



Anti-BJP Alliance: Cong, CPM mock Mamata's appeal

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HIMANTA BISWA SARMA set to become Assam CM again

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# Morning India

## NS RAJA SUBRAMANI named next CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The Centre appointed Lieutenant-General (ret'd) N.S. Raja Subramani, an expert on both the Pakistan and China fronts, the next chief of defence staff (CDS).

The government also appointed Vice-Admiral Krishna Swaminathan as the new navy chief.

Subramani will replace General Anil Chauhan, who will be completing his tenure as CDS on May 30. He retired as Vice-Chief of Army Staff last year and is currently serving as military adviser to the National Security Council

Secretariat. In addition to his role as CDS, he will also function as the secretary of the department of military affairs.

Although it is not an operational post, the CDS functions as the principal military adviser to the Prime Minister and the defence minister on matters, including the nuclear command.

During his four-decade career in the army, Subramani served across a wide spectrum of conflict and terrain profiles.

"He commanded 16 Garhwal Rifles in Counter-Insurgency in Assam as part of Operation Rhino, 168 Infantry Brigade in Jammu & Kashmir and 17 Mountain Division in the Central Sector during a challenging operational environment. He also has the distinction of having commanded 2 Corps, the premier strike Corps of the Indian Army on the Western Front," the defence ministry said in a statement.

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Suwendu Adhikari, the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the 'Son of the Soil' of Kanthi got a warm reception from the mass in front of his own residence at Kanthi on Sunday. Amazingly there was no traditional barricade in front of Suwendu's residence and people whole-heartedly appreciated this wonderful move.

## Industry leaders pin hope on SUVENDU

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Industry leaders congratulated Suwendu Adhikari on being sworn in as the 9th Chief Minister of Bengal and expressed hope for a new chapter of growth in the state.

Sanjay Budhia, MD, Patton International Limited, congratulated the new Government. "We are confident that under the proven leadership and experience of Sri Suwendu Adhikari, Hon'ble Chief Minister, our beloved State will embark on a path of prosperity, progress, and peace, with accelerated industrialisation driving growth and opportunity for all," said Budhia.

RPG Group chairman Sanjiv Goenka called the swearing-in as the ceremony of Adhikari "a historic moment for West Bengal". He also stated that the state has "great expectations" from Adhikari. Goenka said he looked forward to contributing to the state "in every way I can".

ITC chairman and ► Continued on page 3

## VIJAY sworn in as Tamil Nadu CM Admin & police overhaul likely in Bengal under BJP govt: REPORTS

**MI News Service, Chennai:** Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) chief and its legislature party leader Joseph Vijay on Sunday took oath as the chief minister of Tamil Nadu, marking the arrival of a new government in the state after days of political suspense over government formation.

Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar administered the oath of office to the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam chief at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in the presence of political leaders, including LoP Rahul Gandhi.

Vijay's parents-- S A Chandrasekhar and Shobha, top actor Trisha and a whole lot of invitees attended the ceremony at the sprawling Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium.

Among the prominent faces in the cabinet who will take oath in Chennai is veteran AIADMK leader KA Sengottaiyan, who has worked closely with former chief ministers MGR and Jayalalitha over decades.

Nirmal Kumar, who won from Thiruparankundram in Madurai, is set to join the cabinet. A former BJP functionary, Nirmal



Kumar switched political camps and emerged as an important face for TVK in southern Tamil Nadu.

TVK General Secretary Anand, known for his strong grassroots network, will also take oath.

Among the other ministers to be sworn in are Raj Mohan, a television and film personality known for his oratory skills, and Dr TK Prabhu, a dentist-turned-politician who secured victory from Karaikudi.

The youngest face in the cabinet will be Keerthana, who won from Virudhunagar district and is now set to become one

of the youngest ministers in Tamil Nadu politics.

Meanwhile, Arlekar has approved chief minister-designate Vijay's recommendation for the appointment of nine ministers, according to a release issued by Lok Bhavan.

The new Cabinet will include one woman minister, S Keerthana. In the mean time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday congratulated TVK chief C Joseph Vijay on taking oath as Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, and said the central government will keep working with the state government to improve the lives of people.

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** The police and administrative machinery of the newly installed Suwendu Adhikari-led BJP government in West Bengal seems poised for another sweeping recalibration in the months ahead, clear indications of which were apparent on the very first day, though officials indicated the exercise may unfold in phases.

The transition towards a more stable administrative structure would follow the Election Commission's unprecedented scale of pre-poll reshuffle across the state bureaucracy and police establishment, they said.

The first unmistakable sign of the impending transition emerged within hours of Adhikari assuming office on May 9, as the government moved swiftly with two key appointments, followed by a series of re-appointments in the state's mid-level bureaucracy.

Retired IAS officer Subrata Gupta, who had served as the poll panel's Special Roll Observer during the SIR exercise, was named Advisor to the CM, while Shantanu Bala, Additional District Magistrate of South 24 Parganas, was appointed Private Secretary to the CM - appointments widely viewed within administrative circles as the opening moves of a broader restructuring of the state apparatus.

Gupta replaced two former chief secretaries - Alapan Bandyopadhyay and H K Dwivedi - who tendered their resignations as



Suwendu Adhikari, Chief Minister, WB chief advisors to former chief minister Mamata Banerjee on May 5, a day after poll results confirmed a change of guard in the state.

Bala, on the other hand, substituted career civil servant Gautam Sanyal, the erstwhile principal secretary to Banerjee who held the position as co-terminus with that of the former CM.

Soon after, the state government initiated another significant churn within the administrative establishment, signalling a wider realignment of power corridors in Bengal's bureaucracy.

In a sweeping order, at least 46 WBCS (Executive) officers - who served as private secretaries and

officers on special duty to ministers in the outgoing regime - were reassigned to new postings across the state administration.

The ripples of the transition extended swiftly to the nerve centre of governance itself, with the state also reshuffling 16 officers attached to the Chief Minister's Office.

"The Mamata Banerjee government never cared for meritorious IAS and IPS officers of the state, isolated them, often forcing them to leave Bengal," CM Adhikari told reporters on Saturday. "But, this government will need these officers to implement the policy decisions the new cabinet makes," he added, hinting at a fresh overhaul in the state's police and executive network.

In the run-up to the assembly elections announced on March 15, the EC unleashed an unprecedented administrative upheaval across Bengal, transferring as many as 483 officials in one of the most sweeping pre-poll crack-downs the state has witnessed in recent memory.

The reshuffle cut through every tier of governance - from the highest echelons of the bureaucracy and police leadership to district administrations, returning officers, BDOs and hundreds of officers posted at police stations across the state.

The scale of the exercise dwarfed similar actions undertaken in other poll-bound states put to-

gether, underscoring the EC's determination to tighten its grip over Bengal's volatile and violent electoral landscape.

At the heart of the overhaul lay a dramatic recasting of the state's power structure. Chief Secretary Nandini Chakravorty was moved out and replaced by Dushyant Nariala, while Home Secretary Sanghamitra Ghosh took charge in place of J C Meena.

Director General of Police Peeyush Pandey was removed, with Siddh Nath Gupta appointed acting DGP, even as Kolkata Police Commissioner Supratim Sarkar was transferred and succeeded by Ajay Kumar Nand. Pandey was later reassigned as the state's Director (Security), replacing Manoj Kumar Verma.

The administrative tremors did not stop there.

The EC also ordered the removal of 19 senior IPS officers - including six police commissioners and 13 district SPs - besides transferring five DIG-rank officers, 11 district magistrates, 73 returning officers who concurrently served as subdivisional officers, 83 block development officers, and a vast network of police station-level officers.

The Commission maintained that the extensive reshuffles were necessitated by inputs received from poll observers and intelligence agencies regarding prevailing law and order sensitivities,

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## BJP's 'look-east' strategy shaped a new 'SAFFRON EMPIRE'

**MI News Service, Kolkata/Guwahati/Cuttack/Patna:** Suwendu Adhikari's swearing-in as Bengal chief minister highlights a defining feature of the BJP's eastwards expansion under the Modi-Shah duopoly: the elevation of high-profile defectors, often at the cost of long-time ideological loyalists.

Just last month, the party installed as its first Bihar chief minister the 57-year-old Samrat Choudhary, another late entrant who had joined the BJP only in 2017 after stints in the RJD and the JDU.

In Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, who had crossed over from the Congress in 2015, is set to be sworn in for a second term as chief minister on May 12.

The trend underscores the hard-nosed, power-centric approach adopted by Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, prioritising



winnability and regional clout over organisational loyalty, as they seek to expand the BJP's influence across the eastern and northeastern states while tightening their grip over the party.

For instance, the BJP governments in Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh are headed by former Congress politicians. N. Biren Singh, who resigned as Manipur chief minister last year, too is a turncoat from

the Congress.

Tripura chief minister Manik Saha rose rapidly through the ranks after joining the BJP in 2016, becoming state unit president in 2020 and, within two years, helming the state government.

His elevation came at the expense of party loyalist Biplab Kumar Deb, whom the central leadership asked to resign in May 2022.

Deb had spearheaded the BJP's aggressive campaign against the firmly entrenched CPM-led government, ending 25 years of Left rule and becoming the party's first chief minister in Tripura. He is now a Lok Sabha MP from Tripura West.

Arunachal is an even more dramatic case. Pema Khandu, now serving a third term as chief minister, was the Congress chief minister in 2016 when he led 43 of the party's 44 MLAs into the People's

Party of Arunachal, an NDA ally. He split the outfit within months and merged with the BJP along with 32 legislators.

The move effectively converted a Congress bastion into a BJP stronghold in one sweep.

Modi and Shah have shown little hesitation in embracing defectors accused of serious corruption, attracting charges that the BJP was a "washing machine" that tainted Opposition politicians joined to escape prosecution.

The allegation resurfaced on Saturday as the BJP celebrated the elevation of Suwendu, who had dumped Trinamool for the saffron party in 2020.

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut accused the BJP of "rewarding corruption", invoking the 2014 Narada "sling operation" that purportedly showed several Trinamool leaders - ► Continued on page 3

**"Heartfelt congratulations to the new Chief Minister of West Bengal, Suwendu Adhikari"**

*"The more a person bows down in humility, the further he moves ahead." I am grateful to the people of West Bengal. It is because of your valuable votes that the BJP government has been formed today*

**Dipanjan Guha**  
MLA, Chandannagar

**Nilesh Pandey**  
BJP Worker Chandannagar, Hooghly

### The car used in Chandranath's murder is from Jharkhand!

**MI News Service, Kolkata :** Police have a new clue in the murder of Chief Minister Shuvendu Adhikari's close aide Chandranath Rath! The four-wheeler used in the murder is from Jharkhand. The toll of the car was deducted at the Bali toll plaza on the day of the incident. Based on that, a search has been started for the owner of the account from which the money was deducted. Police estimate that this murder was planned a month and a half ago. It is being investigated whether Chandranath had any major problems with anyone a month and a half ago. In addition, investigators are investigating who called where in the area at the time of the murder.

According to police sources, the car that came in front of Chandranath's car and blocked the road entered Madhyamgram through Bali toll plaza on the day of the incident. At that time, toll was collected at Bali toll plaza. Toll is collected through UPI. According to that source, the car is from Jharkhand. The owner of the bank account from which the money was paid or the toll was collected is being searched.

The investigators are also investigating where the calls were made from the area an hour before the murder or where the calls came from. A police team has already gone to Agra in Uttar Pradesh. The investigators are investigating everything by talking to the police there.

### 3 arrested for attack on OC in Tarakeswar

**MI News Service, Hooghly:** Police have arrested three people in connection with the attack on the OC of Tarkeshwar police station in Hooghly. Hooghly Rural Superintendent of Police Kumar Sunny Raj said that strict legal action is being taken against those arrested for their involvement in vandalism and attack on the police. At the same time, he said that the injured OC is undergoing treatment, but he is stable now. He will join work very soon.

The incident began on Saturday evening, when a group of miscreants attacked the house of Tarakeswar Town Trinamool Youth President Pooja Sau. On receiving the information, Tarakeswar Police Station OC Subrata Sadhu and an ASI reached the spot to control the situation. It is alleged that at that time the miscreants attacked the police, resulting in the injury of the OC.

Trinamool alleged that the attack was carried out with the support of BJP. However, BJP MLA from Tarakeswar, Santu Pan, claimed that no one from BJP was involved in this incident. Those who attacked the police were supported by Trinamool.

### A devastating fire breaks out in Jhargram, Seven shops gutted

**MI News Service, Jhargram :** A devastating fire broke out in the local board area of Jhargram city. Seven shops in the area were gutted. The incident took place around 1 am on Saturday. A fire engine reached the spot after receiving the information. The firemen brought the fire under control after about two and a half hours of effort. No casualties have been reported in the incident so far. However, the exact reason behind the fire is not yet known. The police and the fire department have started an investigation. According to local sources, in the last few years, several temporary shops had been built in the local board area.

## "This is the victory of good over evil": Dilip

**MI News Service, Kharagpur :** A grand victory celebration and massive victory rally was organized in Kharagpur city of West Medinipur district on Sunday to mark the Bharatiya Janata Party's electoral victory. Thousands of BJP supporters flooded the streets, creating a festive atmosphere across the city. The victory procession started from Kaushalya More and passed through Jhapatapur before reaching the Sub-Divisional Hospital area. BJP workers, women supporters, youths, and a large number of local residents participated enthusiastically in the rally. The city appeared drenched in saffron colors, with roads decorated with BJP flags and banners. Supporters raised slogans such as "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," "Vande Mataram," "Jai Shri Ram," and other pro-BJP chants. Accompanied by drums, bands, and celebratory enthusiasm,



the rally generated a strong political atmosphere throughout Kharagpur. Senior BJP leader Dilip Ghosh received a warm welcome at several locations, where supporters greeted him with flower garlands and loud cheers. He also distributed chocolates among supporters to celebrate the occasion. Many people were seen taking selfies with him and trying to catch a closer glimpse of the leader. Residents lined the streets at several points to welcome the procession, while many joined the rally spontaneously. The large participation of women and youths added to the attraction of the event. BJP leaders claimed that the victory was not merely political but represented the emotions, hopes, and desire for change among the people of Bengal. Speaking on the occasion, Dilip Ghosh said, "This is the victory of good over evil. It is the victory of the people of Bengal. The people of the state have rejected fear, violence, and

corrupt politics and have given a clear mandate in favor of development, democracy, and good governance. BJP workers struggled for years, and the people have expressed faith in that struggle." He further stated that the BJP would work with full commitment toward peace, development, and better governance in Bengal in the coming days. He also appealed to party workers to further strengthen the organization and remain actively connected with the public. Extensive security arrangements were made by the administration for the rally. Police personnel were deployed throughout the route, and sensitive areas were kept under special surveillance. However, no untoward incident was reported, and the entire event concluded peacefully. BJP supporters said the victory has infused new enthusiasm and energy among party workers.

### Sayanhe Rabi : A Timeless Tribute to Tagore Graces Kolkata with Melodic Poetic Brilliance and Graceful Kathak

**MI News Service, Kolkata :** On the eve of the 165th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, a grand cultural event titled "Sayanhe Rabi" was held at the ICCR Hall in Kolkata. Organized by Nandanik Manush Foundation, the evening paid a heartfelt tribute to Gurudev through literature, music, and dance. The event was conceptualized by Rituraj Pramanik, beginning with presentations inspired by Tagore's literary and musical works. As eminent personalities of the city gathered on stage, the entire auditorium was left spellbound. Renowned elocution artist Bratati Bandyopadhyay brought life to words with her powerful recitation, while melodious Rabindra Sangeet performances by Shrabani Sen and Shreya Guha Thakurta deeply moved the audience. This confluence of music and poetry beautifully revived Tagore's timeless legacy.



However, the highlight of the evening was the captivating performance by emerging Kathak dancer Rajeshwari Garain. A disciple of Padma Shri awardee Shovana Narayan, Rajeshwari mesmerized the audience with her graceful and powerful Kathak recital. Her energy, classical precision, and expressive storytelling filled the hall with resounding applause. Hailing from Beliaghata, Rajeshwari demonstrated that with dedication and proper guidance, any goal can be achieved. Notably, she balances her professional responsibilities alongside her passion for dance with remarkable ease.

