



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is addressing the media on her arrival at Baharampur in Murshidabad district on Monday before visiting the violence affected families.

'Unrest in Murshidabad is pre-planned says Mamata Banerjee

MI News Service, Bahrampur (Murshidabad) : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has said that her government is currently investigating how the violence in Murshidabad started during the protest against the amended Waqf Act and why the situation went out of hand and who was behind it? We are investigating everything. There was a conspiracy in Murshidabad."

Speaking after reaching the district headquarters of Murshidabad on Monday afternoon on a two day visit to talk to the families of the victims of the last month's violence, the Chief minister said during her visit she is also taking stock of the situation. "The complete truth about this will be revealed soon. She also criticised the opposition and those be-

hind the violence, terming them as 'enemies of Bengal'.

Mamata Banerjee who is scheduled to visit troubled areas of Dhulian, Shamsheganj and Suti on Tuesday, said "I will not blame any community. Some people have become religious leaders. In the name of religion, they talk rubbish. They are the ones who create unrest. They are the enemies of Bengal." Reminding the heritage of Murshidabad, Mamata Banerjee said, "Murshidabad was once the capital of Bengal, and said trouble broke out only in two wards in the district last month. Only two-three people are creating this chaos. Who did it, how did it happen, I am cross-checking. There is also division in the role of some media outlets. When I get the com-

plete information, I shall announce it." The Chief minister further stated that, "When I do politics or sit in any chair, all religions are equal to me, everyone is equal. I do not want any community to be attacked in Bengal. There was a conspiracy in Murshidabad." She also criticised the National Human Rights Commission and the National Commission for Women for visiting the affected areas and said, "The Human Rights Commission came the very next day after the incident! Did it go to Manipur? It did not go to Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Bihar! What happened here suddenly? It was pre-planned where one community attacked another community."

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'There should be no politics on the issue of national security, TMC is with the Centre on Pahalgam issue' reiterates Mamata Banerjee

MI News Service, Kolkata : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has emphasized that there should be no politics on the issue of national security and reiterated her government and the party's (Trinamool Congress) full support to the Government of India on all these issues. The Chief minister made this remark to clarify her party's position on April 22 Pahalgam terrorist attack, while speaking to newsmen at the Dumurjola helipad in Howrah before leaving for Murshidabad on Monday afternoon.

She said after the Pahalgam attack, the central government called an all-party meeting in Delhi which was represented by TMC MP Sudip Banerjee on behalf of her party. He had informed the meeting that Trinamool Congress will fully support the decision of the BJP government at the Centre on the issue of national security. Earlier, Mamata Banerjee had also instructed the party leaders and ministers not to

make any 'insensitive' comment on the Pahalgam incident. "What is happening in the country now, is the matter of national security, we have said, our party will stand by the central government. We will never divide and rule. In other words, TMC does not want to use this opportunity to do politics", she said before leaving for Murshidabad. On April 22, 26 people were killed in the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in South Kashmir. Among those killed, there were several residents of West Bengal. Mamata Banerjee held a cabinet meeting on the day after the incident. According to party sources, the Chief Minister had cautioned her colleagues about making any unnecessary comment on the issue. "This is an extremely sensitive issue for the country. So do not make any emotional comment on this matter publicly," she said. However, she remarked that "I cannot believe what we hear that they have

killed the tourists selectively. It is a border and a very sensitive area. Anyway, I will not talk about all this now."

Meanwhile, New Delhi has taken a number of stern measures against Pakistan blaming the country for the Pahalgam attack. Among the measures initiated by India are suspension of visas to Pakistani nationals, Trade between the two countries is also banned and Indian airspace has been closed for Pakistan Airlines flights. As a result of the present heightened tension between the two neighbouring countries, the USA, Russia, Iran and the EU countries have offered to settle the issue through diplomatic channels.

Under this circumstances, the unconditional support to the Central government by Mamata Banerjee and her government is considered to be vital for the sake of national interest.

Defence secretary meets PM Modi

MI News Service, New Delhi: After meeting with three Defence Chiefs during the past three days to discuss the country's defence preparedness, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held another meeting with Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh in his office on Monday against the backdrop of increasing tensions between India and Pakistan over the Pahalgam terror attack.

The meeting comes a day after Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh met Prime Minister Modi and is understood to have discussed the security situation.

Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and the Chief of Staff of the Army General Dinesh Dwivedi had on Saturday and Friday apprised the Prime minister on the overall situation in the critical sea lanes in the Arabian Sea as well as on the land borders.

In the backdrops of these meetings, Prime Minister Modi's separate discussions with Defence Secretary Singh assumes a special significance amid the prevailing tensions with Pakistan India has taken several punitive actions against Pakistan, including suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, withdrawal of visa services and banning Pakistani aeroplanes and ships. India has also evicted Pakistani nationals after cancelling their visas.

Rattled by India's aggressive stance against terrorism, Islamabad has voiced its apprehensions that a military strike by New Delhi is imminent. PM Modi has held several high-profile meetings with top government officials and military leaders since April 22. Last month, PM Modi said at a key security meeting that

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Unprovoked firing by Pak troops in 8 forward sectors in LoC amid heightened tensions

MI News Service, Jammu : Violating ceasefire agreements between the two countries amid heightened tensions, Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing in eight forward sectors along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, prompting suitable retaliation from Indian troops on Monday.

Informing this official sources said here today that these violations marked the 11th consecutive night of Pakistan's unprovoked firing along the LoC, amidst heightened tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad following the killing of 26 people in the April 22 terror attack in Pa-

halgam. "During the night of May 4 and 5, Pakistan Army posts resorted to unprovoked small arms fire across the LoC in areas opposite Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch, Rajouri, Mendhar, Naushera, Sunderbani, and Akhnoor in J-K," a defence spokesperson in Jammu said adding "the Indian Army responded promptly and proportionately". The firing was initiated by Pakistani troops across five border districts -- Jammu, Rajouri, and Poonch in the south of the Pir Panjal ranges in the Jammu region, and

termed the plea on Monday as "misconceived" and "meritless" at the outset and refused to entertain the petition filed against the Delhi High Court order. "The writ petition filed initially was misconceived and meritless. It cannot be entertained," the CJI said. It claimed

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SC rejects plea of a woman claiming possession of Red Fort

MI News Service, New Delhi : The Supreme Court has flatly rejected the plea of a woman, who claimed to be the widow of great-grandson of Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar-II, seeking possession of the iconic Red Fort in the National capital on account of being the legal 'heir'. A bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjay Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar

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'I shall talk to the affected families in Murshidabad, if no one takes compensation, there is nothing to be done', says Mamata Banerjee

MI News Service, Kolkata / Bahrampur : As announced last week, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee arrived in Murshidabad on Monday on a two day visit to the last month's violence affected areas of the bordering district, and talk to the riot-hit people to alleviate their miseries and help rebuild their devastated life.

After reaching the district headquarters Bahrampur by a helicopter from Dumurjola stadium in Howrah on Monday afternoon, the Chief minister said she will go to affected areas to talk to those affected by the violence.

Replying to queries about the refusal of some

victims families government compensation of Rs ten lakhs, Mamata Banerjee said there is nothing she can do if they refuse.

Last month, unprecedented violence took place in the minority dominated Shamsheganj, Dhulian, and Suti areas in Murshidabad district following protests over the amended Waqf Act. Three people were hacked to death in the subsequent violence when several houses were also vandalised, looted and set on fire by unidentified miscreants forcing many Hindu families to flee and take shelter in relief camps in neighbouring Malda district after crossing the mighty Bharathi river at night.

However, following that tragic incident, the state government announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh for the family members of the deceased father-son Hargobind Das and Chandan Das. But they refused to accept the financial assistance.

Reacting to that Mamata Banerjee said, "The state government should have given compensation. We were ready to give that. But if no one wants to take the money, it is not in our hands." It is worth noting that family members of both the deceased father and son are presently staying in Bidhannagar area on the outskirts of Kolkata. According to them, they

have come here because they want to file a case in the Calcutta High Court regarding this incident. Many in the ruling party have alleged that the BJP is behind this.

The Chief minister also said that "In Berhampur there will be an administrative meeting. From there, I will go to Dhulian and Shamsheganj tomorrow. I know that everyone has come from there. That is it. I will talk to those who are there. I will listen to them. I will build houses. I will help those whose shops have been vandalised and looted." The Chief Minister is scheduled to return to Kolkata

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Mamata Banerjee expresses concern over detained BSF Jawan by Pakistani Rangers

MI News Service, Kolkata : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday expressed deep concern for the BSF Jawan from Hooghly who was captured and detained by Pakistani Rangers.

She said that Trinamool Congress leader Kalyan Banerjee MP, is in touch with the family members, adding "This is an extremely sad situation. His name is Sahu. Our party's Kalyan Banerjee is in touch with the family members. I want that he should be rescued as soon as possible. We have clearly said that our party is with the Union government on the issues of internal and external security. We are not resorting to any divide and rule here."

Meanwhile, the BSF has issued a strict advisory to its jawans to remain alert and vigilant during border patrolling.

A senior BSF officer has confirmed that, although the advisory has been a part of their regular briefing, after Pakistani Rangers captured and detained the jawan during patrolling duty, all patrolling parties have been instructed to be extra cautious during duty.

"Amid ongoing tension at the border, jawans have been asked to be extra cautious and avoid inadvertently crossing the border during patrol duty. Even the farmers working on farms at the borders have been asked to be vigilant," the officer said.

According to another BSF officer, such incidents are common in the Punjab border where jawans from both sides often cross the international border areas inadvertently and issues are used to get resolved in a single flag meeting, but this time Pakistan is not turning up for the meeting despite several attempts.

"Pakistan is not responding because of ongoing tension after the Pahalgam attack, but we have lodged our protest with the Pak Rangers and are making all efforts to bring back the jawan," the officer added. Pakistani Rangers detained the BSF trooper on April 23 after

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KIIT (Deemed to be University) has only one permanent campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe.



PPP model brings top companies in mega job fair as Centre mulls employment drive in Bengal

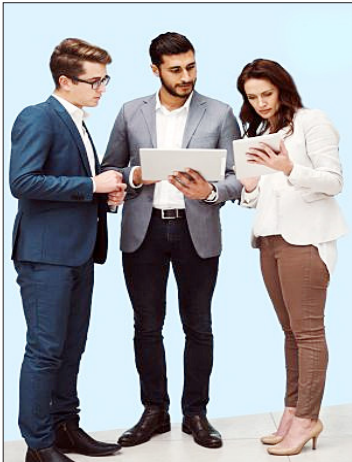
MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal is changing and it is changing very fast for good. The employment scenario in West Bengal is looking towards a paradigm shift as Public-Private Partnership model(PPP Model) has created magic in creating a metamorphosis in the industrial and employment scenario of West Bengal in a big way.

In a time when job insecurity and layoffs dominate headlines and dreams of countless diploma holders lie in limbo, GMIT, a premier institution under the JIS Group in proud partnership with Board of Practical Training - Eastern Region (BOPT-ER), has announced a mega job fair offering over 500 career opportuni-

ties across various industries.

Top industry and academic leaders came together to launch this transformative initiative. Top corporate of India would be a partner in this upcoming mega fair in Kolkata to recruit hundreds of students from Kolkata.

In a significant announcement, Soumya Sen, Chairman and MD, Technocon Services Group of companies have committed induction of over 200 skilled workers from Bengal for their new upcoming state of the art Diesel Generating Set manufacturing plant in South 24 Parganas. Teknoconstant Energy Pvt Ltd in association with Tafe TMTL Eicher is setting up the plant in Bengal



due to be inaugurated on the 16th of May 2025.

GMIT Vice Chairman Bodhisattva Banerjee said, "We sincerely hope that all the vacancies at this job fair, organized by BOPT, are successfully filled."

From the government side, Dr. S. M. Ejaz Ahmad, Director of BOPT-ER, emphasized, "This initiative underscores our commitment to fostering industry-academia collaboration and ensuring that qualified students find meaningful employment and hands-on training opportunities. Such fairs help students align their skills with real-world demands while supporting the nation's skill development goals."

LIC provided appropriate support to Pahalgam terror attack victim's family



भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

MI News Service, Kolkata: Reiterating that it demonstrates its dedication to its clientele by extending support and assistance during moments of hardship and adversity," the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Monday clarified that in a recent instance, following the tragic death of Sameer Ghua in the Pahalgam militant attack, they adhered to the stipulated regulations of the relevant scheme and disbursed ₹10.2 lakhs to his widow, Sabari Ghua.

The LIC ensured the provision of appropriate and complete support during this period of her profound grief.

"Transparency has been a foundational principle for the LIC since its inception and it is committed to providing comprehensive support to its clients in their times of need, embodying its role as a steadfast and reliable organization for policyholders and their families. This commitment is exemplified through the provision of constructive support via its established schemes during periods of crisis, the company in a state-

ment here said.

While referring to this, LIC of India once again expressed deep grief over the death of innocent citizens in Pahalgam in the terrorist attack. LIC also firmly intimated its commitment to support those affected in this grave act of terrorism.

Siddharta Mohanty, CEO & MD - LIC announced many concessions to mitigate the hardships of the claimants of LIC Policies. LIC also mentioned that in lieu of death certificates, any evidence in government records of death of the policyholder due to the terrorist attack or any compensation paid by Central/State Government will be accepted as proof of death.

LIC further mentioned that all efforts will be taken to ensure that the claimants are reached out and claims are settled expeditiously to the affected families.

LIC also mentioned that for further assistance the claimants may contact the nearest LIC Branch/Division/Custom-er Zones. The claimants may also call at our call centre -022 68276827.

Howrah Rural District Police stands by the traffic guards in the scorching heat



Nurul Islam Khan

Recently, Howrah Rural District Police and ICICI Bank, in collaboration with the traffic guards of the district, distributed special summer kits among the traffic police personnel. The inauguration was done by the District Superintendent of Police IPS officer Shri Subimal Pal. The Hon'ble

Minister of Public Health, Technology and Public Works Department of the State Government Shri Pulak Roy was present. This package included umbrellas, caps, sunglasses and ORS packets. Other senior police officers were present on the day. The initiative to distribute this kit was taken by the working traffic police personnel.

