

Drawing a sharp contrast between Purulia's troubled past and its present situation, Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday called upon voters to wipe out the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from the district in the upcoming Assembly elections. Addressing a public meeting in Purulia, Banerjee highlighted issues of development, peace, and governance while strongly attacking the BJP, the Left, and the Central government. From the dais, Abhishek Banerjee recalled the unrest that prevailed in Purulia before 2011, pointing to poor connectivity, lack of development, and widespread fear due to Maoist activities in the Junglemahal region. He claimed that those "dark days" are now a thing of the past, asserting that peace and normalcy have returned to the area under the Trinamool Congress government led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.



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Morning India

Pak based illegal arms supply module busted in Punjab



The arrested accused were involved in illegal arms trafficking and supplying weapons to gangsters under directions of foreign handlers

Gaurav Yadav
DGP Punjab Police

MI News Service, Amritsar : The Punjab Police said it unearthed a cross-border illegal arms module linked to Pakistan-based smugglers on Wednesday, and have arrested two persons in this connection. Some arms and ammunition were also recovered from them. The Amritsar Commissionerate Police also recovered six sophisticated pistols (two Glock, four .30 bore) along with two cartridges, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said. The arrested accused were involved in illegal arms trafficking and supplying weapons to gangsters under directions of foreign handlers, Yadav said in a post on X. The arrests and seizure were made days after the security forces thwarted what officials describe as a major threat, recovering a large cache of assault weapons in Pathankot. The arms and ammunition were learnt to be used by terror modules, according to the police. The Punjab Police, in a statement, said that it has unearthed a cross-border illegal arms module linked to Pakistan-based smugglers with the arrest of two persons. The arrested accused were involved in illegal arms trafficking and supplying weapons to gangsters under directions of foreign handlers, Yadav said in another post on X. An FIR has been registered under the Arms Act at Police Station Islamabad in Amritsar, he added. "In a major breakthrough, Amritsar Commissionerate Police busts a cross-border illegal arms module linked to Pakistan-based smugglers, apprehends 2 operatives and recovers 6

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FIR filed against EC for elderly man's death over 'SIR anxiety'

MI News Service, Kolkata : In an unprecedented move an FIR has been lodged against none other than the Election Commission in Purulia district in connection with the death of an 82-year-old man who allegedly ended his life due to "anxiety over the ongoing SIR" three weeks ago, a senior officer said here on Wednesday. Based on a complaint by his son at the Para Police Station, the case was registered 23 days after the mishap, he said.

"The case includes charges of abetment of suicide and criminal conspiracy against officials of the Election Commission. No official was, however, named in the FIR," the officer said. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar and West Bengal's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Manoj Kumar Agarwal are facing a police complaint in Purulia district following the tragic death of an



Bengal SIR: Durjan Majhi, who died by suicide hours before SIR hearing.

elderly man. The family of Durjan Majhi, a former Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) employee who committed suicide last month, has accused the top officials of mental harassment and abetment to suicide, claiming the high-pres-

family, Majhi had been spiraling into a state of deep anxiety ever since the SIR verification began. Although he had submitted his

The case includes charges of abetment of suicide and criminal conspiracy against officials of the Election Commission. No official was, however, named in the FIR

enumeration forms, he was summoned for hearing, a development that reportedly left him terrified of being stripped of his citizenship or deported to Bangladesh.

On the day he was scheduled to appear for the hearing, he told his family he was going to call a rickshaw to take him to the venue.

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Mamata Banerjee tells DMs to follow SC norms on Electoral roll revision



MI News Service, Kolkata : West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee has urged the District Magistrates to 'strictly follow' the Supreme Court's directives regarding the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, emphasizing that people shouldn't be harassed for "logical discrepancies".

She made it clear at the meeting that all hearings related to SIR must be conducted strictly in accordance with the apex court's directives. The CM specifically instructed officials to ensure that people are not put to inconvenience under the pretext of logical discrepancies

She underlined that documents declared valid by the Supreme Court including admit card of the Secondary Education, must be accepted during hearings without exception.

District magistrates were also instructed to ensure that receipts are issued after documents are submitted," the official said. Voters who are unable to attend hearings on the scheduled dates must make other arrangements, according to the Chief minister. She stated that the state's development initiatives should never be interfered with, even while the Election Commission's activities must continue. She said that state authorities shouldn't be afraid because her government is solidly behind them and that all development plans must be finished within the allotted period.



Security personnel maintain vigilance along the Jammu & Kashmir National Highway ahead of Republic Day, conducting vehicle checks and random frisking to ensure a secure environment, in Jammu.

India brings back diplomats' families from Bangladesh

MI News Service, New Delhi/Dhaka : Ahead of the February 12 election and referendum and because of the prevailing tense situation in Bangladesh, India has withdrawn all family members and dependents of diplomats and other officials from the Indian High Commission in Dhaka and other missions in that country, official sources said citing prevailing security situation.

In the wake of increasing activities of extremist elements in Bangladesh, the move comes barely three weeks before the next month's parliamentary elections there. "Given the security situation, as a precautionary measure, we have advised the dependents of our officials in the High Commission and other posts to return to India," the sources said and further clarified that the mission and all posts in Bangladesh will, however, remain open and operational. A "non-family" posting is one of the most stringent security measures. These are generally imposed in a coun-



We continue to witness a disturbing pattern of recurring attacks on minorities as well as their homes and businesses by extremists

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal

try or location deemed unstable or hazardous. There is no clarity on when the families of the officials are expected to withdraw and whether they will return

to India. Apart from the High Commission in Dhaka, India has diplomatic posts in Chattogram, Khulna, Rajshahi, and Sylhet. India-Bangladesh relations have been strained ever since the interim government headed by Muhammad Yunus came to power in August 2024, following the collapse of the Sheikh Hasina regime. Both sides have increased security at their missions amid recent protests. Violence against Hindus in Bangladesh has also seen a spike ever since the death of student leader Sharif Osman Hadi on December 12. The move comes weeks before parliamentary elections are to be held in Bangladesh on February 12. India raised concerns over the violence and called on Bangladesh to firmly deal with communal incidents in the country.

"We continue to witness a disturbing pattern of recurring attacks on minorities as well as their homes and

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Bengal ASHA workers detained amid plans to intensify protests

MI News Service, Kolkata: Several ASHA workers were on Wednesday detained, while they were on their way to the headquarters of the state's health department near Kolkata to take part in a march to press for demands, including a hike in the minimum monthly honorarium, police said.

The protesting Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), who have been on a 'cease-work' since December 23, were detained from various districts in the state, as a precautionary measure, they said. A section of the agitators claimed that police set up barricades outside Seal dah and Howrah railway stations, where they arrived in trains from several districts since early morning. Some protesters were seen squatting on the platforms at these stations. "We have been prevented from exiting Howrah station since 6.30 am," an ASHA worker from Uttar Dinajpur alleged. Several agitators were also detained near Swasthya Bhawan, the health department headquarters, where they had gathered earlier in the day to intensify their protest, a police officer said. The agitating ASHA workers had earlier marched to Swasthya Bhawan on January 8, followed by another protest demonstration on January 12, seeking a meeting with senior health officials over their long-pending demand for a fixed monthly salary instead of performance-linked incentives. Their demands include a minimum monthly honorarium of Rs 15,000 and

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Adani Group plans Rs 6 lakh cr investment blueprint for India



Chairman of Adani Group Gautam Adani announces investment proposal for Rs 6 lakh crore in India

MI News Service, Mumbai / Davos : The country's top most industrial conglomerate - the Adani Group - has outlined an investment blueprint of more than Rs 6 lakh crore across aviation, clean energy, urban infrastructure, digital platforms and advanced manufacturing in the country, signalling a new phase of large-scale private capital deployment aligned with India's growth priorities. Presenting its plans at the 56th World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting in Davos on Wednesday, the conglomerate said the investments span Maharashtra, Assam and Jharkhand and reflect a strategic shift from standalone asset creation to integrated, technology-led infrastructure platforms.

narrow- and wide-body aircraft, positioning Guwahati as a regional aviation hub for the Northeast. The Group also announced large-scale renewable energy projects in Assam's Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts, together adding more than 2,700 megawatts of solar capacity. Complementary investments include cement manufacturing and grinding units to strengthen construction supply chains in eastern and northeastern India.

In Maharashtra, Adani Group's proposed investments are anchored by urban redevelopment, digital infrastructure and next-generation energy systems. These include the Dharavi redevelopment project in Mumbai, the Navi Mumbai International Airport - which began operations on December 25 and associated logistics, commercial and hospitality ecosystems. The Maharashtra portfolio further includes plans for green data centre parks with a combined capacity of 3,000 MW, an integrated arena district near the airport, pumped storage hydropower projects totalling 8,700 MW, coal gasification initiatives, semiconductor and display fabrication facilities, and a

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Air Force One carrying Trump develops 'minor electrical issue' on way to Davos

MI News Service, Washington (DC): US President Donald Trump's official aircraft, Air Force One, on the way to Davos in Switzerland for the World Economic Forum had to return to Joint Base Andrews near Washington DC after a "minor electrical issue" was detected on-board.



File Photo

Nearly an hour after take off on Tuesday night, the crew of Air Force One identified "a minor electrical issue" and, out of an abundance of caution, the plane was turned around, landing at Joint Base Andrews near here, according to information provided by reporters onboard the aircraft. On his return at the Air Force Base, Trump and his entourage boarded a new aircraft, according to White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt. She said the decision to return was taken in flight when the

crew identified "a minor electrical issue" and out of an abundance of caution, decided to turn around.

A reporter on board said the lights in the press cabin of the aircraft went out briefly soon after

take off, but no explanation was immediately given. About half an hour into the flight, reporters were told the plane would be turning around. Later, Trump boarded another aircraft, an Air Force C-32, a modified Boeing 757 normally used by the President for domestic trips to smaller airports, and continued on with his trip to the World Economic Forum in Davos shortly after midnight.

The two planes currently used as Air Force One have been flying for nearly four decades. Boeing has been working on replacements, but the programme has faced a series of delays. The planes are heavily modified with survivability capabilities for the President for a range of contingencies, including radiation shielding and antimissile technology. They also include a variety of communications systems to allow

the President to remain in contact with the military and issue orders from anywhere in the world. Last year, the ruling family of Qatar gifted Trump a luxury Boeing 747-8 jumbo jet to be added into the Air Force One fleet, a move that faced great scrutiny. That plane is currently being retrofitted to meet security requirements.

Leavitt joked to reporters on Air Force One Tuesday night that a Qatari jet was sounding "much better" right now. Last February, another Air Force plane carrying Secretary of State Marco Rubio to Germany had to return to Washington because of a mechanical issue. In October, a third military aircraft carrying Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth had to make an emergency landing in United Kingdom due to a crack in the windshield.

Police accused of stopping and obstructing campaign of Asha workers

MI News Service, Kharagpur: Police stopped Asha workers from various areas of Paschim Medinipur district who were going to participate in the Swasthya Bhawan gherao program. Asha workers were stopped in Medinipur, Belda, Narayangarh railway station premises. During this, three people were arrested. Unable to go to Medinipur station, Asha workers started protesting by lying on the railway line. Many people joined the protest against Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee as well as the police of the ruling party. According to Asha workers, Asha workers are on strike since December 17 for several demands including



salary hike. On this day, while going on the Swasthya Bhawan Abhiyan, he was stopped by the police from boarding the train. There was an argument between the ASHA workers and the police. ASHA workers say that not only in the train, but after leaving home, their vehicles were stopped in various areas including Khakurda of Belda police station. The police have arrested a total of three people. It is alleged that even from inside the train, the police again dropped the protesters at different stations. Let us tell you that 75 thousand Asha workers of the state have called for a dharna and gherao at the District Health Building, demanding a salary of Rs 15,000 per month.

Gas cylinder explosion leaves one critical

MI News Service, Ghatol: A powerful explosion rocked Shyamsunderpur Battala in Ghatol on Tuesday night after a suspected gas cylinder blast at a roadside gas oven repair shop, triggering across the area and leaving one person critically injured.

The force of the blast was intense that the tin roof of the shop was blown completely off, flying through the air before getting lodged in the branches of a nearby banyan tree. Residents reported that the shockwave was felt nearly a kilometer away, with many initially mistaking it for an earthquake. According to police and local sources, the explosion occurred while repair work on gas ovens was underway inside the shop. A 5 kg gas cylinder, believed to be used for repair through the exact cause is yet to be confirmed. One man, identified as Nabadwip Pramanik, who was inside the shop at the time, locals and personnel from Daspur police station rushed to the spot immediately after the incident and rescued the injured man. He was first taken to nearby hospital and later shifted to a hospital in Kolaghat, where he remains in critical condition. Eyewitness describe scenes of chaos and devastation. "The blast shook the entire area like a massive tremor. People ran out of their houses in fear," said Karthik Dolui, a local resident. "Only later did we learn it was a cylinder explosion." Local panchayat head Lalut Chakraborty confirmed that the shop owner was involved in gas oven repair work and was possession of a small gas cylinder.



Asha workers held a protest over their various demands including salary increase in Kolkata on Wednesday.

ISF's Rights Rally at Shahid Minar

Nurul Islam Khan Wednesday, the January 21st, marks the founding day of the ISF. To commemorate the party's sixth anniversary, a massive rights rally was held at the Shaheed Minar in Kolkata. The streets of Kolkata were abuzz with processions. Thousands of party workers and supporters from various districts of the state flocked to the Shaheed Minar grounds.

This area in Dharmatala, the heart of Kolkata, was overflowing with people. The biggest achievement for the party workers today was the presence of their elder leader, Pirezada Abbas Siddiqui.

The supporters were overjoyed to see both brothers on the same stage. Although Abbas Siddiqui arrived towards the end of the rally, his presence provided a significant boost to the event.

It's worth mentioning that MLA Naushad Siddiqui had faced obstacles while trying to hold a rally in this very Dharmatala area and even spent 41 days in jail. This rally was highly significant ahead of the



upcoming assembly elections. Millions of their workers were waiting for new directions. From the rally, MLA Naushad directly challenged the state government. He said that if the BJP performs well in any assembly constituency where the ISF fields a candidate, the ISF will take responsibility. He said they would accept whatever punishment the people mete out. And if the BJP benefits from the competition with the Trinamool Congress candidates, then what will the Trinamool do? He threw down an open challenge. He then urged all supporters to ensure their children receive higher education. He also emphasized

maintaining political courtesy. He cautioned against taking the law into their own hands. He spoke out against the harassment of ordinary people due to the SIR (Special Investigation Report). He warned against the removal of names from the list of legitimate voters. He also demanded the repeal of the new Waqf Act. Several demands were collectively presented, including the reinstatement of OBC reservation and the cancellation of fake ST/SC certificates. Although MLA Naushad Siddiqui was the main speaker at Wednesday's rally, other senior party leaders also addressed the gathering.

From Haveli to Hariyali: Madawa conclave maps heritage future

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a powerful convergence of heritage sustainability and policy vision, the Government of Rajasthan showcased its commitment to conservation-driven development at the NDTV Conclave "Rising Rajasthan - Vikas Bhi, Virasat Bhi", held on December 24 at the historic Madawa Castle, Front Mandawa. A key highlight of the conclave was the high-level panel discussion titled "Haveli Se Hariyali Tak," which underlined the state's effort to balance economic growth with the preservation of its rich architectural and cultural inheritance.

