



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses a coordination meeting with the organisers of Durga Puja committees, where she announces a Rs 1.10 lakh grant to the organisers, at Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata on Thursday. Pic Prabir Bhattacharya

Mamata Banerjee announces Rs 1.10 Lakh grant for Durga Puja committees in Bengal, orders 80% power bill rebate

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid thunderous applause from the representatives of Durga Puja committees, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday announced a substantial hike in government support for Durga Puja celebrations this year, announcing a grant of Rs 1.10 lakh for each Puja committee—an increase of Rs 25,000 from last year. In addition the Puja organisers will receive an 80% rebate on electricity bills. All fire licence and other government fees are also being waived, underscoring the state's commitment to preserving the festival's grandeur and its recognition as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, she said..

The announcement came during a high-level coordination meeting with over 45,000 Puja organisers in the state, at Netaji Indoor Stadium on Thursday.

Fulfilling her promise to support Bengal's biggest festival, Mamata Banerjee announced a substantial increase in the government grant for Puja organizers this year. Last year each Puja committee received Rs 85,000. Today's announcement of the Chief minister was met with widespread applause and relief from thousands of Puja organizers from across

the state, most of whom were present at the coordination meeting. .

Extending her early Durga Puja greetings, the Chief Minister declared that the procession for the immersion after the four day puja, will take place on October 2, 3, and 4, followed by a grand carnival on October 5.

Reiterating her commitment, Mamata Banerjee noted that the grant has been increased by Rs 25,000 this year. Although she had earlier promised to increase the grant to Rs 1 lakh this year, but surprising everybody this time she exceeded that amount by Rs10,000 more.. Moreover, she instructed the CESC and the West Bengal State Electricity Board to offer an 80% discount on electricity charges for the Puja committees.

Unlike last year, this year the Durga Puja festival will be celebrated in the last week of September. In light of the preparations, the Chief minister convened today's meeting where apart from all senior administrative officials, senior functionaries of KMC, police, fire services, health department, transport authorities, and other utility service providers were present. .

"Durga Puja is the festival of our hearts. When UNESCO recognized it as part of the world's Intangible Cultural Heritage, it became all of our responsibility to preserve that honour," Mamata Banerjee said. Addressing criticism, she said "Some go to court claiming that I don't allow Puja or Saraswati Puja to take place. Why shouldn't we support a festival that provides employment to countless workers and brings neighborhoods together?"

Since assuming the office of the Chief minister in 2011, Mamata Banerjee has cultivated a socio-cultural ecosystem around Durga Puja. From government aid to traffic management, women's safety initiatives like Pink Police, and health services, the state plays a pivotal role in festival logistics. She has directed that all safety measures be tightened again this year—urging installation of drones, CCTV cameras, and watchtowers, especially for crowd control at popular puja pandals. She also emphasized the safety of women and senior citizens in and around all pandals

During the meeting, she warned against dangerous crowd-pulling themes, stating, "Do not create themes that could lead to

stampedes. Human lives are more important than competition."

She also announced the carnival on October 5 and stressed the need for utmost coordination among the police, transportation, and health services. "There must be round the clock surveillance at bus stands and ferry ghats, mobile patrolling, and 24x7 open control rooms. I myself stay awake through the night to monitor everything," she said.

Mamata Banerjee also instructed the transport department to increase the number of buses on streets. The Chief Secretary has been asked to coordinate with Metro Railway for extended their operating hours and ensure that suburban trains also run for a much longer period with increased frequency even during the Puja nights. Hospitals have been advised to remain fully prepared.

She concluded, "There are 45,000 clubs organizing Puja. Let's not just highlight Bobby (Firhad Hakim), Aroop (Biswas), or Sujit' (Bose)'s Pujas—let's give everyone a platform."

Finally, she reiterated that Puja is not just a religious event but a celebration of community, culture, and livelihood—one that reflects the true spirit of Bengal.

3.3 magnitude tremor hits Gujarat's Kutch, no reports of damage so far

MI News Service, Ahmedabad: Within 24 hours of a massive 8.7 magnitude earthquake struck the eastern Kamchatka region of Russia, a relatively mild tremor of 3.3 magnitude hit Gujarat's Kutch district on Thursday morning, the Institute of Seismological Research (ISR) said. A tremor of 3.3 magnitude hit Gujarat's Kutch district on Thursday morning, the ISR in a statement said later in the day. The tremor was recorded at 9.52 am this morning, with its epicentre located 16 km south-south west of Bela in the Gandhinagar district, the ISR said. No casualty or damage to property has so far been reported from the tremor affected region, a district disaster response official said. Kutch district is located in a "very high risk" seismic zone, and earthquakes of lower intensity occur regularly there. The 2001 earthquake in Kutch was the third largest and second most destructive in India over the last two centuries when a large number of towns and villages in the district suffered almost complete destruction, killing over 13,800 people and leaving more than 1.67 lakh injured.

PM Modi, UAE prez stress on deepening collaboration between two countries

MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan have laid emphasis on further developing and deepening the collaboration between two countries for the shared benefit of the peoples of both the nations, a statement said on Thursday.

Both leaders spoke over the phone and reaffirmed their mutual commitment to further strengthening the bilateral Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between India



and the UAE. They positively assessed the remarkable progress made across various sectors of bilateral cooperation and laid emphasis on further developing and deepening collaboration for the shared benefit of the peoples of both countries.

The statement said Sheikh Mohamed warmly congratulated PM Modi on becoming the second longest-serving prime minister in a continuous tenure in India, and wished him continued success in his service to the nation.

Seven who faced trial on charges of terrorist act in 2008 Malegaon blast case

MI News Service, Mumbai: The 2008 Malegaon blast case, one of the country's longest-running terror cases, saw seven persons facing trial on charges of committing a terrorist act under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and for murder and criminal conspiracy under IPC.

An explosive device strapped to a motorcycle went off near a mosque in the Malegaon town, located about 200 km from Mumbai, on September 29, 2008 killing six persons and injuring 101 others.

The prosecution had alleged the blast was carried out by right wing extremists and that their intent was to establish 'Aryawrat' (Hindu Rash-

tra). A total of 14 persons were arrested in the case but only seven faced trial, as the remaining seven were discharged from the case at the time of framing of charges. A special court on Thursday acquitted all the seven accused, including former BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur and Lt Colonel Prasad Purohit, noting there was no evidence to warrant their conviction. The seven accused who faced trial are A) Pragya Singh Thakur: She was arrested in October 2008 by the initial probe agency -- Maharashtra Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS) -- after it was alleged that the motorbike on which the bomb was planted was registered under her

name. The prosecution had claimed Thakur also attended a meeting in Bhopal with the co-accused in the case where it was discussed that revenge should be taken against the Muslim community for carrying out a blast in Malegaon in 2006. During this meeting, Thakur allegedly said she would provide manpower for carrying out a blast. After the National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the probe into the case, it sought to give a clean chit to Thakur in 2016. A special court, however, refused and said Thakur will have to face trial. Thakur spent more

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Kamchatka earthquake is among top 10 strongest ever recorded



MI News Service, Moscow / New Delhi : At about 11:30 am local time on Wednesday, a magnitude 8.8 earthquake struck off the coast of Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula in the country's far east. Originating at a depth of roughly 20 kilometres, the powerful earth-

quake – among the ten strongest in recorded history and the largest worldwide since 2011 – has caused building damage and injuries in the largest nearby city, Petropavlosk-Kamchatsky, just 119 kilometres from the epicentre. Tsunami warnings and

evacuations have reverberated through Russia, Japan and Hawaii, with advisories issued for the Philippines, Indonesia, and as far away as New Zealand and Peru. The Pacific region is highly prone to

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

India, Russia can take their 'dead economies' down together, remarks US President Trump

MI News Service, Washington (DC) / New Delhi : Dropping yet another bombshell by hitting out both India and Russia, US President Donald Trump has once again came down heavily on both the countries for their close ties and said he doesn't care "what New India does with Moscow".

They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care, he said in a fresh social media post, hours after announcing 25 per cent plus tariffs on imports from India.

"I don't care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care," he said.

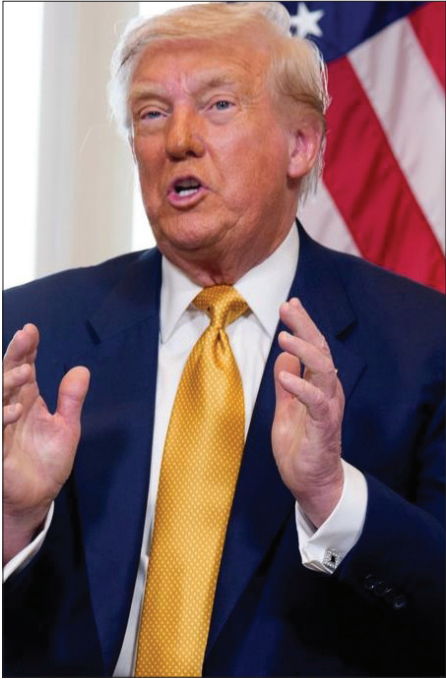
A day after announcing 25 per cent tariffs on imports from India, President Trump in his usual flare has once again dropped yet another bombshell, hitting out both India and Russia, and reiterated that the two "can take their dead economies down together, for all I care. We have done very little business with India, their tariffs are too high, among the highest in the world. Likewise, Russia and the USA do almost no business together. Let's keep it that way," he said in a post on Truth Social on Thursday.

The US President also targeted former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev for warning that Washington DC's "ultimatum game" with Russia could lead to war. "...and tell Medvedev, the failed former President of Russia, who thinks he's still President, to watch his words. He's entering very dangerous territory," the US President said.

The US President's remarks come a day after he announced 25 per cent tariffs on imports from India, plus a penalty for New Delhi's purchases from Russia.

"Remember, while India is our friend, we have, over the years, done relatively little business with them because their tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the World, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers of any Country," Trump said, adding that the US has a "massive" trade deficit with India.

Disapproving of New Delhi's defence deals with Moscow, the US President said India has "always bought a vast majority



of their military equipment from Russia". They "are Russia's largest buyer of energy, along with China, at a time when everyone wants Russia to stop the killing in Ukraine."

Since the war in Ukraine began, the Western powers have repeatedly scoffed at India buying Russian oil. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has articulated the Indian position on this subject and said it was merely trying to get the best deal for its citizens. He has also pointed to the double standards of the West, saying that it needs to grow out of the mindset that "Europe's problems are the world's problems, but the world's problems are not Europe's problems."

"The Government will take all steps necessary to secure our national interest, as has been the case with other trade agreements including the latest Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the UK," the government said. Trump's fire at Medvedev, who has

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

India, Brazil hold key meet to boost defence ties, military cooperation

MI News Service, New Delhi / Brasilia: India and Brazil have emphasised the need to enhance military cooperation and defence industry ties between the two countries, besides bolstering the regional security in Indo-Pacific region and Latin America.

A comprehensive decision in this regard was taken at the 8th Joint Defence Committee meeting in the Brazilian capital Brasilia on Thursday, the Indian Defence Ministry sources here said .

"Led by Shri Vishwesh Negi, Joint Secretary (IC) and Maj Gen Willain Koji Kamei, Deputy Chief of Policy and Strategy, the talks focused on boosting military cooperation, training, defence industry ties and regional security in Indo-Pacific and Latin America," the ministry said in a post on X.

Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva have also agreed to almost double two-way trade to USD 20 billion over the next five years

India and Brazil have forged a new strategic roadmap to strengthen bilateral

ties over the next decade based on five key pillars, including defence and security, food security, energy transition, digital transformation and industrial partnerships in strategic areas.

The roadmap was finalised during a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in Brasilia a few daysago. The two leaders had agreed during their meeting to almost double two-way trade to \$20 billion over the next five years.

The two leaders tasked authorities to conclude four bilateral agreements as soon as possible, including an agreement on mutual legal assistance in civil matters and memorandums of understanding (MoUs) on defense industry cooperation, sports cooperation, and archival cooperation, according to a joint statement issued after the meeting. The two sides had finalised several important agreements during Tuesday's meeting, including agreements on combating

■ ■ Continued on Page 3

Amarnath Yatra resumes on Baltal axis in valley, but remains suspended from Jammu

MI News Service, Srinagar: The Amarnath Yatra resumed from the Baltal axis in the Kashmir valley on Thursday but has remained suspended from Jammu due to inclement weather conditions. No fresh batch of pilgrims was allowed to proceed from Jammu to the cave shrine in the South Kashmir Himalayas this morning because of the present adverse situation, officials said. In view of maintenance works on the Pahalgam axis of the Amarnath Yatra route following the rains, the yatra will continue only through the Baltal axis. Accordingly, the annual Yatra resumed from the Baltal axis at the wee hours on Thursday, a day after it was suspended due to heavy rains, while the yatra remains suspended from the Pahalgam axis as urgent maintenance and repair works have to be carried out on the route, official sources said. Torrential rains in Kashmir had rendered the roads unsafe, following which the pilgrimage was suspended on both the Baltal and Pahalgam routes on Wednesday.

"The yatra resumed this morning from the Baltal route," said an official, adding, "In view of maintenance works required to be carried out on the Pahalgam axis of Amarnath Yatra route following the recent rains, the yatra shall

continue only through Baltal axis." The official said that no convoy movement would be allowed towards the Baltal and Nunwan base camps from Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Thursday. So far, more than 3.93 lakh yatrīs have paid obeisance at the holy cave shrine this year. The annual yatra that began on July 3 will culminate of August 9.

With incessant rain lashing several parts of Jammu and Kashmir, roads towards the cave became unsafe to travel even for experienced pilgrims. In view of that holy pilgrimage was suspended on both the tracks Baltal and Pahalgam yesterday. No new batch of devotees was allowed to depart from Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu to holy 'Baba Barfani' nestled in South Kashmir's Himalayas on Thursday morning. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar Jangid has said that owing to incessant rain, the safe movement of pilgrims has been affected from Base Camps in Kashmir, adding, given that the yatra will be halted from Jammu.

Incidentally, this is the second time that the pilgrimage has been halted. On July 17, the yatra was suspended due to heavy rains at the twin base camps (Baltal and Pahalgam) in Kashmir.

Mayor inaugurates 32 modern food stalls in Kolkata’s Russell Street, Ward No. 63

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant initiative to support Food Business Operators (FBOs), the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has inaugurated 32 newly constructed food stalls in Ward No. 63, Russell Street. The stalls were formally handed over to local vendors, marking a progressive step in the city’s efforts to formalise and uplift street food businesses. Kolkata Mayor and West Bengal Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Minister Firhad Hakim graced the occasion and personally felicitated the vendors prior to the official handover of the stalls. The event was presided over by Ward 63 Councillor and Borough VII Chairperson Sushmita Bhattacharya Chatterjee, who warmly welcomed dignitaries and attendees. The event witnessed the presence of several key officials, including KMC Deputy Mayor Atin Ghosh, who is also MMIC



tated the vendors prior to the official handover of the stalls. The event was presided over by Ward 63 Councillor and Borough VII Chairperson Sushmita Bhattacharya Chatterjee, who warmly welcomed dignitaries and attendees. The event witnessed the presence of several key officials, including KMC Deputy Mayor Atin Ghosh, who is also MMIC

who warmly welcomed dignitaries and attendees. The event witnessed the presence of several key officials, including KMC Deputy Mayor Atin Ghosh, who is also MMIC

(Health) and MLA, along with Debashesh Kumar, MMIC (Parks & Gardens, Sports, Advertisements, Parking, and Hawkers’ Rehabilitation Scheme). Also in attendance were Coun-

cillor Asim Bose, Borough VI Chairperson Sana Ahmed, Borough IV Chairperson Sadhana Bose, and several other councillors. Adding to the event’s significance, State Food Safety Commissioner Tapan Kanti Rudra and FSSAI Eastern Region Director Col Sujay Kumar were also present, underscoring the importance of food safety and hygiene in public food vending. This initiative reflects the KMC’s ongoing commitment to structured urban development and the economic empowerment of street vendors.

Life imprisonment with Rs. 60 thousand fine in Shantipur child murder case



MI News Service, Nadia: In a major breakthrough in a horrific child murder case that had shocked the Santipur area in 2022, the Additional District Judge (ADJ) Court of Ranaghat on Thursday pronounced the punishment of life imprisonment with fine of Rs. 60 thousand to one Abdul Gaffar Sk. He was convicted on Tuesday under Sections 363, 365, 302, and 201 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The incident occurred on December 22,

2022, at around 4:45 pm, when the accused, Abdul Gaffar Sk, son of Late Abdul Rahim Sk and a resident of Hijuli, Bagachra, under Santipur Police Station in Nadia district, kidnapped a 4-year-old girl with malicious intent. He was apprehended the same day by the Santipur police. During interrogation, Gaffar confessed to the brutal murder of the child, strangling her and repeatedly banging her head against the floor. He further revealed that he had dumped the victim’s body in a nearby mustard field in an attempt to destroy evidence. The case took a further dramatic turn when the accused escaped from Ranaghat Sub-Divisional Hospital during a routine medical check-up while in custody. He was re-arrested a few days later while allegedly planning to harm key witnesses in the case. Police initiated a swift and meticulous investigation and submitted a de-

tailed chargesheet in the court. The efforts of the investigating team of S.I. Syed Aminul Islam (I.O.), S.I. Moniruzzaman (Holding I.O.), and Assistant Public Prosecutor Apurb Bhadra have been widely appreciated for their diligence in handling this sensitive and grave case. Given the heinous nature of the crime and the accused’s criminal mindset, the conviction was hailed as a significant step towards justice.

tailer chargesheet in the court. The efforts of the investigating team of S.I. Syed Aminul Islam (I.O.), S.I. Moniruzzaman (Holding I.O.), and Assistant Public Prosecutor Apurb Bhadra have been widely appreciated for their diligence in handling this sensitive and grave case. Given the heinous nature of the crime and the accused’s criminal mindset, the conviction was hailed as a significant step towards justice.

