



Gunshots and Bombings During Elections! Widespread Violence in BJP-Ruled Tripura; Complaints Filed with the Commission.

Nation ● Pg 5



Bengal will reply to all misdeeds done by TMC: YOGI

City ● Pg 3

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Morning India

SIR one of the biggest scams in India: MAMATA

MI News Service, Bardhaman (East): At an earlier rally at Khandaghosh in Purba Bardhaman district, Banerjee claimed that the BJP would "snatch everything" from the people of West Bengal if it came to power in the state.

"The BJP bribes voters before the elections. But they forget their promises soon after the polling is over. That was seen in the Bihar elections," Banerjee said.

The TMC chief further alleged that the BJP would try to manipulate the polling process to win the election and urged the people to remain alert and keep a tab on the voting machines.

"Be alert about the voting machines. The BJP has planned slow voting and slow counting. Foil all their plans," Banerjee said.

"The SIR is the biggest scam the country has seen in recent times," she said, further predicting that the BJP government in the Centre would topple in 2026.

"Everyone in the world knows that your government will topple in 2026. We will then scrap all the anti-people laws brought in by your government," she added.

At a rally in Khandaghosh West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee slammed the BJP, calling the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter rolls the "country's biggest scam" and accusing the EC of removing 63 lakh voters. She accused the BJP of bribing voters and warned against a "nexus" between the Election Commission and the BJP.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE KHANDAGHOSH ADDRESS:

VOTER ROLL SCAM: Mamata alleged that the BJP and Election Commission are colluding to delete genuine voter names from TMC strongholds.

Amarnath Yatra from July 3, registrations Apr 15

MI News Service, New Delhi: The annual pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir will commence on July 3 and conclude after 57 days on August 28, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said. Pilgrims between the ages of 13 and 70 can undertake the yatra and registrations will begin from April 15, the LG told reporters at the Lok Bhavan here. The dates for the yatra were decided at a meeting of the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) under the chairmanship of Sinha. "The Amarnath Yatra will commence on July 3 and conclude on August 28. Overall, this year's pilgrimage will be slightly longer, lasting about 57 days," the LG said. Registration for the pilgrimage has been made mandatory and will begin from April 15. The minimum age for pilgrims has been fixed at 13 years and the maximum at 70 years, he said. "Advance registration can be carried out through about 556 designated bank branches across the country, while online registration will also be available through the official website of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board," Sinha said.

Baul Beats Power Shamim Ahmed's Campaign in Magrahat West

Mousom Gazi
 South 24 Pgs: The entire locality is resonating with the melodies and rhythms of Baul music. This is no mere cultural event; rather, it is a gathering of Baul artists amidst an election campaign. The campaign for Shamim



Ahmed—the Trinamool candidate for Magrahat West—has truly come alive this time, set to the tunes and beats of Baul music. Ever since his nomination was



Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee introduces her party candidates in an election campaign in Bankura district on Sunday.

MAMATA accuses BJP of 'Rs 1K Cr deal' to topple TMC govt

MI News Service, Bankura: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday alleged that the BJP has struck a Rs 1,000-crore deal to unseat the Trinamool Congress from power in the state.

She made the apparent reference to a viral video of Aam Jannata Unnayan Party chief Humayun Kabir, who was purportedly heard saying that he was in close

touch with BJP leaders, including Suvendu Adhikari, to unseat Banerjee from power and receiving Rs 200 crore as an advance payment of a Rs 1,000-crore deal to split minority votes to defeat the TMC.

"They (BJP) have struck a Rs 1,000-crore deal to unseat the TMC from power in West Bengal," the party supremo said at a poll rally at Onda in Bankura

district. Banerjee also alleged that central forces deployed in the state for the upcoming polls were "disrespecting" women in the name of conducting searches.

She also accused the BJP of bribing voters before elections, and called the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls the "country's biggest scam" in recent times.

Commission are colluding to delete genuine voter names

from TMC strongholds. ELECTION INTERFERENCE AL-

LEGATION: She claimed to have been denied a rally permit by

the EC while the PM was allowed one on short notice.

ATTACK ON BJP: She predicted the downfall of the central BJP government in 2026 and warned that the BJP would "snatch everything" from people.

LOCAL FOCUS: She highlighted her government's initiatives regarding West Bengal's traditional sweets (Sita bhog/Mihidana) in response to PM Modi's previous remarks.

HUMAYUN KABIR VIDEO: She addressed the controversy involving a video of TMC leader Humayun Kabir.

KANCHAN MALLICK'S WIFE ISSUE: She raised the issue of actress Kanchan Mallick's wife being harassed during a naka-checking.



Trinamool Congress National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee introduces party candidates during an election campaign in Hooghly on Sunday.

ED seizes Rs 13.8 Cr in cash, assets in Delhi fraud case

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Enforcement Directorate seized cash and valuables worth ₹13.8 crore following raids on a Delhi-based real estate company accused of defrauding homebuyers and currently undergoing insolvency proceedings, sources said. "The agency conducted raids on a debt-ridden Delhi real estate company and recovered ₹6.30 crore in cash and jewellery worth ₹7.50 crore after allegations that it collected over ₹2,000 crore from unsuspecting buyers and then failed to deliver on its promises," said an ED official. The sleuths also seized some silver bullion and luxury watches. The action under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) began late on Friday, covering 10 premises in Delhi and Gurgaon belonging to former directors, promoters and associated entities of Earth Infrastructures Ltd (EIL). The probe stems from five FIRs registered by the Delhi police's economic offences wing against EIL and its directors for alleged cheating, criminal breach of trust and criminal conspiracy. A criminal complaint by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) under Section 447 of the Companies Act further underscores allegations of large-scale fraud. The company has been undergoing a corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) since June 2018. Sources said the group and its associated companies launched multiple real estate projects under the "Earth" brand across Delhi-NCR and Lucknow. Their major projects include Earth Towne, Earth Sapphire Court, Earth Copia, Earth Techone, Earth Iconic, Earth Titanium, Earth Elacasa, Earth Gracia and Earth Skygate.

Queen of melody, mistress of innovation ASHA BHOSLE passes away

MI News Service, Mumbai: Legendary playback singer Asha Bhosle passed away at the age of 92 on Sunday after being admitted to a hospital with chest infection and exhaustion. With a career spanning over eight decades, Bhosle's voice and exceptional range shaped the golden era of Hindi cinema music. The nation and its cinema buffs mourn the Queen of Indipop. She was the last pillar of the legendary Indian singer that finally fell on April 12.

Bhosle had been admitted to Breach Candy Hospital in South Mumbai after being diagnosed with a chest infection and exhaustion on Saturday evening.

"She passed away due to multi organ failure a few minutes ago," Dr Pratit Samdani told.

Her mortal was kept at her residence where her fans paid their last respects to the legend. Asha Bhosle was born as Asha



"Gave Left 35 years, TMC 15 years—now give Modi five years!" – PM's appeal

MI News Service, Siliguri: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a huge public meeting in Siliguri in West Bengal. He vowed to free the State from the corruption and political violence of the Mamata-led Trinamool Congress (TMC) government and put a check on the illegal immigration of Bangladeshis.

"I have given a guarantee to free Bengal from infiltration and corruption and to restore trust in the system and the rule of law. The Bengal BJP has announced that a special commission will be formed to investigate political violence carried out by TMC-linked goons," he emphasised.

The Indian Prime Minister reiterated, "People in North Bengal, including Siliguri, tell me that land mafias and criminals have made life very difficult for them. In a BJP government, every such mafia and criminal will be sent to jail permanently..."

He also assured the safety and security of women in Bengal through increased representation in the police force.

PM Modi pointed out, "To ensure the full safety of our sisters and daughters, there are plans to set up women police stations and women help desks in every block. The BJP government will also increase the recruitment of women in the Bengal Police."

PM Modi did not mince words before taking on the Tukde-Tukde gang, who wanted to sever the Siliguri corridor from the Union of India.

He stated, "Siliguri is also an important gateway for India's national security... But remember, friends, for the sake of appeasement politics and vote-bank politics, what has the TMC done?"

"I want to give another example of the TMC's wrong policies regarding North Bengal and national security. There is a 'Tukde Tukde Gang' in the country, and this group had even threatened the Siliguri Corridor..." PM Modi highlighted.

Sunday witnessed a whirlwind of heavyweight campaigning across Bengal. On Sunday, Narendra Modi held a public rally in Siliguri. Speaking from the podium at that rally, PM Modi was heard declaring, "I am the candidate in every constituency. Give Modi a chance—just once." This statement by Modi has sparked intense political discourse. The Saffron camp has thrown itself wholeheartedly into the fray to realize its dream of conquering Bengal. The country's Prime Minister himself has arrived in Bengal and is virtually unleashing a flood of promises almost every day. Modi is, in effect, determined to win the trust of the people of Bengal.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a massive public rally in Siliguri and parts of North Bengal on Sunday.

According to a section of informed observers, is the Prime Minister himself sensing that the foundation of the BJP's booth-level organization in Bengal is not robust? Ever since the release of the BJP's candidate list, candidate dissatisfaction and factional infighting have reared their heads within the saffron camp in several areas. Perhaps for this very reason, Modi is unwilling to take any risks. Consequently—albeit indirectly—he is compelled to convey from the public podium that voters should cast their ballots based on the party symbol, rather than the individual candidate's face. This is the prevailing sentiment.

After exchanging courtesies with the candidates on the stage at the Khagrakuri grounds, Modi began his address by chanting, "Joy Ma Kali! Joy Baba Bholanath!" He stated, "I offer my respectful salutations to this sacred land of South Dinajpur. First and foremost, I seek everyone's forgiveness. This is because the planning for this gathering—specifically the size of the marquee erected here—has proven to be far too small. For every person present inside, there are three times as many standing outside. I apologize to them for this inconvenience. However, I assure you all: I will not let this effort go in vain. I will repay this love a hundredfold—I will repay it through development."

Modi raised the slogan: "Change is needed; we want a BJP government." He stated, "This Trinamool party—invoicing the mantra of 'Ma, Mati, Manush' (Mother, Soil, and People)—has

won elections and ascended to power by peddling countless lies. Now, they spend their days and nights hurling abuses at us. They level baseless allegations. Why don't they tell the people what they have actually accomplished during their 15 years in power? If they have done absolutely nothing over the last 15 years, what exactly do they expect to achieve in another five? What development has actually taken place? They deliberately avoid speaking about their 15-year tenure, for doing so would expose the full extent of their corruption and deceit. Over these 15 years, they have established only one model: here, the syndicate *is* the government, and the government *is* the syndicate. The Trinamool party exists nowhere outside of Bengal; in Assam, Tripura, or Goa, no one casts a vote for them. This is because their brand of hooliganism simply does not work there. They have, however, earned a 'PhD' in one specific field: hooliganism—specifically, the art of looting votes through intimidation."

In Modi's words, "The BJP released its manifesto just yesterday. It features the 'Modi Ki Guarantee'—Modi's guarantee. The BJP government will eliminate fear and instill confidence. Public faith in the rule of law will be restored. We will provide evidence to expose the atrocities—including corruption, riots, rapes, and murders—perpetrated during the Trinamool's 15-year tenure. A commission comprising retired Supreme Court judges will be con-

● Continued to Pg 3

Lagaan. Over her career, she has recorded thousands of songs in more than 20 languages, earning numerous honours including the Dadasaheb Phalke Award and the Padma Vibhushan.

Unforgettable ASHA-PANCHAM Jugalbandi

The combination of Asha Bhosle and R.D. Burman (Pancham) redefined Bollywood music in the 1970s and 80s, merging her versatile, emotive vocals with his innovative, Western-influenced compositions. Their magic produced iconic hits like "Dum Maro Dum," "Piya Tu Ab To Aaja," and "Mera Kuch Samaan," creating a timeless legacy born of deep personal and professional chemistry.

Key Aspects of the Asha-RD Magic: Versatility & Innovation: Burman pushed Asha to explore beyond traditional singing, utilizing her voice for cabaret, rock-and-roll, and soft, melodic numbers.

Iconic Collaborations: Their work yielded defining tracks like Dum Maro Dum (Hare Rama Hare Krishna), Piya Tu Ab To Aaja (Caravan), Do Lafzon Ki Hai Dil Ki Kahani (The Great Gambler), and Aa Dekhen Zara (Rocky).

The Non-Film Masterpiece: The 1987 album Dil Padosi Hai, featuring lyrics by Gulzar, showed their artistic depth outside of film requirements, highlighting a more intimate, conversational

style. The "Mera Kuch Samaan" Story: Asha Bhosle's ability to interpret unique compositions was perfectly showcased in Mera Kuch Samaan (Ijaazat), which won her a National Award.

Legacy: Asha and Pancham, who were married in 1980, created a rich tapestry of music that remains foundational to Indian popular culture.

ASHA-PANCHAM SUPER 4
 Chura Liya Hai Tumne Jo Dil Ko (Yaadon Ki Baaraat, 1973)
 A romantic number that is instantly recognisable, Chura Liya Hai Tumne Jo Dil Ko has been one of Bollywood's staple love songs. Composed by R.D. Burman, the track perfectly incorporates Bhosle's versatility and flirtatious vocals, making for a charming earworm that ages like fine wine.

Piya Tu Ab To Aaja (Caravan, 1971)
 The flirtatious tone is replaced by a sultry and energetic dynamic in Piya Tu Ab To Aaja from the 1971 film Caravan—a song that was bold for its time. Bhosle's playful execution of the lyrics paired with the

hook solidified her reputation as Bollywood's queen of cabarets.

Dum Maro Dum (Hare Rama Hare Krishna, 1971)

Adding to her effortless versatility, Bhosle stirred up a rebellious anthem in the 1970s with Dum Maro Dum. The song, which was the face of youth counter-culture in India, became unforgettable through Bhosle's edgy, hypnotic vocals.

In Aankhon Ki Masti (Umrao Jaan, 1981)
 From playful romantic numbers to songs that called for rebellion, Bhosle has always showcased her adaptability to a wide variety of genres. Straying from the indipop and filmy scene, the veteran singer whipped up a ghazal performance with In Aankhon Ki Masti, one of the finest in the genre that showcased her emotional depth and elegance.

Others:
 -Do Lafzon Ki Hai Dil Ki Kahani (The Great Gambler)
 -Aa Dekhen Zara (Rocky)
 -Kitni Khoobsurat Yeh Tasveer Hai (Bemisal) And countless

27th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Hahnemann and World Homoeopathy Day Celebrated in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: 27th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, along With World Homoeopathy Day was Celebrated with great enthusiasm in the Bhowanipur area of Kolkata. The event was organized by the Pratap Chandra Memorial Homoeopathic Hospital & College Alumni Association. The programme was inaugurated by Pracheta Majumdar, a descendant of Pratap Chandra Majumdar. The event was attended by eminent doctors, teachers, and alumni of the institution.

Rajya Sabha MP and Bengali film actress Koyel Mallick did a road show in support of Trinamool candidate Manas Bhuiya in Sabang

Winning elections has become a habit for Manas Bhuiya, has won eight times, will win this time too: Koyel Mallick

MI News Service, Kharagpur: Rajya Sabha MP and Bengali film actress Koel Mallick conducted a road show in Sabang area of West Medinipur district in support of Trinamool candidate Manas Bhuiya. A crowd of people gathered to see Koel Mallick. During this, slogans of Trinamool Zindabad, Manas Bhuiya Zindabad and Koel Mallick Zindabad were also raised. People came to get a glimpse of him and she was seen busy taking selfies to capture vast crowd



picture in the mobile greetings of the people by shaking hands. During

this, MP said that winning elections has become a habit for Manas Bhuiya, he has won the elections eight times and this time he will win for the ninth time, only the elections have to be held, only the formality of declaring the victory is left. Along with the election campaign, I have come to meet the people of Sabang, the residents of Medinipur have made a huge contribution in making me successful, they have made every film of mine a superhit.

Fake 'holy men' drug family, decamp with valuables in West Bengal's Nadia



MI News Service, Nadia: Amid heightened election security, a shocking robbery has been reported from Chapra in Nadia district, where a group posing as holy men allegedly drugged five members of a family and fled with gold and cash.

(55)-fell unconscious. Taking advantage of the situation, the woman accomplice allegedly escaped with gold ornaments and valuables, including necklaces, earrings, bangles, and cash stored in the house. The victims were discovered by a relative, Ram Pramanik, who became suspicious after receiving no response in the morning. He found them lying unconscious, with some reportedly foaming at the mouth. They were rushed to Shaktinagar District Hospital, where they are currently undergoing treatment. Family members suspect the involvement of the so-called sadhu and have demanded a detailed investigation. Locals believe the victims were lured with promises of improved health and financial prosperity. Police have launched an investigation and are searching for the accused.

Mahfil Held in Baragabberia, Howrah

Nurul Islam Khan: An Isal-e-Sawab and Dastarbandi (turban-tying) ceremony was held in memory of the elders of Alhaj Rashed Ali Molla—specifically for the soul of the late Sirajul Haque Molla—with the cooperation of his family and the Darussalam Siddiqui and Rashidia Madrasah, and in the presence of the Pirs of Furfura Sharif. On Saturday, competitions covering six different subjects were held during this Mahfil, and prizes were subsequently presented to the winners. During the Mahfil, Dastarbandi honors were conferred upon ten young children—affectionately referred to as "little nightingales of the Quran"—who had arrived

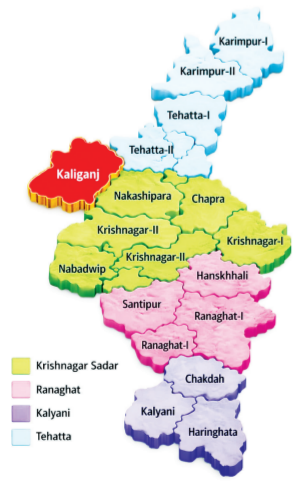


from various districts of West Bengal and demonstrated standards of international excellence. In this noble gathering, counsel and prayers were offered for the welfare of the world and for the betterment of humanity. Notable attendees included Hazrat Pir Imranuddin Siddiqui, Pirzada Saifullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Uzair Siddiqui,

Headmaster Qari Jamaluddin, Qari Mufidul Islam, Qari Akhtarul Islam, Maulana Fahim Nadvi, Qari Abdullah, as well as countless Ulama (religious scholars) and teachers. The proceedings of the gathering were conducted by the teacher and Khatib (preacher), Qari Shahruzaman Khan.

