

Abhishek Forms Special Team to Visit SIR Victims’ Families

Amid rising panic over the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls in Bengal, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has decided to reach out to the families of individuals who allegedly died due to stress or fear surrounding the process. Abhishek Banerjee, TMC’s national general secretary, has formed a special team to visit these be-reaved families and provide both emotional and financial assistance. Each affected family will receive 3 lakh as compensation from the party. Starting Saturday, senior party leaders will begin visiting the homes of those who reportedly died by suicide or from heart attacks linked to SIR-related anxiety. Samirul Islam and ParthaBhowmik will visit the family of PradipKar in the evening, while Dr. Shashi Panja and SudipRaha will travel to Titagarh around 4 PM. **PG 3**



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Morning India

CM Mamata Backs Sourav Ganguly for ICC Chief, Calls Him ‘Pride of Bengal’

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Saturday showered praise on former India captain Sourav Ganguly during a glittering ceremony at Eden Gardens, declaring that the “Prince of Kolkata” truly deserves to be the next ICC President. “We wanted Sourav to be India’s captain, and he made Bengal, the country, and the world proud. Now I say he should be the ICC President.

He may not be there today, but one day he definitely will,” Mamata said, drawing huge applause from the crowd. Calling Eden Gardens a temple of sports, the Chief Minister remarked, “This is not just Eden Gardens—it is the Golden Garden. Gold comes out of this ground.” She recalled Ganguly’s famous celebration at Lord’s during the 2002 NatWest Trophy final, saying, “That moment still makes every Indian proud.” “Sourav’s identity is global. Today, he may be the CAB President, but his fame goes far beyond Bengal.

He has given so much to cricket. I still remember that iconic shirt-waving celebration at Lord’s,” Mamata said. “Bengal has always led the way in sports, and Sourav’s leadership gave Indian cricket a new spirit.” Taking a veiled dig at cricket politics, Banerjee added, “Let me tell an uncomfortable truth—who truly deserved to be ICC President? It was Sourav. No one else. He may have been denied this time, but it’s not easy to stop him.

One day, he will surely sit on that chair.” She went on to describe Ganguly as “not just a player but the pride of Bengal,” saying his fearless leadership re-shaped Indian cricket. The Chief Minister also praised Bengal’s women athletes, congratulating Richa Ghosh, Jhulan Goswami, and others.

“Our daughters are excelling in every sport—cricket, football, swimming, archery. I believe Bengal’s archers will win Olympic medals soon,” she said.

Mamata reminisced about her tenure as Youth and Sports Minister in 1991, recalling how athletes like Naemuddin, Subrata Bhat-tacharya, and Achrekar were honoured, while swimmer Bula Chowdhury earned the Arjuna Award after fulfilling a personal challenge she had set. “Players like Jhulan have sacrificed everything for the game. Their hard work is now paying off. I congratulate Richa, her teammates, and the entire Indian women’s team for making India proud.”



World cup winning woman cricketer Richa Ghosh is seen along with her father Manabendra Ghosh, West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, Sports minister Aroop Biswas and two former Indian cricket captains - Sourav Ganguly and Jhulan Goswami - at the felicitation programme of CAB in Kolkata on Saturday

India moving fast on path of all round development : PM Modi

MI News Service, Varanasi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said since infrastructure is a major factor in the economic growth of developed countries around the world, India is also moving fast on the path of an all round development. He said spiritual tourism has ushered in a massive development in Uttar Pradesh, with lakhs of devotees visiting pilgrimage sites contributing thousands of crores of rupees to the state’s economy. The PM was speaking after flagging off four new Vande Bharat Express trains from the Banaras railway station in Varanasi, his Lok Sabha constituency. “In developed countries across the world, the biggest reason for their economic growth has been their infrastructure. In every nation that has achieved major progress, the driving force behind it has been infrastructure development,” PM Modi said. “Infrastructure is not just



Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets supporters during the flagging off of Vande Bharat Express trains at the railway station, in Varanasi.

about big bridges and highways. oped anywhere, it sparks the overall Whenever such systems are devel-

“In developed countries across the world, the biggest reason for their economic growth has been their infrastructure. In every nation that has achieved major progress, the driving force behind it has been infrastructure development

--PM Narendra Modi

said. Underlining India’s fast-paced progress, the Prime minister said, “With so many Vande Bharat trains running and flights arriving from countries across the globe, all these developments are now linked to growth. Today, India is also moving

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First phase of Bihar polls recorded highest turnout in state's history: EC



File | Photo People carry an elderly man to a polling station at Danapur in Patna during the first phase of the Bihar Assembly elections.

MI News Service, Patna : With over 65 per cent polling in the first phase, the people of Bihar has created a history on Thursday as it was the highest turnout of voters in recent memory in the state,

the Election Commission of India (EC) said on Saturday. The final turnout in the first phase of the Bihar assembly polls is 65.08 per cent and this was the highest in the state’s history, the Elec-

tion Commission said. A total of 3.75 crore electorate in the state’s 121 of the total 243 Assembly constituencies were eligible to cast their votes at 45,341 polling stations, including 36,733 in rural areas, on November 6 to decide the electoral fate of 1,314 candidates, of whom 1,192 are men and 122 women. As per the latest update provided by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Bihar, the “historic” turnout of 65.08 per cent is 7.79 per cent more than the consolidated polling percentage of the previous assembly polls held in 2020, when

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Migrant workers, youth real X factor of Bihar polls, not women: Prashant Kishor

MI News Service, Patna/Supaul : Jan Suraj Party founder Prashant Kishor on Saturday claimed that migrant workers and the



“Migrant workers are coming back home in large numbers to vote along with their families. Migrant workers used to vote for the NDA in the past because they had no alternative.

Prashant Kishor

youth are the real “X factor” of the ongoing assembly elections in Bihar, and not the women. Speaking to reporters in Supaul, the former poll strategist turned

politician claimed the youth and migrant workers are determined to vote for change. “Migrant workers are coming back home in large numbers to vote along with their families. Migrant workers used to vote for the NDA in the past because they had no

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CM Mamata to visit Siliguri on Monday



MI News Service, Siliguri / Kolkata : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who is scheduled to visit Siliguri on 10 November for a day, is expected to return to Kolkata the following day. Although an official confirmation is yet to be received from the Chief Minister’s Office, preparations are underway at Uttarkanya, the state Secretariat in North Bengal, to welcome her and make necessary arrangements for holding meetings during her visit. They said the Chief minister is likely to review the post-flood and landslide situation in the region, covering areas

from the Darjeeling hills to Jalpaiguri, with a special focus on restoration and rehabilitation efforts.

Meanwhile, as the news of her visit here is known, speculation are rife that Mamata Banerjee might also visit the house of World Cup winning cricketer Richa Ghosh in Siliguri. However, sources clarified that since Richa was felicitated in Kolkata by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) on Saturday in presence of the Chief minister herself and several other dignitaries including former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly, there is no possibility of her visiting Richa’s house here amidst her busy schedule. According to sources, the state government has already drawn up a special plan to offer Richa a prestigious job as part of the recognition for her outstanding achievement in women’s cricket.

Modi says first phase voter turnout ‘65-volt jhatka to jungle raj’



Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a public rally amid the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections, in Bettiah, Bihar

MI News Service, Sitamarhi (Bihar) : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday was in full praise for the highest turnout of voters in the first phase of Bihar polls, calling it is a 65-volt ‘jhatka’ to ‘jungle raj. Once again launching a scathing attack on RJD here this morning from a public rally, the Prime minister said, they want to give ‘katta’ to people, while the BJP is providing students with computers, footballs, hockey sticks. “We are providing students with computers, footballs, hockey sticks, but RJD talks about giving ‘katta’ to the people. “But the high voter turnout of 65.08 per cent in the first phase of polls came as a 65-volt ‘jhatka’ to ‘jungle raj’, the Prime minister said.

Meanwhile, claiming that there were reports from

Bihar strengthening the evidence of “vote chori”, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has said that the main culprits in this “murder of democracy” are all the three Election Commissioners, particularly the Chief Election Commissioner, who are committing the “biggest treachery against the Constitution”. Meanwhile, the Election Commission (EC) today said the first phase of the Bihar polls concluded peacefully, with the “highest-ever voter turnout of 65.08 per cent” recorded in the history of the state. A total of 121 constituencies in 18 districts went to polls in the first phase, with an electorate of more than 3.75 crore. The second phase of voting will be on November 11 and results will be declared on November 14.

Chinese firm bags contract to print Nepal's Rs 1,000 bank notes

MI News Service, Kathmandu : Winning a very competitive international bidding, a Chinese company has bagged a contract to design and print 430 million pieces of Nepal’s Rs 1,000 denomination banknotes, officials said on Saturday.

Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) issued a letter of intent to the China Banknote Printing and Minting Corporation on Friday for the design, printing, supply and delivery of the notes, the bank officials said. The total project cost has been fixed at USD 16.985 million, according to the Currency Management Department of the bank.

Under the agreement

and as per the letter of intent, the China Banknote Printing and Minting Corporation will exclusively design, print, supply and delivery of the notes, the bank officials said adding that the Chinese company was selected for the 16 million dollar contract on the basis of the lowest evaluated bid. The firm has previously printed Nepalese banknotes of Rs 5, Rs 10, Rs 100, and Rs 500 denominations, the officials said.

Earlier the Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) invited international tenders for printing of the national current Rs. It has asked interested companies to propose to print new notes of Rs 1,000 denomination.

Indian missions worldwide mark 150 years of Vande Mataram with cultural events

MI News Service, New Delhi / Washington (DC):Indian diplomatic missions across the globe commemorated 150 years of the country’s national song ‘Vande Mataram’ with mass renditions, cultural performances and community gatherings, reaffirming the spirit of unity and national pride among the diaspora. Written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1875, Vande Mataram was first included in his novel Anandamath and later became a rallying cry during India’s freedom movement. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday inaugurated year-long commemorations to mark its 150th anniversary. The Embassy of India in Washington marked the



The Indian mission in Maldives marks the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram with a collective rendition and cultural performances, bringing together the local Indian community.

milestone on November 7 with a group rendition by students from the Indian diaspora, it said in a so-

cial media post on Saturday.

In Ottawa, High Commissioner Dinesh K Patnaik led members of

the Indian diaspora and officials of the High Commission in singing ‘Vande Mataram’. The event also

“As we honour this immortal ode, we reaffirm our resolve towards a confident, self-reliant and resurgent Viksit Bharat 2047

Ottawa, High Commissioner Dinesh K Patnaik

featured an Odissi dance performance. “As we honour this immortal ode, we reaffirm our resolve towards a confident, self-reliant and resurgent Viksit Bharat 2047,” the mission said in a social media post. In Doha, Ambassador Vipul led a mass singing of the national song at an event the embassy described as a “timeless tribute to the spirit of patriotism and unity that binds

our nation”. In Riyadh, Ambassador Suhel Ajaz Khan joined the Indian community in singing ‘Vande

Mataram’, saying he felt “proud” to pay tribute to the spirit of the motherland. The High Commission of India in Canberra organised a community gathering in Perth where High Commissioner D P Singh led the recitation. “The collective recitation was joined by the all-women crew of the Tri-service

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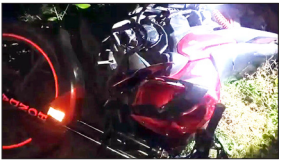
Mother kills infant, dumps body in bushes



MI News Service, Alipurdwar: A chilling case of infanticide has sent shockwaves through the South Chechakhata area of Alipurdwar Junction, where a seven-month-old baby was found dead after being strangled and dumped in nearby bushes. The child's mother has reportedly confessed to the crime during police interrogation. The grim sequence began Friday afternoon when the infant, son of Joydeep Ghosh, was reported missing from the family's residence.

According to initial statements, the mother had told her father-in-law that the baby had vanished while she was bathing. Panic spread through the neighborhood as relatives and locals launched a frantic search, suspecting a case of child abduction. Police from Alipurdwar station quickly swung into action, deploying sniffer dogs, combing the surrounding areas, and examining CCTV footage to trace the missing child. Surveillance was intensified at the railway station amid fears that the baby might have been taken away. However, as investigations deepened, inconsistencies emerged in the family's statements, prompting officers to question the mother further. Late Friday night, under interrogation, the mother broke down and confessed to killing her child. Acting on her statement, police located the infant's body in a bush behind the house. The discovery left neighbors stunned. Authorities have yet to establish the motive behind the horrifying act. Locals suspect the woman might have been suffering from psychological distress. Police have launched a detailed investigation to uncover the circumstances leading to the tragic death. The body has been sent for postmortem, and the mother remains in police custody as the probe continues.

Two Youths Found Dead on Road After Midnight Crash



MI News Service, Uluberia: A gruesome accident on Uluberia's Amta Road late Friday night left two unidentified youths dead, their bodies found lying in pools of blood on both sides of the road. The horrifying sight stunned locals, who discovered the bodies beside a mangled motorcycle around 11 p.m. According to police sources, the cause of the accident remains unclear. Investigators are examining CCTV footage from nearby establishments to determine whether the two were struck by another vehicle or lost control of their bike. The bodies were sent to Uluberia Sarat Chandra Chatterjee Medical College and Hospital for post-mortem examination.

Eyewitnesses recounted the shocking scene. "At first, we saw a bike lying in the dark. When we went closer, we found two boys lying motionless. Blood was flowing across the road," said a local resident who immediately alerted police. Officers from Uluberia police station reached the spot and began the recovery operation. As of Saturday morning, efforts are ongoing to identify the deceased youths. Police have collected evidence from the scene and are probing all possible angles, including reckless driving or a possible hit-and-run. Incidentally, Friday turned into a day of road tragedy across the region. In a separate mishap, a private passenger bus in Kolkata's Rajarhat area plunged into the Khoroa Canal after reportedly speeding, leaving around 40 passengers injured. The dual incidents have once again raised concerns over increasing road accidents and reckless driving on state highways.

