

Morning India

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Drones to surveil hill forests, boost wildlife protection in North Bengal

MI News Service, Siliguri : The forest department is set to introduce drone surveillance in the hill forests of Singalila, Senchal and Neora Valley to strengthen the monitoring of wildlife and curb illegal activities following the successful use of remote aerial vehicles in the Jaldapara National Park over the past year.

Bhaskar JV, the chief conservator of forests (wildlife, north), said four drones deployed in Jaldapara last year had proved immensely effective, especially during emergencies involving straying wildlife.

“In Jaldapara, drones have helped us track elephants, gaur and one-horned rhinos when they stray outside the forest. During the recent floods, several rhinos were swept into the shallow Torsa river. With drone support, we were able to locate, tranquilise and safely bring them back,” he said.

Encouraged by these results, the department will now deploy five drones each in Singalila, Senchal and Neora Valley forests, said Bhaskar. While Singalila and Senchal are in Darjeeling district, Neora is in Kalimpong district.

Jaldapara, which is spread over 216.51sqkm, has recorded significant improvements in animal protection since drones were introduced.

“Not a single poaching incident was reported in the past year. Movement of poachers was not detected, and timber smuggling has come under control,” a forest department officer said.

Drones have been used to monitor wide river stretches, grasslands and difficult terrain. Foresters say the technology has emerged as a powerful supplement to traditional patrolling.

“Within a short time, a drone can scan large areas that foot patrols cannot cover as quickly. Combined with patrolling by vehicles and elephants, drone surveillance enhances our ability to detect movement, monitor sensitive zones and respond swiftly,” the forester said.

Jaldapara, globally known for its population of one-horned rhinos, has benefited particularly from real-time monitoring. When drones are linked to the Internet, the foresters can track live locations of rhinos, elephants and other wildlife, even in remote areas. “If any unusual activity is detected, immediate action can be taken,” the officer said.

One of the biggest successes of the drone programme came on the night of October 4, when the Torsa river flooded large parts of Jaldapara, and eight rhinos were swept away.

“Using drone images, we could track every rhino and rescue all of them safely. Such a coordinated operation is rare in the history of the forest department,” another officer said.

Parveen Kaswan, the divisional forest officer of Jaldapara, said technology would continue to complement traditional methods.

“We use different technologies for protection and conservation. Drone cameras are one of them. They have given us great results, but patrolling on foot and on elephant-back will continue, as they remain essential tools,” he said.



A pre-observation of World AIDS Day, a Vintage Car Drive themed “Drive for HIV Awareness.” in Kolkata on sunday.

Dak Adalat to be held on December 15 to address postal service grievances in Bengal, Sikkim, Andaman

MI News Service, Kolkata : Consumers of postal services can seek redress to some of their grievances at the upcoming Dak Adalat. The 134th Dak Adalat will be held at the office of the chief postmaster general, Bengal circle, at Yogayog Bhavan, via video conference at 1pm on December 15. The Adalat will hear complaints concerning the postal services of Bengal, Sikkim and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

“The complaint must contain full details, including reference number, date of letter received earlier from various postal

authorities, and the mobile number of the complainant. The complaint should be addressed to S.C. Das, ADPS (CS), c/o the chief postmaster general, West Bengal circle, P-36, CR Avenue, Calcutta 700012, to reach on or before 3 December by post or through e-mail. The IDs are cpmg.wb@indiapost.gov.in and adpg-cowb@gmail.com,” an official said. The applications for Dak Adalat should be superscribed with the words “Dak Adalat.” “Cases involving legal matters like succession and policy matters will not be taken up that day,” the official added.

Prince Dr. M. A. Ali Congratulates Kolkata Public English School



MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 : The 11th Annual Award and Cultural Function of Kolkata Public English School was held at Nazrul Mancha, Kamarhatti, Kolkata. HRH Prince Dr. M. A. Ali, Director of the World Meet (Thailand, Indonesia, and UK), graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Addressing the media, Prince Ali praised the institution, stating that “Kolkata Public English School is the best school in North Kolkata, as it provides free Karate and Martial Arts training to all students up to the Black Belt level. I have not seen any other school in North Kolkata offering such dedicated training. Congratulations to Asgar Ali Khan, Director of the School.”

He further added that students of Kolkata Public English School will be participating in the forthcoming World Meet on 28th May 2025 at the Royal Thai Army Club, Bangkok, Thailand. Prince Ali also expressed his happiness over the school’s remarkable achievements across various fields. The event featured diverse cultural performances and was attended by a large gathering of parents and dignitaries from different sectors, making the evening both memorable and vibrant.

RPF/ER Extends A Helping Hand To Passengers

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 : Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel of Eastern Railway continue their dedicated efforts to ensure the safety and security of passenger belongings through the nationwide initiative “Operation Amanat.” On 29.11.2025, RPF teams of Howrah, Sealdah, Asansol and Malda Divisions successfully recovered various left-behind luggage items from different trains and Railway premises. The recovered items include:

02 blankets, 01 suitcase, and 16 bags containing clothes, documents, electronic items, a laptop, mobile charger, wristwatch, shoes, PAN card, ATM cards, Voter ID, ICICI Visa card, Post Bank

card, smart card, driving licence, power bank, makeup kits, handwash, cream, powder, other essential goods and cash amounting to ₹22,000. The total value of the recovered belongings is approximately ₹2,75,500.

These items were recovered from trains and railway premises at Howrah, Dankuni, Bardhaman, Sealdah, Naihati, Asansol, Durgapur, Jamtara, Sultanganj, Sahibganj, Jamalpur, and Bhagalpur stations. All recovered belongings were duly handed over to their rightful owners after proper verification and documentation. After receiving their belongings, passengers expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Eastern Railway.

Himalayan musk deer photographed in Bengal after nearly 70 years

MI News Service, Siliguri : The elusive Himalayan musk deer, which is categorised as an endangered species on the IUCN Red List, has been sighted in Bengal after a gap of nearly 70 years, with the animal being photographed in the Neora Valley National Park in Kalimpong district.

The images, captured on December 17, 2024, by a trap camera installed by the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), confirm the presence of the rare species in Bengal for the first time since 1955.

The cameras, which had originally been set up to research red pandas, recorded multiple clear images of the musk deer from different angles. However, the state forest department had not been informed about the images until recently. The camera data were being transmitted directly to the WII headquartered in Dehradun, leaving Bengal foresters in the dark.

Bhaskar JV, chief conservator of forests (wildlife, north), said the WII had not yet provided



detailed information about the findings to the department.

“It is disappointing that the WII has not provided the details to us, even though we are the apex department in the state, and the national park is also located in our state,” Bhaskar said.

According to records, the previous official sighting of a musk deer in Bengal occurred in the Singalila National Park of Darjeeling in 1955, though no photographic evidence existed at the time.

The new images have

therefore generated considerable excitement within the state’s wildlife community.

Wildlife researcher Animesh Bose, who has participated in several surveys in the Neora Valley forest, said the discovery highlighted the region’s rich but unexplored biodiversity. “We would urge the state forest department to prioritise habitat protection and conservation for the musk deer. We also hope that Unesco will consider the proposal to recognise the national park as a world heritage

WBUT, Omkarnath Mission sign MoU to expand Indological Studies

MI News Service, Kolkata:In a bid to deepen research in India’s civilisational knowledge systems, the West Bengal University of Transformative Studies (WBUT) — widely known as Biswa Bangla University — on Sunday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Omkarnath Mission – Research Centre for Indological Studies. The agreement was formalised at the Mission’s international headquarters at Mahamilan Math in Kolkata.

The tie-up comes at a time when the state government is pushing ahead with the Gateway of Kolkata project near Dunlop, conceived by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and named after spiritual leader Sitaram Das Omkarnath. The academic partnership is being viewed as part of the government’s broader cultural initiative to highlight Bengal’s intellectual heritage on a national and global scale.



According to officials of the Omkarnath Mission, the MoU will facilitate collaborative lectures, workshops, seminars and research programmes that span philosophy, history, religion, culture and literature. A key objective is to promote scholarship in India’s classical knowledge systems and contribute to the preservation of its civilisational legacy.

Calling the agreement a “historic step”, Kinkar Priyannath Chattopadhyay, President of the Omkarnath Mission, said the collaboration reflects the Chief Minister’s vision of expanding education rooted in indigenous traditions. “Both institutions

will work to preserve India’s ancient heritage, study the commentaries of Sri Bhagwan Omkarnath Dev on Vedanta and engage in the reconstruction of religious philosophy. This partnership will help familiarise younger generations with India’s cultural and philosophical history,” he said.

WBUT Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dilip Kumar Maity signed the MoU on behalf of the university, while senior representatives of the Mission, including its president, faculty members and other officials, endorsed it from their end. The event was attended by several distinguished personalities, including Amer-

ican violinist Dr L. Shankar and Santoor maestro Tarun Bhattacharya, a Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee.

Mission representatives noted that the collaboration would go beyond academic exchange and aid in disseminating the teachings and philosophy of Sri Bhagwan Omkarnath Dev, considered by followers to be a significant figure in Bengal’s spiritual renaissance.

From Mumbai, Kinkar Biththal Ramanuj Maharaj, founder of the Omkarnath Mission and President of the Akhil Bharat Jaiguru Sampradaya, remarked that the partnership would serve as “a guiding force for future generations seeking deeper engagement with India’s cultural roots.”

Officials from both sides expressed confidence that the MoU would strengthen research initiatives and open new avenues for scholars and students.

RPF-GRPS joint operation foils illegal entry of Bangladesh nationals at Ranaghat Jn

Dipankar Edbar, Ranaghat (Nadia) : A joint team of the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRPS), Ranaghat, thwarted an illegal infiltration attempt on Saturday afternoon, detaining three Bangladesh nationals, including a minor child, and an Indian tout at Ranaghat Junction.

The operation was launched following specific intelligence inputs about suspicious cross-border movement on Platform No. 2. Acting promptly, a team led by SI Shivam Kumar of RPF/Post/Ranaghat, along with SI K. K. Jha and other RPF personnel, in coordination with GRPS Ranaghat officials, conducted covert surveillance at the station.

At around 12:15 pm, the joint team spotted four adults and a child exhibiting suspicious behaviour under the Foot Over Bridge. During questioning, the group gave conflicting statements and failed to produce valid travel documents. Their dialect and responses further raised suspicion.

Upon sustained interrogation, three women confessed to being Bangladesh nationals who had illegally crossed the international border through the Ramnagar area under Hanskhali police station, with the help of an Indian tout identified as

Rasul Molla (55), a resident of Bara Chupria in Nadia district. They stated they were entering India for employment and had been assured safe passage by the tout. None possessed passports, visas or any authorised border-crossing permits.

All four were immediately apprehended. The Bangladesh nationals were booked under Section 21 of the Immigration & Foreigners Act for illegal entry and stay, while the tout was arrested under Section 24(1) for facilitating infiltration. Officials said all legal protocols, including those related to the handling of women and children, were strictly followed. Following a written complaint, GRPS Ranaghat registered Case No. 19/2025 dated 29.11.2025 under relevant provisions of the Immigration & Foreigners Act. RPF Post, Ranaghat, said the swift response and coordination between the two agencies prevented further movement of the infiltrators into Indian territory. The arrested persons are Rasul Molla (55), resident of Bara Chupria, PS Hanskhali, Rupna Das (21), of Bhuierhat, District Hateya Noakhali, Bangladesh, and her lap baby Partha Das (4), Mita Das (18), of Banglabazar, Mahadebbari, PS Uskhali, Hateya Noakhali, Bangladesh, Dipti Das (18), of the same locality in Bangladesh.

Burdwan gets first labs to test road-building materials

MI News Service, E. Burdwan :To combat the recurring problem of contractors supplying substandard materials for road construction in panchayat areas, the East Burdwan Zilla Parishad today introduced a new facility termed a civil laboratory to enable on-the-spot scrutiny of construction ingredients. At Kshetia Panchayat, the first such laboratory was inaugurated by Gargi Naha, deputy chief of the zilla parishad. She said that 16 such civil labs, one for each block, will be installed in phases. “Panchayats in our district will first obtain test reports before disbursing payments against bills, and this system has now been made mandatory,” she said.

Honey badger, leopards, pangolin and more: Trap cameras reveal Purulia wildlife thriller

MI News Service, Purulia : From India’s largest mammal to one of the planet’s smallest cats. An animal imperilled by traffickers to a small carnivore ever ready to take on predators of any size. These animals and more have over the past year been captured by trap cameras installed in a forest in Purulia, Bengal’s westernmost district that borders Jharkhand and is part of the Chhotanagpur Plateau.

An NGO installed the trap cameras in a pocket of the Kotshila forest in collaboration with the Bengal forest department. Three minutes of footage — a montage of images shot by multiple cameras that was shared with this newspaper — bears testimony to Purulia’s biodiversity. It’s difficult to take one’s eyes off the footage, because the animals just keep coming. It begins with an Indian muntjac (Muntiacus muntjak), commonly called the “barking deer” because of the bark-like sound it makes to sound the alarm when it senses danger.



