



D.El.ED-trained, TET-qualified job aspirants (2022) held a procession, joined by Bhangar ISF leader Naushad Siddiqui, demanding recruitment for 50,000 vacant primary teaching posts. The rally proceeded from Sealdah to Y-Channel in Kolkata on Thursday.

Meg ED Raid: Sand, steel and Crores under scrutiny

MI News Service, Asansol: A dawn of high drama unfolded in Asansol on Thursday when the ED launched a coordinated crackdown on an alleged sand smuggling and money-launching network spanning multiple districts of West Bengal.

The operation began at daybreak, when a convoy of ED vehicles rolled into Murgashol, under Asansol South police station, heading straight for the residence of prominent sand trader Manish Bagaria. Within moments, officials cordoned off the area, seized the family members' mobile phones, and commenced an extensive search of the premises. According to sources, the raid is part of a larger investigation into illegal sand syndicates that have been operating across South Bengal, allegedly facilitating transactions worth crores of rupees through fraudulent sand mining leases and manipulated permits. Investigators suspect that the Bagaria family, with widespread business interests in iron steel manufacturing units across Purulia and Bakura, maintained strong links with a network of state. The ED is probing allegation that a significant share of profits was siphoned off through shell companies and unaccounted bank transfers. The Asansol raid is only one front of a sweeping statewide operation. Parallel search drives were simultaneously conducted in Jhargram and Kolkata. In Jhargram, officials targeted the residence of Sheikh Jahirul Ali, a former village policeman-turned-sand magnate, suspected of running a major illegal extraction operation through multiple unauthorized sand mines. In Kolkata, ED officers raided the offices of GD Mining Company on James Long Sarani, Behala, and its satellite unit at Bidhanagar's Sector V, both under suspicion for irregular financial transactions linked to the sand trade network. Preliminary findings point to a deep web of forged licenses, illegal excavation, and cross-district money laundering involving several industrial entities. The ED's latest move signals a dramatic escalation in its crackdown on the state's booming illegal sand economy—one long alleged to operate with political backing and deep bureaucratic complicity. As investigations intensify, sources suggest that more high-profile names in Bengal's mining and construction sectors could soon come under the agency's scanner.

Durgapur rape deepens: Father apologizes, police arrest classmate as main accused

MI News Service, Durgapur: The sensational Durgapur 'gang rape' case has taken a dramatic turn – shattering the initial narrative and exposing new layers of complexity in the investigation. Police sources have now confirmed that the alleged crime was not a case of gang rape but was perpetrated by single individual. The arrested accused has been identified as Wasif Ali, a classmate of the medical student victim.

According to the investigators, Waif Ali was with the victim on the night of the assault. After four days of interrogation and crucial evidence collection, the police formally arrested him on Tuesday, establishing him as the prime accused in the case. So far, a total of six individuals have been taken into custody in connection with the incident, as law enforcement continue to scrutinize the circumstances surrounding the assault.



However, what has drawn equal attention is the stunning reversal by the victim's father, who had earlier lashed out at the West Bengal administration, equating the state's security condition to "Aurangzeb's rule" and vehemently demanding that his daughter be moved back to Odisha, citing safety concerns. His earlier remarks were blistering—questioning governance and law and order in Bengal. In a complete change of tone, the father has now issued a public apology to CM Mamata Banerjee, describing her as "like a mother" and expressing regret for his previous remarks. He said, "If I have said anything wrong against her, please forgive me. I appeal to her to help my daughter get justice. If I meet her, I will bow at her feet."

This striking U-turn stirred political and public discussions, with many questioning what prompted such a dramatic shift. Meanwhile, CM Mamata Banerjee has reiterated that "none of the culprits will be spared," assuring that justice will be delivered without compromise. The Durgapur case, which initially appeared as a horrific incident implicating multiple offenders, now stands reframed under new investigative findings. As the investigation deepens and political tremors spread, the case continues to grip Bengal— with every new revelation adding to the high-voltage drama unfolding around it.

Undertrial murder accused found dead in Dhupghuri lock-up, probe order

MI News Service, Jalpaiguri: Serious questions are being raised after an undertrial prisoner, accused of murdering his wife, was found dead inside the Dhupghuri police lock-up in Jalpaiguri district late Tuesday night. The incident has triggered tension across the area, with locals demanding transparency and accountability from the police. The deceased, identified as Prasanna Kumar Roy, a resident of Satsang Para in Dhupghuri, had been taken into custody on Saturday following allegations of brutally assaulting his second wife, Savitri Roy, who succumbed to her injuries at Jalpaiguri Medical College the following morning. A murder case was subsequently registered against him, and he was remanded to police custody by the court on Tuesday.

According to police sources, Prasanna was provided a blanket that night to sleep inside the lock-up. It is alleged that he used the rope of that blanket to hang himself in the darkness of the cell. Other inmates reportedly noticed his lifeless body and raised an alarm. On-duty officers rushed in, rescued him, and took him to Dhupghuri Rural Hospital, where doctors pronounced him dead on arrival. The

body was sent for post-mortem examination at the Jalpaiguri Police Morgue on Wednesday. Police sources confirmed that the autopsy was conducted in the presence of Prasanna's elder son, Amit Roy, and close family members. The family later performed the last rites at Maskalaibari crematorium. Speaking to reporters, family members revealed that there were clear rope marks on Prasanna's neck but no visible injuries elsewhere on the body. While police sources continue to maintain that the death was a case of suicide, the family has expressed suspicion over the circumstances, hinting that more needs to be uncovered about what transpired inside the lock-up. Top officers of the Jalpaiguri district police, when contacted, declined to comment on the incident. However, sources within the department confirmed that an internal inquiry has been initiated into the death of the undertrial prisoner. As the Dhupghuri community grapples with shock and unease, public questions over the accountability and safety within police custody have once again come to the fore— adding yet another name to the long list of custodial deaths demanding answers.

MLA Inspects illegal construction on government land, orders action



MI News Service, Hooghly: A major controversy erupted in Hooghly's Chunchura Municipality after allegations surfaced of illegal construction on government land. Following a local complaint, MLA Asit Majumdar personally inspected the site in Ward No. 20's Pratappur area on Thursday morning, exposing blatant encroachment and unauthorized construction along the banks of a water body.

Upon arrival, the MLA reportedly found a large section of government land concreted and leveled with debris. Pavements had been built illegally around the pond, effectively occupying public property under the guise of land reclamation. Witnessing the extensive encroachment, a visibly agitated Asit Majumdar declared,

"This is completely illegal. I will report this matter to the District Magistrate, BLRO, Additional District Magistrate (Land), and the Chunchura police. Such encroachment will not be tolerated." Asit Majumdar further warned that if the ward's public representative was aware of the activity and failed to report it, disciplinary action would follow. "If any party member is found complicit, the party leadership will take necessary decisions," he added. The accused, Achyut Sadhu, admitted to undertaking the work, stating that he had applied for a government lease but was unaware he could not begin construction without approval. He claimed the illegal work had continued for two months. The revelation has sparked sharp criticism from the opposition. BJP leader Swapna Pal said, "It is shameful that government land can be occupied in broad daylight without anyone noticing. This exposes the complete breakdown of law and order." Asit Majumdar urged citizens to stay alert and report any sign of encroachment promptly to the authorities.

Kalyan Banerjee Slams Left Rule, Dares Opposition Ahead of 2026 Elections

MI News, Serampore: At the Trinamool Congress's Vijaya Sammilani event, Serampore MP and senior TMC leader Kalyan Banerjee launched a scathing attack on the Left Front's legacy in West Bengal, particularly targeting the tenure of late Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharya. In a fiery address to party workers and supporters, Kalyan Banerjee condemned what he described as a period marked by unchecked violence, political suppression, and institutional decay under Left rule.

Kalyan Banerjee accused the Bhat-

tacharya-led government of presiding over one of the darkest chapters in Bengal's history, citing record levels of murder and rape during the regime. He criticized recent efforts to glorify Bhattacharya following his death, stating that the former Chief Minister's legacy should not be whitewashed. "Let's not forget the nasty history of that era. Crimes were rampant, and the police force acted as a puppet of the CPM," Kalyan Banerjee declared, drawing loud applause from the audience. He used the platform not just to revisit the past but to challenge the present-day opposition.

Para Teacher listed as BLOs in Purulia, opposition cries foul

MI News Service, Purulia: Allegations of irregularities have surfaced over the appointment of Booth Level Officers (BLOs) in Purulia district ahead of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Opposition parties have accused the administration of enlisting para teachers and other contractual workers as BLOs, in clear violation of government norms.



The controversy erupted in Purulia Block No. 1 under the Balrampur Assembly Constituency, where the official BLO list shows Kalabati Mahato of Gandhaphusro Primary School-1 (SL No. 13) designated as an assistant teacher. In reality, she is a para teacher — a fact she herself admitted. "I am a para teacher. Initially, there were issues, but now things are fine. I have found 20 to 25 dead voters," Mahato said. Similarly, the BLO list in-

cludes another part-time teacher from Kanali Primary School (SL No. 18) falsely shown as a full-time assistant teacher. Opposition parties allege such misrepresentation is widespread and amounts to administrative fraud. District BJP leaders have lodged a formal complaint with the District Magistrate, accusing the ruling Trinamool Congress government of manipulating

BLO postings to ensure favorable election management. Purulia MP Jyotirmoy Singh Mahato alleged, "Mamata Banerjee is illegally appointing contract workers to influence election conduct." Congress leader Nepal Mahato declared that the matter would be taken to the Election Commission, while CPM's Krishnapada Biswas condemned the act as "a deliberate fraud on democratic procedure." Ruling party leaders downplayed the issue, advising investigation by ERO or AERO if errors exist. Purulia BDO Manoj Maiti insisted, "The BLO appointments were made strictly following Election Commission guidelines. There is no question of irregularities." As political tensions escalate, Purulia finds itself at the center of another debate over transparency in electoral groundwork.

Man kills wife after domestic quarrel, absconding

Dipankar Edbar, Nadia : A woman was allegedly hacked to death by her husband following a heated quarrel at their home in Birnagar, Nadia district. The accused, identified as Pranakrishna Saha, is currently absconding, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Baby Saha. According to neighbours, frequent altercations between the couple were common. On Thursday, loud arguments were again heard from the house. Moments later, neighbours rushed in after

hearing Baby's screams and found her lying in a pool of blood. She was rushed to a local hospital and later referred to Ranaghat hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead.

Preliminary investigation suggests that during the altercation, Pranakrishna attacked his wife with a sharp weapon and fled the spot soon after. Baby's body has been sent for post-mortem examination. Police have launched a search operation to trace the absconding husband.

World Iodine Deficiency Day, Tata Salt

Vaishali: Tata Salt, India's leading iodized salt brand, has reaffirmed its commitment to combating iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) in children. As the first national branded iodized salt, Tata Salt raises awareness about iodine, a crucial micronutrient for mental development, particularly during early childhood. Iodised salt contributes to well-being and taste in meals.

Shantipur homemaker lights up lives with her designer candles

Dipankar Edbar, Shantipur : For homemaker Iti Sadhukha Mondal, the festival of lights has taken on a whole new meaning. While many decorate their homes with traditional clay lamps, this young woman from Shantipur has added a creative glow to Diwali, through her handcrafted, aromatic designer candles. Her venture, aptly named "Candle Hut", has become a small but shining success story. What began as a humble home-based experiment is now producing hundreds of scented and decorative candles that are being sold not only in local markets but also across several districts of West Bengal.



Among her most popular creations are 'Laddu Glass Candles,' 'Floating Fashion Candles,' and hand-painted sets of 14 diyas, specially designed for Diwali decor. This season, Iti has introduced a unique 'Wax Diya' - a candle shaped like a traditional earthen lamp but designed to burn longer and spread a gentle fragrance. But her creativity goes beyond festive lights. Candle Hut produces themed gift items all year round, from 'Jamai Shashthi Thalís' to scented incense

stick sets for Durga Puja. Each product reflects her artistic touch, vibrant colours, intricate brushwork, and a personal flair that blends tradition with modern design.

A graduate of Ranaghat College, Iti worked for three years in a private company's sales department before deciding to follow her passion. Alongside running her business, she also gives private tuition. "With focus and hard work, this craft can become a sustainable source of income for any family," she says with a smile. Married just seven months ago, Iti has found strong support in her husband Bikram Mondal, who works with a private firm while helping in family

farming. Her in-laws, too, have encouraged her every step of the way. This Diwali, her workshop is buzzing with activity as thousands of candles are being readied for dispatch across India, and even abroad. Local customers receive their orders directly from her, while larger consignments are shipped via courier.

In an age of LED lights and electric décor, Iti's hand-painted candles and diyas are reviving the timeless charm of traditional illumination. As Shantipur prepares for Diwali, the air is filled not just with the sparkle of light, but also the sweet fragrance of her candles, the scent of self-reliance, creativity, and dreams taking flight.

