

With only a few days left for the commencement of the Madhyamik examinations, the Kolkata Police have announced traffic regulations to ensure smooth movement for students appearing for the crucial board exams. The Madhyamik Examination 2026 will begin on February 2 and continue till February 12 across the state. To prevent examinees from getting stuck in traffic congestion while travelling to examination centres, the Kolkata Police will regulate the movement of goods-carrying vehicles in areas under its jurisdiction. According to an official notification, the movement of all types of goods vehicles will be restricted from 6 am to 12 noon on examination days. However, this restriction will not be applicable in the Bhangar area, as clarified by the police. The decision has been taken to facilitate hassle-free travel for candidates during the morning hours, when most examinations are scheduled. The police have stated that certain vehicles may be diverted through alternative routes, although the exact diversion routes are yet to be finalised.



Rs. 3
KOLKATA

SATURDAY 31 JANUARY, 2026
PG-8, YEAR-12, ISSUE-240
(RNI NO.: WBENG/2014/56803)
WEBSITE: WWW.LIVE7TV.COM

Morning India

Mamata pays tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on death anniversary



MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday paid rich tributes to Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on his 78th death anniversary, recalling his ideals of unity and inclusiveness. India observes the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as Martyrs' Day to honour the life and legacy of the nation's foremost leader and his ultimate sacrifice for peace, justice, and freedom. In a post on X this morning, Mamata Banerjee wrote, "Solemnly remembering Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary. Gandhiji's vision of a united, inclusive India is the very soul of our democracy." She also emphasised that the principles espoused by the Father of the Nation continue to guide and strengthen India's democratic ethos.

Piyush Pandey becomes new acting DGP and Supratim Sarkar to take charge as new Kolkata Police Commissioner

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a major reshuffle in both the West Bengal and Kolkata police on Friday night, the state government announced the appointment of IPS officer Piyush Pandey as the new acting Director General of Police (DGP) of the state, while another senior IPS officer Supratim Sarkar, has been appointed as the new Police Commissioner of Kolkata.

Prior to becoming the new DGP through this major reshuffle, Piyush Pandey was the Director General of Security, where the present Kolkata Police Commissioner Manoj Verma has now been transferred. Similarly before taking over the charge of the city Police Commissioner, Supratim Sarkar worked as the ADG South Bengal. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who is also the state Police minister, made the decision barely 24 hours before Rajiv Kumar's scheduled retirement as acting DGP tomorrow on Saturday. Additionally, apart from the appointment of Supratim Sarkar as the new Police Commissioner of Kolkata, Vineet Goyal has been given the charge of ADG (Law and Order) in place of Javed Shamim, who has now become the ADG (STF), the post till now is held by Vineet Goel.

For the past few days, there has been a tug-of-war surrounding the post of Director General of State Police. Currently, there is no permanent DGP in the state police. Rajiv Kumar was serving as the acting or temporary DGP. He is retiring on January 31st. Keeping this in mind the state secretariat Nabanna has sent a list of names to the central government for the appointment of a permanent DGP. In the midst of all these Nabanna issued a notification tonight regarding the reshuffle in the state and city police forces.

PM pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on death anniversary

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi on his 78th death anniversary on Friday, saying his call for 'swadeshi' is the fundamental principle for a developed India. The Prime minister said Mahatma Gandhi always laid strong emphasis on 'swadeshi', which is also a fundamental pillar of the government's resolve for a developed and self-reliant India. "My tribute to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on his death anniversary," Modi said in a post on X. "His personality and deeds will forever continue to inspire the people of the country to walk the path of duty," the Prime minister added.

India observes the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as Martyrs' Day to honour the life and legacy of the nation's foremost leader and his ultimate sacrifice for peace, justice, and freedom. PM Modi also paid floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat where a prayer meet was held at the memorial and Mahatma Gandhi's favourite devotional songs, including "Raghupati



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on the occasion of Martyrs' Day, observed to mark the death anniversary of the father of the nation, in New Delhi.

Raghav Raja Ram", were rendered. President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President C. P. Radhakrishnan also paid homage to the Father of the Nation. Along with the PM, several Union ministers, including Defence

the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on his death anniversary. Revered Babu always laid strong emphasis on Swadeshi, which is also a fundamental pillar of our resolve

X Mahatma Gandhi is not just a person, but a way of thinking that an empire, an ideology of hatred, and an arrogance of power have all unsuccessfully tried to erase at different points in time

PM Narendra Modi

for a developed and self-reliant India. His personality and deeds will forever continue to inspire the people of the country to walk the path of duty." In another X post, PM Modi hailed Mahatma Gandhi's principle of non-violence. "Revered Babu always emphasised non-violence for the protection of humanity. There is such power in it that can change the world without weapons. Ahimsa param dharmast-thahimsa parantpah,

►► **Continued on page 3**

Bengal govt seeks changes to EC's central observer list, sends alternative names



File Photo

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government has written to the Election Commission, seeking changes to the list of central observers, while proposing alternative names for nine of the 15 IAS officers selected

As no response was received within the stipulated time frame, the Commission finalised and published the list on its own

an EC official said

by the poll panel. Informing this official sources said here on Friday that top level officers for whom replacements have been suggested include the state's Home Secretary and the Commissioners of Howrah and Ansansol police

The proposal was sent due to "administrative and official requirements", the sources said adding "The state government has forwarded alternative names in place of nine IAS officers. The Election Commission will examine the proposal and take a final call". The poll panel had recently published a list of 25 senior officials from West Bengal for employment as Central

►► **Continued on page 3**



A machine being used by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to clear snow from Budhal-Mahore-Gool road, in Rajouri, Jammu and Kashmir.

Four Naxalites with total bounty of Rs 8 lakh surrender with arms in Chhattisgarh

MI News Service, Raipur: Four hardcore Naxalites, including two women, carrying cumulative rewards of Rs 8 lakh on their heads, surrendered along with their weapons in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Friday, a senior police official said. The cadres, who belonged to the Kistaram area committee of the south Bastar division of Maoists, turned themselves in here under the state's 'Poona Margem (from rehabilitation to social reintegration) initiative, Inspector General of Police, Bastar Range, Sundarraj P said. The Naxalites told the police that they were impressed by the state government's surrender and rehabilitation policy, he said.

Of the surrendered cadres, Sodhi Joga, an area committee member, carried a reward of Rs 5 lakh, while others - Dabar Ganga, alias Madkam Ganga, Sodhi Raju, and Madvi Budhari, carried a bounty of Rs 1 lakh each, he said. They also handed over four Insas rifles, two Self Loading Ri-



Surrendered Maoist cadres in the Sukma district.

fls (SLR), one .303 rifle and another .315 rifle along with huge ammunition, he said, adding that police from Sukma district and Alluri Sitarama Raju district (Andhra Pradesh) played a key role in their surrender. The newly established security camps in the Kistaram and Golapalli areas of Sukma, improved road connectivity, and the success of continuous and effective anti-Naxal operations have resulted in frequent surrender of cadres in the region, he

said. These security camps have helped curb Maoist activities, and their area of free movement has been significantly reduced, he said.

The surrendered cadres will be provided with rehabilitation, financial assistance, and other facilities as per government policy, he added. Sukma Superintendent of Police Kiran Chavan appealed to all the remaining Maoist cadres active in the

►► **Continued on page 3**

CID begins probe into Ajit Pawar's plane crash

MI News Service, Mumbai: The Maharashtra Crime Investigation Department (CID) has started its probe into the death of Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and four others in a plane crash in Baramati on Wednesday, an official said on Friday.

The state police have issued orders about the CID probe into the accidental death case registered at Baramati in Pune district, following the Jan-

uary 28 crash, a senior official said. "The Pune Rural police have registered a case of accidental death under section 194 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSs), and the same has been transferred to the CID

a senior official said

ajit Pawar (66) and four others who took off from Mumbai on board a Learjet 45 business aircraft at 8-10 a.m., died after it crashed barely 200 metres from the edge of the tabletop airstrip at Baramati, his hometown in Pune district, on Wednesday morning. The others killed in the tragedy were Captain Sumit Kapoor, who had a flying

►► **Continued on page 3**

Shashi Tharoor says he is not pro-BJP, but pro-govt or pro-India

MI News Service, Thiruvananthapuram: Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor clarified on Friday that his stand on certain issues may have been seen as pro-BJP by the media, but he has only seen it as pro-government or pro-India. Tharoor said that he has made it clear in the past as well that on some international matters, he does not like to talk about politics and instead prefers to speak about the country.

"It is not something new, I have always said so," the Congress MP from Thiruvananthapuram told reporters here. "My views on certain issues should not be misconstrued as pro-BJP", Tharoor said and reiterated that on the other hand they are rooted in being pro-government or pro-India.

Tharoor said the media may have perceived some of his positions as aligned with the BJP, but he has consistently maintained that on select international matters, he prefers to speak for the country rather than through a political lens. "This is not new. I have always said that on some international issues, I don't like to politicise matters and instead speak in the national interest," the Congress MP said. His remarks come in the backdrop of a controversy last year



My views on certain issues should not be misconstrued as pro-BJP

Shashi Tharoor, Senior Congress leader

over his comments on the India-Pakistan situation and diplomatic outreach following the Pahalgam attack. The statements, which differed from the Congress' official position, drew criticism from several party leaders who questioned his intent. Tharoor, however, acknowledged that party members are expected to adhere to the party line. "I have always stood with the party in Parliament, so there is no cause for concern," he said. Asked whether he would remain with the Congress, Tharoor said, "I am in the Congress and I am not going anywhere. I will be

►► **Continued on page 3**

'India comes out on top', Trump administration on India-EU trade deal

MI News Service, New Delhi / Washington (DC): India came out on "top" in the trade deal with the European Union and is going to have a heyday with this, US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said in the first reaction from the Trump administration on the free trade agreement. Greer was responding to a question on the trade agreement, billed as the "mother of all deals", sealed between India and the EU in New Delhi on Tuesday. "I've looked at some of the details of the deal so far. I think India comes out on top on this, frankly. They get more market access into Europe," Greer said in an interview with Fox Business on Friday.



U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer.

between India and the European Union is as much about geopolitical as it's about intercontinental business relations. Incidentally, the EU is already India's largest partner with trade in goods

One could argue that the Trump factor provided a very strong impetus to the deal because both India and the EU are facing shock US tariffs that they never expected

Michael Kugelman, senior fellow for South Asia at the Atlantic Council

reaching USD 142.3bn in 2024, amounting to 11.5% of the South Asian nation's total trade. India is the EU's ninth largest trading partner. These are impressive numbers and reflect strong relations. And yet, trade talks were stuck for two decades. That raises the question: what's changed now? The answer lies in the fast-evolving geopolitical landscape and the unpredictability of the US

administration under President Donald Trump. The US leader has used tariffs as a bargaining chip in some negotiations but he has often used them to punish countries, including partners, which don't agree with his worldview. The US has imposed 50% tariffs on Indian goods, which include a 25% penalty for Delhi's refusal to stop buying oil from Russia. Some EU countries re-

cently faced fresh tariff threats from Trump as the US President was put out by their refusal to accept his proposed takeover of Greenland. He, however, later withdrew the threat, but experts say it did rattle the EU. The EU and India are not alone in looking to hedge their bets when it comes to the US - the free trade agreement (FTA) in Delhi was secured amid a flurry of countries striking deals and patching things up as they try to cope with global unpredictability. The EU-India pact - the seventh trade deal India has completed recently - comes after Brussels signed a trade accord with South American trade bloc

►► **Continued on page 3**

45,000 Voters Missing from SIR List in Bhowanipore; Mamata holds urgent meeting with Councillors and BLOs

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Special Investigation Report (SIR) in the state is nearing completion. It reveals that the names of approximately 45,000 voters in the Bhowanipur assembly constituency have been excluded from the draft voter list. Following this, Trinamool Supremo Mamata Banerjee has urgently called a meeting at her party office in Kalighat to discuss the matter. All the councillors and Booth Level Agents (BLA 2s) of Bhowanipur have been summoned to the meeting. Notably, Bhowanipur is Mamata Banerjee's own constituency. She won the by-election from this constituency in 2021, securing her third term as Chief Minister. Therefore, protecting the democratic rights of the voters here is a top priority for her. According to sources, the Trinamool Supremo will instruct the councillors to review the wards in Bhowanipur where the most voters' names have been excluded. Mamata Banerjee may also



inquire about the progress of development work in Bhowanipur. According to sources, Mamata Banerjee has called a meeting of all the councillors and BLA 2s of Bhowanipur at the Trinamool party office in Kalighat around 6 PM on Friday. She will first hold discussions with the councillors,

followed by a separate meeting with the BLA 2s. Among those summoned are Firhad Hakim, the councillor of Ward No. 82 and Mayor of Kolkata, and two other councillors and members of the Mayor-in-Council, Asim Basu and Sandipan Ranjan Bakshi. State party president and local resident

Subrata Bakshi will also be present at the meeting. In the current political climate, Mamata Banerjee's meeting today is undoubtedly significant. The state's ruling party, the Trinamool Congress, has consistently been vocal in its criticism of the ongoing special intensive revision of the voter list in the state, alleging that it is being conducted using unscientific methods. Many voters in various areas are being summoned for hearings on the pretext of "logical discrepancies" and "unmapped data". Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek Banerjee are going to Delhi this Sunday, February 1st, to address this issue. They are scheduled to lodge a complaint with the Election Commission on February 2nd. Against this backdrop, the Trinamool leader's meeting on Friday evening with the councillors and booth-level agents (BLA 2s) of her Bhowanipur constituency in Kalighat is extremely important.



