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Recognition: 12

Maratha forts

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He said that the UDF rule also witnessed corruption cases as the Solar and Palarivattom scams, claiming that the Modi government's 11-year administration was devoid of such scandals.

“It was an effort to introduce these (100) countries to the intangible cultural heritage of the Marathas and spread the culture of Maharashtra. The world is more acquainted with the forts of Delhi and Rajasthan, which are more flamboyant compared to the Maratha forts. Greece is an ancient civilisation like India and understands the Indian ethos. Greece was a natural choice to put our case forward as arguing our own case as a World Heritage Committee member would be a conflict of interest,” he told.

Indian Parliamentary and Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju, who sat next to the Dalai Lama

For appetisers, the astronauts made rehydrated shrimp cocktails and crackers and the main course featured savoury chicken and beef fajitas. The cosmonauts capped the night with a delicious cake made from sweet bread, condensed milk, and walnuts, Kim said. Shukla had got aam ras and carrot halwa for the feast, while Polish astronaut Slawosz had brought his native dish, pierogi with cabbage and mushrooms, to the ISS. It has been a historic trip

The Kinnar Akhara had given the title of Mahamandaleshwara to former actress Mamta Kulkarni, but withdrew it in the face of criticism. Narendra Giri, then head of All India Akhara Parishad, hanged himself after his disciples allegedly made videos of him with a woman and a girl. Ritesh Shah, in-charge of Kotwali police station in Haridwar, said: "We have arrested 13 fake sadhus from the district in two days. They were trying to cheat

■ ■ *Continued on Page 3*

Family takes back the abandoned (HIV-positive Man) aged family man home on police pressure

MI News Service, Nadia: In a shocking instance of neglect, a 62-year-old HIV-positive man was lying semi-nude on a trolley for the past four days in front of the outpatient department of Kalyani's Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial (JNM) Hospital, allegedly abandoned by his family. As hospital authority informed police, the family took back the member at home on police pressure on Sunday, Hospital Super Atanu Biswas said.According to hospital sources, the man, a resident of Brahmapara in the Chakdah police station area of Nadia district, was brought to the hospital on July 10 by his son after being discharged earlier. He was left on a trolley outside the OPD on the assurance that the family would return to take



him home that night. However, no one came back for him."The patient was earlier admitted and subsequently discharged. On July 10, his son brought him here again and left him on a trolley. We were told he would be taken home later, but since then, no one has come back," said Sanjay Gangopadhyay, supervisor of a private security agency deployed at the hospital.

"Both the hospital superintendent and the local administration are aware of the situation," another sources said.The man, who is HIV-positive, is unable to speak clearly or provide detailed information about his circumstances. However, after repeated questioning, he identified himself and said he once worked at a sweet shop in Khardaha in North 24 Parganas.

According to eyewitnesses, a police personnel visited the site after being informed but no action was taken. "We were told some arrangement would be made within an hour. It has been four days," said a hospital staff member who requested anonymity.The man remains in a vulnerable condition with no clothing and no access to basic care, raising serious concerns about patient rights, healthcare ethics, and social safety nets. Several patients and visitors have voiced concern over the hospital's inaction.The hospital Superintendent Atanu Biswas said, "We informed Chakdah police who contacted the family in Chakdah. Subsequently, they family took back the aged member at home on police pressure."

Rotary Club of Kamarhati launches HPV vaccination, school girl education initiative in Kolkata suburb

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Rotary Club of Kamarhati on Saturday launched campaign in a suburban neighbourhood of Kolkata to raise awareness about cervical cancer and offer free coaching to underprivileged students preparing for government job exams. The initiative began with a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination camp at the Rotary Clinic Building in Belghoria, where 22 adolescent girls from nearby slums and industrial areas received HPV vaccines, provided with support from the Serum Institute of India. HPV is the leading cause of cervical cancer, a major health concern among Indian women. "This is more than just a vaccination drive. It's about creating a grassroots network of informed young girls who can act as health ambassadors in their own communities," said Dr. Pranab Kumar Pandit, a senior physician and member of the Rotary Club. Rotary officials said the camp targeted girls from economically weaker sections, particularly those living near jute mills and in minority-dominated localities.



The event included an awareness seminar titled "Be Aware, Stay Healthy", where doctors explained the dangers of HPV and benefits of early vaccination using simplified language. "There are over 200 strains of HPV, and

some are extremely dangerous," Pandit said. "Yet most girls learn about the virus only after it's too late. Our aim is to start the conversation early—at the school level." The club also launched Swapno Purno ("Fulfilling Dreams"), an educational outreach programme offering free coaching to disadvantaged youth aspiring for government service jobs. "Education must not remain a privilege," said Rotary Club president Amit Kumar Bhattacharyya, who is also a local high school teacher. "Through this initiative, we are giving students from underrepresented communities a fair shot at secure employment." Rotary district executive secretary Shyak Gupta said the campaign reflects Rotary International's broader goals of improving health, education and livelihood opportunities. The club said it hopes to expand the programme through peer-to-peer outreach. "If these 22 girls train others, and those girls train more, we could see exponential growth in awareness," Bhattacharyya said.

Ananda Marga Pracharak Samgha organized a three day seminar

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ananda Marga Pracharak Samgha has organized a three day seminar at Purulia. Acharya Vishuddhatmananda Avadhuta, Central tainer took seminar class on Shrii Shrii Anandamurtiji's contribution to Evolution of human civilization. He said, let us analyse the way human beings have evolved physically and psychically since their advent on this earth one million years ago. Human existence is trifarious: physical, psychic, and spiritual. Spiritual progress is movement towards Parama Purusha while maintaining adjustment with the mundane world. The more human beings advance towards Parama Purusha, the more their existence radiates the divine effulgence of Parama Purusha, and the more they

expand. When they come in the closest proximity to Parama Purusha, they attain the state called sarsthi: they become like Parama Purusha. When they merge in Him, there remains no duality – duality is converted into singularity. Spiritual progress depends on two main factors: the factor which determines a person's physical existence and the factor which determines a person's psychic progress. It is already said in a Renaissance Universal meeting that human progress means spiritual progress. Although there is some progress in the quinquemental and psychic spheres, it is greatly offset by numerous obstacles which arise on the path of progress. So on the whole one can say that there is no real progress in the mundane and psychic worlds.

However, human beings will continue their endless efforts for progress because to remain stagnant is ultra-vires to human wants. Nothing in this universe stagnates, all entities are on the move. Movement is the essence of everything. When movement stops, existence is jeopardized. When we say that an entity exists it implies that the entity is moving. Here, we shall make an appraisal on how far humans have progressed in the mundane world or in the psychic world. We are not supposed to consider which obstacles and hindrances have beset the path of progress because I have already said in this regard that ultimately, real progress takes place only in the spiritual sphere and not in the other two spheres.

Poetic Vows: Bengal Groom Releases Poetry Book at His Wedding

MI News Service, Kakdwip: In a rare blend of love and literature, a groom in West Bengal turned his wedding ceremony into a literary celebration. Dhruba Bikash Maity, a poet and government employee from Namkhana, launched his 10th poetry collection titled "Chokher Bhetor Machhranga" (Kingfisher in the Eye) moments after tying the knot.The book was formally released right after the sindoor ritual, in the presence of family, friends, and guests. Dhruba dedicated the collection to his newlywed wife Anushka with a heartfelt note: "To



Anushka, In this life of water, may you hold me like a vessel, with care."Dhruba, who works at a Bangla Sahayata Kendra (a state-run public helpdesk initiative), is no stranger to literary

achievements. At the age of 26, he made it to the India Book of Records for publishing five books in a single day.Speaking to local media, friends described Dhruba as someone who "wears poetry on

his sleeve" and doesn't hesitate to fuse life's big moments with literary expression.The book, rich in metaphor and emotion, uses the 'kingfisher' as a symbol of turbulent beauty, resilience, and inner rebellion, themes often found in Dhruba's work. According to those close to him, this latest collection mirrors both personal emotion and social consciousness.What might have been a simple matrimonial event was transformed into what some are calling a "stage of poetic revolution" where love, art, and public service intersect.

Snake menace in North 24 Pgn due to water clogging

Mi news service (North 24 Parganas): Incessant rain over the past five days has plunged Chapapukur and adjacent areas near Basirhat in North 24-Parganas into chaos, with clogged drainage systems turning roads into canals and homes into flooded enclosures. Residents, left with no choice, are using rafts made of banana plant stems to ferry school-children and fetch essentials, including drinking water.

The situation remains grim even after a halt in the rainfall on Saturday.

Waist-deep water continues to inundate roads, lanes and homes in villages like Farsatpur-Daspara, which has emerged as one of the worst-affected areas.

The railway station premises at Chapapukur near Basirhat have been waterlogged for three consecutive days, making it nearly impossible for people to reach the platform. "We are living in hell. Snakes and frogs have become our neighbours. There is waist-deep water inside my room. We've been forced to remain indoors, venturing out only on banana

rafts to bring drinking water and basic supplies. The situation is unbearable," said a homemaker from Farsatpur-Daspara in Basirhat 2 block. Several incidents of snakebites have already been reported from the submerged villages. With vehicles unable to ply, residents have improvised by building rafts to navigate the flooded lanes. Anger is mounting against the administration, which they accuse of negligence in maintaining and clearing the drainage system.

"This has become an annual ordeal during the monsoon. The drains are completely choked, and despite repeated appeals, no proper cleaning is done. Many stretches of the drainage channels have been illegally occupied by permanent structures, allegedly with the silent support of authorities," said Bikash Sarkar, a resident.

However, Chapapukur gram panchayat chief Joya Das dismissed the allegations.

"We've already sent a proposal for carving out a canal to serve as a parallel drainage system. The district magistrate has approved it, and we are hopeful that work will start soon. Once completed, this will offer a permanent solution to the waterlogging crisis," she said.

The approach road to the Chapapukur railway station on the Sealdah-Hasnabad section has become a major concern. The one-kilometre stretch connecting the station to Chapapukur Main Road – used daily by thousands – is submerged under knee to waist-deep water. Commuters are struggling to catch trains, as paddled and e-rickshaws refuse to ply on the flooded roads.

"The road has turned into a river. Wading through dirty water barefoot to catch a train is not only difficult but dangerous," said Sayan Das, a regular commuter from Chapapukur. "In the past four years, hardly any drain cleaning or maintenance work has been done. The administration and Eastern Railway remain indifferent," said resident Sajid Hossain. Another commuter,

Sujoy Saha, said: "The railways must reconstruct the road with proper drainage facilities."

Joya Das echoed this demand. "We have requested the railway authorities to take up reconstruction of the road in the public interest," she said.

Residents of Amlani under the Basirhat North Assembly segment blocked roads on Friday, demanding urgent repairs of a 3km stretch from Amlani More to Saraniya rail gate. They cast fishing nets on the waterlogged road as a mark of protest.

"We've repeatedly urged local Trinamool MLA Rafiqul Islam to repair the road, but nothing has been done. No maintenance work has happened in the past 30 years," said Halima Biwi, a villager.

The villagers have warned that they may boycott next year's Assembly election if the road is not repaired immediately. Islam said: "Several meetings have been held, but no resolution has been reached yet because of disputes and land encroachments."



A young man enjoys a bicycle ride through the narrow lane of iconic Kumartuli area in Kolkata on Sunday where glimpses of pre-Pujo preparation can be seen.

Trinamool Congress protests against harassment of Bengalis by calling them Bangladeshis

MI News Service, Hooghly: A big rally was taken out by Trinamool Congress from Pipulpati Mor to Chari Mor in Chinsurah, West Bengal, led by Trinamool MLA Asit Majumdar, against the harassment of Bengalis in BJP-ruled states by calling them Bangladeshis. In fact, recently, Debashish Das, a resident of Hooghly chinsurah, was detained by the local police in Jharsuguda district of Odisha on suspicion of being a Bangladeshi. Debashish said that he had all the valid documents like passport, Aadhaar card, PAN card, voter ID, birth certificate, secondary examination certificate and police verification certificate, but despite this, he was not released and his phone was also confiscated. He was not allowed to talk to his family/contractor. Due to the loss of contact with his family, his family, especially his mother Bibha Das, are in deep shock. According to information received from sources, Debashish said that he has worked in 14 different states but he has



never faced such a humiliating situation. This incident has put him in deep mental shock and now he is afraid to go out of the state to work. On Sunday, a large number of locals along with Chinsurah MLA Asit Majumdar also joined the Trinamool Congress protest procession and protested against the entire incident. MLA Asit Majumdar said that in BJP-ruled states, if anyone speaks Bengali, he is being harassed by calling him Bangladeshi. This is against the federal structure of India. There are many languages and cultures in our country but BJP has deliberately started dividing people, first in the name of religion and now in the name of language and language.

Migratory Nadia workers detained by Orissa police

MI News Service Krishnanagar : Many of Nadia people who have been working in Orissa, recently had faced problems related to their identity and were detained by police as the cops there marked them as Bangladeshis. According to the last available news, while a part of them were released, their phones are still with the sleuths.Many people have gone to work from Nadia and other districts to Orissa. Recently many of them , around 200, were detained by Orissa police marking them as the Bangladeshis despite having valid documents of Indian citizenship. Krishnanagar MP Mahua Maitra went vocal against it.However, according to one Nadia Kaliganj Paglachandi resident Md. Jiarul Haque Sheikh who works as mason at Jharsuguda in Orissa, he with a big number workers from West Bengal were taken to a destination camp at mid night 6 days back. He said, " Despite having Aadhar , Voter Cards, the Orissa police detained us marking as Bangladeshis. To them , the people who speaks in Bengali language is



a Bangladeshi. This wrong notion of the cops here put us in problems." Though he was released after four days following producing his documents but police didn't hand over his phone. " Around 200 workers , mostly from Murshidabad and Nadia districts in West Bengal, who work in Jharsuguda as construction workers, howkers etc., were detained and kept at Black diamond college hostel. Huge police were deployed as guard. The condition of destination camp was bad. Sometimes we had to sleep at veranda having no fan. Only flattened rice (Chiwda) and jaggery wete provided twice a day. However, they released some of us on Saturday afternoon and releasing the 200 people phase by phase."However, the Bengali people who were detained from Bunbahal, were not yet released, Jiarul Haque said on Saturday evening. There are the people from Birbhum , and Purulia too, he added.Amid the situation the Trinamool Congress went vocal against the double engine government and BJP too.

Mamata pays homage to Poet Bhanubhakta

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee paid homage to legendary Nepali poet Bhanubhakta Acharya on his Birth Anniversary.In her message Mamata said, " Poet Bhanubhakta holds a place of immense reverence and honour among Nepali speaking people worldwide for his outstanding contribution to Nepali society and literature. " " This esteem is not limited to just Nepali speakers, he is equally respected by all of us. " She added.

