



The Durga Puja pandal is being constructed based on the design of Gujarat’s Somnath Temple ahead of Durga Puja at Salt Lake’s BJ Block in Kolkata on Sunday.

Ant infestation disrupts classes at Nadia primary school for three years

MI News Service, Nadia : A persistent ant infestation at a primary school in Nadia’s Chakdaha has raised concerns over classroom hygiene, children’s safety and food-handling practices under the Mid-Day Meal scheme. For nearly three years, ants have reportedly been troubling students, teachers and non-teaching staff at Tatla Paschim Shishu Aloy Primary School in the Tatla Gram Panchayat area.

According to teachers, the infestation has spread across classrooms, the Mid-Day Meal kitchen and the toilet area, making it difficult to maintain a comfortable environment for young children. Students reportedly face discomfort while sitting in classrooms, with the fear of ant bites adding to their anxiety.

The presence of ants in the kitchen has emerged as a particular concern. Schools serving meals to children are expected to maintain appropriate standards of cleanliness and food safety. Although there is no confirmed report of food contamination or illness among students, the complaints have raised questions about the need for a thorough inspection of the kitchen and surrounding areas.

Teachers alleged that the problem has persisted despite repeated attempts to draw attention to it. The absence of a lasting solution, they said, has forced them to manage the situation while continuing regular academic activities.

Parents have also expressed concern over the conditions in which their children are studying. They have called for



an immediate inspection by the authorities concerned, followed by a detailed assessment of the source of the infestation and the measures required to control it.

The problem may require more than routine cleaning or the temporary use of insecticides. Identifying ant entry points, removing food waste promptly, ensuring proper storage of food ingredients and sealing cracks in the building could form part of a long-term control strategy. Any pest-control treatment would also need to be carried out safely, particularly around children and areas where meals are prepared.

The nearly three-year-old complaint has brought the school’s maintenance and sanitation arrangements into focus. Parents and teachers are now seeking effective intervention to ensure that classrooms, the kitchen and toilet facilities remain clean and safe.

Whether the concerned authorities will inspect the premises and implement a lasting solution remains to be seen. For the students and staff of Tatla Paschim Shishu Aloy Primary School, the immediate priority is a hygienic learning environment free from the persistent nuisance.

Belda to Get a Clean and Beautiful Makeover Ahead of Durga Puja; MLA Inspects Development Work

MI News Service, Kharagpur : In a major initiative to make Belda cleaner, more attractive and free from garbage ahead of Durga Puja, the local Gram Panchayat administration has launched a special cleanliness and beautification drive. The initiative, undertaken at the initiative of Gram Panchayat Deputy Pradhan Gouri Shankar Adhikari, with the support of Narayanagarh MLA Ramprasad Giri, aims to remove accumulated garbage from different parts of Belda and improve the surrounding environment. As part of the campaign, plans are underway to transform a lane near the hostel of Belda Gangadhar Academy, which has long been plagued by heaps of garbage, into a mini park.

The accumulated waste and foul smell from the site had caused considerable inconvenience to local residents and passers-by. The stench was so unpleasant that people often had to cover their noses while walking through the lane. To address the long-standing problem, steps have now been initiated to clean the area and give the neglected space a fresh and attractive appearance. MLA Visits Site to Review Progress



Narayanagarh MLA Ramprasad Giri personally visited the site to inspect the ongoing cleanliness work and review preparations for the proposed mini park. During the visit, he took stock of the progress and highlighted the efforts being made to improve sanitation and beautify different parts of Belda. The MLA observed that people previously had to cover their noses while passing through the lane because of the foul smell. He said efforts were now underway to change the situation through the Gram Panchayat’s initiative to eliminate garbage and improve the area’s appearance. Mini Park to Replace Long-Neglected Garbage Dump. The proposed transformation of the neglected site into a mini park is expected to provide

considerable relief to local residents. If completed as planned, the project will help reduce the problems of accumulated waste and foul odour while enhancing the overall appearance of the neighbourhood. The cleanliness and beautification initiative ahead of Durga Puja has raised hopes among residents for a cleaner and more pleasant living environment. Residents are now looking forward to the completion of the mini park and the transformation of the site into a well-maintained public space. The initiative is being viewed not merely as a cleanliness drive but also as an important step towards improving the local environment and making Belda cleaner, healthier and more attractive ahead of the festive season.

SBI Car Loan Expo at Upper Baliyatra Ground, Cuttack, Receives Overwhelming Public Response

MI News Service, Cuttack: State Bank of India (SBI), Regional Business Office (RBO), Cuttack, organised a Car Loan Expo at Upper Baliyatra Ground, Cuttack, on October 11, 2026, which received an overwhelming response from the public.

The expo was inaugurated by Shri S. Vadalamani, Deputy General Manager, SBI, in the presence of Shri Ashmin Anupam Praharaj, Regional Manager, SBI, Cuttack.

Nearly 25 automobile dealers from the twin cities of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar participated in the expo and showcased a wide range of car models, providing prospective buyers with an opportunity to explore different vehicles and compare available options under one roof. The event offered customers a convenient platform to learn about various car loan products, attractive financing options and associated sales benefits, making the process of purchasing a car easier and more accessible.

Apart from promoting car loan facilities, SBI also utilised the occasion to create awareness about safe and convenient banking practices. Bank officials



from the Regional Office and various branches in Cuttack city interacted with visitors and sensitised them about cyber security, safe digital banking practices, and the benefits of digital banking services, including WhatsApp Banking. Customers were also informed about various social security schemes aimed at promoting financial inclusion and social welfare.

The expo witnessed enthusiastic participation from prospective car buyers and members of the public. Visitors appreciated SBI’s initiative for bringing automobile dealers and banking services together on a common platform, enabling them to access information and assistance conveniently.

The successful organisation of the expo reflects SBI’s continued commitment to customer-centric banking, financial awareness and community engagement. The initiative was widely appreciated by visitors as a meaningful effort by the Bank to facilitate informed purchasing decisions while extending the benefits of modern banking services to the public.

BSF Rescues Abducted Farmer Within Hours After Attack on Bengal Border

MI News Service, Nadia : Tension gripped the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal’s Nadia district after a farmer was allegedly attacked with a sharp weapon and another was abducted while working in agricultural fields beyond the border fencing on Saturday. The abducted farmer, identified as Kajal Ghosh, was rescued late that night and handed over to his family, according to information available from the area. The incident occurred in the Ayadanga-Nasirpara border belt under Hoggalberia police station, barely a day after a firing incident involving the BSF and allegations of retaliatory firing by Bangladesh’s Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

The injured farmer, Bidwan Biswas, a resident of Ayadanga, was allegedly assaulted and repeatedly struck with a sharp agricultural implement by a group of miscreants from the Bangladesh side. Fellow farmers rescued him and took him to Karimpur Rural Hospital in a BSF ambulance. He was subsequently shifted to a private hospital in Krishnanagar. His family said an operation was planned for Saturday night.

Ghosh, who had accompanied Biswas to the fields, was allegedly taken across the international border. Personnel of the BSF’s 146th Battalion, along with local police, launched efforts to trace him. He was reportedly rescued around midnight on Saturday and returned to his family in the presence of BSF personnel and police. The circumstances of his alleged abduction and the precise location from which he was recovered could not be independently established.

The incident came amid heightened tension following a firing episode on Friday afternoon near border pillar 152/10-S in the Ayadanga sector. The

low farmers rescued him and took him to Karimpur Rural Hospital in a BSF ambulance. He was subsequently shifted to a private hospital in Krishnanagar. His family said an operation was planned for Saturday night.

The incident came amid heightened tension following a firing episode on Friday afternoon near border pillar 152/10-S in the Ayadanga sector. The



BSF allegedly opened fire while attempting to intercept suspected smugglers. A man identified as Sahajul, reportedly from Daulatpur in Bangladesh, was injured. Allegations of retaliatory firing by the BGB also surfaced.

The BSF maintained that the injured Bangladeshi national was allegedly involved in smuggling and had ignored warnings by its personnel. The force said firing became necessary after the situation escalated and its personnel

faced an alleged threat. The competing allegations surrounding the Friday incident have not been independently verified.

Saturday’s attack triggered anger among farmers living along the border, with some reportedly protesting and suspending agricultural work while demanding better security. For many residents, access to farmland located beyond the fencing is essential to their livelihood. The latest incident has renewed concerns over

the safety of farmers who cross the border fencing to cultivate their land.

Efforts were reportedly made to arrange a flag meeting between the BSF and the BGB to defuse the situation. Karimpur MLA Samarendra Nath Ghosh visited the area and spoke to farmers. He had earlier said efforts were being made at the administrative level to secure Kajal’s release, and that the matter had also been discussed with Ranaghat MP Jagannath Sarkar.

Although Ghosh’s rescue brought relief to his family, questions remain over the motive behind the attack and whether it was connected to Friday’s firing incident. No such link has been established so far. The immediate challenge for the authorities is to prevent further escalation, establish the sequence of events and ensure that farmers can access their fields without fear of violence or abduction.

Yamaha Teens Rock 2026 Grand Finale

MI News Service, Kolkata : Yamaha Music India successfully concluded the Grand Finale of Yamaha Teens Rock 2026 – The Battle of Bands, powered by Trinity College London, at the Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Bengaluru. After an exciting evening of performances, Neuhof School Band from Neuhof English Medium School, Mizoram was crowned the winner of Yamaha Teens Rock 2026. The young musicians also had the opportunity to perform in the presence of A.R. Rahman, Brand Ambassador of Yamaha Music India.