Confusion in SIR Drive: BLO's Own Family Faces Verification Gap

MI News Service, Hooghly: A new controversy has surfaced in Chunchura, Hooghly, amid Bengal's ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, after it was revealed that a Booth Level Officer (BLO) assigned to distribute enumeration forms does not have her own family listed in the 2002 voter roll. The disclosure has triggered political murmurs and renewed questions over the authenticity and accessibility of old electoral data. The incident involves BLO Amita Biswas of Booth No. 196 in the Keota area of Chunchura. While distributing SIR verification forms door to door, it emerged that none of her immediate family members — including her husband, father-in-law, or brother-in-law — appear in the 2002 voter list being used as a reference point for the current revision.

Speaking to reporters, Amita admitted the anomaly and said, "My father-in-law, Samarendra Biswas, is 86 years old and has

lived in Keota for over fifty years. Yet, his name is missing from the 2002 list. Many families are facing the same issue. I can provide documents to verify our residence, but there are several people who no longer have any papers to prove their eligibility." She added that her own name does not appear in the old list as she was not of voting age then, although her parents' names are recorded. Her husband, Shuvendu Biswas, echoed similar concerns, stating, "We have voted before and after 2002, but our names were never found in that particular electoral list. Those who have valid papers will be fine, but others without documents may find it extremely difficult to verify their names now. This can cause unnecessary complications, especially for older residents." The issue has drawn local political attention, as it highlights recurring flaws and inconsistencies in voter list maintenance.

Bengal SIR: Name Missing? No Link to Citizenship, Says EC

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid growing anxiety across Bengal over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, election officials have clarified that the omission of a name from the list does not raise any question about a person's citizenship. The clarification comes as confusion spreads among residents fearing exclusion from voter records. The Election Commission has confirmed that the SIR, currently underway in nine states and three union territories, is a routine process aimed at updating and verifying voter rolls. Contrary to popular belief, this is not the first SIR exercise in Bengal — similar revisions were conducted eight times between 1951 and 2004. However, this year's phase has gained heightened attention due to misinformation linking it to citizenship status.

Under the current process, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are visiting households to distribute enumeration forms, which have two sections — one retained by the BLO and the other kept by the voter. Residents must indicate whether their name, or their parents' name, appeared on the 2002 voter list. If confirmed, no additional documents are required. In cases where individuals are unavail-

able during the visit, BLOs will make up to three attempts or provide guidance for completing the form later, including through an online option for those outside the country. After enumeration concludes, the Election Commission will release a draft electoral roll on December 9, allowing citizens to verify their entries online or at local offices. Those whose names are missing will have the opportunity to file claims or objections by submitting basic documents such as proof of address. Following verification, the final voter list is scheduled for publication on February 7. Officials reiterated that non-inclusion in either the draft or final list does not equate to loss of citizenship. "The voter card is a proof of identity, not proof of citizenship. Similarly, missing from the electoral roll does not mean a person ceases to be a citizen," a senior election official said. Citizens can reapply online or through the BLO at any stage to have their names restored. Experts have urged residents to remain calm and participate in the revision process. The Election Commission emphasized that the aim of the SIR is to ensure accuracy and inclusion — not exclusion — and there is no connection between SIR and determining citizenship.

One Killed in Clash Over Goat Eating Paddy

MI News Service, Birbhum: A trivial dispute over a goat eating paddy turned fatal in Kusumgariya village of Lavpur, Birbhum, triggering a violent clash between two Trinamool Congress factions that left one party worker dead and several injured. The deceased has been identified as Abdul Rahman Mallick. According to police, the incident began when a goat allegedly strayed into Mallick's field and fed on the paddy crop. An altercation broke out soon afterward between Mallick and another local resident, Abdul Mannan. The quarrel escalated into a full-blown clash involving members of both sides, armed with sticks and sharp weapons.

Police from Lavpur station rushed to the scene but by the time reinforcement arrived under the Bolpur SDPO, multiple people had sustained injuries. Abdul Rahman Mallick was taken to a nursing home in Siuri, where he later succumbed to his injuries. His death has

sparked tension across the village, prompting heavy police deployment to prevent further unrest. The deceased's son, Kanak Mallick, alleged that Mannan and his associates had previously threatened his father. "My father went to speak after their goat ate rice from our land. Mannan threatened to kill him, and later struck him on the head with a sword and rod," he claimed. The family has lodged a complaint naming 15 people, of whom police have arrested seven so far. Lavpur MLA Abhijit Singh dismissed speculation of an intra-party feud, asserting that local tensions arose from a personal dispute. "Everyone in that village belongs to Trinamool. This was not a political clash but an altercation between two families over land and crop," Singh stated. Police have registered a case of murder and unlawful assembly, and investigations are underway to determine whether political rivalry played any role in the violence.

RMBKS-PROTAN Organises First State-Level Convention in West Bengal at Satyajit Ray Institute, Sonarpur

MI News Service, Sonarpur: The first State-Level Convention of RMBKS-PROTAN in West Bengal was successfully held today at the Satyajit Ray Institute, Sonarpur, South 24 Parganas. The convention witnessed the enthusiastic participation of more than 200 teachers, employees, intellectuals, and representatives from SC, ST, OBC, and Minority communities across various districts of the state.

RMBKS (Rashtriya Mulnibasi Bahujan Karmachari Sangh) is a registered trade union functioning under the guidance of the Backward and Minorities Employees Communities Federation (BAMCEF). Similarly, PROTAN (Professors, Teachers and Non-Teaching Association) is another affiliated body working to organize educators and non-teaching employees under the broader mission of social justice envisioned by BAMCEF.

The convention aimed to

promote unity among indigenous (Mulnibasi) and Bahujan communities, while deliberating on key issues related to education, employment, and socio-economic rights. The discussions revolved around strategies to strengthen collective action and awareness among marginalized employees and educators in West Bengal.

The convention was presided over by Shri Waman Meshram, National President of BAMCEF, who attended as the chief guest and presiding dignitary (Adhikshya). In his keynote address, Meshram highlighted that the administrative, judicial, and media systems in India continue to be dominated by upper-caste elites, leading to the systematic exclusion of SC, ST, OBC, and Minority communities from positions of authority and influence. He warned that the ongoing privatization of education, healthcare, and employment sectors is deepening inequality and depriv-

Bardhaman Hospital Row Wrong Blood Allegation Sparks Outrage



MI News Service, Bardhaman: A shocking case of alleged negligence at Bardhaman Medical College and Hospital has sparked outrage after the family of a deceased woman accused the facility of transfusing the wrong blood, leading to her death. The incident has raised serious questions about procedural lapses in one of the state's major government hospitals. The deceased, identified as Namita Bagdi of Burdwan, was admitted to the hospital after a snake bite. On November 2, a mix-up allegedly occurred when blood meant for another patient — also named Namita — was administered to her. Family members claim that the blood brought for Namita Majhi, another admitted

woman, was mistakenly given to Bagdi. Following the transfusion, Bagdi's condition allegedly deteriorated rapidly. Despite being shifted to the ICU, she succumbed to complications soon after. Her distraught father, Dukari Bagdi, voiced his anguish, saying, "What will happen now? Will I ever get my daughter back?" The family maintains that her health worsened only after hospital staff administered the wrong blood and blames the nursing staff for negligence. The hospital authorities, however, have contested the allegations. The Medical Superintendent-cum-Vice Principal stated, "The patient was brought in with a snake bite and was in critical condition. After some media reports suggested

a blood mix-up, we conducted an internal inquiry. No written complaint was submitted initially, but later her son filed one after her death. The exact cause of death will be confirmed only after the post-mortem." Meanwhile, relatives of the other patient, Namita Majhi, who reportedly received the correct blood, said she was recovering well and was set to be discharged before a brief relapse that required further observation. Her family denied any issues with the transfusion. The deceased's son, Rahul Bagdi, insisted that his mother was improving steadily after the initial treatment and had even begun dialysis successfully. "She was doing fine. Suddenly, she developed breathing trouble at night and was taken back to the ICU. By morning, she was gone," he said. The family has filed a formal complaint with the hospital superintendent accusing the medical staff of negligence resulting in wrongful death. Police have been informed, and health authorities are expected to review the hospital's transfusion procedures. The post-mortem report is awaited to establish the exact cause of death.

Court Verdict to Decide Sonajhuri Haat's Future: Minister



MI News Service, Birbhum: The state government will not take any immediate action regarding the much-debated relocation of Santiniketan's famous Sonajhuri Haat until the ongoing court case over its land is settled. State Minister Chandranath Sinha confirmed on Friday. The weekly market, a cultural and tourism landmark near Bolpur, currently operates on land belonging to the Forest Department. Uncertainty has surrounded the future of Sonajhuri Haat for months, with traders and artisans expressing concern about possible displacement. The matter escalated after legal proceedings be-

gan over conducting trade activities on forest land. Addressing the issue during a Synergy and Trade Conference organized by the State Small, Medium and Cottage Industries Department at Biswa Bangla University Auditorium, Minister Sinha clarified, "Sonajhuri Haat continues as usual."

But since the case is before the court, the government will wait for the court's decision. The next step will depend entirely on the verdict. "Sources in the district administration indicated that if the High Court orders a relocation, the state is exploring an alternative site — possibly in the Ahmedpur area — where a proposed busi-

ness park may be developed on the premises of a defunct sugar mill. Officials said the aim would be to rehabilitate traders without disrupting their livelihoods. Traders in Bolpur, however, remain anxious, fearing that the charm and footfall of the iconic haat could be lost if it is moved. Sonajhuri Haat has long been a major attraction for Santiniketan visitors, known for its blend of handicrafts, tribal art, and folk music. Trinamool's Birbhum Core Committee convener, Anubrata Mondal, who was also present at the conference, refrained from commenting on Sonajhuri Haat's legal uncertainty but expressed optimism about the district's industrial prospects. "There are discussions about new industries in Birbhum. It is a positive development, and I am happy to see progress coming," Mondal said. For now, all eyes remain on the High Court, whose ruling will determine the fate of one of Bengal's most beloved weekend markets.

Poor Man's Mud House Used for Awas Yojana Fraud

MI News Service, Malda: Allegations of large-scale irregularities have surfaced in the Bangla Awas Yojana at Harishchandrapur in Malda, where a government survey worker has been accused of diverting a housing benefit by falsely claiming a poor villager's dilapidated hut as another person's unmade house. The incident has triggered political uproar across the region. The complainant, Pitambar Das of Bangabari village under Tulsihata gram panchayat, lives in a mud house on the verge of collapse. Pitambar Das said his name initially appeared on the housing scheme list, and administrative staff had visited his home and recorded photographs. Days later,

his name vanished from the list, reportedly replaced by that of another person who already owns a multi-storey building.

Pitambar Das alleged that the survey official responsible for preparing the beneficiary list connived in the fraud. "They showed someone else's concrete house as mine and removed my name. I have filed a written complaint to the Block Development Officer, demanding justice," he said. Local political tensions have since flared. The BJP has accused ruling Trinamool Congress workers of embezzling funds meant for the poor under the guise of the state-run housing scheme. Party leaders claimed that the central

government halted financial allocations due to such rampant corruption, but local Trinamool leaders continued to manipulate the scheme using administrative links. Trinamool Congress, however, dismissed the charges and blamed the central government for stalling funds for Bengal's welfare programs. Party leader Marjina Khatun stated, "The Centre stopped the money. Our Chief Minister is ensuring the poor get homes. If irregularities are found, the administration will investigate and take action." District officials are investigating the complaint to determine whether misuse of beneficiary data or manipulation in the housing survey took place

Early Winter Surprise: Plains Beat Hills in Temperature Drop



MI News Service, Kolkata: Winter has set foot in Bengal earlier than expected, bringing a sudden chill across the state and surprising meteorologists with an unusual temperature pattern. In a rare twist, the western district of Birbhum — particularly Shantiniketan and Sriniketan — has recorded lower temperatures than the hill town of Kalimpong. According to meteorological scientist Sourish Banerjee, the "setting in" of winter conditions has officially begun in the state. Dry, clear skies and cold northwesterly winds are prevailing across Gangetic South Bengal. Over the next four days, the night temperature is expected to drop further by two to four degrees.

Shantiniketan has already recorded a minimum temperature of 15.8 degrees Celsius, while Kalimpong stood at 16 degrees on Saturday morning. The hill station of Darjeeling recorded a cooler 10 degrees but remains within its normal November range. The phenomenon has sparked curiosity as the plains in western Bengal are currently outpacing some hilly zones in terms of temperature decline. In Kolkata, mercury levels are gradually sliding toward the winter mark. The capital recorded around 20

degrees on Saturday night, and the Met office predicts a dip to 17-18 degrees by Tuesday. Daytime highs across the city are also likely to settle between 28 and 29 degrees Celsius after Monday. In western districts such as Birbhum, Bankura, and Purulia, nights will remain significantly colder, hovering between 13 and 14 degrees. Meanwhile, meteorologists have noted a sharp localised drop in temperature in areas near Uluberia in Howrah district. This sudden cold surge, experts say, is likely the result of small-scale geographical and structural variations, rather than any widespread meteorological anomaly. "Such regional fluctuations are not uncommon and usually arise from wind flow patterns and land surface characteristics," the Met office stated. In North Bengal, light rain is expected in parts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong on Saturday night, though the overall forecast points to a prolonged stretch of dry, cold weather statewide. Night temperatures are projected to remain below normal for the next seven days across both North and South Bengal. For winter-starved Bengalis, the long wait appears finally over — the season of misty mornings and woolen evenings has arrived ahead of schedule.

