#### CM Mamata Announces Relief Measures and Infra Plans in North Bengal

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee visited North Bengal on Tuesday to assess the post-disaster situation in Mirik and reassure affected residents of immediate relief and rehabilitation measures. She also distributed cheques of Rs 5 lakh each to the kin of 16 deceased. She assured "Roti, Kapda, and Makan" (bread, clothing, and shelter) to all affected families from the government. She also promised government jobs in the Home Guard category as special compensatory appointments for the kin of the deceased. During her visit, she announced that the collapsed bridge at Dudhia would be reconstructed within 15 days. "Earlier, it was estimated to take a month. For now, we will create a temporary route using Hume pipes. Only small vehicles and pedestrians will be able to use it," she said. PG 3



# RS. 3 KOLKATA WEDNESDAY, 8 OCTOBER, 2025 PG-8, YEAR—12, ISSUE—129 (RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803) WEBSITE: WWW.LIVETIV.COM

#### **Centre should** declare a 'National disaster' in North Bengal: **Pradesh Cong**

MI News Service, Siliguri West Bengal Pradesh Congress has reiterated that the devastations caused by the recent landslides and flash floods in North Bengal should be declared as a 'National disaster" and both the Centre and the state should work in tandem to address the crisis and provide relief to the affected people. West Bengal Pradesh Congress President Subhankar Sarkar. who led a delegation of party leaders to landslidehit areas of North Bengal on Tuesday to assess the situation on the ground, also opined that the Centre should declare a special package for the landslideravaged areas of North Bengal. "Only then, proper rehabilitation and compensation packaged could be extended to the affected", he said. The state Congress President also demanded that an all-party meeting should be convened by the West Bengal government in this regard soon to discuss how the affected people could be assisted in a coordinated manner. . "The Centre must declare this devastation as a national disaster and announce a special package. It is high time for both TMC and the BJP to work in cohesion at this hour of crisis by forgetting their political differences. We all should come together to fight for the cause of the people," Sarkar said. Accompanied by senior Congress leaders Partha Bhowmik and Ashutosh Chatterjee, the Bengal Congress president stopped at various locations en route to Mirik to evaluate the situation, party sources said. "He also spoke to the locals and assured them of all assis tance during this period of crisis," another party official said. Torrential rains triggered landslides and floods that left at least 36 people dead and several

#### India sourced domestic military hardware of Rs 1.20 lakh crore in 2024-25

missing across north Ben-

gal. Incidentally, the West

Bengal Pradesh Congress

on Monday constituted a

dedicated committee to co-

ordinate disaster response

efforts in North Bengal and

extend assistance to those

affected, the official said.

Sarkar is expected to submit a report to the higher

party leadership after

MI News Service, New Delhi: India has procured military hardware and worth 1,20,000 crore from domestic sources during 2024-25 as it is increasingly focusing on boosting self-reliance to confront national security challenges, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said . Speaking at an event here on Tuesday, Singh said the government is fully aware of the changing dynamics of battle field, especially the importance of non-contact warfare such as use of drones, and preparing for

it accordingly. In this context, he underlined the importance of enhancing India's own defence industries to meet myriad security challenges. "In 2021-22, our capital acquisition from domestic sources was around Rs 74,000 crore, but by the

**▶▶** Continued on page 3

## Mamata hails 'tireless work' of govt officials to provide relief in N. Bengal

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri ; West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee has hailed the contributions of all senior officials from District Headquarters, along with the SDOs and BDOs, who are "working tirelessly on the ground to provide immediate relief to those affected", and said "while nature's fury has caused immense hardship, our collective resolve is to ensure that no family feels abandoned and no individual remains unsupported" Sending a message through her X handle on Tuesday, Mamata Banerjee, who has been person-ally supervising the relief and rescue operations since her arrival in North Bengal on Monday, asserted that she will "continue to ensure that every necessary measure is taken with compassion, speed, and accountability" In her message she said "In Jalpaiguri, senior officials from District Headquarters, along with the SDOs and BDOs, are working tirelessly on the ground to provide immediate relief to those affected. Life jackets have already been distributed to ensure safety. Today, construction work on damaged bridges will also begin so that communication lines can be restored without delay". "Every arm of the administration has been mobilised with a singular purpose: to stand beside the people in their hour of need.



While nature's fury has caused immense hardship, our collective resolve is to ensure that no family feels abandoned and no individual remains unsupported. I am personally monitoring the situation and will continue to ensure that every necessary measure is taken with compassion, speed, and accountability", the Chief

minister said However, on Monday a war of words erupted between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee after two BJP leaders were al-

Trinamool Congress over the state's "law and order", Mamata Banerjee hit back, accusing the Prime Minister of "politicising a natural disaster" andsaid he(PM Modi) had breached the "constilegedly assaulted in flood and tutional ethos." "It is unfortunate landslide-hit Nagrakota area in and deeply concerning that the Jalpaiguri district in north Ben-Prime Minister of India has chogal. While PM Modi criticised the sen to politicise a natural disaster

without waiting for a proper investigation, especially while people in North Bengal are grappling with the aftermath of devastating floods and landslides," she wrote

Accusing PM Modi of making unverified allegations, she added:

"any untoward incident" amid the ongoing crisis. The disaster has caused widespread devastation: entire hamlets in Mirik, Darjeeling, and the Dooars region have been washed away, bridges and roads destroyed, and multi-

The PM has blamed the TMC and the West Bengal government outright without a shred of verified evidence, legal enquiry, or administrative report. This is not just a political low, it is a breach of the constitutional ethos the Prime Minister has sworn to uphold.

--CM Mamata Banerjee

"The PM has blamed the TMC and the West Bengal government outright without a shred of verified evidence, legal enquiry, or administrative report. This is not just a political low, it is a breach of the constitutional ethos the Prime Minister has sworn to uphold. In any democracy, the law must take its own course, and only due process can determine culpability — not a tweet from a political pulpit." She warned that sweeping, unverified allegations "lower the dignity of the highest office" and stressed that only due process can determine culpability. Earlier, Mamata Banerjee had appealed for restraint and unity,

ple tea gardens in Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar districts suffered severe crop and infrastructure losses. As many as 36 people have lost their lives in the disaster and several others remained missing since Tuesday. Mamata Banerjee has also described the floods as "man-made," blaming the Damodar Valley Corporation's uncontrolled water release and criticised the Centre for inadequate water management. She announced Rs 5 lakh compensation for victims' families and promised a Home Guard job to one member of each bereaved family, as search operations continue for the missing people.

## PM Modi transforms lives of crores through strong leadership: Shah

MI News Service, New Delhi : Hailing the long public services of over two decades of Prime minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said he (PM Modi) has proved that when the vision is 'Nation First' and the mission is 'Developed India', how a top leadership quality can bring transformation in the lives of over a billion people. Stating that 'Karma Yogi' Narendra Modi took constitutional oath as Gujarat chief minister on this day 24 years ago, Amit Shah said after spearheading the BJP to victory in three consecutive Assembly polls in Gujarat as the Chief minister, Modi ji has led the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) as the Prime minister since 2014, winning three successive national elections too. "Twenty-four years

India has established political stability, credible leadership, robust economic performance, and a strong foundation of democracy. Leveraging long-term policies based on these four pillars, our economy has delivered remarkable performance

dedicated to the nation and public service! This day is very significant for the entire country, when a 'karma yogi' devoted to public service with selfless spirit took the constitutional oath, considered people's problems as his own, and began resolving them, and these problems

over the past 11 years

kept turning into history," Shah wrote on X in Hindi. The Home minister said that in these 24 years, be it transforming farmers, women, industry and education in Gujarat, or ensuring the nations' security, welfare of the poor, and the upliftment of all sections, including the

backward, Dalit and tribal communities, as the Prime minister, Modi has proven that when the vision is 'Nation First' and the mission is 'Developed India', how a leadership can bring transformation in the lives of crores of people. As an incumbent, PM Modi never faced an electoral defeat and holds the record as the longest head of a government among all Prime minis ters, including as Chief minister for more than 12-and-a-half years. Amit Shah said Prime Minister Modi has set a goal for India, especially its youth, to become a fully developed nation by 2047 and to lead in every field globally. This goal has become the resolve of every citizen, particularly the youth. "Prime

▶▶ Continued on page 3

## **India slams Pakistan at UNSC** saying it 'Bombs its own people'



India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, condemn Pakistan.

MI News Service, New Delhi delegate said in her state-/United Nations : In a strong ment. Harish, in his remarks. retort against Pakistan in the also said that India remains UN Security Council, India unwavering in its commitment to the "Women, Peace has described its Western neighbour as a country that and Security" agenda and "bombs its own people" and stands ready to share its exconducts "systematic genopertise with partners, particcide". Making this harsh reularly those in the Global marks at the UNSC open South, fostering collective sodebate on "Women, Peace lutions to shared challenges. and Security", at the World Body here on Tuesday, India's He highlighted India's consistent contribution to UN Permanent Representative to peacekeeping as an expresthe UN Ambassador Parsion of its commitment to vathaneni Harish said Pakglobal peace. "What distinguishes India's peacekeeping istan conducted Operation Searchlight in 1971 and legacy is not merely the scale sanctioned a systematic camof our contribution, but our paign of genocidal mass rape pioneering recognition of women as indispensable of 400,000 women citizens by its own army. "Every year, agents of peace," he said. we are unfortunately fated to As early as the 1960s India deployed women medlisten to the delusional tirade of Pakistan against my country, especially on Jammu and Kashmir, the Indian territory they covet," the Indian envoy said. "A country that bombs its own people, conducts systematic genocide, can only attempt to distract the world

with misdirection and hyper-

bole," Harish said adding the

"world sees through Pak-

istan's propaganda". On

March 25, 1971, the Pak-

istani army had launched a

brutal crackdown involving

widespread civilian killings

throughout East Pakistan

Searchlight'. Harish told the

council meeting chaired by

Russia that India's record on

the "women, peace and secu-

rity" agenda is unblemished

and unscathed. India's strong

response in the council came

after Pakistan, in its state-

ment, raised the issue of

Jammu and Kashmir. "To ex-

clude Kashmiri women from

the Women. Peace and Secu-

rity agenda erases its legiti-

macy and undermines its

universality," the Pakistani

code-named

'Operation

ical officers to the Congo, marking one of the earliest instances of women serving in UN peacekeeping operations, the ambassador said. This was not merely a symbolic gesture but a practical acknowledgement women's perspectives, skills, and presence are essential to effective peacekeeping, he said. In February 2025, India hosted the International Conference on Women Peacekeepers from the Global South, bringing together women peacekeepers from 35 nations. The two-day gathering

examined the evolving challenges facing women in peacekeeping operations from addressing sexual exploitation and abuse to leveraging technology enhanced effectiveness. The conference was not merely a forum for discussion but a platform for developing actionable strategies to increase women's participation and their impact in future peace missions, he said.

## Fresh snowfall blanketed higher reaches of Kashmir



the snow-covered area after a fresh spell of snowfall, in Sonamarg on Tuesday.

MI News Service, Srinagar: Bouts of heavy and fresh snowfall blanketed several famous tourist resorts and higher reaches of Kashmir on Tuesday, while the plains were lashed with rains bringing simultaneous joy and sorrow for the people. The wet weather has, however, led to a sharp drop in day temperatures across the valley. According to informed sources, Gulmarg, Pahalgam Sonamarg, Aru Valley, Chandanwari and Kokernag were among the places that received heavy snowfall since this morning. All these places and several other mountainous areas also witnessed the season's first spell of snowfall today, marking the early arrival of winter in the Valley. Reports of fresh snow blanketing several high-altitude areas are also coming from Affarwat in Gulmarg, Sinthan Top in Anantnag, Zojila Pass, Gumri, Minimarg, and Razdan Top the gateway to Gurez Valley in Bandipora district. The light snowfall at Razdan Top began early Monday morning, lowering temperatures in the upper regions. However, officials said that traffic movement on the Bandipora Gurez road remained normal and open. Weather officials said that more rain and snow are likely in parts of

### EC fails to disclose number of non-citizens, removed from Bihar electoral roll: Cong

MI News Service, New Delhi : Taking a dig at the Election Commission of India (ECI), the main opposition Congress has charged the poll panel with having "no integrity or the courage to enlighten the country on how many such non-citizens in Bihar were removed from the voters list". Alleging that much was made of the need of the SIR exercise to remove non-citizens from the electoral roll, the Congress said on Tuesday that if the poll body had informed as to how many such non-citizens in Bihar were removed from the electoral roll, it would have been even more exposed than it already is. Congress General Secretary in-charge Communications Jairam Ramesh noted that the Supreme Court hearing on the Bihar Special Intensive Revision (SIR) would clear the issue soon.

He also shared on X an analysis of the SIR exercise published in a newspaper. This fine analysis shows that the entire SIR exercise bulldozed through by the Election Commission has failed on all three counts of completeness, equity, and accuracy," Ramesh said. "Much was made of the need of the SIR exercise to



District Election Officer cum District Magistrate carries out a house-to-house visit in various panchayats under the Ekma Assembly Constituency in Bihar.

remove non-citizens from the electoral roll. The EC has not had the integrity or the courage to enlighten the country on how many such non-citizens in Bihar were removed from the electoral roll." he said. "If it had done so, it would have been even more exposed than it already is," Ramesh added. 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

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. The EC's SIR exercise in Bihar has drawn sharp protests from the Opposition, which has accused the poll body of working at the behest of the ruling BJP, a charge it has flatly rejected. The Commission has asserted that it will not allow any eligible citizen to be left out of the voters' list and at the same time, not let any ineligible person be on the list. Incidentally, the ECI only yesterday had announced that Bihar will go to polls in two phases on

▶▶ Continued on page 3

▶▶ Continued on page 3 from 7.8 crore on January





Migrant workers burnt in Bengaluru

blaze: Gas leak suspected



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee inspects the flood-affected areas of Darjeeling on Tuesday. Floods and severe erosion have damaged the Kalikhola Bridge at Nagrakata in Jalpaiguri, causing disruption in North Bengal areas.

#### Two Held for Assault and Gang Rape of Minor

Murshidabad: A horrifying incident of alleged gangrape involving a minor girl has sent shockwaves through the Salar region of Mursidabad, prompting a massive police manhunt and sparking intense public outrage. The victim, an eight-grade student from Purbagram Dakshin Para, was reportedly ambushed and brutally assaulted by five individuals while returning from local restaurant.

The incident unfolded late in the evening as the minor and a male friend were making their way home. According to initial reports and the First Information Report (FIR) lodged with the police, the pair was intercepted near the Salar Canal by a group of five men, all allegedly hailing from Kuluri village of Salar Gram Panchayat.

The assailants are accused

of first cornering the minor's friend, whom they severely assaulted and detained. During the confrontation, the minor girl herself sustained injuries. The friend, managing to escape the beating, immediately fled the scene and alerted the victim's family. Following the assault on her friend, the victim was allegedly subjected to a gang-rape by the five perpetrators. Upon receiving the complaint from the family, Salar police station rapidly mobilized, dispatching a team to the location. The minor girl was subsequently rescued by the police. Authorities have confirmed the arrest of two suspects in connection with the crime. A concerted effort is now underway to track down and apprehend the remaining three accused who are currently at large. The police are conducting extensive searches

across the area as the gravity of the allegations necessitates swift resolution. Escalating Concern Over Sexual Violence This latest incident has intensified concerns over the safety of minors in the region, coming on the heels of another recent, high-profile case. Only days prior, an accusation surfaced in Satui, Berhampur, where a 14-year-old girl was allegedly lured from her home under false pretenses and subsequently gang-raped at a local brick kiln by three youths, all of whom were arrested. The recurring nature of such brutal crimes has underscored an urgent need for enhanced security and stricter enforcement to protect vulnerable populations in the district. The community remains in a state of high tension pending the full apprehension of all suspects in the

Murshidabad: In a heartbreaking incident, seven migrant workers from Murshidabad, West Bengal, suffered severe burn injuries after a midnight fire engulfed their residence in Bengaluru. The blaze, suspected to have been triggered by a gas cylinder leak, broke out in the early hours of Monday, critically injuring all seven men. They are currently receiving treat-ment at Victoria Hospital in According to police and hospital sources, the fire erupted when one of the workers reportedly lit a lighter inside the room, igniting leaking gas and causing a powerful explosion. Flames spread rapidly through the cramped, rented accommodation where the labourers had been living for the past few months. The victims — Ziabur Sheikh, Hasan Sheikh, Mi-

who had migrated to Bengaluru in search of work. The incident sent shockwaves through their home villages, where families were informed of the fire around 2 a.m. "My husband went to Bengaluru four months ago. got a call at night saying there was a fire. We haven't heard from him since," said the tearful wife of one of the victims. Neighbours and relatives gathered outside their homes, anxiously awaiting updates. Police in Bengaluru suspect a gas cylinder malfunction and have registered a case. Forensic analysis is underway. Though the fire was brought under control quickly, the workers had already susserious injuries. Murshidabad officials are coordinating with Karna-taka authorities, while local leaders have urged the state government to provide medical and financial assistance to the victims' families. This tragedy highlights the vulnerability of migrant workers, who often live in hazardous conditions with

minimal safety oversight in

#### Torture by drunk son, 72-year-old mother sets herself ablaze

MI News Service, Howrah: In a heart- wrenching incident that has exposed the dark underbelly of domestic violence, a 72-year-old woman from Mishra Para in Bankra, Howrah, attempted suicide after enduring years of alleged torture at the hands of her elder son. The elderly woman, identified as Shankari Das, is now battling for her life at Howrah District Hospital with severe burn injuries.

According to police sources, the incident occurred on Monday evening, when Shankari allegedly poured kerosene on herself and set herself ablaze inside her residence. Family members and neighbours, hearing her screams, rushed to her rescue and immediately informed the Bankra Investigation Centre. Police personnel arrived promptly and shifted her to the hospital. Preliminary investigations suggest zens from domestic abuse —

that family unrest and continuous physical abuse led the woman to take this extreme step. Locals allege that her elder son, Amal Das, frequently came home drunk and assaulted his mother. The situation reportedly escalated after Shankari transferred a portion of her land to her daughter, sparking further conflict within the family. Police have arrested Amal Das on charges of abetment to suicide and are interrogating him to ascertain the sequence of events. "We have initiated a detailed probe. Statements of neighbours and family members are being recorded," said an investigating officer. The incident has triggered outrage in the locality, with neighbours condemning the repeated acts of cruelty inflicted on the aged woman. Many have called for stricter action to protect senior citi-

#### a growing but often unreported crisis. This case follows closely on the heels of another gruesome episode in Sabang,

West Midnapore, where a son allegedly hacked his parents to death with a sharp weapon late on Friday night. The victims, Bhim Hansda (45) and Sambari Hansda (40), were found dead in their home the next morning. Police have launched a manhunt for the accused, Gopal Hansda, who is reportedly mentally unstable. The two back-to-back incidents — one of relentless domestic cruelty, the other of a violent family massacre have reignited public concern over the rising tide of familial violence across the state. Social activists and law enforcement officials have urged stronger community vigilance and faster intervention in domestic abuse cases, warning that "silence at home is

#### **Bharat Sevashram Sangha Stands Beside** Flood-Affected People in North Bengal

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: Heavy rainfall has wreaked havoc across several parts of North Bengal. Areas such as Jalpaiguri, Dhupguri, Panbari, and Kulapara have been severely affected, with homes and farmlands submerged under water. In this difficult situation, Bharat Sevashram Sangha has stepped forward to help the flood-affect-

According to Swami Vishwatmananda Maharaj, the Ğeneral Secretary of the Sangha, monks and volunteers of the organization have already reached the affected areas. They are distributing dry food, clothes, and other essential items to the victims. In addition, arrangements for shelter and medical assistance are also being made for the affect-



Swami Vishwatmananda Maharaj said, "Bharat Sevashram Sangha has always believed in the ideal of serving humanity. Our monks and volunteers are tirelessly working to stand beside those who have suffered due

#### Man Impersonates Teacher, Blackmails Housewife After Illicit Relationship – Arrested by Police Tarkeshwar Police Station.