Members of Students' Federation of India (SFI) Participate in Protest Rally Over Demands During March to Bikash Bhawan in Salt, Kolkata, on Friday.

Protests by village women tense Barabazar over proposed stone quarry pollution fears

MI News Service, Purulia: There will be no stone quarry in the populated area. It will spread pollution. Moreover, the area is a sacred site for the tribal community. Therefore, they object to the stone quarry. Raising these and other allegations, a chaotic situation unfolded on Friday in Sarberia village of Barabazar in Purulia. Police faced protests from women who took to the streets with national flags to oppose the opening of the stone quarry. There were also allegations of stones being thrown at the police. Vehicles were vandalized as well. The quarry owners also suffered losses. Later, the police brought the situation under control.



Sarberia village is located in the Lotpada panchayat of Barabazar block. A stone quarry was scheduled to begin operations on a privately owned plot of land there on Friday. About four years ago, the state government granted permission to start stone quarrying on privately owned land to increase revenue. Accordingly, Somnath Baral, a resident of Sarberia, leased his privately owned land for the purpose of starting a quarry. However, even after six or seven months, the operation had not begun. Later, the Calcutta High Court instructed the police to ensure that the quarry commenced operations. Following this order, the police from Barabazar police station went to the site on Friday to facilitate the opening of the quarry. Local residents allege that a private company

has started work on establishing a stone quarry in a residential area of Sarberia village. The villagers fear that once the quarry becomes operational, it will cause severe environmental pollution in the area. They also claim that the vibrations from the explosions during the quarrying process could cause cracks in the houses in the village. The protesters also highlighted the potential for damage to local drinking water tanks, roads, and village ponds. The villagers have made it clear that they will not allow this stone quarry to be built in a populated area under any circumstances. They allege that despite informing the administration multiple times about the issue, no effective action has been taken so far. The villagers stated that they were forced to resort to this protest. They have warned that if their demands are not met, they will launch a larger movement in the coming days.

Young man goes missing, body recovered a day later

MI News Service, Malda: A man in his thirties died under mysterious circumstances in Chanchal, Malda. His family has alleged murder. The incident has caused a stir in the area.

According to police sources, the deceased has been identified as Anarul Haque. The 30-year-old man was a resident of the Mohanpur area under Harishchandrapur police station. His family claims that he had been missing since Thursday. On Friday, his body was recovered in Jitapur, under Chanchal police station, about 2 kilometers from his home. Anarul's family now claims that he was murdered. However, they do not know who killed him or why. The deceased's family claims that this will become clear through the police investigation.

Anarul was a construction worker by profession. Last Thursday morning, he left home with over a lakh rupees to buy building materials. He did not return home afterward. His body was found on Friday. His family claims there were multiple injury marks on his body. Upon receiving the news, Chanchal Police Station's Officer-in-Charge, Abhijit Dutta, went to the scene. Police were deployed to maintain order in the area. The police have since recovered the body and sent it for post-mortem examination. An investigation has been launched to determine the cause of death.

Bridge collapsed under weight of a truck

MI News Service, Koch Behar: A bridge in Sitalkuchi, Koch Behar, collapsed with a loud crash. Hearing the loud noise, locals rushed to the scene and saw that a section of the bridge had broken and was hanging down. A dump truck was standing on the bridge. Locals claim that the bridge collapsed due to the excessive weight of the dump truck. Traffic was halted in the area as a result of the incident.

Commuters suffered hardship due to the bridge collapse in the Debnathpara area of Sitalkuchi block. The bridge is one of the main links between Sitai and Sitalkuchi. On Friday morning, a section of the bridge suddenly collapsed. According to local sources, the accident occurred when a dump truck was crossing the bridge.

The local administration and police arrived at the scene after being informed of the incident. Locals complained that the bridge had been in a dilapidated condition for a long time, but repeated appeals to the administration had yielded no results. The police and administration are investigating the current condition of the bridge.

Upset at Not Getting a Motorbike, 18-Year-Old Missing from Anandapur's 'House of Horrors'

MI News Service, East Midnapore: The son had asked his father for a motorbike. But the father told him that he did not have the financial means to buy one. Hearing this, 18-year-old Debadiya left home in a fit of pique. He took a job at the factory in Anandapur. Late on Sunday night, a fire broke out in that factory and warehouse. Many people were trapped and died in the inferno. Many are still missing. Debadiya has been missing since the incident. His family members are desperately searching for him. His mother is heartbroken, clutching her son's picture and weeping uncontrollably.



The family lives in Tamluk, in Purba Medinipur district. The father, Shankar Dinda, is a low-paid employee at a clothing store. 18-year-old Debadiya is a student. Recently, the young man had developed a desire to buy a motorcycle. He had also asked his father for money to buy the bike. His father told him that he didn't have that much money at the moment. Debadiya felt hurt by this. Finally, he told his mother that he would go to Kolkata and find a job himself. Accordingly, he had started working at the factory and warehouse in Anandapur, on the outskirts of Kolkata. A devastating fire broke out there on Sunday night. His family claims that Debadiya was there that night. The next morning, after seeing the news of the fire, his worried parents called their son's mobile phone multiple times. But they could not reach him. It is alleged that Debadiya, from Tamluk in East Medinipur, has been missing since the fire broke out late Sunday night at a decorator's warehouse in Anandapur, Kolkata. Despite searching in various places, there is no trace of him. His mother, Sharmistha, is inconsolable, weeping constantly. His mother said, "He said he would come back in a few days. He

BDO Receives Notice for SIR Hearing

MI News Service, Kharagpur: A notice of SIR hearing has been issued to Block Development Officer Abhirup Bhattacharya of Dantan-2 block of West Medinipur district. He has been called for hearing. The notice mentions that a discrepancy has been found between the spelling of his father's name in the enumeration form and the name recorded in the Special Intensive Revision-2002 list, due to which he has been called for hearing. Abhirup Bhattacharya, a West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) officer, is currently working as the Assistant Electoral Registration Officer of Dantan Assembly Constituency. His father

Shaktidhar Bhattacharya is a retired administrative officer of the Central Government, while his mother Sadhna Bhattacharya is a retired senior divisional engineer of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. Presently his aged parents reside in Belegata area of Kolkata. According to district administration sources, Abhirup Bhattacharya himself has called around two hundred people for the hearing. Meanwhile, he himself received the hearing notice. When contacted by the media in this regard, he refused to comment. However, sources close to him say that he has informed the entire matter to the higher authorities and has decided not to attend the hearing at present. It is noteworthy that the incidents of sending hearing notices to the officers involved in the Special Intensive Revision Work (SIR) of the voter list are not new. A similar notice was also sent to Block Development Officer of East Bharatpur-II Block Anirban Sengupta. Earlier, Block Development Officer of Tamluk and Assistant Electoral Registration Officer Sheikh Wasim Raza were also called for hearing. Apart from this, many Sub-Collectors and Secretary level officers of the state have also received notices under this process.

Bani Chakra's Musical Ode to Saraswati



MI News Service, Kolkata: Spring returned to the Deshapriya Park area of South Kolkata once again through the initiatives of Bani Chakra Music and Dance Training College. Journalist Tapash Roy observes that marking the occasion of Saraswati Puja, the nearly seven-decade-old cultural organisation organised its annual four-day cultural programme and art exhibition, continuing a long-standing tradition. This year, Bani Chakra's art exhibition entered its 32nd edition. Held from January 22 to January 25, the event was organised under the inspiration of President Himanti Shukla, Working President Debashish Kumar and Secretary Manas Bhattacharya, with Treasurer Bappa Bal and Cultural Secretary Sampita Banerjee overseeing its execution. Students from various branches of Banichakra participated enthusiastically, showcasing their creative works.



On Mahatma Gandhi's Death Anniversary, State Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Sovande Chattopadhyay Pays Tribute, Lays Wreath at Gandhi's Statue on Mayo Road in Presence of Governor C.V. Ananda Bose on Friday.

After Completing SIR Work, Groom Leaves for Wedding



MI News Service, Murshidabad: A long queue had formed outside the SIR (State Information Commission) hearing center. Everyone was standing with their documents in hand. Suddenly, everyone's attention was drawn to a young man dressed as a groom. He wasn't alone; several others were with him. They were the wedding party. The sudden appearance of the young man in wedding attire at the hearing center startled the locals who had come for the hearing. Upon inquiry, it was learned that the young man had also received a hearing notice. His wedding was on Friday, and he had been summoned to appear on that very day. So, before going to get married, the young man visited the hearing center! According to local sources, Nayan Sheikh, a resident of Sanmatnagar Gram Panchayat in Raghunathganj-2 block of Murshidabad, had his wedding scheduled for Friday, January 30th. While the wedding preparations were in full swing, a hearing notice from the SIR suddenly arrived at his house. It stated that he had to appear at the hearing center on January 30th with the necessary documents. Initially, Nayan was conflicted about the matter. However, after some thought, he decided to visit the hearing center before going to get married. Accordingly, he arrived at the hearing center on Friday, accompanied by his wedding party. The state's Minister of State for Power, Akhruzzaman, was present during the hearing. He was astonished to see Nayan arrive at the hearing center dressed as a groom. Upon learning the full story, he promptly took steps to expedite Nayan's hearing. Akhruzzaman said, "The way this young man, dressed in his wedding attire, came to the hearing to protect his rights is something rarely seen. After learning about the situation, we took swift action so that he could complete his work and reach the wedding ceremony on time." With the minister's presence and the administrative efficiency, Nayan's hearing process was completed quickly. After finishing all the necessary paperwork related to the FIR, he left for his wedding.

Morning walker Allegedly Breaks Former Soldier's Teeth at Botanical Garden

MI News Service, Howrah: A young man went for a morning walk and entered the Botanical Garden in Howrah. However, when he left the park after the designated time, a security guard, a former army personnel, questioned him. This angered the young man. It is alleged that he brutally beat the security guard. The former army personnel is currently receiving treatment in the hospital for his injuries. The Botanical Garden authorities have filed a complaint at the police station regarding the incident.



Every day, many people go for morning walks at the Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden, also known as the Shibpur Botanic Garden. There are specific time limits for entering and leaving the park for morning walks. During winter, this time limit is from 5:30 AM to 7:30 AM. However, a few days ago, a morning walker was leaving the park after the time limit had expired. The security guard on duty at the gate asked the young man to leave quickly. According to the park authorities, this led to an argument with the morning walker. He allegedly started punching the security guard in the face and also hurled abuses at him. The incident has caused an uproar. Devendra

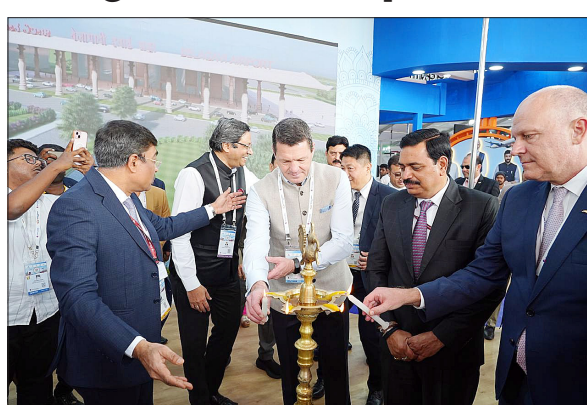
Cycle Rally for Banglar Bari Grameen Awareness



To promote community participation and spread awareness through IEC activities under the Banglar Bari Grameen scheme, a cycle rally was organised on Friday at Sridham Gangasagar, Sagar Block. The rally was flagged off by Minister Bankim Chandra Hazra, inspiring active public involvement and collective commitment towards safe and permanent housing for all financed by the Govt of West Bengal.

AAI Pavilion at Wings India Showcases India's Aviation Journey from Regional Airstrips to Global Gateways

MI News Service, Hyderabad: From modest regional airstrips to world-class global gateways, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been the silent architect behind India's remarkable aviation transformation. At Wings India, AAI's pavilion powerfully positions the organization as the designer, developer, enabler, and custodian of India's aviation ecosystem- where infrastructure meets inclusivity, safety aligns with sustainability, and innovation fuels national growth.



