

Ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections, the ruling party in West Bengal has once again placed Bengali identity and linguistic pride at the forefront of its political narrative. In a significant move, a whip was reportedly circulated through WhatsApp, urging party councillors to deliver their speeches exclusively in Bengali during the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's (KMC) budget session. The directive comes amid allegations that migrant workers from West Bengal are facing harassment in certain BJP-ruled states for speaking in Bengali. Positioning the language as a symbol of resistance, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has chosen Bengali as its medium of protest. The appeal was formally made by Bappaditya Dasgupta, Chief Whip of the TMC in the KMC. In his written communication, he stated, "In the fight to protect Bengali identity, all members are requested to deliver their speeches in Bengali during the budget session of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation."



**Rs. 3**  
**KOLKATA**  
TUESDAY 17 FEBRUARY, 2026  
PG-8, YEAR-12, ISSUE-257  
(RNI NO.: WBENG / 2014 / 56803)  
WEBSITE: WWW.LIVE7TV.COM

# Morning India

## Another Bengali migrant dies in Gujarat, TMC blames safety crisis in BJP-ruled states

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The All India Trinamool Congress has alleged that the death of a Bengali migrant woman in Gujarat points to a "deepening crisis of safety" for workers from West Bengal in BJP-ruled states, calling it a "grim reminder of systemic law and order failures".

In a statement posted on X, the ruling party in West Bengal said the body of 38-year-old Sonamoni Bairagya, a resident of Purba Bardhaman district

serious concerns about the safety and dignity of Bengali workers

Trinamool Congress

working as a hotel attendant in Gujarat, was found in her room in the western state. Without directly attributing any motive, the TMC claimed the incident was reported amid a "disturbing pattern" of crimes against Bengali migrant workers in states governed by the BJP. The TMC also referred to the recent murder of another migrant worker from Bengal, Sukhen Mahato, in Maharashtra and alleged that the BJP had attempted to "downplay the gravity" of that case. It said that while investigations were underway and the exact motive behind Bairagya's death was yet to be established, the recurrence of such incidents in BJP-ruled states raises "serious concerns about the safety and dignity of Bengali workers".

The TMC further claimed that Bairagya had migrated to Gujarat in search of livelihood after her family was affected by the suspension of work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in West Bengal, which it described as an "economic blockade" imposed by the Centre. Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, whose home state is Gujarat, the party termed the incident a "scathing indictment" of governance in BJP-ruled states. There was no immediate response from the BJP to the allegations. According to family members in the Nandaghat area of Purba Bardhaman district,

Continued on page 3

## PM's interview 'hollow words': Derek O'Brien

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his recent interview to a news channel, Trinamool Congress leader in the Rajya Sabha Derek O'Brien on Monday, described it as nothing more than some "hollow words" and alleged that he "ran away" from speaking in Parliament. O'Brien, TMC's leader in Rajya Sabha, also took a jibe at the Prime minister, calling him a "teletypewriter tycoon".

"More hollow words from PM Modi, aka Teletypewriter Tycoon, who runs away from speaking on the floor of Parliament," O'Brien said in a reaction to the interview. Incidentally, the opposition Congress also dismissed the Prime Minister's interview to the news channel and said it was "no interview at all" describing it as a "carefully scripted" and "desperate PR exercise". Similarly the Left also criticised PM Modi for comments divorced from micro-realities of the Indian economy, while the Trinamool Congress said the Prime Minister spoke "hollow words". Reiterating his criticism, Congress General Secretary (communications)



During the UPA Government, India's economy grew rapidly and registered an average annual GDP growth over 8%. Indian economy withstood the global meltdown following the 2008 Banking and financial crash and rebounded quickly.

Derek O'Brien  
TMC leader in the Rajya Sabha

Jairam Ramesh alleged that the Prime Minister is "under siege and attack" over what he termed a surrender to the U.S. on a trade deal, and he was once again resorting to his "favourite tactic" of headline management. Calling the 2026-27 Union Budget a "damp squib", Ramesh said it clearly shows "every sign of intellectual exhaustion". "Markets have reacted negatively and investors have been unimpressed. This is why the Prime Minister feels the need to give an interview a fortnight after the Budget was presented and days after it was taken apart by the Opposition in Parliament," he said. Ramesh took a swipe at PM Modi's remarks in the interview, saying they were marked by "Modi-style one-liners that mean little in reality". He accused the Prime Minister of attempting to divert attention from what he called a "betrayal" of lakhs of farmers and other "capitulations". "His so-called interview is no interview, but a carefully scripted and desperate PR exercise," Ramesh said.

Continued on page 3

## LS Speaker Om Birla to represent India at swearing-in ceremony of Tarique Rahman

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will represent India at the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected government of Bangladesh led by Bangladesh Nationalist Party chairman Tarique Rahman in Dhaka on 17 February. The External Affairs Ministry said that the Speaker's participation at this important event underscores the deep and enduring friendship between the people of India and Bangladesh. The Ministry said, this reaffirms India's steadfast commitment to the democratic values that bind the two nations.

As neighbours united by a shared history, culture, and mutual respect, India has welcomed Bangladesh's transition to an elected government under the leadership of Tarique Rahman, whose vision and values have received an overwhelming mandate from the people. The government of India had decided to send Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla as India's representative for the swearing-in ceremony of Tarique Rahman after Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his inability to travel to Dhaka on an invitation, because of his scheduled meetings with French President Emmanuel Macron in Mumbai tomorrow. President Macron and PM Modi will meet on February 17 in the afternoon for bi-



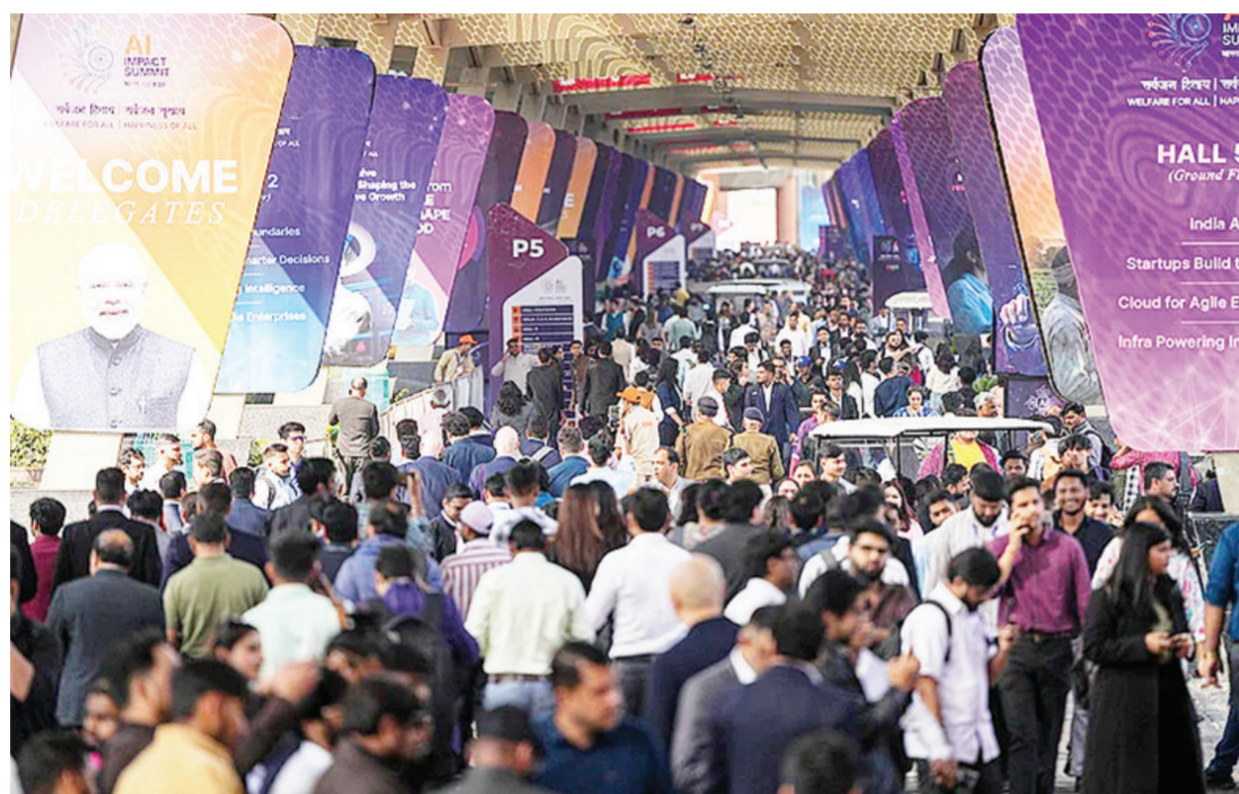
Om Birla  
Lok Sabha Speaker

As neighbours united by a shared history, culture, and mutual respect, India welcomes Bangladesh's transition to an elected government under the leadership of Tarique Rahman, whose vision and values have received an overwhelming mandate of the people

lateral meetings, before the French President travels to Delhi for the India AI Impact Summit 2026. In the wee hours of Sunday, the BNP said that the Chief Adviser of the outgoing Interim gov-

ernment, Professor Muhammad Yunus, invited the heads of government from 13 countries. The list of invited countries includes China, Saudi Arabia, India, Pakistan, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Malaysia, Brunei, Sri Lanka, Nepal, the Maldives, and Bhutan. Bangladesh Parliament's newly-elected members will be sworn in on the morning of February 17, and Rahman along the Cabinet members will be sworn in the evening. The Ministry of External Affairs said Sunday, "Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, will represent the Government of India at the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected government of Bangladesh led by Tarique Rahman, Chairman of Bangladesh Nationalist Party, in Dhaka on February 17, 2026". It said that the "Speaker's participation at this important event underscores the deep and enduring friendship between the peoples of India and Bangladesh, reaffirming India's steadfast commitment to the democratic values that bind our two nations." "As neighbours united by a shared history, culture, and mutual respect, India welcomes Bangladesh's transition to an elected government under the leadership of Tarique Rahman,

Continued on page 3



Visitors during the India AI Impact Summit 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi.

## Rs 10,000 each transferred to bank accounts of 25 lakh women in Bihar

**MI News Service, Patna:** As promised before the recent assembly elections, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday transferred Rs 10,000 each to the bank accounts of 25 lakh women under the 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana', which aims to promote women's empowerment through self-employment and livelihood opportunities. Nitish Kumar disbursed a total amount of Rs 2,500 crore through direct benefit transfer (DBT) at a function held here at his official residence, 1 Anne Marg, officials in the CMO said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched Bihar's 'Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana' in September, 2025. Chief minister Kumar also interacted with beneficiaries of the scheme through video conferencing from different parts of the state. He said the objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to women who are



Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar

interested in self-employment and in running small businesses. The Chief Minister informed that one crore beneficiaries have already received Rs 10,000 each to start small businesses. Those who successfully run their enterprises will be eligible to receive additional assistance of up to Rs two lakhs. He further said that Bihar's largest Self-Help Group initiative, Jeevika, has now crossed 1.40 crore members in rural areas, and similar

success has been achieved in urban areas with the addition of 3.85 lakh Jeevika Didis, SHG members. He also assured that since the NDA voted to power, they will further strengthen and expand the scheme, reiterating the government's determination to ensure prosperity of women power.

Launched ahead of the Bihar Assembly elections, the scheme aims to make women economically self-reliant, empower them financially, and check migration to other regions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the scheme virtually on the 26th of last month. On that occasion, Rs 10,000 each was transferred into the bank accounts of 75 lakh women beneficiaries. The scheme will be implemented through Self-Help Groups (SHGs). More than 1.10 crore beneficiaries have so far applied for the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rojgar Yojana.

## CPI(M) to hold 'Delhi March' against labour codes, trade pacts

**MI News Service, Hyderabad:** CPI (M) General Secretary M A Baby on Monday said his party would organise a 'Delhi March' on March 24 to protest against the labour codes, the replacement of MGNREGA, trade agreements and what it termed as "anti-people policies" of the NDA government at the Centre. Prior to organizing the March the CPI(M) would also conduct a campaign across all northern states, he said. "We are planning a Delhi march in the month of March. In North Indian states, we are going to hold state level programmes and 'Jathas' (processions), mobilizing various sections of people... raising livelihood issues, we are going to march to Delhi," he told reporters here.

Meanwhile the Congress has promised its support for the Left parties with Rahul Gandhi alleging that the government ignored the voices of workers and farmers while making decisions concerning their future. Rahul Gandhi also wondered whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi will listen to them now or if there is a

Continued on page 3

## Fearless Kishan took the game away from us: Pakistan coach



India's Ishan Kishan plays a shot during an ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 cricket match between India and Pakistan, at R. Premadasa Stadium, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

I think he's fearless. He's able to score on both sides of the ground. So, he's not just committed to the leg side. We know he's incredibly strong there, but he can reverse. So, if you've got spin, especially in the power play, it can be a challenge

**MI News Service, Colombo:** After experiencing a crushing 61 run defeat at the hands of a rejuvenated Indian team at the Premadasa Stadium here last night, Pakistan head coach Mike Hesson said "fearless" Ishan Kishan's marauding 77 runs was the difference between his side and India, and urged his players to rally after the heavy defeat in the marquee clash of the T20 World Cup here. Led by Kishan's aggressive 77 off 40 balls, India trumped Pakistan by 61 runs in a Group A match here Sunday night to seal a Super Eight berth.

"I think he's fearless. He's able to score on both sides of the ground. So, he's not just committed to the leg side. We know he's incredibly strong there, but he can reverse. So, if you've got spin, especially in the power play, it can be a challenge," Hesson said in the post-match press conference. True to Hesson's words, Kishan scored 66 runs off 37 balls against Pakistan slow bowlers, spoiling their spin-heavy strategy on a slow Premadasa pitch. Hesson admitted that Kishan's approach unsettled his spinners.

"I think the fact that he's in a rare vein of form, applied a lot of pressure to our spinners and probably took them away from the basics,

which the pitch was actually doing a lot when we bowled nice and slow and into it, but outside of that, no one really scored better than a run a ball. "Other than him, Dubey was slightly better, but it was tough. And that (Kishan's innings) certainly was a standout amongst the whole match, really. The way Kishan played took the game away from us," he added. The New Zealand-born coach conceded that the massive defeat has left the team disappointed, and the challenge is to come back and play to their potential in the ICC showpiece. Pakistan failed to put up even a token fight in the chase of 176, getting trounced for 114. The result has pushed Pakistan (4 points) to the third spot in Group A, behind leaders India and the USA, who also have four points, but enjoy a better net run rate of 0.788 as compared to -4.03 of Pakistan. Now, Pakistan need to beat Namibia in their last league match to enter the Super Eights. "We know that it's a huge event - Pakistan against India. We've won five (T20) games on the bounce, we're confident, but today we got outplayed. There's a pretty disappointed dressing room in there at the moment, be

Continued on page 3

## India stands at forefront of AI transformation: PM

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said India stands at the forefront of the artificial intelligence transformation and its strides in AI reflect both ambition and responsibility. His remarks came on a day when he is set to inaugurate the India AI Impact Expo 2026 at the Bharat Mandapam here, being held from February 16-20, alongside the India AI Impact Summit at the same venue. In a post on X, PM Modi said, "Bringing the world together to discuss AI! Starting today, India hosts the AI Impact Summit at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. I warmly welcome world leaders, captains of industry, innovators, policymakers, researchers and tech enthusiasts from across the world for this Summit."

The theme of the summit is "Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks came on a day when he is set to inaugurate the India AI Impact Expo 2026 at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

Sukhaya" or welfare for all, happiness for all, reflecting our shared commitment to harnessing artificial intelligence for human-centric progress, the Prime minister said.

PM Modi pointed out that AI today is transforming several sectors, including healthcare, education, agriculture, governance and enterprise. The AI Impact Summit

Thanks to the 1.4 billion people of India, our nation stands at the forefront of the AI transformation. From digital public infrastructure to a vibrant Start Up ecosystem and cutting-edge research, our strides in AI reflect both ambition and responsibility

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

will enrich global discourse on diverse aspects of AI, such as innovation, collaboration, responsible use and more, he said. "I am confident that the outcomes of the Summit will help shape a future that is progressive, innovative and opportunity-driven," PM Modi said. "Thanks to the 1.4 billion people of India, our nation stands at the forefront of the AI transformation. From digital public infrastructure to a vibrant Start Up ecosystem and cutting-edge research, our strides in AI reflect both ambition and responsibility,"

the Prime minister said. PM Modi on Sunday pitched India as a global hub for digital infrastructure and artificial intelligence, saying the country is ready to host the world's data and lead the next wave of the technology revolution. "The tax incentives announced in the Budget are designed to accelerate investment in this space, lower the cost of building advanced facilities and position India as a globally-competitive destination for data infrastructure," PM

Continued on page 3

Missing for 7 days, man found dead in Ketugram jungle

MI News Service, East Burdwan: Tension gripped Niro village Ketugram police station limits on Monday morning after the body of a 40-years-old man, who had been missing for a week, was recovered from a roadside bush in a forest area. The deceased has been identified as Buddhadev Majhi, a resident of Majhipara in Niro.

According to police sources and family members, Buddhadev Majhi had been untraceable for the past seven days. His family had lodged a missing diary at Ketugram police station after repeated searches failed to yield any information about his whereabouts. The grim discovery was made early Monday when local residents noticed a body lying amid dense bushes along a road skirting the forest. They immediately alerted the police and informed the family. Upon reaching the spot, relative identified the body as that of Buddhadev Majhi. The recovery has triggered widespread shock and anger in locality. Family members have alleged foul play, claiming that Buddhadev Majhi was murdered and his body dumped in the area to mislead investigators. "We searched everywhere for several days. When we could not find him, we went to the police station and filed a complaint. Now his body has been found. He must have been murdered, but we do not know who did this," said the deceased's aunt, her voice trembling with grief. Police from Ketugram station cordoned off the area and sent body for post-mortem examination to ascertain the exact cause of death. Senior officers indicated that all angles, including homicide, are being examined. "We have started an investigation. The cause of death will be clear after the post-mortem report. No responsibility is being ruled out at this stage," a police official said. As forensic procedures begin and statements are being recorded, the incident has cast a shadow of fear over the rural belt. Residents are demanding a swift and transparent probe to bring those responsible. If foul play is confirmed, to justice.