Study practice is the criterion of achievement, Minister Javed

Nurul Islam Khan

On Sunday, the Tapasya Sports Federation held a reception for the meritorious students of secondary and higher secondary. The Kolkata Khilafat Committee was in collaboration with the organization. This year's ICSE, ISC, CBSE passed applicants participated in this program. Among the applicants, only the top three candidates for each language group were selected, who got the



highest marks.English, Bengali, Urdu and Hindi speakers were awarded. This meritorious honor has been celebrated every year.Those who came first, second and third were given laptops, bags, smartphones and certificates. Six students from ICSE and ISC, 12 from CBSE 2 secondary, and a total of 32 students were honored, said the headmaster Faiz Ahmed Khan. On the other hand, students have also been facilitated in Urdu medium schools jointly organized with the Kolkata Khilafat Committee. Minister Javed Ahmed Khan felicitated about 68 students on this day. The meritorious students are very excited to receive this meritorious award. The common people of the area said that this award will give a lot of inspiration for improving the quality of education.

'Most Promising New' spot: Soreng showcases Sikkim's slow tourism

MI News Service, Gangtok: Soreng, a scenic town nestled in the hills of west Sikkim, has been honoured as the Most Promising New Destination at the Travel & Tourism Fair (TTF) Calcutta 2025, a recognition that will act as a major boost to a region that is promoting, among others, "slow tourism".



Commuters brave the rain with umbrellas and raincoats as monsoon showers drench the city streets in Kolkata on Sunday.

Uttarakhand cracks down on 'fake sadhus', 50 arrested

► From PG 1
mislead Hanuman during his search for a herb that saved an injured Lakshman. Hanuman eventually killed Kalnemi. "I met the senior sadhus of the state on Friday and took blessings for the success of the drive," Dhamai said. Congress leader and former Uttarakhand chief minister Harish Rawat posted on X: "Fear has taken over religious belief. Religion became hypocrisy... The drive is appreciable... but who has pushed the people into superstition?"

SHUKLA & AXIOM-4 astronauts all set for return journey

► From PG 1

for Shukla, who became the first Indian to travel to the ISS and only the second to travel to space after Rakesh Sharma's pathbreaking spaceflight as part of the then Soviet Russia's mission to Salyut-7 space station in 1984. So far, Shukla has spent 18 days in space, witnessing 16 sunrises and sunsets every day as the ISS travels at a speed of 28,000 km per hour in an orbit about 400 km above the Earth. According to ISRO, post splashdown, Shukla will undergo a rehabilitation programme (about 7 days) under the supervision of a flight surgeon to adapt back to Earth's gravity. ISRO paid approximately Rs 550 crore for Shukla's travel to the ISS, an experience that will help the space agency in the planning and execution of its human spaceflight programme, Gaganyaan, set to take to orbit in 2027. Shukla and the three other astronauts are expected to board the spacecraft at 2.25 pm IST, wear their space suits and carry out the necessary tests before they begin their journey to the Earth. The ISS is orbiting the Earth at a speed of 28,000 km per hour, and the Dragon spacecraft will initiate the autonomous undocking process to gradually slow down and re-enter the planet's atmosphere for a splashdown off the coast of California. "The Dragon spacecraft will return with more than 580 pounds of cargo, including NASA hardware and data from over 60 experiments conducted throughout the mission," NASA said. During his stay at the ISS, Shukla worked on the microalgae experiment, deploying and stowing samples that could one day provide food, oxygen and biofuels for deep-space missions, Axiom Space said in a statement. The resilience of the microalgae makes them a promising asset to sustain life beyond Earth, it added. "Exercise research and spacesuit maintenance topped the schedule for the Expedition 73 and Axiom Mission 4 (Ax-4) crews on Thursday," the NASA statement said.

Woman's friend gets killed while protecting her from sexual assault

MI News Service, Kolkata: A shocking incident of physical and sexual assault has rocked the Michael Nagar area under the jurisdiction of New Barrackpore Police Station. A gym owner has been arrested after allegedly attempting to rape a young woman at a private party on Saturday night, where a friend who tried to save her was fatally injured. According to police and local sources, the incident occurred during a party at the residence of the accused gym owner in Michael Nagar. Alcohol was reportedly being served at the gathering, and the young woman was among the invited guests. During the course of the party, the accused allegedly tried to sexually assault the woman. When a male friend of the victim intervened in an attempt to protect her, he was violently attacked. Eyewitness accounts and preliminary investigations suggest

that the accused struck the man on the head with a liquor bottle and physically assaulted him with punches and kicks, leaving him grievously injured and bleeding. The attacker then allegedly tried to restrain both the woman and her injured friend by blocking the exit. However, the woman managed to force open the door and escape, carrying her bloodied friend to safety. The two reached the Airport Police Station to report the crime. Since the incident took place under the jurisdiction of the New Barrackpore Police Station, the complaint was formally transferred there. The accused initially went into hiding but was later arrested by police. Authorities have confirmed that a case has been filed against the accused under several sections of the Indian Penal Code, including attempted rape, sexual assault, attempted murder, and assault.

City college professor accused of inappropriate behavior, handed over to police

MI News Service, Kolkata: A professor at North City College, already known for his past controversial behavior, has once again come under scrutiny after allegedly making indecent gestures towards a woman outside the college premises. The incident, which occurred on **Saturday**, has sparked public outrage and renewed calls for strict action against educators misusing their positions of authority. The accused has been identified as **Rajdeep Maiti**, a faculty member at City College. According to eyewitnesses and local sources, Maiti was leaving the college campus when he allegedly made inappropriate and offensive gestures upon seeing a woman named **Sunetra Samajapati** nearby. Shocked and angered by the incident, members of the public who witnessed the act reportedly confronted the professor on the spot. Eyewitnesses claimed that Maiti's behavior was not only indecent but also provocative, especially given his position as a teacher. One of the witnesses stated, "**We were walking past City College when we saw him

make vulgar gestures and utter objectionable remarks. The kind of language he was using — especially as a professor — was outrageous. That's why we stopped him and handed him over to the police." Initially, the accused was taken to the Amherst Street police station. However, jurisdictionally, the incident falls under the Muchipara Police Station, under which City College is located. A formal written complaint was subsequently filed at Muchipara. Police have taken note of the allegations and have begun a preliminary investigation. Rajdeep Maiti is not new to controversy. He has previously been accused of posting derogatory comments about women on social media, including remarks directed at Left leaders Meenakshi Mukherjee and Deepsi Dhar. Despite repeated criticism, no significant disciplinary action had been taken against him in the past, leading many to question the college administration's response to such behavior. This latest incident has triggered strong reactions among local residents, students, and activists alike. Many

have condemned the professor's alleged actions, stating that his behavior not only violates professional ethics but also tarnishes the image of academic institutions. College authorities have so far remained tight-lipped regarding the incident. No official statement has been issued yet by the **City College administration** regarding either the professor's conduct or the institution's intended response. However, with the matter now under police investigation, pressure is mounting for the college to initiate an internal inquiry and take appropriate disciplinary measures. Meanwhile, police sources confirmed that they are currently examining witness statements and may summon the accused for further questioning, depending on the findings of the initial probe. The incident has reignited the broader conversation about gender sensitivity and accountability in educational institutions, with many calling for stricter background checks, a code of conduct for faculty members, and stronger grievance redressal mechanisms to prevent such incidents from recurring.

War of words over identity remarks sparks political firestorm in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: fresh controversy has erupted over remarks made by a northeastern state's Chief Minister concerning linguistic identity, which have been interpreted by some as targeting the Bengali-speaking population. The remarks, which quickly went viral, have triggered sharp reactions across the political spectrum in Bengal, with public figures exchanging barbs and issuing clarifications in an intensifying narrative battle. The debate began after comments made by the Chief Minister were perceived as casting suspicion on individuals solely on the basis of writing in Bengali, particularly in relation

to citizenship verification procedures in Assam. The statement, widely circulated on social media and in political circles, was sharply criticized by several public representatives from Bengal, who viewed it as an attack on Bengali identity and culture. One prominent Bengal leader, who recently assumed a key leadership role, has now come out in defense of the Chief Minister. He asserted that the remarks are being deliberately misrepresented, adding that they were never intended to malign the Bengali community. "Being identified as Bengali is not a matter of controversy. In fact, many individuals who do not speak

Bengali but have long resided in West Bengal and are culturally integrated are also considered Bengalis. There is no room for division here," he stated. He further criticized the ongoing public outrage, claiming that it is being fueled by selective interpretation and political opportunism. Taking a dig at rival camps, he accused certain leaders of promoting a divisive narrative by playing the "regional victim card" while ignoring broader issues of migration and identity. The controversy took another turn following the issuance of a citizenship verification notice to a resident of Dinhat, Uttam, who is reportedly of Braja descent. The

northeastern Chief Minister later clarified that Uttam is originally a resident of Assam, which is why the notice was served. While that explanation aimed to calm the situation, it instead provoked further backlash. Responding to the episode, several Bengal leaders stood in support of Uttam, interpreting the notice as a broader attempt to target Bengali-speaking individuals in bordering regions. In response to the rising public sentiment, Uttam was subsequently issued a caste certificate, a move that raised additional questions about bureaucratic intent and process.

IIM Calcutta alleged sexual assault: Conflicting claims, key evidence and investigation intensifies

MI News Service, Kolkata: The alleged sexual assault incident at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta has taken a complex turn, with multiple conflicting claims emerging from both the complainant and the accused, even as the police intensify their probe with new evidence surfacing. According to police sources, CCTV footage from both the IIM campus and the surrounding streets confirms the presence of the young female psychologist — the complainant — entering and exiting the IIM premises. Mobile tower data also supports evidence of her prolonged presence on the campus during the time in question. The accused, a student at IIM Calcutta, allegedly invited the complainant to the campus under the pretext of a counselling session. The police have retrieved chats and communication records leading up to the incident and are in the process of analyzing them for further clues. Forensic teams have sealed the room in question and collected samples, while efforts are ongoing to unlock the accused's mobile phone to verify if any video evidence exists. Notably, police claim the accused has re-

mained silent when asked to provide the phone's password during interrogation. However, the complainant's cooperation appears to have waned in recent days. Despite initially lodging the complaint at the police station in person, she has reportedly become unresponsive to follow-up attempts by the authorities. Sources say crucial steps such as medical examination and seizure of clothing or mobile evidence have not been completed due to her non-cooperation. Investigators are examining whether this reluctance stems from fear of social stigma or external pressure. In a surprising development, the victim's father has publicly denied that any sexual assault took place. He stated that he was informed his daughter had fallen ill after an auto accident and was later admitted to the neurology department at SSKM Hospital. Upon returning home, she allegedly told him that no rape or physical abuse had occurred. The father further claimed that police had asked her to mention rape in her statement, a claim that contradicts the initial FIR. Despite these claims, the Kolkata Police are proceeding with the investigation. A Special Investiga-

tion Team (SIT) has been formed to probe the case thoroughly. Officers are reviewing the call detail records (CDRs) of both the complainant and the accused to verify any prior interactions and to confirm whether any calls were made on the day of the alleged incident. They are also examining the behavioral history of the accused within the campus to ascertain if there have been prior complaints or misconduct. The police have requested the complete CCTV archive from IIM Calcutta and have also sought detailed inputs from the institute's registrar and hostel authorities. The accused has been presented in court and, according to sources, was described as having a potentially influential background, prompting closer scrutiny. This incident comes on the heels of another high-profile sexual assault case in Kasba, adding to public and institutional pressure for a transparent and thorough investigation. As of now, the case remains under active investigation, with law enforcement agencies treading cautiously amid conflicting narratives and a need for clear, corroborative evidence.

Severe weather alert for Bengal: cyclonic circulation likely over gangetic region; heavy rain predicted across several districts

MI News Service, Kolkata: The threat of severe weather looms large over Bengal once again, as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a fresh spell of heavy rain and potential cyclonic activity in the coming days. A new cyclonic circulation is likely to form over Gangetic West Bengal on Wednesday, July 16. The system is expected to gradually move west-northwestward over the next three to four days, potentially affecting Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. As the monsoon axis currently stretches south-eastward through Digha to the northeast Bay of Bengal, the weather pattern across both South and

North Bengal is expected to remain active and unstable. In South Bengal, six districts — Purulia, Bankura, East Midnapore, West Midnapore, Jhargram, and South 24 Parganas — are likely to witness heavy rainfall on Monday. The remaining districts of South Bengal may experience light to moderate rainfall accompanied by thunderstorms. In Kolkata, rain is expected to return on Sunday, with intensity gradually increasing as the day progresses. While the city may see scattered showers with thunder on Monday and Tuesday, the likelihood of heavy rain remains low. However, the persistent high moisture levels in the

atmosphere will continue to cause significant humidity-related discomfort, particularly during sunny intervals. On Sunday morning, the minimum temperature in Kolkata was recorded at 26.6 degrees Celsius, while Saturday's maximum stood at 33.1 degrees Celsius. The relative humidity has been fluctuating between 79 and 95 percent. On Tuesday, isolated heavy rainfall is also likely in Nadia, Murshidabad, Birbhum, and East Burdwan districts. Gusty winds, with speeds ranging from 30 to 40 kmph, are expected to accompany the showers in some areas, adding to the risk of localized damage. Meanwhile, North Bengal

is also under alert. Heavy rain is forecast for Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, and Alipurduar on Sunday. The IMD has also issued heavy rain warnings for Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, and Alipurduar on Monday. Similar conditions are expected to continue into Tuesday, with Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, and Alipurduar likely to receive further heavy downpours. Authorities have advised residents across the state to stay alert, avoid waterlogged areas, and follow official advisories as the weather system evolves. Emergency response teams in vulnerable districts are being kept on standby in anticipation of any disruptions.

Alipore Court Drama in 'Joker' Case: Accused's Lawyer Questions Timeline, Intent of Complaint; Police Seek Further Forensic Evidence

MI News Service, Kolkata: The ongoing investigation into the controversial 'Joker' case took a new turn on Saturday as the accused was produced before the Alipore Court, triggering a heated courtroom exchange between the defence and prosecution. The defence lawyer raised serious questions regarding the timeline, credibility, and intent behind the complaint, while the police argued for the necessity of further forensic investigation, citing the gravity of the allegations. Representing the accused, advocate Subrata Sardar Tank dismissed all charges against his client as unfounded. In a detailed rebuttal before the judge, he carefully read out portions of the charge sheet and First Information Report (FIR), pointing out inconsistencies and questioning the sequence of events as narrated by the complainant — a psychological counsellor by profession. According to the defence, the accused and the complainant had first connected through Facebook, and their meeting took place at a location

where security checks were conducted twice before entry, implying no breach or unauthorized access occurred. He highlighted that the complainant had reportedly spent several hours at the location — from 11:45 AM to 8:35 PM, consuming food and drinks during her stay. Raising a rhetorical question, Tank said, "If she was present at the venue for nearly nine hours, and the incident allegedly took place during that time, how could she appear at the police station — which is about seven kilometres away from Joka College — almost instantaneously after leaving, as though she were 'Mr. India'?" This reference to invisibility, though sarcastic in tone, aimed to cast doubt on the credibility and timing of the complaint. The defence further challenged the absence of critical procedural details in the police report. "They confiscated the accused's phone and clothes. But there is no mention of videography. If such a serious allegation is being made, why has no visual evidence been submitted

or cited?" Tank asked. He also questioned the alleged victim's clarity of memory, claiming that although she recalled events in detail, important surveillance-related facts were overlooked. On the other hand, the prosecution, represented by public prosecutor Saurin Ghoshal, presented a starkly different narrative. Ghoshal argued that the case was far more serious than it appeared on the surface. "The accused is an intelligent but mentally unstable individual," he told the court. He cited medical reports suggesting that if evidence from the accused's mobile phone is thoroughly examined, more disturbing content could surface. The investigating officer emphasized the urgent need for scene-of-crime sample collection and digital forensics, stating that the police must determine whether any photographs or videos were captured during the incident. "Given the sensitive nature of the case and the possibility of further criminality, every technical aspect needs to be explored

thoroughly," he stated. The courtroom witnessed intense back-and-forth arguments as both sides presented dramatically contrasting views of what transpired. While the defence painted the complainant's actions as premeditated and inconsistent, the prosecution insisted that the situation had the potential to escalate into a far more serious offense, had it not been interrupted. The case continues to draw public attention due to the involvement of high-profile individuals and the disturbing nature of the allegations. The court has not yet ruled on further custody or investigative steps, but sources suggest that digital evidence recovery and forensic examinations will play a central role in the upcoming phase of the investigation. Further proceedings are expected to determine whether the police will be granted permission to collect the necessary forensic samples and access all digital data from the accused's devices. Meanwhile, the court has reserved its judgment on the defence's appeal for dismissing the charges.