The AAI Pavilion offers visitors a rich, immersive experience highlighting the authority's multifaceted role in shaping India's aviation landscape. A key attraction is the anamorphic immersive display, presenting newly developed airports that seamlessly blend cutting-edge technology with India's diverse cultural aesthetics. The pavilion features immersive zones showcasing nationwide airport connectivity, Indian art and culture through Kala Sankalan, and the success of regional aviation under RCS-UDAN, alongside an interactive Aviation Quiz and a Digital Selfie Pavilion that introduces visitors to diverse aviation careers through profession-specific virtual environments-spotlighting

the people who power the aviation ecosystem.

Adding a strong cultural and national dimension, the pavilion commemorates 150 years of 'Vande Mataram', paying tribute to Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and honouring the national song that continues to inspire generations. A physical selfie point further celebrates the leadership and vision of Indian aviation under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, reflecting the government's commitment to transforming India into a global aviation hub. Through innovation, inclusivity, and cultural pride, the Airports Authority of India pavilion at Wings India stands as a compelling narrative of India's aviation past, present, and future.



A dedicated tableau, a LED van, designed to showcase the "Banglar Bari" (Housing for All) initiative, was flagged off by the District Magistrate and other officials to spread awareness across South 24 Parganas district in West Bengal.

Winter Chill Eases as Temperatures Begin Rising Across Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: Just a week ago, biting northerly winds had left the city shivering, making blankets, quilts and sweaters unavoidable. However, the weather is now changing rapidly. According to the Meteorological Department, temperatures are gradually rising across Kolkata and several parts of West Bengal. With the possibility of El Niño becoming active later this year, overall temperatures are expected to remain slightly above normal. The weather office stated that while early mornings and nights may still carry a mild winter chill during the last few days of January and early February, the cold will significantly ease from mid-February onwards. Records indicate a notable rise in Kolkata's minimum temperature over the past few days. On Wednesday, the city recorded a minimum temperature of 15.6 degrees Celsius. This increased to 16.8 degrees Celsius on Thursday and further rose to 17.9 degrees Celsius on Friday, which is 3.2 degrees above the seasonal average.

Bengal govt seeks changes to EC's central observer list, sends alternative names

From PG 1
Observers for the upcoming assembly elections in five states comprising West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. The list includes 15 IAS officers, including Home Secretary Jagdish Prasad Meena, and 10 IPS officers. Police Commissioners of Howrah and Asansol also figure in the list. Earlier, the Commission said it had sought names of officers from the state government on several occasions for the appointment of central observers and had written as many as four letters for this purpose.

"As no response was received within the stipulated timeframe, the Commission finalised and published the list on its own," an EC official said. Alongside the list, it issued detailed guidelines, mandating compulsory briefing sessions for all empanelled IAS and IPS officers, he said. But now the West Bengal government has sought changes in the list of central observers sent by the Election Commission and proposed alternative names for 9 officers as the EC asked these officials to attend a crucial meeting of central observers in New Delhi on February 5 and 6, and warned them of disciplinary actions if they failed to attend. However, according to the West Bengal government, the proposal was sent due to "administrative and official requirements".

Four Naxalites with total bounty of Rs 8 lakh surrender with arms in Chhattisgarh

From PG 1
area to give up violence, assuring them that the government would provide them security and a dignified life. With this surrender, over 200 Naxalites have so far surrendered and laid down arms in the state. On January 15, as many as 52 Naxalites surrendered in neighbouring Bijapur district. More than 1,500 Naxalites joined the mainstream in the state in 2025. The Centre has resolved to eliminate Naxalism from the country by March 31 this year.

CID begins probe into Ajit Pawar's plane crash

From PG 1
experience of 15,000 hours, co-pilot Captain Shambhavi Pathak, with 1,500 hours of flying experience, Pawar's Personal Security Officer Vidip Jadhav and flight attendant Pinky Mali.



BLOs demonstrating and protesting in front of Election Commission office in Kolkata on Friday.

Kolkata Police to Regulate Traffic During Madhyamik Exams from Feb 2

MI News Service, Kolkata: With only a few days left for the commencement of the Madhyamik examinations, the Kolkata Police have announced traffic regulations to ensure smooth movement for students appearing for the crucial board exams. The Madhyamik Examination 2026 will begin on February 2 and continue till February 12 across the state. To prevent examinees from getting stuck in traffic congestion while travelling to examination centres, the Kolkata Police will regulate the movement of goods-carrying vehicles in areas under its jurisdiction. According to an official notification, the movement of all types of goods vehicles will be restricted from 6 am to 12 noon on examination days. However, this restriction will not be applicable in the Bhangar area, as clarified by the police. The decision has been taken to facilitate hassle-free travel

for candidates during the morning hours, when most examinations are scheduled. The police have stated that certain vehicles may be diverted through alternative routes, although



the exact diversion routes are yet to be finalised. Essential service vehicles will, however, be exempted from the restrictions till 8 am. These include

vehicles carrying LPG cylinders, petroleum products, oil, oxygen, milk, medicines, vegetables, fruits, fish and other essential commodities. Emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire tenders will also be allowed unrestricted movement throughout the examination period.

In addition to regulating goods vehicles, traffic movement on roads adjacent to examination centres will also be controlled. Depending on the situation, authorities may temporarily stop vehicular movement or divert traffic to alternate routes near exam centres to ensure the safety and convenience of students. Adequate police personnel will be deployed at sensitive junctions and near examination venues to manage traffic and assist candidates. The Madhyamik examinations will begin each day at 10:45 am and conclude at 2 pm. Students have been advised to leave

their homes well in advance and follow instructions issued by traffic police and school authorities. The examination schedule is as follows: February 2 – First Language; February 3 – Second Language; February 6 – History; February 7 – Geography; February 9 – Mathematics; February 10 – Physical Science; February 11 – Life Science; and February 12 – Optional Subject.

The traffic arrangements are part of standard measures taken every year during board examinations. Authorities have urged parents, guardians and commuters to cooperate with the police by adhering to traffic advisories and avoiding unnecessary travel during peak examination hours. The initiative aims to ensure that candidates reach their examination centres on time and appear for their papers without stress or disruption.

Guv Bose Visits Fire-Ravaged Anandapur Factory, Calls Incident Tragic

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose on Friday described the devastating fire incident at Anandapur as "extremely tragic" and said a thorough investigation would reveal the exact cause of the disaster. The Governor visited the site of the burnt factory and warehouse in Anandapur later in the day to assess the situation firsthand.

Earlier in the morning, Governor Bose paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his death anniversary at Gandhi Ghat in Barrackpore, North 24 Parganas. Speaking to reporters at the venue, he expressed deep sorrow over the Anandapur incident and said that the administration must conduct a proper investigation to uncover how such a tragedy occurred. He also confirmed that he would visit the affected area, following which he proceeded to Anandapur around noon. Governor Bose termed the incident "deeply distressing" and stressed

that accountability must be fixed once the investigation is complete. Without directly naming anyone, he appeared critical of the administration, stating that lapses, if any, should come to light through an impartial probe.

After completing his programme at Gandhi Ghat, the Governor travelled to Anandapur and reached the site shortly after noon. He inspected the gutted factory and warehouse, reviewed the extent of the damage, and interacted with officials present at the spot to understand the sequence of events. A massive fire had broken out at a momo manufacturing unit and adjoining warehouse in the Anandapur area on the outskirts of Kolkata. Several workers were reportedly present inside the premises at night when the blaze erupted. The incident claimed multiple lives, and as of Friday morning, body parts of at least 25 victims had been recovered from the site.

WBSSC Announces Exam Dates for Group C and D

MI News Service, Kolkata: The long wait is finally over for lakhs of job aspirants, as the West Bengal Central School Service Commission (WBSSC) has announced the dates for the written examinations for the recruitment of non-teaching staff in state-run schools. According to an official notification, the written tests will be conducted on March 1 and March 8. The written examination for the post of Clerk (Group C) will be held on March 1, starting at 12 noon. The Group D examination is scheduled for March 8, also beginning at 12 noon. The announcement has brought clarity to candidates who have been waiting for updates on the recruitment process for several months. As per the Commission, there are 2,989 vacant posts in Group C, for which nearly eight lakh candidates have submitted applications. In the case of Group D, the number of vacancies stands at 5,488, while more than 8.5 lakh candidates have applied, highlighting the intense competition for these posi-

tions. The Group C written examination will be of one-and-a-half hours duration, while the Group D test will be conducted for one hour and 20 minutes. Candidates who are visually impaired or have difficulty in writing will be provided an additional 30 minutes to complete the examination, in line with standard examination guidelines. To conduct the examinations smoothly, the School Service Commission is expected to require more than 1,500 examination centres across the state for each exam. However, a final decision regarding the exact number and location of centres has not yet been taken.

Officials indicated that the examinations will be organised following procedures similar to the Madhyamik board examinations, ensuring strict monitoring and standardised arrangements. The authorities had been keen to conduct the written examinations for school support staff recruitment ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections.

SBI Opens Global Trade Finance Centre in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: State Bank of India (SBI) has strengthened its trade finance and international banking operations with the establishment of a Centralised Global Trade Finance Centre (GTFC) in Kolkata. The facility has been set up to streamline and centralise the processing of trade finance and international banking transactions, supporting SBI branches across eastern and northern India. The initiative aims to improve turnaround time, enhance compliance monitoring and deliver a better customer experience. The GTFC leverages advanced technology and specialised expertise to handle complex trade transactions, reinforcing SBI's focus on efficiency, security and service excellence for businesses involved in domestic and cross-border trade. The centre currently employs 277 professionals, including 161 SBI employees, 105 outsourced personnel and 11 temporary staff.

Anandapur: Death Toll Mounts as More Bodies Recovered, 2 More Arrested

MI News Service, Kolkata: The grim aftermath of the devastating fire at a warehouse in the Nazirabad area of Anandapur continues to unfold, with authorities recovering body parts of four more victims on Friday morning. With this, the total number of body parts recovered so far has risen to 25. Rescue and recovery operations resumed early in the day, fuelling speculation that more remains may yet be found as the search progresses.

Heavy police presence was witnessed outside the sealed warehouse in Anandapur on Friday morning. The premises have been cordoned off, and prohibitory orders under Section 163 have been imposed in the surrounding area to maintain law and order. Post-mortem examinations of 21 recovered body parts have already been completed, while the four recovered on Thursday have been sent for autopsy. Several persons are still reported missing, heightening anxiety among family members. Rescue efforts have been hampered due to extensive damage to the warehouse caused by the massive blaze. Meanwhile, Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi on Friday announced financial assistance for the families of those who lost their lives in the Anandapur fire tragedy. The Prime Minister declared an ex gratia of ₹2 lakh each from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund for the next of kin of the deceased. In a post on X, the Prime Minister also announced that those injured in the fire would receive financial assistance of ₹50,000 each. Expressing grief over the loss of lives, he conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families and wished a speedy recovery to the injured.

In a major development in the investigation, police arrested two more individuals late on Thursday night in connection with the fire. The arrested persons have been identified as Manoranjan Sit and Raja Chakraborty, who were employed as manager and deputy manager, respectively, at a momo manufacturing company operating in the area. Earlier, the owner of a decorator business, Gangadhar Das, had been arrested. With successive arrests, investigators believe the probe into the cause of the fire has gained momentum.

PM pays tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on death anniversary

From PG 1
Father of the Nation on his death anniversary, saying that along with Independence, he gave the nation a fundamental principle that the power of truth is greater than the power of authority. "Mahatma Gandhi is not just a person, but a way of thinking that an empire, an ideology of hatred and arrogance of power have all unsuccessfully tried to erase at different points in time," he said in a post in Hindi on X. Among others, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta also paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi at Raj Ghat. Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by Nathuram Godse on January 30, 1948, in Delhi.

'India comes out on top', Trump administration on India-EU trade deal

From PG 1
Mercosur earlier this month after 25 years of negotiation. Experts say the Trump factor helped speed that up too, though it's now facing legal challenges in Europe. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney – who warned of a "rupture" in the post-war international order last week – is just back from a visit to Beijing resetting ties in China which will boost trade ties, drawing Trump's ire and fresh threats of 100% tariffs. Carney is also due to travel to India in the near future, with trade high on the agenda. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer is heading to Beijing this week, accompanied by dozens of British business executives, following years of strained ties with China. Against this backdrop, the India-EU trade deal, which is still subject to ratification, assumes greater geopolitical significance as it achieves more than just trade results – for both Brussels and Delhi. It sends a message to Trump that global powers have started to look at ways to club together to protect themselves against his administration. "One could argue that the Trump factor provided a very strong impetus to the deal because both India and the EU are facing shock US tariffs that they never expected," said Michael Gugelman, senior fellow for South Asia at the Atlantic Council. He added that Trump is a big reason why the EU and India have been able to overcome most of their differences and put issues they couldn't resolve on the back-burner for future negotiations. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen both called Tuesday's agreement "the mother of all deals".