The session drew national attention by bringing together conservationists, policymaker and experts from across India, including strong representation from Bengal's heritage sector. Among the distinguished invitees was Sandip Nowlakha, founding Member of the Murshidabad Heritage Development Society and Founder -President of Atuliyia Virasat Manyata Sanasthan (AVMS), whose decades-long work in heritage conservation earned him recognition on the Rajasthan platform. His participation marked a significant Bengal-Rajasthan dialogue on sustained conservation models. The panel also featured Shri Arijit Banerjee, IFS, Head of Forest Force, Rajasthan; Dr Shikha Jain, Architect and Founder-Director of DRONAH; Shri Durga Singhji, Conservationist and Tourism Expert; and Dr Shrutti Poddar, Heritage Conservationist and INTACH Convenor. Shekhawati



Chapter. Together, they examined Rajasthan's famed Shekhawati havelis—often described as open-air art galleries—and discussed ongoing efforts to develop them as potential UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The theme "Haveli Se Hariyali Tak" symbolised a holistic approach, linking architectural conservation with environmental stewardship and sustainable urbanism. Contributors to Rajasthan's developmental narrative shared strategies to protect both cultural and natural landscapes, stressing that heritage preservation must evolve alongside ecological responsibility. Addressing the conclave, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma outlined the state's developmental roadmap, asserting that progress and preservation were not opposing goals but complementary pillars of governance. During the discussion, emphasis was placed on long-term policy frameworks and community-oriented preservation strategies. The annual Shekhawati Festival was cited as a key initiative in promot-

ing the region's artistic legacy and boosting heritage tourism, while reinforcing public engagement with conservation efforts. Drawing parallels with Bengal, Shri Nowlakha highlighted the conservation journey of Murshidabad, home to 97 identified heritage sites, including historic colleges, museums, churches and a unique cluster of fourteen Jain temples. He shared insights into successful, community-led conservation models adopted in Murshidabad and other parts of Bengal, stressing that heritage survival depends on public participation as much as policy support. "Festivals are not merely cultural events," he noted, "they are instruments to build pride, responsibility and ownership among local communities." He also expressed admiration for the Ramgarh havelis, praising their frescoes and narrative murals that document lifestyle, faith and social history with rare artistic depth. During the conclave, Dr Shrutti Poddar was honoured with the AVMS plaque for her contributions to heritage conservation in Ramgarh. The plaque was presented by Diya Kumari, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Tourism and PWD, Government of Rajasthan, along with Sandip Nowlakha. Concluding his remarks, Nowlakha drew attention to a critical contrast in conservation challenges. While Rajasthan's stone-built heritage structures offer relative durability, Bengal's historic buildings—often constructed with mud and clay—pose complex restoration challenges.

Conference on Human Rights Awareness and Social Security for Unorganised Sector Workers - 2026

MI News Service, Hooghly: BRMGUSU Leads Human Rights & Social Security Meet for Unorganised Workers A massive conference on Human Rights Awareness and Social Security for Unorganised Sector Workers - 2026 was held at Dunlop Maidan, Hooghly, with participation of over 20,000 rail-



way Mall Godam labourers from across West Bengal. Organised by BRMGUSU and Bharatiya Labour Union with support from SGT University and Nomo Foundation, the meet focused on labour rights and social security. Inaugurating the programme, BRMGUSU President Dr. Parimal Kanti Mondal said, "Without unity and legal awareness, dignity of labour cannot be protected." NHRM Member Priyank Kanoong assured action on workers' grievances. The conference ended with a renewed resolve to strengthen collective struggle for unorganised workers' rights.

Notice issued to BLO in his own name

MI News Service, Kharagpur: A shocking and shocking case has come to light from Keshpur block of Paschim Medinipur district, where a Booth Level Officer (BLO) had to personally receive the notice in his own name to prove the authenticity of his citizenship and being a voter. This incident took place at booth number 198, Basanchak area of Keshpur assembly constituency. Malay Mallik, a teacher by profession, at the booth located at Basanchak Primary School. Working as a BLO. The name of BLO Malay Mallik himself was included in the list of voters to whom notices were sent for hearing on the basis of 'logical discrepancy' (logical discrepancy) in the voter list by the Election Commission. Since he is the BLO of the same booth, hence as per the rules, he had to receive the notice in his own name himself. Malay Mallik told that his father Shankar Prasad Mallik had passed away about one and a half years ago. In all the current valid documents, his father's name is recorded as 'Shankar Prasad Mallik', whereas in the voter list of the year 2002, his father's name was written only as 'Shankar Mallik'. On the basis of variation in the same name, the Election Commission has summoned him for hearing. Malay raised the question that when his father's name is clearly mentioned in all his government and legal documents, then why is he being called as a criminal. Hurt by this whole incident, Malay Mallik reacted sharply and said that he himself is distributing notices to the people as a BLO, but now he himself has to prove whether he is a valid voter or not. Expressing his displeasure, he said that first the Election Commissioner himself should give proof of his citizenship, after that proof should be sought from BLOs like us. It is noteworthy that Malay Mallik is a teacher in a junior high school located in Kolaghat block of Purb Medinipur district, where only three teachers are working. He told that due to the work of BLO, pressure of voter list amendment and now hearing notice, he is not able to go to school regularly. This new process has further increased his mental problems. He asked whether he should distribute the notice to the public or go to the court himself and get the affidavit prepared.

National Seminar on Rural Tourism in India held at the Univ of Kalyani

MI News Service, Kalyani: In recent years, rural tourism has gained increasing recognition worldwide as a promising and sustainable industry. Over the past few decades, extensive academic research has been conducted on this subject from diverse perspectives. Like many other countries, India has formulated and implemented several effective governmental policies to promote rural tourism. Rural tourism plays a crucial role in creating alternative employment opportunities for rural communities and in strengthening the rural economic base.



In this context, the Department of Folklore, the Department of Rural Development Studies, and the Department of Geography of the University of Kalyani jointly organized a successful two-day National Seminar entitled "Rural Tourism in India: Interdisciplinary Research and Policy Implications" on 20-21 January. The seminar was formally inaugurated by the Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Kallol Pal. In his inaugural address, he highlighted the scope, relevance, and research potential of rural tourism in the contemporary academic context and encouraged young researchers to engage more deeply with this emerging field.

The keynote address during the inaugural session was delivered by Professor Nimit Ranjan Chowdhary, Vice-Chancellor of Rajasthan Technical University and a renowned expert in tourism studies. In his lecture, he emphasized the impact of rural tourism on the global economy and underscored the importance of understanding and strengthening rural distinctiveness, as well as local socio-environmental contexts, to achieve sustainable and inclusive development.

Distinguished guests present at the inaugural session included Professor Tapati Chakrabarti, Vice-Chancellor of Kanyashree University; Professor Neelashish Nandi, Dean of the Faculty of Science; and Professor Anirban Mukhopadhyay, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Technology, and Management. As invited speakers in the main academic sessions, twelve eminent and well-established academicians from leading universities across various states of India participated in the seminar. Professor Ghulam Khan from Australia also attended the seminar.

The seminar witnessed active participation from more than a hundred teachers, researchers, and students representing different universities and academic disciplines across India, with sixty research papers being presented. During the discussion segments of each academic session, participants offered in-depth analyses of various aspects of rural tourism, drawing upon their field observations, critical perspectives, and practical experiences. The seminar thus provided a valuable platform for meaningful academic exchange and interaction among senior scholars, young researchers, and students.

The Seminar Coordinator, Professor Sujay Kumar Mandal, remarked that rural and cultural tourism is a dynamic

field with immense research potential and urged researchers to actively explore its evolving dimensions. He also emphasized the need to establish a dedicated department or centre at the University in the future for teaching and research in tourism studies.

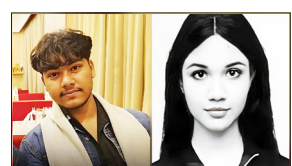
Another significant highlight of the seminar was the formal release of the abstract volume of research papers and a book titled Rural Tourism in West Bengal. The book was authored by Professor Uday Bhanu Bhattacharya, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Commerce of the University. As the Convenor of the seminar, he observed that research and teaching in rural tourism need to be further strengthened through an interdisciplinary approach.

The first day of the seminar concluded with a vibrant cultural programme organized by the Department of Folklore, featuring performances by students and research scholars of the host University. The programme was anchored by Dr. Debalina Deb Nath, Head of the Department of Folklore.

Participants expressed that the seminar was highly enriching and appreciated not only the academic deliberations but also the excellent organization and warm hospitality extended by the organizers, which left a lasting impression on them.

Defence Questions Police Probe in Ishita Mallik Murder Case

MI News Service, Krishnanagar: The defence on Tuesday raised serious questions over the role of the police during the hearing of the Ishita Mallik murder case at a Krishnanagar court in Nadia district. Appearing for the accused, Deshraj Singh, advocate Shamsul Islam Molla alleged that the police had "fabricated" evidence and manipulated facts related to the place of occurrence.



covered strands of Ishita's hair, a hair clip, and two cartridge shells. The defence questioned how cartridge shells surfaced a day later when nothing was found initially.

On Monday, the court recorded the statement of the victim's mother, Kusum Mallik. During Tuesday's hearing, the defence counsel pointed out several alleged inconsistencies in both the police investigation and the witness testimony.

According to court sources, the defence argued that the police neither searched nor examined the victim's room on the day of the incident. However, when the room was opened the following day, investigators reportedly re-

The defence also described the recovery of a bullet head from the toilet as "staged", alleging that the police themselves planted the bullet and later claimed its recovery. Further suspicion was raised over the recovery of another cartridge shell in September.

Meanwhile, confusion has emerged regarding the testimony of Ishita's mother, Kusum Mallik had stated that she did not know Deshraj Singh prior to the incident. However, the defence claimed that Deshraj was known

to the family earlier. The counsel also questioned why Kusum did not immediately inform anyone other than her husband after the incident and why she allegedly avoided the police at the outset. According to the defence, information may have been deliberately withheld to delay the filing of the FIR.

The court has fixed the next hearing for January 22, when the defence will again cross-examine Kusum Mallik.

Ishita Mallik, a college student, was shot dead at her residence near Krishnanagar Women's College on August 25. The prosecution has alleged that Deshraj Singh, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, killed her after a failed romantic relationship. He was later arrested near the Nepal border.

Subsequently, his father and uncle were also arrested on charges of harbouring and assisting the accused.



Bangla Paksha on Wednesday held a protest in front of the Election Commission office against alleged harassment by the Special Investigation Team (SIT). General Secretary Garg Chatterjee, Kaushik Maity, and others were present. PIC: Nurul Islam Khan

ED attaches assets worth Rs 57.78 cr in Bengal Central School Service Commission, assistant teacher recruitment scam

MI News Service, New Delhi/Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday said it has attached immovable properties valued at Rs 57.78 crore in connection with the West Bengal Central School Service Commission (SSC) Assistant Teacher Recruitment Scam (Classes IX to XII).

The attached properties belong to Trinamool Congress MLA Jiban Krishna Saha, Prasanna Kumar Roy, the main middleman, and others. The attached properties comprise multiple residential apartments, villas, and land parcels located at Rajarhat, New Town, Patharghata, Garagari, and other adjoining areas in the North 24 Parganas district, as well as in Murshidabad and Purb Bardhaman districts, including HIDCO-developed areas of Kolkata. These assets were found to have been acquired out of the Proceeds of Crime generated through illegal appointments of Assistant Teachers in Classes IX to XII.

ED initiated an investigation on the basis of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) FIRs, which were registered on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta.

ED said the investigation pertains to large-scale manipulation in the recruitment process conducted by the West Bengal Central School Service Commission, wherein OMR sheets and personality test scores were tampered with, and appointments were made after expiry of panels to accommodate undeserving candidates in lieu of illegal gratification.

ED investigation revealed that Prasanna Kumar Roy acted as the main middleman in the scam and, along with his associates, collected large sums of cash from undeserving candidates to secure illegal appointments.

The Proceeds of Crime, amounting to hundreds of crores of rupees, were laundered through a complicated network of companies, Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) and bank accounts, and were ultimately utilised for the acquisition of immovable properties.

Jiban Krishna Saha, a key accused in the Assistant Teacher recruitment scam, was actively involved in the collection and handling of Proceeds of Crime obtained from undeserving candidates to secure their appointments to posts of Group C, D, and Assistant Teachers. He Jiban was arrested on August 25 last year by the ED following his attempt to run from the search premises at his home in Murshidabad.

"Investigation established that Proceeds of Crime so collected were utilised for the acquisition of immovable properties in the name of Jiban Krishna Saha and his family members, primarily located in Murshidabad and Purb Bardhaman districts of West Bengal. These properties, valued at approximately Rs 3.01 crore, were found to be acquired out of the laundered proceeds generated through the illegal recruitment process," said the ED.

Investigation also revealed that a large number of properties were acquired in the name of Nilima Mangal, a close associate and ex-wife of Prasanna Kumar Roy. The agency said its investigation established that substantial funds used to acquire these prop-

erties were sourced from illegal recruitment scams.

Earlier, ED had arrested Prasanna Kumar Roy in this case and filed a Prosecution Complaint before the Hon'ble Special Court, which has taken cognisance of the offence of money laundering.

ED has earlier attached properties worth Rs 247.2 crore in the case of Group C and D staff SSC Recruitment Scam in the State of West Bengal. In the SSC Assistant Teacher Recruitment Scam (9th to 12th), the ED had earlier attached properties worth Rs. 238.78 crore.

In another case of Primary Teachers Recruitment Scam in the State of West Bengal, ED has already attached and seized properties worth Rs 154 crore. Thus, the total attachment by ED Kolkata in the recruitment scam cases now stands at Rs 698 crore.

The apex court, in its judgment dated April 3 last year in the matter of the State of West Bengal vs Baishakhi Bhattacharyya (Chatterjee) and others, has quashed the appointments of more than 25,000 teachers and non-teaching staff, holding the entire recruitment process to be vitiated and tainted.

ECl opposes disciplinary action against four election officials, says "finalised without mandatory consultation"

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday opposed the disciplinary action initiated against four election officials in West Bengal, stating that the concerned authority did not consult the poll body before finalising the move.

In a letter to the West Bengal Chief Secretary, the ECI said that the disciplinary action will be treated as "procedurally irregular" and warrant reconsideration.

According to the ECI, the state government issued directions for "suspension and initiation of suitable disciplinary proceedings against the concerned EROs/AEROs and for lodging of FIRs against the erring officials, including the contractual Data Entry operator, under section 32 of the RP Act, 1950, read with the relevant provisions of the

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Information Technology Act, 2000."

As per the letter, an election official was exonerated, and a minor penalty was imposed on another Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO).

"Commission's instructions... mandates that disciplinary authorities shall mandatorily consult the Election Commission before closing or finalising any matter arising out of disciplinary proceedings initiated on the recommendation of the Commission," the letter read.

The ECI stated, "Since the disciplinary proceedings have been finalised without adherence to the prescribed procedure and without mandatory consultation with the Commission, the Commission does not accept such finalisation of disciplinary action. Accordingly, the same shall be

treated as procedurally irregular and non est in the eyes of the Commission, warranting reconsideration strictly in accordance with the Commission's instructions."

The poll body has demanded a "written explanation... from the competent authority/officer responsible for the aforesaid procedural lapse, clearly explaining the circumstances that led to non-compliance with the Commission's instructions."

ECI also requested for "the complete disciplinary case records, including the articles of charge, written statements of defence, inquiry reports, findings of the inquiry authority, orders of the disciplinary authority, file noting and all other relevant records forming the basis of the disciplinary action taken, in respect of all the four officials, namely Tathagata Mondal, De-

bottam Dutta Choudhury, Biplab Sarkar and Sudipta Das."

The Bengal Chief Secretary is required to submit the information for the Commission's consideration by 5:00 PM on January 24.

This comes amid the ongoing tussle between the TMC-led state government in West Bengal and the ECI over the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral roll in the state.

Meanwhile, the deadline to file claims and objections in the SIR exercise was extended from January 15 to January 19, giving voters extra time to submit their applications (new voter name additions via Form 6, deletions via Form 7, and corrections via Form 8). Further, hearings on these claims and objections will continue up to February 7. The Final electoral roll for West Bengal will be published on February 14.

Illegal Firearm Seized in Khidirpur, Youth Arrested

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata Police have recovered an illegal firearm from the city, once again raising concerns over security in sensitive areas. A 26-year-old man was arrested late on Monday night during a naka checking operation under the Khidirpur flyover on AJC Bose Road. The accused has been identified as Md Kamran Khan, a resident of 42/1H/5, Ekbalpur Lane, under the Ekbalpur police station area in Kolkata. With elections approaching, both the state government and Kolkata Police have significantly intensified security measures to maintain peace and law and order across the city. Police sources said Lal-bazar has already held several high-level meetings to finalise strategies for election-time policing. As part of these measures, naka checking operations and intensive patrolling have been stepped up at multiple locations, particularly in areas considered sensitive. The latest recovery took place during one such naka checking drive in the Khidirpur area, triggering fresh concern over the circulation of illegal arms in the city. Police officials said that during routine checking late on Monday night, the accused was noticed behaving suspiciously near a pillar under the flyover while riding a scooter. His movements drew the attention of on-duty personnel, who immediately stopped him for questioning.

