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Morning India

Mamata sits on dharna to protest 'post-poll violence'

MI News Service, Kolkata: As announced on Monday, Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee sat on a day-long dharna in central Kolkata on Tuesday to protest against alleged post-poll attacks on party workers and leaders following the BJP's landslide victory in recent assembly elections.

Mamata Banerjee reached the dharna site at Esplanade's Y-channel after the TMC's appeal to hold the protest at the adjacent Rani Rashmoni Road was turned down by the Kolkata Police.

"We were not given permission to set up a stage or use microphones," she said, while addressing the crowd using a megaphone.

The former Chief minister alleged unabated post-poll violence against her party workers, nephew Abhishek Banerjee and a number of TMC leaders.

The thinly attended protest comes amid heightened political tensions following alleged attacks on TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and senior party leader Kalyan Banerjee.

The BJP, however, has criticised the proposed demonstration. Reacting to the announcement, BJP Rajya Sabha MP Rahul Sinha questioned the purpose of the protest and said any public demonstration must be conducted with police permission, stressing that the decision rests with law enforcement authorities.

The TMC will go ahead with its protests in Kolkata against the alleged attacks on party leaders, particularly Abhishek Banerjee and Kalyan Banerjee, and workers, as well as Railways' hawker eviction drive, despite the police denying permission for it, party supremo Mamata Banerjee said on Monday.

She alleged that while the common people and small traders were living in fear, and hawk-

ers were being evicted without a proper rehabilitation plan, the ruling BJP was using "money and power" to engineer defections in her party.

The former chief minister, however, asserted that the departure of leaders from the party fold for personal interests would help rebuild the organisation, and the TMC would emerge stronger from the crisis.

Mamata Banerjee said that 12 TMC workers had been killed since the Assembly elections and that thousands of party activists had been arrested, while many others had been forced to flee their homes.

She declared the protest would go ahead regardless of official permission. "If we are not allowed to hold a dharna there, I will sit wherever I am stopped. I am ready to be arrested," she said.

The controversy began after Abhishek Banerjee alleged that he was attacked with bricks, stones and eggs while visiting families affected by post-poll violence in Sonarpur, in South 24 Parganas district, on Sunday.

The TMC leader claimed the assault was "BJP-sponsored," describing it as an attempt on his life. He also accused the police of failing to provide adequate security during the visit.

According to TMC leader Kunal Ghosh, Abhishek Banerjee is currently undergoing treatment and several medical tests are yet to be completed.

Responding to Mamata Banerjee's proposed protest over the alleged attack on Abhishek Banerjee, Rahul Sinha said all those involved in the incident had already been arrested. Sinha alleged that "the entire episode was orchestrated by Abhishek Banerjee himself, solely to malign the BJP and to bolster his demand for enhanced security."

Majority of TMC MLAs are with Mamata: claims Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay

MI News Service, Kolkata: Senior Trinamool Congress leader Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay on Tuesday asserted that majority of the party MLAs would remain with former chief minister Mamata Banerjee despite intense speculation of defections, and said the TMC's old guard would continue to retain control of the organisation.

The senior leader alleged that attempts were being made in certain quarters to engineer defections and destabilise the opposition party, but claimed that the TMC remained united.

The Ballygunge MLA's remarks came amid strong rumours that a section of TMC legislators could break away under the leadership of expelled MLA Ritabrata Banerjee. Political circles in the state were abuzz with reports of meetings involving dissident MLAs at a Kolkata hotel and at the MLA Hostel over the past few days.

Under the present circumstances is Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool Congress is heading for a split in the Assembly? The issue related to the appointment of the Leader of Opposition has exposed the wide divide within the party.

According to the informed sources, a section of TMC MLAs are all set to back "rebel" Ritabrata Banerjee as the Leader of Opposition in the Vidhan Sabha. This will be a rebellion against party supremo Mamata Banerjee whose close aide and MLA, Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay, has been named party's official choice for the post.

Interestingly, Ritabrata Banerjee was on Monday expelled by the Trinamool Congress along with another MLA Sandipan Saha for alleged anti-party activities.

The resentment and division within the TMC since the defeat in the recent Assembly elections has been deepening by the day. Sources say that the leaders' anger is directed at party general secretary Abhishek Banerjee and not at its leader Mamata Banerjee.

The divide became clear on Sunday as 60 of the TMC's 80 MLAs skipped a meeting called

at Mamata Banerjee's residence.

Sources say that hectic meetings are on in Kolkata to bring the disgruntled TMC MLAs on board and keep the party intact in the House.

Now, the latest twist in the Leader of Opposition appointment has further complicated matters for the embattled TMC.

The issue came to a head as Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Monday alleged that signatures of some TMC MLAs were forged on the letter sent to the Speaker naming Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay as the Leader of Opposition.

Suwendu Adhikari named two Trinamool MLAs - Ritabrata Banerjee and Sandipan Saha - who had complained over the forgery of their signatures in a party letter endorsing Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay.

"Trinamool's corruption did not just target the people of Bengal but also its own MLAs. Trinamool stole its own MLAs' signatures. The complaint was made by two Trinamool MLAs, Ritabrata Banerjee and Sandipan Saha. We had no role in this," the present Chief minister said.

The two MLAs were later expelled by the Trinamool. Saha held Abhishek Banerjee responsible over the case, stating that it was the party general secretary who had signed the MLAs' list.

The West Bengal CID is probing the signature forgery charges. Several Trinamool leaders have been served notices in the case. The CID had even summoned Abhishek Banerjee for questioning.

Since the election loss, Trinamool is struggling to hold on to its leaders. Since losing power in the state, several party leaders openly voiced their dissatisfaction with the functioning of the party.

Taking a jibe at the state of affairs in the Trinamool Congress, senior BJP leader and minister Dilip Ghosh on Monday said, "only aunt and nephew (Mamata Banerjee and Abhishek Banerjee) will be left in the party and all other leaders will leave".

Suwendu visits Delhi ahead of portfolio distribution among new ministers

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari left for New Delhi on Tuesday evening ahead of the distribution of portfolios among the newly inducted ministers.

The visit comes a day after 35 MLAs were sworn in as ministers.

The state government is yet to announce the distribution of departments among them, fuelling political interest over the likely allocation of key portfolios.

According to sources in the state administration and the BJP, though the exercise of finalising the allocation of portfolios is in its final stages after multiple rounds of consultations aimed at ensuring political and regional balance, today's Delhi visit by the Chief minister has added a new twist into the whole episode.

After Monday's swearing-in ceremony, the sources said, Suwendu Adhikari is likely to retain the crucial Home and Finance portfolios, while the remaining departments will be distributed among the new inductees and existing ministers.

Incidentally, in one of the largest cabinet expansions in recent West Bengal political history, Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Monday inducted 35 ministers into his government, taking the strength of the Council of Ministers to 41.

Governor RN Ravi administered the oath of office and secrecy to the new ministers at Lok Bhawan in Kolkata.



West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari visited Shri Mahadev Temple in Tarakeswar, Hooghly, on Tuesday and offered prayers

The expansion includes 13 Cabinet Ministers, three Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and 19 Ministers of State, reflecting the BJP government's effort to ensure regional, social and community representation across the state.

The expansion comes just weeks after the BJP assumed office in West Bengal and is being seen as a move to strengthen governance while accommodating a mix of experienced legislators, former parliamentarians, professionals and first-time ministers.

West Bengal BJP President Samik Bhattacharya said the new team represents the government's commitment to delivering on its electoral promises and ensuring balanced development across all regions of the state.

The cabinet expansion under Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari signals the BJP government's intent to strike a balance between experience and fresh leadership. The inclusion of leaders from North Bengal, tribal communities, Scheduled Castes, women representatives, pro-

professionals and former parliamentarians underscores the government's effort to broaden representation while strengthening administrative capacity.

With 41 ministers now in office, the Suwendu Adhikari government has utilised most of the constitutional limit available for a 294-member Assembly, indicating that governance and regional representation will remain central priorities during its first term.

Among the 35 BJP MLAs, Tapas Roy, Shankar Ghosh, Swapan Dasgupta, Dudh Kumar Mondal, Deepak Burman, Manoj Oraon, Gouri Shankar Ghosh, Arjun Singh, Saradwat Mukherjee and Jagannath Chattopadhyay were sworn in as Cabinet ministers, while Rajesh Mahata, Indranil Khan and Malati Rava Roy took oath as Ministers of State (Independent Charge) and party legislators

Santanu Pramanik, Purnima Chakraborty, Umesh Rai, Joyel Murmu, Ashok Dinda, Anandamoy Burman, Kaushik Chowdhury, Gargi Das Ghosh, Bhaskar Bhattacharya, Dibakar Gharami and Sumana Sarkar were sworn in as Ministers of State.

Suwendu Adhikari holds third Janatar Darbar amid huge rush

MI News Service, Kolkata: In order to participate in his third 'Janatar Darbar' (People's Court) in three weeks of assuming the office of the Chief Minister, Suwendu Adhikari listened to the grievances and complaints of the common people at the state BJP headquarters at Salt Lake on Tuesday.

Like the two previous occasions, the Chief Minister arrived at the BJP office around 9:45 AM accompanied by several other senior party leaders including Lockett Chattopadhyay.

Since early morning, a large crowd has gathered to speak directly to the Chief Minister and voice their concerns.

people from across all corners of the state and diverse professional backgrounds gathered to voice their demands and concerns.

Representatives of 'eligible' teachers and other individuals

who had lost their jobs during the previous TMC regime, appealed to the Chief Minister to reinstate their merit based employment soon.

During the session the Chief minister among many other people, met a young unemployed couple - Pritam Majhi and his handicapped wife - who had walked for five days from a remote village in Bankura, to come and meet the CM seeking his personal intervention to alleviate their grievances and mental pain which they had experienced for the past several years under the previous TMC regime.

Suwendu Adhikari gave them a patient hearing and assured them of all assistance soon. "We never expected to personally meet the Chief minister and be able to describe our woes before him. We have found a God in him and hope all our

grievances would be solved soon", said Pritam Majhi afterwards.

Among others Suman Biswas also met with the Chief Minister on behalf of the 26,000 teachers who had lost their jobs, while one Malay Sinha Roy appealed for the reinstatement of permanent recruitment within the technical education sector. He alleged that due to corruption within the technical education system at various institutions, no recruitment has taken place for the past 15 years, and permanent jobs were illegally converted into temporary ones. Sandhya Dey during her meeting with Suwendu Adhikari, described problems in certain state government jobs. She alleged that some reservation policy has been creating significant hurdles for many like her seeking suitable employment.

Singer Riddhi Bandyopadhyay was present at 'Janatar Darbar' today. She alleged former minister Indranil Sen was deeply involved in the 'cut-money' culture and had built up a nexus with his close followers. "I have come here specifically to ensure that real information regarding this nexus should reach the Chief Minister so that a conducive working atmosphere could prevail and ample opportunities be provided to those who are deserving, rather than banning them." She said

"I was effectively banned for the last 12 to 13 years. This was due to the syndicate that operated under the control of Indranil Sen.

After listening to everyone's submissions and plights, Suwendu Adhikari gave assurances that appropriate measures would be taken to address their concerns.

Around 12:00 noon, the Chief Minister departed from the Salt Lake party office and left for Nabanna.

Upon assuming the office of Chief Minister, Suwendu Adhikari had announced the launch of 'Janatar Darbar' as a mechanism to resolve the issues faced by the common people. The BJP stated that the Chief Minister would be present at the party office in Salt Lake every Monday morning from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, to hold the 'Janatar Darbar' programme. Along with the Chief minister, two other state BJP leaders - Lockett Chatterjee and Shashi Agnihotri—were present at the interactive session.

Representatives from many organizations of job aspirants met with Suwendu Adhikari today and the security personnel had a tough time to manage the crowd.

CBSE opens portal for verification, re-evaluation of answer sheets



MI News Service, New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Tuesday opened the online portal for verification of issues observed in scanned copies of answer books and re-evaluation of answers for students dissatisfied with their board exam evaluation.

According to the board, the facility is available only to those students who have obtained scanned copies of their

evaluated answer books. "The portal for applying for Verification of Issues observed in supplied scanned copy of answer book and Re-evaluation of answers has been made live on June 2, 2026. Students can avail the facility of verification of issue(s) observed in supplied scanned copy of answer book, if any and re-evaluation of answer(s) if not satisfied with the evaluation," the CBSE said.

Earlier, when the portal to obtain scanned answer sheets was made live, several Class 12 students reported technical glitches, including blank pages, unresponsive links and captcha-related issues. The board has reduced the fee for verification and re-evaluation processes to Rs 100. The verification fee has been reduced from Rs 500 to Rs 100. The fee for re-checking each question has been fixed at Rs 25.

RJD has no monarchy : Bihar CM on Rabri bungalow row

MI News Service, Patna: Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary on Tuesday took a veiled dig at the RJD, the main opposition party in the state, which has been indignant over the allotment of the bungalow occupied by former CM Rabri Devi to a minister.

Choudhary referred to the tiff without mentioning the opposition party or its leaders by name and remarked, "It is not a monarchy... The mother wants one house, and the son desires another."

The CM was addressing a gathering here to ensure prompt resolution of people's grievances concerning different departments, in the state.

Notably, Rabri Devi has been living at 10, Circular Road, refusing to shift to 39, Hardinge Road allotted to her in her capacity as the leader of the opposition in state legislative council.

Her son Tejashwi Yadav, the leader of the opposition in the state assembly, is the oc-

cupant of 1, Polo Road. Choudhary, who had been a deputy CM for two years before becoming the first BJP leader to head a government in Bihar, claimed, "I have never lived in a government bungalow for the last several years. I have been living in my private house."

The CM claimed he agreed to start working from 1, Anney Marg, the official residence of the Chief minister which his government has rechristened as Lok Sevak Bhavan, only upon the insistence of his predecessor Nitish Kumar who gave up the top post to enter Rajya Sabha.

"Nitish Kumar ji set an example by taking no time in vacating his official residence. And I must say that the day my leaders tell me to step down, I will pack my bags and leave, without batting an eyelid," Choudhary said.

The BJP leader, who is often teased by the RJD with the

Tharoor calls full rendition of Vande Mataram 'unnecessary'



MI News Service, Thiruvananthapuram: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has questioned the necessity and rationale of playing all five verses of Vande Mataram at the beginning and end of official events, labelling the practice "unnecessary and burdensome" for audiences.

Speaking to reporters here amid the controversy over singing of the national song in Kerala, Tharoor said everyone respects Vande Mataram, but making the full version mandatory at every function was difficult to justify.

"Vande Mataram is the national song and we stand up in respect when it is sung. The first verse, or the first couple of verses, is something most people know by heart," he said.

Tharoor noted that traditionally the song was sung once at the start of an event, while the national anthem was played separately, often at the end.

"Now they want all five verses to be sung at the beginning of every event and again at the end. I think that is an unnecessary imposition," the Congress Working Committee member said.

