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Morning India

At least 55 dead and hundreds unaccounted for as flash flood hits Nepal-Tibet border

MI News Service, Kathmandu : At least 55 people have been killed and over 400 others are unaccounted for after a devastating flash flood and mudslide along the Nepal-Tibet border washed away several villages and damaged roads and infrastructure in the Himalayan state to a great extent on Wednesday. The catastrophic flood waters hit early in the morning today at Rasuwa, just north of the capital city of Nepal here, with preliminary information suggesting it was caused by an earthquake triggering an avalanche with melted snow pouring into the Bhote Koshi river. Search operations are under way on both sides of the border and 88 people have been rescued so far, according to the Nepalese army. State media in China, which controls Tibet, say there are significant casualties and Nepalese officials said they anticipate "huge scale loss".

The Nepal tourism board said work was under way to establish the whereabouts of 291 tourists and 93 Nepalese nationals, including guides, who were known to be in the area where the flood hit. They include 12 travellers



from the UK as well as Americans, Malaysians, South Africans and Indians. Several areas downstream of the Bhote Koshi river, which flows from Tibet to Nepal, are on high alert and roads,

communications and power in the region have been disrupted. The authorities say the main road to Kathmandu is closed. Verified videos from Nepal show a bridge being swept away and multi-

storey buildings collapsed by the sheer force of floodwaters, as well as a town with many buildings destroyed. The video shows the river Trishuli suddenly becoming swollen by enormous

amounts of water, which appears to have significantly increased in volume and speed and filled with sediment. About 40 seconds into the video clip, the weight of the flash flood rips a foot

bridge off of its supports and carries it swiftly downriver. A few seconds later, several buildings also collapsed like a pack of cards. The second video, filmed from the same location, shows the devast-

PM Modi expresses shock at loss of many lives and property in Nepal flash floods

MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime minister Narendra Modi expressed deep shock at the deaths of so many people and loss of property due to flash floods that struck Nepal on Wednesday. In a post in his X handle Prime minister Modi said "I spoke with (Nepalese) Prime Minister Balendra Shah and expressed condolences for those who lost their lives due to the floods that have struck Nepal. In this difficult time, the people of India stand in solidarity with their sisters and brothers in Nepal ". Prime



minister Modi further stated that " India is prepared to provide Nepal with all possible types of humanitarian assistance. Our teams are closely coordinating on rescue and relief efforts", he assured.

tating aftermath. The river's level has risen significantly, trees and many buildings visible in the earlier video have been ripped away. It is not clear exactly how much infrastructure have been destroyed, but many buildings near the riverbank have disappeared, partially collapsed or are caked in sediment from the flood's force. Yee Liang, a Chinese businessman based in Kathmandu,

said his logistics company had seven container trucks based in the area, staffed by Nepalese employees. "We have lost contact with all of them. There is no signal, so we cannot reach anyone," he said."As far as I know, there was no warning. There were occasional mudslides and landslides, especially in the rainy season, but this one seems much more serious."

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Bihar govt sounds Red Alert following flash floods in Nepal

MI News Service, Patna : In wake of the devastating flash floods in Nepal killing several people and causing huge destruction of infrastructure there, the Government of Bihar on Wednesday sounded a red alert and asked the Disaster Management Department to closely monitor the situation in view of the possibilities of flash floods in the upper catchment areas of the Gandak River in the state and the possibility of a sudden increase of its water flow.

The administration has advised residents in the catchment areas of north Bihar to remain vigilant and follow official instructions strictly without creating panic. People living along the Gandak river and in low-lying areas have been asked to avoid going near the river at the present juncture. Authorities have also cautioned the rumour mongers and urged people to depend only on official information. Residents have also been asked to immediately comply with administrative directions if water levels rise or any warning is issued.



According to Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, a high-level committee had already been formed to continuously monitor the developing situation. He said the Chief Secretary and Director General of Police were also assessing the situation and that he would hold an emergency meeting and may even personally visit the affected areas, if necessary. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has also spoken to him and was apprised about the state's preparedness to deal with the possible del-

uge. Bihar Health Minister Nishant Kumar said his department officials are also closely monitoring the situation and they remained on alert. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said Maharajganj and Kushinagar districts had been placed on alert. In a post on X, he said local administrations had been directed to remain fully vigilant and make all necessary arrangements in view of rising water levels in the state rivers and the possibility of flooding in the two districts. He said among the major rivers flowing from Nepal into Uttar Pradesh are the Ghaghara, also known as the Karnali, the Sharda or Kali and the Rapti. Meanwhile according to official sources, at least 26 Nepal Police personnel remained missing in Rasuwa district, while the Armed forces also reported seven personnel missing. According to Nepali media reports, the flash floods originated at the Tibetan side of the Chinese border, has caused extensive destruction and swept away several villages in Nepal.

DRDO's missile tech goes to Indian defence industry

MI News Service, New Delhi : In a bid to enhance operational capability and reduce import dependence, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved the transfer of DRDO-developed technologies of all conventional missile systems to the Indian defence industry for their production within the country. The defence ministry, making the announcement, said the move is an "important milestone" in promoting greater participation of the domestic industries in the defence ecosystem. "The provision will enable successful transition of missile system development to industrial production, reflecting the continued efforts of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to leverage the capabilities of Indian industry for the development and manufacture of advanced defence systems," the ministry said. The initiative aims to enhance operational capability, reduce import dependence and increase domestic value addition. The Transfer of Technology marks an important milestone in promoting greater participation of the domestic industries by enabling them to undertake indigenous production, as per

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PM Modi to motivate youth to take up sports, shape India's future



MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with youth at the 'Khelo India Dialogue' on Thursday as part of efforts to engage with them on the country's sporting journey, share their aspirations, and contribute ideas for a stronger youth-led 'Viksit Bharat'. The virtual address of PM Modi at the 'Khelo India Dialogue' will be structured around five themes of sport, Olympic aspirations, youth leadership, Viksit Bharat and 'Nasha Mukta Yuva'. Improving India's sports ecosystem, coaching, inclusive participation and nurturing talent for the 2036 Olympics via scientific talent identification, transparent selection and long-term athlete development are also part of the objectives of the dialogue. The nationwide initiative will create a direct platform for young budding athletes to share their ideas, suggestions and innovative thoughts on the future of India's sports and youth ecosystem. IITs, IIMs, NITs, AIIMS, leading medical colleges and universities will be among the educational institutions participating in the programme. The programme will feature a virtual address by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Following the Prime Minister's address, physical programmes will commence simultaneously across the participating locations. The programme seeks to strengthen the connection between the aspirations and ground-level experiences of young people and policymaking. Youth participants will engage around four key

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Operative of Pak-based terror group held in Assam

MI News Service, Guwahati : The Special Task Force of Assam Police arrested an alleged operative of the Pakistan-based terror group Shahzad Bhatti Network (SBN) from Hailakandi district on Wednesday, officials said. The STF had apprehended three other alleged operatives of the group from Dhubri, Chirang and Barpeta districts on July 25, they said. Acting on leads developed from the earlier arrests and subsequent investigation, the STF in a joint operation with the

Hailakandi Police nabbed the 21-year-old operative from Ramnathpur area, they said. Several documents were seized from his possession during the operation, which is a part of the STF's "sustained investigation and action against extremist and anti-national networks and their operatives", an official said. According to a government statement, the Shahzad Bhatti Network is a Pakistan-based terror syndicate linked to grenade, IED and petrol bomb attacks and targeted killings

across India. The SBN has also been paying local conduits to receive police, defence and religious sites, and to install CCTV cameras for inspection. Meanwhile, the Assam Police has prevented 17 alleged Bangladeshi infiltrators from entering the state, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Wednesday. The Chief minister said there is only one way in dealing with illegal infiltrators and that is by sending them back. "No Kaagaz No Entry! In an alert

and pro-active move by @assampolice, 17 illegal infiltrators were identified and prevented from entering India, in the wee hours," Sarma said in a social media post. "Our doors are open to those who come legally. For illegal entrants, there is only one way - BACK," he added. The CM, however, did not mention in which sector they were detained and sent back. Assam has an integrated checkpoint in Sribhum and a land customs station at Mankachar. Sarma had ear-

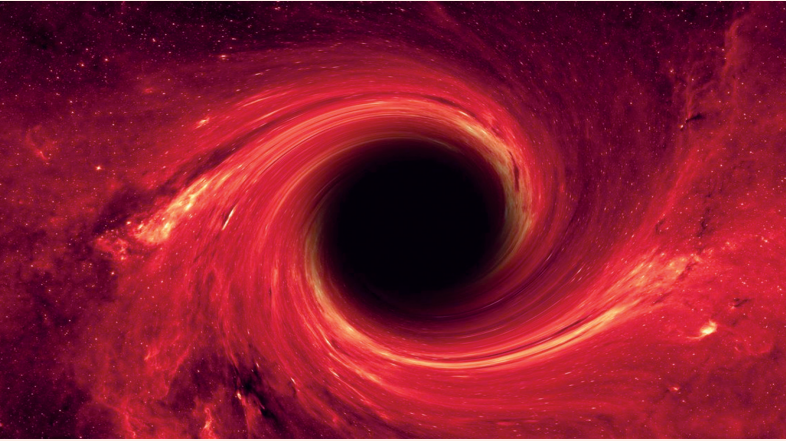
lier said that the state government was committed to an infiltration-free Assam. The BSF has also intensified its vigil along the 1,885-km-long India-Bangladesh border in the Northeast since disturbances began in the neighbouring country last year. Assam Police were also maintaining a high alert along the India-Bangladesh border to ensure that no person enters the state illegally, and that any person without any valid documents is pushed back, a senior official said .

Universe is full of strange 'little red dots' of supermassive black holes

MI News Service, Bengaluru/Washington (DC) : Back in 2023, the James Webb Space Telescope revealed something strange: the distant reaches of the universe are filled with "little red dots" that astronomers still can't quite explain. Following extensive researches, it turns out these little red dots might actually be evidence of the earliest supermassive black holes. And they could hold clues to how stars and galaxies formed in the earliest years of the universe. The James Webb Space Telescope is the most powerful telescope ever made and has enabled the discovery of things we had never imagined.

This is the case for little red dots. Their name is a simple derivation of their appearance: they appear as very small compact dots that are "red" in colour noting the James Webb Space Telescope sees in the infrared. These

objects are extremely distant, and are seen at an epoch when the universe is only around one billion years old based on the time it takes the light to reach us. Their compact size and extreme distance mean that most of their light comes from an area smaller than 2% of the size of our Milky Way galaxy. Despite finding many of these distant objects, astronomers are still unclear what they might be. The current favoured theory is that most little red dots are young supermassive black holes, with some consuming matter at such a feverish rate that their "surface" acts like the surface of a star termed "black hole stars". Another theory is that some are regions of extreme star formation that form the most massive galaxies in the universe. To help unravel the mystery of little red dots, astronomers have been look-



ing to the host galaxies they reside in for answers, aiming to understand how galaxies and supermassive black holes grow in tandem with each other.

Noted astronomer Yiyang Zhang from Wuhan University in China, provides key insights they and other astronomers have been looking for. They

used high-definition James Webb Space Telescope imaging of the distant universe over a region of space about three times the size of the Moon, known as the COSMOS-Web region .

More than 400 little red dots are found in this region, a large enough number that astronomers can now unveil the secrets of the galaxies they reside in. But measuring the size of little red dot host galaxies is not a simple task. Imagine trying to see the colour details in a painting with a flashlight at its centre that shines bright, red light directly into your eyes. This work uses precise modelling of the optics of the James Webb Space Telescope to remove the bright central light in each image. The technique is essentially like blocking this flashlight to see the painting clearly. The team combined 217 of these images to see the light from the

faint host galaxy hiding within. The results indicate that at the red wavelengths measured by the telescope, the host galaxies only account for about 10% of the total light of little red dots, suggesting the central region is far outshining the galaxy itself.

The host galaxies are also very small, only 40% of the size of typical galaxies at this early stage in the universe (or about 4% of the size of our Milky Way today). This suggests that little red dots can only form under very specific conditions that are atypical for most galaxies.

The most abundant stars that form are smaller in mass and size than our Sun and have a cooler surface temperature. Cooler objects emit redder light than hotter objects, just as a red flame is cooler than a blue flame.

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Deadly Howrah blaze: 72-year-old woman burnt to death

MI News Service, Howrah: A devastating fire tore through a residential building at Mahiyadi Amtala in Ankurhati, Howrah, leaving a 72-year-old woman dead and several others injured on Wednesday. The blaze, which erupted, spread with alarming speed through the upper floors, trapping multiple residents inside and triggering a desperate rescue operation by firefighters.