Karachi woman found on Bengal voter list, MLA acknowledges Pakistan link

MI News Service, Barrackpore: A major controversy has erupted in Naihati, North 24 Parganas, after allegations surfaced that a Pakistani citizen has been enlisted as a voter in the constituency. Former Barrackpore MP Arjun Singh has accused the administration of gross negligence and alleged deliberate irregularities in the electoral rolls. The woman in question, Saleya Khatun, a resident of AT Ghosh Lane in Naihati, is originally from Karachi, Pakistan. According to documents supplied by Arjun Singh, she entered India in 1991 after marrying a local man, Mohammad Imran, who had returned from Dubai for work. Singh claimed that despite her Pakistani citizenship, her name appears in the Naihati voter list and that she has exercised her franchise in previous elections. "She is a Pakistani citizen. She came from Karachi, and even her daughter holds a Pakistani passport. Yet both have voted here," Singh said. He stated that he has sent documentary proof of Saleya's nationality to the Election Commission and the Union Home Ministry, demanding her immediate arrest and deportation. Trinamool Congress MLA Sanat Dey did not deny the allegation, acknowledging, "Yes, Saleya is from Pakistan. But voter cards are issued under the Election Commission's supervision. Let them verify whether the documents are genuine." Sources confirm that Saleya's Pakistani passport was recently cancelled and her visa renewal denied amid diplomatic tensions.

ED launched fresh search operations in multiple locations in alleged sand smuggling scam in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Enforcement Department (ED), probing the alleged large-scale sand smuggling and its money trails across West Bengal, Thursday began fresh search operations in multiple locations, including Kolkata and Medinipur, official sources said. They said the ED officials from early in the morning have raided the properties, offices and godowns of the business people and their workers in at least seven locations in alleged sand smuggling and its money trails in Kolkata's Bentineck Street near Lal Bazar, Lalgah and Gopiballavpur in Jhargram district and at the residence of a businessman in Asansol in West Bardhaman district.

The ED's simultaneous raids in seven locations of the day happened nearly five weeks after the anti-corruption federal agency raided some 20 locations on September 9 in which they seized many incriminating documents and cash. The ED officials, aided by the Central armed forces, began search operations in the properties of several businessmen involved in alleged sand mining and smuggling the natural resources damaging river courses with the support of the people in power against funding like protection money, sources said.

They said the central agency raided the properties of one businessman

Sourabh Roy at his home and godowns at Lalgah and Gopiballavpur in Jhargram region. The sleuths also raided Roy's godowns and hideouts of his workers in relation to the sand scam. The ED during September 9 raids has seized several incriminating documents and money from the properties of Roy.

The ED also raided the properties of Sheikh Jahirul, a prominent figure in the scam in Jhargram district last month. The ED sleuths had conducted searches at his sprawling residence located near the Subarnarekha River in Gopiballavpur. He has been accused of being involved in the illegal sand extraction and trade business, the official said, adding that a huge amount of cash was seized from his premises then. Jahirul reportedly used to work as a village police volunteer under the Gopiballabhur police station but lost his job. His alleged induction into the sand-mining trade escalated his lifestyle. Before his stint as a police volunteer, Jahirul was a bicycle mechanic. Incidentally, Jahirul, who owns several sand mines, used to be a bicycle mechanic before working as a village police officer and ultimately transitioning into the sand trade. The ED officials examined business records, financial documents, and properties linked to the scam.

Ahead of Jagaddhatri Puja, Krishnagar civic body builds new road to Burima temple



Dipankar Edbar, Krishnagar : A long-standing demand of locals near Burima temple in Krishnagar's Chasapara area has finally been met. Just ahead of the famous Jagaddhatri Puja, the Krishnagar Municipality has begun construction of a new road leading to the revered shrine, bringing much relief to residents and devotees. For years, the road remained in a deplorable condition despite repeated appeals from locals. The route is crucial, as thousands of devotees visit Burima's temple every year during Jagaddhatri Puja, and the stretch also connects key parts of the town, including bus stands.

Residents said the poor condition of the road had often caused accidents and inconveniences during immersion processions. "We had repeatedly requested the municipality to repair the road. Finally, our plea has been heard. We're happy that this will ease access for devotees this year," said Gautam Ghosh, secretary of the Burima Puja Committee. Civic officials said the work is being carried out on a war footing so that devotees can enjoy a hassle-free puja this season.



Left Front Chairman Biman Bose collects donations for the flood-affected people of North Bengal in Kolkata on Thursday.

CM Mamata Announces Plans for Large Mahakaal Temple in Siliguri

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday announced that a large 'Mahakaal' temple will be constructed in Siliguri, adding that a trust will be formed to oversee its development. Speaking to reporters during her visit to Darjeeling, Banerjee said the temple will be located next to the proposed convention centre in Siliguri.

Mahakaal is a revered name for Lord Shiva in Hindu mythology, and the new temple is expected to become a major religious landmark in North Bengal. "A large Mahakaal temple will come up near the proposed convention centre in Siliguri. For this, a trust needs to be formed," she stated

after offering prayers at the existing Mahakaal temple in Darjeeling.

The chief minister has previously played a key role in the establishment of significant religious sites in the state, including the Jagannath temple in Digha. Banerjee emphasized that the land for the Siliguri temple will be provided by the state government, while construction is expected to take some time.

Banerjee's announcement comes amid her ongoing public outreach programme in North Bengal, which has recently faced severe natural calamities. Torrential rains and landslides had caused extensive damage in the region, resulting in the loss of 32 lives. During her visit, the chief

minister interacted with local residents and assured them of the government's continued support in relief and rehabilitation efforts.

She highlighted that the temple project is part of broader efforts to boost cultural, spiritual, and infrastructural development in North Bengal. Officials said that the formation of the temple trust will involve experts, devotees, and local representatives to ensure proper planning and management.

The proposed site, next to the convention centre, has been selected for its accessibility and potential to attract visitors from across the state and beyond. The temple, once completed, is expected to host religious

ceremonies, festivals, and cultural events, enhancing the spiritual and social fabric of Siliguri.

Banerjee's visit to Darjeeling also included prayers at the existing Mahakaal temple, where she sought blessings for the successful completion of the project. The chief minister expressed hope that the new temple would become a center of faith and devotion for people across West Bengal, reflecting the state's rich religious heritage.

The Mahakaal temple project in Siliguri represents a continuation of the state government's commitment to preserving cultural and religious traditions while fostering regional development.

TMC launches 'Ami Banglar Digital Joddha' campaign ahead of 2026 polls

MI News Service, Kolkata: With less than a year to go before the 2026 Assembly elections, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has stepped up its digital outreach strategy, launching a new online campaign titled 'Ami Banglar Digital Joddha' (I am Bengal's Digital Warrior). The initiative, announced by TMC's national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Thursday, aims to counter what the party calls the BJP's "anti-Bengal propaganda" through social media and other digital platforms.

In a post shared on X (formerly Twitter), Abhishek declared the beginning of a "digital battle" to defend Bengal's identity, pride, and legacy. "Our beloved motherland, Bengal, is being hounded, humiliated, and

maligned by 'Bohiragoto Bangla-Bi-rodhiZamindars' who thrive on lies and propaganda. It is upon us to stand up for Bengal's rights, dignity, and truth," he wrote.

Launching the campaign's official portal, Abhishek called upon the youth to lead the initiative. "That's why I am launching 'Ami Banglar Digital Joddha', a people-powered, youth-led digital movement to protect Bengal's identity and carry its message of pride and progress to every corner of India and the world. To every young person who refuses to let Bengal be slandered, this is your clarion call. Join as a Digital Joddha and strengthen Bengal's future," his message read.

In a three-minute video shared on



social media, Abhishek further said, "Outsiders are deliberately spreading lies to destroy the pride and tradition of Bengal. Now our battle begins in the digital space. Our goal is to restore Bengal's dignity and rights, and we will fight for it as far as needed."

Party insiders said the campaign marks a strategic shift toward dig-

itally driven political engagement, targeting younger voters and online audiences.

Notably, before every major election, the ruling TMC has launched new outreach initiatives. Ahead of the 2023 Panchayat polls, Abhishek's 'TrinamoolyNabajowar' (New Wave in Trinamool) campaign gained widespread popularity, with the leader touring almost every district in the state. Based on his feedback, many candidates were selected for local elections.

Now, with the focus shifting online, 'Ami Banglar Digital Joddha' is expected to be the party's central campaign to counter BJP narratives and mobilise youth participation across Bengal.



Commissioner of Police (CP) for Kolkata, Manoj Kumar Verma, inspecting the fireworks market in Kolkata on Thursday.

Global Brand Strategist to Lead CII Brand Conclave 2025 in Kolkata



(L-R): Charanpreet Singh, Co-founder, Praxis Business School, Rupak Barua, Vice Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council and MD & CEO of Woodlands Hospital, Animesh Roy, Co-chairman, CII Marketing & Brand Task Force, Eastern Region & Chief Services & Solutions, Tata Steel Ltd, Namit Bajoria, Managing Director, Kutchina Homemakers Ltd, and Dipankar Bhattacharjee, Director & State Head, CII West Bengal State Office during CII press meet in Kolkata on Thursday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata is set to welcome renowned international brand strategist and author Dr Erich Joachimsthaler for the 24th edition of CII Brand Conclave 2025, India's leading brand management platform, CII announced at a press meet.

Now in its 24th year, CII Brand Conclave attracts over 400 delegates annually, including marketing leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, and innovators. Over the years, it has become a hallmark of insight, innovation, and inspiration, hosting some of the world's most influential branding voices.

The event also marks the launch of "Brand Collector", a pioneering platform celebrating brand excellence and fostering collaboration among industry leaders.

Animesh Roy, Co-chairman, CII Marketing & Brand

Task Force, Eastern Region, and Tata Steel executive, stated that Dr Joachimsthaler, CEO of VIVALDI, will lead a day-long masterclass on How AI Creates Value for Businesses and Brands, exploring AI's transformative role in branding and growth.

NamitBajoria, MD of Kutchina Homemakers Ltd, highlighted the unveiling of Brand Collector's Issue, featuring insights from global brand thinkers including Al Ries, David Aaker, and Martin Lindstrom.

RupakBarua, Vice Chairman, CII West Bengal, emphasized the importance of global exposure in enriching Indian brand strategy.

The CII Brand Conclave 2025 promises an immersive experience, bringing AI-driven brand innovation and global perspectives to India's marketing community.

PM Modi inaugurates

● **Continued from Pg 1**

people's enthusiasm and appreciation for this forward-looking initiative, and I had the privilege of inviting him (PM Modi) to grace this event with his presence," said Naidu in a recent social media post.

In accordance with the wish of TDP supremo, PM Modi explained the benefits of the GST reforms to

the people.

Naidu recently directed officials to make arrangements for the PM to lay the foundation for 'Drone City' as part of his visit to Srisaillam today

Meanwhile, elaborate security measures have been put in place for the Prime minister's visit to different parts of the state.

Rahul Gandhi alleges PM Modi afraid of Trump

● **Continued from Pg 1**

minister appears to have outsourced key decisions to America. The 56-inch chest has now shrunk.

Speaking to reporters at his Oval Office on Wednesday, Trump said the US was unhappy with India's purchase of Russian crude, claiming such imports helped fund President Vladimir Putin's war.

"He (Modi) is a friend of mine, we have a great rela-

tionship... we were not happy with him buying oil from Russia because that let Russia continue on with this ridiculous war where they've lost a million and a half people," Trump had said in response to a question.

"I was not happy that India was buying oil, and (Modi) assured me today that they will not be buying oil from Russia. That's a big step. Now we've got to get China to do the

Direct Kolkata-London Flight to Launch from Oct 26

MI News Service, Kolkata: Responding to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's appeal, a new Kolkata-London flight service is set to begin soon. The service will start on 26 October, allowing passengers to travel from Kolkata to London and back on the same day. Initially, travelers will have to transit via Mumbai to reach London. The fare has been fixed at ₹22,000.

Currently, due to the absence of direct flights from Kolkata, passengers have had to travel via other states like Delhi or Mumbai, or take connecting flights through Dubai or Qatar, leading to significant time loss. In March this year, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee urged the

High Commission in London to launch a direct Kolkata-London flight from West Bengal. She said, "Bengal is not too far. It would be very helpful to have a direct flight from London. I will request the UK ambassador to consider this. Earlier, British Airways operated the service. A direct flight will be beneficial."

Following her appeal at the London High Commission, she also raised the issue at a merchant assembly, emphasizing the need for direct air connectivity. She added, "Start the Kolkata-London direct flight. We will request British Airways. Early travelers will get fuel concessions. With Green Airport in operation, no seat will remain vacant. We face issues every

day, and this service will help."

She further noted that earlier direct flights were discontinued before her government came to power, even though demand remained high. She highlighted that all seats are usually fully booked, and restarting the service will support trade and travel.

In response to the Chief Minister's repeated appeals, British Airways initiated plans for a Kolkata-London route. Now, IndiGo Airlines has decided to launch the service, marking a significant step toward improving international air connectivity for Kolkata residents and boosting business and tourism ties between the two cities.