Congress leader Ashfaq Ahmed on dharna stage along with teachers



Nurul Islam Khan

Education and democracy in Bengal are under question today. As promised, 10,000 unaided madrasahs have not been aided, claimed prominent lawyer and Congress leader Ashfaq Ahmed. Speaking at a dharna stage in Kolkata on Sunday, he said that only 235 madrasahs have been aided so far. The real picture is even more disappointing - madrasahs have not been aided yet and thousands of madrasah teachers are still deprived. Some are getting only Rs 5000-6000 as allowance, while others are

completely neglected. About 2500 teachers are in a state of complete neglect today.

Not only teachers, about 45,000 students are deprived of mid-day meals, clothes and other government benefits. He also said that finally, they took to the streets after approaching the Kolkata High Court and taking legal permission.

Standing by this movement, he said, "This is not just a fight for minorities—about 40% of the teachers in this movement are from the Hindu community. So it is a fight for humanity, a fight for justice, a fight to protect the right to education."

Body found with both hands and legs cut off!

MI News Service, South 24 Pgs: Empty field! While passing by the field in the morning, many people saw a lot of fishermen wandering around in the middle of the field. Dogs were also roaming around! The witnesses were shocked as they approached. They saw the body of a man lying there, with both his hands and legs cut off! At first, the villagers could not recognize him. Later, after the mound was laid, people gathered. It was seen that the man had been wandering around the village for several days. A

complaint was made about the brutal murder of a vagrant on Amtali Island in Gosaba.

According to police and local sources, a vagrant had been living in the area for five to six years in Amtali village of Sundarbans Coastal police station in Gosaba. On Monday morning, local people found him lying with his two hands and two legs cut off in an open field at Godar Hat in Amtali gram panchayat of Sundarbans Coastal police station.

After this, they informed the Sundarbans Coastal Po-

lice Station. The police went to the spot, recovered the severed body parts and took them to Chhota Mollakhali Rural Hospital. When they took him there, the doctor declared him dead. The police have already started an investigation to find out who or what was involved in this murder. The police also said that they are trying to find out the identity of the vagrant. However, according to police sources, the vagrant is approximately 60 to 63 years old. The police are trying to find out why he was killed so brutally.

Mango-laden vehicle overturns, killing 2

MI News Service, Burdwan: It was late at night. The road was empty. Suddenly, there was a loud noise! Local residents ran. They stopped as they approached the pond. Rows of mangoes were floating in the pond. Another car was seen in the pond! Later, it was seen that two people were trapped in the car! The bodies of two people were recovered from the pond. The horrific accident took place on Sunday night in the Sonadanga area of Bohar under Memari police station in East Burdwan. A mango-laden car overturned into a pond on the side of road.

It is learnt that the mango-laden vehicle was head-

ing towards Burdwan from Krishnanagar in Nadia along the Kalna-Burdwan road. The vehicle lost control and overturned in a pond on the side of the road. Local residents rushed to the spot after hearing the loud noise. Rescue work was started immediately. The information was given to the Memari police station and the Disaster Management Department.

Police and disaster management teams rushed to the spot and carried out continuous rescue operations and recovered the bodies of two persons from inside the car. The deceased have been identified as Rajaram (29) and Subhash (32). Both the deceased are residents

of Hasanpur police station area of Amrah district in Uttar Pradesh. Rajaram's residence is in Mangrola village. While the deceased Subhash's residence is in Hatia village.

According to police sources, the car had gone to Krishnanagar in Nadia with goods from Uttar Pradesh. On the way back, it was returning to Uttar Pradesh with mangoes in the car. The two deceased are the driver and the helper of the car. On Monday, a diver from the Disaster Management Department went down to the pond. They checked to see if there were any more bodies. However, no more bodies were found during the search.

Scholarship launched in the name of Thaibi Mukherjee

MI News Service, Asansol: Asansol's Thaibi Mukherjee scored good results in the secondary exams. But the 'little' girl did not get to see her results. Liver jaundice took Thaibi's life. Tears fell from the eyes of the girl's entire family. And now Asansol South MLA Agnimitra Pal has announced the launch of a scholarship in her name.

Incidentally, Thaibi Mukherjee, a secondary school student of 'Asansol

Umarani Gorai Balika Vidyalaya', has become the topper in the school this time. She has become the first among girls in the district. She obtained 674 marks. This talented student died of jaundice on April 16. Everyone in the family and school is mourning the incident. The entire family is in tears.

After receiving the news of the incident, Agnimitra Pal reached Thaibi's house in Ismail, Asansol. She spoke to the family. Then she said

that arrangements will be made to start a scholarship in Thaibi's name. Agnimitra said, "I went to Thaibi's house. Despite being sick, he took the exam. He made the people of Asansol smile. We are proud. But he is no longer with us. If he had not been sick today, he would have stood. Yesterday I went to his house. They are devastated. Shocked. But we will start a scholarship in Thaibi's name. I will announce it in the coming days."

Chief Health Officer issues guidelines for doctors

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: The health department was shaken after the patient's death. The accused doctors were summoned. In addition, doctors will not be able to leave the primary health center without permission. The Chief Health Officer issued instructions. The Progressive Health Association (PHA) welcomed the decision and sent all reports to the headquarters.

Incidentally, a patient died

due to the absence of a doctor at the health center. At least that is what the family members of the deceased patient claimed. This led to tension at the Loksan Primary Health Center in Nagrakata block of Doarais. In this incident, the district's Chief Health Officer Asim Halder has filed a complaint against the two doctors on duty at the primary health center and the concerned block health officer.

The Chief Health Officer said that an investigation committee is being formed to look into the allegations. On Monday, a memorandum was submitted to the Chief Health Officer of Jalpaiguri district under the leadership of Mahavir Prasad, a gram panchayat member of the concerned area. Chief Health Officer Asim Halder said, "This is a very serious allegation. We are investigating why there was no doctor."

Bandhan Life's ULIP Plus offers up to 50x Life Cover and Market-Linked Wealth Creation

The plan also offers return of premium allocation and mortality charges, flexible investment options, and a special discount for women

MI News Service, Kolkata: Bandhan Life Insurance, a leading life insurance company in India, announced the launch of Bandhan Life ULIP Plus—a next-generation unit-linked life insurance plan that combines highlife cover with long-term wealth creation. The plan offers life cover of up to 50 times the annual premium, return of premium allocation and mortality charges, flexible investment options, and long-term value additions that make the policy more rewarding. ULIP Plus delivers robust financial security alongside smart, goal-driven investment choices.

Speaking about the launch, Satishwar B., MD & CEO, Bandhan Life Insurance, said, "With rising costs, relying on a single income is no longer enough—real financial security needs a smarter approach. Whether it's a dream home,

education, or a worry-free retirement, ULIP Plus gives customers that 'plus factor': high protection, growth potential, and flexibility all in one plan. At Bandhan Life, our customers' dreams deserve more, and this product delivers just that."

Bandhan Life ULIP Plus offers more protection -The life cover is 50 times the annual premium - which is substantially higher than what most ULIPs generally provide. For added protection, the plan ensures that nominees receive the higher of the fund value or the base sum assured, with a guaranteed minimum payout of 105% of total premiums paid. It also offers top-up benefits to enhance overall coverage and fund growth.

It also offers wealth-building opportunities-Customers can invest in a range of high-performing funds, designed to deliver consistent,



risk-adjusted returns across market cycles.

"ULIP Plus is designed to give investors more control and confidence," said Saibal Ghosh, Chief Investment Officer, Bandhan Life. "With diversified options across equity, debt, and hybrid categories, customers can tailor portfolios based on their goals and risk appetite," he added.

The plan brings more flexibility, with a wide choice of investment options, and withdrawals can be made when needed, offering true liquidity for life's goals and emergencies. Policyholders can tailor

their strategies through the Self-Managed Portfolio, allocating premiums across segregated funds based on their risk appetite and financial goals. Flexible premiums (ranging from 20 to 40 years), and policy maturity up to age 85 offer personalization to suit diverse life stages and ambitions.

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With ULIP Plus, Bandhan Life offers a powerful financial tool combining financial security and wealth creation. It supports long-term goal achievement, offering more for every life stage.

Robbery at empty house

MI News Service, Balurghat: The house was empty. No one was inside the house. They took advantage of that opportunity. The miscreants broke the lock of the grill and fled with everything in the house. Later, the family came to know about the theft on Monday morning.

The incident took place in Raghunathpur area near Balurghat town. Shishir Kumar Shil, a resident of that area, was robbed at his house. The miscreants broke the lock of the grill of the house and stole it overnight. The cupboards and showcases inside were vandalized. The Thakur house along with the household items were destroyed.

The owner of the house claims that the miscreants broke open the cupboard showcase inside the house and fled with about eight to nine bags of gold jewelry and about 50 thousand in cash. In total, about 9-10 lakh rupees worth of goods were stolen. Not only that, they also fled with everything stored in the house, including rice bags, mixer machines, grocery equipment. The incident has caused a stir in the area. Anger has also spread among the locals. Balurghat police station reached the spot after receiving the news.

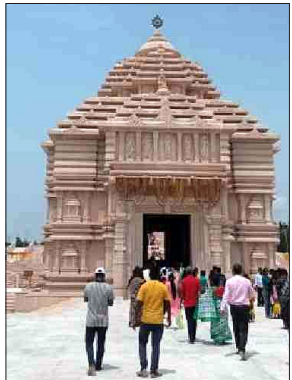


West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee is exchanging pleasantries with some children on her arrival at Baharampur in Murshidabad district on Monday before visiting the violence affected families.

Jagannath Temple acts as a catalyst in holistic growth of Digha

MI News Service, Kolkata: Four days after the grand inauguration of a replica of Puri's 12th-century shrine, traders of Digha are very much hopeful that business and trade would get a major boost after the advent of iconic Jagannath Temple at Digha.

"I hope the temple will add special value and attract a large number of tourists. In recent years, we've seen people choosing other seaside destinations in the district like Mandarmani and Shankarpur over Digha because of the condition of the beach. A temple will surely encourage visitors to come here, even if for a day," said Swapan Jana, who owns a confectionery shop near the New Digha seashore.



Multiple sources said that Digha, once the epicentre of tourism in East Midnapore, has been losing visitors as hundreds of new resorts have sprung up over the past two decades in places like Shankarpur, Mandarmani, Udaipur and Chandpur, offering more attractions.

Odisha's Talsari beach, only 7km from Digha, is also a popular tourist destination among Bengalis.

A senior minister in Mamata Banerjee's cabinet stated that when she announced plans to build a Jagannath temple in Digha in 2018, her primary goal was to use pilgrimage tourism to boost the local economy.

"You may argue that Didi built the temple to counter the BJP's Hindu narrative. But consider when she first conceived of the project—it was an initiative to make Digha a second option for Bengalis apart from Puri's Jagannath shrine," said the minister, adding that Digha is well connected to Kolkata by both bus and train.

"If you plan to visit Puri, you have to book a train ticket three months in advance. In the case of Digha, you simply go to Esplanade and catch an air-conditioned bus for a four-hour ride. So, for those visiting Puri primarily for the shrine, Digha now offers a similar spiritual experience with a temple by the sea," he added.

Chitralekha Bijli, a school teacher from Ballygunge in Kolkata, visited Digha this weekend with her family.

"I had planned to visit Digha

Father Arrested for Attempting to Kill Newborn Daughter Over Gender Bias



MI News Service, Nadia: In a shocking incident that has sparked outrage across the Nadia district, a man has been arrested for allegedly attempting to kill his newborn daughter by throwing her into a well, reportedly enraged by the birth of yet another girl child.

The incident occurred in Belpukur Colony Para, under the jurisdiction of Dhubulia Police Station. The accused, Nityananda Dutta, a toto (electric rickshaw) driver by profession, allegedly threw his newborn daughter into a well behind his house just hours after her birth early Sunday morning.

According to local sources, Nityananda has a history of domestic violence. His first wife reportedly left him due to regular physical abuse, often under the influence of alcohol. After her departure, he began living with Maya Rai, a married woman who had two sons from a previous marriage. Together, Nityananda and Maya had two daughters, and Maya gave birth to their third daughter at home on Sunday.

Enraged at the birth of another girl, Nityananda allegedly wrapped the newborn in cloth and threw her into a nearby well. He later confessed his actions to his sister-in-law, who immediately alerted other family members. Neighbors and relatives rushed to the spot and managed to rescue the infant, who was immediately taken to Krishnanagar District Hospital for treatment.

Health workers from the ASHA program and officers from Dhubulia Police Station quickly reached the location after being informed. Nityananda Dutta has been arrested and is currently in custody for interrogation.

Police have registered a case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code, including attempted murder and child endangerment. The child remains under medical observation, and her condition is reported to be stable.

The horrifying act has triggered widespread condemnation, with local residents demanding strict legal action and calling for increased awareness campaigns against gender discrimination.

This tragic incident highlights the persistent societal prejudice against the girl child and emphasizes the urgent need for stronger legal safeguards, public awareness, and education to combat gender-based violence.

'Unrest in Murshidabad is...

►► **From PG 1**
Provocations have been made. Bengal will not tolerate this." 80 year old-Hargobind Das and his son Chandan Das of Dhulian were killed in the unrest in Murshidabad. Soon after the incident, the state government had announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakhs each for the families of the deceased. But the family refused to accept it. The Chief Minister did not visit Murshidabad after the violence because she said that no one should go there from outside in the midst of the unrest and prevailing tension. However, Governor C V Anand Bose did not listen to her and went to meet the victims families in both Murshidabad and Malda. Mamata Banerjee said, "I gave Rs 10

lakh each to two families. But they did not accept that. Now you are abusing me through them". She also asked why did the BSF open fire on that day? I think if the firing had not been done, the incident would not have happened the next day." She wants the BJP and the central government to focus on the National security instead of communal unrest. In her words, "You should look at the border issue. Save the country. Give justice to the families of those who lost their lives. Don't do politics over it. I will not tolerate it. Instead of making trouble over communal unrest, look at the border. Be more responsible. You cannot divide people from each other while you are in the chair."