News Hooghly: A young man who allegedly duped a housewife by posing as a schoolteacher on social media and later blackmailed her for money and jewellery has been arrested by Tarkeshwar Police. The accused, identified as Sheikh Ashraful Haque, was produced before the Chandannagar Sub-Divisional

narul Sheikh (from Panch

Pittala, Berhampore), Ta-

jibur Sheikh, Hafizul Sheikh,

Nuruzzamal Sheikh (from

Banpara and Nagarajal), and Zahid Ali (from Khidir-

pur, Hariharpara) — were

Court on Monday.

According to police sources, Ashraful befriended the woman on social media a few months ago, introducing himself as a primary school teacher. Over time, the reationship turned intimate. However, what began as online friendship soon took a sinister turn when the accused allegedly recorded private moments and started blackmailing the woman. The victim alleged that Ashraful threatened to leak her intimate photos and videos unless she paid him a large sum of money. Under pressure and fear, she reportedly handed over cash and gold jewellery to the accused. Even after receiving the money, Ashraful allegedly continued to demand more. Realising she had been trapped, the woman finally

Acting swiftly, police traced and arrested Ashraful from Satgariya, Jamalpur, on Sunday. Investigators suspect that the accused may have targeted other women in a similar manner, and efforts are underway to identify potential victims. "The accused pretended to be a teacher to gain trust and emotionally manipulate the woman. We are verifying if he has been involved in similar cases elsewhere," said a senior police official. The victim and her family have demanded strict punishment for the accused, saying that he not only exploited her emotionally but also robbed her of her dignity and security. This case has once again exposed the growing menace of online deception and exploitation, where fraudsters use fake identities to lure and extort unsuspecting women. Meanwhile, a similar incident was reported recently in Bali, where another housewife lost over ₹4 lakh after falling prey to a fake foreign job scam. Police have urged citizens to exercise caution while engaging with unknown individuals online and to report suspicious ac-

## Birth of a young novelist aspiring to touch the skies

Kolkata: The world is replete in wonders and we may not be aware but surprises are not always the topics of dreams or films and it might stare in our face as we roam the city streets or board buses or take a metro ride. Take for example the instance of Ramsha Rais, who at first sight doesn't come across anything different from another teenager, who has just finished her ISC in science stream last year from Saifee Hall School, Park Lane in Kolkata, the capital city of the Eastern India state of West Bengal. India. Anyway the element of surprise doesn't lie in the academic credentials of Ramsha, but it's in her accomplishments in the field of literature.

Arguably she is the youngest novelist all across the globe irrespective of languages or geographical divides. As many as five novels have flourished from the pen of this budding authoress within just a span of four years. The first one, FIRED - A science fiction novel appeared in 2021 when she was only 13. The novel was published by Notion Press Publication. The next book, THE DOOR



Ramsha Rais

TO THE STARS was an anthology of 15 short stories for kids published by Blue Rose Publication in the month of January in 2022. In the same year in April a fantasy novel, THE HOWLING ALPHA AND THE FOREST OF DECEPTION (Part-I) was published by the Notion Press Publication. The sequel THE HOWLING ALPHA AND THE SWORD OF BAANE (Part-II) came up in January 2023. As a true representative of her generation Ramsha is not impervious to the social or political upheavals rocking the national or international arena like the on-

Middle-East. The heart-rending sufferings of the hapless Palestinians compelled the young novelist to pen a novella, TEARS OF INNOCENT, again published by Notion Press Publication in July 2024. In her short span of literary career she has written as many as five books which have been published by reputed Indian publishing houses and simultaneously sold both in the country and abroad via online platforms like Amazon, Flipkart, Notion Press Store and many others. The idea of her first novel, FIRED had for the first time ignited her mind during the long pandemic lockdown. Back then she was only 13 and a literary achievement at such a tender age is indeed commendable beyond words. It is all the more deserving of kudos as she is not a native English speaker. As we now know, thanks to the prodigious pen of this budding writer, Ramsha Rais has quietly stepped into the arena of international hall of fame. The Organization for International Book of Records has recently notified a going genocide of thousands of innocent civilians in Gaza orate her in its category of



"Maximum Novels Written by a Teenager." It's a World Record of Ramsha Rais. It is no little achievement for an adolescent girl hailing from an Urdu-speaking minority community with conservative credo, to stand tall and make a mark without the aid of any notable literary background, financial support or specific academic heritage. People should know about her literary works in such a way so that more children may be motivated to ascend to the top.

Moreover, we are well aware that in such troubled times, when the secular fabric of India is constantly under assault from a mul-

erant forces, inimical to the very idea of India. The pen of Ramsha is well-suited to calm and soften the innocent but agitated minds of millions of children and may ensure peace and communal harmony. We hope the success of this young novelist will help replicate the healthy social ambience of the cultural diversity in West Bengal in the remaining parts of India as well. Anyway the readers may rest assured that in future too Ramsha Rais will continue to dazzle us with her pen and her thoughts mesmerize many more across the International plat-

#### Tulai Panji rice cultivation begins in **Tehatta: Nadia farmers take inspiration** from North Dinajpur's aromatic variety

MI News Service, Tehatta: The world-famous Tulai Panji rice, known for its unique aroma and rich flavour, has long been the pride of North Dinajpur's Raiganj subdivision. Now, this celebrated variety has found a new home, in Tehatta, Nadia, where cultivation has begun on an experimental basis.

Local farmer Ronit Biswas, a resident of Betai Uttarjitpur village under Tehatta police station, has taken the first step. "I first heard about this variety from Dr. Prahlad Biswas, a professor at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar College," Ronit said. "After researching on Google, I became fascinated by it. With Dr. Biswas's help, I managed to collect about two kilograms of Tulai Panji seeds from Raiganj, completely free of cost."

Tulai Panji is a non-basmati aromatic rice that stands out among India's many indigenous fragrant varieties. While



kets, Tulai Panji has carved out its own reputation for being both highly aromatic and nutritionally rich. Traditionally, it is grown in areas such as Mohiniganj in Raiganj block, along with parts of Kaliagani, Hemtabad, and Itahar blocks of North Dinajpur district. Explaining its uniqueness,

basmati dominates global mar-

Dr. Prahlad Biswas said, "Tulai Panji is a late-variety crop. Sowing begins when the monsoon is almost over, and the panicles appear just as the rains stop. The quality and aroma depend on dew formation on the panicles, that's when it develops its signature characteristics." This rice is cultivated in

moist fields without standing water and is grown entirely without chemical fertilizers or pesticides. "Any chemical use reduces its fragrance and nutritional value," Ďr. Biswas added.

Agriculture Officer Ananda Mitra of Tehatta-I block praised the initiative: "It's a very good move. Similar attempts were made earlier in South Bengal, but the variety lost its quality there. We will visit the field to assess the crop's quality. If the aroma and grain standards are retained, farmers in this region can profit commercially from

Tulai Panji cultivation." The crop takes about three months to mature and yields less compared to hybrid varieties, but its premium quality and high market demand, even abroad, make it a promising option for farmers seeking sustainable and

#### **IISER K develops friendly bacteria to fight cancer** from inside, a team to move to I GEM in Paris

MI News Service, Kalyani: A team of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata has developed a "friendly bacteria" that can safely and effectively fight cancer from within the patient's body. At the same time, they are developing a detection system capable of monitoring the progress of the therapy. Together, these innovations mark a new frontier in the combined Therapeutic and Diagnostic, or "Theranostic", approach to cancer treatment, an IISER K Press Release has said.

However, IISER Kolkata Students to Showcase Novel Bacterial Cancer Therapy at iGEM Grand Jamboree 2025 in Paris. The 11 members' team under the leadership of Prof. Supratim Datta, HOD Department of Biological Sciences, is starting for iGEM in Paris on October

A team of 11 undergraduate students from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata has earned the opportunity to represent their institute and India at the International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) Grand Jamboree 2025, the world's largest synthetic biology competition, to be held in

Paris October, this year. Their project, titled ReSET (Reprogramming the Suppressive Environment of Tumour Microenvironment), tackles one of the biggest barriers in cancer therapy, the immunosuppressive tumour microenvironment. Cancer often hides behind special immune cells called T regulatory cells (Tregs), which suppress the body's natural de-



fence system. This makes standard therapies like immunotherapy or chemotherapy less

As claimed by IISER K sources, IISER Kolkata 2025 Team's approach is bold and innovative. They are engineering probiotics (beneficial gut bacteria) to detect tumour and disrupt the activity of Tregs, reactivating the immune system against cancer. In simple words, they are converting friendly mi-crobes into living, targeted medicines that could one day work from inside the patient's body to make cancer treatment safer and more effective. They are also working on a detection system that will help identify the progression of their therapeutic approach, making their project a Theranostic Approach Therapeutic + Diagnostic) to

cancer treatment. But the project's scope does not stop here. Their project is multi-faceted; it's not just about science in the lab. The students have integrated Human Practices into their design by engaging with oncologists, cancer biologists, onco - psychologists, surgeons, cancer survivors, and NGOs. They also organised outreach programs in schools, cancer awareness campaigns, and collaborated with hair donors and patient support groups. These dialogues helped them shape the therapy to be scientifically sound, ethically responsible, and socially relevant.

The team emphasises that their work is not only a scien tific prototype but also a proof of concept that India's youth can drive world-class research. "By targeting the Tregs pathway with engineered bacteria, we hope to bring forward a completely new class of cancer therapeutics, one that will revolutionise the way we treat cancer," the team noted. As they head to Paris at the

end of this month, the IISER Kolkata iGEM team carries not just a research project, but a vision- to place India at the forefront of next-generation cancer solutions that merge biology, engineering, and social respon-

By re-imagining cancer therapy through synthetic biology, these students are not only competing internationally but also redefining how India can contribute to global healthcare

#### Kali temple collapses into Ganges amid riverbank erosion

Service, Shamserganj: In a shocking turn of events, a centuries-old Kali temple in Shamserganj has been completely submerged into the Ganges following severe riverbank erosion late Monday night, just days before Kali Puja. The disaster has sparked widespread panic among residents, who have witnessed the gradual collapse of embankments, roads, and now

a sacred temple into the river.

Local reports indicate that the erosion began last Sunday night, with portions of the riverbank road disappearing and huge cracks forming in the temple structure. Approximately 100 meters of land had already been lost to the river before the final collapse. By Monday night, the feared disaster became reality as the entire temple sank into the Ganges, leaving residents distraught and alarmed for the safety of their homes. The erosion has also raised fresh fears in the Chachand area, where cracks are appearing in local houses, and several structures are at risk of being washed away. Residents allege



that despite repeated warnings, administration officials have not taken adequate measures, and temporary solutions like sandbags are proving ineffective. Political leaders have voiced their concern. BJP MLA Subrata Maitra remarked, "Erosion cannot be controlled with sandbags every time. Repeated requests have yielded no results." Congress leader Jayanta Das criticized the ruling party, claiming, "While people are losing their homes, funds meant for relief are unaccounted for, and the administration is silent."\* Meanwhile, Trinamool MLA Zakir Hossain stated he is actively supporting affected residents, asserting, "It

does not matter who said what; we are standing with the people." The incident has brought to light the growing vulnerability of Murshidabad's riverbank settlements and the urgent need for long-term erosion control measures. Locals insist that the situation can no longer be managed with temporary fixes, demanding that the riverbanks be strengthened with proper stone embankments to prevent further destruction. As the Kali Puja approaches, the collapse of a cherished temple has left the community in shock and intensified calls for immediate administrative intervention to save lives, homes, and cultural heritage along the Ganges.



Kolkata, Wednesday 8 October, 2025

#### **Monsoon Withdrawal** Likely to Resume Soon; **Dry Weather Expected** in Bengal by Weekend

MI News Service, Kolkata: The retreat of the southwest monsoon, which had stalled for over a week, is finally expected to gain momentum, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Weather experts predict that favorable conditions for monsoon withdrawal will develop over parts of West Bengal and eastern India from the coming weekend, bringing drier days ahead.

At present, the monsoon withdrawal line extends from Veraval in Gujarat to Ujjain, Jhansi, and Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh. Over the next three to four days, the monsoon is expected to withdraw from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. If no new low-pressure system forms over the Bay of Bengal — a possibility that hasn't been entirely ruled out humidity levels are likely to drop across eastern India from next Tuesday or Wednesday, ushering in dry and pleasant weather. Mete-orologists say that by mid-October, Bengal could experience the first touch of cool, crisp mornings, particularly around Diwali and Kali Puja. Currently, cyclonic circulations are active over northeast Bihar, northeast Assam, and eastern Uttar Pradesh, along with successive western disturbances moving across northwestern India. One such disturbance is now affecting parts of north India, while another is expected to enter the region within 24 hours. A third system currently lies over Afghanistan and is expected to follow soon after. For now, Tuesday is expected to bring light to moderate rainfall in Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, Jhargram, East and West Midnapore, and both 24-Parganas districts. Scattered thundershowers with lightning may continue on Wednesday as well. From Thursday onward, rainfall will reduce further, with only isolated thunderstorms likely in a few districts. By Sunday, rainfall chances will be negligible across most parts of Bengal, including North Bengal, where weather conditions will turn largely sunny to partly cloudy. In Kolkata, scattered thunderstorms are expected over the next two days, accompanied by gusty winds at 30-40 km/h. The minimum temperature on Tuesday was 26.0°C, while the maximum was around 29.5°C. Relative humidity ranged between 82% and 95%, with traces of rain recorded. Elsewhere, heavy rainfall is likely in Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Tripura, as well as in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Karaikal. A thunderstorm and strong wind alert (40-50 km/h) has been issued for Uttarakhand.

#### India sourced domestic military hardware of Rs 1.20 **lakh crore in 2024-25**

From PG 1 end of 2024-25, the capital acquisition from domestic sources has gone up to approximately Rs 1,20,000 crore," he said. "This change is not just about data, but also about mindset," he said. The Defence minister said the Modi government has taken several policy initiatives in the last 10 years to encourage indigenous design, development, and manufacturing of defence equipment in the country. Under these initiatives, the highest priority is now being given to domestic sourcing in procurement of military hardware, he noted. "The government of India is fully aware of the changing nature of modern warfare. Today's warfare has become completely technology-oriented. We have seen a demonstration of this in Operation Sindoor as well," he said. "In this, we observed that the importance of non-contact warfare, such as drones, antidrone warfare, and air-defence systems, has significantly increased," he said.

### CM Mamata Announces Relief Measures and Infra Plans in North Bengal MI News Service, Kolkata: West

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee visited North Bengal on Tuesday to assess the postdisaster situation in Mirik and reassure affected residents of immediate relief and rehabilitation measures. She also distributed cheques of Rs 5 lakh each to the kin of 16 deceased. She assured "Roti, Kapda, and Makan" (bread, clothing, and shelter) to all affected families from the government.She also promised government jobs in the Home Guard category as special compensatory appointments for the kin of the deceased. During her visit, she announced that the collapsed bridge at Dudhia would be reconstructed within 15 days.

"Earlier, it was estimated to

take a month. For now, we will create a temporary route using Hume pipes. Only small vehicles and pedestrians will be able to use it," she said. She also emphasized the urgent repair of Rohini's road, which had suffered landslides, and noted that stones and debris had obstructed the route.

Addressing the plight of displaced families, Banerjee assured that new houses would be constructed, and community kitchens would continue to operate. "Many important documents, clothing, and cooking supplies have been destroyed. Ration distribution will continue until people regain stability. Special camps will be set up to restore lost books, papers, and Aadhaar cards," she said. The



Chief Minister added that once water levels recede, surveys

will begin, and crop insurance

whose lands were damaged. She also assigned special responsibilities to officials Gautam Deb, L.B. Rai, and AnitThapa to ensure smooth coordination of relief efforts and promised to revisit the region soon. High-lighting the broader natural challenges, Banerjee noted, There are 56 rivers in Bhutan, and high tides continue today. Four dams in Bhutan are closed. Sikkim has also seen heavy rainfall, contributing to the rising water levels affecting North Bengal. Mirik is a small hill area; yet, extensive construction has been undertaken. We must remain vigilant for the next three to four days." On infrastructure measures, she said a new permanent bridge worth

gency Hume pipe bridge will provide temporary access. Workers must be provided with life jackets, and boats and divers should be stationed to ensure safety. I advise postponing work for two days during high tides because human lives are more valuable than any construction. The water currents will be more dangerous at night," Banerjee warned. The Chief Minister's visit focused on ensuring rapid relief, restoring essential services, and initiating reconstruction efforts while emphasizing the need for safety amid ongoing flood and landslide risks in North Bengal. Community kitchens and ration distribution will continue until normalcy is restored.



Idol of goddess Lakshmi being immersed after Lakshmi Puja at Babughat in Kolkata on Tuesday.

## **CM Mamata Visits Injured BJP MP in Siliguri**

MI News Service, Kolkata: During a visit to Siliguri on Tuesday, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called on BJP MP Khagen-Murmu, who was admitted to the hospital with injuries sustained in a violent attack. The two leadersKhagen along with Shankar Ghosh were assaulted by a mob of approximately 500 people in Nagrakata village of Jalpaiguri district on Monday. They had gone to the area to assess the situation of residents affected by floods and landslides in the Dooars region. According to reports, the with sticks, and vandalized their ve-

hicle. CM Mamata spoke with Murmu and his family members inside the ICU, expressing concern for his well-being. She said, "It's courtesy. I heard he got injured and I came to see him. He is stable now. He is diabetic and that is why doctors are keeping him under observation. He has a small injury under the ear." Following the incident, BJP leaders alleged that the Trinamool Congress orchestrated the attack. Shankar Ghosh claimed, "When we visited the area, suddenly some people came up to us and said they were Didi'ssainik mob pelted stones, attacked them and asked why we were there. We

The assault has triggered a political controversy, with BJP accusing the TMC of instigating the violence, while the Trinamool countered that BJP leaders were exploiting the natural disaster for photo opportunities instead of helping affected people. The TMC posted on X, "When adversity strikes, humanity must rise above politics. Smt. Baneriee embodies this ethos. Today, she visited BJP MP KhagenMurmu in the hospital, personally inquiring about his health and well-being. For her, compassion knows no political boundaries, be-

# Rise in protest against the US - Isr Observe All India Protest Day

The SUCI (Communist) organized a rally protesting U.S President Trump's alleged Gaza colonization plan, demanding blockade removal, and calling for Palestinian self-governance restoration nationwide. The rally was held from Subodh Mallik Square to the U.S. Embassy in Kolkata on Tuesday.

