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Morning India

Suvendu Adhikari elected BJP legislature party leader in Bengal, set to become CM

MI News Service, Kolkata: Ending all assumptions, calculations and as expected, senior BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari was formally elected as the leader of the BJP legislature party in West Bengal here on Friday, paving the way for him to become the first BJP chief minister of the state.

BJP sources said after Suvendu Adhikari's name was unanimously proposed at the legislature party meeting here by all the 207 newly elected BJP MLAs and senior party leaders, his name as the Legislature Party leader was formally announced by Union Home Minister Amit Shah who attended the meeting as the Central Observer of the party. Among others Odisha Chief minister Mohan Charan Majhi was present as the Deputy Central Observer.

The swearing-in ceremony of the new BJP government under the leadership of Suvendu Adhikari will be held at the Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata tomorrow on May 9, coinciding with the birth anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, known as Rabindra-Jayanti.

As per the norm Suvendu Adhikari, accompanied by Bengal BJP chief Samik Bhattacharya later met Governor RN Ravi at 6:30 pm at the Lok Bhavan to stake the claim to form the government in the state.

The new BJP government and the state ministers swearing-in ceremony will now take place for the first time at the famous Brigade Parade Ground here on Saturday at 11 am, which will be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Amit Shah, various union ministers and all 20 Chief ministers of states ruled by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Incidentally, Suvendu Adhikari's rise in Bengal politics has been significant. He was once a trusted lieutenant of Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo Mamata Banerjee, but had switched to the BJP before the 2021 assembly elections in the state.

Since then, he has been at the forefront of BJP's campaign against Mamata Banerjee.

In the 2021 polls, Suvendu Adhikari was challenged by Mamata Banerjee from his strong-

hold of Nandigram where the TMC supremo lost to her aide-turned-rival back then by over 1500 votes.

For the 2026 elections, the BJP leadership fielded Adhikari from two seats: Nandigram and Bhabanipur. The latter is considered to be a bastion of Mamata Banerjee, but Suvendu Adhikari was able to defeat her for a second consecutive time by a margin of more than 15,000 votes.

According to the Election Commission of India (ECI), Suvendu Adhikari received 73,917 votes, against Mamata Banerjee who could manage only 58,812 votes.

Notably, Suvendu Adhikari has been a five-time MLA. He had first contested a West Bengal election in 2001 from Mugberia, but lost by nearly 15,000 votes. He first got elected to the West Bengal assembly from Kanthi Dakshin in 2006. In 2016, he changed his seat to Nandigram, though; which he was able to retain in 2021. Finally in 2026, he contested from both Nandigram and Bhabanipur, and won both.

Other than this, Suvendu Adhikari has also been a two-time Lok Sabha member. He first got elected to the lower House from Tamluk in 2009. He was also able to retain this seat in the 2014 parliamentary elections.

Coming to the 2026 West Bengal elections, the BJP ousted the TMC after 15 years in power. The saffron party received a two-third majority, with 207 seats out of the 294 assembly constituencies. The TMC's tally reduced to 80. On the other hand, the Congress and the Aam Janata Unnayan Party (AJUP) won two seats each. The Communist Party of India (Marxist) and the All India Secular Front (AISF) bagged one seat each.

Suvendu Adhikari emerged as the unanimous choice to become the party's first Chief minister in West Bengal after the BJP registered a historic victory in the just-concluded assembly elections, to bring an end to the TMC's 15-year rule as well as that of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee who has suffered one of the biggest setbacks of her over five decades long political career.

Though the BJP did not officially announce its Chief ministerial choice till this morning,



Union Home Minister Amit Shah formally announces Suvendu Adhikari as the BJP's first Chief Minister of West Bengal by honouring him with a floral garland. Following the announcement, Suvendu seeks blessings from the Union Home Minister during a meeting at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre on Friday.

the Opposition Leader in the last Assembly. Suvendu Adhikari has emerged as the frontrunner after securing two of the most politically significant victories -- retaining Nandigram, where he defeated Mamata Banerjee in 2021 and TMC candidate Pabitra Kar this time, and wresting Bhabanipur, long regarded as the TMC supremo's pocket borough.

Once among Mamata Banerjee's closest associates and a key architect of the TMC's organisational expansion in rural West Bengal, Suvendu Adhikari joined the BJP in December 2020 and went on to become the party's most aggressive campaigner in the state.

"His sustained political battle against the TMC, organisational reach and electoral victories against Mamata Banerjee have strengthened his claim," a senior BJP leader said.

According to party insiders, Suvendu Adhikari's victory from Bhabanipur by over 15,000 votes is being viewed within the BJP as both a symbolic and strategic turning point in Bengal politics.

However, the leadership contest is not seen as entirely settled.

Other names as the Chief ministerial candidates also discussed within the BJP circles included state party president Samik Bhattacharya and former Rajya Sabha MP Swapan Dasgupta, who won the Rashbehari seat.

While Dasgupta is viewed by some within the party as an intellectual face capable of balancing governance with political messaging, Bhattacharya is credited with steering the organisation through a crucial electoral phase.

Senior BJP leaders, however, maintained that the final decision was, however, rested with the party's central leadership.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah arrived in Kolkata on Friday for a crucial meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Legislature party to decide over the next Chief minister of Bengal.

Though at the start of the crucial meeting Suvendu Adhikari and Agnimitra Paul have emerged as the front runners for the post of the top administrative post in the state, within minutes the name of Suvendu Adhikari was accepted unanimously be-

fore being formally announced ending all speculations and calculations.

Senior BJP leader Rahul Sinha, MP, took a swipe at the opposition and said those who claimed that Amit Shah or any Union Minister would not be able to visit the state after May 4 had been proven wrong.

"Those arrogant people who said that Amit Shah or any central minister would not be able to come here after the 4th, see today Amit Shah has come here. And those who said such things are sitting at home," Rahul Sinha said.

He further added, "The leader was decided in the legislature party meeting, and everything became clear by 6 pm."

On his arrival in the city at around noon, Union Home Minister Amit Shah offered prayers at the Dakshineswar Kali Temple and expressed his gratitude to the people of West Bengal for their overwhelming support to BJP.

"I bow to the people of Bengal for the immense affection, trust, and support they gave to the BJP," he said in a post on X.

Later he reached a New Town Hotel to chair the BJP's legislature party meeting, which began at around 2 p.m.

Meanwhile, Police in West Bengal's border districts have stepped up surveillance and search operations amid suspicions that professional shooters from neighbouring states may have been involved in the killing of BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's close aide, a senior officer said on Friday.

Investigators are also probing whether local criminals provided logistical support to the attackers. More than 36 hours after Adhikari's personal assistant, Chandranath Rath, was shot dead by motorcycle-borne assailants in Madhyamgram of North 24 Parganas district, no arrests have been made so far.

"A detailed investigation is underway. The nature of the attack points to extensive reconnaissance and possible involvement of hired sharpshooters from outside the state," the officer said.

Commenting on the killing of Suvendu Adhikari's aide, BJP MP Jyotirmay Singh Mahato says, "TMC engaging in post-poll violence to defame BJP, create unrest in Bengal."

BJP calls Sanjay Raut 'joker of Indian politics' over Trump post on Bengal polls



Sanjay Raut

MI News Service, Mumbai / New Delhi: Expressing utter surprise, the BJP on Friday called Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut the "joker of Indian politics" over his post addressed to US President Donald Trump on the West Bengal Assembly election results, and accused the Opposition of "besmirching" India's image internationally.

In a post on X addressed to Trump, Raut on Friday questioned reports of the US president congratulating Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the BJP's victory in West Bengal and said the polls are an "internal matter of India's federal democracy" and any external endorsement appears premature and misplaced.

The Rajya Sabha MP claimed that "serious concerns" have emerged regarding the conduct of the elections and alleged that there were complaints of "fear, intimidation and systemic pressure."

Hitting back, BJP spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla alleged that Raut, as well as Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, have lost their political senses and make such statements in their frustrated opposition to PM Modi.

"Sanjay Raut is the joker of Indian politics. He and Rahul Gandhi have taken a 'supari' (contract) to besmirch India's image for domestic political petty battles and in PM Modi's opposition they oppose the country," Poonawalla said in a video post on X.

The BJP leader said India's democracy is being praised globally, but opposition leaders are spreading what he called false narratives over electoral processes.

"Indian democracy is being hailed across the world and this man is complaining about India on facts which are not even there," he said.

Referring to the BJP's massive performance in the West Bengal Assembly polls, Poonawalla said people across the world are reacting to the result and claimed reports suggested Trump has also congratulated the BJP.

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Condition of injured driver in the killing of Suvendu's aide, is stable

MI News Service, Kolkata: The family of Buddhhab Bera, the injured driver in the shooting that killed BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's close aide Chandranath Rath on Wednesday night, has demanded exemplary punishment for those responsible and urged the new government to ensure such incidents do not happen in West Bengal.

Rath was shot dead in Madhyamgram near Kolkata, triggering a political storm in the state. Bera, who was driving the vehicle at the time of the attack, sustained multiple gunshot wounds and is currently undergoing treatment at a private hospital.

"At least bullets have been recovered and brought out from his body, while one more still remained inside his left shoulder which will also be operated out soon", a doctor attending Bera at the hospital said and described his condition is "stable but very critical because of huge loss of blood after the attack".

Family members of Bera said they learned about the incident through television and immediately left for Kolkata from their village in East Midnapore district.

"We came to know from TV reports that my nephew had been shot. We still do not know who carried out the attack or why it happened," Buddhhab's uncle Biswajit Bera said adding "Our only wish now is that he recovers and returns home safely".

Buddhabeb, 25, hails from Majnaberia village in the Chandipur police station area in East Medinipur district.

According to family members, he mostly stays in Kolkata for work and visits home occasionally during weekends. Besides his parents, his younger brother, sister-in-law and several relatives have also travelled to Kolkata following the incident.

Demanding strict action against the perpetrators, the uncle said, "We want the government to conduct a proper investigation and identify those directly involved in the crime. They should be given exemplary punishment so that such incidents do not happen again in West Bengal and no other family has to go through this grief." A neighbour, Ranjana Ghorai, also sought stringent punishment for those behind the attack.

"In our neighbourhood, we call him Sonu. We want exemplary punishment for the people responsible for this macabre incident," she said.

Rath's family members have demanded life imprisonment for the accused, while Suvendu Adhikari has called for capital punishment for those involved in the killing.

Amit Shah visits Dakshineswar Kali Temple on arrival



Union Home Minister Amit Shah offers prayers at the iconic Dakshineswar Kali Temple in Kolkata on Friday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited the Dakshineswar Kali Temple and offered prayers after arriving in Kolkata on Friday.

Amit Shah, who has been appointed the BJP's central observer for the

legislature party meeting, landed at the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport around noon.

He was received at the airport by state BJP president Samik Bhattacharya, along with other senior party leaders like Suvendu Adhikari,

Dilip Ghosh, Rahul Sinha and Sukanta Majumdar, among others.

After arriving in Kolkata, Shah directly proceeded to the Dakshineswar Kali Temple along with Samik Bhattacharya and Suvendu Adhikari, where he offered prayers.

Ashok Lahiri takes charge as Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog

MI News Service, Kolkata: Renowned economist Ashok Kumar Lahiri on Friday took charge as Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog. He replaced Suman Bery.

Ashok Lahiri is a former Chief Economic Advisor to the government of India and a member of the 15th Finance Commission.

"His experience across academia, public institutions and international organisations will further strengthen NITI Aayog's efforts towards evidence-based policy-



Dr Ashok Lahiri at the NITI Aayog office after assuming the charge as it's Vice Chairman on Friday in New Delhi

making and economic transformation," NITI Aayog said in a social media post on X.

NITI Aayog looks forward to his contributions in advancing India's development agenda and supporting strategic policy initiatives across sectors, it added.

Before taking over his new charge Ashok Lahiri was a member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly for five years from 2021 as a member of the BJP

In front of the deity.

Following the temple visit, Shah headed to a hotel in New Town, where he will stay during his two-day visit to the state.

Later in the afternoon, Shah attended the BJP legislature party meeting at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in New Town.

All 207 BJP MLAs elected in the recently concluded West Bengal Assembly elections attended the meeting following the directions of the party's top leadership.

The BJP legislature party later formally elected Suvendu Adhikari as its leader during the meeting in the presence of Amit Shah and Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi, who has been appointed as the party's central co-observer.

The elected leader will become West Bengal's first BJP Chief minister following the party's historic electoral victory.

The BJP secured a massive mandate in the Assembly elections, ending the Trinamool Congress' 15-year rule in the state and delivering a major political setback to Mamata Banerjee.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP president Nitin Nabin and chief ministers of all 20 NDA-ruled states are expected to attend the swearing-in ceremony scheduled to be held at Brigade Parade Ground on Saturday.



West Bengal's Chief Minister-elect, Suvendu Adhikari meets Governor R. N. Ravi to stake claim to form the first BJP-led government in the state. The meeting was held at Lok Bhavan in Kolkata on Friday.

Surveillance intensified in border districts of Bengal for Rath's assailants

MI News Service, Kolkata: All Police stations in every border district of West Bengal have been alerted.

"Checks are being carried out at multiple points, and CCTV footage from areas along Jessore Road is being thoroughly scanned," another senior officer said.

According to probe findings, the gunmen allegedly followed Rath's vehicle before launching the attack at around 10-15 pm in a crowded lane.

"The escape route of the gunmen indicates that they were familiar with the locality, or local criminals might have assisted them. Without local support, fleeing through the lanes so quickly would have been difficult," the officer added.

The police, however, are yet to ascertain the motive behind the murder.

The police and detective department officers have launched extensive searches in and around Madhyamgram near Kolkata.

Heavy deployment of police and central forces has also been made in the area since the

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BJP Worker Attacked While Distributing Annapurna Bhandar Forms; 6 Trinamool Workers Arrested



MI News Service, Hooghly: The party was routed in the recently concluded West Bengal assembly elections. But even then there is no end to the allegations against Trinamool. A BJP worker was attacked by Trinamool while distributing the Annapurna Bhandar form. The BJP worker, named Sandeep Malik, is admitted to Arambagh Subdivision Hospital in critical condition. There is widespread tension in Mirzapur area of Tarkeshwar over the incident. It is learnt that 6 Trinamool

workers have been arrested by the Tarkeshwar police station in connection with the incident. A crackdown is going on in the political arena. Family members of BJP worker Sandeep Malik say that on Thursday around 12 noon, Sandeep had gone out to distribute foodgrains forms from house to house in Mirzapur area. At around 2 pm, his neighbors found him lying unconscious in an agricultural field, 300 meters away from his house. They rescued him. But

even though his condition deteriorated, he could not be taken to the hospital due to storm and rain. He was first admitted to Tarkeshwar Rural Hospital on Friday morning. But as his condition did not improve, he was admitted to Arambagh Subdistrict Hospital.

Sandeep's family alleges that four Trinamool leaders in the area have severely beaten their son. Sandeep's family has also filed a complaint with the police station against those leaders. They further allege that Trinamool leaders had thrown Sandeep out of their house after the 24th Lok Sabha elections. This time, even after the BJP won, the pressure on Trinamool leaders has not decreased. Police are on the ground to control the situation in the area. There are also central forces.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP State President Shamik Bhattacharya, and the newly elected Chief Minister of West Bengal Suwendu Adhikari at a meeting at Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata on Friday ahead of the scheduled oath-taking ceremony of the newly formed West Bengal ministry on Saturday.

India's 2026 M&A Strength Fueled by Advanced Risk Mitigation and Insurance Strategies

MI News Service, Kolkata: Vikas Pareek highlights that India's M&A momentum in 2026 remains strong, supported by policy stability, improved risk assessment, and growing use of insurance solutions. Despite global uncertainties, investors are increasingly confident as cyber, regulatory, and geopolitical risks are better understood, priced, and managed.

Stolen car found in an abandoned brick kiln, 8 arrested

MI News Service, Murshidabad: A stolen car was hidden in an abandoned brick kiln. Police, along with central forces, recovered the stolen goods from the kiln in Murshidabad's Nawda area on Friday morning. Police raided an abandoned brick kiln near a private B.Ed college in Nawda village of Nawda police station and arrested eight people.

