



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.



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Two Held for Assault and Gang Rape of Minor

MI News Service, Murshidabad: A horrifying incident of alleged gang-rape involving a minor girl has sent shockwaves through the Salar region of Murshidabad, 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 Salar case.

Migrant workers burnt in Bengaluru blaze: Gas leak suspected

MI News Service, Murshidabad: In a heart-breaking 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 treatment at Victoria Hospital in Bengaluru.

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, Minarul Sheikh (from Panch Pittala, Berhampur), Tajibur Sheikh, Hafizul Sheikh, Nuruzzamal Sheikh (from Banpara and Nagarajal), and Zahid Ali (from Khidirpur, Hariharpara) — were all daily-wage labourers 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. I 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 sustained serious injuries. Murshidabad officials are coordinating with Karnataka 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 other states.

Man Impersonates Teacher, Blackmails Housewife After Illicit Relationship — Arrested by Police

MI News Service, 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 Ashrafal Haque, was produced before the Chandannagar Sub-Divisional Court on Monday.

According to police sources, Ashrafal befriended the woman on social media a few months ago, introducing himself as a primary school teacher. Over time, the relationship 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 Ashrafal 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, Ashrafal allegedly continued to demand more. Realising she had been trapped, the woman finally lodged a formal complaint at Tarkeshwar Police Station. Acting swiftly, police traced and arrested Ashrafal 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 activity without delay.

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.

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 citizens from domestic abuse —

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 breeding tragedy."

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-affected people.

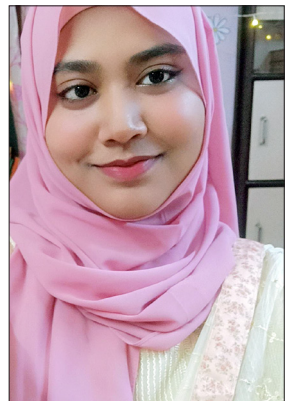


According to Swami Vishwatmananda Maharaj, the General Secretary of the Sangha, monks and volunteers of the organization have already reached the affected areas. They are distributing dry food, clothes, and other essential items to the victims. In addition, arrangements for shelter and medical assistance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

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 to this calamity."

Birth of a young novelist aspiring to touch the skies

MI News Service, 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.



Ramsha Rais

Strip and West Bank in the 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 World Record to commemorate 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 multitude of divisive and intolerant 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 will mesmerize many more across the International platform.

Kali temple collapses into Ganges amid riverbank erosion

MI News Service, Shamsarganj: In a shocking turn of events, a centuries-old Kali temple in Shamsarganj 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, "I

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.

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. Meteorologists 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, Rayalseema, 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

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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, anti-drone 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 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. 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 will be provided to farmers

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. Highlighting 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 ₹54 crore would be constructed

within a year, while an emergency 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 leaders Khagen 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 mob pelted stones, attacked them 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's sainik and asked why we were there. We said we are Modi ji's sainik."

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. Banerjee 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, because service to humanity is the truest service to God."



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 youth 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 social 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 government 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 to 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 'Mahagathabandhan' led by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD). The NDA currently holds 131 seats - BJP 80, JD(U) 45, HAM(S) 4, and two independents. The Opposition has 111 seats - RJD 77, Congress 19, CPI(ML) 11, CPI(M) 2, and CPI 2. Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj will also make its debut, contesting all 243 seats in the state. Political activity has intensified in the state, with the NDA and the Opposition holding massive campaigns. The two alliances have also been trading charges.

Mystery Over Sweet
Shop Worker Found
Critically Injured in
North Kolkata

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 blood-stained 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 investigation.

SC Defers Hearing on RG
Kar Case to November

MI News Service, Kolkata: 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



found inside a seminar 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

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Minister Modi's vision will be 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 long-term policies based on these four pillars, our economy has delivered remarkable performance over the past 11 years." 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 welfare 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

From PG 1
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.

Name Change
I, Pallavi Chandrakant Lahange & Lahange Pallavi Chandrakant and Pallavi subhashish Paul (Old Name), wife of Subhashish Paul, C/o subhashish Paul, Flat No - E, 3rd Floor, Block - 3Panchsheel Vatika, BH25, M.B.Road, Near smart bazar, North Dumdum (n), 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 subhashish Paul also Pallavi Paul all are the same and one identical person.