During preliminary interrogation, the accused allegedly gave inconsistent replies, prompting the police to conduct a thorough search of the vehicle. Upon checking the scooter's storage compartment, officers recovered a country-made single-barrel firearm along with a live cartridge. The weapon and ammunition were seized on the spot, and the accused was taken into custody. The registration number of the scooter was found to be WB 10 2818. A senior Kolkata Police officer said the possibility of the accused having links with inter-state or international arms traffickers cannot be ruled out. A case has been registered at Hastings police station under relevant sections of the law.

Adani Group plans Rs 6 lakh cr investment blueprint for India

From PG 1 nuclear power project aligned with the government's evolving framework for private sector participation. The Group said the proposed investments are designed to generate employment, build skills and support technology-led inclusion, while aligning with national priorities such as energy transition, manufacturing self-reliance and regional development. As global political and business leaders from across the world have gathered in Davos to discuss growth, resilience and sustainability, the Adani Group's announcements underscored the role of large infrastructure platforms and long-term private capital in shaping India's next phase of economic expansion.

Bengal ASHA workers detained amid plans to intensify protests

From PG 1 an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh in the event of death on duty. Meanwhile, security has been tightened in and around Swasthya Bhawan in Salt Lake, near Kolkata, and traffic movement regulated, an official said. West Bengal Minister of State for Health Chandrima Bhattacharya on Tuesday advised the protesters against marching to Swasthya Bhawan, citing law and order.

Abhishek Calls for BJP's Clean Sweep in Purulia, Cites Development and Peace

MI News Service, Kolkata: Drawing a sharp contrast between Purulia's troubled past and its present situation, Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Wednesday called upon voters to wipe out the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from the district in the upcoming Assembly elections. Addressing a public meeting in Purulia, Banerjee highlighted issues of development, peace, and governance while strongly attacking the BJP, the Left, and the Central government. From the dais, Abhishek Banerjee recalled the unrest that prevailed in Purulia before 2011, pointing to poor connectivity, lack of development, and widespread fear due to Maoist activities in the Junglemahal region. He claimed that those "dark days" are now a thing of the past, asserting that peace and normalcy have returned to the area under the Trinamool Congress government led by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Taking a dig at the previous Left Front regime, Banerjee said policing was in such a poor condition that officers were afraid



to step out of police stations even by 10 am. "That picture has completely changed today," he said, adding that the law-and-order situation has improved significantly over the past decade. Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Banerjee recalled the 1998 incident in Jhalda where a Trinamool-elected pradhan was allegedly killed by CPM workers. He questioned how many Maoist attacks or civilian deaths

had taken place in Purulia after Mamata Banerjee came to power, asserting that violence had sharply declined. In a scathing attack, Banerjee said leaders who now speak about law and order were nowhere to be seen in Purulia before 2011. "If Mamata Banerjee had not come to power, people would still be living under the threat of Maoist and CPM guns and bombs," he claimed.

Banerjee also criticised leaders who had shifted allegiance from the Left to the BJP, remarking that most former Left leaders in Purulia were now part of the BJP. Using a traffic signal analogy, he said red means stop, saffron means slow down, while green means move forward. He described BJP leaders as "old wine in a new bottle" and named several former CPM leaders now holding key positions in the BJP. Turning his attention to Purulia MP Jyotirmoy Singh Mahato, Banerjee questioned the development work carried out during his tenure under the BJP-led Central government. He criticised the poor condition of rail-

way services, citing frequent delays of major trains like the Chakradharpur Express and Purulia Express. "If trains cannot reach Howrah on time, what has the MP done all these years?" he asked, promising that Trinamool would resolve the issue within three months of coming to power.

Calling for a clean sweep, Banerjee urged voters to ensure that the BJP draws a blank in all nine Assembly seats of Purulia. He announced that he would return to the district within a month and visit any area assigned to him. Appealing to voters to respond through the ballot to those who label Trinamool supporters as "Bangladeshis," Banerjee also made a controversial remark advising people to bargain if offered money during elections. He concluded by promising to address long-pending demands of the people within six months if Trinamool wins all seats in Purulia, urging the district to play a decisive role in forming the party's fourth consecutive government in West Bengal.



Supporters of the ISF gathered at an event marking the ISF Foundation Day, led by party leader Naushad Siddiqui, at Shahid Minar in Kolkata on Wednesday.

CAT Directs State to Submit Fresh DGP List to UPSC

MI News Service, Kolkata: The appointment of the next Director General of Police (DGP) of West Bengal has reached a critical stage, with the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) issuing fresh directions to resolve the long-standing deadlock between the state government and the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). According to the CAT order, the West Bengal government has been instructed to submit a fresh panel of names for the post of DGP to the UPSC by Friday. Sources said the list sent by the state government will be discussed by the UPSC on January 28. Based on this deliberation, the UPSC is expected to forward a probable shortlist to Nabanna on January 29. The CAT's intervention follows prolonged disagreements over the procedure and timeline for appointing the state's police chief.

The dispute began after the UPSC returned the initial list sent by the state and advised it to approach the Supreme Court. The CAT issued its directive while hearing a petition filed by IPS officer Rajesh Kumar, noting that when former DGP Manoj Malviya retired, the state government was required to consider all IPS officers with at least six months of service remaining. Malviya retired on December 28, 2023, and senior IPS officer Rajeev Kumar was appointed acting DGP until his own retirement on January 31, increasing the urgency to appoint a full-time DGP. The UPSC highlighted that, per Supreme Court guidelines, a panel for the permanent DGP should be submitted at least three months before the incumbent's retirement. The state government, however, sent the list only in July 2025, nearly one and a half years late. Earlier in October, a meeting between UPSC and the state government failed to resolve the matter.

India brings back diplomats' families from Bangladesh

From PG 1 businesses by extremists," External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. New Delhi highlighted the "troubling tendency" of Bangladesh to attribute such violence to personal rivalries, political differences, or extraneous reasons. Flagging this, Jaiswal said that "such disregard only emboldens the perpetrators" and further causes fear and insecurity among minorities. "We have repeatedly addressed this issue in earlier briefings and continue to see a disturbing pattern of recurring attacks on minorities, their homes, and businesses by extremists in Bangladesh," he added.

Major Administrative Reshuffle Key IAS and IPS Officers Reassigned

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government carried out a major administrative reshuffle, effecting changes in the responsibilities of several senior IAS and IPS officers. The changes were made on the instructions of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and with the concurrence of Governor C V Ananda Bose, according to an official notification issued by the Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department. As per the notification, a total of six senior IAS and IPS officers have either been transferred, given additional charge, or assigned new portfolios. While officials in administrative circles described the move as a routine reshuffle, several key departments have witnessed changes at the top level. Sources at Nabanna said the reshuffle aims to enhance administrative efficiency and ensure smoother delivery of public services.

Among the significant changes, IPS officer Dr Rajesh Kumar has been assigned an important new responsibility.

He was earlier serving as the Principal Secretary of the Department of Public Instruction and Library Services. Under the new order, Dr Kumar has been appointed Principal Secretary of the Correctional Administration Department, which oversees prisons and related services in the state.

Meanwhile, IAS officer Surendra Gupta, who was serving as Principal Secretary of the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department, has been entrusted with additional responsibilities. In addition to his existing role, he will now also oversee the Food Processing Industries and Horticulture Department. Officials believe this additional charge is crucial, especially in view of the state's focus on agricultural development and allied sectors. IAS officer Smaraki Mahapatra has also been shifted to a new department. She was earlier serving as Secretary of the Food Processing Industries and Horticulture Department. Following the reallocation of that portfolio to Surendra Gupta, Ma-

hapatra has been appointed Secretary of the Department of Public Instruction and Library Services, filling the position vacated by Dr Rajesh Kumar. Further changes include the appointment of Apala Sett as Special Secretary of the Tribal Development Department. The move is seen as part of the government's effort to strengthen development initiatives in tribal-dominated regions of the state. The reshuffle also includes key changes in departments dealing with finance and revenue. IAS officer Randhir Kumar has been appointed Secretary of the State Gazetteers. In addition, he has been given the extra charge of Director of Treasuries and Accounts and Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance. Similarly, IAS officer Pawan Kadyan has been appointed Commissioner of Registration and Stamp Revenue. He has also been assigned additional responsibilities related to the Directorate of Treasuries, Pension and Provident Fund.

Elderly Woman Dies in House Fire at Garden Reach

MI News Service, Kolkata: A tragic incident occurred in Garden Reach, Kolkata, as an elderly woman died in a house fire on Wednesday. The deceased has been identified as Laxmi Devi. According to police sources, she was asleep in her room when the incident took place.

The fire reportedly broke out around 2 a.m. when her son, who was in the adjacent room, noticed smoke coming from his mother's room. He immediately rushed in and found Laxmi Devi unconscious and severely burned. The family stated that, as part of their daily routine, Laxmi Devi had lit an egg carton for some purpose before going to bed, which they believe may have triggered the fire. The flames reportedly spread quickly to the bed, engulfing the room.

The son promptly rescued her and rushed her to

SSKM Hospital, where the medical team declared her dead on arrival. The sudden and unnatural nature of the death has shocked the local community. Police from the Garden Reach police station reached the scene after receiving information about the fire. An unnatural death case has been registered at the station, and the body has been sent for post-mortem examination. Authorities have stated that the exact cause of death will be determined once the autopsy report is received.

Meanwhile, police have urged citizens to exercise caution when handling flammable materials in homes to prevent similar tragedies in the future. Investigation into the exact cause of the fire and the circumstances leading to Laxmi Devi's death is ongoing, and authorities have assured that all necessary steps will be taken to provide clarity on the matter.

ED Director Rahul Navin to Visit Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: Following the IPAC controversy, Enforcement Directorate (ED) Director Rahul Navin is scheduled to visit Kolkata later this week, ahead of a crucial hearing in the IPAC case in the Supreme Court on February 3. Sources said the ED Director will arrive in the city on Thursday for a one-day visit, which is being viewed as highly significant in legal and political circles.

According to officials familiar with the development, Rahul Navin may meet West Bengal Governor during his visit. He will be accompanied by three senior legal advisers, indicating the importance of the discussions likely to take place. Sources further revealed that the ED Director is expected to interact with senior ED officials posted in the state to review the progress of ongoing investigations. A meeting with Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) officials is also likely dur-

ing his brief stay. This will be Rahul Navin's first visit to Kolkata since assuming charge as the Director of the Enforcement Directorate. Legal experts believe the timing of the visit is crucial, given the impending Supreme Court hearing in the IPAC matter. Sources said the ED Director may also meet the officers who were part of the search operations conducted at the residence and office of IPAC chief Pratik Jain.

The proposed interaction has been officially termed a "review meeting". During this meeting, the ED Director is expected to assess the status of not only the IPAC case but also several other cases being handled by the central agency in West Bengal. Senior officials said the review would focus on legal preparedness, procedural compliance, and coordination among investigating agencies.

Indian Coast Guard Celebrates 50th Raising Day with Bike Rally



MI News Service, Kolkata: As part of the 50th Raising Day celebrations of the Indian Coast Guard, a Bike Rally was organised at Haldia on 20 January 2026 by Coast Guard District Headquarters-8 and conducted by ICGS Amrit Kaur. The rally was ceremonially flagged off from the PR Cell, Haldia, and witnessed by S. K. Das, Executive Director of IOCL Refinery, serving as the Chief Guest, along with DIG Anwar Khan, TM, District Commander, and other officers and personnel of the Indian Coast Guard. The rally comprised 35 bikers and covered a distance of 50 kilometers, organised to commemorate five decades of the Coast Guard's dedicated service since its raising on 1 February 1978. Addressing the gathering,

the Chief Guest praised the Coast Guard's vital role in securing India's coastline, safeguarding maritime interests, and maintaining an unwavering 24x7 operational presence at sea. He commended the organisation's professionalism, dedication, and commitment to maritime safety and coastal security. The event was part of a series of nationwide activities marking the Indian Coast Guard's Golden Jubilee year, aimed at raising public awareness and strengthening engagement with coastal communities. The rally also reflected the organisation's core values of discipline, camaraderie, and commitment. The event concluded successfully with enthusiastic participation and appreciation from the public.

Chandrima Bhattacharya Urges ASHA Workers to Avoid Political Traps

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid ongoing protests by ASHA and Anganwadi workers demanding higher honorariums, West Bengal Finance Minister Chandrima Bhattacharya urged them not to fall into what she described as "political traps" set by certain parties. She stated that the state government is aware that fresh demonstrations may occur on Wednesday and is closely monitoring the situation. Bhattacharya alleged that political parties were attempting to exploit ASHA workers for their own gain. She emphasised that the ASHA scheme is a centrally sponsored programme, but the Union government has failed to release its share of funds, forcing the state government to bear most of the expenses. "This is a Central project, but the Centre does not provide adequate funding. The state government

has to manage the expenses," she said.

She noted that the ASHA scheme was introduced in 2007 with 60 per cent funding from the Centre and 40 per cent from the state. Recruitment in West Bengal began in 2008, with an initial honorarium of ₹800. Under the Mamata Banerjee government, this was gradually increased to ₹5,250, entirely funded by the state budget.

Comparing with BJP-ruled states, she said ASHA workers in Madhya Pradesh receive around ₹4,000, while those in Uttar Pradesh get ₹1,500. Bhattacharya appealed for calm, assuring workers of the Chief Minister's support and additional assistance, such as distribution of 42,000 mobile phones, urging them to continue their duties peacefully and not be politically exploited.

FIR filed against EC for elderly man's death over 'SIR anxiety'

From PG 1 Instead, his body was later recovered from the nearby railway tracks, with witnesses suggesting he jumped in front of a train. The tragedy has quickly turned into a political flashpoint in the district. Kiriti Acharya, the Purulia district President of the Trinamool Chhatra Parishad (TMCP), lashed out at the Election Commission, arguing that the SIR has created a climate of fear that is literally costing lives. He framed the suicide as a direct consequence of "harassment in the name of verification." On the other hand, the local BJP leadership has dismissed these claims as a political maneuver. Dis-

trict BJP leader Jayadiptra Chatteraj called the death a "coincidental accident" and accused the Trinamool Congress of trying to sabotage the voter roll cleanup by exploiting a tragedy for political gain. As the police start an investigation into the complaint in Purulia, the election preparations for the upcoming 2026 elections have escalated to the human cost that has raw nerves. Although the Election Commission has attempted to relieve some of the pressures involved, such as the doorstep hearing for the elderly, the possibility of disenfranchisement that the common man fears seems to remain paramount.

Pak based illegal arms supply module busted in Punjab

From PG 1 sophisticated pistols (Two Glock, Four .30 bore) along with 2 live cartridges. The arrested accused were involved in illegal arms trafficking and supplying weapons to gangsters under directions of foreign handlers. FIR registered under the Arms Act at PS Islamabad, Amritsar. Further investigation is underway... "DGP Punjab Police posted on X.

In another incident the Pathankot Police on Saturday had recovered a huge cache of weapons and ammunition, which was learnt to be used by terror modules. The Police successfully recovered 3 AK-47 rifles with 5 magazines, 2 foreign-made pistols with 2 magazines, and 98 live cartridges of different calibres, according to officials. According to police, Pakistan-based terrorist Harvinder Singh Rinda was behind sending the consignment of weapons to carry out sensational crime. Following the major op, the Ludhiana Police on Sunday busted an extortion module linked to Gangster Goldy Brar. The police apprehended 10 operatives in a focused 3-week operation and recovered foreign-made pistols, including 2 Austrian Glock pistols and 10 other sophisticated weapons. Last week, the Punjab Police had also conducted statewide cordon and search operations at 831 identified drug hotspots as part of its ongoing anti-drug campaign and arrested 227 people alleged linked with the illicit operations.

Name Change

I, Md. Saiful Islam Khan, Mahammad Suphlikul Islam Khan, Md. Saiful Islam Khan...

Name Change

I, Rajiv Sareen (Old Name) S/O Om Prakash Sareen Residing at Flat- 5A, Block E...

NAME CHANGE

I, Shampa Bandyopadhyay D/O -Ratan Chakrabarty (বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায় রতন চক্রবর্তী), Spouse- Brahma Kumar Banerjee...

Name Change

I, Ashish Chakraborty (Old Name) Ashish Chakraborty (old name) S/O Amal Kumar Chakraborty...

Name Change

I, Sumana Sarkar (Old Name), Daughter Of Shyama Sankar Banerjee, Residing At 99a, Michael Nagar...