MLA’s verbal attack at protest raises eyebrows in Khanakul

MI News Service, Hooghly: Tensions escalated in the Chingra area of Khanakul on Wednesday when a local MLA publicly confronted the manager of a cooperative society, accusing him of corruption and financial irregularities. The incident occurred during a protest held outside the cooperative office, where a memorandum was also submitted to the authorities demanding accountability.

The legislator, visibly agitated, lashed out at the society’s manager, accusing him of misusing funds meant for farmers and engaging in questionable activities. The MLA’s remarks, which included statements such as “Is it your father’s money?” in reference to alleged fund misuse, quickly went viral and sparked intense public debate over language used in political discourse. Eyewitnesses reported that the MLA called for the manager to be restrained, citing local anger and frustration. The protestors, comprising local residents and farmers, echoed concerns about longstanding grievances with the cooperative society’s functioning. When questioned about the tone and language used, the MLA defended the remarks, saying, “This is not abusive language—it is the voice of the people. Women in this area are in tears. They have repeatedly approached authorities, submitted complaints to the administration, and still nothing has been done. The anger is real.” The incident has drawn criticism from various quarters, with some terming the MLA’s approach as “unbecoming” and “provocative.” A local administrative representative criticized the conduct, stating, “Such behavior does not reflect responsible leadership. If there are genuine grievances, they must be addressed through proper channels.” However, many residents stood by the MLA, claiming that their concerns have gone unheard for far too long. “People are angry. If leaders don’t speak up on behalf of the people, who will?” said a local villager present at the protest. The incident has reignited discussions about public accountability in rural cooperatives and the appropriateness.



The West Bengal Pradesh Congress holds a protest rally in support of Bengali language rights and against the alleged oppression of Bengali-speaking people in BJP-ruled states. The rally started from Jorasanko Thakurbari and concluded at College Street in Kolkata.

Fake technician steals surgical gear across Bengal

MI News Service, Bakura: A man impersonating a medical technician has been arrested for allegedly stealing expensive equipment from several governmental hospitals across West Bengal. The accused, identified as Sameer Mondal, was apprehended by Bishupur police station from the Chowhati Rajpur Bazar area in Sonarpur, South 24 Parganas.

The arrest followed a complaints lodged on April

3 by Bisnupur District hospital in Bakura. According to the hospital authorities, the accused entered the Obstetrics and Gynaecology department on April 1 under the pretext of repairing medical equipment. He subsequently stole critical parts from high-value surgical devices. Bishnupur Police launched an investigation soon after receiving the complaint and, through surveillance and intelligence sources, tracked

down the accused. Interrogation revealed that Sameer Mondal was previously employed as a technician specializing in the repair of advanced laparoscopic surgical equipment, granting him in-depth knowledge of the machinery he targeted. Investigators have learned that Sameer Mondal had previously stolen similar medical equipment from government hospitals under Domkal, Jhargram, Kalna,

and Kandi police jurisdictions. He reportedly sold the stolen parts on the black market at high prices. Police suspect that Mondal may be part of a larger network involved in the theft and illegal sale of medical equipment. Authorities are continuing their investigation and plan to take the accused into custody for further interrogation to uncover the full extent of the operation and any possible accomplices.

Paper trail scam: Bangladeshi youth fakes family ties for ID

MI News Service, North 24 Parganas: A controversy has erupted in Bagda over allegations that a Bangladeshi national illegally obtained Indian identity documents—including a voter ID, Aadhaar card, and even a passport—by falsely claiming a deceased man as his father. The incident has raised serious concerns about the integrity of voter registration and identity verification in the border regions of West Bengal.

The accused, identified as Rocky Mondal, is alleged to have entered India illegally from Bangladesh. According to a formal complaint filed with the Block Development Officer (BDO), District Magistrate (DM), and the Election Commission, Rocky secured Indian citizenship documents by claiming to be the son of Ayeb Mondal, a deceased resident of Ramnagar under Bagda police station. The complaint was lodged by Santu Mistry, President of the BJP’s Regional Refugee Cell in Boyra Gram Panchayat. Mistry alleges that Rocky fabricated his documents and was



even included in the official voter list—raising concerns of voter fraud ahead of upcoming electoral revisions. Adding to the controversy, Amena Mondal, daughter-in-law of the late Ayeb Mondal, stated, “My father-in-law passed away long ago. Rocky used to visit us occasionally while he was alive, but we have no idea how he managed to list himself as his son. He is originally from

Bangladesh, and we’ve had no contact with him for nearly two decades.” The complainant further accused local Trinamool Congress (TMC) leaders of being complicit in facilitating such document forgeries in exchange for money, allegedly to build vote banks. Responding to the allegations, TMC leader Paritosh Saha said, “It is not the duty of Trinamool leaders to monitor who is falsely claiming parentage to make voter cards. If the allegations are proven, the vote should be canceled. The BJP often makes baseless claims for political mileage.” Meanwhile, Santu Mistry claimed that Rocky has married an Indian woman and is currently absconding after reports of the incident emerged. He demanded an impartial investigation into the matter and urged authorities to revoke the alleged illegal documents immediately. The incident has reignited the debate over cross-border infiltration, identity fraud, and the integrity of the electoral process in West Bengal’s border districts.

BENGAL

BSF recovers gold worth Rs.44 lakh near India-Bangladesh border in Nadia

MI News Service, Nadia: In a major crackdown on cross-border smuggling, the Border Security Force (BSF) recovered gold worth over 44 lakh near the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal’s Nadia district on Tuesday. According to BSF South Bengal Frontier officials, based on prior intelligence inputs, troops launched a search operation near the Bainjathpur border outpost. The area goes under Nadia’s Naka-shipur police limits. After a prolonged search, a suspi-

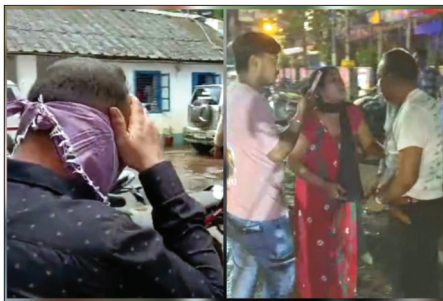


cious black packet was found hidden in a bush approximately 50 metres from the international border. On opening the packet, BSF personnel discovered four pieces of gold of various shapes and sizes, weighing

a total of 439.23 grams. The seized gold is estimated to be worth Rs. 44,40,615 in the market. “This successful operation once again highlights the alertness and commitment of our troops towards stopping cross-border smuggling,” said a spokesperson from the South Bengal Frontier. BSF has urged residents in border areas to report any suspicious activity through its dedicated ‘Seema Sathi’ helpline number 14419 or via WhatsApp on 9903472227.

Nadia Civic Volunteer Arrested for Allegedly Cheating Woman with False Marriage Promise

MI News Service, Nadia: In a dramatic turn of events amidst drizzling rain in Krishnanagar, Nadia district, traffic came to a standstill on Thursday morning as a woman grabbed a civic volunteer by the collar in the middle of the road, accusing him of cheating and threatening her under the pretext of being “a police officer.” According to eyewitnesses, the woman shouted, “You threatened me saying you’re with the police. Now face the consequences.” Locals soon intervened, and in the ensuing chaos, reportedly roughed up the civic volunteer before police arrived on the scene. The woman, a young resident of Nadia, later lodged a written complaint at the Krishnanagar Kotwali police station, alleging that the civic volunteer engaged in a two-year physical relationship with her under the promise of marriage. During this time, she claims, she was kept in a rented house in Krishnanagar by the accused. The complaint further states that the civic volunteer took several lakhs of rupees and gold jewellery from her over time. When she demanded marriage, the accused reportedly began abusing her both mentally and physically and even threatened to kill her if she went public with the matter. More recently, the woman alleged, the accused



forcefully took away her ornaments and money again, and when she protested, he threatened her with “police action,” claiming his ties with law enforcement. Based on her complaint, police arrested the civic volunteer and produced him before the Krishnanagar Court on Thursday afternoon. The accused has been remanded in police custody for further investigation. “I am living in fear every moment,” the complainant told the media. “He used his position to manipulate and silence me. I just want justice.” The Krishnanagar police have started an investigation and said they are verifying the woman’s claims, including any financial transactions and the period of cohabitation.

Missing teen found hanging in abandoned house

MI News Service, South 24 Parganas: A 16-year-old boy’s body was found hanging in an abandoned house in Kundakhali village, two days after he went missing, leaving the community in shock and fear. The teenager disappeared on Monday, and a neighbor made the gruesome discovery on Wednesday morning.

Police quickly arrived at the scene, cordoned off the area, and sent the body for a post-mortem to determine the cause of death. The boy’s family, including his grandfather Sushanta Dutta, and other locals like Ajit Halder, expressed disbelief. They stated the boy had no known enemies or personal disputes. While police

haven’t ruled out suicide, they are treating the death as suspicious. Forensic teams are expected to investigate the abandoned house, a place locals seldom approached. The circumstances of his disappearance and the discovery have raised chilling questions for residents: Why did he go to the house, and was he alone?

The entire village is now waiting for answers as the police investigation continues, hoping to solve the mystery surrounding the teenager’s tragic death. The eerie setting of the abandoned house and the sudden discovery of the boy’s body have only deepened the unsettling feeling in the community.

No Road, No Ambulance: Patients carried on cot in Bankura

MI News Service, Bankura: A disturbing scene from Beldanga village in the Indpur block of Bankura district has once again highlighted the plight of rural Bengal during the monsoon. An elderly patient had to be carried on a makeshift rope cot after an ambulance refused to enter the village due to the deplorable condition of the access road. The 3-kilometre stretch connecting Noida intersection of Brajrajpur Gram Panchayat to Beldanga village—and serving several other villages including Dhansat, Ilambazar, Mallikidhi, Noida, and Janara—has been in a severely damaged state for years. With

no proper drainage or surfacing, the unpaved road becomes nearly impassable during the rainy season. Locals report that water levels often rise to knee-deep, creating deep potholes and muddy pits that render four-wheelers, including emergency vehicles, unable to access the area. Despite repeated appeals to the administration, villagers claim no action has been taken to improve the condition of the road. As a result, residents—including school children—are forced to walk or cycle through treacherous conditions every day. The situation reached a critical point when an elderly villager

fell seriously ill. Attempts to summon an ambulance failed, as the vehicle operators declined to drive through the flooded, mud-ridden path. Ultimately, locals carried the patient on a traditional rope cot to the main road, from where they arranged further transport to a healthcare facility. This incident has sparked outrage among residents and raised urgent questions about infrastructure negligence and the accessibility of emergency services in rural areas. Locals now wait to see whether the administration will finally respond with concrete action to restore the lifeline road that connects several villages.

AI-Generated tiger video sparks panic in Kadambagchi school, attendance drops

MI News Service, North 24 Parganas: A government school in the Kadambagchi panchayat area witnessed an unexpected wave of panic and confusion after a video showing three tigers roaming its premises went viral on social media. The visuals, which appeared realistic, led many parents to stop sending their children to school out of fear for their safety. The incident took place at Ula Kalsara Kadaria High Madrasa, where a video circulated online showed three tigers prowling across the school’s verandas. Concerned parents, upon seeing the clip, contacted the school authorities and raised alarm over the supposed presence of wild animals. However, the school later clarified that the video was created using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and was entirely fictional. Headmaster Monirul Mallick confirmed that the video had been made by Mohammad Yamin Mallick, an assistant geography teacher at the institution.

“The video was not real. It was created using AI. After receiving concerned calls from guardians, we investigated and spoke to the teacher who made it. The video was then deleted immediately,” said the headmaster. In his defense, geography teacher Mohammad Yamin Mallick stated that the video was intended as a creative educational tool. “The purpose was to teach students about the digital world and how not everything they see on social media is real. We brought in virtual tigers to grab attention and encourage critical thinking beyond textbooks,” he said. He added, “I regret that the experiment caused panic among students and parents. There are no tigers or any form of wildlife threat on the school premises. I apologize for the unintended consequences.” The incident has raised discussions on the responsible use of AI in educational settings, especially in sensitive environments like schools.

India, Russia can take their 'dead...

►► From PG 1

served as Russia's president and prime minister and is currently the Deputy Chairman of its Security Council, follows a post on X in which he flagged Trump's "ultimatum game" with Russia. "Each new ultimatum is a threat and a step towards war. Not between Russia and Ukraine, but with (Trump's) own country," he said. The remark had followed Trump expressing disappointment over Russian President Vladimir Putin's failure to end the war in Ukraine. The US President had said he was reducing the deadline for a peace settlement from 50 days to 10 or 12.

Trump's outburst comes against another backdrop. Shortly after announcing the tariffs on New Delhi, the US President said he had struck a deal with Pakistan, to jointly develop its oil reserves. "We have just concluded a Deal with the Country of Pakistan, whereby Pakistan and the United States will work together on developing their massive Oil Reserves...We are in the process of choosing the Oil Company that will lead this Partnership," Trump wrote on social media. This comes at a time when ties between New Delhi and Islamabad are at an all-time low after the Pahalgam terror attack.

India, Brazil hold key meet to...

►► From PG 1

international terrorism and transnational organised crime and on the exchange and mutual protection of classified information. They also signed memorandum of understanding (MoUs) on cooperation in renewable energy, sharing large-scale solutions for digital transformation and intellectual property. The joint statement said the new strategic roadmap will build on economic and technological complementarities between India and Brazil, and will be based on five pillars - defence and security, food and nutritional security, energy transition and climate change, digital transformation and emerging technologies, and industrial partnerships in strategic areas. The new agreement on exchange and mutual protection of classified information will facilitate deeper cooperation in strategic areas, while the establishment of a cyber-security dialogue will deepen cooperation through exchange of information and national perspectives on cybersecurity issues. In the context of counter-terror cooperation, Modi expressed appreciation to Brazil for its strong condemnation of

the Pahalgam terror attack and both leaders condemned terrorism, including cross-border terrorism and violent extremism. While welcoming the new agreement on cooperation in combating international terrorism, both sides stressed the need for a united international response to terrorism. "The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate in preventing and combating transnational organised crime and terrorism," the joint statement said. Modi and Lula called for concerted actions against all UN-designated terrorists and terrorist entities, including those designated by the Security Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee, such as Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM). "The leaders reaffirmed strong commitment to continue taking active measures to disrupt the terror financing channels including at the UN and FATF," the joint statement said. In the field of agriculture, India and Brazil, as major food producers, emphasised the "importance of fair and open agricultural trade as a means of achieving productive, sustainable, and resilient agrifood systems," according to the joint statement.

Seven who faced trial on charges...

►► From PG 1

than eight years in jail before being granted bail by the Bombay High Court on April 25, 2017. In 2019, Thakur won the Lok Sabha election from Bhopal on BJP's ticket and later took oath as MP. She was, however, not given a ticket during the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. B) Prasad Shrikant Purohit: He was serving as Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army when he was arrested by the ATS. He was accused of attending meetings where the alleged conspiracy to carry out the blast was hatched. Purohit was arrested in November 2008 and was granted bail by the Supreme Court in September 2017. In his final statement to the court, Purohit alleged he was physically tortured by senior officials of the ATS during questioning. He said the prosecution had concocted a false case

against him. C) Ramesh Upadhyay: A retired army Major, he was also accused of having attended a meeting in Bhopal where the conspiracy was hatched. The prosecution claimed Upadhyay had pushed for the constitution of a "Hindu Rashtra". D) Sameer Kulkarni: He was also accused of attending meetings where the alleged conspiracy was hatched and the plan was discussed. He was arrested in October 2008 and granted bail by the Bombay High Court in September 2017. E) Ajay Rahirkar: He was allegedly the treasurer of the 'Abhinav Bharat' organisation. He was accused of collecting funds and disbursing them to the co-accused to procure weapons and explosives for their unlawful activities, as per the directions of accused Prasad Purohit.

Kamchatka earthquake is among...

►► From PG 1

powerful earthquakes and resulting tsunamis because it's located in the so-called Ring of Fire, a region of heightened seismic and volcanic activity. All ten most powerful earthquakes recorded in modern history were located on the Ring of Fire. Here's why the underlying structure of our planet makes this part of the world so volatile. Why does Kamchatka get such strong earthquakes?Immediately

offshore the Kamchatka Peninsula is the Kuril-Kamchatka Trench, a tectonic plate boundary where the Pacific Plate is being thrust beneath the Okhotsk Plate. While tectonic plates move continuously relative to one another, the interface between tectonic plates is often "stuck". The strain related to plate motion builds up until it exceeds the strength of the plate interface, at which point it is released as a sudden rupture - an earthquake.

MI News Service, Kolkata: After over three months of uncertainty caused by a legal impasse surrounding OBC reservation, the results of the West Bengal Joint Entrance Examination (WBJEE) 2024 are finally set to be published. The Joint Entrance Examination Board has officially announced that the results will be declared on August 7. This declaration was made by Board Chairperson Prof.Sonali Chakraborty

Banerjee during a press briefing on Thursday. This year's entrance test, held on April 27, was conducted for admissions into engineering and pharmacy programs across government and private institutions in the state. However, despite the exam being held in April, the prolonged delay in the announcement of results had left candidates frustrated, with some opting to seek admission elsewhere. The situation



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee chaired a coordination meeting with the organisers of Durga Puja committees at Netaji Indoor Stadium in Kolkata on Thursday.