Clerical Error Turns Tragic: Malda Youth Critical After Suicide Bid



MI News Service, Malda: A clerical error in the voter list allegedly drove a young man in Malda to attempt suicide out of fear and mental distress. The incident, which occurred in Nazipur village under Mahendrapur Gram Panchayat of Harishchandrapur, has sparked political controversy and drawn sharp criticism from the victim's family against election authorities. The youth, identified as Rajesh Ali, consumed poison on Friday evening and was first taken to Harishchandrapur Rural Hospital in critical condition. As his condition deteriorated, he was transferred to Chanchal Super Specialty Hospital, where he remains under intensive care.

According to his family, the issue erupted after Rajesh discovered that his father's name, previously recorded as Adil in the 2002 voter list, had been wrongly entered in the updated list. The mismatch allegedly caused him intense anxiety

over potential verification issues under the electoral system. "Everything is correct on his Aadhaar card and old voter card, but in the latest list, even his father's name went wrong. He panicked and drank poison," said his brother, Mafizul Islam. Enraged relatives have blamed the Election Commission for negligence, demanding an immediate correction of the records. The incident prompted Harishchandrapur MLA and State Minister Tajmul Hossain to rush to the hospital and meet the victim's family. Trinamool Congress leaders have seized the opportunity to criticize what they termed "bureaucratic chaos under central oversight" of voter data. The party alleged that such administrative lapses are eroding public trust in the electoral process. Police are investigating the complaint filed by the family, while election officials have promised to review the records and verify the source of the error.

Vigilance Awareness Week - 2025 observed in Rifle Factory Ishapore

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: Rifle Factory Ishapore, a unit of Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited, Government of India Enterprise, Ministry of Defence observed "Vigilance Awareness Week 2025" from 27th October to 2nd November 2025 in befitting manner as per the directions of Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi, Directorate of Ordnance (Coordinate Services) Kolkata and AWEIL (Hq.) Vigilance Section Kanpur.

Vigilance Awareness Week is celebrated in the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India who embodied the values of unity, integrity and nation-building. This year, the Central Vigilance Commission has decided to observe Vigilance Awareness Week from 27th October to 2nd November 2025 with the theme of "Vigilance : Our Shared Responsibility".

According to the directives of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), this year, Vigilance Section of Rifle Factory Ishapore carried out several programmes, like "Vigilance Awareness Week - 2025 Rally" on the opening ceremony i.e.

on 27/10/2025, "Pledge taking" in Hindi & English languages among all the factory employees.

Posters / Banners / Flexes with CVC theme were displayed, inside and outside premises of the Rifle Factory, to spread awareness among all employees of RFI and RFHS students and teachers.

"Slogan writing" & "Essay writing" competitions were organized in three different languages i.e. Hindi, English and Bengali amongst the Rifle Factory employees. The said competitions were held at Rifle Factory High School Ishapore in two different languages i.e. Hindi & English among the Students of Class-VIII, IX and X.

Conducted Training for capacity building as per Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) given topics "Framing of Charge Sheet, Enquiry & Report" to spread awareness of this endeavor.

Merit Certificates and Prizes were distributed to the winners of "Slogan writing" & "Essay writing" competition among the Rifle Factory employees and Rifle Factory High Scholars.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee felicitates World Cup-winning cricketer Richa Ghosh in the presence of former India captain Sourav Ganguly and former India women's team captain Jhulan Goswami during the CAB felicitation ceremony at Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Saturday.

EC Orders Action
Against BLOs for
Improper SIR Form
Distribution

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Election Commission has issued a strict directive against Booth Level Officers (BLOs) accused of distributing SIR (Special Intensive Revision) forms from unauthorized locations instead of visiting voters' homes. The Commission has ordered Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) to issue show-cause notices to such BLOs and initiate disciplinary proceedings if necessary. Reports had been pouring in from several districts that BLOs were handing out voter revision forms from party offices, local leaders' homes, or even road-side setups, instead of conducting door-to-door distribution as per protocol.



In response, the Commission convened a meeting on Saturday and reviewed the growing number of allegations. It was noted that despite repeated instructions, many BLOs continued to flout EC guidelines by distributing forms from arbitrary locations rather than conducting the mandated home visits. The Commission, taking serious note of the matter, has now directed strict disciplinary action and show-cause proceedings against the violators.

Indian missions world-
wide mark 150 years of
Vande Mataram with
cultural events

From PG 1 expedition 'Samudra Pradakshina' on board IASV Triveni - a stirring tribute to India's spirit, unity and Nari Shakti across the seas," the mission said in a social media post. In London, officials of the High Commission joined in singing the national song, calling it a tribute to a "timeless ode to our motherland that continues to inspire unity, pride, and love for India". Several other Indian missions, including those in Nepal, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Colombia, Dubai, Singapore, and South Africa, also organised recitations and community events to mark the 150th anniversary of the national song. On 24 January 1950, the Constituent Assembly of India officially adopted 'Vande Mataram' as the national song, giving it enduring significance. Prime Minister Modi, in his speech on Friday, said Vande Mataram "connects us to our history and gives our future new courage". Noting that the song is relevant in every era, Modi, in an apparent reference to Operation Sindoor, said, "When the enemy dared to attack our security and honour using terrorism, the world saw that India knows how to take the form of Durga."

Abhishek Forms Special Team to Visit SIR Vic-
tims' Families, Announces Rs 3 Lakh Aid Each

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid rising panic over the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bengal, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has decided to reach out to the families of individuals who allegedly died due to stress or fear surrounding the process. Abhishek Banerjee, TMC's national general secretary, has formed a special team to visit these bereaved families and provide both emotional and financial assistance. Each affected family will receive ₹3 lakh as compensation from the party.

Starting Saturday, senior party leaders will begin visiting the homes of those who reportedly died by suicide or from heart attacks linked to SIR-related anxiety. Samirul Islam and ParthaBhowmik will visit the family of PradipKar in the evening, while Dr. Shashi Panja and SudipRaha will travel to Titagarh around 4 PM. Chandrima Bhattacharya and SudipRaha will visit



Dankuni later in the day, and Jaya Dutta, along with local leaders, will go to Hooghly. Arup Chakraborty and his team will head to Uluberia. Since the SIR process began, a wave of anxiety-driven deaths has been reported from several parts of Bengal, including Agarpura, Cooch Behar, Dankuni, Digha, Uluberia, Kandi, Behrampore, Ilambazar, and recently from Sainthia, Kulpi, and

Dhupguri. In Sainthia, 52-year-old BimanPramanik reportedly died of cardiac arrest after days of distress over an error in the 2002 voter list where his and his sister's surnames were mistakenly recorded as "Pal" instead of "Pramanik." Despite assurances from local officials, he remained anxious and succumbed to a heart attack on Wednesday evening. In South 24 Parganas' Kulpi area, another tragic death was reported. Shahabuddin Paik, a resident of Kalicharanpur village, suffered a fatal stroke after learning from a BLO that his wife's name was missing from the voter list. He was admitted to Diamond Harbour Hospital but passed away shortly after. The TMC has blamed the Election Commission for "creating unnecessary fear" among citizens, while accusing the BJP of exploiting the situation politically. The BJP, in turn, has dismissed the allegations as "an attempt to divert attention from administrative failures."

Kalyan Banerjee Seeks
Stronger Cyber Fraud Laws

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kalyan Banerjee, a Trinamool Congress Member of Parliament, has revealed how he became the victim of a sophisticated financial fraud that drained ₹57 lakh from one of his dormant bank accounts — and how the money was ultimately restored by the bank. Responding to the incident, Banerjee raised concerns about ordinary depositors, asking what recourse would be available to citizens who face similar frauds without the leverage of political influence. He questioned the sufficiency of existing safeguards and called for stronger institutional measures, including the establishment of a specialised cyber crime branch dedicated to tackling digital banking fraud.

Banerjee also criticised recent relaxation of withdrawal safeguards by the Reserve Bank of India, noting that prior telephone verifications for large cash withdrawals had provided an additional layer of security. He warned that the easing of such controls could embolden fraudsters. The MP urged greater accountability from banks, emphasising that public trust in the financial system could be severely undermined if digital

banking becomes a major conduit for theft. He demanded stronger government oversight and clearer consumer protections to prevent similar incidents, and called for urgent steps to tighten digital banking security across the country. Investigations are ongoing nationwide now. Speaking on November 8, Banerjee recounted the episode in detail. He said the account in question belonged to a sub-branch under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court main branch and had lain dormant for about a decade after he stopped using it following his tenure as a legislator. Fraudsters allegedly reactivated the account by completing a fresh KYC (Know Your Customer) process. Banerjee claimed that his photograph was superimposed on forged documents and counterfeit PAN and other identification papers were submitted to the bank to facilitate the activation. State Bank of India has reportedly credited the ₹57 lakh back to his account. Bank officials described the incident as an administrative lapse in internal processes, and have initiated investigations into how the fraudulent KYC was accepted. No arrests have been reported so far.

Mayor Hakim Assures Easy
Access to Birth Certificates

MI News Service, Kolkata: Citizens born within the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) area will receive birth certificates without difficulty if their documents are in proper order, Mayor Firhad Hakim assured on Friday. Speaking during his regular citizen interaction programme 'Talk to Mayor', Hakim clarified that the process remains transparent and accessible through the KMC's official website. "The website clearly shows the years for which birth certificates can be issued. There's no need to create unnecessary confusion around this matter," he said. The mayor's remarks came in response to political controversy surrounding the issuance of birth certificates, after Leader of Opposition SuwenduAdhikari had filed an RTI seeking details about the process. In reply, Deputy Mayor Atin Ghosh earlier stated that all records were available online and that the system was functioning efficiently.

Taking a firmer stance on Friday, Hakim sharply criticised the attempts to politicise the issue. "Anyone can simply open the computer and see everything for themselves —

where, when, and to how many people birth certificates have been issued. All the details are publicly available," the mayor said. Hakim also addressed concerns related to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, acknowledging that the process had temporarily diverted several civic employees from their usual duties. "Many municipal staff have been assigned to assist with the SIR programme," he said.

According to KMC officials, around 250 civic employees have been deployed to support the Election Commission's SIR activities. This has led to manpower shortages in multiple departments, causing delays in regular municipal services. "The situation has become such that one person is now doing the work of three," a civic source said, adding that despite the additional workload, every effort is being made to ensure uninterrupted civic services. Hakim reiterated the municipality's commitment to transparency and public access to essential documents, emphasising that no citizen with valid records would face obstacles in obtaining their birth certificate.

Vidyasagar Setu to Remain Closed for 16
Hrs on Sunday for Maintenance Work

MI News Service, Kolkata: Commuters traveling between Howrah and Kolkata are set to face major traffic restrictions this Sunday, November 9, as the iconic Second Hooghly Bridge—better known as VidyasagarSetu—will remain completely closed for vehicular movement for 16 hours due to scheduled maintenance work.

According to an official notification, the bridge will be shut from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. to allow for essential repair and renovation work aimed at ensuring public safety. Kolkata Police confirmed that during this period, all vehicles that normally use VidyasagarSetu will be diverted through Howrah Bridge. Detailed diversion plans have been issued to manage the expected increase in traffic. Last Sunday, the bridge had also been closed for eight hours for similar repair work. This time, authorities expect heavier congestion as the closure



period has been doubled. Officials clarified that the ongoing maintenance is crucial for the structural health and long-term safety of the bridge. According to the revised traffic plan, vehicles approaching from Khidderpore via CGR Road intending to access VidyasagarSetu will instead be diverted left from Hastings Crossing towards St. George's Gate Road, and then proceed via Strand Road to reach Howrah

Bridge. Similarly, vehicles coming via AJC Bose Road that typically use VidyasagarSetu will be redirected from Grade Road towards Hastings Crossing, before moving through St. George's Gate Road and Strand Road to reach Howrah Bridge. Alternately, vehicles may take a right turn from Hastings Crossing to proceed via K.P. Road as instructed by traffic personnel. Kolkata Police have warned that diversions could lead to significant congestion, particularly along St. George's Gate Road and Strand Road, as all diverted vehicles funnel toward Howrah Bridge. Additional traffic police will be deployed in these areas to manage the flow and assist motorists. Meanwhile, vehicles traveling from Howrah to Kolkata that usually cross via VidyasagarSetu have been advised to use Howrah Bridge or NiveditaSetu instead.

EC Launches New
Website for Online
Enumeration Forms
Under SIR Process

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Election Commission of India has officially launched a new website to facilitate the online submission of enumeration forms as part of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. This comes after several inquiries were raised regarding the start of online applications under the SIR process. According to the Election Commission, voters can now access the Enumeration Form through the official Voter Services Portal. The initiative is aimed at ensuring that eligible voters who are currently living away from their registered constituencies—such as students, migrant workers, and professionals—can conveniently complete the process online without physical verification delays. Officials confirmed that the online facility has been made fully functional from Friday. The system allows users to log in using their voter credentials, fill out the enumeration form, and upload necessary documents, including proof of age, address, and identity. The portal is designed with user-friendly navigation and multilingual support to assist applicants from different regions. The Commission has also assured that all data submitted online will be securely stored and verified through the same process followed for offline forms. Once validated, updates and corrections will automatically reflect in the electoral rolls. With the launch of the online enumeration service, voters now have two options to participate in the SIR process—either by submitting physical forms collected by BLOs or by completing the process digitally through the Voter Services Portal.

Migrant workers, youth
real X factor of Bihar
polls, not women:
Prashant Kishor

From PG 1 alternative," he said, claiming that this time, they were voting for his party. "The PM earlier used to get votes of migrant workers and people in general by spreading fear of RJD's 'jungle raj'. However, he is unable to get a sense of the current ground situation. People who apprehended the resurgence of 'jungle raj' in Bihar can see an alternative this election in Jan Suraaj," he added. Kishor claimed the 'vote chori' allegation of the Congress is a non-issue in the Bihar polls. "Ask any person on the street, nobody's name was deleted from the electoral rolls in the seats that went to the polls in the first phase," he said. Political strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor on Friday attributed the record voter turnout in the first phase of Bihar assembly elections — the highest since Independence — to two key factors: a growing public yearning for political change and the unexpected participation of migrant workers who returned to the state during the festive season.