The MP said the Kerala government had maintained that singing the full version was optional, while Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar appeared to hold a different view.

"It may ultimately have to be adjudicated because there is no law passed by Parliament requiring this. It is more a matter of convention," he said.

Tharoor stressed that he had no objection to the national song itself. "We all respect Vande Mataram. I can happily sing it for you," he remarked.

Recalling a book launch event attended by Vice President C P Radhakrishnan in New Delhi, Tharoor said the full song had been played both at the beginning and end of the programme.

"For the audience, standing

173 Male Names Detected in Lakshmir Bhandar Benefits; Removed; Nadia DM Orders Probe

MI News Service, Nadia : The Nadia district administration has launched an investigation after 173 male names were detected in the beneficiary list of the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme in Dhubulia, raising questions over possible misuse of the welfare programme. District Magistrate Srikanth Palli confirmed the irregularity.

"173 names of male persons were detected in the Lakshmir Bhandar list in the Dhubulia area. An investigation has been initiated," DM said.

Local sources, however, claimed that whis- pers about the alleged irregularity had been



doing the rounds in the area for nearly three weeks. According to residents, Bhola Shil, a contractual worker attached to the Dhubulia BDO office was involved in various administrative and computer-related tasks. Preliminary findings

suggest that 173 Lakshmir Bhandar accounts were allegedly created and funds withdrawn from them since February this year. The exact modus operandi and the amount involved are yet to be officially disclosed.

Meanwhile, Bhola Shil could not be contacted. Family sources said he was not at home. Officials said the inquiry would ascertain individual responsibility and determine whether others were involved in the alleged fraud.

Sources said that the State Government has ordered the Nadia Administration to look into the matter.

Fence Work Begins Along Vulnerable Stretch of India-Bangladesh Border in Nadia

MI News Service, Nadia : Efforts to strengthen security along the India-Bangladesh border have gained momentum in Nadia district, with fencing work reportedly underway along a nearly three-kilometre unfenced stretch in the Banpur-Matiari Gram Panchayat area of Krishnaganj block.

The development comes amid continued focus by the Centre on border security, prevention of illegal infiltration and curbing cross-border smuggling. The unfenced stretch near Bijoypur village has long been a matter of concern for residents, who say the riverine terrain has made surveillance and border management particularly

challenging. According to local sources, the area is surrounded by a river, with Bangladesh on one bank and India on the other. The geographical nature of the border has often posed operational challenges for security agencies. Residents have alleged that the absence of fencing in certain sections created opportunities for illegal crossings and other unlawful activities. They have also raised concerns over incidents of cattle theft and crimes in nearby villages.

Local administration sources said fencing work has already commenced in parts of the area. However, some portions of land required for the project



are still under the acquisition process. Officials associated with the project indicated that construction of the remaining sections is expected to proceed once the land-related formalities are completed. Border infrastructure

projects in riverine regions are often more complex than those on conventional land borders due to shifting river courses, erosion and logistical constraints. Security experts note that while fencing alone cannot eliminate all forms of ille-

gal activity, it remains one of the most effective physical deterrents against unauthorised cross-border movement and smuggling. The progress of the project has been welcomed by local residents, many of whom have been demanding comprehensive fencing for years. They believe the completion of the barrier will strengthen security, improve surveillance and provide greater peace of mind to people living in the border villages.

For now, residents and local authorities alike are hopeful that the ongoing work will address a long-standing security concern and contribute to safer living conditions in this sensitive border region.

Garden Café celebrates World Environment Day in a unique way



MI News Service, Kolkata : The city-based Garden Café is extending its love for all things green beyond its premises on the World Environment Day. As part of the celebration, Garden Café will give away saplings to environmental contributors, encouraging a small but meaningful step towards a greener future.

The initiative reflects Garden Café's belief that caring for the environment often begins with simple everyday actions. While the sapling serves as a reminder to nurture nature at home, sustainability remains an ongoing practice at Garden Café throughout the year. Among its regular initiatives, is a responsible food waste management system. All food waste generated at the café is sent to piggeries, ensuring it is put to productive use rather than being discarded in landfills. The vegetarian practice supports a more mindful approach to environmental impact. Through the sapling giveaway and its ongoing waste reduction efforts, Garden Café continues to believe that sustainability is best practiced quietly, consistently and one thoughtful step at a time. In his message on the World Environment Day, the Founder, Garden Café, Sandip Nowlakhia said "Our planet doesn't need perfect people — it needs people who care. This World Environment Day, let's do one small thing: plant a tree. Because there's no other Planet for us."

Uproar Over Annapurna Scheme Form Distribution: TMC Councillor Detained in Kharagpur; BJP Alleges Corruption

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Amid ongoing political allegations surrounding sand, coal, and soil theft, a fresh controversy has erupted in Kharagpur over the distribution of application forms for the government welfare scheme, Annapurna Yojana. The political atmosphere intensified after reports emerged that a Trinamool Congress (TMC) councillor of Kharagpur Municipality was detained by police in connection with the matter. According to available information, application forms for the Annapurna Scheme were being distributed at a school located within the IIT Kharagpur campus. Allegations have surfaced that the programme was organized without prior permission from the concerned institution. It is also alleged that local TMC councillor Debashish Sengupta was present at the venue during the distribution. After learning about the event, BJP workers reportedly



arrived at the location and began protesting against the distribution of the forms. BJP leaders alleged that government welfare schemes were being used for political gain and that people were being misled in the name of the scheme. As tensions escalated, police reached the spot and brought the situation under control. Subsequently, reports emerged that the councillor was detained for questioning. The BJP has claimed that there is a prescribed administrative procedure for distributing forms related to

government schemes and that conducting such an event inside an educational institution without permission violates established rules. Party leaders described the incident as an example of a lack of transparency in government schemes and undue political interference. The Trinamool Congress, however, has rejected the allegations. Party leaders stated that the forms were being made available merely for the convenience of the public and accused the BJP of giving the issue a political colour. Accord-

ing to TMC representatives, no irregularity or corruption took place and the controversy arose due to a misunderstanding. The incident has triggered intense political debate in the area. While the BJP is portraying the matter as an example of alleged corruption and political interference in government welfare schemes, the TMC maintains that it is an unnecessary controversy being created by the opposition.

Police are currently investigating the matter. Only after the completion of the inquiry will it become clear whether any rules were violated in the process of distributing the forms. Nevertheless, the incident has once again raised questions about whether government welfare schemes are being used to expand political influence or whether the controversy is simply another chapter in the ongoing political rivalry in the region.

Rural Medical Practitioner Arrested for Allegedly Receiving Widow Pension Funds in His Bank Account

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Police have taken swift action in a case involving the alleged diversion of a widow's pension funds into another person's bank account in the Yashorajpur area of Pingla Block in West Medinipur district. Within just 24 hours of the matter coming to light, Pingla Police arrested Amalendu Bikash Mondal, a resident of Yashorajpur and a rural medical practitioner by profession. According to police sources, he is expected to be produced before the Kharagpur Sub-Divisional Court. Following his arrest, Amalendu Bikash Mondal reportedly admitted that he was aware that widow pension funds were being deposited into his bank account. However, authorities are investigating since when the payments had been credited to his account and under what circumstances the transfers occurred. The issue first surfaced when it was revealed that the government pension meant for a widow



from Yashorajpur under the Khirai Gram Panchayat area of Pingla Block had allegedly been deposited for a long period into the bank account of another individual. It was later discovered that the account belonged to Amalendu Bikash Mondal. According to the family, after the irregularity was detected a few days ago, Amalendu Mondal informed the Gram Panchayat about the matter. However, no effective measures were reportedly taken to resolve the issue. The case has attracted significant attention amid ongoing discussions

across West Bengal regarding funds from welfare schemes, including the Lakshmir Bhandar scheme, being credited to incorrect bank accounts. Amalendu Mondal's wife also acknowledged that she was aware of the matter, but stated that only her husband could explain in detail how long the money had been deposited into their account and the circumstances surrounding it. The incident has raised several questions among local residents. People are asking how funds intended for a beneficiary of a welfare

scheme could end up in another person's bank account. There are growing demands for a thorough investigation into whether the issue resulted from administrative negligence, documentation errors, or any form of fraud. Earlier, Piyali Dhal Singh, the Pradhan of Khirai Gram Panchayat, had stated that the Panchayat had not received any written complaint regarding the matter. However, she assured that once a complaint was received, an inquiry and necessary action would be initiated.

With the arrest now made, the seriousness of the case has intensified. Authorities are continuing their investigation to determine whether the incident resulted from an administrative error, document forgery, or some other cause. Local residents are closely watching the police investigation and upcoming court proceedings, as further inquiries are expected to reveal important details about the case.

19 Years Strong: Furfurah's Qira'at Contest Grows in Prestige



Nurul Islam Khan : MI News Service, furfurah: The two-day, world-class Quran recitation competition at the newly inaugurated residence of Furfurah Darbar Sharif concluded Monday morning in a grand ceremony, drawing wide attention across the state and beyond.

Organized under the initiative of Pirzada Maulana Taha Siddiqi and conducted by the Orphan Foundation, this year's contest marked its 19th edition. Forty outstanding participants from various regions competed in rigorous rounds judged by eminent jurists from multiple states. Each contestant delivered high-standard recitations that underscored the event's international stature and scholarly rigor. Prizes were awarded to the top three performers: the champion received INR

100,000, the runner-up INR 50,000, and the third-place finisher INR 25,000. Audiences also took part in a lottery that offered additional attractive prizes. The ceremony, described by organizers as both solemn and celebratory, drew a large assembly of religious leaders. Present were numerous pirs and pirzadas of Furfurah Sharif, who attended in memory of Hazrat Pir Dada Huzur and five other revered huzurs. Leading figures from the local community and distinguished social personalities were honored at the event. Event organizers said the colorful mahfil not only resonated locally but also produced significant response across the state and nationally, reinforcing Furfurah Sharif's reputation as a center for religious learning and cultural ceremony.

Ambulance donated to Sankrail Hospital



MI News Service, Howrah : For the benefit of the people of Sankrail, Ambuja Cements Limited and Adani Cement have donated an ambulance to Sankrail Hospital.

On this occasion, at Dhulaguri today, the keys of the ambulance were handed over to Dr. Chandrasekhar Pal, Block Medical Health Officer (BMOH) of Sankrail, by Nirmal Roy, Unit Head of Ambuja Cements Limited, Sankrail. Also present was Yogesh Upadhyay, HR representative of the company.

Representing the Ambuja Cement Foundation, Kallol Das and Milan Maity were also present at the event. Dr. Chandrasekhar Pal, BMOH of Sankrail, stated that the addition of an extra ambulance would greatly enhance the services and facilities available at Sankrail Hospital.

Push for Super-Speciality Upgrade of Shantipur Hospital Gains Momentum

MI News Service, Nadia : Efforts to upgrade Shantipur State General Hospital into a modern super-speciality healthcare facility received fresh impetus on Tuesday, when a delegation constituted at the initiative of local MLA Swapan Kumar Das conducted an on-site inspection of the hospital premises. The hospital superintendent was also present during the visit.

The move comes amid a long-standing demand from residents of Shantipur and adjoining areas for improved healthcare infrastructure. Every day, thousands of patients depend on the hospital for treatment. However, the absence of several specialised medical services often forces patients to be referred to larger facilities in Kalyani and Ranaghat, leading to additional financial and logistical burdens for families.

According to members of the delegation, a 20-point proposal seeking the hospital's transformation into a super-speciality institution has already been submitted to the state government and the



health department. The proposal reportedly focuses on expanding medical facilities, strengthening infrastructure, and introducing advanced healthcare services to reduce dependence on referral hospitals.

During the inspection, delegation member Bappa Haldar said a significant portion of the hospital campus remains underutilised. He noted that some of these areas are

allegedly being misused and could instead be developed to support future expansion projects. The team is exploring the feasibility of constructing additional healthcare infrastructure, including a nursing college, within the available space.

The inspection also highlighted several operational concerns within the hospital premises. Issues such as the al-

leged presence of middlemen, unregulated parking arrangements for bicycles and motorcycles, and congestion caused by autorickshaws and e-rickshaws near the hospital entrance were discussed. Members of the delegation said these factors adversely affect the hospital's environment and accessibility for patients.

Officials associated with the initiative stated that steps have already been initiated, in coordination with local police authorities, to regulate traffic movement and ease congestion around the hospital. They further asserted that any future redevelopment plan would aim to create a cleaner, more organised, and patient-friendly healthcare environment.

Residents and healthcare observers believe that if the proposed upgrade materialises, Shantipur Hospital could emerge as a major healthcare hub for Nadia district, significantly improving access to specialised treatment and reducing the need for patients to travel long distances for advanced medical care.

All Bengal Karate Championship 2026

MI News Service, Kolkata : The 13th (ISKF) (International Shotokan Karate Federation) All Bengal Karate Championship 2026 and a grand Challenge Cup Competition, organized by (ISKF Bengal) were successfully held at the Scout Garden in the Ganganagar area of Ward No.26 under Madhyamgram Municipality, North 24 Parganas.

Approximately 350 participants from different districts and distant regions of West Bengal took part in this state-level karate championship. Students showcased their skills, talent, and dedication through various competitive events. The chief organizer of the event was Chief Instructor Sihan S.K.



Lalu, whose initiative, leadership, and tireless efforts ensured the successful completion of the championship.

The event was graced by several distinguished guests and sports enthusiasts, whose presence greatly encouraged and motivated the participants.

One of the primary objectives of the championship was to promote the values of discipline, self-defense, and the physical as well as mental development that karate instills in individuals.

Indian Travellers Can Now Use UPI Payments in Cambodia

MI News Service, Kolkata: Indian travellers can now make seamless digital payments in Cambodia as Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has been officially launched in the country through a partnership between NPCI International Payments Limited (NPL) and ACLEDA Bank Plc.

The service enables UPI acceptance via Cambodia's national QR system, KHQR, marking a major milestone in cross-border digital payments. The initiative was formally launched at an event in Phnom Penh, attended by the Governor of the National Bank of Cambodia and representatives from the Reserve Bank of India.

With this integration, Indian users can now scan KHQR codes at over 4.5 million merchant outlets across Cambodia, including hotels, restaurants, tourist attractions, and retail stores, using their UPI-enabled mobile apps. The system ensures secure, real-time, and cashless transactions for travellers.

In the next phase, Cambodian users will also be able to make payments in India using their local banking apps at UPI-enabled merchants, creating a two-way interoperable payment corridor between the two nations.

Officials said the initiative will boost digital connectivity, reduce reliance on cash, and improve transaction efficiency for merchants and consumers in both countries, while strengthening financial cooperation between India and Cambodia.

Sardar Taranjit Singh Receives 'Champions of Change' Award from Lions Council of India

MI News Service, Kolkata: Sardar Taranjit Singh, Managing Director of JIS Group, has been honoured with the prestigious "Champions of Change" Award by the Lions Council of India at a grand event held in Chennai.