Jhargram Police Tighten Crackdown on Illegal Sand Mining and Mineral Smuggling; Surprise Checks at Chichira Checkpoint

MI News Service, Kharagpur : Jhargram district police have intensified their crackdown on illegal sand mining and the unauthorised transportation of minerals. As part of the ongoing drive, a surprise checkpoint inspection was conducted at the Chichira checkpoint under the Jamboni police station area. The operation was carried out under the leadership of Jhargram SDPO Rishabh Raj Dev, with personnel from Jamboni Police Station participating in the campaign. During the operation, several vehicles passing through the Chichira checkpoint were stopped and thoroughly inspected. Police officials specifically examined the valid documents, permits and other necessary papers required for transporting sand and other minor minerals. The primary objective of the inspection was to verify whether the transportation of minerals was being carried out in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations. Strict Action Against Illegal Mining and Mineral Transportation. Jhargram district police have been conducting regular operations to curb illegal sand mining and the unauthorised transportation of minerals. The latest inspection is being viewed as an important step towards preventing illegal mining activities and strengthening surveillance over vehicles suspected of violating mineral transportation regulations. Police have made it clear that the campaign against illegal sand mining and unauthorised mineral transportation will continue in the coming days. The district police have also reiterated their commitment to taking strict action against those found violating the law. Surveillance to Continue. The police are keeping a close watch on activities related to illegal mining and mineral smuggling. The surprise inspection at the Chichira checkpoint underlines the administration’s efforts to strengthen monitoring and enforce compliance with the rules governing mineral transportation. Further action will be taken against violators in accordance with the law as the enforcement drive continues across the district.



of healthcare services, including Outpatient Department (OPD) consultations, ECG, Ultrasonography

Chandannagar gets a New Multispecialty Healthcare facility

MI News Service, Chandannagar: Charnock Clinic Chandannagar, a unit of Charnock Hospitals Pvt. Ltd., has been inaugurated on 11th October 2026 at 11 AM in the presence of Shri Dipanjan Guha, Hon’ble MLA, Chandannagar, and Mr. Prashant Sharma, Managing Director, Charnock Hospitals Pvt. Ltd.. Located at 1070, LaVista Apartment, B.M. Road, Burabazar, Chandannagar, Hooghly, West Bengal, (near Rani Ghat) the clinic will offer a range



Illegal Liquor Transport Busted in Jhargram; Two Arrested, Foreign Liquor and 30 Litres of Country Liquor Seized

MI News Service, Kharagpur : In a crackdown on the illegal transportation of liquor in Jhargram district, Sankrail police arrested two persons and seized a large quantity of foreign liquor along with approximately 30 litres of illegally prepared country liquor. A Swift Dzire car allegedly used to transport the liquor was also confiscated. Raid Conducted on the Basis of Secret Information. According to police sources, acting on a tip-off, a police team led by Sankrail Police Station Officer-in-Charge Soumen Sinha Mahapatra conducted an operation in the Bakra area. During the operation, the team intercepted a suspicious Swift Dzire car and searched the vehicle. The search led to the recovery of foreign liquor of various brands and approximately 30 litres of country liquor stored in four plastic jerrycans. The arrested persons have been identified as Sandeep alias Munna Mallick and Raju alias Shyamal Mahato, both reportedly residents of Bakra village under Sankrail block. Multiple Brands of Foreign Liquor Seized. According to information provided by the police, the seized foreign liquor included 10 bottles of beer, four 375 ml bottles and two 750 ml bottles of McDowell’s No. 1 whisky, along with one 750 ml bottle and one 375 ml bottle of Royal Stag whisky. Police also recovered one 750 ml bottle of Bacardi Mango Chilli rum. In addition, two 750 ml bottles and three 375 ml bottles of Old Monk rum were seized. Approximately 30 Litres of Country Liquor Recovered. Apart from the foreign liquor, police recovered



ered approximately 30 litres of suspected illegally prepared country liquor from four old plastic jerrycans. Police sources said that samples of 500 ml were collected from each jerrycan for testing and examination. Investigators suspect that the seized liquor was being transported in the car. However, the exact source of the consignment and its intended destination have yet to be established. Police Investigating Possible Liquor Smuggling Network. Sankrail police have launched a detailed investigation to determine where the liquor originated and whether a larger network was involved in the alleged illegal trade. Investigators are also examining the possible involvement of other persons in the operation. Legal proceedings against the two arrested accused have been initiated, and they are expected to be produced before the Jhargram District Court, according to police sources. The investigation is currently focused on identifying the source and destination of the seized liquor and tracing other individuals who may be connected with the alleged smuggling network.

Krishnanagar Rajbari scales down Durga Puja after king’s death; sindoor khela faces uncertain future

MI News Service, Nadia : A royal tradition that has endured across generations is facing an uncertain future at Krishnanagar Rajbari, as the family prepares for its first Durga Puja following the death of King Soumishchandra Roy in March. Rajbari matriarch Amrita Roy has decided not to participate in the customary sindoor khela on Vijayadashami, while several aspects of the festival’s grandeur are also being scaled down. However, the family has made it clear that the core religious rituals will continue according to established traditions.

The changes mark a subdued Durga Puja for the historic royal household, where ceremonial practices have long been associated with the legacy of Raja Krishnachandra. This year, the idol has been made slightly smaller, decorative lighting may be reduced, and the traditional shehnai performance may also be discontinued. Amrita Roy has further stated that the family will not enter the sanctum this year and the puja will not be performed in their names. An elderly member of the family, referred to as Thakuma, has taken responsibility for overseeing the rituals.

The decision surrounding sindoor khela, traditionally associated with Vijayadashami, has drawn particular attention. Amrita Roy has said she will not take part in the ceremony and that the priest will perform the ritual of baran to bid



farewell to the goddess on Dashami. However, she has not ruled out the possibility of the tradition being revived in the future.

According to Amrita, her son may choose to continue the practice after his marriage, if he wishes to do so. She does not want to impose her decision on the next generation. Her statement leaves the future of the family’s participation in sindoor khela open, rather than declaring the custom permanently discontinued.

The traditional bhog will also be retained, including seven varieties of fried vegetables and rice offerings. On Navami, the customary ritual of allowing the goddess to see fish will be observed, along with the Rajbari’s prescribed sacrificial rites,

including pumpkin sacrifice.

Amrita Roy has emphasised that the principal rules and auspicious ceremonies of the puja will remain intact despite the changes in presentation and scale.

The Rajbari will continue to welcome members of the public and visitors, as it has in previous years. Amrita has appealed to residents of Nadia and other visitors to regard the palace as their own home and participate in the celebrations.

This year’s Durga Puja at Krishnanagar Rajbari thus reflects a delicate balance between personal bereavement, the preservation of religious customs and changing family choices. While the rituals remain firmly rooted in tradition, the future of sindoor khela now rests with the next generation.

Bangladeshi infiltrator apprehended in Cooch Behar

MI News Service, Cooch Behar: Wearing a purple fatua, dhoti. A drop of vermilion on his forehead. The man was sitting in a tea shop in the guise of a saint and drinking tea. But the locals became suspicious after seeing the stranger. After talking to him, more inconsistencies were detected. After that, the cat came out of the bag. It is known that the man in the guise of a saint is actually a Bangladeshi infiltrator. The man has been handed over to the police. The sensational incident took place in the Tufanganj area of Cooch Behar.

According to police sources, the man, aged over fifty, was seen wandering in the Bhanukumari area of Tufanganj-II block.

At first, the locals did not pay much attention to him because he was wearing the clothes of a saint. However, he was a new, completely unfamiliar face in the area. The man was sitting in a local tea shop, sipping tea. At that time, the locals asked him about his identity and from where he came from. When questioned about those things, the man kept giving multiple answers. The inconsistencies in his speech further increased the suspicion of the residents of the area.

After that, people caught him and reported the matter to the local Boxirhat police station. The police went to the spot and questioned the man. At that time, it was learned that the man was not a citizen of this country, but a Bangladeshi. No valid documents were found from the man to stay in India. The man reportedly infiltrated through the border. The police caught the man and took him to the police station. For what reason did he infiltrate this country?

Kolkata Sets Guinness World Record with 3,000 Dhakis at Mahalaya Show

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata witnessed a spectacular Mahalaya celebration at Eden Gardens on Saturday, featuring dazzling light-and-sound displays, drone illuminations, fireworks, folk performances and musical acts. The mega event added a new distinction to the city's cultural calendar, with 3,000 dhakis performing together to earn recognition in the Guinness World Records.

Although the main programme was held at Eden Gardens, the festive atmosphere extended across the surrounding areas. Red Road was decorated to showcase the cultural heritage of different districts of West Bengal. Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari walked from Red Road to the venue, accompanied by Chief Secretary Manoj Agarwal, along with Sanghamitra Ghosh, Ajay Poddar, Municipal Affairs Minister Agnimitra Paul and several actors and other prominent personalities.

The collective performance by 3,000 dhakis emerged as one of the major highlights of the evening. The Guinness World Records certificate was handed over to the Chief Minister on the stage by the Chief Secretary in the presence of Kartik Maharaj.

More than 1,000 dancers also participated in colourful performances celebrating Bengal's rich cultural traditions. The programme opened at the scheduled time on Saturday afternoon with the rhythmic beats of dhaks, tribal dance performances and a musical presentation by Lognajita Chakraborty. Singer Iman Chakraborty was also among the performers who entertained the audience.

The event combined traditional cultural expressions with modern technology, as drone displays illuminated the night sky with images of Goddess Durga. Spectacular lighting, sound effects and fireworks added to the grandeur of the celebrations, drawing enthusiastic responses from spectators.

Several political leaders and public figures attended the programme, including June Malia, Swapan Dasgupta and Sukhendu Sekhar Ray. Taslima Nasrin was also present alongside Suwendu Adhikari, adding to the diversity of personalities at the event.

