



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressing a press conference at Nabanna on Monday.

Mamata Banerjee not likely to attend PM Modi's Metro flag-off

MI News Service,Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has decided to skip the inauguration of three Kolkata metro projects by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 22, a top state government official said on Monday.

Mamta Banerjee, during her tenure as the railway minister, had planned all these metro projects, he claimed adding that however, the decision to skip the inauguration of the metro projects was taken in the backdrop of alleged harassment of migrants from West Bengal in the BJP-ruled states.

"There have been charges of linguistic discrimination and the harassment of Bengalis in several states, with the alleged support of the BJP and the central government. Protests are underway to oppose such discriminatory treatment being meted out to Bengali migrants. In such a situation, the chief minister does not wish to share the stage with officials from the central government," the top bureaucrat said.

Earlier, on August 14 Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had invited Mamata Banerjee to the inauguration of three metro projects on Friday, through an official letter sent to her.

"We kindly invite you

to grace the occasion at Jessore Road metro station for the above programme," Vaishnaw said in the letter dated August 14.

However, the TMC questioned the timing of the inauguration, claiming that the long-pending projects were being opened with an eye on the assembly elections due next year.

The state BJP dismissed the charge, blaming the state government for the delay in the completion of the metro projects.

State BJP president Samik Bhattacharya said, "43 railway projects in Bengal, including the East-West Metro (Green Line), have been delayed due to land acquisition problems and lack of cooperation from the state government."

"The construction of the Orange Line at Chingrighata has been stalled for a long time because of this. Otherwise, it would have been connected to Salt Lake Sector 5," he said. Bhattacharya said the CM's presence at the inauguration programme "would be desirable."

PM Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the Sealdah-Esplanade section of the Green Line, Hemanta Mukhopadhyay (Ruby Crossing)-Belegghata stretch of the Orange Line, and Noapara-Jai Hind Bi-

manbandar (airport) section of the Yellow Line.

"These railway projects were originally planned and funded by Mamata Banerjee during her tenure as the railway minister. After years of slow progress, the BJP is now inaugurating them before the elections to claim credit. The chief minister was only given a routine invitation via letter," the official claimed.

The chief minister had, in the past, attended central government events to respect the constitutional protocol, he said.

"But during these programmes, BJP supporters created chaos and acted disrespectfully, turning the official functions into political platforms. Given this into account, no option will be given for such unacceptable conduct," he added. With this inauguration, the Green Line, touted as India's first underwater metro, will become fully operational, connecting

Howrah Maidan to Salt Lake Sector 5, and the Kolkata airport will get a metro link, .

But the invitation has sparked political controversy, with Trinamool leaders viewing it as more than a ceremonial gesture. Party spokesperson and councillor Arup Chakraborty dismissed the letter as a "white paper"

rather than a genuine invite.

"It is peppered with details of how much the Centre has spent on Bengal projects. In reality, Bengal faces stark discrimination from the Centre. That reality is playing in their subconscious minds," Chakraborty said, referring to the letter's emphasis on railway project allocations for Bengal.

This controversy follows a pattern of political disputes over Metro openings since 2020. In July 2022, then Union minister Smriti Irani inaugurated Sealdah Metro station amid claims that Mamata Banerjee had not been invited to the railway ministry programme.

Earlier, in February 2020, the ruling Trinamool Congress boycotted the opening of the Salt Lake Sector V to Stadium link — the first operational section of the East-West Metro — after Mamata's name was reportedly omitted from the invitation list. Trinamool leaders at the time emphasised that the East-West corridor was Mamata's "brainchild" during her tenure as Railway minister. According to party sources here ,there are several important reasons behind Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's not attending the railway event.

Mamata Banerjee launches new scheme for rehabilitation of migrant labourers

MI News Service, Kolkata : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday announced a scheme for rehabilitation of migrant labourers, and alleged that they were facing "pre-planned attacks" in BJP-ruled states. Speaking to reporters at the state secretariat Nabanna, the Chief minister said under the 'Sramasree' scheme, the migrant labourers, who were willing to return to Bengal, would be provided financial aid of Rs 5,000 for 12 months or till the time they get employment. "Around 22 lakh migrant labourers and their families have been harassed in other states, especially in states having double-engine governments. They are facing pre-planned attacks.

"The cabinet has given approval for the scheme to help in the rehabilitation of the migrant workers willing to return and start

their lives afresh," she said.

The announcement of the scheme comes ahead of the assembly polls due next year.

Since speaking Bengali is being labelled as a criminal offence in several BJP ruled states, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced the first of its kind rehabilitation project for migrant workers in the state

"The main objective of this project is to bring migrant workers back to Bengal and help them in their livelihood",the Chief Minister said adding there are 22 lakh migrant workers from Bengal whereas there are about 1.5 crore migrant workers in our state from other states. I will say this only for those who are returning as migrant workers from Bengal after working in different states and were in a helpless state after being tortured, based on

language terrorism. They are also being labelled as criminals. It is very unfortunate and speaking Bengali seems to be a crime. So we have taken a decision. We have taken a plan to bring back the migrant workers of Bengal who are working outside Bengal, and if they want to return, we have also taken up a rehabilitation plan for them. I have named it 'Shramashree'. The Chief Minister said that after returning to Bengal migrant workers will now get a rehabilitation allowance of Rs 5,000 per month for the first 1 year. They will get a health companion card. If someone does not have a permanent house, they will get a grant under the Awas Yojana. Government assistance will be given for the education of their sons and daughters. Apart from this, they will also be included in other social security schemes.

Who will get the benefits of the 'Shramashree' project? Initially, 22 lakh 40 thousand workers of Bengal who have already registered their names on the government portal will get the benefits of this project. The Chief Minister said that the implementation and effectiveness of this project will be directly monitored by the Chief Secretary of the state.

The Chief Minister alleged, 'In various states where there is a double engine government, there are planned attacks on the Bengali language and Bengali identity. Speaking in Bengali is being identified as a criminal. Some are being sent to Bangladesh, some are being put in jail. They are being taken to the police station and harassed. Twenty-two lakh migrant workers and their families have been harassed so far for speaking Bengali, she said .

Rajya Sabha adjourned as Opposition protests rejection of notices

MI News Service, New Delhi : Proceedings in the Rajya Sabha were adjourned till 2 pm on Monday following protests by Opposition members over the rejection of their 19 adjournment notices on various issues. Soon after the House met at 11 am, Deputy Chairman Harivansh made an obituary reference to former Manipur governor La Ganesan, after which listed papers and reports were laid on the table of the House.

The Deputy Chairman said 19 notices have been received under Rule 267, on four subjects.

He said 11 notices do not contain a "motion drawn in proper terms", 10 notices do not mention the date, 11 notices do not contain rules which the members seek to suspend, and 13 demand discussion on "a matter which is subjudice".

"Since none of these notices received today are in adherence to the requirement of the rules, I am not admitting any of the notices," the Deputy Chairman said.

Harivansh then tried to take up the listed Zero Hour.

Opposition MPs, who have been demanding a discussion on the issue of Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, were up on their feet protesting the Chair's rejection of their 19 adjournment notices on various issues.

The Deputy Chairman urged the protesting members to let the House function. However, the Opposition did not relent, leading to the adjournment of the proceedings till 2 pm.

Earlier last week also the House of was adjourned several times because of continuous protests by the opposition members on various issues including detailed discussion on SIR. Soon after the adjournment of the House several opposition MPs of INDIA bloc parties held a protest in the Parliament House complex this afternoon against the Election Commission's voter

TMC MPs stage protest against alleged targeting of Bengali speaking migrants

MI News Service, New Delhi : Trinamool Congress MPs on Monday staged a protest in Parliament complex against the alleged targeting of Bengali-speaking migrants in BJP-ruled states.

Holding placards, TMC MPs raised slogans against the alleged discrimination being faced by Bengali speakers in different states.

"Bengali language is being insulted in

BJP ruled states. Bengalis are being arrested, they say Bengali is not a language. We are protesting against that. We will not tolerate this insult of Bengali language," TMC leader Kalyan Banerjee said.The protest was held before the Opposition protest on the Bihar voter roll revision issue. TMC MPs have been holding regular protest over the issue in the Monsoon session of Parliament.

SIR is 'new weapon' of 'vote chori', will protect 'one person, one vote': Rahul Gandhi



MI News Service, Patna: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls is a "new weapon" of "vote chori" and vowed to protect the 'one person, one vote' principle.

He made the remarks in a post on his WhatsApp channel while talking about his meeting with a group of people who had cast their vote in the previous Lok Sabha election but their name had been deleted in the SIR exercise in Bihar.

Gandhi met the group at the launch of his Vote Adhikar Yatra in Sasaram on Sunday.

In his post in Hindi along with a picture of the meeting, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha said, "SIR is a new weapon of vote theft. Coincidentally, these people standing with me in this picture are 'living' proof of this theft."

"All of them had cast their vote in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections - but by the time Bihar assembly elections came, their identity, their existence was erased from the democracy of India," he said.

"Do you know who they are? Raj Mohan Singh (70): Farmer and retired soldier; Umravati Devi (35): Dalit and labourer; Dhanjay Kumar Bind (30): Back-

ward class and labourer; Sita Devi (45): Woman and former MNREGA labourer; Raju Devi (55): Backward class and labourer; Mohmuiddin Ansari (52): Minority and labourer," he said.

The "collusion" of BJP and Election Commission is punishing them for being 'Bahujan' and poor - even our soldiers were not spared, Gandhi said.

Neither will they have a vote, nor identity or rights, he added.

"Due to social discrimination and economic conditions, they are unable to fight against the conspiracy of the system.We stand here with them to protect the most basic right of 'one person, one vote'," he said.

This is a question of rights and of everyone's participation in a democracy, he said, adding that "we will not let it end under any circumstances".

Meanwhile, Rahul Gandhi, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav along with Vikassheel Insan Party's Mukesh Sahani prayed

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BJP nominating CP Radhakrishnan for VP office not to benefit Tamil Nadu, claims DMK

MI News Service, Chennai : Senior DMK leader TKS Elangovan on Monday said the BJP naming Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan as its candidate for the post of Vice President is not "going to do anything good" to Tamil Nadu.

Former Rajya Sabha MP, Elangovan, wondered why the DMK should support Radhakrishnan's candidature and said his party would abide by the decision of the INDIA bloc, in which his party is a major partner.

Radhakrishnan's nomination is an elevation to him, and "it is not going to do anything good" to Tamil Nadu, he said.

The BJP on Sunday placed a familiar southern figure into the national spotlight, naming Maharashtra Governor C P Radhakrishnan as the NDA's candidate for the September 9 Vice-Presidential polls.

The announcement by BJP National President J P Nadda after the party's Parliamentary Board meeting illustrated the party's confidence in a man long regarded as both disciplined and quietly effective. Bringing decades of political apprenticeship, organisational experience, and a reputation for moderation, Radhakrishnan's elevation follows a political career that has often seemed at once understated

and strategic. In February 2024, as the Governor of Jharkhand, he set a tone that stood apart from many of his peers. Declaring that Governors should transcend political affiliations, he cast himself as a bridge between state and Central governments, a figure who, in his words, would lay aside partisan ambition in favour of development.

"His focus on improving the lives of tribal and underprivileged communities in Jharkhand also carried an implicit rebuke of predecessors accused of blurring Constitutional boundaries, at a moment when southern states were bristling against activist gubernatorial interventions," said a senior RSS leader from Tamil Nadu, a long-time colleague.

Radhakrishnan tried to gain the reputation of a no-nonsense, results-driven politician. At the time of his elevation as Jharkhand Governor in February 2023, a senior leader of the DMK, the BJP's chief rival in Tamil Nadu, said that Radhakrishnan was "a good man in the wrong party," even likening him to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. "For good or bad, he is one nice person in the

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3 more schools in Delhi receive bomb threats, triggers evacuation

MI News Service, New Delhi : After a gap of nearly two weeks and causing repetition of huge panic, three more schools in Delhi's Dwarka area received bomb threat e-mails on Monday, triggering panic among students and prompting authorities to evacuate the premises.

The schools included Delhi Public School (DPS), Modern Convent School, and Shree Ram World School, a senior police officer said, adding that the threats were received via e-mail.

Multiple teams from the Delhi police, bomb disposal squad and dog squad were rushed to the spots, officials said, adding that cyber teams

are working to trace the IP address of the sender.

According to sources, panic gripped several schools in the national capital this morning after they received bomb threats as soon as the school hours began.

As a safety measure, parents were informed and the schools were quickly evacuated. Police and bomb disposal teams arrived at the scene and began a thorough search of the premises. However, no bomb was found in any of the schools, but the police are taking no chances and continued the search operations for several hours .

Although the previous two bomb

threats turned out to be hoaxes, security agencies are taking today's call seriously and are following all necessary protocols.

Further information on the incident is still awaited.

Earlier in July, after receiving information about a bomb threat, the Fire Department and Delhi Police personnel were deployed at Richmond Global School in Paschim Vihar, the Sovereign School in Rohini Sector 24, Modern International School in Dwarka Sector 19 and the Heritage School in Rohini Sector 23, among several other schools in

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Searches continue for fifth day in cloudburst-hit Kishtwar village

MI News Service, Jammu : Braving intermittent heavy rains and difficult terrain, rescuers continued their large-scale search operation to trace those who are still buried under debris in this cloudburst-hit remote village of Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar on the fifth day on Monday, officials said.

