

Ahead of voter purge fear, CM calls for strategy meeting

With the 2026 West Bengal assembly election on the horizon ad political tension rising over the possible implementation of the SIR (Special Summary Revision) process, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is set to hold a crucial virtual meeting with TMC MP's on Monday at 4.30 PM. According to party sources, Mamata Banerjee will provide directives on parliamentary strategies, highlighting the issues TMC MP's are expected to rise in the ongoing session. **PG 3**



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INDIA TO IMPORT RUSSIAN OIL DESPITE DONALD TRUMP'S THREAT: GOVT SOURCES

MI News Service, New Delhi: India will keep purchasing oil from Russia despite U.S. President Donald Trump's threats of penalties, two Indian government sources said, not wishing to be identified due to the sensitivity of the matter.

"These are long-term oil contracts," one of the sources said. "It is not so simple to just stop buying overnight." Trump last month indicated in a Truth Social post that India would face additional penalties for purchases of Russian arms and oil. Trump told reporters that he had heard that India would no longer be buying oil from Russia.

According to sources, two unnamed senior Indian officials as saying there had been no change in Indian government policy, with one official saying the government had "not given any direction to oil companies" to cut back imports from Russia. Sources reported this week that Indian state refiners stopped buying Russian oil in the past



week after discounts narrowed in July. "On our energy sourcing requirements ... we look at what is there available in the markets, what is there on offer, and also what is the prevailing global situ-

ation or circumstances," India's foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told reporters during a regular briefing.

Jaiswal added that India has a "steady and time-tested partner-

ship" with Russia, and that New Delhi's relations with various countries stand on their own merit and should not be seen from the prism of a third country. The White House in Washington did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Indian refiners are pulling back from Russian crude as discounts shrink to their lowest since 2022, when Western sanctions were first imposed on Moscow, due to lower Russian exports and steady demand, sources said earlier this week.

The country's state refiners - Indian Oil Corp, Hindustan Petroleum Corp, Bharat Petroleum Corp and Mangalore Refinery Petrochemical Ltd - have not sought Russian crude in the past week or so, four sources familiar with the refiners' purchase plans told. On July 14, Trump threatened 100% tariffs on countries that buy Russian oil unless Moscow reaches a major peace deal with Ukraine. Russia is the top supplier to India, responsible for about 35% of India's overall

supplies. Russia continued to be the top oil supplier to India during the first six months of 2025, accounting for about 35% of India's overall supplies, followed by Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. India, the world's third-largest oil importer and consumer, received about 1.75 million barrels per day of Russian oil in January-June this year, up 1% from a year ago, according to data provided to Reuters by sources. Nayara Energy, a major buyer of Russian oil, was recently sanctioned by the European Union as the refinery is majority-owned by Russian entities, including oil major Rosneft. Last month, Reuters reported that Nayara's chief executive had resigned after the imposition of EU sanctions and company veteran Sergey Denisov had been appointed as CEO. Three vessels laden with oil products from Nayara Energy have yet to discharge their cargoes, hindered by the new EU sanctions on the Russia-backed refiner, Reuters reported late last month.

Centre's promotion of 'Bengali' as Bangladeshi language is direct insult to global Bengalis: Mamata



MI News Service, Kolkata/ New Delhi: The West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has vehemently criticized the central government for tagging 'Bengali' language as Bangladeshi

language only without Indian connection. She fiercely criticized Delhi police for allegedly referring the 'Bengali' as a "Bangladeshi language" in an official letter, calling it a "deliberate insult" and a serious attempt to undermine a constitutionally recognized Indian language. The controversy arose from a letter sent by Delhi police to Bangabhaban, where the force reportedly mentioned the 'Bengali' language as 'Bangladeshi' language which was needed to be translated for official purpose.

According to Mamata, "The Bengali language is spoken by over 250 million people globally and recognized as one of India's 22 official languages. Yes it is also spoken in Bangladesh also. But that does not make 'Bengali' a foreign language. This is not an error, rather a calculated insult of the language itself and all the Bengalis residing in India and abroad." The TMC as a

party has also officially condemned this 'henious act'. The party officially stated that "This is a government attempt to erase the identity of a constitutionally recognized language and falsely portray millions of Bengali-speaking Indians as foreigners in their own country," as the the post read. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has already called for a "language movement" in response to recent incidents of discrimination against Bengali speakers across India. The issue has gained further traction following alleged instances of harassment of Bengali-speaking migrant workers outside West Bengal. TMC leaders Kunal Ghosh and Firhad Hakim have also addressed the matter through press conferences featuring affected workers.

PM Modi meets President Murmu

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday called on President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here. Details of the meeting were not immediately available. "Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi called on President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan," the Rashtrapati Bhavan said on X. The meeting comes in the backdrop of the logjam in Parliament over the opposition demand for a discussion on the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise in Bihar ahead of the Assembly elections in the state.

Except discussions in both Houses on Operation Sindoor, Parliament has seen little business ever since the Monsoon session began on July 21. The prime minister's meeting with the President also came days after US President Donald Trump announced 25 per cent tariffs on exports from India and an unspecified penalty because of New Delhi's purchases of Russian military equipment and oil.

Bengal govt prohibits 'arbitrary changes' to birth & death certificates

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Health Department has issued a stringent directive prohibiting "arbitrary alterations" to birth and death certificates as per personal wishes, an official said on Sunday.

According to the new guidelines issued recently, individuals would no longer be allowed to modify personal details, such as names or dates, on these certificates without proper documentation and official authorisation. Any such change could only be made by the registrar, who would be the sole authority in this matter, he added. "If anyone wants to make corrections or changes in the spelling of names or any other detail on a birth or death certificate, he or she must submit the necessary documents that are required to do that. If

the registrar is satisfied after reviewing the submitted documents, then only the desired alterations would be approved," he told. According to the new guidelines, only minor corrections, specifically typographical errors, could be rectified. "It includes spelling mistakes in the names or minor inaccuracies in dates of birth, or small discrepancies in the place of birth. But all the corrections must be supported by valid documentation. And the authority to approve any change lies solely with the registrar. His decision will be deemed final," he elaborated. "To request any permissible change, applicants must submit proof of identity, including Aadhaar card, Voter ID, or PAN card. In cases

India opens 8 new consular centres across USA



Ambassador Kwatra said in his statement that the new Indian Consular Application Centres would be in Boston, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, Addison, Orlando, Raleigh, and San Jose.

MI News Service, New Delhi/Washington: India has opened eight new consular centres across the US, significantly expanding the delivery footprint for visa, passport and other services and streamlining them to make them more accessible and efficient for the Indian diaspora in the country.

India's Ambassador to the US Vinay Kwatra virtually inaugurated the new Indian Consular Application Centres (ICAC) in Boston, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, Edison, Orlando, Raleigh and San Jose. An additional ICAC will soon open in Los Angeles. Starting August 1, 2025, all consular services, including passport, visa, OCI, surrender certificate, life certificate, birth/marriage certificate, police clearance, attestations, and more, will be provided exclusively through VFS Global Centres. The expansion brings the total number of ICACs across the US to 17, making consular services more accessible to Indian and American citizens in the country.

Kwatra described this as a "very significant" expansion of the consular services delivery footprint offered by the Embassy of India across the United States, which is home to a nearly five million-strong Indian diaspora.

Kwatra said that the expansion underscores Prime Minister Narendra Modi's deep regard for the Indian diaspora, which the Indian leader has described as the "strongest brand ambassador of India" and is at the heart of a strong India-US partnership that is manifested through people-to-people ties between the two societies. "We are confident

that these centres will play a crucial role in fostering and continuing a strong relationship with our diaspora, but at the same time also empower our diaspora to engage more deeply between our two countries," Kwatra said. He added that the diaspora plays a significant and crucial role in strengthening and contributing to the India-US relationship.

Highlighting the "very strong political engagement between the two countries" in recent months, Kwatra noted PM Modi's visit to Washington in February, visits by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, as well as the visit by US Vice President J D Vance and his family to India in April. Kwatra said these visits have "really deepened not just the discussions, but also the scope and the depth of our partnership." "It is my belief, as has also been stated by the Prime Minister, that you are a living bridge between our two societies, two countries. You contribute to the development and enrichment of this relationship, as also of the two countries. And I hope that you will continue to play this important and irreplaceable role," he said.

India's Consul General in New York, Binaya Pradhan, attended the special inauguration ceremony at the Indian Consular Application Centre in Edison that was attended by Edison Mayor Sam Joshi as well as prominent members of the Indian-American community. Kwatra inaugurated the centres and addressed the diaspora who also

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Rescue personnel assist people in moving on a route blocked by debris and boulders after heavy rainfall during the annual 'Kedarnath Yatra', near Gaurikund, in Rudraprayag district, Uttarakhand.

Odisha, Chhattisgarh eye water truce

MI News Service, Cuttack/Raipur: The decades-long Mahanadi water-sharing dispute between Odisha and Chhattisgarh may finally move towards a resolution, with Chhattisgarh chief minister Vishnu Deo Sai assuring his Odisha counterpart Mohan Charan Majhi of his willingness to resolve the matter amicably. Activists have welcomed the development but urged the Centre to convene a joint meeting to help both states reach a settlement. Majhi had written to Sai on July 25, seeking cooperation to end the impasse. Sai responded, stating the matter was "under consideration". Following this exchange, the Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal on Friday deferred its next hearing from August 2 to September 6. "We deem it appropriate to request the secretaries concerned of the respective states to remain present before the tribunal on the next date and apprise it about the progress of settlement talks," Tribunal chairperson Justice Bela M. Trivedi said. Odisha advocate-general Pitambar Acharya and Chhattisgarh's senior counsel both told the tribunal that talks were under way for an out-of-court resolution. The Mahanadi river is Odisha's lifeline, supporting drinking water, irrigation and industrial needs across 16 of its 30 districts. The

river's delta, stretching over 95,000 sqkm, sustains some of India's most important mangrove forests and serves as a natural barrier during frequent cyclones. "Reduced water flow in the Mahanadi will drastically impact the fragile deltaic ecosystem — especially Satkosia, Bhitarkanika wetlands, Chilika lagoon, Gahirmatha turtle habitat and the Mahanadi delta itself. Drinking water availability will also be severely affected," a source warned. Chhattisgarh has taken up multiple irrigation projects in the upper reaches of the Mahanadi without sharing detailed project reports, sources said. Barrages built on the Chhattisgarh side have allegedly caused water shortages during summer and floods during the monsoon due to sudden releases. Sources said at the time of the Hirakud dam's establishment in 1947, Odisha was promised a minimum of 12.28 million acre-feet of water, a commitment made by the erstwhile Madhya Pradesh and now seen as non-negotiable by Odisha. The state has demanded an immediate halt to all ongoing constructions by Chhattisgarh on the river. Chhattisgarh, however, maintains that all projects have been executed as per rules to meet the state's water needs.

J&K: Anti-terror opr in Kulgam enters 3rd day



Kulgam: Security personnel keep a vigil amid an ongoing encounter between security forces and terrorists in a forest area at Akhal, in Kulgam district, Jammu and Kashmir.

MI News Service, Srinagar: The anti-terrorist operation in Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir entered the third day on Sunday as security forces tightened the noose around the ultras engaged in the gun battle with them. "The encounter has entered third day as intermittent exchange of firing has been going on since Sunday morning," an official said.

He said the security forces were using all means, including drones, to track down the terrorists. Two terrorists have been killed in the encounter which began on Friday after security forces launched a cordon and

search operation in a forest area at Akhal in the south Kashmir district, following specific intelligence inputs about the presence of terrorists there.

After an initial exchange of fire between the two sides on Friday evening, the operation was halted for the night, the officials said. The cordon was strengthened, and additional reinforcements were rushed to the area. Firing resumed on Saturday morning, during which two terrorists were killed, the officials said. The identity and group affiliation of the slain terrorists are being ascertained, they added, noting that the operation is still underway.

Two Bangladeshi nationals arrested in Darjeeling for illegal entry from Nepal

MI News Service, Darjeeling: Two Bangladeshi nationals were arrested in Darjeeling district on Saturday for their allegedly illegal entry into India. Sources said a team of the 41st battalion of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) that guards the India-Nepal border apprehended the two Bangladeshis on the old bridge in Panitanki (located around 35km from Siliguri) while they were attempting to enter India from Nepal illegally. Md Noor Hossen Khondokar and Md Omar Faruqe Arman are from Feni and Madaripur in Bangladesh, respectively. The SSB personnel seized five cellphones, Bangladeshi identity cards, Nepalese currency and SIM cards from the two. During the preliminary investigation, the SSB found that Noor had infiltrated into India through the Sylhet-Tripura route around eight months back with the help of a Bangladeshi agent, and had travelled to Nepal with him. The agent had promised to send him to Romania and had returned to Bangladesh with Noor's passport, leaving him stranded in Nepal.

Omar had flown from Dhaka to Kathmandu in January with the help of another Bangladeshi agent who had assured him that he would be sent to Croatia and then France. The duo were stranded in Nepal and met each other. They contacted an Indian who asked them to come to the India-Nepal border and assured them that he would send them back to Bangladesh. The agent met them at Kakarvitta in Nepal, which is on the other side of Panitanki, and left after taking their cash. When he did not return, the duo took an e-rickshaw and headed for Panitanki, where they were held. A Bangladeshi national suspected to be a cattle smuggler who had taken refuge in the Baishnabnagar police station area of Malda was arrested on Saturday, along with two residents who sheltered him.