A small Indian civet (Viverricula indica) appears next, looking for food. A full-grown leopard (Panthera pardus) follows, its eyes glowing in the dark and directed at the camera before it turns away. Just one clip has been shot in daylight: it shows two leopards cuddling each other.

The next to enter the scene is a sloth bear (Melursus ursinus), moving slowly at first before suddenly picking up speed. A honey badger (Mellivora capensis), probably clicked for the first time in Bengal, is a tenacious small carnivore with a reputation as one of the world’s most fearless animals, ready to fight back against much

bigger predators.

An Indian pangolin (Manis crassicaudata) makes a brief appearance. Scaly, toothless and nocturnal, pangolins are among the world’s most trafficked mammals, hunted for their scales and meat. Most of this is smuggled into China, and the rest into Southeast Asia, for use in traditional medicines. Next is a rusty-spotted cat (Prionailurus rubiginosus), which is among the world’s smallest cats. It looks like a kitten, covered in a fawn coat with rusty brown spots on its back, and with an unmarked tail. This is the first formal documentation of the species in Bengal, foresters said.

Airport alert: UP
resident arrested
before foreign flight

MI News Service, Kolkata: A man wanted in several criminal cases in Uttar Pradesh was intercepted and detained at Kolkata's Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport while attempting to board an international flight. Authorities in Uttar Pradesh had previously issued an alert regarding the suspect due to multiple active complaints registered against him. Acting on this communication, the Kolkata Airport police began closely monitoring passenger movement to identify the individual if he attempted to travel.

Based on the information shared by UP law enforcement, airport officials were able to locate and confirm the suspect's presence during routine checks. Before he could board his scheduled flight to a foreign destination, officers from the NSCB Airport police station detained him and placed him under custody. As part of standard procedure, he was subsequently taken to the Dumdum municipal hospital for a medical examination to assess his condition before further legal processing. Preliminary investigation by the police revealed that the man claimed he had been travelling to Uttar Pradesh for medical treatment. Despite this assertion, officers noted that the outstanding criminal cases against him took precedence, making immediate arrest necessary. After completing the required formalities and verifying his identity, the Kolkata Police handed him over to the Uttar Pradesh Police team that had arrived to take charge of the suspect.

Jamiat chief
Mahmood Madni
defends JIHAD

From PG 1
"reflects a malicious attempt to push the country towards division". "His remark that 'zulm hone par jihad hoga' is extremely inappropriate because, in the name of jihad, terror and violence have been spread not only in India but across the world, and in such a context, the mention of jihad in India is an irresponsible statement," Patra said. Patra accused Madni of an "attempt to undermine the judiciary" and urged the Supreme Court to take cognisance and act against the Jamiat head. Madni said a particular community was being targeted. "There are bulldozer actions, mob lynching, seizure of waqf properties and negative campaigns against madrasas to undermine their religion and identity. This has made Muslims feel unsafe," he said.

Baggage policy:
GANGTOK-BAGDOGRA
copter fare dips

From PG 1
fare will come into effect on December 1, following approval from the Sikkim government, it said. The order stated that fares for Gangtok joyrides and chartered flights remain unchanged, while medical flights will be charged at Rs 77,500, in line with the revised passenger fare.

EC extends
schedule for
SIR by 1 week

From PG 1
between 2002 and 2004, and they have nearly completed the mapping of current electors according to the last SIR held in their respective states. The primary aim of the SIR is to weed out foreign illegal migrants by checking their place of birth. The move assumes significance in the wake of a crackdown in various states on illegal migrants, including those from Bangladesh and Myanmar.



On Sunday, Tollygunge MLA and Minister Aroop Biswas attended the S. I. R. review meeting at Niranjn Sadan of Tollygunge Vidhan Sabha. Municipal representatives of 9 wards, party office bearers, 310 BLA-2 and 9 wards W. E. R. S. workers engaged in S. I. R. work were present.

“Politics overtaking economics”
Jaishankar warns at IIM Calcutta

MI News Service, Kolkata: Union External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar delivered a sharp assessment of shifting global power equations during his address at IIM Calcutta on Saturday, warning that the world economy is entering an increasingly volatile and politically driven phase. Without naming former U.S. President Donald Trump, Jaishankar appeared to criticise Washington's recent policy direction, suggesting that radical shifts in American trade and strategic behaviour have accelerated uncertainty. Jaishankar, who visited Kolkata to receive an honorary doctorate from IIM Calcutta, used the platform to outline deep geopolitical and economic transformations underway across the world.

According to him, “America has made radical changes in its policies in recent times. They are bringing about political and economic changes through various transactions with different countries.” He described this evolving environment as “worrying,” emphasising that politics is increasingly overshadowing economics. “In this uncertain world, politics is gradually overtaking the economy. We must reassess our supply chains — both demand and sources of supply — and diversify them,” the Minister said, urging a strategic rethinking of India's economic dependencies. Jaishankar's remarks come against the backdrop of the United States imposing steep new tariffs on Indian products since August, pushing duty rates to 50% on various categories. The decision has placed a direct burden on Indian exporters, triggering concerns across sectors. His comments in Kolkata were widely viewed as an indirect rebuke of Washington's tariff strategy. The External Affairs Minister also directed pointed criticism at China, stating that Beijing has long attempted to operate the global system entirely on its own terms.

On Their 50th Anniversary,
Couple Donates Artificial
Limbs to Over a Hundred People



MI News Service, Kolkata: A Kolkata-based couple celebrated their 50 years of marriage by donating artificial limbs to underprivileged and physically disabled individuals, setting a remarkable example of humanity and compassion. On Sunday, hundreds of differently abled people from various parts of the state gathered at Bidhannagar for a special humanitarian event titled “Umeed Ke Rang.” Along with the distribution of artificial limbs, medical check-ups and treatment facilities were also arranged,



Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar being conferred the 'Doctorate of Philosophy Honoris Causa' by IIM-Calcutta.

“They have been trying to run everything according to their preferences for a long time — and they continue to do so,”* he said. Despite the turbulent international scene, Jaishankar asserted that India remains firmly aligned to its development trajectory, highlighting manufacturing and technology as the country's primary engines of growth. “A country like India must always prioritise industrial development. Production is essential. From semiconductors to electric vehicles — these are now the keys to India's progress,” he said. Jaishankar's Kolkata address underscored a broader strategic message: in a world where major powers are reshaping global rules to suit domestic politics, India must strengthen its economic resilience, widen its supply networks, and accelerate industrial capacity to secure its position in the evolving global order.

Nandigram showdown looms as
Sukanta predicts Abhishek clash

MI News Service, Kolkata/Purba Medinipur: Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar has triggered fresh political speculation ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections by claiming that Trinamool Congress General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee is preparing to contest from Nandigram. According to Majumdar, Banerjee's “strong ambition” to become Deputy Chief Minister is influencing recent police transfers in the district, signalling the ruling party's plan to turn Nandigram into a high-stakes electoral battlefield. Nandigram MLA and Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari swiftly rejected the claims, asserting that Abhishek Banerjee has no grassroots support in the constituency. “Even if Abhishek contests here, he won't win,” Adhikari told reporters, reaffirming the BJP's determination to defend the seat it dramatically seized

in 2021 by defeating Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Majumdar further remarked that the BJP's strategy is simple—wherever the Trinamool fields a candidate, the party will ensure their defeat. The Trinamool Congress responded sharply. Party spokesperson Arup Chakraborty accused the BJP leadership of marginalising Suwendu Adhikari after the Lok Sabha poll results, a situation he claimed helped the TMC secure significant panchayat victories in Nandigram. Chakraborty argued that Adhikari's biggest challenge is holding on to his own seat, adding that “a booth-level TMC worker could defeat him—no Abhishek or Mamata needed.” The unfolding political tussle echoes earlier precedents, including 2011, when Mamata Banerjee shifted to Bhabanipur after initial seat changes, and Suwendu Adhikari managed similar political transitions.

Dead voters row: EC probe in fatal turns tense

MI News Service, Kolkata: The situation in Falta has sharply escalated after Leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari issued a serious allegation that a planned attack may be underway targeting the Election Commission's special inspection team. His claim comes at a time when allegations of dead voters' names being inserted into the rolls have triggered intense scrutiny in the region.

A 13-member special team of the Election Commission, led by senior observer Subrata Gupta, arrived in Falta on Sunday to examine the voter-list revision process in Abhishek Banerjee's Diamond Harbour parliamentary constituency. The team held its first round of meetings at the BDO office when Suwendu Adhikari's allegations surfaced online, adding a new layer of tension to the already sensitive inquiry. In his social media post, Ad-



hikari alleged that Trinamool leader Jahangir Khan—already under the scanner for exerting pressure on BLOs—has mobilised nearly 300 women, paying each ₹500, with the intention of obstructing or attacking the Commission's team. According to Suwendu

Adhikari, the group has been assembled in a banquet hall located above the GP office, where they were allegedly “trained” to attack the inspection team using sticks and shoes if required. Jahangir Khan has been repeatedly accused by BJP leaders, including Abhijit

Das (Bobby), of orchestrating pressure tactics to include the names of deceased individuals in the voter rolls. His alleged involvement has made him a central figure in the ongoing dispute surrounding the SIR process in Falta. Suwendu Adhikari's allegations have triggered immediate political confrontation. Trinamool state vice-president Jayprakash Majumdar dismissed the charges outright, accusing the Opposition of manufacturing panic. According to him, “They want to divide people and create unrest. BLOs are being intimidated, common people are being intimidated, and now they are claiming the Election Commission will be attacked. SIR has been going on for a month—where has any such incident happened?” Despite the denial, the claims have added a volatile dimension to the Commission's visit.

CM Mamata Banerjee pays tribute
to Scientist Jagadish Chandra Bose

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee paid tribute to the legendary scientist Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose on his birth anniversary, highlighting his enduring contributions to science and his significance as a source of regional pride. In a post on her official X (formerly Twitter) handle, the Chief Minister stated, “I pay my respects to the great scientist and pride of Bengal, Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose, on his birth anniversary.” Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose, widely regarded as a pioneer in plant physiology and wireless communication, remains an iconic figure in India's



scientific history. By acknowledging Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose's legacy, the Chief Minister underscored the state's continued recognition of contributions in science and education, reinforcing his stature as a source of inspiration for current and future generations in Bengal and across the country.



A hot air balloons can be seen at the grand ' Hot Air Baloon Festival' (Fanush Utsav) in Kolkata on Sunday.

Fresh wolf attacks ravage UP village

From PG 1
medical college in Lucknow but died on the way, officials said. Confirming the incident, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Ram Singh Yadav told PTI that the attack took place between 5 PM and 6PM near the sugarcane fields of Mallahan Purva village, close to the Ghaghara river. “The child succumbed to his injuries while being taken to Lucknow for treatment. Post-mortem formalities are being completed, after which the financial assistance sanctioned by the government will be provided to the family,” the DFO said, adding that the pug marks of a wolf were found at the spot where the child was found. A search operation has been launched in the area using specialised teams and drones, and three cage traps have been installed near the village, Yadav said. He said that nine people, including seven children, have been killed and 32 injured in wolf attacks in Kaisarganj and Mahsi tehsils since September 9. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visited the area on September 27 and ordered that wolves attacking humans must be safely rescued, and if capture was not possible, they should be shot. Since September 28, the forest department shooters have shot four wolves.

HONG KONG INFERNO:
Casualties climb to 128

From PG 1
Court, Tai Po, exposed serious deficiencies of PC&E in site safety management, including the extensive use of foam boards to block up windows during building repairs,” it added. The Prestige Construction & Engineering Company did not answer calls Sunday for comment. Three men — the directors and an engineering consultant of a construction company — were arrested the day after the fire broke out on suspicion of manslaughter, and police said company leaders were suspected of gross negligence but they did not identify the firm by name. Those three were released on bail but then re-arrested by Hong Kong's anti-corruption authorities, who have also arrested a further eight suspects includ-

ing scaffolding subcontractors, directors of an engineering consulting company and the renovation project managers. The apartment complex of eight, 31-story buildings in Tai Po, a suburb near Hong Kong's border with mainland China, was built in the 1980s. It had almost 2,000 apartments and more than 4,600 residents. Many are now housed in short-term emergency shelters or city hotels, and authorities are working on longer-term solutions. Preliminary investigations showed the fire started Wednesday afternoon on a lower-level scaffolding net of one of the buildings, and then spread rapidly inside as the foam panels caught fire and blew out windows, according to Chris Tang, Hong Kong's secretary for security.

