

India destroys Pakistani air defence system in Lahore, foils their multiple strike attempts

MI News Service, New Delhi : In yet another major success of the Armed forces, India on Thursday foiled Pakistan military's unprovoked attempts to attack as many as 15 places in Northern and Western India using missiles and drones, and destroyed a Pakistani air defence system in Lahore as tensions between the two sides mounted amid fears of a wider conflict.

Announcing this at a crowded Press Conference here on Thursday afternoon, like yesterday, Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri in presence of two senior Army officers - Col Sofia Kureshi and Wing Commander Vyomika Singh - said the Pakistani military attempted last night to target Awantipura, Srinagar, Jammu, Pathankot, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Adampur, Bhatinda, Chandigarh, Nal, Phalodi, Uttarai, and Bhuj.

These attempts were neutralised by the Integrated Counter Unmanned Aircraft System (Grid and Air Defence systems), they said. The Pakistani attempt came after Indian armed forces early Wednesday carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Pakistan under Operation Sindoor. The defence ministry sources quoting the Foreign Secretary said India called its anti-terror response as "focused, measured and non-escalatory" and that Pakistani military establishments had not been targeted. "It was also reiterated that any attack on military targets in India will invite a suitable response," it said. "Today morning Indian armed forces targeted air defence radars and systems at a number of locations in Pakistan. Indian response has been in the same domain with the same intensity as Pakistan," the Indian Army officers said informing the country about

the success of the prompt Indian response. "It has been reliably learnt that an air defence system at Lahore has been neutralised," they said. They said Pakistan has increased the intensity of its unprovoked firing across the Line of



the success of the prompt Indian response

"It has been reliably learnt that an air defence system at Lahore has

Control using mortars and heavy calibre artillery in areas in Kupwara, Baramulla, Uri, Poonch, Mendhar and Rajouri sectors in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Sixteen innocent lives have been lost, including three women and five children, due to Pakistani firing," they said.

Here too, India was compelled to respond to bring mortar and artillery fire from Pakistan to a halt, a Defence statement later said.

"Indian Armed Forces reiterate their commitment to non-escalation, provided it is respected by the Pakistani military," the ministry said.

In retaliation to the Pahalgam terror attack, Indian armed forces early Wednesday under 'Operation Sindoor' carried out the missile strikes on the terror targets including Bahawalpur, a stronghold of the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror group. Foreign Secretary Vikram

Misri said on Wednesday that India decided to carry out the "proportionate" strikes to bring the perpetrators and planners of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack to justice as there was "no demonstrable step" from Pakistan to act against terrorist infrastructure on territories under its control.

Describing the authorities in Pakistan as habitual liar who are always in a denial mode, Misri said the Indian Government has already taken the issue of unprovoked attacks of Pakistan to large number targets in India, to different world bodies including the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and to different foreign capitals to the leaders of various countries across the globe to make them aware of the real intention of Pakistan and the ground reality, besides India's measured response despite huge provocation from across the borders.

'Operation Sindoor' kills 100 terrorists in Pakistan, says Rajnath Singh

MI News Service, New Delhi : At least 100 terrorists were killed in the Indian strikes on terror sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir under 'Operation Sindoor', Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday at the all-party meeting here.

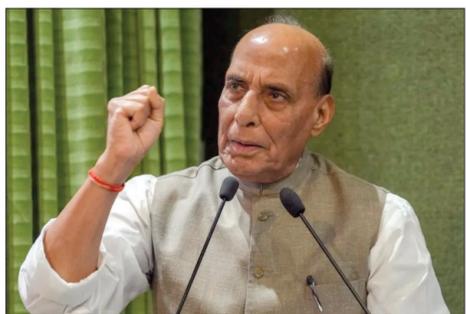
The Defence minister also informed the leaders that it was an ongoing operation and that "India will hit back if Pakistan dares to attacks in the wake of India's targeted strike".

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju told reporters after the meeting that today's meeting was convened to evolve a broad political consensus on the issue and leaders showed maturity and did not indulge in bickering.

The all party meeting was held today under the chairmanship of Rajnath Singh.

"The discussions were conducted in a constructive and serious manner, given the gravity of the issue at hand. After Defence minister briefed all leaders in detail about the early Wednesday's operations, each leader expressed their views with responsibility and maturity, recognising the major challenge the country is currently facing," Kiren Rijiju said.

Informing the opposition leaders that at least 100 terrorists were eliminated during the Indian Armed forces strikes under Operation Sindoor. Defence minister Rajnath Singh in presence of all top leaders and senior Army Commanders briefed the necessary details about the targets selected - which included the Lashkar-e-Taiba's headquarters and a training camp in Muridke, and the Jaish-e-



Mohammed's headquarters in Bahawalpur, both in Pakistan Punjab province. "Political leaders also congratulated the armed forces for the action taken under Operation Sindoor," he said.

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "In the moment of crisis, we are with the government".

AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi said he complemented the armed forces and the Government of India for conducting Operation Sindoor. "I also said that we should run an international campaign

against TRF and the UN Security Council should designate it as terror organisation. We also need to ask the United States to designate TRF as foreign terrorist organisation in the country," he said.

Wednesday's operation was the deepest strikes inside Pakistan territory since 1971, successfully destroying a total of nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The strike comes two weeks after the 22 April Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed in Jammu and Kashmir's popular hill station. As announced on Wednesday, the Union government held another all-party meeting on Thursday morning to brief leaders of all political parties on the success of 'Operation Sindoor' and its aftermath amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan. This was the second All Party meeting in the National capital during

pressed their views with responsibility and maturity, recognising the major challenge the country is currently facing," Kiren Rijiju said.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju told reporters after the meeting that today's meeting was convened to evolve a broad political consensus on the issue and leaders showed maturity and did not indulge in bickering.

The all party meeting was held today under the chairmanship of Rajnath Singh.

"The discussions were conducted in a constructive and serious manner, given the gravity of the issue at hand. After Defence minister briefed all leaders in detail about the early Wednesday's operations, each leader expressed their views with responsibility and maturity, recognising the major challenge the country is currently facing," Kiren Rijiju said.

Informing the opposition leaders that at least 100 terrorists were eliminated during the Indian Armed forces strikes under Operation Sindoor. Defence minister Rajnath Singh in presence of all top leaders and senior Army Commanders briefed the necessary details about the targets selected - which included the Lashkar-e-Taiba's headquarters and a training camp in Muridke, and the Jaish-e-

India launched Operation Sindoor early Wednesday hitting nine terror targets in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Punjab province of Pakistan in retaliation for the April 22 terror attack that killed 26 people in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. Pakistan army said 31 people were killed and 70 others injured in the Indian missile strikes launched shortly after midnight.

occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base Muridke. The military strikes were carried out under 'Operation Sindoor' two weeks after the massacre of 26 tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam.

During the meeting, Modi reviewed the planning and preparation by ministries to deal with the current situation.

Secretaries have been directed to undertake a comprehensive review of their respective ministry's operations and to ensure fool-proof functioning of essential systems, with special focus on readiness, emergency response, and internal communication protocols, the statement said.

Secretaries detailed their planning with a 'whole of government' approach in the current situation, it said.

All ministries have identified their actionables in relation to the conflict and are strengthening processes. Ministries are ready to deal with all kinds of emerging situations, the statement said.

The meeting was attended by the Cabinet Secretary, senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office, and Secretaries from key ministries including Defence, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Power, Health, and Telecommunications.

PM holds emergency meeting with secretaries on operational preparedness

MI News Service, New Delhi : In the midst of heightened tensions between India and Pakistan following the success of 'Operation Sindoor', Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a high-level meeting with secretaries of various ministries on Thursday.

In the two hour long meeting this afternoon the Prime minister called for continued alertness and clear communication among all ministries, while reaffirming the government's commitment to national security and operational preparedness.

The meeting discussed among other issues strengthening of civil defence mechanisms, efforts to counter misinformation and fake news specially from across the borders and even within the country and ensuring the security of critical infrastructure, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

Ministries were also advised to maintain close coordination with every state authorities and ground-level institutions, it said.

The high-level meeting, where Secretaries and top officials of various Ministries and departments of the government of India were present, reviewed national preparedness and inter-ministerial coordination in light of recent developments concerning national security.

PM Modi stressed the need for seamless coordination among ministries and agencies to uphold oper-



ational continuity and institutional resilience, the statement said.

"The prime minister called for continued alertness, institutional synergy, and clear communication as the nation navigates a sensitive period. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to national security, operational preparedness, and citizen safety," it said.

The meeting came a day after Indian armed forces carried out a very successful missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-

occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base Muridke. The military strikes were carried out under 'Operation Sindoor' two weeks after the massacre of 26 tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam.

During the meeting, Modi reviewed the planning and preparation by ministries to deal with the current situation.

Secretaries have been directed to undertake a comprehensive review of their respective ministry's operations and to ensure fool-proof functioning of essential systems, with special focus on readiness, emergency response, and internal communication protocols, the statement said.

Secretaries detailed their planning with a 'whole of government' approach in the current situation, it said.

All ministries have identified their actionables in relation to the conflict and are strengthening processes. Ministries are ready to deal with all kinds of emerging situations, the statement said.

The meeting was attended by the Cabinet Secretary, senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office, and Secretaries from key ministries including Defence, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Power, Health, and Telecommunications.

Israeli and other foreign nationals advised to 'leave Kashmir immediately'

MI News Service, Srinagar : Amid escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, several foreign countries including Israel and Singapore have updated the existing travel advisory for their nationals urging those in the Kashmir region to "leave immediately".

The revised advisory came on Thursday morning after the Indian Armed forces carried out strikes against nine specific terror targets in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Pakistan's Punjab province on early Wednesday completely destroying them with many casualties.

Soon Pakistan army carried out one of the most intense artillery and mortar shelling in years targeting a number of border villages along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir in which at least 13 people were killed and over 50 injured.

The Foreign Ministries of Israel and many other countries called on their nationals to avoid visiting the Jammu and Kashmir region at the current tense atmosphere with the exception of Ladakh. Those currently visiting and staying in Kashmir should "leave immediately" and

obey the instructions of local security forces, the Israeli and other foreign ministries said. This is in line with the existing travel advisory issued by the National Security Council, it added.

Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) also asked travellers to exercise caution, particularly in border regions between Pakistan and India.

"Singaporeans in India and Pakistan are advised to remain vigilant and take all necessary precautions for personal safety, including avoiding large gatherings, monitoring local news closely, heeding instructions of local authorities, and eRegistering with MFA," the ministry said in a statement.

India launched Operation Sindoor early Wednesday hitting nine terror targets in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Punjab province of Pakistan in retaliation for the April 22 terror attack that killed 26 people in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. Pakistan army said 31 people were killed and 70 others injured in the Indian missile strikes launched shortly after midnight.

Saudi and Iranian Foreign ministers in Delhi to de-escalate India-Pak tensions

MI News Service, New Delhi : In an effort to mediate between India and Pakistan to de-escalate the rising tensions between them, Saudi Arabia's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Adel Aljubeir arrived in New Delhi on Thursday morning on an unannounced visit and held talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar focusing on de-escalation. Aljubeir's visit to New Delhi comes at a time when the already frosty ties between India and Pak-

istan has plummet further following the Indian Armed forces targeted strikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on early Wednesday. "A good meeting with @AdelAljubeir, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia this morning," Jaishankar said in a social media post after the meeting adding "Shared India's perspectives on firmly countering terrorism".

Meanwhile ahead of the meeting, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and briefed him on the developments regarding cross-border tensions and situation.

