

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday strongly criticised the Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls, saying it is inappropriate to carry out the exercise while the state is facing natural calamities, heavy rains, and a festive month. A team from the ECI, headed by Deputy Election Commissioner Gyanesh Bharti, arrived last night and on Wednesday began reviewing the preparedness for the SIR at the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) in Kolkata. Returning from landslide-affected areas in North Bengal, Banerjee told reporters at the airport, "When the state is facing natural calamities, heavy rains, and the festive season, how can people be expected to participate in the SIR in just 15 days?" PG 3



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Morning India

Mamata to visit landslide-hit Darjeeling next week again



MI News Service, Kolkata, : In order to personally supervise the ongoing relief and rehabilitation work at the flood and landslide-hit Darjeeling district, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee will once again visit the affected areas in North Bengal next week. The Chief minister who returned to the city on Wednesday afternoon after visiting the disaster affected regions of North Bengal, meeting the families displaced by the calamity, and launching emergency support measures said at the Kolkata airport "I met 21 families. Efforts are being made to send back the bodies of two from Nepal and Bhutan. We have sent the photographs." Speaking with reporters at the airport, she said that 500 relief kits, including blankets, rice, dal, dry food, and milk, were sent for the affected families in Mirik. "Those who want to stay there are being taken care of," she said, noting that 1,000 stranded tourists were safely brought back in 45

When there's a disaster, why are people trying to return to Kolkata from Bagdogra being charged Rs 18,000? And those who aren't getting direct flights and have to travel via New Delhi are being made to pay Rs 42,000 to Rs 45,000. Is this not discrimination?

--CM Mamata Banerjee

buses. Mamata Banerjee said that rehabilitation work has already started in the worst-hit areas on war footing. She said two new roads are being built in the Rohini region, the bridge at Nagrakata is under repair, and a tempo-

rary bridge is being constructed in Mirik within the next few days until a concrete one is completed. "I've asked officials to complete the temporary bridge within 15 days," she said. Mamata Banerjee said that ten senior officials have been stationed in the hills, and key ministers like Pradip Majumdar and Goutam Deb are also supervising operations on the ground. "Next week I will be going there again to oversee the relief work by myself. The relief work is being carried out there on war footing. We will also have to make arrangements for the jobs we have promised (to the deceased) in the next 15 days," she said.

At least 36 people were killed, and many more remained missing, and thousands stranded after last week's devastating landslides and flash floods in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar and Cooch Behar districts of North Bengal.. Expressing strong discontent over airfare hikes, Mamata Banerjee also questioned why flights from Bagdogra to Kolkata were priced at Rs 18,000 in the aftermath of the disaster. "When there's a disaster, why are people trying to return to Kolkata from Bagdogra being charged Rs 18,000? And those who aren't getting direct flights and have to travel via New Delhi are being made to pay Rs 42,000 to Rs 45,000. Is this not discrimination?" she asked. The Chief minister further alleged that, keeping in mind the upcoming assembly elections in Bihar, a decision was taken not to increase flight fares to that state during Chhath Puja. "During Chhath Puja in Bihar, a decision was made not to raise airfares because of elections. I'm happy about that. But why this step-motherly treatment towards Bengal?" she questioned.

US Supreme Court looks for a new vision of unlimited Presidential power

MI News Service, Washington (DC): US President Donald Trump set the tone for his second term by issuing 26 executive orders, four proclamations and 12 memorandums on his first day back in office in January this year, and the barrage of unilateral presidential actions has not yet stopped. These have included Trump's efforts to remove thousands of government workers and fire several prominent officials, such as members of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the chair of the Commission on Civil Rights. He has also attempted to shut down entire agencies, such as the Department of Education and the US Agency for International Development.

For some scholars, these actions appear rooted in the psychology of an unrestrained politician with an overdeveloped ego. But it's more than that. A large section of political science scholars who studies presidential power, believe that Trump's recent actions mark the culmination of the unitary executive theory, which is perhaps the most contentious and consequential constitutional

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TMC accuses BJP of resorting to state-sponsored terrorism in Tripura

MI News Service, Kolkata : Coming down heavily on the BJP, the Trinamool Congress has accused the party (BJP) of resorting to "state-sponsored political terrorism" in Tripura after the TMC party office at Banamalipur in Agartala was attacked and vandalised on Monday. Addressing a news conference at Trinamool Bhavan here on Wednesday, West Bengal Industries, Commerce, and Enterprises Minister Shashi Panja lambasted the BJP government in Tripura and alleged that with the help of the state police, the vandalism in Agartala was allegedly conducted by the "intolerant and violent BJP government in Tripura". "The incident that occurred on Monday demonstrates how those who claim to protect democracy are behaving otherwise. The video evidence is clear," she said and reiterated that the vandalism took place very much in presence of police, who she termed as "mute spectators". "This is state-sponsored political terrorism. There is no democracy left in Tripura. The police were standing there, watching as our party office was ransacked. Banamalipur, where former Chief minister Biplab Deb once contested, has now become a symbol of state terror," Panja told reporters, while



The incident that occurred on Monday demonstrates how those who claim to protect democracy are behaving otherwise. The video evidence is clear

--Shashi Panja

displaying photographs of the ransacked office. The Trinamool Congress released pictures and accused BJP leaders -Viki Prasad, Sushanta Deb MLA from Bishalgarh and Tripura state BJP President Asim Bhat-tacharya of direct involvement in the violence and ransacking of the office.

TMC All India General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee also "strongly condemned" the incident and

recalled previous attacks on his convoy in Tripura. Party spokesperson Arup Chakraborty, also addressing the news Conference here today, called the incident as the outcome of a "certified lumpen rule" and said, "BJP claims to be the largest political party in the world, but what happened in Tripura shows its lumpen raj." Panja also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for what she described as "following double standards". She said only "Two days ago, the PM accused Bengal of lacking democracy and, without any evidence, blamed the TMC for attacks on BJP leaders at Nagrakata in North Bengal. But what happened in Tripura proves the BJP's hypocrisy. Those who lecture others on democracy are unleashing goons on the opposition," she said. The Minister alleged a "deliberate attempt" to create divisions among Bengalis and referred to "insulting the Bengali language" by the BJP. Panja said, "According to the 2011 Census, 67 per cent of Tripura's population is Bengali. Now there are attempts to pit one group against another. Our Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, has always been able to sense such divisive politics." She

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Indian youth went to Russia for studies, captured by Ukrainian forces

MI News Service, Ahmedabad : 22-year-old Majoti Sahil Mohamed Hussein, a resident of Gujarat who went to Russia for studies, has recently surrendered to Ukrainian forces while fighting alongside the Russian military, informing this Gujarat police confirmed on Wednesday that Hussain was in fact a resident of Morbi town in the state and had gone to Russia for studies. When reporters tried to contact Hussein's family members at their home in the Kalika plot area of Morbi town, his mother refused to disclose anything. She then left for an unidentified location after locking the house. "As per a preliminary probe, Sahil (Hussein) was a resident of Morbi and went to Russia for further studies several years ago. We also learnt that he was sent to jail after being caught in a drug-related case there," Inspector General of Rajkot Range Ashok Kumar Yadav said today. However, in view of the seriousness of the issue, the Indian mission in Kiev is ascertaining the veracity of the report. But it is yet to receive a formal communication from the Ukrainian side in this connection, informed

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PM Modi says 'this is the best time for investment in India'

MI News Service, New Delhi : Reiterating that his government has decided to "further accelerate the pace of reforms", offering the best investment opportunities, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has renewed his pitch for 'Make in India' across sectors -- from mobiles to semiconductors and electronics. Speaking at the inauguration of India Mobile Congress here on Wednesday, the Prime minister said India's democratic setup, the government's welcoming approach and ease of doing business policies have helped the country attain an image of an investor-friendly destination. "This is the best time to invest, innovate and make in India," he said. PM Modi said he had announced on August 15 that this year would be a year of big changes and big reforms. "We are increasing the pace of reforms," he said without elaborating. Just last month, Goods and Services Tax (GST) rates were rationalised, making common-use items from shampoo to television sets cheaper. India, he said, offers immense opportunities in the manufacturing of semiconductors, mobiles, and electronics. Industry, innovators and startups need



Digital connectivity in India is no longer a privilege or a luxury. It is now an integral part of every Indian's life

--PM Modi

to step up now, he said.

Listing tremendous progress made by India in the digital space in the last decade, he said 1 GB of wireless data in India is cheaper than the cost of one cup of tea. "Digital connectivity in India is no longer a privilege or a luxury. It is now an integral part of

every Indian's life," he said, adding India today has the world's fastest-growing developer population. India has the world's second-largest telecom market, the second-largest 5G market, the manpower, mobility and mindset to lead, he said. India has launched its Made in India 4G Stack. This is a major indigenous achievement for the country. With this, India has joined the list of just five countries in the world that possess this capability, he said. "The country that once struggled with 2G, today has 5G reaching almost every district," he said. PM Modi says, "A lot of our startups gave presentations on important issues - financial fraud prevention, quantum communication, optical communication, semiconductors and others. I am assured that India's tech future is in the right hands. This IMC event isn't just limited to mobile and telecom but has become Asia's biggest digital technology forum in a few years." Organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), IMC 2025 is being held from Oct 8 to 11 under the theme 'Innovate to Transform'.

agreement in July during a visit by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seal a deal to cut tariffs on goods from textiles to whisky and cars, and allow more market access for businesses. Talks on the trade pact were concluded in May after three years of stop-start negotiations, with both sides hastening efforts to clinch a deal in the shadow of tariff turmoil unleashed by US President Donald Trump.

The deal between the world's fifth- and sixth-largest economies aims to increase bilateral trade by a further 25.5 billion pounds (USD 34 billion) by 2040. But

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UK PM seeks quick implementation of trade deal with India

MI News Service, Mumbai : British Prime Minister Keir Starmer said here on Wednesday that the opportunities waiting to be seized under the India-UK free trade agreement are "unparalleled". Landing at the financial capital of India this morning to start his maiden visit to India after assuming charge at the British Prime minister last year, Starmer said the trade deal is a "launchpad for growth" with India set to be the third biggest global economy by 2028. The British Prime minister is accompanied by a delegation of 125 of the UK's most prominent business leaders, entrepreneurs and university Vice Chancel-



Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis interacts with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer on latter's arrival at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, in Mumbai. State Governor Acharya Devvrat looks on.

lors during his two-day visit. PM Starmer said he wanted a trade deal with India to be

implemented as soon as "humanly possible" as Britain and India signed a free trade

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Potters make earthen lamps at their workshop ahead of the festival of Light(Diwali), in Kolkata on Wednesday

Toto driver killed over illicit affair

MI News Service, Bakura: A sensational twist has emerged in the murder of toto driver Sushul Hembram, whos body was found in a pool of blood near an irrigation canal in Lepam villager under Barkul police station in Bakura. Police now suspect that an extra-marital affair may have been the motive behind the brutal killing.

The prime accused, Biswajit Murmu of Majherpara village, has been arrested from the Monteshwar area of East Burdwan district following a swift investigation by Barikul police. According to police sources, preliminary findings suggest that Sushil had been involved in a long-standing extramarital relationship with Biswajit's wife. The affair reportedly strained Biswajit's marriage, leading his wife to leave him and return to her parental home. Enraged and

humiliated, Biswajit allegedly plotted to eliminate Sushil. On Monday night, Sushil had gone to Raspal Bazar with his Toto and did not return home. The next morning, locals discovered his blood-soaked body lying

Accused Arrested

near an irrigation canal. Police soon launched an intensive probe, during which the trail led directly to Biswajit. Investigators believe he attacked Sushil with a sharp weapon, killing him on the spot before dumping the body to cover up the crime. After tracing his movements, police tracked Biswajit to a relative's house in East Burdwan, where he was arrested on Tuesday night. He was produced before the Khatra Sub-Divisional Court on Wednesday, where po-

lice sought seven days' custody for further interrogation. Meanwhile, grief and disbelief engulfed Sushil's family. His wife, Neelima Hembram, said tearfully, "My husband had no enmity with anyone. I don't know why

this happened. I have two small children — our lives are shattered." Police are now probing whether others were involved in the crime or helped the accused flee. The murder has sparked outrage in the area, with locals demanding stricter security and faster justice. The case has laid bare the dark undercurrents of betrayal, rage, and revenge that culminated in a fatal act of violence — turning a quiet village in Bankura into the scene of a chilling crime of passion.

