

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressed a tense situation that had emerged following attacks on BJP leaders in the region. BJP MP from Malda North, Khagen Murmu, and BJP MLA from Siliguri, Shankar Ghosh, were reportedly attacked while visiting flood-affected areas and distributing relief materials. The incident had already heightened tensions between the state government and the Centre, drawing widespread political attention. Despite the political storm, Mamata Banerjee chose to rise above partisan issues and focus on her role as an administrator. While meeting flood victims in Nagrakata on Monday, the Chief Minister urged calm and restraint. “Everyone has the right to go anywhere. PG 3



Rs. 3

KOLKATA

TUESDAY, 7 OCTOBER, 2025

PG-8, YEAR—12, ISSUE—128

(RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803)

WEBSITE: WWW.LIVE7TV.COM

Morning India

Mamata reaches North Bengal, reviews devastation as landslides rip through hills after torrential rains

MI News Service, Darjeeling : At least 24 people, including some children, have lost their lives as relentless overnight rain triggered one of the worst landslides in a decade in Darjeeling hills and adjoining areas during the last 24 hours, sweeping away homes, cutting off roads, isolating villages, and leaving over 3,000 tourists stranded amid widespread devastation. As stated yesterday West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, accompanied by state Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, arrived in Siliguri this morning to personally monitor the rescue and relief operations from the North Bengal state Secretariat at Uttarkanya. Speaking to newsmen at Kolkata airport prior to her departure to Hasimara Air Base, near Siliguri, the Chief minister said “The situation is grave. Due to incessant rain in Bhutan, water has overflowed into North Bengal. This disaster is unfortunate- natural calamities are beyond our control.” She said more than 300 mm of rainfall was recorded in just 12 hours, leading to severe flooding and landslides across different parts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar and Coochbehar districts and adjoining areas of North Bengal. Reiterating her assurance to stranded tourists, Mamata Banerjee said her



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, accompanied by state Chief Secretary Manoj Pant, is inspecting the devastation of flash floods at Nagrakata in Darjeeling district on Monday

government was leaving no stone unturned to make arrangements to rescue and bring them back to safely at the earliest. . The Chief minister also announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the next of kin of each of those who died in the floods and landslides, besides offering a job of Home Guard to one member of the bereaved families. She said

several people had already been rescued from the affected areas in Dhar Gaon and Nagarakata, where heavy mudslides flattened several houses. Temporary relief camps have also been set up in coordination with NGOs and the district administration, while many families in Mirik have been moved to safer locations. The Chief minister said the emer-

gency control rooms in Siliguri, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri have been kept on high alert, with additional teams of civil defence and state disaster force are being sent from Malda and Kolkata. As the situation worsened, Mamata Banerjee held a high-level meeting at the state secretariat Nabanna on Sunday, opened a 24x7 control room, and announced her

plan to visit North Bengal today to assess the situation. She also announced compensation for the victims. According to latest reports of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri district administrations, reports of fatali-

”
The situation is grave. Due to incessant rain in Bhutan, water has overflowed into North Bengal. This disaster is unfortunate- natural calamities are beyond our control

—CM Mamata Banerjee

ties came from several locations including those from picturesque Mirik Lake area, Sarsaly, Jasbirgaon, Dhar Gaon (Mechi), and the Nagrakata area in Jalpaiguri district. They said the maximum number of 18 people have died in Darjeeling district including as many as 12 in Mirik, the worst-hit area, followed by seven in other parts of the mountainous (Darjeeling) district, including at popular tourist spots like Jorebunglow, Sukia Pokhri, and Sadar Police Station areas. In a daring operation in Nagrakata, located in the nearby Jalpaiguri

district, NDRF personnel recovered five bodies from landslide debris. “Total number of deaths reported so far is 24, spanning across Mirik, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri,” a senior NDRF official said. North Bengal Development Minister Udayan Guha described the situation as “alarming” and maintained that the death toll “is likely to go up.” Anit Thapa, chief executive of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), which governs the Darjeeling region, stated that landslides have been reported at 35 locations across the picturesque area, known as the “Queen of the Hills”. Last night’s incessant rain of over 310 MM and the subsequent landslides, described by officials as the worst since 2015 landslide which killed nearly 40 people in Darjeeling, have left behind a trail of devastation. Entire slopes have caved in, highways buried under thick mud, and communication lines snapped. The Mirik-Sukhiapokhri road, a key road connecting several hamlets, remained blocked till Monday night despite all out efforts of the district administration to clear the road. Hundreds of tourists who had thronged the hills for Durga Puja and post-festive vacations found themselves marooned and stranded amid the chaos. Families from Kolkata, Howrah, and Hooghly, visiting Mirik, Ghoom,

and Lepchajagat, were forced to stay indoors as the hills were battered by torrential rain since Saturday night as the road connectivity remains severely disrupted across Darjeeling and North Sikkim, with a number of iron bridges connecting Siliguri with Mirik in Darjeeling route got damaged, cutting off access to the region from the rest of the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a message yesterday also expressed condolences over the loss of lives in this unprecedented natural disaster and said the situation in Darjeeling and surrounding areas was being closely monitored. “Deeply pained by the loss of lives due to a bridge mishap in Darjeeling. Condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. May the injured recover soon. The situation in Darjeeling and surrounding areas is being closely monitored in the wake of heavy rains and landslides...” he said in a post on X. Darjeeling MP and BJP leader Raju Bista has written to the CM requesting that the landslides be declared a “state-level disaster.” Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and party leader Rahul Gandhi also expressed grief over the loss of lives and urged the Centre to provide assistance to the state. Even as

►► Continued on page 3

Lawyer tries to hurl shoe towards CJI in Supreme court



CJI Gavai

MI News Service, New Delhi : In a dramatic incident inside the Supreme Court, a seemingly frustrated lawyer allegedly tried to hurl a shoe towards Chief Justice of India BR Gavai during proceedings in the Court room on Monday, according to lawyers. The incident occurred when a Bench led by the CJI was hearing the mentioning of cases by lawyers, when suddenly the lawyer approached the dais, removed his shoe, and tried to throw it towards the judge. Alert security personnel present inside the courtroom immediately intervened and prevented the attack. The lawyer was swiftly escorted out of the court premises. As he was being taken away, the lawyer was heard shouting, “Sanatan ka apman nahi sahenge” (We will not tolerate insult of Sanatan Dharma). The CJI remained composed and urged lawyers present in the courtroom to continue with their arguments. “Don’t get distracted by all this. We are not distracted. These things do not affect me,” the Chief Justice remarked. The apex court’s security unit has initiated an inquiry into the incident. Further details about the lawyer and possible motives are being looked into. According to people aware of the matter, the lawyer has been identified as Rakesh Kishore. The incident follows a controversy surrounding the CJI’s reported comments during a hearing last month, when a bench of CJI Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran declined to entertain a plea filed by one Rakesh Dalal. Dalal

►► Continued on page 3

DVC unilaterally releasing water to create 'man-made floods': Mamata

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday called the floods and the ensuing destruction in north Bengal “man-made”, and once again blamed the DVC for “unrestricted” release of water, resulting in overflowing rivers in the southern parts of the state.

The Chief minister also announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh to the next of kin of each of those who died in the floods and landslides, besides offering a job of Home Guard to one member of the bereaved families. “We have so far received reports of 23 people who have died in the north Bengal floods. The region received over 300 mm of rainfall, sustaining for over 12 hours on Saturday night and early Sunday,” she said.

Accusing the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) of “unilateral and wilful” release of water from its reservoirs and declaring that the state “doesn’t need dams,” Mamata Banerjee before leaving for Siliguri and announcing the financial compensation and government job for the bereaved families, said “We don’t need dams. We have to face the problem, but such man-made disasters are unacceptable.” The Centre had failed to clear financial dues owed to the state, she added. In an



earlier post on X on Friday, the Chief Minister wrote: “The latest update on the unilateral and wilful release of water by DVC is that they have, by the evening today, released more than 150,000 cusecs of water from Maithon and Panchet dams to flood our West Bengal during festival times. This is a deliberate ploy to unleash disaster on us in order to inflict pain on millions when they are still busy in the Pujas. Shameful, intolerable, unacceptable! We protest!!!”

The political fallout intensified, with Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil countering Mamata’s claims, asserting that only 70,000 cusecs had been released – 42,500 from Maithon and 27,500 from Panchet –

and not 1,50,000 cusecs as alleged. He said the Damodar Valley Reservoir Regulation Committee (DVRRC) had sought inputs from Bengal’s Irrigation and Waterways Department before the release, but reportedly received no response from the state. TMC leaders strongly rejected Patil’s version. Spokesperson Kunal Ghosh accused the Centre of conspiring to destabilise Bengal and failing to dredge riverbeds. Irrigation Minister Manas Bhunia claimed Patil’s figures excluded the October 2 and 4 releases, saying the cumulative discharge exceeded 2 lakh cusecs.

On Sunday, Mamata Banerjee said over 300 mm of rain fell in 12 hours across north Bengal, coupled with surge flows from Bhutan and Sikkim, triggering landslides, floods and bridge collapses. “Two iron bridges have collapsed, several roads have been damaged and flooded, and huge tracts of land across Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar have been inundated,” she said. “How much water from various states can we manage? DVC is releasing water and trying to rescue Jharkhand. We requested Bhutan to release water slowly; Nagrakata and Mirik are worst affected, Kalimpong is

►► Continued on page 3

Assam ready to help in rescue efforts in Darjeeling, Sikkim



MI News Service, Guwahati : Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday expressed concern over the loss of lives in Darjeeling due to heavy rain and landslides, and the situation in rain-battered Sikkim, assuring all possible assistance to tide over the crisis. “We are extremely distressed by the devastation and loss of lives in Darjeeling and elsewhere in North Bengal due to heavy rains,” Sarma said in a post on X. The toll in the devastating landslides in Darjeeling district has risen to 24, as disaster management personnel continued rescue operations on Monday, with several people still missing and thousands of tourists stranded in cut-off hill pockets.

Bihar assembly polls in two phases on Nov 6 and 11, counting on Nov 14

MI News Service, New Delhi : The eagerly-awaited assembly elections for 243 seats in Bihar will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11, while the counting of votes will be done on November 14, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar announced here on Monday. The entire election process will be over by November 16, he said. “Bihar elections will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11. Counting of votes will be done on November 14,” Kumar said at a press conference here this afternoon. “Bihar poll is the

for any threat to voters or candidates”. He said that the number of voters at each polling station has been capped at 1,200 and that the serial number font and candidate photos - which used to be in black and white - will now be in colour. The CEC said many political parties had urged the poll body to hold the election soon after the ‘Chhath Puja’ festival - which will be celebrated at the end of October - to ensure greater voter participation as a large number of people employed in other states return home during that time for festi-



Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar with Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi during a press conference regarding the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections, in New Delhi.

mother of all elections, which is why a total of 8.5 lakh officers are deployed for Bihar elections.” CEC Gyanesh Kumar said.

Earlier, Gyanesh Kumar said that voting for Bihar’s 243 assembly seats will be completed before November 22, when the term of the current assembly ends. He said this time over 7.4 crore people are eligible to vote in the Bihar Assembly elections including 14 lakh first-time voters. Asserting that the Bihar elections will be conducted in a completely transparent and peaceful manner, the CEC said “There are a total of 7.42 crore voters in Bihar, of which 3.92 crore are males and 3.5 crore are women. There are 14 lakh first-time voters and 4 lakh senior citizen voters”. In addition at least 14,000 voters in the state are aged above 100 years. A total of 90,712 polling stations are being set up in Bihar, he said. The CEC said strict directives have been given to the administration “for zero tolerance to any violence and there is no scope

ities. Gyanesh Kumar said, “We congratulate the voters of India. Thank you to everyone for the successful SIR process. I appeal to all the voters of Bihar to celebrate this festival of democracy with the same enthusiasm as you celebrate Chhath. Everyone should vote and ensure their participation.”

The electoral battle in Bihar will witness a direct contest between the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the ‘Mahagathbandhan’ - led by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). The NDA currently holds 131 seats - BJP 80, JD(U) 45, HAM(S) 4, and two independents. The Opposition has 111 seats - RJD 77, Congress 19, CPI(ML) 11, CPI(M) 2, and CPI 2. Prashant Kishor’s Jan Suraj will also make its debut, contesting all 243 seats in the state. Political activity has intensified in the state, with the NDA and the Opposition holding massive campaigns. The two

►► Continued on page 3

Rescue continues for 1,000 climbers stranded on Mt Everest after blizzard

MI News Service, New Delhi / Kathmandu : Rescue efforts continued even on Monday in the remote Tibetan slopes of Mount Everest where a blizzard has trapped nearly 1,000 people in campsites on the eastern side of the world’s tallest mountain since early Sunday.

Hundreds of local villagers and rescue teams have been deployed to clear out snow blocking access to the area which sits at an altitude of more than 4,900 metres. However, some tourists have already been rescued. “Hundreds of trekkers who got stranded by a blizzard near the eastern face of Mount Everest in Tibet, have been guided to safety by rescuers”. Chinese state media reported on Monday, as unusually heavy snow and rainfall pummelled the Himalayas. As of Sunday, 350 trekkers had reached the small township of Qudang, while contact with the remaining 200-plus trekkers had been made. Visitors



to the remote valley of Karma, which leads to the eastern Kangshung face of Everest, were in the hundreds this week, taking advantage of an eight-day National Day holiday in China. “It was so wet and cold in the mountains, and hypothermia was a real risk,” said Chen Geshuang, who was part of an 18-strong trekking team that

made it to Qudang.

“The weather this year is not normal. The guide said he had never encountered such weather in October. And it happened all too suddenly.” Chen’s party descended from the mountains on Monday and was greeted by villagers after enduring a harrowing evening of heavy snowfall combined with

thunder and lightning. With tears in her eyes, Chen accepted their offers of sweet tea and the promise of warmth, she said. “Back in the village, we had a meal and were finally warm.” Hundreds of local villagers and rescue teams had been deployed to help remove snow blocking access to the area, where nearly 1,000 people had been trapped. The remaining trekkers will arrive in Qudang in stages under the guidance and assistance of rescuers organised by the local government, the Chinese state media reported..

Snowfall in the valley, which lies at an elevation averaging 4,200 metres (13,800 feet), began on Friday evening and persisted throughout Saturday and Sunday. “It was raining and snowing every day, and we did not see Everest at all,” said Eric Wen, who survived the ordeal. His trekking party of 18 had decided on Saturday night

►► Continued on page 3



On the instructions of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Minister Aroop Biswas visited the Garialtari and Gadheyarkuthi areas of Dhugguri Assembly constituency in North Bengal on Monday, which were devastated by heavy rains. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also spoke to the affected people via speakerphone on the Minister's mobile and assured them of the government's support. Minister Biswas also reviewed arrangements for food, clothing, baby milk, and medicine for those affected. He was accompanied by Siliguri Mayor Gautam Deb, local MLA Nirmal Chandra Roy, and Siliguri Deputy Mayor Ranjan Sarkar.

