

DVC water release raises river levels; districts on flood alert

The release of water from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) reservoirs has triggered a sharp rise in river levels across several districts in West Bengal, prompting the state government to sound an alert. Concerned over the potential for flooding, Nabanna held an emergency meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary with district magistrates from affected regions including Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Purba Bardhaman, Bankura, Howrah, and Hooghly. During the hour-long review, district officials were directed to remain on high alert regarding river levels and ensure swift action in case of emergencies. **PG 3**



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Fuel switches cut off before Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad

MI News Service, New Delhi : Both switches feeding fuel to the two engines of the ill-fated Air India flight 171 were cut off followed by pilot confusion before the plane crashed in Ahmedabad, seconds after taking off, the first investigation report into the crash has revealed. It said seconds before the crash one pilot asked why the fuel was shut off , while the other responded he didn't do it.The crash on June 12 was the first fatal disaster involving a Boeing 787 Dreamliner, killing a total of 270 people including all but one of the 242 people on board the aircraft when the plane ploughed into a medical college hostel near the Ahmedabad international airport. The preliminary report by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, released on Saturday, recommended no action for now for the operators of Boeing 787-8 planes. At the time the aircraft took off, the co-pilot was flying the plane, while the captain was monitoring.

"The aircraft achieved the maximum recorded airspeed of 180 Knots IAS at about 08:08:42 UTC and immediately thereafter, the Engine 1 and Engine 2 fuel cut off switches transitioned from RUN to CUTOFF position one after another with a time gap of 01 sec," the report said.As per the report,



Ahmedabad plane crash: Fuel switches cut off before AI plane crash, reveals first investigation report

the engine N1 and N2 began to decrease from their take-off values as the fuel supply to the engines was cut off.

"In the cockpit voice recording, one of the pilots is heard asking the other why did he cut off. The other pilot responded that he did not do so," it said. The aircraft took off at 08:08:39 UTC (13:38:39 IST) and at about 08:09:05 UTC (13:39:05 IST) one of the pilots transmitted 'MAYDAY MAYDAY MAYDAY'.

"The Air Traffic Controller (ATCO) enquired about the call

sign. ATCO did not get any response but observed the aircraft crashing outside the airport boundary and activated the emergency response," the report said. In the report of the fatal plane accident that happened in around 30 seconds after take off, AAIB also said fuel samples taken from bowisers and tanks used to refuel the aircraft were tested at the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Lab and were found "satisfactory". The preliminary report was widely anticipated to throw more light on what could have led

'We are working closely with stakeholders' says Air India after AAIB's report

MI News Service, Mumbai : Air India on Saturday said it is working closely with regulators and other stakeholders, and will continue to cooperate with the authorities in the ongoing probe into the Ahmedabad plane crash after AAIB released its preliminary report. On June 12, the airline's Boeing 787-8 plane operating flight AI 171 from Ahmedabad to London Gatwick crashed soon after take off and a total of 270 people died in the accident. "We acknowledge receipt of the preliminary report released by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) today, 12 July 2025.,," the airline said in a post on X.

Further, the airline said it is working closely with stakeholders, including regulators. "We continue to fully cooperate with the AAIB and other authorities as their investigation progresses".

to the crash, which was one of the worst in India in decades, and also it was the first accident involving a Boeing 787 aircraft that resulted in hull loss. The AAIB said the wreckage site activities, including drone photography and videography have been completed and the wreckage has been moved to a secure area near the airport. "Both engines were retrieved from the wreckage site and quarantined at a hangar in the airport. Components of interest for further examinations have been identified and quarantined," it said. According to the report, fuel samples taken from the bowisers and tanks used

to refuel the aircraft were tested at the DGCA's Lab and were found satisfactory. "Very limited amount of fuel samples could be retrieved from the APU filter and Refuel/Jet-tison valve of left wing. The testing of these samples will be done at a suitable facility capable of carrying out the test with the limited available quantity," it said. The AAIB is gathering additional details based on initial leads and data downloaded from the forward Enhanced Airborne Flight Recorder (EAFR) is being analysed. "At this stage of investigation, there are no

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Balancing ecological preservation with development is need of the hour, says Nirmala Sitharaman

MI News Service, Shillong : Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has underscored the need to balance ecological preservation with the aspirations of development, particularly in regions like Meghalaya.

Speaking at an interactive session in the capital city of the North eastern state of Meghalaya here on Saturday, the Union Finance minister acknowledged that the climate crisis has intensified to the point where even the best meteorological tools cannot predict weather patterns accurately. "Extreme weather events have become the norm these days. . Flash floods and intense rains, which used to be spread across months, are now occurring in a single day, causing immense damage to people and property," the Finance minister said. Pointing to the changing dynamics in rural and forested regions, she emphasised the necessity of modern infrastructure. "We need optical fibre for connectivity, and global exposure through digital tools so that artisans and farmers can market their products. This implies expanding into areas that have remained green for millennia," she said.

Sitharaman stressed that decisions about development in ecologically sensitive regions should be locally driven. "It is not for me to say from elsewhere that a region should remain untouched. People living there must decide how much development they are comfortable with, and where to draw the line," she said. She posed a critical question: "If development is denied entirely, will people who have remained unchanged for generations, and now aspire to a better life, be content?".She added that this debate is central not just in India, but across the globe. Highlighting the urgency of the issue, the

Union Finance minister said that the next global climate summit will be held in a remote area on the edge of the Amazon rainforest in Brazil-underscoring how the world is now bringing the conversation of climate and development directly to the most fragile ecosystems."This is a deeply critical discussion," Sitharaman said, adding that "I'm glad it began here this morning."

The Union Finance minister also emphasised the importance of collaboration between citizens, industry, and policymakers. She said dialogues are essential for crafting effective and locally relevant development strategies and reaffirmed the Centre's unwavering commitment to inclusive, participatory, and region-specific governance during a stakeholder interaction held here. Sitharaman said the Union government is actively working to simplify tax frameworks and enhance the accessibility of financial systems to ensure broader participation and transparency. She also urged the stakeholders to continue engaging constructively and advised that "sector-specific proposals and regional concerns be routed through the concerned ministries and the Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) for timely evaluation and follow-up action." "The government remains committed to participatory policy-making and we are continuously working to make financial systems more accessible and efficient for all stakeholders," she assured. At the programme the Union Finance minister felicitated Rimiful Shylla and Wanjopin, two of Meghalaya's top women taxpayers, applauding their commendable contributions to the nation's tax system.During the interaction, stakeholders

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Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama addresses a gathering, in Leh, Ladakh.

PM Modi highlights govt's focus on generating more employment

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has once again emphasised his government's focus on generating employment in the public and private sectors, asserting that the country has made huge progress in every field in the past 11 years. In a virtual address after the distribution of over 51,000 appointment letters from here on Saturday, the Prime minister said his government's welfare schemes, be it building over 4 crore houses for the poor, distributing over 10 crore new LPG connections or the rooftop solar programme, have created lakhs of new employment opportunities.

Noting that over 25 crore people were lifted out of poverty in the past 10 years, Prime minister Modi said it would not have been possible but for the employment and sources of income generated for them. Also launching a "Rozgar Mela" today to recruit 10 lakh people and Prime minister Modi underscored his government's efforts to create many more jobs in the last eight years amid the opposition's constant criticism of it on the issue of unemployment. He said skilling the youth holds the key to India becoming the third-largest economy in the world from the fifth now and asserted his government is committed to ensure benefits of skill development reach all sections of society, including Dalits and tribals. He further stated that the "new India" is moving ahead with new policies and



strategies, and the Union government is working proactively in matters of technology and infrastructure, shunning the "reactive approach" of the past. In this connection the Prime minister again emphasised on generating many more employment opportunities in the public and private sectors in the coming years too as, he said the country has made enough strides in every field in the past decade.

He said the poor people used to have a difficult living and feared death but became so strong that they defeated poverty. PM Modi said his government's focus on boosting manufacturing has paid off, saying electronic manufacturing has risen over five times in 11 years and mobile

manufacturing units number nearly 300 from even less than five earlier. Defence manufacturing is being discussed proudly after Operation Sindoor, he said in an apparent reference to India's indigenous military capability shown during the conflict with Pakistan. The worth of defence production has gone beyond Rs 1.25 lakh crore, he added. Speaking of his recent five-nation tour, PM Modi said the whole world now recognises the strength of India's demography and democracy. The strength of India's youth is its biggest capital and a guarantee of the country's bright future, he added. Appointment letters were distributed as part of the government's Rozgar Mela.

EAM Jaishankar to visit China after 5 years to participate in SCO FM's meeting



MI News Service, New Delhi / Beijing: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will travel to Chinafor the first time in five years to participate in the meeting of Foreign ministers of the SCO bloc in the Chinese city of Tianjin next week, an official announcement said here on Saturday.

The Meeting of the Council of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SCO will be held in Tianjin on July 15, a statement by a spokesperson of the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Saturday. In addition to attending the SCO meeting, Jaishankar will also pay an official visit to other parts of China, the spokesperson said, without specifying the areas. At the invitation of the member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, foreign ministers of other SCO member states and heads of the bloc's permanent bodies will attend the meeting, the statement added. The participating ministers will exchange views on SCO cooperation in various fields and major international and regional issues, it said. The SCO comprises 10 member states - China, Russia, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus. A host of issues between India and China, including the current normalisation process between the two countries, China's stoppage of the key rare earth metals required to manufacture a host of products, including automobiles, are expected to figure in the talks.

Earlier, reports said that Jaishankar will visit Beijing on July 13 for talks with Wang. Jaishankar's visit follows the recent visits of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and National Security Advi-

sor Ajit Doval to China. It would be Jaishankar's first visit to China after the ties between the two countries came under severe strain following the 2020 military standoff along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

Wang may also visit India this month to hold a fresh round of talks with NSA Doval under the framework of Special Representatives (SR) dialogue on the boundary dispute, it is learnt. Both Wang and Doval are the designated SRs of the boundary mechanism of the two countries. Both countries held 23 rounds of talks under the SRs mechanism to resolve the vexed boundary dispute spanning 3,488 km, but without success.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh travelled to the Chinese port city of Qingdao last month to participate in the SCO Defence ministers' conference. China is the current chair of the SCO, and it is hosting the meetings of the grouping in that capacity. During his talks with Chinese Defence Minister Gen Dong Jun on June 26, Singh proposed that India and China should solve the "complex issues" under a structured roadmap comprising steps to de-escalate tensions along the frontiers and rejuvenate the existing mechanism to demarcate the borders. Singh and Dong held bilateral talks on the sidelines of a conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) with a focus on maintaining peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Singh had also emphasised the need to create "good neighbourly conditions" to achieve the best mutual benefits and called for "taking action on the

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Bangladeshi national nabbed from J-K for coming illegally

MI News Service, Jammu : A Bangladeshi national was apprehended from Katra in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Saturday for allegedly coming here without valid travel documents. Informing this police said here today that the Bangladeshi national, identified as Fahim Ahmed was found moving and acting suspiciously by a police patrol performing routine checking near Asia Chowk, the base camp for pilgrims visiting the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine. They said when he was asked to identify himself Fahim Ahmed attempted to flee and hide. But he was eventually captured, the police said. A Bangladeshi identity card was allegedly found from his possession; however, he could not provide any valid travel documents, visa, or passport to justify his presence in India. Preliminary investigations revealed that Ahmed had illegally entered India , violating immigration laws, the police said adding that an FIR has been lodged against him under relevant sections of the Foreigners Act at the Katra Police Station, and further investigation is on to ascertain the motive behind his illegal entry and coming to Jammu and Kashmir at the time of the Amarnath Yatha..

Meanwhile, Senior Superintendent of Police Reasi, Paramvir Singh has praised the police team for their alertness and swift action. He also emphasised the s commitment of the security forces to ensuring the safety and security of all yatrias and the common citizens. Healso urged them to report any suspicious activity to the nearest police station immediately.

Kalyani: PG student ends life in Nadia, family cites financial distress over a dress



Dipankar Edbar, Kalyani (Nadia) : A 24-year-old post-graduate student allegedly committed suicide at her residence in Chaduria village under Chakdah police station in Nadia on Friday evening, police sources said. Her family claims that the young woman, who had recently completed her MA, was upset over not being able to buy a dress due to financial constraints. According to police, the woman was alone at home when the incident took place. Her mother, Shyamali Sarkar, had gone to a relative's house. On returning in the evening, she found her daughter hanging from the ceiling and raised an alarm. Neighbours rushed in and took her to Chakdah State General Hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead. The body was sent for autopsy at Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Hospital in Kalyani. Family sources said that earlier in the day, the woman had expressed a desire to buy a dress from a local shop. However, her mother was unable to afford it. The family lives under strained financial conditions, and the woman had been trying to become self-reliant after completing her studies. "She was very sensitive, but we never imagined she would take such a step over something like this," said a relative. Locals and relatives are now questioning whether a deeper emotional or mental health issue might have been involved. Police have registered an unnatural death case and are investigating the matter. No suicide note has been found so far.

Bangladeshi Drug Smuggler Shot and Arrested by BSF at Nimtita Border

MI News Service, Murshidabad: A Bangladeshi national was injured and subsequently arrested by the **Border Security Force (BSF) on Friday evening after he allegedly attempted to smuggle narcotics through the Nimtita border area under Suti police station in Murshidabad district. According to BSF sources, the individual has been identified as Sariful Sheikh (30), a resident of Shibganj in Chapai Nawabganj district, Bangladesh. He was reportedly trying to smuggle banned narcotics into India and deliver them to another individual near the border. The incident occurred when BSF personnel on patrol noticed suspicious movement along the border. Despite repeated warnings to stop, the suspect attempted to enter Indian territory forcefully.



As part of the week-long celebration of Ban Mahotsav 2025, under the initiative of the West Bengal Government, Birbaha Hansda, MOS (IC), Departments of Forest and Self Help Group & Self Employment, flagged off two tableaux from Aranya Bhawan, Block LA-10A, Salt Lake, Sector III, Kolkata, on Saturday.

Himanta claims Dinhata man is Assam resident

MI News Service, Dinhata: The ongoing controversy surrounding a National Register of Citizens (NRC) notice served to a man in Dinhata has taken a dramatic political turn, with Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma asserting that the individual in question, Uttam Brajabasi, is in fact a resident of Assam — not West Bengal.

The issue erupted a few days ago when Uttam Brajabasi, a resident of Sadial Kuthi in Dinhata, received an NRC-related notice at his residence. The incident sparked widespread political debate, particularly after West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed her outrage on social

media, posting a strongly worded message on her X (formerly Twitter) handle. She questioned how an individual with no connection to Assam could be included in the NRC process. Uttam, for his part, has maintained that he has never lived in Assam, nor even visited Cooch Behar. However, during a press conference held earlier today, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma made a contradictory claim, stating that Uttam is legally registered as a resident of Assam. According to Sarma, Uttam had two lawyers representing him in the NRC case and his documents listed a temporary address in Cooch Behar. Sarma further elaborated

that the Assam government had excluded members of the Koch Rajbongshi community from the NRC, and that Uttam's legal representatives did not disclose his community identity to the court, which may have affected the decision. In a parallel development, Uttam Brajabasi recently received a reissued Scheduled Caste (SC) certificate from the Block Development Officer (BDO), which he said has brought him some relief amid the escalating tensions. Local sources indicate that Uttam has been frequently seen at public events and political meetings alongside senior Trinamool Congress leaders and ministers.

Doctor prioritizes patients over father's funeral, community pays tribute

MI News Service, Hooghly: In an extraordinary act of duty and compassion, a doctor in Hooghly chose to continue treating patients even after the death of his father, delaying the funeral to ensure that those who had travelled long distances in the rain did not return without medical attention. Dr. Shivashis Banerjee, a well-known general physician from the Imambazar area of Chinsurah, has long been respected for his tireless service and dedication to patient care. On Friday morning, his elderly father passed away at their residence. Despite the personal loss, Dr. Banerjee chose to continue seeing patients at his clinic, many of whom had braved inclement weather to receive treatment.