The award recognises visionary leaders and change-makers whose work has brought meaningful impact to society across sectors such as education, healthcare, social welfare, and public service. It celebrates individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership and a strong commitment to nation-building.

Sardar Taranjit Singh was selected for this honour in recognition of his significant contributions in the field of education and his continuous efforts toward social upliftment. Under his leadership, JIS Group has developed into one of Eastern India's leading educational conglomerates, with a strong focus on academic excellence, innovation, research, and skill development.

Over the years, he has also initiated and supported several social welfare programmes aimed at empowering communities and promoting inclusive growth, further strengthening his dedication to education-led nation-building.

RJD has no monarchy

Continued from Pg 1: reminder that he began his political career as a minister in Rabri Devi's cabinet, trained his guns at the opposition party, saying, "Some think a bungalow is a sort of inheritance (bapauti). One house is needed for the mother and another for the son. This is not a monarchy."

Tharoor calls

Continued from Pg 1: through a relatively unfamiliar and lengthy song twice became an issue," he said.

Tharoor argued that the portion of Vande Mataram traditionally rendered in public was roughly the same length as the national anthem and had long been widely accepted and respected.

Calling the dispute "unfortunate", the Congress leader said he hoped it would be resolved amicably.

"I can understand singing it once during ceremonial occasions involving the President, Vice President or the Prime minister. But singing the entire song twice during a short programme is difficult to understand. I don't see the rationale for it, and it is not particularly efficient either," he said.

Artists Allege Corruption and Favoritism in Bengal's Cultural Sector at Suvendu's 'Janatar Darbar'

MI News Service, Kolkata: A pre-monsoon flood preChief Minister Suvendu Adhikari continued hearing public grievances on the third day of his "JanatarDarbar" programme at the BJP state headquarters in Salt Lake on Tuesday. The Chief Minister arrived at the venue around 9:45 a.m., where hundreds of people had gathered since morning to present their complaints and seek redressal.

Among those who approached the Chief Minister were several members of the music fraternity, who alleged widespread corruption, favoritism, and the prevalence of a "cut-money" culture in West Bengal's cultural sector during the previous Trinamool Congress administration.

A section of artists accused former Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Indranil Sen of promoting a select group of performers and ensuring that members of a particular lobby received opportunities to perform at government-spon-

sored events. They further alleged that commissions or "cut money" were often demanded from artists seeking performance opportunities at official programmes.

Noted singer Riddhi Bandopadhyay was among those who attended the public grievance forum and raised concerns about the functioning of the cultural sector under the previous government. Addressing reporters, she alleged that a network built around commissions and favoritism had deprived many deserving artists of fair opportunities.

"Indranil Sen spent years creating a nexus based on cut-money practices. We have come here so that these issues reach the Chief Minister. Artists should be selected on merit and not excluded because they are outside a particular group," Bandopadhyay said.

She also reiterated allegations she had made earlier regarding lobbying and irregularities in the distribution of government-sponsored cultural work. According to her,

several government officials were also involved in the alleged system.

Bandopadhyay claimed that despite being an established artist, she had often been denied opportunities in state-sponsored programmes and even faced difficulties in securing government auditoriums for performances. She questioned what she described as a monopoly over cultural institutions and public venues.

The singer further alleged that decisions regarding participation in government cultural events were increasingly centralized and influenced by political considerations rather than artistic merit.

The allegations have added a new dimension to the political debate over governance and transparency in West Bengal's cultural sector. No immediate response was available from former minister Indranil Sen regarding the allegations raised during the Chief Minister's public hearing programme.

Monsoon Flood Preparedness Coordination Meeting



Dr. Indranil Khan, Minister of State (Independent Charge) and MLA, Behala Paschim; Debasish Bhowmick, MLA, Sonarpur Uttar; along with other MLAs and dignitaries, attend a pre-monsoon flood preparedness and inter-departmental coordination meeting at the office of the District Magistrate & Collector, South 24 Parganas, on Tuesday.

MI News Service, Kolkata: A pre-monsoon flood preparedness and inter-departmental coordination meeting was held today at the office of the District Magistrate & Collector, South 24 Parganas, to review preparedness for the upcoming monsoon season and strengthen coordination among departments.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Indranil Khan, Minister of State (Independent Charge) and MLA, BehalaPaschim; Debasish Bhowmick, MLA, Sonarpur Uttar; RupaGanguly,

MLA, SonarpurDakshin; and PapiyaAdhikari, MLA, Tollygunge, along with senior district administration officials and representatives of the concerned departments.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held on flood prevention measures, drainage management, emergency response mechanisms, relief preparedness, and coordination among departments to mitigate the impact of heavy rainfall and waterlogging during the monsoon season.

The District Administration reviewed the preparedness status of various agencies and emphasized the need for proactive measures, timely interventions, and close coordination to ensure the safety and well-being of residents across the district.

Concluded with a commitment from all stakeholders to work in a coordinated manner to strengthen disaster preparedness and ensure an effective response to any monsoon-related challenges.



Trinamool Congress (TMC) chief and former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee held a sit-in protest alleging post-poll violence against party workers and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, as well as a hawker eviction drive. The dharna was held at the Esplanade Y Channel in Kolkata on Tuesday.

Morning Shifts Introduced in Bengal Schools Amid Severe Heatwave Conditions

MI News Service, Kolkata: After the summer vacation, government and government-aided schools across West Bengal reopened on June 1. However, the return to classrooms has coincided with intense heat and humid weather conditions across South Bengal, making it difficult for students to cope with the rising discomfort.

In response to the prevailing heatwave-like situation, the West Bengal School Education Department has taken a significant decision to introduce morning shifts in primary and secondary schools for the next two weeks. According to Bikash Bhavan sources, the move has been taken to ensure the health and safety of students and to prevent heat-related illnesses among children attending schools in extreme weather conditions.

An official directive has already been issued to District Inspectors of Schools across the state, excluding hilly regions. The notification states that schools in areas experiencing severe heat may conduct classes for a temporary period of two weeks. The decision will be reviewed later based on weather conditions.

At present, several districts in South Bengal are experiencing oppressive heat and high humidity. Although recorded temperatures may not appear extreme on paper, the high moisture content in the air has made conditions feel much hotter. For instance, while Kolkata's actual temperature is around 36°C, the "feels-like" temperature is reportedly close to 47°C. Similarly, in Krishnanagar, the recorded

temperature is around 36°C, but the perceived heat is significantly higher.

Officials stated that the decision prioritizes student health and aims to ensure that academic activities are not disrupted due to extreme weather conditions.

Meanwhile, the Alipore Meteorological Department has warned that temperatures in South Bengal are likely to rise further over the next 24 hours by 2 to 3 degrees Celsius. No significant fluctuation in maximum temperature is expected in the coming days, and there is no major forecast of rainfall until June 8, except for isolated light showers.

With humidity remaining high and rainfall unlikely, relief from the scorching and uncomfortable weather conditions appears uncertain in the immediate future.



West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari listened to the grievances of the people and assured them of genuine solutions during the 'Janatar Darbar' (People's Court) at the state BJP office on Tuesday.

State Orders Audit of Student Union Funds Across Colleges and Universities Within 30 Days

MI News Service, Kolkata: The state government has announced a major step in the higher education sector by directing all government and government-aided colleges and universities to submit detailed audit reports within the next 30 days. The Higher Education Department has issued a strict deadline and warned that institutions failing to comply within the stipulated period could face strong administrative action.

According to the new directive, the government is placing special emphasis on transparency in student union finances and election-related procedures. Officials have pointed out that there are currently no elected student unions functioning in educational institutions across the state. Under existing regulations, institutions are not permitted to collect student union fees from students if there are no elected student representatives in place.

Despite this rule, student union fees have reported-



ly continued to be collected from students over the years. The Higher Education Department has therefore ordered all colleges and universities to immediately stop charging such fees until a legally elected student body is formed. The move is being seen as part of a broader effort to bring greater accountability and transparency to educational institutions.

In addition to halting the collection of student union fees, the department has sought detailed records of the funds collected under this head. Educational institutions have been asked to provide a complete account of how much money was collected from students, the period during which the collections were made, and the specific purposes for which the funds were spent.

Observers believe the decision is aimed at identifying and preventing financial irregularities linked to student union funds. Questions have long been raised about the management and utilization

of these funds, particularly in the absence of elected student representatives authorized to oversee such activities.

Since assuming power, the state administration has repeatedly stated its intention to address corruption and irregularities across various sectors. Allegations of financial misconduct and lack of transparency had surfaced in several areas, including education and healthcare, during the previous administration.

Many critics have argued that student unions in colleges and universities operated with significant influence for years and that substantial amounts of money were collected from students without adequate oversight. The government's latest directive is being viewed as an attempt to dismantle such practices and establish a more transparent system. Attention will now be focused on the audit reports submitted by institutions and the actions taken by the Higher Education Department based on their findings.

Ebola Alert Prompts Enhanced Screening for Travelers Arriving From Africa

MI News Service, Kolkata: Amid growing concerns over the spread of the Ebola virus in parts of Africa, the state Health Department has directed authorities to strengthen screening measures for travelers returning from affected countries. Special vigilance has been implemented at Dum Dum Airport, following advisories issued by the World Health Organization (WHO). The guidelines have also been circulated to all states by the Union Health Secretary.

Public health experts have explained that the Ebola virus is responsible for Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), one of the world's most severe infectious diseases. According to state public health official Dr. Anirban Dalui, common symptoms include sudden fever, extreme weakness, headache, sore throat, and diarrhea. Early detection and monitoring remain crucial in preventing potential outbreaks.

Sources stated that no Ebola cases have been reported in the state so far. However, precautionary measures have been intensified. Announcements are being made at the airport, and passengers arriving from foreign countries, particularly African nations, are being asked to submit self-declaration forms if they experience any symptoms associated with the disease.

The WHO has advised all countries to maintain strict surveillance of individuals returning from affected regions. Health authorities have also been instructed to follow specific protocols for collecting, storing, and testing blood samples from suspected patients. In addition,

states have been directed to keep Rapid Response Teams prepared for any emergency situation.

According to official sources, no Ebola cases have been detected in India to date. Reports of a mysterious illness with a high death rate first emerged in the Ituri region of Congo on May 5. Blood samples collected from 13 individuals on May 15 revealed that eight were infected with a particular strain of the Ebola virus. By May 19, reports indicated 134 deaths in Uganda linked to the outbreak.

State Govt to Launch Annapurna Yojana Services from June 3, Beneficiaries to Receive Approval Letters

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is set to formally roll out services under the Annapurna Yojana from Wednesday, marking the beginning of a major welfare initiative aimed at supporting women across the state. Chief Minister SuvenduAdhikari will inaugurate the scheme, with beneficiaries joining the launch programme virtually from blocks, municipalities, and municipal corporations.

The state government has already issued detailed guidelines regarding the distribution and submission of application forms. Under the scheme, Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers have been assigned the responsibility of delivering the 12-page application forms directly to households. Women beneficiaries will be required to fill out the forms and submit them back to the same field workers for further processing.

While the application process initially began in offline mode, the government has also introduced an online application facility from Tuesday to facilitate wider participation and faster processing. To ensure that the targeted number of applications is received within the stipulated deadline, the state government has appointed 22 senior officials, including Secretaries and Principal Secretaries, across the state's 22 districts. These officers will

coordinate closely with district administrations and monitor the implementation process to accelerate the scheme's rollout.

The official distribution of benefits under the Annapurna Yojana will begin at 12:30 pm on Wednesday. Following the formal launch, 100 women beneficiaries from each block and municipality will receive approval letters confirming their inclusion in the scheme.

To avail themselves of the benefits, every household must complete a Family-Level Data Collection Form. Applicants will need to submit several supporting documents along with the application. These include Aadhaar Card, Voter

ID Card, Ration Card, bank passbook and account details, proof of residence such as electricity or water bills, and recent passport-sized photographs.

After submission, applications will undergo a verification process at the local level. In rural areas, Block Development Officers (BDOs) will verify the details, while in municipal and corporation areas, the responsibility will rest with the respective commissioners.

The government expects the Annapurna Yojana to strengthen social welfare outreach and ensure that eligible women receive benefits through a streamlined and transparent application process across the state.

Complaint Filed Against MP-Actress Rachna Banerjee

MI News Service, Kolkata: A complaint has been lodged against actress-turned-Trinamool Congress MP Rachna Banerjee at Charu Market Police Station over the alleged disclosure of the identity of the RG Kar Medical College victim in a social media video posted last year.

The complaint was filed by advocate Shayan Sachin Basu, who alleged that in a video circulated on social media on August 15, 2024, Rachna Banerjee mentioned the victim's name multiple times. The complainant has sought immediate legal action, arguing that revealing the identity of a victim in such a case is punishable under the law.

Reacting to the development, Rachna Banerjee said that the entire state was emotionally shaken following the RG



Kar incident and that many people were deeply affected at the time. She stated

that during an emotional interaction over interview, the victim's name may have been mentioned unintentionally.

The MP said she had already expressed regret and publicly apologized for the mistake. "If someone has filed a complaint, I will also have to proceed through legal channels," she said.

Banerjee further clarified that she does not wish to comment extensively on the matter as it is now a legal issue. She added that she would consult her lawyer and respond accordingly if required.

According to the MP, she has not yet been contacted by Charu Market Police Station and has received no official communication regarding the complaint. She said she would seek legal advice if authorities approach her in connection with the case.

Liquor worth Rs. 20.5 lakh seized in Buxar, two arrested

MI News Service, Patna: In a major operation conducted in Buxar, Bihar, officials seized a large consignment of foreign liquor, worth approximately Rs 20.5 lakh, concealed beneath jute sacks in a goods vehicle. Two alleged smugglers were arrested during the operation.

According to an official, the seizure was made on Tuesday morning during a routine vehicle inspection drive at the Veer Kunwar Singh Check Post. Excise personnel were conducting checks on vehicles passing through the flyover when a suspicious DCM truck attracted their attention and was stopped for inspection.

The operation was led by Prohibition Inspector-in-Charge Kundan Kumar. During the initial examination, officials found the truck loaded with jute sacks, appearing to contain legitimate cargo. However, a detailed inspection using a specialised scanning device revealed suspicious irregularities within the vehicle.

Acting on the findings, the Excise team unloaded and examined the cargo more thoroughly. Beneath the jute sacks, officials discovered a large quantity of crates filled with foreign liquor carefully concealed to avoid detection during routine checks.

Officials stated that the smugglers had adopted a sophisticated concealment strategy, making it difficult to identify the illicit consignment solely through visual inspection. The use of technical screen-



ing equipment proved crucial in exposing the smuggling operation.

During interrogation, the arrested individuals disclosed that the liquor consignment had originated in Haryana and was being transported into Bihar for delivery in Bhagalpur.

The accused have been identified as Rahul Singh, a resident of Giloh village under the Sadhpur police station area in Rajasthan's Alwar district, and Sachin Yadav, a resident of Bahora Kalan village under the Bilaspur police station area in Haryana's Gurugram district.