Gunfire, Bombs Rock Kultali; TMC Worker in Critical State

MI News Service, South 24 Pgs: Panic gripped Kultali on Sunday night after a sudden power outage was followed by a volley of gunfire and explosions at a local tea stall, leaving one man critically injured. The victim identified as Salim Khan a tea seller and alleged active TMC worker, sustained multiple bullet injuries after unidentified assailants opened fire and hurled bombs at his shop in the darkness.

According to eyewitness accounts, the attack unfolded around nightfall at Khea Ghat in Brindaban under the Kultali police station. Electricity reportedly went off moments before the assailants struck, suggesting a possible premeditated move. Taking advantage of the pitch-black surroundings, the miscreants allegedly fired four rounds and threw three

crude bombs, spreading chaos in the area. Salim Khan was immediately rushed to Joynagar-Kultali Rural Hospital in Jamtala, but as his shifted to a hospital in Kolkata for advanced treatment. A relative of the victim, Peer Gazi, who was present in the shop moments before the attack, recounted the horrifying events: "Selim and I were in the shop when the power suddenly went out. I stepped inside the house for a moment, and then I heard loud bangs. When I ran back, I saw Selim screaming. There were multiple gunshots — at least four. It was too dark to recognize anyone," he said. Local TMC leadership has condemned the attack, linking it to political motives. Asim Haldar, TMC Pradhan of Jalabheria Gram Panchayat No. 1, confirmed Khan's party affiliation:

BJP MP, MLA attacked amid flood relief

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: Amid ongoing disaster relief efforts in North Bengal, BJP MP Khagen Murmu and BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh were allegedly attacked while visiting flood-affected areas, raising serious concerns about law and order in the region. The incident occurred on Monday in Nagarkata, Jalpaiguri, when both leaders were on a scheduled visit to assess the impact of heavy rains and landslides.

According to eyewitnesses and video evidence, bricks and stones were hurled at their vehicle, shattering the glass. MP Khagen Murmu sustained facial injuries and was seen in a bloodied state, while MLA Shankar Ghosh reported being beaten with a baton. The attackers reportedly targeted the leaders from behind as they tried to escape the vehicle. Shankar Ghosh confirmed that even central forces present at the site were unable to control the situation, and accused the miscreants of having links to the Trinamool Congress, though the party has refuted any involvement. North Bengal Development Minister Udayan Guha stated that he had no knowledge of the incident and denied allegations against Trinamool: "Who said the grass-roots are doing this? Ordinary people can act out of anger, but there is no proof of organizational involvement," he said. The BJP leadership has condemned the attack, questioning the state's preparedness and law enforcement response in the flood-affected regions. BJP leader Nishith Pramanik criticized the timing of the attack: "This is a time to stand by the devastated North Bengal, regardless of party affiliation. Yet, Trinamool is engaging in politics even now. It is unacceptable that an MP was attacked in a manner that endangered his life." The incident has intensified scrutiny of the security arrangements for public representatives in North Bengal, particularly in disaster-hit areas, as tensions escalate between political parties amid ongoing relief operations.

MI News Service, Nandigram: Tragedy struck two families in Kali-charanpur village, Nandigram, as two migrant workers lost their lives in a boiler explosion at an industrial factory in Padana, Kutch district, Gujarat last Saturday. The incident has left the families devastated, removing their primary sources of income just months after the workers had moved for employment. The deceased have been identified as Pranab Dinda (25) and Chandan Das (29), both residents of Block No. 1, Nandigram. According to initial reports, welding work was underway in a factory of Rudraksha Company around 10 a.m. when a sudden boiler explosion occurred. The blast was so intense that Chandan Das died on the spot, while Pranab Dinda sustained critical injuries and succumbed at the hospital by noon despite immediate medical attention. The news of their deaths has plunged their families into grief. Pranab Dinda was the sole support for his elderly parents, while Chandan Das leaves behind his wife and two young children. Villagers described the incident as a devastating blow, particularly coming so soon after the Durga Puja celebrations, when the community had been in festive spirits. Sheikh Alrazi, vice-president of the Nandigram 1 Panchayat Samiti and Trinamool Congress leader, confirmed that the factory management has provided Rs 7 lakh in compensation to each family. "Efforts are underway to bring back the bodies from Gujarat swiftly. Five people from Nandigram have already traveled to facilitate the repatriation," Alrazi said. The incident underscores the vulnerability of migrant workers in industrial zones far from home, as well as the risks associated with factory operations. Local authorities in Nandigram are coordinating with Gujarat officials to ensure the safe return of the bodies and provide support to the bereaved families during this critical period.

Mirik tragedy: Young girl killed in night landslide

MI News Service, Siliguri: The relentless downpour in North Bengal has claimed another young life, as Aarushi Chhetri, a third-grade student from Dabgram, lost her life in a landslide while traveling to Mirik with her elder sister. The tragic incident highlights the mounting human toll from the region's ongoing weather calamity, which has already left dozens dead and caused widespread devastation.

Aarushi had gone on a visit to Mirik with her family when the low-pressure system over the region triggered heavy rainfall late on Saturday night. The torrential rains caused a landslide in the mountains, engulfing parts of the route and leading to the minor's death while she slept. Relatives described the moment of grief: "It was raining heavily at night. That's when the accident happened. The house/area collapsed, and her elder sister witnessed everything," a family member said. Authorities confirm that continuous rains and landslides have severely affected Kalimpong and Mirik, with unconfirmed reports suggesting at least 28 fatalities across North Bengal, the majority occurring in Mirik. Several small

settlements and roads remain submerged or blocked, hampering rescue and relief operations. In a related incident, a Jadavpur University student, Himadri Purkait, has gone missing in the hills of North Bengal. Himadri, a resident of Kamarpole in South 24 Parganas, had traveled to Darjeeling as part of a volunteer tour group and was staying at a homestay near Sonada under Sukhiyapokhari police station. Friends report that he was in contact via social media until Saturday night, after which all communication has been lost. His family is reportedly distraught and awaiting updates from local authorities. The Alipore Meteorological Office had issued a red alert for North Bengal, warning of heavy rains and potential landslides. The situation has left many families displaced, and emergency services are stretched thin, attempting to rescue stranded residents and assess the damage. As North Bengal reels from this disaster, the combination of continuous rainfall, swollen rivers, and unstable mountain terrain continues to pose a significant threat to life and property, emphasizing the urgent need for relief and preventive measures in the region.

VVIMA to boost innovation and global reach

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant development for India's animal health sector, leading veterinary vaccine manufacturers have established the Veterinary Vaccine India Manufacturers Association (VVIMA). This non-profit aims to represent the veterinary vaccine industry, promoting collaboration with policymakers and stakeholders to encourage innovation and quality in production. The Indian veterinary vaccine market is valued at INR 2,000 crore, with a focus on various livestock and pets. VVIMA aligns with the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative to enhance self-reliance in vaccine manufacturing.

Ather Energy

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ather Energy Limited has achieved a significant milestone by producing its 500,000th scooter, the Rizta, from its Hosur facility in Tamil Nadu. This flagship scooter has become a major growth driver for the company since its launch last year. Co-founder Swapnil Jain highlighted that this milestone signifies years of focused engineering and the dedication of their teams. Ather has two manufacturing units in Hosur and plans to increase annual production to 1.42 million units with the upcoming Factory 3.0 in Maharashtra.

Tourist from South 24 Parganas Dies in Darjeeling Disaster; Travellers Leaving Hills

MI News Service, Darjeeling: A tourist, identified as Himadri Purkait, a resident of South 24 Parganas, is feared dead after going missing when a disaster struck the Darjeeling hills early Sunday. Sources said Himadri Purkait may have been swept away from Lower Sonada in the Balason River Valley.

"It is apprehended that he has been swept away by the river, and search operations are ongoing," a commune stated, which also listed the total number of tourists in the area. Authorities reported

that while some tourists remained at various locations in Darjeeling, not all were stranded; some were staying voluntarily. In Mirik, the worst-affected area, 80 visitors had already left, while 20 planned to leave soon. In the Jorebunglow Sukhiyapokhari block, 40 tourists had departed, and 30 were expected to leave shortly. In Tabakoshi, 40 out of 70 tourists had left, with the remaining 30 preparing to leave. In Chomong, five tourists were vacating and heading home.

However, all 15 vacationers in Tonglu/Tumling

stayed to continue their holiday. In Gurdung (Bijanbari), 40 tourists were preparing to leave, while in Bijanbari block, all 70 tourists had begun moving toward Siliguri. On reaching Siliguri, help desks at Tenzing Norgay Bus Terminus and the police facilitated onward travel, health check-ups, and other coordination efforts.

According to reports, 23 people died in the hills, including five Nepali nationals. Five others died at Bamandanga in Jalpaiguri district. Among the victims in the Dooars was a 2-year-old child.



Soil erosion along the banks of the Balason River caused by heavy rain in Darjeeling on Monday.

Rains wreak havoc on wildlife habitats as two rhinos swept away and 12 elephants stranded in the Dooars

MI News Service, Jaldapara: Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) Mayor Gautam Deb has reported that two rhinoceroses were swept away and a group of 12 elephants stranded after heavy rains flooded vast forested areas in Jalpaiguri district, home to many endangered species in North Bengal.

A one-horned adult rhino was found dead after being swept away and drowned in the Jaldhaka River in the Dooars. The incident has left locals and wildlife enthusiasts heartbroken, as heavy rains and swelling rivers inundated the habitats of wildlife across the region.

Jaldapara National Park, home to the greater one-horned rhinoceros, is a major attraction for visitors and a key focus of conservation efforts.

Deb told reporters that many wildlife species have been threatened after their habitats were inundated by the sudden surge of river waters flooding the forested areas of the Dooars. He added that, besides the loss of domestic animals like goats, cattle, and poultry, several antelopes also perished in the deluge during the early hours of Sunday.

He confirmed that two rhinos have died and 12 elephants remain stranded in the forested area of Maynaguri. The rains and floods have also submerged vast areas of arable land and damaged tea gardens across the Dooars. Authorities have been advised to ensure the safe passage of stranded tourists once weather conditions and road connectivity improve.

Meanwhile, the Jaldapara Wildlife Division has suspended all forms of tourism indefinitely. "All tourism activities in Jaldapara National Park have been temporarily suspended until further notice. This decision has been taken as a precautionary measure to ensure the safety of visitors and staff," a notification said today.

An assessment of roads, bridges, and related infrastructure will be carried out from a safety perspective, and until then, tourism in Jaldapara National Park remains suspended.

JU student missing in North Bengal disaster

MI News Service, Diamond Harbour / Darjeeling: A third-year student of Jadavpur University has gone missing in North Bengal, which has been ravaged by relentless rains, flash floods, and landslides over the past few days. The disappearance of Himadri Purkait, a sociology student from Diamond Harbour, has left his family and friends in anguish as rescue operations continue in the disaster-hit region.

According to reports, Himadri, a resident of Dakshin Kamarpole under Parulia Coastal Police Station in South 24 Parganas, had travelled to Darjeeling on September 22. Apart from his studies, he often worked as a volunteer and part-time tour guide in hill homestays. This time, he had gone to assist a tourist group near Sonada, under Sukhiyapokhari Police Station in Darjeeling district. Tragically, since the early hours of October 4, all contact with Himadri has been lost. His last known communication was a distress call made around 2 a.m. to the owner of the homestay where he was staying. According to a social media post by his friend Souryadepta Sengupta, the homestay owner reported that Himadri had phoned him saying he was "in danger." The student was reportedly inside a tent at that time. Moments later, his phone went dead and he has remained unreachable since. On Sunday, the Sukhia Pokhari police informed Himadri's family that the area where his tent was located might have been swept away by flash floods triggered by incessant rain. Officials have yet to confirm his whereabouts. Back in Diamond Harbour, anxiety

Family in distress

has gripped the Purkait household. His parents, Prashant and Shukla Purkait, are clinging to hope. "He used to call every day," said his mother, her voice breaking. "We spoke at around 10 p.m. on Saturday. He said, 'Mom, I'm lying down. It's raining heavily, there might be no power.' Since then, we haven't been able to reach him." The family has appealed for help from both the local administration and the West Bengal government to intensify search operations in the affected zone. As North Bengal reels under the impact of one of the worst weather disasters in recent years — with 28 confirmed deaths and hundreds missing or displaced — Himadri's disappearance adds a deeply personal dimension to the tragedy.

has gripped the Purkait household. His parents, Prashant and Shukla Purkait, are clinging to hope. "He used to call every day," said his mother, her voice breaking. "We spoke at around 10 p.m. on Saturday. He said, 'Mom, I'm lying down. It's raining heavily, there might be no power.' Since then, we haven't been able to reach him." The family has appealed for help from both the local administration and the West Bengal government to intensify search operations in the affected zone. As North Bengal reels under the impact of one of the worst weather disasters in recent years — with 28 confirmed deaths and hundreds missing or displaced — Himadri's disappearance adds a deeply personal dimension to the tragedy.

As North clears, South Bengal braces for fresh rain

MI News Service, Kolkata: Even as disaster-hit North Bengal begins to emerge from the shadows of torrential rains and landslides, the weather script appears to be reversing across the state. The Alipore Meteorological Department has warned that while the situation in the north is stabilising, South Bengal may face renewed spells of rain and thunderstorms over the next 48 hours, with no sign yet of the monsoon's retreat.

After days of unrelenting downpour that claimed at least 28 lives and caused extensive damage in **Darjeeling, Mirik, and adjoining districts, the skies over North Bengal finally cleared on Monday. Sunshine returned to

the hills, and the snow-capped Kanchenjunga was once again visible — a reassuring sight after days of devastation. Meteorological data indicate that rain intensity began subsiding on Sunday, marking an end to the extreme weather that had triggered landslides and flash floods. However, a yellow alert remains in force for the region. Light to moderate rainfall may still occur in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Kalimpong, Alipurduar, Cooch Behar, Uttar and Dakshin Dinajpur, and Malda, with isolated thunderstorms and gusty winds expected at speeds between 30–40 km/h. While heavy rain is unlikely in the coming days, the Met office cautioned that thunder-

showers and lightning could persist in parts of Malda and South Dinajpur through Tuesday and Wednesday. Conditions are expected to improve significantly from Friday onwards, with mostly dry weather predicted. In contrast, South Bengal is bracing for intermittent showers as clouds have begun advancing from the coastal belt. According to the Alipore Meteorological Office, light to moderate rain accompanied by thunderstorms is likely in most districts through Monday and Tuesday, including Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, North and South 24 Parganas, East and West Midnapore, Jhargram, Purulia, Bankura, and East and West Burdwan. Kolkata's skies are

March Held Against Seizure of Aid Ships in Gaza

Nurul Islam Khan: 'Your name is Palestine, my name is Palestine'. On Monday, the streets of the metropolis of Kolkata were filled with such slogans. Everyone shouted loudly, "Down with Israel and America." A protest march was held in front of the Statement House in Dharmatala. The event was organized by the All Bengal Minority Youth Federation. Recently, the barbaric Israeli army blocked, attacked and arrested the relief ships of the Samud Flotilla on their way to Gaza, Palestine. In that context, the relevant organization organized a protest march on that day. They also demanded a free Palestine. The head of the organization, Mohammad Kamruzzaman, said that humanitarians and social activists from all over the world have spoken out against Netanyahu for the massacre in Gaza. They have passed a criminal law against this inhuman torture. Israel is not listening despite warnings



to stop the killing spree! Where does Netanyahu get the courage to show the thumbs up to the humanitarian countries of the world? Even though there is an international agreement on this issue, Netanyahu is not respecting it! Israel is carrying out this hellish killing spree, fueled solely by America. Kamruzzaman has called for exemplary justice under international criminal law for those who are still committing genocide by occupying independent Palestine and the entire Gaza Strip. He has also called for the immediate release of all arrested social activists. Maulana Aminul Ambia, Khalil Ahmed and Maulana Anwar Hossain Qashemi, among others, were present at the meeting.