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

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

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

Name Change
I, Sultana Khatun (old name) wife of Md Shahid Khan, residing at 12/14/46, Bed Ford Lane, 2nd Floor, P.O.- Park Street, Kolkata - 700016, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sultana Khatun (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 Khatoun both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Sayeed, S/o Late Mohammad 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. Sayeed in place of my actual name Mohammad Sayeed and my wife's name has been wrongly recorded as Kakhkasha Naaz in place of her actual name Kakhkashan 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 Sayeed and Md. Sayeed is the same and one identical person and my wife, Kakhkashan Naaz and Kakhkasha Naaz is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Rafikul Islam (Old Name) S/o Md Mansur Ali Gain Residing at Vill - Uttar Barunhat Muslim Para, P.o - Barunhat, Ps - 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. Md Rafikul Islam (Old Name) and Rafikul Islam (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Musfera Fathma (Old Name) S/o Late Md Nausadul Haque Residing at 16/1D, Topsis Road South, Po - Gobind Khatic Road, Ps - Topsis Thana, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700046 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Musfera Fatma (New Name) as declared 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 Hussain Ansari residing at 66,R.B.S. Road Champdani, P.O-Baidyabati, P.S.- Bhadreswar, Dist.-Hooghly, Pin-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 class at Chandernagore. Date 20/05/2025. That Zahid Hussain Ansari and Zahid Hussain both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I Biswajit Biswas, s/o Lt. Pitar Biswas resident at vill Begopara, P.O-dayabari, P.S:Ranaghat, Dist: nadia, Pin:741256. That my father's actual name Spelling is Pitar Biswas. That my father's Death Certificate and my Madhyamik and H.S Certificate, my father's name recorded as Peter Biswas instead of Pitar Biswas vide affidavit sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Ranaghat on 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, 7/14/HS, 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 No.WB/23/147/42226 as Declared by the court Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide Affidavit No. 62222 Dt. 20.09.2025 that Shafique Ahmed & SK. Faku both are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanu Halder (Old Name), Son Of Subarna Halder, Residing At Word N05,Net 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 Halder And Sanu Halder Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, MD NASIM S/O LATE MD BARIK declare that my said name MOHAMMAD NASIM KHAN (old name), residing 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 known 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 SHIBNATH 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 i shall henceforth be known as BUDHADEB KARAR (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 25/09/2025. BUDDHADEV KARAR (new name) and BUDDHADEV KARAR (old name) both are same and one identical person.

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

Name Change
I Pooja madhesiya (OLD NAMES) D/O-Balkishun gupta, RESIDING Of-Madheshiya bhawan Rambandhu talaw Asansol, DIST-PASCHIM BURDWAN, PIN-713303, WEST BENGAL, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Pooja Madheshiya (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Pooja Madheshiya (OLD NAMES) AND Pooja Madheshya (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

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

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

Name Change
I Malati Gupta (OLD NAMES) D/O-om prakash Gupta, RESIDING Of-Madheshiya bhaban rambandhu talaw Asansol, DIST-PASCHIM BURDWAN, PIN-713303, WEST BENGAL, INDIA. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Malhi Gupta (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Malati Gupta (OLD NAMES) AND Malhi 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-713336, 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 07/10/2025. Amit sonthalia (OLD NAMES) AND Amit kumar sonthalia (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

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

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

Name Change
I, (Old Name) NASIRUL SK S/O-MOZAMMEL HOQUE Residing at, Vill- Durlivpur, Post- Kumarsanda, Ps - Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin-742136, West Bengal. Do hearyb declare that I have Changed my name from NASIRUL SK To NASIRUL HAQUE (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) NASIRUL 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
I, (Old Name) SISH MOHAMMAD S/O-KALI MUDDIN SHEIKH Residing at, Vill- Tinpukuria, Post- Tinpukuria, Ps - Samserganj, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin-742202, West Bengal. Do hearyb 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
I, (Old Name) SATYAM ORA S/O- MOTILAL ORAW Residing at, Vill- Shyamnagar, Post- Banjetia, Ps - Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742102, West Bengal. Do hearyb 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 Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025. SATYAM ORAW and SATYAM ORA both are Same and one identical person.

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

Name Change
I, (Old Name) FERDOUSARA BIBI W/O- ISMILE SK Residing at, Vill- Gakunda Uttarpara, Post- Gajdharpara, Ps - Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742102, West Bengal. Do hearyb declare that I have Changed my name from FERDOUSARA BEGUM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) FERDOUSARA 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
I, (Old Name) SAJJIDUL MONDAL S/O- DICLIAR ALI MONDAL Residing at, Vill- Sekhali Para, Post- Bilaspur, Ps - Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin-742303, West Bengal. Do hearyb declare that I have Changed my name from SAJJIDUL MONDAL To SAJJUUL HOQUE (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) SAJJUL HOQUE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 16 Sept 2025. SAJJUL HOQUE and SAJJIDUL MONDAL both are Same and one identical person.