Youth assaulted amid application rush

MI News Service, North Dinajpur: Tension flared outside the BDO office in Chopra on Monday after a young man was allegedly beaten by police during a scuffle at a government camp set up for applications under the 'Yuva Sathi' unemployment allowance scheme. The incident, captured on mobile phone cameras and widely circulated, has triggered outrage among local residents and applicants who had queued since early morning.

According to eyewitnesses, hundred of youths had gathered in front of the BDO office on Sunday night to submit applications for the scheme. A heavy police presence was deployed to manage the swelling crowd and deployed to manage the swelling crowd and maintain order. Trouble reportedly began when words spread through the queue the certain applicants were being allowed to submit forms without standing in line. Applications of favoritism quickly fuelled anger among those waiting for hours. Amid rising tension, one young man approached police personnel to seek clarification. What began as verbal exchange soon escalated into confrontation. Family members of the young man alleged that he was verbally abused and the physically assaulted by police. Video footage from the scene shows officers striking the youth with lathis, hitting him on the head, legs and torso while his wife desperately attempts to shield him from the blows. In the chaos, she is seen trying to pull away as officers surround and overpower him. Police later detained the youth. His identity had not been officially disclosed at the time of filing this report. Chopra Police Station IC Suraj Thapa addressed the agitated crowd using a microphone, urging people to remain calm and avoid spreading rumours. According to administrative sources, the situation was eventually brought under control and the camp proceedings resumed under tight security. An eyewitness standing in the queue said, "We have been waiting since morning. The line was not moving. If the road is blocked and people are frustrated, there is bound to be tension." While police have not yet issued a detailed statement on the use of force, the incident has intensified debate over crowd management and transparency in the processing of applications under public welfare schemes. Questions are also being raised about whether due procedure was followed in handling the altercation. As the video continues to circulate and political reactions begin to surface, demands for an impartial inquiry into the incident are growing louder.



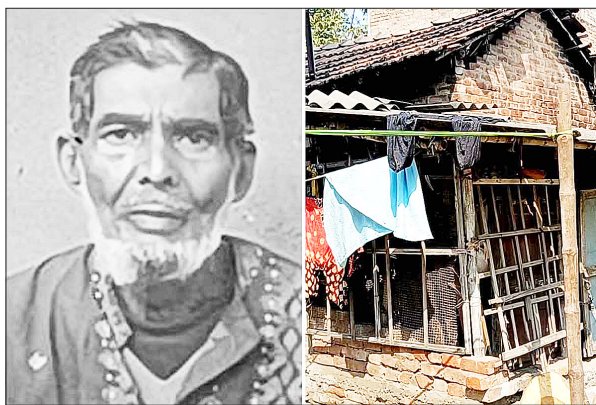
Large Gathering of Young Men and Women at Uttar Dum Dum Municipality for Yuva Sathi Registration on Monday.

Elderly Man Dies in Dankuni After Four SIR Hearings Amid Fear of Name Being Dropped from Voter List

MI News Service, Dankuni: There have been allegations of deaths due to SIR panic in the state at various times. This time, Hooghly's Dankuni has been added to that list. This time, an old man died due to SIR panic. The deceased's name is Sheikh Anwar. Anger has spread in the area over the incident. Political pressure has started.

Anger has spread in various places in the state over the SIR hearing. It is alleged that common people have been subjected to harassment in the name of the hearing. In this situation, the hearing in Bengal ended on February 14. However, the atmosphere of panic has not yet subsided among a section of the common residents. Despite submitting the documents, an old man died in Dankuni. Hooghly, 'out of fear of his name being omitted'. The person lost his life on Monday morning.

It is learnt that 69-year-old Sheikh Anwar was called for the SIR hearing. He is a resident of Ward No. 20 of Dankuni Municipality. He was called for the hearing not once, but 4 times in a row! Each time



he took the documents to the hearing. Even after each hearing, doubts were raised again. It is reported that he was called for the hearing seeking new information! A few days ago, he received a notice from the Election Commission. He was asked to submit the documents with the signatures of five people from the area. It is reported they were also collected. He died before submitting the documents.

He has a small shop in that area. He closed the shop last night and returned home. His neighbors also inquired from him at night whether the doc-

City to host 'Festivals of five continents' with award winning movies

MI News Service, Kolkata: A bouquet of more than 30 award winning international and Indian movies to mesmerize the cinema loving people of this 'City of Joy' will be screened in the 14th 'Festivals of five continents - An International Film Festival' in a week long extravaganza from February 23 to March 1, at the Satyajit Ray Auditorium of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) here.

Being organized jointly by the Forum for Film Studies and Allied Arts, in collaboration with the NEZ International, Kolkata, this film festival is aimed to develop a better understanding of cinema and allied arts and to build a public opinion to develop more facilities for movie viewing and film studies as well as promotion of the allied arts. According to Mr Robin Banerjee, the General Secretary of Forum for Film Studies and Allied Arts, eminent film personality Aparajita Adhya will inaugurate the festival, while Sukanta Majumdar, Dean (in-charge), Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute, Deemed to be University will be present as the Chief Guest, along with Alberto Guani, Ambassador of Uruguay, Paola Torres, Minister Councillor, in the Embassy of Dominican Republic and R. N. Goswami, Eastern Zonal Head, ICCR, who will be present as Guests of Honour.

Renowned film maker and Forum President Goutam Ghosh, Litterateur and Forum Vice-President Samik Bandyopadhyay and Rita Jhawar, Chairperson, NEZ Foundation will also be present to grace the occasion. Highlighting the salient features of the festival, Robin Banerjee said in the Cinema International section prize winning films from 15 countries including those from Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Canada, Switzerland, Greece, Venezuela, Finland, Germany, South Korea, Argentina, Spain, Poland, Morocco, Mexico and Italy will be screened. Among the award winning movies are Lepes (Mexico/2025/111 mins). Directed by Rayell Abad Guangorena and Turba (Venezuela/ 2025/72 mins), Directed by Luis Rodriguez, Andres Rodriguez, will be the Asian Premier in this festival. In the Panorama of Indian Independent Cinema section 6 Films from different parts of India will be screened including Yuddhajoyer Kabita (India/2025/135 mins.) Directed by Rudraroop Sengupta and Theatre Myth of Reality (India/2025/123 mins.) Directed by Sajin Baabu will also be the Premier Screening in this festival.

Similarly a tribute to Nagisha Oshima will also be shown, where 2 Films which have been directed by Nagisha Oshima, one of the greatest Japanese director of all time will be shown. The films are Pleasures of the Flesh (Et-suraku), 1965/ 104 mins. and Sing A Song of Sex (Nihon Shunka-ko), 1967/103 mins. (Synopsis of the Films are enclosed). In the Retrospective Works of Goutam Ghose, restored versions of Paar (1984), Patang, (1993), Dekha (2001), Abar Aranye (2003), Shunyo Aunko (2012-2013), Shankhachil (2016) and Raahgir (2018), will be screened for the first time as Retrospective works of Goutam Ghose, Finally in the section of Films on Goutam Ghose, moving Focus, Directed by Caesar Das which has been made on the life and works of Goutam Ghose will also be shown for the city's movie goers.

28 Bangladeshi Fishermen Arrested by Coast Guard in Indian Waters During Night Operation

MI News Service, South 24 Pgs: Bangladeshi fishermen again entered Indian waters in the dark of night. The Indian Coast Guard did not escape the notice. The infiltrators' trawler was chased and surrounded. The infiltrators were caught. 28 Bangladeshi fishermen along with the trawler were again detained in Indian waters. The incident took place on Sunday night on the Indian border in the Bay of Bengal of South 24 Parganas. On Monday, the Coast Guard handed over the detained fishermen to the police of Fraserganj Coast Police Station.



The Coast Guard chased and intercepted the trawler named FB Sagar. After questioning the 28 Bangladeshi fishermen on the trawler, the Indian Coast Guard detained them along with the trawler. Most of the fishermen arrested are residents of Kutubdia in Cox's Bazar district of Chittagong, Bangladesh.

The Coast Guard arrested the Bangladeshi fishermen and brought them to the Fraserganj Fisheries Port on Monday morning. All of them were handed over to the Fraserganj

Coastal Police Station. The Coastal Police Station arrested them for illegal intrusion. Why did they cross the water line and enter this country? Was it just a mistake or was there some other motive behind it? The matter is being interrogated. The arrested fishermen will be produced before the Kaddwip Court tomorrow, Tuesday. Meanwhile, more than a hundred Bangladeshi fishermen have been arrested for illegal intrusion into Indian waters in the deep sea several times before. Question marks have been raised about the security of the coastal area surrounding the repeated intrusion of Bangladeshi fishermen into Indian waters. The police's intelligence department is also concerned about the matter.

Fake Lawyer Arrested for Practising Without Licence

MI News Service, Kalyani: A man who allegedly posed as a lawyer for years, complete with the trademark black coat and band, has been arrested by police for practising without valid credentials and cheating unsuspecting clients.

The accused, identified as Kaushik Debnath, was a familiar face in the Nadia district court premises, where he reportedly offered legal advice, represented clients, and claimed to handle cases. However, police said that he is not a qualified advocate and had no valid degree or registration to practise law.

According to police and local sources, Debnath had been presenting himself as a practising lawyer for nearly 15 years. He was not only active in the district court but

was also seen frequently at the Sealdah court in Kolkata. Investigators allege that he lured clients with promises of "quick settlements" and bail arrangements, charging hefty fees.

While he was known to operate in Chakdaha, another source said his residence is in Shakkra, Howrah, from where he was arrested by Chakdaha police following a complaint.

Suspicion arose recently among local lawyers, who began verifying his credentials. It was then discovered that he had no enrolment with the Bar Council or any authorised registration. A cheating case was subsequently registered against him.

An unverified source claimed that Debnath had allegedly taken Rs.25 lakh from

a party to "settle" a particular case, after which the matter escalated and triggered a formal investigation.

Police have not yet disclosed whether the accused has confessed during interrogation. However, sources said several forged documents and fake stamps were recovered from his possession.

News of the arrest has caused concern among many of his former clients, some of whom reportedly paid substantial sums for legal representation. The development has also sent ripples through the Nadia district court premises.

The local Bar Association stated that strict action would be taken against individuals impersonating advocates. The accused was produced before a court on Monday.

Trinamool Panchayat Member's House Gutted in Fire

MI News Service, Kharagpur: The house of Trinamool Panchayat member of Kushman area of Mohanpur Gram Panchayat of Ghatol block of West Medinipur district caught fire. Due to which most of the items inside the house got burnt to ashes. After the incident, panic spread in the area. The name of the owner of the house and Trinamool Panchayat member of Mohanpur Gram Panchayat is Pushparami Dolai. It is known that the people of the area first saw smoke coming out from inside the house. Within a short time, the fire engulfed the house. Due to which panic spread among

the people of the area. After getting information about the incident, a fire engine reached the spot and brought the fire under control. Till the time of writing the news, there was no information about any casualty in the incident nor was it clear what caused the fire. However, the initial estimate of the fire department is that the fire might have been caused by a short circuit.

Family members believe that the fire may have started from a lamp kept in the house. The fire department is investigating the entire incident

Rural Road Construction Begins in Krishnaganj After 15-Year Wait Under Pathashree Scheme

MI News Service, Krishnaganj : Ending a 15-year-long wait, construction work has finally begun on a key rural road in Khatra Dakshinpara under Shibnibas Gram Panchayat in Krishnaganj Block. The 40-metre stretch is being developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 29 lakh under the state government's Pathashree Scheme.

According to local sources, the road runs alongside vast agricultural land, and farmers had long faced difficulties transporting crops from fields to homes and markets. Even light rainfall would leave the muddy stretch waterlogged, disrupting movement. Students, elderly residents and daily commuters were among those who suffered due to the poor condition of the road.

Officials said that a total of eight roads, covering near-



ly 21 kilometres, have been sanctioned in Krishnaganj Block under the Pathashree Scheme. The Khatra Dakshinpara stretch is part of this larger infrastructure push. The construction work was formally inaugurated by Block Development Officer Sougata Saha.

The administration has set a target to complete the work within a month. Residents have welcomed the initiative, expressing hope that the new concrete road will ease agricultural transportation and improve daily connectivity, giving a fresh boost to overall development in the area.

Daughter Found 5 Yrs Older Than Father at SIR Camp; BLO Assaulted, Hospitalised

MI News Service, Kaliganj: A Booth Level Officer (BLO) engaged in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls was allegedly assaulted while on duty in West Bengal's Nadia district, raising fresh concerns about the safety of field-level election staff. It happened on Saturday.

The injured official, Sahab Ali Sheikh of Raotara village, is attached to Part No. 225 under Kaliganj block. He is currently receiving treatment at Shaktinagar District Hospital after sustaining head injuries in the incident.

According to local sources, the dispute arose over an apparent error in voter records in which a woman's age was listed as five years higher than that of her father. The discrepancy led to the concerned family being summoned for a hearing as part of the verification process.

When the family members later approached the BLO for clarification, he reportedly informed them that he could only report inconsistencies and had no authority to make corrections himself. An ar-



gument allegedly followed, during which the officer was attacked with sticks by members of the family.

Relatives of the injured officer said he collapsed after being struck on the head and was initially taken to the Kaliganj Block Primary Health Centre before being referred to the district hospital due to the severity of his injuries.

Hospital officials confirmed that he suffered trauma to the head but is under observation and out of immediate danger.

Speaking from his hospital bed, Sheikh said he had merely explained procedural

rules. "I only pointed out the mismatch in age and advised them to follow the formal process for correction. I did not expect such a reaction," he said.

Election authorities have repeatedly instructed local administrations to ensure adequate protection for personnel involved in the SIR exercise, as they often face public anger over documentation issues.

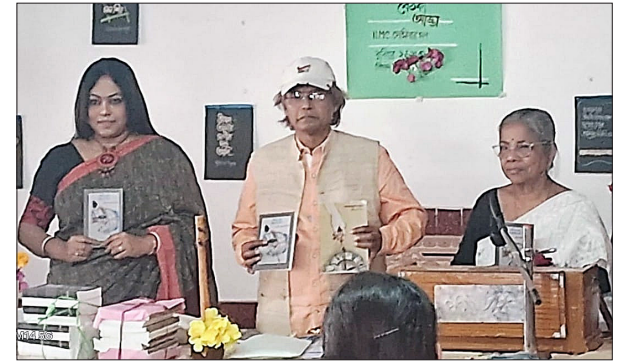
Police sources said an investigation has been initiated. Meanwhile, Kaliganj cops have arrested one out of 4 FIR accused, a police sources said.

Poetry and magazine publication

Nurul Islam Khan: On Sunday, the poetry book 'Kavita Ek Asukher Naam' written by Hasina Anjum Monalisa was published in Sonarpur.

The colorful program included poetry readings, songs, and speeches. The presence of young poets in the audience on this day emerged as another dimension. In addition, the recent Shabbasampan magazine was also published. On the occasion of the publication of poetry books and magazines, recitations, songs, and discussions also became deeply enjoyable. Ghalib Islam gave a short speech on the occasion of the unveiling of the cover of the poetry book. The cover was drawn by Tushar Acharya.

Prominent poets and essayists Rajiv Guha, poet Lopamudra Kundu, and Preeti Saha, on behalf of IIMC, spoke on the release stage. One by one among the poets and at the same time, after unveiling the cover of Shabbasampan



magazine, Editor Sardar Alim Publications Director Professor Muzaffar Mondal presented some words about the magazine.

Then, poets Urmi Mala, Rajiv Guha, Surjit Chattopadhyay, artist and poet Shri Tushar Acharya, Makhanlal Pradhan, Professor Muzaffar Mondal, poet Hasina Anjum Monalisa, poet Sucharita Chakraborty and others participated in the poetry reading organized on the occasion of

the publication. All the poets and eminent people present were welcomed with flowers and pens.

The poetry reading started with the recitation of Liza Khatun. About 50 poets, literary essayists and many more participated in the program. The program was enriched by the songs of poet Samina Khatun, performances by renowned recitation artists Tandra Naskar and Shivshankar Ghosh.

Road construction under Pathashree in Debra



MI News Service, Kharagpur: Road construction work was started under the Pathashree project of the state government in Hasimpur area of Debra block of Paschim Medinipur district. This work was inaugurated by Trinamool MLA of Debra Assembly Dr. Humayun Kabir. On

this occasion, Executive Head of Public Works Department of Debra Panchayat Samiti, Sitesh Dhada, along with other public representatives and local residents were present. Local social worker Jeevan Ram said that there was a demand for better road connectivity in Hasimpur area for a long time. Construction of a new road under the Pathashree project will ease the transportation system of the area and will provide a lot of facilities to the local people. MLA Dr. Humayun Kabir, while addressing the local people, said that the state government is committed to the development of infrastructure in rural areas. After the completion of the road construction work, the overall development of the area will gain momentum and the general public will directly benefit.

**Special Shivaratri  
Observance at Bagh-  
bazar Gaudiya Math**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Specialpuja and Harinam-Sankirtan, revering Lord Shiva as the "Parama Vaishnava" in Gaudiya tradition was hosted by the Bagh-bazarGaudiya Math, on the occasion of Maha Shivaratri and Shiva Chaturdashi. The rituals began with Vedic chanting, followed by Maha Abhishek of the Shiva Linga performed by Acharya Bhakti SundarSannyasiMaharaj. Devotees offered water and prayers throughout the day. Monks highlighted that Vaishnava scriptures regard Shiva as the greatest devotee of Lord Vishnu. The programme concluded with MahaArati, Sankirtan and distribution of prasadam among devotees.

