

FM Sitharaman calls for right balance of regulations, freedom

MI News Service, New Delhi : Highlighting the importance of competitive markets, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the ability of CCI to strike a balance between regulatory vigilance and pro-growth mindset will be integral to building a resilient, equitable, and innovation-driven economic framework. At the 16th Annual Day function of the Competition Commission of India (CCI), Sitharaman also said that there needs to have the right balance of regulations and freedom.

CCI works to promote fair competition and prevent competitive practices in the marketplace. Besides, mergers and acquisitions beyond a certain threshold need approval of the watchdog. She also called for the antitrust watchdog to keep up a balance between regulatory vigilance and a pro-growth mindset, while upholding the principle that “markets must work for the many and not just for the few”. Regulators in general, she stressed, must be guided by the “minimum necessary and maximum feasible” standard in order to ensure this balance.

Emphasising the importance of fair competition, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said there has to be the right balance of regulations and freedom. Marking the 16th Annual Day of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in the national capital, Sitharaman, also the Corporate Affairs Minister, said the regulator has to anticipate changes in the market and remain relevant to the needs of the time, she said. CCI works to promote fair competition and prevent competitive practices in the marketplace.

4.7 magnitude earthquake hits Nepal

MI News Service, Kathmandu : A 4.7 magnitude earthquake hit western Nepal's Kaski district on Tuesday afternoon.

The earthquake with its epicentre at Sinuwa area in Kaski district, about 250 kilometres from Kathmandu, was recorded at 1.59 pm, according to the National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre. Tremors were also felt in neighbouring districts, including Tanahu, Parvat and Baglung. There was, however no immediate report of any damage due to the earthquake. Incidentally earlier on February 28 a strong earthquake of 6.1 magnitude rocked Nepal's Kathmandu region early in the morning

■ ■ Continued on Page 3



West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee is flagging off a welfare project at the Administrative meeting at Phulbari at Jalpaiguri on Tuesday.

Mamata Banerjee slams Centre over welfare fund cuts, announces key North Bengal projects

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has strongly criticised the central government for withholding funds worth crores of rupees, meant for various state-run welfare schemes and demanded the immediate allotment of the entire fund without further delay.

Speaking at a public service distribution event in Fulbari, Jalpaiguri on the second day of her three-day visit to North Bengal, the Chief minister also lambasted the opposition BJP for allegedly pointing their guns towards the state administration stating that her administration had neglected North Bengal

and failed to bring real development to the region. In order to counter these allegation Mamata Banerjee presented every details of numerous development programmes aimed towards all round growth of North Bengal during the past several years by her government with official data.

She stated that despite the Centre stopping funds for crucial programmes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, and MGNREGA, the state government has continued these initiatives using its own financial resources. “Even in the face of central neglect, North

Bengal has seen significant development,” she said.

Addressing the issue of communal violence, Mamata Banerjee took another swipe at the BJP's alleged use of divisive politics, without naming the party directly. She emphasised the need for peace and unity, drawing inspiration from Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam to promote communal harmony.

CM Banerjee said “Those who incite riots are born to spread hatred. They do not care about people's welfare. Riots burn homes, claim lives, and give politicians a chance to exploit the situation. I want peace,

not riots.”

As part of her developmental roadmap for North Bengal, the Chief Minister announced a series of new projects. These include the construction of a sky-walk at the Jalpesh Temple in Jalpaiguri and the restoration of the historic Morgan House in Kalimpong.

“While industrial development will be a major focus, special attention will also be given to revitalising the tourism sector”, she said. In order to improve connectivity in the region, she has declared a multi-crore investment for the construction of roads and culverts in various parts of North Bengal. The chief

minister also revealed plans for an approach road in Falakata in Alipurduar at a cost of 60 crores.

She also announced the development of an industrial park on 77 acres of land, with 4 crores allocated for establishing an Utkarsha Kendra (Excellence Centre) in the Jalpaiguri Sadar block.

“Earlier, there was no real development in North Bengal. Since the Trinamool Congress came to power, numerous development projects have been undertaken. Today, North Bengal is progressing on all fronts,” she concluded.

Earlier on her arrival at

Siliguri on Monday afternoon from Kolkata, the Chief minister inaugurated the North Bengal Business Summit, 2025 there in the evening, where she made a series of announcements to bolster the economic growth of northern districts of West Bengal.

After attending the government public service distribution programme at Fulbari in Jalpaiguri, the Chief minister is scheduled to chair an important administrative meeting at Uttarkanya, the state secretariat in North Bengal on Wednesday.

While the West Bengal

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

'Lakwshmir Bhandar' to last a lifetime, assures Mamata Banerjee



MI News Service, Phulbari / Jalapaiguri : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday reaffirmed the longevity of her flagship and most popular 'Lakshmir Bhandar' scheme.

Announcing this from an administrative programme in Dabgram, Phulbari in Jalpaiguri on the second day of her three day tour of North Bengal she said the scheme would “continue for a lifetime.” The Chief Minister's strong assertion came amidst an announcement of several new project allocations for North Bengal.

Mamta Banerjee used the platform to critique political opponents, accusing them of making unfulfilled promises before elections. “Many people talk a lot... Why haven't you given it for so long?” she questioned, drawing parallels with unkept pledges in other states like Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. “They say something before the elections. They forget after the elections. We don't do it. We do what we say.”

Highlighting her government's commitment to its electoral promises, the Chief Minister stated, “We

had said four things. If we win, we will provide food assistance, we have done it. Ration at the door. What we had said, we will provide Lakshmir Bhandar. We have done it. What we had said, we will provide smart cards to students within 10 lakh rupees. We have done it.” She concluded, “I did what I said. Remember one thing, I never go back on my word.”

The 'Lakshmir Bhandar' scheme, introduced by Mamata Banerjee before the 2021 assembly elections, provides a monthly allowance to women. Initially, it offered Rs 500 to general category women and a higher amount for Scheduled Castes, Tribes, and Backward Classes. This was later increased to Rs 1,000 for general women and Rs 1,200 for SC, ST, and OBC beneficiaries.

The scheme's success has reportedly inspired similar welfare initiatives in other parts of the country, notably during recent assembly elections in Delhi where political parties offered cash incentives to women. However, the proliferation of such schemes has also drawn scrutiny, with the Supreme Court questioning the focus on “freebies” like ration, electricity, and cash donations before elections. The apex court has emphasized the need to promote self-reliance among citizens rather than fostering a “parasitic class.”

Noted astrophysicist Jayant Narlikar passes away at 87

MI News Service, Pune : Eminent astrophysicist, science communicator, and Padma Vibhushan awardee Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar passed away in Pune on Tuesday, family sources said.

He was 87and is survived by his three daughters. His wife predeceased him .

A towering figure in Indian science, Dr Narlikar was widely known for his pioneering contributions to cosmology, his efforts to popularise space science, and for setting up premier research institutions in the country.

According to family sources, Dr Narlikar died in his sleep early Tuesday morning. He had recently undergone hip surgery in a city-based hospital.

Born on July 19, 1938, Dr Narlikar completed his early education on the campus of Banaras Hindu University (BHU), where his father, Vishnu Vasudeva Narlikar, was a professor and Head of the Mathematics Department. Later he went to Cambridge in the UK for higher studies, becoming a Wrangler and Tyson Medallist in the Mathematical Tripos. He returned to India to join the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (1972-1989), where, under his charge, the Theoretical

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Military infra at PoK's Leepa Valley decimated, claims Indian Army

MI News Service, Srinagar: The Chinार Corps of the Indian Army has completely destroyed military infrastructure at Leepa Valley in Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK), officials said.

Indian Army officials estimate that it will take Pakistan 8-12 months to rebuild the infrastructure.

During a visit to the Line of Control (LoC) in Tangdhar, a forward village in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, the destruction of Pakistani military infrastructure, resulting from Indian

Army's response to ceasefire violations in the second week of May during Operation Sindoor, was evident.

“We completely destroyed at least three posts, an ammunition depot, fuel storage facility, and gunnery, among other targets. Our retaliation was so devastating that it will take Pakistan at least 8-12 months to rebuild, possibly longer,” a senior Indian Army official said. Another official said that the Pakistan Army employed

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

PM Modi chairs meeting to review progress in tourism sector after Indo-Pak conflict

MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a high level meeting here on Tuesday to review the progress of work in the country's tourism sector, specially in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Union Tourism Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, his deputy in the Tourism Ministry Suresh Gopi, Union Tourism Secretary V Vidyavathi and other senior officials were present at the meeting to brief the Prime minister about the present scenario .

“The Prime Minister chaired a meeting today to review the progress of work in the tourism sector,” a senior official said.

The renewed focus on tourism comes after the heinous terror attack in



Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on April 22, which deterred travellers from going to Kashmir. The Indian government is pushing for boosting tourism in the Valley, weeks after the attack. The latest military conflict between India

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Mamata Banerjee nominates Abhishek Banerjee to represent TMC in all-party delegation

MI News Service, Kolkata : Trinamool Congress All India General Secretary and Lok Sabha MP Abhishek Banerjee will represent the party in the all-party delegations that would visit different countries to convey India's stand post Operation Sindoor, informed sources said on Tuesday.

The decision came after Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju called Trinamool supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Ma-



mata Banerjee over telephone from New Delhi this morning. According to informed sources Trinamool Congress supremo nominated MP Abhishek Banerjee to represent the party in India's delegation that will apprise other nations about Operation Sindoor. The decision came a day after TMC withdrew party MP Yusuf Pathan's name from the delegation

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

EAM Jaishankar thanks Dutch Prime Minister for his firm stance against terrorism

MI News Service, New Delhi / The Hague : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday called on Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof and thanked him for the Netherlands' firm and resolute stance against terrorism. Jaishankar is here on the first leg of

his three-nation trip that will also take him to Denmark and Germany.

It is Jaishankar's first foreign visit after the four-day-long military confrontation between the Indian and Pakistani armed forces following the Pahalgam attack. “Delighted to call on

PM Dick Schoof today in The Hague. Conveyed the warm greetings of PM @narendramodi and thanked him for the Netherlands' firm and resolute stance against terrorism,” Jaishankar posted on X. Appreciate his commitment to taking the India-Netherlands

partnership to newer heights. Assured that our teams will work hard to achieve these goals,” he posted.

Schoof said he was happy to receive Jaishankar at the Catshuis, the official residence of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands. “First of all, I expressed

my support for India's fight against terrorism after the terrible attack last month in Pahalgam. It is good for all parties that the violence between India and Pakistan has not

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Kolkata Police got engaged in hawkers aviation at New Market area in Kolkata on Tuesday.

Drones banned at weddings, social events

MI News Service, Siliguri: The Siliguri Metropolitan Police (SMP) has issued a directive banning drones at weddings and other social events without prior permission in and around the city to prevent the misuse of the devices for surveillance or sabotage.

Senior police officers said the decision had been made, keeping in mind the strategic importance of the Siliguri corridor, also referred to as the Chicken's Neck — a slim portion of India sandwiched between Bangladesh and Nepal — that connects the entire Northeast with the rest of the country.

“There is a clear order in place. Because of the present security situation and Siliguri's proximity to international bor-

ders, drones cannot be flown at any event or location without prior clearance. The violators will face legal action,” said Bishwachand Thakur, the deputy commissioner (traffic) of the SMC.

In and around Siliguri, helicopters (remote-controlled mini copters) are often used for photography and videography at weddings and corporate events.

Last week, there was a clear instruction from the state government to enhance vigilance and tighten security across Bengal, especially in areas which are close to the international boundary.

In north Bengal, six of eight districts share borders with Bangladesh. Some of the districts also share borders with

Nepal and Bhutan.

According to police sources, widespread use of drones in different events has led them to issue the directive.

“In Siliguri, which lies within the proximity of Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and the critical India-China border zone, the threat of aerial surveillance by foreign actors cannot be ruled out,” said a police source.

“There are vital installations, and images or footage captured by unregulated drones could unintentionally reveal details of such installations or infrastructure critical to national security. Also, the risk of sabotage cannot be ruled out, and thus, anyone intending to fly a drone has to take permission from the police,” the source added.

5 Killed in a Tragic Road Collision in Karimpur

MI News Service, Karimpur: A tragic road accident claimed the lives of five individuals near Kant-hila Math under Karimpur Police Station limits in Nadia on early on Tuesday morning. The fatal crash occurred at around 6:35 am. when a passenger bus collided head-on with a Maruti van. All the victims were from the van. While police have seized both the vehicles, the bus driver has been absconding, police said. The bodies were sent for autopsy.

According to police sources, the bus, bearing registration number WB59C/4045 and operated by Joy Ride, was on its way from Kolkata to Karimpur via Krishnanagar. The Maruti van (registration number WB58AJ/0223) was heading from the opposite di-



rection, towards Krishnagar from Murshidabad when the collision took place.

All five passengers of the van, including three women and two men—one of whom was the driver—died from their injuries. They were rushed to Tehatta Hospital, where doctors declared them brought dead. The bodies were sent for autopsy.

Police said that among the victims, 4 have been identified as Sanjoy Sarkar, a local school teacher, and his mother Anima Sarkar, residents of Goas in Karimpur, Van driver

Sk. Suman and Sulekha bibi. The rest female body was unidentified.

An unofficial sources said the unidentified female was Mamata Sarkar. She and Sulekha, both were the residents of Raninagar, Sagarpara in Murshidabad district. The van driver had collected them from road as passengers, the sources added.

Police are in the process of completing formal identification procedures and have initiated an investigation into the cause of the accident. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem examination.

Local residents and eye-witnesses have called for improved traffic management and better road safety measures along the busy route, which has witnessed multiple accidents in recent years.

Inauguration of Jute Product Maker Training under Utkarsh Bangla Scheme



MI News Service, Ranaghat: On Tuesday, the official inauguration of the Jute Product Maker training program under the Government of West Bengal's Utkarsh Bangla scheme was held in Nadia's Ranaghat Block.

The first batch of this training, organized by Ranaghat's 'Rescue and Oxygen Society', was launched at Karunamoyee Bhavan at Ranaghat Panthapara. Around 50 trainees were present at the event.

Distinguished guests at the

inauguration included the Circle Inspector of Ranaghat Block II, SDPM, BLS, and Ms. Swarala Rai, Senior Officer of Ranaghat Employment Exchange. Their presence added significance to the occasion.

Debashis Mondal, Secretary of the organizing body, said, “The primary objective of this training program is to empower the youth to become self-reliant and economically independent, so that they can support their families.”

The training is being provided completely free of cost.

Each participant will undergo 390 hours of training and receive a stipend of Rs. 4,800 upon completion, which will be directly credited to their bank accounts. Participants will also receive a government-recognized certificate upon successful completion of the course.

Trainees have joined not only from Ranaghat Block but also from neighboring areas such as Shantipur, Habibpur, and Gangnapur, reflecting the growing public interest in this initiative.

Dr. Debashis Mondal, Founder and Director of the organization, said, “We are doing our best to ensure that the youth can stand on their own feet. We hope that many more will benefit from this training in the days to come.”

This initiative stands as a remarkable example of the government's employment-oriented programs and promises to open new horizons for the youth of the state.

State-of-the-Art Ultrasound Machine Inaugurated at DRSA (Adyapeath) Charitable Dispensary

MI News Service, Kolkata: Dakshineswar Ramkrishna Sangha Adyapeath (DRSA) on Tuesday, inaugurated a state-of-the-art ultrasound (USG) machine at its Charitable Dispensary, marking a significant step forward in affordable diagnostic care for the underprivileged and marginalised. The new Philips USG machine, equipped with an in-built printer, has been generously donated by LIC of India, Eastern Zone. The formal inauguration ceremony took place this evening at the newly renovated premises of the dispensary's medical wing. The installation was jointly unveiled by Mr JS Tolia, Zonal Manager of LIC of India (Eastern Zone), alongside Mr AK Das, Senior Divisional Manager (KSDO), and Mr SC De, Regional Manager (CC), Eastern Zone. Presiding over the cer-



emony, Bramhachari Mural Bhai Maharaj, General Secretary and Trustee of DRSA, reiterated the organisation's long-standing commitment to providing holistic and affordable medical care. “Our services include diagnostic tests, treatments, and regular rural medical camps. All of this is guided by the ideals of Sri Ramkrishna Dev, as envisioned by Sri Annada Thakur,

the renowned Ayurvedic physician and founder of Adyapeath,” he said. “The Sangha survives solely on the donations of its devotees and philanthropic institutions.”

Speaking at the event, Bramhachari Vivek Bhai, Medical In-Charge and Assistant Secretary of the Sangha, noted the urgent need that led to the donation. “The previous USG machine had

TMC-BJP clashes claim 2 lives

MI News Service, Malda/Murshidabad: A TMC worker and a BJP worker were murdered in separate incidents in Malda and Murshidabad districts.

In Malda, Subal Ghosh, 45, of Baroduari under Mahadipur panchayat was hacked to death allegedly by a group of BJP supporters.

Sujan, his son, alleged that his father was returning home after attending an invitation when six BJP supporters chased him, switched off an electric transformer that led to darkness in the area and hacked him multiple times.

“My father was killed for being an active TMC worker,” Sujan said.

Police sources said a complaint has been filed by the Ghosh family and a woman has been detained for interrogation.

District BJP leaders, however, denied the charge. “The murder has no connection to politics and is the fallout of a personal enmity,” said a local BJP worker.

