

Election roll revision: BLOs last note a cry for help

The suicide of Rinku Tarafdar, a 54-year-old booth-level officer (BLO) and part-time teacher from Krishnanagar, has sparked a politically charged debate across the state. Tarafdar, whose body was found hanging at her residence, left behind a suicide note blaming the Election Commission for the unbearable pressure of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) work she was tasked with. In her note, she expressed her inability to complete the online data entry portion of her duties despite having finished most of the offline work. She feared administrative repercussions and wrote of the inhuman burden she faced, describing it as a cause for her untimely death. "I want to live, but the stress and fear of failure forced me to end my life," she lamented. Her passing has drawn sharp responses from various quarters. **PG 3**



Rs. 3

KOLKATA

MONDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, 2025

PG-8, YEAR—12, ISSUE—174

(RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803)

WEBSITE: WWW.LIVE7TV.COM

Morning India

Centre to re-notify draft rules on NEW LABOUR LAWS

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Centre has decided to re-notify the draft rules for the four new labour laws and seek feedback from trade unions and others, sources said, the conciliatory gesture coming after 10 workers' bodies threatened nationwide protests against the implementation of the new labour regime. The labour and employment ministry had notified the Code on Wages, Industrial Relations (IR) Code, Code on Social Security, and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code.

Since many things have changed in this period, it was felt that the stakeholders should get a fresh opportunity to share their concerns and suggestions. The government is open to incorporating new suggestions

a source said

saying they had come into force with immediate effect. Passed in Parliament in 2019 and 2020, these laws seek to replace 29 existing labour laws. However, the final rules for these laws have never been notified. Government sources said the legal affairs department had advised the labour ministry to re-notify the draft rules since five years had passed after their notification in 2020. "Since many things have changed in this period, it was felt that the stakeholders should get a fresh opportunity to share their concerns and suggestions. The government is open to incorporating new suggestions," a source said. The government is expected to give 45 days to all the parties concerned to send their suggestions. Over the subsequent 45 days, the rules are expected to be finalised. Most state governments published their own draft rules over the last five years. It will be left to them to decide whether to re-notify their draft rules.

A joint platform of 10 central trade union organisations — including the Congress-affiliated Intuc, CPM-backed Citu and CPI labour arm Aituc — has termed Friday's notification a "declaration of war against the working class". The IR Code governs service conditions, promotion standards and the freedom to strike. However, Clause 96(2) gives the central and state governments blanket power to unconditionally exempt new industries. The code also makes it easier for a wider range of employers to fire workers. Clause 127 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code allows the governments to exempt industries after imposing conditions that they "think fit". The trade unions say the labour codes were enacted without proper consultations with them or discussions within the Indian Labour Conference, a tripartite forum involving workers' unions, the government and employers. They have called for protests on Wednesday, alongside the farmer body Samyukt Kisan Morcha, with members wearing black badges to their workplaces.

Continued on page 3

INDIA shines at G20 Climate action, terrorism & digital infra take centre stage



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, center, attends the opening plenary session of the G20 leaders' summit, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

MI News Service, Johannesburg: India joined other G20 countries in pushing ahead with a joint declaration, which stressed climate change, despite the US boycott of the summit hosted by South Africa in Johannesburg. The declaration, Indian officials said, carried forward the direction given to the grouping at the New Delhi summit of 2023. "The declaration used the kind of language long disliked by the Trump administration: stressing the seriousness of climate change and the need to better adapt to it, praising ambitious targets to boost renewable energy and noting the punishing levels of debt service suffered by poor countries." "The men-

The declaration used the kind of language long disliked by the Trump administration: stressing the seriousness of climate change and the need to better adapt to it, praising ambitious targets to boost renewable energy and noting the punishing levels of debt service suffered by poor countries.

tion of climate change was a snub to US President Donald Trump, who doubts the scientific consensus that global warming is caused by human activities. US officials had indicated they would oppose any reference to it in the declaration." In the absence of US intervention, the joint declaration called for climate finance to be scaled up from billions to trillions of dollars. Trump had decided to skip the G20 summit — the first ever held in Africa — over differences with Pretoria on the agenda and alleged mistreatment of white people in South Africa by the Cyril Ramaphosa government. South Africa has denied

the allegation of discriminating against white people. In his remarks at the session on "Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth Leaving No One Behind: Building Our Economies", Prime Minister Narendra Modi presented India's proposal for a Global Traditional Knowledge Repository under the G20. To be built along the lines of New Delhi's Indian Knowledge Systems Initiative, the Repository is to serve as a global platform for traditional knowledge with the aim of preserving humanity's collective wisdom for future generations. Modi also proposed a G20 Africa Skills Multiplier Initiative that aims to create a million certified trainers across the continent to enable large-scale skill development. Another Indian proposal involved the creation of a Global Health Response Team of trained medical experts from G20 countries that will respond to health emergencies and natural disasters. Modi proposed a G20 initiative to break the drug-terror nexus. Apart from addressing the health and related issues arising out of drug addiction, this global effort will target a major source of terror financing, the Prime Minister said. Sources claimed India had managed to get the G20 South African Summit: Leaders Declaration to echo key outcomes of the The important takeaways from India's point of view include the condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations; an acknowledgment of the transformative potential of digital public infrastructure; and more ambitious language than last year on climate finance with a call to scale it up from billions to trillions of dollars.

Delhi Police busts ISI-linked drone arms network; nabs 4

MI News Service, New Delhi: International arms trafficking network with "direct links to Pakistan's ISI-backed suppliers" has been

pre-marked GPS coordinates along vulnerable border stretches at night. Local receivers then transported the packages to safe houses

typically used only by special forces" — indicates a "highly sophisticated and well-organised cross-border supply chain --Senior Officer

busted, Delhi Police said, following the arrest of four key operatives and the recovery of 10 foreign-made semi-automatic pistols and 92 live cartridges. The racket supplied weapons to major or-

before distributing them to gangs across north India. The firearms were wrapped in carbon-coated material "to evade detection," officials said. Joint CP Superintendent Kumar said police appre-



A view of weapons recovered by the Delhi Crime Branch in an international arms smuggling ring linked to the Pakistani ISI, in New Delhi

ganised crime groups across Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, officials said. According to police, the syndicate used customised drones capable of low-altitude flights to smuggle weapons from Pakistan into Punjab. Traffickers across the border allegedly dropped consignments at

hended the first accused on November 19 after receiving intelligence inputs that an ISI-backed supply chain linked to the gang of Punjab-origin gangster Sonu Khatri was planning a weapons delivery in Rohini. A trap was laid near the Khatu Shyam

Continued on page 3



India's blind women cricketers won the inaugural T20 Blind Women's World Cup on Sunday, defeating Nepal by seven wickets in a clinical, one-sided final at Colombo's P Sara Oval. India chose to bowl first in Colombo and restricted Nepal to 114 for 5. India reached 117 for 3 in only 12 overs. Phula Saren led with 44 not out from 27 balls.

INDIA - FRANCE led ISA mulls 1 SUN 1 WORLD 1 GRID initiative

MI News Service, New Delhi/Paris: The International Solar Alliance (ISA), led by India and France, has decided to implement the ambitious Green Grids Initiative — One Sun, One World, One Grid — in the coming years. The initiative will link East Asia, South Asia, West Asia, Europe, and Africa on a solar grid. The ISA, conceptualised on the sidelines of the Paris climate summit in 2015, now has 125 members across the world.

The initiative was mooted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the first assembly of the ISA in October 2018, and then further proposed to take forward on the sidelines of the COP 26 in Glasgow alongside the UK government.

"The 'One Sun, One World, One Grid' project has been formally adopted by



the ISA in our assembly that was held two weeks back in Delhi, where 550 delegates from 137 countries were present," ISA director Ashish Khanna told The Telegraph during a recent interview on the sidelines of the COP 30 at Belem in Brazil. "At the COP 30, we also have an important session on the agenda, which was

highly supported by all countries. We have just started to prepare the technical report, which is expected to be ready by February 2026, and subsequently, we will get in touch with countries for implementation," added Khanna. Earlier, a source in

Continued on page 3

IAF probes TEJAS CRASH in Dubai



Wing Commander Afshan breaks down ahead of last rites of her husband Wing Commander Namansh Syal

MI News Service, Dubai/New Delhi: The Tejas fighter jet crash in Dubai on Friday has left many wondering whether the Indian Air Force pilot flying it had attempted ejection at the last moment but failed to do so because he didn't have the elevation or time. Wing Commander Namansh Syal was killed when the jet nosedived and crashed while performing an aerobatic manoeuvre at a low altitude at the Dubai Air Show. IAF sources said analysis of multiple videos of

tive of Patiayalkar village in the Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. He is survived by his wife, an IAF officer who is currently undergoing training in Calcutta, their six-year-old daughter and his parents. The couple, who met at their first posting in Pathankot, had married in 2014. "The exact cause of the tragedy will be known only after the court of inquiry, which has already been constituted by the IAF. The investigators will examine the flight data

He served the nation with unwavering commitment, exceptional skill and an unyielding sense of duty. His dignified persona earned him immense respect through a life devoted to service, and was visible in the send-off attended by UAE officials, colleagues, friends, and the officials of the Indian embassy --IAF

the incident point to an ejection attempt by Syal, which didn't succeed because the jet was flying at a low altitude. "It seems the pilot failed to recover from a negative-G manoeuvre at low altitude as the vertical speed of the aircraft was too high, resulting in the crash," said a source. Syal, 34, is a na-

recorder and cockpit voice recorder to ascertain whether the ejection handle was activated. Other indicators include whether low altitude or airspeed was within safe ejection limits. It is not clear yet whether the pilot attempted ejection,"

Continued on page 3

ILLEGAL COUGH SYRUP: UP police books 12 medical store owners



MI News Service, Ayodhya: A major crackdown on codeine-based cough syrup trafficking in Uttar Pradesh has opened up a trail that stretches across multiple states, involves forged documents, and has now pulled in a crime branch officer arrested for bribe-taking while probing the same network. The first signs of the operation surfaced after a truck loaded with codeine bottles was seized in Ghaziabad. What followed was a week-long drive by the Food Safety and Drug Administration (FSDA) from November 12-19, uncovering large-scale manipulation of billing and records across medical stores.

Superintendent of Police (City) Ayush Srivastava said the case was lodged on the complaint of Drug Inspector Rajat Kumar Pandey. According to officials, an FIR has now been registered against 12 medical store owners and two others for running what they describe as a large illegal trade in codeine

syrup. The accused include alleged mastermind Shubham Jaiswal and his father Bhola Prasad, who, police said, "have been booked for fraud and criminal conspiracy." A drug department probe found that over 37 lakh bottles of codeine syrup worth about Rs 57 crore were shown as sold through forged documents. These transactions, spread across more than a dozen medical stores, were routed on paper to several UP districts but were actually channelled into Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal for illegal sale. The supply chain traced back to a Ranchi-based firm. As the scale of the operation became clearer, "Superintendent of Police (SP) Kaustubh has formed a three-member SIT to investigate further." Even as the investigation expanded, another twist hit the case. A crime branch inspector involved in probing a banned cough syrup trafficking network was arrested after he was allegedly caught taking a bribe of Rs 4 lakh to favour an accused businessman. "Inspector Ramesh Singh Sidhoo, posted with the crime branch, was apprehended on Thursday evening by a team from Sihani Gate police station following specific inputs," officials said. The operation was led by Nandgram Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Upasana Pandey, who confirmed that an FIR has been registered against Sidhoo under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

BLO suicide: Family yet to lodge complaint, says no helpline in entire system in total procedure, Son



Dipankar Edbar, Krishnanagar : The husband of the victimized BLO Rinku Tarafdar (52) stated that they were reluctant to lodge any complaint following the unnatural death of the BLO but all the family members disclosed that Rinku had, ab ova, tried to get released from the BLO job. Her son stated that there is no Help Line system in total procedure of BLO works.

Rinku Tarafdar, a para teacher was found hanging at their Krishnanagar home on Saturday. She left behind a two-page handwritten suicide note , written in Bengali in which she held the EC responsible for her death. "The Election Commission is responsible for my ill fate. I do not support any political party. I am a very ordinary person," she wrote. However, on Sunday, her son Aritra, a Ph.D. student in Physics in IASST, Gawhati, said, " While I came home during Bhai Phonta, I came to know that my mother's name was enlisted for BLO. She was in a profound tension. Since then she was eager to leave the responsibility."

Aritra alleged that her mother tried to leave the job and had contacted the concerned office, but her appeal was paid a deaf ear. Most members of the

victim's family stated that she was not a tech savvy and that had put her into the tension and that led her to commit suicide. " She even feared of losing her job as a para teacher in a school in Nadia's Chapra.

Husband Ashis Tarafdar stated that once she even wanted to leave the teaching job, to avert the BLO responsibility. But an official sources stated here that if she even leave the job she would have to complete the BLO responsibility, as it was already registered.