NATIONAL HERALD: Delhi police files
fresh FIR against Sonia, Rahul Gandhi

From PG 1
political figures, including the first family of the Congress party led by Sonia Gandhi, her MP son Rahul Gandhi apart from late Congress leaders Motilal Vora and Oscar Fernandes and also Dubey, Pitroda and a private company Young Indian for alleged involvement in a money laundering scheme related to the fraudulent takeover of properties valued over Rs 2,000 crore belonging to the AJL. AJL is the publisher of the National Herald news platform (newspaper and web portal) and it is owned by Young Indian Private Limited. Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi are majority shareholders of Young Indian with 38 per cent shares held by each one of them. They were questioned for hours by the ED in this case few years back. The ED claimed its investigation has “conclusively” found that Young Indian, a private company “beneficially owned” by Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi “acquired” AJL properties worth Rs 2,000 crore for a mere Rs 50 lakh, significantly undervaluing its worth. It is understood to have alleged in the chargesheet that Sonia Gandhi “abused” her position as the former AICC president for personal gains to herself and her son Rahul Gandhi by converting public money for self use through the Young Indian (YI) company.

Football development initiative in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: United Kolkata Sports Club (UKSC) Academy recently launched its grass-roots football program for children aged 4-18 years at Salt Lake GD Ground, Kolkata.

The academy was launched in the momentous presence of Satyam Roy Choudhury, Managing Director, Techno India Group, Debutd Roy Choudhury, Director, Techno India Group, Krishna Chakraborty, Mayor, Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, Babul Supriyo, Cabinet Minister, Govt. of West Bengal holding the portfolios for the depart-



ment of Information, Technology and Electronics and the Dept. of Public Enterprises and Industrial Reconstruction, Sabyasachi Dutta, Chairperson, Bid-

hannagar Corporation, Ranjan Poddar, Former Borough Chairperson of Borough V, Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation and Andrew Fleming, British Deputy High Commissioner to East and Northeast India. At the launch, 3 trophies were also handed over by the dignitaries on stage to the coaches, which included Kanyashree Cup Premier B Champions Trophy, The Indian Football Association West Bengal (I.F.A.), IFA Club Futsal Championship 2025 Runners Up.

UKSC Academy has already operationalised its first centre in Siliguri, with

expansion underway in Malda, Durgapur, Falakata, Coochbehar, Jalpaiguri and other districts. With 300+ students across 6 locations, the academy is on a rapid growth trajectory. A pioneering girls' residential football program is also being prepared in Siliguri, reinforcing the academy's commitment to gender-inclusive sports development.

United Kolkata Sports Club (UKSC), founded by Techno India Group in 2024, emerged from TIG's commitment to nurturing well-rounded youth. UKSC has rapidly grown into a dynamic force in Bengal football.

BENGAL: Liquor prices to rise after hike in excise duty

MI News Service, Kolkata: Liquor prices in Bengal could increase by 10 to 40 from next month following a notification from the state excise department. This revision mandates higher rates of additional excise duty on both Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and country liquor.

Industry sources said that distributors and wholesalers across the state have been told to clear existing stock at old prices by November 30, and any unsold inventory post-deadline must be sold under the new pricing structure, with the compulsory application of a new Maximum Retail Price (MRP) sticker.

While the new labels are yet to be registered, sources said that prices of standard 180 ml bottles could increase by 10 to 20 and 750 ml bottles could increase by as much as 40 per bottle. "There will



be more clarity when the new prices come in by this month-end," a distributor said.

The increase in excise duty comes ahead of the peak sales period in December and January. Moreover, with the GST rate reforms, the tax on most goods and services has been brought under the 5 and 18 per cent tax brackets, leading to a loss in revenue for the state.

Corrosion prevention tech gaining grounds in India

MI News Service, Kolkata: India is actively developing and deploying various corrosion prevention technologies, driven by significant economic losses caused by material degradation. The technologies used range from advanced coatings and material science innovations by research institutes to commercial products for everyday industrial and consumer use.

Kolkata based ARC Insulations leads India's shift towards corrosion-Free, Sustainable Infrastructure with Advanced GFRP Rebar. ARC Insulations, a pioneer in Glass Fibre Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) technology, announced significant progress in advancing India's transition toward rust-free and sustainable infrastructure.

GFRP rebar offers a breakthrough solution

with 2-3 times higher tensile strength than steel, while being completely non-corrosive and non-conductive.

This ensures structural longevity, eliminates rust-related deterioration, and significantly extends service life—especially in aggressive environments such as coastal regions and chemically exposed sites. GFRP rebar also aligns strongly with India's Go Green vision, contributing to a lower lifecycle carbon footprint due to fewer repairs, reduced material usage, and minimal maintenance requirements.

Other technological innovations regarding this also include highly corrosion-resistant coatings like NRCM-204 developed by ISRO and advanced epoxy nano-composite coatings (RGO-ZnO-PANI)prepared by IIT Guwahati.

Centre gives nod to Adani's Rs 136 Cr plan

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Union ministry of environment, forest and climate change has granted clearance for Adani Airport Holdings Ltd's Rs 136 crore plan to build a five star hotel inside the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport, a project spread across a little over 8,000 sq m and designed to house 240 rooms with food and beverage facilities offering 660 seats.

Officials said the approval followed a detailed examination by the Expert Appraisal Committee Infra 2 during its August meeting. The land was handed over to the Adani Group's airport subsidiary under a long term concession agreement signed with the Airports Authority of India in January 2021. The ministry recorded that the proposed hotel will be a five storey structure with a height of 23 metres.

It will include two basement levels for parking, a ground floor and four upper floors, with a total built up area estimated at nearly

34,000 sq m. Authorities have been informed that the project intends to meet about half of its daily water requirement through recycling, using treated water generated by an on site sewage treatment plant.

Solid waste is slated to be managed through organic waste converters and authorised recyclers. Around 40 trees currently standing at the project site will be transplanted within the airport premises. Space has been earmarked for a green belt and the developer has committed to energy saving measures expected to reduce overall consumption by up to 20 per cent.

The ministry noted that the site does not fall within any eco sensitive or forest areas and that the project faces no pending court cases. It added that the clearance was processed at the central level due to the temporary absence of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority in Kerala.

Kolkata hosts 50th Regional Conf of ICAI

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern India Regional Council (EIRC) of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India celebrated its landmark iconic 50th (Golden Jubilee) Regional Conference in Kolkata recently. The Conference was inaugurated by Snehasis Chakraborty, Minister-in-Charge, Transport Dept. West Bengal as Chief Guest and Hari Mohan Bangur, Chairman, Shree Cement Limited as Guest of Honour in the august presence of CA. Charanjit Singh Nanda, President, ICAI, CA. Prasanna Kumar D, Vice-President, ICAI, Past Presidents, Past Chairpersons of Eastern region and Central and Regional Council Members of ICAI. President Nanda briefed the media about the recent landmark Supreme Court judgment, which affirmed that Chartered Accountants with 10 years of experience are fully eligible for appointment as Members (Accountant) of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), placing them at par with Advocates for such positions. The Regional Conference (Golden Jubilee) of EIRC was a carbon neutral event certified by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

BBC announces 4th edition of NABAJAGORON

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Bengal Business Council (BBC) set the stage for its annual flagship fair, Nabajagoron 4.0, at a press meet recently held in Kolkata. The gathering brought together Council leaders, media representatives and member organisations ahead of the December 19-21 event at Corporation Ground, Gandhi More, Durgapur.



After three editions in Kolkata, the Council is shifting the fair to the Durgapur-Asansol industrial belt. The move, the council said, reflects its intent to widen opportunities for regional entrepreneurs and strengthen its engagement with business bodies in the belt.

A key announcement came with Uzbekistan being named the Theme Country. Its cultural and commercial identity will feature through special pavilions and curated programmes during the three-day fair. The launch was inaugurated by Subrata Dutta, managing director of The George Telegraph Group and Senior Vice President of BBC.

In his keynote address, Dutta outlined the schedule for Nabajagoron 4.0, which includes a three-day industrial conference, an automobile exhibition, a food fair, and a technological showcase by the National Institute of Technology. He added that this year's fair will host performances by both established and emerging artists, including

the Nandy Sisters, continuing the fair's blend of business and culture.

BBC chairman Avishek Auddy, managing director of P.C. Chandra Group, presented the Council's six-point agenda and its impact on internal business growth. He highlighted that the member network had generated about Rs 1500 crores in internal business exchange, calling it a strong indicator of the Council's expanding influence across sectors.

Governing body members present included Debarshi Dattagupta, managing director, East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd and vice president of the Council; and Dola Nundy, director, Nundy's, and deputy general secretary.

The speakers reiterated the Council's long-term vision and the role of Bengali entrepreneurs in shaping economic progress in the region. The council also launched BBC Exclusive, a premium merchandising initiative featuring selected products that will be available at member outlets across West Bengal.

Another addition was "Talent Search by Talentwala", an open-mic competition aimed at highlighting Bengal's musical bands, organised in association with member firm Talentwala. Nabajagoron 4.0 will feature international pavilions, cultural performances, debates, BBC Open Mic sessions, a job fair, entrepreneurship pitch events, "The Business of Gastronomy," and activities for young participants.

The final day includes an award ceremony, felicitation, and a cultural finale. The fair aims to bring businesses, consumers and investors to a single platform for B2B and B2C interactions.

Formed in 2021 with the motto "Voice of Bengali Businesses Worldwide," the Bengal Business Council positions itself as a forum rooted in trust, collaboration and entrepreneurship. Dutta said, their aim is to create a platform whereby small businesses will become medium, medium enterprises become large organisations, and the largest ones move into trailblazing innovation.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sariful Islam Sekh, S/o- Lt. Abdul Hal Sekh, residing at Vill-Kankora, P.O- Palisngam, PS-Mongalkote, Dist-Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal do hereby declare that due to inadvertence my name has been recorded as Sariful Islam, S/O Abdul Hai in my passport (No.3834611). On 25.11.2025 vide an Affidavit (no. 31180) before Sub Divisional Executive Magistrate, Katwa, Purba Bardhaman, I affirm that Sariful Islam Sekh, S/o- Lt. Abdul Hal Sekh and Sariful Islam, S/O Abdul Hai is the same, single & identical person.

Name Change
I, Abdus Samad Jamadar (Old Name), Son Of Late Jabbar Jamadar, Residing At Chak Kashipur,Chak Kashipur, South24parganas - 743318, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Abdul Samad Jamadar (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/11/2025. Abdus Samad Jamadar And Abdul Samad Jamadar Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Yasmin Ara (old name) W/o Aabid Ali Gazi, residing at Vill- Trimohini Paschim Para, P.O.- Basirhat College, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Yasmin Ara Bibi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Yasmin Ara Bibi (new name) and Yasmin Ara (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shukrana Begum (old name), daughter of Nasim Haider & wife of Naushad Ahmed, residing at 7, Nawab Serajul Islam Lane, Park Street, Kolkata- 700016, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shukrana Bano (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn Before The Notary Public at Kolkata vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Shukrana Bano and Shukrana Begum both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Meher Mandal (old name), son of Abdul Gafur Mondal, residing at 109 Manshati, Duttapulia, Dhantala, Nadia- 741504, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Meher Mandal (New Name) as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Meher Mandal (old name) and Meher Mandal (new name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Firoja Begam wife of Late Saidul Ali Mondal, residing at Ranihati, Panchla, P.O - Joynagar, Howrah- 711302, West Bengal, declare that my husband's correct and actual name is Saidul Ali Mondal which is mentioned in his Death Certificate but in my voter card inadvertently his name recorded as Saidul Mondal. Saidul Mondal and Saidul Ali Mondal both are same and one identical person as sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata vide affidavit No.46/2025 dated 29/11/2025.