In Murshidabad, Menaka Mondal, 40, a BJP member of the Dafarpur panchayat, was allegedly fatally injured by her neighbours during a scuffle over an old land dispute at Alerupur village under Raghunathganj police station.

Rushed to Jangipur sub-divisional hospital, Menaka succumbed to her injuries after a while. Amit, the deceased's son, lodged a complaint with the police against six persons who are currently at large. No arrests have been made so far.

“We are in search of the accused. Investigations are on,” said a police officer.

Grand beauty pageant and award show



MI News Service, Kolkata: On behalf of DS Production House & Entertainment and NB Production House & Entertainment, the grand beauty pageant and award show Mr. and Mrs. Bengal 2025 was held at the BC Roy Auditorium in Sealdah under the direction of Sharmistha Banerjee and Neel Biswas. Around 190 models and contestants participated in this beauty pageant show.

The panel of judges included Rudra Biswas, Parmita Banerjee, and Aчит Kumar. The chief guest at the event was actress Sudipta Bakshi, who presented awards to several contestants based on their merit.

Also present at the event were MLA Debashis Kumar and Magistrate Abhirup Bhattacharya. The event was supported by Minu Saree. Awardees included actress Dona Bhownik, actor Rajib Bose, and actor Ayan Ghosh

The attending actors and actresses were honored with mementos, and winners were crowned as a mark of recognition. The event was hosted by supermodel Saptami Banerjee and grooming was handled by Vihaan Singh.

served for over 13 years but had become unusable due to wear and tear. Repeated appeals to various organisations yielded no result—until LIC of India came forward. Their generous donation of the ₹28 lakh Philips USG machine has allowed us to continue providing vital imaging services to the poor and distressed at a nominal cost.” He added, “The dispensary strives to compensate only for the cost of materials and the modest honorarium paid to visiting specialist doctors. With this upgrade, we hope to expand and enhance our medical services for those in greatest need.” The event reflects a continuing synergy between charitable healthcare initiatives and corporate social responsibility, underlining the pivotal role such partnerships play in sustaining grassroots medical services in India.

Mamata's clarion call for 'New Darjeeling'

MI News Service, Darjeeling: Chief minister Mamata Banerjee focused on tea and tourism, the two principal sectors that create jobs in north Bengal, and asked state government officials as well as private entrepreneurs to take initiatives to boost both sectors.

Mamata, who attended the North Bengal Business Meet at Dinabandhu Mancha here on Monday, highlighted the need to create alternative tourist destinations in the region, especially in the Darjeeling hills.

“Darjeeling (town) has become too congested.... We should explore places to develop a new Darjeeling. The administration, the GTA (Gorkhaland Territorial Administration) and private investors should take the initiative to find such locations to boost tourism in this region,” she said.

Interacting with hoteliers and representatives of trade bodies, Mamata asked them to come up with more accommodations in the Doora's region.

“The footfall of tourists is on the rise in the Doora's. You should come up with new accommodations to accommodate more tourists. The surge in the inflow of tourists has also created potential for the transport sector. You can introduce more vehicles, which will also create some employment,” Mamata said.

As chief minister, Mamata has consistently focussed on tourism. During the past 14 years of her government in power, many new tourism destinations, hotels, homestays and private resorts have come up in north Bengal. “A number of prominent hotel groups are coming to north Bengal,” she said.

Speaking on the tea industry, Mamata underlined that the tea tourism policy adopted by the state would not pose any problem for tea workers.

The north Bengal tea belt, especially the hills, had erupted in protests over the tea tourism policy, especially with

regard to the non-tea use of fallow tea garden land, which they felt would threaten the livelihood of thousands of tea workers.

“Our policy will not affect tea workers. We will ensure it. We want unused land in tea estates to be used for tourism. If hotels come up on such plots, locals will have new employment opportunities. A section of people had voiced their protests and wanted to create deterrents,” she said.

Rudra Chatterjee, the managing director of Luxmi Tea which owns the famous Makaibari tea estate, insisted on an aggressive branding of Darjeeling Tea.

“We should start branding Darjeeling Tea itself from Darjeeling. We are ready to extend help to other tea estates for the promotion of tea. Also, we should focus on the production of quality teas. With quality, we can always beat other teas,” said Chatterjee.

National Convention Against Cyber Crime and on Human Rights organised by NHRCP0

MI News Service, Kolkata: A National Convention on cyber threats, focusing on cybercrime and human rights was organised by The National Human Rights and Corruption Prevention Organisation (NHRCP0) at the Rotary Sadan Auditorium. The convention aimed to educate participants about the increasing threats posed by cyber-crimes and to provide practical guidance on protecting oneself from such threats.

Bezvada Wilson, founder of the Safai Karamchari Andolan and Magsaysay Award Winner, was the chief guest at the convention. The event featured Dr Ruma Gomes National President NHRCP0 Conference Chairman, Umakant Mishra, B K Das National General Secretary NHRCP0 and Cyber Experts and Specialists from Cyber Crime Branch Kolkata Police.

Experts briefed about the online security best practices, taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and workplace. Detailed discussion and guidance on emerging trends in security, and some practical tips to avoid cyber threats were also provided by him. They informed dialing the number 1930, any complaint about cybercrime can be lodged



so that the fraud done to someone can be resolved as soon as possible.

Distinguished speakers, including prominent figures in cybersecurity and human rights, discussed the intersection of digital security and individual liberties. Experts explored topics such as cybercrime prevention, ethical digital governance, and the role of legislation in protecting human rights in the digital era.

the convention successfully enhanced participants' understanding of cyber security and the psychological impact of cybercrimes, equipping them with essential tools and knowledge to navigate the digital landscape more safely.

ZSI solves 150-yr-old mystery, names Lectotype for desert lizard

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a landmark taxonomic move, scientists from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), Shri Sumidh Ray and Dr. Pratyush P. Mohapatra, have designated a lectotype for the Persian Long-Tailed Desert Lizard (Mesalina watsonana), resolving a 150-year-old ambiguity surrounding the species first described by renowned 19th-century naturalist Ferdinand Stoliczka.

Originally described in 1872 from the Sind region, Mesalina watsonana has since been a key species in the study of desert lizard di-

versity across South and Central Asia. However, confusion over its syntypes—spread across museums in Kolkata, London, and Vienna—posed a challenge to researchers. By analysing historical records and adhering to modern zoological nomenclature codes, the authors have now designated ZSI-R-5050, a specimen deposited at ZSI by Stoliczka himself, as the definitive lectotype. This decision holds more than just taxonomic significance—it highlights the enduring scientific value of Stoliczka's Persian and Sindh collections housed at ZSI.

These specimens, part of



expeditions led under the British Geological Survey of India, represent some of the earliest systematic herpetofaunal documentation in the Indian subcontinent and neighbouring regions. “Stoliczka's material is foundational,” says Dr. Dhriti Banerjee, Director of the ZSI. “Many of his type speci-

SMC mulls awareness prog to conserve Mahananda River

MI News Service, Siliguri: The TMC-run civic board in the Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) has taken the initiative to build awareness among residents of the city to conserve the Mahananda river that cuts through Siliguri.

For years, the rising pollution levels of the river and increasing encroachments along the banks and even portions of the riverbed have been flagged by environmentalists and river experts. The civic body, the administration and some other government agencies have taken certain steps but there hasn't been any major change in the situation.

Mayor Gautam Deb said that the SMC would host a number of events in the city, including the Mahananda riverbank, from June 5 to 8.

“We have taken an initiative to conduct a four-day awareness drive in Siliguri for the conservation of the Mahananda and rivulets which move through the city. On June 5, we will host ‘Chetanay Nadi o Prakriti’, an event where nature lovers, river experts, students and teachers will join,” he said.

The event would be held near the Surya Sen Park, which is on the left bank of the river falling under Siliguri ward 10.

After being voted to power, the civic board led by Deb carried out certain beautification works along some of the stretches along the embankment and imposed restrictions on the dumping of wastes into the river.

“But We need to make people aware so that they also take care of the river and rivulets. During the event (on June 5), experts will come up with suggestions for better conservation of the river and its importance in the protection of biodiversity,” the mayor added. Added to it, the SMC will carry out a plantation drive. Over 100 saplings will be planted along the river bank. Also, a sit-and-draw competition would be held for students.

'Voice of Media' National Convention in Delhi

State Presidents and General Secretaries from Across the Country to Participate Two-Day Deliberation on the Deteriorating State of Journalism in India

MI News Service, New Delhi: The ‘Voice of Media’ and V.O.M. International Forum, an international journalist organization connected to over 470,000 journalists across 52 countries, will hold its National Convention 2025 on May 20 and 21 in New Delhi. The convention will be held at New Maharashtra Sadan, Kasturba Gandhi Marg. Various sessions are scheduled on May 20 from 10 AM to 7 PM and on May 21 from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Prior to the convention, a two-day strategic meeting of the National Executive Committee was held on May 18 and 19, involving the National Core Team.

The convention will be chaired by Founder President Mr. Sandeep Kale. Dignitaries attending include Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya (Labour & Employment, Youth Affairs and Sports), Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu (Civil Aviation), Jitan Ram Manjhi (MSME), Raj Bhushan Chaudhary (Minister of State, Jal Shakti), former Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil Chakurkar, Speaker of Puducherry Assembly Embalam Selvam, and Editor of Deshonnati Mr. Prakash Pohare.

Coach, psychologist, and counsellor Ms. Urja Patil will conduct journalist training sessions as the lead trainer.

During the program, the following dignitaries will be honored:

MP Bhau Saheb Waghchaure with the ‘Sansad Bhushan’ Award,

MLA Sameer Kunawar with the ‘Vikas Purush’ Award, Ms. Anagha Saraf with the ‘Udyog Ratna’ Award, Mr. Venkatesh Joshi with the ‘Samaj Ratna’ Award, and Dr. Punjab Khansole with the ‘Vikas Ratna’ Award.

The event is being organized under the leadership of Gagan Mahotra (International Head), Divya Bhosale (International General Secretary), Ashok Wankhede (National Coordinator), Chetan Bandewar (National Treasurer), Bhimesh Mutula (Health Head – India), Mufi Mohammad Haroon Nadvi (National Urdu Wing Head), Amol Deshmukh (Radio Wing Head), and A. Rajshekhar (South India President).

A large number of state presidents and general secretaries from across India will participate in this convention, which will witness representation from all corners of the country. This national convention is expected to serve as an inspiring step toward a new era of journalism and freedom of expression.

The national executive meeting of Voice of Media – V.O.M. International Forum is scheduled for May 18 and 19, with preparations already underway.

Each of these State Presidents will be accompanied by their State General Secretary, who will present the work agenda from their respective states. State Presidents (India): Anil Mhaske – Maharashtra V. Vimal Balaji – Andhra Pradesh Swapna Dutta – Assam



Rajesh Kumar Dubey – Bihar Ramesh Sinha – Chhattisgarh Bhushan Aroskar – Goa Babul Maru – Gujarat Bansilal Panchal – Haryana Vikas Sharma – Himachal Pradesh Ganesh Ravi – Jharkhand Ravikumar Mudhaliyar – Karnataka Deepak Sharma – Madhya Pradesh Jyotindro Singh – Manipur Kirmenlang Uraiah – Meghalaya Max Khieya – Nagaland Pravat Kumar Mishra – Odisha Ankush Jain – Punjab Gopal Gupta – Rajasthan Nandlal Sharma – Sikkim Balaji A. – Tamil Nadu Sangeeta – Telangana Kaushik Adhikari – Tripura Prem Pathak – Uttar Pradesh Sagar Malik – Uttarakhand Suman Ganguly – West Bengal Akshit Mahajan – Jammu & Kashmir M. Karthikeyan – Puducherry Harminder Singh Chandigarh

State General Secretaries (India): Digambar Mahale – Maharashtra Sanjay Kumar Chauhan – Assam Rajeev Kumar – Bihar Varia Hasmukhbhai – Gujarat Ramkumar Zhud – Haryana Bhushan Sharma – Himachal Pradesh Rajeevkumar Tripathi – Madhya Pradesh Babina Devi – Manipur Babul Dakhar – Meghalaya Thejangunuo Chadi – Nagaland Sukanta Kumar Parida – Odisha Gurdev Singh – Punjab Dr. Anil Sharma – Rajasthan Bikram Karmakar – Tripura Subhashchandra Tiwari – Uttar Pradesh Ranita Ghoshal – West Bengal Amrik Singh – Jammu & Kashmir Ganeshprasad Gogate – Goa

“For the last three years, our national convention has been held in Delhi. This platform discusses the future of journalism and journalists. It defines the national outlook on journalism. For those who look down upon journalists, this convention asserts the strength of ‘Voice of Media.’ It is from this convention that a collective force is built.” — Mr. Sandeep Kale, Founder President, Voice of Media – V.O.M. International Forum

Mamata Banerjee slams...

►► **From PG 1**

government hosts the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS) every year in Kolkata to promote industrial development across West Bengal, the North Bengal meet was organised to focus on accelerating industrial growth particularly in the northern region.

Addressing the summit the chief minister declared that the West Bengal government is set to launch Volvo bus services from six districts of North Bengal to the coastal town of Digha in the South Bengal district of Purba Medinipur where the state has recently inaugurated the Jagannath temple. “We think about North Bengal too and that’s why we’ve taken this initiative,” Mamata Banerjee said during the business meet, where industrialists, entrepreneurs and representatives of several trade associations from eight North Bengal districts participated in a series of discussions and open-forum meetings.

The chief minister highlighted the state’s readiness to support industry in the north, saying, “The government has its own land bank for industrial use and a large pool of skilled workers. We are giving equal importance to both large-scale and small-scale industries.”

Additionally, the CM announced that a circuit bench of the Calcutta High Court in Jalpaiguri district is likely to be inaugurated in July. The state has spent Rs 501 crore on the project.

Discussions during the day focused on several issues including tourism development, tea industry expansion, and creating industrial parks. Talking about the tourism industry in and around Darjeeling, she said the iconic hill town has now become overcrowded.

“Create a new Darjeeling. Also expand Kalimpong and Kurseong. You have to take the initiative, and we will support you,” the Chief minister told the industry stakeholders.

She also voiced concern over the declining fate of the Darjeeling tea industry. While not naming Nepal directly, she pointed to a neighbouring country allegedly involved in importing low-cost tea and falsely selling it under the Darjeeling label.

Genuine Darjeeling tea, she noted, is also being mixed with tea from that country.

“I won’t name the country, but I’m aware of what’s happening. They’re using the brand name while mixing in inferior quality. We’ve already formed a task force to investigate the matter,” she said.

Like today the Chief minister also attacked the BJP and the left parties indirectly. She claimed that the saffron party is unaware of Bengal’s true identity and culture and emphasised individual freedom in matters of religion, food, and clothing. She also dismissed left parties’ protests and strikes as unproductive.

4.7 magnitude earthquake...

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causing extensive damage and loss of several lives in many areas of this tiny Himalayan state.

According to National Earthquake Monitoring and Research Centre, at that time a moderately strong earthquake measuring 6.1 magnitude in Richter scale was recorded along Kodari Highway in Sindhupalchowk district, 65 km East of Kathmandu at 2.51 am.

The Earthquake was felt in and around the dense populated areas of Kathmandu valley, forcing many people to wake up from their sleep and rush out in open area from their houses.

Nepal lies in one of the most active tectonic zones (Seismic zones IV and V), making the country extremely vulnerable to earthquakes.

The worst quake the Himalayan nation has so far witnessed was in 2015 during which a 7.8 magnitude earthquake killed more than 9,000 people and damaged over 1 million structures.

Nepal sits in one of the world’s most active seismic zones—classified as Seismic Zones IV and V—making earthquakes a constant threat. The country lies on a tectonic boundary where the Indian plate pushes into the Eurasian plate at a rate of about 5 cm per year. This movement not only lifts the Himalayan mountains but also generates immense stress beneath the Earth’s surface. When the accumulated stress exceeds the strength of the rocks, it is released as an earthquake, which explains frequent seismic activity in Nepal and the surrounding Himalayan region.

Nepal’s geology, composed of young and unstable rock formations, amplifies earthquake impacts. Additionally, the high population density in urban areas like Kathmandu and unregulated construction practices significantly increase the risk of casualties and damage.

The country has a devastating history of earthquakes, most notably the 2015 earthquake, which measured 7.8 magnitude, killed more than 9,000 people, and left over a million buildings damaged or destroyed. Given this history, even moderate quakes raise concerns about aftershocks and long-term structural damage.

Authorities have advised residents to stay alert for potential aftershocks, as secondary tremors are common after major seismic events. Nepal’s disaster response teams are closely monitoring the situation, and further updates are expected as assessments continue.

The German Research Center for Geosciences (GFZ) recorded the earthquake at a slightly lower magnitude of 5.6 and at a depth of 10 km (6.21 miles), highlighting potential variations in seismic readings.

Regardless of the exact magnitude, the event serves as a stark reminder of Nepal’s vulnerability to earthquakes and the ongoing need for preparedness and disaster resilience.

Noted astrophysicist Jayant...

►► **From PG 1**

Astrophysics Group expanded and acquired international standing.

In 1988, the University Grants Commission invited Dr Narlikar to set up the proposed Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA) as its Founder Director.

He held the directorship of IUCAA until his retirement in 2003. Under his direction, IUCAA has acquired a worldwide reputation as a centre for excellence in teaching and research in astronomy and astrophysics. He was an Emeritus Professor at IUCAA.