The deceased has been identified as Gopa Mukherjee, 72. According to preliminary reports, five to seven people were trapped inside the residence after flames engulfed the building. Thick



smoke and intense heat reportedly made it difficult for those inside to escape on their own. Five fire engines were rushed to the spot after the emergency call was received. Firefighters entered the

burning premises and brought trapped residents down through the staircase, with reports suggesting that some rescuers had to move in difficult conditions to reach those stranded inside. Several people are believed to have suffered burn injuries and other injuries during the incident. The ferocity of the flames was such that the fire rapidly reached the second and third floors, causing extensive damage to the residence. Visual accounts from the area indicated that portions of the building were consumed by the blaze before the emergency teams could establish effective

control. Local residents said the householder had gone to work when the fire broke out. The exact cause of the blaze was not immediately known. Firefighters continued efforts to contain the flames, while officials assessed the building and checked whether anyone else remained trapped inside. Authorities were also considering deploying additional fire engines if required. The tragic incident has once again highlighted the vulnerability of residential buildings during sudden fire emergencies, particularly when flames spread rapidly through multiple floors and escape routes

become inaccessible. The incident comes amid renewed concern over deadly fires in densely occupied buildings across the region. A hotel fire on Free School Street in Kolkata claimed at least nine lives, while a separate hotel blaze in Tarapith also resulted in fatalities. However, Wednesday's tragedy in Ankurhati has brought the danger directly into a residential setting, where families were caught off guard by a rapidly escalating emergency. Investigation into the cause of the fire and a detailed assessment of the damage are expected to follow.

ABHA ID Delays Leave Patients Waiting, Doctors' Hours Running Out

MI News Service, Bankura: Long queues and frustration have become a daily ordeal for patients seeking outdoor treatment at Bankura Sammilani Medical College, where delays in generating ABHA IDs and a severe shortage of staff are slowing the ticketing process.

Following the introduction of mandatory Aadhaar-based ABHA ID generation for patients seeking treatment at state-run hospitals, hospital personnel are verifying Aadhaar cards and creating IDs while issuing outdoor tickets. The additional procedure, however, has increased the time required to process each patient, leaving hundreds waiting for hours. Patients and their relatives begin queuing well before the outdoor department opens. Despite arriving early, many are forced to wait between two and three hours to obtain a ticket. Queues stretch beyond the hospital premises and onto adjoining roads, exposing patients to rain. The situation is compounded by an acute manpower shortage. Hospital sources said the sanctioned strength across Group C, Group D and GD categories is around 500, while the present workforce is only about 100. With such a substantial gap, opening additional ticket counters and managing the swelling daily crowd have become serious challenges. The consequences are being felt by patients who need timely medical attention. For those travelling long distances, several hours spent waiting for a ticket can consume much of the outdoor department's operating time. Elderly patients, children and people weakened by illness are vulnerable to the strain of prolonged standing. One patient described the ordeal: "It is taking so long to get the ticket that by the time we reach the doctor, the consultation time is nearly over. If the doctor advises tests or further reports, there is often little time left because the doctor leaves." The recurring queues have raised questions over whether infrastructure and staffing arrangements are adequate across the facility to support the mandatory digital registration process. While ABHA IDs are intended to streamline health records and improve access to services, patients at the hospital are currently experiencing the system as an additional bottleneck. The immediate demand from patients and relatives is adequate staffing, additional operational counters and a faster mechanism for ABHA ID generation. Until these bottlenecks are addressed, the hospital's outdoor registration system risks remaining a daily test of endurance for those who come seeking care.

GI tag fails to revive Krishnanagar's Ghurni clay doll trade as Jhulan season brings little cheer

MI News Service, Krishnanagar: The festive season that once brought a surge in demand for Krishnanagar's famed clay dolls has failed to bring much cheer to artisans in Ghurni this year. Even as Jhulan celebrations continue, several small-scale craftsmen say sales remain sluggish, leaving them struggling to make ends meet.

For generations, Ghurni's artisans have produced finely detailed clay figurines depicting gods and goddesses, rural life, musicians, tribal communities, kings and queens. Jhulan traditionally provided an important seasonal market for these miniature creations. But artisans say changing consumer preferences and the growing availability of plastic, fibre, metal and stone-dust products have steadily eroded demand.

"Earlier, customers would crowd our shops before Jhulan. Now, there are days when we sit throughout the day without making even the first sale," said Anand Das, a Ghurni artisan with around three decades of experience.

According to artisans, the

From the loom to the wrist: Nadia weaver creates wearable rakhi saree



MI News Service, Fulia: A saree that comes with a rakhi woven into its fabric and can be detached and tied around the wrist during Raksha Bandhan is the latest innovation from Fulia-based master weaver Abhinav Basak, who received the National Handloom Award in 2025.

Basak has developed what he describes as India's first "wearable rakhi heritage saree" through independent research combining the tra-

ditional Tangail and Jamdani weaving techniques. Unlike conventional rakhis, many of which use plastic or synthetic materials, the rakhi in Basak's saree is woven into the fabric itself. During the weaving process, additional warp and weft threads are interlocked with the main fabric to create intricate Meenakari-style rakhi motifs. The rakhi can subsequently be separated from the sa-

al design. Basak said the specially developed rakhis are being sent to President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, West Bengal Chief Minister, Union Home Minister and officials of the Union textiles ministry. The weaver said the initiative was conceived with the vision of an "Atmanirbhar Bharat", using indigenous weaving skills and materials to develop products with both cultural and commercial value. For Fulia's handloom community, the experiment represents an attempt to move beyond conventional saree designs and explore new applications of Bengal's weaving traditions. Whether the wearable-rakhi saree becomes a commercially viable product remains to be seen, but the concept has already opened another avenue for innovation within the state's traditional handloom sector.

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According to artisans, the



problem is no longer confined to seasonal fluctuations. The market for traditional clay dolls has been facing structural challenges for years, including irregular sales, financial insecurity and inadequate marketing support. Craft-sector studies have also documented the declining fortunes of Ghurni's clay-doll makers.

The latest setback comes despite a major milestone for the craft. The Geographical Indications Registry has officially registered "Clay Doll of Krishnanagar" under the GI system. The application was filed in November 2021 by the Ghurni Clay Doll & Terracotta Artisans Cluster Co-operative Industrial Society, with the

more than mass-produced decorative items. For small artisans dependent almost entirely on direct sales, weak demand can quickly turn into a financial crisis.

The pressure is also being felt by the younger generation. With uncertain earnings, many young members of artisan families are reluctant to continue in the profession. Some are turning to other occupations, including driving toto-rickshaws and selling vegetables.

For the artisans, the concern is therefore bigger than a poor Jhulan season. They fear that without sustained government intervention, organised marketing, e-commerce access, regular exhibitions and targeted financial assistance, the traditional skills of Ghurni may gradually disappear.

The GI registration has given Krishnanagar's clay dolls a formal identity and legal protection. What remains to be seen is whether that recognition can be converted into a sustainable livelihood for the craftsmen whose hands have kept the art alive for generations.

11 Calves Rescued From Tata 407 in Taherpur, Two Arrested

MI News Service, Taherpur: Two men were arrested after police intercepted a Tata 407 allegedly carrying 11 calves in cramped and inhumane conditions in Taherpur. One of the calves was found dead inside the vehicle, police said.

Acting on a tip-off, police launched a surveillance operation along SH-11 after receiving information that a vehicle carrying calves was heading towards Krishnanagar. At around 10.30pm, officers intercepted the Tata 407 bearing registration number WB-

51-A-7484. During a search, police allegedly found 11 calves of different colours packed tightly inside the vehicle and tied in a manner that restricted their movement. One calf had died by the time the vehicle was intercepted. Police suspect that the conditions in which the animals were transported may have contributed to its death, although the exact cause has not yet been established.

The arrested men have been identified as Anisur Dafadar (41), a resident of Ka-

kra Sud village under Baduria police station in North 24 Parganas, and Mannan Ali (39), from Dogachia village under Deganga police station. According to police, Dafadar was driving the vehicle, while Ali was accompanying the animals and looking after them.

During questioning, the accused allegedly told investigators that the calves were being taken to a cattle market for sale. Police, however, are verifying the claim and examining the ownership and origin of the animals.

The vehicle and the 11 calves were seized in the presence of police personnel and local witnesses. The dead calf was also included in the seizure list.

Investigators are now checking whether the prescribed rules for transportation of livestock were followed. Police are also probing where the calves had been brought from, their intended destination and whether other people were involved in the alleged transportation network.

Six Bengal Innovators Make Samsung Solve for Tomorrow National Top 40

MI News Service, Kolkata: Five young innovators from Bengal have made the national Top 40 in Samsung's Solve for Tomorrow program, which empowers youth to address real-world issues through technology. The selected teams are focused on improving wage transparency for low-wage workers using AI, facilitating communication for individuals with hearing and speech disabilities, and supporting elderly individuals living alone through tech solutions. The program includes mentorship and a 10-day Innovation Bootcamp at FITT-IIT Delhi, with the top teams competing for incubation grants to advance their projects.

NISM and SEBI hold financial literacy quiz in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: The National Institute of Securities Markets (NISM), in collaboration with the Securities and Exchange Board of India, conducted the Eastern Regional Round of the National Financial Literacy Quiz 2026 at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, on August 22 and 23. The two-day competition brought together undergraduate and postgraduate students from Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Odisha, testing their knowledge of financial markets, investment principles, investor protection and responsible financial practices.

A New Milestone in "The Shine of Purity"

Shyam Sundar Chandiwalla Unveils New Showroom in Bhubaneswar

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar: Shyam Sundar Chandiwalla proudly announces the grand opening of its newest showroom in Bhubaneswar on 26th August 2026, marking a significant milestone as the brand's first showroom in Odisha and its 18th showroom in India. Known for its commitment to "The Shine of Purity", the brand offers an extensive collection of Hallmarked Silver, including Silver Jewellery, Silver Utensils, Silver Idols, and Silver Gift Items, catering to both traditional and contemporary tastes.

Strategically located at 41/A, Kanan Vihar, Plot No. MIG-202, Near KIIT Square,



Patia, Bhubaneswar, Ward No. 03, Odisha - 751024, the new showroom is a testament to the brand's values of purity, transparency, and trust-values that have earned it the love and confidence of customers across generations.

"Our Bhubaneswar showroom is a reflection of our hard work, dedication, and the trust of our customers. It is a proud milestone for us as we open our first showroom in Odisha and our 18th showroom in India," said Sri Sundar Bhalotia, Founder of

Shyam Sundar Chandiwalla. "We are excited to bring our exclusive Hallmarked Silver collection closer to the people of Bhubaneswar and Odisha and introduce them to a brand that stands for purity, craftsmanship, and trust."

With the launch of its Bhubaneswar showroom, Shyam Sundar Chandiwalla continues its journey of expansion across India. The brand has several upcoming showrooms in the pipeline and looks forward to bringing its distinctive silver collections and trusted legacy to many more cities across the country.

The Shine of Purity continues-with many more milestones to come.

BENGAL



Smita Pandey, IAS, Commissioner and Administrator, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, attends a Public Awareness Campaign and Dustbin Distribution programme under the "Swachhata Se Swagat" initiative, themed "Clean Bara Bazar - Healthy Trade, Better Business," organised by the Confederation of West Bengal Trade Associations in Kolkata on Wednesday.

Four Bikes, Bags of Liquor and a Woman: Ghatal Mystery Deepens



MI News Service, Ghatal: A suspected illicit liquor smuggling operation allegedly involving teenagers has come under the spotlight in Ghatal, West Midnapore, after local residents intercepted four bicycles carrying bags reportedly packed with liquor near Mansuka Ghorai Ghat along the Jhumi River.

According to local residents, a group of boys, none of whom was believed to be 18, were cycling along the river embankment with heavily loaded bags. Their intended destination was reportedly Kulte in neighbouring Hooghly district. Suspicion grew when residents noticed the unusual movement and gathered near the spot. The teenagers allegedly abandoned their bicycles and fled, leaving the loaded bags behind. When residents checked

the bags, they reportedly found liquor inside, bringing the alleged smuggling operation into sharp focus. A woman present at the scene was also questioned by locals. Residents subsequently alleged that she was operating the liquor trade from behind the scenes and was using young boys to transport the consignments. These allegations, however, require verification through a formal investigation. According to local accounts, liquor has allegedly been transported for some time through parts of the Mansuka area, particularly along the river embankment. The location, residents claim, has become a route for moving consignments towards neighbouring Hooghly, allowing carriers to avoid more visible roads and populated areas. The

discovery of the bicycles and liquor has intensified concerns about the alleged involvement of minors in organised illicit activities. If the allegations are established, the use of teenagers as carriers could raise significant legal concerns, apart from the offence of illegal liquor transportation. The incident also highlights the challenges faced by authorities in monitoring riverbank routes and other less-monitored passages that may be exploited for clandestine movement of contraband. Local residents have called for a thorough probe to determine where the liquor originated, who was financing or controlling its transportation, and whether minors were deliberately being recruited for the operation. They have also urged authorities to identify the intended recipients and examine whether the alleged network extends beyond the immediate area. Police and excise authorities are expected to verify the allegations and establish the facts surrounding the seizure and the disappearance of the suspected carriers. Further action will depend on the findings of the investigation and whether others were directly involved too.