"Sayanhe Rabi" emerged not just as an event, but as a vibrant cultural celebration that provided a platform for both established artists and emerging talents. The evening added yet another memorable chapter to Kolkata's rich cultural heritage.

### Neighbors are excited about the rise of Nishith

**MI News Service, Cooch Behar :** Nishith Pramanik, a resident of Kharija Baladanga in Bhataguri, has taken oath as a cabinet minister of the state. He is known by his neighbors as Bitu. Although it is not yet clear which department Bitu will be the minister of, Cooch Behar is abuzz with excitement after he took oath as a cabinet minister. From his village to Mathabhangra, his assembly constituency, workers and supporters expressed their excitement by distributing sweet and jhalmuri. In some places, firecrackers were also lit. After taking on the new responsibility, Nishith Pramanik told the media that he is very happy.

Nishith's rise to power was due to Trinamool's support in 2013. Nishith, a resident of Khareja Baladanga village of Bhataguri Gram Panchayat No. 1, was elected as a Gram Panchayat member for Trinamool in the Panchayat elections that year and later became the Deputy Chief of that Gram Panchayat. His journey began from there. After that, his conflict with the then Trinamool District President Rabindranath Ghosh began. Until 2018, Nishith succeeded in presenting himself as a youth leader. In the 2018 Panchayat elections, due to his conflict with the then Trinamool District President Rabindranath Ghosh, Nishith went against the mainstream of Trinamool and fielded independent candidates across Dinhat No. 1 block and won. In addition to a few Gram Panchayats, Dinhat One Panchayat Samiti was also taken over by independent candidates supporting Nishith.

### TMC Leader Allegedly Attacked in Keshpur, Claims Both Legs Fractured; Tension Prevails in Area

**MI News Service, Kharagpur :** A serious incident of political violence has been reported from the Majuria area under Keshpur police station limits in West Midnapore district. A local leader of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) was allegedly attacked, with accusations being leveled against BJP workers. The incident has created tension in the area. The injured TMC leader has been admitted to hospital in critical condition, where he is currently undergoing treatment. The injured TMC leader has been identified as Abdul Munab Ali. According to allegations, BJP workers were taking out a victory rally in the area when a dispute reportedly broke out. Following the altercation, the TMC leader was allegedly assaulted. Abdul Munab Ali claimed that BJP supporters surrounded him and brutally beat him with bamboo sticks. He alleged that both his legs were seriously injured in the attack and that the bones had been fractured. After the incident, local residents and family members rushed him to Keshpur Rural Hospital in an injured condition. Following primary treatment, doctors referred him to Midnapore



Medical College and Hospital after his condition was deemed serious. Hospital sources said that treatment is ongoing and doctors are closely monitoring his condition. As news of the incident spread, political tension intensified in the area. Trinamool Congress leaders and workers strongly condemned the attack and demanded the immediate arrest of those responsible. They alleged that the BJP was trying to create an atmosphere of fear and terror in the region. Reacting to the allegations, local BJP leader Tanmay Ghosh said that he had not yet received complete information about the incident. He stated that if anyone is found guilty during the investigation, strict legal action should be taken against them.

## Knee pain can be cured with your own blood! modern service introduced at Jalpaiguri Medical College

**MI News Service, Jalpaiguri :** Treatment of osteoarthritis using the patient's own blood - for the first time in North Bengal, such a modern service has been introduced at Jalpaiguri Medical College Hospital. After the introduction of this 'intra-articular injection' treatment method at RG Kar Medical College Hospital in Kolkata, it has now spread to North Bengal as well.



According to hospital sources, this new treatment system has recently been started at 'Pen Clinic', where patients will be treated by intra-articular injection into the joints using platelet-rich plasma (PRP). According to doctors, osteoarthritis is a long-term joint disease in which the cartilage of the joint gradually deteriorates. As a result, pain, swelling and movement problems occur mainly in the knees as well as the shoulders or other joints.

It is in this context that intra-articular PRP therapy has been introduced. Shankar Roy, the chief physician of 'Pen Clinic', said that in this method,

first a certain amount of blood is taken from the patient's body. That blood is processed in a special machine and the platelet-rich plasma is separated. Then, that plasma is directly injected into the affected joint. When the growth factor present in this plasma is injected into the damaged part of the joint, the reconstruction process of the eroded cartilage is accelerated. As a result, the pain in the knee gradually decreases. Doctors claim

that this method basically uses the body's natural healing ability. It can be helpful in rebuilding damaged cartilage in knee or shoulder joints, thereby reducing pain and restoring much of the ability to move. Experts believe that this method can be an effective alternative, especially for those who can avoid surgery.

Kalyan Khan, Medical Superintendent cum Vice Principal (MSVP) of the hospital, said, "Multiple departments have been coordinated to launch this service. An integrated medical structure has been created by combining all these departments - blood bank, anesthesia, radiology, physiotherapy and acupuncture."

Doctors claim that many patients in South Bengal have already benefited from this method. Keeping that experience in mind, this service has been introduced in North Bengal as well, which is helping.

### Theft at Manasa Temple in Daspur of West Midnapore, Goddess' Ornaments and Donation Box Cash Stolen, Villagers Express Anger

**MI News Service, Kharagpur :** Sensation spread across the area after a theft took place at an ancient Manasa temple located in the Raipada area under Daspur police station limits in West Midnapore district. Unknown thieves allegedly targeted the temple late at night and stole gold and silver ornaments of the deity, copper and bronze worship utensils, and cash kept inside the donation box. The incident has sparked strong anger among local villagers. According to reports, the thieves broke open the temple lock and entered the shrine. It is believed that the miscreants first surveyed the temple premises before carrying out the theft in a planned manner.



The incident came to light in the morning when the temple priest and local devotees arrived for regular prayers and found the temple door broken. After entering the temple, they discovered that the gold and silver ornaments adorning the idol of Goddess Manasa were missing. Several copper and bronze utensils used during worship were also

found stolen. In addition, the donation box had been broken open and the cash kept inside was taken away by the thieves. As news of the theft spread, a large number of villagers gathered at the temple premises.

Residents described the incident as an attack on religious sentiments and demanded immediate arrest of those responsible. Villagers said that although minor theft incidents had occurred in the area earlier, stealing from a temple had deeply angered the local community. Local residents have also demanded increased police patrolling during nighttime to prevent such incidents in the future. After receiving informa-

tion about the theft, Daspur police reached the spot and started an investigation into the matter. Police inspected the temple premises and questioned nearby residents.

According to preliminary estimates, more than one person may have been involved in carrying out the theft. Police are also examining CCTV footage from nearby areas to identify the accused. Officials stated that the case is being investigated seriously and those involved in the theft will be arrested soon. Since the incident, concern regarding security arrangements has increased among local residents, and the matter has become a major topic of discussion in the area.

## Complaint filed against medical Professor for contesting elections without resigning

**MI News Service, Nadia :** A group of faculty members and medical professionals at the College of Medicine & J.N.M. Hospital (COMJNMH), Kalyani, have formally lodged a complaint against Dr. Sougata Kumar Burman, a Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, alleging "illegal joining" of duties following his participation in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly elections.

The complaint, addressed to the Registrar of the West Bengal University of Health Sciences (WBUHS), states that Dr. Burman contested the recent elections as a TMC-nominated MLA candidate for the Ranaghat Dakshin constituency. The primary grievances highlighted by the signatories are described below. It is alleged that Dr. Burman contested the election while on "earned leave with full salary protection" without

resigning from his official government post. It has violated the Service Rules. The letter cites a state government order (No. 63-CS/2026, dated March 30, 2026) which explicitly prohibits public servants from engaging in political activities. He allegedly rejoined illegally.

After the polls, Dr. Burman reportedly resumed his regular duties at the institute on May 5, 2026, which the complainants termed as "illegal." The letter, signed by several senior doctors including Associate Professors and Heads of Departments from Psychiatry, Anaesthesia, and General Surgery - demands the immediate suspension of Dr. Burman's rejoining. "No public servant either State Government, PSUs, Autonomous Bodies or Local Bodies will be spared if he/she is found involved in any kind of political activities," the complaint noted,

quoting the Chief Secretary's order. The document shows that it was received by the Principal's office on May 8, 2026, and has been officially forwarded to the Registrar of WBUHS for further investigation and necessary action. One of the protesting doctor, Mrigana Mouli Saha said, "University officials and the college administration are yet to release an official statement regarding the disciplinary steps that will be taken in this matter."

"On the other hand Sougata Kumar Burman said, "I am not a Government employee. I am a faculty of the State aided university. I took the NOC from my employer to contest the election. I was granted leave to contest. After the leaves ended, I re-joined the job. Above all, the concerned officials of EC, scrutinized all my documents and then allowed me to contest."



State Minister Dilip Ghosh can be seen participating at the Bengali Heritage Event.

### Peace in Canning East : A Message from the ISF

**Nurul Islam Khan :** In the Canning East Assembly constituency of South 24 Parganas, a peace meeting was organized on Sunday in the village of South Daharani, under the initiative of the ISF. Leaders present at the meeting appealed for the maintenance of peace and order in the area and conveyed a message of harmony among people of all communities.

Prominent leaders present at the meeting included the regional President Ziarul Islam Dhali, Secretary Achad Ali Gharani, Mujahid Molla, Mohibul Sardar, and Habib Gazi, among others. Speaking on behalf of the leadership, it was stated: "No injustice or oppression shall be inflicted upon the common people. We—Hindus, Muslims, Dalits, and Adivasis—people of all communities, wish to live together in peace and solidarity."

The meeting concluded with an appeal to uphold social harmony and to preserve an environment of unity within the locality.

## BJP MLA calls for peace, warns against misuse of party banner in Nabadwip

**MI News Service, Nadia :** Stressing the need to preserve the sanctity and reputation of Nabadwip, newly elected BJP MLA from the constituency, Shruti Sekhar Goswami, on Sunday urged the police administration to ensure strict maintenance of law and order in the temple town associated with Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Joining his first victory rally after the election results, the BJP legislator walked alongside thousands of supporters through Charbrahmanagar Kargil Para area in Nadia district's Nabadwip block. Residents welcomed the newly elected MLA with flowers and lotus symbols as celebratory scenes unfolded across the locality. Addressing mediapersons during the rally, Goswami alleged that several individuals who had earlier been associated with the Trinamool Congress were now carrying BJP flags and attempting to create disturbances in different areas, thereby tarnishing the image of the party. "No one will be allowed to indulge in violence or disrupt peace in Nabadwip. This is a sacred town with a rich cultural and religious heritage, and its reputation must be protected," the MLA said. According to sources, Goswami has already spoken to the district superintendent of police and the officer-in-



charge of Nabadwip police station, urging them to act impartially and ensure that no untoward incidents take place in the constituency. The BJP MLA also said that development of the constituency would remain his top priority. Improvement of roads, civic infrastructure, employment opportunities and overall urban development would be taken up in the coming days, he added. Political observers believe the statement assumes significance amid sporadic reports of post-poll tensions from different parts of the state. Goswami's emphasis on maintaining peace in a major pilgrimage town is being seen as an attempt to send a message of administrative stability and restraint after the electoral victory.

# New CM Suvendu Adhikari's Oath speech revives ancient Sanskrit mantra

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Moments before taking oath as the new Chief Minister of West Bengal, Suvendu Adhikari chose not merely a political slogan, but an ancient civilizational mantra to define the direction of his government — “Charaiveti, Charaiveti, Charaiveti.”

Invoking the Sanskrit expression while outlining his vision for Bengal's future, Adhikari declared that his administration would function on the principle of “not me, but us,”\* emphasizing collective responsibility, development and continuous progress. The phrase instantly drew widespread public attention, reviving interest in one of the oldest philosophical messages embedded in Indian spiritual literature. An Ancient Call to Keep Moving Forward “Charaiveti” is a Sanskrit term that broadly translates to “keep moving” or “move forward continuously.” The expression originates from the



File Pic

Aitareya Brahmana of the Rigveda, one of the oldest sacred texts of Indian civilization. According to Vedic references, the mantra was spoken by Lord Indra

to King Harishchandra as a reminder that life cannot remain stagnant and that progress demands constant movement, perseverance and struggle. The

root word “char” means “to move.” Thus, “Charaiveti” symbolizes uninterrupted motion — a relentless journey that rejects stagnation, fear and inertia. Political Message Wrapped in Spiritual Philosophy: By invoking the mantra at the threshold of assuming office, Adhikari appeared to send a larger political and administrative message: Bengal must move beyond conflict and uncertainty toward reconstruction, discipline and development. The phrase carries not only philosophical significance but also a powerful psychological undertone. In Indian thought, “Charaiveti” represents the spirit of tireless action — the refusal to surrender before hardship or adversity. It urges individuals and societies alike to continue advancing despite obstacles. The expression also possesses a spiritual dimension, symbolizing the soul's continuous search for truth and higher purpose. Over cen-

turies, it has evolved into a broader life philosophy associated with courage, resilience and unwavering determination. Political observers believe the new Chief Minister's emphasis on the mantra was carefully symbolic. At a time when Bengal enters a new political chapter, the repeated invocation of “Charaiveti” seeks to project an image of forward momentum, administrative continuity and transformational ambition. By combining the collective slogan of “not me, but us” with a Vedic call for perpetual movement, Adhikari attempted to frame his government not merely as a change in power, but as the beginning of a larger political and cultural reset. As Bengal witnesses the transition to a new administration, the ancient mantra now echoed from the state's highest office may well become the defining ideological signature of the government's political journey ahead.

## CHANDRANATH MURDER: CID travels UP following lead

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** A team from the Bengal CID that travelled to Uttar Pradesh following a lead on the assassins of Chandranath Rath — personal assistant to then chief minister-probable Suvendu Adhikari — failed to make any arrests, sources said.



district until 2011, when it was incorporated into the newly formed district of Sambhal, which was carved out of Moradabad. Suvendu was sworn in as chief minister of the first BJP government in Bengal on Saturday.

Rath was gunned down inside a Mahindra Scorpio on Wednesday night while returning to his Madhyamgram apartment.

Investigators had initially believed the suspected assailants fled to Gunnaur, a town in Sambhal district of Uttar Pradesh, after executing the murder.

“The team picked up two youths from Gunnaur and questioned them for several hours. But nothing conclusive emerged,” a senior police officer in Lucknow said on condition of anonymity.

The officer said the team had been acting on inputs suggesting the killers were hiding in Gunnaur. They first reached Badaun district and met senior police officers for assistance before moving to Sambhal, after electronic surveillance reportedly pointed to Gunnaur, the officer said.

Gunnaur was earlier part of Badaun

their way to Gunnaur to search for someone. But they did not find anything there and returned.”

However, K.K. Bishnoi, superintendent of police of Sambhal, denied any search operation by Bengal Police in the district and termed the information “baseless.”

Late on Saturday night, sources said a few persons were detained in Uttar Pradesh.

An officer said investigators were working on technical inputs derived from “call dump” data collected from mobile towers near the crime scene.

Call dump refers to technical data tracking mobile call traffic routed through a particular tower during a specific time window, used to trace movements and contacts.

## Admin & police overhaul likely in Bengal under BJP govt: REPORTS

● **From PG 1** alongside apprehensions about the perceived neutrality of certain officers.

It further underscored that the exercise drew upon hard lessons from the post-poll violence that followed the 2021 state polls, which had cast a long shadow over the credibility of the electoral process.

The moves had triggered strong political reactions from the TMC and prompted legal challenges, including petitions in the Supreme Court, which later declined to interfere with the EC's authority.

Sources in the state administration, who viewed Saturday's appointments as an unmistakable effort

to recast the administrative architecture under the new BJP dispensation, said this could just be the beginning of many more such orders to come.

Some even felt that IAS and IPS cadres from other states may be brought into Bengal on deputation with reciprocal moves initiated for the state's own cadres, who could be moved out.

In a meeting chaired by Adhikari, minutes after his swearing-in ceremony and held at the PWD tent in the Maidan area, the chief minister reportedly spoke to the chief secretary and home secretary in the presence of the DGP and CP, Kolkata.

Although no details of

what transpired officially emerged, eyewitnesses said officers were seen leaving the venue with files on bureaucrats and police brass.

Interpretations on the meeting's takeaway largely hovered around the possible recasting of Adhikari's administrative team.