"This is the tale of two giants – the world's second and fourth largest economies – two giants who choose partnership in a true win-win fashion, a strong message that co-operation is the best answer to global challenges," said von der Leyen, standing beside Modi after they exchanged agreements. "By combining these strengths, we reduce strategic dependencies at a time when trade is increasingly weaponised... We are not only making our economies stronger – we are also delivering security for our people in an increasingly insecure world."

Shashi Tharoor says he is not pro-BJP, but pro-govt or pro-India

From PG 1
part of the Kerala poll campaign and will work for the victory of the UDF." He also questioned why he was repeatedly being asked to clarify his loyalty. On Thursday, Tharoor met Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and party leader Rahul Gandhi to address his grievances, after which he said that "all is good" and that "we are all on the same page". The meeting comes ahead

of the crucial Kerala Assembly elections, where the Congress-led UDF is aiming to reclaim power from the Left after a decade in opposition. On again being asked by reporters whether he can categorically state he will not leave the Congress party, Tharoor said, "I can say that I am going to be in the Congress and that I am not going anywhere. I will be part of the poll campaign (in Kerala)."

WHO Says Nipah Cases in India Low, No Travel Curbs Needed

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Nipah virus, a deadly infectious disease, triggered widespread concern across the country towards the end of last year after cases were reported in West Bengal. Now, the World Health Organization (WHO) has released an assessment on the Nipah situation in India and the state. On Friday, the WHO said that Nipah virus transmission in India remains relatively low and there is no need to impose any restrictions on travel or trade at this stage.

In an official statement, the WHO said India has previously demonstrated strong capacity to control Nipah outbreaks and continues to follow all necessary public health measures at both state and national levels. The global health body further stated that there is no evidence so far of sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus. According to state health offi-



cials, two Nipah cases have been detected in West Bengal. Both patients are nurses—one male and one female—and are currently undergoing treatment in hospital. The infections were detected in late December, and both patients have been kept in isolation since early

January. Laboratory confirmation was received from the National Institute of Virology in Pune on January 13. As per the latest report dated January 21, the male nurse is showing signs of gradual recovery, while the condition of the female patient remains critical.

Meanwhile, the Union Health Ministry said earlier this week that all individuals who came into contact with the two patients have tested negative for Nipah virus, providing some relief to health authorities. Nipah virus is primarily transmitted from bats and can spread to humans either directly or through infected animals such as pigs, horses, and dogs. Transmission can occur through direct contact or exposure to bat saliva, prompting authorities to advise people to avoid consuming fruits, dates, and raw date palm sap. Initial symptoms resemble fever, but if the infection spreads to the brain, it can become fatal. Kerala has reported multiple Nipah outbreaks since 2018. This marks the third time Nipah cases have been detected in West Bengal, following earlier incidents in 2001 and 2007 near the Bangladesh border.

NAME CHANGE I, Muluk Chand Mallick, S/O Late Afchar Mallick, residing at Vill. & P.O.-Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Nadia Pin-741245 WB, do hereby declare that due to mistake my nick name DUKHE Mallick is recorded in my Voter Card (No. WB/12/082/453238). On 16/09/17 vide affidavit no 4268 before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Kalyani, I affirm that both the names Muluk Chand Mallick & Dukhe Mallick are same & one identical person.

Name Change I, Alimuddin Gazi (old name) S/O Late Matabbar Gazi, residing at Vill. & Post- Nurpur, P.S.- Minakhan, North 24 Parganas 743456, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abu Taher Gazi (new name), as declared Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata, vide an affidavit No. 2007, dated 07/11/2025. Abu Taher Gazi (new name) and Alimuddin Gazi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Indian Railways Speeds Up Kavach 4.0 Safety Rollout with 472 km Commissioned Across Three Sections

● Highest-Ever Kavach Commissioning Achieved in a Single Day
● Kavach 4.0 Commissioned on Vadodara-Virar (344 km), Tuglakabad Junction Cabin-Palwal (35 km) and Manpur-Sarmatanr (93.3 km) Sections
● Kavach 4.0 Now Covers Over 1,300 Route Kilometres Across Five Indian Railways Zones
MI News Service, New Delhi, 30 Jan.26 : Indian Railways today commissioned 472.3 route kilometres of Kavach Version 4.0 (Automatic Train Protection System) across three sections of its network, marking another significant milestone in strengthening rail safety. The newly commissioned sections include Vadodara-Virar (344 km) on Western Railway, Tuglakabad Junction Cabin-Palwal (35 km) on Northern Railway, and Manpur-Sarmatanr (93.3 km) on East Central Railway. With this commissioning, Indian Railways continues to accelerate the deployment of the indigenous Kavach system to enhance train protection, operational safety, and reliability across high-density routes.



This commissioning marks the highest ever route kilometres of Kavach commissioned on a single day as well as in a month, with 472.3 Rkm brought under Kavach Version 4.0. The previous highest commissioning stood at 324 Rkm on the Kota-Mathura section of West Central Railway. With the latest addition, Kavach Version 4.0 has now been commissioned across five zones of Indian Railways.

Implementation on East Central Railway Indian Railways has also commenced train operations with Kavach 4.0 on the 93.3 km Manpur-Sarmatanr section of the DDUGJ-Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya division. The first Kavach-enabled service, Train No. 13305 Sasaram Intercity Express, operated successfully on this section, departing Sone Nagar at 07:42 hrs and arriving at Manpur at 09:35 hrs. During the run, a head-on collision test was conducted, in which the train automatically stopped, validating the system's effectiveness.

Kavach is being installed over 4,235 route kilometres of East Central Railway, including 417 route kilometres on the Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Junction-Manpur section, a critical part of the Delhi-Howrah trunk route passing through Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand. The section carries mixed traffic and is currently cleared for 130 kmph, with works in progress under Mission Raftar to enhance the speed potential to 160 kmph.

NAME CHANGE I, ARJINA MONDAL, W/o MAJULI MONDAL, D/o MOJAFAR ALI, residing at Vill. & P.O.-Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist.-Nadia, PIN-741245, West Bengal, do hereby declare that in my educational documents my father's name has been recorded as MD. MOJAFAR RAHAMAN, in my Ration Card it is MOJAFAR MONDAL & in Voter List of 2002 (129 Naitahi Part No.- 53, Sl. No. 42) his name has been recorded as মুজাফর আলি, পিতা- আবুল হকর মল্লিক. On 28.01.2026 vide an Affidavit (No. 186) before 1st Class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court, Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that MOJAFAR ALI, MOJAFAR MONDAL, MD. MOJAFAR RAHAMAN, MOJAFAR MONDAL and মুজাফর আলি, পিতা-আবুল হকর মল্লিক is the same & one identical person.

Name Change I, Tarikul Islam Purkait S/O Late Abdur Raup Purkait (my & my father's old name), residing at Vill-Champali & P.O.- Nurpur, PS- Minakhan, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743456, West Bengal, India, I have changed my & my father name and we shall henceforth be known as Tarikul Islam Mondal S/O Late Abdur Raup Mondal (my & father new name), as declared Before The Ld. 1st Class Magistrate at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 31/01/2026. Tarikul Islam Mondal and Tarikul Islam Purkait both are same and one identical person (myself). Late Abdur Raup Mondal and Late Abdur Raup Purkait both are same and one identical person (my father)

Name Change I, Ayesha Noorjahan Ansari W/O Nurul Islam Mondal & D/O Abdur Rashid Kayal, declare that my father said name Abdur Rasid Ansari & Abdur Rashid Ansari (father old names), residing at Vill- Nagendrapur, P.O.- Nagendrapur, P.S.- Raideighi, Dist.- South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743383, West Bengal, India, I have changed my father name and he shall henceforth be known as Abdur Rashid Kayal (father new name), as declared Before The Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Diamond Harbour, South 24 Parganas, vide an affidavit No. 12734, dated 10/11/2025. Abdur Rashid Kayal, Abdur Rasid Ansari & Abdur Rashid Ansari all are same and one identical person (my father).

After today's inclusion, Kavach Version 4.0 has been commissioned over a total of 1,306.3 Route Kilometres across Indian Railways. Prior to this, Kavach Version 4.0 had been commissioned on 834 Route Kilometres. This included

High Patronization Of Howrah - Kamakhya - Howrah Vande Bharat Sleeper Express

● Average occupancy near 128% over last six days
● Occupancy for next five days already crossed 100%
● Experience Comfort Like Never Before - Book Vande Bharat Sleeper Train Tickets Now
MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Jan.26 : The Howrah - Kamakhya - Howrah Vande Bharat Sleeper Express, introduced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 17th January 2026, has received an overwhelming response from passengers, underscoring its strong tourism and long-distance travel potential.



117% for all the classes with 133.33% occupancy for AC 1st Class, 115.95% for AC 2-Tier and 116.85% for AC 3-Tier. This preference pattern clearly indicating exceptionally high patronization and the immense tourism potential of this premium sleeper service. The Bengali travel enthusiasts prefer to experience the superior comfort of the Vande Bharat Sleeper Express while travelling from South Bengal to the Himalayan regions of North Bengal and Assam.

Name Change I, Golam Sabur Mandal, S/O- Lt. Abdur Rahim Mondal, residing at Vill Purba Polta P.O.- Sarapul P.S.-Swarupnagar, Dist-North 24 pgs, do hereby declare that in my Epic card (No. LL.Q004180) my father's name has been written as Ab Rahim Mandal, in my PAN card (No. BNPUM754R) my father's name recorded as Abdur Rahman Manda and in my Passport (no. N7658528) my name & my father's name have been mentioned as Golam Sabur, S/O- Golam Sarwar. On 27/01/2026 vide affidavit no 5343 before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that Abdur Rahim Mondal, Ab Rahim Mandal & Abdur Rahim Mandal are the same & identical person i.e. deceased father and Golam Sabur Mandal & Golam Sabur is the same & identical person.

Name Change I, Ashim Kumar Basu (Old Name) Son Of Late Arun Kumar Basu, Residing At 3/3b, Padma Pukur Road, P.S.- Netaji Nagar, Kolkata-700092, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Asim Kumar Basu (New Name) As Declared Before The Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Allipore Vide Affidavit No. 74853 On 08/11/2019. Ashim Kumar Basu (Old Name) And Asim Kumar Basu (New Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

New era begins with Next Gen VR Lab at GRSE MI News Service, Kolkata: Reinforcing its commitment to 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and indigenous shipbuilding, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd., took a significant leap in digital ship design and construction by inaugurating its Next Generation Virtual Reality (NGVR) Lab at the Main Works Unit, Kolkata.

NAME CHANGE I, MD KAMARUZZAMAN BISWAS, S/o- ABED ALI BISWAS, Vill.- Kirtipur, P.O.- Madra, P.S.- Baduria, North 24 Pgs., PIN-743438. In 2002 Voter List, 94 Baduria Assembly Part No. 3, Sl. 29, Voter ID No. HCT1692078 my name is recorded as KAMRUL BISWAS. On 27-01-2026 vide an Affidavit (No. 5313/26) before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Court, I affirm that MD KAMARUZZAMAN BISWAS & KAMARUL BISWAS is the same & one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MRIDUL BHATTACHARYA S/o- LATE MONORANJAN BHATTACHARJEE Residing at, Vill - Bandh road Netajipark (Ghoshpara), Post- Malda, Ps- Englishbazar, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 732101, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from MRIDUL BHATTACHARYA TO MRIDUL BHATTACHARJEE (New name) and hence forth I shall be known as (New name) MRIDUL BHATTACHARJEE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 20 January 2026. MRIDUL BHATTACHARJEE and MRIDUL BHATTACHARYA both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Tandra Podder / Tandra Poddar (Old Name), Wife Of Badal Kumar Podder, Residing At 29, Nabanagar, Jadavpur, Jadavpur University S.O.Ps-Jadavpur, Kolkata-700032, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tandra Podder Mitra (New Name) Vide An Affidavit No 64639 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Allipore On 16/10/2025. Tandra Podder / Tandra Poddar And Tandra Podder Mitra Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE I, MUKTI BASU D/o SUNDU BASU, Vill- Banbania, P.O.- Habra, P.S.- Ashoknagar, North 24 Pgs. do hereby declare that on 24.07.23 vide an affidavit (No. 1296) before Basirhat Notary Public I have transferred my Religion from Hindu to Muslim & from now on I will be known as MUKTI KHATUN. MUKTI KHATUN & MUKTI BASU & MUKTI BIBI is the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, SUKURJAN BIBI, W/o - Mahat Ali, D/o - Dokari Mondal, residing at Vill & P.O.- Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist - Nadia, Pin - 741245, West Bengal do hereby that in my name has been recorded as সুকর আলি মলিক, স্বামী - মহত আলি মলিক, পিতা- মরহুম হাজি মলিক in the Voter list of 2002 (82 Chakdaha, Part No. - 157, Serial No. - 809) & my husband's name has been recorded as মহত আলি মলিক, পিতা- মরহুম হাজি মলিক in the Voter list of 2002 (82 Chakdaha, Part No. - 157, Serial No. - 808). On 30.01.26 vide an affidavit (No. 35) before 1st Class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that Sukurjan Bibi, W/o - Mahat Ali, Sukurjan Bibi D/o- Dokari Mondal & সুকর আলি মলিক, স্বামী - মহত আলি মলিক, পিতা- মরহুম হাজি মলিক is the same and one identical person i.e. my husband.

