

Rajnath Singh refuses to sign SCO document for not focusing on Pahalgam terror attack

MI News Service, New Delhi : Sending a stern message to India's neighbours, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has refused to sign a joint statement at a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meet on Thursday because it did not mention the Pahalgam terror attack that claimed 26 innocent lives and did not reflect India's strong position on terror.

While skipping any mention of Pahalgam, the document mentioned Balochistan, tacitly accusing India of creating unrest there. Pahalgam's exclusion from the document appears to have been done at Pakistan's behest as its all-weather ally, China, holds the Chair now. "The perpetrators and sponsors of terrorism must be held accountable", Rajnath Singh told the SCO conclave as he chose not to sign a communique by the bloc for not explicitly addressing India's concerns over Pakistan-backed cross-border terrorism.

The SCO operates under the framework of consensus, and Singh's refusal to endorse

the document resulted in the SCO Defence ministers' conclave ending without a joint communique, Defence sources said adding that there was no clear-cut approach to combating terrorism, including cross-border terrorist activities in the Conclave.

India has consistently trashed Pakistan's allegations about its involvement in Balochistan and said Islamabad must look within and stop backing terror instead of making wild allegations. "India is not satisfied with the language of the joint document. There was no mention of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, there was mention of the incidents that happened in Pakistan, so India refused to sign the joint declaration, and there is no joint communique either," a Defence Ministry source said.

Mr Singh is currently in China's Qingdao to attend the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting. The summit is being attended by member states, including Russia, Pakistan and China, to discuss issues related to regional and international security. Established in



2001, SCO aims to promote regional stability through cooperation. The bloc currently has 10 member states -- Belarus, China,

India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Addressing the summit, the Defence Minister called upon SCO members to unite to eliminate terrorism for collective safety and security. He said the biggest challenges faced by the region are related to peace, security and trust deficit, with radicalisation, extremism and terrorism being the root cause of these problems.

"Peace and prosperity cannot co-exist with terrorism and proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the hands of non-state actors and terror groups. Dealing with these challenges requires decisive action. It is imperative that those who sponsor, nurture and utilise terrorism for their narrow and selfish ends must bear the consequences. Some countries use cross-border terrorism as an instrument of policy and provide shelter to terrorists. There should be no place for such double standards. SCO should not hesitate to criticise such nations," Singh, taking in a veiled

swipe at Pakistan, said .Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack, Rajnath Singh said India had exercised its right to defend against terrorism and pre-empt as well as deter further cross-border attacks. "During the Pahalgam terror attack, victims were shot after they were profiled on religious identity. The Resistance Front, a proxy of UN-designated terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) claimed responsibility for the attack. The pattern of Pahalgam attack matches with LeT's previous terror attacks in India. India's zero tolerance for terrorism was demonstrated through its actions. It includes our right to defend ourselves against terrorism. We have shown that epicentres of terrorism are no longer safe and we will not hesitate to target them," he said.

He stressed the need to hold perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of terror and to bring them to justice. He termed any and every act of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable. SCO members, he said, must condemn this evil.



The newly constructed well decorated chariots of Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Devi Subhadra stand ready in front of the Jagannath temple in Digha for Friday's grand Ratha Yatra. Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

Mamata Banerjee congratulates Subhangshu Shukla and his team for successfully docking with ISS

MI News Service, Kolkata / Digha: West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday heartily congratulated Indian astronaut Subhagshu Shukla and his team for safely docking with the International Space Station as per schedule and as part of the Axiom Mission-4

Stating that she is 'absolutely thrilled', the Chief minister in a message through her X handle said this afternoon that "What an incredible achievement for him to become the first Indian ever to ISS! His mission is not just a personal achievement but a monumental step forward for India's space science efforts, solidifying our position as a formidable space-faring nation".

In her post she said "Absolutely thrilled to see our astronaut, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, and other team members, safely reach the International Space Station as part of the Axiom Mission 4. Heartiest congratulations to all of them and especially to our very own Subhanshu! What an incredible achievement for him to become the first Indian ever to

ISS! His mission is not just a personal achievement but a monumental step forward for India's space science efforts, solidifying our position as a formidable space-faring nation. Congratulations, Shubhanshu, once again! Your journey has really made us all proud! Jai Hind!"

India's Shubhanshu Shukla and three other astronauts entered the International Space Station to warm hugs from the crew members of the orbital laboratory on Thursday. The space station crew welcomed Axiom-4 mission commander Peggy Whitson as she floated into the station soon after the hatch-opening procedures were completed at 5:44 pm IST. Shukla, the mission pilot, followed Whitson, with Polish engineer Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski, a mission specialist and a European Space Agency project astronaut, close behind. Incidentally, the Chief minister is in the temple town of Digha since Wednesday to oversee the preparations of tomorrow's first ever Ratha Yatra from the new Jagannath temple

Mamata Banerjee oversees preparations for peaceful celebration of Ratha Yatra in Digha

SUMAN GANGULY

In a show of hands-on leadership, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday took direct charge of the final preparations for Digha's first-ever Rath Yatra since the inauguration of the grand Jagannath Temple two months ago. From conducting on-foot inspections to getting detailed briefings from the state officials, temple trustees, and ISKCON monks, the Chief Minister's involvement underscored the significance of the festival—not just as a religious event, but as a reflection of administrative precision, inclusivity and cultural pride. "We must ensure that the Ratha Yatra will be smooth, peaceful, and accessible for all devotees," Mamata Banerjee was heard telling DGP Rajiv Kumar as she reviewed the 1.5 km procession route with top bureaucrats and ministers, including Chandrima Bhat-tacharya, Aroop Biswas, Sujit Bose, Indranil Sen, and Snehasis Chakraborty.

In a remarkable gesture, the Chief minister herself walked the entire stretch between Gate No. 7 and Gate No. 3 of the temple complex, repeatedly stopping to inspect road width and barricading strategy several times. At one point, she was seen using a measuring tape and drawing route plans on paper beside the chariots. She also emphasized that while the festival is a spiritual celebration, public safety remains paramount. "No one will be allowed on the main road during the chariot procession," she stated. However, in a move balancing safety and devotion, she directed that the ropes of the chariot be attached to the barricades, allowing devotees



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is overseeing the last moment preparations for a hassle free and peaceful celebration of maiden Ratha Yatra from the newly constructed Jagannath temple at Digha, on Thursday .She is accompanied by DGP Rajiv Kumar and other officials.

to touch them without stepping onto the route. "This is Digha's first Ratha Yatra. We must remain extra cautious. The rath will pause a number of times so people can get a clear darshan. But we must ensure peace. Your cooperation is essential," she appealed to the public. The Chief minister also confirmed her participation in the symbolic act of pulling the chariot ropes on June 27, aligning with her long-standing tradition of involving herself in major cultural and religious events across the state.

The CM's itinerary on Thursday included a high-level meeting with the Jagannath Temple Trust, DSDA, and ISKCON, as well as a live inspection of the three chariots. Eyewitnesses noted how Banerjee closely examined the movement logistics and even gave hands-on inputs regarding the positioning of volunteers and security personnel. Later, she spoke to journalists, reiterating that the Jagannath Temple would remain open to devotees tomorrow, on the day of Ratha yatra, with the puja and other rituals beginning at 9:30 AM and the chariot journey commencing around 2:30 PM. The chariot is scheduled to reach "Masir Bari" by 4:30 PM. Mamata Banerjee's involvement extended beyond administrative oversight. She also took part in the auspicious "Rassi Puja" (rope worship), at the temple premises d on Thursday evening—a symbolic merging of state leadership and spiritual tradition. Her active presence in Digha is being viewed as both a political statement and a personal commitment to Bengal's spiritual and cultural ethos.

Two militants arrested in Manipur with firearms

MI News Service, Imphal: Two members of proscribed outfits in Manipur were arrested by the security forces here on Thursday and a huge cache of firearms recovered from their possession, police said.

One active cadre of the banned Kangleipak Communist Party (PWG) was apprehended from one of the floating huts in the Loktak Lake in Bishnupur district and two rifles and one 9 mm pistol and several rounds of ammunition were recovered from his possession, they said.

"The floating huts on the lake were used as a makeshift transit camp and hideout by militants", a senior police officer said adding that several banned items which were used by cadres of outlawed organisations were recovered and the huts were dismantled. In a follow-up action, several

Continued on Page 3

Space travel makes you believe that planet Earth belongs to everyone, recalls Rakesh Sharma

MI News Service, New Delhi : First Indian astronaut Rakesh Sharma, who made the maiden journey into space from the country way back in 1984, believes that space travel alters the mindset of humans and makes them see the world from a perspective that "this planet belongs to everyone" and is not the sole preserve of anyone.

He shared his thoughts in a recorded podcast shared by the Ministry of Defence on the day India returned to space after 41 years, as Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla from India and three other astronauts from the US, Hungary and

Poland set forth on a landmark space odyssey on Wednesday.

Sharma had spent eight days in orbit in the erstwhile Soviet Union's Salyut-7 space station in 1984.

Shubhanshu Shukla scripted history by embarking on a two week long space travel along with three other astronauts to the International Space Station as part of a commercial mission by Axiom Space.

In the podcast, Sharma, who had famously said, 'Sare Jahan Se Acha Hindustan Hamara' during his space odyssey in the orbit, said he was a test pilot in the Indian Air Force when the selection happened.

He later retired as Wing Commander from the IAF. "Because I was a test pilot when the selection happened. that time, I was young, I was fit, and I had the qualification, so I was lucky enough to have been chosen. Then, after selection, we moved to Star City, just outside Moscow, for our training. "The training went on for 18 months, which culminated in the Indo-Soviet spaceflight in 1984. It was an eight-day mission, and we carried out experiments which were designed by Indian scientists," he said. Sharma recalled that the

Continued on Page 3

Two women Naxalites killed in encounter in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur

MI News Service, Raipur : Two hardcore women Maoist leaders were killed during a fierce encounter with security forces in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur district early on Thursday, police said.

They said following the operation a massive search operation is currently underway in the deep jungle area as security forces intensify their anti-insurgency efforts in a Left-wing insurgency-affected state, where over 100 rebels have been killed so far this year.

A police statement said that a joint team of the elite District Reserve Guard (DRG) and the Special Task Force (STF) launched an anti-Maoist operation in the area on Wednesday following intelligence inputs about the presence of senior cadres from the Maoists' Maad division in

the locality. The encounter started at night inside the forest under Kohkameta police station limits in the Abhuj-maad area. "So far, bodies of two women Maoists along with two INSAS rifles and a .315 bore rifle have been recovered from the spot," the statement added.

There have been a series of anti-Maoist operations in Chhattisgarh as part of the Union government's target to end Left-wing insurgency by March 31, 2026. In 2024, 219 Maoists were killed in Chhattisgarh, compared to 22 in 2023 and 30 in 2022. Narayanpur, Bastar, Dantewada, Bijapur, Kanker, Kondagaon, and Sukma in Chhattisgarh's Bastar division are known as the epicenter

Continued on Page 3

British Council aims to catalyse future-facing cultural exchange between UK and India

MI News Service, New Delhi : From supporting the mini edition of Serendipity Arts Festival in Birmingham this year to partnering with Wales in India at the 2024 Hornbill Festival in Nagaland, the British Council has aimed to catalyse "inclusive and future-facing cultural exchange" be-

tween India and the UK. Stating this British Council India Director Alison Barrett said here on Thursday that they have been collaborating with different cultural sector and government bodies in both India and the UK to explore diversified opportunities for strengthening cultural exchange and foster-

ing long term partnerships between the two countries.."The aim is to catalyse inclusive and future-facing cultural exchanges - from co-curated exhibitions and performances to creative residencies and joint public programmes that spark dialogue and showcase shared creativity and cultural heritage",

Barrett said adding through this multi-layered engagement, "we aim cultural understanding and strengthen the cultural and creative economies of both countries."

She noted that as part of these efforts, India and the UK are looking into potential collaborations in areas such as heritage

conservation, museum management, and the digitisation of cultural connections. "These collaborations will reach a wider and more diverse set of audiences, including young people and the Indian diaspora

Continued on Page 3



Rooted in Tradition, Powered by Nature Vasmol Introduces Henna Crème Hair Colour with a Heartfelt Tribute to Rath Yatra

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: Vasmol, one of India's most trusted hair colour brands with a legacy spanning over 60 years, marked a powerful new chapter with the launch of Vasmol Henna Crème Hair Colour - a modern, no ammonia crème hair colour rooted in the timeless tradition of natural henna.

The launch was announced at a grand press conference at The Mayfair Lagoon, Bhubaneswar, in the presence of key media, brand leaders, and Padma Shri Sudarsan Pattnaik, who revealed a stunning sand sculpture capturing the brand's new campaign and values.

Timed with the revered Jagannath Rath Yatra, the campaign is built on the philosophy #RootedInVasmolHenna—a celebration of beauty that honours both ritual and self-expression. The centerpiece of the campaign is Pattnaik's breathtaking sculpture, unveiled on June 22, featuring the same woman in two forms: one with visible greys, and the other with naturally radiant black hair after using Vasmol Henna Crème Hair Colour. At its core stands the new Vasmol Henna Crème Hair Colour product pack, surrounded by the iconic three Rath, visually tying tradition and transformation together.

Dheeraj Arora, MD & CEO of HRIPL, the parent company of Vasmol, shared the brand's vision, stating, "For over six decades, Vasmol has been an integral part of Indian homes, cherished not just in daily rituals but also deeply within our hearts. Our newest offering, Vasmol Henna Crème Hair Colour, signifies another meaningful step forward, where tradition meets modern convenience. This innovation blends the nurturing care of heritage with the ease and confidence today's consumers de-

sire. With this launch, every woman can proudly say, "Surakshit rahe mere baal, Vasmol Heena Crème Hair Color ka kamaal"

Priyanka Puri, Sr. VP – Marketing, HRIPL, added, "This campaign is rooted in the emotional language of tradition, self-expression, and generational beauty. With #RootedInVasmolHenna, we're not just celebrating hair colour—we're honouring rituals passed down through time, reimagined for today's Indian woman. The launch of our new Vasmol Henna Crème is a step forward in that journey—an innovation that brings together the care of tradition and the ease of modernity. With this, every woman can now say: Surakshit rahe mere baal, Vasmol Heena Crème Hair Color ka kamaal with beauty that lasts before darshan and long after. Our Rath Yatra activation, in partnership with the incredible Padma Shri Sudarsan Pattnaik is more than a campaign, it's a soulful expression of devotion, confidence, and timeless connection. It speaks to every woman who finds strength in her roots while embracing the present with pride".