North Bengal floods submerge tea gardens, farmers reeling

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: Torrential rains and overflowing rivers in North Bengal are wreaking havoc on the region's agriculture, with tea gardens in the Maynaguri block facing severe damage. The latest floods, caused by swollen waters in the Teesta and Jaldhaka rivers, have inundated higha after higha of cultivation land, threatening both young and mature tea plants. Authorities from the Mainaguri Panchayat Samiti confirmed that the floods have caused extensive damage to farmlands across the block. Kumud Ranjan Roy, President of the Panchayat Samiti, assured that the government and local administration would stand by the affected farmers, while damage assessments are being conducted. "Such natural disasters cause significant losses during this season," he said.

In Charer Bari village of Amguri Gram Panchayat, farmers are witnessing firsthand the destructive power of the floods. Tea plants are particularly vulnerable to water-logging, which can kill the plants if water stagnates

at their base. Many small tea gardens in the area are now submerged under water, raising fears of long-term agricultural loss. Suklal Sarkar, a local tea grower, described the devastation: "I have been nurturing tea seedlings on my land for the last three years. I had finally begun harvesting leaves this season, but the flood has destroyed everything. Water-logging is extremely harmful for tea plants, and many of mine may not survive." The Panchayat Samiti has pledged to coordinate relief and support for affected farmers, including potential compensation for the extensive crop losses. Officials emphasize that the region's agriculture is at the mercy of natural forces during the monsoon, with rivers like the Jaldhaka and Teesta particularly prone to sudden surges following heavy rains in the Bhutan hills. As floodwaters continue to threaten the livelihoods of local farmers, the government and Panchayat authorities are on high alert, monitoring river levels and coordinating relief measures to mitigate further damage.

Miracle on the Damodar: 65-year-old woman rescued 45 km downstream

MI News Service, Burdwan: In the midst of the ongoing flood crisis, a remarkable story of survival has emerged from Bardhaman, where an elderly woman was rescued 45 kilometers downstream after being swept away by the swollen Damodar River. The incident underscores both the ferocity of nature and the resilience of those caught in its path.

The woman, identified as Maturi Tudu (65) of Hijalna Jaktia village, Raina, had gone to bathe alone in the Damodar River on Sunday afternoon. Torrential rains and water released from the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) had caused the river's current to swell dramatically, sweeping her away. Villagers reported that the river carried her far from her home, leaving her at the mercy of the powerful current. Residents heard her cries for help near Muldipura in the evening, prompting a frantic rescue effort. Jamalpur Block Trinamool Congress President Mahmood Khan

confirmed that the woman was rescued and admitted to a hospital, adding that she was returned safely to her family once her identity was verified by the police. "She survived only by sheer luck," Mahmood Khan said. The ongoing floods in Bardhaman have wreaked havoc across both North and South Bengal, with rivers swelling, roads submerged, homes destroyed, and fatalities reported. Authorities have cautioned that with continued rainfall and water release from DVC, river currents remain extremely dangerous. The survival of Maturi Tudu stands as a rare instance of fortune amid widespread destruction, offering a glimmer of hope for those struggling in the flood-affected areas. Officials continue to urge residents to exercise extreme caution near rivers and water bodies until floodwaters recede. Emergency teams remain on high alert across the district, coordinating rescue and relief operations for those stranded by the surging rivers.

fall gradually tapering off. Only isolated thunderstorms are expected by Friday, although the official withdrawal of the monsoon from South Bengal is still not imminent. Despite the seasonal timeline, the monsoon continues to linger across eastern India. Meteorologists attribute this persistence to successive low-pressure systems and cyclonic circulations over the Bay of Bengal, which have disrupted the usual withdrawal pattern. For now, North Bengal breathes easier, but South Bengal braces for another round of weather uncertainty — a reminder that the monsoon, though nearing its end, still holds a few more turns in its unpredictable play.



Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Banerjee and MLA Nayana Banerjee celebrate Lakshmi Puja at their residence in Kolkata on Monday.

Mamata Prioritizes Flood Relief Over Politics

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addressed a tense situation that had emerged following attacks on BJP leaders in the region. BJP MP from Malda North, KhagenMurmur, and BJP MLA from Siliguri, Shankar Ghosh, were reportedly attacked while visiting flood-affected areas and distributing relief materials. The incident had already heightened tensions between the state government and the Centre, drawing widespread political attention.

Despite the political storm, Mamata Banerjee chose to rise above partisan issues and focus on her role as an administrator. While meeting flood victims in Nagrakata on Monday, the Chief Minister urged calm and restraint. "Everyone has the right to go anywhere. Forget politics and stand by the victims," she said, emphasizing



sizing the need to prioritize humanitarian concerns over political rivalry. The attack on the BJP leaders had already put the Trinamool Congress in the spotlight,

with the Padma Shibir criticizing the party for its alleged involvement. However, Mamata Banerjee sidestepped direct confrontation and delivered a broader message, particularly to her party workers. She stressed the importance of not succumbing to provocation. "No one should give in to any provocation at this time. Let anyone come and speak as they please, let no harm come to them," she remarked, highlighting the need for tolerance and civility.

In a subtle, lightly sarcastic comment, the Chief Minister referred to the visit of Shankar Ghosh and KhagenMurmur, which involved multiple convoys entering the flood-hit areas. "In this situation, if 30-40 vehicles go to the flood-hit areas, there will be outrage," she said, underscoring the sensitivity of the situation and the

potential for escalation.

Mamata Banerjee's remarks reflect an effort to maintain administrative focus while defusing political tension in North Bengal. By prioritizing the welfare of flood victims and advocating restraint, she sent a clear signal that humanitarian considerations must take precedence over political maneuvering. Her words also served as guidance to party workers, urging them to exercise caution and avoid actions that could further inflame the situation. In the midst of political friction, the Chief Minister's message reinforced the principle of civil conduct, emphasizing that everyone, regardless of party affiliation, has the right to visit and assist affected communities. It was a reminder that compassion and cooperation should guide actions, even amid the complexities of political rivalry.

North Bengal reels under severe disaster; Rapid Action Cell set up for victims

MI News Service, Kolkata: With large parts of North Bengal ravaged by continuous rainfall and landslides, the state government has activated its disaster management control room at Nabanna, while Raj Bhavan has announced a special Rapid Action Cell to assist the affected people round the clock. Darjeeling district, West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on Monday cut short his personal visit to Tamil Nadu and Kerala and flew back to the state, officials said. The governor is also coordinating with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), and taking regular updates regarding the situation in Darjeeling, he said.

According to a statement issued by the Raj Bhavan, the

ent parts of North Bengal due to landslides, flash floods, and road collapses caused by incessant rain. Several areas remain cut off, with communication and transport networks severely disrupted. The Raj Bhavan statement added that the Peace Room opened earlier at the Governor's House has been reactivated under his instructions to extend support and shelter to the displaced. Governor Bose urged everyone to remain calm and cooperate with the administration in the ongoing rescue and relief operations. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, too, has condoled the deaths and announced that she will personally visit North Bengal on Monday to take stock of the situation. The Chief Minister has in-



Rapid Action Cell will remain operational 24x7 to coordinate immediate relief measures for the victims of North Bengal. The cell will be supervised by Officer on Special Duty (OSD) Sandeep Singh Rajput. A dedicated helpline number — 033-22001641 — and an email ID — peace-roomrajbhavan@gmail.com — have been provided for people in distress to report their issues directly. Governor C.V. Ananda Bose has also expressed deep condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the calamity. As per the latest reports, at least 27 people have died in differ-

structed all concerned departments to ensure quick relief to the affected families. Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee has also directed party workers to assist in rescue and relief activities in the disaster-hit areas.

Meanwhile, state BJP president Sukanta Majumdar (or as per reports, Shamik Bhattacharya) is scheduled to visit the affected zones on Monday as well. He has urged BJP workers in North Bengal to actively take part in relief efforts and help those stranded due to the natural disaster.



Actress Aparajita Adhya seen preparing for Lakshmi Puja at her residence in Kolkata on Monday.

KMC undertakes major water supply expansion to address South Kolkata's growing demand

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a bid to tackle the persistent drinking water shortage in the southern parts of the city, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has launched an extensive expansion plan. The civic body's Water Supply Department has set a target to complete the ongoing projects at the Khajuraho Bridge Water Treatment Plant and Dhapa's Jai Hind Water Treatment Plant by March 2026. Once operational, these projects will significantly improve water supply to large areas including Tollygunge, Jadavpur, and adjoining stretches along the EM Bypass.

According to KMC officials, the Dhalai Bridge water treatment unit was initially designed to supply 10 million gallons per day (MGD). Under the new expansion, a new 20 MGD unit is being built at the Jai Hind plant in Dhapa, which is expected to raise the total production capacity to 50 MGD. Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim had personally inspected both project sites at Dhapa and Dhalai Bridge in August this year. While expressing satisfaction over



the progress, he directed officials to expedite the pace of construction. Following his instructions, project engineers have assured that substantial progress will be achieved within the next six months.

A senior KMC official associated with the project said that the main trunk pipeline installation along the Bypass is also being taken up simultaneously. "This will substantially reduce dependence on groundwater and ensure uninterrupted supply of treated water," the official said. He added that a total of 117 kilometres of pipeline will be laid under the project, with contractors expected to begin work by the end of this month so that the entire network is completed

by March next year. As part of the initiative, 18 semi-underground reservoirs and capsule booster pumping stations are being built across Tollygunge, Jadavpur, and Bypass-adjacent neighbourhoods. Most of these are expected to become operational by March 2026, while the remaining facilities will be completed by the end of that year. As per report said that nearly ₹700 crore has already been invested in modernising the city's water distribution system. The aim, he said, is to ensure that citizens no longer face water scarcity. With the rapid population growth in South Kolkata, authorities are hopeful that the new projects will effectively bridge the demand-supply gap once completed.

Carlsberg India to Invest in Bengal, Maharashtra, and Karnataka

MI News Service, Kolkata: Carlsberg India has announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) to invest Rs 1,250 crore in West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Karnataka for expanding its market presence in India. The MoU was signed at World Food India 2025, reaffirming Carlsberg's long-term commitment to India through proposed investments of Rs 1,250 crore

across key states, according to a company statement. The Investments will significantly strengthen Carlsberg India's brewing and packaging capabilities, with Rs 500 crore allocated for a new greenfield facility in Ahilyanagari, Maharashtra; Rs 400 crore for brownfield expansion in Hooghly, West Bengal; and Rs 350 crore for brownfield expansion in Mysuru, Karnataka.

These projects are expected to generate large-

scale employment opportunities and stimulate growth among customers, suppliers, and multiple service providers. Over the next three years, Carlsberg India, a wholly owned subsidiary of the globally renowned Carlsberg Group, anticipates incremental procurement of nearly Rs 600 crore in raw and packaging materials, directly benefiting industries such as malt production, glass, cans, cardboard, and logistics.

SC clears way for appointment of V-Cs in eight State universities

MI News Service, Kolkata: The long-standing deadlock over the appointment of Vice-Chancellors in several universities across West Bengal appears to have eased after the Supreme Court on Monday allowed the recruitment process to move forward in eight universities, including Calcutta University, Jadavpur University, North Bengal University, Gour-Banga University, and Biswa Bangla University.

The matter was heard by a division bench comprising Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joy-malyaBagchi. During the hearing, the selection committee headed by former Supreme Court judge U.U. Lalit submitted a list of potential candidates for the post of Vice-Chancellor to the apex court. Although the offices of the Governor (the Chancellor of state universities) and the Chief Minister had raised objections to some of the names on the list, the Supreme Court directed that the appointment process may proceed for those universities where there were no disputes over the proposed candidates. With this order, the impasse over appointments in these eight universities has been partially resolved. The bench further stated that the next hearing will be held in chambers, signaling that the matter remains under judicial supervision. Educationists believe that this development will bring partial administrative relief to the state's higher education system, which has been facing a prolonged stalemate. Earlier, amid an ongoing tug-of-war between the state government and Raj Bhavan over the appointment of Vice-Chancellors, the process had been completed in 19 out of 36 state-run universities, while the remaining 17 institutions remained stuck in disputes.

Lawyer tries to hurl shoe towards CJI in Supreme court

From PG 1

Had sought directions to restore a seven-foot beheaded idol of Lord Vishnu at the Javari temple, part of the Khajuraho group of monuments in Madhya Pradesh. The petitioner had argued that the idol was mutilated during Mughal invasions and that authorities had failed to restore it despite repeated representations. The court held that the issue fell within the jurisdiction of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and not the judiciary. During the hearing, the CJI reportedly told the petitioner's lawyer: "Go and ask the deity itself to do something new. You say you are a staunch devotee of Lord Vishnu. So go and pray now. It's an archaeological site and ASI needs to give permission etc. Sorry."

Later, on September 18, CJI Gavai clarified in open court that he respected all religions and had no intention to offend anyone's faith while dismissing the petition.

Mamata reaches North Bengal, reviews devastation as landslides rip through hills after torrential rains

From PG 1

there is no report of any further rain since last night in the affected areas, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a fresh alert for another bout of extremely heavy rainfall in sub-Himalayan West Bengal, including in the hilly areas of Darjeeling and Kalimpong on Monday. It also warned of more landslides and road blockages due to saturated soil conditions. A red alert was also issued for Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri districts, while an orange alert (Be Prepared) was sounded for other areas of

North Bengal. Sunday's disaster bears grim echoes of the October 1968 deluge, the deadliest in the region's recorded history, when nearly 1,000 people perished as continuous downpours washed away entire settlements in the hill districts and Sikkim, and the plains. From the devastating slides of 1899, which killed 72 people in the then British hill station, to the Ambootia landslide of 1968 and the recurrent cloudburst-induced disasters of 1950 and 2015, Darjeeling's fragile terrain has been repeatedly reshaped by nature's fury.

