

The first-ever Fit India Kolkata Cyclothon 2025, sponsored by Coal India Limited and organized jointly by Loha Foundation and the Sports Authority of India (SAI – Regional Centre, Kolkata), & supported by the Fit India Movement, transformed Kolkata’s iconic streets into a vibrant carnival of fitness and sustainability—marking it the city’s biggest cycling event to date. The one-day event which is a part of the nationwide Sundays on Cycle movement—launched by the Hon’ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya—drew over 4000 participants from the city and adjoining areas. The event was graced by dignitaries which included Amar Jyoti, Executive Director, SAI RC Kolkata; Krishna Prakash, IPS, Honorary Race Director; Mukesh Kumar, Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar; Sanoj Kumar Jha, Chairman, Coal India Limited; P. M. Prasad, former Chairman, Coal India Limited; Padma Bhushan Awardees Legendary tennis player Leander Paes. **PG 3**



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# Morning India

## ANDAMAN SEA records quake of 5.4 magnitudes

**MI News Service, Andaman/Kolkata:** An earthquake of 5.4 magnitude was recorded in the Andaman Sea on Sunday, the National Center for Seismology said. The tremor was felt in parts of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, but there was no immediate report of any loss of life or damage to property, an official said. The earthquake took place at 12.06 pm, and the depth of the quake was 90 km, the seismology centre said.

## ED seizes PFI-linked assets worth Rs 67 Cr

**MI News Service, New Delhi/Kochi:** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached eight more immovable properties worth ₹67 crore owned and controlled by the Popular Front of India (PFI) as part of its money-laundering probe against the banned organisation, sources said. “These properties were beneficially owned and controlled by the PFI and held in the name of various trusts, apart from that of its political front, Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI). With the latest attachment, the total assets placed under freeze in the case stand at ₹129 crore now,” said an ED official. The attached properties are registered in the names of entities such as Green Valley Foundation, Alappuzha Social Cultural and Education Trust, Pandalam Educational and Cultural Trust in Pathanamthitta, Islamic Centre Trust in Wayanad, Hariatham Foundation (Poovanchina) in Malappuram, Periyar Valley Charitable Trust at Aluva, Vallavunad Trust in Palakkad and some plots of the SDPI in Thiruvananthapuram, sources said. The ED said its probe had found that the PFI conducted physical education training on a number of such properties.

**Threat call to Lalu’s son: I can be killed any time, says TEJ PRATAP YADAV**



**MI News Service, Patna:** RJD supremo Lalu Prasad’s elder son and Janshakti Janta Dal chief Tej Pratap on Sunday claimed that he has been “under threat” and his enemies might get him “killed”. Yadav, who recently floated his political outfit after being expelled from the RJD by his father, is contesting from the Mahua constituency in the ongoing Bihar assembly polls. Talking to reporters here, Yadav said, “My security has been increased...I am under threat. My enemies may even get me killed. Everyone seems like an enemy”. He, however, did not divulge the identities of his enemies. Yadav also congratulated his younger brother Tejashwi on his birthday and said, “My blessings are always with him. He should continue to grow further”. Tej Pratap was expelled from the RJD on May 25 for six years, a day after he reportedly confessed to being “in a

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# Drafting of Laws & Court Judgement in Regional Languages Imperative: Modi

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday called for drafting laws and court judgments in regional languages to make them

“When justice is accessible to all, delivered in a timely manner, and reaches every individual regardless of their social or financial background — that is when it truly becomes the foundation of social justice

—PM Narendra Modi

more accessible to the common man who might not be conversant with English. “When people comprehend the law in their own language, it leads to better compliance and reduces litigation. The Supreme Court’s ini-

tiative to translate over 80,000 judgments into 18 Indian languages is commendable. I hope this effort will be replicated in all high courts and district



tracted and expensive conventional court litigation system. “When justice is accessible to all, delivered in a timely

manner, and reaches every individual regardless of their social or financial background — that is when it truly becomes

the foundation of social justice,” Modi said while launching a training module on community mediation at the national conference on “Strengthening Legal Aid Delivery Mechanisms” at the Supreme Court organised by the National Legal Services Authority (Nalsa). Lauding the mediation mechanism, Modi said it revived the ancient Indian tradition of resolving disputes through dialogue and consensus. From gram panchayats to village elders, mediation has always been a part of the Indian civilisation. “Under the legal aid defence counsel system started by the government, more than eight lakh criminal cases have been settled within just three years.

These efforts by the government have ensured ease of justice for the less privileged. Ease of doing business and ease of living are truly possible only when ease of justice is ensured. In recent years, several steps have been taken to enhance ease of justice, and going forward, we will accelerate efforts in this direction,” he added. Chief Justice B.R. Gavai, in his opening remarks, invoked Mahatma Gandhi’s remark that “whenever we are in doubt, we must recall the face of the poorest and the weakest person we have seen”. He drew similarities between Gandhiji’s commitment to provide justice to all and Nalsa’s efforts to provide free legal aid.



Candidates appear for the physical test during the Indian Armed Forces’ ‘Agniveer’ recruitment programme, in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

## J&K crackdown: Security forces kill 2 militants



Officials said the exact number of terrorists waiting to infiltrate is always changing.

**MI News Service, Srinagar:** Security forces killed two suspected militants in what they called “Operation Pimple” while police raided key jails and began a hunt for militants’ associates and sympathisers in a Valley-wide

drive against insurgency. The operations reflect how militancy remains a challenge six years after the scrapping of Jammu and Kashmir’s special status. An infiltration bid was foiled in the Keran sector of Kupwara

“based on specific intelligence input”, and two unidentified militants were killed, the army said.

The sneak-in attempt appears part of an effort by cross-border handlers to push as many militants into Kashmir as they can before the snow seals the borders. Officials said troops had detected suspicious movement near the Line of Control late on Friday night and challenged the infiltrators, who fired at them. “Two terrorists have been neutralised by the security forces in the ongoing operation,” the army’s Srinagar-based Chinार Corps said on X. Asked why the name “Pimple” was chosen, an army officer said operations were routinely given arbitrary labels, often on the basis of the names of some or other locality in the area. On October 14, two infiltrators were killed in the

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## TSUNAMI THREAT: Earthquake of 6.7 strikes Japan

**MI News Service, Tokyo:** Japan Meteorological Agency says a powerful earthquake occurred off the northern Japanese coast Sunday, and a tsunami advisory has been issued. The JMA said that the earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.7 occurred off the coast of the Iwate prefecture at the depth of 10 kilometres below the sea surface. The agency issued an advisory for a tsunami of up to 1 metre along the northern coastal region. A tsunami was observed 70 km (45 miles) off the coast

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## USA considering Putin's proposal on nuclear arms control: LAVROV

**MI News Service, Moscow:** Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the United States has informed Russia through diplomatic channels that it was reviewing President Vladimir Putin’s proposal to maintain the limitations outlined in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) beyond its scheduled expiration in February 2026. “So far, there has been no substantive response from Washington. We were told through diplomatic channels that ‘the issue is under consideration,’” Lavrov said.

Earlier, President Putin stated that Russia is prepared to continue adhering to the treaty’s limitations for one year after its expiration, provided the US reciprocates. Lavrov



also said he was ready to meet US Secretary of State Marco Rubio but

that Russia’s interests would have to be taken into account for there to be peace in Ukraine. The Kremlin on

“It is important for discussing the Ukrainian issue and promoting the bilateral agenda. That is why we communicate by telephone and are ready to hold face-to-face meetings when necessary

—Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov

Friday dismissed speculation that Lavrov had fallen out of favour with Vladimir Putin after efforts to organise a summit between the Russian president and Donald Trump were put on ice last month.

Reuters and other media reported that Washington called off the new summit after Lavrov’s ministry sent a message indicating Moscow was not prepared to yield

on its demands over Ukraine. Britain’s Financial Times cited a source as suggesting that Lavrov’s

conversation with Rubio had put Washington off. “Secretary of State Marco Rubio and I understand the need for regular communication,” Lavrov told state news agency RIA. “It is important for discussing the Ukrainian issue and promoting the bilateral agenda. That is why we communicate by telephone and are ready to hold face-to-face meetings when necessary,” Lavrov said.

## TEJAS: India signs deal with General Electric



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India signed a deal to buy 113 engines from General Electric to power an advanced variant of its home-produced Tejas fighter jets, in a sign of warming ties with the U.S. following months of tariff-induced tensions.

The Tejas Mk-1A fighters are crucial for India’s efforts to shore up its air force’s depleting fighter squadrons and replace ageing jets in the face of neighbouring China’s growing military strength and support for New Delhi’s arch-rival Pakistan. But the rollout of the fighter has been delayed due to slow deliveries from GE of 99 engines ordered in 2021, of which only four have arrived so far. GE has blamed supply chain issues following COVID-19. Follow-on order Friday’s deal is a follow-on order to power more of the fighters, with the engines expected to be delivered over five years from 2027, Indian state-owned warplane maker Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd said in a statement after the signing. It

did not mention the deal value. India’s relations with the U.S. had soured after President Donald Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to 50% in August as punishment for New Delhi’s purchases of Russian oil, which led New Delhi to pause purchases of U.S. defence equipment. Trump said last month that he planned to reach a trade deal with India, and on Thursday told reporters in Washington that trade talks were going well, and he could visit India next year. The comment followed a reduction in purchases of Russian oil by Indian refiners after U.S. sanctions last month on Russia’s top two producers. Trump was due to visit India this year for the summit of leaders of the Quad grouping, which comprises Australia, Japan, India and the United States. But Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said last month that the summit would likely be held in the first quarter of 2026, and that Trump “has a busy period” ahead in 2025.

## AIFF policy shift: Foreign duo BHARTI & WILLIAMS joins India football camp



**MI News Service, New Delhi/Perth/La Paz:** Two players — 27-year-old defender Abneet Bharti and 31-year-old winger Ryan

uled for November 18. Defender Bharti, who holds an Indian passport, plays for Academia del Balompie Boliviano (ABB), a first division

If they live up to the expectations in the camp, then they will travel to Dhaka for the match

—AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey

Williams — will join the India football team’s camp for the first time in the next few days. The camp will start in Bengaluru from Thursday to prepare for the AFC Asian Cup qualifier against Bangladesh in Dhaka, sched-

team in the Bolivian League. Perth-born Williams, who turns up for Bengaluru FC, recently got his Indian passport. “If they live up to the expectations in the camp,

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# Centuries-Old Shantipur Ras Festival Ends with Traditional ‘Kunj Bhanga’ Ritual

**Dipankar Edbar, Shantipur (Nadia) :** The historic Shantipur Ras festival, one of Bengal's oldest and most revered Vaishnav celebrations, concluded on Saturday evening with the traditional Kunj Bhanga ritual at the Bijay Krishna Goswami residence.

According to tradition, the two-day Ras marks the symbolic journey of Lord Krishna from the temple to the streets, blessing devotees and visiting their homes. Friday witnessed the Bhanga Ras, a grand procession through the lanes of Shantipur, while Saturday's Kunj Bhanga represented the Lord's divine return to His devotees' doorsteps, where He offers blessings and prasadam.

The festival, believed to



date back over 500 years, was initiated by the followers of Sri Advaita Acharya and Bijay Krishna Goswami, who propagated Vaishnav devotion in the Nadia region during the 15th–16th centuries. Over the centuries, the Shan-

tipur Ras has evolved into a blend of spirituality, culture, and community participation, drawing thousands of pilgrims from across West Bengal and Bangladesh.

Saturday's Kunj Bhanga ceremony saw the

presence of Shantipur MLA Brajakishore Goswami, Rajya Sabha MP Ritabrata Banerjee, Bally MLA Rana Bhattacharya, and Nadia South Trinamool organizational district president and Zilla Parishad member Debasis Ganguly, along with a large gathering of devotees.

Priests of the Goswami family said, "The Ras is not merely a festival; it embodies devotion, heritage, and the living spirit of Vaishnav philosophy."

With devotional songs, incense, and the rhythmic sounds of khol and kartal echoing through the town, the centuries-old Shantipur Ras once again reminded everyone of Bengal's enduring faith and cultural legacy.

## Swami Pranabananda Yoga Competition in Sonarpur Draws Over 800 Participants

**MI News Service, Sonarpur :** A remarkable display of cultural spirit and physical excellence took place at the Gorakhnara Bidyamandir High School ground in Sonarpur. The Swami Pranabananda Yoga Competition was organized by the Swami Pranabananda Art Academy, planned under the guidance of Manmathpur Pranab Mandir.

This was the first large-scale yoga competition of its kind in South 24 Parganas district, with more than 800 participants showcasing their skills and dedication to yoga.

The event was inaugurated by Swami Chandanandaji Maharaj of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Khurigachi branch; Basudev Halder, Acting President of the District Hindu Milan Mandir; Bidhan Mondal of the Pranabananda Martial Art & Yoga Association; Sushanta Maiti of



Manmathpur Pranab Mandir; and Dr. M. P. Singh. The ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp and chanting of peace mantras. Each participating yoga artist was awarded a trophy and certificate based on their performance and merit.

The prize distribution ceremony was attended by local administrative representatives, school teacher Saikat Mondal, Gopal Dao of Dao Yoga Center, and

Satyanarajan Mahapatra, founder of Manmathpur Pranab Mandir.

The event was beautifully conducted by Shiuli Mahanti, Saheb Mahapatra, and Mintu Bez.

According to the organizers, this competition not only aims to promote the practice of yoga but also seeks to inspire the younger generation to embrace physical fitness and mental well-being as a way of life.

## BJP MP meets local leaders in Darjeeling, discusses poll preparedness

**MI News Service, Darjeeling :** Member of Parliament and former Tripura Chief Minister Biplob Kumar Deb held a meeting with the Darjeeling district BJP committee's organisational leaders on Saturday in Darjeeling town, as part of the party's preparations for the upcoming West Bengal Assembly elections. Darjeeling MP Raju Bista participated in the meeting, which was attended by district leaders and karyakartas. The discussions focused on strengthening the organisation and planning outreach activities ahead of the elections. Mr Bista said that Mr Deb appreciated the "exemplary dedication" of BJP workers from the Darjeeling region, particularly their efforts in providing relief during the recent devastating landslides. "Their commitment reflects the true spirit of Seva Bhav—standing shoulder to shoulder with people, from tea gardens to remote villages, and serving with compassion and humility," Mr. Bista said.

## Allegations of irregularities in PG admissions at Kanyashree University, Krishnanagar

**Dipankar Edbar, Krishnanagar :** Kanyashree University has come under fire over alleged irregularities in its postgraduate admission process for the 2025-27 session. According to complaints, the first admission notice did not specify the number of reserved seats in each department, as mandated by state government norms. The university's Controller of Examinations, Biswajit Dutta, reportedly raised objections and even lodged a written complaint with the higher education department regarding the issue.

Following the complaint, the university issued clarifications. However, fresh allegations have surfaced that in the second phase of admissions, the authorities bypassed the merit list and allowed students to enroll on a "first come, first served" basis. This move has triggered resentment among students, guardians, and a section of faculty members.

A senior faculty mem-



ber, requesting anonymity, said, "The number of seats in each subject should have been clearly mentioned from the start. The university should also have published updates on how many seats were filled and how many remained vacant."

