Gopalnagar, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743701 West Bengal have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Biplab Poddar (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Bongaon, North 24 Parganas, vide affidavit no 3735 Dated 03-04-2025. Biplab Kumar Poddar (Old Name) and Biplab Poddar (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Inachhan Mandal (Old Name) S/o Nurhossain Mandal (Old Name) Residing at Vill-Po - Bagangram, Ps - Bongaon, District- 24 Pgs(N), Pin-743251 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Inachhan Mandal (New Name) S/o Nurhossain Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Ld.Excutive Magistrate (1st Class) at Bongaon, North 24 Parganas, vide affidavit no 1595 Dated 09-04-2025. Inachhan Mandal (Old Name) S/o Nurhossain Mandal (Old Name) and Inachhan Mandal (New Name) S/o Nurhossain Mandal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Hiranmay Mandal S/o Late Sudarshan Mandal Residing at Bipradaspur Kachhari Para,P.o - Paulpur, Ps - Gosaba, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743611 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Hiranmay Mandal. I declare that Hiranmay Mandal and Hiranmay Mandal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 28-04-2025.

Name Change
I, Nibedita Kanjilal (Old Name) W/o Mausam Kanjilal Residing at 1st Floor, Flat-1-A, P 45 Jogendra Gardens, Hindol Park, Haltu, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700078 West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nibedita Banerjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 69/2025 Dated 28-04-2025. Nibedita Kanjilal (Old Name) and Nibedita Banerjee (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gautam Das alias Gautam Kr Das (Old Name) S/o Sucharu Ranjan Das Residing at A-10, Brahmapur South, Brahmapur S.O, District- Kolkata, Pin- 700096 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Gautam Kumar Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 70/2025 Dated 28-04-2025.Gautam Das, Gautam Kr Das (Old Name) and Gautam Kumar Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Anwesha Bhattacharjee (Old Name) D/o Panchanan Bhattacharya Residing at R.N.C Extend, Subhas Gram, Rajpur Sonarip, (M), Subhas Gram, District- South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700147 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anwesha Bhattacharyya (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 64/2025 Dated 28-04-2025. Anwesha Bhattacharjee (Old Name) and Anwesha Bhattacharyya (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, FAIZ JAMIL s/o, Jamil Ahmed Ansari aged about 25 by faith Islam & indian by birth resides at 77 1 Sadhana Aushadhalaya Road , P.S. Lake Town, Kolkata 48 Dist. North 24 parganasMy name is Faiz JAMIL and my father's actual name is Jamil Ahmed Ansari recorded in my aadhaar card no 4822 4748 1625 my father's name was recorded as Md Jamil Ansari in place of Jamil Ahmed Ansari in my registration no7151 - 008686 Admit Roll 111661 B no 0014 in West S.O, Md Jamil Ansari is same identical person affidavit no 667 dtd 24/4/2025 by the Judicial Magistrate, 1st class,Bidhan Nagar North 24 parganas.

Name Change
I, Pradip Kumar Das & Prabir Kr Das (old name) son of Gobinda Prasad Das, residing at Goshala Building, ISKCON Sri Mayapur, Nadia, West Bengal, Pin-741313, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pradeep Kumar Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Pradeep Kumar Das (New Name) and Pradip Kumar Das & Prabir Kr Das (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Paresh Pramod Parekh (old name) son of Pramod Parekh, residing at 36/5A MADAN PAUL, LANE KOLKATA -700025, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Paresh Parekh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 25/04/2025. Paresh Parekh (New Name) and Paresh Pramod Parekh (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Hina Parekh (old name) wife of Paresh Parekh, residing at FLAT-1B, 13/1 PANKAJ MULLICK SARANI BALLYGUNGE KOLKATA-700019, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Hina Pandeya (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 25/04/2025. Hina Pandeya (New Name) and Hina Parekh (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Mojibor Rahaman Gain (old name) C/O Mafiz Uddin Gain, residing at Vill.- Akharopur, P.O.- Itinda, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North24Pgs, Pin- 743292, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mujibar Rahaman Gain (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Mujibar Rahaman Gain (new name) and Mohammed Mojibor Rahaman Gain (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sreyasi Sahu (old name) wife of Premnandan Sahu, residing at Flat No.-B6, Cluster-9, Purbachal, Sector-3, Salt Lake City, Bidhan-nagar, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700097, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sreyasi Mondal Sahu (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sreyasi Mondal Sahu (New Name) and Sreyasi Sahu (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Monoranjan Bera (old name) son of Ramahari Bera, residing at Tildapara, P.O.- Rajnagar, West Medinipur, 721436, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoranjan Bera (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Manoranjan Bera (New Name) and Monoranjan Bera (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, A ATHUBO (old name) s/o Kalhomang Abnomai, residing at LAM-LABA VILLAGE, TAMENGLONG, PS-TAMEI,MANIPUR-795125, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as ATHUBOU ABONMAI (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 26/04/2025. ATHUBOU ABONMAI (new name) and A ATHUBO (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Ms. Withinlung (old name) D/O Athubou Abnomai, residing at LAM-LABA VILLAGE,TAMENGLONG, PS-TAMEI,MANIPUR-795125, presently residing at Dinesh nagar Makundapur, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Withinlungliu Abnomai (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 26/04/2025. Withinlungliu Abonmai (new name) and Ms. Withinlung (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Narendra Nath Shyamal,Son Of Bhajahari Shyamal, Residing At Vill-Bamanbira, Po-Anikola, West Medinipur, - 721457, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Narendra Shyamal Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. That Narendra Nath Shyamal And Narendra Shyamal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sanowar, Son Of Nesaruddin Sekh, Residing At Enayet Nagar,Po - Chak Enayet Nagar,Ps - Bishnupur, South24parganas- 743503, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sanowar Sekh Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. That Sanowar And Sanowar Sekh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Paltu Biswas, Son Of Pulin Biswas, Residing At Manoharpur, Baneshwarpur, Bagdah, North 24 parganas - 743270,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ujjal Biswas Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. That Paltu Biswas And Ujjal Biswas Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Musarat Jahan (Old Name) W/O Md Jalaluddin,Residing At 37a, Shamsul Huda Road,Flat No.8,Po-Jhawtala,Ps-Karaya,Kolkata-700017,West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mosarat Jahan (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. Musarat Jahan(Old Name) And Mosarat Jahan (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Bijoy Kr Dey (old name) son of Late Janaki Dey, residing at 15, Chhaya Neer Appt. Ground Floor Nalta Mahajati Road, 4th Bye Lane, Nalta Pathak Para,Po & Ps - Dumdum, Barrackpore - 700028,West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bijay Kumar Dey (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Bijay Kumar Dey (New Name) and Bijoy Kr Dey (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Nure Mehboob Sk & Sekh Nure Mehboob, S/O Shaikh Alef Nabi, R/O Y-2/84/B,Satghara Lane,Po-Badartala,Ps-Nadial,700044,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shaikh Noore Maheboob,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025. That Nure Mehboob Sk & Sekh Nure Mehboob And Shaikh Noore Maheboob All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Gautam Gopal Chakraborty (old name) S/O Bonamali Chakrabarti, residing at 4A, Sushil Sen Road, P.S.-Bhawanipore, Kolkata- 700025, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gautam Gopal Chakrabarti (new name) as declared before the notary public at kolkata, dated 26/04/2025. Gautam Gopal Chakrabarti (new name) and Gautam Gopal Chakraborty (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Kakoli Chakraborty (old name) wife of Chandan Chakraborty, residing at AD-139 Sushil Jyoti Avenue Rabindra Pally Krishnapur, Rajarhat Gopalpur (M), Prafulla Kanan, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700101, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kakali Chakraborty (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Kakali Chakraborty (New Name) and Kakoli Chakraborty (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Asraf Ali Mufti (old name) son of Ahammad Ali Mufti, residing at Vill- Paschim Ramanathpur, Paschimpara, P.O.- Kumirmora, P.S.- Chanditala, Hooghly, Pin- 712704, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Asraf Ali Mufti (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Asraf Ali Mufti (New Name) and Asfal Ali Mufti (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mokim Ali Mufti (old name) son of Asraf Ali Mufti, residing at Vill-Paschim Ramanathpur, Paschimpara, P.O.- Kumirmora, P.S.- Chanditala, Hooghly, Pin- 712704, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mokim Ali Mufti (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Mokim Ali Mufti (New Name) and Mokim Ali Mufti (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sheikh Jafar Ali,S/O Sk Joynal Abedin,R/O Vill-Kanakpur,Po Panskura R.S,Ps Panskura,East Medinipur-721152,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Jafar Ali,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025,That Sheikh Jafar Ali And Sk Jafar Ali All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Japhar (old name) son of Sk Joynal Abedin, residing at Vill-Kanakpur, P.O.- Panskura R.S, Dist.- East Medinipur, Pin- 721152, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Jafar Ali (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sk Jafar Ali (New Name) and Japhar (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sekhar Biswas, S/O Gour Biswas,R/O Mrigrimaripara Po-Maj-dia, Ps-Krishnaganj,Nadia-741507, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sekhor Biswas,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025, That Sekhar Biswas And Sekhor Biswas All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Shahzada, S/O Md Tamanna,R/O Dharsha Baro Mallick Para, Po Balitkuri, Howrah-711113,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Shahzada, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025, That Mohammed Shahzada And Md Shahzada All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Motiur Rahman (old name) son of Sk Saidur Rahman, residing at 4E, Rajab Ali Lane, P.S.- Ekbalpore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Motiur Rahman (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sk Motiur Rahman (New Name) and Motiur Rahman (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Tapan Bose (old name) S/o. Bibhuti Bhuson Bose R/o. 61/1/1, Station Road, Ramkrishna Pally, Champdani (M), Bhadreswar, Hooghly-712124, W.B., have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapan Kumar Bose (new name) vide an affidavit no. 3228 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 25/04/2025. Tapan Bose & Tapan Kumar Bose S/o. Bibhuti Bhuson Bose both are the same & one identical person. Anik Bose is my son.