DVC unilaterally releasing water to create 'man-made floods': Mamata

From PG 1

disconnected," she added. The Chief Minister assured stranded tourists that the government would ensure their safe evacuation. "Rescue costs are ours and tourists need not be anxious," she said, urging them to remain where they are until police and disaster teams arrive.

On her arrival in North

Bengal, the Chief minister visited the worst affected Nagrakata this afternoon before returning to the Uttarakhand Secretariat to review relief operations. The Met department has issued a red alert for Darjeeling, Cooch Behar and Alipurdwar, warning of more heavy to extremely heavy rainfall over the next 24 hours.

Bihar assembly polls in two phases on Nov 6 and 11, counting on Nov 14

From PG 1

alliances have also been trading charges. Earlier in 2020, the last assembly polls in Bihar were held in three phases amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The incumbent NDA retained power, forming the government with Nitish Kumar as the Chief Minister. In 2022, Nitish Kumar cut ties with NDA and formed the government with the RJD-led 'Mahagathbandhan'. In 2024, Kumar made another switch, breaking up with the 'Mahagathbandhan' and returning to his

alliance with the NDA. The Election Commission concluded a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) and released the final electoral list on September 30 amid intense scrutiny and criticism by the Opposition. The data showed a significant drop in the number of voters - the total electorate decreased by approximately 38 lakh from 7.8 crore on January 1, 2025, to 7.42 crore in the final rolls. On the final list, 21.53 lakh names were added and 3.66 lakh were removed.

Rescue continues for 1,000 climbers stranded on Mt Everest after blizzard

From PG 1

to make their way back from their fifth and final campsite, concerned by the continuous snowfall. "We only had a few tents. More than 10 of us were in the large tent and hardly slept," Wen said on Monday. "It was snowing too hard." He said his group had to clear the snow every 10 minutes. "Otherwise our tents would have collapsed". Two men and a woman in the group fell victim to hypothermia when the temperature slipped below freezing, even though they were sufficiently attired, Wen said. But his expedition party emerged largely unscathed, including eight other expedition guides and several others who tended the yaks transporting their equipment and kit. Karma valley, first explored by Western travellers a century ago, is a relatively pristine part of the Everest region. Unlike the peak's arid north face, it boasts lush vegetation

and untouched alpine forests, fed by meltwaters from the Kangshung glacier at the foot of the world's highest mountain. It was unclear if trekkers near the north face had been affected or not. The north face, due to its easy access by paved road, regularly draws large numbers of tourists. October is a peak season, when skies usually clear at the end of the Indian monsoon. Ticket sales and entry to the entire Everest Scenic Area were suspended from late Saturday. To the south of Tibet in Nepal, heavy rains triggered landslides and flash floods that have blocked roads, washed away bridges and killed at least 47 people since Friday. Thirty-five people died in separate landslides in the eastern Ilam district bordering India. Nine were reported missing after being swept away by floodwaters and three others were killed in lightning strikes.

Name Change
I, Abdur Rouf Mine (old name) S/o Ebadat Mine, residing at Vill- Jiran Gacha, P.O.- Hatisala, P.S.- Polerhat, Kolkata- 700135, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdur Rauf Mine (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 24/09/2025. Abdur Rauf Mine (new name) and Abdur Rouf Mine (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Fatma Kazi (Old Name) W/O Rushdi Ali And D/O Noor Mohammed Kazi Residing At Vill & Po - Mallickpur,Ps-Baruipur,Dist-24 Parganas South,Pin-700145, West Bengal,India.Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Fatema Kazi(New Name) As Declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Baruipur Dated 19/09/2025. Fatma Kazi (Old Name) And Fatema Kazi(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rusdy Ali(Old Name) S/O Hafiz Ali Residing At Vill & Po - Mallickpur,Ps-Baruipur,Dist-24 Parganas South, Pin-700145, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rusdhi Ali(New Name) As Declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Baruipur Dated 19/09/2025.Rusdy Ali (Old Name) And Rusdhi Ali(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.Also Declared That My Date Of Birth Wrongly Entered In My Voter Id Card 01/01/1990 Instead Of 29/06/1980.

Name Change
I, Abul Hamid Mandal (Old Name) S/o Osman Mandal Residing at Ramnagar, Kumari Ramnagar, Hanskali, District- Nadia, Pin - 741502, West Bengal India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Hamid Mandal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Abul Hamid Mandal (Old Name) and Abdul Hamid Mandal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ashanur Khatun (Old Name) W/o Gaffar Biswas Residing at Jagannathpur, Patikabari, Hanskali, District- Nadia, Pin - 741502, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth, be known as Ashanur Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Ashanur Khatun (Old Name) and Ashanur Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mijanur Mandal (Old Name) S/o Abdul Mamin Mandal Residing at Vill - Takshali, P.o - Mamjoan, Ps - Taherpur, District- Nadia, Pin - 741121, West Bengal India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mijanur Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Mijanur Mandal (Old Name) and Mijanur Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sangita Devi More (Old Name) W/o Lalit Kumar More Residing at 4/2, Sarat Bose Road, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700020 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sangita More (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Sangita Devi More (Old Name) and Sangita More (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Anwara Khatun (Old Name) W/o Golam Mabud Khan Residing at Vill - Mukundapur, Po - Sagareswar, P.S.- Ramnagar, District - East Medinipur, Pin - 721440 West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Anuara Begum (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Anwara Khatun (Old Name) and Anuara Begum (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Abdur Rahaman Mandal S/O - Haji Lutfar Mandal Residing at -Vill-Korapara, P.O-Sikra Kuligram, P.S-Matia Dist.-24 Pgs (N) But my name is mistakenly written as Abdur Rahaman in the Madrasas Admit Card (No. - E1431-00807) of my son Abdullah Al Masum Also my name is Abdur Rahaman Mandal in my son's Aadhaar, Epic and Pan Card On 23/09/2025 Ld Executive Magistrate Basirhat Court Affidavit declared that the correct name is Abdur Rahaman Mandal and Abdur Rahaman, Abdur Rahaman Mandal are known as one and the same person.

Change of Name
It has been declared that the English Spelling of the name of Father & mother of **A. Pawan Kalyan** which is mentioned in his Birth Certificate is **A. SRINIVAS RAO & A. SARDHA DEVI**, in place of **A. SHRINIVASH RAO & A. SARADA DEVI** who is a resident of Khudirampally, H. No.- 238/12/43 Ward No- 11, PO- KGP, PS- Kharagpur (T), Paschim Medinipur by swearing an affidavit In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class), Kharagpur vide affidavit No- 11645 dated 23/09/2025.

Change of Name
I, **ABHISHEK KUMAR**, resident at Vill.- Malsiwas, Tehsil-Laxmangarh, Dist - Sikar (Rajasthan) have declared that my son's **SAMIKSH** shall henceforth be known as **SAMIKSH CHOUDHARY** vide affidavit no.- 1610/25, Dated 12/08/2025 Before the Notary Public at Sujangarh, **SAMIKSH S/o ABHISHEK KUMAR** and **SAMIKSH CHOUDHARY S/o ABHISHEK KUMAR** is one & same identical person.

Name Change
I, Kakoli Mukherjee (old name) D/o Dilip Chakraborty, resident of G-4/5, Dankuni Housing Estate, Dankuni, Hooghly, Pin- 712311, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kakali Mukherjee (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Kakali Mukherjee (new name) and Kakoli Mukherjee (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Samiruddin (Old Name) S/O Sekh Abdul Rahim, Residing At Arena Housing,Flat-B5/7,Street No.110,Acction Area-1,New Town, Dist-24 Parganas (North), Pin- 700156, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shaikh Samiruddin(New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 26/09/2025.Sk Samiruddin(Old Name) And Shaikh Samiruddin(New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Thakurdas Debnath (old name) S/o Monmohan Debnath, resident of 1/K, Piara Bagan Bye Lane, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712235, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Swapan Debnath (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Swapan Debnath (new name) and Thakurdas Debnath (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ibran Mollick (old name) S/o Samasuddin Mallik, residing at Vill-Chamni, P.O.- Paschim Chamni, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ibrahim Mallik (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 24/09/2025. Ibrahim Mallik (new name) and Ibran Mollick (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sofir Rahaman Khan (old name) S/o Raosan Ali Khan, resident of Vill- Chalkvedua Arambagh, P.O.- Nangulpura, P.S.- Khanakul, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712406, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sofiar Rahaman Khan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Sofiar Rahaman Khan (new name) and Sofir Rahaman Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Asif Iqbal Khan (old name) S/o Sofiar Rahaman Khan, resident of Vill- Chalkvedua Arambagh, P.O.- Nangulpura, P.S.- Khanakul, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712406, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Asif Ikbal Khan (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Asif Ikbal Khan (new name) and Asif Iqbal Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Ahmed Hossain (old name) S/o Late Md Dawood Mia, resident of 461/H/15, GORA CHAND ROAD, PO - ENTALLY, PS - BENIAPUKUR KOLKATA 700014, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ahmed Hossain (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Ahmed Hossain (new name) and Md Ahmed Hossain (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SIMONTINE PRAMANIK (old name) D/O SUBAL PRAMANICK residing at FC-58, SALT LAKE BLOCK-FC,SECTOR-3, P.O.- IB MARKET, BIDHANNAGAR, NORTH 24 PARGANAS- 700106 in the state of West Bengal, India, have chan ged my name and shall henceforth be known as SIMANTINE PRAMANICK (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 04/09/2025. SIMONTINE PRAMANICK (old name) and SIMONTINE PRAMANIK (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Reshma Akhtar Banu (old name) W/o Mohammad Sahinul Islam, resident of Vill- Garh Mandaran, P.O.- Mandaran, P.S.- Goghat, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712612, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Resma Akhtar Banu (nt name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Resma Akhtar Banu (new name) and Reshma Akhtar Banu (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sahinul Islam (old name) S/o Mohammad Tanjilal Islam, resident of Vill- Garh Mandaran, P.O.- Mandaran, P.S.- Goghat, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712612, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mohammad Sahinul Islam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Mohammad Sahinul Islam (new name) and Sahinul Islam (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Nadeem Ahmed S/O Late Wahabuddin Chowdhury ,Residing At 4,Ripon Square,Barber Manzil,Flat No.3 & 4,Ps -Park Street,Kolkata-700016,West Bengal,India,That My Father's Correct Name Wahabuddin Chowdhury Entered In My All Identity Proof And Passport But My Father's Name Inadventently Entered In My All Educational Certificates Al-lahabuddin Chowdhury Instead Of Wahabuddin Chowdhury As Declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore Dated 24/09/2025. Wahabuddin Chowdhury And Al-lauddin Chowdhury Both Are Same And One Identical Person.



A glimpse of 'non-stop 96- hour long record ' Dhunuchi' dance during Durga Pujo this year in Kolkata. This effort has been officially recognized by India Book of Records.

The Future of Mobility Arrives in Odisha - MATTER Expands Retail Network in Eastern India with a New Experience Hub in Bhubaneswar

● Bhubaneswar riders can now Experience India's First Geared Electric Motorbike driven by cutting-edge technology.



MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: MATTER, India's pioneering electric mobility innovator, today announced the grand opening of its latest Experience Hub in Bhubaneswar. The new hub marks another milestone in MATTER's rapidly growing retail presence, re-inforcing its mission to accelerate India's transition towards clean, connected, and sustainable mobility. The MATTER Experience Hub – Bhubaneswar, located near Narendra Garden, Jagamara, Bhubaneswar offers a state-of-the-art destination where riders can explore MATTER's cutting-edge EV technologies and experience first-hand the AERA—India's First Geared Electric Motorbike. The inauguration was attended by MATTER's leadership team, dealer partners, and EV enthusiasts from across Odisha, underscoring the city's growing role as a hub for sustainable transportation. Speaking at the launch, Mr. Mohal Lalbhai, Founder & Group CEO, MATTER, said "Bhubaneswar is not only a cultural and educational capital but also an emerging smart city with a progressive vision for sustainability. With our new Experience Hub here, we are creating opportunities for people to experience world-class EV technology first-hand. Through the AERA, we aim to redefine how riders move across their city—offering a cleaner, smarter, and more thrilling mobility experience." Speaking at the launch, Mr. Prasad Telikepalli, Founder & Group CTO, MATTER, said

"AERA is a testament to India's engineering excellence—designed, developed, and built by Indians for India. Every line of code and every component reflects our commitment to bring world-class technology rooted in customer needs, redefining what an electric motorbike can truly be. We invite everyone to come and witness India's first geared electric motorbike at the MATTER Experience Hub in Bhubaneswar and experience the future of mobility" The Dealer Principal, Mr. Nishitha Ranjan Nanda, added "It is a proud moment to bring MATTER's revolutionary EV experience to Bhubaneswar. The city is ready for a new chapter in green mobility, and with the AERA, we are offering something that blends performance, innovation, and sustainability like never before." AERA – Geared for Thrills, Built for the Future At the heart of the Experience Hub is the AERA 5000+, the world's first manufactured geared electric motorbike and MATTER's flagship innovation. Equipped with Hyper Shift, a 4-speed manual gearbox, the AERA combines the thrill of gears with the efficiency of electric power—bridging tradition and future mobility. Visitors to the Bhubaneswar Hub can explore a phygital environment—where immersive digital engagement meets hands-on product experience. From interactive displays to test rides, the Hub is designed to help riders understand MATTER's in-house engineered innovations that are shaping the fu-

ture of urban mobility. **Key Features of the AERA 5000+:** ● HyperShift Gearbox – 4-speed manual transmission with Eco, City, and Sport ride modes ● Liquid-Cooled Powertrain – Engineered for India's urban traffic and high temperatures ● 7" Smart Touch Dashboard – Navigation, ride stats, media, and OTA updates ● 5kWh Battery Pack – Certified 172 km range; IP67 rated for dust and water resistance ● Quick Acceleration – 0–40 km/h in under 2.8 seconds ● Enhanced Safety – Dual disc brakes with ABS, dual suspension, smart park assists ● MATTER Mobile App – Real-time tracking, ride history, remote controls ● Lifetime Battery Warranty – A first in India, ensuring long-term rider confidence About MATTER MATTER Motor Works, an electric mobility startup founded in January 2019 in Ahmedabad, is re-defining the future of mobility with its "Innovate in India" approach. Committed to building an independent EV ecosystem, MATTER explores every facet of electric mobility to drive India towards a sustainable future.Its flagship product, AERA, World's first manufactured geared electric motorbike, has been recognized as the "Editors' Choice Electric Motorcycle of the Year" by Top Gear India, alongside prestigious accolades like "EV Bike of the Year 2025" by ACKO Drive and Innovation Startup of the Year; at the Outlook Business Spotlight Awards.