This year's Mahalaya programme assumed additional significance as it marked the first Durga Puja season in West Bengal under the BJP government led by Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari. The state government organised the large-scale celebration ahead of the festival, bringing together performers, cultural groups and public figures.

The successful event showcased Bengal's folk traditions on a grand platform while blending them with contemporary entertainment. The recognition for the mass dhak performance added an international dimension to the celebrations, placing Kolkata in the spotlight ahead of Durga Puja.

NMC Tightens Rules on Medical Advertising

MI News Service, Kolkata: Doctors can no longer describe themselves as the "best doctor" or claim to be "number one" in advertisements, while promises of "100 per cent success" from treatment are also prohibited under new guidelines issued by the National Medical Commission (NMC). The restrictions, announced by its Ethics and Registration Board through a public notice, extend to private hospitals and nursing homes, with violations potentially attracting disciplinary action.

The guidelines prohibit doctors and healthcare establishments from making misleading, exaggerated or unsubstantiated claims to attract patients. Advertisements cannot use fear about diseases to influence people into seeking treatment, nor can pharmaceutical companies promote medicines by using doctors' endorsements or claims suggesting instant recovery.

Bengal Plans New Industrial Policy, Offers Higher Incentives for Job Creation

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal government is preparing to introduce a new industrial policy after Durga Puja to attract investment and boost employment, with companies creating more jobs set to receive greater financial incentives. According to Nabanna sources, the proposed policy will also offer special benefits to investors setting up units in economically backward districts.

The proposal is expected to be placed before the state Cabinet for final approval in the last week of October, subject to clearance from Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari.



Left student and youth activists held a protest rally demanding Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar's resignation in Kolkata on Sunday.

BJP Invites Applications for 209 Proposed Kolkata Civic Wards

MI News Service, Kolkata: With the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) elections expected after Durga Puja, the BJP has initiated a process to identify potential candidates for the proposed 209 wards by introducing a drop box system for applications. Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar on Sunday invited eminent personalities and accomplished professionals from different walks of life to contest the civic polls on the party's ticket and contribute to rebuilding Kolkata.

Addressing a press conference on the upcoming municipal elections, Majumdar said the BJP aimed to build a new Kolkata with a transparent civic administration free from the influence of promoters and developers. He appealed to doctors, engineers, social workers, journalists, lawyers, young professionals and other distinguished citizens to come forward and participate in the electoral process.



BJP Leader Sukanta Majumdar

The party would prioritise candidates with a clean image, public acceptance and the ability to win, he said, urging interested individuals to submit their biodata through the proposed application system. According to Majumdar, the drop box will be placed at the BJP office on Muralidhar Sen Lane from Monday. Applications can be submitted during the office's working hours, allowing interested candidates to directly deposit their biodata without an elaborate application process.

“People have not received proper civic services for 49 years. As soon as the speed breaker was removed, work gained momentum,” Majumdar said, referring to the party's criticism of the existing civic administration. He expressed confidence that Kolkata residents would support the BJP in the forthcoming municipal elections.

The Union minister said several factors would be considered while selecting candidates, with particular emphasis on their electability. He maintained that the party would give tickets

to those who had a genuine chance of winning and could help deliver its vision of a new Kolkata.

Majumdar also said the party had deliberately chosen the ongoing Devipaksha period to launch the initiative, seeking to use the festive season to encourage public participation in the proposed civic transformation.

The BJP's move comes ahead of the anticipated municipal polls, with the party seeking to expand its candidate pool beyond established political workers and attract professionals and prominent citizens. By inviting applications through the drop box, the party hopes to identify potential candidates who can appeal to voters across different sections of the city.

However, the final candidate selection will depend on the party's assessment of applicants and their electoral prospects. The proposed 209 wards and the election schedule remain key factors in the run-up to the civic contest.

Dilip Ghosh Alleges Foreign Funding Behind CJP Protest

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal minister Dilip Ghosh on Sunday alleged that foreign funding and anti-national forces were behind the ongoing CJP agitation in Delhi, describing the protest as a “fashion” among people who have no work. The remarks came as the organisation announced another day of demonstrations, demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Commenting on the protests, Ghosh said similar agitations had continued for weeks in the past and predicted that the current movement would also continue for some time. He alleged that the protesters were acting at the behest of external forces.

“Let them protest. Many people have staged sit-ins for a month. There is a fashion in India among certain people to protest.



BJP Leader Dilip Ghosh

If they have no work, they decide to agitate. Foreign funding and anti-national forces are using them as pawns. This will continue for some time,” Ghosh said. The CJP has called for another march to Jantar Mantar on Sunday also, maintaining that its protests would continue until Gyanesh Kumar resigns.

The agitation turned tense in Delhi on Saturday, when around 3,000 people were reportedly detained during the demonstration. Three senior CJP leaders — Abhijit Dipke, Sourav Das and Ashutosh Ranka — were detained preventively at the airport amid concerns over possible unrest. They were released on Sunday morning.

The protests have also drawn criticism from the BJP's central leadership. BJP national president Nitin Nabin alleged that attempts were being made to create instability in the country and accused opposition groups of encouraging unrest.

“An attempt is being made to push the country's 140 crore people towards instability. Who is doing this? Two anarchic groups — one led by Rahul Gandhi of the INDIA bloc and the other by Arvind Kejriwal and his associates in the CJP,” Nabin said.

The allegations against the protesters and claims of foreign funding have not been independently established in the information available. The CJP's demand for the Chief Election Commissioner's resignation remains central to its ongoing agitation, which continued in the national capital on Sunday.

Gariahat Bridge Gets a Festive Makeover Ahead of Durga Puja

MI News Service, Kolkata: Kolkata is gearing up for Durga Puja, with the festive spirit setting in on Mahalaya. After a grand programme at Eden Gardens marked the beginning of Devipaksha, several parts of the city are receiving a colourful makeover. The Gariahat bridge in south Kolkata has now been painted red and yellow as part of the state government's beautification drive.



Urban Development Minister Agnimitra Paul visited the bridge on Sunday to review the progress of the painting work. Describing the initiative as a symbol of unity and goodwill, she said, “This bridge is a road of brotherhood, a road of love and a road of trust.”

The minister said the people had placed their faith in the BJP government by giving it a strong mandate in the Assembly elections. She added that the newly decorated roads reflected that trust in the government led by Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari.

“Such a road has also been created on Red

Road. People should come and see it. The ghats along the Ganga have also been decorated,” Paul said.

She said large alpana designs had been created beneath the Park Circus Connector, while more decorative artwork was being added at the Gariahat bridge and the four-way junction nearby. If time permitted, similar designs would be made at the Rashbehari and Park Street crossings, she added.

During the previous Trinamool Congress government, blue-and-white was the dominant colour scheme on roadside structures and

footpath railings. The new administration has introduced yellow-and-white and red-and-yellow designs in several locations ahead of the festival.

Alpana has also been drawn at the Park Circus crossing. On Saturday, Paul visited the spot and personally used a paintbrush to contribute to the artwork, while extending Durga Puja greetings to residents.

The minister also assured people that damaged roads would be repaired before Bodhan, the ritual marking the invocation of Goddess Durga.

Dengue Cases Raise Concern in West Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: Dengue cases across West Bengal are raising concerns ahead of Durga Puja, prompting the state health department to issue fresh warnings to municipalities, panchayats and puja committees. With the situation remaining worrying, authorities have been directed to maintain vigilance until mid-November, with officials making it clear that negligence in dengue prevention will not be tolerated.

Public health expert urged puja organisers to remove decorative materials and garbage promptly after completing pandal construction to prevent mosquito breeding. He warned that thousands of visitors would gather at pandals during the festival, where stagnant water and accumulated waste could create conditions conducive to mosquito breeding.

Report stated that concerns were also raised over the effectiveness of civic waste removal and sanitation measures, questioning whether the authorities were carrying out regular cleaning operations. The recent rise in cases was worrying and suggested that the number of reported infections could increase further if testing was expanded.

According to sources, West Bengal has recorded 10,177 dengue cases between January and October this year, while 14 people have died of the disease since January. Two of the deaths were reported in October.

North 24 Parganas has emerged as one of the worst-affected districts, recording 689 cases between January and October. Of particular concern is the sharp rise in infections over the past three weeks, during which 231 cases were reported. Bidhanagar, Bagda, Bongaon and Deganga are among the areas reporting a higher incidence of dengue.

Murshidabad is also witnessing a worrying rise in infections. Eighteen fresh cases were reported in the district in the past 24 hours, taking the total number of infections this year to more than 1,800, according to health department sources.

Health officials believe the accumulation of stagnant water after the monsoon has contributed to

mosquito breeding and the subsequent rise in infections. In response, special cleanliness drives have been launched across districts to tackle the spread of the disease.

The measures include clearing stagnant water, removing waste and spraying mosquito-control oil in vulnerable areas. Authorities are also urging residents to keep their surroundings clean and prevent water from accumulating in containers, drains and other open spaces.

District health officials have advised people not to panic but to remain alert and take preventive measures. Residents experiencing fever have been urged to contact the nearest health centre promptly for medical assessment and appropriate treatment.

With the festival season expected to draw large crowds to pandals across the state, the health department has stressed the need for coordinated efforts by civic bodies, panchayat authorities and puja committees to strengthen sanitation and mosquito-control measures and prevent a further rise in dengue cases.

Police Summon Abhishek in Camac Street Billboard Case

MI News Service, Kolkata: Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee has been directed to appear before Shakepeare Sarani police station on Monday in connection with the Camac Street billboard controversy. Police officials visited his residence on Sunday and served him a notice after waiting for around 20 minutes before the main gate was opened.