After India hit nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan resorted to unprovoked heavy shelling, killing 15 persons and leaving over 50 others injured in J-K's Poonch district on Wednesday.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi also landed in New Delhi around midnight last night on a scheduled visit amid the escalating tensions between India and Pakistan. Araghchi also held wide-ranging talks with MEA Jaishankar on Thursday. He also met President Droupadi Murmu in the afternoon. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said India

■ Continued on Page 3

TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee lauds "Operation Sindoor", says sources of terror must be eliminated

MI News Service, Kolkata : After India's strike on terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Trinamool Congress All India General Secretary and MP Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday hailed the armed forces for their "unmatched bravery and extraordinary valour" and said sources of terror must be eliminated without any mercy. Banerjee termed the Pakistan based terror training camps as a "rabid dog", and said putting down one such unit would not stop the threat until the one breeding it was de-

stroyed. The Diamond Harbour MP also uploaded on social media a photograph of Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri holding a press briefing along with Wing Commander Vyomika Singh and Colonel Sofia Qureshi on the operation, and said this "powerful image reaffirms India's unity in the face of external attempts to divide us".

Meanwhile, former Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army General Shankar Roy Chowdhury also lauded the security forces for acting against terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan

occupied Kashmir and said that such strikes should continue to keep a check on terror activities. Gen Roy Chowdhury, the country's 18th Army chief, praised 'Operation Sindoor' and said it was a "great operation with excellent planning. It's been a resounding success. 'Operation Sindoor' was a great operation with excellent planning," he said. In retaliation to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, Indian armed forces carried out

■ Continued on Page 3

China calls on India, Pakistan to exercise restraint

MI News Service, New Delhi / Beijing : China has called both India and Pakistan to exercise "maximum restraint in the larger interest of peace and stability" of the region and said it will play a "constructive role" in easing the tensions by working with the international community. "We are concerned about the ongoing situation," China's Foreign Ministry said after Indian armed forces early Wednesday carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in



retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack. "India and Pakistan are and will always be each other's neighbours. They are both China's neighbours as well," it said. At an apparent reference to the Pahalgam terrorist attack the Chinese Foreign ministry said "China opposes all forms of terrorism." "We urge both sides to act in the larger interest of peace and stability, remain calm, exercise restraint and

■ Continued on Page 3

Bengal Government cancels leave, takes emergency steps amid Indo-Pak tension



MI News Service, Kolkata : When the entire country has geared up to face the heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, the West Bengal government and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) have initiated a number of steps to ensure full preparedness in all departments while simultaneously maintaining essential services. The state government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, has cancelled all leave for government employees, official sources in Nabanna said on Thursday adding the directive stipulates that no leave will now be granted, except in cases of physical illness, and all government employees must remain in their current place of posting. Urging the people not to panic and assuring them of the state's readiness, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced the setting up of control rooms at district level across

■ Continued on Page 3

Tata Motors unveils State-of-the-Art Vehicle Scrapping Facility in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kalyani : Tata Motors, India's largest commercial vehicle manufacturer, has inaugurated a cutting-edge Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) in Kalyani, Nadia on Thursday, further expanding its footprint in the sustainable mobility ecosystem. The facility, named 'Re.Wi.Re - Recycle with Respect', is capable of dismantling 21,000 end-of-life vehicles annually and is the company's eighth RVSF in the country. It is claimed this is the first of this facility in West Bengal. Operated in partnership with Selladale Synergies India Pvt. Ltd, the Kolkata facility in Kalyani can handle scrapping of passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, two-wheelers, and three-wheelers from all brands. This is Tata Motors' third RVSF in Eastern India, making the process more accessible to customers across the region. The inauguration ceremony was attended by key dignitaries, including Mr. Snehasis Chakraborty, Hon'ble Minister of Transport, Government of West Bengal, who praised the



initiative for its potential to build a cleaner and more efficient future. Mr. Firhad Hakim, Mayor of Kolkata and Minister of Urban Development & Municipal Affairs, who joined virtually, emphasized the environmental and economic benefits of the project. Dr. Saumitra Mohan, IAS, Secretary, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal, and Mr. Rajesh Kaul, Vice President & Business Head - Trucks, Tata Motors Commercial

vehicles, were also present at the event. "This facility marks a significant step in creating a circular economy within the transport sector," said Minister Chakraborty. "It will promote safer, energy-efficient vehicles while generating employment opportunities." Commenting on the milestone, Mr. Kaul said, "Tata Motors is committed to sustainable mobility. With this launch, our network of scrapping centers now has a cumulative annual capacity of over 1.3 lakh vehicles. We continue to lead the transformation of India's vehicle scrapping ecosystem with a focus on safety, compliance, and environmental responsibility." But Dr. P.K. Sur, a retired Prof. said, "Regarding the minimisation of lead pollution, no light can be thrown as standard protocol." Occasionally he stated that the lead will come out during dismantling any vehicle. The fully digitalized facility features cell-type dismantling bays for commercial vehicles, two- and three-wheelers, and line-type bays for passenger vehicles. All dismantling stations are designed to safely handle components such as tyres, batteries, fuel, oils, and gases, ensuring safe disposal as per India's vehicle scrap policy. The launch in Kolkata follows successful installations in Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, Surat, Chandigarh, Delhi NCR, Pune, and Guwahati, reinforcing Tata Motors' leadership in sustainable mobility and vehicle lifecycle management.



Amid war like situation between India and Pakistan, Coast Guard officials held a meeting at West Bengal Head Quarters to assess the current situation and build up war-like readiness to meet any eventualities.



Emergency mock drill at a private hospital in Kolkata.



Indian army congratulated by South kolkata district congress at jadubabur bazar for destroyed terrorist camps in pakistan..

2 Darj tea gardens reopen after a year

MI News Service, Darjeeling: Two Darjeeling tea gardens reopened after a year, offering a glimmer of hope amid one of the toughest periods in recent history for the industry. Bagaria Group took over the management of Pandam and Kalej Valley tea gardens in Darjeeling. "The state government requested me to take over the two gardens as there were livelihood concerns," S.S. Bagaria, the chairman and managing director of Bagaria Group, said. Kaley Valley tea garden used to employ around 400 workers while Pandam had around 150 workers on its rolls when both the gardens closed a year back. Earlier this week, the group also took over the management of the Panighata tea garden, which opened after almost 10 years. The Panighata

garden falls within Darjeeling district but does not come under the Darjeeling Tea industry. The Bagaria Group has been in the Darjeeling Tea industry for the past 25 years and is also running three other gardens — Gayabari, Phuguri and Orange Valley — apart from the three they have now recently acquired. "We also run the Bhubrighat Tea Garden in Assam," said Bagaria. Bagaria, who also formerly chaired the Darjeeling Tea Association, admitted that the industry was passing through a difficult phase. "We, however, have one advantage in the sense that we are direct exporters of Darjeeling Tea and we do not sell in the local market," said Bagaria. While Gayabari tea garden produces around 2.5 lakh kilos of

made tea annually, Phuguri produces 1.5 lakh kilos and Orange Valley makes 1.10 lakh kilos of made tea annually. Kaley Valley was producing around 1 lakh kilos of made tea and Pandam used to produce around 50,000 kilos of made tea before their closure. "We hope to touch 50 to 60 per cent of those figures this year as we have already lost two months of production this year," said Bagaria. Darjeeling Tea recorded one of the lowest productions in its 169 years history of commercial production in 2024. Data released by the Tea Board of India stated that Darjeeling produced only 5.6 million kilos of made tea in 2024. The Darjeeling Tea industry comprises 87 gardens of which eight are still closed.

Annual general meeting of Police

NURUL ISLAM KHAN

At the initiative of the West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, the annual "General Meeting" of the CID West Bengal branch was held at Bhavani Bhan. Shri Shankh Shuvro Chakraborty (IPS) IGP CID West Bengal, Shri Tarun Halder, (IPS) DIGP (Operations), CID West Bengal, Chief Speaker Shri Bijitash Raut Mahashay, Convener,

West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, Shri Ruhul Amin Ali Shah, Convener, Kolkata Police Welfare Committee, other leaders of the Central Committee of West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, various officers and general members of the CID West Bengal branch were present. Speaking at the annual general meeting, Shri Bijitash Raut Mahashay shed light on the following issues:

Tourism stakeholders urge rebuilding

MI News Service, Jaldapara:

Tourism stakeholders in the Dooars are demanding urgent action from the state government to rebuild the famed Hollong Bungalow at the Jaldapara wildlife sanctuary, which was gutted in a mysterious fire nearly a year ago. One year on, there has been no concrete initiative to restore this iconic heritage structure that was once the favourite retreat of then chief ministers Jyoti Basu and Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee as well as countless tourists. Dooars tour operator Biswajit Saha echoed the sentiments of many in the tourism industry. "The Hollong Bungalow was one of the major attractions for tourists in the Dooars. It was the only place where guests could witness wild animals — rhinos, elephants, deer — right from their rooms, especially during afternoons and nights. The demand for those rooms was so high that tourists would plan their entire trip around the availability of the Hollong Bungalow," he said. Saha added that even now tourists reminisce about the days of glory of the Hollong property, which is some 45km from Alipurduar town. "Even now, people just come, stand at the site and reminisce. We strongly urge the government to rebuild the bungalow immediately," said Saha. Visitors to Jaldapara are visibly distressed upon seeing the empty patch of land where the majestic bungalow once stood. Built in 1967 as a forest inspection house, the bungalow had eight double-bed rooms — five

managed by the state tourism department and three reserved for forest officials. "It was renowned as one of the most unique accommodations in India, offering guests the rare experience of wildlife viewing right from their rooms," said Saha. Local staff maintain that many visitors have expressed disbelief at the loss. "Some have even collected soil from the site as a memento," said a staffer. Bhashkar J.V., the chief conservator of forests (wildlife north), said: "We have sent the proposal (to rebuild the bungalow) to our higher authorities and hopefully during this financial year it will be sanctioned." The fire that destroyed the bungalow had started around 9pm on June 19, 2024, reportedly in the conference hall. Within hours, the entire structure was reduced to ashes. Despite multiple investigations — by the police, fire brigade, a five-member high-level forest committee and forensic experts, the cause of the blaze remains unknown. Hollong Bungalow had been the first choice for visitors to Jaldapara, not only for its heritage but also its location — right in front of a salt pit that attracted one-horned rhinos, elephants, leopards, gaurs, and deer. It was also a favourite retreat of former chief minister Jyoti Basu. Other prominent guests over the decades included former chief minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, former minister Nirupam Sen, former governors of Bengal Gopalkrishna Gandhi and Viren J. Shah, and authors Buddhadeb Guha

Centre hands over NH110 to NHIDCL

MI News Service, Darjeeling: The Centre has handed over the NH110 that connects Darjeeling with Siliguri to a central agency from the state PWD.