CM Honours Richa Ghosh
with Banga Bhushan

Bengal is proud of its daughters who are shining globally — be it in sports, education, or arts
--CM Mamata Banerjee

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee led a grand felicitation ceremony at Eden Gardens to honour India's T20 World Cup-winning cricketer Richa Ghosh, turning the venue into a festive hub of pride and celebration. The event, organized by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB), marked a moment of glory for Bengal's "golden girl." Banerjee personally conferred upon Richa one of the state's highest civilian honours, the BangaBhushan award, and announced her appointment as Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) in the West Bengal Police. Along with these recognitions, Richa received a ₹34 lakh cash prize and a gold-plated bat and ball as tokens of appreciation.

During the event, the Chief Minister praised Richa's grit and perseverance, describing her as a "symbol of Bengal's emerging women power." Banerjee said, "Richa has made India and Bengal proud. She is proof that talent, when nurtured with dedication and hard work, can take you to the world stage. Bengal will always stand by its daughters." The ceremony was attended by several notable

personalities, including Sports Minister Aroop Biswas, Minister of State Manoj Tiwary, CAB President and former Indian captain SouravGanguly, and JhulanGoswami, among others.

Banerjee's warm gesture underscored her government's commitment to promoting sports and recognizing women achievers. She emphasized that the state is focused on providing opportunities to young athletes across disciplines and ensuring they receive institutional support to reach international levels. "Bengal is proud of its daughters who are shining globally — be it in sports, education, or arts," Banerjee remarked. "Richa's achievement will inspire many young girls in small towns to dream big and work hard. The government will continue to stand beside them."

As the Eden Gardens crowd cheered, Banerjee personally handed Richa the golden bat, symbolizing the state's admiration. The moment, filled with applause and emotion, reflected both the sporting spirit of Bengal and Mamata Banerjee's enduring push to empower women achievers through recognition and respect.

India moving fast on path of
all round development : PM

From PG 1 rapidly on this path." "Trains like Vande Bharat, Namo Bharat and Amrit Bharat are laying the foundation of a new generation of Indian Railways. "Vande Bharat is a train of Indians, built by Indians for Indians, of which every Indian is proud," he said. Now even foreign travellers are amazed by Vande Bharat. Today, India has launched a campaign to improve its resources for a developed India and these trains are going to be a milestone in that, he added. With the addition of the four new trains, the Prime minister said, more than 160 Vande Bharat Express trains are now operational in the country. He further stated that spiritual tourism has become a major source of income and has ushered in development in Uttar Pradesh and several other states. "In our country, pilgrimage has for centuries been considered a medium of national consciousness. These journeys are not merely routes for darshan on deities, but a sacred tradition that connects the soul of India," PM Modi said. Places like Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Haridwar, Chitrakoot and Kurukshetra in Uttar Pradesh alone are the centrepieces of our spiritual beliefs," he said. Today, as these sacred destinations are being connected through the Vande Bharat network, it is

also linking India's culture, faith and development. This is an important step towards making symbols of India's heritage a representation of national growth, he said. "These journeys also have an economic aspect, which is often not discussed. Over the past 11 years, the development work done in Uttar Pradesh has elevated pilgrimage tourism to a new level," the PM said.

"Last year, more than 11 crore devotees came to Kashi for Baba Vishwanath's darshan, and since the construction of the Ram Temple, over 6 crore people have visited Ayodhya to seek the blessings of Ram Lalla. "These devotees have contributed thousands of crores of rupees to Uttar Pradesh's economy and provided steady income to hotel owners, transport operators, local artists and boatmen," he said. This has created new and diverse opportunities for the youth, PM Modi noted. "Hundreds of young people in Varanasi are now starting new ventures, from transport to local businesses. Because of all this, the doors of prosperity are opening in Kashi and across Uttar Pradesh," he said. To realise the dream of a 'Viksit Bharat' (Developed India) from a 'Viksit Kashi', numerous infrastructure projects are being undertaken here, the Prime minister said.

First phase of Bihar polls recorded
highest turnout in state's history: EC

From PG 1 57.29 per cent of the electors had cast their votes. Of the 3.75 crore voters, 1.98 crore are men and 1.76 crore women. Women had come out in large numbers to exercise their franchise in the November 6 polls. Two districts — Muzaffarpur and Samastipur — recorded over 70 per cent voting. While Muzaffarpur registered 71.81 per cent turnout, it was 71.74 per cent in Samastipur. Besides, other districts that recorded a high polling percentage were Madhepura (69.59%), Saharsa (69.38%), Vaishali (68.50%) and Khagaria (67.90%). Patna district recorded 59.02 per cent voting, while Lakhisarai registered 64.98 per cent, Munger 62.74 and Siwan 60.61 per cent respectively. The remaining 122 seats of the 243-member assembly will vote on November 11, while the counting will take place on November 14. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has thanked the people of Bihar for their immense support in the first phase of elections and sought their blessings also in the second and final phase on next Tuesday for 122 more seats. Announcing this in a post on X, PM Modi said, "My family members, who have taken the resolve of 'Developed Bihar', are going to ensure a massive majority for the NDA even in the second and final phase of the Bihar Assembly elections. Amidst this immense support, I will seek the blessings of the people-public in Sitamarhi and in Bettiah." (which will go to the polls in the second phase) The EC also thanked the people for the peaceful conclusion of the first phase of the Bihar polls with no report of any major incident of violence and disruption of polling from anywhere. A total of 121 constituencies in 18 districts went to polls in the first phase. The second phase of voting will be on November 11 and results will be declared on November 14.

Rescheduled services in green line on Sunday

MI News Service, 8 Nov 2025, Kolkata: Due to a traffic block, last Metro services in Green Line will be rescheduled tomorrow i.e. on 09.11.2025 (Sunday). On that day last Metro service from Howrah Maidan will leave for Salt Lake Sector V at 20.45 hrs. instead of 21.45 hrs. Similarly, last Metro service from Salt Lake Sector V will leave for Howrah Maidan at 20.47 hrs. instead of 21.47 hrs.

Normal services in this Corridor will be available on 10.11.2025 (Monday).

Tej Pratap Yadav greets BJP MP Ravi Kishan at airport, calls it "coincidence"



MI News Service, Patna: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Ravi Kishan and Janshakti Janata Dal chief Tej Pratap Yadav greeted each other at the Patna Airport, while their parties are contesting against each other in the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections.

Tej Pratap Yadav called it a "coincidence" as he met Ravi Kishan even on Friday.

Speaking to reporters at the airport, Yadav said, "It is a coincidence that I am meeting BJP MP Ravi Kishan again after meeting him yesterday."

Tej Pratap Yadav contested elections in the Mahua seat, which underwent polling in the first phase on November 6. The Janshakti Janata Dal chief was in fray against the National Democratic Alliance's (NDA) Sanjay Kumar Singh from Lok Janshanti Party (Ram Vilas), and Jan Suraj's Indrajeet Pradhan, while his brother Tejashwi Yadav fielded Rashtriya Janata Dal's (RJD) Mukesh Kumar Raushan against him.

Earlier, on the day of polling, Tej Pratap Yadav expressed confidence in his victory, saying that he has the blessings of his parents, RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav and Rabri Devi, and the people's support.

Speaking to ANI, Tej Pratap Yadav said, "I am fully confident. I have the blessings of my parents and the public."

Tej Pratap Yadav, who was expelled from the Rashtriya Janata Dal earlier this year, has formed his own party, named Janshakti Janata Dal, and contested under his party's banner from Mahua.

He visited various polling booths in the constituency during polling on Thursday.

Earlier on November 4, Ravinder Shukla, aka Ravi Kishan, who is a Lok Sabha MP from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh, had said that Mahagathbandhan will be trounced in the Bihar Assembly elections.

Taking a jibe at RJD leader and Mahagathbandhan's Chief Ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav, Kishan told ANI that the schemes will improve daily since the opposition's grand alliance has realised that they were going to "lose badly".

"Mahagathbandhan is going to be trounced. Thus, all these schemes will improve daily. They have realised that they will lose badly. RJD knows that NDA will win many of its seats. The ambience is in favour of PM Modi and Nitish Kumar's development model," the BJP leader said.

After a historic voter turnout in the first phase of polls, Bihar is now gearing up for the second phase of the elections in 122 Assembly constituencies on November 11.

NDA, comprising the BJP, JD(U), HAMS, LJP (RV), and others, is looking to retain power for a second term. The Mahagathbandhan, comprising Congress, RJD, left parties, and VIP, is looking to get back to power.

Jan Suraj, which made a debut in the electoral fray, is contesting in more than 200 constituencies on its own.

The results for the Legislative Assembly elections will be announced on November 14.

Special camps to facilitate commuters for recharging smart cards online and promote UPI payment-based ticketing system

MI News Service, 8 Nov 2025, Kolkata: In order to make different digital payment modes introduced in Metro Railway familiar to the commuters and enhance the share of digital transactions in ticketing, Special Camps were organised today on 08.11.2025 by Metro staff at all stations of Blue Line, Green Line and Yellow Line. In these camps, Metro users were made aware about improved 'Aamar Kolkata Metro' app, additional payment facility with HDFC Smart Gateway and how to download it from Google Play Store (Android) and App Store (iOS). Metro staff also showed them



ro staff also showed them

the procedures to use it. Metro commuters were also helped to purchase tokens and recharge/buy their Smart Cards through ASCRM machines with the help of UPI Payment Based Ticketing System. They have shown keen interest to shift to digital system and adopt smart ways to purchase tokens, Mobile based QR code tickets, Smart Cards and recharge it. They were visibly happy as this digital mode is helping them to save their valuable time as they don't need to stand in the long queues in front of the booking counters to recharge or purchase their Smart Cards or tickets.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to review performance of 16 DPSUs in Delhi

MI News Service, New Delhi: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will undertake the annual performance review of the 16 Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) in New Delhi on November 10.

He had declared 2025 as the 'Year of Reforms', underscoring the importance of development of new technology by DPSUs and the need for enhancing exports and indigenisation. To achieve this objective, he exhorted them to increase their investment and manpower for R&D.

Since then, all the DPSUs have prepared their R&D roadmap for the next five years. Over the last 10 years, a total sum of Rs 30,952 crore has been invested in R&D by the 16 DPSUs. The pace of R&D is now proposed to be doubled with projected expenditure of Rs 32,766 crore over the next five years. While most of the R&D investment over last 10 years was made by old DPSUs notably Hindustan Aeronautics Limited



(HAL), Bharat Electronics Limited and Bharat Dynamics Limited, the thrust on R&D is now spread across all DPSUs. In next five years, the seven new DPSUs formed upon corporatisation of the Ordnance Factory Board will invest over Rs 3,000 crore for R&D, while defence shipyards have planned an investment of over Rs 1,300 crore, according to the Ministry of Defence.

During the event, a compilation of D&D/R&D projects carried out in the last 10 years, and the plan for the next five years will be released. In addition, the new R&D Manual of HAL

providing flexibility, speed, risk assessment, and allocation in R&D projects will be unveiled.

Rajnath Singh will also release a report on renewable energy, titled 'Swayam'. This report is the first-ever attempt made under the aegis of Department of Defence Production to compile the energy efficiency practices of all the 16 DPSUs.

Notably, the performance of DPSUs in 2024-25 has been commendable. The total turnover stood at Rs 1.08 lakh crore, up 15.4% from that in 2023-24. The DPSUs recorded cumulative Profit After Tax in 2024-25 of Rs 20,021 crore, registering a growth of 19.5% over the previous year.

Remarkably, in 2024-25, DPSUs achieved an increase of 51% in exports over the previous Financial Year. The event will witness felicitations to various DPSUs for their notable achievements in different areas and exchange of significant MoUs.



Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi being welcomed by Mathhya Pradesh Congress leaders on his arrival, in Pachmarhi on Saturday.

Himachal Women's Commission takes cognisance of FIR against BJP MLA

MI News Service, Shimla: The State Women's Commission, Himachal Pradesh, led by Vidya Negi, on Saturday termed the allegations against BJP MLA and former Deputy Speaker Hans Raj as "serious" and urged the Chamba Police to conduct a fair, impartial, and in-depth investigation into the matter.

Negi, who has been heading the Commission for the past four months, told ANI in Shimla that the Commission took suo motu cognisance of the complaint after receiving it first through social media and later as a formal written complaint from a woman who accused the Churah MLA of exploitation, intimidation, and issuing threats to her life.

"It has been four months since I took charge as Chairperson, and during this period, we received this complaint first on social media and later formally. The girl has alleged that BJP MLA Hans Raj exploited her, threatened her, and that she faces a threat to her life. We have taken cognisance of the matter," Negi said.

She added that several women's groups, including one led by Jan Mahila Samiti, had submitted written representations to the Commission, supporting the complainant and seeking a proper investigation.

"Many women submitted written requests demanding a fair probe and justice for

the girl. Acting on these, we spoke to the Superintendent of Police, Chamba, and asked for a thorough and unbiased investigation into what actually happened," she said.

Negi further revealed that the matter had reportedly surfaced once before, nearly a year ago, and the Commission had sought details on the action taken at that time. She also said that a video circulating online, in which the girl claimed that both she and her family were facing threats, had been brought to the police's attention.

"We have spoken to the SP and directed that the investigation should determine whether there is any real threat to the girl or her family on the ground. If such a threat exists, the police must ensure full security to them," Negi stressed.

Calling it a "very serious matter," Negi said the Commission's role is to ensure that every woman who approaches them is heard and that her case is pursued fairly.

"If any woman comes to us alleging injustice, our first duty is to raise her voice and ensure proper investigation by the concerned department. The truth or falsehood of the case will be determined by the police," she said.

Referring to the BJP's 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' slogan, the Chairperson remarked that such slogans must trans-

late into action on the ground.