Another teacher pointed out that the higher education department's notification dated August 1, 2025, explicitly instructed that PG admissions must be conducted strictly on the basis of merit. "But in the university's re-notification issued on October 15, it was mentioned that candidates applying in the second phase would be admitted on a

first-come-first-served basis, which directly contradicts the state's guidelines," the teacher said.

Faculty members also alleged that several candidates belonging to reserved categories (SC, ST, OBC-A, and OBC-B), who had appeared in earlier merit lists, were dropped from the revised ones without explanation. "Both reserved and unreserved category candidates should have been considered based on merit," one of them said.

University registrar Krishnendu Rakhshit denied any irregularities. "The admission process was carried out as per rules. Some are making comments without full knowledge," he said. "Many students failed to enroll within the given time or cancelled after paying fees. Since several seats were still vacant, the admission committee decided to allow second-phase admissions on a first-come-first-served basis so that no deserving student was deprived."

## HRH Prince Dr. M.A. Ali Congratulates Students of Kolkata Public English School on Yellow Belt Success

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Asgar Ali Khan, Director and Founder of Kolkata Public English School, along with HRH Prince Dr. M.A. Ali, Director of the World Meet Thailand, Indonesia, and UK, congratulated the students of Kolkata Public English School for successfully passing their Yellow Belt Examination in Karate.

Several students received double promotion to Orange Belt, and a few were provisionally selected to represent India at the 8th World Meet 2026, scheduled to be held on 28th May 2026 at the Royal Thai Army Club, Bangkok, Thailand.

Tony Taylor, Vice President of the World Meet (USA), expressed his admiration, saying, "I am proud of Kolkata Public English School. If I ever visit India, I would love to visit this school in Kolkata." Speaking to the media on the examination day, HRH Prince Dr. M.A. Ali praised the institution, stating,

"This is the only school in North Kolkata providing free martial arts and karate training up to Black Belt, while many other schools charge fees. The school administra-



tion is doing a wonderful job, and I believe the day is not far when every student of Kolkata Public English School will earn a Black Belt."

Erum Seraj, five-time international gold medalist and Chief Examiner for the event, highlighted the importance of martial arts in education. She said, "Martial arts training keeps the body and mind fit. It teaches students discipline and self-defense. Every girl should learn martial arts."

## Darjeeling schools exempted from singing state anthem 'Banglar Mati Banglar Jol' amid cultural concerns

**MI News Service, Darjeeling:** The Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), an autonomous body formed to run administrative affairs in Darjeeling Hills has exempted schools from singing "Banglar Mati Banglar Jol"—West Bengal's official state anthem—citing respect for the Hills' linguistic and cultural diversity.

The West Bengal Board of Secondary Education (WBBSE) had on November 6 made the Tagore-penned song mandatory in all state-run and state-aided schools alongside the national anthem. But the GTA, which enjoys autonomous administrative powers in the Hills, has decided to preserve its existing morning assembly traditions that include Nepali-language prayers and anthems.

In a notice to the district inspector of schools on November 7, GTA Secretary P.D. Pradhan wrote that institutions under its jurisdiction would continue following their "reg-

ular tradition of morning assembly," mindful of "different cultures, traditions, and languages of communication" in the Hills.

A WBBSE official confirmed that the GTA's decision had been communicated to the state board and that schools in the region would not be bound by the new directive. The move comes amid a growing debate over the uniform enforcement of the anthem across diverse regions of Bengal. BJP MLA from Darjeeling, Neeraj Tamang Zimba, has written to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, calling the board's circular "a serious constitutional, cultural, and administrative concern."

"Our Constitution celebrates unity through diversity, not uniformity through diktat," Zimba said, adding that "no student or institution should be compelled to adopt a practice that conflicts with their conscience, language, or cultural identity."

## Son killed, father trapped at open-cast mine in West Burdwan

**MI News Service, W. Burdwan :** An 18-year-old youth, Sourav Goswami, was killed after a portion of the roof reportedly collapsed on him at the Charanpur Open Cast Coal Mine, under Barabani police station in West Burdwan district this morning. Locals alleged that his father, Nimai Goswami, remains trapped under the debris. Search operations are still underway. Barabani police, under the Asansol Durgapur Police Commissionerate (ADPC), have sent Sourav's body to Asansol District Hospital for post-mortem examination. According to local sources, the father and son duo, along with several others, had gone for illegal coal mining in the open-cast pit early this morning. While others managed to escape, the two were unable to get out in time. BJP leader Jitendra Tiwari alleged that illegal coal mining has recently resumed in Barabani, Kulti, Jamuria, Pandaveswar and Laudoha police station areas under the ADPC. "Whenever elections approach, the coal mafia syndicate becomes active in this region."

## Diwali Cheer at MASA–Industrial Adda Meet



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Diwali Meet & Greet 2025, hosted by Industrial Adda and the MSME and Startups Accelerator Forum (MASA) at Hotel Park Prime, brought together leading entrepreneurs, MSME owners, and startup enablers for an evening of networking, fellowship, and festive cheer. Distinguished personalities such as Pragya Jhunjhunwala, Vibhor Tandon, Sushil Poddar, Pradeep Luhariwala, Arun Kothari, Kanika Gupta, Nitu Kaur, and Vaishali added to the vibrancy of the gathering. Best Dressed Male and Best Dressed Female awards sponsored by Tufwud Doors and Accessories, were special attractions of the evening.

## SIR relief for married women from erstwhile Bangladeshi enclaves in Cooch Behar

**MI News Service, CoochBehar :** Women of erstwhile Bangladeshi enclaves in Cooch Behar who got married before 2015 and moved out of these areas into Indian territory were assured by government officials on Friday that they would be included in the SIR process.

Fifty-one Bangladeshi enclaves merged with India at midnight on July 31, 2015. These residents got Indian voter cards and other documents relevant to the SIR drive after that.

Many women residents of these erstwhile enclaves who married into families residing in mainland Indian territories before



2015 faced hurdles in voter registration because their parents were not Indian citizens before that year. On Thursday, a delegation of former enclave dwellers met additional district magistrate Shantanu Bala, who assured them that such women could be included in the SIR process. Residents handed over a list of around 1,500 women to the ADM's office. "The ADM assured us there would be no problem in including our daughters in the voter list. The father's identity will confirm these women are from former enclaves," said Saddam Mian, a former enclave dweller.

## Rebel TMC leader Humayun Kabir to launch new party

**MI News Service, Bharatpur :** Rebel Trinamool Congress legislator Humayun Kabir from the Bharatpur Assembly constituency in Murshidabad district on Saturday announced that he will officially launch his own political party and reveal its name on 22 December.

"There is no possibility of going back to my old party, the Congress. I will officially float my own party and also announce its name on 22 December. The political outfit floated by me will start its journey with around 50,000 activists, mainly from Murshidabad district. I will be



the chairman of the new political party. On 22 December, I will also announce the names of the other main office bearers of the new political party," Kabir told media persons at his residence in Baharampur town on Saturday evening.

Earlier this week, Kabir had announced his decision to sever ties with the Trinamool Congress and form a new political outfit. At that time, he had not ruled out the possibility of an electoral understanding with the CPI-M-led Left Front. On Saturday, he formally declared the date for launching his new party.

## Four-year-old girl abducted from railway shed, 'sexually assaulted' in Bengal's Tarakeshwar

**MI News Service, Hoogly :** A four-year-old girl was allegedly abducted from a railway shed and "sexually assaulted" at Tarakeshwar in West Bengal's Hooghly district, officials said on Sunday. The incident took place on Saturday when the child was asleep beside her grandmother under a mosquito net on a cot near the railway shed, they said.

The minor was found lying unconscious with injury marks near a drain in the area on Saturday afternoon, an official said. The victim's family said the perpetrator had cut through the mosquito net and carried the child away while she was asleep. "She was sleep-



ing with me. Around 4 am, someone took her away. I didn't even realise when she was taken. I don't know who the people were who took her away. They cut the mosquito net and took her away. She was found naked," said the girl's grandmother, showing the torn net.

The grandmother said

hospital, he said.

A police officer said an investigation is underway. An FIR has been registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO). Meanwhile, Leader of Opposition in the assembly, Suwendu Adhikari, alleged that the Tarakeshwar Police were initially reluctant to register an FIR over the incident.

In a post on X, Adhikari accused the police of "burying the crime" to shield the state's "fake law and order image by suppressing the truth". "Mamata Banerjee, you are a Failed Chief Minister. Under your rule, West Bengal's law & order has hit ROCK BOTTOM," he alleged in the post.

## CBSE–NCB organise awareness drive on prevention of substance abuse

**MI News Service, Siliguri :** To address the growing concern of substance abuse among students, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), in collaboration with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Siliguri zone, organised a zonal awareness programme on "Prevention of Substance Abuse" at Siliguri Model High School on Friday. The programme, held under a CBSE–NCB memorandum of understanding, aimed to strengthen preventive strategies in schools and empower teachers for early intervention. Nodal teachers from 16 CBSE schools and students of Siliguri Model High School participated.

## Eight BLOs show-caused in Bengal for handing out voter forms at tea stalls, EC tightens supervision

**MI News Service, Kolkata :** The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Saturday show-caused eight Booth Level Officers (BLOs) in West Bengal for allegedly distributing enumeration forms from tea stalls, local clubs, and other public places instead of visiting households. Officials at the state Chief Electoral Office said the ECI is dissatisfied with the lapses and has ordered all District Election Officers (DEOs) and District Magistrates to ensure BLOs personally visit every voter's residence to distribute and collect forms.

"The Commission has instructed state authorities to follow the 'Bihar Model', under which BLOs are required to both distribute and collect forms directly from voters' homes," the official said. "Any officer found negligent in duty will face disciplinary action. So far, eight BLOs have been show-caused for allegedly violating these instructions," he added.



To enforce accountability, the ECI has ordered district-level control rooms and the appointment of one BLO supervisor for every 10 booths. Citizens can now report complaints about BLO conduct or irregularities via a special helpline (033-22310850), officials said. "These measures are aimed at tightening supervision and maintaining transparency in the voter list revision exercise across the state," he said.

## Bengal set for cooler nights as IMD forecasts 2-4 C temperature dip in next few days

**MI News Service, Siliguri :** The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday forecast a 2 to 4 degrees Celsius drop in minimum temperature across West Bengal over the next three to four days, as a spell of dry weather grips the state.

According to the IMD, all districts are likely to witness dry conditions for the next seven days, with no significant change in temperature expected after the initial dip. Shallow to moderate fog may occur in the sub-Himalayan districts of north Bengal on Sunday morning.

In the hills, Darjeeling recorded the lowest temperature at 11.2°C on Saturday, while Sriniketan in Birbhum was the coldest in the plains at 15.8°C. Asansol (15.8°C), Kalimpong (16°C), and Purulia (17°C) also reported noticeably cool conditions.

In Kolkata, the minimum temperature stood at 21.6°C, with forecasts suggesting it may fall further to around 20°C on Sunday morning as the chill intensifies.

The IMD said the combination of dry air and clear skies will continue to push down night temperatures across Bengal, marking the early onset of the winter feel.



Congress activists took part in a protest against the BJP's so-called "Gujarat Model" and "Brazilian Model" electoral process, in Kolkata on Sunday



BJP is conspiring to create division between two great icons of Bengal, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Rabindranath Tagore. Their real intention is to insult Bengal and Bengalis and to promote religious division. In protest, a press conference by Desh Bachao Ganamanch held at the Kolkata Press Club on Sunday Kolkata.

TMC reinstates Moidul Islam as teachers' wing president

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Once known for his fiery approach and uncompromising activism, teacher leader Moidul Islam has made a notable return to the Trinamool Congress teachers' front. Months after losing his organizational post, Moidul has been reinstated as the president of the party's primary education wing, marking yet another political turnaround within the Trinamool's education fraternity. His reappointment, announced on Saturday, comes nearly ten months after he was reportedly removed amid tensions within the teachers' organisation. In January, Moidul was relieved of his position following a verbal altercation with state education minister and Webkupa president Bratya Basu. Around the same time, another leader aligned with the Abhishek Banerjee wing, Pritam Haldar, also lost his position. Both have now been brought back to key roles in the teachers' structure—an indication of reconciliation and organisational realignment within the Trinamool ranks. Party insiders describe Moidul as a leader who, despite temporary setbacks, has consistently remained within the Trinamool fold. Known for his active role in teacher movements—whether leading demonstrations demanding pay scale revisions or other workplace reforms—Moidul built a strong grassroots identity among educators. His earlier stints in agitation politics, including protests outside Vikas Bhavan, earned him recognition as a mobiliser with a strong following among contractual teachers. In one high-profile episode, Moidul and a group of teachers staged a protest against transfer orders they alleged were unjust.

**Threat call to Lalu's son: I can be killed any time, says TEJ PRATAP YADAV**

**From PG 1** relationship' with a woman. He, however, deleted the social media post later with a claim that his page was "hacked". Lulu Prasad also disowned TEJ Pratap due to his "irresponsible behaviour". A few days later, after his expulsion from the party, Tej Pratap had alleged that there was a "conspiracy" to drive a wedge between him and his younger brother. He had voiced his sentiments in a couple of posts on his X handle, blaming the crisis on 'Jaichand', a metaphor for traitors.

**TSUNAMI THREAT: Earthquake of 6.7 strikes Japan**

**From PG 1** of Iwate Prefecture at 5:12 p.m. (0812 GMT) and was expected to reach the Pacific coastline soon, NHK said. The wave was expected to be about 1 metre (3 feet, 3 inches), it said. An earthquake of magnitude 6.26 earlier struck off the east coast of Japan's largest island, Honshu, which includes Iwate, according to the US tsunami warning system.

After SSKM chaos, NRS tightens security rules

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In the wake of repeated security failures at government hospitals — including a recent case at SSKM Hospital where an unauthorized individual entered a women's ward disguised as a doctor — NRS has announced a sweeping set of measures to tighten discipline, access-control and safety across its sprawling campus. Hospital officials say that henceforth every doctor, nurse, health-care staffer and student must carry and display a valid identity-card while on duty within the compound. Those found without proper identification risk immediate disciplinary action, the administration has warned. This administrative directive forms the crux of the latest security push.

As part of the broader exercise, NRS is also reviewing its visitor entry points and circulation routes, reinforcing its internal surveillance system (including CCTV deployment), and working towards tighter monitoring of access to restricted zones such as wards, operating theatres and staff-only quarters. A senior health-department official told reporters that the trigger for these measures was the shocking breach



at SSKM — where a contractual employee from NRS is alleged to have gained access to SSKM's women's ward and committed a serious offence. The official stressed that "public trust and patient safety are non-negotiable", and that hospitals cannot afford to have outsiders or unauthorised persons creeping into sensitive hospital zones. At NRS, authorities have circulated internal notices emphasising the regime of zero-tolerance: identity-card checks

will be strictly enforced in all wards, blocks and residential quarters. At present, both entry and exit points are actively used; discussions are underway to designate separate gates for entry and exit to strengthen flow control. The notice also emphasises that patient-family members and attendants will be required to display their visitor passes or badges when entering wards. Hospital officials acknowledge that the sheer volume of foot-traffic — with daily

out-patient visitors numbering in the thousands and accompanying relatives, attendants and visitors — poses a challenge to rigorous screening. "We cannot stop everyone from entering if they legitimately need to see a doctor," said one senior administrator. "But these steps will help screening and also provide traceability in case of any untoward incident." The rollout of the measures will be phased, with staff training, policy circulation and infrastructure upgrades carried out over the coming few weeks. The administration has appealed for cooperation from all hospital personnel, emphasising that the cultural change—wearing I-cards, responding to security prompts, adhering to access rules—is just as important as the hardware and surveillance upgrades. As hospitals in the city strive to regain stakeholder confidence following recent scandals, the real test will lie in consistent implementation of these policies and responsiveness when an incident occurs. Meanwhile, patients and their relatives will be closely watching whether the enhanced regime translates into safer hospital experiences.