Midnight tea turns trap: Man robbed inside Arambagh medical college

MI News Service, Arambagh: A chilling incident inside the Arambagh Prafulla Chandra Sen Government Medical College and Hospital has once again exposed glaring lapses in hospital security. A man accompanying his ailing wife was allegedly drugged and robbed within the hospital premises late on Tuesday night.

According to police sources, Ashipur Dalal, a resident of Arambagh, had been staying on the hospital premises to attend to his wife Razia Bibi, who had been admitted for ten days after a snakebite. Ashipur and his father-in-law were resting outside the ward when a stranger approached them around midnight and struck up a conversation. The stranger allegedly offered them tea,

claiming it would help them relax. Moments after drinking it, Ashipur and his father-in-law reportedly lost consciousness. When they awoke hours later, they discovered that their money, mobile phones, and personal belongings had been stolen. "He kept asking me to have tea. I refused at first, but he insisted, saying it would help us stay awake. I don't know what happened after that. When I opened my eyes, everything was gone — my phone, my money. Even the man had vanished," Ashipur recounted in a trembling voice. The shocking incident has triggered outrage among patients' relatives, who say that despite hundreds of attendants staying overnight in the hospital compound, there is no security surveillance or

patrolling at night. "Patients come here from far-off places, and their families have to sleep outside the wards without any safety. Thieves and miscreants roam freely. This has become routine," a relative of another patient said. Hospital authorities have reportedly informed Arambagh Police Station, and an investigation has been initiated. Police are examining CCTV footage from the surrounding area to identify the suspect. This incident — occurring inside a state-run medical college hospital — has once again raised serious questions about the lack of security and vigilance in government healthcare institutions, where attendants of patients remain highly vulnerable to crime even within hospital boundaries.

Domestic dispute turns deadly: Man kills wife, child, then himself

MI News Service, Murshidabad: A gruesome triple death has sent shockwaves through Andiron Haldar Para in Beldanga, Murshidabad. Late on Tuesday night, a man allegedly slit the throat of his wife and seven-year-old son before taking his own life by hanging.

The deceased have been identified as Sanjit Haldar(40), his wife Moushmi Haldar(28), and their minor son Raihan Haldar(7). According to police, preliminary investigation suggests dispute, murdered his wife and son with a saw before ending his own life. The horrific scene was discovered early Wednesday morning. Sanjit's mother while heading to the bathroom, reportedly saw her son hanging through the window and raised as

alarm. Neighbors rushed in and broke open the door, only to find Moushmi and Raihan lying motionless on the bed, their throats slit. Police from Beldanga police station arrived promptly and recovered the bodies , which wee later sent to Murshidabad Medical College and Hospital for post-mortem examination. Investigators are probing the possibility of deeper motives or psychological distress behind the killings. The tragedy has left the locality stunned. Sanjit's mother, inconsolable with grief, alleged the ongoing family tension might have triggered the incident. "My daughter-in-law was not good. This happened because of her. She had left once. It was my daughter-in-law who brought her back," she sobbed.

Sanjit's sister , Shibani Mandal, told reporters, "My brother loved his wife deeply. He never allowed anyone to say a words against her". Neighbors described the couple as generally close but prone to occasional quarrels. "There were disputes sometimes, but nothing extreme. They even went shopping together during Puja," said neighbors Mangal Haldar and adding the Sanjit worked as mason substances. Police have registered case of unnatural deaths and are investigating all angles- including marital discord, financial distress, and possible mental instability. The triple tragedy has plunged the quite Beldanga neighborhoods into mourning burden of domestic turmoil behind closed doors.

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju visits flood-affected areas in Darjeeling, urges WB govt to "step up" relief measures

MI News Service, Darjeeling: Union Minister Kiren Rijiju on Wednesday visited the flood and landslides-affected areas in Darjeeling, West Bengal.

Kiren Rijiju inspected the losses and interacted with the affected people in the area. He was accompanied by Darjeeling MP Raju Bista.

Rijiju also urged the state government to "step up" its relief measures, asking the TMC government to map the disaster and take measures to rehabilitate the affected people.

"From what we have seen so far and as per reports, the impact of the rains in Darjeeling has been huge. There has been an immense loss of life and property. Local representatives and administration are doing all they can, but the state government needs to step up its relief measures. The CM came to Siliguri to meet the victims of the disaster, but we want the state government to map the disaster... Those affected by the disaster, who have lost their livelihood and homes, should be provided relief and rehabilitated. This will be a challenge," Rijiju said.

Additionally, BJP MLA Neeraj Zimba said that the situation in Darjeeling is in "doldrums." He added that the state government and central government are working together to provide relief.

"The state government has not declared an emergency so far after this disaster. There's a



huge difference between Kolkata and Darjeeling. They consider Darjeeling to be merely a tourist spot, not their own. They are extremely careless in handling issues here. What has happened has happened. They cannot bring back the lives that have been lost, but those who have survived need to be rehabilitated. We will do whatever we can, but it is the prerogative of the state government; the onus lies on them," Neeraj Zimba added.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has stated that 27 people, including one Nepali and one Bhutanese, have lost their lives in the wake of severe rain and landslides in North West

Teen gang-raped by boy-friend, two others arrested

MI News Service, South 24 Pgs: A shocking case of alleged gang-rape has emerged in Baruipur, involving a minor Class Nine student, leading to the arrest of her teenage boyfriend and an accomplice. The victim, who was reportedly lured out under the pretext of 'Pooja pandal hopping,' was allegedly physically and sexually assaulted by her boyfriend and two of his friends on the night of Ashtami. Police are actively searching for a third suspect who remains at large.

According to sources, the incident stems from a social media relationship that developed over the last month and a half. The victim and the main accused—her minor boyfriend—reportedly met on the night of Ashtami near the Baruipur-Kamalagazi bypass. The boyfriend was accompanied by two friends on a separate motorcycle.

The three accused allegedly took the victim from the Baruipur-Shasan bypass to a secluded area adjacent to the Begumpur Katakhal bypass in the Baruipur East Vidhan Sabha constituency. It is further alleged that the victim was given a cold drink containing an arousal-enhancing tablet before being taken into an isolated lane off the Begumpur Katakhal bypass. The com-

plaint alleges the minor boyfriend raped the victim first while the two friends filmed the act. This video footage was then allegedly used to blackmail the victim before the two friends also proceeded to rape her. Following the alleged assault, the perpetrators abandoned the victim near a relative's house late that night. The full gravity of the assault came to light on the morning of Navami when the girl fell critically ill. A relative informed the victim's family, who immediately had her admitted to the Baruipur Subdistrict Hospital that afternoon. A formal complaint was subsequently filed at the Baruipur Police Station. Utilizing the information provided, the police promptly arrested the minor boyfriend. His interrogation led to the apprehension of a second friend. Police confirmed that a third suspect remains absconding, and an intensive manhunt is underway. Meanwhile, the victim continues to receive treatment and care at the hospital. The victim's family has issued a strident demand for the maximum possible punishment for all those involved in the heinous crime. The case underscores the serious dangers associated with online relationships and has caused significant local uproar.

Floodwaters disrupt life, relief remains distant

MI News Service, Ghatat: Despite a temporary stabilization in river levels, floodwaters continue to inundate large parts of Ghatat subdivision, leaving residents stranded and struggling to meet basic needs. Twelve wards of Ghatat Municipality and several gram panchayat areas remain submerged, forcing people to rely on canoes and boats for daily commutes.

The recent monsoon-triggered floods were aggravated by continuous rainfall and pressure on rivers without dams, which caused widespread inundation across low-lying areas. While the Shilavati River's water level has ceased rising, many localities remain under waist-deep water, and roads are still impassable, crippling transportation and daily life. Residents describe worsening conditions at their homes. "There is still waist-deep water in front of the house, and the tap is

submerged. Drinking water is scarce, electricity is intermittent, and commuting is extremely difficult," said one resident of Ward No. 2, Argora. Markets, schools, and public services remain affected, with residents forced to use boats for essentials. Another local commented, "Water is stagnant everywhere — on the roads and in front of homes. Life remains extremely difficult. Only a proper flood management plan can bring lasting relief. Authorities have warned that it may take several more days for the floodwaters to recede completely, and relief operations are ongoing to provide food, potable water, and medical assistance to affected families. The ongoing crisis highlights the chronic vulnerability of Ghatat to monsoon floods, underscoring the urgent need for infrastructure improvements and effective water management strategies to prevent recurring hardship.

"We condemn this": Saayoni Ghosh over attack on TMC office in Tripura

MI News Service, Kolkata: TMC MP Saayoni Ghosh on Wednesday condemned the attack on the party's Tripura office, alleging that the BJP might be behind the incident as an act of revenge.

She stated that the TMC would assess the situation and reassure its workers that they are not alone.

"We condemn this. If the frontline workers of the BJP have done this (the attack on the party's Tripura office), because of revenge and vengeance, we are going to assess the situation and give a message to our workers that they are not alone...Ever since the BJP has heard that the Trinamul Congress delegation is visiting Tripura, threat messages have already started. You are all witnesses to what happens next," MP Saayoni said.

The incident follows the attack on the BJP MP Khagen Murmu and BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh, who a group of miscreants attacked while they were visiting the flood-affected areas in West Bengal to provide relief and support to the victims.

Meanwhile, BJP Leader Dilip Ghosh criticised the TMC party, "Political violence has increased in Bengal because of the TMC...The meeting of Bageshwar Baba has been cancelled by Mamata Banerjee...The people of TMC have forcibly stopped the Ravana Dahan program at 9 places...The government is a spectator of people who are in crisis due to floods...Mamata Banerjee was doing a carnival in Kolkata...Hooliganism has started. Especially, Rohingya infiltrators from Bangladesh are being used in this..."

He further claimed that TMC has attacked the BJP leaders several times over the years and demanded that strict action be taken against them.

On October 6, LoP in the Bengal Assembly, Suwendu Adhikari, accused Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee of orchestrating violence by sending her supporters to allegedly attack BJP leaders and workers and obstruct relief work.

Adhikari claimed that while BJP

Cyclone influence lowers temperatures by week's end

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Meteorological Department has issued a weather advisory for South Bengal, warning of light rain and isolated thunderstorms in several districts over the next few days due to the influence of a cyclone in neighboring Jharkhand. Between October 8 and 10, rain is expected in Jhargram, West Midnapore, East Midnapore, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, North and South 24 Parganas, and Kolkata. Authorities caution residents to be prepared for intermittent rainfall at any time of the day, accompanied by occasional thunderstorms.

The monsoon is forecast to withdraw from South Bengal between October 12 and 14, bringing a gradual clearing of skies. Morning temperatures in Kolkata and adjoining areas are expected to drop to 20–22°C, while western districts may experience lows of 18–20°C. In North Bengal, the monsoon is expected to end between October 10 and 13, after which clear skies and bright sunshine will prevail from October 14 to 20. The weather will offer a chance to view Kanchenjunga, with low-lying Terai areas such as Sonada and Sukna experiencing mild winter conditions after October 15. According to the long-term outlook, the state will experience a pleasant autumn



with mild winter conditions from October 25 to November 5. Morning weather will be cool and comfortable, while afternoons may remain slightly warm. Scattered light to moderate rain** is expected in North Bengal, mainly in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, and Cooch Behar, until Thursday. No red or orange alerts have been issued. Rain in South Bengal will gradually decrease from Saturday, and unless a new system develops in the Bay of Bengal, dry weather conditions are expected with falling humidity and reduced water vapor in the atmosphere. Residents are advised to take precautions against localized flooding, water-logging, and travel disruptions in affected areas over the coming days.

Nabadwip Police Bust Illegal Firecracker Sale, One Arrested

MI News Service, Nabadwip: On the night of Lakshmi Puja, Nabadwip police conducted a raid in Gosai Bazar and seized a large quantity of illegal firecrackers. One seller was arrested for selling firecrackers without proper authorization. The accused was produced in court on Tuesday.

According to police sources, the Nabadwip police had been running awareness campaigns about the ban on firecrackers in the festive season. Defying the warnings, a shopkeeper was found selling prohibited firecrackers on Laksh-



mi Puja night. Acting on a tip-off, the police raided the shop and confiscated a significant stock. Following the raid, neighboring sellers reportedly stopped selling firecrackers.

Firecracker production and sale have been banned for several years due to

safety concerns. However, illegal manufacturing and sales continue in some areas. Notably, an explosion had taken place in an illegal firecracker manufacturing factory at Rathala in Nadia's Kalyani on February 07, 2025, which snatched the lives of 5 women. In 2023, several people died in a firecracker factory explosion in Khadikul, Egra, East Medinipur, and another blast occurred at a factory in Nilganj. However, the authorities have stepped up vigilance and plan to continue similar raids ahead of Kali Puja.