The case relates to an incident on August 27, when civic workers attempted to remove a billboard installed outside Banerjee's office on Camac Street. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) alleged that its personnel were obstructed from carrying out the removal operation. Based on complaints filed by the civic body, three cases have been registered against the Diamond Harbour MP.

This is not the first time police have sought to question Banerjee in connection with the matter. He was earlier questioned for around five hours in another case filed by the civic body.

On Wednesday, police personnel from Shakepeare Sarani police station had visited Banerjee's Kalighat residence to serve another notice in connection with a separate FIR lodged by the KMC. However, they returned without serving it as nobody was present at the house.

According to sources, the complaint names Banerjee, former IPS officer Humayun Kabir, Baishwanar Chattopadhyay and several other Trinamool leaders.

The August 27 incident had triggered tension at the Camac Street office, with security personnel allegedly engaging in a

scuffle with police officers when they attempted to enter the premises. Police personnel were allegedly assaulted, while some fell on the staircase during the altercation. Civic workers were also allegedly obstructed and assaulted while attempting to remove the billboard.

The KMC maintained that the billboard was illegal and eventually removed it despite the resistance. Several people were detained in connection with the alleged obstruction of police and civic personnel.

The civic body subsequently lodged complaints against Banerjee and other Trinamool leaders. Police are now seeking to question the MP in connection with another case arising from the complaints. It remains to be seen whether Banerjee appears before the police on Monday.

Calcutta Customs Club Organises Cycle Rally to Promote Health Awareness

MI News Service, Kolkata: Promoting health awareness, physical fitness, eco-friendly transportation and social participation, the ‘Cycle Rally 2026’ was organised on Sunday on the streets of Kolkata. More than 300 cyclists participated in the rally organised by the Calcutta Customs Club.

The rally began at around 7 am from the Customs House on Strand Road. Shrawan Kumar, Principal Chief Commissioner of the Kolkata Customs Zone, and Ajay Kumar Nand, Commissioner of Kolkata Police, flagged off the rally.

Starting from the Customs House, the cyclists passed through Strand Road, Babughat, the AJC Bose Road Flyover, Rabindra Sadan, Chowringhee Road, Mayo Road, Akashvani Bhavan, Government Place Road, Council House Street and



the GPO before returning to the Customs House, where the rally concluded.

The rally highlighted the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle, incorporating regular exercise into daily routines and promoting environmentally friendly modes of transportation.

Name Change
I, Alima Begam, W/o. Najmuddin Sarkar, R/o. Kalupukur, Hatni, Pandua, Hooghly- 712134, W. B. , do hereby declare that in my Daughter's (Najmin Sarkar) Birth Certificate (being Registration No. 5024, dated 01/01/2008) where my/ daughter mother's name has been recorded as Alima Bibi, instead of my correct & actual name Alima Begam, which I want to rectify when & where necessary vide this affidavit. Henceforth I shall be known as Alima Begam instead of Alima Bibi in all purpose. I, Alima Begam & Alima Bibi W/o. Najmuddin Sarkar both are the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 24314 dated 06/10/2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Hooghly at Chinsurah Court.

Name Change
I, Sekh Kashem Ali, S/o. Late Lella Ali, R/o. Iswarbaha, Sahaganj, Chinsurah, Hooghly- 712104, W. B. , do hereby declare that in the 2002 Voter List (190 Polba Assembly, Part No. 148, Sl. No. 217, Hooghly), where my father's name has been recorded as Lihali Qureshi (লিহালি কোরেশি) S/o. Sekh Yakub Qureshi (সেক্ষ ইয়াকুব কোরেশি) and in all of my documents where my father's name has been recorded as Lella Ali. That my father Lella Ali and Lihali Qureshi (লিহালি কোরেশি) S/o. Sekh Yakub Qureshi (সেক্ষ ইয়াকুব কোরেশি), is the same & one identical person vide an affidavit no. 1439, dated 17. 01. 2026, sworn before Judicial Magistrate, Hooghly at Chinsurah Court.

