



Three-Day Power Outage Sparks Road Blockade in Pingla; New Transformer Arrives Amid Protest

Bengal • Pg 2



Bengal Plans 45-Cr Mega Tourism Proj, Hybrid Ferries for Sundarbans

City • Pg 3

Rs. 3

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BJP govt's 'positive outlook' replaced TMC's 'negativity': asserts Suvendu Adhikari

MI News Service, Ram-purhat : West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari on Saturday asserted that his government's "positive outlook" has replaced the previous Trinamool Congress dispensation's "negativity". Suvendu Adhikari was speaking to reporters after holding an administrative meeting in this town in Birbhum district and after offering obeisance at the Tarapith temple in the same district. "The previous government's answer to every issue was no... and our government's mantra is yes. This government's positive outlook has replaced TMC dispensation's negativity," the Chief minister said.

Suvendu Adhikari said that all necessary arrangements for observing 'Kaushiki Amavasya', the biggest annual festival at the Tarapith temple, will be made as devotees from across the state and the country, as well as from other nations, come to offer their obeisance on the occasion. "This government was formed with the blessings of Maa Tara; so it will make sure all measures are taken for the 'Kaushiki Amavasya' festival," he said. The festival will be held on the intervening night of September 10 and September 11.The Chief minister said the BJP government had earlier ensured proper arrangements for the 'Shravani Mela' and Rath Yatra celebrations.

During his visit to the temple in the morning, Suvendu Adhikari offered 'pushpanjali' (floral libations) amid the chanting of hymns by priests at the popular shrine. He said Birbhum district, which is famous for Shantiniketan, the Tarapith temple and the traditional 'Baul' songs, will be developed in every way



West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari carried a puja basket (puja dala) on his head as a gesture of traditional devotion as he entered the Tarapith Temple premises to offer prayers to Ma Tara (Goddess Kali) in Birbhum, West Bengal, on Saturday.

possible. Expressing regrets at the deaths of nine pilgrims in the temple town of Tarapith earlier this month in a devastating fire at a hotel, the Cihref minister blamed the hotel authorities

for the deaths of so many people by not following the rules. "We have taken note of that incident and suitable action are being taken to prevent such accident once and for all " and thanked the

Birbhum police and the Fire Brigade for prompt acting in saving so many other lives . Moreover, he said he had asked the District Magistrate to initiateaction for the construction of a large Tourist

lodge of the government soon having large number of rooms to enable the common devotees, particularly those from the poor financial background to stay and offer puja .

In this connection the Chief minister asserted that his new administration's "positive outlook" has successfully replaced the previous Trinamool Congress dispensation's "negativity." The "previous government's answer to every issue was no... and our government's mantra is yes".he said .

Suvendu Adhikari also highlighted that his three-month-old government has already successfully managed large-scale cultural events like the 'Shravani Mela' and the Rath Yatra celebrations and pledged that the Birbhum district—highly regarded for Shantiniketan and its traditional Baul heritage—will receive comprehensive developmental focus under the new regime. Later, after presiding over an administrative meeting here the Chief minister said he would soon announced a well thought-out blue print for the development of the long awaited coal mining project a Deucha Pachami area of the district where many tribal families were allegedly forced to sale their lands to the middlemen on even neighbouring Burrudwan district. "We have already cancelled those sale deeds and taken preventive action", he said and assured the people under the plan none will be deprived . Before returning to Kolkata Suvendu Adhikari also visited the house of former TMC Rampurhat MLA and Deputy Speaker of the state Assembly Ashis Chatterjee who took his own life about a fortnight ago, and consoled his son.

Death toll surges to 670 in Nepal flash floods; rescue efforts continue

MI News Service, Kathmandu : The death toll from the devastating flash floods in Nepal surged to 670 on Saturday, as rescue teams continued search and relief operations in a race against time. While more than 2,500 people have been evacuated, over 2,400 others still remain missing, official sources said here on Saturday . An ice-rock avalanche following a glacial collapse near the Nepal-Tibet border sent a torrent of water, mud and debris downstream through central Nepal on Wednesday, devastating several towns and villages, washing away thousands of homes, vehicles, roads and bridges, and damaging at least six hydropower projects. The sources said rescuers overcoming all hurdles continued their search operations amid fears of another wave of flooding following an increase in water levels in the Bhotekoshi River. According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority's (NDRRMA) latest update, at least 652 people have been reported dead in Nepal. The unprecedented disaster also left seven people dead on the Chinese side, according to Tibet's emergency management department.

More than 11,000 security personnel, including over 5,000 Nepal Army personnel, have been mobilised for search and rescue operations. In addition an 11-member Indian team comprising medical personnel and tunnel rescue experts arrived in Nepal to assist local authorities.

According to the Nepal Army's Public Relations Directorate, a total of 2,565 people have been evacuated so far, including 193 foreigners. They include 113 Indians, 28 Chinese, 25 South Koreans, 14 Germans, five each from Italy and the US, and one Omani national. As



many as 191 workers were also evacuated from tunnels of various hydropower projects in Trishuli and Rasuwa, it said. While 2,365 of those evacuated were rescued by helicopters, 200 were evacuated through land routes.

Emergency health centres set up at Dhunche and Trishuli have so far provided medical assistance to 1,706 people evacuated from different flood-hit areas, it said.

Meanwhile, the Mugling-Kathmandu highway, a major road link connecting the capital with other parts of the country, resumed operations on Saturday, Nepal Police said in a notice. It had remained closed since Wednesday due to the risk of flooding and landslides. National highways and several major road sections in central Nepal have also been obstructed due to flood and landslide risks for the past four days. The NDRRMA on Friday issued a warning about another flood in the area as water levels rose at the site of Wednesday's flash flood. "The water level mixed with mud has increased at the same place where the flash flood occurred on Wednesday, and there is a risk of more flooding in the area," the NDRRMA said. Hospitals remained crowded with flood victims receiving treatment, while outside anxious families and relatives gathered in large numbers, searching for information about loved ones still missing

in the disaster. Meanwhile , Nepal's meteorology department on Saturday warned of fresh rainfall and thunderstorms in the country's flash flood-affected areas, threatening to disrupt ongoing rescue and relief operations amid the worsening crisis, according to a media report. The Department of Hydrology and Meteorology has indicated heavy rain in the hilly and mountainous regions of Koshi, Bagmati and Gandaki provinces, the hilly areas of Karnali, and the Terai regions of Lumbini and Sudur-pashchim provinces.

Meteorologist Hari Prasad Dahal said most places in the Bhotekoshi flood-affected area in Rasuwa were likely to receive moderate rainfall on Saturday. "Heavy rain may occur in one or two places, which is likely to affect search and rescue operations. Therefore, precaution is necessary," he said. The meteorology department also said there was a possibility of moderate rainfall with thunder and lightning, as well as snowfall, in many hilly and mountainous parts of the country from Saturday afternoon. It said Koshi, Bagmati and Gandaki provinces, along with some other hilly and mountainous areas, may experience rainfall with thunder and lightning as well as snow. Rescuers continued search operations amid fears of another wave of flooding after water levels in the

➤ Continued on page 3

FIR filed against Mamata over 'violation' of Cal HC order



MI News Service, Kolkata: For the first time in about two decades the Kolkata Police have registered a suo motu FIR against former West Bengal Chief minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee for alleged violation of Calcutta High Court-imposed conditions for holding a TMCP foundation day event here. According to a senior police official here on Saturday, the FIR was filed on Friday at the Hastings Police Station against Mamata Banerjee as well as the organisers of the meeting of the Trinamool Chhatra Parishad (TMCP), an officer said. "The FIR has been registered for the alleged violation of the court's order. The role of all those involved in the violation will be examined during the course of the investigation. The case was registered under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) on August 28," he said.The case was registered after examining the conditions imposed by the court for holding the TMCP meeting at Cathedral Road in central Kolkata on Friday, the official said. "The FIR was based on a complaint lodged by sub-inspec-

tor Apu Baidya, posted at the Hastings Police Station. It was alleged that Mamata Banerjee and the organisers entered into a criminal conspiracy and, in furtherance of it, violated the high court's order," he said.

During the programme, TMCP supporters "breached barricades and jostled with police personnel deployed for maintaining law and order, leading to a chaotic situation", the officer claimed. Those who attended the programme allegedly disrupted vehicular movement on one flank of the Cathedral Road, he said. "The allegations include violation of the Calcutta Hgh court's directions, obstruction of traffic and incidents involving police personnel deployed at the spot," the police officer said adding that the police were directed to ensure that vehicular movement was not affected along one flank of the road. Justice Saugata Bhattacharyya had on Tuesday ordered that efforts be made to keep attendance within 1,500. He directed the police to ensure law and order and that no untoward incident takes place during the TMCP event. Meanwhile, the issue has once again brought to the fore the deep political divisions between the ruling and opposition parties in the state after April elections when the TMC was drubbed by the BJP winning as many 208 of thestate Assembly's 294 seats .

India's vision is for making Asia free from terror : PM Modi

MI News Service, New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said he was looking forward to advancing India's vision for the SCO, anchored in security, connectivity and opportunity, and to working with fellow members for a region free from the scourge of terrorism.

Ahead of his two-nation tour to Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic from August 29 to September 1, the Prime Minister also said that he was confident that his visit will strengthen India's strategic partnerships in Central Asia and deepen the civilisational connect with the region. In his departure statement, PM Modi said the trip will advance the shared pursuit of peace, stability and prosperity, values that lie at the heart of India's engagement with the world. "India has been an active and constructive member of the SCO since 2017. I look forward to



advancing India's vision for the region, anchored in Security, Connectivity and Opportunity, and to working with fellow members for a region free from the scourge of terrorism, separatism and extremism, which continue to threaten peace and stability in our neighbourhood and beyond," he said. The Prime Minister said that at the invitation of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, he will visit Tashkent on August 29-30 for a State Visit to Uzbekistan.

In recent years, India-Uzbekistan Strategic Partnership has seen significant advancement, he said. "I look forward to my discussions with President Mirziyoyev on further deepening our cooperation in trade and investment, digital connectivity, defence, energy, and on advancing our shared visions of 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Yangi Uzbekistan'," he said.

PM Modi said he will also visit the Shastri Memorial and the Mahatma Gandhi Centre at the Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, a tribute to the close cultural and people-to-people ties that bind our two countries. From Tashkent, at the invitation of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Sadyr Zhaparov, the Prime Minister will travel to Bishkek to participate in the 26th SCO Summit, marking 25 years of this important organisation.

FM Sitharaman in the US for G20 talks and meeting with business leaders

MI News Service, New Delhi / Washington (DC) : Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman arrived in the US on a six-day visit on Saturday to participate in the G20 Finance Ministers' meeting and hold talks with CEOs and business leaders across the globe to discuss investment opportunities.

Sitharaman arrived in Chicago early today following a three-day visit to Canada, where she took part in the inaugural India-Canada Economic and Financial Dialogue with her Canadian counterpart .

She was welcomed at the Ohara International Airport in Chicago by the Indian Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission, Namgya C

Khampa and the Consul General of India in Chicago, Somnath Ghosh, according to an official statement. Sitharaman is on a nine-day joint visit to Canada and US, which is scheduled to end on September 2.

While in Chicago, the Finance minister will participate in a roundtable conference with prominent investors and engage with leading CEOs, presidents and senior representatives of top global private sector, the statement said. The discussions will focus on India's investment opportunities, economic outlook and areas for strengthening business and investment partnerships between India and the United States.



Sitharaman will also visit the Polsky Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Chicago, where she will exchange perspectives on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology commercialisation and strengthening linkages with India's rapidly expanding start-up and innovation

ecosystem, it said.

The Finance minister will later interact with members of the Indian community in Chicago. She will also lead an Indian delegation at the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meetings in Asheville, North Carolina, which is being held

under the presidency of the United States. The meeting, scheduled for August 31 and September 1, will bring together finance ministers, central bank governors and senior economic officials from G20 members to deliberate on key global economic and financial issues, it said.

The meeting follows the G20 Finance and Central Bank Deputies Meeting scheduled for August 29 and 30. India's participation in the G20 Finance Track provides an important platform to contribute to discussions on global economic growth and stability, international financial cooperation and other issues of significance to emerging

and advanced economies, the official statement said.

The engagement would also provide an opportunity for India to advance its perspectives on contemporary global economic challenges and strengthen cooperation with G20 partners, it added.

