

AAIB report on AI plane crash raises questions, no clear answers, alleges pilots' body

MI News Service, New Delhi : In a new turn of events the International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) has said AAIB's preliminary report into the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad, by its very nature, raises many questions and does not provide answers and urged all parties to refrain from speculations.

In its preliminary report on the Air India's Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner accident on June 12 that killed 260 people, the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) on Saturday said both the fuel switches to the engines were cut off within a gap of 1 second immediately after take off in the afternoon, caused confusion in the cockpit of the plane before crashing into a multi storied building nearby. The AI 171 was en route from Ahmedabad to London's Gatwick airport.

Citing cockpit voice recording, the 15-page

ment on Tuesday.

According to IFALPA, the report clearly states that no safety recommendations are being provided at this stage and stresses that the federation remains committed to supporting the efforts of the AAIB of India as they work to determine the contributing factors of the accident.

IFALPA claims to have 1 lakh pilots as its members from across 100 countries.

On Saturday, Airline Pilots' Association of India (ALPA), an IFALPA member -- said the tone and direction of the investigation suggest a bias towards pilot error and rejected this presumption as it insisted on a fair, fact-based inquiry.

In the statement IFALPA also highlighted that a preliminary report is merely the means of communication used for the prompt dissemination of data obtained during the early stages of the investigation and only con-



preliminary report, released on Saturday, said one pilot asked why the switch was cut off, while the other pilot responded that he did not do so.

But AAIB's preliminary report, by its very nature, raises many questions and does not provide answers, IFALPA said and urged all parties to refrain from speculations. While the initial report does not provide any conclusions, there are speculations in certain quarters that a possible pilot error could be a reason for the crash, they said.

"Whilst this preliminary report by its very nature raises many questions, it does not provide answers, and any extrapolation of its content can only be regarded as guesswork, which is not helpful to the good conduct of the investigation," IFALPA said in a state-

tains factual information and an indication of the progress of the investigation. Urging all parties to refrain from speculation, allow the investigation to run its full and proper course, IFALPA said everyone should avoid drawing conclusions from preliminary information.

"The victims, including the families of the crew and passengers of Air India 171, deserve our collective professionalism while the full investigation is conducted," it added.

Two pilot bodies of Air India -- Indian Commercial Pilots Association (ICPA) representing narrow-body pilots and Indian Pilots Guild (IPG) representing wide-body pilots -- have also warned against speculations based on the preliminary report.

'Country wants answers not PM's silence': Rahul Gandhi

MI News Service, New Delhi / Bhubaneswar : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi severely criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Tuesday after the death of Odisha college student who set herself ablaze following alleged sexual harassment by a professor, and said when the daughters of the country are burning and dying, the "PM is sitting silent".

"The country does not want the PM's silence, it wants answers", Rahul Gandhi today said.

His remarks came after the Odisha college student, who set herself on fire following alleged sexual harassment by a professor, died at AIIMS in Bhubaneswar.

The second-year integrated B.Ed student of Fakir Mohan (Autonomous) College in Balasore, died on Monday night, after fighting for her life for three days with over 95 per cent burn injury. She took the extreme step on Saturday over alleged inaction against the professor and suffered massive burns.

In a post in Hindi on X, Rahul Gandhi said the death of a daughter fighting for justice in Odisha is a "direct murder by the

■ ■ Continued on Page 3



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, braving the rain, spearheaded a protest rally accompanied by TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee and other senior party leaders, protesting against the harassment of Bengali-speaking migrants in various other states. The demonstration addressed issues of linguistic profiling and detentions. The rally commenced from College Square and concluded at Dorina Crossing in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Pic: Prabir Bhattacharya

Mamata Banerjee leads a defiant Kolkata march, vows to fight against BJP's 'harassment' of Bengalis

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a dramatic show of strength, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday led a massive protest march through the heart of Kolkata, denouncing what she termed as the "systematic harassment" of Bengalis in Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-ruled states. Flanked by senior Trinamool Congress (TMC) leaders, Mamata Banerjee, visibly irate, declared that she would now speak "deliberately more in Bangla" as an act of defiance against BJP's alleged attempts to stigma-

tise Bengali-speaking citizens.

She asserted, "I have decided to speak more in Bangla from now on. If you can, put me in a detention camp." "Arrest me if you can. Detain me in your camps," the Chief minister dared, addressing a crowd of thousands. "I feel ashamed and disheartened by the central government's conduct. BJP has turned against Bengalis. But Bengal will resist."

Taking direct dig at a contentious notification reportedly circulated to BJP-

governed states, Mamata Banerjee alleged that Bengali-speaking workers are being targeted under suspicion of being illegal migrants or even Rohingyas. "Twenty-two lakh migrant workers from Bengal contribute to this nation, carrying valid identity documents. Yet the BJP wishes to criminalise their language and culture."

The Chief minister also warned, "If BJP sends Bengali-speaking people to detention camps, Bengal will politically send BJP into detention in the elections."

Expressing deep anguish, she said, "For days I've been receiving complaints about the ill-treatment of Bengalis. I am ashamed, I am pained. The central government and the BJP's behaviour is disgraceful. They secretly issued a notification and circulated it to BJP-ruled states. We will challenge it legally."

"Bengali workers are hired across India for their skills, yet now, merely speaking in Bangla has become a

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Union cabinet clears PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana with annual outlay of Rs 24,000 cr

MI News Service, New Delhi : The Union Cabinet has unanimously approved Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana for a period of six years, covering 100 districts with an annual outlay of Rs 24,000 crore.

The programme, announced in the Union Budget, will converge 36 existing schemes and increase adoption of crop diversification and sustainable agricultural practices.

Sharing details about the decision taken at the Union Cabinet on Wednesday, Information and Broadcasting Minister

Ashwini Vaishnaw said PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana will augment post-harvest storage, improve irrigation facilities, and enhance farm productivity. This programme is likely to help 1.7 crore farmers.

He said at least one district will be selected from each state for the scheme, with the aim of bringing their crop yields, credit penetration, and other metrics up to national levels.

There will be no additional allocation for PMDKY funds for the programme will be provided through convergence

of 36 existing schemes spread across 11 ministries. These include schemes from the ministries of agriculture, food, animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries, finance, rural development, cooperation, and irrigation, among others. The programme has been modelled on the lines of the aspirational districts programme of NITI Aayog and was announced in the 2025-26 Union Budget. It will run for six years starting from the 2025-26 financial year and is projected to

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Five Delhi schools get bomb threats in 10 such incidents in three days

MI News Service, New Delhi : In a similar incident that took place in the National Capital only a couple of days ago, a bomb threat received through email triggered panic in five private schools in Delhi on Wednesday morning, prompting authorities to immediately evacuate the premises for a thorough check, officials said.

This was the third instance in as many days when educational institutions in the national capital were targeted with bomb threats, which, in the past two days, has, however, turned out to be hoaxes.

A call about the email threatening to blow up St Thomas School in Dwarka

was received at 5.26 am by the fire control, Vasant Valley School in Vasant Kunj made a similar call at 6.30 am, Mother International in Hauz Khas at 8.12 am and Richmond Global School in Paschim Vihar at 8.11 am, the fire services officer said. Sardar Patel Vidyalaya in Lodhi Estate also received a threatening email, a senior police officer said, adding that the security forces immediately swung into action and all five schools were thoroughly checked. But fortunately and nothing suspicious has been found so far providing a great relief to the students, teachers and the guardians.

In a mail to the parents, the school authorities

said, "Due to a potential bomb threat received this morning, and as advised by the police, Sardar Patel Vidyalaya will remain closed today. A Bomb Disposal Squad is conducting a full sanitisation of the premises."

For St Thomas School, this was a second bomb threat in less than 24 hours. In total, 10 bomb threat emails have been received by nine schools in the city. Staff staying in these schools overnight were immediately taken to safety as a precautionary measure, as teams of Delhi Police, Bomb Disposal Squad, dog squad and cyber experts rushed in

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

14th batch of pilgrims leaves Jammu for Amarnath shrine since July 3

MI News Service, Jammu : The 14th fresh batch of 6,388 pilgrims left a base camp here early Tuesday to offer prayers at the Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

Over 2.25 lakh pilgrims have so far performed 'darshan' at the shrine since the start of the 38-day annual yatra, which commenced from the twin tracks of Pahalgam in Anantnag district and Baltal in Ganderbal district on July 3. The yatra will conclude on August 9.

Officials said the 14th batch of 6,388 pilgrims, including 1,308 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here in 248 vehicles between 3:25 am and 4:15 am, the officials said.

The first pilgrim convoy, carrying 2,501 pilgrims in 103 vehicles, left for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district, followed by the second convoy of 3,887 pilgrims in 145 vehicles who are undertaking the yatra via the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district, they said.

With this, a total of 95,439 pilgrims have departed from the Jammu base camp for the valley since July 2, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch.

Earlier on Monday another batch of over 6,100 pilgrims left Jammu city for the twin base camps of the Amarnath shrine.

Escorted by CRPF and J-K police personnel, the 13th batch

of 6,143 pilgrims, including 4,691 men, 1,248 women and 17 children, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here in 235 vehicles between 3:30 am and 4:00 am, the officials said.

The first pilgrim convoy, carrying 2,215 pilgrims in 100 vehicles, left for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district, followed by the second convoy of 3,928 pilgrims in 135 vehicles who are undertaking the yatra via the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district, they said.

With this, a total of 89,101 pilgrims have departed from the Jammu base camp for the Valley since July 2, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch.

More than four lakh devotees have registered online for the pilgrimage so far.

With the yatra entering its second fortnight, the rush of pilgrims from various parts of the country continues, with over 3,500 fresh pilgrims arriving in Jammu for their onward journey to Amarnath every day.

Earlier on July 8 another batch of over 7,500 pilgrims left Jammu early in the morning for the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath Till then over 94,000 pilgrims had paid obeisance at the shrine since the start of the yatra, and that there was no report of any untoward incident in the yatra with thousands of devotees continuously chanting Bom Bom Bhole Bhata

in a festive mood all along their trek to the shrine.

The seventh batch of 7,541 pilgrims, including 5,516 men and 1,765 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here in 309 vehicles for the twin base camps in Kashmir amid tight security arrangements between 2:55 am and 4:05 am, the officials said. The first pilgrim convoy, carrying 3,321 pilgrims in 148 vehicles, left for the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district, followed by the second convoy of 4,220 pilgrims in 161 vehicles who are undertaking the yatra via the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route in Anantnag district, they

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Trump repeats India-Pak ceasefire claim 22 times in 65 days, says Jairam Ramesh

MI News Service, New Delhi : With the US President Donald Trump once again repeating his claim that it was he who had stopped the conflict between India and Pakistan, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Tuesday said the same claim keeps getting repeated "22 times in 65 days".

President Trump reiterated his claim on Monday that it was he who stopped the conflict be-

tween India and Pakistan which could have turned into a "nuclear war", by threatening them a very high tariff in trades.

"We've been very successful in settling wars. You have India, (and) Pakistan. You have Rwanda and the Congo that was going on for 30 years," Trump said during his meeting with NATO Secretary General Rutte in the Oval Office in the White House. "65 days, 22 times..."



says Jairam Ramesh as Trump again claims credit for India-Pakistan cessation of hostilities.

Jairam Ramesh has been continuously criticising Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not openly refuting Donald Trump's repeated claims of stopping the recent India-Pakistan conflict.

Ramesh remarks comes as Trump on Monday again claimed "We have been very successful in settling wars, India, Pakistan..."

India, by the way, Pakistan would have been a nuclear war within another week, the way that was going. It was going very badly," Trump stated. He pointed to his strategy of using trade as leverage, stating, "We did that through trade. I said, we are not going to talk to you about trade, unless you get this thing settled, and they did." On July 8

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Soaring vegetable prices in Bakura sparks task force action

MI News Service, Bakura: The relentless monsoon rains have submerged vast stretches of farmland across several districts of West Bengal, including Bankura, Ghatal, Arambagh, and Khanakul, severely damaging vegetable crops. Despite this damage, vegetable prices have surged far beyond what the crop loss alone would justify, raising serious concerns among consumers and prompting action from the district authorities.

Bankura, one of the state's key vegetable-producing regions, supplies a significant volume of produce daily to neighboring districts such as Paschim Medinipur, Purulia, Paschim Bardhaman, and even to parts of Jharkhand. However, with fields under water and supply chains disrupted,

the prices of essential vegetables have increased drastically, in some cases by three to five times. The steep price hike has put a considerable strain on middle-class households, who are now struggling to afford basic vegetables. Amid growing public discontent and following a report by TV9 Bangla highlighting the surge in prices and questioning administrative inaction, the Bankura District Task Force finally stepped in. On Tuesday, task force officials were seen inspecting the Lalbazar Sanghat market in Bankura. During their visit, they spoke with both wholesale and retail vendors as well as buyers to understand the pricing chain from farm to table. Officials found that vegetable prices were often dou-



bling or more as they moved from farmers to wholesalers and then to retailers. In response, the task force announced fixed profit margins for retailers in an attempt to rein in retail inflation. Biswarupa Sengupta, Agricultural Director of the Bankura Zilla Parishad and a member of the task force, confirmed that price regulation measures were

being implemented to bring relief to consumers. Despite the official intervention, retailers argue that the spike in prices is due to the high cost of procurement. With many vegetables damaged during transit or spoiled due to excessive moisture, vendors claim they are paying significantly more for their stock, forcing them to raise prices at the retail

level. Prices of commonly consumed vegetables have soared over the past few weeks. Brinjal, which was earlier priced at 40 per kilogram, is now selling for 80. Cucumber, once available at 30-40, has risen to 60. Bitter melon and pointed gourd (patal) have followed the same trend. Chilli prices have escalated dramatically, reaching 100-150 per kilogram, and capsicum and shrim gourd have also seen similar spikes. With the task force now active and promising stricter oversight, there is cautious optimism among consumers that prices may stabilize. However, much will depend on weather conditions in the coming days and how effectively the authorities can control unfair pricing practices in the supply chain.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was seen in talks with TMC National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee as the rally, condemning the harassment of Bengali-speaking migrants in other states, commenced braving the rain in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Mukutmanipur reservoir overflows 432-ft mark; increased water released raised flood concerns

MI News Service, Bakura: The Mukutmanipur reservoir in Bakura district has crossed its maximum storage capacity following days of relentless rainfall in the upper catchment areas of Purulia. As of Monday evening, the reservoir's water level had reached 436.15 feet—well above its full reservoir level of 434 feet above sea level—prompting urgent measures by the Irrigation Department to prevent structural strain and downstream flooding.