Nadia set for a photo finish: Who holds the edge in the 2026 Assembly battle?

MI News Service, Nadia: As the 2026 Assembly election approaches, the 17 constituencies of Nadia district are emerging as one of the state's most closely watched battlegrounds. A close reading of the past two elections suggests a finely balanced contest, with neither side enjoying a decisive advantage. In the 2021 Assembly polls, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won nine seats, narrowly ahead of the Trinamool Congress (TMC), which secured eight. The vote share underscored the tight race: TMC polled 44.05 per cent against BJP's 43.47 per cent, indicating that even a marginal swing could alter outcomes across multiple constituencies.



outcome. Of the five Scheduled Caste-reserved seats in Nadia, the BJP performed strongly in 2021 and maintained its lead in most of these segments in 2024. While these remain relatively favourable terrain for the BJP, the TMC is actively attempting to regain lost ground. At the same time, constituencies such as Karimpur, Palashipara, Kaliganj, Nakashipara, Chapra and Nabadvip continue to be seen as TMC-leaning, owing to organisational depth and local influence. However, seats like Tehatta and Krishnagar South have emerged as key swing constituencies, where even a slight shift in voter preference could prove a decision maker.

The picture shifted somewhat in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Of the 17 Assembly segments in Nadia, the BJP led in 11, while the TMC was ahead in six. The vote share gap also widened modestly in favour of the BJP—45.4 per cent to the TMC's 41.5 per cent—pointing to a consolidation of support for the party over the past two years. Yet, translating Lok Sabha gains into Assembly victories is far from straightforward. Parliamentary elections tend to be driven by national narratives and leadership, whereas Assembly contests hinge more on local candidates, grassroots organisation and state-level governance. On this front, the TMC is believed to retain an edge in rural pockets, aided by the continued impact of its welfare schemes. Reserved constituencies are expected to play a crucial role in shaping the final

Political observers note that candidate selection could be a decisive factor in several seats. In many parts of Nadia, personal credibility and local connect often outweigh broader party trends. Additionally, a dual dynamic is at play, polarisation remains a factor in border areas, while development issues dominate the discourse in interior regions. Taken together, the indicators point to another closely fought election in Nadia. Early assessments suggest the BJP could be competitive in 8 to 11 seats, while the TMC may secure between 6 and 9. However, much will depend on last-mile campaigning, voter turnout and the choices made on polling day. With counting scheduled for May 4, all eyes are now on whether Nadia will tilt decisively in one direction or once again deliver a split verdict.

MI News Service, Kharagpur: West Medinipur and Jhargram districts. To remove fear from the minds of voters and create awareness in Jangalmahal area, the police and Central Vahini personnel campaigned. It was told that in the surrounding areas including Hetashol, Dumurkota of Gurgudipal police station in Paschim Medinipur district and Mahapal of Beliabeda in Jhargram district, police personnel along with the Central Vahini soldiers took out a rally with awareness banners to make the voters aware. During this, a rally was taken out through loudspeakers. Voters were informed that on the day of voting, they should go to the polling booth fearlessly and exercise their constitutional right to vote. If any person stops them from voting, lures them, intimidates



A road-show was held in support of CPIM candidate Sayandeep Mitra at Baranagar on Sunday. Top CPIM leaders like Biman Bose, Satarup Ghosh were present at the rally.

Direct contest between BJP and Trinamool on Debra seat



MI News Service, Kharagpur: This time the election contest in Debra assembly constituency of West Medinipur district is considered to be tough. Trinamool Congress has changed its candidate here and fielded Rajiv Banerjee, while BJP has fielded local leader Subhashish Om. In such a situation, the biggest challenge for Trinamool to win is to unite the organization by eliminating factionalism. Debra Block Trinamool President Pradeep Kar has directed in this direction. Taking the initiative, he tried to bring the leaders of different groups on one platform. Due to his efforts, many leaders including former MLA Radhakant Maiti, Salima Khatoun, Zilla Parishad Executive President Shanti Tudu and Panchayat Samiti Executive President Sitesh Dhada have united and started campaigning. In Debra, no local leader at block or district level was made a candidate. Instead, due to Rajiv Banerjee being made the candidate, the opponents started campaigning from the very beginning by call-



ing him an "outsider". Was. Apart from this, factional conflict within Trinamool in Debra is considered to be the highest in the district. Here, not only two factions but many small and big leaders have been doing politics by forming different camps as per their convenience. All of them were rarely seen together on one platform. Pradeep Kar says that the biggest goal is to make the party win, hence the elections are being fought by taking all the groups together. He expressed confidence that with united efforts, Rajiv Banerjee will be made victorious and Debra seat will be handed over to Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. On the other hand, Bharatiya Janata Party has made local resident Subhashish Om its candidate. Ghatol organizational district BJP president Tanmay Das is also home in this block and is considered to have his own influence in the area. In the 2021 assembly elections, Trinamool candidate Humayun Kabir defeated BJP's Bharti Ghosh by 11 thousand 226 votes.

Kalyani hosts SVEEP Cycle Drive to engage young and first-time voters

MI News Service, Nadia: With the Assembly elections approaching, the administration in Kalyani has stepped up efforts to connect with young and first-time voters through awareness initiatives. On Saturday, a cycle rally under the SVEEP (Systematic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation) programme was organised at Kalyani Mahavidyalaya in Nadia, drawing enthusiastic participation from students and faculty.



The programme began with an interactive awareness session where officials highlighted the significance of voting and encouraged youth to take an active role in the democratic process. The focus remained on building a sense of responsibility among first-time voters and strengthening their confidence in participating in elections. Soon after, participants took to the streets on bicycles, moving through key areas of the town. The rally aimed not only to engage students but also to spread awareness among the general public. Placards and slogans carried messages promoting free, fair, and fear-free elections. Sub-Divisional Officer Pritam Saha stated that encouraging new voters is essential for a vibrant democracy and said that more such initiatives would continue in the coming days. SDICO (Sub Divisional Information and Cultural Officer), Kalyani, Mousumi Roy noted that educational institutions are proving to be effective

platforms for reaching out to young voters, as they enable direct engagement with the target group. Students who took part in the rally expressed that the experience helped them better understand the importance of voting, describing it as both a right and a civic duty. Deputy Superintendent of Police (D&T) Abdul Kaiyum was present during the programme. Officials indicated that similar SVEEP activities will be conducted across the subdivision in the lead-up to the elections to ensure wider participation and awareness.

Police and Central Corps personnel campaigned in Jangalmahal to create awareness and remove fear from the minds of voters

MI News Service, Kharagpur: West Medinipur and Jhargram districts. To remove fear from the minds of voters and create awareness in Jangalmahal area, the police and Central Vahini personnel campaigned. It was told that in the surrounding areas including Hetashol, Dumurkota of Gurgudipal police station in Paschim Medinipur district and Mahapal of Beliabeda in Jhargram district, police personnel along with the Central Vahini soldiers took out a rally with awareness banners to make the voters aware. During this, a rally was taken out through loudspeakers. Voters were informed that on the day of voting, they should go to the polling booth fearlessly and exercise their constitutional right to vote. If any person stops them from voting, lures them, intimidates



them, then they should not be afraid, but should complain about it. Police will take strict legal action against them. Police and Central Corps personnel are deployed for their security. During this, police personnel and Central Corps personnel interacted with the villagers. While increasing their confidence towards voting, they also tried to know the situation of the area.

MI News Service, Durgapur: Patient dies due to medical negligence! This resulted an angry protest by the relatives of the patient's family. It is also alleged that during the protest a nursing home was vandalized. Central forces were deployed to control the situation. Extreme tension prevailed in the Nazirabad area of Andal, Durgapur. According to police sources, the name of the deceased woman is Yasmin Banu. According to police and local sources, Yasmin is a resident of Moltala in Arvindnagar, Dakshin Bazar, Andal. The family alleges that she was admitted to the nursing home on the 10th of this month with stomach pain. It is said that she had a stone in her gallbladder. Surgery was performed on Saturday. And on Sunday, it is said that the patient died.

A Grand Gathering at Banharishpur Khanpara

Nurul Islam Khan: Under the auspices of the youth of Banharishpur Khanpara in Panchla, Howrah, the 55th Islamic Jalsa and Isal-e-Sawab (gathering for the conveyance of spiritual merit) was held, featuring an All-Bengal Qir'at (Quranic recitation) competition. This sacred gathering was truly a spectacular event. It served as a vibrant showcase of Islamic culture and the art of Quranic recitation, with renowned Qaris (reciters) from across the state participating in the competition. Hafiz Qari Maulana Abul Bashar Irfani, Hafiz Qari Maulana Nizamuddin Irfani, and many others served as judges for the event. Qari Najmus Shahadat from North 24 Parganas secured the first position; Qari Munshi Nizamuddin from Hooghly took second place; and Qari Siddiquillah from North 24 Parganas claimed the third position. In addition to finan-



cial assistance, the successful winners were awarded prizes. On the second day—Saturday—the Islamic Jalsa was graced by the presence of prominent figures such as Hazrat Maulana Pir Syed Amjad Hussain Bukhari, Pir Mohiuddin Siddiqui, Pirzada Nurullah Siddiqui, Pirzada Maulana Syed Hammam Hussain, and Hafiz Maulana Shafiqul Islam Khan, among others. During the gathering, the issue of voting rights was raised vociferously, and a demand was put forth to ensure that every eligible individual is included in the voter list.

Vandalism at nursing home over patient death

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Now Rahmat Ali bags his eleventh master's degree

MI News Service, Kolkata: On April 15, 2019, June 17, 2021, April 6, 2023 and March 14, 2025, Morning India News Service reported that Rahmat Ali, resident of Nasiruddin Road, Kolkata received his 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th master's degrees respectively, all from Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). Prior to becoming a permanent distance learner of IGNOU, he passed M.A. (French), M.A. (Sociology) and M.Com. from other Universities. After joining IGNOU, he passed, seriatim and chronologically, M.C.A., M.B.A. (Financial Management), M.A. (Economics), M.A. (English), M.A. (History), M.A. (Political Science), M.A. (Arabic) and now with M.A. (Public Administration) in First Division, he has bagged his eleventh master's degree and eighth in a row from IGNOU. On the occasion of the 39th Convocation of IGNOU at its headquarters in New Delhi with the Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan gracing the occasion as the Chief Guest and

through digital mode at 51 selected Regional Centres across the country, the Convocation of Kolkata Regional Centre was held at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Auditorium, National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training & Research at Salt Lake. Professor (Dr.) Nirmal Kanti Chakrabarti, former Vice-Chancellor, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences and Guest of Honour at Kolkata Regional Centre Convocation, felicitated Rahmat Ali by presenting him his M.A. (Public Administration) degree in the presence of Dr. Sujata Dutta Hazarika, Senior Regional Director, Kolkata Regional Centre, IGNOU. Barring M.A. (French) and M.Com. which he passed as an external candidate, the rest nine master's degrees were completed by him as a distance learning candidate. Besides, he passed four bachelor degrees, B.A., B.Com., B.Sc. (Physics) and B.Sc. (Mathematics), the first two as an external candidate and the last two as a distance learning candidate. He



even passed Madhyamik Pariksha as an external candidate. The only academic course that he passed as a regular candidate was Higher Secondary (Science) after a two-year study at Md. Jan Higher Secondary School, Kolkata. Apart from his academic endeavours, he also passed C.A.I.I.B. from Indian Institute of Bankers, Diploma in Business Management/Administration from Institute of Professional Managers, Jersey, Britain, Diplôme de Langue Française from Alliance Française, Paris,

France, TOEFL from Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. and IELTS of U.K.-Australia. He has certificates from varied institutions in German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Spanish and Thai languages. Post-retirement from SBI as Manager in January 2020, where he worked for 39 years, he joined WBSEDCL as Senior Private Secretary, albeit after a gap of around two years in the Covid era, and worked there for three years until January 2, 2025. He is a teacher of Portuguese

language at Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture at Golpark, Kolkata and Counsellor in Diploma in Modern Office Practice course of IGNOU. He is also a regular reviewer of cryptic crossword puzzles in Big Dave's Crossword Blog of the United Kingdom, the world's biggest crossword blog, with 295 publications to his credit till date. He has also, so far, set seventeen cryptic crossword puzzles that have been published in the blog's 'Rookie Corner' after which he was promoted to the blog's 'Not the Saturday Prize Puzzle' for which he has set two such puzzles that were all solved mainly by the people of the United Kingdom. 'The Week', featuring our late Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh 1932-2024 in its Special Issue of January 12, 2025, also carried an article on Rahmat Ali highlighting him as a Time Manager and a Cruciverballist. Needless to add, it also mentioned, inter alia, the publication of five of his articles in Morning India, Kolkata.

Soil mound turns deadly: Bike slams lorry, rider critical

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata witnessed yet another late-night road accident on Sunday, raising fresh concerns over urban road safety and civic negligence. A delivery agent sustained serious injuries after his motorcycle allegedly lost control and crashed into the rear of a stationary lorry near the Brigade Parade Ground.

The injured has been identified as Mohammad Ayan, a resident of Ekbalpur. He was rushed to SSKM Hospital in a critical and bloodied condition shortly after the incident. Hospital sources indicate that he is currently undergoing treatment. Eyewitnesses at the scene pointed to a mound of soil left unattended on the road as the immediate cause of the accident. According to local accounts, the obstruction reduced visibility and created a hazardous condition, leading to the rider losing control moments before impact. In the aftermath of the incident, police personnel arrived at the spot and installed temporary guardrails around the mound, a move that has drawn criticism for coming only after the accident occurred. Authorities have launched an investigation to determine the exact sequence of events, including whether over-speeding played a role. Officials are also probing why construction debris was left exposed on a busy arterial stretch without adequate warning or safety measures. Statements have been recorded from eyewitnesses, and investigators are expected to question the injured once his condition stabilizes. The incident has once again spotlighted the recurring pattern of late-night accidents in Kolkata, particularly involving two-wheelers. Experts attribute many such cases to a combination of high speed, poor road conditions, and, at times, impaired driving. The latest mishap comes close on the heels of another high-profile accident involving Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury's convoy earlier this week, where a truck rammed into one of the vehicles, injuring several security personnel. The incident had sparked a political storm, with allegations of lapses in security and demands for a high-level probe. As investigations continue in both cases, questions are mounting over road safety enforcement, infrastructure accountability, and the preparedness of authorities to prevent such avoidable tragedies in the city.

Women voters trail in 152 seats

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a significant revelation of the first phase of the West Bengal Assembly elections, the Election Commission has flagged a noticeable gender disparity in the state's electoral rolls. Official data released on Sunday shows that the number of female voters is lower than male in as many as 152 constituencies going to polls in the opening phase. According to the EC, the total electorate for the first phase stands at 3,60,77,171 voters, comprising 1,84,99,496 male voters, 1,75,77,210 female voters and 465 voters from third gender imbalance, raising questions over voter registration patterns and participation across key regions. District-wise data further underlines the scale and distribution of the electorate. Murshidabad tops the list with the highest number of voters 37,70,794. Other major districts include Bankura with 29,19,415 voters, Malda with 27,91,736, and Birbhum with 26,91,386. Among northern districts, Cooh Behar accounts for 22,63,771 voters, while Purulia has 22,52,807. Uttar Dinajpur and West Bardhaman report electorates of 19,68,974 and 19,65,095, respectively. Jalpaiguri stands at 17,19,798, while smaller districts such as Alipurduar (11,64,506), South Dinajpur (11,59,519), and Darjeeling (11,10,425) round out the list. The data assumes political significance as parties intensify outreach strategies targeting women voters, a demographic that has played a decisive role in recent elections. The gender gap in a majority of constituencies could influence campaign narratives, welfare promises, and mobilization efforts in the crucial first phase. With polling day approaching, the EC is expected to focus on ensuring higher participation across all sections, even as the numbers point to a persistent imbalance that may shape electoral dynamics in one of the country's most closely watched political battlegrounds.

Abhishek Targets BJP Over Manipur, Jawan's Death Sparks Row



Trinamool Congress National General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee campaigns in Hooghly on Sunday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid intensifying political rhetoric ahead of the West Bengal Assembly elections, Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Sunday launched a sharp attack on the BJP leadership, invoking the ongoing violence in Manipur and the death of a Bengali BSF jawan to question the Centre's priorities.

In a strongly worded post on social media platform X, Mamata Banerjee expressed grief over the

killing of Mithun Mandal (34), a BSF jawan from Malda district, who was martyred in militant firing while on duty in Manipur's Ukhrul district. The soldier, attached to the 170th Battalion, is survived by his wife, two minor children, and elderly parents. "A brave Bengali BSF jawan from Malda has been martyred in Manipur. Those who promise 'change' in Bengal must first address the grim reality in Manipur," Banerjee wrote, directly targeting the BJP's campaign narrative

in the state. Escalating his attack, the TMC leader accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah of prioritising electioneering over governance. "The Prime Minister and Home Minister have ample time to campaign in Bengal, yet not a moment to visit Manipur and bring a lasting solution to the violence that has persisted for three years," he said. Citing figures, Banerjee claimed that nearly 300 lives have been lost in the ethnic conflict in Manipur, with lakhs displaced and injured. "Before raising slogans of 'parivartan' in Bengal, take meaningful action for the people of your own 'Ashtalakhshmi' state," he added. The death of Mithun Mandal has cast a pall of grief over his native Bhagantola village in Mothabari, Malda. His father, a farmer, depended largely on his son's income, while the jawan had served in the BSF for nearly nine years. Family members and locals described Mandal as the sole breadwinner, and his sudden death has left the household devastated. Authorities are expected to bring his mortal remains back to the state with full honours. The incident has quickly taken on political overtones, with the Trinamool Congress using it to sharpen its attack on the BJP over national security and governance issues, even as the Centre has yet to officially respond to the latest criticism. With elections looming, the tragedy has further intensified the war of words between the ruling party in Bengal and the BJP, adding an emotional and political dimension to an already charged campaign atmosphere.