Abhishek to hold high-level virtual meeting on Aug 8 on voter list vigilance

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a renewed effort to mobilize grassroots leadership and address pressing political concerns, Trinamool Congress National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee is set to hold a high-profile virtual meeting on Friday, August 8 at 4 PM. The agenda is expected to cover two key issues: surveillance on the voter list and alleged atrocities against Bengali-speaking communities by the BJP. According to a confidential internal circular issued by the party on Wednesday, the meeting will include a wide cross-section of the party's organizational and elected leadership. Invited participants include all Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), mayors, deputy mayors, chairper-

sons, vice-chairpersons, and all zillaparahad members and panchayat samiti presidents. All Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) councillors are also expected to be in attendance. On the organizational front, apart from the State TMC President, the meeting will involve heads of all affiliated units, members of the State TMC Committee, district chairpersons and presidents of the main (Mother) party units, and block presidents across Kolkata. Significantly, district-level presidents and chairpersons of almost all affiliated wings—excluding WBCUPA (TMC IT Cell), and the Primary and Secondary Teachers' wings—have also been asked to join the session. Though no formal

agenda has been publicly disclosed, the context of the meeting strongly suggests it will revisit and intensify the party's stance on the ongoing concerns around voter roll scrutiny and growing allegations of BJP-led targeting of Bengalis in certain regions. Notably, a similar internal strategy meeting was held around two months ago specifically focusing on the voter list issue. Abhishek Banerjee's repeated efforts to unify leadership via digital platforms point to an evolving strategy of swift internal coordination amid heightened political tension, especially in the run-up to future electoral battles. The upcoming meeting is expected to set the tone for the party's next course of action at both administrative and grassroots levels.



To mark 30 years of telecom in India, Ashoke Kumar, Chief Postmaster General unveils a special cover postal stamp in presence of other dignitaries.

KMC intensifies monsoon response in 38 flood-prone zones

MI News Service, Kolkata: Waterlogging during moderate to heavy rainfall has long been a recurring problem in Kolkata. But this year, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has launched a focused and strategic operation to address the issue. In preparation for the monsoon, 38 vulnerable zones—identified as waterlogging hotspots—have been brought under continuous

surveillance and dedicated action plans. These critical areas include Thanthania, Mukta Ram Babu Street, Park Street, Exide Crossing, Ashutosh Mukherjee Road, and B.B. Ganguly Street, among others. In these zones, the KMC's Drainage Department has deployed additional personnel and modern equipment to accelerate water clearance efforts.

CM Mamata stresses seamless coordination, public safety for grand Durga Puja celebrations

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a detailed administrative briefing ahead of West Bengal's most iconic festival, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has called for seamless coordination between Kolkata Police and the State Police, along with stringent safety and crowd-control measures, to ensure smooth execution of Durga Puja 2024. Speaking at a high-level meeting held at Netaji Indoor Stadium, which saw the participation of top bureaucrats, civic officials, transport authorities, and over 45,000 Puja committees, the Chief Minister laid out a comprehensive roadmap to manage the upcoming festivities with efficiency, discipline, and dignity. "All control rooms must function round the clock. Public safety is paramount," said Banerjee. "There must be clear separation between entry and exit routes at all major pandals to prevent bottlenecks. Every venue should have a functioning public address system. Special care must be taken to ensure foreign visitors feel secure and respected."

She instructed that ambulances be kept on standby at key locations, and emergency services be activated across the city. The police were directed to deploy mobile patrol units, install high-resolution CCTV cameras, and ensure watch towers are manned 24/7. Real-time coordination between departments was emphasized as critical to avoiding stampedes or mishaps. To enhance public mobility, the Chief Minister directed the Transport Department to increase the fleet of public buses, especially during peak immersion days. She also urged

the Metro Railway authorities to extend train operations late into the night and made a similar appeal for suburban local train services. "People must not suffer while returning home after celebrations," she noted. Banerjee also warned against competitive crowd-pulling themes at pandals, cautioning organizers not to endanger lives in pursuit of spectacle. "Let's celebrate responsibly. No one should lose their life in a crowd crush," she said firmly. Durga Puja, which received UNESCO recognition as an Intangible Cultural Heritage, has evolved into a global cultural landmark. With the Chief Minister's directive emphasizing safety, discipline, and coordinated governance, Bengal appears poised to host yet another grand and secure edition of its beloved festival.

Sharad Utsav to begin late Sept; CM Mamata names Centenary Puja theme

MI News Service, Kolkata: This year, SharadUtsav—West Bengal's most anticipated festival—will begin in the last week of September. As the state prepares to welcome Durga Puja, organising committees are already finalising plans. In this festive build-up, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee held a coordination meeting on Thursday evening at Netaji Indoor Stadium, with both major and local puja committees of Kolkata in attendance. Just hours before the meeting, one of North Kolkata's prominent committees, TalaPratyay, unveiled its puja theme for the year. The committee claimed that the theme name was given by none other than CM Mamata Banerjee herself. Celebrating its centenary year, TalaPratyay had begun preparations a year in advance with renowned artist BhavatoshSutar, a fact they had announced through widespread hoardings across the city.

Prior to revealing the theme, the committee initiated a strategic teaser campaign titled #SabujRobeBangla, which flooded the city's billboards. Given the colour green's association with the ruling Trinamool Congress, many assumed it to be political messaging tied to the party's July 21 Martyrs' Day rally. However, once the theme was officially revealed on Thursday, all speculation was put to rest. In a digital card shared by the committee, it was announced that the CM had named the theme 'Beej Angan' (The Courtyard of Seeds). Committee member SubhasishSom stated, "Every puja committee has its own way of promotion. We chose our strategy and followed through step by step. We waited to announce the name given by the Chief Minister only after we were fully prepared."

Artist BhavatoshSutar, who is bringing

the theme to life, added, "The theme reflects her vision. She has even painted the eyes of idols at my pujas in previous years. After 25 years of working in Durga Puja, being part of the CM-named centenary project is a personal challenge." This is not Mamata Banerjee's first brush with Puja artistry. She regularly performs the Chokkudan ritual at Mayor Firhad Hakim's puja and in 2010, guided the theme of Bhawanipur'sBakulbagan-DurgaUtsav. Similarly on the other hand, the emotion of Bengali identity is clearly emerging as a core theme in both politics and Puja celebrations. In Baguiati, the AshwininagarBondhumahal Club, celebrating its 45th year, has chosen a theme titled 'Bangla o Bangali' (Bengal and Bengalis). Their concept sparked curiosity, but organisers insist that the idea predates any political narrative and was finalised as early as May. Committee member Swarup Nag clarified, "Our full theme title is 'Bangla o Bangali, SamriddhirAdyopanto' (Bengal and Bengalis: From Origins to Prosperity). We aim to explore historical and archaeological narratives about our identity. This is a cultural statement, not a political one." The execution is being led by five talented artists: Samrat Bhattacharya (concept), PintuSikdar (idol), PremenduBikashChaki (lighting), Dipmoy Das (music), and Subimal Das (architecture). Their goal is to highlight the glory and pride of Bengali heritage. While the committee has chosen not to comment yet on how exactly this theme will be visually represented, they assured that all will be revealed before Puja begins later this September.



Under the aegis of the Press Information Bureau (PIB), a workshop titled "Barta - Financial Inclusion and West Bengal" was held focusing on the theme of financial inclusion in the state. The workshop was attended by a number of distinguished guests and senior officials. Key dignitaries present included Balbir Singh, General Manager, P.K. Bhardwaj, Chief General Manager, Jani Nam Chu, Additional Director General Srijita Saha Sahu, and Assistant Director of PIB Kolkata, along with other eminent personalities, at the Kolkata Press Club, in Kolkata on Thursday.

Mahua Moitra slams Suvendu and Centre over alleged 'intimidation allegations'

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a dramatic turn of events, the political friction between Trinamool Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party spilled into the halls of the Indian Parliament on Thursday. Trinamool MP from Krishnanagar, MahuaMoitra, submitted an adjournment motion in the Lok Sabha against West Bengal's Leader of the Opposition, SuvenduAdhikari, following an alleged altercation involving a local Trinamool supporter in Pursura. The confrontation, captured on video, shows Suvendu purportedly issuing threats to a villager for chanting the slogan "Jai Bangla." Mahua's formal complaint accused Suvendu not only of intimidation but also of weaponizing central security forces to instill fear among common citizens.

A subsequent instruction from the State Higher Education Department, the Board resumed its final result preparations and issued an official notice on Wednesday. As part of the final procedural step, the Board has opened a window from July 31 to August 2, during which candidates must log in to the official WBJEE website and confirm or update their respective category (General, SC, ST, OBC-A, OBC-B, etc.).

OBC deadlock resolved: WBJEE results to be announced on Aug 7

NAME CHANGE
I, Keya Banerjee, D/O- Sibdas Banerjee alias Sibadas Banerjee & Chitra Banerjee, R/O- EA- 5, Block- 1, Sneha Apartment, P.O.- Deshbandhu Nagar, P.S.- Rajarhat (Old) and Baguiati (New) Dist.- 24 PGS (N), Pin- 700059. Now I have changed my name & shall henceforth be known as Keya Bandyopadhyay as declared before Notary Public, Calcutta Court vide affidavit no. 38/25 dated 30/07/2025 Keya Banerjee and Keya Bandyopadhyay both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mahua Banerjee, D/O- Sibdas Banerjee alias Sibadas Banerjee & Chitra Banerjee, R/O- EA- 5, Block- 1, Sneha Apartment, P.O.- Deshbandhu Nagar, P.S.- Rajarhat (Old) and Baguiati (New) Dist.- 24 PGS (N), Pin- 700059. Now I have changed my name & shall henceforth be known as Mahua Bandyopadhyay as declared before Notary Public, Calcutta Court vide affidavit no. 39/25 dated 30/07/2025 Mahua Banerjee and Mahua Bandyopadhyay both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sinchan Das, S/O Sri Subir Kumar Das, resident of 566, Bijaynagar, 170/1 Jessore Road (East), Barasat, Kolkata: 700124 henceforth accept, acknowledge and identify both Sinchan Kumar Das and Sinchan Das to be known as same person vide affidavit dated- 22.08.2022 sworn before Notary (No: 157/22) Public Court.

NAME CHANGE
I, Vinay Jalan s/o Late Mahavir Prasad Jalan residing at Rebati Apartment, 1st Floor, Lane No. 28, Chiriamore, Kaikhalai, Kolkata- 700136 shall henceforth be known as Vinay Kumar Jalan vide an Affidavit sworn before The Notary Public at Kolkata on 09-12-2013. That Vinay Jalan and Vinay Kumar Jalan both are same and one identical person

NAME CHANGE
I, Mousmita Dhar, resident of 100, Dr. Meghnath Saha Road, Private road, Aambagan, Dist- 24 PGS(N), Dumdum, Kolkata- 700074 henceforth accept, acknowledge and identify both Mousmita Dhar Das and Mousmita Dhar to be known as same person vide affidavit dated- 18.07.2025 sworn before Notary (No-1066/25) Public Court.

Name Change
I, Kajal Dey on behalf of my father Lt. Sachin Acher S/o Lt. Charuchandra Achar and my mother Anurupa Acher W/o Lt. Sachindra Nath Achar R/A 3/21, Vidyasagar Colony, P.S.- Netaji Nagar, P.O.-Naktala, Kolkata - 700047, in the District South 24 - Parganas (WB) have changed my father's & mother's name and shall henceforth be known as Lt. Sachindra Nath Achar & Anurupa Achar as declared before the Ld. First Class Judicial Magistrate Court at Alipore (WB) vide Affidavit No. - 49185 dated 29.07.2025. Lt. Sachin Acher & Anurupa Acher, and Lt. Sachindra Nath Achar & Anurupa Achar both are the same and identical persons.

Name Change
I, Tuhina , spouse of No. 14476513M Rank Ex NK Name Subrata Roy resident of Vill.-Monteswar, P.O.- Monteswar, Dist.-Purba Bardhaman (WB), Pin- 713145 have change my Name & Date of birth from Tuhina, 31 yrs to Tuhina Roy, 01.01.1968 vide Affidavit dated /17/07/2025 before the LD Executive Magistrate at Kalna Court, Purba Bardhaman.

Name Change
I,MALA MONDAL SARKAR w/o Shipon Mondal residing at Simhat, word no-8, P.o- Simhat, P.s- Haringhata, Dist.-Nadia, Pin-741249, hereby declare that my actual name is MALA MONDAL SARKAR which is recorded in my voter card, aadhar card and pan card.but the birth certificate of my daughter ANKITA MONDAL, my name is wrongly recorded as MALA MONDAL. As on 29/07/2025 before the court of Ld .A.C.J.M-II(1st class) Kalyani,Nadia, I have changed my name from MALA MONDAL to MALA MONDAL SARKAR. That MALA MONDAL SARKAR and MALA MONDAL is the same and one identical lady.

Name Change
I, Dwijen Chandra Sarkar S/o, Late Monmohan Sarkar R/o, Vill-Bihariya, P.O-Subarnapur, P.S-Haringhata, Dist -Nadia-741249 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my actual name is Dwijen Chandra Sarkar (which is recorded in my Voter ID & Aadhaar card) & my actual date of birth is 01.01.1955 (which is recorded in my Voter ID & Passport) but in my passport my name has been wrongly recorded as Dwijen Sarkar & in my Aadhaar card my date of birth has been wrongly recorded as 28.02.1955 instead of my actual date of birth 01 01.1955. That Dwijen Chandra Sarkar and Dwijen Sarkar is the same and one identical person vide Affidavit no. 11 & 12 dated 09.06.2025 in the court of LD A.C.J.M II 1st class at Kalyani, Nadia.

Name Change
I, Shyamal Kansabanik, son of Late Kunjeswar Kansabanik (64), residingat B-4/345,Kalyani,P.O.&P.S.- Kalyani, Dist : Nadia, WB, PIN- 741235, do hereby declare that my correct name is Shyamal Kansabanik, as recorded in my Aadhaar Card (No. 8949 4703 6477) and PAN Card (No. AREPK3405C).By mistake my name has been wrongly recorded as Sagar Banik in my Voter Identity Card (No. UHG1703867). By affidavit at Kalyani ACJM II, 1st class court on 28.07.2025, I affirm that Shyamal Kansabanik and Sagar Banik are the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Rakib Hosen Molla, S/O- Rezaul Karim Molla, residing at Vill - Sarberia, P/S- Nazat, Dist- 24pgs (N).That in my passport my father's and mother 's (Rezaul Karim Molla and Ronjila Bibi Molla) name has been recorded as Mohammed Rezaul Karim Molla & Masammat Ranjila Bibi which are both incorrect. So vide Affidavit before the LD 1st class E.M at Basirhat dt-29/07/2025 (no.-6788) that Ronjila Bibi Molla, W/O- Rezaul Karim Molla & Masammat Ranjila Bibi, W/O- Mohammed Rezaul Karim Molla both are same and one identical person.

AFFIDAVIT
I, Amina Khan, W/o, Saugata Das, R/o. 64, Haran Chandra Laha Lane, Suksantanatanta, P.O. & P.S. Chandannagar, Dist. Hooghly, Pin-712136, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Amina Khan to Munmun Das and henceforth I shall be known as Munmun Das in all purpose vide Affidavit No. 5243, dt. 08/09/2023 sworn before the First Class Judicial Magistrate at Chandannagore Court on 08/09/2023. Amina Khan D/o. Asraf Khan & Munmun Das W/o. Saugata Das are same and identical person everywhere.

Name Change
I, Ranjit Sana & Ranjit Kumar Sana (old names) S/O Late Shachinandan Sana, residing at Kalyanpur, P.S.- Nandakumar, Purba Medinipur, Pin-721632, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ranajit Sana (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Ranajit Sana (new name) and Ranjit Sana & Ranjit Kumar Sana (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Bhaja Joseph Sarkar (old name) S/O Subodh Sarkar, residing at 6/1, Pan Bagan Lane, Entally, Kolkata- 700014, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bhoja Sarkar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Bhoja Sarkar (new name) and Bhaja Joseph Sarkar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Jitendra Jaiswal (Old Name), Son Of Ram Lagan Shaw, Date Of Birth 12.08.1970, Residing At 648, Narkharhat Madhya Para, Po-Tiljala, Ps-Kasba, Kolkata-700039, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Jitendra Kumar Jaiswal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025. Jitendra Jaiswal And Jitendra Kumar Jaiswal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Farooque Khan (old name) S/O Mohammad Qashim Khan, residing at 54B, Ismail Street, P.O. & P.S.- Entally, Kolkata- 700014, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Farooque Khan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Md Farooque Khan (new name) and Mohammad Farooque Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shrabanti Kayal (old name) W/O Bishnupada Kayal, residing at 309, R Sarkar, Word No-13, P.O. & P.S.- Diamond Harbour, Dist.- Diamond Harbour, Pin- 743331 West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Srabanti Kayal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Srabanti Kayal (new name) and Shrabanti Kayal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Ajoy Kumar Laha & Ajoy Laha(Old Name),Son Of Late Madhusudan Laha, Residing At Vill - Lalbazar, Po - Sihar,Ps - Kotulpur,Bankura - 722161,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ajay Laha(New Name) Vide An Affidavit No 7483 Sworn Before The Ld Ist Class Judicial Magistrate At Bishnupur Bankura On 24/07/2025.Ajoy Kumar Laha & Ajoy Laha And Ajay Laha All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Saket Agrawal (old name) S/O Suresh Kumar Agrawal, residing at 386-A, Block-G, P.O. & P.S.- New Alipore, Kolkata- 700053, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saket Agrawal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/07/2025. Saket Agrawal (new name) and Saket Agrawal (old name) both are same and one identical person..