Donning rain coats, the rescue teams were

seen working at multiple locations, especially the major impact spot near a langar (community kitchen) site, despite the downpour, sifting through the rubble using heavy machinery, including earth movers and sniffer dogs.

Cloudburst struck Chisoti, the last motorable village en route to the Machail Mata temple, on August 14, killing 65 peo-

ple, including three CISF personnel and one Special Police Officer, and leaving over 100 others injured. The number of missing people has been reported as around 50 after a fresh revision of the list.

The flash-floods triggered by the cloudburst left a trail of destruction, flattening a makeshift market, a langar site for the annual Machail Mata yatra, damaging 16

houses and government buildings, three temples, four water mills, a 30-metre-long bridge, besides over a dozen vehicles. "Today is the fifth day of the operation, and combined efforts are underway to recover the mortal remains of the missing persons. The weather is challenging in view of the rain. We

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Thousands of ASHA workers from villages and cities will hold a Kalighat drive and submit a deputation to the Chief Minister regarding their various problems and demands. A joint press conference of the West Bengal ASHA Workers' Union and the West Bengal Municipal Health Workers' Contractual Union was held on August 18 at 3 pm at the Kolkata Press Club. The unions have called for a larger movement in the coming days on key issues, including an increase in allowances, payment of pending monthly incentives, and an end to installment-based payments.

Violence in Bhangar: 'Bombs', 'beating' marks nomination battle

MI News Service, South 24 Parganas: Tension gripped Bhangar on Monday as the nomination process for the Bhangar High Madrasa elections was marred by violence, including clashes between rival groups and incidents of bombing.

Monday was the last day for filing nominations, with the deadline set at 1 p.m. However, allegations of unrest surfaced even before the process concluded. Supporters of both the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Indian Secular Front (ISF) traded accusations over the violence. According to ISF leader Rahul Mollah, the party had informed the police in advance about possible trouble. He alleged that miscreants attempted to prevent ISF candidates from filing nominations and even assaulted some supporters. "Our people were dragged out of the police station and beaten. Miscreants had taken shelter near the madrasa since Sunday night," Mollah claimed. Women ISF supporters also alleged that they were roughed up in front of the police. "We were thrown out of the police station. Several of our people were beaten. This was pre-planned to stop us from filing nominations," one supporter said. TMC, however, rejected these allegations. Local MLA Showkat Mollah claimed that the ISF was responsible for the unrest. "They had stockpiled weapons in advance and created an atmosphere of fear. This was part of a larger conspiracy," he said. The situation grew tense outside Bhangar Police Station, where supporters of both parties gathered in large numbers. A scuffle broke out in front of the police, forcing security personnel to resort to a lathi-charge to restore order. A significant police presence has since been deployed in the area to prevent further escalation. Officials confirmed that investigations are underway to determine the sequence of events and identify those responsible for the violence.

Mystery deeps: Rapido driver disappears

MI News Service, Garia: A 28-year-old Rapido driver from Garia has been missing for nearly a week, leaving his family distraught and raising questions about the pace of the investigation. The missing youth, identified as Vishnu Mondal, left home for work as usual on August 12 but never returned.

According to his family, Vishnu left his residence around 7 am that day. Later, at 4:34 pm, he spoke briefly with his wife, Preeti, informing her that he was headed towards Naihati and would call again. Since then, his phone has remained switched off. Concerned family members first filed a missing person's

Khela Hobe Diwas by Police Welfare Committee

Nurul Islam Khan

Kolkata Police Welfare Committee organized "Khela Hobe Diwas" at Bodyguard Lines Alipore Kolkata. Members of West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police participated with joy in football matches, cricket matches, tag of wire, carom competitions etc. On this day, the West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police participated together with joy. The Acting Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, Power and Housing, Pritam Kotal and Prabir Das, renowned footballers, Subhankar Bhattacharya, Joint Municipal Commissioner



(Armed Police) Kolkata, Shantanu Sinha Biswas, Coordinator, West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police Welfare Committee, Bijitash Raut, Convener, West Bengal Police Welfare Committee, Ruhul Amin Ali Shah, Convener, Kolkata Police Welfare Committee, officers and general members of the Welfare Committees of various branches of West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police.

Hugging Club by the side of the needy

Nurul Islam Khan

Diamond Harbor Hugging Club celebrated a special day with a social program in a unique way. Local Trinamool MLA Pannalal Halder, Subdivision Administrator Anjan Ghosh, Municipality Vice Chairman Rajshree Das, Club President Chinmoy Sikder and others were present at the main event when the national flag was hoisted. On this day, 300 women were given new clothes. At the same time, lunch was organized for 1000 needy people. For the past few



years, Hugging Club has been celebrating Independence Day with the needy people. Local administrative officials are also happy with this work. Club Secretary Sabir Ahmed and Sports Secretary Bakibulla said, we are very happy to celebrate independence with the needy people in a unique way. In the coming days, Hugging Club will try to improve the underprivileged people of the society in this way. Journalist Asif Reza Ansari was present.

Financial Inclusion Saturation and re-KYC Camp held at Mohanpur Gram Panchayat, Barrackpore-II Block, 24 North Parganas

MI News Service, North 24 Parganas: Under the Government of India's initiative and Directions, the banks across West Bengal are holding Financial Inclusion (FI) Saturation Camps from July 1 to September 30, 2025 in 3,339 Gram Panchayats to facilitate re-KYC, enrolments in various FI Schemes, awareness on unclaimed deposits, and grievance redressal mechanisms. Indian Bank organized a camp at Mohanpur Gram Panchayat, Barrackpore-II Block, North 24 Parganas on August 14, 2025, which was among others attended by Shri Indranil Bhattacharyya, Executive Director, RBI; Shri Sudhanshu Prasad, Regional Director, RBI; Ms. Rashmi Rani, General Manager, RBI; Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh, General Manager, Indian Bank; Shri Balbir Singh, General Manager, SLBC Convener, West Bengal; the public representative of Mohanpur Gram Panchayat and Zonal/Regional Heads of other banks present in the area. On this occasion, Shri Indranil Bhattacharyya, Executive Director, RBI highlighted the critical importance of keeping bank account active through timely re-KYC to avoid delays in receiving grants or subsidies from the Central and State Governments. He reminded that banks must update KYC records every two years for High-risk, eight years for Medium-risk, and 10 years for Low-risk customers, by accepting documents such as passport, driving licence, Aadhaar card, Voter ID, etc. He also apprised the participants about the unclaimed deposits lying idle for



more than 10 years and encouraged them to use the RBI's UDGM portal to locate such deposits across various banks, and the process for reclaiming such deposits from the banks. Further, he explained about the RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, guiding participants on lodging complaints free of cost through CMS portal or Toll-Free number 14448. At the event, Shri Sudhanshu Prasad, Regional Director, RBI Kolkata highlighted the importance of completing re-KYC in time so as to avail all types of banking services without any hassles. He also mentioned about the requirements of submitting a self-declaration form in case there is no change in KYC information or even if there is change in address. Further, he made the public aware about the safe use of digital payment platforms like UPI, IMPS, and NEFT and the safety and security measures implemented by banks. He urged the participants not to share any confidential information relating to banking transactions such as Account Number, Credit/Debit Card Number, OTP, PIN, Password, etc. Further, he encouraged the participants to use the

camp as an opportunity to ask questions/queries and seek immediate resolution. He also informed that financial frauds should be reported immediately by calling the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal's Toll-Free number 1930. Several bank counters were set up at the venue to assist with re-KYC and other financial inclusion activities. In this camp at Mohanpur Gram Panchayat, 2,929 customers successfully completed their re-KYC. During the camp, both the RBI's Executive Director and Regional Director visited the stall set up by the banks. The Regional Director urged the bankers to maximize the re-KYC completion at the camps and interacted with the attendees. All the participating banks jointly reaffirmed their commitment to complete the re-KYC process by September 30, 2025, in line with the extant RBI Guidelines. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri U.C. Patra, Zonal Manager, Indian Bank, Barasat Zone. This initiative represents a significant step towards boosting financial inclusion and ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements in the region.

BENGAL
Harmony in Tune-
Ballygunge Sarbojanin Utsav

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Khuti Puja was organized by the Adi Ballygunj Sarbojanin Durgotsav Samiti. The Khuti Puja ceremony was attended by Debashish Kumar, Mayor Council and MLA, Sandeep Ranjan Bakshi Mayor Council, Councilor Nibetida Sharma, Sushil Sharma, renowned musician Lajbanti Roy, Deputy Police Commissioner Gautam Kumar Das, musician Tania Pal, Joint Secretary of the Puja Committee Mahesh Bhattacharya, Dipankar Mukherjee. This is the 76th year of the Puja, and the theme of the Puja is Vande Mataram from Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's Anandamath novel. The Chief Minister of the state, Mamata Banerjee, has been inaugurating this Puja for many years. People of all religions conduct this Puja together. The entire Khuti Puja program was conducted by Firoz Hosain, Cultural Secretary of the Puja Committee.



Mystery shrouds 23-year-old's death at Dow Hill home-stay

MI News Service, Kurseong: A 23-year youth old from Howrah, identified as Saptanil Chattopadhyay, was found dead in front of a homestay at Dow Hill, Kurseong on Monday morning under mysterious circumstances.

According to local sources, around 5 a.m. residents heard the sound of a heavy fall near the homestay. When they rushed to the spot, they discovered Saptanil lying in a pool of the blood on the road. He was immediately taken to Kurseong Hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead. The body has since been sent to North Bengal Medical College and Hospital for post mortem examination, including four young women, all of whom are college students. The group had checked into a homestay on Dow Hill Road and was scheduled to return to Howrah on Monday. Initial reports suggested that Saptanil may have fallen from the homestay. However, questions remain over how the fall occurred, prompting speculation about whether it was a tragic accident or if foul play was involved. Police have started questioning his companions to ascertain the sequence of events. Saptanil's parents are on their way to North Bengal after receiving the news of their son's death. Dow Hill, a scenic spot surrounded by pine forests and shrouded in mist, is a popular destination for tourists, particularly from Bengal. This incident has cast a shadow over the area, raising concerns about safety in homestays. The investigation is underway, and police have not ruled out any possibilities, including accidental death or homicide.

Sensational Twist in Singur Nurse Death Case

MI, News Service Hooghly: The mysterious death of 25-year-old nurse Deepali Jana, who was employed at a private nursing home in Singur, continues to create ripples in the district, with startling claims emerging from police interrogation and strong counter-allegations from the victim's family.

According to police sources, following the arrest of Deepali's boyfriend, Radhagobind Ghatak, a resident of the same area, a sensational statement was recorded during questioning. Investigators revealed that just two days before the incident, on August 10, the couple allegedly spent the night together at a hotel in Dankuni. Police further claimed that such outings were not isolated occurrences, and that the duo had stayed in hotels on several occasions in the past. Officials probing.

Delayed Independence Owing to a 'Colonial Error': Nadia Observes Independence Day on August 18



MI News Service, Nadia : For many people in parts of Nadia, Murshidabad, and Malda, Independence came not on August 15, 1947, but three days later, on August 18. Even today, residents of Krishnanagar, Ranaghat, Krishnaganj -Shibnibas, and Santipur commemorate August 18 as their true Independence Day. On the eve of Independence, a shocking announcement on All India Radio declared that a large portion of Nadia district had been marked within 'East Pakistan' on the Radcliffe Line map. A single erroneous stroke in Sir Cyril Radcliffe's drawing of the boundary map turned the joy of Independence into despair for the people of Nadia. The situation triggered spontaneous protests, urgent interventions from the Krishnanagar royal family, and appeals by Bengal's political leadership. Pakistani forces even attempted to take control of the Krishnanagar Rajbari. The king, Saurish Chandra, sought urgent help from the British administration, leading to the overnight deployment of troops from Fort William. After dramatic uncertainty lasting nearly three days, intense lobbying by political leaders, Maharani Jyotirmoyee, and Murshidabad's Wajed Ali Mirza finally bore fruit. On August 17, 1947, a fresh notification was issued declaring that Nadia would remain within India. The earlier announcement was revoked,

and the Radcliffe Line was redrawn. Krishnanagar and Ranaghat sub-divisions were placed under the newly created Nabadwip district, ensuring their inclusion in India. On August 18, the Tricolour was hoisted across Nadia, marking the district's accession to independent India. Even today, that memory remains alive. "After three days of fear and uncertainty, Shibnibas and Santipur finally became a part of India on August 18. We continue to observe this date as Independence Day," said Anjan Sukul, secretary of the Nadia District August 18 Committee. The day was commemorated this year too with a flag-hoisting ceremony at Shibnibas, a boat race on the Ganga, a march carrying the Tricolour, BSF's Dog and Arms show, cultural performances. Nonagenarian Ramani Biswas recalled the ordeal vividly: "I still remember it clearly. The Pakistani army had almost taken over the area. My parents held my hand as we rushed towards the Krishnanagar Rajbari. Suddenly, we heard the news that Shibnibas would remain with India. The joy of that moment was beyond words." However, Anjan Sukul of Krishnaganj Shibnibash in Nadia was the first man who found out the historical evidences after a long effort to establish that Nadia was included to India in a late of 3 days. Then he managed to meet the then Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narshimha Rao and talked face to face. After showing the evidence, Rao permitted him to celebrate August 18 as the Independence Day of Nadia district. Thus people of Malda, Murshidabad also celebrated the day as the Radcliffe line has put all the three above mentioned districts in our of India at beginning. Later on following the agitation the areas were returned to India.