## Youth Arrested for Selling Durga Puja **Carnival Passes Online in Kolkata**

MI News Service, Kolkata: A vouth has been arrested for illegally selling invitation passes to the Durga Puja Carnival held on Red Road in Kolkata on Sunday. The grand carnival, attended by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and several dignitaries, is one of the most anticipated post-Puja events in the city. Entry to the venue is strictly restricted to those with official invitation passes - which are not meant for sale. According to police sources, the accused, identified as AruneshShil, a resident of Haridevpur in south Kolkata, had collected multiple passes for the carnival from various sources. He

then advertised the sale of

these passes through a so-cial media post, inviting interested buyers to contact him directly. The post reportedly went viral, catching the attention of the police. Investigators said Arunesh offered each pass for ₹5,000, though in some cases they were sold for ₹3,000 to ₹4,000 after negotiation. Several people reportedly purchased these passes from him, unaware that selling or buying them was a criminal offence. Following a complaint, the Shakespeare Sarani Police Station registered a case and launched an investigation. Acting on leads, police traced Arunesh to his residence in Haridevpur and arrested him on

Monday. During the search, several original carnival passes were recovered from his possession. He was produced before the Bankshall Court later in the day, where the judge remanded him in police custody till October 10. Police are now probing how Arunesh managed to acquire the invitation passes and whether any insiders were involved in facilitating the illegal sale. Officials emphasized that the Durga Puja Carnival is a high-security state event attended by top government officials, foreign delegates, and thousands of spectators.
Unauthorized entry through fraudulent means poses a significant security risk.

#### EC fails to disclose number of non-citizens, removed from Bihar electoral roll: Cong

From PG 1 November 6 and 11 and

votes will be counted on November 14 to decide the fate of the ruling NDA govern-ment led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and the challenge posed by the opposition bloc comprising the RJD and Congress among others. Of the total 243 Assembly seats in the state, as many as 121 will go the polls on November 6, while elections will be held in the remaining 122 seats on November 11. After the declaration of results (on November 14) the entire electoral process will be over by November 16, the Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar announced here on Monday. 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 Suraaj 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 alliances have also been trad-

#### **Key Digital Payment Innovations**

**RBI Introduces 3** 

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor T. Rabi Sankar announced the launch of three major digital payment innovations at the Global Fintech Fest 2025, aimed at enhancing efficiency, convenience, and financial inclusion. The new offerings include UPI Multi-Signatory, Small Value Transactions via Wearable Glasses through UPI Lite, and Forex on Bharat Connect. The UPI Multi-Signatory Accounts feature enables joint or multi-signatory account holders to authorize payments seamlessly via any UPI app. This interoperable system allows corporates, MSMEs, start-ups, trusts, and joint account holders to execute vendor payments, reimbursements, and recurring transactions with full transparency and digital approval records, significantly improving transspeed convenience. The Small Value Transactions using Wearable Glasses via UPI Lite allows hands-free, secure payments for everyday expenses like retail, food, and transit. Users can scan QR codes and complete payments through voice commands on Smart Glasses, eliminating dependence on phones or PIN entry. Finally, the Forex on Bharat Connect platform links the FX Retail

#### **Mystery Over Sweet Shop Worker Found** Critically Injured in **North Kolkata**

Platform with Bharat BillPay

(BBPS), allowing retail cus-

tomers to purchase US dol-

lars digitally at competitive,

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tension gripped North Kolkata's Jorabagan area after a worker was found in a pool of blood inside a room above a popular sweet shop. The man, identified as Gautam Pradhan, was discovered with deep injury marks on his neck, and a bloodstained knife was found lying beside him, prompting police to investigate whether it was a case of suicide or attempted murder.

According to police sources, the incident took place at one of Jorabagan's most reputed sweet shops, where Gautam had been working for several years. The shop also provides accommodation for its workers on the upper floor. On Sunday night, Gautam reportedly went to bed as usual. However, when he did not appear for work even late into the next morning, his colleagues grew suspicious. After repeated knocking yielded no response, the workers broke open the door and were shocked to find Gautam lying unconscious on the floor, covered in blood. The room was splattered with bloodstains, and a knife was found near his body. His colleagues immediately rushed him to a nearby hospital in a critical condition and informed the police. Officers from Jorabagan Police Station reached the spot and have since launched an in-

vestigation.

## SC Defers Hearing on RG Kar Case to November

The Supreme Court on Tuesday adjourned till November the hearing on the suomotu case related to the rape and murder of a trainee doctor at Kolkata's state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. The brutal incident, which occurred in August last year, had sparked nationwide outrage and weeks of protests across West Bengal. A bench comprising Justices M.M. Sundresh and Satish Chandra Sharma deferred the matter as it was occupied with a part-heard case. Senior advocate KarunaNandy, appearing on behalf of the Association of Junior and Senior Doctors, urged the court to list the case for an early hearing, citing police action against doctors who had participated in peaceful demonstrations. On January 20 this year, a Kolkata trial court sentenced the accused, Sanjay Roy, to "life imprisonment till death." Roy, a civic volunteer, was arrested a day after the victim's body was



room of the hospital on August 9, 2024. The apex court has since been monitoring the case, including various connected issues such as the regularisation of doctors' absences during the protest period. Taking suomotu cognisance of the matter last year, the Supreme Court had constituted a National Task Force (NTF) on August 20, 2024, to propose measures ensuring the safety and security of medical professionals nationwide.

### PM Modi transforms lives of crores through strong leadership : Shah

achieved before 2047 because we have full faith in the country's young generation", he said adding that "amid various global crises, the emergence of the Indian economy as a bright spot is a matter of great pride for all of us". He said "India has established political stability, credible leadership, robust economic performance, and a strong foundation of democracy. Leveraging longterm policies based on these four pillars, our economy has delivered remarkable performance over the past 11 vears." Shah also emphasized that these four pillars are India's true strength. He said while many developed countries are progressing at a growth rate of 1 to 2 per cent, India has sustained an annual growth rate of 7 to 8 per cent. India has also maintained a 14 per cent growth rate in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). He also said that India is the only country that has sustained its growth story through 100% implementation of structural reforms, process reforms,

digital governance, and wel-Minister Modi's vision will be fare schemes. Global economic analysts have been compelled to acknowledge India's growth story, Shah said adding today, there is unwavering investor confidence in India's economy, energy among consumers, and a clear reflection of inclusive development. Shah said in 2014, the condition of our country's banking sector was poor. Between 2008 and 2014, loans worth a total of ₹52 lakh crore were disbursed, which led to a major problem of bad loans. He said that India's banking sector was plagued by negligence in record-keeping, lack of transparency, and corruption. But in 2014 Prime Minister Modi initiated reforms in the banking sector. The foundation of our Constitution is financial inclusion, but there were 60 crore people in the country whose families did not have even a single bank account. In the last 10 years, the Modi government has opened 53 crore bank accounts, thereby connecting even the poorest individuals to the banking system. the Union Home Minister said.

#### Fresh snowfall blanketed higher reaches of Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir from October 8 due to a western disturbance. Light rainfall was also reported in Srinagar and its adjoining areas, while intermittent showers were recorded across the plains of North and South Kashmir. The fresh change in weather has brought delight to locals and tourists, who see it as the first sign of the approaching winter. Authorities, however, have advised commuters and travelers to remain cautious, especially in higher regions, as temperatures continue to drop and roads turn slippery. (KNS) Peer Ki Gali on the Mughal Road in Shopian district and Zojila Pass along the Srinagar-Leh national highway also received fresh snowfall, leading to the closure of these roads, officials said. The day temperature in the valley dipped by 13 degrees, with the city recording a maximum of 12.5 degrees Celsius on Monday, compared to the normal of 25.5 degrees Celsius. The Meteorological Department has forecast light to moderate rain, with light snowfall in the higher reaches, till Tuesday afternoon.

ing charges.

**Name Change** 

L Pallavi Chandrakant Lahange & La hange Pallavi Chandrakant and Pallavi subhasish Paul (Old Name), wife of Subhasish Paul, C/o subhasish Paul, Flat No - E. 3rd Floor, Block 3Panchsheel Vatika, BH/25, M.B.Road Near smart bazar, North Dumdum (m), PO- Birati, North 24paraganas 700051. West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pallavi Paul (New Name) vide an affidavit No 172 sworn before the Ld 1st class judicial magistrate at Barrackpore on 12/12/2024. Pallavi Chandrakant Lahange & Lahange Pallavi Chandrakant and Pallavi subhasish Paul also Pallavi Paul all are the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Sk Jalil Midda (Old Name), Son Of Kabil Midde, Residing At Vill-Santosh-pur, Po-Tarakeswar, Ps-Tarakeswar, Hooghly-712410,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Jalil Midde (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 03/10/2025. Sk Jalil Midda And Jalil Midde Both Are The Same And One Identical Person

#### Name Change

Iyasin Midda (Old Name), Son Of Jalil Midde, Residing At Vill-Santosh-pur, Po-Tarakeswar, Ps-Tarakeswar, Hooghly-712410 West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Hence forth Be Known As Ivasin Midde (Nev Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 03/10/2025. Iyasin Midda And Iyasin Midde Both Are The Same And One

NAME CHANGE Kalipada Das, residing a Jagannathbati, Chanditala, Hooghly 712702, hereby declare that, the correct spelling of my father's name s Sudarshan Das not Sudarsan Das Sudarson Das & Sudarshar Chandra Das. The same has bee corrected vide an Affidavit no. 11238 of 1st class Judicial Magistrate a Serampore on 22.09.2025 stating that Sudarshan Das, Sudarsan Das, Sudarson Das & Sudarshar Chandra Das is one, same identical person. Henceforth in all my documents my father's name will b read as Sudarshan Das.

#### Name Change

Sultana Khatun (old name) wife o Md Shahid Khan, residing at 12/H/46, Bed Ford Lane, 2nd Floor, P.O- Park Street, Kolkata - 700016, West Ben gal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sultana Kha-toon (new name) as declared before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Sealdah vide affidavit No. 7810 dated 12/08/2025. Sultana Khatun and Sultana Khatoon both are same and one

#### **Name Change**

, Mohammad Saiyeed, S/o Late Mo hammad Shamim, residing at 12 Balai Dutta Street, P.S.- Jorasanko, Kolkata-700073, declare that, in my son, Asad Syed's Pass Certificate Cum Statement of Marks issued by Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, my name has been wrongly recorded as Md. Saiy eed in place of my actual name Mo hammad Saiyeed and my wife's name has been wrongly recorded as Kahkasha Naaz in place of her actual name Kahkashan Naaz. As per affidavit vide no. 9802 in the Court of the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Sealdah on 18.09.2025, I, Mohammad Saiyeed and Md. Saiyeed is the same and one identical person and my wife, Kahkashan Naaz and Kahkasha Naaz is the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

, Md Rafikul Islam (Old Name) S/o Md Mansur Ali Gain Residing at Vill Uttar Barunhat Muslim Para, P.o Barunhat, P.s - Hasnabad, District North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743426 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Rafikul Islam (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Rafikul Islam (Old Name) and Rafikul Islam (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Musfera Fathma (Old Name) S/o Late Md Naushadul Hague Residing at 16/1D, Topsia Road South, P.o - Gob inda Khatick Road, Ps - Topsia Thana. District - Kolkata, Pin - 700046 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Musfera Fatma (New Name) as de clared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Musfera Fathma (Old Name and Musfera Fatma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I. Md. Yusuf Ansari S/O Zahid Hussa Ansari residing at 66,R.B.S. Road Champdani, P.O-Baidyabati, Dist.-Hooghly, Bhadreswar, 712222(W.B.) That my father name wrongly recorded in my educational documents as Zahid Hussain instead of Zahid Hussain Ansari vide an affidavit before the judicial magistrate 1st at Chandernagore. 20/05/2025. That Zahid Hussain Ansari and Zahid Hussain both are the same and one identical person.

#### **Name Change**

I Biswaiit Biswas, s/o Lt. Pitar Biswas resident at vill Begopara, P.O-dayabari, P.S:Ranaghat, Dist: nadia, name Spelling is Pitar Biswas. That my father's Death Certficate and my Madhyamik and H.S Certficate, my father's name recorded as Peter Biswas instead of Pitar Biswas vide affidavit sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Ranaghat 23.09.2025. That my father Lt. Pitar Biswas and Lt. Peter Biswas was the same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Shafique Ahmed, s/o. Late Rafique Ahmed, R/o. 71/H/8, Dr. Sudhir Basu Road, Kol-23, declare that my name has been wrongly recorded in Voter I-Card & No.- WB/18/ 147/336030 as SK. Faku in place of Shafique Ahmed & My Wife Voter I-Card & My Wife Voter I-Card No.WB/23/147/342226 as Declared by the court Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Mag-istrate at Alipore, vide Affidavit No 62222 Dt. 20.09.2025 that Shafique Ahmed & SK. Faku both are same & one identical person.

#### Name Change

Sanu Haldar (Old Name), Son Of ıbarna Halder, Residing At Word No5 Rnt Sarani Kolkata - 700152 West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sanu Halder (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata 06/10/2025. Sanu Haldar And Sanu Halder Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

MD NASIM S/O LATE MD BARIK eclare that my said name MOHAM-MAD NASIM KHAN (old name), re siding at Rail par, babu talab, p.o. dakhin dhadka, ps- asansol (north), paschim bardhaman, pin- 713302, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and i shall henceforth be own as MD NASIM (new name) as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 25/09/2025. MD NASIM (new name) and MOHAMMAD NASIM KHAN (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, BUDDHADEB KARAR S/O SHIB-NATH KARAR declare that my said name BUDDHADEV KARAR (old name), residing at NONAKUNDU, P.O.- DOMJUR, PS- DOMJUR, HOWRAH-711405, West Bengal, India, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as BUD-DHADEB KARAR (new name), as de-clared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 25/09/2025. BUDDHADEB KARAR (new name) and BUDDHADEV KARAR (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Helaluddin Sarkar son of Md Abu Sayeed Sarkar, residing at Vill: Madanpur, PO: Maricha, PS: Raninagar, Dist: Murshidabad, West Bengal. Helaluddin Sarkar and Md. Helal Jddin Sarkar is the same and one identical person by an affidavit in the Court of Ld S.D.E.M (1st class) Magistrate at Berhampur on 12.09.2025.

#### Name Change

I Pooja madhesiya (OLD NAMES) D/O-Balkishun gupta, RESIDING Of-Madbhawan Rambandhu talaw Asansol, DIST-PASCHIM Burdwan, PIN-13303, WEST BENGAL, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Pooja Maddhysiya (NEW NAME) AS DĚ CLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Pooja Madhesiya (OLD NAMES) AND Pooja Maddhysiya (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

#### Name Change

I Balkishan Gupta (OLD NAMES) S/O-Keshav Prasad, RESIDING Of-Shastrinagar Maharajganj Azamgarh, DIST-Maharajganj, PIN-276137, UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Balkishun gupta (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE IOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Balkishan Gupta (OLD NAMES) AND Balkishun gupta (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDEN-TICAL PERSON

#### Name Change

Nityo gopal sahoo (OLD NAMES)S/O-Ariun Charan sahoo RESIDING Of-Alankarpur, DIST-Purba medinipur, PIN-721441,WEST BENGAL, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Nityagopal sahoo (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Nityo gopal sahoo (OLD NAMES) AND Nitya gopal sahoo (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE

#### Name Change

Malati Gupta (OLD NAMES) D/O-om rakash Gupta, RESIDING Of-Mad-Asansol DIST-PASCHIM BURDWAN IN-713303, WEST BENGAL, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Malti Gupta (NEW NAME) AS DE-LARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUB-LIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025 Malati Gupta (OLD NAMES) AND Malti gupta (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

#### Name Change

I Amit sonthalia (OLD NAMES) S/O-Shankar lal sonthalia,RESIDING Of-Jamuria main road jamuria DIST-PASCHIM BURDWAN, PIN-13336, WEST BENGAL,INDIA.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Amit kumar sonthalia (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 7/10/2025. Amit sonthalia (OLD NAMES) AND Amit kumar sonthalia NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

#### Name Change

Shashi Debi Sonthalia (Old Names D/O-Hari Prasad Chaudhary ,Residing Of-Kali Mandir Jamuria, Dist-Paschim Burdwan,Pin-713336, West Bengal, India. Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shashi Sonthalia (New Name) As De-clared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Dated 07/10/2025.Shashi Debi Sonthalia (Old Names) And Shashi Sonthalia (New Name) All Are Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

Shahnaz Begum (Old Name), Wife Of Mahboob Alam, Residing At 42/H/32, Ekbalpore Lane, Khiddirore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shanaz Begum (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 03/10/2025. Shahnaz Begum And Shanaz Begum Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

Raosonara Khatun (Old Name), Wife Of Sheikh Anchar Ali, Residing At Sindrani, North 24 Parganas -743297, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Raosonara Shekh (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 03/10/2025 Raosonara Khatun And Raosonara Shekh Both Are The Same And One

#### Name Change

(Old Name) NASIBUL SK S/o MOZAMMEL HOQUE Residing at, Vill- Durlovpur. Post- Kumarsanda. - Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin-742136, West Bengal, Do hearby delare that I have Changed my name rom NASIRUL SK To NASIRUL HAQUE (New name) and hence forth Shall be Known as (New name) ASIRUL HAQUE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, NASIRUL HAQUE and NASIRUL SK both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) SISH MOHAMMAD S/o-KALI MUDDIN SHEIKH Residing at, Vill- Tinpukuria, Post- Tinpukuria, Ps - Samserganj, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742202, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from SISH MOHAMMAD To SISH MAHAMMAD (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SISH MAHAMMAD in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, SISH MAHAMMAD and SISH MOHAMMAD both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) SATYAM ORA S/o- MOTI-AL ORAW Residing at, Vill- Shyamnagar, Post-Banjetia, Ps - Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742102, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from SATYAM ORA To SATYAM ORAW (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SATYAM ORAW in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshid-abad On 16 Sept 2025, SATYAM ORAW and SATYAM ORA both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) NUTFUR NESHA W/o AINAL Residing at, Vill- Balupur, Post- Batna, Ps - Ratua, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732139, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from NUTFUR NESHA TO LUTHFAR NESHA (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) LUTHFAR NESHA in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, LUTHFAR NESHA and NUTFUR NESHA both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) FERDOUSARA BIBI V/o- ISMILE SK Residing at, Vill-Gakunda Uttarpara, Post- Gajdnarpara, Ps - Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742102, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from FER-DOUSARA BIBI TO FERDOUSARA BEGUM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) FER-DOUSARA BEGUM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, FERDOUSARA BEGUM and FERDOUSARA BIBI both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change (Old Name) SAJIDUL MONDAL

S/o- DICHAR ALI MONDAL Residing at, Vill- Sekhali Para, Post- Bi-laspur, Ps - Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742303, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from SAJIDUL MONDAL To SAJIJUL HOQUE (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as New name) SAJIJUL HOQUE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, SAJIJUL HOQUE and SAJIDUL MONDAL both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) RAFIK SEIKH S/o-SOURAV SK Residing at, Vill- Chand-nagar, Post- Mahadia, Ps - Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742137, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from RAFIK SEIKH ABDUL RAFIK SK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as New name) ABDUL RAFIK SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, ABDUL RAFIK SK and RAFIK SEIKH both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

(Old Name) LAL SEIKH S/o- ABDUI RAFIK SK Residing at, Vill- Chandna gar, Post- Mahadia, Ps - Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin- 742137, West Bengal. Do hearby declare that I have Changed my name from LAL SEIKH To ALSK (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) LALSK in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berham-pore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025, LALSK and LALSEIKH both are Same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Samim Ahamad Khan (Old Name) on Of Laik Ahamed Khan, Residing At Vill-Mohanpur, Po-Mundumari, Ps ngla, Dist-West Medinipur, 721140, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Samim Ahammad Khan (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The No tary Public At Kolkata On 07/10/2025. That Samim Ahamad Khan Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Name Change

l, Sonamoni Khatun Bibi (old name) D/o Noor Islam Molla, resident of Villurba Chak Moricha, P.O.- Joypur, P.S. Uttar Kashipur, Pin- 743502, West engal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sonamoni Bibi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, ide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Sonamoni Bibi (new name) and Sonaoni Khatun Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

, Kasem Molla (old name) S/o Aafiladdin Molla, resident of Vill-Purba Jhupkhali, P.O.- Jhupkhali, P.S.- Sandeshkhali, Pin-743442, West Bengal, India, have hanged my name and shall henceforth be known as Kasem Ali Molla (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Kasem Ali Molla (new name) and Kasem Molla (old name) ooth are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Safiuddin Mallick (old name) S Kadir Mollick, resident of Vill & P.O. Gandhabaduli, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Safik Mollick (new name). as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Safik Mollick (new name) and Safiuddin Mallick (old name) both are same and on identical person.