Fire in Vaccine Store Room Triggers Panic at Bethuadahari Hospital



MI News Service, Nakashipara: A fire broke out in the vaccine store room of Bethuadahari State General Hospital in Nakashipara on Wednesday afternoon, creating panic among patients and staff.

According to hospital sources, smoke was first seen billowing out of the store room, following which staff members alerted

the authorities. Two fire tenders were pressed into service and managed to bring the flames under control after sustained efforts.

Preliminary inquiry points to a possible short circuit as the cause of the fire. No injuries or casualties were reported. The extent of damage is yet to be assessed.

For a brief period, tension prevailed in the hospital premises. However, hospital officials confirmed that medical services were not significantly disrupted and operations have since returned to normal.

Bethuadahari State General Hospital is one of the key healthcare facilities in the region, catering to a large number of patients from surrounding areas.

ta today when he was accompanying BJP Bengal President Shri Samik Bhattacharya to the flood-affected areas. MLA Dr Shankar Ghosh's vehicle also came under attack in the presence of the Police. Mamata Banerjee, you can't intimidate BJP," the post read.

TMC leader Kunal Ghosh argued that the party has nothing to do with the attack on the BJP leaders.

"TMC has nothing to do with what happened in North Bengal. BJP needs to analyse why there is outrage against its MP. MLAs. Why is the public upset with them?" he said.

He further added, "We condemn it (the attack on BJP MP Khagen Murmu). West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee met Khagen Murmu and condemned the attack. Our state office in Agartala has been ransacked. The police were standing there, but they did nothing...A team from TMC is going there...Everyone knows who ransacked our state office...Come with us, we will show you what the BJP has done to the democracy there..."

"So, she has now pressed the panic button and has now unleashed her goons belonging to the 'Special Community' and incited them to attack the BJP MPs and MLAs so that they can be prevented from engaging in relief work. MP Shri Khagen Murmu was brutally attacked and has been left with bloody injuries in Nagraka-



Heavy rains have submerged large areas of Alipurduar, Jalpaiguri, and Cooch Behar districts in recent floods. In response, the Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT/AMURTEL) rushed to the affected regions to provide urgent assistance. The team is distributing cooked meals, dry rations, clothes, and tarpaulins to about 2,000 flood victims, including 200 tarpaulins specifically allocated for immediate relief. Medical camps have been set up to address epidemic and endemic diseases. The relief team, led by Abhijeet, Acharya Sarva-mayananda Avadhuta, Dr. Sunandita Bhoomik, and other volunteers, is actively coordinating rescue and support efforts. AMURT appeals to generous individuals to come forward and help the flood-affected population.

US Supreme Court looks for a new vision of unlimited Presidential power

From PG 1
theory of the past several decades. In 2017, Trump complained that the scope of his power as President was limited: "You know, the saddest thing is that because I'm the President of the United States, I am not supposed to be involved with the Justice Department. I am not supposed to be involved with the FBI, I'm not supposed to be doing the kind of things that I would love to be doing. And I'm very frustrated by it."

The unitary executive theory suggests that such limits wrongly curtail the powers of the chief executive. Formed by conservative legal theorists in the 1980s to help President Ronald Reagan roll back liberal policies, the unitary executive theory promises to radically expand Presidential power. There is no widely agreed upon definition of the theory. And even its proponents disagree about what it says and what it might justify. But in its most basic version, the unitary executive theory claims that whatever the federal government does that is executive in nature – from implementing and enforcing laws to managing most of what the federal government does – the President alone should personally control it. This means the President should have total control over the entire executive branch, with its dozens of major governmental institutions and millions of employees. Put simply, the theory says the President should be able to issue orders to subordinates and to fire them at will. The President could boss around the FBI or order the US Attorney General to investigate his political opponents, as Trump has done. The President could issue signing statements – a written pronouncement – that reinterpret or ignore parts of the laws, like George W Bush did in 2006 to circumvent a ban on torture. The President could control independent agencies such as the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The President might be able to force the Federal Reserve to change interest rates, as Trump has suggested.

UK PM seeks quick implementation of trade deal with India

From PG 1
the government has said that the projections were a floor, not a ceiling, to the ambition of the deal, and the visit with executives from the likes of oil major BP, engine maker Rolls-Royce, telecom firm BT, was aimed at maximising Britain's biggest post-Brexit trade deal. "It provides huge opportunities," Starmer told the delegates of the trade mission on arrival in Mumbai, adding he had asked his team to implement the deal as "quickly as humanly possible." "I think the opportunities are already opening up... Our job is to make it easier for you to seize the opportunities," Starmer will hold bilateral talks with Prime minister Modi in New Delhi on Thursday. Both sides have said they are looking to ratify the deal and bring it into effect within the next year. Growth is one of Starmer's key priorities as he tries to reverse his Labour party's slide in the polls, with a November fiscal budget expected to show a tricky fiscal picture. Shevaun Haviland, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce business group, said that Starmer should avoid taxing businesses again at the budget, but also drive growth through building ties with countries like India and the Gulf, where trade talks are ongoing. "We've got partners all over the world, and that should be our role," he told reporters, adding that Britain could seek free trade deals while also dealing with fallout from a global trade war and negotiating to lower U.S. tariffs, saying "I think that the government is big enough to do both."



People walk through a rain-soaked street, shielding themselves with umbrellas and plastic covers during a heavy downpour in Kolkata.

CM Mamata Criticises ECI's SIR Exercise Amid Natural Calamity and Festive Season

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday strongly criticised the Election Commission of India's (ECI) Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls, saying it is inappropriate to carry out the exercise while the state is facing natural calamities, heavy rains, and a festive month.

A team from the ECI, headed by Deputy Election Commissioner Gyanesh Bharti, arrived last night and on Wednesday began reviewing the preparedness for the SIR at the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) in Kolkata. Returning from landslide-affected areas in North Bengal, Banerjee told reporters at the airport, "When the state is facing natural calamities, heavy rains, and the festive season, how can people be expected to participate in the SIR in just 15 days?" After Bihar, the ECI began the exercise and directed completion of preparations by Octo-



ber 15. Criticising the move, Banerjee said that even BJP leaders had admitted that lakhs of names could be deleted from the electoral rolls. She asked, "What do they think? Does the Commission belong to the BJP? Was it set up to protect citizens' rights, or is it only for political gain?" Banerjee also sharply criticised the Centre, alleging that the ruling party

discriminates against Bengal. She cited the example of airfare during the Chhath festival in Bihar being reduced, while people leaving Siliguri due to disasters had to pay more than double. "For travel to Kolkata from Bagdogra Airport, one has to pay Rs 18,000 per passenger, and via New Delhi, the fare goes up to Rs 42,000," the Chief Minister pointed out. "The BJP always plays electoral politics, and under its governance, the country is heading for dark days," she warned. Banerjee added that everything is done under the directive of Home Minister Amit Shah, who she said acts like an "acting Prime Minister." "Sorry to say, the Prime Minister may be aware of this, but trusting Amit Shah too much could be disastrous. We can only request that the Prime Minister not always trust him, or else he could turn into a 'big Mir Jafar,' as the morning shows the day," Mamata Banerjee concluded.

Five-year-old girl drowns in Kestopur canal, another child critical

MI News Service, Kolkata: Tragedy struck New Town's Chandiberia area on Wednesday morning when two children accidentally fell into the Kestopur canal while playing by its banks. Despite the swift response from local residents, a five-year-old girl lost her life, while an eight-year-old boy remains in critical condition under medical care. The incident has left the neighbourhood in shock and grief. According to local sources, both children were residents of houses located along the canal. The girl, aged five, and the boy, around eight, were playing near the water when they accidentally slipped and fell into the canal. Initially, no one noticed the mishap. Moments later, residents spotted the two children floating in the water and raised an alarm. Hearing the commotion, the girl's mother rushed out of her house. By then, several local residents had jumped into the canal to rescue the children. They managed to pull the boy out first, but the girl could not be located immediately. Police arrived soon after being informed and deployed divers to assist in the search operation.

The children reportedly fell into the canal around 10 a.m. After nearly an hour and a half of frantic search, the girl was also recovered from the water. Both were unconscious when rescued and were immediately rushed to a nearby hospital. Doctors said a large amount of water had entered their lungs, leaving both children in a critical state. Despite efforts, the five-year-old girl succumbed to her injuries while undergoing treatment. The boy continues to fight for his life.

The victim's mother, sobbing uncontrollably, said, "Every morning they play near the canal with leaves. Today, too, they went out to play. When they didn't respond for a long time, I called out to them. Then I heard people shouting. When I ran out, I saw the crowd and asked if they had seen my children."

Guv objects to two names in Bengal VC appointments, SC keeps decision on hold

MI News Service, Kolkata: The ongoing tussle between the West Bengal government and Governor C.V. Ananda Bose resurfaced in the Supreme Court over the appointment of permanent Vice-Chancellors (VCs) in state universities. While the state had finalised names for eight universities, the Governor raised objections to two nominees, leading the apex court to keep their appointments on hold. For the past two years, several universities in West Bengal have been functioning under acting Vice-Chancellors. Following the Supreme Court's directive, the state government earlier this week announced permanent appointments in eight institutions. According to the list, Ashutosh Ghosh was named for the University of Calcutta, Professor Chiranjib Bhattacharya for Jadavpur University, Ashis Bhattacharya for GourBanga University, UdayBandyopadhyay for KaziNazrul Univer-

sity, Chandradeepa Ghosh for Sadhu Ramchand University, and Abu Taleb for Biswa Bangla University. However, Governor Bose objected to the appointments of Arnab Sen for Raiganj University and Om Prakash Mishra for the University of North Bengal. As a result, the Supreme Court has temporarily withheld their appointments while allowing the other six VCs to take charge. Sources indicated that the Governor's reservations about Om Prakash Mishra stem from allegations made during his earlier tenure as interim Vice-Chancellor of North Bengal University. At the time, complaints were raised over alleged irregularities in land transfers and salary-related issues for teachers and staff. Governor Bose had ordered an inquiry into these charges, though the current status of that investigation remains unclear.

ED conducts multi-city raids over 350 crore foreign exchange fraud linked to gemstone trade

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday carried out simultaneous raids in Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Ahmedabad in connection with a massive ₹350-crore foreign exchange fraud allegedly conducted under the guise of gemstone and planetary gem trading. The operation was launched to uncover the network behind the suspected money laundering racket and identify those involved in the illegal transfer of funds abroad.

According to sources, the investigation began about a month ago after complaints surfaced that a gemstone trading company had duped clients by charging exorbitant prices for low-value stones. What initially appeared to be a case of overpricing soon evolved into a full-fledged financial fraud involving large-scale foreign currency transactions and fund diversion. Acting on leads, ED officials on Wednesday morning conducted raids at four lo-

cations, including two in Kolkata. Teams searched an agent's residence at Salt Lake's CF Block and his office on Kiran Shankar Roy Road in central Kolkata. Several documents, financial records, and digital data were reportedly examined during the operation.

Simultaneously, ED teams also searched multiple premises in Hyderabad and Ahmedabad, where suspected associates and business partners of the prime accused are based. The searches aimed to trace the money trail and determine how funds were moved out of the country under the pretext of gemstone sales. ED officials suspect that the accused used fake invoices and manipulated import-export records to facilitate the illegal transfer of approximately ₹350 crore in foreign currency to overseas accounts. The money was allegedly routed through shell entities and hawala channels, camouflaged as legitimate business transactions.

IISER Kolkata students engineer 'friendly bacteria' to fight cancer

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a breakthrough that could reshape the future of cancer treatment, a team from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata has engineered a "friendly bacteria" capable of detecting and combating cancer inside the human body. The institute said the innovation not only holds promise for therapy but also includes a parallel system to monitor treatment progress in real time. According to a statement by IISER Kolkata, these twin innovations represent a major leap forward in the combined therapeutic and diagnostic approach to cancer. The project, titled ReSET (Reprogramming the Suppressive Environment of Tumour Microenvironment), seeks to overcome one of the toughest challenges in modern oncology: "Cancer often hides behind specialised immune cells called T



regulatory cells (Tregs), which weaken the body's natural defences. This allows tumours to resist conventional treatments such as immunotherapy and chemotherapy," the statement explained.