Modi, Mamata pay tribute to ASHA BHOSLE

MI News Service, Kolkata/New Delhi/Mumbai: India on Sunday plunged into mourning following the demise of legendary playback singer Asha Bhosle, whose voice defined generations and reshaped the landscape of Indian music. The iconic artist passed away at the age of 92 at Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital, where she had been undergoing treatment after being admitted with a severe chest infection.

Hospital sources indicated that the veteran singer succumbed to multi-organ failure, bringing to a close an unparalleled musical journey that spanned over seven decades. Her passing marks the end of an era in Indian cinema and music, leaving behind a void that many say is impossible to fill. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee were among the first to express their condolences, leading a nationwide outpouring of grief. In a post on social media platform X, Prime Minister Modi wrote that he was "deeply saddened" by the passing of Asha Bhosle, noting that her contributions had "enriched India's cultural heritage for decades" and that her voice "touched millions across the globe." He extended his heartfelt condolences to her family and admirers worldwide. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, in her tribute, said she was "deeply saddened" by the loss of an artist who "held a cherished place in the hearts of generations." Highlighting Bhosle's deep connection with Bengal, Mamata Banerjee recalled that the singer had rendered numerous Bengali songs and enjoyed immense popularity in the state. She also noted that the West Bengal government had conferred upon her the prestigious Banga Bibhushan award in 2018. "I extend my heartfelt condolences to her family and millions of fans across the globe," she wrote. Asha Bhosle, often hailed as the 'Empress of Melody', leaves behind a legacy that transcends languages, genres, and generations. From classical compositions to cabaret numbers, ghazals to pop, her versatility and longevity made her one of the most celebrated voices in global music history. Her last rites are expected to be held on Monday at Shivaji Park in Mumbai, where admirers, colleagues, and dignitaries are likely to gather to pay their final respects. With her passing, India bids farewell to not just a singer, but a timeless voice that became the soundtrack of a nation.

Kolkata honey-trap scam: Bumble date ends in Rs.8.500 shock bill

MI News Service, Kolkata: A disturbing case of alleged 'honeytrap' billing fraud has surfaced in Kolkata, exposing a well-orchestrated scam operating through popular dating platforms. The incident, which has since gone viral on social media, underscores growing concerns over organized fraud networks targeting unsuspecting users seeking companionship online.

According to preliminary findings, a young man matches with a woman on the dating app Bumble. Shortly after initiating contact, the woman proposed a meeting at a cafe in the Ranikuthi area - identified as 'Couple cafe zone' - a venue investigators now suspect to be complicit in the scheme. What initially appeared to be a routine first date soon spiralled into a calculated act of deception, with no indication of irregular pricing. However, the situation took a dramatic turn when the bill arrived - amounting to an exorbitant Rs.8,500. Before the victim could process the charges, cafe staff allegedly surrounded him, creating an atmosphere of intimidation and coercion. At the critically moment, the woman quietly exited the premises, leaving the man to bear the inflated bill alone. Before the victim could process the charges, cafe staff allegedly surrounded him, creating an atmosphere of intimidation and coercion. At the critical moment, leaving the man to bear the inflated bill alone. Investigators describe the modus operandi as a classic 'honey-trap billing fraud,' wherein victims are lured to pre-selected establishments. Once there, exaggerated or fabricated charges are imposed, often enforced through pressure tactics by staff allegedly in collusion with the accomplice.

Mamata Banerjee breaks silence on Humayaun row, targets Modi with "Amodi -Pramodi"

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid rising political tensions ahead of the West Bengal Assembly elections, Mamata Banerjee, chief of the Trinamool Congress, broke her silence on the controversial Humayun Kabir video and launched a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Speaking at a campaign rally in Khandaghosh on Sunday, Banerjee rejected the BJP's claims that the video was fabricated using artificial intelligence. She asserted that the individual at the center of the controversy has himself admitted that the video is genuine. Questioning the BJP's stance, she remarked that despite this acknowledgment, attempts were still being made to dismiss it as fake. In a pointed dig at the Prime Minister, she criticized what she described as efforts to suppress the truth and mislead the public. The controversy centers around a purportedly leaked video in which Humayun Kabir is allegedly heard making explosive claims. These include references to supposed backchannel negotiations with leaders of the Bharatiya Jana-



Trinamool Congress supreme Mamata Banerjee in an election campaign in Bankura district on Sunday.

ta Party, as well as a proposed political arrangement involving senior BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari. The video also mentions a controversial 1,000-crore deal, further intensifying the political storm in the state. The issue has quickly escalated into a war of words between the Trinamool Congress and the BJP, with both sides accusing each other of spreading misinformation and attempting to manipulate public perception. While the BJP has maintained that the video is doctored or AI-generated, the Trinamool Congress has insisted on its

authenticity and accused the opposition of deflecting attention. Mamata Banerjee also alleged that there are deliberate attempts to engineer political defections and create divisions within parties for electoral gain. She warned that such tactics are aimed at destabilizing the political landscape and inciting communal tensions among the public. Emphasizing unity, she urged voters to remain cautious of misinformation and not be swayed by what she described as orchestrated narratives designed to influence the upcoming elections.



A rally was organised against 'communalism' and in defence of 'right to vote' from Netaji Bhawan Metro Station in Kolkata on Sunday.

Bengal will reply to all misdeeds done by TMC: YOGI



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Aditya Nath in an election campaign at Nandakumar in East Midnapore district on Sunday.

MI News Service, Kathi/Bankura/Kolkata: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched a scathing attack on the Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Sunday, signalling the start of his high-stakes election campaign in West Bengal's Sonamukhi. Addressing a massive gathering in the Bankura district, Adityanath opened his speech in Bengali, declaring that the era of "Kheha" (play) was over. "Bangla ar chup thakbe. E bar khela sesh, Unnayan shuru (Bengal won't remain silent. This time the games end; development begins)," Adityanath told the crowd.

In a speech lasting roughly 25 minutes, Adityanath drew a parallel between Bengal's current state and Uttar Pradesh's a decade ago. He claimed that the "double engine"

government, the BJP at both the state and Centre, had transformed UP from a 'mafia raj' into a law-abiding economic hub.

"There is no appeasement in Uttar Pradesh anymore; there is satisfaction for all," he said. "The mafia has been sent on a journey to hell. Young people are getting jobs, and everyone is safe. Bengal needs that same transformation."

"We protested, the BJP protested, but Mamataji was silent. Her fear is

the loss of a specific vote bank over the lives of the marginalised," he alleged.

Adityanath also invoked the legacy of Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, urging the people of Sonamukhi to restore Bengal to its former glory. He accused the Congress, the Left, and the TMC of forming an unholy alliance to mislead the youth and create social divisions.

He alleged that they intentionally create unrest during major religious festivals like Durga Puja and Navratri. "It is time to stand together and resist this kind of politics. Restore the heritage and culture that this state was once known for," he urged.

Voting in West Bengal will be held in two phases on April 23 and 29, followed by counting on May 4.



Trinamool Congress candidate Javed Ahmed Khan campaigns along West Chowbagha Road in Kolkata's Kasba Assembly constituency on Sunday.

Midnight fire scare at RG Kar Hospital, disaster averted

MI News Service, Kolkata: A potential disaster was narrowly averted at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College and Hospital late Saturday night after a fire broke out at the outdoor pharmacy counter, triggering panic across the premises and raising fresh questions over safety standards at the state-run facility.

The incident occurred around midnight when a sudden fire alarm alerted Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel and on-duty police officers stationed within the hospital campus. Acting with urgency, security teams immediately initiated evacuation protocols in the outdoor (OPD) area, where several patients' relatives had been resting overnight. Eyewitnesses reported scenes of chaos as individuals were hurriedly moved to safer locations. With the pharmacy counter locked and the key unavail-

able, emergency responders broke open the shutters to gain access, ensuring no time was lost in assessing and containing the situation. Thanks to the prompt intervention, the fire was brought under control before it could spread, and no casualties or major damage were reported. The exact cause of the fire remains under investigation, with initial suspicion pointing towards a possible electrical short circuit. While the immediate crisis was contained, the incident has once again spotlighted persistent infrastructural and safety lapses at RG Kar Hospital. Over the past month, the institution has witnessed a series of alarming incidents, intensifying scrutiny over its maintenance and emergency preparedness. In March, a medical student narrowly escaped serious injury after a section of the hostel roof collapsed moments after she exited a washroom. Residents

have repeatedly flagged the deteriorating condition of both the girls' and boys' hostels, citing falling plaster and unstable roof panels in multiple rooms. The hospital has also been at the centre of controversy following a fatal elevator-related accident that claimed the life of a patient's relative, Arup Banerjee, who suffered multiple traumatic injuries. In another incident days later, a 60-year-old patient, Bishwajit Samanta, reportedly died after suffering a heart attack, allegedly exacerbated by inadequate facilities that forced him to climb floors in a critical condition. The latest fire scare has intensified calls for a comprehensive safety audit of the hospital's infrastructure. Authorities have initiated an inquiry into the fire incident, even as concerns mount over whether systemic negligence could lead to a far more catastrophic outcome in the future.

India Autism Center Spearheads Lifelong Autism Care Dialogue with 'Autism in Practice'



MI News Service, Kolkata: India Autism Center (IAC), a leading not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting individuals with autism and related developmental conditions, commemorated World Autism Awareness Month through "Autism in Practice." This awareness month was conducted in association with the Society of Pediatric Neurology Bengal, thoughtfully curated series of parent-focused knowledge sessions. The purpose of this initiative was to reflect the IAC's commitment to creating an inclusive, informed, and supportive community ecosystem.

Gave Left 35 years, TMC 15 years—now give Modi five years

Continued from Pg 1: stituted to ensure justice for the victims."

Modi said, "The Trinamool has surrendered even grassroots football to the clutches of syndicates. They have ushered in an era of utter lawlessness—a 'Mahajungle Raj.' I have witnessed another historic scene: while Mohun Bagan and East Bengal typically vie against one another for victory, when a doctor was brutally murdered in RG Kar Hospital, everyone took to the streets in protest. On that occasion, the two rival football clubs stood shoulder to shoulder in solidarity. In this very spirit, we must all unite to take the Trinamool government a fitting lesson. In Dinajpur, too, numerous atrocities against women have occurred over the past few years; we must not allow ourselves to forget these incidents.

Modi's Guarantee for women is this: we will reopen the files of every single rape case. We will track down the perpetrators and hold them accountable. The BJP has clearly outlined in its manifesto exactly how this will be accomplished."

H stated, "Women's welfare is among our primary objectives. We will strive to ensure their safety and empower them to stand on their own feet. We will double the allowances currently received by women here. Women will be entitled to a 33 percent reservation in government jobs."

PM said, "The university in Dinajpur has become a major hub for corruption under the Trinamool regime. I have read in the newspapers that they do not even possess a campus of their own; the university is currently operating out of a college building. There

are no permanent faculty members; the temporary teachers receive a daily wage of merely 400 to 500 rupees. In this manner, the Trinamool is destroying the future of the youth. There are no opportunities for higher education within the state; one is compelled to go elsewhere even to find work. And if, after completing one's studies, one seeks employment, it is the ministers themselves who loot those job opportunities. You have all witnessed the mountains of cash recovered from a minister's residence. Enough is enough. No more. Bring the BJP to power to change this situation."

Modi accused, "The Rajbanshi and Santal communities of Bengal have played a significant role in India's progress. There are many heroes among them, and we take great pride in them. It is our unwavering

endeavor to ensure the rapid development of the tribal community. Previously, tribal people resided in areas plagued by Maoist insurgency; our government has delivered a Maoist-free society. Young men have laid down their arms and returned to their mothers. Our Cabinet includes members from the tribal community. In Odisha, our Chief Minister is a tribal figure, and the same applies to Jharkhand. This is our track record. However, the Trinamool party insults the Santal community. President Murmu visited just a few days ago, yet the Trinamool failed to uphold the dignity of the Constitution; in doing so, they insulted the tribal community. The Trinamool needs to be taught a lesson. The Trinamool has never been a partner in the development of the tribal community."

Baul Beats Power Shamim Ahmed's Campaign in Magrahat West

Continued from Pg 1: into a mesmerizing symphony of Baul music.

Notably, Shamim Ahmed's campaign was not merely a standard election drive; through this outreach, candidate Shamim effectively showcased the rich stream of Bengal's folk culture to the public. He highlighted the timeless essence of Bengal's ancient Baul tradition. Indeed, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has consistently played a pioneering role in championing the cause of Bengal's folk artists. She has introduced honorariums for these artists and has initiated the state-level 'Lokprasar Mela' (Folk Art Festival) to promote folk arts and traditions. And

now, following the path shown by their leader Mamata Banerjee, Samim Ahmed—the candidate for Magrahat West—has fostered the growth of folk arts by organizing musical performances by Baul artists. Indeed, while Samim is undeniably a political candidate contesting from Diamond Harbour, his deep appreciation for culture is a fact known to all.

Whether visiting a temple, a mosque, or a church—Samim Ahmed has consistently woven a tapestry of communal harmony throughout his election campaign, prioritizing unity over mere politics. Amidst his campaigning, Samim Ahmed paid a visit to the local Balarampur Church. From Hariipur and Hat-

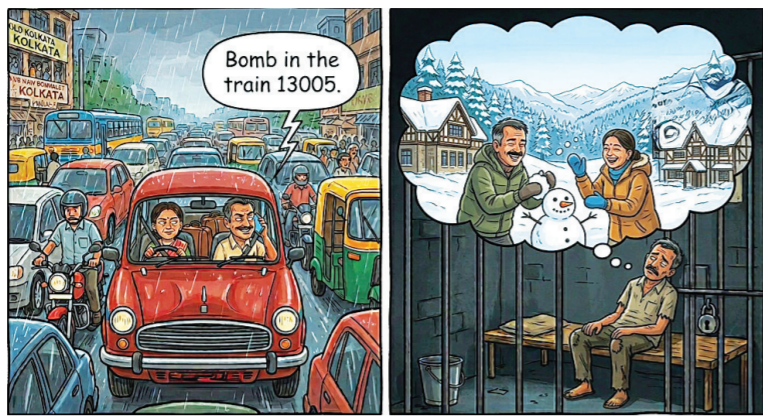
nagar to Darudchak and Marapai—captivated by the magic of Baul melodies—Samim traversed the rural paths, reaching one village after another. From Lakshmikantapur to Sherpur—spanning everything from booth-level tours to direct public outreach—the Trinamool candidate Samim continued his campaign with full vigor across various localities within the region.

Speaking on the matter, candidate Samim Ahmed stated, "The election is just around the corner. Despite the scorching heat, our campaign is proceeding in full swing. However, the State Government does not stand by the people only during election season; it remains by their side throughout the entire year.

Our true objective is to deliver the benefits of development directly to every household. The smile of relief on people's faces is our greatest reward; for that, enduring even this intense heat is a small price to pay." Samim Ahmed is the dynamic young candidate representing the area. A wave of public support is currently sweeping through the region. "Samim Ahmed is a good young man. We are hopeful that we will receive good governance and improved public services. We also trust that the benefits of the State Government's various welfare schemes will be made available to us. Let the holistic development of every locality within Magrahat West be the primary focus," assert the local residents.

Eastern Railway's Security Masterclass: From Hoax Call to Handcuffs in Under 12 Hours

MI News Service, Kolkata, 12 Apr.26 :The journey was supposed to be a dream vacation for 54-year-old Pradeepan Bhattacharjee, who had planned a scenic trip to the hills of Shimla with his wife. However, the holiday spirit quickly turned into a nightmare of his own making. On April 10, 2026, as the couple rushed toward Howrah Railway Station, they realized they were late. By the time they reached the platform, the 13005 UP Howrah-Amritsar Mail had already pulled away, leaving their travel plans in tatters. In a reckless and desperate attempt to "pause" the clock and stop the train so he could catch up to it, Bhattacharjee decided to play a dangerous trick. He called the Railways Helpline 139 and logged a false report on the Rail Madad platform, claiming a bomb had been planted on the very train he had just missed. Instead of reaching the snowy peaks of Shimla, his trick ensured he ended up behind iron bars.



the traveling public. The Eastern Railway administration immediately swung into action, demonstrating seamless coordination under high pressure. When the caller refused to verify his claims, the Eastern Railway's RPF and GRP took no chances with passenger safety. As a precautionary measure, the train was detained at Chandanpur Railway Station. In a display of incredible dedication, a 40-member force, including Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads (BDDS) and four specialized dog squads, rushed to the scene. Their hard work paid off

when, after a grueling and intensive carriage-by-carriage search, they confirmed the threat was a hoax and ensured the train was safe to proceed. The success of the operation then shifted to the investigation, led by the Sr.DSC(Co) Howrah and SRP Howrah. Within hours of the incident, Eastern Railway authorities registered a formal case under the BNS-2023 and utilized advanced technical surveillance to track the suspect. The Eastern Railway security teams worked through the night, coordinating with the Danapur and Samastipur

divisions to close the net. Their efficiency was rewarded when the suspect was intercepted near Patna in less than 12 hours. Although he initially tried to hide his phone and deny the crime, the persistent efforts of the officers led to a full confession and the recovery of the device used to make the call. This swift resolution stands as a testament to the professionalism of Eastern Railway. By catching the culprit so quickly, they have sent a powerful message that the safety of their network is not to be trifled with. Regarding the incident, Shri Shibrum Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer of Eastern Railway, stated that lodging false complaints, especially those involving security threats, is a grave offense that causes unnecessary panic, disrupts vital train operations, and misuses critical security resources. He emphasized that Indian Railways maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward such irresponsible acts, which can attract up to seven years of imprisonment, and urged passengers to use the Rail Madad platform responsibly to ensure the safety and efficiency of the rail network.