Nadia double murder: Two alleged contract killers arrested from Odisha, Karnataka

MI News Service, Krishnanagar: The Nakashipara police have made a breakthrough in the murder of Congress leader Anisur Rahman and his son Abu Sufian, arresting two men allegedly involved in the double killing. The accused, identified as Jahangir Sheikh and Amin Sheikh, were arrested from Odisha and Karnataka respectively, police said.



Jahangir was arrested from the Giridharipur area of Odisha, while Amin was apprehended from Harnagar in Karnataka following intelligence inputs, according to police sources. Both have since been brought to Nakashipara police station and are being interrogated.

Anisur and his son were allegedly shot dead on the night of August 15 while returning home by car from Bethua. According to the allegations, the assailants fired at them from close range and subsequently attacked them with sharp weapons to ensure their deaths.

During the investigation, the names of Jahangir and Amin reportedly emerged as suspects. Police subsequently tracked their movements and launched separate operations outside West Bengal.

Investigators are now trying to establish who allegedly ordered the killings, who arranged the contract and whether other people were involved in the conspiracy. Their interrogation is expected to provide further leads into the motive and the wider

network behind the double murder.

Following the incident, Anisur's family had levelled serious allegations against local Trinamool Congress leader Jubbar Sheikh and his associates. The allegations, however, are yet to be established and remain part of the investigation.

Police are now focusing on identifying the alleged mastermind and other participants in the murder conspiracy.

Two held for allegedly duping job seekers of lakhs



MI News Service, Dhublia: Two men were arrested by Dhublia police in Nadia for allegedly collecting lakhs of rupees from job seekers by promising them jobs in sectors including security services and the Metro railway.

According to police, the accused have been identified as Fakir Sheikh, a resident of Haridrapota village under Nakashipara police station, and

Omar Ali Mallick of Sukhsagar village. The duo allegedly operated an office in Kolkata and lured job seekers with promises of recruitment in different sectors.

Police said the preliminary investigation has revealed that several lakhs of rupees were allegedly collected from multiple people. Investigators have also found transactions in the bank accounts of the accused,

which are being examined to trace the flow of money.

Acting on the information gathered during the investigation, a joint team of Dhublia and Nakashipara police conducted raids late on Tuesday night and arrested the two suspects. Police claimed that during interrogation, the accused admitted to their involvement in the alleged fraud.

The duo will be produced before the Krishnanagar Sessions Court on Wednesday. Police are expected to seek their custody for further interrogation and to establish the extent of the alleged racket.

Investigators are also probing whether more people were involved, the complete trail of the money allegedly collected from job seekers and the role of the purported office in Kolkata. Police are also trying to identify other possible victims of the alleged recruitment fraud.

Bengal Launches Special Drive to Bring Back 22 Lakh Migrant Workers



MI News Service, Kolkata: Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari had appealed to migrant workers, to “Come back to Bengal,” assuring them that ample employment opportunities would be created in the state. The state administration is now working towards turning that assurance into action.

According to Nabanna sources, the West Bengal government has launched a special drive to identify migrant workers and facilitate their return to the state, with the objective of providing them with employment opportunities locally. The initiative aims to bring back around 22 lakh migrant workers and ensure that their families have access to livelihood opportunities. As part of the campaign, the government has directed officials to identify eligible families and bring them under the ‘Rural Employment Guarantee Card’ scheme. Nabanna has also instructed district administrations to conduct special drives to ensure that eligible families are

provided with up to 125 days of work annually. The move is aimed at creating employment opportunities within Bengal and reducing the dependence of workers on jobs outside the state. Officials have been asked to identify migrant-worker families and take steps to ensure that employment opportunities reach them at the earliest.

Nabanna sources said Murshidabad has the highest number of migrant workers in the state, with 3,86,191 workers. Malda ranks second, followed by Paschim Medinipur in third place, Purba Medinipur in fourth and South 24 Parganas in fifth.

Cooch Behar, Uttar Dinajpur and Purba Bardhaman are among the other districts reporting significant numbers of migrant workers. The administration is now focusing on implementing the employment drive at the district level, with officials tasked with identifying beneficiaries and bringing eligible families under the rural employment guarantee programme.

At least 55 dead and hundreds unaccounted for as...

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Nepal Army Spokesman Rajarm Basnet said efforts were under way to rescue 115 people from the village of Mailung. The Nepalese Ministry of Home Affairs warned there was likely to be huge loss of life in Timure, Syabrubi and Betrawati areas. Flooding had also caused damage to the Trishuli hydropower project. The extent of the damage on the Tibetan side is unclear but according to Guan Daoxuan in Sichuan province who said he had lost contact with his wife late on Wednesday morning. She works for a state-run construction company involved in building roads and bridges in Tibet. Guan said Nepalese authorities had tried to send a helicopter to inspect the area because road access had been cut off, but strong winds were making it difficult for the chopper to reach the site. Nepal’s disaster management authority called on people living near river banks in vulnerable areas to remain alert and take precautions. “Work has started to take necessary steps in co-ordination with the medical team, scouts, and Red Cross,” Prime Minister Balendra Shah said in a social media post, after holding an emergency meeting to take stock of the situation.

Nepal’s Foreign Affairs minister Shishir Khanal told Parliament that 26 police personnel, nine armed police officers and 44 members of the military remained missing. He said an earthquake at 08:37 local time had triggered an avalanche and there was preliminary information that this had resulted in the flash flood. Rasuwa saw deadly flooding last year that killed 18 people after a glacier burst on the Chinese side of the border. Officials have said that they believe the scale of Wednesday’s disaster far exceeds last year’s floods.

DRDO’s missile tech goes to Indian defence...

► **Continued from page 1**
applicable qualifications, certifications and regulatory requirements. The provision will enable the successful transition of missile system development to industrial production. This reflects the continued efforts of DRDO to leverage the capabilities of the Indian industry for the development and manufacture of advanced defence systems. The objective is to enhance domestic manufacturing capabilities, strengthen the defence industrial base and create opportunities for the participation of Indian MSMEs and other technology partners in the supply chain.

Universe is full of strange ‘little red dots’ of ...

► **Continued from page 1**
As a result, the most abundant stars emit most of their light in red optical and near-infrared wavelengths. Using this, astronomers can determine the total number of stars in a galaxy by measuring the amount of red optical and near-infrared light they emit. This is a challenge for little red dots because the supermassive black holes in their centres also emit a lot of light at these wavelengths. By removing this central light, this study found that the host galaxies of dots contain around 1 billion stars (just 4% as many stars as our Milky Way). There is still considerable uncertainty about what is the mass of the supermassive black holes in little red dots, but studies suggest they may range between 10 million and 1 billion times the mass of our Sun.

PM Modi to motivate youth to take up sports, shape...

► **Continued from page 1**
themes: strengthening the sports ecosystem and expanding grassroots facilities, coaching and opportunities; nurturing talent for the 2036 Olympics through scientific talent identification and athlete development; enhancing youth leadership and participation in governance; and empowering young people with future-ready skills, volunteering and nation-building opportunities. A major feature of the initiative will be direct interaction between youth having interest in sports and leading Indian athletes and medal winners. Prominent sports persons including Deepa Karmakar, Saina Nehwal, Gagan Narang, Sreejesh, Mary Kom, Baichung Bhutia, Gopichand, Anju Bobby George, Karnam Malleswari, Mirabai Chhanu and P.T. Usha, along with prominent cricketers, will engage with youth and share their sporting journeys, challenges, and experiences. The participation will extend beyond athletes, with Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assemblies, Union Ministers, Ministers of State and State Sports Ministers engaging with young people and seeking their ideas and suggestions on the four identified themes. The initiative will also feature the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue Quiz and encourage young participants to register on the MY Bharat Portal, creating an avenue for sustained youth engagement beyond the one-day programme. “Khelo India Dialogue – Khel Ki Baat, Pradhan Mantri Modi Ke Saath” seeks to reinforce the idea that India’s sporting transformation is ultimately powered by its young people.



The Governor of Chhattisgarh, Ramen Deka, visited the Kalighat Kali Temple in Kolkata on Wednesday.

‘Footpath Encroachment Is a Fashion in West Bengal’: Dilip Ghosh

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Dilip Ghosh on Wednesday described footpath encroachment as a “fashion” in the state, saying political leaders had allowed such occupations for years for their own benefit. His remarks came amid a controversy over a pavement-dwelling family near Park Street and the government’s ongoing drive to clear encroachments from city footpaths.

The controversy began after Urban Development and Municipal Affairs Minister Agnimitra Paul, during an inspection of city footpaths, objected to woman

heating milk for her child in an open area on the pavement near Park Street. She instructed the woman to stop heating the milk. Later, the minister learned that the family lived on the pavement and had no permanent home.

Paul maintained that living on the pavement did not permit the family to heat milk in an open area on the road. Her remarks triggered widespread criticism and debate over the government’s approach to pavement dwellers and the ongoing anti-encroachment campaign. The issue took a different turn on Tuesday when MLA Sajal Ghosh took the family to Chief Minister



Suwendu Adhikari’s public grievance hearing. Adhikari assured the family that steps would be taken to arrange accommodation for them and directed the Kolkata Municipal Corporation to find a safe place for

Kolkata International Book Fair Advisory Committee Revamped

MI News Service, Kolkata: The advisory committee of the Kolkata International Book Fair has undergone a major overhaul following a change in the state administration. The long-standing committee has been dissolved and reconstituted with several new members. The earlier committee included prominent personalities such as artists Shuvaprasanna and Jogen Chowdhury, along with former ministers Aroop Biswas and Firhad Hakim. However, sections of the publishing community had expressed strong dissatisfaction over the continued presence of the same individuals on the committee for years and the alleged dominant role of the Publishers and Booksellers Guild in the fair’s affairs. Recently, a written complaint regarding the functioning and conduct of the Guild was submitted to Subrata Gupta, Special Advisor to the Chief Minister. Against this backdrop, the administration decided to restructure the advisory committee. The Guild, however, will continue to remain primarily responsible for organising the book fair. The newly constituted advisory committee will assist the Guild in overseeing the event. The new committee includes Debjit Sarkar, Debjyoti Dutta, Binayak Bandyopadhyay, Tanuja Chakraborty, and Ramakrishna Mission representatives Swami Aryeshananda and Swami Saraswatananda.

The revamped committee is expected to bring greater transparency and introduce a new dimension to the management and organisation of the Kolkata International Book Fair.

Four-Year-Old Allegedly Assaulted in Garfa

MI News Service, Kolkata: A four-year-old child was allegedly sexually assaulted at a housing complex in Kolkata’s Garfa area on Wednesday morning, prompting police to launch an investigation following a complaint by the family.

According to police sources, the child lives with the family at the housing complex and had gone to a neighbouring flat to meet an uncle. As the uncle was not at home, a local man

allegedly called the child over on the pretext of offering water and took the child to the rooftop. The man allegedly assaulted the child there. Hearing the child cry, family members rushed to the spot, but the accused had already fled, police said. The family subsequently lodged a complaint at Garfa police station, naming a 55-year-old neighbour as the alleged accused. Police have launched a search to trace him. The child has been

taken for a medical examination as part of the investigation. The incident has caused concern among residents, while the family has expressed apprehension about its possible psychological impact on the child.

The parents and other family members are keeping the child under close care and are also considering seeking professional psychological support. Police are continuing their investigation and efforts to locate the accused.

Viral SSKM Prescription Sparks Investigation

MI News Service, Kolkata: A purported prescription from Kolkata’s state-run SSKM Hospital has gone viral on social media, triggering a stir among hospital authorities and prompting an investigation into its origin.

The prescription reportedly mentions “Wife Bite, Last Night” in the section meant for the patient’s illness. Under the doctor’s advice, it allegedly states, “Keep Distance From Wife.” Several medicines have also been listed on the prescription.

According to the date and details mentioned on the document, the prescription was allegedly issued during the hospital’s outpatient department (OPD) last Friday. The image subsequently spread widely on social media.

As the prescription went viral, several doctors reportedly approached the SSKM authorities seeking clarification about its source. Hospital officials checked the OPD records for the concerned day but could not find any corresponding entry or

prescription matching the viral document.

The hospital authorities have now sought an investigation into the origin and authenticity of the prescription. A complaint has reportedly been lodged at Bhawanipore police station, requesting a probe into how the document was created and circulated.

SSKM authorities have also urged that the Cyber Crime department investigate the matter, particularly the circulation of the prescription on social media.

It remains unclear who prepared the document and whether it was actually issued by a doctor at SSKM Hospital. Officials are examining the available records and other details to determine whether the prescription is genuine, fabricated or digitally manipulated.

The incident has raised questions over the misuse of the hospital’s name and the circulation of potentially misleading medical documents online.