Name Change
I, Ramhari Bera (old name) son of Khagendra Bera, residing at Tildapara, P.O.- Rajnagar, West Medinipur, 721436, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ramahari Bera (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Ramahari Bera (New Name) and Ramhari Bera (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Ausaf Ahmad Siddique (old name) son of Amirullah, residing at 1/2H/13,MOULANA MD ALI ROAD KOL-700023, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ausaf Ahmed Siddique (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Ausaf Ahmed Siddique (New Name) and Ausaf Ahmad Siddique (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Zabeed (As Per DI No Wb01 2002 0226320),Son Of Sk Jahangir,Residing At 42d Tiljala Road,Kolkata - 700046,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Jabeed Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore Kolkata On 08/04/2025.That Sk Zabeed And Sk Jabeed Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Syed Hasam Ali (old name) son of Late Syed Asrof Ali, residing at Vill- Sangrampur, P.O.- Masat, P.S.-Diamond Harbour, Dist.- Diamond Harbour, Pin- 743375, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Syed Hasem Ali (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Syed Hasem Ali (New Name) and Syed Hasam Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Gunudhar Nandi (old name) son of Late Ajit Kumar Nandi, residing at 10 NO. KHALUIBILL MATHI, 2ND LANE, NEAR RUBY PALACE , BURDWAN, PIN-713101, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gunadhar Nandi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Gunadhar Nandi (New Name) and Gunudhar Nandi (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Songita Mondol (old name) daughter of Ajit Mondal, residing at B-1, Diksha Apartment, Sarojini Pally, P.S.- Barasat, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700126, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Songita Mondal (New Name) as declared before the 1st Class Magistrate at Ranaghat vide SL No. 7156, dated 22/04/2025. Songita Mondal (New Name) and Songita Mondol (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Rumjan Ali (old name) son of Sekh Golam Nabi, residing at Madhupur, P.O.- Hoera, P.S.- Mogra, Hooghly, Pin- 721247, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sekh Romjan Ali (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sekh Romjan Ali (New Name) and Rumjan Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sahajahan (old name) son of Sekh Romjan Ali, residing at Gowa Madhupur, VTC Madhupur, P.O.- Hoera, P.S.- Mogra, Hooghly, Pin- 721247, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Sahajahan (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sk Sahajahan (New Name) and Sahajahan (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Akman Gazi, (old name) son of Hakimuddin Gazi, residing at Vill.- Sastakhal, P.O.- Mallick Kati, P.S.- Jibantala, Baruipur, 743502, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Akman Gazi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Akman Gazi (New Name) and Md Akman Gazi (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Amir Ali (old name) son of Sk Keramat Ali, residing at Vill & P.O.-Subsit, VTC- Subsit, P.S.- Bagnan, Howrah- 711303, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Amir Ali (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 28/04/2025. Sk Amir Ali (old name) and Amir Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Rajibul Islam, S/O Shaikh Noore Maheboob,R/O Y-2/84/B, Satghara Lane,Po-Badartala,Ps-Nadial,700044,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shaikh Rajibul Islam,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/04/2025,That Sk Rajibul Islam And Shaikh Rajibul Islam All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Ceremonial Flag-Off of LHB Rake for Bangriposi-Puri Express



MI News Service, Puri: The new LHB rake for Bangriposi-Puri Special was flagged off in a ceremonial function at Bangriposi today (28.04.2025) by esteemed dignitaries including Smt Mamata Mohanta, Hon'ble MP (Rajya sabha), Shri Naba Charan Majhi, Hon'ble MP (Lok Sabha), Mayurbhanj, Ms. Sanjali Murmu, Hon'ble M.L.A, Bangriposi & Shri Bhavad Hansdah, Hon'ble M.L.A, Saraskana. Senior officers from South Eastern Railway were also present, contributing to the event's success. The introduction of LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) rake is expected to provide the passengers with a more comfortable and safe travel experience, which highlights the commitment of Indian Railways to improve Rail infrastructure and services in the region. The regular run of converted LHB rake for 12891/12892 Bangriposi-Puri-Bangriposi Intercity Express will commence from Bangriposi w.e.f. 30.04.2025 and from Puri w.e.f. 29.04.2025

Transforming Rail Infrastructure: Howrah Division's Strategic Drive to eliminate defective layouts for safer, faster, and Future-Ready operations



MI News Service, Kolkata: Towards realizing a modern, efficient, and safer railway network, theEngineering Department of Howrah Division has successfully undertaken a major initiative to rectify defective layouts across the division. This achievement marks a significant stride in the division's ongoing commitment to enhancing tracksafety, improving operational efficiency, and providingsuperior service to passengers. As one of the largest and busiest divisions, Howrah has long contended with the challenges posedby complex and space-constrained track layouts, particularly within major yard areas. These defective layouts not only impeded the smooth movement of trains but also posed potential safety hazards. Moreover, extra manpower is required for necessary attention to theselayouts.Recognizingthecritical need for improvement, the Engineering Department embarked on a mission to eliminate these bottlenecks through detailed planning, innovation, and execution. Initially, 13 key yards were identified for rectification after extensive surveys and strategic planning. However, as feasibility studies progressed, the scope of work expanded significantly, targeting the correction of 46 defective layouts across 17 different yards (Howrah, Bandel Jn., Khana Jn., Talit, Guskara, Janai Road, Jaugram etc.). Dedicated engineering teams carried out thorough inspections in each yard to precisely identify and prioritize the most critical forced layouts needing correction. Leveraging cutting-edge technology, including the advanced T-28 machine, the division achieved remarkable progress — successfully rectifying 46 layouts in just six months. The use of modern mechanized solutions has allowed for quicker, safer, andmore-preciseexecution,minimizingdisruption to regular train operations. Building on this success, the division has already charted plans for the rectification of layouts in five additional key yards within the current year, once again utilizing the T-28 machine to drive progress. This initiative stands as a shining example of Howrah Division's proactive and collaborative approach, with engineering teams working in close coordination with other departments to ensure seamless implementation. The Engineering Department remains fully committed to sustaining this momentum, continuously identifying new opportunities to enhance infrastructure quality and operational safety. Through meticulous planning, technological innovation, and a dedication to excellence, Howrah Division is setting new benchmarks in track modernization and service delivery.

Name Change
After accepting Islam on & from 25/04/2025, I, Priti Bodhak D/o, Biswanath Bodhak known everywhere as Priti Bibi. I, Priti Bibi & Priti Bodhak D/o. Biswanath Bodhak is the same self & one identical person vide affidavit no. 19, dt. 28/04/2025 before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

Howrah Division marks 100 Years with Green Drives and Community Spirit



MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the ongoing centenary celebrations, Howrah Division of Eastern Railway organized a series of community-focused programs, reflecting a spirit of service and responsibility under the leadership of Divisional Railway Manager, Shri Sanjeev Kumar. Today, at Bolpur Station, Railway staff participated in a vibrant Prabhat Pheri (morning procession) to spread awareness about the proud legacy of the Howrah Division. The procession was followed by a dedicated cleanliness drive at the station premises, reaffirming Indian Railways' commitment to hygiene and the ideals of the Swachh Bharat Mission. Simultaneously, a Prabhat Pheri was also organized at Telkol Ghat, with enthusiastic participation from railway employees and local volunteers. In addition to the awareness procession, a tree plantation drive was undertaken, symbolizing the Division's commitment to environmental sustainability and green initiatives. The event concluded with an intensive cleanliness campaign to improve local surroundings and encourage greater community involvement in maintaining public spaces. These initiatives serve as a meaningful tribute to the 100 years of dedicated service by Howrah Division, showcasing Indian Railways' enduring values of discipline, environmental stewardship and public engagement. The centenary celebrations continue to inspire a shared vision for a cleaner, greener, and more connected future.

Major Engineering Achievement in Howrah Division



Successful Completion of Rebuilding Works of Three Bridges in Azimganj Jn. – Nalhati Jn. Section During Traffic and Power Block on 26/27.04.2025
MI News Service, Kolkata: Howrah Division of Eastern Railway successfully executed critical infrastructure upgrades during the existing bridge and placement of an RCC Box Bridge consisting of 4 slabs and 3 boxes using the CUT & COVER method was successfully completed. For the completion of these critical works, heavy machinery such as a 140T Railway Crane, 300T Road Cranes, Poclains, JCB Breakers, and JCBs were effectively utilized. Additionally, other critical works were also completed during the block, including: Lifting and packing of Nalhati common loop lines over 530 meters, SKV welding of 10 joints, Deep screening of 27 locations (13 meters each), ERC greasing of 3880 nos., Fishplate greasing of 23 pairs, and Painting work of the Foot Over Bridge (FOB) at Nalhati station. **MI News Service, Kolkata:** Due to early completion of work in connection with track maintenance work between Dainhat & Dhatrigram in Bandel - Katwa section, Railway has decided to restore the services of following trains from 29.04.2025 which was earlier informed as short terminated/short originated. Restoration of short Termination & Short Origination of EMU From Katwa: 37748 From Bandel: 37749

JNU Polls: RSS outfit ABVP routs CPIM’s SFI; wins around half councillor seats

MI News Service, New Delhi: The RSS-backed ABVP has surged in the JNU Students’ Union polls, winning around half the councillor seats, and is heading for a photo finish with the AISA-DSF alliance.

The SFI, which is part of the outgoing union, has been routed in its stronghold. The SFI and the CPI’s AISF broke away from the AISA bloc and aligned with smaller groups this time.

AISA is linked to the CPIML-Liberation. The Democratic Students’ Federation (DSF) had split from the SFI in 2012.

Out of more than 5,500 votes cast, 4,225 had been counted till the filing of this report. The AISA-DSF alliance is leading in the posts of president, vice-president and general secretary, with the ABVP as the runner-up. The ABVP is leading in the joint secretary post, with AISA-DSF as the runner-up.

The final results are expected around midnight.

This time, the ABVP has won two out of five councillor seats each in the schools of social sciences (SSS) and international studies (SIS), although it drew a blank in the school of languages.

This is the first time since 2000 that the ABVP has won two seats at the SSS. The SFI and its allies have not won any seats from the SSS and the SIS.

The SFI and its allies have not won any seats from the SSS and the SIS.

The SFI and the AISA issued pamphlets during the campaign, questioning each other’s understanding of fascism. Ironically, their split appears to have benefited ABVP whom both groups have often condemned as “fascist” and have violently clashed with several times.

Jamtara’s crime hub transforms into hi-tech coaching centre & library

MI News Service, Ranchi: The Jharkhand Police have transformed an abandoned police station building in Jamtara district, infamously known for cybercrime, into a hi-tech coaching-cum-guidance centre and library to help local youths prepare for competitive examinations.

Equipped with WiFi, a projector, and other facilities, the centre was opened at the old police station building in Karmatand, approximately 220km from the

state’s capital Ranchi, a police official said.

“After constructing a new police station, the old PS building in Karmatand was lying abandoned. We decided to renovate it into a hi-tech coaching-cum-guidance centre and library with modern facilities, like Wi-Fi and a projector, to support students preparing for competitive examinations,” Jamtara superintendent of police Dr Ehtesham Waqarib told.

He claimed that it was the

first police station building converted into an educational centre. Karmatand, the workplace of social reformer and strong supporter of women’s education Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, has been one of the worst-affected cybercrime blocks, he said.

Vidyasagar spent 18 years of his life in Karmatand. Now, the government is putting all its efforts into reclaiming the past glory of the area, the official said.

Sambhal exhibits severe Anti-Jew sentiment

MI News Service, Sambhal: Anti-Jew sentiments are soaring at Sambhal and with Hindus being the natural sympathizer to the Jews for valid reasons; situation has boiled up all the more. Several anti-Israel posters were found pasted on the walls of houses, shops, mosques, temples and police stations at Chandausi in Sambhal district.

Besides bearing slogans like “Free Gaza, Free Palestine” in Hindi, the posters also urged Muslims to “boycott” goods and items that were even remotely related to Israel.