To counter this, the IISER team is genetically reprogramming probiotic bacteria to detect tumours and disrupt the suppressive mechanisms of Tregs, thereby reactivating the im-

mune system. Essentially, they are transforming beneficial microbes into living, targeted medicines that can operate safely within the patient's body to make cancer therapy more effective and less toxic. Beyond the laboratory, the students have focused on human-centric design by interacting with oncologists, surgeons, cancer survivors, and NGOs. They have also conducted awareness

drives in schools, organised cancer education programmes, and collaborated with hair donors and patient support groups to ensure the therapy remains scientifically sound, ethically responsible, and socially meaningful.

The team stressed that their work is not merely an academic project but a proof of concept demonstrating India's potential for global scientific leadership. "By targeting the Tregs pathway with engineered bacteria, we aim to develop a new class of cancer therapeutics that could revolutionise the way cancer is treated," the students stated. Comprising 11 undergraduate researchers, the IISER Kolkata team will represent India at the prestigious International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) Grand Jamboree 2025 — the world's largest synthetic biology competition — to be held in Paris this October.

CM Mamata Pledges Aid to Flood Victims, Slams Airlines Over Soaring Fares

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said the rescue operation was over and the restoration works for the damaged infrastructure in north Bengal began on a war footing. Banerjee told reporters here after spending three days in north Bengal, she met 21 families, whose relatives killed in rains and landslides on Sunday, paid compensation as announced of Rs 5 lakh each, the government also dispatched 400 kits, containing essential foods and other logistics. She said bodies of two families from Nepal and Bhutan were yet to be identified if their survivors come here and arrangements to be made for sending the bodies. She said the government had arranged the sending of 1000 stranded tourists in Volvo buses and the remaining travelling staying on their own. Kits are also being sent to Nagrakata, Siliguri, Maynaguri, and Alipurduar. She returned to

Kolkata on Wednesday after an on-ground assessment of flood and landslide-affected areas across North Bengal. Soon after her return, the Chief Minister sharply criticised the steep airfares from Bagdogra to Kolkata — reportedly ranging between ₹25,000 and ₹28,000 — calling it "shameful profiteering during a disaster." "Airlines are exploiting people during this crisis. Many are stranded and desperate to return home, yet fares have skyrocketed," Mamata said, urging the Centre to intervene. She added that the state government had dispatched around 400 truckloads of relief materials and arranged Volvo and NBSTC buses to bring back stranded tourists. "Work to clear landslides is still underway, and alternative routes have been opened to restore connectivity," she said, adding that she personally met 21 affected families in Mirik, where a new concrete bridge is being constructed.

Three more arrested in Baranagar jeweller murder and robbery case

MI News Service, Kolkata: Police have arrested three more persons in connection with the brutal robbery and murder of a jeweller at Baranagar in North 24-Parganas. Among those arrested is a gold trader who allegedly bought the looted ornaments, while the other two are accused of directly participating in the killing of 60-year-old businessman Shankar Jana.

According to police, the arrested gold receiver, identified as PachuSamanta, was produced before the Barrackpore court on Tuesday and remanded in three days' police custody. The other two accused were arrested from Jamshedpur in Jharkhand and are being brought to Kolkata for court proceedings. Investigators revealed that before the robbery, prime accused Sanjay Maity had already struck a deal with Pachu to sell the stolen gold from the Baranagar jewellery shop. Acting on a premeditated plan, the robbers delivered most of the 15 kg of gold to Pachu soon after the heist. It is learnt that Sanjay did not accept the entire payment at once; Pachu allegedly handed over only a portion of the agreed amount at the time of delivery. Meanwhile, the two men arrested in Jamshedpur are believed to have bludgeoned Shankar Jana to death using an iron rod during the robbery.

Indian youth went to Russia for studies, captured by Ukrainian forces

From PG 1
sources said. According to a statement released by 63rd Mechanized Brigade of the Ukrainian Army, Majoti Sahil Mohamed Hussein, a student from Gujarat's Morbi, had gone to Russia to study at a university there. The Ukrainian Army released a purported video clip of Hussein in which he says he was sentenced to seven years in a Russian prison on drug-related charges. Speaking in Russian, he says he was offered the opportunity to sign a contract with the Russian military to avoid further punishment. "I didn't want to stay in prison, so I signed a contract for the special military operation (Russia's term for its invasion of Ukraine). But I wanted to get out of there," he says. According to the video, on October 1, after 16 days of training, Hussein was sent on his first combat mis-

sion, where he spent three days. After a conflict with his commander, he surrendered to Ukrainian troops of the 63rd Mechanized Brigade, he says. "I came across a Ukrainian trench position about 2-3 kilometres away," he says. "I immediately put down my rifle and said that I didn't want to fight. I needed help... I don't want to go back to Russia. There is no truth there, nothing. I'd rather go to prison here (in Ukraine)," he says.

Hussein also claims that although he was promised financial compensation for joining the Russian Army, but he never received it. Earlier, there have been reports of nationals from third-party countries, including India, being lured to Russia with promises of lucrative jobs or other opportunities, only to be forced into enlisting in the Army there.

TMC accuses BJP of resorting to state-sponsored terrorism in Tripura

From PG 1
further compared incidents in Bengal and Tripura, stating that when Trinamool Congress leaders were attacked in Tripura, they "had to bring them to Bengal for treatment". "That is the BJP's idea of democracy," she said and claimed that the police had refused to register FIRs and local hospitals denied treatment to injured workers. Panja also alleged a "vindictive" approach by the BJP, saying, "They have stopped 100 days' work and Awas Yojana funds in Bengal, while in Tripura, MNREGA funds were misappropriated without consequence." She also criticised the reinstatement of Biplab Deb in Bengal after his removal as Tripura Chief Minister. The vandalism of the TMC office happened in Banamalipur in Agartala, the home constituency of Deb.

Meanwhile, Trinamool Congress National General Secretary has sent a six-member delegation to Tripura to meet party workers and assess the situation there first hand. However, on their arrival in Agartala, the delegation members were prevented from leaving the airport premises on their own. After nearly an hour and despite severe protests from the delegation members including from senior TMC leader Kunal Ghosh and Sushmita Dev, the police finally arranged their own vehicles and escorted the delegation to TMC party office at Banamalipur, about 10 km away, in a convoy. Later the delegation members addressed a press conference there and narrated their harrowing experience since their arrival in Tripura this afternoon.

Andhra Pradesh: Fire erupts at firecracker factory in East Godavari, 6 killed

MI News Service, Amaravati: A massive fire broke out at the Lakshmi Ganapathi Fireworks unit in Komaripalem village of Andhra Pradesh's Ambedkar Konaseema district, killing six and injuring four people on Wednesday afternoon.

According to the Rayavaram police station, a fire broke out while workers were engaged in fireworks manufacturing work. The witnesses from nearby villages were horrified by the devastating scene, as many workers were inside the unit at the time of the accident and could not escape as the flames spread rapidly.

However, police officials, revenue authorities, and senior officers from the fire department quickly arrived at the scene to assess the situation. Later, the injured individuals were taken to the Rajamahendravaram Government Hospital for more comprehensive medical treatment, and authorities are currently working to identify the victims.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister

N. Chandrababu Naidu spoke to officials about the fire at the fireworks manufacturing unit in Rayavaram. In a post on X, Naidu expressed deep sorrow over the loss of life and requested detailed information from officials regarding the cause of the accident, the current situation and relief measures.

"A fire accident at the Bana Sancha manufacturing centre in Rayavaram, Konaseema district, has caused a stir. The loss of several lives in this tragic accident has caused immense grief. I spoke with officials about the causes of the accident, the current situation, relief measures, and medical assistance," wrote Naidu.

Additionally, he also requested the senior officials visit the incident site and participate in the relief efforts. "I have instructed senior officials to visit the incident site personally and participate in relief efforts. I have advised that better medical aid be provided to the injured. We stand with the affected families," added Naidu.

East Coast Railway Posts 11.33% Significant Growth in Freight Loading in H1 of FY 2025-26

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: East Coast Railway (ECoR) has registered an impressive performance in freight and passenger transportation during the first half (April-September) of the current financial year 2025-26, achieving significant growth over the corresponding period of the previous year.

During April-September 2025, ECoR loaded 137.6 million tonnes of freight, as against 123.6 million tonnes during the same period last year — marking a growth of 11.33%.

Freight operations also contributed to substantial revenue growth. ECoR earned ₹14,162.58 crore from freight traffic, up from ₹12,808.30 crore during the same period last year — a 10.57% increase. The Zone's gross revenue stood at ₹15,571.08 crore, compared to ₹14,227.18 crore last year, reflecting a 9.43% rise.

In the passenger segment,



ECoR carried 48.21 million passengers during April-September 2025, compared to 45.56 million passengers in the same period of the previous fiscal — an increase of 5.81%.

This sustained growth across freight and passenger sectors is the result of efficient planning, enhanced operational management, and proactive coordination with freight customers across key industries such as coal, iron ore, cement, and fertilizers.

East Coast Railway continues to play a vital role in strengthening India's logistics and supply chain network, contributing significantly to the nation's economic growth and mobility.

"Govt will ensure full support for affected families": MLA Nallamilli Ramakrishna on Konaseema fire tragedy

MI News Service, Ambedkar Konaseema: The Andhra Pradesh government will ensure full support to the families who were affected by the massive fire at a firecracker factory in Konaseema district, said Anaparthi MLA Nallamilli Ramakrishna Reddy on Wednesday.

Reddy, who visited the incident spot, told reporters that the discussions with the government are underway to provide ex gratia to the next of kin of each deceased.

He said, "An unfortunate incident occurred today at Kommaripalem village in Rayavaram mandal, Konaseema district. The business has been operating in compliance with government guidelines for the past 75 years. We have taken up this issue with the government, and discussions are underway to provide ex-gratia to the families of the deceased. The official announcement will be made soon."

EASTERN RAILWAY

CANCELLATION OF TENDER

Cancellation of Tender No. ELS-HWH-10-537-EMU (Open Tender), dated 07.10.2025 published earlier by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/EMU/ Howrah, Eastern Railway, 1st Floor, DRM Building, Howrah which is scheduled to closing on 11.10.2025, 12.00 hrs. is hereby cancelled due to technical ground.

(HWH-334/2025-26)

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

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EASTERN RAILWAY

CANCELLATION OF TENDER

Cancellation of Tender No. ELS-HWH-10-548-EMU-RT-1 (Open Tender), dated 07.10.2025 published earlier by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/EMU/ Howrah, Eastern Railway, 1st Floor, DRM Building, Howrah which is scheduled to closing on 27.10.2025, 12.00 hrs. is hereby cancelled due to technical ground.

(HWH-332/2025-26)

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

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EASTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE INVITING E-AUCTION

Awarding contract for operation of Parking Lot over Howrah Division

E-Auction is invited by Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, 4th Floor, Rail Yatri Niwas Building, near Howrah Station, Pin-711101 for **Operation of parking lot at various stations over Howrah Division for a period of 03 years.** For more details and participation in E-Auction kindly visit the website www.reps.gov.in through E-Auction Leasing Module. **Catalogue No.: PARK-HWH-OCT-7. Auction Start Date/Time: 21.10.2025 at 14.00 hrs. Sri. No. & Lot No.;** **Name of the station :** (1) PARKING-HWH-SIU-TW-163-25-1 (Parking - Two Wheeler); SINGUR. (2) PARKING-HWH-JOX-TW-288-25-1(Parking - Two Wheeler); JANAI ROAD. (3) PARKING-HWH-BHR-TW-70-25-1 (Parking - Two Wheeler); BHADRESHWAR. (4) PARKING-HWH-AGAE-TW-86-23-1 (Parking - Two Wheeler); AGRADWIP. (5) PARKING-HWH-BZLE-TW-36-25-2 (Parking - Two Wheeler); BAZARSAU. (6) PARKING-HWH-ADST-TW-266-25-1 (Parking - Two Wheeler); ADISAPTAGRAM. (7) PARKING-HWH-SIU-TW-157-25-1 (Parking - Two Wheeler); SINGUR. (HWH-331/2025-26)

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

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR “ONE STATION – ONE PRODUCT SCHEME” OVER ADRA DIVISION

"Expression of Interest" is invited by Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Adra on behalf of the President of India in sealed covers from reputed Artisan/Weaver/Craftsmen/Self Help Group/ Weaker sections of Society for the temporary allotment of OSOP- Stall/Trolleys for the following work : **Description of Work :** Operation of 'One Station – One Product' Scheme at **Bishnupur – Platform-2 & 3 (Stall), Garbeta, Chandrakona Road, Indrabili, Jhantipahari, Ramkanali Jn. & Anara (Trolley)** stations over Adra Division (01 Stall & 06 Trolleys). **Place of Work :** Station applied for. **Period of contract:** 15 days in one spell (rosterwise & prioritywise). **Last Date of submission of filled in applications with documents is 13.10.2025 upto 13.00 hrs.** in the drop box kept in the respective **Station Manager's office.** The said **box will be opened on 13.10.2025 at 15.00 hrs.** EOI form can be downloaded from S.E.Railway's website www.ser.indianrailways.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Adra (PR-700)

South Eastern Railway
We serve with a smile

Public demand cancellation of MLA Rekha Devi's ticket from Masaurhi from RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav

MI News Service, Patna: Hundreds of RJD workers and supporters from Masaurhi staged a protest at Patna Airport on Tuesday, when Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Legislative Assembly Tejashwi Yadav returned to Patna Airport after his visit to Bhagalpur raising slogans against their own party MLA Rekha Devi and demanding that her ticket be revoked for the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections.