Sitharaman will later head to New York, where she will hold an Investor Roundtable with CEOs and senior representatives of leading New York-based companies. She will hold one-to-one meetings with senior executives and CEOs from the financial sector to discuss investment opportunities, India's economic and financial landscape, and avenues for strengthening

➤ Continued on page 3

Three-Day Power Outage Sparks Road Blockade in Pingla; New Transformer Arrives Amid Protest

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Anger erupted among residents of Salmara area under Pingla Police Station in West Medinipur district after the locality remained without electricity for three consecutive days. Frustrated over the failure to restore power despite repeated complaints to the electricity department, a large number of villagers, including women and children, took to the streets and blocked the road in protest. The situation took an interesting turn when a new transformer arrived in the area while the road blockade was underway. Following the arrival of the transformer, the protesters called off their agitation and removed the road

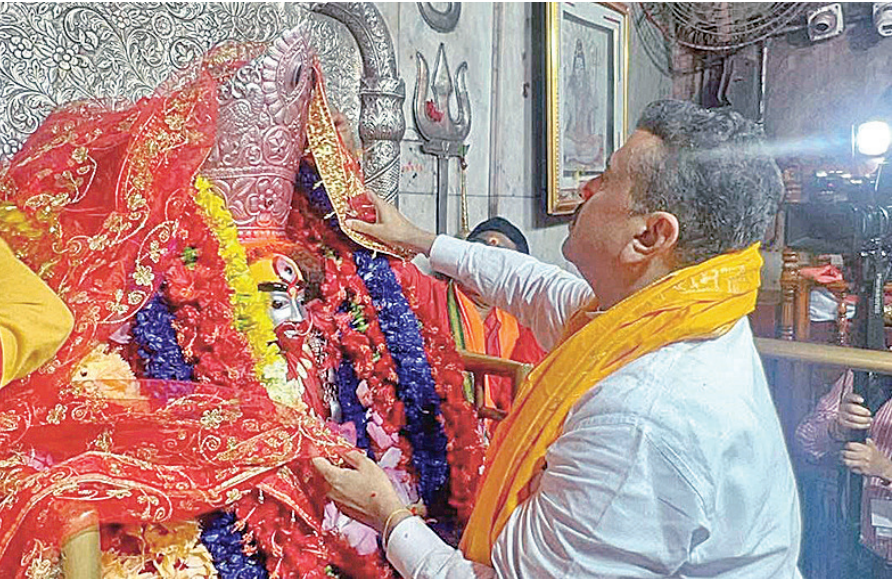


blockade. According to local residents, electricity supply in Salmara had remained completely disrupted for the past three days. Villagers alleged that they had repeatedly contacted the electricity department and informed officials about the problem, but no effective action was taken to restore the power supply. The residents further alleged that

after they repeatedly complained about the outage, their phone numbers were even blocked by the electricity department. The prolonged power failure caused severe inconvenience, particularly amid the prevailing hot weather. Children, elderly people and new mothers were reportedly among those who faced considerable difficulties. Residents also

faced problems in charging mobile phones and arranging drinking water due to the absence of electricity. According to villagers, they had been informed by the electricity department that it would not be possible to provide a replacement transformer before Monday. The assurance further angered the residents, prompting a large number of people to come out on the road. Women and children joined the protest, with villagers placing banana trees and bamboo across the road to prevent traffic movement. The blockade continued for some time, during which a new transformer suddenly arrived in the locality. As

soon as the transformer reached the area, the villagers ended their protest and removed the obstructions from the road. Work to install the new transformer was subsequently initiated. Residents expressed hope that electricity supply would be restored soon after the transformer is installed. After three days of hardship, the arrival of the transformer has brought some relief to the people of Salmara. However, villagers said the electricity department should respond promptly to such complaints in the future so that residents are not forced to take to the streets and launch protests to get basic services restored.



West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari offered prayers and sought the blessings of 'Ma Tara' at the Tarapith Temple in Birbhum, on Saturday.

Price rise, black marketing allegations prompt market checks in Kalyani

MI News Service, Nadia : Allegations of an abnormal rise in prices of essential commodities and possible black marketing prompted a joint market inspection in Kalyani on Thursday, August 27, with officials checking prices, food safety compliance and business practices at Kalyani Market and other local markets.

A joint team comprising Kalyani police, Kalyani Municipality officials and personnel from the Food Safety Department visited several shops and interacted with both traders and consumers. Prices of essential commodities, including sugar, onions and potatoes, were checked as part of the exercise.

Officials said the inspection was aimed at determining whether the recent rise in prices was driven by normal market conditions or whether hoarding, artificial shortages or black marketing were contributing to the increase. Traders were questioned about prevailing prices and the market situation, while consumers were asked about the prices at which they were purchasing essential commodities.

The move comes amid concerns among consumers over the impact of rising prices on household budgets. Several shoppers welcomed the administration's intervention and said regular monitoring



was necessary to prevent traders from artificially inflating prices.

"The inspections are primarily aimed at preventing black marketing. Such drives will continue in the future as well," an official said.

The inspection also focused on food safety. Food Safety officials checked compliance with licensing requirements and advised food traders to maintain valid food licences and follow prescribed food safety regulations.

Officials indicated that the exercise would not be treated as a one-day inspection and that similar drives would be conducted in other areas. The administration's focus is now on maintaining closer surveillance of essential commodity prices and acting against any instance of hoarding or black marketing found during subsequent inspections.

Nabadwip gets rainwater harvesting push to recharge groundwater

MI News Service, Nadia : With groundwater levels showing signs of decline and concerns over future water stress, Nabadwip Municipality has launched a rainwater conservation drive under the Centre-state 'Catch the Rain' initiative. Awareness campaigns have begun across all 24 wards, while rainwater harvesting structures are planned at 10 locations across the town. The initiative is being implemented under a joint programme of the Centre and state governments through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Municipality officials said the campaign is being conducted across 128 municipalities in the state, but only four-Burdwan, Asansol, Purulia and Nabadwip-have been selected for creation of dedicated rainwater harvesting infrastructure.

Nabadwip is the only municipality among Nadia's 11 urban local bodies to have been selected for the infrastructure component of the programme. As part of the campaign, hoardings are being installed at different locations and Nirmal Bandhus and Nirmal Sathi workers are distributing leaflets door-to-door to sensitise residents about rainwater conservation and groundwater recharge.

The proposed harvesting structures will come up at



the Nabadwip municipal administrative building, RCB Saraswat Mandir School, Anand Kanan, Pratapanagar Jyotirmoy Primary School and Manimala Lane, Prachin Mayapur Tentultala, Sri Chaitanya Colony, Ranirchara Pack Company ground, Chotr Math and Manipur Ghat.

According to the municipality, the 10 structures are expected to help conserve around 92,420 cubic metres of rainwater annually. The project has been sanctioned Rs 50 lakh, with Rs 5 lakh earmarked for each structure. The proposed structures will be around 3 metres by 3 metres. Rainwater collected from rooftops will be channelled through pipes into the structures, where layers of sand and stones will help filter the water before it percolates into the ground. Civic authorities said the system is expected to facilitate groundwater recharge and help improve the water table over time.

Construction is sched-

uled to begin in September, with the municipality targeting completion and commissioning of all 10 structures by December. The civic body is also planning to hand over their subsequent maintenance to self-help groups.

Urban infrastructure expert Shaswata Biswas said the project could help strengthen Nabadwip's groundwater reserves and reduce the impact of water scarcity in the future. "Nabadwip's selection among 128 municipalities is significant. Our priority now is to complete the infrastructure quickly and make it functional," he said.

Municipal officials said the project is being planned not merely as a rainwater conservation measure but as a model for groundwater recharge. With increasing dependence on groundwater in urban areas, the civic body hopes the initiative will help retain a larger share of seasonal rainfall within the municipal area instead of allowing it to run off.

MLA Laxmikanta Shaw Inspects Mid-Day Meal at School, Reviews Food Quality and Hygiene

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Concerned about the quality and nutritional standards of mid-day meals served to students, Jhargram MLA



Laxmikanta Shaw made a surprise inspection of Hindu Mission Primary School in the city. His unexpected visit created a buzz on the school premises. During the inspection, the MLA closely reviewed the quality and nutritional value of the food being prepared for the students, along with the overall cleanliness and hygiene arrangements. He also checked whether the children were being served meals according to the prescribed guidelines. Shaw interacted with the school teachers as well as the cooks responsible for preparing the mid-day meals. He enquired about the food preparation process, hygiene practices and the arrangements for serving meals to the students. He also sought information about whether students or school staff had faced any problems or complaints regarding the mid-day meal programme. Speaking during the visit, Laxmikanta Shaw said that providing students with clean, hygienic and nutritious food is a primary responsibility of the government. He stressed that along with education, proper attention must be given to children's health and nutrition for their better future. The MLA also urged the school authorities to maintain high standards of food quality and cleanliness. He made it clear that any negligence in the food provided to children would not be acceptable. Shaw further said that he would continue to monitor such arrangements in the future to ensure that students receive safe, nutritious and properly prepared meals.

IIT Kharagpur Students Make Aircraft in Four Months, Win Global Recognition in US Competition

MI News Service, Kharagpur : A 21-member team of students from Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT Kharagpur) has made the institution proud with an impressive performance at the international AIAA Aircraft Design, Build and Fly Competition, held in Wichita, Kansas, in the United States.

Participating in the competition for the first time, the IIT Kharagpur team secured 39th position globally and fifth position in Asia. Among the participating Indian teams, IIT Kharagpur recorded the highest score. The competition witnessed participation from 1,179 students representing 98 universities across 12 countries, making the achievement particularly significant for the IIT Kharagpur team. One of the most remarkable aspects of the achievement was that the students completed the entire aircraft development process in just four months. From designing the aircraft to its construction, testing and final flight, the team handled every stage within the short timeframe. The students gained hands-on experience in several critical areas of aerospace engineering, including aerodynamics, structures, propulsion, avionics, computer-aided design (CAD) and aircraft manufacturing. According to the institute, the students' strong teamwork and enthusiasm for practical engineering played a major role in the team's success. The project provided the students with an



opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge to a challenging real-world engineering problem. IIT Kharagpur Public Relations Officer Pratik Dama said the team received guidance from Professor Arnab Roy, Anup Ghosh, Nabakumar Peyada, Professor Sandeep Saha and Professor Somesh Kumar. The IIT Kharagpur Foundation and several other supporters also contributed to the team's participation and success. IIT Kharagpur Director Professor Suman Chakraborty said the achievement was not merely about securing a position in an international competition, but marked the beginning of new opportunities for the institute's students on the global stage. The performance has highlighted the students' growing capabilities in aircraft design and practical aerospace engineering while strengthening IIT Kharagpur's presence in international student engineering competitions.

Maulana Mufidul Islam Passes Away

Nurul Islam Khan: MI News Service: Hazrat Hafiz Qari Maulana Mufidul Islam Kalkattabi (RA) passed away at 4 a.m. on Friday. Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un. His demise has cast a deep pall of grief over the scholarly community.



He was a teacher of Ilmul Qira'at (the science of Quranic recitation) and was regarded as a bright star of the country. He was a source of pride for Howrah district. A writer, an accomplished Hafiz and Qari of the Holy Quran, as well as a precise interpreter, he was widely respected in society. He was the founder and director of Madrasa Anisul Quran in Jalalsi, Howrah district. He was also the founder and secretary of the Qira'at Academy in Tarakeswar, Gujarat. As a teacher, he was associated with several educational institutions. He breathed his last at his residence in Tarakeswar, Gujarat. His funeral prayer (Janazah) was offered this afternoon. He rendered extensive service to the

Quran, Qira'at and religious education. Through his tireless efforts in education and teaching, he played a distinguished role in shaping the lives and establishing the careers of thousands of students. The teaching community has expressed condolences to his bereaved family. He had studied at Furfura Sharif. Qari Sahib authored several books, including Mujamul Mutashabihat lil Quran, Khazinatul Uloom Shah-e-Ma'rifatul Rukum, Faiz-e-Anis and Mufidut Tajweed, among others. These works have enriched society and contributed significantly to the study of the Quran and Qira'at. He demonstrated remarkable scholarship by editing and publishing more than 400 books in Urdu and Arabic through the Qira'at Academy he founded. He was 56 years old at the time of his death. Although his ancestral village was in Howrah, he was laid to rest in Gujarat, at the educational institution he had established.

Kulpi TMC leader's house raided, 18 live bombs recovered

MI News Service, South 24 parganas: A major police operation in Kulpi has triggered concern after a cache of explosives and firearms was allegedly recovered from the residence of a Trinamool Congress booth president. Acting on a tip-off from a confidential source, police raided the house of Moniruzzaman Halder in Daulatpur village under Kulpi police station and allegedly recovered 18 live bombs, one country-made firearm and six rounds of ammunition.