It's no accident, the sources said, that the first administrative meeting convened by Adhikari as the CM on Monday will involve the participation of the top brass of the police force, including SPs and senior officials of the districts, where law and order and administrative preparedness are on the discussion agenda.

## Industry leaders pin hope on SUVENDU

● **From PG 1** managing director Sanjiv Puri expressed confidence that the state would witness a “new dawn of growth and prosperity” under the new leadership and said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a ‘Viksit Bharat’ would serve as a guiding inspiration for the state's progress. Puri also congratulated Adhikari and extended greetings to the newly formed council of ministers. “As an Indian conglomerate headquartered in Kolkata for over a century, ITC remains committed to partnering with the state in its journey of socio-economic development with our growing footprint across agriculture, manufacturing and services,” Puri added.

“On the auspicious occasion of Rabindra Jayanti, I extend our hearty congratulations to the new government and wish them a progressive and successful tenure ahead. Our warm felicitations to Chief Minister Sri Suvendu Adhikari and the other members of the newly sworn-in government. We look forward to contributing meaningfully to the economic progress of Bengal. With the rise of Bengal's economic health, the India growth story will get a positive fillip” said Harshavardhan Neotia, Chairman of Ambuja Neotia Group.

Naresh Pachisia, president of the Bharat Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata, described the swearing-in as “not merely a constitutional transition” but the dawn of a new chapter in Bengal's journey towards progress, prosperity, stability and renewed confidence.

## a new ‘SAFFRON EMPIRE’

● **From PG 1** including Suvendu — accepting cash on camera. Raut, speaking in Mumbai, cited how the BJP had aggressively weaponised the footage against Suvendu and Trinamool during the 2016 Bengal Assembly poll campaign.

Clips from the “sting”, alongside Modi's campaign speeches from that period targeting Trinamool, have been circulating widely on social media, amplifying the Opposition's attack.

“In 2016, the BJP used those videos to corner Trinamool.... Today, the same individual is chief minister, and the party is celebrating him. What morality is this?” Raut said.

Similar criticism had followed Samrat's elevation in Bihar. Critics revived references to a 1995 murder case in which the FIR named Samrat and his father. Both spent time in jail as accused before being discharged for lack of evidence.

Political strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor had alleged during last year's Bihar poll campaign that Samrat had once misrepresented his age to evade prosecution, an accusation the chief minister denies.

Despite the baggage, Samrat's rise is seen widely as part of Shah's “social engineering” efforts to consolidate non-Yadav OBC support in Bihar. As a Koiri leader, Samrat fits snugly into the BJP's electoral calculus, although party veterans grumble in private about loyal OBC functionaries being overlooked.

Sarma's trajectory in Assam follows a similar pattern. Once a powerful Congress minister whom the BJP frequently targeted with corruption charges, Sarma crossed over in 2015 and quickly emerged as the BJP's principal strategist in the Northeast.

Shah is learnt to have privately described him as an “amazing” politician, crediting him with scripting the BJP's rapid expansion in the region.

Sarma was appointed chief minister after the BJP's second straight election win in Assam in 2021. He replaced the more ideologically rooted Sarbananda Sonowal. Sarma has since then consolidated his unchallenged authority and led the party to a third consecutive victory — with a bigger margin — in last month's Assam polls.

## Heavy Rain Alert in North Bengal, Major Weather Shift Ahead

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** West Bengal is set to witness a dramatic shift in weather conditions over the next three days, with the Meteorological Department issuing warnings of heavy rainfall, thunderstorms and strong gusty winds across several districts, particularly in North Bengal. While large parts of the state continue to experience the now-familiar pattern of bright mornings followed by stormy afternoons, weather officials have indicated that the approaching system could intensify conditions significantly between Tuesday and Thursday. According to the latest forecast, heavy rainfall is expected in the northern districts of \*\*Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri\*\* on Tuesday. The warning extends into Wednesday, with scattered heavy showers likely in Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and North Dinajpur. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and wind speeds reaching 40 to 50 kmph are also expected across multiple northern districts during this period. The upper districts of North Bengal are likely to remain under persistent rain activity till Thursday.

## next CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

● **From PG 1** He has insightful knowledge and a deep understanding of operational dynamics on both the western (Pakistan) and northern (China) borders, the ministry said.

A graduate of the National Defence Academy and the Indian Military Academy, Subramani was commissioned into the 8th Battalion of the Garhwal Rifles on December 14, 1985. For his distinguished service, he has been awarded the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Sena Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal.

In June 2022, the Centre had amended rules on the appointment of the CDS, stating that officers with the second-highest rank in the military can be appointed, leaving the door ajar for the three service chiefs to be superseded while filling India's top military post. The new rules made any serving or retired lieutenant-general, air marshal and vice-admiral aged below 62 eligible to be CDS.

New navy chief Swaminathan, who earlier served as the navy's Vice-Chief,

will take over from Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, who retires on May 31.

Swaminathan, who currently heads the Western Naval Command, was commissioned into the Indian Navy on July 1, 1987. He is a specialist in communication and electronic warfare and has held several key appointments in his career, including the navy's chief of personnel, controller of personnel services, and chief of staff.

He is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla; the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, UK; the College of Naval Warfare, Karanja; and the United States Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

Swaminathan's appointment comes at a time the navy is expanding its operational reach across the Indian Ocean Region amid increasing Chinese naval deployments, heightened maritime competition and growing emphasis on integrated surveillance, carrier-led operations and network-centric warfare.

## Major Breakthrough in Bengal Teacher Recruitment Controversy

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** In a major development linked to West Bengal's long-running teacher recruitment controversy, the School Service Commission (SSC) has published the OMR sheets of the disputed 2016 recruitment examinations on the very day the state's new Chief Minister was announced. The move comes amid growing expectations that the newly formed government will attempt to address one of Bengal's most politically explosive and legally complicated crises — the mass cancellation of teaching and non-teaching appointments linked to the recruitment scam. The SSC issued an official notification on

Friday confirming that the OMR sheets of candidates who appeared in the 2016 recruitment examinations for Classes IX-X and XI-XII under the SLST (AT) category had been uploaded on the commission's website. The notification became publicly prominent on Saturday, coinciding with Suvendu Adhikari's oath-taking as Chief Minister. According to sources, the uploaded OMR sheets were reconstructed and recovered from hard disks obtained during the central investigation into the recruitment case. Officials indicated that the commission acted in compliance with directions issued by the Supreme Court.

# Anti-BJP Alliance: Cong, CPM mock Mamata's appeal

**MI News Service, Kolkata:** Too little, too late. That's what the Congress and the CPM said to Mamata Banerjee's appeal to all anti-BJP forces across India, including Bengal, to set aside differences and close ranks on the BJP as “the first enemy”.

The Congress and the CPM alleged that her call for unity came after spending years sabotaging the INDIA space.

Hours after her protege-turned-nemeser Suvendu Adhikari replaced her as chief minister, the Trinamool Congress chairperson said at a Rabindra Jayanti event at her Kalighat residence that “terror” was now raging in all corners.

“I would like to ask all political parties, student-youth organisations and NGOs to form an alliance. We want to build a platform against the BJP,” said Mamata, who finally updated her social bio to “Chief Minister of West Bengal (15th, 16th and 17th Vidhan Sabha)”, refusing to add “former” to the description by using the technicality of Suvendu being the chief minister in the 18th Assembly.

Since the results, she had been refusing to resign, claiming she had not lost because the mandate was allegedly stolen by the BJP-Election Commission-central forces clique.

Trinamool received 2.6 crore votes and its hill ally, the BGP, received 1.76 lakh votes. The Congress received 18.85 lakh votes, while the Left secured 42.9 lakh votes. Hypothetically taken together, they got 3.23 crore votes, 31.4 lakh more than the BJP's 2.92 crore votes.

“Left, ultra-Left, any national party... wherever they are, let us form an alliance. Anybody can talk to me if they like. I will be in my office daily, from 4pm to 6pm. The BJP is our first enemy,” she added. “Standing in front of Rabindranath, I make this appeal to everyone. Now is not the time to think about who I am and who is who. Not the time for ‘enemy's enemy is my friend’.” Politically, the first enemy is the BJP.

Mamata alleged that “outside goons” were being brought in to torture the people of Bengal, and her home and nephew Abhishek Banerjee's home were being



specifically targeted for hooliganism.

She alleged that “unbridled terror” had been unleashed on the Trinamool ecosystem since the results.

“A lot of benojol (polluted floodwater) has entered. The police are completely silent,” Mamata said, claiming a sharp contrast between what had taken place when she ascended to power in 2011 and now.

“I did not allow anyone to be tortured. I had sent my bullet-proof car to Buddhadeb (Bhattacharjee) Babu. I had given him Z+ security,” she said.

“They (the BJP) withdrew all our security from the day they

won, day and night,” Mamata said. “The day before yesterday, I was surprised. I saw that my phone was not receiving calls, messages were not coming.... After that, I saw that the Internet itself had been withdrawn. They could have informed me even an hour earlier. I want them to withdraw (everything). I don't want to take their mercy. I don't want anyone's charity. I don't want anyone's sympathy.”

Once again, she claimed Trinamool actually won the election, which would be proven in the future.

“Soniji (Gandhi), Rahul Gandhi, (Mallikarjun) Khargeji have spoken to me. Uddhav Thackeray, Tejashwi (Yadav) have sent messages. Akhilesh (Yadav) himself has come. Apart from this, starting from Hemant Soren, nobody (from the INDIA space) is left (to contact her). Arvind (Kejriwal) said our defeat caused him greater pain than his own,” she claimed, suggesting the Congress, Shiv Sena-UBT, RJD, Samajwadi Party, JMM, and AAP stood in solidarity with her.

Congress leader Soumya Aich

Roy said Mamata should have remembered such things before sending Suvendu, then in her party, as her enforcer-in-chief to finish the Left and the Congress in their areas of strength across the state, by engineering defections in 2016-17. “The proverbial cat climbs the tree only under duress,” he said. “She has never been sincere in fighting the RSS-BJP, and kept weakening INDIA at every opportunity. She brought in and established the BJP in Bengal. Now that her own palace has been razed to the ground, she suddenly remembers us. We, Madam, are not in the habit of opportunistic flip-flops.”

Asked to respond to Mamata's claims that Sonia, Rahul, and Kharge have been in direct touch with her, Aich Roy said: “We have no such information.”

CPM central committee Sujan Chakraborty, in a virtual echo, asked: “Does she have any credibility in this?”

Chief minister Suvendu, when asked to respond to Mamata's claims, said: “She is politically irrelevant. I do not wish to comment on the politically irrelevant.”

Tracks to Transformation: Eastern Railway's Month-Long 'Swachhata' Surge Sweeps Through Stations



Naihati Group organized a vibrant rally at Naihati Station and Railway Colony. To make the message memorable for the younger generation, popular mascots Mickey Mouse and Chhota Bheem joined the Scouts and Guides Band Team.

Bharat Scouts & Guides have been instrumental in turning this administrative task into a true people's movement. By using posters, placards, and direct interaction, they have successfully bridged the gap between the railway administration and the traveling public.

"Cleanliness is not a one-day event but a continuous habit that defines our civic character," said Shri Shibrum Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer (CPRO), Eastern Railway.

Name Change I, Ramesh Roy (Old Name) S/o Rajendra Roy Residing at 4D/1, Dharmatala Road, P.O. - Tiljala, P.S. - Kasba, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700039, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Ramesh Roy (Old Name) To Ramesh Kumar Roy (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Ramesh Kumar Roy (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Ramesh Kumar Roy (New Name) and Ramesh Roy (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Md Sherajuddin (Old Name) S/o Md Abbas Residing at 8A/2, Topsia 1st Lane, Near Albeta Hotel, P.O. - Tiljala, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700039, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Md Sherajuddin (Old Name) To Md Serajuddin (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Md Serajuddin (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Md Serajuddin (New Name) and Md Sherajuddin (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Atiyar Dafadar (Old Name), Son Of Late Ajiul Haque Dafadar, Resident Of Bararia, Dhantala, Nadia-741501, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Atiyar Dafadar (Old Name) To Atiar Dafadar (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Atiar Dafadar (New Name) In All Purpose, vide Affidavit No 51 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 10/05/2026. Atiar Dafadar (New Name) And Atiyar Dafadar (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Dharmender Ray S/o S Ray (my & my father old name), residing at 30, K.M. Sen Road, Kolkata- 700042 do hereby declare that I have changed my & father name from Dharmender Ray S/o S Ray (Old Name) To Dharmendra Mahto S/o Suresh Mahto (my & my father New Name) and henceforth we shall be known as Dharmendra Mahto S/o Suresh Mahto (my & father new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on 07/05/2026. Dharmender Ray and Dharmendra Mahto both are same and one identical person (my self), S Ray and Suresh Mahto are same and one identical person (my father).

Name Change I, Sahina Perween, Shahina Parvin (Old Name) W/o Rafi Ahmed Residing at 3A, Satyen Bose Road, P.O. - Danesh Sk Lane, P.S. - Sankrail, District - Howrah, Pin - 711109, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Sahina Perween, Shahina Parvin (Old Name) To Sahina Pravin (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sahina Pravin (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Sahina Pravin (New Name) and Sahina Perween, Shahina Parvin (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Dinesh Kr Burnwal (Old Name) S/o Yamuna Prasad Residing at Sri Kashi Niwas Municipality Road, P.O. - Neamatpur, P.S. - Kulti, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713359, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Dinesh Kr Burnwal (Old Name) To Dinesh Kumar Burnwal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Dinesh Kumar Burnwal (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Dinesh Kumar Burnwal (New Name) and Dinesh Kr Burnwal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Pear Mondal (old name) S/o Rajak Mondal, residing at Vill-Tangra, PO-Rampur Bhatpara, P.S- Gaighata, Dist- North 24 PARGANAS, Pin-743249, West Bengal do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Pear Mondal (Old Name) to Piyar Mohammad Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Piyar Mohammad Mondal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Piyar Mohammad Mondal (New Name) and Pear Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Jayanta Ghosh, declare that my father said name N Kr Ghosh (father old name), residing at 15/1, N S Lane, Park Road, Kolkata- 700078, West Bengal, India, (My Driving Licence No. WB20 20100313628), I have changed my father name and he shall henceforth be known as Netai Krishna Ghosh (father new name), as declared before the Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore, vide an affidavit dated 28/04/2026. Netai Krishna Ghosh (father new name) and N Kr Ghosh (father old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Rafi Ahamed, Md Rafi Ahmed (Old Name) S/o Abdul Jabbar Residing at 3A, Satyen Bose Road, P.O. - Danesh Sk Lane, P.S. - Sankrail, District - Howrah, Pin - 711109, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Rafi Ahamed, Md Rafi Ahmed (Old Name) To Rafi Ahmed (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Rafi Ahmed (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Rafi Ahmed (New Name) and Rafi Ahamed, Md Rafi Ahmed (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Nikhat Parween (Old Name) W/o Tahir Ahmed Residing at M H Street Munshi Bazar, P.O. - Asansol, P.S. - Asansol South, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713301, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Nikhat Parween (Old Name) To Nikhat Parveen (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Nikhat Parveen (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Nikhat Parveen (Old Name) and Nikhat Parween (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Jeevan Ratan Biswas (old name) C/o Moni Gopal Mandal, residing at Maslandapur, Habra, Dist- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743289, W.B, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Jeevan Ratan Biswas (Old Name) To Jeevan Ratan Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Jeevan Ratan Mondal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Jeevan Ratan Mondal (New Name) and Jeevan Ratan Biswas (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Ashish Agarwal (Old Name) (Driving Licence no- WB01 20090696591) S/O Jamuna Prasad Vishwakarma Residing at Barpol Chandigarh, Rohand, P.O.-Rohanda, Dist- North 24 Parganas-700135, India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Ashish Kuber Upjeet Agarwal (New Name) as declared before the 1ST Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 08-05-2026. Ashish Agarwal (Old Name) and Ashish Kuber Upjeet Agarwal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Subodh Kumar Dharwal (Old Name) S/o Late Jhankar Md Dharwal Residing at 4E Shree Krishna Garden, 9 Binova Bhare Road, Sahapur, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700038, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Subodh Kumar Dharwal (Old Name) To Subodh Dharwal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Subodh Dharwal (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 07-05-2026. Subodh Dharwal (New Name) and Subodh Kumar Dharwal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Avita Kundu D/o Late Nemai Chandra Kundu Residing at Satyajit Nagar Behind B C College Near to New Shiv Temple, P.O. - Asansol, P.S. - Asansol South, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713301, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my deceased father name from Nemai Kundu (Old Name) To Nemai Chandra Kundu (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Nemai Chandra Kundu (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Nemai Kundu (Old Name) and Nemai Chandra Kundu (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mobarok Mondal (old name) S/o Rahman Mondal, residing at Vill-Gokhurapota, P.O. - Charatala, P.S.-Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741123, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Mobarok Mondal (Old Name) To Mobarak Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Mobarak Mondal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 41 sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Mobarak Mondal (New Name) and Mobarok Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, RACHANA AGARWAL (old name) W/o SUSHIL KUMAR AGARWAL, residing at VISHNU VATIKA, BLOCK-V, FLAT- 3F, 289 G. T. ROAD, BELUR, BALLY, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, PIN- 711202 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from RACHANA AGARWAL (Old Name) To RACHNA AGARWAL (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as RACHNA AGARWAL (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. RACHNA AGARWAL (New Name) and RACHANA AGARWAL (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Avik Pramanick (Old Name) S/o Uday Pramanick Residing at FR-4TH RN-E Shantiniketan, Subhaspally Road, Madhyamgram, P.O. - Madhyamgram Bazar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700130, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Avik Pramanick (Old Name) To Avik Pramanik (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Avik Pramanik (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 10 Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 07-05-2026. Avik Pramanick (New Name) and Avik Pramanick (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Saleha Khatoun Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) W/o Late Md Iqbal Residing at 79 West Apar Garden, P.O. - Asansol, P.S. - Asansol South, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713304, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Saleha Khatoun Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) To Saleha Khatoun (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Saleha Khatoun (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Saleha Khatoun (New Name) and Saleha Khatoun Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mobarok Mondal (old name) S/o Rahman Mondal, residing at Vill-Gokhurapota, P.O. - Charatala, P.S.-Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741123, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Mobarok Mondal (Old Name) To Mobarak Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Mobarak Mondal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 41 sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Mobarok Mondal (New Name) and Mobarok Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Abhishek Agarwal (old name) S/o Sushil Kumar Agarwal, residing at VISHNU VATIKA, BLOCK-V, FLAT- 3F, 289 G. T. ROAD, BELUR, BALLY, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, PIN- 711202 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Abhishek Agarwal (Old Name) To Abhisek Agarwal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Abhisek Agarwal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Abhisek Agarwal (New Name) and Abhishek Agarwal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Bhanwar Singh Doodi, resident of PQ 22/4 SNOO's mess, Air Force Station Kalaikunda, P.S. Kharagpur (L), Dist. Paschim Medinipur, have changed my son name from Yakshit to Yakshit Dudi vide Affidavit dated 16/04/2026 before Notary at Midnapore Court.