State to use waste materials in rural road repair to curb pollution

MI News Service, Kolkata: In an innovative move to control pollution and promote sustainable infrastructure, the West Bengal government plans to use modern technology and recycled waste materials for rural road repair under the Pathashree Project. Nabanna has emphasised the use of bituminous mixes containing waste plastic for the restoration and construction of rural roads across districts.

Officials said special focus will be given to eco-friendly and technology-driven road construction methods to make rural connectivity more durable and sustainable. In areas with

soft soil, the state plans to use jute geo-textiles in the subgrade layer to strengthen the road base. This will not only help in better road quality but also boost the use of natural and biodegradable materials like jute, supporting local industries.

As per the new directive, each district must ensure that at least 20-25% of roads repaired under the Pathashree scheme are built using these environment-friendly technologies. The Panchayat and Rural Development Department has been asked to prepare and submit a list of rural roads where such waste-based construction will be implemented.

Dr. Nitesh Kumar Named MCCI Infra & Realty Co-Chairman

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Merchant's Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI) has appointed Dr. Nitesh Kumar, MD and CEO of Emami Realty, as Co-Chairman of its Infrastructure & Real Estate Council for 2025-26. Recognized for his contributions to the real estate sector, Dr. Kumar will lead initiatives to improve housing accessibility and affordability in India. Under his leadership, MCCI aims to drive sustainable development, industry-government collaboration, and transformative growth in infrastructure and realty.

Kolkata Police issues strict guidelines for Kali Puja

MI News Service, Kolkata: The city police and civic authorities have drawn up detailed plans to ensure smooth and safe celebrations during Kali Puja across the city. Police Commissioner Manoj Verma has urged all organisers to strictly follow safety regulations and avoid any violations during the festive days.

Kali Puja organisers have submitted a set of demands to the city police, including permission to host a Kali Puja carnival similar to the Durga Puja carnival, and concessions on electricity bills. They argued that if Durga Puja committees receive government grants and other logistical support, similar assistance should also be extended to Kali Puja organisers.

Ashish Roy, one of the organisers, said, "We requested the Commissioner to consider concessions on power bills and permission to organise a carnival for Kali Puja, just like Durga Puja. Now, it depends on what decision the authorities take."

According to sources, this year the city administration has ap-

proved around 2,800 Kali Pujas across Kolkata.

Police Commissioner Manoj Verma issued clear warnings against the use of banned fireworks and sky lanterns (fanush), reminding that fanush has been listed as a prohibited item by the Fire Department since a 2019 notification. "All police stations have been instructed to take necessary action if they find anyone selling or lighting sky lanterns," Verma said.

While green firecrackers will be allowed under specific limits, the sale or purchase of banned fireworks will be strictly prohibited. Verma also appealed to residents, especially those living in high-rise buildings, to ensure adequate safety arrangements before bursting crackers.

As in previous years, specific immersion dates have been fixed for idol processions. The Commissioner announced that Kali idol immersions will take place on October 21, 22, and 23, and DJ music has been banned during immersion processions to prevent noise pollution.

UNRESERVED SPECIAL TRAINS												
Between Howrah & Raxaul, Kolkata & Gorakhpur, Kolkata & Madhubani and Asansol & Gorakhpur												
To clear extra rush of passengers during ensuing Diwali & Chhath, Unreserved Special trains will run between Between Howrah & Raxaul, Kolkata & Gorakhpur, Kolkata & Madhubani and Asansol & Gorakhpur as per following abstract timings, stoppages, days of run & composition:--												
03045/03046 Howrah-Raxaul-Howrah Unreserved Special Train						03185/03186 Kolkata-Madhubani-Kolkata Unreserved Special Train						
Howrah - Raxaul		(03045)	(03046)	Raxaul - Howrah		Kolkata-Madhubani		(03185)	(03186)	Madhubani-Kolkata		
Days of run	Arr.	Dep.	Station	Arr.	Dep.	Days of run	Days of run	Arr.	Dep.	Station	Arr.	
Thursday,	—	23.10	↓ Howrah	11.30	—	Saturday	—	23.55	↓ Kolkata	05.15	—	
Friday	23.56	23.58	Bandel	09.42	09.44	Sunday	02.18	02.20	Durgapur	01.38	01.40	
Friday, Saturday	03.00	03.05	Asansol	05.45	05.55		02.50	02.55	Asansol	01.02	01.07	
	04.58	05.00	Jasidih	03.36	03.38		05.00	05.02	Jasidih	23.08	23.10	
Saturday	11.20	11.25	Samastipur	22.10	22.15	10.40	10.45	Samastipur	17.50	17.55	Sunday	
	16.15	—	Raxaul	↑	17.45	13.00	—	Madhubani	↑	15.30		
The above special trains will also stop at Bardhaman, Durgapur, Chittaranjan, Madhupur, Jhajha, Kiul, Barauni, Dalsingh Sarai, Darbhanga, Kamtaul, Janakpur Road, Sitamarhi & Bairaginia stations enroute in both directions. Date/Day of run : From Howrah – 03045 on 17.10.2025 (Friday) & 23.10.2025 (Thursday) = 02 trips and From Raxaul – 03046 on 18.10.2025 (Saturday) & 24.10.2025 (Friday) = 02 trips Composition : Sleeper Class/General 2nd Class – 20, SLRD – 02 = 22 coaches (Unreserved). Category : Mail/Express.												
03133/03134 Kolkata-Gorakhpur-Kolkata Unreserved Special Train						03529/03530 Asansol-Gorakhpur-Asansol Unreserved Special Train						
Kolkata-Gorakhpur		(03133)	(03134)	Gorakhpur-Kolkata		Asansol - Gorakhpur		(03529)	(03530)	Gorakhpur - Asansol		
Days of run	Arr.	Dep.	Station	Arr.	Dep.	Days of run	Days of run	Arr.	Dep.	Station	Arr.	
Friday	—	23.55	↓ Kolkata	15.15	—	Wednesday, Friday	—	20.30	↓ Asansol	03.50	—	
Saturday	01.12	01.14	Bandel	13.30	13.32		21.48	21.50	Madhupur	01.53	01.55	Friday, Sunday
	02.04	02.06	Bardhaman	12.16	12.18		22.18	22.20	Jasidih	01.25	01.30	
	03.33	03.38	Asansol	10.15	10.20	Thursday, Saturday	01.11	01.13	Kiul	23.28	23.30	
	05.07	05.09	Jasidih	08.16	08.18		06.55	07.05	Chhapra	17.35	17.45	
12.05	12.10	Hajipur	02.20	02.25	10.45		—	Gorakhpur	↑	13.45		
18.00	—	Gorakhpur	↑	21.00	Saturday	The above special trains will also stop at Chittaranjan, Jhajha, Jamui, Barauni, Samastipur, Hajipur, Sonpur, Dighwara, Siwan & Deoria Sadar stations enroute in both directions. Date/Day of run : From Asansol – 03529 on 22.10.2025 (Wednesday) & 24.10.2025 (Friday) = 02 trips and From Gorakhpur – 03530 on 23.10.2025 (Thursday) & 25.10.2025 (Saturday) = 02 trips. Composition : Sleeper Class/General 2nd Class – 20, SLRD – 02 = 22 coaches (Unreserved). Category : Mail/Express.						
Chief Passenger Transportation Manager												

Eastern Railway

Name Change

I, Ankit B Doshi (Old Name), Son Of Bharat Nagindas Doshi, Residing At 6, Sarat Bose Road, Lansdowne Heights Flat No 6F, Ps-Ballygunge, Kolkata-700020, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ankit Bharat Doshi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Alipore, Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Ankit B Doshi And Ankit Bharat Doshi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Shekh Kashif Hasan S/O Nawab Shekh resident of Dharampur,Azad Line, P.O Burmpur, P.S.Hirapur, District- Paschim Bardhaman,Pin No. - 713325, West Bengal, hereby declare that I am also known by the name SK Kashif Hasan. Both names are same and one identical person vide affidavit before the Notary Public at Asansol Court dated 15.10.2025

I, Jharna Bibi, W/o Late Md. Titu, residing at Vill. Binodpur, P.O.+P.S. Rampurhat, Dist. Birbhum do hereby declare that in my voter card (no. WB/42/292/006316) & in my marriage documents my name has been recorded as Bibi Jharna, W/o Titu & Snehar Begum, D/o Md. Zakaria, w/o Md. Titu, which is wrongly recorded as per my aadhaar card (no. 504619113678). On 09.10.2025 vide affidavit no. 1835 before the Judicial Magistrate, Rampurhat, Birbhum, I affirm that Jharna Bibi, W/o Md. Titu; Bibi Jharna, W/o Titu & Snehar Begum, D/o Md. Zakaria, w/o Md. Titu is the same & one identical person.

I, Karuna Biswas, D/o Ranen Biswa, residing at Vill. Nischintapur, P.O. Simulia, P.S. Gopalanagar, Dist. North 24 Pgs, PIN - 743 262, W.B. do hereby declare that in my birth certificate issued by Dighari of Gopalanagar my mother's name has been recorded as Karuna Biswas in place of Kanika Biswas. On 14.10.2025 vide affidavit no. 6117 before the Executive Magistrate, Bongaon, I affirm that my mother Karuna Biswas & Kanika Biswas is the same & one identical person.

I, Rahul Mondal, S/O- Shankar Mondal (Father) & Sapna Mondal (Mother), R/O- Chongda More, Jessore Road, Santi Nagar School, Ambika Chakraborty Road, P.O. Habra, Dist- 24 PGS (N), West Bengal- 743263. So now I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rahul Mondal (S/O- Shankar Mondal (Father) & Sapna Mondal (Mother)) as declared before Notary Public, Barasat Court vide Affidavit No. 722 Dated 14/10/2025. Rahul Mondal, S/O- Shankar Mondal (Father) & Sapna Mondal (Mother) and Rahul Mondal, S/O- Shankar Mondal (Father) & Sapna Mondal (Mother) are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Rukhsana Khatun (New Name), Rukhsana Khatoun- previously called (Old Name), w/o-Mohammad Moineuddin R/s. 28, G.C.R.C. Ghat, P.O. & P.S.-Shibpur, Dist.-Howrah, W.B.- 711102 declare that shall henceforth be known as Rukhsana Khatun (New Name) before the Notary Public at Howrah, Dtd. 14.10.2025, Rukhsana Khatoun (Old Name) & Rukhsana Khatun (New Name) both are the same and identical lady.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Moineuddin (New Name), previously called Md Mainuddin Ansari (Old Name), s/o.-L.T. Bashir Ahmad, R/s.28, G.C.R.C. Ghat, P.O. & P.S.-Shibpur, Dist.-Howrah, W.B.- 711102, declare that shall henceforth be known as Mohammad Moineuddin (New Name) before the Notary Public at Howrah, Dtd. 10.10.2025, Md Mainuddin Ansari (Old Name) & Mohammad Moineuddin (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Swati Riten Jasani (Old Name), w/o.-Riten Jasani, R/O. Aspira, Flat No. 1B, 30, Nakuleshwar Bhattacharya Lane, Kalighat, Kol-26, WB, declare shall henceforth be known as Swati Jasani (New Name) before the Notary Public at Kolkata, Dtd.- 16.10.2025, Swati Riten Jasani (Old Name) & Swati Jasani (New Name) both are the same and identical lady.

Name Change

I, Riten S Jasani & Riten Shashikant Jasani (Old Name), S/o.-Shashikant Chuniilal Jasani, R/O. Aspira, Flat No. 1B, 30, Nakuleshwar Bhattacharya Lane, Kalighat, Kol-26, WB declare shall henceforth be known as Riten Jasani (New Name) before the Notary Public at Kolkata, Dtd.-16.10.2025, Riten S Jasani & Riten Shashikant Jasani, (Old Name) & Riten Jasani (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Matlur Rahaman Sekh (Old Name) s/o Khaliur Rahaman (father's name) residing at VILL+ P.O: Kamarpur, PS:Bhabanipur, Dist: Purba Medinipur (Address) have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Matlur Rahaman (New Name) as declared before the first Class Judicial Magistrate at Holdta Court vide an affidavit No. 9178 Dated 26.08.2025 that Matlur Rahaman Sekh (Old Name) and Matlur Rahaman (New Name) both are same and identical person.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mohammed Masgigul Haque Mondal (Old name) S/o. Late Mohammed Abdul Gaffar Mondal R/O. Village+P.O.- Noorpur, P.S.-Ramnagar, Dist-South 24 Pgs, Pin - 743368 have changed my name and henceforth be known as Md. Masgigul Haque Mondal S/o. Late Abdul Gaffar Mondal (New Name). So, Mohammed Masgigul Haque Mondal (Old name) S/o. Late Mohammed Abdul Gaffar Mondal & Md. Masgigul Haque Mondal (New Name) S/o.Late Abdul Gaffar Mondal are same & one identical person as per affidavit of Ld. Executive Magistrate at Diamond Harbour Court, 24 Pgs(S) dated 08.10.2025

NAME CHANGE

I, Rani Begum, W/o Abu Bakkar Hossain residing at 1-75/A, Rameshwarpur Road, P.O & P.S-Garden Reach, Kolkata 700024 Dist 24 Parganas (South) declare that in my son named Md. Ismail's school record or documents his Date of Birth has been wrongly recorded as 08.09.2004 instead of its original Date of Birth 08.09.2005 as mentioned in Birth Certifi-cate of my son. Vide affidavit no. 71749 dated 18.11.2024 declared before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore the actual DOB of my son is 08.09. 2005.