The reservoir, located on the Kangsabati River, primarily receives inflow from the Kangsabati and Kumari rivers. Due to the persistent heavy to very heavy rainfall in Purulia, a massive volume of water has



been entering the reservoir over recent days. In response to the dangerously high water levels, the volume of water being released from Mukutmanipur was increased sharply on Tuesday evening—from 17,500 cusecs to 27,500 cusecs. This drastic increase in discharge is aimed at relieving pressure on the dam infrastructure. However, the increased outflow is now posing a growing flood risk to several downstream areas, particularly in Paschim

Medinipur district. According to Irrigation Department officials, if heavy rains continue in neighboring Jharkhand and Purulia, the outflow from the reservoir may need to be raised further. Already, low-lying areas in Ghatal and Chandrakona have begun experiencing renewed inundation. With the monsoon system having shifted northwards toward Bihar, the western districts of Bengal continue to bear the brunt of the residual rainfall. Authorities are monitoring the situation closely. Residents in vulnerable downstream areas, including Panskura and adjoining blocks, have been advised to stay alert as the flood threat escalates.

Thieves loot Rs 30 lakh worth of valuables, leaves after making tea

MI News Service, Durgapur: In a daring burglary in West Burdwan's Durgapur, miscreants looted valuables worth approximately Rs30 lakh from a vacant residence and even took time to make tea before fleeing the scene. The incident has left the local community shocked and prompted an intense police investigation.

The burglary took place at the residence of Pritpal Luthra, a businessman who owns a hotel and a gold shop. His home is located in the ITI Ambagan area under the jurisdiction of the New Township police station. Luthra, along with his

family, had traveled to Delhi on July 9 to attend a family event and returned on Tuesday to find their home ransacked. Upon entering the house, Luthra discovered that all three floors had been thoroughly looted. Cupboards had been broken open, belongings were scattered, and both cash and gold ornaments were missing. What surprised the family even more was that the burglars appeared to have made tea during the robbery and used the bathroom before fleeing. Police from the Bidhannagar outpost arrived at the scene shortly after being informed.

Initial assessments suggest that the intruders gained access by removing the iron mesh from a window. They are believed to have had detailed knowledge of the family's travel plans and the layout of the house. Adding to the challenge, the CCTV cameras installed in the house had been turned off prior to the family's departure, resulting in no surveillance footage of the break-in. Authorities have launched an investigation and are examining all angles, including the possibility of insider involvement. No arrests had been made at the time of reporting.

Police initiates green revolution

Nurul Islam Khan

Kolkata Police Force is playing an important role in creating a green environment by freeing the environment from pollution. One such initiative was witnessed on Tuesday. On this day, Forest Week and Sports Day were celebrated at the auditorium of Bodyguard Lines on the initiative of West Bengal and Kolkata Police Welfare Committee. This Sports Day was celebrated to energize the entire police personnel. Rupesh Kumar (Joint Commissioner Crime), Subhankar Bhattacharya (Joint Commissioner AP) and Amit Verma (DC First Battalion), Kolkata were present on the occasion.

Convener of West Bengal Police Welfare Committee Bijitashwa Raut said in 2020,

Kolkata and West Bengal Police Welfare Committees have been formed and are doing many social activities. Especial-



ly, they have removed various complaints of police personnel. West Bengal Police Welfare Committee Coordinator Shantanu Sinha Biswas said that the police is doing a lot of public-facing work under the initiative of C M Mamata Banerjee. Kolkata Police Welfare Committee Convener Ruhul Amin Ali also expressed his thoughts. Carrom boards and saplings were distributed to various units. The presence of the police

in this meeting was noticeable. It is worth mentioning that this organization has been providing new direction to the society for the past five years by distributing clothes, donating blood, and giving encouragement, with keeping in mind social responsibility. The police and fellow police forces are doing various public challenging works. Pratap Nayek of the State Government Employees Federation was present on the occasion.

"Roots in the soil, No cause for fear : NRC stir sparks fresh debates

MI News Service, Maynaguri: Amid ongoing public discourse over the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and its implications in West Bengal, a senior political leader has assured Indian Muslims that those with deep familial and historical roots in the country have nothing to fear. Speaking at a public felicitation event in Maynaguri on Tuesday, the leader addressed concerns over recent administrative notices and allegations of targeted harassment.

He stated, "Indian Muslims who consider this country their own, whose ancestors are buried on this soil, will not be touched. No government will evict them." The remarks were made during an interaction with the media at Maynaguri Dharamshala, where the leader also addressed concerns about voter list revisions, which have recently sparked apprehension in some quarters as a possible precursor to the NRC process. Referring to reported notices served

to residents in areas like Dinbata's Uttam Braj, he expressed confusion over the situation, adding that no widespread panic had been observed. "I do not understand why certain people are receiving notices. But I can firmly say no legitimate citizen, regardless of religion, will be displaced," he emphasized. The leader also issued a stern warning against illegal immigration, stating that actions taken by certain groups—both within and beyond the border—would not be tolerated. He alleged that some individuals enter the country illegally, commit violence elsewhere, and then create unrest under the guise of opposing citizenship-related policies. "Those days are over," he said. The comments come amid growing demonstrations across the state over alleged harassment of Bengali-speaking migrants. Protesters claim that speaking Bengali in certain states leads to being unfairly labeled as foreign nationals, and that Ben-

gali identity itself is under threat. In response to these protests, the leader accused unnamed groups of attempting to include unauthorized individuals into official voter rolls, and of using them to incite political violence. He further remarked that historical and ongoing betrayals against the interests of the Bengali community have not been properly addressed by earlier political movements. Without naming any specific party, he criticized past leaderships, suggesting that the roots of the current unrest can be traced to long-standing failures. The statements have added new intensity to an already heated debate ahead of the upcoming elections, with concerns over citizenship, identity, and voter rights remaining central to the political climate in the region. Authorities have not issued any official statement regarding the isolated NRC-related notices, but discussions around the process continue to gain momentum.

Trinamool protests against harassment of Bengalis in other states



MI News Service, Hooghly: Alleging increasing harassment of Bengali-speaking migrant workers in BJP-ruled states, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) staged statewide protests on Wednesday. Reports have emerged that Bengalis, working outside their home state for survival, are being detained and labelled as Rohingyas or Bangladeshis merely for speaking their mother tongue. Shockingly, even after producing valid documents such as voter ID, Aadhaar, birth certificates, and school records, many are reportedly being ignored and harassed.

A recent case from the Chinsura area of Hooghly district highlighted this issue, where a local resident faced such treatment before managing to return home. Traumatized, he now refuses to return to the state where he was detained.

BDO office employee found dead with throat injuries, foul play suspected

MI News Service, Keshiari: The body of a 38-year-old employee of the Keshiari Block Development Office (BDO) was recovered in a bloodied state from his rented residence on Tuesday, triggering suspicions of murder and prompting a police investigation.

The deceased has been identified as Abhishek Gangopadhyay, who worked as an accountant and head clerk at the BDO office in Paschim Medinipur's Keshiari. Originally from Medinipur town, Abhishek had been residing in Keshiari due to his professional obligations. According to sources, Abhishek last reported to work on Monday. When he failed to arrive at the office on Tuesday, his colleagues grew concerned and began searching for him. His lifeless body, bearing deep injuries from

the throat to the cheek, was discovered at his rented accommodation shortly thereafter. Local police recovered the body and transported it to Keshiari Rural Hospital. Preliminary investigations suggest that he may have been attacked with a sharp weapon. Multiple individuals are known to have lived in the same rented house, and police have detained an '2qasew-3wthe tragic news. Meanwhile, the incident has drawn political attention. The Leader of the Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly, Shuvendu Adhikari, has alleged that the death was a result of foul play linked to internal conflicts. While police have not confirmed any motive, they are treating the case as a suspected homicide and have begun a thorough investigation

JSW Cement proudly unveils CHD Jalkavach

MI News Service, Bhagalpur: JSW Cement, a leading green cement producer in India, has launched CHD Jalkavach, a water-repellent cement designed to withstand high-moisture challenges in West Bengal and Bihar. Pow-

ered by Turbo Gel Technology, it offers strength, durability, and moisture resistance in one powerful formulation. CHD Jalkavach prevents seepage, dampness, and corrosion, while improving workability and compressive strength.

Sankara Nethralaya announced of cutting-edge Zeiss Visulas retinal laser machine



MI News Service, Kolkata: Sankara Nethralaya, Kolkata, on Wednesday announced the inauguration of a cutting-edge Zeiss Visulas retinal laser machine, generously donated by the LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative. This advanced equipment promises to significantly enhance patient care for individuals suffering from complex retinal diseases across Eastern India and neighbouring countries.

The Zeiss Visulas retinal laser machine is a state-of-the-art device that utilizes precisely targeted laser energy to deliver safe and optimal outcomes for patients with various retinal conditions. Its capabilities extend to retinal surgeries, making it an invaluable addition

to Sankara Nethralaya's ophthalmic services. The machine will cater to a large number of both paediatric and adult patients from West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Assam, and neighbouring countries including Bangladesh, Nepal, and Bhutan, helping to improve their quality of life.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by key dignitaries from LIC India, Eastern Zone, who were instrumental in making this donation possible. Attendees included Mr. J.S. Tolia, Zonal Manager in charge, LIC India, Eastern Zone; Mr. S.K. De, Regional Manager, LIC India, Eastern Zone; and Mr. M.K. Patro, Senior Divisional Manager, LIC India. During the program, Mr. Tolia highlighted the significant achievements of LIC.

Villages submerged, boats replace vehicles, residents demand roads over relief

MI News Service, Arambagh/Ghatal/Chandrakona: Continuous rainfall and the swelling of rivers Rupnarayan, Mundeswari, and Shilabati have caused widespread flooding across multiple blocks in West Bengal's Hooghly and Paschim Medinipur districts. With fields submerged and homes inundated, normal life has come to a standstill across over 50 villages. In many areas, residents are now using boats and makeshift rafts to commute along roads that are submerged under three to four feet of water.

Floodwaters have severely affected the Ghatal municipal area and several gram panchayats for more than eight days. The situation

has now worsened with water entering marketplaces like Panshiuli, situated near the confluence of the Rupnarayan and Mundeswari rivers. Similar flooding has been reported from Chandrakona Blocks I and II, where the Shilabati River has overflowed following a breach in embankments near Jadupur and Jadavpur. In these flood-hit regions, residents are not pleading for relief materials but for proper roads, citing that travel has become almost impossible due to waist-deep water. "Even cooking gas and food supplies are being brought in on boats," said a local resident. "We're not asking for tarpaulin or rice—just a functional road to move patients, elders, and children." Agricultural lands have

been submerged in several parts, sparking fears of crop loss among farmers. Paddy saplings and vegetables are likely to be damaged due to prolonged waterlogging. In addition, the rising water levels in the Kethia and Shilabati rivers have placed several other low-lying areas at risk. Emergency meetings have been held in flood-affected blocks, including Khanakul II. Local administration is attempting to manage the crisis by broadcasting alerts and safety instructions in affected areas through loudspeakers. According to an official statement, adequate relief and tarpaulin stock has been arranged; however, for many villagers, infrastructure—particularly roads—remains the more urgent concern.

Chandra's Song Rekindles Tagore's Rakhi Spirit

MI News Service, Kolkata: On June 26th, at the junction of Babughat and Outram Ghat in Kolkata, a solemn and culturally rich event was held to commemorate the 118th birth anniversary of literary legend Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay. Tapash Roy pens down his thoughts after witnessing the event.

The event was organized by Nikhil Banga Sri Aurobindo Janmotsab Samiti with the full support of the Government of West Bengal. One of the most moving highlights of the day was a soulful musical tribute by renowned Rabindra Sangeet exponent Chandra Mahalanabis. Her rendition of the timeless song "Badiyechhe Sahasrati Mon" from the film "Rakhee Bandhan" beautifully evoked memories that spanned 120 years. The performance transported listeners to the era of Bankim Chandra and Rabindranath Tagore, rekindling the spirit of unity and humanity that defined the Bengal Renaissance. The day-long celebration at the foot of Bankim Chandra's statue drew participation from eminent dignitaries, including State Minister Arup Roy, former Governor Shyamal Kumar Sen, Dr. Rabindranath



Bhattacharya, Professor Parimal Ghosh, Anil Kumar Roy, Biswajit Ganguly, noted educationist Banshibadan Chattopadhyay, Professor Sabitabrata Ghosh, Dr. Prakash Nandi, Rabindra Ghosh, members of the elocutionist group Sangsad Brinda, Ritesh Ghosh, Aparna Ghosh, Reba Roy, and Chandra Mahalanabis herself. The entire program was seamlessly coordinated under the thoughtful direction of the Secretary Bishwanath Sau, ensuring a graceful and memorable event. It was, in every sense, a tribute that bridged literature, history, and music — honoring the legacy of Bengal's cultural icons.



A meeting of the TMC Hindi Prakashth was held in connection with Martyrs' Day on July 21 and the upcoming Dharmatala Chalo (March to Dharmatala) program. Amit Gupta, CMC and President of the Dumdum-Barackpore Trinamool Congress Hindi Prokasta, presided over the meeting. District Chairman Ashok Sharma, Titagarh Chairman Kamlesh Shaw, KK Mishra, Garulia Vice-Chairman Ashok Singh, Manu Shaw, Barrackpore Councillors Ramesh Shaw, Dheeraj Shaw, Jatinder Shaw, Bimal Shaw, and others were also present in this meeting, which took place near the Tata Gate, at the District Party Office in Khardah, Titagarh.

Suresh Mishra Receives Radha-Krishna Picture at Muharram, Offers to Gift Quran



MI News Service, Hooghly: The Tazia procession held on the occasion of Muharram in Champdani concluded peacefully and in an orderly manner. In recognition of this, the Muharram committees were honored today at a ceremony in the Vaarta Hall of Champdani Municipality. Chandannagar Police Commissioner Amit P. Javalgi, Champdani MLA Arindam Guin, and Municipality Chairman Suresh Mishra were present at the event.

Champdani, known for its many tile mills, has long been home to people of different castes and religions living together in harmony. Just as the Ram Navami procession is celebrated with respect here, the Tazia procession of Muharram

is also conducted with equal reverence and discipline.