Speeding Car Crashes Into Bus on National Highway in Jhargram, Two Critically Injured

MI News Service, Kharagpur : A major road accident took place on Friday in the Guptmani area under Jhargram Rural Block of Jhargram district when a speeding private car rammied into the rear of a passenger bus on the Kharagpur-Baharagora National Highway. Two persons sustained critical injuries in the incident, while traffic movement on the highway remained disrupted for several hours. According to eyewitnesses, vehicular movement on the national highway was normal at the time of the accident. Suddenly, a fast-moving private four-wheeler reportedly lost control and crashed into the bus moving ahead of it. The impact of the collision was so severe that the front portion of the car was completely damaged, triggering panic and chaos in the area. Hearing the loud crash, local residents rushed to the spot and began rescue operations. The two occupants trapped inside the mangled vehicle were rescued with the help of local people before emergency services arrived. After receiving information about the accident, police from Jhargram Police, personnel from the National Highway Authority, and rescue teams reached the scene. The injured persons were immediately shifted to Jhargram Medical College and Hospital for treatment. Hospital sources said both victims remain in critical condition. The accident caused major traffic congestion on the national highway, with long queues of vehicles forming on both sides of the road. Commuters faced considerable inconvenience before police and administrative officials cleared the damaged vehicles and restored normal traffic movement.



Preliminary investigation suggests that overspeeding and negligence may have led to the accident. However, police have started a detailed probe to determine the exact circumstances behind the crash. The incident has once again raised concerns regarding road safety and reckless driving on national highways in the region.

New Dreams: BJP Workers Prepare Thousands of Laddus in Bankura Ahead of Swearing-in Ceremony

MI News Service, Bankura: The new government in the state will be sworn in on Saturday morning. Before that, thousands of laddus are being prepared in Ward No. 8 of Bankura city. When the oath-taking ceremony takes place in Kolkata on Saturday, the ward BJP workers will reach the homes of the ward residents with packets filled with laddus. There has been a change in the state government in a vast constituency. The grassroots workers of the party have been overwhelmed by the lotus storm in all 12 constituencies of Bankura. The new government of the state will take oath in the presence of the Prime Minister and the Home Minister at the Brigade Parade Ground on Saturday morning. Although not all BJP workers of Ward



No. 8 of Bankura are able to attend the oath-taking ceremony. But that does not mean there is a shortage of celebrations. That is why local BJP leaders and workers have started making thousands of laddus from Friday, spending their own pocket money. After making the laddus, the saffron workers of the area are also doing the work of packing them. The BJP workers of the area want to deliver the laddus to the common people of the ward on Saturday.

Expected Results in Madrasa Board Examinations

Nurul Islam Khan: The results for the West Bengal Madrasa Education Board's High Madrasa, Alim, and Fazil (Old and Final Semester) examinations—held in 2026—were published on Friday. The written examinations commenced on January 29 of this year and concluded on February 23. In adherence to regulations, the results have been declared within 40 days of the examinations' completion.

A pass percentage of 90.86% was observed among regular candidates, while the overall pass rate stood at 90.32%. From the Furfura Fatihya Senior Title Madrasa, students secured multiple spots within the state's top ten rankings this year. Hasib Hasan Sheikh secured the second position in the Alim examination with a score of 835. In the Fazil examination, Sheikh Shahin Ali secured the third position with 563 marks, while Mohammad Imran Mondal took the fourth position with 560 marks. Meanwhile, at the Darunnedar Siddiqia Madrasa in Hooghly, all 26 candidates who appeared for the examinations successfully passed. The institution's head, Pirzada Tamim Siddiqui, reported that 23 students passed in the First Division, 3 in the Second Division, and 11 students achieved "Star Marks." From the Sitapur Endowment Madrasa, Mosamat Umme Habiba secured the eighth position in the Fazil examination with a score of 548.

Concurrently, outstanding results were observed among the students of Frontpage Academy in the Madhyamik examinations. Among the 106 students who appeared for the Madhyamik exams, Murtuza Mallick achieved the first position within the academy, securing the top position with 671 marks. Murtuza hails from Nagadi in the Nadia district; his father works as a rural medical practitioner. Murtuza's mother was overjoyed with her son's results. Shahriar Mondal secured the second position within the academy with a score of 648. Among the male students, Saeed Akhtar scored 626, Toufiq Alam 626, Mozaffar Sheikh 623, and Rizwan Lasker 617 marks.

Among the female students, Tamanna Sultana secured the first position with a score of 619 marks. Mohammad Kamruzzaman, Chairman of Front Page Academy, stated that an air of jubilation is sweeping through the institution's students, parents, and teaching staff following this outstanding result. He extended his congratulations. Ruhul Kuddus, Headmaster of Front Page Boys' Academy, conveyed his best wishes to the successful students. The Headmaster of Front Page Girls' Academy is the distinguished educationist, Abdus Sattar.

Narayangarh Student Saunak Das Scores 685 Marks in Madhyamik Examination

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Bringing pride to Narayangarh block in West Medinipur district, meritorious student Saunak Das of Bakhraabad Bharati Vidyapeeth has achieved remarkable success in the Madhyamik Examination by securing an impressive 685 marks. With this outstanding performance, Saunak has secured the first position in Narayangarh block and is also being considered a probable second rank holder in the district. His achievement has created an atmosphere of joy and celebration among his family members, teachers, classmates, and local residents. To honour his success, a special felicitation ceremony was organised at the school campus on Friday. Teachers and staff members congratulated Saunak with bouquets and best wishes, praising his hard work, discipline, and dedication toward studies. The school authorities stated that Saunak's achievement would serve as an inspiration for other students in the coming years. Teachers described him as a sincere and hardworking student who had always remained focused on academics. They added that he utilized his time effectively during exam preparation and maintained consistent practice in every subject, which ultimately led to his success. Reacting to his achievement, Saunak Das credited his parents, teachers, and school for their continuous support and guidance. He said that regular study, proper mentoring from teachers, and encouragement from his family played a major role in his accomplishment. Saunak further expressed his desire to pursue higher education and achieve bigger goals in the future while bringing pride to his family and the district. Following this remarkable achievement, a sense of pride and enthusiasm has spread throughout the Narayangarh area, with many people appreciating the young student's dedication and success.



Medinipur Girl Sattika Chakraborty Secures Ninth Rank in State Madhyamik Examination

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Bringing pride to West Medinipur district, talented student Sattika Chakraborty has secured the ninth position in the state in this year's Madhyamik Examination. Scoring an impressive 689 marks, Sattika has not only brought glory to her school but also earned recognition for the entire district. Sattika is a student of the prestigious Medinipur Sarada Vidya-mandir High School in Medinipur. As soon as the examination results were announced, an atmosphere of joy and celebration spread across the school campus and among her family members. Teachers, classmates, relatives, and well-wishers congratulated her and



wished her success in the future. Reacting to her achievement, Sattika said that regular study, discipline, and proper guidance from teachers played the most important role in helping her reach this milestone. She mentioned that she followed a fixed daily study routine and paid special attention to difficult subjects. Sattika also expressed her desire to achieve even bigger goals in the future and

excel in higher education. The school administration expressed immense pride in her accomplishment. Teachers described Sattika as a hardworking and exceptionally talented student from the very beginning. According to them, her dedication and continuous efforts have resulted in this remarkable achievement at the state level. Sattika's success has created a wave of happiness throughout West Medinipur district. Several social, educational, and cultural organizations have also extended their congratulations and best wishes to her. People across the district believe that Sattika's achievement will inspire many other students in the coming years.

BJP MLA Anupam Biswas pushes for underground power network, flyover at Kalyani's gate No. 42

MI News Service, Nadia : Newly elected BJP MLA Kalyani, Anupam Biswas has outlined an ambitious development roadmap for Kalyani, focusing on underground power infrastructure, a long-demanded flyover or underpass at the busy 42 number railway gate, revival of the industrial belt, improvement of healthcare facilities, drainage, waste management and urban beautification.



Speaking in an interview on Thursday, Biswas said frequent disruptions in electricity supply during storms and heavy rain have become a major concern for residents of the planned township envisioned by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.

"Even a small storm or spell of rain pushes Kalyani into darkness. Trees fall, overhead wires snap and power supply gets disrupted. We are thinking seriously about shifting the entire electricity distribution system underground," the BJP legislator said.

Kalyani, one of West Bengal's prominent urban centres, is witnessing its first "double-engine government" after the BJP's victory in the Assembly segment. Biswas said the change in political alignment could help accelerate stalled development projects in the township.

Among the immediate civic priorities highlighted by the MLA is the construction of a flyover or underpass at the congested railway crossing known as Gate No. 42, a bottleneck that residents have complained about for years.

Once the railway gate closes, long queues of vehicles pile up on both sides, often delaying commuters and ambulances for extended periods.

"I myself have remained stuck there many times. A huge amount of people's time gets wasted. Patients being taken to hospitals also suffer. This is a crucial access route for Kalyani town. AIIMS Kalyani and National Highway 12. A flyover or underpass here is essential," Biswas said.

He added that after the formation of the new state cabinet, he would take up the issue with the concerned departments. The route is considered strategically important as it connects Kalyani with AIIMS Kalyani and provides easier access to NH-12.

Biswas also spoke extensively about reviving Kalyani's once-

thriving industrial zone. The township was once known for its large industrial base, where hundreds of factory chimneys dominated the skyline. "At one time, over 300 factories operated here. Today, the industrial belt is nearly dead," he remarked.

The BJP MLA alleged that after industries shut down, large-scale theft of abandoned factory materials took place. He further claimed that soil was illegally excavated from industrial plots and create ponds.

He also criticised what he described as the transfer of industrial land "for almost token prices," saying such decisions damaged Kalyani's economic future.

Raising concerns over the condition of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Hospital in Kalyani, Biswas described the state of the facility as "deeply alarming." Narrating a personal experience, he said, "I once went there to take an anti-rabies vaccine and saw dogs and cats lying on hospital beds. If someone is your enemy, send him to that hospital." He said improving healthcare infrastructure in the town would remain one of his major priorities.

Biswas stressed that Kalyani's identity as a green and planned township must be restored. He said beautification drives, drainage upgrades and scientific waste management would receive special attention.

The MLA also referred to con-

cerns over law and order and women's safety.

"Terror has prevailed in Kalyani for a long time. The town must become free from intimidation," he said.

He further spoke about creating employment opportunities by reopening industries and attracting investment into the township.

Calling himself a "son of the soil," Biswas said erosion along the Ganga remains a serious concern for areas adjoining Kalyani. He admitted that the issue cannot be resolved locally alone and would require intervention from higher authorities and technical departments.

He also promised to look into complaints regarding the recently established crematorium near the riverbank, which residents claim is not functioning properly.

The MLA further said he would examine the condition of the ferry service that once operated regularly from Majherchar but has since allegedly remained closed.

Biswas said Kalyani's development would involve consultation with municipal authorities, experts and prominent citizens of the town. At the same time, he appealed to residents to participate in maintaining civic cleanliness. "People should ensure that drains in front of their homes remain clean and should plant gardens to restore the beauty and cleanliness of the town," he said.

Islampur's Vedashruti Tops Madhyamik This Year, First Among Girls

MI News Service, Raiganj: After giving the secondary examination, she started preparing for the joint entrance exam. She wants to become an engineer when she grows up. That is why Vedashruti left home and is currently in faraway Hyderabad. She is likely to be the first among the girls in the state in this secondary examination. Her parents are overjoyed at their daughter's success. They are emotional while talking to her on the phone. Vedashruti Singh, a resident of Islampur, Uttar Dinajpur. Seven people are in fifth place in the merit list of this year Madhyamik examination. Vedashruti is one of them. She is likely to be the first among the girls in this year Secondary examination. Vedashruti is a student of Islampur Girls School. Her score is 693. She has been brilliant in studies since childhood. As she has grown, she has become more immersed in books. According to school sources, Vedashruti has been known as a very hardworking student since childhood. She achieved this success through regular studies, hard work and self-confidence. Since the results were announced, relatives, friends and neighbors have been flocking to her house to congratulate her.

Motorcycle Crashes Into Wall in Kharagpur, One youth Killed, Another Critically Injured

MI News Service, Kharagpur : A tragic road accident in the Kashijora area under Kharagpur Rural Police Station of West Medinipur district claimed the life of one youth and left another critically injured on Friday evening. The incident has cast a pall of gloom across the locality. According to sources, the deceased has been identified as Suman Kar, while the injured youth, Jeet Chowdhury, is undergoing treatment in critical condition. Both were residents of Kumhar Para area in Ward No. 9 of Kharagpur town. Reports said the two youths were travelling on a motorcycle when the accident occurred near Kashijora in Balarampur area. Eyewitnesses stated that the motorcycle was moving at a high speed when the rider suddenly lost control, causing the bike to crash into a roadside wall. The impact of the collision was so severe that the motorcycle was badly damaged and both riders were thrown onto the road. Local residents rushed to the spot immediately after the accident and rescued the injured youth, who was taken to Kharagpur Sub-Divisional Hospital in a



critical state. Hospital sources said his condition remains serious and he is currently under treatment. After receiving information about the incident, police from Kharagpur Rural Police Station reached the scene and recovered the body for post-mortem examination. An investigation has been initiated into the incident. Preliminary findings suggest that overspeeding and loss of control may have caused the accident, though police are examining all possible angles. The tragic death has left the victim's family devastated, while local residents expressed deep sorrow over the incident. Many residents alleged that reckless and high-speed driving has become a major concern in the area, leading to frequent road accidents.

**Madhyamik Topper
Abhirup Bhadra Credits
Mother for Success After
Securing First Rank**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Abhirup Bhadra from Sarada-Vidyamandir Higher Secondary School in Raiganj has emerged as the state topper in the 2026 Madhyamik examination by securing 698 marks out of 700. The student from Uttar Dinajpur expressed immense happiness after the results were declared and dedicated his entire success to his mother, who raised him single-handedly after the death of his father.

Speaking after the announcement of the results, Abhirup said he had expected to perform well and hoped to secure a rank, but never imagined he would stand first in the entire state. He said he had anticipated scoring around 98 percent marks but was surprised and delighted after seeing the final results.

"I expected a good result and hoped to secure a rank. I thought I might get around 98 percent marks, but I never imagined the result would be this good. I am extremely happy," he said.

Abhirup revealed that he did not follow a strict hour-based study routine. Instead, he prepared topic-wise targets in advance and focused on completing them systematically. According to him, setting clear goals each day helped him remain disciplined and organised during his preparation.

His mother, Indrani Chowdhury Bhadra, works as a staff nurse at Raiganj Government Medical College and Hospital. Abhirup said his mother managed both her demanding hospital duties and his studies with equal dedication. He emotionally acknowledged that every achievement in his life was because of her sacrifices and support.

"Everything I have achieved today is because of my mother. Since my father is no longer alive, my mother fulfilled every responsibility alone. Whenever I needed anything, she was always there for me," he said.

The Madhyamik topper now dreams of becoming an engineer and wants to study at the Indian Institutes of Technology. He said he would soon begin preparations for the Joint Entrance Examination to pursue his goal. Abhirup also admitted that the Higher Secondary level would be much tougher than Madhyamik and would require even greater hard work and consistency.

Rath's assailants

Continued from Pg 1: murder occurred on Wednesday night.

"A motorcycle used in the crime was registered in 2012 in the name of a resident of Burampur in Asansol. However, the police found that no person by that name currently resides at the address given during the vehicle registration process," another officer said.

This morning in another breakthrough the police also recovered the second suspected motorbike from near a smaller gate of Kolkata airport. The local people first found the suspected motor cycle left abandoned near the gate and informed the police who took away the bike after necessary probe.

Meanwhile, the police are also investigating the presence of a red foreign branded car near the murder site and are trying to find out whether it had any connection with the heinous crime.

BJP calls Sanjay Raut 'joker'

Continued from Pg 1: "Apparently it is reported that Trump has also congratulated BJP for this victory. Sanjay Raut gets so perturbed that he writes a long post on X explaining to Donald Trump how elections are rigged and everything is unfair," he said.

Poonawalla alleged that the opposition parties repeatedly question constitutional institutions whenever election results do not go in their favour.

Earlier, in his post, Raut also alleged that "the Election Commission did not act impartially" and claimed that its functioning appeared to favour the BJP, which raised "questions about institutional neutrality." He also questioned the deployment of central forces during the polls and alleged that it had created "coercion rather than confidence." Citing concerns raised by TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee, Raut said allegations regarding the fairness of the process reflect a "broader unease" that cannot be ignored.

"Democracy is not just about elections — it is about ensuring they are free, fair and credible. When serious allegations arise, they warrant scrutiny, not celebration," Raut said in his post, seeking a more balanced view from Trump.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah, West Bengal BJP State President Shamik Bhattacharya, and West Bengal Chief Minister elect Suwendu Adhikari, along with other BJP leaders, hold hands to display unity during a BJP legislature party meeting held at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata on Friday.