SIR Controversy: Ruling Party BLAs Under Election Commission Lens

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Fresh controversy has erupted in Bengal's electoral rolls verification process as serious allegations surface against Booth Level Agents (BLAs) of the ruling Trinamool Congress. BJP's Diamond Harbour leader Abhijit Das, popularly known as Bobby, has alleged that ruling party agents are manipulating the Special Summary Revision (SIR) process to retain the names of deceased voters. The claim has triggered a political uproar, prompting the Election Commission to step in. According to Election Commission sources, eight BLAs have already come under scrutiny for alleged malpractice, with FIRs lodged against them. Reports suggest several of the accused belong to the ruling party. Opposition parties—BJP and CPI(M)—

have submitted formal complaints, alleging widespread irregularities and claiming that their own BLAs are being obstructed from accompanying verifying officers. The allegations, first aired by Bobby in a social media post, accuse a local Trinamool leader named Jahangir of instructing Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to keep their phones switched off during field verification. More provocatively, Jahangir is alleged to have told his team that "no dead voter's name will be omitted" from the official list. Earlier, the Election Commission had already received complaints that BLOs were conducting voter verification from public spaces—tea stalls, local clubs, or even Trinamool leaders' homes—rather than designated polling areas. Sources in the Com-

mission said that strict directives have since been issued against such irregular practices. BJP leader Jagannath Chatterjee, reacting sharply to the latest controversy, said, "The SIR process has turned into a fraud. The Trinamool is trying to retain names of dead voters while adding illegal beneficiaries. Fake birth certificates are being issued to infiltrators to create new voter identities." Trinamool Congress, however, has dismissed the allegations as politically motivated. Party spokesperson Arup Chakraborty countered, "The BJP is spreading misinformation. They forget that in several cases, people listed as deceased later appeared before officials alive. Even the Supreme Court has questioned such claims of dead voters.

Supreme Court Orders Stray Dogs Removed from School Campuses

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Supreme Court of India has recently passed a landmark order mandating the removal of stray dogs from the premises of educational institutions, hospitals, public sports complexes, bus stands, and railway stations across the country, including Kolkata. This directive comes in response to an alarming rise in dog bite incidents and associated public safety concerns, including cases of rabies and fatalities. The court directed local municipal authorities to ensure that all stray dogs found within these premises must be captured, sterilized, vaccinated, and relocated to designated shelters. Crucially, the dogs are not to be released back into the same locations from where they were taken, as that would defeat the purpose of securing these public spaces. Authorities were given an eight-week timeframe to complete this process.

As part of the order, all states and union territories have been instructed to identify public and private educational institutions, sports complexes, hospitals, and transport hubs within their jurisdictions and to take concrete steps to prevent stray dog populations from inhabiting these areas. This includes erecting boundary walls or fencing, appointing nodal officers responsible for maintaining surveillance, and conducting regular inspections for at least three months. The Supreme Court emphasized that the safety of citizens, particularly children and vulnerable populations, must be paramount. This judicial intervention highlights the necessity of balancing animal welfare with public health and safety. However, the order has drawn criticism from animal activists and several schools in Kolkata who oppose the eviction of stray dogs from campuses, urging for the establishment of more shelters and advocating for the humane treatment of community dogs already living on these grounds. They argue that dogs are part of the community ecosystem on school premises and removing them without adequate shelter provisions raises concerns about animal welfare and ethical treatment. Local authorities must now negotiate this complex challenge of implementing the court's orders while addressing the concerns of animal welfare groups and educational institutions, which call for more compassionate solutions such as increased shelters, sterilization programs, and awareness campaigns to educate students and staff on safe co-existence with animals.

BDO linked to gold trade killing

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Sensational details have emerged in the Newtown gold trader murder case, shaking the administrative and law enforcement circles of Kolkata. Investigators now suspect that the brutal assault and killing of the trader were orchestrated under the instructions of Rajanji BDO Prashant Barman, whose officials government vehicle—fitted with blue lights—was allegedly used to dispose of the body. According to police sources, a total of six individuals were present during the murder on October 28. Two of the accused have already confessed to being at the spot. The arrested driver, identified as Raju Dhali, is from North Bengal, police confirmed. During interrogation, the accused revealed that the BDO himself first assaulted the gold trader, beating him with a belt, slapping,

legedly used to dispose of the body. According to police sources, a total of six individuals were present during the murder on October 28. Two of the accused have already confessed to being at the spot. The arrested driver, identified as Raju Dhali, is from North Bengal, police confirmed. During interrogation, the accused revealed that the BDO himself first assaulted the gold trader, beating him with a belt, slapping,

kicking, and punching him repeatedly. The others soon joined in the assault. Police sources stated that the accused maintained they never intended to kill—their goal was to "teach a lesson" and recovering stolen gold. However, the beating turned fatal when the victim collapsed after a blow to the back of his head, bleeding from the eyes and losing consciousness. Panic followed. Within moments, he was dead.

Land title deed essential documents for SIR verification

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter list underway in West Bengal requires voters to reference important documents like the Land Title Deed (Khatian) as proof of ownership and identity. A Land Title Deed is a government-issued document confirming legal ownership of land after a survey, containing key details like the landowner's name, land size, plot number, mouza (administrative area), land type (agricultural, residential), government revenue

paid, and the transaction history of the property. It serves as essential legal proof confirming land ownership, history of ownership transfer, and any financial liabilities or mortgages linked to the property. To obtain this document, known as Parcha or Land Record, citizens can approach respective land offices — union land office, upazila land office, district DC office, or settlement office. Alternatively, they can access and download the documents online

through portals like e-porcha.com or banglarbhumii.gov.in. By selecting their district, mouza, and entering relevant identifiers such as khatian or dag number, individuals can retrieve and print their land records for a small fee. During the SIR process, this Land Record serves as one of the important documents recognized by the Election Commission of India for voter verification to establish proof of residence and identity. For the voter enumeration and verification, Booth Level Officers

(BLOs) visit households to collect forms and document proofs. Citizens must submit one or more of the 11-13 prescribed documents issued by government authorities, including the Land Title Deed, to prove their eligibility and ensure inclusion in the revised electoral rolls. This verification step safeguards legal ownership claims and prevents disputes during voter list revision, ensuring only legitimate residents are included for electoral participation in West Bengal's 2026 Assembly elections.

KOLKATA CYCLOTHON Draws Record-Breaking 4000+ Participants

- Becomes Kolkata's first large-scale chip-timed mass participation fitness festival
- Padma Bhushan Awardees Leander Paes and Usha Uthup graced the Fit India Kolkata Cyclothon
- Bollywood singer Shadab Faridi enthralled the winners and the participants with a musical morning.



**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The first-ever Fit India Kolkata Cyclothon 2025, sponsored by Coal India Limited and organized jointly by Loha Foundation and the Sports Authority of India (SAI – Regional Centre, Kolkata), & supported by the Fit India Movement, transformed Kolkata's iconic streets into a vibrant carnival of fitness and sustainability—marking it the city's biggest cycling event to date. The one-day event which is a part of the nationwide Sundays on Cycle movement—launched by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya—drew over 4000 participants from the city and adjoining areas. The event was graced by dignitaries which included Amar

Jyoti, Executive Director, SAI RC Kolkata; Krishna Prakash, IPS, Honorary Race Director; Mukesh Kumar, Commissioner of Police, Bidhannagar; Sanoj Kumar Jha, Chairman, Coal India Limited; P. M. Prasad, former Chairman, Coal India Limited; Padma Bhushan Awardees Legendary tennis player Leander Paes and Pop Queen Usha Uthup; Bollywood singer Shadab Faridi; and the Postmaster General of Kolkata, Ashok Kumar. The course traced a 35 km loop which started at the SAI Main Gate and went through Karunamoyee, Sector V, CNCI Hospital, towards ITC Hatisala, followed by a return to the SAI Main Gate—with the 70 km completing two loops.

AIFF policy shift: Foreign duo BHARTI & WILLIAMS joins India football camp

**From PG 1** then they will travel to Dhaka for the match," All India Football Federation (AIFF) president Kalyan Chaubey told The Telegraph on Wednesday. Interestingly, the duo's names are not on the initial list of probables announced by the AIFF. "We came to know about Bharti from the Indian embassy in Brazil. A very talented defender," Chaubey added. "We had to be patient in Williams' case. Much credit goes to sports minister Man-shuk Mandaviya and his ministry. They were of great help," he added. Williams' Indian connection comes from his mother, who was born into an Anglo-Indian family from Mumbai. Indian football's superstar Sunil Chhetri, who is also Williams' clubmate, had first mentioned the latter's intention of wearing the India jersey during a chat with Chaubey. "From then on, we were working on that. It took around six months to complete the formalities," Chaubey said. This paper had reported on May 22 that Williams was keen on obtaining Indian citizenship.

Williams is now waiting for the final clearance, and once it comes, he will join the camp under national coach Khalid Jamil. Bharti will also soon join his new teammates. The Chaubey-led AIFF, who are always blamed for all the ills that plague the game in the country, should be credited for treading an uncharted path. India are already out of contention for a berth in the finals of the AFC Asian Cup to be held in Saudi Arabia in 2027 after losing their home match to Singapore on October 14. They are now in a rebuilding process, and if the duo make it to the squad, then it could only help. At 32, Sandesh Jhingana is not getting younger, and the team needs a quality centre-back to partner Anwar Ali. Bharti can fit the bill. Bharti, during his early days in India, played for Shastris FC of New Delhi. He then moved to the youth academy of Singapore's Geylang International. From then on, he has been more of a journeyman, playing in leagues in Poland, Portugal, Mexico, Argentina, the Czech Republic and now Bolivia.

J&K crackdown: Security forces kill 2 militants

**From PG 1** Machil sector of Kupwara. While the LoC operation was underway, a police agency, Counter-Intelligence Kashmir (CIK), raided the Central Jail in Srinagar and the Kupwara district jail. An officer who participated in the Srinagar operation said the police had specific intelligence that mobile SIMs had been sneaked into the jail to help militants connect with people in Pakistan. "The raid started at 7 am and continued till 11 am. We searched everything but found nothing. It looks like somebody had tipped the inmates off and they had concealed the SIMs," the officer said, requesting anonymity. The CIK had in the past carried out similar raids on several jails to detect possible subversive networks and prevent the misuse of communication devices. Separately, the police launched simultaneous crackdowns in Kulgam and Sopore, with army and central forces help, to dismantle "terror networks and subversive ecosystems". Officials said the operations were focused on "overground workers" and individuals linked to militant handlers operating from Pakistan and PoK. "During the operation, a number of relatives and associates of active J&K nationals operating from Pak or PoK were booked under relevant provisions of law for their continued involvement in anti-national activities, including logistical support, propaganda circulation, and aiding recruitment," the police said. "Digital devices and incriminating materials were also seized during the raids." A significant number of suspected overground workers and militant sympathisers have been detained for questioning in Sopore, the police said. "These individuals are being thoroughly interrogated to trace their linkages, financial conduits, and communication channels with handlers based in Pakistan," the police said. Officials said the crackdown was a preventive one, aimed at protecting the youth from extremist influence, and would continue. The State Investigating Agency, another police intelligence wing, on Saturday filed a chargesheet in the Srinagar NIA court against seven suspects, including a Pakistan-based militant handler, in a narco-terror case.

**Name Change**  
I, Kevin Xavier (Old Name) S/o Maude Jude Xavier Residing at 9/1/2, Ismail Street, Po+Ps - Entally, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700014, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kevin Joseph Xavier (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Kevin Xavier (Old Name) and Kevin Joseph Xavier (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Nani Gopal Biswas (Old Name) S/o Ananda Biswas Residing at Vill - Kaddardanga, P.O.- Asharu, Ps - Bagda, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743251, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Nani Gopal Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Nani Gopal Biswas (Old Name) and Nani Gopal Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Monoranjan Adhikari (Old Name) S/o Manik Adhikari Residing at Uttar Jharpardah Ramkrishna Pally, Po - Uttar Jharpardah, Ps - Domjur, District - Howrah, Pin - 711405, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Monoranjan Adhikari (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Monoranjan Adhikari (Old Name) and Monoranjan Adhikari (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Md Nur Islam Khan (Old Name) S/o Hamid Khan Residing at Vill - Singheria, Po - Panchagram, Ps - Diamond Harbour, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743368, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Nurislam Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Md Nur Islam Khan (Old Name) and Nurislam Khan (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Md Kamal Hossain Khan (Old Name) S/o Nurislam Khan Residing at Vill - Singheria, Po - Panchagram, Ps - Diamond Harbour, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743368, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Kamal Hossain Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Md Kamal Hossain Khan (Old Name) and Kamal Hossain Khan (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kaniz Fatma (Old Name) W/o Sk Nizamuddin Residing at 24/4/6 Kabitritra Sarani, P.O - Khidripore, Ps - Waugtunge, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700023, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Kamal Hossain Khan (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Kaniz Fatma (Old Name) and Kaniz Fatma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Aslam Ali (Old Name) S/o Sekh Mazid Residing at Ali Hyder Road, Po+Ps - Titagarh, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700119, West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Md Aslam (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-11-2025. Aslam Ali (Old Name) and Md Aslam (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Samir Biswas S/O Late Satyendra Biswas R/O, 315 A, Siddheswari Tala Ghata Road, P.O.- Garulia, P.S.- Noapara, Pin- 743133, I do hereby declare vide affidavit before the 1st class judicial magistrate at Barrackpore Court dated on 30/10/2025 that in my Aadhar Card no-2679 7279 3313 and my Pan Card no- AMRPB7496A, my name was recorded as Samir Kumar Biswas and also my Driving licence No- GJ620060028563 my name was recorded as Samir Kumar S Biswas. I Samir Biswas & Samir Kumar Biswas are same and one identical person, and my actual Date of Birth is 26/03/1968.