Manajit Saha, the son in law to Rinku, said on Sunday, "While at many are as, the assistant were given to BLO, it was not done in her case. Reflecting the same view, Aritra said, " She again and again informed concerned authority that she was no technical knowledge but most part of the rest jobs were done. I blame the overall system.If she would be released out of the BLO responsibility, she would be among us today."

However, many TMC leaders in Krishnanagar had rushed to their home on Saturday. The body was burnt on Saturday. Police stated that a case of unnatural death was registered.



The Catholic Christian Community commemorates the feast of "Corpus Christi" with a procession proclaiming the theme "Anchored in Christ. Renewed in Hope", in Kolkata on sunday.

MP Kalyan Banerjee reviews various "Vote Protection" camps in his constituency

Md Shabib Alam, Hooghly: Dozens of BLOs have lost their lives due to SIR so far. State Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is continuously writing letters to the Central Election Commission but it seems that the voice is not reaching her ears. SIR has entered its third week today. According to the instructions of the Election Commission, only a few days are left to fill and submit the forms, in such a situation, more pressure is being seen on BLOs. Most of the people in Bengal have not been able to fill and submit the SIR forms because it is very difficult to find the name in the 2002 list. The voter is from another area and the name is listed in another area in the 2002 list, which has increased the troubles of the voters as well as the BLOs. Meanwhile, since the day of the SIR operation by the Election Commission, on the instructions of the top Trinamool Congress leaders, local Trinamool leaders, workers and supporters have been busy trying to solve the problems of voters by setting up "Vote Protection Camps" in all the Trinamool party offices in the state. On Sunday,



Shirampur MP Kalyan Banerjee was seen visiting different areas of his constituency, party offices and protection camps to see and extract the list of names of voters. He also went from Uttarpara to Baidyabati and Sheoraphuli and then went to ward number 14 under Champdani Municipality, where the ward councillor is the chairman of Champdani Municipality, Suresh Mishra himself. Champdani Assembly MLA Arindam Guin was also present with him. On this occasion, hundreds of people gathered here to get their names extracted from the 2002 voter list and fill up the SIR form.

Anit Thapa, Raju Bista vie for credit for water project as Amrut 2.0 sparks hill rivalry



MI News Service, Siliguri: A tug-of-war has started between the BJP and the Bharatiya Gorkha Prajatantrik Morcha (BGP), an ally of the Trinamool Congress in the hills, over drinking water projects initiated for hill towns under the Amrut 2.0 scheme of the central government.

Anit Thapa, who heads the BGP, said he would prioritise "development" over "electoral politics" and continue to work in tandem with the Bengal government for holistic development of the hills. Raju Bista, the BJP MP of Darjeeling, has underscored that the Centre approved and allocated funds for the drinking water projects of Darjeeling, Kurseong and Kalimpong towns, along with Mirik and Siliguri. For years, the drinking water supply has been a major problem that thousands of people have had to bear every day across the hills.

"We need to create employment for youths and develop the hills' infrastructure. The GTA was formed jointly by the Centre and the state, and being part of it, I will work with the state government for comprehensive development," Thapa said, as he laid the foundation stone of the drinking water project for Kurseong on Saturday. Located around 45km from Siliguri and known as the "Land of White Orchid," Kurseong town has 20 municipal wards and around 42,000 people.

The project, with an estimated cost of over ₹200 crore, is targeted for completion within 30 months, with the state government bearing the major share. Water will be drawn from the Balason river through a 14km-long dual pipeline, and three pumping stations — one in Ambootia and two in Singel — will be installed to draw the water. A reservoir will be constructed near Deer Park, from where water will be supplied in all municipal wards through a 94km-long network of pipelines supported by 11 reservoirs.

The BGP, which is in power in the GTA and also controls most panchayats and the hill civic bodies, has long positioned development as its political plank. "With the (Assembly) elections approaching, BJP leaders will again raise the issues of land and community and call me 'anti-community'. But I will work with the state government because that ensures employment, roads, and water for the people," Thapa, who is also the chief executive of the GTA, said. Bista, however, was quick to give credit to the Centre for the water projects.

"This (Kurseong drinking water) project is part of our plan to bring all households in the Darjeeling Lok Sabha constituency under the Amrut scheme, for which the central government has allocated ₹3,658 crore. These projects aim to provide a reliable and sustainable water supply system to the people of Kurseong and the surrounding areas. With this generous assistance, chronic problems related to drinking water and reservoir conservation will be effectively addressed," he wrote on social media.

Fresh crude bombs found in plastic container in Nadia's Chapra, police launch probe

Dipankar Edbar, Chapra : Tension gripped Chapra's Pukuria village in Nadia district after police recovered several crude bombs stored inside a plastic jar on Saturday. The explosives were discovered behind the house of one Sona Sheikh, triggering panic among residents. According to police, officers from Chapra police station conducted a search operation based on a tip-off regarding illegal bomb storage in the area. During the raid, a plastic jar hidden behind bushes near Sheikh's residence was found, containing multiple freshly-made crude bombs.

The bombs were safely removed and shifted to a secure location by the bomb disposal team, officials confirmed. Police have registered a suo motu



case and launched an investigation to identify those involved in manufacturing or stockpiling the explosives. Officers are questioning locals and scanning the surrounding areas for more materials.

A senior police officer said, "With assembly elections approaching, we are on high alert. Anyone involved in illegal arms or bomb-making activities will face strict action."

Residents expressed concern following the recovery. One villager told reporters, "We had no idea such things were being stored here. We just want the police to ensure safety and prevent any violence."

Police are expected to conduct regular raids in the region in the coming days as part of a crackdown on illegal arms and explosives ahead of the polls.

2.09kg Heroin Seized in Kaliganj; Two Arrested, Police Suspect Bigger Drug Network



Dipankar Edbar, Kaliganj (Nadia) : Kaliganj police on Saturday evening seized around 2.09 kg of heroin-like substance during a raid based on a tip-off, triggering tension in the area. Police sources said the value of the seized narcotics in the international market would run into several crores of rupees. Two residents of Murshidabad district have been arrested in connection with the case.

The arrested duo has been identified as Aminul Islam alias Momirul (46) and Monirul Haque alias Roni (25), both hailing from the Gabtala and Manikchak areas under Lalbagh police station. Police also seized a red Alto car suspected to have been used to transport the contraband. Kaliganj Police Station Case No. 966/25 has been registered under Sections 21(C) and 29 of the NDPS Act, officials said. The two accused will be produced before the court on Sunday, and the investigating agency is likely to seek 10 days of police remand for further questioning.

A senior district police officer said efforts are underway to trace the source of the narcotics and identify the broader network behind the operation. Investigators suspect the involvement of a larger inter-state drug trafficking syndicate. The seizure has created considerable stir in the locality, and police have not ruled out the possibility of more arrests.

BJP MLA's charges against SMC fabricated and false: Mayor Gautam Deb

MI News Service, Siliguri : Mayor Gautam Deb on Friday dismissed BJP MLA Shankar Ghosh's allegations against the Trinamool Congress-run board at the Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) as "false" and "fabricated". On Thursday, Ghosh had accused the SMC of stalling projects funded through his MLA development fund, including road construction and fencing. Speaking to the media at the SMC on Friday, the mayor said that most of the projects submitted by Ghosh did not align with the funds allocated through the MLA's development fund or with the feasibility reports. "The MLA of Siliguri submitted 14 projects in the past five years, estimated to cost around ₹3 crore. But during the feasibility study, it was found that most of them did not match the allocated funds with the feasibility report.

Medical care on wheels in 2 north districts: Mobile health vans reach remote villages

MI News Service, S Dinajpur : The state health department introduced six mobile health centres — mobile vans — in Alipurdwar and South Dinajpur districts to decentralise healthcare and bring essential medical services directly to remote and underserved communities.

Three mobile vans reached each district, and they have been sent to remote villages and tea gardens to provide healthcare services to people. In South Dinajpur, the mobile health centres will be deployed in the Assembly constituencies of Gangarampur, Kushmandi and Kumarganj. "Soon, similar vans will be introduced in the remaining



three constituencies of the district", said a source in the district health department.

Each mobile van includes a medical officer, nurse, technician and essential equipment. The

units come with an onboard laboratory, allowing blood tests and other diagnostics to be conducted directly inside the van. "We are deploying these travelling clinics in three locations to provide primary care, diag-

nostic services and support for government healthcare schemes. The vehicles will move into different areas and conduct health camps. With facilities like onboard laboratories, the residents will receive early treatment near their homes," said Balasubramaniam T, the district magistrate of South Dinajpur.

Sudip Das, the chief medical officer of health (CMOH), said these vans will also organise eye check-up camps under the "Chokher Alo" scheme of the state government, where free glasses will be provided to those who need them.

Similar mobile units serve tea gardens and for-

est villages in Alipurdwar, which are far from hospitals. The first such health camp was conducted on Friday at the Subhasini tea estate in Kalchini block of the district, which was affected by the recent floods of October 5.

The mobile units will initially operate in the Assembly constituencies of Kumargram, Madarihat and Kalchini — which have the highest concentration of tea estates and forest villages in the district, said a source. "The mobile unit will also focus on pediatric and gynaecology services, along with routine blood tests and screening for malaria and dengue," said a health official.

21 councillors of Chakdah Municipality served showcause notice over civic lapses



Dipankar Edbar, Chakdah (Nadia) : The state Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Department has issued showcause notices to 21 councillors of Chakdah Municipality following multiple complaints regarding alleged deterioration in civic services. The directive comes amid ongoing restructuring in several civic bodies across the state.

According to officials, a joint complaint signed by representatives of several schools, business associations, and local residents was submitted to the department on November 17. The complaint flagged serious lapses in waste management, drainage maintenance, road conditions and traffic regulation within the municipal area.

Residents alleged that garbage remains piled up across several wards, emitting foul odour. They also

claimed that drains have not been cleaned for weeks, resulting in stagnant water and unhygienic conditions. The complaint further highlighted poor road conditions leading to frequent accidents, and alleged mismanagement in regulating e-rickshaw and van traffic, affecting daily commuters, students and office-goers.

The councillors have been asked to respond within seven days, explaining the reasons behind the alleged administrative negligence. Responding to the development, Chakdah Municipality CIC Moumita Bhattacharya dismissed the allegations, calling them "politically motivated."

"Several development projects are underway, which may have caused temporary delays. We will respond to the showcause notice within the stipulated time," she said.

MSC felicitates six achievers from Malda

MI News Service, Malda : The Malda Sammilani Calcutta (MSC), an organisation dedicated to supporting people from Malda who require accommodation and assistance in Kolkata, felicitated six achievers from diverse fields at a ceremony held on Friday evening at the Malda College Auditorium.

Before the start of the felicitation and cultural programme, MSC members paid tribute to four founding pillars of the organisation—late ABA Ghani Khan Choudhury, late Sailen Sarkar, late Tapan Sikdar, and late Dr Pinaki Ray – acknowledging their contributions to building the Sammelani and strengthening the Malda community.

MSC president Dr Sanjay Mishra said the newly formed sub-committee, led by Lakshman Ghosh and joint convener Santosh Karmakar, with support from members including Kamalesh Bihani, took a special initiative to honour six personalities under two award categories this year. In the youth category, MSC honoured five achievers below the age of 35 for their excellence in sports, culture, music, and literature.

Athlete Palash Mandal, a gold medallist at the Rajya Yuva Krida Utsav and bronze medallist at the 3rd Yuva Asian Games in Bahrain, was felicitated for bringing laurels to the district and the country. Promising sprinter Misti Karmakar, who represented India twice at the Youth Asian Games, was also honoured for her consistent national-level performance. In the field of dance, Bhumi Haldar received recognition for earning the title of "Most Versatile Dancer" on Zee TV's Dance Bangla Dance and winning the Best Dancer Award on Sony TV in 2024.

Sick from 'overwork', BLO works in hospital to complete special revision forms in Raiganj

MI News Service, Raiganj: A booth-level officer (BLO) from the Chopra block of North Dinajpur was admitted to a hospital on Thursday after he fell ill due to the alleged excessive workload of the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) process.

After he was admitted and the necessary medication was administered, the BLO began uploading the forms that he had collected by Friday from his hospital bed. Mustafa Kamal, the BLO for booth number 188 in Jagirbasti of Chopra, had been severely stressed for the past few days. On Thursday, he was admitted to the subdivisional hospital in Islampur after his condition deteriorated. "I have completed more than half of the work. Though I was



feeling unwell due to the continuous fieldwork and mental stress, I was ignoring it. But on Thursday, the situation worsened. My feet swelled up and I could not walk," he said.

"I have informed the officer in charge about my illness. He has assured me that

arrangements will be made to complete the remaining work," Kamal added. Kamal said that he has distributed more than 900 enumeration forms since the beginning of November. He went door-to-door to distribute and collect the forms, and stayed up all night to upload them online.

Forest dept catches adult hyena from Asansol house

MI News Service, Asansol : The forest department has finally managed to capture an adult Indian striped hyena from a house in Salanpur after an 18-hour-long chase.

Last night, two hyenas entered the house of Nimai Pramanik at around 9 p.m. in Salanpur village under the Salanpur police station area. In fear, the residents fled the house. When locals shouted and attempted to drive the animals out, one hyena managed to escape under the cover of darkness, while the adult hyena remained inside.

