

India's deep space exploration is next, **PM Modi** told scientists



MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked space scientists in India to prepare for a deep space exploration mission to unravel the secrets that brighten the future of humanity.

In a video address on the National Space Day here on Saturday, PM Modi announced that India was preparing to set up a pool of astronauts for future missions and urged the youth to be part of this group.

"We have reached the moon and Mars. Now, we have to peek into deep space, where several secrets that would benefit the future of humanity lie hidden," PM Modi said.

Achieving one milestone after another in the space sector has now become a natural trait of India and its scientists, the Prime minister said.

"Beyond galaxies lies our horizons. The endless universe tells us that no frontier is the final frontier and in the space sector too, at the policy level, there should be no final frontier," the Prime minister Modi told a gathering of space scientists, students, and policymakers from across the country.

He said India was making advances in breakthrough technologies such as electric propulsion and semi-cryogenic engines.

"Soon, thanks to the hard work of you, scientists, India will launch the Gaganyaan mission and will also build its own space station," he said.

The Prime minister also asked the private players whether five startups can become unicorns in the next five years.

"I would like the private sector to come forward ... can we reach a point where we can launch 50 rockets every year?" he asked space scientists and engineers.

PM Modi said his government possesses both the intent and the willpower to implement the next-generation reforms required to achieve this vision.

He said India viewed space technology not only as a tool for scientific exploration but also as a means to enhance ease of living.

"Space-tech is increasingly becoming an integral part of governance in India," he said, and cited satellite-based assessment in crop insurance schemes, satellite-enabled information and safety for fishermen, disaster management applications, and the use of geospatial data in the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan. PM Modi said three days ago he

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Mamata Banerjee is poorest among 31 CMs in India

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee, known for her absolute honesty, continues to be the poorest among all 31 CMs in the country with assets worth a little over only Rs 15 lakh.

According to the latest report published by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), prepared after state assembly polls and bye-elections held post Dec 2024 that from all available official data submitted to the Election Commission of India (ECI) and the Income Tax department, it has been established that Mamata Banerjee is the poorest CM in the Country by all means. .

The list draws from data mentioned in the affidavits

filed by the Chief ministers before the last assembly polls they contested.

According to the affidavits, Andhra Pradesh Chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu, continues to top the list with assets worth more than Rs 931 crore, followed by Pema Khandu of Arunachal Pradesh (Rs 332 crore). They are the only two billionaires on the list.

The report says the total assets of the 31 Chief ministers are worth a whopping Rs 1,630 crore. The report by ADR, which works in the area of electoral and political reforms, states that while Mamata Banerjee has declared assets of Rs 15 lakh, Jammu and Kashmir Chief minister Omar Abdullah has assets



worth Rs 55 lakh. Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan is third from the bottom of the last with assets worth a little more than

Rs 1 crore.

Mamata Banerjee's affidavit was filed before the by-election for the Bhowanipore

assembly seat, held on Sept 30, 2021. In the income tax returns filed by her in 2020-21, her assets were worth only Rs 15.4 lakh. During the 2016 assembly polls, her assets were worth Rs 30.4 lakh. She mentioned in the affidavit that "cash in hand" with her was Rs 69,255, while she had a bank balance of Rs 13.5 lakh, which included Rs 1.5 lakh in her election expenditure account. The affidavit also showed that her Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) receivable was Rs 1.8 lakh for 2019-20. She also has jewellery of only 9 grams valued at Rs 43,837. According to the affidavit she did not have any landed property or residential house in her name. Ujjaini Halim, the coor-

dinator of (West Bengal) ADR and West Bengal Election Watch said " when the affidavits are filed with the Election Commission, they send them to the Income Tax department. We are not sure if there is any scrutiny of the affidavits filed by the MPs and MLAs of the country. However, these are the documents filed with the affidavits and we have to trust that."

She added that "we have seen that money plays a vital role in the elections in India. Election expenditures are on the rise and it is getting increasingly difficult for a candidate like Mamata Banerjee with a humble background to contest polls with such a meagre amount".



Jubilant NorthEast United FC players celebrate with the trophy after thrashing Diamond Harbour FC 6-1, in a one-sided final of the 134th Indian Oil Durand Cup football tournament at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata on Saturday.

TMC refuses to nominate any member to JPC on bills to sack PM, CMs

MI News Service, Kolkata : The Trinamool Congress has refused to nominate a member to the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) formed to look into the bills to sack a prime minister, chief ministers, and other ministers.

In a statement here on Saturday , the party, led by West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, termed the JPC as nothing but a 'farce'.

TMC will not nominate any member to the joint parliamentary committee formed to scrutinise the bills

to sack a prime minister, chief ministers, and ministers if they are detained or arrested for 30 consecutive days, the party said in statement this afternoon. "We oppose the 130th Constitution Amendment Bill at the stage of introduction, and in our view the JPC is a farce. Therefore, we are not nominating anyone from AITC," the party statement said..

Incidentally, amid huge protests from the Opposition, Union Home Minister Amit Shah moved three bills in Lok Sabha on Wednesday

As soon as the bill was tabled, the Opposition members began protests and trooped into the well, raising slogans, as some of them even tore copies of the Bills. Opposition MPs, including AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi and Congress' Manish Tewari and K C Vengopal, spoke against the introduction of the Bills, terming the proposed law against the Constitution and federalism. Shah, however, rejected criticism that the Bills

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Former Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe arrested

MI News Service, Chennai /Colombo : Former President of Sri Lanka Ranil Wickremesinghe was arrested on Friday for allegedly misusing the state funds for his foreign trip, police said. Wickremesinghe, 76, has been accused of using public

funds to travel to England to attend a convocation ceremony of his wife Maitthree in September 2023, police said. The police had previously questioned his staff about the travel expenses. Ranil Wickremesinghe, has been arrested for alleged misuse

of government funds, official sources said adding he was taken into custody by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) "We are producing him before the Colombo Fort magistrate," the official sources said adding that they were

pressing charges for using state resources for personal purposes. Wickremesinghe had stopped in London in 2023 on his way back from Havana, where he attended a G77 summit. In the

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14,000 new polling booths likely in Bengal soon: EC



MI News Service, Kolkata : West Bengal is likely to get nearly 14,000 additional

polling booths ahead of the 2026 assembly elections, with the Election Commis-

sion calling an all-party meeting on August 29 to discuss the proposed reorganisation of polling stations, officials said on Saturday.

West Bengal currently has a little over 78,000 booths, spread across 294 assembly constituencies.

According to officials in the office of the state's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), polling stations with more than 1,200 electors

will be bifurcated to ease voting. The West Bengal chief electoral officer (CEO) has decided to increase the number of booths in the state by nearly 14,000. While the CEO's office has prepared a draft list of the new booths, a final decision will be taken after an all-party meeting on August 29, officials said. "This is

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Heavy rain cripples life in Chamoli after landslides, 2 went missing

MI News Service, Chamoli (Uttarakhand): Weeks after the massive cloudburst that wreaked havoc in the picturesque Dharali village in Uttarkashi district killing five people and sent at least 65 others with large number of domestic animals missing, continuous heavy rain overnight in Tharali town of Chamoli district caused a flash flood like situation, depositing huge piles of debris in the area including at several houses and markets. Informing this official sources said on Saturday that as a result Tunri Gadhera, a dry canal that channels excess rainwater, has now filled with rocks and debris before joining the mighty Pindar River. They said two people went missing in the nearby Sagwara and Chepdon market areas following heavy rain. Kavita, a 20-year-old woman, was reported missing from Sagwara, and another person went missing in Chepdon, the official said. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has expressed deep grief over the situation and destruction at

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India has certain red lines: EAM Jaishankar on trade deal with the US



MI News Service, New Delhi : India has certain "red-lines" in its trade negotiations with the US and New Delhi will not compromise on protecting the interests of farmers and small producers, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday. Jaishankar said the negotiations for a trade deal between the two sides despite some stiff hurdles are still underway.

Speaking at the Economic Times World Leaders Forum, Jaishankar also said that US President Donald Trump's way of dealing with the world is a very major departure from the traditional way of doing so and the entire world is facing this issue.

"We've not had a US President who has conducted foreign policy as publicly as the current one. That itself is a departure that's not limited to India," he said.

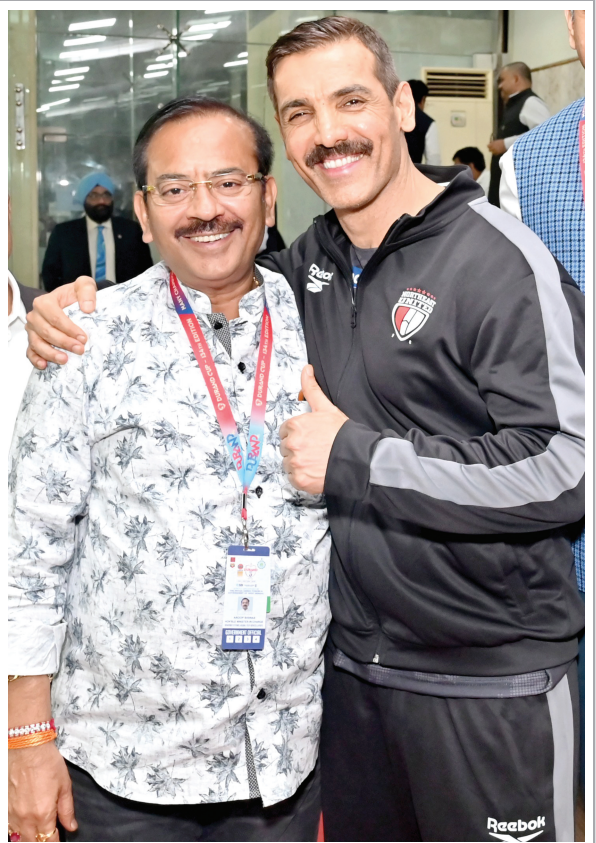
The relations between New Delhi and Washington

are on a downturn after Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to a whopping 50 per cent, including 25 per cent additional duties for India's purchase of Russian crude oil.

The External Affairs Minister said trade is "really the major issue" between the two countries.

"The negotiations are still going on and the bottom line is we have some red lines." "The red lines are primarily the interest of our farmers and to some extent small producers. So when people pronounced that 'we succeeded or failed etc.' "My answer to this is -- we as a government are committed to defend the interests of our farmers and small producers. We are very determined on that. That's not something we can compromise on." The External Affairs Minister

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West Bengal Sports and Youth Affairs minister Aroop Biswas is with the owner of the victorious NorthEast United FC John Abraham after winning the 134th Indian Oil Durand Cup football tournament defeating Diamond Harbour FC 6-1 in the final at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata on Saturday.

Family of the youth who attempted to scale Parliament wall, appeals for his release

MI News Service, New Delhi : The family of Ram Kumar Bind, the 20-year-old man who was arrested after attempting to scale a wall of the Parliament complex in Delhi, has appealed to the government for his release. They claim that their son is "sole support" to the family and may have acted out without knowing the consequences. Ram's father, Shiv Kumar Bind, said that his son and another brother, Umesh, work in a factory in Surat, Gujarat. "Ram's wife gave birth to a child just 12 days ago, and he left Surat on August 18 to return home. I don't know how he ended up in Delhi," the father said.

Ram's mother, Samla Devi, described her son as a simple man. "My son has no fault; the government should release him." She added that Ram is the sole support for the family.

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Curiosity and code: Bengal computer scientist Eshan Chattopadhyay's path to Godel Prize

MI News Service, Kolkata : This year's Godel Prize winner, Bengal theoretical computer scientist and IIT Kanpur alumnus Eshan Chattopadhyay, feels that the recognition only reinforces his commitment to curiosity-driven research as he is open to taking greater risks and pursuing ideas stretching across disciplines. An associate professor of Computer Science at Cornell University, Chottopadhyay expressed interest in broader outreach,

hoping to make fundamental research more accessible. "Research has always been a curiosity-driven pursuit for me, and receiving this award is truly an honour. It reinforces the importance of doing fundamental work, but it doesn't really change how I approach research. Theoretical computer science is about understanding the essence of computation. I am now more open to taking bigger risks, especially in exploring connections between

pseudorandomness and quantum computing," Chattopadhyay said.

Chattopadhyay was awarded the 2025 Godel Prize, one of the highest honours in theoretical computer science, for solving a problem that had puzzled researchers for nearly three decades. His research, conducted during his doctoral studies at the University of Texas at Austin under noted computer scientist David Zuckerman, created a two-source

extractor functional even when both sources of randomness are weak, and is considered to be a milestone in the world of computing and Indian academia. This breakthrough has wide-ranging implications for fields such as cryptography, machine learning, and complex simulations -- where reliable randomness is essential. The recognition comes nearly a

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Police bring back the light of vision in Gayeshpur, Free eye camp by cops benefit hundreds

MI News Service, Kalyani : The otherwise quiet courtyard of the Gayeshpur Police Outpost turned into a bustling centre of hope on Friday. From the early hours, people started queuing up, some elderly, some daily wage workers, some police personnel themselves ,all waiting to have their eyes tested at a free eye check-up camp organised by the police.By the end of the day, close to 250 people had their eyes examined. For many, it was their first proper consultation with an ophthalmologist. The outcome was praiseworthy, 137 people were given free spectacles on the spot, while those detected with cataract were assured of special arrangements for surgery.For 72-year-old Shanti Das, who had been struggling with blurred vision for years, the moment of receiving her spectacles was overwhelming. With tears welling up, she whispered, "It feels like



a curtain has lifted. I can see clearly again." Standing beside her, a constable remarked with a smile, "These moments make our service worthwhile."Senior officers, including Dy. SP (HQ), Dy. SP Traffic, and IC Kalyani Debasish Panda, Gayeshpur police outpost incharge Jay Das attended the camp. They underlined the larger purpose of the initiative: "Policing is not just about maintaining law and order. Standing beside people in times of need,

even in matters of health, is our responsibility. Such efforts will continue in the future," one of them said.The atmosphere through the day resembled a community fair, orderly queues, doctors patiently attending to each person, police personnel guiding villagers, and children curiously watching the proceedings. The camp not only provided medical relief but also created a bridge of trust between the force and the community.Local resi-

dents hailed the initiative as "a rare humanitarian gesture." One resident commented, "For years, we have seen police only with uniforms and authority. Today, we saw them with empathy."Public health experts note that such outreach programmes are particularly crucial in semi-urban and rural belts, where access to eye-care facilities is scarce. Cataract, a leading cause of preventable blindness in India, often goes untreated in poorer households. A free camp like this can make the difference between darkness and sight.As the sun dipped that evening, the Gayeshpur Police Outpost glowed differently, not with flashing beacons or sirens, but with the light of compassion. For many who walked back home with clearer vision, it was not just about a pair of spectacles, but about seeing a kinder face of policing.

Less than a year after R.G.Kar horror, another medical student files complaint

MI News Service, Mursidabad: Murshidabad again in the grip of shock after fresh allegations of the harassment surfaced against of medical student. Less than a year after the gruesome rape and murder of a postgraduate trainee at RG Kar Medical College that shook Bengal, another medical student has now accused a peer of the mental torture, threats, and indecent proposals.

The complaint, filed on Friday evening by the father of the student from Mursidabad Medical College and Hospital, alleged that his daughter was repeatedly subjected to harassment by a fellow medical student who is currently enrolled at a reputed Kolkata medical college. According to the complaint , the accused-who first came into contact with the victim at a coaching institute- allegedly blocked her path, threatened her, and even suggested meeting at a hotel.