Speaking at the event, Padma Shri Sudarsan Pattnaik shared, "Sand is such a powerful medium, it lets you tell stories that come straight from the soil and speak to the soul. Working with Vasmol, a brand that's deeply rooted in heritage and emotional beauty, gave me the chance to create something that not only honours our traditions but also reflects how they continue to evolve in today's world."

As the Rath Yatra moves forward, so does Vasmol, carrying a legacy of trust, care, and safe hair colour for every generation.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee receives prasad along with fruits from ISKCON Kolkata Vice President Radharaman Das on the eve of the Rath Yatra festival at Digha on Thursday.

Blood donation by Police



Nurul Islam Khan

A voluntary blood donation camp was organized at the initiative of the West Bengal Police Welfare Committee and under the management of the Police Directorate West Bengal branch, at the Welfare Committee's central building, Bhavani Bhavan. Hon'ble Dr. Sharmila Sarkar, M. P. Purba Burdwan Lok Sabha constituency, Shri Ajay Kumar, (IPS), ADG & IGP (Headquarters), Shri Shantanu Sinha Biswas, Coordinator,

West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police Welfare Committee, Shri Bijitashwa Raut, Convener, West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, Shri Ruhul Amin Ali Shah, Convener, Kolkata Police Welfare Committee, various officers of the Police Directorate West Bengal, other leaders of the central committee, officers of various district branches and above all, blood donors from the Police Directorate and various district branches, were present.

Pic: Nurul Islam Khan



School students watch the approach and docking of Axiom Mission 4 on a screen at the Birla Industrial & Technological Museum in Kolkata on Thursday.

School bell stolen in Nadia, along with CCTV and computer hard disk



MI News Service, Nadia: A bizarre theft at a school in Nadia district has sparked concern among locals and school authorities alike. A class had just ended at Gede Sammilani High School at border-adjacent Krishnaganj when a school staff member went to ring the bell, only to discover that the bell was missing. Initial confusion turned into shock as teachers began searching the premises, eventually realising that the bell had been stolen. Further inspection revealed that this was not an isolated theft. The school's office had been broken into, and several items, including a desktop computer and CCTV equipment, were missing. According to school officials,

the CCTV system, installed for security purposes, had its wires cut and the entire hard disk unit removed by the culprits. The school bell, computer, and even the principal's room were not spared in the incident. Acting Headmaster Sukdeb Biswas said, "The CCTV was installed to ensure safety, but the thieves cut the wires and took the entire setup, including the hard disk. The manner of the theft suggests they were professionals." The President of the School Management Committee, Tapan Biswas, added, "Even the Headmaster's office was not spared. A computer was taken from there. But we never imagined someone would steal the school bell itself." Krishnaganj police visited the school and have launched an investigation. However, the theft of the CCTV footage is expected to pose a challenge for identification of the accused. Police sources confirmed that they are exploring multiple leads. The incident has raised serious concerns over the security of educational institutions in rural and border-adjointing areas, where such targeted thefts seem to be on the rise, a senior citizen of the locality said.

East Burdwan teacher crafts Eco-friendly Jagannath Idols

MI News Service, Digha: As the newly constructed Jagannath Dham in Digha gears up for its inaugural Rath Yatra, a unique initiative by a local teacher is drawing significant attention. Tapan Das, an art teacher at Rayaramchandrapur Nirodbaran Vidyapeeth in Bhatar, East Burdwan, has meticulously crafted an eco-friendly Jagannath idol, along with idols of Balaram and Subhadra, using traditional Bengali woven materials like tant sarees and ganaches.

Tapan Das's innovative creations serve a dual purpose: to promote the rich handicraft traditions of Bengal and to raise environmental awareness. "Through the idol of Jagannath, I not only highlighted the handicrafts of Bengal but also conveyed the message of environmental awareness," stated Tapan Das. The unique idols, which took approximately a month to complete, incorporate various colored gamchash, woven cloth, thread, twine rope, and cardboard. This endeavor is part of a larger series of eco-conscious artistic projects undertaken by Das. In the past, he has garnered recognition for creating Saraswati idols from banana leaves, jute bags, and medicine packets, and Durga idols from corn, all aimed at fostering environmental consciousness among his students.



A preparatory meeting was organized at the initiative of North Kolkata District INTUC President Swapan Samaddar to ensure the success of the Dharmatala rally in memory of the martyrs on July 21. Trinamool Congress State Secretary Alok Das, Mayor Ashokananda Das, labor leader Shuvojit Maitra, A.K. Singh, Dilip Singh, Swapna Das, and other leaders were present at the meeting.

River swells, students leap from boat

MI News Service, Hooghly: A group of 10 to 12 students narrowly escaped a major accident after their boat began to sink in the swollen Dwarkeswar River near Narendra Chowk in Ghoshpur Gram Panchayat. The incident occurred on Thursday morning while the students were on their way to school.

According to local sources, the boat had just set off when water started seeping in, prompting panic among the schoolchildren. In a desperate bid to save their lives, the students leapt into the river. Hearing their cries for help, nearby residents immediately rushed to the scene and jumped into the river to rescue them. Fortunately, a major tragedy was averted, although five students were admitted to Khanakul Hos-

pital with minor injuries. The Damodar, and Rupnarayan rivers—already swollen from days of continuous monsoon rainfall across South Bengal—are posing increasing risks to riverine transport in the area. Following the incident, officials including the BDO of Khanakul rushed to the spot. The event has triggered widespread tension in the region, with residents once again demanding the urgent construction of a permanent concrete bridge to ensure the safety of schoolchildren and villagers. Locals pointed out that this is not the first such occurrence—similar incidents have previously taken place on the Rupnarayan River, with rescues also carried out by community members.

Little Thespian's 34th Rang Adda: Celebrating Hindi Poetry

MI News Service, Kolkata: Little Thespian's 34th Rang Adda brought together students from Khudiram Bose Central College's Hindi Department to celebrate the richness of Hindi poetry. This Rang Adda was held at the college's Baghajatin Sabhaghar and marked the culmination of a theatre workshop conducted under the guidance of its esteemed Guru Uma Jhunjhunwala. Students of the 2nd and 4th semesters: Abhishek Jha, Akash Mehta, Anisha Pandit, Anushka Mahato, Arpita Roy, Chandani Kamti, Chandani Kumari Prasad, Kashish Sharma, Kishan Sharma, Kusum Kahar, Payal Prasad, Piya Shaw, Priyanka Kahar, Rakhi Kumari, Rani Shaw, Rima Singh, Ruksana Khatun, Sangita Bera, Sanjana Mondal, Sarika Hela, Suman Mahato, Sohani Bhagat and Kaikasha Tabassum, recited poems by celebrated poets such as Bhartendu Harishchandra, Ayodhya Singh Upadhyaya 'Hariodh', Maithilisharan Gupt, Jaishankar



Prasad, Mahadevi Verma, Suryakant Tripathi 'Nirala', Sumitranandan Pant and Subhadra Kumari Chauhan. The recitation was followed by the dramatic reading of Dr. Shubhra Upadhyaya's story Angu Ki Maa by Little Thespian's artistes Sangeetha Vyas and Annie Das. The students then presented the improvisation of Premchand's story Budhi Kaki demonstrating their creativity and understanding of the narrative. The Rang Adda concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Shubhra Upadhyaya (HOD, Hindi Department, Khudiram Bose Central College).



In a tender moment by the Digha seafront, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee extends her hand in kindness to a monkey offering pieces of toast- reminding us that compassion needs no occasion, only intent.

Bangladeshi patient party alleges harassment and snatching money

MI News Service, Nadia: A Bangladeshi family visiting India for medical treatment has alleged harassment and extortion by individuals at Kolkata's Sealdah railway station on Wednesday, raising concerns about the treatment of foreign tourists and cross-border visitors. According to the complaint to DRM, Sealdah on June 25, 2025, the family had travelled from Pabna district in Bangladesh for the medical treatment of his father, an elderly man. On their return journey, while attempting to purchase train tickets to the Gede border from Sealdah station, they were reportedly approached by two men, one in uniform and another



in plain clothes, who questioned their nationality and mobile SIM details. He even showed them their passport and other documents. The family claims that their mobile phone was forcibly taken, and Rs. 6 thousand

was extorted from them under threat. The SIM card was allegedly also seized. The victim lodged a written complaint at the Gede border immigration office, stating that such incidents of intimidation targeting Bangladeshi travellers are not uncommon at Sealdah station. In a separate but related incident, another Bangladeshi citizen, Mishu Mazumder, a resident of Faiz Mohalla in Lalmonirhat district, wrote a detailed letter to the Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of the Sealdah Division expressing deep dissatisfaction with the condition of railway services and the treatment meted out to foreign passengers.


BJP leader gets YMC post- celebration erupts in school

MI News Service, Coochbehar: A controversy has erupted in Cooch Behar after Swapan Barman, a former RSS member-turned-Trinamool Congress leader, was felicitated inside a government school where he works as a teacher. The felicitation, held during school hours at Jorapatki High School, has drawn criticism from the BJP, raising concerns over the politicization of educational institutions. Swapan Barman, who joined the Trinamool Congress last year after leaving the RSS, was recently appointed as the District Youth President of the Trinamool Congress in Cooch Behar. Following his appointment, a felicitation ceremony was reportedly organized by fellow teachers on the school premises, where Barman was embraced and congratulated by the headmaster and other staff.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee reviews the preparations, chariots, and route of the Rath Yatra with DSDA officials and police personnel a day before the festival, at Digha on Thursday.

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Space travel makes you...

►► From PG 1

entire training, and communication with crew members and mission control while they were in orbit, was in Russian.

"We had to learn the language before we started training, and that was not easy because of the paucity of time. So, we took about two months to learn the language," he said.

While the Indo-Soviet spaceflight took place in an analogue era when very few owned a television, the Axiom-4 mission lift-off was watched by millions of viewers on TV screens and mobile phones live across the globe. After multiple delays during the past two months, Elon Musk's SpaceX launch vehicle with Crew Dragon spacecraft atop a Falcon-9 rocket blasted off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida at 12:01 pm (IST) carrying mission pilot Shukla, former NASA astronaut Commander Peggy Whitson and mission specialists Tibor Kapu of Hungary and Slawosz Uznanski-Wisniewski of Poland.

"Kamaal ki ride thi (It was an amazing ride)," Shukla said in chaste Hindi 10 minutes after the Dragon spacecraft was placed in orbit around the Earth at an altitude of 200 km as part of the Axiom Mission 4(Ax-4).

In the podcast, Sharma, when asked how he felt watching the world and India from space, exclaimed, "Oh dear! Beautiful."

"In our country, we got everything: we got a long coastline, we got the ghats section, we got plains, we got tropical forests, we got mountains, Himalayas. It's a beautiful sight, different colours, different textures," he said.

Sharma said in space, days and nights are very unusual, as sunrises and sunsets happen at an interval of just 45 minutes.

He said while space travel technology has changed, "as humans, we haven't changed much".

"The mental impact will always be there because humans will be able to get a different perspective. It does kind of alter the world view..."

Over 3400 Indians, 12...

►► From PG 1

in two chartered flights on Tuesday, according to details shared by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Several other flights have brought Indian nationals back home after being evacuated from Iran in the past several days.

Israel and Iran fired hundreds of missiles and drones at each other's cities and military and strategic facilities since the hostilities began about two weeks ago.

The tensions escalated significantly following the US bombing of three major Iranian nuclear sites on Sunday morning.

India has evacuated

Two militants arrested in...

►► From PG 1

more arms and ammunition were recovered from the Nachou Awang Leikai area in the district, the police said. In another similar raid one more active cadre of the banned United National Liberation Front (P) was also arrested from his Soibam Leikai residence in Imphal East district, the officer said. Two 9 mm pistols, a number of double barrel guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition were also recovered from his possession, he said.

He however claimed

(shows) the vast place in universe," the veteran astronaut said.

It changes the mindset, he emphasised.

The IAF, in a post on X, said Shukla, like Rakesh Sharma has also set forth on a landmark space mission, carrying the pride of the nation beyond Earth.

It also said, "This is a déjà-vu moment for India, 41 years after the mission of Sqn Ldr Rakesh Sharma, who first carried our Tricolour beyond Earth. Being more than a mission - it is a reaffirmation of India's ever-expanding horizon."

Asked about the future of Indian space travel, Sharma said, "We will be going farther and farther from planet Earth."

"We really need to preserve what we have, which means we need to end conflicts, we need to forget about our weapons....this planet belongs to everyone, it is not a sole preserve," he underlined.

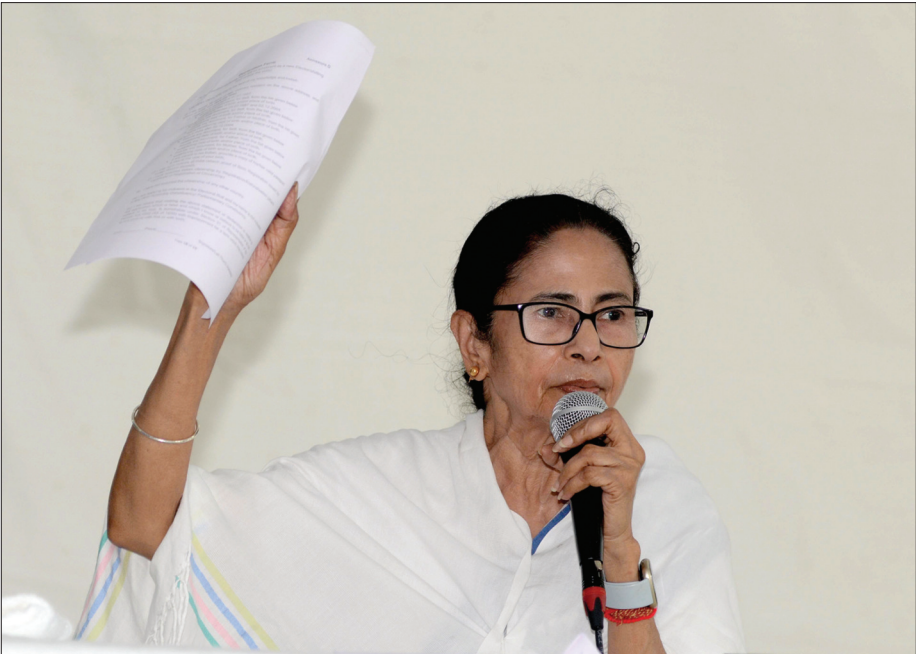
Sharma added that space exploration will "keep marching ahead". "I am hoping that India will be a modern leader in the years to come, and India will succeed in its (space) mission, which I am quite confident we will," he said.