**Madhyamik 2026 Pass Rate at
86.83%, Kalimpong Tops District List**



The President and Secretary of the Board are holding a press conference regarding the results of the Madhyamik Examination conducted by the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education on Friday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: The results of the 2026 Madhyamik examination have been officially declared by the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education, with Abhirup Bhadra of Sarada-Vidyamandir in Uttar Dinajpur emerging as the state topper. Abhirup secured an impressive 698 marks out of 700, achieving a remarkable 99.71 percent.

The results were announced on Friday morning by Board

president RamanujGangopadhyay during a press conference. The examination results were published nearly three months after the completion of the Madhyamik exams.

This year, around 9.59 lakh students appeared for the Class 10 board examinations across West Bengal. The overall pass percentage stood at 86.83 percent, reflecting a strong performance by students throughout

the state.

Among districts, Kalimpong recorded the highest pass percentage at 95.10 percent, securing the top position in district-wise performance. PurbaMedinipur ranked second, while Kolkata secured the third position in terms of pass percentage.

The merit list this year includes a total of 131 students within the top ten ranks, indi-

cating an intense competition among candidates across the state.

Abhirup Bhadra's outstanding result has brought pride to Uttar Dinajpur district as well as his school, SaradaVidyamandir. With 698 marks, he secured the first rank in the state and emerged as the highest scorer in this year's examination.

The second position was secured by PriyatoshMukhopadhyay from Sarojini Devi SaraswatiShishuVidyamandir in Birbhum. He obtained 696 marks in the examination.

Three students jointly secured the third rank with 695 marks each. They are Soutra Jana of Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission in South 24 Parganas, MainakMondal from Christian Collegiate School in Bankura and Ankan Kumar Jana of Ramakrishna Sikshamandir in PurbaMedinipur.

Education officials said the results reflected the hard work and dedication of students, teachers and guardians across the state. Schools in several districts celebrated the achievements of their students soon after the results were announced.

**PM Modi, NDA CMs to Attend Bengal
BJP Govt's Grand Swearing-In Ceremony**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata is set to witness a historic political moment on Saturday as the first BJP-led government in West Bengal prepares to take oath at the iconic Brigade Parade Ground from 10 am onwards. After 15 years, the state is witnessing a change of government, and preparations for the swearing-in ceremony have reached their peak amid massive excitement among party workers and supporters.

The sprawling Brigade ground has turned into a hive of activity ahead of the grand event. Workers and organisers are busy round-the-clock decorating the main stage and surrounding areas, with elaborate arrangements being made for dignitaries, political leaders and guests expected to attend the ceremony. Security arrangements across Kolkata have also been significantly tightened in view of the presence of several top national leaders.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had earlier announced during the election campaign that he would attend the BJP government's swearing-in ceremony if the party came to power in Bengal, is scheduled to be present at the event. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who is already in Bengal, will also attend the ceremony. Several senior Union ministers are expected to participate in what the BJP is calling a landmark political occasion in the land of Syama Prasad Mukherjee. Among those attending are Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari and Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. Sources indicated that more than



BJP state president Shamik Bhattacharya congratulates Suwendu Adhikari for becoming the BJP's first Chief Minister of West Bengal after the announcement made by Union Home Minister Amit Shah during a meeting held at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in Kolkata on Friday.

a dozen Union ministers are likely to remain present during the oath-taking ceremony.

Apart from central ministers, Chief Ministers from around 20 NDA-ruled states are also expected to attend the event along with deputy chief ministers from various BJP-led states. BJP national president Nitin Nabin is also scheduled to attend. Lieutenant Governors from several Union Territories are likely to be present as well.

The Bengal government formation ceremony is also expected to draw leaders from across the

political spectrum, as invitations have reportedly been sent to all major political parties in the state. Eminent personalities from different sections of society, including cultural figures and intellectuals, are also expected to grace the occasion.

Meanwhile, Neiphu Rio arrived in Kolkata on Friday to attend the swearing-in ceremony. His arrival marked the beginning of the influx of NDA leaders reaching the city ahead of Saturday's mega political event.

The ceremony will also carry a strong Bengali cultural flavour as

it coincides with the birth anniversary celebrations of Rabindranath Tagore. Organisers are planning to infuse the event with elements of Bengal's traditional culture and heritage. Many attendees are expected to appear in traditional dhuti-panjabi attire, while RabindraSangeet will be played during parts of the programme.

Traditional Bengali snacks and sweets such as Jhalmuri, Sitabhog and Mihidana are also expected to be served, adding a distinctly Bengali touch to the historic swearing-in ceremony of Bengal's first BJP government.

**Bengal Begins Preparations
for Ayushman Bharat Rollout**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Preparations have begun in West Bengal for the implementation of the Centre's flagship health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat following discussions between state officials and the National Health Authority. The move comes ahead of the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected BJP government, which is scheduled to take place on Saturday at Brigade Parade Ground.

According to sources in Nabanna, officials of the state Health Department recently held meetings with representatives of the National Health Authority to discuss the guidelines and framework required for implementing Ayushman Bharat in West Bengal. The discussions reportedly focused on how the scheme would be executed in the state, administrative procedures, beneficiary coverage and coordination between state and central authorities.

Following the meeting, the state Health Department has started taking preliminary steps for the rollout of the healthcare scheme. Sources indicated that the matter has gained urgency after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that Ayushman Bharat would be implemented in West Bengal soon after the formation of the new BJP-led government.

After 15 years, West Bengal is witnessing a political transition with the BJP coming to power in the state for the first time. The party is preparing for a grand swearing-in ceremony on the occasion of the birth anniversary celebrations of Rabindranath Tagore. The oath-taking event has been scheduled for Saturday morning at 10 am at Brigade Pa-

rade Ground in Kolkata.

Senior BJP leaders and top central ministers are expected to attend the ceremony. BJP sources said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah will remain present at the event along with several heavyweight leaders from the party.

Preparations at Brigade Parade Ground have intensified over the past few days. Work at the venue reportedly began from Wednesday afternoon as organisers rushed to complete large-scale arrangements for the high-profile political event. BJP leaders have been visiting the ground repeatedly to supervise preparations and inspect security and logistical arrangements.

The party is planning an elaborate swearing-in ceremony with a strong Bengali cultural touch. Decorations inspired by Bengal's heritage and culture are being installed across the venue. Organisers are also preparing stalls serving traditional Bengali snacks and sweets such as Jhalmuri and Rasgulla for guests attending the programme.

The implementation of Ayushman Bharat is expected to become one of the first major administrative decisions of the incoming BJP government in the state. Political observers believe the rollout of the central health scheme may become a key priority for the new administration as it begins governance in West Bengal.

Meanwhile, excitement surrounding the swearing-in ceremony continues to grow, with Brigade Parade Ground witnessing hectic activity and extensive preparations ahead of Saturday's historic event.

**SIT Reaches UP in
Chandranath Rath Murder Probe**

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the murder of ChandranathRath, close aide and executive assistant to BJP leader SuwenduAdhikari, has now expanded its investigation beyond West Bengal and travelled to Uttar Pradesh in search of fresh leads.

According to police sources, investigators traced an important clue linked to the vehicle allegedly used in the murder. While the number plate on the seized car was found to be fake, the original registration reportedly belongs to a vehicle owner from North Bengal. Police found that the owner had earlier posted an advertisement on OLX to sell the car and had received a call from a buyer based in Uttar Pradesh. Investigators are now trying to determine whether that communication is connected to the murder plot.

Police have already detained and questioned three local criminals in connection with the case, although no formal arrests have been made so far. Border police stations in adjoining districts have also been put on alert, and intensified searches are underway.

Investigators believe the murder was not spontaneous but carefully planned. Prelim-

inary findings suggest the conspiracy may have been hatched nearly one to one-and-a-half months before the killing, with professional contract killers allegedly hired to execute the attack. Police are now examining whether Rath had any recent disputes or conflicts that may have led to the murder.

Mobile phone records are also being closely analysed. Investigators are tracking calls made from areas surrounding the crime scene and have sought mobile tower data from telecom service providers to identify suspicious numbers active in the area during the attack.

In a major development, police recovered a second motorcycle allegedly used in the crime near a crossing in Barasat. Earlier, the first bike linked to the murder had been recovered from a garbage dumping site near Airport Gate No. 2 on May 7. That motorcycle too was found carrying a fake number plate.

Despite attempts by the criminals to erase identifying details such as engine and chassis numbers, investigators traced the first bike back to a resident of Dum Dum, who told police it had been stolen around two-and-a-half months ago.

**Massive Security,
Traffic Curbs
Across Kolkata for
Swearing-In Ceremony**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata is gearing up for an unprecedented security operation ahead of the swearing-in ceremony of the newly elected BJP government in West Bengal, scheduled to take place on Saturday at Brigade Parade Ground. With Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and several other VVIPs expected to attend the event, Kolkata Police have announced extensive traffic restrictions and elaborate security measures across large parts of the city.

According to police sources, traffic movement will be heavily regulated in and around key areas including Esplanade, KP Road, Hospital Road, Lovers Lane, Casuarina Avenue and Queens Way. Authorities have also decided to restrict the movement of heavy goods vehicles from 4 am to 8 pm on Saturday in view of the high-profile ceremony and anticipated crowd presence.

However, essential service vehicles carrying medicines, oxygen cylinders, vegetables, fish, fruits, milk and other daily necessities will remain exempted from the restrictions. Special permission has also been granted to vehicles transporting LPG cylinders, CNG and petroleum products to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential commodities.

Parking restrictions have also been imposed on several important stretches of Kolkata. Vehicles will not be allowed to park along parts of AJC Bose Road near Victoria Memorial, Hastings Crossing, Cathedral Road, Khidirpur Road, Hospital Road, Queens Way and Lovers Lane. Police officials stated that depending on the situation and crowd management requirements, traffic diversions and restrictions may be extended to additional roads during the day.

Security arrangements at Brigade Parade Ground have been significantly intensified. Nearly 4,000 police personnel are expected to be deployed for the event. The entire Brigade area has reportedly been divided into 30 sectors, with each sector placed under the supervision of officers of Deputy Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner rank. They will be assisted by inspectors, sub-inspectors, assistant sub-inspectors and constables.

Senior officers including Additional Commissioners and Joint Commissioners of Kolkata Police will oversee the overall security arrangements at the venue. Central forces may also be deployed if required. Authorities have additionally arranged a helipad for helicopter movement related to VVIP security and transport.

Multiple layers of surveillance are being put in place across the Brigade area. A large number of door-frame metal detectors will be installed at entry points, while police personnel will use handheld metal detectors for checking visitors. Drone surveillance will also remain active throughout the event.

In addition, police teams equipped with binoculars will maintain watch from rooftops of nearby high-rise buildings overlooking Brigade Parade Ground. CCTV cameras are being installed at multiple strategic locations across the venue to ensure constant monitoring and crowd management.

**Bata Revamps
Historic Grand Hotel
Store in Kolkata**

MI News Service, Kolkata: Bata India on Friday unveiled its revamped Grand Hotel store in Kolkata, reinforcing the brand's deep-rooted connection with the city. Known as 0001 Grand Hotel, the outlet is Bata's first retail store in India and remains one of the company's top-performing stores nationally. The redesigned space reflects Bata's renewed focus on premium retail experiences while preserving its legacy of over 90 years.

Kolkata and Batanagar have played a major role in Bata India's growth journey. The upgraded store now features curated merchandising, modern interiors and a dedicated premium zone aimed at enhancing customer experience. The outlet currently generates around ₹9 crore in annual revenue and is expected to grow to 10-11 crore over the next year.

Actor Ritabhari Chakraborty attended the launch event, adding a festive touch to the occasion. The company highlighted her strong connection with regional audiences and her influence in Bengal as key reasons behind the collaboration.

NAME CHANGE

I, Anjala Mahato, W/o: Late Bhaglu Mahato, R/o-Village & P.O- Manguria, P.S.- Tamna, Dist: Purulia (W.B.), shall be known as Anjana Mahato, changed vide 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Purulia Court, affidavit Dated: 24.03.2026. Therefore, Anjala Mahato & Anjana Mahato is the same & identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) HUMAYUN SK S/O- ABUL KASHEM SK Residing at, Vill- Nadjipur, Post- Nadjipur, Ps- Rejinagar, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742189, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from HUMAYUN SK To HUMAYUN SEKH (New name) and henceforth I shall be Known as (New name) HUMAYUN SEKH in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2219 On Date 24 April 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, HUMAYUN SEKH and HUMAYUN SK both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) KAUSHALYA SINGH W/O- GAUTAM SINGH Residing at, 480/1, Kadamtala, Kanthadhar, Ichapur, Nawabganj, North 24 Pargana, Pin- 743144, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from KAUSHALYA SINGH To KAUSALYA DEVI (New name) and henceforth I shall be Known as (New name) KAUSALYA DEVI in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2218 On Date 24 April 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, KAUSALYA DEVI and KAUSHALYA SINGH both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) SANCHITA ROY W/O- SURENDRA KUMAR ROY Residing at, -91 Vivekananda Pally, Post & Ps- Berhampore, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742101, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SANCHITA ROY To SANCHITA BANERJEE (New name) and henceforth I shall be Known as (New name) SANCHITA BANERJEE in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2217 On Date 24 April 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, SANCHITA BANERJEE and SANCHITA ROY both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, (Old Name) MD HOSSAIN S/O- ALI HOSSAIN Residing at, Vill- Maingram, Post- Maingram, Ps- Saktipur, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742404, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MD HOSSAIN To MOHAMMAD HOSSAIN (New name) and henceforth I shall be Known as (New name) MOHAMMAD HOSSAIN in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2216 On Date 24 April 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, MOHAMMAD HOSSAIN and MD HOSSAIN both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change

I, Ryan Henry Patsa, S/O: Haimanti Patsa, residing at Ward 13, Raghunathpur Municipality, Raghunathpur-1, Raghunathpur, Purulia, 723133-West Bengal, India do hereby declare that: I was previously known as Imon Ghosal. After legally changing my name and gender from female to male, I was known and called as Ryan Ghosal from 02/06/2021 to 12/08/2024. Thereafter, vide affidavit sworn before the Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, at Raghunathpur Court, Purulia, I have legally changed my name from Ryan Ghosal to Ryan Henry Patsa on 13/08/2024. Henceforth, I am & I shall be known and identified as Ryan Henry Patsa for all purposes. The names Imon Ghosal, Ryan Ghosal, and Ryan Henry Patsa refer to one and the same person i.e myself.

NAME CHANGE

I, NIYAMULALAM, DOB 27.04.1989, S/O- KHAYRUL ALAM residing at Vill- Mount Majhina, P.O.- Chakta, P.S.- Ketugram, Dist.- Purba Bardhaman, W.B., do hereby declare that due to inadvertence my father's name has been recorded as KHAYRUL ALAM KHAN in my Voter Card no. WB/10/282/03067. NURNIHAR KHAN is my mother (as per voter card no. A212108850), which is wrongly recorded as NURNIHAR BEGAM KHAN in the previous Voter Card (no. WB/10/282/030155). On 07.05.2026 vide an affidavit no. 9544 before the Senior District Executive Magistrate Katwa, Purba Bardhaman, I affirm that KHAYRUL ALAM & KHAYRUL ALAM KHAN and NURNIHAR KHAN & NURNIHAR BEGAM KHAN are the same and one identical person. Also the actual surname is KHAN and according to OBC-A sub caste is MUSLIM KHAN having certificate no. WB23020108C20201236. I have 2 son namely Adnan Farhad Khan & Arshad Khan.

NAME CHANGE

I, ASHIS KUMAR KAYAL, ASHIS KR. KAYAL and ASISH KAYAL (Old Name) S/O- LT. SISIR KUMAR KAYAL, R/o : Vill. + PO + P.S.- Mathurapur, Dist.- South 24 Parganas, PIN- 743354. Have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as ASHISH KUMAR KAYAL (New Name) as declared before the 1st class Judicial Magistrate, Diamond Harbour Court vide Affidavit No. 9705 dt. 09-04-26. ASHIS KUMAR KAYAL, ASHIS KR. KAYAL and ASISH KAYAL (Old Name) and ASHISH KUMAR KAYAL (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mithun Chakraborty, S/o. Dilip Kumar Chakraborty, residing at C 23/10, Manjilika Housing Cooperative Society, EKT, Kolkata, West Bengal-700107, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Debanjan Chakraborty as declared before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Alipore Court, District South 24-Parganas, vide Affidavit No.1024 dated 28.01.2004. Mithun Chakraborty and Debanjan Chakraborty, both are same and identical person.