Class IX student dies of dengue in Salt Lake; fear grips ESI Housing Complex

MI News Service, Kolkata: A 15-year-old girl from Salt Lake has died of dengue, triggering panic among residents of the area. The deceased, Rupshi Jana, a student of Class IX, lived with her family at the ESI Housing Complex in Ward 33 under the Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation. According to the death certificate issued by doctors, dengue infection has been mentioned as the cause of death. Local sources said Rupshi developed a fever on September 25. Her family initially took her for a blood test, which did not detect any infection. However, the fever persisted. By Saptami, her condition started worsening, prompting the family to repeat the blood test, which confirmed dengue infection.

On October 2 (Dashami), she was admitted to a private hospital after her health deteriorated sharply. Despite medical efforts, her condition continued to decline, and she passed away on Sunday. Family members said that Rupshi's grandmother has also tested positive for dengue, though her condition is currently stable. The news of two dengue cases within the same family has created widespread concern in the ESI Housing Complex and nearby areas.

Saraighat Express rescheduled

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to late running of corresponding Down link train, 12345 Howrah-Guwahati Saraighat Express will leave Howrah at 20:45 hrs. on 06.10.2025 instead of its schedule departure time at 16:05 hrs. on 06.10.2025.

India plans new cheetah batch from Africa

MI News Service, New Delhi: India is in negotiation with some African countries for bringing in fresh batches of cheetahs and is expected to have one group of 8-10 of them, likely from Botswana by this December, sources said. Other countries being looked at by India as a possible source of new batches of cheetahs include Namibia, which has supplied the wild animal earlier too, they said.

Officials associated with Project Cheetah asserted that India's ambitious move to reintroduce cheetahs into its wild has been a "big success", and the programme has successfully navigated the initial challenges of the world's first transcontinental transfer of a large carnivore. Since Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the first batch of eight cheetahs from Namibia into Kuno National Park on his birthday in September 2022, their numbers reinforced in February 2023 by 12 cheetahs from South Africa, they have bred multiple times here — an evidence, sources said, that they have adapted well to Indian conditions.

The current lot of 27 cheetahs include 16 born in India, the sources said, adding that the overall cub survival rate in Kuno is over 61 per cent against the corresponding global figure of 40 per cent. It is a big success, an official said, attributing the project's growth, after initial hiccups, to a combination of political will, which was also crucial in negotiating with foreign countries, India's expertise in wildlife conservation, support from local population and overall sense of commitment to the government's flagship programme. Among translocated cheetahs, 11 have survived, including six females and five males. As many as 15 cheetahs in Kuno are free-ranging, meaning they no longer live in controlled-conditions and roam free in their natural habitat. Authorities have identified three more cheetah release sites, Gandhisagar and Nauradeshi wildlife sanctuaries in Madhya Pradesh and Banni grasslands in Gujarat, as it aims to continue with a mix of transcontinental relocation of cheetahs and an organic growth in their numbers in India to boost their numbers across a vast territory. Two cheetahs were released in Gandhisagar in April this year. "We are looking to bring 10-12 cheetahs every year to populate new sites and to ensure sustainability of their existing numbers," an official said. Authorities keep cheetahs under monitoring through radio collars and three persons are always at a "radio distance" so that they can reach in quick time to attend to an untoward situation.

HIRAKUD DAM in Odisha needs major repair: Reports

MI News Service, Cuttack (Odisha) : The 67-year-old Hirakud Dam, the world's longest earthen dam, requires a comprehensive overhaul to address structural concerns and enhance capacity, according to a senior official. Sudhir Kumar Sahu, additional chief engineer, Hirakud Dam Circle, has said that while the dam's overall strength remains good, superficial cracks and cavities have been identified upstream of the reservoir. "We are maintaining the dam properly and the Central Soil and Material Research Station and Central Water and Power Research Station have given good reports. Its strength is very good, but there are some superficial cracks and cavities upstream of the reservoir," Sahu said. The Hirakud dam is built across the Mahanadi, about 12km upstream of Sambalpur town in Odisha.

Miscellaneous

RPF/ER Rescued 10 Minor Children under "Operation Nanhey Faristey"



MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway continues its dedicated efforts towards child protection and safety through the ongoing initiative "Operation Nanhey Faristey." On 05.10.2025, Railway Protection Force (RPF) officials of Howrah and Malda Divisions successfully rescued 10 minor boys and girls from Dankuni, Howrah, Bardhaman, Bakudi, and Barharwa railway stations. Among the rescued children, 02 were found roaming aimlessly at Dankuni and Howrah stations, 02 girls had fled home due to family

discord, and 06 children had left home after being scolded by their parents. All rescued minors were safely handed over to the concerned Child Line authorities for counselling, shelter, and further necessary action as per established procedures. Eastern Railway urges the public to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious activity to Railway staff or RPF personnel. The RPF remains committed to protecting children from exploitation, ensuring their safety, and maintaining a secure railway environment.

Intensive Cleanliness drive undertaken over Howrah Division



MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the ongoing Swachhata Pakhwada and Special Campaign 5.0 - 2025, Howrah Division, Eastern Railway observed "Swachh Railgaadi" (Clean Train) Day on 6th October, 2025. On this occasion, intensive inspection and cleaning of trains were carried out at the washing lines by dedicated teams of officers and supervisors. The drive covered both primary base rakes and

stabled rakes, ensuring comprehensive cleanliness and hygiene standards in all coaches. The inspection included thorough checking of toilets, interior and exterior cleaning of coaches, and verification of the quality of linen provided to passengers. Special attention was given to the cleanliness and hygiene of pantry cars to uphold food safety and sanitation standards. To promote excellence in cleanliness and service, Howrah Division has instituted provisions for awarding contractual supervisors and staff demonstrating outstanding performance during their contract period—particularly those maintaining zero passenger complaints throughout the year. This initiative reflects Howrah Division's unwavering commitment to ensuring a cleaner and more comfortable travel experience for passengers, in alignment with the vision of Swachh Rail, Swachh Bharat.

33rd Men's Inter-Railway RPF Football Tournament-2025 Inaugurated



MI News Service, Kolkata: The 33rd Men's Inter-Railway RPF Football Tournament-2025 was inaugurated today (06.10.25) at the Multi-Disciplinary Specialized Training Institute (MDSTI), RPF, Kanchrapara. The event is organized by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway and was formally inaugurated by Shri Amiya Nandan Sinha, JG-cum-PCSC/RPF, Eastern Railway. A total of 14 teams are participating in this prestigious tournament, representing Eastern Railway (ER), South Eastern Railway (SER), North Western Railway (NWR), Western Railway (WR), East Central Railway (ECR), North Central Railway

(NCR), Southern Railway (SR), South Central Railway (SCR), North East Frontier Railway (NFR), North Eastern Railway (NER), Central Railway (CR), South Western Railway (SWR), East Coast Railway (ECoR), and the Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF). The championship will be conducted in a round-robin format and is scheduled to continue until October 17, 2025. The first match featured Eastern Railway facing off against North Western Railway.Shri S.K. Singh, DIG-cum-CSC/RPF, Eastern Railway, along with other senior officers and staff of the RPF, were present to grace the inauguration ceremony.

Darjeeling rains: Every area of Gorkhaland Territorial Administration cut off, there is no road connectivity, says official

Notice

This is to inform the general public and the other co-shares of Panchudi Cattai Hat and Bazar that we are the owners and possessors of the shares of Panchudi Hat and Bazar located in the Panchudi mouza under Ketugam Police Station in the Purbu Bardhaman district, Adalat, Panchu, under urgent financial requirement, we are publishing this notice to sell the aforementioned share belonging to us. If any individual or any of the co-shares of Panchudi Hat and Bazar are interested in purchasing the said share, they should contact the address below within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice. Late Sadanand Mondal, Adal Katwa Mondal and Dilip Kumar Mondal, both o Late Sadanand Mondal, Adal Katwa Mondal, Panchu, under urgent financial requirement, we are publishing this notice to publish in the newspaper, on behalf of my client, who have instructed me to do so.

**Mr. Golanortuza
Advocate, A.G.P. Katwa Court**

আমমোক্তারনামা সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সকলকে জ্ঞাত করা যাইতেছে যে, ১)শ্রী
রাক্ষস দে পিতা শ্রী শুভনাথ দে, ২)শ্রীমতী
শ্যামলী ঘোষ স্বামী শ্রী অজিত ঘোষ, ৩)শ্রীমতী
বিজলী চন্দ্রবর্তী, স্বামী শ্রী তন্ময় চন্দ্রবর্তী, ৪)শ্রী
হারাধন দাস ঘোষ, ৫)শ্রীমতী অঞ্জলী দাস ঘোষ
স্বামী শ্রী তপন চন্দ্রবর্তী, ৬-এএর পিতা
নৃপেন্দ্রনাথ দাস ঘোষ, ৬)শ্রী নারায়ন চন্দ্র

Revised Timings of Some Trains at Different stations			
The timings of the following Mail/Express trains will be revised at the stations mentioned against them as under :			
Train No. & Name	Station Name	Revised Timings	
		Arr.	Dep.
15959 Howrah – Dibrugarh Kamrup Express (via Guwahati) [w.e.f. (JCO) 07.10.2025]	Jalpaiguri Road	06.03	06.05
	New Maynaguri	06.18	06.20
	Dhupguri	06.35	06.40
	Falakata	07.10	07.12
	New Cooch Behar	07.55	08.00
	New Alipurduar	08.15	08.20
	Kamakhyaaguri	08.38	08.40
	Gossaigaon Hat	08.58	09.00
	Fakiragram	09.13	09.15
	Kokrajhar	09.28	09.30
15961 Howrah – Dibrugarh Kamrup Express (via Rangapara North Cabin) [w.e.f. (JCO) 06.10.2025]	Jalpaiguri Road	06.03	06.05
	New Maynaguri	06.18	06.20
	Dhupguri	06.38	06.43
	Falakata	07.10	07.12
	New Cooch Behar	07.55	08.00
	New Alipurduar	08.15	08.20
	Kamakhyaaguri	08.38	08.40
	Fakiragram	09.13	09.15
	Kokrajhar	09.28	09.30
	13175 Sealdah – Silchar Kanchanjungha Express [w.e.f. (JCO) 06.10.2025]	Jalpaiguri Road	18.38
Dhupguri		19.13	19.15
Falakata		19.35	19.37
New Cooch Behar		20.10	20.15
New Alipurduar		20.35	20.40
Kamakhyaaguri		20.58	21.00
Gossaigaon Hat		21.20	21.22
Fakiragram		21.38	21.40
Kokrajhar		21.50	21.52
13173 Sealdah – Sabroom Kanchanjungha Express [w.e.f. (JCO) 07.10.2025]	Jalpaiguri Road	18.38	18.40
	New Maynaguri	18.53	18.55
	Dhupguri	19.13	19.15
	Falakata	19.35	19.37
	New Cooch Behar	20.10	20.15
	New Alipurduar	20.35	20.40
	Kamakhyaaguri	20.58	21.00
	Gossaigaon Hat	21.20	21.22
	Fakiragram	21.38	21.40
13148 Bamanhat– Sealdah Uttarbanga Express [w.e.f. (JCO) 06.10.2025]	Jalpaiguri Road	16.33	16.35
	New Maynaguri	16.18	16.20
	Dhupguri	15.58	16.00
	Falakata	15.28	15.30
	New Cooch Behar	14.50	14.55
	Dinhata	14.12	14.17

Note : Timings of those trains at all other stations will remain unchanged.

EASTERN RAILWAY
Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

Life Insurance

Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Ltd.
(A subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Ltd.)



ADITYA BIRLA CAPITAL

1800-270-7000

Regn. No.: 109. Regd Office: One World Centre, Tower 1, 16th Floor, Jupiter Mill Compound, 841, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road, Mumbai - 400 013. +91 22 4356 7000 | CIN: U99999MH2000PLC128110

Sd/-
Authorised Signatory

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, w.e.f. 31/10/2025, Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Ltd. Tamluk office shall shift its premises.

Closing Premises
Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Ltd.
 2nd Floor, Yamaha Showroom,
 Holding No.326 at Mauza Padumbasan,
 Maniktilak, PO Tamluk, District Purba - 721636.

New Premises
Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Ltd.
 1st Floor, Maer Guest House, Salegchia,
 Tamluk, Ward No. 17, Halida Macheda Road,
 West Bengal - 721 636.

Place: West Bengal
Date: 07/10/2025

Sd/-
Authorised Signatory

For Further details please contact
Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited.
Registered Office: One World Centre, Tower 1, 16th Floor, Jupiter Mill Compound,
 841, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road, Mumbai - 400 013.
Website: <http://lifeinsurance.adityabirlacapital.com> and Toll-Free No.:1800-270-7000.

The Trade Logo "Aditya Birla Capital" Displayed Above is Owned by ADITYA BIRLA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION PRIVATE LIMITED (Trademark) And Used by ADITYA BIRLA SUN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (ABSL) under the License.

ADV-D/95/25-26/1079

STUDY SHOWS HOW BRAIN'S INTERNAL COMPASS GUIDES THE BODY

WASHINGTON DC [US] : Our sense of direction is essential for navigating the world around us. It serves as the brain's internal compass, guiding us in the right direction and, more significantly, prompting us to reverse course when we're going the wrong way.

Yet despite a large body of research on how navigation works in the brain, scientists still lack a clear understanding of how this internal compass directly guides behavior.

Now, a study conducted in fruit flies and led by researchers at Harvard Medical School offers new insights into how two distinct brain regions -- the seat of the compass and the steering center -- communicate during navigation.

The findings are published in *Nature*. In the study, researchers examined the brains of fruit flies knocked off course while running in a particular direction. They discovered that three distinct groups of neurons enable communication between the compass and the steering regions of the brain and work together to help the fly course-correct. In doing so, the neurons

translate signals from a fly's internal compass into behavior to keep it moving in the right direction.

"Until now, no one really knew how sense of direction, which is an internal cognitive state, relates to the actions an animal is making in the world," said senior author Rachel Wilson, the Joseph B. Martin Professor of Basic Research in the Field of Neurobiology in the Blavatnik Institute at HMS.

Despite their small size, fruit flies have complicated brains and behaviors -- and thus the findings could provide a foundation for future studies on how signals in the brain become actions in more complex species, including humans.

Staying on course Humans and other complex animals have an internal compass made of brain cells that use internal and external information to generate a sense of direction. In fruit flies, scientists have figured out that these cells -- called head-direction cells -- are arranged in a circle, making them especially easy to study.

Contrary to what their name implies, fruit flies spend more time walking than flying. Previous

research has shown that as flies walk around, these head-direction cells actively track their rotational movements, such as turning right or left.