Before Muharram this year, the Chandannagar Police Commissioner held a meeting with local clubs, Akhada committees, and councillors, clearly stating that committees ensuring peaceful and orderly processions would be rewarded. As part of this initiative, Akhada committees that organized Tazia processions peacefully were awarded appreciation letters and sports equipment like footballs, volleyballs, and nets.

On this occasion, Police Commissioner Amit P. Javalgi said, "Champdani is an example of communal harmony. During the Muharram procession, women and children stood along the streets to watch — it was a

wonderful sight. Though the roads were in poor condition, councillors stayed up all night to have them repaired. Even small children showed enthusiasm by playing sports. Along with physical development through sports, children should focus on mental and educational growth as well. It is our hope they excel academically and make their families, their region, and their country proud."

Champdani Municipality Chairman Suresh Mishra shared, "I personally attended the Muharram program. There, I was gifted a picture of Radha-Krishna, which made me very happy. If I get the chance, I will also gift a copy of the Quran Sharif. I was born and brought up in Champdani. Since childhood, we have celebrated all festivals together. This tradition of communal harmony in Champdani must be preserved at all costs. Today, I am also very pleased that the Police Commissioner has honored members of the Champdani Muharram Committee and Akhada Committee for their peaceful conduct and sportsmanship. Councillors were also recognized with gifts. This is a moment of pride for us, and on behalf of all Champdani residents, I sincerely thank him."

Mamata Banerjee leads a defiant..

►► **From PG 1**

crime in BJP's eyes. This injustice will not be tolerated," she declared. Mamata Banerjee's fiery rhetoric did not stop at accusations. Condemning the BJP's alleged feudal mindset, she said, "Do Delhi's rulers believe they can jail anyone they dislike? Will they declare anyone speaking Bangla a Rongingya? If you push us, Bengal will respond inch by inch, street by street."

She further added, "Even water and electricity were cut off in Delhi. Our MPs staged sit-ins. Mahua Moitra had to rush to Chhattisgarh to help stranded Bengalis." Invoking the Bengali proverb "A small stick is stronger than bamboo," she mocked the BJP's policies. "You respect no language, no state. Arresting people for speaking Bangla? This injustice will not be tolerated."

Referring to the secretive circular, she said, "In BJP states, anyone speaking Bangla can be arrested—even those visiting relatives." Labeling this as dangerous and illegal, the Bengal Chief minister fumed, "What right do you have to dictate who eats singara, jalebi, or poha? Who are you to decide?"

From the stage, Mamata Banerjee also fired a sharp criticism at the DVC (Damodar Valley Corporation), saying, "You've all been drenched in this heavy rain—that's nature's gift. Many people are already suffering due to floods. Yet, without any prior warning, water is being released repeatedly." She even as she added her speech with a motherly advisory: "Those drenched in the rain today, go home, bathe in warm water, and take your medicines." Prior to addressing the gathering, the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee led a three-kilometre long march, from College Square to Dorina Crossing, with over 1,500 police per-

sonnel being deployed. All senior leaders of the ruling party including TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim walked alongside the Chief Minister as chants of "Khoma Hobena" reverberated through the streets.

"With less than a year left for the assembly elections in West Bengal, slated for 2026, the TMC is raising its pitch over what it alleges is a systematic pattern of linguistic profiling, unlawful detentions, and attempts to brand Bengali speakers as 'illegal immigrants'."

"This is not a routine political event," said state minister Chandrima Bhat-tacharya echoing the Chief minister.

"This is a battle to defend Bengal's honour, language and identity. If someone calls a Bengali a Bangladeshi, we will not take it lying down," she said.

The TMC usually refrains from holding major public events in the run-up to its annual Shahid Dibas rally on July 21. But the series of recent incidents, including the detention of several migrant workers in Odisha, eviction drives in Delhi, and a notice served to a farmer in Cooch Behar by a foreigners' tribunal in Assam, appears to have compelled the party to shift gears.

The protests over the issues also give a glimpse of the thrust of TMC's campaign for the assembly elections, which will be due mid-next year. The party seems to be betting heavily on rekindling the emotional connection with voters through a campaign that blends identity politics with grassroots mobilisation. "Bengal will not bow its head," Mamata Banerjee said. "This fight is not just about migrant workers. It is about our right to exist with dignity in our own country," she fumed.

Union cabinet clears PM...

►► **From PG 1**

benefit around 17 million farmers. Further detailing the programme, Ashwini Vaishnaw said the basic objective is to enhance agricultural productivity, increase adoption of crop diversification, augment post-harvest storage at panchayat and block levels, and facilitate the availability of long-term and short-term credit.

Vaishnaw said the 100-odd districts will be selected on the basis of three major criteria: low crop productivity, moderate crop density, and below-average credit penetration. He said each selected district will devise a district-wise agriculture and allied activities plan. The plan will be prepared by a committee under the Dis-

trict Collector. The panel will also undertake extensive consultation, understand the cropping pattern and allied activities under the agro-climatic conditions. There will be committees at the state level and a national-level monitoring committee to oversee the programme.

NITI Aayog will provide overall guidance and hand-holding for the scheme, while Central and state agriculture universities will be assigned to each district as technical knowledge partners.

"State governments will be equal partners in the programme," said Vaishnaw. NITI Aayog would also rank the districts based on their performance, as it does under the aspirational districts programme.

Five Delhi schools get bomb...

►► **From PG 1**

for a thorough search. Nothing suspicious has been found so far, the officer said. Earlier on Monday three more schools in the national capital received similar bomb threats in the morning, prompting the emergency services to swing into immediate action. According to Delhi Police, at around 8 am, police received phone calls regarding the bomb threats from CRPF Schools in Prashant Vihar and Dwarka Sector 16, as well as another school in Chanakyapuri. "Police teams immediately moved in to check the school premises," he said. Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) Ankit Singh said, "Early on Monday morning, Dwarka North police station received a PCR call informing about bomb threat at CRPF School here. The area was promptly sanitised. Local police, sniffer dogs and bomb disposal squads reached the schools soon

and conducted due checks." He added that cyber police experts are ascertaining the source of the email.

The compound of all the three schools were also immediately vacated in systematic manners and the parents were asked to take back their wards from the respective schools at the earliest as a preventive measure.

"Security has been tightened in the school. However, fortunately nothing suspicious has been found so far," the DCP said and describe the threats as nothing but a hoax.

Incidentally, in similar incidents a few months ago, another bunch of schools in New Delhi received similar bomb threats, forcing the city police to take immediate steps following which a number of suspects were arrested. All those calls were also turned out to be hoax to the relief of students, teachers and parents of those schools.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressed a gathering after leading a protest rally, voicing strong opposition to what her party describes as "systemic harassment" of Bengali-speaking people in other states. The gathering was held in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Abhishek slams Bangladesh over demolition of Satyajit Ray's ancestral home

MI News Service, Kolkata: After West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Trinamool Congress MP and party's National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee has now voiced sharp criticism over the demolition of legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray's ancestral home in Dhaka. In a strongly worded post on social media, Abhishek condemned the decision of the Bangladeshi authorities, describing the demolition of the iconic property as "an assault on Bengali heritage and emotions."

Taking to his official handle, Abhishek Banerjee wrote, "I am deeply distressed to learn that the ancestral home of Oscar-winning filmmaker Satyajit Ray in Dhaka is reportedly being demolished by the Bangladeshi authorities. This century-old property belonged to Ray's grandfather, Upendrakishore Ray Chowdhury, a towering figure in Bengali literature and culture. To reduce a site of immense historical and cultural significance to rubble is nothing short of an assault on our heritage. It is a blow to the collective conscience of Bengalis everywhere and an erasure of the unparalleled

contributions of the Ray family to global art."

Banerjee urged the Bangladesh Government to reconsider the decision and called upon the Government of India to engage diplomatically to safeguard the site. Historically, the residence belonged to Harikishore Ray, a lawyer in Dhaka, who later adopted Upendrakishore Ray Chowdhury. The house, which had long been associated with the Ray family's rich cultural legacy, had served as the Bangladesh Shishu Academy building until safety concerns forced its evacuation in 2007. Recent reports suggest a multi-storey complex is set to replace the property, sparking widespread concern. Earlier, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee raised the matter publicly, urging the Bangladesh government and "all sensible citizens of that country" to intervene and preserve the iconic structure. Following India's official expression of "deep concern" over the matter, New Delhi is reportedly pressing Dhaka diplomatically, warning that failure to protect such a cultural landmark would not be taken lightly by India.

SMPK, PS Group partner to revamp Nimtalla Ghat under Swachhata and Namami Gange Mission



Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, during the signing of the MoU between SMPK and PS Group to revamp Nimtalla Immersion Ghat under the Swachhata and Namami Gange Mission, in Kolkata on Wednesday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a strategic initiative to rejuvenate Kolkata's iconic riverfront, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMPK), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with PS Group Realty Private Limited to undertake the redevelopment, renovation, and beautification of Nimtalla Immersion Ghat. The project, supported under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme of PS Group, is a significant step aligned with India's Swachhata Mission and the NamamiGange Programme, aimed at restoring the purity and cultural heritage of the Ganga. The MoU was formalised at SMPK's Head Office, 15 Strand Road, under the leadership of Rathendra

Raman, Chairman, SMP Kolkata, in the presence of Deputy Chairman SamratRahi; Directors of PS Group, Saurav Dugar, Gaurav Dugar, and ArunSancheeti; alongside senior SMPK officials. PS Group will fully undertake the permitted redevelopment of the Ghat, including landscape beautification, supported administratively and logistically by SMPK.

Commenting on the partnership, Rathendra Raman stated, "This initiative reflects our enduring commitment to sustainable urban infrastructure and preserving cultural heritage. The NimtallaGhat, a site of profound spiritual importance, will now be restored to its rightful glory. We are pleased to partner with PS Group, a socially responsible entity, for this noble endeavour."

SauravDugar added, "Restoring this sacred Ghat is a privilege. We are dedicated to improving its hygiene and environment for all communities."

As per the agreement, SMP Kolkata will ensure necessary utilities, security, and facilitate regulatory clearances. Upon completion, the upgraded Ghat will return to SMPK for long-term stewardship.

This project exemplifies how public-private collaborations can drive meaningful urban transformation, fostering both community engagement and sustainable tourism.

Kolkata Police debunks Durga Puja crowd control rumours

MI News Service, Kolkata: With Durga Puja 2025 approaching, one of Bengal's most celebrated festivals, Kolkata Police has issued an urgent public advisory to address the spread of misinformation regarding crowd management protocols. The city police clarified that no directives have been issued to restrict or halt any Durga Puja festivities and that false reports circulating online are misleading the public.

Taking to its official social media handle, Kolkata Police stated: "It has been observed that misinformation is being circulated regarding crowd management measures during Durga Puja 2025. Kolkata Police would like to clarify that no directive has been issued to halt or restrict any Durga Puja celebrations. Our sole priority is to ensure public safety during the festivities. Crowd circulation plans at high-footfall pandals are essential to prevent congestion and manage potential emergency situations. These measures are preventive in nature and should not be misconstrued as interference in traditional observances or community celebrations." The advisory further emphasized the importance of public cooperation: "We

request all citizens to stay informed through official channels and avoid sharing unverified or misleading content. Your cooperation is essential to ensuring a safe and smooth festive experience for everyone."

In the Bengali version of the public statement, Kolkata Police reiterated that maintaining the safety and security of the general public during the festival remains their top priority. Plans for controlled crowd circulation at major pandals are standard safety measures, and presenting them as attempts to interfere with the Puja is incorrect. Citizens were specifically urged to avoid sharing false information and instead rely on verified updates through official sources.

Kolkata Police's proactive clarification aims to counter the spread of rumours, ensuring that traditional festivities proceed without unnecessary panic or confusion. With the city preparing to welcome millions of devotees and visitors during Durga Puja, public awareness and adherence to official advisories are being positioned as crucial elements in safeguarding the festival's spirit and the community's well-being.

Nabanna deploys special task forces to tackle flood threat

MI News Service, Kolkata: With continuous water discharge from the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) coupled with relentless heavy rainfall, several districts across South Bengal are now facing a serious flood threat. To manage the evolving crisis, the West Bengal state administration has implemented stringent measures by forming special high-level monitoring teams. These teams, comprising senior officials, have been strategically assigned district-specific responsibilities to oversee flood-prone areas. According to sources at Nabanna, this proactive arrangement aims to prevent the situation from spiralling out of control. Four districts—PaschimMedinipur, PurbaBardhaman, Birbhum, and Hooghly—have been brought under the direct surveillance of these special task forces. Each district has been allotted senior officers tasked with supervising relief operations, rescue missions, and emergency services, in close coordination with the respective district administrations. In PaschimMedinipur, four senior officials have been deployed, including Surendra Gupta, Secretary of the Public Health Engineering Department; Priyanka Singh, Senior Special Secretary of the Disaster Management and Civil Defence Department; YunisRishin Ismail, Special Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare Department; and Hrishikesh Modi, Special Commissioner of the Agriculture Department. These officials will oversee on-ground operations, ensuring timely interventions as required. For PurbaBardhaman, NeelamMeena, from the Consumer Affairs Department, and VibhuGoel, Director of the Land Records and Survey Department, have been entrusted with supervisory duties. Birbhum's situation will be monitored by Vandana Yadav, Secretary of the Industry Department, and DebiprasadKaranam, Secretary of the Finance Department. Meanwhile, in Hooghly, the responsibility has been handed over to Vinod Kumar, Secretary of the Education Department, and Abhishek Kumar Tiwari, Managing Director of the West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation. Nabanna sources have confirmed that these special observers will operate directly from their assigned districts, ensuring seamless coordination with local administrations. Emphasis has been placed on prompt decision-making and the swift delivery of essential assistance to mitigate the impact of flooding. Several low-lying areas are reportedly already inundated, with roads damaged and fears mounting over extensive crop loss. Should the situation deteriorate further, the state government is prepared to extend the scope of these special monitoring teams to cover additional districts as necessary.

'Country wants answers not...

►► **From PG 1**

She was undergoing treatment in the ICU, Department of Burn Centre, according to officials.

"The patient was resuscitated with IV fluids, IV antibiotics, intubated and put on mechanical ventilation. Despite adequate resuscitation and all possible supportive management, including renal replacement therapy at the Burns ICU, she could not be revived and was declared clinically dead at 11:46 pm on July 14," the Department of Burn Centre said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Tuesday announced an ex gratia of Rs 20 lakh for the family of the deceased college student who lost her life over alleged inaction on her sexual harassment complaint. Majhi directed officers concerned to conduct a proper investigation into

the incident so that all guilty are punished in accordance with the law, according to a statement issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati also expressed grief over the death of the student.