#### Name Change

Safiuddin Mallick (old name) S Kadir Mollick, resident of Vill & P.O. Gandhabaduli, P.S.- Bishnupur, Dist. South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Safik Mollick (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025 Safik Mollick (new name) and Safiud-din Mallick (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Sheikh Jamshed (old name) S/o Lat Sk Pyar Mahammad, resident of 21A, Tiljala Shibtala Lane, P.S.- Karaya, Kolkata- 700039, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Jamshed Alam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Sk Jamshed Alam (new name) and Sheikh Jamshed (old name) both are same and one

#### Name Change

I, Bhagbat Biswal (old name) S/o Bata Krishna Biswal, resident of Quarter No-C/6, Jagada Pattanik Colony Rourkela, P.O.- Jhirpani, Pin-769042, Odisha, India, have change my name and shall henceforth be known as Bhagabat Biswal (new name), as declared Before The No tary Public at Kolkata, vide an affi-davit dated 26/09/2025. Bhagabat Biswal (new name) and Bhagbat Biswal (old name) both are same and

#### Name Change

Tapash Kumar Biswal (old name) S/ App, 3rd Flr, PL-144-1, Belgaria, 68 Bhuban Mohan Banerjee Road, Dist.-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700056, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Tapas Biswal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025 Tapas Biswal (new name) and Tapash Kumar Biswal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Bablu Das (old name) S/o Lat Makhan Chandra Das, resident of 41/D, Dr. G.S. Bose Road, Tiljala, Kolkata-700039, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bablu Chandra Das (new me), as declared in The Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Alipore, vide an affidavit 20939 dated 12/11/2020. Bablu Chandra Das (new name) and Bablu Das (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

Jagobandhu Bhandary (old name) S/o Late Banamali Bhandari, resident of 8/2/20, Lal Behari Bose Lane, Salkia, Howrah- 711106, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jagabandhu Bhandari (new name), as declared Be-fore The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Jagabandhu Bhandari (new name) and agobandhu Bhandary (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Ronit Jana (old name) S/o Bhramar Jana, resident of PURBA SRIRAMPUR , PO- PURBA SRIRAMPUR, PS MAHISHADAL, EAST MEDINIPUR 721603, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ranit Kumar Jana (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Ranit Kumar Jana new name) and Ronit Jana (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Mosrakul Hossain (old name) S/o Late Sahadat Hossain Shaikh, resident of Diamondharbour, Nurpur Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743368, P.S.-Ramnagar, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name Sahadat Hossain (father old name) to (he shall henceforth be known as) Sahadat Hossain Shaikh (father new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Sahadat Hossain Shaikh and Sahadat Hossain both are same and one identical person (myfather)

#### Name Change

Mosrakul Hossain (old name) S/o Lat Sahadat Hossain Shaikh, resident of Diamondharbour, Nurpur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743368, P.S.- Ramnagar, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mosrakul Hossain Shaikh (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Mosrakul Hossain Shaikh (new name) and Mosrakul Hossain (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Jayanti Roy (old name) W/o Subrata Roy, resident of 26/1, Jagadish Chandra Road, P.O.- New Barrackpor Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700131 West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jayanti Paul Roy (new name), as de-clared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Jayanti Paul Roy (new me) and Jayanti Roy (old name) both are same and one identical person.

#### Name Change

I, Fazhat Afza (Old Name), Wife Of Md Azad, Residing At 17/C M.M.Ali Road, Khidderpore, Ps Ekbalpore, Kolkata 700023, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Farhat Afza (New Name) Vide An Affidavit No 51640 Sworn Be fore The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 04/08/2025. Fazhat Afza And Farhat Afza Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

#### Škoda Auto announces flood relief measures



MI News Service, Kolkata: Škoda Auto India has announced a comprehensive support package, including complimentary Roadside Assistance (RSA), parts and labour cost relief, for customers impacted by the recent floods in Kolkata from September 23 to October 23, 2025. These measures will provide crucial mobility support and the repair-related challenges faced by our customers.

The Roadside Assistance (RSA) is available for all flood-affected Škoda irrespective whether the customer has a valid, existing RSA policy or not. The programme ensures on-ground assistance, including towing, minor repairs, and emergency support, ensuring peace of mind for customers. To further ease the repair expenses, Škoda Auto India and its dealer partners also extend a relief on repair costs post insurance claims are settled. Customers can avail 10% support on parts (up to ₹10,000) and 10% support on labour (up to ₹5,000), thus reducing cost of repair for the impacted customers. Customers can reach out to the Škoda dealership teams for support and further information. Helpline numbers 1800 209 4646 and 1800 102 6464 are available for customers for prompt response and resolution.

#### **METRO RAILWAY CONDUCTING SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 5.0**



MI News Service, Kolkata: Intensive cleaning of different Metro stations as a part of the ongoing Special Campaign 5.0 was organized today i.e. on 07.10.2025. During this cleaning, special emphasis was given to make the station premises garbage and litter free. Commuters were also requested to cooperate to make Metro stations neat and clean.

To make commuters aware about this Special Campaign 5.0, Nukkad Natak, cultural programmes are also being performed at different Metro stations daily. RPF staff are regularly organising Swachhata Awareness Rallies at different Metro stations to make all aware about the importance of Swachhata.

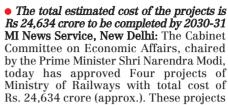
At the same time, commuters are being sensitized and encouraged to contribute to keep the Metro premises clean and litter-free. They are also being requested through the Public Address System to co-operate to make this campaign successful. Regular announcements are being made requesting commuters not to spit or litter inside the Metro premises. Offenders can easily be detected through CCTV surveillance and a fine of Rs. 500 will be imposed on him/her. Metro authorities are requesting everyone to use the dustbins placed at stations if required.

Let us all work together to keep our Metro system clean and commuter-friendly.

#### Name Change , Soma Sarkar (old name) W/o Sushant

Sarkar, resident of Alaipur, P.O.- Madan-pur, P.S.- Chakdaha, Dist.- Nadia, Pin-741245, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mana Sarkar (new name) as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Mana Sarkar (new name) and Soma Sarkar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

### Cabinet approves Four multitracking projects covering 18 Districts in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh,



- ▶ Wardha Bhusawal 3rd & 4th line -314 kms (Maharashtra)
- ▶ Gondia Dongargarh 4th line 84 kms (Maharashtra & Chhattisgarh)
- ▶ Vadodara Ratlam 3rd & 4th line -259 kms (Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh) ▶ Itarsi - Bhopal - Bina 4th line - 237

kms. (Madhya Pradesh) The four projects covering 18 Districts across the states of Maharashtra, Madhva

Pradesh, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh will increase the existing network of Indian Railways by about 894 Kms. The approved multi-tracking project will enhance connectivity to approx. 3,633

villages, which are having a population of

about 85.84 lakh and two Aspirational Districts (Vidisha and Rajnandgaon). The increased line capacity will significantly enhance mobility, resulting in improved operational efficiency and service reliability for Indian Railways. These multitracking proposals are poised to streamline operations and alleviate congestion. The projects are in line with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji's Vision of a New India which will make people of the region "Atmanirbhar" by way of comprehensive development in the area which will enhance their employment/self-employment

The projects are planned on PM-Gati

## Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh increasing the existing network of Indian Railways by about 894 Kms

Shakti National Master Plan with focus on enhancing multi-modal connectivity & logistic efficiency through integrated planning and stakeholder consultations.

and services. Project section also provides rail connectivity to prominent destinations such as Sanchi, Satpura Tiger Reserve, Rock shelter of Bhimbetka, Hazara falls, Nawegaon National Park etc. attracting tourists from across the country.

These projects will provide seamless con-

nectivity for movement of people, goods,

This is an essential route for transportation of commodities such as coal, container, cement, fly ash, food grain, steel, etc. The capacity augmentation works will result in additional freight traffic of magnitude 78 MTPA (Million Tonnes Per Annum). The Railways being environment friendly and energy efficient mode of transportation, will help both in achieving climate goals and minimizing logistics cost of the country, reduce oil import (28 Crore Litres) and lower CO2 emissions (139 Crore Kg) which is equivalent to plantation of Six

#### Lexus performs well amid SUV growth momentum

opportunities.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Lexus India has announced a performance update for its RX SUV, which has witnessed a 18% increase in sales for the calendar year January to September '25 as compared to the same period last year. In the month of September RX recorded a growth of 38% as compared to September last year. The RX continues to play a pivotal role in driving Lexus India's growth, underscoring its strong market acceptance and contribution to the brand's expanding footprint in the luxury SUV segment. Hikaru Ikeuchi, President of Lexus India, said, "The luxurv SUV segment in India continues to witness remarkable growth, driven by evolving lifestyles and a growing preference for versatile mobility solutions.'

#### NEW FOOT OVER BRIDGE (FOB) TO IMPROVE PASSENGER CON-**VENIENCE AT SALT LAKE SECTOR V STATION OF GREEN LINE**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Good News for Metro Commuters! Metro Railway has taken a new initiative to make Metro commuting more convenient for passengers using Salt Lake Sector V Metro Station. A new Foot Over Bridge (FOB) has been opened on 06.10.2025 at this station which allows passengers to reach the IT Hub of Sector V directly without crossing the road through Gate No. 04, thereby improving safety and accessibility. This facility is especially beneficial for students appearing for examinations and professionals commuting to offices here. It has significantly enhanced connectivity and convenience of passengers particularly during peak hours, by reducing congestion, saving



travel time and providing a smoother, more seamless

transit experience. Once the IT Metro station of Orange Line is commissioned, this FOB will enable commuters to interchange between Green Line and Orange Line here ensuring faster, safer and more convenient travel. This new Foot Over Bridge (FOB), which will connect Salt Lake Sector V station of Green Line and IT Centre station of Orange Line, measures approximately 55 metres in length and 4

#### metres in width. Crisis engulfs Indian notebook manufacturing sector

MI News Service, Kolkata: The All India Notebook Manufacturers Association expresses its deep gratitude to the Prime Minister and the Government of India for the bold steps taken under the GST 2.0 reforms, aimed at simplifying taxation and

supporting economic growth. However, the situation that has arisen with imposing of 0% GST on notebooks with 0% custom duty as per Asean Free Trade Agreement, will play havoc with Indian Notebook manufacturers & industry Under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, imports from countries like Indonesia. Thailand, and Malaysia come in at zero

customs duty. Now, with 0% GST, there is 0% IGST on imports, (which means that there will be no countervailing duty also on imported notebooks), making them totally duty free, cheaper than Indian products. despite India having sufficient capacity to meet domestic demand. The recent decision to reduce the GST rate on paper used for notebooks to 0% was intended to ease costs in the education sector. Yet, in practice, this measure has unintended

Paperboard and other raw materials required for notebook manufacturing in India including packaging materials, gum, wires, packaging films etc attract 18% GST, which is being passed on to Indian notebook manufactures, who has no avenues to obtain input tax credit in order to make their products competitive against imports. Also, all paper boards consumed in the notebook industry are coated and the GST rate for the same has gone up from 12% to 18%, again increasing the cost for indigenous manufacturers.

Notebook manufacturing in India is primarily a small-scale, labour-intensive industry that sustains lakhs of workers in rural and semi-urban areas. The 0% GST is not conducive of "Made in India" initiative of our Prime Minister and his dream

for promoting & using Swadeshi Products. The surge of cheaper imports from Indonesia, world's largest paper and paper products manufacturer, will wipe out local industries, causing massive unemployment and shutting down existing investments, detrimental to the Indian trade, foreign exchange and the country. Hence, the Association wishes to draw urgent attention of Govt. of India to save domestic



notebook making industry and its dire

KEY CHALLENGES FOR THE INDUS-

1.RISING NOTEBOOK PRICES : Instead of decreasing, notebook prices are climbing, defeating the purpose of the GST reduction. Paperboard and other raw materials used in notebook production continue to attract 18% GST, with no input credit available.

Pressure on MSMEs - Higher raw material costs are eroding margins, pushing small manufacturers into financial distress and threatening their long-term sustainability.

Threat from Imports - Cheaper notebooks and paper imports are becoming more attractive, posing an existential risk to domestic manufacturers 2.UNFAIR TAX BURDEN: While do-

mestic producers struggle under GST on inputs, imported notebooks now attract 0% IGST, granting foreign manufacturers an undue advantage and undermining the 'Made in India" initiative of our Prime Minister and his dream for promoting & using Swadeshi Products.

3. PREDATORY IMPORTS FROM ASEAN COUNTRIES: Under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, imports from Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia arrive duty-free. Coupled with GST exemptions, imported notebooks are significantly cheaper than Indian products, despite India's adequate domestic capacity.

Impact on Small-Scale Industry & Employment - Notebook manufacturing is largely a small-scale, labour-intensive industry, sustaining lakhs of workers in rural and semi-urban regions. If cheaper imports flood the market, the results will be widespread unemployment, closures of existing units, and loss of investments.

#### "We will stand with farmers': Eknath **Shinde as Maharashtra Govt** announces Rs 31,628 cr relief package

Mumbai: Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde on Tuesday appealed to flood-affected farmers to remain patient and not take any "untoward step" as the Mahayuti government has announced a comprehensive relief package of over Rs 31,000 crore for them.

The Deputy Chief Minister said the government stand by the

Speaking to mediapersons, Deputy CM said, "The Mahayuti government today announced an over Rs 31,000 crore package for flood-affected farmers of the state. Approximately 60 lakh farmers in the state were affected by the floods. The farmers need help to sow Rabi crops now...We will stand by the farmers. I appeal to them to remain patient and not take any untow-

Earlier, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced a relief package of Rs CM said.

Service, 31,628 crore for rain-hit farmers

The government has also decided to provide cash relief of Rs 10,000 to affected farmers. CM Fadnavis noted that more than 68 lakh hectares of crops were damaged due to floods and heavy rainfall in the state. The relief package will cover the damage in 29 out of 36 districts of Maharashtra.