Police sources confirmed that a written complaint has been lodged at Berhampur investigation has begun. The accused could be reach for comment. The fresh allegation comes at a time when Bengal's medical fraternity is still grappling with the trauma of the RG Kar incident. The murder and sexual assault of young doctor in August last year had triggered statewide protests by doctors, students, the civil society , demanding

accountability and safety for medical professionals. Now, the emergence of yet another harassment complaint within the medical community has reignited concern over the environment faced by medical students, particularly women. The case is likely to intensify pressure on authorities to act decisively as both the medical fraternity and the wider public continue to demand safety , justice and systemic reform.

Teacher brutally assaulted after protesting public drinking

MI News Service, North 24 Parganas: A shocking incident of lawlessness has emerged from Belgharia, where a drawing teacher was allegedly assaulted in broad daylight after protesting against public drinking. The attack, captured on roadside CCTV cameras, has sparked outrage in the locality and raised questions about the growing culture of impunity.

The victim, identified as Nirupam Pal, a resident of Nandannagar, was returning home around 6 a.m. on Friday when he confronted a group of youths and a young woman openly consuming alcohol on the banks of a pond where construction materials had been kept. According to the complaint filed at Belgharia Police Station, an altercation broke out after Pal objected to the drinking. The CCTV footage shows the young woman, allegedly intoxicated, rushing towards Pal with a burning cigarette in hand. She is seen slapping and punching the teacher before her

male companions joined in, surrounding him and subjecting him to further blows. The attackers also allegedly issued death threats during the assault. Terrified by the brutality, Pal and his family lodged a formal complaint with the police. While an investigation has been initiated, the accused remain absconding. Local councillor and Belgharia town committee president Bishwajit Saha condemned the attack, saying: "It is extremely unfortunate that a teacher was beaten simply for

protesting. Such incidents cannot be tolerated. I have urged the administration to take swift and strict action." The incident has rattled the community, not only because a teacher was targeted, but because it underscores a broader menace: the brazen rise of public drinking and the violent reprisals faced by ordinary citizens who dare to resist. Residents have demanded urgent police intervention to ensure safety in public spaces and restore faith in law enforcement.

Traffic stops turns ugly: Police ASI injured in highway scuffle

MI News Service, Murshidabad: Tension gripped New Farakka on Friday after a scuffle broke out between a police officer and a local panchayat functionary on National Highway 12. The accused, identified as Tariqul Sheikh, deputy head of Bewa-1 Gram Panchayat, was arrested following the incident. According to police sources, an engine-driven van carrying jute was intercepted at the New Farakka traffic intersection by ASI Tapas Ghosh, who was on duty with the traffic department. The officer informed the driver that such vehicles were not permitted on the national highway. The driver was reportedly asked to sign a bond pledging not to use the van on NH-12 again. Police allege that shortly afterward, the jute owner — identified as Sheikh — arrived at the spot and got into an altercation with the on-duty officer. During the heated exchange, the ASI was allegedly manhandled and sustained minor injuries. Eyewitnesses reported that abusive language was also used in the confrontation. Farakka police personnel reached the spot promptly and detained Sheikh. He was later arrested and charged in connection with the incident.

TMC scores big in Jangalmahal as Jayant Mitra rejoins the fold

MI News Service, Bakura: Bankura's political landscape witnessed a significant development with senior leader Jayant Mitra's return to the Trinamool Congress, marking what many within the ruling camp describe as a "homecoming" ahead of the 2026 Assembly polls. Jayant Mitra, once considered the face of Trinamool in Jangalmahal, had crossed over to the BJP in the run-up to the 2021 elections, formally joining the saffron camp at a rally addressed by Amit Shah in Midnapore. His defection was seen then as a setback for the ruling party. However, after a prolonged absence, the veteran leader was officially reinstated into Trinamool on Saturday at the directive of the party's All India General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee. Speak-

ing after his return, Jayant Mitra admitted his decision to join the BJP was a "mistake" driven by circumstances. "I joined the BJP as a victim of a wrong decision. From the very beginning, I regretted it. Today, Abhishek Banerjee has given me the opportunity to correct that mistake. I pledge to remain with Trinamool Congress till the end of my life," he said, striking a conciliatory tone. Party insiders believe his re-induction will bolster Trinamool's organizational hold in Jangalmahal — a politically sensitive zone where Jayant Mitra once played a pivotal role in consolidating support for the party. Bankura district Trinamool president Tarashankar Roy welcomed the move, saying, "Jayantda is one of our senior leaders. Under Ab-

hishek Banerjee's instruction, we have brought him back into the fold. His experience and influence will strengthen Trinamool in Jangalmahal." The BJP, however, dismissed the significance of his return. Union Minister Subhash Sarkar claimed that Jayant Mitra's political relevance had long diminished, remarking, "Although he nominally joined the BJP before 2021, he was functionally aligned with Trinamool since the results were declared. His return changes nothing for us." With this development, Trinamool appears to be consolidating its ranks in Bankura ahead of the next electoral battle, projecting unity and renewed strength in a region that has historically been a battleground between the ruling camp and the BJP.

Space-based Quiz Competition in Kolkata to Celebrate Chandrayaan-3's Success



MI News Service, Kharagpur: Space-based Quiz Competition in Kolkata to Celebrate Chandrayaan-3's SuccessOn 23rd August 2023, celebrated as National Space Day, the Indian Space Research

Organisation's (ISRO) lander 'Vikram' from Chandrayaan-3 successfully landed near the Moon's south pole. To commemorate this historic achievement and to inspire school students towards science

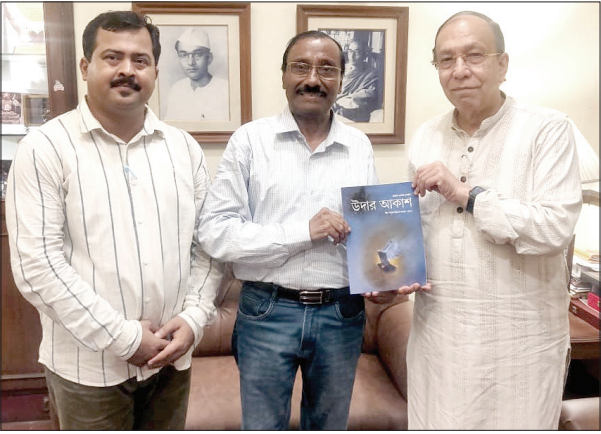
and space exploration, the Grand Finale of "Stellar Space Quiz 2025", one of India's largest space-themed inter-school quiz competitions, was held at IIT Kharagpur Research Park, Newtown. The com-

petition was organized by Edudigm STEMpowered, an initiative by IIT Kharagpur alumni, and witnessed participation from selected top schools across different parts of the country.

Sugata Bose publishes Udar Akash

Nurul Islam Khan

On Saturday, at Netaji Bhaban on Elgin Road, Historian and political figure Sugata Bose released the 'Udar Akash' festival issue. Professor Sugata Bose was elated by the publication of this magazine. He said The poetry of poet Kazi Nazrul Islam is the Holy Prophet (PBUH). Moreover, various poems and writings have been published here. I hope that the practice of Bengali literature will continue in this magazine in a more beautiful way.' Editor



Faruk Ahmed has been publishing the magazine for twenty-four years, leaving a mark on the

excellence of Bengali thinking and maintaining continuity. Educationist Ratan Bhattacharya was

present on the day. Professor Sugata Bose enthusiastically praised the writings and subject ideas of 'Udar Akash' magazine at the meeting. The editor of the magazinesaid that 'Udar Akash' has already been appreciated in the world as a bilingual research journal of creative literature affiliated with ISN. This year's issue features valuable writings on Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak, Rabindranath Tagore's Raktakrabi, and Kazi Nazrul Islam. The magazine has been enriched by the work of renowned writers.

The Call for a Committed Bureaucracy

MI News Service: In today's age of rapid change and rising aspirations, citizens no longer tolerate a slow or indifferent administration. They expect efficiency, transparency, and service delivery that truly reflects the spirit of democracy. This growing demand has brought the idea of a committed bureaucracy to the forefront. A committed bureaucracy is not just about following rules; it is about working with integrity, responsibility, and empathy toward the people. In a time when technology has made information instant, citizens can easily see gaps between policy promises and on-ground reality. They demand officers who are accountable, innovative, and people-centric, rather than merely procedural. From disaster response to public health, from urban planning to rural welfare, the effectiveness of governance is measured by how swiftly and sincerely the administration responds. Corruption, red tape, and apathy weaken trust in institutions, but a committed bureaucracy can restore confidence and strengthen democratic values. More than ever, governance today requires civil servants who see themselves not as mere custodians of files, but as partners in progress. Their role is to translate government vision into citizen welfare, ensuring inclusivity, fairness, and efficiency. The call for a committed bureaucracy, therefore, is not just a demand—it is a necessity for building a just, transparent, and forward-looking society.

Tourist harassed as hotels sealed in Digha tax crackdown

MI News Service, Digha: In a dramatic late-night crackdown, tourists were forcibly evicted from hotels in Old Digha on Wednesday as the Digha-Shankarpur Development Authority (DSDA), backed by police, sealed multiple establishments over long-pending tax dues. The move triggered chaos and outrage among visitors, hoteliers, and locals alike, casting a shadow over Bengal's most popular beach destination. According to DSDA sources, several hotels had outstanding tourist civic amenity charges dating back to 2023. Despite repeated notices and multiple rounds of meetings, the dues remained unpaid. Authorities claim that although official closure orders had been issued, hoteliers continued to operate in defiance of regulations — prompting

the unprecedented late-night action. Eyewitnesses and CCTV visuals show stunned tourists — some with children — being ordered out of their rooms without notice. "They suddenly told us to leave. We weren't even given time to feed our baby. I've visited Digha many times, but this experience has been humiliating," said one furious tourist. The incident sparked immediate anger. Hoteliers accused the DSDA of high-handedness, while locals expressed dismay at the humiliation of guests in Bengal's flagship tourist hub. The political opposition was quick to seize the moment. CPI(M) district committee member Jhadeswar Bera alleged, "This is extortion in the name of taxes. Tourists' interests are being sacrificed for political gains

ahead of elections." District Magistrate and DSDA Chairman Purnendu Maji defended the crackdown, saying, "These hotels have defaulted for a long time despite repeated reminders. That is why strict action was taken." However, he admitted procedural lapses: "Tourists should not have been evicted in this manner at night. This will be investigated, and the step has been suspended for now." The midnight eviction has left Digha's reputation in jeopardy at the peak of tourist season. With images of distressed families being forced onto the streets already circulating widely, the controversy threatens to escalate into a political storm while exposing deep fractures between the administration and the tourism sector.

Soil smugglers flee, tractors seized in rain

MI News Service, Bankura: Taking advantage of torrential rains and alleged lapses in monitoring, soil smugglers in Bankura attempted to carry on their illegal trade in broad daylight. But a sudden raid on Friday by the Land Reforms Department, acting on a tip-off, forced the smugglers to abandon their tractors and flee the scene. The operation took place near Lohagarh More under Chhatna Police Station limits, where two tractors laden with illegally excavated soil were seized. Officials confirmed that the tractors have since been handed over to the police, and investigations are underway to determine the origin of the soil and the extent of the smuggling network. For weeks, locals had alleged that soil was being cut from areas adjacent to ponds near the Bankura-Shaltora road without permission and transported to fill low-lying land. Continuous rains since Wednesday seemingly emboldened the smugglers, who assumed that

weakened surveillance would allow them to continue operations unchecked. However, acting on intelligence from a confidential source, officials of the Land Reforms Department swiftly moved in. Witnesses reported that as soon as the drivers spotted authorities, they abandoned their tractors and disappeared into the rain. Chhatna BLRO Shantanu Roy confirmed the seizure and said: "We are investigating whether the land from which soil was smuggled is private or government property. Identifying those behind the smuggling racket is now our priority." The incident underscores persistent concerns over illegal soil extraction in Bankura, a practice that not only undermines land management laws but also poses serious risks to the environment. With smugglers now exploiting weather conditions to evade detection, officials face mounting pressure to tighten surveillance and crack down on the illicit trade.

negligence. Gautam Chakraborty, head of a private school, remarked: "We can't just blame nature. We build without following rules, we encroach on rivers and canals, we choke natural waterways. This disaster is also man-made."

Jhalda crippled by rain: Families cut off, supplies destroyed

MI News Service, Purulia: Days of relentless rainfall have left Jhalda reeling, with collapsed roads, snapped communication lines, and massive losses to essential supplies. Several wards of Jhalda Municipality, including Chunabhatti, remain cut off as floodwaters continue to

wreak havoc. The downpour, compounded by gushing mountain streams and overflowing city hydrants, has triggered flash flooding across wards 2, 3, and 7. Entire stretches of road have caved in, electric poles have collapsed, vehicles lie submerged, and houses and bound-

ary walls have crumbled under the pressure of rising waters. The scale of devastation has been compounded by the destruction of food stocks. In the ICDS warehouse, water entered storage rooms and submerged rice, pulses, and other essential items worth lakhs of rupees.

"The damage is massive. Food grains have been completely destroyed," confirmed warehouse storekeeper Montu Singh. Deputy Mayor of Jhalda Municipality Sudeep Karmakar and Jhalda Block 1 BDO Madanmohan Murmu visited the affected areas on Thursday

to take stock of the situation. "Disaster response teams and firefighters are already on the ground. Steps will be taken to ensure such large-scale losses can be avoided in the future," Karmakar said. But while officials cited natural calamity, local voices pointed to human

negligence. Gautam Chakraborty, head of a private school, remarked: "We can't just blame nature. We build without following rules, we encroach on rivers and canals, we choke natural waterways. This disaster is also man-made."

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India’s deep space exploration is...

►► From PG 1

met Indian astronaut and Group Captain Shubhan-shu Shukla, who unfurled the national flag at the In-ternational Space Station and filled every Indian with pride. He said that

when Shukla showed him the tricolour, he was touched beyond words. PM Modi said that in his inter-action with the astronaut, he witnessed the bound-less courage and infinite dreams of the youth of New India.

TMC refuses to nominate any...

►► From PG 1

were brought in haste and said that they would be sent to the Joint Commit-tee of Parliament, where members of both Houses, including the Opposition, would get an opportunity to give their suggestions.

When Venugopal raised the issue of Shah’s arrest when he was Home Minister of Gujarat and asked about his claim of morality in politics, the senior BJP leader coun-tered, saying he had re-signed on moral grounds before his arrest and joined the government only after being dis-charged by the court.

“We cannot be so shameless that we con-tinue to occupy constitu-tional positions while facing serious charges,” Shah said.

As the protests esca-lated, BJP members, in-cluding Union Ministers

Ravneet Singh Bittu and Kiren Rijiju came near Shah and there was a brief jostling between Op-position and ruling party MPs.

Three House marshals formed a protective ring around Shah. Even after the House was adjourned, the Opposition members continued with the sloga-neering.

The three Bills are the Government of Union Ter-ritories (Amendment) Bill 2025; the Constitution (One Hundred And Thirti-eth Amendment) Bill 2025; and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill 2025.

The Bills have pro-posed that if the Prime minister, union ministers or Chief ministers, are ar-rested and detained in custody for 30 consecutive days for offences that at-tract a jail term of at least five years, they will lose their job on the 31st day.

Family of the youth who attempted to...

►► From PG 1

as his elder brother is ill and two younger brothers have an intellectual dis-ability. Bhadohi Superin-tendent of Police Abhimanyu Manglik said that police and the Local Intelligence Unit (LIU) are investigating the matter. “Neither Ram nor his fam-ily have any prior criminal record and further investi-gation is being handled by Delhi Police,” said the offi-cer. Ram Kumar Bind at-tempted to scale a wall of Parliament on Friday morning but was caught

by security personnel and handed over to police, offi-cials said in Delhi. Offi-cials have also noted that Ram Kumar Bind appears to be “mentally incoher-ent.” Multiple agencies, in-cluding the Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Delhi Police’s Special Cell, are currently questioning him to determine his motive. However, his action is being seeing as a major se-curity breach after he at-tempted to scale a wall of Parliament on Friday morning but was caught by security personnel and handed over to police id.