**Name Change**  
I, Indira Sadhukhan W/o, Late Prosenjit Pal, R/O, Tathagata Apartment, Flat No-B & C, 1st Floor, 36/12 Central Road, P.O:- Nona Chandanpukur, P.S:- Titagarh, Pin-700122, I do hereby declare vide affidavit before the 1st class judicial magistrate at Barrackpore court dated on -07/11/2025 that in my son's (Ishan Pal) Birth Certificate my name was recorded as Indira Sadhukhan (Pal). I Indira Sadhukhan and Indira Sadhukhan (Pal) is same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Anwar Ali Son Of Manwar Ali (Old Name) R/O 12, Anwar Bagan, Po & Ps- Kamarhati, Dist-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700058, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Father's Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Manwar Ali (New Name) Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public On 08/11/2025. That Manwar Ali (Old Name) And Manwar Ali (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, QUAZI SAKWAT HOSSAIN (OLD NAME), S/O- SUJAT KAZI Residing at Ekdl Shah Purbansha, Kazpara, Barasat, North 24 Parganas, W.B, Pin-700125, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as QUAZI SAKWATE HOSSAIN (NEW NAME) as declared before the First Class Executive Magistrate Barasat Court, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal vide affidavit No 13643, Dated 06/11/2025. QUAZI SAKWAT HOSSAIN (OLD NAME), and QUAZI SAKWATE HOSSAIN (NEW NAME) both is same and identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Mohammad Nasiruddin Ahmed & Nasiruddin Molla (old names) S/O Aminuddin Molla, resident of Vill-Purba Jaynagar, P.O.- Saffrabad, P.S.- Baduria, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743427, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nasiruddin Ahmed (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Nasiruddin Ahmed (new name) and Mohammad Nasiruddin Ahmed & Nasiruddin Molla (old names) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Rousanara Bibi (old name) W/o Nasiruddin Ahmed, resident of Vill-Purba Jaynagar, P.O.- Saffrabad, P.S.- Baduria, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743427, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rousanara Bibi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Rousanara Bibi (old name) and Rousanara Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Abu Sadat Sayem (old name) S/o Abdus Samad, resident of Vill-Gouribhoj, P.O.- Gouri Bhoj, P.S.- Matia, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743445, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abu Sadat Sayem Mondal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Abu Sadat Sayem Mondal (new name) and Abu Sadat Sayem (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Shirajul Haque (old name) S/o Samsul Haque, resident of Vill- Falt Banpur, P.O.- Beliahata Bridge, P.S.- Shasan, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743423, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sirajul Haque (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sirajul Haque (new name) and Shirajul Haque (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Md Ramjan Mallick, Ramjan Mallick (old name) S/o Kalachand Mallick, resident of Vill-Mirzapur PO-Basirhat College, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ramjan Mallick (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Ramjan Mallick (new name) and Md Ramjan Mallick, Ramjan Mallick (old names) all are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Rinku Sarkar (old name) W/o Pi-jish Kanti Paul, resident of South Asana Road, Chhoto Jirakpur, Basirhat, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rinku Paul Sarkar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Rinku Paul Sarkar (new name) and Rinku Sarkar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Dilip Kumar Roy (old name) S/o Haran Roy, resident of Vill- Nimichi, P.O.- Nimichi, North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743456, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dilip Roy (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Dilip Roy (new name) and Dilip Kumar Roy (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Gomes Michael Mukul Santu John & Michael M Gomes (old names) S/o John Gomes Santa Raja, resident of 37/10 No Satyen Park M.G Road, Purba Barisha, Kolkata- 700104, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Michael Mukul Gomes (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Michael Mukul Gomes (new name) and Gomes Michael Mukul Santu John & Michael M Gomes (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Mohammed Hamid (old name) S/o Mohammed Hanif, resident of J-426, Ajhar Molla Bagan Lane, P.O.- Garden Reach, Kolkata- 700024, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Hamid (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Md Hamid (new name) and Mohammed Hamid (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Keya Bala (old name) W/o Durjoy Kanti Bala, resident of 66-67, Alipur 1st Lane, Rabindra Nagar, Nimta, Barrackpore, Pin- 700049, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Keya Bala Biswas (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Keya Bala Biswas (new name) and Keya Bala (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Homera Begum (Old Name), Wife Of Ansar Ali Mulla, Residing At Vill- Paschim Baiman, Po-Bainan, Ps-Bagnan, Howrah-711303, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Homera Begum Mulla(New Name) Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 10/11/2025. Homera Begum And Homera Begum Mulla Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sanjoy Kumar Shaha Banik (Old Name) S/o Late Panchanan Shaha Banik Residing at 9/22, Makaltala Lane, Ps - Uttara, District - West Bengal, India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be Known as Sanjay Kumar Shaha Banik (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 03-11-2025. Sanjoy Kumar Shaha Banik (Old Name) and Sanjay Kumar Shaha Banik (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Papia Bhattacharyya (Old Name), Wife Of Jyoti Prasanna Mukherjee, Residing At, 97, Santinagar Road, Bhadrakali, Uttarpara, Chandannagar, Pin-712232, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Chumki Mukherjee (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/11/2025. Papia Bhattacharyya (Old Name) And Chumki Mukherjee (New Name) Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, TAPAN KUMAR CHAKRABORTY (old name) S/o RABINDRA CHAKRABORTY, resident of KAN-TAHAPULI, CHAKDAHIA, PS-CHAKDAHIA, NADIA-741222, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as TAPAN CHAKRABORTY (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. TAPAN CHAKRABORTY (new name) and TAPAN KUMAR CHAKRABORTY (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Aashmeet Kaur (Old Name), Daughter Of Jasbir Singh, Residing At 5/7 Buro Shiktoalla Main Road F15t- 5c Block-10, Kolkata, 700038, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Aashmeet Kaur Grewal (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/11/2025. Aashmeet Kaur And Aashmeet Kaur Grewal Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Keya Bala (old name) W/o Durjoy Kanti Bala, resident of 66-67, Alipur 1st Lane, Rabindra Nagar, Nimta, Barrackpore, Pin- 700049, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Keya Bala Biswas (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Keya Bala Biswas (new name) and Keya Bala (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Biresha kumar Sing (OLD NAME) S/O-Birendra kumar singh, RESIDING OF-Andanga more, Rupnarayanpur, PIN-713364, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Biresh Kumar Singh (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT Asansol DATED 06/11/2025. Biresha kumar Sing (OLD NAME) AND Biresh Kumar Singh (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Vijoy Kumar Singh & Bijay Kumar singh & Vijay Singh (OLD NAMES) S/O-Birendra kumar singh, RESIDING OF-Andanga more, Rupnarayanpur, PIN-713364, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Bijay Kumar Singh (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT Asansol DATED 06/11/2025. Vijoy Kumar Singh & Bijay Kumar singh & Vijay Singh (OLD NAMES) AND Bijay Kumar Singh (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Anita Devi Agarwal (OLD NAMES) D/O-Kalyanmal agarwal, RESIDING OF-Cinema road, jamuria bazar, jamuria, PIN-713336, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Anita Bansal (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT Asansol DATED 06/11/2025. Anita Devi Agarwal (OLD NAMES) AND Anita Bansal (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Bina Ghosh (OLD NAMES) W/O- late joydev ghosh D/O late Shanti priya Bose, RESIDING OF- School road, puranabhat, Bumpur, PIN-713325, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Archana Ghosh (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT Asansol DATED 06/11/2025. Bina Ghosh (OLD NAMES) AND Archana Ghosh (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Rajesh Agarwal (OLD NAMES) D/O-Hariram Agarwal, RESIDING OF- Cinema road, jamuria bazar, jamuria, PIN-713336, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Rajesh Bansal (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Rajesh Agarwal (OLD NAMES) AND Rajesh Bansal (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Krishna Devi bhalotia (OLD NAMES) D/O- Mangal Chand Banka, RESIDING OF- Doctors colony, rambagan, searsole rajbari, Raniganj, PIN-713358, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Krishna debi bhalotia (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Krishna debi bhalotia (OLD NAMES) AND Krishna debi bhalotia (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, Rajender Kumar bhalotia & Rajendra kumar bhalotia (OLD NAMES) D/O-Pyarelal bhalotia, RESIDING OF- Doctors colony, rambagan, searsole rajbari, Raniganj, PIN-713358, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS Rajender Kumar bhalotia (NEW NAME) AS DECLARED BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA DATED 07/10/2025. Rajender kumar bhalotia & Rajendra Kumar bhalotia (OLD NAMES) AND Rajender kumar bhalotia (NEW NAME) ALL ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

**Name Change**  
I, ABDUL KALAM MD ARIFUDDIN (old name) son of MD HAQUE@MAHAMADUL HAQUE JAMADAR@MAHAMADUL HAQUE ZAMADAR, residing at VILL-DHARAMPUR, PO-MAINAN, PS-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHLY, PIN-712406, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD ARIFUDDIN JAMADAR (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 08/11/2025. MD ARIFUDDIN JAMADAR(New name) and ABDUL KALAM MD ARIFUDDIN (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sekh Mahasin (old name) S/o Sekh Abul Kashem, resident of Paschim Bhagabatipur Mallick Para, P.O.- Bhagabatipur, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin- 712701, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Mahasin (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sk Mahasin (new name) and Sekh Mahasin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Mahibur Rahaman (Old Name), Son Of Majibbar Rahaman, Residing At Maricha, Chak Barali, South 24 Parganas-743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mahibur Rahaman Molya(New Name) Vide An Affidavit No. 309 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 15/10/2025. Mahibur Rahaman And Mahibur Rahaman Molya Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sanjit Mandal (old name) S/o Mri-gendra Mondal, resident of Be-gangra, P.S.- Rangghat, Pin- 741256, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjit Mandal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sanjit Mandal (new name) and Sanjit Mandal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Debo Prasad Chatterjee (old name) S/o Harendra Nath Chatterjee, resident of Bhawanipore, Circus Avenue, Kolkata- 700025, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Debu Prasad Chatterjee (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Debu Prasad Chatterjee (new name) and Debo Prasad Chatterjee (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Megha Lorha (Old Name), Wife Of Chiranjeep Kharar, Residing At 20a Nayan Chand Dutta Street, Kolkata-700006, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Megha Lorha Kharar (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/11/2025. Megha Lorha And Megha Lorha Kharar Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sikha Dey (Old Name), Wife Of Dinesh Chandra Dey, Residing At Ab-55, Abindrapally, Krishnapur, Rajbarhat, Gopadpur, Ps-Baguiati, Bidhanagar, 700102, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Shikha Dey(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/11/2025. Sikha Dey And Shikha Dey Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Zahid Hossain (Old Name), Son Of Sk Gulam Hossain Hussain, Residing At 14/1, Collin Lane, Park Street, Park Street, Po-Park Street, Kolkata-700016, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Zahid Hussain (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/11/2025. Zahid Hossain And Zahid Hussain Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Mazid Malita (old name) S/o Sader Malita, resident of Vill-Kanai pur, P.O.- Panch Beria, P.S.- Dhantala, Nadia, Pin- 741501, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Majid Malita (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated, 07/11/2025. Abdul Majid Malita (new name) and Mazid Malita (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, MAJAFFARA MANDAL (old name) son of ABZEL MANDAL, residing at VILL- RAJAPUR, PANCHBERIA, P.S.- DHANTALA, DIST- NADIA, PIN- 741501, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MUJAFFARA MANDAL (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/10/2025. MUJAFFARA MANDAL (new name) and MAJAFFARA MANDAL (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sk Md Zainal Abedin (old name) S/o Sk Golam Mustafa, resident of 6 KID Street, Park Street, Kolkata-700016, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Md Zainal Abedeen (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sk Md Zainal Abedeen (new name) and Sk Md Zainal Abedin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Kh Md Mostak (old name) S/o Kh Md Mostak Md Golam Rasul, resident of Vill & P.O.- Furfura, P.S.- Jangipara, Dist- Hooghly, Pin-712706, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Khandakar Md Mostak (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sk Md Mostak (old name) and Kh Md Mostak (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sk Md Esha Hoque (old name) S/o Sekh Ilyas, resident of Vill- Dhitpur, P.O.- Bagada, P.S.- Jangipara, Dist- Hooghly, Pin- 712404, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sekh Eshabak (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sekh Eshabak (new name) and Sk Md Esha Hoque (old name) both are same and one identical person.

# KMC providing false birth certificates: SUVENDU

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Leader of Opposition in the Bengal Assembly Suwendu Adhikari has filed a right to information (RTI) application with the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's health department seeking information on birth certificates the civic body has issued in the last 30 days, the development coming at a time when the special intensive revision of electoral rolls is underway in the state.

“It has come to my knowledge that the KMC is indulging in illegal, immoral and unethical distribution of birth certificates; not meant for genuine citizens, but to facilitate and accommodate suspicious individuals who are at risk of being removed from the voters list during the ongoing special intensive revision exercise,” Suwendu alleged.

The BJP leader has also written to the city municipal commissioner seeking information on birth certificates issued by the civic body between 6 October and 5 November for both 2024 and 2025.

**One Way Unreseeded Special Train To Run From Bhagalpur To Udhna**  
**MI News Service, Kolkata, 9 Nov.25:** To clear the extra rush of passengers, Railway has decided to run one way unreseeded special train from Bhagalpur to Udhna. 03415 Bhagalpur-Udhna Unreseeded one way Special will leave Bhagalpur at 05:00 hrs. on 12.11.2025 to reach Udhna at 18:00 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at 23 stations including Sultanganj, Bariarpur, Jamalpur and Abhaipur stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction enroute.

**Name Change**  
I, MD. IRFANULLAH (Aadhaar No. 4693 4589 9187), Son of Md. Ataulah, residing at Sugam Habitat, Block-4, Flat GA2, 158A, Picnic Garden Road, Binay Singh Colony, Police Station - Tiljala, Kolkata - 700 039, West Bengal, India, on behalf my minor son HUZAIFA RAYYAN (my son old name), I have changed my son name and he shall henceforth be known as HUZAIFA RAYYAN ANSARI (my son new name), as declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit No. 53694, dated 08/08/2025. HUZAIFA RAYYAN ANSARI and HUZAIFA RAYYAN both are same and one identical person (my son).

**Name Change**  
I, Sahanur Jaman Sarala S/O, Ali Akbar Sarala, resident of Vill. Kripalpur, P.O.Gouribhoj, P.S. Matia, Dist. North 24- Parganas, Pin- 743445, West Bengal, India, I have changed my son & my name Ashanurzaman S/o. Sahanzur-zaman (my son & my old name) to Asanur Jaman Sarala S/o Sahanzur Jaman Sarala (my son & my new name) and other son name Mizanurjaman (son old name) to Mijanur Jaman Sarala (son new name) and I also changed my wife's name as Mumi Bibi (wife old name) to Murni Bibi (wife new name), as declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Basirhat 24-PGS (N), vide an affidavit dated 15/10/2025. Sahanzur Jaman Sarala and Sahanzur-zaman both are same and one identical person (myself). Asanur Jaman Sarala and Ashanurzaman both are same and one identical person (my son). Mizanurjaman and Mijanur Jaman Sarala both are same and one identical person (my son). Murni Bibi and Mumi Bibi both are same and one identical person (my wife).

**Name Change**  
I, Amina Siddiqua (Old Name), Wife Of Mohammad Nurullah Siddique, Residing At Vill+Po-Furfura, Ps-Jangi Para, Hooghly-712706, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mst Amina Siddiqua (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/11/2025. Amina Siddiqua And Mst Amina Siddiqua Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Amina Siddiqua (Old Name), Wife Of Mohammad Nurullah Siddique, Residing At Vill+Po-Furfura, Ps-Jangi Para, Hooghly-712706, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mst Amina Siddiqua (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/11/2025. Amina Siddiqua And Mst Amina Siddiqua Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

**Name Change**  
I, Sekh A Jabbar (old name) S/o Sekh Abdul Rejak, resident of Vill- Suchia, P.O.- Masat, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist-Hooghly, Pin- 712701, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Abdul Jabbar (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sk Abdul Jabbar (new name) and Sekh A Jabbar (old name) both are same and one identical person.