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

Name Change
I, Samim Ahamad Khan (Old Name), Son Of Laik Ahamed Khan, Residing At Vill-Mohanpur, Post-Mumdumari, Ps-Pingla, 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 Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/10/2025. That Samim Ahamad Khan Are The Same And One Identical Person.

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

Name Change
I, Kasem Molla (old name) S/o Aaflindin Molla, resident of Vill- Purba Jhupkhali, P.O.- Jhupkhali, P.S.- Sandeshkhali, Pin-743442, West Bengal, India, have changed 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) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Safiuddin Mallick (old name) S/o 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 one identical person.

Name Change
I, Safiuddin Mallick (old name) S/o 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 one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sheikh Jamshed (old name) S/o Late SK Pyar Mohammad, resident of 21A, Tiljala Shihtala 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 identical person.

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 changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bhagabat Biswal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Bhagabat Biswal (new name) and Bhagbat Biswal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Tapash Kumar Biswal (old name) S/o Bhagabat Biswal, resident of Abhinaya App, 3rd Flr, PL-144-1, Belgaria, 68 Bhuban 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
I, Bablu Das (old name) S/o Late 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 name), 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
I, Jagabandhu 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 Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Jagabandhu Bhandari (new name) and Jagabandhu 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, Nupur, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743368, P.S.-Ramnagar, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name Sahadat Hossain (father old name) to the 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
I, Mosrakul Hossain (old name) S/o Late Sahadat Hossain Shaikh, resident of Diamondharbour, Nupur, 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 Bose Road, P.O.- New Barrackpore, 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 declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Jayanti Paul Roy (new name) 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- Ekbalpur, Kolkata 700023, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Farhat Afza (New Name) Vide An Affidavit No 51640 Sworn Before 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.

Skoda Auto announces flood relief measures



MI News Service, Kolkata: Skoda 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 ease the repair-related challenges faced by our customers.

The Roadside Assistance (RSA) is available for all flood-affected Skoda cars, irrespective of 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, Skoda 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 Skoda 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.

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 changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bhagabat Biswal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 26/09/2025. Bhagabat Biswal (new name) and Bhagbat Biswal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Tapash Kumar Biswal (old name) S/o Bhagabat Biswal, resident of Abhinaya App, 3rd Flr, PL-144-1, Belgaria, 68 Bhuban 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.

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 co-operate 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
I, Soma Sarkar (old name) W/o Sushanta Sarkar, resident of Alaipore P.O.- Madanpur, 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, Gujarat, and Chhattisgarh increasing the existing network of Indian Railways by about 894 Kms

● **The total estimated cost of the projects is Rs 24,634 crore to be completed by 2030-31**
MI News Service, New Delhi: The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, today has approved Four projects of Ministry of Railways with total cost of Rs. 24,634 crore (approx.). These projects include:

- 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, Madhya 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 multi-tracking 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 opportunities.

The Projects are planned on PM-Gati

Lexus performs well amid SUV growth momentum

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 luxury SUV segment in India continues to witness remarkable growth, driven by evolving lifestyles and a growing preference for versatile mobility solutions."

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.

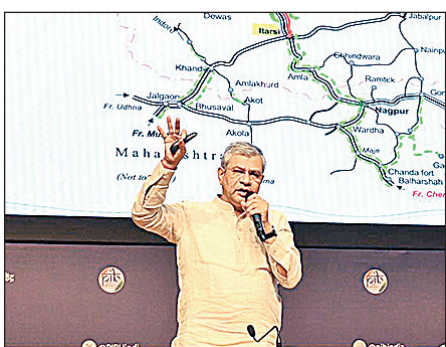
However, the situation that has arisen with imposing of 0% GST on notebooks with 0% custom duty as per Asean Free Trade Agreement, will play havoc with Indian Notebook manufacturers & industry. Under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, imports from countries like Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia come in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

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 manufacturers, 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



Shakti National Master Plan with focus on enhancing multi-modal connectivity & logistic efficiency through integrated planning and stakeholder consultations. These projects will provide seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods, 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.

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 Crore trees.

NEW FOOT OVER BRIDGE (FOB) TO IMPROVE PASSENGER CONVENIENCE 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 Centre 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.



notebook making industry and its dire consequences

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

MI News Service, 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 farmers.

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 untoward step."

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

31,628 crore for rain-hit farmers in the state.

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 CM said.