Name Change I, Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) S/o Late Md Iqbal Residing at 79 West Apar Garden, P.O. - Asansol, P.S. - Asansol South, District - Paschim Bardhaman, Pin - 713304, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) To Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal Iqbal (Old Name) and Tajdar Mohammed Iqbal (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (old name), son of Nageswar Jayswal, resident of Vill-Begri, Po-Begri, P.S-Dumuria, Dist- West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (old name) to Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 61 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (old name) and Nandu Prasad Jaysawal (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, NITAI DAS (old name) S/O LATE, DEBENDRA CHANDRA DAS, residing at BANBANIA SUKANTA SARANI, HABRA, ASHOKENAGAR, KALYANGANG, P.O. - HABRA, PIN CODE - 743263, W.B, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from NITAI DAS (Old Name) To NITAI CHANDRA DAS (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as NITAI CHANDRA DAS (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. NITAI CHANDRA DAS (New Name) and NITAI DAS (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Aditi (old name) D/o Ajeet Shankar, Resident of Flat 4C, Surya Kiran apartment, block-B, Narayantala Baguiati, Kolkata-700059 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Aditi (old name) to Aditi Chauhan (new name with surname) and henceforth I shall be known as Aditi Chauhan (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 8961 sworn before the Executive Magistrate at Muzaffarpur on 24.03.2023. Aditi Chauhan (new name) and Aditi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Indrani Dasgupta Agarwal, Indrani Agarwal (Old Name) D/o Milan Chandra Dasgupta W/o Ajay Agarwal Residing at Flat No. 11A, Tower-1, Haritage Srijan Park, 72A, Tiljala Road, P.O - Gobinda Khatic Road, P.S. - Beniapur, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700046, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Indrani Dasgupta Agarwal, Indrani Agarwal (Old Name) To Indrani Dasgupta (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Indrani Dasgupta (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 1499 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata on Dated 27-04-2026. Indrani Dasgupta (New Name) and Indrani Dasgupta Agarwal Indrani Agarwal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Gulzar Ahmed (old name) son of Abdul Majid Hajisepay, resident of Vill. Ban Harishpur, Sepay Para, Panchla, Howrah - 711322, W.B, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Gulzar Ahmed (old name) to Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 13 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 07/05/226. Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) and Gulzar Ahmed (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Guru Mata Fulghri Hijara (old name) D/o Reshmi, residing at Vill-Ashutosh Colony Srinagar, Habra (M), Dist- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743263, W.B, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Guru Mata Fulghri Hijara (Old Name) To Fuljhri Hijra (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Fuljhri Hijra (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 32 sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Fuljhri Hijra (New Name) and Guru Mata Fulghri Hijara (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mst Fariya Khatun W/o, Sekh Sahajad R/o Hazipur, Dhaniakhal, Hoochly-712302, W.B, do hereby declare that in my daughter's Birth Certificate (Being Regn. No. B/2024/1391458) & also in her Aadhaar Card (XXXX XXXX 5643) where her name has been recorded as Sekh Sadiya instead of her correct & actual name Sadiya Khatun, which I want to rectify in my daughter's all documents by strength of this affidavit. My daughter Sadiya Khatun & Sekh Sadiya both are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 7949 dtd. 19/03/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar Hooghly Court.

Name Change I, Shidul Molla (Old Name) S/O Maimur Hosen Molla Residing at Kankjole Paschim, P.O. - Maheswara, P.S. - Ramnagar, District - South 24 Parganas, Pin - 743368, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Shidul Molla (Old Name) To Sahidul Molla (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sahidul Molla (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Sahidul Molla (New Name) and Shidul Molla (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Gulzar Ahmed (old name) son of Abdul Majid Hajisepay, resident of Vill. Ban Harishpur, Sepay Para, Panchla, Howrah - 711322, W.B, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Gulzar Ahmed (old name) to Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 13 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 07/05/226. Sepay Mohammed Gulzar (new name) and Gulzar Ahmed (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, SWETA HADA (old name) W/o ABHISEK AGARWAL, residing at 22, MUNSHI ZELLAR RAHIM LANE, P.O.-SALKIA, P.S.- GOLABARI, HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, PIN-711106 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from SWETA HADA (Old Name) To SHWETA HADA (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as SHWETA HADA (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the notary public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. SHWETA HADA (Old Name) and SWETA HADA (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, TEMJENMOGLA AIER (old name) D/O RONGSEN NUNGSANG AIER residing at 174, Green Park, Madhyamgram, P.O. - Michel Nagar, P.S.- Airport, North 24 Parganas - 700133, West Bengal, India have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as AMEERA AIER (new name) as declared before the Ld Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Alipore vide an affidavit Si No. 3621 dated 27th day of March, 2026. AMEERA AIER (new name) and TEMJENMOGLA AIER (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Puspita Ghosh Mondal (Old Name) D/o Ashis Kumar Ghosh W/o Milon Kumar Mondal Residing at 36/11, Umesh Mukherjee Road Belghoria, P.O Belghoria, P.S. - Belghoria, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700095, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Puspita Ghosh Mondal (Old Name) To Puspita Ghosh (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Puspita Ghosh (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 08-05-2026. Puspita Ghosh (New Name) and Puspita Ghosh Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Sabli Akhtar (Old Name) S/o Sohail Akhtar Syed Residing at 59, Collin Street, P.S. - Park Street, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700076, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Sabli Akhtar (Old Name) To Md. Sabli Akhtar (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Md. Sabli Akhtar (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 100600 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata on Dated 18-10-2025. Md. Sabli Akhtar (New Name) and Sabli Akhtar (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Pradeepkumar J Vishwakarma (Old Name) ( Driving Licence no- GJ06 201100 28285) S/O Jamuna Prasad Vishwakarma Residing at The Soul, 6TH Floor, Flat- 601, Tower-9, New Town, Action Area-II, Rajarhat, P.O.-Rajarhat, North 24 Parganas - Pin-700135 , India, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pradeep Vishwakarma (New Name) as declared before the 1ST Class Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata vide affidavit Dated 08-05-2026. Pradeepkumar J Vishwakarma (Old Name) and Pradeep Vishwakarma (New Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Shiksha Sipani, hereby declare that I have changed my name to Sheksha Sovannika Sipani and shall henceforth be known as Sheksha Sovannika Sipani for all records and purposes.

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 10, 2026 : In a massive push towards a cleaner and greener travel experience, Eastern Railway is currently observing a dedicated Swachhata Campaign running from April 15th to May 14th, 2026. This month-long mission, driven by the vision of Swachh Rail - Swachh Bharat, has seen a wave of cleanliness activities across all divisions and departments. The entire campaign is being executed under the dynamic leadership of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway. From Divisional Railway Managers (DRMs) to frontline staff, every wing of the railway family has joined hands to ensure that station premises, colonies, and tracks remain spotless.

The period between May 6th and May 9th saw high-energy participation, particularly from the Eastern Railway Bharat Scouts & Guides, who have emerged as the "Cleanliness Warriors" of this mission. On May 6th, the

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 10, 2026 : Due to 05 nights (from 00:20 hrs. to 03:20 hrs) Traffic & Power Block for Limited Height Subway work of Level crossing Gate No. 03 at Rishra from 12.05.2026 to 16.05.2026 in Howrah - Barddel section of Howrah Division, 63501 Howrah - Barddhaman MEMU will run on diverted route via Howrah - Barddhaman chord line (HBC) from 12.05.2026 to 15.05.2016.

Kolkata hosts session on 'War beyond borders'



MI News Service, Kolkata : The city of Kolkata recently hosted a talk-show on 'War beyond borders'. The Lions of Calcutta North hosted the event. The talk show was titled "Global Conflicts - Shaping Your Lives?". Anchored in the theme "War Beyond Borders," the session demonstrated that modern conflicts are no longer distant geopolitical issues but forces influencing economies, governance, and personal choices. The event transformed complex global tensions into relatable, real-world impacts, making it clear that international events are closer to home than ever imagined.

Name Change I, Parveen Sultana (old name), wife of Kobir Mollick, resident of Vill-Kaswara, Po-Kaswara, P.S-Polba, Dist-Hooghly, Pin-712102, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Parveen Sultana (old name) to Parvin Sultana (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 60 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Parvin Sultana (old name) and Parveen Sultana (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Parveen Sultana (old name), wife of Kobir Mollick, resident of Vill-Kaswara, Po-Kaswara, P.S-Polba, Dist-Hooghly, Pin-712102, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Parveen Sultana (old name) to Parvin Sultana (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No 60 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 08/05/2026. Parvin Sultana (old name) and Parveen Sultana (old name) both are the same and one identical person.

Eastern Railway Introduces Unreserved Special Train Service Between Deoghar and Saraigarh Following Damage to Vikramshila Setu

MI News Service, Kolkata, May 10, 2026 : In view of the damage caused to Vikramshila Setu over the River Ganga, which has severely affected road connectivity between Bhagalpur and the North-East Bihar & Seemanchal region, Eastern Railway has taken a significant step in public interest by deciding to run a Unreserved special train between Deoghar and Saraigarh up to 31st May, 2026.

The disruption of the vital bridge link has caused considerable inconvenience to residents, students, traders, office-goers and daily commuters travelling between Bhagalpur and important regions such as Katihar, Saharsa, Madhepura, Naugachia, Kishanganj and adjoining areas. Considering the difficulties faced by the general public, Eastern Railway has acted promptly to provide an alternative and reliable mode of transportation.

05573 Saraigarh- Deoghar unreserved special leave Saraigarh at 03:05 hrs. daily upto 31.05.2026 to reach Deoghar at 11:20 hrs. on the same day and 05574 Deoghar - Saraigarh unreserved special leave Deoghar at 11:35 hrs. upto 31.05.2026 to reach Saraigarh at 22:15 hrs. on the same day. The train will stop at Banka, Barahat, Bhagalpur, Sultanganj, Ratanpur and Munger stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute.

The Unreserved MEMU special train service between Deoghar and Saraigarh is aimed at ensuring uninterrupted connectivity and easing passenger movement.

IIT Madras opens centre at CALIFORNIA

MI News Service, Chennai/California: The Indian Institute of Technology Madras Global Research Foundation has announced the establishment of its first centre in the United States, expanding India's deep-tech innovation footprint into global ecosystems.

The centre at Menlo Park in California, which was launched on April 24, was made at the SelectUSA Investment Summit at National Harbour in Maryland.

"With a focused investment approach, we aim to build a platform that accelerates deep-tech ventures from lab to global markets, while also attracting global innovation into India," he said.

India, South Asia need 3,300 new aircrafts by 2044: Reports

MI News Service, New Delhi: Airlines in India and South Asia will require nearly 3,300 new aircraft by 2044 as passenger and cargo traffic continue to rise sharply, US aircraft maker Boeing said, underlining that single-aisle jets will dominate future fleet expansion in the region.

According to Boeing's Commercial Market Outlook (CMO) for India and South Asia, single-aisle or narrow-body aircraft will account for almost 90 per cent of the projected deliveries, totalling 2,875 planes, while demand for wide-body aircraft is estimated at 395. The outlook also projects minimal demand for regional jets, at less than 10 aircraft over the 2025-2044 period.



Presenting the outlook on the sidelines of the four-day aviation summit Wings India 2026, Boeing Managing Director of Commercial Marketing, Eurasia and Indian Subcontinent Ashwin Naidu said India remains a key growth market for the company.

"India is a growth market and the country will add more planes," Naidu said, adding that India is the fastest-growing aviation region globally, with its fleet expected to quadruple over the next 20 years.

growing long-haul opportunities, noting that Indian and South Asian airlines are expected to broaden and diversify their international networks as India emerges as a major global aviation hub.

"The South Asia region's widebody fleet will more than triple by 2044 as carriers enable millions of Indian and South Asian passengers to travel to international markets including the Middle East, Europe and North America," Boeing said.

Beyond aircraft deliveries, Boeing estimated that more than USD 195 billion will be required for aviation services in the region, including maintenance, repair and modifications, digital services and training. The outlook also flagged strong growth in air cargo, driven by India's expanding high-tech manufacturing base and the rising role of e-commerce. "The South Asia region's fleet of new and converted freighters is expected to grow five times its current size over the next two decades to support rising air cargo demand," Boeing said.

# Cong is 'parasite', known for betraying people: MODI

**MI News Service, Bengaluru:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday attacked the Congress, accusing it of "failing" to provide good governance due to the internal power struggles in Karnataka, and "betraying" people. It has become a "parasite party" today, he charged.

He said that a "saffron sun" was rising from Bengaluru amid the BJP's expanding political influence across the country, in remarks indicating the party's recent electoral triumphs in West Bengal, Assam and Puducherry.



"For the past three years in Karnataka, instead of resolving people's problems, most of the government's time here has been spent resolving internal conflicts. The Congress government remained gripped by uncertainty over leadership and power-sharing arrangements," the PM said addressing a large gathering of BJP workers here.

Modi was referring to the ongoing power tussle between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar for the past six months.

"They cannot decide how long the chief minister will remain. They cannot decide whether another person will get a chance or not. Everything has been kept hanging," he said.

Modi said the Congress government invariably faced anti-incumbency within months because the party lacked a governance agenda. "This is because Congress only knows how to betray people. They are false themselves, and their guarantees are also false. There is no chapter on governance in Congress' book of power," he charged.

The PM projected the BJP-led NDA as the embodiment of political stability and development, contrasting it with what he described as Congress' "politics of betrayal" and administrative failure in states ruled by the party.

Claiming that the BJP represented stability in an uncertain global environment, Modi said recent election results across states reflected growing public support for the NDA's governance model.

