

Irregularities in mid-day meal! School principal suspended

MI News Service, Malda: The headmistress of a school in Malda has been suspended for allegedly miscalculating the mid-day meal. The incident took place at Malda Girls Junior Basic School. It is alleged that the headmistress of the school, Bulu Sarkar Pramanik, miscalculated the mid-day meal by showing a higher number of students in the school. The teacher was suspended after an investigation based on a written complaint. However, the accused headmistress did not want to comment on the matter.

It has been learnt that there is a huge difference between the actual attendance of students in the school and the attendance reported in the AMS (Automated Monitoring System). In addition, more rice than required has been used for the students' meals. This is not in line with the attendance rate of the students, it is claimed. In addition, additional cooking expenses have been claimed for the mid-day meal.

It is further alleged that the headmistress did not have any signature in the school's rice stock register and fund register. In addition, it is alleged that the necessary vouchers and bills were not produced during the investigation. It is also said that many other documents of the school were found to be inconsistencies.

It is not just about the irregularities in the mid-day meal. There have also been allegations that money was taken from the parents of the students at various times under various pretexts. Along with this, there have also been allegations of embezzlement of funds allocated by the government for various school activities. Based on these allegations, the District Primary School Council on Thursday suspended the accused teacher and issued a directive.

It is learned that this month, parents had complained to the school about irregularities in the mid-day meal. The school teachers also raised the same complaint. In this regard, District Primary School Council Chairman Malay Mandal said, "There were several complaints against the headmistress of the school (Bulu Sarkar Pramanik) regarding the management of the school. Based on that complaint, we conducted a preliminary investigation. The investigation revealed several irregularities in the mid-day meal. Evidence of various irregularities was also found in academic and school administration.

Minister Arjun Singh's signature forged! Two arrested

MI News Service, North 24 Pgs: Allegations have surfaced regarding the forgery of the signature of the state Transport and Labour Minister Arjun Singh. The Noapara police have arrested two people in this connection.

According to police sources, Somnath Das and his son Roman Das, residents of Devitala Shanpukur Ghat area under North Barrackpore Municipality, have been allegedly defrauding the area for a long time by forging the signature, stamp, and income documents of Noapara MLA and Minister Arjun Singh. As soon as the police received the news, the Barrackpore Police Commissionerate took action.

Noapara police station has arrested accused Somnath and Roman from their house in Shanpukur area. This has created quite an uproar in Noapara.

Huge Quantity of Ganja Seized from Private Car; Two Drug Traffickers Arrested



MI News Service, Kharagpur: In a major crackdown on drug trafficking, police seized a large quantity of ganja from a private car on the Kharagpur-Balasore National Highway in the Narayangarh police station area of Paschim Medinipur district. Two youths travelling in the vehicle were arrested in connection with the case. According to police sources, officers received specific intelligence that a consignment of ganja was being transported from Odisha to Kolkata in a private car. Acting on the tip-off, Narayangarh Police intensified surveillance along the national highway. The suspect vehicle was intercepted in the Kuchli area, where police conducted a thorough search. During the search, a substantial quantity of ganja was recovered from the car.

Police seized the narcotics along with the vehicle used for transporting the contraband and arrested the two occupants on the spot. A case has been registered against the accused under the relevant provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The exact quantity of the seized ganja, its estimated market value, and the identities of the arrested individuals are yet to be officially confirmed. Police have launched a detailed investigation to identify other members of the suspected inter-state drug trafficking network and determine how the consignment was being transported to Kolkata. Officials said further arrests may follow as the investigation progresses.

Geological Survey of India Gets Its First Woman Director General
Varsha Ashok Aglawe Assumes Charge as the 54th Director General of Geological Survey of India

MI News Service, Kolkata: Varsha Ashok Aglawe has assumed charge as the 54th Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), becoming the first woman to head India's premier geoscientific organisation in its 176-year history. She succeeds Shri AsitSaha, who served as Director General from 27th July 2024 to 31st July 2026.

A distinguished geoscientist with more than three decades of professional experience, Smt. Aglawe joined GSI in 1992 after serving with the Indian Bureau of Mines. During her career, she has held several important scientific and administrative positions in GSI's Central, Northern and Eastern Regions, besides serving at Central Headquarters. Prior to assuming the present office, she was Additional Director General & Head of Department, Eastern Region, Kolkata.

An expert in palaeontology and palynology, Smt. Aglawe has made significant contributions to the study of the



Varsha Ashok Aglawe assumes charge as the Director General of GSI

Late Cretaceous-Palaeocene sediments, K-T boundary, and Satpura-Gondwana basins. She reported the Salbardi-Ghorpand area as a new dinosaur nesting site in Central India, contributed to international research and participated in collaborative palaeontological studies with the University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology, USA. She also represented GSI as a member of the Indian delegation to PDAC 2023 in Toronto,

Canada. Besides her scientific contributions, she has played an important role in strengthening GSI's institutional capabilities, including establishing a state-of-the-art Palynology Laboratory at the Northern Region office in Lucknow and leading multidisciplinary geoscientific programmes across the country. On assuming office, Smt. Aglawe reaffirmed GSI's commitment to aligning its

programmes with the Government of India's priorities in critical mineral exploration and mineral security. She emphasized accelerating exploration of deep-seated and concealed mineral deposits through advanced geophysical investigations, fast-tracked exploration programmes and strengthened laboratory infrastructure. She also highlighted the need to expand offshore mineral exploration, promote cutting-edge geoscientific research, strengthen public-good geoscience programmes such as natural hazard studies and glaciology, and enhance scientific publications and capacity building for young geoscientists.

Expressing confidence in GSI's scientific expertise and expanding technological capabilities, she said the organisation is well positioned to meet the nation's growing demand for critical and strategic minerals while contributing to sustainable resource development through geoscientific excellence and innovation.

Rashmi Group Extends Rs 5 Lakh CSR Support to International Swimmer Afreen Jabi for Catalina Channel Campaign

MI News Service, Kharagpur: Under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, Rashmi Group, through Odisha Metaliks Private Limited, Unit-I, has extended financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to Paschim Medinipur's international open-water swimmer Afreen Jabi. The cheque was jointly handed over to Afreen by Paschim Medinipur District Magistrate Vijin Krishna and Rashmi Group Executive Director Bhaskar Choudhury during a programme held at the District Magistrate's office. Senior officials from the district administration, Rashmi Group, and representatives of various media organisations were present on the occasion. Afreen Jabi will represent India in the prestigious Catalina Channel campaign in 2026. Through her outstanding achievements in open-water swimming, she has brought laurels



not only to Paschim Medinipur but also to West Bengal and the country. Addressing the gathering, Rashmi Group Executive Director Bhaskar Choudhury said, "Rashmi Group will always stand by athletes who bring glory to the

nation through their performances. We are pleased to have the opportunity, with the support of the District Magistrate, to extend our support to a talented athlete like Afreen." District Magistrate Vijin Krishna praised Rashmi Group's

initiative, stating that such support from the corporate sector serves as a source of inspiration for sportspersons. He wished Afreen success in her upcoming Catalina Channel campaign and expressed confidence in her bright future.

Expressing her gratitude, Afreen Jabi thanked Rashmi Group for the financial assistance, saying that the support would play a vital role in helping her achieve her dreams. She also appealed to other industrial organisations to come forward and support athletes so that they can represent India on the international stage.

Rashmi Group reiterated its commitment to contributing to sports, education, and social welfare through its CSR initiatives. The company said it would continue to support talented athletes and work towards the upliftment of underprivileged sections of society.

After a decade, Shantipur gets sports infrastructure boost; MLA distributes equipment worth over Rs 6.5 lakh

MI News Service, Shantipur: In a significant push to grassroots sports after nearly a decade, Shantipur MLA Swapan Kumar Das on Friday distributed sports equipment worth more than Rs 6.5 lakh among local clubs and higher secondary schools under his MLA Local Area Development Fund. The initiative aims to strengthen sports infrastructure and encourage greater participation among young athletes.

A total of 31 clubs engaged in football, cricket and volleyball received sports kits under the programme. While 12 football clubs were provided with footballs, boots and jerseys, 11 cricket clubs received English willow bats, helmets and practice balls. Eight volleyball clubs were supplied with volleyballs, nets and jerseys. The Shantipur Zonal Sports Association was also provided with goalpost nets and corner flags to support the organisation of local tournaments.



The programme also focused on improving sports facilities in educational institutions. Seventeen higher secondary schools received sports equipment, with 14 schools getting footballs. Shantipur Municipal School, Shantipur Hindu High School and Tantubay High School were each provided with 18 sets of digital jerseys. The

MLA said the scheme would be expanded to include more schools in the coming phases.

Four sportspersons from Shantipur who have represented at the national level were felicitated during the event. The West Bengal Blind Cricket Association was also honoured for its contribution to promoting inclusive sports and

creating opportunities for visually impaired cricketers.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Swapan Kumar Das said the initiative would not remain confined to equipment distribution. Plans are in place to upgrade playgrounds, strengthen sports infrastructure, extend support to referees and umpires, and organise more sporting activities across the constituency. He also announced that students and athletes travelling to Kolkata for competitions or examinations would be able to avail accommodation at the MLA Hostel.

Local sports organisers and former players described the initiative as one of the most significant interventions in recent years. They believe improved infrastructure, access to quality equipment and sustained institutional support could help identify and nurture sporting talent from Shantipur, enabling more athletes to compete at the state and national levels.

Nadia launches fresh scrutiny of 4.3 lakh Krishak Bandhu beneficiaries to weed out ineligible claimants

MI News Service, Krishnanagar: The state agriculture department has launched a fresh verification drive to identify ineligible beneficiaries under the Krishak Bandhu scheme, with records of nearly 4.3 lakh beneficiaries in Nadia district coming under scrutiny. The exercise is aimed at ensuring that financial assistance reaches genuine farmers and at detecting cases where multiple members of the same family are receiving benefits.

Officials said beneficiaries have been asked to submit fresh verification forms along with the bank account details of both husband and wife. The move is intended to verify whether more than one member of a family is drawing benefits under the scheme.

According to agriculture department sources, concerns have persisted for some time over the inclusion of ineligible beneficiaries alongside genuine cultivators. One of the key issues flagged by the department is the growing number of applications filed after agricultural land is divided among multiple co-sharers, resulting in several beneficiaries despite little or no increase in the



total landholding. Official figures show that 6.64 lakh farmers in Nadia are covered under different government welfare schemes. Of them, around 2.24 lakh receive benefits under the PM-Kisan scheme, while nearly 4.3 lakh are enrolled under Krishak Bandhu.

Officials pointed out that the government had earlier recovered money from ineligible beneficiaries under the PM-Kisan scheme after similar verification exercises. The current scrutiny under Krishak Bandhu is being carried out on similar lines to improve transparency and plug possible irregularities.

Ahead of the Assembly elections, a large number of fresh ap-

plications were submitted under the government's 'Amader Para, Amader Samadhan' outreach programme. During scrutiny of these applications, officials said, instances surfaced where multiple members of the same family were found to be receiving benefits under the scheme. However, department officials clarified that many such cases are technically valid under existing rules, as any individual holding agricultural land in his or her name is eligible to apply.

The department has also tightened scrutiny of new applications and cases involving transfer of land ownership by cross-checking records of previous landowners. Even so, offi-

cials have found instances where land transferred among family members has enabled new beneficiaries to qualify separately for financial assistance, raising questions over whether the scheme is fully serving its intended objective.

Agriculture officials maintain that the primary objective of the Krishak Bandhu scheme is to provide financial security to genuine farmers. However, they acknowledge that several landowners who are not directly engaged in cultivation continue to receive assistance solely on the basis of land ownership. The ongoing verification, they said, is intended to identify genuine beneficiaries and strengthen transparency in the implementation of the scheme.

Under the Krishak Bandhu scheme, eligible farmers receive annual financial assistance ranging from Rs 4,000 to Rs 10,000, credited directly to their bank accounts in two instalments during the Kharif and Rabi seasons. Officials expressed hope that the verification drive would help ensure that the benefits are extended only to eligible farmers in the future.

BENGAL

Woman mysteriously dies after 3 years of marriage

MI News Service, Kalyani: Marriage after love. Mysterious death of a young woman within 3 years of marriage! Murder charges against husband and in-laws. The deceased's parents claim that she was beaten to death over dowry demands. On the other hand, the in-laws claim that the housewife committed suicide. The incident took place in Haringhata, Kalyani. The police have launched an investigation into the incident.

According to police and family sources, the name of the deceased girl is Bristi Parui. She was a resi-

dent of Dighapara Shivmandir area of Ward No. 13 of Haringhata Municipality. Bristi was in a relationship with a local youth, Sujit Bhowmik. She got married to the boy of her choice.

It is alleged that ever since the marriage, Bristi's husband and his family pressured her to bring money from her parents home. Sujit, the accused, also allegedly beat Bristi while under the influence of alcohol. Furthermore, there are allegations that she was not even permitted to speak with her relatives.

After receiving the news of the

torture on her daughter, Bristi's father Krishna Parui brought her home. Allegedly, the youth also beat her at that time. After an argument, she returned.

On Friday morning, the family members of Bristi learned that their daughter was admitted to Haringhata Rural Hospital. When they went there, they found out that Bristi had died. The body was lying in the hospital. The housewife's husband and in-laws were not there, the father-in-law claimed. The in-laws claimed that Bristi committed suicide by hanging herself.