Name Change
I, Ekta Agrawal (old name) W/O Saket Agrawal, residing at 386-A, Block-G, P.O. & P.S.- New Alipore, Kolkata- 700053, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ekta Agrawal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/07/2025 Ekta Agrawal (new name) and Ekta Agrawal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Bipun Mondal(Old Name),Son Of Narod Chandra Mandal,Residing At 326,Sahid Nani Saha Sasani, Nimta, North 24 Parganas,700049,West Bengal,Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Bipun Kumar Mondal(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025. Bipun Mondal And Bipun Kumar Mondal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Sajjad Hossain Mali(Old Name),Son Of Shawkat Ali Mali, Residing At Paschim Mali Para, Po-Bartala, Ps-Rabindranagar, 700018, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sajjad Mali(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025. Sajjad Hossain Mali And Sajjad Mali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Sakila Banu (Old Name), Wife Of Shawkat Ali Mali, Residing At Paschim Malipara, Po-Bartala, Ps-Rabindranagar, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sakila Banu Mali (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Sakila Banu And Sakila Banu Mali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Mojamel Ali Mallick (Old Name), Son Of Md Taiyeb Ali Mallick, Residing At Vill-Paschim Bainen, Po-Bainen, Ps-Bagan, Howrah-711303, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Mojammel Ali Mallick(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Md Mojamel Ali Mallick And Md Mojammil Ali Mallick Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sekh Morsed Ali (Old Name),Son Of Sk Abdur Roshid,Residing At Vill-Ghorabaria,Po-Bhatona,Ps-Joypur, Howrah-711303, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Morsed Ali(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Sekh Morsed And Sk Morsed Ali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Siraj Uddin (old name) S/O Nader Ali Akhan, residing at VII- Chak Enayetnagar, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sirajuddin Akhan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Sirajuddin Akhan (new name) and Siraj Uddin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sirajuddin Khan (old name) S/O Nader Ali Akhan, residing at VII- Chak Enayetnagar, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sirajuddin Akhan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Sirajuddin Akhan (new name) and Sirajuddin Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MAHESH YADAV (old name) S/O MANNU YADAV, residing at H. L. SARKAR ROAD, GLASS FACTORY, KOLKATA- 700070, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as UPENDAR YADAV (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. UPENDAR YADAV (new name) and MAHESH YADAV (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MAMTA SINGH (old name) W/O UPENDAR YADAV, residing at 2/3 RAGHAB KOLEY LANE, SALKITA, HOWRAH, PIN- 711106, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MAMTA KUMARI SINGH (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. MAMTA KUMARI SINGH (new name) and MAMTA SINGH (old name) both are same and one identical person

Name Change
I, JYOTI BHUSAN SHARMA (old name) D/O SATYENDRA BHUSHAN SHARMA, residing at 31/26, BHUJANGA DHAR ROAD, NUTAN PARA, BALLY, HOWRAH, PIN- 711204, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as JYOTI BHUSHAN SHARMA (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. JYOTI BHUSHAN SHARMA (new name) and JYOTI BHUSAN SHARMA (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sona Nandi (Old Name), Wife Of Swapan Nandi, Residing At 5/2.3 No Durganagar, Chakdah, Nadia-741222, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mousumi Nandi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Sona Nandi And Mousumi Nandi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sahidul Mondal, declare that my father said name Rasul Mandal & Golam Arsul Mondal(old name), residing at Sanikpur, VTC Barddhan Beria, P.O.-Bairampur, P.S.-Gopalnagar, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-743262, West Bengal, India, have changed his name and he shall henceforth be known as Golam Rasul Mondal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 29/07/2025. Golam Rasul Mondal (new name) and Rasul Mandal & Golam Arsul Mondal(old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sahidul Mandal (old name) S/O Golam Rasul Mondal, residing at Sanikpur, VTC Barddhan Beria, P.O.-Bairampur, P.S.- Gopalnagar, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-743262, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sahidul Mondal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 29/07/2025. Sahidul Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shakila Begum (old name) W/O Late Afzar Hossain, residing at 21/ BC, Alimuddin Street, Kolkata-700016, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gumnam Shakela (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Gumnam Shakela (new name) and Shakila Begum (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jayanta Kumar Ghosh (old name) S/O Naresh Chandra Sarkar, residing at 392, Noapara By Lane, P.O.- Garulia, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743133, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jayanta Kumar Sarkar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Jayanta Kumar Sarkar (new name) and Jayanta Kumar Ghosh (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SAJID KHAN (old name) son of HASMAT KHAN, residing at 18B, LINTON STREET PO-ENTALLY PS-BENIAPUKUR KOLKATA 700014, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MOHAMMED SAJID KHAN (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/07/2025. MOHAMMED SAJID KHAN (new name) and SAJID KHAN (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, GYASUDDIN (old name) S/O Sirajuddin, residing at 2/2/55, GIRISH GHOSH ROAD, POBELUR MATH, Howrah, 711202, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as GAYASUDDIN (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/07/2025. GAYASUDDIN (new name) and GYASUDDIN (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sabnam Begum wife of Mohammed Parvez, on behalf my minor son Mohammad Yousuf (old name), residing at 82/B, Topsia Road, Ps-Tiljala, Kolkata-700039, West Bengal, India, have changed his name and he shall henceforth be known as Md. Yousuf (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Mohammad Yousuf (old name) and Md. Yousuf (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Zedha Begum (old name) D/O Sakawat Hossain, residing at 8/C, Kasai Bustee Ist Lane, Narkeldanga, Kolkata- 700011, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rani Begum (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Rani Begum (new name) and Zedha Begum (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sambu Begam (old name) W/O Sk Yusuf Ali , residing at 4 College Road, P.O.-Shibpur,Howrah- 711103, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Samim Ara Begum (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Md Naimuddin (new name) and Naimuddin (old name) both are same and one identical

Name Change
I, Naimuddin (old name) S/O Abdul Hasan, residing at 13C, Bright Street, Jhawtala, Circus Avenue, Kolkata- 700017, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Naimuddin (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/07/2025. Sona Nandi And Mousumi Nandi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sona Nandi (Old Name), Wife Of Swapan Nandi, Residing At 5/2.3 No Durganagar, Chakdah, Nadia-741222, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mousumi Nandi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Sona Nandi And Mousumi Nandi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Complete traffic block in green line-2 on Sunday

MI News Service, Kolkata: There will be a complete Traffic Block from Howrah Maidan to Esplanade stretch of Green Line-2 on 03.08.25 (Sunday) to facilitate the Automatic Train Operation (ATO) testing in the entire section of Green Line. As a consequence, no service will be available on that day in Green Line-2.

Normal services will be available between Dakshineswar and Sahid Khudiram stations of Blue Line on that day.

AIMRA hosts 30-Yr celeb of India's Mobile

MI News Service, Kolkata: The All India Mobile Retailers Association (AIMRA) announced the culmination of its "3 Decades of Mobile Industry Celebration," marking 30 years since the historic first mobile call in India.

On 31st July 1995, West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu made the first-ever mobile call to the then Telecom Minister Sukh Ram using a Nokia handset on Modi Telstra's network - a defining moment that not only revolutionized communication in India but also laid the cornerstone for the country's on-going digital evolution. As part of this special occasion, a Commemorative Postal Stamp was unveiled, celebrating the transformative journey of mobile connectivity and its significant impact on the nation's progress.

The transformative milestone - 30 years of mobile telephony in India was commemorated with the unveiling of a Special Postal Stamp at The Almond, Kolkata was attended by Ashok Kumar, Chief Post Master General, West Bengal Circle; Kailash Lakhyani, National Founder Chairman, AIMRA; Navneet Pathak, National Joint Secretary, AIMRA; Mohan Bajoria, State President, AIMRA Bengal; Mridul Biswas, State General Secretary, AIMRA Bengal & many other eminent personalities.

True to the spirit of "local for vocal" the day highlighted Bengal's motto "Bengal means Business," underscoring the region's leadership and entrepreneurial energy within India's mobile revolution.

Over 200 plus AIMRA leaders from across the country assembled in Kolkata to honor the industry's incredible journey and salute the pivotal role played by mobile retailers heralded as the "end mile" who have bridged innovation and the consumer for three decades.

Speaking to the media, Kailash Lakhyani, National Founder Chairman, AIMRA, said, "The celebration of 30 years of mobile telephony in India is not just a tribute to technological progress, it is a recognition of the enduring spirit, resilience, and contribution of lakhs of mobile retailers across the country."

Name Change
I, Akram(Old Name), Son Of Mohammed Samiullah, Residing At 7H/17, Kasai Para Lane, Beniapur, Kolkata-700017, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mohammed Akram(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2025.Akram And Mohammed Akram Both Are The Same And One Identical Person

Name Change
I, Joyprakash Bosh(ol old name) S/O Late Kalyan Kumar Bose, residing at 259, Dumdum Park South Dum Dum (M) Bangur Avenue North 24 Parganas PIN-700055, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Joyprakash Bose (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit no 67 dated 28/07/2025. Joyprakash Bose (new name) and Joyprakash Bosh (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, ANSURA BIBI (old name) wife of Mohammad Sirajuddin, residing at Nadi Bhag MollaPara 2nd Sarani, P.O.Badu, P.S. Madhyamgram, Dist. North 24-Parganas, Kolkata - 700128, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mst Anchura Bibi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Barasat, North 24-Parganas., vide an affidavit dated 28/07/2025. Mst Anchura Bibi (new name) and ANSURA BIBI (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, PRATAP MAN, S/o Sahadeb Man residing at Malipukur, Jagatnagar, P.O. Jagatnagar, P.S. Singur, Dist. Hooghly, Pin- 712409 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare before The Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Chitragach, vide affidavit no. 6229 Date 25 July, 2025. That my actual/fair name is PRATAP MAN. That my son name is RIJU MAN, due to mistake my son's name has been wrongly recorded in his birth certificate as HRIJU MAN. That also due to mistake my son's birth certificate in father column my name has been wrongly recorded as MATHUR MAN. That RIJU MAN and HRIJU MAN is same and one identical person & PRATAP MAN and MATHUR MAN is same and one identical person.

Regulation of trains due to developmental works in Bilaspur division

MI News Service, Kolkata: In view of developmental works in Bilaspur Division, the following trains will be regulated as under:

SN	Train No.	Train Name	JCO
1	18113	Tatanagar-Bilaspur Express	23.08.2025 to 26.08.2025
2	18114	Bilaspur-Tatanagar Express	24.08.2025 to 27.08.2025
3	20822	Santragachi-Pune Express	23.08.2025
4	20821	Pune-Santragachi Express	25.08.2025
5	12870	Howrah-CSMT Mumbai Express	22.08.2025
6	12869	CSMT Mumbai-Howrah Express	24.08.2025
7	22846	Hatia-Pune Express	25.08.2025
8	22845	Pune-Hatia Express	26.08.2025
9	20971	Udulpur City-Shalimar Express	23.08.2025
10	20972	Shalimar-Udulpur City Express	24.08.2025
11	22358	Gaya-LTT Mumbai Express	27.08.2025
12	22357	LTT Mumbai-Gaya Express	29.08.2025
13	12905	Porbandar-Shalimar Express	27.08.2025
14	12906	Shalimar-Porbandar Express	29.08.2025
15	17321	Vasco-da-Gama-Jasidih Express	22.08.2025
16	17322	Jasidih-Vasco-da-Gama	25.08.2025
17	17005	Hyderabad-Raxaul Express	21.08.2025
18	17006	Raxaul-Hyderabad Express	24.08.2025
19	12101	LTT Mumbai-Shalimar Express	23.08.2025, 25.08.2025 & 26.08.2025
20	12102	Shalimar-LTT Mumbai Express	25.08.2025, 27.08.2025 & 28.08.2025

Short Termination & Short Origination of trains:

SN	Train No.	Train Name	Journey Commencing On	Short Termination & Short Origination
1	68861	Gondia- Jharsuguda MEMU	24.08.2025 to 27.08.2025	Short terminated & Short originated from Bilaspur and will remain cancelled between Bilaspur- Jharsuguda-Bilaspur
2	68862	Jharsuguda- Gondia MEMU		

Diversion of trains:

SN	Train No.	Train Name	Journey Commencing On	Diverted Route
1	12222	Howrah-Pune Duranto Express	23.08.2025	Jharsuguda-Tilagarh-Lailpur Raipur
2	12221	Pune-Howrah Duranto Express	25.08.2025	Raipur-Lailpur-Tilagarh-Jharsuguda
3	18478	Yog Nagari Rishikesh-Puri Express	01.08.2025, 02.08.2025.	Meerut City-Khurja-Mitawali Agra Cantt.
4	18477	Puri-Yog Nagari Rishikesh Express	31.07.2025	Agra Cantt-Mitawali-Khurja-Meerut City

Regulation of trains due to developmental works in Sambalpur division

MI News Service, Kolkata: In view of developmental works in Sambalpur Division, the following trains will be regulated as under:

Sl.	Train no.	Train Name	Cancellation Dates
1	20832	Sambalpur- Shalimar Express	07/08/25, 10/08/25, 12/08/25 & 14.08.25
2	20831	Shalimar-Sambalpur Express	08/08/25, 11/08/25, 13/08/25 & 15.08.25
3	22804	Sambalpur-Shalimar Express	08.08.2025 & 15.08.2025
4	22803	Shalimar-Sambalpur Express	09.08.2025 & 16.08.2025
5	18523	Visakhapatnam-Banaras Express	10.08.2025 & 13.08.2025
6	18524	Banaras-Visakhapatnam Express	11.08.2025 & 14.08.2025

Diversion of trains:

Sl.	Train no.	Train Name	Journey Commencing On	Diverted route
1	18451	Hatia - Puri Express	29.07.25 to 14.08.25	Saria-Sambalpur City
2	18452	Puri-Hatia Express	29.07.25 to 14.08.25	Sambalpur City-Saria
3	18189	Tatanagar-Ermakulam Express	08.08.25 to 14.08.25	Jharsuguda - Sambalpur City - Angul- Narai Marthapur - Khurda Road - Vizianagaram
4	18190	Ermakulam-Tatanagar Express	07.08.25 to 13.08.25	Vizianagaram - Khurda Road - Narai Marthapur - Angul- Sambalpur City - Jharsuguda
5	12375	Tambaram-Jasidih Express	09.08.2025	Vizianagaram - Khurda Road - Narai Marthapur - Angul- Sambalpur City - Jharsuguda
6	12376	Jasidih-Tambaram Express	13.08.2025	Jharsuguda - Sambalpur City - Angul- Narai Marthapur - Khurda Road - Vizianagaram
7	12889	Tatanagar-SMVT Bengaluru Express	08.08.2025	Angul- Narai Marthapur - Khurda Road - Viz

134th Indian Oil Durand Cup brings up new talent

MI News Service, Kolkata : The 134 Th Indian Oil Durand Cup, the world's second oldest tournament remains same glamorous as it were nearly one and half centuries ago. Plenty of teams are participating in this age-old tournament be it I-League or ISL teams. Starting from Namdhari to South United, or TRAU FC to Neroca or Diamond Harbour FC , the tournament has surfaced plenty of new talents from all the participating teams including Kolkata giants like Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mo-

hamadan Sporting. The organizers are happy with this phenomenon including the public response to this heritage tournament. With supporters thronging in to the stadiums in almost all matches and also watching the same in TV, Durand Cup has been a great success. In recent scoreline, Namdhari beats South United FC 2 – 0 and TRAU FC and Neroca match ended in a 1 – 1 draw. In another match Mohun Bagan defeats Mohamedan Sporting 3 – 1 in Mini Kolkata Derby.

Maulana Ghulam Rasool Balyawi, visited Premier Knowledge City in Sonarpur

MI News Service, Kolkata : Former MP and Chairman of Bihar Minority Commission, Maulana Ghulam Rasool Balyawi, visited Premier Knowledge City in Sonarpur. Premier Knowledge City is emerging as a major educational hub in Sonarpur, South 24 Parganas, Kolkata. Former MP and Chairman of Bihar Minority Commission, Maulana Ghulam Rasool Balyawi, visited Sonarpur to see this future educational hub. During this visit, Haji Mohammad Jamaluddin, Founder and Director of Premier Knowledge City, and his son Farhan Reza welcomed him. During this visit, Maulana Balyawi was taken on a tour of Premier Knowledge City, informed about the construction work of Knowledge City, and also shown Premier Global School, which has been running successfully for the past two years. During this visit, Maulana Ghulam Rasool Balyawi expressed his happiness after visiting the school and said that this school is located just 32 kilometers from Kol-

kata city, just an hour's drive away, and Alhamdulillah, this school will be a great asset for Muslim students from Bengal, Bihar, and Jharkhand in the coming days. I congratulate Haji Mohammad Jamaluddin, the founder of Premier Knowledge City, and pray to Allah that Allah grant progress to his mission day and night, and I hope that the reaction to this action will be felt in the coming years. My good wishes are with Jamaluddin Sahib, and the community should encourage such people's courage and enthusiasm. Haji Mohammad Jamaluddin, the founder of Premier Knowledge City, said that Insha Allah, from the year 2029, students from this school will become guiding lights for the society. He said that this school will not only provide basic education but also equip them with skills and link them to employment. He also informed that the construction work of the residential building will be completed soon, after which we will be able to accommodate the school children here.