Referring to the NDA retaining power in Puducherry and Assam and forming its maiden government

in West Bengal, and the party's sweeping victory in Gujarat local body polls, he said the results indicated a decisive political shift.

"These election results are important for the direction of Indian politics. They reflect the mood of India's youth, women, farmers, poor and middle class," Modi said.

"People are saying that they want speed, not scams; they want solutions. They want politics based on national policy," he said.

The Prime Minister said Karnataka had historically played a pivotal role in strengthening the BJP, even during the party's early years. "I can see that a saffron sun has risen today from the land of Bengaluru. Even when the BJP was not such a large party, Karnataka gave it tremendous strength," he said.

Modi noted that the BJP was now the number one party in Karnataka in terms of Lok Sabha representation and the second-largest force in neighbouring Telangana.

Pointing to the BJP's expansion in southern and eastern India, the PM said the party had moved from just three MLAs in West Bengal a decade ago to forming a government with more than 200 legislators now.

He also said the BJP's growth in Kerala from one MLA to three indicated that the NDA would eventually emerge as a major force there as well to form a government in

coming years. He further asked why the Congress did not form a government in Kerala despite having full majority in the recently held Assembly elections.

His remarks come in the wake of the Congress high command yet to decide on who will be the Kerala chief minister as three senior leaders are vying for the post.

"We have been in power at the Centre for 12 years. BJP-NDA governments are in power in more than 21 states. We are working with the mantra that the development of states leads to the development of the nation," he said.

Launching a sustained attack on the Congress leadership, Modi said the party, despite once winning more than 400 Lok Sabha seats, had failed to cross the 100-seat mark in the last three general elections.

He alleged that the Congress and its allies blamed everyone else for electoral defeats and even displayed contempt towards constitutional institutions.

"In my entire public life, I have never seen any mainstream political party behave like this. They have sunk so deep into despair that they have no agenda left except using abusive language," he said.

The PM also accused the Congress of repeatedly betraying allies for political convenience.

Referring to the Congress-DMK

relationship in neighbouring Tamil Nadu, he said the Congress had survived politically for years because of the DMK's support, but now "stabbed" the regional party "in its back" when power equations changed.

He was referring to Congress extending support to actor-politician Vijay-led TVK forming government in Tamil Nadu after walking out of the DMK-led alliance.

He alleged that the Congress had similarly betrayed its own leaders in states such as Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Karnataka by making promises over leadership arrangements and later renegeing on them.

"The same game is still continuing in Karnataka. Now Kerala's turn has come," he said.

"Wherever Congress is in power, either the treasury is being looted to serve a royal court or there are internal fights over looted money. The Congress today has become known as a parasitic party. That is why, at the first opportunity, it betrays even its allies. Hence it is often said that there is no one whom Congress has not deceived."

"Now parasitic Congress needs another party on whose shoulders it can ride to remain politically relevant."

The Prime Minister further accused the Congress of deceiving women for decades on the issue of reservation. He said the BJP had ended that "game" by bringing legislation providing 33 per cent reservation for women.

He referred to global instability and tensions in West Asia, saying India too was being affected by the prevailing international climate. He called upon people to conserve resources and remain united in the national interest.

Invoking historical and cultural themes, Modi noted that May 10 marked the anniversary of the 1857 uprising against British rule and said the spirit of sacrifice and courage from that struggle continued to inspire the country. He also referred to the recent observance of the first anniversary of "Operation Sindoor" and said he would attend celebrations in Gujarat marking 75 years of the reconstruction of the Somnath Temple.

# HIMANTA BISWA SARMA set to become Assam CM again

**MI News Service, Guwahati:** Himanta Biswa Sarma was elected as the leader of the BJP-led NDA in the Assam assembly on Sunday, paving the way for him to become the chief minister for the second consecutive term in the state, Union minister J P Nadda said.



Eight BJP legislators proposed the name of Sarma as its legislature party leader, Nadda said.

Earlier, the Assam BJP's legislature party met here in the morning to elect its leader, who will also head the new government in the northeastern state.

Nadda and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini were present at the meeting as central observers and co-observers.

The BJP partners in the alliance, Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and Bodoland People's Front (BPF), also supported Sarma's nomination, leading to his unanimous election as the NDA leader, Nadda said.

Sarma and other NDA

leaders are scheduled to call on Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya at the Lok Bhawan later on Sunday to discuss matters pertaining to government formation, officials said.

They are expected to stake claim to form the next government during the meeting with the Gov-

ernor. The BJP-led NDA swept to a third successive term in the state with a two-thirds majority in the assembly polls. The BJP secured 82 seats, while its allies AGP and BPF won 10 each, in the 126-member House.

## Online gaming: Centre sets up new authority

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** The ministry of electronics and IT notified the online gaming rules aimed at safeguarding people from the menace of online money games, which will be effective from May 1 and will also facilitate the creation of an online gaming authority.

The government said in a press statement, "The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming (PROG) Act, 2025 was enacted by Parliament in August 2025 as a landmark legislation to safeguard citizens from the growing menace of online money games while creating an enabling framework for e-sports and online so-

cial games." The online gaming authority will maintain and publish the list of online money games, inquire into complaints, issue directions, orders and codes of practice and entertain appeals against decisions of service providers on grievances. It will also coordinate with financial institutions and law enforcement agencies for effective enforcement. The authority will be chaired by the additional secretary, and will also consist of the joint secretaries from home affairs, finance, information and broadcasting, youth affairs and sports, and legal affairs as members.

## Terrorists mulled attacks on Delhi temple, military camp: PROBE

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI had allegedly planned attacks on a historic temple in Delhi, a popular dhaba on the Delhi-Sonapat highway and a military camp in Haryana through operatives linked to the Shahzad Bhatti module, sources said.

According to the sources, the revelations emerged during the interrogation of nine alleged operatives of the module arrested by the Delhi Police Special Cell under their 'Gang Bust Operation 2.0' from multiple states.

Investigators found that one of the accused had conducted reconnaissance of a historic temple in Delhi and sent photographs of the premises to Pakistan-based handlers through social media platforms, the source said.

## Oil price spike boosts India's ethanol drive

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India is seeing a push to further increase the amount of ethanol in petrol as oil prices surge due to the conflict in the Middle East, even as the ambitious national biofuel programme may hold back efforts to cut pollutants.

Ethanol, made from crops such as sugarcane, rice and maize, is central to India's plan to cut costly oil imports and reduce planet-heating emissions from transport. Under the government programme, state-run oil companies mix 20% ethanol with each litre of petrol before it reaches the fuel pumps.

India reached its target of 20% ethanol fuel, known as E20, last year, five years ahead of schedule, despite a backlash from drivers complaining of reduced fuel efficiency and increased engine wear.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in March that ethanol blending had helped reduce crude import dependence during the U.S. and Israeli war with Iran.

Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has called for even higher blends, such

as 85% ethanol, and for vehicles to eventually run entirely on the fuel.

India is the world's third largest crude importer with some 85% of its oil needs met through imports. The government's drive to raise blending levels stems from a desire to cut its crude import bill and boost energy security. India currently also has a surplus ethanol production capacity.

But experts warn a clear, long-term strategy for decarbonising transport is lacking and could bring trade-offs on efficiency, water use and the climate.

After rolling out E20 petrol nationwide, the government has set up an inter-ministerial panel to explore ways to use surplus ethanol production capacity, including raising blending levels.

Ethanol producers are pushing for higher targets and wider adoption of flex-fuel vehicles, capable of running on high levels of ethanol.

Researchers looking at India's transport sector warn the benefits are more constrained as blending

levels rise.

"Higher blending can cut oil imports, but not as much as often claimed," said Shyamasis Das, a fellow at the Centre for Social and Economic Progress, a public policy think tank.

Ethanol has roughly a third less energy per litre than pure gasoline, requiring vehicles to burn more fuel to generate the same power, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. This limits the extent to which blended fuels can reduce the demand for oil, Das said.

"Ethanol blending is not the most effective way to reduce emissions or improve fuel efficiency in transport," said Anumita Roychowdhury, executive director at the Centre for Science and Environment, a Delhi-based think tank.

The biofuel reduces greenhouse gas emissions, but coughs out other pollutants, said Roychowdhury.

"While some pollutants may fall, others like nitrogen oxides can increase, and burning ethanol also produces toxic emissions such as carbonyl compounds," Roychowdhury said.

## YOGI eyes UP cabinet expansion



**MI News Service, Lucknow:** Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath is set to expand his cabinet to factor in caste and regional equations ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections, sources said.

Adityanath met governor Anandiben Patel at her official bungalow on Saturday evening, fuelling speculation of a possible cabinet expansion. Sources said the decision was taken to keep in good humour some Samajwadi Party MLAs who had defected to the BJP in 2024.

Those who are expected to get cabinet berths include Puja Pal from Allahabad West and Manoj Pandey from Unchahar. Both of them were elected as SP members and suspended from the party in 2025, a year after

they crossed the floor to vote for the BJP candidates in the Rajya Sabha election. They had openly expressed their support for the BJP in 2024, but the SP remained silent at that time.

They have not yet been disqualified from the Assembly, apparently because SP chief Akhilesh Yadav didn't appear much interested in punishing them and his party didn't write to the Speaker to cancel their membership.

Advertisement Other fresh faces include Krishna Paswan, the MLA from Kharga in Fatehpur district, and Bhubendra Chaudhary, an MLC and former state BJP president.

In the 403-member Uttar Pradesh Assembly, the maximum strength of the council of ministers can be 60. At present, six berths are vacant.

Asked about the possible expansion, Akhilesh said: "The law and order is completely out of control in the state. Anarchy is at its peak. Whatever the government

is doing is going against the people."

## IIT Bhubaneswar: PhD scholar dies after fall from 6th floor

**MI News Service, Bhubaneswar:** A PhD scholar at IIT Bhubaneswar has died after allegedly falling from the sixth floor of a hostel building on the campus, police said on Sunday.



The deceased has been identified as Tanikonda Nishant Kumar, a research scholar in the department of electrical engineering and a native of Andhra Pradesh, they said.

The incident occurred around 3.30 pm on Saturday when Kumar was found unconscious on the ground below the sixth-floor balcony of his room

in a block of Brahmaputra Hall, according to an official statement.

An on-duty security guard saw the student and shifted him to the campus medical facility, Sanjeevan Hospital, where he was provided emergency medical attention, it said.

Following the advice of the attending physician, Kumar was later taken in

an institute ambulance to a private hospital for advanced treatment, the statement said. "Upon arrival, the medical team at the hospital declared the student brought dead. The institute brought this to the notice of police, who are currently investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident," the statement said.

## AI has terminated over 1K staff in last 3 yrs: CEO Wilson



**MI News Service, New Delhi:** Air India has terminated more than 1,000 staff in the last three years for ethical breaches, including those for misusing the employee leisure travel system, according to the airline's chief Campbell Wilson.

Flagging that hundreds of employees are terminated every year due to non-compliance, Wilson has also emphasised that the staff need to act in the right way even when others are not looking.

As Air India implements cost-saving measures amid significant financial headwinds, Wilson made the remarks during the town hall meeting with the staff on Friday, according to sources.

Tata Group-owned Air India has around 24,000 employees now. The airline's CEO and MD said that over the past three years, "we have terminated more than 1,000 people for ethical breach" such as smuggling things off the plane and allowing excess baggage onto the aircraft without being charged.

He also mentioned hundreds of staff who had misused the Employee Leisure Travel (ELT) system and added that such things should not happen.

In March, sources told PTI that the airline has detected large-scale discrepancies in the utilisation of its leisure travel policy, involving more than 4,000 employees and has initiated corrective actions, including imposing penalties on the erring staff.

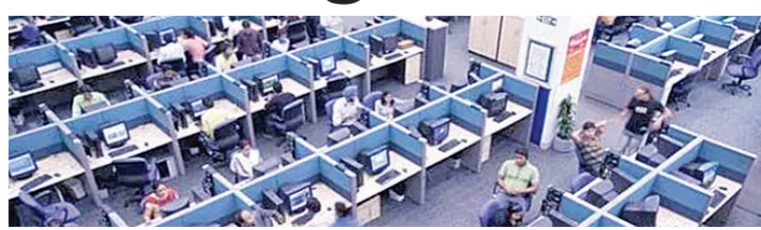
Air India has resorted to cost-cutting measures, including holding back annual increments for staff and asking them to cut discretionary spending as well as non-critical expenditures, warning of "tough times".

On Friday, Wilson told the staff it is going to be a "very, very difficult year" if things don't improve on the Middle East front.

The Air India Group -- Air India and Air India Express -- is projected to have incurred more than Rs 22,000 crore loss in the financial year ended March 2026.

## India services sector growth hits 5-month high

**MI News Service, New Delhi:** India's services sector expanded at its fastest pace in five months in April, driven by robust domestic demand even as international orders softened amid the West Asia crisis, according to a monthly survey released. The seasonally adjusted HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index rose to 58.8 in April from 57.5 in March, marking the strongest expansion since last November and signalling sustained momentum in the sector.



The HSBC India Services PMI Business Activity Index is based on a single question asking how the level of business activity compares with the situation the month before. In Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) terms, a reading above 50 indicates expansion, while a figure below 50 denotes contraction. Survey participants attributed the growth in activity to competitive pricing, the rise of e-commerce, and strong customer demand, particularly for relocation and logistics services.

"India's services PMI climbed to a five-month high of 58.8 in April. Activity and new orders strengthened, even as new export orders eased, suggesting that demand is rotating from overseas markets to domestic consumers amid the Middle East conflict," said Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC. However, international demand for Indian services weakened during the month, with firms citing the war in the Middle East and subdued inbound tourism as key factors weighing on export growth.

On the cost front, service providers continued to face elevated operating expenses. Although the pace of inflation eased in April, it remained among the highest lev-

els seen since November 2024. Companies reported higher costs for food items such as cooking oil, eggs, meat and vegetables, alongside rising gas and labour expenses, as well as gas shortages.

Despite these pressures, firms passed on only a portion of the increased costs to customers, resulting in a slower rise in selling prices. Overall charge inflation eased to a three-month low.

"Input cost inflation moderated but remained elevated, while output price inflation stayed subdued, indicating that some firms are absorbing higher costs rather than passing them on," Bhandari said. Looking ahead, services companies remained optimistic about output

growth over the next 12 months, although sentiment weakened compared to March due to concerns over the West Asia crisis and persistent cost pressures.

Hiring activity also picked up at the start of the new fiscal year, with companies adding short-term staff and junior-level employees to manage rising volumes of new business.

Meanwhile, the HSBC India Composite PMI Output Index increased from 57.0 in March to 58.2 in April, indicating a strong rate of expansion, although the pace of growth was among the slowest seen in about two-and-a-half years.

Composite PMI indices are weighted averages of comparable manufacturing and services PMI indices. The HSBC India Services PMI is compiled by S&P Global based on responses from around 400 service sector companies, covering industries such as consumer services (excluding retail), transport, information and communication, finance, insurance, real estate, and business services.

## Gobar Gas vs. Biogas : What Sets Them Apart ?

**What Is Gobar Gas? All You Need To Know**

Gobar Gas, the term sounds very familiar, right? This term originated in India, considering that the major source used to create biogas in India is cow dung, popularly known as gobar in India.

Gobar Gas is produced through the anaerobic breakdown of cow dung in a biogas plant. In essence, it is biogas from cow dung.

Gobar gas is an eco-friendly solution for the pollution created by widely used fossil fuels. Using Gobar Gas as an alternative not only eradicates the dumping of animal waste and other organic waste into landfills but also provides a renewable source of energy for cooking, heating, and lighting. It helps in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on non-renewable energy sources.

The process of biogas and gobar gas generation is the same; the main difference is the source of the feedstock. While biogas can be generated from multiple organic wastes such as kitchen waste, industrial biodegradable waste, sewage, and agricultural residues, gobar gas specifically refers to biogas from cow dung.

Although the composition may vary slightly depending on the feedstock and digestion efficiency, biogas from cow dung is primarily methane-rich and can be used for cooking, heating, lighting, and electricity generation. In short, all Gobar Gas is biogas, but not all biogas comes from cow dung.