Sharma said after his return from the mission, he went back to the Indian Air Force. "And after few years, I moved to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited as their chief test pilot," he said, and recalled his association with the evolution of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) 'Tejas'.

Incidentally, Ravish Malhotra, a retired Air Commodore of the Indian Air Force, was the backup cosmonaut for Rakesh Sharma during the 1984 Indo-Soviet space mission. While Sharma ultimately flew on the Soyuz T-11 mission, Malhotra was extensively trained as his backup and played a crucial role in the mission's preparation along with Rakesh Sharma. He was responsible for operating the spacecraft's equipment, which was marked in Cyrillic, and underwent rigorous physical conditioning and survival training.

CM Mamata questions EC form; flags NRC concerns

MI News Service, Digha: In a significant political development, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has publicly raised strong objections to a new voter declaration form circulated by the Election Commission of India (ECI) aimed at purging "illegal" voters and updating the electoral rolls. Addressing an urgent press conference from Digha on Thursday, where she is attending Rath Yatra festivities, the CM questioned the intent and practicality of the form's provisions. The Election Commission has issued the form to all states as part of a nationwide voter roll revision. However, Mamata Banerjee expressed reservations about several clauses, particularly one that requires individuals born between 1987 and 2002 to declare their birth details. "Why only people born between 1987 and 2002? What about those born before or after that period? Are they not to be verified?" she questioned, calling the selective timeline arbitrary and suspicious. Delving deeper into the form's requirements, Banerjee pointed out that the declaration also mandates submission of parents' birth certificates—a demand she termed unrealistic and exclusionary. "Not everyone can provide their parents' birth certificates. Even I don't know the exact birth year of my parents," she admitted, underscoring the impractical nature of such documentation. The Chief Minister warned that such moves by the ECI, under the guise of electoral



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee at a press conference on the eve of Rath Yatra at Digha in West Bengal on Thursday.

CM Mamata hails global recognition for Bengal's paediatric diabetes care model

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal has achieved a momentous milestone in the field of public healthcare as its pioneering model for paediatric diabetes care gains international recognition. The visionary behind this groundbreaking initiative is Dr. Sujoy Ghosh, a senior endocrinologist at SSKM Hospital, whose model has earned a coveted nomination for the ISPAD 2025 Award—conferred by the International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes.

This innovative healthcare model, initially introduced as a Juvenile Diabetes Clinic at SSKM, emerged from the urgent need to address the overlooked domain of Type 1 diabetes in children. At a time when diabetes care across West Bengal largely focused on adults, Dr. Ghosh envisioned and executed a child-centric approach. The success of this initiative soon led to its replication across multiple districts, transforming paediatric diabetes care in the state. Recognising its national relevance, the Union Ministry of Health formally adopted the West Bengal model as a national prototype in 2023. Now, this landmark achievement has reached the global stage.

Dr. Ghosh will represent India in Montreal, Canada, in November 2025, where he is scheduled to receive the international award for his contribution to juvenile diabetes treatment. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her heartfelt congratulations in a message shared on X (formerly Twitter), stating: "It is with immense pride that I share the news of West Bengal receiving international recognition for its path-breaking work in paediatric diabetes care. The International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) has honoured our state's model in the global battle against Type 1 diabetes. This is not merely an award—it is a powerful testament to our commitment to inclusive public health."

She further praised the efforts of the Health and Family Welfare Department, applauding the team of doctors, administrators, and frontline health workers for their dedication. Calling it a "historic moment," Mamata added, "This achievement demonstrates that Bengal's healthcare vision is not just impactful locally, but also globally respected."

Indeed, as West Bengal charts a new path in paediatric healthcare, this international honour reinforces Mamata Banerjee's vision of accessible, compassionate, and globally relevant public health innovation.

Cal High Court clears OBC admissions with conditions

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Thursday refrained from granting immediate relief in the ongoing legal battle over the OBC reservation issue in West Bengal. A Division Bench comprising Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty and Justice Rajasekhara Mantha observed that while the admission process for colleges and universities may proceed, specific modifications must be made to the online admission portals.

The Court directed that admission forms should include a clear option labeled "Only OBC List", referring exclusively to the pre-2010 list of 66 recognised communities. The Court clarified that no admissions should currently proceed on the basis of the post-2010 OBC classifications, particularly under the OBC 'A' and 'B' categories.

Justice Mantha remarked that no merit list has yet been published and that the state, following the earlier High Court directive, has agreed to allow all applicants to proceed with admissions temporarily, with categorisation to follow based on the final legal outcome.

The Court underscored that if the Supreme Court chooses not to intervene, only then will the current grievances regarding OBC classification be actionable. During the proceedings, petitioners argued that the state was still allowing OBC-A and OBC-B categorised admissions in violation of the Court's earlier interim stay order issued on June 17, which had suspended the updated OBC list.

The Bench questioned the basis of the allegations, noting that the initial admission notification was issued on June 12, prior to the high Court's interim order. Justice Mantha stated, "The state is caught in a midway situation. It is awaiting the Supreme Court's position. Suppose the apex court overturns our ruling—what happens to admissions already made?" The Court noted that it was satisfied with the submissions and documents presented by the Advocate General on behalf of the state. However, it has sought a formal affidavit from the government in response to a contempt of court petition.

The matter is now listed for its next hearing on July 4, when the Court is expected to take up the contempt plea and further examine the status of compliance.

CBSE announces biannual class 10 board exams starting 2026 in landmark reform

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a sweeping educational reform aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP), the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has declared that Class 10 board examinations will be held twice a year starting from the 2026 academic session. The move, aimed at reducing academic stress and promoting a more student-friendly assessment model, marks a major shift in India's school examination structure.

According to the official CBSE notification, students will be allowed to sit for the Class 10 board exam in two distinct sessions — the first in February and the second in May. While the February session will be compulsory for all candidates, the May session will remain optional, offering students an additional opportunity to improve their scores.

Significantly, students who perform better in the second attempt will have their improved marks reflected in the final result. However, unlike the current system, no immediate results will be published after the February exam. Instead, scores will be uploaded to DigiLocker—the government's digital storage platform. The final result will only be declared after completion of both sessions.

This dual-exam format is designed to offer students greater flexibility and alleviate the pressure of a single high-stakes assessment. Those content with their February performance may opt out of the May session altogether.

CPM lifts suspension on Tanmoy Bhattacharya – but with strings attached

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a development that has raised eyebrows within West Bengal's political circles, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has lifted the suspension of senior leader Tanmoy Bhattacharya, but with significant restrictions. The decision, announced at the state committee meeting on Tuesday by CPM state secretary Mohammed Salim, reinstates Bhattacharya under strict conditions that limit his political mobility.

Although the six-month suspension order—imposed following an internal inquiry into allegations of misconduct involving a female journalist—has been formally revoked, Bhattacharya has not been given free rein. Instead of allowing him to resume organizational duties in his home turf, North 24 Parganas, he has been restricted to working under the direct supervision of the state committee at the party headquarters in Alimuddin Street. "Despite the lifting of the suspension, Bhattacharya will not be allowed to take part in any district-level activities or intervene in local party affairs," clarified a senior party source. This exceptional treatment suggests that while procedural leniency has been granted, political trust has not yet been fully restored. Observers describe it as an unusual move—possibly even a calibrated warning.

Meanwhile, the party's internal review of the recent Kaliaganj Assembly bypoll dominated the state committee discussions. While the Left-Congress alliance candidate secured 15.21% of the vote—an improvement over the 12% received in the 2021 Assembly polls—the performance was deemed unsatisfactory.

Two women Naxalites...

►► From PG 1

of Maoist insurgency. Thousands of forces have been deployed there for the anti-Maoist operations in what is known as the "Red Corridor" to push back rebels, take over their hideouts in forests and cripple their fortifications. Meanwhile, in another incident in Jammu and Kashmir an encounter took place between security forces and some terrorists in the Kuru area of Basinggarh in Udhampur district on Thursday, just a week ahead of the Amarnath Yatra. The security forces shared the information about the encounter, codenamed Operation Bihali, saying that the action is currently underway in an area after which the operation is named. The encounter took place during a joint operation by the Army and police.

"Op BIHALI. Based on specific intelligence, a joint operation was launched by #IndianArmy and@JmukmrPolice in the Bihali area of #Basinggarh. Contact has been established with #terrorists. The #operation is currently in progress," the White Knight Corps said in a post on the social media platform X on Thursday.

The latest encounter occurred just a week before the start of the Amarnath Yatra, which is scheduled to begin on July 3. A large number of pilgrims are expected to throng the Amarnath cave shrine in the coming days during the Yatra.

British Council aims to...

►► From PG 1

in the UK, and promote inclusion, upskilling, and long-term sustainability in the cultural sector," she said. The India / UK Together Season of Culture, one of the British Council's recent collaborations that ran from June 22 to March 2023, engaged 1,945 artists, and over 51 partners across 21 cities in India and UK.

As part of 2024 Wales in India campaign, the British Council supported Welsh folk artists Gareth Bonello and Mari Mathias in performing alongside Naga musician Seyeyinuo Chuzho and Khasi musician Benedict Hynniewta. The collaboration highlighted a fusion of cultural traditions and artistic expression under the theme "Two Nations of Culture and Innovator".

In continuation of the creative collaboration between Wells and Naga artist Chuzho will travel to Wales this month to perform with Mathias.

"Initiatives like these are central to our approach of spotlighting

India's regional voices on global platforms and bringing UK and Indian artists together to co-create, innovate, inspire, and educate new audiences," Barrett said.

The Director further added that alongside its heritage-focused work, the council is also investing in, future-facing collaborations".

"The New Landscapes Catalyst Grant Scheme, funded and designed by us and led by UAL's Fashion, Textiles and Technology Institute (FTTI), is a global R&D programme that has, since 2021, supported pioneering ideas in sustainable fashion, textiles, and technology.

"Six UK and Indian organisations have benefited from mentoring and funding under this programme and are well-positioned now to scale up their collaborations. This initiative is a powerful testament to how traditional craft knowledge and contemporary innovation can come together to address global challenges creatively," she said.

RG Kar doctor murder case: Cal HC leaves crime scene visit plea to trial court

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Thursday refrained from passing an immediate order on a plea by the parents of the murdered RG Kar Medical College doctor, seeking permission to visit the crime scene. The matter has now been referred to the trial court for adjudication.



Eastern Coalfields Limited

Eastern Coalfields Limited

(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

Sanctoria, Post: Disbargarh, Dist: Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal - 713333

CIN No.: U10101WB1975001030295

All the tenders issued by CIL and its subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works & Services are available on (i) Website of Coal India Limited: www.coalindia.in, (ii) Website of ECL: www.easterncoal.nic.in, (iii) CIL e-Procurement Portal: www.coalindia-tenders.nic.in (iv) Central Public Procurement Portal: www.eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeMPortal: www.gem.gov.in

(By Order)
BCL

CBC 04106/12/0028/2526



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

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Borrower Om Wholesaler & (Guarantor & Mortgagor) Gopinath Bera & Radhanath Bera/ Represented By Proprietor Gopinath Bera Vill Hatishal, P.O. Jialkhal, P.S. Panskura West Bengal Purba Medinipur- 721641/ 738205000195	R.S. Dag No. 2234, Hal Dag No. 2607, L. R. Khatian No. 1142, Mouja Jialkhal, P.S. & District Sub Registry Office Panskura, Pargana Kallijora, Thana No. 40, District East Midnapore, West Bengal (Admeasuring An Area of 2.5 Satak Together With Tali Shed Kuchcha House Measuring 440 Sq Ft) On The North By: Donor's Own On The South By: Sural Bera On The East By: Bhupati Bera On The West By: Gautam Das/ Date of Symbolic: 24/06/2025	19/03/2025 Rs. 9,90,467,95/-	Purba Medinipur

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Date: June 27, 2025, Place: Purba Medinipur
Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Special Trains Covering Almost All Parts of Odisha and Neighboring States

East Coast Railway to Operate 365 Rath Yatra Special Trains to and from Puri

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: In view of the upcoming world-renowned Rath Yatra festival in Puri, the East Coast Railway (ECOR) has made unprecedented arrangements to facilitate smooth and comfortable travel for millions of devotees. A record 365 Special Trains will be operated during the Rath Yatra 2025 period, covering almost every corner of Odisha and key parts of West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra.

These Special Trains will connect various districts and regions including Rourkela, Birmatrapur, Bangiriposi, Junagarh Road, Badampahar, Boudh, Jagadalpur (Chhattisgarh), Baleswar, Angul, Gunupur, Rayagada, Paradeep, Bhadrak, Kendu-



jhar, Daspalla, Khurda Road, Sambalpur, Talcher, Cuttack, Brahmapur, Dhenkanal, Barbil, Palasa & Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Gondia (Maharashtra) and Santragachhi (Kolkata) among others. Enhanced Pilgrim Facilities & Crowd Management To support the massive pilgrim movement, dedicated Pilgrim Waiting Areas and Mela Sheds have been set up in Puri, with a combined capacity of around 25,000 persons. These areas are equipped with: Covered seating arrangements Drinking water booths and modular toilets Mobile charging points and shaded rest zones First aid and medical stations with ambulance support Ticket Counters, Mobile Ticketing Units, ATVMs, and ECOR Yatra Mobile App services

vices In addition, Special Trains will run from Visakhapatnam and Palasa (Andhra Pradesh), Jagadalpur and Gondia (Maharashtra), and Santragachhi (West Bengal). These efforts by East Coast Railway reflect not just logistical excellence, but a commitment to inclusion and devotional service ensuring that no public is left behind, regardless location. Passengers are requested to check train schedules and reservation availability via official railway websites, apps, and public announcements prior to travel. All necessary updates will be provided closer to festival days including Gundicha Yatra, Sandhya Darshan, Bahuda Yatra, and Sunavasa.