Maynapur-Jayrambati New Rail Link Opened New Opportunities For Local Commuters, Traders And Pilgrims

MI News Service, Kolkata, 21 Jan.26 : Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the 15-kilometre new Railway line between Maynapur-Barogopinathpur-Jayrambati on 18.01.2026.



Approximately ₹280 crores. The commissioning of this new line will provide faster, safer and more convenient rail travel for residents of Bankura district...

Name Change

I, GURMEET KAUR MAJUMDER, D/O AMAR SINGH, Address-86, Nandangra Road, P.O. Sheoraphuli, P.S. Serampore, Dist-Hooghly.

Name Change

I, Smita (Old Name) W/o Rajiv Kumar Sareen Residing at Flat- 5A, Block E, 34/35/21, Sri Aurabinda Road, Salkia, District-Howrah, Pin- 711106, West Bengal, India.

NAME CHANGE

I, Brahman Kumar Banerjee, (ব্রহ্মণ কুমার বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়) alias Suddhanshu Banerjee R.O.-76B, Resident Para Road, P.O.- Krishnagar, Dist.- Nadia, Pin-741101 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Shampa Banerjee and henceforth I shall be known as Shampa Banerjee in all purpose, vide affidavit No. 700/14.01.2026 sworn before the Court of the Ld. Executive Magistrate at Sadar, Krishnagar, Nadia on 14/01/2026.

Name Change

I, REHANA YASMIN (old name) W/O- SEKH MUSTAK AHAMED residing at VIII-4-P.O-BALIPUR, P.S-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHY, 712401, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as REHANA YEASMIN (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 20/01/2026.

Name Change

I, Mahasin Mondal, declare that my minor son Rahamat Ali (son old name), residing at Habibpur South, P.O.- Habipur, P.S.- Ranaghat, Nadia, West Bengal, India, I have changed my son name and he shall henceforth be known as Rahamat Ali Mondal (son new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/01/2026.

Name Change

I, Golam Kibria, (old name) W/o -Abdul Sattar, (old name) residing at VIII + P/O - Sansat, P.S.- Bolpur, Dist.- Birbhum. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SK Golam Kibria, S/O- Lt.Sk Abdus Sattar as declared before the Ld. 1st class J.M. at Baljur vide Affidavit No. - 5135/21 dt. 17/10/2019.

NAME CHANGE

I, ANKAR SAILA, DOB-02-01-1986, S/O- SWAPAN SAILA, VIII.- Fameswarpur, P.O.- Kholnolpa, P.S.- Basirhat (Now) Matia, North 24 Pgs., PIN- 743428, do hereby declare that in my Aadhaar Card (No. 3175 0622 4641) my name is recorded as ANKAN SAILA, DOB- 26-07-1986. On 15-01-2026, vide an Affidavit (No. 2279/26) before Basirhat 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Court I affirm that ANKAN SAILA & ANKAN SAILA both are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ka E Naat Intiaz (old name) daughter of Intiaz Mohammed, residing at 11, Bedford Lane, Park Street, Kolkata - 700016, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kaenaat Intiaz (new name) as sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata vide affidavit No. 8 dated 20/01/2026. Ka E Naat Intiaz (old name) and Kaenaat Intiaz (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, SHEIK MUSTAK AHAMED, SK MUSTAK AHAMED (old name) son of SHEIK MAFUZAR RAHAMAN @SEKH MAFUZAR RAHAMAN residing at VIII-P.O-BALIPUR, P.S-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHY, 712401, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SEKH MUSTAK AHAMED (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. SHEIK MUSTAK AHAMED (new name) and SHEIK MUSTAK AHAMED, SK MUSTAK AHAMED (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Sazad (old name) S/O Md Ayub, residing at 24A, Rabindra Sarani, Jorasanko, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Sajjad (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 15/01/2026. Md Sajjad (new name) and Md Sazad (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, SK SAJJU, S/O- Lt. SK Tarik, S/O- MD. Nasir Hussain, R/O- VIII + P.O.- Kharberia, P.S.- Shyampur, Dist.- Howrah-711314. W.B. declare that my Father's actual name has been wrongly mentioned in TARIK SEKH in my Voter ID & PAN Card and MD. TAQUE & also 2002 Voter List & MD. TAQUE in his death certificate, vide Affidavit No. 7511, dt. 26.12.2025, in the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Uluberia. TAQUE/Md.Taque all are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, SIRAJUL GAZI, S/O- LT ABULHUSSAIN GAZI, residing at VIII.- Bansihari Mallikpur, P.O.- Soladana, P.S.- Basirhat, North 24 Pgs., PIN- 743429, do hereby declare that my actual name is SIRAJUL GAZI which is recorded in my Aadhaar Card (7643 5856 7264). Voter Card (CXW03255217). Land Record and Kh. No. 1087, Mouza-Soladana, J.L. No.- 126 (Under PS- Basirhat) my name is recorded as MD SERAJUL ISLAM GAZI and Land Deed Vide No. 1-3836 as MD SERAJUL ISLAM. On 08-01-26 vide an Affidavit (No. 661/BC-1/26) before Basirhat Executive Magistrate Court I affirm that SIRAJUL GAZI, MD SERAJUL ISLAM GAZI & MD SERAJUL ISLAM is the same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ghosh Surojit Siddheshwar (Old Name) S/o Siddheshwar Ghosh Residing at Narna, P.O.- Domjuri, P.S.- Domjuri, District - Howrah, Pin - 711405, West Bengal, India, Have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Surojit Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-01-2026. Ghosh Surojit Siddheshwar (Old Name) and Surojit Ghosh (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, SK FIROJ IMAM (old name) son of SK AKTARUL HAQUE residing at VILL-KACHRA, P.O.-THAKURANICHAK, P.S-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHY, 712613, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as SEKH FEROJ IMAM (new name), as declared Before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. SEKH FEROJ IMAM (old name) and SEKH FEROJ IMAM (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sk Badrudduza (Old Name), Son Of Sekh Mobarak, Residing At Jharul, Bhatar, Putha Bardhaman - 713128, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Badrudduza (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 19/01/2025. Sk Badrudduza And Sk Badrudduza Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, SONI BEGUM, wife of Basid Khan, residing at 10/3/2A, Phears Lane, P.S.: Bowbazar, Kolkata- 700012, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that the actual and correct name of my husband is "BASID KHAN" as recorded in his Electoral Voter Id card bearing number WB/22/157/369425 but inadvertently his name has been recorded in my Electoral Voter Id card bearing no WK12521136 as WASHID KHAN and in my Aadhaar card bearing Number 5273 1954 7004 as Basid Khan instead of BASID KHAN. By an affidavit (no. 469) on 07.1.2026 before the Learned 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata and BASID KHAN, WASHID KHAN, and BASID KHAN are the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, INAMUR RAHAMAN MANDAL, S/O- LT ABUL ADUD MANDAL, R/O- VIII.- Paschim Dandirhat, P.O.- Dandirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, PIN- 743412. Do hereby declare that my father (Deceased) ABDUL ODUD and ABDUL ADUD MANDAL is the same and identical person vide Affidavit No. 650/26 dt. 21.1.2026 sworn before the Notary Public Basirhat Court.

Name Change

I, Jyotsna Mozumder, Jyotsna De (Old Name) W/o Pradip Dey, Residing at Kalupukur Main Road, Vagar, P.O.-F+P.S.- Chandanagar, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712136, West Bengal, India, Have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jyotsna Dey (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-01-2026. Jyotsna De (Old Name) and Jyotsna Dey (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, RITA ISWAR (old name) D/O-SUBHAS KOTAL, W/O-NARAYAN ISWAR residing at VIII-P.O.- CHINGRA, P.S-KHANAKUL, DIST-HOOGHY, 712416, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as RITA ISWAR KOTAL (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. RITA ISWAR KOTAL (new name) and RITA ISWAR (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Kaimuddin (old name) S/O Late Md Nizamuddin, residing at 80 Satyen Bose Road, Nazirunge Near Lal Masjid, Howrah-711109, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Kayumuddin (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. Md Kayumuddin (new name) and Md Kaimuddin (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, NAGMA ASGAR, resident of 16 Walubala Lane, Park St, Kol- 16 do hereby declare that my father's actual name is SK ASGAR as per voter ID JMM2477883, which has been inadvertently printed as ASGAR ALAM in Voter Id card Z12100188 and in passport no. U6260896 and SK ASGAR ALAM in Aadhaar Card 7887 4822 9404 instead of SK ASGAR which is my father's actual name. By an affidavit Number 2423 on 21.01.2026 that SK ASGAR, ASGAR ALAM & SK ASGAR ALAM are the same and one identical person that is my father.

NAME CHANGE

I, INAMUR RAHAMAN (Old Name), S/O- LT ABUL ADUD MANDAL, R/O- VIII.- Paschim Dandirhat, P.S.- Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, PIN- 743412. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as INAMUR RAHAMAN MANDAL (New Name) as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat Court Affidavit No. 4216 dt. 19/8/25. INAMUR RAHAMAN (Old Name) and INAMUR RAHAMAN MANDAL (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Kabirul Haque (Old Name) S/o Azizul Haque Residing at VIII - Abua, P.O.- Pakapoler Hat, P.S.- Hatisala, District- South 24 Parganas, Pin - 700135, West Bengal, India, Have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Kabirul Haque (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 20-01-2026. Kabirul Haque (Old Name) and Md Kabirul Haque (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sudipta Saha (Aadhar, PAN & Voter Card), W/o- Gour Chandra Saha & R/O- 56), Dr. Suresh Chandra Banerjee Road, Belegatta, Kol-10, WB, declare that my actual name has been wrongly recorded as Sudipta Nayak in 2002 Voter List, in place of Sudipta Saha vide Affidavit No. 73026, dt. 14.01.2026, in the Court of Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Magistrate at Alipore. That, Sudipta Saha & Sudipta Nayak both are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Yasmin Rasol (old name) W/O Ghulam Rasool, residing at B2/2 PRINCE DILAWAR JAH LANE, GARDEN REACH, KOLKATA-700024, WEST BENGAL, INDIA, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Yasmin Rasool (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. Yasmin Rasool (new name) and Yasmin Rasool (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Abu Sayeed, (old name) S/O- Khan Mohammad Biswas, residing at Vill- Chatauidip, P/O + P.S.- Lalgola, Dist- Murshidabad. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Abu Sayeed as declared before the Ld.1st class J.M. at Kolkata vide Affidavit No. -1793 dt-27/11/2025. Mohammad Abu Sayeed (old name), & Md Abu Sayeed (New name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Abinas Jaiswal S/O. Krishna Jaiswal, R/O. 327, Bara Bazar, Chinsurah, Hooghly- 712101, W.B., do hereby declare that I, Abinas Jaiswal S/o. Krishna Jaiswal, Abinash Jaiswal S/O. Krishna Jaiswal, Abinas Jaiswal S/o. Krishna Jaiswal & Abinas Jaiswal S/o. Krishna Jaiswal all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 1433, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 17/01/2026.

Name Change

I, Sarwati Devi (Old Name) W/o Shankar Shaw Residing at 13/2, Makhla Kuliapara, P.O.- Makhla, P.S - Uttarpara, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712245, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Saraswati Shaw (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-01-2026. Sarwati Devi (Old Name) and Saraswati Shaw (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ishrat Khan, D/O-Makbul Alam, W/o- Tabriz Khan, R/O.- J-6, Ramnagar Lane, P.O.& P.S.- Garden Reach, Kol-24, declare that my father's name has been wrongly recorded in my birth discharge certificate as Sonam & Mahetab Alam in place of Ishrat Khan, D/O-Makbul Alam. vide Affidavit No. 7664, dt. 19.01.2026, in the Court of Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Magistrate, at Alipore. Ishrat Khan & Sonam & Mahetab Alam both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Ashraf Ali (Old Name) son of Md Serajuddin (old name) residing at 36/6/1 sk Muslim Road, P.O - karmahat, P.S - Karmahat, Kolkata- 700058, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Ashraf Ali (New Name) vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 20/01/2026. Mohammad Ashraf Ali and Md Ashraf Ali both are the same and one identical person.

Blood Donation Camp

MI News Service, Kolkata, 21 Jan.26 : A blood donation camp was successfully organised at Kancharpara Workshop, Eastern Railway, on 19.01.2026 by the Workshop Railway Hospital, Kancharpara, in collaboration with B.R. Singh Hospital, Eastern Railway. The camp was held at Shop No. 2, AC Hall under the supervision of Dr. A.K. Roy, Chief Medical Superintendent/ Kancharpara, and the leadership of Dr. Koyel Das, Divisional Medical Officer. The camp aimed to promote voluntary blood donation and create awareness among railway employees. A total of 32 employees voluntarily donated blood.

Name Change

I, Mosammat Nashima Khatun, (old name) W/O- Md Abu Sayeed, residing at Vill- Chatauidip, P/O + P.S.- Lalgola, Dist- Murshidabad. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Nasima Khatun as declared before the Ld.1st class J.M. at Kolkata vide Affidavit No. -1423 dt-17/01/2026. Mosammat Nashima Khatun (old name), & Nasima Khatun (New name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Usha Mondal (old name) W/o Sandip Francis Mondal, R/O. Koota Shyamundarpur, Sahaganj, Chinsurah, Hooghly-712104, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Usha Mondal to Maria Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Maria Mondal in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 7247 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 11/08/2025. I, Usha Mondal & Maria Mondal W/o. Sandip Francis Mondal both are the same & one identical person. Mathew Snehasis Mondal is my son.

Name Change

I, Sibnath Biswas (Old Name) S/o Pramod Ranjan Biswas Residing at 141, Raja Ram Mohan Roy Road, P.O - Paschim Putari, P.S.- Behala, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700041, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shih Nath Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 21-01-2026. Sibnath Biswas (Old Name) and Shih Nath Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, Isaran Bibi, W/o Lt. Lalhamammad, residing at Vill P.O.-Ghoragacha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist.-Nadia, do hereby declare that in my voter id card WB/12/08245283 & voter list of 2002 Chahakda 82 no. Bihanshaba Nirbachan Kendra Part No. 157, Sl. No. 740 my name has been recorded as Esaran Mondal W/o Lalhamammad, dt. 19.01.2026 vide an affidavit before the court of A.C.J.M. (1st Class), Kalyani, I affirm that Isaran Bibi & Esaran Mondal i.e. my self and Lt. Lalhamammad & Lalhamammad Mondal i.e. my husband both are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Narayan Prasad Sonthalia (old name) S/o Ram Nirjan Sonthalia, residing at 31/1/1.RAMKRISHNA SAMADHI ROAD, RAADHYA APARTMENT, CITY, Kolkata, 700054, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Narayan Prosad Sonthalia (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 20/01/2026. Narayan Prosad Sonthalia (new name) and Narayan Prasad Sonthalia (old name) both are same and one identical person.