The Asansol Territorial Range Officer of the forest department, Biswajit Sikdar, rushed to the spot with other officials, and

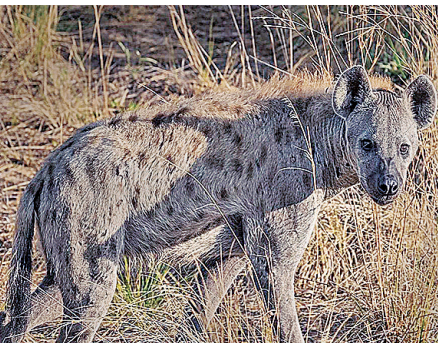
a cage was brought in. However, the officials initially struggled to capture the animal. This afternoon, firecrackers were hurled through the open windows, and when the frightened hyena tried to flee through the main door, it ran straight into the open cage placed outside.

"We will monitor the adult hyena for the next few days. It will be kept in our office and then released into the forest," Mr Sikdar said.

Locals have demanded that the hyena's mate also be captured and released into the forest, as they fear it may return in search of the adult hyena and attack them. Forest officials believe the two hyenas may have entered the house in search of poultry or cattle. They have urged residents not to attack the missing hyena if it is spotted, but to inform the forest department instead.

There has been an increase in the population of Indian striped hyenas and grey wolves in the forests of West Burdwan, particularly in the Asansol Sadar and Durgapur sub-divisions, according to a joint study by the WWF and the forest department.

Indian striped hyenas are a vulnerable and endangered species and are protected under the Indian Wildlife Act, 1973.





Governor of West Bengal C. V. Ananda Bose completed three years in office at Raj Bhawan in Kolkata on Sunday.



West Bengal Governor C.V. Ananda Bose felicitates Richa Ghosh, the only Bengali player in India's Women's World Cup-winning team, at Raj Bhawan in Kolkata on Sunday.

Baranagar shock: Wife hires assassin to kill husband over affair

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a chilling case from Baranagar, Kolkata, police have arrested four individuals—including a wife and her lover—for conspiring to assassinate her husband. The victim, Bikash Majumdar, an employee of the state transport department, narrowly escaped death when a hired gunman opened fire on him near Northern Park on November 21. Majumdar survived the attempt after reacting swiftly, causing the bullet to miss, though he suffered gunpowder injuries. Investigations revealed that Majumdar's wife, Rekha Patra, had been engaged in an extramarital affair with Pradeep Dey, who was also associated with her husband through professional ties. Driven by their relationship and viewing Majumdar as an “obstacle,” the pair allegedly planned his murder. They reportedly recruited Mohammad Shamim Laskar, a contract killer from Metiaburuj known locally as a betel-nut assassin, to execute their plan. Police stated that Laskar fired at Majumdar from close range but failed to hit him fatally. The attacker then fled with the help of Sushant Adak, who served as the motorcyclist during the escape. CCTV footage captured Adak speeding away from the scene, leading to his quick identification and arrest. All four accused were produced before the Barrackpore court for the initiation of judicial proceedings. Residents of the normally quiet neighborhood expressed deep shock at the brazenness of the crime, noting that such violent conspiracies are rare in their locality. Investigators are now examining call records, CCTV footage, and digital communications to uncover further details of the planning and coordination involved.

Centre to re-notify draft rules on NEW LABOUR LAWS

From PG 1
Workers are to hold gate meetings and street-corner meetings. The RSS-affiliated Bharatiya Majdoor Sangh, which is not part of the joint platform, had expressed concern about the IR and Occupational Safety Codes on Friday morning only to welcome the government notification hours later. Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh has asked whether the labour codes would provide for a national minimum wage of ₹400 a day, universal health coverage of ₹25 lakh, an employment guarantee for urban areas, and comprehensive social security for all unorganised workers, apart from committing to stop the contractualisation of employment in core government functions.

CDSCO fires up crackdown New helpline to nail fake drugs

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata is witnessing intensified action against the widespread sale of counterfeit medicines as the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) rolls out stronger enforcement measures to safeguard public health. A nationwide toll-free number—1800 180 3024—along with a dedicated QR code has been introduced to enable citizens to immediately report suspected fake medicines or adverse drug reactions. To ensure maximum visibility, the CDSCO has directed all state drug control authorities to mandate the display of prominent posters featuring the toll-free number and QR code in every retail pharmacy and drug distribution outlet by

Monday. The initiative is designed to empower consumers by offering a direct and accessible platform to voice concerns without bureaucratic hurdles. The growing circulation of spurious, substandard, and falsified medicines has become a serious public health concern, raising anxiety among citizens and medical professionals alike. By centralizing the reporting mechanism, authorities aim to streamline complaint handling, strengthen surveillance, and curb the illicit market that undermines the country's healthcare system. State drug control departments have been instructed to rigorously ensure compliance while simultaneously conducting awareness campaigns to

educate the public on how to use the new reporting channel effectively. Officials emphasize that widespread public participation is crucial for identifying violators and preventing harmful drugs from reaching vulnerable patients. Consumers are urged to remain vigilant and immediately report any suspected counterfeit medicines or adverse effects by calling 1800 180 3024 or scanning the QR code displayed at pharmacies. This strengthened regulatory crackdown highlights the government's commitment to protecting medicine quality, enhancing accountability, and reinforcing the integrity of India's pharmaceutical supply chain.



Manoj Varma, CP Kolkata Police at the Kolkata Police Training School on Sunday at the occasion of 'Kolkata Police Half Marathon'.

Kasba tragedy: CA Adarsh Losalkari's dead body found, couple surrenders

MI News Service, Kolkata: A mysterious and tragic incident in Kasba, Kolkata, came to light when the naked and bound body of 26-year-old Chartered Accountant Adarsh Losalkar was discovered in a hotel room. Adarsh, employed at PWC and originally from Bazarpura in Dubrajpur Municipality, had reportedly checked into the hotel after arranging a meeting with two individuals—Dhruv Mitra and Kamal Saha—whom he had connected with through a dating app earlier that day. According to police reports, an argument broke out between Adarsh and the couple inside the hotel room, escalating into a physical altercation. During the scuffle, Adarsh is believed to have fallen and suffered a head injury that caused significant bleeding. Investigators state that Dhruv and Kamal then allegedly tied his legs, claiming they wanted to prevent further confrontation. Instead of seeking help, the duo fled the scene, leaving Adarsh critically injured. He later succumbed to his wounds.

The couple surrendered to the Kasba police on Sunday, prompting the initiation of a formal criminal investigation. Authorities are now examining the events leading up to the death, treating the case as suspicious and violent while awaiting forensic findings and detailed witness testimonies to determine responsibility and intent. News of Adarsh's death has left his family and community in Dubrajpur devastated.

Winter delay looms as cyclone Seniya forms over Bay of Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: Cyclone Seniyar is expected to take shape over the Bay of Bengal by midweek, with the Meteorological Department predicting a rapid intensification of the current low-pressure system in the Andaman Sea. The system is likely to develop into a deep depression by Monday and strengthen into a cyclonic storm by Wednesday. Named by the UAE, Cyclone Seniyar's precise path is still uncertain, with possible landfall locations spanning Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and even Bangladesh. Initially, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are likely to experience heavy rainfall and strong winds, prompting authorities to issue advisories for

tourists, fishermen, and shipping operations. While a direct landfall in South Bengal remains unclear, meteorologists warn that the region may face indirect impacts, including unseasonal rain and a continued delay in the arrival of winter-like temperatures through late November and early December. Warm, moisture-laden winds drawn in by the developing system are expected to keep temperatures unusually high, echoing similar disruptions observed during a cyclone in the 2021–22 season. These erratic weather patterns pose a significant threat to agriculture, particularly paddy and potato cultivation, which are highly vulnerable to excess moisture and sudden rainfall.

INDIA – FRANCE led ISA mulls 1 SUN 1 WORLD 1 GRID initiative

From PG 1
The ISA had shared that India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Myanmar had cross-border transmission infrastructure which could be upgraded for the initiative. The proposed grid may have an interconnection capacity of 2,600 gigawatt by 2050. Khanna has also pointed out that a digital Solar Silicon Valley project will be launched from mid next year with a focus on digital capacity building and services. The project, now completely virtual, expects to have an address in Gurgaon within two to three years, he said. “The ISA has links to 17 academic in-

stitutes in 17 countries, which are working on solar (energy) and where we have set up solar labs in collaboration with these institutes. We, through this virtual Solar Silicon Valley project, want to link these institutes to create a global digital platform; a virtual centre for focusing on solar-related training, artificial intelligence, communication and services in its first phase,” said Khanna, who is the third director of the ISA since it was officially launched in 2018. Khanna pointed out that within two to three years, an institute of excellence would be set up in Gurgaon by further ex-

panding the activities related to capacity building, particularly focusing on digital and artificial intelligence-driven advisory services. “ISA is the global south's largest multilateral institution based out of India, with 125 countries as members. While it took 25 years for the world to have the first 1,000 gigawatt of solar power, the next 1,000 gigawatt happened only in the last two years. And, now it is going to double from 2,000 gigawatts to 4,000 gigawatts in the next four years with all these initiatives of the ISA facilitating the paradigm shift,” claimed Khanna.

SIR scandal: Ten voters claim the same father

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter rolls in West Bengal has hit a critical juncture as alarming irregularities come to light, exposing a potentially widespread manipulation dubbed the voter identity ‘chakra’. Reports reveal numerous cases where multiple individuals claim the same ‘father’ or familial relation on submitted forms, raising serious doubts about the integrity of the entire electoral roll. Swapan Mandal, General Secretary of the BLO Oikya Mancha, has voiced grave concerns over mounting administrative and political pressures on Booth Level Officers (BLOs) tasked with the data collection. According to Swapan Mandal, BLOs face intimidation so severe that they cannot raise objections despite observing blatant discrepancies, risking a flawed voter list riddled with errors. The troubling phenomenon includes instances where strangers pose as relatives such as fathers or grandmothers, with no genuine familial ties, effectively creating phantom voters. Swapan Mandal also alleged involvement of Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) in exacerbating the crisis by enforcing unrealistic deadlines and pressurizing BLOs to complete data entry hastily. Despite electoral commission assurances that BLOs will not be penalized for reporting errors, workers remain trapped between the fear of punitive action and the ethical imperative to maintain an accurate roll. To address this, BLO Oikya Mancha has demanded the addition of a remarks section in the digital BLO app where officers can flag suspicious entries.

15-Year-Old Girl Ends Life Hours Before Study Session

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ahead of the Madhyamik examinations, a 15-year-old student from Thakurpukur's Pora Ashwaththala area was found hanging from a ceiling fan inside her home on Sunday afternoon, moments after her mother had stepped out for shopping. The deceased, identified as Ankona Biswas, was a student of Dwadas Vidyamandir and lived with her mother, Anjali Biswas. Her father had died during the Covid-19 pandemic, neighbours said. According to local witnesses, the girl had asked her mother for a mobile phone before she left, but the request was declined. The mother allegedly advised her to focus on her studies, saying the home tutor would arrive soon, and then went to the market. When she returned, she found the door locked from inside. After breaking it open with neighbours' help, she discovered her daughter hanging from the ceiling fan. Police from Thakurpukur station were informed and rushed the girl to Behala Vidyasagar Hospital, where doctors declared her dead on arrival.

Election roll revision: BLOs last note a cry for help

MI News Service, Kolkata: The suicide of Rinku Tarafdar, a 54-year-old booth-level officer (BLO) and part-time teacher from Krishnanagar, has sparked a politically charged debate across the state. Tarafdar, whose body was found hanging at her residence, left behind a suicide note blaming the Election Commission for the unbearable pressure of Special Intensive Revision (SIR) work she was tasked with. In her note, she expressed her inability to complete the online data entry portion of her duties despite having finished most of the offline work. She feared administrative repercussions and wrote of the inhuman burden she faced, describing it as a cause for her untimely death. “I want to live, but the stress and fear of failure forced me to end my life,” she lamented. Her passing has drawn sharp responses from various quarters. Opposition leaders criticized the ruling party for politicizing tragedies, comparing their tactics to opportunistic scavengers who exploit such incidents to score political points. Calls for an independent inquiry into the circumstances surrounding her death have been made to ensure accountability. Meanwhile,



the Chief Minister acknowledged the tragedy and expressed concern over the mounting pressures on BLOs engaged in the ongoing electoral roll revision. Highlighting the mental stress experienced by grassroots workers, she urged for immediate administrative relief and a reconsideration of workload to prevent further loss of life. This tragic incident underscores the urgent need to address systemic issues faced by election officials tasked with extensive voter data revision under tight timelines, with mental health and holistic support for frontline workers becoming an imperative focus for policymakers. If needed, short catchy headlines can be provided as well for this report. This version maintains journalistic neutrality while conveying the gravity of the issue and the political tensions involved.