The responsibility to maintain and repair the hill road has been handed over to the National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL). "In exercise of powers conferred by section 5 of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956), the Central Government hereby directs that the National Highway & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited shall exercise the function relating to the development and maintenance of the stretch..." a notification issued by the ministry of road, transport and highways (MORTH) states. The maintenance and repair of the 77km highway was so far the onus of the Bengal PWD (highway division). In December 2024, a 52km stretch of the NH10 that links Siliguri and Sikkim was handed over to the NHIDCL from Bengal's PWD. The NHIDCL is a fully owned company of the Union ministry of

road transport and highways. "I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the ministry of road transport and highways for ordering the transfer of NH110 (formerly NH55) connecting Darjeeling to Siliguri via Kurseong to NHIDCL following my request on February 12, 2025," Darjeeling BJP MP Raju Bista said. The Darjeeling MP in a letter to Nitin Gadkari, minister of MORTH, had alleged that the NH Division of Bengal's PWD "absolutely failed to maintain and upkeep the highway, which has caused massive harassment to the locals, decrease in tourists inflow, reduction in trade and increase in tragic jam and pollution." The NHIDCL has started repairs along the Gangtok-Siliguri (NH10) highway. According to the NHIDCL, the stretch will be intermittently closed for all types of vehicles at various time slots between May 9 and 11 and between May 13 and 15. The 52.1 km stretch of NH10 between Soveke and Rangpo will be closed to traffic from 5am to 7am, 8am to 10am, 11am to 1pm, 2pm to 4pm and 5pm to 7pm, the NHIDCL notification said.

Sikkim mulls new tourism plan

MI News Service, Darjeeling: The Sikkim tourism and civil aviation department on Wednesday introduced two new attractions for tourists, adventure enthusiasts and aficionados of history. On one hand, the Gangtok Heritage Walk, a first-of-its kind initiative to take tourists on a journey across the state capital, was flagged off from Tashiling Secretariat in the city. On the other hand, a first bike ride to Doka La, one of the strategic areas of the mountain state that sits on the India-China border, was flagged off from Zero Point, a crossing in Gangtok. Tshering Thendup Bhutia, the state minister for tourism, civil aviation, commerce and industries, launched both the events, which were organised at a time when the state was gearing up to celebrate its 50 years of statehood.

Sikkim merged with India in 1975. The state is preparing for the celebration and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also likely to visit the state during the event. Minister Bhutia, along with officials of his department and the Indian Army, flagged off the bike ride to Doka La. The ride, he said, has been organised for the promotion of "battlefield tourism". "It is an important initiative to arrange bike rides to showcase the distinctive geographical and strategic attributes of Sikkim. Altogether, 161 riders from nine prominent riding clubs have joined the two-day expedition," said a source. "The tourism department is trying to highlight the potential of battlefield tourism as an emerging sector that integrates historical significance with adventure and scenic

exploration," the source added. Doka La is known for its strategic importance as well as idyllic landscapes. In 2017, the area had hit the headlines because of the standoff between Indian and Chinese forces. It is near the tri-junction of Sikkim, Bhutan and Tibet. Later, the minister also initiated the heritage walk in Gangtok from the secretariat. The walk covers prominent venues of cultural and historical importance, including Raj Bhavan and the Enchey Monastery, sources said. "People visiting Gangtok can join the walk to know about the rich heritage and culture of the state, its history, and other information. This is an alternative way to explore Sikkim and have a better understanding of the state and its people," said an official of the department.

State excise dept busts fake liquor unit, 3

MI News Service, Siliguri: The state excise department acted on a tipoff and busted a fake liquor manufacturing unit at the Uttarayan township in Siliguri on Wednesday, seizing various items worth 1.37 crore, including four cars. This is one of the department's biggest hauls in recent times. Three persons, including a woman, have been arrested in this connection from a bungalow in the township. Sources in the department said that over the past couple of months, they had been working on inputs on the unit where fake IMFL was being made. "Based on specific information, the raid was conducted under my supervi-

sion and in the presence of the deputy excise collectors of Bagdogra and Bhaktinagar units at the township. Several items of the manufacturing unit have been seized along with four cars and two two-wheelers. Three persons have been arrested and the investigation is in progress," said Sujit Das, the special excise commissioner, enforcement (north). According to him, 2,200 litres of spirit, a large quantity of liquor of fake brands, empty bottles, empty tetra packs, empty pouches, caps, three punching machines, sacks and bottles, heat compressing packing machine, caramel, caps and holograms were seized during the raid.

Building plans: Terrace now will be tagged as common space, says Hakim

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sanctioned building plans issued by all municipal bodies in Bengal will mention that the roof is a common area and cannot be subdivided, urban development minister Firhad Hakim said. Hakim, also the mayor of Kolkata, said the civic body had prepared a draft standard operating procedure (SOP) about rooftop bars and restaurants, and submitted it to Bengal's chief secretary for approval. Calcutta High Court has given the Kolkata Municipal Corporation two weeks to take a fresh call on rooftop restaurants that were served stop-work and demolition notices by the civic body. Discussions between restaurateurs and the administration are underway, both sides said. "All sanctioned building plans across Ben-

gal will henceforth mention that the roof is a common area and cannot be subdivided. The urban development department has issued a notification about this," Hakim said. A delegation from the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Eastern India (HRAEI) met Hakim on Tuesday. "We had a very positive meeting. The authorities have assured us that no coercive steps will be taken against restaurants and bars that are running according to the law," said Sudesh Poddar, president of the association. Pranav Singh, the secretary, was also at the meeting. Hakim confirmed the meeting. "They said it would be difficult to stop a running business. They said they would leave at least 50 per cent of the area open and allow everyone to access the terrace. We have prepared a draft SOP (on

rooftop restaurants) and sent it to the chief secretary. Let us see what the government thinks," he said. Metro reported on Wednesday that the KMC was considering joint inspections of rooftop restaurants with other government wings. A joint hearing might follow the inspection. "The officers need to have an SOP before they conduct the hearings," Hakim said. A restaurant owner said there are around 400 enlisted rooftop establishments in and around Kolkata. "The government authorities have been requested to consider the socio-economic impact of a blanket shutdown. The number of direct employees at these places is between 16,000 and 20,000. If vendors are included, the number will go up further," the owner said.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal- 700091. CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Borrower Dwaipayan Biswas & (Co- Applicant) Smriti Mondal Biswas & (Mortgagor) Dwaipayan Biswas/ Karimpur- I, Karimpur (CT), Nadia, West Bengal Karimpur- 741152/ 271205013046	R.S. & L.R. Dag No 35/2344, Hal Touzi No 1, R.L. Krishi Khatian No 409, Mouza 87 Pattabuka, Thana Karimpur, A.D.S.R.O. Karimpur, District Nadia, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of 5 Satak Together With 800 Sq Ft Two Storied House)/ Date of Symbolic: 07/05/2025	23/12/2024 Rs. 74,63,799.99/-	Karimpur

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

Date: May 09, 2025, Place: Karimpur Sincerely Authorised Signatory, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

'Operation Sindoor' kills...

From PG 1
the past one week, as top government functionaries and opposition leaders met amid rising tensions between India and Pakistan following the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22.

meeting. Later speaking to newsmen, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju said the government wanted to brief all parties on "Operation Sindoor", adding Prime Minister Narendra Modi wishes that the country shouldn't be divided in such a situation.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh, Union Home minister Amit Shah, External Affairs minister S Jaishankar, BJP President and Union Health minister J P Nadda and Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman represented the government, while Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and party President Mallikarjun Kharge represented the Congress.

"Operation Sindoor has been successfully executed by the armed forces, and the government is very clear about it. PM Modi's intentions have already been known to the world. The PM desires that in such a situation, we shouldn't be divided. It is a situation where every Indian must be united," he said.

The government had earlier called an all-party meeting on April 24 to brief leaders on the attack.

"Money Can Wait" Mamata Banerjee's bold stand against black marketing

MI News Service, Kolkata: As national tensions escalate, the West Bengal government, led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, has issued a stern warning against black marketing and price gouging, emphasizing the need for collective responsibility to protect the middle class.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is addressing a media conference at Nabanna warning black-marketeers against hoarding.

She stressed the importance of cooperation among government agencies, businesses, and citizens, particularly those involved in supply chains, including cold storage facilities, paddy mills, agriculture, and poultry.

ing to the situation, we have to increase connectivity among ourselves for the benefit of the people. To increase cooperation with each other better. Just as the government has a responsibility in this regard, so do those who do business and supply in different places," she stated.

ness and supply in different places," she stated. Banerjee also highlighted her personal oversight of the situation, emphasizing the need for heightened vigilance at borders and railway stations to prevent illicit activities. She ad-

ressed concerns about potential supply disruptions, urging citizens to prepare responsibly without resorting to panic buying. "Since a war situation has been created in Pahalgam, everyone has been asked to prepare their stocks. You said that it will pass over Kashmir, but if by chance it passes through here, then people should not face problems. And this is not a time for earning money, this is a time to stand by the people. As conscious citizens, we have some responsibilities," she reiterated.

Bengal Government cancels leave, takes...

From PG 1
the state, including in North Bengal, to monitor the situation closely. Additionally, she appealed to private schools to consider starting the summer vacation from Rabindra Jayanti tomorrow (Friday), so that the children could stay at home at the time of possible emergency situation..

Saudi and Iranian Foreign...

From PG 1
decided to carry out the "proportionate" strikes to bring the perpetrators and planners of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack to justice as there was "no demonstrable step" from Pakistan to act against terrorist infrastructure on territories under its control.

and Korean Air have either re-routed or cancelled their flights and about a dozen Indian airports were shut on Wednesday after India struck nine sites in Pakistan, raising fears of an escalation. Images from flight tracking websites showed a long line of airlines passing over Oman, UAE and Kuwait after the attack, raising the possibility of airspace congestion.



A rally was organised by All Bengal Minority Youth Federation against harassment of minority migrant workers in different states in Kolkata on Thursday.

SC orders state govt to decide on trial permission in Partha Chatterjee case in 2 wks time

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Supreme Court has placed the West Bengal state government under scrutiny in the bail case of former minister Partha Chatterjee, accused in the recruitment corruption case. During a hearing, the CBI alleged that the state was obstructing the trial of Chatterjee's associates by withholding permis-

sion. The Supreme Court has now mandated that the state make a decision within two weeks, following the accused's consent, with the lower court to proceed with the trial accordingly. This directive comes as a court sets July 17 for the next hearing, where the bail applications of all accused, including Chatterjee, will be considered.

South Bengal braces for intense heat wave with low rain chance

MI News Service, Kolkata: After a brief respite from rain, South Bengal is bracing for a return of intense heat, with the Alipore Meteorological Department forecasting a significant temperature rise starting Wednesday. While today and Thursday are expected to remain largely unchanged, a heatwave is predicted to grip several South Bengal districts over the weekend, accompanied by hot westerly winds.

Following a period of rain-induced relief, South Bengal is bracing for a resurgence of heat, according to the latest forecast from the Alipore Meteorological Department. Temperatures have begun to climb again since Wednesday, accompanied by increasing humidity levels. The Meteorological Office indicates that no significant temperature fluctuations are expected for today, Thursday.

However, the weekend is predicted to bring scorching conditions to South Bengal, with hot westerly winds potentially leading to a heatwave across four to five districts. A similar weather pattern is anticipated in Malda, North Bengal. While the northernmost districts of North Bengal, including Darjeeling, may experience scattered showers, the rest of the state is likely to face hot and uncomfortable weather starting today, Thursday.

The western districts of South Bengal are particularly susceptible to heatwave conditions, with four to six districts expected to be affected. Kolkata will likely see temperatures ranging between 38 and 40 degrees Celsius, while the western parts of the state could witness mercury levels exceeding 40 degrees Celsius. The Meteorological Department forecasts a gradual temperature increase of three to five degrees Celsius across various districts of South Bengal by Saturday. Today, Thursday, marks the onset of hotter and more uncomfortable weather across all districts of South Bengal, including Kolkata.

3rd print Biennale India 2026 announced

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Lalit Kala Akademi, National Academy of Art, New Delhi has announced the 3rd Print Biennale India 2026, scheduled for January in Kolkata. This global platform for contemporary printmaking invites professional artists from India and abroad to participate.