**Name Change**  
I, Shaikh Giasuddin (old name) S/o Sk Golamkuddus, resident of Vill- Alipur Dakshin Para, P.O.- Jangalpara Bazar, P.S.- Chanditala, Dist- Hooghly, Pin- 712701, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Giasuddin (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 07/11/2025. Sk Giasuddin (new name) and Shaikh Giasuddin (old name) both are same and one identical person.



In his letter to the municipal commissioner Sumit Gupta, Suwendu asked: “Out of the birth certificates issued during 6 October 2025 and 5 November 2025, please mention the number that pertains to residents born before 2007. This information is crucial for scrutinising municipal operations and ensuring that public resources are utilised efficiently and equitably.” The SIR process has already started in the state with booth level officers (BLOs) appointed by the Election Commission going door to door with enumeration

forms for existing voters and matching it with the list from 2002 when the last such exercise was conducted in the state.

Voters whose names or their parents' names figure in the SIR rolls of 2002 are not required to submit any document. Children of the voters whose names are in the 2002 SIR roll will have to submit their Aadhaar card to establish the relationships.

The Election Commission has allowed 11 documents that can be submitted to prove citizenship. This includes identity cards issued by public sec-

tor companies, birth certificates, passports, matriculation or educational certificates issued by a recognised board or university, caste certificates and others.

Suwendu claimed a spurt in the number of birth certificates being issued and alleged it was an attempt to fudge the SIR process.

“This is nothing but a blatant attempt to manipulate electoral rolls and undermine the democratic process. Birth certificates are legal documents meant for citizens of our country; generally new-borns or in some extremely rare cases; people seeking genuine late registrations,” he said. “Birth certificates are not tools for political engineering, with the mala fide intention of changing the demography for vested political interests.”

Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, who received her enumeration form for the SIR process on Wednesday morning, has often questioned the documentation process arguing that many of her generation and even later did not have birth certificates.

## RPF Eastern Railway’s Drive Against Human

**● 45 Human Traffickers Arrested under Operation “AAHT”**  
**● 976 Children Rescued under Operation “Nanhe Faristey”**  
**MI News Service, Kolkata, 9 Nov.25 :** Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway continues its dedicated efforts to ensure the safety and dignity of passengers, particularly women and children. Through sustained vigilance and coordinated action, RPF has achieved notable success under Operation “AAHT” (Action Against Human Trafficking) and Operation “Nanhe Faristey” during the period from

1st January to October 2025.

Under Operation “AAHT”, RPF detected 23 cases, rescued 108 trafficked persons including 92 juveniles and 16 adults, and arrested 45 human traffickers across Howrah, Sealdah, Asansol, and Malda Divisions.

During the same period, under Operation “Nanhe Faristey”, RPF rescued 976 children in need of care and protection — including 591 boys and 385 girls. Of these, Howrah Division rescued 389 children, Asansol Division rescued 280, Malda Division rescued 191, and Sealdah Division rescued

116. All rescued children were handed over to the Child Helpline and Child Welfare Committees for their proper care and rehabilitation.

These rescues were made possible through proactive patrolling, intelligence-based operations, and close coordination with the Government Railway Police (GRP), NGOs, and other child protection agencies.

Eastern Railway remains steadfast in its commitment to protecting vulnerable sections of society and ensuring a safe and secure railway environment for all.

## Unclaimed Box Recovered And Returned

**MI News Service, Kolkata, 9 Nov.25 :** On 08.11.2025 at about 16.00 hrs, an on-duty RPF staff posted at Mahatma Gandhi Road Metro station received information from Central Control that an unclaimed box had been left behind inside a coach of the approaching DN Metro by a passenger. Immediately, he rushed to the DN platform and recovered the said box from the coach after proper checking through security gadgets. Thereafter, the said box was brought to the Station Master's Office. After opening the bag, some valuable items were found therein. Thereafter a control message was communicated to all the stations. After sometime, a commuter came to the Station Master's Office of Mahatma Gandhi Road Metro station and claimed the ownership of the recovered bag and the items containing therein. After proper verification and fulfilling all official formalities, the bag along with all other items were handed over to him. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Metro Railway authorities for helping him to get back the lost bag along with all other items.

## Kolkata girl wins 'Miss Asia World 2025 Gold'

**MI News Service, Dubai/Mumbai/Kolkata:** Kolkata-based model, singer, actress and social activist Suparna Kumar recently won the 'Miss Asia World 2025 Gold' crown at the talent search event titled 'Grand Event Dubai' organized by 'Mumbai Global' in Dubai.

After her success in Dubai, Suparna Kumar was recently honored as the brand ambassador of the 'Hindustan Ratna Award' in Mumbai for her overall achievements. In addition, Suparna Kumar's recent list of awards included the 'Akhad Bharat Gaurav Award'.

## Kolkata housing market hits record high

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata's real estate sector is witnessing one of its most active years in recent memory, with property registrations reaching a five-year high. Between January and September 2025, the city recorded 46,742 apartment registrations, marking a 32 per cent rise over the same period last year, according to Knight Frank India.

This is the highest nine-month total in the Kolkata Metropolitan Area (KMA) since 2020. In September 2025, the city registered 5,302 apartments, a six per cent year-on-year increase.

## 600 families face eviction as Assam clears 376 acres of forest land

**MI News Service, Guwahati:** The Assam government on Sunday began an eviction drive to clear alleged encroachment on 1,140 bighas (over 376 acres) of forest land in Goalpara district, affecting nearly 600 families, officials said. According to Goalpara District Commissioner Prodig Timung, the exercise is going "on peacefully" to clear the encroached area in Dahikata Reserve Forest. "There were 580 families who had encroached on 1,140 bighas of land. The notices were issued to them more than 15 days ago to vacate the areas," he told reporters. Around 70 per cent of the "illegal settlers" of the area have already left the place after getting the notices, while the remaining are in the process of vacating their houses, Timung said.

"Though we had set two days for the eviction drive, the administration hopes to complete the exercise today. So far, we have not received any resistance. We are demolishing the remaining houses on the encroached land," he added. The DC said the district administration engaged adequate security personnel and used dozens of excavators along with scores of tractors during the eviction exercise.

"We have divided the area into five blocks, and in only one block, some people are still there. In the other blocks, 80 per cent of the people have left," he added. Timung said that the eviction drive is underway as per the Gauhati High Court directives, with three petitions regarding the operation heard earlier by the court. Another senior official said the alleged encroachers are mostly from the Bengali-speaking Muslim community. Abdul Karim, one of the affected people, claimed that the people in the area have been living there for several decades. "If we were encroachers, why did the government give us electricity lines, toilets and other facilities?"

We have Aadhaar cards and all land documents, but still we are being treated as outsiders," he said. Special Chief Secretary (Forest) M K Yadava claimed that the evicted area falls under the elephant corridor and clearing of the land from encroachment will help reduce man-animal conflict.

Since the Himanta Biswa Sarma-led government came to power in 2021, it has carried out a series of evictions to clear alleged encroachments on land, mostly affecting the Bengali-speaking Muslim population. On November 3, the Assam chief minister asserted that eviction drives to clear encroachments will continue and "illegal Miyas" cannot have peace under his government.

'Miya' is originally a pejorative term used for Bengali-speaking Muslims in Assam, and the non-Bengali-speaking people generally identify them as Bangladeshi immigrants. In recent years, activists from the community have started adopting this term as a gesture of defiance.



Visitors pose for a picture at the Chrysanthemum Garden, also known as 'Bagh-e-Gul-e-Dawood', in Srinagar.

## ISL fiasco: MOHUN BAGAN suspends team, EAST BENGAL knocks BCCI

**MI News Service, New Delhi/Kolkata:** The crisis surrounding the Indian Super League (ISL) has deepened, with reigning champions Mohun Bagan Super Giant suspending all football operations indefinitely after the All India Football Federation (AIFF) failed to attract a single bidder for the league's commercial rights. Their arch-rivals East Bengal, meanwhile, have urged the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to step in and rescue the nation's top-tier football. The AIFF confirmed that no bids were received for the ISL's commercial rights, which were floated through a Request for Proposals (RFP) on October 16. The 15-year contract was meant to monetise the league's commercial properties, but the submission window closed on November 7 without a single offer. The bids were scheduled to be opened on November 11, but that now seems unlikely after the AIFF's Bid Evaluation Committee, headed by retired Justice Nageswara Rao, was left with nothing to assess. A senior Mohun Bagan management member confirmed that the club's first-team operations have been suspended until there is clarity on the future of the ISL. "Our players were to assemble on Mon-

day for camp, but that has been suspended indefinitely. We will review all player and staff contracts next month," the official told. The official clarified, however, that no salaries have been stopped, including those of head coach Jose Molina, who is currently on a "break" following his criticism of the club management

aged the league since its inception in 2010. The talks hit a legal roadblock when the Supreme Court directed the AIFF not to renew its deal with FSDL until a case on implementing a new federation constitution was resolved. Following the court's directive, the AIFF floated fresh bids to sell the rights, but the complete

Football is the most popular sport worldwide and also hugely loved in India. My appeal is to the BCCI — if they can sponsor Indian football for even four or five years, it would make a massive difference. For them, Rs 100-150 crore is not a big sum. If they take responsibility, Indian football can move forward in a better way. It can't get better than this

Senior executive committee member Debabrata Sarkar

after their Super Cup exit.

"His contract runs till the end of the season, normally around April-May. Now that the season is delayed and the ISL uncertain, we'll review his deal next month," the official added. The development follows months of turmoil after the AIFF announced in July that the ISL had been placed on hold due to stalled negotiations with its long-time commercial partner, Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL) — a Reliance-led entity that has man-

lack of interest from potential partners has now plunged Indian football into uncertainty. "The AIFF Bid Evaluation Committee will convene over the weekend to review the situation and deliberate on the course of action," the federation said in a statement.

Mohun Bagan's suspension marks yet another blow to a league that has seen Odisha FC and Bengaluru FC also halt operations or delay payments. The Mariners had already been withdrawn from the

Asian Champions League Two after refusing to travel to Iran for their group-stage match against Sepahan SC on September 30. While Bagan have shut shop for now, their city rivals East Bengal have chosen a different path — not by continuing play, but by seeking intervention from the country's cricket board.

Senior executive committee member Debabrata (Nitu) Sarkar said that the club will resume training on November 10 to prepare for the Super Cup semifinals, but also voiced deep concern over the ISL's fate. "We have not suspended our operations yet, but there's no clarity on the ISL.

I personally feel Indian football cannot come to a standstill like this," Sarkar told. "The Sports Ministry, AIFF, and former officials must find a solution soon," he added. In a rare public appeal, Sarkar urged the BCCI — the world's richest cricket body — to support Indian football financially during this crisis. "Football is the most popular sport worldwide and also hugely loved in India. My appeal is to the BCCI — if they can sponsor Indian football for even four or five years, it would make a massive difference. For them, Rs 100-150 crore is not a big sum.



Vice President CP Radhakrishnan offers prayers at the Cheluvanarayana Swamy Temple, in Melukote, Mandya district, Karnataka.

## Every Indian is 'Hindu' by ancestry: MOHAN BHAGWAT

**MI News Service, Nagpur:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat said there is "no Ahindu" in Bharat, asserting that everyone living in the, including Muslims and Christians, are descendants of the same ancestors who share a common cultural root.

"They probably don't know it, or they are made to forget it," Bhagwat said, while addressing a lecture titled '100 Years of Sangh Journey: New Horizons'. He added that knowingly or unknowingly, everyone in the country follows Bharateeya culture, and hence, "nobody is Ahindu." "Every Hindu must realise he is a Hindu because being Hindu means being responsible for Bharat," Bhagwat said, describing Hindu culture as synonymous with India's national identity. Expanding on the RSS's century-long mission, Bhagwat said the organisation's goal is not to seek power but to "serve and organise society for the glory of Bharat Mata." He maintained that the Hindu society's organisation was essential as Hindus are "responsible for Bharat."

"It is not that the British gave us nationhood; we are an ancient nation," he said, adding that every country has a core culture and India's core culture is "Hindu." Bhagwat said this concept of Hindu Rashtra is "not contradictory" to the Constitution but rather conforms to it. "Sanatana Dharma is Hindu Rashtra, and the progress of Sanatana Dharma is the



RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat addresses the "100 Years of Sangh Journey: New Horizons" event, in Bengaluru.

progress of Bharat," he said.

Defending the RSS's ideological position, Bhagwat said that Hindu Rashtra does not imply religious exclusivity. "Organisation of a society is not against anyone, it is not a reaction," he said, rejecting the notion that the RSS was born in opposition to any community or ideology. The RSS chief added that over the past century, the organisation faced bans, criticisms, and violent opposition but continued to grow stronger "because swayamsevaks give their all to the Sangh and expect nothing in return." "All parties are ours, we support policies, not politics" Clarifying the RSS's relationship with political parties, Bhagwat said the organisation supports "policies, not politics." He added that RSS swayamsevaks supported the BJP over the Ram Mandir issue because the party aligned with that policy — not because of any political loyalty.

## HYBRID ROCKETS: IIT Madras achieves major breakthrough

**MI News Service, Chennai:** Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, have achieved a breakthrough in developing a vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) with hybrid rocket thrusters.

In a sophisticated experiment that combined a real-time hybrid rocket thruster with a virtual simulation, the researchers achieved the necessary velocity for "soft landing", a crucial feature for all craft ranging from planetary landing of an unmanned or manned exploration module to terrestrial landing of a VTOL aircraft, they added. Touchdown velocity is an important parameter to ensure safe vertical landings The findings of the research were published in a paper in the reputed peer-reviewed International Journal of Aeronautical and Space Sciences. The researchers studied the feasibility of using hybrid rocket motors for vertical landing platforms, as they are simpler and safer than liquid engines. Moreover, hybrid rocket systems are gaining popularity due to their inherent safety and throttling capabilities, apart from the possibility of combining the advantages of liquid and solid rocket en-

gines. Currently, VTOL systems are complex and require high maintenance. Therefore, the researchers conceived the concept of a hybrid rocket thruster-powered platform as part of a system development study to develop an effective propulsion unit for achieving VTOL in aircraft and UAVs. According to PA Ramakrishna, professor at the Department of Aerospace Engineering, IIT Madras, VTOL enables an aircraft to take off and land vertically, eliminating the need for infrastructure like long runways. "VTOL capability will enable access to remote locations and rugged terrains where long runways and large airports are difficult to establish. Currently, helicopters are the system operating on those terrains; however, they face limitations in terms of speed, range and efficiency compared to a fixed-wing aircraft," Ramakrishna said.

"Once the VTOL system reaches the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for commercial application, it will be a game-changer in both civil and military aviation. VTOL will help to decentralise air transport to multiple locations rather than a single big airport or an airbase," he said.

## India records steepest rise in greenhouse gas emissions

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** A United Nations report released on Tuesday found that India was the global topper in the rise of absolute volume of greenhouse gas emissions during 2023-24.

On a percentage scale, India's increase was only second to Indonesia during this period. The findings, along with India's failure to submit its carbon mission plan by the September 30 deadline, are expected to put the country under the scanner at COP30 in Belém, Brazil, said environmental experts. The Belem summit will commence on November 10. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report has found that the world is on course for a 2.8°C rise above the pre-industrial-era value, a period after which human-induced carbon emissions began to dominate.