IAF probes TEJAS CRASH in Dubai

From PG 1
The source said. The ejection success, he said, usually depended on factors such as altitude, airspeed and pilot reaction time. The IAF on Saturday described Syal as a “dedicated fighter pilot and thorough professional”. “He served the nation with unwavering commitment, exceptional skill and an unyielding sense of duty. His dignified persona earned him immense respect through a life devoted to service, and was visible in the send-off attended by UAE officials, colleagues, friends, and the officials of the Indian embassy,” the IAF said. “The IAF stands in solidarity with his family in this hour of profound grief and honours his legacy of courage, devotion and honour. May his service be remembered with gratitude,” it added. One of the videos shows the country's flagship light combat aircraft (LCA) up close as it attempts a stunt with a few turns in the air before going into a free fall and hitting the ground and erupting into a fireball, kicking up a huge cloud of smoke and dust. Syal, a

squadron leader, completed his schooling from Sainik School at Sujapur Tira in Hamirpur district. His father, Jagannath Syal, had served in the Indian Army's Medical Corps and later worked in the education department before retiring as a principal. Sources said Syal was commissioned into the IAF in 2009. Defence expert Captain Anil Gaur (ret'd) said the crash might have taken place after the pilot lost control or blacked out due to the G-forces induced by gravity. “Pilots wear a G-suit so that the blood does not pool in their legs... there might have been an issue with that. What exactly happened can only be determined once the cockpit data is retrieved. I express my condolences to the family of the pilot,” ANI news agency quoted Gaur as saying. The Tejas that crashed was from a squadron in Tamil Nadu's Sullur, and had been in service since 2016. This was the second crash involving a Tejas LCA Mk-1, India's first home-grown lightweight multi-role fighter jet, since the jet's induction in 2016.

Delhi Police busts ISI-linked drone arms network; nabs 4

From PG 1
Temple on Bawana Road, where a white car was intercepted and a duffel bag concealed inside a speaker box was found carrying eight foreign-made pistols and 84 cartridges. During interrogation, police learned that two more operatives were set to collect additional weapons. These suspects—Rohan Tomar and Ajay alias Monu from Baghpat—were arrested soon after, and two more pistols along with eight cartridges were recovered from them. “The location is sanitised and then the drone drops the weapons,” Kumar said, adding that the module relied on encrypted communication and frequently changed drop points. The arrested accused have been identified as Mandeep Singh (38), Dalvinder Kumar (34), Rohan Tomar (30) and Ajay alias Monu (37). Officials said Mandeep, also known as Pita or Manpreet, is a member of the Sonu Khatri gang and “was in touch with a Pakistan-based handler.” Dalvinder earlier worked in Dubai before turning to crime due to financial distress. Rohan and Ajay were long associated with gangs in Delhi-NCR, including the Jitender Gogi gang, the Bhau gang and the Kapil Sangwan alias Nandu gang. Police said the seized cache includes five Turkish-made pistols and three China-made pistols. Among them, the Turkiye-made PX-5.7 — “typically used only by special forces” — indicates a “highly sophisticated and well-organised cross-border supply chain,” a senior officer said. Investigators believe the network earlier dropped eight weapons in Punjab before they were moved to Delhi for handover to local gang operatives. The syndicate has supplied arms to the Bishnoi gang, the Bambhiha gang and other active criminal groups, police said. Officials also revealed that Jamseet Jassa, a US-based operative, is involved in managing the module, while Jaspreet alias Jas — currently abroad — linked the arrested men to ISI-backed suppliers.

Name Change
I, Deepika Dahal (Old Name) w/o Rajesh Biswas Residing at Saroj Park Taki Road, Barasat, P.o - Barasat, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700124, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Deepika Dahal Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Deepika Dahal (Old Name) and Deepika Dahal Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sekh Sahidullah (Old Name) S/o Late Sekh Hikmatullah Residing at Vill - Mandermani, P.o - Silampur, District - Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721455, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Sahidullah (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Sekh Sahidullah (Old Name) and Sk Sahidullah (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Sahidullah S/o Late Sekh Hikmatullah Residing at Vill - Mandermani, P.o - Silampur, District - Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721455, West Bengal, India that my minor son who previously known as Sekh Rakib Ullah (Old Name) shall henceforth be known as Sk Rakib Ullah (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit dated 21-11-2025. I declare that my Minor son Sekh Rakib Ullah (Old Name) and Sk Rakib Ullah (New Name) is same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Md Ali Hossin (Old Name) S/o Sk Sadek Ali Residing at Vill-P.o - Balpara, P.s - Khanakul, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712416, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Md Ali Hossain (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Sk Md Ali Hossin (Old Name) and Sk Md Ali Hossain (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md. Sahidul Mondal (Old Name) S/o Ali Kadar Mondal Residing at Vill - Natidanga, P.o - Gopal Nagar, P.s - Gopal Nagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743262, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sahidul Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Md. Sahidul Mondal (Old Name) and Sahidul Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rashid Siddique (Old Name) S/o Md. Kabir Siddique Residing at 10, Ahiri Pukur 1st Lane, P.o - Ballygunge, P.s - Karaya, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700019, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rashid Siddique (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Sealdah, vide affidavit no 12816 Dated 18-11-2025. Rashid Siddique (Old Name) and Rashid Siddique (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rishi Jahan Siddique (Old Name) S/o Rashid Siddique Residing at 10, Ahiri Pukur 1st Lane, P.o - Ballygunge, P.s - Karaya, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700019, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Arshi Jahan Siddique (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Sealdah, vide affidavit no 12816 Dated 18-11-2025. Rshi Jahan Siddique (Old Name) and Arshi Jahan Siddique (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk Moidul Islam (Old Name) S/o Sk Nurul Islam Residing at Panchpota, Kaswara, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712102, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Maidul Islam (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 27/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Sk Moidul Islam (Old Name) and Sk Maidul Islam (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swapan Saha (Old Name) S/o Nareesh Chandra Saha Residing at DC-201, Sampri Co-Op Housing society Ltd, Action Area-1, Near Biswa Bangla Gate, New Town, P.o - New Town, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700156, West Bengal India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Swapan Kumar Saha (New Name) as declared before the Kolkata vide affidavit Date 21-11-2025. Swapan Saha (Old Name) and Swapan Kumar Saha (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Susil Jain (Old Name) S/o Bishambar Prasad Jain Residing at G-12, Zonal Centre, Sagarghanga, Durgapur District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713211, West Bengal India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Susil Kumar Jain (New Name) as declared before the Kolkata vide affidavit Date 21-11-2025. Susil Jain (Old Name) and Susil Kumar Jain (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Runu Chanda Mondal, W/O Prabir Kumar Mondal, RD at vill-Parbatipur, Po- Pritnagar, P.S-Ranaghat, Dist-Nadia, Pin-741247. My daughter Sayantika Mondal That due to mistake in my Said daughter's Birth certificate where my name has been recorded on Runu Mondal. Vide affidavit Sworn before the court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st class at Ranaghat on 18/11/25 That I Runu Chanda Mondal and Runu Mondal is the same and one identical Person.

Name Change
I, GULSAN ARA (Old Name), w/o Mohammad Iqbal of residing at 48/1 Karl Marx Sarani Kolkata 700023 West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Gulshan Ara (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 21/11/2025. Gulshan Ara (new name) and Gulsan Ara(Old name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, SHEKH GAFAR (Old Name), w/o Afroj Alam of residing at 5/4/32 B K ROAD Kolkata 700023 West Bengal, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SAMIMA KHATOON (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 21/11/2025. Samima Khatoon (new name) and Sheikh Gafar(Old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Dia Mitra W/O Harsh Khatri, on behalf my minor daughter Ashika Khatri (old name), residing at Happy Hive Apartment 1597, Madurdaha Main Road, Madurdaha, Hussaipur, P.S.-Anandapur, Kolkata- 700107, West Bengal, India, have changed her name and she shall henceforth be known as Nitara Khatri (new name), as declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit no 61315, dated 24/11/2022. Nitara Khatri (new name) and Ashika Khatri (old name) both are same and one identical person (my daughter).

Name Change
I, Bhavika Kotecha (Old Name) W/o Bhushan Kotecha, Residing at 40B Paddappukur Road, Bhawanipur, L.R. Sarani, District - Kolkata, Pin 700020, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bhavika Mehta (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 28/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Bhavika Kotecha (Old Name) and Bhavika Mehta (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Parthapratim Bhattacharjee, Parthapratim Bhattacharya (Old Name) S/o Madan Mohan Bhattacharjee Residing at 51/1, C.S. Mukherjee Street, Konnagar, Vtc - Konnagar (M), P.o - Konnagar, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712235, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Partha Pratim Bhattacharjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 26/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Parthapratim Bhattacharjee, Parthapratim Bhattacharya (Old Name) and Partha Pratim Bhattacharjee (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Bimal Ch Biswas (Old Name) S/o Murari Biswas Residing at Sarahati, Sindrini, Bagda, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743297, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bimal Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 29/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Bimal Ch Biswas (Old Name) and Bimal Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sanjay Kumar Sarbadhikary, Sanjoy Sarbadhikary (Old Name) S/o Biswas Ranjan Sarbadhikary Residing at 49, Lenin Sarani, Dharmatala, Vtc-P.o - Dharmatala, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700013, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sanjay Sarbadhikary (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 31/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Sanjay Kumar Sarbadhikary, Sanjoy Sarbadhikary (Old Name) and Sanjay Sarbadhikary (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Soyed Ali Mondal, Sahid Ali Mondal (Old Name) S/o Chhnamd Mondal Residing at Chowrashi, Vtc - Chaurashi, P.o - Chorashi, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743244, West Bengal India have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sahid Ali Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 30/2025 Dated 21-11-2025. Soyed Ali Mondal, Sahid Ali Mondal (Old Name) and Sahid Ali Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Monoranjan Sarkar (Old Name) S/o Harendra Sarkar Residing at Uttar Kanchdaha, P.o - Kachdaha, P.s - Swarnnagar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743247, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Monoranjan Sarkar (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Monoranjan Sarkar (Old Name) and Monoranjan Sarkar (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Surendar Kumar Nagpal (Old Name) S/o Paran Chandra Nagpal Residing at 293, G T Road Sardar Bhawan, Belur, District - Howrah, Pin - 711202, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Surendra Kumar Nagpal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Surendar Kumar Nagpal (Old Name) and Surendra Kumar Nagpal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Dharminder Kumar Verma, Dharmindira Kumar Verma (Old Name) S/o Late Sachitanand Verma Residing at P-307/D/1, Brahmo Samaj Lane, Po - Garden Reach, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700024, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Dharmindar Kumar Verma (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-11-2025. Dharminder Kumar Verma, Dharmindira Kumar Verma (Old Name) and Dharmindar Kumar Verma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rohit Kumar Mondal (old name) son of Tarun Kumar Mandal, residing at Vill- Saoraberia Jalpai, P.O.- Motilalchak, P.S.- Nandakumar, Dist.- Purba Medinipur, Pin-721652, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rohit Kumar Mandal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Tamluk, Purba Medinipur, vide an affidavit dated 15/11/2025. Rohit Kumar Mandal (new name) and Rohit Kumar Mandal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shakashi Chowdhury & Shakshi Chowdhury (old names) daughter of Rabindra Kumar Chowdhury, residing at Block-B, Flat-9E, 302 A.P.C. Road, Ideal Heights Complex, Narkeldanga, Raja Ram Mohan Sarani, Kolkata-700099, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shakshi Chowdhury (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/11/2025. Shakshi Chowdhury (new name) and Shakashi Chowdhury (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Garvit Chowdhury (old name) son of Rabindra Kumar Chowdhury, residing at Block-B, Flat-9E, 302 A.P.C. Road, Ideal Heights Complex, Narkeldanga, Raja Ram Mohan Sarani, Kolkata-700009, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Garvit Chowdhury (new name) as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/11/2025. Garvit Chowdhury (new name) and Garvit Chowdhury (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Santiranjn Das (old name) son of Santosh Das, residing at 85, Amalangshu Sen Road, Natun Pally, Sreebhumi, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin-700048, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Santi Das (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 19/11/2025. Santi Das (new name) and Santiranjn Das (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ripan Das (old name) son of Santi Das, residing at 85, Amalangshu Sen Road, Natun Pally, Sreebhumi, Dist-North 24 Pgs, Pin-700048, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ripon Das (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 19/11/2025. Ripon Das (new name) and Ripan Das (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Raju Ghouri, S/O-Sonatan Ghouri, (Old Name), R/O Vill - Haripur, P.O.-Haripur, P.S.- Chanditala, Hooghly-712701, West Bengal, India, shall henceforth be known as Raju Ghouri, S/O-Sonatan Ghouri (New Name) vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Affidavit at Serampore, Hooghly on date 14/11/2025. Raju Ghouri.S/O-Sonatan Ghouri, (Old Name) and Raju Ghouri, S/O-Sonatan Ghouri (New Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Nabo Kunti (Old Name) Son Of Debdas Kunti,Residing At Vill-Hantal, Ananta Bati, P.O-Hantal, Dist-Howrah, Pin-711404, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Naba Kunti (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 20/11/2025.Nabo Kunti (Old Name) And Naba Kunti (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I Rehana Shahin, W/o Saffdar Ali residing at 32, PM. Basti 3rd Bye Lane, P.S. Shibpur, Dist-Howrah, WB, Pin-711102 declare that my name and my husband name have been recorded in my son's School Admission card issued by the ISCE, New Delhi as Rehana Shehen and Saffdar Ali respectively but our actual name are Rehana Shahin and Saffdar Ali as per my Aadhaar Card & also my son's date of birth was 21.10.2007. That Rehana Shahen and Rehana Shahin both are same and one identical person i.e., myself and Saffdar Ali and Saffdar Ali both are same and one identical person i.e., my husband vide affidavit sworn before Ld Executive Magistrate 1st Class, at Sadar Howrah on 26.06.24.