No Jewellery for Women, Clean-Shaven Look for Men: Bengal Issues New Nurse Dress Code

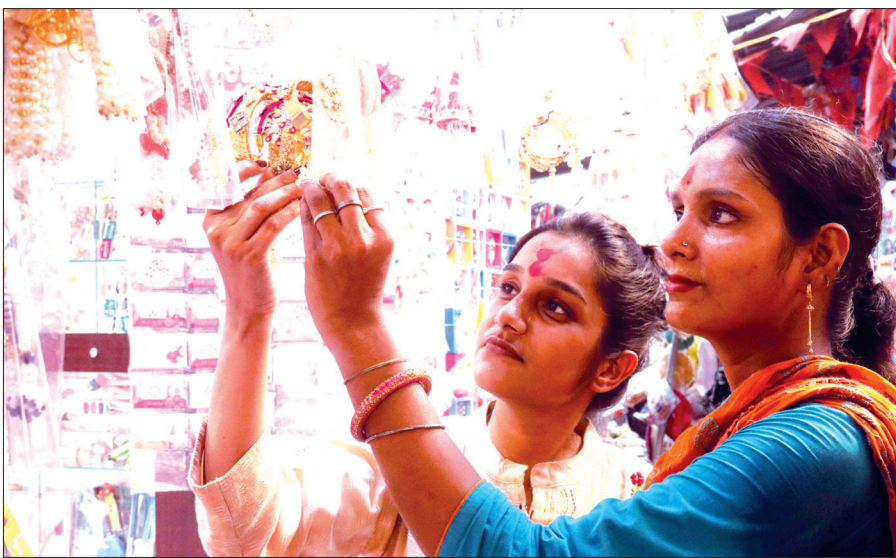
MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Health Department has issued new guidelines prescribing the appearance and dress code for nurses working in government hospitals, triggering debate among nursing organisations over some of the provisions. According to the new circular, female staff nurses will have to wear a “small cap” as part of their official uniform every day. The directive has left several nurses confused, as government hospital nurses in Bengal have traditionally not worn a head covering described as a “small cap”. The Nurses’ Unity organisation has sought clarification from the health authorities on what exactly the term refers to. The organisation has also demanded that nurses be consulted before implement-

ing the new dress code.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, nurses traditionally wore a long, triangular head covering known as the “traditional triangle cap”. However, it was discontinued during the pandemic over concerns about the spread of infection. Nurses later adopted disposable surgical caps, which can be discarded after use and do not require repeated washing. Several nurses have now suggested that the surgical cap should continue instead of introducing an unspecified “small cap”. Others have called for a return to the traditional cap.

The new guidelines also restrict nurses from wearing jewellery while on duty. Married female nurses may wear only shakha-pola, along with a small nose ring, according to the circular. The dress

code also specifies requirements for male staff nurses, classified as Staff Nurse Grade-II (Male). They have been instructed to wear black closed shoes, keep their hair short and remain clean-shaven, with beards and moustaches not permitted. The nursing organisation has criticised what it described as a unilateral decision by the Health Department and demanded consultations before the guidelines are enforced. The new circular comes shortly after Health Minister Dr. Saradwat Mukherjee reportedly expressed displeasure during an inspection of Bardhaman Medical College over the appearance of nursing staff. The minister had allegedly reprimanded the nursing superintendent for not wearing the prescribed uniform.



Women look at colourful rakhis while shopping for Raksha Bandhan, which falls on August 28, in Kolkata on Wednesday. Pic Prabir Bhattacharya

Behala Resident Loses Lakh in Fake Nainital Hotel Booking Scam

MI News Service, Kolkata: With Puja holidays approaching, cyber fraudsters are allegedly targeting travellers booking hotels online. A Behala resident recently lost 1.50 lakh while trying to book a hotel in Nainital for a family trip. The victim reportedly found a website displaying photographs of a lakeside Nainital hotel and contacted the number provided. The person answering the call allegedly introduced himself as a hotel employee and said rooms were filling up fast due to the festive rush.

The victim was asked to pay 24,000 to confirm a room. Trusting the caller, he transferred the amount using his credit card. He was then asked to share his card number for documentation. Soon afterwards, an OTP was sent to his phone.

The caller allegedly told him that the booking would not be confirmed without the OTP and that the advance payment would not be refunded if he failed to provide it. The victim eventually shared the OTP, following which 1,50,888 was allegedly withdrawn from his account. He has lodged a complaint at Behala police station. Police are tracing the bank account and mobile number used in the fraud. Labbazar has advised travellers to verify hotel websites before making payments and never share OTPs or card details with unknown persons.

Hawala Link Suspected in 1.30-Crore Posta Robbery

MI News Service, Kolkata: The 1.30-crore robbery at a hawala office in Posta has allegedly led Kolkata Police to a hawala operator suspected of acting as a tipper for a Rajasthan-based gang. Police arrested Lalit Mundra from Salkia in Howrah after tracing him through CCTV footage. Investigators suspect Mundra guided the robbers to the hawala office and had brought them from Rajasthan. A Kolkata Police team is now likely to travel to Bikaner in Rajasthan in search of the gang members. The investigation has also revealed that three employees of the hawala office went missing following the robbery, adding another angle to the probe.

According to police, the same owner operates hawala offices in Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat, where similar robberies have allegedly taken place. Complaints have reportedly been lodged over the theft of several crores of rupees from each office. In May, another office of the same owner in Survey Park was also allegedly targeted. Police are now examining whether people known to the owner may be behind the repeated robberies. The robbery took place last Wednesday at a hawala office on Cotton Street in Posta,

central Kolkata. Three armed men, some with their faces covered with gamchas and others wearing caps, allegedly entered the office, brandished revolvers and fled with 1.30 crore.

During the investigation, CCTV footage showed a man accompanying the three robbers towards the office. While the robbery was underway, he allegedly sat at a nearby shop drinking tea. At one point, he made a phone call, following which the three robbers emerged from the office almost immediately. The man was then seen walking behind them. Police identified him as Lalit Mundra, himself a hawala operator. On Monday, officers raided his residence in Salkia but found him missing. They rushed to Howrah station and found him aboard the Gandhidham Express bound for Gujarat. He was arrested about 20 minutes before the train was scheduled to depart.

During questioning, Mundra allegedly claimed that the 1.30 crore belonged to hawala transactions. He also told police that the robbers escaped from Howrah station towards Madhya Pradesh after the crime. Police said the gang members are from Bikaner and a team will conduct searches there.

Name Change
I, Seuli Mukherjee (Old Name), D/O, Sankar Pada Chakraborty, W/O, Ranaji Mookerjee, Residing At Tower D6, Floor-12, Flat-1202, B1-90/A/1 New Budge Budge Trunk Road, Eden City Mahesh-tala (M), South 24 Parganas, West Bengal 700137, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Seuli Mookerjee (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide Affidavit No 25 Dated 25/08/2026. Seuli Mukherjee And Seuli Mookerjee Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ranajit Mukherjee (Old Name), S/O, Rathindra Nath Mookerjee, Residing At Tower D6, Floor-12, Flat-1202, B1-90/A/1 New Budge Budge Trunk Road, Eden City Mahesh-tala (M), South 24 Parganas, West Bengal 700137, Have Changed My Name And Shall Henceforth Be Known As Ranajit Mookerjee (New Name) As Declared Before The Notary Public At Kolkata Vide Affidavit No 24 Dated 25/08/2026. Ranajit Mukherjee And Ranajit Mookerjee Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Syed Manir (old name) S/o. Syed Manowar Ali, R/o. Gazipur, Mella, Harpal, Hooghly-712405, WB, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Syed Manir to Syed Manir Ali (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Syed Manir Ali in all purpose, vide an affidavit no. 987 sworn before Notary Public, Sadar, Hooghly Court on 21/08/2026. I, Syed Manir Ali & Syed Manir S/o. Syed Manowar Ali, all are the same & one identical person. Syed Said is my son.

Name Change
I, Sanjit Kumar Paul, S/o. Late Subodh Kumar Paul, R/o. 182/D/A Radhagobinda Colony, Sheoraphuli, Serampore, Hooghly-712223, WB, do hereby declare that in my daughter's (Shriya Paul) birth certificate, where my daughter, my/my daughter's father & daughter's mother name has been recorded as Shriya Paul, D/O. Sanjit Kumar Pal & Rupa Pal instead of our correct and actual name Shriya Paul, D/O. Sanjit Kumar Pal & Rupa Paul, which needs to be rectify when & where necessary vide this affidavit. That Shriya Paul, D/O. Sanjit Kumar Pal & Rupa Paul & Shriya Pal, D/O. Sanjit Kumar Pal & Rupa Pal both are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 17970, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Serampore, Court, Hooghly.

Name Change
I, Sri Dipak Kumar Majumder, S/o.- Lt. Saiendra Nath Majumder, R/o.- 49/1, Madhusudan Pal Chowdhury, 1st Eye Lane, PS- Bantra, Dist. Howrah, that my actual name has been wrongly recorded in my daughter (Dipannita Majumder- W/o.- Sayantan Mondal) birth & school certificate (WBBSE) as Dipak Majumder in place of Dipak Kumar Majumder, vide an Affidavit Sl. No. 18 dt. 07.08.2026, before the Ld Notary Public, Howrah. That, Dipak Kumar Majumder & Dipak Majumder both are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Shyamal Kumar Tanti, S/o.- Lt. Bimal Chandra Tanti, R/o.- Police HSG Complex, Bidhan Sishu Sarani, Block-E/1, Flat No. 203, Kankurgachi, Kol- 700 054, WB, we have change our surname from Tanti Shyamal Kumar Tanti to Basak-Shyamal Kumar Basak & henceforth be known as China Basak, Shyamal Kumar Basak, Ujjal Basak, vide an Affidavit No. 1145, dtd. 13.03.2020, before the Ld. J.M. (1st Class) at Bidhannagar. That, Shyamal Kumar Tanti & Shyamal Kumar Basak both are same & one identical person.

CHANGE OF SURNAME OF MINOR
I, KARABI DAS (SAHA), W/O Late Amiya Das, residing at 126, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Lake Gardens, P.O. & P.S. Lake, Kolkata - 700045, District: South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, being the natural guardian and mother of my minor daughter ATREYEE DAS (born on 15.04.2015 as per Birth Certificate issued by Kolkata Municipal Corporation), do hereby declare that I have changed my name from ATREYEE DAS to SAHA (SAHA) for all official, legal, educational, and administrative purposes.

CHANGE OF SURNAME
I, KARABI DAS, W/O Late Amiya Das & D/O Krishnapada Saha, residing at 126, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Lake Gardens, P.O. & P.S. Lake, Kolkata - 700045, District: South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from DAS to SAHA. Henceforth, I shall be known, called, and addressed as KARABI SAHA for all official, legal, educational, and administrative purposes.

CHANGE OF SURNAME
I, KARABI DAS, W/O Late Amiya Das & D/O Krishnapada Saha, residing at 126, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Lake Gardens, P.O. & P.S. Lake, Kolkata - 700045, District: South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from DAS to SAHA. Henceforth, I shall be known, called, and addressed as KARABI SAHA for all official, legal, educational, and administrative purposes.