'I shall talk to the affected...

►► **From PG 1**
on Wednesday after visiting the affected areas. However, a couple of days after the violence Governor CV Anand Bose went to both Malda and Murshidabad and talked to the affected people there despite Chief minister Mamata Banerjee's request to him not to visit those areas because of the prevailing tense situation as his visit might further escalate the unrest. That is why she herself did not go to Murshidabad. Buit now as the unrest has completely sub-

sided she has decided to go to the affected areas of Murshidabad district and talked to the affected families. The Chief minister said, "I could have gone to Murshidabad earlier. But as long as peace has not returned, I should not go there, I think that is right. Complete peace has now returned to Murshidabad. Moreover, I was bust with the inauguration of the Jagannath temple in Digha as that programme was announced long time ago. But now that is over and I have come to Murshidabad.", she said.

Mamata Banerjee expresses..

►► **From PG 1**
he inadvertently crossed the International Border near Punjab's Firozpur. According to initial reports, the trooper unintentionally stepped into Pakistani territory. The BSF is the primary force responsible for guarding the 3,323 km long

India-Pakistan border, spanning the states of Jammu and Kashmir (including parts of the LoC), Punjab, Rajasthan, and Gujarat. This border is one of the most sensitive and volatile in the country, due to historical tensions and ongoing security challenges.

Defence secretary meets...

►► **From PG 1**
the armed forces have full operational freedom to determine the mode, targets, and timing of India's response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack.
"It is our national resolve to deliver a crushing blow to terrorism...They have complete operational freedom to decide on the mode, targets, and timing of our response," government sources quoted Modi as saying.
Earlier, reacting to the attack, PM Modi vowed to track down the terrorists responsible for the attack, saying their punishment would be beyond their imagination.
Meanwhile, according to reports in a section of media ,at least USD 500 million worth of Pakistani items are still being repackaged and relabelled in a third country to access the Indian market.
In the wake of the ban on Pakistani merchandise imports, the customs department is on high alert to thwart Islamabad's attempts to access the Indian market through a third country, such as the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Singapore, Indonesia, or Sri Lanka.
But despite that about USD 500 million worth of Pakistani fruits, dry dates, textiles, soda ash, rock salt, and leather items are

still being repackaged and relabelled in a third country to access the Indian market, the reports said without quoting any sources.
To be sure, Indian imports from Pakistan through the official channel are negligible, but Pakistani items come in via third countries. Hence, the government on May 2 issued an order banning all direct and indirect imports from Pakistan.
"The idea is to choke Pakistani exports as Pakistan's economy is already crippled and vulnerable."
The first major blow to Pakistan's economy was dealt when India withdrew its most favoured nation (MFN) status after the February 2019 Pulwama terror attack citing "incontrovertible evidence" showing the neighbouring country's direct involvement in the act of terrorism that killed about 40 CRPF jawans.
Besides withdrawing the MFN status, New Delhi imposed a 200 per cent customs duty on imports from Pakistan, leading to a sharp fall in shipments from across the border. Pakistani imports that were worth only about USD 2.39 million in 2020-21, gradually fell to negligible USD 0.42 million in the first 10 months of last fiscal.

SC rejects plea of a woman...

►► **From PG 1**
that petitioner Sultana Begum was the owner of the Red Fort as she inherited it from her ancestor Bahadur Shah Zafar-II, who died on November 11, 1862 at the age of 82, and the government of India was an illegal occupant of the property. The petition sought a direction to the Centre to hand over the Red Fort to the petitioner or give adequate compensation. The bench did not allow the counsel for petitioner (Sultana Begum) to withdraw the plea."The

petitioner is the family member of the first freedom fighter of the country," the counsel said.
The CJJ said if the arguments are considered then "why only Red Fort then why not forts at Agra, Fatehpuri Sikri etc". A division bench of the Delhi High Court, on December 13, last year, had dismissed the appeal by Begum against the December 2021 decision of a HC single judge, noting the challenge was filed after a delay of over two-and-a-half years, which could not be condoned.



A rally for communal harmony was organised in Kolkata on Monday. Eminent personalities like Aparna Sen, Sudeshna Roy, Bulan Chowdhury took part in the said rally that started from Jorasanko Thakur Bari and terminated at Central Avenue.

Commando- trained militants deployed in Pahalgam attack

MI News Service, Kolkata: Investigations into the deadly Pahalgam attack have revealed alarming details, suggesting the militants involved received specialized military-style commando training, intelligence sources have indicated. This training, allegedly conducted in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir with instruction at launch pads and Pakistani bank facilities, was not universally provided, but rather given to select terrorists, according to central and military intelligence. The training mirrored that of Pakistan's Special Service Group (SSG), encompassing tunnel navigation and advanced firing techniques. As security forces continue their search for the perpetrators, believed to include Pakistan-origin Musa and Talha, the focus remains on apprehending them alive amidst concerns that at least 15-20 Lashkar commanders are currently active in

Kashmir. Investigations into the recent deadly attack in Pahalgam have unearthed critical intelligence suggesting the involvement of highly trained militants. Sources within intelligence agencies indicate that the perpetrators underwent specialized military-style commando training, akin to that of Pakistan's Special Service Group (SSG). This training, reportedly conducted in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, involved instruction at militant launchpads and potentially at Pakistani banking facilities. Central Intelligence Agency and Military Intelligence reports suggest that this advanced training, encompassing skills such as tunnel infiltration and sophisticated firing techniques, was selectively provided to a chosen group of terrorists. Intelligence further indicates that the ISI's objective may have been to target Indian Army personnel. Security

agencies estimate that approximately 15 to 20 Lashkar-e-Taiba commanders are currently operating within Kashmir, prompting extensive combing operations to locate them. The pursuit of the militants responsible for the targeted killings, which occurred two weeks prior, remains ongoing. Security forces are reportedly prioritizing the capture of the individuals alive. National Investigation Agency (NIA) sources have identified Musa and Talha, believed to be of Pakistani origin and possessing significant operational training, as key suspects. Their movements are reportedly being closely monitored by the army, with security forces tightening the around their suspected location within the forest. The ongoing operation underscores the complexities of apprehending highly trained individuals in challenging terrain.

MFIN Launches "ASCEND" Online Program to Upskill Microfinance Professionals

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Microfinance Industry Network (MFIN) introduced "ASCEND," a new online education and advancement program aimed at bolstering professional capabilities within India's microfinance sector. The initiative seeks to promote responsible lending and enhance customer protection by equipping field officers, branch managers, and aspiring professionals with essential knowledge in areas like financial inclusion, regulatory compliance, and ethical practices. Launched by MFIN CEO Dr. Alok Misra, along with representatives from the Bankers Institute of Rural Development (BIRD) and NSEIT, the certification program offers self-paced online modules, expert sessions, and live inter-

actions. It aims to provide industry-relevant training, preparing frontline staff to champion financial inclusion and client protection. Dr. Misra emphasized the pivotal role of field officers and stated that ASCEND will provide them with the necessary guidance and ethical frameworks. The program features comprehensive content, proctored online assessments, and a joint certification from MFIN and BIRD. Key highlights include flexible online learning, coverage of crucial microfinance aspects, and a focus on building conceptual clarity and operational excellence. This initiative aligns with MFIN's broader goal of fostering professionalism and a client-centric culture within India's microfinance ecosystem.



AITUC organised a rally ragarding various labour related issues in Kolkata on Monday.

Job scam busted, man arrested in Kolkata for army job fraud

MI News Service, Kolkata: Police in Hastings have arrested Mohammad Sajada, a resident of Garden Reach, in connection with a scam promising jobs in the army. Sajada allegedly lured victims into paying money under the pretense of securing army positions through a purported Major-rank officer. While Sajada has been apprehended, police indicate that the main mastermind behind this fraudulent operation remains at large. The arrest followed a complaint filed after victims, who paid approximately 6 lakh, discovered the job offers were fake after consulting with an actual army personnel. The Hastings Police have apprehended a man, identified as Mohammad Sajada, a resident of the Garden Reach area, for his alleged involvement in a fraudulent scheme promising jobs in the Indian Army. While Sajada has been arrested, police officials have stated that the principal orchestrator of this elaborate con

remains at large. The case unfolded after a group of individuals, including a resident of Uttar Pradesh named Amid, were approached with the enticing offer of army recruitment through a purported Major-rank officer, leveraging a special quota. The victims were informed that the process would necessitate the submission of specific documents and a monetary payment. Subsequently, the complainants and their associates were instructed to convene at Maidan Chatter in Kolkata. There, they were allegedly met by an individual dressed in an army uniform and seated in a car, who assured them of job placements in exchange for financial consideration. Impressed by the attire and demeanor of the individual, the victims reportedly paid approximately 6 lakh. The fraudulent nature of the scheme came to light when the complainant shared the details with an acquaintance serving in the army.

Jagannath Temple neem wood issue resolved, says Odisha Law Minister

MI News Service, Kolkata: The controversy surrounding the origin of the neem wood used for the Jagannath temple idol in Digha took a new turn, with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee weighing in before her Murshidabad visit. Banerjee questioned the uproar, contrasting it with similar structures at other religious sites. Meanwhile, the Odisha government has sought to quell the issue, with the Law Minister attributing the initial claims about the wood's origin to a mistaken statement by a Puri temple priest, Rajesh Daitapati, who had earlier played a key role in the Digha temple's inauguration. Daitapati had initially claimed the wood was left-over sacred neem from the Puri temple's 2015 Nabakalebar festival, a statement he later contradicted in Odisha. The recent controversy surrounding the origin of the neem wood used in the newly inaugurated Jagannath temple idol in Digha has been addressed by the Odisha government, attributing earlier conflicting statements to a misunderstanding. The issue gained traction after Rajesh Daitapati, a prominent priest from the Puri Jagannath Temple who was involved in the Digha temple's inauguration, initially claimed the idol was crafted from leftover sacred neem wood from the Puri temple's 2015 'Navakalevara' ritual. This assertion sparked considerable debate. Subsequently, Daitapati reportedly retracted his initial statement in Odisha, leading to clarification from the state's Law Minister. The Minister stated that Dwaitapati had mistakenly conveyed the information regarding the wood's origin. Prior to her departure for Murshidabad on Monday, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also commented on the matter, questioning the intensity of the controversy surrounding the Digha temple.

Unprovoked firing by Pak...

►► **From PG 1**
Baramulla and Kupwara districts in the Kashmir valley -- overnight. Initially beginning with unprovoked small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in Kupwara and Baramulla districts of north Kashmir, Pakistan swiftly expanded its ceasefire violations to the Poonch sector and subsequently to the Akhnoor sector of the Jammu region. This was followed by small arms firing at several posts along the LoC in the Sunderbani and Naushera sectors of Rajouri district. Subsequently, the firing expanded to the Pargwal sector along the International Border in Jammu district. The ceasefire violation by Pakistan occurred despite the fact that the Directors General of Military Operations (DGMOs) of India and Pakistan spoke over the hotline amidst Pakistan's unprovoked firing along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir on April 29. It is understood that the Indian side cautioned the Pakistani side about the unprovoked firings during the exchanges and its possible harmful effect for them. Since the night of April 24, just hours after India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty following the Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistani troops have been resorting to unprovoked firing at various places along the LoC in J-K, starting from the Kashmir valley. The firing exchanges have made the February 2021 ceasefire agreement redundant, with widespread violations by Pakistan in scores of sectors along the 740-kilometer-long LoC. India and Pakistan had agreed to a renewed ceasefire along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir in February 2021. The situation has significantly changed since February 2021, when the DGMOs of India and Pakistan reiterated their commitment to the 2003 ceasefire agreement to ensure peace along the de facto border. India shares a total of 3,323 km of border with Pakistan, divided into three parts: the International Border (IB), approximately 2,400 km from Gujarat to the northern banks of the Chenab River in Akhnoor, Jammu; the Line of Control (LoC), 740 km long, running from parts of Jammu to parts of Leh; and the Actual Ground Position Line (AGPL), 110 km long, dividing the Siachen region from NJ 9842 to Indira Col in the north. Meanwhile, taking a cue from Indian leadership the civil and military officials of Pakistan have briefed the country's political parties on tensions

with India in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack.
All political parties barring former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party attended the in-camera briefing on Sunday where the political leaders vowed a robust response if India resorted to any "misadventure".
The briefing was given by Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Lt-Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry and Information Minister Attaullah Tarar.
The source said that similar to that of India last week, the political parties in Pakistan were of the view that they stood by the armed forces to foil any attempt by India to spoil regional peace.
Before the briefing, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said the main objective of the huddle was to get feedback from the political forces in light of tensions with India.
The participants were also apprised of the preparedness of the armed forces to foil any attack by India, the report said.

Pakistan People Party (PPP) leaders Raja Pervesh Ashraf, Qamar Zaman Kaira, and Shazia Marri; PMJ-N's Barrister Aqeel and Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Tallal Chaudhry; PM's aide Pervesh Khattak; MQM-P's Farooq Sattar; and Kashmiri leader Shah Ghulam Qadir, among others, attended the meeting.
Ties between the two neighbouring countries plummeted following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

India announced a raft of punitive measures against Pakistan including suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, shutting down of the only operation land border crossing at Atari and downgrading of diplomatic ties following the terror attack.
India on Saturday imposed a ban on the import of goods coming from or transiting through Pakistan and also the entry of Pakistani ships into its ports even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has repeatedly said the country is committed to taking "firm and decisive action against terrorists and their backers which they will remember for life".
PM Modi also told the top defence brass that the armed forces have "complete operational freedom" to decide on the mode, targets and timing of India's response to the attack. He also held separate exclusive meetings with the Chiefs of the Army, Navy and the Indian Air Force during the past three days to take stock of their preparedness in the event of a conflict.