Name Change
I, Bikash Kumar Banerjee (old name) son of Niranjan Banerjee, residing at 721, M.G. Road, Pragatipally, Thakurpukur, Kolkata-700063, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bikash Banerjee (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/11/2025. Bikash Banerjee (new name) and Bikash Kumar Banerjee (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Amal Kumar Mukherjee (Old Name), S/o Late Ashir Mukherjee of residing at 35 PALLYSHIRE, REGENT ESTATE, CIRCUS AVENUE, P.S- NETAJI NAGAR, KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL, PIN- 700092, INDIA, I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Amal Mukherji (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 21/11/2025. Amal Mukherji (new name) and Amal Kumar Mukherjee (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, SAMIR NAG (old name) son of NETAJI PADA NAG, residing at VILL + P.O-TANTIALSH, P.S-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHLY, 712412, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SAMIR KUMAR NAG (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/11/2025. SAMIR KUMAR NAG (new name) and SAMIR NAG (old name) both are same and one identical person.

BENGAL POLL 2026: BJP eyes farmer vote bank

MI News Service, Kolkata: The BJP will begin a statewide movement on December 4, addressing multiple issues related to the plight of farmers to woo the agrarian community, which constitutes around 58 per cent of Bengal's total electorate.

“Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi will distribute the 21st instalment under the PM-Kisan scheme on Wednesday, through which 46 lakh farmers from Bengal will receive financial benefits. The Bengal government has not allowed the implementation of many schemes related to farmers' welfare, and its anti-farmer policy has brought serious hardship to the farming community under the Mamata Banerjee regime,” said Samik Bhattacharya, a Rajya Sabha member.

Bhattacharya claimed that East Burdwan, once famous as the rice bowl of Bengal, has fallen behind in production because of various anti-farmer policies of the state govern-



ment. He also claimed that potato farmers have been in distress because the state government stopped the interstate sale of the crop last year.

Advertisement “Over 100 rice mills in East Burdwan were shut down following pressure from the Trinamool Congress, as the land of those units was used for other purposes. Despite a bumper production of potatoes exceeding the state's demand, the government did not allow the interstate sale of the essential crop to states like Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, and Assam,” said the BJP state unit chief. Multiple sources said the BJP's renewed focus on the peasant community is politically significant, as there are 71.23 lakh farming families across the state. A rough estimate suggests that around 3 crore voters in Bengal depend on agriculture. Therefore, addressing the concerns of the peasant community is crucial ahead of next year's election, apart from the party's emphasis on polarising Hindu voters.

ITC opens new hotel in SILIGURI

MI News Service, Siliguri: The ITC Hotels Limited (ITCHL) announced the opening of Fortune Select Siliguri, a 70-key premium hotel.

“The unveiling of Fortune Select Siliguri is an important milestone in ITC Hotels' planned expansion in eastern India, a region rich in traditions, ethos, commerce, and natural beauty. As part of our growth strategy and commitment, we continue to widen the ITCHL's footprint in emerging urban centres, cultural hubs, and high-potential markets — reflecting our thoughtful vision of delivering responsible and rewarding hospitality across the length and breadth of India and its proximal markets,” said Anil Chadha, managing director, ITC Hotels Limited.

World Heritage Week' celebrated

MI News Service, Kolkata: The historic Vidya Mandir Auditorium became the epicentre of a vital conversation on heritage and futurity, as the Department of Interior Designing, JD Birla Institute successfully hosted its World Heritage Week Celebration under the resonant theme, “Custodians of Tomorrow.” The event was set in motion by a profound keynote address from the esteemed Dr. Anjan Mitra, a renowned architect, urban designer, and heritage conservationist. This foundational address was followed by an insightful 3-tier seminar series which brought together a distinguished panel of practitioners. Architect and conservationist Monica Khosla Bhargava offered a captivating exploration of the city's dynamic urban fabric in her session, “The Changing Colours of Kolkata,” providing a deep understanding of its historical layers and evolving identity.

Kolkata hosts seminar on 'Role of Credit Rating Agencies'

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, Asia's oldest Commerce & Industry Association established in 1830, recently hosted an interactive session featuring V. Anantharaman, Chairman of TransUnion CIBIL. The event was aimed at deepening understanding of the role of Credit Information Companies and Credit Rating Agencies in strengthening India's lending ecosystem, particularly for the MSME sector.

The evening began with a formal welcome address by Anant Saharia, President of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, who extended a warm welcome to V. Anantharaman as well as to Pradeep Gooptu, Managing Trustee of the Calcutta Debating Circle and eminent journalist. He also welcomed colleagues on the dais Anurnag Jhunjhunwala, Senior Vice President, and Purushottam Agrawal, Vice President—along with members of the media, the Chamber, Ladies Forum, and distinguished guests.

In his address, Saharia highlighted the Chamber's 195-year legacy in promoting trade, industry, and civil society advancement. He noted the crucial role played by Credit Information Companies, established under the RBI framework, in promoting responsible lending and strengthening India's financial infrastructure.

RPF Howrah Recovers Huge Cash Under “Operation Satark”

MI News Service, Kolkata, 23 Nov.25 : In a continued effort to curb the movement of suspicious and unaccounted cash within railway premises, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) of Eastern Railway has intensified surveillance under its ongoing vigilance drive, “Operation Satark”. This initiative aims to strengthen security, prevent unlawful activities, and ensure the safe and transparent use of railway facilities.

On 22.11.2025, RPF officials of Howrah Division recovered Rs. 37,64,000/- in liquid cash and apprehended one person from Howrah Station. The indi-



vidual failed to produce any valid documents to justify possession of such a large amount. The arrested person, along with the recov-

ered cash, has been kept at the RPF Post/Howrah Central for further legal action and necessary procedures as per law.

Kolkata hosts ICC ‘WEALTH MANAGEMENT SUMMIT’



MI News Service, Kolkata: India is at a “defining moment” as it navigates global disruptions and key domestic transitions, former diplomat and global advisor Ajay Bisaria said at the ICC Wealth Management Summit 2025. Addressing industry leaders and policymakers, he said India's strong growth of 6.5% made it the world's fastest-growing major economy, but its per-capita income of USD 3,000 and agriculture's 17% share of GDP highlighted the need for deeper structural reforms. He added that policy milestones such as GST, UPI, the JAM trinity, banking reforms and large-scale infrastructure upgrades had laid the foundation for India to target long-term growth of 8%.

Bisaria said India's foreign-policy approach had evolved into a sophisticated “multi-alignment”, balancing ties with the US, China, Europe, Russia, Japan and the Global South.

However, he cautioned that India may now need to manage its relationship with the US even more carefully, given Washington's central role in global finance and strategic technologies. He said the US and China had weaponised trade, with American restrictions affecting USD 35 billion of Indian exports and Chinese measures impacting nearly USD 100 billion of imports crucial for manufacturing. Europe's Carbon

Border Adjustment Mechanism and related climate-linked rules were also functioning as protectionist barriers, he said.

He said geopolitics had become a central factor in business planning, noting that over 200 Fortune 500 companies had exited Russia and Ukraine after the conflict. Pakistan. A tariff deal in the 15–19% range could be announced soon, though proposed US measures such as the Higher Tax — which includes a 25% outsourcing tax and a USD 100,000 levy per H-1B visa — posed new risks.

Looking ahead to 2025, Bisaria projected India's GDP growth at 7% this fiscal and next and said the upcoming Union Budget could mark major reforms in land, labour and capital markets. He expected progress on trade talks with the US, EU and Australia while cautioning that a short India-Pakistan conflict could not be ruled out.

ICC President Brij Bhushan Agarwal said India's wealth-management sector was undergoing a major shift driven by technology, collaboration and rising investor sophistication.

ICC said the summit aimed to offer insights into India's economic trajectory, the rising impact of geopolitics on business and the evolution of the country's wealth-management landscape.

Hill body a failure: IGJF leader

MI News Service, Darjeeling: The appointment of an interlocutor for the Darjeeling region is stirring up politics during the winter in the hills, with members of the Indian Gorkha Janshakti Front (IGJF) threatening to resign from the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA).

The latest trigger seems to be Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee's letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on

Monday opposing the functioning of the interlocutor's office. This is the second time that Mamata has written to Modi against the appointment of interlocutor Pankaj Kumar Mishra, a retired IPS officer, last month.

Mamata said in the letter that the Darjeeling region was governed by the “Gorkha Territorial Administration Act 2011”, designed to ensure self-governance in the hills.

BAGNAN-I PANCHAYAT SAMITY
NIET NO : WB/HZP/BAG-/NIET-18/2025-26, WB/HZP/BAG-/NIET-19/2025-26, Dated : 20.11.2025 & WB/HZP/BAG-/NIET-20/2025-26, Dated : 21.11.2025
A e-Tenders is floated for development works within Bagnan-I Panchayat Samity jurisdiction. Details are available in <https://wbenders.gov.in> portal.
Sd/-
Executive Officer
Bagnan-I Panchayat Samity
Bagnan, Howrah

E-AUCTION - CUM - SALE NOTICE
Kampilya Builders Private Limited (Under Liquidation), Corporate Debtor
(CIN: U15102WB1995PT0072597)
Regd. Office: P-65, Bansdroni Park, 3rd Floor, Kolkata, West Bengal - 700070, India
Principal Office Address: Maurya Centre-1, Fraser Road, Patna, Bihar - 800001, India
E-Auction Notice for Sale of Securities & Financial Assets (SFA) under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
Date & Time of E-Auction: 16/12/2025 between 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (IST) with unlimited extension of 5 min. each.
Date of Inspection of the Documents in the Registered / Principal Office: Any day before 5 days of the Auction with 48 hours' notice for a date fixed for all bidders at one-go before the date of e-auction
Date of Submission of EMD and Eligibility Documents: 13/12/2025
Notice is hereby given to the general public for the Sale of the Investments in Shares of Kampilya Builders Private Limited (Under Liquidation) constituting a part of the Liquidation Estate formed by the Liquidator who is appointed by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Kolkata Bench vide order dated 21st January, 2021 to be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, WHATEVER THERE IS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS".
The sale will be undertaken by the undersigned through the E-auction platform <https://banknet.com> on an online basis. The basic details of the Assets under Sale:
Sl. No. Details of Assets of Corporate Debtor Location Reserve Price (Amount in Rs.) EMD (Amount in Rs.)
1. Sale of the Investment (SFA) of the Corporate Debtor on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, WHATEVER THERE IS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS". P-65, Bansdroni Park, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700070 & Maurya Centre-1, Fraser Road, Patna-01
i. Name of the Investee Companies No. of Shares Face Value/ Share (Rs.) Reserve Price (in Rs.) EMD (in Rs.)
a) Eureka Transports & Traders Pvt. Ltd. 295,000 10.00 2,95,000 29,500
b) Evergreen Agencies Pvt. Ltd. 100,000 10.00 1,00,000 10,000
c) Indo Burma Agencies Pvt. Ltd. 581 100.00 5,810 580
ii. Unlisted/Unquoted Preference Shares:
a) Ayushy Commerce Pvt. Ltd. 97,200 100.00 97,200 9,720
b) Evergreen Agency Private Limited 77,000 100.00 77,000 7,700
Total 5,68,781 57,510 57,500
For further details of the assets, please refer to Annexure-V of the Auction Documents available on the above website
Prospective bidders shall deposit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and submit Eligibility Documents through the Banknet auction platform latest by 13.12.2025. Bidders shall also submit an undertaking that they do not suffer from any insolvency under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 and if they are found ineligible at any stage, the Earnest Money (EMD) deposited shall be forfeited.
For detailed terms & conditions and updates (if any) required for participation in the E-Auction, interested Bidders may refer to the E-auction Process Information Document available along with other relevant information and documents related to the assets available on <https://banknet.com> website and after registration as "Bidder", you may login for the details in E-Auction Platform: <https://bbi.banknet.com/eauction/bidhome>.
For any query regarding E-auction, please contact at Mob: 8291220022, E-mail: support.banknet@gmail.com or Mr. Shyamal Kumar Bhattacharjee, skbhattacharjee90@gmail.com; M: 9609279477
Place: Kolkata Date: 24/12/2025
Sd/- Shyamal Kumar Bhattacharjee, Liquidator of Kampilya Builders Private Limited (Under Liquidation)
Commn. Address: Green View Apartment Flat-1001, 27/1, B T Road, Kamrath, Kolkata-700058, India: skbhattacharjee90@gmail.com; M: 9609279477

BENGAL stands 2nd in national chicken production

MI News Service, Kolkata: According to recent reports that have come up, West Bengal has come up in second position in context of chicken production in the country after Haryana. India is also now second in egg production in the world. A target of four times the production has been set by 2033. A special event was organized recently in Kolkata on the occasion of National Chicken Day. The Federation's executive members, stakeholders and representatives of the poultry sector, as well as distinguished guests, are also present. Swapan Debnath, Minister of Livestock Development, West Bengal, attended as a guest. Also present were Pallavi Sharma, actress of the popular Bengali serial Neem Phuler Madhu, and Rupsha Chakraborty, famous actress who played the role of 'Kaushik' in the serial Jagadhatr, along with other prominent personalities.