General Manager Inspects Paradeep Yard, Station & ROH Depot

MI News Service, Kolkata, 12 Apr.26 : Shri Parmeshwar Funkwal, General Manager, East Coast Railway conducted a comprehensive inspection of Paradeep Yard, Station, and the ROH (Routine Overhaul) Depot on Saturday. The inspection was carried out during inspection from Mancheswar to Paradeep section and a detailed review of railway infrastructure and operational facilities in and around the Paradeep area.



Given Paradeep Port's significance as a vital freight hub, the visit primarily focused on enhancing efficiency, safety, and capacity of rail operations linked to port logistics. During the inspection, the General Manager reviewed key aspects including: Yard layout, signalling systems, and overall operational efficiency; Passenger amenities and cleanliness at the station; Functioning of the ROH Depot and maintenance practices

Senior officials, including Principal Heads of Departments and the Divisional Railway Manager of Khurda Road, accompanied the General Manager during the inspection. The Khurda Road Division plays a pivotal role in managing railway operations in this region.

The General Manager also directed officials to maintain high standards of sanitation, ensure proper upkeep of rolling stock, and undertake continuous monitoring of infrastructure to deliver safe, efficient, and reliable services. This inspection reflects East Coast Railway's continued commitment to strengthening infrastructure and enhancing service reliability across Odisha.

Centre asks AAI to remove obstructive buildings

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Centre notified rules to remove obstructions such as buildings and trees within a 20km radius of an aerodrome that pose risks to aircraft operations. Introducing stricter norms to identify and remove any structure, whether permanent or temporary, near an aerodrome, the government notified the Aircraft (Demolition of Obstructions Caused by Buildings and Trees etc.) Rules, 2026.

forwarded to him by the officer-in-charge, is satisfied that the building does not comply with the provisions of notification issued by the Central Government under sub-section (1) of Section 18 of the Adhiniyam, he may pass an order directing the owner to demolish or reduce the height of the building to such height, as it may be required for compliance with that notification," the notification says. The rules clarified that no order shall be passed unless the building owner has been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. It also gives power to the owner to claim compensation as per the law. The aggrieved person can also appeal to the appellate authority within 30 days from the date of receiving a copy of the demolition order.

The rules empower the Airport Authority of India (AAI) to initiate the process to remove obstacles near the airport if it finds that erected structures are disrupting aircraft movement. The structures should be within 20km of the aerodrome. "If the Director General of Civil Aviation, on examination of the details

of the details of the buildings and trees within a 20km radius of an aerodrome that pose risks to aircraft operations. Introducing stricter norms to identify and remove any structure, whether permanent or temporary, near an aerodrome, the government notified the Aircraft (Demolition of Obstructions Caused by Buildings and Trees etc.) Rules, 2026.

Railways To Run Four More Summer Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata, 12 Apr.26 : To clear the extra rush of the passengers during ensuing summer, Railway has decided to run four summer special trains between Kolkata & Bhubaneswar, Malda Town & Itwari, Asansol & Patna and Kiul & Malda Town.

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

08401 Bhubaneswar - Kolkata special will leave Bhubaneswar at 00:50 hrs. on every Tuesday between 14.4.2026 & 28.4.2026 (3 trips) to reach Kolkata at 09:15 hrs. on the same day and 08402 Kolkata - Bhubaneswar special will leave Kolkata at 17:10 hrs. on every Tuesday between 14.4.2026 & 28.4.2026 (3 trips) to reach Bhubaneswar at 00:45 hrs. on the next day. The train will have general second class, sleeper class and air-conditioned accommodation.

03202 Patna - Asansol MEMU Express special will leave Patna at 4:35 hrs. daily from 13.04.2026 to 30.04.2026 (18 trips) to reach Asansol at 12:45 hrs. on the same day and 03201 Asansol - Patna MEMU Express special will leave Asansol at 13:45 hrs. daily from 13.4.2026 to 30.4.2026 (18 trips) to reach Patna at 22:10 hrs. on the same day. The train will stop at Chittaranjan, Madhupur and Jaisidh stations over Eastern Railway junction in both directions enroute.

08871 Itwari - Malda Town special will leave Itwari at 00:30 hrs. on 19.4.2026, 20.4.2026 & 26.4.2026 (3 trips) to reach Malda Town at 08:00 hrs. on the next day and 08872 Malda Town - Itwari special will leave Malda Town at 12:55 hrs. on 20.4.2027, 21.4.2026, 27.4.2026 (3trips) to reach Itwari at 17:00 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at New Farakka, Rampurhat, Bolpur Shantiniketan, Bardhaman and Dankuni stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both

directions enroute. The train will have general second class, sleeper class and air-conditioned accommodation. 03204 Kiul - Malda Town MEMU Express special will leave Kiul at 6:10 hrs. daily from 13.4.2026 to 30.4.2026 (18 trips) to reach Malda Town at 15:00 hrs. on the same day and 03203 Malda Town - Kiul MEMU Express special will leave Malda Town at 16:00 hrs. daily from 13.4.2026 to 30.4.2026 (18 trips) to reach Kiul at 01:00 hrs. on the next day. The train will stop at New Farakka, Barharwa, Sahibganj, Kabelaiganj, Bhagalpur, Sultanganj, Jamalpur and Abhaipur stations in both directions enroute.

Name Change I, Md Shamim Akhter, S/o Late Md. Suleman residing at 77/1/H/6, Narkeldanga Main Road, PS-Narkeldanga, Kolkata- 700011 declare that in my voter identity card vide EPIC No. WB/22/155/141339 issued by ECI, my name has been inadvertently recorded as SHAMIM instead of my actual name MD. SHAMIM AKHTER. That SHAMIM and MD. SHAMIM AKHTER both are same and one identical person. vide affidavit No 327 dated 06.04.26 before Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Calcutta.

Name Change I, Shayamal Kumar Ghosh (Old Name) S/o Anil Kumar Ghosh Residing at 413/1, Dum Dum Cossipore Road, P.O. - Motijheel, P.S. - Dum Dum, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700074, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shayamal Kumar Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 10-04-2026. Shayamal Kumar Ghosh (Old Name) and Shayamal Kumar Ghosh (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Pampa Karar Dutta (old name) D/O Shankar Lal Karar, Resident of 56/5,PANCHANANTALA ROAD,P.O-HOWRAH,HOWRAH-711101, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Zeenat Ali Hasnain (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Pampa Karar (new name) and Pampa Karar Dutta (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Zinate Ali Hasnain (old name) W/O Waqar Ali Hasnain, Resident of 29, Eden Hospital Road, Bowbazar, Dr. Lalit Banerjee Sarani, Kolkata-700073, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Zeenat Ali Hasnain (new name), as declared Before The Notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Zeenat Ali Hasnain (new name) and Zinate Ali Hasnain (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) ABDUL FAZAR is recorded in my 65 Kandi Vidhansava Nirbachak list of 2002 Part no 148 and Passport A5629779, S/O-UMMAR SK Residing at Vill- Bati-danga, Post- Gobarhati, P.S- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742136, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as (New Name) FAJAR ALI That my name FAJAR ALI and ABDUL FAZAR is the same and one identical person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change I, ABDUL HANNAN MONDAL, S/o, Lt. Badsha Mondal, residing at Vill-Malaitpur, PO- Chaita, Dist- West Bengal, Pin-743445, State- West Bengal, do hereby declare that my name has inadvertently been recorded as ABDUL MANNAN MONDAL S/o, Lt. Badsha Mondal in 2002 Voter List of 95 Basihat Legislative Assembly Constituency Part No 43, SL No 610. On 10/04/2026 vide an affidavit (No.6385) before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate Barasat Dist-North 24 Parganas I affirm that ABDUL HANNAN MONDAL, S/o, Lt. Badsha Mondal and ABDUL MANNAN MONDAL, S/o, Lt. Badsha Mondal is the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mrinal Kanti Roy (Old Name) S/o Kalipada Roy Residing at 13J, D N Ghosh Road, P.O. -Bhawanipore, P.S-Kalighat, District- Kolkata, Pin-700025, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mrinal Roy (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 10-04-2026. Mrinal Kanti Roy (Old Name) and Mrinal Roy (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Geeta Devi Jaiswal (old name) W/O Madan Lal Jaiswal, Resident of 123/2/H/1/1 A.P.C ROAD,BEADON STREET, WEST BANIKTALA, Kolkata, 700006, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Suvasni Devi Jaiswal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Suvasni Devi Jaiswal (new name) and Geeta Devi Jaiswal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Netai Roy (old name) S/O Nirmal Roy, Resident of Tarulia, New Town, po- Krisnapur North 24 Pgs- 700102, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Netai Roy (new name), as declared Before The Notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Netai Roy (new name) and Netai Roy (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) AKALIE HAZARI S/O-FULCHAND HAJARI Residing at, Vill-Gahgharhar Dakshinpara, P.S- Hanakshi, Dist- Ranaghat, Pin- 741505, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as AKALI HAJARI (New name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit No 95 Date 13 Feb 2026, AKALIE HAZARI and AKALI HAJARI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Alpina Ghosh Mondal, wife of Hemanta Ghosh, residing at B-16, I.T.I. Colony, P.O. & P.S. Kalyani, District Nadia, W. B., hereby state that my correct name is Alpina Ghosh Mondal. However, due to a mistake, my name has been written as Alpina Ghosh in my daughter's Birth Certificate (Regn. No. 1488 dated 03.03.2006, issued by Kalyani Municipality). Both names refer to one and the same person. This declaration is made as per affidavit sworn before the S.D.J.M. (1st Class), Kalyani, Nadia on 23.03.2026. Henceforth, I shall be known as Alpina Ghosh Mondal for all purposes.

Name Change I, Ashutosh Kumar Jha (Old Name) S/o Jay Krishna Jha Residing at Udayan Pally, Rania, P.O.-Boral, P.S.-Narendrapur, District- South 24 Parganas, Pin-700154, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashutosh Jha (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 10-04-2026. Ashutosh Kumar Jha (Old Name) and Ashutosh Jha (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sajidur Rahman Seikh Son Of Abdus Sattar Seikh, Residing At Vill & P.O. - Sirairi, P.S.Galsi, Dist-Purba Bardhaman, Pin-713428, West Bengal, India, in 2002 Sir My Name And My Father's Name Inadvertently Recorded Saham Sekh Son Of Abdusattar Seikh Vide Voter Id Card Jfb2451110 Assembly 274 Galsi Bidhansabha But In My All Identity Proof My Name Recorded Sajidur Rahman Seikh Son Of Abdus Sattar Seikh As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 10/04/2026. Saham Sekh S/O Abdusattar Seikh And Sajidur Rahman Seikh S/O Abdus Sattar Seikh Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Safikul Islam & Md Safikul Mondal (old names) S/O Abdh Ali Mandal, Resident of Vill- Sadiknagar Gangati, P.O. - Chaita, P.S. - Matia, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743445, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Safikul Mandal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Safikul Mandal (old name) and Safikul Islam & Md Safikul Mondal (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SONABHANU SK W/O-LALU SK is recorded in my 72 Kalliganj Vidhansava Nirbachak list of 2002 Part no 1041, Residing at Vill-Hazrapota, Post- Plassey, P.S- Kalliganj, Dist- New Name, Pin- 741156, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as (New Name) SONABHANU BIBI W/O- LAL MOHAMMAD SK That my name SONABHANU BIBI and SONABHANU SK and BIBI SONABHANU That my Husband name LALU SK and LAL MOHAMMAD SK is the same and one identical person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the notary public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change I, Manoj Barmwal (Old Name), Son Of Gopi Barmwal, Residing At South Parasita Jamuria, Churulia, Bardhaman, Paras 32/A Shaarif Lane, Pin- 700106, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoj Barmwal (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Alipore On 07/03/2026. Manoj Barmwal (Old Name) And Manoj Barmwal (New Name). Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Manoj Barmwal (Old Name), Son Of Gopi Barmwal, Residing At South Parasita Jamuria, Churulia, Bardhaman, Paras 32/A Shaarif Lane, Pin- 700106, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manoj Barmwal (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Alipore On 07/03/2026. Manoj Barmwal (Old Name) And Manoj Barmwal (New Name). Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Binod Hela (Old Name) S/O Bhokul Hela Residing at 32/A Shaarif Lane, Po- Park Street, District- Kolkata, Pin- 700016, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Vinod Hela (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 10-04-2026. Binod Hela (Old Name) and Vinod Hela (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Shubhra Bera (old name) W/O Alok Bera, Resident of Vill- Padum Basan, po- Tamluk, ps- Tamluk, East Medinipur- 721636 West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Shubhra Bera (new name), as declared Before The Notary public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Shubhra Bera (new name) and Shubhra bera (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SOFIKUL BISWAS S/O- MAHIRUDDIN BISWAS Residing at, Vill- Katakopra, Post- Raypur, P.S- Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742303, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as SAFIKUL BISWAS (New name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit No 177 Date 30 March 2026, SOFIKUL BISWAS and SAFIKUL BISWAS both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mohammad Abul Kashem, (old name) S/O- Mohamud Abdul Aziz (old name), residing at Vill- Sahapur, P/O- Dakshin Rasulpur, P/S- Arambagh, Dist- Hooghly. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Md Abul Kashem (new name) S/O- Md Abdul Aziz (New name) as declared before the Ld.1st class J.M. at Chinsurah vide Affidavit No.- 5788 dt- 20/ 02/ 2026 Mohamud Abdul Kashem, (old name) S/O- Mohamud Abdul Aziz (old name) & Md Abul Kashem (new name) S/O- Md Abdul Aziz (New name) both are same and identical persons.

Name Change I, Ajoy Kumar Halder, Ajoy Kumar Halder (Old Name) S/O Sunil Halder Residing at Gumki, P.O- Panchnan, Sundarban- 743336, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ajoy Kumar Halder (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 07-04-2026. Ajoy Kumar Halder, Ajoy Kumar Halder (Old Name) and Ajoy Kumar Halder (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Binod Hela (Old Name) S/O Bhokul Hela Residing at 32/A Shaarif Lane, Po- Park Street, District- Kolkata, Pin- 700016, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Vinod Hela (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 10-04-2026. Binod Hela (Old Name) and Vinod Hela (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sk Rustam (old name) S/O Sk Hiyaat, Resident of Satyen Bose Road Nazirganj, Danesh Shek Lane, Howrah- 711109, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sk Rustam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 10/04/2026. Sk Rustam (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SAYED ANOAR BISWAS S/O- SAFIKUL BISWAS Residing at, Vill- Katakopra, Post- Raypur, P.S- Domkal, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742303, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as SAYED ANOVAR BISWAS (New name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit No 176 Date 30 March 2026, SAYED ANOAR BISWAS and SAYED ANOVAR BISWAS both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, MAMTA BANERJEE, spouse of No. JC-641024W Rank Ex Sub Name Late Rudra Kinkar Bandhpadyay resident of Vill.- Uttarmatpara, Saradapally, P.O.- Rampurhat, Dist.-Birbhum (WB), Pin- 731224 have change my Name from Mamta Banerjee to Mamata Banerjee vide Affidavit dated 08.04.2026 before the 1st Class Magistrate Rampurhat.

Name Change I, Samsul Hanif Shaikh S/o. Md Hanif, R/o. Bahiath Paschim, Pandua, Hooghly-712149, W.B. do hereby declare that I, Samsul Hanif Shaikh, Md Samsul Haque & Samsul Hanif and my father Md Hanif, Hanif, Haniph Sekh & Haniph Shaikh both are the same & one identical person, vide an affidavit no. 9799, dated 08/04/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar Hooghly Court, which names has been recorded in my several documents. My correct & actual name is Samsul Hanif Shaikh S/O. Md Hanif.

Name Change I, Maniklal Ghosh (Old Name) S/O Bhagirath Ghosh Residing at Vill-Ghosh Para, Po+Ps- Habra, District-North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743263, West Bengal, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Manik Ghosh (New Name) as declared before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Barasat vide affidavit no 4732 Dated 01-04-2026. Maniklal Ghosh (Old Name) and Manik Ghosh (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Donovan Dennis Suting and Donovan Dennis Patrick Suting (Dono- van) son of Late Hamar Basuk Nongkyrin residing at 1185, Kalika- pur, Purbalok, Ambient Wind, 7A, 7th Floor, PO-Mukundapur, Kolkata-700099, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Donovan Suting (New Name) vide an Affidavit sworn before The Notary Public at Kolkata on 10/04/2026. Donovan Dennis Suting, Donovan Dennis Patrick Suting and Donovan Suting are same identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) MAINUL SEIKH S/O- SYEB SK Residing at, Vill- Bagmara, Post- Tikiya Para, P.S- Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742187, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as MAINUL SK (New name) as declared before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad Vide Affidavit No 175 Date 30 March 2026, MAINUL SEIKH and MAINUL SK both are Same and one identical person.

Road not built! residents blocked road in Narayanpur area of Udayanarayanpur

MI News Service, Howrah: Amid the election atmosphere residents of Narayanpur area of Udayanarayanpur, Howrah, blocked the road to protest over the non completion of road construction work. Later, the police went there and lathi-charged and removed the blockers.



According to police and local sources, residents of Narayanpur in Udayanarayanpur's Kanpur Gram Panchayat blocked the road on Sunday morning. The residents of the area claim that an application was received for the construction of a road in the village under the 'Our Neighborhood, Our Solution' project. The application was approved. Accordingly, about four lakh rupees were allocated. Locals allege that the road work started after the allocation of money. After that, it suddenly stopped. This has led to anger among the villagers.