Halder, identified by police as the Trinamool booth president of the area, was arrested in connection with the recovery. He was subsequently produced before the Diamond Harbour court, where police sought his custody for further interrogation. The recovery has raised serious questions over the source and intended use of the explosives and firearms. Investigators are now attempting to establish how the weapons reached the house, who supplied them and whether the arrested Trinamool functionary was acting alone or as part of a wider network. Accord-

ing to police, the raid was conducted after specific information was received regarding the alleged storage of arms and explosives at the premises. Following the recovery, the seized materials were taken into custody and an investigation was launched to determine their origin and purpose. The discovery of a substantial quantity of live bombs at a residential premises has intensified attention on the security situation in the area. Police are also examining whether the recovered weapons were intended for use in any planned act of violence or were being stockpiled for some other purpose. Officials are expected to question the accused on these aspects during custodial interrogation. Investigators are also looking into possible links with other individuals and whether additional arms or explosives may have been concealed elsewhere. Searches and further questioning could follow depending on the findings of the initial investigation. The case has assumed significance because of the explosives recovered in a single raid.

National Sports Day celebrated at Guskara College

MI News Service, Guskara : National Sports Day was observed on Saturday on the initiative of Guskara College. On this occasion, archery and football competitions were held among the college students. The competitions were formally inaugurated by the state's Minister of State for Housing, Kalita Maji, and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Burdwan Sadar (North), Loknath Sarkar. College physical education department lecturer Manisha Mondal said that a total of 20 students participated in the archery competition. In the football competition, students of the Physical Education and Political Science departments faced each other. The Physical Education department defeated the Political Science department 2-0. Akash Hansda of the winning team was selected as the best player after scoring 2 goals. The students were presented with prizes by the college principal, Sudip Chattopadhyay.



On this day, the area's MLA and the state's Minister of State for the Housing Department, Kalita Maji, also assured that a high-mast light would be installed at Guskara College. The college authorities informed her that although work to install a high-mast light on the college grounds had been started from the fund of the previous MLA, it was ultimately

not completed. This has been causing inconvenience to the college students. The foundation for the high-mast light has been lying unfinished on the grounds in front of the college hostel for a long time. Following this, the minister assured the college authorities that the light would be installed.

While speaking, Kalita said, students are our future. Studies are good at this college. Along with that, students are provided with physical training as well as various employment-oriented courses. This will brighten the students' future.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate also discussed how important physical exercise is.

Grant uncertainty leaves Tehatta pujas in limbo

MI News Service, Nadia : With Durga Puja preparations gathering pace, several puja committees in Tehatta subdivision are still waiting for clarity on government grants, leaving their budgets in limbo. The new BJP government in West Bengal has indicated a shift away from the earlier blanket grant system towards need-based assistance, but the exact amount, eligibility criteria and list of beneficiaries for this year are yet to be formally communicated at the local level.

The uncertainty has particularly worried small and medium-sized puja committees in the border subdivision. Organisers said they normally factor in the government grant while planning expenditure on pandals, lighting, idols and cultural programmes. With the grant amount still unclear, many committees are reluctant to finalise their budgets or commit themselves to larger expenses.

The political change in the state has added another layer of uncertainty. Following the 2026 Assembly elections, the BJP formed the government in West Bengal under chief minister Suvendu Adhikari. The new administration subsequently indicated that the earlier system of extending financial assistance to all police-approved puja committees would not continue in the same form, with government support instead being focused on committees that genuinely require financial assistance.



The key question for organisers in Tehatta now is how the government's proposed need-based approach will work on the ground. Will committees that received grants last year automatically remain eligible, or will their financial position and requirements be assessed afresh? In the absence of a final guideline, local organisers said they have little clarity on whether to proceed with existing plans or scale them down.

The issue is particularly significant for smaller pujas, many of which depend on limited subscriptions and local contributions. Organisers said any reduction or delay in government assistance could directly affect the scale of their celebrations. Rising expenditure on idols, pandal construction, lighting, dhakis and cultural programmes has added to their concerns.

The government had provided Rs 1.10 lakh to each police-approved puja committee in 2025 under the previous system. The new administration has, however, indicated that it intends to move away from universal assistance. A recent report said around 75% of puja committees, particularly those with budgets below 10 lakh, were likely to continue receiving support, although the government had not disclosed the amount at that stage.

For Tehatta's organisers, therefore, the issue is no longer merely about the amount of the grant. The bigger concern is the eligibility framework and when the final decision will be communicated. With preparations already underway, any late announcement could leave committees with little room to revise contracts, bookings or expenditure plans.

Local police officials and elected representatives, when contacted, said they had not yet received a final directive or clear communication on the grant for this year's pujas.

Organisers said an early decision was essential, particularly for smaller committees operating on tight budgets. With Puja preparations moving ahead, the question confronting Tehatta's organisers is simple: how can they finalise their plans when the government's grant policy-and the amount they may receive-remains uncertain?

Bengal Plans 45-Cr Mega Tourism Proj, Hybrid Ferries for Sundarbans



MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is planning a 45-crore mega project to modernise the state's tourism infrastructure, with a focus on sustainable infrastructure, green mobility and eco-friendly tourism. As part of the initiative, the state Tourism Department has signed an agreement with Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd for the development of hybrid ferries and Bailey bridges. Tourism Minister Shankar Ghosh on Saturday announced a series of plans aimed at placing West Bengal at a prominent position on the global tourism map. Speaking at a special press

conference organised in Kolkata, Ghosh unveiled the blueprint for a modern and environmentally sustainable tourism system in the state. According to the minister, the 45-crore project will be built around three key pillars — sustainable infrastructure, green mobility and eco-friendly tourism. He said the proposed infrastructure would be developed in line with the policies and directions outlined by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. A major component of the initiative is the introduction of hybrid waterways vessels connecting Kolkata with the Sundarbans. The government plans to use modern hybrid vessels to transport tourists directly

from Kolkata to the Sundarbans, allowing them to enjoy a longer journey by water while reducing dependence on road transport. Highlighting the ecological importance of the Sundarbans, Ghosh said the region was not only known for the Royal Bengal Tiger but also for its vast mangrove forests. He said waterways would therefore be given greater priority in developing tourism in the region. The Tourism Department has also planned an alternative strategy to address the lack of direct charging stations in the Sundarbans. The hybrid vessels will be designed to reach the peripheral areas of the Sundarbans, ensuring greater convenience for tourists. The state government expects the initiative to boost the tourism economy of the Sundarbans while making travel to the region more comfortable, convenient and environmentally friendly. The project is also aimed at attracting more domestic and international tourists and promoting sustainable tourism across West Bengal.

Agnimitra Paul Urges Citizens to Join Kolkata Cleanliness Drive



MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Urban Development Minister Agnimitra Paul has appealed to Kolkata residents to take greater responsibility for keeping the city clean, stressing that the government alone cannot maintain cleanliness or prevent diseases such as dengue. Speaking in Ballygunge, Paul said civic authorities and institutions could not accomplish the task without public participation. She urged residents to maintain hygiene, prevent waterlogging and ensure that their homes and surroundings remained clean. "Why do I have to keep scolding people? Everyone needs to take responsibility. We have to maintain cleanliness and remain alert to prevent dengue. We must not allow stagnant water to accumulate at home," Paul said. She also praised civic workers who provide services throughout the year, calling them the "real heroes" of the city. Paul said the government would adopt a stricter approach towards the use of banned plastic and public littering. She said merely imposing fines on people who

spit or throw waste on roads would not be enough. Those found violating the rules could instead be asked to clean the spot themselves, with the process recorded and uploaded on social media. The minister was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a blood donation camp organised at Ballygunge police station, where she also addressed several civic and political issues. On the recent Camac Street billboard controversy, Paul said action had been taken because the heavy hoarding posed a serious safety risk. She said there was a possibility of the structure collapsing and causing casualties if it fell. Paul also announced that the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Metro Railway would conduct a joint cleanliness and dengue-prevention drive. She warned owners of vacant plots that they would be responsible for keeping their properties clean, even if they did not reside there. Failure to maintain such premises could invite action, she said. The minister also responded to former Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's claim that the Trinamool Congress would return to power. Paul said it was good that Banerjee was hopeful but advised her to "wait patiently" in view of what she described as alleged wrongdoing committed during the previous government. On the issue of Trinamool Congress meetings being held while keeping roads open for traffic, Paul alleged that the party had ignored court directions in the past. She said such practices would no longer be allowed and stressed that everyone would have to comply with court orders and the law.

Death toll surges to 670 in Nepal flash floods

► **Continued from page 1**
Bhotekoshi River rose. Chinese authorities have already warned that a new barrier lake is forming near the river's source in Tibet and alerted that the lake could breach, increasing the risk of fresh floods in downstream areas of Nepal. Nepal remained on alert on Saturday as search teams looked for the missing, thousands stayed displaced, and weather warnings added to concerns over further flooding in the disaster-hit areas. Incidentally amid all these, more than Rs 2.295 billion has been donated to Nepal Prime Minister's Disaster Relief Fund since massive flash floods wreaked havoc in the Himalayan nation. "More than Rs 2.295 billion has been donated to Nepal Prime Minister's Disaster Relief Fund since massive flash floods battered the Himalayan nation, as the government steps up relief and rescue efforts in the affected areas", official sources said. Following the floods, the Nepal government declared the affected areas disaster zones, leading to contributions from various organisations and individuals to the relief fund. According to sources at the Prime Minister's Office, the fund received Rs 1.91 billion within 36 hours from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday midnight, while assistance worth Rs 385.5 million was donated on Friday alone. With the latest contributions, the fund's balance has gone up to Rs 4.09 billion from Rs 2.17 billion. The government has designated the Ministry of Finance as the focal ministry for collecting contributions and coordinating assistance. The ministry said the deposits were made to accounts held at 10 different commercial banks. According to government sources, Finance Minister Swarnim Wagle has been personally accepting contributions of Rs 10 million or more from institutional donors.

FM Sitharaman in the US for G20 talks and meeting with...
► **Continued from page 1**
financial and institutional linkages between India and the United States, it said. During her visit to New York, NASDAQ will host Sitharaman in the traditional and prestigious bell-ringing ceremony. The visit will provide an opportunity to gain insights into developments in technology-driven financial markets and the evolving interface between technology and capital markets, the official statement said. Earlier in Canada, she attended the inaugural India-Canada Economic and Financial Dialogue in Toronto and also met investors and businesses from sectors including energy, artificial intelligence and critical minerals. The discussions focused on strengthening economic and financial co-operation and creating greater opportunities for investment and business between the two countries in the midst of the present strained trade relations between the US and Canada over the imposition of 50 per cent tariff on each other's export.



People participate in a rally carrying placards and a portrait of poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, organised by the Nazrul Islam Ardhshatabarsiki Prayanbarsha Smaran Committee to commemorate the poet in Kolkata on Saturday.

Prepaid smart meters to go live in 44,000 State Govt offices from Sept

MI News Service, Kolkata: Prepaid smart electricity meters will become operational in around 44,000 government offices across West Bengal from September, with the installation process expected to be completed by August 31, according to the West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (WBSEDCL). The initiative to introduce prepaid smart meters across government offices was taken after the BJP government came to power in the state. Chief Secretary Manoj Agarwal had written to heads of various government departments, the Director General of Police and district magistrates, setting a deadline for the installation of the meters. According to WBSEDCL, smart meters will be activated in nearly



44,000 government offices by the end of August. However, the state has close to 90,000 government offices, and the government aims to eventually cover all of them under the prepaid smart metering system. Officials in charge of government offices have also been directed to register their mobile numbers on the WBSEDCL portal. The registered numbers will be used to send information regarding outstanding electricity dues, payment deadlines and other important billing details. Before prepaid billing begins, WBSEDCL will issue a final postpaid electricity bill to eligible government offices. The bill will have to be paid within 10 days from the date of its generation. If the payment is not made within the stipulated period, the outstanding amount will subsequently be adjusted against the prepaid account. The new system will

apply to government offices currently receiving postpaid electricity bills from WBSEDCL and having a sanctioned electricity load of up to 50 kW. Departments that have not yet registered the mobile numbers of their designated officials have been instructed to complete the process at the earliest. The procedure for registration has also been communicated to the concerned departments. The move is part of the government's efforts under the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to improve the financial health and efficiency of electricity distribution companies. Under the scheme's guidelines, installation of prepaid smart meters in government offices has been made mandatory.



West Bengal Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs and Tourism Purnima Chakraborty paid floral tribute to revolutionary poet Kazi Nazrul Islam at a special programme, 'Kothay O Gaane Nazrul Smarane', organised by the West Bengal Kazi Nazrul Islam Academy and the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of West Bengal, to commemorate the poet's death anniversary at Shishir Mancha in Kolkata on Saturday.