"We are announcing a Rs 31,0628 crore relief package for flood-hit farmers in the state. We are giving an additional compensation of Rs 10,000 per hectare for sowing Rabi crops. It is our effort to ensure that our farmers can stand on their own feet again. Approximately 60 lakh farmers were affected by the floods Farmers need help to sow their Rabi crops now. We will stand by the farmers. I appeal to them to remain patient and not take any untoward step," the

#### EASTERN RAILWAY

**E-TENDER NOTICE** 

E-Tender Notice No.: CC.3/ATVM/CAMC/SDAH/10/25 dated 03.10.2025 Railway Administration invites E-Tender for the work of "Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) of 20 nos. of ATVMs (19 AGMATEL make ATVMs & 01 FORBES make ATVM) along with associated accessories consisting of full set of 13 nos. SMC Terminals & RFID Card Reader etc. (with provision of 10% spare parts) over Sealdah Division for a period of Two (02) years" on 'E-Open Tender basis' from any person, firm or company. Departmental Assessed cost: ₹ 13,70,450/- including 18% GST. Earnest Money : ₹ 27,500/-. Cost of Tender Documents: ₹ 2,240/- (non-refundable) including 12% GST. Non-transferable Tender document containing detailed terms & conditions are available at www.ireps.gov.in The bidding for the instant Tender is to be submitted through the E-Tendering on the said website. Manua offers are not allowed against this Tender and any manual offer if received shall not be accepted and will be summarily rejected. Tenderers are allowed to make payments against this Tender towards Tender Document Cost and Earnest Money only through online payment gateway/Modules available on IREPS portal like Net Banking, Debit Card, Credit Card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque, Deposit Receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. Bidding of the instant Tender will start from 10.10.2025. Date of opening of Tender is at 15.00 hrs. of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd Floor, Room No. 44, Control Building, DRM (SDAH-218/2025-26) Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

#### EASTERN RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No.: NIT/02/25/59, dated 06.10.2025. e-Tenders are invited by

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Eastern Railway, 2nd Floor, Fairlie Place, 17, Netaj Subhas Road, Kolkata-700001 for supply of the following items: SI. No. & Tender No.; Description; EMD respectively : Tender Opening Date & Time : 25.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (1) 20251366; Pressure reducing valve with pipe bracket for additional limiting valve to brake system of EMU/MEMU/DEMU coaches; ₹ 2,49,020/-. Tende Opening Date & Time: 14.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (2) 11251776; Panel Bottom; ₹ 2,11,350/-. (3) 11251820; Procurement of Lateral Side Flange (L.H. & R.H.) of UIC vestibule Bellow etc.; ₹ 8,17,320/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 16.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (4) 10242515; Kit for IOH schedule of E-70 brake system; ₹ 6,02,090/-Tender Opening Date & Time: 12.11.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (5) 20251827: MULTIPLE BONDED SANDWICH MOUNTING FOR TRACTION MOTOR TYPE 253 BX/BW AND 4601 AZ; ₹ 1,09,440/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 17.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (6) 12255785; Drive Axle Complete with axle gearbox & wheel for CSM; ₹ 2.38.960/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 24.11.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (7) 11251817 PROCUREMENT OF SINGLE PIECE FRP LOUVRE SHUTTER ETC.; ₹ 1,59,090/-Tender Opening Date & Time: 22.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (8) 05251044; Procurement of Oil Machinery General Purpose etc.; ₹ 4,13,570/-. (9) 12255794; POWERED WHEEL SET; ₹ 1,51,450/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 03.11.2025 at 13.30 hrs (10) 14251032A; Procurement of Lead Acid cell, Low Maintenance, 2V in PP-CP Container conforming to IRS: S-88-2004 (With amdt. up to date if any). The cells should be complete with PP-CP Container, tubular positive plates, pasted negative plates, acid level indicating floats inter-cell connector with bolts & nuts. The cells are required to be dry & uncharged. Capacity of each cell will be 80 AH at 10 Hrs. rate to discharge to 1.85V per cell at 27 degree centigrade.(WITHOUT TOOL KIT) etc ₹ 11,38,760/-. (11) 14251029A; Procurement of Lead Acid cell, Low Maintenance, 2 V in PP-CP container conforming to IRS:S-88-2004 (with amdt, up to date if any). The cells should be complete with PP-CP Container, tubular positive plates, pasted negative plates, acid level indicating floats inter-cell connector with bolts & nuts. The cells are required to be dry & uncharged. Capacity of each cell will be 300AH at 10 Hrs. rate to discharge to 1.85V per cell at 27 degree centigrade.WITHOUT TOOL KIT etc.; ₹ 11,71,910/-. Tender Opening Date & Time : 04.11.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (12) 20251150; EXTENDED ARMETURE SHAFT OF BHEL TM TYPE- 4601 AZ; ₹ 1,55,680/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 17.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (13) 08251086; BATTERY CHARGING UNIT; ₹ 5,88,110/-. Tender Opening Date & Time : 16.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (14) 07251153; Procurement of Aluminium Chequered Sheet, Size: 3360 x 813 x 2.03 mm to RDSO's STR No. C-8217 (Rev. 2) of September 2013; ₹ 3.57,610/ (15) 11251623; Procurement of Inter vehicular coupler Unit (500 Amp.rating) for EOG type AC coaches etc.; ₹ 8,09,580/-. Tender Opening Date & Time : 28.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (16) 12251094: Composite Grooved Sole Plates 6.2 mm thick with horns for 60 KG PSC sleeper to RDSO Drg No.RT-6618; ₹ 14,88,780/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 21.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (17) 07251083; Procurement of Wood Based Impregnated Compressed Laminates Chequered Design on one Surface to Size (3350 +/- 10 mm) x (770 +/- 5 mm) x 12 mm to RDSO's Specn. No. C-9407, Type-II, (Rev. 03 of Feb 2007) with 4 Amendments-Last Amendment Slip No.4 issued or July 2019 and with Corrigendum No. 1 of June 2015; ₹ 5,24,120/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 29.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (18) 21251077B; Procurement of Modifie Brake Gear Pin With Washer; ₹ 1,76,740/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 23.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (19) 20252143; EMU/MEMU Motor Coaches, ELGI make Air Compressor Type TRC-1000DCM, 18 Month Overhauling Kit each kit consist of 49 items as pe annexure: ₹ 2.87.980/- (20) 20252141: FMU/MEMU Motor Coaches, KPC make Air Compressor Type 3HC-55, 54 Month Overhauling Kit; ₹ 4,59,760/-. Tender Opening Date & Time: 22.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (21) 20252140; EMU/MEMU Motor Coaches KPC make Air Compressor Type 3HC-55, 36 Month Overhauling Kit: ₹ 2.27.350/-Tender Opening Date & Time: 22.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (22) 12254007; Running Contract for HVN Insulating Liner 66 to RDSO Drg No T-3706; ₹ 20,00,000/-. Tende Opening Date & Time: 15.10.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (23) 22255229B; INJ PEMBROLIZUMAB 100 MG, ITEM CODE M261946, AI 25-26; ₹ 0. Tender Opening Date & Time: 03.11.2025 at 13.30 hrs. (24) 22251625; Tab/Cap Ruxolitinib 20 mg [ITEM CODE M251024] Al 25-26; ₹ 0. Tender Cost : 0 (for each). Note : All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids online through the IREPS website at https://www.ireps.gov.in For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS (STORES-39/2025-26)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

#### Follow us at : 🗶 @EasternRailway 🖪 @easternrailwayheadquarter **E-Auction Notice for Pay & Use Toilets contract** over Kharagpur Division

E-Auction Notice No.: KGP/PnU/2025/11, Dtd.: 06.10.2025 Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur Division, South Eastern Railway for and on behalf of the President, Union of India invites e-Auction for Operation and Management contract of one (01) normal Pay & Use Toilet unit as exist at Platform No. 01 towards the Ganga end of Shalimar (SHM) Railway station for the period of 3 (three) years. Auction Catalogue No.: PNUTOI-KGP25-12, Auction date: 17.10.2025, Auction start/close time: 11.00 & 11.30 hrs. respectively, which are notified in the https://www.ireps.gov.in/website. Interested parties and contractors to take note of this and go through the website as mentioned above for details and related information about the e-Auction notice. For enquiries/clarifications, if any, please contact the office of the undersigned.

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Kharagpur

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

## **Gujarat CM Patel launches 'Vibrant Gujarat** Regional Conferences' to boost local industries

Gandhinagar: Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has launched the innovative initiative 'Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conferences' (VGRC), inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and following the success of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (VGGS). Industries Minister Balvantsinh Rajput announced that the first edition of VGRC will be inaugurated in Mehsana on October 9, 2025, according to an official statement from the Gujarat Chief Minister's Office

Industries Minister provided details today at a press conference in Gandhinagar regarding the organisation of the VGRC. Present at the press conference were Principal Secretary of the Industries and Mines Department, Ms Mamta Verma, M.D. of iNDEXTb, K.C. Sampat, and Director of Information, K.L.

In the presence of the Industry Minister, Industries Commissioner P. Swaroop said the VGRC will showcase each region's industrial potential and investment readiness, further strengthening Gujarat's global image through the "Vocal for Local" approach.

He added that, building on the success of the previous Vibrant Summit, under the guidance of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, the Gujarat government has launched the VGRC to connect every district, taluka, and citizen of Gujarat with the Vibrant ini-

The conferences will be held across four zones -- in Mehsana for North Gujarat on October 9-10, 2025; in Rajkot for Kutch and Saurashtra on

Kolkata/Manchester:

proud moment for West Bengal

and India on the global stage.

Anirban Aditya, Chairman of

Aditya Group India, and Ankit

Aditya, Vice Chairman, have

been recently honored with

the Manchester Sarad Sam-

man by the Greater Manches-

ter Bengali Hindu Cultural As-

The Manchester Sarad

Samman is awarded to in-

dividuals who exemplify ex-

cellence in cultural steward-

ship, visionary leadership,

and community engagement.

ban Aditya and Ankit Aditya,

were lauded for their endur-

ing contributions to cultural

preservation and social de-

velopment, both in India and

abroad. The award was pre-

sented during the city's oldest

and most revered Durga Puja

celebration, hosted annually

ceremony

year's nonorees, Anir-

sociation (GMBHCA).

for South Gujarat on April 9-10, 2026; and in Vadodara for Central Gujarat on June 10-11, 2026, a CMO release

Commissioner mentioned that the Government of Gujarat has successfully organised ten VGGS and also held a program on the theme '20 Years of Vibrant Gujarat -Summit of Success'. To make the successful model of Vibrant Gujarat more effective, the state government is now organising VGRC across the

These regional conferences will follow the benchmarks of the VGGS and serve as a vital platform to showcase the talent of industrial houses, promote local industrial growth, and highlight regional strengths. They will also play a key role in advancing the comprehensive vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 and Viksit Gujarat@2047 for inclusive and sustainable development.

Furthermore, he added that district-level programs will be organised in every district of the region, followed by the regional conference. Oneday district-level programs will be held approximately one to two months before the regional conference.

These will involve discussions with various stakeholders, identification of specific district challenges, documentation of best practices, and determination of requirements for the upcoming regional conference. District-level programs for the VGRC of North Gujarat have been completed in Aravalli, Banaskantha, Patan, and Sabarkantha.

The Commissioner in-

turn for Anirban Aditya,

whose longstanding associ-

ation with Manchester — a

city he once called home -

added a personal dimension

to the honor. His continued

cross-cultural ties and em-

powering communities reso-

nated deeply with the audi-

The Aditya Group's leader-

ship expressed gratitude for

the recognition, reaffirming

their dedication to initiatives

that bridge tradition and

progress across global com-

ence and organizers.

commitment

**Bengal business group receives** 

'MANCHESTER SARAD SAMMAN'

days, serving as an effective medium for investment facilitation, exchange of ideas, and networking based on district-level requirements.

These conferences aim to bring various stakeholders, including industrialists, entrepreneurs, government organisations, foreign trade houses, trade and industry associations, startups, educational and research institutions, onto a single platform.

In addition, each regional conference will feature an inaugural and closing session, sector-specific or district-specific seminars, a trade exhibition, regional awards, signing of MoUs, B2B and B2G meetings, a platform for buyer-seller meets, a vendor development program, excursion visits to leading tourist destinations and local industrial clusters, and cultural programs.

He added that these regional conferences aim to drive Gujarat's growth by empowering regional economies, promoting excellence, and enabling strategic investments.

launched the VGRC initiative in Ahmedabad on August 2025. Furthermore, an interaction meet was held in New Delhi with industrialists, Heads of Mission, diplomats, and senior officers of the Government of India.

The cross-sectoral focus of the summit to be held in Mehsana under Vibrant Gujarat includes skill development, startups, MSME, tourism, and

During both days, the Udyami Mela, Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet, and B2B/B2G meet-

at the Exhibition Hall from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM from October 9 to 13, 2025. It will be open for public participation from October 11 to 13, 2025 The exhibition, to be held over a total area of 18,000 sq m, will feature a 1,000 sq m pavilion for MSME, cottage,

and rural sectors. Key highlights include a Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet, Country Pavilion, Partner B2G and B2B Zones, Startup Stalls, and a Udyami Mela.

Other facilities include a Vendor Development Program, Regional Food Fest, Food Court, ODOP and GI Tag Display, Cultural Exhibition, Product Launches, Food Exhibition, and Daily Lucky Draw, Helpdesk, Control Room, and Pop-up Stage.

Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet (RBSM) will see the participation of 38 international buyers from 40 countries, providing opportunities for each buyer across various sectors.

Full-day tourist trips will be organised starting at 8:00 AM. This includes: Buddhist Monastery, Museums, Temples, and Cultural Exhibitions at Anant Anadi Vadnagar, Spiritual Journey in Ambaji (Ambaji Temple and Gabbar Hill), Gujarat's Heritage of Buddha (Taranga Caves and Archaeological Sites), From Light to Depth: Temple and Stepwell (Rani-ki-Vav, Patola Museum, Modhera Sun Temple), and Line of Duty: A Day at Nadabet (Attractions, Museums, and Retreat Parade at the India-Pakistan border).

Half-day tours will commence at 9:00 AM, showcasing cultural and heritage experiences such as Rani Ki Vav and Patola Museum, Modhera Sun Temple, Light and Sound

uals and Heritage Sites), and Echoes of the Earth (Balasinor Dinosaur Park and Museum).

Industrial visits will include Modhera Sun Temple (Half Day), Gujarat's First Solar Park at Charanka, and 700 MW UMSPP at Raghanesda. Site visits to industrial units have been planned to provide practical knowledge about the industry to industrialists, startups, and students who wish to start their own businesses and are participating in the event.

During these site visits, delegates will be informed about the production process, availability of raw materials, and sales opportunities at the respective industrial houses. Delegates participating in the Vibrant Summit are planned to visit significant industrial houses such as Maruti Suzuki, Honda Motors, Banas Dairy, Dudh Sagar Dairy, Sabar Dairy, and Fanidhar Food Park to gain practical industry knowledge.

Notably, a total of 13,246 registrations have been received until October 6, including 11,732 individual participants (216 international) and 1,514 companies (35 international). Furthermore, countries like Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and the Netherlands (Agricultural Seminar) have confirmed their participation, a release said.

Organisations such as JET-RO, Indo Canada Business Chamber (ICBC), USISPF, World Bank, and Trade Representation of the Russian Federation will also participate.

Ambassadors and High Commissioners have also concellency Mr. Kenichi Öno, Ambassador, Embassy of Japan in India (Partner Country); His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Thanh Hai, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in India (Partner Country); Mr. Patrick John Rata, High Commissioner, High Commission of New Zealand in India; Her Excellency Ms. Jacqueline Mukangira, High Commissioner, Republic of Rwanda; His Excellency Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, High Commissioner, Cooperative Republic of Guyana; and His Excellency Dr. Oleksandr Polishchuk, Ambassador, Em-

bassy of Ukraine in India. The Kutch and Saurashtra Zone Summit will be held on January 8-9, 2026, at Saurashtra University, Rajkot. It will focus on sectors such as Ceramics, Engineering, Ports and Logistics, Fisheries, Petrochemicals, Agriculture and Food Processing, Minerals, and Offshore Wind.

The South Gujarat Zone Summit will be held on April 9-10, 2026, at Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre, SGCCI, Surat. It will focus on sectors such as Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Textile and Apparel, Gems and Jewellery, Agriculture and Food Processing.

The Central Gujarat Zone Summit will be held on June 10-11, 2026, at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Nagargruh, Vadodara. It will focus on sectors such as Semiconductor and ESDM, IT&ITeS, Biotech/ Biopharma, Aerospace and Defence, Fintech, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Textile and Apparel, Auto and Auto Components, and Education,

from the northwest direc-

tion during the afternoon

and remain at 10-15 kmph

from the northwest direc-

tion during the evening and

night, according to IMD.

#### Rain lashes several parts of National Capital Region increase to 10-15 kmph

MI News Service, New Delhi: Rain lashed several parts of Delhi and the surrounding National Capital Region (NCR) on Tuesday evening. Areas including Feroze Shah Road, central Delhi, Arjun Path near Vasant Vihar Flyover and RK Puram witnessed light show-

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert for the national capital, forecasting light to moderate rainfall along with thunderstorms and winds reaching up to 40

The Delhi Airport Author- ed to contact the airline

ity has stated that adverse weather in the national capital could affect flight opera-

The airport authority, in a statement, said that "Due to inclement weather conditions in Delhi, flight operations at Delhi Airport may be impacted."

It further added that onground teams are working to ensure a smooth passenger experience and advised flyers to consider alternative modes of transport, including the Delhi Metro, to get to the airport.

"Passengers are request-

concerned for updated flight information," it added. The airport authority is-

sued the statement following heavy rainfall across several areas of Delhi. On Wedne sday, Delhi is

likely to witness a partly cloudy sky. The maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to range between 31-33°C and 20-22°C, respectively, with both temperatures remaining near normal. The predominant surface winds are forecasted to blow from the northeast direction at speeds of 5-10 kmph during the morning. Winds will gradually

Meanwhile, on Thursday, the city is expected to experience a mainly clear sky. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be in the range of 31-33°C and 20-22°C, respectively, with both temperatures near normal. The predominant surface winds are expected to blow from the northwest

#### **IIT Madras signs MoU with Indian Navy to** strengthen research and technology collaborations

Service, Chennai: The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) and the Indian Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on October 7 to collaborate in the areas of naval technology, ocean structures, and advanced engineering solu-

This landmark partnership underscored the commitment of both institutions to advancing indigenous capabilities for the nation's maritime strength.

The MoU was signed at IIT Madras, in the presence of Vice Admiral D Goswami, Director General of Naval Projects, along with Prof V Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras, and senior faculty members from the Department of Ocean Engineering, by Brigadier Rajesh Karel, Sr DDĞ & Chief Engineer, DGNP, Mumbai and Prof. Ashwin Mahalingam, Dean i/c, Industrial Consultancy & Sponsored Research, IIT

Speaking on the occasion, Prof V Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras, said, "IIT Madras has always been at the forefront of contributing to our nation's needs through cutting-edge research and technological innovations. This collaboration with the Indian Navy is a significant step forward in demonstrating our capabilities and commitment. It is not just a partnership but a symbol of what academia and defence can achieve together for the nation's self-reliance and maritime strength."

From the Navy's side, Vice Admiral D Ğoswami, Director General of Naval Projects, expressed great optimism about the partnership. "The Indian Navy is delighted to formalise this the armed forces," he said.

Brigadier Rajesh Karel, Chief Engineer, Director General Naval Project (DGNP), highlighted the contributions of IIT Madras in the development of key infrastructures in the Western Naval Command, Mumbai,

during the past decades. Highlighting the Department of Ocean Engineering's contributions, Prof S A Sannasiraj, Chair Professor, Department of Ocean Engineering, IIT Madras, emphasised the importance of computational modelling and laboratory investigations in key strategic proj-

He remarked, "The Department of Ocean Engineering is well-equipped with world-class resources and expertise to carry out advanced modelling and experimentation in ocean structures, hydrodynamics, and naval architecture. We look forward to applying this knowledge to support the Indian Navy's initiatives, working together to address complex challenges and create innovative solutions."

Adding to this, Prof R Professor, Vijayakumar, Department of Ocean Engineering, IIT Madras, spoke about the role of the Institute's state-of-the-art Towing Tank facility, one of the largest in Asia, in naval re-

tank has been central to carrying out experimental studies in ship hydrodynamics, resistance, propulsion, and manoeuvring. These experimental capabilities, combined with our expertise, have already supported numerous national and international projects. Collaborating with the Indian Navy will provide an opportunity to extend these studies to practical naval applications and strengthen our indigenous design capa-

students.