Kolkata Rooftop restaurants get HC reprieve from demolition

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has strongly criticized the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's (KMC) ongoing demolition of rooftop restaurants, issuing an interim stay on the demolition of a Park Street establishment until next Thursday. Justice Gaurang Kant questioned the legality of the municipality's actions, stating, "You can't demolish like this," and pointing out issues with the legal basis of the demolition notice. This intervention came after a restaurant owner challenged the sudden demolition, arguing they possessed the necessary licenses and questioned if they were being unfairly targeted following the Mayor's directive after the Mechua Bazar fire. The court also heard that the restaurant had a pending regularization application with the KMC. The Calcutta High Court has strongly criticized the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) for

its recent demolition drive targeting rooftop restaurants, even those claiming to possess valid permissions. Justice Gaurang Kant, presiding over a case filed by a Park Street restaurant owner, granted an interim stay on the demolition until next Thursday, pointedly telling the municipality, "You can't demolish like this." The judge further questioned the legal basis of the demolition notice, stating, "You can't demolish because of the section of the law under which you sent the notice to the hotel authorities." During the hearing, the plaintiff's lawyer argued that the sudden demolition was unwarranted and questioned its legality. "Can our restaurant be demolished overnight because there was a fire somewhere else?" the lawyer asked, referring to the recent Mechua Bazar fire that prompted Mayor Firhad Hakim's order to shut down rooftop establishments.

Name Change
I, Tapas Kumar Halder (old name) son of Late Amarendra Nath Halder, residing at G/14/1/FF, Pailan Park housing Project, Daulatpur, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-700104, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapas Kumer Halder (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Tapas Kumer Halder (New Name) and Tapas Kumar Halder (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Shaheena Parveen (old name) wife of Tanweer Alam, residing at 75/56, M. P. School Road, P.O – Titagarh, Dist : North 24 Parganas, Pin: 700119, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shahina Parveen (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata dated 17/04/2025. Shaheena Parveen (old name) and Shahina Parveen (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) GOKUL CHANDRA BISWAS S/o- SHARAT BISWAS, Residing at, Vill- Kanainagar, Post-Joania Bhaluka, Ps- Nabadvip, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741317, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from GOKUL CHANDRA BISWAS To GOKUL CHANDRA BISWAS (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) GOKUL BISWAS in all purpose Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 April 2025, GOKUL BISWAS and GOKUL CHANDRA BISWAS both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MD MUNSUR ALI S/o-TAFEL SK, Residing at, Vill- Shiyalmara, Post- Radharghat, Ps- Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742187, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD MUNSUR ALI To MUNSUR ALI (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MUNSUR ALI in all purpose Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 April 2025, MUNSUR ALI and MD MUNSUR ALI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MD JAMALADDIN SHAIKH S/o- MUNSUR ALI, Residing at, Vill- Shiyalmara, Post- Radharghat, Ps- Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742187, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD JAMALADDIN SHAIKH To JAMALUDDIN SEIKH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) JAMALUDDIN SEIKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 April 2025, JAMALUDDIN SEIKH and MD JAMALADDIN SHAIKH both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) SANJIB KUMAR HALDER S/o- LATE SHANTI HALDER, Residing at, Vill- Bachamari(Puratant Bachamari), Post- Bachamari, Ps- Malda, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732142, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SANJIB KUMAR HALDER To SANJIB HILDER (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SANJIB HILDER in all purpose Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 April 2025, SANJIB HILDER and SANJIB KUMAR HALDER both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MASOOM ALAM, son of Manzoor Alam, residing at 12/17, Alimuddin Street, Kolkata-700016, Police Station –Park Street, Kolkata-700016, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my actual and original name is MASOOM ALAM which has been properly recorded in my Aadhar Card being Aadhar no. 9890 4336 3192. Due to inadvertent my name has wrongly been recorded in my driving license as MASUM ALAM in place of MASOOM ALAM. By an affidavit (no.5313) before the LD. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Calcutta on 25th April 2025 that MASOOM ALAM and MASUM ALAM is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gourav Bhattacharya, Son of Mr. Raghu Nath Bhattacharya, resident of Dhar & Sardar para, P.O-south bishnupur, Ps - Mandir Bazar would like to notify you that my mother's name has been updated pursuant to diamond harbour court affidavit executed on 05/04/2025 and it was executed by 1st class magistrate. My mother's previous name was- PALI BHATTACHARYA. Now my mother's new legal name is - POLLY BHATTACHARYA. So PALI BHATTACHARYA and POLLY BHATTACHARYA are basically the same person.

Name Change
I, Debasmita Koner W/o Sujoy Koner R/A 47, Kalna Road, Badamtala, Burdwan, District - Purba Bardhaman, Pin - 713101 (WB) have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Debasmita Kar as declared before the Learned Judicial Magistrate Court, 1st Class at Kolkata (WB) vide Affidavit No. 1083 dated 06.03.2025. Debasmita Koner and Debasmita Kar both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Goutam Kumar Nath S/O- Late Nirapada Nath, Residing at 34/B, U.K. Dutta Road, (Titanic Apartment), P.O. & P.S.: Dum Dum, Ward No. 10, Dist- 24 PGS (N) Kolkata- 700028. Now I have changed my name & shall henceforth be known as Goutam Nath as declared before 1st class executive Magistrate South Court, West Bengal vide affidavit no. 9466 dated 24/02/2014 Goutam Kumar Nath & Goutam Nath both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mosammat Rahila Begum & Mosammat Rahila Begam (old names) wife of Md Rabiul Alam Khadim, residing at 128 Tarakeswar Road, Naopara, P.O.- Nalikul, P.S.- Haripal, Dist- Hooghly, Pin- 712407, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mst Rahila Begum (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Mst Rahila Begum (New Name) and Mosammat Rahila Begum & Mosammat Rahila Begam (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Shaheenoor Parveen (old name), daughter of Md Shahabuddin, wife of Md Soheb Hossain, residing at 16 B/1, Sapgachi 1st lane, P.O.- Tiljala, P.S.- Tiljala, Kolkata- 700039, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shaheenoor Parveen (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Shaheenoor Parveen (New Name) and Shaheenoor Parveen (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Belowara Khatoon, C/O Ariful Biswas, Residing At Kanibhami, Duttapulia, Nadia - 741504, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Belowara Khatun Biswas Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/04/20 25. That Belowara Khatoon And Belowara Khatun Biswas Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Swaraj Sadhukhan, S/O Raj Kumar Sadhukhan, Residing At Keota Brick Field 326/327, Keota Kulata Chinsurah, Po - Sahaganj, Ps - Chinsurah, Dist: Hooghly- 712104, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Swaraj Kumar Sadhukhan Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/05/20 25. That Swaraj Sadhukhan And Swaraj Kumar Sadhukhan Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mobin Asrafi & Mabin Kuresi (old names) son of Md Kalim Quraishi, residing at Z-3/187, Bagdi Para Road, P.O.- Badartala, P.S.- Nadial, Kolkata- 700044, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mobin Quraishi Asrafi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 02/05/2025. Mobin Quraishi Asrafi (New Name) and Mobin Asrafi & Mabin Kuresi (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Anowar Ali Mondal, S/O Abdul Alam Mondal, R/O Chara Panchla Namaz Gora, Po-Panchla, Howrah, 711322, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Anowar Ali Mondal, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/05/2025, That Md Anowar Ali Mondal And Anowar Ali Mondal All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sima Datta (Old Name), Daughter Of Nitai Chandra Majumdar, Wife Of Sajal Kumar Datta, Residing At Rasbaghan Narayantala, Po - Bansheria, Ps - Mogra, Hooghly - 712502, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sima Majumdar (New Name) Vide An Affidavit No 2920 Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Chinsurah, Hooghly On 11/04/2025, That Sima Datta And Sima Majumdar Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Purnima Roy Halder (old name) daughter of Late Ram Prasad Roy, residing at G/14/1/FF, Pailan Park housing Project, Daulatpur, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-700104, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Purnima Roy (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Purnima Roy (New Name) and Purnima Roy Halder (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Tuhina (old name) wife of Parimal Ghosh, residing at Jetia, P.S.- Bzipur, North 24 Pgs, Pin-743135, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tuhina Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Tuhina Ghosh (New Name) and Tuhina (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Buddhdey Das & Buddhadev Das, S/O Biswanath Das, R/O C. N. Roy Road, Tiljala, So-Tiljala, Kolkata-700039, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Buddhadev Das, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/05/2025, That Buddhdey Das & Buddhadev Das And Buddhadev Das All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ashrutrissha Chatterjee, W/O Lek Singh Rana, R/O Ajodhyanager, North Dumdum, Po-Birati, Ps-Nimta, North 24 Parganas, 700051, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ankita Chatterjee Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/05/ 20 25, That Chandra Wali Jha And Chandrabali Jha Both Are The Same And One Identical Person Person.

Name Change
I, Chandra Wali Jha, Son Of Shib Kant Jha, Residing At 81/R B C Road, Dumdum, South Dumdum, Barrackpore - 700028, West Bengal, India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chandrabali Jha Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/05/ 20 25, That Chandra Wali Jha And Chandrabali Jha Both Are The Same And One Identical Person Person.

Need for holistic growth in chemicals, petrochem sector: Nadda

MI News Service, New Delhi: Union Chemicals & Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda stressed making a holistic plan for growth of the chemicals and petrochemicals sector.

The minister was speaking at 'Manthan Shivir' organised by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers here, according to an official statement.

Discussions during the Manthan focused on fostering long-term development of the Indian chemical and petrochemical sector.

Name Change
I, Md Abbas Ansari, S/O Abdul Gaffar, R/O 71 Sreenath Porel Lane, Haora (M Corp), Howrah, 711101, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Abbas, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/05/20 25, That Md Abbas Ansari And Md Abbas All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Pratiba Samanta (old name) wife of Kuntal Samanta, residing at Vill-Biswas, P.O.- Biswas, P.S.- Tamkul, Dist-East Medinipur, Pin-721636, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bishakha Manna Samanta (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Bishakha Manna Samanta (New Name) and Pratiba Samanta (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Md Mojful Islam (Old Name), S/O Late SK Mamtaj Islam, R/O Batala, Tajpur, East Medinipur-721656, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As SK Mojful Islam (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/05/20 25, That Sk Md Mojful Islam And Sk Mojful Islam All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sanjay Mondal (old name), S/O Late Chitranjan Mondal, residing at Vill & P.O.- Katiahat, P.S.- Baduria, Dist- North 24 Pgs - 743427, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjoy Mondal (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, dated 02/05/2025, Sanjoy Mondal (new name) and Sanjay Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Amit Subodh Kumar Mehta or Amit Mehta (old name) S/O Subodh Uttamail Mehta, residing at FLAT 6A, 6th FLR, 2/8B Sarat Bose Road, Lansdowne Manor, P.S.- Baljunge, Pin- 700020, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Amit Subodh Mehta (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 05/05/2025. Amit Subodh Kumar Mehta or Amit Mehta (old name) and Amit Subodh Mehta (new name) both are the same person.

Name Change
I, Subhas Chandra Mondal & Subhash Mondal (old names) son of Shukla Mandal, residing at Taherpur F/15/1408, P.O. & P.S.- Taherpur, Dist-Nadia, Pin- 7411 59, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Subhash Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Subhash Mandal (New Name) and Subhas Chandra Mondal & Subhash Mondal (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sekhar Pramanick (old name) son of Samir Kumar Pramanick, residing at Narayan Tala, P.O.- Gocharan, P.S.- Joy nagar, Dist-South 24 Pgs, Pin-743391, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sekhar Pramanik (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Sekhar Pramanik (New Name) and Sekhar Pramanick (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Samir Pramanick & Samir Pramanik (old names) son of Kubir Chandra Pramanick, residing at Narayan Tala, P.O.- Gocharan, P.S.- Joy nagar, Dist-South 24 Pgs, Pin-743391, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samir Kumar Pramanick (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 05/05/2025. Samir Kumar Pramanick (New Name) and Samir Pramanick & Samir Pramanik (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Rita Pal Alias Khama Pal (old name) wife of Arindam Pal, residing at 1, Olai Chandi Road, P.O. & P.S.- Nimta, Dist- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700049, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Khama Pal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 02/05/2025. Khama Pal (New Name) and Rita Pal Alias Khama Pal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Fake DRM Sent to Jail and Fined Alert Ticket Checking and RPF Staff Caught Impersonator



MI News Service, Kolkata: On 29.04.2025, ticket checking staff member Mr. Amarjeet Singh was performing his regular duty on train number 12138, Punjab Mail. During the checking process, he found a person traveling in Coupe-B of the First AC coach (H/A-1). When asked for identification, the person claimed to be a Divisional Railway Manager (DRM). Due to suspicion, Mr. Singh asked for the person's ID and travel authority documents. However, the individual failed to produce any valid papers. Mr. Singh immediately informed the Railway Protection Force (RPF). Upon questioning, the man identified himself as Varun Sehgal but could not provide any identity card or authorized documents to verify his claim. Following this, TTE issued a memo at Bina station and informed Assistant Sub-Inspector Mr. Kanchan Kumar Tamrakar of the RPF and Assistant Sub-Inspector Mr. Keval Singh of the Government Railway Police (GRP). However, due to the departure signal of the train, the person could not be deboarded at Bina. He was then escorted with two staff members to Bhopal station. In the meantime, the TTE collected a fare and fine totaling ₹4,170 from the fake DRM. Upon arrival at Bhopal, based on the TTE's memo, the GRP Bhopal took the individual into custody for further action. Based on the report submitted by GRP Bhopal, the RPF Bhopal registered case number 1621/25 under Sections 145 and 146 of the Railway Act against the accused Varun Sehgal. The Hon'ble Court imposed a fine of ₹1,500 on the accused along with a penalty of ₹4,100 (Receipt No. G976507) under the railway rules. The railway administration urges all passengers to travel with valid tickets and proper documents. Failure to do so may result in a fine, imprisonment, or both — in addition to social embarrassment.