At the Patna Airport, when Tejashwi Yadav arrived after his visit to Bhagalpur, hundreds of people from Masaurhi gathered there. They raised slogans against the sitting RJD MLA Rekha Devi alias Rekha Pas-

wan and shouted, "Masaurhi ko bachana hai, Rekha ko hatana hai" (To save Masaurhi, remove Rekha).

The supporters demanded that Rekha Devi's ticket for the Masaurhi Assembly seat be withdrawn and that another candidate be given a ticket from the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD).

Several party workers and supporters reached Patna Airport to convey their demands directly to Tejashwi Yadav and protested against their own party MLA.

Earlier, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav condemned the recent attempt to throw a shoe at Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai, and said that the incident is the "evil con-

sequence" of normalising hate and violence in the country since 2014.

"A shoe was thrown at the Chief Justice himself in the Supreme Court. This is a shameful incident in our democratic and judicial history. When the person holding the country's highest judicial position has to face such humiliation right in the court, it is a matter of serious concern", Yadav said on Monday in a self-made video posted on X.

"The way hatred and violence have been normalised in the country through various means under state patronage since 2014, this is its evil consequence," Yadav stressed.

Calling it an attack on the Constitution and its architect,

BR Ambedkar, the RJD leader said, "This shoe was not thrown at the country's Chief Justice but at the Constitution and its architect, our revered Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Hiding behind the guise of religion, some people are spewing their venom."

Training his guns at the BJP, he questioned the party's "silence" on the issue, and called for protecting the judiciary, which is the "backbone of our democracy".

"Why are the Constitution-hating and Dalit-opposing BJP members silent on this incident? The dignity of the judiciary is the backbone of our democracy—it is the responsibility of all of us to protect it," he said in his X post hindi.

"Thank you for your faith in us": Zoho co-founder Sridhar Vembu expresses gratitude to Amit Shah for choosing Zoho Mail

MI News Service, Chennai : Zoho co-founder Sridhar Vembu expressed gratitude to Union Home Minister Amit Shah after he switched to the new email service provider Zoho Mail for his correspondence.

He dedicated this to the hard-working engineers of the company who toiled hard in Zoho over the years and chose to stay in India.

In a post on X, Vembu wrote, "Thank you Sir, for your faith in us. I dedicate this moment to our hard working engineers who have toiled hard in Zoho for over 20 years. They all stayed in India and worked all these years because they believed. Their faith is vindicated. Jai Hind, Jai Bharat."

Earlier today, Union Home Minister Amit Shah informed

that he has transitioned to a new email service provider, Zoho Mail, for his correspondence.

In a message shared on X, Shah requested that all future communication be directed to his new address, amitshah.bjp@zohomail.in.

"Hello everyone. I have switched to Zoho Mail. Kindly note the change in my email address. My new email address is amitshah.bjp@zohomail.in. For future correspondence via mail, kindly use this address. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter," Shah posted on X.

Zoho Mail is a secure and ad-free email hosting service developed by Zoho Corporation, an Indian multinational technology company headquartered in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Launched in 2008,

Zoho Mail is part of the larger Zoho Workplace suite, which includes tools for office productivity, collaboration, and communication.

Known for its strong privacy standards and data protection policies, Zoho Mail provides encrypted email transmission, two-factor authentication, and servers primarily hosted in India and the United States. It is widely used by businesses, professionals, and government organisations seeking a privacy-focused alternative to global email providers.

Zoho Mail is gaining popularity as an alternative to Gmail as users seek a privacy-focused and free email experience. The email service from Zoho is gaining popularity among professionals and small business owners

because of its custom domain support, ad-free interface and enhanced privacy features. Zoho Mail is an ideal choice for users who want more control over their inbox and prefer a productivity-focused approach.

JAGADISHPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT
Jagadishpurhat, Howrah

E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE

Electronic Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafied and resourceful bidders for different development works vide **Tender Reference no.:- i) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26, ii) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26, iii)WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26, iv) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26, v)WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26 vi) WB/ HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/6/2025-26 vii)WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-149/NIT-27/10/2025-26, viii) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/8/2025-26, ix) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/9/2025-26, x) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/10/2025-26,xi)WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/11/2025-26, xii) WB/HOW/B/PS/JGP-197/NIT-27/12/2025-26, Dated-26.09.25. Fund: APAS. Bid submission start date: 26.09.25, at 09.00 AM. Last date of Bid submission: 18.10.2025 upto 10.00 AM. Date of opening: 20.10.2025 at 10.00 AM. Details are available in <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> & <https://etender.wb.nic.in> and Office Notice Board.**

Sd/-
Pradhan
Jagadishpur Gram Panchayat

Office of the Concillors of Haringhata Municipality
Subarnapur, Haringhata, Nadia.

Notice Inviting e-Tender

Chairman, Haringhata Municipality invites **e-Tender No.-WB/MAD/ULB/HM/NIT-15e/2025-26, Memo. No.-1927/HM/2025 Dated: 08/10/2025 Tender Id: 2025 MAD_917387_1, Date of Publishing-08/10/2025, Bid Submission Closing Date-21/10/2025, For details please visit- www.wbtdenders.gov.in**

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN
HARINGHATA MUNICIPALITY

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR LOST/ MISPLACED DOCUMENT

I, Col Probir Kumar Sur (Retd), son of late Prabhat Kumar Sur, residing at Flat A1, Hastings Court, 96 Garden Reach Road, Kolkata 700023 have lost/ misplaced Original deed being no. 00263 of 2004 registered at ARA-1, Kolkata in receipt of Flat number Flat A1, Hastings Court, 96 Garden Reach Road, Kolkata 700023 in name of my deceased wife Dr Dipti Sur from my residence on 26.09.2025 at about 10 AM. If anyone finds the above mentioned Original deed kindly contact me on the mobile number 9073391227 within 15 days of this notice.

BEGRI GRAM PANCHAYAT BEGRI, PS.-DOMJUR, DIST.-HOWRAH

E- TENDER INVITING NOTICE

Electronic tenders are hereby invited by the Pradhan, Begri Gram Panchayat, Domjur, Howrah for the following works under AMAPAR PARA AMDER SAMADHAN (APAS) Schemes given below for the bonafied experienced contractors having 60% credential.

NIT NO.423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 435, 436, 437, 438, / BGP/Enit-41 To 56/2025 DATE-24/09/2025. Documents download start date (online)- 08.10.2025 10 AM, Bid Submission Last date (online)- 25.10.2025 4 PM For further details see wbtenders.gov.in & the notice board of Begri Gram Panchayat.

Sd/-Pradhan
Begri Gram Panchayat

पीएम श्री केंद्रीय विद्यालय कांकिनाड़ा
PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA KANKINARA

वॉक-इन इंटरव्यू WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

पीएम श्री केंद्रीय विद्यालय कांकिनाड़ा में सत्र 2025-26 के लिए मूर्त रूप से सिविदा आधार पर निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए अंशकालिक शिक्षकों का पैनल तैयार करने हेतु चल साक्षात्कार का आयोजन विद्यालय परिसर में दिनांक 16 अक्टूबर 2025 को होगा। इच्छुक एवं योग्य अभ्यर्थी आवेदन कर सकते हैं।

A walk-in-Interview for preparing a panel for engagement of teachers on purely part time contractual basic for the session 2025-26 is scheduled to be conducted in the Vidyalaya premises on 16th October 2025 as under:-

क्र. सं	पद	योग्यता
1	ए.टी.एल./व्यवसायिक प्रशिक्षक (A.T.L./VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTOR)	- B.E., B. Tech, Electronic & Communication Engineering - Minimum one year experience in the relevant field.
2	नर्स (NURSE)	Diploma or equivalent in Nursing.

टिप्पणी / NOTE

साक्षात्कार की तिथि/ Date of Interview– 16/10/2025

पंजीकरण का समय / Time of registration–8:30 am to 10:00 am

बायो डाटा फॉर्म के लिए विद्यालय वेबसाइट देखें। Visit the school website for the Bio-data form.(School website - <https://kankinara.kvs.ac.in>)

मूल प्रमाण-पत्र, उनकी फोटोकॉपी तथा भरा हुआ बायो डाटा फॉर्म साथ लाएँ। Bring the original certificates, their photocopies and the filled-in Bio-data form.

प्रचार्य

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Ground Floor Park Plaza Building, Tagore Hill Road, Morabadi, Ranchi Jharkhand-834008.

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
(See proviso to Rule 8(i))
Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of the Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mrs. Susmita Roy (Borrower) Sandipan Roy (Co-Borrower) LBRNI000505031490	Flat No. 01., On The Third Floor, Block-A, At Songauri Dhanesh Residency, Ward No. 02, Holding No. 002000467500020, of Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Mouza- Bhitia, P.S.- Banatu, Thana No. 187, District- Ranchi. Admeasuring an area of Carpet area 720 Sq. Ft Along With Proportionate Undivided Share In The Land Measuring 370.1 Sq. Ft Along With One Car Parking Space On The Lower Ground Floor.	Rs. 41,27,801/-	Rs. 24,50,000/-	October 22, 2025 From 11:00 A.M. to 01:00 P.M	October 30, 2025 From 10:30 A.M. onwards.

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link- <https://disposalhub.com/>) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by October 29, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule. The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Ltd, Ground Floor Park Plaza Building, Tagore Hill Road, Morabadi, Ranchi Jharkhand-834008 on or before October 29, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before October 29, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Ltd, Ground Floor Park Plaza Building, Tagore Hill Road, Morabadi, Ranchi Jharkhand-834008 on or before October 29, 2025 before 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Ranchi.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9324948920.

Please contact Marketing Agency 1. Value Trust Capital Services Private Limited, have also been engaged for factoring the sale of this property.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4945

Date: 08 October 09, 2025
Place: Howrah

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Delhi HC seeks response from Centre on PIL seeking interpretation of rape against trans gender

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday sought a response from the Central Government on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking interpretation and inclusion of rape against transgender women and children under BNS.

Division bench headed by Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyay, alongwith Justice Tushar Rao Gedela, sought the response of the Central Government and others and listed the matter for hearing on December 24.

The High Court initially opined that, "it is a matter of policy. The High Court doesn't have much scope for interference".

The High Court has also appointed senior advocate N Hariharan as amicus curiae to assist the court.

This PIL has been moved by Chandresh Jain. He has sought a direction directing that the provisions of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and related criminal laws be interpreted in a gender-inclusive and identity-affirming manner.

The petitioner has also directed that the provisions of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and related criminal laws be interpreted in a gender-inclusive and identity-affirming manner.

The petitioner has also directed that the word "woman" include trans women so that they may be recognised as victims of rape under these provisions in accordance with their self-identified gender.

He also sought a direction to interpret Section 63 to include trans men, non-binary

persons, and intersex individuals who are anatomically capable of vaginal penetration, ensuring their equal protection under the law, and access to FIR registration, victim-sensitive investigation, and fair trial processes.

The PIL has also sought a direction on the section connected with the Adult offences under Sections 74 to 79 of BNS.

Interpret these provisions, which are currently limited to "women", to extend their protection to all adult transgender and gender-diverse persons, including trans women, trans men, intersex adults, and non-binary adults, by recognising them as victims of sexual harassment, stalking, voyeurism, and other gender- based offences and child-specific offences.

"Nitish Kumar will lead NDA govt again in Bihar": Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh

MI News Service, Patna: As Bihar gears up for the Assembly elections in 2025, the political heat is rising. Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan) Singh on Wednesday said the NDA is poised to return to power under the leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Speaking to reporters, Ranjan said, "It is very good that the election dates have been announced. We were waiting for this. On 14 November, the NDA government will be formed again in Bihar under the leadership of Nitish Kumar."

The 243 Assembly seats will go to the polls in two phases on November 6 and November 11, with counting of votes to be held on November 14.