Name Change
I, K. Srinivas Rao s/o K Govinda Rao r/o 4E/06, Unit 4 ,Old settlement Po Khargapur PS Khargapur Town Dist Paschim Medinipur W.B Pin 721301 shall henceforth be known as K Srinivas Rao as declared before the Court of Ld JM 1st class Khargapur Dist Paschim Medinipur vide affidavit no 8695 dated 17.07.2025. K Srinivas Rao and K srinivasa Rao both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Alokendra Nandi (Old Name), S/o.-Lt. Gourdas Nandi, R/o.- Choudhury Chiramill Lane, Ramkhabapally, Dist-4 PS- Burdwan, Dist- Purnea Bardhaman- 713101, WB, do hereby declare that I have change my name from Alokendra Nandi (Old Name) to Alokendra Kumar Nandi (New/Correct Name) in all purpose vide an Affidavit Sl. No. 1226, dt. 24.08.2026, sworn before the Notary Public, Purbia Bardhaman. That, Alokendra Nandi (Old Name) & Alokendra Kumar Nandi (New Name) both are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sri Dipak Kumar Majumder, S/o.- Lt. Saiendra Nath Majumder, R/o.- 49/1, Madhusudan Pal Chowdhury, 1st Eye Lane, PS- Bantra, Dist. Howrah, that my actual name has been wrongly recorded in my daughter (Dipannita Majumder- W/o.- Sayantan Mondal) birth & school certificate (WBBSE) as Dipak Majumder in place of Dipak Kumar Majumder, vide an Affidavit Sl. No. 18 dt. 07.08.2026, before the Ld Notary Public, Purbia Bardhaman. That, Alokendra Nandi (Old Name) & Alokendra Kumar Nandi (New Name) both are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Masud Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Late Mostabar Mondal, Resident Of Hatiara Meijher Para, Po-Hatiara, Ps-Co Park, North 24 Parganas-700157, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Masud Mondal (Old Name) To Masud Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Masud Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 12037 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Barasat On 14/07/2026. Masud Mondal (Old Name) And Md Masud Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rita Sarkar Paul (Old Name), Wife Of Asit Kumar Paul, Resident Of Jiva Homes, Tower 4A, Flat 100.6, Pagla Danga Road, Rcc Collage, Tangra, Kolkata-700015, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rita Sarkar Paul (Old Name) To Rita Paul (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Rita Paul (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 25 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Rita Paul (New Name) And Rita Sarkar Paul (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sakila Khatoun (Old Name), Wife Of Sk Niyamat Ali, Resident Of Ankurhati, Po-Salor, Ps-Domjir, Howrah-711409, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sakila Khatoun (Old Name) To Sakila Begum (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sakila Begum (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 18 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Sakila Begum (New Name) And Sakila Khatoun (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Gita Datta (Old Name), W/o Manik Lal Datta, Resident of P-42, Motijheel Avenue, Block B FL-5A, South Dumdum (M), Po.- Motijheel, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin-700074, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Gita Datta (Old Name) to Gita Datta Biswas (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Gita Datta Biswas (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/08/2026. Gita Datta Biswas (new name) and Gita Datta (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Kashmira Bibi (Old Name), W/o Naziruddin Molla, Resident of Kankhuli Purbia Para, Mahesh-tala (M), Bidhannagar, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Kashmira Bibi (old name) to Kasmira Bibi (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Kasmira Bibi (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/08/2026. Kasmira Bibi (new name) and Kashmira Bibi (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nasima Begum (Old Name), W/o Shaikh Moinuddin, Resident of 18B, Mompinpur Road, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Nasima Begum (Old Name) to Nazma Moin (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Nazma Moin (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/08/2026. Nazma Moin (new name) and Nasima Begum (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Manika Day (Old name), W/o Uttam Kumar Day, resident of Aturia, Baduria, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal - 743427, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Manika Day (Old name) to Monika Day (New name) and henceforth I shall be known as Monika Day (New Name) for all purposes, vide Affidavit No. 032, sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 24/08/2026. Monika Day (New Name) and Manika Day (Old Name) are one and the same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Chanchal Das (Old Name), Son Of Late Basanta Kumar Das, Resident Of Gangarampur Road, Mahesh-tala, PS.- Mahesh-tala , Dist - South 24 Parganas, Pin- 700141, West Bengal, Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Chanchal Das (Old Name) To Chanchal Kumar Das (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Chanchal Kumar Das (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Chanchal Kumar Das (New Name) And Chanchal Das (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Laveti Karina And L. Karina (Old Names), Daughter Laveti Rajesh And L. Rajesh And Wife Of Ayub Khan, Resident Of 18/B, Mompinpur Road, P.O.- Khidderpore , PS.- Ekbaldore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal, Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name L. Karina And Laveti Karina (Old Names) To Aakifah Khan (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Aakifah Khan (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Aakifah Khan (New Name) And L.Karina And Laveti Karina (Old Names) All Are Same And One Identical Person. I Have Also Change My Religion Hindu To Muslim.

Name Change
I, Idris Ali And Idrish Ali Mandal (Old Names), Son Of Late Md Elem Miya, Resident Of Utar Abjanag, P.O.- Gauribhoj, PS.- Deganga, Dist - 24 North Parganas, Pin- 743445, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Idris Ali And Idrish Ali Mandal (Old Names) To Md Idris Ali (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Idris Ali (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Barasat On 13/08/2026. Md Idris Ali (New Name) And Idris Ali And Idrish Ali Mandal (Old Names) All Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sibitu Sankari (Old Name), Son Of Nityagopal Shankhari, Resident Of Nabapally Tahnar Mohe Jaynagar-1, Po-Joynga-gar Majlipur, South 24 Parganas-743337, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sibit Sankari (Old Name) To Shibit Shankhari (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Shibit Shankhari (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 54 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Shibit Shankhari (New Name) And Sibit Sankari (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Shantanarayan Chakraborty & Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (Old Name), Son Of Rajeswar Chakraborty, Resident Of C.K.Sen Road, Shaktipur, Post- Agarpura, Ps.- Ghola, Dist - North 24 Parganas- 700 109, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Shantanarayan Chakraborty & Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (Old Name) To Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 78 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (New Name) And Shantanarayan Chakraborty & Shanta Naryan Chakraborty (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Bijeta Kirtania (Old Name), Wife Of Kumud Narayan Kirtania, Resident Of 5, South Road, Santoshpur, Kolkata-700075, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Bi-jeta Kirtania (Old Name) To Bijeta Saha Kirtania (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Bijeta Saha Kirtania (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 21 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Bijeta Saha Kirtania (New Name) And Bijeta Kirtania (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Krishan Daga (Old Name), Son Of Late Sohan Lal Daga, Resident Of 5, Fakir Chakraborty Lane, Po-Beardon Street, Kolkata-700006, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Krishan Daga (Old Name) To Krishna Kumar Daga (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Krishna Kumar Daga (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 22 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Krishna Kumar Daga (New Name) And Krishan Daga (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mahamuda Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Noor Mohammad, Resident Of Mirjapur, Akna, Baruipur, South 24 Parganas-700145, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mahmuda Bibi (Old Name) To Mamuda Bibi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Mamuda Bibi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 23 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Mamuda Bibi (New Name) And Mahamuda Bibi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sk Niamat Ali (Old Name), Son Of Late Sk Abul Hosen, Resident Of Ankurhati, Po-Salor, PS-Domjir, Howrah-711409, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sk Niamat Ali (Old Name) To Sk Niyamat Ali (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sk Niyamat Ali (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 19 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Sk Niyamat Ali (New Name) And Sk Niamat Ali (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sk Ahmmad Ali (Old Name), Son Of Sk Niyamat Ali, Resident Of Mohiari 2, Near Uttar Para, Ankurhati, Po-Salor, PS-Domjir, Howrah-711409, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sk Ahmmad Ali (Old Name) To Sk Ahmmad Ali (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sk Ahmmad Ali (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 20 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Sk Ahmmad Ali (New Name) And Sk Ahmmad Ali (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Dilip Kr Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Late Mukunda Mondal, Resident Of Rajar Ghat Dhapa, Kolkata-700105, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Dilip Kr Mondal (Old Name) To Dilip Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Dilip Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 27 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Dilip Mondal (New Name) And Dilip Kr Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Manjumnoyara Begam Molla (Old Name), Wife Of Md Abdur Rahman, Resident Of Purkait Para, Bhastara, Gurap, Hooghly-712303, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Manjumnoyara Begam Molla (Old Name) To Manju Manuara Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Manju Manuara Molla (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 28 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Manju Manuara Molla (New Name) And Manjumnoyara Begam Molla (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rozina Khatun (Old Name), Daughter Of Masud Mondal resident Of Hatiara Metho Para, Po-Hatiara, PS-Eco Park, North 24 Parganas-700157, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rozina Khatun (Old Name) To Rojina Bibi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Rojina Bibi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 12037 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Barasat On 14/07/2026. Rojina Bibi (New Name) And Rozina Khatun (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abidur Rahman Molla (Old Name), Son Of Akbar Ali Molla, Resident Of 1 No Moukhali Jagacha, Howrah Corporation, Gip Colony, Howrah-711112, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Abidur Rahman Molla (Old Name) To Abidur Rahman Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Abidur Rahman Molla (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 28 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 21/08/2026. Abidur Rahman Molla (New Name) And Abidur Rahman Molla (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Shankar Das (Old Name), Son Of Panchhaki Das, Resident Of Uttar Arabinda Nagar, Bankura, Bankura-722101, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Shankar Das (Old Name) To Sankar Das (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sankar Das (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 31 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Sankar Das (New Name) And Shankar Das (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Shyamali Das, Daughter Of Sunil Kumar Das, Resident Of Kenduadihi Bhakatpara, Bankura, Bankura(M)-722102, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Father's Name From Sunil Das (Old Name) To Sunil Kumar Das (New Name) And Henceforth He Shall Be Known As Sunil Kumar Das (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 30 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Sunil Kumar Das (New Name) And Sunil Das (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sabya Begam (Old Name), Wife Of Md Sohail, Resident Of 3Jan Nagar Road, Po - Circus Avenue, Ps - Beniapukur, Kolkata - 700017, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sabya Begam (Old Name) To Sabya Khatoun (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sabya Khatoun (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 29 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Sabya Khatoun (New Name) And Sabya Begam (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sahana Khatun, Wife Of Jahangir Gazi, Resident Of Vill & Po - Bankra, Hingajari, Basirhat-743435, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Daughter Name From Fatema Tuzzhura (Old Name) To Fatema Tuzzhura (New Name) And Henceforth She Shall Be Known As Fatema Tuzzhura (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 22 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Fatema Tuzzhura (New Name) And Fatema Tuzzhura (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Goffar Ali Mondol (Old Name), Son Of Abdul Mujid Mondol, Resident Of Vill-Dogachia, Po-Beliaghat Bridge, Ps-Deganga, North 24 Parganas-743423, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Goffar Ali Mondol (Old Name) To Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) Pand Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 44 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) And Md Goffar Ali Mondol(Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Abdul Barik (Old Name), Son Of Alim Bazar, Resident Of Vill-Dogachia, Po-Beliaghat Bridge, Ps-Deganga, North 24 Pargana-743423, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Abdul Barik (Old Name) To Abdul Barik (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Abdul Barik (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 43 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Abdul Barik (New Name) And Md Abdul Barik (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Piyali Pahari Panda & Piyali Panda (Old Name), Daughter Of Papitra Pahari, Resident Of B.B.57, Rajdanga Sarat Park, PS-Kasba, Kolkata-700107, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Piyali Pahari Panda & Piyali Panda (Old Name) To Piyali Pahari (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Piyali Pahari (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 24 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Piyali Pahari (New Name) And Piyali Pahari Panda & Piyali Panda (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Noorjahan Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Likat Ali Thander, Resident Of Padirhati Basirbagan, Rabindranagar, South 24 Parganas-700066, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Noorjahan Bibi (Old Name) To Nurjahan Bibi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Nurjahan Bibi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 80 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Nurjahan Bibi (New Name) And Noorjahan Bibi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rajdip Sankari (Old Name), Son Of Shibit Shankhari, Resident Of Nabapally Tahnar Mohe Jaynagar-1, Po-Joynga-gar Majlipur, South 24 Parganas-743337, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rajdip Sankari (Old Name) To Rajdip Shankhari (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Rajdip Shankhari (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 55 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Rajdip Shankhari (New Name) And Rajdip Sankari (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Dulal Swarnakar (Old Name) S/o Nityagopal Swarnakar Residing at Bankra New Area, North Dumdum, Po - Birati, District - North 24 Parganas, Pin-700051, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Dulal Swarnakar (Old Name) to Dulal Swarnakar (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Dulal Swarnakar (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on 24/08/2026. Dulal Swarnakar (New Name) and Dulal Swarnakar (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Khodeza Aktari, W/O-Md. Abdul Wahab, aged about 64 years, by Caste-Muslim, by Occupation-house wife, a presently resident of Vill & P.O.- Krishnapur, P.S.-Tufanganj, Dist.-Cooch Behar, Pin No. 736156, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as follows:- 1) That I have been permanently residing at the above stated address. 2) That in my Aadhar card bearing No. 3038 4413 0330, Epic No. W112090850, Pan No. FYFPA0157L my name has been recorded as Khodeza Aktari. 3) That Md. Abdul Rafique is my son and his Aadhar No. 5072 7078 4460, Epic No. GBM2143741. 4) That in my said son's Passport vide no F2641411 in which my name (ie his mother's name recorded as Aktara Khadeja. 5) That Khodeza Aktari and Aktara Khadeja (ie the same and identical person. 6) That It is required to be corrected my name as Khodeza Aktari in place of Aktara Khadeja in my said son's Passport from the competent authority. 7) That if the above informations is found to be false then I shall convicted U/S-229(2) of B.N.S.