"Shattered to learn of the untimely loss of a young student from Fakir Mohan Autonomous College. Her passing is not just a tragedy—it is a stark reminder of the urgent need to safeguard our campuses," he said in a post on X. "The law will take its toughest course. Those responsible will face uncompromising punishment. My heart goes out to the grieving family. May they find strength in this hour of unbearable pain," he added. The principal and the HoD of the Education Department of the college in Balasore have since been arrested in the case.

14th batch of pilgrims leaves...

►► **From PG 1**

said. J-K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the yatra in Jammu on July 2 amid huge rush at the counters for on-the-spot registration, with authorities increasing the number of counters to 15 from 12, as well as the daily quota to 4,100 to ease the rush. Over 90,000 devotees have so far arrived in Jammu from various parts of the country to get themselves registered. More than 3.5 lakh people have registered online for the pilgrimage till last week. Thirty-four accommodation centres have been set up across Jammu, and Radio Frequency Identification

(RFID) tags are being issued to the pilgrims. Twelve counters have been set up for on-the-spot registration. Arrangements have been made to provide boarding and lodging facilities for over 50,000 people at various lodgement centres across the Jammu region, from Lakhampur to Banihal, they said. Over 100 lodgement centres have been set up for the purpose, they added. A total of 180 companies of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), which is 30 more than previous years, have been deployed for the security of the pilgrims. So far all the yathar remained peaceful with no report of any untoward incident from anywhere.

Trump repeats India-Pak ceasefire...

►► **From PG 1**

when Donald Trump had made the same claim during an interaction with reporters, Jairam Ramesh slammed PM Modi for not countering and contradicting him. "President Trump has trumpeted all this just as he was also announcing that a US trade deal with India and Pakistan was about to be declared very soon. When will Narendra Modi, once described by his senior colleague Ghan-shyam Tiwari as the BJP's 'trump card', break his silence on this issue?" he said.

India has refuted the claims made by the US President, reiterating its policy that India and Pakistan bilaterally address

any matter related to the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir. "As you are aware, we have a long-standing national position that any issues pertaining to the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir have to be addressed by India and Pakistan bilaterally. That stated policy has not changed. As you are aware, the outstanding matter is the vacation of illegally occupied Indian Territory by Pakistan," the Ministry of External Affairs stated.

The MEA further stated that the "issue of trade" did not come up between Indian and the US leaders since the commencement of 'Operation Sindoor' and the cessation of hostilities.



A large crowd of supporters and people participated in the protest rally against the harassment of Bengali migrants, called by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in Kolkata on Wednesday.



Sunil Agarwal, Founder Director of The NewTown School and Chairman of the MCCI Council on Education; Amit Saraogi, President of MCCI; Simerjeet Singh, The Disruption Coach and International Motivational Speaker; and Meenakshi Uberoi, CEO of De Pedagogics and Education Evangelist, participated in The EDUX Forum, a premier professional development programme organised by MCCI in collaboration with The NewTown School, Kolkata, to bring together thought leaders and school administrators to explore progressive ideas in educational leadership and the integration of technology in teaching and learning. The theme of the programme was 'Where Leadership Meets Learning Innovation'. Two sessions were conducted: 'Leadership for the Future' by Simerjeet Singh and 'AI Integration in Education' by Meenakshi Uberoi in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Name Change
I, Gobinda Kumar Majhi (old name) S/o. Rampada Majhi R/o. Baksagarh, Patuli, Patuligram, Bolagarh, Hooghly-712501, W.B., have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gobinda Majhi (new name) vide an affidavit no. 1090 sworn before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 16/07/2025. Gobinda Kumar Majhi & Gobinda Majhi S/o. Rampada Majhi all are the same & one identical person. Ashim Kumar Majhi is my son.

Name Change
I, Soharab Hossain S/o Mahasin Mondal Residing at Vill - Barogobra, P.o - Eojnagar, Ps - Matia, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743293, West Bengal, India shall henceforth be known as Soharab Hossain Mondal. I declare that Soharab Hossain and Soharab Hossain Mondal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Kajal Kumar Dey S/o Subarna Kumar Dey Residing at Vill - Udayanpalli, P.o - Prithiba, P.s - Habra, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743704, West Bengal, India shall henceforth be known as Kajal Dey. I declare that Kajal Kumar Dey and Kajal Dey is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Sahidul Islam S/o Abdul Wahab Residing at Vill - Rajukpur, P.o - Chowrash, P.s - Deangaga, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743424, West Bengal, India shall henceforth be known as Md Sahidul Islam. I declare that Mohammed Sahidul Islam and Md Sahidul Islam is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Mohasin Mohammed S/o Mokchhad Mandal Residing at Vill - Barogobra, P.o - Eojnagar, Ps - Matia, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743293, West Bengal, India shall henceforth be known as Mahasin Mandal. I declare that Mohasin Mohammed and Mahasin Mandal is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 16-07-2025.

Name Change
I, Antora Gupta wife of Dipankar Gupta, residing at 13, K. K. Roy Chowdhury Road, P.O - Barisha, Dist - South 24 Parganas, Kolkata - 700008, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Antora Gupta as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata dated 14/07/2025. Antora Gupta and Antora Gupta both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MD. TASLIM ANSARI Son of Late MD IDRIS ANSARI residing at 1st Flr, FL Back, Chowbagha West (Panchanno Gram) Topsis, P.S.-Topsis, Kolkata-700100, have Changed my minor son's name to MD. ARHAN ANSARI, S/O MD. TASLIM ANSARI from MD. GULAB ANSARI for all future communication. My son MD. ARHAN ANSARI will be known and called by this everywhere. MD. ARHAN ANSARI and MD. GULAB ANSARI is the same and an identical person as confirmed and declared before the FIRST CLASS MAGISTRATE COURT at Alipur 24Pgs) Vide Affid No. 44609 dated 14.07.2025

Name Change
I, Md. Osman (Old name) son of Md. Badriuddin Ahmed (Father's Name) at 11 BBI Bagan Lane Tangra Kolkata 700015 (Address) have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md. Osman Ali (New name) as declare before the Ld Judicial Magistrate, vide an affidavit (no. 5447) First Class at Sealdah on 16.06.2025 that Md. Osman (Old name and Md. Osman Ali (New name) is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Moumita Mohanta, Wife of No. 13899075Y Rank Ex NK Name Subhas Mahanta residing of Vill. Tikhorait Belalta, P.O.- Lakurdi, Dist.-Purba Bardhaman (WB), Pin-713102 have changed my Name & Date of birth from Moumita Mohanta & 02.07.1999 to Moumita Chakraborty & 08.07.1982 vide Affidavit dated 16.07.25 before the Executive Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman (WB).

Name Change
I, Latika Saha, spouse of No. 712295N Rank Ex Sep Name Deb Prasad Shaha residing of Vill.-Katwa, P.O.- Katwa, Dist.-Purba Bardhaman (WB), Pin- 713130 have changed my Name from Latika Saha & 15.08.1955 to Latika Shaha & 15.08.1955 vide Affidavit dated 04.07.2025 before the Sub Divisional Magistrate (1st Class), Katwa, Purba Bardhaman.

NAME CHANGE
I, Kuljit Singh, son of Bablu Singh, residing at 4/3/H/11, Bhukailash Road, Khidripore, Ekbalpore, Kol-23, spelling of my mother's name has wrongly recorded in my passport as Pushpa Singh, instead of her actual name Pusp Singh shall henceforth be known as Pusp Singh as declared before the Notary Public, at Alipore, Kolkata-27, vide affidavit no. 123 dated 14.07.2025. Pusp Singh and Pushpa Singh, both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Monika Bhatia W/o Rajeev Bhatia, D/o Ashok Khanna residing at 48, Garfa Main Road, Debika Apartment, 3rd Floor, Flat-308, Kolkata-700078 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my actual name is Monika Bhatia which is duly recorded in my Aadhaar Card, PAN Card & Voter Card. That my name is inadvertently recorded as Monika Bhatia (Khanna), Monika Khanna & Monika Khanna in my some official documents. That Monika Bhatia, Monika Bhatia (Khanna), Monika Khanna & Monika Khanna is the same and one identical person vide Affidavit No. 23073 dated 15.07.2025 sworn Before The Notary Publicat Kolkata.

Name Change
I, Naveen Ribbiawala & Nabin Ribbiawala (old name) S/O Om Prakash Agarwal, residing at 77/78, Block D, Bangur Avenue, South DumDum (M), P.O.- Bangur Avenue, Dist.-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700055, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Navin Ribbiawala (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. Navin Ribbiawala (new name) and Naveen Ribbiawala & Nabin Ribbiawala (old name) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MURILI MOHAN GHOSH (old name) S/O SHACHINDRA NATH GHOSH, residing at VILL- RAMANATHIPUR GHOSH PARA POKUMIRHORA PS-CHANDITALA DIST-HOOGHLY PIN-712704, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MURARI MOHAN GHOSH (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. MURARI MOHAN GHOSH (new name) and MURILI MOHAN GHOSH (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, RABINDRA MURILIMOHAN GHOSH (old name) S/O MURARI MOHAN GHOSH, residing at VILL- RAMANATHIPUR GHOSH PARA POKUMIRHORA PS-CHANDITALA DIST-HOOGHLY PIN-712704, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as RABINDRA GHOSH (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. RABINDRA GHOSH (new name) and RABINDRA MURILIMOHAN GHOSH (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) AJIJUR RAHAMAN SEKH S/o ANSAR ALI SK, Residing at - Vill- Tikdipara, Post- Nagra-jole, Ps- Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742102, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from AJIJUR RAHAMAN SEKH To AJIJUR RAHAMAN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) AJIJUR RAHAMAN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, AJIJUR RAHAMAN and AJIJUR RAHAMAN SEKH both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MD RAFIKUL ISLAM S/O- SAIDUR RAHAMAN, Residing at - Vill- Diar Fatepur, Post- Fatepur, Ps- Lalgola, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742135, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD RAFIKUL ISLAM To RAFIKUL ISLAM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) RAFIKUL ISLAM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, RAFIKUL ISLAM and MD RAFIKUL ISLAM both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MANUARA BEGUM W/o- MD MOSLEHUDDIN, Residing at - Vill- Bhola, Post- Gangadhari, Ps- Nowda, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742121, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MANUARA BEGUM To MANOWARA BEGUM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MANOWARA BEGUM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, MANOWARA BEGUM and MANUARA BEGUM both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MUSLAUDDIN S/O- UMMAR ALI, Residing at - Vill- Bhola, Post- Gangadhari, Ps- Nowda, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742121, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MUSLAUDDIN To MD MOSLEHUDDIN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MD MOSLEHUDDIN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, MD MOSLEHUDDIN and MUSLAUDDIN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) FARSAID ALI S/O- AFRAN SK, Residing at - Vill- Indrabhat, Post- Purandarpur, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742140, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from FARSAID ALI To FARSED ALI (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) FARSED ALI in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, FARSED ALI and FARSAID ALI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) ANUSHREE DAS W/o- SOM SHUBHRA LAHIRI, Residing at - Vill- Ramkrishna Pally, Post- Malda, Ps- Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from ANUSHREE DAS To ANUSHREE LAHIRI (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) ANUSHREE LAHIRI in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 14 July 2025, ANUSHREE LAHIRI and ANUSHREE DAS both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nasira Begam Khatun (old name) D/o. Sirajul Haque, W/o. Sk Emad Ali R/o. Deluara, Melki, Gurap, Hooghly-712152, W.B., after marriage have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nasira Begam Sekh (new name) vide an affidavit no. 201 sworn before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 15/07/2025. Nasira Begam Khatun & Nasira Begam Sekh D/o. Sirajul Haque, W/o. Sk Emad Ali all are the same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jayanta Sudhir Kundu & Jayanta Kumar Kundu (old names) S/O. Sudhir Kumar Kundu, residing at 405, Purba Sinthee Bye Lane, Dumdum, North 24 Pgs, Pin-700030, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jayanta Kundu (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 14/07/2025. Jayanta Kundu (new name) and Jayanta Sudhir Kundu & Jayanta Kumar Kundu (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Huzeefa Tailor (Old Name), S/O Zoeb Abde Ali Tailor, R/O 9th Floor, Flat-9b, 56, Christopher Road, Ektahibiscus, Kolkata, 700046, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Huzeefa Zoeb Tailor (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Huzeefa Tailor And Huzeefa Zoeb Tailor All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Lamiya H Tailor (Old Name), W/O Huzeefa Zoeb Tailor, R/O 9th Floor, Flat-9b, 56, Christopher Road, Ektahibiscus, Kolkata, 700046, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Lamiya Huzeefa Tailor (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Lamiya H Tailor And Lamiya Huzeefa Tailor All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Azim Mullcik (old name) S/O Yeakub Mullcik, residing at Vill & P.O. - Nawabpur, P.S. - Chanditala, Dist. - Hooghly, Pin- 712701, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Azim Mullcik (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. Azim Mullcik (new name) and Azim Mullcik (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Faruk Gajji (Old Name), son of Echahaque Gazi, residing at Mondal Ganthi Gazi Para, Rajarhat Gopalpur (M), North 24 Parganas - 700052, West Bengal, shall henceforth be known as Faruk Gazi (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/07/2025. That Faruk Gaji and Faruk Gazi both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I Saiful Islam Sekh (Old Name), S/O Abdul Hasem SK, R/O Kalna, Jiudhara P.Bardhaman, Ps-Kalna, Purba Bardhaman, 713409, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Saiful Islam SK (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Saiful Islam Sekh And Saiful Islam SK All Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I, Nurujjaman Saikh (Old Name), Son Of Abdul Hai Sekh, Residing At 3 No Sekhpara, Nilambarpur, Diamond Harbour - 743503, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Nurujjaman Sekh (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025. That Nurujjaman Saikh And Nurujjaman Sekh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abdul Hai Saikh (Old Name), Son Of Khursid Ahammad Sekh, Residing At 3 No Sekhpara, Nilambarpur, Diamond Harbour - 743503, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdul Hai Sekh (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025. That Abdul Hai Saikh And Abdul Hai Sekh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Shusmita Jayanta Kundu (old name) D/o. Jayanta Kundu, residing at 405, Purba Sinthee Bye Lane, Dumdum, North 24 Pgs, Pin-700030, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shusmita Kundu (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 14/07/2025. Shusmita Kundu (new name) and Shusmita Jayanta Kundu (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Begam Billakis Sekh & Billakis Begum (old name) W/o Sk Alamgir, residing at Vill-Hatpukur dakshin para, P.O.- Janai, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712-304, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bilkis Begum (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. Bilkis Begum (new name) and Begam Billakis Sekh & Billakis Begum (old names) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Gir Alam Sekh (old name) S/O Tabrak Sekh, residing at Vill-Hatpukur dakshin para, P.O.- Janai, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712-304, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Alamgir (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. Sk Alamgir (new name) and Gir Alam Sekh (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Assmela Mondal (old name) W/O Late Saber Mondal, residing at Vill-Bhaduyad Dhopapara, P.O.- Bhagabatipur, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712701, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aslema Begum (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 15/07/2025. Aslema Begum (new name) and Assmela Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nizam Uddin (old name) S/o Late Sk Jamshed Ali, residing at Flat No-D, Forth Floor, 8C Braun Field Row, Central Bank Nagar, Mominpore, Alipore, Kolkata- 700027, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Nizamuddin (new name), as declared before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit SL No. 43395, dated 09/07/2025. Sk Nizamuddin (new name) and Nizam Uddin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rajasree Sarkar (Old Name), W/O Arupananda Tantubay, R/O 188, Bero, Raghunathpur Ramk anali, Purulia, 723133, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rajasree Tantubay (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Rajasree Sarkar And Rajasree Tantubay All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Anindita (old names) W/O Abhijit Sharma, residing at E/3 Sai Sayaji Nagar Opp Aditya Garden City Warje, Pune City, Pune, Pin-411052, Maharashtra, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anindita Sharma (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Anindita Sharma (new name) and Anindita (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Abhijit (old names) S/O Shankar Shekhar Sharma, residing at E/3 Sai Sayaji Nagar Opp Aditya Garden City Warje, Pune City, Pune, Pin-411052, Maharashtra, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abhijit Sharma (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Abhijit Sharma (new name) and Abhijit (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Arnab Sharma & Sharma Arnab Abhijit (old names) S/O Abhijit Sharma, residing at 79F7G2 TOWER 9 ESTERN HEIGH, P.S.- NEW TOWN, BIDDHANNAGAR, DIST.- NORTH 24 PGS, Pin- 700159, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Arnab Abhijit Sharma (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Arnab Abhijit Sharma (new name) and Arnab Sharma & Sharma Arnab Abhijit (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ashiya Shaheen (old name), W/O- Sadique Akhtar residing at H.NO.59/2, Ward No 05, Debalpur Kalkati, PO+PS - Kharagpur Town, Dist- Paschim Medinipur, Pin-721301, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name to (shall henceforth be known as) Asiya Shaheen (new name) W/O- Sadique Akhtar vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kharagpur Notary No N/17 on 04/07/2025. Asiya Shaheen (new name) and Ashiya Shaheen (old name) both are same identical person.