"Patients had come from far away, and many were already wet and unwell from the rain. If I had turned them away, they would have suffered. So, I chose to treat them first," Dr. Shivashis Banerjee said. Eyewitnesses and patients present at the clinic reported that the doctor was calm and composed, attending to each patient with his usual reassuring demeanor. It was only after completing his consultations that he returned home to carry out his father's last rites. Tributes Pour In Locals, civic leaders, and patients alike have lauded the doctor's decision, describing it as an extraordinary example of professional integrity and human empathy. Chinsurah Municipality Councilor Indrajit Dutta remarked, "Many poor people depend on him for treatment. He often sees patients until 2 or 3 a.m. without complaint and helps those who cannot afford fees. He has never placed personal gain above his service." Dr. Shivashis Banerjee's chamber sees a steady stream of patients not just from Hooghly, but also from surrounding districts.

3-day free meditation session on the occasion of Guru Purnima



MI News Service, Kolkata: On the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima, from July 10th to July 12th, a three-day free Meditation and Healing session is being organized at the Mewar Banquet Hall of Downtown Mall, Salt Lake, by the Pyramid Spiritual Societies Movement (PSSM Bengal), led by Brahmarshi Patriji. This event welcomes people from all backgrounds, regardless of caste, religion, or community. Under the guidance of senior masters, the sessions will include Sound Healing, Breathwork, Relationship Healing, Astro Surgery, Hanuman Chalisa Decoding, Alignment with Goddess Kali's Energy, and various methods to over-

come stress, anger, anxiety, and more. On the first day, July 10th, around 700 people participated in the sessions. Dignitaries present included P.V. Rama Raju, Executive Director of PMC Hindi; Alekhyia Shastri, MD & CEO of PMC Hindi; and Rup Jhunjhunwala, President of PSSM Bengal. Other notable attendees included Sonia Surekha, Archana Goyal, Shraddha Jain, and Sheela Saraf, among others. The organization stated that the purpose of this event is to promote spiritual growth and purification of human life and lifestyle through meditation, ultimately leading to the betterment of human existence.

SUV crushed in head-on collision with lorry, 4 dead

MI News Service, West Medinipore: A devastating road accident claimed the lives of four people early Saturday morning when an SUV was completely mangled in a head-on collision with a lorry on National Highway 60 near Ranisarai in Belda. The fatal collision took place around 7 am as the SUV was travelling from Kharagpur towards Odisha. The impact of the collision was so intense that the SUV was crushed like a tin can, its frame twisted beyond recognition. The four passenger inside all believed to be adult men- were killed instantly. Emergency responders from Belda police station, along with local rescue workers, arrived at the scene shortly after receiving distress calls from commuters.

Due to the extent of the damage and the way the passengers were trapped, a gas cutter has to be used to slice open the wreckage and recover the bodies. It took nearly two hours to complete the extraction process. The bod-

ies was been sent to Midnapore Medical College for post-mortem examination. Initial findings suggest that the SUV was travelling at a high speed when the driver may have lost control, possibly due to driver fatigue or a mechanical failure. There were no skid marks found at the site, leading investigators to believe that the driver was unable to brake in time or didn't anticipate the curve in the road. Local sources also mentioned that the stretch near Ranisarai is known for being an accident-prone zone, particularly during early morning hours when visibility is low and traffic is thin but fast-moving. Police are currently reviewing CCTV footage from nearby toll plazas and are attempting to trace the registration and identity of the lorry involved in the crash. One eyewitness, a truck driver who was a few vehicles behind, said: "The SUV suddenly swung into the wrong lane. Before anyone could react, the lorry hit it head-on. The sound was deafening."

Bengal

Massage in union room sparks uproar, Principal defends incident

MI News Service, Kakdwip: Sundarban Mahavidyalaya in Kakdwip has once again found itself at the center of controversy after a video showing a massage taking place inside the student union room went viral on social media. The video, which shows a young man giving a massage to another individual, sparked immediate outrage and prompted questions about campus discipline and unauthorized access to college premises. The young man seen in the video has been identified as Devajyoti Pal, who later stated that he is not a student of the college. According to him, the incident occurred three years ago. He claimed that after playing football on the college ground during a rainstorm, one of the players was injured, prompting him to take shelter in the union room and administer a massage. As the video gained traction online, opposition student organizations criticized the college administration for allowing outsiders on campus. They also alleged that individuals with political affiliations are misusing college spaces. One student leader questioned how furniture like a bed was placed in the union room and accused the administration of turning a blind eye to repeated violations. In response, the principal of

Sundarban Mahavidyalaya, Subhankar Chakraborty, virtually acknowledged that outsiders often access the college grounds and the union room. He stated that the college field is open and used by both students and local youths for playing. The union room remains accessible during these times, and people often change clothes there. While not confirming the exact details of the incident, he suggested it was possible that someone had been injured while playing, which might explain the situation shown in the video. Student representatives from the college dismissed the opposition's allegations, maintaining that the individual in the video was not associated with the college and that the massage was related to a minor sports injury. They stated that local youths often visit the ground post-college hours for recreational purposes. The college administration has launched an investigation into the matter, and a meeting of the institution's governing body has been called to review campus security protocols. The incident comes amid a series of viral videos from various colleges in the region, raising broader concerns about the misuse of student union facilities and the conduct of individuals associated with campus activities.

Family holds funeral for living daughter over interfaith marriage

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: In a deeply disturbing incident that has sparked widespread debate, a family in the Dangapara area of Rajganj block, Jalpaiguri district, performed the funeral rites of their only daughter — who is very much alive — after she married a man from a different religion against their wishes. The 26-year-old woman, Neha De, reportedly married a young man from a different religious background, prompting her middle-class family to sever all ties with her. In an act symbolizing complete disownment, the family cremated an effigy of Neha, took it to a crematorium, and conducted a full-fledged funeral ceremony, including ritualistic offerings (pinda daan), as though she had died. The incident occurred in Majhiali Gram Panchayat of Rajganj, and has sent shockwaves through the local community. The woman's father, Narayan De, defended the family's actions, stating: "We raised our daughter with love and care. But by breaking social norms and marrying into a different religion, she has brought us shame. For us, she is no longer alive. That's why we performed her final

rites." The symbolic cremation was carried out with full rituals, and several relatives and neighbors were reportedly invited to witness and participate in the ceremony. Eyewitnesses described an emotionally charged scene where family members lit the effigy's pyre with tears in their eyes — grieving not a death, but what they perceive as a loss of honor. The incident has ignited polarized responses within the community and on social media. While some locals expressed support for the family's decision as an expression of traditional values, others have condemned it as an example of regressive and intolerant thinking. Human rights advocates and progressive voices have sharply criticized the symbolic disownment, calling it a violation of personal freedom and an extreme form of social ostracism. Legal experts note that while no criminal act may have occurred in the act of holding a symbolic funeral, it reflects alarming levels of familial pressure and emotional coercion. Neha, who currently resides with her husband, has not made any public comment on the incident as of this report.

Haringhata Press Club Steps into 6th Year, New Committee Formed

Dipankar Edbar, Haringhata (Nadia) : Marking its sixth foundation anniversary, the Haringhata Press Club celebrated the occasion with a brief but vibrant event at Bara Jaguli on Friday. The programme was attended by local journalists, social workers, eminent citizens, and both current and former club members, said Dilip Sarkar, the Vice President of new committee of Haringhata Press Club. The event saw discussions on the evolving role of journalism, freedom of information, and the responsibilities of the press in society. On this milestone day, the club also announced its newly formed executive committee, aiming to strengthen organizational operations and chart a progressive path for the future, said Ashis Poddar, President of the newly formed committee of Haringhata Press Club. The new committee features a mix of experienced and young journalists, who collectively pledged to make local journalism more responsible, united, and impactful, said Dipak Mustafi, the new Secretary of the said Press Club. Joint Secretary Dipankar Edbar emphasized the need to protect press freedom, ensure the rights of journalists, and uphold journalistic integrity by reporting with accuracy and accountability. However, the committee is as following. President- Ashis Poddar, Vice President - Dilip Sarkar, Secretary -Deepak Mustafi, Joint Secretary - Dipankar Edbar, Treasurer - Gour Ghosh. Marking the sixth year of the club's journey, members described it as not just a milestone but a renewed beginning—one that sets the tone for a more engaged and responsible press in Haringhata, said Gour Ghosh, the Treasurer.

Meet on anvil to boost Malda mango market

MI News Service, Malda: The Malda district administration is set to organise a "Mango Meet" by August to bring together stakeholders like cultivators, scientists and exporters. Dubbed the mango capital of Bengal, Malda produces around 3.5 lakh metric tonnes of the fruit annually on 31,000 hectares. Although the district exports mangoes to several countries, officials say the volume remains far below its potential, largely because of the limited adoption of organic farming practices. "We want to enhance the global marketability of Malda mangoes," said district magistrate Nitin Singhania. "The Mango Meet will facilitate discussions among producers, scientists, horticulture experts, exporters and marketing professionals. The main aim is to



promote organic mango cultivation, which has seen increasing demand in both domestic and international markets." Singhania emphasised that chief minister Mamata Banerjee had consis-

tently pushed for the international promotion of Bengal's produce, especially mangoes. "Not only whole fruit but also value-added products like aam satva (mango fruit leather), pickles, jel-

lies and candies might also have huge export potential," he added. Smaraki Mahapatra, secretary of the state food processing & horticulture department, recently visited Malda and encouraged efforts to market Malda mangoes internationally to ensure better returns for farmers. The Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture (CISH), a central government research body with a unit in Malda, will also play a role in the event. CISH scientists are expected to talk about best practices to enhance yield and quality through organic and sustainable farming methods. Exporters will outline the specific varieties and quality standards preferred in European and Middle Eastern markets, giving cultivators insights into international demand. The Malda

Mango Merchants' Association (MMA) has welcomed the initiative. "Our mangoes reach several international destinations each year, but the volume is low because of a lack of training on organic farming methods," said Uzzal Saha, the president of MMA. "If farmers are equipped and encouraged to go organic, export volumes could multiply." On Thursday, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) organised a workshop at the CISH's Malda unit on the quality production and export of mangoes. CISH scientists, deputy director of horticulture Samanta Layek, Calcutta regional head of APEDA Sitakanta Mandal, MMA president Saha and over 100 cultivators were present.

Monsoon gains momentum again: Heavy rain forecast across Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: The monsoon, reactivated by a cyclonic circulation, is set to intensify rainfall across West Bengal over the coming days. According to the Alipore Meteorological Department, southern Bengal is expected to witness a surge in rain, accompanied by thunder and lightning, starting Sunday. A heavy rain alert has been issued for several districts, with Monday and Tuesday likely to see significant precipitation. On Monday, six districts in southern Bengal — including Purulia, Bankura, East and West Midnapore, and South 24 Parganas — are under a yellow alert for heavy rainfall. Coastal and western regions may also experience strong gusty winds ranging from 30 to 40 km/h along with thunderstorms. On Tuesday, four additional districts — East Burdwan, Birbhum, Nadia, and Murshidabad — are also expected to receive heavy rain. The India Meteorological Department attributes this weather activity to the active monsoon trough, which now stretches from Bikaner through Shivpuri, Sidhi, Jamshedpur, and Kanthi to the northeastern Bay of Bengal. A cyclonic circulation has also formed over northern Chhattisgarh, with two more similar systems hovering over Punjab and northeastern Assam. Collectively, these systems are fueling the enhanced monsoon flow across the state. Kolkata remained under thick cloud cover throughout Saturday. Intermittent showers were recorded, and further rainfall is expected on Sunday and Monday, potentially accompanied by lightning. The city is also experiencing high humidity, with discomfort rising due to elevated moisture levels.

State Panchayats mandated to spend 50% of own revenue on public welfare

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a landmark directive, the West Bengal government has mandated that all panchayats across the state must allocate at least 50% of their own revenue toward public welfare initiatives. Failure to do so will result in the withdrawal of performance-based state grants and may also affect disbursement of funds under various state and central schemes. Each year, the state allocates substantial funds for rural development through schemes such as Banglar Bari, Karmashree, and road construction projects. However, panchayats also generate their own revenue through sources like local markets, property taxes, trade licenses, building rentals, and fairs. While this internal income was previously left to the discretion of local bodies, there was no strict regulation on how much should be reinvested into community development—a gap the state government has now addressed



State Minister Aroop Biswas inaugurated the blood donation and health camp organized by Vaishnavghata Uday Sangha in Ward 100, Tollygunge. Local municipal representative Prosenjit Das was also present at the event. The club is uniquely managed by senior citizens — 11 members are above 80 years of age, 22 are above 75, 32 are above 70, and 55 are above 60. These dedicated senior citizens provide year-round health services to the residents of the area.

DVC water release raises river levels; districts on flood alert



MI News Service, Kolkata: The release of water from Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) reservoirs has triggered a sharp rise in river levels across several districts in West Bengal, prompting the state government to sound an alert. Concerned over the potential for flooding, Nabanna held an emergency meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary with district magistrates from affected regions including Paschim Medinipur, Jhargram, Purba Bardhaman, Bankura, Howrah, and Hooghly. During the hour-long review, district officials were directed to remain on

high alert regarding river levels and ensure swift action in case of emergencies. The DVC has also been formally cautioned about the consequences of uncontrolled water discharge. The Chief Secretary emphasized that no complaints regarding relief supply delays should arise. He instructed that sufficient relief materials must be pre-positioned in vulnerable areas. Authorities were ordered to ensure availability of essential items such as ORS, anti-venom medications, and medical aid. Immediate repairs to damaged roads and culverts were also mandated to maintain accessi-

bility in affected zones. In June, the state had already witnessed flood-like conditions when DVC discharged water during heavy monsoon rainfall. Rivers like Dwarkeswar, Gandheswari, Shilabati, and Kansabati swelled rapidly, submerging roads, bridges, and low-lying villages in Bankura, Paschim Medinipur, and Jhargram districts. Water was released from the Maithon and Panchet dams, aggravating the situation. Several bridges were inundated and parts of state highways went underwater. Villages in Bankura's Taldangra block were among the worst affected. To prevent a repeat of the June crisis, the state government has mobilized all relevant departments. The disaster management and irrigation departments are closely monitoring water levels, and rescue teams are on standby. With rainfall forecast to continue, the state remains on edge, prepared to act swiftly to avert large-scale flooding.

CU receives highest number of UG admission applications in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: As undergraduate admission continues through the state-run centralised online portal, Calcutta University has emerged as the most sought-after institution in West Bengal. According to data released by the state higher education department, a staggering 6,47,587 applications have been submitted to Calcutta University so far—the highest among the 17 state universities. Across the 460 colleges affiliated with these universities, a total of 19,36,329 applications have been received for 7,229 undergraduate courses. Notably, over one-third of all applications have been submitted under Calcutta University alone, reaffirming its enduring popularity in West Bengal's academic landscape. Following Calcutta University, Gour Banga University has recorded the second-highest number of applications at 2,24,536, followed by Burdwan University with 2,04,248 and Kalyani University with 1,93,472. North Bengal University and West Bengal State University have received 1,39,900 and 1,22,375 applications, respectively. Among other institutions, Vidyasagar University recorded 95,096 applications, Kazi Nazrul University saw 59,515, Sidho-Kanho-

Birsha University reported 81,998, Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University received 72,976, and Bankura University had 53,032 applicants. At the bottom of the list are newer or smaller universities. Alipurdwar University received just 5,207 applications, Murshidabad University 15,014, and Raiganj University 16,289. Diamond Harbour Women's University and Sanskrit College and University recorded only 708 and 648 applications respectively. Rabindra Bharati University received 3,728. Officials clarified that lower application volumes at institutions like Diamond Harbour Women's University and Sanskrit College are primarily due to their independent status and lack of affiliated colleges. A senior official attributed Calcutta University's exceptionally high numbers to an extension of the application deadline—from July 1 to July 15. This extension alone resulted in an additional 20,000 student registrations and 1.1 lakh new applications. Between July 1 and July 10, total applications surged from 18,24,914 (from 3,25,342 students) to 19,36,329 (from 3.41 lakh students), reflecting a sharp increase in participation.