Woman Arrested for Allegedly Trying to Poison One-Month-Old Infant

MI News Service, Kharagpur: A woman has been arrested in the Narayangarh police station area of Paschim Medinipur district for allegedly attempting to murder a one-month-old infant by administering poison. The arrest was made following directions from the court, and the accused was subsequently produced before the appropriate court. According to police sources, a complaint regarding the incident was lodged at Narayangarh Police Station a few months ago. The complainant alleged that the accused woman applied a poisonous



substance to her finger and fed it to her relative's one-month-old baby, causing the infant's health to deteriorate suddenly. The child, however, survived after receiving timely medical treatment and is now reported to be in stable condition. Following the incident, the matter came before the court. During the hearing, the court directed the

police to initiate the necessary legal action. In compliance with the court's order, Narayangarh Police arrested the accused woman and produced her before the court. Police said the investigation is still underway. All aspects of the case are being examined thoroughly, and further legal action will be taken based on the findings of the investigation and the evidence collected.

The incident has created shock in the locality, with residents expressing concern over the alleged attempt on the life of the infant.

Keleghai River in Spate at Sabang; Villagers Brave Strong Currents to Save Wooden Bridge

MI News Service, Kharagpur: Continuous heavy rainfall and the impact of a low-pressure system have caused the water level of the Keleghai River to rise steadily, posing a serious threat to a wooden bridge at Langkataka in Sabang. Large masses of water hyacinth being carried by the swollen river have accumulated around the bridge, raising fears that the structure could collapse if immediate steps are not taken. According to local residents, the bridge serves as a vital link between Paschim Medinipur and Purba Medinipur districts. If it is damaged, several villages under Bishnupur Gram Panchayat No. 13 in Sabang could lose their road connectivity with Purba Medinipur, causing severe inconvenience to thousands of people. Local sources said that the rapidly rising river and strong currents have swept large quantities of water hyacinth beneath and around the bridge, placing continuous pressure on its



structure and increasing the risk of collapse. Concerned by the situation and unwilling to wait for official intervention, villagers took matters into their own hands. Risking their lives, several residents entered the fast-flowing river and used bamboo poles to remove the accumulated water hyacinth from beneath the bridge. Despite working for hours under hazardous conditions, the villagers continued their efforts to protect the bridge and ensure that transportation between the two districts remains uninterrupted. The

residents have appealed to the administration for a permanent solution, stating that the wooden bridge faces similar threats every monsoon. They urged the authorities to replace it with a strong concrete bridge at the earliest to prevent such risks and difficulties in the future. Locals warned that unless timely action is taken, a major accident could occur at any moment, and the crucial transport link between the two districts could be completely disrupted.

Hidden Liquor Stock Unearthed in Nabadwip, 88 Bottles Seized After Tip-Off

MI News Service, Nabadwip: A stash of 88 liquor bottles allegedly concealed inside jute fields and dense kash grassland was recovered during a search operation in Nadia's Nabadwip on Friday morning, following a tip-off received by local BJP Yuva Morcha and Matri Shakti members. The recovered bottles were later handed over to the Nabadwip police, who have initiated an investigation.

According to local sources, members of the BJP Yuva Morcha and Matri Shakti reached the Tangra Bilpar Mor area after receiving what they described as credible information about illegal liquor being stored in the locality. During the operation, they claimed to have found several individuals consum-

ing alcohol in the open. While some allegedly fled the spot, others who remained reportedly admitted to drinking during questioning, according to the party workers.

The search was then extended to nearby jute fields and kash vegetation, where the team claimed to have recovered 88 liquor bottles hidden in the undergrowth. Police from Nabadwip Police Station arrived shortly after being informed, inspected the site and took custody of the seized liquor for further investigation.

BJP Yuva Morcha's Mandal No. 3 president for the Nabadwip Assembly constituency, Pintu Debnath, said, "Acting on reliable information, we conducted the search and recovered around 88

liquor bottles, which were immediately handed over to the police. We demand that those behind the illegal stockpile be identified and brought to justice."

Local residents have also urged the administration to intensify surveillance in the area, alleging that illegal liquor activities have become a recurring concern. They called for sustained enforcement measures to prevent the supply and storage of illicit liquor.

Police have not yet confirmed whether any arrests have been made or disclosed the ownership of the seized liquor. Officials said the source of the stock and the involvement of any organised network would be established only after the investigation progresses.

Little Thespian's new production "Chehre" - A Raw Portrait of Generational Pain



MI News Service, Kolkata: Little Thespian, Kolkata's renowned Hindi/Urdu theatre group staged the premier show of its latest production "Chehre" on 22nd July 2026 at Gyan Manch. Adapted by S. M. Azhar Alam from Tony Devaney Morinelli's 'The Sins of the Mother', this play Chehre is a deeply unsettling, yet deeply human one-act psychological drama. It strips away all glamour from the idea of "family" and instead holds up a mirror to how trauma is inherited, repeated, and sometimes, understood. It traps the audience with three generations of women in a Muslim household. What starts as the story of Amina, an aging alcoholic mother, quickly widens into a study of cycles. The play asks one hard question: Are we doomed to become the people who hurt us? Amina is both victim and perpetrator. Her cruelty comes from Amina's harshness. And that same bitterness now suffocates her daughters, Ishrat and Razia.

Through Nasima's memories, we see how abuse doesn't start with one person, it's passed down like an heirloom. Azhar Alam's adaptation carries the focus intimate. The cast carries the weight of this heavy play beautifully: Chandreyee Mitra as Amina. She is volatile, fragile, and heartbreaking. She makes Amina repulsive and pitiable at the same time. You hate her actions but understand her pain. Annie Das as Ishrat & Gunjan Azhar as Razia - A perfect contrast to each other. Ishrat's repressed, delusional responsibility and Razia's open resentment shows how two ways trauma survives in siblings. Their love-hate dynamic feels painfully real. Nupur Bhoutika as Nasima provides context without excusing and as the outsider who lived the same childhood differently. Sangeetha Vyas as Amina made her presence haunt every scene.

Uma Jhunjhunwala's direction for Chehre is pared-down, actor-centric, and symbolic. She uses

space, color, and light to externalize what the characters can't say out loud: that trauma lives in the walls, in the faces, in the colors we wear. It's the kind of direction where if you removed one prop or changed one light cue, the whole meaning would shift. That's strong authorship. The set by Uma Jhunjhunwala herself becomes the fourth character — canvas paintings on aisle creates that feeling of being "stuck in a corridor of the past". No escape. The characters keep walking into each other's pain, just like how generational trauma keeps repeating in one house. Canvas paintings aren't just backdrops with faces, masks, and fragmented expressions on them, they become the "chehre" the title talks about. The faces of Amina, of Amina's past, of the roles each woman is forced to play. It also lets the house feel empty but full of memory at the same time. Joydeep Roy's light design and Murari Raychoudhury's music design effectively shifts between present confrontations and painful memories.

"Chehre" is not an easy watch. It's uncomfortable because it's true. It doesn't offer easy answers about healing, but it suggests that naming the pain might be the first step to breaking the cycle. For Little Thespian, this is brave, important theatre. It chooses compassion over melodrama and truth over comfort. The audience sat in silence as the lights went down. Uma Jhunjhunwala's direction didn't just tell a story, it moved people and "Chehre" stayed with them.

Cal HC Pulls Up KMC for Wrongful Demolition, Orders Flat Restoration

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has strongly criticised the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) for demolishing part of a residential flat without properly verifying its own records, calling the civic body's conduct "extremely shameful" and "reckless." Hearing the case, Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury observed that KMC failed to examine official documents before ordering the demolition and later attempted to justify the action by claiming the relevant records had not come to its notice. The court directed the civic body to reconstruct the demolished roof of the flat within eight weeks. The case relates to a flat owned by Tapas Majumdar on the fourth floor of a residential building

on Ananda Palit Road in Kolkata. Majumdar approached the High Court alleging that KMC had demolished the roof of his approved G+4 building while taking action against an allegedly illegal structure on the upper floor. During the hearing, KMC argued that approval for the building had expired in 2014 and that the fifth floor was therefore demolished. However, the court noted that this reason was not mentioned in the original demolition order and criticised the corporation for introducing a new justification later through an affidavit. The High Court also advised the petitioner to approach the appropriate forum if he wishes to seek compensation for the damage caused.



Thermocol idols of Lord Shiva and Goddess Durga mounted on a shoulder yoke for Kanwariyas carrying holy water to Tarakeswar during the holy month of Shravan, at Dompura on Chittaranjan Avenue in Kolkata on Friday.

Cal HC Orders Continuation of Ration Benefits Despite Deletion from Voter List

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has directed the West Bengal government to immediately restore ration benefits to individuals whose supplies were allegedly discontinued after their names were removed from the electoral roll. The interim order ensures that the affected beneficiaries will continue receiving ration until further directions from the court. Hearing the matter, Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya observed that deletion of a person's name from the voter list does not automatically make them ineligible for benefits under the Public Distribution System (PDS). The court indicated that the right to food security is independent of voting rights and that the two are governed by separate

legal and administrative frameworks. The petitioner claimed that after his name was removed from the electoral roll during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, he was informed by his local ration dealer that his ration benefits would also be stopped. Apprehending the loss of food security, he approached the High Court seeking relief. The court directed the state government to clarify its stand on the issue at the next hearing while observing that the matter requires wider judicial consideration. Legal experts believe the interim order could provide relief to many residents whose names have been deleted from the voter list and who fear losing access to subsidised food grains.

State Govt Launches Digital Campaign to Encourage Blood Donation Among Gen Z

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a bid to encourage more young people to donate blood, the West Bengal Health Department has launched a statewide digital awareness campaign targeting Generation Z through social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. The campaign, which begins on August 1, aims to dispel common myths surrounding blood donation and promote voluntary participation, particularly ahead of the festive season. As part of the initiative, the department has produced a series of short artificial intelligence (AI)-generated videos carrying

messages that highlight the safety and health benefits of blood donation. The campaign stresses that donating blood does not weaken the body, explaining that the liquid component of blood is replenished within 48 hours, while blood cells recover within about 21 days. The Health Department has also announced a toll-free helpline to provide information on the importance of blood donation and answer public queries related to the process and its benefits. State Health Minister Dr. Sharadwat Mukhopadhyay said blood donation is beneficial not only for



recipients but also for donors, recommending that eligible individuals donate blood at least once every year. He noted that regular blood donation can help identify certain health conditions during the routine screening of donated blood. Referring to recent health data, the minister said 2,085 new Hepatitis B cases were reported in

West Bengal during the 2025-26 financial year, taking the total number of patients in the state to over 12,300. He pointed out that many people fail to recognise the early symptoms of Hepatitis B, such as fatigue and loss of appetite, often mistaking them for signs of overwork. Medical experts have warned that untreated Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C can lead to liver cirrhosis and, in some long-term cases, liver cancer. The Health Minister said these diseases pose a greater public health challenge than many people realise and emphasised the impor-

ance of early detection. He added that donated blood undergoes mandatory screening for infectious diseases, enabling donors to become aware of their health status while also helping save lives. The department has intensified its campaign ahead of the Durga Puja season, particularly in the wake of investigations into alleged irregularities at some private blood banks. Officials hope the awareness drive will encourage more people to donate blood at government blood banks and help ensure an adequate blood supply across the state during the festive period.

Taslima Nasreen returns to Kolkata after 19 years

MI News Service, Kolkata : Exiled Bangladeshi author Taslima Nasreen returned to Kolkata on Friday after nearly 19 years, describing the visit as an emotional homecoming to a city she still considers her own. Her arrival comes ahead of a literary event on Saturday that has acquired political resonance under West Bengal's new BJP government. With folded hands, Nasreen greeted those waiting to receive her at the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport and said, "I am feeling very good to be back." She returned to this 'City of Joy' after nearly two decades when she was forced to depart following protests over her controversial book 'Dwikhondito'. "I am really liking it here," said Nasreen. This is the author-activist's first public appearance in Kolkata since 2007, when protests against her memoir forced her to leave the city she had made her home after fleeing Bangladesh a decade earlier. Her book was banned by the then CPM-led Bengal government in 2003 for allegedly hurting religious sentiments. The 63-year-old now lives in Delhi on a long-term residence permit. Tomorrow, Nasreen will be attending a programme protesting fundamentalism at Rabindra Sadan. The event is also likely to be attended by Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari and renowned author Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay. The organisers say that the writer, whom the Bangladesh government once charged with defaming Islam, will recite some of her poems and take part in a discussion after attending a civic reception in her honour. Earlier describing her return as a



Bangladeshi author Taslima Nasrin arrives at Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport upon her return to Kolkata after nearly 19 years, on Friday.

"personal homecoming", she said that she never left Kolkata willingly and always hoped that she would return one day. "I never left Kolkata willingly; the then West Bengal government forced me to leave the state. Yet I never stopped hoping that one day I would return. Year after year passed, governments changed, and still the door remained closed." The news of her visit sparked a political row. Trinamool MLA Akhruzzaman claimed the writer has frequently spoken out against Muslims, suggesting that is the sole reason the "double-engine government" is wel-

coming her. Bur senior minister Agnimitra Paul has strongly welcomed the writer's visit. "During the previous government's tenure, she was never given the opportunity to return. The opposition talks so much about secularism, but when she wrote the truth in her book, they denied her security. Under the Trinamool Congress government, people of various communities were merely used as political tools. Today, under Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari's government, Taslima Nasreen has come. This is a matter of pride and joy for us," the minister said.