Vijay Bagodi - Steering Member, Hanuman Kamli - Steering Member, Dr. Nand Lal, C.S. Krishna Setty - Commissioner Thakur - Vice Chairman, Dattatraya Apte - Steering Member, Anand Moy Banerji - Steering Member, R. M. Palaniappan - Steering Member at a press meet at Kolkata on Thursday.

are five grand prizes of Rs2,00,000 each along with Honourable mention. The last date for submission are October

31, 2025, display of selected artworks are January 2026 in Kolkata, with possible tours to other Indian cities.

KMC's rooftop restaurant policy awaits nod from Nabanna

MI News Service, Kolkata: Following experiences with multi-storey building fires, the Kolkata Municipality (KMC) has formulated a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and submitted it to the state government at Nabanna concerning rooftop restaurants in multi-storey buildings.

Kolkata Municipality Proposes Strict Safety SOP for Rooftop Restaurants, Awaits State Approval Amidst Legal Hurdles. The Kolkata Municipality (KMC) has forwarded a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to the state government at Nabanna, outlining stringent safety regulations for rooftop restaurants operating in multi-storey buildings across the city.

lighted in the proposed SOP is the recognition that rooftops and basements of multi-storey buildings are typically designated as common areas, thus raising questions about their permissible commercial use. The KMC intends to implement stricter regulations in all upcoming building plan approvals concerning rooftop and basement usage. The SOP emphasizes the necessity of regular surprise inspections to monitor for any unauthorized permanent or temporary constructions on rooftops. It also mandates consistent checks for adequate fire extinguishing systems, unobstructed main entrances and staircases, clear alternative escape routes, and the verification of essential licenses, including trade and excise permits, along with the regular use of communication devices.

TMC leader Abhishek...

From PG 1
missile strikes early Wednesday on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, including the Jaish-e-Mohammad stronghold of Bahawalpur and Lashkar-e-Taiba's base Muridke. The missile strikes were carried out two weeks after the massacre of 26 civilians in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. General Roy-

chowdhury, who was the army chief from November 1994 to September 1997, also said, "India should continue hammering them (Pakistan). In Hindi, there is a term laaton ke bhoot baaton se nahi mante... They are like that. There is no war-like situation. It's already an undeclared war." The idiom means that strict action is necessary for a person who does not understand the language of love.

China calls on India, Pakistan.

From PG 1
refrain from taking actions that may further complicate the situation. China finds India's military operation early this morning regrettable," the statement added. According to reports in a section of media over the past few days, diplomatic ties between Pakistan and its longtime "iron-clad" ally China has been "stepped up" Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar called China's top diplomat Wang Yi over phone and briefed him on April 27. Besides this, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistani Jiang Zaidong also met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Ali Zardari.



tribute to regional peace and stability.

Notably, China while condemning the Pahalgam terrorist attack, also called for restraint, besides a fair and swift investigation. In his talks with Dar, Wang stated that China is closely following the developments. He said that combating terrorism is a shared responsibility of the whole world, and China supports an impartial investigation as soon as possible, as the conflict does not serve the fundamental interests of either India or Pakistan, nor does it con-

As an ironclad friend and an all-weather strategic cooperative partner, China fully understands Pakistan's legitimate security concerns and supports Pakistan in safeguarding its sovereignty and security interests", Wang said. Meanwhile, Chinese President Xi Jinping is due to leave for Russia today on a four-day visit. He will participate in the celebrations marking the 80th anniversary of the Victory in the Soviet Union in World War II. Xi Jinping is also due to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, with whom he shares a close personal friendship, the report added.

"Operation Sindoor" jitters, Bangladesh boosts own security

MI News Service, Kolkata: Following India's reported military action ("Operation Sindoor") against terrorist bases in Pakistan after the Pahalgam attack, Bangladesh has seemingly heightened security along its border with India. Bangladeshi Police IGP Baharul Alam announced increased surveillance in these areas, emphasizing the need to safeguard Bangladesh from any spillover effects of the India-Pakistan tensions.

Measures along its extensive border with India. Inspector General of Police (IGP) Baharul Alam of the Bangladesh Police announced the implementation of stricter surveillance in these border regions during a police event in Gulshan, Dhaka, on Wednesday. IGP Alam emphasized that these enhanced security protocols are intended to prevent any potential ramifications of the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan from affecting Bangladesh. Given that thirty of Bangladesh's districts share a border with India, the government under Yunus has directed its security apparatus to be particularly vigilant to any spillover effects from the regional situation.

Name Change I, Satyajit Das S/o Alok Das residing at Vill+PO-Radhanagar P.S-Namkhana, Dist-South 24 Parganas, WB, declare that my father actual name is Alok Das instead of Alok Kumar Das Before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st class at Kakdwip South 24 Pgs on 06.05.2025. Alok Das and Alok Kumar Das both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Kaushal Chandak, son of Bharu Ratan Chandak, residing at BL F 9th floor, Shyam Residency, 293, Gourinath Shastri Sarani, PO-Bangur Avenue, PS-Nager Bazar, North 24 Parganas-700055, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that Koushal Chandak and Kaushal Chandak is one and same identical person via affidavit before the Ld 1st Class Metropolitan Magistrate at Kolkata dated 6th May 2025

Name Change I, Marjina Bibi Mondal (old name) wife of Nazrul Mondal, residing at Vill-Madartala, P.O.-Sodarpur Behala, P.S.-Haroa, Dist-North 24 Pgs, Pin-743445, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Marjina Bibi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Marjina Bibi (New Name) and Marjina Bibi Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Significant improvement in station approach road of Dakshin Barasat for more easy movement of passengers

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant step further towards enhancing passenger convenience and safety, the long-awaited concrete road approach to Dakshin Barasat railway station has been successfully constructed. This development work has been completed by Eastern Railway, Sealdah Division to fulfill the demand of the local inhabitants for an encroachment free and easily navigable approach road connecting this station.



Old cab road

Cab Roads at Howrah Station A Visionary Facility for Passenger Comfort

MI News Service, Kolkata: The architectural brilliance and foresight of the builders of Howrah Station are evident in many of its unique features, one of the most remarkable being the Cab Road. This innovative facility sets Howrah Station apart from all other major railway stations in India by offering passengers the rare convenience of being able to drive right into the station premises.



New cab road

and road transport is an unparalleled feature, especially beneficial for elderly travelers, families, and those with heavy luggage. The vision of the early planners is clearly reflected in this thoughtful design, which integrates convenience into the very structure of the station.



The Old Cab Road, which runs between platforms 8 and 9, is the largest of its kind in Indian Railways. It allows vehicles to enter the station premises and drive right up to the platforms, virtually enabling passengers to step directly into a waiting car after alighting from a train. This seamless connection between rail

ing station complex, a New Cab Road was added in 2004 near platform 21. This road primarily serves passengers traveling via the South Eastern Railway and provides easy access to personal vehicles. It offers a similar advantage to passengers arriving or departing from the new station complex, ensuring that the high standards of comfort and accessibility are maintained throughout the facility.

Together, these Cab Roads not only highlight the exceptional planning behind Howrah Station but also reinforce its reputation as one of the most passenger-friendly stations in the country.

Eastern Railway urges respect for ladies: Calls for public support to ensure that no male passenger enter ladies special coaches

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway has been consistently committed to ensuring safe and dignified travel for all its passengers, especially women commuters. In keeping with this objective, specific coaches have been earmarked exclusively for lady passengers in local and passenger trains. This step has become increasingly important as the number of lady passengers continues to rise.

unlawful but also highly objectionable. To address this issue, Eastern Railway has intensified vigilance and enforcement measures. The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway regularly conducts checks and surprise raids at various stations. As a result of these efforts, from 1 to 7 May 2025 alone, 628 male passengers were apprehended for unauthorized travel in coaches reserved for lady passengers.

eration of the public is essential in ensuring a secure and respectful environment for women commuters. Women often face difficulty asserting their rights without support from their fellow passengers, particularly men. We urge all passengers to join hands with Eastern Railway in preserving the sanctity of ladies coaches and in creating a travel experience that upholds the dignity and safety of every woman. The RPF will continue its strict vigilance and ensure that violators face appropriate consequences. Let us all work together to uphold respect, dignity, and safety for our women passengers.

Name Change I, Sandhya D/O, Sita Chandak R/O Sadar Bajar Ward No 04, Shribalaji, Nagaur, Rajasthan -341001 Voter Id: Raju Kumari have changed my name to Raju Devi Tapadia.

Name Change I, Karim Sk, S/o-Abdul Gani, residing at Vill-Mia-pur, P.S.-Lalgola, Dist-Murshidabad. That my name has been recorded in my son's (Mohammad Mehedi Hasan) Passport as Karim Sekh which is incorrect. So vide Affidavit before the Ld.J.M Berhampore dt-07/05/2025, that Karim SK & Karim Sekh is same and one identical person

Name Change I, Zulekha (old name) wife of Firoz Mulla, residing at N0066 Molla Para, Balarampota, P.S.- Rajapur, Dist.-Howrah, Pin- 711322, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Julekha Mulla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Julekha Mulla (New Name) and Zulekha (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Mullah Zahid Firoz (old name) son of Firoz Mulla, residing at N0066 Molla Para, Balarampota, P.S.- Rajapur, Dist.- Howrah, Pin-711322, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Zahid Mulla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Zahid Mulla (New Name) and Mullah Zahid Firoz (old name) both are same and identical person.

Eastern Railway urges respect for ladies: Calls for public support to ensure that no male passenger enter ladies special coaches

Name Change I, Manjila Bibi, W/o. Aslam Hasan Molla residing at A338, Santoshpur Road, Gardenreach, Maheshala (M), P.S. Gardenreach, Kolkata-700024. In Voter Card my name recorded as Reshma,D/O. Israfil instead of Manjila Bibi,D/O.Esrafil Molla. I have declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Alipore vide affidavit no. 23885 dated 19.04.2025 that Manjila Bibi D/O. Esrafil Molla and Reshma D/O. Israfil both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Namita Kundu W/O Late Nimai Chandra Kundu, R/O 131/A, Satupura Baidyanagar, P. O. : Haltu, Kolkata-700078, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Namita Rani Kundu, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 08/05/2025, That Namita Kundu And Namita Rani Kundu All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Mullah Zahid Firoz (old name) son of Firoz Mulla, residing at N0066 Molla Para, Balarampota, P.S.- Rajapur, Dist.- Howrah, Pin-711322, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Zahid Mulla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Zahid Mulla (New Name) and Mullah Zahid Firoz (old name) both are same and identical person.

Dakshin Barasat , a popular destination on the Sealdah South section witnessed a substantial improvement in its amenities and facilities for which Sr.Divisional Engineer (Co), Sri Sachin Suman, Sr.Divisional Engineer, Sri Rakesh Ranjan took initiative under the guidance of Sri Rajeev Saxena DRM Sealdah.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway has been consistently committed to ensuring safe and dignified travel for all its passengers, especially women commuters. In keeping with this objective, specific coaches have been earmarked exclusively for lady passengers in local and passenger trains. This step has become increasingly important as the number of lady passengers continues to rise.