9-member TMC panel for Darjeeling plains set up to strengthen regional leadership

MI News Service, Siliguri: The Trinamool leadership on Saturday announced a nine-member core committee for the Darjeeling (plains) organisational district, instead of choosing a new district president. The committee, announced through a media release, comprises prominent leaders, both rural and urban. "There are representatives from different communities, women members and senior leaders like Gautam Deb. It is evident that the state leadership took an inclusive approach to avoid infighting," said a party veteran in Siliguri. Earlier, a similar core committee was announced in Birbhum district, following differences between party leaders Anubrata Mondal and Kajal Sheikh. Siliguri mayor Gautam Deb, also a former state minister and still considered the party's tallest leader in north Bengal, is a member. So is his deputy, Ranjan Sarkar. Veteran leader Sanka Malakar, who has recently defected to Trinamool from the Congress, is included on the committee with Arun Ghosh, the sabhadhipati of the Siliguri Mahakuma Parishad (SMP). Ainul Haque, a prominent Trinamool leader of the sub-division and a member of the SMP, is also on the committee.

The committee also has four women — Papiya Ghosh, the immediate past district Trinamool president; Roma Reshmi Ekka, the sahakari sabhadhipati of the SMP; as well as party leaders Jyoti Tirkey and Sobha Subba.



Minister Aroop Biswas visited the relief camps in the flood-hit Uttarpara, Daspara and Kamargariya areas of Adampur in Raina Vidhan Sabha of Burdwan district and handed over relief materials to the affected people. At the same time, the Minister visited the flood-hit areas by boat in Kamargariya village. He was accompanied by District Magistrate Ayesha Rani A, District Superintendent of Police Saheb Das, Minister Swapan Debnath, MLA Rabindranath Chatterjee, MLA Khokon Das and local MLA Shampa Dhara on Sunday.

Police fails to arrest accused cow vigilante, Bengal govt draws flak from Opposition

MI News Service, Durgapur: Police are yet to arrest Parijat Ganguly, the alleged leader of a group of cow vigilantes who tied up and assaulted four cattle traders in Durgapur on Thursday, prompting many political parties to question the intention of the Trinamool Congress. Police officers in Durgapur said on Friday that they had found out that local BJP leader Ganguly had led the group that had attacked and paraded the Muslim cattle traders. The police had arrested Anish Bhattacharya and Dipak Das on Friday in the case. "We have raided all possible hideouts where Parijat Ganguly could have taken shelter, but he could not be found. Serious efforts are being made to arrest all culprits soon. Such incidents will not be tolerated," said a senior police officer. A court in Durgapur on Saturday remanded Bhattacharya and Das in police custody for five days. A section of the residents in

Durgapur demonstrated in front of the Durgapur police station on Friday night, demanding the immediate arrest of all the culprits. On Thursday, the BJP activists led by Ganguly had beaten up four persons after accusing them of being Bangladeshi intruders smuggling cattle and tied up their hands. The cow vigilantes paraded them forcibly after making them hold their ears in full public view in the Gammon Bridge area under the jurisdiction of the Coke Oven police station in Durgapur town. The attackers also released 20 cattle from a truck. The incident occurred barely 200 meters from the local police station, but the cops allegedly did not intervene to rescue the traders. The outrageous incident came to light after a video clip of the torture surfaced on social media, prompting Trinamool leaders to launch a protest and lodge a police complaint. Opposition parties, barring the BJP, said incidents of cow vig-

ilantism were common in BJP-run states and asked how such an attack had taken place in Trinamool-ruled Bengal. "I appreciate that Trinamool Congress launched a protest and lodged a complaint with the police against the barbaric incident. But my question is why such an incident will happen during Trinamool's rule. Why has the prime accused not been arrested yet?" asked Nawsad Siddique, the ISF MLA from Bhargar. He said the traders were yet to get back the cattle. "Also, who will compensate for their financial loss and shoulder the expenses of their treatment?" "One of the traders has received eight stitches on his head," said Siddique. The MLA visited the homes of the victims in Jemua village on Saturday. "I spoke to the victims and came to know that the BJP activists had not only assaulted them but also stolen their money and mobile phones.

STF arrests a most wanted Bangladeshi in disguise of monk in Nadia



Dipankar Edbar, Tehatta (Nadia) : In a joint venture, Special Task Force (STF) and local police arrested a man, wanted for multiple serious offences in Bangladesh, from Nadia's Tehatta on Sunday, police said. He was dwelling there in disguise of a Hindu monk. The accused, identified as Hashem Ali Malik, had allegedly crossed the border illegally and was finally residing in Baliura Purba Para of Tehatta PS using a fake identity. According to the STF, Hashem is on the 'most wanted' list

in Bangladesh for several criminal cases. Investigators say Hashem adopted the appearance of a 'sadhu' (holy man) to avoid detection and had been living in the area for several months. Based on intelligence inputs, STF teams, along with local police from Tehatta PS, conducted a raid and apprehended the accused. He was found with forged documents during the verification process. He was produced before the Tehatta Sub-Divisional Court later on Sunday. Officials are investigating the extent of his activities in India and whether he had any local support networks. This arrest has once again raised serious concerns over cross-border infiltration and whether parts of Bengal are becoming safe havens for fugitives. A few months ago, after a gangster was gunned down in a Patna hospital, the assailants were found to have taken shelter in West Bengal, before being arrested shortly after. Police are not ruling out the possibility of a larger network facilitating such infiltrations.

Sameer Das felicitated by "Journalist Ratna" Award



MI News Service, Kolkata: In 2025, a reception and discussion program was organized for the eminent personalities of the society in memory of the world's of the greatest scholar Babasaheb Ambedkar, along with Guruchand Tagore, Gautam Buddha, Mahapran Yogendranath Mandal, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Krittivas Ojha, and Rabindranath Tagore. The program was inaugurated by Tagore Sri Sri Sameereshwar Brahmachari, under the direction of Ambedkar Cultural College, and in collaboration with New Barrackpore Ambedkar Foundation, New Barrackpore People's Education Society. In addition, Swami Atradananda, Dr. Hasibur Rahman Chowdhury, Dr. Apurba Kumar Biswas, Dr. Deepa Das, Professor Dr. Bankim Chandra Mondal, Devika Banerjee, Lilavati Biswas and Editor Dilip Biswas were present as the inaugurators. MLA and President of Dalit Sahitya Academy, renowned Dalit writer Manoranjan Bepari, Vice-President of Dalit Sahitya Academy, Dr. Ashish Hira. Rabindra Bharati University Professor Dr. Bankim Chandra Mondal. Principal Indramohan Mondal, Professor Jadavpur University, Principal Hingalganj College Dr. Sheikh Kamal Uddin, Dr. Shyamal Biswas CMOH, Professor Deepak Biswas, Professor Pankaj Mondal, Acharya Manoranjan Halder, journalist and writer Sameer Das, Editor of Abhaybanga newspaper Jagadish Yadav, along with more than 200 prominent social workers, poets, writers, musicians and artists were present.

B-11 Sarbojanin Durga Puja Steps into its 36th Year, theme this time is 'Amar Para, Amader Poribar'

Dipankar Edbar, Kalyani: The Kalyani B-11 Sarbojanin Durga Puja in Nadia, a prominent community celebration in the locality, entered its proud 36th year this time. The theme this year is 'Amar Para, Amader Poribar', a reflection of Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee's program that she launched on Saturday. With a legacy of more than three decades, this puja has grown into a symbol of neighbourhood unity, cultural continuity and social commitment. On Sunday, the festivities commenced with the traditional Khuti Puja, a ritualistic pole worship that marks the official beginning of the Durga Puja preparations. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from residents of all age groups, from children to elders, amid chants, conch-shell sounds



and rhythmic beats of dhaak. Speaking to journalist, Nabin Ghosh, secretary of the puja committee, said, "Our aim

goes beyond organising a religious festival. It is about bringing people together, preserving cultural heritage, and connecting the younger generation with this vibrant atmosphere." The theme for this year, 'Amar Para, Amader Poribar', reflects the spirit of belonging and collective responsibility. The committee has planned a series of eco-conscious initiatives as part of the celebrations, including zero-plastic decorations, focus on local artisans, and improved waste management. Local councillor and puja committee president Nivedita Basu remarked, "This pandal has evolved into more than a place of worship, it is a symbol of our unity, culture, and mutual respect. Over the years, it has become the heart of our community." Beyond the four

days of celebration, the committee has lined up several social and cultural initiatives in the run-up to the puja—free health camps, blood donation drives, sapling distribution, and youth talent contests, to name a few. The evenings will come alive with plays, recitations, folk music and dance performances by local groups. Veteran resident Ramen Chakraborty, who was part of the first puja committee, shared, "Back in the first year, we were just a handful of people with a lot of dreams. Now, looking back, it's amazing to see how this puja has become part of our identity." As preparations gather pace, B-11's Durga Puja continues to stand out as a living tradition, where faith, festivity and fraternity beautifully blend into one grand celebration.



Pink Roses Entertainment hosted HK Mr -Miss -Mrs India International 2025



MI News Service, Kolkata: On August 2nd, at the Odens Club in Kolkata, Pink Roses Entertainment, under the leadership and management of Mrs. Asia Winner, international model, social activist, and advocate Hina Kausar, hosted HK Mr. Miss Mrs. India International 2025 – Season 7. Participants from West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and other regions took part in this beauty pageant show. Hina Kausar has created this platform to provide opportunities in the glamour and media industry to talented boys and girls who are socially or economically underprivileged. Around 30 contestants, from children to adults, participated in the event. Additionally, about 20 eminent personalities from various fields of society, who have contributed significantly in their respective domains, were honored with the Ra-

bindranath Tagore Award. Special guests at the event included IPS officer Shanti Das, Bollywood actor Rahul Roy, Dr. Arif Nasir Butt, political figure Sabir Ali, businessman Afzal Khan, singer Sushmita Mukherjee, Bollywood model Manpreet Singh, among others. Winners of the beauty pageant were awarded trophies, crowns, and gifts by the attending dignitaries. Winners List: Kids Section: Daks Roy and Sampri Naskar. Mr. Category: Winner: Shubham Snehal. 1st Runner-Up: Saunak De. v. Miss Category: Winner: Pratiksha Sarkar. 1st Runner-Up: Trisha De. 2nd Runner-Up: Vidiya Jaiswal. Mrs. Category: Winner: dr .Preeti Ranjan. 1st Runner-Up: dr. Bhuvaneshwari Chakraborty. 2nd Runner-Up: Barna Raha Banerjee. The entire event was hosted by supermodel Sap-tami Banerjee.

28-year-old migrant worker dies under mysterious circumstances in Pune,

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: A 28-year-old migrant worker from a Jalpaiguri village, who was working in Pune, Maharashtra, died under mysterious circumstances last month. Dipu Das's family in Gokulbhita village under Rajganj block came to know of his death on Wednesday from an acquaintance. They also got a picture of the body with injury marks on the throat, causing them to suspect foul play. On Friday, a district police team started for Pune with some of his kin to bring the body to his village. Local sources said that Dipu's three brothers, all casual workers in Gokulbhita, suffered a double shock as their mother died on Monday. A 28-year-old migrant worker from a Jalpaiguri village, who was working in Pune, Maharashtra, died under mysterious circumstances last month.

A magnificent tribute to Kishore Kumar

MI News Service, Kolkata: A magnificent tribute to Kishore Kumar was held on 2nd August at Birendra Krishna Mancha in North Kolkata. The event was organized by music artiste Anuradha Mukherjee and her own band ANU 156 BAND. The entire event was managed by Anirban Mitra. The main attraction of this event was the musical performance of singers Saikat Mitra, Mita Chatterjee, Abir Chatterjee, Akash Burman, Anirban Mitra. Apart from this, lyricist-composer-poet Subrata Ghoshal, journalist Abhijit Bhattacharya and above all dancer Meghmita Mitra were present among other people. In this event, the dance performance of Meghmita Cultural Institute and a duet performance of singer Saikat Mitra with Anuradha Mukherjee attracted special attention of the audience. Apart from this, the solo musical performance of Anirban Mitra and the duet performance with Mita Chatterjee.

Landslide halts traffic on NH10 between Kalimpong and Sikkim for five hours

MI News Service, Kalimpong: Traffic was disrupted between Kalimpong and Sikkim for nearly five hours on Saturday after a landslide occurred on NH10 at Tarkhola during incessant rain. The condition of NH10 near Swetijhora, which is between Sevoke and Teesta Bazar, is also vulnerable, as around one-third of the stretch has caved in along the Teesta river. "A fresh landslide at Tarkhola in Kalimpong district on NH10 snapped the direct road connectivity between Kalimpong and Sikkim since 9.30am today. The National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited, along with the Kalimpong district administration, started clearing the debris from the affected area. Eventually, vehicles started passing along the stretch around 2pm," said an administrative official.

"Drivers have been requested to be cautious at Swetijhora, where a chunk of the highway has caved in. The road has become narrow there," the official added. Indira Hang Subba, the sole Lok Sabha member from Sikkim, called on Union minister of road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari on Friday and requested him to consider building a greenfield highway between Sevoke and Melli on the opposite bank of the Teesta. NH10, which is the lifeline of Sikkim, is along the right bank of the river till Teesta Bazar (the landslide-prone stretch) and then, along the left bank. "This new alignment would serve as a strategic and flood-resilient parallel route to the existing NH10, ensuring uninterrupted access to Sikkim during natural calamities and enhancing long-term regional connectivity," Subba wrote on social media after the meeting.

Model fakes ID, gets arrested after filing complaint

MI News Service, Kolkata: Bangladeshi national and model Shanta Pal has been arrested in Kolkata for allegedly forging Indian identity documents and filing a fraudulent complaint while concealing her true citizenship. The case took a sensational turn when police discovered both Bangladeshi and Indian identity cards in her possession, raising serious questions about how she operated undetected for so long. Shanta recently approached the Thakurpukur police station, claiming she was cheated out of 7 lakh Bangladeshi taka by a home décor company after purchasing a flat in New Ali-pore. She alleged that despite paying a significant amount for interior work, no progress was made. Initially filed as a General Diary (GD), the complaint was later escalated to an FIR. In her statement, Shanta claimed to be a resident of Rajendra Prasad Colony under Golf Green police station and presented forged documents, including an Aadhaar card and voter ID, to support her claim of Indian citizenship. Investigations intensified after the accused individual in her complaint alleged on social media that Shanta maintained dual identities—Bangladeshi and a forged Indian one. Following this revelation, authorities uncovered inconsistencies and arrested her. Local sources confirmed that the New Ali-pore flat remains locked and was at the center of a property dispute. Police are now probing how Shanta obtained Indian documents and whether she was supported by a larger network facilitating identity fraud. The case has shocked investigators, especially given her deep integration into Kolkata society and property dealings under a false identity.