**TMC Issues Whip for Bengali-Only  
Speeches in KMC Budget Session**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections, the ruling party in West Bengal has once again placed Bengali identity and linguistic pride at the forefront of its political narrative. In a significant move, a whip was reportedly circulated through WhatsApp, urging party councillors to deliver their speeches exclusively in Bengali during the Kolkata Municipal Corporation's (KMC) budget session. The directive comes amid allegations that migrant workers from West Bengal are facing harassment in certain BJP-ruled states for speaking in Bengali. Positioning the language as a symbol of resistance, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) has chosen Bengali as its medium of protest. The appeal was formally made by BappadityaDasgupta, Chief Whip of the TMC in the KMC. In his written communication, he stated, "In the fight to protect Bengali identity, all members are re-



quested to deliver their speeches in Bengali during the budget session of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation." The call underscores the party's attempt to consolidate regional sentiment at a politically sensitive time. However, the directive has sparked debate within political circles. Several councillors in the civic body

belong to linguistic minorities, with Hindi or Urdu as their mother tongues. Traditionally, many councillors have delivered their budget speeches in Hindi or English. This year, however, the ruling party has urged all its members, regardless of their linguistic background, to speak in Bengali. The budget discussions are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday. Observers believe that the move is politically strategic.

At a time when the BJP is intensifying its attacks on the TMC over corruption allegations, the ruling party appears to be countering with a strong emphasis on Bengali pride and cultural identity. According to political analysts, language and regional identity have become powerful tools in shaping electoral narratives in the state. In his note, Dasgupta further wrote, "Across the country, Bengali culture is under attack. Even the icons of Bengal are not spared."

**LS Speaker Om Birla to  
represent India at  
swearing-in ceremony  
of Tarique Rahman**

From PG 1 whose vision and values have received an overwhelming mandate of the people," the MEA said. On February 13, Prime Minister Modi became the first leader to call BNP chief Tarique Rahman, as it became clear that the party had won a landslide two-thirds majority in one of the most-watched elections in South Asia.

This assumes significance, as it comes after a year-and-a-half of strained ties and acrimonious relations between India and Bangladesh following the dramatic ouster of one of its closest partners in the neighbourhood, Sheikh Hasina. But her presence will frame one of the diplomatic challenges for Delhi and Dhaka, apart from irritants such as water-sharing, border issues, connectivity, among others. But this was a good beginning. This outreach by Prime Minister Modi was swift and significant — it took place even before the Election Commission of Bangladesh announced the official results. The first post by PM Modi came at 9.32 am Bangladesh time (9.02 am IST), when posted both in English and Bangla, and he said, "I convey my warm congratulations to Mr. Tarique Rahman on leading BNP to a decisive victory in the Parliamentary elections in Bangladesh." The fact that he called it a "decisive" victory showed the acknowledgement of the mandate of the people of Bangladesh. India had called for "inclusive elections", apart from it being "free, fair and credible" — essentially meaning that the Awami League should be allowed to participate in the elections. But, the Hasina-led party Awami League was banned from contesting the elections.

"This victory shows the trust of the people of Bangladesh in your leadership," PM Modi said, again endorsing Tarique's "leadership" that has been trusted by a large section of the population of the country — the voting percentage was 60, despite the boycott calls by Hasina. He then said that "India will continue to stand in support of a democratic, progressive and inclusive Bangladesh". This is an important framing since India has called for the security of Hindu minorities, and that was the biggest point of strain between the Mohammad Yunus-led interim government and New Delhi. At that time, PM Modi had directly mentioned Hindu minorities, but here he just said that "progressive and inclusive" — in an oblique reference. And, finally, he said that "I look forward to working with you to strengthen our multifaceted relations and advance our common development goals."

**CPI(M) to hold 'Delhi  
March' against labour  
codes, trade pacts**

From PG 1 "grip" on him too strong. Earlier the employees and workers associated with a joint forum of central trade unions observed a day-long strike on Thursday to show their "resistance to anti-worker, anti-farmer and anti-national pro-corporate policies of the central government". The forum has claimed that 30 crore workers are being mobilised for a "general strike" to protest against the new labour code, among other issues. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said all the country's trade unions, farmers, and workers are on the streets against the Modi government's trade deal, labour laws and the "snatching away of MGN-REGA". "We stand firmly against the anti-people US Trade Deal, which has mortgaged the future of millions of toiling farmers, workers, and labourers. Succumbing to foreign pressure, the Modi government has tampered with the lives of crores of citizens of the country," he alleged.

**TMC Questions EC's Timing, Al-  
leges Bias in SIR Document Rules**

MI News Service, Kolkata: With the final voter list under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) in West Bengal set to be published on February 28, the ongoing scrutiny process has sparked a fresh political controversy. During scrutiny, if discrepancies are found in any voter's submitted documents, the papers are being sent back to the respective District Magistrates for verification. Sources in the Election Commission said that only the 13 documents approved by the Election Commission of India will be considered valid, and any document outside that list will not be accepted. In a fresh directive, the Commission has also stated that certificates related to Indira AwasYojana, Pradhan Mantri AwasYojana (Gramin), or the Banglar Bari housing scheme will not be accepted as valid documents for the SIR process. This announcement has triggered

sharp political reactions in the state.

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) has strongly criticised the move, alleging a nexus between the BJP and the Election Commission. In a social media post, the party claimed that the latest directive was further proof that the BJP and the Commission were acting in tandem. The TMC questioned why the Commission did not clarify its position earlier, when concerns were first raised on January 21, 2026, regarding the acceptability of housing scheme documents. The party accused the Commission of "delaying clarity for nearly a month" and even questioned whether it would comply with Supreme Court directives. The ruling party also raised concerns about applicants who had already submitted beneficiary cards or approval letters under these housing schemes as supporting documents.

**Kolkata Police  
Denies Issuing  
Domicile  
Certificates**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata Police has issued a clarification dismissing social media claims that it is urgently issuing domicile certificates to citizens. Calling such posts "false and misleading," the city police made it clear that it has not provided any domicile certificate to any individual and warned of strict legal action against those spreading misinformation. The controversy surfaced amid the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter list in West Bengal, during which domicile certificates became a matter of debate. Initially, the Election Commission had indicated that such certificates would be accepted as valid documents. However, midway through the process, it stated that they would not be considered due to certain reasons. Later, the Commission revised its position again, allowing domicile certificates but with specific conditions. As per the latest guidelines, only domicile certificates bearing the signatures of a District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate or Sub-Divisional Officer will be accepted. Certificates signed by any other authority will not be treated as valid documents for electoral purposes. Following this clarification, several social media posts claimed that Kolkata Police was issuing domicile certificates on an urgent basis. Refuting the claim, Lalbazar headquarters issued an official statement asserting that the police do not issue such certificates under any circumstances. The statement read: "It has come to our notice that certain sections are spreading information that Kolkata Police is issuing domicile certificates on an urgent basis. This information is incorrect. As per established rules, the police only forward verification reports to the concerned authorities. Kolkata Police has not issued any certificate to anyone. Strict legal action will be taken against those spreading false information." Police officials reiterated that their role is limited to conducting background verification when requested by competent authorities, and not to issue domicile or permanent resident certificates.

**State Govt Enables  
Online Applications for  
Yuva Sathi Scheme**



MI News Service, Kolkata: Soon after the launch of the 'YuvaSathi' unemployment assistance scheme, application camps across West Bengal witnessed an overwhelming turnout of applicants. In several districts, the massive crowd led to chaotic situations, prompting the state administration to take immediate corrective steps. To ease pressure at physical camps, Nabanna has now introduced an online application facility, allowing eligible candidates to register for the scheme without standing in long queues. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had earlier announced that camps would be organised across all 294 Assembly constituencies to facilitate enrollment under the YuvaSathi scheme. Initially, even those who downloaded the form online were required to submit it physically at designated camps. However, following the unprecedented rush on the very first days of the drive, the state government revised the process to make the entire application procedure accessible online.

Applicants can now visit the official portal at <https://apas.wb.gov.in> and

click on the "Click to Apply" option. After being redirected to a new page, they must register using their mobile number. Once registered, the application form becomes available. Candidates are required to fill in the necessary details, upload relevant documents and submit the form digitally. After successful submission, applicants are advised to download and retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt for future reference. Under the scheme, individuals aged between 21 and 40 years are eligible to apply. Beneficiaries who are currently receiving scholarships will not face any disqualification. However, those already availing benefits under other state government welfare schemes—apart from scholarships—will not be eligible for YuvaSathi assistance.

As per initial guidelines, selected beneficiaries will receive monthly financial assistance for a period of five years. After that duration, if a beneficiary remains unemployed, the government may conduct a review before deciding on further support. The physical camps, which began on February 15, will continue until February 26.

**Kolkata Police Redraws  
Police Station Boundaries**

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant administrative move within just three months, Kolkata Police has once again revised the jurisdictional boundaries of several police stations in the city. As per the latest notification, the areas under Ekbalpur and Watganj police stations have been expanded, while the jurisdiction of Alipore police station has been reduced. Sources at Lalbazar said the proposal received approval from the newly appointed Police Commissioner, Supratim Sarkar.

The order was issued on February 11 and came into effect from February 16. According to the directive, several areas that were brought under Alipore police station in November last year are now being reassigned to their earlier police stations. The administration has stated that the decision was taken to ensure greater convenience for residents and faster delivery of police services.

Under the revised arrangement, parts of Sudhir Bose Road, MM Ali Road, Bhu Kailash Road, Ibrahim Ali Road and sections of Ekbalpur Road have been brought back under Ekbalpur police station. Similarly, the Fancy Market area, Monsatala Lane and Monsatala Row, Harisabha Street, parts of Khidirpur Road and sections of Diamond Harbour Road (DH Road) have returned to Watganj police station's jurisdiction.

Additionally, the area surrounding the Ekbalpur police station building,

which had been placed under Alipore in November, has also been restored to Ekbalpur.

The earlier reorganisation in November was part of a broader administrative restructuring, during which the jurisdiction of Alipore and Park Street police stations was expanded, while that of New Market, Watganj and Ekbalpur was curtailed. At the time, officials had cited the need to maintain administrative balance and manage law and order more effectively.

However, in practice, several residents reportedly faced inconvenience as they had to travel longer distances to reach Alipore police station. Complaints emerged that the increased distance was causing delays in filing complaints, lodging General Di-



aries and accessing emergency services. Local residents had raised objections with the police administration on multiple occasions. Police sources said the fresh revision was made after reviewing these grievances. Officials maintained that ensuring citizen convenience and effective policing remains the primary objective. Senior officers also noted that police station boundaries must take into account geographical location and population density. If a decision creates practical difficulties, it is the administration's responsibility to rectify it promptly. With the new order in force, residents are expected to receive services from their nearest police stations, improving response time and overall efficiency.

**Temp Set to Rise Across  
Bengal as Winter Fades**



MI News Service, Kolkata: As spring sets in, the Alipore Meteorological Department has indicated a steady rise in temperatures across West Bengal, signalling the gradual end of winter. According to the weather office, daytime temperatures are expected to climb progressively in the coming days, bringing a noticeable feel of warmth to Kolkata and several districts of South Bengal. While a mild chill may still be felt during the late night and early morning hours for a few more days, fore-

casters predict that both maximum and minimum temperatures will increase significantly toward the end of February. On Sunday, Kolkata's maximum temperature nearly touched the 30-degree Celsius mark. The city recorded a high of 29.3 degrees Celsius, reflecting a clear upward trend. However, the minimum temperature remains slightly below normal. The lowest temperature recorded was 16.3 degrees Celsius, about 2.5 degrees below the seasonal average. Relative hu-

midity levels fluctuated considerably, with a maximum of 87 percent and a minimum of 36 percent, contributing to varying comfort levels throughout the day.

Meteorologists have indicated that from Wednesday onward, both day and night temperatures are likely to rise further. An increase of 2 to 3 degrees Celsius is expected during the course of the current week. Despite the warming trend, light mist or shallow fog may continue to appear during the early morning

hours in Kolkata and districts of South Bengal. For now, dry weather conditions are expected to prevail across South Bengal, with no forecast of rainfall this week.

North Bengal is also likely to witness a gradual increase in temperatures. By the weekend, both minimum and maximum temperatures are expected to rise across the region. In the Darjeeling hills, minimum temperatures are predicted to hover around 9 degrees Celsius. In Kalimpong and the adjoining plains, temperatures may remain around 15 degrees Celsius. In lower districts such as Malda, minimum temperatures are expected to range between 14 and 17 degrees Celsius. However, the weather office has forecast light to moderate fog across most districts of North Bengal over the next three to four days. The possibility of fog is expected to be higher in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur and Cooch Behar. Overall, the transition from winter to early summer conditions appears to be underway, with residents preparing for warmer days ahead.

**Another Bengali migrant  
dies in Gujarat, TMC  
blames safety crisis in  
BJP-ruled states**

From PG 1 the hotel authorities in Gujarat claimed she died by suicide in her room, but they suspect foul play. Her sister, Shefali Karmakar, lodged a complaint at Nandanghat police station on Saturday, alleging that Bairagya could not have taken her own life. A senior police official of Purba Bardhaman district said a complaint had been received at Nandanghat police station, and an inquiry was initiated from their end.



Members of West Bengal Disaster Management and Civil Defence Fighter Association took part in a protest demanding permanent employment, 30 days of work per month, and job security up to 60 years of age, in Kolkata on Monday.

**PM's interview 'hollow  
words': Derek O'Brien**

From PG 1 adding, "Pradhan Mantri jhuke bhi hain, aur thake bhi hain. (Prime Minister has surrendered and is tired.)" In his part Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha leader Derek O'Brien branded PM Modi's comments as "hollow words". "More hollow words from PM Modi, aka Teleprompter Tycoon who runs away from speaking on the floor of Parliament," he said. CPI general secretary D. Raja called the Prime minister's remarks a mockery of the

"toiling masses" who are facing an unprecedented distress. "PM should stop this rhetoric, he must be realistic and reasonable in addressing the concerns and issues of the nations. He does not seem to be familiar with micro-realities of the economy and the country," he said. Raja added that despite the interview, there is still no clarity on how the recent trade deals with E.U. and U.S. will pull out the unemployed youth of the country from a gloomy future, and help industries.

**India stands at forefront  
of AI transformation: PM**

From PG 1 Modi said in a strong global-outreach message, the prime minister had said, "We invite the whole world's data to reside in India!" Earlier the Prime Minister welcomed the world leaders, captains of industry, innovators, policymakers, researchers, and technology enthusiasts from across the globe to the New Delhi Summit. Highlighting the transformative role of AI across diverse sectors including healthcare, education, agriculture, governance, and enterprise, PM Modi expressed confidence that the deliberations at the Summit will enrich global discourse on innovation, collaboration, and responsible use of AI, shaping a future that is progressive, innovative, and opportunity-driven. He also underscored India's leadership in the

global AI transformation, powered by the strength of its 1.4 billion people, robust digital public infrastructure, vibrant startup ecosystem, and cutting-edge research. He emphasized that India's strides in AI reflect both ambition and responsibility, positioning the nation at the forefront of technological advancement. Starting today, India hosts the AI Impact Summit at Bharat Mandapam in Delhi. I warmly welcome world leaders, captains of industry, innovators, policymakers, researchers and tech enthusiasts from across the world for this Summit. The theme of the Summit is Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana Sukhaya or welfare for all, happiness for all, reflecting our shared commitment to harnessing Artificial Intelligence for human-centric progress."

**Fearless Kishan took the game away from us: Pakistan coach**

From PG 1 cause they know how much it means to Pakistan," Hesson said. "We didn't play as well as we could have, but we know in tournaments like this it's not always going to go your way. So, our job is to pick ourselves up and make sure that we're very good in two or three days," he added. Hesson also asked Pakistan players, especially batters, to trust their decision-making process for a better result while playing under pressure situations. "Look it's very much when a guy's putting you under pressure

- are you going to stick to your basics or are you going to go away from that? And I think that's going to be a real challenge because as the tournament progresses, we'll be put under pressure again. "And it's how we respond when we're under the pump. All these guys are international players, they're all good players, but when the pressure comes on, are they going to trust the decision making or are they going to probably go outside that? That's something we're going to have to get better at," he added.

Name Change

I, Incharul Mondal (Old Name) S/o Hosen Mondal Residing at Kulgachi, Daluabari, P.O - Daluabari, District - Nadia, Pin - 741504, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Incharul Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 79/2026 Dated 10-02-2026. Incharul Mondal (Old Name) and Incharul Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) TOTA SHAIKE S/o KAWSAR SK Residing at, Vill - Gandhar, Post - Gandhar, Ps- Nabagram, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742184, West Bengal, Shall henceforth be known as TOTA SK (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit no 1350 Date 20 January 2026. TOTA SHAIKE and TOTA SK both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) KALUSHAR SK and KOWSAR SK S/o HERES SK Residing at, Vill - Gandhar, Post - Gandhar, Ps- Nabagram, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742184, West Bengal, Shall henceforth be known as KAWSAR SK (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit no 1351 Date 20 January 2026. KALUSHAR SK and KOWSAR SK and KAWSAR SK both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Hafijul Sk. S/o - Lt. Nasiruddin Sk. R/o - Vill - Gaharapota, P.O - Dingel, P.S. - Kalliganj, Dist. - Nadia-741137, WB, that my wife's actual name has been wrongly recorded in her WBSE & WBCHSE Registration Certificate as Tamina khatun & Tamina Khatun in place of actual name is Tamina Khatun (in her Aadhar, Voter Card, Birth & marriage certificate), vide Affidavit No.112, dtd. 12.02.2026, in the Court of the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Krishnagar, Nadia, Henceforth, Tamina Khatun, Tamina Khatun & Tamina Khatun all are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, MALA PAL/PAUL alias PADMABATI PAL / PAUL, W/o Ramapada Pal RA /IJ24, Jodhpur Park, P.S. - Lake, Kolkata - 700068 have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as PADMABATI PAL as declared before the Learned 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Court, at Alipore (WB) vide Affidavit No.17024, dtd. 07.08.2025, before the Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta, That, Debki Prasad & Dabasree Prasad (Nick Name) both are same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Debki Prasad (Good Name - PAN & Aadhar Card) W/o - Ramesh Prasad, D/o-Rupchand Chowdhury, R/O - 17, Stn. Rd. Station Pally, P.O., Dankuri, Hooghly-712311, that in my some docs, my nick name has been wrongly recorded as Dabasree Prasad in place of Debki Prasad, vide an Affidavit No.17024, dtd. 07.08.2025, before the Ld. 1st Class, Judicial Magistrate, Calcutta, That, Debki Prasad & Dabasree Prasad (Nick Name) both are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, MUNNA AZIZ MONDAL, S/o- FAJER MONDAL, R/o-Vill - P.O. - Arbalia, P.S- Baduria, North 24 Pgs., PIN- 743497, do hereby declare that my father's name has inadvertently been recorded in my Birth Certificate being Regd. No. 735/ 1991 date 14.10.1991 issued by Baduria Municipality as FAZER ALI MONDAL. That my father's FAJER MONDAL and FAZER ALI MONDAL is the same and identical person vide Affidavit no. 33229 sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat Court dt. 30-12-2022.