"The BJP talks about 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao'. I am not here to decide who is guilty, but if such slogans are given at the national level, they must be practised sincerely on the ground. Unfortunately, we have seen similar allegations earlier - in Chamba, Solan, and against BJP leaders or their family members," she claimed.

Negi urged central and state authorities to ensure that no bias affects the investigation and that justice is delivered to the complainant.

"This is not about politics; it's about justice. A fair investigation must be carried out without discrimination. Senior leaders at the Centre should also help ensure that women and girls who come forward get justice," she added.

While stating that it was too early to draw conclusions as the allegations were yet to be proven, Negi expressed concern about the broader atmosphere for women in society.

"We cannot say anything concrete right now as the investigation is still ongoing. But the environment being created for women today, especially the younger generation, is not healthy. There is always a risk that powerful people, including elected representatives, might try to influence such investigations," she cautioned.

PM Modi meets LK Advani, extends birthday greetings to veteran BJP leader

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday met Bharat Ratna and veteran BJP leader LK Advani at his residence in New Delhi to convey birthday greetings and good wishes.

Earlier on Saturday, PM Modi extended birthday greetings to senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Lal Krishna Advani.

The Prime Minister termed Advani as a leader blessed with a towering vision and intellect, stating that his life has been dedicated to strengthening India's progress.

PM Modi prayed for his long life and health, mentioning his spirit of selfless duty and steadfast principles.

"Greetings to Shri LK Advani Ji on his birthday. A statesman blessed with towering vision and intellect, Advani Ji's life has been dedicated to strengthening India's progress. He has always



embodied the spirit of selfless duty and steadfast principles. His contributions have left an indelible mark on India's democratic and cultural landscape. May he be blessed with good health and a long life," PM Modi wrote on 'X'.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also extended birthday greetings to the veteran BJP leader on X, stating, "Heartfelt

birthday greetings to L. K. Advani ji. His distinguished leadership, vision and lifelong dedication to the nation continue to inspire us all. Prayers for his good health and long life."

Born on November 8, 1927, in Karachi (present-day Pakistan), Advani joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) as a Swayamsevak in 1942. He played a pivotal role in Indian politics,

serving as BJP National President for three separate terms, from 1986 to 1990, 1993 to 1998, and 2004 to 2005, making him the longest-serving president in the party's history since its inception in 1980.

LK Advani first served as the Home Minister from 1999 to 2004 and later served as Deputy Prime Minister in the NDA government led by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee from 2002 to 2004.

In recognition of his exceptional contribution to the nation, Advani was conferred with the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, by President Droupadi Murmu in March this year.

Over a parliamentary career spanning nearly three decades, Advani has been widely acknowledged for his steadfast principles, visionary leadership, and lifelong dedication to strengthening India's democratic and cultural framework.

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta directs DUISIB to survey slums for Ujjwala beneficiaries, prioritises clean fuel access

MI News Service, New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has directed DUISIB to conduct a survey in slum areas to identify families still using traditional stoves and hearths, so that clean fuel can be provided to them under the Ujjwala Yojana, according to the Delhi CMO.

She stated that the government's goal is to ensure access to clean energy for every family in slum settlements, reducing both pollution and health risks, as stated in the CMO.

The Chief Minister also clarified that such families will be given priority for gas connections so that no one has to depend on traditional fuels anymore.

Launched in May 2016, PMUY aims to provide deposit-free LPG connections to adult women from poor households across the country.

All PMUY beneficiaries receive a deposit-free LPG connection, which includes a Security Deposit (SD) for the Cylinder, Pressure Regulator, Suraksha Hose,



Domestic Gas Consumer Card (DGCC) booklet and installation charges. As per the existing modalities of Ujjwala 2.0, the first refill and stove are also provided free of cost to all beneficiaries.

As per the existing modalities of Ujjwala 2.0, the first refill and stove are also provided free of cost to all beneficiaries.

PMUY beneficiaries are not required to make any payments for the LPG connection or the first refill or stove, as the Government

of India/OMCs bears the cost for these.

Meanwhile on Friday, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has decided to change the working hours of the offices of the Delhi Government and the Delhi Municipal Corporation.

This decision has been taken as a precautionary measure to prevent pollution, ensuring that the pressure of vehicles on the roads does not increase all at once and the traffic load is evenly distributed, thereby reducing pollution

levels, according to the release.

According to the Chief Minister, a meeting was recently held with senior scientific officers of the Environment Department to discuss the pollution in the capital. It was decided that during the winter season (from November 15, 2025, to February 15, 2026), phased changes would be made in the office timings of various departments of the Delhi Government and the Municipal Corporation.

The meeting also noted that during the previous government's tenure, office timings were altered when pollution increased in the capital during these periods. The Chief Minister instructed the officials to maintain a gap in the opening and closing times of offices to prevent simultaneous traffic pressure. During winters in Delhi, the levels of pollutants such as PM 2.5 and PM 10 rise far above normal standards, severely deteriorating air quality and significantly impacting public health.

PM Modi lauds BJP workers after landslide victory in Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu local elections

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the BJP workers for a landslide victory in the local elections in the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, saying that the people have a "strong connection" with the party's development agenda.

Sharing an X post, PM Modi expressed gratitude towards the elections and wrote, "Gratitude to my sisters and brothers of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu for blessing BJP with phenomenal support in the Sarpanch, District Panchayat and Councillor elections held across the UT."

"This indicates the UT's strong connect with our Party's development agenda. I laud our hardworking Karyakartas for their effort at the grassroots," the X post added.

As per the details of the results shared by the BJP Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, on its social media handle X, the BJP won 15 out of 16 villages in the Daman district Sarpanch elections, 15 out of 16 seats in Daman District Panchayat elections, and 14 out of 15 wards for the Municipal Council polls in Daman.

In Diu, the BJP swept the elections, winning both the Panchayat seats in the Sarpanch elections and all eight wards in the District Panchayat polls.

In Dadra and Nagar Haveli, the party won 16 out of 26 Panchayats in the Sarpanch polls, 24 out of 26 wards in District Panchayat polls and all 15 wards in the Municipal Council elections.

The polling for the Panchayat and Municipal Council elections was held on November 5.

Meanwhile, Congress had alleged that the BJP had conducted an "election theft" as several of the Opposition candidates' nominations were cancelled.

Congress alleged that in the Silvassa Municipal Corporation election (Dadra and Nagar Haveli), eight of their candidates' nominations were cancelled, while 13 were cancelled in the district panchayat polls.

Congress wrote on X, "Open 'election theft' has taken place blatantly in the municipal corporation and panchayat elections of Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The Election Commission and the BJP have conspired to cancel the nominations of Congress and opposition candidates."

"In the Silvassa Municipal Corporation election, 12 candidates from Congress filed forms, out of which 8 forms were cancelled. Similarly, in the district panchayat election, 21 forms were filed, out of which 13 forms were cancelled. The key point is that all these forms were filled in a way after sitting with the legal team. Even after that, nominations were deliberately cancelled," the party added.

Targeting the NDA's 'jungleraj' narrative, the Congress chief questioned the ruling alliance's failure to address law and order issues and infiltration during their long tenure.

"Jungle Raj and all these things are old issues. Why did they not end jungleraj in 20 years? Why didn't the push out infiltrators? This is a failure of the central government and the state government. I want to call out their double-engine government for this failure," he added.

After a historic voter turnout in the first phase of polls, Bihar is now gearing

Calling it an attack on democracy, the party further said that several Opposition candidates were not even called for scrutiny.

"Understand the chronology of the conspiracy: The place that was fixed for the scrutiny of nomination papers was suddenly changed, and deliberately, this information was not given to the opposition candidates. Many opposition candidates were not even called for scrutiny. Opposition candidates' nominations were cancelled in an arbitrary manner; no reason was given. When a complaint was made to the Election Commission official about this, no heed was paid. This is clearly election theft. Until now, the Election Commission and the BJP have been colluding to commit 'vote theft', but after the game of theft was exposed, they have directly resorted to 'election theft'. This is an attack on democracy and the Constitution," Congress wrote on X.

"Every person is in mood for change": UP Congress President Ajay Rai on Bihar elections

MI News Service, Patna: Uttar Pradesh Congress President Ajay Rai stated on Saturday that the people of Bihar are in a mood for change and that the Mahagathbandhan is in a strong position following the first phase of the election.

While speaking with ANI, Ajay Rai said, "...Wherever we went, every person is in the mood for change, and change will happen because the youth are worried about their future, the farmers are worried about price... in the first phase, we are in a very strong position and we are going to form the government..."

Earlier in the day, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge expressed confidence in the people's verdict in the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections, dismissing the BJP's claims and slogans as baseless.

"We have faith in the people. We know where they get their data and figures from. Earlier, they also gave a slogan of 400 pairs and the like. But we have faith only in the people. People will do justice and decide what's best for them," he said when asked about NDA's confidence of winning 160 plus seats in the Bihar assembly election.

Targeting the NDA's 'jungleraj' narrative, the Congress chief questioned the ruling alliance's failure to address law and order issues and infiltration during their long tenure.

"Jungle Raj and all these things are old issues. Why did they not end jungleraj in 20 years? Why didn't the push out infiltrators? This is a failure of the central government and the state government. I want to call out their double-engine government for this failure," he added.

After a historic voter turnout in the first phase of polls, Bihar is now gearing

up for the second phase of the elections in 122 Assembly constituencies on November 11.

NDA, comprising the BJP, JD(U), HAMS, LJP (RV), and others, is looking to retain power for a second term; the Mahagathbandhan, comprising Congress, RJD, left parties, and VIP, is looking to get back to power.

Jan Suraj, which made a debut in the electoral fray, is contesting in more than 200 constituencies on its own.

The results for the Legislative Assembly elections will be announced on November 14.

New antibody could be promising cancer treatment: Study

UPPSALA [SWEDEN] : Researchers at Uppsala University and KTH Royal Institute of Technology have created an antibody that has the potential to treat a variety of cancers. Researchers were able to integrate three different functionalities in the antibody, which combined significantly increased the action of T cells on the cancer tumour.

Researchers have developed a unique type of antibody that both targets and delivers a drug package via the antibody itself, while simultaneously activating the immune system ("3-in-1 design") for personalised immunotherapy treatments.

"We have been researching precision medicine for close to 15 years now, as well as how we can use antibodies to influence an important key protein (CD40) in the immune system. We can now show that our new antibody method works as precision medicine for cancer," explains Sara Mangsbo, professor at the Department of Pharmacy at Uppsala University, who together with Johan Rockberg, professor at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, is the study's lead



author. The drug redirects the immune system to find and target specific mutations and gene changes that are only found in cancer cells, known as neoantigens. This is achieved by the new antibody both delivering the unique tumour-specific material directly to a particular type of immune cell and by stimulating this cell simultaneously, which then has the capacity to greatly enhance the T-cell response to the tumour. The results show that the method works in several

ways. Not only does it activate the right type of immune cells in human blood samples, but animal models show that mice receiving the treatment had prolonged survival and, at higher doses, also save the mice from cancer, and that the method is safer than previous cancer treatments the researchers have studied. Customised precision medicines can be both costly and time-consuming to develop.

"The advantage of our drug is that it is easy to produce on a

larger scale, yet can be easily tailored to the patient's disease or specific tumour. The medicine consists of two parts that are combined, a targeting bispecific antibody - which can be produced in large quantities in advance - and a custom peptide part, which is produced rapidly synthetically on a small scale for a desired type of cancer. Both in terms of production cost and the short time it takes to tailor a peptide to a new tumour, this increases availability and should make it quicker for patients to go from diagnosis to treatment," explains Johan Rockberg, Professor at KTH Royal Institute of Technology.

The aim of the study was to establish a more flexible, faster and safer treatment for cancer than those currently available. The study has already shown that the method has the potential to be customised for each patient, thereby strengthening the immune system against cancer. The next step is to use the fully optimised production process to manufacture the drug candidate for further safety studies and then start clinical trials in humans.

Patients with obesity and renal dysfunction may now be eligible for kidney transplants

ILLINOIS [US] : A collaborative research between a bariatric and transplant surgery team has provided fresh hope for individuals with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) and obesity. The study's authors investigated the results of metabolic and bariatric surgery in ESRD patients, as well as whether such surgery might enhance their eligibility for kidney transplantation. The findings are reported in the Journal of the American College of Surgeons.

"Obesity is a worsening problem in the United States, significantly impacting transplant eligibility. We established the CORT initiative - a collaborative for obesity research in transplantation - recognizing the urgent need to address this issue, especially in underserved populations who suffer the most from obesity-related diseases," said corresponding study author Anil Paramesh, MD, MBA, FACS, professor of surgery, urology, and paediatrics and director of the kidney and pancreas transplant programs at Tulane University School of Medicine. Patients with ESRD face many difficulties without a transplant; their only alternative is to prolong life through dialysis, a process that is not only costly and time-intensive but also significantly diminishes the quality of life, Dr Paramesh noted. The study, conducted between January 2019 and June 2023, followed 183 ESRD patients referred for bariatric surgery, with 36 undergoing weight loss surgery and 10



subsequently receiving kidney transplants. Results showed a 27% reduction in average BMI at the time of transplant, alongside improvements in hypertension and diabetes management. This improvement in the management of comorbid conditions enhanced patients' overall health and transplant viability. With obesity being a major cause of transplant exclusion, this collaborative program represents a path forward for patients who previously would be ineligible, Dr Paramesh said and may help pave the way for increased patient education and access. "We've seen that bariatric surgery is not just about weight loss; it significantly improves other serious conditions like diabetes, high blood pressure, and sleep

apnea. This approach not only helps in reducing the patients' weight to a level where they can safely receive a transplant but also addresses the broader issue of health care disparities, particularly affecting Black and lower-income individuals," said Dr Paramesh.

However, the study also faced challenges, including a high drop-off rate of patients unwilling or unable to undergo surgery, and unique postoperative complications such as hypotension.