India's MSMEs target global expansion

MI News Service, Kolkata: India's MSMEs are now quite certainly targeting for global expansion. As India's MSMEs aggressively target global expansion, the need to align with international ethical standards has never been greater. Amid this wave of responsible globalization, one tool is quietly revolutionizing India's contractual manufacturing narrative—Sedex 4 Pillar, a robust social compliance framework that is no longer just a Western buyer's checklist, but a strategic business enabler. The SEDEX (Supplier Ethical Data Exchange) 4 Pillar Audit assesses four critical areas: Labour Standards, Health

& Safety, Environment, and Business Ethics. "Sedex 4 Pillar certification is like a visa stamp for manufacturers—it opens the gates to buyer trust in the EU, UK, USA, and even among Indian conglomerates sourcing ethically," says Subir Raj Chaudhuri, MD & CEO of Progressive Innovators Pvt. Ltd., a leading standardization consultancy. What makes the Sedex 4 Pillar model unique is its transparency via the Sedex Advance platform, allowing buyers to access audit reports in real-time. This model encourages collaborative improvement, making it attractive for brands that seek both cost-efficiency and ESG accountability.

Kolkata hosts HOPECON 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: The official curtain raiser for HOPECON'25, the highly anticipated fourth edition of India's most comprehensive and multidisciplinary medical conference was held in Kolkata. The event marked a significant prelude to the main conference, themed "The Complete Conference for Comprehensive Care," which is set to take place from 27th to 29th June 2025. It is organised by the Kolkata Nurture Foundation in collaboration with UNI Edu Health and Valmiki Healthcare.

The conference is spearheaded by a distinguished team of medical stalwarts: Dr Sukumar Mukherjee as the Organising President; Dr Payodhi Dhar , Founder & President of Kolkata Nurture Foundation & HOPECON; Dr Apurba Kumar Mukherjee, Co-Founder and Organising Chairman; Dr Pradip Kumar Mitra, Managing Director and Convenor; and Dr Gautam Saha, Organising Secretary. Scientific discussions will be expertly overseen by Dr Arup Kumar Kundu, Scientific Chairman, and Dr Rana Bhattacharjee, Scientific Secretary. The academic initiative is uniquely balanced by four crucial pillars – Dr.Raja Dhar, Academic Director of Kolkata Nurture Foundation & HO-

PECON; Dr.Anjan Adhikari -Research Director & Editor; Dr.Upal Sengupta & Dr.Soumitra Ghosh - leading nephrologist & obesity medicine specialist of eastern India are leading as joint organising secretaries. Nationally acclaimed figures of different fraternities like Dr.M K Das of Cardiology, Dr.T K Dolai of Haematology, Dr.Swarnabindu Banerjee of medical oncology & many other have flocked together in this purely academic mission of universal healthcare. The entire program is co-ordinated by Dr.Arunasun Talukdar & Dr.Tirthankar Dasgupta -eminent Geriatrician & Psychiatrist respectively. HOPECON'25 is poised to be an unparalleled academic event, covering over 37 medical and healthcare disciplines, start from Medicine, Cardiology , Diabetes, Respiratory medicine, Nephrology Geriatric Medicine, Mental health, Cosmetology, Microbiology, Urology, Paediatrics, Orthopaedics, Radiology, Women's Medicine, Surgery, Nuclear Medicine, Oral Health, Nutrition, to Quality & Accreditation Medicine & many others. Deliberations will also extend to cutting-edge topics such as Artificial Intelligence in medicine, Biomedical Research, Clinical Trials, Public Health Policy, and Medical Administration.

Airtel cracks down on online fraud in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel") has announced significant progress in its mission to protect customers in West Bengal from rising online frauds. As part of the nationwide rollout of its AI-powered fraud detection system, Airtel has successfully safeguarded more than 6.4 Million users across the state — within just 41 days of launching its advanced fraud detection system. Automatically enabled for all Airtel mobile and broadband customers, the advanced system scans and filters links across SMS, WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook, Instagram, E-mail and other browsers. It leverages real-time threat intelligence to examine over 1 billion URLs daily and blocks access to harmful sites in under 100 milliseconds. Commenting on the initiative, Ayan Sarkar, CEO - West Bengal and Odisha, Bharti Airtel, said "We are pleased to announce the launch of the world's first Fraud Detection Solution—now operational in West Bengal—designed to protect our customers from emerging threats. We are confident that our solution will offer comprehensive protection to customers in West Bengal against cyber threats, allowing them to navigate the digital landscape with assurance."

In a collaborative effort to strengthen cyber security in West Bengal, Ayan Sarkar, CEO – West Bengal & Odisha, Bharti Airtel, recently met Rathod Amitkumar Bharat, IPS (DIG – Cyber Crime Wing, Government of West Bengal), to discuss strategies for tackling rising cyber threats and enhancing digital safety in the region. With West Bengal ranked as one of India's most digitally advanced states, the threat of online fraud has grown in both its urban and rural regions. Fraudsters increasingly target users through phishing links, fake deliveries and spurious banking alerts. Cities like Siliguri, Durgapur, Ansansol, Kharagpur, and Midnapore — as well as towns like Habra, Bolpur, and Bankura, among others — have seen a sharp rise in such fraudulent attempts. Airtel's solution acts as a statewide digital shield, protecting families, senior citizens, homemakers, students and first-time smartphone users alike.

Howrah Division Organises ATVM Proliferation Campaign to Promote Digital Payments



MI News Service, Kolkata: On 25th June 2025, the Commercial Department of Howrah Division, Eastern Railway, organized a special ATVM Proliferation Campaign with the objective of encouraging passengers to use Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs) by adopting digital payment options such as UPI, BHIM, and QR code-based applications.

Under the leadership of Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah, this campaign was designed to support the broader goals of enhancing customer convenience, reducing congestion at ticket counters, and accelerating the shift towards cashless and contactless ticketing systems.

During the campaign, passengers were informed and guided about the simple steps involved in using ATVMs for purchasing unreserved journey tickets. Special emphasis was placed on demonstrating how easily transactions can be completed using smartphones with UPI-enabled apps, without the need for physical cash. This initiative is in alignment with the Digital India mission, aiming to modernize railway operations by promoting digital literacy and eco-friendly practices. By reducing manual ticketing and paper usage, the campaign not only improves operational efficiency but also contributes to environmental sustainability. Howrah Division remains committed to embracing innovative, technology-driven solutions for passenger services and will continue to conduct such awareness drives to build a more efficient and digitally empowered railway network.

Two more Dalian rakes (MR-507 & MR-509) introduced on blue line

MI News Service, Kolkata: Metro Railway has introduced two more Dalian rakes MR-507 & MR- 509 to the service of the passengers today, i.e. on 26.06.2025. With this, seven Dalian rakes are now plying on the Metro network.

The new rakes MR-507 & MR- 509 started their maiden runs from Noapara station at 11.53 hrs. & 14.13 hrs. respectively. Again they started their return journeys from Kavi Subhash at 13.03 hrs. & 15.19 hrs. respectively. These rakes are packed with special features to increase comfort and joy of ride for the passengers in Metro Railway network. These types of rakes have 100 mm wider door in comparison to the existing AC rakes. Moreover, greater seating capacity, better air conditioning, noise reduction feature and eye-soothing illumination are addition to the comfort of the Metro Rail passengers.

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



Some of the other features of these new rakes are: - Technical features: Technical features of these rakes include through rainwater channels, paint-free stainless steel car body, improved door channel with side stopper and improved energy consumption which will be more environment- friendly. Safety features: These rakes also have some enhanced safety features like disc brake system, controlled discharge fire extinguishers with strap, wider evacuation door and evacuation ramp with anti-skid rubber flooring. Such features will definitely increase and ensure commuters safety which Metro authorities always look for.

Howrah division accelerates m-uts digitization at halt stations to enhance passenger convenience

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a landmark move to enhance passenger convenience and drive digital transformation, the Divisional Commercial Manager of Howrah, Sri H. N. Gangopadhyay, convened a crucial meeting today with all halt station contractors to expedite the implementation of mobile Unreserved Ticketing System (m-UTS) facilities across all halt stations under the division.

The meeting, held at Howrah, focused on accelerating the rollout of m-UTS services, ensuring that passengers at even the smallest stations benefit from the ease and efficiency of digital ticketing. Mr. Gangopadhyay emphasized the urgency of the initiative and directed



all contractors to operationalize the m-UTS platform at the earliest. In a rare and commendable step, the session also served as an open forum where contractors were encouraged to voice challenges and concerns related to the implementation process. This proactive engagement allowed for immediate problem-solving and marked one of the first instances in recent years where contractors' issues were addressed directly in a face-to-face setting.

This initiative reflects the Howrah Division's unwavering commitment to improving passenger experience by eliminating the inconveniences of manual ticketing systems at halt stations. The m-UTS facility will not only modernize operations but also promote seamless travel, aligned with the broader vision of digital India. The entire effort is being carried out under the visionary guidance of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, and stands as a significant step forward in the Eastern Railway's mission to transform railway services through innovation and digitization.

Special magistrate ticket checking drive conducted at Howrah station



MI News Service, Kolkata: On 26th June 2025, the Howrah Division of Eastern Railway conducted a focused Special Magistrate Ticket Checking Drive at Howrah Station aimed at curbing ticketless travel and enforcing strict adherence to railway ticketing rules. The drive was conducted under the supervision of the Railway Magistrate, along with the coordinated efforts of senior ticket inspectors including CTI/General, CTI/Indoor, and CTI/Outdoor. A strong team of 16 Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) from CTI/G and 10 Ticket Examiners (TEs) from CTI/D, supported by 17 personnel from the Railway Protection Force (RPF), carried out intensive checking during the operation.

A total of 109 cases of ticket irregularities were detected. Among these, 90 passengers were found travelling without valid tickets, resulting in a total penalty recovery of ₹41,610 just within an hour. The Howrah Division reiterates its commitment to promoting fair travel and warns that ticketless travel is a punishable offence. Passengers are urged to always travel with valid tickets. Regular and surprise checking drives will continue across the division to ensure rule compliance and a disciplined travel environment.

CORRIGENDUM
ICI Bank

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

This is to inform that in physical possession publication (Morning India) English and Sangbad Pratidin (Bengali) Kolkata edition dated 25.01.2025 one loan no LBCAL00004975076 not mentioned so corrigendum publication required in an urgent basis. Loan Nos. LBCAL00004975076, LBCAL00004975819, LBCAL00005313934 and LBCAL00005329133 Borrower Name Sujay Dey and CoBorrower name Tanushri Dey and Mritunjoy Dey. All other details mentioned in the said publication will remain same. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to you in this regard.
Date : June 27, 2025
Place : Kolkata

Authorized Officer
ICI Bank Limited

NAME CHANGE
I Bayabala Pattanaik mother of No. 15770603M Rank BHM name Durga Madhab Pattanaik resident of Plot No-495 Nayapalli, Nuasahi, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751012 have change my name from Bayabla Pattanaik to Salla Bala Pattanaik vide affidavit dated 21/06/2025 before Notary Public WB

NAME CHANGE
I, Rafiqul Alam SK., S/o, Abdul Rahim SK., residing at Loknathpur, Dist.-Murshidabad-742189, W.B. My Daughter's good name Inaya Sultana (Birth Certificate). Due to inadvertently my daughter's name Inaya Sultana has wrongly recorded her Aadhar Card as Rupali Khatun (as nick name) in place of actual name Inaya Sultana. Henceforth be known as Inaya Sultana and Rupali Khatun both are same and one identical person, vide affidavit No. 12843 date 24.06.2025 in the Court of LD Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Alipore.

Change of Name
I, Rahul B Shah alias Rahul Bharat Shah (Old Name) S/o Late Bharat Shah Residing at Kubera Garden, 4th Floor, Flat 4B, 27/1A Harish Mukherjee Road, District-Kolkata, Pin-700025 West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Rahul Shah (New Name) as declared before the Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata vide affidavit no 2042 Dated 09-06-2025. Rahul B Shah, Rahul Bharat Shah (Old Name) and Rahul Shah (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Change of Name
I, Ritwick Sarker S/o Parimal Sarker Residing at 2D, 902, Anahita Housing Complex, Action Area 2, P.o - New Town, P.s - Eco Park, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700161, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Ritwick Sarker. I declare that Ritwick Sarker and Ritwick Sarker is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 26-06-2025.

Change of Name
I, Parimal Sarker S/o Late Paresh Chandra Sarker Residing at 78, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, P.o+P.s - Dum dum, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700055, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Parimal Sarker. I declare that Parimal Sarker and Parimal Sarker is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 26-06-2025.

Change of Name
I, Rakhi Sarker W/o Ritwick Sarker Residing at 2D, 902, Anahita Housing Complex, Action Area 2, P.o - New Town, P.s - Eco Park, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700161, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Rakhi Ritwick Sarker. I declare that Rakhi Sarker and Rakhi Ritwick Sarker is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 26-06-2025.

Change of Name
I, Molay Shil (Old Name) S/o Nani Shil Residing at Ghola Road, Kajipara, Barasat - I, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700124 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Malay Shil (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 08/2025 Date 26-06-2025. Molay Shil (Old Name) and Malay Shil (New Name) both as same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I Mohesh Kumar Sonthalia s/o Sitaram Sonthalia residing at 82 Chinatamoni Dey Road, Howrah-711101 do hereby solemnly affirm that my actual and correct name is Mahesh Kumar Sonthalia. Mahesh Kumar Sonthalia and Mohesh Kumar Sonthalia both are same and identical person vide affidavit Dated 24.06.25

NAME CHANGE
I, Prakash Ghora S/o Late Kalipada Ghora, of 68/1, R.P.M. Road, Uttarpada, Hooghly, 712258, W.B., Hereby declare that I have changed my name from Prokash Kumar Ghora to Prakash Ghora and hereafter be known as Prakash Ghora, vide Affidavit No 11560 dated 19.6.2025 before the Hon'ble 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore Court, Kolkata.