In 2012, the Third World Academy of Sciences awarded Dr Narlikar their top prize for setting up a centre for excellence in science. Apart from his scientific research, Dr Narlikar was internationally famous as a science communicator through his books, articles, and radio and TV programmes. He is also known for his science fiction stories.

For all these efforts, he was honoured by UNESCO in 1996 with the Kalinga Award for popular science works.



Artists paint outside Bikash Bhawan, Salt Lake on Tuesday to show solidarity towards teaching and non-teaching staff who recently lost their jobs due to Supreme Court verdict.

TMC 5-member delegation to visit violence-hit Srinagar, Poonch, Rajouri

MI News Service, Kolkata: Following unprovoked firing by the Pakistan Army on Indian border areas after Operation Sindoor — which killed 15 civilians and injured over 40 in Srinagar, Poonch, and Rajouri — a five-member Trinamool Congress delegation will visit the affected regions from May 21 to 23. The team, comprising Derek O’Brien, Mohammad Nadimul Haque, Mansarjan Bhuiyan, Sagarika Ghosh, and Mamata Bala Thakur, will interact with local residents and express solidarity with the families of the victims. The visit comes amid heightened tensions following a terror attack on April 22 in Pahalgam, which claimed the lives of 26 Indian tourists. In response, the Indian Army launched Operation Sindoor, targeting nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The Indian side has clarified that only terrorist infrastructure was hit and no civilian or Pakistani military assets were targeted. Despite this, Pakistan reportedly launched retaliatory shelling on Indian border areas, leading to civilian casualties and damage to property. Announcing the visit on its official X (formerly Twitter) handle, the Trinamool Congress stated that the delegation is acting on the directives of party chairperson Mamata Banerjee. Meanwhile, in a separate development, Mamata Banerjee has proposed the name of senior TMC leader Abhishek Banerjee to represent the party in a delegation being constituted by the Centre to articulate India’s global position on Operation Sindoor and counterterrorism efforts. Initially, the Centre had named TMC MP Yusuf Pathan for the role, but the party declined his participation, citing lack of prior consultation. Following a call from Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, Mamata Banerjee nominated Abhishek Banerjee as TMC’s official representative.

12 Lakh rural families of Bengal receive housing aid under “Banglar Bari”

MI News Service, Kolkata: Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee proudly announced the release of the second installment of funds for 12 lakh poor and eligible families in Bengal under the “Banglar Bari (Rural)” project. She shared this significant news on her “X (formerly Twitter)” handle, providing all the details about the initiative to ensure it reaches everyone. Highlighting it as a matter of pride for Bengal, she emphasized the government’s commitment to uplifting rural communities. In her post, she stated: “It is our pride that the state government, entirely with its own money, is providing a total of 1 lakh 20 thousand taka per family in two installments to build houses for 12 lakh poor eligible families of Bengal under the ‘Banglar Bari (Rural)’ project. The first installment of Rs 7,200 crore was paid last December. Today, the second installment of Rs 7,200 crore has also started being paid directly into their bank accounts. This means that our government has spent a total of Rs 14,400 crore from its own money to build houses in this project. This is very gratifying. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone. We will also provide houses to 1.6 million more eligible families. They will receive their first installment this December and the second installment in May 2026. I wish them well in advance.”

RG Kar: Beside Sanjay, another person touched Tilotoma; says report to HC

MI News Service, Kolkata: The investigation into the high-profile RG Kar case involving the death of Tilotoma Roy has taken a dramatic turn with the submission of a fresh DNA report that challenges key findings of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The latest report, presented to the Calcutta High Court has taken serious note of the new findings and has called for Dr. Majumdar’s expert opinion to be heard during the next hearing. The court has also sought clarity on whether these revelations could warrant a reopening of the investigation or lead to fresh charges. Legal experts believe that if substantiated, the new forensic evidence could alter the trajectory of the case, prompting further inquiries into possible accomplices and calling into question the completeness of the original CBI probe. The RG Kar case, already one of the most closely followed criminal investigations in recent memory, may now see a renewed legal battle centered on the interpretation of forensic science and the search for justice in Tilotoma Roy’s tragic death.

Jobless protestors skip summon, come under police scanner

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tension continue to rise following the May 15 protest by unemployed teachers at Bikash Bhawan, with legal and political ramifications intensifying. The Bidhannagar Intelligence Branch has now taken over the investigation after serious allegation of violence, vandalism, and obstruction of government work were leveled against several protestors.

A case has been registered under multiple IPC section, including destruction of government property, wrongful restraint of government employees, and interference in official duties. In connection with this, Bidhannagar North police station issued summons to five of the employed protestors, warning that failure to appear could lead to arrest. However, none of the summoned individual presented themselves at the police station on Tuesday. Protest representatives, including Mehboob Mandal, claimed that the summons issued by the police were legally flawed and unjustified, given that the demonstration had been peaceful.

Youtuber Joyti Rani linked to LeT, shocking revelation in interrogation

MI News Service, Kolkata: YouTuber Joyti Rani, recently arrested in Hisar on suspicion of espionage, has reportedly received spy training from Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba. Intelligence agencies revealed that Joyti spent 14 days at Lashkar’s Muridke training camp, where she was prepared for a covert mission in India. Her arrest came just before the operation could be executed. Joyti, who traveled to Pakistan multiple times—including just months before the Pahalgam terror attack—allegedly worked with a network of at least 20 social media influencers now under surveillance. Notably, the Lashkar camp she trained in was later destroyed by the Indian Army during Operation Sindoor.

YouTuber Joyti Rani, arrested recently in Hisar on charges of espionage, is at the center of a major national security investigation after intelligence agencies revealed her alleged links to Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba. According to sources, Joyti underwent a 14-day spy training program at Lashkar’s main facility in Muridke, Pakistan, before being sent back to India on a covert operation. Authorities arrested Joyti before the operation could commence. During interrogation, she confirmed her association with the city in question, leading investigators to deepen their probe into the mission’s objectives and her handlers. Intelligence inputs suggest that Joyti traveled to Pakistan just two months before the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, raising further suspicions about the timing of her movements. Officials are also examining a broader network, reportedly involving at least 20 individuals with significant influence on social media platforms.

Mamata Banerjee nominates..

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because the party’s leadership wasn’t consulted before nominating him. “We’re delighted to share that our chairperson, Mamata Banerjee, has nominated the party Nnational General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee to represent Trinamool Congress in the all-party delegation for India’s global outreach against terrorism,” the party wrote on X today. “At a time when the world must unite to confront the growing threat of terrorism, Abhishek Banerjee’s inclusion brings both conviction and clarity to the table. His presence will not only reflect Bengal’s firm stand against terror but also strengthen India’s collective voice on the global stage,” it added. Union minister Kiren Rijiju called Mamata Banerjee to pacify her and seek her suggestion for a representative from the party, sources said Mamata Banerjee on Monday asserted that the TMC was not boycotting the Centre’s multi-party diplomatic mission aimed at countering Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

She however emphasised that the Centre should not decide the party’s nominee for the delegations.

“We were not contacted about this (naming a party representative for the delegation),” The Chief minister said at the Kolkata airport on Monday before her departure from North Bengal on a three day trip.

“Nowadays, the system is that they do not inform the mother party but inform the parliamentary party. But the parliamentary party works for the Parliamentary sessions. They cannot make policy decisions,” she said adding the central government had no right to pick the party’s representative.

“It is the choice of the party concerned. If they request me to send someone, we will decide on the name and tell them. It is not that we are boycotting or not going. This (assumption) is wrong,” she added.

TMC MP Yusuf Pathan’s name was announced as part of a delegation led by Janata Dal (United) MP Sanjay Jha, which is set to visit Indonesia, Malaysia, South Korea, Japan and Singapore to convey India’s message.

Military infra at PoK’s...

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heavy weaponry, including aerial platforms, to target Indian positions but failed to inflict any damage. “Our indigenously developed Akashdeep radar system performed brilliantly while our air defence guns neutralised their aerial platforms. Our military infrastructure remains intact, while the enemy’s has been decimated,” the second official said. The officials noted that several vacant military structures were present in Leepa Valley but the Indian Army targeted only those where maximum damage could be inflicted.

Based on information from various sources, the officials said at least 64 Pakistani military personnel were killed and 96 injured by the Chinara Corps during the retaliatory strikes in the second week of May.

“The message was clear – our retaliation follows a 1:3 ratio, meaning the Indian Army will strike three times as hard for every Pakistani ceasefire violation,” a top Chinara Corps official said.

Providing details about the 25-minute strike near Muzaffarabad in PoK on May 7 under Operation Sindoor, India’s response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, the officials said the coordinated strikes were so intense that the commander of PoK’s 75th Infantry Brigade urged troops to prioritise saving lives over protecting assets.

“Intercepted communication revealed how a Pakistani Army commander, hiding inside a mosque, was instructing troops to save lives first. One message was ‘save lives first, offices can reopen later,’” a senior Chinara Corps official said.

Under Operation Sindoor, India demolished nine terror camps in Pakistan and PoK on May 7. In response, Pakistan tried to strike Indian military bases on May 8, 9, and 10.

Both nations agreed to halt hostilities on May 10 after four days of clashes during which at least 100 Pakistan based terrorists were also killed.

PM Modi chairs meeting to...

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and Pakistan, following the Indian Army’s Operation Sindoor against terrorist infrastructure, has dealt a body blow to tourism in Kashmir. The Chamber of Tourism, Trade and Industry Katra (CTTIK) said the abrupt drop in tourist arrivals had created an economic void across multiple sectors linked directly and indirectly to tourism.

The tourism industry was badly affected after Lashkar-linked terrorists attacked tourists in Pahalgam on April 22, killing 26 persons. In retaliation, Indian armed forces launched a missile strike on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7, resulting in four days of intense military hostilities between the two countries, before a ceasefire was reached on May 10.

The conflict between India and Pakistan has also marked a defining moment for relations between New Delhi and Turkey (Ankara), which supported Pakistan diplomatically as well as with supply of drones and arms. Indian tourists are now opting for alternative tourist destinations, such as Kashmir, Ladakh and Goa domestically, along with Greece, Vietnam, Armenia and Malaysia overseas. MakeMyTrip (MMT), one of the biggest travel portals, has seen a 250 per cent rise in cancellations, along with a 60 per cent drop in bookings to Azerbaijan and Turkey during the past week. Both countries had criticised India’s strike on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on May 7.

EAM Jaishankar thanks...

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escalated further,” he said on X. India carried out precision strikes under ‘Operation Sindoor’ on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir early on May 7 in response to the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 people. Following the Indian action, Pakistan attempted to attack Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian forces launched a fierce counter-attack on several Pakistani military installations.

India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the conflict after four days of intense cross-border drone and missile strikes. Schoof said he also discussed the bilateral strategic partnership during his talks with Jaishankar. “This concerns long-term cooperation between the Netherlands and India in areas such as trade, innovative technology, agriculture and security. In a changing world, it is important for both the Netherlands and India that we can continue to count on each other,” he added.

Name Change
I, Mahendra Ravi Dass (Old Name) S/O Dular Chand Ravi Das, Residing At 58/1F,Tollygunge Road, Po - Tollygunge, Ps - Charu Market, Kolkata-700033, West Bengal, India. Have changed my Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahendra Ravi Das(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/04/2025. Mahendra Ravi Dass(Old Name) And Mahendra Ravi Das(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mobusserra Bibi (Old Name) W/O Abdullah Shekh Residing At Vill-Madandanga,Po-Ghoragachha,Ps-Kalyani,Dist-Nadia,Pin-741243, West Bengal,India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mubasurra Khatun Shekh(New Name) As Declared Be- fore The Notary Public At Kolkata On 20/05/2025. Mobusserra Bibi (Old Name) And Mubasurra Khatun Shekh(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Jugeswari Devi Shaw W/o of Late Nirgun Nath Shaw residing at Jitwarpur Barka, Banea, Barka, Bihar - 841219 declare that my name has been wrongly recorded in my Aadhar Card no. 7018 7963 8535 and PAN Card no. JNQP56801H as Jugeshwari Devi Shaw and in my Voter Card no. WB222/156/222119 my name has been wrongly recorded as Shaw Yogeswari in place of my actual name Jugeswari Devi Shaw as mentioned in my Aadhar Card and Pan Card also declare that my date of Birth has been wrongly recorded as 01.01.1957 in place of my actual date of birth 01.01.1958. That Jugeswari Devi Shaw, Shaw Yogeswari and Jugeswari Devi Shaw all are same and one identical person and my actual DOB is 01.01.1958 vide affidavit No. 4733 dated 20/05/2025 before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Sealdah.

Name Change
I, REHNUMA FIROZ REHMAN SHAIKH(Old Name) D/o Firoz Rehman Shaikh resident of 15A/1, G.J.-Khan Road, P.O.-Tiljala, P.S.-Topsia, Kolkata-700039 WEST BENGAL, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SHAIKH RIFAATUDDIN FATIMA FIROZ REHMAN (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Kolkata on 29/01/2025. REHNUMA FIROZ REHMAN SHAIKH (Old Name) and SHAIKH REHNUMA FATIMA FIROZ REHMAN (New Name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mosharaf Hossain S/O Late Abdul Nayeem , Residence of Vill - Gangati, P.O - Sohaj kumarpur, P.S- Deganga, Dist-24 Parganas (N), Pin -743423 WB, I also declared my name has been recorded in my son's Madhyamik certificate as Mosharef Hossain. Also my name recorded in my son's all documents such as pan , Aadhar ,Voter card ,Birth certificate & Retion card name as Mosharaf Hossain . Also declared my father's name recorded in my land parcha as Ab Nayeem & my father's RS parcha name as Abdul Nayeem Mondal Shall henceforth be known as Mosharaf Hossain S/O Lt. Abdul Nayeem/ Abdul Nayeem Mondal & Ab Nayeem. & Mosharaf Hossain & Mosharef Hossain as declared before the affidavit first class Executive Magistrate in Barasat Court, 24 Pgs (n)WB. dated 09/03/2025 both are same and one identical person in eye of law.

Name Change
I, Kanish Shah, S/o. Ketan Shah, residing at 29, Palit Street, Ballygunge, Kolkata-700019, W.B., declare that my actual name is Kanish Shah, which has been wrongly recorded in my Indian Passport vide no. P 0660266 as Kanish Ketan Shah, and shall henceforth be known as Kanish Shah in all purpose. Kanish Shah and Kanish Ketan Shah both are same and one identical person vide affidavit no. 3944 dated 20.05.25 before the Court of the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata.

Name Change
I, Chandana Chakraborty, Daughter of No. 14219464, Ram EX Sigm, Name Late Arun Kumar Chakra vartty, resident of Vill.- Mahodari, P.O.-Mahodari, Dist.-Birbhum (WB), Pin-731201 have changed my Name & Date of birth from Chandana Chakraborty & 12 December 1977, to Chandana Bandopadhyay & 06 Jan 1977 vide Affidavit dated 06.05.25 before the Court of the J.M. 1st. class at Bolpur, Dist.- Birbhum.

Name Change
I, Nahid Parveen daughter of Md Ali Khan, resident of 34/3, Gangadhar Mukherjee Road, Howrah-711101, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that Nahid Parveen and Rani Khan is the same and one identical person via affidavit in the Court of Ld Executive Magistrate 1st Class at Howrah dated 16th April 2025.

NAME CHANGE
I, Bidyut Podder S/o. Late Biswanath Podder R/o. 9, Sarada Sarani, Nalta Guha Para P.O & PS - Dum Dum, Dist-North 24 Parganas, Pin-700028. My name has been wrongly recorded in my birth certificate as 'Bidyut Ch Poddar' S/o. Late Biswanath Poddar and in my passport (L8611724) as 'Poddar Bidyut Chandra' S/o. Late Biswanath Poddar instead of 'Bidyut Podder'. So, Bidyut Podder, S/o. Late Biswanath Podder and Bidyut Ch Poddar & Poddar Bidyut Chandra S/o. Late Biswanath Poddar are same & one identical person as per affidavit of Notary Public at Barasat Court. dated 09.07.24.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Md Sakir Ahmad, S/o Md Rais Ahmad, residing at 26/8 Gulam Jilani Khan Road, PS- Tiljala, P.O-Tiljala, Kolkata-700039, do hereby declare that in my West Bengal Board of Secondary Education Certificate and Result my father's name has been wrongly recorded as Md Raish Ahmad. On 16.05.2025 vide an affidavit (no. 05) before Notary Public, Kolkata I affirm that Md Raish Ahmad and Md Rais Ahmad is the same and one identical person i.e. my father.

Name Change
I, Sheela Devi, Mother of Sanjeev Kumar Singh, residing at Village and P.O.- Rasapunja, Kolkata-700104 solemnly affirm and declare that my name has been mistakenly and wrongly recorded my son's official documents Sila Devi & DOB on 01.01.1959 in place of Sheela Devi DOB on 01.01.1967 shall hence forth known as Sheela Devi DOB on 01.01.1967. Sheela Devi & Sila Devi both are same and one identical person declared vide affidavit no. 5629 date 26.04.2025 in the Court of LD Judicial Magistrate (1st Class), Kolkata.

Name Change
I, Devendra Singh, Father of Sanjeev Kumar Singh residing at Village and P.O.- Rasapunja, Kolkata-700104 solemnly affirm and declare that my name has been mistakenly and wrongly recorded my son's official documents Devender Singh, shall henceforth known as Devendra Singh, Devendra Singh & Devender Singh both are same and one identical person declared vide affidavit no. 5628 on 26.04.2025 in the Ct of LD Judicial Magistrate (1st Class), Kolkata.