NAME CHANGE

I, PRADIP KUMAR BHOWAL, S/O- Late Nareesh Chandra Bhowal, R/O- Vill-P.O.- Dakhin Jagaddal, P.S.- Sonarpur, Kolkata-700151, Dist.- S 24 Pgs., WB do hereby solemnly affirm vide affidavit no. 10279 dated 25/03/2026 before the Ld. 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore that my actual name is PRADIP KUMAR BHOWAL as recorded in my Aadhaar Card being No. 419437421920 & PAN Card being No. KXPB1642A, but shown as PRADIP BHOWAL in my desired brother BULA BHOWAL's Saving Bank A/c No. -41361011**2642 & FD A/c No. -41365271**7706 in the Bank Of India Harinavi Branch as Nominee. PRADIP BHOWAL and PRADIP KUMAR BHOWAL is the same and identical person.

Father dies of Covid, Abhirup tops in Madhyamik

MI News Service, Raiganj: Covid took away his father. Since then, Abhirup Bhadra of Uttar Dinajpur had only one thought in his mind, he had to stand on his own feet. To fulfill that goal, he immersed himself in education. Which yielded results. Abhirup Bhadra of Sarada Vidya Mandir in Uttar Dinajpur was the first in the entire state in secondary school. The mother broke down in tears when the board president announced her son's name. Growing up in a lower-middle-class family, Abhirup's dream was to become a software engineer. Abhirup Bhadra, a resident of Uttar Dinajpur, has always been known as a talented student. His father was a contractor by profession. Corona took his life. Since then, the yoke of the family has been on the shoulders of his mother Indrani Bhadra Chowdhury. She is a nurse by profession. After her father's death, Abhirup understands that she will have to take on the responsibility of the family now. She became more and more absorbed in her studies. She would be immersed in studies all day long. She is practically an unknown face to the people in the neighborhood. Because Abhirup never leaves his house. On Friday, when Board President Ramantuj Banerjee announced his name in the first place, it was like a festive season in the small two-room house. Abhirup's mother Indrani Devi could not hold back her tears. She said, "The boy worked very hard. I thought he would be in the top ten. But I could not have imagined that he would be first." What does Abhirup want to be when he grows up? The student himself has said that he wants to be a software engineer. The school teachers are overwhelmed by Abhirup's success. They said, they thought Abhirup would be in the top three. But they could not have imagined that he would secure the first place either. The newly elected BJP MLA from Raiganj also congratulated this talented student.

Threat culture! Massive protests at Mathabhanga Subdistrict Hospital

MI News Service, Cooch Behar: Doctors and nurses protested against Superintendent Masud Hasan of Mathabhanga Subdistrict Hospital, alleging threat culture. They allege that he has been abusing his power in the hospital for a long time. They claim that the superintendent had an associate to decide when the doctors would be on duty, who would be able to practice outside, who would get staff quarters. Masud has also been accused of various corruptions, including tender corruption. On Friday, doctors, nurses and other employees erupted in protest in the superintendent's room and the hospital premises. Doctor Prabir Bagh, hospital employee Sabyasachi Roy said, "If anyone said anything against the superintendent, they would be threatened with transfer. He had a supervisor. Who was not a government employee, yet everything in the hospital was done under his orders." They alleged that the supervisor was responsible for all the responsibilities of the hospital, including preparing the roster of doctors. Whenever they asked for leave, the person would demand a large sum of money. The nursing staff alleged that they suffered from insecurity in the hostel. If they informed the authorities, they were threatened with eviction. On Friday, the hospital staff, including doctors and nurses, went to the superintendent's chamber and started shouting and hurling insults at him. However Superintendent Masud Hasan said, "All the allegations are baseless." District Chief Health Officer Himadri Adh said, "I have heard about the matter. An investigation is being conducted."

India face gold import disruption

MI News Service, New Delhi: Banks in India have been unable to import gold and silver for the past five weeks in an unusually prolonged disruption that is driving up domestic premiums, raising fears of shortages and, in the process, offering an unexpected boost to the country's trade balance. Shipments have been stuck at customs since the start of the financial year on April 1, ensnared by administrative bottlenecks and a lack of clarity over taxes, traders with direct knowledge of the matter told Bloomberg. Banks were unable to buy in the first half of April as the commerce ministry was delaying the publication of its annual list of banks eligible to import precious metals. Since the list was issued on April 17, purchases haven't been possible as the customs authority has yet to issue its own separate clearance order, which port and airport officials require before releasing incoming consignments. The only way to import bullion since the start of April has been via the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX), a platform in Gujarat International Finance Tec-City. Flows via the bourse have skyrocketed, with April seeing the highest daily trading volumes in a year and May starting even stronger. However, importing through the IIBX takes longer and ties up working capital, traders said. Banks are also still seeking clarity on whether gold and silver will be exempted from the integrated goods and services tax, traders said. The metals



Eastern Railway Detects 20,090 Littering Cases in Early 2026 to Ensure a Spotless Start for Passengers

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : Eastern Railway serves as a vital lifeline, seamlessly connecting millions of people with their dreams and aspirations every single day. As lakhs of passengers board our trains to reach their destinations, their journey begins within the railway premises, and ER believe that this start should be inspiring and pleasant. Imagining your morning commute only to find garbage scattered across the station; such a sight can instantly dampen your spirits and affect your mood for the rest of the day. Because Eastern Railway is deeply concerned about passenger comfort, safety, and overall experience, eastern railway has intensified our efforts to maintain a pristine environment through continuous anti-littering campaigns. Under the visionary leadership of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager of Eastern Railway, who remains steadfastly committed to the "Swachh mission, the zone has taken a proactive stance against littering. These efforts are closely monitored by Shri Amiya Nandan Sinha, IGCum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, to ensure that the railway sta-

Graphic titled 'EASTERN RAILWAY PROMOTES CLEANER TRAVEL THROUGH INTENSIVE ENFORCEMENT'. It features a 'RECENT ENFORCEMENT ACTION' box showing '01 JANUARY 2026 - 06 MAY 2026' with 'Persons Caught Littering' at 20,090 and 'Fine Realized' at ₹40,31,600. It also includes an image of a person being fined for littering and a sign that says 'LITTERING IS AN OFFENCE' and 'KEEP RAILWAY PREMISES CLEAN'.

tions remain clean and welcoming for all. Our data reflects this rigorous commitment to cleanliness. Between January 1, 2026, and May 6, 2026, a total of 20,090 persons were caught littering across the ASN, SDAH, MLDT, and HWH units, resulting in a total realized fine of 4,031,600. Looking at the broader picture from July 1, 2024, to May 6, 2026, Eastern Railway has addressed 118,152 cases of littering, collecting a staggering 19,816,810 in fines. The Sealdah (SDAH) division saw the highest involvement during this period with 35,187 persons, followed closely by Howrah (HWH) and Asansol (ASN). These figures underscore our unwavering determination to discourage unhygienic practices and promote a culture of responsibility among travelers. According to Shri Shribram Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer of Eastern Railway, our primary goal is not just to impose penalties but to foster a sense of pride and ownership among our passengers for their railway property. He states that while the railway staff works tirelessly to keep the premises clean, the cooperation of the public is essential to making our stations truly world-class. He further emphasized that Eastern Railway will continue its strict vigil and awareness drives to ensure that every passenger enjoys a journey that is as clean as it is comfortable.

Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation Honours Outstanding Employees on International Labour Day

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : To mark the observance of International Labour Day, Eastern Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (ERWWO) organized a felicitation programme today at Eastern Railway Officers' Club, Belvedere Park, Alipore, Kolkata, to honour employees for their sincere service, dedication and exemplary contribution towards ensuring safe and efficient train operations across Eastern Railway. May 1 is celebrated every year as "International Labour Day" or "May Day" in recognition of the invaluable contribution of workers towards nation-building and organizational growth. To commemorate the role of sincere, dedicated and hardworking employees engaged in the day-to-day functioning of various Divisions and Workshops of Eastern Railway, ERWWO organized this special programme to acknowledge their outstanding performance and commitment. Mrs. Seema Deouskar, the President/ERWWO, along with other members of ERWWO, attended the programme and extended warm greetings to 92 nominated employees of Eastern Railway. The employees were felicitated with certificates and token gifts in recognition of their exemplary dedication, integrity and courage in discharging their duties to ensure passenger safety and smooth running of trains. Addressing the gathering, President/ERWWO, Mrs. Seema Deouskar delivered a motivational speech highlighting the importance of dedication, discipline and teamwork in the functioning of the Railways. A colourful cultural programme presented by the cultural staff of Eastern Railway added vibrancy to the occasion and enriched the felicitation ceremony.



Cancellation Of Trains In Tarakeswar - Goghat Section For Development Work

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : In connection with Girder removal work at Limited Height Subway (LHS) between Mayapur & Arambagh stations in Tarakeswar - Arambagh section over Howrah Division, 430 minutes (from 23:15 hrs. of 09.05.2026 to 06:25 hrs. of 10.05.2026) Traffic & Power Block has been planned in the above section. Consequently, following arrangements in train running have been made as under: Cancellation of trains on 09.05.2026: From Tarakeswar: 37423 From Arambagh: 37424 Cancellation of trains on 10.05.2026: From Goghat: 37402 From Arambagh: 37422 From Tarakeswar: 37401, 37421 It may be noted that 37389/37384 will be the last train before block and 37371/37372 will be the first train after block.

Passenger Reservation System Downtime Activity

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : In view of Passenger Reservation System (PRS) downtime activity for System Disk defragmentation activity in PRS on the intervening night between 23:45 hrs. of 09.05.2026 to 03:30 hrs. of 10.05.2026, Kolkata PRS system will not be available for Chart- ing, Current Booking, Internet Booking as well as Enquiries during this period. Moreover, due to UTS System Firmware Upgrade Activity for Kolkata Data Centre from 00:00 hrs. to 12:00 hrs on 10.05.2026, UTS & allied activities will be available from DR Server/Secunderabad.

Diversion Of Trains For Non-Interlocking Work Over Northern Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : Due to Non-Interlocking / Interlocking in connection with the Yard remodeling work at Jaunpur Jn station in Lucknow Division over Northern Railway upto 27.05.2026, following train will be diverted as under: 13435 Malda Town - Gomti Nagar Amrit Bharat Express (journey commencing on 14.05.2026 & 21.05.2026) will be diverted via Zafarabad- Sultanpur - Ayodhya Cant. - Gomti Nagar instead of Zafarabad - Shahganj - Ayodhya Cant skipping stoppage at Jaunpur, Shahganj and Ayodhya Dham.

Eastern Railway Upgrades Bhalgalpur - Muzaffarpur - Bhalgalpur Express With LHB Coaches

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : Eastern Railway has planned a major upgrade to convert 13419/13420 Bhalgalpur - Muzaffarpur - Bhalgalpur Express with conversion from ICF to LHB rake. 13419/13420 Bhalgalpur - Muzaffarpur - Bhalgalpur Express will run with LHB rake, leaving Bhalgalpur and Muzaffarpur with effect from 16.05.2026. The introduction of state-of-the-art Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) rakes signifies a significant step forward in enhancing the overall travel experience for passengers. LHB coaches are renowned for their advanced safety features, improved performance and enhanced passenger comfort. With this upgrade, Eastern Railway aims to set new benchmarks in rail travel safety, comfort, and efficiency.

Regulation Of Trains For De-Stressing Block In Asansol Division

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 08, 2026 : Due to 02 hours (from 08:00 hrs. to 10:00 hrs.) De-stressing Block between Asansol & Andal stations of Asansol division from 07.05.2026 to 09.05.2026, following arrangements in train running has been made: 63514/63513 Asansol - Barddhaman - Asansol MEMU will remain cancelled from 07.05.2026 to 09.05.2026 (03 days). Moreover, 63519/63520 Barddhaman - Bokaro Steel City - Barddhaman MEMU will be short terminated at/ short originated from Asansol on 08.05.2026 & 09.05.2026.

Cricket at 30,000 feet

MI News Service, Kolkata : It sounds really amazing and a cock and bull story, but it is a fact that cricket eventually reached 30,000 feet. Malaysia Airlines and Mumbai Indians recently unveiled a new campaign film that reimagines the fan experience by bringing cricket to 30,000 feet. The film blends the thrill of the sport with the warmth of Malaysian Hospitality, celebrating the growing partnership between the two brands. Titled "Cricket at 30,000 Feet", the film follows a young Mumbai Indians fan whose ordinary journey transforms into an unforgettable mid-air experience. Joined by cricket stars Rohit Sharma, Hardik Pandya and Trent Boult, the fan experiences the spirit of the game.

'Political opponents, not enemies', BJP put up posters to prevent violence

MI News Service, Howrah: After the historic win in Bengal the BJP leadership has been giving a strong message from the beginning to prevent post-poll violence in the district. But despite this, the incidents of attacks are not being stopped. This time, the leaders and activists of Howrah Sadar BJP have taken a novel step to prevent it. On Thursday, in Howrah Sadar, the BJP pasted posters in front of the houses of Trinamool MP Prasun Banerjee, former state minister and current MLA from Howrah Central Arup Roy and former Chief Administrator of Howrah Municipal Corporation Sujoy Chakraborty. It reads - 'Fear Out, Trust In'. The poster, naming the MP, former minister and former municipal administrator, reads, "He is our political opponent, not an enemy. No one will attack his house. If anyone attacks him or anyone in his family for personal gain, strict party and administrative action will be taken." On Thursday afternoon, BJP workers led by BJP state committee member and former district president Debanjan Chatterjee went to the houses of these three people and pasted posters. In this context, he said, "Trinamool leaders, return home without fear. Come out of your houses. Our party does not have the culture of Trinamool that we will attack any opposition party. We believe in democracy. We are pasting these posters to give this message. Even then, if anyone from our party attacks, our party and the administration will take strict action against them." The locals also appreciated this step of the BJP.



Sand mafia violence disappears with change of government!

MI News Service, Alipurduar: With the change of government, 'familiar pictures' suddenly disappeared. Illegal sand mining from various rivers in North Bengal has stopped. The sand mafia doesn't care. Earlier, people in many areas used to witness sand smuggling in dumpers every day. That picture also suddenly disappeared. The Saffron camp has already put up flags at several ghats to stop sand mining. BJP claims that this illegal business will be completely stopped after their government is formed. Allegedly, the mafia used to smuggle sand from Tapsikhata Bazar, Kaljani Ghat, Naothowateri, Bholar Ghat, several places on the Shiltorsa river in Alipurduar district and from the Buri Torsa river in Shalkumar. It was also alleged that despite complaints made several times over the years, the police



and administration did nothing except conduct a few nominal raids. It is seen that after the change of government, BJP workers have put up the party flag on the river ghats in many places. BJP's argument is that this will not give the sand mafia the courage to approach the river. Alipurduar's newly elected BJP MLA Paritosh Das said, "Sand cannot be extracted from the river in this way. There has been anarchy for so long. There were no rules and regula-

Skyroot Aerospace India's first space-tech unicorn

MI News Service, Hyderabad: Private space launch company Skyroot Aerospace has become India's first space-tech unicorn after raising \$60 million in a fresh funding round led by Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC and Sheralo Ventures, valuing the Hyderabad-based start-up at \$1.1 billion.

The round also saw participation from funds managed by BlackRock, Playbook Partners and Sanghvi family office, among others.

The fundraising comes at a critical juncture for Skyroot as it prepares for the launch of Vikram-1, which is expected to become India's first privately developed orbital launch vehicle, as a solution for global satellite operators amid rising demand for commercial access to space.



Founded in 2018 by former ISRO scientists Pawan Kumar Chandana and Naga Bharath Daka, Skyroot plans to use the proceeds to support launch operations, scale up capacity and accelerate development of the more advanced Vikram-2 launch vehicle.

"The funding secures our capital requirements through the transition to commercial launches," Chandana told Bloomberg, adding that the company would reassess the need for further fundraising once revenue generation from missions begins. The latest round also brings strategic heft to Skyroot's board, with Ram Shriram, founder of Sheralo Ventures and a board member of Google parent Alphabet Inc, joining the company.

"Access to space is one of the defining infrastructure challenges of our time. Skyroot is building that future with one of the best cost-to-performance positions in the orbital launch industry," Shriram said.

Skyroot's emergence as a unicorn reflects the rapid evolution of India's private space ecosystem following policy reforms that opened the sector to non-government participation after 2019. India's space economy, once dominated almost entirely by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), has seen a surge in private investment and start-up activity across launch systems, satellites, propulsion and space electronics.

The momentum was visible earlier this week when Bengaluru-based start-up GalaxEye launched its earth observation satellite Mission Driшти aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from California.