Name Change
I, Santosh Jaiswal (Old Name) S/o Jagannath Prasad Jaiswal Residing at Tower B 3 G Diamond Enclave, Teghoria Rajarhat Road, Lokenath Mandir, Teghoria, Rajarhat Gopalpur (M), District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700157, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Santosh Kumar Jaiswal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 23/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Santosh Jaiswal (Old Name) and Santosh Kumar Jaiswal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sudakshina Saha Roy (Old Name) D/o Radheshyam Saha Residing at 56, Rastraguru Avenue, Nager Bazar, Vtc - South Dum Dum (M), Po - Dum Dum, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700028, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sudakshina Saha (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 19/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Sudakshina Saha Roy (Old Name) and Sudakshina Saha (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gousul Alam Molla alias Gausul Alam Molla (Old Name) S/o Anwar Molla Residing at C2-159/Net, South Kankhuly, Bidhannagar, Maheshala (M), District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700066, West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Gausul Alam Molla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 21/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Gousul Alam Molla, Gausul Alam Molla (Old Name) and Gausul Alam Molla (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kashmira Bibi (Old Name) W/o Gausul Alam Molla Residing at Kankhuly Madhyapa Para, Maheshala (M), Bidhannagar, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700066, West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Kashmira Bibi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 22/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Kashmira Bibi (Old Name) and Kashmira Khatun Bibi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mariam Ahmad (Old Name) W/o Nazir Ahmed Residing at Adra Railway Colony, Adra, District - Puruliya, Pin - 723121, West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Marium Begum (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 47/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Mariam Ahmad (Old Name) and Marium Begum (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gulnaz Parveen (Old Name) W/o Riyaz Ahmad Residing at Vill - Adra, Po - Adra, Adra South Near Se Rly Hospital, Adra(Ct), Adra, District - Puruliya, Pin - 723121, West Bengal shall henceforth be known as Baby Gulnaz Parveen (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 48/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Gulnaz Parveen (Old Name) and Baby Gulnaz Parveen (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, BIMAL DEVI JAIN (Old Name) W/o MOTILAL JAIN Residing at 21/WK, Chandranath Simlai Lane, Po - Cossipore, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700002 West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as BIMALA DEVI LUNIA (New Name) as declared before the Notary public govt of India at Kolkata vide affidavit dated 11-07-2025. BIMAL DEVI JAIN (Old Name) and BIMALA DEVI LUNIA (New Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, PAPIYA JANA DAS (Old Name) W/o PRASHANTA DAS Residing at 9/14, Nabinchandra Das Road, P.O - Noapara, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700090 West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as PAPIYA JANA (New Name) as declared before the Notary public govt of India at Kolkata vide affidavit dated 11-07-2025. PAPIYA JANA DAS (Old Name) and PAPIYA JANA (New Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, REZAUL ISLAM (Old Name) S/O MD HAYAT ALI GAZI Residing at Vill - Joygram, Po - Chakpadi, Ps - Hasnabad, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 734326, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD REZAUL ISLAM (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Basirhat, vide affidavit no 10201/25 dated 21-06-2025. REZAUL ISLAM (Old Name) and MD REZAUL ISLAM (New Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sajid Hussain, S/o. Late Alif Hussain residing at 14, Shilpuri By Lane, P.O.-Bansberia, P.S.-Mogra, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin-712502. Have declared by an affidavit no. 5352 dated 27.06.2025 in the Court of Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Hooghly at Chinsurah, that my correct name has been recorded in my Aadhar card as Sajid Hussain. My correct name has been wrongly recorded in my daughter's Birth Certificate as Md. Sajid Ansari in place of Sajid Hussain. Sajid Hussain and Md. Sajid Ansari both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Kawsar Ali (Old Name) S/o Md Adar Ali (Father's Old Name) R/o, Uttar Lattibpara, P.O.-Bansgara, P.S.-Lalgola, Murshidabad do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Md Kawsar Ali (Old Name) to Md Kawsar Ali (New Name) and Md Afzar Ali (Father's Old Name) to Afzar Ali and henceforth I shall be known as Kawsar Ali,S/o, Afzar Ali in Secondary Registration, Admit Marksheet, Pass Certificate and affidavit no-C-84552 and C-84553 sworn before the Judicial Magistrate (1st class), Bampur, Murshidabad, on 05/07/2025, both are same identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Hammad Haider (old name), son of Md Kamal Haider, residing at 6, Mofidul Islam Lane, P.O.-Entally, P.S.- Beniapukur, Kolkata- 700014, W.B, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Hammad Haider (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 07/07/2025. Md Hammad Haider (new name) and Mohammed Hammad Haider (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Tapan Dalui, son of Late Shambhu Dalui, residing at P-755, Parnashree Pally, Behala, Kolkata- 700060, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that Tapan Dalui and Dalui Tapan and Doloi Tapan is same and one identical person as affidavit before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Court at Alipore.

Name Change
I MD IUNUS (Old Name) S/O Late Meheboob Ali Ansari, residing at 28/2, B. M. Road, Champdani, P.O Baidyabati, PS Bhadrashwar, Dist. Hooghly, Pin 712222(WB). Hearby declare that I have Change my Name from MD IUNUS (Old Name) to MD. YOUNUS ANSARI(New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Chandernagore court, Hooghly. Vide an affidavit no 3553 date 25/06/2025. MD. YOUNUS ANSARI (New Name) and MD. IUNUS(Old Name) both are same and One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Zafar Ahmed, S/O. Late Mo-hammed Hanif, age - 63 years, Resident- 79H/4, Narkeldanga North Road, PS & P.O. Narkeldanga, Kolkata- 700011 do hereby affirm and declare before an affidavit sworn before The 1st class Judicial Magistrate at Sealdah court, vide affidavit number 6521 Date 10th July, 2025. That my correct name is Zafar Ahmed which is recorded in my Aadhar card. Vide No. 734103 040222 but in my son named Imran alih birth certificate it is recorded as JAFAR AHAMED that Zafar Ahmed and JAFAR AHAMED both are same and identical person, henceforth I shall be known as Zafar Ahmed instead of JAFAR AHAMED.

Name Change
I, Rakesh Dolui, S/O Arun Dolui, aged 29, resident of Choutara Doluipara, Hooghly, W.B., do hereby declare vide affidavit no. 4642 dated 11 June 2025 before the Ld. 1st Class Magistrate, Hooghly, that due to inadvertence, my name in Passport No. N0613795 appears as Rakesh Dalui instead of Rakesh Dolui. Both names refer to the same person – myself.

Name Change
I, Md Jamil Ansari S/O Abdul Ghafoor Ansari Residing at 3/2, Anna Street, Po+Ps - Jolarpettai, District - Tirupattur, Pin - 635851, Tamil Nadu, India shall henceforth be known as Jamil Ahmed Ansari. I declare that Md Jamil Ansari and Jamil Ahmed Ansari is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 11-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Ujjal Majumder S/O Late Mohan Lal Majumdar Residing at A1 Sukanta Pally Durgapur, PS - Durgapur, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713201, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Ujjal Majumdar. I declare that Ujjal Majumder and Ujjal Majumdar is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 11-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Avijit Kar S/o Late Manoranjan Kar Residing at 3/22, Matril Mandir Lane, Po - Alambaraz, Ps - Baranagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700035, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Avijit Kar and Avijit Kar is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 11-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Purnendu Kr Thakur S/O Lalit Mohan Thakur Residing at A/15, Dankuni Govt Housing Estate, Po - Dankuni, Ps - Dankuni, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712311, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Purnendu Thakur. I declare that Purnendu Kr Thakur and Purnendu Thakur is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 11-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Zufi D/o Imamuddin S/o Md Arif Khan Residing at 19, Syed Amir Ali Avenue, Po - Circus Avenue, Ps - Karaya, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700017, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Falak Arif. I declare that Zufi and Falak Arif is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 11-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Md Zubair Ahmad (Old Name) S/o Mohammad Yunus Residing at Z-3229, DR A K Road, Vtc+Po - Badartala, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700044, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Zubair Ahmad (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 20/2025 Dated 11-07-2025. Md Zubair Ahmad (Old Name) and Zubair Ahmad (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

CORRECTION OF DOB
I, SASWATI GUHA , D/O - Sri Siddhartha Basu and spouse of 669618-S, Ex SGT BHASKAR GUHA, presently residing at B/66 RABINDRAPALLY, P.O.- BAGHAJATIN, P.S.- PATULI, KOLKATA -700086, have corrected my Date of Birth from 30.09.1974 to 03.09.1974. Henceforth my date of birth shall be known as 03.09.1974 in place of 30.09.1974. It is declared & solemnly affirmed Before the NOTARY, Alipore, dated 04.06.2025, Sl. No. 90 of 2025.

Name Change
I, Raisa Begum (old name) W/o. Irshad Ali, residing 165, Diamond Harbour Road, Pathak Para, Behala, Kolkata-700034, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Raisa Begam (new name) as declared before the notary public at Kolkata vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. Raisa Begam (new name) and Raisa Begum (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, BISWESWAR KALIPADA GIRI (old name) S/O KALIPARA GIRI, residing at TAKIA HARIPUR KHAL, P.O.-DAUDPUR, EAST MEDINIPUR, PIN-721401, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as BISWESWAR GIRI (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. BISWESWAR GIRI (new name) and BISWESWAR KALIPADA GIRI (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, ARUN MAITY (old name) S/O NAGENDRA NATH MAITY, residing at VILL- ASHANDA, P.O.- DIHBHUR-SUT, P.S.- UDAYNARAYANPUR, DIST.- HOWRAH- 712408, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as ARUN KUMAR MAITY (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. ARUN KUMAR MAITY (new name) and ARUN MAITY (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, ADITYA AGRAWAL (old name) son of SUSHIL KUMAR AGARWAL, residing at MERLIN 5TH AVENUE, FLAT NO 9D, TOWER-1, MAHIS-BATHAN, BIDHANNAGAR (M), P.O.-KRISHNAPUR, DIST- NORTH 24 PGS, PIN-700102, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as ADITYA AGARWAL (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. ADITYA AGRAWAL (new name) and ADITYA AGARWAL (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SUSHIL KUMAR AGRAWAL (old name) son of KISHAN LAL AGARWAL, residing at FLAT 10 A, 82 BIDHANNAGAR ROAD, ULTADANGA MAIN ROAD, KOLKATA-700067, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SUSHIL KUMAR AGARWAL (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. SUSHIL KUMAR AGRAWAL (new name) and SUSHIL - KUMAR AGRAWAL (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MANJU DEVI AGRAWAL (old name) wife of SUSHIL KUMAR AGRAWAL, residing at FLAT 10 A, 82 BIDHANNAGAR ROAD, ULTADANGA MAIN ROAD, KOLKATA-700067, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MANJU DEVI AGARWAL (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. MANJU DEVI AGARWAL (new name) and MANJU DEVI AGRAWAL (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MOHEMED AWAIS ALAM (old name) son of Late MD OZAIR ALAM, residing at 64D/1B, LINTON STREET P.O.-ENTALLY,PS-BENIAPUKUR KOLKATA 700014, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD AWAIS ALAM (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. MD AWAIS ALAM (new name) and MOHEMED AWAIS ALAM (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kamal Haider (old name), son of Md Golam Haider, residing at 6, Mofidul Islam Lane, P.O.- Entally, P.S.- Beniapukur, Kolkata- 700014, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Kamal Haider (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 07/07/2025. Md Kamal Haider (new name) and Kamal Haider (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Saeed Asad (Md Saeed Ahmad (old name) son of Late Shafigue Ahmed, Residing at Azad Nagar Road No-1, Bumpur, Asansol (M Corp), Hirapur, Paschim Bardhaman, Pin- 713325, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Saeed Asad (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata, dated 12/07/2025. Md Saeed Asad (new name) and Mohammed Saeed Asad(Md Saeed Ahmad) (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, INDRAJIT HALDER S/O LATE KRISHNA PADA HALDER, declare that my father said name KRISHNA HALDER (old name), residing at VILL-DIHALDAH, P.O.- BAKSA, P.S.-BAGDAN, DIST-NORTH 24 PGS, PIN- 743232, W.B, India, have changed his name and he shall henceforth be known as KRISHNA PADA HALDER (new name), as declared before the Ld. 1st class Judicial Magistrate at Bongaon, Dist. North 24 Pgs, vide an affidavit Sl. No. 6200, dated 24/06/2025. KRISHNA PADA HALDER (new name) and KRISHNA HALDER (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nijamuddin Jamadar(Old Name As Per My Daughtar Sumaiya Khatun School Certificate).S/O Iyad Ali Zamadar.R/O Uttar Amratala, Po-Hanmandapur,Ps-Magrahat, South 24 Parganas, 743503, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Nijamuddin Jamadar (New Name). Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/07/2025, That Nijamuddin Jamadar And Md Nijamuddin Jamadar All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Karnataka Tourism's mega road show in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Karnataka Tourism recently conducted a dynamic road show in Kolkata, reinforcing its strategic focus on Eastern India as a key tourism source market. The event marked a significant step forward in showcasing Karnataka's multifaceted appeal-spanning heritage, nature, adventure, and gastronomy to a highly engaged audience of travel trade professionals and industry leaders from the region. Designed as a comprehensive engagement platform, the road show facilitated meaningful connections between Karnataka's tourism stakeholders and top tour operators, travel agents, and association members from Kolkata and neighbouring regions. Attendees explored the state's diverse travel offerings from the historical wonders of Hampi, Mysuru, and Badami, to the serene retreats of Coorg, Chikmagalur, and Kabini. Also featured were the spiritual corridors of Shravanabelagola, Udupi, and Dharmasthala, along with the urban and tech-driven attractions of Bengaluru. Dr. Rajendra K V, IAS, Commissioner – Karnataka Tourism, led the delegation of Karnataka Stakeholders, and spotlighted the state's strategic tourism initiatives. “Our vision is to establish Karnataka as a top-tier destination in both domestic and international markets,” he noted. “The response from the Eastern travel trade fraternity reflects the growing interest in curated, authentic, and sustainable travel experiences.” The event featured interactive one-on-one networking sessions, and detailed destination presentations.