Name Change
I, Suman Debi Jhawar (Old Name) W/O Lalit Jhawar, Residing At Aj-120,Salt Lake City Kolkata-700106, West Bengal,India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Suman Jhawar(New Name) As Declared Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 29/12/2004. Suman Debi Jhawar(Old Name) And Suman Jhawar (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sadhna Pal(Old Name) W/O Santosh Pal Residing At 223/1/10, Manikta, Main Road, Kankurgachi, Kolkata-700054,West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sadhna Pal(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Alipore, On 15/05/2025. Sadhna Pal (Old Name) And Sadhna Pal(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sandip Pal (Old Name) S/O Santosh Pal Residing At 218/1/11, Satin Sen Sarani, Kankurgachi, Kolkata-700054, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sandip Paul(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Alipore, On 12/05/2025. Sandip Pal (Old Name) And Sandip Paul (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mahendra Ravi Dass(Old Name) S/O Dular Chand Ravi Das,Residing At 58/1F,Tollygunge Road, Po - Tollygunge, Ps - Charu Market, Kolkata-700033, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahendra Ravi Das(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/04/2025. Mahendra Ravi Dass(Old Name) And Mahendra Ravi Das(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Parimal Ajmera, Residing at 13A, Shyamananda Road, Kolkata 700025 Declare that Parimal Ajmera, Parimal Gunvantrai Ajmera and Parimal G. Ajmera is one and the same person As declared Before The notary Public at Kolkata.

Name Change
I, Dular Chand Ravi Dass (Old Name) S/O Lt. Kokil Ravi Das,Residing At Vill-Kandajor,Po& Ps Jamua,Dist-Giridih,Pin-815318,Hi arkhand,India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Dular Chand Ravi Das (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 21/04/2025. Dular Chand Ravi Dass (Old Name) And Dular Chand Ravi Das(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abdullah Seikh (Old Name) S/O Chobhan Shekh,Residing At Vill-Madandanga,Po-Ghoragachha,Ps-Kalyani,Dist-Nadia,Pin-741245, West Bengal,India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdullah Shekh(New Name) As Declared Before The No- tary Public At Kolkata On 20/05/2025. Abdullah Seikh(Old Name) And Abdullah Shekh(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sobhan Seikh (Old Name) S/O Late Akkash Ali Shekh,Residing At Vill- Madandanga,Po-Ghoragachha,Ps-Kalyani,Dist-Nadia,Pin-741245, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chobhan Shekh (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 20/05/2025. Sobhan Seikh (Old Name) And Chobhan Shekh (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Belohar Bibi(Old Name) W/O Chobhan Shekh Residing At Vill-Madandanga,Po-Ghoragachha,Ps-Kalyani,Dist-Nadia,Pin-741245, West Bengal,India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Belohar Bibi Shekh(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 20/05/2025.Belohar Bibi(Old Name) And Belohar Bibi Shekh(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Beauty Nandi D/o, No. 13899355M, Ex Nk (TS) Sunil Nandl R/o, Vill. & P.O. :- Jharia, P.S. :- Goghat, Dist. :- Hooghly - 712122 (W.B.) have changed my name from Beauty Nandi to Sneha Nandi vide Affidavit No. 629 dated 15.05.2025 in the court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Arambagh, Hooghly (WB). That both names Beauty Nandi and Sneha Nandi pertain to one and the same person.

Name Change
I, Sumona Sen (Old Name), wife of Arnab Kundu, residing at 796 Lake Town, Block-A, P.S.- Lake Town, Bidhannagar, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-700089, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sumona Kundu (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Sumona Kundu (new name) and Sumona Sen (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Pulin Roy & Pulin Bihari Roy(Old Name),Son Of Late Madar Roy,Residing At Panditji Kaloni, Dhanyakuria, Basirhati - 743437, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Pulin Behari Roy(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 19/05/2025. That Pulin Roy & Pulin Bihari Roy And Pulin Behari Roy Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Hossain Ali (Old Name),Son Of Mohammad Yakub Ali,Residing At Vill & Po - Ghuni,Ps - Newtown,Kolkata - 700157,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Hasan Ali(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/05/2025. That Md Hossain Ali And Md Hasan Ali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Giasuddin (Old Name),Son Of Md Hasan Ali, Residing At Vill & Po - Ghuni,Ps - Newtown,Kolkata - 700 157, West Bengal,Shall Henc forth Be Known As Md Giasuddin (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/05/2025. That Giasuddin And Md Giasuddin Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Moimul Haque Mondal (old name) S/o, Mommajal Haque Mondal R/o, Ranagarh, Pandua, Hooghly-712149, W.B., have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Moimul Haque Mondal (new name) vide an affidavit no. 858 sworn before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 20/05/2025. Moimul Haque Mondal & Moimul Haque Mondal S/o, Mommajal Haque Mondal both are the same & one identical person. Habijur Rahaman Mondal is my son.

Name Change
I, Md. Saifulla Shaik, S/O-Lokman Shaik, residing at Vill -Uttar Radhanagar P/S-Magrabhat, Dist-24pgs (s). That in my passport my father's (Lokman Shaik) & mother's (Chupia Bibi) name are recorded as Mahbook Shaik & Rehena Bibi which are incorrect. So vide Affidavit before the Ld.1st class J.M at Diamond Harbour dt-16/05/2025(S.no. 4747) that Lokman Shaik & Mahbook Shaik and Chupia Bibi & Rehena Bibi both are same and one identical persons.

Name Change
I, Abdul Khadir Mallik S/o. Late Abdul Majid Mallik, Abdul Khabir Mallik S/o. Late Abdul Majid Mallik R/o, Paschim Malickpur, Dalapatipur, Haripal, Hooghly-712403 & Khabir Mallik S/o. Late Abdul Majid R/o. Malickpur, Bahirrhaknd, Hooghly-712405 all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit No. 309, dated 27/01/2025 sworn before S.D.E.M. Sadar, Hooghly Court.

Name Change
I, Mosharef Mandal alias Mosharaf Mondal (Old Name) S/o Aladdin Mondal Residing at Shilberia, Ulasl, Ulashi, Hanskhali, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Mosharef Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 56/2025 Date 20-05-2025. Mosharef Mandal, Mosharaf Mondal (Old Name) and Mosharef Mondal (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mani Kanta Ray, Manikanta Roy S/o Subhas Ray, Subash Chandra Roy, Subhash Ray (Old Name) Residing at Vill - Uttar Kharmarkolla, P.o+Ps - Gopalnagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743262 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Manikanta Ray S/o Subash Roy (New Name) as de- clared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 57/2025 Date 20-05-2025. Mani Kanta Ray, Manikanta Roy S/o Subhas Ray, Subash Chandra Roy, Subhash Ray (Old Name) and Manikanta Ray S/o Subash Roy (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kajal Kumar Mukherjee (Old Name) S/o Late Kamal Mukherjee Residing at Vill - Chatrabadi, Po - Panchberia, Ps - Gopalnagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin-743701 West Bengal have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kajal Mukherjee (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Bongaon, North 24 Parganas, vide affidavit no 4361 Dated 22-04-2025. Kajal Kumar Mukherjee (Old Name) and Kajal Mukherjee (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Debangshu Das S/o Late Premchand Das Residing at Vill - Haropur, Po - Alankarpur, Ps - Digba Mohana Coastal, District - Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721441 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Debanshu Das. I declare that Debangshu Das and Debanshu Das is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 20-05-2025.

Name Change
I, Himadree, D/o No. 14817631W, Ex Sep, Jugal Debnath resident of Vill.- Senpara East, P.O.-Buroshibata, Dist.- Hooghly (W.B.), PIN - 712105 have changed my name from Himadree to Himadree Debnath vide Affidavit dated 19-05-2025 before the Executive Magistrate at Arambagh, Hooghly (W.B.).

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Swapna Majumder (Old Name), wife of Sankar Majumder, residing at Simulpur, Kaharpura, P.O.- Thakurnagar, North 24 Parganas, Pin-743287, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Swapna Majumder Ghosh (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Swapna Majumder Ghosh (new name) and Swapna Majumder (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Samir Roy (Old Name), son of Radhika Prasad Roy, residing at Benirpole Dakghar, P.S.- Mahesh- tan/, Diamond Harbour, Pin-700141, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samir Kumar Roy (new name) as de- clared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Samir Kumar Roy (new name) and Samir Roy (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Kutub Mistry (Old Name), son of Majibar Mistry, residing at VIII & P.O.- Chunakhali, P.S.- Basanti, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743611, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kutubuddin Mistry (new name) as declared before the No- tary public at Kolkata dated 19/05/2025. Kutubuddin Mistry (new name) and Kutub Mistry (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Shilpi Biswas & Shilpi Dey (Old Names), wife of Sankar Prasad Dey, residing at Gourangapara, Madanpur, Alaipur, Madanpur, Nadia, Pin- 741245, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shilpi Dey Biswas (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Shilpi Dey Biswas (new name) and Shilpi Biswas & Shilpi Dey (old names) all are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Pintu Bimal Debnath (old name) S/O Bimal Debnath, residing at Rani Basan, Majna, Purba Medinipur, Pin-721433, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pintu Debnath (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/05/2025. Pintu Debnath (new name) and Pintu Bimal Debnath (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ali Hossain (Old Name), son of Late Md Gaysuddin, residing at HATIARA PIR SAHEB MORE PS ECO PARK NEWTOWN KOLKATA 700157, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ali Hasan (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Ali Hasan (new name) and Ali Hossain (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sumona Kundu wife of Arnab Kundu, on behalf my minor daughter Sunayna Sen (Old Names), residing at 796 Lake Town, Block-A, P.S.- Lake Town, Bidhannagar, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700089, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my daughter name and she shall henceforth be known as Sunayna Kundu (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Sunayna Kundu (new name) and Sunayna Sen (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Raj Kumar Bansal (Old Name), son of Naurang Lal Agarwal, residing at sidhi vatika apt. Flat-K1, Burdhwan Road, Siliguri, Darjeeling, Pin-734001, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Raj Kumar Agarwal (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Raj Kumar Agarwal (new name) and Raj Kumar Bansal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Babita Agarwal (Old Name), wife of Raj Kumar Agarwal, residing at sidhi vatika apt. Flat-K1, Burdhwan Road, Siliguri, Darjeeling, Pin-734001, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Babita Bansal (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Babita Bansal (new name) and Babita Agarwal (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sangeeta Kedia (Old Name), wife of Sushil Kumar Kedia, residing at Emami City Tower Block-C7, Flat No. 301, 2, Jessore Road, Nagar Bazar, South Dumund (n), North 24 Pgs, Kolkata- 700028, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sangita Kedia (new name) as declared before the No- tary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Sangita Kedia (new name) and Sangeeta Kedia (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sankar Roy (Old Name), son of Kartik Roy, residing at Ghuri Para, P.O.- Roypur, Maheshstala, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700141, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shankar Roy (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Shankar Roy (new name) and Sankar Roy (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Altaf Ali Molla (old name) S/O Ahud Molla, residing at Banagram, P.O.- Rasapunja, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700104, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Altaf Molla (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 20/05/2025. Altaf Molla (new name) and Md Altaf Ali Molla (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Satyajit Mandal (Old Name), son of Gopal Chandra Mondal, residing at 1st FR, FL-2, 56/1/4, Joy- narayan Babu Ananda Dutta Lane, Howrah- 711101, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Satyajit Mondal (new name) as de- clared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Satyajit Mondal (new name) and Satyajit Mandal (old name) both are same and identical person.

General Manager/ER felicitates employees & officers for Exemplary Service in Safety, Security and train operations



MI News Service, Kolkata: In a mark of appreciation for their exceptional contributions to train operations, safety, security and protection of railway assets, Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, felicitated twenty employees and two officers at a special programme held today (20.05.2025) at Fairlie Place, Eastern Rail- way Headquarters. The event was graced by the presence of Shri S.P. Singh, Additional General Manager/Eastern Railway, Shri Soumitra Biswas, Principal Chief Operations Manager/Eastern Railway, Shri Vikram Gupta, Principal Chief Engineer/Eastern Railway and Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, Principal Chief Safety Officer/Eastern Rail- way. Among the recipients was Shri Suraj Kumar Sharma, Pointsman/Andal, who showed exceptional alertness on 06.03.2025 when he noticed a fire in dry grass near Line No. 13 at the Kalka end of Mar- shaling Yard/Andal around 11:00 hrs. The fire was rapidly spreading towards Lines 14 and 15. Without delay, Shri Sharma rushed to the nearby cabin, col- lected a fire extinguisher and successfully doused

the flames—thereby pre- venting a major mishap. Another notable act of vigi- lance was displayed by Shri Anaras Ram, Track- man/ Bamangachhi, who while working as Helper with the Keyman on 26.01.2025, detected a rail fracture at Liluah station limit. His timely detection helped avert a potential rail disaster. Similarly, Shri Saikat Lahra, Loco Pilot Mail/Sealdah and Shri Baidyanath Baidya, Senior Assistant Loco Pilot/Seal- dah, demonstrated pres- ence of mind while working Train No. 13113 Hazarduari Express. While approaching Gate No. 92/E, a non-signalised level crossing between Deba- gram & Plassey stations, they observed the gate was open and a tractor was crossing the line. Immedi- ate application of emer- gency brakes prevented an untoward incident. Other employees also demon- strated commendable ac- tions that significantly contributed to safeguar- ding railway property and protecting human lives. In addition to the employees, Shri Vikram Gupta, Princi- pal Chief Engineer and Shri Saumitra Biswas, Principal Chief Operations Manager, Eastern Railway were also felicitated by the General Manager for their out- standing performance in their respective domains. The recognition of these employees and officers re- flects Eastern Railway's un- wavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards of safety and op- erational excellence.

Name Change
I, Habiba Khatun (Old Name), wife of Sk Faisal Ali, residing at Vill-Dakshin Gopalpur, P.O. & P.S.- Panskura, Dist.- Purba Medinipur, Pin- 721139, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Habiba Begam (new name) as de- clared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Habiba Begam (new name) and Habiba Khatun (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mokibul Islam (Old Name), son of Mohammad Ali, residing at Vill-Purba Ichhapur, P.O.- Kadamba- gachi, P.S.- Duttapukur, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743375, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Barik Ahamed Gazi (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Md Mokibul Islam (old name) and Mokibul Islam (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Akashdeep Agarwal (old name) son of Ashok Agarwal residing at Onkar Tower,Flat 6B,36A Garcha 1st Lane, Ballygunge, Kolkata-700019,West Bengal,have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Akash Agarwal(new names)as declared before the video notary N.o.dated 19/05/ 2025. Akashdeep Agarwal (old name) and Akash Agarwal(new name)both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) NIPUL SAIKH S/o-ABDUL SALAM, Residing at, Vill- Andol, Post- Andol, PS- Murarai, Dist- Birbhum, Pin- 732119, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from NIPUL SAIKH To NIPUL SEAK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) NIPUL SEAK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the S.D.E.M at Ram- purhat Birbhum On 5 th Dec 2024. NIPUL SEAK and NIPUL SAIKH both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) NIPUL SAIKH S/o- LATE NATHMAL BAID, Residing at, Vill- Kathmill No.1 Govt Colony, Post- Malda, Ps- Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from AMIT BAID To AMIT KUMAR BAID (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New Name) AMIT KUMAR BAID in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Mur- shidabad On 07 May 2025. AMIT KUMAR BAID and AMIT BAID both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Hushneyara Begum (Old Name), wife of Shakil Ahmed, residing at 127/D, Park Street, P.O.- Circus Av- enue, Kolkata- 700017, West Ben- gal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) and Hush- neyara Begum (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Hushneyara Begum (Old Name), wife of Shakil Ahmed, residing at 127/D, Park Street, P.O.- Circus Av- enue, Kolkata- 700017, West Ben- gal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) and Hush- neyara Begum (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Hushneyara Begum (Old Name), wife of Shakil Ahmed, residing at 127/D, Park Street, P.O.- Circus Av- enue, Kolkata- 700017, West Ben- gal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 20/05/2025. Husne Ara Khatoun (new name) and Hush- neyara Begum (old name) both are same and identical person.

Miscellaneous

Amrit Bharat Stations: Icons of Change, Mirrors of Cultural Identity



Jaya Varma Sinha
Ex. Chairman, Railway Board.

MI News Service, Delhi: India's transformation today is swift and visible—not just in policy docu- ments or political statements, but in its phys- ical landscape. The changes are apparent in newly built roads, high- speed expressways and world-class airports that rival international stan- dards. These develop- ments reflect a deeper shift in how India connects its cities and empowers its people. Once neglected, the railway sector is now emerging as a crucial part of this progress, shedding its image of overcrowded and outdated stations to become a showcase of cul- ture, efficiency and inno- vation.

The Amrit Bharat Sta- tion Scheme is a central component of this trans- formation. Led by Indian Railways, the initiative aims to modernize over 1,300 railway stations across the country. But this mission goes far beyond architectural upgrades or technological enhance- ments. It represents a fun- damental shift in how India approaches public infrastructure—blending functionality with inclusiv- ity, heritage with moder- nity and convenience with sustainability. The scheme envisions railway stations not just as transit points but as vibrant, integrated



spaces that reflect a city's character and support its community.