“Remember that we are dead if we don’t feel like crying after seeing the deaths of our Palestinian brothers and sisters,” read another poster.

Some appealed to shopkeepers not to sell any Is-

raeli goods.

Ramveer Singh, a police inspector in Chandausi, said: “We are collecting CCTV footage to identify those who put up these posters, which are divisive and may vitiate the atmosphere of the district. We are also interrogating some people.”

A video doing the rounds on social media showed two unidentified men sticking the posters on the walls.

A local resident, who didn’t wish to be identified, said it would be too simplistic to conclude that the posters were pasted by Muslims just because they contained anti-Israeli slogans and issued an appeal to the community.

“We know who has been trying to weaken the social fabric of the area for the last few months. In the past, those who wanted to tar-

get a particular community tried to do so by committing some heinous act and pinning the blame on them,” he said.

“The Muslims of Sambhal are so upset at the moment that they are not able to think beyond their own lives, let alone plastering such posters on the walls,” he added.

The far Right in India has always supported Israel, which has killed more than 51,000 Palestinians — mostly women and children — in an offensive in Gaza launched after Hamas-led militants attacked southern Israel in October 2023.

The Shahi Jama Masjid in Sambhal is at the centre of a communal dispute following claims by Hindus that it was built on the ruins of a temple demolished by Mughal emperor Aurangzeb.

Tihar Jail admin mulls heat shields for inmates

MI News Service, New Delhi: Two lemons a day and “heat-resistant sheets” are part of the plan of Tihar Jail authorities to help inmates cool off as the summer took a firm grip.

The Tihar jail authority to give its inmates lemons and heat shields during this summer.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Tender Notice No.: ELECT-OT-25-26-SP22-4, dated 25.04.2025. Open e-Tenders are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G)/Santragachi, S.E. Railway, Kharagpur Division for and on behalf of the President of India from respective eligible contractors through e-Tendering in www.ireps.gov.in website as per details mentioned below. Respective contractors are requested to apply for the same through online only, in www.ireps.gov.in website.

No offline tender will be accepted for this tender. Please read the tender document carefully uploaded in the document section for details. **Name of the work :** Santragachi – Supply, installation and erection of Solar Power Plant at Santragachi Jurisdiction (Phase 2). **Tender Value :** ₹ 14,97,07,778.57. **EMD/Bid security :** ₹ 8,98,500/- **Tender closing date & time :** 19.05.2025, 11.00 hrs. **Tender notice :** Tender document and other details are given in the www.ireps.gov.in (PR-86)

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: ELD-300-WC-28-2024-25, Dated: 24.04.2025. E-Tender is invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, Control Building, 1st Floor, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: **Tender No.: ELD-300-WC-28-2024-25. Name of work:** 25KV OHE & allied electrical works in connection with “Construction of a new RCC Box adjacent to existing Br. No. 3 & 4 in Sealdah-Lakshmikanthapur Section & Br.No. S/34 in Sealdah-Diamond Harbour section to increase waterway on Adiganga Khal” in the jurisdiction of TRD/Baruipur”. **Tender Value:** ₹ 96,56,412.80. **Cost of Tender Document:** Nil. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,93,100. **Completion Period:** 12 (Twelve) months from the date of issue of Letter of Acceptance. **Date of Closing:** 21.05.2025 at 15.00 hrs. Details of tender notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website www.ireps.gov.in.

(SDAH-30/2025-26)

Tender Notices are also available at website: www.er.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

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Delhi is currently in the grip of a heat wave. A prison official said the anti-heat measures are a part of their seasonal plan. “Be it summer or winter, we follow a proper plan for the inmates according to the Tihar Jail manual. We will provide two lemons every day to each inmate for three months April, May, and June to help keep their bodies hydrated,” the official told. A sufficient quantity of Oral Rehydration Solution has been procured to keep prisoners hydrated, he added.

The jail authorities have also planned to install heat-resistant sheets inside

the cells to help maintain the temperature a few degrees lower. These sheets are very helpful during the summer as they keep the cell temperature normal and allow air circulation,” the person said. Established in 1958, Tihar Jail is one of India’s political culture and accused the CPI(M) and the Congress for it.

Talking to reporters here, Chandrasekhar alleged that the ruling CPI(M) in the state is emulating the same corrupt practices which the Congress had been showcasing

Delhi court extends Rana’s NIA custody for 12 days

MI News Service, New Delhi: A Delhi court on Monday extended by 12 more days the NIA custody of 26/11 Mumbai attack accused Tahawwur Hussain Rana.

Special NIA judge Chander Jit Singh extended Rana’s custody on NIA’s request after his previous 18-day remand got over.

Rana was produced in court with his face covered amid tight security.

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) said Rana had to be confronted with

various evidences, including “voluminous documents” which required his further interrogation.

The probe agency also apprised the judge in an in-chamber proceeding about its investigation in the last 18-days since it was granted Rana’s custody.

The NIA, represented by senior advocate Dayan Krishnan and special public prosecutor Narender Mann, accused Rana of not cooperating in the investigation.

Advocate Piyush Sachdeva from Delhi Legal Ser-

VICES Authority represented Rana.

The NIA has claimed before the court that Rana planned several plots similar to the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks to target multiple Indian cities, including Delhi.

In its previous remand order, the court directed the NIA to conduct Rana’s medical examination every 24 hours, and allow him to meet his lawyer every alternate day.

The court allowed Rana to use only a “soft-tip pen”

and meet his lawyer in the presence of the NIA officials, who would be out of an audible distance.

During the arguments on the last occasion, the NIA said Rana’s custody was required to piece together the full scope of the conspiracy, and submitted he was required to be taken to various locations for retracing the events that took place 17 years ago.

Rana, a close associate of 26/11 main conspirator David Coleman Headley alias Daood Gilani, a US citizen,

was brought to India after the US Supreme Court on April 4 dismissed his review plea against his extradition to India.

On November 26, 2008, a group of 10 Pakistani terrorists went on a rampage, carrying out a coordinated attack on a railway station, two luxury hotels and a Jewish centre, after they sneaked into India’s financial capital using the sea route in the Arabian Sea.

As many as 166 people were killed in the nearly 60-hour assault.

This is not the time for asking statehood for J&K: Omar Abdullah

MI News Service, Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said that he will not demand statehood for the union territory at a time when the entire nation is grieving the loss of 26 lives due to the dastardly terror attack in Pahalgam.

The demand for statehood has been a contentious issue between the Centre and the Opposition ever since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution.

“I will not use this mo-

ment to demand statehood. After Pahalgam, with what face can I ask for statehood for Jammu and Kashmir? Meri kya itni sasti siyasat hai? We have talked about statehood in the past and will do so in the future too, but it will be shameful on my part if I go and tell the central government that 26 people have died, now give me statehood...” said J&K CM Omar Abdullah.

He said that while statehood remains a key part of the J&K government’s agenda and will continue to remain so, this is not the

time to rake up the issue.

“... This incident affected the entire country. We have seen many such attacks in the past... An attack of such a large scale has been carried out after 21 years in Baisaran... I did not know how to apologise to the families of the deceased... Being the host, it was my duty to send the tourists back safely. I couldn’t do it. I do not have the words to seek an apology...” said the CM.

During his address to the state assembly, Abdullah also said his government would strengthen people’s

crusade against terrorism as it can be defeated only by the cooperation of the public.

Abdullah, however, cautioned that the government should avoid any step that will alienate the public.

“Militancy or terrorism will finish when people are with us. Given people’s outrage against the terror, this is the beginning of its finishing if we take proper steps,” the chief minister said, winding up a discussion on a resolution in the House to condemn the Pahalgam terror attack.

“We should not take any step that will alienate people. We cannot control a terrorist with a gun but we can end militancy if people are with us. I think that time has come,” he said.

Referring to the unprecedented and spontaneous protests across Jammu and Kashmir, Abdullah said Srinagar’s Jamia Masjid for the first time observed a two-minute silence before Friday prayers.

“We can understand its meaning. We will try to strengthen this change,” the chief minister said.

Nepal mulls overhaul in Everest permit

MI News Service, Kathmandu: Nepal will issue Everest permits only to climbers with experience of scaling at least one of the Himalayan nation’s 7,000-metre (22,965 ft) peaks, according to the draft of a new law aimed at reducing overcrowding and improving safety.

Nepal, which is heavily reliant on climbing, trekking and tourism for foreign exchange, has faced criticism for permitting too many climbers, including inexperienced ones, to try to ascend the 8,849-metre (29,032 ft) peak.

This often results in long queues of climbers in the ‘death Zone’, an area below the summit with insufficient natural oxygen for survival.

Overcrowding has been blamed for the high number of deaths on the mountain. At least 12 climbers died, and another five went missing on Everest’s slopes in 2023 when Nepal issued 478 permits. Eight climbers died last year.

Under the proposed law, an Everest permit would be issued only after a climber provides evidence of having climbed at least one 7,000-metre mountain in Nepal.

The sardar, or the head of local staff, and the mountain guide accompanying climbers must also be Nepali citizens.

The draft law has been registered at the National Assembly, the upper house of parliament, where the ruling alliance holds a majority required to pass the bill.

International expedition operators have urged Nepal to allow any 7,000-metre peak, not just those in the Himalayan nation, for the Everest permit.

“That wouldn’t make any sense. And I would also add mountains that are close to 7,000 metres to that list and that are widely used as preparation, like Ama Dablam, Aconcagua, Denali and others,” said Lukas Fur-

tenbach of Austria-based expedition organiser, Furtenbach Adventures.

Furtenbach, currently leading an expedition on Everest, said mountain guides from other countries must also be allowed to work on Everest, as there are not enough qualified Nepali mountain guides.

“It is important that mountain guides have a qualification like IFMGA (International Federation of Mountain Guides Associations), no matter what nationality they are. We do also welcome Nepali IFMGA guides to work in the Alps in Europe,” he told Reuters.

Garrett Madison of the U.S.-based Madison Mountaineering also said

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Katwa-II Development Block
Dainhat, Purba Bardhaman

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-Tenders are invited vide eNIT No.-WB/PURBA-BWDM/KAT-II/24-25/51, 52 & 53, Date: 22nd, 23rd & 28th April, 2025 by the BDO, Katwa-II Dev. Block, Dainhat, Purba Bardhaman. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website www.wbtenders.gov.in for details. Last date of Tender submission 02.05.25 & 07.05.25 upto 18:00 hours.

Sd/-
B.D.O.