Name Change
I, M A SALAM (old name), S/O- Late Abdul Rahaman resident at H.NO.59/2, Ward No 05, Debalpur Kalkati, PO+PS - Kharagpur Town, Dist- Paschim Medinipur, Pin-721301, West Bengal, INDIA, have changed my name to (shall henceforth be known as) Mohammad Abdus Salam (new name) S/O- Late Abdul Rahaman vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kharagpur Notary No N/16 on 04/07/2025. Mohammad Abdus Salam (new name) and M A SALAM (old name) both are same identical person.

Name Change
I, Suchismita Kodal (old name) D/O Anil Chandra Kodal, residing at 11/B Mahadeb Ghosal Road, Ariadaha, Kolkata-700057, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Suchismita Kodal Dutta (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Suchismita Kodal Dutta (new name) and Suchismita Kodal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shila Nayak (old name) D/O Late Prafulla Ghorai, residing at Vill-Madhabachak, P.O.- Aknageria, P.S.- Pingla, Dist.-Paschim Medinipur, Pin- 721140, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shila Nayak (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Shila Rani Nayak (new name) and Shila Nayak (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Dulal Nayak (old name) S/O Late Bankim Behari Nayak, residing at Vill-Madhabachak, P.O.- Aknageria, P.S.- Pingla, Dist.-Paschim Medinipur, Pin- 721140, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dulal Chandranayak (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Dulal Chandranayak (new name) and Dulal Nayak (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Meghana Jayanta Kundu (old name) W/o. Jayanta Kundu, residing at 405, Purba Sinthee Bye Lane, Dumdum, North 24 Pgs, Pin-700030, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Meghana Kundu (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 14/07/2025. Meghana Kundu (new name) and Meghana Jayanta Kundu (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Significant rise in passenger footfall and earnings during Shravani Mela 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway continues to play a vital role in facilitating the smooth movement of pilgrims during the ongoing Shravani Mela 2025, particularly at key stations in the Asansol Division such as Jasidih, Deoghar, Baidyanath Dham, and Basukinath. With meticulous planning and upgraded infrastructure, the Division has effectively managed the increased passenger load during this annual religious gathering.

On the 5th day of Shravani Mela 2025, a remarkable surge in unreserved passenger traffic was recorded (excluding PRS passengers). The total footfall at the four major stations reached 48,524, compared to 31,547 on the corresponding day last year—an increase of 16,977 passengers, marking a substantial 53.81% growth. In line with the rise in footfall, station earnings also witnessed a notable increase. The combined revenue from these

stations on the 5th day of the Mela amounted to ₹34,90,660, reflecting a growth of ₹8,85,180 over last year's earnings of ₹26,05,480—a 33.97% increase. The cumulative footfall during the first five days of Shravani Mela 2025 stood at 1,98,881 compared to 1,65,877 during the same period last year—registering a 19.89% increase. Similarly, cumulative earnings for the first five days reached ₹1,47,34,958, an increase of ₹24,28,358 over ₹1,23,06,600 recorded during the same period last year—reflecting a 19.73% growth. These figures underscore the effectiveness of Eastern Railway's proactive measures in crowd management, enhancement of passenger services, and operational efficiency during Shravani Mela. Eastern Railway remains committed to ensuring a safe, convenient, and seamless travel experience for all pilgrims throughout the festive period.

Name Change
I, Safiya Bibi (old name) W/o. Saiyad Ali Khan, residing at Vill-Neturia, P.O.- Atattar, P.S.- Chandipur, Dist.- Purba Medinipur, Pin- 721633, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sufiya Bibi (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Sufiya Bibi (new name) and Safiya Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Meghana Jayanta Kundu (old name) W/o. Jayanta Kundu, residing at 405, Purba Sinthee Bye Lane, Dumdum, North 24 Pgs, Pin-700030, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Meghana Kundu (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 14/07/2025. Meghana Kundu (new name) and Meghana Jayanta Kundu (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Simlon Ray (old name) W/O Animesh Kumar Mandal, residing at 1194/687, Jafala Road, Vill- Inda Sarat Pally, P.O.- Inda, P.S.- Kharagpur (T), Dist.- Paschim Medinipur, Pin- 721305, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Simran Ray Mandal (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Simran Ray Mandal (new name) and Simlon Ray (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, AFSANA SYED ASHRAFALI SHAH (old name) W/O MD SHAH-NAWAJ, residing at THANAPARA, BALIADANGA P.O. KALIJACHAK DIST- MALDA PIN 732201, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SYED AFSANA SHAH (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. SYED AFSANA SHAH (new name) and AFSANA SYED ASHRAFALI SHAH (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohamad Muzdin Ali Mullick (old name) S/o Md Sukur Ali Mollick, residing at Dakshin Atpukur, P.O.- Atpukur, Minakhan, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743425, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Muzdin Ali Mollick (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Md Muzdin Ali Mollick (new name) and Mohamad Muzdin Ali Mullick (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Susmita Rani Rath (Old Name), W/O Ujjwal Kumar Rath, R/O 126, Dumdum Cossipore Road, South Dumdum (M), Motijheel, North 24 Parganas, 700074, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Susmita Rath (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Susmita Rani Rath And Susmita Rath All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Romita Sinha (old name) W/O Laltu Dhall, residing at GP-24, Salt Lake City, Sec-3, P.O.- IB Market, Bidhan-nagar, Pin-700106, W.B. India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Romita Sinha Dhall (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit dated 16/07/2025. Romita Sinha Dhall (new name) and Romita Sinha (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Anil Kumar Gupta (Old Name), S/O Satya Deo Gupta, R/O Jamtala, Po Dankuni, Chandannagar-712310, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Anil Gupta (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/07/2025, That Anil Kumar Gupta And Anil Gupta All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Twenty Shravani Mela Special to start its journey from different stations over Eastern Railway on 17.07.2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: Shravani Mela at Baidyanath 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 (20) Shravani Mela special will start its journey from different stations over Eastern Railway jurisdictions on 17.07.2025. 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 17.07.2025 (Thursday): • 03653 Madhupur-Gaya MEMU Passenger leaving Madhupur at 02:50 hrs. • 03267 Madhupur-Patna MEMU Passenger leaving Madhupur at 08:45 hrs. • 05027 Deoghar-Barhni Mail Exp Ex. Deoghar at 18:45 hrs. • 03553 Asansol-Danapur Mail ExpEx. Asansol at 19:30 hrs. • 03146/03145 Jasidih-

Dumkaa-Jasidih MEMU Passenger leaving Jasidih at 08:50 hrs. and leaving Dumkaa at 10:45 hrs. • 03148/03147 Jasidih-Dumkaa-Jasidih MEMU Passenger leaving Jasidih at 18:00 hrs. and leaving Dumkaa 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-Baidyanathdham-Jasidih MEMU Passenger leaving Jasidih at 04:30 hrs. and leaving Baidyanathdham at 04:55 hrs. • 03503/03504 Jasidih-Baidyanathdham-Jasidih MEMU Passenger leaving Baidyanathdham at 13:05 hrs. and leaving Jasidih at 13:35 hrs. • 03505/03506 Jasidih-Baidyanathdham-Jasidih MEMU Passenger leaving Jasidih at 21:25 hrs. and leaving Baidyanathdham at 22:00 hrs.

Swift action by RPF/ER rescues 7 children from stations and trains



MI News Service, Kolkata: Under the ongoing nationwide initiative "Operation Nanhe Fariste", Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway successfully rescued seven minors on July 15, 2025, from various trains and stations across Howrah and Malda Divisions, ensuring their safety and facilitating proper care and rehabilitation through concerned child welfare authorities. Among those, two minors were rescued from Howrah Station, three from Train No. 22504 at Bardhaman station, one from Train No. 13011 near Pakur station and one from Sahibganj Station. All rescued children were safely handed over to the respective Child Helpline centre for appropriate care and rehabilitation. These timely interventions by RPF personnel under "Operation Nanhe Fariste" reaffirm Eastern Railway's commitment to child protection, safety, and welfare. The rescued children are now in the safe custody of child care authorities, and appropriate rehabilitation procedures are being followed.

Tally acting as catalyst in MSME Growth

MI News service, Kolkata: Tally Solutions, India's leading business automation software for small and medium enterprises, continues to champion and celebrate MSME empowerment through the fifth edition of Tally MSME Honours. The global annual initiative dedicated to recognizing and celebrat-

ing the diversity and the positive impact of MSMEs through their best practices at the grassroots level. In 2025, the initiative expanded to seven key cities in India: Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, and Chennai, bringing together diverse voices from every corner of the country.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE
ICICI Bank
Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091
CIN No: L65190GJ13994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

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

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Taraknath Das/ Kamal Das/ Dahapara Murshidabad West Bengal Calcutta-742104/ LBSGI00005490345, LBSGI00005576394	Khatian No. R.S. 122, L.R. 12, Plot No. R.S. 1/198 LR 6, Mouza. 5 Farrabag, Dahapara, P.O. Dahapara, P.S. Murshidabad, Sub Registry Office Lalbagh, District. Murshidabad, West Bengal, Admeasuring An Area of Land Measuring 3.5 Satak/ Date of Physical 12/07/2025	March 27, 2023 Rs. 20,60,234.00/-	Berham-pore (W.B)
2.	Chinnoy Goswami/ Arkaprava			

UN rapporteur calls for global action to stop 'genocide' in Gaza

Bogota : The United Nations' special rapporteur for Gaza and the West Bank said Tuesday that it's time for nations around the world to take concrete actions to stop what she called the "genocide" in Gaza.

Francesca Albanese spoke to delegates from 30 countries meeting in Colombia's capital to discuss the Israel-Hamas war and ways that nations can try to stop Israel's military offensive in the territory. Many of the participating nations have described the violence as genocide against the Palestinians.

"Each state must immediately review and suspend all ties with the State of Israel ... and ensure its private sector does the same," said Albanese, who was sanctioned by the US earlier this month. "The Israeli economy is structured to sustain the occupation that has now turned genocidal."

The two-day conference organised by the governments of Colombia and South Africa is being attended mostly by developing nations, although the governments of Spain, Ireland and China have also sent delegates.

Israel, which was founded in the aftermath of the Holocaust, has adamantly rejected genocide allegations against it as an antisemitic "blood libel".

Analysts say it's not clear whether the conference's participating countries have enough leverage over Israel to force it to change its policies in Gaza, where more than 58,000 people have been killed in Israeli military operations following a deadly Hamas attack on Israel in 2023. The death toll comes from the health ministry, which is under Gaza's Hamas government and does not differentiate between civilians and combatants. The UN and other international organisations



see its figures as the most reliable statistics on war casualties.

"The United States has so far failed to influence Israel's behaviour ... so it is naive to think that this group of countries can have any influence over (Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu's behavior or on the government of Israel," said Sandra Borda, a professor of international relations at Bogota's Los Andes University. She said, however, that the conference will enable some nations of the Global South to clarify their position toward the conflict and have their voices heard. The conference is co-chaired by the governments of South Africa and Colombia, which last year suspended coal exports to Israeli power plants, and includes the participation of members of The Hague Group, a coalition of eight nations that earlier this year pledged to cut military ties with Israel and to comply

with an International Criminal Court arrest warrant against Netanyahu.

Participating nations have said they are trying to comply with an International Court of Justice opinion issued last year that said Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories is illegal. There is also a UN General Assembly resolution from September, which demands that Israel withdraw its military from Palestinian territories and calls on member nations to stop selling weapons to Israel.