Name Change I, Santanu Kumar Panda (old name) S/O Chamei Panda, residing at Dadihambanpur, Kanheibindha, Balasore, Simulia, Betada, Bhadrak, Odisha-756168, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shantanu Kumar Panda (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 29/01/2026. Santanu Kumar Panda (new name) and Santanu Kumar Panda (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Kerima Bibi W/o. Ohab Mallick, R/o. Dedhara, Dhaniakhal, Hooghly-712302, do hereby declare that in my previous Voter card (Epic No. WB/27/191/186449) and in 2002 Voter list (191 Dhaniakhal Assembly, Part No. 63, Sl. No. 613, Hooghly) where my & my husband's name has been recorded as Kerima Mallick W/o. Ohar. That I, Kerima Bibi W/o. Ohab Mallick & Kerima Mallick W/o. Ohar is the same & one identical person and also in my passport where my mother's name has been recorded as Marjina Bibi W/o. Fakir Mahammad and in my mother's voter card (Epic No. WB/27/191/072090) where my mother's name has been recorded as Marjina Khatun Sekh W/o. Phakir Sekh and in 2002 Voter list (191 Dhaniakhal Assembly, Part No. 25, Sl. No. 248, Hooghly) where my mother & also my father's name has been recorded as Marjina Khatun Sekh W/o. Fakir. That my mother Marjina Bibi W/o. Fakir Mahammad & Marjina Khatun Sekh W/o. Phakir Sekh & Marjina Khatun Sekh W/o. Fakir all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 4363, dated 30/01/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court.

NAME CHANGE I, SADAR ALI, S/o Late Noor Mohammad residing at Vill & P.O. Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist - Nadia, Pin - 741245, West Bengal do hereby that in my deceased father's Death Certificate his name is recorded as Late Manick Mallick. My name has been recorded as সদর আলী মলিক, পিতা- নূরমহম্মদ মলিক, in the Voter list of 2002 (82 Chakdaha, Part No. 157, Serial No. 806). On 30.01.26 vide an affidavit (No. 34) before 1st Class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that Sadar Ali, S/o Noor Mohammad & সদর আলী মলিক, পিতা- নূরমহম্মদ মলিক is the same and one identical person i.e. myself. Noor Mohammad & নূরমহম্মদ মলিক are the same and one identical person i.e. my deceased father.

Name Change I, Shabbir Z. Kantawala & Shabbir Zoebkhan Kantawala (old name) S/O Zoeb Kantawala, residing at AL-Anwar Towers, Flat-4B2, 16/1F East Topsis Road, Kolkata-700046, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shabbir Zoeb Kantawala (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/01/2026. Shabbir Zoeb Kantawala (new name) and Shabbir Z. Kantawala & Shabbir Zoebkhan Kantawala (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, KAUSHIK KUMAR (old name) S/o. Debarata Dutta, R/o. Olaichandaita, Chinsurah, Hooghly- 712103, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Kaushik Kumar to Kaushik Kumar Dutta (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Kaushik Kumar Dutta in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 1076 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 15/01/2026. I, Kaushik Kumar Dutta & Kaushik Kumar S/o. Debarata Dutta both are the same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, MAFURA TARAFDER, W/O Nijam Tarafder, residing at Vill & P.O Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist -Nadia, PIN - 741245, West Bengal do hereby that my name has been recorded as Safura Tarafder (সফুরা তারফদার) (82, Chakdaha, Part No.-157, Serial No.-87) and my husband's name has been recorded as Nijammam Tarafder (নিজাম তারফদার) in the Voter list of 2002. On 30.01.26 Vide an affidavit (No. 10) before 1st class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that MAFURA TARAFDER and Safura Tarafder (সফুরা তারফদার) is the same and one identical lady i.e. myself. Nijam Tarafder and Nijammam Tarafder (নিজাম তারফদার) is the same and one identical person i.e. my husband.

Name Change I, MST HAMIDA KHATUN (old name) D/O-HASAN ALI MOLLICK, W/O-SK SALEM AHAMMED residing at VILL & P.O.- KARULPS-ARABMAGH, DIST-HOOGHLY, 712615, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as HAMIDA BEGAM (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 30/01/2026. HAMIDA BEGAM (new name) and MST HAMIDA KHATUN (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MOHAMMAD RABUL HAQUE S/o- ABUL KASEM MONDAL, Residing at, Vill- Hosnabad, Post- Chhatai, Ps- Ranitola, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742302, West Bengal, Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from MOHAMMAD RABUL HAQUE TO MD RABUL HAQUE (New Name) and hence forth I shall be Known as (New Name) MD RABUL HAQUE in all purpose Vide an affidavit Sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad On 20 January 2026, MD RABUL HAQUE and MOHAMMAD RABUL HAQUE both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, FATEMA BIBI, W/O Ali Hossain, D/O Samsar Ali Gazi residing at Vill & P.O.-Ghoragachha, P.S.- Kalyani, Dist -Nadia, Pin- 741245, West Bengal do hereby that my name has been recorded as ফাতেমা মল্লিক, স্বামী- আলি হোসেন মল্লিক in the Voter list of 2002 (82 Chakdaha, Part No. 157, Serial No- 350). On 30.01.26 Vide an affidavit (No.54) before 1st Class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that Fatema Bibi, D/o- Samsar Ali Gazi & ফাতেমা মল্লিক, স্বামী- আলি হোসেন মল্লিক is the same and one identical lady i.e. myself.

Name Change I, CHABILA MALLICK (old name) W/O MANSUR ALI MALLICK, residing at VILL- PARBATIPUR, P.O DWAH HATTA, PS- HARPAL, HOOGHLY- 712403, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as CHABILA BIBI (new name), as declared Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Chinsurah, vide an affidavit no-963 dated 29/01/2026. CHABILA BIBI (new name) and CHABILA MALLICK (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Chaitali Hitesh Chovatia (DOB) 31st March, 1976, daughter of Pravin Malani and wife of Hitesh R. Chovatia, residing at Enclave Building, 45/2 Chakrabaria Road South, 1st Floor, Kolkata- 700025, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that Chaitali Hitesh Chovatia and Chaitali H. Chovatia refer to the same person, myself via affidavit before the Notary Public at Kolkata dated 29th January 2026.

NAME CHANGE I, ALI HOSSAIN, S/O Mahammad Ali Mondal, residing at Vill & P.O - Ghoragachha, P.S.-Kalyani, Dist Nadia, PIN - 741245, West Bengal do hereby that my name has been recorded as আলি হোসেন মল্লিক, পিতা-মহম্মদ আলি মল্লিক in the Voter list of 2002 (82 Chakdaha, Part No. - 157, Serial No. - 349). In my Pan Card my name has been recorded as Ali Hossain, S/o Mahammad Ali, On 30.01.26 Vide an affidavit (No.55) before 1st Class A.C.J.M., 2nd Court Kalyani, Nadia, I affirm that Ali Hossain, S/o- Mahammad Ali Mondal, Ali Hossain S/o Mahammad Ali Hossain & আলি হোসেন মল্লিক, পিতা-মহম্মদ আলি মল্লিক is the same and one identical person i.e. myself.

Name Change I, Santu Molla S/o Golam Molla (my & my father old name), residing at Vill & PO- Nurpur, PS- Minakhan, Dist-North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, India, I have changed my & my father name and we shall henceforth be known as Abdulla Molla S/o Golam Rasul Molla (my & father new name), as declared Before The Ld. Executive Magistrate at Basirhat, North 24 Parganas, vide an affidavit Sl. No. 3527/8C-1/26, dated 20/01/2026. Abdulla Molla and Santu Molla both are same and one identical person (myself). Golam Rasul Molla and Golam Molla both are same and one identical person (my father).

Special Camp Court Conducted At Dankuni Station

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Jan.26 : On 30 January 2026, Howrah Division, Eastern Railway conducted a Special Camp Court at Dankuni Railway Station to strengthen ticketing discipline and ensure strict compliance with Railway rules and regulations. The Camp Court was led by the Railway Magistrate and aimed at curbing ticketing irregularities and promoting orderly conduct among passengers. The enforcement operation was carried out by a joint team comprising 26 Ticket Checking Staff (TTEs), 19 Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel, and 1 Government Railway Police Force (GRPF) personnel, ensuring effective coordination and smooth conduct of the drive.

connectivity near the India-Bangladesh border, aiding national security and supporting future cross-border cooperation. Economically, the lines can boost trade linked to Petrapole Land Port and support local agriculture by enabling faster, cheaper transport of goods. Socially, it will reduce travel time for daily commuters, ease road congestion, and promote regional development through passenger access to education & health care. The salient features of these projects are as follows: 1) Bangoan - Chandabazar (11.5Km) New Line: This 11.5Km new line will be facilitating railway connectivity extended upto Chandabazar from Bangoan Junction. There will be 3 major bridges and one minor bridge in this section. New Platform with shelter, Foot over Bridge, Ticket counter including station building will be constructed for passenger facility. The above New Railway line project constitutes critical infrastructure proposals aimed at expanding the rail network in the border town areas Bangoan in the North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. Strategically, it will strengthen border

Improving Rail Connectivity In Bangoan, Ranaghat & Adjacent Areas: 4 New Line Projects In North 24 Parganas/Nadia Rolled Out

MI News Service, Kolkata, 30 Jan.26 : The Union Railway Ministry has taken initiatives for de-freezing four new line projects in North 24 Parganas/Nadia District and its adjacent areas of West Bengal as a boost to local and regional socio-economic development. These new line projects including Bangoan - Poramaheshhala (20 KM) new line project, Bangoan - Chandabazar (11.5 KM) New Line project, Chandabazar - Bagdah (13.8 KM) New Line project & Ranaghat (Aranghata) - Duttaphulia (8.17 KM) New Line project. Strategically, it will strengthen connectivity near India - Bangladesh boarder improving National Security. Economically, the line can boost trade linking to this area and support local agriculture by enabling faster & cheaper transportation of goods. It will also reduce travel time for daily commuters, easing road congestion in the area and promote regional development through passenger access to education & health care.

There will be 1 major bridge and 37 nos. minor bridges in this section. New Platform with shelter, Foot over Bridge, Ticket counter including station building will be constructed for passenger facility. The alignment of new line has been planned to take off from Bangoan-Ranaghat Branch line near the level crossing No. 21 about a Km before Bangoan. It will be create socio-economic development and social obligation of Railways towards undeveloped rural localities of North 24 parganas districts. 3) Chandabazar - Bagdah (13.8 Km) New Line: The proposed BG line, taking off from Bangoan - Petrapole section will meander all along parallel to Bangoan-Bagdah State Highway. The entire service zone of new railway is included in Bangoan sub-division of north 24 parganas district. The command area is predominantly agriculture based and devoid of large industry, remarkable mining and mineral resources. This 13.8 Km new line will connect Chandabazar to Bagdah. There will be 2 major bridge and 14 nos. minor bridges in this section. New Platform with shelter, Foot over Bridge, Ticket counter including station building will be constructed for passenger facility.

At the eastern tip of Nadia district and nearer to the border of North 24-Parganas district, Duttaphulia is a prosperous and densely populated rural area which is approximately 25 kms from Ranaghat sub-divisional town. People of Duttaphulia and its neighbouring villages have no direct rail transport facilities. Aranghata (which is the nearest railhead is about 9 kms from the locality of Duttaphulia. To avail train services, people of 280 sq. kms area have to travel about 9 kms by costly and unreliable road ways. This 8.17 Km new line will connect Aranghata to Duttaphulia. The new line has been planned to take off from a suitable location at Aranghata. The new line alignment will proceed towards east up to Duttaphulia, keeping parallel to the State Highway.