WHEREAS, 0A/1001/2025 was filed before Hon'ble Presiding Officer/Registrar on 31.10.2025. WHEREAS this Hon'ble Tribunal is pleased to issue summons/ notice on the said Application under section 19 of the Act, read with sub-rule (2A) of the Act, of the Debt Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993 ICICI Bank Limited Vs. Manoj Shaw Shaw To, (1) Manoj Shaw Shaw D/W/S/O- Jawaharlal Chhinkh Dew, at Post Pimpalgaon, Baswant, Niphad, Nashik, Maharashtra - 422209, Nashik, Maharashtra 2, Mrs. Sanju Manoj Shaw Chhinkh Dew Road, at Post Pimpalgaon, Baswant, Niphad, Nashik, Maharashtra - 422209. Also at: 761 F Road, Belagachia Howrah-Hoora, West Bengal 711101, Howrah, West Bengal SUMMONS

NAME CHANGE

I, Rakhi Kumari, D/O- Kishor Das and Shila Devi, W/O- Sunil Kumar Das, residing at Premises No-41, Flat No. 403, Sagar Manna Road, Parnasee Pally, P.S. Parnasee Pally, Kolkata- 700060, that after marriage I have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rakhi Das as declared before Notary Public Alipore Court vide affidavit no. 169 dated 19/01/2026, Rakhi Kumari and Rakhi Das both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Moutiba Das (old name) W/o. Swarnendu Das & D/o. Sunil Kumar Mallick, R/O. 14/21, Babuganj Shibtala, Chinsurah, Hooghly, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Moutiba Das to Moutimaa Mallick Das (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Moutimaa Mallick Das in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 1688 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly court on 19/01/2026. I, Moutiba Das & Moutimaa Mallick Das W/o. Swarnendu Das & D/o. Sunil Kumar Mallick both are the same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Selina Mondal (Old Name) W/o Ismail Mondal Residing at VIII+P.O - Satheria, P.S - Gopalnagar, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743262, West Bengal, India, have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shahina Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 20-01-2026. Selina Mondal (Old Name) and Shahina Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sunil Kumar Agrawal (Old Name) Son Of Satya Narayan Agrawal, Residing At 140/D, B.T. Road, L.S.I. Baranagar (M), P.O. - Isi Po, Sub District - North 24 Paraganas, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin-700108, West Bengal, India Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sunil Kumar Agrawal (Old Name) To Sunil Kumar Agrawal (New Name) And henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sunil Kumar Agrawal (New Name) In All Purpose. Vide Affidavit No.1383a Sworn Before The Notary Public At Alipore On 10/01/2026. Sunil Kumar Agrawal (Old Name) And Sunil Kumar Agrawal (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Nikhat Kousar Solanki (old name) W/O Md Imran Solanki, residing at 14/A, Colootola Lane (Near Choti Masjid), P.O.- Jorasanko, P.S.- Bowbazar, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pramod Kumar Solanki (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. Nikhat Kousar (new name) and Nikhat Kousar Solanki (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Affidavit

I Gurus Das Gupta s/o. late Ful chand Gupta, residing at 19 Kasi Dutta lane, kolkata 6, do hereby solemnly affirm and say that My name recorded in the peerless gen. Fin & Inv. Co. ld. mentioned as Sri Guru Das show. That my another name is use Sri Gurus Das Gupta. That my noth name Gurus Das gupta and Gurusdas show is the same person net two other different person. That the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge & belief. I sign this affidavit on 05.07.2022 at metropolitan magister Kolkata.

NAME CHANGE

I, Sunil Kumar Das on behalf my minor son Aarav Kumar, residing at Premises No-41, Flat No. 403, Sagar Manna Road, Parnasee Pally, P.S. Parnasee Pally, Kolkata- 700060 have changed his name and he shall henceforth be known as Kiyann Kumar as declared before 1st class Judicial Magistrate Alipore Court vide affidavit no. 24378 dated 21/04/2025 Aarav Kumar and Kiyann Kumar both are same and identical person.

Name Change

I, Kazi Badrudduza S/o. Kazi Abul Hayat, R/O. Kazimahalla, Pandua, Hooghly-712149, do hereby declare that in my School Leaving Certificate (Belur N.C. Parbaticharan Smriti Vidyanandini) where my father's name has been recorded as Kazi Abul Hayat instead of his correct & original name is Kazi Abul Hayat. That my father Kazi Abul Hayat & Kazi Abul Hayat, both are the same and one identical person vide an affidavit no. 7442 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 14/08/2025.

Name Change

I, Tafiqaal Alam (Old Name) Son Of Late Manik Ahmed Residing At Neora 38.No.Rail. Gate, Bhyabla, Ps - Basirhat, Dist - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743422, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tafiqaal Alam (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 21/02/2026. Tafiqaal Alam (Old Name) And Tafiqaal Alam (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Md. Nasim Anwar, S/o.- Md. Kitabuddin, W/O- Shihpur Bye Lane, P.O.- Banskhera, P.S.- Mogra, Dist.- Hooghly-712502, declare that my wife's both actual name has been wrongly written & recorded in my Son's (Md Nasruddin) birth certificate (Father & Mother column) as Md Nasim Anwar & Samsad Baigum in place of Md. Nasim Anwar & Samsad Begum, vide Affidavit No.04, dt. 15/12/2025, in the Court of Ld. Executive Magistrate Hooghly at Chinsurah. That, Md. Nasim Anwar & Md Nasim Anwar & Samsad Begum & Samsad Baigum all are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Haji Mohammed Iqbal (old name) S/O Noor Muhammad, residing at 18, Black Burn Lane, P.O. & P.S.- Bowbazar, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Iqbal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. Md Iqbal (new name) and Haji Mohammed Iqbal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Pramod Mall (old name) S/O Umkar Mal Mall, residing at 582, NS Road, Taltala, Kailagang, North Dinaipur, 733129, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pramod Kumar Mall (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit No. 40, dated 21/01/2026. Pramod Kumar Mall (new name) and Pramod Mall (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, Md Shahid Ansari, S/O- Idris Ansari born on (05-09-1984) R/O. JK College Road soudagar Bandh Para ward no 09 Post - purulia, PS & PO-Purulia, pin-723101, W.B India, shall be known as SUNIL ANSARI vide 1st Class judicial Magistrate Purulia Court affidavit (102/2026) dated (19/01/2026). Md Shahid Ansari & SULTAN ANSARI is the same & identical person.

Name Change

I, Biswadep Mukherjee (Old Name) S/o Prangdas Mukherjee Residing at 139, B.B. Chatterjee Road, Kasbia, District- Kolkata, Pin - 700042, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Biswadip Mukherjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 20-01-2026. Biswadep Mukherjee (Old Name) and Biswadip Mukherjee (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md. Nasim Anwar, S/o.- Md. Kitabuddin, W/O- Shihpur Bye Lane, P.O.- Banskhera, P.S.- Mogra, Dist.- Hooghly-712502, declare that my wife's both actual name has been wrongly written & recorded in my Son's (Md Nasruddin) birth certificate (Father & Mother column) as Md Nasim Anwar & Samsad Baigum in place of Md. Nasim Anwar & Samsad Begum, vide Affidavit No.04, dt. 15/12/2025, in the Court of Ld. Executive Magistrate Hooghly at Chinsurah. That, Md. Nasim Anwar & Md Nasim Anwar & Samsad Begum & Samsad Baigum all are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Zannat Bibi (old name) W/O Md Iqbal, residing at 18, Black Burn Lane, P.O. & P.S.- Bowbazar, Kolkata- 700073, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Jannat Bibi (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 21/01/2026. Jannat Bibi (new name) and Zannat Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Additional stoppage of Hazarduari Exp at Cossimbazar

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Kolkata: Railway has decided to provide additional stoppage of 13113/13114 Kolkata - Lalga...

Bangladesh's matches of T20 WC to be played in India, confirms ICC

MI News Service, New Delhi: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Wednesday rejected the Bangladesh Cricket Board's (BCB) request to move matches out of India for the upcoming ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

The ICC confirmed the T20 World Cup 2026 will proceed as scheduled, with Bangladesh's matches to be played in India.

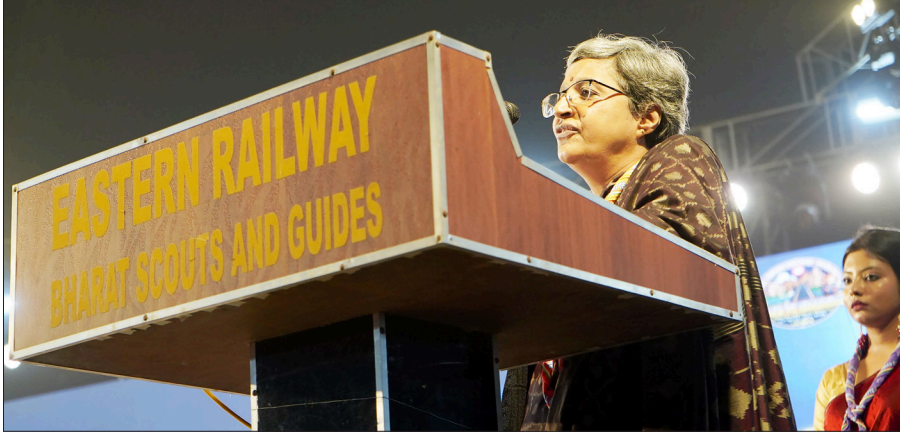
The decision was taken following an ICC Board meeting on Wednesday via video conference, which was convened to discuss the way forward after the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) had asked that its matches be moved out of India to Sri Lanka, as per the ICC website.

The T20 World Cup will kick off on February 7. Bangladesh are scheduled to kick off their T20 World Cup 2026 campaign on February 7 against two-time champions West Indies at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

The Litton Das-led side will then face Italy on February 9 at the same venue before facing England in Kolkata again. After facing England, Bangladesh are scheduled to travel to Mumbai to play Nepal at Wankhede Stadium.

21st All Indian Railway Jamboree concludes successfully

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Kolkata: The 21st All Indian Railway Jamboree was organised from 17 to 21 January 2026 at the WSA Ground, Lituah, by Eastern Railway Bharat Scouts and Guides.



Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, emphasized that the Bharat Scouts & Guides play a crucial role in shaping the moral character of young individuals while fostering competence, self-reliance, and dependability.

The five-day mega event, themed "Track to Tomorrow - Cultivating Character, Empowering India", witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 2,521 members from 15 Zonal Railways, transforming the campsite into a vibrant miniature global village.

The Jamboree featured diverse competitions and programmes aligned with the five-fold development of the Scout-Guide movement, including pageant shows, band displays, march pasts, folk and creative dances, pioneering projects, exhibitions, quizzes, campfires, fashion shows,

fireless cooking, physical displays, and various skill-based and cultural activities. Educational hikes and flash mobs to Dakshineswar Temple and Belur Math further enriched the experience of the participants.

The valedictory day was marked by special programmes such as a Veterans' Meet and a Trainers' Meet, where senior Scouts, Guides and trainers from across zones shared their experiences, insights and suggestions for strengthening and expanding the movement. A special felicitation ceremony was also held to honour Outstanding Achievers, including former Rashtrapati Award recipients who have excelled in their professional fields, highlighting the lifelong impact of Scouting-Guiding values.

Ms. Aruna Nayyar, Director General/HR, Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway & Patron, Eastern Railway's Bharat Scouts & Guides, Smt. Seema Deouskar, President/ERWVO, Shri Sheelendra Pratap Singh, Additional General Manager, Eastern Railway, Smt. Zarina Ferdousi, State Chief Commissioner & Principal Chief Personnel Officer, Shri. Rajeev Saxena, DRM/Sealdah, Shri Vishal Kapoor, DRM/Howrah, Shri Yatish Kumar, Chief Workshop Manager/Lituah, Dr. Anupam Sett, Additional Chief Medical Director & State Secretary/ER Bharat Scouts & Guides, Smt. J. P. Kusumakar Chief Personnel Officer/ADMIN & state commissioner (Guide) and other Principal Head of the Departments were also graced the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Aruna Nayyar, DG/HR and Secretary, Railway Board, delivered an insightful and inspiring address on the occasion, motivating the members of Bharat Scouts & Guides. She highly appreciated the talent, dedication and commitment displayed by the members, and encouraged them to continue contributing positively to society through discipline, service and leadership.

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A souvenir on 21st All Indian Railway Jamboree released by Ms. Aruna Nayyar, DG/HR and Secretary, Railway Board in presence of the higher officials of Eastern Railway.

During the concluding ceremony, creators associated with the theme song, logo and mascot of the Jamboree were felicitated. The results of the Standard Judging Competitions were announced, in which Eastern Railway secured the 1st position, followed by South Eastern Railway in 2nd place and Southern Railway in 3rd place at the 21st All India Railway

Jamboree. A total of 15 Zonal Railways participated in the event.

Draft Notice IN THE COURT OF LEARNED 5th BENCH CITY CIVIL COURT AT KOLKATA Title Suit No. 2506 of 2022 ICICI Bank Limited, having its branch office at 31, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata - 700016, Police Station, Shakespear Sarani through its Constituted Attorney Mr. Shamim Aslam ...Plaintiff

1. Mr. Vishal Kumar Son of Jaiprakash Singh, Residing at 30, Anantaram Mukherjee Lane, Near Co-Operative Bank, Howrah-711101 2. Rajesh Kumar Mishra Son of Bishweshwar Nath Mishra, Residing at 20/A, Mahorshi Devedra Road, Barabazar, Kolkata-700007 ...Defendant

Lost & Found This is to notify that I, SUDIPTA SINHA, have lost my Pass Certificate of Council for ISCE on 10/01/26, G D Market SALT LAKE AREA. Details are: Name: SUDIPTA SINHA, Pass Certificate of COUNCIL FOR THE INDIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION, NEW DELHI, Year-MARCH 1983, School: ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH SCHOOL, ASANSOL, Contact: 983659326, Please return it to me if get it.

Mandirbazar Development Block South 24 Parganas Memo No: 110/MBPS & 111/MBPS & 112/MBPS & 113/MBPS & 114/MBPS & 09/MBZ E-Tender are invited for work under Mandirbazar Development Block. Bid Submission End Date: 09.02.2026 at 17:00 Hrs. & 09.02.2026 at 15:00 Hrs. & 09.02.2026 at 12:00 Hrs. & 02.02.2026 at 18:00 Hrs. & 03.02.2026 at 12:00 Hrs. & 03.02.2026 at 12:00 Hrs. For details visit-www.wbtenders.gov.in and office of the undersigned. Sd/- Block Development Officer Mandirbazar Development Block

General Manager East Coast Railway Meets Chief Secretary, Odisha

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Bhubaneswar: Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway, met Smt. Anu Garg, IAS, Chief Secretary to Government of Odisha, and held constructive and wide ranging discussions on matters related to the progress of railway infrastructure development in the State.

forest rights, removal of encroachments, shifting of utilities, and early disposal of long pending legal cases. He also underlined the need for close coordination among various agencies to facilitate smooth execution of works such as construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and other allied infrastructure.

During the meeting, the General Manager shared an overview of issues that commonly arise during execution of large scale railway works and emphasized the importance of their timely resolution. These include matters related to land acquisition,

enabling smooth implementation of infrastructure projects. Enhanced availability of construction resources, expeditious statutory clearances, and early resolution of procedural matters, he noted, would greatly contribute towards adherence to project timelines and avoidance of delays.

He further highlighted that timely policy level decisions and issuance of necessary operational instructions play a vital role in

timely completion of railway infrastructure projects, which are vital for improving connectivity and supporting the overall development of Odisha.

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Bhubaneswar: Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway, met Smt. Anu Garg, IAS, Chief Secretary to Government of Odisha, and held constructive and wide ranging discussions on matters related to the progress of railway infrastructure development in the State.

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Anu Garg, Chief Secretary, appreciated the concerns placed during the meeting and assured that the issues raised would be examined in consultation with the concerned departments and district administrations. She reiterated the State Government's commitment to continue extending all possible support for early resolution of issues and for ensuring

timely completion of railway infrastructure projects, which are vital for improving connectivity and supporting the overall development of Odisha.