Change of Name/Surname
I, Refakhazzaman Mondal, S/o Late Maslem Mondal, R/o Vill. Gadpukur, P.O.-Gadpukur, P.S.- Bagdaha, Dist- 24 Pgs (N), Pin-743710, W.B. by the virtue of an affidavit in Court of Executive Magistrate at Bongaon, 24 Pgs (N) Dt. 5/10/26, affirm that my name has been recorded in my Voter Card (No. WB/13/084/087036) as Refakhazzaman Mondal S/o Maslem, and in my son SAFUDDIN MONDAL'S Birth Certificate International and Passport (No. N1638961) as Md Rifakujaman Mondal, and his W.B.B.S.E Passed Certificate as Rifakujaman Mondal, and in his Aadhar Card (No. 4395 2179 5883) and Pan Card (No. HOOPM6207L) as Rifakujazzaman Mondal, and also in his Voter card as Rifakhuz Zamil Mondal, which will be henceforth be everywhere Refakhazzaman Mondal, S/o Late Maslem Mondal. Refakhazzaman Mondal, S/o Maslem Mondal and Refakhuzjaman Mondal S/o Maslem, and Md Rifakujaman Mondal, Rifakujaman Mondal, Rifakujazzaman Mondal and Rifakhuz Zamil Mondal are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MATINUR RAHAMAN MONDAL, do hereby declare that in my daughter MAHI JANNAT's birth certificate (Reg. No. 495/17 dt. 02.11.17) my name has been recorded as MOTINUR RAHAMAN. On 08.10.2026 vide affidavit no. 26549 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that myself MATINUR RAHAMAN MONDAL & MOTINUR RAHAMAN is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, TARIKUL MONDAL, do hereby declare that in my birth certificate (Reg. No. 513 dt. 02.12.1999) my father's name has been recorded as WAJET ALI MONDAL. On 28.09.26 vide affidavit no. 25193 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that my father AJET ALI MONDAL & WAJET ALI MONDAL is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Grishma Hillol Doshi, D/o- Shri Rashmi Kant Shah, R/o- 5E, Heysham Road, Bhanpur, Kolkata- 700020, P. S.- Bhawanipore, my actual name has been recorded in my various documents as & also be known as Grishma Doshi and Grishma H Doshi in place of Grishma Hillol Doshi, vide an Affidavit dt. 06. 10. 2026, before the Notary Public at Kolkata. That, Grishma Hillol Doshi & Grishma Doshi and Grishma H Doshi all are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Lutfar Rahman Gazi(Old Name), S/o. Late Kalu Gazi, R/o.- Sripur Bagher Ghole, P. O.- Bon Hooghly, P. S.- Nandrapur, Sonarpur, Kolkata- 700103, 24 Pgs(S), W. B. , have changed my name from Lutfar Rahman Gazi(Old name) to Lutfar Gazi(New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Lutfar Gazi(New name) vide Affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on dt. 09- 10- 2026. That Lutfar Rahman Gazi(Old name) and Lutfar Gazi(New name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jamil Ahmed, S/o.- Mohammad Moimuddin, R/o.- 28, G. C. R. Ch. Ghat, Road, Shipbur, Dist.- Howrah- 711102, my Mother's actual name (Rukhsana Khatun), have change my Mother's actual name from Rukhsana Begam, Rukhsana Begum (Old Name) to Rukhsana Khatun (New Name), henceforth shall be known as Rukhsana Khatun (New Name), vide an Affidavit No. 34670/26, in the Court of Ld. E. M. , 1st Class, at Howrah. That, Rukhsana Begam, Rukhsana Begum (Old Name) & Rukhsana Khatun (New Name) both are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Jamil Ahmed, S/o.- Maimuddin, Moimuddin Ansari, Maimuddin Ansari, Md Moimuddin (Old Name), R/o.- 28, Gurucharan Roy Chowdhury Ghat, Road, Shipbur, Dist.- Howrah- 711102, I have change my & Father's actual name from Jamil Ahmed, S/o.- Maimuddin, Moimuddin Ansari, Maimuddin Ansari, Md Moimuddin (Old Name), R/o.- 28, Gurucharan Roy Chowdhury Ghat, Road, Shipbur, Dist.- Howrah- 711102, I have change my & Father's actual name from Jamil Ahmed, S/o.- Maimuddin, Moimuddin Ansari, Maimuddin Ansari, Md Moimuddin (Old Name) all are same & one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk. Siddikur Rahman (Old Name), Son Of Sk Abul Kalam, Resident Of Vill- Banamalipur, Po- Paschimtajpur, Ps- Chanditala, Hooghly 712- 706, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I have Changed My Name From Sk. Siddikur Rahman (Old Name) To Sk Siddikur Rahman (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sk Siddikur Rahman (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 20431 Sworn Before The Notary Publications At Kolkata On 08/10/2026. Sk Siddikur Rahman (New Name) And Sk. Siddikur Rahman (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Asma Begam Kazi (Old Name), Daughter Of Iyasin Mallick, Resident Of Vill- Dafarchak, Po- Rajbalhat, Ps- Jangipara, Hooghly 712- 408, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Asma Begam Kazi (Old Name) To Asma Begam (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Asma Begam (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 20431 Sworn Before The Notary Publications At Kolkata On 08/10/2026. Asma Begam (New Name) And Asma Begam Kazi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Meenakshi Bose Sathua (Old Name), Daughter Of Sunil Kumar Bose, Resident Of 20/15, G. C. Bose Lane, Po- Konnagar, Ps- Uttarpada, Hooghly 712- 235, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Meenakshi Bose Sathua (Old Name) To Meenakshi Bose (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Meenakshi Bose (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 20431 Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Serampore Hooghly On 01/10/2026. Meenakshi Bose (New Name) And Meenakshi Bose Sathua (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Majnur (Old Name), Son Of Late Haji Daud Rahman Mondal, Resident Of Vill- Manoharpur, Po- Madnupur, Ps- Tarakeswar, Hooghly 712- 410, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Majnur (Old Name) To Majnur Rahman Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Majnur Rahman Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 45 Sworn Before The Notary Publications At Kolkata On 06/10/2026. Majnur Rahman Mondal (New Name) And Majnur (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Chinta Devi (Old Name), Wife Of Late Gopal Lal Rajak, Resident Of 6/15A, Kalish Ghosh Road, P.O.- Purbia Barisha, P.S.- Handeupur, Kolkata- 700008, West Bengal, Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Chinta Devi (Old Name) To Chinta Devi Rajak (New Name) And henceforth I shall be known As Chinta Devi Rajak (New Name) In All Purpose Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Chinta Devi Rajak (New Name) And Chinta Devi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Md Shakoor (Old Name), Son Of Md Alijan, Resident Of 4/74 Convent Lane, Tangra, Kolkata- 700015, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Shakoor (Old Name) To Md Shakur (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Shakur (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 25 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Md Shakur (New Name) And Md Shakoor (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Abdul Rashid Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Late Dastan Ali, Resident Of Shantikanan, Berhampore, Murshidabad- 742011, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Abdul Rashid Mondal (Old Name) To Abdul Rasid Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Abdul Rasid Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 34 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Abdul Rashid Mondal (Old Name) And Abdul Rasid Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rajiv Kumar Pasari (old name), S/O Mandlal Pasari, residing at 53A, Tripura Enclave Ballygunge, Circular Lane of Cosmopolitan Club Ballygunge, Kolkata- 700019, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rajiv Kumar Pasari (Old Name) to Rajiv Pasari (New Name) and henceforth shall I be known as Rajiv Pasari (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Rajiv Pasari (new name) and Rajiv Kumar Pasari (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Ujjal Kumar Chakravarty (old name), S/O Tarpa Chakravarty, residing at 3 FR, FL- 3R, 80/A Ballygunge, Kolkata- 700019, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Ujjal Kumar Chakravarty (Old Name) to Ujjal Chakravarty (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Ujjal Chakravarty (new name) and Ujjal Kumar Chakravarty (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Satarupa Chakrabarty (old name), S/O Kallol Kumar Mukherjee, residing at 3 FR, FL- 3R, 80/A Ballygunge, Kolkata- 700019, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Satarupa Chakrabarty (Old Name) to Satarupa Chakravarty (New Name) and henceforth shall I be known as Satarupa Chakravarty (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Satarupa Chakravarty (new name) and Satarupa Chakrabarty (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) REHENA BEGUM W/o- SAMSER ALI MONDAL Residing at, Prantikpara, Panchanantala, Chaltia, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742165, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from REHENA BEGUM To REHANA BEGAM (New name) and henceforth I Shall be Known as (New name) REHANA BEGAM in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2316 On Date 08 Oct 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, REHANA BEGAM and REHENA BEGUM both are Same and one identical Person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) MANJU SARKAR W/o- BIDYUT KUMAR SARKAR Residing at, Kantabari, Kazi para, Jalangi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742306, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from MANJU SARKAR To MANJU BISWAS SARKAR (New name) and henceforth I Shall be Known as (New name) MANJU BISWAS SARKAR in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2315 On Date 08 Oct 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, MANJU BISWAS SARKAR and MANJU SARKAR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) AVHA SARKAR W/o- UPANDRA NATH SARKAR Residing at, Kantabari, Kazi para, Jalangi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742306, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from AVHA SARKAR To AVHARANI SARKAR (New name) and henceforth I Shall be Known as (New name) AVHARANI SARKAR in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2314 On Date 08 Oct 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, AVHARANI SARKAR and AVHA SARKAR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) SHATABDI SARKAR Residing at, Kazipara, Jalangi, Dist- Murshidabad, Pin- 742306, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from SHATABDI SARKAR To SHATABDI KARMAKAR SARKAR (New name) and henceforth I Shall be Known as (New name) SHATABDI KARMAKAR SARKAR in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2312 On Date 08 Oct 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, SHATABDI KARMAKAR SARKAR and SHATABDI SARKAR both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, (Old Name) TAIRADDIN BISWAS S/o- HAJARAT BISWAS Residing at, Bagberia, Chapra, Dist- Nadia, Pin- 741123, West Bengal. Do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from TAIRADDIN BISWAS To TAIRADDI BISWAS (New name) and henceforth I Shall be Known as (New name) TAIRADDI BISWAS in all purpose Vide an affidavit No- 2312 On Date 08 Oct 2026 Sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad, TAIRADDI BISWAS and TAIRADDIN BISWAS both are Same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Bishnu Basu (Old Name), Son Of Suren Basu, Resident Of Huda Purnabawapara, Dhantala, Nadia- 741501, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Bishnu Basu (Old Name) To Bishnupada Basu (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Bishnupada Basu (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 22/09/2026. Bishnupada Basu (New Name) And Bishnu Basu (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Debashish Biswas & Debashish Biswas (Old Name), Son Of Sharat Chandra Biswas, Resident Of Barbara Colony, Dhantala, Nadia- 741501, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Debashish Biswas & Debashish Biswas (Old Name) To Debashish Biswas (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Debashish Biswas (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 22/09/2026. Debashish Biswas & Debashish Biswas (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammed Raqib Hossain (Old Name), Son Of Md Hossain, Resident Of 4A, Ismail Ostagar Lane, P. o- Khidripore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammed Raqib Hossain (Old Name) To Md Raqib Hossain (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Raqib Hossain (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Md Raqib Hossain (New Name) And Mohammed Raqib Hossain (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Mohammad Hossain (Old Name), Son Of Late Hashim Mohammed, Resident Of 4A, Ismail Ostagar Lane, P. o- Khidripore, Kolkata- 700023, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Mohammad Hossain (Old Name) To Md Hossain (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Md Hossain (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Md Hossain (New Name) And Mohammad Hossain (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Rumpa Bhunia (old name) W/O Prabir Kumar Patra, resident of Ghola Balichak, Po- Balichak, Ps- Debra, West Medinipur- 721124 West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Rumpa Bhunia (Old Name) to Rumpa Bhunia Patra (new name) and henceforth I shall be known as Rumpa Bhunia Patra (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata, on 05/10/2026. Rumpa Bhunia Patra (New Name) and Rumpa Bhunia (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sonjit Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Samir Mondal, Resident Of A/82, Purba Ananda Pally, Purba Putiary, Kolkata- 700093, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Sonjit Mondal (Old Name) To Sanjit Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Sanjit Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Sanjit Mondal (New Name) And Sonjit Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Swapan Das son of Hori Pada Das, residing at 2. 5 Motilal Colony, Dum Dum (m), Rajbari Colony, Dist: North 24 Parganas, Pin: 700081, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Swapan Das to Swapan Kumar Das and henceforth I shall be known as Swapan Kumar Das in all purpose, vide affidavit no. 17, sworn before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 08/10/2026. Swapan Kumar Das and Swapan Das both are same and one person.

Name Change
I, Suprova Mondal (Old Name) W/o Rabindranath Mondal D/o Niranjan Mondal Residing at Vill- Parnadpan, P. o- Nalduguri, P s- Bagdaha, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 743297, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Suprova Mondal (Old Name) to Suprabha Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Suprabha Mondal (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 09- 10- 2026. Suprabha Mondal (New Name) and Suprova Mondal (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sk. Abdul Salam (Old Name) S/o Sekh Abdul Razak Residing at Vill- Natipuri, P. O- Kolora, P.s- Domjur, District- Howrah, Pin- 711411, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have Changed my name from Sk Abdul Salam (Old Name) to Sk Abdus Salam (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sk Abdus Salam (New Name) in all purpose, vide affidavit Sworn before the Notary public at Kolkata on Dated 09- 10- 2026. Sk Abdus Salam (Old Name) both are same and one identical person.

Change of Name
I, Rafi Ahmed, S/o- Moajjem Hosain Akhunjee, residing at Vill- Patua, P.O.- Barghoria, P.S.- Swarnapukur, North 24 PGS, Pin- 743247 do hereby declare that my name wrongly recorded in Voter Card being no. LQ2350544 as Rafi Ahmed in place of Rafi Ahmed and my father name has been recorded as Moajjem Hosain Akunjee in place of Moajjem Hosain Akhunjee. That Rafi Ahmed & Rafi Ahmed is same one & identical person and Moajjem Hosain Akhunjee & Moajjem Hosain Akhunjee is same one & identical person vide affidavit no. 6757/Bc-1/25, Dt. 18.11.25 sworn before the Ld. Executive Magistrate Court at Basirhat, North 24 Parganas.