Students under the banner of the West Bengal State Chhatra Parishad protest against alleged rigging in college union elections at Hazra in Kolkata.

Kolkata Police introduces advanced protective gear for female officers

MI News Service, Kolkata: In response to increasing attacks on police personnel during protests—including incidents of physical assault and stone pelting in areas like Nadial and Rabindranagar—the Kolkata Police has launched a major initiative to enhance officer safety. According to sources at Lalbazar, the headquarters of Kolkata Police, this move includes the procurement of modern helmets and body suits specifically designed for female police officers. As part of this initiative, 1,000 advanced body suits will be purchased at a cost of approximately ₹35.4 lakh, while 500 high-strength helmets will be acquired with an allocation of ₹7.3 lakh. Until now, officers were often seen donning cricket helmets to manage law-and-order situations—an image set to change with the induction of this specialised gear. The newly designed helmets, while lightweight, offer superior protection. Made from fibreglass reinforced plastic (FRP), they are engineered to withstand impact from thrown objects such as bricks and stones. Of the 500 helmets, 100 will be allocated to RAF units (in blue) and 400 to other divisions (in green). Each helmet weighs less than 1.5 kg

and includes a transparent front visor for clear visibility, along with soft, germ-resistant padding inside to absorb sweat and provide comfort. They also feature ear protection and anti-scratch technology. The helmets have been tested at national laboratories and even trialed in Jammu and Kashmir for effectiveness. For female personnel, Kolkata Police is introducing state-of-the-art body protectors tailored to their needs. These grey suits, weighing around 2 kg, are constructed with high-quality polyester and PU coating. The outer shell includes SF-40 body curve plates, capable of resisting impacts from stones, knives, and thrown objects. The suits also feature LDPE foam and mesh lining for moisture absorption and comfort, along with a soft collar for neck protection. Elbow and knee guards are designed to reduce the impact of blows by up to 80%. All gear is being sourced only after certification from NABL-accredited testing laboratories, ensuring the highest safety standards. This move marks a significant step in modernising riot gear and ensuring greater safety for officers on the front lines, particularly women.

Alleged rape at a hostel sparks investigation and arrest

MI News Service, Kolkata: A young woman was allegedly raped after being invited to the boys' hostel at a renowned management institute in Joka under the pretext of a counselling session. The accused, a second-year management student, has been arrested based on a formal complaint lodged at Haridevpur Police Station. According to sources, the two had connected via social media, and the woman, reportedly a psychologist, had agreed to meet the student for a personal consultation on Friday. Upon arrival at the hostel around 11:45 AM, she was offered pizza and water—believed to have been laced with intoxicants. Soon after consuming the food and drink, she began to feel unwell and complained of nausea. She further alleged that she was physically restrained when she tried to go to the washroom and was slapped before losing consciousness. The woman claimed she regained consciousness

around 8:35 PM and fled the premises. She first contacted Thakurpukur police and subsequently registered an FIR at Haridevpur Police Station, leading to the swift detention and arrest of the accused. Police sources confirmed that the accused, a non-local student, faces serious charges including alleged rape, physical assault, and administering intoxicating substances with criminal intent. He was presented before the Alipore court on Saturday. On the other hand, as per protocol, the complainant was taken to the hospital on Saturday afternoon for a medical examination. However, sources reveal that the young woman refused to undergo the medical test. She also declined to hand over the clothes she was allegedly wearing at the time of the incident. When investigators seized her phone and asked for the password, she refused to provide it as well. Authorities have launched a thorough investigation into the case.

Balancing ecological preservation with development is need of the hour, says Nirmala Sitharaman

From PG 1 shared a wide range of observations and suggestions with the Finance minister. They highlighted the need for a balanced approach to development that respects environmental sustainability. Suggestions were made to enhance support for institutions involved in research and development and to give greater policy focus to the hospitality sector. Participants urged for the inclusion of local industries under the Targeted Champion Sector Scheme and advocated for better access to credit and markets for startups and MSMEs, particularly those rooted in the Northeast. They

also stressed the importance of central investment in infrastructure to accelerate regional industrial growth. Additionally, concerns were raised over high logistics costs resulting from the region's geographical challenges, with calls for rationalised transport subsidies to improve competitiveness. Sitharaman in her replies, reiterated the Centre's resolve to work in close partnership with state governments and local stakeholders to realise a shared vision for a prosperous, sustainable, and innovation-driven Northeast. The Union Finance minister is on a four-day visit to Meghalaya from Thursday.

EAM Jaishankar to visit China after 5 years to participate in SCO FMs meeting

From PG 1 ground" to bridge the "trust deficit" resulting from the 2020 eastern Ladakh border standoff, according to an Indian readout on the meeting on June 27. Reacting to Singh's statement, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning had said the boundary question is complicated, and it takes time to settle it". The military standoff between China and India in eastern Ladakh began in May 2020, and a deadly clash at the Galwan Valley in June that year resulted in a severe strain in ties between the two neighbours. The face-off effectively ended following completion of the disengagement process from the last two friction points of Demchok and Depsang under an agreement finalised on October 21. China and India are currently in the process of normalising relations.

The decision to revive the SR mechanism and other such dialogue formats was taken at a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Kazan, Russia, on October 23. The Modi-Xi meeting came two days after India and China signed a disengagement pact for Depsang and Demchok. In the last few months, India and China have initiated a number of measures to repair the bilateral ties. Recently, the two sides resumed the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra after a gap of nearly five years. Though the Foreign minister of Pakistan is likely to attend the SCO meeting, there is no possibility of his meeting with Jaishankar there or even afterwards due to the present strained relations between the two neighbours since the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack

Fuel switches cut off before Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad

From PG 1 recommended actions to B787-8 and/or GE GENx-1B engine operators and manufacturers," the report said. The plane that crashed was powered by GENx-1B engines. Statements of the witnesses and the surviving passenger have been obtained by the Investigators. The complete analysis of post-mortem reports of the crew and the passengers is being undertaken to corroborate aeromedical findings with the engineering appreciation, the AAIB said. The probe is continuing and the investigation team will further review and examine additional evidence, records and information that is being sought from the stakeholders. There were 230 passen-

gers on board -- 15 in the business class and 215, including two infants, in economy class. The Pilot In Command (PIC) had more than 15,638 hours of flying experience while the first officer had over 3,403 hours of flying experience. Air India on Saturday said it is working closely with regulators and other stakeholders, and will continue to cooperate with the authorities in the ongoing probe into the plane crash. Boeing, in a statement, said it continues to support the investigation and Air India. "We will defer to the AAIB to provide information about A1171, in adherence with the United Nations International Civil Aviation Organization protocol known as Annex 13," it added.

India sets bold Tech Agenda at ICC Vision Tech-Lead; Bengal emerges as rising IT beacon

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a landmark move to shape India's digital trajectory, the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) hosted the VisionTech – LEAD 2025 summit, uniting policymakers, tech innovators, and industry leaders to chart the nation's roadmap in artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and digital infrastructure. Themed "Empowering India's Digital Future," the event focused on accelerating innovation and building resilient, tech-forward organizations. Babul Supriyo, Minister-in-Charge of IT & Electronics, West Bengal, spotlighted the state's dramatic IT growth. Exports

have surged from ₹4,500 crore in 2011 to ₹35,000 crore in 2025, supported by robust infrastructure, policy push, and investor confidence. The Bengal Silicon Valley Hub, now fully allotted, has 42 firms onboard—19 in development, 3 operational. Land prices jumped from ₹5 crore to ₹40 crore per acre, reflecting strategic value creation. Statewide, 22 IT parks—including in Siliguri, Durgapur, and Asansol—are thriving. Webel-owned properties in Sector V and Siliguri report 100% occupancy. Major players like Infosys, Wipro, and TCS employ nearly 50,000 in the state. TCS is eyeing further expansion, while



Minister of State for IT and Electronics, Babul Supriyo, addresses the seminar 'ICC VisionTech-Lead, organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Kolkata on Saturday'.

GlobalFoundries' new R&D centre marks a pivotal move in semiconductor capabilities. Arvind Kumar, DG of STPI, hailed AI as India's "third tech wave." With 24 Centres of Entrepreneurship and 2,000+ startups—42% led by women—India is making inclusive strides in deep-tech. Calls for a dedicated Ministry of AI were echoed by Debashis Sen, as speakers like Anuj Vaid, Raj Jain, and Amitabh Ray emphasized infrastructure, skills, and policy reform. Dr. Rajeev Singh, ICC DG, closed the summit with a call to build an inclusive, future-ready innovation ecosystem.

Name Change
I, Sandhya Ghosh (old name) W/o Lt. Asit Kumar Ghosh, residing at Subhasgram Nabatara School Road, P.O. - Subhasgram, and shall henceforth be known as Sandhya Ghosh Dutta (new name) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate, Alipore Police Court, District 24 Pgs (S), vide Affidavit No. 42779 at 05.07.2025. Sandhya Ghosh and Sandhya Ghosh Dutta both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, MD JASMINE ALLI D.OB-07.02.1960, S/o of Md. Keramat Ali, residing of Chhoto Sujapur (Madrasa Para), P.O Chotto Sujapur, P.S: kaliachak , Dist: Maldah, Pin-732206 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare, that my Aadhar card being no. 5133 4041 4818 and Md Keramat Ali is my father and it is his bonafide name as per my identify documents, but whose name has been wrongly recorded as Keramat Ali instead of Md. Keramat Ali in my online registration Passport being application ref. No. 24.1013127461 file No.CAA067081216724. By an affidavit before the Notary Public Malda on 08.07.2025 that Md. Keramat Ali and Keramat Ali is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Suvendu Dutta S/O Swapan Dutta Residing at Vill-Dakshin Surendrananj,P.O-Daspur,P.S-Gobardhanpur Costal,Dist-South 24 Parganas,Pin-743371 West Bengal, INDIA.That my father name has been wrongly recorded as Swapan Kumar Dutta (Old name) instead of Swapan Dutta(New name) declared before the notary public at Kakkvipur, South 24 Parganas, Date 07/07/2025.Suvendu Dutta S/O Swapan Dutta(New name) and Suvendu Dutta S/O Swapan Kumar Dutta(old name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Mohammad Hanif Abdul Mamin Mandal (Old Name), S/O Abdul Mamin Mandal, Residing At Vill-Ulasi Purbapara, Po-Ulasi, Ps-Hanskhali, Dist Nadia, Pin-741502, West Bengal,India, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Hanif Mandal (New Name), Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial.magistrate At Ranaghat On 02/05/2025. Mohammad Hanif Abdul Mamin Mandal(Old Name) And Md Hanif Mandal(New Name).All Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I,Asadullah Haldar (Old Name) S/O Mahabub Rahman Haldar, Residing At Kalikapur Uttar Musalman Para, Po-Bohalbaria,Ps-Mathurapur,Dist-24 Parganas South, Pin-743399,India have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Asadullah Haldar(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 10/07/2025. Asadullah Haldar(Old Name) And Asadullah Haldar (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Shaikh Moineuddin, S/o, Late Shaikh Sirajuddin residing at 11/a/2/1, Brou Field Road, 2nd Floor, P.S.-Ekalpur, Kolt-700027, Have declared by an vide affidavit no. 15659 dated 09.07.2025 in the Court of Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, that my father's correct name is Shaikh Sirajuddin (since deceased) but my father's name has been wrongly recorded in my Passport as Shaikh Sherajuddin in place of Shaikh Sirajuddin. Shaikh Sirajuddin and Shaikh Sherajuddin both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sri Sumanta Naskar, S/o, Shyamal Naskar residing at Uttarpara, Manikpur, P.S.- Sankarail, Dist.-Howrah, Pin-711309, Have declared by an vide affidavit no. 4530 dated 09.07.2025 in the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata, that my original name is Sumanta Naskar (in my Aadhar Card, PAN and Voter Card) but my name has been wrongly recorded in my all Educational Testimonials my name as Sumonta Naskar in place of Sumanta Naskar. Sumanta Naskar and Sumonta Naskar both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Chupiya Sekh, W/O Lokman Sekh, residing at Vill - Uttar Radhanagar, P/S- Magrahat, Dist- 24pgs (S)- 743355. That in some of my son's (Md.Saifulla Shaik) documents my name has been recorded as Chupia Bibi & Rehena Bibi which is incorrect.So vide Affidavit before the Ld. 1st class J.M at Alipore dt-10/07/2025 (no.-5294/25) that Chupiya Sekh & Chupia Bibi & Rehena Bibi is same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Lokman Sekh,S/O- Late Bahadur Sekh, residing at Vill - Uttar Radhanagar, P/S- Magrahat, Dist- 24pgs (S)- 743355. That in some of my son's (Md.Saifulla Shaik) documents my name has been recorded as Lokman Shaik & Mahboob Shaik which is incorrect.So vide Affidavit before the Ld. 1st class J.M at Alipore dt-10/07/2025 (no.-5293/25) that Lokman Sekh & Lokman Shaik & Mahboob Shaik is same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Mabubar (Old Name) S/O Late Abdul Hasem Halder,Residing At Kalikapur Uttar Musalman Para, Po-Bohalbaria, Ps-Mathurapur, Dist-24 Parganas South,Pin-743399,India,have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahabubur Rahman Halder (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 10/07/2025.Mabubar (Old Name) And Mahabubur Rahman Halder (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Tapon Dolai(Old Name),son of Mantu Dolai,residing at Vill - Dakshin Baroj,Po - Paushi,East Medinipur-721444,West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapan Dolai (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 11/07/2025.That Tapon Dolai and Tapan Dolai both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Tirpani Dolai(Old Name),wife of Tapan Dolai,residing at Vill - Dakshin Baroj,Po - Paushi,East Medinipur - 721444,West Bengal,have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tripani Dolai(New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 11/07/2025.That Tirpani Dolai and Tripani Dolai both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Ashuran Bibi(Old Name),Wife Of Md Kalimuddin Quadri, Residing At Vill-Joypur, Po-Garjaipur, Puriuliya -723201, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Asuran Bibi(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/07/2025.That Ashuran Bibi And Asuran Bibi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Sony (Old Name), Son Of Abdul Aziz Khan, Residing At 52, Dakshindari Road, Near Sreebhumi, Kolkata, Bidhanagar - 700043, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Soni (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/07/2025, That Md Sony And Md Soni Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I Shabana Bano Naushad Alias Shabana Bano (Old Name),W/O Md Naushad,R/O 166/H/55 Keshab Chandrans Street, Kolkata-700009, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shabana Naushad (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/07/2025, That Shabana Bano Naushad Alias Shabana Bano And Shabana Naushad All Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I,Sajeda Bibi,Wife Of Fazlur Rahman Shaikh, Residing At Vill-Dakshin Chandi Po Chandi, P.S-Bishnupur, South 24 Parganas-743503, West Bengal, Do Hereby Notified That My Minor Daughter Mst Farhana Khatun (Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Farhana Khatun (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/07/2025,That Sajida Bibi And Sajeda Bibi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Sajida Bibi (Old Name),Wife Of Fazlur Rahman Shaikh, Residing At Vill-Dakshin Chandi Po Chandi,Ps - Bishnupur, South24parganas - 743503,West Bengal,Do Hereby Notified That My Minor Daughter Ayesha Siddika Khatun (Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ayesa Siddika (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/07/2025,That Ayesha Siddika Khatun And Ayesa Siddika Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Sajeda Bibi,Wife Of Fazlur Rahman Shaikh, Residing At Vill-Dakshin Chandi Po Chandi,Ps - Bishnupur, South24parganas - 743503,West Bengal,Do Hereby Notified That My Minor Daughter Ayesha Siddika Khatun (Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ayesa Siddika (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/07/2025,That Ayesha Siddika Khatun And Ayesa Siddika Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Fajlur Rahman Sk(Old Name),Son Of Aynal Ali Sk, Residing At Vill-Dakshin Chandi Po Chandi, Ps-Bishnupur, South 24 Parganas- 743503,West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Fazlur Rahman Shaikh(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/07/2025, That Fajlur Rahman Sk And Fazlur Rahman Shaikh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, AZADAH LASKAR & AJAD LASKAR (old names) son of AZAHAR LASKAR, residing at VILL & P.O.- PODRA, P.S.- SANKARAIL, DIST.- HOWRAH, PIN- 711109, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as AZAD LASKAR (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025, AZAD LASKAR (new name) and AZADAH LASKAR & AJAD LASKAR (old name) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shiladitya Bose @ Siladitya Basu (old names) son of Animesh Bose, residing at 587/N, RAJA state RAM-MOHAN ROY ROAD, KOLKATA, 700041, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Siladitya Bose (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit SL No. 59, dated 22/09/2014. Siladitya Bose (new name) and Shiladitya Bose @ Siladitya Basu (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Lavanya, Lavanya Saravana Pandian (old names) D/O R Saravana Pandian (father) & S Latha (mother), present residing at Block Ranaghat 1, Opposite To Joy Pharmacy, Jogpur road, Anulua, Ranaghat, West Bengal, 741255, W.B, India and permanent residing at Plot No 3, Lawyers Garden ,Muthuramalinga, Thevar St, Kochadai, Madurai, Tamil Nadu 625016, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Lavanya S (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 11/07/2025. Lavanya S (new name) and Lavanya, Lavanya Saravana Pandian (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Lakshmi Rauth (old name) wife of Kailash Routh, residing at 2/C Chatu Babu Lane, Kolkata 700014, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Laxmi Routh (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 11/07/2025. Laxmi Routh (new name) and Lakshmi Rauth (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, NIRMAL KUMAR CHOWDHURY (old name) son of LATE ASWINI KUMAR CHOUDHURY, residing at SRINEKATAN ROAD, BOLPUR, UDAYANPALLY, BOLPUR, BIRBHUM, WEST BENGAL, PIN- 731204, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as NIRMAL KUMAR CHOUDHURY (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. NIRMAL KUMAR CHOUDHURY (new name) and NIRMAL KUMAR CHOWDHURY (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SUJATA CHOWDHURY (old name) wife of NIRMAL KUMAR CHOUDHURY, residing at SRINEKATAN ROAD, BOLPUR, UDAYANPALLY, BOLPUR, BIRBHUM, WEST BENGAL, PIN- 731204, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SUJATA CHOUDHURY (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. SUJATA CHOUDHURY (new name) and SUJATA CHOWDHURY (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SUPRIYA SARKAR (old name) wife of ASHESH SARKAR, residing at H.NO.-181, LOHIYA NAGAR, NEAR HANUMAN MANDIR, GODDA, JHARKHAND, PIN- 814133, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SUPRIYA (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. SUPRIYA (new name) and SUPRIYA SARKAR (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, AVISHEK GANGULY S/O PRANAB KUMAR GANGULY on behalf of my minor daughter ANANYA GANGALI (old name), residing at SUSMITA COMPLEX, BLOCK-A, SE, KALIPARK BABLATABLA, RAJARHAT, NORTH 24 PARGANAS , WEST BENGAL, PIN- 700136, India, have changed her name and she shall henceforth be known as ANANYA GANGULY (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. ANANYA GANGULY (new name) and ANANYA GANGALI (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SUNITA GUPTA (old name) wife of RAJ KUMAR GUPTA, residing at SUGAGANJ BAZAR, NEAR BADI BATA, JAGDISHPUR, BHAGALPUR, BIHAR, PIN- 812002, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SUNEETA DEVI (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. SUNEETA DEVI (new name) and SUNITA GUPTA (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Suraj Datta (old name) S/O SERAJUL HALDER, residing at V-68 AKRA ROAD, HEDER AKA LANE, P.S.- RAJA BAGAN, KOLKATA- 700018, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as YASMINA BIBI (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/07/2025. YASMINA BIBI (old name) and YESMINA BIBI (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sukumar Datta (old name) S/O Gobinda Datta, residing at Uttar Jhapardah Rathtala, P.O.- Domjur, P.S.- Domjur, Dist.- Howrah, Pin- 711405, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sukumar Datta (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/07/2025. Sukumar Datta (new name) and Sukumar Datta (old name) both are same and one identical person.