Kolkata hosts mega skill development prog for children

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata recently hosted internationally acclaimed skill development programme for children. The city became the venue for the competition for Universal Concept Mental Arithmetic System (UCMAS). 1500 children within the age group of 4-13 years participated in this competition. The participants came from almost all the districts of West Bengal. According to the organizers(UCMAS), N Anand and Nabanita Bhowmik, “This skillful exercise vitalizes the cerebral cortex of the students. Not only it enhances the intake capacities of the children but it energizes the delivery capacities of the children as well.” “The unique form of training methods that we inculcate among students helps them to perform in studies and sports irrespective of their domains and fields.”They added.

Name Change
I, Hafiza Bibi (old name) wife of Abdar Rahaman Gazi, residing at Vill- Debhog, P.O.- Kathur, P.S.-Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 734322, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Hafiza Bibi Gazi (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 12/07/2025. Hafiza Bibi Gazi (new name) and Hafiza Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Tarun Banerjee (Old Name) S/O Late Bhupati Banerjee ,Residing At Vill-Jhingra, Po & Ps-Jagatballav Pur,Dist -Howrah,Pin-711408,West Bengal,India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tarun Kumar Banerjee (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 11/07/2025. Tarun Banerjee (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Mustaq (Old Name) S/O Sk Mukhtar And Sk Muktar And Skh Mukhtar,Residing At 41A/4/8, Janagar Road,Po-Circus Avenue,Ps-Beniapukur, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Mustakt(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 11/07/2025. Md Mustaq (Old Name) And Md Mustakh (New Name) Both Are Same And Identical Person.

Netaji Express to run with LHB coaches



MI News Service, Kolkata: In a steadfast commitment to passenger safety and comfort, Eastern Railway has undertaken a significant initiative to convert conventional ICF (Integral Coach Factory) coaches to LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) coaches. LHB coaches bring a myriad of benefits to passengers, ensuring a superior travel experience. These coaches are renowned for their increased spaciousness, upgraded passenger amenities, and enhanced comfort. The features of LHB coaches include wider windows, providing passengers with panoramic views, and an anti-telescopic mechanism designed to prevent piercing into other coaches during unforeseen accidents. Eastern Railway's initiative aligns with its un-

wavering commitment to passenger safety and reflects the organization's dedication to fostering a hassle-free travel environment.

Keeping in view of passengers comfort, Railway has decided to convert 12311/12312 Howrah - Kalka - Howrah Netaji Express from ICF rake to LHB rake, leaving Howrah w.e.f. 14.7.2025 and leaving Kalka w.e.f. 16.7.2025. Passengers traveling on the converted Mail/Express train can now look forward to a journey marked by enhanced safety measures and a heightened level of comfort. Eastern Railway remains resolute in its pursuit of excellence, continually striving to elevate the overall travel experience for its valued passengers.

Twenty two Shravani Mela Special to start its journey from different stations over Eastern Railway on 14.07.2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: Shrivani Mela at Shrivayanth Dham Temple of Deoghar is one of the principal attraction for the Lord Shiva devotees across the country. Countless pilgrims rushed to Deoghar and Sultanganj area on this auspicious occasion and they prefer Railway route to reach there as safest & quickest mode of transport. Accordingly, for the convenience of the passengers, twenty two (22) Shravani Mela special will start its journey from different stations over Eastern Railway jurisdictions on 14.07.2025. These special trains will offer additional capacity and flexibility to accommodate the extra rush of passengers during the Mela period.

Following Shravani Mela special will start its journey on 14.07.2025 (Monday):
• 03157 Madhupur- Banaras Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Madhupur at 12:10 hrs.)
• 05598 Asansol – Jaynagar Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Asansol at 13:00 hrs.)
• 08645 Bhagalpur – Ranchi Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Bhagalpur at 13:10 hrs.)
• 03511 Asansol – Patna Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Asansol at 17:00 hrs.)
• 05027 Deoghar – Barhni Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Deoghar at 18:45 hrs.)
• 03553

Asansol – Danapur Shrivani Mela Special (leaving Asansol at 19:30 hrs.)
• 03146/03145 Jasidih – Dumka - Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Jasidih at 08:50 hrs. and leaving Dumka at 10:45 hrs.)
• 03148/03147 Jasidih – Dumka - Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Jasidih at 18:00 hrs. and leaving Dumka at 20:05 hrs.)
• 03150/03149 Jasidih – Godda – Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Jasidih at 13:00 hrs. and leaving Godda at 15:00 hrs.)
• 03507/03508 Deoghar – Jasidih – Deoghar MEMU Passenger (leaving Deoghar at 08:20 hrs. and leaving Jasidih at 22:05 hrs.)
• 03480/03479 Jamalpur – Sultanganj – Jamalpur MEMU Passenger (leaving Jamalpur at 00:05 hrs. and leaving Sultanganj at 01:30 hrs.)
• 03501/03502 Jasidih – Baidyanath Dham- Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Jasidih at 04:30 hrs. and leaving Baidyanath Dham – 04:55 hrs.)
• 03503/03504 Jasidih – Baidyanath Dham- Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Baidyanath Dham at 13:05 hrs. and leaving Jasidih - 13:35 hrs.)
• 03505/03506 Jasidih – Baidyanath Dham – Jasidih MEMU Passenger (leaving Jasidih at 21:25 hrs. and leaving Baidyanath Dham at 22:00 hrs.)

IRDAI dives in to Rs 150 Cr awareness drive

MI News Service, New Delhi: IRDAI, the insurance regulator, is working with life insurance players to address the decline in insurance penetration in the country. IRDAI data shows that life insurance penetration has come down from 3.2 per cent of GDP in 2021–22 to 2.8 per cent in 2023–24, and is lower than the world average of 2.9 per cent.

“We have taken note of this. We are considering internally as to what are the steps that as a regulator we can take and work with the industry to bring it back to levels that are acceptable,” said IRDAI whole time member (life) Swaminathan Iyer.

As part of the initiative, the Central Finance Council — the industry body of all life insurance companies in India — on Wednesday launched an awareness campaign to improve the insurance penetration and to bring on track the goal of the regulator to have a wider insurance coverage in the country by 2047. Kamlesh Rao, member of the executive committee of the Life Insurance Council, said that a budget of ₹150 crore would be spent every year over the next three years to improve insurance awareness and increase penetration and density in the country. The Insurance Awareness Committee launched the campaign with the theme ‘Sabse Pehle Life Insurance’, which will have contributions from all life insurance players on the basis of their premium incomes. A survey done by the council also revealed that while people are aware and have taken cover, it may be inadequate for them. Awareness campaigns such as ‘Mutual Fund Sahi Hai’ have contributed significantly to the growth of mutual fund assets under management and life insurers hope that the present campaign could lead to similar success.

Sale of residential properties dips by 23% in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sale of residential properties dipped by 23 per cent in the April-June quarter in Calcutta, consultancy Anarock, said in a report which recorded a 20 per cent decline in top seven cities of India. The report suggested that rising property prices, geopolitical tensions including Operation Sindoor and the escalation

in Iran-Israel conflict weighed on the sentiment of buyers. Kolkata witnessed sale of 3525 units in April-June 2025, compared to 4560 units in the same period of 2024. However, sales declined by 10 per cent compared to January-March quarter in the city. In contrast, sale of apartments in rose by 3 per cent in seven cities surveyed, led by growth in Chennai, NCR and Hyderabad. The developers also adjusted to the sluggish demand by capping supplies. Accordingly, launches in Calcutta stood at 2,505 units in Q2 2025, a decrease of 54 per cent over Q1 2025 but a 17 per cent rise against Q2 2024. Approximately, 48 per cent of the new supply was added in the mid segment.

NOTICE

This is to inform that, my client **Milan Chandra Chowdhury** S/o Late Gobinda Prasad Chowdhury R/o at Saratpalli, P.O.- Inda, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB- 721305 executed General Power of Attorney in respect of 05 Dec. property, vide Deed No IV-10100 0198 on dated 29/10/21 at ADSR Kharragpur in favor of **Panchanan Dolai** S/o Late Gunadhar Dolai R/o at Bannunpara, P.O.- Inda, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB- 721305 in respect of 05 Dec. property, Plot No. 2265 (R.S.), 6123 (L.R), Khatian No. 178 R.S., 9709 L.R., J.L. No. 232, Mouza- Inda, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur. Then said attorney are sold out approx 05 Dec. area of the said property to **Kakali Munshi** D/o Late Swapan Kumar Munshi R/o at Kamala Cabin, P.O.- Inda, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB- 721305 through the Deed No. I-7785/22, on dated 12/07/22 at A.D.S.R. Kharragpur.

That, if any person have any objection, then hel/she may communicate with me within 30 days after publication otherwise his/her claim shall not be entitled as per law.

BRAJADJULAL ADHIKARI
Advocate, Enno : F/683/1144/2014
KGP SDO Court, Paschim Medinipur

NOTICE

This is to inform that, my client 1), Ramkrishan Moitra S/o Lakshmikanta Moitra 2), Nantu Majumder S/o Nityagopal Majumder 3), Subrata Roy S/o Samarendra Roy 4), Arun Kumar Ghosh S/o Late Kshitish Chandra Ghosh executed General Power of Attorney in respect of 18.36 Dec. property, vide Deed No IV- 68 on dated 21/03/2011 at ADSR Kharragpur in favor of **Tarak Nath Roy** S/o Late Debendra Nath Roy R/o at Bhanuipuri, P.O.- KGP, P.S.- KGP (T), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB- 721301 in respect of 18.36 Dec. property, Plot No. 655 (R.S.), Hall Khatian No. 75, 169 & 380, J.L. No. 197, Mouza- Bargai, P.S.- KGP (L), Dist- Paschim Medinipur. Then said attorney are sold out approx 18.36 Dec. area of the said property to **Lakhan Mondal, Satraguhan Mondal & Bharat Mondal** S/o Late Kanahi Mondal R/o at Bargai, P.O.- Samraipur, P.S.- KGP (L), Dist- Paschim Medinipur, WB through the Deed No. I-2310/11, on dated 30/03/11 at A.D.S.R. Kharragpur.

That, if any person have any objection, then hel/she may communicate with me within 30 days after publication otherwise his/her claim shall not be entitled as per law.

BRAJADJULAL ADHIKARI
Advocate, Enno : F/683/1144/2014
KGP SDO Court, Paschim Medinipur

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

Open E-Tender Notice

No. COS/CR/PUB/E-Tender/19/0162, Date: 09/07/2025. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.irops.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.irops.gov.in – login –> E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dr.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594. Office Address: **Office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan**, Sl.No:[1]. **Tender No:70251134, Brief Description of Item:**(1) IGBT Based 3-Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment with Physical Medium i.e. ESD/EMD/OFG For Multi-Functional Vehicle Bus (MVB) As Per IEC 61375, Terminal Bracket, BUS Bar Link And CU Braided Required For Connection Between Main Transformer And Traction Converter, Auxiliary Converter, Interfacing Connectors, Cables And Cable Loom Required For Connection From VCU1/2 TO SB1/2 PANEL, As Per Spec. No. i) RDSO/2008 /EL/SPEC/0071, REV.5 For IGBT Based 3-Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment, ii) CLW/ES/3/0458 ALTE For Control Cables, iii) CLW/ES/3/0459 ALTE For Screened Cable, iv) CLW/ES/3/0124 ALTO, in Addition To Above Description, The Propulsion System Should Also Comply Requirement Mentioned In "Schedule of Requirement" (SOR), Copy Attached With Tender Documents. [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery], (2) Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of IGBT Based 3 Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment To Specn. No. CLW/AMC/C-D&D/01 issued in March-2016. [Warranty Period: 5 years, Annual Period: 3 years, Rate of Discounting: 10%]. Quantity : (1)742.00 Set,(2)742.00 Set. **Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees): ₹ 500000.00.** **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 25/08/2025 at 11:00 AM.**

PR6/134

PCMM/CLW/CRJ

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100 glorious yrs: RSS calls for unmitigated HINDU UNITY

MI News Service, Nagpur: The RSS has drawn up plans to hold "Hindu Sammelans" across the country and organise a lecture series by Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat in the metros, including Calcutta, to focus on "Hindu consolidation" as part of its centenary celebrations.

The RSS leadership held a three-day Prant Pracharak (divisional publicists) meeting in Delhi that concluded on Sunday to discuss the programmes to be taken up as part of the centenary celebrations. The RSS, founded in 1925, will turn 100 on October 2, the day of Vijay Dashami this year. "In the centenary year, with the participation of all sections of society, Hindu Sammelans will be held at the divisional level in villages and the locality level in cities," RSS chief publicist Sunil Ambekar said at a media address after the meeting.

Nearly a lakh Hindu Sammelans are to be organised across the country, RSS leaders said. The meeting was held at the newly built Delhi office of the RSS, which has three 12-storey towers spread over 4 acres. The RSS leaders said that the consolidation of Hindus was extensively discussed at the closed-door meeting, with pracharaks working on the ground expressing concern over the rising

language and caste issues in the country that were "threatening Hindu unity". Officially, however, Ambekar said that the aim of the "Hindu Sammelans" was to strengthen "social harmony" and eradicate discriminatory practices in society. "In the Sangh's work, this inclusive approach has always been a key focus. During the centenary year, all planned activities aim at a broad-based outreach to connect with every segment of society and ensure their active participation," Ambekar said.

Asked about the language row in Maharashtra and other parts of the country, he said the Sangh had always held that "all Indian languages are national languages and primary education should be imparted in the mother tongue". Ambekar said that the ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur was prominently discussed at the meeting with Sangh pracharaks from the state raising the issue at the gathering.

He said the Sangh cadres on the ground reported "positive progress" towards the restoration of harmony in the state.

"Sangh swayamsevaks in Manipur are reaching out to all sections to restore peace, but it may take more time for complete stability to return in the state," Ambekar said.

Suspicion of adultery no ground for forcing DNA test on minor: Bombay HC

MI News Service, Mumbai: Merely because a man suspects his wife of adultery does not become a ground to make their minor child undergo a DNA test to determine paternity, the Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court has said. Quashing a family court's order directing a DNA test on a minor boy, Justice R M Joshi said that such a genetic examination is ordered only in exceptional cases. In his July 1 order, a copy of which was made available on Wednesday, Justice Joshi said that merely because a man claims he is entitled to divorce on the ground of adultery does not make it an eminent case for passing an order directing a DNA test. "A question arises as to whether this is an eminent case for passing the order of DNA test. The candid answer to the same would be an emphatic no," the HC said.

The court said that if there is an allegation against the wife that she had committed adultery, then the same can be proved by any other evidence instead of calling upon the child to undergo a paternity test. The order was passed in a petition filed by a man's estranged wife and her 12-year-old son, challenging a February 2020 order passed by a family court directing the child to undergo a DNA profiling test to decide paternity. The high court noted that the family court had erred in passing such an order and quashed it. It was "absolutely obligatory" for the family court to consider the best interest of the child, Justice Joshi said in the order.