Former Sri Lankan President Ranil...

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UK capital, he and his wife attended a University of Wolverhampton ceremony. Wickremesinghe had main-tained that his wife’s travel expenses were met by her and that no state funds were used. However, the CID has alleged that Wickremesinghe used government money for

his travel on a private visit and that his bodyguards were also paid by the state. Wickremesinghe became President of the island na-tion in July 2022 for the re-mainder of Gotabaya Rajapaksa’s term, after Ra-japaksa stepped down fol-lowing months of protests over alleged corruption and mismanagement.

India has certain red lines: EAM...

►► From PG 1

also responded to repeated allegations by Trump ad-ministration officials that India is “profiteering” by buying discounted Russian crude oil and then selling refined petroleum products at premium prices in Eu-rope and other places. “It’s funny to have people who work for a pro-business American administration ac-cusing other people of doing

business,” Jaishankar said. “That’s really curious. If you have a problem buying oil or refined products from India, don’t buy it. Nobody forces you to buy it. But Europe buys, LatinAmerica buys, so you don’t like it, don’t buy it,” he added. The EAM also rejected observations that India’s relations with China are improving in view of strain in New Delhi-Wash-ington ties.

14,000 new polling booths likely in...

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not final,” a senior official said, adding, “Special In-tensive Revision (SIR) is yet to be implemented in West Bengal. After that, depend-ing on whether the number of voters increases or de-creases, we will decide on increasing or decreasing the booths.” According to the Election Commission of India’s (ECI’s) draft list, West Bengal has 80,681 booths, which will now in-

crease to 94,497. This marks an addition of 13,853 booths. While 1,253 booths will be reorganised, 703 will be shifted, and 37 will be abolished. On August 29, the ECI will hear the opin-ions of all political parties and subsequently finalise booth arrangements. “It will be difficult for Opposition parties if the number of booths is increased because they will have to increase the number of polling agents also.

Kolkata hosts summit on AI

MI News Service, Kolkata: Against the backdrop of AI revolutionizing the workplace and hybrid models reshaping organi-zational dynamics, BIBS, in collaboration with the NHRDN Kolkata Chapter, successfully hosted the HR Leadership Summit 2025 in Kolkata.

The summit brought together some of the country’s most prominent HR leaders, practitioners, and thought experts to chart the roadmap for HR leadership in a rapidly transforming business landscape.

The event was graced by Snehasis Chakraborty, Cabinet Minister for Transport, Government of West Bengal, whose pres-ence added further signif-icance to the occasion.

The event began with an insightful keynote ad-dress by Prabir Jha, Founder & CEO of Prabir Jha People Advisory, who spoke on “HR Space Be-yond Tomorrow.” He highlighted how AI, au-tomation, and digital-first workplaces are demand-ing a complete reimagination of HR’s role—from transactional support to becoming a strategic driver of innovation, agility, and a people-first culture.

The first panel, “Mas-tering People Leadership in a Hybrid World,” ex-aminated how hybrid work models are redefining



leadership approaches. Panellists were George Thomas (CHRO – MISP Steel), Kassiopea Chaud-huri (Associate Director HR – IBM), Rashmita Parija (Head HR – Lex-mark), Subrata Chatter-jee (CHRO – AECOMTITL Design & Engineering Centre), and Sudarsana Sanyal (Head HR & Admin – CESC).

The second panel, “Future Ready or Left Be-hind: The Urgency of Up-skilling in the Age of AI,” focused on how busi-nesses must urgently reskill and upskill talent to remain competitive in an AI-powered era. Speakers were Megha Chhabra (GM & Global HR Head – Cyber Security & Risk Services, Wipro), Prapti Lodh Roy (Manag-ing Director Human Cap-ital – PwC India), and Suman Banerjee (CHRO – ABP Pvt. Ltd.).

Sharing his thoughts, Vidur Kapoor, Chairman – BIBS, said:

“At BIBS, our constant endeavour is to ensure that management edu-cation is not confined to classrooms but connected to real-world challenges.” Throughout the sum-mit, one message stood out: the future of HR lies at the intersection of technology and human-centric leadership. As AI continues to transform roles and hybrid models challenge traditional structures, HR leaders must step up as architec-ts of change, building work-forces that are both digi-tally empowered and emotionally resilient.



TMC protest programme to address the atrocities being done to the Bengali migrant workers at different parts of India is on at full swing at the iconic Gandhi Statue arena in Kolkata on Saturday.

Calcutta Chamber Hosts Session on Labour Codes

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce organised an interactive session on India’s new labour law re-forms with CA Vivek Agar-wal, labour law expert and guest faculty at ESIC, Kolkata.

Welcoming the gather-ing, Hari Shankar Hal-wasiya, President of the Chamber, described the consolidation of 29 central legislations into four labour codes as one of the most significant reforms since independence. He noted that the codes aim to simplify compliance



through one registration, one licence, and one re-turn, while extending min-imum wage and social security benefits across organised, unorganised, and self-employed sectors. He further highlighted

that SMEs and startups may encounter new com-pliance and resource chal-lenges during the transition. Anant Saharia, Senior Vice President of the Chamber, and P. D. Rungta, Senior Committee Member, also graced the occasion and extended their support to the initia-tive. Their presence rein-forced the Chamber’s collective commitment to guiding industry members through the opportunities and challenges of the evolving regulatory frame-work.

Bengal schools now opting for ISO certification

MI News Service, Kolkata: A recent trend has cropped up in West Ben-gal, ISO certification of schools in West Bengal. Not only in Kolkata, are schools outside the capital city also looking forward to go for ISO certification.

There’s no mandatory ISO certification require-ment for schools in West Bengal, but many are in-creasingly adopting such standards to improve qual-ity, efficiency, and reputa-tion, especially in Kolkata. **BENEFITS OF ISO CERTIFICATION FOR SCHOOLS** **IMPROVED QUALITY MANAGEMENT:** Standard-

ized processes ensure consistent quality in educa-tional delivery.

ENHANCED REPUTA-TION: ISO certification demonstrates a commit-ment to excellence and in-ternational standards.

INCREASED STAKE-HOLDER CONFIDENCE: Parents, students, and staff gain confidence in the school’s operations.

BETTER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Efficient processes lead to more ef-fective use of resources.

CONTINUOUS IM-PROVEMENT: The ISO framework promotes ongo-ing improvement in educa-

tional services.

Progressive Innovator Pvt. Ltd. (PIPL), a leading standardization consul-tancy, helps schools and or-ganizations achieve national and international certifications like ISO 21001 (Educational Organizations Management System) and ISO 9001 (Quality Manage-ment System).

According to ISO certi-fication standardization expert Subir Ray Chaudhury (from PIPL), “The absence of ISO certification often re-sults in operational gaps and safety lapses. A tragic 2024 incident in a Kolkata school, where a 5-year-old

was allegedly assaulted by a teacher, highlighted the urgent need for stronger safety standards.

“Had schools been ISO certified such incidents could be avoided.” He added. He further empha-sized that quality and safety standards remain PIPL’s core focus, with education institutions being their pri-ority this year. The com-pany has already worked with 10 Kolkata schools. To him, it is encouraging that the state government is also taking interest in this thought process and it is going to benefit the state in the long run.

WBCHSE mulls online permission for spl needs candidates

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education (WBCHSE) will, for the first time, issue online permission let-ters for Children With Special Needs (CWSN) appearing in the Semester III Higher Secondary Examinations 2026. According to a notification, these permission letters will allow CWSN candidates to avail themselves of exam-related concessions, such as extra time and, where required, the assistance of an amanuensis, writer, or interpreter. Heads of Institutions (HOIs) have been asked to apply

through the council’s designated on-line portal after candidates collect their Once the necessary details are uploaded, the HOI must change the application status from “WIP” to “COMPLETE”, after which it will be forwarded to the respective regional office for approval. The council said the permission letter, once verified and sanctioned by the deputy sec-etary of the regional office, will be au-tomatically generated on the portal and made available to the HOI, venue supervisor and centre secretary. The Semester III examinations are sched-

uled from September 8 to 22. In an-other first, admit cards will also be is-sued online and will require countersignature from the heads of institutions before being distributed to students. In a separate notifica-tion, WBCHSE announced that exam materials such as the attendance-cum-signature roll, pre-printed and blank top sheets, confidential room posters, “no electronic gadgets” posters, and blank OMR handling en-velopes will be distributed on August 28 at 11 am from designated centres across the state.

MBBS & dental admissions process resume

MI News Service, Kolkata: The admission process for MBBS and dental courses resumed within hours of the Supreme Court issuing a stay on Calcutta High Court’s conditions for the publication of the state JEE results.

The counselling and admission process for MBBS and BDS (dental) courses, which began on July 31, was put on hold on August 19. State health department sources had then said that the lack of clarity over how to go ahead with the OBC rules forced them to put the process on hold. The Supreme Court’s order allowed the department to resume the process. “We have already resumed the admission process. The notice giving out the dates will be uploaded on

the website,” said Indrajit Saha, the director of medical edu-cation and the chairperson of the state’s medical coun-selling committee. A revised provisional list of candidates — along with their all-India ranks and state ranks — was pub-lished on the website of the West Bengal Medical Counselling Committee. Another notice — accessible only to candidates who had registered on the medical counselling committee’s website — mentioned that the results will be published after 11am on Saturday. The results will allot colleges to can-didates based on their ranks. The successful candidates will need to reach the medical colleges allotted to them to com-plete their admission process.

82-yr-old woman murdered at New Garia

MI News Service, Kolkata: An 82-year-old woman was found murdered under the staircase of her two-storey home in New Garia Cooperative Housing. The woman’s 87-year-old husband was found on the floor beside his bed with his mouth tied. He survived the assault and is undergoing treatment, police said. Bijaya Das and Prasanta Das lived alone in their F-32 home. Their son lives in Mumbai and their daughter is settled in Germany. The police are looking for an ayah the couple had employed less than a week ago. CCTV footage shows her entering the house on

Thursday morning. After that, the cam-eras were switched off. Bijaya’s phone, which had access to the CCTV system, is missing. Preliminary investigations point to a motive of theft. The police suspect gold bangles, earrings, and rings the cou-ple wore are missing.

Their domestic help, Madhumita Hal-dar, who visits every morning, first discov-ered the couple. She found the rear door latched from outside and entered a dark house to find Bijaya lying lifeless at the base of the staircase and Prasanta inca-pacitated in his bedroom.

Curiosity and...

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decade after the research was first awarded ‘Best Paper’ at the IEEE Sympo-sium on Foundations of Computer Science (FOCS) in 2016, and later published in the prestigious ‘Annals of Mathematics’ journal in 2019. He credited his PhD advisor, David Zucker-man, with playing a pivotal role in shaping his research mindset. “David set high standards, but he gave me the space to explore freely and fail. His optimism and mentorship kept me going during years of setbacks,” he said. Originally from Kolkataand born in this city , Chattopadhyay grew up in Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) before enrolling in the Computer Science pro-gramme at IIT Kanpur. It was there that he discov-ered a passion for theoret-ical computing and mathematics.

“I didn’t know much about Computer Science when I joined IIT Kanpur. But I took as many courses as I could and started reaching out to professors to explore research oppor-tunities,” he said.

His academic journey eventually took him to the United States, where he has since emerged as a leading voice in Theoretical Com-puter Science.

Chattopadhyay also acknowledged the support of his family, especially his parents, who were cur-rently based in the Salt Lake area here and are basking in his success and remain his partners for his achievements.. “My par-ents, Buddhadeb and Atrayee, encouraged me to follow my interests. And my partner, Soubhagya, has been a constant source of wisdom and strength through every high and low,” he said, further recol-lecting spending his sum-mer holidays at his grandparents’ residence in Teghoria and Baidyabati.

Heavy rain...

►► From PG 1

Chamoli.. Chamoli Ad-ditional District Magistrate Vivek Prakash said there was heavy damage to sev-eral structures in Tharali and the surrounding areas. Teams of the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and police were dispatched to the spot on Friday night, but they have been held up due to the closure of a key road with piles of debris, he said adding that the ad-ministration is setting up a number of relief camps to provide succour to the af-fected people.

Indian Oil Durand Cup (Final)

North East United FC: 6

Diamond Harbour FC: 1

UG entry finally begins

MI News Service, Kolkata: Admission to undergrad-uate courses in government and aided colleges began at last, over a month-and-a-half behind schedule.

The process resumed after the Supreme Court stayed a Calcutta High Court order on OBC reservations, clear-ing the legal block on ad-missions. The first merit list was published within hours of the stay order. A revised admission schedule shared with college principals on Friday evening stated that physical verification of can-didates’ documents will be held on August 23 and from August 25 to 27. Classes are set to begin on August 29. Education minister Bratya Basu posted on X on Friday: “The first merit list for ad-mission through the central admission portal was pub-lished today. Since the pub-lication was held up because of the legal com-plications, we were extremely concerned, as were the stu-dents and the parents.”

Name Change
I, Syed Mobinuddin Ahmed, S/O Late Sayed Ahmed, residing at Dakshin Kumarkhali Purbapara, Rajpur Sonarpur (M), P.S. Narendrapur, Dist. South 24 Parganas, Pin-700103, West Bengal, Did Hereby Declare Before Notary Kolkata On 22/08/2025 That In My Passport No. R2228635 My Father's Name Was Wrongly Printed As Syed Ahmed Instead Of The Correct Name Sayed Ahmed. In All My Testimonials Including Aadhaar Card, Voter Card And Educational Certificates, My Father's Name Is Rightly Recorded As Sayed Ahmed. Both Names Syed Ahmed And Sayed Ahmed Refer To One And The Same Person.

Name Change
I, Mubiana Bibi W/o. Md. Saifuddin Mallick, D/o. Sk. Abbas Ali, R/o. Morah, Haripal, Hooghly, declared that in my Aadhaar & Pan Card my father's name inadvertently recorded as Abbas Ali instead of his actual & original name is Sk. Abbas Ali. My father Sk. Abbas Ali & Abbas Ali both are the same & one identical person vide an Affidavit No. 3514, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Chinsurah, Hooghly Court dated 18/08/2025.

Name Change
I, Kutubuddin Mallick S/o. Late Abdul Samad Mallick, R/o. Morah, Haripal, Hooghly, declared that in my father's death certificate my father's name inadvertently recorded as Abdul Samad Mallick S/o. Khalil Mallik instead of his actual & original name is/was Late Abdul Samad Mallick S/o. Late Khalil Mallik. Late Abdul Samad Mallick S/o. Khalil Mallik & Abdul Samad Mallick S/o. Khalil Mallik both are the same & one identical person vide an Affidavit No. 3513, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Chinsurah, Hooghly Court dated 18/08/2025.

Name Change
I, Mehroon Nessa W/o. Sheikh Cebad Ali (old name) R/o. Chak Sultan, Dhaniakhali, Hooghly-712302, WB., have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Meherunessa Bibi W/o. Sk. Sabed Ali (new name) vide an affidavit no. 7835 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 21/08/2025. Mehroon Nessa W/o. Sheikh Cebad Ali & Meherunessa Bibi W/o. Sk. Sabed Ali both are the same & one identical person. My son Sk Abul Kalam Ajad.