16th Rozgar Mela organised at Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: As a part of Government of India's continuous endeavour to generate more and more employment in a mission mode, Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the 16th tranche of Rozgar Mela, the noble Recruitment Drive at 47 locations across the nation for more than 51,000 newly recruited appointees, via video conferencing today (12.07.2025). On this occasion, the Hon'ble Prime Minister also addressed the newly inducted candidates.

At Kolkata venue, Rozgar Mela was organized by Eastern Railway's Sealdah Division at Dr. B.C.Roy Auditorium, Sealdah wherein Dr. Sukanta Majumder, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Education & Development of North Eastern Region, Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, Smt. Zari-na Firdausi, Principal Chief Personnel Officer, Shri Rajeev Saxena, Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah and other senior officers of Eastern Railway and various Central Government Departments graced the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Sukanta Majumder, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Education & Development of North Eastern Region said that, Rozgar Mela serves as a pivotal initiative in promoting employment opportunities, skill development and economic growth - ultimately benefiting the nation's youth. Hon'ble Minister informed



that under the able guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, about 10 lakh jobs were provided till this 16th Rozgar Mela.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, congratulated all the new recruits and extended best wishes to them. Shri Deouskar also said that, Ministry of Railways, being the largest employer within the Central Government has contributed to this noble cause of generating employment. In this 16th edition of Rozgar Mela, 251 candidates are distributed offer of appointment and initiated other joining processes. Shri Deouskar, General Manager also expressed his happiness as other Ministries such as Ministry of Defence, Customs, P&T, GSI, AIIMS, UCO Bank, PNB, UBI, Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Mines etc. participated in this Rozgar Mela.

Appointment letters were physically handed over by Dr. Sukanta Majumder, Hon'ble

Union Minister of State for Education & Development of North Eastern Region to the new appointees in different departments in Central Government. On this occasion, 215 new appointees including 01 Divyangjan candidate were handed over the appointment letters physically by the dignitaries.

Candidates who got the appointment letters expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for organizing the Rozgar mela and offering the appointment letters to the deserving candidates. The candidates were very excited and enthusiastically taken selfies at the selfie points installed at the B. C. Roy Auditorium. This historic drive demonstrates the Government's unwavering commitment to prioritizing youth employment and development, which will in turn contribute to the nation's economic growth by leveraging the skills and talents of the youth.

Security arrangements at Tarakeswar railway station for Shravani Mela 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: In anticipation of the large influx of pilgrims during the Shravani Mela-2025, Howrah Division of Eastern Railway has undertaken comprehensive crowd management and security measures at Tarakeswar Railway Station to ensure the safety, convenience and smooth movement of all passengers and pilgrims.

The following special arrangements have been implemented to manage the crowd: 1. Large Holding Area has been created adjacent to the Platform 1A of the station for guiding public to have a regulated entry into the station. 2. Entry to the station premises shall be through this Holding Area for trains moving towards Howrah/Sheoraphuli direction. 3. Public moving towards Arambagh/Goghat shall have the entry from the Second Entry (bus stand side). 4. Platform-wise Train Op-

erations: • Howrah/Sheoraphuli-bound trains will depart from Platform No. 01 and 01A. • Arambagh-bound trains will depart from Platform No. 02/03.

5. Segregated entry/exit on Platforms: Barricading is planned on platform no.1 to segregate entry and exit onto trains for better crowd movement. 6. ATVM Availability: Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs) will be operational near barricaded enclosures, the Mandir side, and the bus stand side for hassle-free ticketing. 7. Segregated Entry/Exit to the station: Dedicated separate entry and exit routes have been planned to reduce criss-cross movement. 8. Access Routes for Bus Stand: Passengers may use LC Gate No. 24 and LC Gate No. 25 to access the bus stand side. 9. Security Deployment: Large-scale deployment is planned by RPF for passenger assistance and to maintain law and order. The following precautions are needed from the passengers, 1. Passengers are requested to avoid using the Railway station to reach the bus stand. 2. Passengers are requested to avoid using railway tracks/yard to move/cross over. 3. Passengers are requested to avoid boarding the trains from off-side of the platform. 4. Passengers are requested to not trespass the track. The Eastern Railway appeals to all travelers and devotees to follow the instructions displayed at the station premises and announced through public address systems. These measures are in the interest of public safety and crowd control during the holy Shravani Mela.

Howrah division records significant rise in pilgrim footfall and revenue on first day of Shravani Mela

MI News Service, Kolkata: The first day of Shravani Mela, observed on 10th July 2025, witnessed a remarkable surge in pilgrim footfall at Tarakeswar station, one of the most revered pilgrimage destinations under Eastern Railway's Howrah Division. A combined total of 65,754 passengers were recorded at Sheoraphuli and Tarakeswar stations – a notable increase from last year's figure of 58,123 passengers on the corresponding day. This rise in footfall also translated into a substantial increase

in ticketing revenue. Combined earnings from Sheoraphuli and Tarakeswar stations reached ₹5,94,135/- this year, up from ₹4,46,285/- recorded on the same day last year — an impressive growth driven by both higher passenger turnout and improved ticketing efficiency.

The surge in passenger movement was efficiently managed through proactive planning and seamless coordination by the Division. A range of passenger-friendly initiatives and infrastructure upgrades were implemented to

handle the festive rush smoothly and ensure the safety and convenience of all pilgrims.

Key measures included the deployment of 6 Mobile UTS (M-UTS) units, enhanced promotion of the UTS Mobile App for digital ticketing, provision of digital payment facilities at Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), and QR code-based payment systems at all ticket counters. Additionally, 10 extra ticket counters were set up to minimise waiting times and accommodate the surge in demand.

Rozgar Mela organised at Kharagpur and Ranchi

Appointment letters handed over to newly inducted recruits

MI News Service, Kolkata: The 16th Rozgar Mela was held at 47 locations across the country today (12.07.2025) including Kharagpur and Ranchi under South Eastern Railway jurisdiction. Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister has distributed more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly appointed youth in various Government Departments and Organizations through video conferencing.

In the Rozgar Mela held at Kharagpur, total 155 Appointment letters were handed over to the newly inducted recruits for different posts in various Ministries and Departments. Shri Hiranmay Chhatopadhyay, Hon'ble MLA was the Chief Guest for the event. Shri K.R.Choudhary, Divisional Railway Manager, Kharagpur and other divisional officers were also present



MLA Hiranmay Chhatopadhyay handing over appointment letter to new appointees during Rozgar Mela organized at Kharagpur on Saturday.

Name Change
I, YESMINA BIBI (old name) W/O SERAJUL HALDER, residing at V-68 AKRA ROAD, HEDER AKA LANE, P.S.- RAJA BAGAN, KOLKATA- 700018, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as YASMINA BIBI (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/07/2025. YASMINA BIBI (old name) and YESMINA BIBI (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, PUTUL SINGHA (old name) W/O BIPLAB KUMAR SINGHA, residing at SUBHAS PALLY, NAIHATI, NORTH 24 PGS, PIN- 743165, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as PUTUL SINGHA (DEBNATH) (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 11/07/2025. PUTUL SINGHA (DEBNATH) (new name) and PUTUL SINGHA (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Fire fighting training organised at Majerhat Metro Station

MI News Service, Kolkata: Metro Railway takes all possible measures and care for ensuring commuters safety. Shri P Uday Kumar Reddy, General Manager, Metro Railway regularly monitors and reviews safety measures adopted in the 'Lifecycle of Kolkata' to avoid any untoward incident like fire. In order to check the preparedness of Metro staff of different departments to tackle any fire emergency inside the tunnels or on the viaduct, regular training is conducted in Metro Railway, Kolkata.

A firefighting training programme for the field staff was conducted under the supervision of senior officers on 11.07.2025 at Majerhat Metro station. In this training, Metro staff were imparted training on how to douse the flame through simulation of various fire and smoke conditions.

Staff from Traffic Department and RPF personnel attended this training. It is expected that such training will sharpen the skill and alertness of the field staff to respond to any emergency situation and minimize the rescue time and restore normalcy at the earliest.

Police probe gunshot injury claims near Kalkaji market

MI News Service, New Delhi: Delhi Police are investigating an alleged incident of firing near the main market area of Kalkaji following a PCR call late on Thursday night, in which two young men claimed to have suffered gunshot injuries. However, police say no evidence of a firing has been found so far at the alleged site.

According to the Police, "A PCR call was received at 11:15 pm on 11/7/25 where the caller said that he and his friend had received Gun Shot Injury near Kalkaji main Market T Point Jain Shikanji, Deshbandhu College."

Both injured persons, identified as Dev Malik (20), son of Manoj Malik, a resident of Shyam Nagar, Okhla Phase 3, and NirbhayBhatti (24), son of JitenderBhatti, from Gali No. 16, Tughlakabad Extension, were reportedly taken to Safdarjung Hospital for treatment.

According to the Police, "Efforts were made to record the statement of the injured; however, both refused to give their statement and told that they will give their statement at PS and get the SOC identified after getting discharged from the hospital."

As per the medical legal certificate (MLC), the injuries sustained by both individuals were categorized as contusions and lacerations.

Power of Attorney
My clients, Sri Sumit Ray son of Upendra Ray and Smt. Rishu Ray wife of Sumit Ray, purchased the land with Structure from the sellers Smt. Maya Paul, Swagat Paul and Sandipon Paul through a registered deed numbered 050101844 for the year 2025 at the D.S.R. I Howrah Office. The chain deed is available, registered under deed number 050101844/2025. Through this deed, Sri Sumit Ray and Smt. Rishu Ray acquired the land from the above Sellers Smt. Maya Paul and Sandipon Paul via a power of attorney and Sandipon Paul. At present, my client, Sri Sumit Ray and Smt. Rishu Ray, are eligible to apply for mutation at the B.L. & L.R.O. Office. The power of attorney remains valid. **The details of the property are as follows:** Mouza: Lihua, J.L. No.: 12, L.R. Dag Nos.: 526, L.R. Khatun No.: 12001, Holding no. 119, Mirpara Road, P.S. Lihua, Dist. Howrah. **Power of Attorney details:** Book no. 1, Volume no. 1902-2024, Being No. 19020224/2024, ARA-II, Kolkata. **Drafted By** SURAJIT CHAKRABORTY-Advocate Howrah Judge's Court F/2018/4547/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to all concerned those my client Mr. Goutam Bose, Mr. Tapan Bose, Mr. Swapan Bose present address: No. Pin-700043 (WB) against Rs. 1,85,000/- (One Lacs Eighty five Thousand only) my client Said dag No. 50, 80, 102, 108, 141, 388, 467, 478, 569, 716, 719, 819, 823, 916, 1706, 1757, 1758, 1749 are Present owner of this Property that price and parcel said land and Situated under Dist.-Hooghly, P.S. Dhaniakhalhi J.L. No.30 Mouja-Srikarshanapur, Hal Dag and Sabak Dag No. 50, 80, 102, 108, 141, 388, 467, 478, 569, 716, 719, 819, 823, 916, 1706, 1757, 1758, 1749 Total Area of Land 41 Satak respectively and the same recorded in the BL&LRO, Dhanialkhalhi Block, as against, Khatun No 1659/1 if any person and/or persons having any claim right, title or interest whatsoever over and in and in respect of said property or any objection to the sale of the same must submit the undersigned thereof with supporting documentary evidence within 15days from this date, there after the claim, if any shall be deemed to have been waved and no further claim shall be entertained and my client shall proceed with the transaction. **Tapas Kumar Mandal (Advocate)** Hooghly Judge's Court P.O.-Chinsurah, Dist.-Hooghly