Katwa-II Development Block

E-Tenders

e-Tenders are invited by Prodhhan, Amargur Gram Panchayat under Ausgram-II Dev. Block, Dist-Purba Bardhaman, from resourceful/ bonafide contractors with experience and requisite credential from 15th CFC (Tied, '24-'25 financial year) fund vide id 2025_ZPHD_839774.1. Date of closing for submission of Technical Bid & Financial Bid on 07/05/2025 up to 12.30 PM. For Details Visit the website: <http://wbtenders.gov.in>

Sd/-
Prodhhan,
Amargur Gram Panchayat

Ausgram-I Dev. Block
Guskara :PurbaBardhaman

Abridged e-Tender Notice

eNIT. Memo. No. 987/Aus-I Dated-28/04/25

Tenders are invited for execution of the schemes, “Constn. Of boundary wall surrounding Nripati gram Graveyard.” Date of start of application -28.04.25 from 05.00 p.m. Last date of submission of application-16.05.25 upto 05.00p.m. & Date & time for opening-19.05.25 at 11.00 a.m. For further details regarding the above eNIT intending participants may contact office of the undersigned on any working day before the last date of application.

Sd/-
Block Dev.Officer & Executive Officer,
Ausgram-I Dev. Block&Panchayat samity

Corruption part of Kerala's culture: Kerala BJP President

MI News Service, Thiruvananthapuram: Kerala BJP president Rajeev Chandrasekhar alleged that corruption has become a part of the state's political culture and accused the CPI(M) and the Congress for it.

Talking to reporters here, Chandrasekhar alleged that the ruling CPI(M) in the state is emulating the same corrupt practices which the Congress had been showcasing

Power of Attorney

My clientele Sri Samar Bhuyia, Son of Late Subal Chandra Bhuyia, Smt Ranjana Halder, Wife of Late Panchugopal Halder and Smt Arati Hati, Wife of Srikantha Hati, all of Vill Nawapara, P.O. Kanaipur, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, PIN-712234, own and possess within Mouza Nawapara, J.L. No. 1, within the ambit of Kanaipur Gram Panchayat altogether 9 Satak "Suna" property appertaining L.R. Khatian No 2399, 2400 & 2401 and R.S. & L.R. Plot No. 916, and we bequeath aforesaid property from our predecessors, Being possession of above property we have executed a Power of Attorney on 30.06.2023 registered before Uttarpara Sub-Registry Office vide Registered Deed No. 3327, in favour of our close Sri Barun Das, Son of Late Amulya Das, of Hospital Road, P.O. Nabagram, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, IN-712246, to sell transfer and convey different prospective buyer and for this we have no objection, if anyone has objection, Kindly file written objection before the Office of B.L. & L.R. Uttarpara-Seramore Block within stipulated 15 days, otherwise there would be a one side hearing.

Suman Mitra
Advocate
F-701/457/2011

Power of Attorney

My clientele Sri Ashok Ghosh alias Ashok Kumar Ghosh, Ashim Ghosh and Arun Ghosh, all are sons of Late Tulsi Chandra Ghosh of C-Block, Harisava Road, P.O. Barabekha, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, PIN-712246, own and possess within Mouza Nawapara, J.L. No. 1, within the ambit of Kanaipur Gram Panchayat altogether 6 Satak "Suna" property appertaining L.R. Khatian No 3105, 3106 & 3138 and R.S. & L.R. Plot No. 916, and we bequeath aforesaid property from our predecessors, Being possession of above property we have executed a Power of Attorney on 16.05.2023 registered before Uttarpara Sub-Registry Office vide Registered Deed No. 2403, in favour of our close Sri Barun Das, Son of Late Amulya Das, of Hospital Road, P.O. Nabagram, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, PIN-712246, to sell transfer and convey different prospective buyer and for this we have no objection, if anyone has objection, Kindly file written objection before the Office of B.L. & L.R. Uttarpara-Seramore Block within stipulated 15 days, otherwise there would be a one side hearing.

Suman Mitra
Advocate
F-701/457/2011

Power of Attorney

My clientele Smt Gouri Pal, Wife of Haradhan Pal, and Sri Haradhan Pal, Son of Late Panchanan Pal of Vill Nawapara, P.O. Kanaipur, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, PIN-712234, own and possess within Mouza Nawapara, J.L. No. 1, within the ambit of Kanaipur Gram Panchayat altogether 19 Satak "Suna" property appertaining L.R. Khatian No 1392 & 1393 and R.S. & L.R. Plot No. 913, 914, 917 & 918 and we bequeath aforesaid property from our predecessors, Being possession of above property we have executed a Power of Attorney on 04.07.2023 registered before Uttarpara Sub-Registry Office vide Registered Deed No. 3400, in favour of our close Smt Malati Das, Wife of Late Amulya Das, of Hospital Road, P.O. Nabagram, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly, PIN-712246, to sell transfer and convey different prospective buyer and for this we have no objection, if anyone has objection, Kindly file written objection before the Office of B.L. & L.R. Uttarpara-Seramore Block within stipulated 15 days, otherwise there would be a one side hearing.

Suman Mitra
Advocate
F-701/457/2011

NOTICE

Power of Attorney

1. Kuntal Kumar Goswami, 2. Kaushik Kumar Goswami, both s/o Lt. Kusum Kumar Goswami, of 19 Shimul Tala, Bhadrakali, P.O. Bhadrakali, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist. Hooghly-712232, appointed my client namely Jeet Goswami, s/o Lt. Rajkumar Goswami, of Goswami Malipara, Dadpur, Hooghly 712305, as their Lawful Attorney (General Power of Attorney Deed No. 0104/21) said Kuntal Kumar Goswami & Kaushik Kumar Goswami, through their Attorney has been sold the schedule land to Krishnendu Ghosh, s/o Lt. Gobindo Ghosh (Sale Deed No. 0520/25). Anybody, having any claim, demand or interest in respect of the schedule land or any part thereof, he/she is hereby requested to take necessary steps within next 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that there is no such claim and shall be deemed to have been given up or waived. **Schedule:** Dist.- Hooghly, P.S.- Dadpur, Mouza-Goswami Malipara, J.L. No.- 23, area 4 decimal "Pukuri" in L.R. Dag No. 2906 under L.R. Khatian No. 1416. **Subhashis Debsarma (Advocate)** Dist. Judges' Court, Hooghly.

NOTICE

Power of Attorney

Parwati Singh D/o Radha Bhumi @ Radha Singh of Mulgram, Babnan, Dadpur, Hooghly, PIN-712305, appointed my client namely Krishnendu Ghosh, s/o Lt. Gobinda Ghosh, Goswami Malipara, P.S. Dadpur, Hooghly 712305, as her Lawful Attorney (General Power of Attorney Deed No. 4244/23) After getting the Order vide Memo No. 550(03)/BCWTD/HUG dated 12/03/25, issued by Office of the District Magistrate & Collector, Backward Classes Welfare & TD, Hooghly, said Parwati Singh through her Attorney has been sold the schedule land to B S Business Hub LLP . Anybody, having any claim, demand or interest in respect of the schedule land or any part thereof, he/she is hereby requested to take necessary steps within next 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it will be presumed that there is no such claim and shall be deemed to have been given up or waived. **Schedule:** Dist.- Hooghly, P.S.- Dadpur, Mouza-Talchinani Sanihat, J.L. No.- 66, area 28 decimal in L.R. Dag No. 3475 under L.R. Khatian No. 1060. **Subhashis Debsarma (Advocate)** Dist. Judges' Court, Hooghly.

Serampore-Uttarpara Panchayat Samity

21, Rabindrabhawan Road, Serampore, Hooghly, 712201

Notice Inviting e-Tender & e-Quotation

e-Tender & e-Quotation has been invited by the undersigned for 03 (three) nos. schemes under BEUP bearing Tender ID: 2025_ZPHD_838582_1 & Tender ID: 2025_ZPHD_839714_1 & 2, for renovation of school building and purchasing AC Ambulances (2 nos.). Online bid submission will end on 02.05.2025 at 4:00 PM and 06.05.2025 at 3:00 PM. For more details please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Executive Officer
Serampore-Uttarpara Panchayat Samity

Ashuti-I Gram Panchayat

(Under Thakurpukur Maheshitala Dev. Block)

Ganneygangadharpur, Vivekanandapur, South 24 Parganas

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-Tenders are hereby invited from bonafied and resourceful Agencies for supply of E-Card vide NIT memo no. 578/A-IGP/2025, dated 28.04.2025. For details log on <http://www.etenders.gov.in> and GP office.

Sd/-,
Prodhhan
Ashuti-I Gram Panchayat

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD., BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091
CIN No: L65190G1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Jiten Sarkar/ Shilpi Sarkar/ Sarada Pally, Rabindra Sarani Ward No 37, Siliguri M Corp Rabindra Sarani, Jalpaiguri West Bengal Siliguri-734006/ LBSGI00003164293 & LBSGI00003166596	Holding No 228, District Jalpaiguri, P.S. Bhaktinagar, Sub Registry Office Raiganj, Pargana Baikunthapur, Mouza- Dabgram, Collector Office Jalpaiguri, B.L. and LRO Raiganj, Hal Khatian No No 639, Sheet No. 11, Hal Dag No 220, And Dag No 220/671, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Ward No 37, West Bengal, Siliguri, Admeasuring An Area of Land of 6 Cottaah, With 2 Storied Tin Shed Building/ Date of Physical- 23.04.2025	June 03, 2021 Rs. 16,33,554.00/-	Siliguri
2.	Debashis Biswas/ Tripti Biswas/ Chooatia, Mathabhangha Bhawanipur, West Bengal Helench Colony- 743270/ LBCAL00005731386, LBCAL00005731400, LBCAL00005735237	Mouza- No 6 Pathuria, Touzi No. 15, Khatian No. 269, L.R. No. 390, R.S. & L.R. Dag No. 1603, Thana - Bagdaha, District- North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, Admeasuring An Area of 04.50 Satak/ Date of Physical- 23.04.2025	January 25, 2023 Rs. 19,97,040.00/-	Helench Colony (WB)

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

Date: April 29, 2025
Place: Siliguri & Helench Colony (West Bengal)

Sincerely Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Antibody-based therapy several notches closer to treat lethal mucormycosis: Study

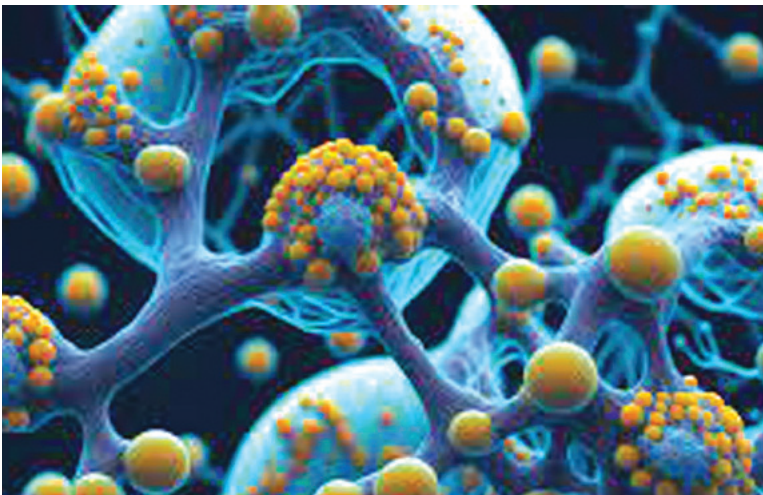
California : Mucormycosis, a fungus infection caused by Mucorales, has a high mortality rates in those with weakened immune systems and those who have suffered severe trauma, such as burns, blast injuries, or natural disaster victims.