Taking a dig at Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav, Singh likened his repeated claims of becoming Chief Minister to Mungrali ke sapne (Mungrali's dreams).

"Everyone has the right to dream, but the people of Bihar have already seen the rule of his parents and the 15 years that followed. They will not be misled again," he added.

Earlier today, Chhattisgarh BJP MLA Bhavna Bohra stated that the people of the state will "create history" on November 14, as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is

expected to form a government in Bihar once again.

"People of Bihar are going to create history on 14th November. The NDA Government in Bihar has consistently done good work. Whether it's about women's safety, youth, or the Kisan Samman Nidhi, history will definitely be made. Once again, an NDA

Government will be formed in Bihar on 14th November", Bohra told ANI.

On Monday, the Election Commission announced the schedule for the Bihar Assembly elections. The 243 Assembly seats will go to the polls in two phases on November 6 and November 11, with counting of votes to be held on November 14.

Office of the Municipal Councillors
Serampore Municipality
1, N. S. Avenue, Serampore, Dist.: Hooghly, Pin: 712201

Notice Inviting e-NIQ

e-Quotation is invited from experienced and resourceful bidders vide **NIT No.-WB/MAD/ULB/SRMP/NIQ-05/2025-26 (2nd Call), Date:08/10/2025.** Name of work- Engaging of Labour for the purpose of Door to Door waste collection under Solid Waste Management Activities (Ward No. 1-29) one year Contract. Bid Submission Start Date (online): 08/10/2025 at 02.00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 31/10/2025 at 02.00 PM. Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposals (online): 03/11/2025 at 11.00 AM. For details of the project go through <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> and www.seramporemunicipality.net/tenders Sd/-
Chairman
Serampore Municipality

Office of the Municipal Councillors
Serampore Municipality
1, N. S. Avenue, Serampore, Dist.: Hooghly, Pin: 712201

Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-Tender is invited from experienced and resourceful bidders vide **NIT No.- WB/MAD/ULB/SRMP/NIT-26/2025-26, Date: 08/10/2025.** Name of Work- Construction of Mezzanine Floor Above Tax and General Department. Bid Submission Start Date (online): 08/10/2025 at 14.00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date (online): 22/10/2025 at 14.00 PM. Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposals (online): 24/10/2025 at 14.00 PM. For details of the project go through <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> and www.seramporemunicipality.net/tenders Sd/-
Chairman
Serampore Municipality

Regulation of Sealdah-Ballia-Sealdah Express for Traffic & Power Block over North Eastern Railway

For launching of girder at Ballia station, **3 hours Traffic & Power Block** will be necessary from **04.00 hrs. to 07.00 hrs. on 09.10.2025 (Thursday), 10.10.2025 (Friday), 12.10.2025 (Sunday) and from 04.15 hrs. to 07.15 hrs. on 13.10.2025 (Monday).** Consequently, **13105 Sealdah-Ballia Express (JCO 08.10.2025)** will be controlled enroute & **13105 Sealdah-Ballia Express (JCO 09.10.2025, 11.10.2025 & 12.10.2025)** will be **rescheduled by 90 minutes** from Sealdah and **13106 Ballia-Sealdah Express (JCO 09.10.2025, 12.10.2025 & 13.10.2025)** will be **rescheduled by 85 minutes** from Ballia. Inconvenience is regretted.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager

EASTERN RAILWAY

আমমোজোরনামা

আমার মন্ডেল শ্রী সন্নীর কৃষ্ণ সরকার পিতা- শ্রী পরিমল চন্দ্র সরকার এবং শ্রী বাবুল চন্দ্র দেব পিতা জিতেন চন্দ্র দেব মহাশয় ইং- 28/06/2010 তারিখে কনক নং-IV CD অনু- নং-2 পাতা-3511 ইহতে 3520 বিধি নং 01047 নং আমমোজোরনামা দলিল মূলে শ্রী মুনশের পণ্ডিত পিতা- বালি পণ্ডিত নিকট ইহতে হাওড়া জেলার অন্তর্গত দিল্লীয়া থানার অধীন চকপাড়া মৌজার জে.এল. নং1111 সাবেক 1047 নং খতিয়ানভুক্ত সাবেক 1259 নং দাগের 10 কাঠা শালি জমি বিক্রয় করিবার জন্য ক্ষমতাপ্রাপ্ত হইয়াছে। উক্ত বিষয় কাকো কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে বি.এল আড এল.আর.ও বালি-জগদীশ অফিসে যোগাযোগ করিবেন।

Jaishankar meets Vice President Radhakrishnan, discusses foreign policy priorities

MI News Service, Delhi : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday called on Vice President CP Radhakrishnan and held discussions on India's foreign policy, focusing on both opportunities and challenges shaping the country's global engagement.

Sharing details of the meeting on X, Jaishankar said he was "honoured" to meet the Vice President and discuss key aspects of India's external relations. "Discussed the opportunities and challenges in our foreign policy. Look forward to his guidance and leadership as we take national development forward," the minister posted.

The meeting takes place at a time when India is continuing to expand its global footprint through strategic partnerships, economic



diplomacy, and participation in multilateral forums. It also reflects the government's broader efforts to align foreign policy goals with domestic growth and development priorities. Earlier on Tuesday, Jaishankar also underlined the important role

India plays in the global Artificial Intelligence landscape, noting that several countries, especially those from the Global South, look up to it for inspiration. He made the remarks while speaking at the Trust and Safety India Festival 2025. As a pre-summit for

the February 2026 AI Impact Summit, it kicks off conversations of interest for India and the world.

"India bears a special responsibility because many other nations - especially those of the Global South - they look to us for inspiration, and certainly in the case of the digital public infrastructure."

Highlighting the achievements of India in the last decade when one looks at the scale of delivery, improvement in governance, efficiencies with which public is served, the EAM noted that this is resonating across the world.

"As a Foreign Minister, when I go abroad, this is often the topic of conversation, and I can see very much, this being extrapolated into the world of AI as well", he said.

Pak : Traders condemn the government's failure to tackle escalating extortion in Karachi

MI News Service, Karachi : The business community in Karachi has raised the alarm over an unprecedented rise in extortion cases, blaming the provincial government and law enforcement agencies for their inability to protect traders and industrialists, as reported by Dawn.

According to Dawn, in separate statements, the Korangi Association of Trade and Industry (KATI) and the All City Traders Ittehad Association expressed grave concern about the worsening security situation, calling for urgent and effective measures to restore order. The KATI President, Mohammad Ikram Rajput, said that Karachi's industrial landscape is being crippled by fear, uncertainty, and the government's consistent negligence.

Rajput explained that extortion threats have become a daily reality for traders, with many receiving bullets along with intimidation notes. He said such incidents have created a pervasive environment of terror, leaving many victims too scared to approach the police. "This has become a red alert for Karachi's entire business ecosystem," he stated. "An economy cannot function where fear dictates business operations."

The KATI president revealed that 96 cases of extortion have been registered this year, with the highest concentration in 37 cases in district Central, followed by 20 in district West, 15 in East, 12 in City, 5 in Malir and 3 in Korangi. Despite security operations leading to 33 arrests and four killings in police encounters, industrial zones, especially Korangi, remain under a constant threat. Rajput accused organised criminal groups of running extensive extortion networks, allegedly transferring illicit funds abroad, which adds a layer of financial crime to the crisis. He urged the Sindh governor, chief minister, Rangers DG, and police IG to immediately coordinate a joint plan to eradicate these networks and safeguard Karachi's economy, as highlighted by Dawn. Meanwhile, Sharjeel Gopani, patron-in-chief of the All City Traders Ittehad Association, stated that extortion in Karachi "never truly stopped" and continues "in new, more sophisticated forms." He blamed systemic corruption, weak policing, and political interference for the ongoing crisis.

Record CAPEX utilisation by IR

56.5% CAPEX utilised till September 2025 in FY 2025-26

► Overall Capex Utilization by IR:

□ Total Budgetary Grants : ₹2,52,200 Cr

□ Total utilized till September 2025 in FY2025-26: ₹142,487 Cr i.e. 56.5% utilisation

► Highest ever CAPEX utilization till date Break-up of 56.5% Key sectors

► Safety Works:

□ Includes KAVACH related works, track renewals, Road Over Bridges, bridges and Level crossings

□ Budget: ₹39,456 crores; Utilization: ₹22,286 crores (56%)



► Capacity Augmentation:

□ Includes New lines, doubling, gauge conversion, electrification, metropolitan transport

□ Budget: ₹1,09,986 crores; Utilization: ₹49,001 Cr (45%)

► Customer Amenities:

□ Budget: ₹12,004 crores; Utilization: ₹5,863 crores (49%)

► Rolling Stock: □ Budget: ₹56,693 crores; Utilization: ₹25,948 crores (46%)

SWACHHATA PAKHWADA CAMPAIGN & SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 5.0 OBSERVED ACROSS SEALDAH DIVISION

MI News Service, Kolkata : As part of the Swachhata Pakhwada Campaign 2025, launched nationwide, the Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway has witnessed enthusiastic participation from railway officials, staff, volunteers, and passengers alike. The campaign, which is being observed from October 1 to October 31, 2025, aims to promote cleanliness, hygiene, and environmental sustainability across railway premises.

On October 8, 2025, the Environment & Housekeeping Management (E&HM) Department of Sealdah Division organized a series of activities under the theme "Swachh Parisar" (Clean Workplace & Clean Residential Premises) and Special Campaign 5.0 across Sealdah division. The focus was on maintaining cleanliness in workplaces, residential areas, and passenger amenities.

As part of the drive, intensive cleaning activities were conducted in railway colonies, residential premises, retiring rooms, waiting halls, rest houses, and dormitories. Tree plantation and landscaping were also undertaken to enhance the aesthetic appeal of the surroundings. To promote waste segregation, provision of dry and wet dustbins was made available at various locations.

Special cleaning drives were carried out at major railway colonies and Running Rooms of Krishnapur, Naihati, and



Shantipur stations, as well as at the composting plant at Sealdah. Similar initiatives, including tree plantations, were undertaken at Kolkata, Naihati, and Ranaghat stations.

In addition, an "Amrit Samvad" (interactive session) was held with passengers and railway users on October 8, 2025, at Kolkata, Barasat, Naihati, and Berhampore Court stations, led by senior railway officials. The sessions aimed to raise awareness among passengers about the importance of cleanliness and environmental protection.

The ongoing Swachhata Pakhwada Campaign 2025 and Special Campaign 5.0 underlines the Sealdah Division's commitment to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable railway environment, showcasing the collective effort of its Environment & Housekeeping Management Department in collaboration with other departments to create a lasting impact on cleanliness and sustainability.

ASANSOL DIVISION HOLDS AMRIT SAMVAAD AT SITARAMPUR STATION UNDER SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 5.0

MI News Service, Kolkata : Asansol Division of Eastern Railway organised Amrit Samvaad at Sitarampur railway station, an Amrit Bharat Station, on 08 October 2025 as part of Special Campaign 5.0. Inspired by the concept of Rail Chau-pal, the initiative aims to establish direct interaction between railway authorities and citizens in line with the vision of Amrit Kaal and the principles of Panch Pran articulated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The programme was conducted by officers and staff of the Environment & Housekeeping Management, Gati Shakti and Com-

mercial Departments. Discussion and feedback with users/passengers was centered on assessing the improvements already made under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, ongoing initiatives, identifying further areas for improvement to enhance passenger experience, encouraging public participation in the development, and making passengers aware of their sense of duty.

Passengers and local residents participated in the dialogue, sharing feedback on the improvement works and acknowledging the progress. Officials urged passengers to adopt

civic sense, cooperate in maintaining cleanliness, refrain from spitting, and use dustbins for disposal of garbage and wrappers. Officials emphasized that cleanliness is a shared responsibility and a moral duty towards making stations clean and green.

By taking governance to the grassroots, Amrit Samvaad underscores the participatory approach of the Railways. Asansol Division's engagement with citizens at Amrit Bharat Stations highlights its role in infrastructure enhancement while promoting inclusive and responsive administration.

Israel foils second Gaza flotilla in a week



MI News Service, Tel Aviv : Israel said Wednesday it thwarted another attempt to breach its maritime blockade of Gaza, intercepting a flotilla of nine vessels organized by the Freedom Flotilla Coalition. The boats, carrying about 100 activists, had sailed from Italy two weeks ago. "Another futile attempt to breach the legal naval blockade and enter a combat zone ended in nothing," the Foreign Ministry tweeted. "The vessels and the passengers are transferred to an Israeli port. All the passengers are safe and in good health. The passengers are expected to be deported promptly."