Abhishek's Camac St Office Faces Occupancy Row

MI News Service, Kolkata: Trinamool Congress leader Abhishek Banerjee's Camac Street office in Kolkata has become embroiled in another controversy, days after a dispute over the removal of a billboard. The owners of the building have alleged that the Trinamool Youth Congress violated the terms of a 2020 agreement and occupied two floors of the property by allegedly using political influence. The property owner has reportedly sent a legal notice to the Kalighat-Trinamool unit, alleging that several conditions of the agreement were not followed. The agreement for the premises at 9 Camac Street was signed in 2020 by the Trinamool Youth Con-

gress. Trinamool leader Debraj Chakraborty, who is currently in jail, had signed the agreement on behalf of the organisation. According to the owners, they repeatedly requested the organisation to obtain the necessary completion certificate (CC), but the document was allegedly not provided. Despite this, the two floors were allegedly occupied. The owners have also claimed that a billboard was installed on the building without informing them. Advocate Sagnika Banerjee said the owners had initially raised objections but received no response. She said a legal notice had now been served and warned that further action would be taken if there was no re-

sponse, including approaching the police and subsequently the court. Urban Development Minister Agnimitra Paul said the alleged illegal occupation would be examined, including the property records, tax payments and whether the occupation was legally valid. The latest controversy follows Thursday's clash over the removal of a billboard outside Abhishek Banerjee's Camac Street office. Kolkata Municipal Corporation officials, accompanied by police, arrived to remove the structure, which they alleged was illegal and dangerous. A confrontation reportedly broke out between Trinamool workers, civic officials and police personnel.

ABVP Seeks Guv's Intervention Over JU Issues

MI News Service, Kolkata : The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) has approached West Bengal Governor and Jadavpur University Chancellor R N Ravi, raising questions over recent developments at the university and demanding greater administrative transparency. An ABVP delegation submitted a memorandum to the Governor, seeking action on several issues, including alleged irregularities in PhD admissions, claims of anti-national activities and the alleged damage to a historic plaque. The student organisation has demanded a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the alleged PhD-related corruption and sought prompt action against Professor Rajeshwar Sinha over the allegations concerning anti-national activities and the reported damage to the traditional plaque. The delegation also demanded an impartial investigation into allegations against JUTA general secretary Parthapratim Roy. ABVP state secretary Nilkantha Bhattacharya was

among those who met the Governor. Bhattacharya said an impartial investigation into every allegation was necessary to protect the university's heritage, maintain a normal academic environment and ensure transparency in its administration. The development comes amid heightened political tensions surrounding Jadavpur University. Chief Minister Suvedu Adhikari also voiced support for the ABVP's demands and launched a strong attack on the university's Left-backed student politics during a 'Vande Mataram' programme at Jadavpur. Referring to the ABVP's activities at several universities, Adhikari said, "Hyderabad University, Osmania University, Delhi or JNU — the ABVP has taken on the Left everywhere. Jadavpur is the only one left. That too will be done." His remarks, along with the ABVP delegation's approach to the Governor, have triggered fresh debate over the political atmosphere on the Jadavpur campus.

Fresh Low-Pressure System Triggers Heavy Rain Alert Across South Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: The respite from persistent low-pressure systems appears to be short-lived, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) warning of another spell of heavy to very heavy rain across Kolkata and several districts of South Bengal. According to the Alipore Regional Meteorological Centre, a fresh low-pressure area has developed over the West Bengal-Odisha coast and is likely to influence weather conditions in the region. Rainfall activity is expected to remain high in South Bengal until Monday, with Kolkata also likely to receive heavy

showers. The intensity of rain is expected to increase on Sunday. A yellow alert for heavy rainfall will remain in force in parts of the region until Tuesday. Several South Bengal districts may also experience thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds reaching speeds of 30-40 kmph. Odisha has been placed under a red alert, with the state expected to receive heavier rainfall under the influence of the system. Kolkata, Howrah, Hooghly, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, and East and West Midnapore are among the areas likely to receive heavy rain.



On Sunday, an orange alert for very heavy rainfall has been issued for East and West Midnapore. A yellow alert will remain in force for South 24 Parganas, Bankura, Jhargram and Howrah. The weather office has also forecast heavy rain in Bankura and Jhar-

gram on Tuesday, with a yellow alert issued for the two districts. North Bengal is also expected to receive thunderstorms and rain across all districts. Isolated heavy rainfall is likely in some areas, with yellow alerts issued for a few districts. Rainfall activity may increase in North Bengal from Monday, particularly in the northern districts. Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri and Alipurdwar are likely to experience isolated spells of heavy rain. The weather office has advised residents and travellers to remain cautious during thunderstorms and periods of

intense rainfall. Meanwhile, Kolkata recorded a minimum temperature of 27.2 degrees Celsius on Saturday. The maximum temperature on Friday was 32.6 degrees Celsius. Relative humidity in the city remained high, ranging between 69 and 94 per cent. The latest weather system is expected to keep skies predominantly cloudy and maintain humid conditions across Kolkata and adjoining areas. Residents have been advised to remain alert, particularly in areas vulnerable to waterlogging and during periods of heavy rain and strong winds.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Yamin (Old Name), Son Of Rizwana Parveen, Resident Of T-1702/Mitha Talab, Ps-Raja Bagan, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Yamin (Old Name) To Md Yamin (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Yamin (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 27 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Md Yamin (New Name) And Mohammad Yamin (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sushmita (Old Name), Wife Of Kanai Biswas, Resident Of Vill-Roypur, Po-Panchita, Ps-Bongaon, North 24 Parganas, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sushmita (Old Name) To Susmita Biswas (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Susmita Biswas (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 31 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Susmita Biswas (New Name) And Sushmita (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Aminur Sk (Old Name), Son Of Md Muslim, Resident Of Vill-Dona, Po-Gopalpurhat, Ps-Falta, South 24 Parganas-743504, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Aminur Sk (Old Name) To Md Aminur (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Aminur (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 34 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Md Aminur (New Name) And Md Aminur Sk (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Siliguri resident Samar Mondal remains missing in Nepal; CM assures family of all possible help

MI News Service, Siliguri: Concern continues to grow over Siliguri resident Samar Mondal, who went missing in Nepal while on a Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra. Amid the devastating natural disaster and flash floods in Nepal, there has been no information about Samar's whereabouts so far.

Meanwhile, West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari spoke to Samar's family through a video conference and assured them that the state government would extend all possible assistance. Following the severe natural disaster in Nepal, over 30 tourists from West Bengal have been reported missing. The state government has been maintaining contact with the families of the missing tourists and providing updates on the ongoing relief and rescue operations. As part of these efforts, the Chief Minister also spoke virtually with Samar's family.

During the video conference, Suvendu Adhikari assured the family that every possible effort was being made to trace the missing persons and ensure their safe return. He also assured them that the state government would stand by the family during the difficult situation. On Friday night, Siliguri Police Commissioner Syed Waqar Raza visited Samar's residence. ACP Robin Thapa, Bhakti Nagar Police Station IC Maheshwar Majhi and Ashighar Outpost OC Hirukanti Sarkar accompanied him.

The police officials met Samar's family members and took detailed information about the situation. The Police Commissioner assured the family of all possible assistance from the administration and said necessary communication and efforts to trace Samar were continuing.

The family is now closely watching the ongoing relief and rescue operations in Nepal and waiting anxiously for any information about Samar.

Forest Minister orders creation of tourism circuit, project involving two districts

MI News Service, Alipurduar: The forest department has planned to develop a new tourism circuit in East Dooars by connecting Cooch Behar and Alipurduar. Apart from bringing one-horned rhinos to the Rasmati forest in Patlakhawa and Cooch Behar, south of Jaldapara National Park, the forest minister has ordered the preparation of a DPR (Details Project Report) to further develop the 'Rasikbil Mini Zoo'. He recently visited Patlakhawa and Rasikbil. After that, the forest officials were instructed to prepare the DPR.

At one time, the Rasmati forest was the hunting ground of the Koch kings. At that time, there were many one-horned rhinos there. But over time, due to encroachment of forest land and expansion of settlements, the rhinos left the area. That is why the forest department has taken a plan to release new rhinos. It has been planned to start a jungle safari to develop the Patlakhawa forest as a new attraction for tourists.

After the Forest Minister ordered the preparation of the DPR, the Forest Department has started examining the possible routes, infrastructure, environmental impact and security measures. The 'Mini Zoo' of Rasikbeel, one of the most popular tourist destinations in Cooch Behar. There are now several wildlife species including leopards, different species of deer, gharials. However, plans are being made to bring many more wildlife species within the next one



year. There is sufficient land for the expansion of Rasikbeel. As a result, thoughts are being raised on how to provide modern quality habitats, new infrastructure for visitors and educational tours.

Local tourists flock to Rasikbil on Sundays and other holidays. The forest department hopes that the number of tourists will increase further if the new plan is implemented. The forest minister said, "Efforts are being made to create a complete tourism circuit in East Dooars centered around Alipurduar. People should get the opportunity to visit Alipurduar and Cooch Behar for at least five to six days."

According to tourism experts, if Jaldapara, Buxa, Jayanti, Chilapata, Dakshin Khairbari, Rasikbil, Patlakhawa, Cooch Behar Rajbari and other heritage sites are linked together, the tourist flow to North Bengal will increase. As a result, the local economy will expand.

Name Change
I, Sk Mehtabuddin (Old Name), Son Of Sekh Shamsuddin, Resident Of T-21/A/1-Akra Road, Ps-Raja Bagan, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sk Mehtabuddin (Old Name) To Seikh Mehtabuddin (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Seikh Mehtabuddin (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 26 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Seikh Mehtabuddin (New Name) And Sk Mehtabuddin (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mrinal Anthony Rebeiro (Old Name), Son Of Denis Rebeiro, Resident Of 33/3/1, Sajnaberia (Julpia Road), Kolkata(Mc), Po-R-C Thakurani, Ps-Haridevpur, Kolkata-700104, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mrinal Anthony Rebeiro (Old Name) To Mrinal Rebeiro (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Mrinal Rebeiro (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 75885 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 27/08/2026. Mrinal Rebeiro (New Name) And Mrinal Anthony Rebeiro (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Anna Biswas S/o, Late Khagen Biswas, Resident Of Chargeth Purba Para, P.O.- Chargeth, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743247, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my father's name from Khogen Biswas (Old Name) to Khagen Biswas (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Khagen Biswas (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 25/08/2026. Khagen Biswas (new name) and Khogen Biswas (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Nasim Banu (Old Name), Wife Of Danish Parvez, Resident Of Q-200, Pathar Pota, Lane, Ps-Metia Burz, Kolkata-700024, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Nasim Banu (Old Name) To Nasim Bano (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Nasim Bano (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 25 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Nasim Bano (New Name) And Nasim Banu (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ashoke Majumdar (Old Name), Son Of Late Gouranga Chandra Mazumdar, Resident Of 201, 1 Jnanendra Avenue, Uttarpara, Kotrung(M), Hooghly-712258, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Ashoke Majumdar (Old Name) To Ashok Majumdar (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Ashok Majumdar (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 29 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Ashok Majumdar (New Name) And Ashoke Majumdar (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ravi Goenka (Old Name), Son Of Late Om Prakash Goenka, Resident Of Rukmani Parasmani, Flat-2, Pz 92/1b, Moulaana Abul Kalam Azad Sarani Kankurgachi, Kolkata-700054, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Ravi Goenka (Old Name) To Ravi Prakash Goenka (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Ravi Prakash Goenka (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 41 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Ravi Prakash Goenka (New Name) And Ravi Goenka (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Change of Name
I, Sourav Kumar Rai, S/o, Sri Sunil Kumar Rai, residing at 13A, Kashi Doctor Lane, P.O. & P.S.-Serampore, Dist.- Hooghly, Pin-712201 do hereby declare that in my driving licence being no. WB17 2024 0005831 wherein my name has been recorded as **Sourav Rai** in place of **Sourav Kumar Rai**. That **Sourav Kumar Rai** & **Sourav Rai** is same one & identical person vide affidavit no. 17942, dt. 21.08.2026 sworn before the Ld. First Class Judicial Magistrate at serampore, Hooghly.

PH.D.Notification

Scholar Name:Sudhan-shu Shekhar (Enrl. No. AU211364)
S/oSri Sachida NandSingh & Smt. Saraswati Devi Rabindranath Tagore University, Bhopal(M.P.)
Subject: Department of Physical Education, Faculty: Faculty of Education
Thesis Title:"PHYSICAL FITNESS AND GENERAL WELLBEING OF UNDER NINETEEN CRICKET AND VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THEIR STRESS MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC"

Supervisor:Dr.Vikas Saxena
Ph.D. Viva-voce Examination - 30/04/2026
Notification -RNTU/Education/Conf./Ph.D./2026/1033.Dated: 31/07/2026

The viva-voce examination of the candidate has been successfully completed in accordance with



assessed using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale (WEMWBS) and the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS). Which highlights the importance of a holistic approach to youth sports, with emphasis not only on physical performance but also mental health and stress management.