At the heart of the scheme is the principle that quality public services contribute directly to the dignity and well-being of every citizen. Where sta- tions once focused only on managing high footfall, they are now being repositioned as important civic spaces—hubs that inter- connect culture, economy and daily life. The scheme involves preparing specific master plans for each station, tailored to its loca- tion, passenger traffic and local identity. These plans are not rigid; they are de- signed to evolve and adapt to emerging technologies, population growth and shifting urban needs. De- velopment proceeds in phases, ensuring minimal disruption to existing op- erations while allowing space for innovation.

Rather than relying on cosmetic changes like new paint or expanded plat- forms, the initiative reimagines the entire purpose of a railway station. Stations are now seen as spaces that offer more than transportation—they serve as shopping areas, tourism gateways, busi- ness zones and community centers. Every design deci- sion is centered on improv- ing user experience. Passenger entry and exit points are being reorgan- ized to reduce congestion and ensure smooth move- ment at all times. This is especially valuable for senior citizens, families with young children and those with mobility challenges.

Inside the stations, modern waiting lounges, better lighting, improved air circulation and ergo- nomic seating have re-

placed the once-cramped and dimly lit spaces. Toilet facilities are being mod- ernized to meet high stan- dards of hygiene and comfort. Digital kiosks provide multilingual support and reduce queues at ticket counters, enhancing accessibility for all travel- ers. To ensure universal design, features like eleva- tors, escalators and clearly marked signage are being added, empowering per- sons with disabilities and the elderly to navigate the space independently.

The project also em- phasizes cleanliness, cul- tural expression and environmental conscious- ness. Clean stations are seen not just as a hygiene requirement but as a sign of respect and dignity for passengers. Free Wi-Fi at stations allows travelers from even the most remote or underserved areas to stay connected, access in- formation and continue working while in transit. This digital connectivity bridges gaps for rural users and supports mod- ern professionals alike.

In promoting sustain- ability, the scheme incor- porates eco-friendly features such as green pathways and climate-sen- sitive landscaping. These not only reduce the envi- ronmental footprint but also enhance the beauty and comfort of the station environment. Measures like energy-efficient sys- tems, better air flow and the use of ballastless tracks help reduce noise, pollution and long-term maintenance challenges. Rooftop plazas, where fea- sible, add community value by creating public gathering spaces and op- portunities for commercial activities. One of the most unique aspects of the scheme is the One Station One Product initiative. This program transforms sta-

tions into marketplaces where local artisans can showcase and sell regional handicrafts, handlooms, foods and specialty prod- ucts. In doing so, it strengthens the local econ- omy, revives traditional art forms and forges a deeper connection between travel- ers and the communities they pass through. This also promotes greater co- operation between local governments and the rail- way system.

As the scheme contin- ues to roll out, stations are being equipped with exec- utive lounges, meeting areas and real-time digital updates to cater to tourists, pilgrims and business trav- elers alike. The design phi- losophy is deeply rooted in human-centered think- ing—ensuring that every traveler feels welcome, supported and represented in the space. It marks a shift from a utilitarian de- sign model to one that em- phasizes user comfort, civic pride and long-term re- silience. India's railway sta- tions are becoming spaces where journeys begin not just physically, but emotion- ally and socially. They serve as mirrors of the nation's di- verse culture and as gate- ways to opportunity and unity. The Amrit Bharat Sta- tion Scheme is not simply

"Poster boys in Pakistan": BJP's Sambit Patra slams Kharge, Rahul Gandhi for repeated demand for proof on Op Sindoor

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Sambit Patra, on Tuesday, criticised Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, for repeatedly demanding proof on Operation Sindoor.

Patra said that Kharge's description of the operation as a "small war" and Gandhi's skepticism about the operation's outcome make them "poster boys" in Pakistan, even referencing terrorist Hafiz Saeed's supposed admiration for Gandhi.

While speaking with ANI, Patra said, "This is why Rahul Gandhi and his leaders have become poster boys in Pakistan. At the time of Operation Sindoor, Pak DGMO had shown your (Rahul

Gandhi) videos...You do the work of giving oxygen to Pakistan. Today we all know why Hafiz (terrorist Hafiz Saeed) likes Rahul..."

This comes after Kharge, in a veiled jab at Operation Sindoor, said that the government is going 'chhutput' (small) wars against Pakistan.

"Now, in these chhutput yuddha (small wars) that have taken place here and there, Pakistan has been downplaying India at all levels, particularly with tacit support from China," said Kharge while speaking at the Samarpana Sankalp rally in Karnataka.

Patra accused them of downplaying the bravery of India's Armed Forces and giving "oxygen" to Pakistan.

"Congress party, Kharge ji is saying that Operation Sindoor is a small war...Are

Rahul Gandhi and Kharge ji not able to understand that our Armed Forces entered Pakistan and struck nine terror sites there, and more than 100 terrorists were killed? After retaliation by Pakistan, their 11 airbases were destroyed, and today, Pakistan is crying in pain. And you are saying that Operation Sindoor was a small war. This is cheating the country and the bravery of the Armed Forces. Rahul Gandhi ji has been asking for proof for the last two days. We have been presenting digital proofs since day one. Pakistanis themselves have shown evidence. Despite this, you are asking for proof of the courage of the Armed Forces," said Patra.

Under Operation Sindoor, the armed forces launched targeted, precision strikes on terror bases in nine lo-



cations in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir.

The armed forces also hit back when Pakistan retaliated, destroying multiple airfields in Pakistan, following which Islamabad called for a ceasefire.

Earlier today, Congress leader Kharge had accused the Modi-led government of a security lapse which allegedly led to Pahalgam terror attack.

as there would be chaos in Kashmir."

He alleged that the government's intelligence agencies had informed Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the security threat, but no action was taken to warn tourists. Kharge condemned the government's priorities, stating that the Prime Minister's security was prioritised over the lives of citizens.

"The Prime Minister was supposed to go to Kashmir on the 17th, but his intelligence agency had told him not to go and had cancelled his visit to Kashmir..." the Congress leader said, adding, "If the same had been said to the tourists through the police, 26 lives would have been saved. What is happening now... This small war would not have happened."

Operation Sindoor: Misri briefs 3 of 7 all-party delegations

MI News Service, New Delhi: Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri briefed three of the seven all-party delegations ahead of their visits to different countries to put across India's stand following the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor.

Members of the delegations headed by JD(U)'s Sanjay Jha, Shiv Sena's Shrikant Shinde and DMK's Kanimozhi attended the briefing in which they are

expected to be told about their agenda and its finer details.

TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee, who was included at the last minute after his party protested the government's "unilateral" decision to pick its MP Yusuf Pathan, also joined the meeting.

Banerjee is part of the delegation led by Jha which will be travelling to Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore.

INDIA bloc has a bleak future as no party as formidable as BJP: Chidambaram

MI News Service, Chennai: The cracks within the INDIA bloc are no longer whispers, they're now on record.

Senior Congress leader P. Chidambaram has openly questioned the cohesion of the Opposition alliance, warning that it appears "frayed at the seams" and might not withstand the political juggernaut that is the BJP.

Speaking at the launch of Salman Khurshid and Mritunjay Singh Yadav's book "Contesting Democratic Deficit", Chidambaram said, "The future (of INDIA bloc) is not so bright, as Mritunjay Singh Yadav said. He seems to feel that the alliance is still intact, but I am not sure. It is only Salman (Khurshid) who can answer because he was part of the negotiating team for the INDIA bloc. If the alliance is totally intact, I will be very happy. But it shows at the seams that it is frayed," Chidambaram, a Rajya Sabha MP, said.

He also hoped that the alliance can "still be put together, there's still time".

The former Union finance minister warned that the INDIA bloc was fighting against a "formidable machinery", which must be fought on all fronts.

"In my experience and my reading of history, there has been no political party so formidably organised as the BJP. It's not just another political party. It's a machine behind a machine and the two machines control all the machineries in India.

"From the Election Commission to the lowest police station in the country, they (BJP) are able to control and sometimes capture these institutions. It is a formidable machinery, as much as can be allowed in a democracy,"

Notice

My clients Sri Amit Sarkar and Pintu Sarkar both Son of Anukul Sarkar, They have purchased a D.S.R.II Alipore by virtue of a Registered deed at L.R. II Alipore being Deed NO-02-169/2021 as per chain Deed of power of Attorney Samir Mondal S/O Lt. Bhundhal Ch. Mondal vide deed no. NO-28/8/2012 ADSR Alipore which lying at comprising of Mouza Bansdroni J.L. no. 45 RS and LR Dag no. 964 LR Khatian NO-1483 RS Khatian NO- R. 641 an appeal for Mutation for their the names in the above case if any objection arises are above matter/Then inform to Kolkata block office BL&LRO office 5 NO S.N. Banerjee Road Kol-13. MN. Case NO-MN/2025/16130/4415,4416

Prabir Kumar Roy Advocate Alipore Criminal Court Phone-7044384203

TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender for construction of 10 nos civil works under the jurisdiction of Basanti Block have been invited by the undersigned.

Details of which as noted below: Bid Submission Date: 20.05.2025 Bid Closing Date: 03.06.2025

Details can be collected from the website <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> & office Notice Board.

Sd/- Executive Officer Basanti Panchayat Samity South 24 Parganas,

EASTERN RAILWAY

Quotation Notice No: COM/CF/UTS/Maintenance-Quotation/25 Dated: 21.05.2025. Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, Rail Yati Niwas Building, 4th floor, Howrah - 711101 invites Sealed quotation for the following work: **Name of work:** Comprehensive maintenance and repairing work of Computer Hardware equipments Utilized at Booking, Reservation offices at stations and locations for ticketing purpose under the jurisdiction of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, for the period of Three (03) months. Details schedule of materials & work in Annexure-A, B & C (Details please visit www.eir.indianrailways.gov.in) & contact office of Divisional Railway Manager, (Commercial), Eastern Railway, Howrah, (Rail Yati Niwas Building, 4th floor). **Total Cost of the Work:** Rs. 3,992,348/- **Earnest Money Deposit:** Rs. 7,900/-. **Last Date for Submission of Sealed Quotation:** 29.05.2025 at 13.00 hrs. **Date & Time for Opening of Tender:** 29.05.2025 at 14.00 hrs. **Validity of Offer:** 60 days from date of opening. Website address, time and date from which Quotation form & documents will be available: www.eir.indianrailways.gov.in from 21.05.2025 HWW-94/2025-26

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.eir.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

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S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD/Kharagpur-721301 invites e-tender for the following works before 15:00 hrs. on the date mentioned against items and will be opened at 15:30 hrs.SI. No., **Tender Notice No. and Description of works** are as follows : 1. **TRD-KGP-W-2025-26-02 dated 19.05.2025.** Santargachi: Augmentation of length of 02 nos. of lines along with extension of PIT and provision of necessary infrastructure required for examination of full length LHB rakes at Reception Yard of Santargachi Coaching yard, (04 nos. of stabling lines & 03 nos. of PIT lines with CAT work at Rec. Yard Santargachi). **Tender Value:** ₹ 87,21,018/- **EMD:** ₹ 1,74,400/- 2. **TRD-KGP-W-2025-26-03 dated 19.05.2025.** Medchda : Increasing of CSL of UP Main, Middle line, Up Loop (L.No.-6) and Common Loop (L.No.-9) and conversion of DN Loop Line No.-1 into Common Loop with replacement of P/MCA by EI (OHE & PSI Parts). **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,58,05,417.70 **EMD:** ₹ 2,29,000/- **Cost of tender document:** Nil for each. **Date of Opening:** 10.06.2025 for each. **Completion Period:** 12 months for each. **Date of Submission:** upto 15:00 hrs. for 10.06.2025 for each. Interested Tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details, description, specification of the tender and submit their bids online. In no case manual tender for this work will be accepted. **Note:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit www.ireps.gov.in to participate in all tenders. (PR-175)

EAST COAST RAILWAY

File No. **DNM/Engg/KM/25-26/E-Tender/16** Dated: 16.05.2025

(1) **Tender No: e-tender-hq-kur-41-2025, Dtd. 01.05.2025**

DESCRIPTION: PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF SECTIONAL UTILITIES IN CONNECTION WITH CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY OVER BRIDGE (ROB) AT L.C. NO. KP-42 (KM 60/200 OF NH 316) ON PURI KONARK ROAD BETWEEN STATIONS MALATIPATPUR-PURI UNDER DEPOSIT SCHEME

Approx Cost of the work (₹) 124.73 Lakhs. **EMD (₹):** 2,12,400/-

(2) **Tender No: eTender-hq-kur-42-2025, Dtd. 02.05.2025**

DESCRIPTION: CONSTRUCTION OF 12 NOS. OF SECTIONAL ROOMS FOR VARIOUS SECTIONS OF MEMU CAR SHED AT KHURDA ROAD.

Approx Cost of the work (₹) 253.59 Lakhs. **EMD (₹):** 2,76,800/-

(3) **Tender No: eTender-hq-kur-26-2025, Dtd. 01.05.2025**

DESCRIPTION: PROPOSED AMC OF ELECTRO CHLORINATORS (28 NO) FOR THE PERIOD OF THREE YEARS AT BHADRAK, JAJPUR KEONJHAR ROAD, JAKHAPURA, CUTACK, BHUBANESHWAR, BARANG, DHENKANAL, KALUPARA GHAT, BALUGAON, CHATRAPUR, BRAHMAPUR, ICHCHAPURAM, SOMPETTA, KHURDA ROAD, PURI & PALASATA STATIONS OF KHURDA ROAD DIVISION. (MACFLO-28 nos, MACFLO-100/CHEOROGEN-100-18 NOS, CHLOROGEN 50-2 NOS).

Approx Cost of the work (₹) 56.92 Lakhs. **EMD (₹):** 1,13,900/-

Completion period: 06 Months (for SI. No. 1), 12 Months (for SI. No. 2) & 36 Months (for SI. No. 3).

Tender Closing Date and Time: At 1500 Hrs. of 22.05.2025 (for all Tenders).

No manual offers sent by Post / Courier/ Fax or in person shall be accepted against e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website: www.ireps.gov.in

Note: The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website www.ireps.gov.in before the date of closing of tender to note any changes / corrigenda issued for this tender. The tenderers/bidders must have Class-II Digital Signature Certificate and must be registered on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer(s)/ bidder(s) can participate on e-tendering.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg)/ Khurda Road

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Border Security Force (BSF) has said the public flag-lowering retreat ceremony at three locations in Punjab along the Pakistan frontier will begin on Wednesday, about two weeks after it was stopped following Operation Sindoor by India in response to the Pahalgam attack.

The Jalandhar headquartered Punjab frontier

of the force said the ceremony will resume from Tuesday, but it will be open only for media persons. The public can participate during the flag-lowering process as declared earlier, officials had said.

The BSF on May 8 stopped public entry for this event at these three locations, citing "public safety".

The decision was taken

the ceremony, however, will be curtailed as BSF troops will not shake hands with Pakistan Rangers, and the gates will not be opened during the flag-lowering process as declared earlier, officials had said.

The BSF on May 8 stopped public entry for this event at these three locations, citing "public safety".

The decision was taken

a day after India destroyed nine terrorist bases in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir under Operation Sindoor, a retaliatory military offensive against the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack that left 26 people dead.

It had, days after the attack, declared that the public ceremony would be conducted, but without opening the border gates

and the traditional shaking of hands between the BSF and Rangers.

The Indian flag is lowered every evening by BSF troops in synchronisation with Pakistan Rangers at the joint check posts located at Attari (Amritsar district) opposite Pakistan's Wagah, Hussainiwala in Ferozepur district across Ganda Singh Wala and at Sadki in Fazilka district.

Coorgs' roots go back to 3K yrs: New lights on traces of Karnataka community's ancestry

MI News Service, Bengaluru: A new genetic study has traced the roots of the Coorgs to nearly 3,000 years ago, offering fresh insights and deepening the intrigue around the ancestry of this close-knit population in Karnataka's western ghats.

The study is the first to probe the genetics of the Coorgs, a community with a distinct socio-cultural identity whose ancestry has long been debated with

competing theories linking them to Alexander's armies, Eurasian settlers, or ancient south Indian people.

The Coorgs, also known as the Kodavas, are a small, tradition-rich community with a distinct martial heritage, customs, and a strong sense of clan-based identity, living in the hilly, forested, and picturesque Kodagu district.

Scientists at the University of Delhi South Campus

and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, analysed genomic signatures in a sample of 144 Coorgs to determine their genetic distances and affinities to other populations.

Their study has revealed that the Coorgs consist of three distinct lineages — classified as Coorg-1, Coorg-2, and Coorg-3. Coorg-3 is the oldest, dating back 98 generations, or nearly 3,000 years ago. Coorg-1 diverged 64 generations ago, around 1,920 years ago. The third group, Coorg-2, emerged more recently — about 330 years ago — from the admixture of Coorg-1 and Coorg-3.

Among the three groups, Coorg-3 stands out as the most distinct. However, the identity of its ancestral source population from 3,000 years ago remains unresolved. The analysis did reveal more recent genetic mixing between Coorg-3 and northwest Indian populations about 23 generations ago, or roughly 690 years ago.

The study, published in Communications Biology, also found that Coorg-1 and Coorg-2 are genetically distinct from other ethnolinguistic groups in Karnataka such as the Kannadigas, Konkani and Tuluvas.