The condition caused significant infection among COVID-19 patients treated with high doses of corticosteroids, with mortality rates approaching 60 per cent.

In the United States, there are approximately 4,000 cases per year with a rate of 200,000 in Southeast Asia where the disease is endemic to India. While vaccines and immunotherapies are available for viruses and bacteria, effective antifungal immunotherapies for mucormycosis, specifically, are lacking.

Ashraf Ibrahim, PhD, an investigator at The Lundquist Institute for Biomedical Innovation at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center for more than 33 years, and Assistant Research Scientist, Yiyou Gu, PhD, at TLI for more than eight years, have been conducting research using monoclonal antibodies to address this gap.

Ibrahim's research focuses on advancing the understanding of the pathogenic mechanisms and virulence factors of fungal and bacterial infec-



tions, and on translating this knowledge into novel immunotherapeutic strategies to combat infectious diseases.

Their paper, "A humanized antibody against mucormycosis targets angiogenesis and augments the host immune response," was recently accepted and published in the Science Translational Medicine journal. In it, they discuss the use of monoclonal antibodies to target a key fungal cell surface protein, CotH, which enables

the fungus to invade human cells and cause mucormycosis. Their findings will increase the efficiency of the current treatment options and thus will improve the outcome of treatment of lethal mucormycosis.

"Mucormycosis is a devastating disease that usually occurs in patients who suffer from weakened immune system such as patients with poorly controlled diabetes, cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, and transplant patients," said Ibrahim, adding

that the disease has had a steady increase over the last four decades due to an increase in people with diabetes and cancer, as well as advancement in transplant procedures.

The infection is aggressive and considered a medical emergency that needs immediate attention, often with disfiguring surgery to remove infected tissues. The damage to blood vessels is concerning because it's how antifungal drug therapy is delivered to the infection site. "Our humanized monoclonal antibody allows antifungal drug therapy to reach to infected tissues because it prevents fungal cells from damaging human cells and blood vessels," Ibrahim said.

As a result, Ibrahim and Gu developed an antibody called VX-01, a humanized antibody that has proven more effective at binding to the fungus compared to the original antibody. Although both protect from infection, the humanized antibody reduces immunogenicity and enhances therapeutic effect when used in humans, a major translational step.

Early tests show that VX-01 is safe, with no harmful effects on healthy cells, suggesting that VX-01 could be a promising treatment to help fight mucormycosis in people with weakened immune systems.

Bandhan Bank opens six new branches in Bihar and Jharkhand, 16 across 5 states

Patna : Bandhan Bank today announced that it has opened six branches across Bihar and Jharkhand. The bank has opened 16 new branches across 5 states with seven branches in Odisha, two in Andhra Pradesh and one in Chhattisgarh. The branch was inaugurated by Mr. Partha Pratim Sengupta, MD & CEO, Bandhan Bank along with Mr. Rajinder Kumar Babbar, ED & CBO, Mr. Ratan Kumar Kesh, ED & COO and other senior dignitaries of the Bank.

The new branches situated at Banka (Bousni Branch), Munger (Dharhara Branch and Sangrampur Branch) in Bihar and at Dhanbad (Govindpur Branch), Garhwa (Nagaruntari Branch), and Palamu (Panki Branch) in Jharkhand. All the new branches will serve the rural and semi-urban areas of the state. The expansion of the branch network is in line with the Bank's strategic commitment to diversification and establishing a stronger presence nationwide. By broadening the footprint, the bank is enhancing accessibility to innovative banking solutions for customers. With the launch of these 16 new branches, the total number of branches crosses 1730. The Bank will

now serve its customers through a robust network of 845 outlets across Bihar and Jharkhand and over 6300 banking outlets across India.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Partha Pratim Sengupta, MD & CEO, Bandhan Banksaid, "We are delighted to announce the opening of 16 new branches across five states, including the six new branches across Bihar and Jharkhand. We are committed to deliver superior customer experience by tailoring our products and services to meet the diverse and evolving needs of our customers. This expansion reflects our ongoing dedication to strengthening our distribution network, enabling us to serve our customers more efficiently and effectively. We will continue to seek strategic opportunities to broaden our reach nationwide, while maintaining a strong focus on sustainable growth. Our aim is to provide innovative, adaptable solutions that align with the changing expectations of those we serve."

Bandhan Bank is currently spread across 35 out of the 36 states and union territories in the country.

Recycled Food grade PET manufacturers fully geared to meet the recently released FSSAI guidelines on use of r-PET in food contact packaging : APR Bharat

New Delhi : FSSAI's recent guidelines on use of r-PET as a food contact material, is set to give a huge fillip to circular economy in India. This guideline also aligns well with The Plastic waste Management Rules 2016 (as amended from time to time), which mandates the use of 30 per cent recycled content in rigid plastic packaging and is already effective from April 1, 2025.

Commenting on the recently released guidelines by FSSAI, Shailendra Singh, Director General of Association of PET Recyclers (Bharat) - APR Bharat, said, "It is a significant move by the regulator and is expected to fast track the adoption of recycled PET in food-contact packaging in a big way thereby giving a huge boost to the country's circular economy."

According to Mr. Singh, a combined investment of Rs 7500-8000 crores has been made into world class PET recycling plants, capable of making the safest grade of r-PET to be used as a food contact material. This investment is estimated to generate 10,000 new jobs and also benefit the rag picker community of over 2 million people who collect post-consumer PET bottles and send them for recycling.

The industry, which has already created a capacity of close

to 4 lakh MT (commissioned), is hopeful of taking it up to 7.5 lakh MT by 2027 and further increase the installed capacity to 11 lakh MT by 2030. These capacities are being built across the country.

The current mandate requires using 30 per cent recycled content for rigid packaging, and there is more than adequate capacity available to meet emerging demand for r-PET, he said and also added that with the guidelines being notified by FSSAI a significant chunk of capacities will also be made available very soon, thereby enabling producers and brand owners to meet their targets of use of recycled PET content. About Association of PET Recyclers (Bharat) - APR Bharat is a dynamic coalition of companies in India dedicated to the responsible recycling of PET (Polyethylene Terephthalate) materials. Their mission is to champion the cause of PET recycling across India, creating a sustainable future by fostering a circular economy. It aims to educate the masses on the importance of recycling, drive innovative solutions for the PET industry, and work collaboratively with businesses, governments, and communities to ensure that recyclable materials are efficiently collected, processed, and reused.

IDFC FIRST Bank FY25 PAT at Rs. 1,525 crore, Core Operating Profit up by 17% YoY

Mumbai : Financial results IDFC FIRST Bank today published the audited financial results for the quarter and year ended March 31, 2025.

A. Deposits & Borrowings " Customer Deposits increased 25.2%YOY from Rs. 1,93,753 crore as of March 31, 2024 to Rs. 2,42,543 crore as of March 31, 2025.

" Retail Deposits grew by 26.4% YOY from Rs. 1,51,343 crore as of March 31, 2024 to Rs. 1,91,268 crore as of March 31, 2025.

" CASA Deposits grew by 24.8% YOY from Rs. 94,768 crore as of March 31, 2024 to Rs. 1,18,237 crore as of March 31, 2025.

" CASA Ratio stood at 46.9% as of March 31, 2025 (47.2% as of March 31, 2024)

" Retail Deposits constitute 79% of total customer deposits as of March 31, 2025.

B. Other Businesses " Credit card issued by the Bank crosses 3.5 million mark during last quarter.

" Wealth Management AUM (including deposit balances) grew 27% YoY to touch Rs. 42,665 crore.

" FASTag: Bank remains the largest issuer bank with 17.8 million live FASTags.

C. Loans and Advances " Loans and Advances* increased by 20.4%YOY from Rs.

2,00,965 crore as of March 31, 2024 to Rs. 2,41,926 crore as of March 31, 2025.

" Retail, Rural and MSME book grew by 18.6% YoY from Rs. 1,66,604 crore as of March 31, 2024 to Rs. 1,97,568 crore as of March 31, 2025.

" Microfinance portfolio reduced by 28.3% YoY and its proportion to overall loan book reduced from 6.6% in Mar-2024 to 4.0% in Mar-2025.

" The Bank's legacy infrastructure book reduced by 17% YoY to Rs. 2,348 crore as of March 31, 2025, constituting less than 1% of the total funded assets of the Bank.

* Loans and advances includes credit substitutes

D. Assets Quality

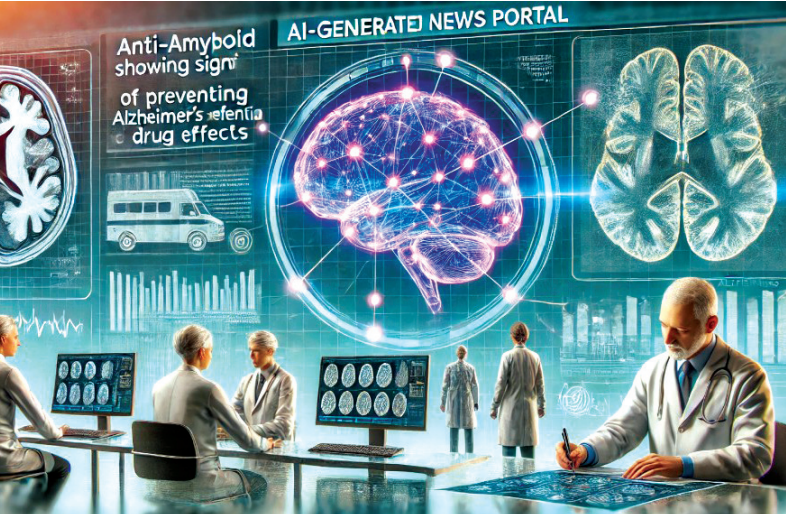
Considering the increase in delinquency of the micro finance business across the industry, the bank is tracking the microfinance business closely. The asset quality indicators, including gross NPA, net NPA, SMA, and Provisions of the book excluding MFI is stable

1. NPA Details:

Gross NPA of the Bank improved by 7 bps QoQ from 1.94% as of December 31, 2024 to 1.87% as of March 31, 2025.

" Net NPA of the Bank marginally increased by 1 bps QoQ from 0.52% as of December 31, 2024 to 0.53% as of March 31, 2025.

Anti-amyloid drug displays signs of preventing Alzheimer's dementia: Study



Washington DC [US] : A new study has found that an experimental drug appears to reduce the risk of Alzheimer's-related dementia in people destined to develop the disease in their 30s, 40s, or 50s.

The findings suggest -- for the first time in a clinical trial -- that early treatment to remove amyloid plaques from the brain many years before symptoms arise can delay the onset of Alzheimer's dementia.

The study has been published in The Lancet Neurology.