Cal HC Limits Magistrate's Role in Surrogacy Cases, Orders Fresh Review of Couple's Plea

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court has ruled that a magistrate has no authority to assess the age or medical fitness of a couple seeking surrogacy, observing that such matters fall within the jurisdiction of designated medical authorities. The court made the observation while hearing a petition filed by a South 24 Parganas couple whose application for surrogacy had been rejected by an Additional District Magistrate. Justice Kaushik Chanda set aside the magistrate's order and directed the concerned authority to reconsider the couple's application within seven days, strictly in accordance with the provisions of the law. The couple had approached the Additional District Magistrate at Alipore after obtaining the required medical certificates from the District Medical Board. However, their application was rejected after the magistrate examined the medical documents submitted by the couple and the surrogate mother. According to the



rejection order, the validity of the couple's medical certificates had expired, while the surrogate mother's health certificate allegedly lacked certain required information. The magistrate also expressed reservations regarding the age of the intending father, stating that he was over 55 years of age and therefore not suitable to become a parent through surrogacy. Challenging the decision, the couple moved the High Court, arguing that the magistrate had exceeded the scope of powers vested under the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021. During the hearing, Justice Chanda observed that the magistrate's role in surrogacy matters is confined to examining legal requirements and

cannot extend to evaluating medical eligibility or age, as those issues are to be determined by competent medical authorities. The court clarified that the magistrate's responsibility is limited to ensuring that the surrogate mother has voluntarily consented to the procedure and that she will not claim legal guardianship or parental rights over the child after birth. Beyond these legal safeguards, the magistrate cannot independently question medical findings or reassess eligibility criteria. The High Court, therefore, quashed the rejection order and instructed the authority to reconsider the application within a week without exceeding the statutory limits of its jurisdiction. Under the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021, commercial surrogacy is prohibited in India. Surrogacy is permitted only in cases where intending couples are medically unable to conceive, subject to approval by the prescribed authorities.

Nursing Home Loses Ultrasound Licence Over Alleged Misuse at 'Sebaashray' Camp

MI News Service, Kolkata: The South 24 Parganas district health administration has cancelled the licence of JibanArogya Ultrasonography and Genetic Clinic at Nodakhali following allegations that its ultrasound machine was illegally used at a 'Sebaashray' medical camp for prenatal sex determination, an act prohibited under Indian law. According to health department officials, the ultrasound machine was allegedly taken from the nursing home to the medical camp without following the prescribed legal procedures. Authorities suspect that the equipment was used to determine the sex of unborn children, prompting administrative action against the clinic. The 'Sebaashray' camps were launched during the previous Trinamool Congress government under the initiative of Abhishek Banerjee, then MP from Diamond Harbour, to provide free medical services. Following the change in government, the camps came under scrutiny over multiple allegations, including misuse of facilities, medical negligence, permanent injury to patients and illegal prenatal sex determination. Several complaints have reportedly been lodged at police stations, in-

cluding Bishnupur Police Station, seeking action against those associated with the camps. The issue has also been raised in the West Bengal Assembly, where Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari made allegations regarding the functioning of the medical camps and indicated that strict legal action could follow if the accusations were substantiated. Amid the ongoing investigation, a team from the office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), South 24 Parganas, recently inspected the Nodakhali clinic and sought documents relating to the ultrasound machine. Officials said the clinic authorities failed to produce the required records. According to the nursing home management, the ultrasound machine had already been seized by the police and is currently kept in the custody of Diamond Harbour Police Station as part of the investigation. Following the inspection, the district health administration cancelled the clinic's licence and directed the management to surrender it immediately. Authorities have also ordered that no ultrasonography or diagnostic tests be conducted at the facility until the investigation is completed.

ED Conducts Raids at 11 Locations Linked to Sabyasachi Dutta

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday launched simultaneous search operations at 11 locations in Kolkata and its suburbs as part of its probe into the alleged financial dealings of former Trinamool Congress MLA and former Bidhannagar Mayor Sabyasachi Dutta. According to ED sources, the raids are being carried out at premises in Park Street, Kidderpore, and other locations linked to Dutta and his close associates. The central agency's action follows an investigation by the West Bengal Police. Dutta was arrested on June 8 by the Bidhannagar North Police Station in connection with an alleged extortion case. During the state police investigation, officers reportedly recovered a substantial quantity of gold and financial documents from multiple locations associated with him. Investigators claimed that nearly 3.5 kg of gold was seized from a flat in Rajarhat and several bank lockers. The police suspect that a significant portion of the money allegedly collected through extortion had been invested in gold. The investigation also revealed that five bank accounts held jointly or individually by Sabyasachi Dutta and his wife, Indrani Dutta, had been frozen.

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CPM to Review Organisation, Electoral Strategy at State Committee Meeting

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPM] is set to hold an extended State Committee meeting in Kalyani on August 29 and 30 to assess its organisational strength and chart a strategy to expand its public support ahead of the upcoming urban civic elections in West Bengal. According to party leaders, the two-day meeting will focus on reviewing the current political situation, strengthening the organisation at the district level and identifying ways to increase the party's electoral base. The discussions come at a time when political observers believe the year-end municipal polls could provide an early indication of the state's evolving political landscape. A member of the CPM State Committee said the party would analyse its organisational performance and public outreach during the meeting. Despite conducting sustained statewide movements over the past five years, the party has not seen a significant rise in its vote share, which has remained around five per cent, according to recent Assembly election data. The leadership also intends to examine why it has been unable to regain support from economically weaker sections who shifted towards the Trinamool Congress or the BJP in recent years. However, party leaders believe there are encouraging signs. The CPM managed to return to the State Assembly by winning a seat in the recent election and also emerged as the runner-up in the Falta Assembly constituency, developments the leadership sees as positive indicators for rebuilding its political base.

Cal HC Warns TMC Over Alleged Violation of Rally Conditions at July 21 Gathering

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Friday cautioned the Trinamool Congress over the alleged violation of court-imposed conditions during its July 21 Martyrs' Day rally, expressing dissatisfaction with the compliance report submitted by the West Bengal government. Hearing the matter, Justice Saugata Bhattacharyya observed that the court's directions regarding the number of participants and traffic

management had not been fully followed. The judge warned that any future violation of court orders would invite strict action. During the proceedings, the state government submitted a report on the conduct of the rally. The court sought clarification on whether any law-and-order issues had occurred during the event. Appearing for the KaighatTrinamool Congress, senior advocate representing Derek O'Brien informed the

court that the programme concluded peacefully and that no untoward incident had taken place.

Night Bus Services Expansion from Aug 1 to Ease Late-Night Commute

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is set to strengthen Kolkata's late-night public transport network by introducing additional government bus services on key routes from August 1, aiming to provide safer and more reliable travel for commuters returning home after night shifts. At present, the number of buses on Kolkata roads declines sharply after 10 p.m., with services becoming scarce after 11.30 p.m. As a result, commuters often depend on app-based cabs and bike taxis, which typically charge significantly higher fares during late-night hours. To address the problem, the Transport Department has decided to increase bus services connecting Howrah, Sealdah, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport, and several major parts of the city. Officials said routes with consistently high passenger demand would be prioritised, while private bus operators have also been requested to participate in the expanded night service. The government has adopted a demand-based strategy after an earlier



attempt to run night buses under the previous administration failed to continue for long. This time, services will be concentrated on routes where passenger movement remains high to ensure long-term sustainability. According to transport officials, many patients arrive at Howrah and Sealdah on late-night trains so they can queue early for outpatient services at hospitals such as Medical College Hospital, SSKM Hospital, RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, NRS Medical College and Hospital, and other healthcare facilities. However, the lack of late-night buses often leaves them stranded. Similar complaints

have also been received from passengers arriving at Kolkata airport after 9 p.m. and Metro users facing difficulty finding transport after extended Metro services. The revised plan aligns bus schedules with the timings of late-night trains, Metro services and flights. Several routes will have their last trips extended until 10 p.m. or 10.30 p.m., while additional buses will operate on important corridors, including Nilgunj Depot-Howrah, Howrah-Patuli, Howrah-Garia, Howrah-Ballygunge, Dunlop-Ballygunge, Ultadanga-Ecospace (New Town), and Airport-Garia. The department also plans to gradually expand night bus services on routes connecting Dunlop, Rajabazar, Ultadanga, Barasat, Barrackpore, Ballygunge, Mourigram, Kamalgaazi and other major destinations. Transport officials believe the initiative will significantly improve late-night mobility, especially for hospital visitors, office workers and travellers, making Kolkata's public transport system safer and more dependable after dark.

Suspected member of Jaish-e-Mohammed arrested

► Continued from page 1

After arrest of the suspected operative of Pakistan-based banned terror outfit the STF investigators is probing his alleged links to a wider terror network and examining whether he was planning an attack. Police sources said material recovered from Mondal's mobile phone and other documents suggested that he was collecting information on Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari. Investigators are examining whether the surveillance was linked to a possible attack plot. According to the police, Mondal is suspected to be associated with the Pakistan-based banned terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed and is believed to be a close associate of Sajjad Bhat, alleged to be one of the masterminds of the 2019 Pulwama terror attack. The accused was produced before a court in Burdwan on Friday. On February 14, 2019, a suicide bomber of the Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed rammed an explosives-laden vehicle into a bus carrying Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, killing 40 jawans.

Name Change
I, Shakuntala Rajgarhia, Shakuntala Devi Rajgarhia (Old Name) W/o Radheyshyam Rajgarhia Residing at Flat No-304, Shree Vinayak Residence, 263 BM Saha Road, Uttarpada Kotrung (M), Hindimotri, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712233, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Shakuntala Rajgarhia (Old Name) to Shakuntala Devi Rajgarhia (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Shakuntala Rajgarhia (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on Dated 30-07-2026. Shakuntala Rajgarhia (New Name) and Shakuntala Devi Rajgarhia (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swapan Mukherjee (Old Name) S/o Late Ananta Mukherjee Residing at 18/1 Chunilal Banerjee Road, Po - Airdah, Ps - Dakshineswar, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 700057, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Swapan Mukherjee (Old Name) to Swapan Kumar Mukherjee (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Swapan Kumar Mukherjee (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 31-07-2026. Swapan Kumar Mukherjee (New Name) and Swapan Mukherjee (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Rana Dhir Kumar Singh (Old Name), S/O Ram Pratap Singh residing at Sidhu Kanu Park, near FCI Market, Bamunara Kanksa, Bardhaman, Pin-713212, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Randhir Kumar Singh (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public, Sealdah court vide Affidavit No. 185931 dated 27/07/2026 Rana Dhir Kumar Singh (Old Name) and Randhir Kumar Singh (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Sudeshna Saha (Old Name), W/O partha saha, residing at AB - 8/18, Desh Bandhu Nagar, Baguiati, Kolkata - 700059, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Sudeshna Ghosh Saha (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public, Sealdah court vide Affidavit No. 008643 dated 27/07/2026 Sudeshna Saha (Old Name) and Sudeshna Ghosh Saha (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Pooja V Tewari (Old Name), W/O Vivek Tewari, residing at Flat D/1/1, Bima Abasan, 594/1, Dakshindhari Road, Lake View South Dum Dum, PO. Seobhumi, Kolkata-700048, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Pooja Tewari (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public, Sealdah court vide Affidavit No. 032496 dated 03/07/2026 Pooja V Tewari (Old Name) and Pooja Tewari (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Vivek Tiwari (Old Name), S/O Omprakash tewari, residing at Flat D/1/1, Bima Abasan, 594/1, Dakshindhari Road, South Dum Dum, Seobhumi, Dist- North 24 Parganas, Pin-700048, have changed my name and shall henceforth be known as Vivek Tewari (New Name) as declared before the Notary Public, Sealdah court vide Affidavit No. 88502 dated 15/07/2026 Vivek Tiwari (Old Name) and Vivek Tewari (New Name) both are the same and identical person.

Name Change
I/Ummeh Shafia Farhatas Saba (old name), D/O- SK Ali Asgar. Resi of Vill- Sathatia, PO- Bhalsia, PS- Deganga, Dist- 24 Parganas (N), Pin-714323, W.B. Also My name has been recorded in my all documents such as Aadhar card, Epic card, Pan card, Birth certificate as Ummeh Saharia Farhatas Saba, also my name has been recorded in my Old passport no.7378430 & Secondary certificate as Ummeh Saharia Farhatas Saba, D/O- SK Ali Asgar, I declared shall henceforth be known before the affidavit first class judicial Magistrate in Barasat Court, 24 Pgs (n). WB. Dated as on 24/07/2026, as Ummeh Saharia Farhatas Saba, Ummeh Saharia Farhatas Saba, D/O- SK Md Ali Asgar, SK Ali Asgar both are the same and one identical person in eye of law.

Name Change
I SK Ali Asgar (old name), S/O Lt. SK Ali Akbar. Resi of Vill-Sathatia, PO- Bhalsia, PS- Deganga, Dist- 24 Parganas (N), Pin-714323, W.B. Also My name has been recorded in my all documents such as Aadhar card & Epic card, SK Md Ali Asgar, also my name has been recorded in my daughter's passport (no.7378430) & Secondary certificate as SK Ali Asgar and also my name has been recorded in my daughter's documents such as Epic card, Birth certificate, PAN card as SK Md Ali Asgar, I declared shall henceforth be known before the affidavit first class judicial Magistrate in Barasat Court, 24 Pgs (n). WB. Dated as on 24/07/2026, SK Md Ali Asgar, SK Ali Asgar S/O Lt. SK Ali Akbar both are the same and one identical person in eye of law.