Members of Coorg-1 show the highest genetic similarity to a hunter-gatherer tribal group living in the Paliyars, found in the southern Western Ghats.

The admixture between Coorg-1 and Coorg-3 appears to have begun around 11 generations ago, or 330 years ago, giving rise to Coorg-2.

EASTERN RAILWAY

e-Tender Notice No : NIT/02/25/34, Dated : 19.05.2025. "Principal Chief Materials Manager", Eastern Railway, Fairlie Place, 2nd Floor, 17, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001, invites e-Tenders for supply of the following items: **Sl. No., Tender No., Description; EMD:** (1); 12250001; HVN-66 insulating liner conforming to RDSO Drg. No. T-6938 for 60 Kg Rail; Rs. 149960. **Tender Opening Date:** 03.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (2); 11251023; Yaw Damper; Rs. 1248370. (3); 1255013A; Supply, installation and commissioning of CNC Surface Wheel Lathe with AMC along with shed and lifting Mechanism of Cap. 2500 kg minimum etc.; Rs. 1831450. **Tender Opening Date:** 04.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. [For SI. No. 2 & 3; (4); 22251041; Inj. Pileracillin 4 gm + Tazobactam 500 mg; Rs. 0. **Tender Opening Date:** 05.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (5); 21251463; Hose Pipe for Brake Cylinder etc.; Rs. 109730. **Tender Opening Date:** 06.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (6); 11251025; Primary Vertical Damper; Rs. 731950. (7); 11251839; Secondary Vertical Damper; Rs. 524470. (8); 19251833; Gauge complex with air flow indicator etc.; Rs. 110250. (9); 19251954; Helical spring for axle box guide arrgt. of M/Coach with air spring suspn. system; Rs. 1459550. **Tender Opening Date:** 09.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. [For SI. No. 6 to 9; (10); 12550334; Bull Gear 107 teeth; Rs. 103740. (11); 12550335; Bull Gear 72 Teeth Gear to RDSO Drg. No. SKDP-3474; Rs. 107330. (12); 21241356A; Bogie centre Pivot Bottom Assy. for BOXNHL etc.; Rs. 342420. **Tender Opening Date:** 12.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. [For SI. No. 10 to 12; (13); 10245039; Main Compressor 1750/1745 LPM; Rs. 1176530. (14); 20241829B; Modified fan chamber (3.15 mm thick plate) for traction motor type 253 BW & 4601 AZ; Rs. 108320. (15); 20251882; Axle guide Helical Spring; Rs. 226800. (16); 20251883; Helical Spring Centreless; Rs. 603640. **Tender Opening Date:** 16.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. [For SI. No. 13 to 16; (17); 10255023; Helical Spring for WAP7 Locos; Rs. 281890. **Tender Opening Date:** 18.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (18); 19251683; Eliment Filter etc.; Rs. 639290. **Tender Opening Date:** 25.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (19); 10255020; Gear box case (Machined) for WAP-5; Rs. 211080. **Tender Opening Date:** 27.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (20); 10251057; Pantograph complete excluding mechanism assly etc.; Rs. 326270. **Tender Opening Date:** 30.06.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (21); 10251024; Purchase of L.E.D. based flasher light system etc.; Rs. 214050. **Tender Opening Date:** 01.07.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (22); 10251015; Microprocessor based electronic speed indicator; Rs. 934390. **Tender Opening Date:** 08.07.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (23); 10255033; Set of Suspension Tube (MSU); Rs. 203750. **Tender Opening Date:** 10.07.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (24); 10251025; Single Interrupter Vacuum Circuit Breaker; Rs. 1140640. **Tender Opening Date:** 15.07.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (25); 10251021; Suspension Tube Roller Bearing (GWE); Rs. 523840. **Tender Opening Date:** 07.08.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. (26); 10252007; Brake Gear Arrgt; Rs. 494410. **Tender Opening Date:** 18.08.2025, **Time:** 13.30 hrs. **Tender Cost:** Rs. 0 [For SI. No. 1 to 26]. **NOTE:** All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website.

STORES-11/2025-26

Tender Notices are also available at websites : www.eir.indianrailways.gov.in/www.ireps.gov.in

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PANCHGARA TORGRAM GRAM PANCHAYAT

PANCHGARA : PANDUA : HOOGHLY

PANDUA DEVELOPMENT BLOCK

Date Corrigendum

Due to unavoidable circumstances the following corrigendum has been made for Tender Ref No : 09/PTGP/2025-2026, Tender ID : 2025_ZPHD_845351_1, Date : 13.05.2025. Bid Opening Date will be 28.05.2025 instead of 13.05.2025. Bid submission Closing Date will be 26/05/2025 instead of 20.05.2025. Bid Opening Date will be 28/05/2025 instead of 22.05.2025. All other remain unchanged.

Sd/- Pradhan Panchgara Torgram Gram Panchayat

KAIKALA GRAM PANCHAYAT

Kaikala, Haripal, Hooghly

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-Tender is invited from reputed bonafied Tenderer for execution of 9 Nos. development works under SBM(GP), 15th CFC (Tied & Untied) Fund vide Memo No.: 86/KGP/2025-26 (SI. 1), 87/KGP/2025-26 (SI. 1-3), 88/KGP/2025-26 (SI. 1-2) & 89/KGP/2025-26 (SI. 1-3), Date: 20.05.2025. Date of Submission of Tender Paper: From 21.05.2025 to 05.06.2025 up to 05:00 PM (Memo-86), From 20.05.2025 to 27.05.2025 up to 05:00 PM (Memo-87, 88, 89). Bid Opening Date : 10.06.2025 at 12:00 PM (Memo-86), 29.05.2025 at 12:00 PM (Memo-87, 88, 89). For detailed information visit www.wbtenders.gov.in & undersigned GP Office.

Sd/- Pradhan Kaikala Gram Panchayat

Notice

I, BARMA DEVI wife of Ram Charan Mahato declare that I have purchased measuring a plot of land about 1440 sq.ft. (2 katha 0.0 chatak or 3.3 Decimal) located at Mouza: Madral, J. L. No. 2, R. S. Dag No. 529 (P), L.R. Dag No. 1004, L. R. Khatian No. 1254 & 1710 under Bhatpara Municipality, Ward No. 32, P.S. Jagaddal, North 24 Pgs. West. Bengal from Sri Durga Shaw s/o Jahar Lal Shaw The Land was purchased by Sri Durga Shaw from (i) Mritunjay Ghosh (Hatui) (ii) Bijay Ghosh (Hatui) (iii) Ajay Kumar Ghosh (Hatui) through their Power of Attorney Smt. Anjana Das w/o Dilip Kumar Das as per Registered Deed dated February 10, 2003. I intend to register my name for this Land in the B.L. & L.R.O. office. Any objection should be reported to the concerned authority within 30days failing which law will proceed accordingly.

Sd/- Barma Devi Ph: 9681734918 Add : 57, Madral Govt Colony PO- Madral, PS- Jagatdal, (N)24Pgs

Notice

This is to certify that my client namely Robiram Mallick son of Late Sashi Mallick, residing at Vill. Mallickpur, P.O.R.C. Thakurani, P.S. Haridevpur, Kolkata -700104, Dist. South 24 Parganas, is the owner of landed property Measuring 13 satak lying at Mouza-Magurkhali, J. L. No.135, L.R. Khatian No.252, R.S.Dag no.26,L.R. Dag No. 25, Land Measuring 11 satak and L.R. Khatian No. 252, R.S.Dag no. 26, L.R. Dag no.25, total land measuring 21 satak, and my said Client have executed a registered general power of attorney on 19.08.2019 to (1) Smt. Adar mallick wife of Late Robiram Mallick and (2) Mrs. Gour Mallick son of late Robiram Mallick, (3)Mrs.Nitai Mallick (4) Mrs. Nemai mallick (5)Mrs. Shaymal Mallick all son of Late Robiram Mallick (6) Mrs. Suchitra mondal wife of Mrs.Bhambol Mondal, vill. Mallickpur, P.O.R.C. Thakurani, P.S. Haridevpur, Kolkata-700104, and the said power of Attorney was Registered at the office of district Sub Registrar-II,Alipore,south 24-Parganas, on 19.08.2019 and after that said Bappa Bhuia sold out the land measuring 1 cotah & chatak,vill. mallickpur, P.O. R.C Thakurani P.S. Haridevpur, Kolkata-700104, dist. south 24 parganas, R.T. shed to if any person have any objection in this regard please contact on mobile no.7278747840.

Santanu Sanyal Advocate

Office of The Khairamari Gram Panchayat Jalangi * Murshidabad

ENIT No. 01/KHGP/15TH CFC/2025-26 SL NO 1 TO 14, Memo No: 121/KHGP Dated: 14/05/2024, Application Starting Date- 19/05/2025, Last Date of Dropping - 10/06/2025 till 15.00 PM, Date of Opening Technical Bid- 11/07/2025 TIME 15 P.M, Probable Date of Opening Financial Bid- 16/06/2025 time 15.00 P.M. For Details See- www.wbtenders.gov.in Please take necessary Action.

Sd/- Pradhan Khairamari Grampanchayat

Study finds how macrophages play critical role in immune system



WASHINGTON : Macrophages are essential to the immune system because they combat infections and help heal damaged tissue. It's critical to comprehend how these cells are triggered in various contexts in order to design novel medical interventions. The complexity of these cells and their reactions has made it difficult to identify and research macrophage activation.

The protein known as colony stimulating factor 1 receptor (CSF1R) was discovered by the study team to be a dependable marker for macrophages in tissues and monocytes and dendritic cells in blood, enabling the distinct identification and separation of various sample types. People of

all ages and genders can dependably use the new method. Dr Fernando Martínez Estrada, who led the research project and is Senior Lecturer in Innate Immunology at the School of Biosciences at the University of Surrey, said, "We have developed a method using CSF1R that can identify all types of Mononuclear phagocyte system cells in the body. This marker is incredibly useful for studying these cells in both health and disease, and it unlocks exciting new possibilities for cell isolation and quantification for diagnosing and monitoring various conditions with a single cell marker."

The study developed a set of tools to understand and check how these immune cells respond when

they are activated. These tools focus on signals in the body, including IL-4 (involved in healing and fibrosis), steroids (deactivation), IFNγ (fights infections), and LPS (a bacterial product that causes inflammation). The research team also described a novel concept that they call Macrophage Activation Mosaicism. This means that macrophages do not simply switch between the canonical two states previously described; instead, they can exhibit a mix of activation characteristics, reflecting the complexity of real tissue environments. Dr Federica Orsenigo, co-author of the study, explains further, "This discovery is significant because it changes how we perceive macrophage activation. "Recognising that macrophages can have mixed activation status helps us better understand their roles in different diseases and could lead to more targeted and effective treatments."

Emeritus Professor Siamon Gordon, co-author of the study from the University of Oxford, said:

"Therapies that seek to re-educate macrophages are widely sought. However, the tools to measure activation are underdeveloped. Having a robust multi-gene tool to study macrophage activation can help in drug screening, identify drugs that revert macrophage activation, and eventually help with patient characterisation and personalised medicine."

Men have greater risk of fractures from falls than women: Study

MASSACHUSETTS : A recent study titled "A meta-analysis of previous falls and subsequent fracture risk in cohort studies" found links between self-reported falls and increased fracture risk, as well as a slightly greater risk of fracture in men than in women. Published in Osteoporosis International, this international meta-analysis of data pooled from 46 prospective cohorts comprising over 900,000 individuals also recommended that previous falls are a factor that should be included in patients' histories used by fracture risk assessment tools like the FRAX (Fracture Risk Assessment) Tool to calculate a person's likelihood of getting a fracture over the next decade. FRAX is the most commonly used assessment to predict fracture risk.

"FRAX was developed using longitudinal data from studies around the world. Although previous falls have long been recognized as a significant risk factor for fractures, until now, they have not been factored into the FRAX algorithm," said Douglas P. Kiel, M.D., MPH, director of the Musculoskeletal Research Center and senior scientist at the Hinda and Arthur Marcus Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife, a nonprofit, Harvard Medical School affiliated institution. "In this newly updated FRAX dataset, previous falls were included as a risk factor and were found to increase the risk for fracture. These findings underscore that falls are an important contributor to fracture in both men and women, but interestingly, slightly more in men."

Key findings of the meta-analysis include Increased Fracture Risk: Individuals with a history of falls within the past year were found to have a significantly higher risk of any clinical fracture, osteoporotic fracture, major osteoporotic fracture, and hip fracture. One or more previous falls were significantly associated with an increased risk of death among women and men. Sex Disparities: The association between previous falls and fracture risk was observed to vary by sex, with men exhibiting higher predictive values compared to women.

Does physical activity alleviate pain in cancer survivors?

WASHINGTON DC : People who have had cancer commonly experience prolonged pain, but a new study suggests that being physically active may help to minimize its severity.

Wiley published the study in the American Cancer Society's peer-reviewed publication, CANCER.

Although physical activity has been demonstrated to alleviate a variety of pains, its impact on cancer-related discomfort is unknown.

To investigate, a team led by senior author Erika Rees-Punia, PhD, MPH, of the American Cancer Society, and first author Christopher T.V. Swain, PhD, of the University of Melbourne, in Australia, analyzed information about 51,439 adults without a history of cancer and 10,651 adults with a past cancer diagnosis.

Participants were asked, "How would you rate your pain on average," with responses ranging from 0 (no pain) to 10 (worst pain imaginable). Participants were also asked about their usual physical activity.

US guidelines recommend 150 minutes (2 hours 30 minutes) to 300 minutes (5 hours) a week of moderate-intensity, or 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) to 150 minutes (2 hours 30 minutes) a week of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity.

Based on participants' responses, the investigators found that, for individuals who had cancer in the past as well as for those without a history of cancer, more physical activity was linked with lower pain intensity.

The extent of the association was similar for both groups of individuals, indicating that exercise may reduce cancer-related pain just as it does for other types of pain that have been studied in the past.

Among participants with a past cancer diagnosis, those exceeding physical activity



guidelines were 16 per cent less likely to report moderate-to-severe pain compared to those who failed to meet physical activity guidelines.

Also, compared with people who remained inactive, those who were consistently active or became active in older adulthood reported less pain.

"It may feel counterintuitive to some, but physical activity is an effective, non-pharmacologic option for reducing many types of pain. As our study suggests, this may include pain associated with cancer and its treatments," said Dr. Rees-Punia.

Study reveals how protein-rich breakfast can increase satiety, improve concentration



AARHUS, DENMARK : A new Danish study investigated the relationship between diet and cognitive function, and the findings show that a protein-rich breakfast can boost satiety and concentration.

This is important knowledge in a society with increasing obesity rates and lifestyle-related diseases, said researcher.

"Breakfast is the most important meal of the day." This is a well-worn platitude that has never had much basis in scientific evidence.

But a new Danish study has explored how different types of breakfast affect satiety and concentration and it has added new fuel to the old cliché.

The study followed 30 obese women aged 18 to 30 for three days, during which the women consumed a protein-rich breakfast, a carbohydrate-rich breakfast or no breakfast at all. The women's sense of satiety, hormone levels and energy intake were measured at lunchtime. Their total daily energy intake was measured as well.

The participants also had to complete a cognitive concentration test during the study.

"We found that a protein-rich breakfast with skyr (a sour-milk product) and oats increased satiety and concentration in the participants, but it did not reduce the overall energy intake compared to skipping breakfast or eating a carbohydrate-rich breakfast," says Mette Hansen, associate professor and PhD at the Department of Public Health, and one of the authors of the study.

The number of overweight people is increasing both in Denmark and across the globe. Obesity is often accompanied by lifestyle-related diseases such as type 2 diabetes. Previous studies have shown that people who eat breakfast have a lower BMI than people who do not eat breakfast, and protein-rich foods have generally been shown to have an increased satiety effect compared to carbohydrate-rich and high-fat foods with the same calorie content. The idea was

therefore to test whether a protein-rich breakfast could be a good strategy to achieving greater satiety during the day and thus reducing daily calorie intake.

However, the solution is not that simple, said Mette Hansen: "The results confirm that protein-rich meals increase a sense of satiety, which is positive with regard to preventing weight gain. However, the results also suggest that for this nutritional strategy to be effective, it's not enough to just eat a protein-rich breakfast."

The potential of replacing a carbohydrate-rich diet with a protein-rich diet can clearly be seen in the satiating effects measured in the study. Several of the subjects had difficulty consuming the entire protein-rich breakfast consisting of skyr and oats.

"It's intriguing that there can be such a big difference in the satiety effect of two different meals with the same calorie content. Had the women in the project been allowed to choose the size of the meal themselves, it's likely that they'd have consumed more food and thereby more calories on the day they were served bread and jam than on the day they were given skyr and oats," explained Mette Hansen. According to the researcher, although the study has provided important insights, it also has its limitations because only overweight young women participated in the study. The study is also based on relatively short-term observations, leaving open the question of how long-term dietary changes can affect health and weight. Mette Hansen therefore points out that the study underlines the need for further research to understand how different types of food affect health over time.

"We already have new data incoming from a trial where participants received either a high-protein breakfast or a low-protein breakfast. The objective was to study how the different types of breakfast affect body composition and other parameters such as microbiota and cholesterol levels," said Mette Hansen.

Research reveals brain processes speech, its echo separately

WASHINGTON DC : Echoes can make speech difficult to understand, and getting rid of echoes in an audio recording is a very difficult engineering task. According to a study published in the open-access journal PLOS Biology by Jiaxin Gao of Zhejiang University in China and colleagues, the human brain appears to successfully handle the challenge by splitting the sound into direct speech and its echo.