Rs 740 Cr project: JSW bags SMPK deal to modernise Kolkata port

MI News Service, Kolkata : JSW Infrastructure, the port and logistics arm of the

JSW group, said it received a letter of award (LoA) from Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SMPK) to modernise and operate two berths at the Netaji Subhas Dock (NSD) at Kolkata. The project involves the reconstruction of berth 8 and the modernisation of berths 7 and 8. The project, awarded on a design, build, finance, operate, and transfer basis under the PPP model, is aimed at enhancing the container handling capacity of the port. The project involves an estimated capex of ₹740 crore and a construction period of two years. JSW Infra will also be able to commence operations during the construction phase. During the 30-year concession period, JSW Infra has agreed to pay ₹4,678 per container as royalty to SMPK to operate the berths beating Adani in the competitive tender. This move brings JSW Infra's total container handling capacity close to 1 million TEUs.

India recovers Buddha's funerary gems from China

MI News Service, New Delhi: The funerary gems found among Lord Buddha's remains, dating back to the fifth century BC, have been brought back to India from China, where it was to be auctioned in May. Godrej Industries funded the retrieval with an undisclosed sum, breaking new ground in public-private partnership in the restoration of artefacts. Union culture minister Gajendra Shekhawat announced the retrieval in a media conference with Pirojsha Godrej, executive vice-chairman of Godrej Industries, at the National Museum. Buddhist monks and nuns from several countries chanted before the relics — currently on restricted private display at the museum. Shekhawat had discussed the retrieval with British counterpart Lisa Nandy in May, without success. Although it was the British colonial government that had allowed the relics to leave India, they claimed they had little power over the Peppé family, which had the relics in the US, before the auction. The culture ministry said: "The Piprahwa Relics, comprising bone fragments of the historical Buddha, along with soapstone and crystal caskets, a sandstone coffer, and offerings such as gold ornaments and gemstones, were excavated in 1898 by William Claxton Peppé.

NISAR launch marks historic Indo-US space collaboration

MI News Service, New Delhi / Washington: On the same day that Washington imposed a sharp 25% tariff on Indian exports, the US and India quietly achieved a milestone in space collaboration with the successful launch of the NISAR satellite. The feat marked India's first joint Earth observation mission with NASA. The irony couldn't be starker. Even as the two nations clashed on trade, they united 745 km above the earth's surface. The NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) was lofted into a sun-synchronous polar orbit at the end of a 27.30-hour countdown by ISRO's GSLV F-16 rocket, which soared into the skies from the second launch pad of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre after a 27-hour

countdown. The three-stage, 51.7 metre tall rocket carried the 2,393-kg payload, injecting it into orbit after a 19-minute flight — marking the first time an Indian GSLV has placed an Earth observation satellite in a sun-synchronous orbit. This isn't just another Earth imaging mission. NISAR represents the most advanced radar system ever deployed by NASA or ISRO, and is the first to use dual radar frequencies—L-band from NASA and S-band from ISRO—on a single platform. Its mission: to track every shift, sag, swell and slip on Earth's surface with a precision of under one centimetre. Launched nearly a decade after the two agencies inked the agreement in September 2014, NISAR is designed to provide continuous, high-resolution imaging of land, ice and ocean dynamics. It will monitor seismic zones, landslide-prone areas, crop patterns, wetlands, biomass changes, and ice sheet shifts—critical inputs in the era of climate crises and disaster vulnerability. The contrast couldn't be more pronounced. Even as President Donald Trump escalated a trade spat by announcing steep tariffs on Indian goods, ISRO and NASA teams worked in lockstep to operationalise one of the most ambitious Earth science collaborations in recent memory. ISRO provided the spacecraft bus, S-band radar, data handling and downlink system, while also taking charge of the GSLV launch. NASA, on the other hand,

contributed the L-band SAR, a solid state recorder, GPS receivers and the giant 9-metre boom hosting the radar reflector. Post launch, NASA will provide the radar operations and orbit manoeuvre plan, while ISRO will command and operate the satellite. Over the next 90 days, teams will focus on commissioning the observatory, post which the mission will move into full science operations. NISAR's dual-band radar will provide a 3D view of the Earth's surface — mapping how fast glaciers are melting, monitoring deformation deep inside forests, assessing flood risks, or detecting land subsidence linked to aquifer depletion. It can peer through cloud cover and light rain, capturing data day and night. What sets NISAR apart is the scope of its coverage and the volume of data. It will generate more Earth science data daily than any previous NASA or ISRO satellite. Its five-year mission is expected to provide policymakers with crucial tools for responding to natural and man-made hazards, managing agriculture and water resources, and understanding long-term climate patterns. NASA has called it a "game changer" for global disaster preparedness. Scientists will use NISAR data to map ice loss in Antarctica, track volcanic activity, or detect fault line movements weeks before an earthquake. NISAR also marks a test of strategic trust. It's the first time the US has placed critical radar hardware aboard an Indian satellite, and vice versa. Both nations are sharing ground station support to download and process the data. The mission also signals India's growing role as a trusted international launch partner, coming just months after the PSLV-C61 mission failure. With NISAR, ISRO focuses on bouncing back strongly, bolstering confidence in its GSLV platform, which had seen reliability concerns in the past. For ISRO, it's another stride forward after launching resource-focused satellites like the RISAT and Resourcesat series. NISAR puts India firmly on the global Earth observation map, extending its reach from domestic applications to worldwide environmental monitoring.



Rabindra sangheet song title "megher pore megh" performed by students of Swaptasara at Madhusudan Mancha recently.

Fiasco over selling of doormats with Lord Jagannath image

MI News Service, Cuttack/ New Delhi: Chinese e-commerce platform AliExpress has come under fire for selling doormats featuring the image of Lord Jagannath, a deeply revered Hindu deity, particularly worshipped in Odisha. The product has provoked widespread anger and condemnation across social media and political circles. Photos of the doormat, titled "Lord Jagannath Mandala Art Mat Doorway Non-Slip Soft Water Uptake Carpet Krishna Jaganath Hindu Go," surfaced online showing the deity's sacred image printed on the mat along with visuals of some-one standing on it. Priced at approximately Rs 787, the item has been called deeply hurtful and insulting by many devotees and public figures. Mahaprabhu Jagannath holds profound spiritual value for Odias and is worshipped by millions of Hindus worldwide. The presence of his image on a doormat has been seen as a direct attack on religious sentiments. Odisha's deputy chief minister Pravati Parida criticised the act as "offensive" and demanded a public apology from AliExpress. Taking to X, Parida wrote,

"Mahaprabhu Jagannath is deeply connected to the soul and emotions of every Odia. I strongly condemn Chinese e-commerce platform @AliExpress_EN for selling doormats featuring Mahaprabhu Jagannath's image. @AliExpress_EN must remove the listing immediately and apologise to devotees for this offensive act." Odisha Congress MLA Sofia Firdous also expressed outrage, calling the incident a "grave insult" and a "serious attack on cultural and religious sentiments." In her X post, she said, "Strongly condemn the blasphemous act of selling doormats with the sacred image of Lord Jagannath on @AliExpress.EN. Immediate action must be taken to remove the listing and issue a public apology." In response to her post, AliExpress stated, "We appreciate your report. The item has been reviewed and removed. Community input helps us improve our platform and strengthen our content checks. Thank you for helping us create a safe and friendly online shopping experience." However, many on the internet remained unconvinced. One user commented, "It's disgusting." Another

wrote, "Why is it there in the first place?" A third user added, "It's really unacceptable. Lot of disrespect has been shown towards Lord Jagannath. A case should be filed for this action." Senior BJP leader Baijayant Jay Panda also slammed the platform. "As an Odia and one among millions of devotees, this is unacceptable. I see a deeper conspiracy by this Chinese eCommerce site, already banned in India. It's just the latest in a long line of foreign entities who have kept trying over centuries to belittle Sanatan Dharma and demean its followers. If the seller does not walk this back, several steps must be taken to make it regret its stand." Eminent sand artist and Padma Shri awardee Sudarshan Pattnaik joined the voices of protest, urging devotees across the globe to speak out. "Jai Jagannath. We appeal to all devotees worldwide to raise their voice against this unacceptable act. The sacred image of Mahaprabhu Jagannath on a doormat sold by @AliExpress_EN is deeply offensive. Remove it, apologise, and ensure this never happens again," he posted.

Odisha flood invokes reptile invasion in villages

MI News Service, Cuttack: People residing in northern Odisha and the coastal belt are currently living in fear as floodwater from Subarnarekha, Brahmani, Baitarani and their subsidiary Jalka has entered their villages. The threat of crocodile attacks and snakebites has increased, particularly in Jajpur, Bhadrak and Kendrapara. Generally, water enters villages during floods and inundates vast swathes of farmland, but when the water recedes, the reptiles remain on land and do not return, posing a threat to human lives. Because of the swelling in Brahmani, 10 panchayats have been cut off in Kendrapara. The water level of the Mahanadi and its tributaries has started rising following the opening of around 20 gates of the Hirakud reservoir. While the coastal belt faces danger from both snakes and crocodiles, areas in northern Odisha, particularly Balasore and western Odisha, are witnessing a surge in snakebite incidents. Samir Mistri, a resident of Kendrapara district said: "Just last week, a crocodile entered a pond after straying from the Bhitarkanika sanctuary. Every year during

the monsoon, the crocodiles venture into human habitats, posing a major threat. Every year, there are reports of human casualties." According to an Odisha government report, 27 deaths by crocodiles were reported in the past three years in and around the Bhitarkanika sanctuary, which is home to 1,826 saltwater crocodiles, including 10 albino individuals. Preventive measures have been taken, including the installation of protective barricades at 120 river ghats in Aul, Mahakalapada, Rajkanika and Pattamundia in Kendrapara district. On Wednesday evening, a Mumbai-bound Air India Express plane, with around 160 passengers onboard, aborted takeoff due to a technical snag at the Delhi airport. On Tuesday, an Air India plane's auxiliary power unit caught fire after landing at Delhi airport but all passengers and crew members were safe, the airline said. "Flight AI 315, operating from Hong Kong to Delhi on 22 July 2025, experienced

AI gets 4 new show-cause notices from DGCA

an auxiliary power unit (APU) fire shortly after it had landed and parked at the gate. The incident occurred while passengers had begun disembarking, and the APU was automatically shut down as per system design," an Air India spokesperson said in a statement. On Wednesday evening, a Mumbai-bound Air India Express plane, with around 160 passengers onboard, aborted takeoff due to a technical snag at the Delhi airport. On Tuesday, an Air India plane's auxiliary power unit caught fire after landing at Delhi airport but all passengers and crew members were safe, the airline said. "Flight AI 315, operating from Hong Kong to Delhi on 22 July 2025, experienced

On Wednesday evening, a Mumbai-bound Air India Express plane, with around 160 passengers onboard, aborted takeoff due to a technical snag at the Delhi airport. On Tuesday, an Air India plane's auxiliary power unit caught fire after landing at Delhi airport but all passengers and crew members were safe, the airline said. "Flight AI 315, operating from Hong Kong to Delhi on 22 July 2025, experienced

an auxiliary power unit (APU) fire shortly after it had landed and parked at the gate. The incident occurred while passengers had begun disembarking, and the APU was automatically shut down as per system design," an Air India spokesperson said in a statement.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER
e-Tender No. : e-Tender/2025/23, For and on behalf of President of India, the Eastern Railway Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur-721301 invites e-Tender for the following works before 15:00hrs. on the date mentioned against items and will be opened at 15:30hrs. Sl. No., Tender No. & Description of Works are as follows : (1) E-KGP-HQ-26-2025 , Repair & Renovation of service Buildings, Residential Building etc. in the section of SSE (Works)/South/KGP under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Settlement/ Kharagpur. Tender Value : ₹ 1,32,19,858.64, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,16,100/-, (2) E-KGP-HQ-27-2025 , Repair & Renovation of service Buildings, Residential Building etc. in the section of SSE(Works)/SW/KGP under the jurisdiction of ADEN/ Settlement/ Kharagpur. Tender Value : ₹ 1,15,02,935.47, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,07,500/-, (3) E-KGP-HQ-28-2025 , Repair & Renovation of service Buildings, Residential Building etc. in the section of SSE(Works)/NE/KGP under the jurisdiction of ADEN / Settlement / Kharagpur. Tender Value : ₹ 1,03,06,270.42, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,01,500/-, (4) E-KGP-HQ-29-2025 , Repair & Renovation of service Buildings, Residential Building etc. in the section of SSE(Works)/NW/KGP under the jurisdiction of ADEN / Settlement / Kharagpur. Tender Value : ₹ 1,03,06,270.42, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,01,500/-, (5) E-KGP-HQ-30-2025 , Repair & Renovation of service Buildings, Residential Building etc. in the section of SSE(Works)/West/KGP under the jurisdiction of ADEN / Settlement / Kharagpur. Tender Value : ₹ 88,36,089.60, Earnest Money : ₹ 1,76,700/-, (6) E-KGP-HQ-31-2025 , Maintenance of water supply pipe line & PVC tank including replacement at Kharagpur Settlement as well as GKL & CSY water supply complex area along with supply of materials for departmental use in the section of SSE(W)/WW/KGP under the jurisdiction of AEN/Water Works/KGP. Tender Value : ₹ 87,35,847.63, Earnest Money : ₹ 1,74,700/-, (7) E-KGP-HQ-32-2025 , Maintenance of BNR Garden, Divisional Accounts office, DRM office, Main Hospital, VIP Rest house, officers' Club, Bungalow etc. at KGP Settlement in the section of SSE(M)/Horti-KGP under the jurisdiction of AEN/WW/KGP. Tender Value : ₹ 65,51,395.92, Earnest Money : ₹ 1,31,000/-, (8) E-KGP-HQ-33-2025 , Capacity enhancement of existing 4 wheeler Tower Wagon sheds at Haldia OHE depot for staging of high speed 8 wheeler Tower Cars under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Tamiluk.Tender Value : ₹ 1,40,60,407.27, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,20,300/-, (9) E-KGP-HQ-34-2025 , Improvement of LC Gate Gloomities by providing toilets, drinking water facilities, roof treatment & standard fencing (25 Nos.) under SSE(F. Way)/ Kanthi. Tender Value : ₹ 2,20,300.00, Earnest Money : ₹ 2,65,000/-, (10) E-KGP-HQ-35-2025 , Renovation of green shop RPF Barrack at Kharagpur under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Settlement/KGP. Tender Value : ₹ 23,31,477.78, Earnest Money : ₹ 46,600/-, Tender Document Cost : ₹ 0 for each. Date of Opening : 18.08.2025 for Sl. No. 1 to 8 and 22.08.2025 for Sl. No. 9 to 10. Completion Period of the work : 12 months for each. Bidding Start Date : For Sl. No. 1 to 8 from 04.08.2025 and up to 15:00 hrs. on 18.08.2025. For Sl. No. 9 to 10 from 08.08.2025 and up to 15:00 hrs on 22.08.2025. Interested tenderers may visit website www.irops.gov.in for full details/ descriptions/specifications of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these works will be accepted. N.B.: Prospective bidders may regularly visit "www.irops.gov.in" to participate in all tenders. (PR-465)

BJP hails NIA court's 2008 Malegaon blast verdict

MI News Service, New Delhi: A day after Union home minister Amit Shah told the Rajya Sabha that "no Hindu can ever be a terrorist," a special NIA court in Mumbai acquitted all seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, including BJP MP Pragna Singh Thakur. The ruling has set off a fierce political reaction, with BJP leaders calling it vindication, and Opposition voices alleging failure of justice and accountability. Speaking to the reporters, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "Union home minister also told in the House yesterday that Hindus by philosophy, cannot be terrorists. But during the Congress rule, a terminology was coined to appease a particular sum, breaking new ground in public-private partnership in the restoration of artefacts. Union culture minister Gajendra Shekhawat announced the retrieval in a media conference with Pirojsha Godrej, executive vice-chairman of Godrej Industries, at the National Museum. Buddhist monks and nuns from several countries chanted before the relics — currently on restricted private display at the museum. Shekhawat had discussed the retrieval with British counterpart Lisa Nandy in May, without success. Although it was the British colonial government that had allowed the relics to leave India, they claimed they had little power over the Peppé family, which had the relics in the US, before the auction. The culture ministry said: "The Piprahwa Relics, comprising bone fragments of the historical Buddha, along with soapstone and crystal caskets, a sandstone coffer, and offerings such as gold ornaments and gemstones, were excavated in 1898 by William Claxton Peppé.