The villagers alleged that the road was not being built because of the local gram panchayat member. This fueled the fire of anger. On Sunday morning, they blocked the Amta Ghoradah road for about an hour. Wooden logs and stones were left on the road. Upon receiving the information, the police of Pero police station, RAF and central forces personnel reached there. The police allegedly used lathi charge to remove the protesters. When the protesters moved away, the police cleared the road. The police have detained one person in this incident. However, no statement was received from the panchayat member or Anchal Pradhan regarding this incident.

They claim that the Gram Panchayat member of the area was asked about this. But he avoided the issue by making various excuses. He also assured that the road would be built. Meanwhile, it is raining occasionally now. Due to this, the road condition is getting worse. The residents of

IIT turns crop residue & plastic into bio-bricks & agro-plastic blocks

MI News Service, Jodhpur: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur have developed next-generation bio-bricks and agro-plastic blocks that can help combat pollution and resource scarcity. The patented innovation enables carbon-negative construction and the circular use of agricultural and plastic waste by transforming these materials into high-performance building materials. This technology is a significant step towards climate-resilient infrastructure.

Mothabari case: ISF member arrested by NIA

MI News Service, Malda: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has made the first arrest in the investigation into the Mothabari incident, where judges who went to SIR work were kept in the BDO office overnight and made a noise. It is learnt that the arrested person is Golam Rabbani, an ISF member of the gram panchayat. Initial reports say that Golam Rabbani was arrested based on information from MIM member Mofakkerul Islam, who was earlier arrested by the state police. According to NIA sources, several important information about the incident will be obtained by interrogating Golam Rabbani after his arrest.



Led by Priyabrata Routray, Assistant Professor at the School of Design, this research introduces two groundbreaking materials of bio-bricks and agro-plastic blocks (APBs). "This patented technology demonstrates that agricultural residues and plastic waste can be transformed into a valuable construction resource. Our goal is not limited to waste management but to develop carbon-negative and circular systems through material innovation that can transform the way we build and live our lives," Priyabrata said.

Meanwhile, Congress candidate Sayem Chowdhury from Mothabari is also under suspicion in the incident. It is learnt that he has also been detained. On Sunday morning, Congress candidate from Mothabari assembly constituency Sayem Chowdhury alias Babu was campaigning in Alinagar panchayat area. It is learnt that he and some workers were detained at that time. There were allegations of a protest on the night of the 1st day of this month against the removal of

After interrogating Mofakkerul, ISF Gram Panchayat member Golam Rabbani was found. And the investigating agency NIA initially found out that he was involved in the unrest in Mothabari. That is why he was arrested.

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Demand for a concrete bridge gained momentum in the Chubka area of Gopiballbhpur

MI News Service, Jhargram: Two districts on both sides. The Kangsabati River flows between them. And the only hope for crossing that river is a bamboo bridge. But when the monsoon comes, that bridge gets washed away. Then the only hope is boats. As a result, the residents of the two districts have to travel in a roundabout way. Therefore, for a long time, they have been demanding the construction of a concrete bridge at the Amdai River Ghat in the Chubka area on the banks of this river. But far from fulfilling that demand, the residents complain that no one has even taken the time to listen to their problems. But they are unwilling to give up. As soon as the elections are coming, the residents of both sides have once again raised their voices demanding the bridge. From Jhargram, residents of Manikpara, Sardiha and Chubka panchayats travel to Midnapore city in a short time by crossing the Kangsabati via the Amdai river ghat. At least three thousand people travel this way every day.

MI News Service, Jhargram: Two districts on both sides. The Kangsabati River flows between them. And the only hope for crossing that river is a bamboo bridge. But when the monsoon comes, that bridge gets washed away. Then the only hope is boats. As a result, the residents of the two districts have to travel in a roundabout way. Therefore, for a long time, they have been demanding the construction of a concrete bridge at the Amdai River Ghat in the Chubka area on the banks of this river. But far from fulfilling that demand, the residents complain that no one has even taken the time to listen to their problems. But they are unwilling to give up. As soon as the elections are coming, the residents of both sides have once again raised their voices demanding the bridge. From Jhargram, residents of Manikpara, Sardiha and Chubka panchayats travel to Midnapore city in a short time by crossing the Kangsabati via the Amdai river ghat. At least three thousand people travel this way every day.

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Gunshots and Bombings During Elections! Widespread Violence in BJP-Ruled Tripura; Complaints Filed with the Commission

MI News Service, Agartala: The elections for the Tripura Autonomous District Council concluded amidst violent incidents involving shootings and bombings. In this election for the 28-seat Autonomous District Council, there were over 850,000 registered voters, and voter turnout exceeded 70%. Conflicts intensified among the BJP's alliance partners during the polls; in particular, clashes between Tipra Motha and the BJP occurred in waves, leaving several people injured. All in all, the shadow of violence loomed over the electoral process in BJP-ruled Tripura.



The elections for the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council were held on Sunday. A strict security cordon was established across the state on Sunday in connection with the voting. Despite these measures, violence could not be entirely averted, and sporadic incidents occurred in several regions. Even with the deployment of additional central forces and state police in sensitive areas, allegations surfaced regarding clashes, attacks, and attempts to obstruct voting at multiple locations.

The voting process began relatively peacefully in the morning; however, as the day progressed, the situation began to shift. The situation deteriorated significantly after noon. Tensions escalated among the workers and supporters of various political parties, eventually erupting into clashes. Allegations surfaced ranging from voter intimidation in some areas to attempts to capture polling booths in others—incidents that have raised serious questions regarding the administration's preparedness.

Against this backdrop, opposition parties have become vocal in questioning the impartiality of the electoral process. Critics, too, are raising doubts regarding the administration's role in maintaining law and order. Demands have been placed before the Election Commission to take swift and stringent legal action against those who have violated the Code of Conduct and were involved in acts of violence. Overall, despite tight security arrangements, the tension and controversy surrounding the ADC elections have further heated up the political atmosphere in the state.

Notably, in the Tripura Autonomous District Council elections, the BJP is contesting independently in all 28 seats. Following the breakdown of its alliance with Tipra Motha, the saffron camp is fighting the polls on its own. The BJP asserts that this time, it will secure control of the District Council in Tripura single-handedly. Furthermore, several leaders from Tipra Motha have also defected to join the saffron camp.

BENGAL: Whose game will be spoiled by SIR data this time? BJP's all-round siege increased the challenge of TMC

MI News Service, Kolkata: The ruling Trinamool Congress, which ran on the slogan of playing against the BJP in the last elections in West Bengal, is afraid of being played with itself this time. The reason is the new voter list drawn up after SIR, which has directly and indirectly hit the party's strong Muslim vote bank. On the one hand, the new list has changed the political equations of the border and Muslim-dominated seats, on the other hand, how the Election Commission has clamped down on the administrative staff at the ground level and the unprecedented presence of paramilitary forces has made the contest very interesting.



While out on the campaign trail in Ward No. 100 of Tollygunge, Aroop Biswas—the Trinamool Congress candidate for the Tollygunge Assembly constituency—joined a game of volleyball with a group of junior players on Sunday. He was accompanied by local municipal representative Prasannjit Das.

Actually, Trinamool, which seems to be gaining ground with its aggressive campaigns in the SIR case from the Parliament to the streets and the Supreme Court, has now fallen behind on this front. After the incident of hostage taking of judicial officers, the state government had to become a direct ally of the Supreme Court. After this, CM Mamata's entire strategy on this issue has collapsed due to the deletion of the names of about 91 lakh voters from the voter list. Why worry for Trinamool?

Most of those who failed to register their names in the new voter list are Muslims who have been staunch Trinamool supporters. For example, on the one hand, while an average of 31,000 votes have been lost in every assembly, this number is on average 45,000 to 50,000 in Muslim-majority or Muslim-influenced seats. Murshidabad, North Dinajpur, Nadia, Malda, North and South 24 Parganas districts where Trinamool's Tuti is speaking, about 50 lakh votes have been lost in these six districts alone.

SIR has direct effect on 157 seats. The margin of votes between BJP and Trinamool in the last Lok Sabha and Assembly elections has been between 7 and 8 percent. In the new voter list, on average 31 thousand voters on general assembly seats and on average 45 thousand voters on Muslim majority seats have decreased. In the last election, there were 57 such seats where the margin of victory in close contests was just 600 to 8,000. In such a situation, SIR will have a direct impact on about 100 Muslim-majority and 57 closely contested seats.

The administration is also closely guarded. For fair and free elections, this time the Election Commission has put strict pressure on the local administration. After the initial move to remove the Chief Secretary, Deputy Commissioner of Police, five officers of DIG rank, SP-DMs of 13 districts as well as in-charges of over 200 police stations have been replaced. Apart from this, the commission has decided to deploy 2,000 companies of paramilitary forces (2.40 lakh soldiers) in the state for the first time. Out of these 500 companies have also been deployed. Due to this, for the first time, pre-election violence has been stopped in the state.

Deleted Voters' Fate in Limbo: SC Verdict Tomorrow Key

MI News Service, Kolkata: A cloud of uncertainty hangs over thousands of voters in West Bengal ahead of a crucial phase of polling, with State Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Manoj Kumar Agarwal on Sunday making it clear that the eligibility of those deleted from the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) electoral rolls will be determined solely by the Supreme Court's forthcoming order on April 13.

Speaking to mediapersons after a high-level review meeting at the Baharampur Circuit House, Agarwal confirmed that the electoral rolls have already been finalised, leaving no administrative scope for last-minute changes. "We have no role regarding names deleted as per court-related processes. The Election Commission will strictly adhere to the directions issued by the Supreme Court on April 13," he said. The statement comes amid mounting legal and political tension over the freezing of voter lists on April 9, despite multiple petitions challenging the deletions still pending before the apex court. Petitioners have alleged that due process was not followed adequately, pointing out that only a handful of applications have been cleared so far, raising concerns over the integrity of the revision exercise. The matter

was recently mentioned before a bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant, where the court indicated it would examine the legality of freezing the rolls during its hearing scheduled for April 13. Representing the Election Commission, senior counsel D.S. Naidu argued that the rolls had been finalised in accordance with established procedure and that no further alterations were permissible, even as he maintained that the right to vote remains a constitutional guarantee. On the law and order front, Agarwal struck a firm note, expressing confidence that polling—particularly in sensitive districts like Murshidabad—would remain

peaceful. Following late-night coordination meetings with senior police and administrative officials, the CEO reiterated a "zero tolerance" stance on any form of disruption. "Strict action will be taken against officers found negligent. In cases where CCTV coverage is absent at polling booths, re-polling will be ordered without hesitation," he warned. With the electoral process entering a crucial phase, the spotlight is now firmly on the Supreme Court, whose imminent ruling is expected to decide whether those struck off the rolls will regain their voting rights—or remain excluded from the democratic exercise.

'The Reality Will Not Change': India Dismisses China's Fabricated Naming of Arunachal

MI News Service, New Delhi: Once again, China has assigned names to several places in Arunachal Pradesh. India issued a strong reaction immediately after this information came to light. On Sunday, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal firmly dismissed this malicious move by China, stating, "Such steps will not alter the reality. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India, and it will remain so in the future."

However, this is not the first instance of such conspiratorial moves by China; it had engaged in similar misconduct as recently as May of last year. On that occasion, China unilaterally renamed several areas within Arunachal Pradesh, claiming that the region was part of its 'Zangnan' province. At that time, too, India dismissed the move as baseless and irrational.

Addressing the media on Sunday, Randhir Jaiswal asserted, "India has never accepted—and will never accept—such malicious attempts by China." He further added, "The attempts by China to assign invented names to territories belonging to India are completely baseless. Such futile endeavors and fabricated nomenclature cannot alter the ground reality. Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India and will remain so."

Reminding China that such actions could hinder efforts to normalize diplomatic relations between the two nations, Jaiswal further stated, "China's actions have a negative impact on bilateral relations and undermine efforts to foster mutual understanding. Consequently, China should refrain from such conduct."

Connecting the Last Mile, Serving the Poorest Unerved, We Indian Railways, are taking Big Investment Strides, Uniting Our Diverse Nation



MI News Service, 12 April 2026, Ne Delhi: Connecting the last mile and serving the poorest and unerved regions, Indian Railways is undertaking a transformative expansion under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan. With a strong focus on inclusive growth and national integration, 100 railway projects involving new lines, doubling, multitracking and other works have been sanctioned in FY2025-26. This unprecedented push reflects Indian Railways' commitment to uniting the diverse nation through enhanced connectivity, while laying the foundation for a high-capacity, future-ready network.

A total investment of ₹1.53 lakh crore has been committed across these projects, covering more than 6,000 kilometres of railway network. This marks a historic milestone in railway expansion. Compared to FY 2024-25, where 64 projects worth ₹72,869 crore covering over 2,800 kilometres were sanctioned, project approvals have increased by 56 percent, route coverage has surged by over 114 percent, and financial commitment has witnessed a remarkable jump of more than 110 percent.

The 100 sanctioned projects include new lines, doubling and multitracking works, along with bypasslines, flyovers and chord lines. These are strategically aimed at decongesting saturated routes, improving punctuality, and enhancing passenger experience while expanding connectivity to underserved regions. The initiatives are expected to significantly improve operational efficiency and reduce travel time across the network.

These projects span across nearly all major states, ensuring a balanced and inclusive expansion of therailway network. Maharashtra (17 projects), Bihar (11), Jharkhand (10), and Madhya Pradesh (9) emerge as key focus states, given their critical role in freight corridors, industrial connectivity, and passenger demand. The scale of investment in these regions is set to significantly enhance both passenger and freight services.

The projects are strategically aligned with the Mission 3000 MT initiative aimed at significantly enhancing cargo capacity. Energy corridor projects dominate the portfolio, facilitating faster coal and mineral movement and strengthening energy security. High Density Network projects address congestion on critical routes, while the Rail Sagar Corridor improves port connectivity and coastal trade. Together, these initiatives will enhance overall network efficiency and logistics performance.

This massive investment is expected to generate substantial employment, stimulate demand in core sectors such as steel and cement, and reduce logistics costs across the country. As these projects progress, they will enhance railway capacity, improve service delivery, and act as a catalyst for India's economic growth. This is not incremental progress—this is India laying the tracks for its next economic leap.

Aligned with the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, these projects go beyond infrastructure creation to enable social transformation. A major focus has been laid on expanding rail connectivity in tribal and remote regions. Landmark initiatives such as the Rowhat-Jagdapur line in Chhattisgarh, along with multiple corridors in Jharkhand and Odisha, will ensure access to markets, healthcare, education and employment opportunities, bringing underserved populations into the mainstream of national development.

From a financial perspective, this expansion reflects a decisive shift towards large-scale, transformational investments. Over 35 projects exceed ₹1,000 crore, forming the backbone of corridor-level upgrades. Major projects include the Kasara-Manmad 3rd and 4th line (131 km) at around ₹10,150 crore, the Kharasia-Naya Raipur-Parmalkasa 5th & 6th line (278 km) at over ₹8,740 crore, the Itarsi-Nagpur 4th line (297 km) at over ₹5,450 crore, and the Secunderabad (Sanathnagar)-Wadi 3rd and 4th line (173 km) at more than ₹5,000 crore. Together, these projects alone account for over ₹28,000 crore, highlighting the focus on strengthening high-density trunk routes.

MI News Service, 12 April 2026, Ne Delhi: Connecting the last mile and serving the poorest and unerved regions, Indian Railways is undertaking a transformative expansion under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan. With a strong focus on inclusive growth and national integration, 100 railway projects involving new lines, doubling, multitracking and other works have been sanctioned in FY2025-26. This unprecedented push reflects Indian Railways' commitment to uniting the diverse nation through enhanced connectivity, while laying the foundation for a high-capacity, future-ready network.

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LADAKH gets its own Aadhaar

MI News Service, Ladakh: Ladakh has secured a distinct identity in Aadhaar records, with lieutenant governor V.K. Saxena's administration replacing the "Jammu and Kashmir" label with "Ladakh" around seven years after it was carved out as a separate Union Territory.

The move is being seen as a symbolic gesture aimed at placating a region whose core demands, including special status under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, remain unmet. Ladakh Lok Bhavan spokesperson said the development followed the intervention of the newly appointed LG and addressed a long-pending public demand.

Officials said the Aadhaar cards of Ladakh residents used to bear Jammu and Kashmir's name under the "State" field, causing widespread hassles. The spokesperson said the LG took a serious note of the prolonged pendency in this matter and directed the UT administration to resolve the issue at the earliest. Subsequently, the administration took up the matter with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

"The long-awaited correction has now been successfully implemented, ensuring that Ladakh's distinct regional identity is accurately represented in Aadhaar," the spokesperson said. The officials said the delay was inconvenient for people who wanted to use Aadhaar as a valid document for identity proof. "The issue not only created hardship for citizens but also affected proper representation of the Union Territory in Aadhaar-linked records and progress reports," an official said.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari-Malda Town-Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari Special Train

To clear extra rush of passengers during Summer season, 08871/08872 Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari-Malda Town-Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari Special train will run as per following abstract timings, stoppages, dates of run and composition:

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari-Malda Town (08871)				Malda Town-Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari (08872)			
Date	Arr.	Dep.	STATIONS	Arr.	Dep.	Date	
19/4,	-	00.30	↓ Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari	17.00	-	21/4, 22/4,	
20/4,	10.15	10.25	Bilaspur Jn.	09.20	09.30	28/4	
26/4,	21.20	21.25	Kharagpur Jn.	22.40	22.45		
	23.10	23.15	Andul	21.08	21.13		
	00.23	00.25	Dankuni Jn.	18.30	18.32	20/4,	
20/4,	01.17	01.20	Bardhaman Jn.	17.11	17.14	21/4,	
21/4,	03.25	03.30	Rampurhat Jn.	15.15	15.20	27/4	
27/4	08.00	-	Malda Town ↑	-	12.55		

The above special trains will also stop at Gondia Jn., Dongargarh, Rajnandgaon, Durg Jn., Raipur Jn., Raigarh, Jharsuguda Jn., Roukela Jn., Chakradharpur, Tatanagar Jn., Bolpur Shantiniketan & New Farakka Jn. stations enroute in both directions: **Dates & Days of run: From Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari: 08871 on 19/04 (Sunday), 20/04 (Monday) & 26/04/2026 (Sunday) = 03 Trips and From Malda Town: 08872 on 20/04 (Monday), 21/04 (Tuesday) & 27/04/2026 (Monday) = 03 Trips. Composition: AC 3-Tier-04, Sleeper Class-10, General 2nd Class (GS)-04 & SLRD-02 = 20 Coaches. Category: Mail/Express.**

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager

EASTERN RAILWAY

Nitish likely to relinquish post on April 14

MI News Service, Patna: Bihar inched towards a political transition on Sunday with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar convening a meeting of his cabinet on April 14, following which the JD(U) president is likely to relinquish the post to make way for a BJP-led government.