NAME CHANGE
I, PRADEEP KUMAR SONI S/o Sushil Kumar Soni R/o D3-101, Indraprasth Complex, Kaikhati, P.S.-Baguihati, Kolkata-700052 have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as PRADEEP SONI as declared before the M.M. at Bankshall Court vide affidavit no. 950 dated 28.05.2014. PRADEEP KUMAR SONI and PRADEEP SONI both are same & one identical person

NAME CHANGE
I, SHAZI AHMED, SHAZI AHMED SALIM W/o Ahmed Salim R/o 2B, Ibrahim Road, Savera Apartment, Flat No.4B, P.S.-Ekbaldipor, Kolkata-700023 have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SHAZI AHSAN as declared before the 1st class J.M. at Alipore Court vide affidavit no. 320771 dated 23.05.25. SHAZI AHMED, SHAZI AHMED SALIM and SHAZI AHSAN both are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I SAHEBE ALAM, son of Md Shanullah, residing at R-50/1, Karbala Lane, P.S.Metlabruruz, Kolkata-700024, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my correct name is SAHEBE ALAM and my wife's actual name YASMIN ALAM and also my son's name is AQUIB ALAM which are correctly recorded in all the relevant documents and papers. That my said son was born on 05-04-2005 at GARDEN REACH NURSING HOME, Kolkata-700024, and birth certificate has been issued by THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION being registration no./15/2005/00479 in which all the relevant details are correct. Inadvertently my, my above noted wife's and above noted sons name have been wrongly recorded in the record of School namely G.D.BIRLA CENTRE FOR EDUCATION, KOLKATA (WB05)being unique ID-NO -7929645 as SHAHAB-E-ALAM in place of SAHEBE ALAM, YEASMIN BEGUM in place of YASMIN ALAM and AQUIB ALAM QURESHI in place of AQUIB ALAM. By an affidavit (no 38959) in the Court of First Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 23-06-2025 that SAHEBE ALAM & SHAHAB-E-ALAM and AQUIB ALAM & AQUIB ALAM QURESHI and YASMIN ALAM & YEASMIN BEGUM are the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) RAFIKUL ISLAM S/o- LATE GOLABDI SEKH, Residing at, Vill- Sadhari tola(Mastatpara), Post- Sahabazpur, Ps-Kaliachak, Dist-Malda, Pin-732201, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from RAFIKUL ISLAM To MD RAFIKUL ISLAM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MD RAFIKUL ISLAM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, MD RAFIKUL ISLAM and RAFIKUL ISLAM both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) NOWSAD SK S/o- LATE HABIBUR RAHAMAN, Residing at, Vill- Panchutola, Post- Gurutola, Ps- Baishnagar, Dist- Malda, Pin-732127, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from NOWSAD SK To NOUSAD SK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) NOUSAD SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, NOUSAD SK and NOWSAD SK both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) SUKURUDDIN SK S/o- NASER, Residing at, Vill- Daulatpur, Post- Malitha, Ps-Englisbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732102, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SUKURUDDIN SK To SUKUDDIN SEKH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SUKUDDIN SEKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, SUKURUDDIN SEKH and SUKURUDDIN SK both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) JAHIR ALI MANDAL S/o- AFCHAR MONDAL, Residing at, Vill- Patia, Post-Madhabpur, Ps- Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741164, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from JAHIR ALI MANDAL To JAHIR ALI MONDAL (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) JAHIR ALI MONDAL in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, JAHIR ALI MONDAL and JAHIR ALI MANDAL both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) APSAR MANDAL S/o- ICHHAB MONDAL, Residing at, Vill- Patia, Post-Madhabpur, Ps- Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741164, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from APSAR MANDAL To AFCHAR MONDAL (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) AFCHAR MONDAL in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, AFCHAR MONDAL and APSAR MANDAL both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) MOHAMMED MONIRUL HOQUE S/o- ABDUS SUKUR SK, Residing at, Vill- Begunbari, Post- Begunbari, Ps- Belganga, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742133, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MOHAMMED MONIRUL HOQUE To MD MONIRUL HOQUE (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MD MONIRUL HOQUE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, MD MONIRUL HOQUE and MOHAMMED MONIRUL HOQUE both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, (Old Name) KABIRUDDIN MOLLA S/o- ANJUNIDDIN SAIKH, Residing at, Vill- Dakshinpara, Post- Barua, Ps- Belganga, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742189, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from KABIRUDDIN MOLLA To KABIRUDDIN SAIKH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) KABIRUDDIN SAIKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 26 June 2025, KABIRUDDIN SAIKH and KABIRUDDIN MOLLA both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I.(Sanjay Chowdhury (Old Name) Father's Of Arko Choudhury Residing At 301,Kendua Main Road,Baishnabghata,Garia.Ps-Patuli,Kolkata-700084,West Bengal,India have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sanjay Choudhury(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 26/06/2025. Sanjay Chowdhury (Old Name) And Sanjay Choudhury(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, RIYA GHOSH, (old name) D/O W/O SAMIR KUMAR GHOSH, residing at DHASAL DHASLA BAHADURPUR, PO BAHADURPUR PS JAMURIA,DIST PASCHIM BARDHAMAN Pin-713362, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as RIYA RANI GHOSH (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. RIYA RANI GHOSH (new name) and RIYA GHOSH (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, GULAFSA (Old Name), wife of MD Sarfaraz Alam residing at B4/1/H/12 Shuklaish Road, Kolkata 700023 West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as GULAFSHA KHAN (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Gulafsha Khan (new name) and Gulafsa (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mahesh Kumar Agarwala (Old Name), son of Kishan Lal Agarwala, residing at Poddar Sadan, 3rd Floor, Near Ranjita Tailor, BARA BAZAR, PANDU, Kamrup Metro, Assam- 781012, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mahesh Kumar Agarwal (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Mahesh Kumar Agarwal (new name) and Mahesh Kumar Agarwala (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Munni Devi Agarwala (Old Name), wife of Mahesh Kumar Agarwal, residing at Bahibhati Market, BARA BAZAR, PANDU, Guwahati, Kamrup Metro, Assam- 781012, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Munni Devi Agarwal (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Munni Devi Agarwal (new name) and Munni Devi Agarwala (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Binay Santra (Old Name), son of Kanail Santra, residing at Vill- Hoishghata, P.O.-Jangalpara Bazar, P.S.- Chanditala, Hooghly, Pin-712701, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Benay Santra (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Benay Santra (new name) and Binay Santra (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Prem Chand (Old Name), son of Gopal Harjan, residing at 1, Sadhana Ausadhyalaya Road, South Dumdum(M), North 24 Pgs, Pin-700048, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Premchand Harjan (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Premchand Harjan (new name) and Prem Chand (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Indru Vaswani & Indru Hari Vaswani (Old Name), son of Late Hari Vaswani, residing at 125A, Lenin Sarani, Dharmatala, Kolkata- 700013, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Indru H Vaswani (new name) as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate(SL-4952) at Kolkata dated 24/06/2025. Indru H Vaswani (new name) and Indru Vaswani & Indru Hari Vaswani (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Abdul Gani (Old Name), son of Mullukchand Sekh, residing at Vill- Tarapur Dakshinpara, P.O.- Tarapur, P.S.- Tehatta, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741103, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Gani Shaikh (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Abdul Gani Shaikh (new name) and Abdul Gani (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mulluk chand Shaikh (Old Name), son of Lyakat, residing at Vill- Taranapur Dakshinpara, P.O.- Tarapur, P.S.- Tehatta, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741103, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mulluk chand Sekh (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. Mulluk chand Sekh (new name) and Mulluk chand Shaikh (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, SAHIL HUSSAIN (Old Name), son of ANIS HOSSAIN, residing at 21/1/H/72, SHAMSUL HUDA ROAD, KOLKATA - 700017, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SAHIL HOSSAIN (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 26/06/2025. SAHIL HOSSAIN (new name) and SAHIL HUSSAIN (old name) both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I Manik Lal Das(Old Name) As Gift Deed Dated 28/05/1992,S/O Jitendra Nath Das,R/O 22/146 C,Raja Manindra Road,Ps Chitpur,Kolkata-700037,West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Manik Das(New Name),Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2025,That Manik Lal Das And Manik Lal Das All Are The Same And One Identical Person

Bajaj Finserv AMC Launches Small Cap Fund with a 3-in-1 Advantage: Quality, Growth & Value

Mumbai/ Pune : Bajaj Finserv AMC announces the launch of Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund, an open-ended equity scheme predominantly investing in small cap stocks, that offers quality, growth and value. The fund opens for subscription on June 27, 2025, and closes on July 11, 2025.

The recent correction in small caps presents a compelling entry point for long-term investors. Even though over 80% of small-cap companies have posted strong profit growth of 38% and solid return ratios, most of them are still trading 15-45% below their 52-week highs. This recent market correction has opened up a clear gap between the true value of these companies and their current market prices.

Coupled with structural tailwinds such as the 'Make in India' push, rising formalisation, and digital transformation across sectors, small caps are well-positioned to benefit disproportionately in the next

growth cycle, making this an attractive investment opportunity.

Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund is designed for investors aiming to build long-term wealth by investing primarily in equity and equity-related instruments of small cap companies.

It goes beyond selecting quality stocks by rigorously filtering out companies with weak governance, inconsistent fundamentals, or financial red flags. This disciplined approach narrows the universe of over 1,100 small-cap stocks to a focused set of high-potential businesses. A key part of the process is our internal forensic and risk-aware analysis, which filters out companies with weak governance or financial red flags. From a universe of around 300-400 small-cap stocks, this disciplined approach narrows the selection to a portfolio of 40-100 carefully chosen businesses

Speaking on the launch, Ganesh Mohan,

Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv AMC says, "The launch of Small Cap Fund reflects our deep conviction in the long-term potential of India's dynamic small cap universe. Small caps typically exhibit higher volatility than broader indices, underscoring the importance of active management in navigating market fluctuations and identifying quality opportunities. The strategy is built around discovering high-quality companies in the early phases of growth that are positioned to outperform over time. With the recent small cap correction, the NFO is poised to take advantage of this golden opportunity, enabling investors to participate in long term wealth creation as these businesses scale and contribute meaningfully to the economy."

Bajaj Finserv Small Cap Fund is well-suited for those looking to benefit from the growth potential of fundamentally strong businesses that are currently trading

below their intrinsic value. It also appeals to investors who want to diversify their portfolios by adding small-cap stocks with growth prospects. The fund is benchmarked to the BSE 250 SmallCap Index TRI.

Nimesh Chandan, Chief Investment Officer, Bajaj Finserv AMC adds, "Our new small cap fund will be a portfolio of quality businesses with scalability that trade below their intrinsic value. Many industries and subsectors are available exclusively in the small cap category. In essence, there are opportunities to pick up leaders in emerging businesses and challengers in others from this small cap space. The NSE small cap 250 Index is almost flat year on year. However, many companies generated strong profit growth last year. This allows us to invest in those small cap companies at valuations lower than last year after this time correction."

Seventh helicopter, small aircraft summit held in Pune



New Delhi : The Ministry of Civil Aviation, in collaboration with the State Government of Maharashtra, Pawan Hans and FICCI, organised the 7th Helicopter & Small Aircraft Summit in Pune.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu presided as the Chief Guest, while Minister of State (MoS) for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol was the Guest of Honour.

In his keynote address, Union Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu shared his vision to promote helicopters and small aircraft as essential components of a futuristic aviation ecosystem.

He stated, "I believe the next decade of aviation will be defined not just by large aircraft and mega airports but by modern and inclusive air solutions. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, helicopters and small aircraft are at the heart of our mission to democratise flying."

The Minister announced the establishment of a dedicated Helicopter Directorate under the DGCA to provide single-window regulatory oversight, address helicopter-specific safety and certification issues, and assist operators with procedural requirements. He highlighted digital initiatives like the Heli Sewa Portal, which have streamlined operations and digitised processes such as route approvals and slot allocations, significantly enhancing transparency and efficiency. The summit also saw the award of RCS UDAN helicopter routes across various states.

Speaking to operators and industry leaders, the Minister emphasised building a robust safety culture. He remarked, "Safety of the pilgrims must remain our top priority--there can be no shortcuts, no room for communication errors and no margin for poor decision-making. We must build a culture of trust, dialogue and discipline, which I feel is a shared responsibility between the Centre, the States and the operators."

Reaffirming the Government's commitment to 'Viksit Bharat 2047', Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu emphasised that helicopters and small aircraft will form the backbone of India's regional air connectivity, economic transformation and inclusive growth.

Union Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Murlidhar Mohol, highlighted several key initiatives in his address. He expressed, "We are modernising our air traffic systems, promoting green fuel adoption and bringing futuristic aircraft like eVTOL into the realm of policy priorities."

Emphasising the vision of Atma-Nirbhar Bharat, Murlidhar Mohol added, "On the path to self-reliance in aviation, we are heavily investing in training programs for pilots, maintenance staff, drone operators and rotorcraft technicians. This will ensure that our youth not only participate in but also lead this sector in the coming decade."

Talking about Helicopter Emergency Medical Services, he said, "HEMS is being strengthened to ensure air ambulances become a common facility, particularly in hilly and remote regions. Our aim is to make this life-saving service an integral part of the nation's healthcare infrastructure."

DGCA Director General Faiz Ahmed Kidwai in his address reiterated the critical importance of safety, compliance and leveraging untapped opportunities in helicopters and small aircraft operations.

The summit witnessed active participation from 20 State Governments, industry leaders, IFSCA (GIFT City), the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and senior officials from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, DGCA, AAI and Pawan Hans Ltd.

The summit included technical sessions on DGCA safety regulations, financing and leasing opportunities led by IFSCA and operational challenges for OEMs and operators. State government officials highlighted regional aspirations and opportunities, while industry stakeholders shared insights into emerging technologies, manufacturing potential and financing frameworks.

Recent policy initiatives supporting helicopters and small aircraft operations were also discussed, including the launch of UDAN 5.1 for helicopters, revised DGCA regulations simplifying aircraft certification and pilot training and the introduction of guidelines for seaplane operations under RCS-UDAN 5.5.

The summit marked a significant step toward shaping India's rotary and small aircraft ecosystem and addressing real-world challenges in operations, infrastructure, emergency services and sustainable growth strategies. (ANI)

From Remote Borders to National Spotlight North-East Youth Dazzle at Buddhist Cultural Festival



The festival itself was a culmination of this journey. Participants from various Art of Living training camps across the border regions took the stage to present their talent before an audience that included representatives from the Armed Forces, international dignitaries, and civil society leaders. The objective was clear: to mobilise greater recognition and support for this initiative so it can scale nationally and reach even more youth in India's borderlands.

BENGALURU : Inspired by the vision of global humanitarian and revered spiritual leader Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar - of a connected, compassionate, and culturally vibrant India - The Art of Living Social Projects has been working with youth from India's remote border regions. This vision found expression at the North-East Buddhist Cultural Festival in Kolkata.