Name Change
I, Monoj Kanti Saha (Old name) Son of Late Dwijendra Kumar Saha, residing at AG-215/205,Rupkatha Apartment, Talbaghan Cheap Bazar, Rabindrapally Kestopur, Prafulla Kanan, Dist -North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700101, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoj Kanti Saha (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Alipore dated 28/11/2025.Monoj Kanti Saha (Old name) and Manoj Kanti Saha (New name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Nirmal Das (old name) S/o Harendra Das, residing at N0124, NATUN PUKUR ROAD, P.O + PS - BARASAT, NORTH 24 PARGANAS, WEST BENGAL - 700124, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nirmal Kumar Das (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Nirmal Kumar Das (new name) and Nirmal Das (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Naimullah Ansari (Old Name), S/o Md Kalimullah, residing at 2nd floor, flat no-52,67, Surya Sen road, baranagar, po-alamb bazar, north 24 pgs, 700035, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Naimullah Ansari (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 28/11/2025. Md Naimullah Ansari (new name) and Naimullah Ansari (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, MOHAMMED BAREK ALI MALLIK (old name)s/o MOHAMMED YEER ALI MALLIK, residing at DURBADERIA, TAJNAGAR, EAST MEDINIPUR- 721635 West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MD BAREK ALI MALLIK (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. MD BAREK ALI MALLIK (new name) and MOHAMMED BAREK ALI MALLIK (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mani Mahan Bagchi (Old Name) S/O Girish Bagchi Residing at Tentulia, P.O - Tentulia, Ps - Swarnapagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743286, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Monimohan Bagchi (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 28-11-2025. Mani Mahan Bagchi (Old Name) and Monimohan Bagchi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rehena Sultana (Old Name) Wife of Ismail Molla, Residing at Srfaltala, Musammar Para, Raidighi Abad,P.O. & P.S.- Raidighi, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-743383,West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rehena Sultana Molla (New Name) as Declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 28/11/2025. Rehena Sultana (Old Name) and Rehena Sultana Molla (New Name).Both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I,Rina Biswas(Old Name),Wife Of Late Jatin Biswas, Residing At Railpara Bahirgachi,Ranaghat,Nadia - 741501,West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Lilarani Biswas(New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/11/2025.Rina Biswas And Lilarani Biswas Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Saffi (old name) S/o Md Rafique, residing at 11/11/8, Harsi Street, Raja Rao Mohan Sarani, Amherst Street, Kolkata- 700009, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Shafi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Md Shafi (new name) and Md Saffi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Siraj Ali (Old Name), S/o Sk Naisad Ali, residing at Vill- Kumarchak, P.O- Khanjanachak, P.S.- Durgachak, Dist- Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721602, West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Siraj Ali (new name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st class) at Haldia, vide an affidavit No. 10824, dated 26/09/2025. Sk Siraj Ali (new name) and Siraj Ali (old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Kartick Das (Old Name) S/o Kumarjit Das Residing at 38, Kashipur Road, Dasnagar, P.O+Ps - Dasnagar, District - Howrah, Pin- 711105, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kartick Chandra Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 28-11-2025. Kartick Das (Old Name) and Kartick Chandra Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Asmuda Bibi (Old Name), Wife of Moshiur Rahman Purkait, Residing at Raidighi, P.O. & P.S.- Raidighi, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-743383,West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Asmuda Purkait (New Name) as Declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/11/2025. Asmuda Bibi (Old Name) and Asmuda Purkait (New Name).Both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shanaz Banu (Old Name), Wife Of Md Shahabuddin, Residing At Noor Tower 1, Bankra, Kaktidia, 9 Knra, P.O - Bankra, Ps - Domjur, Howrah- 711403, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sahnaz Bano (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/11/2025. Shanaz Banu And Sahnaz Bano Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md. Reyazuddin Khan S/o Md Quamruddin Khan, on behalf my minor son Md. Ziyad Khan (old name) residing at Ismail Aziz Nagar, Near Lal Kothi, Asansol (M Corp.), P.O. - West Bengal, India, I have changed his name and he shall henceforth be known as Ziyad Reyaz (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Ziyad Reyaz (new name) and Md. Ziyad Khan both are same and one identical person (my son).

Name Change
I, ROHIT YADAB S/O ARJUN YADAB (my & my father old name), residing at 9 BHUKAILASH ROAD NEAR MANDIR MASJID KHIDDIRPORE KOLKATA-700023, West Bengal, India, (my DL NO OD14 20230008752) I have changed my & my father name and we shall henceforth be known as ROHIT KUMAR S/O ARJUN YADAV (my & my father new name), as declared Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. ROHIT KUMAR and ROHIT YADAB both are same and one identical person (myself). ARJUN YADAV and ARJUN YADAB both are same and one identical person (my father)

Name Change
I, Dipanwita Mazumdar, Wife of Samit Mazumdar, Resident of B-1/336, Kalyani, P.O. & P.S.- Kalyani, Dist. - Nadia, West Bengal, do hereby declare that my name has been recorded as Dipanwita Mazumdar in my Aadhaar Card No. 836460965980, and in some documents my name is also recorded as Dipannita Mazumdar. Both names Dipanwita Mazumdar and Dipannita Mazumdar refer to one and the same person, i.e., myself. This declaration is made as per affidavit sworn before Notary Public, Kalyani Court, Nadia, West Bengal, dated 20/09/2025, to confirm and regularize my correct name for all legal and official purposes.

Name Change
I, Hasina Bibi (Old Name), Wife of Arjed Purkait, Residing at Raidighi, P.O. & P.S.-Raidighi, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-743383, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Hachhina Purkait (New Name) as Declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/11/2025. Hasina Bibi (Old Name) and Hachhina Purkait (New Name).Both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jaiprakash Dalmia (old name) S/o Late Om Prakash Dalmia, residing at 16/2/1, KSHETRA MITRA LANE, HOWRAH-711106, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jay Prakash Dalmia (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Jay Prakash Dalmia (new name) and Jaiprakash Dalmia (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Shamim Ali Gazi (old name) S/o Aabid Ali Gazi, residing at Vill- Trimohini Paschim Para, P.O.- Basirhat College, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aabid Ali Gazi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Aabid Ali Gazi (new name) and Md Aabid Ali Gazi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ponam Sharma (old name), wife of Lajpat Rai Malhotra, residing at 226/2 A J C BOSE ROAD I R SARANI KOLKATA 700020, West Bengal, India, (my DL NO WB01 19960538519) I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Punam Sharma (new name), as declared Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Punam Sharma and Ponam Sharma both are same and one identical person.

CORRECTION OF SURNAME
I, BHABANI SHET W/o Lt. Panchanan Shet, R/o 44/4, Brindaban Mallick Lane, Howrah-711101, do hereby solemnly declare that inadvertence, my name has been wrongly recorded as BHABANI SHETT instead of BHABANI SHET in share certificates and other documents. I further declare that BHABANI SHETT and BHABANI SHET are the same and one identical person, vide affidavit no. 1712 sworn before the Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta, incharge of affidavit section.

Name Change
I, Ensan Molla (Old Name) Son of Late chahammed Molla, Residing at Srfaltala, Raidighi Abad,P.O. & P.S.- Raidighi, Dist-South 24 Parganas, Pin-743383, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Enchan Molla (New Name) as Declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/11/2025.Ensan Molla (Old Name) and Enchan Molla (New Name).Both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Akhtar (Old Name), son of Nizam Ansari, residing at Hussian Nagar, Asansol (M corp.), Raniganj, Paschim Bardhaman - 713347, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Safi Akhtar Ansari (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 26/11/2025. Md Akhtar and Safi Akhtar Ansari both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Aabid Ali Gazi (old name) S/o Abdur Rouf Gazi, residing at Vill-Trimohini Paschim Para, P.O.- Basirhat College, P.S.- Basirhat, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aabid Ali Gazi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/11/2025. Aabid Ali Gazi (new name) and Md Aabid Ali Gazi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

PUBLIC NOTICE

WE ARE MOVING!

At a location more convenient to you

We are shifting our branch office

FROM:
HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited
1st Floor, Utsav Building, 21 Ananta Hari Mitra Lane, Nedarpara More, Near Puspandji Lodge, Krishnanagar - 741101, West Bengal

TO:
HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited
1st Floor, Rongmohal, RN Thakur Road, Near AV School, Krishnanagar - 741101, West Bengal

w.e.f. - 08.12.2025

HDFC Life
Sar'utha ke jiyo!

For any further assistance, please call us on our helpline number 1860-267-9999 [local charges apply]. Alternatively, you can mail us at service@hdfclife.com

Apple India profit rises 16%

MI News Service, Mumbai: Apple India, the local arm of the iPhone maker, recorded a 16 per cent rise in profit to Rs 3,196 crore for the financial year ending March 2025, according to the company's regulatory filing accessed by market intelligence firm Tofler. In the previous financial year, the company had reported a profit of Rs 2,745.71 crore. Apple India's total revenue grew 18 per cent to Rs 79,378 crore in FY25, up from Rs 67,121.61 crore in FY24. "Apple India Private Limited... reported its revenues for the financial year 2024-25 as Rs 79,378 crore, a 18 per cent jump since the last financial year. The company's total expenses for the fiscal were reported as Rs 75,191 crore," Tofler said.

Court extends
Anmol Bishnoi's
custody till Dec 5

MI News Service, New Delhi: New Delhi: A Delhi court extended the NIA custody of deported gangster Anmol Bishnoi for seven more days. Special Judge Prashant Sharma ordered the extension till December 5 in the hearing conducted at the NIA headquarters amid high security. Wanted in connection with the killing of NCP leader Siddique, firing at actor Salman Khan's residence in April 2024, the killing of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, among other crimes, Anmol was "removed" from the US on November 18. He was detained in the US in November last year.

Earlier on November 19, Anmol, the brother and close aide of gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, was sent to 11 days of NIA custody. Absconding since 2022, US-based Anmol is the 19th accused to be arrested for his involvement in the terror-gangster syndicate led by his jailed brother Lawrence.

INDIA & INDONESIA
to boost defence
cooperation

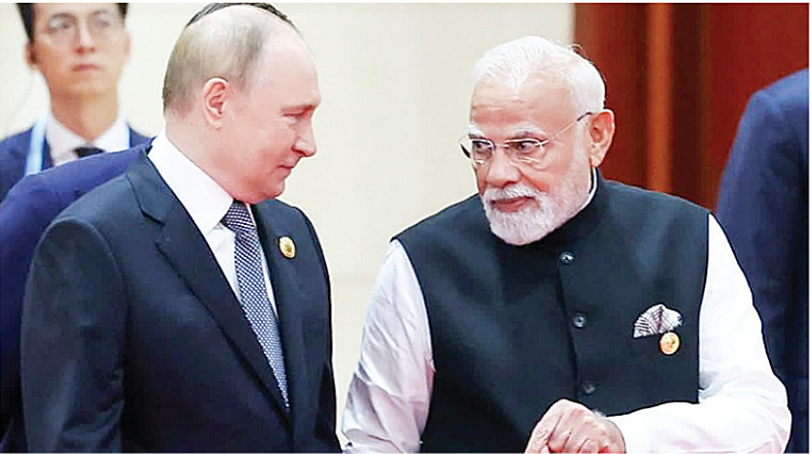
MI News Service, New Delhi: India and Indonesia reiterated the importance of maintaining a free, open and peaceful Indo-Pacific, guided by international law and respect for sovereignty, against the backdrop of China's growing assertiveness in the region. In their wide-ranging talks, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his visiting Indonesian counterpart Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin also broadly agreed to set up a joint defence industry cooperation committee to ensure bilateral collaboration in areas of transfer of military technologies and for supply-chain linkages.

India's experience in submarine development and supply-chain management, including Scorpene-class submarine programme, was acknowledged as highly valuable for Indonesia's future plans, the defence ministry said. Noting that the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative share relevant fundamental principles, Indonesia reiterated that India remains a key partner in promoting peace and cooperation in the region. "Both countries committed to enhancing practical cooperation in maritime domain awareness, cyber resilience, and joint operational readiness," the ministry said. In the talks held in New Delhi, the two sides also reaffirmed the "strong foundation of bilateral defence cooperation, including the defence cooperation agreement and the work of the joint defence cooperation committee," the ministry said. "Indonesia appreciated India's proposal to establish a joint defence industry cooperation committee to further strengthen collaboration in areas such as technology transfer, joint R&D, certification harmonisation, and supply-chain linkages," it said.



Humanitarian assistance being loaded as part of the Operation Sagar Bandhu for Sri Lanka.

Russia set to ratify key
military pact with India



MI News Service, New Delhi/Moscow: The Russian lower house of Parliament is set to ratify a crucial military pact with India ahead of President Vladimir Putin's state visit on December 4-5 for the 23rd bilateral summit, according to reports. Signed on February 18, 2025 in Moscow by the Indian Ambassador Vinay Kumar and erstwhile Deputy De-

fence Minister Alexander Fomin the Reciprocal Exchange of Logistics Agreement (RELOS) is to enhance military cooperation between the two strategic partners. The State Duma has uploaded the RELOS in its ratification database along with the Russian government's note and said that "the Russian government believes that the

ratification of the document will strengthen cooperation between Russia and India in the military sphere", official news agency TASS reported. The RELOS agreement aims to streamline coordination for joint military exercises, disaster relief and other operations. According to local defence sources, RELOS will enhance military cooperation by simplifying procedures for joint activities, including exercises and disaster relief. Agreements of this kind expand the geographic opportunities for peacetime operations for both participating parties. It is possible that the provisions of this agreement will apply to joint exercises in the Arctic, as India ships LNG from the Yamal Peninsula, Izvestia daily noted at the time of its signing. The Indian Navy's Talwar class frigates as well as INS Vikramaditya aircraft carrier are equipped to sail in freezing climate of Arctic can use the Russian naval bases for logistic support while Russian Navy can use Indian facilities to boost its presence to offset Chinese and other outside countries presence in the Indian Ocean Region, experts here believe.



A special team of the Shimla district administration visits Bhattakufer area after residents alleged that ongoing National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) construction work near the twin tunnel project was causing land subsidence, cracks in houses, and damage to existing road structures, in Shimla.

Al Crash: Indian, American investigators
tussle over probe

MI News Service, Ahmedabad: The investigation into the Ahmedabad-London Air India crash has been "marked by points of tension, suspicion and poor communication" between senior Indian officials leading the probe and the US experts assisting them, according to a report in The Wall Street Journal.

The flashpoint came when two US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) specialists landed in New Delhi in late June. Indian authorities had arranged for them to take a late-night military flight to a "remote" facility to analyse the jet's flight-data and cockpit-voice recorders, according to the WSJ. Jennifer Homendy, chair of the NTSB, intervened urgently, citing security concerns flagged by the US State Department. Embassy officials were dispatched to stop the specialists at the airport, and the team remained in Delhi, per the WSJ. The US side repeatedly pushed for immediate extraction of black-box data in either Delhi or Washington. Homendy warned



she could pull American support if delays continued.