Name Change I, MARYAM MUSTAFA RAMPURAWALA, wife of MUSTAFA RAMPURAWALA, residing at 16/1E/1, East Topsis Road, Ideal Lake view Apts, Marina 12E, PS Pragati maidan, Kolkata-700046 West Bengal, Shall henceforth be known as MARYAM SHOEB, vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 07/05/2025. That MARYAM MUSTAFA RAMPURAWALA and MARYAM SHOEB both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Swapna Chaudhuri (Old Name), Son Of Sahadeb Chaudhuri, Residing At Naksitra Heights Tower-26, Flat No 6K, Renaissance Township, Bardhaman-713102, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Swapna Kumar Chaudhuri Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 08/05/2025. That Swapna Chaudhuri And Swapna Kumar Chaudhuri Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Prodyut Mondal (old name) son of Shri Kumar Mondal, residing at Karimpur Bazar Para, VTC: Karimpur, PO: Karimpur, District-Nadia, Pin- 741152, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pradyut Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Pradyut Mondal (New Name) and Prodyut Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

The area adjacent to the station had unfortunately become a site of extensive encroachment, effectively transforming into an informal marketplace and severely hindering the movement of passengers to approach Dakshin Barasat Station. Acknowledging the long-standing grievances of the commuters, Sealdah Divisional authority took decisive action to address the issue. A comprehensive eviction drive was undertaken to clear all encroachments, paving the way for the construction of a robust concrete road connecting this station.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway has been consistently committed to ensuring safe and dignified travel for all its passengers, especially women commuters. In keeping with this objective, specific coaches have been earmarked exclusively for lady passengers in local and passenger trains. This step has become increasingly important as the number of lady passengers continues to rise.

Affidavit I, Md. Javed Hussain, son of late Md Hasnain, residing at 417 Old lane Bansberia, do hereby declare that my name and date of birth have been incorrectly recorded in some documents as Mohammad Guddu and 15/09/1987. My correct name is Md. Javed Hussain and my correct date of birth is 15/08/1989, as per my affidavit sworn before the Judicial Magistrate, dated 7th May 2025. Both names refer to the same person - myself. This notice is published for public information and necessary correction.

Name Change I, Ajay Dhanu Singh, S/O Late Dhanu Singh, R/O C-302, Jalvayu Tower, Block-DJ-6, Aa-1D, Newtown, Kolkata, Ps-K.L.C(Kolkata Leather Complex), Kolkata- 700160, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ajay Kumar Singh, Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 08/05/2025. That Ajay Dhanu Singh And Ajay Kumar Singh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change I, Ummuzaraa Begam (old name) wife of Sk Abul Hasnat, residing at Samta Chunait, Arambagh, Hooghly, Pin- 712413, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mst Ummul Wara Begum (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 07/05/2025. Mst Ummul Wara Begum (New Name) and Ummuzaraa Begam (old name) both are same and identical person.

Metro staff help an indisposed lady passenger On-duty station staff and RPF immediately rushed to her help. Considering the seriousness of the situation, she was brought to the Station Master's Office and given first-aid. She was later sent to M. R. Bangur Hospital with her relative for further treatment. They expressed heartfelt gratitude for the kind and timely help rendered by the station staff of Metro Railway.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway has been consistently committed to ensuring safe and dignified travel for all its passengers, especially women commuters. In keeping with this objective, specific coaches have been earmarked exclusively for lady passengers in local and passenger trains. This step has become increasingly important as the number of lady passengers continues to rise.

Name Change I, Mariyam Fatima D/o. Sujit Saha residing at 2/2E, Rabindranath Tagore Road, Purba Barisha Thakurpukur, 24 Parganas WB-700063 have change my name from Suchanda Saha to Mariyam Fatima (after change my religion to Islam) and shall henceforth be known as Mariyam Fatima as declared before the Notary Public Govt. of India at Sealdah affidavit no. 103 dated 02.04.2024. Suchanda Saha (Old Name) and Mariyam Fatima (New Name) both are same and one identical person,i.e, myself.

Name Change I, Sayed Rafikul Hasan (Old Name), son of Syed Syedul Hasan, residing at Sirjam Khondakpara, Sirjam, Bharatpur, Murshidabad-742301, West Bengal, shall henceforth be known as Syed Rafikul Hasan (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 07/05/2025. That Sayed Rafikul Hasan and Syed Rafikul Hasan both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sk Ajjil Haque (old name) son of Sk Abul Hasnat, residing at Samta Chunait, Arambagh, Hooghly, Pin- 712413, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Azizul Haque (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 07/05/2025. Sk Azizul Haque (New Name) and Sk Ajjil Haque (old name) both are same and identical person.

Global IT experts assemble in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Huge numbers of IT professionals from India and abroad recently assembled in Kolkata which could be termed as galaxy of IT stars in the city of joy. The IT experts interacted with each other about various possibilities and probabilities regarding growth and enhancement of IT sectors in Kolkata.

30,400 berths to be generated by running two summer special

MI News Service, Kolkata: 30,400 will be generated by running two Summer special trains between Howrah & New Jalpaiguri and Bhagalpur & New Delhi. Eastern Railways remains committed to prioritizing passenger comfort and convenience, especially during periods of increased demand such as the summer season. By proactively addressing passenger needs and introducing these special trains, Eastern Railway reaffirms its dedication to providing quality transportation services and ensuring a positive travel experience for all passengers.

ern Railway aims to ensure that passengers have access to adequate transportation facilities, thereby enhancing their travel experience and meeting their evolving needs. 03039 Howrah - New Jalpaiguri Summer Special will leave Howrah at 00:10 hrs. on 10.05.2025 to reach New Jalpaiguri at 10:45 hrs. on the same day and 03040 New Jalpaiguri - Howrah Summer Special will leave New Jalpaiguri at 12:45 hrs. on 10.05.2025 to reach Howrah at 00:10 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at Bandel, Nabadwip Dham, katwa, Azimganj, Jangipur Road, Malda Town, Barsoi, Kishanganj and Aluabari Road stations in both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class Accommodations.

04068 New Delhi - Bhagalpur Summer Special will leave New Delhi at 14:00 hrs. on every Sunday & Wednesday between 11.05.2025 & 09.07.2025 (18 trips) to reach Bhagalpur at 13:30 hrs. on the next day and 04067 Bhagalpur - New Delhi Summer Special will leave Bhagalpur at 14:30 hrs. on every Monday & Thursday between 12.05.2025 & 10.07.2025 (18 trips) to reach New Delhi at 14:30 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at 15 stations including Sultanganj, Jamalpur and Abhaipur stations over Eastern Railway jurisdictions in both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class & Sleeper Class Accommodations. The date of booking of above summer special trains will be notified shortly.

Name Change I, Sanjita Mistri W/o. Amal Mistri & Sanjita Mistri W/o. Amal Mistri R/o. Taldanga Govt. Colony, Chinsurah, Hooghly-712105, W.B. both are the same & one identical person vide an Affidavit No. 3524 dated 06/05/2025 before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

Name Change I, Sorabh Suhassaria (old name) son of Suresh Suhassaria, residing at 87A, Bondel Road, Ballygunge, Kolkata- 700019, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saurav Suhassaria (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Saurav Suhassaria (New Name) and Sorabh Suhassaria (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Abdul Rahaman (old name) C/O Kazi Abdul Sobhan, residing at VILL-PURBA NAWABPUR GURGURIPOTA, P.O.- KRISHNARAMPUR, P.S.- CHANDITALA, DIST.-HOOGHLY, PIN-712701, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kazi Abdul Rahaman (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Kazi Abdul Rahaman (New Name) and Abdul Rahaman (old name) both are same and identical person.

Federal Bank's net profit rises MI News Service, Delhi: Federal Bank recently announced the Financial Results for the quarter and year ended 31st March 2025. The total business of the Bank has reached Rs.5,18,483.86Cr. Federal Bank also informed that Annual Net Profit is at Rs 4051.89 Cr and net profit for the quarter at Rs 1030.23 Cr, increases by 13.67% YoY. According to the bank, total business of the bank has reached Rs. 518483.86 Cr registering a growth of 12.24 % as on 31st March 2025. According to the bank sources, the Bank registered Operating Profit of Rs.1465.40Cr and Net Profit of Rs.1030.23Cr for the quarter ended 31st March 2025.

RPF Foils Arms Smuggling Attempt on Tripura Sundari Express

MI News Service, New Delhi: Amid heightened national security concerns, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) escort team onboard Train No. 14620 UP Tripura Sundari Express made a significant recovery, averting a potential threat to public safety. Acting on strict directives to enhance vigilance during escort duties, the alert RPF personnel recovered eight handmade iron pistols and sixteen magazines during a routine check on Thursday.



noticing the unattended luggage. On inspection, they discovered eight handmade pistols and sixteen magazines, carefully wrapped in brown cello tape, pointing to a likely attempt at illicit arms smuggling. The recovered weapons have been safely transported to RPF Post Agartala and the case has been handed over to GRPS Agartala for further investigation. The operation is being hailed as a significant success in ensuring rail passenger safety and underscores the crucial role played by frontline RPF staff in preventing criminal activities on trains.

Change of Name I, Kazi Md.Rasel alias Rasel Kazi (Old Name) S/o Kazi Md.Yeasin Residing at Vill+Po-Mallickpur, P.S-Baruipur, District-South 24 Parganas, Pin-700145 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Kazi Md.Rashel (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Baruipur, vide affidavit no 3414 Dated 28-04-2025. Kazi Md.Rasel, Rasel Kazi (Old Name) and Kazi Md.Rashel (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Anil ch Roy (old name) son of Prafulla Kumar Roy, residing at F-35, Khan Mohammad Road, Basundhara Park, P.O.-Sarsuna, P.S.-Thakurpukur, Kolkata-700061, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anil Chandra Roy (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Anil Ch Roy (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Prakash Roy (old name) son of Anath Roy, residing at Teghariya Sutiya, P.O.- East Bishnupur, P.S.- Gaighata, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743273, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prakash Roy (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Bongaon, dated 11/04/2025. Prakash Roy (New Name) and Prakash Roy (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Rima Mridha (old name) wife of Paritosh Mridha, residing at ADARSHAPALLY, PO-GOURANGANAGAR, PS-BAGUIATI, PIN-700159, 24(N)PGS, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rima Mridha Halder (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Rima Mridha Halder (New Name) and Rima Mridha (old name) both are same and identical person.

the upper berth of a general coach while the train was en route from Badarpur to Agartala. The escort team, part of the Agartala RPF Post, immediately took swift and decisive action upon

Change of Name I, Anand Kumar Agarwal (Old Name) S/o Late Murai Lal Agarwal Residing at 71/3, Bhairab Dutta Lane, P.- Golabari, District- Howrah, Pin-711106 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Anand Agarwal (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Executive Magistrate (1st Court) at Howrah, vide affidavit no 6518/25 Dated 30-04-2025. Anand Kumar Agarwal (Old Name) and Anand Agarwal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Ayush Jhunjhunwala S/O Raj Kumar Jhunjhunwala on behalf of my minor son Manan Jhunjhunwala (old name), residing at CA-197, 2ND Floor, Sector-1, Salt Lake City, Bidhannagar North, North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700064, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my son name and shall henceforth be known as Mannan Jhunjhunwala (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Mannan Jhunjhunwala (New Name) and Mannan Jhunjhunwala (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Rahul Kumar Agarwal (old name) son of Late Bimal Agarwal, residing at 20/20, Shalimar Road, P.S.- A.J.C Bose Road, B Garden, Howrah- 711103, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rahul Agarwal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Rahul Agarwal (New Name) and Rahul Kumar Agarwal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, SK sallauddin, & sk salahuddin (old names) son of Sk Jamshed, residing at G 274/1 Ramnagar LANE po & ps Garden Reach, Kolkata 700024, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Sallauddin (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Sk Sallauddin (New Name) and SK sallauddin, & sk salahuddin (old names) all are same and identical person.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091 (CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com) The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Table with 5 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number, Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs), Name of Branch. Row 1: Suranjana Sinha/ Chandana Sinha/ S/o Chandra Kumar Sinha, Sabek Dag No. Pb-219, 351 (part), Hal Dag No. 542/ 2269, Khation No. 756, Touthi, P.S.- Tahasil Ad Mouza Ramnagar, Mahakuma Panisagar, Sub Registry Office Dharmaganar, District North Tripura, Tripura, Admeasuring An Area Of 15 Satak/ Date of Physical 05.05.2025