Name Change
I, Sk Md Mojful Islam (Old Name), S/O Late SK Mamtaj Islam, R/O Batala, Tajpur, East Medinipur-721656, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As SK Mojful Islam (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/05/20 25, That Sk Md Mojful Islam And Sk Mojful Islam All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sanjay Mondal (old name), S/O Late Chitranjan Mondal, residing at Vill & P.O.- Katiahat, P.S.- Baduria, Dist- North 24 Pgs - 743427, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjoy Mondal (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, dated 02/05/2025, Sanjoy Mondal (new name) and Sanjay Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Amit Subodh Kumar Mehta or Amit Mehta (old name) S/O Subodh Uttamail Mehta, residing at FLAT 6A, 6th FLR, 2/8B Sarat Bose Road, Lansdowne Manor, P.S.- Baljunge, Pin- 700020, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Amit Subodh Mehta (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 05/05/2025. Amit Subodh Kumar Mehta or Amit Mehta (old name) and Amit Subodh Mehta (new name) both are the same person.

Angola invites Indian delegates to explore export opportunities

MI News Service, New Delhi: Angola President Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco on Sunday invited Indian businesses to explore opportunities that can place the African nation at the centre of their export strategies, highlighting areas for mutual cooperation, including agriculture, pharmaceutical and renewable energy. Goncalves, currently on a visit to India, highlighted Angola's strategic location with privileged access to regional markets through the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

He was addressing the India-Angola Business Forum here. The relationship between Angola and India is built on a solid legal and institutional foundation, developed over decades of cooperation. The existing bilateral agreements -- in areas such as health, energy, financial services, and diplomatic mobility -- reflect both countries' commitment to a structured, transparent, and mutually beneficial partnership, stated Lourenco. "We invite Indian entrepreneurs to explore these logistical opportunities that can place Angola at the centre of their export strategies -- both for Africa and the wider world," said the President.

Netaji Express: The Legacy of Kalka Mail and Howrah Division's Heritage



MI News Service, Kolkata: As the Howrah Division of Eastern Railway celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2025, one of its most iconic trains, formerly known as the Kalka Mail and East India Railway Mail, stands as a symbol of enduring heritage. Now renamed the Netaji Express, this train holds the distinction of being the oldest running train in Indian Railways, with a legacy that spans for almost 160 years, since 1866. Originating and terminating at Howrah Railway Station, the train has witnessed the evolution of Indian Railways and remains a testament to the region's significant role in the nation's history. First introduced in 1866, the Kalka Mail was initially launched to connect Kolkata with Delhi, later extended its route to Kalka in 1891. Over time, its route evolved, and its legacy continued to thrive. The train played a crucial role in Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's escape from British captivity in 1941, as he reportedly boarded the Kalka Mail from



has enjoyed steady patronage. As Howrah Division marks its 100-year milestone, the Netaji Express serves as a living piece of history, embodying the spirit of continuity and transformation in Indian Railways. With each journey, it not only connects cities but also carries the legacy of over a century of service, linking the past with the present. The Netaji Express remains a vital part of Howrah Division's heritage, honoring the rich legacy of the railway network while continuing to serve generations of travelers.

Prabhat Pheri, Plantation Drive, and Cleanliness Campaign Held at Tindel Bagan Railway Colony



MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the ongoing centenary celebrations commemorating 100 glorious years of the Howrah Division, a series of vibrant and community-driven activities were organized today at the Tindel Bagan Railway Colony. Howrah, under the direction of Divisional Railway Manager, Shri Sanjeev Kumar. The day began with a spirited Prabhat Pheri, as enthusiastic participants from the railway community and local residents marched together, spreading messages of unity, sustainability, and civic pride. The colorful procession was marked by patriotic songs and banners highlighting the legacy and contributions of the Howrah Division over the past century. A plantation drive was also conducted, reflecting the Division's commitment to environmental conservation and a greener future. Saplings were planted across the colony premises with active participation from railway officials, staff members, and residents, fostering a sense of collective responsibility toward nature. To raise awareness about the centenary celebrations and the importance of a clean and green environment, leaflets were distributed among the residents, along with informative materials about the Division's historic milestones and future goals. The event concluded with a cleanliness drive, reinforcing the message of "Swachh Bharat" and echoing Indian Railways' continual efforts to maintain hygienic and livable railway colonies.

Railways to run Summer Special between Rajgir & Khagaria

MI News Service, Kolkata: To clear the extra rush of passengers during summer season, Railway has decided to run a Summer special train between Rajgir & Khagaria stations via Abhaipur, Jamalpur and Monghyr stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction.

03266 Rajgir – Khagaria special will leave Rajgir at 06:10 hrs. on every Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday between 06.05.2025 & 31.05.2025 (12 trips) to reach Khagaria at 13:00 hrs. on the same day and will stop at 09 stations including Abhaipur (Arr. 10:36 hrs./Dep. 10:38 hrs.), Jamalpur (Arr. 10:52 hrs./Dep. 11:02 hrs.) and Monghyr (Arr. 11:40 hrs./Dep. 11:45 hrs.) stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction.

03265 Khagaria - Rajgir special will leave Khagaria at 14:00 hrs. on every Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday between 06.05.2025 & 31.05.2025 (12 trips) to reach Khagaria at 21:25 hrs. on the same day and will stop at 09 stations including Monghyr (Arr. 14:55 hrs./Dep. 15:00 hrs.), Jamalpur (Arr. 15:22 hrs./Dep. 15:32 hrs.) and Abhaipur (Arr. 15:58 hrs./Dep. 16:00 hrs.) stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction. The train will have General Second Class, sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned Accommodations.

Miscellaneous

Two more Dalian rakes reach Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Two new Dalian rakes have reached Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port in a ship on 03.05.2025. These rakes have been procured through global tender. Total 16 coaches are being lowered from the ship and will be joined before sending it to the Noapara Carshed with the help of a Diesel engine. These rakes are packed with special features to increase comfort of passengers and ensure enhanced riding experience in Metro Railway, Kolkata network. These rakes have doors which are 190 mm wider in comparison to the existing AC rakes. Moreover, greater seating capacity, better air conditioning system, noise reduction feature and eye-soothing illumination are some of the additions for the comfort of passengers.

The salient features of these rakes are as follows:

Passenger amenities features: Wider doors in these rakes will facilitate easy Entry and Exit of passengers specially during the peak hours. Enhanced features of these rakes will also provide jerk-free ride. CCTV coverage inside the coach, modular and wider vestibules, enhanced seating capacity including provision of more seats for senior citizens and specially abled are some of the unique features of these rakes. Apart from it, features like aesthetically designed interior, improved air diffuser, high capacity ACs, small and sleek alarm device with outside indication lamp, brighter multicolour multi-lingual display board, uniform illumination and door side hand rails have made these rakes unique in Metro Railway, Kolkata.

Some of the other features of these new rakes are:-

Technical features: Technical features of these rakes include through rain water channels, paint-free stainless steel car body, improved door channel with side stopper and improved energy consumption which will be more environment friendly.

Safety features: These rakes also have some enhanced safety features like disc brake system, controlled discharge fire extinguishers with strap, wider evacuation door and evacuation ramp with anti-skid rubber flooring. Such features will definitely increase and ensure commuters safety which Metro authorities always look for.

Malda Division Achieves Major Infrastructure Milestone with Successful Launch of Two Limited Height Subways



MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway's Malda Division continues its steadfast efforts toward infrastructure enhancement and safety upgradation. On 04.05.2025, the Engineering Department of Malda Division successfully executed the launching of two (02) Limited Height Subways (LHS) in the Bhalgalpur-Jamalpur section. These subways have replaced existing level crossings, thereby significantly reducing safety risks and enabling a smoother interface between rail and road traffic. The first LHS was launched in lieu of Level Crossing No. 2/C between Natnagar and Akbarnagar stations. The structure consists of 10 box segments, each measuring 6m x 4.65m. The second LHS was launched in place of Level Crossing No. 11 between Sultanganj and Kalyanpur Road stations, involving the same segment dimensions. A traffic block of 7 hours was granted on both UP and DN lines on 04.05.2025 to facilitate the execution of these critical works, and both were completed successfully within the targeted time. In addition to the major LHS works, the Engineering Department effectively utilized the block periods to carry out several crucial track and infrastructure maintenance activities. At Ja-

malpur station, four (04) turnout switches were renewed, along with 12 glued joints. Duomatic machine operations between Jamalpur and Munger stations resulted in 2800 track meters of progress, significantly improving the track gradient. Ballast Regulator Machine (BRM) work between Kalyanpur Road and Ratanpur stations on the UP line achieved 6400 track meters of progress. In the Abhaipur DN loop line, two sets of Switch Expansion Joints (SEJs) were inserted and 10 SEJ sleepers were renewed. Destressing work was carried out at Jamalpur Line No. 1, which included ERC (Elastic Rail Clip) greasing. Additionally, 17 welding joints were completed. All the blocks were successfully cleared on time, reflecting the meticulous planning, execution, and coordination of the Engineering Department of Malda Division.

The LHS construction was not only a major infrastructural achievement but also a fine demonstration of teamwork and technical skill. The successful insertion of the LHS structures and closure of the level crossings will significantly enhance safety for road users and reduce rail-road interface risks in the section, setting a positive precedent for future infrastructure upgrades.

Indian toy exporters eye 'golden opportunity' as US buyers avoid Chinese products

MI News Service, New Delhi/Washington: India's toy exporters are aiming to utilise a "golden opportunity" emerging out of the steep tariffs imposed by the US on Chinese imports, and growing enquiries from American buyers eyeing alternative markets to reduce their reliance on Chinese goods. Toy Association of India has identified about 40 firms with the potential to export to the US market while meeting the compliance requirements. Currently, about 20 companies export toys in bulk to the American market, President Ajay Aggarwal told.

"We are getting more enquiries from US-based toy buyers in the last one month. Some Indian export houses have also got in touch with us seeking a list of the manufacturers who can make toy products as per US rules and regulations. They are looking for white labelling and original equipment manufacturers capable of meeting the compliance requirements of the American toy market," Aggarwal said.

India's Top 100 Alcohol Retailers Ranked & Honoured for Excellence in Innovation and Customer Experience

India Drinks Retail Awards, a new platform to rank and celebrate India's best alcohol retailers, was unveiled at a Gala Night and Awards Ceremony on April 29, 2025, at Le Méridien, Gurgaon. The inaugural 2025 ranking features 10 outstanding retailers from Kolkata, among top outlets across 11 cities and Goa. Kolkata, May 2025 – The India Drinks Retail Awards (IDRA) proudly announces its inaugural edition, celebrating the finest retailers in the country's alco-bev industry. IDRA, conceived by the dynamic minds behind 30BestBarsIndia—India's most prestigious bar ranking platform—and the What India is Drinking (WIID) Report, marks a significant milestone in recognising excellence in alcohol retail. Hosted at Le Méridien, Gurgaon on April 29, the Gala Night and Awards Ceremony honoured the top 100 alcohol retail outlets in India, along with their visionary owners. The event brought together industry leaders and top-tier retailers who are shaping the future of India's alco-bev landscape. While 30BestBarsIndia ranks the best bars in the country, IDRA is a new platform dedicated to recognising the top retailers across India's most alcohol-friendly states. Retail accounts for more than 80% of alcohol sales in India, and IDRA aims to foster a spirit of excellence, innovation, and consumer-first strategies within this critical sector. Much like its sister platform, 30BestBarsIndia, IDRA shines a national spotlight on the determined efforts of retailers who have transformed the retail landscape over the past decade. For the inaugural year, the IDRA rankings focused on 11 individual cities and Goa, chosen for having the most extensive and modern alcohol retail networks. These included: Bangalore, Hyderabad, Greater Mumbai, Pune & Lonavala, Jaipur, Gurgaon, Noida, Lucknow, Kolkata, Guwahati, and Shillong. SPOTLIGHT In a city known for its vibrant culture and discerning consumers, 10 retail outlets from Kolkata were recognised for their excellence in design, customer service, merchandising, and innova-

tion. Leading the pack was Hedonne, located on Lee Road, which was declared Kolkata's top-ranked retailer for 2025. Other distinguished outlets from Kolkata include: • Emporio, Forum Courtyard Mall • Spencer's, Axis Mall • Delhiite, Diamond Plaza Mall • Spencer's, South City Mall • Spencer's, Mani Square Mall • Spencer's, Quest Mall • Scotts Pvt Ltd, Park Street • Wine Route by Gusto, Ballygunge Circular Road • Ambrosia F L, Bidhan Nagar These retailers have been at the forefront of elevating the alco-bev retail experience in Kolkata, offering consumers curated selections, knowledgeable service, and premium shopping environments. 2025 Rankings and Special Honours Other regional top retailers included Mansionz by Living Liquidz (Mumbai and Bangalore), Tonique (Hyderabad and Pune), Vaz Enterprises (Goa), The Liquor Mart (Jaipur), The Liquor Warehouse (Gurgaon), The Liquor Exchange (Noida), Vina Alkohal (Lucknow), and The Warehouse (Meghalaya-Assam Border), and The Barrel & Shillong Wine Company. Special recognitions were also awarded: • Innovator of the Year: Mokksh Sani, Founder of Living Liquidz • Industry Icon (Lifetime Achievement Award): Anith Reddy, Founder of Tonique Selection and Evaluation Process The IDRA rankings followed a rigorous two-stage process: • City Selection: 12 regions were shortlisted based on the maturity of their alco-bev retail ecosystems. • Nomination Shortlist: 400 nominations were received from industry insiders; 250 shortlisted outlets were evaluated in person, and the final 100 were selected. • Assessment Criteria: Store design, product range, merchandising, customer engagement, staff knowledge, and operational excellence. • Mystery Jury Visit: Final scoring was

based on anonymous mystery shopper evaluations. In Kolkata, the shortlisted retailers stood out for balancing premium offerings with local sensibilities, and for contributing to the evolving retail narrative of the city. Founders' Perspectives: Vikram Achanta, Co-founder, India Drinks Retail Awards and 30 Best Bars India said, "According to the International Spirits & Wines Association of India, there are an estimated 88,234 retail shops across the country, providing job opportunities to lakhs of people, supporting significant employment through its retail outlets. Our extensive visits to retail stores across India, as part of our evaluation process, have helped us appreciate the efforts taken by Indian retailers — from enhancing shopper convenience through walk-in formats, ensuring safety with brightly lit and well-located stores, to elevating the shopping experience with quality merchandising and curated product assortments. It's heartening to witness their perseverance, especially amid challenging policies governing alco-bev retail, and celebrate the best of breed retailers across 12 major cities in India. Radhakrishnan Nair, Co-founder, India Drinks Retail Awards and 30 Best Bars India, adds, "IDRA is a logical step up for us from 30 Best Bars India, since retail constitutes 80% of alcohol sales. But the alco-bev retail landscape in India is incredibly diverse. While some states have developed more advanced retail ecosystems, others are still in the process of evolving. It's important to recognise that each state operates under a distinct regulatory framework, making direct comparisons difficult. With IDRA, our goal is to start a movement to inspire retailers in the alcohol industry to elevate the retail landscape of drinks in India to global standards."