NOTICE
My Client Md Mujaffar Hussain, Son of - Mujlim Ansari, West Bengal had Purchased a land (Schedule appended below) from the holder of the power of Attorney Md Enamul Haque, Son of Mujidel Haque, Power of attorney no- 0080/2011 A.D.S.R Bhangar. If anybody has any objection on mutation of the said land, please in from office of the B.L. & L.R.O Bhangar- 2, within thirty days from the date of this Publication. (Land schedule - Mouza- Kulberia, J.L. No.- 7, L.R Khatian-7398 & R.S & L.R DAG No- 237). **MD BAZUL HAQUE (Deed Writer)** Vill- East Kantaila LicenceNo- BGR-90ADSR Bhangar Office Dist.-South 24 Parganas

আমমোক্তরনামা বিজ্ঞপ্তি
আমার মরেল সন্তোষ বরিশাস, পিতা-পাশা বরিশাস, সাং-নিমেরবটি (জুবুরটি) থানা-চোমহাট, জেলা-হাওড়া, শ্রম মরেল, রেবোনা মরেল, ও সন্না হাজরা, ইহারের পক্ষে নিমুক্ত আমমোক্তরনামা সন্তোষ বরিশাস পিতা-পাশা বরিশাস ভাটখারি ও বিজয় ভাটখারি পিতা শোনেদা ভাটখারি ইহারের নিমিত্ত ইহতে ২০১৪ সালের আদমশুমারি রোজেন্সিকৃত ৪০-০৫৪৫/২০১৪ নম্বর আমমোক্তরনামা দলিলদ্বারা, থানা-চোমহাট, মৌজা-জুবুরহাট জেলা, এর নম্বর-৩০, হাল এল, আর ২২ ও ২২৭/১ নং খতিয়ানে, হাল ৮ নং দলিল দাগে মোট ০.৪৪ শতক সম্পত্তি হেইদ দলিল দাগে ৪০-১১৭৮/২০১৪ নম্বর দলিল মুলে জমা করিয়া নাম পরেরে বদোনে করেন। উক্ত বিষয়ে দাখোদার বা খাফ সন্নিহিত কাহারো কোনো আবেদন বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের একমাসের মধ্যে BL&LRO চোমহাট, অফিস এর নিকট আপীল করিতে পারেন, অন্যথায় আইনানুগ কার্য হইবে। **Aloke Kumar Bhattacharya-Advocate** Judge's Court, Howrah Regd No- 444/1978

RECTIFICATION NOTICE
My clients, Mujaffar Ali Middey son of Mansur Middey purchased 4.96 Satak land vide deed No. 16057 dated 25/11/2024 from A.D.S.R Office Janai from Atanu Ghoriur son of Late Haradhan Ghoriur by his attorney. This is rectification of previous Legal Notice date 16/04/2025 page No. 05, Column No. 4, in this News paper Morning India, for your kind information.

Subhas Chandra Shah Advocate Serampore Court

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE, is hereby given that one Late Saibal Chatterjee, son of Shri Amarnath Chatterjee (since deceased) while being the sole and absolute owner of ALL THAT flat No-301, 3rd Floor, South Eastern side, measuring about 1276 sq.ft. Super Built up area, Udayan Apartment, Holding No.-26, Dr. K. K. Ghosh Road, Uttarpara-Kotrung Municipality, P.O-Bhadrakali, P.S. Tangara, DIST-Hooghly, PIN-712232, West Bengal, (hereinafter the Said Property) had mortgaged the said Property with my client, PIRAMAL FINANCE LIMITED (formerly known as Piramal capital & Housing Finance Limited & prior to that DHFL) against availing of a loan against the said Property as security vide loan account No. 137000040205. The said Late. saibal Chatterjee, (since deceased) during the subsistence of the aforesaid mortgage died intestate as bachelor on 14.02.2025 leaving behind surviving his father and mother as his legal heirs and successors, namely Sri Amarnath Chatterjee and Smt. Tapati Chatterjee, respectively and who claim to be only legal heirs of the said deceased. The said loan has now been fully repaid and accordingly my said clients are releasing the title deeds and other security documents to the said purported legal heirs of Late. Saibal Chatterjee (since deceased). Therefore any person/s having any right, title or interest or any claim, demand or objection of any nature whatsoever with respect to what has been stated above is hereby requested to notify the same in writing to the undersigned with supporting documentary evidence within 10 days from the date hereof, failing which no such claims, demands, objections shall be entertained and my said client shall proceed to release the title and security documents pertaining the said Property to the said Sri Amarnath Chatterjee and Smt. Tapati Chatterjee.

Mr. Sushanta Majumdar, Advocate MM Associates Karnani Mansarovar Room No. - 528, 5th Floor, 27A, Park Street, Kolkata-700016

KSF-Vidhi unveil roadmap for LGBTQIA+ legal reform; Justice Kaul calls out societal discrimination at policy launch

MI News Service, New Delhi : At the unveiling of Queering the Law: Beyond Supriyo, retired Supreme Court Judge Sanjay Kishan Kaul made a stirring call for social reform.

Reflecting on a recent case of honour-based violence, Justice Kaul condemned the country's continued obsession with control, especially over relationships, women, and those who challenge social norms.

"Freedom and identity are still seen as threats rather than rights," he said, adding, "Look at what is happening around us. A father shooting his own daughter simply because she chose to live life on her own terms. This is not just an individual crime, it's a symptom of the deep-rooted resistance to autonomy, particularly when it comes to women or anyone who challenges traditional norms."

"Forget urban spaces, in many parts of the country, relationships are still seen

through the narrow prism of control, honour, and social pressure. This kind of violence is not just about one family or one incident; it reflects a much larger issue about how freedom and identity are still seen as threats rather than rights." Justice Kaul said.

The event marked the public launch of policy recommendations crafted by the Keshav Suri Foundation (KSF) and the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy (Vidhi). This collaborative effort was initiated in response to the Supreme Court's Supriyo vs. Union of India verdict, which denied marriage equality to certain queer groups but underlined the State's duty to address systemic discrimination faced by LGBTQIA+ individuals.

The gathering featured panel discussions with lawyers, activists, queer civil society leaders, and Vidhi fellows, culminating in an immersive theatrical performance. Justice Kaul's key-

note drew sharp attention to societal resistance to autonomy, especially in non-traditional families and queer relationships.

The policy package, titled Queering the Law: Beyond Supriyo, comprises four briefs: recognition of queer relationships and families, access to goods and services, queer affirmative healthcare, and prevention of violence. These documents emerged from extensive legal research and pan-India consultations in New Delhi, Mumbai, and Jaipur, engaging over 150 stakeholders.

Among the key proposals: amend secular laws to be inclusive of queer marriage, parenthood, and inheritance, establish civil unions and nomination systems for chosen families. Reform the Transgender Persons Act to introduce horizontal reservations and remove binary medical certification. Ban conversion therapy and unnecessary surgeries on in-

tersex persons. Expand gender-affirming healthcare and mental health access. Modify laws like the Domestic Violence Act and the Prevention of Sexual Harassment Act to reflect queer-specific violence.

Keshav Suri, founder of KSF and Executive Director of the Lalit Hospitality Group, stated, "Our nation's journey towards equality demands collective action. We are proud to present a set of actionable recommendations that chart a path forward, one that ensures dignity, rights, and recognition for LGBTQIA+ individuals."

Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy emphasised the importance of engaging with the High Powered Committee, urging governments to implement legal and policy changes for queer inclusion. The recommendations aim to assist civil society and legal professionals in shaping reform and pursuing strategic litigation.



Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Chief Justice of India Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai, Judge of the Supreme Court of India, Justice P. S. Narasimha and others in a group picture during the 22nd Convocation of the NALSAR University of Law, in Hyderabad on Saturday.

Modi govt released more funds to Kerala than previous Congress govts: Amit Shah

MI News Service, Thiruvananthapurami : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday slammed Kerala's ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) and the Opposition Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF), accusing both of being tainted by corruption. Rejecting allegations of the Centre's stepmotherly treatment toward the state, he said the Modi-led government had allocated more funds to Kerala than the previous UPA government.

"The track record of LDF and UDF has been that of a corrupt government. LDF has done explosives scam, cooperative bank scam, AI camera scam, Life Mission scam, PPE kit scam and India's biggest scam – state-sponsored gold smuggling scam," Shah said at a BJP event in Thiruvananthapuram.

Shah said that he will release the details of the Central funds allocated to Kerala later today.

"PM Narendra Modi government released money for Kerala many times than that

released by the Congress government. I will release every detail about it publicly through the BJP head office today," Shah said.

He said that PM Modi has three core visions fundamental to Kerala's development – governance without corruption, no discrimination in government schemes and Kerala's development beyond political benefits.

"BJP and CPI(M) are both cadre-based parties, but there's a major difference between the two. Cadre welfare is bigger than the state's development in Kerala, while it is ViksitKeralam above cadre for BJP," he said, claiming that the BJP puts people's welfare above narrow political interests.

Shah also claimed that "terrorism cannot be answered by anyone other than PM Modi and the BJP."

"India will be free of Naxalism by 31 March, 2026... Terrorism cannot be answered by anyone other than PM Modi and BJP... We answered Uri attack by surgical strike, Pulwama attacks by air strikes, 'Operation

Sindoor se gharmeinghuske-maara'," he said.

He began his speech by apologising that he couldn't speak in beautiful Malayalam. He also remembered the 8th-century Vedic scholar, philosopher AdiShankara.

"Kerala is the land of AdiShankara, who expounded the Veda, Brahma Sutras and other philosophical treatises. I bow before his exalted soul," he said.

Earlier in the day, he inaugurated the newly constructed state-of-the-art BJP office in Thiruvananthapuram.

In the evening, the Union Minister will travel to Kannur, where he will offer prayers at the renowned Sri Rajarajeshwara Temple in Taliparamba. The visit to the temple is seen as part of the BJP's continued efforts to engage with the cultural and spiritual fabric of Kerala.

The visit comes at a time when political activities are intensifying in Kerala with the assembly elections expected to be held next year and the party looking to energeise its cadre.

Govt to promote private players for rare earth magnet production, says G Kishan Reddy

MI News Service, Hyderabad: Union Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy on Saturday said that the government has introduced Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes to encourage participation of private players in rare earth permanent magnets production.

The Centre has initiated PLI schemes, which offer financial incentives tied directly to measurable outcomes and have been designed to boost domestic manufacturing.

While talking to ANI, the Union Minister said, "For this, the Indian government has also started some PLI schemes to encourage it. We are paying attention to this subject. The Prime Minister has continuously discussed this subject. Recently, during his visit to 5 countries, discussions were held with different countries on this subject. The raw material of rare earth is also available in smaller quantities in India. Importing raw materials, processing them, and manufacturing permanent magnets for various applications, including cell phones, space technology, and defence, creates a huge demand. The Indian government is working seriously for this. This scheme has also been brought under it."

Additionally, the Minister also highlighted India's shift in sourcing strategy, noting that India was previously entirely dependent on China for rare-earth permanent magnets.

India, earlier, relied entirely on imports from China for the permanent magnets, the Minister said. He added that the Non-Ferrous Materials Technology Development Centre (NFTDC), supported by the Ministry of Mining in Hyderabad, has successfully prepared a permanent magnet processing unit equipped with the necessary machinery.

The central government plans to provide the technology developed by NFTDC to private factories for manufacturing.

"We used to be 100 per cent dependent on China for permanent magnets of the rare earths. But recently, China has refused to supply. With this view, the Indian government is making efforts for permanent magnet manufacturing. Our mining ministry's institute in Hyderabad has made efforts and prepared a permanent magnet processing unit with equipment. After three to four months, we will try to manufacture permanent magnets by giving the technology to different private factories," Reddy told ANI.

In April 2024, China announced that it would impose export controls on certain rare earth-related items, triggering a global supply shortage, including in India.

In the light of rare earth magnet production, on Friday, Pankaj Mohindroo, Chairman of India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA), welcomed the central government initiatives to ramp up rare earth magnet production in India, particularly the incentives the latter is earmarking for.

Railways Launch Major Reforms to Simplify Exams and Speed Up Appointments

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Ministry of Railways has undertaken a series of reforms aimed at making the recruitment process transparent, efficient, and technology-driven. These reforms have been developed through extensive consultations with officials, candidates, coaching institutes, and other stakeholders.

For the first time, an Annual Recruitment Calendar has been introduced from 2024 for all Group "C" posts, including ALP, Technicians, NTPC, RPF, Paramedical, and Level-1 categories. This ensures transparency and gives candidates clarity about the timeline from notification to final examination.

Calendar 2024				Notification		Examination	
Categories	Month	Vacancies	Date	Applicants	Date		
ALP	Jan - March	5,696	20 Jan 2024	18,40,347	1st stage :		
		13,103	Vacancy added on July 2024		25.11.2024 to		
		~ 18,799			29.11.2024		

Calendar 2024				Notification		Examination	
Categories	Month	Vacancies	Date	Applicants	Date		
Technicians	April - June	9,144	9 March 2024	26,99,892	1st stage :		
		5,154	Vacancy added on 22 August 24		02.05.2025, 06.05.2025		
					3rd stage: 15.07.2025 Scheduled CBAT		
Junior Engineer	July - September	7,951	27 July 2024	31,01,266	1st stage :		
					16.12.2024 to 18.12.2024		
Paramedical Categories		1,376	10 August 2024	6,25,343	2nd stage: 22.04.2024, 04.06.2025		
		8,113	7 Sep 2024	38,40,395	1st stage: 05.06.2025 to 24.06.2025		
Non Technical Popular Categories - Graduate (Level 4, 5 & 6)		3,445	7 Sep 2024	83,27,474	2nd stage: 11.09.2025 (Tentative)		
					1st stage: 07.08.2025 to 08.09.2025		

Calendar 2024				Notification		Examination	
Categories	Month	Vacancies	Date	Applicants	Date		
Ministerial & Isolated Categories	October - December	1,036	21st Dec 2024	3,22,150	09.09.2025 to 10.09.2025 (Tentative)		
Level 1		32,438	28th Dec 2024	1,11 Cr	04.11.2025 to 17.12.2025 (Tentative)		
Sub Inspector RPF	Not incl. in calendar	452	14 Apr 2024	15,35,635	02.12.2024 to 13.12.2024		
Constables RPF		4,208	14 Apr 2024	45,30,285	02.03.2025 to 18.03.2025		
Calendar 2025							
ALP	January - March	9,970	29 Mar 2025	9,68,720	Under process		
Technicians	April - June	6,238	21 June 2025	Under process			
Total		1,08,324		3,68,91,507			

The time between notification and the first-stage exam has been significantly reduced to approximately 8 months. With ongoing system improvements, this duration is expected to reduce further, allowing faster processing and appointment.

To support large-scale exams, the exam infrastructure has been expanded substantially. Over 325 centers operate daily, each with a capacity of about 350 candidates. The network will further expand with the addition of 25,000 nodes per shift. Priority is being given to allot centers within 250 km of the candidate's address, extendable up to 500 km if required.

A strong focus has been placed on fraud prevention and technological innovations. Aadhaar-based e-KYC, real-time facial recognition, and photo validation are now integral to the exam process. Additionally, 100% deployment of mobile jammers across over 7,000 centers has ensured a zero-cheating record, notably in the June 2025 RRB exams.

The eligibility criteria and waitlist process have been made more inclusive. For Level-1 posts, qualifications now include 10th pass, ITI, or National Apprenticeship Certificate. The waitlist process has been streamlined by adjusting for non-joining candidates upfront, reducing uncertainty for those on standby.

Several candidate-friendly measures have also been implemented. A One-Time Registration (OTR) system simplifies the application process across recruitment cycles. RRB websites have been upgraded to be PwBD-friendly with accessibility features, and revised guidelines now allow religious symbols during examinations without compromising security.

A major technological and process overhaul has taken place. Exam Conducting Agencies have procured over 5,500 high-capacity servers. Question content is now reviewed by domain experts and language translators to ensure accuracy.

For internal promotions and departmental exams, CBATs and tablet-based tests have been introduced, enhancing the efficiency and objectivity of the evaluation process.

Earlier, examination guidelines restricted candidates from carrying or wearing religious symbols inside examination centres. Recognizing the diverse faith practices of candidates across the country, the Ministry of Railways has revised these instructions to make them more secular and inclusive. These reforms represent a paradigm shift in railway recruitment, making the process more transparent, technology-enabled, inclusive, and time-bound.