**Process of Gobar Gas Production:**

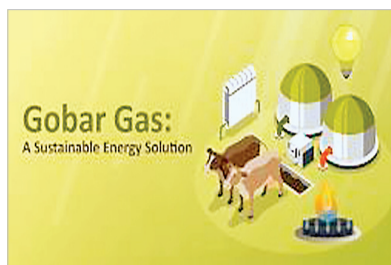
The process of gobar gas production is similar to producing biogas using any other organic material.

The first step in gobar gas production is the collection of cow dung.

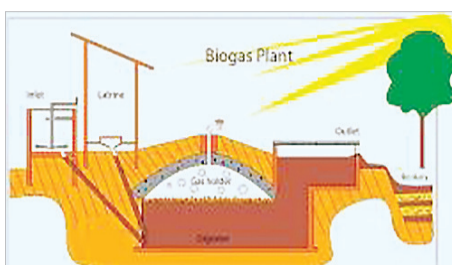
After that, the collected cow dung is then placed in a biogas digester, where it undergoes anaerobic digestion. This process involves the breakdown of cow dung by microorganisms in the absence of oxygen, leading to the production of gobar gas.

The produced biogas contains methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) as the primary component, along with other gases such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and traces of hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S). Before being utilized, the biogas may undergo purification processes to remove impurities and improve its quality.

The biogas from cow dung can be used for cooking, heating, lighting, or electricity generation, often requiring minimal modifications to conventional gas appliances.



**Gobar Gas:**  
A Sustainable Energy Solution



How can we use Gobar Gas?

Gobar Gas has the same applications as its mate, Biogas, but the uses of the gas might depend on the size of the plant that was used to produce the gas. Yes, the size of the plant alters the use of the gas.

If the plant is a small-scale one, the Gobar gas might be generally used to convert waste generated from households, small dairy farms, and small fields to cooking gas. Using gobar gas on a small scale can enable households to be self-sufficient while managing waste with minimal impact on the environment.

**Household Cooking:** Small-scale plants are often used to convert gobar from small dairy farms into cooking gas, which serves as a sustainable alternative to traditional cooking fuels like wood or LPG.

**Manure Production:** Another by-product of small-scale gobar gas production is nutrient-rich manure, which can be used to fertilize small fields and personal gardens, promoting sustainable agriculture.

Similarly, big-scale gobar gas plants are placed in large dairy farms. In this case, the applications of Gobar Gas are broader and more intensive. Here's how Gobar Gas can be utilized in large-scale operations:

**Waste Management:** Large-scale Gobar Gas plants can process huge amounts of gobar from farms. This helps mitigate environmental pollution while producing energy and fertilizer.

**Cooking:** Gobar Gas, when produced on a large scale can replace traditional cooking fuels from communities, hotels, and industries, providing a reliable and sustainable energy source.

**Electricity Generation:** Large-scale Gobar Gas plants can also integrate with power generation systems to produce electricity, which can be used for operations or fed back into the grid, contributing to renewable energy production.

**CBG or Bio-CNG Production:** Gobar Gas can be upgraded to produce Compressed

Biogas (CBG) or Bio-Compressed Natural Gas (Bio-CNG), which can be used as a clean fuel for vehicles, reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

**Community Benefits:** Establishing large-scale Gobar Gas plants in rural areas or communities with agricultural activities can create employment opportunities, improve sanitation, and provide a sustainable energy source for various needs, benefiting the entire community.

**Gobar Gas Benefits**

The Gobar Gas benefits include eco-friendly energy production, improved waste management, and nutrient-rich organic fertilizer for farming.

Gobar gas, or biogas, is produced from the gobar, which is available in abundant amounts, making it a renewable energy source.

The anaerobic digestion process used to produce Gobar gas helps reduce methane emissions from Gobar, mitigating its impact on climate change.

Gobar gas production helps manage cattle manure or Gobar, effectively, reducing pollution that occurs if it is left untreated.

The by-product of gobar gas production, known as digestate, is rich in nutrients and can be used as organic fertilizer, promoting soil health and reducing reliance on chemical fertilizers.

Farmers can take advantage of the Gobar gas benefits to lower fuel costs while promoting sustainable agriculture.

Using gobar gas for cooking and heating reduces indoor air pollution compared to traditional fuels like wood or charcoal.

**Future Aspects of Development**

India has the highest number of cattle in the world. Did you know that? No right?

And do you know what the number is? It's more than 308 million. Considering that an average cattle produces 10 kg of manure each day!! Do you know how much waste is being generated each day?

"3,80,00,00,000 KGs" - Three Hundred and Eighty Crores kgs. You skipped that

number, didn't you? But that's the amount of cow manure being generated in India every day, and maybe even more. And that's equivalent to "6,08,00,000 KGs" - 6 Crores and Eighty Lakhs kg

Imagine the impact if we harnessed this resource effectively, as a staggering "15,20,00,000" - Fifteen Crore Twenty Lakh houses can be connected and can utilize the biogas, reducing our reliance on non-renewable energy sources and mitigating harmful emissions.

These figures show that if utilised correctly, there is a substantial resource available for Gobar Gas production, and we should focus more on harnessing this waste through Gobar Gas plants. Harnessing this waste will not only help us gain a renewable source of energy but also mitigate the pollution and emissions that come from this waste if it gets dumped directly in landfills without getting treated.

You may ask about traditional methods like cow dung cakes, but do you know how harmful that is for your health? Carbon monoxide, Nitrogen dioxide, Dioxins, and Chlorophenols are the gases generally released on burning cow dung cakes, each of them ready to make your lungs worse if inhaled.

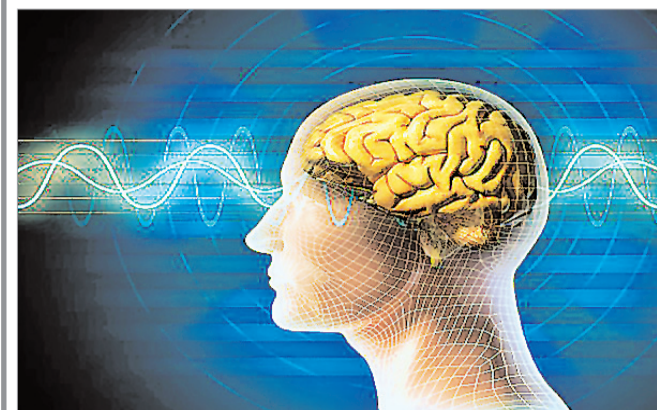
**?Final Thoughts**

Adopting gobar gas eradicates waste, saves the environment, provides a renewable source of energy, reduces our dependence on fossil fuels, helps fight climate change, mitigates the odour associated with cow dung, provides growth opportunities to communities, ensures you don't harm your health, and much more.

It's the best source of energy that can be adopted on a large scale to address various environmental and societal challenges we face today.

By utilizing Gobar gas, we can transition towards a more sustainable and cleaner energy future while simultaneously addressing waste management issues and promoting rural development.

## Moral reasoning displays characteristic patterns in brain : Research



**CALIFORNIA [US] :** Every day, we come across situations that we believe to be wrong: a starving child, a dishonest politician, an unfaithful spouse, or a dishonest scientist. These instances draw attention to a number of moral issues, such as those involving fairness, loyalty, and compassion. But what links them all together?

Philosophers, psychologists and neuroscientists have passionately argued whether moral judgments share something distinctive that separates them from non-moral matters. Moral monists claim that morality is unified by a common characteristic and that all moral issues involve concerns about harm. Pluralists, in contrast, argue that moral judgments are more diverse in nature.

Fascinated by this centuries-old debate, a team of researchers set out to probe the nature of morality using one of moral psychology's most prolific theories. The group, led by UC Santa Barbara's René Weber, intensively studied 64 individuals via surveys, interviews and brain imaging on the wrongness of various behaviours.

They discovered that a general network of brain regions was involved in judging moral violations, like cheating on a test, in contrast with mere social norm violations, such as drinking coffee with a spoon. What's more, the network's topography overlapped strikingly with the brain regions involved in theory of mind. However, distinct activity patterns emerged at finer resolution, suggesting that the brain processes different moral issues along different pathways, supporting a pluralist view of moral reasoning. The results, published in *Nature Human Behaviour*, even reveal differences between how liberals and conservatives evaluate a given moral issue.

"In many ways, I think our findings clarify that monism and pluralism are not necessarily mutually exclusive approaches," said first author Frederic Hopp, who led the study as a doctoral student in UC Santa Barbara's Media Neuroscience Lab. "We show that moral judgments of a wide range of different types of morally relevant behaviors are instantiated in shared brain regions."

That said, a machine-learning algorithm could reliably identify which moral category, or "foundation," a person was judging based on their brain activity. "This is only possible because moral foundations elicit distinct neural activations," Hopp explained. The group was guided by Moral Foundations Theory (MFT), a framework for explaining the origins and variation in human moral reasoning. "MFT predicts that humans possess a set of innate and universal moral foundations," Weber explained. These are generally organized into six categories:

Issues of care and harm,

Concerns of fairness and cheating, Liberty versus oppression, Matters of loyalty and betrayal, Adherence to and subversion of authority, and sanctity versus degradation.

The framework arranges these foundations into two broad moral categories: care/harm and fairness/cheating emerge as "individualizing" foundations that primarily serve to protect the rights and freedoms of individuals. Meanwhile, loyalty/betrayal, authority/subversion and sanctity/degradation form "binding" foundations, which primarily operate at the group level.

Researchers created a model based on MFT to test whether the framework - and its nested categories - was reflected in neural activity. Sixty-four participants rated short descriptions of behaviours that violated a particular set of moral foundations, as well as behaviours that simply went against conventional social norms, which served as a control. An fMRI machine monitored activity across different regions of their brains as they reasoned through the vignettes. Certain brain regions distinguished moral from non-moral judgment across the board, such as activity in the medial prefrontal cortex, temporoparietal junction and posterior cingulate, among other regions. Participants also took longer to rate moral transgressions than non-moral ones.

The delay suggests that judging moral issues may involve a deeper evaluation of an individual's actions and how they relate to one's own values, the authors said.

"Although moral judgments are intuitive at first, deeper judgment requires responses to the six 'W' questions," said senior author Weber, director and lead researcher of UCSB's Media Neuroscience Lab, and a professor in the Departments of Communication and of Psychological and Brain Sciences. "Who does what, when, to whom, with what effect, and why. And this can be complex and takes time." Indeed, moral reasoning recruited regions of the brain also associated with mentalizing and theory of mind. The researchers also found that transgressions of loyalty, authority and sanctity prompted greater activity in regions of the brain associated with processing other people's actions, as opposed to the self. "It was surprising to us how well the organization into 'individualizing' versus 'binding' moral foundations is reflected on the neurological level in multiple networks," Weber said.

Next, the authors developed a decoding model that accurately predicted which specific moral foundation or social norm individuals were judging from fine-grained activity patterns across their brains. This would not have been possible if all moral categories were unified at the neurological level, they explained.

## Researchers find how physical exercise prevents nerve damage during chemotherapy

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

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

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

A research team led by sports scientist Dr Fiona Streckmann from the University of Basel and the German Sport University Cologne has now shown that specific exercise, concomitant to cancer therapy, can prevent nerve damage in many cases. The researchers have reported their findings in the journal *JAMA Internal Medicine*.

The study involved 158 cancer patients, both male and female, who were receiving treatment either with oxaliplatin or vinca-alkaloids. The researchers divided the patients at random into three groups. The first was a control group, whose members received standard care. The other two groups completed exercise sessions twice a week for the duration of their chemotherapy, with each session lasting between 15 and 30 minutes. One of these groups carried out exercises that focused primarily on balancing on an increasingly unstable surface. The other group trained on a vibration plate.

## High blood pressure linked with environmental contamination by tellurium: Study

**Nagoya, Japan :** Higher amounts of tellurium, a pollutant transported from mining and manufacturing to foods, increase the risk of having high blood pressure (hypertension). Improved monitoring of tellurium levels in certain meals may help reduce high blood pressure in the general population.

The study was led by Nagoya University in Japan. According to Takumi Kagawa, one of the researchers involved in the study, the findings are significant as they indicate that tellurium exposure may contribute to elevated blood pressure, a significant public health concern. "The results indicate diet was the most significant contributor to increased urinary tellurium levels, compared to other lifestyle factors, such as smoking and working status, and physiological factors, such as age and sex. Dietary intake, an important aspect of our lifestyle, plays a significant role in increased urinary tellurium concentrations." The journal *Environment International* published the findings of research looking at the link between tellurium exposure and hypertension. In Japan, cereals and legumes, represented by rice and natto (fermented soybeans), are popular dietary choices. These foods are packed with



essential nutrients, such as high-quality carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals, that support a person's health. However, tellurium, a rare metalloid, can also be present in these foods. Mining and manufacturing activities release dust, ash, and slag, which are responsible for the presence of tellurium in the soil. In certain cases, it can be transferred from the soil to crop plants, such as cereals, carrots, and garlic. Consequently, people are exposed to tellurium through food. The study conducted by Professor Masashi Kato, Takumi Kagawa, and their colleagues involved 2,592 Japanese adults. It revealed that higher levels of tellurium in urine were associated with higher blood pressure and a greater occurrence of hypertension. The results were the same in both mice and

humans. "We administered tellurium to mice in amounts equivalent to what humans might encounter daily and observed an increase in blood pressure," Tomoko Misawa, the lead author of the study, explained. "When we stopped the exposure, both the blood pressure and the tellurium levels in their urine decreased. These results provide a direct link between tellurium exposure and increased blood pressure, confirming findings in humans." Professor Kato and his team also studied foods that raise the levels of tellurium in urine. They discovered that the consumption of cereals and legumes caused high levels of tellurium, but further testing did not establish a direct link to high blood pressure rates. We found that despite raising tellurium levels in the

urine, cereal/legume intake did not directly increase the risk of hypertension," said Takumi Kagawa. "Cereals/legumes may contain many diverse nutrients that can mitigate the risk of hypertension despite high levels of tellurium. However, considering that increased tellurium exposure is a latent risk factor for hypertension and foods contribute to this association, careful and continuous monitoring of tellurium levels in individual foods may be crucial." The urinary level of tellurium in this study was comparable with the levels in general populations in other countries," Professor Kato said. "Our results indicate an increased potential risk of hypertension by tellurium exposure may be applicable to general populations all around."

## Diet has significant impact on risk of Alzheimer's disease: Research

**CALIFORNIA [US] :** In a detailed study, researchers identify which diets are effective in lowering the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.

Findings were published in the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, *Diet's Role in Modifying Risk of Alzheimer's Disease: History and Present Understanding*.

The role of nutrition in lowering the risk of Alzheimer's disease has been extensively studied. Plant-based diets, such as the Mediterranean diet and traditional Chinese, Japanese, and Indian cuisines, have been shown to reduce risk, particularly when compared to the Western diet.

Alzheimer's disease rates rise in these countries as they make the nutrition transition to the Western diet. This study identifies dementia risk factors including higher consumption of saturated fats, meat, especially red meat such as hamburgers and barbeque as well as processed meats such

as hot dogs, and ultra processed foods high in sugar and refined grains.

This review also lets us know why certain foods increase or reduce risk of Alzheimer's disease. For example, meat raised risk of dementia the most by increasing risk factors such as inflammation, insulin resistance, oxidative stress, saturated fat, advanced glycation end products, and trimethylamine N-oxide. This study also outlines several foods that are protective against Alzheimer's disease, such as green leafy vegetables, colorful fruits and vegetables, legumes (like beans), nuts, omega-3 fatty acids, and whole grains.

Ultra processed foods can increase the risk of obesity and diabetes, themselves risk factors for Alzheimer's disease. Ultra processed foods often lack the very ingredients found in whole plant foods that keep dementia away, such as anti-inflammatory components and antioxidants. Poverty is an important driver of Alzheimer's dis-



ease in the US since ultra processed foods and meat are cheaper sources of energy than fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and other more nutritious foods, thus promoting obesity.