Veggies prices skyrocket as Rains ruin crops

MI News Service, Kolkata: With relentless monsoon rains affecting large swathes of agricultural land, vegetable prices have surged sharply across Kolkata and several districts of West Bengal, leaving consumers reeling under pressure. From brinjal crossing the ₹100 mark to chillies selling at ₹120 per kg, the sudden spike in prices is being attributed to severe crop damage triggered by over a month of persistent low-pressure systems. According to vendors and market observers, heavy rainfall over the past several weeks has submerged vast areas of farmland in districts such as Bankura, North 24 Parganas, Hooghly, and Nadia, significantly reducing the supply of key vegetables. The result: sharp hikes in prices across the board. Here's a snapshot of current market prices (per kg unless otherwise mentioned): Cauliflower: ₹50-₹60 (up from ₹30), Parwal (Patal): ₹70-₹80 (was ₹40-₹50), Large Brinjal: ₹100+, Tomatoes: ₹70, Cucumbers: ₹80, Kankrol (Teasel Gourd): ₹80 (up from ₹50), Ridge Gourd (Jhingel): ₹80, Gourds: ₹40, Green Chillies: ₹100-₹120 (₹10-₹20 per 100 grams). The situation is consistent across urban and rural markets alike, with Sunday shoppers in Kolkata and surrounding districts expressing deep frustration. Many middle-income families say that shopping for vegetables has become economically burdensome, and that meal planning has had to be adjusted in response to the spike. A section of consumers and traders believe that a more proactive role from the government's market task force could have helped stabilize prices, at least to some extent. However, sellers argue that the current supply crisis is beyond control, as the torrential rain has destroyed crops over multiple harvest cycles.



The Trinamool Mahila Congress leaders and activists held a demonstration condemning the attack and harassment faced by Bangla-speaking people in other states, in Kolkata on Sunday.

Ahead of voter purge fear, CM calls for strategy meeting

MI News Service, Kolkata: With the 2026 West Bengal assembly election on the horizon and political tension rising over the possible implementation of the SIR (Special Summary Revision) process, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is set to hold a crucial virtual meeting with TMC MP's on Monday at 4.30 PM. According to party sources, Mamata Banerjee will provide directives on parliamentary strategies, highlighting the issues TMC MP's are expected to rise in the ongoing session. The backdrop to this meeting is growing controversy over voter list revisions. Following reports from Bihar where nearly 61 lakh names were allegedly excluded in the draft voter roll-the opposition in Bengal has sounded alarm bells about similar exclusion potentially occurring in the state. With the Election Commission reportedly planning to begin SIR in Bengal this August, Mamata Banerjee is expected to emphasize



vigilance and preparedness among her party's MPs. The TMC With the Election Commission reportedly planning to begin SIR in Bengal this August, Mamata Banerjee is expected to emphasize vigilance and

preparedness among her party's MPs. The Trinamool Congress has already taken a firm stance, warning of mass protests if any eligible voters are excluded during the revision process. In addition to electoral matters, Mamata is also likely to discuss the party's recently launched grassroots outreach initiative, 'Paray-Paray Sambal', instructing MPs on their roles and responsibilities within the program aimed at strengthening the party's local presence. Notably, this is not the only high-level meeting scheduled. Trinamool All India General Secretary and MP Abhishek Banerjee will also chair a virtual meeting on August 5, which will include all district presidents and leaders of the party's frontal organizations. The meetings are being seen as part of a coordinated strategy to mobilize the party and tighten organizational preparedness in the lead-up to the 2026 state elections.



Differently abled students tie rakhi to each other on the occasion of Friendship day organised by 'Sangbedan' ahead of Rakhi Bandhan Festival in Kolkata on Sunday.

Tilottama case: Parents urge mass protest for justice

MI News Service, Kolkata: As the first anniversary of the Tilottama incident approaches, the grieving family of the young medical student is set to intensify their demand for justice with a symbolic protest march to Nabanna, the state administrative headquarters, on August 9. Dissatisfied with the course and outcomes of both the initial police investigation and the subsequent CBI inquiry, the family has appealed to civil society members and various opposition groups to join them in what they are calling a peaceful but firm campaign for accountability and judicial redress. In the lead-up to the protest, Tilottama's parents have personally reached out to leaders and representatives of multiple political and social organizations to garner support for their movement—deliberately excluding the ruling establishment from the appeal. According to sources, the family has met several

prominent figures over the past week, explaining their concerns about perceived investigative lapses and appealing for broader solidarity. On Saturday, the family met leaders from various platforms, including a forum of activists known for supporting student and public interest causes. They reiterated that the Navanna campaign was not aligned with any party ideology but was rooted in the demand for transparent and fair justice. Notably, some civil society representatives have confirmed their intention to join the march, citing it as a matter of civil liberty and institutional integrity. Speaking to the press, Tilottama's father said, m"We have invited everyone who stands for truth and justice. This movement is for our daughter, and for every family that wants to believe the system will stand by them in times of tragedy. We welcome anyone who shares that belief." He added that anyone un-

comfortable with marching alongside particular figures could choose to protest independently or from a separate location. "The core demand remains the same—justice. The presence of any one person should not overshadow that," he stated. When asked about the motivation for organizing this protest now, the family pointed to the lack of closure and the growing feeling that institutional processes have failed to answer key questions in the case. Despite arrests made and a verdict delivered, they allege that several aspects of the incident—including how their daughter's death unfolded and whether external pressure influenced the sequence of events—remain insufficiently examined. Observers note that while the case was initially investigated by city police, it was later handed over to the **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), based on the family's own request.

Humidity high, rain higher: Bengal's Wet week begins

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued red and orange alerts for several districts in North Bengal, forecasting intense rainfall over the next 48 hours. Regions such as Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar are expected to receive more than 200 mm of rain, while Darjeeling, Kalimpong, and Cooch Behar are under an orange alert for heavy showers. As of Saturday, Jalpaiguri recorded 160 mm of rainfall in 24 hours, while Alipurduar registered 152 mm, and Cooch Behar 93 mm. The situation remains critical in adjoining regions of Sikkim and Bhutan, where rising water levels could pose additional threats. Meanwhile, South Bengal is not out of danger, with scattered rainfall and thunderstorms forecast for Sunday and Monday. The IMD has warned of increased humidity-related discomfort, with relative humidity levels hovering between 75-96%. Affected districts include Birbhum, Murshidabad, Nadia, East and West Burdwan, and both North and South 24 Parganas. Kolkata will continue to experience intermittent rain, with the minimum temperature recorded at 28.4°C and a maximum of 32.2°C on Saturday. Although rainfall may decrease temporarily on Tuesday and Wednesday, meteorologists warn of a renewed spell starting Thursday, particularly in Nadia and North 24 Parganas, where heavy rain is likely.

Bengal govt prohibits 'arbitrary changes' to birth & death certificates

From PG 1 involving surname changes, an affidavit from a First Class Judicial Magistrate is required, along with a school admission certificate or equivalent document," the official said. This move, he said, is expected to standardise birth and death record management across the state and eliminate the scope for misuse or misrepresentation of personal data. In cases of divorce or remarriage, the father's name, once registered on a birth certificate of a child, cannot be removed or replaced. "This measure is being taken to prevent legal complications and to ensure a smooth process during school admissions and other identity verification," he said. The state health department has cited provisions from the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, which restrict certain changes that lead to legal or administrative confusion.



Dilip Kumar Saha (60) of Chakda Anandapally, ward 114 under Tollygunge assembly constituency, committed suicide due to fear of NRC and CAA. On receiving the news, Minister and MLA Aroop Biswas returned from Burdwan and went straight to his house. Minister assured to stand by the family of the deceased.

8-month-old battling rare genetic disorder needs Rs 9 cr injection

MI News Service, Kolkata: Anshika Mondal, an eight-month-old baby girl from Matiganj in Ratua, Malda, is facing a life-threatening battle with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Type 1—a rare genetic disorder that progressively weakens muscles and affects mobility, breathing, and eventually vital organ functions. Diagnosed just weeks after her birth, her only hope lies in receiving a one-time gene therapy injection, Zolgensma, which comes at an astronomical cost of ₹9 crore. Her parents, Animesh and Bitpi Mondal, have now turned to the public, pleading for financial help to save their only child. The signs of the disorder first became evident when Anshika was just over a month old. Her parents noticed her inability to move her limbs properly. Alarmed by her condition, they consulted doctors and underwent several medical tests. The diagnosis, confirmed by specialists in Bengaluru, revealed that Anshika suffers from SMA Type 1, one of the most severe forms of the condition. Left untreated, the disease can result in complete muscle paralysis and death, often before the age of two. Doctors advised that the only effective treatment available is Zolgensma, a gene therapy injection manufactured in Switzerland, priced at around ₹14 crore. Recognizing the financial limitations of the family, the pharmaceutical company has offered the drug at a reduced cost of ₹9 crore. Still, this amount remains far beyond what the family, who come from a modest middle-class background, can afford. Animesh Mondal, Anshika's

father, previously worked as a junior electrical engineer in the state public works department before shifting to academia. He now teaches electrical engineering at a private college in Ratua. Originally from South 24 Parganas, the family relocated to Malda for work. Despite their best efforts, they have so far managed to raise only ₹35 lakh through crowdfunding campaigns. The family has reached out to both state and central government authorities, including direct appeals to the Chief Minister, but they say no substantial response has come yet.

They continue to knock on doors while balancing hospital visits, emotional stress, and the ticking clock on their daughter's life. Currently, Anshika is under round-the-clock care. She takes a nebulizer four times a day and is administered seven different medications to help manage symptoms. Her health condition fluctuates frequently—sometimes requiring emergency hospital admissions and other times offering brief periods of stability. She visits Peerless Hospital in Kolkata once a month and has follow-up appointments at SSKM Hospital every two months. Time is critical. Doctors have stressed that the injection must be administered before Anshika turns two years old.

If not treated in time, the disease will continue to damage her organs irreversibly, leading to eventual system failure. Anshika's story is not without precedent. Just weeks ago, another child—Asmika Das from Ranaghat in Nadia—was also diagnosed with SMA Type 1.

India opens 8 new consular centres across USA

From PG 1 joined virtually from across the new centres that have been opened. Head of North America and Caribbean, VFS Global, Amit Kumar Sharma told the gathering in Edison that the agency's focus has been to make "our services more convenient, comfortable and more accessible" and to serve the community better. Noting that the centres will now be open on Saturdays as well, Sharma pointed out, amid applause, that VFS has worked with 70 countries, centres across 150 countries, and this will be the first time that it is going to work for any government on a Saturday. This commitment "reflects the mindset of the leadership, what they want to achieve," Sharma said. "And they came up with a process that addresses these concerns," Sharma said. He stressed that various services like call centres will be improved and streamlined to ensure enhanced deliveries for the community members. "I am very hopeful that these new expansions will help the community, help the diaspora take these services in a much efficient way. This is a testament to our commitment as well. We take pride in making these services comfortable, convenient and accessible for people, and we will continue to do that," Sharma said. In

addition to the new centres, the Embassy of India is enhancing operational accessibility and service deliveries effective immediately. As part of this, all 17 ICACs will operate six days a week, including Saturdays, offering flexibility for applicants to access these consular services without causing disruption to their work schedule during weekdays. To further streamline access, a number of miscellaneous consular and attestation services will be provided through the application centres, which Kwatra said will add to the convenience and administrative efficiency of the delivery of consular services in the US.

Referring to PM Modi's announcement that two additional consulates will be opened in Boston and Los Angeles, Kwatra said "we are currently working very intensely to ensure that these two consulates begin their work as early as possible and are functional" soon. "The opening of the two new consulates in Boston and Los Angeles captures our intent that given the nature of our growing strength of India-US partnership, there is a need to expand the diplomatic footprint across the United States, and the opening of these two consulates captures that objective of ours," the Indian Ambassador said.

NAME CHANGE
I, HAYDAR ALI (Old Name) S/o AKTAR ALI HALDER resident of V-68, AKRA ROAD, HEDER ARA LANE, PO-BARTALA, PS-RAJABAGAN, KOLKATA - 700018 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from HAYDAR ALI to HAYDAR ALI HALDER and henceforth I shall be known as HAYDAR ALI HALDER in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 09AC 669279 sworn before the Notary Public at ALIPORE on 01/08/2025 HAYDAR ALI and HAYDAR ALI HALDER both are same and one identical person.

Change of Name
I, Maidul Ali Sheikh S/o Sawkat Ali Shaikh Residing at Khasmaliik, P.o - Dakshin Gobindapur, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700145 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Maidul Ali Shaikh. I declare that Maidul Ali Shaikh and Maidul Ali Shaikh is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 01-08-2025.

Change of Name
I, Soukat Ali Sheikh S/o Jamat Ali Shaikh Residing at Khasmaliik, P.o - Dakshin Gobindapur, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700145 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Sawkat Ali Shaikh. I declare that Soukat Ali Sheikh and Sawkat Ali Shaikh is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 01-08-2025.

Change of Name
I, Devendra Thevar S/o Sundar Raj Thevar Residing at 71/1F, Amyia Hazra Lane, Park Street, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700016 West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Devendran Thevar. I declare that Devendra Thevar and Devendran Thevar is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 01-08-2025.