NAME CHANGE
I, Md Emdadul Haque S/o Nurul Haque resident of vill- Ramna Etbar Nagar P.O. Basantapur P.S. Domkal Dist- Murshidabad, Pin-742406, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Md Emdadul Haque to Emdadul Haque and henceforth I shall be known as Emdadul Haque in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 205 sworn before the Notary Public at Domkal on 21.08.2026 Emdadul Haque and Md Emdadul Haque both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Abu Taleb Molya (Old Name), Son Of Jonab Ali, Resident Of Vill-Mukundapur, Po-Chouhata, PS-Haroa, North 24 Parganas-743425, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Abu Taleb Molya (Old Name) To Abu Taleb Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Abu Taleb Molla (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 38 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Abu Taleb Molla (New Name) And Abu Taleb Molya (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Goffar Ali Mondol (Old Name), Son Of Abdul Mujid Mondol, Resident Of Vill-Dogachia, Po-Beliaghat Bridge, Ps-Deganga, North 24 Pargana-743423, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Goffar Ali Mondol (Old Name) To Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) Pand Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 44 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Goffar Ali Mondal (New Name) And Md Goffar Ali Mondol(Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Abdul Barik (Old Name), Son Of Alim Bazar, Resident Of Vill-Dogachia, Po-Beliaghat Bridge, Ps-Deganga, North 24 Pargana-743423, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Abdul Barik (Old Name) To Abdul Barik (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Abdul Barik (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 43 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Abdul Barik (New Name) And Md Abdul Barik (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Banani Maity (Old Name), Wife Of Samir Kumar Maity, Resident Of Vill & Po-Dwarknagar, PS-Namkhana, South 24 Parganas-743357, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Banani Maity (Old Name) To Barnali Maity (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Barnali Maity (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 2621 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kakkwpd On 06/05/2024. Barnali Maity (New Name) And Banani Maity (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Samir Maity (Old Name), Wife Of Manindra Nath Maity, Resident Of Vill & Po-Dwarknagar, PS-Namkhana, South 24 Parganas-743357, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Samir Maity (Old Name) To Samir Kumar Maity (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Samir Kumar Maity (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 2621 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Kakkwpd On 06/05/2024. Samir Kumar Maity (New Name) And Samir Maity (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Ahsan Alam (Old Name), Son Of Abdus Subhan, Resident Of 38/H/5 Canal East Road, Narkeldanga, Kolkata-700017, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Ahsan Alam (Old Name) To Md Ahsan (New Name) Pand Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Ahsan (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 45 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 25/08/2026. Md Ahsan (New Name) And Md Ahsan Alam (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Nazrul Islam Sardar (Old Name), Son Of Latif Sardar, Resident Of North Kumrakhal, Narendrapur, South 24 Pgs-700103, West Bengal Do Hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Nazrul Islam Sardar (Old Name) To Nazrul Islam (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Nazrul Islam (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 33 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Nazrul Islam (New Name) And Nazrul Islam Sardar (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Daya Nand Patel son of Late Rammanga Prasad, residing at Vill & P.O - Chamrail, PS - Liluah, Howrah - 711114, West Bengal, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Daya Nand Patel to Daya Nand Prasad and henceforth I shall be known as Daya Nand Prasad in all purpose, vide affidavit no.3, sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 24/08/2026. Daya Nand Prasad and Daya Nand Patel both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Arpita Bhattacharya (Old Name) D/o Golak Bhattacharya Residing at Am-tala, Burdwan - I, Po - Burdwan Rajbari, District - Bardhaman, Pin - 713104, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Arpita Bhattacharya (Old Name) to Arpita Bhattacharya (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Arpita Bhattacharya (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 18778 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Sealdah on Dated 21-08-2026. Arpita Bhattacharya (New Name) and Arpita Bhattacharya (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Lal Moti Devi (Old Name) D/o Banarshi Shaw Residing at Sisai, Bihar, 841422, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Lal Moti Devi (Old Name) to Lalmiti Devi (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Lalmiti Devi (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 51/2026 Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 25-08-2026. Lalmiti Devi (New Name) and Lal Moti Devi (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Taha Pindwarawala (Old Name) S/o Khuzema Saifuddin Pindwarawala Residing at Rajat Boulevard, 38A, Pulin Khatik Road, Flat - 4D, Po. - Tangra, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700015, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Taha Pindwarawala (Old Name) to Taha Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Taha Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 1349 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata on Dated 21-08-2026. Taha Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) and Taha Pindwarawala (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Munira Pindwarawala (Old Name) W/o Khuzema Saifuddin Pindwarawala Residing at Rajat Boulevard, 38A, Pulin Khatik Road, Flat - 4D, Po. - Tangra, District - Kolkata, Pin- 700015, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Munira Pindwarawala (Old Name) to Munira Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Munira Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 1349 Sworn before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata on Dated 21-08-2026. Munira Khuzema Pindwarawala (New Name) and Munira Pindwarawala (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Prabir Chandra Bera (Old Name) S/o Baneshwar Bera Residing at Sharatchandra Avenue, Durgapur (M.Corp) Bardhaman, Durgapur Steel Town East, West Bengal, Pin - 713205, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Prabir Chandra Bera (Old Name) To Change my name Prabir Bera (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Prabir Bera (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Durgapur on Dated 18-08-2026. Prabir Bera (New Name) and Prabir Chandra Bera (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Heffur Rohman (Old Name) S/o Haji Mohammad Abul Hossain Residing at Vill - Lakshmiapur, Po - Chaksukdebpur, Pin - 733142, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Heffur Rohman (Old Name) to Heffur Rahaman (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Heffur Rahaman (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit no 4162 Sworn before the Ld. Executive Magistrate at Balurghat, Dakshin Dinajpur on Dated 26-02-2026. Heffur Rahaman (New Name) and Heffur Rohman (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

BILL GATES seeks global rules on dangerous model, security threats

MI News Service, New York: Bill Gates is looking to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping later this year, eager to propose global efforts to mitigate the growing risks posed by artificial intelligence.

The Microsoft co-founder and billionaire philanthropist told Reuters in an interview that he believes China might agree to restricting potentially dangerous AI model releases if the US took initiative on that first.

"The whole world would go along with that," said Gates, who met with Xi three years ago, when he was the first foreign entrepreneur to be hosted by the Chinese president post-pandemic.

Gates also said he'd like to propose that countries monitor AI's ability to create molecules and carry out biological attacks — something that would not get in the way of any tech industry's development.

Gates' staff are working to finalize a meeting with Xi for his next China trip, his spokesperson said, scheduled tentatively for November.

President Xi "might be surprised by how vehement I am," Gates said. He said China is protecting children



from AI companion addiction, but he believes few leaders globally are rising to the occasion to get ahead of a litany of potential harms from AI.

"Yes, in the past, technology never did this. This time is different. This is like an evolutionary milestone that needs incredible policy management by society as a whole."

Gates struck a more optimistic note about AI in January, but since then he has become concerned that it can conduct attacks while supplanting jobs and hooking users psychologically.

For instance, technology from OpenAI, Anthropic and Meta Platforms recently hacked real-world

websites in what were supposed to be isolated cyber-security evaluations.

"These security incidents are shocking, and they should blow people's minds," Gates said.

In a blog post on Wednesday, Gates called for a new international organization to manage AI, drawing on elements from a nuclear inspections regime, international aviation regulations, and ozone layer protection agreements.

To date, US President Donald Trump's administration has exercised some control over the distribution of powerful AI models such as Anthropic's GPT-5, but more regulation has taken place at the state level.

Whereas many tech leaders have, like Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg, touted the benefits of AI, many have also expressed concern about its perils. Demis Hassabis, chair of Google DeepMind, proposed a body like the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, that could develop and conduct tests of AI related to national security.

Gates agrees with others that the United States should take the lead, but says it must establish what criteria would determine what action.

"You can use a FINRA-type model, but it's a silly conversation," Gates said. "It's like saying, 'Should we meet to discuss taxation at this restaurant or this restaurant?'"

In his blog post, Gates said it was the "world's top priority" to deliver an AI future that does not widen inequality and hurt the vulnerable, ahead of climate change and health crises.

As he pursues high-profile engagements, Gates also told Reuters he planned to see UK Prime Minister Andy Burnham this autumn. In February, he cancelled an appearance in India after the US released files from sex of-

fender Jeffrey Epstein. Gates has said he did not realize the extent of Epstein's crimes when associating with him for philanthropy.

His foundation is aiming to spend \$200 billion by 2045 with an increasing focus on AI. It is working with Anthropic on AI-powered health checks for pregnancy, and with OpenAI to help healthcare workers in Rwanda, Gates said. He also will speak to personnel at Anthropic and OpenAI, both of which are preparing blockbuster IPOs, about impactful giving, he said.

On his mind are various ideas for addressing social upheaval. He envisioned taxing revenue from companies using "tokens" or AI's outputs to supplant labor, which could help fund a safety net.

He also said society should reserve up to 40 percent of current jobs for humans, noting in the blog how care his dad received when suffering from Alzheimer's disease was "irreplaceably human."

Gates said community protests centered on data centers were missing a bigger picture. "Wait until you really screw up the job market," he said.

No diplomatic deal with Iran: NETANYAHU

MI News Service, Jerusalem: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said a diplomatic deal was not possible with the "savages" who rule Iran as he hailed US President Donald Trump's new campaign of economic pressure.

Recounting a recent meeting with Trump, Netanyahu said they had discussed the possibility of diplomacy with the Islamic republic and added: "I doubt, however, that an agreement can be reached with that group there, with those savages."

"I tell you -- an agreement cannot be reached," Netanyahu told an event late Tuesday at an Israeli settlement in the occupied West Bank.

Netanyahu has long been sceptical of diplomacy with Iran, openly campaigning against a 2015 nuclear deal brokered by then US president Barack Obama, but he has been publicly careful not to criticise Trump while he sought a negotiated settlement.

Trump joined Ne-



tanyahu in a US-Israeli joint attack on Iran in late February but agreed to a ceasefire in April in the face of widespread US public opposition to the war, which had sent oil prices spiralling.

Trump on Monday declared "economic D-Day" aimed at destroying Iran's economy, which has already endured years of sanctions, but he has shown reluctance to resume a full-scale war even as he grows frustrated that Tehran will not accept his demands.

Netanyahu voiced support for Trump's economic pressure campaign and

said he had told Trump of this "third option", while praising the US president for pursuing it in "a very, very, very strong way".

Trump had chosen to target not just Iran itself but decided on "tightening the siege on those who assist this regime, this terrible dictatorship. This is very important," Netanyahu said.

The Israeli leader had pushed for years for a US attack on Iran, whose Shia cleric-run state supports anti-Israel armed groups such as Hezbollah and Hamas, which led the devastating October 7, 2023 attack on Israel.

USS Abraham Lincoln heads to Thailand



MI News Service, Bangkok: The U.S. aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln will make a stop in Thailand after its grueling deployment in the Middle East, Thai officials said Wednesday.

The Lincoln was supporting the U.S. war against Iran, and its deployment included a record-setting uninterrupted time at sea of more than 250 days. Concerns have grown about the Lincoln's lengthy deployment following reports of deteriorating mental health among the crew and shortages of supplies, including food and hygiene products.

A Thai government official, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the press, confirmed that the Lincoln will make a brief visit in Thailand for rest and recovery.

A statement from the Royal Thai Navy on Tuesday said three ships from

a U.S. Navy's carrier strike group were scheduled to make a short stopover in eastern Thailand for recuperation and that no military exercises would be carried out during the visit.

It did not identify the ships nor specify the port or their arrival date, citing security concerns.

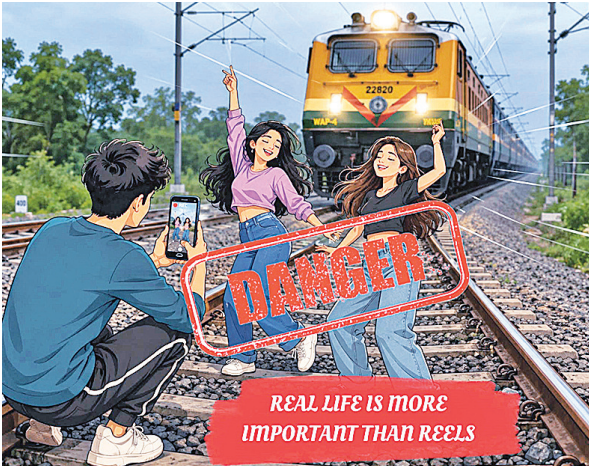
The U.S. embassy in Bangkok did not immediately respond to a request for comment, and the U.S. Navy declined to comment.

Extended deployments of carriers wear on service members who are away from home for long periods and increase strain on the ship and its equipment. While renewed hostilities between the U.S. and Iran calmed in recent weeks, the Navy is enforcing a reimposed blockade on Iranian ports in the Strait of Hormuz, and the Trump administration has offered no clarity on how it intends to wind down the war.

Real life is more important than reels: Eastern strikes hard against trespassing and dangerous track -side stunts

MI News Service, Kolkata: Under the leadership of Gitika Pandey, General Manager, Eastern Railway, Eastern Railway has been continuously conducting intensive public awareness campaigns urging citizens to stay clear of railway tracks and prioritize safety.

Despite the extensive infrastructure built by Eastern Railway—including a continuous series of Foot Over Bridges (FOBs), Road Over Bridges (ROBs), and Road Under Bridges (RUBs) designed for smooth and safe crossing—instances of irresponsible public trespassing continue to pose severe safety risks. Railway tracks are designated operational transport corridors; they are neither pedestrian shortcuts nor stages for taking photos and filming social media reels. A single moment of distraction or misjudgment on the tracks can take away a precious life forever. Taking a stern stance against dangerous violations, Amiya Nandan Sinha, IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Eastern Railway, has directed strict legal enforcement across all divisions to curb unauthorized track movement and risky social media stunts. During the three-month period from May 1, 2026, to July 31, 2026, Eastern Railway's security forces cracked down heavily on offenders under Section



147 of the Railways Act. Across the four divisions—Asansol (ER/ASN), Howrah (ER/HWH), Malda Town (ER/MLDT), and Sealdah (ER/SDAH)—a total of 828 prosecution cases were registered, 813 cases were detected, and 853 individuals were arrested. In addition, 6,608 penalty cases were registered, realizing court fines amounting to ₹3,18,220 and total penalties totaling ₹33,12,900. Division-wise breakdowns reveal that Asansol recorded 152 prosecution cases, 152 detected cases, 156 persons arrested, 561 penalty cases, ₹90,900 in fines, and ₹2,82,000 in penalties. Howrah recorded 96 prosecution cases, 96 detected cases, 97 persons arrested, 3,468 penalty cases, ₹51,320 in fines, and ₹17,33,900 in penalties. Malda Town recorded 298 prosecution cases, 288

detected cases, 300 persons arrested, 1,145 penalty cases, ₹37,500 in fines, and ₹5,78,500 in penalties.