The discussions explored possibilities of joint research projects, capacity building, and training programmes that will leverby the Navy.

nation's march towards technological self-reliance under the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, the statement

#### direction at speeds of 5-10 kmph during the morning..

**PUBLIC NOTICE** NOTICE is hereby given that one Smt. Parul Nath, wife of Shri, Shanti Nath, while being the joint owner along with he husband Shri. Shanti Nath of ALL THAT piece and parcel of land measuring about . 1 Cottah be the same a little more or less comprised in Mouza - Gouripur, J.L. No. 6, R.S. No. 121, Touzi No. 172, appertaining to R.S. Khatian No. 294, L.R. Khatian No. 343, under R.S. & L.R. Dag No. 105, P.S. Airport, being Holding No. 268/1, Mahajati Nagar, Block - 1, Ward No. 15, within the local limits of North Dum Dum Municipality, District 24 Parganas (North) which is butted and bounded as On the North: By 6 ft. wide Road and C.S. Plot No. 47; On the South: By 10 ft. wide Road; On the East: By property of Sabitri Nath: On the West: By 6 ft. wide Road. (hereinafter referred to as the "Said Property") had mortgaged the Said Property with my client, PIRAMAL FINANCE LIMITED (formerly Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited) against availing of a loan against the Said Property as security vide Loan Account No.

The said **Smt. Parul Nath** during the subsistence of the aforesaid mortgage, died intestate on 01.11.2024, leaving behind surviving her husband and two sons as her only legal heirs and successors, namely: Shri. Šhanti Nath, aged about 72 years, (husband), Shri. Subrata Nath, aged about 34 years, (son) and Shri. Shubhankar Nath, aged about 38 vears, (son).

The said loan has now been fully repaid and accordingly my said client shall be releasing the title deeds and other security documents to the said purported legal heirs of Smt. Parul Nath (since deceased). Therefore any person/s having any right, title or interest or any claim, demand or objection of any nature whatsoever with respect to what has been stated above is hereby requested to notify the same in writing to the undersigned with supporting documentary evidence within 14 days from the date hereof, failing which no such claims, demands, objections etc. shall be entertained and my said client shall proceed to release the title and security documents pertaining the Said Property to the said Shanti Nath, Subrata Nath and Shubhankar Nath.

Shri. Pranayan Chandra, Advocate Address: 173, Bangur Avenue, Block-C, Kolkata - 700055 Contact No. 877407081 **Email ID:** instalegalservices@gmail.com

#### **Death toll due to Coldrif cough** syrup rises to 19 in MP

Chhindwara: The death toll in the Chhindwara cough syrup case rose to 16 after a fresh casualty was reported on Tuesday afternoon, a senior district offi-

With this, the death toll due to the alleged consumption of Coldrif cough syrup has increased to 19 in the state, as two deaths were also reported in the Betul district and one in the Pandhur-

A two-year-old girl, a resident of Junnardeo in Chhindwara, died while undergoing treatment at Government Medical College in Nagpur. She was admitted there for over a week,

"So far 16 children have died in the cough syrup case in Chhindwara. One more girl child (2 years old) died this afternoon at around 12:30 pm, resulting in the death toll rising to 16. The girl was admitted at Government Medical College, Nagpur for more than seven days. Currently, there are five children

#### EASTERN RAILWAY

**CANCELLATION OF TENDER** Cancellation of Tender No. ELS-HWH-10-548-EMU (Open Tender), dated 06.10.2025 published earlier by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/EMU/ Howrah, Eastern Railway, 1st Floor, DRM closing on 17.10.2025, 12.00 hrs. is hereby ancelled due to technical ground.

(HWH-329/2025-26) Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : 🗶 @EasternRailway **GMO** added in the post.

undergoing treatment at GMC Nagpur and all of them are critical," said Dhirendra Singh, Additional District Magistrate

The ADM further said that a team consisting of three doctors and three executive magistrates from Chhindwara is in Nagpur at different hospitals, and they are monitoring the treatment of the children, being in constant touch with the hospital manage-

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the state government would cover the entire expense of the children undergoing treatment in Nagpur affected by kidney infection caused by cough syrup and a joint team of executive magistrate and doctors were also deployed in Nagpur for health monitoring.

"Chief Minister Mohan Yaday has directed that the state government would bear the entire cost of treatment for nine children suffering from kidney infections caused by cough syrup, who are being treated in various hospitals in Nagpur. A joint team of executive magistrates and doctors has been deployed in Nagpur to ensure proper medical arrangements and continuous monitoring of the affected children," the CMO posted on X.

The team is maintaining constant coordination with the families of the affected children and hospital management to ensure all necessary arrangements for the children's treatment, the

collaboration with IIT Madras. The expertise, facilities, and research strengths of IIT Madras will play a crucial role in addressing our future technological needs. This partnership will pave the way for innovative solutions in naval platforms, enhance self-reliance, and foster a long-term association between academia and

search.

He noted, "Our towing

The MoU signing was followed by a visit of the Indian Navy delegation to the Department of Ocean Engineering, where they toured various laboratories and interacted with faculty and

age IIT Madras' research ecosystem to address real-world challenges faced This collaboration stands as a shining example of how academia and defence can come together to strengthen India's maritime capabilities, reaffirming the

The partnership will open new avenues for research scholars, faculty, and students of IIT Madras to work on cutting-edge naval projects of national importance. It will also foster knowledge transfer, internships, and training opportunities that prepare the next generation of engineers and scientists to contribute to defence

## Why Thousands in Kolkata Are Planning Their Lives Around a Bathroom

Kolkata: Dr. SandipPramanik, Consultant Urology, Andrology, Uro Oncology, Kolkata, Every day, thousands of people across Kolkata silently shape their routines around one unexpected factor: the location of the nearest bathroom. From limiting travel plans and work meetings to avoiding social gatherings altogether, this quiet recalibra-tion of daily life points to a condition many still hesitate to name-Overactive Bladder

Often dismissed as a minor issue or attributed to ageing, stress, or simply "drinking too much tea," OAB is emerging as a major quality-of-life challenge in the city. Medical observations from leading hospitals and clinics in Kolkata suggest that OAB affects up to 15% of the population, with a particularly high impact among women over the age of 40. Yet, despite its prevalence, OAB remains underdiagnosed and underdiscussed.

What makes OAB so invisible is not the lack of symptoms-but the silence around them. Frequent urges to urinate, sudden leaks, and waking up multiple times at night are often normalized. People adjustby mapping bathrooms on commutes, reducing fluid intake, and even avoiding long events. But these coping mechanisms

"In Kolkata, we're witnessing a silent surge in Overactive Bladder cases-particularly among women in their 40s and 50s. But what's truly concerning is how normalized the symptoms have become. Frequent urination, sudden urgency, even leakage-many brush it off as part of ageing or stress. But these are not just harmless inconveniences. They're signals. Signals that the bladder is under strain, often due to lifestyle shiftslong work hours, sedentary routines, excessive caffeine, poor hydration.

come at a cost. Doctors in Kolkata are now drawing attention to the deeper causes and rising trend of OAB. Behind the scenes, the city's increasingly sedentary work culture, high caffeine consumption, processed food intake, poor hydration, and obesity are all contributing to bladder dysfunction. The issue is especially prominent among working women and elderly individuals, who



either downplay the symptoms or accept them as an inevitable part of life.

"In Kolkata, we're witnessing a silent surge in Overactive Bladder cases-particularly among women in their 40s and 50s. But what's truly concerning is how normalized the symptoms have become. Frequent urination, sudden urgency, even leakage-many brush it off as part of ageing or

stress. But these are not just harmless inconveniences. They're signals. Signals that the bladder is under strain, often due to lifestyle shifts-long work hours, sedentary routines, excessive caffeine, poor hydration. The good news is, we can address this. With the right blend of early screening, patient education, and structured care, we can dramatically improve quality of life. But for that, people need to stop self-censoring and start seeking help. Because suffering in silence should never be the default option," said Dr. SandipPramanik, Consultant - Urology, Andrology, Uro Oncology, Kolkata Today, the city offers a wide range of diagnostic tools and treatments for OAB-ranging from non-invasive behavioral therapies and pelvic floor exercises to pharmacological solutions. Yet, the biggest barrier remains awareness and the social discomfort around discussing urinary health. Experts urge citizens to stop dismissing symptoms and start prioritizing bladder wellness just as they would heart or bone health. If addressed early, OAB is manageable, and its impact on daily life can be significantly reduced. The real problem is not the urgency-it's the silence. And for Kolkata, it's time that silence ends.

### India well-positioned to capture significant share of global AI software, services market

Mumbai: With its differentiated approach across the AI stack, India is well-positioned to capture a significant share of the global AI software and services market, a report said on Tuesday.

By 2028, this market opportunity is projected at \$100-120 billion in revenues, equivalent to 50 per cent of India's current IT services market," Boston Consulting Group (BCG) said in its latest report at the opening day of the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) in

However, India faces the "2-20 conundrum" as it is generating nearly 20 per cent of the world's data but holding just 2 per cent of global data centre capacity. To address this gap, India should aspire for at least an 8 per cent share (around 17 GW) of global capacity by 2030, requiring large-scale real estate and sustainable energy, the report noted. India must continue to grow and expand AlKosh, the national datasets platform, to serve the unique model-build needs of India and other emerging economies, it added.

Additionally, the nation should prioritise domain-specific, population-scale AI models in areas such as healthcare, agriculture, education, and financial inclusion.

"India is at a defining moment. On one hand, Indian Fintechs have demonstrated 35 per cent growth in the last 2 years and are on track to achieve \$190 bn by 2030. On the other hand, AI is rewriting the rules of competitiveness globally and has reignited innovation as a top CXO priority for Indian fintechs," said YashrajErande, Global Head of Fintech and India Head of

Financial Institutions at BCG.

"The good news for India is that it is uniquely positioned on three fronts -- as the world's largest AI consumer market, a global AI use-case playground, and a leading execution hub exporting technology solutions worldwide," he added.

India has both scale and execution muscle, and the government

has stepped up decisively with the 'India AI Mission'.

Meanwhile, the world is undergoing an Artificial Intelligence supercycle, with more than \$1.3 trillion invested worldwide over the past five years -- four times the global fintech funding.

AI adoption has been unprecedented, with mainstream GenAI tools achieving around 40 per cent penetration within two years among working-age populations, a milestone that the internet took

'AI's impact will not be limited to large institutions; it has the potential to create a transformational impact on the lives of every human. It can be an enabler for 'Convenience in Daily Life' and 'Convenience in Business Operations, '" the report said.

#### Severe obesity causes lungs to age prematurely: Study

New Delhi: People with severe obesity are likely to have their lungs age faster, according to an animal study. Researchers from the University of Bonn in Germany investigated how the lungs adapt to nutritional challenges in obesity.

The team showed that obesity remodels the extracellular matrix in the lungs -- the protein-based "scaffolding" that gives the

lungs their shape and stability.

These changes in lung tissue are similar to those that normally occur with age and suggest that being overweight causes the lungs to 'age' prematurely," they said in the paper published in the journal Cell Reports. The team used state-of-the-art multi-omics approaches to simultaneously examine proteins, fats, and genes for specific questions. They combined this analysis with microscopic image analyses and experiments that show how the lungs actually work. The researchers compared the lungs of obese and lean mice, analysed human connective tissue cells in the lungs, and took a close look at the composition of the lungs -- enabling them to understand both molecular and functional changes. In obesity, lung fibroblasts, that is, connective tissue cells, specifically accumulate fat, become more mobile, and show early signs of premature ageing. At the same time, the matrisome, the "scaffolding" of the lung, changes, and the balance of certain protease inhibitors is disrupted, the researchers said.

rnese changes make the lungs less elastic. explain why obesity is often associated with breathing difficulties, they noted. Interestingly, these changes are similar to those nor mally seen in older people -- pointing to obesity as a driver of accelerated lung ageing. One of the biggest challenges was developing methods to analyse the complex connective tissue of the lungs -- the fibroblastic stroma (FSCs) -- which consists of many different cell types. In addition, the extracellular matrix is also difficult to study because many of its proteins are insoluble and have a very complex structure, the team said.

'Overall, obesity led to complex alterations in the lung that ultimately affect FSCs and suggest that overnutrition may act as a contributor to premature ageing, thereby compromising lung health," the researchers said.

#### Thomas Cook India Launches 'TC Pay'

Kolkata: Thomas Cook (India) Ltd., India's leading omnichannel foreign exchange service provider, has launched TC Pay, a comprehensive forex app designed for today's mobile-first Indian traveller. Built on a foundation of digital innovation, TC Pay offers a one-stop forex solution for B2C customers whether it's buying or reloading forex cards, buying or selling currencies or sending

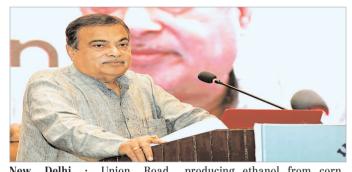
international remittances. With an intuitive interface and powerful features like end-toend digital fulfilment, all-in-one forex card management, real-time card tracking and WhatsApp calling for instant support, TC Pay delivers an elevated user experience with simple, swift and secure forex services through its tech-enabled, mobile-first platform.

Mobile apps have emerged as the preferred gateway for financial transactions globally, with mobile-based remittances accounting now for 60% of all digital transfers (Visa report). In India, this shift aligns with a broader digital payments revolution-over 93% of consumers use digital payment methods, and 9 out of 10 manage at least one financial task online (Mastercard New Payments Index). Against this backdrop, Thomas Cook's innovative launch of TC Pay marks a strategic leap in its digitalfirst journey, creating a full-scale, mobile-first ecosystem that reimagines the way forex services are delivered.

#### Fourth Kautilya Economic Conclave concludes successfully

New Delhi : The fourth edition of Kautilya Economic Conclave (KEC 2025) has been successfully concluded by the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the ministry said on Monday. Union Finance Minister NirmalaSitharaman inaugurated the KEC 2025 on October 3. The three-day gathering brought together senior policymakers, economists, industry leaders and scholars to examine pathways to resilient, inclusive growth amid heightened global uncertainty. In her address, the Union Finance Minister emphasised that India's rise as a stabilising force in the present turbulent times is neither accidental nor transient; instead, it results from a powerful combination of factors. Sitharaman highlighted the consistent efforts of the government over the last decade towards fiscal consolidation, improved quality of capital expenditure, and reining in inflationary pressures, and remarked that with the steady share of consumption and investment in the overall GDP over the years, India's growth is firmly anchored in its domestic factors, which minimises the impact of external shocks on overall growth.

#### EVs likely to cost same as petrol vehicles in 4-6 months: NitinGadkari



Delhi : Union Road Transport and Highways Minister NitinGadkari on Monday said that the prices of electric vehicles (EVs) in India are likely to match those of petrol-powered vehicles within the next four to six months, as the government pushes for wider adoption of clean mobility.

Speaking at the FICCI Higher Education Summit, the minister noted that India's annual fuel import bill of Rs 22 lakh crore was both an economic burden and an environmental challenge, making a shift towards green energy vital for the country's

Gadkari added that within the next five years, the government bile industry as the largest in the world. When he took charge as transport minister, the industry was valued at Rs 14 lakh crore, which has now grown to Rs 22 lakh crore

Currently, the size of the US automobile industry stands at Rs 78 lakh crore, followed by China at Rs 47 lakh crore, while India is placed third with Rs 22 lakh crore, he said.

The minister also highlighted the role of farmers in this transition, noting that they have earned an additional Rs 45.000 crore by

producing ethanol from corn, thereby contributing to the nation's energy security and

reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Last month, the minister launched India's first "hydrogen highways", accelerating the country's green hydrogen initiatives.

The project involves setting up hydrogen fuelling stations along strategic national highway corridors to support long-haul hydro-gen-powered freight.

The fuel of the future is hydrogen, and we have now started the first extensive hydrogen truck tri-als in history. "A budgetary allocation of Rs 500 crore has been sanctioned to five consortia across ten routes, with 37 vehiduring the event.

These trials will be supported by the establishment of nine hydrogen refuelling stations. He went on to say that these corridors will be India's first hydrogen highways, establishing the framework for long-distance, clean transportation.

He emphasised the need for India to immediately lessen its reliance on imports of crude, which currently account for 87 per cent of demand and cost the country close to Rs 22 lakh crore

## Tobacco industry driving new wave of nicotine addiction with e-cigarettes: WHO

New Delhi : While the number of tobacco users has dropped in recent years, the industry has devised new strategies driving a new wave of nicotine addiction with e-cigarettes, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said.

For the first time, the WHO in a new global report estimated global e-cigarette use -- and the numbers are alarming: more than 100 million people worldwide are now vaping. At least 86 million users, mostly in high-income countries, are adults.

Notably, at least 15 million children (13-15 years) are already using e-cigarettes. In countries with data, children are on average nine times more likely than adults to vape.

The WHO stated that this is not only undermining the progress achieved in controlling tobacco use, but also suggests that the tobacco epidemic is far from over.

"Millions of people are stopping, or not taking up, tobacco use thanks to tobacco control efforts by countries around the

DrTedrosAdhanomGhebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"In response to this strong progress, the tobacco industry is fighting back with new nicotine products, aggressively targeting young people. Governments must act faster and stronger in implementing proven tobacco control policies," he added.

The report showed that the number of tobacco users has dropped from 1.38 billion in 2000 to 1.2 billion in 2024. Since 2010, the number of people using tobacco has dropped by 120 million -- a 27 per cent drop in relative terms. Yet, tobacco still hooks one in five adults worldwide, fuelling millions of preventable deaths every



"In response to this strong progress, the tobacco industry is fighting back with new nicotine products, aggressively targeting young people. Governments must act faster and stronger in implementing proven tobacco control policies," he added.

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year. The tobacco industry is introducing an incessant chain of new products and technologies for its aim to market tobacco addiction with not just cigarettes but also e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches, and heated tobacco products, among others, which all harm people's health, and more worryingly, the health of new generations, youth, and adolescents, the WHO said.

"E-cigarettes are fuelling a new wave of nicotine addiction, said Etienne Krug, WHO Director Determinants, Health Promotion and Prevention Department.

They are marketed as harm reduction but, in reality, are hooking kids on nicotine earlier

and risk undermining decades of progress," Krug added

Further, the report noted that women are leading the charge to quit tobacco -- hitting the global reduction target for 2025 five years early. Prevalence of tobacco use among women dropped from 11 per cent in 2010 to just 6.6 per cent in 2024, with the number of female tobacco users falling from 277 million in 2010 to 206 million in 2024.

By contrast, men are not expected to reach the goal until 2031 -- more than four out of five tobacco users worldwide are men. While prevalence among men has fallen from 41.4 per cent in 2010 to 32.5 per cent in 2024, the pace of change is too slow.

## India to bolster shipbuilding ties with S. Korea amid push to join global top 5 by 2047

Seoul/New Delhi: India is seeking deeper cooperation with South Korea in the shipbuilding sector as it strives to become one of the world's top five shipbuilding nations by 2047, India's secretary for shipping has said, highlighting the need to combine Seoul's advanced technology with New Delhi's abundant manpower.