Held at the Alka Jalan Foundation Campus, the North-East Buddhist Cultural Festival brought to life the dreams, discipline, and deep-rooted culture of Buddhist youth from the Sino-border regions of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and other North-Eastern states.

Under The Art of Living's 'Har Ghar Agniaveer' initiative, these first-generation learners have spent two years immersed in a transformative journey - blending the power of yoga with the grace of classical Kathak dance. Along the way, they've built not just artistic skill, but also cognitive clarity, emotional resilience, and a lasting connection to India's rich cultural heritage.

The festival itself was a culmination of this journey. Participants from various Art of Living training camps across the border regions took the stage to present their talent before an audience that included representatives from the

Armed Forces, international dignitaries, and civil society leaders. The objective was clear: to mobilise greater recognition and support for this initiative so it can scale nationally and reach even more youth in India's borderlands.

This cultural initiative is also a powerful contribution to Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat and 'Vibrant Border Villages' vision, which seeks to bridge India's cultural heart with its geographical peripheries.

The event was made possible through the generous support of Anamika Kala Sangam, with IHA Foundation and Alka Jalan Foundation as key partners for the venue and logistics. With continued backing, this initiative holds the potential to grow into a nationwide movement - offering these talented students a platform beyond the margins, and a rightful place in India's cultural mainstream.

About The Art of Living Social Projects

The Art of Living Social Projects is committed to creating lasting societal impact through transformative initiatives. With a focus on holistic development, the organisation continues to uplift individuals and communities - earning recognition and accolades along the way.

The objective of DLSA is to create a drug-free society : Rajesh Kumar Sinha

Ranchi : On the instructions of Hon'ble JHALSA, under the guidance of Hon'ble Judicial Commissioner-cum-Chairman, an awareness program on NALSA Scheme 'Dawn' was organized for the students at Gosner College, Ranchi today on 26.06.2025. In this program, Mr. Atul Gera of Life Savers N.G.O., LADC Deputy Chief, Mr. Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Rizwan Ansari from CID, Rakesh Goswami from NCB, CWC Member, Aarti Kumari, PLVs Prahlad Kumar Upadhyay, Sampa Das, Bharti Devi and teachers of the college were present among others.

Addressing the program, Atul Gera told how drug addiction is hollowing out our country and it is very important to make students aware to avoid drug addiction. Drug peddlers easily use young men and students in this business, so we have to be alert and not fall prey to the temptation of any kind of drug peddlers. LADC Deputy Rajesh Kumar Sinha said that Article 47 of the Indian Constitution directs the state to endeavour to eliminate the consumption of alcoholic beverages and narcotics harmful to health, except for medicinal purposes. Mr. Sinha said that production or possession of opium or poppy can be punished with rigorous imprisonment up to 20 years and a fine of Rs 2 lakh depending on the quantity under the NDPS Act 1985. Repeated offenses can be punished with death penalty. Along with rehabilitation centers in Kanke, NGOs also help in curing drug addicts. He further said that there is a legal aid clinic of the District Legal Services Authority in CIP and Rimpas, where such drug addicts are treated. District Legal Services Authority, Ranchi provides assistance in this. He also told about the provision of punishment and told about those substances against which legal action is taken under the NDPS Act for smuggling, keeping, manufacturing, storing, transporting from one place to another or instigating another person to do so. Mr. Sinha also gave information about NALSA's toll free number 15100. NCB's Rizwan Ansari said that the role of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) is important to stop this drug problem in Jharkhand. It is responsible for the implementation of laws and coordination between stakeholders. Production and distribution of drugs reaches



ished with death penalty. Along with rehabilitation centers in Kanke, NGOs also help in curing drug addicts. He further said that there is a legal aid clinic of the District Legal Services Authority in CIP and Rimpas, where such drug addicts are treated. District Legal Services Authority, Ranchi provides assistance in this. He also told about the provision of punishment and told about those substances against which legal action is taken under the NDPS Act for smuggling, keeping, manufacturing, storing, transporting from one place to another or instigating another person to do so. Mr. Sinha also gave information about NALSA's toll free number 15100. NCB's Rizwan Ansari said that the role of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) is important to stop this drug problem in Jharkhand. It is responsible for the implementation of laws and coordination between stakeholders. Production and distribution of drugs reaches

the root of this problem. Most of the smuggling gangs are not caught due to lack of resources.

Rizwan Ansari of CID provided information related to drug trafficking and told the students how to avoid children and youth being used in drug trafficking.

It is known that CWC member, Aarti Kumari said that drug abuse has a negative impact on the individual and family, physical and mental health. For some people, the journey of drug addiction starts at the age of 16 or less. The high population of rehabilitation centers has become a big problem for them. If the problem of drug addiction is controlled in Ranchi, the crime rate can be reduced by about 70 percent. He advised to inform the authorities about any suspicious activity related to drugs in Ranchi. It is worth noting that other speakers involved in the awareness program also explained in detail about the misuse caused by drug addiction.

The White Shirt Revolution: Uathayam's Legacy of Elegance for the Modern Indian Man

New Delhi : In the heart of Tamil Nadu's textile belt, where tradition is as deeply woven as the cotton spun through its looms, a quiet revolution began. It wasn't loud, but it was confident. And it came in white. Since 2003, Uathayam has redefined how Indian men dress - with a vision grounded in heritage and crafted for the future. What started in Erode as a homegrown venture producing classic dhotis quickly evolved into something far greater: a symbol of modern elegance steeped in cultural pride. At its core? The quintessential white shirts.

A Shirt.A Statement.
In South India, white isn't just a colour - it's a code. It speaks of purity, purpose, and prestige. From political leaders to professionals, it's worn not just to be

seen, but to be respected. Uathayam took this cultural icon and gave it contemporary relevance. They didn't change what it stood for. They just made it sharper, cooler, and infinitely more wearable. Whether it's the boardroom, a festival, or a relaxed Sunday brunch, the Uathayam white shirts for men blends seamlessly into every moment of a man's life. Cut from 100% premium cotton, these shirts offer breathable comfort, stain resistance, and tailored fits that strike the perfect balance between tradition and trend.

Tailored for Today's Trailblazer

Every Uathayam shirt is an ode to the Indian man - ambitious, grounded, stylish. With options ranging from stiff and soft Chinese collars to full and half sleeves, the

brand caters to every preference. Whether you're slipping into a classic formal fit for work or a soft, casual version for a day out, Uathayam ensures the white shirt remains your most versatile weapon.

Pair it with navy trousers for corporate finesse, throw on a leather jacket for date-night flair, or wear it with a traditional dhoti for an occasion that calls for culture and class. The white shirt becomes what you want it to be.

Heritage Meets Innovation
What makes Uathayam truly revolutionary is its ability to modernize tradition without losing authenticity. Alongside their revered shirt collection, they continue to lead in dhotis and kurtas for men - garments that have been part of India's cultural fabric for generations.

USC Researchers new AI implant promises drug-free relief for chronic pain

Washington DC: A groundbreaking wireless implant promises real-time, personalised pain relief using AI and ultrasound power, no batteries, no wires, and no opioids. Designed by University of Southern California (USC) and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) engineers, it reads brain signals, adapts on the fly, and bends naturally with your spine.

This groundbreaking device, detailed in Nature Electronics, represents a significant leap forward in pain therapy. While current spinal cord stimulators can be unwieldy and are hard-wired to batteries, the new device is designed to bend and twist with movement and is powered by a wearable ultrasound transmitter without the need for a battery.

It also harnesses machine learning algorithms to customise treatment for each patient. The work was led by Zohrab A. Kaprielian Fellow in Engineering Qifa Zhou, who is also a professor of ophthalmology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

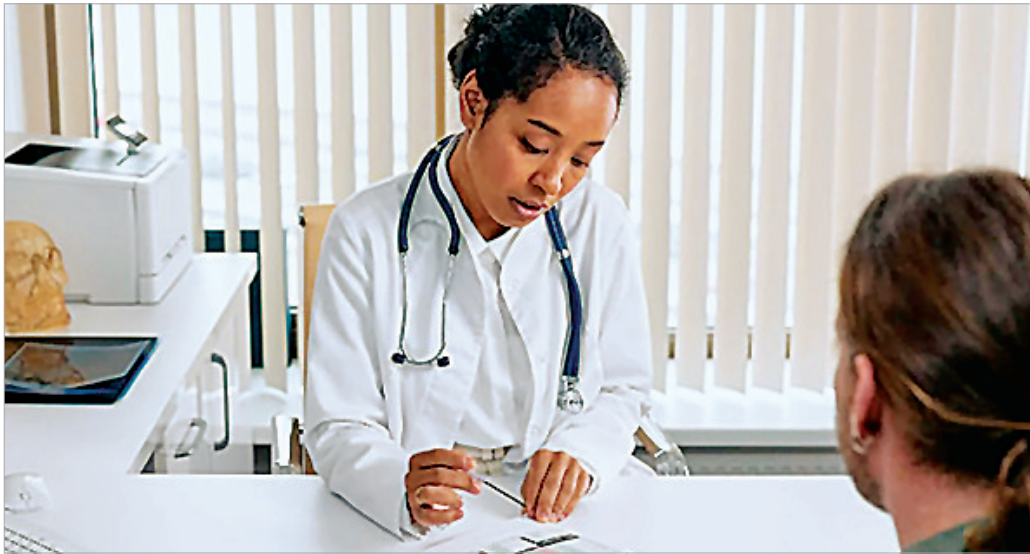
At the heart of this innovation

is its wireless power supply, eliminating the need for bulky batteries and complex wired interfaces that often require repeated surgeries.

The UIWI stimulator receives its energy from an external, wearable ultrasound transmitter (WUT). Ultrasound offers a safe, effective, non-invasive method for deep-tissue penetration. The device converts mechanical waves into electrical signals through a phenomenon called the piezoelectric effect. The core of the UIWI stimulator is a miniaturised piezoelectric element made from lead zirconate titanate (PZT), a highly efficient material for converting incoming ultrasound energy into the electrical power needed for stimulation.

"What truly sets this device apart is its wireless, smart and self-adaptive capability for pain management," Zhou said. "We believe it offers great potential to replace pharmacological schemes and conventional electrical stimulation approaches, aligning with clinical needs for pain mitigation."

Ph.D. candidate in the Zhou Lab and lead author Yushun



(Sean) Zeng said the wireless smart miniaturized stimulator had the ability to produce sufficient electrical stimulation intensity by using ultrasound energy, resulting in a more personalized, targeted and localized treatment.

"This energy-converting type is

critical for deep stimulation, as ultrasound is a non-invasive and highly penetrating energy in clinical and medical areas," Zeng said.

"By leveraging wireless ultrasonic energy transfer and closed-loop feedback system, this UIWI stimulator removes the necessity

for bulky implanted batteries and allows for real-time, precisely adjustable pain modulation," added Zeng. "From a clinical standpoint, incorporating deep learning-based pain assessment enables dynamic interpretation and response to fluctuating pain

states, which is essential for accommodating patient-specific variability," added Zhou Lab Ph.D. candidate Chen Gong, also a lead author on the paper. The system continuously monitors brain recordings, specifically electroencephalogram (EEG) signals, which reflect a patient's pain levels. Harnessing AI to assess pain levels: A sophisticated machine learning model, based on a neural network called ResNet-18, analyzes these brain signals and classifies pain into three distinct levels: slight pain, moderate pain, and extreme pain. This AI model boasts a 94.8% overall accuracy in distinguishing between these pain states. Adapting treatment as needed: Once a pain level is identified, the wearable ultrasound transmitter automatically adjusts the acoustic energy it transmits.

The UIWI stimulator can then sense the propagated energy and convert it into electrical intensity, stimulating the spinal cord. This creates a closed-loop system that provides real-time, per-

sonalised pain management.

The UIWI stimulator itself is flexible, bendable, and twistable, allowing for optimal placement on the spinal cord. The electrical stimulation it provides to the spinal cord works by rebalancing the signals that transmit and inhibit pain, effectively suppressing the sensation of pain. Demonstrated Success in the Lab The Zhou Lab team tested the UIWI stimulator in rodent models, with results demonstrating its effectiveness for pain management. Researchers successfully relieved chronic neuropathic pain caused by both mechanical stimuli (like a pin prick) and acute thermal stimuli (infrared heat). Lab tests showed that treatment from the UIWI stimulator led to significant reductions in pain indicators. In one experiment to evaluate whether an animal associates an environment with pain relief, rodents showed a clear preference for the chamber where the pain management system was activated, further confirming the device's effectiveness. (ANI)

100-bed Maulana Abu Bakr Hospital to be opened in Furfura very soon



Nurul Islam Khan
Hazrat Pir Allama Baro Huzur^{rah}, the renowned Maulana Abu Bakr Memorial Hospital or Health Center has been converted into a 100-bed hospital. It will be opened very soon, said State Health Secretary Narayan Swarup Nigam. He informed this news after visiting the hospital in Furfura Sharif on Thursday. Trinamool Congress Secretary Peerzada Kashem Siddiqui and several Pirsahbes including Peerzada Saferi Siddiqui were present on the occasion. The Health Secretary said that this hospital would be opened

for the common people next month. It is said that this decision to convert the Health Center was taken in the cabinet of Honorable Mamata Banerjee due to the low number of beds in Furfura Rural Hospital. The people of the area were harassed a lot. They had to go to other hospitals for treatment. The long-standing demand of the people of the area has been fulfilled, and people of the area is happy with the news. A Musafirkhana has already been opened in Furfura on the initiative of the government. Pirzada Kashem Siddiqui said

that it would be converted into a major hospital in the district. He has requested a fair price medicine shop and two ambulances for the local people. Pirzada Safari Siddiqui and other Pirsahbes have also raised the issue of the railway line in Furfura Sharif. This health center had 30 beds. The people of the village were dissatisfied with the hospital, but the people of the area congratulated CM Mamata and her government for making it successful. Thinking of the millions of people who came to the historical Isa-e-Sawab of Furfura Sharif, Pir Baro Huzur converted the Maulana Abu Bakr Memorial Hospital into a health center in 1948 -1949. At that time, he made prepared several lakhs of bricks for the hospital, and gave 10 bigha of land and Rs 40 thousands in cash to the government, which was inaugurated by Dr. A C Chatterjee. Now, after being converted the 100-bed Maulana Abu Bakr Memorial, many people will be benefitted by this.