Union minister of state for space Jitendra Singh had informed the Rajya Sabha in January that India's space economy is estimated at \$8.4 billion, supported by nearly 400 start-ups. The sector is projected to expand four-to-five-fold over the next decade to around \$40-45 billion.

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Indian Railways Sanctions Kavach Expansion Across 1,478 Route Kilometres in Northern Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata, 8 May 26: In a major boost to railway safety and modernisation, Indian Railways has sanctioned expansion of the indigenous Kavach automatic train protection system across key routes of Northern Railway at a total cost of around ₹362 crore. The sanctioned works include provision of Kavach over nearly 1,478 route kilometres covering important sections of Firozpur and Jammu divisions.



The scope of the sanctioned works includes installation of stationary Kavach systems along with 40 metre communication towers and antennae in-tracks on balance sections of Firozpur Division at an estimated cost of about ₹241 crore. In Jammu Division, Kavach will be provided on the Jalandhar City Junction-Jammu Tawi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra, Batala Junction-Pathankot Junction and Banihal-Baramulla sections covering around 466 route kilometres at a cost of nearly ₹121 crore.

continuous communication between locomotives, signalling systems and track-side equipment.

The expansion of Kavach across these strategically important routes will significantly enhance operational safety, improve reliability and support efficient train movement. Indian Railways is rapidly scaling up deployment of Kavach as part of its commitment towards building a safer, smarter and technologically advanced railway network under the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Kavach is India's indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection system that helps prevent collisions by automatically applying brakes in case of unsafe movement. The technology also assists loco pilots in maintaining safe train operations through

Under the project, Kavach will be installed over 1,012 route kilometres on balance sections of Firozpur Division at an estimated cost of about ₹241 crore. In Jammu Division, Kavach will be provided on the Jalandhar City Junction-Jammu Tawi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra, Batala Junction-Pathankot Junction and Banihal-Baramulla sections covering around 466 route kilometres at a cost of nearly ₹121 crore.

DRDO collaborates with Home Ministry

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Defence Research and Development (DRDO) has developed the AI-enabled system 'Prajna' to strengthen India's internal security architecture. Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D) Secretary Dr Samir V Kamat handed over the advanced satellite imaging system, 'Prajna', to the Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan in New Delhi.

Developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation through its specialised laboratory, the Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR), the system is powered by artificial intelligence and designed to provide real-time decision support to security agencies.

The 'Prajna' integrates high-resolution satellite imagery with AI-driven analytics to enhance situational awareness for security agencies.

According to a Home Ministry spokesperson, the system can rapidly process large volumes of geospatial data,

enabling authorities to monitor sensitive areas, track developments, and respond swiftly to emerging threats.

"The platform is expected to play a crucial role in border management, counter-insurgency operations, disaster response, and critical infrastructure protection. By leveraging advanced image recognition and predictive analytics, 'Prajna' can identify unusual patterns and flag potential security risks, significantly reducing response time for decision-makers," the official said.

The development of 'Prajna' is also in line with India's broader push towards self-reliance in critical technologies under the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" initiative.

According to the official, the system has undergone extensive validation to ensure reliability across diverse terrains and operational scenarios.

The system represents a major leap in the use of indigenous technology for national security.

CALCUTTA UNIV aligns UG degrees with NEP

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a landmark decision, Calcutta University has aligned its undergraduate degree structure with the National Education Policy 2020 and set up a committee to review affiliation fees for private colleges, decisions taken at a recent Syndicate meeting. Under the revised framework, students exiting after the first year of undergraduate studies will receive a certificate, while those leaving after the second year will be awarded a diploma.

Three-year honours programmes will confer a "three-year graduation with a single major" degree, while general courses will be termed "three-year graduation with two core subjects and one minor". Four-year programmes will lead to either honours or honours with research degrees.

Officials said the revised nomenclature aims to standardise degree structures and ensure compatibility for students seeking higher education or employment in India and abroad. The propos-

als were adopted unanimously by the Syndicate. The university has also constituted a three-member committee to examine whether affiliation fees for private colleges should be increased. At present, institutions pay Rs 10,000 as affiliation fee and Rs 1,000 for inspection, with renewals carried out periodically. Officials said the review is being considered in view of rising expenditure and reduced government support. Any revision, if approved, may also apply to certain self-financing courses, while government-aided colleges are unlikely to be affected.

Vice-Chancellor Ashutosh Ghosh said the committee would assess all aspects before submitting its recommendations, after which a final decision would be taken. In a separate decision, the university approved the implementation of NEP 2020 and the State Education Policy 2022 at the postgraduate level.

For university students, merit lists will be prepared based on entrance examination scores and marks obtained up to the fifth semester, while external candidates will be selected solely on entrance test performance. An academic calendar has also been introduced for postgraduate courses, with classes scheduled from July to June. The calendar mandates at least 90 days of classes per semester and fixes timelines for admissions, examinations and semester completion, aimed at ensuring uniformity across departments and affiliated colleges.

B.R. Singh Hospital Observes Fire Safety Week with Focus on Healthcare Preparedness

MI News Service, Kolkata, 8 May 26: In a proactive move to bolster safety standards and emergency preparedness, B.R. Singh Hospital (BRSH), Eastern Railway, Sealdah, observed Fire Safety Week today at the hospital auditorium. The event centered on the theme of "Fire Safety at Healthcare Facilities," emphasizing the critical need for vigilance in high-stakes medical environments.



from Priyamvada Birla Institute and the dedicated nursing staff of BRSH showcased their creativity and technical knowledge.

2. Fire Safety Quiz: An intensive quiz competition was conducted for nursing students to test their real-time decision-making skills.

3. Expert Oversight: The sessions were held in the presence of esteemed medical officers who emphasized that in a hospital, the event concluded with a Prize Distribution Ceremony, where winners were felicitated for their

exceptional performance and innovative ideas.

The success of the program was largely attributed to the seamless coordination of the Nursing and Paramedical staff, who played a pivotal role in organizing the logistics and technical demonstrations.

By involving the next generation of healthcare providers, B.R. Singh Hospital continues to lead by example, ensuring that its staff is not only equipped to heal but also trained to protect lives in any exigency.

BENGAL top crimes by foreigners among states

MI News Service, New Delhi: Bengal recorded the highest number of crimes committed by foreigners (992) among states in 2024, while Delhi topped union territories in both crimes committed by foreigners and crimes against them, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) report.

Bangladeshi nationals accounted for the highest number of foreign nationals arrested in connection with criminal cases across the country at 3,091 in 2024, followed by Nigerians at 509, Nepalis at 476, and Myanmar nationals at 245, the report said.

At 64 cases, Delhi recorded the highest number of crimes against foreigners among UTs.

A total of 4,794 foreign nationals, including 944 women and 11 transgen-



der persons, were arrested in criminal cases in the country in 2024, the data showed. They were most commonly booked under the Foreigners Act and Registration of Foreigners Act, followed by the Passport Act and the NDPS Act.

Among IPC/BNS offences, foreigners were most commonly booked for forgery (127 cases), followed by theft (112), cheating (78) and murder (45).

Of the total 3,091 cases against Bangladeshi na-

tionals, 1,676 cases were registered under the Foreigners Act and Registration of Foreigners Act, followed by the Passport Act and the NDPS Act. Out of 509 cases involving Nigerians, the highest number was reported under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act at 259, followed by 136 under the Foreigners Act and Registration of Foreigners Act.

Nepali nationals were mostly booked under the NDPS Act, with 129 cases, or 27.1 per cent of the total 476 cases. The figure was followed by other Special and Local Laws (SLL) crimes with 112 cases, or 23.5 per cent, and theft with 90 cases, or 18.9 per cent. The NCRB data showed that crimes against foreigners rose from 238 cases in 2023 to 257 in 2024. Maharashtra recorded the highest number of such cases among states at 41, followed by Karnataka with 32.

In the category, theft accounted for the highest number of cases at 62, followed by "other IPC/BNS crimes" at 41, "other SLL crimes" at 28 and cases under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act at 25.

Of the 257 foreign victims, Nepali nationals accounted for the highest number at 71.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER

E-Tender Notice No. : E-DRM-Engg-ADRA-41-26, Dated: 07.05.2026. For and on behalf of the President of India, DRM(Engg)/South Eastern Railway, Adra invites 01 (One) no. e-tenders for Level Crossing and Misc. Works as mentioned hereunder: **Tender No. : E-DRM-Engg-ADRA-41-26.** Description of works: Execution of Civil Engineering work such as Gate Gantry and deep tubewell in connection with the provision of interlocking of 3 Nos. of level crossing gates (KA-48, RC-2 & MR-35) in Adra division as per codal provision over Indian Railway (UW 24-25). **Tender value :** ₹ 1,39,61,382.67. The closing date and time of e-tenders is on 10.06.2026 at 15.00 hrs. Details of above e-tender may please be seen at website www.ireps.gov.in. (PR-146)

Metro Railway, Kolkata

E-Tender is invited by Sr. Transportation Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata for the following work: **Name of work:** Cash Pick Up Services from all existing and upcoming stations of all corridors of Metro Railway, Kolkata. **Period of Work :** 05 (Five) Years, i.e. 60 (sixty) months. **Bidding Start Date :** 18.05.2026. **Date & Time of Closing of Tender :** 01.06.2026 at 15.00 hrs. **Cost of Tender Document :** Nil. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 2,99,900/- **Performance Guarantee :** 5% of the contractual value. **Tendering Section:** Office of the Principal Chief Operations Manager, Metro Railway, Metro Rail Bhavan (7th floor), 33/1, J.L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700071, West Bengal, India. Website particulars : www.ireps.gov.in. **E-Tender No. :** Metro-C354-CashPickUp26 (Open) (Two Packet System)

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EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. SG.Tender/DSTE/SDAH/609, Dated: 07.05.2026. E-Tender is invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, RMS Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: **'e'-Tender No. SDSTE/Sig/T/37/25-26/SF.** Name of Work with its Location: Provision of inverter to avoid signal blanking at interlocked LC Gates (OSL) over Sealdah Division. **Tender Value :** ₹ 1,36,96,335.43; **Cost of Tender Document :** Nil. **Earnest Money/Bid Security to be deposited :** ₹ 2,73,800.00; **Completion Period of the Work:** 12 Months. **Tender Submission Start Date:** 21.05.2026. **Tender Submission End Date:** 04.06.2026 upto 14.00 Hrs. **Tender Bid Opening Date:** 04.06.2026 at 14.30 Hrs. **Details may be available:** www.ireps.gov.in **Technical Eligibility Criteria -** The tenderer must have successfully completed or substantially completed any one of the following categories of work(s) during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: (i) Three similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, or (ii) Two similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, or (iii) One similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender. **Financial Eligibility Criteria-** The tenderer must have minimum average annual contractual turnover of VN or V whichever is less; where V= Advertised value of the tender in crores of Rupees. No. Number of years prescribed for completion of work for which bids have been invited. The average annual contractual turnover shall be calculated as an average of "total contractual payments" in the previous three financial years, as per the audited balance sheet. However, in case balance sheet of the previous year is yet to be prepared / audited, the audited balance sheet of the fourth previous year shall be considered for calculating average annual contractual turnover. The tenderers shall submit requisite information as per Annexure-VIB of GCC 2022 (Form-6 of the instant tender document), along with copies of Audited Balance Sheets duly certified by the Chartered Accountant / Certificate from Chartered Accountant duly supported by Audited Balance Sheet. **Other Document to be submitted:** As mentioned in the tender document. **Similar nature of Work:** Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Data Logger or RTUs OR Any Signal Interlocking Works involving EI or RRI or PI or IBS or IBH or LC Gate Interlocking or Yard Modification or UFSBI or Track Circuit (AFTC or DC TC) or Axle Counter (SSDAC or MSDAC or HA-SSDAC) or Automatic Signalling. **Note-** The tenderer shall submit along with the tender offer, documents in support of his/her claim to fulfill the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the tender document. Each page of the copy of documents/certificates in support of credentials, submitted by the tenderer, shall be self-attested/digitally signed by the tenderer or authorized representative of the tendering firm. Self-attestation shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). **SDAH-31/2026-27** **Tender Notice is also available at websites :** www.ireps.gov.in www.ireps.gov.in **Follow us at :** [@EasternRailway](https://www.facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://www.facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender No. : AEN-SHOP-STFISHING 25-26R3 & AEN-SHOP-NTFISHING25-26R3, Dated: 07.05.2026. E-Tender is invited online by Chief Works Manager, C & W Workshop, Eastern Railway, Liluah, Howrah - 711204 from tenderers having experience of fishing undertaking for following work: **Sl. No. : 1; Tender No. : AEN-SHOP-STFISHING25-26R3; Name of Work :** License for Fishing right for Railway South Tank at Liluah under CWM/Liluah for a period of five years. **Reserve Price :** ₹ 8,01,616.74; **Earnest Money :** ₹ 80,200.00; **Cost of Tender form :** ₹ 0.00; **Completion Period :** 05 (Five) years from date of acceptance. **Sl. No. : 2; Tender No. : AEN-SHOP-NTFISHING25-26R3; Name of Work :** License for Fishing right for Railway North Tank at Liluah under CWM/LLH for a period of five years. **Reserve Price :** ₹ 11,00,234.14; **Earnest Money :** ₹ 1,10,100.00; **Cost of Tender form :** ₹ 0.00; **Completion Period :** 05 (Five) years from date of acceptance; In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/bandh/Strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of tender. However, opening the tenders online will be done next working day. **Date and Time of Closing of Tender:** On 02.06.2026 upto 12.00 Hrs. for both the tenders. The details of the tender are available at website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in> Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. **Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in respect of E-tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. No manual offer will be accepted.** **MISC-31/2026-27** **Tender Notice is also available at websites :** www.ireps.gov.in www.ireps.gov.in **Follow us at :** [@EasternRailway](https://www.facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://www.facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

India asks B'Desh to expedite illegal immigrant verification

MI News Service, New Delhi/Kolkata: India asked Bangladesh to expedite nationality verification so that repatriation of "illegal immigrants" can take place smoothly.

Dhaka had earlier said it would take appropriate action if New Delhi "pushed in" people alleged to be Bangladeshi infiltrators through the borders along Assam and Bengal.

Reacting to a statement by Bangladesh's foreign minister Khalilur Rahman that Dhaka would take action if there is a "push-in" during the change of power in Bengal, external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to queries at the weekly briefing: "These comments must be seen in the context of the core issue of repatriation of illegal Bangladeshis from India."

Stating that this repatriation requires cooperation from Bangladesh, Jaiswal added: "Over 2,862 cases of nationality verification are pending with Bangladesh, some for over five years. Our policy is that all illegal foreign nationals staying in India must be repatriated as per our laws, procedures and established bilateral arrangements. We expect Bangladesh to expedite nationality verification so that repatriation of illegal immigrants can take place in a smooth manner."

The state-run news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha quoted Rahman as describing India's reported move of pushing people into Bangladesh as "inappropriate" as this was not being done through proper channels, iterating Dhaka's stated position that "we are examining each of the cases... we will re-

ceive only if there is proof that they are Bangladeshi citizens".

According to the Dhaka Tribune, Border Guard Bangladesh on Wednesday detained "66 Indian nationals who illegally entered Khagrachhari through various border points in Matiranga and Panchhari". The report claimed that 27 of them were Bengali-speaking residents of Gujarat and were found staying in a local house. They claimed they had been flown from Gujarat and helped across the border by paramilitary force personnel.

Last week, Bangladesh had summoned the acting Indian high commissioner in Dhaka, Pawan Badhe, over the "disparaging" remarks of then Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma about bilateral relations. Two sets of remarks by Sarma over the past weekend — a comment made during an interview to ABP News and a post on X — were found "disparaging" by Dhaka. "I pray to God every morning that the situation that existed during Yunus's time should remain the same; that relations should not improve further." The Daily Star quoted him as saying in the interview aired on April 15.

In a bilingual post on X on April 25, Sarma said first in Hindi: "Laaton ke bhoot baton se nahi maante (Rude people don't understand politeness). We continuously remind ourselves of this prophetic line when we expel infiltrators from Assam who don't leave themselves. For instance, these 20 illegal Bangladeshis, who were PUSHED BACK last night. Assam will fight.