Sealdah recorded 282 prosecution cases, 277 detected cases, 300 persons arrested, 1,434 penalty cases, ₹1,38,500 in fines, and ₹7,18,500 in penalties. While enforcement operations remain vigilant and firm with a tough hand, authorities emphasize that strict legal action alone cannot solve the problem without self-awareness and responsible behavior from the public. "No social media video or shortcut is worth risking your life. We earnestly request everyone to use designated bridges and crossings, because your safety is our utmost priority," stated Shibram Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer, Eastern Railway.

Swift RPF Action Saves the Day: Gold Ornaments Worth 6.10 Lakh Handed Back to Relieved Passenger at Nabadwip Dham

MI News Service, Kolkata: A routine train journey nearly turned into a heartbreaking loss for Parvina Khatun when she stepped off the Katwa-Bandel Local at Agradwip Railway Station, only to realize with a jolt of panic that she had left her brown handbag near the exit door. Packed inside were her family's precious gold ornaments, essential documents, and personal belongings—left vulnerable in a moving coach. Desperate for help, she immediately lodged an emergency complaint via the Rail Madad portal. Operating under the visionary leadership of General Manager, Eastern Railway, Ms. Gitika Pandey, the alert swiftly reached Assistant Sub-Inspector P.K. Das of RPF Post Nabadwip Dham, setting off a high-stakes, race-against-time operation. As Train No. 37748 DN pulled into Platform No. 2 of Nabadwip Dham Railway Station at 14:37 hrs, ASI Das and Constable Sanjay Ghosh rushed aboard, expertly searched the coach, and successfully retrieved the unattended bag intact. This exemplary display of speed, integrity, and passenger assistance was executed under the guidance of General Manager Eastern Railway Gitika Pandey. Under the guidance of IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner Sri Amiya Nandan Sinha, the force continuously reinforces passenger security across the network under "Operation Amanat." Relieved beyond words, Khatun arrived at the RPF Post at 15:50 hrs with her mother to claim her



belongings. Following thorough verification, the bag was opened in her presence—with the entire procedure meticulously videographed for complete transparency. Inside, officers verified two pairs of gold earrings, two gold rings, three nose rings, a gold chain, a pair of gold bangles, bank passbooks, gas connection papers, and cash. Under the direct supervision of the Post Commander, Nabadwip Dham, the recovered valuables—valued at approximately ₹6,10,000—were safely handed back to a profoundly thankful owner. Praising the quick response of the team, Chief Public Relations Officer Shibram Majhi stated, "Through initiatives like 'Operation Amanat,' Eastern Railway remains steadfast in its commitment to protecting passenger property and delivering prompt, dependable service every single day."

EASTERN RAILWAY

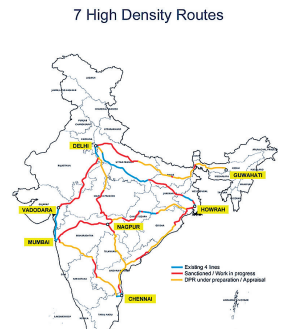
Tender Notice No. : SG.Tender/DSTE/SDAH/637, dated 25.08.2026. e-tender is invited by Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, 2nd Floor, Control Building, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work : e-Tender No.: SDSTE/SG/T/29/26-27/SF. Name of work with its location : Signalling work in connection with Dum Dum - Lalgaia - TTR (FS+TWS+V/MC/MSC) - 20 sets (1-12 - 20 Sets) and Ranaghat - Gede (UP & DN) - TSR (UP) - 11.498 Tkm. Tender Value : ₹ 80,71,029.56. Earnest Money/ Bid Security to be deposited : ₹ 1,61,400.00. Cost of tender document : Nil. Completion period of the work : 06 months. Tender Submission Start Date : 08.09.2026. Tender Submission End Date : 22.09.2026 upto 14.00 hrs. Tender Bid Opening Date : 22.09.2026 at 14.30 hrs. Details may be available at www.ireps.gov.in Technical Eligibility Criteria: The tenderer must have successfully completed or substantially completed any one of the following categories of work(s) during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: (i) Three similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, or (ii) Two similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, or (iii) One similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender. Financial Eligibility Criteria: The tenderer must have minimum average annual contractual turnover of V/N or 'V' whichever is less; where V = Advertised value of the tender in crores of Rupees, N = Number of years prescribed for completion of work for which bids have been invited. The average annual contractual turnover shall be calculated as an average of "total contractual payments" in the previous three financial years, as per the audited balance sheet. However, in case balance sheet of the previous year is yet to be prepared/audited, the audited balance sheet of the fourth previous year shall be considered for calculating average annual contractual turnover. The tenderers shall submit requisite information as per Annexure-VIB of GCC 2022 (Form-6 of the instant tender document), along with copies of Audited Balance Sheets duly certified by the Chartered Accountant/Certificate from Chartered Accountant duly supported by Audited Balance Sheet. Other document to be submitted: As mentioned in the tender document. Similar nature of work: Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Data Logger or RTUs or Any Signal Interlocking Works involving EI or RRI or PI or IBS or IBH or LC Gate Interlocking or Yard Modification or UFSBI or Track Circuit (AFTC Or DC TC) OR Axle Counter (SSDAC Or MSDAC Or HA-SSDAC) Or Automatic Signalling. Note: The tenderer shall submit along with the tender offer, documents in support of his/her claim to fulfill the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the tender document. Each page of the copy of documents/ certificates in support of credentials, submitted by the tenderer, shall be self-attested/digitally signed by the tenderer or authorized representative of the tendering firm. Self-attestation shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). SDAH-198/2026-27 Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.e.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in Follow us at : @EasternRailway | @easternrailwayheadquarter

Ashwini Vaishnav Outlines the Plan to Four-Lane Bharat's High-Density Rail Network

MI News Service, Kolkata: Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav outlined the scale and significance of the seven high-density railway routes that carry a major share of Bharat's total rail traffic. Spread across nearly 11,000 km, these routes account for around 41% of total railway traffic while covering just 16% of the railway network.

Under the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, Indian Railways is moving towards four-laning the entire high-density network to increase capacity and support the growing movement of passengers and freight across the country.

Key Highlights The seven high-density routes connect some of Bharat's biggest cities and regions, including:



- Howrah-Chennai
- Chennai-Mumbai
- Mumbai-Delhi
- Delhi-Chennai
- Mumbai-Howrah
- Delhi-Guwahati

The ongoing expansion work is aimed at creating four railway lines across the high-density network, helping increase capacity on some of the busiest routes in the country.

Shri Vaishnav also underlined the environmental

All Reservation Offices Over Kolkata & Howrah Area To Be Operated In One Shift For Three (03) Days During Durga Puja

MI News Service, Kolkata: All computerised Reservation Offices over Kolkata & Howrah area will function in one shift only (from 08:00 hrs. to 14:00 hrs.) instead of two shifts on 19.10.2026 (Monday), 20.10.2026 (Tuesday) & 21.10.2026 (Wednesday) on the occasion of Durga Puja/ Dussehra. However, current Booking counters at Howrah, Sealdah & Kolkata Terminal will function as usual for the above mentioned days.

Continuation Of Running Of Two (02) Special Trains



MI News Service, Kolkata: To clear the extra rush of passengers during ensuing festive season, Railway has decided to continue the run of following special trains with existing timings, path and stoppages as under:

09033 Udhna - Malda Town special will run on every Thursday between 03.09.2026 & 26.11.2026 (13 trips) and 09034

Malda Town - Udhna special will run on every Sunday between 06.09.2026 & 29.11.2026 (13 trips). 09451 Gandhidham - Bhagalpur special will run on every Friday between 04.09.2026 & 27.11.2026 (13 trips) and 09452 Bhagalpur - Gandhidham special will run on every Monday between 07.09.2026 & 30.11.2026 (13 trips).

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

Branch Office : ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091 CIN No: L65190G11994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

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

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	(Borrower) Paritosh Biswas & (Mortgagor) Paritosh Biswas/ Represented By Proprietor, Paritosh Biswas 764A, Vidya Sagar Sarani West Bengal Kolkata- 700063/ 197305001043	R.S. Dag No. 76, Kri Hal Khatian No. 434, Hal L.R. Khatian No. 1053, J.L. No 40, Touzi No. 3-5, RE. S.A. No. 32, Mouza Kologachia, P.S. Maheshwala, Pargana Khaspur, D.S.R.O. Alipore, A.D.S.R.O. Behala, Ashuti 2 No. Gram Panchayat, District South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, Owned By Paritosh Biswas (Admeasuring An Area of 4 Katha North: Property of R.S. Dag No. 48 South: 8 Feet Wide Road East: 8 Feet Wide Road West: Property Of Sri Khokan Poddar/ Date of Symbolic: 21/08/2026	17/02/2026 & 41,28,100.31/-	Kolkata

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Date: August 27, 2026 Place: Kolkata

Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.

2nd Test: Sooriyabandara, Mendis defy India as SL fight back to reach 199/3 at tea

COLOMBO : Sri Lanka mounted a spirited response in the second innings of the Test against India, with Pasindu Sooriyabandara and Kamindu Mendis putting together a substantial partnership to keep the hosts in the contest after India enforced the follow-on on Day 4, here at the Sinhalese Sports Club. By the end of the second session, Sri Lanka had reached 199 for 3 in 56 overs, reducing the deficit to 16 runs, with Sooriyabandara unbeaten on 90 and Dhananjaya de Silva on 14.

The session began with Sri Lanka at 83/2, still 131 runs behind India. The early dismissal of Kamil Mishara had briefly given India control, but Sooriyabandara and Mendis refused to allow the pressure to build. The pair attacked the Indian spinners and gradually transformed what had been a difficult situation into a genuine fight-back.

Sooriyabandara continued to look assured, mixing patience with calculated aggression. His approach was particularly effective against the spin, as he repeatedly used the crease and picked gaps in the field. Mendis complemented him with a positive stroke-making display, taking on the bowling whenever



opportunities presented themselves. Mendis reached his half-century in memorable fashion in the 40th over, pulling a short delivery from Prasidh Krishna over fine leg for six. It was his first fifty of the

series and his first against India. He eventually made 55 from 92 balls, hitting two fours and three sixes. The partnership also carried considerable historical significance. When it crossed the 100-run mark, it became

Sri Lanka's 13th century partnership while following on in Test cricket, and only the second against India. The previous instance against India had been the 191-run second-wicket stand between Dimuth Karunaratne and Kusal Mendis at the same venue in 2017.

Sooriyabandara reached another important milestone soon after. In the 31st over, he brought up his fifty with a boundary off Ravindra Jadeja, advancing down the track and lofting the ball over extra cover. It was his second fifty of the match, making him the first Sri Lankan batter since Danushka Gunathilaka against South Africa in 2018 to score twin fifties in a Test at the SSC in Colombo.

India eventually found the breakthrough through a change of tactics. Prasidh Krishna went short to Kamindu Mendis in the 44th over, and the batter attempted to take on the delivery. Instead, he skied the ball towards square leg, where Shubman Gill produced an excellent running catch to end the 126-run third-wicket partnership.

Mendis' dismissal, however, did not lead to a collapse. Dhananjaya de Silva joined Sooriyabandara, and the pair negotiated India's attack

through the remainder of the session.

India tried pace, spin and different field settings, but Sooriyabandara remained increasingly difficult to dislodge. Mohammed Siraj was brought back with Rishabh Pant standing up to the stumps, while India also persisted with Manav Suthar and Saransh Jain. The young spinners struggled to exert the same control that Jadeja had managed earlier.

Sooriyabandara reached 90 off 157 balls by tea, while Dhananjaya had moved to 14 from 35 deliveries. Jadeja remained India's most successful bowler in the innings, finishing the session with figures of 15-1-43-1.

The momentum had clearly shifted by the end of the second session. India had begun the innings with a substantial advantage after enforcing the follow-on, but Sri Lanka's determined batting had reduced the deficit to just 16 runs.

Brief Scores: India 503/9 dec lead Sri Lanka 290 and 199/3 f/o in 56 overs (Pasindu Sooriyabandara 90 not out, Kamindu Mendis 55; Mohammed Siraj 1-8, Ravindra Jadeja 1-43, Prasidh Krishna 1-30) by 14 runs.