The objectives of the investigation in the current research are to investigate the health-related physical fitness of players: cardiovascular stability, conditioning and muscular endurance.

This physical education research includes three different levels of educational domain: Psychomotor Area ("level of functioning"), Cognitive Domain ("level of knowledge") and Affective Sphere ("level of emotional").

Name Change
I, Rahul Ganatra, Son Of Shri Anup Ganatra, Resident Of Avani Oxford Phase-2, Block-1, Flat-14a,136,Jessore Road, Near Barat Bus Stop, Bangur Avenue, Po-Bangur Avenue, PS-Lake Town, North 24 Parganas-700055, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Daughter's Name From Avanyaa R Ganatra (Old Name) To Avanyaa Ganatra (New Name) And Henceforth She Shall Be Known As Avanyaa Ganatra (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 1299 Sworn Before The Ld 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Bidhannagar On 12/08/2026. Avanyaa Ganatra (New Name) And Avanyaa R Ganatra (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Container truck hits family on Nashik-Mumbai Highway, one killed

MI News Service, Mumbai: A tragic road accident occurred near the eighth mile area on the Nashik-Mumbai highway when a speeding container truck hit four members of the same family who were walking along the road, police officials said on Saturday. The accident left the father critically injured, while his three children also sustained injuries. The injured were immediately taken to Nashik District Hospital. However, doctors declared the father dead after examination. The deceased has been identified as Bhagirath Devaram Made, 45. His children -- Mayur Bhagirath Made (16), Shyam Bhagirath Made (6), and Devyani Bhagirath Made (8) - were injured in the accident. The three children are currently undergoing treatment.

According to preliminary information shared by the police, Bhagirath Made was walking along the road with his three children when a speeding container truck struck them. All four sustained injuries in the collision, the police said.

After receiving information about the

accident, emergency assistance was provided and the injured were transported to Nashik District Hospital in a free ambulance, police added. Despite all the efforts to take the injured to hospital timely, Bhagirath Made was declared dead by doctors, the police said.

Police reached the spot soon after the accident and took the container driver into custody. Authorities are investigating the circumstances that led to the crash. The investigators are also trying to determine whether negligence or any other factor was responsible for the accident.

According to officials, the accident has once again raised concerns about pedestrian safety on the busy Nashik-Mumbai Highway.

Officials said that heavy traffic moves throughout the day on the highway where pedestrians are always at the risk.

Motorists have been urged to control their speed and drive carefully, particularly in areas where pedestrians are present, the police officials said.

Punjab: BJP slams state govt over show cause notices to striking employees

MI News Service, Chandigarh: Punjab Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Kewal Singh Dhillon on Saturday condemned the state government's decision to issue show cause notices to lakhs of employees who took mass leave in support of their demands.

The BJP's stand comes in the wake of the government directing all state administrative secretaries and heads of departments to issue notices to employees who participated in the August 27 mass casual leave.

Dhillon said that in an attempt to hide its failures and financial mismanagement, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government had resorted to attacking the rights of employees and threatening them.

He added that issuing notices to employees who took leave as per rules to raise their legitimate demands was highly condemnable.

He said that in a democracy, the government's responsibility was to listen to the voice of its employees and resolve their demands, rather than suppressing them through notices and threats. Dhillon pointed out that AAP leaders, including Arvind Kejriwal and Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, had earlier participated in employees' protests and made promises in support of their demands.

He alleged that after coming to power,



the same employees were now being treated as a burden and a challenge.

He said employees were the backbone of any government, as administration, education, healthcare, governance and public services function because of their hard work. In such a situation, the government's arrogant and threatening attitude was condemnable and exposed its dictatorial mindset. Government services across Punjab were impacted on August 27, with over three lakh employees of almost all departments, boards and corporations going on strike. They were joined by nearly four lakh pensioners.

The impact of the "Maha Hartal" was also seen in government hospitals, dispensaries and educational institutes. However, markets, private establishments, buses and emergency services were exempted from the shutdown.

NAME CHANGE
I, Swapana Sen (formerly known as Julekha Begum), D/o.- Naren Sen, R/o.- 19, Manujendra Dutta Road, Dum Dum, Cantonment, Kol-28 that, after accepting religion of Islam (after marriage) to Hindu, want to change my name & be known as from Julekha Begum to Swapana Sen in all official, legal, private & public records, vide an Affidavit Sl. No. 793, dtd. 24.08.2024, before the Notary Public at Kolkata. That, Swapana Sen & Julekha Begum both are same & one identical person, i.e. myself Swapna Sen.

Change of Name
I, PARAMJEET KAUR NAGI W/o GURMIT SINGH NAGI, resident at -13/1, Chhota Tengra, Keshiyari road near State Hospital, P.O.- Kharagpur P.S. - Kharagpur(T), Dist.- Paschim Medinipur, 731301, W.B., shall henceforth be known as PARAMJIT KAUR NAGI in all purpose as declared vide Affidavit No. 11061 In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, at Kharagpur on dated 27/08/2026. PARAMJEET KAUR NAGI and PARAMJIT KAUR NAGI both are same and one identical person.

Change of Name
I, DEBASHIS S/o K.N. Chatterjee, residing at Suruma Kuthir, South Inda, Near Diamond Villa, P.O. Kharagpur, P.S. Kharagpur Town, Dist. Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal-721301, shall henceforth be known as DEBASHIS CHATTERJEE and my minor son's actual/correct name is SASMIT CHATTERJEE instead of SASMIT for all purpose as declared vide affidavit No. 11052 In the Court of Ld. Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, at Kharagpur on dated 27/08/2026. DEBASHIS & DEBASHIS CHATTERJEE and SASMIT & SASMIT CHATTERJEE both are same and one identical person i.e. myself and my son.

Name Change
I, Sweta Nemish Bhimani (Old Name), Wife Of Nemish D Bhimani, Resident Of 57ab, Paddapukur Road, Bhawanipore, Kolkata- 700020, West Bengal, Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sweta Nemish Bhimani (Old Name) To Sweta N Bhimani (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sweta N Bhimani (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 37 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Sweta N Bhimani (New Name) And Sweta Nemish Bhimani (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Khalid Hossain (Old Name), S/o Abdus Selim, Resident of 2nd Floor, BL-A, Flat-B/52, Manna Para Road, Baranagar, P.O.- Noapara, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700090, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Khalid Hossain (Old Name) to Khalid Hossain (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Khalid Hossein (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 27/08/2026. Khalid Hossein (new name) and Khalid Hossain (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ashok Kumar Keshori (Old Name), Son Of Kashi Nath Keshori, Resident Of 18/D/3, Ho Chi Minh Nagar, Parnaseek, Kolkata-700061, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Ashok Kumar Keshori (Old Name) To Ashok Keshori (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Ashok Keshori (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 39 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Ashok Keshori (New Name) And Ashok Kumar Keshori (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Manowar Ali Molla (Old Name), Son Of Anwar Ali Molla, Resident Of T-398/A Panch Para Road, Ps-Raja Bagan, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Manowar Ali Molla (Old Name) To Manwar Ali Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Manwar Ali Molla (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 22 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Manowar Ali Molla (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Dilip Kumar Chhototal Bhimani (Old Name), Son Of Late Chhototal Nanji Bhimani, Resident Of 57a, Paddapukur Road, Bhawanipore, Kolkata- 700020, West Bengal, Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Dilip Kumar Chhototal Bhimani (Old Name) To Dilip Chhototal Bhimani (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Dilip Chhototal Bhimani (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit No 36 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Dilip Chhototal Bhimani (New Name) And Dilip Kumar Chhototal Bhimani (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abdul Selim (Old Name), S/o Sekh Tahar Ali, Resident of Tarajol Hatni, Hooghly, Pin- 712134, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Abdul Selim (Old Name) to Abdus Selim (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Abdus Selim (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 27/08/2026. Abdus Selim (new name) and Abdul Selim (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Tanmay Mondal, S/o Tushar Mondal, residing at Vill & P.O. - Kolsur, P.S. De-ganga, Dist. - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743438 (W.B.), do hereby declare that my actual Name is Tanmay Mondal and actual Date of Birth is 25/07/1990. In my Birth Certificate, my name was wrongly recorded as Tanumoy Mondal, and in my Voter ID & PAN Card, my D.O.B. was wrongly recorded as 24/09/1990. Both Tanmay Mondal and Tanumoy Mondal are the same and one identical person, as per Affidavit sworn before the Ld. Chief Judicial Magistrate at Barasat on 04/08/2026 (Sl. No. 8918)

Name Change
I, Mohammed Hossain Molla (Old Name), Son Of Yasin Molla, Resident Of U-139/B S A Farooque Road, Ps-Raja Bagan, Kolkata-700018, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammed Hossain Molla (Old Name) To Md Hossain Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Hossain Molla (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 21 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Md Hossain Molla (New Name) And Mohammed Hossain Molla (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Jahane Alam, (Old Name), Son Of Late Mohammad Ruhul Amin Molla, Resident Of Y-328, Panch Para Road, P.O.- Bartala, PS-Rajabgan, Kolkata - 700018, West Bengal, Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Jahane Alam (Old Name) To Mohammed Jane Alam Molla (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Mohammed Jane Alam Molla (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Alipore On 30/07/2026. Mohammed Jane Alam Molla (New Name) And Jahane Alam (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name), Son Of Late Shivo Karan Yadav, Resident Of Siddha Town, Cherry-406 Fourth Floor, East Bera Beri, Po-R.Gopolpur, Ps-Narayanpur, Kolkata-700136, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name) To Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 28 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) And Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Sikander (Old Name), Son Of Md Abbas, Resident Of 87, Muzaffar Ahmed Street, P.O.& PS-Park Street, Kolkata- 700016, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Sikander (Old Name) To Md Sikander (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Sikander (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 37 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Md Sikander (New Name) And Mohammad Sikander (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Swapan Sen (formerly known as Julekha Begum), D/o.- Naren Sen, R/o.- 19, Manujendra Dutta Road, Dum Dum, Cantonment, Kol-28 that, after accepting religion of Islam (after marriage) to Hindu, want to change my name & be known as from Julekha Begum to Swapana Sen in all official, legal, private & public records, vide an Affidavit Sl. No. 793, dtd. 24.08.2024, before the Notary Public at Kolkata. That, Swapana Sen & Julekha Begum both are same & one identical person, i.e. myself Swapna Sen.

Name Change
I, Jahawara (Old Name), Wife Of Naushad Ali, Resident Of H-65-Paharpur Road, Ps-Garden Reach, Kolkata-700024, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Jahawara (Old Name) To Jahan Ara Begum (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Jahan Ara Begum (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 30 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Jahan Ara Begum (New Name) And Jahawara (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name), Son Of Late Shivo Karan Yadav, Resident Of Siddha Town, Cherry-406 Fourth Floor, East Bera Beri, Po-R.Gopolpur, Ps-Narayanpur, Kolkata-700136, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name) To Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 28 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Ravindra Kumar Yadav (New Name) And Ravi ndra Kumar Yadava & Ravindra Kumar Yadava (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Hanzalah (Old Name), Son Of Md Sikander, Resident Of 87, Muzaffar Ahmed Street, P.O.& PS-Park Street, Kolkata-700016, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Hanzalah (Old Name) To Md Hanzalah (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Hanzalah (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 36 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Md Hanzalah (New Name) And Mohammad Hanzalah (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Elderly man dies of panic after mistaking something for a snake while suffering a foot injury in the field

MI News Service, North Dinapur: The mysterious death of an old man while working on his farm has created a stir. The incident took place on Thursday in Gauri village of Gauri gram panchayat in Raiganj. The deceased's name is Jagdish Barman (64). He is a farmer by profession. Although the farmer said that he was bitten by a snake, the family members are skeptical about it.