The audio signals in online meetings and auditoriums that are not properly designed often have an echo lagging at least 100 milliseconds from the original speech. These echoes heavily distort speech, interfering with slowly varying sound features most important for understanding conversations, yet people still reliably understand echoic speech. To better understand how the brain enables this, the authors used magnetoencephalography (MEG) to record neural activity while human participants listened to a story with and without an echo. They compared the neural signals to two computational models: one simulating the brain adapting to the echo, and another simulating the brain separating the echo from the original speech.

Participants understood the story with over 95% accuracy, regardless of echo. The researchers observed that cortical activity tracks energy changes related to direct speech, despite the strong interference of the echo. Simulating neural adaptation only partially captured the brain response they observed--neural activity was better explained by a model that split original speech and its echo into separate processing streams. This remained true even when participants were told to direct their attention toward a silent film and ignore the story, suggesting that top-down attention isn't required to mentally separate direct speech and its echo. The researchers state that auditory stream segregation may be important both for singling out a specific speaker in a crowded environment, and for clearly understanding an individual speaker in a reverberant space.

The authors add, "Echoes strongly distort the sound features of speech and create a challenge for automatic speech recognition. The human brain, however, can segregate speech from its echo and achieve reliable recognition of echoic speech."

Rare fat molecule helps drive cell death: Study

LOS ANGELES [US] : Researchers revealed that a rare sort of lipid plays a vital role in ferroptosis, a type of cell death described by Columbia professor Brent Stockwell.

The findings shed new light on how cells die during ferroptosis, potentially improving understanding of how to prevent ferroptosis in contexts where it is harmful, such as neurodegenerative diseases, or induce it in contexts where it could be beneficial, such as using it to kill dangerous cancer cells.

The study discovered that a diPUFA phospholipid, an uncommon type of lipid with two polyunsaturated fatty acyl tails, was present in a variety of situations where ferroptosis occurred, including aged brains and Huntington disease-affected brain tissue.

The finding indicated that the lipid is efficient at promoting ferroptosis.

The research was conducted by professors in Columbia's Department of Biological Sciences, Department of



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Chemistry, and the Columbia University Irving Medical Center. Stockwell first discovered ferroptosis in 2012, when he found that certain cells were dying because their lipid layers were

and elsewhere have continued to investigate ferroptosis, discovering that it can occur naturally in ageing cells, in pathological contexts, and can be induced to treat disease. Another paper out this month with several co-authors found that a gene named PHLDA2 can sometimes promote ferroptosis by attacking a different lipid and that this gene can block some tumours from forming. Together, these papers show that specific lipids promote ferroptosis, so defining the driver lipids in specific cancers is important.

"The discovery that these diPUFA lipids are important drivers of ferroptosis deepens our understanding of this form of cell death, and these lipids' role in controlling a cell's homeostasis in general," Stockwell said.

"Harnessing these lipids may eventually help us identify where ferroptosis has occurred and deliberately manipulate them to either induce cell death or stop it. This can begin to give us both understanding and the power to control cell death."

Language, culture can influence how our brain processes emotional faces: Research

WASHINGTON : Understanding body language is an important aspect of communication. Humans are frequently considered to be able to perceive other people's emotions innately, but there is rising evidence that this ability is impacted by people's culturally shared knowledge of emotions.

A team of scientists in the US decided to investigate how cultural upbringing and access to emotion category words, which categorize and facilitate access to a complex set of emotional ideas, experiences, and responses stored in our memory, impact how we perceive others' emotional facial expressions.

"Here we show that access to emotion category words like 'disgust' differentially alters how brain regions interact with one another when people perceive emotions on others' faces. Importantly, this effect depends on one's cultural upbringing," said Dr Joseph Leshin, a researcher at Northeastern University and the study's first author. "Our findings contribute to growing evidence that emotional facial expressions are not universally produced and understood," added senior author Dr Kristen Lindquist, a neuroscientist at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where the data for the Frontiers in Psychology study was collected.

A trigger for emotion recognition

Two participant groups - Chinese individuals, born and raised in mainland China, but now



living in the US, and non-Hispanic White Americans who were born and raised in the US - were recruited for the study. While undergoing fMRI, both groups viewed actors pose expressions for 'disgust' and 'anger' as they are typically displayed by White North Americans. Over four blocks, the participants viewed expressions which were either preceded by the relevant emotion category word or a non-word control text. "When primed with the word 'disgust' before viewing the corresponding facial expression, immigrants from mainland China showed decreased functional connectivity in brain regions related to semantic processing, visual perception, and social cognition," Leshin said. "Whereas White American participants tend to perceive wrinkling of noses and

scowls as evidence that someone else is disgusted, Chinese participants are less likely to clearly associate those facial muscle movements with disgust. Thus, their brains were likely working harder to disambiguate the meaning of posed disgusted facial muscle movements," explained Lindquist. Critically, presenting Chinese participants with the English language cue 'disgust' prior to viewing wrinkled noses and scowls changed how their brains processed those expressions. White American participants did not show the same differences in brain connectivity in the emotion word v. control text conditions, likely because the facial expressions are familiar to them. These findings suggest that seeing an English emotion category word before seeing the cor-

responding facial expression may help Chinese participants to understand the meaning behind the culturally-relative expression better. 'This also seems to apply even when the emotion is not central to a culture, as is the case with the notion of 'disgust' in Chinese culture, the researchers added. Understanding how people wear their hearts on their sleeves

The researchers said that their findings should be interpreted in light of some limitations, for example the modest sample size and the fact that the participant groups and the emotion category words used in this study do not represent the full spectrum of cultural or emotional diversity. A starting point for future research could be investigating if similar differences can be found amongst cultures that are more similar to one another than China and the US. Even subtle cultural differences could lead to variations in neural processing of emotions, the researchers said. To date, there is relatively little work that focuses on subcultures within the same country, for example within the US or China.

A further field of application of the team's findings lies in artificial intelligence. "Our study suggests that AI tools designed to read emotions from faces must account for cultural variation to avoid misinterpretation of people's expressions and highlights the need for culturally informed AI," Leshin concluded.

Regulation of Train Service after Yard Remodelling Work at Santragachi

MI News Service, Kolkata: The work of Non-Interlocking in connection with the yard remodeling and commissioning of Electronic Interlocking with 533 Routes at Santragachi of Kharagpur Division has completed on 18.05.2025.

As a part of Indian Railway's grand plan to upgrade and modernize key stations across the country, significant Station development work at Santragachi Railway station is being undertaken. In this connection, SER had undertaken the work of yard remodeling in phased manner.

This type of huge work generally requires more days for Non Interlocking working but to avoid passenger inconvenience only one day NI working was granted. Otherwise more number of trains had to be cancelled for longer period in comparison of actually done. Major work was done in traffic block only. The following facilities are now available after completion of the work: (I) Two (02) additional new platforms at Santragachi (II) Platform Extension of the existing 2 platforms so as to accommodate full length coaching trains and elimination of Diamond crossings. (III) Now total 8 Platforms available for traffic (IV) Elimination of the surface crossing of the line from the railway bridge at Sankrail towards Santragachi, resulting in easing out the traffic movement in the down line in Santragachi - Andul section. (V) The DN Loop Line of Santragachi converted into a common Loop line to cater both direction traffic.

This modernization project will not only increase the station's handling capacity but will also ensure a more streamlined, efficient rail service for passengers and goods traffic. Though execution of Non Interlocking Work, presently some technical issues have occurred. In this connection, some SER trains are being cancelled/ rescheduled/short terminated/short originated. Train services are expected to be normal soon.

Additional Metro Services on Blue Line on 25.05.25 (Sunday) for UPSC Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: For the convenience of the aspirants of UPSC Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 2025, Metro services will start from 07.00 hrs on 25.05.2025 (Sunday) in Blue Line. On that day, 138 services (69 UP and 69 DN) will be operated instead of 130 services over the entire stretch of this Corridor. On 25.05.2025, services will be operated both in UP and DN directions at 30-minute intervals between 07.00 hrs to 09.00 hrs. Timings of the last services from the terminal stations will remain unchanged.

First Service:- At 07.00 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dakshineswar (instead of 09.00 hrs.) At 07.00 hrs. from Noapara to Kavi Subhash (instead of 09.00 hrs.) At 07.20 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Kavi Subhash (instead of 09.00 hrs.)

Last Service:- At 21:27 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dakshineswar (No Change) At 21:33 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Kavi Subhash (No Change) At 21:40 hrs. from Kavi Subhash to Dum Dum (No Change)

Train services on Green Line-2 will remain unchanged. Being a Sunday, no services on Green Line-1, Purple Line and Orange Line will be available on 25.05.2025 as usual.

PM to inaugurate 103 redeveloped Amrit Stations in 86 districts across 18 States and Union Territories of India

• PM to lay the foundation stone, inaugurate and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 26,000 crore in Palana, Bikaner • Projects include Railways, Roadways, Power, Water, New and Renewable Energy sectors • PM to inaugurate 103 redeveloped Amrit Stations in 86 districts across 18 States and Union Territories of India

MI News Service, Jaipur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Rajasthan on 22nd May. He will travel to Bikaner and at around 11 AM, he will undertake darshan at Karni Mata temple in Deshnok. Further at around 11:30 AM, Prime Minister will inaugurate the redeveloped Deshnok Station under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and flag-off Bikaner-Mumbai express train. Thereafter, he will lay the foundation stone, inaugurate and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 26,000 crore and also address a public function in Palana.

In line with his commitment to constantly improve and enhance the rail infrastructure in the country, Prime Minister will inaugurate 103 redeveloped Amrit Stations in 86 districts across 18 States and Union Territories of India developed at a cost of over Rs 1,100 crore. Over 1,300 stations are being redeveloped with modern facilities, designed to reflect regional architecture and enhance passenger amenities under the



Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. Deshnok railway station, serving pilgrims and tourists visiting the Karni Mata Temple among others, is inspired with temple architecture and arch and column theme. Begumpet railway station in Telangana is inspired by the architecture of the Kakatiya empire. Thawe station in Bihar incorporates various murals and art works representing Maa Thawewali, one of the 52 Shakti Peethas and depicting Madhubani paintings. Dakor station in Gujarat is inspired by Ranchhodrai Ji Maharaj. The redeveloped Amrit stations across India integrate modern infrastructure with cultural heritage, passenger-centric amenities including those for Di-

vyangan and sustainable practices to enhance the travel experience.

Indian Railway is marching towards 100% electrification of its network, making railway operations more efficient and environment friendly. In line with this, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone of Churu-Sadulpur rail line (58 km) and dedicate to the Nation Suratgarh-Phalodi (336 km); Phulera-Degana (109 km); Udaipur-Himmatnagar (210 km); Phalodi-Jaisalmer (157 km) and Samdari-Barmer (129 km) rail line electrification. In a major boost to road infrastructure in the state, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone for construction of 3 Vehicle Underpasses, widening and strengthening of National highways. He will also dedicate 7 roadways projects in Rajasthan. The roadways projects, worth over Rs 4850 crore, will facilitate smoother movement of goods and people. The highways extend up to the Indo-Pak border, enhancing accessibility for security forces and strengthening India's defence infrastructure. Furthering the vision of electricity for all and green and clean energy, Prime Minister will lay the foundation stone of power projects including Solar projects at Bikaner and Nawa in Didwana Kuchaman, and Transmission Systems for Evacuation of Power Part B PowerGrid Sirohi Transmission Ltd and Part E PowerGrid Mewar Transmission Ltd.

He will also inaugurate power projects including Solar project at Bikaner, Transmission system for Evacuation of PowerGrid Neemuch and from Bikaner Complex, Augmentation of transformation capacity at Fatehgarh-II Power Station which will provide clean energy and reduce carbon emission. Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone, inaugurate and dedicate 25 important state government projects across Rajasthan to enhance infrastructure, connectivity, power supply, health services, and water availability in the state. These include laying of foundation stone and dedication to the nation of projects for upgrading and maintaining 12 State Highways covering a total length of over 750 km worth over Rs 3,240 crore; further expansion under the program includes an additional 900 km of new highways. Prime Minister will inaugurate power projects at Bikaner and Udaipur. He will also inaugurate Nursing Colleges in Rajsamand, Pratapgarh, Bhilwara, Dholpur which will play a key role in enhancing health infrastructure in the state. He will also lay the foundation stone and dedicate to the nation various water infrastructure projects in the region including Rural Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project in Jhunjhunu District, Restructuring of Urban Water Supply Schemes in 7 Towns of Pali District under AMRUT 2.0, among others.

S.P. Singh assumes charge as additional General Manager, ER



MI News Service, Kolkata: Shri S.P. Singh (Sheelendra Pratap Singh) has taken over as the new Additional General Manager of Eastern Railway on 19th May 2025. An officer of the 1989 batch of the Indian Railway Service of Mechanical Engineers (IRSM), Shri Singh is an M.Tech graduate from the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. With a distinguished career spanning over three decades, he brings to the post a wealth of experience across a wide spectrum of key assignments in Indian Railways.

Shri Singh began his railway journey as an Assistant Mechanical Engineer in the Northeast Frontier Rail-

way. Over the years, he has served in important leadership positions including Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer of Eastern Railway, Divisional Railway Manager of Sealdah Division, Principal of the Technical Training Centre at DLM, Varanasi, Chief Workshop Manager at Manchewar Workshop in East Coast Railway, Additional Divisional Railway Manager of Agra Division in North Central Railway and Chief Rolling Stock Engineer in East Coast Railway, among others. His vast and diverse service profile reflects deep operational and managerial acumen. He has also enhanced his technical and administrative skills through extensive training programmes, both in India and abroad — including advanced courses in Germany, Singapore, and Malaysia.

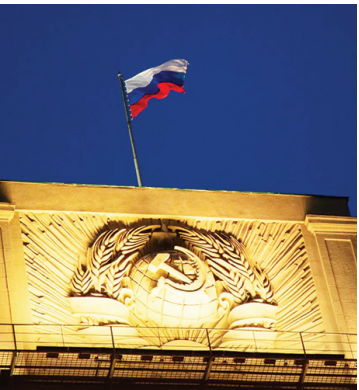
With his appointment as Additional General Manager, Shri S.P. Singh is expected to contribute significantly to Eastern Railway's mission of operational excellence, innovation, and infrastructure development.

Iran's Khamenei slams 'nonsense' US nuclear demands

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has derided demands from the United States that it halt nuclear enrichment as negotiations between the two countries hang in the balance. "Saying things like 'We will not allow Iran to enrich uranium' is nonsense. No one [in Iran] is waiting for others' permission," said Khamenei in a speech reported by the country's semi-official Mehr News Agency on Tuesday. He added that he did not know whether talks would "bring results". Since mid-April, Washington and Tehran have held four rounds of Omani-mediated talks aimed at getting Iran to limit its nuclear programme in exchange for sanctions relief. However, repeated clashes between the pair have thrown the next round of negotiations, which the news agency Reuters said were expected to take place in Rome at the weekend, into doubt.

Moscow outlaws Amnesty International for 'Russophobia'

MI News Service, Moscow: Russian authorities have designated Amnesty International as an "undesirable" organisation, alleging that the rights group propagates pro-war content backed by the Western allies of Ukraine, in the latest crackdown on Kremlin critics. The Russian Prosecutor General's Office said in a statement on Monday that Amnesty's London office has acted as a "centre for the preparation of global Russophobic projects paid for by accomplices of the Kyiv regime", according to state-run media. It claimed that since the start of the war in February 2022, Amnesty has been "doing everything possible to intensify the military confrontation in the region", including by "insist-



ing on the political and economic isolation of our country". The office also emphasised that members of the international rights group "support extremist organi-

sations and finance the activities of foreign agents".

Agnes Callamard, Amnesty International's secretary general, said the decision taken by Moscow is part of its "broader effort to silence dissent". "We will continue to work relentlessly to ensure that all those who are responsible for committing grave human rights violations, whether in Russia, Ukraine, or elsewhere, face justice ... Put simply, no authoritarian assault will silence our fight for justice. Amnesty will never give up or back down in its fight for upholding human rights in Russia and beyond", she added. The designation means the international human rights group must stop any work in Russia, and those accused

of cooperating with or supporting it will be exposed to criminal prosecution. This could even include anyone who shares Amnesty's reports on social media.

Russia currently recognises 223 entities as "undesirable" organisations, including some prominent independent, as well as Western-backed news outlets and rights groups. Some of those include Transparency International, Latvia-based outlet Meduza, and US-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL). Amnesty was established in 1961 to document and report human rights violations around the globe and campaign for the release of those deemed unjustly imprisoned.

100 Years of Howrah Division: The Enduring Legacy of Sheoraphuli



MI News Service, Kolkata: As the Howrah Division of Eastern Railway celebrates its 100th anniversary from 1925 to 2025, it commemorates a century of transformative railway operations that have shaped Bengal's economic and cultural landscape. Among its historic stations, Sheoraphuli stands out as a vital junction, blending a rich zamindari heritage with modern railway connectivity. From its origins as a Mughal-era trade hub to its role as a key railway station, Sheoraphuli embodies the Howrah Division's legacy of progress, connectivity, and cultural preservation.