In the new study, Wilson and colleagues wanted to explore how this compass is functionally connected to the steering region of the brain to understand how it

guides navigation. To do this, they used an existing wiring diagram of every neural connection in the fruit fly brain to build a computational model of how these regions might be linked. With this model, they were able to identify and make predictions about the layer of neurons

that connect the two regions.

To validate their predictions, the researchers analyzed the activity in the layer of neurons identified by the model as the flies walked around in a virtual reality environment. Often, flies ran straight in a random direction, likely in an

escape their environment. When their virtual world was rotated to move them off course, the flies swiftly course-corrected. Interestingly, these course corrections were carried out by three separate groups of neurons: Two sets of neurons nudged the fly to go right or left, and

one issued a signal to turn around completely.

"You can think of these three groups of neurons as three sentries guarding a castle," Wilson said, "with each responsible for surveilling in a different direction and prompting the correction needed to keep the fly moving towards its goal."

The findings explain how fruit flies use their sense of direction to estimate where they are in relation to a goal and how they use this estimate to adjust their behavior.

"This is a really concrete description of how a complicated cognitive process works and how it produces specific, guided behaviors in real time," Wilson said.

The findings complement a second study, also published in *Nature* on Feb. 7 and led by a separate team of researchers at The Rockefeller University, that describes parts of the same neuronal circuit in fruit flies.

Taken together, the two studies provide an even more complete understanding of how sense of direction translates into behavior in the animals.

A strong starting point



Study finds nematode species that protect crops without pesticides

LOS ANGELES [US] : Researchers have identified a microscopic worm species that infects and kills insects.

These worms, known as nematodes, have the potential to manage crop pests in warm, humid environments where other beneficial nematodes do not currently thrive.

The study was published in the *Journal of Parasitology*. This new species belongs to the *Steinernema* family of nematodes, which has long been employed in agriculture to treat insect parasites without the use of pesticides. *Steinernema* are harmless to humans and other mammals and were discovered in the 1920s.

"We spray trillions of them on crops every year, and they're easy to buy," said UCR nematology professor Adler Dillman, whose lab made the discovery.

"Though there are more than 100 species of *Steinernema*, we're always on the lookout for new ones because each has unique features. Some might be better in certain climates or with certain insects."

Hoping to gain a deeper understanding of a different *Steinernema* species, Dillman's laboratory requested samples from colleagues in Thailand.

"We did DNA analysis on the samples and realized they weren't the ones we had requested. Genetically, they didn't look like anything else that has ever been described," Dillman said. Dillman and his colleagues have

now described the new species in the *Journal of Parasitology*. They are nearly invisible to the naked eye, about half the width of a human hair and just under 1 millimetre long. Several thousand in a flask looks like dusty water," Dillman said. They've named the new species *Steinernema adamsi* after the American biologist Byron Adams, Biology Department chair at Brigham Young University. "Adams has helped refine our understanding of nematode species and their important role in ecology and recycling nutrients in the soil," Dillman said. "He was also my undergraduate advisor and the person who introduced me to nematodes. This seemed a fitting tribute to him." Adams, who is currently doing research on nematodes in Antarctica, said he is honoured to have such a "cool" species bear his name in the scientific literature. "The biology of this animal is absolutely fascinating," Adams said. "Aside from its obvious applications for alleviating human suffering caused by pest insects, it also has much to teach us about the ecological and evolutionary processes involved in the complex negotiations that take place between parasites, pathogens, their hosts, and their environmental microbiomes."

Learning about these worms' life cycles as an undergraduate is what hooked Dillman on studying them.

As juveniles, nematodes live in the soil with sealed

mouths, in a state of arrested development. In that stage, they wander the soil, looking for insects to infect. Once they find a victim, they enter the mouth or anus and defecate highly pathogenic bacteria.

"A parasite that poops out pathogenic stuff to help kill its host, that's unusual right out of the gate," Dillman said. "It's like something out of a James Cameron movie."

Within 48 hours of infection, the insect dies. "It essentially liquefies the insect, then you're left with a bag that used to be its body. You might have 10 or 15 nematodes in a host, and 10 days later you have 80,000 new individuals in the soil looking for new insects to infect," Dillman said. The researchers are certain that *S. adamsi* kills insects. They confirmed this by putting some of them in containers with wax moths. "It killed the moths in two days with a very low dose of the worms," Dillman said.

Going forward, the researchers hope to discover the nematode's unique properties. "We don't know yet if it can resist heat, UV light, or dryness. And we don't yet know the breadth of insects it is capable of infecting."

However, *S. adamsi* are members of a genus that can infect hundreds of types of insects. Therefore, the researchers are confident it will be beneficial on some level whether it turns out to be a specialist or a generalist parasite of multiple types of insects.

Should I limit how often my child eats nuts because they contain fat

Sydney : (The Conversation) When I mention kids and nuts in the same sentence, some parents react like I've dropped the F-bomb, thanks to the association of nuts with two other F-words: fat and fear. Parents sometimes avoid nuts due to claims they cause unwanted weight gain or trigger life-threatening allergies.

But nuts are good for kids - and avoiding them can do more harm than good.

The fats in nuts are healthy fats

Decades of exposure to the diet industry's relentless low-fat marketing have led parents to believe that all fats are bad. But this isn't the case.

Nuts are packed with fats, but it's the healthy type: unsaturated fat. It supports heart and digestive health, and reduces inflammation. Nuts provide essential nutrients children need for healthy growth, including the omega-3 fatty acids younger kids need for brain, nerve and vision development. They are also one of the richest sources of dietary polyphenols or antioxidants, which have a range of potential health benefits, including cancer prevention.

Nuts contain fibre, protein and good fats, which take longer to digest, satisfying kids' hunger and making them feel fuller for longer. In fact, up to 20 per cent of the energy in nuts isn't absorbed, but still provides feelings of fullness.

The high fibre content also helps kids' with regular and easier bowel movements.

This means nuts actually help manage kids' weight, with research showing eating more



nuts is linked to a lower risk of being overweight.

What about the allergy risk? Nut allergies are becoming more common and understandably can cause parents great concern.

But research shows consuming nuts in appropriate forms from a young age can actually reduce the chance of having a nut allergy, including among those at high risk (such as when a family member has an allergy).

Another study found regularly feeding peanuts from infancy reduced the rate of peanut allergies in adolescence by 71 per cent.

To reduce the risk of allergies, introduce nuts as early as possible to your child's diet - ide-

ally between four and six months - in the form of 100 per cent nut spreads to prevent choking. Start by smearing a small amount of 100 per cent smooth peanut butter on the inside of the lip and monitor for 30 minutes. If there's no reaction, double the quantity (¼ teaspoon) and monitor for another 30 minutes. You can then repeat this process increasing to ½ teaspoon. If this goes well, you can include 100 per cent nut butters in your child's diet, increasing the amount offered weekly.

If you have a family history of allergies, introduce nuts in consultation with your GP. If your child does have a reaction, mild to moderate reactions can be treated using non-sedating antihista-

mines. If the child has any symptoms of anaphylaxis, call an ambulance immediately and treat them with an EpiPen if one is available.

What should you do?

Allowing kids to enjoy nuts - nature's treats - helps keep unhealthy processed foods out of their diets.

There's no need to limit them because kids are extremely good at regulating their calorie intake across the course of the day. When nuts are no longer a choking hazard (between the age of three and five years), I'd suggest serving them a large handful every day. Before that, they can eat nuts as pastes or finely crushed and mixed into food to

prevent choking.

Adults often avoid eating nuts themselves due to concerns about their high energy content, fearing they might lead to weight gain. However, research suggests this fear may be unfounded.

Studies show even relatively large servings - up to 100 grams per day - are linked to modest reductions in body weight and fat mass. While Australia's current dietary guidelines recommend limiting intakes of nuts, this no longer reflects the evidence and should be revised when the guidelines are updated next year.

Take-home tips

Nuts are a powerhouse of nutrition, but getting kids to eat them can be a challenge. All nut varieties offer health benefits, so include a mixture to keep things interesting. Choose raw or dry-roasted, unsalted options to avoid added oil and salt creeping into kids' diets.

If they reject them the first time, try again. Research shows kids need eight to ten exposures before they willingly eat new foods. So offer them regularly, encourage tasting and don't pressure them to eat. To help incorporate more nuts into children's snacks and meals, start with milder, more familiar varieties such as cashews, almonds, or peanuts. These tend to have a softer texture and sweeter flavour, making them more appealing to younger palates.

More robust or bitter varieties - such as walnuts, pecans or Brazil nuts - can be introduced gradually, mixed into other foods or baked into recipes to balance their stronger taste and firmer texture.

Does physical activity alleviate pain in cancer survivors?



WASHINGTON DC : People who have had cancer commonly experience prolonged pain, but a new study suggests that being physically active may help to minimize its severity.

Wiley published the study in the *American Cancer Society's* peer-reviewed publication, *CANCER*.

Although physical activity has been demonstrated to alleviate a variety of pains, its impact on cancer-related discomfort is unknown.

To investigate, a team led by senior author Erika Rees-Punia, PhD, MPH, of the American Cancer Society, and first author Christopher T.V. Swain, PhD, of the University of Melbourne, in Australia, analyzed information about 51,439 adults without a history of cancer and 10,651 adults with a past cancer diagnosis.

Participants were asked, "How would you rate your pain on average," with responses ranging from 0 (no pain) to 10 (worst pain imaginable). Participants were also asked about their usual physical activity.

US guidelines recommend 150 minutes (2 hours 30 minutes) to 300 minutes (5 hours) a week of moderate-intensity, or 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) to 150 minutes (2 hours 30

minutes) a week of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity.

Based on participants' responses, the investigators found that, for individuals who had cancer in the past as well as for those without a history of cancer, more physical activity was linked with lower pain intensity.

The extent of the association was similar for both groups of individuals, indicating that exercise may reduce cancer-related pain just as it does for other types of pain that have been studied in the past.

Among participants with a past cancer diagnosis, those exceeding physical activity guidelines were 16 per cent less likely to report moderate-to-severe pain compared to those who failed to meet physical activity guidelines.

Also, compared with people who remained inactive, those who were consistently active or became active in older adulthood reported less pain.

"It may feel counterintuitive to some, but physical activity is an effective, non-pharmacologic option for reducing many types of pain. As our study suggests, this may include pain associated with cancer and its treatments," said Dr. Rees-Punia.

Men have greater risk of fractures from falls than women: Study

MASSACHUSETTS : A recent study titled "A meta-analysis of previous falls and subsequent fracture risk in cohort studies" found links between self-reported falls and increased fracture risk, as well as a slightly greater risk of fracture in men than in women. Published in *Osteoporosis International*, this international meta-analysis of data pooled from 46 prospective cohorts comprising over 900,000 individuals also recommended that previous falls are a factor that should be included in patients' histories used by fracture risk assessment tools like the FRAX (Fracture Risk Assessment) Tool to calculate a person's likelihood of getting a fracture over the next decade. FRAX is the most commonly used assessment to predict fracture risk.

"FRAX was developed using longitudinal data from studies around the world. Although previous falls have long been recognized as a significant risk factor for fractures, until now, they have not been factored into the FRAX algorithm," said Douglas P. Kiel, M.D., MPH, director of the Musculoskeletal Research Center and senior scientist at the Hinda and Arthur Marcus Institute for Aging Research at Hebrew SeniorLife, a nonprofit, Harvard Medical School affiliated institution. "In this newly updated FRAX dataset, previous falls were included as a risk factor and were found to increase the risk for fracture. These findings underscore that falls are an important contributor to fracture in both men and women, but interestingly, slightly more in men."

Key findings of the meta-analysis include

Increased Fracture Risk: Individuals with a history of falls within the past year were found to have a significantly higher risk of any clinical fracture, osteoporotic fracture, major osteoporotic fracture, and hip fracture. One or more previous falls were significantly associated with an increased risk of death among women and men. Sex Disparities: The association between previous falls and fracture risk was observed to vary by sex, with men exhibiting higher predictive values compared to women.

Independent Risk Factor: The increased fracture risk linked to previous falls was largely independent of bone mineral density, emphasizing the standalone significance of falls as a risk factor. A previous fall in the past year confers a significantly increased risk of any clinical fracture, osteoporotic fracture, and hip fracture with the increase in risk varying between 36 per cent and 59 per cent depending on the fracture outcome and sex.

State-of-the-Art 6-Lane Firing Simulator Inaugurated at RPF MDSTI, Kanchrapara

MI News Service, Kolkata: A new 6-Lane Firing Simulator was inaugurated on 6th October, 2025, at the RPF Multi Disciplinary Specialised Training Institute (MDS-TI), Kanchrapara, Eastern Railway, by Shri Amiya Nandan Sinha, IG-cum-PCSC/RPF, Eastern Railway.

The digital simulator, developed at a cost of Rs. 78 lakh, aims to improve marksmanship, safety



awareness, and real-time response of RPF personnel in handling small arms such as INSAS and ARM/AK-47 rifles. About 6,000 personnel are expected to benefit from this modern, technology-driven training system.

This initiative reflects Eastern Railway's continued commitment to strengthening the professional skills and operational preparedness of the Railway Protection Force.

One pair Asansol – Bardhaman – Asansol Memu cancelled

MI News Service, Kolkata: Due to 180 minutes Traffic Block on Down Line between Asansol & Raniganj section for Track maintenance work on 08.10.2025, 63524/63515 Asansol- Bardhaman – Asansol MEMU will remain cancelled on 08.10.2025.

Pakistan: Four dead, 28 injured as heavy rains lash Punjab province

MI News Service, Lahore: At least four people have died and 28 others were injured in rain-related incidents across Punjab during the past 24 hours as heavy rainfall continued to lash the province, Dawn reported on Monday, citing Rescue 1122 Punjab.

According to a weather alert issued by the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) last week, a strong westerly weather system was expected to impact the upper catchments of major rivers, as well as Islamabad, Punjab, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, bringing "heavy to very heavy wind-thunderstorms and rains" from October 5 to October 7, Dawn reported.

Punjab Rescue 1122 spokesperson Farooq Ahmed said, "Over the last 24 hours, four people, including two children, were killed in rain-related incidents, while another 28 were left injured."

He said that in Faisalabad, a 12-year-old girl and an eight-year-old boy were killed when the roof of their house collapsed due to heavy rains, leaving seven others injured.

"A 70-year-old man was killed in Nankana Sahib, while a 65-year-old man died in a similar incident in Kasur," the spokesperson added, according to Dawn.

The spokesperson further stated that "at least six people were injured in separate roof collapse incidents in Samundri, Jaranwala, and Kakarwala, four were injured in Chak, three in Manawala, and five people were injured in Faqirwali, Allah Abad, and Sahiwal in separate incidents."

He said two more people were injured in roof and wall collapse incidents in Lahore.

Separately, the Punjab Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) confirmed that most districts in Punjab had received heavy rainfall in the past 24 hours, with Multan recording the highest level at 113 mm, Dawn reported.