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: May 09, 2025, Place: Kolkata Sincerely Authorised Signatory, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Change of Name I, Sk Mujammel Hawk alias Muzammal Haque (Old Name) S/o Abdul Gani Gayen Residing at Kaminachak, Kamila, Deriachak, Panskura-I, District-Purba Medinipur, Pin-721151 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Mujammel Gayen (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 15/2025 Dated 08-05-2025. Sk Mujammel Hawk, Muzammal Haque (Old Name) and Mujammel Gayen (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Umme Salma Bibi (old name) wife of Jahir Hosen Gazi, residing at Vill-Ramnagar, P.O.-Paikparaht, P.S.-Basirhat, Dist.-North 24 Pgs, Pin-743422, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Umme Salma Khatun (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Umme Salma Khatun (New Name) and Umme Salma Bibi (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Nareesh Murlu Gurbani (old name) son of Murali Mohan Lal Gurbani, residing at 63/1/2, Sarat Bose Road, P.S.- Bhawanipore, Kolkata- 700025, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nareesh Gurbani (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Nareesh Gurbani (New Name) and Nareesh Murlu Gurbani (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Asoke Adhikary (old name) son of Khagen Adhikary, residing at 17, Rakkhal Mukherjee Road, Bhawanipore, Kolkata , Pin - 700025, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashok Adhikary (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Ashok Adhikary (New Name) and Asoke Adhikary (old name) both are same and identical person.

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant step further towards enhancing passenger convenience and safety, the long-awaited concrete road approach to Dakshin Barasat railway station has been successfully constructed. This development work has been completed by Eastern Railway, Sealdah Division to fulfill the demand of the local inhabitants for an encroachment free and easily navigable approach road connecting this station.

Change of Name I, Soumik Kumar Das (Old Name) S/o Sankar Kumar Das Residing at Manorama Alaya 1st Floor, B S Road, Near Madan Mohan Bari West, Vtc - Cooc Behar-I, P.o - Cooc Behar, District- Cooc Behar Pin- 736101 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Soumik Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 16/2025 Dated 08-05-2025. Soumik Kumar Das (Old Name) and Soumik Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Nojrl Mondal (old name) son of Manik Mondal, residing at Vill-Madartala, P.O.- Sodarpur Behala, P.S.- Haroa, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743445, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nazrul Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 08/05/2025. Nazrul Mondal (New Name) and Nojrl Mondal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Md Mustahid Mallick (old name) S/O Mohammad Mallick, residing at Vill- Purba Gobindapur, P.O.- Pathar Ghatta, P.S.- Tachatta, Nadia, Pin-741103, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mustahid Mallick (new name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, dated 07/05/2025. Mustahid Mallick (new name) and Md Mustahid Mallick (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, SK MD IDRIS S/O- Abdul Rasid SK resident of Vill- Kantapur, P.O.- Chokthanda, P.S.- Memari, Dist- Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, Pin-713146, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as 'SEIKH MAHAMMAD IDRIS' vide an affidavit before the Ld Executive Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman on 28/02/2025. That SK MD IDRIS and SEIKH MAHAMMAD IDRIS both are same and one identical person.

Otis gives honorable mentions to students of Kolkata and Ranchi in its Made to Move Communities Global Challenge

Ranchi : Otis India, a subsidiary of Otis Worldwide Corporation (NYSE: OTIS), the global leader in the manufacture, installation and servicing of elevators and escalators, has announced the Otis Asia Pacific region results of the company's Made to Move Communities challenge. Two teams of students from Jadavpur Vidyapith (Kolkata) and DAV Nandaraj Public School (Ranchi) represented India this year and earned honourable mentions for their remarkable entries. Every year, the competition encourages students to apply principles of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and propose solutions to real-world urban mobility concerns.

The theme for this year's competition was 'Developing Urban Mobility Solutions Using AI'. Under the mentorship of a team of Otis volunteers, the students leveraged AI technology to design innovative solutions aimed at enabling more inclusive mobility



in their communities. They competed with schools in Otis' Asia Pacific region and presented their ideas to Otis judges from across the region.

Congratulating the students on their incredible performance, Mr. Sebi Joseph, President, Otis India, said, "We are glad to celebrate two groups of students whose

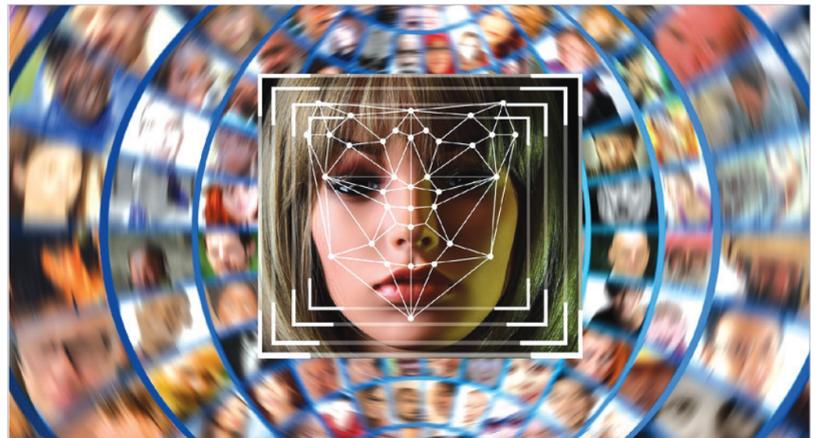
innovative entries have stood out. Their creative applications of STEM and AI showcase not just technical understanding, but a deep commitment to solving real-world urban mobility challenges in their respective areas. The inventive solutions developed by these students inspire us all, serving as a reminder that the

future of our cities lies in the hands of bright and passionate minds who are dedicated to building a better tomorrow. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition and thank you for pushing the boundaries of what's possible."

The students of Jadavpur Vidyapith developed 'fogSIGHT', an AI sensor-based solution that detects severe fog and provides visibility to the driver in such extreme conditions, thus mitigating the risk of an accident. The project earned the school recognition and a grant of USD 7500 to advance STEM education.

The students of DAV Nandaraj Public School developed 'Madad,' a solution to ensure patients reach the hospital on time. It is an AI-sensor mechanism that identifies an ambulance on the road and effectively regulates traffic to clear the way for its swift passage. It also gained recognition at the challenge, along with a grant for furthering STEM education at the school.

Digital clones of real models are revolutionising fashion advertising



British Columbia (Canada) : (The Conversation) Driven by advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and metaverse technologies, digital clones are transforming fast-fashion marketing. Always available, ageless and adaptable to any setting, these virtual figures enable brands to create immersive, cost-effective campaigns that resonate with today's digital-first consumers.

Virtual influencers -- digitally created personas used to provide entertainment, generate content and endorse brands -- are becoming increasingly influential, especially among Gen Z and digital-first audiences.

These virtual figures vary in form: some, like Lil Miquela and Shudu, are entirely computer-generated, while others, such as Hatsune Miku, incorporate human elements like voice or motion.

Hybrid influencers blend real and virtual components, allowing for brand-specific customisation. These virtual influencers boost brand visibility, drive engagement and influence market performance.

Real persons, virtual personas

The estimate for global influencer market size for 2024 was valued at over USD 24 billion and is projected to grow to over USD 32 billion in 2025. The rise of virtual influencers is particularly prominent in Asia.

This trend is also reshaping the USD 2.5 trillion modelling industry, according to The Business of Fashion. AI-generated avatars and digital clones enable brands to cut production costs and accelerate campaign development. As a result, companies such as Levi Strauss and Co. are partnering with AI modelling firms to integrate these virtual personas into their marketing strategies.

Digital twins -- virtual replicas of real people -- are gaining traction in marketing to enhance personalisation, streamline content creation and deepen customer engagement.

In the fashion world, they provide a means to maintain a sense of human connection while using AI for precision and volume purposes. Fast-fashion retailer H&M recently introduced AI-generated digital twins of real-life models for advertising and social

These AI-generated influencers and digital twins introduce numerous ethical and legal challenges. These innovations raise difficult questions about the displacement of human talent -- including models, make-up artists, hairstylists and photographers -- and broader implications for creative industries.

artists, hairstylists and photographers -- and broader implications for creative industries.

Key concerns centre on consent and compensation. The unauthorised use of an individual's likeness, even in digital form, poses a risk of exploitation and underscores the importance of clear standards and protections. The legal landscape regarding image rights and intellectual property is still evolving, which makes compliance both essential and complex.

As the lines between reality and digital fabrication blur, brands risk eroding consumer trust. The authenticity that audiences value can be undermined if AI-generated content seems deceptive or inauthentic.

Companies must tread carefully, balancing innovation with transparency. Diversity is another critical issue. While AI offers customisation, it can also perpetuate biases or create an illusion of inclusivity without genuine representation.

As the use of AI proliferates, ensuring that digital models support, rather than hinder, meaningful advancement in representation will be essential.

Ultimately, brands must implement ethical frameworks to ensure that AI enhances creativity while maintaining integrity, inclusivity and legal accountability.

Strategic considerations Digital clones provide fast-fashion brands with a powerful tool to create personalised shopping experiences and enable greater representation of diverse body types and style preferences. This degree of customisation can significantly enhance customer satisfaction and brand loyalty.

To ensure ethical integration, transparency is crucial. Brands must clearly disclose when digital models appear in campaigns. These digital representations should encompass a wide variety of demographics to genuinely promote inclusivity and engage with a broader audience.

Establishing ethical and legal safeguards is equally important. Creating digital clones requires explicit consent and careful attention to intellectual property rights. Without clear guidelines and permissions, brands risk violating privacy, misusing likenesses and facing legal repercussions.

Ambedkar University Delhi announces MA in political science D.Litt programme for 2025-26

New Delhi : The Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) on Thursday announced the launch of two new academic programmes -- Master's in political science and Doctor of Literature (D.Litt) -- for the 2025-26 academic year, officials said.

Making the announcement at a press conference, AUD vice-chancellor Anu Singh Lather also unveiled the university's admission brochure for undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

"A total of 1,123 undergrad-

uate and 1,491 postgraduate seats are on offer this year," she said.

Highlighting the university's "inclusive" and "affordable" education model, Lather said, "Our fee is highly subsidised as the university is fully funded by the government. We do not charge any fee from SC, ST or PwD students. Over Rs 6.26 crore was spent last year on scholarships and student welfare schemes."

The university is aligning its courses with the National

Education Policy (NEP), emphasising experiential learning, she said. "As part of the NEP's focus on field work, our students are visiting sites such as Rakhigarhi (in Haryana) for practical exposure," Lather said. The D.Litt programme is aimed at recognising or nurturing significant contributions in literature, humanities, social sciences, and design. While often awarded as an honorary degree, it will be offered as an earned academic programme at AUD, Lather said.

Gondwana University signs MoUs with Aussie varsity firm to offer engineering courses in Gadchiroli

Nagpur : A 'University Institute of Technology' (UIT) will be set up in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli in collaboration with Gondwana University, Curtin University in Western Australia and a company, officials have said.