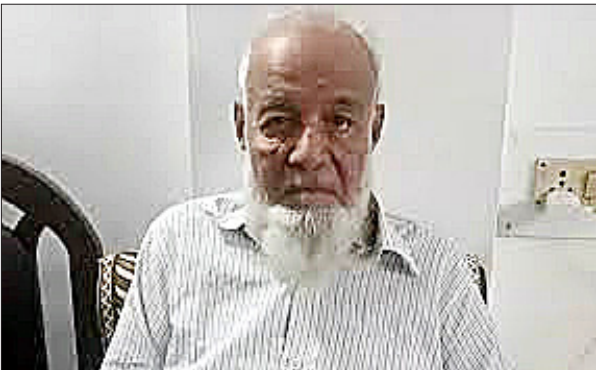
Iran's Khamenei warns US against aggression, Israel bombs north Gaza



MI News Sevice: At least 51 people have been killed this morning in Israeli attacks on Gaza, hospital sources tell Al Jazeera. At least 14 of that number were killed in the north. Iran's Supreme Leader Khamenei congratulated the country's armed forces and said US bases could be attacked again in case of future threats. President Donald Trump says US and Iran officials will talk next week, as Iran's Guardian Council suspends cooperation with

UN's IAEA. Iran's Health Ministry says at least 627 people were killed and more than 4,870 injured during Israel's 12 days of attacks on the country. At least 28 people were killed in Iranian strikes on Israel. Israel's war on Gaza has killed at least 56,156 people and wounded 132,239, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. An estimated 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the October 7 attacks, and more than 200 were taken captive.

Historian Syed Kalim Akhtar passes away



MI News Sevice, Bhopal: Glowing tributes were paid at the passing away of Syed Kalim Akhtar, who was recognized as a historian and researcher engaged in documenting and studying Bhopal's history and military past, by a number of social, educational and cultural organizations of the town. The various organisations including Jamiat-e-Ulama, Madhya Pradesh Unit, Iqbal Library's executive board and et al held separate condolence meetings to mourn the loss of the departed soul wherein his head and heart qualities were recalled and lauded. Kalim Akhtar left for his heavenly abode last week after battling cancer and other diseases. He was in his late seventies and is survived by his wife, three daughters and a son and hordes of admirers to mourn his loss.

He expressed interest in how the Bhopal army during the Nawab rule before India's Independence collaborated with the British during major global conflicts, emphasizing the historical significance of these collaborations through his research of Persian and Urdu records. He was an active member of the Bhopal History Forum. His work in education and his historical insights suggests that Kalim Akhtar played a significant role in promoting educational excellence and cultural heritage in Bhopal, contributing positively to

his community. He was vice-chairman of the Bhopal-based Iqbal Library's executive board which was established in 1939 in the city. He was also associated with AMP (Association of Muslim Professionals) as the Zonal Head - Central India for AMP NGO Council. Kalim Akhtar reflected his lifelong mission to ensure that Muslim children not only received education but excelled in it, becoming torch-bearer of a bright and inclusive culture. He was actively involved in various initiatives to establish and support educational institutions, particularly those that could uplift under-represented sections of society. Meanwhile, Mohammad Rehan, Assistant Librarian in the Bhopal-based Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, in his obituary note paid rich accolades to Kalim Akhtar said his talent was recognized in the literary world as a refined essayist and eloquent speaker. Beyond his literary pursuits, education was his heartbeat. He was deeply concerned with the progress of Muslim youth and the need for structured, ethical, and empowering education within the community. Despite his immense knowledge, Kalim Akhtar remained deeply humble, accessible, and warm-hearted. He had an unmistakable affection for children and youth — always encouraging, always guiding.

SC refuses bail for PFI leader A.S. Ismail in UAPA case

MI News Sevice, New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday declined to grant medical bail to A.S. Ismail, a leader of the banned Popular Front of India (PFI), who was arrested in 2022 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). A bench comprising Justice K.V. Viswanathan and Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh ruled that Ismail was not in an emergency medical condition, citing a medical report from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences dated March 15, 2025. Ismail had suffered a stroke in October 2024 and has since undergone treatment at several hospitals. His counsel argued that he now requires ongoing physiotherapy and monitoring for high blood pressure, and that these therapies are not being adequately provided in prison. However, the Court concluded that his current condition does not warrant release on medical grounds. While denying bail, the Court

issued a notice to investigate whether the physiotherapy facilities available in Tihar Jail No. 3 could be extended to Ismail, who is currently lodged in Jail No. 1. The bench acknowledged the need for continued care and directed authorities to explore the feasibility of shifting or extending services accordingly. Ismail is accused by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) of conspiring to radicalise Muslim youth, fund terrorism, and disrupt India's sovereignty. The PFI was banned in 2022, along with its affiliated groups such as the Campus Front of India, All India Imams Council, and National Women's Front. The ban was met with criticism from several Muslim organisations and human rights groups, who called it arbitrary and undemocratic. Despite these criticisms, the government maintains that the PFI posed a significant threat to national security through its alleged extremist activities.

Vandals attack Ambedkar statue in Uttar Pradesh, five arrested

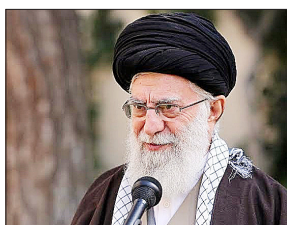
MI News Sevice, Lucknow: The Uttar Pradesh police arrested five people for allegedly vandalising a statue of BR Ambedkar in Bareilly in the wee hours of Thursday, June 26. The incident occurred in Gangapur village. CCTV captured the vandalism, showing the miscreants removing a garland from the statue and attacking it with sticks. The footage went viral, prompting the Bareilly police to take action and arrest five people in this regard. The five accused have been identified as - Vijay Kashyap, 23, Dharampal, 38, Parshuram, 27, Kuldeep, 30 and Praveen Kumar, 19. A case has been registered under sections 191 (rioting), 298 (injuries or defiling places of wor-



ship), 352 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) and 351 (2) (criminal intimidation) of the BNS. Further investigations are on. Bhim Army chief, Chandra Shekhar Aazad, has called for immediate action and reinstallation of the BR Ambedkar statue. Commenting on the issue on X, Chandra Shekhar Aazad, chief of

the Bhim army and Lok Sabha MP from Nagina writes "Why are you so afraid of Baba Saheb's statues? Because you know—the day this society truly reads and understands Baba Saheb, your walls of injustice and casteism will crumble," adding, "Insult to Baba Saheb will not be tolerated by the Bahujan society."

Iran's Supreme Leader Declares "Victory Over Zionist and U.S. Regimes" in Defiant Speech



MI News Sevice, Teheran: In a strongly worded and defiant address to the nation, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei declared what he called "a victory" over both Israel and the United States following recent military confrontations in the region. Speaking live to the Iranian people, Khamenei began his speech by honoring the "precious martyrs"—including senior commanders and scientists—who lost their lives in recent events, describing them as "valuable assets to the Islamic Republic" who are now receiving "divine rewards in the presence of the Almighty."

The leader framed his speech around three key points of what he termed "victory": military success over Israel, a forceful response to U.S. intervention, and the national unity displayed by the Iranian people. "Blows Crushed the Zionist Regime" Khamenei claimed that Iran had delivered a crippling blow to Israel, referring to it consistently as the "false Zionist regime." He said, "The thought that such strikes could come from Iran had never occurred to them, but it happened," referring to recent missile and drone attacks reportedly launched by Iran or its allied forces in the region. The Supreme Leader emphasized that Iran's advanced weaponry had succeeded in bypassing Israel's "multilayered defense systems" and inflicted damage on both military and urban targets. "This is one of God's greatest blessings," he said, calling it proof that "any aggression against Iran comes at a heavy

cost." U.S. 'Gained Nothing' From Intervention Turning to the United States, Khamenei accused Washington of directly entering the conflict to protect Israel from collapse. "The U.S. entered the war directly, fearing that the Zionist regime would otherwise be destroyed. Yet, it gained nothing," he said. He condemned the reported U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear sites, calling them a violation of international law, and mocked the American president's rhetoric as an attempt to mask strategic failure. "In response, Iran delivered a heavy blow to one of America's key bases in the region—al-Udeid Air Base—and inflicted damage," he claimed, although this assertion has not been independently verified. The leader stressed that Iran's ability to strike major American targets in the region should not be underestimated, warning that such actions "can be repeated if provoked." Unity of the Nation and Rejection of Surrender Khamenei lauded what he called "extraordinary unity" among Iran's 90 million citizens. "United in word and deed, the people stood side by side, expressed solidarity, and supported the armed forces," he said, asserting that Iran had showcased national strength on a global stage.

He directly responded to recent remarks by the U.S. President, who, according to Khamenei, said that Iran must "surrender." Dismissing the demand as absurd, Khamenei declared, "A country with Iran's history, culture, and steely national resolve will never surrender." He added that successive U.S. administrations had used different excuses—human rights, democracy, women's rights, nuclear issues—to pressure Iran, but the ultimate goal was "Iran's complete capitulation." "The Iranian people must understand that America's real issue is that it refuses to accept an independent, sovereign Iran," he said. "But surrender will never happen. Never." "Iran Will Remain Honorable and Victorious" Concluding his address, the Supreme Leader emphasized Iran's deep civilizational roots, declaring that the country's cultural and historical wealth surpasses that of the United States. "The expectation that Iran would submit is an absurdity that wise people will only laugh at," he said. He invoked divine support, praying for the protection and dignity of the Iranian nation, the elevation of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, and the satisfaction of Imam Mahdi "with this nation." The speech marks a significant moment of escalation in regional tensions, reflecting Tehran's increasing assertiveness in the face of Western and Israeli pressures. Observers expect both Israel and the U.S. to respond diplomatically and possibly militarily to these bold claims.

100 Palestinians including aid seekers killed in Gaza

MI News Sevice: At least 100 Palestinians were killed, including many seeking food aid, and hundreds wounded in Israeli attacks Wednesday across the Gaza Strip, medical sources said.

A medical source told Anadolu that 17 people including two children lost their lives and several others were injured in two strikes in the Shejaiya neighborhood in eastern Gaza City.

Eight were killed by Israeli gunfire while attempting to obtain humanitarian aid in the Netzarim area in central Gaza, the official Wafa news agency said, citing medical sources.

Three other Palestinians waiting for aid were killed by Israeli army gunfire west of Rafah city in southern Gaza.

A medical source said that Israeli army fire killed two people and injured several others in central Gaza City.

The Israeli army also killed nine Palestinians, four of whom were children, and injured others in airstrikes that targeted civilians and a home in western Gaza City, medics said.

Five others including a mother and two of her

children were killed by Israeli shelling on a Palestinian house in northwestern Gaza City, according to medical sources.

Rescue teams recovered the bodies of three Palestinians and rescued five others from the rubble of two houses in Jabalia Al-Nazla in northern Gaza following an Israeli airstrike. Some people remain missing under the rubble.

Ten Palestinians were also killed and others injured in an Israeli attack on two houses in Deir al-Balah and the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza.

Rescue teams recovered the body of a young Palestinian from the rubble in the town of Abasan in eastern Khan Younis, a medical source said.

Five Palestinians, including two waiting for aid delivery, were killed by Israeli strikes and gunfire in Khan Younis.

Two more Palestinians were killed and others injured in an Israeli airstrike targeting a gathering of people near the Omari Mosque in Jabalia Al-Balad, northern Gaza.

In southwestern Gaza City, six people were killed when an Israeli strike hit a residential home, medical

officials reported.

In Gaza City's Shejaiya neighborhood, the Israeli bombardment of a home killed eight people, including two children. Several others remain unaccounted for, sources said.

Another strike in the Al-Shati refugee camp west of Gaza City killed nine Palestinians, including five children, after an Israeli missile struck a house, according to the sources.

South of Gaza City, 12 people were killed and others injured — some critically — when a residential building in Shejaiya was bombed, medical sources added.

The Israeli army, rejecting international calls for a ceasefire, has pursued a brutal offensive against Gaza since October 2023, killing over 56,000 Palestinians, most of them women and children.

Last November, the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

Israel also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice for its war on the enclave.

Nearly 19,000 hospitalised Gazan children face acute malnutrition in 2025 says UN



MI News Sevice: Amidst the continuous Israeli blockades, nearly 19,000 hospitalized children in Gaza face acute malnutrition since the beginning of 2025 according to the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

In the first week of June, more than 1,600 children were admitted to hospital with 17 suffering from serious complications. The OCHA said, "The current volume and pace of deliveries remain critically insufficient to meet the needs of Gaza's entire population, which is facing high levels of acute food insecurity."

It added that "consistent, frequent and large scale deliveries" via the crossings are urgently needed to stabilize the availability and affordability of wheat flour and other basic requirements. The Palestinian Health

Ministry, last week warned that due to the shortage of baby formula, premature babies and newborns could die. An Integrated Food Security Phase Certification (IPC) also warned that more than a quarter of the civilians are at the risk of facing catastrophic levels of food insecurity in the coming months.

After nearly three months of blockade amidst the bombing, limited aid was allegedly allowed to be distributed. However, experts say that it is impossible to fulfill the needs of Gaza's with such limited aid.

The UN has confirmed that Israel is still blocking food from reaching the Gazans who are starving. Only a few trucks reach Gaza, it said.


The Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF), an organisation backed by

the US and Israel which allegedly delivered limited aid has received criticism from humanitarian groups who have distanced themselves with it as they accuse the group of violating humanitarian principles and delivering aid only to South and Central Gaza.

Doctors Without Borders (MSF) have also warned against the "weaponization of aid."

"Every single day the Palestinians are met with carnage in their attempts to get supplies from the very limited amount of aid entering Gaza," the MSF said.

Philippe Lazzarini, the commissioner of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) said that it has become a routine task for Israel to shoot and kill desperate and starving Palestinians when they are trying to collect limited aid that reaches them.