NAME CHANGE

I, Rani Begum, W/o Abu Bakkar Hossain residing at 1-75/A, Rameshwarpur Road, P.O & P.S-Garden Reach, Kolkata 700024 Dist 24 Parganas (South) declare that in my son named Md. Ismail's school record or documents my name has been wrongly recorded as Shamсад Begum which is my nick name in the column of Mother's Name instead of my original Rani Begum as mentioned in, Aadhaar Card and PAN and Birth Certificate of my son. That Shamсад Begum and Rani Begum both are same and one identical Person vide affidavit no.71749 dated 18.11.2024 before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magis-trate atAlipore.

Name Change

I, N N Chattopadhyay S/O P N Chattopadhyay (my & my father old name as per DI No WB01 1984 0259312) resident of 38, M.J.S. Sarani, Regent Park, Kolkata-700040, West Bengal, India, I have changed my and my father name and we shall henceforth be known as Narendra Nath Chattopadhyay S/O Panchanan Chattopadhyay (new name), as declared Before The Ld 1st class judicial magistrate at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 15/10/2025. Narendra Nath Chattopadhyay and N N Chattopadhyay both are same and one identical person (my self). Panchanan Chattopadhyay and P N Chattopadhyay both are same and one identical person (my father).

NAME CHANGE

I, Jaydeb Mukherjee S/o. Shankar Mukherjee R/o. Balikukhari, Harit, Dadpur, Hooghly-712305, W.B., have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Joydev Mukherjee (new name) vide an affidavit no. 9899 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Chinsurah, Hooghly Court on 15/10/2025. 1, Joydev Mukherjee as well as Jaydeb Mukherjee S/o. Shankar Mukherjee both are the same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Jayanta Maity (Old Name), Son Of Late Rabindranath Maity, Residing At Athilgari, P.O & P.S-Contai, East Midnapore- 721401, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Jayanta Kumar Maity (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/10/2025. Jayanta Maity And Jayanta Kumar Maity Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Neil Surajit Maity (Old Name), Son Of Late Rajyanta Kumar Maity, Residing At Athilgari, Contai(M), P.O & P.S- Contai, Purba Medinipur - 721401, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Neil S Maity (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/10/2025. Neil Surajit Maity And Neil S Maity Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Asgaral Mondal S/O Yaar Ali Mondal R/O Sompur, Po Nayabastiya Ps Baduria 24pgs North Pin 743401, Wb Shall Henceforth Be Known As Agjar Mondal Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 16th October 2025 At Bankshall Court, Kolkata. That Asgaral Mondal And Agjar Mondal Both Are Same And One Identical Person Not Two Different Person.

Name Change

I, Kabir Aniruddin S/O Md Abdus Sultan R/O Mohisgotte, Po Nalikut, Ps Haripal, Hooghly Rural, Pin 712407, Wb Shall Henceforth Be Known As Kabir Aniruddha Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public Kolkata On 16th October 2025 At Bankshall Court, Kolkata. That Kabir Aniruddin And Kabir Aniruddha Both Are Same And One Identical Person Not Two Different Person.

Name Change

I, Ramesh Sheth (old name) S/o Jesukhlal Vamnali Sheth, resident of: 18 prannath pandit st, aestha apartment, flat 2a, p - s - Ballygunge, W.B, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ramesh Jesukhlal Sheth (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit No 39 dated 16/10/2025. Ramesh Jesukhlal Sheth (new name) and Ramesh Sheth (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Devanand Rai (Old Name), Son Of Beni Rai, Residing At 28/1, Munshi-Gange Road, Khidderpore, Kolkata - 700023, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Devanand Ray (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Alipore, Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Pooja A Doshi And Pooja Doshi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Pooja A Doshi (Old Name), Wife Of Ankit Bharat Doshi, Residing At 6, Sarat Bose Road, Lansdowne Heights Flat No 6F, Ps-Ballygunge, Kolkata-700020, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Pooja Doshi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Alipore, Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Pooja A Doshi And Pooja Doshi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Sirjul Kayal (old name) S/o Sadarddin Kayal, resident of Vill- Kharampur, P.O.- Kharampur, P.S.- Hasnabad, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin-743456, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sirajul Kayal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 13/10/2025. Sirajul Kayal (new name) and Sirjul Kayal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Abu Sayed Md Mustak (old name) S/o Md Omar Ali, resident of Vill- Mominpur, P.O.- Mominpur, P.S.- Madia, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743291, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abu Sayed Md Mustak Gazi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 13/10/2025. Abu Sayed Md Mustak Gazi (new name) and Abu Sayed Md Mustak (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mazed Ali Darzi (old name) S/o Jubbar Darzi, resident of Vill- Harishpur, P.O.- Harishpur, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Majed Ali Darji (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, vide an affidavit SI. No. 70, dated 09/10/2025. Majed Ali Darji (new name) and Mazed Ali Darzi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mohammed Masud Alam (old name) S/o Late Abdul Quddus Quraishi, resident of Girja Para, Chand Mohalla Rani ganj, Paschim Bardhaman, Pin-713347, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Masud Alam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 15/10/2025. Md Masud Alam (new name) and Mohammed Masud Alam (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ausser Ali Mondal (Old Name) S/o Kalu Mondal Residing at Vill+Po - Barachupia, District- Nadia, Pin - 741502, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aochhar Ali Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 142/2025 Dated 16-10-2025. Ausser Ali Mondal (Old Name) and Aochhar Ali Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Kartik Hazra (Old Name) S/o Bacharachan Hazra Residing at Sindranti, Bagula, Char Mandalbhag, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743297, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kartik Hazra (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 15/2025 Dated 16-10-2025. Kartik Hazra (Old Name) and Kartik Hazra (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Rased Ali Molla alias Md Resed Ali Molla (Old Name) S/o Saheb Ali Molla Residing at Kadam Pukur, Basina, Rajarhat Bishnupur, Rajarhat, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700135, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rased Ali Molla (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 16/2025 Dated 16-10-2025. Md Rased Ali Molla, Md Resed Ali Molla (Old Name) and Rased Ali Molla (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sumi Roy Ghosh (Old Name) W/o Avijit Ghosh Residing at East Karmarhuba, Habra, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743263, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sumi Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit dated 16-10-2025. Sumi Roy Ghosh (Old Name) and Sumi Ghosh (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Adity Mishra (Old Name) W/o Deojyoti Banerjee Residing at 2332, D.P.P Road Flat-G2, Po.- Naktala, Ps.- Netaji Nagar, District -Kolkata, Pin - 700047, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Adity Banerjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-10-2025. Adity Mishra (Old Name) and Adity Banerjee (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Abanti Bagchi Baksi (Old Name) W/o Saibal Baksi Residing at P-5 K.B Roy Garden Garia Station Road, P.O - Garia, Ps - Narendrapur, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700084, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Dr Abanti Bagchi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-10-2025. Abanti Bagchi Baksi (Old Name) and Dr Abanti Bagchi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mizanur Rahman (Old Name) S/o Majibur Rahaman Residing at Vill - Nowpapara, Uttar Para, P.O - Nowapara, Ps - Nalhati, District - Birbhum, Pin - 731237, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Mizanur Rahman (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-10-2025. Mizanur Rahman (Old Name) and Mizanur Rahman (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Musfera Fatma (Old Name) D/o Late Md Naushadul Haque Residing at 16/1/D, Topsis Road South, Po- Gobinda Khatkic Road, Ps - Topsis Thana, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700046 West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Musfera Fatma (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 26-09-2025. Musfera Fatma (Old Name) and Musfera Fatma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sukanta Mandal S/O Late Sunil Kumar Mandal, resident of Haritala Minakhan, P.O.- Bamanpukur, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743425, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name Sunil Kumar Mandal & Sunil Mandal (father old names) to (I shall henceforth be known as) Sunil Kumar Mandal (father new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Sunil Kumar Mandal and Sunil Kumar Mandal & Sunil Mandal (old names) all are same and one identical person (my father).

Name Change

I, REKHA RANI SAMADDAR (old name) W/o SAMIR SAMADDAR, resident of KAMARHATI COLONY,KAMARHATI,PO KAMARHATI COLONY,PS-DHUBULA, NADIA-741154, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as REKHA SAMADDAR (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. REKHA SAMADDAR (new name) and REKHA RANI SAMADDAR (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Surojit Samaddar (old name) S/o Samir Samaddar, resident of KAMARHATI COLONY,KAMARHATI,PO KAMARHATI COLONY,PS-DHUBULA,NADIA-741154, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Surojit Samaddar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Surojit Samaddar (new name) and Surojit Samaddar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Gola Mustak Ahmed (old name) S/o Late Motiur Rahaman, resident of Vill-Jafarpur, P.O.- Nimdaria, P.S.- Duttapukur, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743294, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Gola Mustak Ahmed (new name), as declared Before The Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Barasat, vide an affidavit SI. No. 7913, dated 15/09/2025. Md Gola Mustak Ahmed (new name) and Mohammad Gola Mustak Ahmed (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Atiur Rahman Mollick (Old Name), Son Of Habibur Rahman Mollick, Residing At Dharampur, Po-Mainan, Ps-Khanakul, Hooghly-712406, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Atiur Rahman Mollick (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Atiur Rahman Mollick Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Akilur Rahaman Mollick (Old Name), Son Of Atiur Rahman Mollick, Residing At Dharampur, Po-Mainan, Ps-Khanakul, Hooghly-712406, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Akilur Rahman Mollick (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Akilur Rahman Mollick Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Halim Molla (Old Name), Son Of Abdul Hasem Molla, Residing At Vill-Jailpur, Po-Dosotina, Bishnupur, Diamond Harbour-743503, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdul Halim Molla (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/10/2025. Halim Molla And Abdul Halim Molla Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Sanjira Malik (old name), w/o-Chhamedali Malik, R/o. V1 11, Maheshnagar, P.O.-Birpur, P.S.-Chapra, Dist.-Nadia, declare that my & my husband name has wrongly recorded in my son's birth certificate & madhyamik admit card as Sandira Mallick & Samed Mallick before in the Court of the Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Krishnagar, Nadia. Sanjira Malik, w/o-Chhamedali Malik, Sandira Mallick W/o Samed Mallick both are the same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Rakesh Kahnra son of Late Haren Chandra khanna, resident of Gangdaharpur Panchla, Howrah, 711302, West Bengal, I have changed my father name Haren khanna (father old name) to (the shall henceforth be known as) Haren Chandra khanna (father new name) vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 14/10/2025. Haren Chandra khanna and Haren khanna both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mustri Begum (old name) W/o Mantu Khan, resident of Sanctoria Colony, P.O.-Dishergarh, P.S.- Kuli, Dist.- Paschim Barddhaman, Pin- 713333, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mustari Begam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Mustari Begam (new name) and Mustri Begum (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Raj Kumar Prasad (old name) S/o Shiv Sagar Prosad, resident of 164A, Brojen Mukherjee Road, P.O. & P.S.-Behala, Kolkata- 700034, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Raj Kumar Prosad (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Raj Kumar Prosad (new name) and Raj Kumar Prasad (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Israfil S/O Late Jumrati Miya, resident of 7B, B.K. Road, P.S.- Ekbalpore, Kolkata-700023, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name Jumrati Mian (father old name) to (the shall henceforth be known as) Jumrati Miya (father new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Jumrati Miya and Jumrati Mian both are same and one identical person (my father).