NAME CHANGE

I, MAJIDA KHATUN, W/o- ABDUL RAHAMAN DHALI, D/o- AHAMMAD GAZI, R/o- Vill - P.O. - Khorgachi, P.S- Baduria, Dist. - North 24 Pgs., do hereby declare that my name has been recorded in my said son's Birth Certificate vide Regd. No. -229/12 dt. 02-04-2012 issued by Baduria Municipality as MAJIDA BIBI. That I, MAJIDA KHATUN and MAJIDA BIBI am the same and one identical person vide Affidavit no. -33103/25 dt. 29-12-25 sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Basirhat Court.

NAME CHANGE

I, MASUD MONDAL, S/o- FAJER MONDAL, R/o- Vill - Baikara, P.O.- Arbalia, P.S- Baduria, North 24 Pgs., do hereby declare that my father name is written upon my Birth Certificate vide Regd. No. - 61497, dt. 31.07.1997 as FAZER ALI MONDAL. That I, MASUD MONDAL, S/o- FAJER MONDAL or FAZER MONDAL or FAZER ALI MONDAL is the one and identical person vide Affidavit no. 15520/BC-126 sworn before the Executive Magistrate, Basirhat Court dt. 28-01-26.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Aruna Chatterjee W/o. Pareesh Nath Chatterjee residing at 218 Kabi Nabin Sen Road, Kolkata-700028, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aruna Pal as declared before the First Class Judicial Magistrate, Barasat Judges' Court, North 24 Parganas vide Affidavit No. 4587, dt. 22-12-2025. Aruna Chatterjee and Aruna Pal both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, RABEYA SULTANA, D/O- Amnir Rahaman, residing at Vill-Bansjhari Mallickpur, P.O. Soladana, P.S. Basirhat, Dist: North 24 Pgs, do hereby declare that my name has wrongly been recorded in my Birth Certificate (Reg. No -121/2002 dated 20/12/2002) issued by Baduria Municipality as RABEYA SULTANA ALIAS NATASHA RAHAMAN. On 13/02/2026 through affidavit no 8749 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that RABEYA SULTANA & RABEYA SULTANA ALIAS NATASHA RAHAMAN is the same & one identical person.

Name Change

I, Latika Paul, Rita Paul (Old Name) D/o Nepal Chandra Mukherjee Residing at 26/M Duttabad Road, Salt Lake Bidhannagar CC Block S.O, Bidhannagar CC Block, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700064, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rita Mukherjee (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 1195 Dated 29-01-2026. Latika Paul, Rita Paul (Old Name) and Rita Mukherjee (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, MUMTAZ AHAMAD (Old Name) S/o Md ISHAQUE Residing at Kajchak Dombhani, PS- Dombhani, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713334 West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as MUMTAZ AHMAD (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. MUMTAZ AHAMAD (Old Name) and MUMTAZ AHMAD (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, ROKHSANA KHATOON @ RUKHSANA KHATOON (Old Name), W/O- MOHAMMAD JAWED AKHTAR, Residing at Santa Danga Pujari Para, P.O-Burnpur, PS- Hirapur, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713325, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as RUKHSANA JAWED (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. ROKHSANA KHATOON @ RUKHSANA KHATOON (Old Name) and RUKHSANA JAWED (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Anjali Aji Dutia (Old Name) W/o Ajit Kumar Dutia Residing at 34, Rowland Road, Flat - 3A, P.O - Elgin Road, P.S - Ballygunge, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700020 West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Anjali A Dutia (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 09-02-2026. Anjali Aji Dutia (Old Name) and Anjali A Dutia (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Fazila Bibi (Old Name) W/o Abdul Mannan Sanfui Residing at Vill+P.O - Sitakunda, P.S - Baruiপুর, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743387, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Fajila Bibi (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. Fazila Bibi (Old Name) and Fajila Bibi (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Abdul Mannan Sanful (Old Name) S/o Kajem Ali Sanful Residing at Vill+P.O - Sitakunda, P.S - Baruiপুর, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743387, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Mannan Sanful (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. Abdul Mannan Sanful (Old Name) and Abdul Mannan Sanful (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Manani Dhar (Old Name) D/o Manojendranath Ray W/o Dipankar Dhar Residing at 14/5, Sahapur Colony, P.O+Ps - New Alipore, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700053, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manini Ray (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. Manani Dhar (Old Name) and Manini Ray (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Kamal E Haque (Old Name) S/o Fiyazul Haque Residing at 13A, Phears Lane, P.O+Ps - Bowbazar, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700012, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kamal Haque (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. Kamal E Haque (Old Name) and Kamal Haque (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Kanan Baba (Old Name) W/o Nanda Mahendra Bala Residing at Nawda Kamalpur, Garapota, Garapota-Nadia, District - Nadia, Pin - 741502, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Kanan Bala (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 49/2016 dated 16-02-2026. Kanan Baba (Old Name) and Kanan Bala (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sujan Bala S/o Late Mahendra Bala Residing at Naoda, Kamalpur, Vtc - Garapota, P.O - Garapota-Nadia, District - Nadia, Pin- 741502, West Bengal India, that my deceased father who previously known as Mahendra Nath Bala (Old Name) shall henceforth be known as Mahendra Bala (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit no 49/2016 dated 16-02-2026. I declare that my deceased father Mahendra Nath Bala (Old Name) and Mahendra Bala (New Name) is same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Samiruddin Mohammed (Old Name) S/o Nabil Box Residing at 100/11/22 Dilkhusa Street, Circus Avenue, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700017, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Samiruddin (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 51/2026 Dated 16-02-2026. Samiruddin Mohammed (Old Name) and Md Samiruddin (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Md Jawed Shaikh (Old Name) S/o Gaysuddin Residing at 21/1/1C H7 Momimporo Road, Khiddirpur, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700023, West Bengal India Have Changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mohamamad Jawed Shaikh (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Date 16-02-2026. Md Jawed Shaikh (Old Name) and Mohammad Jawed Shaikh (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sekh Nasirul Islam (Old Name), Son Of Mohor Ali Sk, Residing At 3, Ichhabad, P.O.- Sripally, P.S. - Burdwan, Dist - Purba Burdwan, Pin- 713103, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sk Nasirul Islam (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide Affidavit No.13 On 16/02/2026. Sekh Nasirul Islam (Old Name) And Sk Nasirul Islam (New Name), Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Subhra Ghosh (Old Name), Wife Of Amal Ghosh, Residing At Shradhanjali Apartment, Flat No.-2b, Mallick, Bagan Lane Noapara, P.O - Hatiara, P.S. - Eco Park, Dist - 24 Parganas North, Pin - 700059, West Bengal, India, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Suvra Ghosh (New Name), As Declared Before The Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Barasat Vide Affidavit No.4560 On 22/12/2025. Subhra Ghosh (Old Name) And Suvra Ghosh (New Name), Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Aindriya Bhattacharjee (old name) wife of Syamal Goswami, residing at 132/1, Madral Road, Near Battala Shani Mandir, Subarnanagar, Barrackpore, Dist: North 24 Parganas, Pin: 743129, West Bengal, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Aindriya Goswami (new name) as sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata dated 13/02/2026. Aindriya Bhattacharjee (old name) and Aindriya Goswami (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sankar Das (Old Name) S/o Late Presh Chandra Das Residing at Chharuhat, Nilganj Bazar, Amdanga Chharuhat, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700121, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shankarchandra Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit no 46/2026 Dated 16-01-2026. Sankar Das (Old Name) and Shankarchandra Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, S.K. Jakir Hossain (Old Name) S/o Sk Sabur Ali Residing at Sekhpara, Paigachhi, Balagarh, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712512, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Jakir Ali (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit no 47/2026 Dated 16-02-2026. Sk Jakir Hossain (Old Name) and Sk Jakir Ali (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Rima Verma (Old Name) D/o Rajesh Kumar Verma Residing at 7/2, Pran Krishna Tarkalankar Lane, P.S - Shibpur, District - Howrah, Pin - 711102, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rima Kumari Verma (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Executive Magistrate (1st Class) at Howrah vide affidavit no 3698/26 Dated 27-01-2026. Rima Verma (Old Name) and Rima Kumari Verma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Rajesh Verma (Old Name) S/o Raj Kumar Verma Residing at 7/2, Pran Krishna Tarkalankar Lane, Shibpur, District - Howrah, Pin - 711102, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Rajesh Kumar Verma (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit no 48/2026 Dated 16-02-2026. Rajesh Verma (Old Name) and Rajesh Kumar Verma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Santosh Kumar Biswas (Old Name) S/o Sudhir Biswas Residing at Boekchaha Baikara, Baikara, Gaighata, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743245, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Santosh Biswas (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 52/2026 Dated 16-02-2026. Santosh Kumar Biswas (Old Name) and Santosh Biswas (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Baharul Mondal (Old Name) S/o Baharul Mondal Residing at Vill - Kalupur Dakshinpara, Vtc+Po - Duttapulia, District - Nadia, Pin - 741504, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Baharulhaque Mondal (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit no 53/2026 Dated 16-02-2026. Baharul Mondal (Old Name) and Baharulhaque Mondal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Bablu Das (Old Name) S/o Late Nofar Nath Das Residing at 28/A, Nofar Chandra Das Road, Po+Ps - Behala, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700034, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Bablu Kumar Das (New Name) as declared before the Notary public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 16-02-2026. Bablu Das (Old Name) and Bablu Kumar Das (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Manoj Khandelwal (old name) son of Ramkishan Khandelwal, residing at 68, Ground Floor, Girish Park North, Near Hariyana Bhawan Beadon Street, Kolkata-700006, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoj Kumar Khandelwal (new name), as declared before The Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Sealdah, vide an affidavit No. 3800, dated 29/01/2026. Manoj Kumar Khandelwal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Tarun Kumar Hazra (Old Name), S/O Tapan Hazra, Residing At Village Jagannathpur Post+Ps Amta Pin 711401, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tarun Hazra (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/02/2026. Tarun Kumar Hazra And Tarun Hazra Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Tapan Kumar Hazra (Old Name), S/O Kanailal Hazra, Residing At Village Jagannathpur Post +Ps Amta Pin 711401, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Tapan Hazra (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/02/2026. Tapan Kumar Hazra And Tapan Hazra Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Vanshika Parekh (Old Name), Son Of Amit R Parekh, Residing At South City Garden, T-1, Flt- 13d, Flr-13, 61, B.L.Saha Road, New Alipore, Circus Avenue, Kolkata - 700053, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Vanshika Amit Parekh (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Vanshika Parekh And Vanshika Amit Parekh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Amit Parekh (Old Name), Son Of Rohit Kumar Shanti Lal Parekh, Residing At South City Garden, T-1, Flt- 13d, Flr-13, 61, B.L.Saha Road, New Alipore, Circus Avenue, Kolkata - 700053, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Amit R Parekh (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Amit Parekh And Amit R Parekh Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Suman Mahajan (Old Name), Son Of Bindu Mahajan, Residing At 46, Subhas Nagar 2nd Bye Lane, South Dum Dum, Rabindra Nagar, North 24 Parganas-700065, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Suman Mahajan (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Suman Mahajan And Suman Mahajan Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Avijit Ray (Old Name), Son Of Gautam Roy, Residing At Block-A, Flat -8, 1/1 T2, Banerjee Road, Belgharia, Kamarhati (M), North 24 Parganas - 700056, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Avijit Roy (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Avijit Ray And Avijit Roy Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Robina (Old Name), Wife Of Md Shadab, Residing At 41/2, Biprodas Chatterjee Lane, Shibpur Tram Depot, Shibpur, Haora (M, Corp), Howrah-711102, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Rubina Khatun (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/02/2026. Robina And Rubina Khaton Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Urmila Biswas (Old Name), Wife Of Uttam Biswas, Residing At 24/2 Betsul, Maslandapur, North 24 Parganas-743289, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Urmila Rana Biswas (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05/02/2026. Urmila Biswas And Urmila Rana Biswas Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Sk Inul Rahaman S/o. Late Sk Ajit Ali, R/o. Itagarh, Mohlhapur, Balagarh, Hooghly-712146, WB, declare that in the Voter List of 2002 (188 Balagarh Assembly, Part No. 139, S. No. 712, Hooghly) where my father's name has been recorded as Haque Mohammad Ajilul S/o. Sk Helani and also in my Voter Card & Aadhar Card his name has been recorded as Sk Aziz Ali instead of his correct and original name is Sk Ajit Ali S/o. Sk Helani. That my father Sk Ajit Ali, Haque Mohammad Ajilul & Sk Aziz Ali S/o. Sk Helani all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 5989, dated 16/02/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar Hooghly Court

Name Change

I, Clara Gomes @Dipti Gomes W/o Late Ashim Gomes Residing at 3/C, Chatu Babu Lane, Bemiapukur, Entally, S.O., Entally, Kolkata, WB-700014. My son's birth certificate name recorded as Dipti Gomes. That my name Dipti Clara Gomes as per the telegraph school awards for excellence. But original and correct name is Clara Gomes as per Aadhar that I declared vide an affidavit before the Ld.1st class judicial magistrate at Sealdah, dt.16.02.2026. Affidavit no. 5217. That Clara Gomes @Dipti Gomes, Dipti Gomes and Dipti Clara Gomes both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mukter Khan (old name) S/O Mofjuddin Khan, residing at GURULA BHATSALA P.O JHARIA, PS GOGHAT, HOOGHLY RURAL, Pin- 712122, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Mukter Khan (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/01/2026. Abdul Mukter Khan (new name) and Mukter Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Sk Akbar Ali (old name) son of Sekh Raoshan, residing at T-324, Panch Para Road, Bartala, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sekh Akbar Ali (new name), as declared before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 16/02/2026. Sekh Akbar Ali (new name) and Sk Akbar Ali (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Nepal Chandra Das (Old Name), Son Of Raymohan Das, Residing At Mathpara, Hasimpur, Balagarh, Hooghly - 712501, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Nepal Das (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/02/2026. Nepal Chandra Das And Nepal Das Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Mousumi Chakraborty & Mousumi Acharya (Old Name), Wife Of Sayak Acharya, Residing At 165 Aghore Sarani Barendra Para .P.S- Sonarpur, Dist- 24 Parganas, Pin- 700149, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Mousumi Chakraborty Acharya (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/02/2026. Mousumi Chakraborty & Mousumi Acharya Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Hurnesha Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Md Selim Ali Molla, Residing At Dakshin Dingabhangha, Shaksahar, P.S.- Bhangore, South 24 Pgs- 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Horun Nasa Khatun (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/02/2026. Hurnesha Bibi And Horun Nasa Khatun Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Saleha Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Akbar Ali Molla, Residing At Dakshin Dingabhangha, Shaksahar, P.S.- Bhangore, South 24 Pgs- 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Saleha Bibi (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Saleha Bibi And Saleya Bibi Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Akbar Ali Molla (Old Name), Son Of Kalu Molla, Residing At Dakshin Dingabhangha, Shaksahar, P.S.- Bhangore, South 24 Pgs- 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Akbar Ali Molla (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/02/2026. Mohammad Akbar Ali Molla And Akbar Ali Molla Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Md Kasim (Old Name), Son Of Late Saheb Ali, Residing At J-113/1, Ram Nagar Lane Po- Garden Reach Kolkata-700024, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Kasim (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 13/02/2026. Md Kasim And Md Kasim Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Mohammad Selim Ali Molla (Old Name), Son Of Akbar Ali Molla, Residing At Dakshin Dingabhangha, Shaksahar, P.S.- Bhangore, South 24 Pgs- 743502, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Md Selim Ali Molla (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 11/02/2026. Mohammad Selim Ali Molla And Md Selim Ali Molla Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Sabya Khatun (Old Name), W/O Kamal Nasir, Residing At 32/1A, Ekbalpur Lane, Khiddirpore, Kolkata - 700023, West Bengal, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Sabyia Khaton (New Name) Vide An Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 16/02/2026. Sabya Khaton And Sabyia Khaton Both Are The Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change

I, Mohammed Sayheb Alam (Old Name) son of Mohammed Sohail Alam residing at 1D Ibrahim Road, Khiddirpore, Kolkata-700023, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mohammed Sheyeb Alam (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an Affidavit dated 16/02/2026. Mohammed Sheyeb Alam (New Name) and Mohammed Sayheb Alam both are same and one identical person

Name Change

I, Partho Ghosh (Old Name) son of Sukumar Ghosh, residing at 4A/1B, P.R.S Lane, Tangra, Kolkata-700015, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Partha Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an Affidavit dated 16/02/2026. Partha Ghosh (New Name) and Partho Ghosh (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Mukter Khan (old name) S/O Mofjuddin Khan, residing at GURULA BHATSALA P.O JHARIA, PS GOGHAT, HOOGHLY RURAL, Pin- 712122, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Abdul Mukter Khan (new name), as declared before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 28/01/2026. Abdul Mukter Khan (new name) and Mukter Khan (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Devotion to disaster: Blaze erupts inside Kshirpai temple

MI News Service, West Medinipur: Devotion turned into chaos on the occasion of Shivratri after a 45-year-old woman sustained serious burn injuries when her saree accidentally caught fire inside a crowded Shiva temple in Kshirpai municipality. The incident occurred at a temple adjacent to Hattala in Ward No. 4, where hundreds of devotees had gathered to offer prayers and pour water on the Shiva lingam. The injured woman, identified as Sutapa Midda, a resident of Ward No. 3, had arrived at the temple accompanied by two others to perform the ritual. According to eyewitnesses, while Sutapa was pouring water on the deity, a candle placed nearby inadvertently came into contact with her newly worn saree. Within moments, the fabric ignited and flames spread rapidly, triggering screams and widespread panic inside the temple premises. Devotees present at the spot rushed to her aid and managed to extinguish the flames before the situation spiralled further out of control.