Change of Name
I, Sekh Kashem S/o Akbar Ali Residing at Vill - Nighin Shah Road South Sithi, P.o - Kazipara, P.s - Barasat, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700125, West Bengal India shall henceforth be known as Abul Kashem. I declare that Sekh Kashem and Abul Kashem is same and one identical person by virtue of an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public, Kolkata on 01-08-2025.

Change of Name
I, Ajoy Naskar (Old Name) S/o Pyari Naskar Residing at 39/204, Nabapally 22 Bigha 12 Foot Kalua Giza, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700104 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ajoy Naskar (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 01-08-2025. Ajoy Naskar (Old Name) and Ajoy Naskar (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Prova Maity (old name) D/O Sudhir Chandra Rout, residing at 9/10, P.K Roychowdhury 1st Bye Lane, P.S.- A.J.C Bose B Garden, Howrah- 711103, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prova Rani Maity (new name), as declared Before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Prova Rani Maity (old name) and Prova Maity (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Aji Maity (old name) S/O Kanai Lal Maity, residing at 9/10, P.K Roychowdhury 1st Bye Lane, P.S.- A.J.C Bose B Garden, Howrah- 711103, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aji Kumar Maity (new name), as declared Before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Aji Kumar Maity (new name) and Aji Maity (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Indira Bhusan Sarkar (Old Name) S/O Late Abai Sarkar,Residing At 152/1,Ghanashyam Banerjee Road,North Dum Dum(M),Dist-24 Parganas(North),Pin-700049,West Bengal,India,have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Indubhushan Sarkar (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 01/08/2025.Indira Bhusan Sarkar(Old Name) And Indubhushan Sarkar (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Laxmi Sarkar (Old Name) W/O Indubhushan Sarkar, Residing At 152/1, Ghanashyam Banerjee Road, North Dum Dum(M),Dist-24 Parganas(North),Pin-700049,West Bengal,India,have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Lakshmi Sarkar (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 01/08/2025.Laxmi Sarkar Sarkar(Old Name) And Lakshmi Sarkar (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Ashish Jaiswal And Ashish Kumar Jaiswal(Old Names) S/O Late Achelal Gupta,Residing At Bhairabpur, Keonjhar, Dist-Kendujhar, Pin-758001, Odisha, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashish Kumar Gupta Jaiswal(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/08/2025. That Ashish Gupta And Ashish Kumar Jaiswal (Old Names) And Ashish Kumar Gupta Jaiswal (New Name) All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Ashananda Sannasi (Old Name), Son Of Late Manindra Sanyasi, Residing At Vill-Milangarh, Po-Milangarh, Hooghly-712501, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ashananda Sanyasi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 30/07/2025. Ashananda Sannasi And Ashananda Sanyasi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I,Kausik Mukherjee (Old Name), Son Of Pankaj Mukherjee, Residing At 46,Subhash Pally, C.P. By Lane, Po - Nimta, North 24 Parganas - 700049, West Bengal, Shall Henceforth Be Known As Kaushik Mukherjee(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/06/2025. That Kausik Mukherjee And Kaushik Mukherjee Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mahmudul Hasan (Old Name), Son Of Mouli Rofiq Ullah, Residing At Uttar Salgoria, Vill-Uttar Salgoria, Po-Jugdia, Diamond Harbour, 743355, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahmudul Hasan Mali(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/08/2025. Mahmudul Hasan And Mahmudul Hasan Mali Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sabina Yeasmin (old name) wife of Sk Samjad, residing at 104, Bose Pukur Purba Para, Kolkata-700107, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sabina Yasmin (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Sabina Yasmin (new name) and Sabina Yeasmin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Nazrul Islam (old name) son of Fazlur Rahman Biswas, residing at Lalgola, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742148, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nazrul Islam (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Nazrul Islam (new name) and Md Nazrul Islam (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Dipankar Dawn (old name) S/O Deb Kumar Daw, residing at 108/3/2, Kashinath Chatterjee Lane, 3rd Floor, Shibpur, Howrah- 711102, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dipankar Daw (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit No. 47, dated 31/07/2025. Dipankar Daw (new name) and Dipankar Dawn (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mohammed Sahajan Molla (old name) S/O Akkas Ali Molla, residing at Vill- Paschim Dandirhat, P.O- Dandirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Shahajan Molla (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Md Shahajan Molla (new name) and Mohammed Sahajan Molla (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Masud Rana Gazi (old name) S/O Bapi Gazi, residing at Vill-Trimohini Mat Para, P.O.- Basirhat College, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Masud Rana Gazi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Masud Rana Gazi (new name) and Md Masud Rana Gazi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Zahida Parveen W/O Mohd. Ali Akbar R/O 163, Karaya Road, Circus Avenue, Kolkata 700017,Wb Shall Henceforth Be Known As Zahida Perveen Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 1St August 2025 At Bankshall Court Kolkata. That Both Zahida Parveen And Zahida Perveen Are Same And One Identical Person Not Two Different Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md. Ali Akbar @ Mohammad. Ali Akbar S/O Ali Hussain R/O 163, Karaya Road, Circus Avenue, Kolkata 700017.Wb Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mohd. Ali Akbar Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 1St August 2025 At Bankshall Court Kolkata. That Md. Ali Akbar, Mohammad, Ali Akbar And Mohd. Ali Akbar All Names Are Of Same And One Identical Person Not 3 Different Person.

NAME CHANGE
I am Dipali Rani Mandal, wife of Aishan Ranjan Mandal, and the said name is registered in my all official documents only in the Madhyamik Pariksha Admit Card My name is registered as Dipali Mandal. By Swearing the affidavit No. 47275 dated 23/07/2025 Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore I am known and identified as Dipali Rani Mandal and Dipali Mandal all the same & identical person.

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Flags Off Bhavnagar-Ayodhya Weekly Train

MI News Service, New Delhi: Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flagged off three new express train services from Bhavnagar. Gujarat - Bhavnagar-Ayodhya Express, Rewa-Pune (Hadapsar) Express, and Jabalpur-Raipur Express today. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Mohan Yadav, and the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, joined the event via video conferencing.

The launch ceremony of the Bhavnagar-Ayodhya weekly train was graced by Union Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Labour & Employment, Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukhbhai Mandaviya, and Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Nimuben Bambhaniya. Speaking at the occasion, Railway Minister Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said that these three trains are of great importance. The Bhavnagar-Ayodhya Express will connect culture and devotion and boost trade and tourism in Bhavnagar. Pune is a major industrial city today and is connected with Rewa, Jabalpur, Satna, and Malhar. This train will be vital for this tribal region too.

He further stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has an emotional bond with Railways and always emphasizes the development of railways - bringing in new technologies and expanding the network. Over the last 11 years, the railways have undergone a massive transformation. In this period, 34,000 km of new railway tracks have been built - an average of 12 km per day - something never seen before in history. 1,300 stations are currently under redevelopment, forming the world's largest station modernization program. Unlike in foreign countries, where stations and trains are shut



down during upgrades, in India this work is progressing swiftly without disruption.

He also announced that a new Porbandar-Rajkot train will start daily operations soon. A new coach maintenance facility at Ranavav station, the new Saradiya-Wansjaliya railway line, Bhadrakali Gate, a new flyover in Porbandar city, two new Gati Shakti cargo terminals and a new port terminal in Bhavnagar are all in the pipeline. He also mentioned that the country's first bullet train from Mumbai to Ahmedabad will begin operations soon. Construction is progressing rapidly, and once operational, the travel time between Mumbai and Ahmedabad will be just 2 hours and 7 minutes. Discussing the growing passenger amenities, he said a new Amrit Bharat train has been launched. So far, nearly eight such trains have started. The Amrit Bharat trains have facilities similar to Vande Bharat but come at significantly lower fares, making them affordable for more passengers.

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, in his remarks, said that under the leadership of PM Modi Ji, the country is changing and progressing rapidly. A new India is emerging, and as transformation continues, railways are also undergoing a revolutionary change. With modernization, citizens are now

Baghbajar Sarada Prathamik Vidyalaya for underprivileged children

MI News Service, Kolkata: The school name is Baghbajar Sarada Prathamik Vidyalaya for underprivileged children. Project by Rotary Club of Central Gardens Calcutta and Inner Wheel Club of Kolkata West Gardens (E-Club). Present were Chief Guests- Past District Governor - Rtn Rajani Mukerji, Rtn Ballari



Mukerji, President - Deboeena Rakshit Banerjee, VP & Treasurer - Rtn Sree-kumar Rakshit, Secretary - Rtn Sanjoy Choudhury, Joint Secretary- Rtn Indranil Ghosh, Rtn Ashok Dhandhania, Rtn Partha Sarathy Sarkar, Rtn Partha Pratim Bhattacharya, Rtn Shabnam Bhowmik, Pamela Bhattacharya and guests. From Inner Wheel Club - President- Smt D R Banerjee, VP and ISO - Smt Iti Rakshit, Treasurer- Smt Rakhi Chatterjee, Joint Secretary - Smt Madhu Parna Sinha Bhowmik,

Smt Minali Sehdev, Sujata Dhanaki.

School Principal - Swapan Bhuiyana. Project was to encourage education among the underprivileged students. We donated Rotary Club school bags, tiffin boxes, water bottles, stationery and crayon sets, chocolate and Inner Wheel Club Umbrellas for 70 students and mats (sataranchi) for the students. We will eventually adopt the school and will provide desks and benches, toilet, drinking water filter and library with books.

NAME CHANGE
I, Partha Sarkar, declare that my father said name Bancharam Sarkar (old name), residing at Ghosh Pukur Lane, Segun Bagan, Krishnagar-I, Nadia, Pin-741101, West Bengal, India, have changed my father name and he shall henceforth be known as Bancharam Sarkar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Bancharam Sarkar (new name) and Bancharam Sarkar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sanskriti Jaiswal(Old Name),D/O Ramji Chaudhary, residing at Flat No 101, Tower 1, 20H, Home 20, Picnic Garden, Tiljala, Kolkata 700039, West Bengal,have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anisha Danish Khan(New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 01/08/2025. Sanskriti Jaiswal(Old Name) and Anisha Danish Khan (New Name) both are the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sayeeda Begum Rozy (old name) wife of Jahangir Mia, residing at Haroa, Berachampa Road, P.O.- Haroa, Basirhat, 743425, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sayeeda Begum (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 01/08/2025. Sayeeda Begum (new name) and Sayeeda Begum Rozy (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Abdus Samad Molla(Old Name), S/O Hamja Molla, Hinchabaria,Po - Amira, Ps- Parulia Coastal, South 24 Pgs- 743368, West Bengal,Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdul Samad Molla(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/08/2025.Abdus Samad Molla(Old Name) And Abdul Samad Molla(New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Nxtra by Airtel augments green energy resources

MI News Service, Kolkata: Nxtra by Airtel and AMPIN Energy Transition have strengthened their partnership with a new, power-wheeling agreement involving 125.65 MW of solar-wind hybrid energy through Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) connected plants. With this, the total renewable energy partnership between the two companies has crossed over 200 MW. This will maximise Nxtra's infrastructural efficiency, drive deeper decarbonisation and advance operational excellence—reinforcing Nxtra's position as India's leader in sustainable data centre solutions.

Ashish Arora, CEO - Nxtra by Airtel, said, "By powering our digital infrastructure with over 200 MW of renewable energy through our partnership with AMPIN, we are setting new standards for the industry." Pinaki Bhattacharyya, Founder, MD and CEO, AMPIN Energy Transition, said, "With this partnership, we demonstrate that through a seamless blend of inter-state and intra-state renewable energy solutions backed by a pan-India presence, we can take any customer through a nearly 100% energy transition."

WHO hails emerging disability-friendly products

MI News Service, Kolkata: The World Health Organisation (WHO) has hailed the trend of making kitchen products that are user friendly and more over friendly towards people who are physically disabled. In the inclusive kitchen products market, the product type segment plays a pivotal role. The market for adaptive utensils is

'Metro Ride Kolkata' app rechristened as 'Aamar Kolkata Metro' app

MI News Service, Kolkata: 'Metro Ride Kolkata' App has been rechristened as 'AAMAR KOLKATA METRO' App. This has been changed gradually on the Android platform as well as iOS platform. Metro commuters who have already downloaded and started to use this App are requested to update it. All features and facilities that used to be available in this App will

continue to be available after the change of the name. It is to be noted that so far 12.3 lakhs Android users have downloaded this App from Google Play Store and more than 76,000 iOS users have been actively using this App. These figures signify the acceptability and popularity of this App among the Metro users. Metro staff have also been helping passengers

to download this App from Google Play Store and Apple Store and showing them the procedure to use it at different stations.

Passengers are requested to adopt digital transactions mode and also buy tickets online before reaching the Metro station to avoid rush due to long queues at booking counters particularly during the peak hours.

Howrah division steps up drive to promote uts mobile app for hassle-free ticketing

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a concerted push toward digital transformation and enhanced passenger convenience, Howrah Division of Eastern Railway has intensified its efforts to popularize the *Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) Mobile App* among commuters. This initiative, being actively pursued under the guidance of the Shri *Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah*, and under the leadership of *Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Shri Rahul Ranjan*, aims to streamline unreserved ticketing and reduce dependency on physical booking counters.

As part of this digital outreach, a focused awareness programme was conducted on *1st August 2025*.



During the drive, teams from the Commercial Department organized campaigns at key stations including *Dankuni, Baruipara, Khagraghat, Sheoraphuli, Rampurhat and Pakur*, among others. Passengers were directly engaged and guided through the process of downloading and navigating the UTS app, with

demonstrations provided for clarity and convenience.

The initiative focuses on encouraging passengers to use the UTS app for booking *unreserved tickets, season tickets, and platform tickets*, directly from their smartphones. This not only reduces wait times at ticket counters but also contributes to a *paperless, cashless, and efficient travel experience*.