The interception follows a series of similar maritime confrontations in recent weeks. On Thursday, Israel stopped the 42-ship Global Sumud Flotilla, which carried 479 activists, including Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg. Nearly all of those detained have since been deported.

Documents found in Gaza and released by Israel's Foreign Ministry traced direct Hamas involvement in organizing and financing the Sumud flotilla to break the Israeli blockade of the Strip. Israel said the boats carried no aid and accused participants of seeking confrontation rather than delivering humanitarian relief. Only seven activists remain in custody, including a Spanish national accused of biting an Israel Prison Service officer.

Israel and Egypt have maintained restrictions on Gaza to prevent weapons smuggling since Hamas seized control of the territory in 2007. Since then, Palestinian activists have periodically launched flotillas to challenge the blockade. In 2011, an independent UN inquiry into the 2010 Mavi Marmara incident criticized Israeli forces for using excessive force but upheld the blockade's legality. Approximately 1,200 people were killed, and 252 Israelis and foreigners were taken hostage in Hamas's attacks on Israeli communities near the Gaza border on October 7. Of the 48 remaining hostages, about 20 are believed to be alive.

Isale Sawab held in memory of Pir Chhoto Huzur



MI News Service, Kolkata : Isale Sawab Mahfil was held in memory of Ashek Rasul Hazrat Pir Chhoto Huzur (RA) in Furfura Sharif on Wednesday. On the occasion of Pir Saheb's annual Mahfil, there was a crowd of religious people in Furfura Sharif. The shrine of Hazrat Pir Dada Huzur was overflowing with devotees in Mujaddid-e-Zaman. Pir Janab Chhoto Huzur, the youngest son of Pir Dada Huzur, passed away on 21 Ashwin 1392. This meeting has been held in memory of Pir Saheb for 40 years, focusing on that day. Pir Allama Qari Ismail Siddiqui Sahib conducted the evening Zeker Majlis. In a quiet atmosphere for some time, Allah Allah's buzzing. The unprecedented scene of surrendering to the great creator was eye-catching. Pir Omar Siddiqui, Pir Yunus Siddiqui, Pir Ibrahim Siddiqui, Pir Ali Akbar Siddiqui, Pir Hossain Siddiqui, Pir Sattar Siddiqui, Pirzada Taher Siddiqui and Pirzada Taha Siddiqui and many others were present. Pir Saheb Chhoto Huzur was an eloquent speaker and social reformer. His multifaceted social work was highlighted by famous speakers of the state. Prayers were sought for the helpless people of Gaza in Palestine. The meeting was held against the blockade of the relief ship in Gaza. The speakers criticized

the Uttar Pradesh government for putting up signboards saying "I Love Muhammad SAW". They said that it is a crime to say that I love which great scholar? All the children of Pir Saheb were the initiators of this meeting. Pirzada Nurullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Saferi Siddiqui, Pirzada Sanaullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Mosfeekin Siddiqui, Pirzada Hozafa Siddiqui, Pirzada Saud Siddiqui, Pirzada Syed Aftab Uddin Hossain, Pirzada Horaira Siddiqui, Pirzada Asebillah Siddiqui and Pirzada Uzayer Siddiqui and many other Pir-saheb were present at the meeting. Prayers were offered for peace in India and the entire world. A special seminar was held in the memory of Pir Chhoto Huzur at the Khanqah Sharif of Boro Huzur under the direction of Furfura Fathia Kharizia Madrasa. Numerous teachers and students of the madrasa were present. This educational seminar was praised. A special award was given to Dr. Abul Kalam Laskar in the meeting. Pirzada Abbas Siddiqui presented the Dada Huzur Ratna Award along with a cash prize of 50 taka to Dr. Abul Kalam. Pirsaheb has done many educational institutions and social work without government help, these words were also spoken in the meeting. Pirsaheb passed away at the age of 66.

Canadian FM Anita Anand to visit India next week

MI News Service, Delhi : Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand is scheduled to visit India next week, marking her first official trip to the country since assuming the role earlier this year.

The visit comes amid ongoing efforts to reset bilateral ties between India and Canada. Ahead of the trip, External Affairs Minister Dr Jaishankar met Anand on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York on September 29, describing it as a "good meeting" and welcoming the appointment of high commissioners as a positive step in rebuilding ties. He also said "look forward to welcoming" FM in India.



"A good meeting with FM @AnitaAnandMP of Canada this morning in New York. The appointment of High Commissioners is welcome as we rebuild ties. Discussed further steps in that regard today. Look forward to welcoming FM Anand in India," Jaishankar wrote on X. The visit follows Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with his Canadian counterpart Mark Carney at the G7 Summit in June, signalling a thaw after over two years of strained relations. India and Canada are working to improve their ties after tensions rose in 2023. The strain began when then-Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused India of being involved in the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. India strongly rejected the charge, calling it politically motivated, and accused Ottawa of providing a safe haven to Khalistani terrorists.

In August, both countries reinstated their high commissioners. India's High Commissioner Dinesh Patnaik took charge in Ottawa, and Canada's new High Commissioner Christopher Cooter took charge in Delhi. Last month, Canada's Deputy Foreign Minister David Morrison and National Security Advisor Nathalie G. Drouin visited Delhi to meet Indian officials. They had agreed to restart key dialogues that had been paused during Trudeau's tenure and to bring back diplomatic staff.

India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval also held detailed talks with his Canadian counterpart Nathalie Drouin. The discussions focused on restoring stability and improving trust between the two countries after months of diplomatic tension.

Taiwan detects 26 Chinese aircraft, 7 naval vessels around nation

MI News Service, Taipei : Taiwan's Ministry of National Defence detected 26 Chinese Military aircraft and seven Chinese naval vessels operating around its territorial waters as of 6 a.m. (local time) Wednesday.

As per the MND, of the 26 sorties, 18 crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central and southwestern ADIZ. In a post on X, the MND said, "26 sorties of PLA aircraft and 7 PLAN vessels operating around Taiwan were detected until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 18 out of 26 sorties crossed the median

line and entered Taiwan's northern, central and southwestern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded accordingly." Earlier on Tuesday, MND detected 23 sorties of PLA aircraft. "Overall 23 sorties of PLA aircraft in various types (including J-16, JH-7, KJ-500, etc.) were detected from 0920hr today. 17 out of 23 sorties crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait and entered the northern, central and southwestern ADIZ in conducting air-sea joint training along with other PLAN vessels. ROC Armed Forces have monitored the situ-

ation and responded accordingly." Earlier in the day, MND stated, "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." 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.

Howrah Division Organises "Amrit Samvaad" and "Swachh Parisar" Activities under Special Campaign 5.0

MI News Service, Kolkata : In line with the vision of Amrit Kaal and guided by the Panch Pran principles enunciated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Ministry of Railways has launched a new citizen-centric initiative — "Amrit Samvaad" — under Special Campaign 5.0. This initiative, inspired by the concept of Rail Chau-pal, aims to strengthen the bond between the Railways and citizens through direct interaction and meaningful dialogue.

As part of this initiative, Howrah Division, Eastern Railway organised an Amrit Samvaad programme in collaboration with the 2nd Battalion, NCC. The event was graced by the Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah, as the Chief Guest, and attended by Additional Divisional Railway Managers (Administration & Operations), Senior Officers from the Eastern Command, and Former Crick-



eter Shri Shreevats Goswami. The occasion also witnessed the presence of senior officers and staff of the Division, adding to the significance of the event.

The programme commenced with an inspiring address by the DRM/Howrah on the importance of cleanliness and public participation under the Swachhta initiatives. This was followed by a felicitation ceremony to acknowledge contributions

toward maintaining cleanliness and community service. The event also featured Nukkad Natak and Anti-Littering Campaigns by NCC cadets to promote awareness on cleanliness, responsible waste disposal, and collective action for a cleaner environment.

Additionally, Howrah Division undertook intensive "Swachh Parisar" (Clean Workplace & Residential Premises) activities

as part of Special Campaign 5.0. Extensive cleaning drives were organised in railway colonies, retiring rooms, waiting halls, running rooms, rest houses, and dormitories. Efforts were also directed toward beautification through tree plantation and landscaping in railway premises.

Awareness was spread on the benefits of waste segregation at source, and arrangements were made for separate dry and wet dustbins to facilitate effective waste management. Intensive efforts were also made to clear accumulated garbage and maintain hygiene standards in residential areas.

Through these initiatives, Howrah Division continues to uphold the values of cleanliness, sustainability, and citizen engagement, in alignment with the broader national mission of Swachh Bharat and Amrit Kaal Vimarsh.

Malda Division Undertakes Swachh Parisar Program Across Stations and Residential Premises

MI News Service, Kolkata : As part of Swachhata Pakhwada (October 1-15, 2025) and Special Campaign 5.0 (October 2-31, 2025), Malda Division of Eastern Railway has actively carried out a series of cleanliness initiatives aimed at enhancing hygiene and promoting environmental sustainability across its network.

The Swachhata Pakhwada campaign focuses on improving cleanliness across railway premises, including stations, trains, tracks, offices, colonies, workshops, maintenance depots, and hospitals. Each day of the campaign is dedicated to specific themes to ensure high standards of cleanliness and environmental sustainability.

On the eighth day of the campaign, Malda Division conducted the "Swachh Parisar" (Clean Workplace & Clean Residential Premises) drive at key stations including Malda Town, Sahibganj, Barharwa, Bhagalpur, Jamalpur, and other stations. The drive focused on offices, residential colonies, retiring rooms, rest houses, and dormitories. The program also included landscaping and beautification activities to create a cleaner, healthier, and more welcoming environment for residents and visitors. Railway officials, along with supervisors and staff, actively participated in



the drive.

Key activities included:

- Thorough cleaning of offices, dormitories, retiring rooms, and residential colonies.

- Waste segregation at source and intensified garbage collection across railway colonies.
- Cleaning of station premises and track approaches at Malda Town, New Farakka, Barharwa, Sahibganj, Bhagalpur, and Jamalpur, including the Jamalpur end.

- Maintenance and sanitation at officers' rest houses at Sahibganj, and dormitories at Malda Town, Bhagalpur, and Sahibganj Railway Colonies.

These measures demonstrate Malda Division's commitment to ensuring a clean and sustainable environment for both railway employees and passengers, in line with the nationwide Swachhata Pakhwada and Special Campaign 5.0 objectives.

WUHAN OPEN:
PEGULA, GAUFF
ADVANCE TO
THIRD ROUND

WUHAN : Jessica Pegula edged out fellow American Hailey Baptiste in a gripping three-set match, winning 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (6) in 2 hours and 55 minutes to reach the third round at the Wuhan Open for the second year running.

Pegula and Baptiste met in their first clash in over three years. Pegula aimed for her third consecutive win against the 23-year-old Baptiste, who was seeking her first victory in the head-to-head series.

The match marked Pegula's fifth consecutive three-setter. She will face No. 9 seed Ekaterina Alexandrova, who defeated another American, Ann Li, in the second round.

"It's been brutal. You know, I had match points, and then she started playing well. I think I just got a little tentative, and that's all it takes sometimes for someone to come back. So, I mean, I'm really proud of myself for how I held it together, because I think I easily could've just collapsed. But I held tough, so yeah, that was a wild ride," Pegula said after the match.

Elsewhere, Coco Gauff defeated Moyuka Uchijima, 6-1, 6-0 in just 51 minutes to advance to the third round for the second consecutive year.

It was a clinical showing from the World No. 3, who won 12 of 13 games and 55 of 77 points. But it was the American's serve that stood out the most. Gauff missed just five first serves, finishing at 85 per cent for the match, and dropped only six points on serve. She recorded zero double faults and faced no break points, WTA reports.

"Today was a good match for me," Gauff said in her on-court interview. "I played well, so yeah, I'm just super happy to be back here in Wuhan and moving on to the next round."

She also kept her unforced errors to a minimum, tallying eight and winning 16 points. In the last three years, Gauff (18) has had the most wins on Chinese soil at the WTA level, one more than Zheng Qinwen (17).



Naushad Moosa names 23-member
U-23 squad for Indonesia friendlies

NEW DELHI : India U23 men's team head coach Naushad Moosa named a 23-member squad for the friendlies against Indonesia U23 on October 10 and 13 in Jakarta during the FIFA International Match Window.

After a brief training camp in Bengaluru, the Blue Colts landed in the Indonesian capital on Wednesday afternoon. Both matches will be played at the Gelora Bung Karno Madya Stadium in Jakarta, and will kick off at 18:30 IST.