It has been proven. Congress did the dirty work of spreading the term 'Saffron Terrorism'. Congress will have to face the consequences. Instead of catching Pakistani terrorists, why were the people of India accused?" Union minister Ramdas Athawale said the court's decision came down to lack of evidence: "The hearing went on for many years in the NIA court. The court had to acquit all the accused because there was no evidence against them. There was no evidence against them, so the court had to acquit them. Terrorists are only terrorists; they have no religion." BJP leader Ravishankar Prasad said, "Congress's conspiracy of Hindu terror has been destroyed. Colonel Purohit, who fought against terrorism in Kashmir, was accused. Pragna Thakur was accused of using her motorcycle in the blast. She was tortured so much that she could not walk after that. This was a Congress conspiracy for sheer vote bank politics." Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde said, "In 2008, Congress falsely accused Pragna Thakur and others in this case. They spread the new narrative of 'saffron terrorism' for their vote bank politics. Today, after 17 years, the NIA court has acquitted all the accused of their charges. I think, the Congress should apologise to all those who were tortured in this case." BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya said, "The sinister conspiracy by the Congress to manufacture the bogey of 'Saffron Terror' has not just collapsed — it has been buried for good. Those like Sonia Gandhi, P. Chidambaram, and Sushilkumar Shinde, who led this malicious campaign, owe an unconditional apology to Hindus for maligning Sanatan Dharma. Sanatan is sacred. Hindus can never be terrorists." On the other side, AIMIM

chief Asaduddin Owaisi questioned the outcome and process of justice. "Six namazis were killed in the blast and nearly 100 were injured. They were targeted for their religion. A deliberately shoddy investigation/prosecution is responsible for the acquittal. Will the Modi & Fadnavis governments appeal the judgement the way they swiftly demanded stay in the Mumbai train blasts acquittals? Will Maharashtra's "secular" political parties demand accountability?" "Remember, in 2017, NIA had tried to get Sadhvi Pragna acquitted. The same person would go on to be a BJP MP in 2019. Karkare had uncovered the conspiracy in Malegaon & was unfortunately killed by Pakistani terrorists in the 26/11 attacks. The BJP MP went on record saying that she had cursed him and his death was a consequence of his curse," he added. "This is the 'tough on terror' Modi government. The world will remember that it made a terrorist accused a Member of Parliament," he said. Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav said, "I have not read the report (Special NIA court verdict in Malegaon bomb blast case) yet. The culprits should get the punishment. I hope this isn't an effort to suppress the news by bringing up another news. (US

imposing) tariff is a big issue." Congress leader Kamal Nath responded to the verdict saying, "Whoever is affected will appeal it. BJP may say whatever it wants, but it is a court's decision, and it is appealable. They will definitely re-appeal." NCP (SP) leader Majeed Memon said: "After today's verdict, the question arises - has justice been served in the 2008 terror incident? The victims, through this judgment, have been told that those brought before the court were not guilty. But someone did commit the crime, and that person is still roaming free even after 17 years." Congress MP Vivek Tankha said, "It is shocking. This should have never happened because if the blast happened, then someone must have done something. There must have been an investigation and there should have been proof. Now, the court is saying that the accused have been acquitted for lack of proof. Whose fault is that?" Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Arvind Sawant said, "Recently, all the accused in the Mumbai serial blast were acquitted. What kind of investigation was it? The police are not able to provide proof. I am concerned about the investigation. If not them, then someone else did it. But who did it? It is a failure of the police department."

Office of the Municipal Councillors

Serampore Municipality

1, N. S. Avenue, Serampore, Dist.: Hooghly, Pin: 712201

Notice Inviting e-Quotation

e-Quotation of the following works are invited by Chairman, Serampore Municipality from experienced and resourceful , GST registered bidders for execution the works vide **NIQ No-WBMD/LB/SRMP/NIQ-05-2025-26, date - 31.07.2025**, Name of works- Engaging of labour for the purpose of door to door waste collection under solid waste management activities (ward no 1-29) one year contract. Bid Submission Start date (online): **31/07/2025 at 02.00 P.M.** Bid Submission Closing (online): **21/08/2025 up to 02.00 P.M.** Bid opening Date for Technical proposals (online): **23/08/2025 at 02.00 P.M.** For details of the project go through <http://wbttenders.gov.in> and www.seramporemunicipality.net/tenders

Sd/-

Chairman

Serampore Municipality

FOR SALE

FUN ZONE FOR KIDS!

Large Inflatable for Sale - In Running Condition!

Ball Pool, Long Slides, Spacious Jumping Area

Dimensions: 6.5m (H) x 16m (L) x 9m (W)

Contact

Mr. ARUP : +91 98300 88203

RUPEEK CAPITAL PRIVATE LIMITED

45/B, Shubham Complex, 1st A Main, JP Nagar 3rd Phase, Bengaluru – 560078

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Borrowers and Public are notified that Gold pledged against the following loan accounts will be auctioned for non-repayment of dues.

LOS ID: 12009323

Date of Auction [18/08/2025] via online: <https://gold.samil.in>

If auction does not take place on notified date, Rupeek reserves its right to conduct e-auction/private sale on a later date without further notice.

For more information please contact - 1800 419 8000

Sd/- Authorised officer Rupeek Capital Pvt. Ltd.

Selection of Medical Consultants on case-to-case basis at Orthopaedic Hospital, Howrah

Divisional Railway Hospital (Orthopaedic Hospital) Eastern Railway, Howrah invites applications for different specialities on case-to-case basis. Candidates will be selected through scrutiny of documents submitted and will be called only on case-to-case basis. Details of specialities including Qualification needed and Remuneration etc. will be available on website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in and at the office of the Chief Medical Superintendent, Eastern Railway, Howrah. Applications with complete Bio-data, Phone Number and email id should be sent within **15th August 2025**, addressed to **Chief Medical Superintendent, Orthopaedic Hospital, Eastern Railway, 222 Biplabi Haren Ghosh Sarani, Howrah-71101** along with self-attested photocopy of all Certificates of Qualification (MBBS & PG Degree/ Diploma passed from MCI/NMC Recognized University/College) & Registration, Experience Certificates, Age Proof Certificate, Photocopy of Aadhaar Card and one Recent Passport size Photograph. Selected candidates will be intimated over Phone or email.

Chief Medical Superintendent, Divisional Railway Hospital (Orthopaedic Hospital), Howrah

Eastern Railway

ASUS Introduces Drop Zone Service at ASUS Exclusive Stores to Ensure Accessibility and Transparency for Consumers

Kolkata : To improve the overall customer experience, ASUS, a Taiwanese tech giant, today unveiled its Drop Zone initiative at ASUS Exclusive Stores, enabling customers to drop off their laptops for repair without visiting dedicated service centers. It offers greater convenience, and keeps customers connected to their devices with minimal disruption.

ASUS India has established one of India's most extensive after-sales networks. Customers benefit from over 200 strategically located service centres, on-site home support across 14,900+ pin codes and coverage in 761 districts nationwide. ASUS also provides round-the-clock assistance via its omni-channel digital helpdesks like call, chat, email, and remote troubleshooting, while self-service platforms like the MyASUS app and dedicated YouTube channels empower users



to resolve queries independently, anytime and anywhere. Kicking off in key markets including Delhi, Kolkata, Nagpur, Mumbai, and Coimbatore (Tirupur), this initial rollout spans major cities and

adding new emerging regional hubs. Speaking on the initiative, Mr. Arnold Su, VP, Consumer and Gaming PC, System Business Group, ASUS India, said, "At ASUS, we firmly believe that outstanding product experiences go beyond just innovative designs and cutting-edge technology. That's why our commitment extends far beyond the point of purchase, delivering seamless, unparalleled after-sales support that keeps every user empowered. With the Drop Zone initiative, we're making it easier than ever for customers to keep their laptops in peak condition with easy access." In addition to the Drop Zone rollout, ASUS India has also launched a service camp in Pune for customers providing on-site diagnostics and expert guidance to proactively support our community and deliver even greater peace of mind.

India-UK FTA a big step forward, will help businesses grow: JK Paper CMD Harsh Pati Singhania

New Delhi : Welcoming the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), Harsh Pati Singhania, Chairman and Managing Director of JK Paper, has said it is a big step forward for businesses and strengthens economic ties between the two countries.

He said the deal will boost business growth, enhance confidence among Indian companies, and bring relief to Indian professionals working in the UK by addressing issues related to the social service tax.

"UK products will get access in our Indian markets and our Indian products will get access in the UK Markets. This will help our businesses grow and increase our confidence. Another significant thing is that the people who go to work in the UK for 2-3 years will not suffer anymore because of the social service tax. It is a very big step forward," Singhania said.

India and the United Kingdom took a big step last week in building a stronger economic partnership with the signing of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA).

The agreement was signed by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Jonathan Reynolds in the presence of the two Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his UK counterpart Keir Starmer

The FTA marks a significant milestone in India's engagement with major developed economies and reflects a shared commitment to strengthening economic integration. As the world's fourth and

sixth largest economies respectively, India and the UK's bilateral engagement holds global economic significance. The signing of the India-UK CETA follows the successful conclusion of negotiations announced on 6th May 2025. The bilateral trade between the two countries stand at nearly USD 56 billion, with a joint goal to double this figure by 2030.

CETA secures unprecedented duty-free access for 99% of India's exports to the UK, covering nearly the entire trade basket. This is expected to open new opportunities for labour-intensive industries such as textiles, marine products, leather, footwear, sports goods, toys, and gems and jewellery, alongside fast-growing sectors like engineering goods, auto components, and organic chemicals.

The services sector, a strong driver of India's economy, will also see wide-ranging benefits. The agreement provides greater market access in IT and IT-enabled services, financial and legal services, professional and educational services, and digital trade. Indian professionals, including those deployed by companies to work in UK across all services sectors, professionals deployed on contracts such as architects, engineers, chefs, yoga instructors, and musicians, will benefit from simplified visa procedures and liberalised entry categories, making it easier for talent to work in the UK. The two countries had in May announced the successful conclusion of a mutually beneficial FTA. (ANI)

Bandhan Bank Organizes Customer Awareness Program on Safe Banking and Cyber Security in Patna

Patna : Bandhan Bank, a pan-India universal bank, recently organized a Customer Awareness Program on Safe Banking and Cyber Security to educate customers in Patna on their banking rights, regulatory protections, grievance redressal mechanisms, secure digital banking practices and cyber fraud prevention. The event was graced by Chief Guest Mr. Kumar Rajesh Ranjan, Chief General Manager of RBI Patna and Ombudsman for Bihar. Other distinguished attendees included Mr. Prabhakar Jha, Deputy Ombudsman of RBI; and Mr. Veer Dhirendra, Sr. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Cyber). Representing Bandhan Bank Mr. Manish Ranjan, Senior Vice President and Head of Process Quality, and Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Vice President and Regional Head of Branch Banking were present at the event.

The event saw participation from nearly 125 customers of Bandhan and a few other banks which focused on empowering them about grievance redressal mechanisms, safe digital banking, and the bank's role in ensuring secure transactions. Key discussions provided detailed insights into the RBI's Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, the Fair Practices Code, safe digital banking practices, and effective strategies to prevent frauds like phishing and vishing. In his address, Mr. Kumar Rajesh Ranjan stated, "In the digital era, transparency, accountability, and the protection of customer rights form the strong



foundation of banking services. Every customer should be aware of their rights and the grievance redressal mechanisms, so they can protect themselves from fraud and help spread awareness among others." He shared detailed information about the process of resolving banking complaints under the RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, 2021, the methods of lodging complaints, and the rights available to customers. During the program, Mr. Kumar Rajesh Ranjan himself answered several questions posed by the attending customers, providing them with practical insights into banking procedures and their rights. Appreciating this initiative, Bandhan Bank customers said that such programs help raise awareness and empower them, and that this step by the bank is

highly commendable. Commenting on this initiative, Mr. Ratan Kumar Kesh, ED & COO said, "At Bandhan Bank, we understand that in today's fast-changing digital world, transparency, accountability, and protecting customer rights are fundamental to building trust and lasting relationships. We believe every customer should know their rights and grievance redressal options, not only to protect themselves but also to promote safe banking in their communities. As a bank committed to financial inclusion and customer empowerment, we are always at the forefront of driving awareness and education. Through initiatives like these, we strive to equip our customers with the knowledge and tools they need to confidently and securely navigate the evolving digital banking landscape."

Senco Gold & Diamonds expands its footprint, opens its 183rd showroom in Bettiah (West Champaran) taking the total showroom count to 7 in Bihar



Bettiah : Senco Gold & Diamonds is a leading pan-India jewellery retailer with a legacy of more than eighty-five years and the largest jewellery retail player in eastern India based on number of showrooms with a whopping count of 183+. Senco Gold & Diamonds has been rated as the 2nd Most Trusted Jewellery Brand 4th year in a row by TRA and recognized amongst Most Desired Jewellery Brand by TRA in 2024 much ahead of most of our peers, launched its 77th franchise showroom today at Bettiah (Patna), taking the total showroom count to 7 in Bihar.

Strategically located in Supriya Road, in front of Bishop House near St. Joseph school, Hathikhana, Bettiah, Bihar, the new state-of-the-art showroom has a sprawling area of more than 4000 sq. ft., and with its luxurious ambience offers customers an unparalleled and immersive shopping experience.

Commenting on the grand unveiling of the new showroom, Mr. Suvankar Sen, MD & CEO of Senco Gold & Diamonds said, "We are thrilled to announce the grand opening of our newest showroom at Bettiah in Bihar today. This is a significant milestone for us as we continue to expand our presence in central India. We bring our extensive collection meticulously crafted by karigars of Bengal, closer to our valued customers of this city."

Mr. Rakesh Kumar kushwaha (Franchise Owner, Senco Gold & Diamonds Bettiah Showroom), said, "We are thrilled to join Senco Gold & Diamonds group as a franchisee and be part of the brand known for its legacy of trust and excellence in the jewellery industry. This partnership marks an exciting new chapter, allowing us to bring Senco's exquisite craftsmanship and quality to our local community. We look forward to the brand's growth while delivering exceptional products and service to our customers".

To celebrate the grand opening of this showroom, Senco Gold & Diamonds has announced a bouquet of inaugural offers. Customers can enjoy up to 25% off on making charges for gold jewellery, providing an excellent opportunity to own their favourite pieces at attractive prices, and 0% deduction on gold exchange. Additionally, there will be up to 20% off on the value of diamonds. The starting range for earrings designs in this store starts as low as Rs 20,000/- 32,400 new gold jewellery designs and 25,000new diamond jewellery designs are introduced recently to keep our design portfolio vibrant and attractive ensuring a lot of options in designs for customers to choose from.

India adds 2.46 mn wireless subscribers in June 2025, led by urban growth



New Delhi : India's total wireless phone subscriber base, including mobile and 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA), rose to 1170.88 million at the end of June 2025, registering a monthly growth rate of 0.21 per cent, according to the latest data release by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI). This marks an increase of 2.46 million subscribers from 1168.42 million recorded at the end of May 2025. The overall growth was driven primarily by urban areas, which saw an increase from 634.91 million to 637.87 million wireless subscribers -- a monthly growth rate of 0.47 per cent. In contrast, rural wireless subscriptions declined slightly from 533.51 million to 533.03 million, reflecting a -0.10 per cent drop, the TRAI said. The data shows that the wireless mobile segment alone added 2 million new subscribers during June 2025, rising from 1161.03 million in May to 1163.03 million in June -- a 0.17 per cent monthly growth rate. The TRAI data reveals that the urban mobile subscribers grew from 630.42 million to 633.14 million, a growth rate of 0.43 per cent, while rural mobile subscribers declined from 530.60 million to 529.88 million, marking a -0.14 per cent decline. India's overall wireless tele-density improved slightly from 82.63 per cent in

May to 82.74 per cent in June. The urban wireless tele-density increased from 124.91 per cent to 125.31 per cent, while the rural tele-density fell from 58.90 per cent to 58.82 per cent. In the mobile segment specifically, the national wireless (mobile) tele-density rose from 82.10 per cent to 82.18 per cent. Urban mobile tele-density increased from 124.03 per cent to 124.38 per cent, while rural tele-density saw a drop from 58.58% to 58.48 per cent. As of June 30, 2025, private access service providers held a dominant 92.20 per cent share of the mobile wireless market. The public sector units (PSUs) -- BSNL and MTNL -- accounted for just 7.80 per cent. In terms of regional performance, all service areas except Assam, Mumbai, Punjab, Delhi, and Kolkata showed growth in mobile wireless subscriptions during June 2025. The number of 5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) subscribers rose from 7.40 million in May to 7.85 million in June 2025. Of these, 4.73 million were from urban areas and 3.12 million from rural India, reflecting the continued expansion of next-generation wireless internet services. As per the data, as of the end of June 2025, the urban areas accounted for 54.48 per cent of total wireless subscribers while rural areas made up 45.52 per cent.

Mosquito killing pill, Ivermectin drops malaria by 26%: Study

Barcelona : A groundbreaking study has revealed that the mass administration of ivermectin--a drug once known for treating river blindness and scabies--can significantly reduce malaria transmission when used in conjunction with bed nets.

Ivermectin administered to the whole population significantly reduces malaria transmission, offering new hope in the fight against the disease. The BOHEMIA trial, the largest study on ivermectin for malaria to date, showed a 26% reduction in new malaria infection on top of existing bed nets, providing strong evidence of ivermectin's potential as a complementary tool in malaria control.

The results of this project, coordinated by the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)--an institution supported by the "la Caixa" Foundation- in collaboration with the Manhiha Health Research Centre (CISM) and the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme, have been published in The New England Journal of Medicine.

Malaria remains a global health challenge, with 263 million cases and 597,000 deaths reported in 2023. Current vector control methods, such as long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and indoor residual spraying (IRS), have become less effective due to insecticide resistance and behavioral adaptations in mosquitoes to bite outdoors and during dusk or dawn, when people are not protected by these measures.

This underscores the urgent need for innovative solutions to combat malaria.

Ivermectin, a drug traditionally used to treat neglected tropical diseases like onchocerciasis, which causes river blindness, and lymphatic filariasis, which causes elephantiasis, has been shown to reduce malaria transmission by killing the mosquitoes that feed on treated individuals.

Given the rising resistance to conventional insecticides, ivermectin could offer an



"Ivermectin has shown great promise in reducing malaria transmission and could complement existing control measures. With continued research, ivermectin MDA could become an effective tool for malaria control and even contribute to elimination efforts," Chaccour, who is now a researcher at the Navarra Centre for International Development at the University of Navarra, adds.