This sustained campaign aligns with Indian Railways' broader goal of fostering a *digitally empowered ecosystem* and delivering *seamless, commuter-friendly services*. Howrah Division reiterates its commitment to digital innovation and urges all passengers to embrace the UTS mobile app for quicker, safer, and eco-friendly travel.

DRM Howrah awarded "Pride of Bengal - 2025" for exemplary service

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah, has been honoured with the prestigious "Pride of Bengal - 2025" award for exceptional leadership and remarkable contributions to the development of Howrah Station and enhancement of passenger amenities.

The award was conferred by Dr. Suborno Bose, Chairman and Chief Mentor of the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM) and IndiSmart Group Worldwide, and CEO of the International Hospitality Council, London, during a ceremony held at the IIHM Global Campus on 02.08.2025.

Under the dynamic leadership of Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Howrah Station has witnessed significant improvements in infrastructure, passenger facilities, and overall operational efficiency, setting new benchmarks in service



quality and customer satisfaction. This recognition reflects the dedication and commitment of the Howrah Division in delivering world-class services to millions of passengers every year.

Swachhata Abhiyan Activities Intensified by Howrah Division Ahead of 78th Independence Day

MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the ongoing "Swachhata Abhiyan" being observed in the run-up to the 78th Independence Day, Howrah Division of Eastern Railway organized a series of cleanliness awareness activities on 3rd August 2025. These initiatives were conducted under the leadership of Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah. To promote awareness on cleanliness and hygiene among railway passengers and staff, engaging "Nukkad Natak" (street plays) were conducted at Azimganj and Bardhaman railway stations. These street performances served as an effective medium to spread the message of Swachhata in an interactive and culturally impactful manner. In addition, "Selfie Stands" themed around the Swachhata campaign were installed at selected locations to encourage public participation. These stands became popular photo spots for passengers, helping to amplify the message of cleanliness through social media engagement and visual appeal.



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Power of Attorney
Notice regarding Power of Attorney as per West Bengal Govt. Order, no. 1000-15/22/2624 dated 27/02/2024.
This is to notify that 1) Puja Prasad wife of Amar Kumar, P.O. - Asansol, Pin - 713302, P.S. - Asansol (South), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal and Amar Kumar son of Chand Saheb resident of Flat No. 1E, Durga Enclave, Sector - 1, East of N.R. More, Asansol, P.O. - Asansol, Pin-713304, P.S. - Asansol (South), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal, 3) Mary Kumari wife of Uttam Kumar Prasad resident of Near Old Bank of India, Mananand, Dhanbad, P.O. - Dhanbad, P.S. - Dhanbad, Dist. Dhanbad in the state of Jharkhand. 4) Soni Barnali wife of Shambhu Kumar Burmal resident of Neamatpur, Silarampur, P.O. - Silarampur, P.S. - Kulti, Pin No. 713359, Dist. Paschim Bardhaman. 5) Suman Singh daughter of Shambhu Nath Singh, resident of Nagda, Kamra, P.O. - Kamra, P.S. - Bijpur, Pin No. 743193, Dist. -North 24 Parganas have purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no. 230501064/2022, deed no. 230500951/2022, deed no. 230501064/2022, deed no. 230505339/2022 from Amit Pal Chhabra son of Satyapal Chhabra resident of S. P. Mukherjee Road, Murgasol, Asansol, P.O. - Asansol, P.S. - Asansol (South), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal and Amit pal chhabra has purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no. 020506212/2020 from Srijit Sutradhar son of Iban Sutradhar resident of Saranamoyee housing estate Asansol, p.o. Ram Krishna mission, pin no. 713305, P.S. Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal and Amit pal chhabra has purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no. 020510709/2019 dated 30/12/2019 registered at A.D.S.R. Asansol Excuted by Md. Kalimuddin son of Md. Mohtamim resident of Hazi Nagar Near Idgah wall Masjid, Railpar, Asansol, P.O. Asansol, Pin 713302, P.S. Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman is the director of NETFLEX HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED a company incorporated under the companies Act 1956, having its office at Shakespear, Sarani, Jyoti Nagar, Near webel IT Park, Asansol, P.O. Asansol, Pin-713302, P.S. Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman and the said applicant has/have applied with the same land schedule for mutation vide application no. MUTTE/2025230507702 (Puja Prasad), mutation case no. MN/2025230503090 (Aman Singh), MN/202523050688 (Mary Kumari) and MN/2025230508725 (Soni Barnali) and MN/202523050894 (Suman Singh) at the office of the S.O.L.&L.R.O (EP-1) Dist. Paschim Bardhaman. If there is any objection for mutation in this respect, any concerned parties are requested to submit objection along with relevant documents to the concerned Revenue Office at the office of the S.O.L.&L.R.O (EP-1) within one month from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise law will take its own course.

Power of Attorney
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This is to notify that 1) Nilu Kumar Singh wife of Shailesh Kumar, resident of Flat No. NF Block No. C2, Sugam Park, KSTP, Asansol, P.O. Asansol, Pin-713302, P.S. - Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal 2) S.P. BROTHERS & CO, a Partnership Firm, having its office at Adda Market, opposite to the Jyoti Nagar, Near webel IT Park, Asansol, P.O. - Asansol, Pin-713303, P.S. - Asansol (South), Sub-Division & Adcl. Dist. Sub-Registry office Asansol, Dist. Paschim Bardhaman have purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no. 230505632/ 2025; deed No. 230505616/2025; from 1) Amar Sutradhar son of Kanailal Sutradhar (P.O. Asansol, P.S. Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman) have purchased the below mentioned land schedule by virtue of deed no. 020506212/2020 registered at A.D.S.R. Asansol. Excuted by Amar Sutradhar son of Kanailal Sutradhar (P.O. Asansol, P.S. Asansol (North), Dist. Paschim Bardhaman in the state of West Bengal and the said applicant has/have applied with the same land schedule for mutation vide application no. MN/2025230509688 (S. P. BROTHERS & CO.) at the office of the S.O.L.&L.R.O (EP-1) Dist. Paschim Bardhaman. If there is any objection for mutation in this respect, any concerned parties are requested to submit objection along with relevant documents to the concerned Revenue Office at the office of the S.O.L.&L.R.O (EP-1) within one month from the date of publication of this notice, otherwise law will take its own course.

Power of Attorney
My client Masuma Bibi, wife of Sahab Habbib Molla, resident of Palikaite Post Office, Uttar Raipur, Police Station Budge Budge, District South 24 Parganas, Kolkata 700137, State West Bengal. In the village of Budge Budge, village L, R 3124, registered in the ADSR Budge Budge Registry Office, in the village of Budge Budge, village of Garhbruk, village of Nandia, village of R S 723, 300 out of 1,500 out of 900 land, including 1,500 land and R S 733/2387 in place of plot no. Hal L, R 134 plot no. Danga 1 hundred land and out of 0.25 hundred land, total 1.75 hundred or 1.06 katha land in two plots, Risky Acharya (Govt. Land) of notice, otherwise the mutation of the said land will be completed in the name of my client. Advocate

Tender Notice

Sealed Tender has invited by the President, Prayag Association of Apartment Owners vide NIT No.: PAAO/FM/2025-26/01 to 04, Date: 03/08/2025 for Facility Operation & Management Services, Housekeeping & Pest control, Security Service and Horticulture. Last date for submission of Tender: 24/08/2025 up to 2:00 PM. Bidders may download necessary tender documents from 02/08/2025. Website: www.prayagnewkolkata.com or collect in person from Prayag Association of Apartment Owners office at Millan Club House, New Kolkata, Prayag, Address: 449 / A / 2 G T. Road, Mahesh, Serampore, Hooghly - 712022.

Sd/-President
Prayag Association of Apartment Owners

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GUJARAT INDUSTRIES POWER CO. LTD.
(At & P.O. - Nani Naroli, Tal-Mahyol, Dist-Surat, Gujarat)
TENDER FOR BOILER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (BMC) FOR 4X125 MW CFBC BOILERS & ITS AUXILIARIES INCLUDING ANNUAL OVERHAULING FOR THE YEAR 2025-27 (TWO YEARS) AT SURAT LIGNITE POWER PLANT (SLPP).
Interested Vendors may submit their Bids on two-part basis through (n) procure portal <https://gipcltender.nprocure.com/> (Tender ID is 211612). It can also be viewed from Company's website www.gipcl.com. The last date of submission of bid is 23.08.2025 up to 17:30 hrs.
Additional General Manager (O&M)

Bhavnagar, Rewa and Jabalpur get 3 new express train services; Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flags them off

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bhavnagar, Rewa and Jabalpur get 3 new express train services; Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw flags them off

* Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav joined the event via video conferencing, while Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai participated in the program held in Raipur.

* Devotees visiting Shri Ram Nagari will benefit directly from the new train connecting Gujarat and Ayodhya Cantt., giving a boost to religious tourism.

* The Railway Minister also announced several new projects for Gujarat, including a Porbandar, Rajkot daily train service, a coach maintenance facility at Ranavav station, the proposed Sardia-Vasjaliya new line and flyover construction at Bhadrakali Gate in Porbandar city.

* The construction of two Gati Shakti cargo terminals and a container terminal at Bhavnagar Port has also been proposed.

Giving a new dimension to Rail connectivity under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw announced three new express trains: Bhavnagar-Ayodhya Cantt (Gujarat-Uttar Pradesh), Rewa-Pune (Madhya Pradesh-Maharashtra), and Jabalpur-Raipur (Madhya Pradesh-Chhattisgarh). All three services were flagged off, enhancing connectivity between the respective states and Chhattisgarh.

During the event, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav flagged off the train via video conferencing, while Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Dev Sai inaugurated the service from Raipur station. Union Minister of State Mrs. Nimuben Bambhaniya was also present in Bhavnagar.

Addressing the gathering,

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has an emotional connection with the railways, which is why he constantly prioritizes its expansion and development."

Announcement of new projects for Gujarat and Bhavnagar. Detailing upcoming developments, the Railway Minister announced that a daily train service between Porbandar and Rajkot would commence soon. Additionally, a coach maintenance facility will be set up at Ranavav station, and the Sardia-Vasjaliya new line and flyover at Bhadrakali Gate in Porbandar city are in the pipeline. In Bhavnagar, two Gati Shakti cargo terminals and a container terminal at the port have been proposed. This new container terminal will significantly promote international trade from the region.

The Railway Minister also highlighted Indian Railways' achievements over the past 11 years, noting that 34,000 km of new tracks have been laid. Over 1,300 stations are currently being redeveloped — part of the world's largest station modernization program. He emphasized that continuing train operations during these developments is a remarkable achievement for a vibrant democracy like India.

Rejuvenation of Indian Railways

Speaking about the Amrit Bharat Express, the Railway Minister shared that it offers facilities similar to the Vande Bharat Express but at far more affordable fares. With 8 trains already operational and receiving positive feedback, the Amrit Bharat Express is proving to be a valuable addition to the network.

He also mentioned the Namo Bharat Train, a high-speed service connecting cities. Currently, one train is operational between Ahmedabad and Bhuj,

and another between Jaynagar and Patna.

Vande Bharat Sleeper to start from September

The Railway Minister announced that the Vande Bharat Sleeper service, designed for long-distance overnight travel, will commence in September. He added that work on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train project is progressing rapidly, and once completed, the journey between the two cities will take just 2 hours and 7 minutes.

Launch of 3 new train services:

Bhavnagar-Ayodhya Cantt Express: This new service will be particularly beneficial for pilgrims from Gujarat, making the journey to Ramnagari Ayodhya smoother and more comfortable. It will also help connect Bhavnagar's port and industrial areas with key religious destinations.

Rewa-Pune Express Service: This train connects the cultural hubs of Rewa, Satna, and Maihar in Madhya Pradesh with Pune, a major educational and industrial center. It will facilitate greater access to employment, education, and healthcare services for thousands of passengers.

Jabalpur-Raipur Express: This service strengthens connectivity between the tribal and industrial regions of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. It will foster greater social and regional integration and give a new momentum to inclusive development.

These new services by Indian Railways reflect a forward-looking approach that places the aspirations of every citizen, every state, and every region at the center. Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Indian Railways has transformed from merely a transportation network into the backbone of a self-reliant India.



College students take selfie with Sindoor poster near Thane Rest House, on Sunday.

Odisha: Congress demands judicial probe into minor girl death case

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar : Congress leader Rajani Kumar Mohanty on Sunday demanded a judicial inquiry into the case of a 15-year-old girl who was allegedly set on fire by miscreants in Balanga and died during treatment, further stating that the party would surround the office of the Director General of Police for the justice of the victim's family.

The victim succumbed to burn injuries on Saturday while undergoing treatment at AIIMS in the national capital, after she was allegedly set on fire by miscreants in the Balanga area of Odisha's Puri district on July 19.

"Congress demands that if, within seven days, the culprits are not arrested by the state police administration, then we'll surround the DG office

and do something to get justice for the victim's family. It's not a question of politicisation. It's a question of why the accused go scot-free. We demand a judicial inquiry in this case," Mohanty told ANI.

He further raised questions on the victim's death when initially the Deputy CM Pravatī Parida claimed that the victim was recovering at a fast rate.

"When she was admitted to the hospital, she was in a fine condition. I saw her. The doctors had assured that after taking her to AIIMS Delhi, she would be saved. The investigating authorities took her statement four times. If she was capable of giving her statement, and the Deputy CM Pravatī Parida told the media just six days before that the victim is recovering at a faster rate, and the police will reveal everything

publicly very shortly, then what happened in just four days? Did she die, or did something else happen to her?" Congress leader asked.

"If the eyewitness and the victim initially said that three people abducted her, then how come this story has been changed now?" Mohanty said raising questions on the incident.

The 15-year-old girl succumbed to her burn injuries on Saturday while undergoing treatment at AIIMS in the national capital, after she was allegedly set on fire by miscreants in the Balanga area of Odisha's Puri district on July 19.