Amit Shah to visit Bengal on Feb 18, will participate in several programs ahead of Assembly polls

MI News Service, Kolkata: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah is expected to visit West Bengal to participate in several programs ahead of the 2026 state Assembly elections.

He would arrive at Kolkata airport on February 18 (Wednesday), around 1.30 pm. From there, he will take a helicopter to Mayapur, where he is scheduled to participate in several programs at the ISKCON temple. It is reported that he will spend approximately two hours at ISKCON.

strengthen the cooperative sector, making it more transparent and modern, a release said. With the objective of transforming cooperative societies from merely institutional entities into member-centric, income-enhancing and self-reliant economic units, a high-level 'Manthan' Meeting of Cooperation Ministers of States and Union Territories will be held on 17 February 2026 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, under the chairmanship of Amit Shah.

The meeting will be attended by Cooperation Ministers of all States and Union Territories, along with officers of the rank of Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary. The platform will enable a comprehensive review of the Ministry of Cooperation's key initiatives, an assessment of progress to date, the exchange of best practices and experiences from States, and the preparation of a coordinated roadmap for the future.

Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), dairy and fisheries cooperative societies, to provide fresh momentum to the rural economy. Deliberations will also be held to expand the nationwide network of modern warehouses under the world's largest grain storage plan, ensuring improved storage capacity, price stability, and better market access for farmers.

Further, discussions will cover time-bound reforms to State cooperative laws, the adoption of model legislation aligned with the 97th Constitutional Amendment, enhancing the economic viability of cooperative sugar mills, promoting circularity and sustainability in the dairy sector, and the formation of

new dairy cooperative societies in collaboration with Amul and NDDB. Issues such as promoting pulses and maize production, resolving challenges faced by cooperative banks, strengthening Shared Service Entities (SSEs) and umbrella structures, expanding membership and awareness campaigns, and developing an effective media and communications strategy will also be part of the deliberations.

In addition, States' expectations regarding the computerisation of PACS and RCS offices, utilisation of the National Cooperative Database, human resource development and training, and improved implementation of the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) schemes will be discussed, a release added.

FSL team reaches Bhiwadi chemical factory after fire kills 7

MI News Service, Bhiwadi: The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) team has reached a chemical factory in Bhiwadi, Khairthal-Tijara district, following a fire that claimed the lives of seven workers.



immediate action on the matter, where he also pointed to an earlier similar accident in Ajmer, where 16 people were killed after a chemical tanker overturned.

He stated that such incidents have become common under the present government.

"In the district of Khairthal-Tijara, in Bhiwadi, a chemical factory caught fire and killed 8-10 people. Many people have been injured. There has been heavy damage... The government and administration should take immediate action. After the formation of the government, as you have seen, on Ajmer Road, a chemical tanker was overturned. More than 16 people were killed. In Jaipur, in SMS, in ICU, people were burnt to death... This has become a common thing, but the government is not paying attention to this. This is a very serious matter," Datasara told ANI.

Rajasthan Minister Sanjay Sharma said seven workers died in the Bhiwadi factory fire, with only their bones recovered. He confirmed the factory, located in a garment zone, was illegally manufacturing fireworks.

The plot had been allotted by RIICO to a person named Rajendra, who subleased it, and that no other business is permitted in the area. The deceased will be identified through DNA testing.

Rajasthan Minister said, "Seven workers died in this incident, and only their bones have been recovered. I received information from the District Collector that a person named Rajendra was giving

an FIR has been registered against Abhinanda Tiwari, who was running the factory. RIICO has also initiated action to cancel the lease of this plot."

At least 7 people were burned to death in a fire that broke out in a chemical factory in the Bhiwadi area of Rajasthan's Khairthal-Tijara district on Monday, officials said.

An FIR has been registered against Abhinanda Tiwari, who was running the factory. RIICO has also initiated action to cancel the lease of this plot."

At least 7 people were burned to death in a fire that broke out in a chemical factory in the Bhiwadi area of Rajasthan's Khairthal-Tijara district on Monday, officials said.

Rajasthan Congress President Govind Singh Datasara urged the government and the administration to take

"They should declare source of funding": BK Hariprasad defends Priyank Kharge's remark on RSS

MI News Service, Bengaluru: Congress leader BK Hariprasad on Monday backed Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge over his remarks on the funding of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

He asserted that any organisation operating in a democracy must function within the Constitutional framework.

Speaking to ANI, Hariprasad said, "What does Vijayendra know about RSS? He is a dynast representing his father. What Priyank Kharge said is exactly what we have been questioning the RSS on, that they should declare the source of the funding."

"They say it is an unregistered organisation. An unregistered organisation is known as a ghost organisation... Any organisation in a democr-

ic setup should be within the Constitutional frame," he said. His remarks came after the Congress leader Priyank Kharge had questioned the source of funds collected by the RSS and its affiliated bodies at a book release event in Bengaluru.

"Around 2500 affiliated organisations are associated with the RSS. Money is being collected from many countries, including America and England. Considering this, it can be said that there is a huge money laundering racket behind the RSS," Kharge said. Hariprasad also criticised the Centre over its recent notification on Vande Mataram, alleging that the move reflects a nationalism rooted in the ideology of MS Golwalkar.



Congress leader BK Hariprasad

have done is a continuation of what Golwalkar wrote in his collection of thoughts way back in 1966. He had a serious reservation towards the national anthem. The so-called pseudo-nationalists have not sung the national anthem or Vande Mataram in their shakhas. Before making any comment on the national

anthem or the national song, they should ban that shakha prayer that inspired Godse to kill Mahatma Gandhi," Hariprasad said.

"It was Rabindranath Tagore who suggested singing only two stanzas of Vande Mataram. The BJP has no other issues. They want to divert people's attention, and for the sake of the West Bengal election, they are trying this new experiment. We condemn that," he said.

His remarks come after the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued detailed guidelines for the national song Vande Mataram, stating that when both the National Song and the National Anthem are performed at an event, all six stanzas of Vande Mataram's official version must be presented first.

MI News Service, Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh 20-Point Programme Chairman Lanka Dinakar on Monday said that the partnership between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Government of Andhra Pradesh marks a major milestone in the state's efforts to build a comprehensive and inclusive public healthcare system.

Speaking about the collaboration centred on the Sanjeevini Project, Dinakar said the initiative aims to provide quality health services to the state's entire population of nearly 53 million. He noted that the project aligns with the state's broader Swarnandhra 2047 vision, which seeks to transform Andhra Pradesh into a model state in health, well-being, and overall prosperity.

Dinakar said the Sanjeevini Project was first piloted in the Kuppam Assembly constituency, where nearly 2.9 lakh residents underwent health screenings. Following the success of the pilot phase, the programme has been scaled up across the state, with approximately 7.1 million people screened to date.

Highlighting the initiative's technological backbone, he said the project's infrastructure was further strengthened during the pandemic through the development of a robust digital platform. The platform enables authorities to effectively monitor, track and

analyse key public health indicators, ensuring timely intervention and improved service delivery.

"The partnership between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Government of Andhra Pradesh marks a significant milestone in the state's journey toward comprehensive public healthcare," Dinakar said.

He added, "This collaboration, focused on the Sanjeevini Project, aims to deliver high-quality health services to nearly 53 million people in the state. It forms a key part of our Swarnandhra 2047 vision to transform Andhra Pradesh into a model of health, well-being and prosperity."

Referring to the origins of the collaboration, Dinakar said the renewed cooperation builds on a long-standing association between Bill Gates and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. He recalled that their engagement dates back to Naidu's earlier tenure, including Gates' visit to Hyderabad and the subsequent establishment of Microsoft operations in the region.

"Both leaders have expressed satisfaction over the renewed partnership and view it as a crucial step towards achieving the goal of a 'Healthy Andhra Pradesh'," Dinakar added.

IIT Kharagpur Signs MoU with Saint Petersburg Mining University, Russia to Strengthen Academic and Research Collaboration

MI News Service, Kharagpur: The Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur has entered into a strategic academic partnership with Empress Catherine II Saint Petersburg Mining University, Russia, through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in a virtual ceremony. The MoU was signed in the distinguished presence of Prof. Vladimir Litvinenko, Rector, Saint Peters-



Kulkarni, Chairperson, Deysarkar Centre for Excellence in Petroleum Engineering, Prof. Dip Kumar Singha, Associate Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics; Prof. Suverna Trivedi, Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering; and Prof. Paresh Nath Singha Roy, Coordinator SPMU-IIT Kharagpur, Department of Geology and Geophysics. From Saint Petersburg Mining University, Prof. Evgeniy A. Lyubin, Vice Rector - International Relations, and Prof. Maksim Glazev, Official of Saint Petersburg Mining University, were also present.

burg Mining University, and Prof. Suman Chakraborty, Director, IIT Kharagpur. Both leaders underscored the importance of strengthening Indo-Russian cooperation in higher education, research, and technological innovation. The partnership aims to promote student and scholar exchange programmes, faculty exchange for joint scientific research, and the development of joint academic programmes for students as well as working professionals. The collaboration will leverage the ad-

vanced research infrastructure and expertise of both institutions in areas such as Mining Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Rubber Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Geology, Geophysics, and Artificial Intelligence applications in energy and earth sciences. The ceremony was attended by IIT Kharagpur, including Prof. Anandorop Bhattacharya, Dean - International Relations; Prof. Kinsuk Naskar, Chairperson, Rubber Technology; Prof. B. B. Mandal, Mining Engineering; Prof. Sandeep

Kulkarni, Chairperson, Deysarkar Centre for Excellence in Petroleum Engineering; Prof. Dip Kumar Singha, Associate Professor, Department of Geology and Geophysics; Prof. Suverna Trivedi, Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering; and Prof. Paresh Nath Singha Roy, Coordinator SPMU-IIT Kharagpur, Department of Geology and Geophysics. From Saint Petersburg Mining University, Prof. Evgeniy A. Lyubin, Vice Rector - International Relations, and Prof. Maksim Glazev, Official of Saint Petersburg Mining University, were also present. This collaboration builds upon the long-standing partnership between India and Russia in Science and Technology. The MoU is expected to contribute significantly to addressing evolving energy needs - ranging from conventional coal and petroleum resources to energy transition critical minerals - while advancing human resource development and technological innovation in alignment with the national vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat and Vikshit Bharat.

NOTICE: Notice is given to all that Smt. Madhavi Ghosh, is the present owner of land measuring about 3.753 Decimals (as per Porcha land measurement 04 Decimals) more or less, Mouza - Manasapota, R.S. Khatian No. 251, L.R. Khatian No. 1076 at present L.R. Khatian No. 2142, under R.S. and L.R. Dag No. 270, under P.S. Chakdaha, within Chandur-1 Gram Panchayat, District - Nadia. The Deed being No. 2268 for the year 2004 is lost/misplaced from the present owner General Dary was lodged with Chakdaha Police Station Ranaghat Police District Nadia, vide G.D.E. No. 1878 dated 30.01.2026. Any person having any objection/claim in the above property please contact the undersigned within 10 days strictly as advised. Biman Kumar Das & Associates Advocates 12/2 Old Post Office Street, Kolkata-700001. Ph.033-4003-8952. M. 9830238839

OFFICE OF THE COUNCILLORS OF TAHERPUR NOTIFIED AREA AUTHORITY E-Tender Notice: Online tenders are invited by the Chairman, Taherpur Notified Area Authority P.O., Taherpur, Nadia for Construction of Civil & Electrical works at different Wards within Taherpur Notified Area Authority, Taherpur, Nadia under APAS, 15th Finance & State Fund Scheme from experienced Agencies. Tender reference No.-WB/MAD/ULB/TNA/ NIQ-70e/2025-26 (1st Call) for APAS. Tender reference No.-WB/MAD/ULB/TNA/ NIQ-71e/2025-26 (2nd Call) for 15th Finance and Tender reference No.-WB/MAD/ULB/TNA/ NIQ-19e/2025-26 (3rd Call) for State Fund, publishing dated 16/02/2026. Last date for bid submission -23/02/2026 up to 17:00 HRS. For detail information please go to e-tendering portal www.wbtenders.gov.in. Corrigendum/ Addendum will be published in website only. Sd/- Chairman, Taherpur N. A. A.

BEGRI GRAM PANCHAYAT E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE: Electronic tenders are hereby invited by the Pradhan, Begri Gram Panchayat, Dujmur, Howrah for the following 6 (Six) nos. works as tender for the bonafide experienced contractors having 50% credential. (i) NIT NO.-90/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-12/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (ii) NIT NO.-91/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-13/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (iii) NIT NO.-92/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-14/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (iv) NIT NO.-93/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-15/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (v) NIT NO.-94/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-16/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (vi) NIT NO.-95/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-17/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (vii) NIT NO.-96/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-18/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (viii) NIT NO.-97/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-19/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (ix) NIT NO.-98/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-20/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (x) NIT NO.-99/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-21/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xi) NIT NO.-100/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-22/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xii) NIT NO.-101/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-23/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xiii) NIT NO.-102/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-24/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xiv) NIT NO.-103/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-25/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xv) NIT NO.-104/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-26/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xvi) NIT NO.-105/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-27/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xvii) NIT NO.-106/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-28/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xviii) NIT NO.-107/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-29/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xix) NIT NO.-108/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-30/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xx) NIT NO.-109/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-31/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxi) NIT NO.-110/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-32/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxii) NIT NO.-111/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-33/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxiii) NIT NO.-112/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-34/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxiv) NIT NO.-113/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-35/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxv) NIT NO.-114/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-36/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxvi) NIT NO.-115/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-37/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxvii) NIT NO.-116/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-38/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxviii) NIT NO.-117/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-39/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxix) NIT NO.-118/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-40/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxx) NIT NO.-119/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-41/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxi) NIT NO.-120/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-42/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxii) NIT NO.-121/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-43/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxiii) NIT NO.-122/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-44/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxiv) NIT NO.-123/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-45/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxv) NIT NO.-124/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-46/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxvi) NIT NO.-125/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-47/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxvii) NIT NO.-126/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-48/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxviii) NIT NO.-127/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-49/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xxxix) NIT NO.-128/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-50/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xl) NIT NO.-129/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-51/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xli) NIT NO.-130/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-52/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlii) NIT NO.-131/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-53/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xliiii) NIT NO.-132/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-54/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xliv) NIT NO.-133/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-55/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlv) NIT NO.-134/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-56/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlvi) NIT NO.-135/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-57/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlvii) NIT NO.-136/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-58/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlviii) NIT NO.-137/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-59/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (xlix) NIT NO.-138/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-60/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (l) NIT NO.-139/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-61/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (li) NIT NO.-140/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-62/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lii) NIT NO.-141/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-63/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (liiii) NIT NO.-142/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-64/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (liv) NIT NO.-143/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-65/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (liv) NIT NO.-144/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-66/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-145/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-67/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvi) NIT NO.-146/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-68/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvii) NIT NO.-147/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-69/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lviii) NIT NO.-148/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-70/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvix) NIT NO.-149/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-71/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvi) NIT NO.-150/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-72/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-151/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-73/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvi) NIT NO.-152/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-74/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvii) NIT NO.-153/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-75/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lviii) NIT NO.-154/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-76/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvix) NIT NO.-155/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-77/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lvi) NIT NO.-156/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-78/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-157/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-79/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-158/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-80/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-159/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-81/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-160/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-82/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-161/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-83/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-162/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-84/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-163/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-85/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-164/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-86/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-165/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-87/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-166/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-88/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-167/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-89/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-168/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-90/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-169/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-91/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-170/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-92/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-171/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-93/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-172/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-94/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-173/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-95/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-174/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-96/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-175/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-97/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-176/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-98/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-177/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-99/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-178/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-100/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-179/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-101/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-180/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-102/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-181/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-103/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-182/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-104/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-183/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-105/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-184/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-106/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-185/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-107/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-186/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-108/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-187/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-109/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-188/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-110/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-189/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-111/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-190/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-112/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-191/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-113/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-192/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-114/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-193/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-115/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-194/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-116/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-195/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-117/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-196/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-118/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-197/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-119/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-198/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-120/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-199/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-121/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-200/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-122/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-201/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-123/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-202/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-124/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-203/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-125/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-204/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-126/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-205/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-127/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-206/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-128/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-207/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-129/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-208/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-130/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-209/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-131/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-210/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-132/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-211/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-133/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-212/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-134/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-213/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-135/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-214/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-136/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-215/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-137/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-216/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-138/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-217/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-139/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-218/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-140/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-219/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-141/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-220/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-142/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-221/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-143/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-222/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-144/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-223/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-145/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-224/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-146/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-225/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-147/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-226/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-148/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-227/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-149/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-228/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-150/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-229/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-151/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-230/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-152/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-231/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-153/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-232/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-154/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-233/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-155/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-234/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-156/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-235/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-157/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-236/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-158/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-237/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-159/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-238/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-160/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-239/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-161/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-240/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-162/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-241/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-163/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-242/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-164/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv) NIT NO.-243/BGP/15th FCT/IED/Ent-165/2026; Dated:-13-02-2026. (lv

## IDFC FIRST Bank launches FD-backed Hello Cashback Credit Card with up to 5% cashback

IDFC FIRST Bank has announced the launch of its Hello Cashback Credit Card, a fixed-deposit-backed credit card aimed at making credit more accessible to digitally savvy customers, particularly young adults aged 18 and above with online-first and UPI-led spending habits. The card allows first-time and new-to-credit users to build a credit history while earning cashback on everyday digital transactions.

The Hello Cashback Credit Card comes with a tiered cashback structure. Cardholders can earn 3% cashback on online spends of up to Rs 10,000 per statement cycle and 5% cashback on incremental online spends beyond Rs 10,000, with total cashback on online transactions capped at Rs 1,000 per cycle. In addition, the card offers 1% cashback on in-store purchases, contactless payments, and UPI transactions made through the bank's app. This 1% cashback also applies to essential categories such as utilities, education, insurance, FASTag recharge, railway bookings, government payments, rent, jewellery, and wallet and gift card loads.

Travel bookings made through the IDFC FIRST Bank app attract an additional 1% bonus cashback on flights and hotels, taking the total cashback on such bookings up to 6%. Overall cashback across all categories is capped at Rs 1,500 per statement cycle.