ICC Rankings: Starc dethrones Bumrah as No.1 Test bowler; Pant rises to joint seventh among batters

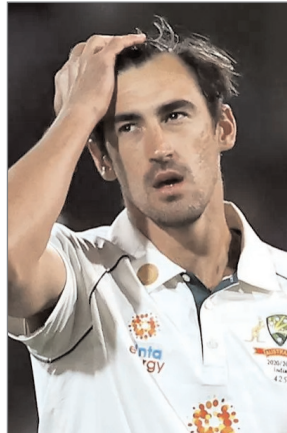
DUBAI : Australia pacer Mitchell Starc has dethroned India's Jasprit Bumrah to claim the No.1 spot in the latest ICC Test Bowler Rankings, released on Wednesday, while Rishabh Pant climbed six places to tie for seventh among Test batters.

Starc's rise to the top followed his dominant performance against Bangladesh in the second Test in Mackay, where the left-arm pacer took 10 wickets in the match. The effort helped the 36-year-old climb two places, move past Bumrah and New Zealand's Matt Henry, and become the top-ranked Test bowler for the first time in his career.

Bumrah, who first reached the No.1 position in February 2024 and had held it for much of the past two years, dropped to second, while Henry slipped to third.

Bumrah's absence from India's ongoing ICC World Test Championship series against Sri Lanka, together with Starc's Player of the Series-winning performance against Bangladesh, contributed to the change at the top.

Starc has spent much of his 15-year Test career in the top 10 and moved into the top three after strong



performances against England in the Ashes towards the end of last year. However, he had never previously reached the No.1 position.

Among other Australian bowlers, Pat Cummins moved up one place to fourth after taking six wickets in the match against Bangladesh, while spinner Nathan Lyon rose two places to 10th.

India's Pant was the biggest mover in the top 10 of the Test batter rankings. The left-hander climbed six places to equal seventh after his quickfire half-century in the second innings of India's victory over Sri Lanka in the first Test in Galle.

The top two positions remain unchanged, with

England's Harry Brook and Joe Root in first and second, while Australia's Steve Smith and Travis Head are third and fourth.

Other Indian batters also made gains. KL Rahul climbed five places to 30th, while Pant's rise highlighted India's movement inside the top 10.

Outside the top 10, Australia all-rounder Cameron Green moved up nine places to 21st, Sri Lanka captain Dhananjaya de Silva rose two spots to equal 22nd, and Pakistan's Abdullah Shafique climbed seven places to equal 27th.

England's Ollie Robinson and Josh Tongue also made significant gains in the Test bowler rankings following their match-winning performances against Pakistan in the first Test at Headingley. The pair combined for 16 wickets in the one-sided contest in Leeds, with Robinson jumping 15 places to 11th and Tongue climbing 16 spots to 17th.

The Test all-rounder rankings remain unchanged at the top, with India veteran Ravindra Jadeja retaining the No.1 position.

Cummins moved up one place to seventh, Green climbed one spot to equal 17th, while Robinson rose five places to 23rd in the all-rounder rankings.

India must target women's Asia Cup win ahead of 2027 Champions Trophy, says Anjum Chopra

NEW DELHI : India's primary objective at the upcoming Women's Asia Cup will be to lift the title they narrowly missed out on last time, but the tournament also doubles as a critical fine-tuning platform for the ICC Champions Trophy in February, says former India captain Anjum Chopra.

Seven-time winners India suffered defeat in the 2024 edition final to eventual champions Sri Lanka in Dambulla. The Harmanpreet Kaur-led side will begin their Group A campaign on August 30 against Thailand, and will later take on Hong Kong China and arch-rivals Pakistan respectively.

With India suffering a second straight early exit from the T20 World Cup earlier this year, the Asia Cup becomes a critical trophy to reclaim, even as the inaugural Champions Trophy in February already occupies a corner in the Indian team management's thinking.

"The outlook is obviously going to be to win the title, because they missed the chance of winning it last time around. Sri Lanka played really well in the last final - in fact, they played the entire tournament very well. That's why I was surprised when they landed at the T20 World Cup in the UAE and were completely all over the place. I was very surprised looking at that performance; I think they didn't win a single match.

"So, the outlook for the Indian team will obviously be



to win the championship. But lining up towards the ICC Champions Trophy in February, they would also want to understand their combination and how that setup, which hasn't changed much from the World Cup in England, will move in the direction of the Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka," Anjum told IANS in an exclusive conversation on Wednesday.

Her message for the Indian team, which is largely unchanged from the 2026 T20 World Cup squad (barring omission of Yastika Bhatia and injuries to Jemimah Rodrigues and Shreyanka Patil), is very simple as they prepare to play at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

"You have to play to your optimum skill level and never take any opposition lightly. If India wins the toss, they should go out and bat those

20 overs in a manner that showcases their skill level, regardless of what the opposition offers.

"You need to test what you've practiced in a match scenario. It's an international match at the end of the day, so players should use this chance not just to win, but to evaluate their own preparation and identify what needs work."

Teams like England and South Africa have included fringe players and newbies for their upcoming bilateral assignments against Ireland and Zimbabwe respectively. Asked if India should look to try youngsters in their home white-ball series against Zimbabwe, set to happen in October, Anjum felt the Asia Cup and the Asian Games were the ideal testing grounds for fringe players.

"The process should have started with this Asia Cup

itself. I'm not saying don't send your core players, but it's not difficult to see who is on loose footing. It's unfair to them that the Indian team hasn't given those opportunities on a consistent basis. I say that very openly for Bharti Fulmali, who hasn't gotten a consistent run, and for Renuka Singh Thakur, who hasn't been a regular feature in the playing eleven.

"The Asian Games and Asia Cup were the right places to try players. You had an opportunity to take players who have been around the setup. But now, you've picked another player to bat at number three who is nowhere around the T20 circuit. If the thinking is just to fill a spot, that's surprising.

"Bharti Fulmali was given a chance, but hasn't grabbed it fully - do they want to give her more of a run? Renuka Singh Thakur has struggled

over the past year to stay in the playing eleven, yet she is in both squads and will likely be on the team for Zimbabwe too. So, the clarity needs to be there with everyone around - not just the selectors, with even the players, the captain, the vice-captain and everyone around to understand what is it that we have been lacking?"

"What is it that we were lacking in the recent tournament and what are we trying to strengthen or build so that all of it is there when we get to the Champions Trophy? We have at least 10 matches given to these players before we ourselves are confident of taking them towards a Champions Trophy because there is a tour to South Africa as well.

"There will be a WPL as well before the Champions Trophy happens. So, there are ample chances. But give that confidence to that cricketer that she will be around. If you succeed, you are the one who will be doing well. If you don't, then don't come back and think that we never gave you a chance. So, you have to give those players and those chances should have been provided starting from this Asia Cup."

Anjum also urged the current administration to utilise India 'A' fixtures as a strict barometer for form and fitness, drawing comparisons with international standards set by teams like Australia. "India will likely rotate players against Zimbabwe as well. The Asia Cup and Asian Games are essential tourna-

ments to win, but if players with more than 150 T20 internationals cannot give you the confidence to cross the line, then we are clearly not confident in our overall skill level and that is a concern.

"We know we are lacking a number three who can clear the fence with ease. If Bharti Fulmali is the answer to that concern, she should be given a complete run through to the WPL so she has enough chances to prove herself. The India 'A' setup is brilliant - having so many players in competitive cricket right through the season gives you confidence that your second and third string are in the pipeline.

"Touring matches like the Board President's XI games were meant to prepare players on the sidelines, or help main team members regain form - like Radha Yadav leading them. If a player graduates from India 'A' to the main team, that's brilliant. It's always up to the player to grab the opportunity. For example, Kranti Gaud took her chances and is there; Sree Charani was given an opportunity and is there.

"You wouldn't write an India squad of 15 without those two names. But when a vacuum is created because players aren't performing or options aren't clear, that's where the challenge lies. If players remain in the India 'A' loop without graduating, it doesn't send a good signal about their preparation. I just hope the girls are prepared

Syndrela Das, Payas Jain included in TOPS Development Scheme ahead of Asian Games

NEW DELHI : Rising Indian table tennis players Syndrela Das and Payas Jain have been included in the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) Development Scheme, strengthening the country's focus on nurturing young talent ahead of the 2026 Asian Games, 2030 Commonwealth Games and the 2036 Olympics. Seventeen-year-old Syndrela, who hails from Kolkata, earned her place in the development programme following a string of impressive performances on the international stage. The teenager won a silver medal in the Girls' Doubles event and a bronze in the Girls' Singles competition at the Asian Youth Championships in Thailand earlier this year.

Syndrela had also enjoyed a highly successful 2023 season, when she won National Ranking age-group titles in the Under-15, Under-17 and Under-19 singles categories. She subsequently made the transition to the senior national circuit in 2025.

Earlier this year, TOPS had created a dedicated group for young table tennis players in the 14-17 age bracket as part of an effort to build India's bench strength for the 2030 Commonwealth Games and the 2036 Olympic Games.

Syndrela was part of that group and has now been included in the TOPS Development Scheme on the back of her recent performances. She joins fellow Indian table tennis players Payas Jain and Ankur Bhattacharjee in the scheme. Payas and Ankur are also set to form India's men's doubles combination.

Syndrela has also earned selection in India's 10-member squad for the 2026 Asian Games. The women's team comprises Sreeja Akula, Diya Chitale, Yashaswini Ghorpade, Sutirtha Mukherjee and Syndrela. The men's squad features Sathiyam Gnanasekaran, Manush Shah, Manav Thakkar, Harmeet Desai and Payas Jain. Meanwhile, India's top-ranked table tennis player Manika Batra has been approved for financial assistance by the Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) to compete in WTT Contender tournaments in Bulgaria and Kazakhstan in September.



'Most important thing is to get the right people': Steve Waugh on building Amsterdam Flames from scratch

NEW DELHI : Former Australia captain Steve Waugh is embracing a new challenge in T20 cricket as co-owner of the Amsterdam Flames, with the inaugural European T20 Premier League set to begin and the Australian great keen to see how a franchise built from the ground up performs in its first season. "It's fascinating for me to be involved in T20 cricket. I haven't really been up close and personal to it before. And I'm looking at the way the guys are training, and their tactics and the execution of their practices is really great to watch. So, I'm really enjoying it. But yeah, building a franchise is similar to building any team. You've got to get the right people. You've got to get the right structure. You've got to have a formulated plan. "Preparation is really important. The most important thing is to get the right people. And so, that's what we really concentrated on when we built the team, the Amsterdam Flames, from scratch. We wanted people with good character, people who could work together. But obviously, you need talent as well. So, if you get all those things coming together with good management, then there's a chance of being successful," Waugh told JioStar. For Waugh, the appeal of the project extends beyond the opportunity to work with established international names. The Flames squad includes the likes of Steve Smith, Tim David and Ajinkya Rahane, but it is the prospect of lesser-known players making their mark that has particularly caught his attention.

'Most important is staying in present': Simarjeet reveals Dhoni's lesson after match-winning spell against Purani Dilli 6

NEW DELHI : East Delhi Riders wrapped up their Delhi Premier League (DPL) 2026 season with a narrow 10-run win against playoff-qualified Purani Dilli 6 in a 10-over match at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. After the match, East Delhi Riders captain Simarjeet Singh conveyed pride in his team's effort, emphasizing the importance of ending the tournament positively. He also shared that advice from MS Dhoni helps him remain calm during high-pressure moments. "A win is always a win, and the feeling is always fantastic. Even though we couldn't make it to the play-



offs, finishing the tournament with a victory is very special for us. It keeps the team's morale high. The hard work

we put in throughout the tournament showed on the field today. I am extremely proud of how our young players took responsibility and played great cricket under pressure. We will learn from our shortcomings, but ending the season on a positive note gives us fresh confidence for the upcoming domestic season and the next DPL," Simarjeet said after the match.

Simarjeet, who delivered an excellent penultimate over by allowing only five runs to help defend the target, also shared how he incorporates vital lessons from Indian legend MS Dhoni during key

overs. "I use it every time. It's all about how to stay calm in pressure situations. As Dhoni bhai says, you have to be present in the moment where you are right now-not dwelling on the past or thinking too far into the future. Staying in the present is the most important thing for me," the captain added.

East Delhi Riders batted first in a shortened 10-over match, scoring 118/6. They were powered by Suryansh Raina's rapid 42 off 19 balls and a fast inning from Sujal Singh with 14 off 6. For Purani Dilli 6, Digvesh Rath was the top bowler, claiming 2/9 in his two overs.

Chasing 119, Purani Dilli 6 began strongly with 30 runs in the first two overs before Simarjeet took the initial wicket, dismissing Samarth Seth. Despite attempts by Aryan Gaur and captain Anuj Rawat (15 off 9), disciplined bowling in the final overs by Simarjeet limited Purani Dilli 6 to 108/6 in 10 overs, resulting in a 10-run victory for the Riders.

Despite the loss, Purani Dilli 6 secured third place in the points table, earning a playoff spot where they will compete against Outer Delhi Warriors in the Eliminator.