The paper also suggests that Alzheimer's disease rates in the US are projected to increase by

50% from 2018 levels by 2038. This calculation is based on comparing trends of obesity in the US with Alzheimer's disease trends. This comparison shows a 20-year lag between obesity rates and Alzheimer's disease rates. This estimate is very close to the estimate published by the Alzheimer's Association in 2018, an estimate of a 56% increase. Our estimate suggests that the rising trend of obesity, due to consumption of meat and ultra processed foods, is the force driving dementia. Although our personal risk of Alzheimer's disease can be reduced with diet, it is expected that those who continue to eat the Western diet will continue to have a higher risk. "Grant and Blake comprehensively review and synthesize the role of dietary factors in Alzheimer's disease. Evidence from diverse perspectives support that a diet that emphasizes fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts, whole grains, and...de-emphasizes meat, especially red meat, saturated fats, and ultra-processed

foods is associated with lower risk of Alzheimer's disease. Physical inactivity and obesity also contribute to higher risk. In addition, the dietary and lifestyle patterns associated with higher risk of Alzheimer's disease are known to affect the constellation of mechanisms believed to increase risk, including inflammation, insulin resistance and oxidative stress, among others. Grant and Blake make a strong case that, while further research is needed to better understand the mechanisms, diet and lifestyle factors linked to diabetes, cardiovascular disease and some cancers are likely to influence risk of Alzheimer's disease." Edward Giovannucci, MD, ScD, Professor of Nutrition and Epidemiology, Harvard University. "Grant and Blake provide a comprehensive review on the dietary and other factors that affect the risk of Alzheimer's disease (AD). Apart from the particular type of diet they demonstrate that the consumption of red meat, insulin,

## Maritime analyst says Iran may use fast boats to escort vessels in Strait of Hormuz

**MI News Service, London :** Satellite imagery and multi-source intelligence suggest Iran may be deploying fast-attack boat formations to escort vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz, a London-headquartered maritime analytics firm said Sunday.

Windward said in a social media post that a bulk carrier was observed sailing through the strait with what appeared to be a formation of high-speed craft nearby, which could indicate an escort operation.

According to its monitoring data, multiple clusters of high-speed craft activity were observed on Saturday, including five formations comprising more than 80 fast boats moving northward.

On the same day, six vessels entered the Gulf via the strait, including two very large crude carriers, two bulk carriers and two oil tankers, while one very large crude carrier exited the Gulf. The Financial Times reported Saturday that Iran maintains hundreds of fast-attack craft forming a fleet, dispersed along its southern coast and concealed in coves, caves and tunnels.

## Major rally against anti-semitism kicks off in London

**MI News Service, London :** A London rally against antisemitism (watch here) led by dozens of Jewish organizations has begun at Downing Street, the location of Prime Minister Keir Starmer's official residence, following a surge of attacks on Jewish targets in the country.

Thousands of people are expected to attend the event, which started at 1 p.m. local time (3 p.m. Israel time). It is being held in response to a series of recent attacks, including the stabbing of two Jews in the heavily Jewish neighborhood of Golders Green, the torching of four Hatzolah ambulances, arson attacks on synagogues, and a deadly shooting on Yom Kippur at Heaton Park Synagogue in Manchester in October.

Attendees wave British, Irish and Israeli flags, and hold signs calling on the UK to stand against antisemitism. Organizers hope a large crowd will join what Jewish Chronicle columnist Stephen Pollard called a "million mensch march."

The rally follows local elections last week that saw significant victories for the far-right Reform UK Party as well as the far-left, anti-Israel Greens, leading to mounting calls for Starmer to resign.

## UK Conservative Party leader: Britain 'must always be a sanctuary for Jewish people'

**MI News Service, London :** Speaking at a London rally against antisemitism, UK Conservative Party leader Kemi Badenoch vows to confront rising antisemitism in Britain, saying the country "must always be a sanctuary for Jewish people."

Speaking to a crowd of thousands attending the event near the residence of Prime Minister Keir Starmer, Badenoch says she was not there to "do politics" but to honor a promise to stand with British Jews amid growing fears regarding extremism and hate. She condemns "the hatred of Jews" and criticizes those who, she said, were afraid to name or challenge it.

# Iran says 'clock is ticking' for US interests amid Hormuz tensions

**MI News Service, Tehran:** Iran on Sunday, May 10, escalated its rhetoric against the United States and countries supporting American sanctions, warning that the "clock is ticking" for US interests as tensions continue to rise around the Strait of Hormuz.

Ebrahim Rezaei, spokesperson for the Iranian parliament's Foreign Policy and National Security Committee, said Tehran would respond forcefully to any action targeting Iranian vessels.

"Any aggression against our vessels will be met with a heavy and decisive Iranian response against American vessels and bases," Rezaei wrote on X.

US Central Command (CENTCOM) identified the vessels as M/T Sea Star III and M/T Sevda, saying the ships were prevented from entering Iranian ports as part of ongoing blockade



Iranian vessels and bases," Rezaei wrote on X.

operations targeting Tehran. The confrontation added to growing concerns over shipping security in Gulf waters and the potential impact on global energy supplies.

A bulk carrier was hit

by an unidentified projectile off the coast of Qatar early Sunday, according to AFP.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) centre said the vessel was struck about 23 nautical miles northeast of Doha.

"There was a small fire that has been extinguished, there are no casualties. There is no reported environmental impact," the agency said.

The incident came shortly after Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps threatened to target US vessels operating in the region.

## World Insights: Hantavirus outbreak proves deadly, but pandemic unlikely

**MI News Service, Brussels :** A deadly hantavirus outbreak on a cruise ship scheduled to anchor off Spain's Canary Islands on Sunday has killed three people, with passengers to be transferred directly to waiting aircraft under strict isolation. Global health officials and experts have ruled out a pandemic.

The Hondius cruise ship, which departed from Argentina on April 1, carrying more than 140 passengers and crew from 23 countries, has reported eight infections, including three deaths. In addition, six cases have been laboratory-confirmed as Andes virus infection, a rodent-borne hantavirus endemic in South America and the only known strain capable of limited human-to-human transmission.

The transmission was complicated by the ship's itinerary. During its voyage, the polar expedition ship stopped at Saint Helena, where 30 passengers from 12 nationalities disembarked, including two individuals whose nationalities remain unknown. The operator, Oceanwide Expeditions, said it has since contacted all passengers who left the vessel at Saint Helena as part of ongoing follow-up efforts.

Health experts say transmission requires prolonged close contact and is far less efficient than airborne respiratory viruses such as COVID-19. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a briefing in Geneva on Thursday that the incident is "serious" but the public health risk remains low.

Maria Van Kerkhove, WHO's chief of Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness and Prevention, said that the outbreak is "not the start of a pandemic" and "not COVID." DELAYED DETECTION COMPLICATES TRACING

The outbreak has revealed a complex chain of transmission across ships, flights, and multiple coun-

tries, raising the possibility of further cases in the coming weeks.

Argentine officials investigating the outbreak said the leading hypothesis is that a Dutch couple contracted the virus before boarding after visiting a landfill during a bird-watching outing in the city of Ushuaia, where rodents were likely present.

The first known patient -- the husband of the couple -- developed symptoms aboard the ship on April 6 and died before hantavirus was suspected, as the illness initially resembled other respiratory infections.

His wife later disembarked at Saint Helena while symptomatic and died during a flight to Johannesburg, where infection was confirmed. The third fatal case was a separate female passenger aboard the ship who developed symptoms on April 28 and died on May 2, according to WHO.

WHO warned that more cases may emerge given an incubation period of up to six weeks, although no new symptomatic cases have been reported onboard.

French health authorities said a French citizen who never boarded the cruise ship is being monitored as a "contact case" after sharing a flight with an infected passenger.

The development suggests the transmission chain could expand from the confined cruise ship environment into commercial aviation, French media reported, making contact tracing significantly more challenging.

WHO has activated the International Health Regulations framework, deployed an expert onboard the vessel, and is coordinating multinational contact tracing as passengers disembarked across multiple ports during the voyage. The agency has also shipped 2,500 diagnostic kits from Argentina to five countries and issued operational guidance for passenger disembarkation and onward travel.

Those deported were Brazilian Thiago de Avila and Saif Abukeshk, a Spanish national of Palestinian origin, who had been on hunger strike since their detention.

In a statement posted on X, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said both were released and deported "after their investigation was completed". Their detention had earlier been extended twice by Israeli courts.

In a video shared on X, Abu Keshek said he had arrived in Athens, Greece, and thanked his legal team. "I want to thank everyone who mobilised, our legal team Adalah, my family, my wife and children, my colleagues in the movement," he said.

Their detention had previously been extended twice by Israeli courts. The flotilla was intercepted on April 30 near the Greek island of Crete, around 600 nautical miles from the besieged Palestinian enclave.

The first vessels in the flotilla departed from Barcelona on April 12, while the main convoy sailed from Sicily on April 26 in an effort to challenge Israel's long-standing blockade on Gaza.

## IRGC commander: Iranian missiles and drones locked on US targets in Persian Gulf

**MI News Service, Tehran:** Brigadier General Seyyed Majid Mousavi, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Aerospace Force, has declared that Iran's advanced missiles and aerospace drones are fully locked onto American targets and enemy vessels across the Persian Gulf region.



Speaking on Saturday evening, Mousavi stated, "The missiles and aerospace drones are locked on the enemy and we are waiting for the firing order." The remarks come amid heightened tensions and what Iran describes as escalating US provocations in the strategic waterway.

The warning follows a recent IRGC Navy counter-operation in response to alleged US strikes on Iranian ships and tankers near Jask. Iranian forces reportedly launched anti-ship ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and high-explosive drones, inflicting heavy damage on enemy assets and forcing US vessels to retreat. Iranian officials have strongly condemned these actions as threats to regional maritime security and international navigation.

The IRGC Navy emphasized that only corridors designated by the Islamic Republic are authorized for safe transit through the Strait of Hormuz. Any deviation or hostile activity by foreign forces will face immediate and decisive confrontation. The IRGC remains on high alert, asserting full control over the vital chokepoint to protect Iranian interests and Persian Gulf security.

## AIMIM chief Owaisi condemns "love jihad" narrative, says Nashik TCS case is targeting Muslims

**MI News Service, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar:** AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has strongly condemned the ongoing media coverage and political discourse surrounding the Nashik TCS case involving allegations of sexual exploitation and forced religious conversion.



Speaking at a press conference in Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Owaisi asserted that the matter should be resolved solely by the courts and not through public narratives or television debates.

"There are nine FIRs in the case. Nida Khan has been accused of hurting religious sentiments in one of them. Nobody can give a verdict except the court. We condemn this media trial," Owaisi said.

He claimed the case is

part of a larger effort to harass educated Muslim youth and expressed confidence that the judiciary would ultimately declare the accused innocent.

Owaisi pointed out that Nida Khan was not part of

the human resources department at Tata Consultancy Services and had already been transferred before the complaint was filed. He also alleged that the complainant has links to the ruling party.

The controversy escalated after police alleged that AIMIM corporator Matin Patel helped shelter Nida Khan. Patel has been booked in the case. Maharashtra minister Sanjay Shirsat has accused AIMIM leaders of aiding Khan and demanded a Special Investigation Team (SIT) probe, claiming a "love jihad" conspiracy.

Nashik Police are investigating multiple complaints related to harassment and conversion attempts at the TCS office. Nida Khan and others have been arrested. The case has sparked sharp political reactions, with ruling alliance leaders attacking AIMIM, while opposition and minority groups have raised concerns over communal narratives and media coverage.

# Pakistan Army chief says India conflict 'battle of two ideologies'

**MI News Service, Islamabad :** Pakistan's Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Asim Munir on Sunday, May 10, termed last year's conflict with India as a "battle between two ideologies."

Addressing a ceremony at General Headquarters in Rawalpindi to mark the first anniversary of 'Marka-e-Haq', the name given by Islamabad to the four-day conflict with India, Munir also claimed that Pakistan's strategy was "superior" to that of India during the conflict.

In response to the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed, India launched Operation Sindoor on May 7 last year, carrying out airstrikes on nine terror infrastructures in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, eliminating at least 100 terrorists.

The action triggered a rapid escalation in tensions, with Pakistan launching retaliatory strikes, though most of them were thwarted by the Indian military.

The hostilities ended with an understanding on halting the military actions on May 10, 2025, following talks over the hotline between army officials of the two sides. Addressing Sunday's event, Munir alleged



that India "violated the sovereignty and territory" of Pakistan between the night of May 6-7 and May 10 last year, and said Pakistan responded "with full national unity and military force".

"Marka-e-Haq was not merely a traditional war fought between two countries or militaries, but in reality, it was a decisive marka (battle) between two ideologies," he said.

Munir claimed that Pakistan had struck 26 targets during the conflict. He, however, did not provide any evidence in support of his claims.

He also claimed that India had sought a ceasefire through the US and that Pakistan agreed to it "in the interest of peace".

India maintains that the understanding to stop military actions was reached directly between the two sides. Stating that future

wars would be different due to their "multi-domain" nature, Munir said Pakistan is preparing for conflicts through technology, hardware and training.

"Our defence will remain impeccable. We want peace and will maintain it through credible deterrence," he said, highlighting Pakistan's military modernisation, including Hangor-class submarines, a new Rocket Force and fighter aircraft acquisitions.

India maintains that its actions were aimed at responding to cross-border terrorism and ensuring national security. On the first anniversary of Operation Sindoor, India has reaffirmed its right to defend itself against Pakistan-backed cross-border terrorism while vowing to further strengthen the global fight against the menace.

## Israel deports two Gaza flotilla activists after detention

**MI News Service, Jerusalem:** Israel on Sunday, May 10, deported two activists from the Gaza-bound Global Sumud Flotilla (GSF) following their prolonged detention by Israeli authorities.

Those deported were Brazilian Thiago de Avila and Saif Abukeshk, a Spanish national of Palestinian origin, who had been on hunger strike since their detention.

In a statement posted on X, the Israeli Foreign Ministry said both were released and deported "after their investigation was completed". Their detention had earlier been extended twice by Israeli courts.

In a video shared on X, Abu Keshek said he had arrived in Athens, Greece, and thanked his legal team. "I want to thank everyone who mobilised, our legal team Adalah, my family, my wife and children, my colleagues in the movement," he said.

Their detention had previously been extended twice by Israeli courts.

The flotilla was intercepted on April 30 near the Greek island of Crete, around 600 nautical miles from the besieged Palestinian enclave.

The first vessels in the flotilla departed from Barcelona on April 12, while the main convoy sailed from Sicily on April 26 in an effort to challenge Israel's long-standing blockade on Gaza.

## Egypt repatriates over 1,300 nationals from Libya over illegal migration

**MI News Service, Cairo :** Egypt's Foreign Ministry said on Sunday that it had secured the release and return of more than 1,300 Egyptian nationals held in Libya over illegal migration cases.

The ministry said in a statement that among them, 508 Egyptian citizens had been detained in Tripoli and 871 others in Benghazi, from early January to late April, after being involved in illegal migration.

Meanwhile, the ministry said it had continued to follow up on incidents involving the sinking of illegal migration boats carrying Egyptian citizens.

It added that 94 bodies of Egyptian nationals were

repatriated between January and April, along with the remains of five individuals identified through DNA testing after being found off the Tunisian coast.

The ministry renewed its appeal to citizens "not to be drawn into the illusions of illegal migration or become involved with smuggling gangs," urging Egyptians to respect entry rules to neighboring countries.

A Foreign Ministry statement said Egypt's 2025 diplomacy in Libya facilitated the deportation of over 3,000 migrants, secured the release of 1,200 detainees, and repatriated 300 bodies following fatal sea incidents.

## U.S.-Iran standoff in Strait of Hormuz casts fresh shadow over peace prospects

**MI News Service, Cairo :** As the United States and Iran tread a bumpy road toward a potential deal to end hostilities, both sides have traded fire over the Strait of Hormuz in recent days, turning the strategic waterway into a tinderbox.

The recent tensions over the strait have exposed the deep divisions between the United States and Iran, further heightening uncertainty over their fragile ceasefire.

Experts suggest that the escalation may be a calculated strategy by both sides to strengthen their positions at the negotiating table. Yet the rising confrontations are increasing the risk of renewed conflict, further clouding the prospects for peace in the Middle East.

Reports said Washington and Tehran were closing in on a one-page agreement aimed at ending their war. This week, the two sides engaged in their first deadly military clash over the Strait of Hormuz since reaching a ceasefire in early April.

In a bid to restore navigation through the Strait of Hormuz, which has been largely disrupted since the United States and Israel launched military strikes against Iran on Feb. 28, Washington on Monday launched the "Project Freedom" operation in the name of guiding ships out of the Strait of Hormuz.