According to a notification issued by the cabinet secretariat department, the meeting will take place at 11 am, after which the longest-serving CM of the state, who got elected to the Rajya Sabha last week, was expected to submit his resignation to Governor Syed Ata Hasnain.

Earlier, Kumar's close aide and JD(U) national working president Sanjay Kumar Jha had told reporters that the process of formation of a new government was likely to "roll out after April 13". Meanwhile, the BJP, which has been approaching the prospect of having its first-ever chief minister in the state with considerable restraint, got down to business and named Shivraj Singh Chouhan as a "central observer", who would oversee the change of guard.

Format C-2 (For political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party)

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates.

(As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition (C) no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011.)

Name of Political Party: **RASHTRIYA LOK JANSHAKTI PARTY**
 Name of the Election: **GENERAL ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY-2026 WEST BENGAL**
 Name of State/UT: **WEST BENGAL**
 (1) Name of the Constituency: **93- HARINGHATA (SC)**
 Name of the candidate: **AMIT SARKAR**

Sl. No.	Criminal antecedents	Reasons for selection of the candidate	Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words)
1.	a. Nature of the offences b. Case no. c. Name of the Court d. Whether charges have been framed or not (Yes/No) e. Date of conviction, if any f. Details of punishment undergone, if any g. Any other information required to be given	1. Haringhata P.S. Case no. 14/2020, W/S 304, I.P.C. Date: 23/01/2020. 2. Haringhata P.S. Case no. 287/25 U/S 10, W.B.G. ACT. 1. Ld. A.D.J. (F.T.C) KALYANI 2. Ld. A.C.J.M. KALYANI	CANDIDATE IS BUSSINESS MAN HE IS ALSO INVOLVED IN VARIOUS SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.
2.			AT THE CRIMINAL CASES REGISTERED AGAINST THE CANDIDATE ARE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED. THE PARTY INCINED TO CHOOSE HIM AS A FIT CANDIDATE FOR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AS HE HAS LONGSTANDING ASSOCIATION WITH THE PARTY. HE HAS GOT A LONG TIME ATTACHMENT IN THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FIELD IN THE CONSTITUENCY.
3.			

(2) Name of the constituency - 93 Haringhata
 Name of the candidate - AMIT SARKAR and so on
 *In the case of election to Council of States or States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of Constituency.

Format C-1 (For candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal cases
 (As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P.(Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name and address of candidate: **AMIT SARKAR VILLAGE - P.O. - MOLLABELLA, P.S.- HARINGHATA, DIST. NADIA RASHTRIYA LOK JANSHAKTI PARTY**
 Name of political party: **RASHTRIYA LOK JANSHAKTI PARTY**
 (Independent candidates should write "Independent" here)
 Name of Election: **GENERAL ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2026**
 Name of Constituency: **93 - HARINGHATA (SC) ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY**

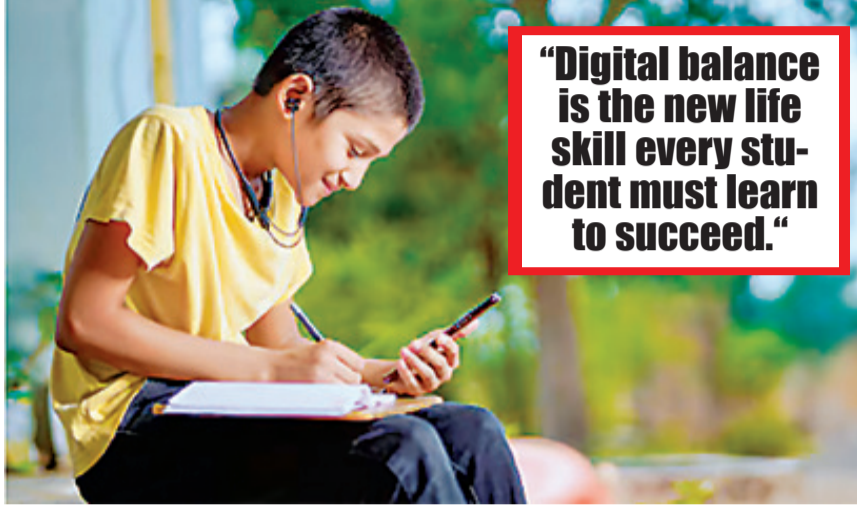
I **AMIT SARKAR** (name of candidate), a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

Sl. No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)
1.	Ld.A.D.J.(F.T.C) KALYANI	HARINGHATA P.S CASE NO.-14/20 Date : 23/01/2020	FOR APPEARANCE	U/S 304.P.C
2.	Ld.A.C.J.M. KAYANI	HARINGHATA P.S CASE NO.-287/25	FOR APPEARANCE	U/S 10.W.B.G.ACT

(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences
 Sl. No. Name of Court & date(s) of order(s) Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed Maximum Punishment imposed
 NA NOT APPLICABLE NOT APPLICABLE NOT APPLICABLE

*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

Mobile Addiction in Students: A Guide for Parents & Teachers



"Digital balance is the new life skill every student must learn to succeed."

Mobile Addiction in Students is emerging as one of the most alarming issues of the current digital age. As smartphones assist students in learning, communication, and exploration, their overuse is posing challenges to mental well-being, concentration, and interpersonal relationships. Most students spend hours gaming or scrolling through social media, neglecting studies and sleep. This blog is meant to educate parents and teachers on the reasons, impacts, and evidence-based means to prevent mobile addiction among students — and lead them to a healthy, balanced coexistence with technology.

Mobile addiction in students refers to excessive and uncontrollable phone usage that interferes with their daily lives, studies, and social life. Contrary to casual use, addiction manifests in signs of dependence, including:

Prolonged time spent on social media, playing games, or watching streams. Irritability when mobile usage is restricted. Ignoring studies, sleep, and family time. Constant need to check notifications, even during classes. It's important to differentiate between healthy educational use

and problematic behaviour that hampers overall growth.

The effects of mobile addiction in students can be far-reaching and concerning:

1. Physical Health Issues
 Ocular fatigue, cephalalgia, and poor posture.

Interference with normal sleep cycles when used at night.

2. Mental & Emotional Health
 Mood swings, increased anxiety and irritability.

Low self-esteem induced by social media.

3. Academic Decline
 The impact of mobile phone use on learning among students is the decline in levels of concentration, poor retention of memory, and fewer classroom participations.

4. Social Skills
 Too much mobile phone dependence reduces face-to-face interactions and results in isolation and frayed relationships.

There are multiple causes of mobile addiction in students:

Easy Accessibility: Inexpensive smartphones and economical internet plans.

Peer Pressure: Social media updates FOMO.

Online Gaming & Entertainment: High usage of addictive apps and games.

Academic Dependency: Online classes and assignments using mobiles tend to go beyond monitored usage.

Lack of Alternatives: No interests or extracurricular activities.

Parents play an important role in managing mobile addiction among students.

Using parental control for mobile use can help set healthy boundaries and guide children toward balanced screen habits.

Here's what they can do to help:

1. Boundaries: Establish boundaries at home for a daily limit of screen time.

2. Promote Hobbies: Involve your child

in organized sports and the arts.

3. Be Role Models: Parents should reduce their mobile device usage as well.

4. Digital Detox: Create family hours when no one uses the phone.

5. Open Communication: Rather than scolding, communicate the ill effects openly.

The teacher role in mobile addiction is to balance discipline with guidance — helping students understand responsible phone use rather than enforcing strict bans.

Make classrooms interactive so that students don't seek constant entertainment outside. Highlight the effects of mobile addiction in students through awareness sessions. Assign projects encouraging real-world exploration over online-only research.

Work with parents to monitor behavioural changes and performance dips.

The collaboration between home and school ensures that students learn self-control gradually.

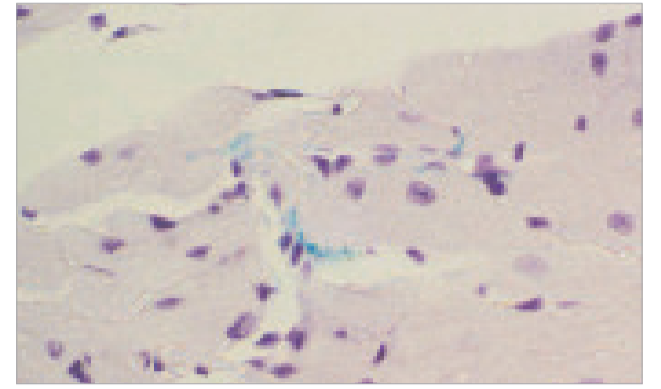
Installing parental control apps is just the first step. To truly reduce the overuse of mobile phones, parents should:

Use digital tools along with regular help. Don't be too strict, or people will rebel.

Talk about healthy mobile habits with these apps. Slowly let kids learn to control themselves by giving them fewer rules.

Mobile addiction in students is not just a trend but a growing concern. Parents and teachers can together shape responsible habits by promoting awareness, balance, and guided use of technology. Combating mobile addiction among students needs to be a balanced approach. Teachers and parents need to join hands, not by prohibiting phones, but by educating them on how to use them responsibly. There is no intention to get rid of mobiles from a student's life, but to ensure they develop healthier habits and concentrate more on growth.

Heart rhythm disorder traces to bacterium lurking in gums: Study



Tokyo [Japan] : New research shows that the gum disease bacterium *P. gingivalis* can slip into the bloodstream and infiltrate the heart. There, it quietly drives scar tissue buildup -- distorting the heart's architecture, disrupting electrical signals, and raising the risk of atrial fibrillation (AFib).

Clinicians have long noticed that people with periodontitis, a common form of gum disease, seem more prone to cardiovascular problems.

One recent meta-analysis has linked it to a 30% higher risk of developing AFib, a potentially serious heart rhythm disorder that can lead to stroke, heart failure, and other life-threatening complications.

Globally, AFib cases nearly doubled in under a decade, rising from 33.5 million in 2010 to roughly 60 million by 2019. Now, scientific curiosity is mounting in how gum disease might be contributing to that surge.

Researchers have discovered DNA from harmful oral bacteria in heart muscle, valves, and even fatty arterial plaques.

Among them, *P. gingivalis* has drawn particular scrutiny for its suspected role in a growing list of systemic diseases, including Alzheimer's, diabetes, and certain cancers.

It has previously been detected in the brain, liver, and placenta. But how it manages to take hold in the heart has been unclear.

This study, published in *Circulation*, provides the first clear evidence that *P. gingivalis* in the gums can worm its way into the left atrium in both animal models and humans, pointing to a potential microbial pathway linking periodontitis to AFib.

"The causal relationship between periodontitis and atrial fibrillation is still unknown, but the spread of periodontal bacteria through the bloodstream may connect these conditions," said study first author Shunsuke Miyachi, assistant professor at HU's Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences.

"Among various periodontal bacteria, *P. gingivalis* is highly pathogenic to periodontitis and some systemic diseases outside the oral cavity. In this study, we have addressed these two key questions: Does *P. gingivalis* translocate to the left atrium from the periodontitis lesion? And if so, does it induce the progression of atrial fibrillation and AFib?" added Miyachi.

To simulate how *P. gingivalis* might escape the mouth and create problems elsewhere, researchers created a mouse model using the bacterium's aggressive W83 strain.

They divided 13-week-old male mice into two groups: one had the strain introduced into the tooth pulp, the other remained uninfected.

Each was further split into subgroups and observed for either 12 or 18 weeks to track the cardiovascular risks of prolonged exposure.

Intracardiac stimulation -- a diagnostic technique for arrhythmia -- revealed no difference in AFib risk between infected and uninfected mice at 12 weeks.

But by week 18, tests showed that mice exposed to the bacterium were six times more likely to develop abnormal heart rhythms, with a 30% AFib inducibility rate compared to just 5% in the control group.

To see if their model accurately replicated periodontitis, the researchers examined jaw lesions and found its telltale signs.

They detected tooth pulp decay and microabscesses caused by *P. gingivalis*. But the damage did not stop there. They also spotted the bacterium in the heart's left atrium, where infected tissue had turned stiff and fibrous.

Using loop-mediated isothermal amplification to detect specific genetic signatures, the team confirmed that the *P. gingivalis* strain they had introduced was present in the heart.

In contrast, the uninfected mice had healthy teeth and no trace of the bacterium in heart tissue samples.

Twelve weeks after infection, mice exposed to *P. gingivalis* already showed more heart scarring than their uninfected counterparts.

AI-designed DNA controls genes in healthy mammalian cells for first time : Study

Washington DC [US] : A recent study marks the first reported instance of generative AI designing synthetic molecules that can successfully control gene expression in healthy mammalian cells.

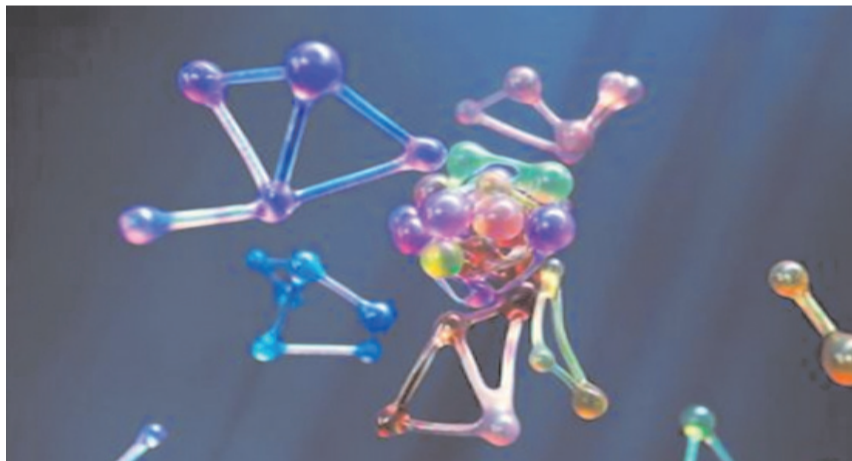
As a proof-of-concept, the authors of the study asked the AI to design synthetic fragments which activate a gene coding for a fluorescent protein in some cells while leaving gene expression patterns unaltered.

They created the fragments from scratch and dropped them into mouse blood cells, where the sequence fused with the genome at random locations.

The experiments worked exactly as predicted and pave the way for new strategies to give instructions to a cell and guide how they develop and behave with unprecedented accuracy.

The model can be told to create synthetic fragments of DNA with custom criteria, for example: 'switch this gene on in stem cells which will turn into red-blood-cells but not platelets.'

The model then predicts which combination of DNA letters (A, T, C, G) are needed for the gene expression patterns required in specific types of cells.



Researchers can then chemically synthesise the roughly 250-letter DNA fragments and add them to a virus for delivery into cells. "The potential applications are vast. It's like writing software but for biology, giving us new ways of giving instructions to a cell and guiding how they develop and behave with unprecedented accuracy," says Dr.

Robert Fromel, first author of the study who carried out the work at the Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG) in Barcelona.

The study could lead to new ways for gene-therapy developers to boost or dampen the activity of genes only in the cells or tissues that need adjusting. It also paves the way for new strategies to fine-tune a

patient's genes and make treatments more effective and reduce side effects.

The work marks an important milestone in the field of generative biology. To date, advances in the field have largely benefited protein design, helping scientists create entirely new enzymes and antibodies faster than ever before. However, many human diseases stem from faulty gene expression that is cell-type specific, for which there might never be a perfect protein drug candidate. AI-generated enhancers can help engineer ultra-selective switches that nature has not yet invented. They can be designed to have exactly the on/off patterns required in specific types of cells, a level of fine-tuning which is crucial for creating therapies that avoid unintended effects in healthy cells. However, the development of AI models requires lots of high-quality data, which has been historically lacking for enhancers. "To create a language model for biology, you have to understand the language cells speak. We set out to decipher these grammar rules for enhancers so that we can create entirely new words and sentences," explains Dr. Lars Velten, corresponding author of the study.

What is grounding could it improve my sleep Here's science behind this TikTok trend

Rockhampton (Australia) : (The Conversation) Have you ever felt an unexpected sense of calm while walking barefoot on grass? Or noticed your stress begin to fade as you stood ankle deep in the ocean? If so, you may have unknowingly "grounded" yourself to the earth.

Grounding, also known as earthing, is the practice of making direct physical contact with the Earth's surface. Our ancestors embraced this trend without knowing it. But with the invention of indoor homes, footpaths, roads, and even shoes, we have become less physically connected with the earth.

Grounding has been suggested to have a number of benefits, such as improving mood, and reducing stress and pain. But overall, there's limited conclusive evidence on the benefits of grounding.

Somewhat ironically, the concept of grounding in 2025 is heavily influenced by technology, rather than getting out into nature. Consumers are being hit with social media reels promoting a range of technologies that ground us, and improve our health.