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OFFICE OF THE RASULPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT Vill + P.O.: - Rasulpur, Nabagram, Murshidabad. NieT. No. 06/RGP/15th CFC/Tied & Untied/2025-26, Memo No. 206/RGP/2025-26, dated- 21/01/2026. Date of publishing: 22/01/2026 from 11.00 A.M on http://wbtenders.gov.in Bid downloading starts from: 22/01/2026 from 11.00 A.M. Bid Downloading ends : 02/02/2026 up to 16.30 P.M. Last date of Bid submission: 02/02/2026 up to 16.30 P.M. Technical Bid opening date: 04/02/2026 at 16.30 P.M. For details log on to http://wbtenders.gov.in or contact with office of the undersigned. Sd/-Pradhan Rasulpur G.P, Nabagram Block

Re-engagement of Retired Points Man in Operating Department of Sealdah Division NOTIFICATION Applications are invited from interested retired Points Man of Operating Department for filling up the vacant post of 25 nos. of Points Man-B in Level-1 on contractual basis. Age Limit : 64 years 06 months. Interested staff may submit their offline application in prescribed format to Ch. OS/E-22/Personnel Branch, Eastern Railway, Sealdah or online application up to E-Mail ID: srpdsodas@gmail.com on or before 10.02.2026 at 18.30 hrs. positively, thereafter no application will be entertained in any circumstance. For more detail notification and format for application please visit Railway website: https://er.indianrailways.gov.in/cris/uploads/files/1768906421855-Re-engagement%20of%20retired%20Points%20Man%20as%2020Points%20Man%20against%20vacant%20post%20on%20contractual%20basis%20in%20Operating%20Department.pdf Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah

E-Notice Inviting e-Tender NIT NO-JOY2/18 of 2025-26 Dt.-16.01.2026. It is here invited by the BDO/EO, Joynagar-II for e-tender of 01 no. of Work vide Tender ID: 2026_ZPHD_991979_1 and last date of bid submission is 06.02.2026. For details visit website https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- BDO/EO Joynagar-II Dev. Block/PS Nimpith, South 24 Parganas

Pindira Gram Panchayat Patharghata, Baharkuli, Purba Bardhaman e-Tender Notice e-Tender is invited from the experienced and resourceful bidders vide e-NIT No.: 7(1)/663/PP/15th CFC/Un-Tied/2025-26 (Sl. 1), Date: 20/01/2026. Bid Submission Start Date: 22/01/2026 at 06:00 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date: 10/02/2026 up to 05:00 PM. Technical Bid Opening Date: 10/02/2026 at 06:00 PM. For details please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in & undersigned GP Office. Sd/-, Pradhan Pindira Gram Panchayat

REGULATION OF TRAINS FOR TRAFFIC & POWER BLOCK OVER HOWRAH DIVISION For engineering & overhead equipment work involving removal of existing overhead equipment cross-over in connection with Limited Height Subway work at Level Crossing Gate No. 03 (Km 16/1-3), 08 nights Traffic & Power Block will be required from 23.01.2026 (Friday) to 31.01.2026 (Friday) intermittently on Down, UP & Reversible line in Howrah-Bardhaman section of Howrah Division. Consequently, following trains will be regulated on the days of block: On 24.01.2026 (Saturday) : CONTROLLING : (1) 13030 Mokama-Howrah Express (JCO 23.01.2026) will be controlled enroute for 45 minutes. (2) 13022 Raxaul-Howrah Mithila Express (JCO 23.01.2026) to be controlled enroute for 25 minutes. On 25.01.2026 (Sunday) & 26.01.2026 (Monday) : DIVERSION: 63501 Howrah-Bardhaman MEMU (JCO 25.01.2026 & 26.01.2026) will be diverted via Howrah-Bardhaman Chord Line. On 27.01.2026 (Tuesday) : RESCHEDULING : Down Trains: (1) 13034 Kathar-Howrah Express (JCO 26.01.2026) will be rescheduled at 18.30 hrs. instead of 15.30 hrs. from Kathar. (2) 13024 Gaya-Howrah Express (JCO 26.01.2026) will be rescheduled at 14.10 hrs. instead of 12.10 hrs. from Gaya. CONTROLLING : Down Trains : (1) 53002 Azimganj-Howrah Passenger (JCO 26.01.2026) will be controlled enroute for 120 minutes between Azimganj & Bandel. (2) 13030 Mokama-Howrah Express (JCO 26.01.2026) will be controlled enroute for 90 minutes. (3) 13022 Raxaul-Howrah Mithila Express (JCO 26.01.2026) will be controlled enroute for 60 minutes. (4) 15962 Dibrugarh-Howrah Kamrup Express (JCO 26.01.2026) will be controlled enroute for 30 minutes. CANCELLATION : Down Train - 37212 Bandel-Howrah Local (JCO 27.01.2026). UP Train - 37213 Howrah-Bandel Local (JCO 27.01.2026). On 29.01.2026 (Thursday) & 30.01.2026 (Friday) : DIVERSION: 63501 Howrah-Bardhaman MEMU (JCO 29.01.2026 & 30.01.2026) will be diverted via Howrah-Bardhaman Chord Line. Special Note : Special or Late Running trains & any further newly introduced train/Parcel train/TOD during the block period, if any, will be controlled/diverted suitably enroute. Passengers are requested to follow the Public Address System of stations. Inconvenience is regretted. Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah

Eastern Railway Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Bhubaneswar: Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway, met Smt. Anu Garg, IAS, Chief Secretary to Government of Odisha, and held constructive and wide ranging discussions on matters related to the progress of railway infrastructure development in the State.

forest rights, removal of encroachments, shifting of utilities, and early disposal of long pending legal cases. He also underlined the need for close coordination among various agencies to facilitate smooth execution of works such as construction of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and other allied infrastructure.

MI News Service, 21 Jan 2026, Bhubaneswar: Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway, met Smt. Anu Garg, IAS, Chief Secretary to Government of Odisha, and held constructive and wide ranging discussions on matters related to the progress of railway infrastructure development in the State.

During the meeting, the General Manager shared an overview of issues that commonly arise during execution of large scale railway works and emphasized the importance of their timely resolution. These include matters related to land acquisition,

enabling smooth implementation of infrastructure projects. Enhanced availability of construction resources, expeditious statutory clearances, and early resolution of procedural matters, he noted, would greatly contribute towards adherence to project timelines and avoidance of delays.

He further highlighted that timely policy level decisions and issuance of necessary operational instructions play a vital role in

How Yoga & Walnuts May Enhance Heart Health

NEW DELHI : A healthy, nutritious and active lifestyle can go a long way in maintaining sound mental and physical health, and recent years have made us realize just how important it is to make health an utmost priority in our lives. So, this brings us to an important question: What does one do to stay fit and healthy in 2024? Integrative health coach Neha Ranglani has the answer: "A nutrition-rich diet, containing omega-3 ALA-rich walnuts, may help improve your cardiovascular health. Pair it up with yoga, which helps reduce stress, improve blood circulation, and control blood pressure levels, and you have a powerful combination for maintaining a healthy heart."

And we couldn't agree more! California walnuts, paired with the ancient practice of yoga offer complementary effects that can help not only our heart health but also our overall wellbeing.

Scroll down to read how yoga and walnuts benefit your heart:

1. Reduced stress

Yoga, an ancient Indian practice, involves a combination of body poses, breathwork, and



meditation. This trio is known to be beneficial for our mind and body. Meanwhile, walnuts may help improve mood.(1) These wonder nuts may be associated with lower depression symptoms, greater interest in activities, higher energy levels, better concentration, and greater optimism.(2)

2. Promote weight management

Obesity is one of the major risk factors for heart disease, and hence, weight management is key to protecting one's self. Yoga and walnuts both promote weight management. A handful of walnuts contains 2.5g plant-based omega-3 ALA, 4g protein,

2g fiber, and several other essential nutrients.

Walnuts may have the potential to influence appetite hormones, suppressing hunger and making you feel satiated for longer. And if you feel full for longer, you avoid unnecessary and untimely cravings.(3)

3. Promote healthy gut

Studies suggest that walnuts enhance the growth of beneficial bacteria to ensure a healthy gut.(4) And a healthy gut may be linked to a variety of health benefits, including digestion, metabolism, and the immune system.(5) Meanwhile, yoga, through specific poses like Pawanmuktasana and Paschimottasana, can help deal with symptoms of digestive disorders and improve overall gut health.

4. Improve cholesterol levels Did you know: that eating walnuts may help reduce bad cholesterol (LDL) and increase good cholesterol (HDL) in our body?(6) And while walnuts do that, yoga also supports good cholesterol levels with its healthy lifestyle and weight management properties.

Now that you have read about a few of the many benefits of yoga and walnuts for heart health, how about starting your day with a handful of California walnuts and 10-15 minutes of yoga (to begin with)? Your body and mind will thank you for this holistic approach towards a healthier, happier you!

Study reveals how infertility treatment can double risk of postpartum heart disease



NEW JERSEY [US] : Infertility treatment patients were twice as likely to be hospitalised with heart disease in the year following delivery as spontaneously conceived patients, according to a study conducted by Rutgers Health experts using more than 31 million hospital records.

Infertility patients were 2.16 times more likely to be hospitalised for hypertension, or dangerously elevated blood pressure than normally conceived patients.

"Postpartum checkups are necessary for all patients, but this study indicates they are particularly important for patients who undergo infertility treatment to achieve a conception," said Rei Yamada, an obstetrics and gynecology resident at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and lead author of the study.

The study authors say their results support standards of care that now call for an initial postpartum checkup three weeks after delivery, standards that some health systems have yet to adopt. Much of the elevated risk came in the first month after delivery, particularly for patients who developed dangerously high blood pressure.

"And these results aren't the only ones to indicate that follow-up should occur early," said Cande Ananth, chief of the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and senior author of the study. "We have been involved in a series of studies over the past few years that have found serious risks of heart disease and stroke to various high-risk patient populations within those initial 30 days after delivery - risks that could be mit-

igated with earlier follow-up care."

The study analyzed the Nationwide Readmissions Database, which contains nationally representative data on about 31 million hospital discharges and readmissions per year. The database contains diagnosis codes, which let researchers find specific populations and identify reasons for readmission.

The researchers used data from more than 31 million patients who were discharged following delivery from 2010 to 2018, including 287,813 patients who had undergone any infertility treatment.

Although infertility treatment predicted a sharply elevated risk of heart disease, the study authors said the relative youth of infertility treatment patients kept their overall risk fairly low. Just 550 of every 100,000 women who received infertility treatment and 355 of every 100,000 who conceived naturally were hospitalized with cardiovascular disease in the year after delivery.

The cause of the elevated risk of heart disease associated with infertility treatment remains unclear. The increase in heart disease could stem from the infertility treatments themselves, the underlying medical issues that made patients infertile or some other cause.

"Looking forward, I'd like to see if different types of infertility treatment and, importantly, medications are associated with different risk levels," said Yamada. "Our data gave no information about which patients had undergone which treatment. More detailed information might also provide insight into how infertility treatment impacts cardiovascular outcomes."

Researchers find how areas of brain are associated with helping decisions

BIRMINGHAM [UK] : Researchers found that a particular brain region—which they identified through a study of patients who had brain damage to that region—controls our willingness to assist others.

Understanding the areas of the brain associated with "helping" decisions is crucial to comprehending how people could be inspired to take on major global issues like infectious diseases, climate change, and international conflict. It is also necessary to discover novel treatments for social interaction difficulties.

Researchers from the Universities of Birmingham and Oxford conducted the study, which was published in *Nature Human Behaviour*. It demonstrates for the first time how the ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC), a brain region, plays a crucial role in helpful, or "prosocial," activities.

Lead author Professor Patricia Lockwood said: "Prosocial behaviours are essential for addressing global challenges. Yet helping others is often effortful and humans are averse to effort. Understanding how effortful helping decisions are processed in the brain is extremely important." In the study, the researchers focused on the vmPFC, a region located right at the front of the brain, which is known to be important for decision-making and other executive functions. Previous studies using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI scanning) have linked the vmPFC to choices that involve a trade-off between the rewards available and the effort



required to obtain rewards. However, these techniques cannot show whether a part of the brain is essential for these functions. Three groups of participants were recruited for the study: 25 patients had vmPFC damage, 15 patients had damage elsewhere in the brain, and 40 people were healthy age and gender-matched control participants. These groups allowed the researchers to test the impact of damage to vmPFC specifically. Each participant attended an experiment where they met another person anonymously. They then completed a decision-making task that measured how willing they were to exert physical effort (squeezing a grip force device) to earn rewards (bonus money) for themselves and for the other person. By enabling participants to meet - but not see - the person they were 'working' for in advance, researchers were able to convey the sense that participants' efforts would have real consequences, but hide any informa-

tion about the other person that could affect decision-making. Each choice the participants made varied in how much bonus money for them or the other person was available, and how much force they would have to exert to obtain the reward. This allowed the researchers to measure the impact of reward and effort separately, and to use advanced mathematical modelling to precisely quantify people's motivation. The results of the study clearly showed that the vmPFC was necessary for motivation to help others. Patients with vmPFC damage were less willing to choose to help others, exerted less force on even after they did decide to help, and earned less money to help others compared to the control groups. In a further step, the researchers used a technique called lesion symptom mapping which enabled them to identify even more specific subregions of the vmPFC where damage made people particularly antisocial.

Simple measurement may predict risk of worsening kidney disease: Study

WASHINGTON DC [US] : Aarhus University researchers discovered a simple way for predicting which people are most likely to develop chronic kidney disease rapidly. This could be a key step towards improved prevention and treatment.

About ten percent of the Danish population suffers from chronic kidney disease, and some individuals experience rapid deterioration after the diagnosis is made. Now, a team of researchers from Aarhus University in a comprehensive study has investigated the precise risk of rapid progression, and the result could be a significant step towards more effective treatment of the disease.

The study, which is based on data from Danish health registers, provides healthcare professionals with new insights into how to better identify patients at high risk of rapid worsening of kidney disease.

"We chose to investigate chronic kidney disease because some of the patients experience rapid deterioration of their condition without us knowing exactly who. Our goal was to understand which

patients are most at risk and whether we can intervene early to delay or even prevent this progression," says Professor at the Department of Clinical Medicine at Aarhus University, Christian Fynbo Christiansen, one of the authors of the study.

A simple measurement

The study showed that patients with newly diagnosed mild to moderate chronic kidney disease within three years have a 15 percent risk of rapid progression, which could lead to severe cardiovascular disease or even death. Surprisingly, the study also showed that the risk of rapid progression varied significantly among patients. A simple measurement of protein in the urine proved to be a strong indicator of the course of kidney disease. For women with diabetes or elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease and without the protein albumin in their urine, the risk of rapid progression was seven percent, while the risk peaked at 47 percent for men with both diabetes, elevated blood pressure/cardiovascular disease, and albumin in their urine.

Study finds new method to detect novel biomarkers for kidney diseases with nephrotic syndrome

BOSTON [US] : A study has revealed a major advance in the identification and tracking of renal illnesses linked to nephrotic syndrome. The findings of the study were published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and presented at the 61st ERA Congress in Stockholm, Sweden. By employing a hybrid methodology, scientists discovered that anti-nephrin autoantibodies serve as a dependable biomarker for monitoring the advancement of the disease, paving the way for more individualized therapeutic strategies. Nephrotic syndrome, defined by increased urine protein levels, is associated with kidney disorders, including membranous nephropathy (MN), primary focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), and minimal change disease (MCD). Damage to podocytes, the kidney's filtering cells, is the main cause of nephrotic syndrome because it permits protein to seep into the urine. Children diagnosed with MCD or FSGS often receive a diagnosis of idiopathic nephrotic syndrome (INS), where the cause of the nephrotic syndrome is unknown. This is frequently because children with high pro-



tein levels in their urine rarely undergo a kidney biopsy, which is how the cause is typically determined. Traditionally, diagnosing these conditions has posed challenges due to overlapping histological features and hesitancy to conduct invasive kidney biopsies, particularly in children. While anti-nephrin autoantibodies have been observed in certain patients with MCD and FSGS, their precise role in the

advancement of these diseases is not fully understood. The study, conducted across Europe and the USA, introduced a novel approach combining immunoprecipitation with enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to reliably detect anti-nephrin autoantibodies. The findings revealed that anti-nephrin autoantibodies were prevalent in 69 percent of adults with MCD and 90 percent of children with INS who had not been treated with immunosuppressive drugs. Importantly, the levels of these autoantibodies correlated with disease activity, suggesting their potential as a biomarker for monitoring disease progression. The antibodies were also rarely seen in the other diseases under examination. To further investigate the impact of nephrin immunisation on kidney function and disease, researchers administered laboratory-made nephrin protein to mice, creating a condition akin to MCD in the mice. Immunisation led to the phosphorylation of nephrin and notable alterations in cell structure, indicating the involvement of antibodies targeting nephrin in podocyte malfunction.

Srijan Realty Transforming Bengal's Commercial, Logistics & Office Landscape

Kolkata, West Bengal : Srijan Realty, one of Eastern India's leading real estate developers, is setting a new benchmark in Bengal's business infrastructure through the strategic expansion of its Commercial Division and Warehousing verticals. This move marks Srijan's evolution from a trusted developer into a forward-thinking institution that anticipates and addresses the dynamic needs of modern businesses.

Driving Growth Through Strategic Vision - The expansion of Srijan's Commercial Division is guided by deep market insights and a clear vision to strengthen Bengal's growing business ecosystem. With industrial activity, port-led trade, and consumption-driven growth on the rise, Srijan identified a critical gap in organized, compliant, and future-ready industrial and logistics infrastructure. This insight led to the creation of SILP - Srijan Industrial & Logistics Park, a pioneering initiative designed to deliver integrated business ecosystems rather than mere storage facilities.

The Journey so far - Srijan's entry into the industrial and logistics segment began with Srijan Logistics Park, Bombay Road, which received an overwhelming response from leading logistics players, manufacturers, and organized businesses. This success reaffirmed Srijan's strategic vision and paved the way for expansion across key industrial corridors of West Bengal.