Indian officials eventually relented and agreed to download the black-box data in Delhi using specialised equipment supplied by the NTSB instead of the remote lab, it said, calling it "a high point of tension". The newspaper doubled down on its previous investigative report naming the pilot.

"The private view among

many American government and industry officials is that the evidence so far points to" the pilot "having deliberately crashed the plane," the newspaper claimed. On 7 November, a Supreme Court bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi issued notices to the government of India and aviation regulator DGCA on a plea from Pushkar Raj Sabharwal, the 91-year-old father of Air India pilot Capt.

Sumeet Sabharwal, for an independent and court-monitored probe into the Ahmedabad tragedy that killed 260 people, including 19 on the ground, and leaving just one survivor in the plane. "We know it is extremely unfortunate that the crash occurred, but you should not carry the burden on yourself or the blame on your son," the bench observed orally. "Nobody can be blamed for the crash. The pilot is not to be blamed... it was an accident." The friction in the investigation "has been fed by each country's high stakes in the investigation," according to the detailed WSJ report. The data analysed at the Delhi lab showed that switches controlling fuel flow to both engines had been moved to cut-off shortly after takeoff, the paper claimed.

According to US officials cited in the WSJ report, the cockpit recordings suggested the first officer attempted to recover the aircraft while the captain remained calm. These findings fed American concerns that the crash may

have been a deliberate act. Indian officials remain wary of endorsing this interpretation. The Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau's (AAIB's) preliminary report did not assign blame or identify which pilot moved the switches, fuelling criticism from families and pilot bodies who said conclusions were being drawn prematurely. The petition in the Supreme Court has sought independent oversight, arguing that probing only pilot behaviour risks overlooking potential mechanical issues. The stakes are enormous. Boeing's Dreamliner is one of the world's most widely used long-haul jets, and any hint of a systemic flaw would have global implications. US regulators have seen no evidence of technical failure and neither are Boeing or GE Aerospace working on any related fixes, the WSJ reported. It quoted Bryan Bedford, administrator of US aviation regulator FAA, as saying in July: "We feel very comfortable that this isn't an issue with inadvertent manipulation of fuel control."

WAQF: SC agrees to hear
pleas for extension of time

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court agreed to hear on December 1 various pleas, including the one filed by All India Muslim Personal Law Board, seeking extension of time for the mandatory registration of all waqf properties, under the UMEED portal. A bench comprising Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih took note of the submissions of lawyer Fuzail Ahmad Ayyubi, appearing for one of the petitioners, that the pleas needed to be listed for hearing urgently. "List these applications along with I.A. No...on December 01, 2025," the bench said. Besides All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB), AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi and various others have moved the top court, seeking extension of time for mandatory registration of all waqf properties.

Earlier, a lawyer had said the six-month period for the mandatory registration of waqf was nearing its end. In an interim order on September 15, the top court put on hold a few key provisions of the waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025, including a clause that only those practising Islam for the last five years could create waqf, but refused to stay the entire law, outlining the presump-



tion of constitutionality in its favour. It also held the Centre's order to delete the 'waqf by user' provision in the newly amended law was prima facie not arbitrary and the argument that waqf lands would be grabbed by governments held "no water". 'Waqf by user' refers to a practice where a property is recognised as a religious or charitable endowment (waqf) based on its uninterrupted long-term use for such purposes, even if there isn't a formal, written declaration of Waqf by the owner.

The Centre launched the Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development (UMEED) Act central portal on June 6 to create a digital inventory after geo-tagging all waqf properties. According to the mandate of the UMEED portal, details of all registered waqf properties across India are to be mandatorily uploaded within six months.

Should shift to conservation-led water strategy: JAL SHAKTI MIN



Minister C. R. Paatil

MI News Service, New Delhi: Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Paatil said building new dams was no longer a feasible water management solution due to high costs, land acquisition hurdles and shrinking river flows. He urged states to align with the Centre's conservation-driven approach.

"We all know water gives life, but it also gives destruction when we fail to manage it," Paatil said at the inauguration of the Ministry of Jal Shakti's two-day summit on 'Vision for Sujalam Bharat'. Noting India's persistent water imbalance, he said, "We have 18 per cent of the world's population and livestock, but only 4 per cent of global freshwater resources. We need water every moment, but we have not been able to organise it properly." Paatil argued that large dams were becoming impractical. "We have more than 6,500 dams, but we still store only about 750 BCM of water. It takes 25 years and Rs 25,000 crore to build a dam. Do we have that much time? Do we have that much money?" he said. He added that high costs, acquisition delays and declining river flows were major obstacles. He said the government had shifted focus to water conser-

"Government alone cannot do this. Water is not just a state subject, but it is the responsibility of all of us," he said. He urged officers to prioritise work over positions. "Put your talent to national service," he said. "If you put your vision on the ground, you can do great work." Minister of State for Jal Shakti Raj Bhushan Choudhary said India's groundwater status demanded urgent intervention, with nearly 29 per cent of assessed units falling into 'over-exploited' or 'critical' categories. He cited steep declines in Punjab and Haryana.

"These realities call for a cohesive, science-driven, and sustainable water management strategy," he said. He added that conservation and artificial recharge were central to the government's water-security plan, with initiatives such as the Jal Shakti Abhiyan and JSJB turning water stewardship into "a shared national responsibility".

Choudhary said the 'Catch the Rain' campaign had delivered "extraordinary results", reporting 1.94 crore water-related works since 2019 and mobilising more than four crore youth. He also pointed to health improvements linked to Namami Gange. Better water quality in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, he said, had reduced diarrhoea, dysentery and enteric fever cases. "Water security is not only an environmental or economic issue. It is a matter of dignity, health and social equity," he said. Minister of State V. Somantha said India must combine traditional knowledge with modern tools to secure long-term water availability.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, with effect from 1st Feb 2026, our Malda office (Code - 2414) is relocated to new premises as mentioned here in below:

Old office address	New office address
BAIAJ GENERAL INSURANCE LIMITED (Formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd.) 1 st Floor, S.M.Pally (North), Opp. Jay Lodge, PS-English Bazaar, PO + Dist Malda - 732101	BAIAJ GENERAL INSURANCE LIMITED (Formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd.) 139/129/206(A), (3rd Floor), Manekamanna Pally(Road), P.O. - Jhaljhalia, District - Malda, Pin - 732102

All policyholders are requested to take note of the new address mentioned herein above and any further correspondence to our above branch office be made only to our new address mentioned herein above.

This notice is issued for the information of all our esteemed policy holders and to the public at large, in public interest.

By order
Chief Executive Officer

For and on behalf of
BAIAJ GENERAL INSURANCE LIMITED
(Formerly known as Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd.)

Researchers find how eye ultrasounds help detecting brain shunt failure in children

WASHINGTON : A recent study suggests that using an ocular ultrasound in the emergency room could help detect children with brain drainage tube failure quickly and safely.

Research presented at the Pediatric Academic Societies (PAS) 2024 Meeting in Toronto.

A ventricular shunt is a small plastic tube that is surgically placed to drain excess fluid and relieve pressure on the brain. Ventricular shunts are used on children to treat hydrocephalus, a disorder caused by improper brain fluid drainage or absorption from tumors, brain bleeds, and other sources. According to specialists, within two years following implantation, about 30% of shunts break, become misplaced, or become clogged, and an additional 5% fail annually after that.

When a patient visits the emergency department for potential shunt failure, their symptoms are often nonspecific, including headache, vomiting, and fatigue,



according to researchers. Shunt failure is life threatening, and children with shunts typically undergo multiple computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging scans per year, exposing them to excessive radiation and sedation. A backup of fluid causes the optic nerve sheath

to swell, which researchers can measure with eye ultrasound. The study found that comparing the diameter of the optic nerve when a patient is symptomatic to the diameter when they are well can help determine if a shunt is blocked.

"The research team is interest-

ed in finding ways to lessen radiation exposure and expedite diagnosing shunt failure in the emergency department," said Adrienne L. Davis, MD, MSc, FRCPC, pediatric emergency medicine research director at The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) and presenting author. "The study uses patients as their own controls by measuring the optic nerve when well and sick—a strategy that individualizes this test for every patient and recognizes that every patient with a shunt has a unique degree of shunt dependence and ability to tolerate high brain pressures."

The researchers studied 76 pairs of eye ultrasounds of nearly 60 children presenting to the Toronto hospital's emergency department with potential shunt failure. Researchers note that while findings are promising, results require further confirmation in a larger population of children with shunts across North America.

Do you know intermittent fasting protects against liver inflammation liver cancer? Study finds

HEIDELBERG, GERMANY : Fatty liver disease frequently causes chronic liver inflammation and can possibly result in liver cancer. Scientists at the German Cancer Research Centre (DKFZ) and the University of Tübingen have demonstrated in mice that intermittent fasting on a 5:2 schedule can block this progression.

Fasting lowers the development of liver cancer in mice who already have liver inflammation. The researchers discovered two proteins in liver cells that are both responsible for the beneficial effect of fasting. An approved medication can partially replicate this effect.

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease is the most prevalent chronic liver disorder. It can have catastrophic consequences: unchecked, it can cause liver inflammation (metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis, MASH), cirrhosis, and even

malignancy. Fatty liver disease is often thought to be a direct result of obesity. Obesity has become increasingly common in rising countries such as India and China, in addition to Europe and the United States. As a result, the number of cases of liver failure and cancer is increasing rapidly in the afflicted countries.

"The vicious circle of an unhealthy diet, obesity, liver inflammation and liver cancer is associated with major restrictions and suffering for those affected and also represents a considerable burden on healthcare systems," says Mathias Heikenwalder, DKFZ and University of Tübingen. "We have therefore investigated whether simple dietary changes can specifically interrupt this fatal process."

Intermittent fasting has already been shown in several studies to be an effective means

of reducing weight and alleviating certain metabolic disorders. Heikenwalder's team has now tested in mice whether this approach can also protect the liver from fatty degeneration and chronic inflammation.

The animals were fed with a high-sugar and high-fat diet corresponding to the typical Western diet. One group of mice had constant access to the food. As expected, these animals gained weight and body fat and developed chronic liver inflammation.

The mice in the other group were given nothing to eat on two days a week (5:2 intermittent fasting, or 5:2 IF for short), but were allowed to eat as much as they wished on the other days. Despite the high-calorie diet, these animals did not put on weight, showed fewer signs of liver disease and had lower levels of biomarkers that indicate liver damage. In short,

Vitamin D medicine do not protect children from bone fractures: Study



A large clinical research sponsored by Queen Mary University of London and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health discovered that vitamin D supplementation do not strengthen bone strength or prevent bone fractures in vitamin D-deficient youngsters. The findings call into question widely held beliefs about vitamin D's benefits on bone health.

Around one-third of children have at least one fracture before the age of 18. This is a major global health issue, as childhood fractures can lead to life years of disability and/or poor quality of life. The potential for vitamin D supplements to improve bone strength has attracted growing interest in recent years, based on vitamin D's role in promoting bone mineralisation. However, clinical trials designed to test whether vitamin D supplements can prevent bone fractures in children have not previously been conducted.

Working with partners in Mongolia, a setting with a particularly high fracture burden and where vitamin D deficiency is highly prevalent, researchers from Queen Mary and Harvard conducted a clinical trial to determine if vitamin D supplementation would decrease risk of bone fractures or increase bone strength in schoolchildren. The study, published today (1 December) in *Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology*, is the largest randomised controlled trial of vitamin D supplementation ever conducted in children.

Over the course of three years, 8,851 schoolchildren aged 6-13 living in Mongolia received a weekly oral dose of vitamin D supplementation. 95.5% of participants had vitamin D deficiency at

baseline, and study supplements were highly effective in boosting vitamin D levels into the normal range. However, they had no effect on fracture risk or on bone strength, measured in a subset of 1,438 participants using quantitative ultrasound.

The trial findings are likely to prompt scientists, doctors and public health specialists to re-consider the effects of vitamin D supplements on bone health.

Dr Ganmaa Davaasambuu, Associate Professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, said:

"The absence of any effect of sustained, generous vitamin D supplementation on fracture risk or bone strength in vitamin D deficient children is striking. In adults, vitamin D supplementation works best for fracture prevention when calcium is given at the same time - so the fact that we did not offer calcium alongside vitamin D to trial participants may explain the null findings from this study."

Professor Adrian Martineau, Lead of the Centre for Immunobiology at Queen Mary University of London, added:

"It is also important to note that children who were found to have rickets during screening for the trial were excluded from participation, as it would not have been ethical to offer them placebo (dummy medication).

Thus, our findings only have relevance for children with low vitamin D status who have not developed bone complications. The importance of adequate vitamin D intake for prevention of rickets should not be ignored, and UK government guidance recommending a daily intake of 400 IU vitamin D remains important and should still be followed."