How Yoga & Walnuts May Enhance Heart Health



NEW DELHI : A healthy, nutritious and active lifestyle can go a long way in maintaining sound mental and physical health, and recent years have made us realize just how important it is to make health an utmost priority in our lives. So, this brings us to an important question: What does one do to stay fit and healthy in 2024? Integrative health coach Neha Ranglani has the answer: "A nutrition-

rich diet, containing omega-3 ALA-rich walnuts, may help improve your cardiovascular health. Pair it up with yoga, which helps reduce stress, improve blood circulation, and control blood pressure levels, and you have a powerful combination for maintaining a healthy heart." And we couldn't agree more! California walnuts, paired with the ancient practice of yoga offer complementary

effects that can help not only our heart health but also our overall wellbeing. Scroll down to read how yoga and walnuts benefit your heart: 1. Reduced stress Yoga, an ancient Indian practice, involves a combination of body poses, breathwork, and meditation. This trio is known to be beneficial for our mind and body. Meanwhile, walnuts may help improve mood.(1) These

wonder nuts may be associated with lower depression symptoms, greater interest in activities, higher energy levels, better concentration, and greater optimism.(2) 2. Promote weight management Obesity is one of the major risk factors for heart disease, and hence, weight management is key to protecting one's self. Yoga and walnuts both promote weight management. A

Study reveals how infertility treatment can double risk of postpartum heart disease



NEW JERSEY [US] : Infertility treatment patients were twice as likely to be hospitalised with heart disease in the year following delivery as spontaneously conceived patients, according to a study conducted by Rutgers Health experts using more than 31 million hospital records. Infertility patients were 2.16 times more likely to be hospitalised for hypertension, or dangerously elevated blood pressure than normally conceived patients. "Postpartum checkups are necessary for all patients, but this study indicates they are particularly important for patients who undergo infertility treatment to achieve a conception," said Rei Yamada, an obstetrics and gynecology resident at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and lead author of the study. The study authors say their results support standards of care that now call for an initial postpartum checkup three weeks after delivery, standards that some health systems have yet to adopt. Much of the elevated risk came in the first month after delivery, particularly for patients who developed dangerously high blood pressure. "And these results aren't the only ones to indicate that follow-up should occur early," said Candace Ananth, chief of the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and senior author of the study. "We have been involved in a series of studies over the past few years that have found serious risks of heart disease and stroke to various high-risk patient populations within those initial 30 days after delivery - risks that

could be mitigated with earlier follow-up care." The study analyzed the Nationwide Readmissions Database, which contains nationally representative data on about 31 million hospital discharges and readmissions per year. The database contains diagnosis codes, which let researchers find specific populations and identify reasons for readmission. The researchers used data from more than 31 million patients who were discharged following delivery from 2010 to 2018, including 287,813 patients who had undergone any infertility treatment. Although infertility treatment predicted a sharply elevated risk of heart disease, the study authors said the relative youth of infertility treatment patients kept their overall risk fairly low. Just 550 of every 100,000 women who received infertility treatment and 355 of every 100,000 who conceived naturally were hospitalized with cardiovascular disease in the year after delivery. The cause of the elevated risk of heart disease associated with infertility treatment remains unclear. The increase in heart disease could stem from the infertility treatments themselves, the underlying medical issues that made patients infertile or some other cause. "Looking forward, I'd like to see if different types of infertility treatment and, importantly, medications are associated with different risk levels," said Yamada. "Our data gave no information about which patients had undergone which treatment. More detailed information might also provide insight into how infertility treatment impacts cardiovascular outcomes."

Study finds new method to detect novel biomarkers for kidney diseases with nephrotic syndrome

BOSTON [US] : A study has revealed a major advance in the identification and tracking of renal illnesses linked to nephrotic syndrome. The findings of the study were published in the New England Journal of Medicine and presented at the 61st ERA Congress in Stockholm, Sweden. By employing a hybrid methodology, scientists discovered that anti-nephryn autoantibodies serve as a dependable biomarker for monitoring the advancement of the disease, paving the way for more individualized therapeutic strategies. Nephrotic syndrome, defined by increased urine protein levels, is associated with kidney disorders, including membranous nephropathy (MN), primary focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), and minimal change disease (MCD). Damage to podocytes, the kidney's filtering cells, is the main cause of nephrotic syndrome because it permits protein to seep into the urine. Children diagnosed with MCD or FSGS often receive a diagnosis of idiopathic nephrotic syndrome (INS), where the cause of the nephrotic syndrome is unknown. This is frequently because children with high protein levels in their urine rarely undergo a kidney biopsy, which is how the cause is typically determined. Traditionally, diagnosing these conditions has posed challenges due to overlapping histological features and hesitancy to conduct invasive kidney biopsies, particularly in children. While anti-nephryn autoantibodies have been observed in certain patients with MCD and FSGS, their precise role in the advancement of these diseases is not fully understood. The study, conducted across Europe and the USA, introduced a novel approach combining immunoprecipitation with enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to reliably detect anti-nephryn autoantibodies. The findings revealed that anti-nephryn autoantibodies were prevalent in 69 per cent of adults with MCD and 90 per cent of children with INS who had not been treated with immunosuppressive drugs. Importantly, the levels of these autoantibodies corre-



lated with disease activity, suggesting their potential as a biomarker for monitoring disease progression. The antibodies were also rarely seen in the other diseases under examination. To further investigate the impact of nephryn immunisation on kidney function and disease, researchers administered laboratory-made nephryn protein to mice, creating a condition akin to MCD in the mice. Immunisation led to the phosphorylation of nephryn and notable alterations in cell structure, indicating the involvement of antibodies targeting nephryn in podocyte malfunction and nephrotic syndrome. Remarkably, unlike other models necessitating multiple immunisations, this model induced swift disease manifestation with a single immunisation, even at low antibody concentrations. Dr Nicola M Tomas, co-lead author of the study, commented, "The identification of anti-nephryn autoantibodies as a reliable biomarker, coupled with our hybrid immunoprecipitation technique, enhances our diagnostic capabilities and opens new avenues for closely monitoring disease progression in kidney disorders with nephrotic syndrome." Professor Tobias B. Huber, lead author of the study, furthered, "By providing insights into underlying mechanisms, these findings lay the groundwork for personalised interventions and pave the way for a new era of precision medicine for these complex conditions."

Researchers find how areas of brain are associated with helping decisions

BIRMINGHAM [UK] : Researchers found that a particular brain region—which they identified through a study of patients who had brain damage to that region—controls our willingness to assist others. Understanding the areas of the brain associated with "helping" decisions is crucial to comprehending how people could be inspired to take on major global issues like infectious diseases, climate change, and international conflict. It is also necessary to discover novel treatments for social interaction difficulties. Researchers from the Universities of Birmingham and Oxford conducted the study, which was published in Nature Human Behaviour. It demonstrates for the first time how the ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC), a brain region, plays a crucial role in helpful, or "prosocial," activities. Lead author Professor Patricia Lockwood said: "Prosocial behaviours are essential for addressing global challenges. Yet helping others is often effortful and humans are averse to effort. Understanding how effortful helping decisions are processed in the brain is extremely important." In the study, the researchers focused on the vmPFC, a region located right at the front of the brain, which is known to be important for decision-making and other executive functions. Previous studies using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI scanning) have linked the vmPFC to choices that involve a trade-off between the rewards available and the effort required to obtain rewards. However, these techniques cannot show whether a part of the brain is essential for these functions. Three groups of participants were recruited for the study. 25 patients had vmPFC damage, 15



patients had damage elsewhere in the brain, and 40 people were healthy age and gender-matched control participants. These groups allowed the researchers to test the impact of damage to vmPFC specifically. Each participant attended an experiment where they met another person anonymously. They then completed a decision-making task that measured how willing they were to exert physical effort (squeezing a grip force device) to earn rewards (bonus money) for themselves and for the other person. By enabling participants to meet - but not see - the person they were 'working' for in advance, researchers were able to convey the sense that participants' efforts would have real consequences, but hide any information about the other person that could affect deci-

sion-making. Each choice the participants made varied in how much bonus money for them or the other person was available, and how much force they would have to exert to obtain the reward. This allowed the researchers to measure the impact of reward and effort separately, and to use advanced mathematical modelling to precisely quantify people's motivation. The results of the study clearly showed that the vmPFC was necessary for motivation to help others. Patients with vmPFC damage were less willing to choose to help others, exerted less force on even after they did decide to help, and earned less money to help others compared to the control groups. In a further step, the researchers used a technique called lesion symptom mapping which enabled them to identify even more specific sub-regions of the vmPFC where damage made people particularly antisocial and unwilling to exert effort for the other person. Surprisingly, damage to a nearby but different sub-region made people relatively more willing to help. Co-lead author Dr Jo Cutler said: "As well as better understanding prosocial motivation, this study could also help us to develop new treatments for clinical disorders such as psychopathy, where understanding the underlying neural mechanisms can give us new insights into how to treat these conditions." "This region of the brain is particularly interesting because we know that it undergoes late development in teenagers, and also changes as we get older," added Professor Lockwood. "It will be really interesting to see whether this area of the brain can also be influenced by education - can we learn to be better at helping others?"

13 kidnapped mine guards found dead in north Peru

MI News Service, Lima: The bodies of 13 mine company guards previously reported as kidnapped were found in north Peru's La Libertad department, local media said Sunday. "Sources from the Executive Branch" confirmed the discovery of the bodies in the Pataz province, reported private news network Radio Programas del Peru. Police reports said that the bodies were found bound, blindfolded and naked in a mineshaft, where they were reportedly shot. "Illegal miners colluding with criminals kidnapped 13 workers who were providing services to an artisanal miner," which "attests to the terrible deterioration of security conditions in Pataz," mining company La Poderosa said on Friday. "This unfortunate event occurred after criminals attacked the artisanal mining operation to take control of it," the company said. Family members of the victims said they lost contact with the guards on April 27 while they were on duty, and the kidnappers "demanded a large sum of money from the mining company in exchange for their release." The mining company urged authorities to act swiftly on a complaint filed by the victims' families.

Iran rejects accusations of involvement in Houthi attacks on Israel

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran on Monday rejected accusations by U.S. and Israeli officials of its involvement in attacks on Israel by the Houthis in Yemen. In a statement released early Monday, the Iranian Foreign Ministry described the repetition of such "baseless" claims as an "affront to the powerful but oppressed" Yemeni nation. The statement highlighted Iran's position on the necessity to respect countries' territorial integrity and national sovereignty, and condemned the U.S. military attacks on Yemen as a "flagrant violation."

Communications minister calls for 'full advancement of Gaza migration plan'

MI News Service, Jerusalem: Communications Minister Shlomo Karhi endorses the government's newly approved operational plan for the next phase of the campaign in the Gaza Strip, calling it "a brave step on the path to absolute victory," but insists it must be paired with efforts to encourage the emigration of Palestinians. "Only uncompromising military and political pressure will defeat Hamas and free the hostages. We must destroy Hamas."

Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train to Showcase the Legacy of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

MI News Service, Kolhapur : The Heritage Special Tour will showcase the Raigad Fort, Pune (Lal Mahal, Kasba Ganpati, and Shivrushthi), Shivneri Fort, Bhimashankar Jyotirling, Pratapgad Fort, and Kolhapur (Mahalaxmi Temple and Panhala Fort) to the tourists. For the first time, Indian Railways is organizing a Heritage Tour on the 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Circuit'. This tour will cover key sites related to the life of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the founder of the Maratha Empire. The Bharat Gaurav Train will begin its journey from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) and reach Mangaon Railway Station, the nearest station to Raigad Fort, located on the Konkan Railway Network. Raigad is the historic site where Shivaji Maharaj was coronated and later made it his capital. After exploring Raigad Fort, tourists will return to the train and head towards Pune, where arrangements will be made for dinner and hotel accommodation for the night.

On Day 2, tourists will visit key locations in Pune, including Lal Mahal, Kasba Ganpati, and Shivrushthi. Lal Mahal was constructed in 1630 by Shahaji Bhonsle for his wife Jijabai and son Shivaji. The current structure was rebuilt in 1984, and it houses a large collection of paintings related to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's life.