NAME CHANGE
I, Gokul Bahadur, S/o Late Bab Bahadur (also recorded as Bhaba Bahadur Chhetri and Bhaga Bahadur), resident of Santoshpur, Ward No. 10, Baraigali, P.S. Haringhata, Dist. Nadia - 741221, hereby declare that my father's correct name is Bab Bahadur, as recorded in his Death Certificate, Aadhar Card and PAN Card. Due to inadvertent errors, his name was recorded as Bhaba Bahadur in my Voter ID, PAN Card and Ration Card, and as Bhaba Bahadur Chhetri in the 2002 Electoral Roll (AC-221 Garbeta, Part No. 113, Serial No. 252). By order of the Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Kalyani, dated 28.07.2026, the name has been corrected to Bab Bahadur. Hence, Bab Bahadur, Bhaba Bahadur Chhetri, and Bhaba Bahadur refer to one and the same person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Sunil Kumar Shaw (actual DOB-06/04/1989), S/o- Seopujan Shaw, R/o- Manoharpur, New Ramkrishna Pally, P.O.+P.S.-Dankuni, Hooghly-712311, father & Father's actual name has been wrongly recorded in my Madhyamik Education Certificate as Sunil Kumar Verma, S/o- Shao Pujan Verma in place of Sunil Kumar Shaw, S/o- Seopujan Shaw (Aadhar, Pan & Voter Card), vide an Affidavit No. 26685 dated 27.02.2026, before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate, (1st Class) at Kolkata. That, Sunil Kumar Shaw@Sunil Kumar Verma, S/o- Seopujan Shaw@Shao Pujan Verma, both are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHATAB HOSEN(OLD NAME), SON OF SK ANOWAR ALI, RESIDENT OF KASWARA, PO-KADIWARA, PS-POLBA, HOOGHLY, PIN-712102, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MOHATAB HOSEN(OLD NAME) TO SK MEHETAB HOSEN(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SK MEHETAB HOSEN (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 67 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SK MEHETAB HOSEN(NEW NAME) AND MOHATAB HOSEN(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, Mohammed Feroz(Old Name) s/o Md Shakoor residing at 37/2/H/9 Kabitiritha Sarani Kolkata Pin-700023 in state West Bengal INDIA, I have changed my name and shall hence in forth be known as Md Feroz (new name) as declared before the Notary public at Kolkata dated 30/07/2026. Md Feroz (new name) Mohammed Feroz(Old Name) both are same and identical person not two different person.

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHAMMAD SHADANI ESHAN(OLD NAME), SON OF MOHAMMAD EHSANUL HAQUE, RESIDENT OF 54/B, MOFIDUL ISLAM LANE, ENTALLY, KOLKATA-700014, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MOHAMMAD SHADANI ESHAN(OLD NAME) TO MOHAMMAD SHADANI EHSAN(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MOHAMMAD SHADANI EHSAN(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 69 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 30/07/2026. MOHAMMAD SHADANI EHSAN(NEW NAME) AND MOHAMMAD SHADANI ESHAN(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, MILAN KUMAR CHATTERJEE(OLD NAME), SON OF KAJAL CHATTERJEE, RESIDENT OF 87/B, COSSIPORE ROAD, BLOCK - N/ROOM 14 COSSIPORE, KOLKATA-700022, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MILAN KUMAR CHATTERJEE(OLD NAME) TO MILAN CHATTERJEE(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MILAN CHATTERJEE (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 68 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 30/07/2026. MILAN CHATTERJEE (NEW NAME) AND MILAN KUMAR CHATTERJEE (OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, JISHNU DE & JISHNU DEY(OLD NAMES), SON OF NIMAI CHANDRA DE, RESIDENT OF 13/60, KAKRAPUR LANE, HOWRAH CORPORATION, PO-SANTRAGACHI, CHATTERJEEHAT, HOWRAH-711104, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM JISHNU DE & JISHNU DEY(OLD NAMES) TO ZEESHAN AMEN(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS ZEESHAN AMEN(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 61 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 30/07/2026. ZEESHAN AMEN(NEW NAME) AND JISHNU DE & JISHNU DEY(OLD NAMES) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, Bibhuti Kumar Dey (Old Name), S/O Thakur Das Dey, Residing at Bhudeb Smriti Balika Vidyalay Maslandapur-1, Sadpur, North 24 Parganas, Pin-743289, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Bibhuti Kumar Dey(Old Name) to Bibhuti Dey (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Bibhuti Dey(New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 30/07/2026. Bibhuti Dey (new name) and Bibhuti kumar Dey (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Basanti Dey (Old Name), W/o Bibhuti Dey, Residing at Bhudeb Smriti Balika Vidyalay Maslandapur-1, Sadpur, North 24 Parganas, Pin-743289, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Basanti Dey(Old Name) to Basanti Dey (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Basanti Dey(New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 30/07/2026. Basanti Dey (new name) and Basanti Dey (old name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, ARVIND SINGH(OLD NAME), SON OF LATE JAGSU SINGH(OLD NAME), RESIDENT OF PALLY JYANGRA, PS-BAGUATI RAJARHAT, GOPALPUR(M), NORTH 24 PARGANAS-700059, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM ARVIND SINGH(OLD NAME) TO ARABINDA SINGH(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS ARABINDA SINGH(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 20 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. ARABINDA SINGH (NEW NAME) AND ARVIND SINGH(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, ABDUL REJAK SK(OLD NAME), SON OF LATE SK MAJED, RESIDENT OF UTTAR DHALHARA, PS - TAMLUK, PURBA MEDINIPUR - 721636, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM ABDUL REJAK SK(OLD NAME) TO SK ABDUL RAJAK SK(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SK ABDUL RAJAK SK(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 24 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SK ABDUL RAJAK SK(NEW NAME) AND ABDUL REJAK SK(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change
I, Sayanha Chakraborty (Old Name) S/o Swarup Chakraborty Residing at 56 (125/3), Bishalaxmi Tala, Bauripara, Sheoraphuli, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712223, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Sayanha Chakraborty (Old Name) to Sayanha Chakraborty (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sayanha Chakraborty (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 31-07-2026. Sayanha Chakraborty (New Name) and Sayanha Chakraborty (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Swarup Kr Chakraborty (Old Name) S/o Santosh Kumar Chakraborty Residing at 56 (125/3), Bishalaxmi Tala, Bauripara, Baidyabati (M), Sheoraphuli, District - Hooghly, Pin - 712223, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Swarup Kr Chakraborty (Old Name) to Swarup Chakraborty (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Swarup Chakraborty (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 31-07-2026. Swarup Chakraborty (New Name) and Swarup Kr Chakraborty (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(OLD NAME), SON OF LATE, SACHINDRA KUMAR CHAKRABARTY, RESIDENT OF IDEAL AURUM KURUMUR, FLAT-1B, BLOCK-2, PO-NARENDRAPUR, RAJPUR, SONARPUR, SOUTH 24 PARGANAS-700103, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(OLD NAME) TO SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 12 SWORN BEFORE THE 1ST CLASS JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT BARUIPUR ON 17/04/2026. SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(NEW NAME) AND SIDIPTA CHAKRABARTI(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SOVA SINGH(OLD NAME), WIFE OF ARABINDA SINGH, RESIDENT OF 247, SUKANTA PALLY JYANGRA, PS-BAGUATI RAJARHAT, GOPALPUR(M), NORTH 24 PARGANAS-700059, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SOVA SINGH(OLD NAME) TO SHOVA SINGH(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SHOVA SINGH(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 21 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SHOVA SINGH(NEW NAME) AND SOVA SINGH(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SNEHA CHAKRABORTY(OLD NAME), DAUGHTER OF DIPANKAR CHAKRABORTY, RESIDENT OF 43, MILAN PARK, PO-GARIA, PS-PATULLI, SOUTH-24 PARGANAS-700084, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SNEHA CHAKRABORTY(OLD NAME) TO SNEYA CHAKRABORTY(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SNEYA CHAKRABORTY(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 23 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SNEYA CHAKRABORTY(NEW NAME) AND SNEHA CHAKRABORTY(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SK MAHASIN ALI & SK MOHSIN ALI(OLD NAMES), SON OF SK JANAIL, ALL RESIDENT OF KUMIRMORA DARJIPARA, PO-KUMIRMORA, PS-CHANDITALA, HOOGHLY-712704, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SK MAHASIN ALI & SK MOHSIN ALI(OLD NAMES) TO SK MOHASIN ALI(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SK MOHSIN ALI(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 65 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 30/07/2026. SK MOHASIN ALI(NEW NAME) AND SK MAHASIN ALI & SK MOHSIN ALI(OLD NAMES) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SK ANOVAR HOSEN & SK ANOAR HOSEN & ANOAR HOSEN(OLD NAMES), SON OF SK NOJAFAR HOSSAIN, RESIDENT OF KASWARA, PO-KADIWARA, PS-POLBA, HOOGHLY-712102, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SK ANOVAR HOSEN & SK ANOVAR HOSEN(OLD NAMES) TO SK ANOVAR ALI(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SK ANOVAR ALI(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 63 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SK ANOVAR ALI(NEW NAME) AND SK ANOVAR HOSEN & SK ANOVAR HOSEN(OLD NAMES) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SANKAR BHOWMIK(OLD NAME), SON OF LATE BIMAL KANTI BHOWMIK, RESIDENT OF VILL & PO-GAITA, PS-NARAYANGARH, PASCHIM MEDINIPUR-721424, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SANKAR BHOWMIK(OLD NAME) TO SANKAR KUMAR BHOWMIK(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SANKAR KUMAR BHOWMIK(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 3189 SWORN BEFORE THE LD 1ST CLASS JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE AT DANTAN ON 08/04/2026. SANKAR KUMAR BHOWMIK(NEW NAME) AND SANKAR BHOWMIK(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, SANKAR BARMAN & SANKAR PRASAD BARMAN(OLD NAME), SON OF BASANTA BARMAN, RESIDENT OF VILL- KENDEMARI, PO- KENDA MARI JALPA, EAST MEDINIPUR-721002, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SANKAR BARMAN & SANKAR PRASAD BARMAN(OLD NAME) TO SHANKARA PRASAD BARMAN(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SHANKAR PRASAD BARMAN(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 65 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SHANKARA PRASAD BARMAN(NEW NAME) AND SANKAR BARMAN & SANKAR PRASAD BARMAN(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, Saïda Khatun(Old Name) W/o Zulfiqar Ali, resident at, 15/2, Ahiru Pukur Second Lane, PO- Karaya, Kolkata-700019, West Bengal do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Saïda Khatun (Old Name) to Sahida Begum (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sahida Begum (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit Dated 31 /07/2026 Sahida Begum (New Name) and , Saïda Khatun (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, SAHANIRA KHATUN(OLD NAME), WIFE OF AZIZUL SARDAR, RESIDENT OF JAHANJHANA BAZAR, PS-GOBARDANGA, NORTH24PARGANAS-743252, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SAHANIRA KHATUN(OLD NAME) TO SAJIMIRA BIBI(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SAJIMIRA BIBI(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 30 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SAJIMIRA BIBI(NEW NAME) AND SAHANIRA KHATUN(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

NAME CHANGE
I, Rafiqul Islam Gazi(Old Name) S/o Abdulbari Gazi, resident at, Mukundakati, PO- Bindra, North 24 Parganas Pin-743292, West Bengal do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rafiqul Islam Gazi(Old Name) to Rafikul Islam Gazi (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Rafikul Islam Gazi (new name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata, vide affidavit Dated 31 /07/2026 Rafikul Islam Gazi(Old Name) and , Rafiqul Islam Gazi(Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, MONI SARKAR JANAK(OLD NAME), SON OF RABINDRA NATH JANA, RESIDENT OF CHANDRERIA RAJARHAT, GOPALPUR(M), KRI SHINAPUR, NORTH 24 PGS- 700102, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM MONI SARKAR JANAK(OLD NAME) TO MONI SANKAR JANAK(OLD NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS MONI SANKAR JANAK(NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 81 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. MONI SANKAR JANAK(NEW NAME) AND MONI SARKAR JANAK(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Name Change
I, Samima Begum (Old Name), Wife Of Sk Md Basirul, Resident Of Vill-Borhal, Po-Satghara, Hooghly-712404, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Samima Begum (Old Name) To Samima Begum (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Samima Begum (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 80 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2026. Samima Begum (New Name) And Samima Begum (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Jakir Hussain (Old Name), Son Of Lutfar Rahman, Resident Of 26 Alam Mistry Lane, Po-Howrah-711101, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Jakir Hussain (Old Name) To Zakir Hossain Hajari (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Zakir Hossain Hajari (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 78 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 31/07/2026. Zakir Hossain Hajari (New Name) And Jakir Hussain (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sekh Yunush Ali (Old Name), Son Of Israil Sekh, Resident Of Pontba, Vitasin, Pandua, Hooghly-712149, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sekh Yunush Ali (Old Name) To Yunus Ali Sekh (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Yunus Ali Sekh (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 75 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 17/07/2026. Yunus Ali Sekh (New Name) And Sekh Yunush Ali (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ujjal Martin Gomes (Old Name), S/O Late Francis Gomes, Residing at Begopara, Rangahat, Nadia, Pin-741256, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Ujjal Martin Gomes (Old Name) to Ujjal Gomes (new name) and henceforth I be known as Ujjal Gomes (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 30/07/2026. Ujjal Gomes (New Name) and Ujjal Martin Gomes (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Subhas Roy (Old Name), Son Of Haridas Roy, Resident Of Dabgram Madhyas Shanti Nagar, Dabgram, Jalpaiguri, 734004, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Subhas Roy (Old Name) To Subhash Roy (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Subhash Roy (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 50 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 30/07/2026. Subhash Roy (Old Name) And Subhas Roy (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Lovely Khatun (old name), W/o, Md/Mafizul Islam, R/o. Kantagarh, Panchgaria, Pandua, Hooghly-712149, W.B., do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Lovely Khatun to Lovely KhatunShaikh (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Lovely KhatunShaikh in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 17417 sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 17/07/2026. I, Lovely KhatunShaikh & Lovely Khatun, W/o, Md/Mafizul Islam, all are the same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, SABANA KHATUN, D/o- SK TARIK MAHABUB, R/O: Vill.-Durgachak New Colony, P.O. & P.S.-Durgachak, Dist.-Purba Medinipur, PIN- 721602, do hereby declare that I have converted my religion to Hinduism and shall henceforth be known as RANI BAG. On 13.07.26 vide affidavit no. 5115 submitted before the Notary Public, Tamruk, Purba Medinipur, I affirm that myself SABANA KHATUN & RANI BAG is the same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
Sonu Kumar Das, S/o. - Amarjeet Das @Amarjit Das (Father) & Pramila Devi, R/o- 64, Patterson Road, Saha Para, Near Dadaram Ashram, P.O.- Hazinagar, P.S.- Naihati, Dist.- 24 Pgs. (N)-743135, under Naihati Mediclinic, W.B, my Parents (Father & Mother) actual name has been wrongly recorded in my Voter Id Card, Pan Card & Father's & Mother's Aadhar Card as Amarjit Das & Pramila Devi in place of Amarjeet Das & Pramila Devi (my Birth Certificate & Academic Qualification documents), vide an Affidavit No. dt. 22.04.2026, in the Court Ld. J.M. 1st Class at Barrackpore. That, Amarjeet Das @Amarjit Das (Father) & Pramila Devi @ Pramila Devi all are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Rupansa Bibi, W/O-Sk. Hasibul Ali, residing at Village-Krishnanagar, P.O.-Doro Krishnanagar, P.S.-Subahata, District.-Purba Medinipur, hereby declare that my son's correct name is Sk. Raihan Ali, which has been wrongly recorded as Sk. Rakesh in his Birth Certificate. Sk. Raihan Ali and Sk. Rakesh, son of Sk. Hasibul Ali, are one and the same identical person, vide Affidavit No. 1227 dated 15.06.2026.