According to family sources, Jagdish had gone to his land for farming on Thursday. He returned from the land in the afternoon and told his family members that a snake had bitten him on his right leg. Blood was coming out of the wound. He told his family members to take him to the hospital immediately. Without delay, the family members took him to Raiganj Medical College and Hospital. But the doctor on duty there declared Jagdish dead.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Elham (Old Name), Son Of Md Sikander, Resident Of 87, Muzaffar Ahmed Street, P.O.& PS-Park Street, Kolkata- 700016, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Elham (Old Name) To Md Elham (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Elham (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 35 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 24/08/2026. Md Elham (New Name) And Mohammad Elham (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Naosad Ali & Nawasad Ali (Old Name), Son Of Munajir Ali, Resident Of H-65-Paharpur Road, Ps-Garden Reach, Kolkata-700024, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Naosad Ali & Nawasad Ali (Old Name) To Naushad Ali (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Naushad Ali (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 29 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Naushad Ali (New Name) And Naosad Ali & Nawasad Ali (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Jiarul Gazi (Old Name), Son Of Sajal Gazi, Resident Of Dakshin Radhi Para, Po-Taki, Ps-Hasnabad, North 24 Parganas-743429, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Jiarul Gazi (Old Name) To Jiarul Gazi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Jiarul Gazi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 27 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Jiarul Gazi (New Name) And Md Jiarul Gazi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Sayab Sk (Old Name), Son Of Sk Ansar, Resident Of Vill-Gaza, Po-Poali, Ps-Nodakhali, South 24 Parganas-743318, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sayab Sk (Old Name) To Sk Sayab (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sk Sayab (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 35 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Sk Sayab (New Name) And Sayab Sk (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Najim Ali Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Ali Hossain Mondal, Resident Of Ka Khuli Mondal Para, Ps-Rabindra Nagar, Kolkata-700066, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Najim Ali Mondal (Old Name) To Najim Uddin Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Najim Uddin Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 28 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 28/08/2026. Najim Uddin Mondal (New Name) And Najim Ali Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rosaline Jaya Das (Old Name), Daughter Of Philip Das, Resident Of 33/3/1, Sajnaberia (Julpia Road) Po-R C Thakurani, Kolkata-700104, West Bengal Do Herby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Rosaline Jaya Das (Old Name) To Rosaline Rebeiro (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Rosaline Rebeiro (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 26 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 27/08/2026. Rosaline Rebeiro (New Name) And Rosaline Jaya Das (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Study gives insight into effectiveness of CT scan to assess people with chest pain

WASHINGTON [US] : Previous investigations indicated that less than 40 per cent of patients with stable chest discomfort who underwent invasive coronary angiography had obstructive coronary artery disease. Recent randomized clinical trials have shown that using computed tomography angiography (CTA) first in evaluating these patients is beneficial, and a new study presented at the American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular Summit backs up this strategy, finding that CT was associated with a higher likelihood of revascularization when compared to other imaging modalities or no testing.

Stable angina is a type of chest pain that happens when the heart muscle requires more oxygen than usual—for example, under stress, exercise, or cold weather—but does not receive it, frequently due to blocked coronary arteries. Patients with stable angina are typically treated with guideline-directed pharmacological therapy and lifestyle adjustments, but they may also require a coronary revascularization operation to restore enough blood flow and alleviate their symptoms.

"Right now, when a patient presents to their primary care physician or cardiologist with symptoms suspicious for angina, they are commonly referred for additional testing," said Markus Scherer, MD, Director of Cardiac CT and Structural Heart Imaging at Atrium Health-Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute and the study's senior author.

Between October 2022 and June 2023, researchers at Atrium Health-Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina, assessed 786 patients who had no prior diagnosis of coronary artery disease and underwent elective invasive coronary angiography (ICA) for the evaluation of suspected angina. The pre-ICA testing strate-



gies were: no noninvasive testing with direct referral to ICA (44%), stress echocardiogram (3%), stress myocardial perfusion imaging (15%), stress MRI (2%) and coronary CTA (36%). The study cohort had a mean age of 66 years, was 63% male, 37% female, 81% White, 13% Black, 1% Asian, 1% Hispanic and 1% other.

The researchers compared rates of subsequent revascularization between patients whose initial evaluation was coronary CTA versus stress testing or clinical judgement (no testing). The "CT first" strategy was associated with subsequent revascularization in 62% of patients compared to 34% for the combination of other modalities or direct ICA referral.

The 2021 AHA/ACC Guideline for the

Evaluation and Diagnosis of Chest Pain suggests either non-invasive functional imaging or coronary CTA as the initial test without specifying a preference for one or the other.

According to the researchers, there are a multitude of reasons health systems don't currently use a CT first approach, including the availability of high-quality CT scanners; availability of qualified cardiac CT interpreting physicians; and challenges in transitioning to a newer approach after decades of pre-established patterns (i.e. stress testing). Furthermore, a CT first approach is predominantly advocated for patients with unestablished coronary artery disease and does not apply to all, as some

patient factors may reduce the accuracy and utility of coronary CTA.

"While care must be individualized, for patients with unknown or unestablished coronary artery disease, the transition to a 'CT first' strategy should be a high priority for cardiovascular care providers," Scherer said. "The non-invasive approach has a lower risk and cost than a diagnostic heart catheterization and, for the CT approach—but not stress testing—provides information on the absence, presence and extent of coronary atherosclerosis and whether or not there are high risk plaques as well as vessel blockages, which helps streamline patient management and risk reduction."

Since coronary CTA is less expensive than both nuclear myocardial perfusion imaging and ICA, there is a direct cost saving to patients and third-party payers with the CT first approach, according to Scherer. From the perspective of a health system, the most financially efficient evaluation approach becomes more important during the transition to a value-oriented health care system. According to the authors, the study demonstrates "real world" credence to the randomized trials showing similar benefits to a "CT first" strategy and should promote increased adoption of this strategy for the evaluation of patients with chest pain and an unestablished history of coronary artery disease.

"Cardiac catheterization labs are a capital and human resource intensive care environment. Using them for their maximum potential of treating disease, rather than diagnosing it, bring the highest yield for these resources to the health care system," Scherer said.

Artificial intelligence decreases barrier to treating ultrasonic brain illness



Focused ultrasound technology is a non-invasive therapy procedure that employs ultrasound energy to treat neurological problems by focusing it on a few millimetres of the brain, even deep regions, without opening the skull. It has been used to treat a variety of refractory brain illnesses, including depression and Alzheimer's disease because it has a low impact on surrounding healthy tissue and lowers side effects like problems and infections.

However, its application has been limited thus far since it is difficult to reflect the distortion of ultrasound waves generated by the varied shapes of patients' skulls in real time. A research team led by Dr. Kim, Hyungmin of the Bionics Research Center at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) has developed a real-time acoustic simulation technology based on generative AI to predict and correct the distortion of the ultrasound focus position caused by the skull in real-time during focused ultrasound therapy. Until now, the clinical applicability of AI simulation models in the field of non-invasive focused ultrasound therapy technology has not been validated.

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To predict the location of the invisible acoustic focus, navigation systems based on medical images taken before treatment are currently utilized, which provide information about the relative position of the patient and the ultrasound transducer. However, they are limited by their inability to account for the distortion of ultrasound waves caused by the skull, and while various simulation techniques have been used to compensate for this, they still require significant computational time, making them difficult to apply in actual clinical practice.

The research team developed a real-time focused ultrasound simulation technology through an artificial intelligence model based on a generative adversarial neural network (GAN), a deep learning model widely used for image generation in the medical field. The technology reduces the update time of three-dimensional simulation information reflecting changes in ultrasound acoustic waves from 14 s to 0.1 s, while showing an average maximum acoustic pressure error of less than 7% and a focal position error of less than 6mm, both of which are within the error range of existing simulation technologies, increasing the possibility of clinical application.

The research team also developed a medical image-based navigation system to verify the performance of the developed technology in order to rapidly deploy it to real-world clinical practice. The system can provide real-time acoustic simulations at the rate of 5 Hz depending on the position of the ultrasound transducer, and succeeded in predicting the position of the ultrasound energy and focus within the skull in real-time during focused ultrasound therapy.

Previously, due to the long calculation time, the ultrasound transducer had to be precisely positioned in a pre-planned location to utilize the simulation results. However, with the newly developed simulation-guided navigation system, it is now possible to adjust the ultrasound focus based

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

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

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

The findings were reported in the American Medical Association Journal.

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

SDB refers to breathing disturbances during sleep that can range from loud snoring to sleep apnea. SDB affects 6-17% of typically developing children in the United States. Some research indicates that if left untreated, the condition may increase the risk for behavioral problems, reduced quality of life, and cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease and high blood pressure. Researchers and parents are



showing increasing interest in how sleep problems such as sleep apnea might also affect brain development, cognition, and academic performance.

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

The Pediatric Adenotonsillectomy Trial for Snoring (PATS) was a randomized clinical trial that involved 459 children and adolescents with mild SDB who were enrolled at seven academic sleep centers in the

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

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

ties. Sleep outcomes were measured by polysomnography, a standard sleep test that measures breathing, heart rate, eye movement, and other factors.

At the end of the study period, cognition and attention improved in both groups, but improvement was not significantly greater in the children who were treated with surgery compared to the group who did not receive surgery. However, the secondary results of the study did show several beneficial changes in the surgery group. These included less daytime sleepiness, reduced SDB, less snoring, fewer behavioral problems, better quality of life, and lower blood pressure. The children treated with surgery were also less likely to show disease progression into full-blown sleep apnea, the researchers said. Researchers plan to explore the long-term impacts of surgery in this population and note the need to develop improved screening tools that better identify which children are most likely to benefit from adenotonsillectomy.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Neck muscle inflammation primary cause of headache: Study

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nepal to bury unidentified bodies recovered after devastating flash floods

MI News Service, Kathmandu: Nepal authorities have decided to bury 229 unidentified and unclaimed bodies recovered in southern Chitwan district following the devastating floods in the Bhoti Koshi River, citing the risk of infection and the deteriorating condition of the remains.

According to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), a total of 626 bodies recovered from the floods had been collected as of Saturday at 10 a.m. The highest number -- 233 -- were recovered in Chitwan, it said.

As the number of bodies brought in following the massive floods of August 26 continued to rise, Chitwan district has been struggling to prevent the corpses from decomposing due to a lack of adequate space and facilities at hospitals in the district.

After health experts warned that the increasing decomposition and foul smell from the bodies, which had been kept under temporary arrange-



ments, could increase the risk of infection and the spread of an epidemic, the District Security Committee, Chitwan, on Saturday decided to bury all the unidentified and unclaimed bodies.

The District Administration Office, Chitwan, said in a notice that the unclaimed bodies would be buried in an open area in Devghat, in Ward No. 1 of Bharatpur Metropolitan City, beginning Saturday.

The Nepali authorities said that the DNA samples would be collected from all the bodies before burial and records would be maintained using identification or reference numbers to facilitate possible

identification in the future.

A senior official at the DAO said hospitals in Chitwan have adequate facilities to keep only around 30 bodies for a prolonged period at a time.

"As the number of dead bodies piled up, we used a house as a cooling centre where the bodies were kept", the official said. "As the house also ran out of space, we had no alternative but to bury them."

The official said the burial process would follow international guidelines and comply with the necessary provisions under the Unidentified and Unclaimed Bodies Management (First Amendment) Directive, 2083.

US judge throws out confessions of alleged 9/11 mastermind: REPORT

MI News Service, Washington: A US military judge ruled Friday that confessions made by alleged 9/11 attacks mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed to FBI agents are inadmissible and cannot be used against him at trial.

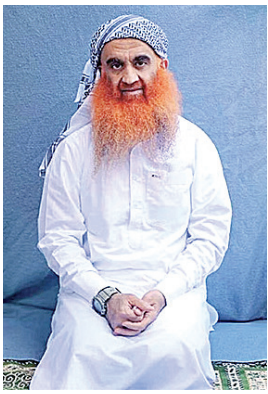
The ruling comes just before the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania.

This week, the trial date for Mohammed and three others accused plotters was set for June 5, 2028 at the US naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Mohammed, also known as "KSM," was considered one of Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden's top lieutenants before he was captured in March 2003 in Pakistan.

Prosecutors have already excluded statements that Mohammed made after his capture when he was held by the CIA in overseas prisons and subjected to brutal treatment including waterboarding before his transfer in 2006 to Guantanamo, according to media reports.

But the trial judge Lieutenant Colonel Michael Schrama has concluded that Mo-



ammed's subsequent interrogations in 2007 at Guantanamo were also inadmissible.

"The prosecution has failed to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Mr. Mohammed's statements to the FBI were voluntarily given," Schrama wrote in his ruling, which was not immediately released to the public.

Schrama cited an "unbroken continuation of the CIA's psychological conditioning and severe coercion," and also found that FBI agents intentionally failed to tell Mohammed that he had a right to be silent and to consult a lawyer. Prosecutors can appeal the ruling.

Mohammed's trial has been repeatedly delayed and a plea deal that would have seen the death penalty taken off the table was withdrawn last year following protests from the relatives of some victims of the 9/11 attacks.

Much of the legal jousting in the 9/11 defendants' cases has focused on whether they could be tried fairly after having undergone torture at the hands of the CIA.