The Kasba Ganpati Temple is considered the town deity of Pune and was established in 1893. It is believed that the site was chosen by Shivaji's mother, Jijabai, which led Pune to be known as the city of Lord Ganesha. Tourists will then visit Shivrushthi, the largest theme park in India based on the life of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Here, they will enjoy a 3D experience of Shivaji's life and other interactive sessions. After the night stay in Pune, on Day 3, tourists will visit Shivneri Fort, about 95 km from Pune, situated on a hill near Junnar City. This is the birthplace of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and a symbol of Maratha pride against

Muslim rule. After lunch, the tourists will visit Bhimashankar Jyotirling, one of the 12 Jyotirlings. Afterward, they will return to Pune for an overnight stay. The much-anticipated 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Circuit Tour' will depart on June 9, 2025. This 5-night and 6-day tour will begin at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus. The modern Bharat Gaurav AC Tourist Train, with Sleeper, Second AC, and Third AC coaches, has the capacity to accommodate 748 tourists. Tourists can board this train at Dadar and Thane railway stations as well. Tickets for this heritage journey can be booked on the IRCTC website on a first-come, first-served basis.

On Day 4, tourists will travel with the Bharat Gaurav Train to Satara, where they will visit Pratapgad Fort, the site of the famous battle in 1659 between Afzal Khan and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, which laid the foundation for the Maratha Empire. After lunch, the train will proceed to its final destination, Kolhapur. On Day 5, in the morning, the train will reach Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj Terminus, Kolhapur Railway Station. After breakfast and preparations at the hotel, tourists will visit the Mahalaxmi Temple (Ambabai) and Panhala Fort. Located on the Sahyadri mountains, this fort has witnessed several historic battles. It is also the place where Shivaji Maharaj stayed for 500 days before making a successful escape. Panhala Fort is also known as the 'Fort of Snakes' because of its serpentine shape. This fort is closely associated with the lives of Shivaji Maharaj and Sambhaji Maharaj. It is also remembered for the valor of Shivaji Maharaj's commander, Baji Prabhoo Deshpande. Later, in the evening, the train will begin its return journey to Mumbai and will reach Mumbai on the morning of Day 6. This journey is organized by Indian Railways Tourism and Catering Corporation, and includes hotel stays, vegetarian meals, sightseeing by bus, travel insurance, and a tour escort.

World class passenger facilities will soon be available at Jodhpur railway station: Vaishnav



MI News Service, Kolhapur : Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said that Jodhpur Railway Station, one of the historical railway stations of the country, is being redeveloped while preserving the rich heritage of the Sun City. He said that after this ambitious redevelopment, Jodhpur will become a grand railway station and every passenger coming here will start getting world class modern facilities like airport. The Railway Minister, who came to Jodhpur on a brief visit on Monday, closely reviewed the progress of the redevelopment work being done at Jodhpur railway station at a cost of Rs 474 crore. During this, while talking to journalists, Vaishnav said that the work of complete reconstruction of Jodhpur railway station is very important and this decision of the Central Government will provide high level facilities to the passengers. He said that there are two major objectives in the development of Jodhpur railway station, one, the city has grown on both sides of the station, according to that its second entrance needed to be made good and well-equipped and this is a very important part of this redevelopment. Second, in view of the increasing traffic of the city, there is a plan to build an elevated road for entry to the station for the convenience of the passengers, so that the visitors will get enough space for parking. The Railway Minister said that along with all these facilities, a very good and convenient air concourse and roof plaza will also be constructed at the railway station, on which the passengers will

be able to sit comfortably and wait for their trains. He said that under the leadership of the Prime Minister, 85 railway stations of the country are being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Yojana. On this occasion, Jodhpur DRM Anurag Tripathi gave all the necessary information related to redevelopment to the Railway Minister through the map. On this occasion, many senior officers of North Western Railway Headquarters and Jodhpur Division were present with the Railway Minister. Industries will get a boost from Bhagat Ki Kothi Cargo Terminal. On this occasion, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, referring to Bhagat Ki Kothi Railway Station in Jodhpur, said that there is a lot of space and possibilities for expansion of rail projects in Bhagat Ki Kothi and the new cargo terminal being developed near it will especially benefit the surrounding industrial area. He said that Jodhpur is an industrial city and many products are exported from here, the facilities will increase with the construction of the terminal, which will give a boost to the industries. Railway Minister spoke on the operation of new trains in response to the question of new long distance trains. Vande Bharat and new rail lines from Jodhpur, Vaishnav informed that there is a plan to have direct connectivity from Jodhpur to some more cities through train. Apart from this, proposals for running direct trains from Jodhpur to Secunderabad and other stations are also being received continuously, which are being seriously considered.

Special Mid-Night Metro Services for IPL T-20 Cricket lovers after the Match to be played on 07.05.2025 (Wednesday)

MI News Service, Kolkata: Responding to the requests of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and M/s Game Plan Sports Pvt. Ltd. (on behalf of Kolkata Knight Riders), Metro Railway is pleased to announce to operate special Metro services in Blue Line and Green Line-2 after the IPL T-20 match of Kolkata Knight Riders, which will be played at Eden Gardens on 07.05.2025 (Wednesday) night for the benefit of the cricket lovers of Kolkata and suburbs. The booking counters will remain open only at Old Esplanade Metro station and New Esplanade Metro station for the sale of Smart Cards, Tokens and Paper Based QR Tickets. A surcharge of Rs. 10/- per ticket will be levied in addition to the normal fare for these special services.

Blue Lines		
UP direction - towards Dakshineswar		
No. of train	Departure	Arrival
Spl.1	Esplanade 00:00 hrs.	Dakshineswar 00:33 hrs.
The train towards Dakshineswar from Esplanade will stop at all stations on the way.		
DN direction – towards Kavi Subhash		
No. of train	Departure	Arrival
Spl.2	Esplanade 00:00 hrs.	Kavi Subhash 00:33 hrs.
The train towards Kavi Subhas from Esplanade will stop at all stations on the way.		

Green Lines		
Towards Howrah Maidan		
No. of train	Departure	Arrival
Spl.1	Esplanade 00:00 hrs.	Howrah Maidan 00:08 hrs.

Terrorism is an act against humanity, targetting Muslims for this is wrong: Madani

MI News Service, New Delhi: Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind chief Maulana Arshad Madani strongly condemned the recent terrorist attack on tourists in Pahalgam, stating that those responsible cannot be considered human.

Speaking at a press conference following a two-day working committee meeting of the Jamiat (Arshad Madani faction), he emphasized that targeting the entire Muslim community in the aftermath of such attacks is unjust and harmful. Madani questioned the government's recent decision to revoke the Indus Water Treaty, highlighting the impracticality of diverting rivers like Chenab, Ravi, Jhelum, Beas, and Sutlej. "These rivers have flowed for thousands of years and form the Indus. Where will you take this water? It's not that simple," he said. He urged the government to foster love over hatred, asserting that communal disharmony is not in the nation's interest. Addressing the demolition of houses in Kashmir after the attack, Madani said such action is justified only if it is certain that those homes belonged to terrorists. "But punishing people on mere suspicion is wrong," he warned. Without naming Pakistan, he called on the government to address terrorism at its roots to prevent future incidents. Madani stressed that the perpetrators of the Pahalgam attack are ignorant of Islamic teachings. "Islam



strictly forbids the killing of innocent people. It is a grave sin. Those who commit such acts cannot be called human," he said. He alleged that Muslims, particularly Kashmiris, are being unfairly targeted post-attack due to divisive policies. On the matter of security, Madani criticized the government for failing to prevent the attack despite heavy deployment of Army and BSF in the region. "How did terrorists reach such a crowded tourist destination undetected? And why did security forces take one-and-a-half hours to respond?" he questioned, crediting local civilians for aiding the victims. Regarding illegal immigration, Madani supported action against unlawful Bangla deshi immigrants but cautioned against harassment of Bengali-speaking citizens in states like West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura. On a potential war with Pakistan, he warned of severe economic consequences and advocated peaceful resolution. Commenting on the Waqf (Amendment) Act, he alleged that it was intended to seize Waqf properties rather than protect them.

Netanyahu vows retaliation after Houthi missile strikes Israel's airport

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to retaliate against Houthi forces in Yemen and their ally, Iran, after a missile launched by the group struck Israel's international airport. Writing on the social media platform X, the official account of the Prime Minister's Office stated that "attacks by the Houthis emanate from Iran." It added that Israel "will respond to the Houthi attack against our main airport and, at a time and place of our choosing, to their Iranian terror masters." Earlier Sunday, Netanyahu issued another warning to the Houthis, threatening to launch a strike against the group. "We attacked in the past, we will attack in the future," he said in a video statement. The Houthis claimed responsibility for a missile strike that hit a driveway leading to the main terminal of Ben Gurion Airport, outside Tel Aviv. Israeli and US-deployed aerial defence systems attempted to intercept the missile but failed, Xinhua news agency reported.

The attack resulted in four minor injuries and caused damage. Several international airlines cancelled flights to and from Israel following the missile attack, including Air Europa, Swiss International Air Lines, Lufthansa, ITA Airways, and Brussels Airlines. The Houthis have intensified missile and drone attacks in recent weeks amid renewed US airstrikes on their positions in Yemen.

Foundation names Israeli commander behind Hind Rajab's murder

MI News Service, The Hague: The Hind Rajab Foundation has identified the Israeli military unit and commander allegedly responsible for the killing of Palestinian girl Hind Rajab and her family, and has filed a war crimes complaint with the International Criminal Court (ICC) in The Hague. The lawsuit was filed on Saturday, May 3, – the day Hind would have celebrated her seventh birthday. On January 29, 2024, the car carrying Hind and her family was struck by Israeli tank fire in Tel al-Hawa. Six relatives were killed instantly. Hind, wounded and terrified, survived for hours, whispering to dispatchers from the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS): "I'm so scared... please come." An ambulance was dispatched to rescue her but was also shelled and destroyed. Both medics inside were killed instantly. Ten days later, rescue workers discovered



Hind's body beside her cousin, Layan. In a statement, the Belgium-based foundation, established in Hind's memory, named Lieutenant Colonel Beni Aharon – then commander of the Israeli army's 401st Armoured Brigade – as the principal perpetrator.

According to the foundation,

the tank unit under Aharon's command targeted the civilian vehicle and subsequently attacked the PRCS ambulance sent to save Hind. The foundation said that its investigation had verified the identities of the battalion operating in Tel al-Hawa on January 29, 2024, including

field commanders and operational officers. "These men are no longer anonymous. They are no longer shielded by silence," the foundation declared.

"While we initially urge the ICC Office of the Prosecutor to issue an arrest warrant for Lt. Col. Beni Aharon, we are also preparing additional legal actions against other officers in the battalion. These will be filed in national courts under universal jurisdiction. We will pursue every individual involved – those who gave the orders, those who carried them out, those who concealed the truth, and those who stood by," the statement continued. "Today, Hind should have been blowing out candles. Instead, we are naming her killer," said Dyab Abou Jahjah, spokesperson for the foundation. "This is only the beginning. We are coming for every name, every link in the chain – armed

with the law and the truth."

The case is supported by extensive research conducted over the past year, incorporating findings from organisations including Forensic Architecture and Sky News. The foundation has compiled a comprehensive body of evidence and is urging judicial authorities to act with urgency and determination. Since Israel began its military campaign in Gaza on October 7, 2023, nearly 52,500 Palestinians – the majority women and children – have been killed, with thousands more injured or missing beneath the rubble of devastated cities. In November, the ICC issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity. Israel also faces a separate genocide case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Sealdah Division Wages War Against Spitting At Railway Premises

Caught A Whooping 6193 Individuals & Imposed Fine Over 7.6 Lakh In April 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: In an unprecedented special drive against spitting during April '25, Sealdah Division has recorded a staggering 6,193 instances of spitting and collected a huge amount of fine ₹7,61,070 at almost all stations across the division. This significant drive was conducted over the division under the dynamic guidance of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway.

Spitting in public places, including Railway premises, is indeed a punishable offense under the Indian Railways (Penalties for Activities Affecting Cleanliness at Railway Premises) Rules, 2012. Specifically, Rule 3(b) prohibits spitting in Railway premises & Rule 4 imposes a fine of up to ₹500 for violating this rule. The alarming number of spitting cases detected during last month highlight a disturbing pub-

lic trend of disregard for cleanliness and community hygiene within Railway premises. Sri Rajeev Saxena, DRM/Sealdah, has stated that, "the number of spitting cases detected in a single month is truly disheartening. While we are taking stringent action through these drives, it underscores the urgent need for greater public awareness and a rapid change in civic behavior". Maintaining the cleanliness of our Railway premises is a collective social responsibility. Let's work together to keep our Railway stations and circulating area clean and healthy. Passengers & Rail users must refrain from spitting at stations and concourse area. Please co-operate with the Railway authority in maintaining clean and healthy environment for better travel experiences.



Sunrisers Hyderabad's captain Pat Cummins and teammates celebrate the dismissal of Delhi Capitals' Faf du Plessis during their match in the Indian Premier League 2025, at Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad on Monday. (ANI Photo)

"I need new change": Trent Alexander-Arnold confirms Liverpool exit at end of contract

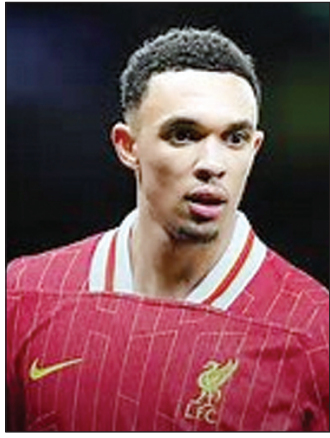
LIVERPOOL [UK] : English right-back Trent Alexander-Arnold informed Premier League 2024-25 champions Liverpool of his intentions to leave the club this summer when his contract expires. Trent's two-decade-long association at Anfield will end with his departure from Liverpool when his contract ends on June 30, 2025.