Referring to a Supreme Court order, the bench said that no one can be compelled to undergo a blood test, especially a minor child, when he or she is not even capable of taking a decision to agree or refuse the test. When the parents of a child are fighting against each other, and most of the time, the child becomes a tool in the fight, the courts must become the custodian of the rights of the minor child, HC said. "There would be more responsibility on the Court than to just decide the disputed questions between parties. The court is undoubtedly required to consider pros and cons before calling upon a minor child to undergo a blood/DNA test," the court said.

The man had sought divorce from his wife on the grounds of adultery. As per the plea, the couple got married in 2011, and when they separated in January 2013, the woman was three months pregnant.



Members of the Mountain Rescue Teams (MRT) search for a pilgrim, who went missing on Saturday after jumping off a railing during the annual 'Amarnath Yatra', at Railpathri, in Ganderbal district, Jammu and Kashmir. Surinder Pal Arora, a resident of Ludhiana, was trekking from Brarimarg to Railpathri in a group of seven when, around midnight, high-altitude sickness gripped him, police said.

Tariff war: Indian team to visit USA for another round of talks

MI News Service, New Delhi: An Indian commerce ministry team will soon visit Washington for another round of talks with the US for a proposed trade pact, a government official said on Thursday.

The official said that negotiations will happen on both interim and the first phase of the bilateral trade agreement (BTA) during this visit. The visit dates have not yet been finalised. However, sources are saying that the team is expected to visit Washington next week.

Earlier this month, the Indian team led by chief negotiator Rajesh Agrawal, returned from Washington after concluding

ing talks on the pact. This visit is significant as the US has further extended the imposition of additional import duties (in case of India it is 26 per cent) till August 1. India is trying to negotiate and finalize a trade agreement with the US, Special Secretary in the Department of Commerce Rajesh Agrawal said. The aim is to conclude the first phase of this pact by fall (September-October) of this year. Before that, the two countries are looking to finalise an interim trade agreement.

Agrawal said that India has so far implemented more than 14 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with 26 countries. "Now we are

integrating with major markets also... we just concluded an agreement with the UK, we are in an advanced stage of negotiations with the European Union, we are trying to negotiate and finalize a deal with the USA," he said here at an event on export logistics. India, he said, is also negotiating trade pacts with Latin American countries including Chile and Peru.

"We have done (trade pact) with Australia and UAE. We are in negotiations with New Zealand... So, the idea is that we are also integrating in a big way with the major trading partners and major economies," he added.



Paintings on display during an art exhibition at a gallery at Triveni Kala Sangam, in New Delhi. The exhibition has been dedicated to India's Operation Sindoor.

Ragging via WhatsApp groups will invite strict action: UGC

MI News Service, New Delhi: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed higher education institutions to monitor any informal WhatsApp groups created to harass juniors, saying it will be treated as ragging and attract strict action under anti-ragging rules, according to officials. The UGC receives dozens of complaints every year from freshers alleging harassment by seniors.

"In several cases, seniors form informal WhatsApp groups, contact juniors and subject them to mental harassment. This too amounts to ragging and will invite disciplinary measures," the UGC said in its latest directive. "Student safety on campus is paramount and non-negotiable. Failure to enforce anti-ragging norms may lead to stringent action, including withholding of grants," it warned.

The advisory also flagged incidents where juniors were threatened with social boycott if they did not follow seniors' instructions. Forcing students to cut their hair, stay awake for long hours or verbally humiliating them were cited as other common ragging practices.

"Such acts cause physical and psychological distress and are serious violations of anti-ragging regulations and completely unacceptable," it said.

Delhi court extends JC of Mumbai attack accused Rana till Aug 13



MI News Service, New Delhi: A Delhi court extended the judicial custody of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack accused Tahawwur Hussain Rana till August 13. Special Judge Chanderjit Singh passed the order after Rana was produced before it through video conference after expiry of his judicial custody granted earlier. Rana is a close associate of 26/11 main conspirator David Coleman Headley alias Daood Gilani, a US citizen. He was brought to India after the US Supreme Court on April 4 dismissed his review plea against his extradition to India.

On November 26, 2008, a group of 10 Pakistani terrorists went on a rampage, carrying out a coordinated attack on a railway station, two luxury hotels and a Jewish centre, after they sneaked into India's financial capital through the sea route. As many as 166 people were killed in the nearly 60-hour assault.

Odisha Police detains 448 Bangladeshis, Rohingya migrants

MI News Service, Cuttack: Odisha police have detained 448 people suspected to be Bangladeshi infiltrators and Rohingya refugees. While 444 were picked up from Jharsuguda in western Odisha, four were taken into custody from Paradip. In Jharsuguda, the detainees had reportedly settled and found work in local industries and mines, employed primarily as masons and painters.

Inspector general of police Himansu Kumar Lal told : "We have held these people suspecting them to be Bangladeshi nationals and Rohingyas who entered the state illegally."

Asked if they were Bengali-speaking people from Bengal, Lal said: "Document verification is underway. Those who prove Indian citizenship will be allowed to stay. Others will face legal action." Police sources said many among the detained do not possess Aadhaar cards or valid identification documents. The action could include deportation of non-citizens to Bangladesh. As per orders from the ministry of home

affairs, Jharsuguda police formed two special task force units for the crack-down. All 444 detainees have been lodged in the auditorium of a private college and an indoor stadium. In Paradip, four Bangladeshi nationals were taken into custody for allegedly sneaking into Odisha. They are being interrogated. Additional superintendent of police, Paradip, Smruti Ranjan Kar said: "They will be deported as per law following due legal procedure."

During preliminary investigation, the four failed to produce any valid documents such as Aadhaar cards, passports, or bank records. Police are also probing the intention behind their entry and whether a larger racket facilitated their movement.

The incident has raised concerns over security and documentation lapses in industrial areas where migrants are often employed without rigorous checks. A broader investigation has been launched to determine if more such infiltrations have occurred elsewhere in the state.

Online betting: ED's 'money laundering' scanner on 29 actors, influencers

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate has filed a money laundering case to look into the role of more than two dozen celebrities including actors like Vijay Deverakonda, Rana Daggubati and Prakash Raj apart from some social media influencers and YouTubers have been booked in the ED case.

These celebrities are suspected to have "endorsed" online betting apps like Jungle Rummy, JeetWin, Lotus365 etc. in lieu of getting celebrity or endorsement fee, the sources said. Some of these "well known" persons, the sources said, have earlier stated that they did not know the exact functioning of the apps and products dished out by them and claimed they did not associate themselves with these platforms for any wrongdoing or illegal activity like betting. The ED is expected to record their statements in the coming days even as it is collecting more FIRs and looking for more complainants who were duped or cheated by these betting platforms.

A comprehensive investigation is underway to find the estimated amount of the "proceeds of crime" generated by these apps and the exact role of the celebrities. Their guilt will be decided following recording of their statements and version, the sources said.

shmi, Raj, Nidhi Agarwal, Pranitha Subhash, Ananya Nagalla, TV host Srimukhi apart from local social media influencers and YouTubers have been booked in the ED case.

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Delhi airport emerges as world's 9th busiest airport

MI News Service, New Delhi: Delhi airport has been ranked the world's 9th busiest airport, handling more than 7.7 crore passengers in 2024, a report released. Airports Council International's list of the world's 20 busiest airports is topped by Atlanta airport in the US which processed 10,80,67,766 passengers, followed by Dubai airport (9,23,31,506 passengers) and Dallas/Fort Worth airport in the US (8,78,17,864 passengers) at the second and third spots, respectively. "Global passenger traffic hit a new high in 2024, surpassing 9.4 billion travellers – up 8.4 per cent from 2023 and 2.7 per cent above pre-pandemic levels (2019)... The top-20 airports alone processed 1.54 billion passengers, capturing 16 per cent of global traffic," the release said. In 2024, the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) in the national capital handled 7,78,20,834

passengers, improving its ranking to the 9th position from 10th in 2023. The figure is based on the total number of enplaned and deplaned passengers while passengers in transit have been counted once.

According to the Airports Council International (ACI) said the US contributed six airports to the top 20, mostly dominated by domestic traffic, except for JFK, where international passengers made up 56 per cent. Shanghai Pudong (PVG) climbed 11 positions to rank 10th globally, it said in a release. Other airports in the top 10 rankings are Japan's Haneda (4th), UK's London Heathrow (5th), US' Denver (6th), Turkey's Istanbul (7th), US' Chicago (8th) and China's Shanghai (10th). In terms of aircraft movements, Delhi airport was ranked two notches higher at the 15th position in 2024 compared to 2023.

The 28th Installation Ceremony of Rotary Club of Durgapur Central

MI News Service, Durgapur: The Rotary Club of Durgapur Central of R I District 3240 , celebrated its 28th Installation Ceremony on the evening of July 12, 2025, in the banquet hall of the Peerless Inn Hotel in Durgapur. Rotary member, Dr. Asit Chatterjee launched the occasion with a Vedic chant. Shri Pradip Chatterjee, PDG of Lions, was the event's Chief Guest. Mr Sudipta Acharya, AG Zone-II, 25-26, was also there as a Guest of Honour, along with the Outgoing President, Rtn Anuja Agarwal, and the Outgoing Secretary, Rtn Santosh Maheshwari, on the podium.

During the 28th installation ceremony, the outgoing President, Rtn Anuja Agarwal, handed over the Charter and Collar to the new President, Rtn Mantaar Singh, while the outgoing Secretary, Rtn Santosh Maheshwari,



handed over the charges to Rtn Biren Mondal in front of dignified guests and an august gathering. Rtn Kabi Dutta, Chairman, ADDA; Rtn Rintu Guha Neogi,

PDG; Rtn Nirmolya Ghosh; Rtn Mandeep Singh & Principal of St Michaels' school were also present at the installation ceremony. The ceremony was attended by

almost all of the Presidents and Secretaries of nearby Rotary Clubs, including Durgapur Smart City, Durgapur Elite, Durgapur Aero city, Durgapur Club, Rani-ganj, Asansol, Ukhra ,Rotaract Club of Durgapur , Interact Club of Durgapur , Inner Wheel Club of Durgapur & Inner Wheel Giva Club.

Rtn Anuja Agarwal briefed about the specific socioeconomic tasks she performed while in Rotary in 2024-25. Rtn Mantaar Singh, the incoming President, underlined the new social welfare programs that will be undertaken this year and requested all members to coordinate and support them. Shri Pradip Chatterjee, Chief Guest , praised the outgoing President, Rtn Anuja Agarwal, and welcomed the new President, Rtn Mantaar Singh, wishing him success in the cur-

rent Rotary year 25-26. Rtn Sudipta Acharya, Guest of Honour appreciated the works of outgoing President and gave some tasks to incoming President. Three new members, Rtn Anupam De, Rtn Sumalika Lahiri & Rtn Papia Bandopadhyay were inducted on this occasion. Rtn. Sutapa Mukherjee & Rtn Rajesh Chopra organised and oversaw the entire event. On this occasion, a special Souvenir was formally released by the Chief Guest & Guest of Honour assisted by Rtn TK Dutta & Rtn Dr Asit Chatterjee. Rtn Santosh Maheshwari presented an audio-video presentation of the advancements made between 2024-25, which was favourably appreciated by everyone. The programme concluded with fellowship and Rtn. Atanu Mukherjee delivered the vote of gratitude.

Diet has significant impact on risk of Alzheimer's disease: Research

CALIFORNIA [US]: In a detailed study, researchers identify which diets are effective in lowering the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.

Findings were published in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease, Diet's Role in Modifying Risk of Alzheimer's Disease: History and Present Understanding.

The role of nutrition in lowering the risk of Alzheimer's disease has been extensively studied. Plant-based diets, such as the Mediterranean diet and traditional Chinese, Japanese, and Indian cuisines, have been shown to reduce risk, particularly when compared to the Western diet.

Alzheimer's disease rates rise in these countries as they make the nutrition transition to the Western diet. This study identifies dementia risk factors including higher consumption of saturated fats, meat, especially red meat such as hamburgers and barbeque as well as processed meats such as hot dogs, and ultra processed foods high in sugar and refined grains.

This review also lets us know why certain foods increase or reduce risk of Alzheimer's disease. For example, meat raised risk of dementia the most by increasing risk factors such as inflammation, insulin resistance, oxidative stress, saturated fat, advanced glycation end products, and trimethylamine N-oxide. This study also outlines several foods that are protective against Alzheimer's disease, such as green leafy vegetables, colorful fruits and vegetables, legumes (like beans), nuts, omega-3 fatty acids, and whole grains.

Ultra processed foods can increase the risk of obesity and diabetes, themselves risk factors for Alzheimer's disease. Ultra processed foods often lack the very ingredients found in whole plant foods that keep dementia away, such



as anti-inflammatory components and antioxidants. Poverty is an important driver of Alzheimer's disease in the US since ultra processed foods and meat are cheaper sources of energy than fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and other more nutritious foods, thus promoting obesity.

The paper also suggests that Alzheimer's disease rates in the US are projected to increase by 50% from 2018 levels by 2038. This calculation is based on comparing trends of obesity in the US with Alzheimer's disease trends. This comparison shows a 20-year lag between obesity rates and Alzheimer's disease rates. This estimate is very close to the estimate published by the Alzheimer's Association in 2018, an estimate of a 56% increase. Our estimate suggests that the rising trend of obesity, due to consumption of meat and ultra processed foods, is the force driving dementia.

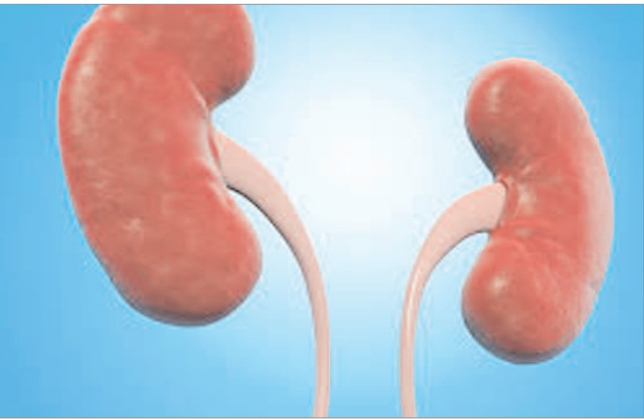
Although our personal risk of Alzheimer's disease can be reduced with diet, it is expected that those who continue to eat the Western diet will continue to have a higher risk.

Grant and Blake comprehensively review and synthesize the role of dietary factors in Alzheimer's disease. Evidence from diverse perspectives support that a diet that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts, whole grains, and...de-emphasizes meat, especially red meat, saturated fats, and ultra-processed foods is associated with lower risk of Alzheimer's disease. Physical inactivity and obesity also contribute to higher risk. In addition, the dietary and lifestyle patterns associated with higher risk of Alzheimer's disease are known to affect the constellation of mechanisms believed to increase risk, including inflammation, insulin resistance and oxidative stress, among others. Grant and Blake make a strong case that, while further research is needed to better understand the mechanisms, diet and lifestyle factors linked to diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers are likely to influence risk of Alzheimer's disease."