NAME CHANGE
I, Shefali Khatun, W/o.- Ratikul SK, R/o.- Pre. Vill.- Matukpur, P.O. & P.S.- Pandua, Dist.- Hooghly-712149, W.B, my actual name also been recorded /written in my voter Card as Shafali Murmu, in place of Shefali Khatun (Aadhar Card), vide an Affidavit No. 18527, dt. 29.07.2026, in the Court of Ld. 1st Class, J.M. Hooghly at Chinsurah. That, Shefali Khatun & Shifali Murmu both are same & one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, SWAGATA MALLICK (OLD NAME), SON OF CHAMPALK MALLICK, RESIDENT OF 349A, SANIK NAGAR, BARBARIA, JAGANNATHPUR, NORTH 24 PARGANAS-700126, WEST BENGAL DO HEREBY DECLARE THAT I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SWAGATA MALLICK (OLD NAME) TO SWAGATO MALLICK(NEW NAME) AND HENCEFORTH I SHALL BE KNOWN AS SWAGATO MALLICK (NEW NAME) IN ALL PURPOSE, VIDE AFFIDAVIT NO 72 SWORN BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC AT KOLKATA ON 31/07/2026. SWAGATO MALLICK(NEW NAME) AND SWAGATA MALLICK(OLD NAME) BOTH ARE SAME AND ONE IDENTICAL PERSON.

Kharagpur Railway Division Bids Farewell to 41 Retired Employees; DRM Hands Over PPOs and Mementoes

MI News Service, Kharagpur : The Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway on Friday organised a dignified farewell ceremony to honour 41 railway employees who retired or opted for voluntary retirement. The railway administration paid tribute to their years of dedicated service and extended a heartfelt farewell. The programme was held at the CMS Auditorium of the Kharagpur Divisional Railway Hospital (DRH). Senior railway officials, family members of the retirees, and their colleagues attended the event in large numbers, making the occasion both emotional and memorable. Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Lalit



Mohan Pandey, the chief guest, personally handed over Pension Payment Orders (PPOs), settlement-related documents, and commemorative mementoes to all 41 retired employees. Addressing the gathering, DRM Pandey said the employees had served Indian Railways with dedication, honesty, and commitment throughout their careers. He expressed the railway administration's gratitude for their invaluable contributions and wished them

good health, happiness, prosperity, and a fulfilling retired life. Senior divisional officers and heads of various departments were also present at the ceremony. They shared their experiences of working with the retirees and conveyed their best wishes for the next phase of their lives. The farewell ceremony once again reflected the tradition of the Kharagpur Railway Division in honouring the years of hard work, dedication, and contribution of its employees to the nation. By according them a dignified send-off on their retirement, the railway administration reaffirmed its appreciation and gratitude for their long and devoted service.

Two arrested for 'smuggling' birds from municipal park

MI News Service, South 24 Parganas: The police have arrested the park's supervisor and municipal employee Pallav Bharti and the park's employee Sanjay Gayan in connection with the 'smuggling' of indigenous and exotic birds kept in the 'Aranyak' forest park run by the Baruiipur Municipality. The two arrested were produced before the Baruiipur sub-district court on Thursday, and the judge ordered their police custody for 9 days for investigation.

A picnic garden was built on the banks of the Adi Ganga in ward number 10 for the entertainment of the residents on the initiative of the Baruiipur Municipality. Many types of domestic and foreign birds were kept there. Among them were peacocks and emus. It has been alleged that 13 peacocks and emus were smuggled. On receiving the news, the party leadership from the Baruiipur West Mandal No. 1 of the BJP went to the spot on Wednesday. They were the first to report the

matter to the Baruiipur Police Station in the form of a complaint. Later, the Forest Department also filed a complaint.

Upon receiving the information, Baruiipur Police Additional Superintendent of Police (Zonal) Atish Biswas and Baruiipur IC reached the spot. Three people including municipality worker and supervisor Pallab Bharti were arrested from there. Pallab Bharti and Sanjay Gayen were arrested that night. On Wednesday night, searches were conducted at Pallab Bharti's house in Vaishnavpara, Baruiipur, and his flat in Dhakuria, Kolkata. Pallab used to run a cafe near the Banbhojan Udyan. The police also seized several register books there.

Pallab alleged that he was framed. He alleged that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and a councillor of the municipality are involved in this incident. However, Chairman Shakti Roychowdhury said in this regard, 'The police are investigating. The real truth will be revealed.'

FDI revival boosting Indian economy: RBI

MI News Service, New Delhi: A revival in foreign investment flows into India in recent months signals renewed confidence among global investors in the domestic economy, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in its July bulletin, even as the central bank continued to intervene in the foreign exchange market to support the rupee. Net foreign direct investment (FDI) rose to \$6.5 billion during April-May 2026, from \$2.5 billion in the corresponding period a year ago. Gross inward FDI also increased to \$21.4 billion from \$17.1 billion during the period, aided by lower repatriation, the central bank said.

"Recovery of foreign investments in recent months shows a revival of confidence in the economy," it said. Japan, Singapore and

Mauritius together accounted for 74 per cent of total equity inflows during the period.

Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) also turned positive in June, supported by policy measures favouring the debt segment and easing geopolitical tensions. FPIs infused \$3.1 billion into Indian markets in July through July 20, with investments spread across equity and debt.

External commercial borrowing (ECB) registrations also rose significantly during April-May compared with the year-ago period. The RBI, however, said net inflows into non-resident deposits moderated in April-May, primarily because of slower mobilisation under non-resident external rupee accounts and FCNR(B) deposits. Following recent policy measures, inflows into

FCNR(B) deposits surged to \$17.4 billion between June 8 and July 17.

The central bank said foreign exchange reserves remained comfortable, covering more than 10 months of goods imports and 88.5 per cent of external debt outstanding at end-March 2026.

Meanwhile, the RBI's intervention in the forex market continued. The central bank net sold \$6.104 billion in the spot currency market in May, marking the third consecutive month of net sales. It had net sold \$9.758 billion in March and \$8.944 billion in April.

In May, the RBI purchased \$22.22 billion and sold \$28.33 billion on a gross basis. The central bank reiterated that India remained the fastest-growing major economy despite continuing global uncertainties.

BJP govt to bring rapid industrial growth: Bengal PWD Minister

MI News Service, Santorica: ECL reaffirming its commitment to responsible mining and safeguarding the nation's valuable coal resources, has called for greater participation in efforts to prevent illegal coal mining and coal theft.

In this regard, CMD, ECL, Satish Jha, has urged all employees and stakeholders of ECL to download the 'Khanan Prahari' mobile application and extend their active cooperation in furthering this important initiative. He emphasised that collective participation and heightened vigilance can play a vital role in preventing illegal coal mining and safeguarding the nation's valuable coal resources.



The meeting was attended by Tapas Ray, Minister-in-Charge, Commerce & Industries Department, Government

Neck muscle inflammation primary cause of headache: Study

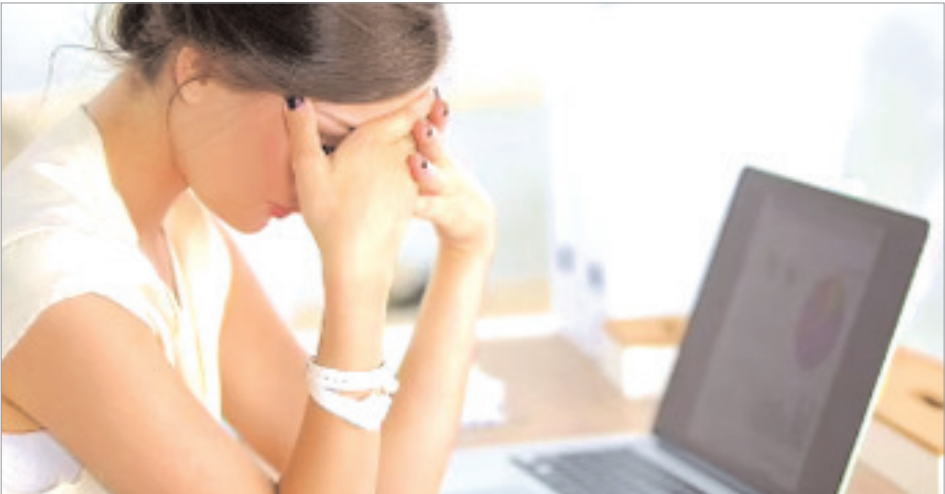
CHICAGO [US] : Researchers disclosed genuine proof of how the neck muscles are implicated in primary headaches in a study presented at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA). The findings could lead to improved treatments.

The distinct underlying causes of primary headaches are still not fully understood. The most common primary headaches are tension-type headaches and migraines.

"Our imaging approach provides first objective evidence for the very frequent involvement of the neck muscles in primary headaches, such as neck pain in migraine or tension-type headache, using the ability to quantify subtle inflammation within muscles," said Nico Sollmann, M.D., Ph.D., resident in the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology at University Hospital Ulm, and the Department of Diagnostic and Interventional Neuroradiology at University Hospital Rechts der Isar in Munich, Germany.

Tension-type headaches affect two out of every three adults in the U.S. People with tension-type headaches often feel a tightening in the head and mild to moderate dull pain on both sides of the head. While these headaches are typically associated with stress and muscle tension, their exact origin is not fully understood.

Migraines are characterized by a severe throbbing pain. Migraines generally occur on one side of the head, or the pain is worse on one side. Migraines may also cause nausea, weakness and light sensitivity. According to the American Migraine Foundation, over 37 million



people in the U.S. are affected by migraine, and up to 148 million people worldwide suffer from chronic migraine. Neck pain is commonly associated with primary headaches. However, no objective biomarkers exist for myofascial involvement. Myofascial pain is associated with inflammation or irritation of muscle or of the connective tissue, known as fascia, that surrounds the muscle. For the study, Dr. Sollmann and colleagues aimed to investigate the involvement of the trapezius muscles in primary headache disorders by quantitative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and to explore associations between muscle T2 values and headache

and neck pain frequency. The prospective study included 50 participants, mostly women, ranging in age from 20 to 31 years old. Of the study group, 16 had tension-type headache, and 12 had tension-type headache plus migraine episodes. The groups were matched with 22 healthy controls.

All participants underwent 3D turbo spin-echo MRI. The bilateral trapezius muscles were manually segmented, followed by muscle T2 extraction. Associations between muscle T2 values and the presence of neck pain, number of days with headache, and number of myofascial trigger points as determined by manual palpa-

tion of the trapezius muscles were analyzed (adjusting for age, sex and body mass index).

The tension-type headache plus migraine group demonstrated the highest muscle T2 values. Muscle T2 was significantly associated with the number of headache days and the presence of neck pain. The increased muscle T2 values could be interpreted as a surrogate of inflammation arising from the nervous system and increased sensitivity of nerve fibers within myofascial tissues.

"The quantified inflammatory changes of neck muscles significantly correlate with the number of days lived with headache and the presence of subjectively perceived neck pain," Dr. Sollmann said. "Those changes allow us to differentiate between healthy individuals and patients suffering from primary headaches."

Muscle T2 mapping could be used to stratify patients with primary headaches and to track potential treatment effects for monitoring.