"Our findings indicate a pressing need to enhance patient education and support, making sure that potential candidates understand the benefits of weight loss surgery and its role in improving their eligibility for transplant," said Dr Paramesh.

Research shows how oestrogen protects against fatty liver

WASHINGTON DC [US] : New research from Sweden's Karolinska Institutet demonstrates how oestrogen protects against MASLD, a fatty liver disease that has developed rapidly during the obesity epidemic. The study, published in the journal Molecular Systems Biology, demonstrates how a new medicine under development could become a future treatment for fatty liver disease and liver cancer.

The global obesity epidemic has resulted in a dramatic increase in fatty liver, a disease in which fat that does not fit into fat cells is stored in liver cells instead.

Since last year, fatty liver due to obesity (and not excessive alcohol consumption) is known as MASLD (metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease). According to previous research, as many as one in three adults are affected by some degree of MASLD, which in the worst cases can develop into cirrhosis and liver cancer.

Women are protected until menopause

However, the disease is very unevenly distributed between the sexes, with a large majority of affected individuals being men.

"Women have a natural protection until menopause due to the female sex hormone oestrogen," explains Claudia Kutter,



senior researcher at the Department of Microbiology, Tumor and Cell Biology, Karolinska Institutet who led the study.

Although women's protection has been known for some time, the mechanism behind the protective effect has been less clear. Now Claudia Kutter's research team may have found the answer.

Through genetic analyses of mice of both sexes fed a high-fat diet, with some of the male mice

also receiving oestrogen, the researchers were able to identify a key protein in the development of fatty liver. The protein, called TEAD1, was found to play an overall role in regulating how liver cells absorb fat. Blocking TEAD1 protected liver cells from the harmful accumulation of fat. Mice receiving oestrogen treatment had lower TEAD1 activity and less fat accumulation in the liver. New drug under development In the next step, the

researchers tested blocking TEAD1 in human liver cells with the same result. The fact that this was possible at all, however, was a bit of luck.

"It turned out that a pharmaceutical company is developing an anti-cancer drug that blocks TEAD1, which allowed us to test our hypothesis," says Claudia Kutter.

The fact that TEAD1 is also involved in cancer does not worry her, quite the contrary.

"Since the activity of TEAD proteins is elevated in cancer, blocking TEAD at an early stage can also be positive from a cancer point of view," she says. "Patients suffering from liver cancer are currently diagnosed very late. If the patient is given this drug early in the process to protect against fatty liver, it can hopefully also prevent the development of liver cancer."

Will be tested on humans
The pharmaceutical company will now start clinical trials of the drug as a protection against fatty liver disease, while Claudia Kutter's research team will continue researching further ways to tackle the disease.

"We want to focus on how to find the disease earlier and identifying new treatment targets," she says. "Different approaches may be needed for different patients depending on their gender and hormonal status."

Researchers develop simple blood test to quickly recognize sarcoidosis

LOS ANGELES [US] : Researchers have developed a technique for quickly and cheaply identifying sarcoidosis, a chronic inflammatory illness characterized by the growth of microscopic lumps called granulomas in the lungs and other organs.

The technique, which uses a simple blood test, may allow for the selective use of more intrusive diagnostic tests that are commonly employed to identify the disease. The results were reported in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine.

"Currently, diagnosing sarcoidosis isn't a straightforward process and requires tissue removal and testing with additional screenings to rule out other diseases, such as tuberculosis or lung cancer," said James Kiley, Ph.D., director of the NIH's Division of Lung Diseases at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI).

"Using a blood test will help diagnose faster, particularly in those organs that are more challenging to biopsy and with less harm to the patient."

Though the exact cause of sarcoidosis is unknown, researchers suspect it is an immune disorder triggered by a group of specific antigens, which are generally foreign substances that incite an immune response in the body. In the United States, an estimated 8-11 people per 100,000 are affected by sarcoidosis each year, according to previous research.

To identify antigens and determine which might be linked to sarcoidosis, scientists collected lung fluid samples and blood cells from patients with pulmonary sarcoidosis and then extracted the genetic material. Using a combination of molecular tech-



niques, the researchers homed in on two newly described disease-specific antigen biomarkers that only bind to the antibodies of sarcoidosis-positive patients.

They next designed a highly specific blood test, which only requires a small amount of blood, to determine if they could accurately detect sarcoidosis. To verify the test, researchers compared blood samples from 386 people, which included patients with sarcoidosis, patients with tuberculosis, patients with lung cancer and healthy individuals. The researchers confirmed that their test was able to differentiate patients who had sarcoidosis from those with other respiratory diseases.

"More testing needs to be completed before this screening method is ready for clinical use, but it's possible that could be a reality within a few years," said Samavati.

People with essential tremor may be at higher risk of dementia, finds study

MINNEAPOLIS [US] : People suffering from essential tremor, a movement disorder marked by involuntary shaking, are three times more likely to have dementia than the general population, according to studies.

The findings will be presented at the American Academy of Neurology's 76th Annual Meeting, which will take place in Denver and online from April 13 to 18, 2024.

Essential tremor is the most common tremor disorder, even more prevalent than Parkinson's disease. In addition to arm and hand tremors, people may have uncontrollable shaking of the head, jaw, and voice.

"While many people living with essential tremor experience mild tremor, in some individuals, the tremor can be quite severe," said study author Elan D. Louis, MD, MSc, at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology. "Not only do tremors affect a person's ability to complete daily tasks such as writing and eating, our study suggests that people with essential tremor also have an increased risk of developing dementia."

The study involved 222 people with essential tremor who had an average age of 79 at the start of the study. They took thinking and

memory tests to determine whether they had normal cognitive skills, mild cognitive impairment or dementia at the start of the study.

Participants then had follow-up exams every 1.5 years for an average of five years.

Of this group, 168 people had normal cognitive skills, 35 had mild cognitive impairment and 19 had dementia at the start of the study.

During the study, 59 developed mild cognitive impairment and 41 developed dementia. Researchers then compared the rate at which people developed mild cognitive impairment and dementia, as well as the prevalence of these conditions, to the rates and prevalence for the general population. They also compared participants to the rates and prevalence for people with Parkinson's disease.

Researchers found 19% of participants had or developed dementia during the study, and each year an average of 12% of people diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment went on to develop dementia. These rates were three times higher than the rates in the general population. However, the rates were lower than those seen in people with Parkinson's disease, a population for which dementia is more prevalent.

Many individuals with type 2 diabetes lack potentially life-saving information regarding their illness

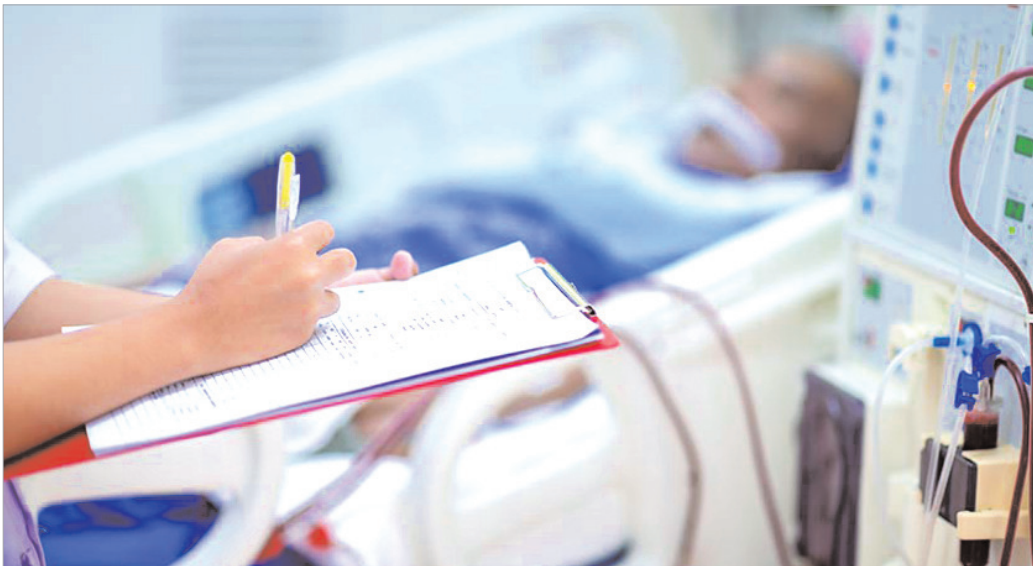
LAUSANNE [SWITZERLAND] : Type 2 diabetes (T2D), a chronic condition affecting hundreds of millions of people worldwide, is commonly caused by the body's inability to make enough insulin or use it correctly.

To avoid negative outcomes and long-term complications such as limb amputation or heart problems, patients must understand how to manage the condition on a daily basis. A team of researchers in Portugal has now assessed how many patients - both insulin-treated and not insulin-treated - have this crucial knowledge about T2D. They published their findings in Frontiers in Public Health.

Scientists found that many people with type 2 diabetes know little about their condition, indicating a need to improve communication about the disease

"Our main motivation was to contribute to the reduction of the existing disparity in the knowledge that diabetic patients have regarding their disease," said first author Prof Pedro Lopes Ferreira, director of the Center for Health Studies and Research of the University of Coimbra. "With this study we evidenced the need to improve the disease knowledge of type 2 diabetic patients."

Knowledge levels vary widely. To measure diabetes knowledge, the researchers employed a



test designed for persons with type 1 or type 2 diabetes. The test, among other things, asks about diet, signs and symptoms, and medication control. The research included 1,200 diabetics, over 40 per cent of whom were treated with insulin. The remainder of the sample followed particular diets, with some also using non-insulin oral antidiabetics, while others depended only on food.

The results showed that many participants (71.3 per cent) could answer food-related questions

correctly, and that more than four out of five respondents demonstrated good knowledge of the positive impact of physical activity. More than 75 per cent of respondents also knew about the best method for testing blood sugar levels.

In other areas, however, the researchers found that knowledge was severely lacking. For example, when asked which food item should not be used to treat low blood sugar levels, only 12.8 per cent of participants answered cor-

rectly. The lowest percentage (4.4 per cent) of correct answers was on a question concerning the symptoms of ketoacidosis, a potentially life-threatening, late-stage T2D complication.

"One of the main reasons for this disparity in knowledge is probably the behavior of health professionals and the areas that are prioritized when informing patients," Lopes Ferreira explained.

Equipping patients with knowledge The researchers found

that the use of medication was one factor that impacted T2D knowledge. The percentage of correct answers was 51.8 per cent for non-insulin treated patients, and 58.7 per cent for patients using insulin. Looking at socioeconomic and demographic factors, being younger than 65 years, having a higher education, not living alone, and following a specific diet had a positive impact on disease knowledge.

The researchers said that their results highlight the need to improve T2D knowledge about certain aspects of the disease, for example, blood sugar monitoring, which can help to avoid spikes in blood sugar levels that are associated with acute and chronic complications. Knowledge gaps within individual sections of the test are also something that needs to be addressed urgently, the team pointed out.

They also stated that studies with even more participants could help to better understand the role of the socioeconomic and clinical determinants of the disease. "We focused on patients' own knowledge of their disease, rather than disease management being based solely on biological indicators. We hope that the results obtained will allow professionals to change the way they inform patients," Lopes Ferreira concluded.

Turkey issues arrest warrants for Netanyahu, 36 Israeli officials over Gaza war crimes

MI News Service, Istanbul: Turkey's Chief Public Prosecutor's Office in Istanbul has issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and 36 other senior officials on charges of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity in Gaza. The warrants were approved by the Istanbul Criminal Court on Friday, November 7, following a wide-ranging investigation into Israel's military operations in Gaza since October 7, 2023, which Turkish authorities said resulted in the deaths of thousands of civilians and the destruction of vital infrastructure.

According to the statement, Israel's actions were conducted "systematically", resulting in: Widespread civilian casualties: The bombing of hospitals and residential area:Blockade of humanitarian aid to Gaza:Long-term destruction of civilian infrastructure. Among the incidents cited were the October 17, 2023, airstrike on Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital, which killed 500 people, and the March 21, 2025, attack on the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital.

The investigation extended to the Global Sumud Flotilla, a humanitarian convoy intercepted by Israeli naval forces in international waters while en route to Gaza. Prosecutors said the activists aboard were unlawfully detained, prompting Turkey to launch legal proceedings under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and relevant provisions of the Turkish Penal Code.

Victims repatriated to Turkey between



October 4 and 10, 2025, underwent medical and psychological examinations at the Istanbul Forensic Medicine Institution. Their testimonies, along with evidence provided by the Istanbul Bar Association No. 2, were included in the investigation file.

Following the review, prosecutors charged the 37 Israeli officials under:Article 77 – Crimes Against Humanity:Article 76 – Genocide:The list of those named includes:Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel:Israel Katz, Defence Minister:Itamar Ben-Gvir, National Security Minister: Eyal Zamir, Chief of General Staff:David Saar Salama, Navy Commander.

The National Intelligence Organisation (MIT) and the Istanbul Police Department have been directed to identify and locate the suspects. The Prosecutor's Office said that the Gaza investigation is being conducted "meticulously and comprehensively" and reaffirmed Turkey's stance on accountability for war crimes and violations of international law.

Russia launches massive strike on Ukrainian military, energy facilities

MI News Service, Moscow:

Russia said Saturday that it targeted Ukrainian military-industrial and gas-energy facilities in response to alleged Ukrainian attacks on civilian sites. The Russian Defense Ministry described the operation as a "massive strike" using high-precision long-range weapons from air, land and sea, including hypersonic Kinzhal missiles and combat drones.

"All designated targets have been hit," the ministry said in a statement. Russia's air defense systems shot down two guided aerial bombs and 178 drones over the past day, said the ministry.