Trump announces 'biggest oil deal in world history' with Venezuela

MI News Service, Washington: President Donald Trump said Friday his administration has reached a huge oil deal with Venezuela that gives the United States majority control of 65 billion barrels of proven petroleum reserves.

The deal - which Trump proclaimed as "the biggest oil deal in world history" - will bring nearly \$100 billion in private investment to Venezuela, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said.

Venezuela has the world's largest proven oil reserves. Its government has operated under intense pressure and close scrutiny from the Trump administration since the US ousted and captured long time ruler Nicolas Maduro in January. It allowed his then vice president, Delcy Rodriguez, to stay on and serve as interim leader so long as she

toes the US line.

Trump has made no secret of his desire to secure Venezuelan oil for the US, and in his post announcing the deal on his Truth Social platform, he said it will more than double US oil reserves.

There was no immediate confirmation of the arrangement from the Venezuelan government.

Trump said Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth had reached the deal with Rodriguez "through a partnership with private business."

"This Transaction will greatly strengthen the already growing relationship between Venezuela and the United States!" Trump wrote.

Rubio said the deal demonstrated how "President Trump's bold foreign policy is driving America First wins: securing stable



reserves and low-cost oil in our Hemisphere and lowering gas prices here at home."

"For the Venezuelan people, this deal will bring nearly \$100 billion in private investment, support thousands of high-paying jobs, and drive the reconstruction of Venezuela's economy," the top US diplomat wrote on X, without providing further details.

According to media reports, Thursday the two countries were in talks on a

dozen productive oil fields with 90 billion barrels of proven reserves -- about a third of Venezuela's total proven reserves of 300 billion barrels. In return for a US ownership stake, private companies, including American firms, would develop the fields and return more oil revenue to Venezuela, according to media reports.

It is learnt that the deal would more than double US oil reserves at a time when the US strategic pe-

troleum reserve is at a 40-year low.

Trump also insisted the deal will lower gasoline prices for Americans -- a major issue as his approval ratings fall ahead of November midterm elections after launching a war on Iran that has disrupted global oil supplies.

The Trump administration has been urging US companies to invest in Venezuela, but they remain wary due to dilapidated infrastructure and past appropriation of assets of foreign investors by the government in Caracas.

Chevron, the only US oil company that was still operating in Venezuela when Maduro was ousted, said in July that it had raised its daily crude production to 280,000 barrels and plans to increase output by 50 percent by the end of 2028.

Continuation Of Running Of Two Special Trains

MI News Service, Kolkata: To clear the extra rush of passengers during ensuring festive season, Railway has decided to continue the service of Mau - Kolkata- Mau special and Dibrugarh - Kolkata - Dibrugarh special with existing path, timings and stoppages.

05096 Mau - Kolkata special will leave Mau on every Wednesday between 07.10.2026 & 25.11.2026 (08 trips) and 05095 Kolkata- Mau special will leave Kolkata on every Thursday between 08.10.2026 & 26.11.2026 (08 trips).

05932 Dibrugarh - Kolkata special will leave Dibrugarh on every Saturday between 05.09.2026 & 28.11.2026 (13 trips) and 05931 Kolkata - Dibrugarh special will leave Kolkata on every Monday between 07.09.2026 & 30.11.2026 (13 trips).

Asansol Division of Eastern Railway Achieves 100% Cybersecurity Integration Across All Critical Networks

MI News Service, Kolkata: Under the guidance and vision of Geetika Pandey, General Manager of Eastern Railway, and the leadership of Sangrah Maurya, Divisional Railway Manager, Asansol Division, the division has achieved a landmark milestone in railway cybersecurity infrastructure. Asansol Division has successfully implemented 100% of Cyber Security Solutions across all endpoints connected to the Railnet, Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS), and Freight Operations Information System (FOIS) networks.

This accomplishment marks a major step forward in safeguarding the region's critical operational and ad-

ministrative digital infrastructure. As part of this comprehensive deployment, key network devices—including firewalls, network switches, and servers—have been fully integrated with the Security Operations Center's (SOC) centralized log collectors. This full-scale integration provides a complete, unified view of all IT assets and endpoints operating across the Division. By centralizing visibility and log aggregation, Eastern Railway gains real-time monitoring capabilities to proactively detect cybersecurity threats, streamline incident response, and ensure robust, uninterrupted digital operations across both passenger and freight networks.

Russian strike on depot near Kyiv, 27 killed

MI News Service, Kyiv: At least 27 people have died after a Russian drone struck a depot near Kyiv's western suburbs overnight, sparking a huge fire and explosions, authorities said Saturday.

The depot appeared to have been storing "explosive objects", Ukrainian prosecutors said, as President Volodymyr Zelensky suggested ammunition was to blame.

"Those who allowed this to happen must be held accountable for their decisions... ammunition cannot be stored near homes or other residential areas," he wrote on X.

Both Russia and Ukraine have intensified long-range strikes on each other in recent months, sparking fires and sending civilian casualties to their highest since Moscow invaded in 2022.

It is learnt that a huge column of black smoke pouring over the capital's western suburbs, as officials reported hundreds had been evacuated from the area.

The blast damaged surrounding residential areas, as well as a care home for the elderly and disabled people, Zelensky said.

"As of now, 27 people have been reported killed. One of those killed was the head of the Dmytrivka community, Taras Didych. He was rescuing people," he added.

The depot was located in the town of Myla, on Kyiv's western outskirts.

Officials did not say whether it was a military or civilian enterprise.

Ukrainian prosecutors said they had opened an investigation.

"On 28 August at around 8:10 pm (1710



GMT), an unmanned aerial vehicle... fell on or struck the grounds of an enterprise in the town of Myla," the office of Ukraine's prosecutor general said.

"A large-scale fire broke out on the enterprise's grounds, and detonation began," it added.

The prosecutor's office said that its investigation would focus on "the legality of the... storage of explosive objects and materials on the enterprise's grounds", as well as whether the owner, whom it did not name, had the "necessary permits and approvals".

Ukrainian Prime Minister Sergiy Korotshuk expressed regret that a "lesson" had not been learned following a previous deadly strike on a munitions depot near Kyiv in July.

That investigation revealed serious failings on the part of a state-owned company, which did not comply with regulations about the proximity of residential buildings.

"In the fifth year of the full-scale invasion, making the same mistakes over and over is criminal negligence," he said on Telegram.

"Everyone responsible, without exception, must face severe punishment so that such situations never happen again."

Russia launched at least two missiles and 267 drones at Ukraine between late Friday and early Saturday, according to the Ukrainian air force.

Eastern Railway Scores Big on Safety and Earnings During Shravani Mela

MI News Service, Kolkata: Eastern Railway, under the leadership of General Manager Geetika Pandey, successfully managed a historic influx of approximately 75 lakh pilgrims during Shravani Mela 2026, which ran from July 29 to August 28, 2026. Demonstrating meticulous planning and execution across major pilgrim stations—including Tarakeswar, Deoghar, Jasidih, Baidyanathdham, and Sultanganj—Eastern Railway ensured smooth passenger operations, heightened safety, robust commercial growth, and zero major untoward incidents throughout the month-long event. Under the strategic direction and active field supervision of Inspector General-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner Amiya Nandan Sinha—who personally visited Shravani Mela locations and key railway stations to review security, crowd regulation, passenger movement, and assistance arrangements alongside Sr. DSCs and DSCs stationed at respective Mela camps to maintain close supervision and coordination—the Railway Protection Force (RPF) deployed over 500 personnel along with specialized drone surveillance and dog squads to transform unregulated pilgrim surges into controlled streams. Their continuous presence at the field level ensured prompt responses to emerging situations and effective coordination among RPF personnel, railway authorities, state civil administra-



tion, local police, and other stakeholders. Footfall surges were successfully managed through crucial interventions, including creating unified 3-to-5-meter barricaded channels that reduced cross-movement by 90% to 100% while processing up to 24,900 pilgrims per hour, constructing temporary holding areas covering thousands of square meters, enforcing unidirectional Foot Overbridge (FOB) traffic, and eliminating off-side boarding entirely. Peak Sunday crowds reached 3,12,500 at key hubs, while Tarakeswar recorded 12,59,200 pilgrims across 5 consecutive Mondays, contributing to a total of 38,99,800 passenger boardings and de-boardings at the station. To facilitate the smooth and comfortable movement of pilgrims and ensure efficient dispersal of the passenger rush, Eastern Railway operated a total of 151 special trains across its divisions, comprising 101 special trains by Howrah Division, 38 by Asansol Di-

vision, and 12 by Malda Division. The smooth, secure, and systematic channelization of traffic directly curbed ticketless entry while optimizing station facilities, yielding a massive boost in passenger throughput, operational efficiency, and commercial dividends. Streamlined movements powered ticket sales up to 1,35,000 in Asansol Division, with peak-day ticket earnings reaching ₹26,66,500 on the busiest Mondays. This financial success was fueled by the strategic deployment of 21 operational counters alongside 10 Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs) to comfortably meet passenger demand. Beyond crowd control, vigilant RPF personnel at Jasidih averted a major catastrophe by hearing an unusual noise, discovering a critical rail fracture post-train departure, and coordinating an immediate track repair within an hour without disrupting train punctuality. The force also executed impactful welfare and se-

curity operations across divisions. Under Operation Amanat, RPF personnel handled 31 recovery cases to return lost items worth ₹2,62,500—including 11 mobile phones, 1 iPad, and ₹19,300 cash—to passengers via Howrah, Asansol, and Malda divisions. Operation Nanhe Farishte reunited 10 separated children with their families and welfare authorities, while Operation Sewa provided immediate medical and ambulance aid to 6 elderly or ailing pilgrims with a 5-minute response time. Under Yatri Suraksha, RPF registered 5 cases and arrested 5 offenders, and through Operation Satark, personnel seized illicit liquor consisting of 73.17 liters worth ₹64,360 in Asansol Division and 9 bottles worth ₹4,500 in Malda Division. "The success of Shravani Mela 2026 highlights Eastern Railway's unwavering commitment to passenger safety, seamless crowd management, and dedicated public service," said Shivram Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer, Eastern Railway. Eastern Railway extends its profound gratitude to the State Civil Administration, local Police authorities, Railway officials, RPF personnel, and, most importantly, the lakhs of cooperative pilgrims, whose discipline and cooperation, combined with the RPF's structured crowd-management strategy, made Shravani Mela 2026 a resounding success and a benchmark in railway crowd management, passenger safety, and security.

Parcel Scanner Machines Commissioned at Five Major Stations of Khurda Road Division



MI News Service, Kolkata: The Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway has commissioned modern Parcel Scanner Machines at five major railway stations—Puri, Bhubaneswar, Khurda Road, Cuttack and Berhampur.

Rita Raj, Principal Chief Commercial Manager, East Coast Railway, inaugurated the Parcel Scanner Machine at the Bhubaneswar Parcel Office of Khurda Road Division in the august presence of Anil Kumar S.Sr. DCM/Khurda Road. The newly installed parcel scanners will strengthen security and safety in railway parcel operations by facilitating effective screening of parcels and detection of inflammable and fire-hazardous materials, crackers, explosives, unauthorized items and other prohibited or banned articles. The introduction of scanning facilities at these five important stations marks a significant step towards preventing the transportation of dangerous, unauthorized and prohibited items by train. It will also help railway staff ensure safer,

more secure and efficient parcel-handling operations. The commissioning of the scanners marks another step towards adopting modern technology and strengthening security measures in railway commercial operations. The facility will also contribute to more efficient, safe and secure handling of parcels at major railway stations. The initiative will further strengthen the security mechanism of the railway parcel system and contribute to enhanced passenger safety and safer journeys. By preventing the movement of hazardous and prohibited articles through the railway network, the facility will help create a safer and more secure travel environment for passengers. Khurda Road Division, East Coast Railway remains committed to providing safe and secure railway services. Necessary measures are being taken to enhance passenger safety, ensure smooth movement of passengers and provide a safe, seamless and hassle-free journey.

Women's Asia Cup: India battle for continental glory as Thailand opener awaits

NEW DELHI : The Harmanpreet Kaur-led Indian women's team will aim to put 2024's complacency behind them and show their muscle in a battle for Asia Cup glory. The continental showpiece, hosted in the UAE, kicked off on Friday with Thailand beating Hong Kong China in the opener, but the most successful side in the competition's history, India, will take the field on Sunday against Thailand. India enter the Asia Cup on the back of their second consecutive group-stage exit at the T20 World Cup, despite an unprecedented ODI world crown to their name. They largely field the same squad that played the T20 World Cup in England earlier this year, with only Yastika Bhatia, Shreyanka Patil (fitness) and Jemimah Rodrigues (hamstring injury) missing from that roster.