"Our findings support the role of neck muscles in the pathophysiology of primary headaches," Dr. Sollmann said. "Therefore, treatments that target the neck muscles could lead to a simultaneous relief of neck pain, as well as headache."

Dr. Sollmann pointed out that non-invasive treatment options that directly target the site of pain in the neck muscles could be highly effective and safer than systemic drugs.

"Our imaging approach with delivery of an objective biomarker could facilitate therapy monitoring and patient selection for certain treatments in the near future," he added.

Eating within 10-hour window is good for health, finds study



LONDON [UK] : According to new findings from the largest UK community research project, eating within a 10-hour window improves mood, energy, and hunger.

The outcomes of the trial were reported at the European Nutrition Conference by researchers from King's College London.

Intermittent fasting (IF), or restricting your food consumption to a set time frame, is a popular approach for losing weight. You limit your daily eating schedule to 10 hours and fast for the remaining 14 hours with a ten-hour window. For example, if you start eating at 9 a.m., you must finish by 7 p.m.

Those who maintained a regular eating window outperformed those who altered their eating habits.

Despite the fact, a certain intermittent fasting advocates frequently promote restrictive eating windows as short as six hours, data presented in the abstract suggest that eating within a less restrictive window of ten hours has beneficial health effects such as changes in mood, energy, and appetite.

Dr Sarah Berry from King's College London and chief scientist at ZOE said, "This is the largest study outside of a tightly controlled clinic to show that intermittent fasting can improve your health in a real-world setting. What's really exciting is that the findings show that you don't have to be very restrictive to see positive results. A ten-hour eating window, which was manageable for most people, improved mood, energy levels and hunger. We found for the first time that those who practised time-restricted eating, but were not consistent day to day, did not have the same positive health effects as those who were dedicated every day."

37,545 people on the ZOE Health app completed the core intervention period of three weeks. Participants were asked to eat as normal for the first week and then a ten-hour eating window for two weeks.

More than 36,231 participants opted for additional weeks and 27,371 users were classified as highly engaged. Highly engaged participants were 78 per cent female, with a mean age of 60 and a BMI of 25.6.

Participants with a longer eating window before the intervention saw an even greater benefit to their health.

Kate Bermingham PhD, from King's College London and ZOE, said, "This study adds to the growing body of evidence showing the importance of how you eat. The health impact of food is not just what you eat but the time at which you choose to consume your meals, and eating window is an important dietary behaviour that can be beneficial for health. Findings show that we don't need to be eating all the time. Many people will feel satiated and even lose weight if they restrict their food to a ten-hour window."

Protein present in brain associated with frontotemporal dementia: Study



INDIANAPOLIS [US] : A protein present in the brains of patients suffering from frontotemporal dementia (FTD) has been identified by an international team of researchers, which includes specialists from Indiana University School of Medicine. This finding opens up a new target for possible treatments for FTD.

The National Institutes of Health state that injury to neurons in the brain's frontal and temporal lobes causes frontal lobe dementia (FTD). Symptoms of this kind of dementia usually appear in people between the ages of 25 and 65. These symptoms can include odd behaviours, emotional issues,

Neurodegenerative disorders, including dementias and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), occur when specific proteins form amyloid filaments in the nerve cells of the brain and spinal cord. The multidisciplinary team of researchers—including members from the Medical Research Council (MRC) Laboratory of Molecular Biology, the IU School of Medicine and the University College London Queen Square Institute of Neurology—found that in cases of FTD, a protein called TAF15 forms these amyloid filaments in the cells of the brain and the spinal cord. On December 6, they published their findings in Nature.

Cryo-EM structure of TAF15 amyloid filaments as discovered in patients with frontotemporal dementia

Bernardino Ghetti, MD is a Distinguished Professor at the IU School of Medicine and has been studying neurodegenerative dementias for 50 years. As a lead neuropathologist on the project, Ghetti and his team studied the protein aggregates from brains donated by four people who had frontotemporal dementia and motor weakness. Together with their colleagues in the UK, IU researchers used neuropathologic and molecular techniques and cutting-edge cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM) at atomic resolution to discover the presence of the amyloid filaments made of TAF15 protein in multiple brain areas. However it is important to note that TAF15 amyloid affects also nerve cells of the motor system.

"This discovery represents an important breakthrough that recognizes TAF15 as a potential target for the development of diagnostic and therapeutic strategies toward a lesser-known form of frontotemporal lobar degeneration associated with frontotemporal dementia," Ghetti said.

Study finds how surgery beneficial is for some children with mild sleep-disordered breathing

NEW YORK [US] : Researchers discovered that surgical removal of the tonsils and adenoids in children with snoring and minor breathing issues during sleep seemed to enhance their sleep, quality of life, and blood pressure a year after surgery.

The study was done to examine the effects of adenotonsillectomy on children with moderate sleep-disordered breathing (SDB). Adenotonsillectomy is one of the most common surgical operations performed on children, and moderate SDB affects a high number of these individuals.

The findings were reported in the American Medical Association Journal.

"Our data suggest that for children with no symptoms other than snoring, it's reasonable to monitor them over time without proceeding to surgery," said study leader Susan Redline, M.D., M.P.H., of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, both in Boston. "However, for children who are having issues with disturbed sleep, daytime sleepiness, and behavioral problems, our data suggest that surgery may be a very reasonable option."

SDB refers to breathing disturbances during sleep that can range from loud snoring to sleep apnea. SDB affects 6-17% of typically developing children in the United States. Some research indicates that if left untreated, the condition may increase the risk



for behavioral problems, reduced quality of life, and cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease and high blood pressure. Researchers and parents are showing increasing interest in how sleep problems such as sleep apnea might also affect brain development, cognition, and academic performance.

Adenotonsillectomy, or removal of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, is a standard treatment for children with moderate to severe SDB and is aimed at reducing snoring and improving breathing in those with the condition. However, data are unclear whether the surgery is beneficial for children with mild forms of SDB.

The Pediatric Adenotonsillectomy Trial for Snoring (PATs) was a randomized clinical trial that involved 459 children and adolescents with mild SDB who were enrolled at seven aca-

demie sleep centers in the United States between 2016 to 2021. The participants were ages 3 to 12, racially diverse, and followed for a year. The study did not include children with moderate to severe SDB.

During the trial, half the participants received an adenotonsillectomy and the other half received supportive care without surgery, which included standardized education on healthy sleep and lifestyle and referral for untreated allergies or asthma. Researchers then evaluated neurodevelopmental, behavioral, health, and sleep-related outcomes in these groups, using measurements of attention and executive function, which includes a set of cognitive skills that help children manage everyday activities. Sleep outcomes were measured by polysomnography, a standard sleep test that measures breathing, heart

rate, eye movement, and other factors.

At the end of the study period, cognition and attention improved in both groups, but improvement was not significantly greater in the children who were treated with surgery compared to the group who did not receive surgery. However, the secondary results of the study did show several beneficial changes in the surgery group. These included less daytime sleepiness, reduced SDB, less snoring, fewer behavioral problems, better quality of life, and lower blood pressure. The children treated with surgery were also less likely to show disease progression into full-blown sleep apnea, the researchers said.

Researchers plan to explore the long-term impacts of surgery in this population and note the need to develop improved screening tools that better identify which children are most likely to benefit from adenotonsillectomy.

"It is clear that adenotonsillectomy can help some children with mild sleep-disordered breathing. However, it may not be appropriate for everyone," said Marishka Brown, Ph.D., director of the National Center on Sleep Disorder's Research within the NHLBI. "Parents with concern over their children's nighttime breathing should discuss options with their pediatrician to develop a plan of action."

Research shows specific genetic variant can help prevent obesity

WASHINGTON DC [US] : A preclinical study conducted by Weill Cornell Medicine researchers reveals that a certain human genetic variant of a receptor that increases insulin release may help individuals be more resistant to obesity. The researchers revealed that this version operates differently in the cell, which may lead to more effective metabolism.

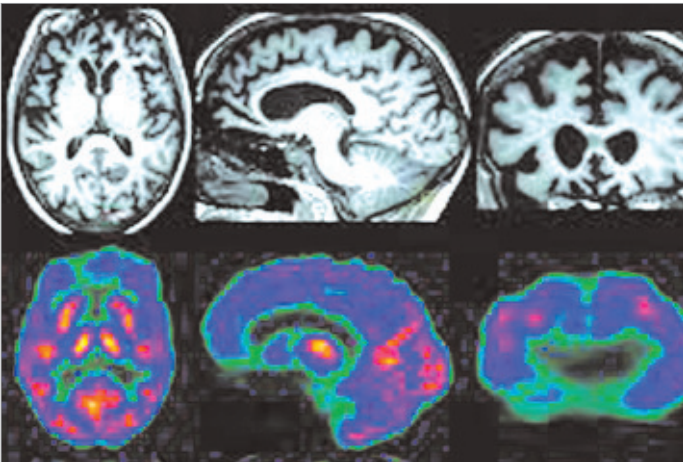
The study, posted online in Molecular Metabolism on Nov. 2, provides new insight into how human genetic variations affect an individual's susceptibility to weight gain. The researchers developed mice with a human genetic variant in the glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor associated with leaner body mass index (BMI). They found that the mice were better at processing sugar and staying leaner than mice with a different, more common variant of the receptor. The discovery may point to new potential strategies to treat obesity, which affects more than a 100 million adults in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Our work demonstrates how basic science research can yield important insights about complex biology," said the study's senior author Dr. Timothy McGraw, a professor of biochemistry in cardiothoracic surgery and in biochemistry

at Weill Cornell Medicine. "These GIP receptors and their behavior at the cellular level profoundly impact metabolism and weight regulation."

Genetic Variants of the GIP Receptor

Genetic variants are differences in DNA sequence that occur naturally between individuals in a given population. Genome-wide association studies, which use statistics to carefully link genetic variants to particular traits, show about 20 percent of people of European descent have one copy of the GIP receptor with the Q354 gene variant and about 5 percent have two copies of the variant. The GIP receptor interacts with a hormone released in response to glucose levels after a meal. "Studies suggest that people with at least one copy this GIP receptor variant have altered metabolism that reduces their risk of developing obesity," said the study's lead author Dr. Lucie Yammine, a post-doctoral associate in biochemistry at Weill Cornell Medicine. To understand how this gene variant may be decreasing the risk of obesity, the team used CRISPR-Cas9 technology to genetically engineer mice with the variant in the gene encoding the GIP receptor, similar to the human version. They found that female mice with the variant were leaner on a typical mouse diet than



"Our work demonstrates how basic science research can yield important insights about complex biology," said the study's senior author Dr. Timothy McGraw, a professor of biochemistry in cardiothoracic surgery and in biochemistry at Weill Cornell Medicine. "These GIP receptors and their behavior at the cellular level profoundly impact me

"We found that a change in one amino acid in the GIP receptor gene affected the whole body in terms of weight," Dr. Yammine said. Mice with the variant were more sensitive to the GIP hormone that triggers the release of insulin which controls blood sugar levels and helps the body convert food into energy.

female litter mates without it. Male mice with the gene variant were about the same weight as litter mates without it while consuming a regular diet, but the gene variant protected them from weight gain

when fed a high-fat diet, which caused obesity in litter mates.

"We found that a change in one amino acid in the GIP receptor gene affected the whole body in terms of weight," Dr. Yammine

said. Mice with the variant were more sensitive to the GIP hormone that triggers the release of insulin which controls blood sugar levels and helps the body convert food into energy. How the Variant May Provide an Advantage Against Obesity

The researchers compared what happened to mouse cells with and without the variant when exposed to glucose or the GIP hormone. Pancreatic cells from mice with the genetic variant produced more insulin in response to both glucose and the GIP hormone, which may explain why they are better at processing glucose.

"What's interesting about these receptors is their location in the cell has a big impact on how they signal and their activity," Dr. McGraw said. He explained that when the GIP hormone binds to the receptor, the receptor moves from the cell surface to inside the cell. When the GIP hormone eventually falls off the receptor, the receptor returns to the cell surface. The team found that the GIP receptor variant stays inside the cell compartment four times longer than the typical receptor. Dr. McGraw suggested that this may allow the receptor to send more messages to the machinery inside cells, which helps in processing sugar more efficiently.

Still, more research is needed

to confirm the effects of this variant on the receptor's behavior. The researchers also want to learn if there are differences in the receptor's behavior in other cell types, like brain cells, which play a crucial role in regulating hunger. Recently, the Food and Drug Administration has approved several weight loss drugs that mimic natural hormones in the body and interact with receptors like GIP, including semaglutide (Wegovy) and tirzepatide (Zepbound). This has increased the interest in studying new ways to target the GIP receptor for obesity.

"Our work suggests that the movement of the receptor from the cell surface to the interior is an important factor in controlling metabolism. Therefore, drugs that could regulate the GIP receptor behavior and location could provide an important new avenue to combat obesity," said Dr. Yammine. In the meantime, Dr. McGraw noted that it is essential to understand how people with different genetic variants in the GIP receptor respond to currently available weight loss medications. "A better appreciation of how different variants of receptors impact metabolism might allow for a precision medicine approach—matching a specific drug to a genetic variant—for weight loss," he said.

Deadly coal mine blast in Pakistan kills 32, rescue operation underway

MI News Service, Quetta: At least 32 coal miners were killed, while several others remain trapped after a methane gas explosion ripped through a coal mine in the Sorange coalfield in Pakistan's Balochistan province, local media reported on Friday.

According to the officials, 41 miners were working about 4,000 feet underground when the explosion took place at a private coal mine. A fire erupted in the mine after the explosion, resulting in the collapse of the structure.