Stalls/Outlets at Stations over Sealdah Division Under One Station One Product Scheme

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, hereby invites application in sealed packet (single) and in prescribed format from Individuals, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Marginalized or weaker sections of society etc., dealing with indigenous products for participation in **One Station One Product Scheme at 91 nos. Stations over Sealdah Division. Salient features of the scheme:**

(1) Tenure of the Project : Gocharan, Kankinara, Dhubulia - 90 days starting from 30.05.2026. Agarpara, Dakshin Durgapur - 90 days starting from 31.05.2026. Sashan Road - 90 days starting from 01.06.2026. Ranaghat-2 - 30 days starting from 01.06.2026. Subhashnagar - 90 days starting from 02.06.2026. Benoy Badal Dinesh Bag, Champahati - 90 days starting from 03.06.2026. Namkhana-2 - 30 days starting from 03.06.2026. Netra, Ghutiarai Sharif, Magrahat, Sondalia - 90 days starting from 04.06.2026. Duttapukur, Dakshineswar - 90 days starting from 05.06.2026. Malati, Bhasila - 90 days starting from 06.06.2026. Baharu, Basirhat, Kalyani Silpanchal, Kakkdip, Hridaypur - 90 days starting from 07.06.2026. Kalyanpur, Hotor, Dakshin Barasat - 90 days starting from 08.06.2026. Kalkipar - 30 days starting from 08.06.2026. Palta - 90 days starting from 09.06.2026. Titagarh, Jagaddal - 30 days starting from 09.06.2026. Belgharia - 30 days starting from 10.06.2026. Ballyghat, Cossimbazar, Lalga - 90 days starting from 11.06.2026. Eden Gardens, Gangnapur, Bagbazar, Paglachandi, Gede Kalinarayanpur, Habibpur, New Barrackpore - 90 days starting from 12.06.2026. Bidyadharpur, Piali - 90 days starting from 13.06.2026. Bhagwangola, Muragachha, Bedhuadahari, Debgram, Rejinagar, Plassey, Majdia, Bagula, Surjyapur - 90 days starting from 14.06.2026. Barra Bazar, Patipukur, Basuldanga, Dhapdhai, Palpara, Prinsep Ghat, Chandpara - 90 days starting from 15.06.2026. Shantipur, Payradanga - 90 days starting from 16.06.2026. Badkulla, Guma - 90 days starting from 17.06.2026. Gobardanga Road - 30 days starting from 17.06.2026. Bihardanga, Ashoknagar Road, Durganagar, Bira - 90 days starting from 19.06.2026. Jiaganj, Aranghata, Thakurnagar - 90 days starting from 21.06.2026. Krishnapur, Murshidabad, Berhampur Court, Phulia, Kalyani Ghoshpara, Deula, Dhamua, Canning, Madhyamgram - 90 days starting from 22.06.2026. Namkhana - 90 days starting from 24.06.2026. Gopalnagar, Jaynagar Majlipur - 90 days starting from 25.06.2026. Tala, Baranagar, Talid - 90 days starting from 26.06.2026. Taherpur - 90 days starting from 27.06.2026. Kalyani Simanta, Majhergram - 30 days starting from 27.06.2026. **(2) Token Registration Fee:** Rs. 2,000/- only inclusive of GST for the allotment period of 30 days for each stall. Rs. 6,000/- only inclusive of GST for the allotment period of 90 days for each stall **(3) Infrastructure:** (i) Stalls/Outlets shall be provided by Railways. (ii) A maximum of 20 units of electricity per One Station One Product outlet shall be permitted for one spell of 15 days as basic facilitation subsumed in the registration charges. For additional units of electricity over and above the limit of 20 units, the applicable charges shall apply on actual basis. **(4) Submission of applications:** Within 15.00 hrs. of 28.05.2026. Applications in the letterhead of the organization/plain white sheet of paper along with photocopy of document (as mentioned in Eligibility Criteria) addressed to **Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, Room No. 44, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014** to be submitted in sealed envelope at designated place in the Office of Station Master/Station Manager/Booking Supervisor. **In case of receipt of more than one application :** Open lottery/public draw of lots to be done for selection at respective stations at **16.00 hrs. on 28.05.2026.** Name of stations with identified products, eligibility criteria for participation & supporting documents, complete details of the application to be submitted and detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from the official website www.ireps.gov.in and also can be seen at the Notice Board in the Office of Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah Room No. 44, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014.

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Sealdah

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Human activity affecting tiger breeding in India's tiger reserves, finds study

HYDERABAD : Tourism and human activity are pushing India's tigers towards stress and affecting their breeding, reveals a new study at the CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).

The study, published in the Zoological Society of London journal *Animal Conservation*, is the first to combine non-invasive stress and reproductive hormone analyses from tigers across five major Indian tiger reserves: Corbett (Uttarakhand), Tadoba-Andhari (Maharashtra), Kanha and Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh), and Periyar (Kerala).

The study highlights issues for each of these tiger reserves to inform better tiger management, the CSIR-CCMB said in a release on Friday.

Many previous studies by

Dr G. Umopathy at the CSIR-CCMB had established that tourism and other anthropogenic activities in tiger reserves cause stress in tigers. This time, he led the team to systematically assess how human activities affect tiger breeding.

For the first time, scientists have tracked tigers across different parts of India through four seasons over two years to understand how human presence impacts tiger well-being.

The team analysed 610 genetically confirmed tiger scat samples, including 291 females and 185 males, collected between 2020 and 2023. They measured two key hormone markers in these samples -- faecal glucocorticoid metabolites (a biomarker of stress) and faecal progesterone metabolites (an indica-

tor of breeding activity in females). Across all reserves, tigers ranging close to tourism roads and in areas with greater human disturbance consistently showed elevated stress hormone levels.

A particularly striking finding is that tigers in the strictly protected core zones showed higher stress response to human-caused disturbance than those in the multi-use buffer zones.

Buffer-zone tigers appear to have habituated to year-round human presence, whereas core-zone tigers register sharp spikes in stress when seasonal tourism enters these areas. This challenges the assumption that core zones are uniformly low-stress refuges. The effect was most pronounced in Tadoba and Bandhavgarh.



"Tigresses prefer to breed in the quiet parts of the forests. However, it is becoming difficult to find such suitable areas. In Tadoba and Corbett, the buffer zones already have high tiger populations. It is concerning if the

core areas of the forests also become stressful for the tigresses," said DrUmopathy, Chief Scientist at CSIR-CCMB. "Not only is the reproductive success of tigers lower under stress, but the young ones will also grow up differently in

such conditions."

"This study is a fine example of how molecular biology and physiology can be applied directly to one of India's most important conservation priorities," CSIR-CCMB Director, DrVinyanNandicoori, said.

"CSIR-CCMB takes pride in housing the Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species (LaCONES), which has grown into a national resource for non-invasive wildlife monitoring. We hope these findings will be useful to the National Tiger Conservation Authority and state forest departments as they continue to fine-tune the management of India's tiger reserves," he said.

"We are not arguing against wildlife tourism, which plays a vital role in conservation funding and supports rural livelihoods," said DrUmopathy. "But our findings make a clear scientific case that the regulation of tourism, including vehicle numbers, safari timings, road density, and the protection of breeding areas, needs to be

informed by what the animals are actually telling us through their physiology."

The study suggests key management recommendations, including strict regulation of tourist vehicle numbers and prevention of vehicle crowding at tiger sightings; reduction of safari duration by approximately one hour in both morning and evening sessions; strengthened management of buffer zones, particularly in Tadoba and Bandhavgarh, to mitigate high anthropogenic disturbances; creation of additional water bodies along non-tourism routes to reduce dependence on roadside waterholes; and continuous, non-invasive physiological monitoring of known tigresses to identify and protect breeding hotspots.

India at forefront of global space transformation: NidhiKhare

NEW DELHI : India is at the forefront of global space transformation and is steadily emerging as a major hub for innovation and private sector participation in the space industry, NidhiKhare, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, has said, it was announced on Friday.

Addressing the opening plenary of the 35th ISO TC 20/SC 14 meeting on 'Space Systems and Operations' here, Khare has highlighted that the importance of international collaboration in developing global standards for the space ecosystem, according to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

"It is a matter of immense pride for India to host this meeting as we stand at the



forefront of global space transformation," she said.

Khare noted that major policy reforms and the establishment of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) have laid the foundation for India's emergence as a global space hub.

According to her, the reforms have created opportunities for startups as well as established industries to expand their participation in the country's rapidly growing space sector.

She added that standards developed through international collaboration and

shared expertise would play a crucial role in ensuring that space activities remain safe, sustainable and inclusive.

The international meeting hosted by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the national standards body of India, has brought together delegates from several countries, including representatives from national standards bodies, international space agencies, industry and academia.

BIS Director General Sanjay Garg underlined the importance of standardisation in strengthening quality, safety and global competitiveness in India's expanding space industry.

He said BIS is working to align Indian standards with international frameworks to

support the evolving needs of the sector and help Indian private companies compete globally.

According to Garg, hosting the ISO meeting in India would also enable Indian experts to participate directly in the global standardisation process, strengthening both domestic capabilities and international cooperation.

IN-SPACe Chairman PawanGoenka said India's space ecosystem is witnessing transformative growth driven by policy reforms and increasing private sector participation.

He stressed the importance of robust global standards in supporting innovation, building industry confidence and helping India integrate more deeply into the global space economy.

Adobe expands India footprint, opens new office



NEW DELHI : US-based software major Adobe on Friday opened a new office in Noida, as the global technology company continues to expand its presence in India and deepen its focus on artificial intelligence-driven innovation.

Located in Sector 129, Noida, the new facility is Adobe's seventh office in

India and its third in Uttar Pradesh.

The campus currently houses more than 700 employees across engineering and customer-facing functions, according to the company.

"As the world is transformed by AI and agentic technologies, Adobe is at the forefront of reimagining

innovation and creativity. The opening of our new Noida office marks an important milestone in our continued focus on driving innovation from India," said AbhigyanModi, Country Manager, Adobe India, and Senior Vice President, Document Cloud.

The office has been designed as a technology-enabled, collaborative workspace aimed at fostering innovation, co-creation, and employee engagement in the AI era.

Swati Rustagi, Head of Employee Experience, Adobe India, said the space has been built to help teams collaborate more effectively in a rapidly evolving technology landscape.

Google explores AI infrastructure, server and drone manufacturing investments in India: AshwiniVaishnav



NEW DELHI : Alphabet-owned Google is exploring fresh investments in India focused on artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure and the local manufacturing of servers and drones, Union Minister AshwiniVaishnav said on Friday.

Sharing details of his meeting with Google executives on social media platform X, Vaishnav said the company is evaluating opportunities across AI infrastructure development as well as electronics manufacturing in India.

"Google is exploring investments in India across AI infrastructure and the manufacturing of servers and drones," he said.

The development comes amid increasing global investments in AI capabilities and data centre expansion.

The minister's remarks also come shortly after Google CEO SundarPichai announced that the company would raise its total capital expenditure to \$185 billion this year, largely driven by aggressive investments in AI infrastructure.

Speaking at the Google Cloud Next 2026 summit last month, Pichai said more than half of Google's machine learning computing resources would now be allocated to its cloud business.

Google has already unveiled a massive \$15 billion investment plan in Andhra Pradesh to build

what it described as a 'gigawatt-scale AI ecosystem' in Visakhapatnam.

As part of the initiative, the company in April began work on its India AI Hub project in partnership with AdaniConneX and Nxta by Airtel.

Google had termed the project its "largest investment in India's digital future to date." The initiative includes India's first gigawatt-scale AI hub spread across three data centre campuses and will also feature a 1 GW hyperscale AI data centre.

The Andhra Pradesh government has allocated nearly 600 acres of land in Turluvada, Rambilli and Adavivaram for the ambitious AI infrastructure project.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony on April 28, Vaishnav had said India is well positioned to become a trusted global partner in electronics manufacturing and supply chains, supported by strong policy initiatives and expanding technological capabilities.

The minister also urged global technology companies, including Google, to scale up local production of servers, graphics processing units (GPUs) and semiconductor chips in India, underlining the government's push to strengthen domestic electronics

Govt launches integrated training for primary healthcare to boost frontline delivery

NEW DELHI : The government has launched an integrated training for primary healthcare teams to bring together multiple programme-based trainings into a single competency-driven framework, aimed at strengthening frontline care delivery, an official statement said on Friday.

Union Health Minister JP Nadda launched the training programme that simplifies learning and enhances the capabilities of frontline providers.

The initiative will

"It equips them to deliver comprehensive care - from prevention and early detection to treatment and follow-up - ensuring that people receive the right care, at the right time, closer to their homes," the statement from Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said.

The programme will use digital platforms such as iGOTKarmayogi for continuous learning to make the workforce more adaptive and future ready.

The initiative will

strengthen the capacity of the community-based workforce to deliver empathetic, responsive, and high-quality care, the statement said.

Further, it empowers the women who account for over 70 per cent of primary health care workforce, including ASHAs, ANMs, and CHOs.

The Integrated Training Modules will enable primary healthcare teams to deliver holistic, people-centred care while strengthening trust between communi-

ties and the health system.

The training reform is a strategic investment in the future of public health in India, it added.

"The Integrated Training for Primary Healthcare Teams marks a decisive shift from fragmented capacity building to a single, structured, and competency-driven framework. It will transform India's frontline health workforce into confident providers of comprehensive, people-centred care

at the last mile," the ministry said.

India is well ahead of the curve in its investments for strengthening health systems.

The statement highlighted a strong focus on Comprehensive Primary Health Care and community engagement in recent years, reflecting the country's belief that healthcare must be equitable and easily accessible.

A major milestone in this journey was the

launch of the Ayushman Bharat programme, under which AyushmanArogyaMandirs were envisioned as the fulcrum of preventive, promotive and curative care.

The ministry highlighted deep community engagement through platforms such as Jan Arogya Samitis, MahilaArogyaSamitis, Village Health and Sanitation Committees, and AAM Shivirs.

CUSAT shifts Delhi exam centre ahead of CAT 2026 exams starting May 9

KOCHI : CUSAT has changed the examination centre in New Delhi for candidates appearing for the CAT 2026, officials said on Friday.

The university said candidates allotted to the New Delhi centre should download their updated admit cards from their candidate profiles and appear for the examination at the revised venue, HRL Digital Solution, from Saturday onwards.

In a statement, Cochin University of Science and Technology officials said candidates had been advised to



report to the newly allotted examination centre at least 90 minutes before the commencement of the examination.

The Common Admission

Test 2026 examinations for admission to various academic programmes of the university will be held on May 9, 10 and 11.

David Attenborough excited but hushed voice of nature programs turns 100

LONDON : The BBC is hosting a party for David Attenborough at the Royal Albert Hall. Cinemas are playing his nature films. Friends have spent weeks lavishing praise on the man and his work.

But the world's most famous wildlife presenter is likely to be uncomfortable with all the attention as he celebrates his 100th birthday on Friday, said Alastair Fothergill, the producer of some of Attenborough's most well-known documentaries.

"He's always been very clear to all of us that work with him: Remember, the animals are the stars, I'm not,

Fothergill told The Associated Press. "So, yes, surprisingly for one of the most famous men on the planet, he doesn't like being famous at all."

Glorious gorillas

But Attenborough has had to accept the accolades this week as scientists, politicians and conservationists celebrated the man who has brought frolicking gorillas, breaching whales and tiny poisonous frogs into living rooms around the world for more than 70 years.

Through BBC programs such as *Life on Earth*, *The Private Life of Plants* and *The Blue Planet*, Attenborough

has illuminated the beauty, ferocity and sometimes downright weirdness of nature in a hushed melodic voice that conveys his own awe at what he is witnessing.

Viewers who might never leave their hometowns were transported to the Himalayas, the Amazon and the unexplored forests of Papua New Guinea. But behind the stunning images was an attention to scientific accuracy that helped teach people about complex subjects like evolution, animal behaviour, and biodiversity.

And as the evidence mounted, he began to sound the alarm about climate

change, ocean plastic and other human-caused threats to the planet.

That helped people understand not only how life evolved but, more importantly, why we have to protect it, said Ben Garrod, an evolutionary biologist at the University of East Anglia and himself a broadcaster who has worked alongside Attenborough.

Attenborough, Garrod believes, initially saw himself as a neutral observer but was compelled to speak out when he saw that politicians, business leaders and the public weren't taking the emergency seriously.

Time for greater workforce formalisation, expansion of social security coverage: SBI report

NEW DELHI : Despite regional differences, informal employment remains the predominant form of employment across all states, an SBI Research report said on Friday, highlighting the need for greater workforce formalisation and expansion of social security coverage.

Female workers are 4.8 per cent more likely to be informal workers compared to male workers whereas construction sector workers are 4.5 per cent more likely to be engaged in informal employment relative to agricultural sector.

"Government training plays a significant role in improving self employment among female. Our results show that government funding is associated with 5.8 per cent rise in the probability of self employment," said the report.