"These results align with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) criteria for new vector control tools," states Joseph Muwangangi, from the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme.

effective new approach to tackle malaria transmission, especially in regions where traditional methods have become less effective. The Unitaid-funded BOHEMIA project(Broad One Health Endectocide-based Malaria Intervention in Africa) conducted two Mass Drug Administration (MDA) trials in the high-burden malaria regions: Kwale County (Kenya) and Mopeia district (Mozambique).

The trials assessed the safety and efficacy of a single monthly dose of ivermectin

(400 mcg/kg) given for three consecutive months at the start of the rainy season in reducing malaria transmission.

In Kenya, the intervention targeted children aged 5-15, while in Mozambique it focused on children under five.

In Kwale County, Kenya, children who received ivermectin experienced a 26% reduction in malaria infection incidence compared to those who received albendazole, the control drug used in the study. The trial involved over 20,000 participants and

more than 56,000 treatments, demonstrating that ivermectin significantly reduced malaria infection rates -- particularly among children living further from cluster borders or in areas where drug distribution was more efficient.

Moreover, the safety profile of ivermectin was favourable, with no severe drug-related adverse events and only mild, transient side effects already seen with ivermectin in campaigns against neglected tropical diseases.

"We are thrilled with these results," says Carlos Chaccour, co-principal investigator of the BOHEMIA project and ISGlobal researcher at the time of the study.

"Ivermectin has shown great promise in reducing malaria transmission and could complement existing control measures. With continued research, ivermectin MDA could become an effective tool for malaria control and even contribute to elimination efforts," Chaccour, who is now a researcher at the Navarra Centre for International Development at the University of Navarra, adds.

"These results align with the World Health Organisation's (WHO) criteria for new vector control tools," states Joseph Muwangangi, from the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme.

"The findings suggest that ivermectin MDA could be a valuable complementary strategy for malaria control, particularly in areas where mosquito resistance to insecticides is a growing concern," adds Marta Maia, BOHEMIA's lead entomologist from the University of Oxford.

The study is part of a larger global effort to assess the potential of ivermectin in malaria control. The findings have been reviewed by the WHO vector control advisory group, which concluded that the study had demonstrated impact and recommended further studies.

Cabinet approves four multitracking projects covering 13 Districts across the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and Jharkhand increasing the existing network of Indian Railways by about 574 Kms

MI News Service, New Delhi : The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today has approved 4 (Four) projects of Ministry of Railways with total cost of Rs. 11,169 crore (approx.). These projects include:

- (1) Itarsi – Nagpur 4th Line
- (2) Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar) – Parbhani Doubling
- (3) Aluabari Road- New Jalpaiguri 3rd and 4th Line
- (4) Dangoaposi- Jaroli 3rd and 4th Line

The increased line capacity will significantly enhance mobility, resulting in

improved operational efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways. These multi-tracking proposals are poised to streamline operations and alleviate congestion. The projects are in line with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Vision of a New India which will make people of the region "Atmanirbhar" by way of comprehensive development in the area which will enhance their employment/ self-employment opportunities.

The projects are planned on PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan with focus on enhancing multi-modal connectivity & logistic efficiency

through integrated planning and stakeholder consultations. These projects will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods, and services.

The 4 (four) projects covering 13 Districts across the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and Jharkhand will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 574 Kms.

The proposed multi-track project will enhance connectivity to approx. 2,309 villages, which are having a population of about 43.60 lakh.

These are essential routes

for transportation of commodities such as coal, cement, clinker, gypsum, fly ash, containers, agriculture commodities, and Petroleum products etc. The capacity augmentation works will result in additional freight traffic of magnitude 95.91 MTPA (Million Tonnes Per Annum). The Railways being environment friendly and energy efficient mode of transportation, will help both in achieving climate goals and minimizing logistics cost of the country, reduce oil import (16 Crore Litres) and lower CO2 emissions (515 Crore Kg) which is equivalent to plantation of 20 Crore trees.

20 Railway Employees Superannuated from Service at Khurda Road Division

MI News Service, Khurda Road : In a heartfelt farewell ceremony held at the Divisional Headquarters, twenty railway employees, including two officers, superannuated from service from Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway.

The event was graced by Shri Pradeep Kumar Behra, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations) and Shri Subhrajyoti Mandal, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Infrastructure), who felicitated the retired employees and presented them with their Pension Payment Orders (PPOs).

The ADMRs commended the dedication, hard work and



vigilance shown by the retiring staff during their years of service. They acknowledged the invaluable contributions made by the employees in ensuring safe and efficient railway operations.

Addressing the gathering, the ADMRs encouraged the retirees to embrace their post-retirement life with positivity, advising them to

utilize their time fruitfully and lead a happy and fulfilling life.

The retired Railway employees are Shri Surendra Kumar Padhi, Senior Coaching Depot Officer at Puri; Shri Basistha Kumar Pradhan, Assistant Commercial Manager; Shri M Ramarao Basudev Sahoo from Commercial Department; Shri

R. K. Behera, A. Rama, S. Mohammed; M R Das, B. C. Patnaik from Mechanical Department; Shri M Soren, N Singh, B C Maharana, J Sahoo, R. K. Jani from Engineering Department; G.B. Rout, P. Patra, G. Sethi, from Electrical Department; N. K. Das, D.P. Roy from Operating Department; Shri B. K. Jena, Inspector, RPF.

The ceremony concluded with warm wishes and gratitude extended to the retiring employees for their commendable service to the Indian Railways. Shri Pramod Kumar Behera, Divisional Personnel Officer, coordinated the programme and ensured smooth conduct of the event.

Howrah division conducted railway camp court to curb ticketless travel

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a proactive initiative to curb ticketless travel and ensure a seamless journey experience for genuine passengers, a Railway Camp Court was successfully conducted today at Howrah Station under the aegis of Howrah Division, Eastern Railway.

The special Camp Court, presided over by the Railway Magistrate, was set up in the old premises of Howrah Station. The initiative aimed to promote lawful travel by swiftly addressing cases of irregular travel. It sent a strong message to ticketless travelers and reinforced the Division's unwavering commitment to upholding railway rules and ensuring passenger safety.

The special Camp Court held on 31.07.2025 generated a total earning of ₹3,46,770/-. This included



₹2,82,630/- collected from 581 passengers penalised for travelling without or with irregular tickets, ₹19,300/- collected from 108 passengers for unbooked luggage and ₹44,840/- realised from 158 cases presented before the Railway Magistrate, which also included 64 cases

booked by Ticket Examiners amounting to ₹16,640/-.

The drive was carried out with the active support of the Railway Protection Force (RPF), ticket checking staff, and Government Railway Police (GRP). Special attention was given to Divyangjan (different-abled), ladies, and ven-

dor compartments, ensuring inclusivity and safety across all sections of the train.

Senior officials of Howrah Division closely monitored the operation. Their presence, along with the coordinated efforts of ticket checking teams and enforcement agencies, contributed significantly to the campaign's success.

On the occasion, Shri Rahul Ranjan, Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (Sr. DCM)/Howrah, appreciated the collaborative efforts of all departments and announced that such special ticket-checking campaigns will be intensified across various stations in the coming days. This initiative is aimed at safeguarding the interests of fare-paying passengers and further enhancing the overall travel experience on Indian Railways.

Aluabari Road- New Jalpaiguri 3rd and 4th Line approved by Union Cabinet to boost rail connectivity in Northeastern States

MI News Service, Maligaon: The Union Cabinet has approved the 3rd and 4th railway line between Aluabari Road and New Jalpaiguri which marks a significant milestone in enhancing rail connectivity in the Northeastern region of India. Spanning a total length of 57 kilometres, under the jurisdiction of North-east Frontier Railway, the project is approved at an estimated cost of approximately Rs. 1,786 crores. This project aims to address the growing demand for transportation infrastructure in one of the country's most vital regions. By introducing additional tracks, it will reduce congestion, allow-

ing for more efficient and faster movement of both passenger and freight trains, thus cutting travel times and improving the overall reliability of services. The increased rail capacity will not only ease the burden on the existing infrastructure but will also facilitate the transportation of goods such as tea, timber and agricultural products, thus boosting the local and regional economy.

This project is part of the Delhi-Guwahati High Density Network route and holds strategic importance due to its proximity to the international borders with Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal, providing vital access to these

neighbouring regions. It passes through districts in Bihar (Kishanganj) and West Bengal (Jalpaiguri, Darjeeling and Uttar Dinajpur), serving as a crucial link for both passenger and freight transport. The infrastructure development will include 7 stations, 99 bridges and the construction of 3 Road Over Bridges and 8 Road Under Bridges. The project aims to facilitate the movement of 21.6 million tons of additional cargo, leading to a savings of Rs 2,551 crore in logistics costs. It will also contribute significantly to fuel conservation by saving 2.14 crore litres of diesel every year.

In the broader context,

the Aluabari Road-New Jalpaiguri 3rd and 4th Line project is poised to not only strengthen transportation infrastructure but also act as a catalyst for economic growth, regional integration and enhanced quality of life in the Northeast. This project will enhance the overall efficiency of the transportation network across Bihar, West Bengal and the Northeast, easing congestion on this crucial corridor that serves as a vital gateway between the eastern and NE region of India. NFR remains committed towards executing this project efficiently, ensuring maximum benefit to the region's connectivity and development.

Cabinet approves four multitracking projects including Dangoaposi- Jaroli 3rd and 4th line project of South Eastern Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today has approved 4 (Four) projects of Ministry of Railways with total cost of Rs. 11,169 crore (approx.). These projects include:

- (1) Dangoaposi- Jaroli 3rd and 4th Line
- (2) Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar) - Parbhani Doubling
- (3) Aluabari Road- New Jalpaiguri 3rd and 4th Line
- (4) Itarsi – Nagpur 4th Line

Dangoaposi – Jaroli 3rd

and 4th line project of South Eastern Railway

The total estimated cost is Rs 1,752 Crore. This project connects the iron ore area and steel production units of Kendu-jhar district, Odisha and West Singhbhum district, Jharkhand. After completion, the project will play a crucial role in meeting target of 300-million-ton annual steel production.

Details of project :

- Route length: 43 km and track length: 108 km
- 7 stations, 10 major bridges, 196 minor bridges, 8 ROB, 4 RUBs, 2 Rail over rail bridges

- Will save 3.85 Cr litre diesel,
- Will save 170 Cr kg of CO2. (equal to planting 11 Crore trees)

- Will facilitate 50 million tons of cargo
- Will save Rs 6,038 Cr in logistics cost

The four approved projects are in line with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Vision of a New India which will make people of the region "Atmanirbhar" by way of comprehensive development in the area which will enhance their employment/ self-employment opportunities. The

projects are planned on PM-Gati Shakti National Master Plan with focus on enhancing multi-modal connectivity & logistic efficiency through integrated planning and stakeholder consultations. These projects will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods, and services.

The 4 (four) projects covering 13 Districts across the states of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and Jharkhand will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 574 Kms.

Muslim Kargil war veteran and family harassed in Pune, accused of being 'Bangladeshi'

MI News Service, Pune : The family of retired Kargil war veteran Hakimuddin Sheikh has alleged that they faced harassment and were forced to prove their Indian citizenship to a group of more than 30 men who arrived at their home along with the police on Saturday.

The 58-year-old Hakimuddin Sheikh lives with his family in Chandan Nagar. Sheikh served the Indian Army for 16 years between 1984 and 2000.

On Tuesday, speaking to the media, the family of the veteran alleged that the men forced them to show their identity documents and took the male members of the

family along with them late at night. Expressing shock, Sheikh questioned, "I fought the Kargil war. Me and my family have been living here for decades. Why are we being asked to prove our citizenship?"

One of the family members said, "They asked us to prove our nationality by 3 a.m. and threatened that if we fail to do so, we will be called Rohingya or Bangladeshi."

The family also alleged that when they showed their documents, they were mocked and told that they were "fake". Shamshad Shaikh, Sheikh's nephew alleged, "The police called us again on Sunday.

We had to wait for two hours and were later informed that the inspector wasn't coming. Our documents are still with them."

Police have confirmed that an investigation is underway. Police Commissioner Amitesh Kumar said, "Action will be taken against the accused. So far, it doesn't appear that the police barged into their house."

Police Deputy Commissioner Somay Munde said that the police acted after receiving a tip off and that once documents are verified, the police let them go. He said, "No third party was involved in this."

Canada will recognize Palestinian state at UN General Assembly: PM Carney

MI News Service, Ottawa : In a landmark decision, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney announced on Wednesday that Canada will officially recognize the State of Palestine at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025. The move comes in response to the worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza and what Carney described as the "intolerable" level of human suffering in the besieged Palestinian territory.

Carney explained that while Canada had long supported a negotiated two-state solution, that approach has become "no longer tenable." He emphasized that Canada remains committed to the vision of an independent, sovereign Palestinian state existing peacefully alongside Israel. However, he stated that Canada's recognition is contingent upon

the Palestinian Authority committing to vital reforms and enhancing democratic governance.

"Canada intends to recognize the State of Palestine," Carney said. "Our decision is grounded in the principle of self-determination and comes at a moment of urgency. The prospect of a Palestinian state is literally receding before our eyes."

He further noted that Canada will intensify its support for building democratic institutions in Palestine, while also making it clear that Hamas, the militant group that controls Gaza, would have "no role in the future state."

The decision aligns Canada with the United Kingdom and France, both of which recently declared intentions to recognize Palestine. Carney's announcement included sharp criticism of the Israeli government, accusing

it of allowing the situation in Gaza to spiral into a humanitarian catastrophe. "Canada condemns the fact that the Israeli government has let the situation deteriorate in Gaza," he said.

The Israeli military's ongoing assault on Gaza since 2023 has reportedly resulted in the deaths of over 60,000 Palestinians and widespread destruction across the territory. While Canada's move has been welcomed by many human rights advocates, it puts Ottawa at odds with the United States, Israel's closest ally, which has rejected recognition of Palestine, claiming it would reward Hamas.

Carney's decision marks a significant shift in Canada's Middle East policy and adds momentum to the growing international calls for Palestinian statehood amid escalating violence and deepening humanitarian crises.

India stands by two-state solution in Israel -Palestine conflict, reiterates position at UN

MI News Service, United Nations: India has urged the United Nations to AIM on achieving a two state solution to the Israel Palestine conflict through concrete dialogue and diplomacy rather than just issuing official statements. At a high-level UN conference in New York India's ambassador to the UN Parvathaneni Harish emphasized that real practical measures are needed to bring lasting peace.

Harish stated, "Our efforts must now concentrate on creating a Two States solution through meaningful negotiations bringing both sides to the table."

The conference jointly chaired by France and Saudi Arabia from July 28 to 30 addressed ways to make the two-states solution a possibility. At its conclusion a 25 page "New York Declaration" was released, calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of all hostages and the transfer of control and weapons from Hamas to

the Palestinian Authority.

Harish stressed that this moment was an opportunity to reflect on previous progress and push for actions that will improve the daily lives of the Palestinians. He said, "We must aim for solutions that bring real changes, not just remain on paper."

India outlined immediate steps including the ceasefire and interrupted humanity and release of hostages and a resumption of peace talks. Harish reminded the Assembly that India recognised the Palestine in 1988 and continues to advocate for two-states living in peace.

Highlighting humanitarian crisis in Gaza Harish urged that civilians have unhindered access to basic essentials like food fuel and medicine humanitarian assistance must remain beyond political disputes he said noting the large scale destruction civil ends and prolonged disruption of children's education he condemned terrorism stating there is no justifi-

cation for it in addressing grievances.

Looking ahead Harish called for Major reconstruction efforts in Gaza and security assurance is for both Israel and Palestinians

India also underlined the need for economic hope with Harish noting that sustainable jobs and investments are essential for stability. India has pledged about 160 million dollars towards development projects in the region.

UN Security General Antonio Guterres reiterated that the two States solution is the only viable path, questioning its critics he asked what the alternative is he worried that one state reality would either deny Palestinians equal rights or force them off their land — neither of which constitutes peace or justice. He said, "Statehood is not a gift, it is a right."

Meanwhile, the UN agencies have reported that food and nutrition levels in Gaza have deteriorated to unprecedented crisis levels.

Day after imposing tariff, Trump calls Indian economy 'dead'

MI News Service, Washington: US President Donald Trump once again mounted a sharp attack on India and Russia for their close ties and said that the two countries can take their "dead economies down together".

The US president's fresh criticism of New Delhi and Moscow came hours after announcing 25 percent tariffs against India, plus a "penalty" for its trade with Russia.

"I don't care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care," he said.

"We have done very little business with India, their Tariffs are too high, among the highest in the World," he added.

The previous day, Trump announced the imposition of a 25 percent tariff on all goods coming from India starting August 1, plus an unspecified penalty for buying Russian crude oil and military equipment.

The surprise announcement came a day after Indian officials said that a US trade team would visit from August 25 to negotiate a trade deal.

The announcement is being seen as a pressure tactic to get New Delhi to agree to demands made by the US, which has, in recent



days, got favourable trade deals with major partners like Japan, the UK and the European Union.

Trump termed India's trade policies as "most strenuous and obnoxious". "All things not good! India will therefore be paying a tariff of 25 per cent, plus a penalty for the above, starting on August first," Trump said in a social media post.

The penalty was announced as India has made large purchases of oil and military equipment from Russia. India is the first country to face a penalty for Russian imports.

India's import of crude oil from Russia has risen from 0.2 percent of total purchases before the Russia-Ukraine war to 35-40 percent. New Delhi is the largest buyer of Russian oil after China.

Trump said though India is America's friend, "we have, over the years, done relatively little business with them because

their (India) tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the world, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers of any country."