Name Change
I, Babita Singh, wife of Lalan Singh, residing at - Santorica Colony, P.O. - Dishernah, PS. - Kulti, District - Bardhaman (now Paschim Bardhaman), PIN - 713333, hereby declare that -My correct and actual name is Babita Singh. This name is duly recorded in my Bank Passbook (SBI) and other documents, recorded as Babita Singh, Branch, No. - 11223 8978, Voter ID No. (KY2518827), PAN Card (No.: BYPS4051B), and other official documents including my Birth Certificate. However, in the records of Jharkhand Biji Vitran Nigam Ltd., my name has been wrongly recorded as Babita Kumari, and in my Aadhaar Card No. 8586 7259 4057, my name has been wrongly recorded as Babita Devi. In fact, Babita Singh, Bobita Kumari, and Babita Devi refer to one and the same person. I, myself, Accordingly, I have rectified this discrepancy through an affidavit sworn before the Asansol Court on 26.07.2018. Therefore, the general public and concerned authorities are hereby informed that my correct and only name is Babita Singh.

NAME CHANGE
I, Purna Mandal d/o Sri Satish Kumar Mandal and Smt Renu Mandal resident of Gur Nanak Pally, Near Loknath Khadi, Ismail, Dist. Paschim Bardhaman, Pin-713301, P.S. - Hirapur, Dist. Paschim Bardhaman, vide an affidavit 02/25/2025, dated 21.08.2025 in the Court, Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Asansol, declared that my mother's name has been wrongly recorded in my Birth Certificate as & Smt Renu Mandal (old name) Admit Card as Smt Renu (old name). But in my mother's document her name is recorded as Renu Mandal (old name). So, I hereby declared that Smt Renu (old name) and Smt Renu Mandal (new name) is the same and one identical lady, who is my mother.

NAME CHANGE
I, Asraf Ali Baidya, s/o. Md. Azede Ali Baidya (in Aadhar Card, Pan Card & Voter Card) residing at Vill. - Dekhina, Shasan, P.O. - Shikharbali, P.S. - Baruiapur, Dist. - 24 Pgs. (S), Pin-743307, W.B., declared that vide Affidavit No. 6271 dt. 18.08.2025 in the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Baruiapur declare that my & my father's name wrongly recorded in birth certificate as WRIDHIMAN BHOWMIK Ali Baidya, s/o. Md. Ajele Ali Baidya, Henceforth Asraf Ali Baidya, s/o. Md. Azede Ali Baidya and Md. Asraf Ali Baidya s/o. Md. Ajele Ali Baidya both are the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, RIMPA SAHA, D/O Goutam Saha, R/O - C/64/A, Rabindrapally, Baghajatin, Circus Avenue, Kolkata-700086, declare vide affidavit before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 10.07.2025, that my son was born on 20.08.2015 at Ramakrishna Mission Sava Pratishthan, Kolkata - 700026 and his name is recorded in his birth certificate as WRIDHIMAN BHOWMIK, issued by the Kolkata Municipal Corporation, Health Department, being Certificate No. 0036815, that I am a natural guardian of my said son and I am changing my son's surname from BHOWMIK to SAHA and his name shall be WRIDHIMAN SAHA and not WRIDHIMAN BHOWMIK. That my son therefore be known as WRIDHIMAN SAHA for all purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, Afsana Khatun, W/o, Md Tipu Sultan, Of 14/A, J.L.N. Sarani, Konnagar, Hooghly, 712235, W.B., Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Afsana Khatoon To Afsana Khatun And Hereafter Be Known As Afsana Khatun, Vide Affidavit No. 18743 Dated 18/8/2025 Before The Hon'ble 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore Court, Kolkata, W.B..

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Abdul Karim, S/o, Late Md Sultan, Of 14/A, J.L.N. Sarani, Konnagar, Hooghly, 712235, W.B., Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Kayum To Md Abdul Karim And Hereafter Be Known As Md Abdul Karim, Vide Affidavit No. 18742, Dated 18/8/2025 Before The Hon'ble 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore Court, Kolkata, W.B..

Name Change
I, Sova Devi (old name) wife of Mahesh Thakur, residing at 7, Brick Field Lane, Kolkata 700039, PS- Tiljala, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sobha Devi (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Sobha Devi (new name) and Sova Devi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Manirul Islam (old name) son of Sk Nazem Ali, residing at VILL-BHOTAR, PO- BARDHAMAN, PS-BARDHAMAN, Purba Bardhaman, 713101, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Monirul Islam (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Sk Monirul Islam (new name) and Sk Manirul Islam (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ganga Ghosh (old name) wife of Late Monoranjan Roy, residing at Newtown, Jhataula Rajarhat, Gopalpur, P.S.- New town, Dist- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 700157, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ganga Roy (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Ganga Roy (new name) and Ganga Ghosh (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mostura Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Borhan Sekh, Residing At Bagane para, Po &Ps-Katwa,Purba Bardhaman-713130,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mastara Bibi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 23/08/2025.Mostura Bibi And Mastara Bibi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Moslema Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Jilloorahaman SK, Residing At Bagane para, Po &Ps-Katwa, Purba Bardhaman-713130,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Musina Bibi(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 23/08/ 2025.Moslema Bibi And Musina Bibi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sk. Mohamad Moshin Ali (old name) son of Shaikh Mohammad Ali, residing at 28M, Ekbalpore Lane, Kolkata-700023, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shaik Moshin Ali (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Shaik Moshin Ali (new name) and Sk Mohamad Moshin Ali (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Arup kumar Roy (old name) son of Late Prasanta Kumar Roy, residing at R-110, Kamdahari Purba Para, Kolkata, Garia, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700084, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Arup Roy (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Arup Roy (new name) and Arup kumar Roy (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Manjura Bibi (old name) wife of Saifkull Gazi, residing at Vill- Uttar Mamudpur, P.O. - Taki Mamudpur, P.S. - Hingalganj, Dist. - North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743435, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manjura Gazi (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Manjura Gazi (new name) and Manjura Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Taslima Bibi (old name) daughter of Kasem Gazi, residing at Vill-Chakpatti, P.O.- Patdi Khanpur, P.S.- Hasnabad, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743426, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tachlima Biswas (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Tachlima Biswas (new name) and Taslima Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sabnam Bibi (old name) wife of Habib Ali Laskar, residing at Chak Moukhali, Nodakhali, South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700137, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sabnam Parvin Laskar (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Sabnam Parvin Laskar (new name) and Sabnam Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rabihul Haque Mondal (old name) son of Mujit Mandal, residing at Vill-Purba Simulia, P.O. - Simla Durgapur, P.S.- Baduria, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743401, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rabihul Haque Mondal (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Rabihul Haque Mondal (new name) and Rabihul Haque Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mujet Mondal (old name) son of Abdul Latif Mandal, residing at Vill-Purba Simulia, P.O.- Simla Durgapur, P.S.- Baduria, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743401, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mujit Mandal (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Mujit Mandal (new name) and Mujet Mondal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Canara HSBC Life launches 'EZ Pension Plan'

MI News Service, Kolkata: Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited ("Canara HSBC Life Insurance") in partnership with Policy bazaar announced the launch of its newest offering, the EZ Pension Plan. This individual linked pension plan is designed to enable policyholders to achieve financial independence in their retirement years.

Name Change
I, SHAK ABED ALI (OLD NAME that mentioned in Aadhar Card), ABED ALI(OLD NAME that mentioned in PAN Card),ABED ALI SHEKH(OLD NAME that mentioned in Voter Card), S/O SK NESHAH ALI , RESIDING AT BANAMALIPUR, P.O-BARASAT,DIST-NORTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL-700125, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SK ABED ALI (NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal vide affidavit no 5889 Dated 11/08/2025. SHAK ABED ALI (OLD NAME), ABED ALI (OLD NAME), ABED ALI SHEKH(OLD NAME) and SK ABED ALI (NEW NAME) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I , SAJNA BIBI (OLD NAME) that exists in Aadhar Card), W/O- MD ALFAZ UDDIN D/O LATE ALOK MITRA , RESIDING AT PIONEER PARK COLONY, P.O-BARASAT,P.S-BARASAT,DIST-NORTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL-700124, that converted my religion from Islam to Hinduism on 23/06/2025 and have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as ANKITA MITRA (NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal vide affidavit no 3969 Dated 23/06/2025. SAJNA BIBI (OLD NAME), and ANKITA MITRA (NEW NAME) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I , KRISHNA DAS (OLD NAME), D/O- SHACHINDRA NATH DAS, W/O SAHIN MONDAL , RESIDING AT VILI.+P.O- SANGRAMPUR,P.S-BASIRHAT,DIST-NORTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL-743422, that converted my religion from Hinduism to Islam on 08/09/2025 and have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as TAMANNA SULTANA (NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal vide affidavit no 9808 Dated 11/08/2025. KRISHNA DAS (OLD NAME), and TAMANNA SULTANA (NEW NAME) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, JOYTI GOUR (OLD NAME), D/O-GANGA GOUR, W/O ENJAMUL HAQUE, RESIDING AT VILL-MANDALGANTHI, P.O- BAMAN-GACHHI, P. S.- DUTAPUKUR ,DIST-NORTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL-743248, that converted my religion from Hinduism to Islam on 22/06/2025 and have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as FARHANA KHATUN (NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Court, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal vide affidavit No 9790 Dated 11/08/2025. JOYTI GOUR (OLD NAME), and FARHANA KHATUN (NEW NAME) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Magbool Khan (old name) son of Nur Mohammad Khan, residing at New Muslim Para, Sagarbhang Durgapur, Paschim Bardhaman, 713219, P.S.- Coke Oven, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Makbul Khan (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Makbul Khan (new name) and Mohammad Magbool Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Ayuph Khan (old name) son of Makbul Khan, residing at New Muslim Para, Sagarbhang Durgapur, Paschim Bardhaman, 713219, P.S.- Coke Oven, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ayuph Khan (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Ayuph Khan (new name) and Mohammad Ayuph Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Anusri Ghosh and Anushree Ghosh (old names) wife of Suva-moy Ghosh, residing at 4, Eden Park Lane, Manushpur, Hooghly - 712123, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anushri Ghosh (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Anushri Ghosh (new name) and Anusri Ghosh and Anushree Ghosh (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nematullah Mohammad (old name) son of Late Hafiz Md.Khalil, residing at 35A, DR.SUDHIR BOSE ROAD, WAT-GANJ, KOLKATA-700023, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md.Nematullah Rahmani (new name), as declared before the notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 22/08/2025. Md.Nematullah Rahmani (new name) and Nematullah Mohammad (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Running of Festival Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata: To clear extra rush of the passengers during festive season, it has been decided to run Special trains as per following schedule:
08865/08866 NSCB Itwari-Shalimar Special: 08109 Shalimar-Patna Special: 08109 Shalimar-Patna Special will leave Shalimar on every Saturday from 27.09.2025 to 01.10.2025 at 17:10 hrs and will reach Shalimar at 14:00 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08866 Shalimar-NSCB Itwari Special will leave Shalimar from 28.09.2025 to 02.10.2025 at 18:00 hrs and will arrive NSCB Itwari at 15:35 hrs, the next day.

The Special train will have stoppages at Jharsuguda, Rourkela, Chakradharpur, Tatanagar, Kharagpur and Santragahi in SER jurisdiction.
03465/03466 Malda Town-Digha-Malda Town Special: 03465 Malda Town-Digha Special will leave Malda Town on every Saturday from 27.09.2025 to 29.11.2025 at 17:10 hrs and will reach Digha at 23:00 hrs, the same day. In the return direction, 03466 Digha-Malda Town Special will leave Digha on every Saturday from 27.09.2025 to 29.11.2025 at 23:40 hrs and will arrive Malda Town at 09:20 hrs, the

next day.
The Special train will have stoppages at Andul, Mecheda, Tamluk and Kanthi in SER jurisdiction.
08109/08110 Shalimar-Patna-Shalimar Special: 08109 Shalimar-Patna Special will leave Shalimar on every Saturday from 18.10.2025 to 01.11.2025 at 21:55 hrs and will reach Patna at 08:00 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08110 Patna-Shalimar Special will leave Patna on every Sunday from 19.10.2025 to 02.11.2025 at 10:40 hrs and will arrive Shalimar at 01:30 hrs, the next day. The Special train will stop at Santragachi in SER jurisdiction.
08845/08846 Santragachi-Charlapalli-Santragachi Special: 08845 Santragachi-Charlapalli Special will leave Santragachi on every Friday from 19.09.2025 to 03.10.2025 at 14:55 hrs and will reach Charlapalli at 16:00 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08846 Charlapalli-Santragachi Special will leave Charlapalli on every Saturday from 20.09.2025 to 04.10.2025 at 19:50 hrs and will arrive Santragachi at 23:55 hrs, the next day. The Special train will have stoppages at Kharagpur and Baleswar in SER jurisdiction.

Siliguri readies SOP to collate tenants' details

MI News Service, Siliguri: The Siliguri Metropolitan Police will launch a mechanism on Saturday to keep detailed records of people staying in rented accommodations in the city.

Mayor Gautam Deb said on Thursday that the mechanism or an SOP (standard operating procedure) had been readied in association with the Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) to ensure that the police and the civic body had complete information about tenants. "For the past three months, the police, along with us, have been working on the mechanism. It will be formally launched on August 9. The principal aim of developing the SOP is to ensure that we have detailed information about tenants," Deb told media persons. The mayor said the initiative would be implemented through the borough offices of the SMC. "All councillors will be requested to take a proactive role to ensure that information about each tenant in their respective wards is shared with the police and the civic body," he added. The decision to implement the mechanism was made at a meeting of the mayor-in-

council on July 7 and was passed at the monthly board meeting of the civic body on July 30, Deb said.

The announcement from the mayor comes shortly after two women residing in ward 17, where he also stays, were accused of making racist and derogatory remarks against girls who stay in a rented accommodation. The incident led to protests, and the police had to register a case and arrest the duo. They are out on bail now. "The house owners who let out their properties should also be alert. They should have complete details about their tenants, like their permanent address, engagements and the purpose of the stay. This is necessary as there has been no census after 2011 and hundreds of people come and stay in Siliguri on different errands," the mayor said. Asked about the Hakimpura incident, he said: "It was a stray incident. We welcome all those who come and stay here, and try to ensure their safety. But attempts were made from some quarters to play divisive politics by referring to the incident. This is unacceptable."

Exide envisages investing over Rs 1000 Cr

MI News Service, Kolkata: Automotive and industrial battery major Exide Industries plans to invest over ₹1000 crore across its lithium-ion and lead acid battery businesses in FY26. The company is looking at commercial operation of its lithium-ion cell manufacturing plant at Karnataka within the ongoing financial year.

Responding to shareholders' query on capital expenditure towards lithium technology, Avik Roy MD and CEO of Exide Industries said that the company has already invested over ₹3700 crore towards the first phase of the lithium-ion project.

"We will probably invest another ₹600-700 crore in this fiscal," Roy said adding that with this investment, the requirement of phase 1 of 6 GWh (gigawatt hour) capacity will be met. In FY25, the company has made capital investment of around ₹1000 crore, and so far in FY26 additional equity infusion of ₹400 crore has been made increasing Exide's total equity investment in its subsidiary - Exide Energy Solutions Lim-

ited – to ₹3702 crore.

"The development of core infrastructure – including pilot manufacturing lines, R&D labs and testing facilities – is at an advanced stage, with commercial production slated to commence within the current financial year," Roy told shareholders. The company is also optimistic about its prospects in the lead acid battery segment in FY26. "We are investing about ₹500 crore in our lead acid battery business as well as recycling business," Roy said. "Our investments in lithium-ion technology, alongside the continued strength of our lead acid battery business, position us well to meet the evolving energy demands. With India's rapid growth and the global shift toward sustainability, we see exciting opportunities ahead," said Sridhar Gorthi, chairman and independent director, Exide Industries. The company is also optimistic about the growth prospects of its storage solutions for rooftop solar applications and is also seeing growth opportunities in the energy storage requirement for data centres.