Another mine located near the site of the incident was also impacted. As many as 12 miners working in the second mine remained trapped. Chief Inspector of Mines Muhammad Atif said that the Mines and Minerals Department and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) have initiated a rescue operation.



He stated that the blast was believed to have occurred due to the accumulation of methane gas at a depth of around 4,000 feet, causing a fire and gathering of hazardous gases in the mine.

Earlier in May, two miners were killed and another injured in two separate coal mine incidents in Shangla district of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The first incident took place at Mine No 5 of Akhorwal coal mines. The sources revealed that two workers were buried under debris during operations in the mine. Rescue teams, fellow miners and local residents retrieved the trapped workers after carrying out a rescue operation for nearly two and a half hours.

In a separate incident, a miner died while working in a coal mine in Chaparmashtii area. Local residents and labour organisations have voiced serious concern over the lack of safety measures in Pakistan's coal mines and called on the government and authorities to take notice of the issue.

Trump announces a deal for Hamas to disarm in Gaza

MI News Service, Washington: President Donald Trump said Thursday that a deal has been reached for Hamas to disarm and Israel to withdraw its forces from Gaza, but many hurdles, conditions and long timelines remained to wind down the war in the Palestinian territory. Neither Hamas nor Israel gave immediate indication that they had agreed.



The White House announcement comes nine months after a US-brokered ceasefire was signed. Negotiations between Israel and Hamas had largely deadlocked over the implementation of its second phase, including the disarmament of Hamas and the reconstruction of Gaza.

"The agreement will be carried out in carefully structured phases," Trump said on social media. "As disarmament is completed, Israeli forces will withdraw, and the International Stabilization Force will work with a new Palestinian police force to take responsibility for Gaza being safe for its residents and its neighbors."

Trump's 20-point ceasefire plan calls on the Iran-backed militant group to surrender its weapons and destroy its vast network of tunnels. It also envisions Israeli forces withdrawing from Gaza, the arrival of a new technocratic Palestinian government, deployment of an

international security force and the rebuilding of the battered Palestinian enclave after more than two years of war.

But Hamas had insisted on implementing the first phase before moving to discuss its weapons. The group's founding charter calls for armed resistance against Israel, and it has been reluctant to give up an arsenal, including rockets, anti-tank missiles and explosives, that lies at the heart of its identity.

Hamas announced earlier this month that it had dissolved its government in Gaza and was preparing to transfer power to a technical committee backed by the United Nations as part of the ceasefire deal.

U.S. and Board of Peace officials, describing the deal to reporters on condition of anonymity under guidelines set by the White House, gave an extremely optimistic assessment of the agreement that laid out a scenario very similar to the one described by Trump and his top aides when the Board of Peace, an international body established by Trump to oversee the ceasefire in Gaza, was first formed.

The officials were unable to offer specific timelines for the disarmament of Hamas or other groups that operate in Gaza such as Palestinian Islamic Jihad, but said the Gaza police force would turn over weapons to the technocratic Board of Peace-backed Gaza administration in the next two weeks.

The Gaza police force, however, does not include the vast majority of Hamas militants and heavy weaponry is not included in that part of the agreement, according to the officials.

Instead, the surrender of heavy weapons and the decommissioning of Hamas tunnels and other infrastructure are to come later in a process that could take between 200 and 350 days, a Board of Peace official said.

Cabinet approves 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)' for Development of Floating Solar Photovoltaic Projects with Energy Storage Systems with a total outlay of Rs.5,070 crore

MI News Service, Delhi, July 31, 2026 : The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi today approved the 'Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY)', a Scheme for the development of Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) Projects with Energy Storage Systems (ESS) with a total outlay of Rs.5,070 crore.

The scheme envisages the development of 5,000 MW of Floating Solar Photovoltaic projects with co-located Energy Storage Systems having a minimum storage capacity of two hours i.e., 10,000 MWh. The projects will be sanctioned during FY 2026-27 to FY 2030-31, with disbursement of financial support continuing up to FY 2032-33.

The approval follows the recent assessment undertaken by the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), which has estimated a floating solar potential of approximately 102.18 GWp across reservoirs and other suitable inland water bodies in the country.

Under the scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of Rs. One crore per MW will be provided for eligible Floating Solar Photovoltaic projects after successful commissioning. In addition, CFA of upto Rs.50 lakh per project will be available for undertaking feasibility studies, including bathymetry and hydrography assessments, environmental studies, and other preparatory activities required for de-risking the project development.

All States and Union Territories will benefit through this scheme. The scheme would enhance the floating Solar PV capacity in the country by 5,000 MW, which is presently around 700 MW only. These projects would provide an opportunity to gainfully utilize existing reservoirs & industrial ponds, and eliminate competition for scarce

land resources. The integration of an energy storage system will help strengthen grid reliability. The scheme would help in the reduction of around 10 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually. It would help in the generation of approximately 16,000-17,000 full-time equivalent employment opportunities across the project value chain. The scheme would also promote domestic manufacturing of floatation systems as well as the entire value chain of the projects, like PV cells, modules, energy storage systems, etc., and support the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

The scheme will contribute to renewable energy capacity addition, support the achievement of national energy and climate objectives, and facilitate optimal utilisation of water resources while advancing the vision of Viksit Bharat.

RPF Fleet Strengthened With New Vehicles In Eastern Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata, July 31, 2026 :

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening railway security, Eastern Railway inducted ten new Royal Enfield motorcycles and one security transport bus into the Railway Protection Force (RPF) fleet during a flag-off ceremony held at Eastern Railway Headquarters, Fairlie Place, Kolkata, today.



The vehicles were ceremonially flagged off by the General Manager, Eastern Railway, Milind K. Deouskar, marking a significant step towards enhancing the operational capability, mobility, and quick response mechanism of the RPF across the railway network.

The newly inducted motorcycles and security transport bus will significantly improve the force's patrolling efficiency, emergency response, crime prevention, and surveillance capabilities. These additions will enable RPF personnel to respond more swiftly and effectively to security-related incidents while ensuring better protection of railway passengers and railway property.

The ceremony was attended by the IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Eastern Railway, A. N. Sinha, along with the Principal Heads of Departments (PHODs), senior officers, and personnel of the Railway Protection Force.

The programme reflected Eastern Railway's continued focus on modernising its security infrastructure and equipping the Railway Protection Force with enhanced mobility and resources to provide a safer, more secure, and passenger-friendly railway system.

In his comments, Shibram Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer, Eastern Railway, stated, "The induction of these new vehicles will further strengthen the operational preparedness of the Railway Protection Force and enhance its ability to ensure the safety and security of passengers and railway assets."

Cabinet approves 'Samudra Manthan' (National Offshore Exploration Scheme) with an outlay of Rs.84,084 crore

MI News Service, Delhi, July 31, 2026 : The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved 'Samudra Manthan' - the National Offshore Exploration Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas with an approved outlay of Rs.84,084 crore for implementation up to FY2030-31.

The Scheme translates the Prime Minister's vision, articulated from the Red Fort on Independence Day 2025, of a modern-day Samudra Manthan

to unlock India's vast offshore energy potential. It marks a landmark step towards strengthening India's energy security, accelerating domestic exploration and production, promoting technological leadership, and advancing

the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The Scheme encompasses a comprehensive set of interventions across the offshore exploration value chain. It provides for large-scale acquisition, processing and interpretation of high-quality seismic data, accelerated deepwater and ultra-deepwater exploratory drilling, scientific drilling in frontier basins, development of common offshore production and evacuation infrastructure, and establishment of an integrated Oil & Gas Manufacturing and Services Zone. It also includes dedicated provisions for digital programme management, capacity building, technology adoption, stakeholder engagement and international outreach, creating an integrated ecosystem to accelerate offshore exploration and production in the

country.

Samudra Manthan is expected to catalyse reserve accretion of over 600 Million Metric Tons of Oil Equivalent (MMTOE), substantially increase offshore exploration activity, promote higher domestic oil and gas production, generate large-scale employment, strengthen indigenous manufacturing under Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat, and foster a globally competitive ecosystem for offshore technologies and services. The Scheme is also expected to stimulate significant investments across the exploration and production value chain, creating long-term opportunities for industry, innovation and economic growth.

As India progresses towards becoming a developed nation, Samudra Manthan represents

a transformational national initiative that will unlock the country's offshore energy resources, strengthen long-term energy security, deepen technological capabilities, and create enduring value for the economy and future generations.

Over the past decade, the Government has undertaken transformative reforms across the upstream sector, including opening almost the entire offshore acreage for exploration, modernising the legislative and contractual framework, and strengthening the National Data Repository. Building on these reforms, Samudra Manthan will usher in a new era of accelerated offshore exploration through strategic public investment, cutting-edge technologies and world-class infrastructure.

Indian Railways Successfully Transports India's First Live Donor Heart by Train, Vande Bharat Express Enables Life-saving Mission from Surat to Ahmedabad

► Exemplary Coordination Between Indian Railways, RPF, Gujarat Police and Medical Teams Demonstrates Railways' Expanding Role in Life-saving Healthcare Services

MI News Service, Delhi, July 31, 2026 : Indian Railways has achieved a historic milestone in the field of healthcare by successfully transporting a live donor heart by train for the first time in India. The life-saving organ was transported from Surat to Ahmedabad aboard Train No. 20901 Mumbai Central-Gandhinagar Capital Vande Bharat Express, ensuring its safe and timely arrival for transplantation at the U.N. Mehta Institute of Cardiology & Research Centre, Ahmedabad.

The landmark mission showcased the speed, punctuality and reliability of Vande Bharat Express while highlighting the growing role of Indian Railways in supporting



critical healthcare services and emergency medical transportation.

Given the highly time-sensitive nature of organ transplantation, the operation required meticulous planning and seamless coordination among Indian Railways, the Railway Protection Force (RPF), Gujarat State Police and medical teams. Every stage of the transportation was carefully

synchronised to ensure that the donor heart reached the recipient hospital within the prescribed viability window.

A dedicated Green Corridor was created from Platform No. 1 of Ahmedabad Railway Station to the U.N. Mehta Institute of Cardiology & Research Centre by the Railway Protection Force and Gujarat State Police, enabling uninterrupted

movement of the donor heart and ensuring that the transplant procedure could commence without delay.

Speaking on the occasion, Ved Prakash, Divisional Railway Manager, Ahmedabad, said, "This is a moment of immense pride and satisfaction for Indian Railways. The successful transportation of a live donor heart from Surat to Ahmedabad through Vande Bharat Express demonstrates our commitment to serving society beyond conventional passenger and freight transportation. In such life-saving missions, every minute is crucial. The excellent coordination among Indian Railways, RPF, Gujarat State Police and the medical teams ensured the success of this mission. Contributing towards saving a human life is not only our responsibility but also our highest duty towards service and humanity."

The successful mission

further reinforces the capability of Vande Bharat Express to support time-critical operations through its high-speed connectivity, operational reliability and punctuality. It also demonstrates how modern railway infrastructure can play a crucial role in strengthening the country's emergency healthcare ecosystem.

Indian Railways expressed its appreciation to all stakeholders, including the Railway Protection Force, Gujarat State Police, doctors, organ transplant coordinators and railway officials, whose coordinated efforts made this challenging mission a success.

This historic achievement reaffirms Indian Railways' commitment to providing safe, reliable and efficient transportation services while extending its support to life-saving humanitarian initiatives and contributing to the nation's healthcare system.

One Pair Of Additional EMU Special To Run Between Sealdah & Ghatia Shariff For Urs Festival

MI News Service, Kolkata, July 31, 2026 : To clear the extra rush of passengers for the festival of "Urs" of "Hajrat Pir syed Mobarak Ali Gazi" on 03/04.08.2026, Eastern Railway's Sealdah Division has decided to run one pair of additional EMU special train between Sealdah & Ghatia Shariff.

Sealdah - Ghatia Shariff EMU special will leave Sealdah at 23:40 hrs. to reach Ghatia Shariff at 00:35 hrs. in the night of 03/04.08.2026 and Ghatia Shariff - Sealdah EMU special will leave Ghatia Shariff at 03:56 hrs. to reach Sealdah at 04:55 hrs. on 04.08.2026.

The EMU special will stop at all stations enroute in both directions.

Railways To Run Memu Special Train Between Madhupur & Gaya During Shrawani Mela

MI News Service, Kolkata, July 31, 2026 : To clear the extra rush of passengers during Shrawani Mela, Railway has decided to run a MEMU special train between Madhupur & Gaya.

03654 Gaya - Madhupur special will leave Gaya daily at 17:00 hrs. from 2.8.2026 to 16.8.2026 (15 trips) to reach Madhupur at 02:20 hrs. on the next day and 03653 Madhupur - Gaya special will leave Madhupur daily at 02:50 hrs. from 3.8.2026 to 17.8.2026 (15 trips) to reach Gaya at 12:00 hrs. on the same day. The train will stop at Jasidih and Simultala stations over Eastern Railway jurisdiction in both directions enroute.

A Legacy Written in Gold: Eastern Railway Bids Heartfelt Farewell to General Manager Milind Deouskar

MI News Service, Kolkata, July 31, 2026 : As July 31, 2026 marks the retirement of Milind Deouskar, General Manager of Eastern Railway, the steel tracks carry the gratitude of millions of commuters and over 100,000 employees. Taking the helm in early 2024, his tenure through June 2026 was defined by deep empathy, innovation, uncompromising safety, and operational excellence.



Non-Interlocking (NI) execution.