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MONALI SAHA MANDAL & MONALI MANDAL W/o- DILIP KUMAR MANDAL Residing at, Vill- Nagarpara(Sattari), Post - Sattari, Ps - Englishbazar, Dist-Malda, Pin- 732208, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MONALI SAHA MANDAL & MONALI MANDAL to MONALI SAHA (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MONALI SAHA in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, MONALI SAHA and MONALI MANDAL & MONALI MANDAL both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) SAYEBA KHATUN W/o MD ASRAF ALI Residing at, Vill- Chaspara, Post - Chaspara, Ps - Kaliachak, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732206, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SAYEBA KHATUN To MST SAYEBA BIBI (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) MST SAYEBA BIBI in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, MST SAYEBA BIBI and SAYEBA KHATUN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) KANIZ PARVIN D/o- KAJI NAJRUUL ISLAM Residing at, Vill- Piyajimore, Post- Malda, Ps - Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from KANIZ PARVIN To KANIZ PARVIN (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) KANIZ PARVIN in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, KANIZ PARVIN and KANIZ PARVIN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) KAZI NAJRUUL ISLAM & KAJINAZRUUL ISLAM S/o- LATE SEKH SAJIRUDDIN Residing at, Vill- Piyajimore, Post- Malda, Ps - Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from KAZI NAJRUUL ISLAM & KAJINAZRUUL ISLAM To KAJI NAJRUUL ISLAM (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) KAJI NAJRUUL ISLAM in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, KAJI NAJRUUL ISLAM & KAZI NAJRUUL ISLAM & KAJINAZRUUL ISLAM both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) PRANABES S/O-LATE PURNENDU RAY Residing at, Vill- Fulbari, Post- Malda, Ps - Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from PRANABES To PRANABES RAY (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) PRANABES RAY in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, PRANABES RAY and PRANABES both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) NAZRUL S/o- LATE UMED ALI Residing at, Vill- Shaipur, Post- Jote Basanta, Ps - Englishbazar, Dist- Malda, Pin- 732128, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from NAZRUL To ALI NAZRUL (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) ALI NAZRUL in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, ALI NAZRUL and NAZRUL both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) JONYAT AFZAL S/o-JAHURUL ALAM SHAIKH Residing at, Vill- Kuli Chowrasta, Post- Kuli Kandi, Ps - Burwan, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742168, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from JONYAT AFZAL To JANAYAT AFZAL SHAIKH (New name) and hence forth I Shall be Known as (New name) JANAYAT AFZAL SHAIKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 24 Sept 2025, JANAYAT AFZAL SHAIKH and JONYAT AFZAL both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ashvinkumar Shah (old name) S/o Late Vasantrai Chunilal Shah, resident of 74/3B, Chakraberia Road North, Bhawanipore, I.R. Sarani, Kolkata- 700020, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashvin Kumar Vasantrai Shah (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Ashvin Kumar Vasantrai Shah (new name) and Ashvinkumar Shah (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Jahanara Bibi D/O Late Layep Ali Molla, resident of Vill- Binarait, P.O.-Iswariapur, Ps.- Chandaneswar, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743502, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name Layep Molla (father old name) Passport No K0484160, Voter List 2002, Part No 165, SI No 124) to (he shall henceforth be known as) Layep Ali Molla (father new name Aadhar Card,Pan Card), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. Layep Ali Molla and Layep Molla both are same and one identical person (my father).

Name Change

I, DEBASISH KARMAKAR & DEBASIS KARMAKAR (old names) S/o ASTIPADA KARMAKAR, resident of NATIPBUR, P.O-NATIPBUR, P.S- KHANAKUL, DIST-GOUGHLY RURAL, PIN-712416, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as DEBASISH KARMAKAR (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/10/2025. DEBASISH KARMAKAR (new name) and DEBASIS KARMAKAR & DEBASIS KARMAKAR (old names) all are same and one identical person.

RPF/EASTERN RAILWAY APPREHENDS TWO HUMAN TRAFFICKERS; RESCUES FOUR MINOR BOYS UNDER “OPERATION AAH”

MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25: In a major success in its ongoing mission against human trafficking, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway apprehended two human traffickers and rescued four minor boys under “Operation Aah” on 15th October 2025. Acting on intelligence inputs, RPF officials of Asansol West Post, Asansol Division, intercepted Train No. 12376 DN at Asansol Railway Station and rescued the minors from the custody of the traffickers. The arrested individuals were handed over to the Government Railway Police Station (GRPS), Asansol. A case has been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act.



The rescued children were subsequently handed over to Child Help Line, Asansol for proper care and rehabilitation.

Additionally, on the same day, under “Operation Nanhe Faristey”, RPF officials of Howrah, Malda, and Asansol Divisions rescued five minor children—including four girls—from the premises of Howrah, Asansol, and Malda Railway Stations.

The

Axis Bank in collaboration with Hitachi Payment Services, unveils Express Banking: India’s first Digital Banking Point

OCTOBER 16: Axis Bank, one of the largest private sector banks in India, has partnered with Hitachi Payment Services, a leading end-to-end payments and commerce solutions provider, to unveil "Express Banking", the country's first-ever Digital Banking Point. This innovative omni-channel solution revolutionizes branch banking by offering a full range of banking services in a compact format. Leveraging Hitachi Payment Services' expertise in banking technology and payment solutions, the Digital Banking Point is designed to enhance accessibility and convenience.

Adding a competitive edge to Branch Banking services, Express Banking will offer a bundled, customizable solution in a compact digital lobby format, enabling rapid deployment that can be operated in both self-service and

assisted modes. The customers can now walk-in to Express Banking, 24x7, to open new bank accounts, avail instant cards, book fixed deposits, apply for loans and pay utility bills, among others. This all-in-one solution includes features such as a card printer, cheque depositor, passbook printer, and NFC capabilities. By digitizing key services, it enables faster processing and offers advanced, modular, scalable, and future-ready capabilities.

Blending the trust and safety of traditional banking with the speed and efficiency of digital innovation, Digital Banking Point is equipped with the latest security features and a contemporary, intuitive user interface that elevates customer experience. With a compact and flexible set-up, it occupies minimal space and can be rapidly deployed across diverse



places including city centres, rural areas, or captive locations such as community hubs, corporate parks, hospitals and universities. This next-generation solution brings a full spectrum of banking services with accessible digital-first touch-points, ensuring inclusivity for everyone from digitally savvy users to first-time banking customers.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. Reynold D'Souza, President & Head - Branch Banking, North & East & TASC Business, Axis Bank, said, "The Digital Banking Point is not just a technological innovation - it represents a new philosophy in express banking. By seamlessly integrating secure digital services, this kiosk ensures that customers across India - whether in metropolitan hubs or rural communities - enjoy a smart, consistent, and reliable banking experience. This

initiative reflects our continued commitment to redefining banking, elevating customer experience, and serving the evolving needs of diverse segments through future-ready solutions."

Mr. Sumil Vikamsey, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer - Cash Business, Hitachi Payment Services, further added, "We are thrilled to introduce India's first Digital Banking Point, a landmark in how banking services will be delivered. Ushering in a new era of technology-driven banking, it will play a pivotal role in expanding access and digitizing services across India. As we continue to bridge the gap between traditional and digital banking, we believe that the Digital Banking Point will set the stage for a broader transition to accessible and convenient banking experiences in India."

Why women face higher risk of multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's



NEW DELHI : US researchers have identified a gene on the X chromosome that drives inflammation in the female brain and explains the reason why women are disproportionately affected by conditions such as Alzheimer's disease and multiple sclerosis.

The team from the University of California-Los Angeles noted that, as females have two X chromosomes, as opposed to only one in males, they get a "double dose" of inflammation, which plays a major role in ageing, Alzheimer's disease, and multiple sclerosis.

Using a mouse model of multiple sclerosis, they found the gene Kdm6a, which causes inflammation in microglia -- immune cells in the brain.

When Kdm6a and its associated protein were deactivated, the multiple sclerosis-like disease and neuropathology were both ameliorated with high significance in female mice, revealed the study, published in the journal Science Translational Medicine.

"Multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's disease each affect women more often than men,

about two to three times as often. Also, two-thirds of healthy women have 'brain fog' during menopause. These new findings explain why and point to a new treatment to target this," said lead author Dr. Rhonda Voskuhl, director of the Multiple Sclerosis Programme at UCLA Health.

When the team genetically "knocked out" the gene Kdm6a in brain immune cells, the inflammatory molecules shifted from being activated to a resting state.

The team also performed a pharmacologic "knock down" of the protein made by this gene using metformin -- widely used as a treatment for diabetes.

While these interventions were highly significant in female mice, their effect was almost undetectable in males, Voskuhl said.

"This is consistent with there being 'more to block' in females due to having two copies of the X-linked gene," said Voskuhl.

"It's also why females are more likely to get multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's disease than males. This has implications for the clinic. Women may respond differently to metformin treatment than men."

Study warns high-fat keto diet may drive breast cancer risk

NEW DELHI : While the keto diet -- high in fat and low in carbohydrates -- is hugely popular for weight loss, a new animal study has warned that it may raise the risk of an aggressive type of breast cancer.

Research from the University of Utah, US, showed that high lipid levels caused by fatty acids -- a key feature of obesity that promotes tumour growth -- can also fuel the risk of triple-negative breast cancer.

The study, conducted in pre-clinical mouse models, suggests that breast cancer patients and survivors with obesity could benefit from lipid-lowering therapies -- and that they should avoid high-fat weight loss regimens like keto-genic diets.

"The key here is that people have underestimated the importance of fats and lipids in the all-encompassing term that is obesity," said Keren Hilgendorf, from the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the varsity.

"But our study shows that breast cancer cells are really addicted to lipids, and the abundance of lipids in patients with



obesity is one of the reasons that breast cancer is more prevalent and more aggressive in these patients," Hilgendorf added.

The team analysed mouse models on high-fat diets and used models that were engineered to have hyperlipidaemia -- a high amount of lipids in the blood -- without other key markers of obesity, like high glucose and insulin

levels.

The findings, published in the journal Cancer and Metabolism, showed that the high lipids alone were enough to accelerate tumour growth. Interestingly, lowering the amount of lipids, in the presence of high glucose and insulin levels, was also enough to slow down breast cancer cell growth.

Importantly, the study showed

that although a keto diet can lead to weight loss, which is necessary for cancer patients, the high-fat content "can have serious unintended side effects -- even causing the tumour to grow."

The study suggests that lipids may also fuel tumour growth in patients with obesity who have other types of breast cancer, or ovarian or colorectal cancers.

Ayurveda Aahara integral part of global nutrition, will ensure disease-free future: Minister



nature," Jadhav said. As part of the celebration, the Ministry of Ayush reiterated India's commitment to fostering a healthier and more sustainable planet through initiatives like 'Ayurveda Aahara'.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), in consultation with the Ministry of Ayush, recently released a definitive list of Ayurveda Aahara products under Category A, providing the first comprehensive reference framework for authentic Ayurvedic dietary preparations. The list, based on authoritative classical texts, is expected to drive growth, quality, and global confidence in Ayurveda-based nutrition.

"Through our collaboration with FSSAI, we aim to make Ayurveda Aahara an integral part of global nutrition, ensuring that better foods lead to a better, disease-free future," Jadhav said.

India's traditional food systems -- epitomised by the diverse and balanced Indian Thali -- are now being globally recognised for their nutritional and environmental sustainability.

The definitive list of Ayurveda Aahara will also bring clarity to manufacturers and trust to consumers, said Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush. "We see this as a major boost for startups and innovation in the health food sector -- where Ayurveda's wisdom can help break the rising trend of diet- and lifestyle-related disorders that lead to non-communicable diseases," he added.

"By integrating Ayurvedic dietary principles into mainstream nutrition policy, India is showing the world how traditional knowledge can guide sustainable and mindful eating practices. The collaboration between Ayush and FSSAI exemplifies working 'hand in hand' for better foods and a better future," said Professor Anupam Srivastava of the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur.

NEW DELHI : Making Ayurveda Aahara an integral part of global nutrition can help fight lifestyle-related diseases and ensure a disease-free future, said Prataprao Jadhav, Union Minister of State for Ayush (Independent Charge) on Thursday, on World Food Day 2025.

Ayurveda Aahara is India's unique food philosophy rooted in balance, wellness, and nature. World Food Day 2025 is celebrated this year under the theme "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future".

"This year's World Food Day theme resonates deeply with India's traditional wisdom. Ayurveda Aahara is not merely food - it is a philosophy that unites health, sustainability, and compassion for

Air pollution dips to 'very poor' in Delhi-NCR ahead of Diwali

NEW DELHI : Air pollution levels in Delhi-NCR have turned into the 'very poor' category, raising serious public health concerns even before the Diwali festivities. Data recorded on Thursday morning shows that air quality in several parts of Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Noida has deteriorated further, surpassing even some of the previous most polluted areas.

The Air Quality Index (AQI) in many localities has breached the 300 mark, placing them in the "very poor" category. The AQI between 301 and 400 is considered very poor. In Ghaziabad, Loni reported an AQI of 339, the highest in the entire region. Other areas like Vasundhara and Indrapuram recorded AQIs of 287, while Sanjay Nagar stood at 260.

In neighbouring Noida, the situation was equally alarming. Sector 125 reported an AQI of 358, Sector 116 recorded 334, Sector 1 was at 257, and Sector 62 registered 207. Delhi, too, continued to battle thick pollution. Anand Vihar recorded an AQI of 335, Wazirpur 337, Bawana 281, and Mundka 297 -- all falling in the "poor" to "very poor" range.

While some parts of the capital showed marginally better air quality, the overall picture remains grim across the NCR.

In response to the worsening air quality, authorities have implemented the first phase of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), which includes restrictions such as halting construction and demolition work and banning the use of diesel generators. Officials warned that if pollution levels continue to rise, the second phase of GRAP, with more stringent curbs, could be enforced soon.

PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Poshan Abhiyan key to advancing food security in India: Nadda

NEW DELHI : Initiatives like Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and Poshan Abhiyan have been crucial in advancing food security in the country, said Union Health Minister JP Nadda on Thursday on World Food Day.