The projected rise, towards the end of the century, is almost double compared to the 1.5°C global temperature rise target agreed at the Paris climate summit a decade ago, and can put a large part of the world and its population under an existential crisis. The report has found China to be the biggest emitter globally, followed by the US. India, with an addition of 165 million tonnes of greenhouse gases during 2023-24, had witnessed the steepest rise in emissions during this period, followed by China and Russia. India's per capita emission, however, remains the lowest among the major economies, though on an upward curve. The report also found that the emission trajectory, despite repeated clarion calls from scientists and environmental experts, is rising in all major G20 economies except the

European Union. Overall, the G20 countries recorded a 22-million-tonne emission rise during 2023-24. The report titled "Off Target" is being prepared with the help of around 40 scientists from 21 major scientific institutes across the world.

Nations have had three attempts to deliver promises made under the Paris Agreement, and each time they have landed off target. While national climate plans have delivered some progress, it is nowhere near fast enough, which is why we still need unprecedented emissions cuts in an increasingly tight window, with an increasingly challenging geopolitical backdrop

Inger Andersen, executive director of UNEP

"Global temperatures are now predicted to reach 2.3-2.5°C based on full implementation of NDCs.... (However), current policies in place put the world on track for 2.8°C of warming...." reads the report that has also pointed out that the Donald

and ambition from world leaders. Countries must take rapid and immediate action to keep overshoot (within limit)... giving us the best chance of returning to 1.5°C by 2100," the report says.

The global political commit-

ment at this critical juncture, however, hardly looks encouraging as only a third of countries linked to the Paris Agreement, covering 63 per cent of emissions, submitted new NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) within the Sep-

had three attempts to deliver promises made under the Paris Agreement, and each time they have landed off target. While national climate plans have delivered some progress, it is nowhere near fast enough, which is why we still need un-

precedented emissions cuts in an increasingly tight window, with an increasingly challenging geopolitical backdrop," said Inger Andersen, executive director of UNEP, while releasing the report. Indian experts point towards the contradiction in



India's climate policy, referring to the report.

"The report confirms that India is caught in a climate justice trap. While the country's low per-capita emissions are a moral high ground, its rising total emissions, lack of proper reporting, and non-submission of an NDC 3.0 put the country in a tight spot," said Harjeet Singh, a global climate activist and the founding director of Satat Sampada Climate Foundation. "UNEP's Emissions Gap Report is a wake-up call for India. While global projections show marginal improvement, the world remains far from Paris targets — and India, as a growing economy and major emitter, must urgently scale up ambition," observed Anjal Prakash, a professor with the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, and one of the authors of UN climate reports.

# Teachings of the Quran Essential for Social Justice: Maulana

**Ranchi:**The 19th Jalsa-e-Dastarbandi was held with great fervor at Madrasa Alia Arabia, Kanke, Ranchi, on Saturday evening. The grand event began at 7 p.m. and continued late into the night, drawing thousands of participants from across Jharkhand and beyond. Prominent Islamic scholars and clerics (Ulema-e-Karam) from various parts of India addressed the gathering, emphasizing the significance of the Quran's teachings in promoting moral conduct, education, and social harmony.

The event was presided over by Hazrat Maulana Qari Ashraful Haq Mazahiri, while Maulana Sabir Hussain Mazahiri, President of Majlis-e-Ulema Jharkhand, conducted the proceedings. The ceremony commenced with a soulful recitation from the Holy Quran by Qari Sohaib Ahmad.

Delivering the keynote address, Hazrat Maulana Ahmadul Husaini from Uttar Pradesh highlighted that the Quran is not just a spiritual guide but

also a complete code for moral and intellectual development. "The Quran places immense importance on knowledge and education, which are the foundations for personal growth and societal justice," he said.

Mufti Anwar Qasmi, Qazi-e-Shariat of Darul Qaza, Ranchi, underlined the high status of Hafiz-e-Quran (those who memorize the Quran), stating that educated individuals are the pillars of social reform. "Knowledge of the Quran enables a person to make wise decisions in everyday life," he added, while also reflecting on the lives of Maulana Salim and Maulana Akhtar Mazahiri.

In his address, Mufti Sohrab, Naib Nazim of Imarat-e-Shariah, Patna, urged Muslims to focus on religious education for their children, saying, "Just as fasting is obligatory, so is imparting Islamic education." He appealed to the youth to reject dowry practices, calling dowry "a termite that destroys families."

Mufti Amanat stressed the need to



strengthen the maktab (primary religious education system), warning that "faith is being eroded in many modern schools." Maulana Ghayur Ahmad Qasmi called upon the youth to take the lead in eliminating social evils and said that "those who attend pious gatherings are blessed with forgiveness."

A total of 342 Huffaz-e-Kiram were ceremonially honored with turbans during the dastarbandi ceremony, symbolizing their achievement in memorizing the Quran.

Madrasa officials, including Qari

Ashraful Haq (Mohtamim), Maulana Mukarram (Naib Mohtamim), and Qari Abdur Rauf, described the event as a "historic and spiritually uplifting occasion." They noted that it was the first such grand gathering held after 11 years, with participation from government ministers, legislators, and community leaders.

During the cultural segment, Qari Jamshed Zohar and Qari Nesar Danish recited naat-e-nabi (poems in praise of Prophet Muhammad), moving the audience with verses like "Jo ishq-e-Mohammad ka talabgaar na hoga, Mahshar mein koi uska madadgaar na hoga." The emotionally charged crowd swayed to the devotional rhythm.

Youth Volunteers Managed the Event Despite an estimated crowd of 30,000 to 40,000 people, the event ran smoothly under the coordination of local youths and community volunteers. Every household in the neighborhood contributed by hosting guests and

arranging food.

Free Tea, Coffee, and Snacks Served Throughout the Night

Volunteers distributed tea, coffee, biscuits, and water to attendees free of cost, creating an atmosphere of hospitality and brotherhood.

Expressing gratitude, Maulana Ashraful Haq Mazahiri thanked the youth, residents, and teachers for their tireless efforts in making the event a grand success.

Prominent attendees included Mufti Abu Daud, Jamiat Ulema President Maulana Abdul Qayoom Qasmi, General Secretary Haji Shah Umair, Maulana Asgar Misbahi, Maulana Shaukat, Maulana Rafiq, Maulana Abdul Wajid Chaturvedi, Hafiz Arif, Advocate Parvez, JMM leader Mushtaq, and several other community figures and scholars.

The Jalsa-e-Dastarbandi concluded with prayers for peace, harmony, and unity among all communities.

## BUTTERFLIES MIGHT LOSE SPOTS AS CLIMATE WARMS: RESEARCH

**WASHINGTON DC [US] :** According to new research, female Meadow Brown butterflies have less spots when they grow up in warmer conditions, thus climate change may reduce their spottiness. University of Exeter scientists found females that developed at 11°C had six spots on average, while those developing 15°C had just three. The findings challenge long-held scientific views about why these butterflies have varying numbers of spots. "Meadow Browns always have large 'eyespot' on their forewings, probably for startling predators," said Professor Richard French-Constant, from the Centre for Ecology and Conservation on Exeter's Penryn Campus in Cornwall. "They also have smaller spots on their hindwings, probably useful for camouflage when the butterfly is at rest. "Our findings show that fewer of these hindwing spots appear when females experience higher temperatures during their pupal stage (in a chrysalis before emerging as a butterfly). "This suggests the butterflies adapt their camouflage based on the conditions. For example, with fewer spots they may be harder to spot on dry, brown grass that would be more common in hot weather. "We did not observe such a strong effect in males, possibly because their spots are important for sexual selection (attracting females)." Since the classic work of biologist EB Ford, eyespot variation in the Meadow Brown butterfly has been used as an example of "genetic polymorphism" (the co-existence of multiple genetic forms in a single population). However, the new study shows the eyespot variation is caused by thermal plasticity (the ability to react to changing temperatures).

## Machine learning method speeds up discovery of green energy materials: Research

**FUKUOKA [JAPAN] :** Researchers have created a framework that employs machine learning to accelerate the discovery of materials for green energy technologies. Using the novel technique, they identified and successfully synthesised two new candidate materials for application in solid oxide fuel cells, which are devices that generate electricity from non-carbon-emitting fuels such as hydrogen.

The findings of Researchers at Kyushu University, in partnership with Osaka University and the Fine Ceramics Centre, which were reported in the journal, Advanced Energy Materials, could also be used to accelerate the search for other innovative materials beyond the energy sector.

In response to a warming climate, researchers have been developing new ways to generate energy without using fossil fuels. "One path to carbon neutrality is by creating a hydrogen society. However, as well as optimizing how hydrogen is made, stored and transported, we also need to boost the power-generating efficiency of hydrogen fuel cells," explains Professor Yoshihiro



Yamazaki, of Kyushu University's Department of Materials Science and Technology, Platform of Inter-/Transdisciplinary Energy Research (Q-PIT).

To generate an electric current, solid oxide fuel cells need to be able to efficiently conduct hydrogen ions (or protons) through a solid material, known as an electrolyte. Currently, research into new electrolyte materials has focused on oxides with very specific crystal arrangements of atoms, known as a perovskite structure. "The first proton-conducting oxide discovered was in a perovskite

structure, and new high-performing perovskites are continually being reported," says Professor Yamazaki. "But we want to expand the discovery of solid electrolytes to non-perovskite oxides, which also have the capability of conducting protons very efficiently." However, discovering proton-conducting materials with alternative crystal structures via traditional "trial and error" methods has numerous limitations. For an electrolyte to gain the ability to conduct protons, small traces of another substance, known as a dopant, must be added to the base material.

But with many promising base and dopant candidates - each with different atomic and electronic properties - finding the optimal combination that enhances proton conductivity becomes difficult and time-consuming.

Instead, the researchers calculated the properties of different oxides and dopants. They then used machine learning to analyze the data, identify the factors that impact the proton conductivity of a material, and predict potential combinations.

Guided by these factors, the researchers then synthesized two promising materials, each with unique crystal structures, and assessed how well they conducted protons. Remarkably, both materials demonstrated proton conductivity in just a single experiment. One of the materials, the researchers highlighted, is the first-known proton conductor with a sillenite crystal structure. The other, which has a eulytite structure, has a high-speed proton conduction path that is distinct from the conduction paths seen in perovskites. Currently, the performance of these oxides as electrolytes is low.

# REVOLUTIONARY GLAKOLENS CONTACT LENSES ENABLE ACCURATE GLAUCOMA DIAGNOSIS

**R**esearchers have developed new contact lenses to diagnose glaucoma, an eye condition that can cause irreversible loss of vision if not treated.

Glaucoma affects around 70 million people worldwide but around half of those living with the condition are not aware of it.

Usually developing slowly over time, many cases of glaucoma are only picked up during routine eye tests, by which time lasting damage may already have been caused, the researchers said.

The new contact lens developed by researchers at the Northumbria University, UK, and Bogazici University in Turkey, can detect changes in eye pressure, which signals possible glaucoma.

Glaucoma occurs when the optic nerve, which connects the eye to the brain, becomes damaged, usually by a build-up of fluid in the front part of the eye, which increases pressure inside the eye-known as intra-ocular pressure (IOP).

The new contact lenses contain micro-sensors that monitor changes in IOP over a period of several hours, sending the data collected wirelessly so it can be analyzed by an ophthalmologist and a diagnosis given, the researchers said. The research, published in the journal Contact Lens and Anterior Eye, sets out the findings from an initial pilot study of six participants. Having determined that the technology works successfully, the researchers now plan to carry out a further study with a larger group of participants, which will take place over the next year. The lenses will then be made commercially available through their spin-off company GlakoLens, they said.

One of the benefits of using the GlakoLens contact lenses to diagnose glaucoma instead of carrying out a traditional examination is that measurements can be taken more easily over a longer period of time, giving a more accurate diagnosis, according to the

researchers.

"Intra-ocular pressure, or IOP, can vary greatly over a 24-hour period, so it is important to monitor the patient either at intervals or ideally continuously for a whole day to get the best insight into the health of their eyes," said Professor Hamdi Torun, of Northumbria University.

"Traditional methods for measuring IOP involve initially going to a clinic for a single measurement in a day, the result of which can be misleading due to the natural variation of IOP," Torun said.

The benefit of the contact lenses is that once placed in the eye, the patient can then go about their day as normal while their IOP measurements are recorded and sent to a doctor for analysis once the 24-hour period of testing is complete, the researchers said.

The new system has been tested with six healthy volunteers, during which time they were asked to drink 1.5 litres of water and lie flat to intentionally increase their IOP



levels, they said.

The GlakoLens contact lenses use an electrically passive sensor embedded in a disposable soft contact lens and a wearable electronic

readout system to collect, store, and process the datamaking the lens more comfortable and allowing the patient to go about their day as normal, the researchers added.

# Unraveling the mystery: Disease X and the race for global health security

**I**n the realm of infectious diseases, where the interplay between the known and the unknown takes place, there exists a mysterious figure lurking in the shadows - Disease X. Coined by the World Health Organisation (WHO), Disease X represents an enigma, a concealed threat with the potential to plunge humanity into the depths of a global pandemic.

Unlike its infectious counterparts, Disease X does not yet exist. It embodies the essence of an undiscovered pathogen, one that possesses the power to unleash unprecedented chaos on a global scale. Disease X is a name that echoes with the formidable might of the unseen.

The urgency surrounding

Disease X arises from the vast reservoir of viruses silently circulating among wildlife, awaiting the opportune moment to strike. It serves as a stark reminder that as humans, we are not impervious to the perils posed by these microscopic adversaries. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, the WHO designated Disease X as one of the top research priorities in 2018, alongside infamous diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Ebola.

Disease X acts as a clarion call for preparedness, symbolizing an imminent threat devoid of vaccines or treatments. By shedding light on this potential menace, scientists and global leaders aim to mobilize efforts and resources



to develop robust strategies to combat this hypothetical adversary.

In the backdrop of the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland, the WHO resolutely reminds world leaders of the perils that future pandemics may unleash. This call

to action does not seek to instill panic, but rather to ignite a proactive approach in anticipation of history repeating itself. The lessons learned from past pandemics underscore the significance of preparedness, as the consequences of complacency can be dire. When it comes to the

nature of the next Disease X, we find ourselves at a crossroads. Its very essence lies shrouded in the unknown. Coronaviruses, an extensive family of viruses, have long been regarded as formidable contenders for initiating a new pandemic. However, the recent emergence of covid-19, caused by a novel coronavirus, has reshaped the landscape of potential threats. The prevalence of covid-19 antibodies in the global population offers a glimmer of hope, potentially mitigating the risk posed by related coronaviruses.

In the face of uncertainty, we must embrace the challenge presented by Disease X. Its existence, though speculative, serves as a constant reminder of the delicate bal-

ance between humans and the microscopic world. By acknowledging this enigmatic threat, we can chart a course towards bolstered global health security and fortify our defenses against impending catastrophes.

In this uncharted territory, where the shadows of the unknown loom large, humanity stands united, armed with knowledge and resilience. Disease X may lie dormant for now, but our vigilance and preparedness shall ensure we are ready, should it ever rear its head. The future may be uncertain, but our unwavering determination to safeguard the health and well-being of all remains steadfast.