Name Change
I, Bulbul Mondal (Old Name), Wife Of Sanjit Mondal, Resident Of A/82, Purba Ananda Pally, Purba Putiary, Kolkata- 700093, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Bulbul Mondal (Old Name) To Bulbul Mondal Roy (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Bulbul Mondal Roy (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 09/10/2026. Bulbul Mondal Roy (New Name) And Bulbul Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Hossain Mandal (old name), S/O Golam Mondal, residing at Vill & P. O.- Beara, Bagdaha, Bongaon, Pin- 743251, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Hossain Mandal (Old Name) to Hossain Mandal (New Name) and henceforth shall I be known as Hossain Mandal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Hossain Mandal (old name) and Hossain Mandal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Tarikul Islam Akunji & Mohammad Tariqul Islam (old names), S/O Khoda Box Akunji, residing at Vill.- Korapara, P. O.- Sikra Kulin Gram, P. S.- Matia, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743428, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Tarikul Islam Akunji & Mohammad Tariqul Islam (Old Names) to Md Tarikul Islam (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Md Tarikul Islam (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Md Tarikul Islam (new name) and Tarikul Islam Akunji & Mohammad Tariqul Islam (old names) all are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sirajul Mandal (Old Name), S/O Yeakub Mondal, residing at Vill.- Krishnapara, P. O.- Makhalgacha, P. S.- Hasnabad, Dist.- North 24 Pgs, Pin- 743422, West Bengal, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Sirajul Mandal (Old Name) to Sirajul Islam Mondal (New Name) and henceforth I shall be known as Sirajul Islam Mondal (new name), as declared Before The Notary Public at Kolkata, vide an affidavit dated 09/10/2026. Sirajul Islam Mondal (new name) and Sirajul Mandal (old name) both are same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Sukla Chakrabarty wife of Late Pranesh Chakrabarty Resident of 15B, Rakhal Das Auddy Road, Alipore, Kolkata- 700027, West Bengal, India, declares that in the mutation and tax receipt issued by Uttarpada Kotrang Municipality is wrongly typed as Sikha Chakrabarty instead of Sukla Chakrabarty. Vide Affidavit No 50892 sworn before the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate at Alipore on date 09/10/2026. I declare and confirm that Sukla Chakrabarty and Sikha Chakrabarty are the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, Md Fajilla Biswas (Old Name), Son Of Hatem Biswas, Resident Of Vill & Po- Chaita, Ps- Basirhat, North 24 Parganas- 743445, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Md Fajilla Biswas (Old Name) To Fajilla Biswas (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Fajilla Biswas (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 13 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/10/2026. Fajilla Biswas (New Name) And Md Fajilla Biswas (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Hasina Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Late Md Hatem Biswas, Resident Of Vill & Po- Chaita, Ps- Basirhat, North 24 Parganas- 743445, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Hasina Bibi (Old Name) To Hachena Bibi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Hachena Bibi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 12 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/10/2026. Hachena Bibi (New Name) And Hasina Bibi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Noorjahan Begum (Old Name), Wife Of Fajilla Biswas, Resident Of Vill & Po- Chaita, Ps- Basirhat, North 24 Parganas- 743445, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Noorjahan Begum Biswas (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Noorjahan Begam Biswas (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit No 11 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 01/10/2026. Noorjahan Begam Biswas (New Name) And Noorjahan Begum (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, P K Chakraborty (Old Name), Son Of N G Chakraborty, DI No Wb01 1992 0390227, Resident Of 60/10 Garfa Main Road, Kolkata- 700075, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From P K Chakraborty (Old Name) To Probr Kumar Chakraborty (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Probr Kumar Chakraborty (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The 1st Class Judicial Magistrate At Howrah On 24/09/2026. Probr Kumar Chakraborty (New Name) And P K Chakraborty (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Tahamina Bibi (Old Name), Wife Of Sirajul Haque, Resident Of Barobhage, Po- Haranagar, Ps- Nakashipara, Nadia- 741137, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Tahamina Bibi (Old Name) To Tahamina Khatun Bibi (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Tahamina Khatun Bibi (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/10/2026. Tahamina Khatun Bibi (New Name) And Tahamina Bibi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Samsuddin Mondal (Old Name), Son Of Nui Mandal, Resident Of Shimultala Chapra, Po- Chapra, Ps- Dhantala, Nadia- 741202, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Samsuddin Mondal (Old Name) To Chamsel Mondal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Chamsel Mondal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/10/2026. Chamsel Mondal (New Name) And Samsuddin Mondal (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Potima Debnath (Old Name), Wife Of Pradip Kumar Mandl, Resident Of Vill- Raghunathpur, Po- Churnimirgathpur, Ps- Dhantala, Nadia- 741501, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Potima Debnath (Old Name) To Pratima Mandal (New Name) And Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Pratima Mandal (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide Affidavit Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 06/10/2026. Pratima Mandal (New Name) And Potima Debnath (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Nisha Devi (Old Name) Daughter Of Kedat Nath Paul, Resident At 15 Bagdi Para Lane, Shipbur, Howrah, Pin- 711102, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Nisha Devi (Old Name) To Nisha Paul (New Name) Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Nisha Paul (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide An Affidavit No 54 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 07/10/2026. Nisha Paul (New Name) And Nisha Devi (Old Name) Both Are Same And One Identical Person.

Name Change
I, Kanta Dhawan (Old Name) W/O Late Vashdev Dhawan, Resident At 286, Dum Dum Park, 4th Floor, Flat 8, Kolkata, P. o- Bangur Avenue, District- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700055, West Bengal Do hereby Declare That I Have Changed My Name From Kanta Dhawan (New Name) Henceforth I Shall Be Known As Kanta Devi Dhawan (New Name) In All Purpose, Vide An Affidavit No 54 Sworn Before The Notary Public At Kolkata On 05. 10. 2026. SAJAL GOMES (New Name) and Mr. JAMES DAVID SAJAL GOMES (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Name Change
I, Mr. JAMES DAVID SAJAL GOMES (OLD NAME) Son of Francis Gomes Resident of Dayabari, Ranaghat, Nadia 741256, West Bengal Do hereby declare that I have changed My name from Mr. JAMES DAVID SAJAL GOMES (Old Name) to SAJAL GOMES (New Name) and Henceforth I shall be known as SAJAL GOMES (New Name) in all purpose vide affidavit no 11 Sworn Before the Notary Public at Kolkata on 05. 10. 2026. SAJAL GOMES (New Name) and Mr. JAMES DAVID SAJAL GOMES (Old Name) both are same and identical person.

Sankrail Police Organise Awareness Rally to Protect Students; Move to Curb Sale of Intoxicants Near Schools



MI News Service, Kharagpur : In an effort to protect students from the harmful effects of substance abuse and ensure a safe environment around educational institutions, Sankrail police in Jhargram district have launched an awareness initiative. Prioritising student safety, police organised an awareness rally to highlight the need to prevent the sale of intoxicating substances near schools and encourage students to stay away from drugs. The initiative reflects the administration's concern for the safety of school-going children and their future. The availability of intoxicating substances around educational institutions can pose a serious threat to students' health, education and overall development. Against this backdrop, the police campaign is being viewed as an important step towards educating children about the harmful consequences of substance abuse and increasing awareness among the wider community. Focus on Safer School Environments. Through the rally, police emphasised the need to curb the sale of intoxicating substances in the vicinity of school premises. The campaign also conveyed a message about creating a safer educational environment and protecting students from the dangers of addiction. The initiative is expected to raise awareness among local residents and parents about their role in safeguarding children and helping prevent substance abuse. Community Awareness Key to Protecting Students. While the awareness campaign has highlighted the importance of keeping schools and their surroundings free from the influence of intoxicating substances, its effectiveness will depend on sustained efforts and implementation at the ground level. The message behind the initiative is clear: protecting children's futures requires collective efforts to prevent the sale of intoxicating substances near schools and ensure a safe environment in which students can learn and grow.

Bengal's festive beat faces an uncertain future as Ranaghat dhakis struggle for bookings

MI News Service, Nadia : As West Bengal prepares for Durga Puja, nearly 100 families of traditional dhaki drummers in Hijuli, near Ranaghat in Nadia district, are confronting an increasingly uncertain livelihood. While the sound of the dhak remains central to the state's biggest festival, the artisans behind the rhythmic beats say that securing bookings has become increasingly difficult, forcing many to seek alternative sources of income during the rest of the year.

For generations, dhak playing has been both a livelihood and a family tradition in Hijuli. During the festive season, drummers from the area travelled beyond Bengal to cities such as Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad, carrying their distinctive rhythms to community celebrations and household pujas. Some also recall performing at the residences of film personalities Rani Mukerji and Kajol, as well as singers Abhijeet and Babul Supriyo.

Those assignments remain a source of pride, but the memories of more prosperous seasons offer little financial security today. With fewer confirmed bookings, many families are finding it difficult to depend on the short festive season to meet household expenses throughout the year.

Rising prices of essential commodities have added to the pressure. Several drummers now take up daily-wage work or other jobs during the months when there is little demand for their musical skills. For them, the challenge is not merely about declining earnings; it is also about sustaining a traditional occupation that has passed from one generation to the next.

The uncertainty comes at a time when the dhak continues to hold an important place in Bengal's cultural identity. Its beats accompany the arrival of the Goddess, enliven the festive atmosphere and remain an integral part of rituals at community and household pujas. Yet the

Name Change
I, TARIKUL MONDAL, do hereby declare that in my birth certificate (Reg. No. 513 dt. 02.12.1999) my father's name has been recorded as WAJET ALI MONDAL. On 28.09.26 vide affidavit no. 25193 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that my father AJET ALI MONDAL & WAJET ALI MONDAL is the same and one identical person.

Name Change
I, MATINUR RAHAMAN MONDAL, do hereby declare that in my daughter MAHI JANNAT's birth certificate (Reg. No. 495/17 dt. 02.11.17) my name has been recorded as MOTINUR RAHAMAN. On 08.10.2026 vide affidavit no. 26549 submitted before the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Basirhat, I affirm that myself MATINUR RAHAMAN MONDAL & MOTINUR RAHAMAN is the same and one identical person.