According to the police, the minor girl went out with her friends, but she was allegedly abducted midway and taken to the riverside, where she was set on fire.

"Our aim is to make Uttarakhand best state in country": CM Dhami



MI News Service, Dehradun : Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on Sunday said that his government aims to make the state the best in the country on every parameter. The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision, affirmed that the third decade of the 21st century will belong to Uttarakhand.

"The Prime Minister had said from the land of Baba Kedar that the third decade of the twenty-first century will be the decade of Uttarakhand. It means that the coming 10 years will be a time of prosperity for Uttarakhand. Whatever resolution Uttarakhand takes will be successful," CM Dhami said.

"Our aim is to make Uttarakhand the best state in the country, and for achieving this aim, just as we have always received your blessings, your cooperation, and your support, we will continue to receive it in the future as well," he added.

Earlier today, Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat met Uttarakhand Chief Minister Push-

kar Singh Dhami at the latter's residence.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami today also distributed appointment letters to 144 candidates selected for various posts in the Irrigation Department and 43 eligible dependents under the deceased dependent quota in Uttarakhand Transport Corporation.

Thus, the Chief Minister distributed appointment letters to the candidates/dependents selected for a total of 187 different posts. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, while wishing the candidates well, appealed to the selected candidates to work with honesty, integrity, transparency and dedication.

He said that the state government has also done the work of giving appointments to the dependents of the deceased employees pending for a long time. Last year, appointment letters were provided to 150 dependents and today, the remaining 43 eligible dependents. He said that due to the efforts of the state government, the corporation earned a record profit of more than Rs 56 crore

in 2024.

The Chief Minister said that earlier, there used to be a lot of favouritism, rigging and corruption in recruitments in the state. In response to the challenges faced by young people, the state government enacted the country's most stringent anti-copying law. Now, recruitments in the state are being ensured on the basis of complete transparency and merit so that eligible candidates are getting the full benefit of their skills and hard work. He stated that over the past 3 and a half years, more than 23,000 youth in the state have secured government jobs.

The Chief Minister said that the state government has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against corruption and now no one is spared in corruption cases. He said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged the countrymen to use indigenous products. He also urged the people of the state to use indigenous and local products. The Chief Minister said that our resolve towards a self-reliant India should be even stronger. He said that Devbhoomi Uttarakhand is committed to realising the Prime Minister's mantra of a self-reliant India.

The Chief Minister said that the candidates selected in the Irrigation Department prepare maps and designs of irrigation projects, as well as prepare a framework for future development. "Irrigation schemes are being continuously expanded in our state. The candidates selected today are the pillars of irrigation projects, who will work to deliver water to the farmers' fields with their technical skills."

Union Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw Visits a Container Manufacturing Company in Bhavnagar

MI News Service, New Delhi: Union Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Labour & Employment, Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukhbhai Mandavaya, and Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution Smt. Nimuben Bambhaniya visited the container manufacturing company Aawadkrupa Plastomech Pvt. Ltd. located in Bhavnagar district.

The Union Minister gathered detailed information about the containers being produced at Aawadkrupa Plastomech Pvt.

Ltd., located on the Bhavnagar-Rajkot Road, and provided necessary suggestions and guidance.



Bhavnagar is now moving toward becoming a container hub. The container manufacturing company located in Navagam, Bhavnagar, is currently producing around 15 containers per day as per orders. The company now has the infrastructure in place to manufacture up to 100 containers daily. The Railway Minister closely inspected the entire

container manufacturing process and technology and assured that the company will receive all necessary support from the government to meet the growing global demand for containers in the future.

On this occasion, the Railway Minister was accompanied by District Collector Dr. Manish Kumar Bansal, District Development Officer Shri Hanul Chaudhary, Regional Commissioner Shri Dhaval Pandya, Superintendent of Police Shri Harshad Patel, and Shri Hasmukhbhai Patel of Aawadkrupa Plastomech Pvt. Ltd., along with other dignitaries.

Mumbai customs seizes Rs 14 crore worth of Hydroponic weed at CSMT Airport; one passenger arrested

MI News Service, Mumbai: In a major crackdown on narcotics smuggling, officers of the Airport Commissionerate, Mumbai Customs Zone-III, have seized 14.738 kgs of suspected NDPS hydroponic weed (marijuana) valued at approximately Rs 14.73 crore during operations on Sunday.

The seizures were made across Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMI), resulting in the arrest of one passenger; as stated in the press release.

The passenger was arrested under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985.

"Based on specific intel, the Customs officers at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMI), Mumbai, intercepted 01 passenger arriving from Bangkok by flight

no. MH194," a press note said. The narcotic substances were attempting to smuggle Hydroponic Weed by falsely declaring the consignment as Confidential Diplomatic Cargo linked to national security.

The official said in a release that contraband was concealed inside envelopes bearing Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) markings and sealed with official MEA tape. The bag also contained copies of various UN-ODC reports and fake top-secret Mission Reports, and these are kept inside the trolley bag carried by the passengers.

Earlier on July 31, Mumbai Customs Zone-III officers had seized 8.012 kg of suspected hydroponic weed (marijuana) valued at approximately Rs 8 crore during operations carried out between July 29 and 30.

Union Minister Amit Shah calls on President Droupadi Murmu

MI News Service, New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday called on President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here.

In a social media post on X, Rashtrapati Bhavan wrote, "Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah called on President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan."

Earlier today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called on President Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in Delhi.

On August 1, President Droupadi Murmu graced the convocation ceremony of the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad. The President said that IIT-ISM has an important role in the overall development of the country. Apart from preparing excellent engineers and researchers, this institute also has to create compassionate, sensitive and purposeful professionals. The future of our country is taking shape through the commitment of institutions like IIT-ISM, which are promoting cutting-edge research and innovation and guiding bright young minds.

The President said that the country and the world are facing many complex and rapidly changing challenges, from climate change and lack of resources to digital disruption and social inequality. In such a situation, the guidance of an institute like IIT-ISM is even more important. She urged IIT-ISM to play a leading role in finding new and sustainable solutions.

Manipur govt approves new secretariat police station, 12 SDPO posts

MI News Service, Imphal: The Government of Manipur has accorded approval to a significant proposal submitted by the Manipur Police Department for the establishment of a new Secretariat Police Station at Mantripukhuri and creation of twelve new Sub-Divisional Police Officers (SDPO) posts in various districts across the state, a release said on Sunday.

As per the release, this strategic move is intended to bolster policing capabilities, improve supervision of investigations, and enhance overall law and order management in both existing and newly created districts for administrative convenience.

With the impending relocation of the State Civil Secretariat and Police Headquarters to Mantripukhuri, there is a growing need to ensure adequate security coverage and effective law enforcement presence in the area.

The proposed Secretariat Police Station will provide essential policing services to not only the new Secretariat complex and Police Headquarters but also to several other critical institutions in the vicinity, such as the Manipur High Court, IIT and the Forest Office Complex.

In view of the administrative complexity and increased security demands in the area, the government has also approved the creation of a dedicated SDPO, New Capital Complex, under the jurisdiction of Imphal East District.

This officer will be responsible for supervising the proposed Secretariat Police Station and the existing Heingang Police Station, thereby ensuring coordinated command, effective case monitoring, and timely response to emerging law and order situations.

Further, to address the longstanding shortage of supervisory officers in several districts—particularly the newly created ones such as Kangpokpi, Tengnoupal, Kamjong, Pherzawl, and Noney—the government has approved the creation of additional SDPO posts to improve the administrative and operational efficiency of district policing units, as per release.

The existing single SDPO structure in districts such as Chandel, Churachandpur, and Tamenglong has been found inadequate to meet the growing challenges of crime investigation, force deployment, and law and order supervision.

According to the release, the posts have been carefully mapped to specific police stations or subdivisions within the respective districts to ensure closer supervision of policing functions, improved public interface, and faster response to local issues.

In line with the government's commitment to fiscal responsibility and administrative prudence, the newly approved SDPO posts will be substituted from within the already sanctioned DSP/AC posts available in various units of the Police Department.

The reallocation involves substitution of posts from units within the Manipur Police, ensuring no additional financial burden on the state exchequer.

Additionally, the Officer-in-Charge (OC) post for the proposed Secretariat Police Station will be created by substituting one of the existing Inspector Posts, thereby optimising the use of internal human resources. This structural enhancement is expected to have a transformative impact on policing efficiency across Manipur.

UP govt steps up flood relief efforts, assists around 48000 victims

MI News Service, Lucknow : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is closely monitoring the flood situation in Uttar Pradesh, issuing timely directives to ensure effective relief efforts.

Acting on his instructions, state ministers are inspecting affected areas, while Relief Commissioner Bhanu Chandra Goswami informed that floods have impacted 37 tehsils and 402 villages, affecting 84,392 people. Of these, 47,906 have received assistance, and 2,759 animals have been shifted to safer locations.

Currently, 17 districts, including Kanpur Nagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Agra, Auraiya, Chitrakoot, Ballia, Banda, Ghazipur,

Mirzapur, Prayagraj, Varanasi, Chandauli, Jalaun, Kanpur Dehat, Hamirpur, Etawah, and Fatehpur, are grappling with the impact of flooding. Relief and rescue operations are underway in full swing, with continuous patrolling by NDRF, SDRF, and PAC personnel.

Floods have caused damage to 343 homes so far, with compensation already distributed to 327 families. Over 4,015 hectares of land have also been affected. Relief supplies are being delivered using 493 boats and motorboats.

To support those impacted, 6,536 food packets and 76,632 lunch packets have been distributed so far. Moreover, 29 community kitchens (langars)

have been set up to provide fresh meals to the victims.

The Yogi government is also prioritising the well-being of livestock. Around 500 quintals of fodder have been distributed. In addition, to prevent water-borne diseases, 129,571 chlorine tablets and 37,089 ORS packets have been provided.

A total of 905 flood shelters are currently operational, housing 11,248 displaced individuals. 757 health teams are conducting medical check-ups, while 1,193 flood posts have been set up to monitor the evolving situation.

These ministers are inspecting the flood-affected areas and will stay overnight in the district.

operation to locate the missing individual. The authorities have confirmed that the overall situation in Ghatol remains critical and far from normal.

Earlier on July 14, three people, including a 7-year-old school girl, lost their lives in severe flooding in parts of Ghatol due to heavy rainfall in West Bengal's Paschim Medinipur district.

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West Bengal: Flood situation worsens in Medinipur district

MI News Service, Paschim Medinipur: The flood situation has worsened in West Bengal's Paschim Medinipur district due to the rise in water levels in Shilabati, Jhumi and Rupnarayan rivers in the Ghatol subdivision. The areas already affected by flooding are witnessing fresh inundation, intensifying the suffering of local residents.

This is the fourth time a flood has occurred in Ghatol this year. Heavy rainfall triggered by a low-pressure system has further deteriorated the situation. Roads, schools, state highways, and markets remain submerged, bringing normal life to a standstill. According to Ghatol SDO Suman Biswas, "Water levels have risen significantly since last night. Currently, 10 gram

panchayats in Ghatol block, 2 in Daspur I block, 12 wards under Ghatol Municipality, and 3 wards under Kharar Municipality are underwater. The district administration is providing essential services in the flood-affected areas." Meanwhile, one person from Rajnagar in Nara-Jole is reported missing. The SDRF (State Disaster Response Force) has launched a search

Neck muscle inflammation primary cause of headache: Study

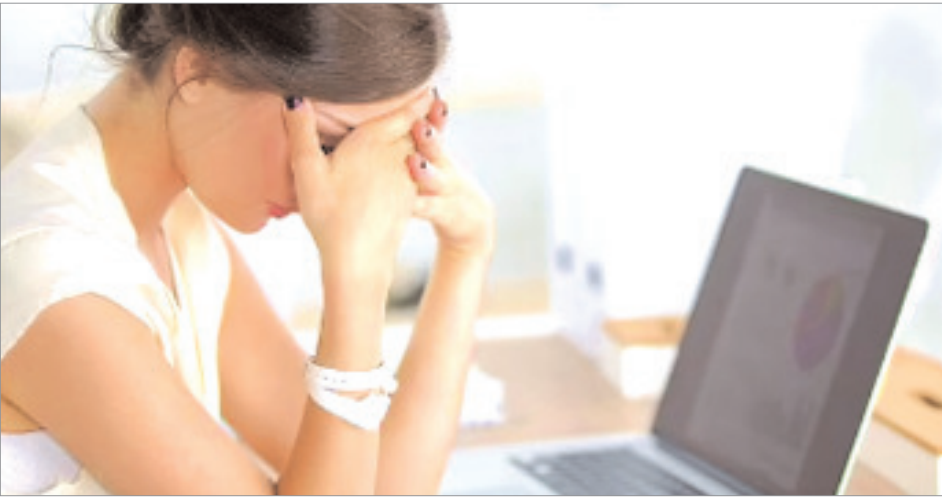
CHICAGO [US] : Researchers disclosed genuine proof of how the neck muscles are implicated in primary headaches in a study presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA). The findings could lead to improved treatments.

The distinct underlying causes of primary headaches are still not fully understood. The most common primary headaches are tension-type headaches and migraines.

"Our imaging approach provides first objective evidence for the very frequent involvement of the neck muscles in primary headaches, such as neck pain in migraine or tension-type headache, using the ability to quantify subtle inflammation within muscles," said Nico Sollmann, M.D., Ph.D., resident in the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology at University Hospital Ulm, and the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology at University Hospital Rechts der Isar in Munich, Germany.

Tension-type headaches affect two out of every three adults in the U.S. People with tension-type headaches often feel a tightening in the head and mild to moderate dull pain on both sides of the head. While these headaches are typically associated with stress and muscle tension, their exact origin is not fully understood.