Metro to run 284 Services in Blue Line from 25.08.2025 (Monday)

MI News Service, Kolkata: Metro will run 284 (142 UP + 142 DN) services in the Blue Line from 25.08.2025 (Monday) instead of 262 services. To meet the demand of commuters, Metro Railway authorities are going to increase Metro services.
MONDAY TO FRIDAY: First Service: At 06:50 hrs. from Noapara to Sahid Khudiram (No Change)
At 06:54 hrs. from Sahid Khudiram to Dakshineswar (No Change)
At 06:55 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Sahid Khudiram (No Change)
At 06:55 hrs. from Mahanayak Uttam Kumar to Dakshineswar (No Change)
Last Service: At 21:28 hrs. from Dakshineswar to Sahid Khudiram (No Change)
At 21:34 hrs. from Sahid Khudiram to Dakshineswar (instead of 21.33 hrs.)
At 21:44 hrs. from Sahid Khudiram to Dum Dum (instead of 21.43 hrs.)
No change in services on Saturdays and Sundays.

Eastern Railway to run EMU Special trains between Katwa & Azimganj and Katwa & Ahmedpur

MI News Service, Kolkata: To facilitate the passengers, Eastern Railway's Howrah division has decided to run one pair of EMU special train between Katwa & Azimganj and another pair of EMU special train between Katwa & Ahmedpur w.e.f. 25.8.2025 on daily basis.
35061 Katwa – Azimganj EMU special will leave Katwa at 09:55 hrs. to reach Azimganj at 11:25 hrs. and 35062 Azimganj – Katwa EMU special will leave Azimganj at 12:10 hrs. to reach Katwa at 13:40 hrs.
35041 Katwa – Ahmedpur EMU special will leave Katwa at 15:50 hrs. to reach Ahmedpur at 17:15 hrs. and 35042 Ahmedpur – Katwa EMU special will leave Ahmedpur at 17:30 hrs. to reach Katwa at 18:55 hrs. Both the EMU special trains will stop at all stations enroute.

Industry groups warn against expansive telecom cyber rules

MI News Service, New Delhi: In response to the Draft Telecommunication (Telecom Cyber Security) Amendment Rules, 2025, industry bodies including Broadband India Forum (BIF), Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), NASSCOM and CUTS International have raised a series of concerns in their submissions to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). The rules, introduced with the stated aim of tackling telecom-related fraud and strengthening cyber security, have triggered a wave of criticism for what stakeholders say is regulatory overreach, increased compliance burdens, and potential infringement on user privacy.

The submissions challenge the legal basis of the draft, stating that the Telecom Act and its associated rules are applicable to entities offering telecommunication services or holding authorisation under Section 3 of the Act. The stakeholders refer to public statements by the former Union minister of communications who had clarified that Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms and digital service providers fall under the IT Act, 2000, not the Telecom Act. IAMAI, in its submission, stated, "The Draft Amendments introduce a new class of regulated entities, 'telecommunication identifier user entity' ('TUIE') and defines them as any person or entity, other than a licensee or authorised entity, that uses telecom identifiers for user identification or service delivery. This definition is unqualified and will cover nearly all digital platforms or services that use

Miscellaneous

Howrah Division Enhances Waste Segregation Facilities Under Swachhata Abhiyan



MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the ongoing "Swachhata Abhiyan", Howrah Division of Eastern Railway has taken another step towards strengthening cleanliness and environmental sustainability across its network. On 23rd August, 2025, the Division ensured the provision of "separate dustbins for dry and wet waste" at important stations including Bandel, Azimganj, Howrah, Boinchhi, Mogra, Srirampur, and Rampurhat. The initiative focuses on promoting "waste segregation at source" to maintain hygiene standards in station premises, encourage eco-

friendly practices, and facilitate efficient disposal and recycling of waste. Passengers are being encouraged to consciously use the designated bins to ensure effective cleanliness in and around station areas. By introducing these improved facilities, Howrah Division continues to reaffirm its commitment to providing a clean, healthy, and passenger-friendly environment while upholding the objectives of the "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan". The Division also appeals to the traveling public to extend their cooperation in keeping the railway premises clean and green for the benefit of all.

Cancer menace in Bengal needs more awareness: BOGS

MI News Service, Kolkata: Breast Cancer is the commonest cancer in Indian women accounting for 28.2% of all cancers. It's a major killer disease of Indian women causing an estimated 98,337 deaths in 2022. However, there is no vaccination available to prevent this cancer and therefore available screening methods are the only effective way to prevent the deadly disease. This data has been provided by Bengal Obstetric & Gynecological Society (BOGS). The Bengal Obstetric & Gynecological Society (BOGS), a distinguished organization with a legacy of 89 years. With over 1,200 gynecologists in its membership, BOGS remains at the forefront of promoting the health and well-being of women and girls, particularly those from under-

privileged communities.
KEY INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMS
• Health Awareness Programs
• Free Consultation and Screening Tests:
-Blood tests for anemia and Thalassemia
-Mammography for early breast cancer detection
-Bone Mineral Densitometry (BMD) to assess postmenopausal osteoporosis
-Cervical screening through Pap smears and VIA tests to detect cervical cancer at its early stages
These programs will be offered throughout the year, with a focus on benefiting women and girls from marginalized and underprivileged sections of society.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Raja Modak, son of late Jagadishwar Modak, residing at 9, Bazar lane, Uttarpara, Hooghly-712258, intend to purchase the property at 120, Rajendra, Avenue, Uttarpara, Hooghly 712258 from Smt. Shyamali Mukherjee, daughter of Late Niraj Kumar Mitra and heir of late Shiba Rani Mitra, originals of Deeds, Tax & Khajana Papers are not available and a missing diary lodged vide no. 638 dt. 11.08.2025 at Uttarpara, Police Station. Any person (s) having claim, right or objection regarding the said property should notify the undersigned at the above address or contact Mobile No. 8777701050 within 15 days of publication, failing which the transaction will be considered free from encumbrances.
ARNAB CHATTERJEE
Advocate
17/897/2019

তাম্রনাথ কুমার বিশ্বাসী পিতা - পরমানন্দ বিশ্বাসী, সান, পো ও থানা - মেম্বী, জেলা - পূর্ব বর্ধমান, পিন নং - ৭১৩৩৪১। ১) বিপাক ইয়ারাজীর ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৪) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৫) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৬) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৭) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৮) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৯) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১০) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১১) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১২) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৩) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৪) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৫) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৬) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৭) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৮) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ১৯) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২০) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২১) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২২) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৩) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৪) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৫) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৬) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৭) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৮) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ২৯) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩০) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩১) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩২) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩৩) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩৪) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩৫) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩৬) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩৭) ১৩/০৮/১০১৬ তারিখে এ.ডি.এস.আর. পাওয়া গিয়েছিল। ৩

Satish Golcha ap-
pointed Delhi's new
Police Commissioner

MI News Service, New Delhi: Satish Golcha, who was previously Arunachal Pradesh director-general of police, has been appointed police commissioner of the national capital. The appointment comes a day after Delhi chief minister Rekha Gupta was allegedly assaulted by a man from Gujarat during a Jan Sunwai at her residence. Golcha replaces S.B.K. Singh, DG, home guards, who was holding the additional charge of commissioner after Sanjay Arora retired last month. Golcha helmed the law and order wing of the police during the communal riots in 2020. Gupta wrote on X: "When I was in college, Papa gave me a car to drive. One day, a big accident happened. I got scared and became afraid to even touch the car again. Then Papa said accidents happen in life, but you can't stop out of fear. You can't stop walking on the path...."

Assam gets
its first IIM

MI News Service, New Delhi/Guwahati: Parliament passed a bill to amend the IIM Act to set up Assam's first Indian Institute of Management. Rajya Sabha members from Telangana demanded a similar institution in Hyderabad, a commitment made under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act in 2014.

Education minister Dharmendra Pradhan introduced the IIM (Amendment) Bill, 2025, in the Rajya Sabha and said the IIM to be set up in Guwahati would start functioning from the current academic session. It will be the 22nd IIM in the country. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, which bifurcated undivided Andhra Pradesh to create Telangana, provides for the setting up of several new institutions in Telangana, including an IIM. However, the Centre is yet to fulfil the commitment. BJP member K. Laxman and Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) member Ravichandra Vaddiraju said the government should take the step to fulfil the long-standing demand of Telangana. "There is a demand for an IIM in Hyderabad. Let them consider it," Laxman said. BRS Rajya Sabha member K.R. Suresh Reddy told that the decision to deny the state an IIM for the past 11 years amounted to a violation of the 2014 law. "We are not opposed to the IIM in Assam. But an IIM in Hyderabad is a commitment by the Union government under law. It should be implemented," Reddy said.

SC takes suo motu note
of plight of cadets
during military training

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court has taken suo motu cognisance of difficulties faced by cadets, who were medically discharged from military institutes on account of disabilities suffered during training programmes. A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan will be hearing the case on Monday which was registered on August 12 after a media report flagged the issue of these cadets, who were once part of training at the nation's top military institutes such as the National Defence Academy (NDA) and Indian Military Academy (IMA). According to the media report, there are around 500 officer cadets who have been medically discharged from these military institutes since 1985, due to varying degrees of disability incurred during training, and are now staring at mounting medical bills with an ex-gratia monthly payment that's far short of what they need. It said that the NDA alone, there are around 20 such cadets, who were medically discharged in just five years, between 2021 and July 2025. The media report further highlighted the plight of these cadets because as per rules.



Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, Group Captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair and Group Captain Ajith Krishnan with others during the unveiling of first look of the 'Bharatiya Antriksh Station (BAS)' on the occasion of the 'National Space Day', at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi.

Bengal govt mulls new rules on
women's safety at workplaces

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a bid to enhance the security of working women, especially those on night shifts, the West Bengal government has drafted a set of new rules, including the setting up of a mandatory complaint committee in an organisation and installation of CCTV cameras at workplaces, an official said. According to the proposed rules, night shifts would not be mandatory for female employees of an entity, and an organisation has to ensure the safety of women even during their travel to and from its offices at night. The draft rules were introduced ahead of the completion of one year of the rape and murder of an on-duty doctor at the state-run RG Kar hospital. "Altogether 22 issues have been identified in the draft rules. It has been stated that the night shift will be from 8 pm to 6 am, and at least 10 women, or one-third of the total shift workforce, whichever is higher, must be present together," the official told.

It also proposed to make provisions for resting areas and canteens for female employees so that they don't need to leave the office premises, he said. "CCTV cameras are to be installed at the entry and exit points of the office as well as in the corridors," he added. The proposed rules also mandated the formation of an internal complaints committee at the workplace, which will enforce a "zero-tolerance policy in cases of sexual harassment", the official said. The committee members will have to meet every three months to address such complaints. "As per the draft, if they fail to do so, the company will be fined under labour laws, and in certain cases, their operational clearances may be revoked," he said. The draft rules also stated that an organisation should ensure the "safety of women even during their commute to and from the office at night", he said. "In this regard, the vehicles used by female employees

for commuting must be brought under GPS tracking, and the presence of a trained female security personnel in those vehicles is mandated," the official said. All those vehicles must be equipped with emergency alert systems, he said, adding that an ambulance should also be made available. For workplace safety, emergency contact numbers must be prominently displayed in visible areas in offices. "The authorities should also communicate their safety policy in the local language," he said. The state has also sought suggestions from various sectors, such as information technology, health, transport, and also from the police for the safety of women working on night shifts, he said. Since the rape and murder of a woman doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in August last year, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has been emphasising ensuring the safety and security of women at workplaces.

Stray dogs menace:
SC modifies judgment



Stray dogs roam at Lodhi Garden, in New Delhi.

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court modified its August 11 direction prohibiting the release of stray dogs from shelters in Delhi-NCR, ruling that canines picked up by municipal bodies must be sterilised, vaccinated, and released back into the same areas. A three-judge special bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath clarified that this exemption would not apply to dogs infected or suspected to be infected with rabies, or those displaying aggressive behaviour. The bench, also comprising Justices Sandeep Mehta and N V Anjaria, said the earlier order prohibiting the release of stray dogs from shelters "shall be kept in abeyance for the time being." The court directed municipal authorities to set up dedicated feeding zones, stressing that "feeding of stray dogs shall not be permitted on the streets." It also ordered that notice boards be put up near these areas, warning that persons found feeding dogs on streets would face legal action. According to the order, municipal authorities have been directed to file a compliance report, giving full details of available resources such as dog pounds, veterinarians, dog-catching staff, and specially designed vehicles or cages, as required under the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023. People who wish to

adopt street dogs can apply to the municipal body. Once approved, the selected dogs will be tagged and handed over to the applicants, who must ensure the animals are not left back on the streets. The top court has also directed that each individual petitioner deposit Rs 25,000 and each NGO petitioner deposit Rs 2 lakh with the Court Registry within seven days. Those failing to do so will not be allowed to take part in the proceedings. The money will go towards building facilities and infrastructure for stray dogs under the local municipal bodies. Anyone found obstructing the implementation of these directions will face prosecution for interfering with officials carrying out their duties, the court order stated. Further, municipalities have been asked to set up dedicated feeding zones for stray dogs in every ward, based on the number and concentration of dogs in each area. Expanding the scope beyond Delhi-NCR, the court impleaded all states and Union Territories in the matter and transferred to itself similar petitions pending before different high courts. The case will be heard again after eight weeks. Kolkata-based advocate Akash Sharma welcomed the SC order as a landmark balancing between public health and animal welfare.

IOC & AI ink landmark pact

MI News Service, New Delhi: Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has signed a landmark agreement to supply sustainable aviation fuel to Air India, representing a significant step towards a greener and cleaner aviation in India. IOC plans to begin production of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) from used cooking oil starting December this year at its Panipat refinery, according to Chairman Arvinder Singh Sahney. The facility is expected to produce 35,000 tonne of green fuel annually, using waste cooking oil sourced from hotel and restaurant chains such as ITC and Haldiram's. SAF is an alternative fuel made from non-petroleum feedstocks that reduces emissions from air transportation. It can be blended up to 50 per cent in conventional aviation turbine fuel (ATF or jet fuel), depending on availability. India has mandated 1 per cent SAF blending in jet fuel sold to international airlines from 2027. IOC signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) which "outlines the shared commitment of both parties to promote the adoption of low-carbon fuels in aviation, support global decarbonisation goals, and contribute to the transition toward more sustainable air transport operations," it said in a statement.

The MoU was signed by Shailesh Dhar, Executive Director (Aviation), IOC, and P Balaji, Group Head - Governance, Regulatory, Compliance (GRC) and Corporate Affairs, Air India, in the presence of Sahney and Air India CEO Campbell Wilson. "This collaboration reaffirms IOC's role as a trailblazer in India's energy transition, bringing India closer to a greener, cleaner aviation future," the statement said. IOC has become the first Indian company to receive ISCC CORSIA certification for SAF production at its Panipat refinery. The certification is granted under ICAO's Car-



bon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), which establishes IOC's capability to produce SAF that meets the most stringent international sustainability and lifecycle carbon emission standards.

Sahney said, "The signing of this MoU with Air India represents a strategic step in India's transition to sustainable aviation. With our ISCC-CORSIA-certified SAF from Panipat, IOC is ready to provide a sustainable fuel solution that will help decarbonise air travel. Partnering with India's flagship carrier, we are aligning national growth with global climate goals and setting a benchmark for the industry." Wilson said through this MoU, Air India is committed to supporting Government of India's initiatives to promote sustainable development in the aviation sector and to further its own sustainability goals to achieve the IATA net zero by 2050 target. By integrating certified green fuels into commercial operations, IOC and Air India are together reinforcing India's position as a front-runner in sustainable aviation and energy transition. "Through this MoU, IOC and Air India aim to collaborate on the supply of SAF to meet CORSIA targets and even exceeding them for international flights, ensuring a reliable, transparent, and sustainable fuel supply to support both companies' environmental goals," the statement added.