বিজ্ঞপ্তি
আমার মকেল ভূপতি মল্লিক, স্বামী- হারান মল্লিক, ২০২৬ সালে A.D.S.R. ডোমজুড় অফিসে রেজিস্ট্রিকৃত ০৫০৪০২৪৮নং দলিল দ্বারা ডোমজুড় ০৫০৪০২৪৮/২০২৬নং (A.D.S.R. ডোমজুড়) আমোক্তার (বাবুরাম দত্ত এবং কনালী দত্ত) দলিল দ্বারা মৌজা- পার্শ্বীপুর (০৮), হাল- ২৫০৫, ২৫৪৯নং, খতিয়ান, সাবেক- ২০০৩নং, হাল- ২০০৪নং দাখল মোট ৪.৪৫ শতক সম্পত্তি জমা করিয়া নাম পরিবর্তনের আবেদন করেন। উক্ত বিষয়ে কাগারও কোন আপত্তি থাকিলে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ১

Pralhad Joshi
accuses Congress of
creating anarchy over
electoral roll revision

MI News Service, Delhi: Union Minister Pralhad Joshi accused the Congress party on October 11 of attempting to create anarchy in India in response to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Speaking in Hubballi, Karnataka, Joshi defended the SIR process as a constitutional measure intended to ensure accurate voter lists.

Addressing reporters, he characterised the Congress's protest in Delhi on October 10 as an effort to provoke unrest rather than a legitimate demonstration. "SIR is being conducted in a just and transparent manner in line with the Constitution and democratic system. Despite that, the Congress is agitating against it to create anarchy," Joshi said.

He asserted the government was compelled to respond when protests threatened law and order, describing the action taken during the previous day's protest as the minimum necessary to prevent chaos.

Joshi challenged the objections raised by the Congress regarding the SIR exercise, stating that large numbers of voter entries had been identified as belonging to deceased individuals, duplicate registrations or other ineligible voters. He claimed approximately 30 million entries involved deceased voters, with another 30 million related to duplicate or fake voters. Joshi further alleged the Congress demanded the re-inclusion of 130 million untraceable voters, including those who had died, migrated or were otherwise ineligible.

"The Election Commission has given an open opportunity for eligible voters to appear in person and get it corrected," Joshi noted, questioning the retention of ineligible entries on electoral rolls. The figures cited were claims made by the Union Minister.

Joshi also criticised Karnataka Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar for alleging a conspiracy to delete voters' names in the state. He highlighted Shivakumar's claim that approximately 5 million voters were at risk of removal, contrasting it with clarification from the Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer stating that around 90,000 names were considered ineligible.

"So who is conspiring?" Joshi asked, highlighting this discrepancy.

He emphasised that the SIR exercise is implemented by state government officials, including tahsildars, assistant commissioners and deputy commissioners, questioning how the central government could be held responsible. "The Centre may have framed the SIR policy, but who is implementing it on the ground? Tahsildars, ACs, DCs are all officers under the state government. Where is the Centre's conspiracy in this?" he said.

While acknowledging citizens' democratic right to protest, Joshi said statements refusing to recognise the authority of Indian law and the Constitution amount to an attempt to create anarchy.

The SIR exercise has become a political flashpoint between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and opposition parties, with the Congress expressing concerns about voter deletions and the fairness of the electoral roll revision process. Central to the ongoing debate are the Election Commission's procedures and the management of disputed voter entries.

Kumaraswamy demands
probe into Shivakumar sting
operation controversy

MI News Service, Karnataka : Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy has intensified his criticism of Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar regarding the alleged sting operation controversy, calling for an official investigation into the matter.

Kumaraswamy pointed out that the issue should not be dismissed as a mere allegation and questioned the developments over the past week concerning the reported sting operation. "It is not an allegation. What are all the sequences from the last week going on regarding the sting operation? The Chief Minister has to spell out who the five ministers are," he said.

The controversy emerged after Shivakumar reportedly warned Cabinet colleagues during a meeting about possible sting operations targeting ministers. The Chief Minister referred to information about five ministers allegedly being targeted, although the identities of the ministers and the agencies involved have not been officially confirmed.

Kumaraswamy challenged Shivakumar to order a formal investigation, questioning why the Chief Minister had not disclosed the identities of those allegedly involved despite claiming to possess photographs, documents and other evidence. "If a sting operation was actually attempted, let there be an investigation."



Chief Minister Suvedu Adhikari and BJP West Bengal State President and Rajyasabha MP Samik Bhattacharya at Santosh Mitra Square Durga Puja inauguration on Sunday.

Bengal STF Arrests Six in Drug Busts

MI News Service, Kolkata: The West Bengal Police Special Task Force (STF) arrested six people and seized around 90 kg of cannabis and nearly 1 kg of brown sugar during separate anti-narcotics operations in Nimta in North 24 Parganas and Bagdogra in Darjeeling district on October 10.

In the first operation, the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) arrested five people in Nimta and recovered around 90 kg of cannabis, estimated to be worth Rs 44.5 lakh. Cash amounting to Rs 5 lakh and three vehicles were also seized.

According to preliminary

investigations, two of the arrested persons are residents of Odisha and had allegedly arrived to supply the cannabis, while the remaining three were supposed to receive the consignment.

In a separate operation based on intelligence inputs, STF personnel arrested a resident of the Naxalbari police station area in Darjeeling district from the Bagdogra police station area. Nearly 1 kg of brown sugar, estimated to be worth around Rs 2 crore, was seized from him.

Investigations into both cases are underway. Officers are questioning the ar-

rested persons to establish the source of the narcotics, their intended destinations and the identities of others involved in the alleged trafficking network.

The latest seizures come days after police recovered a substantial quantity of narcotics during a raid at a hotel party suite in Park Street on October 4. Around 20 people were present at the venue, which falls under Shakespeare Sarani police station's jurisdiction. The repeated seizures have raised concerns over drug trafficking and suspected illegal parties in the state ahead of the festive season.

Missing 7-Yr-Old Girl Rescued After
Overnight Search in Kolkata

MI News Service, Kolkata: A seven-year-old girl who went missing after attending a clothing distribution programme for the underprivileged on Mahalaya was rescued by Kolkata Police following an overnight search. The child was found in the Bowbazar police station area around 1 am on Saturday night and was subsequently reunited with her family.

The girl, a resident of Bhangabasti under Jorabagan police station, had gone to a clothing distribution event in the area between 1 pm and 1.30 pm on Mahalaya. However, she did not return home even after the programme ended. Her family searched the neighbourhood but failed to trace her.

Her father, ShambhuBera, subsequently lodged a written

complaint at Jorabagan police station, providing details of the missing child. Police registered a case under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and launched an investigation.

Investigators examined CCTV footage from the surrounding areas. The girl was reportedly spotted in Kumar-tuli and later moving along RabindraSarani towards Esplanade. However, her whereabouts remained unknown after that, prompting police to alert detectives from the anti-rowdy section.

A search operation was launched under the leadership of Jorabagan police station officer-in-charge Jaideep Das. Police took the girl's father along in a vehicle while searching areas including Chitpur and Cossipore. Searches were also conducted in a market in

Baranagar, while photographs of the child were circulated among neighbouring police stations.

The search eventually led police to the Bowbazar police station area, where the girl was traced around 1 am on Saturday night. She was brought to the police station and later handed over to her family.

Expressing gratitude, ShambhuBera thanked the police for acting immediately after the complaint was lodged. He said the officers' efforts, including taking him along during the search, had helped reunite him with his daughter quickly.

The girl's mother also thanked the police, saying the officers had acted promptly and that the family was relieved to have their daughter back.

Foundation Stones Laid for Rural
Road Projects in Naxalbari

MI News Service, Naxalbari: In a move to improve rural connectivity and reduce inconvenience to residents ahead of Durga Puja, foundation stones were laid for three road projects in Naxalbari. Ajay Oraon, chairman of the District Panchayat Council and a member of the SiliguriMahakumaParishad, performed the foundation-laying ceremonies for the proposed works.

The projects aim to repair deteriorated roads and provide smoother access to important local destinations. Residents have long faced difficulties travelling along these stretches, particularly during the monsoon, when damaged road surfaces make movement challenging.

The first project will involve reconstructing a 407-metre stretch linking State Highway 12 with the Asian Highway through Khemchi. The road has fallen into a poor state of repair and is used regularly by students attending three high schools in the area. It also serves pilgrims and people accompanying funeral processions. The estimated cost of the reconstruction work is around Rs 8 lakh.

The second project involves the construction of a 700-metre rural road connecting Station More in Naxalbari with Deshbandhu Para. The work is expected to cost approximately Rs 14 lakh and is intended to improve access for people living in the surrounding localities.

The third project will see the construction of a 600-metre asphalt road in Babupara. The stretch will run from the local bank, passing the post office, towards the MLA's office. The project has been allocated around Rs 36 lakh and is expected to be completed within one



and a half months.

According to Oraon, the foundation stones for all three projects were laid in accordance with directives issued by the chief minister. He said the roads had remained in a deteriorated condition and that their reconstruction would bring relief to local residents by improving everyday transportation.

The projects are expected to benefit students, residents and other road users who depend on these routes for their daily needs. The improvement in road conditions is also expected to make travel safer and more convenient during the festive season.

Local residents welcomed the initiative and expressed their gratitude to the chief minister. They said the roads had become extremely difficult to use during the monsoon because of their damaged surfaces and hoped the proposed work would provide lasting relief. The projects are being taken up ahead of Durga Puja, when movement increases across the region.

Second Day Of CJP-led Protest: More than 100
detained; Three top CJP leaders released

MI News Service, New Delhi: The capital, Delhi, was in turmoil on Saturday due to protests by the 'Cockroaches' demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar; the Delhi Police suppressed the demonstration with a heavy hand. Tensions surrounding the agitation persisted in the national capital on Sunday as well, with police detaining 100 protesters from the group.

Protesters, including CPI(M) MP John Brittas, were detained at Connaught Place. They were removed from the area in two buses. The protesters had begun advancing towards Connaught Place after scaling the barricades; the demonstration was led by AISA student leader Neha Bora.

As the protesters advanced, they faced police resistance. He was detained. Abhijit Deepke, a key figure of the CJP, along with two other prominent leaders of the group—Sourav Das and Ashutosh Ranka—had been detained on Saturday; they were released on Sunday morning.