Migraines are characterized by a severe throbbing pain. Migraines generally occur on one side of the head, or the pain is worse on one side. Migraines may also cause nausea, weakness and light sensitivity. According to the American Migraine Foundation, over 37 million



people in the U.S. are affected by migraine, and up to 148 million people worldwide suffer from chronic migraine. Neck pain is commonly associated with primary headaches. However, no objective biomarkers exist for myofascial involvement. Myofascial pain is associated with inflammation or irritation of muscle or of the connective tissue, known as fascia, that surrounds the muscle. For the study, Dr. Sollmann and colleagues aimed to investigate the involvement of the trapezius muscles in primary headache disorders by quantitative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and to explore associations between muscle T2 values and headache

and neck pain frequency. The prospective study included 50 participants, mostly women, ranging in age from 20 to 31 years old. Of the study group, 16 had tension-type headache, and 12 had tension-type headache plus migraine episodes. The groups were matched with 22 healthy controls.

All participants underwent 3D turbo spin-echo MRI. The bilateral trapezius muscles were manually segmented, followed by muscle T2 extraction. Associations between muscle T2 values and the presence of neck pain, number of days with headache, and number of myofascial trigger points as determined by manual palpa-

tion of the trapezius muscles were analyzed (adjusting for age, sex and body mass index).

The tension-type headache plus migraine group demonstrated the highest muscle T2 values. Muscle T2 was significantly associated with the number of headache days and the presence of neck pain. The increased muscle T2 values could be interpreted as a surrogate of inflammation arising from the nervous system and increased sensitivity of nerve fibers within myofascial tissues.

"The quantified inflammatory changes of neck muscles significantly correlate with the number of days lived with headache and the presence of subjectively perceived neck pain," Dr. Sollmann said. "Those changes allow us to differentiate between healthy individuals and patients suffering from primary headaches."

Muscle T2 mapping could be used to stratify patients with primary headaches and to track potential treatment effects for monitoring.

"Our findings support the role of neck muscles in the pathophysiology of primary headaches," Dr. Sollmann said. "Therefore, treatments that target the neck muscles could lead to a simultaneous relief of neck pain, as well as headache."

Dr. Sollmann pointed out that non-invasive treatment options that directly target the site of pain in the neck muscles could be highly effective and safer than systemic drugs.

"Our imaging approach with delivery of an objective biomarker could facilitate therapy monitoring and patient selection for certain treatments in the near future," he added.

Eating within 10-hour window is good for health, finds study



LONDON [UK] : According to new findings from the largest UK community research project, eating within a 10-hour window improves mood, energy, and hunger.

The outcomes of the trial were reported at the European Nutrition Conference by researchers from King's College London.

Intermittent fasting (IF), or restricting your food consumption to a set time frame, is a popular approach for losing weight. You limit your daily eating schedule to 10 hours and fast for the remaining 14 hours with a ten-hour window. For example, if you start eating at 9 a.m., you must finish by 7 p.m.

Those who maintained a regular eating window outperformed those who altered their eating habits.

Despite the fact, a certain intermittent fasting advocates frequently promote restrictive eating windows as short as six hours, data presented in the abstract suggest that eating within a less restrictive window of ten hours has beneficial health effects such as changes in mood, energy, and appetite.

Protein present in brain associated with frontotemporal dementia: Study



INDIANAPOLIS [US] : A protein present in the brains of patients suffering from frontotemporal dementia (FTD) has been identified by an international team of researchers, which includes specialists from Indiana University School of Medicine. This finding opens up a new target for possible treatments for FTD.

The National Institutes of Health state that injury to neurons in the brain's frontal and temporal lobes causes frontal lobe dementia (FTD). Symptoms of this kind of dementia usually appear in people between the ages of 25 and 65. These symptoms can include odd behaviours, emotional issues.

Neurodegenerative disorders, including dementias and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), occur when specific proteins form amyloid filaments in the nerve cells of the brain and spinal cord. The multidisciplinary team of researchers-including members from the Medical Research Council (MRC) Laboratory of Molecular Biology, the IU School of Medicine and the University College London Queen Square Institute of Neurology--found that in cases of FTD, a protein called TAF15 forms these amyloid filaments in the cells of the brain and the spinal cord. On December 6, they published their findings in Nature.

Study finds how surgery beneficial is for some children with mild sleep-disordered breathing

NEW YORK [US] : Researchers discovered that surgical removal of the tonsils and adenoids in children with snoring and minor breathing issues during sleep seemed to enhance their sleep, quality of life, and blood pressure a year after surgery.

The study was done to examine the effects of adenotonsillectomy on children with moderate sleep-disordered breathing (SDB). Adenotonsillectomy is one of the most common surgical operations performed on children, and moderate SDB affects a high number of these individuals.

The findings were reported in the American Medical Association Journal.

"Our data suggest that for children with no symptoms other than snoring, it's reasonable to monitor them over time without proceeding to surgery," said study leader Susan Redline, M.D., M.P.H., of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, both in Boston. "However, for children who are having issues with disturbed sleep, daytime sleepiness, and behavioral problems, our data suggest that surgery may be a very reasonable option."

SDB refers to breathing disturbances during sleep that can range from loud snoring to sleep apnea. SDB affects 6-17% of typically developing children in the United States. Some research indicates that if left untreated, the condition may increase the risk



for behavioral problems, reduced quality of life, and cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease and high blood pressure. Researchers and parents are showing increasing interest in how sleep problems such as sleep apnea might also affect brain development, cognition, and academic performance.

Adenotonsillectomy, or removal of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, is a standard treatment for children with moderate to severe SDB and is aimed at reducing snoring and improving breathing in those with the condition. However, data are unclear whether the surgery is beneficial for children with mild forms of SDB.

The Pediatric Adenotonsillectomy Trial for Snoring (PATSS) was a randomized clinical trial that involved 459 children and adolescents with mild SDB who were enrolled at seven aca-

demie sleep centers in the United States between 2016 to 2021. The participants were ages 3 to 12, racially diverse, and followed for a year. The study did not include children with moderate to severe SDB.

During the trial, half the participants received an adenotonsillectomy and the other half received supportive care without surgery, which included standardized education on healthy sleep and lifestyle and referral for untreated allergies or asthma. Researchers then evaluated neurodevelopmental, behavioral, health, and sleep-related outcomes in these groups, using measurements of attention and executive function, which includes a set of cognitive skills that help children manage everyday activities. Sleep outcomes were measured by polysomnography, a standard sleep test that measures breathing, heart

rate, eye movement, and other factors.

At the end of the study period, cognition and attention improved in both groups, but improvement was not significantly greater in the children who were treated with surgery compared to the group who did not receive surgery. However, the secondary results of the study did show several beneficial changes in the surgery group. These included less daytime sleepiness, reduced SDB, less snoring, fewer behavioral problems, better quality of life, and lower blood pressure. The children treated with surgery were also less likely to show disease progression into full-blown sleep apnea, the researchers said.

Researchers plan to explore the long-term impacts of surgery in this population and note the need to develop improved screening tools that better identify which children are most likely to benefit from adenotonsillectomy.

"It is clear that adenotonsillectomy can help some children with mild sleep-disordered breathing. However, it may not be appropriate for everyone," said Marishka Brown, Ph.D., director of the National Center on Sleep Disorder's Research within the NHLBI. "Parents with concern over their children's nighttime breathing should discuss options with their pediatrician to develop a plan of action."

Research shows specific genetic variant can help prevent obesity

WASHINGTON DC [US] : A preclinical study conducted by Weill Cornell Medicine researchers reveals that a certain human genetic variant of a receptor that increases insulin release may help individuals be more resistant to obesity. The researchers revealed that this version operates differently in the cell, which may lead to more effective metabolism.

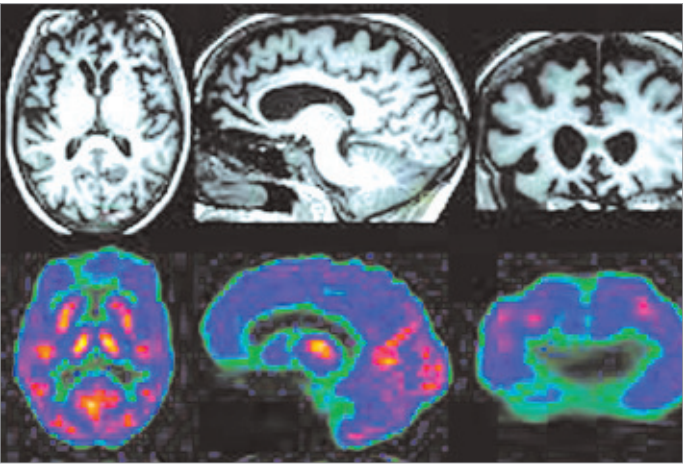
The study, posted online in Molecular Metabolism on Nov. 2, provides new insight into how human genetic variations affect an individual's susceptibility to weight gain. The researchers developed mice with a human genetic variant in the glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor associated with leaner body mass index (BMI). They found that the mice were better at processing sugar and staying leaner than mice with a different, more common variant of the receptor. The discovery may point to new potential strategies to treat obesity, which affects more than a 100 million adults in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Our work demonstrates how basic science research can yield important insights about complex biology," said the study's senior author Dr. Timothy McGraw, a professor of biochemistry in cardiothoracic surgery and in biochemistry

at Weill Cornell Medicine. "These GIP receptors and their behavior at the cellular level profoundly impact metabolism and weight regulation."

Genetic Variants of the GIP Receptor

Genetic variants are differences in DNA sequence that occur naturally between individuals in a given population. Genome-wide association studies, which use statistics to carefully link genetic variants to particular traits, show about 20 percent of people of European descent have one copy of the GIP receptor with the Q354 gene variant and about 5 percent have two copies of the variant. The GIP receptor interacts with a hormone released in response to glucose levels after a meal. "Studies suggest that people with at least one copy of this GIP receptor variant have altered metabolism that reduces their risk of developing obesity," said the study's lead author Dr. Lucie Yammine, a post-doctoral associate in biochemistry at Weill Cornell Medicine. To understand how this gene variant may be decreasing the risk of obesity, the team used CRISPR-Cas9 technology to genetically engineer mice with the variant in the gene encoding the GIP receptor, similar to the human version. They found that female mice with the variant were leaner on a typical mouse diet than



"Our work demonstrates how basic science research can yield important insights about complex biology," said the study's senior author Dr. Timothy McGraw, a professor of biochemistry in cardiothoracic surgery and in biochemistry at Weill Cornell Medicine. "These GIP receptors and their behavior at the cellular level profoundly impact me

"We found that a change in one amino acid in the GIP receptor gene affected the whole body in terms of weight," Dr. Yammine said. Mice with the variant were more sensitive to the GIP hormone that triggers the release of insulin which controls blood sugar levels and helps the body convert food into energy.

female litter mates without it. Male mice with the gene variant were about the same weight as litter mates without it while consuming a regular diet, but the gene variant protected them from weight gain

said. Mice with the variant were more sensitive to the GIP hormone that triggers the release of insulin which controls blood sugar levels and helps the body convert food into energy. How the Variant May Provide an Advantage Against Obesity

The researchers compared what happened to mouse cells with and without the variant when exposed to glucose or the GIP hormone. Pancreatic cells from mice with the genetic variant produced more insulin in response to both glucose and the GIP hormone, which may explain why they are better at processing glucose.

"What's interesting about these receptors is their location in the cell has a big impact on how they signal and their activity," Dr. McGraw said. He explained that when the GIP hormone binds to the receptor, the receptor moves from the cell surface to inside the cell. When the GIP hormone eventually falls off the receptor, the receptor returns to the cell surface. The team found that the GIP receptor variant stays inside the cell compartment four times longer than the typical receptor. Dr. McGraw suggested that this may allow the receptor to send more messages to the machinery inside cells, which helps in processing sugar more efficiently.

Still, more research is needed

to confirm the effects of this variant on the receptor's behavior. The researchers also want to learn if there are differences in the receptor's behavior in other cell types, like brain cells, which play a crucial role in regulating hunger. Recently, the Food and Drug Administration has approved several weight loss drugs that mimic natural hormones in the body and interact with receptors like GIP, including semaglutide (Wegovy) and tirzepatide (Zepbound). This has increased the interest in studying new ways to target the GIP receptor for obesity.

"Our work suggests that the movement of the receptor from the cell surface to the interior is an important factor in controlling metabolism. Therefore, drugs that could regulate the GIP receptor behavior and location could provide an important new avenue to combat obesity," said Dr. Yammine. In the meantime, Dr. McGraw noted that it is essential to understand how people with different genetic variants in the GIP receptor respond to currently available weight loss medications. "A better appreciation of how different variants of receptors impact metabolism might allow for a precision medicine approach--matching a specific drug to a genetic variant--for weight loss," he said.

Hamas denies it expressed willingness to disarm, slams Witkoff's Gaza trip

MI News Sevice, Gaza: Hamas has rejected reports that it expressed a willingness to disarm during Gaza ceasefire negotiations with Israel, stressing that it has a "national and legal" right to confront the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

The Palestinian group responded on Saturday to recent remarks purportedly made by United States President Donald Trump's special envoy to the Middle East, Steve Witkoff, during a meeting with relatives of Israeli captives held in Gaza.

Citing a recording of the talks, Israeli news outlet Haaretz reported that the US envoy told the families that Hamas said it was "prepared to be demilitarised".

But in a statement, Hamas said "the resistance and its weapons are a national and legal right as long as the [Israeli] occupation persists".

That right "cannot be relinquished until our full national rights are restored, foremost among them the establishment of a fully sovereign, independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital", it said.

Witkoff met the Israeli captives' families in Tel Aviv on Saturday, one day after he visited a US and Israeli-backed aid distribution site run by the controversial GHF in Gaza.

Hamas had earlier slammed the US envoy's trip as a "staged show" aimed at misleading the public about the situation in the enclave, where an Israeli blockade has spurred a starvation crisis and fuelled global condemnation.