He said India has always purchased a significant amount of military equipment and energy products from Russia at a time when everyone wants Russia to stop the "killing" in Ukraine.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said everybody except Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman know that the Indian economy is "dead", as he alleged that the BJP-led government has destroyed the country's economic, defence and foreign policies.

Speaking with reporters in the Parliament House complex, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha also claimed that a trade deal with the US will happen and Trump will define it, while Prime Minister Modi will do what the American President tells him to do.

"He is right, everybody knows this except the prime minister and the finance minister. Everybody knows that the Indian economy is a dead economy. I am glad that President Trump has stated a fact," Gandhi said.

2008 Malegaon Blast Case: Pragya Singh Thakur and six others acquitted after 17 years

MI News Service, Mumbai: A special court in Mumbai has acquitted all seven accused in the 2008 Malegaon blast case, bringing an end to a legal battle that lasted nearly 17 years. The verdict was delivered by a single-judge bench led by Judge A.K. Lahoti, who ruled that the prosecution failed to produce sufficient evidence linking the accused to the terror attack.

The blast, which occurred on September 29, 2008, during the holy month of Ramadan, took place at a busy chowk in the Muslim-majority town of Malegaon in Maharashtra. Six people were killed, and 95 others were injured. The timing of the attack, just before the Hindu festival of Navratri, led to suspicions of a deliberate attempt to incite communal tensions.

Among those acquitted were former BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur, Lieutenant Colonel Prasad Purohit, and retired Major Ramesh Upadhyay. The case was initially investigated by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) but was later transferred to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in 2011.

This case marked the first time alleged Hindu extremists were prosecuted under anti-terror laws, including the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). However, the court observed that the use of UAPA in the case was flawed and that the prosecution could not establish that the motorcycle used in the explosion was in Pragya Thakur's possession.

After her acquittal, Pragya Singh Thakur said the case had "ruined her life" and criticized the years-long legal ordeal she endured. The judgment has reignited debates about the handling of terror cases in India and the standards of evidence required for conviction under stringent anti-terror laws.

At least 23 injured after amusement park ride collapses in Saudi Arabia



MI News Service, Riyadh: In a tragic accident, at least 23 people sustained injuries, three of whom remain in critical condition, after the '360 Degrees' ride collapsed at Green Mountain Amusement Park in the Al Hada area near Taif in Saudi Arabia, on Wednesday evening, July 30.

Video footage of the incident quickly went viral on social media, showing the moment the ride malfunctioned mid-operation. The clip captured the structure's crane snapping and crashing into the ground with riders aboard, triggering panic and chaos among visitors.

The ride, reportedly a high-speed attraction, was operating when the collapse occurred.

Eyewitnesses reported hearing strange mechanical noises shortly before the incident. "It seemed unstable and gave off odd sounds," said Abdul-lah Al-Shamrani, a visitor present at the scene told Arabic daily Mojaz News.

Emergency teams responded immediately, evacuating the site and transporting the injured to local hospitals. Several medical facilities declared a Code Yellow to manage the influx of casualties, Okaz reported.

The General Directorate of Civil Defence confirmed that an investigation is underway to determine the cause of the malfunction. A specialised committee has been assigned to inspect the ride and assess compliance with safety regulations.

Under regulations set by the General Entertainment Authority, amusement park rides in the Kingdom must undergo monthly inspections. Non-compliance can lead to fines of up to SAR 500,000 and licence suspension.

The incident prompted nationwide criticism across social media platforms. Many users have called for the park's temporary closure pending the outcome of the investigation.

Gill, Sudharsan stitch India’s comeback against England as sudden downpour forces early lunch in 5th Test

LONDON [UK] : Captain Shubman Gill and young Sai Sudharsan forged India’s comeback after England made early inroads in the opening session of the first day in the fifth Test at The Oval on Thursday.

After a sudden downpour forced an early end to the first session, India piled up 72/2 in 23 overs, with Gill and Sudharsan unbeaten with scores of 15(23) and 25(67).

The rain had already marked its presence twice before the beginning of the game. Under the overcast conditions and the ground slightly drenched, Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul tried to see off a tricky phase.

In the absence of tearaway Jofra Archer, Gus Atkinson, returning to the Test fold, rattled India’s top order with his blistering pace at his home venue. With an inward angling delivery and a hint of movement, Atkinson struck Jaiswal just below the knee-roll of his pads.

There were two sounds, and



the England players were confused. The opinion was split, with players voicing their opinions, but Pope decided to trust his instincts, which left Ben Duckett less than pleased.

Even designated captain Ben Stokes appeared confused before switching his eyes to see the replay. During the check, the ball cleanly whistled past Jaiswal’s bat and his fate was sealed as he

walked back to the dressing room cheaply on 2(9).

KL Rahul tried to push for India’s comeback through the turbulent phase with Sudharsan. The duo watched the ball cautiously while trying to navigate India through the difficult phase.

However, India was jolted once again after Chris Woakes lured Rahul to chop the ball back onto the stumps, sending all of his hard work down the slumps, forcing him to return on 14(40). He tried to cut the ball away but diverted it straight towards the timber.

Gill arrived at the crease and restored a state of calmness with his composed strokeplay and calculated risk. He dispatched three boundaries to make up for the early loss of wickets. The sun blessed The Oval with its rays, but the gloomy clouds arrived again, and relentless rain poured in, forcing both teams to take an early lunch. Brief Scores: India 72/2 (Shubman Gill 15*, Sai Sudharsan 25*; Gus Atkinson 1-7) vs England.

NEPAL REVEALED AS THE HOST FOR ICC WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP 2026 QUALIFIER

DUBAI [UAE] : Nepal to host the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 Qualifier from January 12 to February 2 next year, as per the official website of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Ten teams will battle it out for four coveted spots at the main event, set to take place in England and Wales in 2026.

Bangladesh and Ireland have earned automatic spots in the Qualifier by virtue of their participation in the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024.

Thailand and Nepal qualified through the Asia regional pathway, while the USA secured their place from the Americas region.

The remaining five spots will be filled by two teams each from Africa and Europe and one from the East Asia-Pacific region, following the completion of their respective regional Qualifiers.

The Qualifier in Nepal will see the 10 teams divided into two groups of five, followed by a Super Six stage and a Final. The full fixture for the tournament will be announced in due course.

Meanwhile, the schedule for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 in England and Wales has already been confirmed.

The marquee tournament will run from 12 June to 5 July 2026, with 33 matches played across 24 days at seven venues, including Old Trafford, Headingley, Hampshire Bowl and Bristol County Ground. The grand finale will be held at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground.



1/32678 odds come true after India extends toss losing streak to 15

LONDON [UK] : India’s worst nightmare came true at The Oval after captain Shubman Gill lost his fifth consecutive toss against England on Thursday, and the nation’s 15th successive, turning the 1/32678 odds aking the improbable happy.

Before the final Test of the gurelling series, India, losing its 15th consecutive toss, stood at 1/32678. In the absence of designated skipper Ben Stokes, Ollie Pope came in as the stand-in captain. He spun the coin, Gill called, and the staggering odds turned into reality as India became the first team to achieve the unfortunate feat.

India’s luck with the coin hasn’t changed despite the change in the captaincy helm. Gill took over the Test captaincy after his predecessor Rohit Sharma stepped down from the role. While India continued to be a victim of ill-fortune, Pope won his first toss in five Tests as captain. Following another moment of misfortune, India’s abysmal toss losses include two T20Is, eight ODIs and five Test matches. Overall, it is the 14th instance of a team losing all five tosses in a five-match Test series. The only previous instance in the 21st century came during India’s tour of England in 2018. Gill didn’t dwell too much on the statistics while speaking to former head coach Ravi Shastri and said, “Don’t mind losing the toss as long as we win the game. I was a bit confused yesterday about what to do. It was a bit overcast, but the wicket looks good; we’ll look to post good runs in the first innings. It should be a good pitch for the bowlers. We’ve got three changes. Jurel, Karun and Prasidh in for Pant, Shardul and Bumrah. We look for a win every game we play, we’ve come close, and it’s about that 5-10 per cent extra push, boys will be giving it their all.”

India (Playing XI): Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul, Sai Sudharsan, Shubman Gill(c), Karun Nair, Ravindra Jadeja, Dhruv Jurel(w), Washington Sundar, Akash Deep, Prasidh Krishna, Mohammed Siraj

England (Playing XI): Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope(c), Joe Root, Harry Brook, Jacob Bethell, Jamie Smith(w), Chris Woakes, Gus Atkinson, Jamie Overton, Josh Tongue. (ANI)



Skipper Sweety Devi feels the team ready for "tough" first-ever AFC Asian Cup experience

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Indian women’s football team skipper Sweety Devi said that playing the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Asian Cup for the first time ever will be a “tough challenge” for the team, but they feel ready for them, with a number of friendly matches lined up ahead of the competition taking place from March next year.

With a 2-1 win over Thailand at the Chiang Mai Stadium on July 5, the Indian women’s football team made history, securing their first-ever qualification to the continental competition.

The Indian women’s football team will face a tough challenge in the upcoming AFC Women’s Asian Cup in Australia as they have been put in Group C with Japan,

Vietnam, and Chinese Taipei, and captain Sweety Devi emphasised the need to do well in friendlies in order to prepare well for the tournament.

The Blue Tigresses will begin their Women’s Asian Cup in Group C with a match against Vietnam on March 4, 2026. They will then face Japan on March 7 and Chinese Taipei on March 10.

“The tournament will be a tough challenge for us, but we are ready for it. We will play many friendlies till March next year, and will aim to do well in those matches. It is very important to keep the momentum going,” Sweety said during the launch of Zinc Football Girls Academy in Zavar near Udaipur. Speaking on the opportunity to lead India, Sweety said that



The initiative aims to contribute to the development of Indian football while leveraging on the power of the world’s most loved sport to impact lives and ensure social upliftment of

Durand Cup: Bodoland FC secure first win, beat debutants Karbi Anglong Morning Star FC 2-1



KOKRAJHAR (ASSAM) : Local side Bodoland FC (BDFC) registered their first win of the 134th Durand Cup with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over debutants Karbi Anglong Morning Star FC (KAMSFC) in a tightly contested Group D clash, here at the SAI Stadium on Thursday.

Karbi Anglong struck first through Nigerian forward Joseph Mayowa Olaleye, but Bodoland responded swiftly with an equaliser from Ggwmsar Gayary in the 37th minute. Colombian striker Robinson calmly slotted home at the hour mark to secure all three points for the local side, as per a press release.

BDFC head coach Vikash Panthi fielded a strong 4-2-3-1 lineup led by Colombian striker Robinson Blandon Rendon, while KAMSFC’s head coach C A Laldinsang Pudaite made four changes from their last game, with Nigerian forward Joseph Mayowa Olaleye spearheading the attack.

The early exchanges were cagey, with BDFC having the first clear chance when Robinson found himself one-on-one with Karbi Anglong keeper Wellyster Mendes, only for the play to be flagged offside. Pedro Astray’s free-kick in the 11th minute for BDFC also struck the wall, as both sides struggled to create meaningful openings.

Momentum shifted in the 22nd minute when Karbi Anglong launched a swift counter. Nigerian forward Olaleye was brought down just outside the box, earning a free kick. Joseph Bempah’s effort was well-saved by BDFC keeper Birkhang Diamary.

But the pressure told three minutes later when Wellyster’s

long ball from the Karbi Anglong half caught the BDFC defence off guard. Olaleye latched onto it, beat the last defender, and drilled a powerful low strike into the near post to put KAMSFC ahead in the 25th minute.

Bodoland FC found the equaliser in the 37th minute through winger Ggwmsar Gayary. A long diagonal ball from midfield found Gayary on the left, who headed into the danger area. A failed clearance by KAMSFC captain Harbamon Timung gave Gayary a second chance, and he made no mistake in firing it past Wellyster Mendes to make it 1-1.

BDFC nearly took the lead in first-half stoppage time when Robinson left a defender on the turf with a clever run but missed the target. Another teasing free-kick from Pedro found Robinson again, but he failed to convert from close range as the half ended on 1-1.

The second half resumed with both teams trying to take control. Haokip (KAMSFC) and Pedro (BDFC) traded tame free kicks in the opening five minutes, both collected comfortably by the respective goalkeepers.

The best opportunity of the second half for Karbi Anglong came in the 56th minute when Sujit Singh broke free, but his shot lacked placement and went straight to Diamary.

Bodoland FC capitalised on the missed chance. In the 60th minute, a corner from Pedro was headed on target by Abdul Samed, blocked but not cleared. Skipper Hazowry delivered a curling cross from the left, and this time Robinson made no mistake, tapping in the ball between the keeper’s legs to put

BDFC 2-1 ahead.

The play was halted briefly around the 75th minute due to a swarm of bees invading the pitch, forcing players and officials to hit the ground for safety. On the resumption of play, KAMSFC built momentum with a promising passing sequence, but Pedro made a vital interception to deny them.

Despite box-to-box action in the final minutes and late pressure from Karbi Anglong, BDFC maintained their composure to see out the game and seal all three points. With this result, Bodoland FC keep their hopes of progressing from Group D alive, while Karbi Anglong Morning Star FC suffer their second straight defeat, putting them on the brink of elimination.

Tomorrow’s Fixtures:

I-League side Real Kashmir FC will make their Durand Cup debut against the Indian Navy Football Team in a Group F encounter at the Khuman Lampak Main Stadium, Imphal, kickoff scheduled at 4:00 PM. With the previous Group F match, the Imphal Derby, ending in a thrilling draw, a win for either team could prove pivotal in the race for a quarterfinal berth.

Later in the evening, the action will move to Kishore Bharati Krirangan (KKB) in Kolkata, where the Border Security Force Football Team (BSF FT) will face Diamond Harbour FC in a Group B clash starting at 7:00 PM. Diamond Harbour, having already registered a win against Mohammedan SC, will be eyeing another victory to strengthen their bid for a top-place finish and qualification to the next round.

ALYSSA HEALY PREDICTS HARDEST TEAMS TO BEAT AT WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : Australia captain Alyssa Healy expects England and India to prove hard to conquer for Australia at this year’s ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup this year, as per the official website of ICC. Healy spoke to reporters at a sponsorship event for Cricket Australia in Sydney on Thursday and the experienced keeper revealed everything was on target for the Aussies as they try and become the first side to defend the Women’s 50-over World Cup title in 37 years. Australia won back-to-back World Cups in 1982 and 1988 under former skipper Sharon Tredrea and the seven-time champions will head into this year’s event in India and Sri Lanka as one of the favourites to hold aloft the famous trophy.

Healy is taking nothing for granted for her No.1 ranked ODI side in the world and has nominated their closest rivals in the rankings in England (second) and India (third) as potential stumbling blocks for the Aussies at the eight-team tournament that commences on September 30. “I wouldn’t write England off just yet, I think they will find a groove under Lottie (Charlotte Edwards),” Healy said, as quoted from the official website of ICC.

“But I think the way that India are playing, at home in those conditions, they are going to be really tough to beat,” she added. Healy is inching closer to making her comeback from the foot injury she picked up at last year’s ICC Women’s T20 World Cup and is eyeing off Australia A’s upcoming series at home against India A as her chance to return to competitive action.

ALYSSA HEALY PREDICTS HARDEST TEAMS TO BEAT AT WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP

MELBOURNE [AUSTRALIA] : Australia captain Alyssa Healy expects England and India to prove hard to conquer for Australia at this year’s ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup this year, as per the official website of ICC.

Healy spoke to reporters at a sponsorship event for Cricket Australia in Sydney on Thursday and the experienced keeper revealed everything was on target for the Aussies as they try and become the first side to defend the Women’s 50-over World Cup title in 37 years.

Australia won back-to-back World Cups in 1982 and 1988 under former skipper Sharon Tredrea and the seven-time champions will head into this year’s event in India and Sri Lanka as one of the favourites to hold aloft the famous

trophy.

Healy is taking nothing for granted for her No.1 ranked ODI side in the world and has nominated their closest rivals in the rankings in England (second) and India (third) as potential stumbling blocks for the Aussies at the eight-team tournament that commences on September 30.

“I wouldn’t write England off just yet, I think they will find a groove under Lottie (Charlotte Edwards),” Healy said, as quoted from the official website of ICC.

“But I think the way that India are playing, at home in those conditions, they are going to be really tough to beat,” she added.

Healy is inching closer to making her comeback from the foot injury she picked



up at last year’s ICC Women’s T20 World Cup and is eyeing off Australia A’s upcoming series at home against India A as her chance to return to competitive action.

The 35-year-old hasn’t played for Australia since she featured as a batter only in the one-off Test against England at the MCG in February and the most recent time she kept wickets was an ODI against the same side in January at the start of the year.

Healy plans to make her comeback to keeping during the ODI portion of the upcoming series with India A and has tweaked her technique behind the stumps slightly to help her ailing body.

“I haven’t actually kept in a competitive game since January and that’s given me a little bit of time to tinker with a few

things and make it a little bit easier on my body,” Healy said.

“We’ve been taught how to wicket-keep a certain way in this country for an extended period of time, and at the end of the day it’s not overly efficient on our bodies and doing it at 35, it’s not ideal,” she noted.

“We’ve just been looking at ways to make it a little bit easier for my ageing joints and trying to keep things moving the way they should,” she added.

“Without getting overly technical, (I’ve just adjusted) where I’m starting from, more than anything else,” she said.

“You won’t notice anything different, just not getting as low as what I used to, to hopefully help the knee, help the foot and keep me out there a little bit longer,” Healy noted.