Excise Superintendent Ashraf Jamal confirmed that a case has been registered against both accused under the relevant provisions of Bihar's prohibition laws and other applicable sections. He added that further legal proceedings are underway.

Continuation Of Service Of Bhagalpur - Katihar - Bhagalpur Unreserved Special

MI News Service, Kolkata, June 2, 2026 : In a major relief for commuters traveling between south and north-east Bihar, the Railway has further decided to continue the service of 03407/03408 Bhagalpur - Katihar - Bhagalpur Unreserved Special train with existing path, timings and stoppages upto 22.06.2026. However,

03407/03408 Bhagalpur - Katihar -Bhagalpur unreserved special will be short terminated at/ short originated from Naugachia from 10.06.2026 to 16.06.2026. This vital rail link was initially introduced following severe disruptions to road connectivity caused by damage to the Vikramshila Setu over the river Ganga,

Rescheduling Of Trains For Basukinath Yard Development Work

MI News Service, Kolkata, June 2, 2026 : In connection with yard drainage improvement work at Basukinath Yard over Anasol Division, 04 hours (from 10:10 hrs. to 14:10 hrs.) Traffic & Power Block has been planned from 04.06.2026

to 06.06.2026. Consequently, 73484 Jasidih - Dumka passenger & 63081 Rampurhat - Jasidih MEMU will be rescheduled by 150 minutes & 30 minutes respectively from 04.06.2026 to 06.06.2026.

Breaking Barriers: Eastern Railway Marching Ahead Towards The Game-Changing Jasidih Bypass To Eliminate Train Reversal Delays

MI News Service, Kolkata, June 2, 2026 : Eastern Railway is orchestrating a massive infrastructure structural revolution, and passengers traveling through Jasidih are about to experience shortly a monumental upgrade in their travel journeys. Under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Shri Milind Deouskar, General Manager, Eastern Railway, a long-awaited infrastructural marvel is fast approaching the finish line: The Jasidih Bypass Line Project.

Think of a railway bypass line as an express flyover or a highway ring-road for trains. Ordinarily, when a mail or express train needs to change its direction to go down a different branch line, it has to pull into a main station, decouple the engine, drive it to the other end of the train, re-attach it, and perform brake tests before finally moving out. This tedious process is known as "engine reversal."

To eliminate this headache, the new bypass line will completely detour around the busy Jasidih station itself, directly connecting two nearby areas: Kumbard Rohini and Deoghar. This layout allows



trains to seamlessly glide from one route to another without entering the congested main station area or wasting precious time changing engine sides.

Trains traveling to and from Dumka and Godda via Jasidih face a major operational hurdle. Currently, Mail, Express, and Freight trains are forced to undergo time-consuming engine reversals at Jasidih. Without this bypass line, the entire system suffers from wasted hours, where passengers sit idly in stationary coaches for a significant amount of time just waiting for the engine to change sides. Furthermore, this creates intense station congestion as platforms and tracks at

Jasidih remain blocked by reversing trains, creating a ripple effect of delays for other incoming trains and severely slowing down crucial freight trains carrying essential commodities.

The 293 Crore Jasidih Bypass Project is the ultimate solution to unlock the region's full potential. The completion of this vital bypass line will completely eliminate engine reversal for Mail/Express trains and Freight trains moving between Dumka/Godda and Jasidih. This project means supercharged passenger travel, as at least five passenger trains every single day will experience dramatically slashed travel times. Passengers will no

longer face frustrating, stationary delays at Jasidih, turning their journeys into faster, smoother, and completely hassle-free experiences. Additionally, at least two major goods trains per day will bypass the bottleneck entirely, ensuring faster delivery of goods, seamless industrial supply chains, and boosted regional trade.

This epic progress is already well underway, with 90% of the actual construction work fully complete. On the ground, massive engineering milestones like cutting through hard rocks, building road under-bridges (RUB), road over-bridges (ROB), and smaller bridges are already completely finished.

Behind the scenes, the entire blueprint and modern signaling systems for the project are fully ready. Think of these as the digital brain and traffic-light network for the trains. This complex network will safely control track paths and direct train traffic between Kumbard Rohini and the Deoghar Link, ensuring that when the new bypass opens, trains can switch routes safely, smoothly, and at high speeds.

"The Jasidih Bypass is not just an engineering project; it is a declaration of our commitment to redefining passenger comfort and operational velocity," stated Shri Shibrum Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer, Eastern Railway. "Under the inspiring guidance of our General Manager, Shri Milind Deouskar, Eastern Railway is working around the clock. With the project sitting proudly at 90% completion and targeting a final push towards July 2026, we are on the verge of delivering an era of seamless, lightning-fast rail travel for the people of Dumka, Godda, and beyond. Get ready to experience Indian Railways like never before!"

Bengal T20: Murshidabad shows the way

MI News Service, Kolkata: Bengal T20 League is flourishing with every passing year and Murshidabad is showing the way to flourish by energizing the Bengal T20 cricket League. Murshidabad has roped young energetic players to play

for the district team and they have performed pretty well in the last seasons.

Recently Murshidabad Kings & Kueens unveiled their new jersey for the upcoming Bengal T20 League. The evening witnessed an enthusiastic

gathering of players, team management, sponsors, and supporters, including celebrity Darshana Banik. According to the owners of Murshidabad Kings and Kueens "The jersey represents the passion, pride, and fighting spirit of Murshidabad Kings."

Continuation Of Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata, June 2, 2026 : With a view to clear the extra rush of passengers, it has been decided to continue the running of Special Trains as per the given schedule-

Table with 5 columns: SL. No., Train No., Train Name, Days of Run, Extended Period. It lists four special train services with their respective schedules.

Name Change I, Rahaman Hasibur (old name), S/o. Saokat Ali, R/o. Magura, Pandua, Hooghly-721249, W.B. do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rahaman Hasibur to Sekh Hasibur Rahaman (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sekh Hasibur Rahaman in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 13037 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly on 02/06/2026. I, Sekh Hasibur Rahaman & Rahaman Hasibur S/o. Saokat Ali, both are the same & one identical person.

Name Change I, Banasee Misra (Old Name) W/o Barid Baran Misra Residing at Saratchandra Sarani, Deshabandhu Road, Purulia Municipality Ward - 21, Indraprastha Pally, Purulia - 721010, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Banasee Misra (Old Name) to Banasi Chattopadhyay Misra (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Banasi Chattopadhyay Misra (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No. 105/2026 sworn before the Notary Public at Alipore on Date 01-06-2026. Jahira Bibi (New Name) and Jahira Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Jahira Mondal (Old Name) W/o Late Kaharajaman Mondal Residing at Vill - Kandarpapur, Rajpur Sonarpur (M), Po-Garia, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742147, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Jahira Mondal (Old Name) to Jahira Bibi (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Jahira Bibi (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit No. 2287 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, YEASMINA BIBI and IASMINA BIBI both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) IASMINA BIBI W/o SEIKH SAFIKUL ALAM Residing at - Vill- Jasohari, Post- Jasohari, Ps-Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742147, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from IASMINA BIBI (Old Name) to YEASMINA BIBI (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as YEASMINA BIBI in all purpose vide an affidavit No. 2287 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, YEASMINA BIBI and IASMINA BIBI both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, MOHAMMAD SHAH QAISAR (OLD NAME), SON OF MD SHAH ROOM, RESIDENT OF 12, NIL MADHAB SEN LANE, JORASANKHO, KOLKATA -700073, DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME MOHAMMAD SHAH QAISAR (OLD NAME) TO MD SHAH QAISAR (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MD SHAH QAISAR (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO. 9754, SWORN BEFORE THE 1ST CLASS JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT SEALDAH ON 15/05/2026. MD SHAH QAISAR (NEW NAME) AND MOHAMMAD SHAH QAISAR (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change I, Sabera Khatun (old name), W/o Jamiruddin SK, residing at Vill. & P.O.- Chandi, P.S. - Bishnupur, Dist. - South 24 Pgs, Pin- 743503, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sabera Khatun (Old Name) to Sabera Beoya (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sabera Beoya (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an Affidavit dated 02/06/2026. Sabera Beoya (New Name) and Sabera Khatun (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Dipendra Narayan Ghosh (Old Name), Son Of Late Nitya Gopal Ghosh, Resident Of 46/32, Becharam Chatterjee Road, Ps-Parnasree, Kolkata- 700034, West Bengal Do hereby declare that I have changed My Name From Dipendra Narayan Ghosh (Old Name) To Dipen Ghosh (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Dipen Ghosh (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 33 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/06/2026. Dipen Ghosh (New Name) And Dipendra Narayan Ghosh (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Living in Shamsherganj for 15 years hiding identity, arrested Bangladeshi youth sent to holding center

MI News Service, Murshidabad: A Bangladeshi youth was arrested from Shamsherganj in Murshidabad. The name of the arrested person is Sahin Sheikh. It is alleged that Sahin had been living in this country for 15 years hiding his identity. He had even married and started a family. On Monday, the police of Shamsherganj police station conducted a search after receiving information from a secret source. After that, the accused was arrested from the Jaladipur cement godown under Jangipur police district. He was sent to the Lalgola holding center on Tuesday morning. According to police sources, the arrested person is from Tarapur Khatpara area of Shibganj upazila of Chapanawabganj district in Bangladesh. He is alleged to have crossed the India-Bangladesh border illegally and migrated to Murshidabad in 2011 without valid documents. The youth had infiltrated Shamsherganj.

Name Change I, Raj Singh S/o. Rajesh Singh, R/o. Laxminagar Khatol, Mollapota, Keota, Sahaganj, Chinsurah, Hooghly-721044, W.B., do hereby declare that I, Raj Singh S/o. Shri Rajesh Singh, Raj Roy S/o. Rajesh Roy & Raj Roy S/o. Rajesh Rai, all are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 12997 dtd. 02/06/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar Hooghly Court, which name has been recorded in my several documents.

Name Change I, Subhas Chand Mishra (Old Name) S/o Shyam Sundar Mishra Residing at Plot No- 303, Road No 72, AAM Bagan, Fajhuljore, Po- Durgapur ABL Township, District- Paschim Bardhaman, Pin- 713206, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Subhas Chand Mishra (Old Name) to Subhas Mishra (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Subhas Mishra (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Kolkata Public at Kolkata on Dated 01-06-2026. Subhas Mishra (Old Name) and Subhas Chand Mishra (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Mrinal Kanti Malik (Old Name) S/o Bijay Malik Residing at Vill-Po- Shyam-sundar, Ps- Raina, District- Purba Bardhaman, Pin- 713424, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Mrinal Kanti Malik (Old Name) to Mrinal Malik (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Mrinal Malik (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 1391 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Purba Bardhaman on Dated 18-03-2026. Mrinal Malik (New Name) and Mrinal Kanti Malik (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) GOFUR SHAIKH S/o- ERSAT SK Residing at - Vill- Jasohari, Post- Jasohari, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742147, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from GOFUR SHAIKH TO ABDUL GOFUR SK (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as (New Name) ABDUL GOFUR SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2287 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, ABDUL GOFUR SK and GOFUR SHAIKH both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE MAHENDRA RAJBANSHI (OLD NAME), SON OF LATE KAILASH RAJBANSHI, RESIDENT OF 28/2A, NAKULESWAR BHATTACHARJEE LANE, P.O.- KALIGHAT, P. O.- BISHNUPUR, DIST.- SOUTH 24 PAGES, PIN- 700073, DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MAHENDRA RAJBANSHI (OLD NAME) TO MAHINDRA RAJBANSHI (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MAHINDRA RAJBANSHI (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 24 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 01/06/2026. MAHINDRA RAJBANSHI (NEW NAME) AND MAHENDRA RAJBANSHI (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE I, SUFAL CH MONDAL (OLD NAME), SON OF BACHHU MONDAL, RESIDENT OF BARGACHIA, BANKUL, JAGAT-BALLAPUR, HOWRAH RURAL- 711408, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SUFAL MONDAL (OLD NAME) TO SUFAL MONDAL (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SUFAL MONDAL (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 29/05/2026. SUFAL MONDAL (NEW NAME) AND SUFAL CH MONDAL (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change I, Ashim Bhattacharjee, (Old Name) S/O- Ashutosh Bhattacharjee, R/O- 14/1, Barisha Purba Para Road, Thakurpukur, Kolkata-700063, Have Changed My Name To Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee (New Name) Vide Affidavit No 19 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 02/06/2026 Ashim Bhattacharjee (Old Name) Henceforth Be Known As Ashim Kumar Bhattacharjee (New Name) For All Purposes And They Are Both Same One And Identical Person.

Father arrested for allegedly killing daughter in Kalyan

MI News Service, Mumbai: Father accused of brutally murdering his daughter. The deceased has been identified as Gayatri Basekar. Police arrested the accused on Monday, three days after the incident. This sensational incident was occurred in Kalyan, Maharashtra. Police said that Gayatri had married a young man from a different caste against the family's wishes. That is why the accused father allegedly killed the daughter. Police claim that he also confessed to killing the daughter during interrogation. According to police sources, the name of the accused is Vinod Basekar. He was arrested by the Bar-jarapeth police station three days after the incident. Gayatri married a young man from another community against the wishes of her family. After the marriage, she came to her father's house for a few days. On the day of the incident, the entire family sat together and had lunch. After this, her father had an argument with Gayatri. At that time, unable to control his anger, the accused allegedly suddenly attacked his daughter with a sharp weapon. Gayatri died on the spot. After that, the accused fled from there.

Name Change I, Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Majumder (old name), R/o. Near Bonomasjid, 133 Babel Station Road, Chinsurah, Hooghly-721013, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Majumder to Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Kumar Mazumder (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Kumar Mazumder in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 144 sworn before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 02/06/2026. I, Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Kumar Mazumder & Rama Mazumder W/o. Pradip Majumder, both are the same & one identical person.