World Food Day is observed every year on October 16 to raise awareness about food security, nutrition, and sustainable agricultural practices. Talking to the social media platform X, the Union Health Minister stressed the need for sustainable and inclusive approaches both for food production and nutrition.

"Today, as we commemorate World Food Day, we highlight the urgent need for sustainable and inclusive approaches to food production and nutrition," Nadda said. Crediting PM Narendra Modi's visionary leadership for initiatives like PMGKAY and Poshan Abhiyan, the Minister stated that these

schemes "have played a vital role in advancing food security and ensuring that every individual receives safe, wholesome, sufficient, and nutritious food for a better tomorrow".

"With the theme of 'Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future', this day reminds us of our collective responsibility to eliminate hunger and malnutrition," Nadda said.

PMGKAY was launched with the specific purpose of ameliorating the hardships faced by the poor and needy due to economic disruptions caused by the Covid-19 outbreak in the country.

The core function of PMGKAY is to distribute food-grains free of cost to the households already identified and covered by the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The PM POSHAN (Poshan SHAKti Nirman) Scheme is a crucial national initiative designed to enhance education and combat hunger by improving the nutritional status of children in government and government-aided schools. It also encourages regular attendance among disadvantaged students.

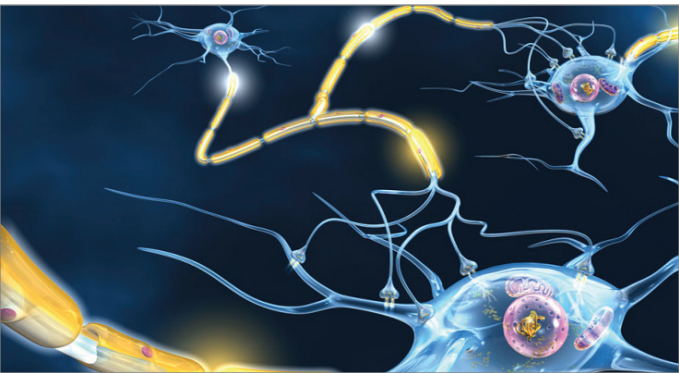
Under the scheme, one nutritious hot cooked mid-day meal is provided to all primary students up to the age of 14 years.

Multidisciplinary study finds estrogen could aid in therapies for progressive multiple sclerosis

TEXAS : About 100,000 of the estimated million persons in the United States with multiple sclerosis (MS) have a progressive form of the disease, with symptoms worsening over time or following periods of remission.

"Progressive MS is profoundly challenging because it is relentless and treatment options are limited," said Francisco P. Gomez, a neurologist who specializes in MS and neuroimmunology.

MS is believed to occur when the immune system attacks the myelin sheath -- the protective coating of the nerve fibers that transmit electrical impulses throughout the body -- and disrupt this communication. The disease occurs more often in women, older people and those in northern latitudes. Symptoms include fatigue, numbness or tingling, bladder and bowel problems and cognitive issues, but difficulty walking and balancing are the most common symptoms -- and these are more pronounced in the progressive form of the disease. In



addition, the progressive form is more prevalent among Black patients. Now, Gomez and colleagues with the Texas A&M University Health Science Center (Texas A&M Health) have identified two estrogens that show promise in reducing the symptoms of progressive MS: estradiol and estrinol. For their study, published in the Journal of Neuroimmunology, the team evaluated estrinol and estradiol as possible treatment protocols through

a study that used a virus to mimic progressive MS. "Testing potential therapies by using virus models of the disease is important because we recently learned that the Epstein-Barr virus contributes to the formation and development of MS by triggering an autoimmune response in susceptible individuals," said study author Jane Welsh, a neuroimmunologist with the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (VMBS) and

the Texas A&M Naresh K. Vashist College of Medicine.

She added that while women are more likely than men to develop MS, once they have the disease and become pregnant, they tend to go into remission. "That's because during pregnancy -- and especially in the third trimester -- estradiol and estrinol levels are elevated," said study author Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, a neurodegenerative disease expert with the Texas A&M School of Public Health. "Even women with MS who are on oral contraceptives experience fewer symptoms and have fewer relapses, so we evaluated how these hormones affect the myelin sheath." Estrogen is a group of hormones that primarily affect sex drive and reproductive development, especially for women. Estradiol is more potent than estrinol and is used for hormone replacement therapy in postmenopausal women. Estrinol, on the other hand, is used off-label for a variety of conditions and is FDA-approved only.

Global media leaders gather in Moscow for 17th Assembly of Russian World

MI News Service, Moscow: Representatives from over 40 countries are set to gather in Moscow for the 17th Assembly of the Russian World, scheduled from October 20 to 22, 2025, organised by the Russkiy Mir Foundation with the support of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For the first time, the assembly will feature a special session titled "New Media Dimension: Strengthening Dialogue - Confidence Building", bringing together foreign and Russian specialists in mass communications. The session is being organised in partnership with TV BRICS International Media Network, the official international information partner of the event.

Tatyana Shlychkova, Executive Director of the Russkiy Mir Foundation, highlighted the growing global media interest in fostering new partnerships. "For us, this is an important indicator of the interest shown by media representatives in establishing new types of contacts and forming a modern architecture of communications. Guests from more than 40 countries will take part in the discussion. We are confident that the international dialogue will be effective and will continue in a practical direction. As part of its BRICS Global Media Tour, TV BRICS has invited heads of leading partner media from 16 countries, including Brazil, Vietnam, Egypt, Zimbabwe, India, Indonesia, Iran, Cuba, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Thailand, Chile, Ethiopia, and South Africa.

Taiwan detects 23 Chinese aircraft, 8 vessels, 2 ships around its region

MI News Service, Taipei: Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense detected 23 Chinese military aircraft, eight Chinese naval vessels and two official ships operating around its territorial waters as of 6 am on Thursday (local time). As per the MND, of the 23 sorties, 21 crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, south-western and eastern Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ). In a post on X, the MND said, "23 PLA aircraft, 8 PLAN vessels and 2 official ships operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 21 out of 23 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, south-western and eastern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded." On Wednesday, Taiwan detected 16 Chinese aircraft, 13 naval vessels and two official ships operating around the region. Of the 16, 14 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, southwestern and southeastern ADIZ. In a post on X, the MND said, "16 PLA aircraft, 13 PLAN vessels and 2 official ships operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 14 out of 16 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, south-western and southeastern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded." Meanwhile, China's swift growth and diversification of its nuclear capabilities have led to concerns that Beijing might engage in "nuclear blackmail" or even nuclear conflict with Western countries if they intervene in a Taiwan dispute, reminiscent of the warnings from the Kremlin during its incursion into Ukraine, as reported by Central News Agency (CAN).



Among the key participants are Dylan Poitevin Della Pasqua, Editor-in-Chief of Agency Safras News (Brazil); Ezzat Youssef, Editor-in-Chief of Al-Ahram Online (Egypt); Victoria Ruzvidzo, Editor of The Herald (Zimbabwe); Marzieh Zaer-irani, Director for International Cooperation at IRIB (Iran); Ali Muhammad Ali, Managing Director

Earthquake of magnitude 3.7 strikes Myanmar

MI News Service, Naypyidaw: An earthquake measuring magnitude 3.7 struck Myanmar on Thursday, according to a statement by the National Centre for Seismology (NCS). The tremor occurred at a shallow depth of 10 kilometres, which increases the likelihood of aftershocks. In a post on X, the NCS said, "EQ of M: 3.7, On: 16/10/2025 10:07:05 IST, Lat: 23.10 N, Long: 95.33 E, Depth: 10 Km, Location: Myanmar." Earlier on October 13, an earthquake of magnitude 4.6 struck the region at a shallow depth of 10km. In a post on X, the NCS said, "EQ of M: 4.6, On: 13/10/2025 11:10:26 IST, Lat: 22.45 N, Long: 94.41 E, Depth: 10 Km, Location: Myanmar." https://x.com/NCS_Earthquake/status/1977614497427915222 Shallow earthquakes are generally more dangerous than deep earthquakes. This is because the seismic waves from shallow earthquakes have a shorter distance to travel to the surface, resulting in stronger ground shaking and potentially more damage to structures, as well as greater casualties. Myanmar is vulnerable to hazards from moderate and large magnitude earthquakes, including tsunami hazards along its long coastline. Myanmar is wedged between four tectonic plates (the Indian, Eurasian, Sunda, and Burma plates) that interact in active geological processes.

Eastern Railway To Run Five Unreserved Special Trains For Diwali & Chhath

MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25: Running special trains during the festive season carries multiple advantages. These services not only accommodate the sharp rise in festive travel demand but also ensure passengers get easier, faster and more reliable journey options. Beyond travel convenience, such initiatives encourage tourism, uplift local trade and strengthen the spirit of togetherness during major festivals like Diwali and Chhath. In order to handle the anticipated festive crowd, Railway has decided to run special trains between Howrah & Raxaul, Kolkata & Gorakhpur, Kolkata & Madhubani, Asansol & Gorakhpur and Bardhaman & Fatwa.

03045 Howrah – Raxaul unreserved special will leave Howrah at 23:10 hrs. on 17.10.2025 & 23.10.2025 to reach Raxaul at 16:15 hrs. on the next day and 03046 Raxaul – Howrah unreserved special will leave Raxaul at 17:45 hrs. on 18.10.2025 & 24.10.2025 to reach Howrah at 11:30 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at Bandel, Bardhaman, Durgapur, Asansol, Chittaranjan, Madhupur & Jasidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction enroute in both directions.

03133 Kolkata – Gorakhpur unreserved special will leave Kolkata at 23:55 hrs. on 24.10.2025 to reach Gorakhpur at 18:00 hrs. on the next day and 03134 Gorakhpur – Kolkata unreserved special will leave Gorakhpur at 21:00 hrs. on 25.10.2025 to reach Kolkata at 15:15 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at Naihati, Bandel, Bardhaman, Durgapur, Asansol, Chittaranjan, Madhupur & Ja-

sidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction enroute in both directions.

03185 Kolkata – Madhubani unreserved special will leave Kolkata at 23:55 hrs. on 18.10.2025 & 25.10.2025 to reach Madhubani at 13:00 hrs. on the next day and 03186 Madhubani – Kolkata unreserved special will leave Madhubani at 15:30 hrs. on 19.10.2025 & 26.10.2025 to reach Kolkata at 05:15 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at Bardhaman, Durgapur, Asansol, Chittaranjan, Madhupur & Jasidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction enroute in both directions.

ECoR Launches Special Drive against Carrying of Diwali Crackers in Trains

MI News Service, New Delhi, 16 Oct.25 : With the Diwali festival approaching, Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway has intensified its safety measures by launching a Special Drive against the illegal carriage of firecrackers and other inflammable items in passenger-carrying trains. Carrying dangerous goods such as firecrackers, gas cylinders, acid, petrol, kerosene or similar inflammable materials in trains is strictly prohibited under the Railways Act, 1989, and offenders are liable to imprisonment of up to three years. To ensure a safe and secure festive season, Divisional Railway Manager, Khurda Road, has directed all concerned officials to maintain a strict vigil on passenger movements and intensify inspections at stations, parcel offices and train platforms. Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP) personnel have been placed on high alert, with luggage and parcel consignments being thoroughly scanned before loading. In addition, an intensive awareness campaign has been launched across major stations under the Division. Public announcements are being made regularly appealing to passengers not to carry inflammable or explosive materials while traveling. Staff and stakeholders including lease holders, parcel staff, pantry car personnel, porters, OBHS staff, catering staff, and passengers are being counseled about the dangers associated with such items.

To enhance safety vigilance, Special Safety Drives and random surprise checks are being carried out in coordination with RPF, GRP and Civil Defence volunteers. Train Escorting Teams and Meri Saheli Teams are also keeping close watch on passengers and luggage. Adequate fire extinguishers and firefighting equipment have been ensured at all strategic locations including stations, goods sheds, guard vans, pantry cars, AC coaches and locomotives.

Khurda Road Division appeals to all passengers to cooperate in maintaining a safe travel environment and report any suspicious activities or carriage of inflammable items immediately by calling the Railway Helpline Number 139. East Coast Railway remains committed to ensuring safe and secure train operations during this festive season and seeks the cooperation of all passengers in this public safety initiative.