The international study involved 73 people with rare, inherited genetic mutations that cause the overproduction of amyloid in the brain, all but guaranteeing

that they will develop Alzheimer's disease in middle age.

For a subgroup of 22 participants who had no cognitive problems at the study's start and who received the drug the longest -- an average of eight years -- the treatment lowered the risk of developing symptoms from essentially 100% to about 50%, according to a primary analysis of the data and supported by multiple sensitivity analyses supporting the trend.

"Everyone in this study was destined to develop Alzheimer's disease and some of them haven't yet," said senior author Randall J. Bateman, MD, the Charles F. and Joanne Knight Distinguished Professor of Neurology at WashU

Current antivirals may be less effective against severe infection caused by bird flu virus in cows' milk: Study

Washington DC [US] : Scientists found that frequently used flu antivirals do not work well against the H5N1 avian influenza virus in cows' milk.

Existing antivirals may be less effective against this H5N1 bird flu strain, and prevention measures, such as avoiding raw milk consumption and reducing exposure in dairy workers, maybe the most effective way to protect against the virus.

As the H5N1 avian influenza outbreak continues in the United States, scientists are working to better understand the virus's threat to human health.

The virus has been found in dairy cows' milk and has infected farm workers, prompting scientists at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital to study potential treatments.

Results showed that in a preclinical model, two FDA-approved flu antivirals generally did not successfully treat severe H5N1 infections. Additionally, the researchers found that the route of infection, whether through the eye, the nose or the mouth, significantly impacts a treatment's effectiveness.

The findings were published today in Nature Microbiology.

"Our evidence suggests that it is likely going to be hard to treat people severely infected with this bovine H5N1 bird flu strain," said corresponding author Richard Webby, PhD, St. Jude Department of Host-Microbe Interactions.

"Instead, reducing infection risk by not drinking raw milk and reducing dairy farm workers' exposures, for



example, may be the most effective interventions."

Though H5N1 infections in people are rare, there are more than 60 people who have become infected from dairy exposures to date in the current outbreak.

Some were infected through exposure to contaminated raw cows' milk, such as dairy workers who were infected through splashes or aerosolized particles reaching their noses or eyes.

Given the risks to human health, the scientists used a mouse model to test how each antiviral drug worked against the virus when it was obtained through three different exposure routes.

"In general, baloxavir [Xofluza] caused a greater reduction in viral lev-

els than oseltamivir [Tamiflu], but neither was always effective," said first author Jeremy Jones, PhD, St. Jude Department of Host-Microbe Interactions.

The researchers studied exposure routes that included the eye, mouth and nose, which are the most common ways to become infected with the virus. The oral route, which mimics drinking raw infected cow's milk, caused the worst infections that were hardest to treat.

In contrast, findings showed that baloxavir controlled infections through the eye fairly well. These results are particularly relevant as the ocular route appears to be the common infection pathway for people who work directly with dairy cows.

Study finds key steps in stem cell therapy for rare bowel disease

LONDON : Hirschsprung disease patients may benefit from stem cell therapy, according to a recent study conducted by scientists at the Universities of Sheffield and UCL.

In the case of Hirschsprung disease, a small number of nerve cells in the large intestine are absent. Due to the intestine's inability to contract and transport stool, blockages may occur. This may result in constipation and, in rare cases, a dangerous intestinal infection known as enterocolitis.

Around 1 in 5000 babies are born with Hirschsprung disease. The condition is usually picked up soon after birth and treated with surgery as soon as possible however patients frequently suffer debilitating, lifelong symptoms, with multiple surgical procedures often required.

Alternative treatment options are therefore crucial. One option that has been explored by researchers involves using stem cell therapy to generate nerve cell precursors, which then produce the missing nerves in the intestine of those with Hirschsprung disease after transplantation. This in turn should improve the intestine's functionality.

However, this procedure has not been carried out on human tissue from people with Hirschsprung disease until now.

The research, published in Gut and funded by the Medical Research Council, is a collaborative effort between researchers at UCL and the University of Sheffield which began in 2017.

Researchers at the University of Sheffield focused on the production and analysis of nerve precursors from stem cells. These were then shipped to the UCL team, who prepared the patient gut tissue, undertook the transplantation and maintenance of the tissue and then tested the function of the tissue segments.

The study involved taking tissue samples donated by GOSH patients with Hirschsprung disease as a part of their routine treatment which were then cultured in the lab. The samples were then transplanted with stem cell-derived nerve cell precursors which then developed into the crucial nerve cells within the gut tissue.

Importantly the transplanted gut samples showed increased ability to contract compared to control tissue suggesting improved functionality of the gut in those with the disease.

Principal Investigator, Dr Conor McCann (UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health) said: "This study is a real breakthrough in our cell therapy work for Hirschsprung disease. It really shows the benefit of bringing the expertise of different groups together which will hopefully benefit children and adults living with Hirschsprung disease in the future."

Dr Anestis Tsakiridis, Principal Investigator at University of Sheffield said: "This has been a fantastic collaboration, led by two talented early career scientists, Dr Ben Jevans and Fay Cooper. Our findings have laid the foundations for the future development of a cell therapy against Hirschsprung disease and we will continue our efforts to bring this to the clinic in the next few years."

The results of this study demonstrate for the first time the potential of stem cell therapy to improve the functionality of the intestine in those with Hirschsprung disease which, in turn, could lead to improved symptoms and better outcomes for individuals with the disease.

Major Changes in NCERT Textbooks: Mughal-Delhi Sultanate Removed, Focus Shifts to Ancient Dynasties, Kumbh Mela, and Geography

MI News Service, New Delhi: The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has announced significant changes in its new set of textbooks, drawing both attention and controversy. Among the most notable revisions is the removal of content related to the Mughal-Delhi Sultanate. In its place, the new editions highlight ancient Indian dynasties, geographical concepts, the significance of the Kumbh Mela, and various government welfare schemes.

These revisions have been made under the framework of the New National Education Policy (NEP) and the newly formulated National Curriculum Framework (NCF). According to NCERT officials, the objective is to provide a "more indigenous and holistic" perspective on India's history, culture, and development.

However, the move has sparked sharp criticism from opposition parties and educationists, who have accused the government of at-

tempting to "safronize" education by selectively editing historical narratives. Critics argue that the removal of major periods such as the Mughal and Delhi Sultanate eras presents an incomplete and biased portrayal of India's diverse past. Defending the changes, NCERT representatives said the new curriculum aims to balance historical knowledge with an increased focus on India's ancient heritage and contemporary socio-economic initiatives. "We want students to develop

a deeper understanding of India's ancient traditions, cultural practices like the Kumbh Mela, and modern governance models," an NCERT source said. The updated textbooks are expected to be rolled out in schools across the country from the upcoming academic session. Education experts and stakeholders continue to debate whether these changes will foster a broader appreciation of India's legacy or further polarize historical education.

Pakistan: BNP President says people of Balochistan have no choice but to take up arms

MI News Service, Gwadar : Balochistan National Party (BNP) President Sardar Akhtar Mengal said growing disappointment among people regarding parliament's failure to resolve the issues of Balochistan has left people with no choice other than to take up arms, Dawn reported.

In his address at a seminar titled 'Pakistan's Judicial System and Human Rights Enshrined in the Constitution', organised by the Kech Bar Association in Turbat, Mengal said residents of Balochistan have become completely disillusioned with the role of the parliament and have lost hope for achieving their rightful demands through this institution. Mengal said, "Sitting in a parliament where questions and free expression are not allowed is nothing but a waste of time." He stressed that it was responsibility of all political parties, tribal figures, lawyers and other segments of society to participate in the struggle for the release of Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC) leader Mahrang Baloch and other members of the group, Dawn reported. He criticised the judicial system, saying it no longer provided hope for justice. He also spoke about the plight of activists and mentioned that lawyers of Mahrang Baloch and others were asked to give affidavits of loyalty from the clients under Article 5 of the Constitution, terming it deeply tragic moment for the judiciary. Mahrang Baloch and other BYC activists were arrested on March 22 for allegedly "attacking" Quetta Civil Hospital and "inciting people to violence." The arrest came a day after police conducted a crackdown on BYC members in Quetta while they were holding protest against alleged enforced disappearances. Sardar Akhtar Mengal called the media "completely restricted and controlled" and added that the parliament, judiciary and media were under the influence of the establishment.

Award Of Excellence Team Engineering 2024-25



Eastern Railway Felicitates Engineering Team for Outstanding Achievements

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Engineering Department of Eastern Railway organized an "Award of Excellence" programme today to recognize exemplary performance in track maintenance work and the elimination of Level Crossing Gates through the construction of Limited Height Subways (LHS) and Road Over Bridge (ROB) across Eastern Railway jurisdiction.

Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, graced the occasion. In his inspiring and motivational address, Shri Deouskar emphasized the importance of collective skill and teamwork in elevating Eastern Railway to the highest levels of prestige while ensuring enhanced safety and convenience for valued passengers. As a token of appreciation, Shri Deouskar also presented a memento to Shri Vikram Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer, acknowledging his exceptional leadership. In this grand felici-

tation programme, Shri Vikram Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer, awarded mementos to 240 employees for their outstanding contributions. It is worth mentioning that Eastern Railway achieved a remarkable milestone in the last financial year by surpassing all the targets of track work set up by Railway Board and also by closing a record 56 Nos Level Crossing Gates through the construction of Limited Height Subways & Road Over Bridge — the highest ever achievement in the history of Eastern Railway.



Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah with MLAs observes silence to pay tributes to the victims of Pahalgam terror attack during the one-day special session of the J&K Assembly, in Srinagar.

Top UN court reviews Israel's responsibility to facilitate aid to Palestinians

MI News Service, The Hague: The United Nations' highest court opens hearings Monday into Israel's obligation to "ensure and facilitate" urgently needed humanitarian assistance to Palestinian civilians in the occupied territories, bringing the ongoing conflict in Gaza back into focus in The Hague. A week of hearings has been scheduled in response to a request last year from the UN General Assembly, which asked the International Court of Justice to weigh in on Israel's legal responsibilities after the country blocked the UN agency for Palestinian refugees from operating on its territory.

In a resolution sponsored by Norway, the General Assembly requested an advisory opinion, a non-binding but legally important decision from the court, on Israel's obligations in the occupied territories to "ensure and facilitate the unhindered provision of urgently needed supplies essential to the survival of the Palestinian civilian population?" Hearings open as the humanitarian aid system in Gaza is nearing collapse. Israel has blocked the entry of food, fuel, medicine and other humanitarian supplies since March 2. It renewed its bombardment on March 18, breaking a ceasefire, and seized large parts of the territory, saying



it aims to push Hamas to release more hostages. Despite the stepped-up Israeli pressure, ceasefire efforts remain deadlocked. The World Food Programme said last week its food stocks in the Gaza Strip have run out under Israel's nearly 8-week-old blockade, ending a main source of sustenance for hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in the territory. Many families are struggling to feed their children. The United Nations will be the first to address the court on Monday, followed by Palestinian representatives. In total, 40 states and four

international organisations are scheduled to participate. Israel is not scheduled to speak during the hearings, but could submit a written statement. Israel's Foreign Ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment. The United States, which voted against the UN resolution, is scheduled to speak on Wednesday. The court will likely take months to rule. But experts say the decision, though not legally binding, could profoundly impact international jurisprudence, international aid to Israel and public opinion. "Advisory opinions provide clar-

ity," Juliette McIntyre, an expert on international law at the University of South Australia, told The Associated Press. Governments rely on them in international negotiations and the outcome could be used to pressure Israel into easing restrictions on aid.