Completed Projects:

- o SILP Bombay Road
- o SILH Maheshtala
- o Ravi Logistics Park

Total Saleable Area (Completed): 39.4 lakh sq. ft.

These parks have become benchmarks for quality infrastructure, efficient layout planning, and seamless goods movement, serving diverse sectors such as logistics, FMCG, manufacturing, and e-commerce. Renowned brands like Manyavar, Philips, Cadbury, Haier, La Opala, Magik, LINC, and Bodyline have placed their trust in Srijan, reinforcing its strong credentials in the industrial and logistics domain.

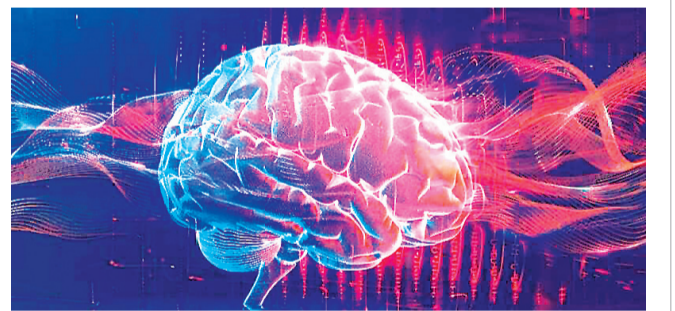
EDGE BY TITAN LAUNCHES FUMAGE - A NEW CERAMIC CASE AFTER 3 YEARS

Kolkata : by Titan launches Fumage- defined by new geometry, redesigned ceramic bracelet and a fumé dial. Marking a strategic product milestone, Fumage sets the stage for the launch of a new ceramic shape to the Edge portfolio after three years, signalling a material shift towards a sleek profile, more durable case architecture paired with a hand-finished gradient dial. Inspired by the fluidity of smoke, the new structure captures movement with control, creating form without constraint.

Edge by Titan evolves its slim, modern language with Fumage. A new case architecture and integrated ceramic bracelet reshape the glossy silhouette, keeping the signature lightness intact while adding dimension and presence. The satin bezel, polished bevels and ceramic links create a controlled play of light, durable enough for daily wear yet still refined on the wrist. The collection takes its cue from the art of fumage, translating the drift of smoke into a hand-crafted fumé dial built through a multi-stage lacquering process that moves from light to shadow. This introduces the idea of controlled chaos- movement held in precision, expression guided by restraint. It remains recognisably Edge: slim, minimal, and disciplined, but now with a sharper point of view and a sense of tension that makes the watch feel more alive. This balance defines the collection's aesthetic: refined yet expressive, restrained yet impactful.

Fumage arrives at a moment when design takes centre stage. The introduction of a new ceramic case marks a clear material upgrade and reflects a willingness to make holder design moves, not merely refine what already exists. By bringing together a new material, a fumé-inspired dial, and Edge's signature slimmness, the collection signals that Edge is confident enough to experiment while staying anchored to its core values.

Researchers identify vascular changes in brain linked to Alzheimer's disease



JACKSONVILLE (FLORIDA) :

The network of blood channels and tissues known as the blood-brain barrier, which nourishes and shields the brain from dangerous chemicals flowing in the blood, is compromised in Alzheimer's disease.

Researchers at Mayo Clinic and associates have now discovered distinct molecular markers of blood-brain barrier disruption, which may lead to novel approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of the condition. In *Nature Communications*, their research is published.

"These signatures have high potential to become novel biomarkers that capture brain changes in Alzheimer's disease," said senior author Nilufer Ertekin-Taner, MD, PhD, chair of the Department of Neuroscience at Mayo Clinic and leader of the Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease and Endophenotypes Laboratory at Mayo Clinic in Florida.

To conduct the study, the research team analysed human brain tissue from the Mayo Clinic Brain Bank, as well as published datasets and brain tissue samples from collaborating institutions. The study cohort included brain tissue samples from 12 patients with Alzheimer's disease and 12 healthy patients with no confirmed Alzheimer's disease.

All participants had donated their tissue for science. Using these and external datasets, the team analysed thousands of cells in more than six brain regions, making this one of the most rigorous studies of the blood-brain barrier in Alzheimer's disease to date, according to the researchers. They focused on

brain vascular cells, which make up a small portion of cell types in the brain, to examine molecular changes associated with Alzheimer's disease. In particular, they looked at two cell types that play an important role in maintaining the blood-brain barrier: pericytes, the gatekeepers of the brain that maintain the integrity of blood vessels, and their support cells known as astrocytes, to determine if and how they interact. They found Alzheimer's disease patients' samples exhibited altered communication between these cells, mediated by a pair of molecules known as VEGFA, which stimulates the growth of blood vessels, and SMAD3, which plays a key role in cellular responses to the external environment. Using cellular and zebrafish models, the researchers validated their finding that increased levels of VEGFA lead to lower levels of SMAD3 in the brain. The team used stem cells from blood and skin samples of the Alzheimer's disease patient donors and those in the control group. They treated the cells with VEGFA to see how it affected SMAD3 levels and overall vascular health. The VEGFA treatment caused a decline in SMAD3 levels in brain pericytes, indicating an interaction between these molecules. Donors with higher blood SMAD3 levels had less vascular damage.

and better Alzheimer's disease-related outcomes, according to the researchers. The team says more research is needed to determine how SMAD3 levels in the brain impact SMAD3 levels in the blood.

France requests NATO exercise in Greenland: media



MI News Service, Paris: France has requested a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) exercise in Greenland and is "ready to contribute," French media BFM TV reported on Wednesday, citing the Elysee Palace.

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Saturday that the United States will impose 10-percent tariffs on all goods from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, France, Germany, Britain, the Netherlands and Finland over Greenland starting on Feb. 1.

Those tariffs would increase to 25 percent on June 1, and would continue until a deal is reached for the United States to purchase Greenland, he said on social media.

Trump's statement came after several NATO members, including Britain, France and Germany, that oppose the U.S. attempt to acquire Greenland, sent troops and diplomatic assets last week to the Arctic territory.

Trump's recent tariff threat and ambition to take over Greenland have been repeatedly condemned by European leaders.

Iran vows to 'set fire to their world' if Trump targets Khamenei

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran delivered a fiery warning to US President Donald Trump on Tuesday, vowing severe retaliation if any action is taken against Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The threat followed Trump's recent call for new leadership in Iran, where he labelled Khamenei "a sick man" who should stop killing people and run the country properly.

Gen. Abolfazl Shekarchi, spokesman for Iran's armed forces, declared: "Trump knows that if any hand of aggression is extended toward our leader, we not only cut that hand but also we will set fire to their world."

Tensions have escalated dramatically since mass protests erupted on December 28 over Iran's collapsing economy. Authorities launched a brutal crackdown, resulting in at least 4,519 deaths, according to the US-based Human Rights Activists News Agency (HRANA), which has a reliable track record of verifying fatalities through on-the-ground activists. The figure surpasses any previous wave of unrest in decades and rivals the bloodshed of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.



Over 26,300 people have been arrested.

Khamenei himself acknowledged on Saturday that "several thousand" had died, blaming the United States. Internet shutdowns since January 8 have hindered information flow, raising fears the toll could rise further.

Trump has drawn explicit red lines: no killing of peaceful protesters and no mass executions. In response, Iran's national police chief, Gen. Ahmad Reza Radan, urged those arrested to surrender within three days, promising leniency for those "deceived by foreign intelligence services." He offered no details on consequences after the deadline.

Meanwhile, the USS Abraham Lincoln carrier strike group, recently in the South China Sea, has transited the Strait of Malacca and entered the Indian Ocean, heading west.

US officials declined to confirm a Middle East deployment, but its trajectory places it days away from the region—a move reminiscent of past reroutings during periods of Iranian instability, including in 2024.

The standoff underscores deepening US-Iran confrontation, with Tehran viewing Trump's rhetoric as a direct threat to its supreme leader and Washington pressing for an end to the violent suppression of dissent.

Israel's Netanyahu agrees to join Trump's Board of Peace

MI News Service, Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday, January 21, he had agreed to join US President Donald Trump's "Board of Peace."

Netanyahu announced in a statement from his office. The announcement came after Israel said the makeup of the Board's Gaza executive body did not align with Israel's interests.

At least six more countries said Sunday, January 18, the United States has invited them to join Trump's "Board of Peace," a new body of world leaders meant to oversee the next steps in Gaza that's showing ambitions for a broader mandate in global affairs.

A USD 1 billion contribution secures permanent membership on the Trump-led board instead of a three-year appointment, which has no contribution requirement, according to a US official who spoke on condition of anonymity about the charter, which hasn't been made public. The official said the money raised would go to rebuilding Gaza.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán has accepted an invitation to join the board, Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó told state



radio on Sunday. Orbán is one of Trump's most ardent supporters in Europe.

Jordan, Greece, Cyprus, and Pakistan also said Sunday they had received invitations. Canada, Türkiye, Egypt, Paraguay, Argentina, and Albania have already confirmed they were invited. It was not clear how many have been invited in all.

In letters sent Friday, January 16, to world leaders inviting them to be "founding members," Trump said the Board of Peace would "embark on a bold new approach to resolving global conflict."

Other members announced so far include Trump's closest confidants, such as former British Prime Minister Tony Blair and a collection of top officials from Middle Eastern governments.

As Palestinians in the war-ravaged enclave languish in displacement camps, Trump hopes to establish his new "Board of Peace" at the World Economic Forum in Davos. But the initiative, initially conceived to oversee the Gaza ceasefire, faces many questions over its membership and scope.

Meanwhile, as world leaders are gathered at the Swiss resort, the ceasefire plan is high on the agenda, on Tuesday, January 20, a Palestinian baby died of hypothermia, Israeli crews bulldozed the United Nations headquarters of UNRWA in east Jerusalem, and Israeli forces fired tear gas at Palestinian trade school, while the UN agency has warned that disease risks in the Gaza Strip are reaching record-levels.

As world leaders gather for Board of Peace, Gaza situation still grim

MI News Service, Gaza: A Palestinian baby died from hypothermia on Tuesday in the Gaza Strip, underscoring the grim humanitarian conditions in the territory as world leaders were gathering at a Swiss resort where President Donald Trump's Gaza ceasefire plan is high on the agenda.

Shaza Abu Jarad's family found the 3-month-old on Tuesday morning in their tent in the Daraj neighbourhood of Gaza City. "She was freezing, and dead," the baby's father, Mohamed Abu Jarad, told The Associated Press by phone after a funeral. "She died from cold."

The man, who worked in Israel before the war, lives with his wife and their seven other children in a makeshift tent after their house was destroyed during the war. The family took the girl to the Al-Ahly hospital where a doctor pronounced her dead from hypothermia, said her uncle, Khalid Abu Jarad. The Health Ministry confirmed that the baby died from hypothermia.

The family is among hundreds of thousands of people sheltering in tent camps and war-battered buildings in Gaza which experiences cold, wet win-



ters, with temperatures dropping below 10 degrees Celsius at night.

As Palestinians in the war-ravaged enclave languish in displacement camps, Trump hopes to establish his new Board of Peace at the World Economic Forum in Davos. But the initiative, initially conceived to oversee the Gaza ceasefire, faces many questions over its membership and scope.

Israel on Tuesday began demolishing the Jerusalem headquarters of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, pressing ahead with its crackdown against a body it has long accused of anti-Israel bias.

Shaza Abu Jarad was the ninth child to die from severe cold this winter in Gaza, according to the strip's health ministry, part of the Hamas-run

government and staffed by medical professionals. The UN and independent experts consider it the most reliable source on war casualties. Israel disputes its figures but has not provided its own.

More than 100 children who have died since the start of the ceasefire in October—a figure that includes a 27-day-old girl who died from hypothermia over the weekend. The ceasefire paused two years of war between Israel and Hamas militants and allowed a surge in humanitarian aid into Gaza, mainly food.

But residents say shortages of blankets and warm clothes remain, and there is little wood for fires. There's been no central electricity in Gaza since the first few days of the war in 2023, and fuel for generators is scarce.

Pak, Punjabi gangster-backed terrorists plotting '26-26' R-Day strike: Sources

MI News Service, New Delhi: Security forces in Delhi were put on high alert Wednesday after intelligence warned of a co-ordinated terrorist attack on or before Republic Day, i.e., January 26, and code-named 26-26.

The terrorists, security forces were told, could target the Ram Temple in Ayo-dhya and the Raghunath Temple in Jammu, as well as other temples and cities, sources told NDTV.

Sources said the attack is being planned by the Inter-Services Intelligence, Pakistan's military intel agency, via the Jaish-e-Mohammed and with aid from Punjab-based gangsters. The Jaish was responsible for the car bomb outside the Red Fort in November that killed 15 people.

Ahead of the celebrations security agencies have put up posters of wanted individuals across Delhi and the national capital region, specifically at entry/exit points like bus and train stations.

Among these is Rehan from Delhi's Chauhan Banger who went underground in 2016, shortly after an Al Qaeda module



in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal was busted. Others on the list include Mohd Umar, Abu Sufiyan, Mohd Shahid Faisal, Syed Arshiya, and Sharjeel Akhtar.

Security agencies were already on alert—as is protocol every year in the build-up to Republic Day celebrations—and stepped up threat-monitoring after intelligence warned of attacks by Khalistani terrorist organisations, with criminal elements from Punjab acting as 'foot soldiers'.

The latest reports have underlined the high threat levels at this time, pointing also to statements made by the 'Falcon Squad', a terrorist unit linked to the Kashmir-based Resistance Front, which itself is seen as an offshoot of another Pakistan-based terror group, the Lashkar-e-Taiba.

The Lashkar offshoot, which emerged of Kashmir's special status was scrapped in 2019, was responsible for the attack in Pahalgam in April last year, in which 26 people, mostly civilians, were gunned down. The attack prompted a military response—Operation Sindoor—from India.

Palestinian bomb manufacturer arrested in West Bank, IDF say

MI News Service, Jerusalem: Border Police officers nabbed a Palestinian explosive device manufacturer near the West Bank city of Tulkarem this week, Israeli security forces say. According to the police, Shin Bet, and IDF, the wanted man, Fadi

Bahti, was a "central explosives manufacturer" in a terror network based in the Tulkarem area. The Border Police officers raided Bahti's home in the town of Shuweika and detained him. He was then handed over to the Shin Bet for further interrogation.

Sambhal judge transferred after ordering FIR against police for shooting Muslim man in mosque survey shooting case

MI News Service, Allahabad: The Allahabad High Court on Tuesday transferred 14 judicial officers in Uttar Pradesh, including Sambhal's Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Vibhanshu Sudheer.

Sudheer, who recently directed the registration of a First Information Report (FIR) against several police officials over alleged firing during the November 2024 Sambhal violence, has been posted as Civil Judge (Senior Division) in Sultanpur.

Aditya Singh, previously Civil Judge (Senior Division) at Chandausi in Sambhal district, has replaced Sudheer as the new CJM. The transfer follows Sudheer's order earlier this month, where he allowed an application by Yameen, father of injured youth Mohammad Alam.

Yameen alleged that on November 24, 2024, his son—a vendor selling rusks and biscuits near the Shahi Jama Masjid—was shot by police during clashes. Alam sustained gunshot wounds, reportedly in the back and hand.

Sudheer observed that Alam was clearly hit by bullets and remarked that attempted murder is a grave offence. He noted it was unlikely the victim would falsely accuse innocents while sparing the real perpetrator.

The judge emphasized that police cannot claim immunity by citing official duties



for criminal acts, and ordered an FIR against former Circle Officer Anuj Chaudhary, Kotwali in-charge Anuj Tomar, and 15-20 unidentified personnel to probe the shooter's identity.

The violence erupted in Sambhal after local Muslims protested a court-ordered Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) examination of the historic Shahi Jama Masjid, amid claims it was built over a temple site. Clashes with police led to five Muslim deaths and numerous injuries.

Sambhal police reportedly plan to challenge the magistrate's order in the High Court, denying excessive force and claiming only mild measures were used to control the situation.

The reshuffle has drawn attention due to its timing, coming shortly after Sudheer's directive in this sensitive case. — With Agencies Inputs.

Brazil's Lula criticizes Trump for trying to 'rule the world' through social media

MI News Service, Sao Paulo: Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Tuesday criticized U.S. President Donald Trump for attempting to "rule the world" through social media.