"It's important that we stand up for the rule of law in a meaningful way," said ChrispinPhiri, a spokesman for South Africa's Department of International Relations who is attending the conference in Bogota. "This idea that international law ... can only be enforced on counties of the global south is something that has become unsustainable."

For decades, South Africa's ruling

African National Congress party has compared Israel's policies in Gaza and the West Bank with its own history of oppression under the harsh apartheid regime of white minority rule, which restricted most Blacks to "homelands" or Bantustans, before ending in 1994.

Albanese also brought up the comparison as she spoke to delegates in the conference, and urged them to impose sanctions on Israel until it withdraws from Gaza and the West Bank.

"I ask you to consider this moment as if we were sitting here in the 1990s, discussing the case of apartheid South Africa. Would you have proposed selective sanctions on South Africa for its conduct in individual Bantustans? Or would you have recognised the state's criminal system as a whole?" Albanese said.

The gathering comes as the European Union weighs various measures against Israel including a ban on imports from Israeli settlements, an arms embargo and individual sanctions against Israeli officials found to be blocking a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Colombia's Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Mauricio Jaramillo said Monday that the nations participating in the Bogota meeting, which also include Qatar and Turkey, will be discussing diplomatic and judicial measures that can be taken to put more pressure on Israel to cease its attacks.

The Colombian official described Israel's conduct in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank as an affront to the international order.

"This is not just about Palestine," Jaramillo said in a press conference. "It is about defending international law ... and the right to self determination."

Kamdhenу Ltd. to fortify its presence in West Bengal; Sets up an ambitious target of 20% increased sales in one year



Kolkata: Kamdhenу Limited, India's largest manufacturer and seller of branded TMT Bars in retail, today announced its business plans for West Bengal market.

At a channel partners meet, Mr. Sunil Kumar Agarwal, Director of Kamdhenу Limited announced new schemes for the dealers, and sales target for the upcoming year. The company aims to achieve a 20% growth in sales in FY26, considering the growing demand for Kamdhenу products in the state.

Over 400 dealers and distributors, along with their families from West Bengal, participated in the meet held in Kolkata, West Bengal. The event served a dual purpose: to announce the sales target and to honor the contributions of

Kamdhenу's valued partners. The company organized the meet to reiterate its appreciation for their continuous support and dedication.

The meet included informative sessions on product familiarization, innovative marketing and business strategies, publicity campaigns, brand awareness initiatives, and the introduction of unique sales enhancement techniques. Additionally, sales targets for all dealers for the upcoming financial year were finalized.

Mr. Sunil Kumar Agarwal, Director, Kamdhenу Limited, Mr. AnandSarogi, Director Alaknanda Iron and Sponge Pvt Ltd along with other senior management felicitated the dealers with accolades and motivated them to reach greater heights.

Prince Harry in Angola to raise awareness for land mine clearing repeating Diana's 1997 trip

Cape Town (South Africa) : Prince Harry visited the African nation of Angola on Tuesday with a land mine clearing charity, repeating a famous trip his mother made in 1997. Harry, the Duke of Sussex, met with Angolan President Joao Lourenco on Tuesday at the start of his trip, according to a statement from the Halo Trust, an organisation that works to clear land mines from old warzones. Princess Diana visited Angola with the Halo Trust in January 1997, just seven months before she was killed in a Paris car crash. Diana was famously photographed on that trip wearing protective equipment and walking through an active minefield during a break in fighting in Angola's long civil war. Her advocacy helped mobilise support for a treaty banning land mines later that year. This is not the first time Harry has followed in his mother's footsteps by raising awareness for the Halo

Trust's work. He also visited the southern African country in 2019 for a land mine clearing project. British media reported that Harry travelled to Angola this week without his wife Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex. Halo Trust CEO James Cowan said in a statement on Tuesday that he and Harry met with Lourenco to discuss continued demining efforts in Angola and thanked the president for his support for that work. Angola was torn apart by a 27-year civil war, which lasted from 1975 to 2002, with some brief and fragile periods of peace in between. The Halo Trust says there are estimates that around 80,000 Angolans have been killed or injured by land mines during and after the war, although there are no exact figures. The organisation says just over 1,000 minefields covering an estimated 67 square kilometres still needed to be cleared at the end of 2024.

White shirt black pants only for lawyers:Rohini court bar body

New Delhi : The Rohini Court Bar Association has issued a notice barring clerks, litigants and general public from wearing white shirts and black pants during their visit to the district court complex.

The move comes in the wake of complaints of touts falsely representing themselves as advocates or clerks

of advocates and defrauding litigants. The notice dated July 15 said, "It is hereby notified that no clerk, litigant, or member of the general public is permitted to wear a white shirt and black pants during their visit to the court complex." The attire, it said, was "strictly reserved" for lawyers or advocates "as a mark of professional identity and dignity of the legal fraternity."

Earlier, the bar body had made it compulsory for clerks of advocates to obtain authorised identity (ID) cards to prevent defrauding of litigants. "It has come to the notice of the executive committee of RCBA through several respected members of the bar and multiple complaints from the general public and litigants, that a number of touts are falsely representing themselves as official advocates or clerks of advocates. These individuals are misleading and defrauding uneducated litigants under false pretences," the notice issue earlier had stated.



Some Australian dolphins use sponges to hunt fish but it's harder than it looks

Washington : Some dolphins in Australia have a special technique to flush fish from the seafloor. They hunt with a sponge on their beak, like a clown nose.

Using the sponge to protect from sharp rocks, the dolphins swim with their beaks covered, shovelling through rubble at the bottom of sandy channels and stirring up barred sandperch for a meal. But this behaviour - passed down through generations - is trickier than it looks, according to new research published on Tuesday in the journal Royal Society Open Science.

Hunting with a sponge on their face interferes with bottlenose dolphins' finely tuned sense of echolocation, of emitting sounds and listening for echoes to navigate.

"It has a muffling effect in the way that a mask might," said co-author Ellen Rose Jacobs, a marine biologist at the University of Aarhus in Denmark. "Everything looks a little bit weird, but you can still learn how to compensate."

Jacobs used an underwater microphone to confirm that the "sponging" dolphins in Shark Bay,



Australia, were still using echolocation clicks to guide them. Then she modelled the extent of the sound wave distortion from the sponges. For those wild dolphins that have mastered foraging with nose sponges, scientists say it's a very efficient way to catch fish. The wild marine sponges vary from the size of a softball to a cantaloupe. Sponge hunting is "like hunting when you're blindfolded - you've got to be very good, very well-trained to pull it off," said Mauricio Cantor, a marine biologist at Oregon State University, who was not involved in the study. That difficulty may explain why it's rare - with only about 5 per

cent of the dolphin population studied by the researchers in Shark Bay doing it. That's about 30 dolphins total, said Jacobs.

"It takes them many years to learn this special hunting skill - not everybody sticks with it," said marine ecologist Boris Worm at Dalhousie University in Canada, who was not involved in the study.

Dolphin calves usually spend around three or four years with their mothers, observing and learning crucial life skills. The delicate art of sponge hunting is "only ever passed down from mother to offspring," said co-author and Georgetown marine biologist Janet Mann.

ACCE I Organized the National Conference on 'Next-Gen Highrise Buildings' in Hyderabad

Hyderabad : The Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India) [ACCE(I)], Hyderabad Centre, kickstarted its two-day national conference on 'Next-Gen Highrise Buildings - Advancements in Composite and Steel Structures' today at the ESCI Campus, Gachibowli. The event was formally inaugurated by Shri D. Sridhar Babu, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Electronics & Industries, Government of Telangana, who underlined the need for innovation in sustainable infrastructure and urban growth. Prominent industry figures, including Mr. RajkumarKacharla, President, South, Vice President, ACCE(I), MrEr. KashiramAdepu, governing council member and immediate past chairman, ACCE (I) Hyderabad Centre, Mr. Er.BheemRaoJaligama, Vice-Chairman and In-charge Chairman, ACCE(I) Hyderabad Centre, Mr. Er. C. Ramesh, Hon. Secretary, ACCE(I), Mr. Sudhakar, Co-Option Member, ACCE(I), along with other ACCE (I) members, addressed the gathering, highlighting the growing relevance of steel and composite technologies in high-rise construction.

The conference brought together leading experts, industry professionals, policymakers, and academia to deliberate on the latest advancements, innovative

technologies, and sustainable practices shaping the future of high-rise constructions. The Topics of discussion included smart building technologies, sustainable design, advanced materials, safety regulations, and the challenges and opportunities in developing the next generation of urban vertical infrastructure. The evolving landscape of tall buildings in the context of rapid urbanization, sustainability goals, and emerging construction technologies. Nearly 800 participants from across India participated in the conference, the event brought together a wide spectrum of professionals from the civil engineering and construction sectors. Featuring 14+ eminent speakers, the conference served as a knowledge-sharing hub on sustainable urban infrastructure, smart building solutions, and next-generation materials and technologies. Attendees experienced insightful keynote speeches, technical sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities with peers from across the nation. The conference attracted a diverse audience, including civil engineers, architects, urban planners, developers, researchers, and students.

With rapid vertical growth becoming an urban necessity, the conference aimed to tackle pressing challenges in high-rise build-



ing design, stability, and sustainability. The sessions covered advanced composite and steel systems, climate-resilient designs, disaster-resistant structures, and

digital innovations shaping the future of India's cities.

At the National Conference of the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (I), the Minister of

Industries & Commerce, IT, legislative affairs, Government of Telangana, Shri D. Sridhar BabuGaru, appreciated and complemented the civil engineers,

calling them the backbone of New India in the built environment

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. RajkumarKacharla, President South, Vice President, ACCE(I), said, "We are not just constructing buildings-we are crafting a sustainable legacy for generations to come. "We are at a pivotal moment in urban development, with highrise buildings playing an increasingly critical role in accommodating our growing populations and evolving lifestyles." This conference is a vital platform for knowledge exchange, fostering collaboration, and inspiring new ideas that will drive the sustainable and resilient growth of our cities & underscoring the vital connection between technological innovation and the future of civil engineering."

Adding to this, MrEr.KashiramAdepu, governing council member and immediate past chairman, ACCE (I) Hyderabad Centre, said: "The vertical growth of urban regions and tier I & II cities demands that engineers keep pace with evolving best practices. This conference is a catalyst, inspiring engineers, policymakers, and innovators to embrace smarter, safer, and more sustainable construction methods that will define our skylines for decades." This conference is a testament to how the

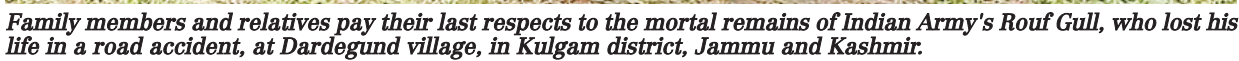
civil engineering fraternity is redefining urban growth with resilience, innovation, and responsibility. The discussions on smart infrastructure and urban resilience will be instrumental in shaping the skylines of tomorrow."

According to Mr. Er.BheemRaoJaligama, Vice-Chairman and In-charge Chairman, ACCE(I) Hyderabad Centre, "This conference marks a vibrant step toward smarter and more sustainable urban development. It urges engineers to innovate with responsibility and build with resilience, shaping cities that are future-ready and sustainable."

Adding to this, Mr. Er. C. Ramesh, Hon. Secretary, ACCE(I) said: "This platform fosters collaboration and knowledge-sharing within the engineering community. It drives innovation while reinforcing the importance of sustainable development and the latest research in high-rise construction."

The conference is proudly supported by Jai Raj Steel ATOOT as the Title Sponsor, along with Kirby Building Systems and Unitech Structural Systems Private Limited, underscoring the industry's commitment to fostering next-gen innovations in high-rise building construction.

international humanitarian law fully. The humanitarians said that people fleeing North Kordofan and the El Fasher siege in North Darfur State head into other parts of the country, including Northern State, in search of safety. OCHA said that its humanitarian partners in Northern State reported that more than 3,000 displaced people have arrived in the Ad-Dabbah locality since June. While some have received food assistance, the steady influx of newly displaced families is putting more pressure on already stretched resources. Humanitarians warn that the rainy season is bringing further hardship. OCHA said that in eastern Sudan, heavy rain and strong winds on Sunday destroyed or damaged shelters and food supplies for about 2,700 displaced people at two sites in Gedaref. The office said the International Organization for Migration reported that across Sudan, more than 1.3 million people have returned to their home areas since November 2024. The vast majority returned to the states of Aj Jazirah, Sennar and Khartoum, but they face worsening living conditions and shortages of basic services.



brought to hospitals in Gaza over the past 24 hours, along with 278 wounded. It did not specify the total number of women and children among the dead.

The Hamas politician killed in a strike early Tuesday, Mohammed Faraj al-Ghoul, was a member of the bloc of representatives from the group that won seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council in the last election held among Palestinians, in 2006. Hamas won a majority in the vote, but relations with the main Fatah faction that had long led the Palestinian Authority unraveled and ended with Hamas taking over the Gaza Strip in 2007. The legislative council has not formally convened since. The Israeli military says it only targets militants and tries to avoid harming civilians. It blames civilian deaths on Hamas because the militants operate in densely populated areas. But daily, it hits homes and shelters where people are living without warning or explanation of the target. The latest attacks came after US President Donald Trump and

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held two days of talks last week that ended with no sign of a breakthrough in negotiations over a ceasefire and hostage release. Israel has killed more than 58,400 Palestinians and wounded more than 139,000 others in its retaliation campaign since Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Just over half the dead are women and children, according to the ministry, which does not distinguish between civilians and militants in its tally. The ministry, part of the Hamas-run government, is led by medical professionals. Its count, based on daily reports from hospitals, is considered by the United Nations and other experts to be the most reliable.

Israel has vowed to destroy Hamas after its attack 20 month ago in which militants stormed into southern Israel and killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians. They abducted 251 others, and the militants are still holding 50 hostages, less than half of them believed to be alive.

MI News Service, Cairo: The Arab League condemned on Tuesday recent Israeli plans to confine Palestinians to a "humanitarian city" in the southern Gaza Strip. In a statement, the Arab League affirmed that this plan "bears no relation to civility or humanitarian principles," emphasizing that the proposal reflects an "ethical decline of the occupation." It added that the plan exposed an Israeli intent to

continue "ethnic cleansing," reoccupy the Gaza Strip, and potentially pave the way for settlements. The pan-Arab organization appealed to the international community to forcefully confront such "inhuman schemes," stressing the immediate need for a ceasefire agreement. Israeli Defense Minister Israel Katz said earlier this month that he had instructed the Israel Defense Forces and his ministry to bring for-

ward a plan to establish a new "humanitarian city" on the ruins of Rafah, Israeli media reported.