Name Change I, Sailesh Gupta (Old Name) S/o Naresh Kumar Gupta Residing at 113/E, Be-liaghata Main Road, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700010, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sailesh Gupta (Old Name) to Saibhendu Gupta (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Saibhendu Gupta (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 10 Sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on Dated 02-06-2026. Sailesh Gupta (New Name) and Sailesh Gupta (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Suromyaa Basu (Old Name) S/o Soumen Bose Residing at Jc, 1/7, Salt Lake City, Sector - 3, P.O.- Ib Market, Ps-Bidhannagar (South), District- Kolkata, Pin- 700106, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Suromyaa Basu (Old Name) to Suromya Basu (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Suromya Basu (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on Dated 02-06-2026. Suromya Basu (New Name) and Suromyaa Basu (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SAFIKUL ALAM SHAIKH S/O- ABDUL GOFUR SK Residing at - Vill- Jasohari, Post- Jasohari, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742147, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from SAFIKUL ALAM SHAIKH TO SEIKH SAFIKUL ALAM (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as (New Name) SEIKH SAFIKUL ALAM in all purpose vide an affidavit No- 2286 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, SEIKH SAFIKUL ALAM and SAFIKUL ALAM SHAIKH both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, KESHAB KUMAR LOHIA (OLD NAME), SON OF DINESH KUMAR LOHIA, RESIDENT OF BF 56/B BLOCK SALT LAKE SECTOR - 1, P.O.- BIDHANNAGAR CC BLOCK, PS- 24 BARDHANNAGAR (NORTH) NORTH 24 PAGES, PIN- 700064 WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM KESHAB KUMAR LOHIA (OLD NAME) TO KESHAB LOHIA (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS KESHAB LOHIA (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 49 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 01/06/2026. KESHAB LOHIA (NEW NAME) AND KESHAB KUMAR LOHIA (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE I, SINDHU DEBATHI (OLD NAME), SON OF SISIR DEBATHI, RESIDENT OF DR. AMBEKAR COLONY, PO- DURGAPUR, PS- COKE OVEN, PASCHIM BARDHAMAN, PIN- 713201, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SINDHU DEBATHI (OLD NAME) TO SHINDHU CHANDRA DEBATHI (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SHINDHU CHANDRA DEBATHI (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 185 SWORN BEFORE THE COURT OF LD. JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE - 1ST CLASS AT DURGAPUR COURT 09.01.2017 SHINDHU CHANDRA DEBATHI (NEW NAME) AND SINDHU DEBATHI (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change I, Shyama Prasad Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Monmohan Nath Mondal, Resident Of 54/7 Santoshpur East Road, Santoshpur So, Kolkata - 700075, West Bengal Do hereby declare that I have changed My Name From Shyama Prasad Mondal (Old Name) To Shyama Prasad Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Shyama Prasad Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Alipore On 02/06/2026. Shyama Prasad Mondal (Old Name) And Shyama Prasad Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change I, Md. Afzal Khan S/o Md. Kaushar Khan, residing at 11/1H/3, M.M. Ali Road, Khidderpore, PS- Ekbalpore, Kolkata - 700023, W.B., declare that in my Marksheet of Class X and in Class XII my name has been wrongly recorded as Afzal Khan instead of my actual and correct name Md. Afzal Khan as mentioned in my Aadhar Card. That Md. Afzal Khan and Afzal Khan both are same and one identical person vide affidavit no. 46 dated 02.06.26 before Notary Public at Kolkata.

Name Change I, Jonaki Priyabhasini Halder (Old Name) W/o Sandip Dawn Residing at 15/2A, College Row, District- Kolkata, Pin - 700009, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Jonaki Priyabhasini Halder (Old Name) to Jonaki Dawn (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Jonaki Dawn (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 11 Sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on Dated 02-06-2026. Jonaki Dawn (New Name) and Jonaki Priyabhasini Halder (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Pratima Majumdar (Old Name) D/o Dinendra Kumar Dutta Residing at 33 Palpara By Lane, Bhadreswar, Po-Manikundi, Ps- Bhadreswar, District- Hooghly, Pin- 712139, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Pratima Majumdar (Old Name) to Pratima Majumder (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Pratima Majumder (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on Dated 02-06-2026. Pratima Majumder (New Name) and Pratima Majumdar (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) ASMAT SK S/O- DERESH SK Residing at - Basabari, Post- Chouragacha, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742405, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from ASMAT SK TO ASMOT SK (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as (New Name) ASMOT SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2285 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, ASMOT SK and ASMAT SK both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, JAYANTI DAS (OLD NAME), WIFE OF BAPU DAS, RESIDENT OF 116/80A, SANTI NIVAS, PHASE-2, PURBALOK, MIKUNDIPUR, PS-2, PURBA JADAVPUR, KOLKATA - 700090, DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM JAYANTI DAS (OLD NAME) TO JAYANTI BHOWMIK DAS (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS JAYANTI BHOWMIK DAS (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 25 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 01/06/2026. JAYANTI BHOWMIK DAS (NEW NAME) AND JAYANTI DAS (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE I, MONDAL PRIYA ARUN RUMA (OLD NAME), WIFE OF SOMNATH MONDAL, RESIDENT OF VILL & PO - BARGACHIA, HOWRAH RURAL - 711404 WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MONDAL PRIYA ARUN RUMA (OLD NAME) TO PRIYA MONDAL (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS PRIYA MONDAL (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 29/05/2026. PRIYA ARUN RUMA (OLD NAME) AND MONDAL PRIYA ARUN RUMA (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change I, Sudhanshu Majumder, (old name) S/O Late Anulaya Majumder, Resident Ichapur Chunipara Colony, Near G S F P School, North Barakpore, Pin-743144, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sudhanshu Majumder (old name) to Sudhanshu Kumar Majumder (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sudhanshu Kumar Majumder (new name) in all purpose, as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 02/06/2026. Sudhanshu Kumar Majumder (new name) and Sudhanshu Majumder (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Change of Name I, AFREEN FERQJ D/O ZAMID ALI, residing at Debalpur, Chand Beg Bazar, Ward No. -05, P.O. : Kharagpur, P.S. - Kharagpur (T), Dist. - Paschim Medinipur, Pin- 721301, W.B., shall henceforth be known as AFREEN FERQJ D/O ZAHID ALI as declared in the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate, (1st class) at Kharagpur, vide Affidavit No. 6862, dated 02/06/2026. AFREEN FERQJ D/O ZAMID ALI and AFREEN FERQJ D/O ZAHID ALI both are same and identical person.

Name Change I, Asagar Ali Ansari (old name) S/o Abdur Razzaque Ansari residing at 85, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Kolkata-700013, resident of Rampur Singhara, Mahua, Vaishali 844126, Bihar, India have changed my name and henceforth I shall be known as Asgar Ali Ansari (new name) as declared before the Ld Judicial Magistrate 1st Class at Alipore vide an affidavit SI No. 17271 dated 19th day of May, 2026. Asagar Ali Ansari (old name) and Asgar Ali Ansari (new name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Tarun Banerjee (Old Name) S/o Bhabani Sankar Banerjee Residing at 48/1E, Leela Roy Sarani, Po - Ballygunge, Ps - Gariahat, District - Kolkata, Pin - 700019, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Tarun Banerjee (Old Name) to Tarun Kumar Banerjee (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Tarun Kumar Banerjee (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate at Kolkata on Dated 15-01-2026. Tarun Kumar Banerjee (New Name) and Tarun Banerjee (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) APPEL SEKH S/O- SAMAD SEKH Residing at - Vill- Nandpara, Post- Kumsarsanda, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742136, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from APPEL SEKH TO AAPEL SEKH (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as (New Name) AAPEL SEKH in all purpose vide an affidavit No- 2284 On Date 25 May 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, AAPEL SEKH and APPEL SEKH both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, AMANULLAH MOLLA (OLD NAME), SON OF SULTAN AHMED MOLLA, RESIDENT OF CHATA KALIKAPUR, SOUTH 24 PARGANAS - 700140, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM AMANULLAH MOLLA (OLD NAME) TO MOHAMMAD AMANULLAH MOLLA (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MOHAMMAD AMANULLAH MOLLA (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 29/05/2026. MOHAMMAD AMANULLAH MOLLA (NEW NAME) AND AMANULLAH MOLLA (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE I, MOHAMMAD FIROZ (OLD NAME), SON OF MD MUNNA, RESIDENT OF N S PATH PURANILASH TITAGARH NORTH 24 PGS- 700119, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MOHAMMAD FIROZ (OLD NAME) TO MD FIROZ (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MD FIROZ (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 17 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 27/05/2026. MD FIROZ (NEW NAME) AND MOHAMMAD FIROZ (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change I, Vandana Gupta (old name), W/o Gulabdas Gupta, residing at Flat No. 4A, Metro Towers, 1 Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Above Metro Plaza, Middleton Row, Pin- 700071, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Vandana Gupta (Old Name) to Vandana Gulabdas Gupta (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Vandana Gulabdas Gupta (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an Affidavit dated 01/06/2026. Vandana Gulabdas Gupta (Old Name) and Vandana Gupta (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, RUBINA KHATUN, D/O- NOOR KHAN, S/O- ASGAR KHAN, D/0- Dabeshin Paschim Naita, Mahasti Road, S/O- Dumdum, Kolkata- 700028, Dist.- North 24 Pgs., do hereby declare that in Birth Certificate of my daughter AALIA PARVIN's, my name has been recorded as RUBINA BIBI. On 27/01/26 through affidavit no. 4328 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Barasat, I affirm that RUBINA KHATUN & RUBINA BIBI is the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, Md Abdul Hamid, (old name) S/O- Md Abdul Kayum, (old name) residing at 19, Saheb nagar, Bhasaipaikar, Samsarganj, Murshidabad have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Mohammad Abdul Hamid, S/O- Mohammad Abdul Kayum as declared before the Ld.1st class J.M at Jangipur vide Affidavit No. 15436 dt. 19/05/2026 Md Abdul Hamid, S/O- Md Abdul Kayum & Mohammad Abdul Hamid, S/O- Mohammad Abdul Kayum both are same and identical persons.

Name Change I, Noojehan Begum (Old Name) W/o Late Md Sharuddin Residing at 2J, Satish Chandra Mukherjee Road, Po - Entally, Ps- Beniapukur, District- Kolkata, Pin- 700014, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Noojehan Begum (Old Name) to Noor Jahan Khatoun (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Noor Jahan Khatoun (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 15-01-2026. Noor Jahan Khatoun (New Name) and Noojehan Begum (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, Saharai Al (old name) son of Al Zakaaria Sardar, resident of Malatipur Dakshin Para, Chaita, Malatipur, Dist: North 24 Parganas, Pin: 743445, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Saharai Al (old name) to Al Saharai Sardar (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Al Saharai Sardar in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 44 sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata dated 01/06/2026. Al Saharai Sardar and Saharai Al both are same and one identical person.

Name Change I, (Old Name) SAIRUL S/O- NAJEM SK Residing at, Vill- Solepara, Post- Khosbar, Ps- Kandi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742136 West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have changed my name from SAIRUL TO SAIRUL SK (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as (New Name) SAIRUL SK in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2198 On Date 24 April 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, SAIRUL SK and SAIRUL both are Same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE I, SUSANTA SARKAR (OLD NAME), SON OF LATE SUNIL KUMAR SARKAR, RESIDENT OF 176, VIVEKANANDA ROAD, P.O.- GARIJUA, PS.- NOAPARA DIST.- NORTH 24 PARGANAS, PIN - 743133, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SUSANTA SARKAR (OLD NAME) TO SUSANTA KUMAR SARKAR (NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SUSANTA KUMAR SARKAR (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE. VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 23 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 01/06/2026. SUSANTA KUMAR SARKAR (NEW NAME) AND SUSANTA SARKAR (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

How to Care for Your Dog : A Comprehensive Guide

The indigenous-breed dogs roaming the streets and alleys-often categorized as stray animals-are, in fact, the most suitable pets for the local climate and environment. This is because their immunity is superior to that of foreign dog breeds; yet, people often view them with a sense of disdain. However, these loyal creatures can be adopted and welcomed into our homes. Doing so ensures they receive proper care and removes these voiceless beings from the list of stray animals.

For centuries, the dog has been regarded as humanity's most loyal friend. It is also true that these dogs, when integrated with human society, can become a threat to people if they turn aggressive. In most instances, this situation arises when they fall into the category of stray dogs. When kept as pets, they are viewed as members of the family; conversely, when they are strays, these very same dogs are often regarded with aversion. According to the State Committee for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, indigenous dog breeds are considered superior to foreign breeds when raised as pets within the local environment. Just as people consider it a matter of prestige to own hybrid or cross-bred foreign dogs, the indigenous breeds-often referred to as "street dogs"-can be transformed into excellent companions through proper care and training.

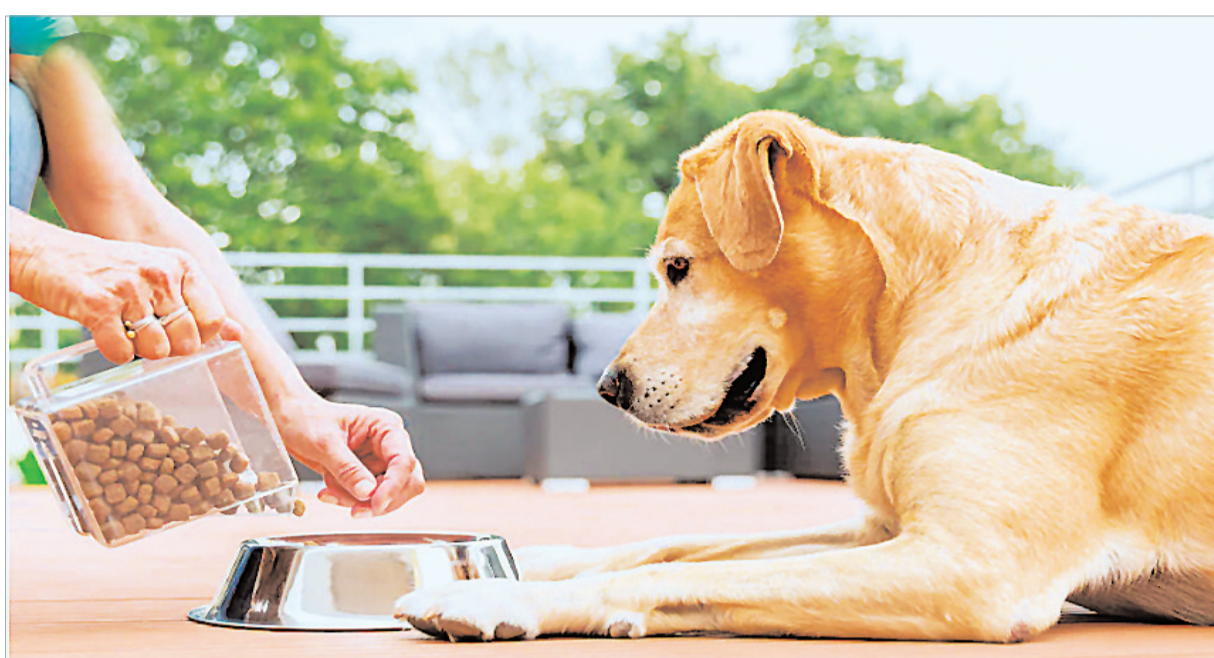
Culling stray dogs is not a solution to the problem. Furthermore, under existing regulations, killing them is prohibited; such acts are classified as criminal offenses. Therefore, one viable solution

to this issue is for dog enthusiasts to adopt street dogs. This would effectively help reduce the population of stray dogs. While vaccination can mitigate the risks of diseases transmitted through dog bites, public awareness regarding this remains low. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can play a pivotal role in assisting with this initiative.

Indigenous dogs often prove to be superior to their foreign counterparts. Their most remarkable attribute is that, in addition to being intelligent, they are also fiercely loyal. Their lifespan exceeds that of foreign dog breeds, and they adapt to any environment with great ease. They possess a remarkably sharp memory; once they have seen someone, they do not forget them easily. Furthermore, compared to foreign breeds, they are less prone to illnesses and possess a significantly higher immunity. They also demonstrate a remarkable capacity for learning. In contrast, foreign dog breeds often do not feel comfortable or at ease in every type of environment. Additionally, their upkeep and care require special attention.