258 cases of ticketless travel, 64 cases of un-booked luggage*, 13 cases of littering, and 152 cases under Section 155 (1)(a) & (b), 145, 144(a), 159, and 162 of the Railway Act. All detected offenders were penalized as per extant Railway rules, reinforcing the seriousness of maintaining ticketing discipline, cleanliness, and lawful behavior within railway premises. Such enforcement drives reflect Howrah Division's continued commitment to ensuring safe, disciplined, and passenger-friendly railway operations, and serve as a strong deterrent against violations of Railway rules. Howrah Division, Eastern Railway also urges passengers to use the RailOne App for seamless, convenient, and hassle-free online ticketing and access to multiple passenger-friendly railway services through a single digital platform.

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL HYDERABAD (DRT-II) 1ST FLOOR, TRIVENI COMPLEX ABIDS, HYDERABAD-500001 O.C.No. 875 OF 2025 (I) CI BANK LIMITED VS MR. SHOUNAK DAS MAHAPATRA SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

Mr. Shounak Das Mahapatra, S/o.Somashankar Das Mahapatra, Age: Major, Occ: Business, No.902, Apama Hill Park Lake Breeze, PJR Enclave Road, Chandanagar, Hyderabad-46 500050, Telangana State. Also at: Mr. Shounak Das Mahapatra, S/o.Somashankar Das Mahapatra, Age: Major, Occ: Business, 2nd Floor, E Embassy Star Palace Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru- 560052, Karnataka. Also at: Mr. Shounak Das Mahapatra, Age: Major, Occ: Business, North Ramakrishna Pally, INDA, Khargapur Paschim, Medinipur, Midnapore- 721305. DEFENDANTS

Please take the summons in the above O.C.No. 875 of 2025 filed by the Applicant for Recovery of money Rs.26,06,608/- against you. The Hon'ble Tribunal ordered summons to you by way of paper publication in "Telugu and English Newspapers", circulated in the place of Address of the Defendants and posted the matter to 10.03.2026. In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants are directed as under: i) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why relief prayed for should not be granted; ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than those specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the original application; iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other pending hearing and disposal of the application for recovery of money; iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of assets over which security has been created in the place of assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal; v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by sale of secured assets of other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets. You are hereby required to show cause on 10.03.2026 at 10.30am at Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, 1st floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad - 500001, in person or by an Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default of the applicant, the relief shall be determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this day 28TH day of Jan, 2026. (By order of the Court) Asst Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal-II Hyderabad.

At the eastern tip of Nadia district and nearer to the border of North 24-Parganas district, Duttaphulia is a prosperous and densely populated rural area which is approximately 25 kms from Ranaghat sub-divisional town. People of Duttaphulia and its neighbouring villages have no direct rail transport facilities. Aranghata (which is the nearest railhead is about 9 kms from the locality of Duttaphulia. To avail train services, people of 280 sq. kms area have to travel about 9 kms by costly and unreliable road ways. This 8.17 Km new line will connect Aranghata to Duttaphulia. The new line has been planned to take off from a suitable location at Aranghata. The new line alignment will proceed towards east up to Duttaphulia, keeping parallel to the State Highway.

At the eastern tip of Nadia district and nearer to the border of North 24-Parganas district, Duttaphulia is a prosperous and densely populated rural area which is approximately 25 kms from Ranaghat sub-divisional town. People of Duttaphulia and its neighbouring villages have no direct rail transport facilities. Aranghata (which is the nearest railhead is about 9 kms from the locality of Duttaphulia. To avail train services, people of 280 sq. kms area have to travel about 9 kms by costly and unreliable road ways. This 8.17 Km new line will connect Aranghata to Duttaphulia. The new line has been planned to take off from a suitable location at Aranghata. The new line alignment will proceed towards east up to Duttaphulia, keeping parallel to the State Highway.

SBI Life Insurance registers New Business Premium of Rs 31,326 crores for the period ended on 31st December, 2025



Mumbai : SBI Life Insurance, one of the leading life insurers in the country registered a New Business Premium of Rs 31,326 crores for the period ended on 31st December, 2025 vis-a-vis Rs 26,256 crores for the period ended 31st December, 2024. Regular premium has increased by 15% over the corresponding period ended on 31st December, 2024.

Establishing a clear focus on protection, SBI Life's protection new business premium stood at

Rs 3,411 crores for the period ended 31st December, 2025, marking a growth of 22%. Protection Individual new business premium stands at Rs 651 crores for the period ended 31st December, 2025. Individual New Business Premium stands at Rs 22,545 crores with 14% growth over the corresponding period ended on 31st December, 2024.

SBI Life's profit after tax stands at Rs 1,666 crores for the period ended 31st December, 2025 with a growth of 4% over

corresponding period ended on 31st December, 2024. The company's solvency ratio continues to remain robust at 1.91 as on 31st December, 2025 as against the regulatory requirement of 1.50.

SBI Life's AUM also continued to grow at 16% to Rs 5,11,708 crores as on 31st December, 2025 from Rs 4,41,678 crores as on 31st December, 2024, with the debt-equity mix of 59:41. 94.97% of the debt investments are in AAA and Sovereign instruments.

The company has a diversified

distribution network of 3,53,506 trained insurance professionals and wide presence with 1,176 offices across the country, comprising of strong bancassurance channel, agency channel and others comprising of corporate agents, brokers, Point of sale persons (POS), insurance marketing firms, web aggregators and direct business.

Performance for the period ended December 31, 2025

Private Market leadership in Individual New Business Premium & Individual Rated Premium with market share of 28.1% & 25.6% respectively.

► Annualized Premium Equivalent (APE) stands at Rs 18,519 crores with growth of 16%.

► Total New Business sum assured stands at Rs 10,83,360 crores with 68.8% growth.

► Improvement in 13M persistency by 101 bps

Value of New Business (VoNB) stands at Rs 5,042 crores with a growth of 17%.

► VoNB Margin stands at 27.2%.

► Indian Embedded value (IEV) stands at Rs 80,129 crores with growth of 18%.

► Profit After Tax (PAT) stands at Rs 1,666 crores with 4% growth.

► Robust Solvency ratio of 1.91.

► Assets under Management stands at Rs 5,11,708 crores with 16% growth.

WHO monitoring Nipah cases in India, rules out travel curbs

New Delhi : The risk of transmission of Nipah virus remains low, and there is no need for any travel or trade restrictions, said the World Health Organisation, noting that it is closely monitoring the deadly virus cases in India.

In its latest Epidemiological Bulletin, the global health body reported two cases of Nipah virus in 25-year-old nurses -- a woman and a man -- working at the same private hospital in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district.

The WHO informed that the healthcare workers developed initial symptoms in the last week of December 2025, which progressed rapidly to neurological complications. The two were placed in isolation in early January.

Following confirmation, an extensive public health response was activated. A total of 196 individuals who had contact with the confirmed cases were identified, traced, monitored, and tested. All contacts have remained asymptomatic and have tested negative for Nipah virus infection, the WHO said.

"No additional Nipah cases have been detected so far. The situation is being monitored," it said, adding that "based on current evidence, WHO does not recommend any travel or trade restrictions".

Amid reports of several countries introducing Covid-style checking at airports over fear of spread, the UN health body stated



that the risk of transmission remains low.

"WHO assesses the risk at the sub-national level in West Bengal as moderate, given the presence of fruit bat reservoirs in the India-Bangladesh border areas and the possibility of sporadic zoonotic spillover. However, the national, regional, and global risk remains low," the WHO said.

"The cases are confined to the North 24 Parganas district, with no reported travel while symptomatic. All identified contacts have tested negative, and surveillance and infection prevention measures have been intensified. The likelihood of spread to other Indian states or internationally is considered low," it added.

This is the seventh document-

ed Nipah outbreak in India and the third in West Bengal, following outbreaks in Siliguri (2001) and Nadia (2007).

Nipah is a zoonotic disease that is primarily transmitted from bats to humans, either directly or through contaminated food.

It can also spread from animals such as pigs to humans, and in some cases between people through close and prolonged contact, particularly in health-care settings. In humans, Nipah virus infection can range from asymptomatic illness to severe respiratory disease and fatal encephalitis. Globally, the case fatality rate is estimated to be between 40 per cent and 75 per cent, depending on early detection and quality of clinical care.

Rajasthan govt takes action against adulterated ghee supply, over 43,000 litres seized



Jaipur : In a statewide drive against food adulteration being carried out in Rajasthan, the state's Food Safety Department took major action under the "Pure Food - War on Adulteration" initiative and seized more than 43,000 litres of ghee suspected to be adulterated.

Rajasthan Food Safety Commissioner Dr. T. Shubhamangala, on Thursday, told that M/s Giridhar Milk Food Product, located in Shyam Vihar Colony at Machera in Jaipur, manufactures ghee under the brand name 'Bhog Vinayak'.

Samples of Bhog Vinayak brand ghee collected from Pratapgarh district were found to be unsafe in laboratory testing.

Following this, under the directions of Rajasthan Additional Commissioner Bhagwat Singh, and Designated Officer and Chief Medical and Health Officer (Jaipur First) Ravi Shekhawat, a team of food safety officers conducted an inspection of the firm. During the inspection, it was found that the firm was not operating from the address mentioned in its food license and official records, but was instead running its operations from another

undisclosed location, which is a clear violation of the Food Safety and Standards Act.

During the inspection, officials also discovered that another firm, Shri Shyam Milk Food Product, was operating from the same premises. From the three warehouses of both firms, huge stock of ghee was seized which included 9,065 litres of Bhog Vinayak brand ghee (various packing sizes), 17,741 liters of Haryana Cream brand ghee and 16,617 litres of Naksh Dairy brand ghee.

After collecting samples of all brands, the entire 43,421 litres of ghee were seized on the spot. Further action will be taken under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, based on the laboratory test reports.

The Additional Commissioner said that earlier, a sample of Bhog Vinayak brand ghee was declared unsafe by the Jaipur Central Laboratory.

Following this report, instructions were issued to immediately withdraw the product from the market across the state.

In view of the serious irregularities, proceedings have also been initiated to cancel the firm's food license.

Study reveals how intake of ultra-processed foods associated with increased risk of death

CHICAGO : Older persons who reported consuming more ultra-processed foods were nearly 10 per cent more likely to die after a median follow-up of 23 years than older adults who reported consuming less processed food, according to a recent study.

The results are drawn from a sizable study that followed more than 500,000 persons in the United States for about thirty years. The findings showed that consuming more ultra-processed foods was linked to slight increases in deaths from heart disease and diabetes, as well as deaths from all causes. However, there was no correlation observed in deaths from cancer. Our study results support a larger body of literature, including both observational and experimental studies, which indicate that ultra-processed food intake adversely impacts health and longevity," said Erika Lofthfield, PhD, Stadtman Investigator at the National Cancer Institute. "However, there is still a lot that we don't know, including what aspects of ultra-processed foods pose potential health risks."

Lofthfield will present the findings at NUTRITION 2024, the flagship annual meeting of the American Society for Nutrition held June 29 to July 2 in Chicago. The research drew data from more than 540,000 people who provided information about their eating habits and health in the mid-1990s, when they were between 50 and 71 years of age. Over half of the participants have since died. The researchers analyzed overall rates of death among those who were in the 90th percentile for consumption of ultra-processed foods at baseline versus those in the 10th percentile, and also looked at associations with specific foods and specific diseases.

Free diagnosis, treatment ensuring a leprosy-free India : Govt

New Delhi : Free diagnosis and multi-drug treatment at public health hospitals is ensuring that India remains leprosy-free, said the government on Friday.

National Leprosy Day in India is observed annually on January 30, coinciding with the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, to honour his work with those affected by the disease.

"Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), India continues its efforts towards a Leprosy-Free India, ensuring free diagnosis, treatment, and care services at government health facilities nationwide," the Health Ministry posted on social media platform X.

"Let us work together to eliminate stigma and ensure dignity and care for all," it added.

Leprosy, also known as Hansen disease, is a chronic infectious disease caused mainly by a type of bacteria called *Mycobacterium leprae*. The disease affects the skin, the peripheral nerves, the mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.

Apart from the physical deformity, persons affected by leprosy



also face stigmatisation and discrimination. However, leprosy is curable, and treatment in the early stages can prevent disability. India achieved the official elimination of leprosy as a public health problem (less than 1 case per 10,000 population) nationally in December 2005.

As of March 2025, 31 states/UTs and 638 districts have achieved this, with a prevalence rate of 0.57 per 10,000.

The NLEP now targets "Zero Transmission, Zero Leprosy" by 2027 through early detection, free multidrug therapy (MDT), and

stigma reduction. Under the NLEP, the government provides services such as free diagnosis and treatment (MDT) at all government health facilities, microcellular rubber footwear for patients, free assistive devices for leprosy patients, self-care kits for patients with ulcers, and reconstructive surgery for Grade 2 deformities with a welfare allowance of Rs 12,000. All services under NLEP are available free of cost at all government health facilities. If left untreated, leprosy may cause progressive and permanent disabilities.