Two held in Nadia for using bank accounts in cyber fraud

MI News, Kalyani : Two persons were arrested in West Bengal's Nadia district for allegedly duping people into opening bank accounts and later using those accounts for cyber fraud transactions, police said on Monday. The accused, Shubham Roy of Hooghly's Srirampur and Ganesh Pal of Burdwan's Nandanghat, were picked up from Basantapur area under Kalyani police station on Sunday after locals caught them and

handed them over to the police, they said. Preliminary probe revealed that the duo used to mislead people into opening bank accounts with their documents under a condition that the accounts would be used by them in exchange for money. Funds obtained through cyber fraud were then parked in those accounts, police said. When multiple banks across states froze such accounts on the basis of cyber crime complaints lodged on the NCR portal, locals grew suspicious and confronted the duo, they said. Transactions worth around Rs 49 crore were detected from Roy's account alone, a police officer said. The accused were produced before the Kalyani court on Monday and remanded to seven days in police custody. Police suspect a bigger racket behind the operations and have begun further investigation.

Housewife missing for nine days; family alleges abduction

MI News Nadia : A 27-year-old housewife has been missing for the past nine days from Kalyani in Nadia district, with her family alleging that she was abducted, police said on Monday. The missing woman, identified as Tumpa Santara, lived at her in-laws' place in Shantipur's Gayeshpur panchayat area, while her parental home is in Kalna, East Burdwan. According to her family, Tumpa left home around 9 am on August 7 to visit a doctor in Kalyani but never returned. Her father, Madhu Dhara, lodged a missing diary at Shantipur police station on August 8. During investigation, police recovered CCTV footage from Nabadwip railway station which showed Tumpa speaking with a group of women.

Following this, her family alleged that three to four women lured or coerced her into boarding a train and took her elsewhere. Family members, however, maintained that there was no discord either at her in-laws' or at her parental home. Anxiety has gripped both families as police continue search operations, but no breakthrough has been made so far.

Diagnostic Center employee found dead, family alleges harassment

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: The mysterious death of a 8-year-old diagnostic center employee in Jalpaiguri has sparked outrage and allegation of abetment to suicide against the establishment's owners. The deceased, identified as Rahul Jhan, was found hanging inside a room of the diagnostic center at Hakimpura on

Saturday night. He was rushed to Jalpaiguri Medical College and Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. Following the autopsy on Saturday, tension flared as local residents staged a road blockade, placing Rahul's body in front of the diagnostic center and demanding immediate arrests.

The yatra is being undertaken in a hybrid mode, on foot and by vehicle, as was Gandhi's Manipur to Mumbai Bharat Jodo Nyay

legedly misleading them with his alleged misinformation campaign before the Bihar poll, slated for November this year.

His elevation as Gover-

Elderly cancer

On the other hand, many in the political circles in Tamil Nadu who oppose the BJP and the RSS observe that Radhakrishnan's balancing act — navigating loyalty to the BJP, adherence to Sangh ideology, and Constitutional restraint — endowed him with a distinctive presence in the party.

Barring discussions on Operation Sindoor in the two Houses, Parliament has seen little business ever since the Monsoon session began on July 21 due to repeated adjournments, mostly over the SIR issue.

Banerjee, speaking from Kolkata airport, hit back at the Commission

confidence and long-term commitment. Moreover, the project is expected to generate close to 400 direct and indirect employment opportunities, thus creating a ripple effect for the region's economy. Importantly, CtrlS has pledged that all its data centers will transition to renewable energy sources within the same timeframe, signaling its alignment with global sustainability goals. Industry experts note that

The Trinamool Congress (TMC), the ruling party in West Bengal, has challenged this decision in the Calcutta High Court. On Monday, the matter was heard by Justice Amrita Sinha's bench. The party's lawyers argued that such a directive violates established practices and goes beyond the provisions of the Representation of the People Act.

matter on Monday. Chatterjee's lawyers argued that he had fully complied with the conditional bail terms imposed by the ED in its case and therefore deserved bail in the CBI case as well. On the other hand, the CBI strongly opposed his release. The judges, however, observed that despite years of investigation, no fresh evidence.

In standing beside Rahul Gandhi while throwing down the gauntlet to the Election Commission, Banerjee has sharpened the INDIA bloc's confrontation with constitutional authorities—elevating the 'vote theft' debate into a national flashpoint.

A protest march demanding the unconditional release of Hindol was organized by teachers, researchers, education workers, and student-youth groups of Jadavpur University, in Kolkata on Monday.

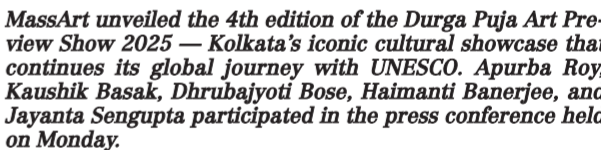
The Trinamool Congress (TMC), the ruling party in West Bengal, has challenged this decision in the Calcutta High Court. On Monday, the matter was heard by Justice Amrita Sinha's bench. The party's lawyers argued that such a directive violates established practices and goes beyond the provisions of the Representation of the People Act.

The court, however, remarked that the issue of secrecy does not arise in this context since the rule would apply to all political parties equally. Justice Amrita Sinha observed: "Where does confidentiality come into play here? This is not directed only at the Trinamool Congress; it applies to every political

CBC-04106/12/0036/2526

Similarly, three col-

Army engineers on Sunday built a Bailey bridge over Chisoti nullah, providing much-needed connectivity to the village and the Machail Mata shrine. The Army has also inducted a couple of all-terrain vehicles as part of the efforts to intensify the rescue and relief operation, officials said.



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Editor: Prem Shankar*, **(Responsible for selection of news under PRB Act)* RNI No. **WBENG/2014/56803** Email: **morningindiaranchi@gmail.com**

Name Change
I, Sofikul Islam (Old Name) S/O Azhar Islam Residing At Vill & Po - Bharatpur,Ps - Bharatpur, Dist-Murshidabad,Pin-742301, West Bengal, India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Safikul Islam(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 18/08/2025.Sofikul Islam (Old Name) And Safikul Islam(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person. Also Change My Date Of Birth 21/05/1993 Wrongly Entered In My Drivling Licence Vide D.L.No.Wb57 2012011 7200. In My Adhar Card My Date Of 21/05/1996 Is Correct .

Name Change
I, Hasem Khan, S/O Late Kaochihar Khan, residing at Vill- Chakla, P.O.- Tangra Colony, P.S.- Bongaon, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin-743251, WB., declare that, in my son, Salman Khan's Birth Certificate vide Regn. no. 001, dt. 23.02.2011, my son's name has been recorded as Salman Kha in place of Salman Khan, my wife's (my son's mother) name has been recorded as Hajira Kha in place of Hajira Khan and my name has been recorded as Hasem Kha in place of Hasem Khan. It deserves correction. As per affidavit vide no. 8808 in the Court of the Ld. A.C.J.M. (1st Class) at Bongaon, Dist.- 24-Parganas (N) on 11.08.2025, I, Hasem Khan and Hasem Kha is the same and one identical person, My wife, Hajira Khan and Hajira Kha is the same and one identical person and my son, Salman Khan and Salman Kha is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Pramod Kumar Tiwari (Old Name) S/O Kedar Tiwari Residing at P.o - Howrah, Ps - Howrah, District - Howrah, Pin - 711101, West Bengal India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pramod Tiwari (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 18-08-2025. Pramod Kumar Tiwari (Old Name) and Pramod Tiwari (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Subrata Kumar Som alias Subrata Som (Old Name) S/o Sunil Kumar Som Residing at Michaelnagar, VTC - Madhyamgram (M), Po - Michael Nagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700133 West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Subrat Kumar Som (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 18/2025 Dated 18-08-2025. Subrata Kumar Som, Subrata Som (Old Name) and Subrat Kumar Som (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Manik Saha (Old Name) S/o Hari Ananda Saha Residing at Uttar Gobindapur, Kakkdvp, Vtc - Ganeshpur, Po - Kakkdvp, District-South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743347, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manikhal Saha (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 19/2025 Dated 18-08-2025. Manik Saha (Old Name) and Manikhal Saha (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I SALEHA BEGUM D/o. SERAJ AHMED W/o. MD HOSSAIN NAWAZ Residing at SAPNO KUTHIR, ANDUL ROAD, PODRAH, HOWRAH-711109 have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SALEHA NAWAZ as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Bankshall court Kolkata, West Bengal vide affidavit no.1585 Dated 11th Aug 2025, SALEHA BEGUM and SALEHA NAWAZ both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, ARPITA DUTTA D/o Sobha Dutta R/o 08, Fakir Ghosh Lane, P.O.-I.S.I., P.S.-Baranagar, Kolkata-700108 have changed my name from ARPITA PRAMANICK TO ARPITA DUTTA vide affidavit dated 17.02.25 both are same person.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, S.No 662304B, Ex Sgt , **Sachindanda Reja** residing at Vivekananda Pally, Ward No. - 13, P.O.- Arambagh, Distt.- Hooghly (W.B.), PIN- 712601 have changed my name from **Sachindanda Reja** to **Sachidananda Reja** vide affidavit dated 12-08-2025 before the Court of the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Arambagh, Hooghly (W.B.).

NAME CHANGE
I, Subham Kumar Jaiswal S/o Ramesh Jaiswal residing at 260/1A, A.P.C. Road, P.O. Beadon Street, Kolkata-700006 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that My original & Correct name is **Subham Kumar Jaiswal** which is recorded in my Aadhaar Card, Pan Card & Voter Card. That in my Educational Documents my name recorded as **Subham Jaiswal** in place of **Subham Kumar Jaiswal**. That **Subham Kumar Jaiswal & Subham Jaiswal** is the same and one identical person vide affidavit no 19677 dated 04.08.2025 Before in the Court of Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore.

NAME CHANGE
I, **Dipak Kumar Gupta**, S/o Motilal Gupta residing at 1, Hanspukur 1st lane, near Satyanarayan Park, Barabazar, Kolkata-700007 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my **actual name is Dipak Kumar Gupta** which has been recorded in my Aadhaar Card and Pan Card. That my **daughter-Ritika Gupta's West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education Certificate** my name has been recorded as **Deepak Kumar Gupta** instead of my **Correct name Dipak Kumar Gupta**. That **Dipak Kumar Gupta** and **Deepak Kumar Gupta** both the name is one and same identical person vide affidavit before the **Notary Public, Kolkata on 4th August, 2025**

Name Change
I, Nijamuddin Jamadar(Old Name As Per My Daughter Sumaiya Khatun's School Certificate No 703562n-0003),Son Of Iyad Ali Zamadar, Residing At Uttar Amratala,Po - Haranandapur, South 24 parganas - 743503,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Nijamuddin Jamadar(As Per My Daughter's Aadhar Card 8203-8853-5838 Birth Certificate No 159) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/07/2025.Nijamuddin Jamadar And Md Nijamuddin Jamadar Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mahesh Kanoojia (old name) son of Sukhdev, residing at 26/3138, Krishna Nagar Kydganj, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, Pin- 211003, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mahesh Kumar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Mahesh Kumar (new name) and Mahesh Kanoojia (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Pradip Kumar Hanswani (old name) son of Gangaram Hanswani, residing at Murliidhar Complex, Flat No- A-3,S.F.Road, Siliguri- 734005, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pradeep Hanswani (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Pradeep Hanswani (new name) and Pradip Kumar Hanswani (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Manu Sah (old name) son of Chhathu Sah, residing at MADHUSUDANPUR,P.O.-NAYASARAI, PSMOGRA, Hooghly Rural, 712513, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mannu Shaw (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Mannu Shaw (new name) and Manu Sah (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Probrir Dutta (old name) son of Dulal Chandra Dutta, residing at A/3, Ashok Nagar, G.P Road, Ichapur, P.O.- Nawabganj, P.S.- Noapara, Distt.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743144, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Prabir Dutta (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Prabir Dutta (new name) and Probrir Dutta (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kishan Tantiya (old name) S/O Sampat ram Tantiya , residing at P/S Magnum, Block3, Flat 4A, VIP Road, Kaikhali, Rajarhat Gopalpur (M) Kolkata Airport, North 24 Parganas PIN-700052, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kishan Kumar Tantiya (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit no dated 11/08/2025. Kishan Kumar Tantiya (new name) and Kishan Tantiya (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Washim Chowdhury(Old Name) S/O Late Wahabuddin Chowdhury And Wahab Chowdhury,Residing At 4,Ripon Square,Babar Manzil, Flat No.4,Ps-Park Street,Kolkata-700016, West Bengal, India.Have Chang ed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Wasim Chowdhury (New Name) As Declared Fore The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 18/08/2025. Washim Chowdhury(Old Name) And Wasim Chowdhury(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,JHARNA Mother of JC-829973A Nb Sub Ck(DS) Falguni Mitra,residing at Saota Nanoor,Birbhum,West Bengal,PIN-731301.I have changed my name from JHARNA TO JHARNA MITRA by vide affidavit no.47208) before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata date 22nd July 2025,