With the world on high alert, the quest for pandemic preparedness continues. As



## 'Normalisation with Israel out of the question,' says Lebanon's Parliament Speaker

MI News Service, Beirut: Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri said that "normalisation with Israel is out of the question."

All the relevant parties, including Lebanon, Israel, the United States, France, and the UN, should be included in indirect talks, Berri told Lebanese Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper, Xinhua news agency reported.

"There is no objection to involving civilian experts when necessary, as was done during the demarcation of the Blue Line in 2000, when geological and mapping specialists were consulted," he said.

"All Israeli threats and airstrikes will not change our position on this matter," he added. A ceasefire between Hezbollah and Israel has been in effect since November 27, 2024. Still, the Israeli army continues to conduct occasional strikes in Lebanon, saying its operations were against Hezbollah "threats," while maintaining forces at five main positions along the Lebanese border.

On Saturday, three Israeli airstrikes targeting



three vehicles in eastern and southern Lebanon killed three people and injured 11 others, the official National News Agency reported.

Meanwhile, Lebanon has placed postwar reconstruction at the top of its agenda despite continued Israeli attacks that are slowing recovery efforts, Public Works and Transport Minister Fayez Rasamny said on Saturday.

"Reconstruction constitutes a top priority for the government and the presidency," Rasamny said, according to the official National News Agency, adding that fieldwork has been repeatedly disrupted by Israeli strikes.

## Faith cannot be fenced by caste": Madras High Court upholds Dalit right to temple participation

MI News Service, Madras: In a landmark ruling reinforcing the constitutional spirit of equality, the Madras High Court has ordered that the temple chariot of Muthu Kolakki Amman Temple be permitted to pass through a Dalit neighbourhood in Kancheepuram district.

The decision came in response to a petition filed by a Scheduled Caste (SC) man who sought permission for his community to enter the temple and participate in its rituals, amid opposition from upper-caste residents.

Justice P.B. Balaji, delivering a strongly worded judgment, stated: "Faith cannot be fenced by caste or creed, and divinity cannot be confined by human prejudice. God does not reside in certain streets alone. No street is unworthy of the chariot or the god it carries. God never discriminates. So discrimination cannot be wrapped in the sanctity of tradition."

The court emphasized that Article 17 of the Indian Constitution, which abolishes untouchability, must be understood "not merely in its physical form but in true letter and spirit." Justice Balaji asserted that no person or group can de-



cide who is entitled to stand before a deity and offer worship, rejecting caste-based restrictions on temple access.

The petitioner had approached the court after officials failed to respond to repeated requests seeking access for Dalit residents to join temple rituals and processions. He alleged that members of dominant-caste communities had historically excluded Dalits from such religious participation, even though the temple operates under the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department.

During the hearing, the Kancheepuram District Collector reported that a field inspection found no official prohibition against Dalit entry or participation in the festival. While some upper-caste residents opposed modifying the traditional chariot route arguing that it had been followed for decades the Collector concluded that extending the route through the Dalit colony was feasible and did not alter the festival's core traditions.

Taking this into account, the court directed the authorities to

implement an integrated route for both the trial and main processions and to ensure the event's peaceful conduct with adequate police protection.

The judgment has been widely welcomed as a reaffirmation of constitutional morality and social justice, highlighting the judiciary's role in dismantling enduring forms of caste-based exclusion.

Observers note that despite forming nearly 16.6 percent of India's population, Dalits continue to experience systemic discrimination in various forms from temple entry denials and social boycotts to violent reprisals for asserting their rights.

The incident echoes earlier cases, such as the 2024 episode in Thenmudiyanur village, Tiruvannamalai district, where upper-caste residents boycotted a temple after Dalits were allowed entry for the first time.

The Madras High Court's ruling, therefore, stands as a reminder that the practice of faith cannot coexist with social segregation, and that constitutional guarantees of equality and dignity must prevail over caste-bound customs and prejudices

## Indian intelligence warns of new alliance between Dawood Ibrahim syndicate, LTTE remnants

MI News Service, New Delhi: Indian intelligence agencies have warned of a new alliance between a crime syndicate named Dawood Ibrahim syndicate and remnants of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a former Sri Lankan rebel group, Indian media outlet Diya TV reported.

The crime syndicate is allegedly exploiting routes through southern India and Sri Lanka to rebuild its narcotics trade after crackdowns in western and northern India, Diya TV said.

For LTTE-linked elements, the arrangement offers a financial lifeline amid leadership gaps and funding shortages, Diya TV said. The LTTE was defeated militarily in Sri Lanka in 2009.

Officials quoted in the report said a wholesale revival of the LTTE's separatist insurgency remains unlikely, but cautioned that legacy logistics endure, Diya TV said.

The syndicate's capital and international reach, combined with the LTTE's coastal know-how along the Palk Strait, could ease movement of contraband into southern India and beyond, security sources warned.

Over decades, the LTTE was accused of using drug revenues and laundering proceeds through overseas businesses, within segments of the Tamil diaspora, said the report.

## U.S. expert depicts China's initiatives as paradigm for harmony, cooperation

MI News Service, Washington DC: Amid mounting conflicts and uncertainty, the Global Governance Initiative (GGI), together with other China-proposed initiatives, provides what an international observer described as a new paradigm for promoting harmony and cooperation among nations.

"We have a chaotic situation in front of us ... more wars, more destruction, more economic problems, even for developed countries at this time," William Jones, an international relations expert and former White House correspondent for Executive Intelligence Review, has told Xinhua.

"We have a system today that, in many respects, has failed," he said.

Facing such challenges, China has maintained a clear vision of what the world should look like, said the expert, viewing the GGI as important not just for China, but for the entire world.

The four global initiatives -- the GGI, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative -- together with the Belt and Road Initiative "point the way toward a world in which harmony and peace rule rather than conflict and destruction," he said.

## Huge prayer gathering in Furfura

Nurul Islam Khan : A mahfil of remembrance was held at Dada Pir Maidan in Furfura Sharif on Saturday. This mahfil is celebrated every year in memory of Mujaddid-e-Zaman Dada Huzur Pir Qibla (Rah) and Panch Huzur Pir Qibla (Rah). Prayers are offered for the peace, harmony and welfare of the state and the welfare of the entire world. The meeting was conducted by Pir Allama Alhaj Maulana Mohd. Yusuf Siddiqui. The conveners were Pirzada Alhaz Maulana Mohd. Zulfiqar Siddiqui, Pirzada Alhaj Maulana Mohd. Junaid Siddiqi, Pirzada Alhaj Maulana Mohd. Zubair Siddiqui. The Pir Saheb said that Islam is a system of peace and com-



plete life. In the hope of complete peace in this world and the hereafter, the Almighty Allah is remembered for a while and Zik is performed. So that the heart is purified and the direction of the overall path of life is found. Many Pirs are present in the Majlis based on the ideology of Pir Abu Bakr Siddiqui (RA) gave sermons and advice. Recently, Pirsahab gave wise advice on SIR. It is said that if people forget Allah, all kinds of troubles will come to their lives in this world.

## The Netherlands orders culling 120,000 chickens after bird flu detected

MI News Service, The Hague: The Netherlands has ordered the culling of around 120,000 chickens at a poultry farm in the northern province of Friesland after a highly pathogenic strain of bird flu was detected, the agriculture ministry announced on Friday night. To prevent further spread of the virus, the Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) will cull all birds at the site in the village of Drogeham.

A transport ban has been imposed immediately within a 10-km radius region, covering the movement of poultry, eggs, manure, and used bedding. Another poultry farm lo-



cated 1 km from the infected site is being tested for bird flu and will be intensively monitored for 14 days, while three other farms within 3 km are being screened, according to the statement.

The outbreak comes as the Netherlands had already imposed a national housing order for poultry since Oct. 16, requiring all commercial farms to keep birds indoors and non-commercial owners to take measures to prevent contact with wild birds.

## Houthis detain Yemeni citizens accused of spying for Israel

MI News Service, Sanaa: Yemen's Houthi group announced that they have arrested several Yemeni nationals accused of spying for Israel in the capital Sanaa.

In a statement, the Houthis claimed the detainees were collaborating with the Israeli foreign intelligence service, Mossad, through a Saudi-based joint operation room that allegedly involved three foreign intelligence agencies — those of Israel, the United States, and Saudi Arabia, Xinhua news agency reported.

They also claimed that the arrested were trained to write intelligence reports, spy on civilian and military locations, and monitor the movements of the group's officials.

The Houthis did not tell how many people they have arrested, nor provide evidence of the alleged espionage accusations.

The statement said "confessions" of the ar-



rested were to be broadcast later in the day on its official satellite television channel, al-Masirah.

According to a source close to the group, most of the newly arrested are employees with the United Nations aid agencies, including the World Food Program (WFP), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

This came weeks after the UN body secured the release of 20 foreign aid workers through a media-

tion of Iran and Oman, and flew them out of Yemen, according to a UN statement at that time.

UN Special Envoy to Yemen Hans Grundberg said in a recent statement that at least 53 UN aid employees of Yemeni nationals remain in Houthi prisons, as well as dozens of other Yemeni employees working with non-governmental organizations and those who had worked with foreign diplomatic missions.

The arrests came after Israeli airstrikes on Sanaa

in August killed a dozen members of the Houthi-run cabinet, as well as the Houthi military chief of staff, Mohammed Abdulkarim Al-Ghamari.

The Houthis have tightened security measures in Sanaa and declared general mobilization after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared in a televised speech last week that the Houthis pose a threat to the existence of Israel and vowed to eliminate the group.

The Houthis, which control much of northwestern Yemen, including Sanaa, had launched dozens of ballistic missiles and bomb-laden drones toward Israeli air and sea ports, as well as targeting ships linked to Israel in the Red Sea to show solidarity with Palestinians since the Gaza war broke out in October 2023. The group has stopped its attacks since the Gaza ceasefire went into force last month.

## Hamas announces return of Israeli soldier's body after 11 years in Gaza

MI News Service, Tel Aviv: Hamas announced it will hand over on Sunday afternoon the body of an Israeli soldier who was killed in 2014 and been held in Gaza since then. His remains are the only ones held in Gaza since before the latest, two-year war between Israel and Hamas.

The return of the soldier, Hadar Goldin, would be a significant development in the US-brokered truce and close a painful, 11-year saga for his parents, who spearheaded a campaign, along with the family of another soldier whose body was taken in 2014, to bring their son home for burial.

According to the announcement, Hamas said it found Goldin's body in a tunnel in the enclave's southernmost city of Rafah on Saturday. Goldin was killed on August 1, 2014,

two hours after a ceasefire took effect ending that year's war between Israel and Hamas.

Israeli media, citing anonymous officials, have reported that Hamas was delaying the release of Goldin's body in hopes of negotiating safe passage for more than 100 militants surrounded by Israeli forces and trapped in the enclave's southernmost city of Rafah.

Gila Gamliel, the minister of science and technology and a member of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party, told Army radio said that Israel is not negotiating for a deal within a deal.

"There are agreements whose implementation is guaranteed by the mediators, and we shouldn't allow anyone to come know and play (games) and to reopen the agreement,"

she said.

Hamas made no comment on a possible exchange for its fighters stuck in the so-called yellow zone, which is controlled by Israeli forces, though they acknowledged that there are clashes taking place there.

Goldin is one of five bodies of deceased hostages still remaining in Gaza. As part of the US-brokered truce deal, the militants are expected to return all of the remains of hostages.

Israeli President Isaac Herzog confirmed that Israel expected the release of Goldin in the afternoon. Herzog made the comments during a eulogy at the funeral of Staff Sgt Itay Chen, an American-Israeli soldier who was killed on October 7, 2023 and his body was in Gaza until militants released it last week.

## NDA conceded defeat in Bihar polls: Khera

MI News Service, Patna: Senior Congress leader Pawan Khera on Sunday claimed that the NDA has "conceded" defeat in the Bihar assembly polls, and many of its leaders have begun the process to vacate their official residences.

Talking to reporters here, he also alleged that "sensing defeat", officials at the instance of ruling NDA leaders, "were shifting important files".

"The NDA leaders have conceded defeat, after the voter turnout in the first phase and people's enthusiasm in favour of the INDIA bloc for the final phase of voting on November 11," the Congress leader asserted.

"We have also come to know that many of its ministers, including deputy CMs, have begun the process to vacate their official residences... It will not be surprising if we come to know about fire breaking out at places where these files are being stored," said Khera, who is also chairman of the Media & Publicity wing of the party.

He also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'katta' remarks at poll



rallies in Bihar, alleging that the PM has insulted the state's youth by using such words.

"The Prime Minister should apologise for this," Khera said.

Modi, addressing election rallies in Sitamarhi and Bettiah on Saturday, had claimed that people were not voting for the RJD-helmed opposition in Bihar, as they fear that if voted to power, its regime will "put 'katta' (country-made gun) on their heads and order them to hold their hands up"

## SIR a bid to institutionalise 'vote theft': Rahul Gandhi

MI News Service, Delhi: Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, on Sunday alleged that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls is an attempt to cover up "vote theft" and institutionalise it.

Speaking to reporters here, Gandhi also said he believes that like Haryana, "vote theft" took place in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh too.

"Vote theft is an issue and SIR now, it is about covering it up and institutionalising the system," the Congress MP claimed.

Gandhi arrived in Pachmarhi hill town in Narmadapuram on Saturday to take part in the Madhya Pradesh district Congress presidents' training camp.

The Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voters' list commenced in nine states and three Union Territories on November 4.



The massive exercise will cover nearly 51 crore electors across 321 districts and 1,843 assembly constituencies of these nine states and three UTs.

"A few days ago, I gave a presentation on Haryana, and I clearly saw that vote theft was taking place... 25 lakh votes were stolen, 1 in 8 votes were stolen," Gandhi alleged.

"After looking at that, after looking at the data, I believe that the same thing happened in MP, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.

And this is the system of the BJP and EC (Election Commission)," he charged.

"We have more evidence, which we will provide gradually. But my issue is vote theft. The SIR now, it is about covering it up and institutionalising the system," he claimed.

Asked whether he will reveal more such details in future, Gandhi said they have a "lot of different information, very detailed information," and they will release it.

"Right now, only a little

has been shown," the Congress leader said.

"But my issue is that democracy is being attacked, Ambedkar's Constitution is being attacked. (Prime Minister) Modi ji, (Union Home Minister) Amit Shah ji and (Chief Election Commissioner) Gyanesh ji are doing this directly by forming a joint partnership. And because of this, the country is suffering a lot. Bharat Mata is being harmed, Bharat Mata is being damaged," he alleged.

To another question, Gandhi said they received good feedback on the Congress district presidents' training in Madhya Pradesh.

For the SIR, the poll authority has pressed into action over 5.3 lakh booth-level officers (BLOs), 10,448 electoral registration officers and 321 district election officers. Besides, 7.64 lakh booth-level

agents (BLAs) of political parties are also on the field to assist BLOs.

The EC will release the draft electoral rolls on December 9, and the final electoral rolls will be published on February 7.

The Election Commission officials recently said Rahul Gandhi flags impurities in past polls but opposes special intensive revision aimed at cleaning up the electoral rolls.