The card is linked entirely to a fixed deposit, offering a credit limit equal to 100% of the FD value. Customers benefit from "two returns" on a single deposit, as the FD continues to earn interest while also enabling cashback on card spends. Cardholders can withdraw cash from ATMs up to 100% of the FD value, interest-free for up to 45 days, subject to a withdrawal fee of Rs 199 plus GST. The bank also allows instant credit limit enhancement by linking additional fixed deposits.

Additional features include insurance covers, purchase protection, lost card liability, roadside assistance, and a 1% fuel surcharge waiver, positioning the card as a secure and convenient option for first-time credit users.

The Hello Cashback Credit Card is available against a fixed deposit starting at Rs 10,000. The joining fee of Rs 1,000 plus GST has been waived as an introductory offer until March 31, 2026. The annual fee of Rs 1,000 plus GST is fully reversed on annual spends of Rs 2 lakh or more, and 50% reversed on spends between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh, making it one of the more affordable secured credit cards currently available in the market.

## CCPA slaps Rs 5 lakh fine on Snapdeal for selling non-BIS compliant toys, warns others

New Delhi : The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) on Monday imposed a penalty of Rs 5 lakh on Snapdeal for the sale of non-BIS compliant toys on its platform, in violation of consumer rights.

The regulator said it has taken strict action against e-commerce entities and sellers for the sale of toys in violation of the mandatory Toys (Quality Control) Order, 2020 and prescribed Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) standards.

In this regard, the CCPA imposed the penalty on Snapdeal (Ace Vector Limited) "for engaging in unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements by facilitating the sale of non-BIS compliant toys on its platform."

The CCPA, led by Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare and Commissioner Anupam Mishra, issued a final order against Snapdeal, according to a statement by Ministry of Consumer Affairs.

According to the regulator, Snapdeal earned fees amounting to Rs 41,032 from the sale of these non-compliant toys through just two identified sellers: Stallion Trading Company and Thriftkart. Many listings lacked essential



information, such as the manufacturer's name, address, and mandatory BIS certification numbers. The platform relied solely on seller self-declarations without independent verification, which the CCPA deemed "inadequate" for preventing the listing of hazardous products. "Snapdeal took its defence as it acts as a 'marketplace e-commerce entity' similar to a physical shopping mall," said the CCPA. The agency categorically rejected this analogy, noting that Snapdeal exerts "substantial control" over transactions by managing platform-wide promotional sales like "Toofan Sale" and "Deal of the Day", and tagging products with quality assurances such as "great quality at best price," which acts as a false guarantee when applied to non-compliant BIS standard goods.

"The onus is on the platform to ensure that every listed product meets the safety and quality standards such as the BIS certification for toys and it remains vicariously liable for any deficiency in service or defect in goods that reach the consumers through its portal," said the watchdog.

The CCPA further noted that when enquired about providing a guarantee for sale of BIS compliant toys on its platform in future, the opposite party failed to provide a guarantee or categorical undertaking that henceforth listings or exhibition of non-BIS compliant toys would not reappear on the platform.

The CCPA had issued notices to e-commerce entities and the sellers such as Amazon, Flipkart and Snapdeal, stallion trading company, electronics bazar store etc. for sale of toys in violation to QCO and BIS standards directed for compulsory use by the Central Government.

A Snapdeal spokesperson said that "As a marketplace, Snapdeal remains committed to providing a safe and trusted platform for consumers and ensures compliance under laws as applicable".

"The issue with regards to intermediary liability in similar matters are pending decisions by various high courts. The company will seek appropriate judicial review in due course," the spokesperson added.

## Researchers suggest how brain waves are part of memory

BONN [GERMANY] : Spatial navigation and memory are essential aspects of our daily lives. Without these abilities, we would struggle to navigate our surroundings and recall past experiences. However, the neural basis of spatial memory is poorly understood.

A study group led by Prof. Lukas Kunz, who recently joined the University Hospital Bonn (UKB), discovered new information about this knowledge gap. He discovered, with scientists from New York and Freiburg, that different types of nerve cells activate simultaneously during spatial memory and are coordinated by brain waves ("ripples"). The results have been published in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*.

Associative memory allows different pieces of information are linked together.

"In the context of spatial memory, associative memory enables us to remember the locations of certain objects in the spatial environment," explains Prof. Kunz, research group leader for Cognitive and Translational Neuroscience at the Department of Epileptology at the UKB. He is also a member of the Transdisciplinary Research Area (TRA) "Life & Health" at the University of Bonn. "For example, we can remember where in the house we put our keys". At older age or in cer-



tain diseases such as Alzheimer's, however, this ability is limited. "It is therefore important to investigate the neuronal basis of different forms of human memory," said Prof. Kunz. In the long term, this could help develop new therapies for memory impairments. Nerve cells are active while information is retrieved from memory. To further investigate this phenomenon, the researchers recorded the activity of individual nerve cells in epilepsy patients performing a memory task. "In a virtual world, the participants were asked to remember the locations of different objects," explains Prof. Kunz.

The recordings showed that different types of nerve cells became active during this mem-

ory task. Some nerve cells responded to certain objects, while other nerve cells activated in response to certain locations. The scientists observed that interactions between the different types of nerve cells became stronger over time when participants remembered the right object in the right place. In addition to place and object neurons, the researchers observed hippocampal brain waves ("ripples") that also occurred during the memory task, presumably playing a crucial role in the formation and retrieval of associative memories. "Ripples could be important for the connection of different types of nerve cells and the formation of complex memories. It will be exciting to further investigate this idea in future studies," explains Prof. Kunz.

It will also be interesting to study how memory performance is modulated when ripples are suppressed or triggered, providing insights into the causal relevance of ripples.

Prof Kunz intends to continue the findings that he gained with his colleagues at Columbia University's School of Engineering and Applied Science in New York and the University of Freiburg at the University Hospital Bonn.

"The department of epileptology at the UKB is well-known for its excellent brain research. The department has the unique opportunity to record the activity of individual nerve cells in the human brain in the video EEG monitoring unit, which is the heart of every epilepsy.

## Skin Diseases: Types of, Symptoms, Treatment & Prevention



*Skin disease symptoms vary significantly, depending on what condition you have. Skin changes are not always due to skin diseases. For example, you may get a blister from wearing ill-fitting shoes. However, when skin changes show up with no known cause, they may be linked to an underlying condition.*

Generally, skin diseases may cause:

- Discolored skin patches (abnormal pigmentation).
- Dry skin.
- Open sores, lesions or ulcers.
- Peeling skin.
- Rashes, possibly with itchiness or pain.
- Red, white or pus-filled bumps.
- Scaly or rough skin.

Do skin diseases usually return after treatment?

Many skin conditions are chronic (long-lasting). Treatment can reduce symptoms, but you may need to continue medication or other treatments to keep symptoms at bay.

Some skin conditions go away without treatment. You may also have periods of remission (months or years with no symptoms).

**Some health conditions can increase your chances of developing a skin disease. You may be more likely to experience skin changes or symptoms if you have :**

**Diabetes:** People with diabetes may have trouble with wound healing, particularly on their feet.

**Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD):** Some IBD medications can lead to skin problems such as vitiligo or eczema.

**Lupus:** This chronic condi-

tion can lead to inflammation and skin problems, such as rashes, sores or scaly skin patches.

Skin changes can also be the result of pregnancy, stress or hormonal changes. For example, melasma is a common skin disease that mostly affects pregnant women. Conditions like alopecia areata, acne, Raynaud's phenomenon or rosacea may get worse when you're stressed.

Some skin diseases are not preventable. For example, there is no way to change your genetics or prevent an autoimmune disorder.

You can take steps to avoid contagious or infectious skin diseases. You may prevent contagious skin diseases or reduce their symptoms if you:

Avoid sharing utensils, personal items or cosmetics.

Disinfect objects you use in public spaces, such as gym equipment.

Drink plenty of water and eat a nutritious diet.

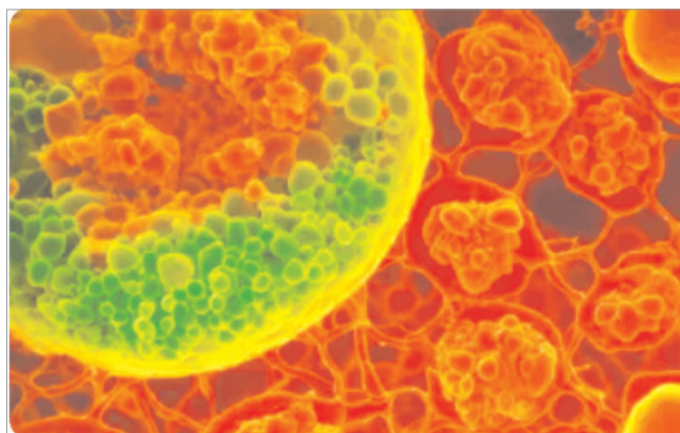
Limit contact with irritants or harsh chemicals.

Sleep seven to eight hours per night.

Use sun protection to prevent sunburn and other sun damage.

Wash your hands regularly with soap and water.

## Researchers find ways to prevent idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis



MICHIGAN [US] : The most frequent type of pulmonary fibrosis scarring of the lungs is idiopathic, which means that the cause is unclear. Researchers are working quickly to develop treatments to prevent or reduce idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) and associated lung disorders, which can cause severe shortness of breath, dry cough, and intense exhaustion. The average survival time after being diagnosed with IPF is about three to five years, and there is no cure.

A recent U-M study conducted by Sean Fortier, M.D. and Marc Peters-Golden, M.D. from the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at U-M Medical School, discovered a pathway used during normal wound healing that has the potential to reverse IPF.

Using a mouse model, they simulated IPF by administering bleomycin, a chemotherapy agent that causes cell injury and confirmed that the resulting lung scarring resolved itself over the span of about six weeks. Because of this, "studying fibrosis is kind of tough," said Fortier. "If we're going to give

experimental drugs to try and resolve fibrosis, we have to do it before it resolves on its own. Otherwise, we will not be able to tell if the resolution was the action of the drug or natural repair mechanisms of the body." However, he said, "there's actually a lot to learn about how the mouse gets better on its own. If we can learn the molecular mechanisms by which this occurs, we may uncover new targets for IPF."

The process by which lung injury either leads to healing or fibrosis relies in part on what happens to a cell called a fibroblast, which forms connective tissue. During injury or illness, fibroblasts are activated, becoming myofibroblasts that form scar tissue by secreting collagen. When the job is done, these fibroblasts must be deactivated, or de-differentiated, to go back to their quiet state or undergo programmed cell death and be cleared.

"This is the major distinction between normal wound healing and fibrosis - the persistence of activated myofibroblasts," explained Fortier. That deactiva-

tion is controlled by molecular brakes. The study examined one of these brakes, called MKP1 - which the team found was expressed at lower levels in fibroblasts from patients with IPF.

By genetically eliminating MKP1 in fibroblasts of mice after establishing lung injury, the team saw that fibrosis continued uncontrolled.

"Instead of at day 63, seeing that nice resolution, you still see fibrosis," said Fortier.

"We argued by contradiction: when you knock out this brake, fibrosis that would otherwise naturally disappear, persists and therefore MKP1 is necessary for spontaneous resolution of fibrosis."

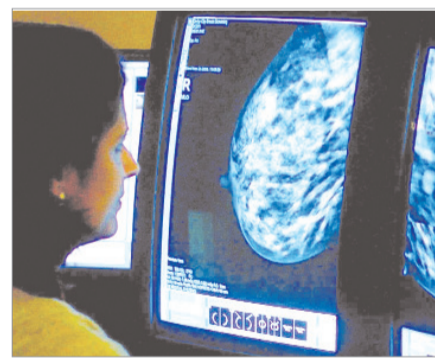
They performed several additional studies using CRISPR techniques to demonstrate how MKP1 applies the brakes, mainly by deactivating the enzyme p38a, which is implicated in a cell's reaction to stress. Furthermore, they demonstrated that neither of the two current FDA approved drugs for lung fibrosis, pirfenidone and nintedanib, are able to turn off myofibroblasts.

"That's totally in keeping with the fact that they do slow the progression, but they don't halt or reverse disease," said Fortier. Fortier hopes the discovery that this pathway reverses fibrosis leads to exploration of additional brakes on fibrosis. "So much work on fibrosis has focused on how we can prevent it, but when a patient presents to my clinic with a dry cough, shortness of breath, and low oxygen as a result of underlying IPF, the scarring is already present. Of course, we'd love a way to prevent the scarring from getting worse, but the Holy Grail is to reverse it."

## Study sheds more light on detection of breast cancer

FLORIDA [US] : Scientists have developed a saliva test that detects breast cancer and has shown promising results in preclinical testing. A new handheld gadget, according to researchers from the University of Florida and National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University in Taiwan, detects breast cancer indicators from a small sample of spit. Their findings appeared in the *Journal of Vacuum Science and Technology B*.

"Imagine medical staff conducting breast cancer screening in communities or hospitals," said Hsiao-Hsuan Wan, a UF doctoral student in the Department of Chemical Engineering and the study's lead author. "Our device is an excellent choice because it is portable -- about the size of



your hand -- and reusable. The testing time is under five seconds per sample, which

makes it highly efficient." The new tool works by placing a saliva sample on a test strip, which is treated with specific antibodies that respond to cancer biomarkers.

Electrical impulses are sent to contact points on the biosensor device. Signals are measured and translated into digital information about how much biomarker is present. The results are quick and easy to interpret, Wan said. During testing, the device distinguished between healthy breast tissue, early breast cancer, and advanced breast cancer in a small group of 21 women. Their biosensor design uses common components like glucose testing strips and the open-source hardware-software platform Arduino.

## Study reveals how specific lipids indicate tissue ageing, decreases through exercise

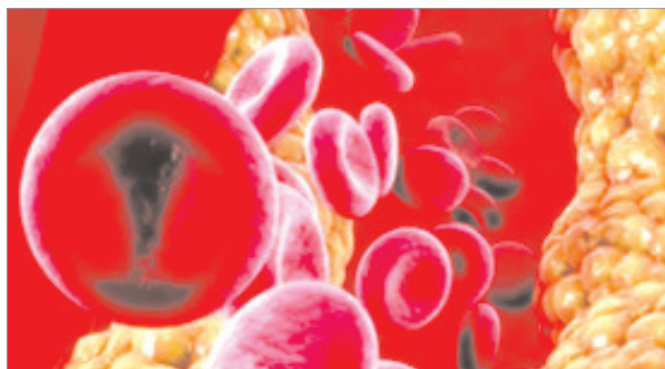
LOS ANGELES [US] : Researchers discovered that a form of fat builds as tissue ages and can be reversed with exercise. Researchers from Amsterdam UMC and colleagues from Maastricht UMC+ examined rats and human tissue before and after exercise to reach this conclusion. The findings are published in the journal *Nature Ageing*.

"The idea that we could reverse aging is something that was long considered science fiction, but these findings do allow us to understand a lot more about the aging process," says RieckeltHoutkooper, Professor at the laboratory Genetic Metabolic Diseases of Amsterdam UMC. "Everyone says that 'it's just part of getting older,' but this doesn't actually have to be true. By understanding more about the aging process, we can also look into new ways of intervening," says Georges Janssens, first author of the paper and assistant professor at Amsterdam UMC. In recent

years, laboratory research has shown that we may be able to counteract age-related diseases by intervening in the fundamental processes that lead to ageing. Although science has increasingly mapped out how metabolism changes during aging, large parts remained uncharted. "We

membrane of cells, which ensures that the inside and outside remain separate," says Houtkooper.

In order to add this new chapter, the research team investigated how the composition of fats changes in mice. They looked at ten different tis-



wanted to add a new chapter to the atlas. Lipids are an important part of our diet, and crucial for the functioning of our body cells. Specific lipids make up the

sues, including muscles, kidneys, liver and heart. It was noticed that one type of lipid, the bis(monoacylglycerol)phosphates (or BMPs), were elevated in all

tissues from the older animals. Suggesting an accumulation of these lipids during aging. They then investigated whether this also happens in humans. Although it was not possible to obtain as many different tissues, the accumulation of BMP was also visible in muscle biopsies of older people. Finally, they then completed more muscle biopsies from people before and after a healthy intervention that included one hour of exercise a day and saw the level of BMPs decreased in the active participants.

"These results are an important new step for our understanding of the aging process, but they are certainly not the final answer. We plan to conduct follow-up studies to better understand how BMPs contribute to aging, what are the consequences of BMP accumulation on the aging process, and whether this can only be influenced by exercise or are the other ways to affect BMPs levels," concludes Houtkooper.

# Indoor sports complex at Howrah

## A landmark in modern sports infrastructure

MI News Service, 16 Feb 2026, Kolkata: Eastern Railway continuously facilitating development of sports infrastructure effectively contributing towards excellence in sports activity in this region. Marching ahead in this direction Howrah Division of Eastern Railway has commissioned state-of-the-art Indoor Sports Complex at Howrah. Strategically located behind the Rail Museum, this world-class facility reflects Indian Railways' steadfast commitment to promoting sporting excellence and creating a professional training environment for athletes.



The new indoor sports complex at Howrah, featuring modern equipment and facilities.

The project exemplifies efficient planning, modern engineering, and adherence to global sporting standards. The complex spans a total area of 6,360 square metres, with 800 square metres dedicated to indoor sporting activities, ensuring ample and well-structured space for multiple disciplines.

Architectural Excellence and Design Innovation: The Indoor Sports Complex stands as a testament to contemporary architectural brilliance and functional design. Key features include:

- Polycarbonate roofing complemented by dark green roof profile sheets for enhanced durability and climate resilience.
- Tinted blue toughened glass glazing and doors, offering both aesthetic appeal and structural strength.
- Stainless steel railings

with toughened glass for improved safety and visual elegance.

- Aluminium vertical louvers and perforated sheet walls to ensure optimal ventilation and energy efficiency.
- A grand entrance featuring MS pergola sections, openable gates with a refined colour scheme, and RCC columns finished to superior standards—creating an impressive and welcoming façade.

Dedicated Facilities for Sporting Excellence: The complex is equipped with modern infrastructure to support a wide range of indoor sports and training activities, including:

- Table Tennis (Ground Floor)
- Gymnasium (First Floor)
- Billiards & Carrom
- Chess
- Swimming Pool
- Two Badminton Courts with specialized flooring,

toughened glass panelling, and advanced lighting systems.