Trent joined Liverpool's Academy at the age of six and progressed through the ranks at youth level before making his senior debut for the Reds in 2016. To date, he has featured in 352 fixtures with Liverpool's crest on his

chest, netted 23 goals, and lifted eight major honours, including this season's Premier League title. "I think first and foremost, I want to say it's not an easy decision and there's a lot of thought and feeling that has gone into it. I've been here 20 years now, loved every single minute of it, achieved all my dreams, achieved everything I've ever wanted to here," Arnold said in a statement released by Liverpool. "After giving everything day in, day out for 20 years, I've got to a point now where I feel like I need a new change, a new challenge for me as a player and as a person. And I

think now is the right time for me to do that," he added Trent daz-zlingly displayed his attacking and defensive skills on the right side. He helped Liverpool add the Champions League, UEFA Super Cup, and Club World Cup trophies to the illustrious trophy cabinet. Along with this, he was also a part of two Carabao Cups, two Premier League titles, one FA Cup, and one Community Shield. "There's a lot I would like to say. The main thing is a massive thank you. You guys have been there from the start with me, you guys have supported me, been there. I've felt the support, the love, everything that you

guys have done has never been unnoticed by me, I've loved every single minute of it. I hope they have felt that has been reciprocated and that I've given everything I could to the club," he said. "I'm just hoping that we're able to carry on winning games, the noise [around my decision] doesn't take away from the fact of what we've achieved this season. It has been an amazing season. It has been amazing to be part of it and I just hope that everyone is able to maybe not dwell on this news for too long and be able to celebrate what the rest of the lads have done," he concluded.



BCA PRESIDENT
RAKESH TIWARI
APPLAUDS VAIBHAV
SURYAVANSHI AFTER
RECORD-BREAKING
IPL HEROICS

PATNA (BIHAR) : The Bihar Cricket Association (BCA), which has focused in recent years on grassroots talent scouting, celebrated a historic moment on Monday as young batter Vaibhav Suryavanshi delivered a stunning performance in the Indian Premier League (IPL). BCA President Rakesh Tiwari, who watched the match from the stands alongside the Rajasthan Royals chairman, expressed immense pride in Suryavanshi's achievement and confidence in his bright future.

At the age of 14 years and 33 days old, Vaibhav Suryavanshi slammed the fastest century by an Indian in IPL history and became T20's youngest centurion ever during the match against Gujarat Titans (GT) at Saiwaj Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur on Monday. During the match, he smashed a quickfire 101 in just 38 balls, consisting of seven fours and 11 sixes. His runs came at a strike rate of 265.79, making a mockery of a 210-run chase by GT.

In five matches during the ongoing season, Vaibhav has made 155 runs at an average of 31.00, with a strike rate of over 209.

"Vaibhav has once again made Bihar and the entire country proud. Scoring the fastest century by an Indian in IPL history at just 14 years old is nothing short of extraordinary. His fearless approach, incredible skill, and maturity beyond his years are inspiring," said Rakesh Tiwari as quoted by the BCA press release.

"I have always believed he is destined for greatness, and today he has taken another giant step towards it. This is just the beginning of a truly remarkable journey," he added.

Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has highlighted that there was a lot of "hard work" behind batter Vaibhav Suryavanshi's success in the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL). Prime Minister Modi was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the 7th Khelo India Youth Games via videoconferencing.

I have seen in the IPL, the son of Bihar, Vaibhav Suryavanshi's spectacular performance. At such a young age, Vaibhav has set such a great record. There is a lot of hard work behind Vaibhav's performance," said Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"To bring his talent to the forefront, he has played many matches at different levels. The more you play, the more you will shine. Competing in matches and competitions as much as possible is very important. The NDA government has always given it the highest priority in its policies," he added.

Khelo India Youth Games

Jharkhand girls football team defeated Rajasthan 8-0 in first league match

PC JHA

RANCHI : In Khelo India Youth Games 2025 organized by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of India from 04 May to 14 May, the girls football team won their first league match in Begusarai, thanks to Babita Kumari's 03 goals in the 36th, 60th, 71st minutes, Reena Kumari's 04 goals in the 22nd, 33rd, 42nd, 56th minutes, and Reena Toppo's 01 goal in the 90th minute, Jharkhand team defeated Rajasthan 8-0 and won their first league match. Anisha Oraon, Alka Indwar, Mamta Kumari, Shivani Toppo, Binita Horo, Kalyani Kumari, Namina Kumari, Reena Toppo, Shaolina Dang, Riya Verma, Rashmi Minj, Soniti Soren, Elizabeth Ekka, Kajal Kumari, Alpha Kandulna, Babita Kumari, Reena Kumari, Nishima Kumari, Poonam Khalko, Shikha Kumari, Merenila Marandi. Coach - Bina Kerketta, Manager - Prerna Mishra.

In the ongoing archery competition in Bhagalpur, Jharkhand's Divyanshu Singh reached the compound event final and Tamanna Verma will play for the bronze medal in recurve. The players are performing well under the supervision of coach Shishir Mahato and team manager Mohan



Kumar. On this achievement, Sports Secretary Manoj Kumar, Sports Director Sandeep Kumar, Deputy Director Rajesh Kumar, District Sports Officer Chitra cum Chief D Mission Tushar Rai, Saja K Manikant, Devendra Singh along with other officials of the Sports Department congratulated the players and trainers.

Muzarabani, Mehidy Hasan, Sears named ICC Men's Player of the Month nominees for April



DUBAI [UAE] : Zimbabwe's pace spearhead Blessing Muzarabani, Bangladesh's versatile all-rounder Mehidy Hasan Miraz, and New Zealand's right-arm seamer Ben Sears have been announced as the nominees for ICC Men's Player of the Month for April 2025.

Muzarabani, a towering speedster from Zimbabwe, has been thriving on a scorching run since the beginning of the year. With a whip-like action, the 28-year-old played a starring role in the first Test against Bangladesh in Sylhet.

He returned with figures of 3/50 in the first innings, which included the big fish, Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto. In his second turn, he scythed six scalps and gave away 72 runs as he steered Zimbabwe with his Player of the Match performance to a three-wicket triumph, their first victory in the format since March 2021.

Muzarabani finished as Zimbabwe's top wicket-taker in the series with 10 wickets under his belt across the two Tests in Bangladesh at an average of 20.50.

While Muzarabani stole the show in the first Test, Bangladesh's Mehidy Hasan grabbed the headlines in the second. The 27-year-old shone in the series opener and kept Bangladesh in the contest, claiming figures of 5/52 in the first innings and 5/50 in the second.

He emerged as the mastermind behind Zimbabwe's downfall in the second Test. In arguably a performance to remember from him, Mehidy Hasan anchored Bangladesh's first innings with a touch of flamboyance and slammed 104 off 162 balls to lift the hosts to 444.

He topped it up with another five-wicket haul and registered 5/32 in Zimbabwe's second innings to help Bangladesh end the series at 1-1 with a triumph by an innings and 106 runs in Chattogram.

Sears found his rich vein of form with the ball for New Zealand. With his searing pace, he unleashed carnage on his home turf against Pakistan and picked up back-to-back five-wicket hauls in the last two matches of the ODI series and became the first player to achieve the milestone for the Blackcaps.

In the second ODI against the Men in Green in Hamilton, Sears ran rampant and tore through Pakistan's middle order, finishing with figures of 5/59 and setting up an 84-run victory for the Kiwis.

In the final ODI of the series, he dazzled with figures of 5/34 as New Zealand whitewashed Pakistan with a 3-0 series win. Sears was crowned with the Player of the Series award for his sensational performance. He picked up 10 wickets at an average of 9.30 at an economy rate of 5.07 to cap off a memorable April.

IPL 2025: Chennai Super Kings rope in Gujarat's Urvil Patel as replacement for "injured" Vansh Bedi

Chennai (Tamil Nadu) : Chennai Super Kings roped in Gujarat wicketkeeper-batter Urvil Patel as a replacement for Vansh Bedi, who has been ruled out of the remainder of the tournament owing to a ligament tear in the left ankle.

The Indian Premier League released a media advisory on Monday to announce Chennai's replacement, which read, "Chennai Super Kings (CSK) has signed Urvil Patel as a replacement for Vansh Bedi, who has been ruled out of the remainder of the tournament owing to a ligament tear in the left ankle."

Urvil joined the five-time champions for his base price of Rs 30 lakh. He grabbed the headlines after shattering the record and blazing his way to the second-fastest T20 century in just 28 balls. He achieved the feat while featuring for Gujarat against Tripura in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy last year. Urvil fell short of the world record by just a single delivery, set by Estonia's Sahil



Chauhan against Cyprus. Overall, he has 47 T20 appearances and 1,162 runs under his belt. Urvil was a part of the Gujarat Titans in the 2023 edition of the league after being picked by the 2022 IPL champions for his base price of Rs 20 lakh. However, he didn't play in a single match in the entire season and was eventually released from the squad.

Urvil enters the beleaguered

Chennai's setup, boasting two wins out of 11 fixtures and ruled out of the race for the playoffs. With three fixtures remaining, Chennai will face the defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders, Rajasthan Royals and Gujarat Titans.

Meanwhile, Sunrisers Hyderabad, who are barely hanging in the race for the playoffs, with mathematical combinations, have brought in Harsh Dubey as an injury replacement for Smaran Ravichandran.

Dubey, an all-rounder who features for Vidarbha in India's domestic circuit, has 127 wickets and 941 runs against his name from 16 T20s, 20 List A and 18 First-Class matches he has played.

During the 2024-25 Ranji Trophy season, he took a record 69 wickets--breaking Ashutosh Aman's previous mark of 68 wickets in a single season. His impressive performance helped Vidarbha lift the Ranji title this year. He joined SRH at the base price of Rs 30 lakh.

"Always been fan of cricket": Former England manager Southgate soaks in Rajasthan-Kolkata thriller

KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL) : Former England men's football team head coach Gareth Southgate opened up about his love for cricket and his "amazing" experience of visiting India for the first time in his life. Southgate witnessed the nerve-racking thriller between the defending champions, Kolkata Knight Riders and Rajasthan Royals, at the iconic Eden Gardens on an action-packed Sunday in the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL).

In the pulsating fixture, momentum oscillated both ways. Rajasthan's 206-run chase went right down to the wire, and Kolkata escaped with a slender one-run victory to keep its title defence alive by the barest of margins.

Southgate, who witnessed the T20 marvel at Eden, took a trip down memory lane and recalled the time when he used to watch Test cricket all day long, in an era where legendary Kapil Dev and Sunil Gavaskar used to enchant the spectators with their dazzling performances. "Very often, when you play at Wembley, the crowd is a little bit quieter. I have always been a fan of cricket. When I was a young kid, I used to watch Test matches all day long. I mean, I am going back to the era of Kapil Dev, Sunil Gavaskar and players like that and then over the years, I got to know a lot of the players when I was playing for England, and I knew a lot of the England team. Last year, Ben Stokes came and talked to the England team. Also, with a lot of coaches, you learn a lot across sports, so that's really why I am here," Southgate said in a video posted by IPL and Rajasthan Royals on Instagram. "Every sport is evolving rapidly, so much that coaches share, medical teams share, and yeah, it's always fascinating to go outside your field and learn from other people. As I said, I love the sport. So it's lovely to come here, and I have loved coming to India. It is the first time I have been to India. It has been amazing," he added.

The Royals and Knight Riders combined to tonk 16 maximums throughout the nervy affair. In a fixture where sixes filled Kolkata's sky, Southgate was also asked to rate his six-hitting ability, to which he jokingly replied, "One".

Coming to the fixture, Andre Russell fuelled Kolkata's innings with his swashbuckling 57* from a mere 25 deliveries. Young Angkrish Raghuvanshi played the supporting role with his belligerent 44(31), which propelled Kolkata to a daunting 206/4. In reply, stand-in captain Riyan Parag beamed confidently and delivered a rollicking 95(45) to take his side closer to the sweet taste of victory. However, his efforts went in vain as they agonisingly fell short by a run.



India clinches 5-0 victory over Sri Lanka in PD Deepaka Lohia Memorial Trophy 2025

BENGALURU (KARNATAKA) : The Indian Physical Disability Cricket Team concluded a dominant run in the PD Deepaka Lohia Memorial Trophy 2025 with a clean 5-0 series win against Sri Lanka, in a tournament that highlighted not just competitive excellence but also the spirit of inclusivity and the growing stature of disability sports in South Asia, as per the DCCI press release.

The series was played at Kini Cricket Ground, Bengaluru, from April 26 to May 5, drawing strong support from players, partners, spectators, and disability rights advocates.

In the final match held in Bengaluru, India won the toss and opted to bat, setting a mammoth target of 191/5 in 20 overs. The Indian batters displayed remarkable composure and flair, giving the home side complete control. In response, Sri Lanka was bowled out for just 88 in 15.1 overs, wrapping up a commanding victory.

Narendra Mangore was named Man of the Match for his outstanding performance in the final, whereas on the other hand, Ravindra Sante was adjudged Man of the Series for his consistent contributions throughout the tournament.

The winning Indian team received a cash prize of Rs2,00,000, while the Sri Lankan team was awarded Rs50,000, along with trophies in recognition



of their commendable participation. The closing ceremony was graced by Dhruv Prabhakar, Isha Prabhakar, and Vikram Singh (Head of Marketing) from Gopalan Group, along with Nishanth AJ (Founder and CEO - Wilspoke Sports and Entertainment). Their presence at the final was a reflection of growing corporate enthusiasm toward supporting differently-abled athletes and inclusive sporting platforms.

Ravi Kant Chauhan, General Secretary of DCCI, remarked as quoted by the press release, "This clean sweep is a proud moment for Indian disability cricket. Our players have shown the country what true grit and discipline look like. This victory is not just a series win. It's a step forward in making disability sports part of mainstream sporting culture."

Sqd. Ldr. Abhai Pratap Singh, Joint Secretary of DCCI, added, "The PD Deepaka Lohia Memorial Trophy stands as a symbol of opportunity, equality, and excellence. This series has reinforced that athletes with disabilities deserve equal platforms, and our team has once again made the nation proud. We thank Sri Lanka for their spirit and sportsmanship."

Nishanth AJ, Founder and CEO of Wilspoke Sports and Entertainment, stated, "At Wilspoke, we believe sport is a universal language that must include everyone. This series has been a testament to the talent and emotion that PD Sport carries. We're honoured to have been part of this historic initiative and will continue pushing boundaries for inclusive sports in India."