Continuous employment creation underway: Bhupender Yadav

MI News Service, Jaipur : Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav stated that continuous employment creation by the central government is going on as very big rozgaarmela was organised in the country on Saturday at more than 48 locations in which about 51000 youth were given appointment letters directly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On the 16thRozgaarMela, Yadav told reporters, "A very big rozgaarmela was organised in the country today at more than 48 locations in which about 51000 youth were given appointment letters directly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Continuous employment creation by the central government is going on..."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that India is rapidly moving towards becoming the world's third-largest economy, adding that the country has made progress across every sector in the last 11 years.

Speaking at the 16th edition of the RozgarMela, the Prime Minister said that India's manufacturing sector is one of its "greatest strength" and that the government has taken steps to boost employment in the private sector.

"The focus of the Indian government is also on creating new employment opportunities in the private sector. Recently, the government has approved a new scheme – the Employment Linked In-

centive scheme. Under this scheme, the government will provide Rs 15,000 to youth securing their first job in the private sector, meaning the government will contribute to the first salary of their first job. For this, the government has allocated a budget of about Rs 1 lakh crore, and this scheme will help in creating approximately 3.5 crore jobs," he said.

He also highlighted the steps taken to support manufacturing, saying, "Today, one of India's greatest strengths is our manufacturing sector. A large number of new jobs are being created in manufacturing... To boost the manufacturing sector, Mission Manufacturing has been announced in this year Budget. In recent years, we have strengthened the Make in India campaign."

The Prime Minister said that two sectors in particular, electronics and mobile phone manufacturing, and defence manufacturing, have seen massive growth.

"From PLI scheme, 11 lakh jobs were created. In the recent years, mobile phones and electronic sectors saw unprecedented expansion. Today, electronics worth Rs 11 lakh crores are being manufactured. This sector has witnessed growth of more than 5 times in the last 11 years. Earlier, there were only 2-4 units of mobile phone manufacturing. Now, the number has increased to 300 units where lakhs of youth are working..."

He also spoke about the rapid growth in defence production, especially after Operation Sindoor:

"There is one more such sector and after Operation Sindoor, it has been widely discussed. It is defence manufacturing. India is making new records in defence manufacturing. Our defence production has reached beyond Rs 1.25 lakh crores... Today, our country is rapidly moving towards becoming the world's third-largest economy. This is the marvel of the hard work of my youth. In the past 11 years, India has made progress across every sector," he said.

Quoting a report by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Prime Minister said that government welfare schemes have also helped boost employment.

"Recently, a report by the International Labour Organisation stated that in the past decade, over 90 crore citizens in India have been brought under the coverage of welfare schemes. The impact of these schemes goes beyond welfare – they have also contributed significantly to employment generation. For instance, under the Pradhan MantriAwasYojana, over 4 crore houses have been built so far. And it's not just about providing homes. The process of building these houses has created countless job opportunities across the country. In this, most of the jobs were created in villages," PM Modi added.

Raises more questions than answers: Aviation expert on Air India crash preliminary report

MI News Service, Pune : Aviation expert Sanjay Lazar on Saturday said that the preliminary report by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) on the Air India flight 171 crash raises more questions than answers, and expressed that the investigative authority should have made the transcript of cockpit voice recorder (CVR) public.

He said that informing the public about only "one line" from the cockpit conversations about "switches" raises more questions.

"The AAIB report raises more questions than it answers. There are a lot of gaps, which might be filled once the investigation goes further. However, I've had a few issues. How was the US media alerted three days ago? Everyone carried it out, and something does seem correct here. The AAIB should have made the entire CVR transcript public. By just informing the public about one line, it leaves a lot of questions hanging, when they talk about the switches," Lazar

told ANI.

The expert suggested that it wasn't appropriate for the AAIB to say that there are no safety recommendations for Boeing or General Electric since the investigation has not been completed.

"I do not believe that, when the investigation was not complete, it was the most appropriate thing for the AAIB to have said in the last line of the report, that there are no safety recommendations for Boeing or General Electric. That means that you have washed your hands, or you have decided that there is something else afoot here. In that case, they could have been more transparent," Lazar asserted.

On Friday, India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) released the preliminary report into the tragic crash of Air India flight AI171, a Boeing 787-8 aircraft, which crashed shortly after takeoff from Ahmedabad's SardarVallabhbhai Patel International Airport on June 12.

The AI-171 flight, which was bound for London's Gatwick airport, crashed soon after take off from Ahmedabad's SardarVallabhbhai Patel airport. 260 people lost their lives in the accident, which included 229 passengers, 12 crew members and 19 people on the ground.

The report outlines a harrowing sequence of events that unfolded within 90 seconds of take off, as both engines of the aircraft shut down unexpectedly during the initial climb, leading to a catastrophic loss of thrust and rapid descent.

Flight data recovered from the aircraft's Enhanced Airborne Flight Recorder (EAFR) revealed that the fuel cut off switches for both engines were inadvertently moved from RUN to CUTOFF, one after the other within a 1-second interval, at an altitude just moments after lift-off. One pilot was heard asking the other, "Why did you cut off?" to which the response was, "I did not."

ENGAGE & INDULGE

Morning India

HOW TO ARRANGE A TABLE FOR A HOUSE PARTY

Setting the table for a house party is more than just placing plates and cutlery—it's about creating an inviting, functional, and visually appealing space where guests can relax and enjoy themselves. Whether you're hosting a casual get-together, a festive celebration, or a formal dinner, a well-arranged table sets the tone for the entire evening.

Start by deciding the style of your setup. For larger, more casual gatherings, a buffet-style arrangement works best. Place a stack of plates at the beginning of the buffet line, followed by dishes in logical order—starters, mains, sides, and then desserts. Make sure every item has a designated serving utensil, and place napkins and cutlery at the end so guests don't have to juggle everything at once.

If your party is more intimate or formal, opt for a sit-down dinner. Cover your table with a cloth or runner that complements the occasion. Arrange each place setting with a dinner plate at the center, and if you're serving multiple courses, layer an appetizer or salad plate on top. Forks go to the left, knives and spoons to the right, and a dessert spoon or fork can be placed horizontally above the plate. Glassware—usually a water glass and a wine or cocktail glass—should sit above the knife.

To elevate the look, add a centerpiece. Fresh flowers, candles, fairy lights, or seasonal décor can bring charm and warmth to the table. If it's a themed party, you can get creative with props or matching table accessories. For a touch of elegance or fun, use place cards to assign seats—this works particularly well for mixed groups to encourage mingling.

Lighting also plays a vital role. Instead of relying solely on overhead lights, use dim lamps, string lights, or candles to create a cozy, welcoming atmosphere. Music in the background and a nicely arranged drink station can enhance the overall experience. If you're offering a self-serve bar, make sure to include enough glasses, mixers, garnishes, and even a small menu for guidance.

Lastly, don't forget the practical touches—have condiments and seasonings within reach, and discreetly place trash bins or a spot for used dishes to keep the area tidy. With a little planning and creativity, your table can become a centerpiece of connection, conversation, and celebration.



Loneliness in seniors frequently fuels smartphone addiction, and it can be considerably reduced by engaging golden-agers in offline activities like hobbies, physical activity, and family time.

TAP, LINK, LIVE

DR RASHMI KUMARI

The human race is already social, and the smartphone has everything needed to enable them act on their social needs.—Keith Teare

Over the past decade, smartphone usage has increased, involving people of all ages. Golden-agers are increasingly adopting smartphones and are incorporating it into their daily lives to keep them engaged, informed and connected. Improved accessibility features, user-friendly interfaces, and a growing awareness of the benefits of digital connectivity have contributed to this trend. The way old generations are using technology has significantly transformed, which brings both opportunities and challenges.

Additionally, smartphones help many seniors with a sense of accomplishment, and they also bridge the generational gap. It also empowers golden-agers to handle personal responsibilities like internet banking, shopping, and appointment scheduling on their own.

Family support plays a crucial role. The grandchildren can gain confidence if they teach their grandparents to learn new features of a smartphone. This strengthens the intergenerational ties.

Several factors have influenced the increasing adoption of smartphones among golden-agers, like

Loneliness in India is a growing concern in old age; a large percentage of the senior population suffers from isolation and lack of social connection. Some of the reasons behind this are

health deterioration, losing a spouse and friends, and geographical separation from children. Using social media and apps to find pleasure and company, many golden-agers use their smartphones as a coping strategy.

One of the primary motivations is the ability to maintain communication with family and friends. Older populations can keep connected with social media sites like Facebook and WhatsApp, video conversations, and instant messaging, which lessens feelings of isolation. This boosts their social connections.

Many elderly people use smartphones to keep track of their health. Seniors and their caregivers can feel at ease when they use apps that remind them to take their medications. Emergency features like location tracking and one-touch calling provide an additional degree of security.

Smartphones make it easy to get news, information, and weather updates. Voice-activated assistants like Siri and Google Assistant make it easier to search the web, especially for people who have trouble moving their hands or seeing. Smartphones make it easier to get to information and services.

For many older people, smartphones are a way to have fun by streaming movies, listening to music, playing games, or even reading eBooks. These things not only keep them busy, but they also help maintain cognitive health.

Smartphones can assist older people

with navigation, finding their way, and getting to emergency services, which makes it easier for them to live independently.

Although smartphones have many advantages for seniors, their increased usage is causing worries about addiction.



Golden-agers are increasingly adopting smartphones and are incorporating it into their daily lives to keep them engaged, informed and connected.

and its effects. Understanding how digital technology affects the elderly is crucial as it continues to saturate daily life.

Poorer sleep quality is associated with higher levels of phone addiction in older populations, with downheartedness serving as a mediator. It's critical to understand that overuse can occasionally create a barrier to real-life interactions. Golden-agers may unintentionally overlook in-person interactions when they frequently use virtual communications.

Overuse of smartphones can potentially impair cognitive abilities. According to research, obsessive checking behaviors and short attention spans might cause reaction times to slow down, which raises safety issues.

It is vital to have thoughtful smartphone habits because, even while smartphones offer chances for connection and mindful habits, uncontrolled use brings risks.

By setting specific rules for their daily phone habits, seniors can efficiently manage their smartphone usage and avoid addiction. Establishing clear objectives, like reducing the amount of time spent on social media, might be a helpful first step. Furthermore, establishing phone-free zones or times promotes better tech use, especially before bed or during meals.

Loneliness in seniors frequently fuels smartphone addiction, and it can be considerably reduced by engaging golden-agers in offline activities like hobbies, physical activity, and family time.

Smartphones foster social relationships and cognitive engagement. The smartphones also enhance seniors' communication abilities and mental flexibility. Golden-agers can benefit greatly from engaging in activities like social networking, online gaming, and video conversations, which can help them keep relationships stronger even when they live far away.

In a nutshell, smartphones offer potential benefits for golden-agers; however, it's essential to address the challenges and ensure that technology is used responsibly.

KNOWLEDGE

INDIA'S AYUSH 'INNOVATIONS' FEATURED IN WHO'S BRIEF ON AI IN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

The WHO has acknowledged India's efforts in integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) with traditional medicine systems, particularly Ayush systems, the Centre said on Saturday.

The World Health Organization praised the country's efforts in a technical brief – Mapping the Application of Artificial Intelligence in Traditional Medicine.

The release follows India's proposal on the subject, leading to the development of WHO's first-ever roadmap for using AI in traditional medicine, the Ayush ministry said in a statement.

India's efforts to harness the potential of AI to advance its Ayush systems reflect Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "AI for All," it said.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Prataprao Jadhav said India's AI initiatives, mentioned in WHO's brief, reflect the commitment of Indian scientists to advancing traditional medicine through cutting-edge technology.

"By integrating AI with Ayush systems, and through pioneering digital platforms such as the SAHI portal, NAMASTE portal, and the Ayush Research Portal, India is not only safeguarding its centuries-old medical wisdom but also leading the way in shaping a future of personalised, evidence-based, and globally accessible healthcare," he said.

Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, said the WHO document highlights India's AI-driven innovations, such as "Prakriti-based machine learning models" to the "groundbreaking Ayurgenomics project that brings together Ayurveda knowledge and modern genomics."



PERSON OF THE WEEK: SABIH KHAN

Indian-born techie and his incredible journey from Moradabad to Apple Inc

Apple's latest leadership reshuffle has put a spotlight on Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh - the birthplace of Sabih Khan, who has been appointed as the company's new Chief Operating Officer (COO). With this elevation, Khan joins a prestigious list of India-born executives like Satya Nadella (Microsoft), Sundar Pichai (Google), and Indra Nooyi (PepsiCo), who have steered global corporations.

Khan, 58, has been with Apple for three decades, rising steadily through its ranks. As

Senior Vice President of Operations since 2019, he has overseen Apple's vast global supply chain, ensuring the seamless delivery of products, driving manufacturing innovation, and championing sustainability. His promotion marks a significant milestone in Apple's long-planned leadership transition.

Jeff Williams, the outgoing COO, will retire later this year, having played a key role in shaping Apple's supply chain, launching the Apple Watch, and leading the

company's health initiatives.

Apple CEO Tim Cook hailed Khan as a "brilliant strategist" and "central architect of Apple's supply chain", applauding his contributions to environmental sustainability, including a 60% reduction in Apple's carbon footprint. "Above all, Sabih leads with heart and values," Cook said.

Born in 1966 in Moradabad's historic Mohammad Yar Khan 'kothi', which now houses a mini-mall and school, Khan moved to Singapore



in his early years before settling in the US. He holds degrees in economics and mechanical engineering from Tufts University and a master's from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Back in Moradabad, the mood is celebratory. Khan's cousin, Amaan Yar Khan, proudly shared that despite his monumental success, Sabih remains humble and deeply connected to his roots.

"Even after spending days with him, you wouldn't know he's a top executive unless someone told

you," he said.

Sabih's love for Indian curries and biryani remains intact, even while living in San Francisco with his wife and three children.

Khan's rise adds to the growing legacy of Indian-origin leaders shaping global businesses. The list includes Shantanu Narayen (Adobe), Arvind Krishna (IBM), Leena Nair (Chanel), and Vasant Narasimhan (Novartis), among others - a testament to the global impact of Indian talent across industries.

Pir Saheb gives message of peace



Nurul Islam Khan
The Barisal divisional conference of Furfura Darbar Sharif was held on Saturday. In this huge meeting of Furfura Islam Mission Qurani Sunni, Pir Shaikh Mishkat Siddiqui, the head of Furfura, said that we have to live our lives according to the provisions of the Quran. We have to inspire people with simple living, tolerance and humanity. There may be dif-

ferences of opinion, but it should not lead to conflict. The party of Allah is Hezbollah. Those who do not accept it are the party of Satan. Fighting, war, killing and destruction of the entire world are the work of the party of Satan. Therefore, conflict and trouble are not the work of Islam. Pir Saheb requested everyone to establish unity by giving a message of peace and harmony.

Nearly 40 Palestinians killed in Israeli airstrikes across Gaza Strip

MI News Service, Gaza: At least 39 Palestinians were killed Saturday in Israeli airstrikes that hit multiple locations across the Gaza Strip, according to medical and local sources.

Israeli army destroys tents, graves in Khan Younis city of Gaza. The tents of displaced Palestinians around al-Maslah, Turkish Cemetery and Qatar Camp were completely destroyed due to the bombardments.

An airstrike on Jamal Abdel Nasser Street, opposite the Islamic University in western Gaza City, killed a mother and her three children.

In the city's eastern Al-Tuffah neighborhood, four women were killed and 10 other civilians wounded when an Israeli missile hit a house near Yaffa School.

Two more civilians were killed in the Sheikh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza City after an airstrike targeted a residential apartment.

In the central Gaza Strip, a child was killed and others injured when a home near Al-Hassaina School west of the Nuseirat refugee camp was bombed.

Local sources said an Is-

raeli drone also struck a tent sheltering displaced families in the Al-Mansura area of Deir al-Balah, killing four family members, including two children.