Punjab records the highest share of informal workers at 82 per cent, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at 81 per cent each.

Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh also exhibit high levels of informal employment, with nearly 74 per cent of workers engaged in informal jobs.

"Higher levels of informality in several northern

and central states may be associated with the dominance of agriculture, casual labour and low-productivity employment activities," the report stated.

States with relatively diversified industrial and service-sector activities such as Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and Karnataka exhibit comparatively lower levels of informal employment, it added.

Informal workers remains predominantly rural in nature, with nearly 59 per cent concentration in the rural areas, while urban areas account for around 41 per cent of the informal workforce.

The industry composition of informal workers indicates that agriculture remains the largest source of informal employment, accounting for nearly 42 per cent of the informal workforce, followed by trade and hotels (17 per cent) and other service activities (14 per cent).

India's labour force is undergoing structural transformation with share of agriculture in the workforce witnessing a modest 23 per cent decline from 66 per cent in 1987-88 to 43 per cent in 2023-24 over a 37-year period.

U.S. int'l trade court rules Trump's new global tariff illegal

MI News Service, New York : The U.S. Court of International Trade on Thursday ruled that U.S. President Donald Trump's new global tariff is illegal, thus invalidating his 10 percent tariffs on most U.S. imports.

The court ruled that Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974 allows tariffs only when there are "large and serious balance-of-payment deficits."

"But no such thing exists," Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield's office said in a release. "A trade deficit is not a balance-of-payment deficit. As the court ruled, the President's tariffs proclamation 'is invalid, and the tariffs imposed on Plaintiffs are unauthorized by law.'"

The Trump administration initially invoked the International Emergency Economic Powers Act to impose universal tariffs worldwide in April 2025. The Supreme Court ruled those tariffs were unlawful in February this year. Trump then immediately resorted to Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974 and announced a 10 percent ad valorem duty on "all articles imported into the United States," supposedly in response to trade deficits.

The duty went into effect at 12:01 a.m. Eastern Standard Time on Feb. 24, 2026, and is set to remain in effect until 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on July 24, 2026, unless "suspended, modified, or terminated on an earlier date" or "extended by an Act of the Congress."

In the face of the new global tariff, a coalition of 24 U.S. states filed their respective complaints in March 2026.

Nigerian troops kill three suspected terrorists, recover arms in raids

MI News Service, Abuja : At least three suspected terrorists were killed and a cache of arms and ammunition recovered during a military operation in Nigeria's northwestern Zamfara State, the army said on Friday.

According to an army statement, troops acting on credible intelligence raided areas across three villages in Birnin Magaji Local Government Area and engaged suspected terrorists in a gunfight in Dumburum village, Zamfara State.

Three suspected terrorists were killed, while several others fled with gunshot wounds, the statement said. Weapons recovered during the operation included rifles, a machine gun, a locally made handgun and assorted ammunition. The army said the security situation in the area remained under control following the operation, with troops maintaining dominance over the area.

Iranian FM accuses US of pursuing another 'reckless military adventure'

MI News Service, Tehran: Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi accuses the US of abandoning diplomacy in favor of a "reckless military adventure" following an overnight exchange of fire in the Strait of Hormuz.

"Is this a crude pressure tactic? Or the result of a spoiler once again duping POTUS into another quagmire," writes Araghchi in a statement posted on X. "Whatever the causes, the outcome is the same," he adds. "Iranians never bow to pressure and diplomacy is always the victim."

Araghchi also responds to a Washington Post report that stated that the CIA believes Iran retains 75% of its pre-war ballistic missile stocks.

Iran launches fierce retaliation after US attacks on oil tankers in Strait of Hormuz

MI News Service, Tehran : A spokesperson for Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters announced on Thursday that Iranian forces responded swiftly and forcefully to a series of alleged US military aggressions in the strategic Strait of Hormuz and along the country's southern coastline.

In an official statement, Ebrahim Zolfaghari condemned the US military as "aggressive, terrorist, and outlaw," accusing it of violating a ceasefire by targeting an Iranian oil tanker. The vessel was sailing from coastal waters near Jask toward the Strait of Hormuz when it came under attack. Simultaneously, another Iranian ship was reportedly struck while entering the strait opposite the UAE's Fujairah port.

Zolfaghari further claimed that US forces, in coordination with regional allies, launched airstrikes on civilian areas along the coasts of Bandar Khamir, Sirik, and Qeshm Island. Ac-



According to the statement, these actions prompted an immediate and decisive Iranian retaliation.

Iranian armed forces launched a rapid counteroffensive, engaging US military vessels east of the Strait of Hormuz and south of Bandar Chabahar. The operation reportedly inflicted significant damage on American war-

ships. Iranian naval and missile units also targeted aggressor forces in the strait, scoring direct hits that forced the US vessels to retreat in disarray.

The spokesperson issued a stern warning, stating that the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue to deliver crushing responses to any aggression or violation of its sovereignty "powerfully and without the slightest hesitation," as it has done in the past.

The incidents came one day after US President Donald Trump suspended "Project Freedom" — an operation aimed at forcing open the Strait of Hormuz — after only 48 hours. Iranian officials described the move as yet another humiliating retreat for the United States in recent months.

Tensions in the vital waterway, through which a significant portion of global oil trade passes, remain high. Iran maintains that it will defend its territorial waters and interests firmly against any perceived threats.

Nida Khan arrested in alleged TCS Nashik religious conversion case

MI News Service, Nashik City : Nida Khan, one of the eight accused in the high-profile TCS BPO sexual harassment and religious conversion case in Nashik, was arrested by Nashik City Police from Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar on Thursday.

Khan is named in the first of the nine FIRs registered at Deolali Camp Police Station between March 26 and April 3. Her anticipatory bail application was recently rejected by a Nashik sessions court.

Police Commissioner Sandeep Karnik confirmed the arrest, stating that Khan would be produced before a court on Friday, where police plan to seek her custody.

During the bail hearing, Khan's lawyer highlighted that she is



pregnant with her first child and is named in only one FIR. The defence argued that the allegations against her were limited to hurting religious sentiments.

However, the prosecution opposed the bail, claiming she played an active role in the alleged religious conversion of a complainant by providing

a burqa, religious books, and installing religious applications on the woman's phone.

Khan worked at Tata Consultancy Services' BPO office in Nashik. The other seven accused — Danish Sheikh, Shafi Shaikh, Asif Ansari, Tausif Attar, Shahrukh Qureshi, Raza Memon, and Ashwini Chainani — have already been arrested.

The case came to light in February when a Hindu group approached the police, alleging that a Hindu woman employee at the BPO was being influenced to adopt Islamic practices at the workplace. As part of the probe, police reportedly deployed undercover constables disguised as housekeeping staff inside the 147-employee office.

Iran war: UAE reports new missile, drone attack amid fragile ceasefire

MI News Service, Abu Dhabi : The United Arab Emirates (UAE) said its air defence systems were responding to a missile and drone attack early on Friday, May 8, as renewed regional tensions threatened to undermine a fragile ceasefire in the Iran conflict.

In a statement posted on X, the National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority urged residents to remain in safe locations and follow official channels for warnings and updates.

The UAE Ministry of Defence later said sounds heard across the country were linked to ongoing operations against missiles and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Authorities called on the public to remain calm and comply with safety instructions issued by relevant agencies.

The developments came hours after US forces

said they had struck Iranian military facilities allegedly linked to attacks on American warships in the Strait of Hormuz, while Iran's armed forces claimed the strikes had hit civilian areas and commercial vessels.

The latest escalation has raised concerns over the stability of the ceasefire reached on April 8 following weeks of conflict involving Iran, the United States and Israel.

Iranian state media said the country's navy had carried out an operation to seize a tanker accused of attempting to export Iranian oil amid escalating tensions in regional waters.

According to IRIB News, the vessel was identified as "OCEAN KOI". However, shipping monitoring platform TankerTrackers said the tanker had been operating under the name "JIN LI" since

November 2025.

The tracking group said the vessel had transported Iranian hydrocarbons at least 16 times since 2021, including shipments loaded directly at Iranian ports and through ship-to-ship transfers offshore.

TankerTrackers added that the vessel's ownership was based in Shanghai, China, and that it had been sanctioned by the US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in February 2026.

Iranian MP Ebrahim Rezaei criticised the United States in a post on X on Friday as tensions around the Strait of Hormuz continued to escalate.

Rezaei mocked the US leadership and claimed American naval forces would not be able to pass through the strategic waterway despite their military presence, accusing Washington of acting "like a spoiled child".

Venezuela removes nuclear material with IAEA support

MI News Service, Caracas : Venezuela said Thursday it has removed disused nuclear material from the RV-1 Experimental Reactor at the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research, with support from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Foreign Minister Yvan Gil said in a statement that a military attack on Jan. 3 near the institute's facilities, about 50 meters from the former reactor, had increased the level of risk and underscored the urgency of an operation Venezuela had long requested. The state-

ment said the reactor ended operations in 1991 and was permanently shut down in 1997, with part of the spent nuclear fuel removed and the remaining material placed under technical custody in accordance with international safety protocols.

It said the site was later converted into a gamma-ray sterilization plant intended for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. According to the government, Venezuela had repeatedly informed the IAEA since the late 1990s of the need to remove remaining dis-

used sources and materials from the country. The operation was carried out from April 18 to 29 and involved containing and extracting the remaining nuclear material, transporting it by road to Puerto Cabello in Carabobo state, and loading it for specialized maritime shipment.

The statement said the operation involved Venezuela's Science and Technology Ministry, the U.S. National Nuclear Security Administration and Britain, which was responsible for maritime transport.

Sudan farmers fear hunger crisis as Iran war drives up fuel, fertiliser costs

MI News Service, Omdurman : Two years after Sudan's war forced him from his land, Omer al-Hassan returned to rebuild his farm. But now a new conflict in the Middle East threatens to push him deeper into financial loss and food insecurity as fuel and fertiliser prices rise.

Al-Hassan and other farmers in Sudan are bracing for an expensive planting season in the weeks ahead. Some told The Associated Press they are reducing production or not planting at all — dangerous news for a country where three years of war have left millions hungry.

The Iran war has "affected everything related to agriculture," al-Hassan said as he and others pulled onions from the ground. They had spent two months clearing the weed-choked land, "ploughed the soil and we said God bless, and even then we struggled so much, one had to sometimes skip a meal."

He and 10 other farmers who work his land said they can't handle agricultural costs without government support, forcing cuts in production and rationing of fertiliser on his farm that also



produces potatoes and tomatoes.

Another farmer, Mohammed al-Badri, said he could afford to plant only half his farm because of the rising costs: "The rest of it is nothing."

The Gulf region, where hundreds of commercial ships have been stranded for weeks because of Iran's grip on the Strait of Hormuz, provides over half of Sudan's fertiliser that's imported by sea. And fuel prices have shot up by around 30 per cent. That means food prices in Sudan are jumping, too. Sorghum, Millet, Sesame. These staple crops for Sudan are now at risk.

Farmers already stressed by the war at home

between Sudan's military and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces are now watching costs rise for fertiliser, gasoline to power farm equipment and diesel for irrigation pumps.

The rising costs have created "a dangerous reality" for farmers who will struggle without government intervention, said Abdoun Berqawi, a farmer in Gezira, one of the country's main food-producing regions.

Berqawi said a 50-kilogram (110-pound) bag of urea fertiliser now costs about USD 50, up from USD 11 the same period last year. Fuel for tractors has risen from USD 2.50 to USD 8 per gallon.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch office: ICICI Bank Ltd., BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal- 700091, CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction and Enforcement of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Sonu Dhanuka/ 34, Flat No. 06, 1st Floor, Lakshmi Krupa, 3rd Crsobhappa Lane, Agrahara, District Bengaluru Urban Karnataka Bangalore- 560017/ TBCAL00006772004/ LBCAL00006796770	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. 13, 4th Floor, Block No. 01, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 922 Sq.Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With Garage Including All The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share In The Land Comprised In The Plinth Area of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	29-01-2026 Rs. 38,17,246/-	Bangalore/ Kolkata
2.	Anand Mishra/ Jyoti Mishra/ Mig 103, Phase-1 Around Mandir Gorakhpur District- Gorakhpur Uttar Pradesh Gorakhpur- 273001/ TBCAL00006564052	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. E3, 4th Floor, Block No. 1, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 1016 Sq Ft Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With One Car Parking Space At Ground Floor, Block 1, Area About 135 Sq Ft Super Built Up Area (Position Will Be Allotted As Per Developer Choice) North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 & 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 & 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	November 25, 2025 Rs. 31,72,950.00/-	Gorakhpur/ Kolkata/ Noida
3.	Abhijit Dey/ Hari Gopal Dey/ Flat No 132 Asey Ewra Survey No. 5/1 Muthanallur Sarjapur Uttara Bengal Taluk Gopasandra District Bengaluru Urban Karnataka Bangalore- 560099/ TBCAL00006578864	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. C2, 3rd Floor, Block 1, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 1259 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With One Car Parking Space At Ground Floor, Block 1, Area About 135 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area (Position Will Be Allotted As Per Developer Choice) Along With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share In The Land Comprised In The Plinth of the Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	December 30, 2025 Rs. 33,53,857.00/-	Bangalore/ Kolkata
4.	Sarat Kumar Ransingh/ Rasmita Biswal/ Bararamula Ranpur Nayagarh Orissa Nayagarh- 752026/ TBCAL00006881093	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. D, 1st Floor, Block No. 4th, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 932 Sq Ft Super Built Up Area Together With One Covered Car Parking Space in Ground Floor Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 36,55,298.00/-	Nayagarh/ Kolkata
5.	Sarat Kumar Ransingh/ Rasmita Biswal/ Bararamula Ranpur Nayagarh Orissa Nayagarh- 752026/ TBCAL00006881124	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. B2, 3rd Floor, Block No. 4th, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 912 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area Along With One Covered Car Parking Space in The Ground Floor Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 35,84,314.00/-	Nayagarh/ Kolkata
6.	Sarat Kumar Ransingh/ Rasmita Biswal/ Bararamula Ranpur Nayagarh Orissa Nayagarh- 752026/ TBCAL00006881109	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. A-1, 2nd Floor, Block No. 4th, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 999 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area Together With One Covered Car Parking Space in The Ground Floor Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 8,89,826.00/-	Nayagarh/ Kolkata
7.	Mani Shankar Sharma/ Rasulpur Chakmano Urf Dargah, District Mau Uttar Pradesh Mau- 276306/ TBCAL00006875054/ LBCAL00006901715	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. A-2(2), 3rd Floor, Block No. 1, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 768 Sq Ft Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With Garage Including All The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in Th Eplinth Area of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 27, 2026 Rs. 32,71,229.99/-	Mau/ Kolkata/ Gurgaon
8.	Dileep Chaubey/ S/o Satyendra Nath Chaubey, Barnag Basantpur, District Ballia Uttar Pradesh Ballia- 221716/ TBCAL00006827645/ LBCAL00006871795	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. A-1(1), 2nd Floor, Block No. 1, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 914 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With Garage Including All The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in Th Eplinth Area of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 27, 2026 Rs. 34,27,758.00/-	Ballia/ Kolkata/ Indore/ Pune
9.	Dileep Chaubey/ S/o Satyendra Nath Chaubey, Barnag Basantpur, District Ballia Uttar Pradesh Ballia- 221716/ TBCAL00006828651/ LBCAL00006868091	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. G, 1st Floor, Block No. 1, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 492 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less Along With Garage Including All The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in Th Eplinth Area of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Day of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 27, 2026 Rs. 19,82,447.00/-	Ballia/ Kolkata/ Indore/ Pune
10.	Hemant Ratan Kapre/ Building No R4 Flat No E 1503 Life Republic Kolte Patil I Ven Town Ships Marunji Life Republic Maharashtra Pune- 411057/ TBCAL00006861736/ LBCAL00006877224	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. A1(2), 3rd Floor, Block No. 1st, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 543 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less With A Garage Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 21,95,633.00/-	Pune/ Kolkata/ Indore/ Mumbai
11.	Hemant Ratan Kapre/ Building No R4 Flat No E 1503 Life Republic Kolte Patil I Ven Town Ships Marunji Life Republic Maharashtra Pune- 411057/ TBCAL00006861337/ LBCAL00006878702	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. J, 1st Floor, Block No. 1st, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 583 Sq. Ft. Super Built Up Area More or Less With A Garage Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 22,35,609.00/-	Pune/ Kolkata/ Indore/ Mumbai
12.	Hemant Ratan Kapre/ Building No R4 Flat No E 1503 Life Republic Kolte Patil I Ven Town Ships Marunji Life Republic Maharashtra Pune- 411057/ TBCAL00006861527/ LBCAL00006877334	"Dharitri Titanium", Flat No. E1, 2nd Floor, Block No. 1st, Holding No. 17, Methopara Road, C.S. Dag No. 1266, Khatian No. 903, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1268, Khatian No. 904, R.S./L.R. Dag No. 1262, 1263, 1265, R.S./L.R. Khatian No. 25, Re. Sa. No. 132 & 139, J.L. No. 45, Touzi No. 146, Mouza Doharia, Village Methopara, P.S. Barasat, Madhyamgram Municipality, A.D.S.R.O. Barasat, District North 24 Parganas, West Bengal. Admeasuring an area of 1016 Sq Ft Super Built Up Area More or Less With A Garage Together With The Proportionate Undivided Indivisible Share in The Land Comprised in The Plinth of The Flat. North: 20 Feet Wide Municipal Road, South: R.S. Dag No. 1261, East: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1264, 1265, 1266 and 1267, West: Part of R.S. Dag Nos. 1269, 1270, 1271 and 1262./ Date of Symbolic: 05/05/2026	January 20, 2026 Rs. 37,34,490.00/-	Pune/ Kolkata/ Indore/ Mumbai

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: May 09, 2026 Place: Guwahati

Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

IPL 2026: When and where to watch RR vs GT, know all details

New Delhi : 2008 champions Rajasthan Royals (RR) will clash with Gujarat Titans (GT) in the match number 52 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 to be played at the Saiwamansingh Stadium on Saturday.