The theme of the event was to highlight the nutritional value and economic importance of chicken. A chicken recipe cooking competition was also held. In his speech at this special event, Madan Mohan Maiti, General Secretary of West Bengal Poultry Federation, said: "West Bengal is today one of the leading states in the country in poultry development. Chicken and egg production in our state has increased significantly."

INDIA-USA likely to launch phased trade deal

MI News Service, New Delhi: India and the United States are nearing agreement on a major bilateral trade deal structured in two phases, a senior Indian trade official said.

In the first phase, the focus will be on resolving reciprocal tariffs; the second phase will address broader trade issues such as services, digital trade and non-tariff barriers. The official told Reuters that the two countries "could soon agree to address reciprocal tariffs as part of the first part of the agreement" and are "likely to address broader trade issues in the second part of the agreement". The pact on reciprocal tariffs will be part of a broader bilateral trade agreement, the official said.

"We should get a closure soon," the official added. India also announced a landmark energy agreement with the US. It will import around 10 per cent of its annual liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) needs under a "first-ever" deal with American suppliers.

Earlier this month, NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam had expressed confidence that some positive news on the long-delayed India-US bilateral trade agreement would come by the end of November.



Mortal remains of Wing Commander Namansh Syal, who lost his life in the LCA Tejas crash during the Dubai Air Show on Friday, brought to the Sullur Air Base for last rites, in Coimbatore.

Goa hosts 56th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIA

MI News Service, Goa: The 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2025 kicked off in Panjim, Goa with a colorful opening ceremony featuring cultural performances and tableaux representing various regions of India.

In a break from tradition, Goa's Governor Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju and Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant inaugurated the festival by watering a Tulsi plant, symbolizing environmental sustainability. Adding to this year's vibrancy, a grand carnival-style showcase was held as part of the opening ceremony, where various production houses presented cinema-inspired tableaux. The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) marked its 50-year journey with a striking and colorful tableau displaying iconic posters from Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron, The Lunchbox, Salaam Mumbai, and several other celebrated films.

Another highlight was a beautifully crafted tableau dedicated to Mahavatar Narsimha, which drew significant attention from attendees. Chief Minister Sawant in his speech highlighted Goa's growing role as a film destination, stating, "Goa is India's most preferred shooting destination," and emphasized the state's world-class infrastructure, tourism in-



Union Minister of State L. Murugan during the 48-hour film challenge at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), in Panaji, Goa.

dustry, and supportive policies for filmmakers. He also noted that reforms like the film finance scheme and single-window clearance have strengthened Goa's position in the global film industry. "India is at the forefront of this creativity revolution, and IFFI continues to be the bridge between Indian talent and global possibilities. IFFI is the platform where Indian creators, producers, and storytellers meet the world," Sawant added.

Governor Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju, marking his first IFFI experience, expressed pride in the festival's international scope, with 270 films from 84 countries. He acknowledged the contributions of former Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar in making IFFI a permanent event in Goa. "This year, the festival brings together 270 films from 84 countries, offering a rich blend of world cinema, Indian cinema, and emerging talent," the Governor said.

Huge gaps in juvenile justice system: Reports

MI News Service, New Delhi: Several structural gaps have been observed in the country's juvenile justice system with over 50,000 children in conflict with the law awaiting justice, according to the India Justice Report (IJR). Juvenile boards are yet to deliver orders on over half of the cases before them, and 24 per cent of the boards are functioning without a full bench, the IJR says. Apart from the slow-moving justice system, the report also flags structural gaps like weak information systems, under-inspected homes and wide state-level disparities that continue to afflict justice delivery to juveniles. Around 55 per cent of 1,00,904 cases before the juvenile justice boards (JJBs) are pending, with pendency ranging from 83 per cent in Odisha to 21 per cent in Mizoram. Bengal has 72 per cent pending cases, fourth among

14 states and two Union territories. The study was conducted based on a report submitted by 362 JJBs in these 14 states and Union Territories, Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. The findings show that 92 per cent of the country's 765 districts have constituted JJBs but one in four boards operates without a full bench. As of now, 707 boards are functioning across the country and it is mandatory under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, that every district has at least one fully constituted JJB. The IJR said that according to reports received from 470 of 707 boards, 24 per cent were found to be functioning without a full bench.

The rule says that every JJB must consist of a principal magistrate and two social workers, with one of the social workers a woman.

EU to reject India's bid for CBT exemption: Reports

MI News Service, New Delhi: The European Union will turn down India's request for an exemption from its Carbon Border Tax (CBT) in a setback that threatens to complicate already-sensitive trade negotiations both sides are hoping to wrap up before the close of the year. India has proposed imposing its own export fee on goods facing the EU's carbon levy, including steel, aluminium and fertilisers. Under this idea, exporters would be charged according to the value of shipments, rather than the carbon intensity of production. Brussels, however, is unconvinced. The FT reported that according to four EU officials, the model would do little to encourage Indian industry to cut emissions and could open the door to similar demands from the US and other trading partners. The EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) is designed to protect European

heavy industries, which must purchase emissions permits — currently around €80 per tonne — under the bloc's carbon market. Brussels has signalled that it may consider reducing CBAM-related charges if India adopts a domestic carbon pricing scheme; Delhi is still consulting on whether to introduce one. "There can be discussions around how any Indian effective carbon pricing could be deducted from CBAM, but not an exemption," one EU official told. The stakes are high. The EU is India's largest trading partner for goods, with bilateral commerce reaching \$139bn in 2023-24. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen agreed in February to push for a trade deal this year, partly driven by US President Donald Trump's return to office in Washington and the pressure both sides face in the US market.

DELHI BLAST: Agencies identify J&K students in Kanpur colleges

MI News Service, New Delhi/Kanpur: The anti-terrorist squad of Uttar Pradesh police and the National Investigation Agency, assigned to probe the November 10 Delhi blast, have started identifying students from Jammu and Kashmir who are studying in Kanpur.

Dr Shaheen Sayeed, who was arrested from Faridabad a few days before the Red Fort blast that claimed 13 lives, had worked in a government medical college in Kanpur before shifting to Faridabad. Sources in the police said sleuths of the agencies have been camping in Kanpur for the past two days and collecting data on current and former students from the Valley. Prem Narayan Vishwakarma, a local police inspector, told reporters: "We have verified the identity of some students from J&K who are studying in the medical college of Rama

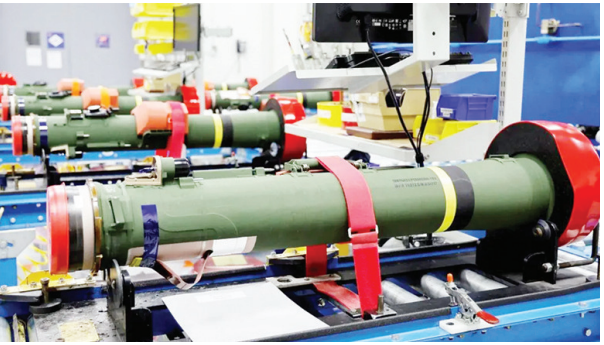
University in Bithoor. There are five Bachelor of Dental Surgery students, one MBBS and one MD student. They include four female and three male students. A total of 13 students have graduated from the university in the last two years. We have provided all details on them to the investigative agencies." "The agencies are trying to find out if any of the current or past students were in touch with her (Shaheen) or if she had helped them in getting admission in the medical colleges of Kanpur. However, it appears that, to date, several meritorious students have been diverted to terrorism. Those who were involved in indoctrination didn't

focus on those who got admission after paying a donation," said a police officer in Lucknow. "We are also collecting the details of the students from Kashmir who are studying in two private

medical colleges of Lucknow. There are medical colleges in Noida, Bareilly, Kanpur and Lucknow which have been particularly attracting students from the Valley for medical and engineering courses. There are inputs with the agencies that some of these students might have been assisted by the doctors who have been arrested for their involvement in the Delhi blast in getting admission there," said the officer. "We are also collecting the details of the fees these students have paid and the source of the funds they received at the time of admission and thereafter," the officer added.

Shaheen's younger brother, Dr Parvez Ansari, was teaching at a private medical college in Lucknow and was arrested a day after the blast. Besides Shaheen, over a half-dozen doctors have been arrested before and after the blast.

USA clears sale of JAVELIN MISSILES & EXCALIBUR PROJECTILES



MI News Service, New Delhi/Washington: The United States has approved two major military sales to India worth nearly \$93 million, strengthening New Delhi's anti-armour defence and precision-strike capabilities, according to notifications issued by the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) on 19 November.

The first approval covers a potential \$45.7 million sale of FGM-148 Javelin anti-tank missile systems, including 100 missiles, 25 command-launch units, training gear, simulation rounds, spare parts and full lifecycle support. "The US State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to India of the Javelin Missile System and related equipment for an estimated cost of \$45.7 million. The Defense Security Cooperation Agency delivered the required certification notifying Congress," a report by Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said. The purchase of US defence equipment is India's first under Washington's foreign military sales programme since ties soured in August after President Donald Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to 50 per cent as punishment for New Delhi's purchases of Russian oil. It follows a re-order this month of fighter jet engines made by General Electric to power more of India's home-produced Tejas combat aircraft. "The Government of India has requested to buy one hundred (100) FGM-148 Javelin rounds; one (1) Javelin FGM-148 missile, fly-to-buy; and twenty-five (25) Javelin Lightweight Command Launch Units (LwCLU) or Javelin Block 1 Command Launch Units (CLU). The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: Javelin LwCLU or CLU Basic Skills Trainers; missile simulation rounds; battery coolant unit; interactive electronic technical manual; Javelin operator manuals; lifecycle support; physical security inspection; spare parts; system integration and check out; Security Assistance Management Directorate (SAMD) technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions (TAGM) Project Office tech-

nical assistance; tool kits; training; Block 1 CLU refurbishment services; and other related elements of logistics and program support." "This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to strengthen the U.S.-India strategic relationship and to improve the security of a major defense partner which continues to be an important force for political stability, peace, and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific and South Asia regions," the report stated. DSCA further noted that India would face no difficulty absorbing the systems and that the sale would not alter the regional military balance. "The principal contractors will be a RTX Corporation/Lockheed Martin Javelin Joint Venture (JJV) of Orlando, Florida and Tucson, Arizona. At this time, the US government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor," the report added. It also stated, "Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional US government or contractor representatives to India. There will be no adverse impact on US defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale."

A second notification confirmed US approval for the \$47.1 million sale of M982A1 Excalibur precision-guided artillery rounds, including up to 216 projectiles, fire-control components, propellants, technical assistance and logistical support.

Both Javelin and Excalibur systems are already in limited service with the Indian Army, and the new procurements are intended to replenish stocks, expand capability and enhance interoperability with US-origin platforms. Separately, earlier this year, the Army signed a deal with UK-based Thales for the Light Weight Modular Missile (LMM) system to bolster air-defence preparedness. The laser beam-riding missile, equipped with a triple-effect warhead and proximity fuse, can target aircraft, helicopters,

Oil trade with Iran invites USA sanctions

MI News Service, New Delhi/Washington: The Trump administration has sanctioned entities and individuals from India involved in sales of Iran's petroleum and petroleum products, saying the funds from this trade support Tehran's regional terrorist proxies and procure weapons systems that are "a direct threat" to the US. The Departments of State and Treasury sanctioned shipping networks responsible for funding the Iranian regime's "malign activities" through illicit oil sales, as well as an airline and its affiliates that arm and supply Iran-backed terrorist groups.

Among those added to the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control Specially Designated Nationals List are Indian nationals Zair Husain Iqbal Hussain Sayed, Zulfiakar Hussain Rizvi Sayed, Maharashtra-based RN Ship Management Private Limited and Pune-based TR6 Petro



India LLP. The State Department is designating 17 entities, individuals, and vessels in several countries, including, but not limited to India, Panama, and the Seychelles, involved in Iran's petroleum and petroleum products sales, the administration said. Concurrently, the Department of the Treasury is designating 41 entities, individu-

als, vessels, and aircraft, intensifying its efforts against Iran's petroleum and petrochemical exports and disrupting financial streams and commercial operatives that support Iran's malign activities. The funds generated by this oil trade are used to support Iran's regional terrorist proxies and procure weapons systems that pose a

direct threat to US forces and American allies, the State Department said Thursday. The administration said TR6 Petro is an India-based petroleum products trader, which between October 2024 and June 2025, imported over USD 8 million worth of Iranian-origin bitumen from multiple companies.