Characteristics of Indigenous Dog Breeds

When it comes to indigenous dog breeds, their development has been somewhat limited due to a lack of public interest. However, the Rampur Hound is widely regarded as the finest among the indigenous breeds. It is said that kings and royalty of yore used to keep these dogs as pets, not only for their loyalty but also for their impressive stature-being quite tall and long-limbed. Although they possess a lean physique,



they are unmatched in their agility. They are exceptionally fast runners and are considered an excellent breed for hunting purposes. They are also masters at executing long jumps. However, dogs of this particular breed are now rarely found.

Rajapalayam Dog: Dogs of this breed are now on the verge of extinction; they are rarely sighted. Dogs of this breed are renowned for being extremely loyal and affectionate.

Indian Pariah Dog: Among indigenous breeds, this is the most commonly found variety. They are also referred to as "street dogs." They are predominantly found roaming in alleys and on public roads. They are known for possessing an excellent immune system. A remarkable trait of this breed is that, even if taken far away and left behind, they will

invariably find their way back to their original home within a few days.

Kanni Dog: Dogs of this breed are considered to be quite intelligent and cunning. They possess a sturdy and muscular physique. You can also keep them as guard dogs for protection.

****Kombai Dog:**** These dogs are regarded as being extremely powerful. Furthermore, they are known to be quite aggressive and fierce in nature. Along with this, they possess a high level of energy.

Chippiparai Dog: These dogs are considered to be extremely loyal; however, they also prefer to live independently. Their height is approximately 65 centimeters. Dogs of this breed are now found in very limited numbers.

Things to Consider Before Choosing a Pet Dog

If you are planning to get a pet dog, keep these 6 essential points in mind first. They will help you choose the perfect canine companion for your home.

Dog Size

You should always choose a pet dog based on the size of your home and your specific needs. If you live in a small home, you should opt for a less active dog. Conversely, if you have ample space, you can choose an active, large-sized dog.

Choosing a Breed
Nowadays, a wide variety of dog breeds are available in the market. However, you should always select a breed with safety and your specific requirements in mind.

The Dog's Age

If you raise a dog from puppyhood, it becomes much more familiar with you and your family. Although young dogs require more care and

attention, they are also easier to train. Consequently, young dogs tend to bond and integrate easily with your family and children.

The Dog's History

Often, we acquire a dog from a shelter or a previous owner. In such cases, we may not have much information regarding the dog's history. These pets have sometimes endured difficult circumstances, so it is important that you are aware of their background.

Choose a Dog Based on Energy Level

If you have a low energy level yourself, an overly active pet might not be the best fit for you. Therefore, you should always select a dog breed that aligns with your own energy level.

The Safest Dog Breeds for Pets

These dog breeds are extremely safe for both the

home environment and for children. You can bring any of these breeds into your home.

- Pariah Dog
- Indian Spitz
- Labrador Retriever
- Golden Retriever
- Pug
- German Shepherd
- Beagle

So, these are some of the dog breeds that are considered extremely safe for you and your family. We all love keeping pets. It has been observed that children in households with pets tend to be emotionally stronger. Compared to their peers, they are far more adept at caring for others and valuing the emotions of those around them. However, keeping a dog, cat, or any other pet at home essentially means raising another child-for pets require just as much care and affection as children do.

Things to Know Before Getting a Pet

If you already have a pet at home, make sure to identify its breed and tailor its care and diet according to its specific needs. If you are considering getting a dog, we suggest that you adopt a native breed. We recommend this because caring for a native breed is significantly easier than caring for foreign breeds.

Better Health with Less Care

If you bring home a native breed dog, you will need to devote much less time to its care, as it finds it easier to adapt to the local environment. Its immune system is naturally suited to the local climate, making it less susceptible to illnesses. Since it falls ill less frequently, you will have less caregiving work to do, and your budget will remain unaffected, as you will avoid the hassle of fre-

quent visits to the veterinarian.

Essential Points to Know Before Keeping Pets

Ensure Proper Training

If you want your dog or other pet to obey your commands and maintain good behavior, you should enroll it in a training program with a professional pet trainer for a few months, ideally when it is between 3 and 4 months old. Beyond just behavioral training, you should also train your pet regarding its diet. Whenever you wish to introduce a new food item to your pet, first allow it to become familiar with the scent of the food, and then serve it in a small quantity. This allows you to determine whether or not your pet likes that particular food.

The Right Way to Walk

To be a responsible pet parent, you must understand that simply owning a dog, puppy, cat, or rabbit is not enough. It is equally essential to know the proper tips for keeping them healthy. You should be aware that walking on rough surfaces is crucial for pets; this helps keep their nails naturally trimmed.

Personal Care Tips

When bathing your pet, take care to ensure that water does not enter their ears. For dental care-that is, looking after their teeth-be sure to consult your veterinarian and seek their advice on best practices.

When Leaving Them Alone

If you are leaving your dog or pet home alone, play some instrumental tunes or soft music for them. You may even choose to play a recording of your own voice. This will give them the sense that you are still present in the house, helping them remain calm and relaxed.

Why Should We Adopt Indigenous Dogs ?



We owe a debt of gratitude to PM Narendra Modi; thanks to him, the nation is once again turning its attention toward its own indigenous dogs-a development that is, in itself, highly commendable. A few months ago, during his 'Mann Ki Baat' address, and while furthering the message of 'Atmanirbharta' (self-reliance), he urged the country's security agencies-such as the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)-to incorporate indigenous dog breeds into their canine squads instead of relying on foreign breeds. Heeding this advice, the NCB has already begun recruiting indigenous dogs into its ranks-a pivotal decision that should be emulated by all citizens across the country who own dogs. A racket driven by financial gain currently operates within the trade of foreign breeds-such as Alsatians and Labradors-wherein male dogs are bred with their own mothers or sisters, and the resulting puppies are subsequently sold at exorbitant prices. Such incestuous breeding practices give rise to physical infirmities in subsequent generations.

In contrast, our indigenous dog breeds represent a robust blend of various local varieties, serving as healthy, loyal, and affectionate companions in our lives. While foreign dog breeds require daily baths and must be fed expensive biscuits, the indigenous Indian dog does not need to be bathed every day and can be raised simply by feeding it 'roti' (flatbread). Raising an Indian dog is not expensive; in fact, it is very affordable. In contrast, raising a foreign dog

can cost an individual even more than raising a child. Purchasing a foreign dog is costly, whereas an Indian dog can often be acquired at a very low price-or even for free. Foreign dogs are adapted to foreign environments and are not suited to the Indian climate; consequently, they fall ill easily here and frequently suffer from various health issues, necessitating a great deal of extra care. The Indian dog, however, is already acclimated to the local environment, making it very easy to raise. In terms of intelligence, the Indian dog is every bit as smart as its foreign counterparts. We can easily raise an Indian dog by feeding it the same 'roti' consumed by the household, whereas foreign dogs require the purchase of expensive biscuits and various other costly food items, making their upkeep significantly more expensive.

Apart from our beloved Indian dogs, there is no better alternative, as they have inhabited this land since ancient times and have evolved through various stages of development alongside the local climate. When it comes to the Indian climate, they are the absolute best choice.

They do not possess thick coats of fur, so they face few difficulties coping with hot weather. Their maintenance requirements are significantly lower compared to foreign breeds. Consequently, they tend to live longer than their foreign counterparts, allowing you to spend a substantial portion of your life in their company.

Isn't that the best part of all?

Breeds such as the St. Bernard and Husky are ill-suited for India's hot and humid climate, as they originate from colder regions. Imagine the plight of a person from Russia attempting to live in India; the heat would be unbearable for them unless they remained indoors in an air-conditioned room. The situation is exactly the same for foreign dog breeds. Furthermore, Indian dogs are just as intelligent as any other breed. People purchase foreign breeds because they perceive them as being of a higher class. In doing so, they cast aside our own indigenous dogs, dismissing them merely as "local" or "mongrels." One might well wonder: if the dogs are "local," then aren't we-the people-local as well? People take great pride in Indian culture, yet when it comes to Indian dogs, they are often treated as if they were somehow untouchable.

This behavior is largely driven by a desire for ostentation and social status; before you become a part of this trend, please take a moment to do some research on puppies via Google.

Therefore, people should exercise their personal choice, but they should also ensure that their choices align with what is right.

Ultimately, dogs offer us unconditional love. And this love should be reciprocated by humans.

Once you adopt a dog, please do not keep it chained up. Furthermore, make an effort to feed the other stray dogs in your locality as well.

PRISM-owned Weddingz launches three company serviced banquets in Kolkata

KOLKATA: PRISM-owned Weddingz has announced the launch of three new Company Serviced Banquets in Kolkata strengthening its commitment to bringing transparency, reliability, and professionally managed experience to India's growing wedding and events market. The portfolio includes Haldiram Banquet, Vedamm Banquet and Shagun Banquet.

The launch marks an important milestone in Weddingz's expansion of its Company Serviced Banquets model, a professionally managed format where Weddingz takes end-to-end operational responsibility for banquet sales, revenue management, guest experience, marketing, vendor coordination, and event execution.

The initiative directly addresses

several long-standing customer pain points in the banquet industry, including inconsistent pricing, hidden costs, multiple negotiations, last-minute service issues, and uncertainty around food quality and decor execution. It also helps banquet owners improve operational efficiency, inventory utilization, market visibility, and revenue realization through professionally managed operations and standardized processes.

Speaking on the initiative, Aditya Sharma, Business Head, Weddingz said "The success of our Company Serviced Hotels has reinforced a simple belief: guests value consistency, transparency, and accountability. We are now bringing the same principles to Kolkata with our company serviced

banquets that combine professional venue management with the warmth and cultural richness that define Bengali hospitality. This initiative also aligns with the Government of India's 'Wed in India' vision, which seeks to showcase India's diverse wedding traditions and world-class hospitality capabilities to domestic and international audiences".

To ensure a consistent guest experience across all venues, PRISM has implemented standardized operating procedures, centralized quality audits, trained event operations teams, and structured escalation mechanisms across its Company Serviced Banquets. Each event is managed by a dedicated event manager who serves as a single point of

contact from initial booking through final execution, ensuring seamless coordination and accountability. Guests also benefit from transparent pricing, clearly documented commitments, centralized support, and end-to-end assistance throughout their event journey.

According to data released by the Registrar General of Marriage in the state, West Bengal registers roughly 1.3-1.8 lakh marriages annually, with Kolkata and its surrounding districts accounting for a significant share of these celebrations. The scale of the market highlights the growing need for professionally managed, transparent, and high-quality wedding and banquet services.

PLATINUMRx CROSSES 10 LAKH USERS, SAVES INDIANS OVER 128 CRORES ON MEDICINE BILLS

KOLKATA: PlatinumRx, India's most trusted platform for affordable branded-generic medicines, has crossed a significant milestone, serving 10 lakh unique patients served across the country, with total savings of over 128 crore rupees generated for its users through access to quality generic substitutes.

For millions of Indians living with diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease, monthly medicine bills of ₹2,000 to 5,000 rupees are not an exception. They are a quiet, relentless burden, one that pushes over 70 crore people to skip doses, delay refills, or quietly go without. PlatinumRx was built to change that arithmetic.

The platform offers one carefully selected, high-quality branded generic substitute per medicine, sourced directly from reputed pharmaceutical companies, with the 100% same salt composition as branded originals, dispensed by licensed pharmacists, and delivered to 20,000-plus pin codes across India. One-day delivery in metros. One to three days everywhere else. Through the platform, patients are saving 50-60% on their monthly medicine bills without compromising on quality or safety.

"128 crore rupees back in the hands of Indian patients is not a business metric. It is 128 crore rupees that stays in family budgets going toward school fees, groceries, and the everyday life that medicine bills too often crowd out," said Ashutosh Pandey, Co-Founder of PlatinumRx. "We started



PlatinumRx

with a simple belief: quality medicine should not be a luxury. Nearly ten lakh families later, that belief is becoming a movement."

What separates PlatinumRx from the crowded generics marketplace is its deliberate restraint. Rather than overwhelming patients with dozens of options, the platform offers exactly one vetted alternative per salt, removing confusion, building trust, and making the switch from prescribed brand to branded generic as simple as a single tap.

PlatinumRx was founded by Ashutosh Pandey and Piyush Kumar, alumni of IIT Delhi and IIM Calcutta respectively, with the conviction that the affordability problem in Indian healthcare is not a supply problem; it is a trust and access problem. Adoption of branded generics among patients nearly doubled from 22% in 2024 to 40% in 2025 and is expected to cross 70% by the end of 2026. The data shows that trust is being earned, one prescription at a time. On average, chronic patients save ₹1,500* a month on their medicines.

PlatinumRx is an online pharmacy redefining how India accesses chronic medicines. By offering one quality-checked branded generic alternative per salt, sourcing directly from leading pharmaceutical companies, and delivering across 20,000-plus pin codes nationwide, PlatinumRx brings affordability, simplicity, and safety to medicine purchases. Founded in 2024 by Ashutosh Pandey and Piyush Kumar, PlatinumRx is available on the web and mobile app. For more information, visit platinumrx.in.

India continues to strengthen Africa's public health preparedness amid Ebola outbreak

MI News Service, Delhi: India has extended urgent medical assistance to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) to support their Ebola response efforts, in response to a request received from the African Union Commission.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement that India's support is tailored to meet the needs of the Africa CDC to contain the Ebola outbreak in some parts of Africa, and to strengthen public health preparedness and regional response capacities.

The MEA informed that as an urgent response, the first tranche of about 2.5 tons of urgent medical supplies was dispatched on May 24 to Kampala, Uganda, comprising protective gear, medical mon-



itoring equipment, essential medicines and supplements.

After receiving a more detailed list of requirements from Africa CDC, MEA has now mobilised a larger second tranche of 43 tons, comprising protective gear, diagnostic and monitoring devices, sample transport kits, infection

prevention supplies, medicines and supplements. The second tranche will be reaching Kampala on 2 June 2026 and handed over to the Africa CDC.

The Ministry of External Affairs highlighted how India's support reflects its enduring commitment to partnership with African countries, including in

supporting them to respond to public health situations on the continent.

"Our Missions in Addis Ababa and Kampala remain closely engaged with the African Union Commission and the Africa CDC for supporting their Ebola response efforts", the statement further noted.

Earlier on Monday, the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) welcomed the emergency diagnostics, therapeutics and medical supplies provided by the Government of India to support the ongoing Ebola response efforts in the eastern regions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). It said in a post on X, "The supplies were delivered through Africa CDC's Eastern Regional Coordinating Centre in Uganda and mobilised to support response

efforts in eastern DRC.

"The continental public health agency further noted that the assistance would strengthen ongoing efforts to contain the outbreak and support affected communities. It also expressed appreciation for India's support, saying, "We thank the Government and people of India for their solidarity with Africa."