Separately, rescue teams recovered the bodies of two more victims from the Sheikh Nasser neighborhood in Khan Younis.

Several other victims were also reported, although the exact locations were not disclosed.

Rejecting international calls for a ceasefire, the Israeli army has pursued a brutal offensive on the Gaza Strip since Oct. 7, 2023, killing over 57,800 Palestinians so far, most of them women and children. The relentless bombardment has destroyed the enclave and led to food shortages and the spread of diseases. 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 800 killed while trying to access aid in Gaza: UN

MI News Service, Geneva: Nearly 800 people have been killed while trying to access humanitarian aid in the Gaza Strip, the UN human rights office (OHCHR) said on Friday.

Speaking at a press briefing in Geneva, OHCHR spokesperson Ravina Shamdasani said that as of July 7, the OHCHR had documented 798 killings in aid distribution areas in Gaza.

"Including 615 in the vicinity of the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) sites and 183, presumably on the routes of aid convoys," she said.

She also noted that most of the casualties resulted from gunshot injuries.

Shamdasani said that such a situation is unacceptable, yet it continues.

Britain faces third, more extensive heatwave



MI News Service, London: Britain is bracing for its third heatwave of the year with exceptionally hot and dry weather conditions prevailing in large parts of the country.

According to the Met Office, vast expanses of Britain have met the official heatwave criteria, with hot, dry and sunny weather persisting into this weekend. High pressure remains dominant and temperatures are forecast to reach highs of 33-34 degrees Celsius in some regions over the next two days.

Met Office Chief Meteorologist Steve Willington said, "The current heatwave is more widespread than previous heatwaves this summer."

On Friday, the UK Health Security Agency and the Met Office issued an amber heat-health alert for much of England.

Under the weather-health alerting system in use, an amber heat-health alert indicates that weather impacts are likely to be felt across the whole health service.

At this alert level, health impacts may begin to be

observed among the wider population. There is an increased risk for individuals aged over 65, and those with pre-existing health conditions, including respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

The Environment Agency has reported that England is experiencing the driest start to a year since 1976.

In June, reservoir levels declined at nearly three-quarters of monitored sites, with all regions now recording below-average water storage.

The agency has warned that continued dry conditions could place further pressure on water resources and the environment.

Dr Tim Fox, fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and co-author of a report on climate change adaptation, emphasized that the recent heatwaves in Britain are not isolated events but are expected to become increasingly common in the future.

"As UK summers become hotter, with longer periods of high temperature extremes, the impact will reach far beyond personal discomfort," he said.

150,000 Rohingyas flee to Bangladesh amid renewed Myanmar violence: UN

MI News Service, United Nations: The United Nations on Friday said escalating conflict and targeted violence in Myanmar's Rakhine state have forced some 150,000 Rohingya refugees to flee to Bangladesh over the past 18 months – the largest exodus to the neighbouring country in years. As armed clashes intensify and conditions worsen inside Myanmar, thousands continue to cross the border seeking safety in the overcrowded camps of Cox's Bazar, where nearly one million Rohingya refugees already live in densely populated camps.

"This is the largest movement of Rohingya refugees into Bangladesh since 2017," said Babar Baloch, spokesperson for the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, briefing journalists in Geneva.

He clarified that, unlike the mass influx in 2017, when some 750,000 Rohingyas fled deadly violence in Rakhine state, this uptick in refugees has unfolded more gradually.

UNHCR is working closely with local authorities to



respond to urgent humanitarian needs.

"As the conflict in Myanmar continues unabated, we are advocating with the Bangladeshi authorities to provide managed access to safety and asylum for civilians fleeing the conflict," he said.

Bangladesh has long provided refuge to the Rohingya, a mostly Muslim minority community in Myanmar, which is mainly Buddhist.

The country currently hosts nearly one million people in the refugee camps and the recent arrivals – many of them

women and children – are placing further strain on resources. Many are relying heavily on local solidarity and sharing limited resources with those already living in the camps. By the end of June, nearly 121,000 newly arrived refugees had been biometrically registered, although many more are believed to be residing informally in the camps. Access to adequate shelter remains a major concern as facilities struggle to absorb the new population.

"These new arrivals join another nearly one million Rohingya refugees

crammed into just 24 square kilometres," said Baloch. "More humanitarian support is urgently required."

Aid partners have been able to provide basic services including food, medical care, education, and essential relief items. However, the response is now under serious threat due to a lack of funding.

UNHCR warned that the 2024 humanitarian appeal for \$255 million is only 35 per cent funded. Without immediate financial support, the entire operation could face systemic collapse.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan: The 'Islamist Hypocrite' Who Betrayed the Palestinian Cause

Syed Zubair Ahmad
When Recep Tayyip Erdoğan rose to power, Islamists around the world erupted in euphoria, celebrating his victory as a symbolic 'second coming of the Caliphate.' However, after assuming office, Erdoğan focused on consolidating power and gradually evolved into an authoritarian ruler.

He served as Turkey's 25th Prime Minister from 2003 to 2014 as part of the Justice and Development Party (AKP), which he co-founded in 2001. He then amended the constitution to shift Turkey from a parliamentary system to a presidential system and has served as the country's 12th President since 2014. Earlier, he was the Mayor of Istanbul from 1994 to 1998.

Since coming to power in 2002, Erdoğan has been the de facto leader of Turkey. In recent years, his rule has been marked by increasing authoritarianism, democratic backsliding, widespread corruption, aggressive expansionism, and a crackdown on dissent—including censorship, imprisonment of critics, and banning of opposition parties.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has been a vocal critic of Israel's actions in the Gaza conflict, who frequently condemned its military operations and accused it of committing genocide.

However, despite his strong anti-Israel rhetoric, there is evidence suggesting that Turkey, under Erdoğan's leadership, indirectly supported Israel through continued economic and military ties

during the Gaza war, which began after Hamas's attack on October 7, 2023. This duality reflects the hypocrisy of the so called Islamist whose words and deeds are opposite

Erdoğan's public stance has consistently framed him as a champion of the Palestinian cause. He has praised Hamas as a "liberation group," hosted its political leaders in Istanbul, and called for international action against Israel, even suggesting Turkey might intervene militarily, citing past interventions in Libya and Nagorno-Karabakh. His fiery rhetoric, including comparing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Adolf Hitler, has resonated with his domestic base and positioned him as a leader in the Muslim world. However, these statements often appear tailored to appeal to his Islamist supporters rather than translating into concrete actions that directly challenge Israel.

Despite halting official trade with Israel in May 2024, citing the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, reports indicate that Turkish goods continued to reach Israel, sometimes under the guise of being destined for Palestine. This continued trade indirectly supported Israel's economy during the conflict, as goods from Turkey, a significant regional trade partner, helped sustain Israel's market needs.

Militarily, Turkey did not directly engage in the Gaza conflict but maintained strategic relations that indirectly benefited Israel. Turkey's role as a NATO member and its military presence in Syr-



Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

ia, where it coordinates with Israel to avoid conflicts, ensured regional stability that aligned with Israel's security interests. For instance, Turkish-Israeli deconfliction mechanisms in Syria prevented escalations that could have complicated Israel's operations in Gaza.

The most glaring example of Erdoğan's hypocrisy is Turkey's continued trade with Israel.

Despite official claims of suspending trade in protest against Israel's actions in Gaza, investigative journalist Metin Cihan and others exposed that commerce between the two countries has not fully ceased. Allegations even emerged that Erdoğan's son was involved in trade with Israel after October 7. In reality, Turkish goods have continued to reach Israel, often under the guise of being destined for Palestine. This revelation—unsurprising to those familiar with Ankara's political maneuvering—underscored how geopolitical interests were prioritized to avoid direct economic consequences.

It took Iran two decades

and over \$20 billion to build an 'Axis of Resistance' aimed at encircling the Zionist regime of Israel with a 'ring of fire' comprising Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, and Iraq. In December 2024, during the Israel-Gaza war—when Israel was facing an existential crisis and coming under attack not only from Hamas but also from Hezbollah and the Houthis—Turkish President Erdoğan betrayed the Palestinian cause by installing Ahmed Hussein al-Sharaa, a former al-Qaeda operative.

This broke the supply chain of the 'Axis of Resistance,' pushing Hezbollah into an existential crisis.

Al-Sharaa had been captured and imprisoned by American forces from 2006 to 2011. After his release, he founded the al-Nusra Front in 2012 with al-Qaeda's support, to fight the Assad regime in the Syrian civil war.

One can argue that Bashar al-Assad was a dictator — and yes, he was. But there are other Arab dictators who are equally oppressive and yet remain in power. The difference is that Assad was an anti-Zionist dictator, while the others are in lockstep with Zionist interests, that's why he was punished.

Ironically, while Erdoğan strongly criticized Israel in his speeches, his government continued trade and strategic coordination that indirectly supported Israel's economy and security during the Gaza war. This shows a careful balancing act—gaining political support at home while quietly maintaining ties with Israel despite public criticism.

RSS intensifies efforts for Bihar and West Bengal elections with 'Trishul Formula' to bolster BJP

MI News Service, New Delhi: As the assembly elections in Bihar and West Bengal draw closer, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the ideological backbone of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has shifted into high gear to ensure electoral success for its political ally. With its centenary celebrations approaching in October 2025, the RSS has declared the elections in these two states a matter of prestige, aiming to secure BJP victories to mark this historic milestone. To achieve this, the organization has devised a strategic approach dubbed the 'Trishul Formula,' a three-pronged plan designed to galvanize voter support through targeted outreach, issue-based campaigns, and, controversially, polarization tactics.

The RSS's focus on Bihar and West Bengal comes on the heels of its successful contributions to BJP's victories in the Haryana and Maharashtra assembly elections. With



the Bihar elections scheduled for late 2025 and West Bengal's polls expected in early 2026, the RSS is mobilizing its vast network of volunteers, or swayamsevaks, to replicate this success. Sources within the organization indicate that the RSS views these states as critical battlegrounds, not only for political dominance but also for reinforcing its ideological influence across India.

In Bihar, the BJP aims to reclaim power, either independently or in coalition with allies like the Janata Dal (United), after facing challenges in previous elections. In West Bengal, the RSS seeks

to challenge the entrenched dominance of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. The stakes are high, as a strong showing in these states would cement the RSS-BJP combine's influence in eastern India, a region where their presence has historically been limited compared to northern and western states.

The RSS's 'Trishul Formula' is a meticulously crafted strategy tailored to the unique socio-political alignment in Bihar and West Bengal. The formula comprises three key elements: The RSS is conducting grassroots surveys to pin-

point communities and individuals disillusioned with the incumbent governments. In Bihar, this includes rural voters frustrated with issues like unemployment, infrastructure deficits, and governance lapses. In West Bengal, the focus is on urban and semi-urban voters who feel alienated by the TMC's policies or perceive a decline in law and order.

In Bihar, topics like job creation, agricultural reforms, and caste-based reservations are being emphasized. In West Bengal, the RSS is focusing on allegations of corruption, appeasement politics, and the need for economic revitalization.

In Bihar, the RSS is working to unite upper-caste communities, landlords, and feudal elements under a Hindu nationalist framework. In West Bengal, the organization is organizing large-scale religious events to foster a sense of Hindu unity, particularly in areas with significant minority populations.

Israeli commanding officer killed in Southern Gaza

MI News Service, Jerusalem: The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said in a statement on Friday, July 11, that a combat commanding officer was killed in an incident in the southern Gaza Strip.

The officer, Reei Biran, aged 21, was a squad commander in the IDF's Golani Reconnaissance Unit.

Israel's state-owned Kan TV reported that a Golani force operating in Khan Younis entered a building suspected of being used for militant activity. While the soldiers were mining the building, an explosion occurred, killing the commander.

Later on Friday, the IDF said in a separate statement that its armoured forces, in coordination with the Israeli Air Force, eliminated an armed squad that approached them and posed a threat in the Khan Younis area, reported Xinhua news agency.

It added that the armoured forces dismantled militant infrastructure sites, both above and below ground, and confiscated weapons and military equipment.

On Sunday, July 6, Israel

killed the head of Hamas' naval force in northern Gaza in an airstrike, the military and Shin Bet domestic security agency said.

The strike, carried out by an Israeli fighter jet in Gaza City on June 30, killed Ramzi Ramadan Abd Ali Saleh, described by the Israeli authorities as the commander of Hamas' naval force in the northern Gaza Strip. Two other Hamas militants were also killed in the attack, including Hisham Ayman Atiya Mansour, deputy head of the movement's mortar array unit, and Nissim Muhammad Suleiman Abu Sabha, an operative in the same unit.

Saleh was "a significant source of knowledge" for Hamas, the military and Shin Bet said, adding that he had recently been involved in planning maritime attacks against Israeli forces.

Since Israel resumed its military campaign in Gaza on March 18, at least 6,860 Palestinians have been killed and 24,220 others wounded, bringing the total Palestinian death toll since the war began in October 2023 to 57,418, with 136,261 others injured, according to figures released Sunday by Gaza health authorities.

Hezbollah member killed in Israeli drone strike in S. Lebanon

MI News Service, Beirut: A member of Lebanon's Hezbollah was killed Saturday in an Israeli drone strike on southeastern Lebanon, according to Lebanese sources.

The strike on a house in the town of Khiam resulted in the death of one person, the Public Health Emergency Operations Center of the Ministry of Health said in a press release.

A source from the Lebanese Civil Defense and the Lebanese Red Cross told Xinhua that the body was transported to the Marjayoun Governmental Hospital, whereas a Lebanese security source told Xinhua the dead was a Hezbollah member identified as Wissam Abu Abbas.

In a separate development, Lebanon's official National News Agency reported that the Israeli army "released dozens of cattle

from its side of the border into Lebanese territory, toward the villages of Ramyeh, Aita al-Shaab, and Bayt Lif in the western sector of southern Lebanon."

Bayt Lif Mayor Izzat Hamoud warned that local residents should not approach or touch the cows, "as there is a possibility they are contaminated with biological weapons or carry infectious diseases."

These incidents come despite a ceasefire agreement between Hezbollah and Israel, brokered by the United States and France, which has been in effect since Nov. 27, 2024. The deal aims to end over a year of cross-border hostilities triggered by the war in Gaza.

Nevertheless, the Israeli military continues to carry out occasional strikes in Lebanon, which it claims are intended to eliminate "Hezbollah threats."

Pakistan: Systemic failures, delayed response led to Swat River tragedy, says probe

MI News Service, Peshawar: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur has ordered disciplinary action against officials of several government departments over their negligence, which led to the drowning of over a dozen people in the Swat River last month, Dawn reported.

At least 14 people, including 10 members of a single family, lost their lives on June 27 after being swept away in a flash flood triggered by heavy rains in the Swat River.

According to Dawn, a committee formed by the CM to fix responsibility found "negligence and shortcomings" on the part of the district administration, irrigation and local government departments, and Rescue 1122, which contributed to the tragedy.

"The relevant departments will initiate action against officers found responsible and complete disciplinary proceedings within 60 days," read an official statement issued by the CM Secretariat, Dawn reported.

The Provincial Inspection Team (PIT), in its 63-page report, found that weather advisories issued by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and district administration "were not effectively implemented".

Dawn quoted the report as highlighting "a lack of coordination among the police, revenue, irrigation, rescue, tourism police, and other departments," while also pointing to the "malfunctioning of early warning systems" that led to delays in communicating about the flood.

The report further revealed that hotel owners did not alert tourists about

the danger in riverine areas, and Rescue 1122's emergency response was delayed, citing a shortage of trained personnel and essential rescue equipment.

"There was no clear designation of responsibilities among departments and institutions for riverside safety, and no risk classification existed for tourist spots along rivers," the PIT noted, as reported by Dawn.

The report also pointed to lax enforcement of Section 144, which could have prevented the victims from entering the river, and the absence of organised SOPs at the district level to ensure public safety during monsoon season.

Construction along riverbanks in violation of existing rules was also flagged, with the report noting that regulatory mechanisms for approving building plans and defining encroachments were "ambiguous and inconsistent", according to Dawn.