In 6 yrs, 44,040 cos incorporated in
Bengal, only 1,742 shifted out: Centre

MI News Service, Kolkata: The BJP's relentless campaign to portray Bengal as "industry-averse" has fallen flat after MoS Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Harsh Malhotra, in the written reply given in the Lok Sabha, said that 44,040 companies were incorporated in Bengal in the past 6 years, while only 1,742 companies shifted their registered office from Bengal to other states. The data showed that about 7,500 companies have been registered every year in Bengal in the past six years. Between 2020 and 2025, over 40,000 companies have been incorporated. Trinamool Congress Lok Sabha MP Bapi Haldar quoted a reply by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in Lok Sabha, which said the number of registered companies in the state had increased from 1.37 lakh in

2011 to 2.50 lakh in 2025. "On average, over 7,500 companies have been registered every year in Bengal with over 40,000 companies having been incorporated from 2020 to 2025. It shows Bengal means business, and the BJP is misleading people," Haldar told the media. Quoting state government data, Haldar told the media that 57 lakh new MSMEs have been added in Bengal, employing 1.3 crore people. The number of MSME clusters has increased from 49 to 654, and over 3,400 recognised startups have been launched in the last five years. "Investors include WIPRO, Cognizant, Infosys, Reliance JIO, Airtel, Vodafone, ITC, L&T. There are 2.6 lakh direct employees in IT Companies, 22 IT parks in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities running at 85 per cent capacity."

Haldar added. Trinamool Congress on X said that for years, the BJP has been running a campaign to paint Bengal as "industry-averse" but now it's a "bitter pill" for the BJP to swallow. "For years, they've run a one-sided smear campaign painting Bengal as but now, data from their own Ministry blows their lies to pieces. According to @MCA21India's reply in Parliament: The number of companies with registered offices in Bengal has almost doubled from 1,37,156 in 2011 to 2,50,343 in 2025," the party said. "Under Smt. @MamataOfficial, Bengal has witnessed a wave of development the BJP can't match. So, they resort to peddling lies, half-truths, and propaganda to hide their own miserable record," Trinamool Congress wrote on X.

Parl panel recommends ter-
rain training to
avoid helicopter
crashes

MI News Service, New Delhi: A parliamentary standing committee recommended terrain-specific training to avoid helicopter crashes and an in-depth analysis to study plane incidents not limited to human error but also factoring in procedures, training and technology.

The department-related parliamentary committee, dealing with "Overall Review of Safety in the Civil Aviation Sector", made several recommendations while taking into account the recent helicopter accidents during the high-risk Char Dham Yatra ride and recurring operational risks faced by aircraft. The committee recommended that the civil aviation ministry and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) develop and enforce a uniform regulatory framework applicable to all state-operated helicopters and other air services.

This framework must ensure that such operations are subject to the same rigorous central oversight, safety protocols, audits and crew competency standards as any other commercial air transport operator in the country. Recognising the unique challenges of Himalayan flying, the DGCA must make terrain-specific training and certification a mandatory prerequisite for any pilot authorised to operate in mountainous regions such as the Char Dham route, it said. This should include training in high-altitude operations, weather interpretation and emergency procedures specific to the terrain.

India's defence
production reaches
all-time high

MI News Service, New Delhi: India's annual defence production has reached an all-time high of Rs 1,50,590 crore in 2024-25, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said. This marks a growth of around 18 per cent over the previous fiscal's total of Rs 1.27 lakh crore. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's defence production has hit a record high, Singh said. "The annual defence production has soared to an all-time high figure of Rs 1,50,590 crore in the financial year 2024-25." "These numbers indicate a robust 18 per cent growth over the previous fiscal's output of Rs 1.27 lakh crore, and a staggering 90 per cent increase since 2019-20, when the figure was Rs 79,071 crore," he said in a social media post.

India to export 5K tonnes
of fertilizers to Bhutan



MI News Service, New Delhi: The National Seed Centre (NSC), which functions under ministry of agriculture & livestock of the Royal Government of Bhutan, signed an agreement with the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), in Siliguri on Monday to supply fertiliser to the neighbouring country. Established in 2002, BVFCL is a central government undertaking operating under the union ministry of chemicals and fertilizers. It is headquartered at Namrup, Assam, and is a major fertiliser provider across the country. "The agreement marks a meaningful milestone in the continuing partnership between India and Bhutan, and reaffirms our shared commitment to cordial cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors, with particular focus on ensuring the availability of critical agricultural inputs, such as fertilisers, to the people of Bhutan," said a senior official of BVFCL.

Yonten Gyamtsho, the director of the department of agriculture in the ministry of agriculture & livestock of Bhutan, led the Bhutanese delegation. Satyajit Mishra, the general manager of BVFCL, led the Indian team. "The agreement will also facilitate the seamless supply of fertilisers from India to Bhutan and will ensure that farmers in Bhutan have continued and timely access to this essential agricultural input. This, in turn, will support Bhutan's food security and productivity objectives," the official added. A source said, as per the agreement, BVFCL will export certain varieties of fertilisers like Urea, Suphala (a blend of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium), Single Super Phosphate, Muriate of Potash and Borax to Bhutan. "From the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the 2029-2030 fiscal year, 5,000 metric tonnes of these fertilisers will be exported to Bhutan as per the agreement," said a source.

Betting App: ED quizzes Suresh Raina



MI News Service, New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate questioned former Indian cricketer Suresh Raina in an alleged illegal online betting app-linked money-laundering case. An ED official said Raina's statement was recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) as part of the investigation into the sports betting app 1xBet. "The agency questioned him regarding his links with the app, the endorsement fee earned and the mode of communication between the two parties," the official said. The agency had recently called representatives of Google and Meta for questioning, as several illegal betting apps have allegedly swindled numerous people and investors out of crores of rupees, or evaded paying taxes. According to estimates by market analysis firms and probe agencies, there are about 22 crore Indian users of online betting apps, of which about 11 crore are

regular users. Last month, the ED had questioned actor Prakash Raj in connection with a money-laundering case linked to the promotion of illegal online betting and gambling apps by several celebrities. The agency has widened its probe and issued summons to several prominent persons after registering a case against 29 celebrities, including Raj, Vijay Deverakonda, Rana Daggubati and several social media influencers and YouTubers, for allegedly promoting illegal online betting platforms. Sources said several celebrities were suspected of having "endorsed" online betting platforms. The agency is also examining the financial transactions involving the celebrities who have claimed they were unaware of the true nature of the platforms. "They allegedly promoted these betting platforms through online pop-up advertisements, potentially encouraging users to engage in illegal gambling," said an ED official.

**MONSOON MAGIC:
TOP 5 RAINY SEASON
DESTINATIONS IN INDIA**

India's monsoon season transforms landscapes into lush green paradises, offering breathtaking views, cool weather, and a refreshing atmosphere. Here are five stunning destinations to explore during the rainy season.



1 Munnar, Kerala
Famous for its tea gardens, rolling hills, and misty valleys, Munnar becomes even more enchanting during the monsoon. The rain enhances the greenery and makes the waterfalls gush with full force.



2 Cherrapunji, Meghalaya
One of the wettest places on Earth, Cherrapunji offers spectacular waterfalls, living root bridges, and cloud-kissed landscapes. The rains here create a magical atmosphere like no other.

3 Coorg, Karnataka
Known as the 'Scotland of India', Coorg is wrapped in coffee plantations, lush forests, and mist-covered hills. Monsoon makes the region vibrant, with streams and waterfalls coming alive.



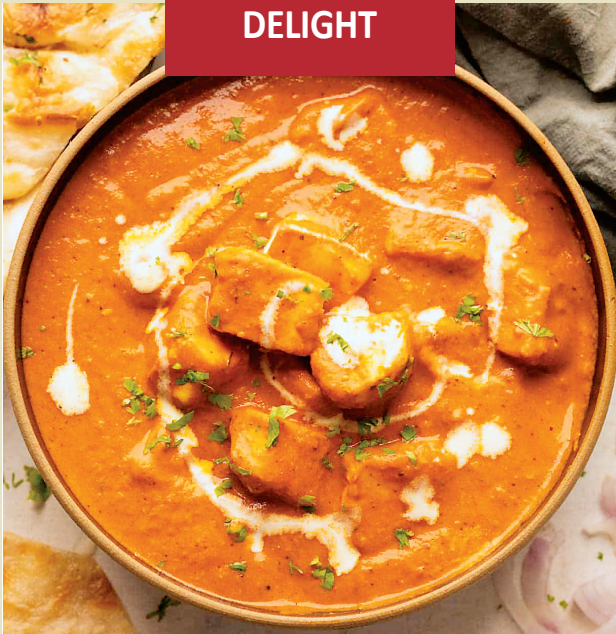
4 Udaipur, Rajasthan
The City of Lakes gets a refreshing makeover in the rainy season. The palaces and lakes, especially Lake Pichola, look breathtaking against the backdrop of rain-washed skies.



5 Lonavala & Khandala, Maharashtra
Popular hill stations near Mumbai and Pune, these twin towns are at their best in monsoon with lush greenery.



**THE
CLASSIC
INDIAN
DELIGHT**



Butter Chicken, also known as Murgh Makhani, is one of the most beloved Indian dishes. It combines tender chicken pieces in a creamy, spiced tomato-based gravy, offering a rich and comforting flavor.

Ingredients
For Chicken Marinade:
500g chicken (boneless, cut into pieces)
3 tbsp thick yogurt
1 tbsp lemon juice
1 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
1 tsp red chili powder
1 tsp turmeric powder
1 tsp garam masala
Salt to taste
2 tbsp oil

For Gravy:
3 tbsp butter
2 tbsp oil
2 medium onions (finely chopped)
3 medium tomatoes (pureed)
1 tbsp ginger-garlic paste
2-3 green chilies (slit)
1 tsp red chili powder
1 tsp coriander powder
1 tsp cumin powder
1 tsp garam masala
½ tsp kasuri methi (dried fenugreek leaves)
½ cup fresh cream
Salt to taste
Fresh coriander leaves for garnish

Instructions

1. Marinate the chicken with yogurt, lemon juice, ginger-garlic paste, red chili powder, turmeric, garam masala, salt, and oil. Mix well, cover, and refrigerate for at least 1-2 hours (preferably overnight).
2. Heat oil in a pan and cook the marinated chicken until 80% cooked. Set aside.
3. In another pan, heat butter and oil. Add onions and sauté until golden brown.
4. Add ginger-garlic paste and green chilies. Cook for 2 minutes.
5. Add tomato puree, red chili powder, coriander powder, cumin powder, and salt. Cook until the oil separates from the masala.
6. Add the partially cooked chicken pieces and simmer for 10 minutes.
7. Add garam masala, kasuri methi, and fresh cream. Mix gently and cook for another 5 minutes.
8. Garnish with fresh coriander leaves and a drizzle of cream before serving.

**Butter Chicken
BLISS**



Butter Chicken, or Murgh Makhani, is one of India's most iconic dishes, loved worldwide for its rich and velvety flavors. Originating in Delhi in the 1950s, this dish beautifully balances tender marinated chicken with a creamy tomato-based gravy infused with aromatic spices. The buttery texture, mild heat, and subtle sweetness make it appealing to both Indian and international palates. Traditionally served with naan, roti, or steamed rice, Butter Chicken is a perfect blend of comfort and indulgence, making it a timeless classic in Indian cuisine.

WASHINGTON, DC: Researchers discovered that early puberty or childbirth doubles women's risk for major diseases and accelerates ageing, while later timing offers protective benefits. Genetic analysis reveals evolutionary tradeoffs, where reproductive advantages early in life create health burdens later. Reproductive timing matters when it comes to ageing and age-related disease. In a study now online at eLife, Buck researchers determine that girls who go through puberty (the onset of menstruation) before the age of 11 or women who give birth before the age of 21 have double the risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart failure and obesity and quadruple the risk of developing severe metabolic disorders. The study also reveals that later puberty and childbirth are genetically associated with longer lifespan, lower frailty, slower epigenetic ageing and reduced risk of age-related diseases, including type 2 diabetes and Alzheimer's. Buck Professor Pankaj Kapahi, PhD, senior author of the study, says the public health implications of the research are significant. "Even though women are routinely asked about their menstrual and childbirth history when they receive medical care, this information has rarely fac-



Representative photograph

**GENETIC
EVIDENCE CON-
FIRMS EARLY
PUBERTY ACCEL-
ERATES AGEING,
DISEASE: STUDY**

tored into the care they receive outside of OB/GYN," said Pankaj Kapahi. "These risk factors, whether positive or negative, clearly have a significant influence on a variety of age-related diseases and should be considered in the larger context of overall health," added Kapahi. The research was based on one of the most comprehensive analyses to date, using regression analysis on nearly 200,000 women in the UK Biobank to

confirm genetic associations. "We identified 126 genetic markers that mediate the effects of early puberty and childbirth on ageing," said postdoctoral fellow Yifan Xiang, MD, who led the research. "Many of these markers are involved in well-known longevity pathways, such as IGF-1, growth hormone, AMPK and mTOR signalling, key regulators of metabolism and ageing," added Yifan Xiang. While updated research guidelines call for the use of both

sexes in preclinical research in mice, Kapahi says this current study still challenges traditional experimental design, noting that most disease models use virgin female mice, which may not accurately represent real-world ageing patterns. "If evolution has shaped us to prioritise early reproduction at the cost of ageing, how can we leverage this knowledge to extend healthspan in modern society?" Kapahi asks. "While we cannot change our

genetic inheritance, understanding these genetic tradeoffs empowers us to make informed choices about health, lifestyle and medical care," added Kapahi. The study also identifies several genetic pathways that can be manipulated to optimise health for mothers as well as their offspring. Other Buck researchers involved in the study include: Vineeta Tanwar, Parminder Singh, and Lizellen La Follette.

India temporarily suspends postal services to US

MI News Service, New Delhi: India, on Saturday, August 23, temporarily suspended postal services to the United States as the US-bound air carriers have denied carrying shipments due to a lack of clarity in the new norms issued by the American customs department, the Ministry of Communications said. However, services will continue for letters, documents and gift items up to USD 100. Under an Executive Order issued by the US administration on July 30, 2025, goods valued at more than USD 100 will be subject to customs duties in the United States, effective August 29. As per the Executive Order, transport carriers delivering shipments through the international postal network, or other “qualified parties” approved by the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), are required to collect and remit duties on postal shipments. “While CBP issued certain guidelines on 15th August, 2025, several critical processes relating to the designation of “qualified parties” and mechanisms for duty collection and remittance remain undefined. Consequently, US-bound air carriers have expressed their inability to accept postal consignments after 25th August, 2025, citing lack of operational and technical readiness,” a statement from the ministry said. Following the development, the “Department of Posts has decided to temporarily suspend booking of all types of postal articles,” destined for the US with effect from August 25, 2025 except letters/documents and gift items up to USD 100 in value, it said. “These exempt categories will continue to be accepted and conveyed to the US, subject to further clarifications from CBP and USPS,” the statement said.

Iranian, European FMs to hold phone call on nuclear issue

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi is scheduled to discuss the country's nuclear issue in a phone call with his French, British and German counterparts on Friday, the official news agency IRNA reported. The European Union foreign policy chief, Kaja Kallas, will also take part in the discussion, IRNA quoted Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Esmail Baghaei as saying. Other issues on the agenda include Iran's demand for the removal of sanctions and the accountability of the European parties for the Israeli-U.S. attacks on Iran's nuclear facilities in June, Baghaei said. Since last September, Iran and the three European countries of France, Britain and Germany have held several rounds of talks on a range of issues, including Tehran's nuclear program and the removal of sanctions. The latest round took place in Istanbul, Türkiye, in late July.