More than 1,300 Palestinians also have been killed trying to get food at GHF-run sites since the group began operating in the bombed Gaza, the Health Ministry says, bringing the total number to 175 people, including 93 children.

But the Trump administration has stood firmly behind GHF despite the killings and growing criticism of the group's operations in Gaza. In June, Washington announced that it approved \$30m to support GHF.

Witkoff's comments on disarmament also come amid a widening international push to recognise a Palestinian state amid the scenes of starvation in Gaza.

The United Kingdom announced at a two-day United Nations conference in New York this week that it may follow France in recognising a Palestinian state in September.

Echoing an earlier statement by UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Foreign Secretary David Lammy said London would proceed with recognition if Israel did not meet certain conditions, including implementing a ceasefire in Gaza.

The UN meeting also saw 17 countries, plus the European Union and the Arab League, back a seven-page text on reviving a two-state solution to the conflict.

The text called on Hamas to "end its rule in Gaza and hand over its weapons to the Palestinian Authority, with international engagement and support, in line with the objective of a sovereign and independent Palestinian State".

Iran fully reopens airspace after ceasefire with Israel

MI News Sevice, Tehran: Iran has lifted all remaining restrictions on its airspace that were imposed at the onset of its 12-day conflict with Israel, the country's Civil Aviation Organization (CAO) announced.

In a statement posted on its website, the CAO said on Saturday, that both domestic and international flight operations have returned to pre-war levels. It also confirmed that Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport has resumed round-the-clock operations, Xinhua news agency reported.

"From now on, all airlines and travel agencies can once again offer 24-hour flight services and ticket sales," the statement added.

Iran initially closed its airspace on June 13 following Israeli airstrikes on Tehran and other areas. The 12-day conflict ended with a ceasefire on June 24.

The phased reopening of

Iranian airspace began on June 26, with airports gradually resuming normal operations. On July 17, the CAO announced that all airports had returned to full service, except for Mehrabad, which remained on a limited schedule from 4:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time (0030-1530 GMT).

On June 13, Israel launched major airstrikes on several areas in Iran, including nuclear and military sites, killing senior commanders, nuclear scientists, and numerous civilians. Iran responded with multiple waves of missile and drone attacks on Israel, Xinhua news agency reported.

On June 22, US forces bombed three Iranian nuclear facilities. In retaliation, Iran struck the US Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar.

After 12 days of fighting, a ceasefire between Iran and Israel was reached on Tuesday.

'Save Gaza': Thousands march across Sydney Harbour Bridge to protest famine



MI News Sevice, Sydney: In a powerful show of solidarity with the people of Gaza, tens of thousands took part in the March for Humanity, across Sydney's iconic Harbour Bridge on Sunday morning in pouring rain, calling attention to the growing famine and humanitarian crisis in the besieged Palestinian territory.

The protest, which drew participants of all ages — from elderly citizens to families with children, was organized by the Palestine Action Group. Chants of "We are all Palestinians" echoed through the march.

Protesters carried umbrellas, waved Palestinian flags, and banged pots and pans to highlight the hunger crisis in Gaza, organized by the Palestine Action Group was. Chants of "We are all Pales-

tinians" echoed through the march.

Protest organized by the Palestine Action Group, began at Lang Park in central Sydney and proceeded northward across the bridge to Bradfield Park. Demonstrators carried Palestinian flags, placards reading "Save Gaza", and banged pots and pans to symbolize the widespread starvation gripping Gaza.

New South Wales Police estimated the crowd at around 100,000 people, though organisers put the figure closer to 300,000, making it one of the largest public demonstrations in recent years.

It also marked the first public protest to prompt the closure of the Harbour Bridge since the 2023 World Pride march, which drew about 50,000 participants.

Israel kills more than 40 in Gaza amid rising starvation deaths

MI News Sevice, Gaza: Six more Palestinians have died of forced starvation and malnutrition in besieged Gaza, the Health Ministry says, bringing the total number to 175 people, including 93 children.

Israeli attacks across Gaza have killed at least 44 people so far today, including 22 aid seekers, medical sources tell Al Jazeera. And in the occupied East Jerusalem, the storming of Al-Aqsa



Mosque compound by far-right Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir draws condemnation from Palestinians and Jordan, which administers the holy site.

Palestinian boy, 17, dies of Israel-induced starvation in Gaza

MI News Sevice, Gaza: A Palestinian teenager with no previous health conditions has starved to death in Gaza after being hospitalised, medical officials and relatives say, as people in the besieged enclave desperately struggle to find food amid Israel's continued blockade on aid.

Atef Abu Khater, 17, died on Saturday, a source at al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City told Al Jazeera.

His weight had dropped from 70kg (154lbs) to just 25kg (55lbs) when he died, his family said — roughly what a nine-year-old child should weigh.

"We hear from his family members and others who knew him that he used to be a local sports champion. He ended up losing a lot of weight, becoming acutely malnourished, and ultimately dying," Al Jazeera's Hani Mahmoud reported from Gaza City.

"He was one of thousands of severe malnutrition cases throughout Gaza."

Footage shared online and verified by Al Jazeera showed Abu Khater's relatives saying goodbye. In it, the boy's emaciated body could be seen in an open white body bag, his face turned away from the camera.

His cheekbones protruded in the absence of any fat, giving him a gaunt appearance. A relative could be seen running his finger along each bone on the boy's ribcage, which is clearly visible due to malnutrition.

Journalist Wisam Shabat, who posted the video on his Instagram account, said Abu Khater arrived



at the hospital in a very critical condition, suffering from severe complications due to lack of food and medical care, before he passed away.

At least 169 Palestinians, including 93 children, have died of starvation and malnutrition across the territory since Israel's war began in October 2023, according to the latest Gaza Health Ministry figures.

UN and other humanitarian officials say Israeli restrictions on humanitarian aid deliveries, though partially lifted in recent days, have left Palestinians starving and struggling to find enough food to feed their families.

Amid growing international condemnation of the crisis, Israel has said it is increasing aid deliveries to Palestinians, including via airdrops.

But humanitarian groups say airdrops are dangerous and inefficient, and they have called on Israel to open up all the crossings into Gaza to allow assistance to flow freely to Palestinians in need.

Philippe Lazzarini, head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA),

said on Saturday that "the manmade famine in Gaza has been largely shaped by the deliberate attempts to replace" UN aid systems with a contentious, US and Israeli-backed group called the GHF.

Israeli forces have routinely fired on Palestinians trying to get food at GHF-run distribution sites in Gaza, and the UN reported this week that more than 1,300 aid seekers have been killed since the group began operating in May.

Lazzarini also accused Israel of actively preventing the UN and other humanitarian groups from delivering lifesaving aid to Palestinians, in what he described as "a deliberate measure to collectively pressure and punish Palestinians for living in Gaza".

"No time to waste anymore, a political decision must be made to unconditionally open the crossings", the UNRWA chief said in a post on X.

Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinian families continue to search for food and other desperately needed supplies across Gaza.

Reporting from Deir

Ukrainian drone attack sparks fire at oil depot in Sochi, southwest Russia

MI News Sevice, Sochi: An overnight Ukrainian drone attack has sparked a fire at an oil depot in Sochi, the southwestern Russian resort that hosted the 2014 Winter Olympic Games, local authorities say.

The attack came a day after Ukraine's military said it struck the Ryazan oil refinery in central Russia, causing a fire. Ukraine has regularly hit Russian oil and gas infrastructure in response to attacks on its own territory since Russia began its war in February 2022.

"Sochi suffered a drone attack by the Kyiv regime last night," the governor of Russia's Krasnodar region, Veniamin Kondratiev, said on the Telegram messaging application on Sunday.

Drone wreckage hit an "oil tank, which caused a fire", Kondratiev said.

Sochi Mayor Andrei Proshinin said there were no victims and "the situation is totally under control", adding that firefighters were extinguishing the blaze.

Air traffic was briefly suspended at Sochi's airport but has resumed, Russia's air transport regulator Rosaviatsia said.

Air strikes on Sochi, about 400km (250 miles) southeast of the Ukrainian border, are relatively rare compared with other Russian cities. However, Ukrainian drone attacks killed two people in the



A Ukrainian soldier fires an RPG-7 grenade launcher mounted on an unmanned vehicle during training in the Zaporizhzhia region of Ukraine.

region late last month, according to local authorities.

Ukrainian officials have not commented on the fire.

Kyiv has warned it will intensify its air strikes against Russia in response to an increase in Russian attacks on its territory in recent weeks, which have killed dozens of civilians.

On Sunday, Ukraine's air force said on Telegram that Russia had launched 76 attack drones and seven missiles targeting Ukraine overnight, striking eight locations throughout Ukraine. Ukraine's air defence units destroyed 60 of the drones and one missile, it said.

In the front-line regions of Zaporizhzhia and Kherson, at least three people

were killed and more than 12 injured in Russian attacks over the 24 hours into Sunday morning, regional governors said.

A Russian missile strike on the city of Mykolaiv in southern Ukraine also injured at least seven people and destroyed or damaged dozens of homes and civilian infrastructure, the regional governor said.

In the early days of the war, the Mykolaiv region stood on the front lines, facing frequent artillery strikes and aerial attacks. Even after Russian forces were pushed back in late 2022, drones and missiles have remained a constant danger there.

Russia also launched a short-lived missile attack on Kyiv overnight, but there have been no reports

Monitoring group Action on Armed Violence reports that no findings have been made in 88 percent of Israeli military probes into alleged war crimes since October 2023.

Israel's war on Gaza has killed at least 60,430 people and wounded 148,722. An estimated 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the October 7, 2023 attacks and more than 200 were taken captive.

MLAs, including dignitaries, stand by Durgapur victims



Nurul Islam Khan

MLA Naushad Siddiqui slamming Mamata government said that an undeclared BJP government is running in this state. He said that in fact Mamata Banerjee is a dedicated member of RSS. On the one hand, donations of the puja committee are increasing, on the other side torture and killing of Muslims have increased. In this incident in Durgapur, Pirzada Naushad Siddiqui angrily said that Mamata should take strict action and give exemplary punishment to the culprits, otherwise he has warned of strict punishment through the law.

On Saturday, two cow traders from the minority community in Durgapur were beaten up by BJP workers for no reason. The sad thing is that they did not even spare killing an old woman. Muslims are being attacked from all sides just because they are Muslims. Bangladeshis and Rohingyas are being called sons of the land of this country! When this brutal incident spread on social media, prominent people of the society erupted in protest. They filed a complaint with the police station. The attack-

ers snatched cows worth lakhs of rupees from the cattle traders. Although the police arrested two people, the main accused is still at large. After these residents of Jamia in West Burdwan were attacked, representatives of the All Bengal Minority Youth Federation including Mohammad Kamruzzaman reached the spot. Kamruzzaman said that the sons of the land of this country and this state are being continuously harassed and murdered. We cannot keep silence to see such brutal incident. We were born in this state, we will die in this country. Our ancestors are lying here. We came from Bengal and did not get citizenship here. As a result, if this unilateral attack is not stopped, we will take to the streets. The protest and resistance will be longer. On the other hand, renowned social worker Manik Fakir has expressed his anger over this issue and demanded appropriate punishment for the culprits and sought financial compensation for the victims. Many say that fanatical and physical violence will not be tolerated. MLAs and other renowned people stand by the victims of Durgapur.

Will Surjapuri Muslims Get Recognition as Extremely Backward Class? Bihar Government Refers the Matter to Commission

MI News Sevice, Patna: The Bihar government has taken a significant step toward addressing the demand to include the Surjapuri Muslim community, residing in the Purnia division, in the state's Extremely Backward Class (EBC) category (Schedule-1). In an official letter sent by Manoj Kumar, Additional Secretary to the Government, to MP Dr. Mohammad Javed, it has been confirmed that the matter has now been referred to the Bihar State Commission for Extremely Backward Classes for consideration and recommendations. Once the Commission submits its report, the government will take further necessary steps.

Welcoming this move, Dr. Mohammad Javed stated that the long-standing demand of the Surjapuri Muslim community is finally moving in the right direction. He expressed hope that the government would act in the spirit of social justice and provide the community its rightful constitutional recognition.

Community in Focus: Representatives of the Surjapuri community believe that recognition as EBC will open doors to better educational opportunities, government jobs, and access to welfare schemes.

All eyes are now on the State Commission's recommendations, which will determine whether the Surjapuri Muslims are granted this long-pending socio-political inclusion.

"Digging my own grave": Israeli hostage breaks down inside Hamas tunnel

MI News Sevice, New Delhi: A video released by the Palestinian group Hamas shows an Israeli hostage visibly emaciated, digging what he describes as his own grave in an underground tunnel.

This marks the second such video of Eyyatar David, 24, circulated by the Palestinian group within 48 hours. In the footage, David, who appears skeletal and barely able to speak, is seen using a shovel in what appears to be a confined underground tunnel. He speaks slowly and faintly to the camera, narrating his ordeal.

"What I'm doing now is digging my own grave," David says in Hebrew. "Every day my body becomes weaker and weaker. I'm walking directly to my grave. There is the grave where I am going to be buried in. Time is running out to be released and be able to sleep in my bed with my family."

David breaks down as he finishes the statement.

The family of Eyyatar David

has approved the video's release. In a statement, they said, "The deliberate starvation of our son as part of a propaganda campaign is one of the most horrifying acts the world has seen. He is being starved purely to serve Hamas's propaganda."

David is among 49 hostages still held by Hamas and allied Palestinian factions in Gaza, captured during the October 7, 2023, attack that killed 1,219 people in Israel, most of them civilians. In retaliation, Israel launched a devastating offensive against Gaza, which has resulted in the deaths of over 60,000 people.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said that the prime minister spoke with David's family after the release of the video and expressed his "profound shock" at the footage. The PM reiterated that the government's efforts to secure the release of all hostages were continuing "constantly and relentlessly."