Historical Significance of Sheoraphuli: Sheoraphuli's history dates back to the Mughal era when it thrived under the Zamindari of Raja Manohar Roy, a prominent ruler during Akbar's reign. The region emerged as a bustling center for trade and agriculture, with the SheoraphuliHaat serving as a key collection point for goods across Hooghly district. The SheoraphuliRajbari, established in 1827 by Raja Harish Chandra Roy, and the adjacent SheoraphuliHaat, centered around the Ma Nistarini Temple, solidified the town's status as a commercial hub. Zamindar Road evolved into one of Hooghly's oldest retail markets, while Sheoraphuli grew into a nexus for wholesale trade, small industries, and financial institutions, a legacy that endures to this day.

Sheoraphuli: A Key Railway Junction: The Howrah-Sheoraphuli railway line, established in 1855, marked the dawn of modern rail connectivity in Bengal, positioning Sheoraphuli as a critical junction. The station's strategic location facilitated trade and passenger movement, connecting towns and cities across the region. A significant milestone came with the opening of the broad-gauge Sheoraphuli-Tarakeswar branch line on January 1, 1885, later integrated into the East Indian Railway (EIR). This line strengthened Bengal's railway network, making Sheoraphuli a vital link for both local and regional travel.

Electrification and Modernization: Sheoraphuli's railway infrastructure saw transformative advancements in the mid-20th century. On November 10, 1957, the first electric train was tested from Bandel to Konnagar via Sheoraphuli, heralding a new era of efficiency. The Howrah-Sheoraphuli-Tarakeswar line was fully electrified between 1957 and 1958, and by the 1970s, it was upgraded to a 25 kV AC system, enhancing operational capacity. These developments cemented Sheoraphuli's role as a modern

railway hub, capable of handling thousands of daily commuters and supporting the region's economic growth.

Sheoraphuli's Role in the Howrah Division: Sheoraphuli remains a cornerstone of the Howrah Division, serving as a crucial stop on the Howrah-Bardhaman, Katwa, and Tarakeswar routes. The station caters to both suburban and long-distance travelers, facilitating seamless connectivity across Bengal and beyond. Its economic significance is evident in its support for Hooghly's trade, agriculture, and small industries, with the nearby SheoraphuliHaat continuing to thrive as a major marketplace. The station's ability to bridge commerce and connectivity underscores its enduring importance to the region.

Cultural Heritage: Beyond its railway prominence, Sheoraphuli is a cultural and historical gem. The Hooghly Ganges River, near SheoraphuliGhat, and the historic KonnagarGhat offer scenic and heritage-rich riverfront experiences. The Tomb of Susanna Anna Maria, a colonial-era landmark, reflects Bengal's European influence, while the Ma Nistarini Temple and SheoraphuliRajbari stand as testaments to the town's spiritual and zamindari legacy. These attractions, combined with Sheoraphuli's vibrant marketplace, make it a unique destination for visitors seeking history and culture.

100 Years of Howrah Division: A Celebration of Connectivity: The Howrah Division's centennial celebration highlights its remarkable achievements, including the expansion of railway routes, electrification of lines, growth of suburban networks, and preservation of historic stations like Sheoraphuli. Over the past century, the division has connected rural and urban Bengal, fostering economic growth and cultural exchange. Sheoraphuli, with its blend of zamindari heritage, bustling markets, and robust railway infrastructure, has been integral to this success, embodying the division's mission to unite communities.

Conclusion: As the Howrah Division marks 100 years of excellence, Sheoraphuli stands as a shining example of its enduring impact. From its Mughal-era roots to its role as a modern railway junction, Sheoraphuli has connected people, cultures, and economies for over a century. As we celebrate this milestone, Sheoraphuli's legacy of trade, heritage, and connectivity will continue to inspire, ensuring that the Howrah Division remains a beacon of progress and unity for generations to come.

Fresh Israeli attacks on Gaza kill 73

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israeli forces bombard Gaza, killing at least 73 people since midnight, including attack on displacement shelter in Gaza City that killed 22, including children. The leaders of Canada, France and the UK threaten to take "concrete action" against Israel if it does not end its renewed offensive in Gaza, while 22 countries urge Israel to let aid into the besieged enclave. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismisses the calls and pledges to press on with the offensive, which includes plans for Israel to take control of the whole of Gaza. Israel's war on Gaza has killed at least 53,573 Palestinians and wounded 121,688, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The Government Media Office updated the death toll to more than 61,700, saying thousands of people missing under the rubble are presumed dead.

IPL 2025: RCB-SRH clash venue shifted to Lucknow from Hyderabad; playoffs to take place in Mullanpur, Ahmedabad



UAE CAPTAIN MUHAMMAD WASEEM REFLECTS ON THEIR FIRST INTERNATIONAL VICTORY OVER BANGLADESH

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The United Arab Emirates secured their maiden international triumph over Bangladesh with a win in the second T20I in Sharjah, according to the ICC website.

After challenging Bangladesh in the first T20I of the three-game series, UAE went one better and stunned the Tigers in the second encounter by two wickets, thus tying the series 1-1.

This was their first win over Bangladesh across formats, and ensures that all will be at stake in the third T20I in Sharjah on May 21. Skipper Muhammad Waseem led the Emirati effort during a stiff chase with a blazing 82 off 42, and was ecstatic at the outcome.

"I have no words. I am very happy we beat Bangladesh. Very happy with the performance. I was giving hope to everyone that we can chase this score because we know the conditions (in Sharjah)," Waseem said after the game.

Like the first T20I, UAE elected to bowl first, but Bangladesh batters led by Tanzid Hasan (59 from 33) and Tawhid Hridoy (45 from 24) ensured that the tourists got to 205/5 from their 20 overs.

Waseem took charge early in the chase, unleashing a flurry of attacking strokes to help UAE cross the 100-run mark in the 10th over. He finished with nine fours and five sixes during his time at the crease, and by the time Shoriful Islam got the better of him, UAE were just 58 away with seven wickets in hand.

"We were hoping to chase it, and I tried to play my natural game," Waseem described his batting effort during UAE's first successful chase over 200 runs in T20Is," Muhammad Waseem said.

The losing captain, Litton Das, believed the side was let down by their effort in the middle overs of the chase.

"Any loss is hard, but we still batted well on this wicket. Wicket was pretty good, when they batted, they had the favour of dew. We missed a bit in the fielding and the middle-overs bowling," he said.

The game was also a trying debut for speedster Nahid Rana, who gave away 18 runs in his very first over, and despite his two wickets was taken for 50 runs across his spell. The seamer, however, did make a comeback of sorts in his final over, giving away just six runs and picking a wicket to ensure Bangladesh got back in the contest briefly but Dhruv Parasher and Haider Ali managed to see the hosts through the line.

"When you play on this type of ground, which is small and with dew as a factor, you have to calculate and plan," Litton empathised with his bowling group."

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 clash between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) on May 23 has been shifted from M. Chinnaswamy Stadium to Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow.

"The TATA IPL Match No. 65 between Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) and Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) has been relocated to the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow, due to unfavourable weather conditions in Bengaluru," BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia said in a statement.

RCB have already qualified for the playoffs with 17 points, and still have two matches to play. They are currently sitting in the second spot with eight wins, three losses and one no result.

On the other hand, the Hyderabad-based franchise have been eliminated from the ongoing 18th edition of the cash-rich league.

They are currently placed at the eighth spot, with four wins, seven losses and a no result.

Earlier, the highly-anticipated clash between the Rajat Patidar-led side and Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the IPL 2025 was abandoned due to persistent rain in Bengaluru on Saturday.

As the match number 58 of the ongoing competition was abandoned, the Knight Riders were knocked out of the tournament. They are now placed on sixth in the points table with five wins and six defeats, they have 13 points.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on Tuesday finalised two venues, Mullanpur and Ahmedabad for the IPL 2025 playoffs.

"After 70 action-packed

league-stage matches filled with energy, drama, thrill, and entertainment; the spotlight will shift to the New PCA Stadium in New Chandigarh as it gears up to host the much-awaited Qualifier 1 - featuring the top-two ranked sides on Thursday, May 29th followed by an engrossing Eliminator clash on Friday, 30th May," Saikia asserted.

"The excitement will elevate further as Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium, the world's largest cricket stadium in the world will host an electrifying Qualifier 2 and the grand Final.

The Qualifier 2, to be played between the loser of Qualifier 1 and the winner of the Eliminator, will take place on Sunday, June 1st. The highly-anticipated summit clash, which will crown the winner of the 18th Season of TATA IPL, is set to be played on Tuesday, June 3rd," the statement concluded.



Bibiano Fernandes dedicates SAFF U19 victory to Arunachal fans

YUPIA (ARUNACHAL PRADESH) : After two months of toil, it all boiled down to the penalty shootout. However, the calm demeanour with which the India U19 men's national team conducted themselves during the most nerve-racking moment of the SAFF U19 Championship final against Bangladesh brought out the character that the boys have, according to the official website of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

Head coach Bibiano Fernandes was all praised for his boys after they were crowned the SAFF U19 champions at the Golden Jubilee Stadium on Sunday, May 18, 2025.

"We knew it would not be an easy final by any stretch of imagination," said Fernandes at the post-match press conference. "Bangladesh showed their mettle as well, coming back from a goal down. But our boys exhibited tremendous character to keep fighting for the 90 minutes and beyond," Bibiano Fernandes said.

"We must also appreciate how Bangladesh fought back. I think they showed how good a side they are. It was an entertaining game, and at the end, we're happy that we came out as champions," said Fernandes, who claimed his fourth junior SAFF title on Sunday night.

While the final boiled down to a nail-biting penalty shootout, Fernandes was quietly confident in the Blue Colts' abilities. "I was always positive for the penalties because I have full faith in my players. I knew that our goalkeeper Suraj (Singh Aheibam) is good at saving penalties. He's been amazing at the training sessions, when we practiced spot-kicks. We knew he would make us proud," said Fernandes. "The job for the rest of the boys was to put the ball in the net."

While the India U19S showed quiet confidence in tense situations, their 48-year-old coach attributed much of the mentality to the support from the stands.

"Arunachal Pradesh was amazing for us. I've never seen so many fans turn up for a junior game anywhere in India. We will certainly remember this for the rest of our lives," he said. "The crowd was amazing, and the boys enjoyed playing in front of them."

"I would like to dedicate this victory to the fans in Arunachal Pradesh, they were truly amazing. They pushed us and supported us all the way. They made us play the way we did. I'm sure this will motivate more youngsters to dream of playing for the national team one day, and we will have more players like Omang (Dodum) come through," he said.

The Blue Colts will now regroup and begin their preparations for the AFC U20 Asian Cup Qualifiers, to be held next year.

"India has ample talent. If we do good development, we will one day see India qualify for the World Cup, that remains the dream, as always," said Fernandes.

"Treat to watch": GT batter Shahrukh Khan enchanted by rollicking performances of top-order troika

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Gujarat Titans batter Shahrukh Khan hailed the "consistent" Jos Buttler and believes that for the middle order, "it is a treat to watch" the former England captain coming behind the opening pair of skipper Shubman Gill and Sai Sudharsan dazzle at the crease.

The in-form troika featuring Sai, Gill and Buttler has been a vital cog in Gujarat's match-winning machinery in the 18th season of the Indian Premier League (IPL). While Gill and Sudharsan have dominated the run-scoring charts, Buttler has silently contributed with his swashbuckling performances at the number three spot and earned a place among the top run-getters in the tournament.

"He (Buttler) has been a wonderful player for his country and the teams he has played in the IPL, and for us, a batter like Jos Buttler to be at number three and consistently get runs for us," Shahrukh said in a media conference. Buttler has racked up 500 runs to his name in the season, but for Shahrukh, his impact lies far beyond that. He emphasised the English star's ability to stay calm irrespective of the situation



that he finds himself in.

"I think runs are a totally different thing altogether, but a player like him, a character who is calm under pressure, and no matter what happens, he remains the same. In terms of his skill, everybody knows what he can do as a batter. With Shubman, Sai, and Buttler behind them, it is a treat to watch for the middle order," he added.

The Titans qualified for the playoffs with an emphatic 10-wicket triumph over Delhi Capitals at the Arun Jaitley stadium last Sunday. According to

reports, GT will lineup in the playoffs without Buttler after being named in England's ODI squad for their upcoming home series against the West Indies, which begins on May 29, the same day IPL playoffs kick off.

Sri Lanka's Kusal Mendis is expected to replace Buttler. The 30-year-old was part of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) franchise but decided not to return due to perceived safety concerns after the tournament was suspended due to cross-border tensions between Pakistan and India.

CCL CMD FELICITATES JSSPS BOXER KANISHKS

RANCHI : CMD, CCL, Nilendu Kumar Singh felicitated JSSPS (Jharkhand State Sports Promotion Society) cadet Kanishka Kumari Gorai for her great achievement of winning bronze medal in Asian Under-15 Boxing Championship in Amman, Jordan.

During this, her coach Dronacharya Awardee Braj Bhushan Mohanty was also felicitated.

Singh felicitated both of them by giving them shawl and bouquet and inspired and guided Kanishka to move towards her goal with even more strength.

On behalf of the entire CCL family, congratulations to Kanishka for her achievement and best wishes for a bright future!



Delhi CM Rekha Gupta inaugurates Delhi Games 2025 at Talkatora Stadium

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Rekha Gupta inaugurated the Delhi Games 2025 at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi on Tuesday. Delhi Minister for Urban Development, Education & Training, Ashish Sood, was also present at the inauguration ceremony.

The Delhi CM emphasised that athletes from Delhi should receive all necessary facilities, contrasting this with previous governments' shortcomings.

She stated that the Delhi government, through the Delhi Sports Council, will ensure athletes have the resources to train and compete in Delhi, aiming for them to bring honour to the national capital.

"The athletes from Delhi should get all the facilities that are necessary for them. In previous governments, we have seen that

due to a lack of facilities in Delhi, the athletes had to go to other states and get their names registered there. The Delhi government, through the Delhi Sports Council, will provide all the facilities to the athletes so that they stay in Delhi and earn laurels for the national capital," Rekha Gupta told reports.

22,000 plus athletes are expected to compete across 20 thrilling sports at the Delhi Games.

Earlier on May 17, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta inaugurated a new water pipeline in Singapur village, located in the Shalimar Bagh area of the national capital.

Addressing the public at the event, CM Gupta said, "Till now, we have been paying the liabilities of previous governments. The intention of our government is the

welfare of the people. Work should be done in the interest of the people; no work should stop."

She further emphasised her administration's focus on transparency and integrity, stating, "It is the responsibility of the government to do every work with complete transparency and honesty, and we will fulfil it."

Rekha Gupta has also criticised the former Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government for neglecting the capital's infrastructure, particularly its firefighting systems, which she described as being left in a "dilapidated state."

"The firefighting systems under the previous government were in a dilapidated state in Delhi. Because of this, we were not able to provide the necessary solutions to people in the case of numerous tragedies," she said.

The Chief Minister, along with



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Ramvir Bidhuri and Delhi Minister

Ashish Sood, inspected the modern firefighting vehicles of the

Delhi Fire Service at the Secretariat.

Beach kabaddi explained: Why it is more challenging than indoor kabaddi



DIU (DAMAN AND DIU) : Beach kabaddi is looking to leave a long-lasting impression on the Khelo India Beach Games 2025 in Diu.

The popular form of kabaddi that's played on a mat is very well received in India, and there is also a very popular kabaddi league that's catering to the audience concerned, according to a release from SAI media.

However, beach kabaddi is a new concept. Last year, when the Diu Beach Games were organised, beach kabaddi was also a part of the program.

Simrat Gaikwad, working in the capacity of a venue coordinator and senior coach at the Ghoghla beach, the epicentre for all eight KIBG games, including two demonstration ones, believes these are exciting times for beach kabaddi.

"It's a new concept. Khelo India Beach Games are a great platform for the sport. It will definitely help popularise the sport," she said.

Delhi girls' kabaddi team coach Sunita also has high hopes. "It's a totally different setting

with the beautiful sea in the background. Kabaddi is, anyway, quite popular in India. Hopefully, beach kabaddi will make a mark too," she said.

Beach kabaddi is more challenging than the popular kabaddi in that here you are dealing with the elements. For example, your feet are partially or fully buried in sand and that makes movements difficult. Then you play in the sun, and as a result, you require more stamina.

Sea breeze also picks up at times, and at other times, there is no sign of it. So, all these aspects affect a player's performance, making beach kabaddi all the more challenging.

Sunita also added that non-coastal states have a little extra to deal with since the conditions here are totally alien to them. "The artificial sand turf that we have is good, but the environment here is totally different and much more challenging," she said.

Gaikwad, who has participated in seven national championships and has multiple laurels to her name, is currently based

in Thane, Mumbai. She believes the sport has a future, even though at present there is a lot of progress to be made. "Once these events happen often, more and more people with gravitate towards it. You want to have a viable career option. Once that happens, beach kabaddi can grow in a desired way," she said.

While the essence of beach kabaddi is pretty similar to that of popular kabaddi but in terms of rules and regulations, it's slightly different. For example, it has four players a side, instead of seven. Instead of 20 minutes each, both halves here are 15 minutes each. Players can't be revived either. It's a smaller field of play to boot. All these have been incorporated into the sport, keeping in mind the challenging conditions at beaches.

At KIBG 2025, there are two pools across boys and girls with eight teams each. The top two teams from these groups will advance to the semifinals. The beach kabaddi matches kicked off on Tuesday, and both the finals will be played on the final day of the KIBG on Saturday.