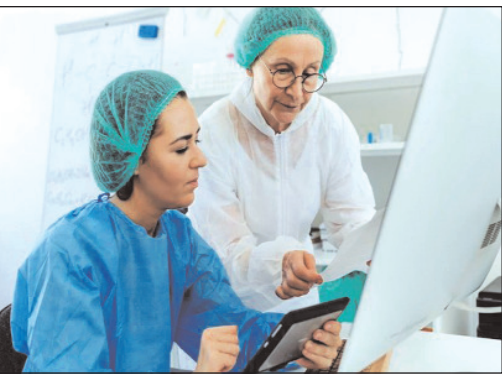
Researchers find link between adverse childhood experiences, muscle dysmorphia

Adolescents and young adults who had adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) prior to the age of 18 were shown to have a much higher likelihood of exhibiting signs of muscle dysmorphia, according to a recent study.

The findings were published in the *Clinical Social Work Journal*.

These new findings emphasize the need for greater understanding of the relationship between muscle dysmorphia, or the pathological pursuit of muscularity, and adverse childhood experiences (such as emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and domestic violence), as prior research has shown that over half of North American children and adolescents experience at least one adverse childhood experience in their lifetime.

"Those who experience adverse childhood experiences may engage in the pursuit of muscularity to compensate for experiences where they once felt inferior, small, and at risk, as well as to protect against future victimization," says lead author Kyle T. Ganson, PhD, MSW, an assistant professor at the University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. "The experience of adverse childhood experiences may also increase body dissatisfaction, specifically muscle dissatisfaction, which is a key feature of muscle dysmorphia." Previous studies have



shown that adverse experiences in childhood can lead to harmful health effects. While prior research has demonstrated that adverse childhood experiences are highly common in people with eating disorders and body dysmorphic disorder, few studies have looked at the association between adverse childhood experiences and muscle dysmorphia.

The study's researchers analyzed data from over 900 adolescents and young adults who participated in the Canadian Study of Adolescent Health Behaviors. In total, 16% of participants who experi-

enced five or more adverse childhood experiences were at clinical risk for muscle dysmorphia, underscoring the significant traumatic effects that such experiences can have on mental health and well-being.

"Importantly, our study found that gender was an important factor in the relationship between adverse childhood experiences and muscle dysmorphia symptoms," says Ganson. "Boys and young men in the study who have experienced five or more adverse childhood experiences had significantly greater muscle dysmorphia symptoms when compared to girls and young women."

The authors note that boys and young men who experience adverse childhood experiences may feel that their masculinity was threatened from these experiences. Therefore, they engage in the pursuit of muscularity to demonstrate their adherence to masculine gender norms such as dominance, aggression, and power.

"It is important for health care professionals to assess for symptoms of muscle dysmorphia, including muscle dissatisfaction and functional impairment related to exercise routines and body image, among young people who have experienced adverse childhood experiences, particularly boys and young men," concluded Ganson.

Brain waves detected during sleep can protect against epileptic activity: Study

Slow waves, which are normally only present in the brain during sleep, are also present when awake in patients with epilepsy and may protect against the condition's heightened brain excitability, according to a new study led by UCL researchers.

The research, published in *Nature Communications* and involving the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) UCLH Biomedical Research Centre, examined electroencephalogram (EEG) scans from electrodes in the brains of 25 patients with focal epilepsy (a type of epilepsy characterised by seizures arising from a specific part of the brain), while they carried out an associative memory task.

The electrodes had been placed in the patients' brains to localise abnormal activity and inform surgical treatment.

During the task, participants were presented with 27 pairs of images that remained on a screen for six seconds. The images were in nine groups of three - each group featuring a picture

of a person, a place and an object. In each case, participants had to remember which images had been grouped together. EEG data were recorded continuously throughout the task.

After reviewing the EEG data, the team found that the brains of people with epilepsy were producing slow waves - lasting less than one second - while they were awake and taking part in the task.

The occurrence of these "wake" slow waves increased in line with increases in brain excitability and decreased the impact of epileptic spikes on brain activity.

In particular, there was a decrease in the "firing" of nerve cells, which the researchers say could protect against epileptic activity.

Senior author, Professor Matthew

Walker (UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology), said: "Sleep is crucial for repair, maintenance and resetting brain activity. When we are awake we experience a progressive increase in brain excitability, which is redressed during sleep.

"Recent studies have indicated that a specific form of brain activity, slow waves during sleep, play a crucial role in these restorative functions. We wanted to address whether these 'sleep' slow waves could occur during wakefulness in response to abnormal increases in brain activity associated with epilepsy.

"This study unveils, for the first time, a potential protective mechanism, 'wake' slow waves, employed by the brain to counteract epileptic activity. This mechanism takes advantage of

protective brain activity that normally occurs during sleep, but, in people with epilepsy, can occur during wakefulness."

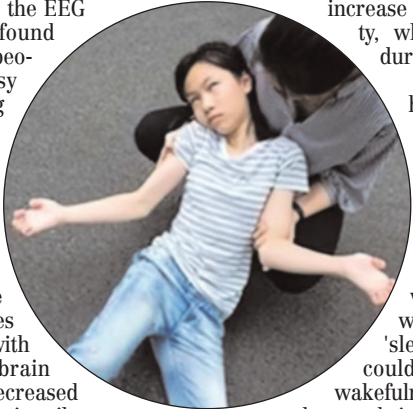
As part of the research, the team also wanted to test if the occurrence of "wake" slow waves had any negative effects on cognitive function.

During the memory task, researchers found that the "wake" slow waves reduced nerve cell activity and so affected cognitive performance - increasing the length of time required by patients to complete the task.

The team reported that for each increase of one slow wave per second, the reaction time increased by 0.56 seconds.

Professor Walker said: "This observation suggests that the cognitive difficulties - in particular, memory deficits - experienced by individuals with epilepsy may be attributed, in part, to the brief impairments induced by these slow waves."

The team hope that future studies will be able to increase such activity as a potential novel treatment for people with epilepsy.



Meditation training can support wellbeing in older people: Research

An 18-month meditation programme can increase the wellbeing of older persons, according to a new randomised controlled trial led by an international team co-directed by UCL.

The findings, published in *PLOS ONE*, show that meditation can improve people's awareness, connection to others, and insight.

While the meditation training did not confer significant benefits on two commonly used measures of psychological wellbeing and quality of life, the researchers say their findings may reveal limitations in existing methods of tracking wellbeing.

Lead author Marco Schlosser (UCL Psychiatry and University of Geneva) said: "As the global population ages, it is increasingly crucial to understand how we can support older adults in maintaining and deepening their psychological wellbeing. In our study, we tested whether long-term meditation training can enhance important dimensions of wellbeing. Our findings suggest that meditation is a promising non-

pharmacological approach to support human flourishing in late life."

The study is the longest randomised meditation training trial conducted to date, and explored the impact of an 18-month meditation programme on the psychological wellbeing of more than 130 healthy French-speaking people aged 65 to 84. The study, led by Principal Investigator Professor Gael Chetelat, took place in Caen, France. It was conducted by the European Union's Horizon 2020-funded Medit-Ageing (Silver Sante Study) research group which involves UCL, Inserm, University of Geneva, Université de Caen Normandy, Lyon Neuroscience Research Center, University of Liege, Technische Universität Dresden, and Friedrich Schiller University Jena.

The researchers compared a meditation programme, which included a nine-month mindfulness module followed by a nine-month loving kindness and compassion module, delivered by weekly group sessions (two hours long), daily home practice (at least 20 minutes), and one retreat day, with a



group that did English language training (as a comparison group) and a no-intervention control group.

The team found that meditation training significantly impacted a global

score that measures the wellbeing dimensions of awareness, connection, and insight. Awareness describes an undistracted and intimate attentiveness to one's thoughts, feelings, and

surroundings, which can support a sense of calm and deep satisfaction. Connection captures feelings such as respect, gratitude, and kinship that can support more positive relationships with others. Insight refers to a self-knowledge and understanding of how thoughts and feelings participate in shaping our perception - and how to transform unhelpful patterns of thought relating to ourselves and the world. The benefits of meditation training to an established measure of psychological quality of life were not superior to English language training, while neither intervention significantly impacted another widely used measure of psychological wellbeing. The researchers suggest this may be because these two established measures do not cover the qualities and depth of human flourishing that can potentially be cultivated by longer-term meditation training, so benefits to awareness, connection and insight are missed. The programme did not benefit everyone equally, as participants who reported lower levels of psycho-

logical wellbeing at the start of the trial showed greater improvements compared to those who already had higher levels of wellbeing.

Co-author Dr Natalie Marchant (UCL Psychiatry) said: "We hope that further research will clarify which people are most likely to benefit from meditation training, as it may confer stronger benefits on some specific groups. Now that we have evidence that meditation training can help older adults, we hope that further refinements in partnership with colleagues from other research disciplines could make meditation programmes even more beneficial."

Senior author Dr Antoine Lutz (Lyon Neuroscience Research Center, Inserm, France) said: "By showing the potential of meditation programmes, our findings pave the way for more targeted and effective programmes that can help older adults flourish, as we seek to go beyond simply preventing disease or ill-health, and instead take a holistic approach to helping people across the full spectrum of human wellbeing."

IGNOU Decem-ber 2025 Term-End Exam begins fom 1st December



MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 : The December 2025 Term-End Examinations (TEE) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) for various academic programmes of the University will commence from 1st December 2025 and conclude on 14th January 2026. Dr. Sujata Dutta Hazarika, Senior Regional Director informed that the Regional Centre Kolkata has established 20 Examination Centres for the examinees including 1(one) in the Presidency Correctional Home for the Jail inmates. Hall tickets/Admit cards have been issued to the respective learners who had applied and found eligible for appearing in the Term-End Examination. The hall ticket/admit card is available on IGNOU website www.ignou.ac.in. Mobile phones and any other electronic gadgets are not permitted inside the examination hall.

Five people burned to death in car crash in Lisbon

MI News Service, Lisbon: Five people died after a car crashed and caught flames early Sunday on Avenida das Forças Armadas in the north-central part of Lisbon, according to the Public Security Police (PSP). Lusa News Agency quoted the Lisbon Metropolitan Command as saying that accident was reported at about 3:40 a.m. to the emergency services that a vehicle had gone off the road. The car "struck a pillar and caught fire," leaving all five occupants fatally burned. Authorities said they were still unable to confirm the victims' genders or ages. No more details are available so far.

Pope Leo XIV ends Turkiye visit, heads to Lebanon with message of hope



MI News Service, Istanbul: Pope Leo XIV wrapped up his visit to Turkiye on Sunday, November 30. before heading to Lebanon, where he hoped to bring a message of hope to its long-suffering people and bolster a crucial Christian community in the Middle East. Leo had two key appointments in Istanbul before flying to Beirut: a prayer at the Armenian Apostolic Cathedral and a divine liturgy with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, whose invitation to commemorate an important Christian anniversary was the impetus for Leo's visit. On the second leg of his

Malnutrition persists as winter threatens Gaza's children: UNICEF

MI News service, Gaza Strip: The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has warned that high levels of malnutrition, coupled with worsening winter conditions, continue to threaten children's lives in the Gaza Strip. DailyAccording to UNICEF, nearly 9,300 children under five were identified with acute malnutrition in October. While lower than the 11,746 cases reported in September and the 14,363 recorded in August, the figure remains one of the highest monthly admissions on record. It is also nearly five times the number reported during the earlier ceasefire in February 2025. UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell said progress remains limited. "Thousands of children under five remain acutely malnourished in Gaza," she said. "Too many children are still facing hunger, illness and exposure to cold temperatures. Every minute counts to protect these children."



UNICEF said more food has entered Gaza in recent weeks, slightly easing market prices. However, essential items—particularly animal-source foods—are still largely unavailable or unaffordable. A UNICEF survey conducted in October found that two in three children under five ate from only two or fewer food groups, mainly: Bread, Grains, Flour The onset of winter has heightened risks for displaced families. Heavy rainfall has flooded shelters, with sewage-contaminated water spreading into crowded areas. Many

families lack: UNICEF warned that the combination of disease, poor sanitation and inadequate protection from winter weather poses a serious threat, particularly for malnourished children with low fat and muscle reserves. Maysaa, a mother of five, said her family fled their home with nothing. "We lost all our clothes before the ceasefire when our home was threatened, and we had only ten minutes to flee," she said. "The rain and cold temperatures are making life extremely challenging."

Netanyahu submits pardon request to Israeli President over corruption cases



M News Service, Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has asked President Isaac Herzog to grant him a pardon during his long-running corruption trial that has bitterly divided the country. In a statement on Sunday, November 30, the prime minister's office said Netanyahu had submitted a formal request for a pardon to the legal department of the Office of the President. The submission included a 111-page petition from his lawyer, Amit Hadad, along with a personal letter from Netanyahu. The Office of the President described the pardon request as an "extraordinary" move with "significant implications." Netanyahu's trial, which began in 2020, is far from resolution. He faces one bribery charge and three counts each of fraud and breach of trust, spanning three separate corruption cases involving allegations that he exchanged favours with wealthy political supporters. He remains the only sitting prime minister in Israel's history to stand trial and has not been convicted of any offence. The request comes despite Netanyahu's own remarks last month. On November 13, he publicly stated he would not seek a pardon if doing so meant acknowledging guilt. The move also follows a letter sent on November 12 by former United States President Donald Trump to President Herzog, urging Israel to pardon Netanyahu. Trump dismissed the charges as "political" and "unjustified," calling on Israel to drop the case.