Edward Giovannucci, MD, ScD, Professor of Nutrition and Epidemiology, Harvard University.

"Grant and Blake provide a comprehensive review on the dietary and other factors that affect the risk of Alzheimer's disease (AD). Apart from the particular type of diet they demonstrate that the consumption of red meat, insulin resistance, obesity, reactive oxygen species, and oxidative stress, phytochemicals and homocysteine amongst other factors interact with neuroinflammation and play a major role in the aetiology of AD. This treatise provides an excellent overview of modifiable risk factors for AD."

Simple measurement may predict risk of worsening kidney disease: Study



WASHINGTON DC [US] : Aarhus University researchers discovered a simple way for predicting which people are most likely to develop chronic kidney disease rapidly. This could be a key step towards improved prevention and treatment.

About ten percent of the Danish population suffers from chronic kidney disease, and some individuals experience rapid deterioration after the diagnosis is made.

Now, a team of researchers from Aarhus University in a comprehensive study has investigated the precise risk of rapid progression, and the result could be a significant step towards more effective treatment of the disease.

The study, which is based on data from Danish health registers, provides healthcare professionals with new insights into how to better identify patients at high risk of rapid worsening of kidney disease.

"We chose to investigate chronic kidney disease because some of the patients experience rapid deterioration of their condition without us knowing exactly who. Our goal was to understand which patients are most at risk and whether we can intervene early to delay or even prevent this progression," says Professor at the Department of Clinical Medicine at Aarhus University, Christian Fynbo Christiansen, one of the authors of the study.

A simple measurement

The study showed that patients with newly diagnosed mild to moderate chronic kidney disease within three years have a 15 percent risk of rapid progression, which could lead to severe cardiovascular disease or even death.

Surprisingly, the study also showed that the risk of rapid progression varied significantly among patients.

A simple measurement of protein in the urine proved to be a strong indicator of the course of kidney disease. For women without diabetes or elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease and without the protein albumin in their urine, the risk of rapid progression was seven percent, while the risk peaked at 47 percent for men with both diabetes, elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease, and albumin in their urine.

"This is an important finding since albumin can be used as an indicator of kidney disease progression, thereby making it possible to identify patients at high risk of rapid deterioration of the disease, and it can improve the prevention of complications and hopefully increase patients' quality of life," explains Christian Fynbo Christiansen, adding:

"It underscores the need to use this simple test to a far greater extent."

Benefit for patients and society

The measurement can help healthcare professionals to target treatment and follow-up to patients at high risk. This could potentially be a significant gain for patients both in Denmark and the rest of the world.

"We hope that this result can contribute to increased awareness of the importance of using readily available markers - including albumin in the urine - to identify patients at high risk of rapid progression," says Christian Fynbo Christiansen.

And it's not only the patients who can benefit from the results. Faster and more effective prevention could also potentially help to reduce healthcare costs.

World Endodontic Day celebrated to stress need to save natural teeth from extractions

NEW DELHI : For the first time, dentists are celebrating October 16 as World Endodontic Day to spread awareness among people about the need to preserve their natural teeth from root canal infection and extractions.

The campaign also aims to draw the attention of government and healthcare planners to make oral health an integral priority of the overall national healthcare mission.

The former president of the Dental Council of India shared details of this campaign.

The public is aware of dental caries or tooth decay as a common disease of the oral cavity. However, few people realize that dental caries in a tooth slowly progresses over a few months to a year's time going deeper into the tooth causing dental nerve pain and bone infection around the roots of the tooth. This disease is known as Apical Periodontitis (AP).

According to Professor DrGopi Krishna from Chennai who is also Secretary General for the International Federation of Endodontic Associations (IFEA), said, "Half of the adult population worldwide have at least one diseased tooth with apical periodontitis (AP)".

This finding from a global study covering more than 40 countries including India was published last year in the International Endodontic Journal.

He added, "Data from surveys conducted in various Indian cities found close to two-thirds (65 per cent) of the adult population of India having at least one tooth with apical periodontitis."

He emphasized that a nationwide awareness campaign and effort is needed to reduce this disease that would affect every alternate Indian in their lifetime in the coming decades posing a huge burden on public and government



He added, "Data from surveys conducted in various Indian cities found close to two-thirds (65 per cent) of the adult population of India having at least one tooth with apical periodontitis." He emphasized that a nationwide awareness campaign and effort is needed to reduce this disease that would

health care expenditure. According to United Nations ESCAP data, 68 per cent of the Indian adult population has crossed one billion individuals. Dr Ajay Logani, Professor CDER - AIIMS, New Delhi added that the prevalence of dental caries in the Indian adult population has

been established as 62 per cent which is extremely high. If we do not treat dental decay at an early stage then such a tooth will progress to becoming a tooth with apical periodontitis. The more sensible long-term dental solution would be to save such teeth with endodontic (root canal therapy) procedures instead of the traditional approach of extracting such teeth.

Dr Anil Kohli, Former President, Dental Council of India said, "Loss of teeth leads to improper chewing of food and indigestion that has a direct correlation with decreased quality of life. Dentists and Endodontists are capable of performing a wide range of predictable and scientifically backed root canal therapy also known as endodontic procedures that save millions of teeth every year."

IFEA and the Indian Endodontic Society (IES) are conducting a global campaign to improve awareness regarding this disease through the World Endodontic Day campaign.

Prof Dr Sanjay Miglani, President - IES said that a coordinated nationwide program by more than 100 colleges and institutions across India is being done on October 16th to improve public awareness of this silent epidemic.

Prof DrSangeetaTalwar, Former Director - Principal of Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, New Delhi said that periodic dental check-ups and maintaining good oral hygiene are simple measures in preventing this disease and maintaining oral health. DrVivekHegde, Former-President - IES further added that World Endodontic Day is an important day to highlight the need for a collective effort to make oral health in India a priority.

Moral reasoning displays characteristic patterns in brain: Research

CALIFORNIA [US] : Every day, we come across situations that we believe to be wrong: a starving child, a dishonest politician, an unfaithful spouse, or a dishonest scientist. These instances draw attention to a number of moral issues, such as those involving fairness, loyalty, and compassion. But what links them all together?

Philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists have passionately argued whether moral judgments share something distinctive that separates them from non-moral matters. Moral monists claim that morality is unified by a common characteristic and that all moral issues involve concerns about harm. Pluralists, in contrast, argue that moral judgments are more diverse in nature.

Fascinated by this centuries-old debate, a team of researchers set out to probe the nature of morality using one of moral psychology's most prolific theories. The group, led by UC Santa Barbara's René Weber, intensively studied 64 individuals via surveys, interviews and brain imaging on the wrongness of various behaviours.

They discovered that a general network of brain regions was involved in judging moral violations, like cheating on a test, in contrast with mere social norm violations, such as drinking coffee with a spoon. What's more, the network's topography overlapped strikingly with the brain regions involved in theory of mind. However, distinct activity patterns emerged at finer resolution, suggesting that the brain processes different moral issues along different pathways, supporting a pluralist view of moral reasoning. The results, published in Nature Human Behaviour, even reveal differences between how liberals and conservatives evaluate a given moral issue.

"In many ways, I think our findings clarify that monism and pluralism are not necessarily mutually exclusive approaches," said first author Frederic Hopp, who led the study as a doctoral student in UC Santa Barbara's Media Neuroscience Lab. "We show that moral judgments of a wide range of different types of morally relevant behaviors are instantiated in shared brain regions."

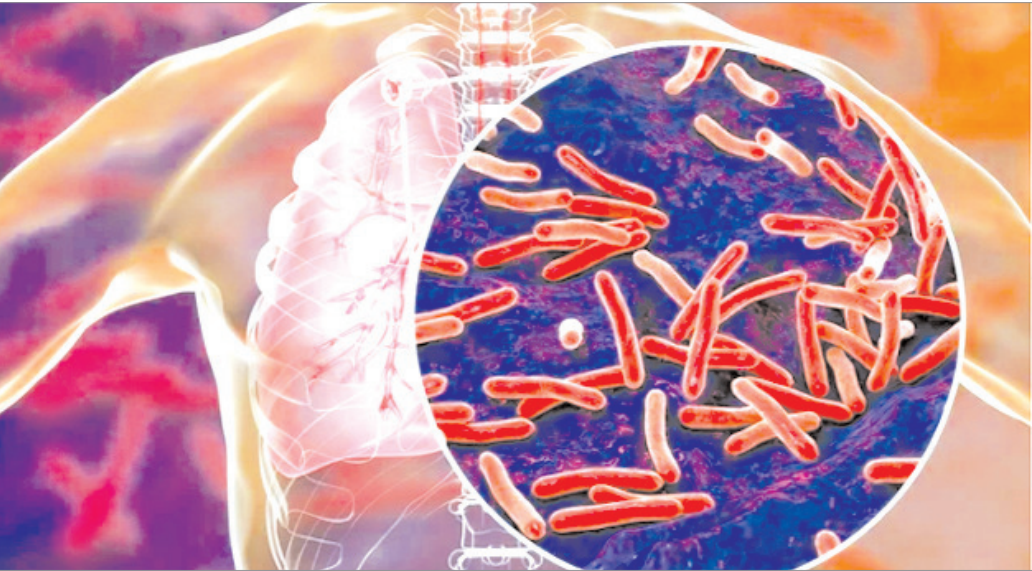
That said, a machine-learning algorithm could reliably identify which moral category, or "foundation," a person was judging based on their brain activity. "This is only possible because moral foundations elicit distinct neural activations," Hopp explained.

The group was guided by Moral Foundations Theory (MFT), a framework for explaining the origins and variation in human moral reasoning. "MFT predicts that humans possess a set of innate and universal moral foundations," Weber explained. These are generally organized into six categories:

Issues of care and harm, Concerns of fairness and cheating, Liberty versus oppression, Matters of loyalty and betrayal, Adherence to and subversion of authority, and sanctity versus degradation.

The framework arranges these foundations into two broad moral categories: care/harm and fairness/cheating emerge as "individualizing" foundations that primarily serve to protect the rights and freedoms of individuals. Meanwhile loyalty/betrayal, authority/subversion and sanctity/degradation form "binding" foundations, which primarily operate at the group level.

Researchers created a model based on MFT to test whether the framework - and its nested categories - was reflected in neural



"Although moral judgments are intuitive at first, deeper judgment requires responses to the six 'W' questions," said senior author Weber, director and lead researcher of UCSB's Media Neuroscience Lab, and a professor in the Departments of Communication and of Psychological and Brain Sciences. "Who does what, when, to whom, with what effect, and why. And this can be complex and takes time."

activity. Sixty-four participants rated short descriptions of behaviours that violated a particular set of moral foundations, as well as behaviours that simply went against conventional social norms, which served as a control. An fMRI machine monitored activity across different regions of their brains as they reasoned through the vignettes. Certain brain regions distinguished moral from non-moral judgment across the board, such as activity in the medial prefrontal cortex, temporoparietal junction and posterior cingulate, among other regions. Participants also took longer to rate moral transgressions than non-moral ones. The delay suggests that judging moral issues may involve a deeper evaluation of an individuals' actions and how

they relate to one's own values, the authors said.

"Although moral judgments are intuitive at first, deeper judgment requires responses to the six 'W' questions," said senior author Weber, director and lead researcher of UCSB's Media Neuroscience Lab, and a professor in the Departments of Communication and of Psychological and Brain Sciences. "Who does what, when, to whom, with what effect, and why. And this can be complex and takes time." Indeed, moral reasoning recruited regions of the brain also associated with mentalizing and theory of mind. The researchers also found that transgressions of loyalty, authority and sanctity prompted greater activity in regions of the brain associated

with processing other people's actions, as opposed to the self. "It was surprising to us how well the organization into 'individualizing' versus 'binding' moral foundations is reflected on the neurological level in multiple networks," Weber said.

Next, the authors developed a decoding model that accurately predicted which specific moral foundation or social norm individuals were judging from fine-grained activity pattern across their brains. This would not have been possible if all moral categories were unified at the neurological level, they explained.

"This supports MFT's prediction that each moral foundation is not encoded in a single 'moral hotspot,'" the authors write, "but (is instead) instantiated via multi-

ple brain regions distributed across the brain." This finding suggests that the distinct moral categories proposed by Moral Foundations Theory have an underlying neurologic basis.

In this way, moral reasoning is similar to other mental tasks: it elicits characteristic patterns across the brain, with nuances based on the specifics. For instance, looking at pictures of houses and faces activates a brain region known as the ventral temporal cortex. "However, when looking at the pattern of activation in this region, one can clearly discern whether someone is looking at a house or a face," Hopp explained. Analogously, moral reasoning activates certain regions of the brain. "yet, the activation patterns in those same regions are highly distinct for different classes of moral behaviors, suggesting that they are not unified."

Far from merely an esoteric exercise, MFT provides a robust framework for understanding group identity and political polarization. Mounting evidence from survey and behavioral experiments suggests that liberals (progressives) are more sensitive to the categories of care/harm and fairness/cheating, which primarily protect the rights and freedoms of individuals. Conservatives, in contrast, place greater emphasis on the loyalty/betrayal, authority/subversion, and sanctity/degradation categories, which generally operate at the group level.

"Indeed, our results provide evidence at the neurological level that liberals and conservatives have complex differential neural responses when judging moral foundations," Weber explained. That means individuals at different points along the political spectrum likely emphasize completely

different values when evaluating a particular issue.

This paper is part of an avenue of research that the Media Neuroscience Lab embarked on in 2016, aiming to understand how humans make moral judgments, and how the underlying processes vary across more and less realistic scenarios. "the observation that we can reliably decode which moral violation an individual is perceiving also opens exciting avenues for future research: Can we also decode if a moral violation is detected when reading a news story, listening to a radio show, or even when watching a political debate or movie?" Hopp said. "I think these are fascinating questions that will shape the next century of moral neuroscience."

The study's co-investigators include renowned neuroscientist and moral philosopher Walter Sinnott-Armstrong from Duke University and Scott Grafton, a professor in UC Santa Barbara's Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. Jacob Fisher and Ori Amir also contributed as co-authors, and were, respectively, a Ph.D. student and a postdoctoral fellow in Weber's Media Neuroscience Lab at the time the work was conducted. Ultimately, the researchers say, our ability to cooperate in groups is guided by systems of moral and social norms, and the rewards and punishments that result from adhering to or violating them. "For millennia, fables and fairy tales, nursery rhymes, novels, and even 'the daily news' all weave a tapestry of what counts as good and acceptable or as bad and unacceptable," Weber said. "Our results contribute to a better understanding of what moral judgments are, how they are processed, and how they can be predicted across different groups."