TK Ramachandran, Secretary of India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, made the remarks at a recent meeting with reporters from South Korea, Japan and other nations in New Delhi, saying India can serve as a key partner for South Korea given its workforce capacity, reports

Yonhap news agency. "Our only problem is that we need to get the technology and the necessary training modules from other countries or other partners," he said. "So we are collaborating with some of the top shipping countries in the world like South Korea or Japan because they have the skills but they don't have the manpower."

Ramachandran noted vast opportunities for bilateral cooperation in shipbuilding, noting South Korea's shipyards are already operating at full capacity.

They have a capacity constraint as well because some of them are all booked up to 2028, so they don't have space to build any more ships ... they're getting orders but then they're not able to build them in Korea or Japan," he added.

Under the "Maritime AmritKaal Vision 2047," New Delhi aims to move from its current 16th rank in global shipbuilding to among the top ten by 2030 and ultimately



to the top five by 2047.

On Sept. 24, India's government approved a package worth around 697 billion rupees (US\$8 billion) to revitalize India's shipbuilding and maritime sector and to expand domestic shipbuilding capacity, according to the Indian ministry's web-

"Shipbuilding for us is now a very important strategic as well as commercial objective because we have traditionally owned less than one percent of the world's shipping tonnage," Ramachandran said.

He noted that roughly 95 percent of the

country's imports and exports depend on foreign-flagged vessels while only about 5 percent are carried on indigenous ships.

"We are trying to address this issue and we are trying to address (it) through collaboration with foreign countries," he said.

In line with such efforts, India has been oursuing partnerships with major shipbuilding nations, including South Korea and Japan, to strengthen its domestic construction capabilities and develop new

From late November to early December, an Indian delegation led by Ramachandran

visited Hanwha Ocean's Geoje facility Samsung Heavy Industries' shipyard and HD Hyundai Heavy Industries' Ulsan shipyard in South Korea to explore potential

areas of collaboration. South Korea currently ranks among the world's top three shipbuilders along with Japan and China, and is home to global shipbuilding giants such as HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, Samsung Heavy Industries and Hanwha Ocean.

Ramachandran said India also aims to expand the number of its ships from the current 1,500 to 2,500 vessels, while increasing its indigenous domestic fleet of ships from the current 5 percent to 7 percent by 2030 and around 70 percent by

He added that during global crises such as the COVID pandemic and the Ukrainian war, freight rates surged from about US\$2,000 to \$15,000 per container, exposing India's vulnerability to external factors.

Owning, building, flagging or registration, all three of the metrics ... we think that is not only commercially sensible but also strategically necessary for India," he

India's shipbuilding market is projected to grow significantly, from its \$90 million value in 2022 to \$8.12 billion by 2033, according to London-based market tracker Finextra Research.

The maritime sector remains a critical pillar of India's economy, accounting for around 95 percent of the country's trade by volume and 70 percent by value, according to government data.

## **OUR!!!VOICES**

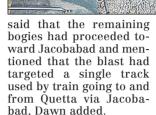
## Pakistan: Seven people injured after blast derails four bogies of Jaffar Express

least seven people were injured on Tuesday after a blast on a railway track derailed four bogies of the Jaffar Express in Sindh's Shikarpur district, Dawn reported citing officials.

Speaking to Dawn, Shikarpur's Deputy Commissioner ShakeelAbro said that a blast had occurred on the train tracks at 8:15 am at a distance of 1km from the Sultan Kot railway station.

He said four of those injured were taken to the Combined Military Hospital while the remaining three have heen admitted to Civil Hospital in Shikarpur.

According to the official, the Jaffar Express train was bound for Quetta via Jacobabad. Sukkur Divisional Transport Officer (DTO) Mohsin Ali Sial told Dawn that the passengers were being taken to nearby stations so that work could commence on repairing the track. Shikarpur Senior Superintendent of Police ShahzebChachar



He s'Id that police in Jacobabad and Shikarpur were attempting to trace those responsible for the incident. Dawn reported that Sindh's Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah had condemned the incident. Citing Radio Pakistan, it mentioned that Shah sought a report of the incident from the Sindh police inspector general. He also directed the Larkana commissioner to provide medical assistance to the injured passengers. The fresh blast comes weeks after six bogies of the same train was derailed in the Balochistan province in late September this year.

In March this year, the train was hijacked by militants of the Baloch Liberation Army which resulted in the deaths of 21 passengers and four security personnel dead. All 33 terrorists involved in attacking the train were killed by the Pakistani forces, and hundreds of passengers were rescued.

#### 'Have consistently advocated for global AI governance, demonstrated through G20 presidency': Jaishankar

MI News Service, Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar shared how India has been a consistent advocate for global Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance for global good, such as advancing the sustainable development goals and envisaging inclusive AI.

He made the remarks at the inaugural session of

Trust and Safety India Festival 2025. Jaishankar said, "We in India, we have consistently advocated for global AI governance and the shaping of an international agenda. We have demonstrated this during our G20 Presidency and strongly urged its usage for advancing Sustainable Development Goals, while safeguarding trust, safety, fairness and accountability. As a founding member of the Global Partnership on AI, we promoted the New Delhi Declarations which envisaged responsible and inclusive AI. We participated in the AI Summits in Bletchley Park and Seoul and co-chaired the Paris AI-Action Summit last year. The AI-Impact Summit in 2026 - with a focus obviously on impact - will take this forward.

Jaishankar also spoke about the concerns regarding AI, which revolve around bias, ethics, privacy and vulnerability. He encouraged the need for a global discourse and said that there is a need to rise to this

particular challenge. In his concluding remarks, Jaishankar said, "This is an endeavour whose success depends on our ability to ensure multistakeholdership. And that is why the TASI Festival today is important because it sends out a strong inclusive and pro-people message on this critical issue".

He also shared snippets in a post on X.



Pleased to address the inaugural session of Trust and Safety India Festival 2025. Highlighted the allpervasive and transformative impact of AI. And India's efforts in fostering Al governance based in trust, safety, fairness and accountability.

The official website of the India - AI Impact Summit, notes that it will be

hosted by India in New Delhi on February 19-20, 2026, and is an ambitious, future-focused global gathering announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at the France AI Action Summit in February this year. The summit will build on the global momentum established by major international initiatives and the high-level convening will swirl around harnessing Artificial Intelligence for fostering positive impact on human development, environmental sustainability, and equitable global progress, marking a strategic shift from dialogue to measurable impact.

The India - AI Impact Summit intends to bridge the Global AI Divide through concrete multilateral action, ensuring that the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence results in strengthening communities, protecting the planet, and propelling equitable, sustainable advancement. "At the core of the objectives lies an emphasis on democratizing access to AI resources, advancing innovation that reflects diverse local contexts, embedding environmental priorities into AI design and models, and promoting systems that are safe, trusted, transparent, and human-centric. Another objective is to amplify the voice of the Global South, ensuring that technological advancements and opportunities are shared broadly rather than concentrated in a few regions", the website mentioned.

#### 9,47,263 Tickets Sold from Howrah Station During Durga Puja Rush

The Howrah Division of Eastern Railway successfully ensured a smooth and hassle-free travel experience for passengers during

MI News Service, Kolkata:

the Durga Puja festival rush. With meticulous planning and coordinated efforts, the Division efficiently managed one of the busiest travel periods of the year, ensuring passenger comfort, convenience, and safety throughout the festive season.

To meet the surge in travel demand, several special trains were operated and existing services were augmented with additional coaches. Comprehensive crowd management measures were implemented at Howrah and other important stations, including the opening of extra ticket counters, deployment of additional staff, continuous public announcements, and enhanced These proactive steps ensured smooth passenger movement and effective handling of the festive rush.

During this period, a total of 9,47,263 tickets were sold from the booking offices at Howrah Station, reflecting the exceptionally high passenger turnout and the Division's operational efficiency in managing largescale travel volumes.

The successful handling of the Durga Puja rush stands as a testament to the dedication, teamwork, and proactive approach of the officers and staff of Howrah Division. Eastern Railway remains committed to providing safe, efficient, and passenger-friendly services during all peak travel periods and beyond.

### RPF/ER Apprehended two Human Traffickers - Rescues Two Minors under "Operation AAHT"

able display of alertness and prompt action under "Operation AAHT" (Action against Human Trafficking), the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Barharwa Post under Malda Division, Eastern Railway successfully rescued two minor boys and apprehended two traffickers from Barharwa Railway Station on 05.10.2025.

During interrogation, both traffickers admitted to their involvement in trafficking the minors to another state for forced labour, in exchange for a commission ranging between ₹2,000 and ₹3,000 per month. The rescued minors were immediately handed over to Child Line, Sahibganj for proper care and rehabilitation, while the arrested traffickers were handed over to GRPS/Barharwa. A case has been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

This successful operation reflects the unwavering commitment of the Railway Protection Force towards curbing human



Operation AAHT of Barharwa, Malda.

trafficking and safeguarding the rights and dignity of vulnerable individuals.

#### Taiwan detects 3 Chinese sorties, 7 vessels around strait

MI News Service, Taipei: Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense detected three sorties of Chinese military aircraft and seven Chinaval operating around its territorial waters as of 6 am (local time) on Tuesday. The MND said they responded to the situation accordingly. In a post on X, the MND said, "3 sorties of PLA aircraft and 7 PLAN vessels operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. ROC Armed

On Monday, the MND detected 10 sorties of Chinese Military aircraft and six Chinese naval vessels, while of the 10, seven sorties crossed the median line Taiwan's entered northern ADIZ. In a post on X, the MND said, "10 sorties of PLA aircraft and 6 PLAN vessels operating around

Forces have monitored the

situation and responded ac-

cordingly.'



gence,

throughout August and the

previous month, the Chi-

nese fishing boat Min Shi Yu

06718 navigated through

the Taiwan Strait while pe-

riodically sending out its

own AIS and that of a vessel

named Hai Xun 15012, as

reported by Taipei Times.

Hai Xun vessels are typi-

cally operated by the China

Maritime Safety Adminis-

tration (CMSA), a civilian

law enforcement body that

has not played a significant

role in China's coercive ac-

tions against Taiwan, the

report stated. This makes it

more plausible that a fish-

ing vessel was impersonat-

ing a CMSA ship, rather

until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 7 out of 10 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern ADIZ. ROC Armed Forces have monitored the situation and responded accordingly. Chinese Meanwhile.

ships are broadcasting false signals in Taiwan's territorial waters as a method of cognitive warfare, assessing Taiwan's reactions to various types of intrusions, Taipei Times reported, citing a report by the Institute for the Study of War published.

Earlier, several Chinese fishing vessels emitted counterfeit automatic identification system (AIS) signals in Taiwan's waters,

Special Campaign 5.0 & Swachh Patri drive conducted with one imitating a Russ-MI News Service, Kolkata: ian warship and another pretending to be a Chinese As part of the ongoing Spelaw enforcement vessel, the cial Campaign 5.0 and report indicated. The report Swachhta Pakhwada 2025, referenced data from Star-Howrah Division, Eastern Railway, conducted a dedboard Maritime Intellirevealing that

icated cleanliness drive under the theme "Swachh Patri (Clean Tracks)" on 7th October, 2025. The focus of the campaign was on ensuring cleanliness along railway tracks, particularly in areas adjacent to stations and extending towards city limits. During the drive, intensive cleaning activities

sides of the tracks. Special attention was given to clearing unwanted bushes and overgrown grass to improve the overall aesthetics and safety of the trackside environment.

were carried out to remove

accumulated garbage, lit-

ter, and debris from both

defecation near the railway tracks. Railway officials and staff worked in coordination to ensure that the adjoining areas remained clean and well-maintained, reinforcing the importance of cleanliness in maintaining a safe and pleasant travel experience.

Howrah Division continues to uphold its commitment to the Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat initiative through consistent and sustained cleanliness activities, contributing to a cleaner and greener railway environment under Special Campaign 5.0.

#### Trump denies asking Netanyahu to not be 'negative'

MI News Service, Washington: US President Donald Trump on Monday (local time) denied that he recently told Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to stop being so "negative" and "take the win" after Hamas accepted parts of Washington's proposal for ending the Gaza war, while saying that it would have to hold talks regarding other portions of the plan, The Times of Israel reported.

'No, it's not true. He's been very positive on the deal," Trump said of Netanyahu. Trump at times has avoided criticising Netanyahu in public, even as reports have mounted about his private frustration with the Israeli premier, including during a tense phone call last week in which the Axios news site reported the US president responded angrily when Netanyahu said Hamas's ambivalent response was "nothing to celebrate," as per The Times of Israel.

When he was asked whether he had any red lines for Hamas in the fresh round of negotiations that kicked off Monday in Egypt, Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that he does. "If certain things aren't met, we're not going to do it," Trump said, as quoted by The Times of Israel.

"But I think we're doing very well. Hamas has been agreeing to things that are very important," Trump revealed, without elaborating.

#### Efforts were also made than vice versa, the report to check and prevent unhy-**Railway Board sanctioned final location** survey for two doubling project in West Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata : Railway Board, Ministry of Railways has sanctioned for the Final Location Survey (FLS) towards doubling of two critical suburban sections in West Bengal within the Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway. This decisive step is part of a broader strategy to significantly boost capacity, streamline operations, and enhance connectivity across suburban corridors.

The sanction, formalized on September 24, 2025, involves preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for the two doubling Projects:

Significance of the Final Location Survey for Doubling Projects. 1. Champapukur – Hasnabad Doubling

work (16.54 km) This crucial suburban route between Champapukur - Hasnabad currently

operates as a single line, experiencing nearly 100% capacity utilization with approximately 23 pairs of EMU services

Doubling of the line will directly alleviate congestion and seamless movement of passenger trains from erstwhile remote areas of different stations in the section viz. Bhyabla Halt, Basirhat, Matania Anantpur, Madhyampur, Nimdanri, Taki Road and eliminate significant detentions caused by train crossings. It will facilitate smoother train movements, laying the groundwork for the introduction of additional suburban services essential for catering to the escalating commuter demand in North 24 Pargana District. 2. Lakshmikantapur – Namkhana Doubling work (46.56 km)

This section is a vital link for major tourist and pilgrimage centres, including Gangasagar, Bakkhali, and Henry's Island. Its capacity utilization exceeds 103%, making the single line a major bottleneck.

Doubling is indispensable for handling the consistently increasing passenger volume and enhancing operational flexibility. The project will be pivotal in strengthening regional connectivity in follwoing sta viz.Udairampur, Kalwan Halt, Karanjali Halt, Nischindapur, Kashinagar Halt, Kwakdip, Ukiler Hat and unlocking greater tourism potential in Sundarban areas of South 24 Pargana district.

Indian Railways sustained commitment to rapidly augmenting suburban infrastructure in West Bengal and bringing easier and comfortable facility for the

Once finalized, these doubling projects are expected to deliver tangible benefits to millions of daily commuters across the Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway by ensuring safer and more reliable train operations, reduced delays and significantly improved punctuality & enhanced convenience for a better commuting experience.

The sanction of these projects will be contingent upon the successful examination of the feasibility and preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

## Earthquake of magnitude 4.1 strikes Afghanistan

MI News Service, Kabul: An earthquake of magnitude 4.1 struck Afghanistan on late Monday night, a statement by the National Center for Seismology (NCS) said. As per the NCS, the earthquake occurred at a depth of 180km. In a post on X, the NCS said, "EQ of M: 4.1, On: 06/10/2025 20:12:21 IST, Lat: 36.64 N, Long: 70.88 E, Depth: 180 Km, Location: Afghanistan." Earlier on September 28, another earthquake of magnitude 3.9 struck the region at a shallow depth of 10km, making is susceptible to aftershocks. In a post on X, the NCS said, "EQ of M: 3.9, On: 28/09/2025 04:16:13 IST, Lat: 34.62 N, Long: 70.84 E, Depth: 10 Km, Location: Afghanistan."

Shallow earthquakes are generally more dangerous than deep earthquakes. This is because the seismic waves from shallow earthquakes have a shorter distance to travel to the surface, resulting in stronger ground shaking and potentially more damage to structures and greater casualties. On September 18, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, reaffirmed India's commitment to promote peace, stability and development in the country.

Addressing the UN Security Council quarterly briefing on Afghanistan,



Ambassador Parvathaneni emphasised India's priorities to provide humanitarassistance implement capacity-building initiatives for the Afghan people. "We believe in the utmost importance of international and regional consensus and cooperation on key issues concerning Afghanistan and actively engage with all relevant parties to promote peace, stability and development in the country," Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni said. "India's immediate priorities in Afghanistan include provision of humanitarian assistance and implementation of capacity-building initiatives for the Afghan people," he added. He also reaffirmed India's commitment to the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

Ambassador Parvathaneni expressed gratitude to Special Representative of Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan bayeva, for her briefing.

#### "Want to find out what they're doing with them...": Trump mulls over supply of Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine The US Navy has used

MI News Service, Washington: US President Donald Trump told reporters on Monday from the Oval Office that he wants to know what Ukraine is planning to do if the Tomahawk missiles are supplied to them. He reiterated the call for an end to the Russia-Ukraine conflict in his remarks, noting that he does not want to see an escalation.

When asked by reporters if he had decided on whether to supply Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine or sell them to NATO and let them sell them to Ukraine, Trump said, "I think I want to find out what they're doing with them. You know, where are they sending them? I guess I have to ask that question that war should never have started. Would have never started such bad judgment was used there, I think on both sides, by the way. But nobody looks good with the war- with Russia and Ukraine. Nobody. It's been horrible. This week they lost over 7000 soldiers. Between the two of them, is every week they're losing 7000, 8000, 5000...I'm not looking to see escalation"

Kyiv has long been requesting powerful longrange missiles to strike deep inside Russia, but its Western allies, which are a part of the North Atlantic Organisation (NATO), have mostly been reluctant, Al Jazeera reported. Tomahawk missiles



are long-range, subsonic cruise missiles used by the US Navy for precise land strikes, and can be launched from ships, ground launchers or submarines. These were first made

famous during the 1991 Gulf War and are reserved for America's closest allies, including the United Kingdom and Japan. Its four models range up to the latest version, Block IV, which can feed back live information on targets below, allowing for changes during flight, CNN reported. The missile has a long

range with deep-strike capabilities and can hit targets 1,250-2,500 kms away, with a speed of 880km/h. Al Jazeera added that these missiles carry high-explosive warheads designed to penetrate hardened targets, such as military bunkers. Tomahawks are also fast: They avoid radar detection by flying at high subsonic speeds while maintaining low altitudes.

Tomahawks since the 1970s. The missiles are currently manufactured solely by US weapons producer RTX. The involvement of Tomahawks holds the potential to plummet the ties between the US and Russia, which had seen a positive momentum in recent times, most significantly after the Alaska Summit in August earlier this year. On October 2 while speaking at the 22nd annual meeting of the Valdai International Discussion Club, when asked about the discussions in West about the supply of Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the use of Tomahawks would be "detrimental" to the ties between Moscow and Washington DC, which have finally started to see the light, and would commence a new stage of the

escalation. "Will this damage our relations, considering that we have finally started seeing light at the end of the tunnel? Of course, this would be detrimental to our relations. How can it be otherwise? You cannot use the tomahawks without the direct involvement of US military personnel. This would signal the advent of a totally new stage in this escalation, including in terms of Russia's relations with the United States,"

Putin said.