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 AGMATTEL 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. Manual 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 24.10.2025.**

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.e.in.dianrailways.gov.in/ www.ireps.gov.in

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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, Netaji 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/-, **Tender 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 Below 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.; ₹ 1,38,760/-, **(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 ARMATURE 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. 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 T-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 on 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 Modified 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 per annexure; ₹ 2,87,980/-, **(20) 20252141;** EMU/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 Linen 66 to RDSO Drg No T-3706; ₹ 20,00,000/-, **Tender 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 Roxolithin 20 mg [ITEM CODE M251024] AI 25-26; ₹ 0, **Tender Cost : 0 (for note).** **Notice :** 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 website. (STORES-39/2025-26)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.e.in.dianrailways.gov.in/ www.ireps.gov.in

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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.**

(PR-692) **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

MI News Service, 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 (CMO).

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. Bachani.

In the presence of the Industries 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 initiative.

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

January 8-9, 2026; in Surat for South Gujarat on April 9-10, 2026; and in Vadodara for Central Gujarat on June 10-11, 2026, a CMO release said.

The 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 state.

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. One-day 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 informed that the regional con-

ferences will be held for two 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.

The Chief Minister launched the VGRC initiative in Ahmedabad on August 28, 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 culture.

During both days, the Udyami Mela, Reverse Buyer-Seller Meet, and B2B/B2G meetings will be organised.

The exhibition will be held 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, Partner Country Pavilion, B2G and B2B Zones, Startup Stalls, and a Udyami Mela.

Other facilities include a Vendor Development Program, Regional Food Fest, Food Court, ODOF 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 Stewpell (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

Show, Sidhpur, Solwalk (Rituals and Heritage Sites), and Echoes of the Earth (Balsinor Dinosaur Park and Museum).

Industrial visits will include Modhera Sun Temple (Half Day), Gujarat's First Solar Park at Charanka, and 700 MW UMSP 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 confirmed their participation in

this summit, including His Excellency Mr. Kenichi Ono, 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, Embassy 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 Deendayar 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, a release said.

Rain lashes several parts of National Capital Region

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 showers.

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 kmph.

The Delhi Airport Author-

ity has stated that adverse weather in the national capital could affect flight operations.

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 on-ground 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 requested to contact the airline

concerned for updated flight information," it added.

The airport authority issued 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

increase to 10-15 kmph from the northwest direction during the afternoon and remain at 10-15 kmph from the northwest direction during the evening and night, according to IMD.

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 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 her 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. 18200000131.

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. Shanti Nath, aged about 72 years, (husband), Shri. Subrata Nath, aged about 34 years, (son) and Shri. Shubhankar Nath, aged about 38 years, (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

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 Building, Howrah which is scheduled to closing on 17.10.2025, 12.00 hrs. is hereby cancelled due to technical ground. (HWH-329/2025-26)

Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.e.in.dianrailways.gov.in/ www.ireps.gov.in

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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 recalibration of daily life points to a condition many still hesitate to name-Overactive Bladder (OAB).

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 adjust-by 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 shifts-long 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.

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



New 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 growth.

Gadkari added that within the next five years, the government aims to position India's automobile 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 hydrogen-powered freight.

The fuel of the future is hydrogen, and we have now started the first extensive hydrogen truck trials in history. "A budgetary allocation of Rs 500 crore has been sanctioned to five consortia across ten routes, with 37 vehicles participating," Gadkari stated during 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 a year.

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 world," said

DrTredrosAdhanomGhebreyesus, 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



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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 of Health Determinants, 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 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 Mumbai.

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 AIKosh, 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 five years to reach.

"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.

"These changes make the lungs less elastic, which could explain why obesity is often associated with breathing difficulties," they noted. Interestingly, these changes are similar to those normally 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-to-end 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 digital-first 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.

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 website.

"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 pursuing partnerships with major shipbuilding nations, including South Korea and Japan, to strengthen its domestic construction capabilities and develop new shipyards.

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

visited Hanwha Ocean's Geosje 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 2047.

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 said.

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.

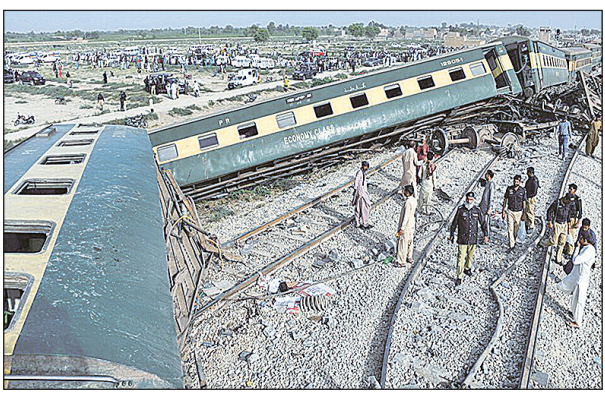
Pakistan: Seven people injured after blast derails four bogies of Jaffar Express

MI News Service, Sindh: At 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 been 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 (SSP) ShahzebChachar



said that the remaining bogies had proceeded toward Jacobabad and mentioned that the blast had targeted a single track used by train going to and from Quetta via Jacobabad, Dawn added.