"Have you noticed that Trump wants to rule the world through Twitter?" Lula said at a public event in Rio Grande, a municipality in Brazil's southern state of Rio Grande do Sul.

"He says something different every day. It's not possible. And do you think it's possible to treat people with respect if we don't look them in the face? To think of them as objects rather than human beings?" he added.

Speaking at a ceremony for the handover of 1,276 homes, as part of a housing program expected to benefit approximately 5,000 people in southern Brazil, Lula referred to Trump while noting the need to "restore humanism in social relations."

He also urged the public to discourage the overuse of cellphones and defend his policy initiated in 2024 to ban them in elementary and middle school grades.

Brazil's president has not yet publicly commented on Trump's invitation to join the so-called "Board of Peace" to oversee developments in the Gaza Strip.

In closing his speech, Lula urged the public to spend less time on social media and to prioritize their personal relationships.

Nurul Islam Khan: January 21st, was the founding day of the ISF.

On the occasion of the party's sixth founding anniversary, a grand rally for rights was held at the Shaheed Minar in Kolkata. The streets of Kolkata were abuzz with processions. Thousands of party workers and supporters from various districts of the state gathered at the Shaheed Minar grounds. This area in Dharmatala, the heart of Kolkata, was overflowing with people. The biggest achievement for the party workers was the presence of their elder brother, Pirzada Abbas Siddiqui. The supporters were overjoyed to see both brothers on the same stage. Although Abbas Siddiqui arrived at the very end of the rally, his presence provided a significant boost to the event. It is worth men-

ISF's Rights Rally

tioning that MLA Naushad Siddiqui had faced obstacles while holding a rally in Dharmatala area, and even spent 41 days in jail. This rally was quite significant ahead of the upcoming assembly elections. Their millions of workers were waiting for new directions. From that rally, MLA Naushad directly challenged the state government. He said that if the BJP performs well in any assembly constituency where the ISF fields a candidate, the ISF will take responsibility. He said they would accept whatever punishment the people give them. And if the BJP benefits from the fight with the Trinamool Congress candidates, then what will the Trinamool

Iraqi PM, Syrian interim leader discuss border security over phone

MI News Service, Baghdad: Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani spoke Tuesday with Syrian interim leader Ahmad al-Sharaa over phone to discuss border security, amid concerns about potential Islamic State (IS) militants' infiltration from Syria.

Al-Sharaa affirmed his country's commitment to securing the shared borders between the two countries and praised the Iraqi government's efforts and measures in this regard, according to a statement by al-Sudani's media office. He called for strengthening bilateral coordination to secure the borders, pursue the remaining IS terrorist elements, and reopen the border crossings between the two countries, it added.



voiced Iraq's dedication to Syria's security and stability. He stressed the importance of resolving crises through dialogue, ensuring the rights of all components of the Syrian people, and safeguarding the unity of Syrian territory and its sovereignty.

On the same day, al-Sudani chaired an emergency security meeting to discuss the fast-evolving developments in Syria and related regional challenges. In a statement, Sabah al-

Numan, spokesperson for the commander-in-chief of the Iraqi armed forces, said that Syria must maintain full control over its prisons to prevent the escape of terrorists or criminals.

The Syrian army said Monday that it has taken control of the Shaddadi area and its prison holding thousands of IS suspects in northeastern Hasakah province after the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) reported a loss of control over the facility amid escalating clashes.

The army said it has secured the prison complex and immediately launched search operations to recapture escaped inmates, whom it accused the SDF of releasing during recent clashes.

100 stray dogs 'poisoned' to death near Hyderabad, case booked

MI News Service, Hyderabad: In yet another incident of stray dog killings, nearly 100 canines were allegedly "poisoned to death" in Yacharam village near here following which a case was registered against a sarpanch and two others for their alleged involvement in the act, police said on Wednesday, January 21.

The fresh incident follows killing of nearly 500 stray dogs in different districts of Telangana since January 6.

An animal welfare activist, associated with Stray Animal Foundation of India, in a complaint filed with Yacharam Police Station alleged that the dogs were injected with some poisonous substances on January 19.



A case was registered under relevant sections of BNS and Prevention of Cruelty of Animals Act against the sarpanch, secretary and ward member of Yacharam gram panchayat on Tuesday, a police official said.

As per the complainant, 100 dogs were killed, but based on preliminary investigation and

after verifying with villagers around 50 dogs were found to be killed, though further probe is on in this regard, the official said.

An investigation is also underway to find out the carcasses of the dogs, he said. Earlier, police in Hanamkonda district had booked nine persons, in-

cluding two women sarpanches and their husbands, in connection with the alleged killing of around 300 stray dogs in Shayampet and Arepally villages.

In another incident, around 200 stray dogs were allegedly killed in Kamareddy district, and a case was booked against six persons, including five village sarpanches, for their alleged involvement in the incident.

It is suspected that some elected representatives, including sarpanches, allegedly carried out the killings to "fulfill promises made to villagers" ahead of gram panchayat elections held in December last year, to tackle the stray dog menace.

FOOTBALL: BENGALURU FC ANNOUNCE RENEDY SINGH AS HEAD COACH AHEAD OF ISL SEASON

BENGALURU : Bengaluru FC have turned to a familiar face as they announced Renedy Singh as their head coach on Wednesday ahead of a new Indian Super League (ISL) season.

Following the departure of Gerard Zaragoza from the club on November 14 of last year and with the start of the Indian Super League (ISL) on February 14 this year, the Bengaluru FC outfit will continue to rely on the existing culture and dressing room atmosphere by promoting Renedy Singh to head coach.

Renedy's familiarity with the Indian Super League (ISL) and his time coaching the East Bengals as interim head coach during the 2021-22 season and the 2023-24 season at Bengaluru FC will be beneficial as he leads the team in the upcoming ISL campaign.

While both interim head coach tenures were short-lived, they provided an excellent opportunity for Renedy to develop professionally on the highest level of Indian football by demonstrating his ability to communicate with players facing pressure situations.

In addition to serving as an interim head coach, Renedy Singh has extensive experience as a full-time head coach from his time at I-League club NEROCA FC, where he successfully guided the team on a budget and emphasised the importance of organisation.

As a former midfielder for the Indian National team, Renedy is well-equipped to take the reins at Bengaluru FC during this challenging ISL season. Earlier, sports minister Mandaviya emphasised that all the 14 clubs have agreed to play in the ISL this year, and all the details will be provided further on, including many of the tournament details, such as how it will be played, on what platforms, as well as where the matches will be held.



India's captain Suryakumar Yadav and player Abhishek Sharma celebrate their partnership during the first T20I cricket match between India and New Zealand at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur district of Maharashtra on Wednesday.

Ranchi Likely to Host IPL Matches as JSCA Emerges as Strong Contender

PC JHA

RANCHI : Cricket fans in Ranchi may once again witness the thrill of the Indian Premier League at the JSCA International Stadium if all formalities fall into place.

According to sources, the Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) is likely to be allotted hosting rights for a few IPL matches scheduled between March 26 and March 31 this year.

Although no final decision has been taken so far, Ranchi has been listed as a proposed venue during a recent meeting of the IPL Governing Council. Sources indicate that uncertainties over hosting matches at the home grounds of Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Rajasthan Royals have prompted the Governing Council to consider alternative venues,



with Ranchi emerging as one of the shortlisted cities.

Following the stampede incident that occurred after Royal Challengers Bengaluru's title celebration last season, the IPL Governing Council has asked the Karnataka State Cricket

Association to hold discussions with the state government and clarify its preparedness by January 27. Similarly, Rajasthan has also been advised to resolve internal administrative issues at the earliest. Failure to do so may result in matches being shifted to

other cities.

The IPL Governing Council has shortlisted a few cities as potential hosts, and Ranchi is among them. If JSCA is awarded the hosting rights, it will mark the return of IPL cricket to Ranchi after nearly 11 years. It is noteworthy that Kolkata Knight Riders and Chennai Super Kings had earlier adopted the JSCA Stadium as their home venue during the 2013 and 2014 IPL seasons. The first IPL match at the stadium was played on May 12, 2013, between Kolkata Knight Riders and Royal Challengers Bengaluru. The last IPL match in Ranchi took place in 2015 between Chennai Super Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru. With Jaipur and Bengaluru facing uncertainty, Ranchi has once again been considered as a proposed host venue.

National Shooting Trials: Tilottama sweeps women's 3P as Manu, Aishwary also post wins

NEW DELHI : Tilottama Sen continued her excellent form at the start of the season, winning back-to-back Women's top spots in 50m Rifle 3 Positions in the National Selection Trials for Group A shooters here at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range near New Delhi on Wednesday.

Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, who finished third in T1 on Tuesday, secured top spot in T2 of the men's 50m Rifle 3P, while Manu Bhaker finished on top of T1 in the 25m Pistol Women event with a commanding win in the finals.

Tilottama made it two in a row in the 50m Rifle 3P event with another composed performance in the finals today. She shot 361.5 after 35 shots, 3.1 points more than Ayushi Podder of Railways, who finished second with a final score of 358.4. Her teammate Surabhi Bharadwaj Rapole took the third spot with a score of 348.3.

Manini Kaushik, who finished third in T1, took the fourth spot with a score of 336.3, while Ashi Chouksey (326.4), Nupur Kumrawat (315.6), Anjum Moudgil (305.0), and Vidarsa K. Vinod (302.8) completed the final lineup.

In the men's T2, Aishwary posted a comfortable win, shoot-

ing 359.7 in the final. Paris bronze medallist Swapnil Kusale finished in second place with a final score of 357.7, while former 10m World Champion Rudraanksh Patil took third place with a final score of 347.5.

T1 winner Niraj Kumar finished in fourth place with a score of 336.3. Akshil Sheoran (326.5), Adriyan Karmakar (314.6), Nishan Budha (303.2), and Chain Singh (302.0) were the other finalists.

Manu Bhaker tops 25m Pistol event

Manu Bhaker produced a consistent performance in the T1 finals to secure the top spot with a score of 37, six more than Vibhuti Bhatia of Haryana, who finished in second with a score of 31. Divya T.S of Karnataka finished in third after finishing with a score of 28.

Tejaswani Singh finished in fourth place with a score of 26, after being eliminated in the shootout with Vibhuti. Rahi Sarnobat (22), Chinki Yadav (17), and Rhythm Sangwan (12) were the other finalists. Esha Singh did not start the final after qualifying in the top eight.

The 10m Air Rifle T1 finals for both men and women will be held on Thursday, along with the T2 finals of 25m Rapid Fire Pistol for men.



'Will do what's best for him', Arsenal manager breaks silence on Nwaneri transfer

LONDON : Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has broken his silence on reports linking young midfielder Ethan Nwaneri with a loan move to French club Marseille for the remainder of the season, as the Premier League table-toppers weigh their options for the highly-rated teenager.

Arteta admitted that the club would have to open itself to the possibility of letting Nwaneri leave on loan this month, as the young star is not getting enough chances to showcase his talent.

Speaking to the media, the Arsenal manager said, "We certainly have to assess the situation. Obviously, Ethan is not playing the minutes that he probably deserves and needs at his age."

England U-21 star Nwaneri is struggling to get match time at the Gunners. He has made just 12 appearances for the club this season. He is also missing a place in the team's starting eleven. Nwaneri has opened for the team

just four times and has managed to score only one goal.

Arteta also confirmed that the club will hold discussions this week before taking a final decision, as Arsenal do not want to waste precious talent.

"So, we're going to sit down this week, address the situation, get everybody's opinion, and at the end we will make the decision that we believe is the best one for the player, because we have a massive talent there and we really need to look after it," Arteta added. Meanwhile, Arsenal are closing in on another Premier League title as they currently sit at the top of the points table. The Gunners have 50 points from 22 matches and have not lost a single game in their last five outings. They will face Manchester United in their next match on Sunday.

Arsenal are, however, facing a steep challenge from Manchester City, who are currently placed second with 43 points.



ICC rejects BCB's request, keeps Bangladesh's T20 World Cup fixtures in India

NEW DELHI : The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Wednesday confirmed that Bangladesh's matches in the upcoming 2026 Men's T20 World Cup will be played in India, as per the original schedule.

The decision comes after an ICC Board meeting, featuring all members, which took place via video conferencing, after the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) requested that its fixtures be shifted to Sri Lanka, due to the BCCI instructing Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) to remove Mustafizur from its IPL 2026 squad amidst deteriorating relations between both countries.

The ICC said its decision was based on security assessments, including independent reviews, which found no threat to Bangladesh players, officials, media, or fans at any of the tournament venues in India. "Over the past several weeks, the ICC has engaged with the BCB in sustained and constructive dialogue, with the clear objective of enabling Bangladesh's participation in the tournament."

"During this period, the ICC has shared detailed inputs, including independent security assessments, comprehensive venue-level security plans, and formal assurances from the host authorities, all of which consistently concluded that there is no credible or verifiable threat to the



safety or security of the Bangladesh team in India.

"Despite these efforts, the BCB maintained its position, repeatedly linking its participation in the tournament to a single, isolated, and unrelated development concerning one of its players' involvement in a domestic league. This linkage has no bearing on the tournament's security framework or the conditions governing participation in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup," said an ICC spokesperson in a statement.

Bangladesh's current itinerary of games goes as follows: facing West Indies on February 7, Italy on February 9, and England on February 14 at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata, before taking on Nepal on February 17 at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.

The ICC also noted that changes were not feasible so close to the tournament and warned that altering the schedule without a credible security risk could set a precedent undermining the neutrality of future ICC events.

The global governing body further said it had engaged in extensive dialogue with the BCB, sharing detailed security plans and assurances from host author-

ities, including an in-person meeting held in Dhaka on January 17, led by Andrew Ephgrave, ICC's General Manager in Integrity Unit, and Gaurav Saxena, General Manager, Events and Corporate Communications, who joined in virtually.

"The ICC's venue and scheduling decisions are guided by objective threat assessments, host guarantees, and the tournament's agreed terms of participation, which apply uniformly to all 20 competing nations. In the absence of any independent security findings that materially compromise the safety of the Bangladesh team, the ICC is unable to relocate fixtures."

"Doing so would carry significant logistical and scheduling consequences for other teams and fans worldwide, and would also create far-reaching precedent-related challenges that risk undermining the neutrality, fairness, and integrity of ICC governance. The ICC remains committed to acting in good faith, upholding consistent standards, and safeguarding the collective interests of the global game," added the ICC spokesperson.

Should Bangladesh withdraw from the mega event, Scotland are expected to take their place, with the team ranked 14th in T20Is and the highest-ranked side not already qualified.

AUS OPEN: BHAMBRI-GARANSSON MARCH INTO MEN'S DOUBLES SECOND ROUND

MELBOURNE : India's Yuki Bhambri and his Swedish partner Andre Goransson progressed to the second round of the Australian Open 2026 men's doubles event with a win over local wild cards James Duckworth and Cruz Hewitt, the son of former World No. 1 and multiple Grand Slam winner Lleyton Hewitt, in Melbourne on Wednesday.

The 10th-seeded Indo-Swedish pair registered a 6-3, 6-4 victory in just 57 minutes. In the second round, Bhambri and Goransson

will face either Mexico's Santiago Gonzalez and the Netherlands' David Pel or the Brazilian pairing of Marcelo Melo and Fernando Romboli.

Bhambri and Goransson dominated proceedings from the start, delivering a near-perfect serving performance. In the opening set, they held four of their five service games to love, dropping just a single point in the ninth game. A break in the eighth game against Duckworth and Hewitt was all they needed to clinch the set.



The momentum carried into the second set, where Bhambri and Goransson once again won four of their five service games to love. A decisive break in the seventh game proved enough to wrap up the contest.

Bhambri's best performance at the Australian Open came in 2014, when he reached the third round alongside New Zealand's Michael Venus. His best showing at a Grand Slam came last year, when the pair made a run to the semi-finals at the US Open.

Bhambri will partner with the 2018 Wimbledon champion, Nicole Melichar-Martinez of America, in the mixed doubles event. They will be up against the sixth-seeded Zhang Shuai of China and Germany's Tim Putz in the opening round on Thursday.

Earlier, another Indian, Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha, in the men's doubles draw, exited in the first round. Poonacha and his Thai partner Pruchya Sarsro lost 7-6(3), 7-5 to Spain's Pedro Martinez and Jaume Munar on Tuesday.