Tripartite Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed on Wednesday at Raj Bhavan in the presence of Maharashtra Governor C P Radhakrishnan, who is the chancellor of Gondwana University, an official release said.

An MoU was signed between Gondwana University and Lloyds Metals and Energy Limited to establish the "autonomous UIT" in Gadchiroli to offer engineering programmes to students, the release said.

The second MoU was signed between Gondwana University and Curtin University in Western Australia for awarding twin degrees, it said.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Australian Consul-General in Mumbai Paul Murphy and company officials were present during the signing of the MoUs.

In a post on X, Fadnavis called the signing of the MoUs a "historic stride" for Maharashtra.

The MoU will bring world-class education in mining and metallurgy to Gadchiroli, he said and expressed hope that the district will emerge as the "Steel Hub of India" in the next five years.

Memoir of ex-Army chief General SM Shrinagesh chronicles a soldier's rise to Statesman

New Delhi : An upcoming memoir, "Commanded by Destiny: A General's Rise from Soldier to Statesman", is a gripping account of the life and times of former chief of Army staff General SM Shrinagesh that captures the heady post-Independence spirit of nationalism and the role of the Indian Army in securing the nation's hard-won freedom.

The autobiography, scheduled to release this month, sheds light on how the late General Shrinagesh was instrumental in modernising the Indian Army and breaks the myth that Indians were incapable of strong military leadership.

It will be released under Penguin Random House India's (PRHI) 'Veer' imprint.

While parts of the manuscript were published in 2009, the latest edition presents the complete version of events written by Shrinagesh, who died in December 1977.

"Preserved by his family for years, the book offers an intimate and insightful account of a remarkable military career and a pivotal era in India's defence history," Gurveen Chadha, executive editor of Ebury Press and Penguin Veer, said in a statement.



The Corps Commander of Jammu & Kashmir during the 1947-48 war with Pakistan, General Shrinagesh, who served as chief of Army staff of the Indian Army from 1955 till 1957, is claimed to be the first to introduce tanks at Zoji La to overcome well-entrenched Pakistani defences at such heights.

He retired on May 7, 1957, completing 34 years of distinguished military service. Post retirement, the army man served as the governor of Assam from

1959 to 1962, then as the governor of Andhra Pradesh from 1962 to 1964 and finally as governor of Mysore from 1964 to 1965.

The book, whose foreword is written by the author's grandson Gaurav Shrinagesh, recounts in vivid detail the life of a man who led a distinguished career of service to the nation. It is praised by the likes of former chief of Army staff General MM Naravane.

"Happy that the manuscript did see the light of the day," Naravane said describing the memoir as a "fascinating account".

"The smooth transition of the army from one that was almost exclusively commanded by British officers to being wholly led by Indian officers bears testimony to the highest professional standards that prevailed, forged through lessons learnt from the barren mountains of the North-West Frontier Province to the sweltering battlefields of Burma.

"I wish I had read this book while in service and been able to draw from this wealth of experience," the Ex-Army chief said in his praise for the book.

The book, priced at Rs 699, is currently available for pre-order online.

Tata ClassEdge Limited Announces a Strategic Educational Collaboration with Samsidh Group of Schools

Mumbai : TataClassEdge Limited (TCE), an innovative EdTech organisation within the prestigious TATA Company, has announced a strategic educational collaboration with Samsidh Group of Schools, which operates under the aegis of AZVASA and is recognised as a leader in providing value-driven, holistic education. The collaboration represents a significant advancement for both organisations in their shared mission to transform educational experiences for students across India.

Strategic Vision Tata ClassEdge Limited, drawing on the Tata Group's century-long tradition of nation-building through innovation and integrity, views the collaboration as an opportunity to amplify its impact in the educational sector.

"The Tata ClassEdge collaboration with the Samsidh Group of Schools marks a significant milestone in our commitment to transforming education through innovation and excellence. By bringing together Tata ClassEdge's academic solutions with Samsidh's proven foundation in character development and values-based education, we are creating a pow-

erful ecosystem that combines the best of tradition and technology. This collaboration is about more than digital transformation - it's about empowering the next generation with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to lead in an increasingly complex world," said Mr. K.R.S. Jamwal, Executive Director, Tata Industries Limited, and Chairman, Tata ClassEdge Limited.

For Samsidh Group of Schools, this initiative reinforces its ongoing journey to nurture compassionate, mindful, and future-ready learners through a strong foundation of academic excellence, character development, and 21st-century skills.

"Our vision has always been to shape character and ignite young minds. Collaborating with Tata ClassEdge strengthens this vision by integrating global best practices and technology-driven learning environments, while staying rooted in the values we hold dear," said Mr. Vasa Srinivasa Rao, Founder Chairman, Samsidh Group of Schools.

A Holistic Approach to Education By blending TCE's advanced academic solution and innovative



pedagogical practices with Samsidh's established model of value-based education, the collaboration aims to build an ecosystem that fosters compassionate, mindful, and future-ready learners. The collaboration will be realised through the following focus areas:

□ Technology-Enhanced

Classroom Experiences: Integrating world-class digital tools and innovative teaching methodologies.

□ Character & Leadership Building: Strengthening programs for ethical leadership development and community engagement.

□ Expanded Educational

Networks: Providing students access to both TCE's extensive academic ecosystem and Samsidh's holistic learning environment.

□ Future Skills Development: Fostering critical thinking, creativity, compassion, and collaboration through a joint commitment.

□ All Samsidh schools will benefit from this collaboration, including their upcoming franchise network of Samsidh Public Schools.

Executive Insights and Future Outlook

According to Mr. Tarun Bhojwani, Director, Tata ClassEdge Limited, "Tata ClassEdge isn't just expanding its reach; it's continuously innovating to transform education. With Samsidh, our goal is to become a trusted, end-to-end partner for schools in their digital transformation journey by co-creating tailored learning experiences, building teacher capacity, and embedding technology meaningfully into everyday teaching and learning."

Adding to this vision, Ms. Indu Sannoo, CEO of Samsidh Group of Schools, emphasised the larger purpose of the partnership. "We believe that education is not just about academic outcomes but about developing responsible global citizens. With Tata ClassEdge, we are taking a bold step toward delivering on this belief with renewed energy and excellence."

The collaboration sets a promising precedent for school ecosys-

tems across the country where technology, character, and creativity converge to prepare the next generation for an ever-changing world.

About the Organisations

Tata ClassEdge Limited, a subsidiary of Tata Industries Limited, ensures seamless adoption of its academic solutions, making the transition to digital teaching and learning effortless for schools. Backed by the Tata Group's enduring commitment to education, the company's innovations in pedagogy, technology, and content creates engaging, meaningful, and impactful learning experiences for students nationwide. AZVASA Education Services were the pioneers to develop the best learning management system, developing curriculum, assessment and school management services. Under its aegis, the Samsidh Group of Schools has emerged as a progressive network of K-12 institutions recognised for its emphasis on character education, mindfulness, and holistic development. With multiple campuses across key cities, Samsidh creates learning environments where values and academic excellence are equally prioritised.

1998 ASIAN GAMES SILVER WAS TURNING POINT FOR INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY: PRITAM SIWACH

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : As Hockey India celebrates 100 years of the sport, former India Women's Hockey Team captain Pritam Siwach reflected on the remarkable journey of the Indian Women's Hockey Team and credited the 1998 Asian Games silver medal as a major turning point.

"We knew that for many of us, the 1998 Asian Games would be our last major event and that we would retire after that. We hadn't won a medal in 13 years and didn't want to retire without one. So, for two years leading up to the Asian Games, we focused on every little detail to ensure we returned with a medal," Pritam recalled as quoted by Hockey India (HI) official website.

She went on to say, "As soon as we won that silver, we knew it was the turning point for women's hockey in India. The graph has only gone upward since then."

Pritam added that the team's hard work for the 1998 Asian Games paid off and laid the foundation for future successes, including the silver medal at the 1999 Asia Cup and the historic gold at the 2002 Commonwealth Games.

She also credited Hockey India and the government for ushering in a new era for women's hockey.

"A lot has changed for the players since my time in the Indian team. Today, the women's team has access to improved facilities and a strong support system that we didn't have back then. The players today are extremely talented and benefit from grassroots development programs, sports science, more coaching staff, trainers, and even psychologists—resources that were unavailable in our playing days," Pritam Siwach noted.

When asked about passing the torch to the next generation and paving the path for the next 100 years of Indian hockey, Pritam said, "I consider myself very lucky that my children are also playing hockey. Very few parents who have played at a certain level get the opportunity to contribute to shaping the next generation."



Singer-composer B Praak performs ahead of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 match between Punjab Kings vs Delhi Capitals, at Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium, in Dharamshala on Thursday. (ANI Photo)

T20 Mumbai League auction: SoBo Mumbai Falcons buys Angkrish Raghuvanshi

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : The energy and anticipation around the T20 Mumbai League have hit a new high as SoBo Mumbai Falcons officially joined the league for its third edition.

In a thrilling auction held in Mumbai, the franchise revealed a power-packed 18-member squad, featuring standout players like Angkrish Raghuvanshi, Akash Parkar and Siddharth Raut, who are expected to make a significant impact this season, according to a release. Backed by seasoned players and emerging talent, the team is ready to make its presence felt this season.

From powerful batters to explosive bowlers, the squad is ready to take Mumbai's premier T20 tournament by storm. Angkrish Raghuvanshi emerged as the most expensive pick for Rs 14 lakh, while 17-year-old Shreyansh Rai, stands out as the youngest member of the team, showcasing the franchise's commitment to nurturing future stars. The Falcons are poised for an electrifying season that will set the stage for an unforgettable journey in the third edition of the T20 Mumbai League, the release said.

Packed with a blend of experience and youthful energy, the squad finalized at the T20 Mumbai League auction positions SoBo Mumbai Falcons as one of the most exciting teams to watch this season, it said.

Icon player Shreyas Iyer headlines a star-studded lineup featuring seasoned players like Amogh Jitendra Bhatkal, Angkrish Avaneesh Raghuvanshi, Vinayak Narayan Bhoir, and Siddharth Jayesh Raut, whose leadership and skill will drive the team forward. Emerging stars such as Harsh Ramnath Aghav, Kush Raajesh Kariya, Sai Ganesh Chavan, Nishit Mahendra Balla, Nikhil Angad Giri, and Prem Santosh Devkar bring a new level of excitement to the squad. Development players Shreyansh Rai, Ishan Simran Mulchandani, Mayuresh Kailas Tandel, Akash Pravin Parkar, Amol Parshuram Tanpure, Prathamesh Ganesh Dake, and Yash Prakash Dicholkar will be looking to seize the opportunity and establish their place in the league.

Omkar Salvi, Head Coach of the SoBo Mumbai Falcons said, "We've focused on building a



squad that's well-balanced across all departments - strong with the bat, sharp with the ball and versatile in every position. Our goal was to select players who complement each other and bring the right attitude to the field. Now, with a mix of experience and young talent, we're ready to hit the ground running and build a cohesive, winning unit for the T20 Mumbai League." Vikrant Yeligi, Team Principal of the SoBo Mumbai Falcons added "We are building more than just a team; we're laying the foundation for a legacy. Our squad combines ambition, talent and Mumbai's spirit, a mix that sets us apart. While winning matters, our true goal is to inspire the next generation of cricketers.

KIYG 2025: Bihar make waves with five-medal Gatka haul, Maharashtra wins maiden medal

GAYA (BIHAR) [INDIA] : Bihar middle-school teacher Ravi Roshan earned rich dividends for his splendid effort of bringing his students to the IIM Campus to watch the Gatka competition in the Khelo India Youth Games 2025 Bihar.