Among the most common are promises of improved sleep

with the use of a grounding sheet or mat. But is this just another TikTok trend, or could these products really help us get a better night's sleep?

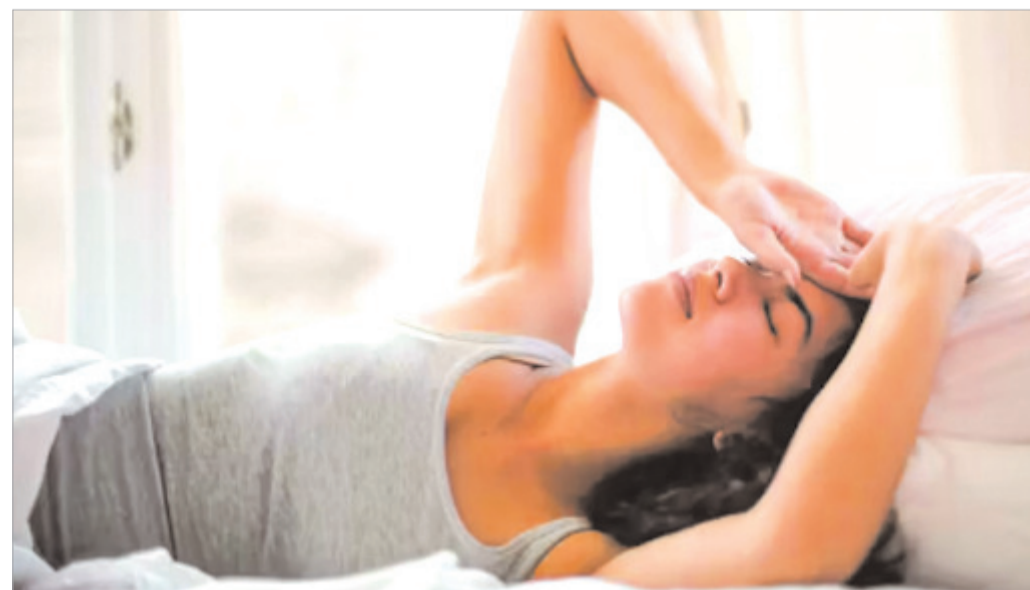
Bringing the outdoors in
 The human body is conductive, which means it can exchange electricity with Earth and artificial sources, such as electronic devices or objects. (Sometimes, this exchange can result in an electric or static shock.)

Proponents of grounding claim the practice reconnects "the conductive human body to the Earth's natural and subtle surface electric charge".

They credit this process with physiological and psychological benefits (but again, the evidence is limited).

Grounding technologies can vary in type (for example, under-desk foot mats, mattress toppers and bed sheets) but all are designed to provide a path for electric charges to flow between your body and the earth.

The bottom prong you see in your three-prong wall socket is a "ground" or "earth" terminal. It provides a direct connection to earth via your building's wiring, diverting excess or unsafe voltage into the ground. This protects you and your devices from potential



electrical faults. Grounding technology uses this terminal as a pathway for the proposed electrical exchange between you and earth, while in the comfort of your home.

Could grounding improve your sleep?

The research in this area is still emerging.

A 2025 study from Korea recruited 60 participants, gave

half of them a grounding mat, and gave the other half a visually identical mat that didn't have grounding technology. The researchers used a "double-blind" protocol, meaning neither the participants nor the researchers knew which participants were given grounding mats.

All participants wore sleep trackers and were asked to use their mat (that is, sit or lie on it)

for six hours per day. The researchers found that after 31 days, participants in the grounding mat group slept longer on average (as measured by their sleep trackers) than those in the control group.

The researchers also used questionnaires to collect measures of insomnia, sleep quality, daytime sleepiness, and stress. After 31 days, participants in both

groups improved on all measures.

There were no differences between the grounded and ungrounded groups for sleep quality, daytime sleepiness, and stress. And while grounded participants showed significantly lower insomnia severity after the intervention, this difference was also present at the start of the study. So it's unclear if grounding had a tangible impact on sleep.

In another double-blind study, published in 2022, researchers in Taiwan examined the effectiveness of using grounding mats to improve sleep among patients with Alzheimer's disease. The findings indicated that spending 30 minutes on a grounding mat five times per week resulted in improved sleep quality.

While previous research has suggested using grounding technologies may lead to improvements in mood, no differences were seen in measures of anxiety and depression in this study.

Grounding for gains?

Grounding technology has also been touted as having other benefits, such as reducing pain and inflammation.

A 2019 study found participants who slept on a grounding mat after intense exercise felt less sore and showed lower levels of

inflammation in their blood compared to those who were ungrounded.

Grounding after a workout may help you feel better and recover faster, but it's still unclear whether and how grounding affects long-term training results or fitness gains.

Add to cart?
 So should you cash in on your favourite influencer's discount code and grab a grounding mat? At the risk of spouting a common cliché of cautious scientists, our answer is that we don't know yet.

What we do know is the existing research, albeit emerging, has shown no evidence grounding technology can negatively affect your sleep or recovery after exercise. So if you love your grounding mat or grounding sheet, or want to see if grounding works for you, feel free to give it a go.

Keep in mind, grounding products can retail for anywhere from around A\$30 to \$300 or more. On the other hand, grounding on the grass in the great outdoors is free. While there's limited evidence that grounding outdoors can improve sleep, spending time in outdoor light may itself benefit sleep, regulate circadian rhythms, and improve mood.

Iraq elects Nizar Amidi as new president amid regional turmoil

MI News Service, Baghdad: Iraq's parliament voted on Saturday, April 11, 2026, to elect Nizar Amidi as the country's new president. The decision came five months after parliamentary elections that failed to produce a clear majority bloc, resulting in prolonged political deadlock.



Amidi, a senior official from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) — one of Iraq's two main Kurdish parties — defeated a field of 16 candidates. In the first round, no one achieved the required two-thirds majority. Amidi led comfortably with 208 votes, while the runner-up, Muthanna Amin Nader from the Kurdistan Islamic Union, received just 17.

In the second round, decided by simple plurality, Amidi secured a strong 227 votes against Nader's 15 (with some reports noting seven invalid ballots out of roughly 249 cast).

The election occurred more than two months after the constitutional 30-day deadline following the new parliament's first session. By Iraq's longstanding power-sharing convention, the presidency is reserved for a Kurdish figure, the prime minister for a Shiite, and the parliamentary speaker for a Sunni Arab.

Born in Dohuk province in northern Iraq,

Amidi is an engineer by training. He previously served as an aide to former presidents Jalal Talabani and Fouad Massoud, and has held roles including heading the PUK's political office in Baghdad. He beat out rivals including Foreign Minister Fuad Hussein, the candidate backed by the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP).

The vote takes place against a difficult backdrop. Iraq has been severely affected by the recent U.S.-Israeli conflict with Iran. Iran-aligned militias launched attacks on U.S. bases and energy infrastructure inside Iraq, prompting retaliatory airstrikes that also claimed lives of Iraqi military personnel.

Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz severely disrupted oil exports, dealing a heavy blow to Iraq's economy, which relies heavily on petroleum revenues.

Following his election, Amidi has 15 days under the constitution to task the nominee of the largest parliamentary bloc with forming a new government.

The dominant Shiite Coordination Framework — a coalition of Iran-aligned parties — had earlier indicated it would nominate former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, though Washington has voiced opposition.

Caretaker Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani had stepped aside to facilitate this path, but the bloc may now reconsider its choice.

Amidi's largely ceremonial role as president marks the sixth holder of the office since 2003. His election ends months of uncertainty and opens the way for government formation talks in a nation still grappling with internal divisions and external shocks.

US-Iran talks collapse after marathon 21-Hour negotiation, Tehran blames unreasonable American demands

MI News Service, Islamabad: High-stakes peace negotiations between the United States and Iran hosted by Pakistan concluded without a breakthrough early Sunday, as the two sides failed to bridge what officials described as fundamental disagreements over Tehran's nuclear ambitions and regional security arrangements.

The talks, held at Islamabad's Serena Hotel, marked the highest-level direct engagement between Washington and Tehran since 1979, with US Vice President JD Vance leading the American delegation and Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf heading the Iranian team.

After nearly a full day of continuous discussions, Vance confirmed that no agreement had been reached. "The bad news is that we have not reached an agreement," Vance told reporters in a brief press conference before departing Islamabad. "We have made very clear what our red lines are, what things we're willing to accommodate them on and what things we're not willing to accommodate them on. And they have chosen not to accept our terms."



Tehran Blames 'Unreasonable' American Demands

Iranian state media was quick to assign responsibility for the diplomatic failure, with state broadcaster IRIB declaring that "unreasonable demands of the American side prevented the progress of the negotiations".

"Despite various initiatives from the Iranian delegation, the unreasonable demands of the American side hindered the progress of the negotiations," IRIB said in a Telegram statement. "Thus, the negotiations ended".

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei wrote on X that the success of any diplomatic process depends on "the seriousness and good faith of the opposing side, refraining from excessive demands and unlawful

requests, and the acceptance of Iran's legitimate rights and interests".

Tehran urged Washington to avoid making excessive and unlawful requests moving forward, signaling that while the door to diplomacy remains open, the terms must change.

Key Sticking Points: Hormuz, Nuclear Rights, and Sanctions

Multiple sources confirmed that the negotiations covered several contentious issues, with the Strait of Hormuz emerging as a particularly difficult point of disagreement.

Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency reported "serious

disagreement" between the two sides regarding control of the strategic waterway, through which a significant portion of global oil supplies transits. Tehran has insisted on maintaining its regulatory authority over the strait, while Washington pressed for guaranteed unrestricted access.

The nuclear issue proved equally problematic. Vance stated that while Iran's enrichment facilities had been "destroyed," the US sought a long-term commitment from Tehran not to develop nuclear weapons or acquire the tools to quickly achieve that capability.

"The simple fact is that we need to see an affirmative commitment that they will not seek a nuclear weapon and they will not seek the tools that would enable them to quickly achieve a nuclear weapon," Vance said. "That is the core goal of the president of the United States, and that's what we've tried to achieve through these negotiations".

Iranian officials, however, framed the issue differently, insisting on recognition of what they described as their "nuclear rights" for civilian purposes.

Other discussion points included war reparations, the complete end to the war against Iran, and the lifting of international sanctions.

Israeli minister Ben-Gvir visits Al-Aqsa compound again despite Arab condemnations



MI News Service, Jerusalem: Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir visited the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in East Jerusalem on Sunday, despite repeated condemnations from Arab countries.

"Today I feel like the landlord here," Ben-Gvir said in a video released by his office.

The visit came about a week after a similar appearance by the far-right, pro-settler minister and amid heightened regional tensions. His repeated visits to the contested site have often triggered diplomatic protests and warnings that they could inflame violence.

Under a decades-old status quo arrangement,

Jews are allowed to visit the hilltop compound but are not permitted to pray there. The site is administered by a Jordanian Islamic trust, known as the Jerusalem Waqf. Muslims regard Al-Aqsa as Islam's third-holiest shrine, while Jews revere the area as the Temple Mount, believed to be the location of two ancient Jewish temples.

Ben-Gvir has repeatedly called for allowing Jewish prayer at the compound, a position widely seen as challenging the status quo. Critics, including Arab governments and Palestinian leaders, say such moves risk further escalating tensions at one of the region's most sensitive religious sites.

Fire from Jerusalem Holy Fire ceremony reaches Beirut, days before Israel-Lebanon peace talks

MI News Service, Jerusalem: After the annual Holy Fire ceremony took place yesterday in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the flame lit in Jesus's tomb reached Lebanon the same day, says Lebanon's presidency.

According to Beirut, the flame was carried by air from Israel to Cyprus, where it was taken on board a Lebanese Army helicopter then flown to Baabda Palace, the official residence of President Joseph Aoun near the capital.

The flame's journey between the Israeli and Lebanese capitals comes days ahead of direct peace talks in Washington between the two enemy states.

The Holy Fire ceremony, held the day before Orthodox Easter, symbolizes the resurrection of Jesus. A flame, supposedly kindled in some miraculous way in the heart of Jesus's tomb, is used to light the candles of fervent believers from Orthodox communities.

'Angels of Minab' drawings exhibited at Iranian Embassy in Delhi

MI News Service, New Delhi: An exhibition titled 'Angels of Minab', showcasing drawings made by children, has been organized at the Iranian Embassy in New Delhi, featuring artwork retrieved from the debris of a girls' elementary school in Minab that was destroyed on February 28 following a series of joint strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran.



The strike on the school took place during the early phase of the US-Israeli military offensive, resulting in the deaths of more than 165 children and staff members. Reports suggest that a US Tomahawk missile struck the site near an Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps naval base. Subsequent US assessments acknowledged American responsibility, attributing the incident to a targeting error rather than a deliberate attack.

Through the exhibition, the Embassy sought to draw attention to the stark human cost of the conflict, presenting the recovered drawings as reflections of a world once filled with innocence and hope.

The initiative also aligns with Iran's broader diplomatic messaging, particularly in the aftermath of the collapse of peace talks with the United States in Islamabad.

In a post on X, the Embassy stated,

"These are drawings that have been brought out from beneath the rubble of a school in Minab. A school that was destroyed following a military attack by the US and the Zionist regime."

"Pages were recovered through the efforts of Red Crescent rescue teams, and have been restored only to the extent that they can be seen. The world depicted in them is still simple, bright, and trustworthy. But the world outside did not remain so. Children, in no war, should be victims; yet in every war, many worlds collapse with their extinguishing," it added.

US officials have maintained that the strike on the school was unintended, describing it as a case of misidentification during targeting rather than an intentional effort to hit a civilian facility.

Trump says not bothered about outcome of U.S.-Iran talks in Pakistan

MI News Service, New York: U.S. President Donald Trump said Saturday he is not bothered about the outcome of the U.S.-Iran talks in Pakistan.

Trump insisted that the United States had come out ahead from the war. "Whether we make a deal or not makes no difference to me. The reason is because we've won," Trump told reporters when departing the White House. "We're in very deep negotiations with Iran. So we win regardless," Trump



said. "We've defeated them militarily. We've defeated their military. They have no navy, 158 ships are underwater, Undersea. All of their minesweepers," he claimed.

Ghalibaf says US failed to gain trust of Iranian delegation at inconclusive Islamabad talks

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran's Parliamentary Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf says his country's delegation raised "forward-looking" initiatives during negotiations in Pakistan's Islamabad, but the US failed to gain the trust of the delegation in the talks that ended this morning without an agreement. "The US has understood Iran's logic and principles and it's time for them to decide whether they can earn our trust or not," Ghalibaf, who was among Iran's negotiating team, says in a post on X.

Hezbollah denies link to Syrian cell accused of planning attack on rabbi in Damascus

MI News Service, Beirut: Hezbollah denies any link to a cell accused by Syrian authorities of planning an attack on a religious figure in Damascus, identified in Israeli and Arabic media as Rabbi Michael Khoury. The Iran-backed Lebanese terror group, which fought in support of Syrian president Bashar al-Assad until he was toppled in 2024, claims it has "no activity, no ties and no relationship with any party in Syria, and has no presence on Syrian soil."

Claims linking Hezbollah to the accused cell were "false and fabricated," the terror group says, calling on Syrian authorities "to conduct a thorough investigation before making accusations without evidence." It blames "the presence of intelligence services" on Syrian soil that it says were "seeking to inflame tensions between Lebanon and Syria."

Syria's interior ministry said Saturday that security forces had arrested a woman attempting to plant an explosive device in front of a house belonging to an unnamed religious figure in the Bab Touma area of the Syrian capital.

Russia accuses Ukraine of violating Easter truce nearly 2,000 times

MI News Service, Moscow: The Ukrainian armed forces have violated the Easter ceasefire 1,971 times from Saturday, when the truce was agreed upon, until 8 a.m. local time (0500 GMT) on Sunday, said the Russian Defense Ministry.

Ukrainian forces launched three nighttime attacks on Russian troop positions in two settlements in the Dnipropetrovsk region, it said, adding that Russian forces also thwarted four attempts to advance on their troop positions in the Sumy and Donetsk regions.

All Russian troop groups in the conflict zone "strictly observed the ceasefire... and remained at their previously occupied lines and positions," it said.

On the same day, Ukraine also accused Russia of violating the ceasefire. "As of 7:00 a.m. on 12 April, 2,299 ceasefire violations were recorded," said the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on Facebook.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Thursday announced an Orthodox Easter ceasefire with Ukraine from 4 p.m. local time (1300 GMT) Saturday until the end of Sunday.

Iran says 'ball in America's court' after talks with US fails

MI News Service, Tehran: Iran said it had presented "reasonable" proposals during negotiations with the United States (US), placing responsibility on Washington to respond after the latest round of talks in Pakistan ended without an agreement on Sunday, April 12.



"Iran has put forward reasonable initiatives and proposals... The ball is in America's court to look at the issues realistically," an informed source told Tasnim news agency, adding that Tehran is "in no hurry" and that no timeline has been set for further negotiations.

The source also accused Washington of miscalculations during both the conflict and negotiations, warning that the situation in the Strait of Hormuz would remain unchanged until a "reasonable agreement" is reached.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said the discussions lasted up to 24-25 hours, making them the longest round of talks in the past year.

He said the negotiations

took place in an atmosphere of "mistrust and suspicion" following 40 days of conflict, adding that no breakthrough was expected in a single round.

"Diplomacy never ends... this tool is for protecting national interests," he said, noting that both sides reached an understanding on several issues but remained divided on "two or three important" matters.

Baghaei also told Reuters that differences on key issues ultimately prevented an agreement.

The Iranian delegation departed Pakistan after multiple rounds of negotiations, according to Mehr news agency, marking the end of the latest phase of

talks.

Their exit came hours after US Vice President JD Vance left Islamabad at around 7:08 am local time following confirmation that no agreement had been reached.

US Vice President JD Vance waves before departing Islamabad after US-Iran talks ended without an agreement, April 2026. Photo: ANI

Despite the outcome, both sides signalled that technical engagement may continue through indirect exchanges.