The Rajasthan Royals are coming to the contest after suffering a seven-wicket defeat against the Delhi Capitals (DC). RR started off their campaign on a high note with four wins in the first five matches, but their performance has dipped in the next five matches as they have lost three encounters.

Riyans Parag's team is currently placed in fourth position with 12 points in ten matches. While the Gujarat Titans are coming to the contest after a hat-trick of wins against the Chennai Super Kings, the Royal Challengers



Bengaluru, and the Punjab Kings. They are placed in fifth position in the points table with 12 points in six matches. They will enter the top four if they beat the Rajasthan Royals.

RR and GT have faced

each other nine times so far in the IPL. Gujarat Titans hold the upper hand with six wins, while Rajasthan Royals have emerged victorious on three occasions. There have been no ties or no results between the sides. Their first-ever

meeting took place on April 14, 2022, which Gujarat Titans won, while their most recent clash on April 4, 2026, ended in a victory for Rajasthan Royals.

When: Saturday, May 9, 7:30 PM IST
Where: Saiwamansingh Stadium, Jaipur

Where to watch: The RR vs GT match will be broadcast on Star Sports channels, with JioHotstar live-streaming the game.

Squads:
Gujarat Titans: Shubman Gill (captain), Jos Buttler (wicketkeeper), Kumar Kushagra, Glenn Phillips, Rashid Khan, ManavSuthar, NishantSindhu, Washington Sundar, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, KagisoRabada, RavishrinivasanSai Kishore, JayantYadav, Ishant Sharma,

Ashok Sharma, Jason Holder, Tom Banton, Luke Wood, SaiSudharsan, Rahul Tewatia, Arshad Khan, AnujRawat, KulwantKhejroliya, GurnoorBrar, M Shahrulkhan

Rajasthan Royals: YashasviJaiswal, VaibhavSooryavanshi, RiyanParag (captain), DhruvJurel (wicketkeeper), ShimronHetmyer, DasunShanaka, RavindraJadeja, Jofra Archer, Sandeep Sharma, Ravi Bishnoi, Adam Milne, Yuvraj Singh, Charak, TusharDeshpande, ShubhamDubey, Nandre Burger, KuldeepSen, Sushant Mishra, Donovan Ferreira, KwenaMaphaka, Luan-dre Pretorius, VigneshPuthur, Ravi Singh, AmanRaoPerala, Brijesh Sharma

BCCI prohibits unauthorised entry to players' rooms; to conduct 'surprise checks' to foil 'honey trap' risks



MUMBAI : The BCCI has issued a seven-page guidelines for the 10 IPL franchises, warning them about the potential dangers of targeted honey-trapping during the league.

The board said it will conduct unannounced "surprise checks" to ensure strict adherence to the league's extensive regulatory framework and operational guidelines.

"The BCCI draws the attention of all Franchises to the well-documented risks of targeted compromise and honey-trapping that pervade high-profile sporting environments. The possibility of incidents giving rise to serious legal allegations, including those under applicable laws on sexual misconduct, cannot be discounted. IPL franchise management must remain vigilant and proactive in mitigating such risks at all times," DevajitSaikia said in a guidelines issued to the franchises, as quoted by cricbuzz.

According to the directive, Saikia noted that no one is permitted to enter a team member's room, regardless of their relationship with the player or official, without the prior knowledge and approval of the team manager. "(a) No person, irrespective of their identity, relationship to the team member, or stated purpose, shall be permitted entry into a player's or support staff member's hotel room without the prior knowledge and explicit written

approval of the Team Manager.

"Guests and visitors shall be received exclusively in designated public areas of the hotel, such as the lobby or reception lounge. No guest shall be escorted to private hotel rooms unless the Team Manager has specifically authorised the same in writing"

In his communication to all the franchises, Saikia has noted that, "The BCCI / IPL Operations Team may conduct periodic checks to assess adherence to the directives set forth in this Advisory. Team Managers are required to maintain records of all approved guest visits and hotel movements."

"Any breach of the aforementioned directives must be self-reported to the IPL Operations Team or the relevant IPL Venue Team at the earliest opportunity. The BCCI trusts that all IPL franchises will treat this Advisory with the seriousness it warrants and take all necessary steps to uphold the integrity and reputation of the Indian Premier League," he added.

Last month, Rajasthan Royals skipper RiyanParag was reportedly seen vaping inside the dressing room during the game against Punjab Kings in New Chandigarh. The BCCI has come down heavily on the offenders, saying whoever found engaging in such conduct will be liable to cognisable offence under the applicable statutory

framework.

"Instances of vaping within the dressing room and other restricted areas of tournament venues have been brought to the BCCI's attention. It is pertinent to note that the use of vapes and electronic cigarettes is prohibited under applicable Indian law. Any individual found engaging in such conduct within tournament premises is not only violating BCCI and IPL regulations but may also be committing a cognisable offence under the applicable statutory framework," Saikia stated on the directive.

The BCCI has asked the owners to refrain from communicating with players/managers in the dugout during the course of the match.

The BCCI has instructed franchise owners to avoid any communication with players or coaching staff in the dugout while a match is in progress.

"Specifically, instances have been observed of IPL franchise owners attempting to communicate with, approach, hug, or otherwise physically interact with players and team members during live match situations. Such conduct, however well-intentioned, directly contravenes established protocol and may constitute interference with team dynamics and match proceedings," the BCCI official communicated to the franchises.

SPAIN SECURE EXTRA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SPOT AFTER RAYOVALLECANO'S HISTORIC RUN

MADRID : Spain has secured an extra UEFA Champions League place for next season after RayoVallecano reached the UEFA Conference League final with a 1-0 victory over Strasbourg on Thursday night.

The Madrid-based side completed a 2-0 aggregate semifinal win to book a place in the first European final in the club's history. More importantly for Spanish football, the result guaranteed Spain second place in this season's UEFA coefficient rankings, surpassing Germany in the list.

Spain now has 22,093 coefficient points, while Germany remains on 21,785. Bayern Munich's elimination from the UEFA Champions League semifinals by Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) earlier this week ensured Germany can no longer catch Spain in the rankings.

As a result, La Liga will once again have eight clubs competing in European competitions next season, including five teams in the Champions League. The extra place increases the chances for more Spanish clubs to qualify for Europe through their league positions.

The development has already confirmed Champions League qualification for Atletico Madrid, which joins FC Barcelona, Real Madrid, and Villarreal among the qualified sides.

Real Betis currently holds the fifth position and is a favorite to claim the additional Champions League berth, although Celta Vigo still have a slim chance of moving up the table, as reported by Xinhua.

'Dev and Rajat showed great character': Mo Bobat after RCB loss

LUCKNOW : Royal Challengers Bengaluru director of cricket Mohammad Bobat praised the fighting spirit shown by his side, lauding the knocks of captain RajatPatidar and DevduttPadikkal despite suffering a narrow nine-run defeat against Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in a thrilling IPL clash at the Ekana Cricket Stadium on Thursday.

Chasing a daunting 213 in the rain-curtailed 19-overs-a-side contest, RCB were rocked early after losing both openers cheaply, including ViratKohli for a two-ball duck. However, Padikkal and skipper Patidar revived the chase with a counterattacking 95-run partnership before the visitors eventually finished at 203/6.

"Yeah, obviously disappointing to not be able to pick up the two points. I would say that it was encouraging to see some really brave performances from some of the boys today," Bobat said in a video released by RCB on X.



"It's not often that we'll be losing both of our openers as early as we did today. Our top order has been fantastic all season, so a bit of a rarity there, but actually the character that Dev and Rajat showed was fantastic," He added.

Bobat credited Padikkal and Patidar for absorbing pressure after the early collapse and then shifting momentum back towards RCB. "They absorbed pressure for a period of time, and

then actually they put some pressure back on them, and towards the back end of their partnership, we were right in that game, so those two deserve a lot of credit for the way they batted," he said.

Patidar led the charge with a blistering 61 off 31 balls while Padikkal contributed 34 off 25 deliveries to keep RCB alive in the chase. Later, Tim David smashed 40 off just 17 balls to take the contest deep. Bobat also praised

Bhuvneshwar Kumar and KrunalPandya for their efforts during LSG's innings.

"I think we did an amazing job to get that close. And also, we must remember that Bhuvi and KP bowled brilliantly, I thought as well, in particular," he said.

Looking ahead to RCB's next clash against the Mumbai Indians, Bobat said the team would quickly regroup and focus on improving key areas.

"As we always do, we'll give ourselves a bit of time to have a think. We have quite a tight turnaround, so it's only a couple of days away that we play at MI.

"So the boys, as they always do, will get their heads together and have a little think about the things that maybe they could have done a bit better. The coaches will do the same. We'll travel tomorrow and look to touch base the day before the MI game, and there'll certainly be a few areas of the game that we want to tighten up," he added.

Archery WC Stage 2: SimranjeetKaur storms into recurve women's SF in Shanghai

SHANGHAI : India's SimranjeetKaur advanced to the final four of the women's recurve individual event at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 here at the Yuanshen Sports Centre on Friday.

On her first time on a World Cup final stage, Simranjeet doubled Fong You Jhu's 10 count of two in the quarter-final, dropping an impressive 27, 28, 29 three-end score to sweep aside her Chinese Taipei counterpart 6-0.

She was highly emotional once the result was confirmed, wiping away tears before quickly going on her phone to call her beloved father. "I just called my dad after the match and I cried because it actually is a big

deal for me and it was long-awaited," the 27-year-old archer was quoted by World Archery.

"I feel like this is the best thing that can ever happen to an archer who is preparing for each and every World Cup, the bigger events and all the competitions. I think 1000 times today I have just told myself to detach and shoot. Detach from the result, detach from the emotions and everything else - detach from each and every thing, just shoot," she said.

Simranjeet actually finished bottom of the four-woman Indian recurve contingent in Wednesday's qualification, with Ankitabhakat 10th, Kumkum Anil Mohod 11th and regular stalwart

DeepikaKumari 14th. However, Ankit's, Kumkum's and Deepika's campaigns ended in the third and fourth rounds, respectively.

Interestingly, Ankita lost 6-5 to Fong You, whom Simranjeet defeated in the quarterfinal, in the third round after a shoot-off. Meanwhile, Deepika suffered a 4-6 loss at the hands of Korean archer Kang Chaeyoung and Kumkum fell to Alejandra Valencia Trujillo 3-7 of Mexico.

The 2024 Asia Cup silver medalistSimranjeet is seeded 15th overall and therefore will not feature in India's recurve women's team gold medal match against China, although all four athletes could still leave Shanghai



with medals on Sunday.

In the men's individual recurve, India's campaign ended

DhirajBommadevara's 0-6 loss to Frenchman Jean-Charles Valladont in the fourth round.

U17 Women's Asian Cup 2026: India trounce Lebanon to keep quarterfinal hopes alive

SUZHOU (CHINA) : Pritika Barman starred with a brace of goals as India kept alive their hope of reaching the quarterfinals of the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup 2026 with a commanding 4-0 victory over Lebanon in their final Group B fixture played on Pitch 8 at the Suzhou Taihu Football Sports Centre in Suzhou, on Friday.

Pritika scored in the 7th and 85th minutes, while Alva Devi Senjam (36') and Joya (72') also found the net as India registered their first win and first goals since 2005 in the AFC U17 Women's Asian Cup.

The emphatic victory leaves India in pole position for a place in the quarterfinals as one of the tournament's two best third-placed teams.



Following the result, the Philippines would need to defeat Chinese Taipei by 12 goals, while Chinese Taipei would require a 13-goal victory.

Knowing only a win would keep their qualification hopes alive, India, who made only one change from their last game, with AnushkaKumari

replacing Pearl Fernandes, began with intent and took the lead as early as the sixth minute.

Divyani Linda launched a long ball forward from right-back, which Pritika controlled brilliantly before twisting past Lebanon defender JoyaBouAssaf. The winger then unleashed a superb left-

footed strike beyond goalkeeper Marie Joe Chebly to hand India the perfect start.

The early breakthrough settled the Young Tigresses, who quickly established control of proceedings with confident passing and aggressive pressing in the attacking third.

India nearly doubled their lead moments later when AnushkaKumari found space inside the box, but her effort was well saved by Marie. Pritika continued to trouble the Lebanese defence and came close to grabbing her second in the 16th minute, only to be denied again by the goalkeeper.

Lebanon struggled to cope with India's movement in wide areas, while the Indian midfield maintained pressure through quick transitions and

intelligent positioning.

The second goal finally arrived in the 35th minute. Redima Devi Chingkhayam threaded a pass towards Alva Devi Senjam at the edge of the box, and the forward surged past GiannaFrangieh before calmly slotting the ball beyond the advancing goalkeeper to give India a deserved 2-0 advantage at half-time.

India resumed the second half with the same attacking intensity and continued to push Lebanon deeper into their own half. The Young Tigresses controlled possession for long spells and looked dangerous whenever they advanced through the flanks.

Their dominance was rewarded again in the 72nd minute through a moment of individual brilliance from

Joya. Receiving the ball on the left wing, the substitute displayed excellent close control before cutting inside, skipping past two defenders, and curling a fine right-footed strike into the net to make it 3-0.

India sealed an outstanding performance five minutes from time as Pritika completed her brace. Breaking forward from the right wing, she drove into the penalty area unchallenged before calmly finishing past Marie to put the result beyond doubt.

The final whistle confirmed a historic evening for the Young Tigresses, who secured their first victory in the competition in over two decades, and are on the verge of qualifying for the knockout stage for the first time in 21 years.

Sabalenka, Medvedev to continue as neutral athletes despite IOC policy shift: ITF

NEW DELHI : Top-ranked ArynaSabalenka and former world No. 1 Daniil Medvedev will keep competing under neutral status. The International Tennis Federation (ITF) confirmed that its stance on the suspension of Belarus and Russia remains unchanged, even after a recent policy shift by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The IOC announced on Thursday that athletes from Belarus can again compete under their national identity. They no longer need to undergo neutral-status vetting, despite the ongoing war in Ukraine. However, the ITF made it clear that this decision will not change tennis's existing restrictions.

"The International Tennis Federation confirms that the IOC's announcement does not change its existing position regarding the Belarus and Russian Tennis Federations' suspensions, which remain in place," the ITF stated.

The governing body added that the issue will be reviewed later this year. "The membership status of the Belarus Tennis Federation will be considered at the ITF Annual General Meeting in October by the ITF's voting member nations ("The AGM Council") in accordance with ITF constitutional process," it further added.

Since the conflict began, players from Belarus and Russia have competed without their national flags or country names in tournaments. Both nations have also been barred from major team competitions, including the Davis Cup and the Billie Jean King Cup. Tournaments scheduled in the two countries were cancelled.

Sabalenka, a four-time Grand Slam champion from Belarus, has continued to excel on the women's tour as a neutral athlete. Medvedev, the 2021 US Open champion from Russia, is currently ranked world No. 9.

The IOC decided on Thursday to lift the ban on Belarusian sportspersons from participating under their flag and country's name in events conducted by International Sports Federations (IFs). The IOC took the decision after the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) lifted the ban on Russian and Belarusian athletes, with the International Judo Federation and the International Swimming Federation (FINA) following suit.