Both badminton courts have received approval from the Badminton World Federation (BWF), affirming compliance with international standards.

Recent Developments and Sporting Achievements: In January 2026, a new cricket coaching camp was opened at Golmohar Ground. Players undergo physical training at the complex's gymnasium under the guidance of experienced coaches, including Shri Pankaj Shaw (Bengal Ranji Trophy player), Shri Kinkar Roy (Former District Player), Shri Suman Dey (Former District Player), Shri Uttam Roy Chowdhury (Former District Player), and Shri Manoj Bhattacharjee (Former District Player).

The impact of the facility is already evident through notable achievements:

- Shri Ravi Singh (CCTC,

Commercial Department) has been selected for the 2026 season of the Indian Premier League, representing the Rajasthan Royals.

- Smt. Shipra Giri (Clerk, Engineering Department) has been selected for the 2026 season of the Women's Premier League, representing the UP Warriorz.
- Smt. Priyanka Bala (Head TE) has been selected for the 2026 season of the Women's Premier League, representing the Mumbai Indians.

The gymnasium and swimming pool facilities are being regularly utilized by cricketers, water polo players, and aquatic athletes, further strengthening multidisciplinary sports development within the Railway community.

Strengthening the Sporting Ecosystem: The Indoor Sports Complex at Howrah is poised to transform the sporting landscape of Eastern Railway by providing a dedicated and professionally managed space for athletes and sports enthusiasts.

It reinforces Indian Railways' longstanding tradition of nurturing talent that brings pride to the nation.

This initiative aligns with the broader vision of Indian Railways to foster a vibrant sporting ecosystem, promote physical well-being among employees, and contribute meaningfully to India's growing prominence in the global sporting arena.

both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

06565 SMVB Bengaluru - Malda Town Holi Special will leave SMVB Bengaluru at 23:40 hrs on every Sunday between 22.02.2026 & 08.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach Malda Town at 16:30 hrs on the third day and 06566 Malda Town - SMVB Bengaluru Holi Special will leave Malda Town at 16:00 hrs on every Wednesday between 25.02.2026 & 11.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach SMVB Bengaluru at 12:45 hrs on the third day.

The train will stop at New Farakka, Rampurhat, Bolpur Shantiniketan, Bardhaman and Dankuni stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction on both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

### Tatanagar-Katihar-Tatanagar Holi special

MI News Service, 16 Feb 2026, Kolkata: It has been decided to run Holi Special trains between Tatanagar-Katihar- Tatanagar as per following schedule:

08181 Tatanagar-Katihar Holi Special will leave Tatanagar every Monday from 02.03.2026 to 30.03.2026 at 13:00 hrs and will reach Katihar at 07:30 hrs, the next day. In the return direction, 08182 Katihar-Tatanagar Special will leave Katihar every Tuesday from 03.03.2026 to 31.03.2026 at 10:30 hrs and will arrive Tatanagar at 04:30 hrs, the next day.

The Special train will have stoppages at Chandli, Muri and Bokaro Steel City in SER jurisdiction.

### Regulation of trains for rolling block programme in Adra division over South Eastern Railway

MI News Service, 16 Feb 2026, Kolkata: Due to one week rolling block programme in Adra Division of South Eastern Railway from 16.02.2026 to 22.02.2026, following trains will be regulated as under:

Cancellation of trains:

- 68046/68045 Asansol - Adra - Asansol MEMU Passenger (journey commencing on 16.02.2026, 17.02.2026, 19.02.2026, 20.02.2026 & 22.02.2026) will remain cancelled.
- 63594/63593 Asansol - Purulia - Asansol MEMU (journey commencing on 17.02.2026 & 20.02.2026) will remain cancelled.

Short termination / short origination of trains:

- 13503/13504 Bardhaman - Hatia - Bardhaman MEMU Express (journey commencing on 16.02.2026 & 17.02.2026) will be short terminated at/short originated from Gomoh. Service between Gomoh & Hatia will remain cancelled.
- 68056/68060 Tatanagar - Asansol - Barabhum MEMU Passenger (journey commencing on 17.02.2026 & 21.02.2026) will be short terminated at/short originated from Adra. Service between Adra & Asansol will remain cancelled.

### Taliban Says It Would Support Iran if US Launches Attack

MI News Service, Kabul: The Taliban has declared that it would support Iran in the event of a potential military strike by the United States, signaling a significant regional alignment amid rising tensions.

Speaking on Sunday in an interview with Radio Iran's Pashto service, Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said the Afghan administration is prepared to cooperate with Tehran if Washington initiates an attack and if the Islamic Republic formally seeks assistance. His remarks reflect Kabul's stated willingness to stand alongside its western neighbor during a time of heightened geopolitical uncertainty.

Mujahid emphasized that any cooperation would depend on Iran requesting support. However, his comments made clear that the Taliban leadership views Iran as a partner in the face of external threats. He did not elaborate on the nature or scope of the assistance Afghanistan might provide, whether diplomatic, logistical, or otherwise.

The spokesperson also referenced Iran's recent 12-day conflict with Israel in June, asserting that Tehran had emerged victorious from the confrontation. According to Mujahid, that outcome demonstrates Iran's resilience and capability to withstand military pressure. He further expressed confidence that Iran would prevail again should it face direct military action from the United States.

The statement comes amid ongoing regional volatility, with strained US-Iran relations continuing to shape political calculations across West and Central Asia. The Taliban's public expression of support for Tehran underscores evolving regional dynamics since the group's return to power in Afghanistan, as it navigates diplomatic ties with neighboring countries while responding to broader international tensions.

A Rising Concern: 3.3 Lakh Penalty Cases

Despite these facilities, the recent statistics are concerning. In the last three months alone, Eastern Railway has recorded 3,30,451 penalty cases. This high volume of ticketless travel indicates a significant lapse in public awareness and civic duty.

The ER administration views these figures not as a source of revenue, but as a reflection of a social challenge that needs immediate rectification through public consciousness.

The Eastern Railway remains committed to providing safe, affordable, and efficient travel. However, the cooperation of the "owners" of this property—the passengers—is vital. By choosing to buy a ticket, a passenger contributes to the modernization of the tracks, the safety of the coaches, and the pride of the nation. Let us pledge to end the culture of ticketless travel and uphold the dignity of our journey.

# Rise of Jamaat-e Islami in Bangladesh and its possible impact on India

MI News Service, Dhaka: The much-anticipated election results from Bangladesh are out. The BNP has secured 209 seats, while the Jamaat-e-Islami won 68, as the Election Commission disclosed the unofficial election results for 297 constituencies. But the scale of the win surprised some observers, given expectations of a tighter race and wins by Jamaat-e-Islami.

Jamaat-e-Islami led an alliance in the polls that included the National Citizen Party (NCP), formed by youth activists who were instrumental in toppling Hasina. Though defeated, Jamaat-e-Islami secured its highest-ever tally of 70 seats, positioning itself as what analysts describe as a "very robust opposition" capable of influencing future parliamentary debate.

The Jamaat-e-Islami, has a very strong organisational structure, which is better than that of the erstwhile Awami League.

While India, which has historical ties with Bangladesh and its people, will engage with whoever wins the election, a Jamaat win is bound to involve very different calculations for New Delhi.

Historically, Jamaat has been seen to be pro-Pakistan, with several of its leaders executed after being tried by the International Crimes Tribunal for 1971 war crimes.

The BNP and JI had been alliance partners and ran Bangladesh from 2001 to 2006 with the BNP's Khaleda Zia as the prime minister. Elections held in 2008 under a caretaker government saw the Awami League come to power, and Hasina ruled until she was forced out in 2024.

The Jamaat-e-Islami has been rooting for reforms in Bangladesh's electoral processes before general elections were conducted. Perhaps it sensed a shift in voter sentiment, with crucial BNP voters like moderate Islamists, a section of freedom fighter families and the business class moving away from the Khaleda Zia-led party.

The Jamaat was barred from elections in 2014 and a full ban on it was imposed by the Hasina regime on August 1, 2024, as it was battling for survival.

However, there is a new political reality to be considered in Bangladesh. The last phase of the Hasina government, especially after 2021, saw a rise in anti-India sentiments and of pro-Pakistan elements. Moreover, fundamentalists and Islamist extremists have been given a free run in the Yunus-led caretaker set-up.

The last BNP-Jamaat government (2001-2006) was a security nightmare for India. Anti-India terrorists and jihadi elements used Bangladeshi soil for anti-India activities. Then home minister Lutfozzaman Babar was arrested by the military-backed caretaker government in 2007, and sentenced to 10 years in jail for possession of illegal firearms.

In fact, Jamaat-e-Islami of Bangladesh owes its origins and philosophical leanings to the Jamaat-e-Islami of Pakistan, which was founded by Maulana Abul Ala Maududi.

Maulana Abul Ala Maududi (25 September 1903 - 22 September 1979) was a prominent Islamic scholar, theologian, political philosopher, and activist from British India, later based in Pakistan. He founded the Jamaat-e-Islami, in 1941, which sought to promote an Islamic state governed by Sharia law.

### Example of communal harmony: Hindu and Muslim families donate land for mosque, temple

MI News Service, UP/ Punjab: In a rare display of communal harmony, in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, members of the Hindu and the Muslim communities came together to support each other. In two separate gestures, residents in local villages donated their private land for the other community's place of worship.

In Punjab's Sangrur district, a Hindu family from Punawal village donated their five-biswa plot (approximately 6,750 sq ft) worth approximately Rs 8 lakh to the Muslim community to build a mosque.

The Punawal village has 18 Muslim families but no mosque. These families had to travel to Kanjhla village, about four kilometres, to offer namaz.

Ashwini Kumar decided to help his brothers and donated the land, owned since his grandfather's time for the construction of the mosque.

His friend, Mustaq and others had earlier approached the family expressing their desire to purchase land. The community had promised to repay after they collected enough funds.

But Ashwini said, "We will give you the land. You use the money you have collected to build the mosque."

The land was subsequently donated on September 2, 2023 and officially inaugurated on February 8.

"Now we do not need to travel to the neighbouring village to offer prayers," said a local Muslim man.

Sarpanch Gobinder Khanguara also praised the family, saying it was an example from the Sangrur district.

In a similar gesture of religious harmony, Syed Ehsan Ali, a Muslim resident of Vallipur village in Uttar Pradesh's Sultanpur, donated his 2,000 sq ft of land to the Durga Devi Temple.

He had initially bought the land ten years ago, and a temple had been built on a small portion of it.

Speaking to PTI, Ali said, "Since 900 sq ft of the land was left for us, we said let's hand it over to them (temple), because we are milne julne wale log (live in harmony)."

"Because there was communal harmony and co-existence between the residents, we gave the entire land to the temple," Ali said.

Locals also claimed that Ali's actions further strengthened mutual respect for their respective religions in the village.

Gyaan Singh, a resident of Vallipur, said Ali's actions were like an example for the rest of the villagers, and that they are very grateful to him for selflessly giving the land.

### Cow urine sprinkled to 'cleanse' Maharashtra temple after MLA Abdul visit

MI News Service, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar: A group of Hindu youth, along with temple management, on Monday, February 16, sprinkled cow urine inside the Nageshwar Mahadev temple after Shiv Sena MLA Abdul Sattar visited the temple to perform puja during Maha Shivratri in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar district.

After he visited the temple in the Rahimabad village, right-wing youth allegedly performed what they called a cleansing ritual by sprinkling cow urine inside the temple. They claimed that since the Muslim MLA was a non-vegetarian who had consumed meat before entering the holy place, it made the temple premises impure.

In a video that has been widely circulating on social media, the youth and temple management could be seen using leaves to sprinkle the cow urine onto the temple walls and floors, while chanting religious slogans.

The controversy further escalated when the head of the Bharatiya Janata Party's spiritual wing, Tushar Bhosale, questioned Sattar's entry into the temple premises.

Speaking to reporters in Wardha district of Maharashtra, he said, "Is Abdul Sattar a Hindu. Has he accepted Hinduism? If not, he should have taken darshan from outside the sanctum. Our temples are not monuments. There are religious rules for the sanctum. Do not break our religious traditions for political benefit."

"If he has such a strong desire, he should accept Hinduism and then freely seek the blessings of our deities," he added.

### Gulf countries condemn Israel's 'illegal plan' to convert West Bank land into state property

MI News Service, Arab countries: Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait have condemned an Israeli decision to convert land in the occupied West Bank into what authorities term "state property", warning that the move violates international law and threatens prospects for a political settlement.

In a statement issued on Monday, February 16, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the decision reflects ongoing efforts to impose a new legal and administrative reality in the occupied Palestinian territory. The Kingdom stressed that Israel has no sovereignty over the land and reiterated its rejection of the measure.

The Kingdom described the step as a serious breach of international law that undermines the two-state solution and the Palestinian people's right to establish an independent state on the June 4, 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

Kuwait also denounced the decision, saying it represents a continuation of violations of international law, norms and relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. The Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs said any attempt to impose non-Palestinian sovereignty over the occupied West Bank or annex territory would be considered null and void.

The ministry warned that such measures weaken international efforts to achieve a just and comprehensive peace and reaffirmed Kuwait's support for the Palestinian people's right to statehood. It also urged the international community to take legal and humanitarian responsibility to deter violations and safeguard Palestinian rights.

Qatar expressed similar concerns on Sunday, stating that the move forms part of policies aimed at depriving Palestinians of their land. The Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the decision risks escalating tensions and undermining stability in the region.

Doha called on the international community to act urgently to pressure Israel to halt the implementation of the measure and cautioned against the wider consequences of continued unilateral actions.

The Israeli government approved the proposal on Sunday, February 15. The plan, submitted by Justice Minister Yariv Levin, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and Defence Minister Yisrael Katz, would open the land registration process in the West Bank for the first time since 1967.

The measure allows for land settlement and registration procedures that could result in large areas being classified as state land, a step that may facilitate settlement expansion.

### Gaza's Nasser Hospital condemns MSF decision to suspend operations

MI News Service, Gaza Strip: One of Gaza's last functioning large hospitals condemned the decision by Doctors Without Borders to pull out of operations over concerns about armed men, claiming on Sunday that the facility had installed civilian police for security.

The rare public friction between two well-known health care providers in Gaza came as the Palestinian death toll since the current ceasefire surpassed 600. At least 11 Palestinians were killed by Israeli fire in the last 24 hours, hospitals said.

Doctors Without Borders, also known by its acronym MSF, said in a statement Saturday that all its noncritical medical operations at Nasser Hospital were suspended due to security breaches that posed "serious" threats to its teams and patients.

MSF said there had been an increase in patients and staff seeing armed men in parts of the compound since the US-brokered October ceasefire was reached.

Nasser Hospital said Sunday the increase in armed men was due to a civilian police presence aimed at protecting patients and staff and said MSF's "allegations are factually incorrect, irresponsible and pose a serious risk to a protected civilian medical facility."

Hundreds of patients and war-wounded have been treated daily at Nasser Hospital in the southern city of Khan Younis, and the facility was a hub for Palestinian prisoners released by Israel in exchange for Israeli hostages as part of the current ceasefire deal.

MSF said its teams had reported "a pattern of unacceptable acts including the presence of armed men, intimidation, arbitrary arrests of patients and a recent situation of suspicion of movement of weapons." The suspension occurred in January but was only recently announced.

Nasser Hospital staff say that in recent months it has been repeatedly attacked by masked,

armed men and militias, which is why the presence of an armed civilian police force is crucial.

Hamas remains the dominant force in areas of Gaza not under Israeli control, including the area where Nasser Hospital is located. But other armed groups have mushroomed as a result of the war, including groups backed by Israel's army in the Israeli-controlled part of the strip.

Israel's military said it had intelligence that Nasser Hospital is being used as a headquarters and military post for senior Hamas officials, without providing evidence. It called MSF's move "an important decision, but one that comes too late."

# Eastern Railway adds four Holi specials, boosts festival connectivity

MI News Service, 16 Feb 2026, Kolkata: Holi and Dol Yatra, the vibrant festivals of colours, are moments when people prefer to be with their families and friends. The festive period witnesses a surge in travel as passengers return home or visit key destinations to celebrate. To manage the increased rush and ensure convenient travel, Eastern Railway has made special passenger arrangements. Alongside regular services, four (04) Holi Special trains will be operated in different directions to handle the seasonal demand and provide additional travel options.

These special trains will run between Kolkata & New Jalpaiguri, Kolkata & Dibrugarh, Malda Town & Udhna and Malda Town & SMVB Bengaluru strengthening connectivity during the festival. Through the operation of these specials, more than 22,300 additional berths will be made available, offering passengers greater capacity and a smoother travel experience throughout the Holi celebrations.

03129 Kolkata - New Jalpaiguri Holi Special will leave Kolkata at 23:40 hrs on 28.02.2026 (01 trip) to reach New Jalpaiguri at 10:45 hrs on the next day and 03130 New Jalpaiguri - Kolkata Holi Special will leave New Jalpaiguri at 12:45 hrs on 01.03.2026 (01 trip) to reach Kolkata at 00:40 hrs on the next day. The train will stop at Naihati, Bandel, Nabadwip Dham, Katwa, Azimganj, Jangipur Road and Malda Town stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction on both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

05932 Dibrugarh - Kolkata Holi Special will leave Dibrugarh at 17:00 hrs on 21.02.2026, 28.02.2026 and 07.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach Kolkata at 00:30 hrs on the third day and 05931 Kolkata - Dibrugarh Holi Special will leave Kolkata at 02:30 hrs on 23.02.2026,

02.03.2026 and 09.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach Dibrugarh at 06:30 hrs on the next day. The train will stop at Naihati, Bandel, Nabadwip Dham, Katwa, Azimganj, Jangipur Road, New Farakka and Malda Town stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction on both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

06565 SMVB Bengaluru - Malda Town Holi Special will leave SMVB Bengaluru at 23:40 hrs on every Sunday between 22.02.2026 & 08.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach Malda Town at 16:30 hrs on the third day and 06566 Malda Town - SMVB Bengaluru Holi Special will leave Malda Town at 16:00 hrs on every Wednesday between 25.02.2026 & 11.03.2026 (03 trips) to reach SMVB Bengaluru at 12:45 hrs on the third day.