It is being designated for knowingly engaging in a significant transaction for the purchase, acquisition, sale, transport, or marketing of petroleum or petroleum products from Iran, the State Department said. The Iranian regime continues to fuel conflict in the Middle East to fund its destabilising activities, the State Department said. This behaviour enables Iran to fund its nuclear escalations, support terrorist groups, and disrupt the flow of trade and freedom of navigation in waterways that are crucial to global prosperity and economic growth. The

United States will continue to act against the network of maritime service providers, dark fleet operators, and petroleum products traders involved in the transport of Iranian crude oil and petroleum products, it said. The State Department said the US will continue to act in support of National Security Presidential Memorandum 2 (NSPM-2), which directs the imposition of maximum pressure on the Iranian regime to deny it access to resources needed to sustain its destabilising activities.

"The United States remains committed to disrupting the illicit funding streams that finance all aspects of Iran's malign activities. As long as Iran devotes revenue to funding attacks against the United States and our allies, supporting terrorism around the world, and pursuing other destabilising actions, we will use all the tools at our disposal to hold the regime accountable," it said.

Ukrainian drone at tack sparks fire at Moscow power plant



MI News Service, Moscow: A Ukrainian drone attack sparked a fire at the Shatura Power Station in the Moscow region, regional governor Andrey Vorobyov said Sunday. Vorobyov said the station's power supply was not disrupted as backup lines were activated promptly. The fire at the station had been contained and posed no threat to residents, he added. Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said Sunday that at least three drones targeting the capital were shot down. According to Russia's Defense Ministry, 75 Ukrainian drones were downed overnight, including 36 over the Black Sea. The Shatura plant is a thermal power station located about 120 km east of Moscow.

Ukraine, U.S. to hold consultations on peace plan in Switzerland

MI News Service, Kiev: Delegations from Ukraine and the United States will hold consultations in Switzerland in the coming days on the possible parameters of a future peace agreement with Russia, Rustem Umerov, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, said Saturday. "This is another stage of the dialogue that has been ongoing in recent days and is primarily aimed at aligning our vision for the next steps," Umerov wrote on Facebook. He stressed that Ukraine is approaching the peace process "with a clear understanding of its interests." Earlier in the day, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky signed a decree establishing a delegation for talks with the United States, Ukraine's other partners and Russia, on a peace deal to bring an end to the Ukraine crisis. The delegation will be led by Andriy Yermak, head of the Presidential Office.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to inaugurate Haryana Pavilion at Brahma Sarovar in Kurukshetra on Nov 24

MI News Service, New Delhi, 23 Nov.25 : Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will inaugurate the Haryana Pavilion for the International Gita Mahotsav on November 24 (Monday). The next day, on November 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will arrive to participate in the Maha Aarti. Public participation in the International Gita Mahotsav is increasing, and this time, more than 70 lakh people are expected to attend. Several eminent personalities from across the country are participating in the ongoing International Gita Mahotsav in Kurukshetra, Haryana.

Houthi court sentences 18 Yemeni UN aid workers to death for allegedly spying for Israel

MI News Service, Sanaa: A Houthi-run court in Yemen's capital Sanaa on Saturday sentenced 18 Yemeni aid workers employed by United Nations humanitarian agencies to death for allegedly spying for Israel.

The ruling says that the "convicts" will be executed by firing squad in a public place in Sanaa. Meanwhile, the same court handed two others, including a woman, 10-year prison terms on the same charges.

In a statement broadcast by Houthi-run al-Masirah TV, the court accused the convicts of providing Israel, the United States, Britain, and Saudi Arabia with information on dozens of Houthi leaders' locations, movements, and secrets related to political, military, and security matters, as well as information about missiles, including

Alcohol-free beer gains popularity in Saudi Arabia

MI News Service, Riyadh: A12 Cafe on Tahlia Street has become one of the busiest spots in the Saudi Arabia's capital Riyadh after introducing draft non-alcoholic beer. The new drink has created a buzz among young Saudis and is widely discussed online. The cafe promotes the German Warsteiner 0.0 percent beer on Instagram, inviting customers to "try the real taste" served in pint-style glasses.

Videos shared on social media show people trying the drink for the first time. In one clip, Saudi women briefly lift their niqabs to take a sip. In another, a customer asks a waiter if the drink has alcohol. Their mix of curiosity and caution shows how unusual this drink still feels in a country where alcohol is



strictly banned. The cafe's manager, Abdallah Islam, told AFP that they wanted to give people "a fun experience they can share on social media." He said many more customers have visited since the drink was introduced. A young customer also told AFP that she was nervous at first because the drink looks like real beer, but later said it

was "refreshing."

Despite the growing popularity of non-alcoholic options, Saudi Arabia's alcohol ban remains firmly in place. The prohibition, in effect since the early 1950s, continues to be a central component of the Kingdom's social framework. The liquor store opened in Riyadh's diplomatic quarter in 2024 serves only non-Muslim diplomats.

India, Israel discuss ways to enhance cooperation in agriculture sector



MI News Service, New Delhi: India and Israel have discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in the agriculture sector, the commerce ministry said on Saturday.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal, who was on an official visit to Israel, met Israeli Minister of Agriculture and Food Security Avi Dichter for a detailed discussion on advancing agricultural collaboration.

Goyal also held a series of meetings during his official visit to Israel and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation across agriculture, technology, innovation and trade. The visit concluded on Saturday.

PM Modi, Japan PM hold talks on ways to deepen bilateral cooperation

MI News Service, Johannesburg, South Africa, 23 Nov.25 : November 23 (ANI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday discussed ways to accelerate bilateral cooperation with Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi.

PM Modi, during their meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Summit, said that the two are looking to enhance ties between their nations.

In a post on X, he said, "Had a productive meeting with Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi of Japan. We discussed ways to add momentum to bilateral cooperation in areas such as innovation, defence, talent mobility and more. We are also looking to enhance trade ties between our nations. A strong India-Japan partnership is vital for a better planet."

This meeting was the first time the two leaders met in person since Sanae Takaichi assumed office as Japan's first female Prime Minister in October 2025. PM Modi had previously held a congratulatory phone call with her on Octo-

ber 29, 2025.

Earlier, on October 29, PM Modi spoke with PM Takaichi and congratulated her on assuming office. He discussed the shared vision of advancing the partnership between the two countries, and the leaders underscored that stronger India-Japan ties are vital for global peace, stability and prosperity.

Sharing the details of the call in a post on X, PM Modi said, "Had a warm conversation with Sanae Takaichi, Prime Minister of Japan. Congratulated her on assuming office and discussed our shared vision for advancing the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership, with focus on economic security, defence cooperation and talent mobility. We agreed that stronger India-Japan ties are vital for global peace, stability and prosperity."

Earlier in the day, PM Narendra Modi interacted with Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund.

Air Force Officer's Final Goodbye To Husband Killed In Tejas Crash At Dubai Air Show

MI News Service, Shimla: Surrounded by family members, Wing Commander Afshan on Sunday paid her last respects to her husband, Wing Commander Namansh Syal, who lost his life in a Tejas fighter jet crash during the Dubai Air Show.

The Indian Air Force pilot's body was today brought to his ancestral village, Patialkar, in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh and cremated with full military honours.

He died in a crash on Friday.

A video showed his wife and fellow Air Force Officer Afshan fighting back tears as she saluted her husband.

His wife and their five-year-old daughter survive Namansh.

A dedicated fighter pilot and thorough professional, Wing Commander Syal served the nation with unwavering commitment, exceptional skill and an unyielding sense of duty, the Air Force said.

"His dignified persona earned him immense respect through a life de-



The BJP, which is the largest partner in the ruling NDA, has been alleging that "infiltration" was rampant in Seemanchal, which was leading to "demographic imbalance" in the region.

"The AIMIM has been fighting not just for Muslims, but for all people liv-

ing in Seemanchal, which has a high population of Dalits and tribals, too. We expect the new government to pay some attention to this neglected region, and not remain obsessed with Patna and Rajgir," Owaisi said.

Rajgir is a famous Buddhist pilgrimage town in

Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president Madani's Al Falah comments spark controversy

MI News Service, New Delhi : A fresh controversy has erupted after Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president Maulana Arshad Madani claimed systematic discrimination against Muslims of India, citing Al Falah University as an example. The Fairdabad-based university is under scrutiny following the Delhi Red Fort blast that killed 13 people and injured dozens. Several doctors working, including Dr Umar Un Nabi, who is believed to have been driving the Hyundai i20 car, are among the suspects.

"Look at what is happening in Al Falah. The founder, Jawad Siddiqui, is in jail, and who knows how many years he will have to be there," Madani said. He accused the Indian government of sidelining Muslims, preventing them from taking prominent government positions. "Since independence, the government has been working to prevent Muslims from rising, hence people say Muslims do not have leadership qualities," he alleged.

"The world thinks that Muslims are helpless, but I don't think so. A Muslim can become a mayor of New York, a Khan can become the mayor of London, but in India, a Muslim cannot even become a



vice-chancellor of a university," he cited examples of Zohran Mamdani, the newly-elected Mayor of New York, and Sadiq Khan, the Mayor of London.

Reacting sharply to the Jamiat Ulama-i-Hind president's post, Bharatiya Janata Party leader Mohsin Raza blamed the former of "looting Muslims of India and playing blame game." "This has been their dual character for a very long time. They kept receiving grants in the name of Muslim minorities for years but did nothing for them," he said. Congress leader Udit Raj backed Madani's remarks, arguing that an entire community should not be blamed for the actions of a few. "I support his statement... I agree that someone may have carried out a terrorist act at Al Falah University, but the university itself should not be targeted," he said.

Japan to prioritise security reforms amid rising Chinese "Hybrid Threats," NSB warns in report to legislature

MI News Service, Taipei, Taiwan, 23 Nov.25 : Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's government is expected to focus on security reforms and deterrence due to recent "hybrid" threats posed by China, as reported by the National Security Bureau (NSB) in a statement cited by the Taipei Times. The bureau provided a written assessment to the Legislative Yuan before an oral report and a question-and-answer session at the legislature's Foreign Affairs and National Defence Committee.

Japan's security reform agenda is set to strengthen security collaboration with the US, including bolstering defence deployments within the first island chain, advancing integrated command and operations of the Japan Self-Defence Forces alongside US Forces Japan, and expanding the military presence in the Nansei Islands, according to the Taipei Times report.

Furthermore, anchored in the US-Japan alliance, Japan may amplify coordinated efforts with South Korea, the Philippines, and Australia, jointly develop maritime capabilities, enhance cooperation with the EU and NATO, and establish a regional collective defence network amongst allies to reinforce deterrence against China, the bureau stated, as reported by the Taipei Times.

From October 26 to the following Monday, Japan and the US, along with their allies, conducted eight joint military training sessions or exercises, the NSB noted. Takaichi's remarks to the National Diet on November 7, indicating that a Taiwan contingency could constitute a "situation threatening Japan's survival" if it entails China using force, have triggered a backlash from Beijing, leading to a series of retaliatory actions against Japan. These responses included a Chinese diplomat's comment perceived by many as a threat to decapitate Takaichi, a live-fire exercise in the Yellow Sea, and various economic measures.

Israeli airstrikes kill at least 22 in Gaza as Hamas voices "anger" to mediators

MI News Service, Gaza: Gaza's Civil Defense said on Saturday that Israel launched a series of airstrikes on the Gaza Strip, resulting in at least 22 deaths and dozens of injuries in the enclave.

According to Mahmoud Bassal, spokesman for Gaza's Civil Defense, those killed included a commander from the al-Qasam Brigades, Hamas's armed wing.

A Hamas source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Xinhua that the movement has informed regional mediators of its "anger" over continued Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip, despite Hamas and other Palestinian factions adhering to the ceasefire agreement.



The source added that Hamas urged the mediators to "intervene immediately to prevent the collapse of the agreement as Israel seeks," stressing that the movement and other factions remain committed to the ceasefire despite the escalation.

The source also warned that Israel's continued killing of residents in the enclave, along with what he described as the U.S. "slow pressure" on Israel to restrain its actions, could push the situation toward potential chaos.

The Israeli army

launched wide-ranging attacks on several areas of the coastal enclave on Saturday afternoon, leaving multiple casualties, according to local medical sources.

In a statement, the Israel Defense Forces said its troops had completed a pursuit of 17 militants who emerged from a tunnel network in eastern Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip, killing 11 of them.

Since the ceasefire in Gaza took effect in October, Israeli attacks have killed 318 people and injured 788 others, bringing the total death toll since Oct. 7, 2023, to 69,733 and the number of injured to 170,863, according to the Gaza-based health authorities.

Ashes: Stokes focusing on 'getting the group back up for Brisbane' after heavy defeat in 1st Test

PERTH : England captain Ben Stokes emphasised the importance of allowing the hurt and frustration from a heavy defeat to Australia in the first Ashes Test to persist before turning attention to Brisbane.