The reward for the teacher and his students came in the form of a silver and four bronze of the home athletes.

Anshu claimed a silver in girls Single Soti (wooden stick) behind Punjab's Tamanna (Punjab) while Akash Kumar Sharma (boys Farri Soti), Komal Jain (girls Farri Soti) and the Bihar boys and girls Farri Soti (Stick and Shield) teams made it to the podium in a testimony not only to Bihar's bid to promote a range of sport but also the growing reach of the martial art from Punjab, as per the SAI press release.

Ravi Roshan attempted to bring his students closer to indigenous sports. "They have been here a couple of days and there is an urge to embrace Gatka and Mallakhamb," he said. "This is the first time Bihar is hosting KIYG. It will help sports immeasurably in the long run. I was hoping Bihar would get at least one medal in Gatka and I am delighted it was five," he said.

Jainab Parveen, an eight standard student, summed up the influence of KIYG on Bihar in just a sentence. "After watching Gatka, I feel like taking up a wooden stick and participate in the sport myself," she said, inspired by the Bihar athletes and those from the traditional strongholds of Chandigarh, Punjab and Delhi.

The proceedings gathered steam when school children marched into the venue and energised the venue, shouting encouragement. Maharashtra coach Arti Chaudhary, whose contingent won its first-ever Gatka medal in KIYG through the girls' team, said the athletes adapted to the sport from Mardani, a sport dominant in Maharashtra.

Gatka is one of the indigenous sports that has the



support of the Central Government. Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself has discussed the importance of embracing the traditional sports like Gatka, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu and Thang Ta. Gatka goes back hundreds of years and is deeply rooted in the Sikh religion.

Results

Boys

Single Soti: 1. Gursewak Singh (Punjab), 2. Ashandeep Singh (Punjab); 3. Gagandeep Singh (Delhi) and Mandeep Singh (Haryana)

Farri Soti: 1. Bhupinderjit Singh (Chandigarh), 2. Jagdeep Singh (Punjab), 3. Amitoj Singh Dassan (Chhattisgarh) and Akash Kumar Sharma (Bihar).

Team Farri Soti: 1. Chandigarh (Baljeet Singh); 2. Punjab, 3. Jharkhand and Bihar

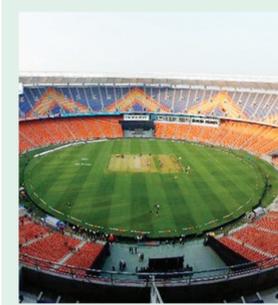
Girls

Single Soti: 1. Tamanna (Punjab), 2. Anshu (Bihar), 3. Arshpreet Kaur Saggi (Madhya Pradesh) and Avneet Kaur (Punjab).

Farri Soti: 1. Jasmeet Kaur (Delhi), 2. Jashandeep Kaur (Chandigarh), 3. Komal Jain (Bihar) and Sonu Kaur (Punjab).

Team Farri Soti: 1. Jharkhand (Kajal Kumari, Sakshi Srivastava, Zeba Naaz); 2. Maharashtra, 3. Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

IPL 2025: PBKS-MI clash shifted to Ahmedabad from Dharamshala



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 clash between Punjab Kings (PBKS) and Mumbai Indians (MI) on May 11 has officially been shifted to the iconic Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad from the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium in Dharamshala after Indian Army successfully conducted the execution of 'Operation Sindoor', which targeted nine anti-Indian terror infrastructures in both Pakistan and the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir

(PoK), in retaliation to the Pahalgam terror attack.

"IPL Match No. 61 between Punjab Kings and Mumbai Indians, originally scheduled to be played in Dharamshala on Sunday, May 11, has been relocated to the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad," as per the IPL Media Advisory

The venue change has been necessitated due to logistical challenges. The match will begin at 3:30 PM IST as per the original schedule.

The match has been shifted as Dharamshala is located near the India-Pakistan border, so there might be a threat at this venue, so there is a chance that the Punjab-based franchise will play their remaining home matches at a different place.

Earlier on Wednesday, according to the BCCI sources, the PBKS-MI clash was set to take place at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai as the Airport in Dharamshala has been closed.

"The match between Mumbai Indians and Punjab Kings shifted to Mumbai from Dharamshala, as the Airport of Dharamshala has been closed, and the match was scheduled on May 11," a BCCI source told ANI.

On Wednesday, the Indian Armed Forces successfully struck nine terror targets using special precision munitions in a coordinated operation called Operation Sindoor, destroying four in Pakistan, including Bahawalpur, Muridke, Sarjal, and Mehmoona Joya, and five in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK).

ROHIT SHARMA: A LOOK AT BATTER'S CONTRASTING RETURNS AT HOME, AWAY TESTS

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : As the world reminisces over Rohit Sharma's Test career following his retirement, one could easily notice the joyous highs and painful lows it has had, which will stay in minds of cricketing fraternity and fans forever for what they stand for and for what they teach.

The 'Hitman' has seen it all in Tests. After making noise in the Mumbai domestic circuit for his knocks in the longer format, it took six years for Rohit to get his Test cap in 2013 after his international debut in 2007. Even after getting the coveted cap, it took the right-hander years to find the consistency and rhythm that could justify his immense talent.

An unstoppable beast at home, but extremely inconsistent away from home, is the story of his entire career. While the home crowd has been treated to a 'Hitman' special plenty of times, his fans in the other parts of the world, travelling to the stadiums with their hard-earned money, have often been left wanting more. Flashes of absolute genius, undeniable technical skill, are surrounded by a myriad of instances when the batter was just too inconsistent and would throw away his wicket.

Here is a full look of Rohit's interesting and puzzling journey as a Test cricketer, at home and away:

-Home
Rohit has a fine Test record at home, with 2,535 runs made in 34 Tests at an average of 51.73, with 10 centuries and eight fifties in 55 innings, with the best score of 212. He kicked-started his Test run in middle-order with a fine 177 against West Indies on debut at Wankhede Stadium in 2013, which also happened to be Sachin Tendulkar's final Test.

He kicked-started his revival in Tests as an opener at home, scoring blazing 176 and 127 against South Africa in Visakhapatnam including 13 sixes spread across both the innings which swept Proteas away and left them miles short of a win by 203 runs. This South Africa series was his best series at home, scoring 532 runs in three matches at an average of 132.25,

with three tons and the best score of 212, which came during the final Test at Ranchi. During his run in the middle-order from 2013-18, Rohit scored 769 runs in nine Tests at home at an average of 85.44, with three centuries and five fifties in 14 innings and the best score of 177.

However, once promoted as an opener, his batting average declined from 85.44 to 44.15, even though he scored 2,674 runs in 25 Tests and 41 innings, with seven centuries and three fifties, with the best score of 212.

As a captain at home, Rohit led India in 16 Tests, winning 10, losing five and drawing one. The highest points of his Test captaincy at home include defence of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia in 2023 by 2-1 and a young Indian side, without Virat Kohli and an injured KL Rahul, defeated 'Bazball' -charged England by 4-1 last year. However, at home, India has experienced its lowest of the lows in recent times under Rohit, when they lost their first-ever home Test series to New Zealand last year by 3-0, their first-ever whitewash at home.

Batting at home as a captain, Rohit made 865 runs in 28 innings at an average of 30.89, with three centuries and two fifties, with the best score of 131.

-Away
Away from home, including two ICC World Test Championship final matches at neutral venues in UK, Rohit has an underwhelming record, scoring 1,766 runs in 33 Tests and 61 innings at an average of 30.98. He has scored just two away centuries and 10 fifties with the best score of 127.

His best record as an overseas batter is in the West Indies, with 290 runs in four Tests and five innings at an average of 58.00, a century and two fifties.

The success in South Africa, England, New Zealand and Australia (SENA) conditions is a hallmark of every great Indian batter. Performances in these lands, where India has been weak historically, become a measuring

stick that determines an Indian batters' all-round batting technique to deal with seam, swing and turn.

Unfortunately for Rohit, he has not tasted a lot of success in SENNA conditions. In 25 Tests played across these nations, Rohit has managed just 1,268 runs at an average of just 28.17, only a century and six fifties in 49 innings.

These statistics get even worse when one revisits his "middle-order" batter era. In 18 Tests across all overseas nations from 2013-18, Rohit scored just 816 runs at an average of just 26.32 in 33 innings, with just five half-centuries and the best score of 79.

The brutal SENNA conditions did not spare him during his non-opener days, as he could score just 558 runs in 12 Tests and 24 innings at an average of 25.36, with three fifties to his name and the best score of 72.

These numbers though, did see an improvement once he was elevated to opening. Since becoming an opener, Rohit has scored 828 runs in 13 away Tests at an average of 37.63, with two centuries and five fifties in 24 innings and best score of 127.

In SENNA conditions as an opener, though he still got tested by early movement on the pitch, the Hitman's batting average did touch the 30-mark. In 13 Tests as an opener in SENNA conditions, Rohit scored 710 runs at an average of 30.86, with a century and three fifties in 25 innings and the best score of 127.

Rohit's peak in overseas conditions came in the Pataudi Trophy against England in 2021-22, top-scoring for India with 368 runs in four matches and eight innings at an average of 52.57, with a century and two fifties. His knock of 127 remains his only century in South Africa, England, New Zealand and South Africa (SENA) countries.

A breakdown of his SENNA countries' statistics (overall):

South Africa: 183 runs in six matches, 12 innings, average of 16.63, best score of 47.

England: 524 runs in seven Tests and 14 innings at an average of 40.30, with a century and two fifties. His best score is 127.

New Zealand: 122 runs in two Tests, four innings at an average of 40.66, with a half-century and best score of 72.

Australia: 439 runs in 10 Tests, 19 innings at an average of 24.38, with three fifties. His best score is 63*.

Under Rohit's captaincy, India won only two Tests away from home out of eight, losing four and drawing two. Out of this, one win came in the West Indies and one in South Africa. In SENNA conditions, though as a captain, Rohit could win only one out of six Tests, losing four and drawing one.

Rohit could not deliver much as a batter in overseas conditions as a captain, scoring 389 runs in eight matches and 14 innings at an average of 29.92, with a century and two fifties to his name. These numbers slide down considerably in SENNA conditions, where he could score just 149 runs in six Tests at a poor average of 14.90 and best score of 43 in his 11 innings.

-Which opponents bring the best out of Rohit?

West Indies is an opponent that has brought the best out of Rohit, scoring 578 runs in six Tests and seven innings at an average of 96.33, with three centuries and two fifties. His best score is 177.

Including his statistics at home, Rohit has much better statistics against SENNA countries.

Here is a breakdown of his statistics against SENNA countries:

South Africa: 738 runs in 11 Tests and 20 innings at an average of 38.84, with three tons and the best score of 212.

England: 1147 runs in 14 Tests and 26 innings at an average of 47.79, with four centuries and four fifties and best score of 161.

New Zealand: 515 runs in nine Tests and 17 innings at an average of 36.78, with five fifties and the best score of 82.

Australia: 739 runs in 15 Tests, 27 innings



at an average of 28.42, with a century and three fifties.

Looking through these statistics makes for a very interesting reading and leave one with a lot of 'what ifs' in his mind regarding what Rohit could have been in Test cricket. But nonetheless, after an underwhelming run from 2013-18, during which he played just 27 Tests, scoring 1,585 runs at an average of 39.63, with three centuries and 10 fifties in 47 innings, his turnaround to a reliable Test opener deserves a lot of celebration.