Whether any ruling will have an effect on Israel, however, is unclear. Israel has long accused the United Nations of being unfairly biased against it and has ignored a 2004 advisory ruling by the ICJ that found its West Bank separation barrier illegal. Today, South Africa, a staunch critic of Israel, is presenting its arguments. In hearings last year in a separate case at the court, the country accused Israel of committing genocide against the Palestinians in Gaza — a charge Israel denies. Those proceedings are still underway. Israel's ban on the agency, known as UNRWA, came into effect in January. The organization has faced increased criticism from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his far-right allies, who claim the group is deeply infiltrated by Hamas. UNRWA rejects that claim. Israel alleged that 19 out of UNRWA's approximately 13,000 staff in Gaza took part in Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack in southern Israel, which killed about 1,200 people and set off the war in Gaza.

DRM/Sealdah interacts with Employees and Passengers to fine tune operational efficiency

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sri Rajeev Saxena, DRM/Sealdah has conducted extensive interactions with Railway Employees of Ranaghat section and visited major stations like Ranaghat, Barrackpore, and Naihati. Sri Saxena met with staff members from various departments, fostering direct communication and understanding their perspectives on operational efficiency and potential improvements. In a proactive effort to prioritize passenger experience, Sri Saxena also engaged directly with commuters at these stations to explore further beautification of Stations & circulating area. The noble initiative to get direct feedbacks from passengers is aimed at augmenting existing amenities and areas



needing enhancement. Sri Saxena emphasized upon the importance of passenger comfort and convenience, underscoring the division's commitment to providing a seamless and pleasant travel experience. During these interactions, Sri Rajeev Saxena meticulously highlighted the crucial role

of dedication and commitment from every railway employee in propelling the railways forward. The discussions focused on collaborative strategies and individual contributions that can collectively elevate the standards of service and operational excellence within the Sealdah Division.

'Jokers': Asaduddin Owaisi on Afridi's 'nalayak, nikamme' remarks on Indian Army

MI News Service, Hyderabad: All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Asaduddin Owaisi termed Pakistan cricketer Shahid Afridi as a "joker" following his comments on the Pahalgam issue. During a program, when a reporter sought Asaduddin's reaction to Shahid Afridi's statement, he just said, "Who is he? Don't take the name of these jokers." In a media interaction, the former Pakistan cricketer Shahid Afridi recently said, "India carries out terrorism itself, is responsible for killing its own people, and then puts the blame on Pakistan." Additionally in another TV news broadcast the cricketer is seen calling the Indian Army stationed in Kashmir as nikammed and nalayak (of no good use and worthless) for failing to prevent the Pahalgam attack. Asaduddin Owaisi also lashed out at Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto. "When your mother (Benazir Bhutto) is attacked, it is called terrorism. But when our mothers and daughters are killed, isn't that terrorism?" he asked. Owaisi appealed to the Indian government to put Pakistan on the FATF list.

Israeli attacks across 43 Palestinians killed in Gaza: Civil Defense

MI News Service, Gaza: At least 43 Palestinians were killed in Israeli attacks across the Gaza Strip, the enclave's Civil Defense said on Sunday. Civil Defense spokesperson Mahmoud Basal told Xinhua that eight people, including three children and a woman, were killed when Israeli aircraft struck a tent housing displaced persons near Hamad City, northwest of Khan Younis, in the southern Gaza Strip.

In another attack, an Israeli airstrike killed five Palestinians and wounded several others, some seriously, in Deir-al-Balah in central Gaza, Basal added. He also reported that six people were killed and 20 others injured in an Israeli airstrike on a cafe near the entrance to the Nuseirat and Bureij refugee camps in the central Gaza Strip.

Basal said that at least four children were killed in an Israeli drone attack on a gathering of children in the town of al-Zawayda in the central Gaza Strip. Eight people, including three children, were killed when Israeli aircraft targeted a gathering of Palestinians in the Tuffah neighborhood, northeast of Gaza City. At least 12 Palestinians were killed in Israeli air and artillery attacks on several homes in the Shuja'iyya, al-Zeitoun, and al-Tuffah neighborhoods, east of Gaza City, according to Basal. The Israeli army has not commented on these incidents yet. Since Israel resumed its military campaign in Gaza on March 18, at least 2,151 Palestinians have been killed and 5,598 others injured, bringing the overall death toll in Gaza since the war began in October 2023 to 52,243, with 117,639 people injured, according to health authorities in Gaza on Sunday.

Additional Member (Railway Electrification), Railway Board reviewed the progress of Green initiatives and Solar Projects of Metro Railway



MI News Service, Kolkata: Dr. Jaideep Gupta, Additional Member (Railway Electrification), Railway Board reviewed the progress of different Green Initiatives of Metro Railway, Kolkata at Metro Rail Bhavan today on 28.04.2025. During the meeting, progress of ongoing energy saving and efficiency improvement projects like replacement of steel third rail by highly conductive aluminium third rail, Tunnel Ventilation System (TVS) and Environment Control System (ECS) for the underground section and Battery Energy Storage System with advanced chemical battery etc. were also reviewed. Replacement of steel third rail with highly conductive aluminium third rail will help to reduce the loss on third rail in the form of heat generation by 80%. Revamping of TVS and ECS with bi-directional fans with different modes shall ensure running of ventilation system as and when required in place of current requirement of running 24x7. This will lead to savings of Rs. 20 Crore per year. Battery Energy Storage System will assist Metro Railway for peak saving and absorbing re-

generative energy for further use in other system during non-peak hours. Metro Railway has already installed 4MW solar panels till date and planning to install another 23.5 MW solar panels in the next 2 years. Detailed planning has already been done by Metro Railway and clearance is awaited from Railway Board for this mega project. After the review meeting, Additional Member (Railway Electrification) held a meeting with Sri Vineet Sikka, MD/Distribution, CESC, regarding provision of electricity from renewable sources to Metro Railway, Kolkata to achieve Indian Railway's goal of net zero carbon emitter by 2030. Recent developments like open access model, Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO) model, net billing, captive plant, green power direct from CESC etc. were also discussed for further reduction of carbon footprint of Metro Railway Kolkata. In the meeting, CESC team led by Sri Vineet Sikka, MD/Distribution, explained various tariff structure and options available for procurement of green energy from CESC.

Reduced number of Metro Services in Green Line-1 on 29.04.25 (Tuesday)

MI News Service, Kolkata: In Connection with the commissioning of the commercial services over the entire stretch of Green Line, i.e. from Howrah Maidan to Salt Lake Sector V, Metro will operate less number of services in Green Line-1 (i.e. between Sealdah – Salt Lake Sector V stations) to-

morrow i.e. on 29.04.25. Total 90 services will be operated in Green Line-1 instead of 106 services tomorrow. Services will be available in 20 minutes interval. Normal services will be available in Green Line-2 (i.e. between Howrah Maidan – Esplanade stations).

In touch with both India & Pakistan, US calls for 'responsible' solution after Pahalgam attack

MI News Service, New Delhi: The US has called on India and Pakistan to work towards a 'responsible' solution, after tensions have escalated in recent days following the terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, which has left at least 26 people dead. The Department of State is "in touch with both India and Pakistan" and urged both countries to work together towards a solution to the current situation, Reuters reported Monday. The comments from the Department of State to Reuters, comes after days of strong public support announced by US President Donald J. Trump and his administration officials in favour of India. On 22 April, at least four gunmen wielding AK-47 rifles sprayed bullets at tourists near Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, which killed 25 Indians and one foreign national. The attack was among the most significant against civilians in the Union Territory in recent years. Trump was the first world leader to call Prime Minister Narendra Modi last Tuesday when news first broke of the attack. Modi spoke to the American President while preparing to return from the Saudi Arabian city of Jeddah. The Indian PM cut short his visit to Jeddah and returned early Wednesday morning to India. US Vice-President J.D. Vance, who was on a trip to India at the time of the attack, also spoke to Modi to convey his condolences over the terrorist attack.

Greater Noida to host Intercontinental Legends Championship from May 27



GREATER NOIDA (UTTAR PRADESH) : The upcoming Intercontinental Legends Championship (ILC) is set to enthrall fans in the country and worldwide from May 27 in Greater Noida. The much awaited league will be played at Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik sports complex, according to a release from the Intercontinental Legends Championship.

The upcoming Championship featuring 6 teams from 6 continents, ensuring cricket enthusiasts worldwide can witness every moment of this historic championship from the comfort of their

homes.

Founder of the Intercontinental Legends Championship (ILC), Pradeep Sangwan, directors and co-founders of Intercontinental Legends Championship Rahul Hudda, Manish Bhatt and 100 Sports founder Ravindra Bhati graced the event.

Speaking about the Intercontinental Legends Championship (ILC), founder of the ILC, Pradeep Sangwan said, "The Intercontinental Legends Championship is more than a tournament; it's a celebration of cricket's ability to unite the world.

With Sony Network broadcasting the event, we're bringing this historic spectacle to millions of fans globally," as quoted from a release by the Intercontinental Legends Championship.

Echoing this enthusiasm, Rahul Hudda, director and co-founder of Intercontinental Legends Championship said, "This championship marks a major milestone in the world of cricket. We are proud that Greater Noida gets to be part of such a historic occasion. With legendary players from every continent and Sony Network bringing the action to a global audience, the ILC promises to be a truly unforgettable spectacle."

With 6 continents, 6 teams, and 18 games of action-packed cricket, the Intercontinental Legends Championship promises to redefine the boundaries of the sport. The League is managed by 100 Sports. Be part of the history-making journey from May 27 as legends unite for the glory of the game in Greater Noida.

The Intercontinental Legends Championship trophy was unveiled at a grand function ahead of the start of the tournament in Dubai, setting the momentum in action for global cricketing supremacy. The tournament will bring together legends from across the globe.



Gujarat Titans' Sai Sudharsan plays a shot during the IPL 2025 match against Rajasthan Royals, at Sawai Mansingh Stadium, in Jaipur on Monday. (ANI Photo)

Will always look back fondly at friendships, memories we built: Buttler on his relationship with Samson

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Gujarat Titans wicketkeeper batter Jos Buttler opened up about the relationship he shares with Rajasthan Royals captain Sanju Samson and his transition from Jaipur to Ahmedabad.