According to Katz, an initial 600,000 Palestinians living in the coastal al-Mawasi area would be transferred to Rafah within 60 days of any agreed ceasefire deal. The entire civilian population of Gaza -- more than 2 million people -- will eventually be relocated to this southern city.

MI News Service, New Delhi: Abdelfattah Mehdi, brother of Talal Abdo Mehdi, who was allegedly murdered by Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya in 2017, has asserted that there can be no pardon for the crime. He said that Nimisha Priya has to be executed.

Abdelfattah also expressed firmly the family's deep displeasure in the manner in which the Indian media has been "distorting things to portray the convicted as a victim". Incidentally, Nimisha Priya was to be executed on Wednesday, but following the lengthy period of multipronged negotiations, her execution has been kept in abeyance. Numerous efforts from several quarters, which included full support of the Indian government, besides agencies based in Saudi Arabia and religious intervention from the Grand Mufti, Kanthapuram A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar, who reportedly reached out to a friend in Yemen's Shooraa Council to help mediate, all led to the decision of deferring the execution until further orders. State CPI-M secretary M. V. Govindan on Wednesday morning met Musliyar, and negotiations are underway.

MI News Service, Dispur: Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has asked the Election Commission (EC) to wait for the National Register of Citizens (NRC) to be released before proceeding to revise the voter list of Assam. The officials confirmed that a thorough verification of citizens is already done and the finalization process is underway. The EC had recently announced that a nationwide revision of electoral rolls was required. This announcement drew backlash with several opposition parties accusing the EC of using this move to check citizenship and termed it "NRC through the backdoor."

Despite many challenging EC's announcement in court, the Supreme Court, however, allowed the EC to proceed. According to the Assam authorities, once the NRC list is finalized, the list could be used as a proof of citizenship during the electoral roll update.

MI News Service, Gaza: The US- and Israeli-backed GHF says at least 20 Palestinians have been killed at its food distribution point in Khan Younis, the latest people to lose their lives at the sites described by the UN as “death traps”. The Israeli army says it has opened a new corridor bisecting the city of Khan Younis in southern Gaza. The UN agency for Palestinian refugees says one in 10 children screened in its clinics in Gaza are malnourished as Israel’s siege on the triggers triggers a man-made starvation crisis. Israel’s war on Gaza has killed at least 58,479 people and wounded 139,355, according to Gaza’s Health Ministry. An estimated 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the Hamas-led October 7, 2023, attacks, and more than 200 were taken captive.

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Israeli forces have launched air strikes on Suwayda in southern Syria, as fighting returned to the predominantly Druze city hours after the Syrian government declared a ceasefire. The Syrian Ministry of Interior said in a statement on Tuesday that armed groups had resumed attacks on Syrian government forces with support from the Israeli Air Force. Syria condemned Israel's intervention as a violation of international law, while influential Druze Sheikh Hikmat al-Hajri said in a statement that it was Syrian government troops who breached a truce announced earlier in the day. The Israeli air attacks came after Hikmat al-Hajri urged local fighters to confront what he described as a barbaric attack from government forces. Israel has claimed its attacks on the southern Syrian region bordering Israel are meant to protect the Druze minority, which it sees as potential allies. In a statement shared on social media, Israeli Minister of Diaspora Affairs Amichai Chikli said that Israel could not "stand idly by" as the Druze engaged in fighting. "We see massacres

and insults against the Druze, and we must fight against the terrorism regime in Syria,” Chikli said, claiming it was a “grave mistake” to acknowledge Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa as the “legitimate leader” of the country.

Fighting between Bedouin tribes and local Druze fighters has reportedly killed more than 30 people and injured more than 100 since Sunday in Suwayda. Bedouin and Druze armed factions have a longstanding feud in Suwayda, with violence occasionally erupting. United States envoy to Syria Tom Barrack said Washington was in contact with all sides "to navigate towards calm and integration". Al Jazeera's Osama Bin Javid reporting from Damascus said that the situation in Suwayda has "further escalated, with multiple Israeli drone and air strikes they claim are in support of Druze fighters". The latest developments come hours after Syrian Minister of Defence Murhaf Abu Qasra declared a truce in a post on social media, saying: "To all units operating within the city of Suwayda, we declare a complete ceasefire."

MI News Service, Khartoum: Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have killed nearly 309 people during raids in North Kordofan state. The raids began on Saturday. The RSF is in civil war with the Sudanese Army in the area. On Monday, the Emergency Lawyers and human rights group confirmed that the RSF carried out attacks on several villages around the city of Bara which is controlled by the paramilitary. The activists said that women including pregnant women were attacked and killed by the RSF. More than 200 people were killed in a village named Shag, Alnom and 46 were killed in Hilat Hamid. Many are reported missing and these villages were looted. Right groups and Emergency Lawyers have alleged that the RSF carried out raids in villages with no military objectives. Emergency Lawyers stated, "It has been proven now that these villages that were targeted were completely

out of their military objectives. These actions prove their criminal nature and are a grave disregard to international humanitarian law."

The RSF is trying to strengthen its power in western regions including North Kordofan while the army is ruling in the centre and east of Sudan. Fighting resumed this month in the capital of North Darfur state El Fasher. Thousands of residents were forced to flee as the fighting erupted between two groups.

A shocking report published by Médecins Sans Frontières revealed that El Fasher witnessed larger scale violence including looting, sexual violence, abductions and starvation. The human rights group have accused the RSF of committing war crimes and genocide. Due to the civil war, Sudan is now one of the largest humanitarian crises. Thousands of people have been killed and more than 12 million have been displaced since the past two years.

MI News Service, SACRAMENTO: American adolescents are facing a mounting mental health crisis, with two in five high school students reporting persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, according to newly released data highlighting the devastating impact of addictive screen use on young people's well-being. The 74, a nonprofit news organization covering education in the United States, published a commentary Tuesday highlighting the scale of the crisis. Citing new findings from the Coalition to Empower our Future, it reported that nearly 60 percent of parents consider their children's mental health to be "very or somewhat poor." The article highlights the fact that the quality of screen engagement, such as compulsive social media or phone use, is more detrimental than the

total time spent online. These behaviors, experts say, are contributing to deeply-rooted mental stress in U.S. youth.

This growing crisis gained scientific backing when researchers published groundbreaking findings in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* on June 18, tracking nearly 4,300 American children over four years. The study revealed that adolescents with addictive patterns of social media, mobile phone, or video game use face double the risk of suicidal behaviors compared to their peers with low addictive use.


Dr. Yunyu Xiao, assistant professor of population health sciences at Weill Cornell Medicine and lead author of the study, emphasized that "addictive use is crucial and is actually the underlying issue,

rather than just the amount of time spent." The research found that about 31 percent of participants developed increasingly addictive social media use patterns, while 25 percent showed similar trajectories with mobile phones. The study's findings challenge conventional wisdom about screen time limits. Total screen time at age 10 showed no association with later suicide-related outcomes, but children exhibiting compulsive usage patterns, characterized by inability to stop, distress when not using devices, or using screens to escape problems, demonstrated significantly higher risks.

These patterns begin early, with about half of the children reporting high addictive mobile phone use from the study's start that remained elevated through

early adolescence. For social media, about 40 percent of children showed high or increasingly addictive use patterns. The research revealed stark disparities in mental health outcomes. Highly addictive video game use showed the largest relative difference in internalizing symptoms, while increasing social media addiction correlated with the most significant externalizing behavioral problems. Children with high-peaking addictive social media use faced a higher risk of suicidal behavior of two to three times.

Moreover, the crisis extends beyond individual cases. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, one in five U.S. high school students seriously considered attempting suicide

<div>  <div> <div>State Bank Of India</div> <div> "Red Cross Buildings" 32, Red Cross Road, Egmore, Chennai-8. Phone: 044-2888 1007, E-mail ID: sbi.04105@sbi.co.in </div> </div> </div>		<div> <div>(RULE - 8 (1) POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY))</div> <p>Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on behalf of the State Bank of India, Axis Bank and HDFC Bank issued a Demand Notice dated 30.04.2025 calling upon the Borrower M/s Prakash Gold Palace Pvt Limited, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.182,52,03,502.08/- and interest from 30.04.2025 (Rupees One Hundred and Eighty Two Crore Fifty Two Lakhs Three Thousand Five Hundred and Two and paise Eighty Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.</p> <p>The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned on behalf of State Bank of India, Axis Bank and HDFC Bank has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this the 10th day of July of the year 2025.</p> <p>The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, Axis Bank and HDFC Bank for an amount of Rs. 1,88,15,00,991.24/- as on 09.07.2025 (as detailed in Schedule A).</p> <p>You are also liable to pay future interest at the contractual rate on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, cost, charges, etc.</p> <p>The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.</p> <p>SCHEDULE 'A': Name of Borrower: M/s. Prakash Gold Palace Pvt Limited.</p> </div>				
(i) State Bank of India		(Amt in Rs)				
S. No	Nature of Facility	A/c No	Outstanding as on 09.07.2025	Interest overdue as on 09.07.2025	Penal Interest	Total dues as on 09.07.2025
1	Cash Credit	10983148820	21,05,09,235.97	1,45,09,709.00	33,35,323.35	22,83,54,268.32
2	Working Capital Loan	43463286629	69,00,00,000.00	6,55,24,574.00	1,11,15,177.77	76,66,39,751.77
3	GECL	39971367239	5,14,30,985.00	30,31,820.00	-	5,44,62,805.00
Total Amt			95,19,40,220.97	8,30,66,103.00	1,44,50,501.12	1,04,94,56,825.09
(ii) Axis Bank Ltd		(Amt in Rs)				
S. No	Nature of Facility	Outstanding as on 09.07.2025	Interest overdue as on 09.07.2025	Penal Interest	Total dues as on 09.07.2025	
1	Cash Credit	7,00,88,807.15	49,07,662.10	7,00,000	7,56,96,469.25	
2	Working Capital Demand Loan (Sub limit of CC)	11,03,00,000.00	78,49,062.85	7,00,000	11,88,49,062.85	
3	Short Term Loan (under ECLGS)	2,30,53,731.82	13,16,292.80	7,00,000	2,50,70,024.62	
Total Amt		20,34,42,538.97	1,40,73,017.75	21,00,000.00	21,96,15,556.72	
(iii) HDFC Bank Ltd		(Amt in Rs)				
S. No	Nature of Facility	Outstanding as on 09.07.2025	Interest overdue as on 09.07.2025	Penal Interest	Total dues as on 09.07.2025	
1	Working Capital Demand Loan	35,31,62,270.40	1,72,22,707.98	37,03,84,978.38		
2	Cash Credit	23,08,36,403.69	1,12,57,227.36	24,20,93,631.05		
Total Amt		58,39,98,674.09	2,84,79,935.34	61,24,78,609.43		
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:						
Property owned by: M/s Prakash Gold Palace Pvt Limited ITEM 1 : PART A All that piece and parcel of land and building bearing Door No. 37, Previous Old No.4 Part, Damodaran Street, Vellala Teynampet, Chennai- 600 086, now bearing New No.124, Old No. 22B, Cathedral Road, Chennai- 600 086, comprised in C.C.No.1453, O.S.No.3125, R.S.No. 1300 Part, as per Patta R.S.No.1300/1, Block No. 26 of Miyalore/Teynampet Village, admeasuring 766 ½ sq.ft. and as per Patta- 712 sq.feet, Miyalore- Triplicane Taluk and BOUNDED ON THE North by : Mrs.Maria Susai House, R.S. No 1299, South by : Mr.Damodar Pillai's House, R.S.No 1301 Part, East by : Plot of land belongs to Mr.T.Mahadevasingh, then Damodar Street, West by : Cathedral Road, R.S.No.1302, MEASURING: North to South on the Eastern Side: 21 ½ feet, North to South on the Western Side: 15 Feet, East to West on the Northern Side: 45 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side: 39 Feet, And situate within the Registration District of Chennai-Central and Sub Registration District of Joint-I, Chennai-Central. PART B All that piece and parcel of land and building thereon bearing Old Door No.2, New No. 18, Damodaran Street, Teynampet, Gopalapuram, Chennai- 600 086 comprised in R.S.No. 1300 Part, as per Patta CA No. 240/64-65 dated 29.09.1964, R.S.No. 1300/2, Block No. 26 of Miyalore/Teynampet Village, admeasuring as per document 832 ½ sq.ft. and as per Patta- 723 sq.ft and BOUNDED ON THE North by : Mrs.Maria Susai House, R.S. No 1299, South by : Mr.Damodaran House, R.S.No 1301/1, East by : Damodaran Street, West by : Mr.Antony Devadas House, R.S.No. 1300/1, MEASURING: North to South : 22 ½ feet, And East to West : 37 feet, And situate within the Registration District of Chennai-Central and Sub Registration District of Joint-I, Chennai-Central. PART C All that piece and parcel of land and building thereon bearing Door No.13, Old No.1, Damodaran Street, Vellala Teynampet, Gopalapuram, Chennai-600 086, now bearing Door No.37/1, New No. 122, Cathedral Road, Chennai- 600 086, comprised in C.C.No.118, O.S.No.3125 R.S.No.1301/1, admeasuring 1 Ground 77 sq.ft., Patta No.466/1989, Block No.26 of Miyalore Village/ Division, Miyalore - Triplicane Taluk and BOUNDED ON THE North by : R.S.No. 1300 (1300/1 & 1300/2), South by : R.S.No 1301/2 & 1302, Cathedral Road, East by : R.S 1289 and West by : R.S.No. 1302. MEASURING: North to South on the Eastern Side: 42 Feet, North to South on the Western Side: 49 Feet, East to West on the Northern Side: 73 Feet, East to West on the Southern Side: 44 Feet, And situate within the Registration District of Chennai-Central and Sub Registration District of Joint-I, Chennai-Central. ITEM 2: All that piece and parcel of land measuring an extent of 1 Cottahs, 11 Chittahs, 28 sq. feet along with a Three Storied Brick built building built thereon having a total area of about 9000 sq. feet (3000 sq. feet in each floor) lying and situated with in Kolkata Municipal Corporation Ward No.2, Mouza Sinthee, Dhir- Panchannagram Division Sub-Division-15, Holding No.15, situate at Premises Nos. 8A and 8B, Raja Bagan Lane, Kolkata- 700 030 and situated within the Sub-Registration District of Cossipore Dum Dum, and Registration District of 24- Parganas(North) together with all rights of easement and other common rights and being buttressed and BOUNDED by North : Lands of Guha Brothers and of Sarala Bala Devi, South : Raja Bagan Lane, East : 6 feet wide common passage, West : Land of Jitendra Narayana Roy, ITEM 3 : All that southern part of house, ground and premises bearing Old Door No.82, New Door No.144, Purasawalkam High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai- 600010, comprised in O.S. Nos.60 and 64, Old R.S.No.3045 Present R.S.No.3045/2 land measuring an extent of 3349.50 sqft (as per Patta land measuring 1 ground and 926 sqft) BOUNDED ON THE North : Land and Building belonging to Mr. Y.D. Lakhani, South : Purasawalkam High Road, East : Land and Building belonging to Mr. Y.D. Lakhani, West : Private Road of the director of Vigilance, Measuring : North to South : 77 feet, East to West : 41 feet on the Northern side and 45 feet on the Southern side, Situated within the Sub Registration District of Purasawalkam and Registration District of Chennai North.						
<div> <div>(Authorised Officer)</div> <div> <div>Date: 10.07.2025 ;</div> <div>Place: Chennai</div> </div> </div> <div> <div>For and on behalf of STATE BANK OF INDIA</div> <div>& 2 Other Banks (HDFC Bank Ltd & Axis Bank Ltd)</div> </div>						