The train will stop at New Farakka, Rampurhat, Bolpur Shantiniketan, Bardhaman and Dankuni stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction on both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

03417 Malda Town - Udhna Holi Special will leave Malda Town at 12:15 hrs on every Saturday between 28.02.2026 & 21.03.2026 (04 trips) to reach Udhna at 02:15 hrs on the third day and 03418 Udhna - Malda Town Holi Special will leave Udhna at 12:30 hrs on every Monday between 02.03.2026 & 23.03.2026 (04 trips) to reach Malda Town at 05:55 hrs on the third day.

The train will stop at New Farakka, Barharwa, Sahibganj, Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur, Sultanganj, Jamalpur and Abhaipur stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction on both directions enroute. The train will have General Second Class, Sleeper Class and Air-Conditioned accommodations.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

The date of booking of above mentioned Holi special trains will be notified shortly.

# Purchasing railway journey ticket costs less than free tripping: Eastern Railway urges passengers to adopt 'journey with dignity' by purchasing tickets.

MI News Service, 16 Feb 2026, Kolkata: In a bid to reinforce the ethos of civic responsibility and protect national assets, the Eastern Railway (ER) time and again has communicated to the public: the Indian Railways is not merely a government entity, but a collective property belonging to every citizen of this nation. As the backbone of India's transport system, the upkeep and growth of this vast network depend heavily on the cooperation and honesty of its passengers.

Service Requires Responsibility: The Eastern Railway emphasizes that while the railways serve the masses, the sustainability of this service relies on the payment of service charges—popularly known as the ticket price. Purchasing a ticket should not be viewed merely as a legal duty, but as a moral responsibility toward the nation's property.

The railways remain the most economical mode of transport in the country. For instance, a journey from Sealdah to Kharidaha (19km) costs only 5 rupees, Sealdah to Naihati (38 km) or Howrah to Bandel (40 km) costs a mere 10 rupees. No other transport medium can offer such a distance at this rate. Traveling without a ticket is not just an offense; it is an act that strips a passenger of



their self-respect. Eastern Railway urges everyone to "Buy a ticket and journey with dignity."

The Math of Honesty: Monthly vs. Penalty

The administration has also highlighted the stark financial contrast between being a law-abiding commuter and a ticketless traveller. A Monthly Season Ticket (MST) for the Sealdah-Naihati or Howrah-Bandel sections is priced at just 185 rupees, offering unlimited travel for a month.

In contrast, a single instance of being caught without a ticket result in a minimum penalty of 260

rupees (including the fare and fine). Mathematically and ethically, buying a ticket is always the superior option. The cost of a month's worth of legal travel is significantly lower than the price of a single moment of embarrassment and financial loss.

Digital Ease: No More Queues

To facilitate seamless travel, the Eastern Railway has introduced multiple digital avenues, making the process of purchasing a ticket as effortless as "cutting a cake." Passengers are no longer required to stand in long physical queues.

To facilitate seamless travel, the Eastern Railway has introduced multiple digital avenues, making the process of purchasing a ticket as effortless as "cutting a cake." Passengers are no longer required to stand in long physical queues.

To facilitate seamless travel, the Eastern Railway has introduced multiple digital avenues, making the process of purchasing a ticket as effortless as "cutting a cake." Passengers are no longer required to stand in long physical queues.

# T20 World Cup: England beat Italy by 24 runs, qualify for Super Eights

**KOLKATA (WEST BENGAL) :** England entered the Super Eights after a convincing 24-run victory over Italy in match 29 of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 held at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Monday.

The Harry Brook-led England opted to bat first after winning the toss and set a big target of 203 runs for the fellow European side. Then they successfully defended the target and won the match.

Phil Salt (28 off 15 balls) gave a blazing start, but Jos Buttler failed to score again and made just three runs before giving his wicket to Grant Stewart.

Jacob Bethell (23 off 20 balls) and Tom Banton (30 off 21 balls) contributed well with the bat. Sam Curran hit a couple of sixes and made 25 runs.

Coming to bat at number 7,



Will Jacks made an unbeaten 53 off just 22 balls, which helped England cross the 200-run mark. Stewart and Crishan Kalugamage took a couple of wickets each as JJ Smuts, Ali Hasan and Ben Manenti shared one wicket each among them. Chasing a big target of 203

runs, Italy were struck by two wickets in the first over when Jofra Archer dismissed Anthony Mosca and JJ Smuts for a duck.

Italian captain Harry Manenti made just 12 runs off 11 balls before losing his wicket to Jamie Overton.

His brother Ben Manenti (60 off 25 balls, with four 4s and six 6s) added 92 runs for the fourth wicket with Justin Mosca (43 off 32 balls, with the help of seven fours). Stewart's quick 45 runs in just 23 balls kept the Italian side in the fray, but the English side displayed brilliant death over skills to halt them at 178 runs in 20 overs. Will Jacks was named Player of the Match for his match-winning performance. Italy will play their last group-stage match against the West Indies on Thursday at the same venue.



## Indian cricket team departs for Ahmedabad after win over Pakistan in Colombo

**COLOMBO [SRI LANKA] :** The Indian cricket team arrived at Colombo airport to depart for India on Monday afternoon after defeating Pakistan comfortably in a one-sided clash held at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Sunday.

The Suryakumar Yadav-led Indian side will fly to Ahmedabad, Gujarat, where they are scheduled to play their last Group A fixture against the Netherlands on Wednesday at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

They have already qualified for the Super 8 with three wins in as many matches and will aim to maintain momentum by securing another win in Ahmedabad.

India and Sri Lanka are co-hosting the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026, and all of Pakistan's matches are scheduled in Sri Lanka.

In the Colombo fixture, India defeated Pakistan by 61 runs in the highly-anticipated clash. The match was played against a dramatic backdrop: Pakistan had initially announced a boycott of the fixture against India, but later reversed their decision and participated.

On Sunday, Pakistan elected to field first after winning the toss. After Abhishek was out for a duck, Ishan's 77 and Tilak Varma's 25 kept India stable, but the Men in Blue sank to 126/4, losing their set batters

and all-rounder Hardik Pandya (0).

However, skipper Suryakumar Yadav, Shivam Dube, and Rinku Singh finished the innings well, pacing their knocks perfectly in tough conditions. India scored 175/7, with Saim Ayub (3/25) being the top bowler for Pakistan.

In the run-chase, Pakistan were reduced to 34/4 courtesy early strikes from Hardik, Jasprit Bumrah and Axar Patel. Usman Khan (44 off 34 balls, with six fours and a six) was the only one who showed up for the fight, as Team India packed Pakistan for just 114 runs in 18 overs, progressing to the Super 8 stage with their third successive win.

Pandya (2/16 in three overs) was the pick of the bowlers for India, with Bumrah (2/17 in two overs), Axar Patel (2/29 in four overs) and Varun Chakaravarthy (2/17 in three overs) also being amongst the wicket-takers.

India remains at the top with three wins in three matches in Group A, while Pakistan has dropped to third with two wins and a loss, and the USA currently ranks second with two wins and two losses.

With the emphatic win over their arch-rivals in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup clash, India now leads the T20 World Cup head-to-head scoreline against Pakistan by 8-1.

## RASHID KHAN BECOMES FIRST CRICKETER TO TAKE 700 WICKETS IN T20S

**NEW DELHI [INDIA] :** Afghanistan spinner Rashid Khan became the first player to achieve 700 T20 wickets during Afghanistan's group-stage match against the United Arab Emirates (UAE), being played at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in Delhi on Monday.

He got one wicket in the match, conceding 24 runs in his four overs as Afghanistan halted the UAE to 160/9 in 20 overs after inviting them to bat first.

The 27-year-old Afghanistan skipper achieved the feat during the 16th over in the first innings when he dismissed Muhammad Arfan by a hit-wicket. Arfan made zero runs off two balls, before his wicket while trying a reverse sweep against the ace spinner.

Afghan spinner is way ahead of any other cricketer in terms of wickets in the shortest format. Retired West Indies all-rounder Dwayne Bravo is in second place with 631 wickets. Among the active players, Sunil Narine is behind Rashid with 613 wickets and is third overall in the list.

Rashid is also the leading wicket-taker in the T20 Internationals with 191 wickets. The second place is occupied by retired New Zealand seamer Tim Southee (164), and his compatriot Ish Sodhi is in third place with 162 wickets. Sodhi is part of the Black Caps in this tournament.

Afghanistan are looking to chase down a modest target of 161 runs to remain alive in the race for the Super 8 of the competition.

Azmatullah Omarzai was the best bowler for Afghanistan as he picked up four wickets while conceding 15 runs in his four overs. Mujeeb Ur Rahman also took a couple of wickets.

Alishan Sharafu made 40 runs off 31 balls, and Sohaib Khan's 68 runs off 48 balls helped the UAE set a challenging target for the Afghans as they are still searching for their first win of the tournament.

Afghanistan's last group-stage fixture is against Canada, scheduled for Thursday in Chennai's MA Chidambaram Stadium.



## T20 World Cup: Azmatullah Omarzai's 'all-round' performance helps Afghanistan beat UAE by five wickets

**NEW DELHI [INDIA] :** Afghanistan pulled off a dramatic victory over the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to register their first win of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 in match 28 held at the Arun Jaitley Stadium in New Delhi on Monday.

Azmatullah Omarzai played a match-winning knock while chasing after achieving impressive bowling figures of 15/4 in Afghanistan's third Group D fixture, which helped the Rashid Khan-led side secure a five-wicket win over the UAE.

Chasing a challenging target of 161 runs, Junaid Siddique got rid of the in-form batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz on the second delivery of the first over. This was the fifth instance in T20Is that Siddique dismissed Gurbaz.

Gulbadin Naib joined Ibrahim Zadran, and the duo added 40 runs for the second wicket. Zadran targeted Haider Ali and hit four boundaries to collect 18 runs from the fourth over.

Naib thumped Muhammad Jawadullah for a couple of boundaries in the next over, before losing his wicket to Muhammad Arfan in the sixth over.

Sediqullah Atal replaced him at the crease and added 30 runs for the third wicket with Zadran before losing his wicket to Jawadullah after making 16 off 14 balls.

Zadran completed his half-century but



lost his wicket soon after that. He made 53 runs off 41 balls, including six fours and a six.

Darwish Rasooli added 43 runs for the fifth wicket with Azmatullah Omarzai. Rasooli made 33 off 23 balls with the help of four boundaries.

52 runs were needed in the last five overs, but Omarzai made it look easy, first by setting a partnership with Rasooli, then finishing the match in the last couple of overs. Omarzai remained unbeaten on 40 off 21 balls with the help of two fours and three sixes. He also hit the winning boundary on the second delivery of the last over as Afghanistan secured their first victory of the competition.

Earlier, Afghanistan halted the UAE at

# DELHI GOVT AWARDS RS 75 LAKH EACH TO 3 WORLD CUP WINNING KHO KHO STARS

**NEW DELHI :** At the inauguration of Delhi Khel Mahakumbh, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta awarded Rs 75 Lakhs each to three Kho Kho players from Delhi - Mehul, Anshu Kumari and Nasreen - who represented India in the first Kho Kho World Cup held in January last year.

India won the title in both the men's and women's categories at the inaugural tournament, held from January 13 to January 19, 2025, at IG Stadium in New Delhi. A total of 20 men's and 19 women's teams from 23 nations across all 6 continents participated.

21-year-old Mehul has appeared in class XII examination this year through open schooling, and the result is awaited. His father is a driver, and his older brother is studying editing. At present, Mehul is receiving training at an SAI facility in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Anshu, 18 years old, is the youngest of three siblings and is studying for a Bachelor of Physical Education in Sports at Lovely Professional

University, Phagwara, Punjab. She wants to use the prize money to buy a house for her parents and secure a government job through the sports quota.

"We have been living in rented accommodation at Alipur for a long time. Now, I want to buy a house for my parents. She also aspires to secure a government job in the Railways through the sports quota. Her brother, Ankit, has received the award on her behalf," said Anshu.

27-year-old Nasreen, an Arjuna Awardee Kho Kho player, is fifth among 11 siblings, seven sisters and four brothers, with her father Mohammed Ghafoor being the only earning member till 2018. She is the former captain of Indian Women's national Kho Kho team.

Sudhanshu Mittal, President, Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI) said Kho Kho gives both recognition and opportunities and youth are inclined towards making a career in sport.

"Kho Kho now is a modern sport which is played on indigenously



designed state-of-the-art mats and has elements of sports science in every of its dimensions be it training, nutrition, counselling, etc. The growing recogni-

tion is a testament to the game's rising popularity, its strong national presence, and an expanding global footprint," said Sudhanshu Mittal. "I thank

the Delhi government, especially Delhi Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta and Minister Ashish Sood for the recognition. Besides a great help to players, the prize will inspire the young athletes to pursue a career in Kho Kho," added Mittal.

"It is a great honour to see our athletes being recognised for their achievements. We are committed to provide the best-in-class training and facilities to our players," said Upkar Singh Virk, General Secretary, KKFI.

"The first Kho Kho World Cup has brought the sport to the international limelight, and the players who participated are getting recognised by the respective state governments," said Dr. MS Tyagi, Secretary-Technical, International Kho Kho Federation (IKKF).

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, along with Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood and former Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan, participated in the inauguration ceremony of the Delhi Khel Mahakumbh at Chhatrasal Stadium on Friday. (ANI)

## ATP Delhi Open: Karan Singh goes down to Michalski in three-set thriller; Sureshkumar reaches main draw

**NEW DELHI :** India's Karan Singh went down in a three-set battle to seventh seed Daniel Michalski of Poland in first-round main draw action at the 2026 Delhi Open on Monday. The ATP Challenger 75 event, now in its sixth edition, is being held at the DLTA Complex from February 16 to 22, with 32 men's singles players and 16 doubles teams competing for the title.

Speaking on his win, Michalski said, "I was already with one foot outside of the tournament. Then my game came back, and I showed way better tennis at the end. Tennis on the higher level is a sport of very tiny margins."

In other first-round main draw matches, fifth seed Oliver Crawford of Great Britain scored a hard-fought 7-6, 6-5 win over Croatia's Duje Ajdukovic, while Belgium's Michael Geerts defeated Lithuania's Edas Butvilas 6-3, 7-5.

In final-round qualifying action on Monday, India's Manish Sureshkumar fought back from a 5-3 deficit in the second set to score a 6-3, 7-5 win over Korea's Uisung Park. The 26-year-old is the only Indian to make it out of the qualifying draw and was understandably happy with his performance on a court which he described as one of his favourites.

"This is one of my favourite courts because I've played a lot of matches. Even the two Nationals I have won have been on this court. So, this court is really special for me, and I was really happy about the way I played today. I hung in there because I was down a break in the second set, but very happy and pulled off this match," he said after his win.

Sureshkumar got into the qualifying draw at the last minute as an alternate but is certainly making the most of the opportunity. "Sometimes unexpected things happen when you don't

expect things to happen, and I think this is one of them, and I just want to keep the momentum going in the main draw. I don't think I have any pressure because all of them are really good players. I'm kind of the underdog, so I just want to keep the momentum going now."

The other Indian in the final round of qualifying - Ramkumar Ramanathan - went down in straight sets to Korea's Hyeon Chung, who has been ranked as high as No. 19 in the world and had previously defeated Novak Djokovic en route to the semi-finals of the 2018 Australian Open. The 29-year-old is currently ranked No. 393 in the world after returning to the tour in late 2024 following persistent back injuries that forced him off the circuit.

Top seed Denis Yevseyev of Kazakhstan, second seed Ioannis Xilas of Greece, fourth seed Maks Kasnikowski of Poland, and sev-

enth seed Alexandr Binda of Italy also came through their final round qualifying matches to book their spots in the main draw.

Somdev Devvarman is the only Indian singles champion in the tournament's history, having won back-to-back titles in 2014 and 2015, whereas there have been all-Indian doubles champions twice in the past, with Saketh Myneni/Sanam Singh and Yuki Bhambhani/Mahesh Bhupathi lifting the trophy in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

As part of the ATP Challenger 75 series, the tournament will award 75 ranking points to the singles and doubles champions, 50 points to the doubles runners-up, and 44 points to the singles runner-up. The singles champion will receive \$17,000 in prize money, with the runner-up earning \$9,600. The doubles champions will split \$4,980, while the runners-up will split \$2,880.

## T20 World Cup: Steve Smith replaces Josh Hazlewood in Australia squad

**COLOMBO [SRI LANKA] :** Australia's veteran batter Steve Smith has been added to the 15-member squad for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 before the match against Sri Lanka, scheduled at the R Premadasa Stadium in Colombo on Monday.

The 36-year-old batter is set to feature in Monday's match against Sri Lanka after replacing the seamer Josh Hazlewood in the squad, who was ruled out of the tournament due to a hamstring injury.

Australia's squad has been boosted with the inclusion of Smith, following Josh Hazlewood's withdrawal earlier this month. The Aussies had held off naming a replacement for the experienced right-arm bowler until just before their penultimate group game against Sri Lanka in Kandy, according to the ICC.

The ICC Event Technical Committee has approved Smith's addition to Australia's 15-player squad, making him eligible to play as early as Monday against Sri Lanka. "ICC regulations require any squad change to be submitted and activated at least one day before a match," explained Australia selector Tony Dodemaide.

"With Steve available, and some uncertainty around Mitch and Marcus Stoinis, it made sense for him to be activated and ready for selection if needed."

Smith has not featured in a T20I for Australia



since February 2024, when he last played against New Zealand in Auckland. However, he impressed in the recent Big Bash League and is expected to play the remaining group-stage matches against Sri Lanka and Oman.

After a surprising defeat to Zimbabwe on Friday, Australia will likely need victories in both remaining group matches to advance to the Super Eights.

Australia Updated Squad: Mitchell Marsh (c), Xavier Bartlett, Cooper Connolly, Tim David, Ben Dwarshuis, Cameron Green, Nathan Ellis, Travis Head, Josh Inglis, Matthew Kuhnemann, Glenn Maxwell, Matthew Renshaw, Steve Smith, Marcus Stoinis, Adam Zampa. (ANI)