BJP MP claims national anthem was penned to welcome the British; faces fierce political backlash

MI News Service, Honnavar, Karnataka : A political storm erupted on Friday after Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri claimed that India's national anthem, Jana Gana Mana, was originally written to "welcome the British." The remarks, made during an event in Honnavar, Karnataka, commemorating 150 years of Vande Mataram, drew widespread condemnation from opposition parties.

According to Deccan Herald, Kageri asserted that 'Vande Mataram' deserved greater prominence than 'Jana Gana Mana'. "Both songs hold equal importance, but Vande Mataram never received the recognition it truly deserves," he said. "Its legacy from the freedom struggle should continue to inspire future generations. It must reach every school, college, and household."

He went on to claim that Jana Gana Mana "was composed to welcome the British," but added that "our forefathers decided to honour both 'Vande Mataram' and 'Jana Gana Mana', and we have accepted that tradition."

Vigilance Awareness Seminar Organised By Sealdah Division

MI News Service, Kolkata, 8 Nov.25 : As part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, Sealdah Division, Eastern Railway, organised a Vigilance Awareness Seminar on 07.11.2025, reaffirming its commitment to transparency, integrity, and ethical governance.

Shri Brajesh Kumar Tripathy, IRSE, Chief Vigilance Officer, Coal India Limited, Kolkata, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering. In his remarks, he emphasized the importance of preventive vigilance, transparency, and system improvement to ensure clean, efficient, and accountable public service delivery.

Shri Rajeev Saxena, Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah, presided over the seminar and highlighted the Division's continuous initiatives to foster integrity, promote ethical practices, and strengthen vigilance mechanisms across all departments.

The seminar focused



on reinforcing vigilance values, enhancing internal systems, and encouraging collective responsibility to build a corruption-free and transparent work culture. The programme concluded with an integrity pledge reaffirming the commitment of officers and staff to uphold honesty, fairness, and ethical conduct in all spheres of work.

Senior officials including Shri Alok Singh, Senior Divisional Finance Manager, Shri Kundan Kumar Sahay, Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, and other officers of the Division were present on the occasion.



Hockey Bengal President and State Fire Minister Sujit Bose felicitates Indian tennis icon Leander Paes in the presence of other dignitaries during the inauguration ceremony of the 126th Beighton Cup at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Hockey Stadium in Kolkata on Saturday.

Don't panic about SIR, Pir Saheb of Furfura

Nurul Islam Khan :

Recently, the common people are panicking about SIR. As a result, many people have committed suicide. Regarding the special revision of the voter list, the Pir Saheb of Furfura Sharif has advised the common people of the state not to be afraid. Pirzada Sattar Siddiqui, Pirzada Tamim Siddiqui, Pirzada Mujahid Siddiqui, Pirzada Sawban Siddiqui, Pirzada Sanaullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Minhaj Siddiqui, Pirzada Safiri Siddiqui and Pirzada Mosfekin Siddiqui have given a message not to be afraid. They have given a message of fear for the common people, including various Islamic rallies, saying that this government is harassing the people of the country after coming to power. They are doing several anti-people activities including Corona and demonetization. They are doing undemocratic and unconstitutional work, especially targeting backward communities including Muslims. The work they are doing against the Hindu community with the SIR has also been mentioned. The Pirsahabs said that the BJP government is no more. They asked to fill the form correctly and receive a copy and keep it with them. Pirsahab asked to write the name, phone number and batch number of the BLO there. Various people have come forward to help in filling the form in this regard.



Delhi HC delivers split verdict on Engineer Rashid's plea against parole costs for attending Parliament

MI News Service, Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday delivered a split verdict on a petition filed by jailed Jammu and Kashmir MP Sheikh Abdul Rashid commonly known as Engineer Rashid challenging the financial conditions imposed on him for attending Parliament sessions while in custody. A division bench comprising Justice Vivek Chaudhary and Justice Anup Jairam Bhambhani expressed divergent opinions on the matter, with Justice Chaudhary rejecting Rashid's plea and Justice Bhambhani ruling in his favour. The case will now be referred to the Chief Justice's Bench to resolve the deadlock. Rashid had approached the High Court seeking modification of a March 25 order passed by a coordinate bench that required him to deposit around ₹4 lakh with the jail authorities as a prerequisite for attending Parliament during his custody parole.

Senior Advocate N. Hariharan, representing Rashid, contended that the amount demanded was unreasonably high and effectively hindered the parliamentarian's ability to represent his Bara-

mulla constituency. He further argued that the inclusion of salaries of escorting police personnel in the cost calculation was inconsistent with the Delhi Prison Rules and that no administrative notification could override those statutory provisions. Rashid, the counsel said, was willing to bear legitimate daily expenses such as food and logistical costs but not the salaries of accompanying officers. The Delhi Police, in response, submitted a detailed cost breakdown to justify the charges, while Senior Advocate Siddharth Luthra appeared on behalf of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

Sheikh Abdul Rashid, who won the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Baramulla, has been incarcerated in Tihar Jail since 2019 following his arrest by the NIA in a 2017 terror-funding case under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). A former MLA, Rashid has on multiple occasions been granted temporary bail and custody parole to either attend parliamentary proceedings or participate in election campaigns.

You can't study Sanskrit like a Brahmin: Dalit Phd scholar alleges caste bias by Kerala University dean

MI News Service, Thiruvananthapuram:

A Dalit research scholar from Kerala University, Vipin Vijayan, has accused the Dean of the Sanskrit Department, Dr. C. N. Vijayakumari, of caste discrimination and academic harassment after his PhD degree was allegedly withheld despite meeting all formal academic requirements.

Vijayan, who completed his M.Phil and PhD research under the same professor's supervision, claimed that the Dean refused to forward his PhD file for approval and made casteist remarks questioning his right to study Sanskrit. "She told me that a Pulayan or

Parayan can never master Sanskrit the way a Brahmin does," he wrote in a detailed social media statement on Wednesday, calling the experience "emotionally devastating and academically humiliating."

The scholar said that although his thesis Sadgurusharvasam: A Study was approved by two external examiners appointed by the Vice-Chancellor, the Dean allegedly blocked his final viva-voce certification, stating he was "not qualified to even speak Sanskrit." Vijayan said he possesses post-graduate degrees in Sanskrit from Sree Sankaracharya University and Kerala University it-

self.

He alleged that caste and political bias motivated the obstruction, noting that he was once a member of the Students' Federation of India (SFI), while Dr. Vijayakumari is "openly aligned with RSS-BJP ideology" and a member of a Sangh-affiliated teachers' body. "If I am politically biased, why is hers never questioned?" he asked.

The Kerala University administration has not yet issued an official statement on the matter. Faculty sources confirmed that the case has been brought to the attention of the Vice-Chancellor's office. Student groups on campus,

including the Dalit Students Federation and SFI, have demanded an inquiry and suspension of the Dean pending investigation.

Similar allegations of caste discrimination in higher education have recently surfaced in universities across India, including Banaras Hindu University and Delhi University, where Dalit scholars reported systematic bias in Sanskrit and classical studies departments.

For Vipin Vijayan, the ordeal has taken a personal toll. "PhD was my life's dream," he said. "Now, the label 'unfit to study Sanskrit' will haunt me forever."

Kashmir clerics slam Vande Mataram order as hindutav push, demand withdrawal

MI Service, Srinagar:

The Muthahida Majlis-e-Ulema (MMU), an alliance of leading Islamic scholars and religious organisations in Jammu and Kashmir led by Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, has denounced the Jammu and Kashmir government's directive instructing schools to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram.

The group described the move as an attempt to impose an "RSS-driven Hindutva ideology" on the Muslim-majority region under the guise of cultural celebration.

In a statement released in Srinagar, the MMU said the order issued by the Department of Culture directing schools to hold musical and cultural events featuring 'Vande Mataram' was "coercive, unjust, and un-Islamic." It urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to revoke the order immediately, citing widespread public concern.

"The directive has caused deep anguish among Muslims of the region, who are reaching out to the religious leadership to take up this serious matter," the statement read. "Forcing Muslim students or institutions to engage in acts that conflict with their faith is both unjust and unacceptable."

The government circular called on schools across Jammu and Kashmir to organise assemblies



and performances between October 31 and November 7 to mark the 150th anniversary of the national song. Earlier, the Chief Secretary chaired a meeting to ensure the participation of schools across the Union Territory, calling student involvement "crucial for broader outreach."

The MMU argued that Vande Mataram contains expressions of reverence that contradict the Islamic belief in tawhid, or the oneness of God. "Reciting or singing Vande Mataram involves devo-

tional acts not permissible in Islam," the statement said. "Islam teaches love for one's nation through service, compassion, and moral integrity not through rituals that compromise faith."

The religious body alleged that the order reflected a larger ideological campaign aimed at reshaping the cultural and religious identity of the region. "The directive appears to be a deliberate attempt to advance an RSS-inspired narrative in a Muslim-majority territory rather than promoting genuine unity and mutual respect," the MMU stated.

It added that Muslims in Kashmir have consistently demonstrated patriotism through community service, education, and social welfare. "Compelling participation in religiously sensitive activities violates freedom of belief and mutual respect," it said, urging the administration to withdraw the order immediately to avoid further distress.

As of now, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has not issued any official response to the MMU's statement. Vande Mataram, written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in the 1870s and later included in his 1882 novel Anandamath, became a rallying cry during India's freedom struggle and was adopted as the national song in 1950.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flags off four new Vande Bharat Express trains from Varanasi

► Trains like Vande Bharat, Namo Bharat, and Amrit Bharat are laying the foundation for the next generation of Indian Railways: PM
► India has embarked on a mission to enhance its resources for a developed India, and these trains are poised to become milestones in that journey: PM
► Holy Pilgrimage sites are now being connected through the Vande Bharat network, marking a convergence of India's culture, faith, and development journey; this is a significant step towards transforming heritage cities into symbols of national progress: PM

MI News Service, New Delhi, 8 Nov.25 : In a significant step towards expanding India's modern rail infrastructure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off four new Vande Bharat Express trains from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh today. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Shri Modi welcomed all the dignitaries and offered his respectful greetings to all families of Varanasi, the sacred city of Baba Vishwanath. He remarked on the extraordinary celebrations witnessed during Dev Deepawali and noted that today is also an auspicious occasion and extended his best wishes to everyone for this festival of development.

Noting that across the developed nations of the world, a major driver of economic growth has been robust infrastructure, Shri Modi highlighted that in every country that has achieved significant progress and development, infrastructure advancement has played a pivotal role. He stated that India too is rapidly striding on this path. In this context, the Prime Minister announced the launch of new Vande Bharat trains across various regions of the country. In addition to the Banaras-Khajuraho Vande Bharat, he flagged off the Firozpur-Delhi Vande Bharat, the Lucknow-Saharanpur Vande Bharat, and the Ernakulam-Bengaluru Vande Bharat. With these four new trains, the total



number of operational Vande Bharat trains in the country has now exceeded 160. The Prime Minister extended his congratulations to the people of Varanasi and all citizens of India on the launch of these trains.

"Trains like Vande Bharat, Namo Bharat, and Amrit Bharat are laying the foundation for the next generation of Indian Railways", underlined the Prime Minister, emphasising that this is a comprehensive campaign to transform Indian Railways. He described Vande Bharat as a train made by Indians, for Indians, and of Indians—one that fills every Indian with pride. He noted that even foreign passengers are astonished upon seeing Vande Bharat. Shri Modi highlighted that India has embarked on a mission to enhance its resources for a developed India, and these trains are poised to become milestones in that journey.

Highlighting that in India, pilgrimage has for centuries been regarded as a medium of national consciousness, Shri Modi emphasized that these journeys are not merely routes for divine darshan, but sacred traditions that connect with the soul of India. He cited Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Haridwar, Chitrakoot, and Kurukshetra as spiritual centers of the nation's heritage. "These holy sites are now being connected through the Vande Bharat network; it marks a convergence of India's culture, faith, and development journey. This is a significant step towards transforming heritage cities into symbols of national progress", exclaimed the Prime Minister.

Highlighting the often-

overlooked economic dimension of pilgrimage in India, the Prime Minister noted that over the past 11 years, developmental initiatives in Uttar Pradesh have elevated pilgrimage to a new level. Last year alone, 11 crore devotees visited Varanasi for darshan of Baba Vishwanath. Since the construction of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, over 6 crore people have visited the temple of Ram Lalla. Shri Modi stated that these pilgrims have contributed thousands of crores of rupees to Uttar Pradesh's economy. He remarked that this influx has provided sustained earning opportunities to hotels, traders, transport companies, local artists, and boat operators across the state. As a result, hundreds of youth in Varanasi are now launching new ventures—from transport services to Banaras saree businesses. He affirmed that these developments have opened the doors of prosperity in Uttar Pradesh and in Varanasi.

Prime Minister stated that to realize the mantra of a developed India through a developed Varanasi, continuous infrastructure development is underway in the city. He highlighted that Varanasi is witnessing the establishment, expansion and qualitative improvement of quality hospitals, improved roads, gas pipeline networks, and internet connectivity. He mentioned that rapid progress is being made on the ropeway project, and sports infrastructure such as the Ganjari and Sigra stadiums is also in place. The Prime Minister emphasized that the goal is to make visiting, living in, and experiencing Banaras a special experience for everyone.

PM Inaugurates Year-Long Commemoration Of 150 Years Of The National Song "Vande Mataram"

EDRM, officers and staff of Eastern Railway's Malda Division join in the mass singing of "Vande Mataram"

MI News Service, Kolkata, 8 Nov.25 : Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the year-long commemoration of 150 years of the National Song "Vande Mataram" and attended a mass singing programme on 7th November 2025 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, New Delhi. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Prime Minister also released a Commemorative Stamp and Coin to mark 150 years of this timeless composition that inspired India's freedom movement and continues to evoke national pride and unity. The programme marked the formal launch of the nationwide commemoration, which will continue from 7th November 2025 to 7th November 2026.