African CDC, the public health agency of the African Union, plays a key role in coordinating disease prevention and emergency response efforts across the continent.

New Delhi has reiterated that it remains in close contact with African health authorities and stands ready to deploy subsequent tranches of medical and logistical assistance as the situation evolves.

Jaishankar, Thuringia Minister-President Mario Voigt discuss business, technology cooperation

MI News Service, Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday held talks with Thuringia Minister-President Mario Voigt and his delegation, highlighting the growing momentum in India-Germany and India-European Union ties.

In a post on X, Jaishankar said he was "delighted to meet Minister-President Mario Voigt of Thuringia, Germany, and his delegation," and he welcomed his strong support for expanding relations between India and Germany as well as between India and the European Union.

The post added, "His strong support for expanding India-Germany and India-EU relationships is welcome. We had a good discussion on business opportunities and technology partnerships."

The discussions focused on "business opportunities and technology partnerships."

On the same day, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar held talks with South African Deputy President Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile in New Delhi, where both leaders discussed ways to deepen bilateral cooperation in various sectors and agreed to work closely in international forums.

In a post on X, Jaishankar said he was "pleased to meet"



Mashatile and appreciated his "strong commitment to deepening our longstanding partnership" between India and South Africa.

According to Jaishankar, the discussions focused on "opportunities in trade, investments, MSMEs, digital and infrastructure domains and both sides "also agreed that India and South Africa must work closely in international forums."

In another post on X, Jaishankar said that India has dispatched the second tranche of 43 tonnes of medical assistance consignment to Africa's Centre for Disease Control and Prevention to bolster response capacities across Africa in the wake of the Ebola outbreak.

Sharing the details in a post on X, the minister said that the assistance comprises protective gear, diagnostic and monitoring

equipment, medicines, and supplements.

"Confident that this 43 tons consignment will further strengthen public health preparedness and bolster Ebola response capacities across @AfricanUnion", he said in a post on X.

Jaishankar also extended greetings to Italy on the occasion of its National Day, expressing confidence in the continued growth of bilateral ties between the two countries.

In a post on X, Jaishankar conveyed his wishes to Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, the Italian government and its people.

The post said, "Warm greetings to DPM & FM Antonio Tajani, the Government and people of Italy on their National Day. Confident that our Special Strategic Partnership will continue to grow from strength to strength."

Russia launches massive attack on Ukraine, 18 killed

MI News Service, Kyiv: Russia launched hundreds of drones and dozens of missiles against Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities overnight, killing at least 18 civilians and wounding more than 100 others, authorities said Tuesday. The damage trapped some people under the rubble of apartment buildings. Emergency crews digging through the wreckage pulled out the body of a 3-year-old child and the bodies of a mother and her 8-year-old son in the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro, officials said. The attack stretched from night into day and the boom of explosions reverberated across cities. Officials said that 12 people were killed in Dnipro and six in Kyiv. Kyiv residents had been on edge for days after Russia warned that a massive aerial attack was coming and warned foreign diplomats to leave the Ukrainian capital. None appeared to heed the call.

Two pilots killed in military training plane crash in Taiwan

MI News Service, Taipei: Two Taiwan Air Force pilots were killed after a T-34 trainer aircraft crashed in southern Taiwan, local media reported on Tuesday morning.

Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te expressed condolences for the two Air Force lieutenant colonels who were killed in the crash said a task force had been established to probe the cause of the accident and prevent similar tragedies, CNA reported.

According to the country's Air Force, the aircraft, was being flown by Lt. Col. Lu Chi-yu and Lt. Col. Kuo Chun-nan on a simulated engine-failure training mission when the plane crashed near the northern end of the runway at 8:08 am (local time) at Gangshan Air Base in Kaohsiung, killing both pilots, Focus Taiwan news outlet reported.

"I'm deeply saddened



by this sudden tragedy. On behalf of the country, I would like to thank the two pilots for their sacrifices and contributions and extend my deepest condolences to their families," Lai told reporters in Taipei.

Further, in a statement, Taiwan's Premier Cho Jung-tai said the task force would review the aircraft's mechanical condition, training procedures, and safety measures to ensure the safety of future exercises.

AS per local media the Kuo, 46, was married and graduated from the Republic of China Air Force Acad-

emy in 2004. He had accumulated 2,172 flight hours in the T-34, the air force said. Meanwhile, Lu, 41, was married with a son and a daughter, and graduated from the academy in 2008. He had logged 2,114 flight hours in the T-34, it said.

The US-made T-34C Mentor serves as the first aircraft flown by air force cadets before they advance to jet trainers and operational combat aircraft.

In 2015, Taiwan saw one of the most visually documented crashes in aviation history when shortly after taking off from Song-

shan Airport, the ATR 72-600 turboprop suffered a malfunction in one engine.

Local media had reported that as the aircraft plunged toward the Keelung River, its wing rolled at a near 90-degree angle, clipping a taxi and a highway viaduct barrier before crashing into the water. Dashcam footage from nearby cars captured the final seconds. Out of 58 people on board, 43 perished.

In 2000, a Boeing 747-200 China Airlines flight broke apart mid-air over the Taiwan Strait, killing all 225 people on board. In 1998, an Airbus A300 crashed into a residential neighborhood near Chiang Kai-shek International Airport (now Taoyuan International Airport) while attempting a go-around in heavy fog and rain. All 196 people on board and seven people on the ground were killed.

"Partnership not only about commerce, but about building resilient economies": S.African Deputy President Mashatile

MI News Service, Delhi: South African Deputy President Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile and Vice President CP Radhakrishnan on Tuesday held a working meeting in New Delhi, emphasising deeper economic cooperation and stronger strategic ties between the two countries. The meeting, held at the Vice President's Enclave, brought together Mashatile and the South African delegation with their Indian counterparts as part of the Deputy President's working visit to India aimed at identifying strategic partnerships and expanding economic opportunities. During the discussions, Deputy President Mashatile and

his counterpart reflected on the importance of leaders learning from each other's experiences. "The exchange of perspectives at this level is not only symbolic but practical; it allows us to draw lessons from our respective journeys, to refine our approaches to governance, and to inspire our peoples with a vision of shared progress," Mashatile said. Highlighting the potential for greater collaboration, the Deputy President noted that "India, with its advanced capabilities in digital innovation, manufacturing, and healthcare, provides avenues for collaboration that can uplift economies for both countries."

Laos Dy PM visits Taj Mahal along with wife

MI News Service, Agra: Thongsavan-Phomvihane, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Laos paid a visit to the Taj Mahal along with his wife, VadsanaPhomvihane on Tuesday.

They were seen enjoying the scenic beauty of the architectural marvel along with their delegation.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Lao PDR, ThongsavanPhomvihane, has arrived in India to co-chair the 10th India-Lao PDR Joint Commission Meeting, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

The MEA stated on Monday that the high-level visit marks a significant milestone as both nations commemorate seven decades of formal bilateral engagement.

"A warm welcome to DPM and FM ThongsavanPhomvihane of Lao PDR on his first visit to India to co-chair the 10th India-Lao PDR Joint Commission Meeting with EAM S. Jaishankar," the MEA wrote on social media platform X.

The ministry emphasised that the ongoing visit will provide a major boost to the existing historical ties and shared strategic objectives between the two countries.

"India and Lao PDR are celebrating 70 years of diplomatic ties. The visit will add momentum to the longstanding partnership between India and Lao and further deepen cooperation across areas of mutual interest," the MEA added.

The institutional dialogue mechanism resumes after a hiatus of several years, as the ninth Joint Commission Meeting on Bilateral Cooperation (JCM) between Lao and India was held on November 23, 2018, in Vientiane, Lao PDR.

The high-level interaction follows the foundational discussions held during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with the Prime Minister of Lao, SonexaySiphandone, in Vientiane in October 2024. During that meeting, Prime Minister Siphandone expressed gratitude to PM



Modi for India's flood relief assistance provided to the Lao PDR in the aftermath of Typhoon Yagi, highlighting New Delhi's role as a reliable partner during humanitarian crises.

Furthermore, the two leaders noted that the restoration and conservation of Vat Phou, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, under Indian assistance by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), imparts a special dimension to bilateral ties.

The two Prime Ministers also expressed satisfaction at the close cooperation between the countries in regional and multilateral fora, while PM Siphandone reaffirmed India's role on the international stage.

Following the bilateral talks, MoUs/Agreements in the fields of defence, broadcasting, Customs cooperation, and three Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) under the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation were exchanged in the presence of the two leaders.

The QIPs relate to the preservation of the heritage of Lao Ramayan, the restoration of Wat Pakea Buddhist temple with murals related to Ramayan, and support for the shadow puppetry theatre on Ramayan in Champasak province.

All three QIPs have a Government of India grant assistance of about USD 50,000 each to help preserve the shared civilisational heritage.

Tibet advocacy takes centre stage in Sydney as activists mark Chushi Gangdruk anniversary, Tiananmen Massacre

MI News Service, Sydney: Tibet advocacy, cultural preservation and calls for greater international awareness of the Tibetan cause were at the forefront of commemorative events held in Sydney over the weekend to mark the 68th anniversary of the founding of Chushi Gangdruk and the 37th anniversary of the Tiananmen Massacre, according to the Tibet Information Office, Canberra.

The Tibet Information Office, Canberra, reported that Dawa Sangmo, Chinese Liaison Officer of the Tibet Information Office, participated in a gathering on May 30 commemorating the founding of Chushi Gangdruk, the Tibetan resistance movement established in 1958. The event brought together community leaders, activists and supporters, including Bill Crews, Professor Chongyi Feng, representatives of Tibetan organisations and members of the Tibetan diaspora.

According to the Tibet Information Office, Sangmo used the occasion to stress the importance of safeguarding Tibetan identity, culture and heritage amid what she described as the growing impact of China's Sincisation policies in Tibet. She encouraged Tibetan youth to take a more active role in advocacy efforts and

contribute to raising awareness about Tibet's situation at both the community and international levels.

The report said that Sangmo paid tribute to DzasaAndrugGonpo Tashi, leader of Chushi Gangdruk, recalling his efforts to foster unity among Tibetans across Tibet's three traditional regions. She emphasised that his legacy continues to inspire Tibetans working to preserve their cultural and national identity. The report also highlighted that Sangmo expressed solidarity with Chinese citizens seeking democratic reforms and constitutional governance. She also outlined the Central Tibetan Administration's position on the Sino-Tibetan conflict and highlighted the Middle Way Approach, describing it as a peaceful and mutually beneficial framework aimed at fostering dialogue and understanding between Tibetans and the Chinese people.

The Tibet issue refers to the longstanding dispute over Tibet's political status and governance since China asserted control over the region in the 1950s. Many Tibetans and supporters argue for greater autonomy, protection of religious freedom, human rights, and preservation of Tibetan culture and identity.

"Deeply committed to relationship and friendship with India", says S. African Dy President Mashatile

MI News Service, Delhi: A high level meeting took place on Tuesday between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and South African Deputy President Shipokosa Paulus Mashatile, during the latter's working visit to India, as per an official release from the South African side.

During the discussions, South African Deputy President Mashatile expressed appreciation to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, the Government of India and the Indian business leaders for hosting the South African delegation. He emphasised the deep historical and political bonds between the two countries.

He said, "South Africa is deeply committed to its relationship and friendship with India. We are two countries that have lived a shared experience and have faced the same challenges. We saw the birth of a liberation icon in Mahatma Gandhi and his contribution to the formation of the Republic of India, through his experiences in South Africa."

Reiterating Pretoria's commitment to strengthening ties, he added, "Today, we express our commitment to fulfilling the objectives of the Declaration and the Strategic Partnership. While recognising the collaboration between India and

South Africa in multilateral institutions, we emphasise that the bilateral relationship is key to achieving mutual prosperity and addressing poverty, unemployment, and inequality."

Both sides agreed that the strong political relationship between India and South Africa should expand into broader areas, particularly economic relations.

The Deputy President was accompanied by Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, Minister of Small Business Development, Stella Ndabeni, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Thandi Moraka, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Dr. Nomalungelo Gina and Deputy Minister of Communications and Digital Technologies, Mondli Gungubele.

Meanwhile, according to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, both leaders discussed ways to deepen bilateral cooperation in various sectors and agreed to work closely in international forums.

In a post on X, Jaishankar said he was "pleased to meet" Mashatile and appreciated his "strong commitment to deepening our longstanding partnership" between India and South Africa. According to Jaishankar, the discussions focused on "opportunities in

WMO Warns Developing El Nino Could Trigger Global Heat and Extreme Weather

MI News Service, Geneva: The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has cautioned that a moderate to strong El Niño event may emerge in the coming months, potentially raising global temperatures and increasing the likelihood of severe weather worldwide.

El Niño is a recurring climate phenomenon marked by unusually warm sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. According to the WMO, the event typically lasts between nine and twelve months. Current ocean conditions suggest that El Niño is strengthening, with above-normal temperatures



expected across many regions from June through August. The agency believes the pattern could persist until November.

Although forecasts differ regarding its eventual intensity, officials stressed the need for preparedness. WMO Secretary-

General Celeste Saulo warned that a stronger El Niño could worsen drought conditions in some regions while bringing heavier rainfall and more frequent heatwaves on land and at sea.

The climate pattern can significantly alter weather systems, increasing rainfall in parts of South America, the United States, the Horn of Africa, and Central Asia, while causing drought in Australia, Indonesia, Central America, and parts of South Asia. Experts also warn that El Niño may affect food production, water availability, disease spread, and global agricultural output

Team India arrive in Mullanpur for one-off Test against Afghanistan

NEW CHANDIGARH : The Indian team arrived in the city on Tuesday ahead of their one-off Test against Afghanistan to be played at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Cricket Stadium in Mullanpur locality of New Chandigarh from Saturday. With this match, the Shubman Gill-led side is set to return to red-ball cricket after the conclusion of the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026.

The Indian squad reached the city and was seen arriving at the team hotel as preparations began for the Test scheduled at the PCA New Chandigarh Stadium from June 6.

Captain Shubman Gill led the contingent, while newly-appointed vice-captain KL Rahul, wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant, and all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy were among the players spotted with the squad.

The match will mark India's first Test appearance since their 2-0 home series defeat to South Africa last year. Although the



Afghanistan Test is not part of the ongoing World Test Championship (WTC) cycle, it serves as an important fixture for India as they gear up for upcoming overseas assignments in Sri Lanka and New

Zealand later this year.

India will be hoping to use the match to regain momentum in the longest format, with a squad that blends experienced campaigners and promising young talent.

The team is expected to begin training sessions in the coming days as it fine-tunes preparations for the encounter.

For Afghanistan, the match presents another valu-

able opportunity to test themselves against one of the world's strongest Test sides. The visitors have steadily gained experience in the format and will look to put up a competitive performance against the hosts.

India and Afghanistan have met only once previously in Test cricket. Their maiden encounter came at Bengaluru's M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in 2018, when Afghanistan made their Test debut. India dominated the contest, securing victory by an innings and 262 runs inside two days.