From 2018 to 2024, Buttler spent seven seasons with Rajasthan before being let go by the franchise last year. The former English skipper wasn't among the retention lists for Rajasthan before the ongoing 18th edition of the cash-rich league.

Gujarat Titans went big for the experienced English star and shelled out Rs 15.75 crore handsomely in last year's mega auction to land Buttler in Ahmedabad. After embarking on a new journey, Buttler relished the new challenge, and his "success" story continued even when his past glared at him in Ahmedabad during their previous encounter.

As Buttler prepares to face his former side once again, he opened up about the relationship he shares with Samson and said on JioHotstar's special series, "I've had a great relationship with Sanju over the years, learning a lot from him and watching how he goes about things. While time moves on and I'm now with a new franchise, I'll always look back fondly at the friendships and memories we built -- they'll stand the test of time."

The 34-year-old expressed his feelings about the transition from the Royals to the Titans. Buttler admitted that the new environment around him feels different, but he is "excited" to take up something "fresh and interesting".

"Playing for Gujarat Titans feels different after spending so many seasons with Rajasthan Royals and creating great memories. But I'm excited for something new--it keeps things fresh and interesting. The setup here is very relaxed and chilled. I've enjoyed getting to know Ashish Nehra, who runs a fun, positive environment, and Shubman Gill, who is a very impressive, calm young captain," he added.

The last time Buttler came up against his former side, the Titans were put to bat by the Royals, Gujarat were rattled early after skipper Shubman Gill was the first to fall.

Buttler took the onus of taking GT out of the dire situation and raised a valuable 80-run partnership to clear the road for a daunting 200-plus total. Buttler's night was cut short by Maheesh Theekshana, who turned the ball sharply into him to pin the Englishman in front of the stumps, ending his stay on 36(25).

Overall, Buttler has thrived with Gujarat and has garnered 356 runs to his name in eight appearances at an average of 71.20, including three blistering half-centuries. Buttler will look to script a successful outing against his former side on Monday.



BCCI PLANS 94-MATCH IPL SEASON BY 2028



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : There were plans to expand to 84 matches by 2025 in the Indian Premier League (IPL), but they were delayed because of a tight schedule and broadcasters not wanting too many double-headers. However, expansion is still being considered for the future, as per ESPNcricinfo.

The IPL has a fixed slot in the Future Tours Programme (FTP) for the next two years, running from mid-March to the end of May. Arun Dhumal, the IPL chairman, told ESPNcricinfo that the BCCI will seriously think about expanding the tournament to a full home-and-away format with 94 matches for the next media-rights cycle, which starts in 2028.

"Definitely, that might be an opportunity," Dhumal said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"We've been discussing in ICC, we've been discussing in-house in BCCI. Given how the interest of the fan is changing with regard to bilateral and ICC events, in regard to franchise cricket and T20 cricket, we'll have to talk more seriously about it and see how we can create maximum value for the stakeholders of the game," he added.

"Ideally, we'd want a larger window, or to maybe go on from 74 to 84 or 94 at some point... So that every team gets to play against every team home and away, for that, you need 94 games," he noted.

"Given the window and the

kind of commitments that we have with regards to bilateral cricket and ICC events, that may not be possible in the short term but given the landscape, how it is changing and evolving over the years, maybe at some point in time we would look and take that option," he remarked.

"There's been so much cricket: we came back from Australia from a Test series, we had this Champions Trophy, and on top of that we have this IPL. That is why it was decided that it doesn't make sense from going from 74 to 84 (in 2025), but whenever we think that the time is opportune, we'll take that call," he noted.

The length of the IPL window will be discussed next year when cricket boards plan the next FTP. Several franchise officials told ESPNcricinfo that they prefer a 94-match season, but it would depend on whether broadcasters are interested, especially after the Reliance-Disney merger to create JioStar in India.

TV and streaming viewership usually drops midway through the IPL season. Broadcasters blame this on fans getting tired of too many matches. The 2025 IPL will last nine weeks, with 12 double-headers planned. Expanding to a full home-and-away season would probably need two more weeks added to the international calendar.

"Ten is a good number for now," Dhumal said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"Paramount is the interest in the tournament and the quality of cricket that we play... I don't see any scope in the short term. Going forward, with how this whole landscape evolves, we'll take a call accordingly," he noted.

Dhumal called the 2025 IPL season a success, praising the strong competition among teams and the rise of young Indian players. He also said it would be great if a team that has never won the IPL before could become champions this season, with Delhi Capitals (DC), Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), Punjab Kings (PBKS), and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) all still fighting for a playoff spot.

"Every year, it's been growing," Dhumal said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"We are very glad how the fans have loved this tournament, and the broadcast numbers and in-stadia numbers are all phenomenal. We are hoping to carry on with this being a special edition, the 18th edition. We are very sure that it'll continue to grow in the way we've seen over the last 17 years," he noted.

"Definitely, I would want somebody who has never won the tournament to lift the trophy this year. DC has done exceptionally well over the last few years, but they've not won. Punjab Kings made it to one final, and RCB, off and on, have done well. If some of these teams compete against each other in the final, we'll know for sure that we will have a new winner, then I'll be very happy for the tournament," he added.

ARUN DHUMAL, THE IPL CHAIRMAN, TOLD ESPNCRICINFO THAT THE BCCI WILL SERIOUSLY THINK ABOUT EXPANDING THE TOURNAMENT TO A FULL HOME-AND-AWAY FORMAT WITH 94 MATCHES FOR THE NEXT MEDIA-RIGHTS CYCLE, WHICH STARTS IN 2028.

IPL 2025: Chawla underscores importance of Virat's fifty; decodes reason behind RCB's away dominance



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Former India spinner Piyush Chawla feels that irrespective of the way batting maestro Virat Kohli managed his way to fifty, Royal Challengers Bengaluru stood in a position where they needed someone to play the anchor's role, especially after Delhi Capitals rattled their top-order.

During RCB's pursuit of 163, Delhi roared back with aplomb and reduced the visitors to 26/3, leaving them tattered after the fourth over. RCB's batting depth was up for a test, and Krunal Pandya and Virat ensured their side passed gracefully with flying colours.

Virat and Krunal inspired Bengaluru to the top of the table by stitching up an impeccable 119-run stand to safely guide the Royal Challengers through the turbulent phase.

Throughout the partnership, Virat heavily relied on stroke rotation and occasionally set his eyes on the boundary rope.

He returned to the dugout with 51(47) after trying to dispatch the ball with an inside-out shot but couldn't clear the boundary rope. Dushmantha Chameera's length delivery, well outside off, did the trick, with Mitchell Starc calmly completing the catch to end Virat's stay at the crease.Chawla outlined the importance of Virat's knock even though it didn't meet the current T20 standard and said on JioHotstar, "No matter how Virat has scored his 50 runs, what's important is getting those crucial two points in the points table. RCB wanted somebody to anchor the innings -- the score wasn't that big."

"Especially after losing three wickets, you need someone to anchor and not lose too many wickets from one end so the others can revolve around you. That's exactly what Virat has done. Those 51 runs were as crucial as those slog overs by Bhuvn. Virat calculates those 160-170 chases so well and gives the team a great platform to chase," he added. While Kohli held the wicket from one end, Krunal grabbed the headlines for being the main mastermind behind Bengaluru's emphatic

six-wicket triumph over Delhi Capitals at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

He restrained Delhi's batters by tangling them in his web of spin, returned with the scalp of the seasoned Faf du Plessis and finished with figures of 1/28. While with the bat, he broke the shackles, opened his arms and blazed his way to an entertaining 73* from 47 deliveries.

"Krunal is somebody who plays spinners well, and that's why he becomes more dangerous in that middle phase. It was a difficult wicket to bat on -- even Virat mentioned that it was a tricky surface -- and that's why you have to give a lot of credit to Krunal. The way he batted, took responsibility, and took calculated chances -- it really paid off. First, he took those 30-odd balls to settle in, and after that, the way he accelerated was just fantastic," he said.

In the 18th edition of the cash-rich league, RCB are yet to taste defeat in the opposition territory. Chawla traced down the reason behind RCB's unmatched success, which is currently playing "fantastic cricket".

"RCB is playing fantastic cricket, and you have to give credit to the team. Because you talk about their bowling and batting, we saw what Bhuvn (Bhuvneshwar Kumar) is capable of with the old ball as well. Those two overs were very crucial, picking those crucial wickets. And when it comes to chasing on a tricky surface, you have to credit Virat Kohli and Krunal Pandya -- the way they staged that partnership. At one point in time, they were so much under pressure, but they kept taking it deep," he said.

"Especially Krunal Pandya -- taking those calculated risks and playing those big shots when needed, and he made sure that the required run rate stayed under control. So, the team is looking fantastic, and the way they're playing, everything is contributing to the cause, and that's why they're winning everything away from home," he added.

From Kumble to Bangar: Former cricketers question Delhi Capitals' death over tactics against RCB

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Former cricketers Anil Kumble, Sanjay Bangar and Wasim Jaffer pointed out the tactical flaw in Delhi Capitals captain Axar Patel's plan during the death phase of the second innings which led to their six-wicket downfall against Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

During Delhi's attempt to defend its 162/8, the entire chase became a pulsating affair when the equation came down to 38 runs required from 24 deliveries. Mukesh Kumar bowled the 17th over, and the duo of Krunal Pandya and Virat Kohli managed to steal 12 runs away.

Dushmantha Chameera conceded nine in the next but



returned with the priceless scalp of Virat (51). When the Capitals seemingly reignited their ambition for victory, the entire contest suddenly ended within the blink of an eye. Mukesh returned to the attack and then was bashed away for 6, 4, 4, 4 in the 19th, with

Tim David being his tormentor. For the penultimate over, Axar had the option to exercise Mitchell Starc's last over and Vipraj Nigam, who had bowled just a solitary over.

"I don't know [what DC were thinking]. When you have 18-19

runs [the requirement was 17 from two overs] to defend in the last two overs, you give the 19th over to your best bowler to take it till the end. I was surprised that he gave the ball to Mukesh and not Starc. The result might have been the same, but the intent was wrong," Kumble said on ESPNcricinfo's Time Out show.

Axar's intent to restrain Starc possibly came down to using the Australian's services in the final over, considering his heroics against Rajasthan Royals earlier in the tournament.

"It must be the hangover from the [game against RR]. Axar must have thought that since Starc had defended nine runs in that last over, so let's give this to Mukesh and see. It might have worked,

but the thought process was wrong. Your best bowler should have bowled that over. Even if Starc had conceded, say, 12 runs, you have a legspinner [Nigam] for the last over if you don't want to bowl Mukesh. Spinners sometimes create magical moments. It was a mistake on Axar's part," Bangar said.

"I felt he [Axar] didn't show enough trust in Vipraj. Maybe he could have been given two-three overs too. Maybe it could have had an effect. Because at that stage [if a wicket had fallen], two overseas batters [David and Romario Shepherd] would have been there, and they might have found it tough. Jitesh [Sharma] was the main batter left then," Jaffer added.