Pratika Rawal's maiden T20I call-up for the Asia Cup, as a replacement for Rodrigues, came as a surprise to many, as she last played a



T20 game in November 2024. The Women in Blue have dropped Yastika, while leg-spinner Prema Rawat, who replaced Shreyanka at the World Cup, kept her place. The bowling front remains unchanged, with a Renuka Singh-led pace attack that also includes Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud and Nandani Sharma, and will look to assert its authority.

The spin department features Radha Yadav, Deepti Sharma and Shree Charani. Meanwhile, Vaishnavi Sharma, Pooja Vastrakar and Asha Sobhana have not made the cut for the squad. Eyes will also be on how India field their Playing XI, especially who replaces Rodrigues, and the game against Thailand could offer a glimpse of their mindset

when selecting combinations. Smriti Mandhana and Shafali Verma are likely to be at the top, while it could come down to Pratika or Kamalini battling for Rodrigues' spot at No.3. Harmanpreet Kaur, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh and Bharti Fulmali are likely to form the middle order, while the toss-up will be among the pacers. Radha Yadav and Charani will be

pushing for a place if India decide to pick two spinners. Thailand are coming into this tournament on the back of confidence. They won the Women's Premier Cup in June by beating the UAE in the final and have also started this tournament on a high note. Left-arm spinner Thipatcha Putthawong is their bowling lynchpin and is the highest wicket-taker in the history of women's T20I cricket, with 169 wickets to her name. She went past India's Deepti with a 1-23 against Hong Kong. Off-spinner Onnich Kamchomphu is doing good work too. She took 3-27 in the opener against Hong Kong and reached her 150th T20I wicket. 25-year-old wicket-keeper Nannapat Koncharoenkai is a rising star and their leading run-scorer with 2806 runs to her name. Eyes will also be on Phannita Maya and Natthakan Chantham as Thailand eye a strong outing against favourites India. When: Sunday, August 30, 8:30 PM IST

Where: International Stadium, Dubai
Dubai Cricket
Where to watch: The match will be shown live on the Sony Sports Network and live-streamed on the SonyLiv app and website.
SQUADS:
India: Harmanpreet Kaur (capt), Smriti Mandhana (vice-capt), Shafali Verma, Pratika Rawal, Bharti Fulmali, Richa Ghosh (wk), G Kamalini (wk), Deepti Sharma, Radha Yadav, Prema Rawat, Arundhati Reddy, Kranti Gaud, Renuka Singh, N Shree Charani, Nandani Sharma.
Thailand: Naruemol Chaiwai (c), Nannapat Koncharoenkai, Natthakan Chantham, Chanida Sutthiruang, Suleeporn Laomi, Onnich Kamchomphu, Thipatcha Putthawong, Phannita Maya, Aphisara Suwanchonrathi, Sunida Chaturongrattana, Chayanisa Phengpaen, Nannapat Chaihan, Koranit Suwanchonrathi, Thanrada Seesawan, Naomi Hamilton.

Djokovic, Alcaraz, Sabalenka and Williams: Five reasons to watch US Open 2026

NEW DELHI : The final Grand Slam of the season is set to bring tennis' biggest names and some of the sport's most compelling storylines to New York, with the US Open 2026 promising history, high stakes and plenty of star power at Flushing Meadows. A record prize pool, Novak Djokovic's pursuit of another landmark, Carlos Alcaraz's return to Grand Slam action and the reunion of Serena and Venus Williams are among the major attractions at this year's tournament. Here are five reasons why the US Open 2026 could be one of the most anticipated events of the tennis season:

A record \$108 million prize pool
The financial stakes at Flushing Meadows will reach unprecedented levels this year, with the US Open offering a record \$108 million in total prize money. The singles champions in both the men's and women's competitions will receive \$3.5 million each, while even players competing in the opening round are guaranteed \$140,000. The prize pool is the largest ever offered at a Grand Slam, adding another layer of significance to a tournament where every round carries enormous sporting and financial consequences.

Djokovic goes in search of a historic 25th major
Novak Djokovic will once again arrive at the US Open with history firmly in his sights. The Serbian great is chasing his 25th Grand Slam singles title, a victory that would take him beyond Margaret Court's tally of 24 major singles titles and give him sole possession of the all-time record.

Djokovic knows the New York stage better than most. A four-time US Open champion, he last won the title in 2023 and has reached the championship match at Flushing Meadows on 10 occasions.

At 39, another demanding two-week Grand Slam campaign presents a significant physical challenge, but Djokovic's ability to rise to the occasion on tennis' biggest stages remains one of the defining features of his career. Should he make another deep run, the chase for title No. 25 is likely to dominate the conversation throughout the tournament.

Alcaraz returns to defend his crown
Carlos Alcaraz will return to Flushing Meadows as defending champion after

spending four months away from competition because of injury. The Spaniard's absence has made his preparations for the season's final major a major point of interest, with questions surrounding how quickly he can rediscover his best form on one of the sport's biggest stages. With Jannik Sinner also absent from the tournament, the men's draw has opened up considerably. The 23-year-old, already a two-time US Open champion, will be looking to extend his impressive record in New York, although a challenging field stands between him and another title. His return, and the uncertainty surrounding his form after injury, will make his title defence one of the central stories of the fortnight.

Serena and Venus Williams reunite in doubles
The US Open will also welcome one of tennis' most celebrated partnerships back to the court. Serena and Venus Williams have received a wild card to compete in the women's doubles draw, marking their first appearance together at the US Open since 2022. The sisters have won 14 Grand Slam doubles titles as a team, including two at Flushing Meadows, and their return brings another layer of history and star appeal to the tournament.

Their presence is expected to place a significant spotlight on the doubles competition, where they will face a field featuring several established Grand Slam champions. Sabalenka targets a third straight New York title

Aryna Sabalenka will begin her campaign with the opportunity to achieve something not accomplished in women's tennis at the US Open for more than a decade.

The World No. 1 and two-time defending champion is bidding to become the first woman since Serena Williams, who won three consecutive titles from 2012 to 2014, to complete a US Open hat-trick.

A third successive title would put Sabalenka in the company of some of the tournament's greatest champions, including Serena Williams, Chris Evert, Roger Federer, Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe, all of whom have won three consecutive US Open titles.

Despite suffering an early exit at Wimbledon, Sabalenka's record in New York makes her one of the leading contenders once again.



Lando Norris signs contract extension with McLaren until at least 2030

NEW DELHI : Defending Formula 1 champion Lando Norris has signed a contract extension with McLaren, under which he will race for the British team until at least the end of the 2030 season. The deal also includes a multi-year option to commit beyond 2030.

The extension will see Norris remain with the Papayas for more than a decade, having joined them as a test and development driver in 2017 and earned a promotion to the grid in 2019. "I'm very, very excited. McLaren's been my home since the very, very beginning of my career in Formula 1 and I want it to stay that way for as long as possible. We've had a great few years, and I'm confident we can achieve that many more times. So I want to stay," Norris said in

his first reaction to the development, as quoted by F1.

Norris' previous deal was believed to expire by the end of the 2027 season, but this deal will see him race for the Papayas for at least 12 years. McLaren will gift him the MCL39, the car with which he raced and won his 2025 title. "I know for a good amount more years that I'm comfortable in terms of I've got a job, and I'm where I want to be, and with the people that I want to be with, and for me that's calming," he said.

"I can focus on a job I need to do, and as a team we can also focus on the job that we want to do. You can always see results as most important, and 99% of the time I think they are, but I would say there's leeway; there's leverage in terms of just the fact I'm with the people that I

want to be with, people that I enjoy spending my career with," he added.

Norris has had an enjoyable time with McLaren. He has won 13 Grand Prix, 48 podiums and 18 pole positions. The British driver has also raced in 163 Grand Prix, the most for the Papaya squad. McLaren CEO Zak Brown was "ncredibly pleased to have Norris on board for the long term. "I'm incredibly pleased to be signing a new contract with Lando, extending his commitment with McLaren until at least 2030. His journey with the team is a fantastic example of our commitment to identifying, developing and supporting world-class talent, and his achievements speak for themselves," he said. "Together with Andrea (Stella), Oscar (Piastrri) and



the wider team, Lando has helped drive McLaren into a new papaya era of success, helping us go from the back of the grid to double consecutive constructors' titles in 2024 and 2025 and our first

Drivers' Championship in 17 years. We are extremely excited about what lies ahead and remain fully focused on continuing to compete for wins and championships," Brown added.

DPL 2026: 'GLAD PERFORMANCE CAME WHEN TEAM NEEDED IT MOST,' SAYS JONTY SIDHU

NEW DELHI : Central Delhi Kings captain Jonty Sidhu said he was glad his match-winning performance arrived when his team needed it the most, as he smashed an unbeaten 106 off 46 balls to lead his side into the final of the 2026 Delhi Premier League (DPL).

After that sensational batting performance, Sidhu also picked 3-25 to help his team get a 72-run victory over Purani Dilli 6 in Qualifier 2 at the Arun Jaitley Stadium and take them into Sunday's summit clash against South Delhi Superstarz. Against the mammoth 218/5 posted by Central Delhi Kings, Purani Dilli 6 wilted under pressure, slumping to 91/6 before being bundled out for 146.

Alongside Sidhu's three wickets, Money Grewal (2-27) and Tejas Baroka (2-19) delivered disciplined spells to complete the dominant win.



"I am very happy. I contributed significantly for my team with both batting and bowling. At this stage, the team needed this kind of performance the most, so I'm glad it came at the right time," Sidhu said ahead of the title clash.

Sidhu and Aditya Bhandari (24 not out off 12

balls) also did some crucial hitting in the death overs to rescue the innings. "Bhandari and I discussed that if we just stayed out there, we would find that one big over to shift momentum. That's exactly what happened. I hit four sixes in an over, Bhandari hit two, and suddenly we were pushing close to 200," Sidhu

revealed. Elaborating on how he countered the opposition's bowling strategy, Sidhu explained, "They were trying to execute wide yorkers against me, so I anticipated where the deliveries would land. I backed myself to counter their strategy, and by God's grace, I got clean hits." Known primarily as a solid

red-ball batter in the Ranji Trophy circuit, Sidhu also opened up on the dedication required to transform into an explosive T20 hitter. "We practice red-ball cricket in academies from childhood, but adapting to T20 took me a year or two. I've worked extremely hard over the last 6-7 months to develop this aspect of my game because modern cricket demands it," he added. He also shared the story behind his special celebration upon reaching his maiden T20 century. "We had planned in the hotel that if we were in a winning position, I'd do a special celebration. Manni and I originally planned it, but since Bhandari was out there with me when I completed the hundred, I did it with him. I don't usually celebrate much, but for my first hundred in such a big match, it was necessary!"

Kush Maini completes two-day Alpine F1 test ahead of F2 return in Monza

AUSTRIA : Indian racer Kush Maini has completed another Formula 1 testing programme with the BWT Alpine F1 Team, covering around 200 laps and approximately 850 kilometres over two days at the Red Bull Ring in Austria.

The BWT Alpine F1 Team Reserve Driver's latest outing in Formula 1 machinery comes after an earlier test at Zandvoort and provides another boost ahead of his return to FIA Formula 2 action in Monza following the summer break.

Maini began the programme in a TPC (Testing Previous Car) machine, completing 82 laps on the opening day in changing weather conditions. The Indian driver ran on wet, intermediate and soft tyres as a wet morning gradually gave way to drier conditions later in the day.

He continued his programme on the second day in a 2025-specification car, the same machinery he drove during the official Young Driver Test in Abu Dhabi last December.

With dry conditions allowing for extensive running, Maini completed more than 500 kilometres on the second day, taking his total mileage across the two-day test to around 850 kilometres.

The test forms part of Alpine's young driver programme, with Maini continuing to gain experience in Formula 1 machinery as a member of the Alpine Academy.

The 2026 F1 outing also comes at an encouraging point in Maini's Formula 2 campaign. The Indian driver currently sits sixth in the FIA Formula 2 Drivers' Championship after claiming two podium finishes in his last three races.



That run of form has kept

Maini in contention for what could

become the best-ever champi-

onship finish by an Indian driver in the category, with the latest F1 test serving as valuable preparation and a confidence boost ahead of the resumption of the season.

Maini will return to competitive action at Monza, where he will resume his Formula 2 championship challenge.

Kush Maini, BWT Alpine F1 Team Reserve Driver, said: "Always unreal to get behind a F1 car, no matter how many times it's been. We maximised the run plan and gained loads of mileage and experience. I'm hoping the data & performance from this test helps the team move forward in their championship campaign in 2026. Massive thanks to BWT Alpine F1 team for yet another F1 testing opportunity and I am really looking forward to resuming my F2 championship challenge in Monza."