Stokes and Co. lost the first Test of the Ashes series on Saturday, with the game ending in just two days and the hosts clinching an eight-wicket win. The shell-shocked English skipper, who called Travis Head's match-winning 123 'pretty incredible,' said he would wake up on Sunday with a focus on boosting England's morale.

"We've been in situations before where we have been behind in series, so our attitude that stands out that allows us to move on to the next game through good and through bad," Stokes told reporters after the conclusion of the Ashes opener here at the Perth Stadium.

"We're a very good team at, I think, dealing with emotions when we need to think about what we have got coming up next. (And) I'm a pretty level-headed person in terms of success and failure, so I'll wake up in the morning and still be incredibly disappointed. But all of my focus and all of my energy will be going into getting the group back up and moving our thoughts and what we need to do onto Brisbane," he added.

He remains confident that England, who seemed in control of the opening Test by leading by over 100 runs with nine wickets remaining at lunch, will not carry any baggage into the Gabba Test despite the remarkable turnaround on Saturday afternoon.

Tajjul and Murad guide Bangladesh to 2-0 series sweep

DHAKA : Hasan Murad broke Ireland's stubborn resistance on the final day, securing Bangladesh's 217-run victory in the second Test in Dhaka on Sunday.

Curtis Campher stood firm with an unbeaten 71 off 259 balls, and alongside Gavin Hoey, endured over 31 overs before Murad dismissed Hoey and No. 11 Matthew Humphreys with consecutive deliveries to seal a 2-0 series sweep.

Murad and Tajjul Islam each claimed four wickets, but the standout moment of the match belonged to Mushfiqur Rahim, who scored a century in his 100th Test. Tajjul also reached a personal milestone, becoming the sixth left-arm spinner to pick up 250 Test wickets; he had earlier overtaken Shakib Al Hasan's 246 to become Bangladesh's leading wicket-taker. Play had also been briefly halted on the third day due to an earthquake.



GUWAHATI : India's openers KL Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal ensured there were no setbacks and reached 9/0 in 6.1 overs at stumps on day two's play against South Africa at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium on Sunday. Due to light conditions deteriorating hugely, it brought another early end to the day, with India trailing South Africa by 480 runs.

Previously, South Africa posted a formidable 489 in their first innings, thanks to Senuran Muthusamy's 109 - his maiden Test century and Marco Jansen's explosive 93. The duo's career best scores in Tests took them to a commanding total and put them in a good position to draw the game. India's innings began with Rahul and Jaiswal negotiating the new ball with composure. The hosts got their first boundary when Marco Jansen bowled down leg and Jaiswal flicked him through square leg.

With Jansen and Wiaan Mulder being economical, India managed to be watchful till stumps arrived. With three days left in the game, pressure will be huge on India to level the series and save themselves from a second series loss at home in two years. Previously, Muthusamy showcased his ability to bat sensibly, a trait he had displayed in Rawalpindi and Chattogram before, to hit a superb century laced with 10 fours and two sixes. Jansen, meanwhile, hit a sparkling 93 and used his long levers well to smash six fours and seven sixes to put South Africa in a strong position of winning the match. For India, left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav finished with four wickets, while Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja claimed two apiece. Simon Harmer was the only South African batter not to reach double figures in an otherwise commanding display for the Proteas.

The final session began with Siraj providing India the breakthrough they desperately needed when Muthusamy attempted for a hook, but failed to keep it down and was caught at fine leg, ending his career-best knock of 109 that had blunted India since he came out to bat at 201/5.

Jansen continued to take charge - launching two towering sixes off Jadeja and taking a four and six off Siraj to push South Africa past 440, before Bumrah ripped out Simon Harmer's off-stump. Jansen continued to find boundaries and also featured in a defiant last wicket stand with Keshav Maharaj for 18 runs. But Jansen fell agonisingly short of a maiden Test hundred - chopping on to a Kuldeep googly for 93. But his innings included seven sixes - the joint highest tally in a knock for a lower order batter in India. With South Africa making a score more than any first-innings total to lose a Test in India, they have left themselves well-placed to push for a rare series win on Indian soil.

Brief Scores: South Africa 489 in 151.1 overs (Senuran Muthusamy 109, Marco Jansen 93; Kuldeep Yadav 4-115, Jasprit Bumrah 2-75) lead India 9/0 in 6.1 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 7 not out, KL Rahul 2 not out) by 480 runs.

India beat Australia to storm into the final of Women's T20 World Cup Cricket for Blind

COLOMBO : India delivered a powerhouse performance at the iconic P. Sara Oval, storming into the final of the 1st Women's T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind with a dominant nine-wicket win over Australia.

Earlier, in a commanding display of precision and confidence, India overpowered the USA in Match 6, securing their fourth consecutive win and earning a direct berth in the semifinals.

USA, choosing to bat first, posted 60/8 in 20 overs, with resilient knocks from Tatyana (17 off 41, B2) and Caroline (12 off 26, B2). India's disciplined bowling unit - Simranjeet Kour (B2), Sunita Srathe (B2), Simu Das (B1), and Ganga Kadam (B3) - kept tight control over the innings, supported by alert fielding that produced multiple run-outs, each bowler claiming one wicket.

Chasing 61 in the Sri Lanka capital, India produced an emphatic and unbeaten performance, finishing the match in just 3.3 overs. B2 batter Simranjeet Kour, later named Player of the Match, dominated with a blistering 31 off 12 balls*, while B3 batter Kavya N.R added a swift 21 off 12* to seal the chase with authority. India's clinical execution across B1, B2, and B3 categories stood in poignant contrast to the spirited determination of the young USA team - a team closely nurtured and deeply cherished by Samarthanam USA and CABI. The innings was anchored by Player of the Match Basanti Hansda, whose composure and class defined India's chase. The tournament brought together six nations - India, Australia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, and the United States of America - marking a new chapter in the global movement for inclusive cricket. The inauguration of the event witnessed the presence of several eminent dignitaries from politics, diplomacy, corporate and sports sectors, who will join hands to encourage and celebrate the inspiring women athletes representing the visually impaired community.



A participant takes part in a long jump competition during the Bastar Olympics 2025 at Dharampura Athletes Stadium in Jagdalpur, Bastar district, on Sunday.

KL Rahul to captain India in ODIs against South Africa, Pant, Jadeja, Gaikwad return

NEW DELHI : Senior wicketkeeper-batter KL Rahul has been named captain of India's ODI squad for the upcoming three-game series against South Africa, starting on November 30. The series will also see the return of Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja and Ruturaj Gaikwad into the 50-over set-up.

IANS had previously reported on Sunday that due to Shubman Gill and Shreyas Iyer unavailable due to neck and spleen injuries respectively and recuperating under specialists' care in Mumbai the leadership duties toss-up was between Rahul and Pant.

IANS understands that Rahul being a first-choice player in the ODIs meant he got the nod to be India's captain for the series against the Proteas ahead of Pant, who's leading India in the ongoing second Test in Guwahati. Rahul has captained India 12 times in ODIs from 2022 to 2023. He was also the captain when India beat South Africa in the 50-over series by 2-1 in 2023.

Pant, meanwhile, makes a return to the ODI team as well after rehab for a fractured right foot prevented him from playing in the series against Australia last month, where India lost 2-1. With Gill unavailable, Yashasvi Jaiswal retains his place and could well open with Rohit Sharma against



the Proteas. But he will face stiff competition from Gaikwad, who has been in scintillating form of late and is coming off hitting a century and a half-century in a three-match 50-over series against South Africa 'A' in Rajkot. Left-handed batter Tilak

Varma also makes a return after his last ODI came in December 2023, while Dhruv Jurel retains his spot. It will be interesting to see who between Pant, Varma and even Rahul could bat at four in Iyer's absence.

Veteran spin-bowling all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who was left out of the three-game ODI series in Australia, has been included for the series at the expense of Axar Patel, who could feature in the subsequent five-match T20I series.

With Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj rested, India's fast bowling options for the series are Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh and seam-bowling all-rounders in Harshit Rana and Nitish Kumar Reddy, especially with Hardik Pandya undergoing rehab for quadriceps injury. The three ODIs between India and South Africa will be held in Ranchi (November 30), Raipur (December 3) and Visakhapatnam (December 6).

India squad: Rohit Sharma, Yashasvi Jaiswal, Virat Kohli, Tilak Varma, KL Rahul (captain & wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja, Kuldeep Yadav, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Harshit Rana, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Prasidh Krishna, Arshdeep Singh, and Dhruv Jurel

Sanju Samson included in Kerala senior team for Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy



KOCHI : India white-ball player Sanju Samson will lead the Kerala senior men's cricket team in the BCCI Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy 2025/26 (Elite Group-A, League Stage) cricket tournament to be played at Lucknow from November 26 to December 8, 2025.

The Kerala Cricket Association informed in a release that Sanju Samson will be the captain of the squad, which will leave for Lucknow on November 22, 2025, from Indore.

Samson, who recently joined five-time Indian Premier League (IPL) champions Chennai Super Kings from Rajasthan Royals in a trade that involved Ravindra Jadeja and Sam Curran going the other way in the biggest trade this season, was part of the Indian squad at the recent Asia Cup T20 that India won in the UAE a few months back. Samson will be hoping to maintain his recent form ahead of the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 to be jointly hosted by India and Sri Lanka.

The squad coached by former India batter Amay Khurasiya also includes Vignesh Puthur, who was recently released by the Mumbai Indians. Also among other prominent players are Mohammed Azharuddeen M and Rohan S Kunnummal.

The Kerala squad:
Sanju V Samson (C)(WK), Rohan S Kunnummal, Mohammed Azharuddeen M (WK), Ahammed Imran (VC), Vishnu Vinod (WK), Nidheesh M.D, Asif KM, Akhil Scaria, Biju Narayanan N., Ankit Sharma, Krishna Devan R.J, Abdul Bazith P.A, Sharafuddeen N.M, Sibin P Gireesh, Krishna Prasad, Saly V Samson, Vignesh Puthur, Salman Nizar.

The team officials include
Nazir Machan - Observer, Amay Khurasiya - Head Coach, Davis J Manavalan - Coach, Vyshakh Krishna - S&M:C Coach, Unnikrishnan R S - Physiotherapist, Gireesh E K - Throw down Specialist, Deepesh Sharma - Throw down Specialist, Vijay Srinivasan P S - Performance Analyst, Kiran A S - Team Masseur.

P Prasanth - Chairman of the Selection Committee will accompany the team



2nd Test: Rahul, Jaiswal help India escape unscathed after Muthusamy-Jansen take SA to 489

GUWAHATI : India's openers KL Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal ensured there were no setbacks and reached 9/0 in 6.1 overs at stumps on day two's play against South Africa at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium on Sunday. Due to light conditions deteriorating hugely, it brought another early end to the day, with India trailing South Africa by 480 runs.

Previously, South Africa posted a formidable 489 in their first innings, thanks to Senuran Muthusamy's 109 - his maiden Test century and Marco Jansen's explosive 93. The duo's career best scores in Tests took them to a commanding total and put them in a good position to draw the game. India's innings began with Rahul and Jaiswal negotiating the new ball with composure. The hosts got their first boundary when Marco Jansen bowled down leg and Jaiswal flicked him through square leg.

With Jansen and Wiaan Mulder being economical, India managed to be watchful till stumps arrived. With three days left in the game, pressure will be huge on India to level the series and save themselves from a second series loss at home in two years. Previously, Muthusamy showcased his ability to bat sensibly, a trait he had displayed in Rawalpindi and Chattogram before, to hit a superb century laced with 10 fours and two sixes. Jansen, meanwhile, hit a sparkling 93 and used his long levers well to smash six fours and seven sixes to put South Africa in a strong position of winning the match. For India, left-arm wrist-spinner Kuldeep Yadav finished with four wickets, while Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Ravindra Jadeja claimed two apiece. Simon Harmer was the only South African batter not to reach double figures in an otherwise commanding display for the Proteas.

The final session began with Siraj providing India the breakthrough they desperately needed when Muthusamy attempted for a hook, but failed to keep it down and was caught at fine leg, ending his career-best knock of 109 that had blunted India since he came out to bat at 201/5.

Jansen continued to take charge - launching two towering sixes off Jadeja and taking a four and six off Siraj to push South Africa past 440, before Bumrah ripped out Simon Harmer's off-stump. Jansen continued to find boundaries and also featured in a defiant last wicket stand with Keshav Maharaj for 18 runs. But Jansen fell agonisingly short of a maiden Test hundred - chopping on to a Kuldeep googly for 93. But his innings included seven sixes - the joint highest tally in a knock for a lower order batter in India. With South Africa making a score more than any first-innings total to lose a Test in India, they have left themselves well-placed to push for a rare series win on Indian soil.

Brief Scores: South Africa 489 in 151.1 overs (Senuran Muthusamy 109, Marco Jansen 93; Kuldeep Yadav 4-115, Jasprit Bumrah 2-75) lead India 9/0 in 6.1 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 7 not out, KL Rahul 2 not out) by 480 runs.