ASANSOL DIVISION ENSURING INCLUSIVE RAIL TRAVEL WITH ENHANCED FACILITIES FOR DIVYANGJAN
MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25: Asansol Division of Eastern Railway has taken significant steps toward building an inclusive and accessible railway environment for Divyangjan. With a strong commitment to passenger comfort, safety, and dignity, the Division has upgraded amenities across major stations such as Asansol, Durgapur, Jasidih, Madhupur, Raniganj, Andal, Kumardubi, Barakar, Chittaranjan, Sitarampur, Vidyasagar, and Jamtara, among others. To collect authentic feedback, the students of Asansol Braille Academy were invited to experience & comment on these facility enhancements. Their observations will further guide the sincere efforts of the Asansol Division towards an inclusive environment. To ensure smooth movement within station premises, ramps and non-slippery pathways have been constructed at entrances and exits, making access easier for wheelchair users. Dedicated parking spaces at all stations up to NSG-3 category, accessible ticket counters, and help booths have been established to provide convenient services to Divyang passengers. Specially designed toilets and drinking-water facilities are available at several stations to further enhance ease and comfort. For visually impaired passengers, tactile pathways and Braille signage have been introduced, ensuring safe navigation throughout the station. The availability of wheelchairs at stations has strengthened accessibility, enabling Divyangjan to travel with

greater confidence and independence. Platform accessibility has also been given high priority. Several major stations, including Asansol, Durgapur, and Jasidih, are equipped with lifts, escalators, and well-connected foot-over-bridges, ensuring barrier-free movement between platforms. Clear signage, audio announcements, and sensitised staff add to the convenience and safety of Divyang passengers. Efforts made under various passenger-centric initiatives are being aligned with the broader vision of Indian Railways under the Accessible India Campaign and Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, through which railway stations are being transformed into Divyangjan-friendly zones aimed at ensuring universal and inclusive accessibility.

CLW shines at 16th IREE-2025



MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25 : Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), a leading locomotive manufacturing unit of Indian Railways, is participating & showcasing its impressive locomotives and technological innovations at the 16th International Railway Equipment Exhibition 2025, being held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi from 15-17 th October 2025 and showcased an overview of the displayed products. Shri H.Mahotra, Member Operations & Business Development/ Railway Board visited CLW Stall on 15.10.2025 & Congratulated. Visitors appreciated the advanced technological developments in the locomotive sector and praised CLW's contribu-

tion in manufacturing of electric and also took interest & appreciated the component items displayed. At this international show CLW is showcasing its models of locomotives built over the glorious 75 years of its journey and indigenous manufacturing capabilities under 'Make in India' 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives. This exhibition provides an excellent opportunity & platform for industry experts, business leaders, and visitors to gain insights into CLW's technological achievements and future plans. This also provided a platform for exchange of ideas.

CLW is displaying prominently the WAG-9 HC; WAP-5 Push-pull Aero-

dynamic & WAG-9 HC TWIN Electric Locomotives in this prestigious international fair, along with other models & exhibits. It also showcased it's manufacturing prowess through Interactive Digital Displays & Infographics. Interactive exchange on Single Vendor Locomotive items with the visiting vendors MSMEs & other industrial visitors also organised in this fair. Promoting indigenous development of locomotive components towards self-reliance in railways. On this occasion, Shri Harish Mittal, Chief Electrical Engineer/ Design; Shri Chitrasena Mandala, Public Relations Officer; Shri Uttam K. Maiti, DGM; Shri Kumar Parmanand, DyCMM/ Depot; Shri Ashish Kumar, SEE/ Design; Shri Sunil Kumar, SSE and team provided detailed insights about CLW's products and innovations to visitors and industry experts. The primary objective of CLW's participation in this event is to showcase its exceptional achievements & exploring new business opportunities. On 16.10.2025, Shri Satish Kumar, Chairman & CEO Railway Board visited CLW. This fair will continue till 17th October, 2025 .

SER OBSERVED SWACHHATA PAKHWADA



Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, South Eastern Railway, AGM and Principal Head of the Departments unveiling a booklet on Sustainable Development in SER in connection with observance of Swachhata Pakhwada at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach on 16.10.2025.

MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25: Swachhata Pakhwada 2025 was observed across South Eastern Railway from 1st to 15th October 2025 in a befitting manner, reaffirming the commitment towards cleanliness and sustainability. The concluding programme was organized on 16th October 2025 at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach. The event commenced with the welcome of General Manager and Additional General Manager by Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer with presentation of potted plants, symbolizing green commitment. Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, General Manager, South Eastern Railway administered the Swachhata Pledge to all officers and staff, followed

by an address by Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer highlighting the significance of the Swachhata Pakhwada initiative.

A Nukkad Natak by Bharat Scouts and Guides was staged to spread mass awareness on cleanliness. Subsequently, a prize distribution ceremony was held to felicitate the winners of various competitions organized during the campaign. A booklet on Sustainable Development in SER was unveiled by General Manager, Additional General Manager and all PHODs. The programme concluded with an inspiring address by General Manager/South Eastern Railway and a vote of thanks by Chief Mechanical Engineer (EnHM)/South Eastern Railway.

“BUILDING TRUST THROUGH TRANSPARENCY: LILUAH WORKSHOP ORGANISES VENDORS MEET UNDER VIGILANCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN-2025”



MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25 : As part of the Vigilance Awareness Campaign-2025, the Carriage & Wagon (C&W) Workshop, Liluah, organised a Vendors Meet recently to promote transparency, ethical business practices, and stronger partnerships between the Railways and its suppliers. The programme was graced by the presence of Shri Sandeep Shukla, Principal Chief Materials Manager, Eastern Railway, as the Chief Guest. Chief Workshop Manager, Liluah extended a warm welcome to the participants and emphasised the Workshop's unwavering commitment to

maintaining fair, accountable, and transparent procurement practices.

The event aimed at strengthening vendor-Railway relationships and fostering awareness on the importance of vigilance in procurement and supply chain management.

Key Highlights of the Event:

- Emphasis on the role of vigilance in ensuring fairness, integrity, and accountability in procurement processes.
- Promotion of Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for enhanced transparency, efficiency, and broader vendor participation.
-

Discussion on expanding opportunities for vendors to supply items essential for Coach and Wagon maintenance, supporting Eastern Railway's operational efficiency. ● Encouragement to vendors for technological upgradation and process improvements to meet Railway standards. ● Interactive session among Railway officials, vendors, and representatives from Laghu Udyog Bharati on facilitating the growth of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and boosting their participation in Railway procurement.

The meet served as an effective platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing, where vendors gained insights into Railway expectations while also presenting their challenges and suggestions. Participants were sensitised on the need for integrity, vigilance, and compliance to ensure sustainable business relationships with the Railways.

“AMRIT SAMVAAD” UNDER SWACHHATA ABHIYAN CAMPAIGN 2025 ORGANISED ACROSS SEALDAH DIVISION

MI News Service, Kolkata, 16 Oct.25 : As part of the Swachhata Abhiyan Campaign 2025, launched nationwide, Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway has witnessed an enthusiastic response from railway officials, staff, volunteers, and passengers. The campaign, which runs from August 1 to October 31, 2025, aims to promote cleanliness, hygiene, and sustainability across the railway network. On October 16, 2025, the Environment & Housekeeping Management (EnHM) Department of Sealdah Division organised a series of cleanliness and awareness activities at various stations under the division as part of the Swachhata Pakhwada. A Drawing Competition was organised at Majerhat (MJT) Station on the theme “Clean Station & Clean Train.”

Mass Awareness Programmes were conducted at Kolkata Terminal, Barrackpore (BPC), Barrackpore (BP) and other stations, aimed at educating passengers and railway staff about the importance of cleanliness and sustainable practices. Intensive Cleaning Drives of platform surfaces and tracks were carried out at Naihati Station, Canning-Diamond Harbour (CDH) section, and other locations to ensure a cleaner and more hygienic travel environment. An “Amrit Samvaad” (Interactive Session) was held with passengers at Habra Station, where passengers were encouraged to share their feedback and suggestions to further enhance cleanliness initiatives. The day's activities reflected the collective effort of Sealdah Division in promoting a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable railway environment under the Swachhata Abhiyan Campaign 2025.

Festival special express train between Puri and New Delhi.

- Unreserved festival special express train between Puri and Anand Vihar Terminal
- One way express special train between Puri-Nizamudin.

MI News Service, New Delhi, 16 Oct.25 : To clear extra rush during festive season, Indian Railways will run festival special express trains between Puri and New Delhi, as per the schedule below.

1. Anand Vihar – Puri- Anand Vihar, unreserved festival special (Train No.04408/04407)

Train No. 04408, Anand Vihar – Puri festival Special Express, will depart from Anand Vihar Terminal at 23:00 hrs (11 PM) on dt.18.10.2025 (Saturday). Train No. 04407, Puri-Anand Vihar festival Special Express, will depart from Puri at 16:30 hrs on (4.30 PM) on dt. 20.10.2025 (Monday).

The major stoppages of these trains between Puri and Anand Vihar are Khurda Road, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Balasore, Tata Nagar, Bokaro steel city, Hazaribagh Road, Gaya, Pt.Deen Dayal Upadhyaya junction, Mirzapur and Gaziabad.

Coach Composition: General and sleeper coaches - 15, Luggage cum Brake van-1, Divyangjan coach -1.

2. Puri-Nizamudin (Train No. 08475) one way express special (Via Sambalpur city-Jharuguda Road)

Train No. 08475, Puri- Hajarat Nizamudin express Special will depart from Puri at 04:50 hrs on dt.19.10.2025 (Sunday). The major stoppages of the train between Puri and Nizamudin are, Khurda Road, Bhubaneswar, Dhenkanal, Sambalpur city, Jharuguda Road, Bilaspur, Jhansi and Agra Cant.

Coach Composition: General coaches -4, sleeper-14, Luggage cum Brake van-cum Divyangjan- 2.

CRS Inspection and Speed Trial Conducted on 3rd Line between Baitarani Road and Jajpur Keonjhar Road (11.634 km) as Part of Bhadrak-Nergundi 3rd Line Project

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar, 16 Oct.25 : The Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS) today carried out a thorough inspection of the newly laid 3rd line between Baitarani Road and Jajpur Keonjhar Road, a stretch of 11.634 km, forming part of the larger Bhadrak-Nergundi 3rd line corridor on the Howrah-Chennai Main Line, under the Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway (ECoR). During the inspection, a motor trolley run was conducted to examine the track and associated infrastructure. A full speed trial was also conducted to validate that the track is fit for regular train operations. The CRS team meticulously examined all critical safety components including Rail track geometry and alignment, Crossings and turnouts, Bridges and minor-works structures, Signals, interlocking systems, and related safety gear and also Drainage, protective works and fencing/guarding, etc. The purpose of the inspection is to certify that the stretch is safe and compliant with requisite standards before it is commissioned for traffic. Once the CRS grants formal clearance, train



services will begin operations over this third line section. This latest inspection is part of ongoing efforts to progressively open new segments of the Bhadrak-Nergundi third-line route. The entire project spans approximately 92.19 km in length and aims to decongest the Howrah-Chennai trunk route and enhance operational flexibility. Earlier segments, such as the 16.80 km Haridaspur-Byree section was also inspected by the CRS, underwent speed trials and were subsequently commissioned. To date, more than 65 kms of the overall project work has been completed. The Bhadrak-Nergundi third line was conceived in the 2012-13 plan and received final sanction in October 2015. Key stretches com-

missioned earlier include: ● Jakhpura to Haridaspur (23.53 km) — completed April 2016, ● Kapilas Road to Salegaon (4.30 km) — commissioned in May 2019, ● Kapilas Road to Nergundi (4.20 km) — commissioned in October 2022, ● Byree-Dhanmandal-Haridaspur -16.8 km — commissioned in September 23, ● Ranital Junction - Bhadrak - 5.05 km - commissioned in December 2024, ● The project is targeted for completion in financial year 2026-2027, with the estimated project cost currently pegged at 1,284.39 crore.

Once fully commissioned, the third line will provide greater throughput and operational resilience on the Howrah-Chennai corridor, reduce congestion, improve punctuality and foster economic growth in the region.

WORLD BOXING CUP FINALS TO BEGIN FROM NOV 14 IN GREATER NOIDA

NEW DELHI : The world's top pugilists will battle for glory at the World Boxing Cup Finals 2025, scheduled to take place at Greater Noida's Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex from November 14 to 21. Hosted by India for the first time, the week-long spectacle will bring together elite boxers, including 2025 stage winners, as they compete for the coveted World Boxing Cup trophy. The competition will see male and female contenders across ten weight categories vie for top honours in Olympic-style boxing.

Building on the success of the inaugural 2024 edition-which featured stages in England, the USA, and Mongolia, followed by the Finals in England, India enters this year's finals ranked inside the top five in the global medal standings with 17 medals, including four golds, six silvers, and seven bronzes.

Speaking on the occasion, Ajay Singh, President of the Boxing Federation of India, said, "Hosting the World Boxing Cup Finals reflects how far Indian boxing has come, not just in performance, but in our ability to stage world-class events. With India set to host the Commonwealth Games in 2030 and aspiring to stage the Olympics in 2036, this is another important step in that direction."

"Over the past few years, we've built systems that consistently produce international medalists, and this tournament allows us to showcase that progress on home soil. It's a defining moment for us and for our boxers alike."

The 2025 World Boxing Cup held its first stage in Brazil's Foz do Iguaçu, where the Indian men's contingent finished with six medals, the highlight being Hitesh Gulia's gold in the 70kg category. Abhinash Jamwal (65kg) finished with a silver medal, while Jadumani Singh (50kg), Manish Rathore (55kg), Sachin Siwach (60kg), and Vishal (90kg) picked up a bronze medal each.