Children at a school run by Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), at Soura, in Srinagar. The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday ordered the take over of 215 schools which were run by the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) and its affiliate Falah-e-Aam Trust (FAT), to safeguard the future of the students enrolled in them.

SC halts eviction of over 2,000 Bengali Muslim families in Assam's Golaghat district

MI News Service, Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday ordered a status quo on ongoing eviction and demolition drives in Uriamghat and nearby villages of Assam's Golaghat district, providing temporary relief to more than 2,000 Bengali Muslim families who have lived in the area for decades. A bench comprising Justices P.S. Narasimha and Atul S. Chandurkar issued the interim order while hearing a petition that challenged the Gauhati High Court's refusal to protect the affected residents. The petitioners approached the apex court after the High Court dismissed their writ appeals and upheld the state government's eviction measures. The families argued before the court that they are long-settled residents who have been in uninterrupted possession of the land for over 70 years. They pointed to state-issued documents such as ration cards, electricity connections, and inclusion in electoral rolls as evidence of legal recognition. According to them, the eviction violates provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, and the Assam Rules of 2015. They further



contended that the state's actions infringe upon their fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19, 21, 25, and 300-A of the Constitution. Authorities, however, justified the operation by citing the Assam Forest Regulation, 1891, claiming that the villages fall within the Doyang and South Nambur Reserved Forests. Eviction notices issued in July 2025 gave residents just seven days to vacate. This large-scale eviction is part of one of Assam's most high-profile operations, aiming to clear nearly 15,000 bighas (4,900 acres) of land in the Uriamghat area. Since June 2025, the government has evicted over 3,500 families in five separate drives across

four districts, displacing nearly 50,000 people. The operations have often been controversial. In Goalpara district, where 1,080 families were evicted in July, violence erupted on July 17 when protests turned deadly. Police firing killed a 19-year-old Muslim youth and injured several others, including security personnel. The petitioners cited earlier Supreme Court rulings that mandate prior notice, fair hearing, and adequate rehabilitation before displacement. The case will now determine whether the Assam government can proceed with its eviction plans or must reconsider its approach to long-settled communities in forest areas.

Tourist Bus, With Indians Aboard, Crashes On New York Highway, 5 Killed

MI News Service, New York: Five passengers aboard a tourist bus were killed Friday when their driver got distracted and crashed on a New York state highway, police said. The wreck happened 25 miles (40 kilometers) east of Buffalo as the tourists headed back to New York City after visiting Niagara Falls. The passengers were of Indian, Chinese and Filipino origin, authorities said. “It's believed the operator became distracted, lost control, over corrected and ended up... over there,” said New York state police commander major Andre Ray at the scene Friday evening, giving the toll for the first time. No one else was in a life-threatening condition, Ray said. Several passengers received medical treatment and were released. Fifty-four people were on the bus when it crashed and no children were killed, US media reported, contradicting an earlier police briefing. The bus had traveled to Niagara Falls, on the border with

Canada, for the day and was heading home when the accident took place on a highway near Pembroke. - Mechanical error 'ruled out' - “Mechanical error was ruled out as well as impairment or intoxication,” said Ray, who added that no charges had been brought. Translators were sent to the scene to help communicate with the victims. Eight helicopters were involved in the rescue effort, Margaret Ferrentino, president of Mercy Flight, a non-profit provider of air ambulance services, told AFP. “The driver is alive and well - we're working with him. We believe we have a good idea of what happened, why the bus lost control. We just want to make sure that all the details are thoroughly vetted,” a police spokesman said earlier. State Governor Kathy Hochul said her team was coordinating with state police and local officials “who are working to rescue and provide assistance to everyone involved.”

Pakistan gears up for dhaka rendezvous with Bangladesh hardliners

MI News Service, Islamabad: India will be closely watching the developments in the neighbourhood this weekend as Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar are scheduled to be in Dhaka for a three-day visit. Although initially scheduled for April this year, the visit was postponed due to the hammering that Pakistan received during Op Sindoor which was launched in the aftermath of the heinous terror attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. Bangladesh's Interim Government's Foreign Affairs Adviser Touhid Hossain told Bangladesh Daily Prothom Alo, “Like with many other countries, we are trying to establish a normal relationship with Pakistan, focusing on trade, investment, and facilitating people's movement. In the past, an unnecessary atmosphere of hostility was created. We have moved away from that. But while seeking normal ties, the three unresolved issues remain on the table.” Ishaq Dar is scheduled to meet a host of leaders from across the political spectrum in Bangladesh including Chief Adviser of the Interim Government of Bangladesh Muhammad Yunus, Foreign Affairs Advisor Touhid Hossain and Begum Khaleida Zia, Chairperson of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and former Prime Minister. The concerning part is Ishaq Dar's meeting with leaders of the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, a hardline radical Islamic group which has openly taken an anti-India stance and has been blamed in the past for suppression of minorities and was banned by previous governments in Bangladesh for alleged terror links. The current administration in Bangladesh led by Yunus, has been trying to build close ties with Pakistan despite the tumultuous history and the violent and brutal atrocities committed by the Pakistan Army during the liberation struggle.

Nearly 62,300 Palestinians killed, famine deepens

MI News Service, Gaza: At least 62,263 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's genocidal war on the Gaza Strip since October 2023, the Health Ministry in the besieged enclave said on Friday. A statement from the ministry said 71 people were killed and 251 were injured in the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of injuries to 157,365. The ministry also reported two new deaths from starvation and malnutrition, including a child, raising the total famine-related deaths to 273, among them 112 children. “Many victims remain trapped under rubble or in the streets,” the min-

istry said, noting that rescue teams are still unable to reach them due to ongoing Israeli bombardment and lack of equipment. Since March 18, when Israel resumed its military campaign after breaking a ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement, the health ministry said 10,717 Palestinians have been killed and 45,324 injured. Meanwhile, Israeli forces continue to target civilians seeking humanitarian aid. In the past 24 hours, 24 people were killed and 133 more injured in such attacks. According to the ministry, 2,060 Palestinians have been killed and 15,197

injured while seeking aid since May 27. Israel's full blockade of the Gaza Strip, in place since early March, has created catastrophic conditions for the enclave's 2.4 million residents, leading to famine, widespread disease, and the collapse of essential services. Last November, the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza. Israel also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice over its war on the enclave.

Language terrorism must be stopped: Kamruzzaman



Nurul Islam Khan

Bengali students are not safe in Kolkata, expressed concern All India Muslim Personal Law Board member Mohammad Kamruzzaman. Recently, residents of Calcutta University's Carmichael Hostel were attacked in Sealdah for speaking Bengali. He expressed strong anger against those who abused and beat them for being Muslims and labeled them as Bangladeshis and Rohingyas, demanding strict and exemplary punishment for those responsible. He said that the administration should take more sincere steps in this regard. He assured the students to stand by them to prevent this language terrorism.

UAE condemns Israeli settlement plan

MI News Service, Abu Dhabi: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Friday condemned Israel's newly-announced settlement plan in the occupied West Bank and its ongoing military operations in the Gaza Strip. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the measures were “serious violations of international law and relevant UN resolutions” and posed a grave threat to regional and international efforts to achieve peace and establish an independent Palestinian state. It warned of “catastrophic consequences” from continued hostilities, saying they would worsen the humanitarian crisis and endanger regional security. The UAE urged an immediate halt to settlement expansion and military operations and called on the international community to act to stop the violations and launch a credible political process leading to lasting peace. Israel this week announced plans to build thousands of new settlement units in the West Bank, a move widely criticized by the international community as a major obstacle to a two-state solution.

Missile launched from Yemen falls in central Israel, no casualties reported

MI News Service, Sanaa: A missile fired from Yemen landed in central Israel without causing casualties, the Israeli military and emergency services said. The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said the missile appeared to have fragmented in midair, with shrapnel falling near Ben Gurion Airport on Friday, according to Channel 12 News. Air raid sirens sounded across central Israel, including Tel Aviv and West Jerusalem, after smartphone alerts were issued, Xinhua news agency reported.



The launch came hours after Israel said it intercepted a drone fired from Yemen toward villages near the Gaza Strip. No damage or casualties were reported in that incident. Earlier on Friday, the Israeli Air Force said it struck energy infrastructure used by Yemen's Houthi group in the capital Sanaa. The Houthis later claimed responsibility for the attacks, saying they had targeted Ben Gurion Airport with a hypersonic ballistic missile and drones in response to Israel's war in Gaza. Earlier on Sunday, Israel's military intercepted a missile fired from Yemen towards central Israel, launched in apparent retaliation for an earlier Israeli strike. The missile triggered air raid sirens in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and other cities, sending residents into shelters and safe rooms in the afternoon as tens of thou-

sands rallied in the streets demanding the release of hostages and an end to the war in Gaza. There were no reports of casualties or damage. “Following the sirens that sounded a short while ago in several areas in Israel, a missile launched from Yemen was intercepted by the IAF (Israel Air Force),” the military said in a statement.

The Houthis, who control much of northern Yemen, have launched missiles and drones at Israel and Israeli-linked shipping since November, while Israel has carried out retaliatory airstrikes on Houthi-controlled areas, including Sanaa and the Red Sea port of Hodeidah.

Dharmasthala case: SIT arrests whistleblower over ‘fake evidence’

MI News Service, Mangaluru: In a major development on Saturday, August 23, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has arrested the former sanitation worker turned whistleblower in connection with the Dharmasthala case. CS Chinnaiiah alias Chinnu was presented before a Belthangady court, the same day of his arrest. The SIT has sought 10 days custody for further investigation. The court granted the request, officials added. His arrest comes after the protection under the Witness Protection Scheme was withdrawn on Friday. An official from the SIT said that the whistleblower was arrested for “creating false evidence and perjury.” The former sanitation worker, who is a Dalit, had appeared before SIT chief Pranab Mohanty on August 22 and recorded his statement. In another development on Friday, Sujatha Bhat came in front of the media and stated that Ananya Bhat, who went missing from the temple premises, is not her

daughter and is the child of her friend. On July 3, the former sanitation worker claimed he was forced to bury over a hundred bodies, including women and minors bearing signs of sexual assault and rape in Dharmasthala along the Nethravati river, between 1995 and 2014. He had since identified 13 specific burial sites in the temple town of Dharmasthala. Following the accusation, the Karnataka government constituted the SIT to probe the allegations. He had requested that the bodies be exhumed in his presence and alleged that the victims bore clear signs of sexual assault. During the month-long excavation, the SIT recovered a skull and two human bones, which were sent for forensic examination. It was revealed that the remains belonged to a male. Veerendra Heggade, the Dharmadhikari (temple head) and Rajya Sabha member, denied all allegations as baseless and accused a campaign launched to malign the image of the temple.

If we need to struggle a bit for statehood, we will: Omar Abdullah

MI News Service, New Delhi: With the hopes for restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir during the Monsoon Session dashed, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Friday said the demand for statehood would now be pursued with renewed determination. “Leave it now, the hope has gone, the water has crossed over. We will start our process from here,” Abdullah remarked, expressing disappointment that promises made to the people had not been acted upon. “If we need to struggle and work harder, then that is what we will do,” he

added. The National Conference leader made these comments while attending the 56th Raising Day celebrations of Sainik School in Nagrota, where he also inaugurated the Triveni Girls Hostel. Abdullah also accused the Centre of selectively targeting opposition leaders through three proposed bills concerning the prime minister, chief ministers, and ministers. “So far, in all cases registered and arrests made, only opposition members have been targeted. If this step is genuinely to end corruption, then what impact has the government's work since 2014



achieved?” he asked. The chief minister clarified that he does not view laws themselves as inherently harmful but

stressed that their misuse makes them dangerous. “I want to remind my friends in the BJP that they will not remain in power forever. The very laws they are misusing today could tomorrow be used against their own people. Playing with the law will not benefit the country,” he cautioned. Abdullah said the issue was now before a parliamentary committee, and his party would wait for the outcome. On the sacking of two government employees over alleged terror links, he distanced his government from the decision, saying, “This

is something you will have to ask the Raj Bhavan about — we have no role in it.” He also addressed relief measures following a recent cloudburst in the region. “For now, we are providing as much relief as we can. If, after assessment, more relief is required, we will provide that as well,” Abdullah assured. By reaffirming his commitment to statehood and cautioning against misuse of laws, Abdullah positioned himself firmly as both a critic of the Centre's policies and an advocate for Jammu and Kashmir's democratic rights.

HOCKEY HARYANA CLINCH 15TH HOCKEY INDIA JUNIOR MEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 TITLE

JALANDHAR (PUNJAB) : Hockey Haryana emerged as champions of the 15th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2025 as they defeated Hockey Association of Odisha 3-2 in Jalandhar, Punjab on Thursday.

Hockey Punjab won their 3rd/4th Place match against Uttar Pradesh Hockey 4-3 in a shootout after a 3-3 draw over the four quarters to clinch the bronze medal, as per a press release from Hockey India.

In the final, both sides could not be separated initially as they exchanged possession but failed to find an opening goal. In the second quarter, Hockey Association of Odisha showcased brilliant skill by converting two successive penalty corners courtesy of Deepak Pradhan (17') and Pratap Toppo (19') to take a comfortable lead in the final. The scores remained the same in the third quarter, but Hockey Haryana turned the game on its head in the final quarter of the match.

Chirag (50') scored his side's first goal through a penalty corner, and in the very next minute, his teammate Nitin (51', 60') scored a field goal to level the game. Moments later in the final minute of the match, Nitin skillfully dribbled past two defenders and fired a shot from distance to score the winning goal for Hockey Haryana and claim the championship.

In the 3rd/4th Place Match, Uttar Pradesh Hockey scored early in the first quarter as Satyam Pandey (8') converted a penalty corner to open the scoring. Hockey Punjab replied with two goals in the second quarter by Lovenoor Singh (21') and Japnit Singh (28', 59') to take the lead. The third quarter saw the tide shift to Uttar Pradesh Hockey as Ujjwal Pal (48') and Fahad Khan (57') scored to take the lead again.

With seconds left on the clock. In the last minute, Hockey Punjab's Japnit Singh scored a penalty stroke to push the game into a shootout. Charanjeet Singh, Lovenoor Singh, Om Rajnesh Saini and Sunny were the goal scorers for Hockey Punjab in the shootout.



FIFA President Gianni Infantino presents first ticket of 2026 World Cup Final to Donald Trump

WASHINGTON [US] : Ahead of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, FIFA President Gianni Infantino presented US President Donald Trump with the very first ticket to the tournament's grand finale. The final is scheduled to take place in New York-New Jersey on July 19, 2026.

Trump's ticket, Row 1, Seat 1, Ticket No. 45/47, was handed over during a meeting at the White House.

Sharing the moment on his official Instagram handle, Infantino wrote, "Having announced that FIFA World Cup 2026 tickets will go on sale for all 104 matches on Wednesday, 10 September 2025, it was a pleasure to present the first ticket to United States President Donald J. Trump at the White House.

"We look forward to hosting @realdonaldtrump at the showpiece final on Sunday, 19 July 2026 in New York New Jersey, along with the millions of fans who will unite to celebrate our beautiful game across all the host cities in the United States, as well as in Canada and Mexico," he said.

The 2026 competition will be the first World Cup held across three countries, the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and the first to include 48 teams. It will take place from June 11 to July 19.

Sixteen venues have already been chosen to host games, with 11 in the US, three in Mexico and two in Canada.

The cities officially selected to host World Cup matches in the U.S. are: New York/New Jersey (MetLife Stadium); Los Angeles (SoFi Stadium); Dallas (AT&T Stadium); San Francisco Bay Area (Levi's Stadium); Miami (Hard Rock Stadium); Atlanta (Mercedes-Benz Stadium); Seattle (Lumen Field); Houston (NRG Stadium); Philadelphia (Lincoln Financial Field); Kansas City, Missouri (Arrowhead Stadium); and Boston (Gillette Stadium).