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.

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

MI News Service, Kolkata : The Howrah Division of Eastern Railway successfully ensured a smooth and hassle-free travel experience for passengers during 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 an-

nouncements, and enhanced security arrangements. 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 large-scale 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.

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 Chinese naval vessels 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 until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. ROC Armed Forces have monitored the situation and responded accordingly."

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 and entered Taiwan's northern ADIZ. In a post on X, the MND said, "10 sorties of PLA aircraft and 6 PLAN vessels operating around



Taiwan were detected 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."

Meanwhile, Chinese 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,

RPF/ER Apprehended two Human Traffickers – Rescues Two Minors under “Operation AAHT”

MI News Service, Kolkata : In a commendable 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 (BNS).

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.

Special Campaign 5.0 & Swachh Patri drive conducted

MI News Service, Kolkata : As part of the ongoing Special Campaign 5.0 and Swachhta Pakhwada 2025, Howrah Division, Eastern Railway, conducted a dedicated 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 were carried out to remove accumulated garbage, litter, and debris from both 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.

Efforts were also made to check and prevent unhy-



gienic practices such as open 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.

'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 Blechley 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 multi-stakeholdership. 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 all-pervasive and transformative impact of AI. And India's efforts in fostering AI 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.

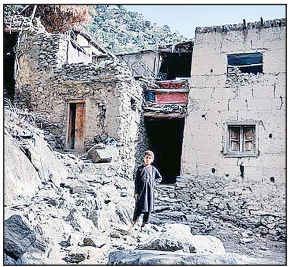
The India - AI Impact Summit intends to bridge the Global AI Divide through concrete multilateral action, ensuring that the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence results in strengthening communities, protecting the planet, and propelling equitable, sustainable advancement. “At the core 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.

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 it 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 humanitarian assistance and 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 the Secretary-General (SRSG) and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), Roza Otunbayeva, for her briefing.

“Want to find out what they’re doing with them...” : Trump mulls over supply of Tomahawk missiles to Ukraine

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 long-range missiles to strike deep inside Russia, but its Western allies, which are a part of the North Atlantic Treaty 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.

The US Navy has used 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.

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 running daily.

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 de-

mand 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 following stations viz. Udairampur, Kalwan Halt, Karanjali Halt, Nischindapur, Kashinagar Halt, Kwakpid, 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 Commuters.

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).

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 of 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 championships, 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 motorsport.

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 achievements 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 status," said his father, Calvin Quintal.

"Competing in Spain has been a dream come true. Racing at Jerez sharpened 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

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM : 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 event.

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 inter-departmental coordination.

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



GUWAHATI : Hosts India continued 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 Tuesday.

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, 45-43.

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 Chhabra and Mithileish P 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 set.

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 competition.

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.

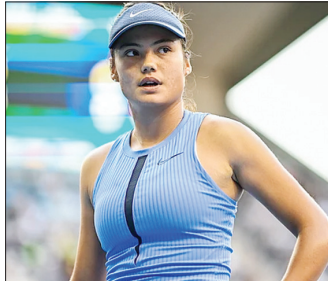
Wuhan Open: Raducanu retires from opener with dizziness, Li advances

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 Hanfmann.



World number 46 Li, however, 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.

It is a proud moment to witness Indian hockey complete 100 years, says legend Gurbux Singh

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 gold medal beating the 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 podium yet again in Paris.

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 Games.

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

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 the Month nominees for 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 T20I series, including the T20 World Cup Africa Qualifiers, secured his place.

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-year-old 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 left-handed opener struck 308 runs in four ODIs during the period, aggregating 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 century 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 that ended with a 2-1 scoreline.

MEN'S SHORTLIST:

Abhishek Sharma: The left-handed opener scored 314 runs in seven matches at an average of 44.85 and an astounding strike-rate 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

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

NEW DELHI : Arjuna awardee 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.

"We need to have more tournaments 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 chance to win.

"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 added.

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 Delhi leg.

"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.

So, we will start with the Delhi 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 out."

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

also. So, he is in good shape," he said.

"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

run where players get opportunity, they make more teams, have more corporates, have more visibility towards the game, for sure it will encourage players coming in.

"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 game.

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.