Metro to run 72 services on Purple Line from 14.07.2025 (Monday)
First Service At 07.57 Hrs.
Last Service At 20.15 Hrs.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Good news for Metro commuters! Purple Line Metro services between Joka and Majerhat are increasing again. To meet the demand of commuters, Metro Railway Authorities are going to increase Metro services and service hours on the Purple Line between Joka and Majerhat Metro stations from 14.07.2025 (Monday). A total of 72 services (36 UP + 36 DN) on this stretch will be operated at an interval of 21 minutes (instead of 24 minutes) from that day. At present, 62 services (31 UP + 31 DN) are being operated daily from Monday to Friday on Purple Line. Service hours on this Corridor are also going to increase to 07.57 hrs to 20:32 hrs instead of 07:57 hrs to 20:17 hrs. There will be no services on Saturdays & Sundays as usual. **FIRST SERVICE** From Majerhat: At 07.57 hrs (No Change) From Joka: At 08.00 hrs (No Change) **LAST SERVICE** From Joka: At 20.15 hrs (instead of 20.00 hrs) From Majerhat: At 20.15 hrs (instead of 20.00 hrs)

Bangladesh protests as scrap trader is lynched, students blame interim government

MI News Service, Dhaka: The lynching of a scrap trader sparked outrage across Bangladesh even as hundreds of students took to the streets here on Saturday accusing the interim government of failure to contain mob violence. The police have arrested five persons, two of them with illegally possessed firearms in connection with the lynching of scrap dealer Lal Chand Sohag. Students at multiple university campuses in the capital staged protest rallies over the lynching incident on Wednesday when extortionists lynched the scrap material trader Sohag in front of the Mitford Hospital in the Old Dhaka area.

A video of the incident that went viral on Thursday showed Sohag being lynched with chunks of concrete slabs and then, after confirming his death, the attackers virtually dancing on his body. "Who gave you beasts the right to kill people? What is the interim (government) doing when extortionists are carrying out mayhem?" were slogans chanted by students in their campuses, witnesses and local media reports said. Students of private universities such as the BRAC University, NSU, East West University and government-run Eden College staged the demonstrations on Saturday while the Dhaka University and Jagannath University erupted in protests soon after Lal's brutal murder video went viral. Newspaper Prothom Alo said a murder case was filed with Kotwali Police Station in the capital on Thursday by Lal Chand's sister Manjuara Begum, 42. The case names 19 accused and includes another 15 to 20 unidentified suspects. BDNNews24 said a group of activists from the youth front of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) allegedly killed Sohag, who was also a former activist of the same outfit. The party said it immediately expelled the four persons accused of lynching.

Meanwhile, home affairs adviser of the interim government, retired Lieutenant General Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said the police arrested five culprits, two with illegal firearms, and said that "the incident was very unfortunate for a civilised country". In another incident earlier this month, a woman and her son and daughter were beaten to death at central Cumilla's Muradnagar area allegedly for their alleged involvement in drug dealing.

From Namaste to Konnichiwa
The Indian Railway Story Japan Fell in Love With



MI News Service, New Delhi: It is the final day of the Railway Week at the Bharat Pavilion-India at the World Expo 2025 in Osaka and I am in a magnificent, almost dreamlike situation of international appreciation- and cross cultural sharing. Here, I am not only a party to the celebration of Indian engineering and innovation, but a feeling of a warm appreciation between nations.

In the twisting roads of the Yumeshima Island, where this futuristic Expo is held, converge the inquisitive hordes of people all over the world, especially including the most interested Japanese masses, who have learned to hold the Indian Pavilion, particularly the Indian Railways exhibit, as their essential visiting showpiece.

• When Emotion Joins Innovation: There is no mistaking the fluid energy of the Pavilion. Passing the beautiful display of the Vande Bharat Express, shiny and dominated by a whiter and bluer palette, I observe Japanese families taking selfies enthusiastically, children looking at the model of a high-speed train and tech geeks reading the specifications like a book. These are cool but what really brings tears to my eyes is the gentle greetings of Namaste being passed around. Japanese guests arrive with wide smiles and clasped hands to welcome Indian volunteers and Indian officials with a silent show of panache and quiet appreciation of one another. It is not just polite manners, but appreciation.

I had no idea there were these fast trains in India! This is beautiful, says Akiko Tanaka, a university student now living in Osaka, as she poses in front of the Vande Bharat display, whistles forward

like a train and then says with a laugh, Namaste! A bit further on, clusters of people are gathered around a miniature of this structure, the Chenab bridge, which is the highest railway bridge in the world. They even take pictures of it from all angles, even going down to crouch just to capture the best picture. One of Nagoya's retired engineers explained to me, this is a structural masterpiece. This is amazing to happen in the Himalayas.

• Narratives in Iron: Railways which bind a Nation: The Indian Railways part of the Pavilion does not just depict the machines, it narrates. It records the experience of a system which transports 23 million people every day, through augmented reality, immersive projections and virtual tours, across mountains, plains, jungles and deserts. In this case, Chenab Bridge towering 359 meters over a raging river in the Himalayan mountain range is not just an architectural wonder; it represents a national will to survive. Another showstopper is the Anji Khad Bridge, the very first cable-stayed rail bridge of India in the Kashmir region, which is a treacherous region. Tourists stand quietly to view the video coverage of how the construction workers faced snow and landslides to finish the project. Even between these giants in engineering, it is the emotional narration that is the most significant. One hemisphere of the exhibit is meant to look like an Indian railway station, the railway station sounding off in Hindi, the sight of chai-wallahs and the reassuring sound of the engines rattling. Numerous Japanese visitors experience an unusual sense of being touched or being moved.

• World-aligned Vision: The more general theme of World Expo 2025, i.e., 'Designing Future Society for Our Lives', with its sub-themes, such as Saving Lives, Empowering Lives and Connecting Lives, has its resonance in the presentation of India. Indian Railways with its intelligent engineering, green technology, and human-oriented mobility looks like an example of how one should think of infrastructure as that which serves individuals, rather



• This was a cultural moment more than a technological one: What I see is not only the exhibit of infrastructure; it is the moment of mutual pride and exploration. Japanese families, which are usually perceived to be reserved, are catching fire as they are not breaking the mold here. They are posing with the small models, they sit down and talk to the Indian representatives, and they even give them a chance to pronounce words such as Vande Bharat and Chenab with excited faces.

Others even request to have their picture taken with the Indian volunteers, and give away some small gift or origami cranes. There is one poignant moment when a bunch of school children bends down low, and in unison says, Namaste India, clicking a group selfie in front of the digital map of the Indian rail network. A mediocre living in the area, claims that this Pavilion displays the heart of India. You know, Trains are not the only thing. It is about dreams that are going somewhere:

• World-aligned Vision: The more general theme of World Expo 2025, i.e., 'Designing Future Society for Our Lives', with its sub-themes, such as Saving Lives, Empowering Lives and Connecting Lives, has its resonance in the presentation of India. Indian Railways with its intelligent engineering, green technology, and human-oriented mobility looks like an example of how one should think of infrastructure as that which serves individuals, rather

than markets. Use of solar energy stations, incorporation of AI into traffic control, and water conservation as well as the ambitious aim towards the complete process of electrification in 2030 - all of this is described in user-friendly touchscreens and digital timeline which people either young or older can always admire. When the rest of the world is discussing sustainability, the rail network of India leads the way by demonstrating how it can be done, taken decisively and with inclusion.

• The Final Prolonged Impressions: The Indian Pavilion is still crowded, as the sun starts to set, on the last day of Railway Week. Today, people continue to flock into the museum, they snap photographs, socialize and take tours around the showcases in the railway. Masala chai is aromatic and activates a nearby themed shop, and the far-off repetition of the train whistle is heard under the music. I stop and take a photo in front of the Vande Bharat model, but with a Japanese kid, peaking out and holding his hands up, acting like a train conductor in gleeful laughter. His parents also kneel down before Indian volunteers and say, [We] thank you for showing us this side of India. And here, inside the sphere of technology and tradition, steel and smiles, I find something eternal. I realize that the Indian Railways, which for so long has been regarded as nothing more than a wonder of logistics, is now a bridge to the world of cultures.

Prime Minister addressed the Rozgar Mela and distributed morethan 51,000 appointment letters to the newly appointed youth in various Government departments and organizations through video conferencing

MI News Service, New Delhi: Narendra Modi addressed the Rozgar Mela and distributed more than 51,000 appointment letters to the newly appointed youth in various Government departments and organizations via videoconferencing. Addressing the gathering, he emphasized that today marks the beginning of new responsibilities for these youth in different departments of the Government of India. He congratulated the young individuals on beginning their service in various departments, emphasizing that despite different roles, their common goal is national service, guided by the principle of "Citizen First."

The Prime Minister emphasized the unmatched strengths of India's demographic and democratic foundations. He underlined that India, with the world's largest youth population and the largest democracy, holds unique potential to shape the future both domestically and on the global stage. The Prime Minister noted that this vast youth power is India's greatest capital, and the government is steadfast in its efforts to convert this capital into a catalyst for long-term prosperity.

He praised India's emergence as the largest locomotive producer in the world, and the country's strong export performance in locomotives, rail coaches, and metro coaches. The automobile sector, he added, has attracted \$40 billion in FDI in just five years, resulting in new factories, new job opportunities, and record vehicle sales. Prime Minister invoked the guiding ethos of "Nagrik Devo Bhava" of treating every citizen as divine, and extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the new appointees for a bright and meaningful future in public service.

In line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's commitment to accord highest priority to employment



generation, the 16th Rozgar Mela was held at 47 locations across the country. The Rozgar Mela is playing a significant role in providing meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in nation building. More than 10 lakh recruitment letters have been issued so far through the Rozgar Melas across the country.

Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Education, graced the 16th Rozgar Mela at Rail Auditorium, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar. Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway along with officials from Postal, ICMR, AIIMS, GST, Central Excise & Customs, IISER, SLBC and CRPF attended the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said, under the leadership of hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the country is moving towards the financial and social development of the youth and India will soon be the world's 3rd financially developed country. This development is thus creating new scopes for the generation of employment to the youth. In the Rozgar Mela programme organized at Rail Auditorium, Bhubaneswar a total no of 201 appointment letters have been distributed to the new recruits of various departments i.e Railways, Postal, Bank, Health Ministry and Home Ministry.

Railways to Install CCTV Cameras in Coaches to Enhance Passenger Safety

- **CCTV Cameras in All 74,000 Coaches and 15,000 Locos for Enhanced Safety**
- **Railways to Equip Every Coach with 4 CCTV Cameras, Locomotives with 6 Cameras**
- **High-Quality CCTV Footage to Be Ensured Even at Speeds Above 100 kmph and in Low Light Conditions**

MI News Service, Delhi: Based on the positive outcome of experimental installation of CCTV cameras in passenger coaches, Railways has decided to install CCTV cameras in all coaches. This move will significantly improve passenger safety. Miscreants and organised gangs take advantage of gullible passengers. With cameras, such incidents will significantly reduce. To preserve privacy of passengers, CCTV cameras will be installed in the common movement area near the doors.

The Union Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and The Union Minister of State for Railways Shri Ravneet Singh Bittu reviewed the progress of CCTV Cameras' installation in locomotives and coaches. The meeting held on Saturday 12th July, 2025 was attended by the senior officials of the Railway Board.

• 360-degree comprehensive coverage: The railway officials informed that successful trials have been done in the loco engines and coaches of the Northern Railway. The Union Minister for Railways gave the go ahead to install CCTV cameras in all 74,000 coaches and 15,000 locos. Each railway coach will be covered with 4 dome type CCTV cameras - 2 in each entrance

way and each locomotive will have 6 CCTV cameras. This will include 1 camera each at the front, rear and on both sides of the locomotive. Each cab (front and rear) of a loco will be fitted with 1 dome CCTV camera and 2 desk mounted microphones.

• Modern surveillance for modern problems: The officials shared that the CCTV cameras will have the latest specifications and will be STQC certified. The Union Minister for Railways emphasised on deploying the best-in-class equipment. He urged the railway officials to ensure that high quality footage should be available even for trains running at 100 kmph plus speeds and also under low lighting conditions. The Union Minister for Railways encouraged the officials to explore the use of AI on the data captured by CCTV cameras, in collaboration with the IndiaAI mission.

• Data privacy at the core: The purpose of fitting cameras in the common movement areas of coaches is to improve safety and security of passengers. While preserving privacy, these cameras will help in identifying miscreants. The modernization efforts of Indian Railways are a reflection of its commitment towards a safe, secure, and passenger-friendly travel experience.



Security personnel stand near a damaged bus after a multi-vehicle collision at Khudwani, in Kulgam district, Jammu and Kashmir. Many pilgrims going for the annual 'Amarnath Yatra' were injured.

RPF Foils Illegal Transport via Train – Recovers Gold and Cash at Bolpur Station under “Operation Satark”



MI News Service, Delhi: In a continued effort to enhance passenger safety and curb unlawful activities at railway premises, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway is conducting intensive checks under the nationwide campaign "Operation Satark." On 12th July 2025, acting on specific intelligence, RPF officials of Bolpur Post under Howrah Division apprehended one individual at Bolpur Railway Station and recovered 190 grams of Gold ornaments and ₹2,10,000 in cash from his possession. The individual failed to produce any valid documentation or satisfactory explanation regarding the source of the valuables. Following due procedure, the RPF handed over the accused along with the seized items to GRPS/Sainthia for further legal action and investigation. Eastern Railway remains firmly committed to ensuring safety and security within railway premises through sustained enforcement drives and heightened vigilance under campaigns like Operation Satark.

India initiates anti-dumping probe into import of polyethylene from 6 nations

MI News Service, New Delhi: The commerce ministry's arm DGTR has initiated an anti-dumping probe into the import of polyethylene from Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the UAE following a complaint by Chemicals and Petrochemicals Association of India.

The applicant has alleged that the industry is impacted due to the dumped imports of Linear-Density Polyethylene (LLDPE). It is primarily used in raw materials for the plastic processing industry to make a variety of products such as packaging films, profiles, wire and cable.

According to the DGTR's notification, the applicant has provided evidence with respect to the injury suffered by the domestic industry due to the dumped imports. "The authority hereby initiates an anti-dumping investigation to determine the existence, degree and effect of the dumping," it said. If it is

established that the dumping has caused material injury to domestic players, the DGTR would recommend the imposition of the levy on imports. The finance ministry takes the final decision to impose duties. Anti-dumping probes are conducted by countries to determine whether domestic industries have been hurt because of a surge in cheap imports.

As a countermeasure, they impose these duties under the multilateral regime of the Geneva-based World Trade Organization (WTO). The duty is aimed at ensuring fair trading practices and creating a level playing field for domestic producers vis-a-vis foreign producers and exporters. India and these countries are members of the WTO.

India has already imposed anti-dumping duties on several products to tackle cheap imports from various countries, including China.

After disaster, President Trump shifts Federal Emergency Management Agency tone

MI News Service, Texas: Just days into his second term, President Donald Trump said he was going to recommend that the Federal Emergency Management Agency "go away", dismissing the agency as bloated and ineffective. Kristi Noem, the secretary of homeland security, was even blunter during a March cabinet meeting, when she said point-blank: "We are going to eliminate FEMA." But now, as the administration contends with the deadly flooding in Texas, Trump and his aides are no longer speaking about a wholesale demolishing of the agency. With the nation's attention focused on the need for the federal government to effectively respond to disasters, White House officials are emphasising instead their plans to overhaul the agency, saying that was the intent all along. "We want FEMA to work well," Russell T. Vought, the director of the Office of Management and Budget, told reporters on Friday. "And, you know, the President is going to continue to be asking tough questions from all of his agencies." The whipsawing remarks have added to a sense of confusion about the future of FEMA, which is struggling with the loss of top officials, including the departure of Cameron Hamilton as its acting director in May. Hamilton was pushed out of the job after he told members of Congress that the agency was vital to communities "in their greatest times of need", shortly after Noem testified that "FEMA as it exists today should be eliminated".