The PIT called for the introduction of a special law to regulate construction along rivers effectively and recommended that negligent departments take corrective steps, including "the issuance of new protocols and regulatory frameworks, within 30 days".

Dawn further reported that a high-level oversight committee headed by the KP chief secretary would be formed to ensure the implementation of the PIT's recommendations and convert them into "actionable key performance indicators".

The oversight body will also incorporate river safety modules into the upcoming monsoon contingency plan and ensure "the swift execution of plans to enhance Rescue 1122's capabilities", according to Dawn.

Nitish, Jadeja lead India’s counterattack against England, escape mix-up scares

LONDON [UK] : Ravindra Jadeja and Nitish Kumar Reddy stitched India’s comeback after KL Rahul fell early in the post-lunch session on Day 3 of the third Test against England at Lord’s on Saturday.

At Tea, India were 316/5 in 91 overs, trailing by 71 runs, with Jadeja and Nitish unbeaten on 49(70) and 25(77), respectively.

Moments into the second session, Rahul notched up his second hundred of the series. He knocked the ball wide of mid-off, “yes, yes, yes” was the call as he scampered for a single to celebrate his second ton at Lord’s. He removed his helmet, raised both arms and soaked in the applause from the spectators, who witnessed his masterclass.

Rahul’s masterclass ended immediately after bringing up his record-breaking ton. On the first



delivery of the next over, Rahul tried to hit spinner Shoaib Bashir’s flighted off-break through the covers, but all he could manage was a loose push.

He gave an edge, which flew Harry Brook at the slips and Rahul made his way to the pavilion at 100(177).

India appeared rattled after

Rahul’s dismissal. A mix-up between Jadeja and Reddy left the latter well short of the crease while sprinting for a single. Ollie Pope, who had all the time in the world, rushed his throw and missed the stumps.

More chaos ensued in running between the wickets. Reddy enjoyed another lucky break. He rushed halfway through the pitch, but Jadeja wasn’t interested, which forced him to rush back to the striker’s end. Pope was the culprit yet again as he missed the stumps.

Bashir sustained a finger injury after Jadeja came down the track and drilled it hard towards the spinner. Bashir put his left hand in the ball’s path and ended up sustaining an injury. He quickly asked for medical treatment and went off the field. Joe Root came in to finish

the over.

With the second new ball available, England didn’t waste much time and went for it. Jadeja and Nitish played cautiously and offered stubborn resistance. England bowlers pushed hard for wickets, deployed a short ball ploy, Archer’s bursting pace, and tempting deliveries, but rued their missed chances.

The duo were caught in a mix-up for the third time. Jadeja and Nitish found themselves in the middle of the pitch, but Ben Duckett, off balance, missed the chance. Jadeja and Nitish ensured England returned empty-handed as the session ended. Earlier in the day, India kicked off the proceedings in style as Rishabh Pant slammed a boundary on the first ball of the session, which right-arm seamer Jofra Archer bowled.

Still want to play Test cricket, but no response from selectors: Ajinkya Rahane's passionate plea



LONDON [UK] : Former captain and seasoned batter Ajinkya Rahane expressed his desire to play Test cricket for India, a format he loves, despite getting “no response” from selectors.

The 37-year-old, who was a part of India’s defeat in the World Test Championship 2023 final against Australia, has been out of favour since the tour of the West Indies in 2023. After the conclusion of the series, Rahane was dropped from the fold and continued to put in the hard yards in the domestic setup to force his way into the side yet again.

Rahane is present at the ‘Home of Cricket’, Lord’s, for India’s third Test against England. After both teams took lunch on the third day, Rahane, known for his robust technique, made an honest admission and declared his yearning to still play Test cricket for India.

“I still want to play Test cricket, I am passionate about Test cricket. For me, it is about focusing on the controllable. Frankly, I

tried to have conversations with the selectors, but I got no response. What I can do is keep playing. I love Test cricket. I love playing with the red ball. It is a passion,” Rahane told Sky Sports.

After batting stalwarts Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma retired from Tests, there was a bleak opportunity for Rahane’s return. Despite his valuable experience of playing in England, the Indian selectors entrusted their faith in youngsters and infused young blood into the squad.

Rahane, who is among the selected Indians to celebrate a century at Lord’s, has had a fair share of memorable moments in the whites. During India’s tour of Australia for the 2020-20 21 Border-Gavaskar Trophy, Rahane took over the captaincy from Virat Kohli, who left the tour due to the birth of his child.

With Rahane at the helm, India notched mercurial wins in the Boxing Day Test at Melbourne and the decisive Gabba Test to script a fairy-tale series. He finished as India’s third-highest run-getter with 268 runs, including a century in the Boxing Day Test in front of a jam-packed crowd at the MCG. Rahane outlined the difference in his captaincy style from Virat’s and said, “Every captain must have their own style. When I became the Test captain, I always wanted to back my style, thinking, and instinct. For me, it was about staying true to my character, backing my instincts.”

Since making his debut in 2013, Rahane has earned 85 Test caps, garnered 5077 runs at 38.46, laced with 12 centuries and 16 fifties. The 37-year-old captained Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy last season, finishing with 467 runs in nine appearances at 35.92, including a solitary ton and a fifty. He steered Mumbai to the semi-finals but failed to reclaim the title after a heartbreaking defeat against Vidarbha.

India A defeat France, win third consecutive game on Europe tour

EINDHOVEN [NETHERLANDS] : The India A Men’s Hockey Team continued to show good form and registered yet another important win on their tour of Europe, as they defeated France 3-2, in their third game of the tour, at the Hockey Club Oranje-Rood, in Eindhoven.

The India A Men’s Hockey Team saw the forward Aditya Arjun Lalge score a couple of goals while his teammate Bobby Singh Dhami also made his way onto the scoresheet. Aditya Arjun Lalge scored the first goal, after which he converted a PC as well. Bobby Singh Dhami got the third goal for India, as they walked off with the win. Meanwhile, for France, both goals were scored by Clement.

Reflecting on the win third consecutive win, Coach Shivendra Singh said as quoted by a press release from Hockey India, “The India A Men’s Hockey Team has been working very hard behind



the scenes in preparation for this tour, and it is great to see things working out as well as they have on the field. We have a few more games to go on this tour, and I am confident that the team will keep up the good work and build on the momentum.”

This was the India A Men’s

Hockey Team’s third win on the tour in as many games. The India A Men’s Hockey Team will take on France on Sunday at 1400 HRS IST, at the Hockey Club Oranje-Rood, in Eindhoven. The India A Men’s Hockey Team still have a total of five games to play on their tour of Europe. (ANI)

INDIA U20 WOMEN ALL SET FOR FIRST FRIENDLY AGAINST UZBEKISTAN IN TASHKENT

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : The Indian U20 women’s team have arrived in Tashkent to play two friendly matches against Uzbekistan U20. The first of them will be played on Sunday at the Do’stik Stadium at 20:30 IST.

The Young Tigresses, who had been training at the Padukone-Dravid Centre for Sports Excellence in Bengaluru, landed in the Uzbek capital on Friday morning and had a gym session in the evening. On Saturday evening, they had their official training session before the first game. India are using these friendly games to prepare for the AFC U20 Women’s Asian Cup Qualifiers next month, where they will face Indonesia, Turkmenistan and hosts Myanmar.

Head coach Joakim Alexandersson said, “We wanted to face a strong opponent to get an

idea of what awaits us in the Asian qualifiers. We also want to assess how all players perform their roles in such games, especially as we get closer to finalising the squad for the qualifiers. These matches also help us gain valuable experience, not just on the pitch, but also from travelling and adapting to different conditions.

“The weather in Tashkent is quite similar to Bengaluru so far, so no issues on that front. The hotel, accommodation and food are also fine.”

India U20 women travelled with a squad of 24 players, which saw a last-minute change as Anika Devi Sharubam replaced goalkeeper Melody Chanu Keisham due to the latter being ill.

Uzbekistan, led by head coach Vladimir Panov, are also preparing as hosts of Group G of the AFC U20 Women’s Asian Cup



Qualifiers, where they will take on Bahrain, Northern Mariana Islands and Jordan. The Central Asian nation also hosted the AFC U20 Women’s Asian Cup 2024 but lost all games and finished at the bottom of Group A.

Uzbekistan U20’s 23-member squad for these friendlies against India includes four players who

travelled to Bengaluru in May with the senior team for the two FIFA friendlies against India. For India, there are two such players - goalkeeper Monalisa Devi Moirangthem and defender Shubhangi Singh, who were in the two matchday squads against the Uzbekistan senior team as the Blue Tigresses lost 0-1 on both

occasions.

Sharing his thoughts on the opponents, Alexandersson said, “They are a pretty physical team, especially their strikers. They play quite direct with minimal risk, often pressing high and looking to exploit the space behind the defenders quickly. So we need to be prepared for all of that.”

The Indian senior team and the U20s were training in the same facilities in Bengaluru, preparing for their respective Asian qualifiers. They played a practice match against each other last month, and a few U20 players also trained with the senior team during the camp.

While the Blue Tigresses got their job done, emerging victorious in Thailand to qualify for the AFC Women’s Asian Cup, it’s now time for the Young Tigresses to do the same.

Tour de France: Tadej Pogacar takes back yellow jersey with Stage 7 triumph

SAINT-MEEN-LE-GRAND [FRANCE] : Tadej Pogacar (UAE Emirates-XRG) swooped back into the yellow jersey with a second stage win in this year’s Tour de France after beating arch-rival Jonas Vingegaard (Visma-Lease a Bike) on the iconic finish climb at Mur-de-Bretagne in Stage 7. Pogacar had more punch than any of his opponents in a tense seven-up sprint as Britain’s Oscar Onley (Picnic PostNL) impressed with a solid third place ahead of Austria’s Felix Gall (Decathlon AG2R La Mondiale) and American Matteo Jorgenson (Visma).

The double Olympic champion Remco Evenepoel (Soudal Quick-Step) was the only of the remaining general classification favourites who could match Pogacar and Vingegaard on the tough double-digit ramp of the final climb in Brittany, a release said. But as the gradient eased towards the home straight, and more riders were able to chase back on, the Belgian could only take sixth place in the sprint finish.

With the overnight race leader Mathieu van der Poel (Alpecin-Deceuninck) - the last rider to win at Mur-de-Bretagne in 2021 - finishing over a minute back, Pogacar soared back into the race lead. The Slovenian now holds a 54-second advantage over Stage 5 winner Evenepoel in the standings, with



Frenchman Kevin Vauquelin (Arkea-B&B Hotels) third at 1:11.

Vingegaard - who showed much promise in matching Pogacar’s relentless uphill accelerations - is fourth at 1:17, while Dutchman Van der Poel slipped to fifth after clearly suffering off the back of his starring role in Thursday’s break-away.

Beyond the indefatigable world champion, Onley was the big winner of the day, the young Scottish climber rising four places to seventh in the general classification (GC) at the expense of Pogacar’s UAE team-mate Joao Almeida, who suffered a terrible crash on the fast descent leading up to the finale.

Portuguese climber Almeida’s back wheel appeared to explode, causing him and

around a dozen riders to hit the deck at high speed near the back of the yellow jersey group with around six kilometres remaining of the 197km stage through Brittany.

Stage 6 winner Ben Healy (EF Education-EasyPost) was also involved in the crash, the Irishman quickly returning to the saddle but dropping out of the top 10. Australia’s Jack Haig (Bahrain Victorious) was forced to withdraw while his Colombian team-mate Santiago Buitrago, like Almeida, plummeted down the standings after conceding over 13 minutes.

An 18th career win on the Tour de France also saw Pogacar move back into the lead in the green jersey standings, while his Belgian team-mate Tim Wellens retained the polka dot jersey ahead of back-to-back

stages that should suit the sprinters over the weekend.

“I’m super happy with the win,” 28-year-old Pogacar said. “Today we did almost perfect. It was unfortunate that Joao [Almeida] crashed and I hope he’s okay. If he’s okay, then it’s a perfect day, but if he’s not okay, then this victory is for him. Right now, I just wish he’s okay.”

Having finished behind Van der Poel in the Tour’s last visit to Mur-de-Bretagne four years previously, Pogacar admitted that he was extra motivated to go one better on Friday.

“Me and Mathieu [Van der Poel] both know this finish very well. We both have nice memories from here and we both wanted more or less the same - to win on this iconic climb,” he said. “But I think that he may be left a bit too much on the road yesterday, so we couldn’t have this rematch [from 2021] but for me the day went super good - just like we planned, and the win is amazing.”

Operating alongside Van der Poel’s Alpecin-Deceuninck, Pogacar’s UAE squad kept a tight lid on the day’s breakaway of five riders - never allowing the advantage to grow above two minutes, the release said.

The day’s break took well over an hour to form with a fast and furious early average speed of over 54km/h, which meant

even an engine as strong as Wout van Aert’s (Visma) struggled to make any inroads.

Belgium’s Van Aert rode in an early move with Swiss champion Mauro Schmid (Jayco-AlUla) but the duo never established a lead of over 20 seconds as the counter-attacks rained down behind.

If Van Aert and his Visma team-mate Victor Campenaerts were particularly busy in the opening hour, then so too were Ineos Grenadiers, who, when the day’s move finally went away, had their Welsh veteran Geraint Thomas right in the thick of things.

Thomas, the 2018 champion, found himself in a five-man break alongside French duo Alex Baudin (EF Education-EasyPost) and Ewen Costiou (Arkea-B&B Hotels), the Austrian Marco Haller (Tudor Pro Cycling), and Spain’s Ivan Garcia (Movistar).

But with UAE’s rangy German rouleur Nils Politt on pacing duties behind, the break-away never looked like they stood a chance as the mercury pushed over 30 degrees and the race sped past the beautiful Breton coastline.

Haller, suffering cramps, was the first to throw in the towel before Thomas then cracked on the first of two ascents up the finish climb - on the opening 15% gradient where local rider

Costiou took his chances with 15km remaining.

With his fellow escapees all swept up, Costiou was able to cross the line to the sound of the bell with a 20-second advantage, with Wellens adding another point to his polka dot tally behind when what remained of the peloton passed through. The lone leader was caught when the road edged uphill on an unclassified climb before the fast descent towards the foot of the final climb. And it was here where Almeida’s apparent rear blow-out wreaked havoc on the back of the main field as scores of riders hit the deck at top speed. Along with Almeida, Bahrain duo Haig and Buitrago, and EF Education’s Healy, Spain’s Enric Mas (Movistar) also went down hard, as well as Ireland’s Eddie Dunbar (Jayco-AlUla), France’s Valentin Madouas (Groupama-FDJ) and a handful of others.

Despite losing Almeida, UAE took back control through Marc Soler, birthday boy Pavel Sivakov and Wellens, before Ecuador’s Jhonatan Narvaez was able to return alongside Pogacar once a select group of nine riders formed after the double-digit pitch.

Narvaez led things out for Pogacar, whose pulsating attack had Evenepoel instantly shaking his head while the man in rain-bow bands went clear with

Vingegaard for yet another one-two finish between the so-called Big Two.

“We did an amazing job today - all the team-mates were perfect,” Pogacar said. “It was a hot day and we spent a lot of our energy cooling down our bodies. It was also a super fast and a hard day. But we had a plan and we stuck to it.”

“The team led me out to the bottom of the climb. Normally Joao [Almeida] should be there but he crashed and Johnny [Narvaez] came through for the last kilometre and he did a super job to keep it under control until the last sprint. Back in yellow - and now let’s hope for two easy days.”

Unusually for the Tour, Pogacar should get just that this weekend with successive days that look - on paper - destined to end in bunch sprints. With Pogacar reigning supreme in yellow and green, it will be a chance for the sprinters to build up a bit of a buffer between them and the Slovenian ahead of the high mountains.

Italy’s Jonathan Milan (Lidl-Trek) and Eritrea’s Biniam Girmay (Intermarche-Wanty) are separated by just 11 points in second and third in the points classification, both with a chance to move into outright green before Monday’s hilly Bastille Day test in the Massif Central.(ANI)