One Iranian official suggested the outcome should not be viewed as a complete failure, noting that no agreement had been reached rather than for-

mally abandoned.

The Strait of Hormuz emerged as a central point of contention during the Islamabad negotiations.

Iranian sources, cited by Fars news agency, said the United States pushed for the immediate reopening of the strait, which has been largely disrupted since the escalation began in late February.

Tehran rejected the demand, insisting that reopening would only occur as part of a comprehensive agreement.

A source said Washington appeared to be seeking through negotiations what it "did not achieve during the war", including arrangements related to tanker escorts, ship insurance and maritime security.

Shipping uncertainty persists. Bloomberg reported that two oil tankers turned back while attempting to cross the strait, while data cited by LSEG showed that three supertankers managed to transit the waterway, marking limited movement since the ceasefire.

Alongside maritime tensions, Iran's nuclear pro-

gramme remains a major sticking point.

Tehran has maintained its right to nuclear development, while Washington has sought firm guarantees that Iran will not pursue nuclear weapons.

Iran's Press TV reported that "various issues, including the Strait of Hormuz, nuclear rights, and other issues" were among the main points of contention, adding that US "excessive demands" prevented a framework from being reached.

In southern Lebanon, violence continued alongside diplomatic efforts.

According to Al Jazeera and local media, Israeli strikes in the Tyre district, including Maaroub, killed at least six people, while earlier attacks reportedly caused additional casualties.

The Iran-backed Hezbollah said it targeted Israeli troop positions in Yaroun using drones.

Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam called for calm, urging citizens to "elevate the language of reason" and prioritise national unity.

Putin praises advancements in Russia's space industry

MI News Service, Moscow: Russia's space industry remains confident despite longstanding challenges, President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday ahead of Russia's Cosmonautics Day.

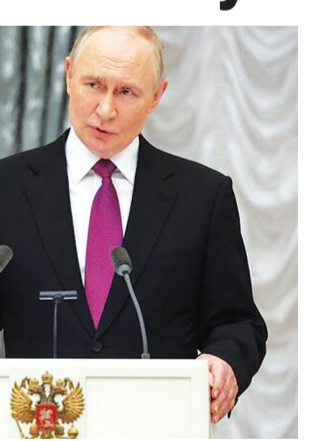
"This year, we also celebrate the 65th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's historic flight. Last year was generally positive for the industry: 17 launches and 97 spacecraft were sent into orbit. Consolidated revenue grew by 10 percent, exceeding 500 billion rubles," Putin noted.

During a meeting with Putin, Dmitry Bakanov, head of Russia's state space corporation Roscosmos, highlighted that two weeks ago, Roscosmos and its private partners successfully launched a new low-orbit broadband satellite constellation, bringing Russia's orbital grouping to 364 spacecraft. He emphasized that the launch from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome went ahead despite external attempts to disrupt it.

"When people say space is above politics, our so-called 'friends' tried everything to prevent this launch. On that day, there were serious strike attempts on the cosmodrome. Nevertheless, the joint combat crews of Roscosmos enterprises and the Space Forces completed the mission," Bakanov said.

Bakanov also briefed Putin on the "New Start" project, under which a private investor will contribute 600 billion rubles over eight years for the conversion of the Topol missile and the development of a reusable launch vehicle. The first launch from the Vostochny Cosmodrome is planned for the first quarter of 2027.

challenges, President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday ahead of Russia's Cosmonautics Day.



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IPL 2026: Gill and Buttler's fifties power GT to seven-wicket win over LSG

LUCKNOW : Prasidh Krishna's personal-best T20 figures of 4-28, followed by a dominant batting display led by Shubman Gill and Jos Buttler, powered Gujarat Titans to a comfortable seven-wicket win over Lucknow Super Giants in their Indian Premier League 2026 clash at the Ekana Stadium on Sunday.

Chasing a competitive 165, the Titans made light work of the target, reaching 165/3 in 18.4 overs to register a clinical victory, built on a commanding second-wicket partnership and a late flourish.

GT began cautiously but steadily, with Gill and Sai Sudharsan laying the foundation. Sudharsan (15) fell early to Digvesh Rathi, but that was the only breakthrough LSG managed during the powerplay as GT cruised to 52/1 after six overs.

From there on, Gill took control of the chase with a classy

knock, mixing timing with authority. He capitalised on anything loose, particularly taking on Mohammed Shami in a 20-run over that shifted momentum firmly in GT's favour. The skipper brought up a fluent half-century off 34 balls, finishing with 56 off 40 deliveries before falling to Prince Yadav.

At the other end, Buttler grew into his innings after a watchful start and then unleashed a barrage of boundaries. The Englishman was particularly severe on Avesh Khan, smashing three consecutive fours in one over as GT surged ahead in the middle overs. Buttler notched up his 100th T20 fifty, reaching the milestone in just 34 balls, and went on to score a match-defining 60 off 37 balls, laced with 11 fours.

The duo's partnership ensured that the required rate never



became a concern, with GT racing to 128/1 by the 14th over, effectively putting the game beyond LSG's reach.

Though the home team found brief respite through the wickets of Gill and Buttler in quick succession, the target had already been whittled down significantly. Rahul Tewatia (10 not out off 8) and Washington Sundar then calmly finished proceedings, with Sundar sealing the win with a composed unbeaten 21 off 13 balls, including a six and a couple of boundaries.

Earlier, Gujarat's bowlers had set up the victory with a disciplined effort to restrict LSG to 164/8.

The hosts managed to post a competitive total, thanks to a late lower-order surge after a stuttering middle phase. Put to bat, LSG raced to 60/2 in the powerplay. Aiden Markram anchored the innings with 30 off 21 balls, but

regular wickets derailed their progress. Nicholas Pooran (19 off 21) and Abdul Samad (18 off 22) failed to accelerate as Gujarat's bowlers applied pressure.

LSG looked set for a below-par total during the death overs before Mukul Choudhary (18), George Linde (16 off 10) and Mohammed Shami's late blows lifted them past 160, with 18 runs coming in the final over. Prasidh Krishna started with an impressive 4/28, striking crucial blows in the middle overs, while Mohammed Siraj and Ashok Sharma chipped in with key wickets.

Brief Scores: Lucknow Super Giants 164/8 in 20 overs (Aiden Markram 30, Nicholas Pooran 19; Prasidh Krishna 4-28, Ashok Sharma 2-32) lost to Gujarat Titans (Jos Buttler 60, Shubman Gill 56; Digvesh Rathi 1-31, Prince Yadav 1-31) by seven wickets.

BCB GRANTS ONE-DAY NOC EXTENSION TO SHORIFUL, NAHID FOR PSL

DHAKA : The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has granted a one-day extension to the No Objection Certificates (NOCs) issued to pacers Shoriful Islam and Nahid Rana, allowing them to continue their participation in the ongoing Pakistan Super League (PSL).

The development was confirmed by the BCB in an official press release issued on Sunday, following a formal request from their franchise, Peshawar Zalmi, and the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

"The decision has been made following a request from their PSL franchise, Peshawar Zalmi, as well as the Pakistan Cricket Board," the BCB said in a statement on Sunday.

As per the initial arrangement, the NOCs granted to the two pacers were valid until April 12, 2026. However, the extension now allows both players to remain in Pakistan for an additional day to feature in Peshawar Zalmi's next league fixture.

"Shoriful Islam and Nahid Rana were originally granted NOCs valid until 12 April 2026. Under the revised arrangement, both players have been permitted to remain in Pakistan for Peshawar Zalmi's scheduled PSL fixture on 13 April 2026," it further added.

Peshawar Zalmi have enjoyed a strong run in the tournament so far and currently sit at the top of the points table, having secured four wins from their five matches. The side is scheduled to take on Multan Sultans on Monday in what promises to be a crucial encounter as the league stage progresses.

Meanwhile, both Shoriful and Rana remain part of Bangladesh's plans for the upcoming international assignment. The duo have been named in the 15-member squad for the first two One-Day Internationals of the three-match series against the New Zealand cricket team, set to commence on April 17.

According to the schedule, the opening two matches will be played at Sher-e-Bangla Stadium in Dhaka on April 17 and 20, while the third ODI is scheduled for April 23 in Chattogram.

Mehidy Hasan Miraz will continue to lead the team, which has experienced players like Litton Das, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful, along with some young talents, including Rishad Hossain and Nahid.



On his marathon debut, Sawan Barwal shatters longest-standing national record in Indian athletics



MUMBAI : Young distance runner Sawan Barwal shattered the longest-standing record in Indian athletics on his marathon debut, clocking a time of 2:11:58 at the NN Marathon Rotterdam, a World Athletics Gold Label Road Race, in Rotterdam, Netherlands, on Sunday.

The 28-year-old athlete, who is supported by the Reliance Foundation, improved on the long-standing National Record of 2:12:00 set by the legendary Shivnath Singh on May 28, 1978, in Jalandhar.

For Barwal, this was his marathon debut, marking an important milestone in his career. He has now achieved the AFI qualification standard of 2:15:00 for the 2026 Asian Games. Sawan Barwal ran a steady pace throughout the grueling marathon distance of 42.195km. But windy conditions in the last 5km of the race took their toll on the Indian runner. "It was pretty cold and windy. I

made a mistake of pouring water on my head at the water station," the 28-year-old army runner said from Rotterdam. "I was running at a comfortable pace until the 37 km mark. But the last 2km were more challenging as I had to just plod to cross the finish line."

Sawan Barwal is the fastest of the four athletes who have bettered the Asian Games marathon qualification time of 2:15:04 this year. Kartik Karkera, Gopi T and Man Singh are the other three runners.

Exhausted after his record-breaking efforts, the army runner fell down crossing the finish line. He was taken for medical assistance. "I've recovered and am feeling better," he added.

Experienced marathon runner and Asian champion, Gopi T, was the second Indian runner in the fray. Gopi finished 23rd with a time of 2:13:16. Gopi had come close to breaking the national record last year at the Valencia Marathon in December,

but the 37-year-old Army runner had clocked 2:12:23 to narrowly miss the record.

Participation in this marathon was aligned with Project 2.09, Reliance Foundation's high-performance initiative within the Endurance Program, aimed at enabling Indian athletes to break the 2:10 marathon barrier through science-led training, structured international exposure, and race-specific execution strategies, the Reliance Foundation informed in a release on Sunday.

The Rotterdam Marathon serves as a key benchmark competition within the long-term pathway, supporting the broader objective of elevating India's standards in global marathon running. Currently, Sawan Barwal, Gopi Thonakal, and Man Singh are part of this project, with Gopi, Sawan, and Man having already achieved their personal best performances under the initiative.

Putting your best energy, let your instincts come through: Sundar opens up on his mindset under pressure

LUCKNOW : Gujarat Titans all-rounder Washington Sundar shed light on his approach to handling high-pressure situations, emphasising the importance of staying mentally free and trusting his natural game.

Speaking on GT's tense last-ball win in their previous game ahead of their clash against Lucknow Super Giants, Sundar highlighted how focusing on the right energy and allowing instincts to take over has shaped his performances, offering insight into the mindset that drives him in crunch moments.

Sundar himself played a pivotal role in the win, contributing a valuable half-century, and the all-rounder spoke about his approach with the bat this season, focusing more on mindset than technical changes.

"Honestly, it's just about going out there and putting your best energy out and just let your instincts come through. And there's not a lot of things that I honestly worked on, especially mentally. Just wanted to go there and be in the right energy and just express myself," he said ahead of the LSG vs GT clash at the Ekana Cricket Stadium here on Sunday.

Gujarat edged out Delhi in a dramatic finish that went down to the final ball, with their bowlers holding firm under immense pressure. Sundar admitted the narrow margin left plenty to think about, even as the team took confidence from how they handled crunch situations. "There were a lot of



things that were running on all of our minds in terms of how close the game went. And obviously, could have executed things a little better here and there. But to be honest, bowlers bowled really well, especially under pressure.

And Prasidh in particular, bowling that final over with five fielders inside the circle, defending 12, it's always going to be a lot challenging.

"But obviously, skill is never a question over here. It's all about our decision-making, what's the choice of ball and how will we execute it. And I think we did that pretty well last game," he noted.

While such wins can often provide momentum, Sundar was measured in his assessment of its impact on the campaign, under-

lining the importance of consistency in a long tournament.

"I can't really think like that because it's a long tournament. One doesn't mean that if you win one, you're going to win all of the games that are going to come after that. Or for that matter, if you're going to lose one, the morale is extremely low. It doesn't always work like that. We got to do the things that is required of us to be able to win games.

"And eventually, we always play as a team. And that's always been a strength in terms of GT. So, just go out there, do the things that we're supposed to do. Do good things. Do right things over a period of time and obviously, results will come good," Sundar stated.

Shubman Gill becomes youngest player to reach 4,000 IPL runs

LUCKNOW : Gujarat Titans captain Shubman Gill etched his name in the record books by becoming the youngest player to cross the 4,000-run mark in the Indian Premier League (IPL). The milestone came during his knock against Lucknow Super Giants at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium on Sunday, when he moved past the landmark with his 25th run.

The elegant right-hander reached the feat in 118 innings, making him the second-fastest Indian to get to 4,000 IPL runs, behind KL Rahul, who accomplished it in 105 innings. Among all players, only Chris Gayle (112 innings), David Warner (114) and Jos Buttler (116), besides Rahul, have reached the milestone quicker than Gill.

Gill's consistency has been a hallmark of his IPL career, with the opener maintaining an average close to 40 and a strike rate around 140. He began his journey in the league with Kolkata Knight Riders in 2018, represent-

ing the franchise for four seasons and scoring 1,417 runs in 58 matches.

A move to the Gujarat Titans ahead of the 2022 season marked a turning point, with Gill elevating his game to new heights. Since then, he has amassed over 2,580 runs in 63 appearances, averaging in excess of 46 and striking at nearly 150. Notably, no batter has scored more runs than him in the IPL since the start of the 2022 edition.

Now leading the Titans, Gill has registered 27 half-centuries and four hundreds in the tournament, with a significant majority of those fifties (17) and all his centuries coming for the 2022 champions.

Earlier this season, the 26-year-old had already achieved another landmark, becoming the first player to score 2,500 IPL runs for Gujarat Titans. He reached the mark during their clash against Delhi Capitals, getting there with a boundary off Axar Patel in the seventh over.



PGTI Tour: Top stars to battle for title in inaugural Boulders Classic in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD : Shubhankar Sharma, a two-time PGTI Tour winner, and Yuvraj Sandhu, a tour regular and 2025 PGTI Order of Merit champion, will be the top attractions in the inaugural Boulders Classic to be played from April 14 to 17 at the iconic Boulder Hills Golf & Country Club in Hyderabad.

The tournament, sanctioned by the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), will feature 132 golfers from across India and overseas, making it one of the most competitive and anticipated events on the PGTI calendar. Played in a Stroke Play Format, the championship promises high-quality golfing action and intense competition among the country's top talent.

The other leading Indian names participating include 2026 PGTI Order of Merit leader Saptak Talwar, Veer Ahlawat, Om Prakash Chouhan, Manu Gandas, Honey Baisoya, and Ajeetesh Sandhu.

The leading foreign player at the event is Sri Lankan N. Thangaraja. In all, 20 foreign players from 10 different countries will be in the fray. The local challenge will be led by Hyderabad-based professionals Mohd Azhar, Vishesh Sharma, Syed Saifdar Hussain, SNLG Varam Raju, Sumit Kotwal, and Anirudh Kamireddyapalli.

The Boulder Hills Golf & Country Club, known for its world-



class 18-hole championship course and scenic layout, continues to strengthen its position as a premier destination for national and international golfing events. The hosting of the PGTI Boulders Classic further reinforces Hyderabad's growing stature in India's golfing ecosystem.

Expressing happiness in hosting the event, Madhusudhan Rao, CFO & Business Head - Emaar Properties, Hyderabad, added: "It is a matter of pride for us at Emaar to see Boulder Hills hosting a marquee PGTI event. The course, infrastructure, and overall ecosystem here provide an ideal platform for professional tournaments of this scale. We are confident that the PGTI Boulders Classic 2026 will deliver an excep-

tional experience for players, partners, and golf enthusiasts alike."

Kapil Dev, President, Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI), said, "The inaugural Boulders Classic is a landmark addition to the DP World PGTI calendar. Bringing a professional tournament to Boulder Hills Golf & Country Club for the very first time is in line with our objective of exploring new venues and thus creating more playing opportunities for our professionals. This venue, with its distinctive layout and world-class facilities, promises a compelling test for our players and an engaging experience for fans. We thank Boulder Hills and all other event partners for their support of the event."

KKR HOSTS FAN MEET-UP IN CHENNAI, CAPTURING KNIGHT RIDERS' SPIRIT IN THE CITY

CHENNAI : Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) hosted a fan meet-up at ITC Grand Chola in Chennai on Sunday, bringing together passionate supporters ahead of their Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 clash against Chennai Super Kings on April 14.

The fan meet-up included an engaging get-together featuring fun games and interactive activities that brought the Knight Riders community together in Chennai. Fans were in for a special surprise when KKR batter Rahul Tripathi made an appearance at the event, interacting closely with supporters, posing for pictures, and adding to the excitement of the evening.

"The love and energy from the KKR fans here in Chennai has been incredible. Even when we are away from home, this kind of support makes us feel right at home. Interacting with them today was really special, and we hope to give them a performance to cheer for in the next game," said Tripathi.

KKR have had a tough start to their campaign this season. They went down by six wickets to the Mumbai Indians in their opening match at the Wankhede Stadium and, upon returning home, suffered a crushing 65-run defeat to Sunrisers Hyderabad. Their third match against the Punjab Kings was abandoned due to rain, which gave them a solidarity point. They suffered a shocking defeat at the hands of Lucknow Super Giants in their last match. Leaving them with just one point in four matches.