Sundar spins England into turmoil as India tightens grip on Day 4

LONDON : Washington Sundar spun England into trouble by scything priceless wickets of Joe Root and Jamie Smith to put India in the driver's seat after a pulsating second session of Day 4 in the third Test at Lord's on Sunday.

At the stroke of tea, England crawled to 175/6 in 52 overs with captain Ben Stokes and Chris Woakes unbeaten with scores of 27(83) and 8(23), respectively.

Root and Stokes resumed their grind while Indian quicks hunted in packs for the breakthrough. Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj bowled in tandem, barreled in to induce false shots, but returned empty-handed. While pacers couldn't collect the reward for all their hard work, off-spinner Sundar took the mantle and broke the 67-run partnership by exploiting the rough to his advantage.

The sweep shot came back to haunt England after Sundar managed to sneak the ball past Root's swinging blade to rattle the exposed leg stump. As Root returned on 40(96), Jamie Smith joined hands with Stokes to stitch



England's return. The in-form Jamie Smith lasted just 14 balls after Sundar intensified the pressure. He made Smith rush to defend the ball. Smith played for the turn, but the ball kept straight and crashed into the stumps, forcing the 23-year-old to return cheaply on 8(14).

Throughout the second session, fortune favoured Root, but he failed to make the most of it. On the first ball after lunch, Root received an unprecedented lifeline after Akash Deep lured the talismanic English batter to give away an edge. However, wicketkeeper Dhruv Jurel failed to pouch it, and even if he did, it would have gone in vain after umpire Paul Reiffel indicated a foot no-ball.

In the 38th over, Root survived a close call for the second time, after he tried to shuffle across but got pinned by Siraj in front of the middle stump. After the umpire turned down India's lively appeal, India captain Shubman Gill decided to take the decision upstairs. The review showed that the ball brushed the leg stump, which ensured Root's survival, due to the

umpire's call. The hosts showed signs of returning unscathed, but Sundar brought thunder down the ground by casting a spell with his spin craft. He forced England to switch from 'Bazball' to a defensive brand of cricket. Earlier, England started Day 4 on 2/0 with Zak Crawley (2) and Ben Duckett (0*) unbeaten on the crease. Mohammed Siraj gave the host an early blow as he removed Duckett for 12 in the 6th over, and Ollie Pope joined Crawley in the middle. Just before drinks in the first session, Siraj grabbed his second wicket of the innings by removing Pope for just four. At drinks, England were 42/2 with Zak Crawley 17 (43) unbeaten on the crease.

Joe Root joined Crawley in the middle, and England crossed the 50-run mark in the 15th over after Root pushed the ball towards deep point for a single. Nitish Kumar Reddy removed Crawley for 22 runs off 49 balls, including four fours. Crawley's drought for runs in the series continues. Harry Brook came to the crease after Crawley's wicket.

Alcaraz vs Sinner: Tennis' next great rivalry set for Wimbledon final



LONDON : Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner have taken over men's tennis, winning seven of the last eight Grand Slam titles between them. It's no surprise that many now see them as the successors to the legendary Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, and Novak Djokovic.

Now, the top two players in the ATP rankings will face off in the Wimbledon final on Sunday, continuing a fast-growing rivalry.

Despite their rapid success, both remain grounded.

"We are still really young," Alcaraz said, as quoted from the official website of the ATP Tour.

Their last meeting at Roland Garros was an epic five-set battle. Alcaraz saved three championship points to win the final, 4-6, 6-7(4), 6-4, 7-6(3), 7-6(2). Since then, Sinner played just two matches before Wimbledon, losing early in Halle to Alexander Bublik. He says that the painful loss in Paris hasn't been on his mind during Wimbledon, but it might come back during the final.

"I'm pretty sure he's going to take a lot of things from the French Open final, that he's going to be better," said Alcaraz on Sinner. "He's going to be better physically, he's going to be better mentally," Alcaraz noted.

"He's going to be prepared on Sunday to give his 100 per cent. I'm not thinking I have an advantage mentally on Sunday because of that match," he said.

They've only played once before on grass, in the 2022 Wimbledon fourth round, where Sinner won in four sets. But Alcaraz said he won't even look back at that match because both players have evolved a lot since

then. Taylor Fritz, who lost to Alcaraz in the Wimbledon semis, also faced Sinner three times last year (all on hard courts) and lost each match in straight sets. He praised both players but said Alcaraz is more unpredictable with his variety of shots, using slices, net play, and drop shots.

"(Sinner) is unbelievable at what he does playing from the baseline. I think Carlos is a little more unpredictable with the slicing and the coming to the net and the drop shots. Carlos has a lot of different ways to play," he noted.

Sinner, meanwhile, dominated Djokovic in the semi-finals, winning 6-3, 6-3, 6-4. However, Djokovic was not at his best physically.

Alcaraz, on the other hand, has had a more challenging route to the final, dropping five sets, including two in the opening round against Fabio Fognini. Still, he knows how to peak at the right moments. He's won all five Grand Slam finals he's played, second only to Federer's 7-0 start.

Alcaraz also enters the final on a 24-match winning streak and has won 33 of his last 34 matches.

Both players have every reason to be confident heading into Sunday's showdown, but they also know how good the other is.

Novak Djokovic predicted his favourite for the final, "I think I will give a slight edge to Carlos as a favourite because of the two titles he's won here and the way he's playing and the confidence he has right now." "But it's just a slight advantage, because Jannik is hitting the ball extremely well. I think it's going to be, again, a very close matchup like we had in Paris," he added.

Top 5 full-back duos in ISL history



NEW DELHI : The foundation of a competitive squad lies in maintaining the right balance across all areas of the pitch, including positions that have evolved considerably over time, as per the official website of the Indian Super League (ISL).

Among them, the role of full-backs has undergone one of the most dramatic transformations in modern football. No longer limited to purely defensive duties, full-backs are now expected to contribute at both ends of the pitch, offering tactical width, supporting build-up play, while also aiding in transitions.

In the Indian Super League (ISL), several teams have benefited from exceptional full-back duos who exemplify this evolution. These combinations have proven to be valuable assets in their coaches' strategies, seamlessly blending defensive resilience with attacking support.

Asish Rai and Akash Mishra came to prominence at Hyderabad FC under the guidance of Manolo Marquez. While Asish joined the team earlier, Akash arrived a season later, and together, they formed one of the most exciting young full-back pairings Indian football has seen.

Both players were dynamic, quick, and fearless: qualities that fit perfectly into Marquez's high-tempo, possession-based system. Their ability to balance attacking intent with defensive responsibility made them invaluable on either flank.

Tenacious in defence and adventurous in attack, the duo played a vital role in Hyderabad FC's ISL Cup-winning campaign in 2021-22. They were the perfect example of modern-day full-backs -- capable of stretching play, winning duels, and contributing going forward. Between them, they were involved in 11 goals during their time together, all while being part of one of the most solid and well-organised defensive lines in the league. After rising to prominence at Hyderabad FC, Asish Rai took the next step in his career by joining Mohun Bagan Super Giant and found the perfect partner on the opposite flank in Subhasish Bose. While Asish brought pace, energy, and relentless pressing on the right, Bose offered composure, experience, and tactical discipline on the left.

The combination of youthful dynamism and seasoned maturity made them one of the most bal-

anced and reliable full-back duos in recent ISL seasons. With Bose now captaining the side and Asish continuing to develop his all-round game, the pair has played a key role in MBSG's sustained domestic success.

Together, they've been part of a backbone that has powered the Mariners to two ISL Shields and two ISL Cups over the last three seasons, which is a testament to their consistency, synergy, and ability to deliver on the biggest stage.

While Mandar Rao Dessai had been part of FC Goa since 2014, it wasn't until the 2018-19 season under Sergio Lobera that he was reinvented as a full-back, transitioning from his natural position as a winger to the left side of defence. On the opposite flank, Seriton Fernandes had already established himself as a calm and composed right-back, and together, they went on to form a balanced and dynamic full-back pairing.

Though the role was new for Mandar, his experience, composure, and attacking instincts allowed him to adapt quickly. Seriton, more reserved and positionally sound, complemented Mandar perfectly on the other side.

In their first season together as a full-back pair, FC Goa narrowly missed out on the ISL Cup, but the following campaign saw them clinch the ISL Shield. Over two strong seasons, Seriton and Mandar were vital in shaping the wide structure of the Gaurs' play and provided both width and stability in equal measure.

To this day, FC Goa fans fondly remember the consistency, chemistry, and tactical importance of the Seriton-Mandar full-back pairing. After a successful spell at FC Goa, Mandar Rao Dessai followed head coach Sergio Lobera to Mumbai City FC, where he continued in his role as a left-back. On the opposite flank, a relatively young Amey Ranawade, who had a brief stint at FC Goa earlier, stepped into the right-back position. Together, they formed a well-balanced full-back duo in a side that was tactically fluid and dominant in possession. Mandar brought experience to the left, excelling in ball circulation and positioning. Amey, on the other hand, offered bursts of pace and energy down the right, regularly making overlapping runs and stretching the play.

Minerva narrowly fell short in final, but won hearts with historic Helsinki Cup campaign

NEW DELHI : The Indian club played brilliantly in the Helsinki Cup-2025, but they remained just one step away from the title. Minerva Academy FC's dream was shattered in the final, but this journey made the country proud. In the final of the Helsinki Cup 2025, India's youth team, Minerva, had to face a 1-0 defeat against Finland's legendary team, PK-35. The match was very tough. Both teams were showing strategic and strong play. PK-35 created an opportunity and scored a goal. This was the first time in the entire tournament that the ball entered Minerva's goalpost.

Minerva played the game like a winner throughout the tournament and introduced defense along with attack. They played 10 matches in this tournament and won 9. Scored a total of 42 goals. Conceded only one goal, and that too in the final. This performance of the Indian team was historic among the great youth teams of Europe and other countries. Minerva became the first Indian team to reach the final of the Helsinki Cup.

Despite the narrow loss, the performances across the tournament earned admiration from scouts, coaches, and fans across Europe. From clean sheet after clean sheet to the relentless



attacking style that produced thumping wins over sides like HJK, RCD Espanyol, GrIFK, LAUTP, and Stjarnan, the boys from India proved that Indian football isn't just rising -- it has arrived.

Players like Raj, K Chetan, Punshiba, Yohenba, Chetan T, and Azam showed maturity and enthusiasm much beyond their age. In every match, the team proved that Indian players can stand against the world's big football academies and clubs.

There is definitely sadness due to the defeat in the final, but the pride is even more than that.

What these players did for the club, family and country became an example. Remaining unbeaten for 9 matches in Finland and conceding just one goal, that too in the final, is a great achievement by any standards.

Minerva may not have won the trophy, but it has definitely earned trust. Trust that world-class footballers can emerge from India too. It was not just a tournament; it was a message. And the world heard that message. Now, Minerva will participate in three more big international youth tournaments. This journey will continue; it will not stop.

Team India set for Asian Junior Pickleball Championship in Vietnam



NEW DELHI : The All India Pickleball Association (AIPA) announced the Indian Junior Pickleball team to compete at the Asian Junior Pickleball Championship, scheduled to be held in Vietnam from July 13 to 16, 2025. Comprising 32 promising young athletes, the Indian contingent will participate across Under-12, Under-14, Under-16, and Under-18 categories, marking another major step in India's rapid ascent in international pickleball.

Following an impressive showing at the previous edition of the championship, where Indian juniors clinched multiple medals, this year's team enters with high hopes and a stronger sense of purpose. The squad includes athletes from across the nation, including Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Bihar -- a reflection of how the sport has flourished at the grassroots level in every corner of the country.

To honour the spirit and commitment of these young athletes, AIPA organised a grand flag-off

ceremony. The event was graced by Rahul Vira, CEO of Skechers, alongside Sunil Valavalkar, who introduced the sport of pickleball to India in 2007, as the Chief Guest, and former Indian cricketer Pravin Amre. Also in attendance was Mandira Bedi, AIPA's Pickleball Brand Ambassador, whose presence and words of encouragement ignited excitement and pride among the players. The Indian squad includes standout talents such as Arav Surve and Arnab Khamkar in the Under-12 Boys, Aditya Vinod in the Under-12 Girls, Aarish Aga Chaubey and Aaradhya Satpute in the Under-14 categories, and several formidable contenders in the Under-16 and Under-18 divisions like Jigar Vishwakarma, Shreyas Rajaram, Avya Nandargame, Parth Vijayvargiya, Anjali Pol, and Aditya Gupta -- all ready to give their best on the Asian stage.

Speaking at the ceremony, AIPA president Arvind Prabhuo expressed immense pride in the team's preparation and commitment. "Our junior players have shown remarkable resilience, discipline, and passion. Their selec-

tion and participation in this championship reflect AIPA's growing focus on building a strong talent pipeline and putting India on the global pickleball map," he said. "We are confident they will carry forward our legacy with courage and grace."

Sunil Valavalkar, AIPA, Founder and Senior Vice President of AIPA, also addressed the gathering, underscoring the mission behind AIPA's continued grassroots efforts. "We have always believed that the future of Indian pickleball lies in its youth. These young athletes represent not just talent, but also the dreams of millions who are discovering this sport across the country. I'm proud of how far we've come -- and even prouder of where this new generation will take us," he stated. Over the past few years, AIPA has played a pivotal role in popularising pickleball across India, conducting numerous national and international events, including the prestigious World Pickleball Championship Series held in Mumbai in 2024, where India clinched 28 medals, including 11 golds.



IOA constitutes fact-finding committee to investigate delay in BFI elections

NEW DELHI : The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has constituted a three-member Fact Finding Committee to examine the reasons behind the delay in the conduct of elections for the Boxing Federation of India (BFI). The term of the current Executive Committee of the BFI ended on February 2 but fresh elections have not been held since.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), in a letter dated July 5, addressed to PT Usha, the President of the IOA, requested the association to consult with World Boxing and devise a suitable mechanism to ensure that elections are conducted at the earliest. The Ministry has emphasised that the process must comply with the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, and the bye-laws of the Boxing Federation of India.

The IOA has issued a letter.

In response to this communication, the IOA has formed a Fact Finding Committee comprising IOA Treasurer Sahdev Yadav, who will serve as the Chairperson, IOA Executive Committee Member BS Bajwa, and Advocate Payal Kakra.

The committee has been tasked with several responsibilities. It will look into the reasons for the delay in holding the BFI elections beyond the mandated term. It will also examine the current legal and administrative status of the BFI, assess the implications of the delay on the governance and functioning of boxing in India, and recommend necessary actions to resolve the situation. This may include engagement with World Boxing and the suggestion of a roadmap to ensure the conduct of free, fair, and timely elections.

The committee has been instructed to submit its findings and recommendations to the IOA within seven days from the issuance of the order. The IOA intends to use the report to present a clear and factual position to World Boxing as efforts continue to bring Indian boxing governance back on track. (ANI)