The PDMA statement noted that Faisalabad recorded 78 mm of rainfall, Bahawalpur 44 mm, Lahore 40 mm, Khanewal 28 mm, Toba Tek Singh 25 mm, Sialkot 19 mm, and Attock 10 mm.

Gujranwala, Murree, and Sahiwal each recorded 8 mm, Okara 7 mm, Narowal 6 mm, Mangla 5 mm, Gujrat and Hafizabad 3 mm, while Layyah and Kasur recorded 1 mm each.

According to the PDMA, rainfall is expected to continue in several districts over the next 24 hours, including Rawalpindi, Murree, Galiat, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Gujranwala, Lahore, Gujrat, Sialkot, Narowal, Hafizabad, Mandi Bahauddin, Okara, Sahiwal, Kasur, Jhang, Sargodha, and Mianwali.

The PDMA spokesperson cautioned that "the water level in rivers may increase due to the rain, with water in the Chenab River to rise by October 7."

The statement added, "While the levels in the rivers Sutlej and Ravi will depend on the release of water. Water level at Indus and Jhelum is expected to rise as well."

The PDMA has advised citizens to take precautionary measures and placed relevant authorities on high alert, as per the statement.

A rain emergency was declared in Multan after heavy downpours inundated parts of the district on Sunday night and again on Monday afternoon, according to Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) Managing Director Khalid Raza Khan.

He urged residents to "take necessary precautions, including avoiding electricity poles and staying indoors."

Earlier, PDMA Director General Irfan Ali Kathia had warned that the intensity of showers would increase on October 6 and 7, with 50 to 70 mm of rain expected in northern and northeastern Punjab, extending into central districts as well.

"Showers were to begin in Punjab from Sunday and continue till October 7 (Tuesday) in the northern parts," he said during a media briefing in Lahore on Saturday, as cited by Dawn.

Deadly attacks continue across Gaza; Egypt hosts Israel, Hamas teams

MI News Service, Gaza: Delegations from Hamas and Israel, together with the mediators, are due to convene in Egypt for talks, with US President Donald Trump calling on negotiators to "move fast" to end the nearly two-year war in the Gaza Strip.

Hamas says its delegation is headed by Khalil al-Hayya, the head of the group's negotiating team who was target in an assassination attempt by Israel in Qatar last month.

Israeli attacks on Gaza



have continued unabated, with at least 24 Palestinians killed on Sunday.

One person has also died of forced starvation, the Health Ministry in the besieged territory says.

Israel says is no ceasefire in Gaza, with its army chief saying there is a change in the "operational situation".

Israel's war on Gaza has killed at least 67,139 people and wounded 169,583 since October 2023. Thousands more are believed to be buried under the rubble.

A total of 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the October 7, 2023, attacks and about 200 were taken captive.

Iran says nuclear cooperation with IAEA 'no longer relevant'

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran's foreign minister has declared that cooperation with the United Nations nuclear watchdog is "no longer relevant" after Western countries reinstated international sanctions on the country.

"The Cairo agreement is no longer relevant for our cooperation with the IAEA," Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said on Sunday, referring to a deal signed last month with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

That agreement had laid out a framework for renewed inspections and monitoring after Tehran



suspended cooperation following Israeli and United States attacks on its nuclear facilities in June.

However, the deal lost significance after Britain,

France and Germany – all signatories to the 2015 nuclear accord – triggered the return of UN sanctions, accusing Iran of breaching its commitments, claims

which Tehran has rejected.

"The three European countries thought they had leverage in their hands, threatening to implement a snapback," Araghchi told foreign diplomats in Tehran. "Now they have used this lever and seen the results. The three European countries have definitely diminished their role and almost eliminated the justification for negotiations with them."

He added that the European trio "will have a much smaller role than in the past" in any future talks over Iran's nuclear programme.

RPF, NDRF and IRIDM sign MoU to strengthen railway disaster response and "Golden Hour" readiness

MI News Service, New Delhi: A tri-party Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed today among the Railway Protection Force (RPF), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the Indian Railway Institute of Disaster Management (IRIDM), Bengaluru, at the Panchvati Conference Room, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi. The MoU was executed by Shri B. V. Rao, IG (Training), RPF; Shri Narendra Singh Bundela, IG, NDRF; and Shri Srinivas, Director, IRIDM, in the presence of Shri R. Rajagopal, Member (Traction & Rolling Stock), Railway Board; (MTRS); Ms. Aruna Nayar, DG/HR; Shri Piyush Anand, DG/NDRF; Ms Sonali Mishra, DG/RPF; and other senior officials of NDRF and RPF. The partnership establishes a clear institutional framework for integrated relief operations and capacity building tailored to railway accident scenarios, with a focused emphasis on saving lives during the Golden Hour.

Director General, Railway Protection Force, Ms Sonali Mishra stated that, there should be effective collaboration and coordination among all stakeholders and SOPs must be framed in this regard.

In his address, Shri R. Rajagopal, Member (Traction & Rolling Stock), Railway Board asserted that apart from man-made distress, focus should also be on natural disasters like cyclones, downpours and heat-waves. He appreciated the initiatives of JRRPF



Academy and IRIDM in capacity building related to rescue and relief operations with special focus on the golden hour.

In his address, Shri Piyush Anand, DG/NDRF emphasized that all agencies involved in mitigation of disaster effect should make as a team. Other agencies of Railways should also be involved in capacity building efforts.

This collaboration operationalizes a scalable, repeatable ecosystem to enhance national railway disaster readiness - delivering faster, safer and more coordinated relief to passengers and staff when every minute counts

Key Highlights

• Prime Focus on Golden-Hour Rescue outcomes: Every drill and protocol is aimed at cutting critical minutes for faster access, triage and evacuation from coaches.

• Railway-specific first response: RPF will build sharper, coach-and-track oriented capabilities - especially confined-space rescue - so the very first actions at site are the right ones.

• Standard, shared coach-extraction SOPs:

IRIDM will align entry sequencing, stabilization, cutting plans, patient packaging and hand-over

• Interoperability by design: Common radio etiquette, shared checklists and joint scene-coordination drills ensure agencies operate as one integrated unit during rescue & relief operations

• A progressive, three-stage training Schedule: Foundation training at JRRPFA (Module A), field sensitization at nominated NDRF Battalions (Module B), and joint advanced, simulation-based modules at IRIDM (Module C) - creating repeatable, measurable competencies

• The MoU delineates clear roles - Jagjivan Ram RPF Academy (JRRPFA)'s nodal hub; NDRF hosting battalion-level sensitization and joining IRIDM's joint courses; and IRIDM designing, updating and documenting advanced, scenario-based curricula. The framework is scalable across Zonal Railways and is structured for review and continuous improvement over the coming years

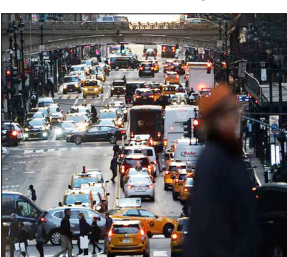
Heavy traffic grips South Korea's highways as Chuseok holiday winds down

MI News Service, Seoul: Major expressways across South Korea were clogged with heavy traffic on Monday, as millions of people either continued their Chuseok celebrations or began the long journey home after visiting family, Yonhap news agency reported.

Chuseok, often called Korea's version of Thanksgiving, is a major harvest festival celebrated on the 15th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar - this year falling on October 6.

It's a time when families traditionally gather to honour their ancestors, share special meals, and spend time together. For many, it's also one of the rare chances each year to travel back to their hometowns, as per Yonhap news agency.

This year's Chuseok break is especially long, stretching over seven days,



from Friday, October 3, to Thursday, October 9, due to the holiday's overlap with National Foundation Day (October 3) and Hangeul Day (October 9), which commemorates the creation of the Korean alphabet.

The extended break has led to higher travel volumes than usual, with millions of cars hitting the road for family visits or domestic vacations.

According to the Korea Expressway Corporation (KEC), traffic remained heavy in both directions due to a combination of

homebound travellers and late departures.

As of 6 pm, the estimated travel time to Seoul from the southeastern port city of Busan was 5 hours and 30 minutes, 5 hours and 10 minutes from the southeastern city of Ulsan, and 5 hours and 40 minutes from the southwestern city of Gwangju, according to the KEC.

Travel time from Seoul to Busan was estimated at 5 hours and 30 minutes, 5 hours and 10 minutes to Ulsan, and 4 hours and 30 minutes to Gwangju, Yonhap news agency noted.

Outbound traffic from Seoul was expected to ease around 11 p.m., while inbound congestion was forecast to ease from around 1 a.m. Tuesday, the KEC said.

Nearly 6.67 million vehicles were expected to be on the move nationwide on Monday, it added.

Bulldozer Politics Returns to Bareilly: BDA Demolishes Portion of Dr. Nafees's Raza Palace Amid Rising Communal Tensions

MI News Service, Bareilly: Tensions flared in Bareilly on Saturday after the Bareilly Development Authority (BDA) partially demolished the residence of Dr. Nafees, popularly known as Raza Palace, citing "illegal construction." The move has triggered widespread outrage, with many terming it another instance of bulldozer politics targeting the minority community in Uttar Pradesh.

According to officials, the demolition was carried out under a heavy police presence after the BDA claimed that the property violated construction norms. The authorities also sealed part of the building, describing it as an "encroachment on public land." However, local residents and supporters of Dr. Nafees allege that the action was politically motivated and intended to "send a message" following recent protests over 'I



BDA Demolishes Portion of Dr. Nafees's Raza Palace Amid Rising Communal Tensions in Bareilly

Love Muhammad' posters in the city.

Eyewitnesses reported that a large police force surrounded the area early in the morning before the bulldozers moved in. As the demolition began, locals raised slogans and some attempted to stop the action, leading to mild tension in the area. Police later dispersed the crowd and detained several protesters.

Dr. Nafees, a well-known local physician and community figure, was also briefly detained, sources

said. His supporters allege that the demolition was "revenge action" following his criticism of the police crackdown on youths arrested for displaying 'I Love Prophet Muhammad' posters.

The BDA, however, maintained that the demolition was part of a larger drive against illegal constructions across the city. "The action has nothing to do with religion or politics. It is purely administrative," a BDA official stated.

Opposition parties and civil society groups have

condemned the move, accusing the Yogi Adityanath-led government of weaponizing the bulldozer to target dissenters and members of a particular community. The incident has reignited debate over selective demolitions and bulldozer justice in Uttar Pradesh.

Meanwhile, security has been tightened across Bareilly, with police patrolling sensitive areas to prevent any communal unrest. Senior district officials have appealed to citizens to maintain peace and not believe in rumors circulating on social media.

The Raza Palace demolition and arrest of Dr. Nafees have now become flashpoints in the ongoing debate over governance, law enforcement, and religious polarization in Uttar Pradesh — highlighting how the bulldozer has become a political symbol of both power and persecution.

American Muslim Network Condemns Arrests Over 'I Love Prophet Muhammad' Posters, Demands Immediate Release of Maulana Tauqueer Raza Khan

MI News Service, Washington: A US-based Muslim organization has expressed grave concern over the police brutality and arbitrary arrests of Muslims in Uttar Pradesh for displaying "I Love Prophet Muhammad" posters, calling the actions a blatant violation of human rights.

In a strongly worded statement, Dr. M. Qutubuddin of the American Muslims Network said, "It is deeply painful and disturbing that in the BJP-ruled state of Uttar Pradesh, Muslims are being brutally attacked and arbitrarily detained for a peaceful campaign expressing their love for Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)." The organization voiced



Maulana Tauqueer Raza Khan

serious concern over what it described as an "anti-'I Love Prophet Muhammad' campaign" emerging in parts of India. "People are being tortured, booked under false charges, and jailed simply for wearing

T-shirts or putting up posters that say 'I Love Prophet Muhammad,'" the statement read.

The group emphasized that such actions go against the spirit of the Indian Constitution, which

guarantees freedom of religion and expression. "Over two billion Muslims around the world love the Prophet more than their own lives and those of their loved ones," it added.

Drawing a comparison, the statement noted, "When Hindus say 'Jai Shri Ram' or 'Jai Krishna,' we do not object, as we respect other faiths. We urge that this humiliation and insult to our Prophet must stop immediately. Those arrested should be released without delay."

The organization said by reminding that India, known as a cradle of civilizations and religions, "cannot afford to descend into such moral degradation and communal polarization."

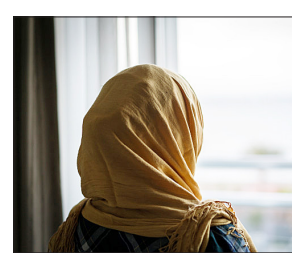
Muslim teacher faces Islamophobic abuse, expelled from Karnataka village during socio-economic survey

MI News Service, Tumakuru: A Muslim woman from Karnataka's Bhimasandra village near Tumakuru city allegedly faced Islamophobic slurs and was expelled from the village for carrying out an assigned survey.

The teacher identified as Reshma was assigned to conduct a socio-economic and educational census survey by the Permanent Commission for Backward Classes.

Reportedly, Reshma who went door to door to carry out the survey faced harassment and verbal abuse at the hands of villagers who questioned her presence and asked for her ID.

The media reports emerging about the incident reveal that Reshma was asked, "Why are you coming to Hindus homes?" Several locals allegedly subjected her to Islamophobia slurs and asked her if her intention behind



coming was to include the Hindus in her community.

Reshma was eventually forced to leave the village due to abuse and slurs by

locals.

Video footage emerged on social media of the incident. After the video went viral, the police launched an investigation.

Social media users reacted to the video and said that the hate has unfortunately reached every corner across the country. Many noted that due to her religious identity, she was targeted for trying to do what her job required her to do.

Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth to headline India's challenge at Arctic Open 2025

VANTAA [FINLAND] : World Championship medalists Lakshya Sen and Kidambi Srikanth will be leading India's challenge at the Arctic Open 2025 badminton tournament, starting in Vantaa, Finland, from Tuesday.

Paris Olympics 2024 semifinalist Lakshya Sen will be aiming to win the World Federation (BWF) Super 500 tournament.

Having reached his first final of the year last month in Hong Kong, he would be aiming to do one step better. During the China Masters though, he failed to carry that momentum as he crashed to his ninth first-round exit of the year, as per Olympics.com.

Joining Sen in the men's singles draw are five others, including Kidambi, the former world



number one who showed glimpses of his best form during a semifinal appearance at the AI Ain Masters last week. He had also made it to the Malaysia Masters final in May.

Ayush Shetty, the only Indian to win a BWF World Tour title this year with the US Open in June, will also feature in action against Paris 2024 silver medallist Kunlavut Vitidsarn in his opening match.

Asian Games men's doubles champions Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have withdrawn.