In addition, 14.88 Km of new line was completed, the Bhabadighi land dispute solved, Pakur yard remodeled, and 6 IBP/IBH posts commissioned. Extending 4 Sealdah platforms created capacity for 83,000 daily commuters. Passenger services expanded with 25 pairs of Mail/Express, 28 Passenger services, 63 EMU services, and 217 new stoppages. Upgrades included 38 LHB rakes, 20 FOBs, 100 platform sheds, 137 platform height adjustments, 447 water coolers, and 173 ATVMs.

Financially, ER generated ₹9,152.35 Cr in Passenger Revenue and ₹20,753.28 Cr in Goods Revenue, carrying 2,906.83 Million passengers and 227.30 Million Tonnes of freight. ER crossed 100 MT freight for two consecutive years, improved its Operating Ratio from 171 to 153, and generated ₹1,288.11 Cr in scrap revenue.

For staff welfare, 158,157 employees were trained, 32 Gang Huts, 25 Ladies Changing Rooms, 19 RPF Barracks (12 for women), and 4 Running Rooms were built. Medical milestones included Indian Railways' first 3 Tesla MRI machine at B.R. Singh Hospital and foundation laying for New Howrah Divisional Hospital. ER sports teams won 16 Gold and 16 Silver Medals in Senior Nationals, while 32 lakh tree saplings were planted.

Tributing this era, Shibram Majhi, CPRO, ER, stated: "Milind Deouskar was the beating heart of Eastern Railway, leading with humanity, wisdom, and commitment. His vision transformed our infrastructure, but his warmth touched our souls. His golden footprint will forever inspire generations of railwaymen."

Local train services partially disrupted in Howrah

MI News Service, Howrah: Train services disrupted at Howrah station. Train services were disrupted on platforms 1 to 4 of Howrah on Friday afternoon. According to railway sources, there was a problem with the overhead wires on the line just before entering the platform in that part of the station. Due to this, train services were affected. Eastern Railway Chief Public Relations Officer Shivram Majhi said that repair work was carried out quickly. The situation normalized after an hour and a half.

CWG 2026: Lifter Lovepreet Singh settles for silver after missing gold by just 1kg in men’s +110kg

GLASGOW : India's Lovepreet Singh produced a valiant performance but fell agonisingly short of the gold medal, claiming silver in the men's +110kg weightlifting event at the 2026 Commonwealth Games on Thursday.

Lovepreet finished with a combined lift of 388kg, just 1kg behind New Zealand's David Liti, who won gold with 389kg. England's Andrew Griffiths completed the podium with a total of 356kg.

The Indian lifter opened strongly in the snatch, successfully lifting 176kg to stay in contention for the top spot. In the clean and jerk, he cleared 205kg and 212kg before making a bold attempt at 217kg in his final lift. Although the final attempt was unsuccessful, his total of 388kg was enough to secure the silver medal.

David Liti, who had lifted 166kg in the snatch, produced a decisive 223kg clean and jerk to edge ahead of Lovepreet by the narrowest



possible margin and clinch the Commonwealth title.

Despite the heartbreak of missing gold by just one kilogram, Lovepreet's performance added another medal to India's tally in Glasgow and highlighted his consistency on the biggest stage. His silver medal was the result of a composed display under pressure,

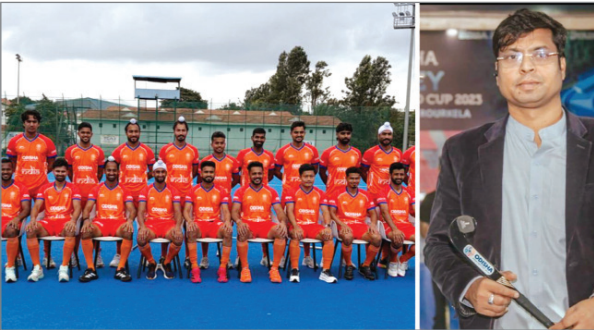
1997, in Bal Sachandar village, Amritsar, Punjab, Lovepreet Singh comes from a humble family. Inspired by local weightlifters, he began weightlifting in 2010 at the age of 13 under the guidance of local coaches. Despite financial hardships, his determination and disciplined training helped him progress steadily through the junior and senior ranks. Lovepreet represented Punjab in national competitions before joining the Sports Authority of India (SAI) National Camp at NS NIS Patiala in 2017. He initially competed in the 105 kg category, winning medals at the Junior Commonwealth and Asian Junior Championships. After the introduction of new IWF weight categories, he moved to the 109 kg category, where he won bronze at the 2022 Commonwealth Games and gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships.

Hockey India chief Dilip Tirkey says Executive Board not consulted regarding the jersey colour change

NEW DELHI : Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey on Friday wrote emails to senior office-bearers and Executive Board members, questioning the decision to change the national team's traditional blue jersey to saffron for the upcoming FIH Hockey World Cup and stated it has been implemented "without being placed before the Executive Board for discussion and without my prior knowledge."

In an email addressed to the Hockey India Executive Board, a screenshot of which is taking rounds on social media, Tirkey wrote, "I wish to bring to your attention the recent change in the colour of the Indian national team's jersey. This decision appears to have been taken and implemented without being placed before the Executive Board for discussion and without my prior knowledge."

Tirkey stated that his objection was not to the new saffron colour but to the way in which the decision was made. "My concern is not with the choice of saffron itself. However, a decision of this significance, involving the identity and representation of our national team, should ideally have been discussed with the elected leadership



and the Executive Board before implementation," he wrote. The emails also indicated that the controversy around the decision and also referred to the political debate triggered by the move. Tirkey said, "The matter has since attracted considerable media attention and, unfortunately, political interpretation in certain quarters. With the World Cup approaching, I have publicly clarified that the change was purely a sporting decision so that the focus remains on the team and its preparations."

Former Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, who has been instrumental in making Odisha the sponsor of Indian hockey, also criticised the change in the team's jersey colour to saffron, alleging that it was an attempt to

politicise a national sporting symbol. Tirkey further revealed that the Odisha government had sought an explanation over the issue. "I have also been asked by the Government of Odisha to provide clarification regarding this matter. I therefore request the concerned Hockey India officials to provide me with a written clarification at the earliest, outlining the basis for the decision, the process followed, and the circumstances under which the change was approved and implemented. This will enable me to respond appropriately and accurately," the email read. He concluded by stating that, "More importantly, this matter highlights the need to ensure that significant decisions concerning the national team are brought

before the elected leadership and Executive Board for due consultation and collective consideration. I raise this not to attribute blame, but to ensure transparency, accountability, and adherence to our established decision-making processes going forward."

In a separate mail, Hockey India Executive Director Commander Srivastava, Tirkey directed that a detailed note on the jersey change be circulated to all Executive Board members by 5 pm on July 31.

The communication read, "The background and rationale for changing the traditional color of the Indian national team jersey. The authority under which the decision was taken. "The process followed in arriving at the decision including the officers, committees or other persons involved." "Whether any consultation was undertaken with the President, the Executive Board, current players, coaches, former international players or other relevant stakeholders." "And the reasons why neither the President no the Executive Board was informed or consulted prior to the public announcement."



A mother and PhD scholar: Meet CWG bronze medalist discus thrower Seema Kaliramna

NEW DELHI : Seema Kaliramna, a daughter of a former basketball player and javelin thrower in the Indian Army, won the bronze medal in women's discus throw at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow on Thursday, taking India's tally in athletics up to four.

The 27-year-old athlete had only two valid throws in six rounds as she repeatedly had the disc entangled in the side netting. The podium marked the first major international medal for Seema, who is also a PhD aspirant and a mother of a four-year-old boy Rudra.

Motherhood, in fact, has coincided with Seema's growth into a top athlete. Before her son Rudra was born in 2022, her personal best was 48.08m. She returned to competitive discus throw after 11 months break in 2024 and improved it to 57.19m before hitting 59.73m at the Indian Championships in Bhubaneswar earlier this year.

Seema, who is coached by her husband Ravinder Kaliramna, who is one of India's leading discus throw athletes and had won gold medals in the discus throw at the Indian U-18 and U-20 championships, is pursuing a Ph.D. in Physical Education at Chaudhary Bansi Lal University (CBLU), Bhiwani, alongside her sporting career.

Her athletic career faced a major setback when a serious knee injury sidelined her for more than three years. Through extensive rehabilitation and perseverance, Seema made a successful return to competition and re-established herself among the country's top discus throwers. She won the gold medal at the 2025 National Games and later claimed the national title. Her comeback was highlighted by winning the gold medal at the 2026 South Asian Athletics Championships and delivering a series of strong performances on the national circuit.

FIH WC: Mandeep, Abhishek and Lakra highlight importance of consistency and chemistry

New Delhi : As the Indian men's hockey team gears up for the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026, forwards Mandeep Singh, Abhishek and Shilanand Lakra have underlined the importance of chemistry, consistency, teamwork and meticulous preparation as they look to spearhead India's campaign at the marquee event.

The FIH Hockey World Cup, to be jointly hosted by Belgium and the Netherlands from August 15 to 30, will see India begin their campaign in Pool D against Wales on August 15 before taking on England and arch-rivals Pakistan.

Veteran striker Mandeep Singh, who is set to feature in his fourth World Cup, said he has now taken on the responsibility of mentoring the younger forwards after learning from senior players earlier in his career.

"When I was younger, I used to ask a lot of questions to the senior players. I learnt a great deal from them, and now I try to pass on those experiences to the younger forwards. We talk about handling pressure, staying calm and making the right decisions in big matches," he said.



Highlighting the team's preparation, Mandeep added, "Our sessions as forwards are very specific. We spend a lot of time working inside the last nine yards, focusing on creating the right connections and making sure every attack has an outcome. We've also worked extensively on receiving the final pass and converting our chances."

"A good striker is never just focused on scoring goals. Hockey is a team game, and the better your understand

ing and connection with your teammates, the more effective you'll be. Every time we enter the circle, our aim is to create an outcome, whether that's a goal, a shot on target or winning a penalty corner," he explained. Shilanand Lakra, who is preparing for his maiden FIH World Cup appearance, credited the senior players, especially Mandeep, for helping him adapt to the demands of international hockey. "Whenever I make a mistake, the senior players tell me

where I can improve. Mandeep always motivates me and guides me. Those conversations help me keep learning and focus on getting better," said Lakra. The 27-year-old also emphasised that the role of a modern-day forward extends beyond scoring goals. "My focus is always on what I can do best for the team. Whether it's creating opportunities, scoring goals or making tackles, I try to contribute in every way I can. As a forward, it's not just about scoring anymore. We

are the first line of defence, and if we defend well, we make life easier for our defenders and midfielders," he said. Abhishek, one of India's most consistent goalscorers in recent years, said sustained success begins with hard work away from the ball. "For a striker, consistency starts without the ball. Off-the-ball movement and pressing are extremely important because the striker is the first line of defence. Once we win possession, the next step is building a connection with the other forwards, and then comes finishing the move, whether that's scoring a goal, getting a shot on target or winning a penalty corner."

He also stressed the importance of mental preparation in high-pressure situations. "Composure inside the circle comes from training. Without putting in the hard work during practice, you can't expect to make the right decisions in those situations. We also work on the mental side through meditation and experience. The more you play, the calmer you become when those opportunities come your way," he stated.

AFC stands with UEFA, CONCACAF against FIFA's commercial plan

KUALA LUMPUR : The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) on Friday threw its weight behind the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) and Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) in opposing FIFA's controversial FIFA Forward Enterprise (FFE) proposal, warning that the plan lacks the broad consensus needed to move forward and calling for an urgent review of FIFA's governance and decision-making processes.

In a strongly worded statement, the AFC said it had observed "with deep concern" the developments surrounding the proposed commercial restructuring and the divisions that have emerged across world football.

"The AFC stands in solidarity with UEFA and CONCACAF in expressing serious concerns over FIFA's proposal to introduce private investment into FIFA's flagship competitions and the decision-making process around FFE," the continental governing body said in an official



statement. The AFC added that the fact that discussions of a potential FIFA World Cup boycott had entered the public domain reflected the seriousness of the situation.

"The fact that the situation has reached the point where the real possibility of a FIFA World Cup boycott has entered public discourse should concern everyone who cares about the future of our game. Football should never have been placed in such a position," the statement read.

The latest statement marks a significant escalation in the growing opposition to FIFA's proposal, which seeks to establish FIFA Forward Enterprise, a commercial subsidiary that would manage the governing body's commercial rights, including broadcasting, sponsorship, ticketing and licensing, while raising up to 4.2 billion US dollars through the sale of minority stakes to private investors. FIFA has argued that the plan would allow it to

substantially increase development funding for its 211 member associations while retaining complete control over football governance and competitions. However, the AFC said that, in light of the clear opposition from UEFA and CONCACAF and the unprecedented divisions across global football, it did not believe the proposal could realistically secure the broad support required to proceed.

"The FIFA World Cup is the pinnacle of global football

and derives its strength from the participation of all Confederations and the world's leading football nations. Any proposal that risks undermining the unity and universal character of the competition must be reconsidered," it said.

The AFC stressed that the controversy extended beyond the FFE proposal itself and had exposed deeper shortcomings in FIFA's governance structure. It said the central concerns surrounding governance, institutional process and meaningful consultation remained unresolved despite FIFA's recent clarification of the proposal. The Asian governing body also urged FIFA to undertake an urgent review of its governance and decision-making framework to ensure that future proposals of global significance are built on transparency, meaningful consultation and appropriate oversight. The statement comes a day after UEFA and its 55 member associations announced they would not participate in FIFA competitions while the proposal remained in place.