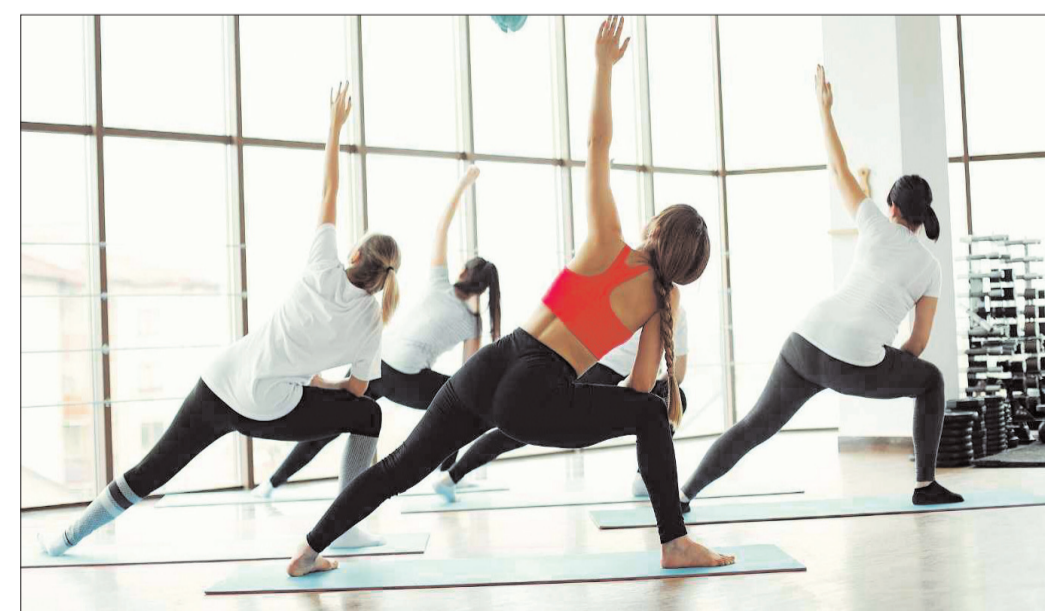
Researchers find how physical exercise prevents nerve damage during chemotherapy

BASEL [SWITZERLAND] : Damage to nerves brought on by cancer therapies frequently results in symptoms that endure a lifetime. In some circumstances, medication has not worked. Simple exercises can prevent nerve injury, according to research.

The research was conducted by an interdisciplinary German team led by a sports scientist at the University of Basel. Over time, advancements have been made in cancer therapy. The quality of life following rehabilitation is becoming increasingly important; it is no longer only about surviving. Unfortunately, many cancer medications, from chemotherapy to modern immunotherapies, attack the nerves as well as the tumour cells. Some therapies, such as oxaliplatin or vinca alkaloids, leave 70 to 90 per cent of patients complaining of pain, balance issues, or feelings of numbness, burning or tingling.

These symptoms can be very debilitating. They can disappear following cancer treatment, but in around 50 per cent they become chronic. Specialists call it chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy, or CIPN for short.

A research team led by sports scientist Dr Fiona Streckmann from the University of Basel and the German Sport University Cologne has now shown that specific exercise, concomitant to cancer therapy, can prevent nerve damage in many cases. The



researchers have reported their findings in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine. The study involved 158 cancer patients, both male and female, who were receiving treatment either with oxaliplatin or vinca-alkaloids. The researchers divided the patients at random into three groups. The first was a control group, whose members received standard care. The other two groups completed exercise sessions twice a week for the duration of their chemotherapy, with each session lasting between 15 and 30 minutes. One of these groups carried out exer-

cises that focused primarily on balancing on an increasingly unstable surface. The other group trained on a vibration plate. Regular examinations over the next five years showed that in the control group around twice as many participants developed CIPN as in either of the exercise groups. In other words, the exercises undertaken alongside chemotherapy were able to reduce the incidence of nerve damage by 50 to 70 per cent. In addition, they increased the patients' subjectively perceived quality of life, made it less necessary to reduce their dose

of cancer medications, and reduced mortality in the five years following chemotherapy. The participants receiving vinca-alkaloids and performing sensorimotor training had the largest benefit.

A lot of money has been invested over the years in reducing the incidence of CIPN, explains Streckmann. "This side effect has a direct influence on clinical treatment: for example, patients may not be able to receive the planned number of chemotherapy cycles that they actually need, the dosage of neurotoxic agents in the chemotherapy may have to be

reduced, or their treatment may have to be terminated."

Despite the investments made, there is no effective pharmacological treatment to date: various studies have shown that medications can neither prevent nor reverse this nerve damage. However, according to the latest estimates, USD 17,000 are spent per patient every year in the USA on treating nerve damage associated with chemotherapy. Streckmann's assumption is that "doctors prescribe medications despite everything because patients' level of suffering is so high."

In contrast, the sports scientist emphasizes, that the positive effect of exercise has been substantiated, and this treatment is very cheap in comparison. At the moment, she and her team are working on guidelines for hospitals so that they can integrate the exercises into clinical practice as supportive therapy. In addition, since 2023 a study has been ongoing in six children's hospitals in Germany and Switzerland (PrepAIR), which is intended to prevent sensory and motor dysfunctions in children receiving neurotoxic chemotherapy.

"The potential of physical activity is hugely underestimated," says Fiona Streckmann. She very much hopes that the results of the newly published study will lead to more sports therapists being employed in hospitals, to better exploit this potential.

Iran Readies Over 2,000 Advanced Ballistic Missiles Amid Threat of U.S. Attack



MI News Service, Tehran: Iranian ballistic missiles are displayed during the ceremony of joining the Armed Forces, in Tehran, Iran, August 22, 2023. Iran's Presidency/WANA (West Asia News Agency)...

could prove costly for the United States. Iran is believed to possess approximately 2,000 medium-range ballistic missiles, which place nearly all U.S. military bases across the Middle East within striking distance.

a large number of anti-ship cruise missiles, fast-attack torpedo boats, and armed drones. These capabilities present a serious challenge to U.S. naval forces operating in the Persian Gulf and surrounding waters.

Amid these military developments, reports suggest that Washington's strategic objectives extend beyond deterrence. Reuters, citing two U.S. sources, has reported that former President Donald Trump's broader aim is to engineer regime change in Iran.

Diplomatic efforts to defuse the crisis have so far yielded little progress. The Jerusalem Post reported that countries including Turkey, Oman, and Qatar are attempting to mediate between the United States and Iran, but no breakthrough has been achieved.

230,000 affected as Tokyo's train services disrupted by power outage



MI News Service, Tokyo: Some train services in the Tokyo area were temporarily disrupted Friday due to a power outage, the second such incident this month, affecting around 230,000 people, the operator JR East said.

Line and the Tohoku Line, for up to seven hours. The power outage left some passengers on trains stranded between stations. They were later asked to be unloaded onto railway tracks and move to the nearest stations on foot.

It said the outage occurred at around 6:55 a.m. local time at JR Ueno Station, halting 81 trains, including those on the Joban Line between Ueno and Tsuchiura stations as well as parts of the Takasaki

The incident came just two weeks after a similar power outage on Jan. 16 halted services on Tokyo's Yamanote loop line, also operated by JR East, affecting some 673,000 passengers.

Canadian PM expects U.S. to respect sovereignty amid separatist meetings



MI News Service, Ottawa: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on Thursday said he expects the United States to "respect Canadian sovereignty" after media reported that U.S. officials had met with a group advocating for the separation of the province of Alberta from Canada.

comments echoed those of Alberta Premier Danielle Smith, who also spoke at the press conference on Thursday. "I would expect that the U.S. administration would respect Canadian sovereignty and that they would confine their discussion about Alberta's democratic process to Albertans and to Canadians," Smith said.

Other provincial leaders have also rebuked the meetings between U.S. officials and the Alberta separatist group, with British Columbia Premier David Eby terming them as "treason." "To go to a foreign country and to ask for assistance in breaking up Canada, that's an old-fashioned word for that, and that word is treason," Eby told reporters on Thursday.



Mass Public School and Progress Coaching Centre and Mallickpur Youth Computer Training Centre celebrated 77th Republic Day at the school gate. All the teachers and students were present on the auspicious day with immense fervor. National flag was hoisted and National song was sung.

Speaking at a press conference after a meeting with the country's premiers, Carney addressed the issue when asked about the meetings between U.S. officials and the Alberta Prosperity Project (APP), a group pushing for a referendum on the province's independence.

"I expect the U.S. administration to respect Canadian sovereignty," Carney said, adding that the topic of separatism has not come up in his conversations with U.S. President Donald Trump.

Swift action after Abdullah's call: Prime accused Sanjay Yadav arrested in Vikasnagar assault on 18-year-old Kashmiri youth

MI News Service, Jammu: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's swift intervention prompted the arrest of the prime accused in the brutal assault on an 18-year-old Kashmiri shawl seller in Uttarakhand's Dehradun district.



The incident occurred on January 28, 2026, in Vikasnagar, where the youth, identified as Tabish Ahmad, suffered serious injuries after being allegedly attacked by a group while selling shawls with his family.

Station against Sanjay Yadav and one other individual under Sections 117(2) and 352 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Sanjay Yadav, identified as the prime accused, was taken into custody and is set to be remanded to judicial custody.

honest livelihood across India—as a troubling pattern requiring urgent accountability. J&K Students Association convenor Nasir Khuehami alleged the attackers first questioned the victim's identity, turned violent upon learning he was Muslim and from Kashmir, and assaulted family members.

Even BJP leader Sajid Yousuf Shah condemned the attack, calling Kashmiris equally patriotic and urging strict action to prevent recurrence, while requesting intervention from CM Dhama, the Governor, and Uttarakhand Police.

Following reports of the attack, CM Abdullah contacted Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, urging strict action against the perpetrators and assurance of safety for Jammu and Kashmir residents in other states. Dhama assured prompt measures, including FIR registration.

Subsequently, Uttarakhand Police registered an FIR at Vikasnagar Police

He emphasized that such violence is unacceptable and contradicts claims of Kashmir's integration with India, while people from the region face fear in other parts of the country. He pledged his government's intervention whenever required and called on the Union Home Ministry to sensitize other states.

The prompt police action followed high-level political engagement, highlighting concerns over targeted violence against Kashmiris outside the Union Territory.

U.S. destroyer docks at Israeli port amid military threats against Iran

MI News Service, Jerusalem: A U.S. Navy guided-missile destroyer docked Friday at the Red Sea port of Eilat, the southernmost city in Israel, the Israel Defense Forces said. The military said the docking was "routine and pre-planned," part of regular cooperation between the Israeli and U.S. forces.



backdrop of heightened U.S. military threats against Iran. Some Israeli media linked the increased U.S. naval presence to preparations for possible military actions.

According to reports, the USS Delbert D. Black is one of the U.S. Navy's most advanced destroyers. It is equipped with the AEGIS combat system, a highly capable integrated radar and weapons network designed to detect, track, and coordinate defensive and offensive weapons systems against aircraft, missiles, and ships.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091 CIN No: L65190G1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA).

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor, Description of Secured Asset to be enforced, Date of Notice sent/Outstanding as on Date of Notice, NPA Date. Contains 16 entries of defaulted loans.

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower(s) and/or guarantor(s) (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

GADECKI AND PEERS BECOME FIRST PAIR IN 37 YEARS TO DEFEND AUS OPEN MIXED DOUBLES TITLE

MELBOURNE: Hometown wildcards Olivia Gadecki and John Peers became the first pairing in 37-year to defend their Australian Open mixed doubles crown here on Friday. The home favourites edged French duo Kristina Mladenovic and Manuel Guinard 4-6, 6-3, 10-8 inside Rod Laver Arena. Gadecki and Peers became the first duo to win consecutive AO mixed doubles titles since Jana Novotna and Jim Pugh in 1988-89. They also became the first Australians to go back-to-back at their home Slam since Margaret Court and Ken Fletcher achieved the feat in 1963-64. "I don't quite know where to start. I can't believe we are in this position right now. I knew we could do it, but I didn't think we could really do it, if you know what I mean," said Gadecki at the trophy ceremony. It was Peers' third Grand Slam mixed doubles title, after also winning the US Open 2022 with Storm Sanders. He won the Australian Open 2017 men's doubles with Finland's Henri Kontinen, and clinched a gold medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics, partnering Matthew Ebden. Meanwhile it was a second Grand Slam title for WTA star Gadecki after her 2025 Melbourne Park triumph alongside Peers. Gadecki and Peers looked in trouble when they fell behind 5-7 in the match tiebreak before they peeled off five of the last six points. Gadecki was particularly strong from the ground in the clutch, while the French pair tightened with the finish line in sight.