In the operation, the United States deployed "guided-missile destroyers, more than 100 land- and sea-based aircraft, multi-domain unmanned

platforms, and 15,000 service members," according to the U.S. Central Command.

The U.S. military action prompted a forceful response from Iran, with the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps launching multiple missile and drone attacks against U.S. warships.

On Tuesday, although Trump announced a pause in Project Freedom, armed clashes between the two sides continued.

On Thursday night, Iran's main military command, Khatam al-Anbiya Central Headquarters, said U.S. forces had attacked two Iranian vessels near the Strait of Hormuz and concurrently carried out airstrikes on civilian areas in southern Iran in cooperation with some regional states.

Ebrahim Zolfaghari, the Iranian command's spokesperson, said Iranian forces immediately retaliated by attacking U.S. military vessels east of the Strait of Hormuz and south of Iran's Chabahar port, causing significant damage.

On Friday, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported that at least one person was killed and 10 others were injured in a U.S. attack on a civilian vessel off the Hormozgan coast the previous night.

On Saturday, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported that at least six people were injured and six others went missing in an attack by U.S. fighter jets on six Iranian cargo and fishing vessels near Oman's port city of Khasab.

## IPL 2026: When and where to watch PBKS vs DC, know all details



**DHARAMSHALA** : Their campaign in trouble after three successive defeats, the Punjab Kings will clash with the Delhi Capitals in the match number 55 of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 at the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium (HPCA) Stadium in Dharamshala on Monday.

Punjab began their campaign in dominant fashion, winning six of their opening seven matches and emerging as one of the strongest sides in the tournament. However, their momentum has faded in recent weeks, with Shreyas Iyer's men suffering three consecutive defeats. As the playoff battle heats up, PBKS will be desperate to halt the slide and strengthen their chances of securing a top-four finish. On the other hand, the Delhi Capitals find themselves staring at an early exit from the competition. With only four wins from 11 matches, the Capitals have struggled to maintain consistency throughout the season. Even if they win all their remaining fixtures, they can only finish with a maximum of 14 points, leaving their playoff hopes hanging by a

thread.

To make matters worse, DC have managed just one victory in their last six outings, and their recent run of poor performances has likely dented the team's confidence heading into this crucial clash.

**When:** Monday, May 11, 7:30 PM IST

**Where:** Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association Stadium, Dharamshala

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

### Squads:

**Delhi Capitals:** Axar Patel (captain), KL Rahul, Kuldeep Yadav, Karun Nair, David Miller, Pathum Nissanka, Tristan Stubbs, Sameer Rizvi, Nitish Rana, T. Natarajan, Mukesh Kumar, Ashutosh Sharma, Dushmantha Chameera, Lungi Ngidi, Vipraj Nigam, Sahil Parakh, Prithvi Shaw, Abhishek Porel, Ajay Mandal, Tripurana Vijay, Madhav Tiwari, Aqib Nabi Dar, Mitchell Starc, Kyle Jamieson, and Rehan Ahmed

**Punjab Kings:** Shreyas Iyer (c), Priyansh Arya, Prabhshirran Singh (wicket-keeper), Nehal Wadhwa, Shashank Singh, Marcus Stoinis, Azmatullah Omarzai, Vijaykumar Vyshak, Arshdeep Singh, Yuzvendra Chahal, Harpreet Brar, Suryansh Shedge, Vishnu Vinod (wicketkeeper), Xavier Bartlett, Yash Thakur, Mitchell Owen, Harmoor Singh, Musheer Khan, Pyla Avinash, Marco Jansen, Lockie Ferguson, Cooper Connolly, Ben Dwarshuis, Pravin Dube, Vishal Nishad.

## La Liga: Real Madrid suffer Kylian Mbappe blow ahead of crucial Barcelona clash



championship with four games remaining in the season.

Mbappe, who netted a hat-trick in last season's Clasico in Barcelona despite Madrid ending up on the losing side, had been racing against time to regain fitness. However, the striker was unable to complete Saturday's training session at Valdebebas and later failed a final fitness assessment on Sunday morning.

The club has decided not to risk aggravating the injury, particularly with Madrid's title hopes virtually over. Mbappe has been one of Madrid's biggest threats against Barcelona in recent meetings, averaging a goal every 67 minutes in Clasico encounters. His pace, movement, and finishing ability were expected to be central to Madrid's hopes of delaying Barcelona's title celebrations. The only good news for Madrid is the return of goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois from injury, and the Belgian will start at Camp Nou. Madrid head into the match amid growing turbulence within the club. Reports earlier this week claimed midfielders Federico Valverde and Aurelien Tchouameni were involved in a dressing-room altercation following the team's recent disappointing run of results.

Valverde reportedly suffered cranioencephalic trauma and required stitches, while both players were fined heavily by the club. The incident has further fuelled speculation of divisions inside the Madrid dressing room and uncertainty surrounding coach Alvaro Arbeloa and his future at the club.

## 'Golden Grit, Fearless Spirit': Mandaviya hails Indian women's recurve team after World Cup gold in Shanghai



**NEW DELHI** : Mansukh Mandaviya congratulated India's women's recurve archery team after Deepika Kumari, Anika Bhakat, and Kumkum Mohod clinched a historic gold medal at the Archery World Cup Stage 2 in Shanghai on Sunday.

The Indian trio defeated hosts China 5-4 (28-26) in a tense shoot-off in the final to secure India's first Archery World Cup gold medal since 2021. Praising the archers after the memorable victory, Mandaviya lauded the team's resilience and fighting spirit. "Golden Grit, Fearless Spirit, Podium Finish! Heartiest congratulations to Deepika, Anika, and Kumkum for clinching Gold at the Archery World Cup Stage 2. Your brilliance and determination have made the entire nation proud," Mandaviya wrote on X. India began the final strongly, taking the opening set before the Chinese team fought back to level the contest and eventually force a shoot-out after the four regulation sets ended tied. With the pressure mounting,



Royal Challengers Bengaluru's captain Rajat Patidar and teammates celebrate the dismissal of Mumbai Indians' Rohit Sharma during the Indian Premier League 2026 match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Mumbai Indians, at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur on Sunday.

## IPL 2026 : Urvil's blitzkrieg helps CSK get third straight win after beating LSG by five wickets

**CHENNAI** : Urvil Patel hammered a breath-taking 65, including hitting the joint fastest fifty in Indian Premier League (IPL) history in just 13 balls, as Chennai Super Kings (CSK) defeated Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) by five wickets to notch their third successive win in Indian Premier League 2026 at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai on Sunday.

It was also the first time since 2019 that CSK successfully chased a target in excess of 180, as they moved to fifth spot in the IPL 2026 points table and pushed LSG towards elimination from the competition. Inserted into batting first, LSG rode on Josh Inglis's blistering 85 to pile up 91 runs in the powerplay before CSK bowlers, led by Jamie Overton's 3-36, pulled things back to restrict them to 203/8.

In reply, CSK's chase began briskly with Sanju Samson and skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad adding quick runs at the top. But once Samson fell to Digvesh Rathi, Urvil turned the contest on its head with a ferocious ball-striking assault to get his fifty in 13 balls, as CSK stormed to 97 in their own powerplay.

By hitting the fastest fifty hit by a CSK batter, also his maiden IPL half-century, Urvil also equalled Yashasvi Jaiswal's record for the fastest fifty in IPL history, coming in the 2023 season, and eventually finished with 65 off 23 balls, including eight sixes and two fours, coming at a strike-rate of 282.61.

By the time Urvil departed, the rest of CSK's chase was seemingly straightforward. But LSG clawed back through Shabbaz Ahmed's double strike and Rathi's dismissal of Dewald Brevis. By



the time Avesh Khan removed Kartik Sharma, LSG tightened the equation and raised hopes of a turnaround.

But Prashant Veer (18 not out) and Shivam Dube (15 not out) hung around to complete the chase with four balls to spare, including the latter hitting consecutive sixes. It also helped that LSG's fielding let them down, as two catches of Veer were spilled under pressure by Rathi and Nicholas Pooran. CSK's uphill chase began with intent as Ruturaj Gaikwad and Sanju Samson hit eight boundaries collectively in 3.3 overs. But Rathi had Samson dismissed when he tried to pull off a quicker delivery, and was left to see his stumps being castled. His

fall brought Urvil to the crease, and for the next few minutes, 32,000 odd fans at Chepauk were left spell-bound. Walking in after Samson's dismissal, Urvil tore into the LSG attack with his quick pick-up of lengths and timing his maximums with impeccable power. Urvil quickly launched Avesh Khan for three sixes in the fifth over, before smacking Rathi for three maximums and a four. The highlight of his stay at the crease came when Urvil launched Mohammed Shami for his seventh maximum over long-on to be at 48 off 11 balls. Though he managed only a single on the next ball, Urvil reached his first IPL fifty in just 13 balls, with

chants of "Urvil! Urvil!" reverberating in the electrified stands. In a touching gesture, Urvil pulled out a note from his pocket that read, "This is for you, Dad," along with some lines in Gujarati, even as the CSK dugout was full of joy.

Urvil's explosive start also helped CSK reclaim the record for the highest powerplay score at Chepauk via 97/1, surpassing LSG's 91 earlier in the day. Though Urvil's blitzkrieg was brought to an end by a slower delivery from Shabbaz Ahmed in the tenth over, he had set the tone for a memorable evening for CSK at Chepauk.

But after that, LSG fought back through the middle overs, with Shabbaz and Digvesh striking crucial blows to remove Gaikwad and Dewald Brevis. Kartik Sharma chipped in with 20 before Avesh dismissed him, leaving CSK at 169/5 in the 17th over.

With the equation tightening, nervousness was felt in Chepauk, but Veer brought the nerves down by flicking Prince Yadav for six, before hitting another maximum off Avesh, apart from being dropped twice on nine. With 10 needed off the final over, Aiden Markram was handed the ball, and after two wides, Dube finished the job in style by smashing back-to-back sixes to seal victory and strengthen CSK's hopes of entering the playoffs.

**Brief scores:** Lucknow Super Giants 203/8 in 20 overs (Josh Inglis 85, Shabbaz Ahmed 43 not out; Jamie Overton 3-36, Anshul Kamboj 2-47) lost to Chennai Super Kings (Urvil Patel 65, Ruturaj Gaikwad 42; Shabbaz Ahmed 2-30, Digvesh Rathi 2-45) by five wickets

## ISL 2026: Kerala Blasters surge past Mohammedan Sporting, extend unbeaten run

**KOCHI** : Kerala Blasters FC produced a dominant second-half display to secure a 3-1 victory against Mohammedan SC at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Kochi, extending their unbeaten run to five matches in Indian Super League 2025-26 on Sunday.

Goals from Francisco Feuillassier, Victor Bertomeu, and Sreeekuttan M S ensured all three points for the hosts, after Mahitosh Roy had briefly put the visitors ahead. Feuillassier was named the Player of the Match for his influential performance.

The result sees Ashley Westwood's side move up to eighth in the standings with 14 points from 12 matches, while Mohammedan SC remain rooted to the bottom with just three points from 11 games. Mehrajuddin Wadoo's team's fate now hinges on Chennaiyin FC's result later today, with even a single point



for the latter confirming Mohammedan's relegation to the Indian Football League for next season.

Kerala Blasters began on the front foot, dominating possession and probing the Mohammedan defence from the outset. Midfielder Kevin Yoke was particularly influential down the left flank, repeatedly driving into attacking areas and creating opportunities.

The visitors, however, held firm early on, with goalkeeper

Padam Chettri producing a string of impressive saves, including a sharp one-handed stop to deny Yoke's header midway through the half. Despite Kerala's control, Mohammedan struck against the run of play in the 42nd minute. Mahitosh Roy won possession in midfield, surged forward, and unleashed a powerful effort from almost 20 yards that flew into the top corner, giving the visitors a surprise lead. The advantage was short-lived. Just two min-

utes later, Kerala responded through Feuillassier, who latched onto a perfectly weighted through ball from Yoke and finished calmly into the bottom corner to restore parity before the break.

Kerala Blasters resumed the second half with renewed intent, continuing to dictate the tempo. Their persistence paid off in the 58th minute when Yoke once again turned provider, delivering a precise cross for Bertomeu, who guided a composed header into the net to put the hosts ahead. With momentum firmly on their side, Kerala continued to press for a third. Substitute Sreeekuttan came close soon after, forcing a deflected effort onto the crossbar, while Mohammedan struggled to create meaningful chances at the other end. The decisive moment arrived in the 74th minute when Kerala.

## ISSF World Cup Shotgun: Neeru and Vivaan win trap mixed team bronze



**NEW DELHI** : The pair of Neeru Dhandha and Vivaan Kapoor won bronze in the trap mixed team event on Sunday, helping India conclude the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Shotgun in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on a high.

Neeru and Vivaan shot 24 out of the first 30 targets in the final and, despite matching the top Italian pair of Silvana Stanco and Mauro De Filippis, had to miss out on a better medal, having finished second to the silver-winning Italians in qualification. Chinese Taipei's Kun-Pi Yang and Wan-Yu Liu won a second World Cup gold with a world record score of 36 in the final.

Vivaan and Neeru had shot 143 in qualification, finishing just two behind Silvana, a Paris Olympic silver medalist, and Mauro, a former world champion in the event. Both shot perfect third rounds of 25 each to confirm their final spots, with Vivaan missing two out of his 75 targets.

Teammates Ahvar Rizvi and Pragati Dube shot 130 to finish 23rd in the 31-team competition.

After the first 10 targets in the decider, Kun and Wan led the field with a perfect score. Neeru missed her third, to put India in second after Vivaan shot down all five of his targets to extend his qualification form. Italy and China were fighting for third place, having hit five of their first 10 targets. Italy won that fight by one hit after 20 targets, as Chinese Taipei extended their lead by two over India, as Neeru missed two targets more. The Italians then showed their class in the third series, missing none, even as Vivaan missed his first of the final on his 13th shot. In the end, both pairs ended up on the same score.

## Italian Open: Zverev eases past Blockx, Ruud beats Lehecka to enter Rd 4

**ROME** : Alexander Zverev continued his steady progress at the Italian Open after defeating Belgium's Alexander Blockx 6-1, 6-4 to book a place in the fourth round of the Masters 1000 event in Rome on Sunday.

The victory marked the second time in just over a week that Zverev had beaten the 21-year-old Belgian, having also overcome him in straight sets during the semi-finals of the Madrid Open 2026 earlier this month. Playing on the windy courts of the Foro Italico, the German produced a composed display and controlled most of the baseline exchanges to complete the win in 74 minutes. "I was much better than I was two days ago. I think it was difficult to play pretty tennis from the baseline today because the conditions were not easy; it was very windy. But overall, I am very happy," Zverev was quoted by ATP.

The two-time Rome champion looked sharp from the outset and dominated the opening set with clean hitting and consistent depth from the back of the court. Zverev struck more winners and kept his unforced error count low, leaving Blockx struggling to find rhythm in the early stages.

The Belgian showed more intent in the second set and attempted to play with greater aggression, but Zverev continued to absorb pressure effectively and closed down angles with precise hitting through the middle of the court. One of the highlights of the contest came midway through the second set when the German produced a delicate drop volley to hold serve during a key moment of the match. The result extended Zverev's strong record in Rome, where he has now registered 29 career victories. The German is still searching for his first title of the 2026 season after finishing runner-up to Jannik Sinner in Madrid last week. He will next face either American Tommy Paul or Italy's Luciano Darderi for a place in the quarter-finals.

Despite the defeat, Blockx continued to underline his growing promise on clay. The young Belgian had reached the third round in Rome after wins over Federico Cina and Tallon Griekspoor, adding to an encouraging clay-court season that has already included a run to the final of the Next Gen ATP Finals 2025. Elsewhere, Casper Ruud maintained his unbeaten head-to-head record against Jiri Lehecka with a 6-3, 6-4 victory to move into the next round. The Norwegian, a three-time semi-finalist in Rome, will next take on either Lorenzo Musetti or Francisco Cerundolo. The Norwegian has advanced to the Round of 16 at a clay-court Masters 1000 event once more, marking this stage in nine of his last ten clay-court tournaments in this category. Additionally, he achieved his second victory over a top 20 player in 2026 by defeating world No. 6 Alex de Minaur of Australia at the United Cup.