The one-off fixture will also be the first red-ball meeting between the two sides since that historic clash eight years ago.

India Test squad: Shubman Gill (c), Yashasvi Jaiswal, KL Rahul (vc), Sai Sudharsan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Devdutt Padikkal, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Washington Sundar, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Siraj, Prasidh Krishna, Manav Suthar, Gurnoor Brar, Harsh Dubey, Dhruv Jurel.

FIFA World Cup: Ghana names squad without injured Kudus; Sadio Mane in Senegal squad

ACCRA/DAKAR : Ghana and Senegal, two of the top countries from Africa, named their 26-man squads for the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup on Tuesday, confirming the presence of some of the Continent's big names in the mega event.

Ghana head coach Carlos Queiroz on Tuesday announced a 26-man squad for the 2026 FIFA World Cup, picking a balanced group with experienced and young players.

The squad, which contains few surprises, features three goalkeepers, nine defenders, seven midfielders, and seven forwards, with most of the Black Stars' key players included alongside several young talents recently called up.

Mohammed Kudus and Alexander Djiku are the two notable absentees, with both missing out through injury.

Making its fifth World Cup appearance, Ghana has been drawn in Group I with Panama, England, and Croatia. The Black Stars will open their campaign against Panama on June 17 before facing England and Croatia.

Ghana reached the quarterfinals in 2010 but failed to advance beyond the group stage in their last two World Cup appearances, in Brazil and Qatar.

Sadio Mane in the Senegal squad Former Liverpool and Bayern Munich forward Sadio Mane will be the top attraction in Senegal's 26-member squad shortlisted for the upcoming FIFA World Cup 2026. The 34-year-old Mane plays as a left winger for Saudi Pro League club Al-Nassr.

The 26-man shortlist includes three goal-



keepers, eight defenders, seven midfielders, and eight forwards. Senegal will compete in Group I alongside France, Norway, and Iraq.

The following 26 men will comprise the Senegal squad picked by head coach Pape Thiaw for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

Goalkeepers: Edouard Mendy, Mory Diaw, Yehvann Diouf.

Defenders: Kalidou Koulibaly, Moussa Niakhate, Mamadou Sarr, Abdoulaye Seck, Krepin Diatta, Antoine Mendy, Ismail Jakobs, El Hadj Malick Diouf.

Midfielders: Idrissa Gana Gueye, Lamine Camara, Pape Gueye, Pape Matar Sarr, Habib Diarra, Bara Sapoko Ndiaye, Pathe Ciss.

Forwards: Sadio Mane, Ismaila Sarr, Iliman Ndiaye, Nicolas Jackson, Cherif Ndiaye, Bamba Dieng, Ibrahima Mbaye, Assane Dialo.

The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be the first edition to feature 48 teams, including a record 10 African representatives.

JHARKHAND WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE TO KICK OFF TODAY

MI CORRESPONDENT

RANCHI : The Jharkhand Women's Premier League will be inaugurated on June 3, at 8:00 AM at the Oval Ground within the JSCA Stadium in Ranchi.

JSCA President Ajay Nath Shahdeo, Vice President Sanjay Pandey, Secretary Saurabh Tiwary, Joint Secretary Shahbaz Nadeem, Treasurer Amitava Ghosh, and JSCA life members will be present on this occasion.

In tomorrow's inaugural match, the Kolhan Dynamos will face off against the Chotanagpur Blasters. The tournament will be live-streamed on 'Number 10'; to access the live stream, users must download the 'Number 10 Sports' app from the Play Store.

T20 Mumbai League 2026: Rahane's Panthers beat SKY's Knights in their first match

MUMBAI : The Ajinkya Rahane-led North Mumbai Panthers began their T20 Mumbai League 2026 campaign in style with an emphatic 21-run victory over Suryakumar Yadav's Triumph Knights Mumbai North East at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai on Tuesday.

Chasing a daunting 210, the Knights struggled to keep pace with the required rate despite a valiant effort from impact substitute Nutan Goel, who anchored the innings with a fighting 93 off 56 balls. The chase got off to a shaky start with both openers falling cheaply, bringing India T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav (19) to the crease amid loud cheers from the Wankhede crowd. Suryakumar responded with a typically positive approach,



striking four boundaries as the Knights raced to 56/2 by the end of the Powerplay.

However, left-arm spinner Rahul Sawant turned the game in the Panthers' favour by dismissing Suryakumar and Sagar Mishra in quick succession. Harshal Jadhav and Nutan attempted a recovery with a 55-run fifth-wicket stand, while the 20-year-old

Nutan capitalised on a reprieve on 24 to bring up a 32-ball fifty with back-to-back sixes. But with the required rate steadily climbing, the Knights found it difficult to keep up and eventually finished on 188/8.

Earlier, Hardik Tamore starred with the bat, scoring his maiden fifty of the tournament to help North Mumbai

panthers post the first 200-plus total of the season. Sent in to bat on a placid batting turf, the Panthers made a strong start through Rahane (24) and Tamore, who added 67 runs for the opening wicket inside the Powerplay.

While Rahane departed after a brisk start, Tamore carried on and struck a fluent 67 off 43 deliveries, laced

with nine fours and two sixes. Aayush Zimare (23) and Ayush Vartak (39) kept the scoreboard moving in the middle overs before Tanush Kotian provided the late flourish with an unbeaten 30 off just 15 balls, powering the Panthers past the 200-run mark. Later in the day, Shreyas Iyer-led SOBO Mumbai Falcons will take on ARCS Andheri, captained by India all-rounder Shivam Dube, at the same venue.

Brief scores:

North Mumbai Panthers 209/5 in 20 overs (Hardik Tamore 67, Ayush Vartak 39, Tanush Kotian 30 not out; Sylvester Dsouza 2/23) beat Triumph Knights Mumbai North East 188/8 in 20 overs (Nutan Goel 93, Suryakumar Yadav 19; Rahul Sawant 2/34, Harsh Tanna 2/44) by 21 runs.

Getafe goalkeeper David Soria pens new four-year deal



MADRID : Getafe announced on Tuesday that goalkeeper David Soria has signed a four-year contract to remain at the club until the end of June 2030. The deal keeps at the club the man who has defended its goal for the past eight seasons, since joining from Sevilla in 2018.

Soria, 33, has played 301 times for the club from the south of Madrid, including an uninterrupted run of 189 first-team appearances in La Liga. In the communique announcing his new contract, Getafe said Soria had "established himself as a fundamental player both on and off the pitch thanks to his performance, leadership, and commitment."

Last season, Getafe conceded just 38 goals, a tally bettered only by FC Barcelona and Real Madrid, as the team coached by Jose Bordalas produced an impressive second half of the season to finish seventh in La Liga and qualify for next season's Conference League, reports Xinhua.

"David Soria's renewal is excellent news for the present and future of our club, which will continue to have a top-level goalkeeper and an exemplary professional," the club statement concluded.

Bordalas has yet to renew his contract with Getafe, while key players Luis Milla and Mauro Arambarri look set to leave. Arambarri is likely to join River Plate, while Milla has been linked with Saudi Arabian side Al-Nassr.

Born in Madrid, Soria finished his youth career with Real Madrid. After he was released by the Spanish giant, he moved to England and trialled at Leicester City, who let him go after an injury on his first day. He was then discarded by Birmingham City after six weeks because of his salary cap, and ended his trial at Stoke City due to feeling discouraged.

He returned to Spain, and after failing to get into Real Betis B and Sporting de Gijón and failing to make his debut at CD Canillas, Soria finally joined Sevilla FC in January 2013, and after making his debut with the C team in the Tercera División, slowly made it to the main squad in 2014-15. Manager Unai Emery gave him his debut on 2 December, a 3-0 away defeat of UD Logroñés in the last 32 of the Copa del Rey. He stayed there till 2017 before joining Getafe in July 2018, where he has continued till now.

French Open: Kostyuk creates history with win over Svitolina, reaches first Grand Slam semis

PARIS : Marta Kostyuk made history in Ukrainian tennis on Tuesday by defeating her fellow countrywoman Elna Svitolina 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 in the first all-Ukrainian Grand Slam quarterfinal of the Open Era. This win secured her place in her first major semifinal at Roland Garros.

The 23-year-old, seeded 15th in Paris, triumphed over the seventh-seeded Svitolina in one hour and 49 minutes. She finished strong, winning 13 of the last 14 points to clinch her spot in the semifinals. With this victory, Kostyuk extended her impressive clay-court winning streak to 17 matches, having already won titles in Rouen and Madrid this season.

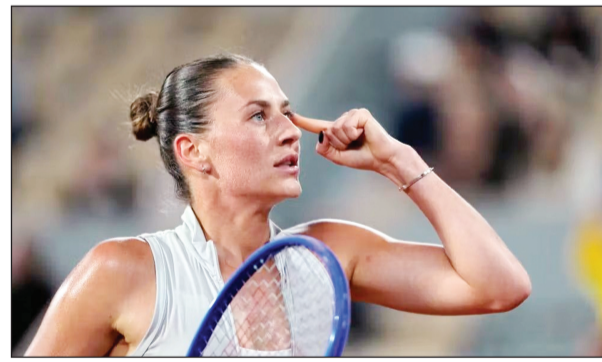
The event held meaning beyond tennis. It came less than 24 hours after a tragic Russian attack across Ukraine that reportedly killed at least 18 people. During an emotional on-court interview, Kostyuk dedicated her historic win to her country. "I want to start with this historic match that we played today with Elna," Kostyuk said. "We had a very difficult night again in Ukraine, especially in Kyiv. So many people are dead. I want to give this match to the Ukrainian people and to their resilience."

With this win, Kostyuk became the first Ukrainian woman in the Open Era to reach the Roland Garros semifinals and only the third Ukrainian player to advance

to a Grand Slam semifinal, following Elna Svitolina and Dayana Yastremska.

For Svitolina, who is considered the most accomplished Ukrainian player in WTA history, the loss marked a disappointing sixth defeat in Paris quarterfinals, bringing her record to 0-6. Despite a strong 10-2 record against fellow Ukrainians on tour before this match, she could not stop Kostyuk's momentum.

The match was thrilling. Kostyuk took the first set 6-3, but Svitolina responded by winning the second set 6-2 to level the match. However, the younger player elevated her game in the final set, dominating the closing stages and securing a memorable victory.



ry. This result also improved Kostyuk's head-to-head record against Svitolina to 2-1. Their rivalry began at the 2018 Australian Open, where a 15-year-old Kostyuk lost to Svitolina in her Grand Slam debut. Since then, Kostyuk

has steadily closed the gap, with Tuesday's win mirroring her earlier 6-2, 2-6, 6-2 victory over Svitolina in Toronto in 2024.

Despite her significant achievement, Kostyuk was quick to recognise Svitolina's role in Ukrainian tennis. "And

of course, I want to point out Elna and her incredible impact on Ukrainian tennis, on Ukrainians and on me," she said. "Everyone who's watching, she's an unbelievable fighter. I'm so happy to be in the semifinals, but I want to thank her again for this incredible match."

With this victory, Kostyuk ended Svitolina's 10-match winning streak on clay. She will now face eighth seed Mirra Andreeva in the semifinals, a rematch of this year's Madrid Open final. Both players are looking for their first Grand Slam final appearance. Kostyuk has won both their meetings this season, defeating Andreeva in Brisbane and Madrid.

Indonesia Open 2026: PV Sindhu, Arjun-Hariharan advance with opening round wins

JAKARTA : Back in the top 10 of BWF world rankings, PV Sindhu kicked off her Indonesia Open 2026 with a 25-23, 21-16 win over Thailand's Busanan Ongbamrungphan at the Istora Senayan stadium in Jakarta on Tuesday.

The former world champion had to push herself, finally winning with scores of 25-23 and 21-16 in 51 minutes. She won the closely contested first game with her aggressive playing style and carried that energy into the second game to secure a straight-sets victory. Sindhu now faces a tough challenge in the second round, where she is likely to meet reigning Olympic champion and world No. 1 An Se-young. Sindhu trails 0-9 in their head-to-head record and lost to the Korean in the



Singapore Open quarterfinals last week.

Also advancing to the next round was the men's doubles combination of Hariharan Amsakarunan and MR Arjun, who registered a straight games victory over Malaysia's 2016 Olympic medalist Tan Wee Kiong and his current partner Nur Mohd Azriyn. India's ace shuttler

Sindhu, who entered the world top-10 for the first time since 2023, opened her campaign with an 11th successive win against the Thailand shuttler. Sindhu now leads the head-to-head record against Busanan 21-1. She will now face the winner of the match between top seed An Se Young of Korea and Neslihan Arin of Turkey.

Later, Hariharan and Arjun outplayed the experienced Malaysian duo 21-18, 21-10 in just 33 minutes.

Meanwhile, Lakshya Sen lost to home favourite Alwi Farhan 21-19, 21-16. Alwi had defeated World No 1 Shi Yu Qi at the Singapore Open last week.

On the other hand, it was a tough day for India's doubles teams. The women's doubles pair of Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, playing together for the first time in over two months, lost 14-21, 12-21 to the Indonesian team of Febriana Dwiwijji Kusuma and Meilysa Trias Puspitasari. In mixed doubles, Dhruv Kapila and Tanisha Crasto were beaten 11-21, 10-21 by the sixth-seeded Chinese pair of Guo Xin Wa and Chen Fang Hui.

Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20: Bengaluru Blasters, Gulbarga Mystics to raise the curtain on Season 5 on June 20

BENGALURU : Kalyani Bengaluru Blasters and Gulbarga Mystics will raise the curtain on the fifth edition of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 on June 20, before Mysore Warriors take on debutants Shivamogga Yodhas in the second match of the opening-day double-header. The tournament will be held across three centres - Mysuru, Hubballi, and Bengaluru -- culminating on July 12.

Coastal Kings Mangaluru, also a new franchise this season, will make their tournament debut against Hubli Tigers on June 21.

In line with the Karnataka State Cricket Association's vision of taking top-quality cricket to fans across the state, the tournament will be staged across three centres.



The Mysuru-leg will be held from June 20 to 26, before the action shifts to Hubballi, from June 27 to July 3. The tournament will then move to Bengaluru from July 5 to 12.

Mysuru and Hubballi will host 12 matches each, while Bengaluru will stage 10 matches, including Qualifier 1, the Eliminator, Qualifier 2,

9 am and 1 pm on Sony Ten 5 HD/SD.

Speaking on the schedule announcement, M.S. Keshava, Governing Council Chairman, Maharaja Trophy, said, "We are delighted to unveil the schedule for the fifth edition of the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20. One of our key objectives has been to take top-quality cricket to fans across Karnataka, and hosting matches in Mysuru, Hubballi, and Bengaluru allows us to do exactly that."

"We are particularly pleased to see the tournament return to multiple centres, while the addition of Coastal Kings Mangaluru and Shivamogga Yodhas marks an exciting new chapter for the competition. We look forward to another highly competitive season and a wonder-