Alcaraz wins longest Aus Open SF to reach maiden final in Melbourne

MELBOURNE: Chasing his first Australian Open title, world No. 1 Carlos Alcaraz beat third seed Alexander Zverev in the longest Australian Open semifinal in history on Friday to secure his maiden final in Melbourne.

After appearing to recover from the upper right leg injury that hampered him from late in the third set, the Spaniard rallied from 3-5 in the decider to seal his first final appearance in Melbourne with 6-4, 7-6(5), 6-7(3), 6-7(4), 7-5. Moreover, he also became the youngest player to reach all four major finals in the Open era.

In the longest Australian Open semifinal contested and the third-longest match at Melbourne Park, the five-hour, 27-minute triumph kept the Spaniard's bid for the career Grand Slam afloat. With his semifinal victory, the 22-year-old Spaniard moved within one win of becoming the youngest man to complete the Career Grand Slam (winning the singles title at all four majors).

Two-time reigning champion Jannik Sinner or 10-time champion Novak Djokovic stand between him and a seventh Grand Slam trophy on Sunday. If he can defeat Sinner or Djokovic in Sunday's final, Alcaraz will break countryman Rafael Nadal's record for the youngest player to complete a



JHARKHAND TRAIL ODISHA BY 36 RUNS AT STUMPS ON DAY TWO IN RANJI TROPHY MATCH

PC JHA

RANCHI: Jharkhand reached 244 for 6 at stumps on the second day of their Ranji Trophy match against Odisha at the Keenan Stadium, after the visitors were bowled out for 280 in their first innings. Jharkhand now trail Odisha by 36 runs, setting up an intriguing contest heading into Day Three.

After dismissing Odisha for a moderate total, Jharkhand's batters began their reply with measured intent, aiming to build a

solid foundation. The pitch offered balanced assistance, rewarding patience and application, and the hosts negotiated the early phase cautiously before gaining momentum through the middle overs.

Shikhar Mohan anchored the Jharkhand innings with a well-crafted 80, displaying sound technique and temperament. His innings provided much-needed stability and kept Jharkhand in the hunt for a first-innings lead. Kumar Kushagra supported him effectively with a valuable 47,

while Robin Minz contributed a brisk 37 to keep the scoring rate steady. Virat Singh added 32 runs, helping Jharkhand recover after the fall of key wickets.

Odisha's bowlers, however, ensured that Jharkhand did not gain complete control of the innings. Syed T. Ahmad emerged as the most successful bowler for Odisha, picking up three crucial wickets and applying pressure at important junctures. Rajesh Mohanty provided able support with two wickets, using disciplined bowling to check the run

flow. Despite losing six wickets, Jharkhand remain firmly in contention, with several overs still left to be played by the lower order. The hosts will look to narrow the deficit and push for a lead when play resumes on the third day. With the match evenly poised, Day Three promises a gripping battle as Jharkhand aim to assert themselves with the bat, while Odisha seek early breakthroughs to maintain their advantage in this closely fought Ranji Trophy encounter at the Keenan Stadium.

Dhoni Meets CM Hemant Soren, Brand Ambassador Buzz Gains Momentum in Jharkhand



RANCHI: Speculation has intensified in Jharkhand's political and sporting circles following an unexpected meeting between former Indian cricket captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Chief Minister Hemant Soren.

The interaction has renewed discussions around the state government's proposal to appoint Dhoni as the brand ambassador for Jharkhand tourism and to involve him more closely in strengthening the state's sports ecosystem.

The Chief Minister shared photographs of the meeting on his official X handle, describing it as a "sudden meeting" with "Mahi." The images show Dhoni standing alongside Chief Minister Hemant Soren and MLA Kalpana Soren. While the exact agenda of the meeting has not been official-

ly disclosed, sources suggest that the leaders exchanged New Year greetings during the interaction.

This meeting has assumed added significance as the Jharkhand government has been exploring the idea of leveraging Dhoni's global stature to promote state tourism and sports development. The government is also understood to be considering ways to utilize Dhoni's experience and insights to strengthen sports infrastructure and nurture young talent in the state.

Earlier reference at Davos. Notably, this meeting comes shortly after Chief Minister Hemant Soren publicly referred to Mahendra Singh Dhoni during the World Economic Forum meeting held recently in Davos. Addressing an international audience, the Chief Minister had

described Dhoni as a symbol of Jharkhand's rich sporting legacy.

He had then highlighted the immense potential of collaborating with global sports icons like Dhoni to develop world-class sports academies in Jharkhand and position the state as a hub for sports excellence.

Although no official announcement has been made so far, the sudden meeting has fueled widespread speculation about a more formal role for Dhoni in Jharkhand's tourism and sports initiatives. Political observers and sports enthusiasts alike are keenly watching for further developments, as any association with the former World Cup-winning captain is expected to significantly boost the state's brand value at both national and international levels.

RANCHI TO HOST JHARKHAND STATE MASTERS TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

RANCHI: The Ranchi District Table Tennis Association is set to organize the Jharkhand State Masters Table Tennis Championship - 2025 at the JAP-I Sports Complex, Badminton Hall, Doranda, Ranchi, from January 31 to February 1. The championship will be conducted under the auspices of the Jharkhand State Table Tennis Association. The two-day event will bring together veteran and senior table tennis players from across Jharkhand, many of whom have played a significant role in promoting and nurturing the sport in the state over the years. The championship aims to celebrate life-long sportsmanship, physical fitness, and the enduring competitive spirit of the Masters community. The tournament will be formally inaugurated on January 31, 2026, at 1:30 pm by Deputy Superintendent of Police Noor Mustafa Ansari. Subedar Major Sunil Pradhan will grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour. A series of competitive matches will be held across various Masters age categories, promising spirited contests and enthusiastic participation throughout the championship. Organizers stated that the event not only provides a competitive platform for senior players but also serves as an inspiration for younger athletes by highlighting the importance of discipline, dedication, and continued involvement in sports at every stage of life.

5th T20I: Samson under spotlight as India targets series finale win vs New Zealand

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: All eyes will once again be on hometown hero Sanju Samson as Team India looks to sign off the five-match T20I series on a winning note against New Zealand at the Greenfield Stadium here on Saturday.

The 31-year-old has struggled to get a big score during the ongoing series. Samson, who returned to the opening role after Shubman Gill was axed from the team, has been able to score just 40 runs in four innings against the Black Caps.

Meanwhile, after winning the series by clinching the first three matches, India were in experimental mode in the fourth T20I played at Vizag on Wednesday. They played an extra bowler in place of Ishan Kishan.

After being put in to bat first, New Zealand put on a mammoth total of 215 runs, with Tim Seifert and Devon Conway playing brilliant knocks. India struggled from the start in the chase as the visitors took early wickets, and despite Shivam Dube's valiant knock of 65 runs, India lost by 50 runs. As the Men in Blue aim to finish the series with a 4-1 scoreline, the team might opt to make some changes in the playing XI. Ishan Kishan might get back into the team after missing the last match, while Varun Chakravarty could also return after being rested for the last two matches.

India has a great record at the Greenfield Stadium. They have won three of the four T20I matches played at the venue. The average first innings score at this stadium is 155, while the highest total was put up by India against Australia in 2023, when they scored 235 runs in 20 overs.

With history, momentum, and confidence firmly on their side, India will be eyeing another dominant display, while New Zealand will be hoping to end the tour with a win before heading into the T20 World Cup 2026, which will commence on February 7.

When: Saturday, Jan 31, 7:00 PM IST

Where: Greenfield Stadium, Thiruvananthapuram

Where to watch: Star Sports Network for live TV broadcast and JioHotstar for live streaming

SQUADS: India: Suryakumar Yadav (captain), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (wk), Shreyas Iyer, Hardik Pandya, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel (VC), Rinku Singh, Jasprit Bumrah, Harshit Rana, Arshdeep Singh, Kuldeep Yadav, Varun Chakravarty, Ishan Kishan (wicket-keeper), Ravi Bishnoi

New Zealand: Mitchell Santner (capt), Michael Bracewell, Mark Chapman, Devon Conway (wk), Jacob Duffy, Zak Foulkes, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Bevon Jacobs, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Tim Robinson, Ish Sodhi.



JAIPUR POLO TEAM BEAT CHANDNA POLO 9.5-5 IN KOGNIVERA CUP

JAIPUR: Continuing their strong momentum in the Kognivera Cup, Jaipur Polo Team registered a comprehensive 9.5-5 victory over Chandna Polo in a well-controlled encounter. Displaying attacking cohesion, disciplined structure and composure across all four chukkers, Jaipur asserted their dominance to record another assured win in the tournament.

Jaipur made a steady start to the contest, edging the opening chukker 1.5-1 as both teams settled into rhythm. HH Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh led Jaipur's early attacking efforts, while Chandna Polo responded through Alejo to keep the opening exchanges competitive.

The second chukker saw



Jaipur raise the tempo significantly and take firm control of proceedings. With fluid ball movement and sharp finishing, Jaipur stretched their lead to 5.5-2 at halftime.

Bhawani Singh Kalvi and Lance Watson made important contributions during this phase, complementing HH Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh's influence as Jaipur began to dictate the flow of the game.

Chandna Polo showed resilience in the third chukker, with Alejo continuing to push forward and add to their tally. Jaipur, however, remained composed, responding with disciplined play and effective counterattacks to extend their advantage to 6.5-4

heading into the final chukker.

In the closing chukker, Jaipur maintained control and managed the game with maturity, adding three more goals to seal the contest at 9.5-5. Chandna Polo added a late goal, but Jaipur's structured approach ensured they remained firmly in command until the final whistle.

Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh once again stood out for Jaipur with a four-goal performance, while Bhawani Singh Kalvi added three goals and Lance Watson contributed two, completing a well-rounded team effort. For Chandna Polo, Alejo led the scoring with three goals, supported by Ashok Chandna and Dino Dhanekar with one goal

PARAMPAL SINGH GURON AND GANEMAT SEKHON WIN SKEET TRIAL 1 FINALS

Parampal Singh Guron and Ganemat Sekhon win skeet trial 1 finals New Delhi, Jan 30 (IANS) Parampal Singh Guron held his nerve in the shootout to edge past Olympian Anantjeet Singh Naruka to secure the top spot in Skeet Trial 1 of the National Selection Trials 1&2 (Group A) while Ganemat Sekhon finished on top in the Women's event here at the Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range.

Zorawar Singh Bedi and Sanyogita Shekhawat took top honours in the Junior Men's and Women's category respectively.

Parampal Singh Guron scored 34 hits out of 36 in the new format of Skeet finals, same as Anantjeet who was leading until the final series where he missed one target. Parampal hit all four targets while Anantjeet missed one in the shoot off to ensure top place for the experienced shooter. Olympian Mairaj Ahmad Khan secured third spot with a score of 29. In the new ISSF format where eight shooters qualify for the finals, Man Singh topped qualification with a score of 123 while Anantjeet scored 120.

Parampal, Mairaj and National champion Gurjoat Singh scored 118 each and Mohammed Sheeraz Sheikh and Muneek



Battula scored 116 each to complete the top eight.

In the women's final's Ganemat Sekhon who squeezed into the finals as the eighth qualifier, shot consistently to secure top spot with a score of 33 out of 36 edging past Parinaaz Dhaliwal

who finished on 32. Darshna Rathore took the third spot with a score of 24.

Earlier in qualification, Parinaaz qualified on top with 117 above Vanshika Tiwari who scored 115 followed by Darshna Rathore and Raiza Dhillon who

scored 114. Maheshwari Chauhan and Yashasvi Rathore scored 113 and Mansi Raghuvanshi completed the top eight with 112.

In the men's junior finals, Zorawar Singh Bedi shot 35 out of 36 in the finals after qualifying on top spot with 117 in qualification.

Yuvek Battula secured second spot in the finals with 34 hits after qualifying with a score of 109 while Gurfateh Singh Sandhu finished in third with 28 hits, qualifying for the finals with a score of 110.

Ishaan Singh Libra and Yashvardhan Singh Rajawat scored 114 each in qualification followed by Yuvaan who scored 113. Navneet Singh Bhadouriya (111) and Harviraj Singh (108) completed the top eight.

In the junior women's finals, Sanyogita Shekhawat finished on top with a score of 28 after qualifying in seventh place with a score of 101. Kajal Singh Baghel who qualified in eighth place with a score of 100, secured second spot with a score of 27.

Risham Kaur Guron who topped qualification with a score of 110, took the third spot with a score of 23.

Agrima Kanwar and Venkat Lakshmi Lakku finished second and third in qualification with scores of 109 respectively followed by Kamna Udawat and Parmeet Kaur who hit 104 each. Oshmi Shrivastava who scored 102 completed the top eight.

Skeet action will continue tomorrow with the first 75 targets of Trails 2 scheduled.