In Eastern Railway's Malda Division, Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Malda, joined the mass singing programme at Malda Town Railway Station to commemorate 150 years of "Vande Mataram", the National Song of India.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from senior branch officers, railway employees, doctors and nurses of the Divisional Railway Hospital/Malda, members of Bharat Scouts & Guides (Malda District), NCC cadets, and passengers. Around 200 participants joined the event, filling the station premises with patriotic fervour.

In the same spirit of commemoration, a total of 66 stations including New Farakka, Jangipur Road, Sahibganj, Bhagalpur, Kahalgaon, Jamalpur, and Godda also observed the occasion, where station supervisors, Station Masters, and staff from all departments, including cleaning staff, actively participated in the programme. In addition, Diesel Shed, Jamalpur, and DEMU Shed, Sahibganj, observed the event under the leadership of the Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Diesel), Jamalpur, and the Assistant Mechanical Engineer, Sahibganj, respectively. Officials, Scouts & Guides, and staff enthusiastically participated, paying tribute to the National Song and reaffirming their commitment to upholding the nation's cultural heritage.

Eastern Railway To Run Three More Unreserved Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata,

8 Nov.25 : To clear the extra rush of passengers, Eastern Railway has decided to run three (03) Unreserved Special trains between Howrah & Raxaul, Sealdah & Jaynagar and Asansol & Gaya.

03039 Howrah - Raxaul Unreserved Special will leave Howrah at 15:15 hrs on 10.11.2025 to reach Raxaul at 08:00 hrs on the next day and 03040 Raxaul - Howrah Unreserved Special will leave Raxaul at 11:00 hrs on 11.11.2025 to reach Howrah at 05:15 hrs on the next day. The train will stop at Bandel, Bardhaman, Durgapur, Asansol, Chittaranjan, Madhupur and Jasidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute.

03189 Sealdah - Jaynagar Unreserved Special will leave Sealdah at 15:40 hrs on 10.11.2025 to reach

Jaynagar at 07:00 hrs on the next day and 03190 Jaynagar - Sealdah Unreserved Special will leave Jaynagar at 10:00 hrs on 11.11.2025 to reach Sealdah at 01:30 hrs on the next day. The train will stop at Naihati, Bandel, Bardhaman, Durgapur, Asansol, Chittaranjan, Madhupur and Jasidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute.

03515 Asansol - Gaya Unreserved Special will leave Asansol at 13:00 hrs on 10.11.2025 to reach Gaya at 23:50 hrs on the same day and 03516 Gaya - Asansol Unreserved Special will leave Gaya at 00:50 hrs on 11.11.2025 to reach Asansol at 11:40 hrs on the same day. The train will stop at Chittaranjan, Madhupur and Jasidih stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute.



Vivekananda Vidya Mandir Triumphs in Opening Match of RDCA U-16 Inter-School Cricket Tournament

MI CORRESPONDENT
RANCHI: The RDCA Under-16 Inter-School Cricket Tournament (2025-26), organized by the Ranchi District Cricket Association (RDCA), was inaugurated today at Shakha Ground, Sector-II.

The opening ceremony was graced by RDCA's Working President Raju Sharma, Vice President Vibhuti Bhushan Amar, and Secretary Shailendra Kumar, who formally inaugurated the tournament and introduced the players of both participating teams.

The opening match was contested between Vivekananda Vidya Mandir and Tender Heart School, where Vivekananda Vidya Mandir emerged victorious after an impressive performance.

On the occasion, the new turf wicket at Shakha Ground, constructed by Rockman Cricket Academy, was also inaugurated, marking a new milestone for cricket infrastructure development in Ranchi.

The event witnessed the presence of several prominent figures from the cricket fraternity, including RDCA Treasurer Saumitra Patnaik, Executive Members Chanchal Bhattacharya, Muzzafar Ali, and Munna, along with Assistant Secretaries Sunil Pal, Shambhu Sinha, and Nandji Pandey. JSCA Committee Member Ramesh Kumar, JSCA Member Jai Kumar Sinha, and former Ranji player Subhash Chatterjee also attended the ceremony, encouraging the young cricketers with their presence.

The tournament aims to promote grassroots cricket and nurture young talent in Ranchi, setting the stage for a season filled with competitive and spirited performances.

Jharkhand's Dinesh Kumar Wins Silver at World Cup Bowling

PC JHA
RANCHI: Making history for India, Dinesh Kumar from Jharkhand became the first-ever Indian and the first player from the state to win a medal at the World Cup Bowling Championship.

His remarkable performance earned him the silver medal in the men's singles category, bringing pride to both India and Jharkhand.

The championship, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, witnessed participation from several countries including Malaysia, India, Australia, Hong Kong China, England, Scotland, Ireland, New Zealand, Wales, Canada, the United States, and South Africa, among others.

Dinesh displayed exceptional skill throughout the tournament, defeating several top-ranked international players. In the semi-finals, he overcame hosts Malaysia with scores of 5-5 and 7-6 to secure his place in the final. However, in the title clash, he went down fighting against England, losing 1-7 and 2-7 to settle for the silver medal.

In the women's singles category, India's Rupa Rani Tirkey finished sixth, adding to India's strong overall presence in the competition. Thanks to the outstanding performances of Dinesh Kumar and Rupa Rani Tirkey, India secured fifth position in the overall team ranking. Chief Minister Hemant Soren, Sports Minister Sudhanshu Kumar Sonu, Gandey MLA Kalpana Soren, Jharkhand Olympic Association President R.K. Anand, Sports Secretary Manoj Kumar, Sports Director Shekhar Jamuar, and former national coach Dr. Madhukant Pathak-who trained both Dinesh and Rupa-congratulated the medalist on his historic achievement. Dinesh Kumar's silver medal marks a proud moment for Indian bowling and stands as a milestone in Jharkhand's sporting history.

Abhishek Sharma achieves multiple feats upon completing 1000 T20I runs

BRISBANE : Abhishek Sharma made history by hitting 1,000 runs in T20 Internationals, setting new world and Indian records. He achieved the feat during India's fifth and final T20I of the ongoing series against Australia as the two sides squared off here at The Gabba on Saturday.

He became the fastest to reach this milestone for a single country in terms of balls faced and also the quickest Indian based on matches played. Abhishek's achievement surpassed the previous global record held by Australia's Tim David, who scored 1,000 runs in 569 balls during his impressive 74 off 38 balls in Hobart on November 2.

India's T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav was previously in second place, having faced 573 balls, while New Zealand's Finn Allen was third with 611 balls. In terms of total balls faced in T20Is, David now ranks sixth, having faced 614 balls to score



1000 runs, including matches for both Singapore and Australia. Additionally, Abhishek almost broke Virat Kohli's record, who

5th T20I : India clinch 2-1 series win after rain forces washout in Brisbane



BRISBANE : India raced to 52 for no loss in 4.5 overs before rain forced their fifth and final T20I against Australia to be washed out at The Gabba in Brisbane on Saturday. With persistent rain and lightning forcing the game's abandonment, India clinched the five-match series 2-1.

The result marks India's fifth consecutive T20I series win over Australia, and also shows their dominance over their opponents in the shortest format. Openers Abhishek Sharma (23 not out) and Shubman Gill (29 not out) gave India a brisk start before the skies opened up and eventually didn't

give any room for a restart - the second such instance of a no result in the series. Before rain halted the proceedings, left-handed opener Abhishek Sharma survived early chances to be unbeaten on 23 and become the second fastest Indian batter to reach 1000 T20I runs, while Shubman Gill hit

glorious boundaries to be 29 not out.

After India were inserted into batting first, Abhishek was dropped twice in the powerplay - first by Glenn Maxwell at long-off Ben Dwarshuis, and then by Dwarshuis himself on the boundary after he miscued a pull against Nathan Ellis. Despite the nervy start, Abhishek capitalised on the reprieves to hit two glorious boundaries and reached the 1000-run milestone in T20Is in just his 28th innings since making his debut in July 2024.

While Abhishek rode his luck, Gill looked assured at the other end by hitting six boundaries to give India early momentum, before rain forced them to go off the field. With a severe weather alert displayed on the scoreboard in the stadium, spectators in the front rows had to be evacuated to the stands with shelters. With heavy rain lashing the stadium, as per the weather radar, it eventually had a say in deciding the match. In the three games that happened in the series, Australia won in Melbourne, before India stormed back to win games in Hobart and Gold Coast.

Brief scores: India 52 for no loss in 4.5 overs (Shubman Gill 29 not out, Abhishek Sharma 23 not out) against Australia

National Karting C' ship: Ishaan Madesh clean sweeps senior max category; Kiaan and Shiv post impressive wins

BENGALURU : Bengaluru teenager, Ishaan Madesh (Peregrine Racing) underlined his dominance with a rousing win in the senior max category to headline the fifth round of the MECO-FMSCI National Karting Championship 2025 at the Mecro Kartopia circuit, here on Saturday.

Ishaan topped all the sessions - Official Practice, Qualifying, Heat, pre-finals and finals - to consolidate his position in the championship standings ahead of the sixth and final round which will be run this weekend.

"It wasn't easy, especially the Finals. They were catching up with me and I had to keep pushing," said Ishaan after holding off Guguram's Aarav Dewan (Leapfrog Racing) and Mumbai's Krish Gupta (Rayo Racing) who finished second and third, respectively.

Other winners in Round-5 included Mumbai's Kiaan Shah (Rayo Racing) in junior max, Rehan Khan Rasheed (Momentum Motorsport) from Chennai in mini max and Coimbatore's Shiv Neel (MSPORT), son of India's first Formula 1 driver Narain Karthikeyan, in micro max category.

Kiaan Shah kept his wits about him to win a close race in the junior max class after starting from P2. There was considerable jostling in the early part of the race but Kiaan survived some tense moments before breaking through to win with something to spare.

Rehan Khan Rasheed enjoyed a good run in the mini max class, winning both the pre-finals and



fastest lap of the race. Shiv Neel, starting from P3, fought his way to the top with an impressive display of race craft while the lone female on the grid, Faridabad's Arshi Gupta (Leapfrog Racing) battled her way to second place with local challenger and championship leader Shiv Tummala (Peregrine Racing) completing the podium.

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Had a discussion with Naqvi, trying to bring Asia Cup trophy home at the earliest, says Saikia

NEW DELHI : BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia confirmed that he held a cordial discussion with PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi on the sidelines of the ICC Board meeting held in Dubai on Friday, adding that there's been willingness from both sides to break the stalemate over the Asia Cup trophy at the earliest. The ongoing standoff over the Asia Cup 2025 trophy comes after India, led by Suryakumar Yadav, defeated Salman Agha's Pakistan side by five wickets at the Dubai International Stadium to secure their ninth Asia Cup title.

But the post-match celebrations took an unbelievable turn when the Indian team opted not to accept the trophy or winner's medals from Naqvi, the ACC Chairman who also serves as Pakistan's Interior Minister and Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB). "Yesterday, there were two meetings of the ICC. One is the formal board meeting and the other is the informal board meeting. There were two meetings and in both the meetings, I and the chairperson of PCB, Mohsin Naqvi were present." "But



as it (the Asia Cup trophy issue) was not on the agenda of the ICC's meeting, we made a request and the ICC facilitated a meeting between me and Naqvi on the sidelines of the board meeting." "We had a long meeting for about an hour and at the initiative of one of the very senior ICC board members, who's a very senior person. So, they facilitated the conversation, and then the discussion between India and Pakistan happened yesterday at the ICC's meeting place." "Mohsin Naqvi and I had a cordial discussion and we are trying to solve this problem. He will also be giving us some



Crispin Chettri names women's team list of probables for November FIFA Window

NEW DELHI : Indian women's national football team head coach Crispin Chettri on Saturday announced a 25-member list of probables for the national camp ahead of the November FIFA International Women's Match Window.

The camp will begin on November 10 at the National Centre of Excellence in Kolkata, with details of the upcoming friendly matches - scheduled for November 24-December 2 - to be announced soon.

The Blue Tigresses will use the November friendlies as part of their preparations for the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026, as the team continues to build rhythm and depth following their recent outings against IR Iran and Nepal in Shillong during the October window.

Chettri's squad features a blend of experienced campaigners and emerging young talents. Among the seasoned names are Manisha Kalyan, Ratanbala Devi, Anju Tamang, Sanju, and Pyari Xaxa, who will be expected to provide leadership and attacking impetus.

The goalkeeping unit includes Adrija Sarkhel, Munni, and Sowmiya Narayanasamy, offering a mix of youthful promise and experience. The defensive line-up has reliable options such as Martina Thokchom, Kiran Pisdia, Nirmala Devi Phanjoubam, and Sanju, supported by promising youngsters Aruna Bag, Malati Munda, and Juli Kishan.

In midfield, Chettri has opted for balance and versatility with the inclusion of Sangita Basfore, Ratanbala Devi Nongmaithem, and Babina Devi Lisham, alongside newcomers Aveka Singh and Priyadarshini Selladurai.

The forward line is spearheaded by Manisha Kalyan, who continues to shine for Apollon Ladies in Cyprus, and Karishma Shirvoikar, whose pace and finishing have been standout features in recent matches. Lynda Kom Serto, Malavika P., and Sushmita Jadhav add depth and flexibility to India's attacking options.

India's 25 probables for November FIFA Window:

Goalkeepers: Adrija Sarkhel, Munni, Sowmiya Narayanasamy

Defenders: Aruna Bag, Dhurga Perumal, Juli Kishan, Kiran Pisdia, Malati Munda, Martina Thokchom, Nirmala Devi Phanjoubam, Sanju

Midfielders: Anju Tamang, Aveka Singh, Babina Devi Lisham, Jasoda Munda, Priyadarshini Selladurai, Ratanbala Devi Nongmaithem, Sangita Basfore, Santosh

Forwards: Karishma Shirvoikar, Lynda Kom Serto, Malavika P, Manisha Kalyan, Pyari Xaxa, Sushmita Jadhav