Name Change
I, Sonia Parvin WO Sujauddin Jamadar And Daughter Of Late Abdul Siddique Molla,Residing At Chutkia Radhanagar,Po-Narabunia, Ps-Minakhan,Dist-24 Parganas (North), Pin-743425, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Father's Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdul Siddique Molla(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 14/08/2025. Abdus Siddique Molla (Old Name) And Abdul Siddique Molla(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Soumen Kar (old name) son of Samarendra Kar, residing at Vill-Gobardanga Chatterjee Para, Po & PS- Gobardanga, Pin-743252, Distt.- North 24 Pgs, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saumen Kar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Saumen Kar (new name) and Soumen Kar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rajdeo Paswan (old name) son of Late ram Prasad Paswan, residing at 25/2B, CHRISTOPHER ROAD, OPF, EXCISE BUILDING, PIN- 700046, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Raj Deb Paswan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Raj Deb Paswan (new name) and Rajdeo Paswan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swapan Kumar Dutta (old name) son of Dharendra Nath Dutta, residing at Vill- Dakshin Surendraganj, P.O.- Daspur, P.S.- Gobardhanpur Coastal, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743371, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Swapan Dutta (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Swapan Dutta (new name) and Swapan Kumar Dutta (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I Ranjan Jana S/O Ganesh Chandra Jana, R/O- Sundarush, Po- Ankri Srirampur, Hooghly, West Bengal- 712401 Have Changed My Name To Ranjan Kumar Jana Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public On 18/08/2025 At Kolkata. Ranjan Jana Henceforth Be Known As Ranjan Kumar Jana. For All Purposes And They Are Both Same One And Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Prosenjit Dutta(Old Name),Son Of Shankar Dutta, Residing At Vill - Kulti Colony Block - 3,Nr Paglahat Bazar,Bhangar - 1,Po - B Narayanpur,Ps - Bhangar,Kolkata - 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Prasenjit Dutta(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025.Prosenjit Dutta And Prasenjit Dutta Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Jiyaul Haque Mandal(Old Name), Son Of Echha Haque Mandal, Residing At Vill - Baikara,Po - Arbelia,Ps - Baduria, North24parganas - 743437, West Bengal,Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Jiyaul Haque Mondal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/07/2025. Jiyaul Haque Mandal(Old Name) And Jiyaul Haque Mondal (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Saddam Hossien Molla (old name) son of Airup All Molla, residing at UTTAR BHAGABANPUR,UTTAR RAJARAMPUR, SOUTH 24 PGS-743332, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saddam Hossain Molla (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Saddam Hossain Molla (new name) and Saddam Hossien Molla (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Afzal Imam(Old Name), Son Of Late Mohammad Taiyab Imam,Residing At 2a,Cantopher Lane, Po- Entally Ps- Beniapukur, Kolkata - 700014,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Afzal Imam(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025. Mohammad Afzal Imam And Md Afzal Imam Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Manoj Jain (old name) son of Vinod Kumar Jain, residing at 8/1, Loudan Street, 4th Floor, Kolkata-700017, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoj Kumar Jain (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Manoj Kumar Jain (new name) and Manoj Jain (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Tajmin Nahar(Old Name), Wife Of Rostam Gazi,Residing At Tentulia Banglani, North 24 Parganas, 743703,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tajmin Naher(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025. Tajmin Nahar And Tajmin Naher Gazi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Rustom Gazi (Old Name), Son Of Sattar Gazi, Residing At Tentulia Banglani, North 24 Parganas, 743703, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rostam Gazi(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025.Rustom Gazi And Rostam Gazi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Asraf Mondal (old name) son of Lutfar Mondal, residing at Vill- Kalipara, P.O.- Gobindapur, P.S.- Hanskhali, Ranaghat, Pin- 741505, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Asraf Mandal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Asraf Mandal (new name) and Asraf Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shahbaz Adil (old name) son of Late Md Adil Shafr, residing at P.S.-Panache- T-5, Flat No-24B, 3 Mahisbathan Sector-V, Bidhanagar, Pin-700102, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shabaz Adil (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Shabaz Adil (new name) and Shahbaz Adil (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kishore Basak (old name) son of Biswanath Basak, residing at 13/2A, Munsipara Lane, Beadon Street, Kolkata- 700006, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kishore Kumar Basak (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Kishore Kumar Basak (new name) and Kishore Basak (old name) both are same and one identical person.

"Since the Oppn...": Shashi Tharoor praises Captain Shukla

MI News Service, Delhi: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has praised Commander Shubhanshu Shukla's recent mission to the International Space Station (ISS), highlighting its importance for India's human spaceflight ambitions. "Since the Opposition are not participating in the special discussion, let me say how proud all Indians are of the recent mission of Commander Shubhanshu Shukla to the International Space Station (ISS). It served as a stepping stone to our nation's own human spaceflight program, Gaganyaan," Tharoor said. Tharoor highlighted the mission's invaluable contributions, noting that it provided the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with hands-on experience and data unattainable by simulations. He wrote, "Shukla's mission provided ISRO invaluable hands-on experience & data that cannot be replicated in simulations. His first-hand observations on pre-launch procedures, spacecraft systems, and the psychological and physiological effects of microgravity are crucial for de-risking and refining the Gaganyaan mission." Tharoor added that the mission tested Indian systems and protocols in an actual space environment, contributing essential scientific validation through experiments on human health and plant growth. "The mission allowed for the testing of Indian systems & protocols in a real-life space environment. The numerous scientific experiments.

Nara Lokesh meets Hardeep Singh Puri, urges Centre's support for BPCL refinery at Ramayapatnam

MI News Service, Delhi : Andhra Pradesh IT & HRD Minister Nara Lokesh on Monday met Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri in Delhi to discuss fast-tracking critical projects in the state and strengthening collaboration on energy security and welfare. During the meeting, Minister Lokesh strongly pitched for the BPCL refinery-cum-petrochemical complex at Ramayapatnam, Nellore district, a long-standing promise under Section 93(4) of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The ₹95,000 crore project, coming up on 6,000 acres, is expected to generate over 5,000 direct jobs and accelerate industrialisation. Andhra's IT Minister underlined that the move would create local jobs, encourage MSME partnerships, and strengthen maritime infrastructure along Andhra's coast, as stated in the release. On the welfare front, Minister Lokesh highlighted Andhra Pradesh's Deepam 2.0 scheme, which provides free LPG cylinders to eligible families, empowering women and BPL households. The state is working to integrate

Name Change
I Sakila Bano /W/O Md Ashfaq Alam, R/O Naya Basti Hamid Nagar /Azad Nagar Burnpur,Po-Burnpur,Ps-Hirapur, Dist.Paschim Bardhaman, 713325, West Bengal,Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shakila Bano,Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025.That Sakila Bano And Shakila Bano All Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sk Hadiuzaman(Old Name),Son Of Sk Hamid Haque,Residing At Vill-Kultala,Po-Prithiba,North 24 Parganas,West Bengal,Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Hadiyet Jaman(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025.Sk Hadiuzaman And Sk Hadiyet Jaman Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sk Hadiyet Jaman Residing At Vill-Kultala,Po-Prithiba,North24 Parganas,West Bengal,Do Hereby Declare That My Father Sk Hamidul Haque(Old Name) Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Hamidel Haque (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025.Sk Hamidul Haque And Sk Hamidel Haque Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Shalima Begum (Old Name), Wife Of Kurban Sahaji,Residing At Dakshin Sarai, Khosdelpur,Po-Guma Habra, North 24 Parganas,743704, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Salma Begum(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025. Shalima Begum And Salma Begum Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Korban Sahaji(Old Name) Son Of Nurmahammad Sahaji,Residing At Dakshin Sarai,Khosdelpur,Po-Guma Habra, North 24 Parganas,743704, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Kurban Sahaji(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 18/08/2025. Korban Sahaji And Kurban Sahaji Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I,Md Mafujur Rahman(Old Name), Son Of Late Montaj Molla,Residing At Kachua, Bamunia, South 24 Parganas, 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahafurj Rahaman (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public On 14/08/2025. Md Mafujur Rahman And Mahafurj Rahaman Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ramapada Mondal (old name) son of Karuk Mondal, residing at Vill- Shirakol, P.O.- Shirakole, P.S.- Usurli, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743513, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rampada Mondal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 18/08/2025. Rampada Mondal (new name) and Ramapada Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Howrah Division Conducts Intensive Cleaning Drive under Swachhta Abhiyan



MI News Service, Howrah: On 18th August 2025, Howrah Division of Eastern Railway carried out an intensive cleanliness drive as part of the ongoing Swachhta Abhiyan. The campaign focused on ensuring hygienic and passenger-friendly facilities across railway premises and trains. Special emphasis was laid on the intensive cleaning of toilets at Bolpur and

Tarakeswar stations to provide a healthier and more comfortable environment for passengers. In addition, extensive cleaning operations were undertaken in the vestibule areas , ensuring smooth and hygienic inter-coach movement. The drive also covered thorough cleaning of the interiors and exteriors of coaches, enhancing the travel experience for passengers and maintaining high standards of sanitation. Staff and cleaning personnel actively participated in the campaign, reaffirming the division's commitment to the mission of a clean and green railway system. Howrah Division continues to organize such cleanliness drives regularly to spread awareness among passengers and railway staff, aligning with Indian Railways' vision of providing safe, clean, and passenger-friendly travel facilities.

General Manager / ER Launches Vigilance Awareness Campaign 2025



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Three-Month Vigilance Awareness Campaign (18th August – 17th November 2025), being organized as a prelude to Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 was launched today by Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager at Eastern Railway Headquarters, Kolkata. The campaign with the theme "Vigilance – Our Shared Responsibility" was formally launched with Walkathons, flagged off by the General Manager, Eastern Railway, in the presence of Additional General Manager, Principal Head of the Departments , and Vigilance Officials. In his address, the General Manager emphasized the importance of ethical conduct, transparency,

and integrity in day-to-day functioning. He also highlighted that vigilance is a shared responsibility and called upon all employees to uphold the highest standards of honesty and accountability. All Divisions and Workshops of Eastern Railway also organized various programmes — including seminars, walkathons, and awareness sessions — to mark the beginning of this three-month campaign. The campaign will include a series of activities across divisions and workshops such as seminars, walkathons, capacity-building programmes, and digital awareness initiatives, focusing on strengthening the culture of integrity in Eastern Railway.

Major Success under “Operation Wilep”: RPF/Malda Division Seizes 138 Turtles



MI News Service, Malda: Under the guidance of DRM/Malda, Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Malda Division achieved a major success under “Operation Wilep” by recovering 130 live turtles and 8 dead turtles from Train No. DN 15734 Farakka Express. The coordinated effort not only prevented a large-scale wildlife smuggling attempt but also reaffirmed RPF's commitment towards protecting the nation's biodiversity. The operation began when ASI Md. Intakhabul Alam, in charge of the escorting team, noticed suspicious movement and foul smell emanating from several bags and jholas in coach S-4 of the train after its departure from New Farakka station. On interrogation, the suspects admitted to carrying turtles. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, ASI Alam immediately alerted the concerned authorities and sought reinforcement at Malda Town station. On arrival of the train at Malda Town, a joint raid and search operation was conducted at platform no. 4 by a team comprising officers and staff from RPF/Post Malda Town.

The coordinated effort resulted in the recovery of 45 bags and jholas containing turtles of different sizes, which were concealed beneath the berths and on the seats of the coach. After a thorough count, a total of 138 turtles (130 live and 8 dead) were seized. The accused included both male and female offenders from Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. All 10 persons were taken into custody after informing them of the grounds of arrest, and the seized items were brought to RPF/Post Malda for further legal procedures. The seized turtles were subsequently handed over to the concerned Forest Department for necessary action under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Railway Protection force (RPF) of Malda Division, through such sustained drives under “Operation Wilep,” continues to intensify its vigilance against illegal wildlife trafficking through the railways. This operation once again underlines the RPF's commitment to safeguarding not only railway property and passenger security but also the country's natural heritage.

7-foot python rescued after getting trapped in fishing net

MI News Service, Rajganj: Panic gripped residents of Piplatala Colony in Jaldumur Para under Binnaguri Gram Panchayat, Rajganj block, after a large python was found trapped in a fishing net on Monday morning. The reptile, measuring nearly seven feet in length, was later rescued by forest officials and is said to be in good health.According to local sources, a woman from the village had cast her fishing net in the Sahu River as part of her daily routine. However, when she went to check the net the next morning, she was startled to find a python entangled in it instead of fish. Alarmed by the unexpected sight, she immediately informed neighbors, and soon a crowd gathered at the spot to witness the rare incident. The matter was quickly reported to the Forest Department. Responding to the call, a team of officials from the Daigram Range rushed to the site. With the help of trained staff and necessary equipment, the team carefully freed the python from the net to avoid injury to the animal as well as ensure the safety of the gathered crowd.