Opposition leader Yair Lapid urged President Herzog to reject the request in its current form. "You cannot grant Netanyahu a pardon without an admission of guilt, an expression of remorse, and an immediate withdrawal from political life," Lapid said in a video statement. Head of the left-wing Democrats party, Yair Golan, also criticised the move. Writing on X, he said, "Only someone guilty asks for a pardon. After eight years of trial, when the cases against him have not collapsed, Netanyahu is now asking for a pardon."

U.S. drone strike kills 2 alleged al-Qaida operatives in Yemen: source
MI News Service, Sanaa: A U.S. drone strike on Saturday targeted a motorcycle in the Al-Husoon area of Al-Wadi district, east of central Yemen's Marib province, killing two alleged al-Qaida operatives, a local government security source told Xinhua. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two youths were from Al-Wadi district but did not provide their names. The strike occurred amid ongoing counter-terrorism operations in Yemen, where U.S. drones have periodically targeted individuals believed to be affiliated with militant groups, including al-Qaida. Neither the United States nor the internationally recognized Yemeni government has issued an official statement regarding the incident. Marib, a strategic and oil-rich province, is under the control of the Yemeni government.

Malda Division Promotes UTS On Mobile App For Digital Ticketing

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 :Eastern Railway's Malda Division, under the guidance of Divisional Railway Manager Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, conducted a special awareness campaign at New Farakka Railway Station today to promote the use of the UTS on Mobile App for convenient and digital ticketing. During the campaign, Commercial Inspectors and checking staff interacted with passengers and demonstrated the step-by-step process of downloading, registering, and booking tickets through the UTS on Mobile App. Passengers were encouraged to experience hassle-free mobile ticketing, and the UTS App was successfully installed on the smartphones of more than 120 passengers at the station. The drive highlighted key benefits of the UTS App, including:

- 3% bonus on R-Wallet recharge
- Avoiding queues at ticket counters
- Paperless and cashless ticketing



- Booking facilities for journey, platform, and season tickets
- Instant access to digital tickets on mobile

This initiative underscores Malda Division's commitment to the Digital India Mission by expanding digital ticketing options and enhancing passenger convenience through technology-driven, user-friendly railway services.

Ashwini Vaishnaw Reviews Railways Preparedness to Ensure Passenger Safety and Minimize Disruptions Ahead of Cyclone Ditrwah

MI News Service, New Delhi, 30 Nov.25 : In wake of Cyclone Ditrwah bearing down on Tamil Nadu, Union Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw reviewed preparedness measures with General Manager and teams of Southern Railways to ensure minimum disruption to rail services and ensure safety for passengers and coastal populations. Union Minister emphasised establishment of dedicated helplines and passenger-assistance desks to support travellers facing uncertainties due to cancellations or rerouting. Union Minister Vaishnaw reaffirmed the commitment of Indian Railways to public safety. He has instructed concerned officials to ensure activation of War Rooms at divisional, Zonal and Railway board level to monitor the situation and remain alert for any extreme situation. He has also asked railway officials to coordinate with civil-administration authorities and proactively communicate with passengers until normalcy is restored.

Service Hours To Be Extended For The Benefit Of The Suburban Passengers

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 : Good news for Metro commuters! More Metro services are going to be operated in Purple Line on weekdays from today. Service hours of Purple Line are also going to be extended on weekdays which will benefit suburban passengers availing local train services of Eastern Railway from Majerhat station. From tomorrow i.e. on 01.12.2025 (Monday), 84 services (42 UP and 42 DN) will be operated daily in Purple Line from Monday to Friday instead of 80 services (40 UP and 40 DN). **First Service:** At 06.40 hrs from Joka to Majerhat (instead of 06.50 hrs.). At 07.03 hrs from Majerhat to Joka (instead of 07.14 hrs.). **Last Service:** At 21.05 hrs from Joka to Majerhat (instead of 20.36 hrs.). At 21.26 hrs from Majerhat to Joka (instead of 20.57 hrs.). With this increase of Metro services and extension of service hours, passengers of Sealdah-Budge Budge Line of Eastern Railway will be immensely benefited specially during morning and late evening hours. It is to be noted that Purple Line services on Saturdays have been introduced from 22.11.2025. On Saturdays, 40 services (20 UP and 20 DN) are being operated in this Line. There will be no services available in this Line on Sundays.

Shahalibanda blast: Police probe finds gas leak in store, dismiss rumours of IED, LPG blast



MI News Service, Hyderabad: The Hyderabad police maintained that the explosion at Gomathi Electronics at Shahalibanda, which killed two people, was triggered due to a gas leak from an electronic item stored inside and dismissed rumours of an IED or LPG blast. South Zone deputy commissioner of police (DCP), Kiran Khare, told reporters that after the detailed investigation revealed that the explosion was a result of a gas leak from either a water dispenser or a refrigerator stored inside the electronic store. "There were 15-20 refrigerators in the store. The leaked gas triggered a huge fire and subsequent explosions in the store. Hence, the information that the explosion was caused by an IED or LPG blast is false," the DCP said. Two people, store owner Shiva Kumar Bansal and a two-wheeler biker, Sajjad Ali, were killed. Eight others suffered injuries. The fire engulfed the two-floor building. The stored goods were completely gutted, while a car, an auto rickshaw, and two scooters were damaged.

U.S. freezes all asylum decisions as suspect in National Guard shooting charged



MI News Service, Washington: U.S. officials on Friday announced a freeze on all asylum decisions as the man of Afghan nationality accused of shooting two National Guard members near the White House was charged with first-degree murder following one soldier's death. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Director Joseph Edlow said Friday on X that his agency "has halted all asylum decisions until we can ensure that every alien is vetted and screened to the maximum degree possible." At the same time, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced that the State Department had paused visa issuance for all individuals traveling on Afghan passports, saying the measure was implemented immediately as part of efforts to safeguard national security. The case prompted the moves after U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Jeanine Pirro said the charges against the suspect—a 29-year-old Afghan national, Rahmanullah Lakanwal—had been upgraded to first-degree murder following the death of one National Guard soldier and the critical injury of another shot on Wednesday near the White House. U.S. President Donald Trump announced the soldier's death on Thursday, calling the shooting "an act of terror." He also vowed to "permanently pause migration from all Third World Countries to allow the U.S. system to fully recover." The USCIS said on Thursday that it would reexamine green card holders from 19 "countries of concern," including Afghanistan. Pirro said Lakanwal would be charged with one count of first-degree murder and two counts of assault with intent to kill while armed. Lakanwal was shot by another Guard member and taken into custody. Investigators said he had driven from his home in Washington state to the capital before the shooting, though a motive has not yet been established. Lakanwal entered the United States in 2021 under then-President Joe Biden's Operation Allies Welcome program. He had worked previously with the CIA in Afghanistan and was described by officials as having been "clean on all checks" before working with the CIA and before moving to the United States.

March on to Dharmatala on 18th December to fight for the rights of the Minorities, Oyazul Haque in Bagnan

Nurul islam khan : The State President of Bangiyo Sankhyalagu Buddhijibi Mancha and member of State Trinamool Congress Executive Committee Hon'ble Prof. SK MD Oyazul Haque inaugurated the distribution of winter clothes and eye examination camp organized by Rohit Sheikh, President of Howrah Gramin Branch of Bangiyo Sankhyalagu Buddhijibi Manch at Sub-sheet-Gadi football ground in Bagnan of Howrah district. Local MLA Sameer Kumar Panja, Manch General Secretary Jb. Alamgir Mollah, Nasim Ahmed Tinku and others were also present on the occasion. Professor Oyazul Haque in his brief speech said that the Bangiyo Sankhyalagu Buddhijibi Manch has been doing such social service work for the people who are deprived of the minimum social facilities in different parts of the state throughout the year. He also said that the Bangiyo



Sankhyalagu Buddhijibi Manch is working tirelessly to reach these marginalized minorities and will continue to do so in the future to reach the benefits of various government schemes like Kanyashree, Aikyasree, Taruner Swapna, Sabujasathi etc. created by the state's philanthropic Chief Minister, Hon'ble Mamata Banerjee. Jb. Oyazul Haque specially mentioned that in order to fight against the one-sided communal attitude of the present central government and to understand

the rights of all the deprived exploited oppressed minorities across the country, the Bangiyo Sankhyalagu Buddhijibi Manch has organized a historic public meeting on the occasion of International Minority Rights Day on December 18 at Rani Rasmoni Road, Dharmatala, Kolkata at 12 noon. He concluded his speech by urging all the minority people irrespective of party affiliation to join this rally to strengthen this struggle for self-respect and survival.

UN chief reiterates call for irreversible progress toward two-state solution

MI News Service, United nations: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Saturday reiterated his call for irreversible progress toward a two-state solution, in a message on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. This year's International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, which is observed annually on Nov. 29, comes after two years of horrific suffering in Gaza, and the start of a much-needed ceasefire, Guterres said. Noting that survivors are mourning the deaths of tens of thousands of friends and family; hunger, disease and trauma run rampant; injustice also continues in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem; and hundreds of humanitarians have been killed, the



UN chief said: "In so many ways, this tragedy has tested the norms and laws that have guided the international community for generations." "The killing of so many civilians, the repeated displacement of an entire population and the obstruction of humanitarian aid should never be acceptable under any circumstances," he underscored. As the recent ceasefire offers "a glimmer

of hope," "it is now vital that all parties respect it fully and work in good faith towards solutions that restore and uphold international law," the UN chief stressed, adding that lifesaving humanitarian aid must be allowed to enter Gaza at scale, and the international community must continue to stand firmly with UNRWA, the UN relief agency for Palestinians. "I repeat my call for an end to the unlawful occupation of the Palestinian Territory ... and for irreversible progress towards a two-State solution, in line with international law and relevant UN resolutions, with Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security within their secure and recognized borders, on the basis of pre-1967 lines, with Jerusalem as the capital of both States," Guterres said.

Malda Division Organises Shramdan Drive at Malda Eco Park

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Nov.25 : As part of Swachhata Abhiyan 2025, a special Shramdan was organised today (30.11.2025) at Eco Park, Malda to promote environmental conservation, community participation in sanitation, and sustainable green practices.

The Shramdan drive was led by Shri Manish Kumar Gupta, Divisional Railway Manager, Malda and Smt. Manisha Gupta, President, Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (ERWWO), Malda. CMS/Malda Smt. Anupa Ghosh also participated actively in the campaign, followed by senior branch



officers and members of ERWWO, who joined in the cleanliness initiatives with exemplary enthusiasm and dedication. The participants undertook sweeping, collection of litter, removal of plastic waste, and sensitisation ac-

tivities to reinforce awareness on responsible waste management and protection of public spaces. The collective effort demonstrated the firm resolve of Malda Division towards maintaining a clean, green and pollution-free environment.

On this occasion, Divisional Railway Manager Shri Manish Kumar Gupta affirmed that cleanliness must be a collective responsibility of every individual, and such initiatives play a vital role in nurturing environmentally conscious communities. He further encouraged all railway employees and citizens to extend their cooperation in maintaining cleanliness in and around public premises. The Shramdan held at "Eco Park, Malda" stands as a testimony to Malda Division's continued commitment towards Swachh Bharat and eco-friendly practices.

Kohli's Brilliant Ton Leads India to Record-Breaking Total in Ranchi

PC JHA

RANCHI : Virat Kohli produced a magnificent batting masterclass, lighting up the JSCA Stadium with a fluent and authoritative 135-run knock, marking his 52nd ODI century and his third century in Ranchi. His brilliant ton set the tone for India's dominant batting show as the hosts posted over 349 runs, their highest ODI total at the venue. Despite his superb form, Kohli narrowly missed rewriting history, falling just four runs short of breaking his own Ranchi record of 139, set earlier at the same ground. The electrifying evening grew even more special when for-



mer skipper Rohit Sharma delivered a top-class innings, registering the 57 individual score. Rohit also smashed his way into the record books, overtaking Pakistan's Shahid Afridi's tally of 351 sixes by hitting his 352nd six, becoming world cricket's leading six-hitter. Part-time captain KL Rahul added a solid 60, anchoring the middle overs and ensuring India's innings never lost momentum. With 35,000 jam-packed spectators cheering every stroke, Team India turned the Ranchi ODI into a festival of milestones, power-hitting, and unforgettable batting brilliance.