Gandhi has claimed that the 2024 Haryana assembly polls were "stolen". He cited electoral roll data to claim that 25 lakh entries were fake and the Election Commission colluded with the BJP to ensure its victory.

The EC has, however, asserted that Gandhi's vote manipulation charge is "unfounded" as neither any appeals were filed against the electoral rolls in Haryana nor was any multiple voting flagged when it happened.

## Over 69,000 Palestinians killed in Israel-Hamas war: Gaza health ministry

MI News Service, Khan Younis (Gaza Strip): Gaza health officials say that over 69,000 Palestinians have been killed in the Israel-Hamas war so far.

Gaza's Health Ministry said on Saturday that the death toll has climbed to 69,169, with another 170,685 wounded since Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack into Israel.

The latest jump in deaths is attributed to more bodies being recovered under the rubble since the ceasefire was announced in the devastated strip, and also because of the identification of previously unidentified bodies.

The announcement comes after Israel on Saturday returned the bodies of 15 Palestinians to Gaza, a day after militants returned the remains of a hostage to Israel under the terms of



the tenuous ceasefire agreement in the two-year war.

The exchange marked another step forward for the tenuous, US-brokered truce. As part of the deal, Israel has returned the remains of 15 Palestinians for each Israeli hostage.

The Nasser Hospital in the city of Khan Younis said the 15 bodies were

brought there.

ried remains given back Friday night were of an Israeli man who died while fighting Hamas in the militants' Oct. 7, 2023, attack that started the war. The hostage's body was identified as that of Lior Rudaeff, according to a statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office

# Ranji Trophy: Meghalaya batter smashes eight sixes in a row, hits fastest first-class fifty

**SURAT** : Meghalaya batter Akash Kumar Chaudhary made history, smashing the fastest fifty in the history of first-class cricket and becoming the only third player in the format's history to smash sixes in an over.

Akash achieved this accomplishment during his side's Plate Group Ranji Trophy match against Arunachal Pradesh in Surat. During the match, he reached his half-century in just 11 balls, a record in the format, smashing eight sixes in a row --a feat unprecedented in first-class cricket, according to ESPNcricinfo.

During the second day of the match, he smashed six sixes in the 126th over bowled by left-arm spinner Limar Dabi, joining an elite club including Ravi Shastri and Garry Sobers.

Coming at number eight, Akash started with a dot ball and two singles. It was the calm before the storm as the next eight deliveries he faced went into the stands for eight successive sixes. His half-century is a ball faster than the



previous record holder, Leicestershire's Wayne White, who hit a 12-ball fifty back in 2012.

Akash took a total of nine minutes to reach the milestone, being the second-fastest player to reach the half-century mark in first-class cricket in history of time, with Clive Inman striking his 13-ball fifty in just eight minutes back in 1965.

Akash, 25 years of age, was playing his 31st first-class match, since his debut in 2019. Before this match, he had scored 503 runs at an average of 14.37, with two fifties. He has also played 28 one-dayers and 30 T20s for Meghalaya. Notably, he had also smashed four sixes during his unbeaten 60 in 62 balls against Bihar earlier this month.

Meghalaya declared at 628/6 with Akash making 50\* in 14 balls, with eight sixes and a strike rate of over 357. Arpit Bhatewara (207 in 273 balls, with 25 fours and four sixes), skipper Kishan Lyngdoh (119 in 187 balls, with 14 fours and a six) and Rahul Dalal (144 in 102 balls, with 12 fours and nine sixes) smashed brilliant tons. Meghalaya had won the toss and elected to bat first.

In the second innings, AP was skittled out for 73 in 27.4 overs, with Aryan Bora (4/16) being the leading wicket-taker. Amit Yadav (16) was the top run-getter as no batter crossed the 20-

# Elena Rybakina outguns Sabalenka to win WTA Finals



**RIYADH** : Aryna Sabalenka will finish the 2025 tennis season as the World No. 1, but it was Elena Rybakina who had the final word, as per Olympics.com.

The 2022 Wimbledon champion lifted the second-biggest title of her career after defeating Sabalenka 6-3, 7-6(0) in the WTA Finals championship singles match in Riyadh.

Rybakina, currently ranked World No. 6, concluded her season with 11 consecutive wins, a remarkable streak that included five victories over top-10 players in Riyadh. The Kazakh star was the last player to qualify for the Finals. This marks her 11th career title, following her triumphs earlier this season in Strasbourg and Ningbo. Her performance in Riyadh also earned her a record-breaking prize money of USD 5.2 million.

Sabalenka, who captured her fourth Grand Slam title at the US Open in September, once again fell short of a WTA Finals crown. She was also the runner-up in 2022, when she lost to Caroline Garcia.

"It's been an incredible week," said Rybakina, as quoted from Olympics.com.

"I honestly didn't expect any result (like this). To go so far, it's just incredible. Today was such a tough battle," she added.

By winning the prestigious Billie Jean King Trophy, Rybakina will return to the world's top five, a position she last held in February this year. The final was the 14th career meeting between Rybakina and Sabalenka, with the Kazakh narrowing the head-to-head to 6-8.



# Pukhraj eyes bigger goals as he jumps to 2nd place on IGPL OOM; receives award from Arjun Munda

**JAMSHEDPUR** : Pukhraj Singh Gill, who won the IGPL Invitational Jamshedpur for a breakthrough win in professional golf, was thrilled to receive his winner's cheque from former Chief Minister Arjun Munda, as per the release from IGPL.

Winner by nine shots, the biggest margin in IGPL, Pukhraj felt that this win would motivate him to aspire for more wins.

The win also carried Pukhraj to second place on the IGPL Order of Merit (OOM) with Rs. 48,81,832 and is now under Rs. 12 lakhs behind the leader, Aman Raj.

With top four finishers on the IGPL Order of Merit getting a spot onto the Asian Tour's Qualifying School Final stage, Pukhraj said, "This can help me get to the Asian Tour," as quoted from a release by IGPL.

Also, the topper will get a spot in the International Series early next year and a spot in one of the Open Qualifying Series Tournaments next year.

Uttam Singh Mundy, CEO of IGPL said, "The IGPL has made sure there are a lot of incentives for the players. More are on the way, and we want the best of facilities for these talented lot."

He added, "Kapil and Pukhraj have won their maiden pro titles in the last few weeks and young stars, Kartik Singh and Veer Ganapathy, have made a big mark."

Among the players in the running for the OOM and they are led by Aman Raj, Pukhraj, Kartik Singh Bhullar, Sachin Baisoya, Kapil Kumar, and Veer Ganapathy. Seven players have won Rs. 30 lakhs or more from the first six events so far.

Four players have, between them, won the six IGPL events held so far: Bhullar (Chandigarh and Jaypee Greens) and Aman Raj (Pune and Kolkata) have won twice each, while Kapil Kumar (Pune) and Pukhraj (Jamshedpur) have won once each. Harendra Gupta of Chandigarh carried his team of three amateurs to memorable win the Pro-Am. His teammates were Nishant Jha, Harsh Kumar Pandey and Vinayak Siddhi. Tusshar Pannu's team was second with his teammates Deepak Sahay, Aarav Wadhwa and Raman Jha. The third place was grabbed by Samarth Dwivedi's team of Punam Doshi, Dheer Dutta and Nitin Khosla.

Winner of the main tournament, Pukhraj Singh Gill played alongside the chief guest, Arjun Munda with the other members being Rupesh Katriar and Prashant Maurya.

# India's group stage opponents in AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup set to be revealed in final draw

**NEW DELHI** : The final draw for the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Thailand 2026 will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on Monday.

For the 12th edition of the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup, 12 teams will be divided into three groups of four each. India was one of the 11 teams, comprising eight group winners and the three best-ranked runners-up, that confirmed its place in the tournament via the qualifiers, joining hosts Thailand.

India topped Group D ahead of Indonesia, Myanmar, and Turkmenistan in the qualifiers held in August of this year. The AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Thailand 2026 is scheduled to take place from April 1 to 18 next year. This will mark India's first appearance in the competition since 2006.

For the pot allocations for the final draw, the seedings are based on a points system derived from the teams' final rankings across the previous three editions of the finals. With the points from each edition weighted progressively as



follows: 100 per cent of ranking points for the latest edition (2024), 50 per cent of ranking points for the second-last edition (2019) and 25 per cent of ranking points for the third-last edition (2017).

Since India did not qualify for any of the last three editions, the

team will be placed in Pot 4 and will be drawn against either Thailand, DPR Korea, or Japan from Pot 1; Australia, Korea Republic, or China PR from Pot 2; and Vietnam, Uzbekistan, or Chinese Taipei from Pot 3.

The top two sides from each group, along with the two best third-placed teams, will advance to the quarter-finals. The four semi-finalists will qualify for the FIFA U20 Women's World Cup Poland 2026, where DPR Korea are the current holders. As hosts, Thailand will be designated as the top seed and occupy position A1.Pot allocations for the AFC U20 Women's Asian Cup Thailand 2026 Final Draw (seedings in brackets):

**Pot 1:** Thailand (hosts), DPR Korea (1), Japan (2)

**Pot 2:** Australia (3), Republic of Korea (5), China PR (6)

**Pot 3:** Vietnam (7), Uzbekistan (8), Chinese Taipei (9)

**Pot 4:** India (10), Jordan (11), Bangladesh (12).

# Duffy, Sodhi shine as NZ beat WI in thrilling 3rd T20I, take 2-1 series lead

**NELSON:** Jacob Duffy and Ish Sodhi's impressive bowling performance helped New Zealand secure a nine-run victory over the West Indies in the third T20I, taking a 2-1 lead in the five-match series here at Saxton Oval on Sunday.

After choosing to bat first, New Zealand posted their lowest T20I score at this venue, 177/9. For the West Indies, Matthew Forde was the standout with 2-20, while Jason Holder (2-31) and Shamar Springer (1-36) delivered impressive performances in the final overs.

Chasing the modest target, the West Indies struggled at 88-8 in 13 overs but made a comeback as late knocks from Romario Shepherd and Shamar Springer took them to 166/8, before the Men in Maroon eventually lost the game.Batting first, Tim Robinson and Devon Conway gave New Zealand a



strong start with a 47-run opening partnership, but the latter was dismissed for 23 by Forde. Rachin Ravindra then joined Conway at the crease, and the pair added a fifty partnership to

second half of the innings as the hosts lost six wickets for 35 runs in the last five overs and settled with a score of 177-9 in 20 overs.

The West Indies' chase was in disarray as Duffy and Sodhi excelled, leaving the visitors reeling at 68/6 and later 88/8. However, Shepherd and Springer mounted a remarkable recovery with a 78-run partnership off 39 balls.With 12 needed off the final over, Windies had a chance, but Kyle Jamieson dismissed Shepherd to seal the game for New Zealand in what went down as yet another thriller between the two sides.

**Brief scores:** New Zealand 177/9 ( Devon Conway 56, Daryl Mitchell 41; Mathew Forde 2-20, 2-31 Jaosn Holder) beat West Indies 168/10 (Romario Shepherd 49, Shamar Springer 39; Ish Sodhi 3-24, 3-36 Jacob Duffy) by nine runs

# RR ask CSK to give Jadeja and Brevis for Samson as trade talks intensify: Report

**NEW DELHI** : Five-time champions Chennai Super Kings and inaugural winners Rajasthan Royals are reportedly in advanced stages of negotiations ahead of the 2026 Indian Premier League, with CSK trading Ravindra Jadeja for Sanju Samson.

Both Jadeja and Samson are valued at Rs 18 crore each, and the deal may already be nearing completion. However, Rajasthan Royals are reportedly not in favour of a direct player swap. They are said to be demanding the inclusion of an additional player, which could ultimately become a major obstacle in finalising the agreement, as per a Cricbuzz report.

The report stated that the Rajasthan Royals are reportedly demanding South African youngster Dewald Brevis, along with Jadeja, as part of the deal.

Brevis joined the Chennai Super Kings midway through last season as an injury replacement for Gurjapneet Singh. The young



South African batting prodigy quickly established himself as one of the top performers in the global franchise circuit. He also

# Chelsea midfielder Enzo Fernandez rules himself out of Argentina's upcoming fixtures

**LONDON** : Chelsea midfielder Enzo Fernandez revealed that he has been playing while carrying an injury, which has ruled him out of representing Argentina in the international friendlies later this month.

Fernandez played a starring role as he ran riot and controlled the midfield during Chelsea's 3-0 win over Wolverhampton on Saturday. He provided the creative spark and assisted the forwards in breaking down Wolves' defence, which helped Chelsea secure three points and move to second in the Premier League table.

In the aftermath of Chelsea's victory, Fernandez revealed that he has been struggling with a knee injury, which has worsened in the past weeks. Due to his current condition, he will remain unavailable for the national side.

"I will not be available with Argentina. I was just talking to the medical team because I had a problem with my knee in the last four months. I came with a bone edema that got worse in the last weeks and months because we played a lot of games. I think the most important thing is coming to the end of the season, and I think it's good to make this decision together. Always respecting the doctors and everything," Fernandez said as quoted from Goal.com.



Apart from Fernandez, the Ecuador midfielder Moises Caicedo emerged as another concern after he was seen limping at one stage during the game. Chelsea head coach Enzo Maresca provided an update on Caicedo, confirming that he is fine.

"He was OK, just a kick in the first half in his knee. But he finished the game, and I asked him after the game, and he was ok. Pedro Neto and Fernandez did ask for a change, Pedro for the groin problem and Enzo for the knee, so we will have to see how they are," Maresca said.

# MLS: Messi's brace helps Miami to enter Eastern Conference SF with 4-0 win over Nashville

**FORT LAUDERDALE:** Braces from captain Lionel Messi and attacker Tadeo Allende powered Inter Miami to a dominant 4-0 victory over Nashville SC in the decisive Game 3 of the best-of-3 series in Round One of the MLS Cup Playoffs to advance to the Eastern Conference semifinals for the first time in the club's history. Messi gave Inter Miami an early lead in the 10th minute, intercepting a pass in the opponent's third before dribbling through the middle and slotting the ball into the bottom-right corner for his 34th goal of the 2025 MLS season.

He then secured his brace and doubled Inter Miami's lead before the break with a goal in the 39th minute. A long ball over the top from Alba found Silvestri down the left, who then laid the ball back for Messi to finish into an open goal. The goal was Messi's 35th this league campaign, while the assist was the first for Silvestri in Inter Miami colours, Inter Miami reports. Inter Miami followed suit in the second half and extended its lead through Allende in the 73rd minute. Alba combined with Messi on the left side of the box before reaching the end line and feeding a grounded pass for Allende to strike from close range. The goal took Allende's tally to 13 this 2025 MLS season, while the assist was the 16th for Alba. Allende secured his brace and sealed the result for Inter Miami in the 76th minute with a sublime chipped finish over the keeper following a precise through ball into space from Messi. The goal was the 14th for Allende in the league in 2025, while the assist was the 20th for Messi, who has contributed an impressive 15 goals and 11 assists in the past 11 MLS appearances. Additionally, the assist was a historic milestone for the Argentine maestro, as it marked Messi's 400th assist of his career. The 4-0 result remained unchanged until the final whistle, and Inter Miami progressed to the Eastern Conference Semi-Finals in the MLS Cup Playoffs for the first time in the club's history.