Why Are Cruciferous Vegetables So Good for You?

Broccoli, leafy greens and other crucifs are full of nutrients and even cancer-fighting properties.

If you're looking for vegetables that are rich in vitamins, minerals and even have anti-cancer properties, look no further than the group known as cruciferous vegetables.

This group of leafy greens, cabbages and mustard-like veggies pack a nutritional punch and some seriously versatile flavors.

"Cruciferous vegetables are easy to find in most places and are some of the most nutrient-rich veggies around," says registered dietitian Amber Sommer, RD, LD.

What makes crucifers so healthy? And how can you make sure you're getting enough of them to reap their benefits? Sommer walks us through it.

Cruciferous vegetables belong to the genus Brassica. They're called cruciferous because their four-petaled flowers look like a crucifix, or a cross. And their rich colors are an indication of just how nutrient-packed they are.

"A good rule of thumb for greens or any fruits or vegetables is that the deeper the color, the more nutrient-dense it is. For example, spinach contains more vitamins and minerals than iceberg lettuce," Sommer explains.

Cruciferous vegetables include some of your favorite go-to dark, leafy greens and other colorful, nutrient-rich veggies. Among the members of the cruciferous family are:

- Arugula (also called rocket).
- Bok choy.
- Broccoli.
- Brussels sprouts.
- Cabbage.
- Cauliflower.
- Collard and mustard greens.
- Daikon radish.

- Horseradish.
- Kale.
- Kohlrabi.
- Radish.
- Rapini (broccoli rabi).
- Rutabaga.
- Turnip.
- Wasabi.
- Watercress.

Health benefits

Being in the same genus means cruciferous veggies have a lot of similar characteristics.

For example, dogs belong to the same genus as wolves. Closely related, but with some important differences. More like first cousins than siblings.

"As a group, cruciferous vegetables all offer similar health benefits. I wouldn't say any one is 'better' than the others. They each have a unique composition, so the key is to include a variety in your diet," Sommer says.

She helps explain the benefits:

1. Cancer protection

Cruciferous vegetables are a rich source of compounds known as glucosinolates, which may help fight cancer.

A number of research studies suggest that a diet rich in cruciferous vegetables may lower rates of a variety of cancers, including breast, pancreatic, bladder, lung, prostate and colon cancer.

Sommer says crucifers may also help to counteract cancer-causing nitrosamines and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons that are found in charred, cured or barbecued fish or meats.

2. Fiber

Fiber is famous for keeping you, er ... regular. It also stabilizes blood sugar, lowers cholesterol and keeps you fuller for longer. And cruciferous vegetables have



high levels of both soluble and insoluble fiber. Insoluble fiber supports healthy gut bacteria. Insoluble fiber helps soften and bulk up your stool.

Broccoli in particular is a good source of fiber. One cup of broccoli gets you 5 of the recommended 25 to 35 grams of fiber you should have per day.

3. Vitamin C

Vitamin C is well-known for its immune-boosting and wound-healing properties. It also helps protect your eyes, improves iron absorption and promotes healthy skin.

And while oranges tend to get all the glory when it comes to vitamin C, leafy greens are a solid

source, too.

It's recommended that you get between 75 and 90 milligrams (mg) of vitamin C per day. These foods can help get you there:

- Broccoli (1 cup, chopped): 80 mg.
- Brussels sprouts (1 cup): 75 mg.
- Red cabbage (1 cup): 50 mg.
- Cauliflower (1 cup, chopped): 50 mg.

4. Vitamin K

Vitamin K is a powerhouse that promotes bone growth and proper blood clotting. And cruciferous vegetables are some of the best sources of vitamin K.

For example, half a cup of collard greens, frozen or boiled, con-

tains 530 micrograms (mcg) of vitamin K. That's more than four times the recommended vitamin K intake for a day.

5. Vitamin B9 (folate)

Vitamin B9 (folate) is important for forming red blood cells and DNA. It's particularly important for people who are pregnant because it can help reduce the chance of birth defects. That's why it's a main ingredient in prenatal vitamins.

Vitamin B9 moves through your system quickly, so it's an important vitamin to consume regularly. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends adults and children over the age of 4 get 400 mcg of folate

per day.

These cruciferous veggies can help you get your fill:

- Broccoli (1/2 cup, cooked): 84 mcg.
- Turnip greens (1/2 cup, cooked): 85 mcg.
- Brussels sprouts (1/2 cup, cooked): 42 mcg.

Who should be careful with cruciferous vegetables?

Most people can enjoy cruciferous veggies without any negative consequences. But others may be advised to watch their intake.

In large amounts, cruciferous vegetables can cause gas or bloating for some people.

And people who take blood-thinning medication like warfarin (Coumadin®), may need to limit their intake. That's because some cruciferous vegetables — particularly collard greens, kale and broccoli — are high in vitamin K, which can have a blood-clotting effect.

Additionally, some people will say that if you've been diagnosed with hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid), you should limit or avoid cruciferous vegetables. But Sommer says there's little evidence that normal consumption of cruciferous vegetables affects thyroid function.

If you think you have reason to limit your intake, talk with a healthcare provider, like a primary care doctor or dietitian, about your concerns.

How much do you need?

Unless you have a health condition that says otherwise, most people are well-advised to get about 2.5 cups of veggies each day. That includes cruciferous vegetables and others.

"One cup of cooked or raw broccoli is one serving," Sommer explains. "But for the leafy greens,

you want to go higher. About 2 cups of those make one serving."

On top of their many health benefits, another reason to love cruciferous veggies is how easy they are to incorporate as a snack or meal. Try these ideas:

Much on raw broccoli and cauliflower on their own or dipped in a bit of hummus. Kick it up a notch with this homemade red pepper hummus.

Add some extra crunch to your salad by mixing in arugula, kale and some finely sliced radish.

Get your fill of cabbage with this southwestern twist on coleslaw.

Try these recipes for roasting, sautéing and dressing up brussels sprouts.

Cook your chicken or salmon on a thick bed of bok choy and cabbage.

Slice cauliflower into thick "steaks" and then coat with any combination of toasted sesame seed oil, lemon juice, soy sauce, cumin, coriander, anise or chili pepper.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) also shares a selection of recipes and suggestions for preparing cruciferous vegetables on its website.

Cruciferous veggies have an important part to play in a healthy diet. But Sommer is quick to remind us that they're just one part of the equation.

"A healthy diet should include a wide range of produce," she advises. "We encourage people to 'eat the rainbow.' That is, enjoy a variety of colors and flavors in your fruits and vegetables. That way, you can be certain you're getting an array of the vitamins and minerals that keep your body healthy."

Study finds how new type of cell therapy help ARDS patients



LOS ANGELES : A novel form of cell therapy may help patients who are critically ill with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) brought on by severe COVID-19, according to a study.

Professor Justin Stebbing of Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) is a co-senior author of a recent study that examines the application of agentT-797, an allogeneic, unmodified invariant natural killer T (iNKT) cell treatment developed by MiNK Therapeutics.

The work was published in the journal Nature Communications.

The iNKT cell therapy has the effect of rescuing depleted T cells and inducing an anti-inflammatory cytokine response, perhaps activating antiviral immunity to assist these patients fight infection while also reducing severe, pathogenic inflammation of the lung. The new research was carried out at three medical centres and found that agentT-797, which is also under investigation in cancer trials, could be manufactured rapidly, had a tolerable safety profile and appeared to have a positive effect on mortality among critically unwell COVID-19 ARDS patients receiving intensive care.

The exploratory trial included 20 mechanically ventilated patients with severe ARDS secondary to Covid-19. Of the 20 patients in the trial, 14 survived (70 per cent) at 30 days (compared to a control group of 10 per cent), and there was an 80 per cent lower occurrence of bacterial pneumonia amongst those who received the highest dosage of agentT-797, compared to those who received fewer cells.

Twenty-one patients were treated overall (the main trial, plus one under compassionate use), which included five who were also receiving veno-venous extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (VV-ECMO), known as 'the most aggressive salvage therapy' for critically ill patients with

ARDS. In VV-ECMO, deoxygenated blood is pumped through a membrane lung and returned to the body via a cannula.

This trial is believed to be the first immune cell therapy of any type to be used in critically unwell patients undergoing VV-ECMO. Survival of the VV-ECMO cohort was 80 per cent after 30 and 90 days, and 60 per cent after 120 days. This compares favourably to the overall survival of 51 per cent for patients with Covid-19 who were treated with just VV-ECMO at the same institution, during the same timeframe. Joint senior author Justin Stebbing, Professor of Biomedical Sciences at Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) in Cambridge, England, said, "During this small, exploratory study we observed that MiNK's iNKT cell treatment, which is also being advanced for people with cancer, triggered an anti-inflammatory response in ARDS patients. "Despite a poor prognosis, critically ill patients treated with this therapy showed favourable mortality rates and those treated at the highest dose also had reduced rates of pneumonia, underscoring the potential application of iNKT cells, and agentT-797 in particular, in treating viral diseases and infections more broadly. "AgentT-797 was manufactured rapidly and as opposed to using patients' cells, it is 'off-the-shelf' and made from healthy donors' cells. The potential of this therapy to be used across a number of severe infections warrants randomised controlled trials." Dr Marc van Dijk, Chief Scientific Officer at MiNK and co-author of the study said, "These published findings reinforce the unique power and potential of iNKT cells to mitigate severe acute respiratory distress.

"The data demonstrate agentT-797's encouraging survival benefit, ability to help clear secondary infections.

Study reveals how new breast imaging tech transforms cancer diagnosis

ILLINOIS : A new breast imaging technique detects cancer with high sensitivity while significantly lowering the likelihood of false-positive results, according to a study published today in Radiology: Imaging Cancer, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America.

Researchers believe the method can deliver more reliable breast cancer screening to a larger range of individuals.

Mammography is an effective new breast imaging technique detects cancer with high sensitivity while significantly lowering the likelihood of false-positive results, according to a study published today in Radiology: Imaging Cancer, a journal of the Radiological Society of North America.

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Because nearly half of the screening population has dense breasts, many of these individuals

require further breast imaging, usually with an MRI, following mammography.

Low-dose positron emission mammography (PEM) is a novel molecular imaging technique that provides improved diagnostic performance at a radiation dose comparable to that of mammography.

For the study, 25 women, median age 52, recently diagnosed with breast cancer, underwent low-dose PEM with the radiotracer fluorine 18-labeled fluorodeoxyglucose (18F-FDG). Two breast radiologists reviewed PEM images taken one and four hours post-18F-FDG injection and correlated the findings with lab results.

PEM displayed comparable performance to MRI, identifying 24 of the 25 invasive cancers (96 per cent). Its false-positive rate was only 16 per cent, compared with 62 per cent for MRI.

Along with its strong sensitivity and low false-positive rate, PEM could potentially decrease downstream healthcare costs, as this study shows it may prevent

further unnecessary work compared to MRI. Additionally, the technology is designed to deliver a radiation dose comparable to that of traditional mammography without the need for breast compression, which can often be uncomfortable for patients.

"The integration of these features—high sensitivity, lower false-positive rates, cost-efficiency, acceptable radiation levels without compression, and independence from breast density—positions this emerging imaging modality as a potential ground-breaking advancement in the early detection of breast cancer," said study lead author Vivianne Freitas, MD, MSC, assistant professor at the University of Toronto.

"As such, it holds the promise of transforming breast cancer diagnostics and screening in the near future, complementing or even improving current imaging methods, marking a significant step forward in breast cancer care." Low-dose PEM offers potential clinical uses in both screening and diagnostic settings.

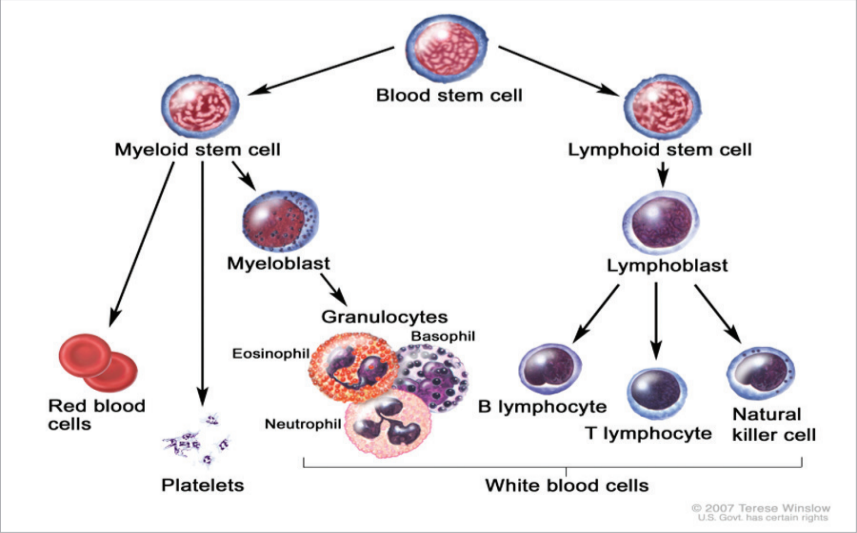
Study reveals type of childhood leukaemia originates during foetal development

BARCELONA : Acute myeloid leukaemia is the second most prevalent type of acute leukaemia in childhood, and it can be detected within a few months of life. The disease's early beginning raised the possibility that the cancer originated before birth. However, validating this notion has been difficult due to the scarcity of prenatal or newborn samples.