Stage two of the Cup moved to Poland, while stage three was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, where India's top national elite women's boxers joined the fray. Sakshi Chaudhary (54kg), Jasmine Lamboria (57kg), and Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) made waves by winning a gold medal each, while the experienced Pooja Rani (80kg) and rising star Minakshi Hooda (48kg) picked up a silver each; Sanju Khatri (60kg) was the recipient of the bronze.



ALWAYS SPECIAL BEING INVOLVED IN IPL, THE BEST FRANCHISE COMPETITION IN THE GAME: WILLIAMSON

NEW DELHI : After being appointed as the strategic advisor of Lucknow Super Giants (LSG), veteran New Zealand batter Kane Williamson said it's always a special feeling for him to be involved in the IPL, which he terms as 'the best franchise competition in the game'.

Williamson had been a part of the Durban's Super Giants, the sister franchise of LSG, in this year's SA20. In 79 IPL matches, while turning out for Sunrisers Hyderabad and Gujarat Titans, Williamson made 2128 runs at an average of 35.46 and a strike rate of 125.61, including being the leading run-getter in the 2018 season.

"I'm really excited to be joining LSG. They have a hugely talented squad and a great group of coaches which I'm looking forward to working along side. 'It's always special being involved in the IPL, the best franchise competition in the game,' said Williamson, who is still active in international cricket, in a statement issued by the franchise on

GILL, KOHLI, ROHIT AND OTHERS TOUCHDOWN AUSTRALIA FOR ODI SERIES

PERTH : The Indian cricket team has touched down in Perth in the early hours of Thursday for the white ball series, against Australia, starting from Sunday.

Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, and KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer, Washington Sundar, Harshit Rana, Prasidh Krishna were among the first batch of players to arrive in Australia. The Shubman Gill-led squad had departed from Delhi's IGI airport early on October 15.

The first group also includes the support staff while the remaining members will join them ahead of the team's first warm-up session in Australia.

The players are expected to undergo a brief acclimatisation period before the limited-overs



series begins on October 19.

The tour of Australia will feature three One-Day Internationals followed by a five-match T20I series, setting the stage for an exciting contest between two of the world's top cricketing nations.

With India aiming to maintain their impressive overseas form,

the tour is seen as a crucial test of both character and depth. Fans are eagerly awaiting the action as young skipper Shubman Gill leads the side, looking to set the tone for the series. The three ODIs will also mark the much-awaited return of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma to international action after a significant break.

Cricket enthusiasts are thrilled to see the senior duo back on the field, even as Gill captains the team in their presence - a fascinating dynamic that adds an extra layer of intrigue to this high-profile tour.

India's white-ball tour of Australia begins with the ODI opener on October 19 at Perth Stadium, followed by matches at Adelaide Oval and the Sydney Cricket Ground on October 23 and 25, respectively. A five-match T20I series will follow, starting October 29. The last time India toured Australia for a bilateral ODI series was in 2020-21, when they lost 2-1 but bounced back to win the T20I series by the same margin.

ABHISHEK, SMRITI NAMED ICC PLAYERS OF THE MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER



NEW DELHI : India duo of Abhishek Sharma and Smriti Mandhana have been named ICC Players of the Month for September. Abhishek,

25, was rewarded for his explosive run in the Asia Cup, where he amassed 314 runs in seven matches at an average of 44.85 and a blistering strike-rate of 200.

His consistency and flair earned him the Player of the Tournament honour, and he also reached a career-high 931 rating points in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings - the highest ever recorded in the format at the end of the Super Fours stage. The left-handed batter beat competition from team-mate Kuldeep Yadav and Zimbabwe's Brian Bennett to claim the monthly accolade. "It feels great to win this ICC award and I am happy that it has come for some important matches that I could help win. I am proud to be part of a team that can pull off victories from the most difficult of situations."

"Our recent track record in T20Is reflects our outstanding team culture and positive mindset. I thank the team management for their guidance and to all my team-mates for their support. I am also thankful to the panel that selected me for this award," said Abhishek in a statement by the ICC on Thursday. Smriti, meanwhile, continued her fine run

in international cricket through an outstanding time in the home ODI series against Australia via scores of 58, 117 and 125. The India vice-captain scored 308 runs in four ODIs during the period at an average of 77 and a strike rate of 135.68.

Smriti, who is in the midst of India's campaign in the 2025 Women's ODI World Cup, struck the fastest century by an India batter during the third ODI against Australia when she reached the three-figure mark off just 50 deliveries in New Delhi. She beat competition from South Africa's Tazmin Brits and Pakistan's Sidra Amin for the award.

"I am truly honoured to receive the ICC Women's Player of the Month award for September 2025. A recognition like this pushes me to keep growing and evolving as a player. The recognition also reflects the support, trust, and effort we put in together collectively as a team."

"My aim has always been to deliver my best and win matches for the team. I am looking forward to making the most out of the opportunities that result in memorable victories for India in the matches ahead," she said.

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP: INDIAN TEAM UNDERGOES INTENSE FIELDING SESSION AHEAD OF CLASH AGAINST ENGLAND

INDORE : The Indian women's cricket team ramped up its preparations for the crucial 2025 Women's ODI World Cup clash against England, set to happen on Sunday, with a high-intensity fielding session at the Holkar Stadium.

With back-to-back defeats to South Africa and reigning champions Australia in Visakhapatnam, the Harmanpreet Kaur-led squad focused on tightening their fielding ahead of the high-stakes encounter in Indore, where they look to bounce back in winning ways.

"The objective of today's fielding session was to get used to the conditions first and fielding under pressure. We have covered four areas in this - high catching, ground fielding, direct hits and fielding under pressure," said fielding coach Munish Bali in a video posted on the BCCI social media accounts on Thursday.

There was also an interesting fielding drill kept for the players, which Bali explained was a part of getting the execution right under immense pressure. "If it is a direct hit, you will get two points. If it goes inside the net, you will get three points. So, total 20 points



you have to score."

"But, where is the pressure in this? If you have scored 18 points, but if you made a mistake on the 19th point, you will go back to zero. The amount of pressure we put here in our sessions will automatically reflect during matches."

"So, exactly when we are doing small drills, we are giving them targets, like in direct hits, if you hit this ball, you will get four points. If you miss a catch, it will be minus three. So, we are trying

to create that atmosphere where we can put pressure on them and that is helping us a lot," he elaborated. As of now, hosts' India occupies the fourth spot in the points table with four points, while Nat Sciver-Brunt led England comfortably sits on top of the tally with seven points. India need to win their remaining league games against England, New Zealand and Bangladesh to keep themselves in race for entering the semi-finals.



Thursday.

The franchise also confirmed the addition of Carl Crowe as their new spin bowling coach. Crowe, who played 42 first-class matches in England and previously worked with Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) as their spin bowl-

ing coach, joins a coaching setup led by Justin Langer, who has been retained as head coach, and Bharat Arun, the bowling coach, who was also with KKR till IPL 2025.

"We enter every IPL season full of hope and expectation.

2026 is no exception and we are excited about the work we have ahead of us as we continue building a franchise into one the Goenka family, our players, sponsors, supporters and fans are all immensely proud of.

"The work hasn't stopped since the end of last season as we prepare to make our mark on this season's IPL. The hope, expectation and passion for LSG is growing strongly.

We are looking forward to strengthening our squad in the coming months. And, we look forward to seeing Ekana bathed in blue when the season kicks off," said Langer.

Incidentally, Langer and Williamson were together at London Spirit during this year's The Hundred. Though LSG hasn't still officially announced Zaheer Khan's departure after being their mentor in IPL 2025, the franchise is still yet to confirm if assistant coaches Lance Klusener, Vijay Dahiya and Rajat Bhatia will retain their roles in the team for next year's competition.

Real Kashmir FC withdraw from Super Cup; Dempo FC named replacement

NEW DELHI : Real Kashmir FC have pulled out of the upcoming AIFF Super Cup 2025-26 owing to visa delays for their foreign players, the club announced on Thursday.

The Srinagar-based side's withdrawal has led to Dempo SC being named as their replacement in the tournament, which kicks off in Goa on October 25.

Real Kashmir, popularly known as the Snow Leopards, were drawn in Group A, dubbed the "Group of Death", alongside Mohun Bagan Super Giant, East Bengal FC, and Chennaiyin FC. The team had been slated to face East Bengal in the tournament opener on October 25, followed by fixtures against Mohun Bagan SG on October 28 and Chennaiyin FC on October 31.

However, logistical challenges in securing travel documents for their overseas players forced the I-League outfit to withdraw from the competition just days before its start.

Confirming their decision, All India Football Federation posted on X. "Real Kashmir FC have withdrawn from AIFF Super Cup

2025-26, as VISAS for their foreign players could not be secured. They will be replaced by Dempo SC."

The decision comes as a major blow for Real Kashmir, who were keen to test themselves against the country's top-flight clubs after a promising I-League campaign. The team's foreign contingent - instrumental in their recent performances - were key to their Super Cup ambitions, making their absence a decisive factor in opting out.

Earlier, the AIFF's executive committee confirmed that the Super Cup will be held from October 25, whilst approving the federation's Request for Quotation (RFQ) for selecting an agency to manage the process of awarding the tender for the Indian Super League. As per the Supreme Court order on September 2, AIFF has to take necessary measures to ensure the Indian football calendar begins on time, which would need the football governing body to find a new commercial partner, after failing to reach a new Masters Right Agreement with the AIFF.



India on brink of historic AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup berth

BISHKEK (KYRGYZSTAN) : The Indian U17 women's team is a step away, or to be precise, a point away, from scripting history by becoming the first-ever batch to earn a place in the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup on merit.

India women will face Uzbekistan in the last qualifying encounter in Group G at the Dolen Omurzakov Stadium in Bishkek on Friday, knowing that avoiding defeat will book their place at the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup China 2026. The match will be streamed live on Kyrgyz Sport TV YouTube Channel.

"This game is what we have been working for all these months," said captain Julian Nongmaithem, who scored a stunning 90th-minute volley to guide India to a 2-1 win over Kyrgyz Republic in the first game on Monday.

"It was a tough start to the qualifiers against Kyrgyz Republic, but we were happy to get the win in the end finally. That gave us a good advantage heading into the last game," Julian added.

As usual, the 14-year-old dedicated the goal to her late father, who passed away last year. "I know he's watching from heaven," an emotional Julian said after the game.

Kyrgyzstan bounced back and defeated Uzbekistan 2-1 in the second match on Wednesday. That means India still lead the three-team group due to a superior head-to-head record, and a point against Uzbekistan will see them top the standings and book their ticket to China next year.

Head coach Joakim Alexandersson was somewhat disappointed with the overall performance in the first game, despite the win, but assured that

the team's confidence remains intact.

"We weren't able to play exactly the way we wanted. We struggled in our build-up phases through most of the match. But in the second half, we used the flanks more effectively, creating some good attacking moments. Although the display didn't fully reflect our potential, we were happy to get the three points, which I thought we deserved," said the Swede.

Alexandersson and his coaching staff were in attendance at the Dolen Omurzakov Stadium on Wednesday to watch Uzbekistan's first game of the qualifiers. Sharing his thoughts on the opponents, he said, "Kyrgyzstan were tougher physically and more sharp, but Uzbekistan tried to play more with the ball."

"I'm sure Uzbekistan will really want to bounce back from this result, so I expect nothing less than a tough game for us in the last match. We will have more rest and more days to prepare than they will, which should normally be an advantage, but you never know. There's one game to go, and they will fight very hard for three points."

"We'll go for a win, obviously. There's no point sitting back and playing for a draw. That's always risky. So we'll try to play our own game and not think too much about the scenarios. Everything is in our hands," the head coach affirmed.

Just over two months ago, Alexandersson led the U20s to AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup

qualification, ending a 20-year wait. Now, the Swede finds himself on the cusp of more glory and snapping a bigger drought. The last time India played the AFC U17 Women's Championship was in 2005, when 11 teams participated directly. However, since the qualification system was introduced, India have never made it among Asia's elite, and never been as close as they are now.

Alexandersson knows exactly how big a boost this can be for not just the U17 girls but for women's football in India, especially after the senior team also qualified for the 2026 Asian Cup on merit for the first time ever.

"I'd be very happy if the U17s can achieve this as well. It would mean a lot for the coming years of women's football in India - to see not only the senior team, but also the U20 and U17 teams reaching this level. Hopefully, it will inspire even more girls across India to take up this beautiful sport."

"WE WEREN'T ABLE TO PLAY EXACTLY THE WAY WE WANTED. WE STRUGGLED IN OUR BUILD-UP PHASES THROUGH MOST OF THE MATCH. BUT IN THE SECOND HALF, WE USED THE FLANKS MORE EFFECTIVELY, CREATING SOME GOOD ATTACKING MOMENTS. ALTHOUGH THE DISPLAY DIDN'T FULLY REFLECT OUR POTENTIAL, WE WERE HAPPY TO GET THE THREE POINTS, WHICH I THOUGHT WE DESERVED," SAID THE SWEDE.