VANI, AMANDEEP, SNEHA TO HOLD SPOTLIGHT IN NINTH LEG OF WPGT

HOSUR (TAMIL NADU) : Vani Kapoor, who has won half of the eight events held so far on the 2025 Women's Pro Golf Tour, is back for more as she tees up at the ninth leg of the Tour this week. There are 35 players, including eight amateurs, in the Rs 15 lakh event at the Clover Greens, which is one of the many acclaimed courses in India. One of the most prolific winners in the history of the Tour, Vani is making a steady comeback to the Ladies European Tour as she showed with a Top-10 finish recently. Vani, who lost her card on the LET, could well regain it with a few strong performances. She admits that playing on the home Tour has strengthened her considerably and also improved her mental approach to the game. She has won four times and been in contention in a few others. Vani is in the group with Neha Tripathi and Snigdha Goswami. Like Vani, her friend Amandeep Drall is also taking advantage of the spells in between events on the LET, where she has played a few events this year. A winner already this year, Amandeep had a couple of fine rounds on the LET and will be looking forward to more. She is paired with Jahaanvie Walia in the opening two-ball in the ninth leg. Sneha Singh, who has also had a taste of the LET this year, is back on the local Tour and will play alongside amateur Keya K Badugu and Khushi Khanijau. Other names to look out for are Ridhima Dilawari, Rhea Purvi Saravanan, Jasmine Shekar, Vidhatri Urs and Lavanya Jadon. One of India's top amateurs, Saanvi Somu, is among the eight amateurs in the field.



AB de Villiers returns to action in WCL, tournament to start from July 18



BIRMINGHAM [UK] : This year's World Championship of Legends will witness the electrifying comeback of AB de Villiers, returning to the game after four years, alongside global icons like Yuvraj Singh, Shikhar Dhawan, Harbhajan Singh, Brett Lee, Chris Gayle, Kieron Pollard and Eoin Morgan--reigniting rivalries and reliving the magic that made them legends. Scheduled from July 18 to August 2 across Birmingham, Northampton, Leicester, and Leeds, WCL 2025 brings together the heroes of yesteryears in a grand summer spectacle sanctioned by the England and Wales

Joe Root reclaims top spot in ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings; dethrones Harry Brook

LONDON [UK] : Joe Root has reclaimed the top spot on the ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings after his stellar efforts helped England to a 22-run victory over India at Lord's, as per the official website of the ICC. Root (888 rating points) took back the number the No.1 spot off compatriot Harry Brook (862) thanks to scores of 104 and 40, as the hosts took a 2-1 lead in the five-match series. It's Root's eighth stint in the top spot, and at 34, he is the oldest batter at No.1 since a 37-year-old Kumar Sangakkara held the position in December 2014. Australian Steve Smith (816) also enjoyed a one-spot bump in the top 10, thanks to a gritty effort in a low-scoring affair in Jamaica against the West Indies. Smith made 48 in the tourists' victory, with teammate Cameron



Green making a 16-spot jump to 29th (619) thanks to scores of 46 and 42. Bowlers thrived under lights with the pink ball in the

Caribbean, with Scott Boland's six-wicket effort in the Test (and a hat-trick) leapfrogging him to a career-best sixth spot. His 62 Test wickets have come

at just 16.53 apiece, with only George Lohmann and Sydney Barnes, who played over 110 years ago, having taken more Test wickets at a better average.

Mitchell Starc's incredible effort, meanwhile didn't lead to a rankings move (remaining in 10th), though the left-armers did make ground on the nine bowlers above him, moving to 766 rating points and just one shy of Marco Jansen in ninth. It means Australia have five bowlers in the top 10 with Pat Cummins (third) and Josh Hazlewood (fourth) remaining in their positions following the dismantling of West Indies, and with Nathan Lyon moving down a spot to eighth after making way for Boland for the match. It gives Australia a domination in the rankings not seen since England had six bowlers in the top 12 in 1958. West Indies quicks also relished at Sabina Park, with Shamar Joseph (up 15 spots to 14th), Justin Greaves (up 15 spots

to 65th) and Alzarri Joseph (up two spots to 29th) also making moves. At Lord's, Washington Sundar (up 12 spots to 46th) was the most notable mover in India's meeting with England. Bowlers were also the movers in the latest T20I Player Rankings, with players across Sri Lanka and Bangladesh making noteworthy moves. Sri Lanka's Nuwan Thushara and Bangladesh's Rishad Hossain now sit in 16th and 17th, thanks to nine and 12-spot jumps respectively, with Binura Fernando entering the top 50 for the first time with a 22-spot jump. Dasun Shanaka made an eight-spot move to 22nd in the T20I All-Rounders, with Zimbabwe's Sikandar Raza moving two spots to 6th thanks to a quick-fire 54 not out against South Africa.

Six teams to battle for medals in Los Angeles Olympics in 2028



LOS ANGELES [US] : Six teams each in the men's and women's categories are set to battle for medals in an upcoming tournament. With 90 athlete quotas allocated for each tournament, participating nations can name squads of up to 15 members. Following the announcement of the confirmed number of teams and the venue for LA28 back in April, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has announced that the T20 competitions for the men's and women's categories at LA28 will run from July 12 to July 29, 2028.

The medal matches will be held on 20 July (women's) and 29 July (men's) respectively. The announcement marks another landmark moment for the sport, which will be making its second-ever Olympic appearance - 128 years after its debut in Paris 1900, when Great Britain claimed gold in a one-off match against France. All matches will be staged at the Pomona Fairplex, about 50 km from downtown Los Angeles. The format includes double-headers on most matchdays, with fixtures beginning at 9:00 AM

and 6:30 PM local time. The return of cricket to the Olympics signals another major step forward in the sport's global expansion, and to celebrate the game on one of the world's biggest sporting stages. The mode of qualification for the LA28 Olympic Games is yet to be confirmed, but will likely be discussed during the ICC's Annual Conference in Singapore starting on July 17. This is only the second time the sport has made an appearance at the Olympics since 1900. Back then, only two teams, Great Britain and France, had played a two-day match, with the former winning the gold medal. Cricket's inclusion in the Olympics demonstrates its growing popularity, with women's cricket making its Commonwealth Games debut in 2022 at Birmingham. Meanwhile, both men's and women's cricket have been part of the Asian Games programme since 2010, 2014, and 2023. Recently, during the ICC T20 World Cup last year, the USA co-hosted the event along with the West Indies, with Grand Prairie, LAuderhill, and New York hosting a number of matches. The Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York also hosted one of the biggest cricketing fixtures of the tournament, the clash between Asian arch-rivals India and Pakistan.

Hockey: Deepika scripts history, becomes first Indian to win Poligras Magic Skill Award

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Indian Women's Hockey Team forward Deepika created history by becoming the first-ever Indian player to win the prestigious Poligras Magic Skill Award as hockey fans from across the globe voted for her sensational solo field goal against the Netherlands during the Bhubaneswar leg of the 2024-25 FIH Hockey Pro League season, according to a press release from Hockey India. The 21-year-old attacker earned global recognition for her breathtaking run and finish in the 35th minute during India's match against World No.1 the Netherlands, which they won in a shootout after a 2-2 draw. With India trailing 0-2, Deepika cut through the Dutch defence down the left flank, dribbled along the baseline, dinked the ball over a defender's stick, and finished it past the goalkeeper to open the scoring for India. The Poligras Magic Skill Award celebrates the most creative and skilful moments in the FIH Hockey Pro League and is voted for by fans worldwide.



Deepika's goal was one of three women's nominations alongside Spain's Patricia Alvarez and Australia's women's team. The winner was decided entirely through a global fan vote, and Deepika emerged as the favourite, making a landmark achievement for Indian hockey. The men's award was won by Belgium's Victor Wegnez for his midfield brilliance, which led to a team goal against Spain. Upon winning the award, an elated Deepika said, as

quoted by Hockey India press release, "I am truly honoured to have won this award. Scoring that goal against a challenging opponent like the Netherlands was truly a special moment for me, and now receiving this recognition means a lot. I thank my teammates, coaches, family and friends who continue to support and inspire me every day." "This award isn't just mine, it belongs to Indian hockey. Let's keep pushing forward together," she added.

PV Sindhu's poor run continues with first-round exit at Japan Open



TOKYO [JAPAN] : Former world champion and two-time Olympic gold medalist shuttler PV Sindhu's poor form continued as she bowed out of the ongoing Japan Open in the first round itself following a loss to South Korea's Sim Yu Jin on Wednesday. As per Olympics.com, Sindhu was playing her first match since June's Indonesia Open, and the 16th-ranked shuttler went down to the world number 14 in two straight games by 21-15, 21-14. This was her first loss to Sim in their four matches. Sindhu's start was sluggish, and she was trailing by 9-3 in the opening game, but the Indian fought back to make it 13-12, only for her opponent to make a comeback and take a winning lead. The second game followed the same pattern as Sim raced to a 6-1 lead and Sindhu fought her way back to a 7-7 levelling, and later 11-11, but could not win the game. This marks another quick exit

for Sindhu, who has had a poor 2025 so far, with her best finish being a quarterfinal run at the Indian Open back in January. Since then, she has faced four first-round exits and two pre-quarterfinal finishes. Earlier, India's top men's singles and doubles contenders advanced to the Round of 16 at the Japan Open 2025, with Lakshya Sen and the duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty notching straight-game victories in their opening matches on Wednesday. Sen produced a composed performance to defeat China's Wang Zheng Xing 21-11, 21-18, setting up a second-round clash with Japanese star and home favourite Kodai Naraoka, as per a press release from BAI Media. In men's doubles, Satwik and Chirag made a strong start to their campaign, easing past South Korea's Kang Min-hyuk and Ki Dong-ju 21-18, 21-10 to move into the last 16. (ANI)

RCB's Jitesh Sharma moves from Vidarbha to Baroda ahead of 2025-26 domestic season

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) wicketkeeper-batter Jitesh Sharma has moved from Vidarbha to Baroda ahead of the 2025-26 Indian domestic cricket season, according to ESPNcricinfo. The 31-year-old cricketer, who did not feature in any Ranji Trophy matches during the 2024-25 season, was part of Vidarbha's white-ball squads, led by Indian batter Karun Nair. With Jitesh's close relationship to Baroda captain Krunal Pandya, his Royal Challengers Bengaluru teammate during their first IPL championship earlier this year, it is believed that the transfer to Baroda has been in the works for some time. The two shared a successful stint during RCB's title-winning IPL 2025 campaign, where he came out as a dependable finisher and even captained the side in Rajat Patidar's absence. Since making his debut in the 2015-16 season, Jitesh has managed to feature in just 18 first-class games over the past ten seasons. He averages a modest 24.48 with four half-centuries. His most recent first-class game came nearly 18 months ago. Earlier in the year, Jitesh led from the front with a blistering 85 not out off just 33 deliveries, peppered with eight boundaries and six towering sixes helped RCB to script history by pulling off the third-highest successful run chase in the Indian Premier League history, overhauling a daunting 228-run target against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) with eight balls to spare. The unbeaten 107-run stand between captain Jitesh Sharma and opener Mayank Agarwal proved to be the defining partnership in RCB's six-wicket triumph, the highest-ever total chased at Lucknow.

Crisis in Caribbean cricket: David Lloyd calls for fairer distribution to save teams like West Indies

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : West Indies cricket plunged to a new low during the third Test against Australia at Kingston, where they were bowled out for just 27 runs, the second-lowest total in Test history. The dismal display has further highlighted the long-standing struggles of the once-mighty cricketing powerhouse. The team's poor showing wasn't an isolated incident. West Indies have failed to find consistency throughout the World Test Championship (WTC) cycles, finishing eighth in all three editions. Their red-ball cricket has looked increasingly out of sync with the

demands of the modern game, and their decline continues to hurt the global Test cricket ecosystem. Adding to the concerning trend is the growing number of players prioritising franchise T20 cricket over international commitments. Nicholas Pooran, once seen as the future of Caribbean cricket, retired from international cricket at just 29, though he continues to shine in various T20 leagues across the globe. Cricket legend Brian Lara has voiced his concern over the changing mindset among players on the Stick to Cricket podcast.



He said, "We played first-class cricket and some of us even played county cricket to try to get

into the West Indies team. We are now using the WI as a stepping stone you know to, as a stage for

us, to get contracts around (for franchise cricket circuit) and that is not a fault of the player you know..." Lara's words reflect the stark contrast between past generations that aspired for Test greatness and the present crop, many of whom use international appearances as a launchpad for lucrative T20 opportunities. The decline isn't limited to the longest format. Since winning the T20 World Cup in 2016, West Indies haven't clinched a major ICC title. Their failure to qualify for the 2023 ODI World Cup marked another blow, symbolis-

ing a system struggling to produce results across formats. The cricketing world is beginning to see the imbalance that may be contributing to this downfall. Former England all-rounder David Lloyd pointed fingers at the structural inequalities in global cricket. Speaking on the Stick to Cricket podcast, he said, "The big three (England, Australia and India), that can't be right that they take all the money, they get the big broadcast deals. You've got to have a more even distribution to allow West Indies, New Zealand, Sri Lanka to compete."