The opportunity to study the origin of this leukaemia arose from the case of a five-month-old baby diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia at the Hospital Nino Jesus in Madrid,' explained Pablo Menendez, ICREA professor at the University of Barcelona and the Josep Carreras Institute.

"The parents, who had preserved the umbilical cord blood, opened a line of research that until now had not been possible to address," added the researcher.

Using precision medicine techniques, researchers analysed the complete genome of the tumour. Unlike tumours in adults, where thousands of mutations are detected, only two chromosomal alterations were identified in this leukaemia. 'Genome analysis allowed us to design a personalised diagnostic method to monitor the disease,' says Xose S. Puente, Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Barcelona. Puente, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Oviedo. 'But these data raise new questions, such as when the tumour arose and in what order these mutations have appeared,' he highlights. These questions are difficult to



answer, since such research requires blood samples from the baby before the diagnosis, something that is impossible in the vast majority of cases. However, in this particular case, the existence of a frozen umbilical cord sample allowed researchers to separate different populations of blood cells at birth and to study whether any of the chromosomal alterations detected in the tumour were already present during foetal development.

The study revealed that a translocation between chromosome 7 and 12 was already present in some haematopoietic stem cells

in the umbilical cord. In contrast, the other chromosomal alteration, a trisomy of chromosome 19, was not present in the foetus, but was found in all tumour cells, suggesting that it contributes to increasing the malignancy of the leukemic cells. 'These data are highly relevant for understanding the development of a devastating disease, and the existence of this umbilical cord sample was crucial to be able for conducting a study that had been impossible until now in acute myeloid leukaemia', adds Talia Velasco, researcher at the Josep Carreras Institute and the University of

Barcelona and co-leader of the study. In addition to reconstructing the genomic alterations that the cells undergo to generate this leukaemia, the study has also identified a molecular mechanism that had not been observed before in this type of leukaemia and which causes the activation of a gene, called MNX1, which is frequently altered in this type of tumour. Knowledge of these alterations is essential for developing cell and animal models that allow us to understand the disease's evolution and develop new therapies for treating these pathologies. The study has been led by Xose S. Puente, Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Oviedo-IUOPA, Talia Velasco and Pablo Menendez, from the Josep Carreras Institute and the University of Barcelona, with participation from researchers from four other institutions, including the Hospital Infantil Universitario Nino Jesus, the Hospital Universitario Central de Asturias, the Instituto de Biomedicina y Biotecnologia de Cantabria and the Instituto de Investigacion Sanitaria La Princesa de Madrid.

This research has been made possible thanks to the collaboration of the parents and funding from the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, the European Research Council, the AECC Scientific Foundation, the Foundation Unocentrecienmil, the "La Caixa" Foundation, the Government of Catalonia, CIBERONC and the III Health Institute.

HISTORY ON MAKING WITH COMMISSIONING OF 14 KM OF METRO STRETCH

• Enhancing interchangeability between Eastern Railway suburban network & Kolkata Metro Railway



MI News Service, Kolkata: As a step further to bring dreams into reality for the residents of Kolkata & its adjoining areas, three new stretches of Metro Railway will be commissioned shortly for the people. A total of about 14 KM Metro stretch is going to be inaugurated which is unprecedented in volume. These stretches are Sealdah to Esplanade (2.45 KM), Noapara to Jaihind Bimanbandar (6.77 KM) and Hemanta Mukhopadhyay to Belegghata stations (4.39 KM). The inception of these new sections, will enhance the interchangeability between Kolkata Metro network and Eastern Railway

suburban network in both Howrah & Sealdah divisions. As Belegghata Metro station joined with Hemanta Mukhopadhyay, the stretch of entire Belegghata to Kavi Subhash Metro line is connected with Sealdah South network through adjacent New Garia station of Eastern Railway so that the passengers by riding in this Metro network can easily access Eastern Railway's suburban trains. The Sealdah – Esplanade section will no doubt cut down the journey time between Sealdah & Howrah from about one hour by road transport to 11 minutes only by Metro Railway establishing a thorough link be-

tween Sealdah & Howrah Metro station and henceforth both major terminals of Eastern Railway i.e. Howrah & Sealdah stations are brought to the accessibility through Metro Railway services. As Howrah & Sealdah stations of Eastern Railway deals with more than a million suburban passengers every day the passengers arriving at Howrah & Sealdah can easily arrive at central business districts of Kolkata through a comfortable & fast Metro ride. There is already one existing interchangeability point at Sealdah & Dum Dum Jn between Metro Railway network and Eastern Railway suburban network

and another is going to be established at Dum Dum Cantt. Commissioning of Noapara to Airport Metro line will also bring down the journey time to reach Kolkata Airport from central business area like Esplanade through interchangeability points of Eastern Railway suburban network. The Railway network reducing the journey time from Esplanade to Airport considerably through Sealdah Suburban network & Metro Railway interchangeability points. The newly commissioned Metro sections with seamless integration to Eastern Railway suburban section will invariably a Puja Gift bonanza to the people of West Bengal

as Pandal hopping will no longer require tiresome & prolonged road transport journey with comfortable Railway route available to them. With this a new history is going to be created at Kolkata with commissioning of about 14 KM Metro Railway section length to revolutionise the transport scenario in & around Kolkata. This will empower millions of commuters who travel seamlessly for an improved quality of life. Citizens of Kolkata, the City of Joy who now enjoy the bustling network of Metro Railway will henceforth get more mobility with seamless urban rail transport connectivity.

Khurda Road Division Honours Seven Railway Employees for Exemplary Dedication and Alertness



MI News Service, Bhubaneswar/Khurda Road: In recognition of their outstanding dedication and vigilance on duty, seven railway employees under the Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway (ECoR) were felicitated today for their exceptional performance in ensuring safe and efficient train operations. The awards were presented by Shri P. K. Behra, Additional Divisional Railway Manager / Operations, Khurda Road Division, in the presence of Additional Divisional Railway Manager / Infrastructure Shri Subhrajyoti Mandal and other senior branch officers. The honoured Railway Employees include Sri Pradyumna Kumar Panda, Train Pointsman at Humma, Sri Dhuliram Jena, Train Pointsman at Kaipadar, Sri Ajoy Kumar Jena, Sr.Technician/MEMU Car Shed/Khurda Road, Sri Prakash Chandra Dalbhera, Sr. Assistant Loco Pilot, Sri Bijaya Kumar Behra, Keyman at Joranda Road, Sri Stalin Das, Track Main-

tainer-IV at Kenduapada, Sri Mihira Kumar Rout, Track Maintainer-III at Kenduapada were applauded for their quick thinking and proactive actions that ensured the smooth and safe operation of trains under their watch. These employees were applauded for their prompt and proactive actions during routine duties, which played a crucial role in maintaining uninterrupted train movement and upholding high safety standards. Commending the awardees, Shri Behra said, "Our frontline staff including Track Maintainers, Loco Pilots, Technicians and Pointsmen are the backbone of our operations. Their vigilance, commitment and presence of mind are instrumental in keeping the Railway Network Safe and Reliable." East Coast Railway remains committed to fostering a culture of safety and operational excellence by recognising individuals who consistently go above and beyond in their service to the public.

Revised train regulations during Pre-Ni & Ni work for 3rd line commissioning between Parvathipuram–Sitanagaram–Bobbili–Donkinavalasa.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to traffic blocks for the Pre-Non-Interlock & Non-Interlock works in connection with commissioning of 3rd line between Parvatipuram-Sitanagaram-Bobbili-Donkinavalasa in Waltair Division, the following train services will be cancelled/ Short-Terminated/ Short-Originated/ rescheduled as detailed below: **CANCELLATION OF TRAINS:** 1.The train No. 58528 Visakhapatnam-Raipur Passenger leaving Visakhapatnam from 19.08.2025 to 27.08.2025 will be cancelled. 2.The train No. 58527 Raipur-Visakhapatnam Passenger leaving Raipur from 20.08.2025 to 28.08.2025 will be cancelled. 3. The train No. 58538 Visakhapatnam-Koraput Passenger leaving Visakhapatnam from 19.08.2025 to 27.08.2025 will be cancelled. 4 The train No. 58537 Koraput-Visakhapatnam Passenger leaving Koraput from 20.08.2025 to

28.08.2025 will be cancelled. 5 The train No. 58504 Visakhapatnam-Bhawanipatna Passenger leaving Visakhapatnam from 19.08.2025 to 27.08.2025 will be cancelled. 6.The train No. 58503 Bhawanipatna-Visakhapatnam Passenger leaving Bhawanipatna from 20.08.2025 to 28.08.2025 will be cancelled **SHORT-TERMINATION/SHORT-ORIGINATION OF TRAINS:** 1.The train No. 17243 Guntur-Rayagada Express leaving Guntur from 19.08.2025 to 26.08.2025 will be short terminated at Vizianagaram. 2.The train No. 17244 Rayagada-Guntur Express will leave from Vizianagaram instead of Rayagada from 20.08.2025 to 27.08.2025. **RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS:** 1. The train No. 20829 Durg-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express leaving Durg from 22.08.2025 to 27.08.2025 will be rescheduled to leave at 08.45hrs

instead of its scheduled departure at 05.45hrs (after 3hrs). 2. The train No. 20830 Visakhapatnam-Durg Vande Bharat Express leaving Visakhapatnam from 22.08.2025 to 27.08.2025 will be rescheduled to leave at 17.20hrs instead of its scheduled departure at 14.50hrs (after 2hrs 30mints). 3. The train No. 20810 Nanded-Sambalpur Nagawali Express leaving Nanded on 19.08.2025 will be rescheduled to leave at 20:30hrs instead of its scheduled departure at 16:30hrs (after 4hrs). 4.The train No. 12807 Visakhapatnam-Nizamuddin Samata Express leaving Visakhapatnam on 20.08.2025, 21.08.2025, 23.08.2025, 24.08.2025 and 26.08.2025 will be rescheduled to leave at 14:20hrs instead of its scheduled departure at 09:20hrs (after 5hrs). People are requested to note changes in timings and cancellations.

Yamuna River nears danger mark as water levels continue to rise

MI News Service, Delhi: The water level of the Yamuna river in Delhi continued to rise steadily on Monday, inching closer to the danger mark of 205.33 metres. Authorities attributed the increase to continuous water discharge from Haryana's Hathnikund and Wazirabad barrages. Officials have warned that the river may cross the danger level by late evening. According to the Central Water Commission (CWC), the water level at the Old Railway Bridge monitoring station stood at 205.24 metres at noon on Monday. It is expected to rise further and reach around 205.7 metres by 8 pm. For the past three days, the Yamuna has remained above the warning level of 204.5 metres, raising concerns of possible flooding in low-lying areas. Evacuation protocols are activated once the river crosses 206 metres. As a precaution, district administrations have urged residents living near the riverbanks to shift to safer locations. Early Monday morning, the water level was measured at 204.80 metres and

climbed steadily to 205.15 metres by 11 am. During this time, the Hathnikund barrage discharged between 49,000 and 58,000 cusecs of water. Simultaneously, outflow from the Wazirabad barrage increased from 36,170 cusecs at 7 am to 39,470 cusecs by 10 am. At the Okhla barrage in Delhi, discharge levels stood at 68,000 cusecs. Officials from the Irrigation and Flood Control Department said field staff have been deployed to monitor embankments continuously. Agencies including the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the Delhi Jal Board have been placed on high alert to tackle any emergency. Authorities have also cautioned that even moderate inflows from upstream could significantly raise the river level over the next 48 hours. In July 2023, Delhi witnessed its worst Yamuna flooding in history when the river swelled to an unprecedented 208.66 metres, far above the previous records. In contrast, last year the river never breached the warning mark.

"False, baseless, and factless statements": Sanjay Singh accuses EC

MI News Service, Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) MP Sanjay Singh on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Election Commission, alleging it engaged in vote theft and fraud and slammed the refusal of Election Commission of India (ECI) to share CCTV footage citing privacy, questioning why voter participation videos violate privacy when broadcast publicly. The AAP MP said that the EC's recent press conference was full of "false, baseless, and factless statements" and questioned whether the EC acted upon complaints submitted during the Delhi elections.

What privacy is being violated by showing that?" the AAP MP said. Meanwhile, BJP MP Sambit Patra slammed the Congress Party for continuously opposing the Special Intensive Review (SIR) in Bihar and disrupting the working of the house, saying that they are protecting the infiltrators. Questioning the behaviour of the Congress party and Leader of Opposition of Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, BJP MP Sambit Patra told ANI, "The whole of India is seeing the behaviour of the Congress Party and opposition parties for the last few days, especially with regard to the SIR issue and the Bihar elections. You all are seeing that the activities of the Parliament are being obstructed. No work is being allowed to be done. What is the intention behind this? What is the intention behind the tour that Rahul Gandhi is doing?"