HOCKEY JHARKHAND HOLDS 12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, KEY DECISIONS ANNOUNCED

PC JHA

RANCHI : The 12th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Hockey Jharkhand was held at the Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Hockey Stadium, Morhabadi, under the chairmanship of Hockey Jharkhand President and Hockey India General Secretary, Bholanath Singh. The meeting saw the participation of district presidents, secretaries, and executive members from across Jharkhand. Wrestling Federation of India President Sanjay Kumar Singh, Treasurer SP Deshwal, Vinod Tomar, and Mehrwan Singh were also present.

Singh lauded district representatives, terming the year a landmark for Jharkhand hockey.



For the first time, Jharkhand's women's teams clinched gold medals in all three categories - senior, junior, and sub-junior - at national championships, while the sub-junior boys secured silver. Eight Jharkhand players are currently in the senior Indian

women's hockey camp, four of them representing India at the Asia Cup. National team captain Salima Tete, hailing from Jharkhand, was honoured with the prestigious Arjuna Award this year.

Ranchi successfully hosted

Lionel Messi and Argentina's World Cup-winning squad set to play friendly in Kerala this November



THIRUVANANTHAPURAM (KERALA) : In a historic moment for Indian football fans, Kerala is all set to witness one of the biggest sporting spectacles ever. Kerala Sports Minister V. Abdurahiman has officially confirmed that Lionel Messi and his FIFA World Cup-winning Argentina team will play a friendly match in the state this November during the FIFA International Window.

Speaking about the development, Abdurahiman said on his official Facebook profile, "Messi will come. Official confirmation received through official mail that the Qatar World Cup winning Argentina team including Lionel Messi will arrive in Kerala for a friendly match in the November 2025 FIFA International Window."

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1278874603693917&id=100047141680402&rdid=mh9iz5VcKooFRM62#

Messi's first visit to India was in September 2011, when the legend was here to play against Venezuela in Kolkata, which his team won 1-0 at Salt Lake Stadium.

Last year, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan took to Facebook to announce that the Argentina national team would visit Kerala this year, adding that the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner is also expected to join the team.

"Kerala is a land where football is embraced with love and passion, transcending the boundaries of nations and cultures. The visit of the Argentina national team, the reigning world champions, to Kerala next year is a testament to our love for the sport, which captivates the world with awe. It is expected that Lionel Messi, one of the greatest footballers the world has ever seen, will also join the team," Vijayan stated.

Lauding the state of Kerala for its "love and passion" for football, the Chief Minister said that this "extraordinary gift" to the sports enthusiasts of the state was made possible through the persistent efforts of the Kerala government.

He further added that this moment will resonate Kerala's name on the global sports map.

"This extraordinary gift to Kerala's sports enthusiasts, which many considered impossible, was made possible only through the persistent efforts of the state government. The business community in Kerala has graciously expressed their willingness to bear the financial costs. The Argentinian Football Association, which maintained a favorable stance from the beginning, is expected to make an official announcement during their visit to Kerala in the next one and a half months," Vijayan stated.

"This will be a moment when Kerala's name resonates loudly on the global sports map. The visit of the Argentina team will invigorate Kerala's sports culture and the sports sector as a whole. Let us unite with excitement to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to Messi and his team," he added.

In 2023, Messi was crowned with the prestigious Ballon d'Or award for the eighth time in his decorated career on, an award that serves as a reminder of his brilliance as he reaches the final moments of his career.

With this award, Messi became the first player from Major League Soccer (MLS) to win the prestigious award. He represents the club Inter Miami. He previously won the award in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2019 and 2021.

The young boy from Santa Fe who made his first appearance in 2004 has enjoyed a career that can be deemed nothing short of a fairytale.

Hockey India League (HIL) matches and several national tournaments. The upcoming state-level junior women's championship will be held in Khunti, while the sub-junior women's event will take place in Simdega. Tata will host the men's junior and sub-junior championships next year.

In recognitions, Sudhir Gola, coach of all three victorious women's teams, was awarded Best Coach of the Year, while Naval Tata Hockey Academy bagged Best District Unit. To boost hockey in districts with fewer players - Jamtara, Dumka, Godda, Pakur, and Deoghar - hockey sticks and balls were distributed.

Singh said these steps mark "a new chapter of excellence" for Jharkhand hockey.

SOUTH AFRICA GET DAVID MILLER BOOST AS WHITE-BALL SIDES FOR ENGLAND TOUR ANNOUNCED

JOHANNESBURG [SOUTH AFRICA] : Explosive left-hander David Miller makes his return to the T20Is set-up following the home series against Pakistan last year as the Proteas announced the squads for the white-ball series against England starting from September.

The squad that has featured in the ongoing white-ball series against Australia has been strengthened by some major returns. Miller's previous outing for South Africa across formats came in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, when he scored a valiant century in the semi-final loss against New Zealand.

Also making a return to the T20I setup is all-rounder Marco Jansen, who missed out on the T20I series against Australia, as per ICC. Meanwhile, Kagiso Rabada, who was ruled out of the ongoing ODI series Down Under owing to an ankle injury, has been named in both the ODI and T20I squads for England. South Africa is coming on the back of an ODI series win against Australia, having lost the preceding, closely-contested T20I series by a 2-1 margin.

The Proteas will play three ODIs and as many T20Is against England, starting September 2.

The T20I series presents a valuable stage for preparation en route to next year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup in India and Sri Lanka.

Series schedule:

- 1st ODI - September 2, Headingly
- 2nd ODI - September 4, Lord's
- 3rd ODI - September 7, The Rose Bowl
- 1st T20I - September 10, Sophia Gardens
- 2nd T20I - September 12, Old Trafford
- 3rd T20I - September 14, Trent Bridge

South Africa squads
ODI squad: Temba Bavuma (c), Toni de Zorzi, Lungi Ngidi, Corbin Bosch, Keshav Maharaj, Lhuan-Dre Pretorius, Matthew Breetzke, Kwenza Maphaka, Kagiso Rabada, Dewald Brevis, Aiden Markram, Ryan Rickelton, Nandre Burger, Wiaan Mulder, Tristan Stubbs, Senuran Muthusamy.

T20I squad: Aiden Markram (c), Keshav Maharaj, Lhuan-Dre Pretorius, Corbin Bosch, Kwenza Maphaka, Kagiso Rabada, Dewald Brevis, David Miller, Ryan Rickelton, Donovan Ferreira, Senuran Muthusamy, Tristan Stubbs, Marco Jansen, Lungi Ngidi, Lizaad Williams.

Having assembled a well-balanced squad, UP Yoddhas eye PKL Season 12 glory

LUCKNOW (UTTAR PRADESH) : UP Yoddhas will be aiming to put their best foot forward in a bid to secure the elusive Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) title in Season 12, according to a release from PKL.

Since making their PKL debut in 2017, the Yoddhas have been one of the most consistent teams in the league, having qualified for the Playoffs in every season with Season 10 being the only exception.

Under head coach Jasveer Singh, the Yoddhas were one of the standout teams in PKL Season 11 after finishing third in the league phase with 79 points, which included 13 wins in 22 games. The Yoddhas later defeated two-time PKL champions Jaipur Pink Panthers 46-18 in Eliminator 1, before they went down to Haryana Steelers 25-28 in the semi-final. The upcoming PKL Season 12 will see the Yoddhas continue with head coach Jasveer Singh, who has been part of their coaching setup since Season 6 after serving in the Indian Army for almost 25 years.

Defender Sumit Sangwan will be leading the side along with vice-captain Ashu Singh. Having retained most of their core squad before the Pro Kabaddi Season 12 Player Auction, the Yoddhas weren't the busiest at the auction. Their total spend was INR 4.970 crore to



strengthen their squad. With that in mind, let's examine the strengths and weaknesses of the Yoddhas ahead of Pro Kabaddi Season 12.

After emerging as one of the most impressive teams in PKL Season 11, the Yoddhas have managed to retain most of their players from the last campaign. The likes of raiders Bhavani Rajput, Gagan Raju Gowda, Surrender Gill, Keshav Kumar, Shivam Chaudhary, right corner Hitesh, left corner Sumit Sangwan, right cover Ashu Singh and right corner Sahul Kumar will once again don the Yoddhas' jersey in the upcoming edition of PKL. The UP Yoddhas have also retained the services of their head coach, Jasveer Singh, as a core member, who has guided the team to five playoffs in six seasons. Furthermore, the Yoddhas used their FBM

card to retain left cover Mahender Singh for INR 20 lacs for one season. The UP-based team also utilised their FBM option to re-sign their Iranian left corner Mohammadreza Kaboudrahaghi to bolster their defence.

The Yoddhas further strengthened their squad by roping in experienced raider Guman Singh for INR 1.073 crore at the PKL Season 12 Player Auction. Since making his PKL debut in Season 7, Guman Singh has already accumulated 559 raid points in 81 matches, including 17 Super Raids and 26 Super 10s to his name. He could play a significant role for the Yoddhas in PKL Season 12.

UP Yoddhas have gathered a squad that has covered most of their bases with an aim to clinch their maiden PKL title in Season 12. With the likes of Guman

Singh, Bhavani Rajput and Gagan Raju Gowda in attack, along with Hitesh, Sumit Sangwan, Mahender Singh and Ashu Singh in defence, the Yoddhas have a balanced squad that could be one of strong contenders for the PKL trophy.

One of the biggest weaknesses that UP Yoddhas may have to deal with is the lack of quality all-rounders in their squad. Most of the teams that have succeeded in winning the PKL title generally tend to feature at least one, if not more quality all-rounders in their team.

While the Yoddhas have Mahender Singh in the left cover position and Ashu Singh in the right cover position, their backups don't have enough experience in the PKL, which could derail their campaign if one of them is injured, or not available for any other reason. As a result, the likes of Sachin Manipal, Gangaram and Ronak will need to step up if given an opportunity.

Despite being one of the most consistent teams in the PKL in recent years, the Yoddhas have failed to capitalise their opportunities and end their title drought since joining the league in 2017. However, the upcoming PKL Season 12 could very well be their season if they can make the most of the balanced squad that they have assembled for the forthcoming edition.

Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban among venues in South Africa for ICC 2027 Cricket World Cup

JOHANNESBURG [SOUTH AFRICA] : Cricket South Africa (CSA) has finalised the venues for the 2027 ICC Cricket World Cup, which it will jointly host with Namibia and Zimbabwe.

CSA believes that the CWC 2027 presents a unique opportunity to expand the reach and participation of cricket across Southern Africa, while showcasing the region's rich cultural identity through a memorable and distinctly African event experience. By introducing cricket to non-traditional areas, CSA aims to grow the sport in alignment with its strategic pillar of inclusivity and access.

CSA, along with host venue countries Zimbabwe and Namibia, is now focusing its full attention on delivering a bold and unifying event across the host cities, including Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Durban, Gqeberha, Bloemfontein, East London, and Paarl where 44 matches will be hosted with a further 10 matches being hosted in Zimbabwe and Namibia.

The board also announced the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027 Local Organising Committee Board (LOCB), under the leadership of Independent Chairman Trevor Manuel.

Manuel brings a rich background of government leadership, where he led economic reform and national development planning. His leadership reflects the discipline and strategy essential in both sport and board governance.

Manuel is supported by six Independent Non-Executive Directors, five Non-Independent Non-Executive Directors, and three Ex-Officio members, making up the full Board. With 2027 fast approaching, the Board has been entrusted with organising a memorable Cricket World Cup and bringing CSA's vision to life. The Board brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise across a range of areas including finance, education, law, and strategic thinking.

"24 years have passed since the last ICC CWC tournament took place on African soil. This makes the 2027 CWC a sought-after opportunity to create a unique platform for attracting new fans while engaging existing fans

through digital innovation, connecting with the African continent, and the world," says CSA President, Rihan Richards.

CSA Board Chairperson, Pearl Maphoshe said: "CSA's vision is to stage a global, inspiring event which will reflect the face of South Africa-diverse, inclusive, and united. The tournament will be vibrantly different in its style and atmosphere, and its experiences. It will provide players, fans and partners with the most unique, unforgettable experience.

"CSA offers its full support to the appointed LOCB and is confident in their ability to successfully deliver on the mandate set, ensuring a seamless and impactful event," he concluded.

CWC 2027 Local Organising Committee Board of Directors

-Trevor Manuel, Independent Chairman of the Board

-Johannes Adams, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

-Yunus Bobat, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

-Herman Bosman, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Vuyani Jarana, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

-Nomfanelo Magwentshu, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Ravi Naidoo, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Dr Stavros Nicolaou, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Advocate Philip October, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

-Advocate Karrisha Pillay SC, Independent Non-Executive Director

-Unathi Matthew Tshotwana, Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

EX OFFICIO

-Pholetsi Moseki, Ex-Officio - Chief Executive Officer CSA

-Tjaart van der Walt, Ex-Officio - Chief Financial Officer CSA

-Refentse Shinnars, Ex-Officio - Public Affairs Executive CSA.



HARYANA DOMINATE WOMEN'S WRESTLING ON DAY 2 OF U-23 NATIONALS IN RANCHI

PC JHA

RANCHI : Haryana wrestlers stamped their supremacy on Day 2 of the 2025 Under-23 National Wrestling Championship in Ranchi, sweeping multiple gold medals in Women's Wrestling across 10 weight categories. With a commanding performance, Haryana not only topped the medal tally in women's events but also secured the 1st position in the State Championship standings with 220 points, well ahead of Maharashtra (164) and Uttar Pradesh (118).

The women's competitions concluded on Friday with Haryana grapplers emerging champions in six of the ten finals. The contests witnessed strong challenges from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi, but Haryana maintained a clear edge with depth and consistency.

- Results - Women's Wrestling (Day 2)
- 50 Kg - Gold: Hanny Kumari (HAR); Silver: Chanchal (UP); Bronze: Madhuri (MP), Sweta (KTK)
 - 53 Kg - Gold: Hansika (HAR); Silver: Juli (UP); Bronze: Ishika (DEL), Hinaben (GUJ)
 - 55 Kg - Gold: Ahilya (MAH); Silver: Shivani (MP); Bronze: Nisha (HAR), Bhavika (GUJ)
 - 57 Kg - Gold: Neha Sharma (DEL); Silver: Ashlesha (MAH); Bronze: Saloni (HP), Anjali (HAR)
 - 59 Kg - Gold: Dhanashree (MAH); Silver: Sarika (HAR); Bronze: Tanu (PUB), Tannu Malik (UTKD)
 - 62 Kg - Gold: Savita (HAR); Silver: Nitika (DEL); Bronze: Yogita (RAJ), Pragati (MAH)
 - 65 Kg - Gold: Pulkit (HAR); Silver: Bhoomi (UP); Bronze: Apeksha (MAH), Pallavi (PUB)
 - 68 Kg - Gold: Priyanka (SSCB); Silver: Kirti (HAR); Bronze: Kirti Tushir (UP), Amruta (MAH)
 - 72 Kg - Gold: Manju (HAR); Silver: Sakshi (UP); Bronze: Vedantika (MAH), Diksha (SSCB)
 - 76 Kg - Gold: Simran (HAR); Silver: Vedika (MAH); Bronze: Kritika (HP), Anju (UP)

Team Standings (Women's Wrestling)

1. Haryana - 220 points
2. Maharashtra - 164 points
3. Uttar Pradesh - 118 points

With the women's competition wrapped up, focus now shifts to the Greco-Roman category, which begins tomorrow at the Morabadi Indoor Stadium, Ranchi, featuring wrestlers across all weight divisions.