## Swachh Patri (Clean Tracks) Drive Conducted Under Swachhata Pakhwada 2025

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Swachhata Pakhwada

Campaign 2025, launched nationwide, has been receiving an enthusiastic response in Sealdah Division, Eastern Railway. The campaign, which runs from October 1 to 31, aims to foster cleanliness, hygiene, and sustainability across railway premises with the active participation of railway officials, staff, volunteers, and passengers.

On October 7, 2025, the Environment & Housekeeping Management (EnHM) Department of Sealdah Division conducted extensive activities under the theme "Swachh Patri" (Clean Tracks), focusing on maintaining cleanliness along and beyond railway tracks. Special emphasis was laid on ensuring that areas beyond station premises on both sides of the tracks within city limits remain free from garbage and litter. Open defecation in these areas was also

strictly checked. Cleanliness of tracks in station-adjacent areas received particular attention. Chief Health Inspectors



(CHIs) conducted awareness campaigns to discourage open defecation near railway tracks. Additionally, unwanted bushes and overgrown grass along tracks and platforms were cleared to enhance overall hygiene and aesthetics.

These activities were carried out at several key stations including Sealdah, Kolkata, Naihati, Dum Dum Junction, Ranaghat, and other important stations and colonies. As part of the day's programme, Chief Health Inspectors, Station Superintendents, and other railway

staff also organized " Amrit Samvad" interactions with passengers and railway users at Barrackpore and Canning stations to spread awareness about maintaining cleanliness and responsible usage of railway premises.

The observance Swachh Patri Diwas on October 7, 2025, showcased the collective efforts of the EnHM Department, Sealdah Division, in collaboration with other departments, marking yet another meaningful step towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable railway environment.

#### **INDIA'S 19-YEAR-OLD KAVIN QUINTAL SHINES ON SUPERBIKE DEBUT IN SPAIN.**

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA (SPAIN) : Kavin Samaar Quintal, a 19-year-old from Chennai and a member of the EasyRace team, made history as the first Indian to place in the top four at Spain's renowned Copa de España de Velocidad Superbike round at the iconic 4.4km Circuito de Jerez - Angel Nieto.

Kavin participated as a wildcard entry, supported by Gaman Racing Global Service based in Teruel, riding a BMW M1000RR in a highly competitive field that included Ducati. BMW, Honda, Suzuki, and Kawasaki bikes.

He finished fourth out of 29 riders, battling hard to maintain this position in a challenging race, despite falling, with a race time of 14:20.782.

He showcased remarkable skill and resilience during one of Spain's top National champi-onships, held from October 3 to 5. In the second race, Kavin secured 7th place, highlighting his quick adaptation to European racing standards. The winner, Spain's Daniel Saez, finished first on a Yamaha.

Circuito de Jerez - Angel Nieto, named after Spain's motorcycle legend Angel Nieto, hosts top-tier Formula One and MotoGP events, marking this milestone as a significant achievement for Indian motor-

Kavin, born in 2005 in Chennai, currently races in the AP250 class of the Asia Road Racing Championship with Honda Racing India.

He was the first Indian to compete in the World Supersport 300 Championship in the Czech Republic (2024). and he also participated in the FIM JuniorGP series the same year. Kavin's past achieve-ments include winning the Indian Honda Talent Cup NSF 250R (2021) and delivering consistent performances in the Asia Talent Cup.

"Racing in Spain gives Kavin an international platform to showcase Indian talent at the highest level. This is a turning point towards elite sta-tus," said his father, Calvin

"Competing in Spain has been a dream come true. Jerez s harnened my skills and gave me invaluable experience. I owe this opportunity to EasyRace and Gaman Racing," said Kavin Quintal. whose grandfather, Pratap Kumar, raced at the iconic Sholavaram, near Chennai.

BMW EasyRace Team Manager Eduardo Salvador commented, "Kavin's performance in his debut speaks volumes. We see potential for an enduring international career.'



## **Messi-led Argentina team set to play in Kochi, CM Vijayan chairs meeting on preparations**

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the preparations for the upcoming football match featuring the Argentina national team, scheduled to be held in November at the Jawaharlal Nehru International Stadium, Kochi.

The Chief Minister directed that all arrangements be completed on a war footing and that the stadium be upgraded to world-class standards ahead of the

Maintenance and repair works at the venue will be expedited to ensure it meets international specifications.

The meeting also decided to put in place stringent security measures in and around the stadium to manage the expected large turnout of spectators.

Possibilities for conducting a fan meet with the visiting team were also discussed.



The Chief Minister instructed officials to make comprehensive arrangements for parking, medical and emergency facilities, drinking-water supply, power distribution, and waste management, ensuring a smooth experience for both players and fans.

Highlighting the scale of the event, the Chief Minister emphasized the importance of interdepartmental coordination.

ed to oversee all activities related to the match and act as the nodal A state-level committee under

the Chief Secretary will monitor overall preparations, while District Collectors will lead coordination efforts at the district level.

The Chief Minister said Kerala was proud to host a global football powerhouse like Argentina and that the event would showcase the state's passion for football as well as its capacity to organize major

international sporting events.

The meeting, held at the Chief Minister's Conference Hall, was attended by Sports Minister V. Abdurahiman, Industries Minister P. Rajeev, Local Self-Government Minister M.B. Rajesh, Chief Secretary Dr A. Jayathilak, State Police Chief R. Chandrasekhar, and senior officials from various departments and agencies involved in the event's planning

#### and execution. Wuhan Open: Raducanu retires from opener with dizziness, Li advances

WUHAN: British number one Emma Raducanu retired midway from her first-round match against American Ann Li at the Wuhan Open due to dizziness after having her blood pressure and temperature checked.

The 2021 US Open champion made a solid start to her tournament debut, forcing a volley to break Li in the opening game. However, the American responded with a series of forehand winners, along with four aces, to win six consecutive games and take the first set.

By contrast, Raducanu's forehand wing consistently leaked errors. After she double-faulted to fall behind a double break in the second set, the Briton was visited on court by the doctor, and called it quits following that consultation, WTA reports.

Earlier this week, play was suspended on all outdoor courts in Wuhan due to temperatures reaching 34C. Defending champion Jannik Sinner also retired with cramp in the third round of the Shanghai Masters this week. In contrast, 24-time Grand Slam champion Novak Djokovic vomited during his win over Yannick



will face Russian ninth seed Ekaterina Alexandrova, who beat Canadian teenager Victoria Mboko 6-3, 6-2, in the second round on Monday.

Earlier on Tuesday, Japanese four-time major winner Naomi Osaka, who hadn't played in Wuhan since 2017, fought back to defeat Leylah Fernandez 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 in two and a half hours, securing her first career win in Wuhan and progressing to the second round for the first time. It marked her fourth opening-match victory in seven WTA 1000 events this season, Former Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin edged past qualifier Anastasia Zakharova 3-6, 7-6(5), 6-3 after saving two match points when trailing 5-4 in the second set.

#### Abhishek, Kuldeep, Smriti nominated for Player of the Month for September



DUBAI : India's Abhishek Sharma, Kuldeep Yadav and Smriti Mandhana have been named among the ICC Player of Month nominees September.

Abhishek and Kuldeep feature on the men's shortlist alongside Zimbabwe's Brian Bennett. Abhishek earned the nod after a stellar Player of the Series performance at the Asia Cup in the UAE while Kuldeep's match-winning spells made him the tournament's leading wicket-taker.
Bennett's strong run in multiple
T201 series, including the T20
World Cup Africa Qualifiers,
secured his place. secured his place.

On the women's shortlist, Mandhana is joined by Pakistan's Sidra Ameen and South Africa's Tazmin Brits. Mandhana was named Player of the Series in the ODI series against Australia while Sidra and Brits impressed with dominant batting displays in their bilateral series in Pakistan. MEN'S SHORTLIST:

Abhishek Sharma: The lefthanded opener scored 314 runs in seven matches at an average of 44.85 and an astounding strikerate of 200 in the Asia Cup. His attacking batting was crucial in his team's wins in the continental tournament, and he achieved the highest rating points ever in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings when he touched 931 at the end of the Super Fours stage of the tournament.

Kuldeep Yadav: The left-arm wrist-spinner was the leading wicket-taker in the Asia Cup with 17 scalps in seven T20Is at an average of 9.29 and an economy rate of 6.27. The highlight for him was a haul of four for 30 in the final against Pakistan and he also grabbed four wickets in a league match against the United Arab Emirates

Brian Bennett: The 21-yearold top-order batter aggregated 497 runs in nine T20Is at an average of 55.22 and an impressive strike rate of 165.66. He was the leading run-scorer in the T20I series against Sri Lanka and Namibia before registering scores of 72, 65 and 111 in his first three innings in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 Africa Qualifier.

WOMEN'S SHORTLIST: Smriti Mandhana: The lefthanded opener struck 308 runs in four ODIs during the period, aggregating 308 runs at an averaggregating 308 runs at an average of 77 and a strike rate of 135.68. The India vice-captain had scores of 58, 117 and 125 in the home ODI series against Australia, reaching the three-figure mark off just 50 deliveries in the third match, the fastest centumber of 150 per 150 pe ry by an India batter.

Sidra Ameen: Sidra was the leading run-scorer in the home ODI series against South Africa with 293 in three ODIs at an astounding average of 293 and a strike rate of 82.76. Her purple patch saw her score 121 not out. 122 and 50 not out in the three matches. Tazmin Brits: Brits was named the Player of the Series against Pakistan even though she figured in only two of those matches. She had scores of 101 and 171 in the first two matches, both of which South Africa won to take a winning lead in the series

#### World Junior C'ships: India beat Sri Lanka for second win; Philippines upset Hong Kong



ued their march to the knock-out stages of the mixed team championships with yet another clinical performance in their Group H clash against Sri Lanka while Philippines upset Hong Kong in a thrilling Group F clash on the second day of the BWF World Junior Badminton Championships for the Suhandinata Cup at the National Centre of Excellence here on

India are favourites to advance to the knock-out stage as group toppers and the second seeds lived up to those expectations to register a 45-27, 45-21 win over Sri Lanka, who had got the better of United Arab Emirates in a thriller on Monday.

Among the other top nations, 14-time champions China and former champions South Korea registered their second wins in their respective group while Philippines upset Hong Kong.42-45, 45-28,

China playing in Group D defeated England 45-22, 45-19 while South Korea hammered debutant Bhutan 45-5, 45-17 in Group G.

Playing on the adjacent court to the Koreans, the Indian team hardly broke any sweat despite the team management fielding a fresh bunch of players who had not got a chance to play in the match against Nepal on Monday in the opening set.

Lalthazuala Hmar gave the team a confident start, beating Keneth Aruggoda 9-2 in the boys' singles match and Bhavya and Mithileish Chhabra Krishnan extending the lead to 18-6 against Sanuda Ariyasinghe and Thisath Rupathunga.

It was only girls' singles player Rakshitha Sree, who was playing the team relay-scoring format for the first time, struggled to get going against Ranithma Liyanage and was trailing 3-8 before winning six of the next seven points to take the score to 36-21

Junior Grand Prix finalist in Pune C Lalramsanga and Taarini Suri then wrapped up the set 45-27, beating Aruggoda and Liyanage 9-6. Rounak Chouhan started the

proceedings for India in the second set and though the hosts played a completely fresh line up in the set, the outcome was in similar lines as they wrapped up the tie with a 45-21 win in the second Philippines then glued the fans

to their seats as Jamal Pandi played the starring role in both singles, doubles and mixed doubles to help the team register their biggest victory in the history of the Jamal not only won all his

boys' singles matches handsomely but also teamed up with Ralph Nino Dalojo in the men's doubles match of the final set to pull off an incredible win. Philippines were trailing 27-36

at the start of the match and it meant that they needed to win 18 points before Hong Kong's Cheng Ying Kit and Deng Chi Fai could add nine points to their tally.

And Pandi and Dalojo kept their nerves under pressure to kick off celebrations that continued till the team walked out of the stadium.

"It's a huge result for Philippines badminton and we are very grateful that we got the opportunity to train and play here," said Philippines coach Escoses Lloyd. "We attended a three-day preparatory camp (organised by BWF) here before the tournament and that has helped us a lot," he added.

#### complete 100 years, says legend Gurbux Singh podium yet again in Paris.

NEW DELHI: Hockey India on Tuesday launched a month-long campaign leading up to the centenary celebrations on November 7, a day that marks 100 years of Indian hockey

The first hockey sports administrative body was formed in 1925, on November 7 and in 1928, the Indian team won the first Olympic medal beating Netherlands in Amsterdam. Since then, Indian hockey team has won a total of eight Olympic gold medals - the highest number of gold medals by any country at the Olympics till date.

The period between 1928 to 1959 was regarded as the golden era, and the resurgence of Indian hockey began in 1998 after a decline in the 1980s and 90s. The bronze medal in the Tokyo Olympics captained by Manpreet Singh in the 2020 marked the comeback of Indian hockey, with the team repeating the feat in the 2024 where they stood on the

It is a proud moment to witness Indian hockey

India thus far has a total of eight Olympic gold medals, one silver and four bronze at the Summer Games - making hockey a legacy sport in the country. India also won a World Cup in 1975 and in the Asian Games, has four gold, nine silver and three bronze medals. The women's team also has seven medals at the Asian

Speaking of the significance of the centenary, Gurbux Singh, the oldest living legend of the sport at 90 years, expressed his absolute joy of being part of this rich and most decorated sport in India. "To complete 100 years and that too with this level of tremendous achievements at the world level, Indian hockey stands tall in the world of sport and this occasion surely needs to be celebrated in the most befitting manner. We as Indians ought to be proud of this legacy," stated Gurbux, who was given the nickname 'professor' by his Pakistani rivals for being the only player who played wearing spectacles

Gurbux has contributed a large part of his life to the sport, having begun his career in 1955 as an aspiring player in his university in Gwalior. He trained under the great Roop Singh of Olympic fame and soon represented Madhya Bharat in 1956 before he made his India debut in 1959. He was part of the team that won the 1964 Tokyo Olympics gold medal.

"It is almost 65 years that I have been associated with the sport and I have lived my best life because of hockey. Personally, the 1964 Olympic gold followed by the 1966 Asian Games gold will always hold a special place in my heart. We regained the world title in 64' by winning the gold as in those days, there was no World Cup, the team that won the



Olympics would be known as world champions. We later won the Asian Games gold for the first time, beating Pakistan. That was very memorable," he recalled.

When asked about the greatest rival in the sport over the past 100 years, Gurbux didn't bat an eyelid to say - India vs Pakistan! "No doubt that was the greatest rivalry of all-time. Before the partition, we played as one unit and after the partition, no European team came close to the rivalry we shared with Pakistan. The matches were fiercely fought by both

#### More grassroots tournaments vital to polo's growth in India: Simran Singh Shergill

and star Indian polo player Simran Singh Shergill asserts that expanding entry-level tournaments is crucial to broadening the talent pool and boosting the sport's visibility in India, helping polo shed its niche status and reach a wider audience.

In an exclusive interview with IANS, the polo veteran shed light on the game's status in the country, the decline in the number of players, and how the introduction of more corporate leagues can change that status.

"Well, unfortunately, the number of players in polo in India, right now, has reduced. So, I think this is one of those things that polo goes through. Currently, the number of younger players and seniors has decreased, resulting in a slight reduction in overall player strength. But we have good young players coming through the system. So, hopefully, in a few years, we will have more players playing the game. But at the moment, we have a few, not so many," Shergill told IANS.

naments of a lower level, not very high-goal tournaments. If we have more lower-level tournaments, it will be helpful. There will be more participation. People who are even lower in handicap can be placed in more competitive teams, and they have a good

"If we have more lower-level tournaments, it will be helpful. There will be more participation. People who are even lower in handicap can be placed in more competitive teams and they have a good chance to win. And have more tournaments with young players in every centre. There should be more junior tournaments, which will promote all these younger boys and give them a chance to play and come to the line right. So, I think that is one of the things that needs to be done at the moment to encourage the sport in the country," he

Shergill, who has represented India globally and powered Jindal Panther Polo Team to major



wins, was affected by the recent flood in the Yamuna that hindered his practice for the upcoming season, which starts with the

"Well, preparation was going quite well. Unfortunately, we had a bout of floods at our base in Noida. As you might know, last month, Yamuna, which runs in Noida, because of the increase in water coming from the mountains, the river flooded. So, it sort of flooded some of our polo fields and stables and also we had to make arrangements and the grounds all got water on it. So, we are just in the process of trying to restore our fields so we can go back to playing again," the polo star said.

"We will probably start with the Delhi season whenever the Delhi season starts in the third week of October. That's when the Delhi season is supposed to start.

season. That's going to be the next tournament that we play. We are supposed to have polo at our centre over here in Noida, but that is sort of dependent on if we can get the place up to the level to have competitive tournaments because with the flood, there is a lot of sand and mud that comes on the ground. So, we are just in the process of clearing all of that

Shergill, who continues to mentor the next generation of players, lavished high praise on his Jindal Panther Polo Team members, including captain Naveen Jindal and some foreign players.

"Well, we have Naveen Jindal who is obviously a very good player. We have Siddhant Sharma, who also plays in our team. Naveen's son, Venkatesh, has started playing. He played a bit last year. He got a good stint in England in the summer where he played a lot of tournaments and played a few high-goal tournaments with a 10-goal player

"And then we are having foreign players also joining the team. We have a guy called Nicholas Corti-Medina who has 5 goals. He is coming to play. We have another guy called Gracia Grossi who has 6 goals. He is a very good player. He is coming to play. We have another one called Salvador Horaci who has 5 goals. He is a very good player. He is coming to play. So, we are very excited about the season and having all these players coming

and playing in our team.' The 42-year-old polo star further elaborated on how the corporate's involvement can completely change the image of the

sport in India 'As you might know, polo is generally everywhere in the world and is run in a system where corporate houses own and run teams as opposed to teams being run by states. They are not really state teams but corporate houses run it. So, if this IPL format or this commercial format is

ty, they make more teams, have more corporates, have more visibility towards the game, for sure it will encourage players coming

"It will encourage existing players to work harder and invest more in the game. As you know, polo is an expensive game. So, buying horses and increasing or improving your strength is something that always helps. I think the induction or the input of some money coming in would definitely help the sport," Shergill said. When asked will the induction

of polo in the Khelo India programme increase the accessibility of the sport? Shergill replied, "I think for sure it will help the accessibility and it will help bring in more newer people to start the

I think for the success of any sport, if more people start it or if there is more visibility towards that game, more advertising, more people come to watch, for sure it will end up having a bigger advantage.