He further noted that the Congress party wants to save the infiltrators and added, "There is only one intention behind this, and that intention is how to save the infiltrators." Patra called the SIR a natural process and a responsibility of the Election Commission to remove the illegal voters. He said, "This is a natural process that it becomes the responsibility of the Election Commission to clean up the infiltrators. They should not come in the electoral roll, and they should not be able to participate in the elections. They do not have the right to vote."

20 dead, 134 injured in incident at facility in central Russia

MI News Sewrvice, Moscow: Twenty people were killed and 134 injured after a fire broke out at a production facility in the Shilovsky district of central Russia's Ryazan Oblast, the regional operational headquarters said Monday. As of 7:00 a.m. Moscow time (0400 GMT), 20 people had been confirmed dead, the center said in a statement. Among the injured, 31 were being treated in hospitals in Ryazan and Moscow, while 103 were receiving outpatient care.

The Rise And Fall of Azam Khan

By Rohit Upadhyay

This story is about Azam Khan, a firebrand leader who emerged from the shadows of the Emergency as one of Uttar Pradesh's most formidable political voices. His imprisonment only steeled his resolve, and his words often struck his rivals with the force of a blade. Backed by workers and the poor, he swept aside the old dominance of the nawabs and positioned himself at the forefront of the city's politics. His influence grew so commanding that many described him as the state's 'mini Chief Minister.'

However, when the BJP came to power, Azam Khan's life took a dramatic turn, almost like a flimsy Bollywood script. Once a towering figure in Uttar Pradesh politics, he suddenly found himself facing more than 80 cases. The charges became a source of ridicule. In the state, if a chicken went missing, people would laugh and ask, "Could Azam be behind it?" The list of allegations was long and varied, ranging from grabbing farmers' land to stealing books, assault, livestock theft, robbery, attempted murder, fake birth certificates, and hate speech.

From Jail to Power

Azam Khan's political journey began during the Emergency imposed by the Congress. Like many leaders who opposed the government, he too was sent to jail. In 1974, he was elected General Secretary of the student union at Aligarh Muslim University. When the Emergency was declared, his protests against Congress led to his arrest. While senior leaders were kept in relatively comfortable conditions, Azam was confined to a dark, cramped cell with no light. Later, owing to his status as a student, he was shifted to a B-class jail. The impact of his activism also weighed heavily on his family, as

his brother, engineer Sharif Khan, was forced to resign under political pressure. Although his struggle began during the Emergency, Azam Khan entered Uttar Pradesh politics by taking on the Nawabs of Rampur. At the time, his father, Mumtaz Khan, ran a small typing center, and the family lived in modest circumstances. But Azam's stature rose after his time in jail. Having spent 19 months behind bars, he contested the 1977 assembly elections on a Janata Party ticket. Lacking resources and political experience, he lost to Manzoor Ali Khan, popularly known as Shannu Miyan. Against Nawabs entrenched influence, Azam initially appeared a minor figure, yet he steadily positioned himself as a challenger to the Nawabi hold over Rampur. In 1980, Azam contested the Rampur assembly seat once again and this time secured victory. He began to consolidate his support among workers and the lower classes. For inspiration, he turned to Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar, the journalist, poet, freedom fighter, Congress president, founder of Jamia Millia Islamia, and leader of the Khilafat movement. Drawing from Jauhar's ideals, Azam mobilized Rampur's working classes and created a political wave strong enough to unsettle the Nawabi family's dominance.

Political Dominance and Controversy

As Azam Khan's influence grew, the Nawabi hold over Rampur steadily declined and by 2014 it had all but disappeared. Between 1980 and 1992, Khan moved across four different political parties as Uttar Pradesh politics went through a period of constant churn. He won the Rampur seat in 1980 on a Janata Party (Secular) ticket, in 1985 with Lok Dal, in 1989 with Janata Dal, and in 1991 with the Janata Party.

Though the Samajwadi Party had not yet been formed, Khan had already cemented his stature as a formidable leader in Rampur. When Mulayam Singh Yadav launched the Samajwadi Party in October 1992, Khan quickly aligned with him and won the 1993 assembly elections on its ticket. From 1996 to 2002, he served in the Rajya Sabha. His string of victories and sharp oratory elevated him as one of the most prominent Muslim leaders in Uttar Pradesh, linking the community closely with the Samajwadi Party. In 2003, during an SP government, Khan set up the Maulana Ali Jauhar Trust and laid the foundation of a university in Rampur, a project that would later draw intense scrutiny from the BJP. The inauguration of the university was marked by the presence of the entire SP cabinet, symbolising Khan's clout. But his fortunes shifted after 2017, when power changed hands in the state. Akhilesh Yadav's ascension as party chief in 2017 dealt Khan a personal and political blow, forcing him to recalibrate in the new order. Yet he maintained his grip over Rampur. Even as the BJP swept 324 seats in the assembly, Khan not only retained his own constituency but also secured victory for his son in Swar on his debut attempt. With that win, Khan became a ten-time MLA. He later stepped into the Lok Sabha in 2019, where a by-election brought his wife, Tanjim Fatima, into the assembly. At its peak, the Khan family held Rampur's political machinery across both legislature and parliament.

Imprisonment and Survival

On April 9, 2019, a hate speech case was filed against Khan in Rampur during the SP-BSP alliance elections. He was accused of making abusive remarks against the district magistrate, the official's mother, Prime Minister Narendra

Modi, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, and of inciting tensions among the Muslim community. By 2022, a total of 87 cases had been filed against him. Even minor complaints frequently escalated into legal cases, including charges for stealing chickens, goats, buffaloes, and even books. In 2020, Khan, his wife, and his son Abdullah Azam surrendered in court over alleged fake birth certificate cases. Abdullah was released in January 2022, and Khan followed in May 2022 after spending 27 months in jail. Despite these challenges, he won the Rampur assembly seat for the tenth time, filing his nomination from jail, while his son also won the Swar seat. The hate speech case resulted in Khan's disqualification. His lawyer stated that the prosecution failed to prove the charges and that Khan had been falsely implicated. Questions remain over whether there was a broader conspiracy aimed at removing Khan from his legislative post, reminiscent of his earlier legal battles in Durgapur. In those cases, allegations included assault and forced eviction in connection with housing projects. Courts have ruled in five cases, acquitting Khan in three and convicting him in two, with a ten-year sentence being the highest penalty he has faced to date. Azam Khan's family was also caught up in legal troubles related to his son Abdullah Azam's birth certificates. Allegations claimed that two certificates were registered with different birthplaces and used for different purposes. In October 2023, Azam, his wife, and son were sentenced to seven years in prison, marking their second imprisonment over the matter. The case had been filed by BJP leader Akash Saxena. The High Court stayed Azam's sentence, but his wife and son were not granted the same relief; they were released on bail after eight months. Tanjim Fa-

tima, Azam's wife, insisted that the certificates were not fake but corrected, and that the FIRs had been filed under duress. Azam's legal challenges continued. In May 2024, a Durgapur case concerning alleged assault and property damage resulted in a ten-year sentence for Azam, with his son also losing his assembly membership. The Durgapur cases stemmed from forced evictions linked to government housing schemes during the Samajwadi Party regime. Tanjim Fatima described the proceedings as part of a planned conspiracy, insisting that the family had no involvement in the housing projects. Azam Khan also faced scrutiny over Maulana Ali Jauhar University. Farmers filed 26 cases related to land acquisition, and disputes over lease conditions and labor cess led to court proceedings. In 2012, Azam had taken a 30-year lease of the land at Rs. 100 per year to establish the university's office. BJP leader Akash Saxena raised complaints to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over alleged violations, which led to the cancellation of the lease. The Trust challenged the decision in the Supreme Court, but the High Court upheld the government's ruling. Azam Khan's difficulties persist, with limited support from the Samajwadi Party. During his imprisonment, Akhilesh Yadav and the party largely sidelined him. Unlike other controversial Muslim politicians, Azam began as a politician and was imprisoned during the Emergency, rather than starting as a criminal. Despite the BJP's dominance and more than 100 legal cases against him, he continues to retain influence and the ability to sway elections in Rampur. Court rulings in his favor have reinforced the narrative that he has been the target of political conspiracies.

Edited by MJ Yusuf

Varun Chakravarthyspeaks on Asia Cup preparations, backing from Gambhir-Surya in white-ball

KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL) : Indian spinner Varun Chakravarthi opened up on his preparations for the upcoming Asia Cup, starting from September 9 onwards and also on the support he received from T20I skipper Suryakumar Yadav and head coach Gautam Gambhir on his return to white-ball cricket for India.

India's campaign at the Asia Cup will kickstart from September 10 onwards against UAE. Spinner Varun, who has taken 33 wickets in 18 T20Is so far, looks forward to being a crucial addition in the Indian-set-up as he is on a roll since his international cricket return last year, taking two big five-wicket hauls in T20Is and one in ODIs during the ICC Champions Trophy winning campaign too.

Speaking to Boria Majumdar at Revsportz, he said about his prepara-

tion that he is having a one-month break and also worked on his "strength and conditioning, fitness, my bowling, my batting, and everything."

"The Asia Cup is coming up, and for the white-ball players, they have got a good break after the IPL. I did play TNPL (Tamil Nadu Premier League), but still I have got a one-month break right now. It has been a good time to work on my strength and conditioning, fitness, my bowling, my batting, and everything. I got time to rejuvenate my entire self in a holistic way. Feeling better because I got a lot of time to spend with my kid, my wife, my parents. Yes, I think, I have put in the hard yards. Now, the rest is up to the bigger force," he said.

Speaking on his plans for the ODI World Cup 2027, a format which he has played four times and taken 10 wickets

with a five-wicket haul, Varun said that after Asia Cup, he aims to excel in white-ball tours for India.

"After the Asia Cup, there is a long streak of many white-ball tours coming up and they are challenging ones as well. So the primary goal will be to excel in all those tours, then hit the World Cup with good confidence and more clarity within myself and the process that I am trying to develop," he said.

The conditions in Dubai will suit Varun, as he took nine wickets in three matches during the ICC CT 2025. Varun said that while wickets in Dubai helped him, there are many factors that have to be in place for him to perform.

"One factor out of those is the ground conditions, and I hope they favours us. On the other hand, in IPL, you may have seen that the factors and

conditions do not help the bowlers much. So, I am also used to bowling in such conditions. Hence, I am ready for both, but I am very eager to see how the pitches are at this point of the year in the UAE," he added.

Varun admitted that T20I skipper Surya and coach Gambhir played a big role in his comeback and before the tour of Bangladesh for T20Is, the skipper told him "I am looking at you, let us see how the other things go, but I am keen on having you in the team set-up."

"Similarly, Gauti Bhai also has helped me a lot in my comeback, the way he motivates me. Even if we talk little, he has always given me good confidence and he has always told that "no matter who's going to ignore you, I will keep you in my plans for now". So, that kind of gave me confidence. And if you ask about Gauti Bhai as a mentor, then

I would say he brings in a warrior mindset in the dressing room, which is very important and has worked for us at KKR and in the Champions Trophy," he added.

Varun remarked that as seen during the 2-2 drawn Test tour to England, Gambhir brings energy to the dressing room and around him, "there is no mediocrity".

"You give everything you have and it does not matter whether you win or you lose. And about Surya, he is someone very similar to Rohit Sharma - that is what I've seen. He is a very tactically sound, and maybe his time at MI Mumbai Indians has given him good exposure to great captains. He is a very good guy and never puts pressure on the bowlers. It would be a bowler's delight to have a captain like him," he concluded.



LADAKH MARATHON RETURNS FOR 12TH EDITION, REACHES NEW PEAK WITH RECORD-BREAKING PARTICIPATION

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Reaching new heights, the Ladakh Marathon will return for its 12th edition from September 11 to 14, featuring its largest field in history with over 6,600 runners from 30 countries worldwide, according to a release from Ladakh Marathon.

Recognised as the world's highest AIMS-certified (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races) marathon, the event will feature six races ranging from a 5 km community run to two gruelling Ultramarathons, the 72 km Khardung La Challenge and the pinnacle of endurance racing, the 122 km Silk Route Ultra.

Spanning the rugged landscapes of Leh and beyond, participants will race alongside the Indus River, through the high-altitude passes of Khardung La and Nubra, and across some of the most striking Himalayan scenery.

The full lineup includes the Full Marathon (42.195 km), Half Marathon (21 km), an 11.2 km run, and the "Run Ladakh for Fun" 5 km, giving runners of all levels a chance to take part in one of the world's most challenging marathons.

The Silk Route Ultra sets off on September 11, sending runners on a 122 km course from Kyagar Village at 10,000 ft, over the Khardung La at 17,618 ft, and into Leh Market.

Nearly 300 athletes will take on the Khardung La Challenge itself on September 12, a 72 km route from Khardung Village at 13,000 ft, over the pass, and into Leh. Over 60 km of the route are charted above 13,000 ft, making this the highest ultramarathon in the world and a true test of human potential.