<div><div>PIRAMAL FINANCE LTD. (Formerly Known as Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd.) CIN:L65910MH1984PLC032639 Unit No. 601, 6th Floor, Piramal Amini Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai 400 070</div><div>POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)</div></div>				
Regional Office : 41, Shakespeare Sarani, 1st. Floor, Duckback House, Kolkata - 700 017				
For Immovable Property as per Rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 and Appendix-IV				
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Piramal Finance Ltd. (Formerly Known as Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd.) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, Demand Notice(s) issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.				
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of the Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement rules, 2002. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.				
The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Piramal Finance Ltd. (Formerly Known as Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd.) for an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon.				
Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Description of the Secured Assets	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Date of Possession
1.	Loan Code No. HLSA00063564 Siliguri - Branch) Malluri Kondal Roa (Borrower) / M. Madavi (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel of Property : J. L. 107, 85, Touzi 91, Plot No. 242, R. S. 1965, L. R. Khatlan 61/2, R. S. 4259, L. R., Narmada Bagan Darjeeling, Near Saathibhai Sangha Club, Pargana - Patharghata, P. S. - Pradhan Nagar, District - Darjeeling, Under Siliguri Municipal Corporation No. 46, West Bengal, Pin - 734003. Boundaries as - East : By Land and House of Raj Shree Singh, West : 18 feet wide Metal Road, North : 9 feet 6 Inches wide Metal Road, South : Land of Sukla Day.	16/04/2025 for Rs. 1,06,42,417.00 (Rupees One Crore Six Lakhs Forty Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventeen Only)	21-06-2025 (Symbolic)
2.	Loan Code No. BLSA000199A4 Serampur - Branch) Md. Tabrez Alam (Borrower) / Ishrat Khatoun (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel of Property : Premises No. 61A, Entire Property, Topsis Road, Mouza - Topsis Dag No. 141, C. S., Kh No. 15, C. S., J. L. No. 06, Ward No. 66, Under KMC, P. S. - Titalia, Near Beel Mosque, South 24 Parangas, West Bengal, Pin - 700039. Boundaries as : East : G+4 stored Building, West : 12 ft. wide Road, North: 61/12/35 Topsis Road, South : Topsis Road.	20/12/2024 for Rs. 37,90,393.30 (Rupees Thirty Seven Lacs Ninety Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Three and Thirty Paises Only)	23-06-2025 (Symbolic)
3.	Loan Code No. 19400041962 Kolkata - Shakespeare Sarani - Branch Aninda Chattopadhyay (Borrower) Urmila Chattopadhyay & Krishnendu Chattopadhyay (Co-Borrower)	All the Part & Parcel of Property : Flat No. 3 B, 3rd Floor, Eastern Side Premises No. 55 A, Sarat Ghosh Garden Road, P. S. - Kasba, Ward No. 91, Kolkata, West Bengal, Pin - 700031. Boundaries as - East : Other Residential Bldg., West : Other Residential Bldg., North : Property of Others, South: Road	24/02/2025 for Rs. 21,72,876.00 (Rupees Twenty One Lacs Seventy Two Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Six Only)	23-06-2025 (Symbolic)
Date : 27.06.2025 Place : Kolkata (West Bengal)			Sd/- Authorised Officer Piramal Finance Ltd.	

INDIAN TEAM SECURES FIVE MEDALS AT U17 ASIAN WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The Indian Under-17 freestyle wrestling team secured three gold and two bronze medals at the U17 Asian Wrestling Championships in Vung Tau, Vietnam.

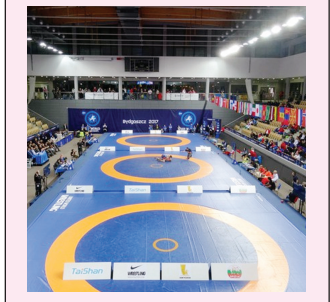
The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) issued a statement on Thursday, saying, "The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) proudly acknowledges the commendable performance of the Indian Under-17 Freestyle Wrestling Team at the ongoing Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championships in Vung Tau, Vietnam."

The Indian Freestyle contingent secured a total of 5 medals, including 3 Gold and 2 Bronze, showcasing grit, determination, and technical excellence. Although the team narrowly missed finishing in the top three rankings overall and did not clinch a team trophy, the performance of individual athletes, particularly in the heavier weight categories, was exceptional and praise-worthy.

65 Kg. Gaurav Punia - Gold Medal
92 Kg. Arjun Ruhil - Gold Medal
110 Kg. Lacky - Gold Medal
45 Kg. Shivam - Bronze Medal
51 Kg. Dhanraj Ganapati - Bronze Medal

WFI congratulated all the medal winners, their coaches, and support staff for their relentless hard work and commitment.

"WFI also extends its gratitude to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and the Sports Authority of India for their continuous support in developing young wrestling talent. Despite not winning a team trophy, the Indian team's performance stands as a strong foundation for the future and reinforces the potential of our young wrestlers on the Asian stage," concluded the statement.



Jofra Archer returns as England announce squad for 2nd Test

LONDON [UK] : England announced the squad for the second Test against India, starting from July 2 at Edgbaston, with pacer Jofra Archer included in the team after over four years.

England is leading the five-match series 1-0 following a five-wicket win at Leeds.

The 30-year-old right-arm quick returning to the England Test since February 2021 will be looking to add to his 13 Test caps at Edgbaston next week, as per an England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) release. Archer has 42 wickets at an average of 31.04, with the best figures of 6/45.

Archer played his first red-ball contest in more than four years earlier this week when he turned out for Sussex in their four-day match against Durham at Chester-Le-Street and showed glimpses of his best as he scored 31 with the bat and collected fig-



ures of 1/32 from 18 overs as the teams played out a draw, as per ICC. Other than that, the squad remains unchanged.

England Men's Test squad for 2nd Test: Ben Stokes (capt), Jofra Archer, Shoaib Bashir, Jacob Bethell, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Sam Cook, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Jamie Overton, Ollie Pope, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Josh Tongue, Chris Woakes.

In the chase of 371 runs, India was put to bat first by England. Centuries from Yashasvi Jaiswal (101), skipper Shubman Gill (147) and Rishabh Pant (134) pushed India to 471, with Ben Stokes being the leading bowler with figures of 4/66.

England also delivered a fine reply with the bat, as a century from Ollie Pope (106) and fifties from Harry Brook (99) and Ben Duckett (62) pushed them to 465, giving India a slender six-run

lead. Jasprit Bumrah was the pick of the bowlers, taking five wickets. India took a strong lead in the second innings, with centuries from KL Rahul (137) and Pant (118) taking them to 364. India led by 370 runs, but it was a lower-order collapse that prevented the lead from being even more massive. Brydon Carse and Josh Tongue took three wickets to stand out among bowlers.

In the chase of 371 runs, England started off well with a 188-run stand between Zak Crawley (65) and Ben Duckett (149). However, a few quick strikes reduced them to 253/4, placing India in a balanced spot. However, Joe Root (53*) and Jamie Smith (44*) took England home, despite two wickets each from Prasidh Krishna and Thakur.

Duckett took home the 'Player of the Match' award.

Punjab, Odisha will clash in final of inaugural edition of Women's Hockey India Masters Cup



CHENNAI (TAMIL NADU) : The race for the title at the inaugural Hockey India Masters Cup (Women) reached its final stretch, as Hockey Association of Odisha and Hockey Punjab sealed their places in the final after registering impressive wins in their respective semi-final matches at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium here on Thursday.

In the first semi-final, Hockey Association of Odisha delivered a commanding performance to defeat Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu 4-1. Odisha captain Lucela Ekka (4', 25') led from the front with two brilliant field goals, giving her team a strong foothold early in the match, as per the Hockey India press release.

She was supported by Sarita Roshan Minz (9') and Asima Sanjay Minz (30'), who also found the back of the net to seal a convincing win. Tamil Nadu's lone goal came from Saumya (34'), who converted a penalty corner in the third quarter.

The second semi-final saw Hockey Punjab come from behind twice to secure a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Hockey Haryana. Haryana took the early lead through a field goal from Sonika Yadav (11'), but Punjab equalised soon after with Meenakshi (18') converting a penalty corner.

In the third quarter, Nishi Shivendra Singh (38') put Haryana back in front with a field goal, only for Punjab to respond once again--Baljit Kaur Marar (44') equalised with a penalty corner strike. Just three minutes later, Sangita Minz (47') sealed the comeback with a well-timed field goal, propelling Punjab into the Final.

Hockey Association of Odisha will take on Hockey Punjab in the Final of the inaugural Hockey India Masters Cup (Women), while Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu will now face-off with Hockey Haryana for the Bronze medal match on Friday before the summit clash.

Zimbabwe to host Sri Lanka for white-ball series

HARARE [ZIMBABWE] : Zimbabwe will host Sri Lanka for a white-ball series, consisting of two ODIs and three T20Is, with Harare Sports Club being the sole venue for all the matches.

The white-ball series will kick off with the two ODIs scheduled for August 29 and 31, followed by the T20I leg in early September, as per the ICC.

The tour holds added significance for Zimbabwe, with the T20Is serving as crucial preparation ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Africa Regional Final, which Zimbabwe will host from September 19, to October 4. The regional final will determine the last two African spots for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026, which will be jointly hosted by

India and Sri Lanka.

Zimbabwe Cricket's Managing Director, Givemore Makoni, expressed optimism and excitement about the upcoming series.

"We are delighted to confirm Sri Lanka's visit to Zimbabwe for what we expect to be a thrilling and competitive series. Matches between our two nations have always produced entertaining cricket, and this tour comes at a crucial time for our team as we prepare for the upcoming T20 World Cup qualifying campaign," said Makoni.

The last time the two nations squared off against each other was in January 2024, when Sri Lanka reigned victorious 2-0 in the three-match ODI series at

their home. The squads for the tour are yet to be named.

Zimbabwe is gearing up to host the ICC World Test Champions, South Africa, for a two-Test series, followed by a tri-series against the Proteas and New Zealand. Sri Lanka on the other hand are featuring in their first assignment of the ongoing World Test Championship cycle at home against Bangladesh, and will compete in three ODIs and as many T20Is following the red-ball leg of the tour.

Zimbabwe Men's fixtures against Sri Lanka:

August 29 - 1st ODI
August 31 - 2nd ODI
September 3 - 1st T20I
September 6 - 2nd T20I
September 7 - 3rd T20I.



KHELO INDIA SUPPORTING SENIOR AS WELL AS JUNIOR ATHLETES: INDIAN SHUTTLE PV SINDHU

BENGALURU (KARNATAKA) : Ace Indian badminton player PV Sindhu on Thursday said that the Khelo India initiative is helping not only the senior but also the junior athletes.

The Khelo India University Games 2025 will be hosted in Jaipur, Rajasthan, this November, it was announced on Wednesday. Poornima University and Rajasthan University will jointly host KIUG 2025.

Speaking to the media about KIUG, PV Sindhu said, "The Prime Minister has always supported and virtually talks to the athletes before we go to the Olympics. The entire government of India has



been supportive, and so has the Sports Authority of India in Bengaluru. Khelo India is also supporting senior as well as junior athletes."

This will be the fifth iteration of the Khelo India University Games, an integral part of the Indian government's Khelo India initiative.

Over 4000 athletes from more than 200 universities across India are expected to participate in KIUG 2025, which, like previous editions, will feature at least 20 disciplines.

The multi-sport event is for Under-25 athletes and follows the Under-18 Khelo India Youth

Games that took place in Bihar in May this year.

"These Games offer great opportunities for athletes who seek a national platform to impress our numerous scouts eyeing the best talents in the country," Mansukh Mandaviya, India's sports and youth affairs minister, said as quoted by Olympics.com.

Rajasthan will be hosting the KIUG for the first time.

The inaugural Khelo India University Games was held back in 2020 with Bhubaneswar, Odisha, playing host. Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh were the venues for the next two editions

before NorthEast took centre stage.

A total of 770 medals - 240 gold, 240 silver and 290 bronze - were on offer at the 11-day KIUG 2024. Over 200 universities competed for the KIUG 2024 title with around 4500 athletes taking part in 20 sports.

Chandigarh University had won the team championships at KIUG 2024, co-hosted by Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Nagaland and Tripura.

Panjab University have won the KIUG title twice while Jain University were the other champions. (ANI)



Union MoS Khadse underlines youth, sports as key drivers of social upliftment during 'Poorvottar Sampark Setu' initiative in Sribhumi

SRIBHUMI (ASSAM) : Continuing her whirlwind tour of the Northeast, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Raksha Nikhil Khadse arrived in Sribhumi on Thursday under the Centre's Poorvottar Sampark Setu outreach initiative--an ambitious programme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to deepen administrative ties and accelerate development across the region.

During a robust one-day engagement in Sribhumi, Khadse chaired a review meeting with officials from 26 departments.

She underlined youth and sports as key drivers of social upliftment and assured enhanced support for sports infrastructure and youth-centric initiatives. Fresh from inspections in Unakoti and a surprise visit to

Agartala's Sports Authority of India (SAI) Sports Training Centre earlier this week, Khadse's Sribhumi visit brought into sharp focus the district's recent strides, as per a ministry press release.

Meanwhile, the Khel Maharan 2.0 programme has galvanised 246,500 youth registrations across eight disciplines, from kabaddi to road cycling, high-lighting sports' rising allure in rural Assam.

During a robust one-day engagement in Sribhumi, Khadse chaired a review meeting with officials from 26 departments. The meeting brought into sharp focus the district's recent strides in agriculture, health, education, fisheries, and welfare schemes. On agriculture, Sribhumi has notched a 103 per cent satura-

tion under PM-KISAN and surpassed the 126 per cent target for Sali paddy insurance enrolment through PMFBY. Food security is equally robust: nearly 97.9 per cent of allotted NFSA rice has reached more than one million beneficiaries. In health, 33,662 expectant mothers registered for antenatal care in 2024-25, with over 94 percent enrolling in their first trimester; departments are now tackling rising hypertension and anemia cases.

Education officials reported 223,034 students enrolled across primary to higher secondary schools, with attendance holding steady at 72 per cent. Teacher presence remains high at 88 per cent an encouraging sign as authorities push to close learning gaps.

Fisheries underpin local livelihoods: last year's production of 19,430 MT, dominated by pond and tank yields, sustains nearly the entire population's dietary needs.

"Sribhumi exemplifies how committed governance and com-



munity energy can rewrite development narratives," Khadse told reporters. "From Unakoti's

es, we are one step closer to realising Modi ji's vision of a truly Viksit Bharat in the Northeast."

Looking ahead, the Minister urged district officials to fast-track pending household tap connections under Jal Jeevan Mission, shore up maternal-health infrastructure, and harness digital platforms for seamless Aadhaar-based payments which already stand at 96 per cent coverage in rural livelihoods schemes.

Her day in Sribhumi concluded with grassroots interactions--meeting members of civil society organisations to gather firsthand feedback on service delivery. As the Poorvottar Sampark Setu caravan moves on, Assam's northeastern hamlets remain firmly in the national spotlight.