China kicks off title defense with comfortable win at ITTF Mixed Team World Cup



CHENGDU (CHINA) : Two-time winner China clinched an 8-1 victory over Hong Kong, China, in their opening encounter as the 2025 International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Mixed Team World Cup kicked off in Chengdu on Sunday. Olympic champions Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha earned China a three-game lead after sweeping Wong Chun Ting and Doo Hoi Kem 12-10, 11-8, 12-10 in the mixed doubles. "As each match only consists of three games, every point is more important in this tournament," said men's world No. 1 Wang Chuqin. "We had trailed in the match but gradually adjusted ourselves to bounce back." "We met Wong and Doo many times in the last Olympic cycle, and we are familiar with each other. They played really tough, and we felt much better after narrowly winning the first game," Sun added. Kuai Man moved China further ahead after triumphing 11-4, 11-9, 9-11 over Zhu Chengzhu in the women's singles, and Lin Shidong sealed the victory with an 11-3, 11-4, 11-1 victory over Lam Siu Hang in the men's singles, reports

Xinhua. The eight-day ITTF Mixed Team World Cup adopts a different competition format from other team events, beginning with mixed doubles, followed by women's singles and men's singles, and then men's and women's doubles if required, with their order of play determined by the team captain of the lower-ranked team. Each individual match consists of three games, resulting in either a 3-0 or 2-1 scoreline. Team matches continue until one side secures eight game victories. The tournament was inaugurated in 2023, and China has won the past two editions. Since the mixed team event was included at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games earlier this year, teams would attach greater importance to the Mixed Team World Cup in their Olympic preparations. Also on Sunday, South Korea defeated Sweden 8-3, Chinese Taipei cruised past the United States 8-3, and Egypt edged Chile 8-7 in a five-match thriller. Sixteen teams are divided into four groups, with China drawn into Group 1 alongside China's Hong Kong, Egypt, and Chile. China faces Egypt on Monday.

Focused India ready to kick off FIH Jr Women's World Cup campaign against Namibia

SANTIAGO : The Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team is prepared to start its journey at the FIH Junior Women's World Cup Santiago 2025, beginning on December 1 at the Centro Deportivo de Hockey Césped, Estadio Nacional, in Chile. India, under Captain Jyoti Singh, will play Namibia in their first match. The teams haven't recently faced each other in FIH events, making this an exciting opener as India aims to overcome initial nerves in this prestigious global tournament. The team reached Santiago a week early to acclimatise and finalise their preparations before the competition. This edition is historic because it is the first time the tournament includes 24 teams, expanding from the previous 16-team format used until 2023. Speaking about the team's readiness, Captain Jyoti Singh said, "We arrived a week early to begin our preparations. The team has adjusted well to the local conditions, and the morale is high. Our first match is against Namibia, and we want to build momentum from the very start."

"The group has been training with great intensity, and every player is eager to execute the plans we've worked on. We are fully focused on taking it one match at a time and delivering our best hockey throughout the tournament." The 24-team format has been split into six pools. Pool A includes hosts Chile, along with Japan, Malaysia, and the Netherlands. Pool B features Argentina, Belgium, Wales, and Zimbabwe. Pool C is made up of Germany, India, Ireland, and Namibia. Pool D groups Austria, China, England, and South Africa. Pool E comprises Australia, Canada, Scotland, and Spain. Lastly, Pool F contains New Zealand, South Korea, the USA, and Uruguay. India will play Germany on Wednesday, 3 December, and then face Ireland on Friday, 5 December, in their last pool-stage matches. This will be India's seventh appearance at the Junior Women's Hockey World Cup. Their best result was in 2013, when they defeated England in a tense penalty shootout to win the bronze medal.



Record 24,000-plus runners participate in 9th Adani Ahmedabad Marathon

AHMEDABAD : The city of Ahmedabad transformed into a vibrant celebration of endurance and unity as more than 24,000 runners took part in the 9th Adani Ahmedabad Marathon at the Sabarmati Riverfront Sports Park. Anchored in the purpose-led theme of?#Run4OurSoldiers, the marathon once again brought the city together in a spirited tribute to India's Armed Forces.?with this year's run carrying deeper significance in the backdrop of Operation Sindoor. The event was flagged off by Pranav Adani, Director, Adani Enterprises Ltd.; Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor; Major General Gaurav Bagga; fitness ambassador and actor-presenter Mandira Bedi; Olympic medalist and Padma Shri awardee Gagan Narang; Preeti Jhangiani, actor-producer and Vice President of the Indian Olympic Association; and renowned designer Aaquib Wani, along with senior leaders from Adani Sportline, the sports arm of the Adani Group. Also present at the occasion was Indian cricketer and Gujarat Giants' newest signee Yastika Bhatia. More than 4,000 military personnel and police officers participated, reinforcing the marathon's message of respect and solidarity for those who serve the nation. Runners competed across the?Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10 km, and 5 km categories?on a course showcasing some of Ahmedabad's most iconic landmarks, including the?Gandhi Ashram,?Atal Bridge, and?Ellis Bridge. The official marathon jersey-designed by?award-winning creator Aaquib Wani-captured the event's spirit and its tribute to soldiers. With a prize pool of over Rs



40 lakh across the Full Marathon, Half Marathon, and 10K categories, winners were rewarded across multiple competitive and age-group divisions. Recognised by the?Athletics Federation of India (AFI)?and listed on the?Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS) Global Marathon Event List, the recognised registry of certified marathons and distance-running events that meet global standards for course accuracy, measurement, and event quality, the Adani Ahmedabad Marathon has grown into one of India's most respected distance-running events. Speaking at the event,?Pranav Adani said, "Since 2017, the Ahmedabad Marathon has become a landmark event

embraced by?our beloved?city. This year, the message of?#Run4OurSoldiers?resonated even more deeply as our Armed Forces stood tall during?Operation Sindoor. The participation of over?24,000 runners?shows how the event has grown into a movement the city proudly owns." Major General Gaurav Bagga, General Officer Commanding, Indian Army, added, "The Adani Ahmedabad Marathon is more than a sporting event, but it is a living testament to the enduring bond between the Armed Forces and the citizens we serve. "Witnessing over 4,000 personnel run shoulder to shoulder with thousands from across the nation was profoundly heartening. Such overwhelming participation is not merely about num-

bers; it reflects the unity, discipline, and positive spirit that define India. In every stride, one could feel the pulse of a nation moving forward together." Air Marshal Nagesh Kapoor, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Indian Air Force, expressed, "Today, we are thrilled to see such a massive and enthusiastic crowd coming together to support our Armed Forces by participating in the 9th Adani Ahmedabad Marathon 2025. This event is a testament to the importance we place on fitness, and it is heartening to see such a wonderful initiative of the Adani Group in honour of the Armed Forces. "The overwhelming response and energy on display today are really impressive. A truly memorable experience today, set against the stunning backdrop of the beautiful Sabarmati Riverfront. " Adani Sportline extended its heartfelt gratitude to the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC), Ahmedabad City Police, Traffic Police, 108 Emergency Services, and KD Hospital for their invaluable support and seamless coordination, which ensured the event ran smoothly and safely for all participants. MORE THAN 4,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL AND POLICE OFFICERS? PARTICIPATED, REINFORCING THE MARATHON'S MESSAGE OF RESPECT AND SOLIDARITY FOR THOSE WHO SERVE THE NATION.

BHARATH CLASSIC GUJARAT: THAILAND'S POOSIT CLINCHES TITLE WITH BIRDIE ON FINAL HOLE, BAISOYA FINISHES THIRD



AHMEDABAD : Poosit Supupramai of Thailand won the inaugural \$500,000 Bharath Classic Gujarat, finishing one shot ahead of aggressive Korean Woo-young Cho at Kensville Golf Resort near Ahmedabad on Sunday. Poosit (69) birdied the 18th and final hole of the day to hold off Woo-young Cho (65), even as Sachin Baisoya dominated Kensville Golf Resort with a 10-under 62. His impressive round included two remarkable birdie streaks - one with six consecutive birdies and another with four in a row.

65. Pukhraj Singh Gill (69) was tied for 12th place at 12-under par, while Ajeetesh Sandhu (69) and Khalin Joshi (66) were tied for 17th at 11-under par. Saptak Talwar (66) was tied for 19th. The first US\$500,000 Bharath Classic was jointly sanctioned by the Asian Tour and the Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour. The IGPL has three additional events scheduled for 2025, while it was the second-to-last tournament of the season on the Asian Tour.

"I practised for about an hour yesterday as I felt I was hitting my irons badly for the last three or four tournaments. I also took some coaching from Sudhir Sharma, who told me not to worry and just play my natural game. "So the plan was to try something different today from the first four days, and that is exactly what happened today from the start. Most of my shots landed between three and five feet, and also my putting was very solid."

This week was crucial for players aiming to improve their position on the Asian Tour's Order of Merit to secure spots for the next year. Additionally, the top four on the IGPL will earn entry into the final stage of the Asian Tour Q-School and qualify for the 2026 International Series India. The soft-spoken Poosit, whose top finish on the Asian Tour was sharing third place at last year's SJM Macao Open, said, "Amazing, I can't believe it. I was struggling on the front nine; I was not playing well. It was all about mindset - that got me through. "I came here to try and improve my ranking on the Merit list. It was on my mind, not winning. But to secure my card this week with the win, it's beyond my dreams. "Before the last two tournaments, I changed the loft and lie on my putter. It made such a big difference - I started holing putts."

The highlight of the day, however, came from Sachin Baisoya, who shot a bogey-free 62 on Sunday. Starting from the 10th tee with the shotgun start system used over the final two days here, Baisoya began with six consecutive birdies to reach the turn at this par-72 course on 6 under 30. On the front nine, he continued his impressive streak with four consecutive birdies from holes two to five, followed by two crucial par saves on holes 18 and one. "I owe this round a lot to my iron play today," Sachin said later.

Asked what he was planning to do next, the Vijay Divecha trainee added, "I might turn pro, but will have a talk with my coach first. Right now, the focus is on the All-India Amateur (in mid-December) at Tollygunge Club." Sandhu, too, was pleased at his display here. "I started slowly (level par 72 on Thursday), but after that the momentum was good." He added, "But for a few shots and putts that I left out there, I could have been in much closer contention (at 14 under, five shots behind winner Poosit) than I was."

As Baisoya finished third, Yuvraj Sandhu, a multiple winner at his home course, significantly improved his chances on the Asian Tour with a seventh-place finish, scoring 14 under 274. Ahmedabad Amateur Ishaan Chawhan, who had an impressive week, couldn't maintain his early momentum and shot 71, though he remained under par throughout all four rounds. With a score of 13-under, he was tied for eighth place alongside IGPL Order of Merit leader Aman Raj, who shot 68, and two Thai players, Settee Prakongvech with 68 and Chonlatit Chuenboonngam with

65. Pukhraj Singh Gill (69) was tied for 12th place at 12-under par, while Ajeetesh Sandhu (69) and Khalin Joshi (66) were tied for 17th at 11-under par. Saptak Talwar (66) was tied for 19th. The first US\$500,000 Bharath Classic was jointly sanctioned by the Asian Tour and the Indian Golf Premier League (IGPL) Tour. The IGPL has three additional events scheduled for 2025, while it was the second-to-last tournament of the season on the Asian Tour.

Happy if that's what's needed to win: Head ready to open again in Khawaja's absence

NEW DELHI : Australia's Travis Head said that he's more than willing to remain at the top of the order after his blistering century in the first Ashes Test. His remarks come as questions linger over Usman Khawaja's fitness and long-term place in the national side. Head, Australia's established No. 5 for much of the past four years, stepped in as opener during the second innings in Perth when Khawaja was sidelined with back spasms. He responded with a superb 123 off 83 balls, driving Australia to a rapid chase of 205 and a 1-0 series lead ahead of Thursday's Test at the Gabba. Khawaja, who turns 39 next month, has been named in the 14-man squad and insists he is "confident" of being available. But with only one century and an average of 31.84 over the past two years, his spot is far from assured. Head said his role for the next Test had not yet been defined, but added that he is comfortable with whatever responsibility he's given, including another stint at the top. "I'm happy. If that's what is needed to win a Test match and if that's what's required then, yeah, I'm fine with it. I'm preparing for anything at this stage... There's a fair bit to work through. I've just got here. We haven't really had many conversations over the last week. "It's been about just spending some time out of the game as much as you can. You don't get much time to chill out in a massive series like this, where it's pretty full-on every single day." Head was quoted as saying by The West Australian. Australia coach Andrew McDonald revealed after the Perth Test that the team had even floated the idea of rotating their opening pair between innings, a tactic Head says he would willingly embrace. Head explained that the concept has been on the table for some time. "We've talked about that a lot:



how you get there, and what personnel we have to be able to potentially do that and the personalities in the line-up," he said. "You've seen it a little bit in the T20 team as well, where we're trying to push the boundaries in power-hitting, and [asking] do we take singles at certain stages... I feel like I can play in any role, so I'm open to it, and it's just trying to work out in-game and in moments when that may come out and when you may use that. "All options are on the table and have been for a long period of time about where this team can potentially get better, and where there's opportunities to potentially win games of cricket in moments. It's always been on the table," Head added.