Coming to the women's singles competition, youngsters Tanya Hemanth and Anmol Kharb will be leading India's charge in the absence of two-time Olympic

medalist PV Sindhu.

The mixed doubles campaign for India will be headlined by Paris 2024 Olympian Tanisha Crasto along with Dhruv Kapila.

No Indian has ever secured a title at the Arctic Open to date.

Indian badminton squad at Arctic Open 2025

-Men's singles: Lakshya Sen, Ayush Shetty, Kidambi Srikanth, Tharun Mannepal, Kiran George, S Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian

-Women's singles: Tanya Hemanth, Anmol Kharb; qualifiers: Kavipriya Selvam

-Women's doubles: Kavipriya Selvam/Simran Singh

-Mixed doubles: Dhruv Kapila/Tanisha Crasto, Mohit Jaglan/Lakshita Jaglan.

SAFI RULED OUT OF AFGHANISTAN'S ODI SERIES AGAINST BANGLADESH, SAMI NAMED REPLACEMENT

ABU DHABI : Afghanistan's young right-arm fast bowler Mohammad Saleem Safi has been ruled out of the upcoming three-match ODI series against Bangladesh due to a groin (adductor) overload, said the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) on Monday.

Safi has played one Test and T20I for Afghanistan, apart from two ODI appearances. In his absence, fast bowler Bilal Sami, who's played one ODI so far, has been promoted from the reserves pool to Afghanistan's main squad for the series to be played totally at the Sheikh Zayed Cricket Stadium on October 8, 11 and 14 respectively. "Team Physio believes that he is unlikely to be ready for the first ODI, which is scheduled for this Wednesday. Saleem will continue his rehabilitation at the ACB's High Performance Centre until he fully recovers and can rejoin the national setup," further said the ACB in its statement. The ODI series will be crucial for Afghanistan to get some wins under its belt after losing the T20I series 3-0 to Bangladesh in Sharjah. In the final T20I between the two teams on Sunday, Afghanistan, sent in to bat first, struggled to build momentum throughout their innings. They lost wickets falling at regular intervals, till a late surge from Darwish Rasooli (32) and Mujeeb Ur Rahman lifted them to 143/9 in their allotted 20 overs. Their bowlers were also ineffective as Saif Hassan starred with an unbeaten 64 off 38 balls to guide Bangladesh to a six-wicket victory and 3-0 T20I series win. The series victory came on the back of Bangladesh beating Afghanistan by eight runs in the Men's T20 Asia Cup in the UAE. The last time Bangladesh and Afghanistan met in a three-match ODI series, it was in November 2024, with the latter winning by 2-1 margin.



BFI Cup 2025: Former youth champs Ankushita, Arundhati bag gold

CHENNAI : Former Youth World Champions Ankushita Boro and Arundhati Choudhary were among the standout performers as the women's final concluded at the inaugural BFI Cup 2025.

Ankushita (Assam) showcased her trademark aggression to edge Rajasthan's Parthavi Grewal 3:2 in the (60-65kg) category, while Arundhati (Services) stamped her class in the (65-70kg) weight category with a commanding 5:0 win over Sneha (AIP). World Championships bronze medallist Parveen Hooda (SAI) also emerged victorious, defeating Priya (Haryana) 3:2 in (57-60kg) final as the Elite Women's competition crowned its champions across all ten weight categories.

In an endeavour to provide upcoming boxers a platform to showcase their skills and established stars an opportunity to test their preparations, BFI will host the inaugural BFI Cup 2025 in Chennai from October 1-7, featuring competitions for both Elite Men and Women across 10 weight categories each, aligned with World Boxing standards. Gold and silver medallists from the event will earn a pathway into the Elite National Camp. Other women's finals saw Nivedita Karki (Uttarakhand) claim in the weight category (45-48kg) title with a 3:2 win over World Championships silver medallist Manju Rani (Railways), while Bhavna Sharma (Railways) outclassed Savita (Railways) 5:0 in the (48-51kg)

weight category.

Maharashtra's Khushi Jadhav edged Divya Pawar (AIP) 3:2 for (51-54kg) gold, and Himachal Pradesh's Vinakshi Dhota defeated Mushkan (AIP) 5:0 in the (54-57kg) weight category. Monika (SAI) bagged (70-75kg) crown with a 4:1 win over Nishu (Haryana), Babita Bisht (AIP) triumphed 3:2 against Komal (Punjab) in the (75-80kg) class, and Ritika (SAI) sealed in (80-80+kg) title by overpowering Shivani Tomar (AIP) 5:0.

On the men's side, S. Vishwanath (Services) entered the finals with a commanding 5:0 win over Gopi Mishra (Services) in the (47-50 kg) weight category.

However, Asian Games gold medallist Amit Panghal (Services) suffered a narrow 1:4 defeat to teammate Ashish (Services) in the (50-55kg kg) semi-finals, while World Championships bronze medallist Mohammad Husamuddin (Services) continued his fine run with a 5:0 win over Mitesh Deswal (Railways) in the (55-60 kg) bout. Boxers from State units and boards that finished in the Top 8 at the Elite Nationals are in action at the BFI Cup, joined by entries from SAI NCOE and host state Tamil Nadu. The lineup also includes participants from the last two Elite National Championships, Indian team members from the 2024 and 2025 Asian U-22 Championships, as well as medalists from international competitions since 2022.



Sanju Samson named official ambassador of English Premier League in India

NEW DELHI [INDIA] : Indian cricketer Sanju Samson has been appointed as the official ambassador for the English Premier League (EPL) in India.

This significant development underscores the EPL's commitment to expanding its presence in the Indian subcontinent. Samson, known for his dynamic performances on the cricket field, is expected to play a pivotal role in promoting the EPL's brand and engaging with fans across the nation, as per a press release.

As part of his ambassadorial duties, Samson met former England and Liverpool striker Michael Owen during a Premier League fan engagement event in Mumbai. The event featured a fan-park style screening and community activities at the NESCO Centre.

Samson, a self-professed

Liverpool fan, shared his admiration for the club and discussed his deep-rooted connection with football, which he attributes to his upbringing in Kerala and his family's footballing background. Owen expressed his surprise at the number of Arsenal supporters present at the event, highlighting the growing football culture in India.

In addition to his association with the EPL, Samson has a deep-rooted connection with football in India through his role as the brand ambassador for Kerala Blasters FC, a prominent team in

the Indian Super League (ISL). Samju's involvement with the Blasters reflects his commitment to promoting football in his home state of Kerala. Samson's first appearance as the brand ambassador was during a match against Hyderabad FC, further cementing his influence in the footballing community.

Kerala has emerged as a significant centre for football in India, with a passionate fan base and a rich history in the sport. The

state has produced numerous talented footballers and has been home to several successful football clubs.

Stadiums like the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Kochi have hosted numerous domestic and international matches, solidifying Kerala's status as a footballing hub and inspiring young athletes to take up the sport.

Samson's appointment as the EPL ambassador is expected to inspire a new generation of football enthusiasts in Kerala. His dual role in cricket and football exemplifies the state's diverse sporting culture and highlights the growing synergy between different sports. By leveraging his popularity and influence, Samson aims to bridge the gap between cricket and football, fostering a more inclusive sporting environment in Kerala.

AFC Under-17 Women's Asian Qualifiers JHARKHAND'S SIX PLAYERS INCLUDED IN THE INDIAN TEAM

MI CORRESPONDENT

RANCHI : The All India Football Federation announced the 23-member Indian Under-17 Women's Football Team for the 2026 Asian Cup Women's Football Championship. Six players from Jharkhand qualified for the Indian team.

Four players from the Residential Girls Football Training Centre, Indoor Stadium, Gumla, run by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs, Jharkhand, Ranchi, were selected. Elizabeth Lakra, Surajmuni Kumari, Vinita Hero, and Anita Dungdung, as well as Anushka Kumari from the

Residential Girls Football Training Centre, Hazaribagh, and Divyani Linda from the Star Warriors Academy, Ranchi. The qualifier team will participate in the 2026 Asian Cup Football in China. Sports Secretary Manoj Kumar, Sports Director Shekhar Jamuar, Deputy Director Sports Rajesh Kumar, Jharkhand Football Association's Ghulam Rabbani, State Sports Advisor Devendra Singh, District Sports Officers Gumla, Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Football Coach Bina Kerketta and sports lovers of the state congratulated the players of Jharkhand selected for the Indian Under 17 Women's Football Team.



Pramod Bhagat shines with three gold medals at 1st Abia Para Badminton International 2025

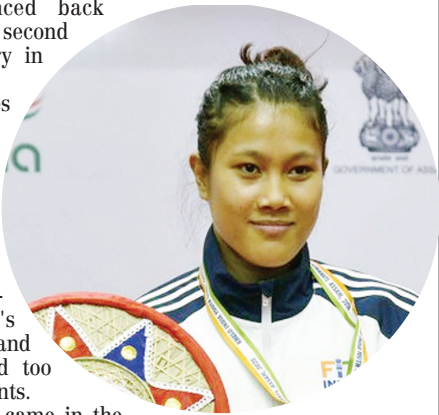
ABIA [NIGERIA] : Ace Indian para shuttler Pramod Bhagat continued his exceptional run of form at the first Abia Para Badminton International 2025, clinching three gold medals and reaffirming his dominance in the global para badminton circuit.

The tournament was held in Abia from September 30 to October 5, 2025, as per a press release.

Bhagat captured the men's singles SL3 title, defeating compatriot Mantu Kumar in a thrilling final by 21-7, 9-21, 21-9. Displaying his trademark composure and tactical brilliance, Bhagat bounced back strongly after losing the second game to secure victory in three games.

He then joined forces with Sukant Kadam to bag another gold, winning the men's doubles by overcoming Peru's Gerson Jair Vargas Lostaunaul and Diana Rojas Golac in straight games 21-13, 21-17. The duo's seamless coordination and aggressive play proved too strong for their opponents.

Bhagat's third gold came in the mixed doubles SL3-SU5 category, partnering with Arati Patil to win another thrilling final, further cementing his status as India's most decorated para badminton star.



Speaking after his triple-gold-winning performance, Pramod Bhagat said, "Every victory motivates me to push my limits further. Competing at this level and bringing glory to India is always special. I am proud of the hard work and the support team behind these wins." Bhagat's partner in doubles, Sukant Kadam, also expressed delight at their performance, saying, "Playing alongside Pramod always pushes me to bring my best game. Our understanding on court has grown stronger with every match. This win gives us great confidence for the upcoming international events."

Apart from Bhagat and Kadam's stellar performance, several Indian shuttlers impressed across categories. Ranjit Singh claimed three bronze medals -- in the men's singles WH1, men's doubles WH1-WH2 (with Paramjit Singh), and mixed doubles WH1-WH2 (with Shabana). Nurul Hossain Khan bagged silver in men's singles WH2, while Uma Sarkar clinched silver in women's singles SL3. The pair of Arati Patil and Uma Sarkar secured bronze in women's doubles SL3-SU5. Other strong performances included bronzes for Nilesh Gaikwad in men's SL4, Kanak Singh Jadaun in women's SL4, and a complete Indian sweep in men's singles SU5, where Karan Paneer, Rahul Vimal, and Sativada took gold, silver, and bronze respectively.

ROHAN BOPANNA, LUCIANO DARDERI, AND CORENTIN MOUTET TO HEADLINE TENNIS PREMIER LEAGUE SEASON 7

MUMBAI (MAHARASHTRA) : The Tennis Premier League (TPL) is all set for a landmark Season 7, scheduled to take place from December 9 to 14 at the Gujarat University Tennis Stadium in Ahmedabad, according to a press release from the TPL.

This season promises to be a thrilling celebration of tennis excellence, with India's very own 2-time Grand Slam champion Rohan Bopanna, World No 29 Luciano Darderi (Italy), World No 38 Corentin Moutet (France) and World No 39 Alexandre Muller (France) leading a stellar line-up of global stars joining forces with India's finest players.

As the auction for Season 7 approaches on October 9 in Mumbai, the eight franchises are gearing up to build their squads around these marquee players, setting the stage for one of the most competitive and entertain-

ing seasons in TPL history. Rohan Bopanna, India's tennis icon and two-time Grand Slam champion, who made his TPL debut last year, will represent SG Pipers Bengaluru.

The 45-year-old doubles star, who holds the record as the oldest player to win both a Grand Slam and an ATP Masters 1000 title, continues to embody the league's vision of merging India's elite with global talent to create world-class tennis action.

Joining him is Italy's Luciano Darderi (World No 29), currently at the peak of his career and set to play for Rajasthan Rangers, along with France's Corentin Moutet (World No 38), who will represent the Gurgaon Grand Slammers.

Adding to the international flavour are Alexandre Muller (World No 39) and Arthur Rinderknech (World No 34), who strengthen the rosters of the



Gujarat Panthers and Hyderabad Strikers, respectively.

The lineup also includes Bosnia and Herzegovina's Damir Dzhumhur (former World No 23, current No 67) leading Yash Mumbai Eagles, Argentina's Tomas Martin Etcheverry (World No 58) representing GS Delhi Aces, and rising Czech star Dalibor Svrčina (World No 91) joining Chennai Smashers.

Now in its seventh consecutive season, Tennis Premier League has firmly established itself as one of India's most successful sporting properties, becoming only the fourth league in the country to reach this milestone.

Backed by Tennis legends like Leander Paes, Sania Mirza, and Mahesh Bhupathi (CEO- SG Pipers) and Bollywood Celebrities Rakul Preet Singh and Sonali Bendre Behl, TPL continues to revolutionise the

way tennis is consumed in India - combining elite sport, entertainment, and digital engagement through its unique format and global player participation.

Kunal Thakur, Co-founder of TPL, said as quoted by the press release, "This year we have some of the world's best names like Luciano Darderi, Corentin Moutet and Alexandre Muller alongside our very own Grand Slam champion Rohan Bopanna. Having athletes of this calibre associated with the league not only raises the level of competition but also inspires the next generation of Indian tennis players."

Mrunal Jain, Co-founder of TPL, added, "The line-up this year reflects the global appeal of TPL, as we have top international stars competing for Indian franchises. Their presence, combined with the passion and skill of Indian players, ensures fans

are in for the most competitive and entertaining season yet."

Leander Paes, Brand Ambassador of GS Delhi Aces, shared, "Tennis Premier League has grown into one of India's finest sporting properties, and Season 7 promises to be the most exciting chapter yet. With world-class marquee players competing alongside India's top stars, fans can look forward to electrifying tennis in a truly engaging, spectator-friendly format. I am especially looking forward to the auction to see how the teams shape up this year."

With eight powerhouse franchises - GS Delhi Aces, SG Pipers Bengaluru, Gurgaon Grand Slammers, Chennai Smashers, Yash Mumbai Eagles, Hyderabad Strikers, Gujarat Panthers and Rajasthan Rangers - TPL Season 7 is poised to deliver a week of spectacular tennis, passion, and entertainment like never before.