Moosa took charge of the U23 team on June 1, 2025, when they began their camp in Kolkata, with the long-term aim of preparing the Blue Colts for the Asian Games 2026 in Aichi and Nagoya, Japan, in line with the plans laid out to the federation by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Led by head coach Naushad Moosa, the Blue Colts have regrouped less than a month after narrowly missing out on a historic AFC U23 Asian Cup qualification, as they finished fifth in the rankings for the best second-placed teams (only the top four qualified) despite wins over Bahrain and Brunei Darussalam. Like India, Indonesia also failed to qualify, suffering a 0-1 defeat to Korea Republic in their last match and finishing as the 10th-best runners-up out of 11 groups.

Both matches against Indonesia, being held during the October FIFA International Match Window, will be played at the Gelora Bung Karno Madya

Women's World Cup: Weather threat
looms as India face South Africa challenge

VISAKHAPATNAM : A threat of rain disruption looms as the Indian team gets ready to take on South Africa in their third match in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2025 at the ADCA-VDCA International Cricket Stadium here on Thursday.

Both India and South Africa are eyeing two full points from this match ahead of the big clash with Australia. The city has started experiencing rain since Tuesday evening, with heavy to very heavy rains in short spells throughout the day in various locations. A red warning for heavy rain has been issued for the next 24 hours till Thursday afternoon.

India are currently sharing the top spot with England on four points from two wins, trailing in second on Net Run Rate. South Africa have recovered from their big defeat to England in their opening match to defeat New Zealand and regain some lost ground. India opened their campaign with a 59-run win over co-hosts Sri Lanka in Guwahati and then thrashed Pakistan by 88 runs in Colombo for their second win in the competition, coming up with a fine performance in both matches,



coming back strongly with the ball after doing modestly with the bat, especially by their middle order. They will now be hoping for a big knock from Smriti Mandhana and skipper Harmanpreet Kaur. All-

rounders Deepti Sharma and Sneha Rana have done well so far, while Harleen Deol and Amanjot Kaur were in top form in the first outing against Sri Lanka. Amanjot Kaur is expected to return to the playing

XI after missing the second match. On the bowling front, Deepti Sharma leads the pack with good hauls in both matches, while Kranti Goud was in her element in the second match, earning the Player of the Match award.

In contrast, South Africa started their campaign with an embarrassing 10-wicket defeat to former winners England before recovering with a 5-wicket win over New Zealand. Their batting failed to click against the England bowling, and they were bundled out for a paltry 69.

The Proteas will be buoyed by the form of Tazmin Brits, who smashed a match-winning century against New Zealand, and they'll hope their top-order batters, including captain Laura Wolvaardt and veterans Marizanne Kapp and Anneke Bosch, can replicate that success.

The Indian batters will have to be on their toes on Thursday as South Africa's bowling unit, comprising experienced players like Nonku Mlaba, Ayabonga Khaka, and Masabata Klaas, are likely to pose a significant challenge compared to those by Sri Lanka and Pakistan in their

previous matches. The South Africans have to be careful against the Indian spinners, while Renuka Thakur and Kranti are capable of making the early breakthroughs.

India hold the advantage in head-to-head, having won 20 and lost 12 of their 32 clashes in this format so far.

The hosts are expected to secure another victory unless the weather gods intervene. With rain returning in the evening, the pitch was under cover for hours on Wednesday.

SQUADS:

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Smriti Mandhana (vc), Pratika Rawal, Harleen Deol, Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh, Uma Chetry, Renuka Singh Thakur, Deepti Sharma, Sneha Rana, Sree Charani, Radha Yadav, Amanjot Kaur, Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud.

South Africa: Laura Wolvaardt (c), Ayabonga Khaka, Chloe Tryon, Nadine de Klerk, Marizanne Kapp, Tazmin Brits, Sinalo Jaftha, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Annerie Dercksen, Anneke Bosch, Masabata Klaas, Sune Luus, Karabo Meso, Tumi Sekhukhune, Nondumiso Shangase.

WFI suspends Olympic bronze
medallist Aman Sehrawat

NEW DELHI : The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) on Tuesday suspended Paris Olympics bronze medallist Aman Sehrawat for one year after the 22-year-old was disqualified for exceeding the 57kg weight limit at the World Championships in Zagreb, Croatia, in September.

The suspension, which came into effect on September 23, bars Sehrawat from participating in any wrestling-related activities - both at the national and international levels - until September 2026. The decision was confirmed by WFI President Sanjay Singh, who told IANS that the wrestler's response to the disciplinary notice was found "unsatisfactory."

"The Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) has announced the suspension of Olympic medallist Aman Sehrawat for violating weight regulations. The suspension, effective from September 23, prohibits him from taking part in any wrestling activities at both national and international levels," Sanjay Singh told IANS.

He added that while Sehrawat's coaching staff have also been issued formal warnings, the federation had given the wrestler a one-week window to respond before taking final action. "Sehrawat's coaching staff have also been issued formal warnings. However, the wrestler has been given a one-week window to respond," Singh said.

The explanation submitted by Sehrawat and subsequent clarifications from his support team were reviewed by the disciplinary committee, which deemed them unsatisfactory.

The committee also noted that Sehrawat had joined the preparatory camp in Porec, Croatia, 18 days before his scheduled bout on September 14, giving him ample



time to maintain his weight and fitness levels in accordance with regulations.

This marks the third disciplinary incident involving an Indian wrestler within a year, following the controversies surrounding Vinesh Phogat's withdrawal at the Paris 2024 Olympics and Neha Sangwan's disqualification at the 2025 World Under-20 Championships due to similar issues related to weight compliance and fitness standards.

The one-year ban is expected to have a significant impact on Sehrawat's career trajectory, particularly his preparations for the 2026 Asian Games, where wrestling events are scheduled from September 30 to October 3. Unless the WFI revises its decision, the timing of the suspension could severely hinder his participation and form ahead of the continental competition.

BENGALURU OPEN 2025: THANGARAJA MOVES
INTO HALFWAY LEAD WITH 65 IN ROUND 2

BENGALURU : Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja, the man in form with a winner and runner-up finish in the last three PGTI events, continued his golden run with a six-under 65 to move into the halfway lead on Day Two of the INR 1 crore Bengaluru Open 2025 being played at the Karnataka Golf Association (KGA) course in Bengaluru.

Thangaraja (66-65), who was overnight tied third and one off the lead, totalled 11-under 131 after 36 holes to hold a one-shot advantage at the top of the leaderboard. Viraj Madappa (65-67) of Kolkata, the overnight joint leader, fired a 67 in Round Two to slip one spot to second place at 10-under 132. Gurugram's Manu Gandas shot a tournament low of 63 to climb 26 spots to third place at nine-under 133.

Nepal's Subash Tamang, the round one joint leader, dropped down to tied fourth at eight-under 134 as a result of his 69 on Wednesday. Subash was joined by Greater Noida's Saptak Talwar (68) in tied fourth. Reigning champion Abhinav Lohan, who hails from the DLF Golf & Country Club, Gurugram, ended Day Two in tied 11th place at five-under 137.

The highest-placed among the Bengaluru-based players were Manoj S. and Mari Muthu R., both of whom occupied tied 13th position at four-under 138. The cut came down at one-over 143. Fifty professionals and one amateur progressed to the next stage.

Noida's Kanav Chauhan was the only amateur to make the cut. He was placed tied 24th at two-under 140.

N. Thangaraja, currently third on the PGTI Order of Merit with two wins under his belt this season, had a relatively slow start on the back nine as he made three birdies, including a 30-footer and a tap-in, as well as two bogeys. Thangaraja's round then took



flight on the front-nine, where he scored six birdies and a bogey. Thanga produced two top-notch bunker shots for birdies on the front nine.

Thangaraja said, "My tee shots, approaches, and putting were great today. The bunker shots also stood out. The greens at this course are similar to my home course in Colombo, so I'm quite comfortable playing here. I feel putting will be the deciding factor in the final stages of this tournament. So, my main focus will be on sharpening my putting further."

"I'm feeling the momentum since my win in Chennai three weeks back. I've been playing great golf since then, and I want to make the most of my good form

now." Viraj Madappa, a winner on the PGTI earlier this year, came up with six birdies on his first 16 holes, which included three conversions from a range of 10 to 15 feet. Madappa, however, ended his round with a double-bogey on the 17th. Viraj said, "I've played well on both days so far. Unfortunately, I ended both rounds with bogeys. I feel I've focused well and kept my patience for most part of both rounds, but I just need to keep that going till the very last hole."

"I hit really good iron shots and gave myself plenty of opportunities on the greens today. I hit 13 greens in regulation. I need to keep doing the same thing over the next two days."

BWF World Jr C'ships: India beat UAE to
enter QFs; Japan, USA top respective groups

GUWAHATI : India warmed up for the quarterfinals of the BWF World Junior Mixed Team Championships 2025 for the Suhandinata Cup with yet another confident display to beat the UAE in straight sets, while the USA upset France, and Japan got the better of top seeds Thailand to top their respective groups at the National Centre of Excellence here on Wednesday.

While India defeated UAE 45-37, 45-34, Japan got the better of Thailand 45-42, 45-34 in Group A, and the USA made it to the last eight stage with a 45-43, 45-43 win over France in Group B.

The top teams in all eight groups will compete in the quarterfinals for the coveted trophy, while the others will fight in the classification rounds. Other teams to top their respective groups include China (Group D) and Indonesia (Group F).

India, seeded second, had beaten Nepal and Sri Lanka in their earlier Group H clashes and went into the final round as the only unbeaten team in the group. That confidence showed in the way they approached the match against the UAE, who boast of having a few players who have played in the Indian domestic circuit in the past.

USA Open finalist Tanvi Sharma gave the team a rousing



start as she defeated reigning Indian junior national champion Prakriti Bharath 9-5. The mixed doubles combination of C Lalramsanga and Vishakha Toppo then made it 18-10 against Adithya Kiran and Sakshi Kurbhelgi. UAE set up a fight in the boys' singles and boys' doubles with Bharath Lateesh scoring 9 points against Hmar Lalthazuala and then teaming up with Riyan Malhan to score 10 points against Bhagav Ram Arigela and Viswa Tej Gobburu, but their efforts were not enough to close the gap.

In the second set, Unnati Hooda replaced Tanvi, and

Suryansh Rawat took the place of Hmar in the lineup. Unnati beat Prakriti 9-6 to start the proceedings, and there was no looking back for the Indian team from there on. On the adjacent court, Japan grabbed the advantage against top seeds Thailand with Yuzuno Watanabe beating Anyapat Pichitpreechask 9-5 in the first girls' singles, and the Asian Junior Mixed team championships bronze medallist rode that momentum to win the first set 45-42. Watanabe gave her team a much bigger lead in the second set by beating Yataweemin Ketklieng 9-2, and the Japanese took the top spot in

ARGENTINA BOSS
SAYS WORLD CUP
SQUAD STILL OPEN

MIAMI : Argentina manager Lionel Scaloni said that places in his 2026 World Cup squad are still open as the Albiceleste prepares for friendlies against Venezuela and Puerto Rico.

He said the matches would be used to test new players ahead of the tournament in the United States, Mexico and Canada.

"Naturally, we are going to try to give a chance to new players, to see if they can get on board," he said ahead of Friday's clash against Venezuela at Hard Rock Stadium. "That is the idea - to use these matches to try different players."

The reigning World Cup champions will have three days to recover from that match before facing Puerto Rico at Soldier Field in Chicago.

While admitting most of his World Cup squad was already settled, Scaloni said there could be late changes, as there were before the 2022 tournament in Qatar.

"You never know, because even though we have the base, we don't know what might happen," he said. "We have the experience of the last World Cup, when players dropped out at the last moment. It's true that most of the squad is settled, but we are open to whatever may come."

"New players have come in now and will keep coming if we believe it is appropriate."

Argentina earned its place in next year's edition of football's showpiece tournament by topping the South American qualifying group.

Scaloni said all of the team's pre-World Cup matches would be treated seriously by his squad, stressing that no match involving Argentina is truly a friendly.

"We feel that every time there is an international match - whether official or friendly - provides a unique opportunity," he said.

Group A with another clinical display. But it was Team USA that had reasons to celebrate the most as they overcame a strong challenge from the 5/8 seeds, France. With the matches going neck-and-neck in both sets, it was USA boys singles player Garret Tan who kept his composure to beat France's Mady Sow 9-8 in the first set and scored nine points quickly enough when under pressure in the second to help his team top Group B.

They will now face Japan in the quarterfinals, while India will have to wait to see which team tops Group G to know their quarterfinals opponent.