SRINAGAR'S DAL LAKE TO HOST FIRST-EVER KHELO INDIA WATER SPORTS FESTIVAL

SRINAGAR (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) : The first-ever Khelo India Water Sports Festival is all set to reveal the iconic Dal Lake in a new avatar. Jammu and Kashmir's quest to emerge as a sporting destination will get a major boost when Dal Lake hosts the Water Games, its maiden major national-level Open competition, from August 21-23.

More than 400 athletes from 36 states and Union Territories will be taking part in three medal events - rowing, kayaking and canoeing. The Union sports ministry's endeavour to promote sports activities in Jammu and Kashmir has already established Gulmarg as a top winter sports hub. The ski resort has already hosted five iterations of the Khelo India Winter Games, and now Dal Lake will be aspiring to become a water sports destination, as per a press release from SAI Media.

For decades, Dal Lake has remained central to Kashmir tourism, art, and culture. With the hosting of the maiden Khelo India Water Sports Festival, the lake is ready to add to its credentials as a national treasure. The KIWSF is being jointly hosted by the Sports Authority of India and the Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council.



The Union sports ministry's national sports policy, the Khelo Bharat Niti, is giving new hope to athletes, coaches and the overall sports ecosystem. The policy will not only enable promotion of sports but also bolster commercial benefits for stakeholders associated with the ecosystem. Particularly, the House Boats owners are really looking forward to the Games.

"This is not just an event-it is the beginning of a new era for water sports in our country. On behalf of all athletes, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Prime Minister Narendra Modi and sports minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, and the entire Khelo India team for making water sports a priority and giving it the recognition it truly deserves,"

said Bilquis Mir, a well-known name in the world of canoeing and kayaking and an Olympic judge.

The Khelo India Water Sports Festival 2025 will also showcase three demonstration events -- water skiing, dragon boat race, and the crowd-favorite shikara sprint. This has generated enthusiasm both among the segments of society around Dal Lake as well as water sports athletes.

But there are bigger aspirations lurking around the KIWSF. For example, Mohsin Ali, a young water sports athlete, is preparing to participate in the kayaking event. He is a J-K state champion and has won 15 medals, including three gold medals at the national events. Ali, like many others, is training hard. "I am

hopeful of fetching a gold medal at these games that we are hosting," he said.

"When I started paddling here as a 10-year-old in the 1990s, I dreamt of one day representing India. That dream came true when I became the first woman from India to participate in a World Cup," says Biquis Mir, adding, "I am confident that this event will be thrilling and will serve as a great inspiration for our young athletes who dream of representing India on the biggest stage." There are more voices that see the water sports festival as a game-changer.

Muhammad Imtiyaz, a water sports coach, said: "It was the Khelo India Winter Sports Games that turned Gulmarg into the winter sports hub in the country. Similarly, Khelo India Water Sports Festival will bring Jammu and Kashmir into the consciousness of the water sports athletes across the country," he said.

For Dal Lake, the festival is both a sporting milestone and a civic statement. The lake is a living water body, which is protected, managed, and celebrated as central to culture, livelihoods, ecology, and water sports. The different government agencies have also stepped up the lake

management with activities like dewatering to meet the demands of both ecology and the event.

Dal's cultural signatures have been woven into the Khelo India Water Sports Festival's design language, with the mascot featuring the Himalayan Kingfisher, a bird that can be found looking for its prey in the waters of Dal Lake, and the logo featuring a Shikara on the Dal Lake.

Muhammad Rafiq Malla, a Shikarawalla who ferries tourists in his boat and is himself a water sports athlete, is excited about the Khelo India Water Sports Festival. "The Khelo India Water Sports Festival will not only offer opportunities to sports enthusiasts but also to people living in Dal Lake like me," he said.

"While I would love to watch the young water sports athletes coming from all over the country to participate in the Khelo India Water Sports Festival in Dal Lake, I would also like to see these athletes enjoy their visit in Jammu and Kashmir and explore the Dal Lake's vibrant interiors, watch Dal dwellers carry lotus flowers and vegetables from floating gardens in their wicker baskets and be mesmerized by the Zabbarwan range," added Malla.

Ishan Kishan to miss Duleep Trophy opener, Akash Deep adviced rest



NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan will miss out on the Duleep Trophy opener for East Zone as he is currently recovering from a minor injury sustained during his county stint with Nottinghamshire in the UK.

For the clash starting from November 28, Kishan has been replaced by Odisha's Aashirwad Swain in the East Zone's squad, as per ESPNcricinfo.

As per ESPNcricinfo, Kishan's injury

required multiple stitches, which is why he was not selected as a replacement for Rishabh Pant ahead of the fifth and final Test against England at The Oval, as the superstar batter was ruled out due to a foot injury. Eventually, the replacement was Tamil Nadu's Narayan Jagadeesan, as a back-up for Dhruv Jurel.

Kishan's injury is however, not a serious one as his missing the campaign opener for East Zone is a precautionary measure as he could be running to appear in the India A squad that will play two four-day fixtures at home against Australia next month.

Kishan will continue his recovery and assessment at the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Bengaluru. Kumar Kushagra could take his place as a first-choice wicketkeeper.

Also, the East Zone will also miss out on pacer Akash Deep's services, as he has been adviced rest. His niggle or injury, if any, is currently unknown, and

his assessment will be carried out later.

During the recent tour of England, which saw him miss the fourth Test due to back niggle, he picked up 13 wickets in three Tests, including a ten-fer at Birmingham and also scored a precious half-century during the final Test at The Oval. Assam's Mukhtar Hussain has replaced him in the Abhimanyu Easwaran-led squad.

East Zone will kickstart their campaign against Shubman Gill led North Zone at CoE. Riyan Parag will be Easwaran's deputy. The squad also consists of Mohammed Shami, who has played just one first-class game in last two years and Mukesh Kumar.

East Zone squad for Duleep Trophy opener: Abhimanyu Easwaran (capt), Aasirwad Swain (wk), Sandeep Patnaik, Virat Singh, Denish Das, Sridham Paul, Sharandeep Singh, Kumar Kushagra (wk), Riyan Parag (vice-captain), Utkarsh Singh, Manishi, Suraj Sindhu Jaiswal, Mukesh Kumar, Mukhtar Hussain and Mohammed Shami.

Beau Webster eyes Ashes selection: Australian all-rounder focuses on delivering strong performance

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Australia's all-rounder Beau Webster, despite a positive start to his Test career, which includes four fifties from his seven Tests, isn't taking things for granted, as per the ICC website.

Tasmania's latest international cricketing star reasons that Cameron Green, who has impressed since his return at No. 3, will sooner or later return to bowling, and that might open up his spot in the lower middle-order to scrutiny.

"When you're at the top level, you're fighting to hang on to your spot. With all the wonderful cricketers around the country, and especially a guy like Cameron Green, he batted at the top of the order [in the West Indies], and didn't bowl," Webster said.

"He's obviously going to be back bowling this summer, which is going to put a bit more pressure on my spot at No. 6 as the allrounder. But I welcome it," he added.

While Marnus Labuschagne has thrown his hat in the ring as a contender to open for Australia, if Green's



bowling returns are encouraging, the Australian selectors can find ways to accommodate the experienced Labuschagne into the XI while also playing specialist openers.

This would leave the seven-Test-old Webster under the scanner, but the all-rounder is ready to once again prove his worth in the domestic red-ball setup.

"I feel like I've been in this position before a lot in my career. I've got to score runs to either go to the next level or stay on the team. It's certainly not unfamiliar. I'm looking forward to once

again showing what I can do at [Sheffield] Shield level, and hopefully, be lining up in that first Ashes Test in Perth," Webster added.

"It's going to be a massive summer. I'm sure the team's going to change a little bit throughout those five Tests. I'm just going to do everything I can to make sure I'm there for all five."

Webster will have four prospective Shield fixtures to make a strong case for Australia's selectors to pick two all-rounders for the upcoming Ashes. The all-rounder has complete faith in his capabilities, should the call-up come for him.

"I feel like I've scored some tough runs. At the same time, there's no hundred next to my name, which I would have loved to go on with one of those [half-centuries]. I felt like I was batting as well as I have in a number of those innings. I feel like I've got all the tools to succeed this summer in the Ashes with what England are going to potentially bring," he said. The series starts on 21 November and will be a part of the ICC World Test Championship 2025-27.

With a new coach and a young squad, U Mumba eye second PKL title in Season 12

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : Pro Kabaddi League Season 2 champions U Mumba will be aiming to get their hands on the PKL title once again in Season 12, starting on August 29.

Led by captain Sunil Kumar, U Mumba finished the last campaign with 12 wins in 22 games to qualify for the PKL Playoffs after three seasons. However, their fruitful season came to an end when they went down to the Patna Pirates in Eliminator 2.

Despite qualifying for the PKL Season 11 Playoffs, U Mumba announced that head coach Gholamreza Mazandarani will not continue for the upcoming season, as per a PKL press release.

U Mumba named Anil Chaprana as their new head coach for PKL Season 12. Chaprana had earlier served as the head coach of U Mumba and was replaced by Gholamreza Mazandarani in 2022. He later worked as an assistant coach to Narender Redhu at Patna Pirates for one season.

Chaprana returned to U Mumba as an assistant coach during PKL Season 11 and helped the team qualify for the Playoffs for the first time since 2019.

season.

Rinku (right corner), Lokesh Ghosliya (left corner), Deepak Kundu (left corner), Sunny (left cover), Mukilan Shannmugam (left cover) and Ravi (right cover) are the other defensive options in their squad.

-Acquisition of Anil Mohan

Additionally, U Mumba have bolstered their squad by securing the signature of talented all-rounder Anil Mohan for a whopping Rs 78 lacs to make him the most expensive player from Category D in PKL history. Widely regarded as one of the top young prospects in the Indian kabaddi circuit, Anil could emerge as a game-changer for the PKL Season 2 winners in Season 12.

-Weaknesses: Departure of Manjeet

Even though their attack looks decent on paper, the most glaring weakness for U Mumba is the departure of their former lead raider Manjeet Dahiya, who has joined two-time PKL champions Jaipur Pink Panthers at the recently concluded auction. With 730 raid points to his name, U Mumba could miss the experience of Manjeet in their squad.

-Lack of experience in left corner positions

Another area of concern for U Mumba is the inexperience in the left corner positions. Lokesh Ghosliya and Deepak Kundu are the two options in that position for the Mumbai-based side. While Lokesh has played 11 PKL matches, Deepak has featured in only two games so far.

-Opportunities: Huge moment for Anil Chaprana

The team showed its faith in Anil Chaprana and promoted him from assistant coach to head coach for PKL Season 12.

Along with former head coach Gholamreza Mazandarani, Anil Chaprana played a pivotal role as an assistant coach in Season 11 to help U Mumba secure PKL Playoffs qualification after three editions.

-Opportunity for Ajit to stake claim as lead raider

U Mumba's rising star Ajit Chouhan took Pro Kabaddi Season 11 by storm after he emerged as one of the leading raiders on his PKL debut season. Having displayed incredible skills, speed and strength, the youngster accumulated 185 raid points in 23 matches to help U Mumba qualify for the PKL Season 11 Playoffs. With the departure of Manjeet, Ajit will have the opportunity to cement his place as U Mumba's lead raider in Season 12.

-Time for youngsters to shine

U Mumba have several talented youngsters who will aim to hog the limelight in the forthcoming season. The likes of Anil Mohan, Lokesh Ghosliya, Deepak Kundu, Mukilan Shannmugam, Amarjeet and Ravi will look to grab their opportunities to stake a claim for U Mumba's starting 7.

Meanwhile, U Mumba have retained their core that guided them to the PKL Season 11 Playoffs and further invested INR 4.905 crore to sign eight players at the Season 12 Player Auction to assemble a formidable squad. With that in mind, let's assess the strengths and weaknesses of U Mumba ahead of the new campaign.

-Strengths: Retention of Key Players

Ahead of the PKL Season 12 Player Auction, U Mumba managed to retain most of their players from last season.

Captain Sunil Kumar, left raider Ajit Chouhan, right raider Satish Kannan, left corners Deepak Kundu and Lokesh Ghosliya, left covers Sunny and Mukilan Shannmugam, plus all-rounders Amir Mohammad Zafardanesh and Rohit, were retained by the team management for PKL Season 12.

-Mumboys' strong defensive unit

U Mumba's formidable defence is likely to be one of their biggest strengths heading into the upcoming Pro Kabaddi season. Skipper Sunil Kumar will once again lead U Mumba's defence in Season 12. Considered one of the top defenders in the league, Sunil Kumar currently features fifth on the leaderboard for most tackle points (390) in PKL history.

Apart from Sunil, U Mumba used their FBM card for Rs 25.10 lacs for one season to retain left cover Parvesh Bhainswal. U Mumba re-signed Parvesh after he contributed with 38 tackle points in 23 matches and was one of their key players in their defence last

season.

Rinku (right corner), Lokesh Ghosliya (left corner), Deepak Kundu (left corner), Sunny (left cover), Mukilan Shannmugam (left cover) and Ravi (right cover) are the other defensive options in their squad.

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