Meanwhile explosive allegations were leveled by the 'Cockroach Janata Party' during a press conference on Sunday. Party spokesperson Ashutosh Ranka claimed that the recent events in Delhi over the past 72 hours have surpassed even the Emergency of the past.

He also remarked that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is prepared to pay any price to shield the Chief Election Commissioner. Meanwhile, CJP spokesperson Ashutosh Ranka revealed sensational information after being released from police custody.

He alleges that after landing at Delhi Airport on Saturday, the police effectively 'abducted' them upon boarding



the aircraft. A glaring example of this insensitivity was witnessed in the case of CJP convener Abhijit Dipke; even when he was informed of the tragic news of his grandmother's death, the police kept their cameras and microphones running, attempting to turn the entire incident into a spectacle.

Meanwhile, CJP leader Sourav Das stated that since their detention on Saturday, they have been deprived of even their basic legal rights; they were not even permitted to speak with their own lawyers. While he is being detained at RK Puram, Abhijit Dipak and Ashutosh Ranka have been held in two separate locations.

It has been learned that tight security measures were implemented in Delhi on Saturday. A petition was filed in the Supreme Court complaining that these police actions were causing public inconvenience. During a special hearing on Sunday, the apex court directed that metro and rail services remain operational, the necessity of

barricades be reviewed, and internet services remain uninterrupted. At the same time, the court ordered that the free movement of people be ensured in accordance with the law.

The Supreme Court stated that action regarding peaceful, unarmed assemblies must be taken in accordance with the procedure established by law. Specifically, in areas where Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita is not in force, no one may be detained for such an assembly without following due legal process.

On Saturday, barricades were erected across various parts of Delhi, internet services were disrupted in large areas of central Delhi, and restrictions were imposed on metro and rail operations. Protesters were detained; during the hearing of a case regarding this, the Supreme Court stated that no one could be detained for staging a peaceful protest. However, protesters must also stage their protests in accordance with police regulations.

BJP emphasizes transparency in
candidate selection for municipal polls

MI News Service, Kolkata: Elections are scheduled for several municipalities across the state, including Kolkata, right after the Puja festivities. The ruling party, the BJP, does not want to leave any stone unturned in its preparations. The saffron camp has already begun preparations for candidate selection. The BJP is placing emphasis on transparency in the selection process. With the municipal elections in mind, the BJP held a preparatory meeting on Sunday. Union Minister and BJP leader Sukanta Majumdar stated that they would seek the opinions of the general public when selecting candidates this time; dropboxes will be placed at the party office. It is not just BJP members who can submit their preferred names there; representatives of civil society can do so as well. One can also indicate if they wish to be a candidate themselves.

Targeting both the Left and the Trinamool simultaneously, Sukanta asserted that Kolkata has lagged significantly behind over the past 49 years and that the BJP will build a "New Kolkata." Sukanta Majumdar stated that the youth should not merely harbor expectations or remain just voters; he intends to engage with them on how they can actively participate in the city's development.

We are optimistic that the people of

Kolkata will wholeheartedly support the BJP. Candidate selection is a crucial part of the election process, and specific parameters will certainly be considered during that process.

The ability to win any election is the key factor. Importance will be given to a candidate's clean image, acceptability within the ward, organizational skills, and other relevant aspects. Sukanta also highlighted that the BJP intends to prioritize the opinions of the general public when selecting candidates.

He stated, "At our old central office at 6 Muralidhar Sen Lane—which we are currently using as the municipal election office—a dropbox will be placed. We are encouraging people from all walks of life—whether BJP workers or non-members, including eminent figures like doctors, engineers, lawyers, and social workers—to step onto the pitch and play, rather than merely applauding from the sidelines or the gallery." The BJP is offering an opportunity. You can express your interest by submitting your details in the dropbox. We aim to create a transparent Kolkata Municipal Corporation—one that is not run by promoters or developers. The reign of promoters and developers will come to an end.

The entire country is currently in

turmoil over the SIR protests, with the youth taking to the streets. Against this backdrop, Sukanta Majumdar called upon the youth to step forward.

He stated, "I would particularly call upon the youth to step forward. We aim to take the initiative—engaging in ward-level dialogues with the youth and students whenever necessary—to foster the growth of startups and ensure advancements in sports, skill development, cultural activities, improved public transport, and digital services."

Young people will not merely remain spectators; they will become a key driving force in realizing the vision of a new Kolkata. Announcing the decision to select candidates via a dropbox, Sukanta Majumdar stated that people from all walks of life could come forward to participate in the reconstruction of Kolkata.

Nominations can be submitted starting Monday. Sukanta stated that the decision was not made due to a lack of candidates, but rather to provide an opportunity for accomplished individuals from various fields to enter politics. He added that they wish to offer opportunities to people from all walks of life, noting that the arrival of accomplished individuals would bring a breath of fresh air and new energy.

Light to Moderate Rain Likely in
Kolkata During Durga Puja

MI News Service, Kolkata:

A low-pressure system forming over the Bay of Bengal could bring light to moderate rain to Kolkata and adjoining areas during Durga Puja, raising concerns among pandal-hoppers and organisers. However, meteorologists have said there is currently little indication of heavy rainfall, reducing fears of a repeat of last year's widespread weather disruption.

According to the weather department's forecast, Kolkata is likely to witness generally cloudy skies between October 15 and 17, with isolated spells of light to moderate rain or thundershowers. October 16 marks Shashthi, the beginning of the main festive period, when intermittent showers could affect outdoor celebrations.

Saptami falls on October 17 and 18 this year, while Ashtami falls on October 18 and 19. Light rain may continue in Kolkata and neighbouring areas during this period, although no significant spell of heavy rainfall is currently expected. Conditions are likely to remain predominantly dry thereafter.

Meteorologists attribute the possibility of rain to a developing low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal. A cyclonic circulation has formed over the Gulf of Thailand and adjoining areas and is expected to move towards the Andaman Sea by Sunday, where it may develop into a low-pressure system.

The system could intensify further and move towards the Tamil Nadu-Andhra Pradesh coast. Weather experts have

noted that low-pressure systems over the Bay of Bengal during October and November can sometimes strengthen into cyclonic storms.

However, H R Biswas, head of the weather forecasting division at the Alipore Regional Meteorological Centre, said the impact of low-pressure systems over the southern Bay of Bengal generally remains concentrated around the coastal areas of south Bengal. Changes in wind patterns and increased moisture in the atmosphere could nevertheless create favourable conditions for rainfall across southern West Bengal.

Last year, heavy rainfall ahead of Durga Puja caused widespread disruption in Kolkata. On September 23, the city recorded more than 300 mm of rain, leading to waterlogging on roads, railway tracks, in hospitals and school classrooms. Flight operations were disrupted, while several areas experienced power outages. The disaster also claimed lives.

This year, the developing system is not currently expected to move directly towards Bengal, according to the forecast.

Meanwhile, conditions are becoming favourable for the with-

drawal of the monsoon from parts of eastern and northeastern India over the next three to four days. South Bengal could also see the monsoon retreat early next week.

Although the weather may

remain largely dry before the festivities, showers could begin around October 14. Residents and organisers have been advised to monitor updated forecasts as the festival approaches.

NEW SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICE IN SEALDAH-KOMAGATA MARU BUDGE BUDGE SECTION

To provide late-night last-mile connectivity, one pair of New Special train service will be introduced in Sealdah-Komagata Maru Budge Budge section over Sealdah Division during night hours on experimental basis w.e.f. 12.10.2026 upto 31.12.2026 as per the schedule mentioned below:

DOWN SEALDAH-KOMAGATA MARU BUDGE BUDGE SPECIAL LOCAL		Station	UP KOMAGATA MARU BUDGE BUDGE-SEALDAH SPECIAL LOCAL	
Arr.	Dep.		Arr.	Dep.
—	22:55	Sealdah	00:48	—
Stop	22:59	Park Circus	Stop	00:36
23:03	23:04	Ballygunge	00:31	00:32
Stop	23:09	Lake Gardens	Stop	00:24
Stop	23:11½	Mile 5B	Stop	00:21½
Stop	23:14	Tollygunge	Stop	00:19½
Stop	23:17	New Alipur (Kolkata)	Stop	00:15½
Stop	23:22	Majerhat	Stop	00:12
Stop	23:25	Brace Bridge	Stop	00:09½
Stop	23:28	Santoshpur	Stop	00:06
Stop	23:31	Akra	Stop	00:02
Stop	23:34½	Nangi	Stop	23:59
23:43	—	Komagata Maru Budge Budge↑	—	23:54

Note: Introduction of New One Pair of Night-Hour Special Train Service in Sealdah-Komagata Maru Budge Budge Section are on experimented basis and may continue or be withdrawn at the discretion of the Competent Authority.

Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah

Eastern Railway

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Poor sleep quality, insomnia linked to consuming energy drinks among students : Study

WASHINGTON DC [US] : A Norwegian study that was published in the open-access journal BMJ Open found that college students who drink energy drinks have insomnia and poor sleep quality. Additionally, pupils clocked fewer hours of sleep each night the more frequently they consumed. However, the results show that even a single can, one to three times per month, is associated with an increased risk of sleep disturbance.

According to the researchers, energy drinks have variable amounts of sugar, vitamins, minerals, and amino acids in addition to an average caffeine concentration of 150 mg per litre. Touted as physical and mental rejuvenators, they are well-liked by youths in general and college students specifically. While there is some evidence to suggest that they reduce sleep quality, it's not clear exactly which aspects of sleep might be more or less affected, or whether there are any sex-specific differences in these effects.

To explore these issues further, the researchers drew on 53,266 eighteen to 35-year-old participants of the Students'

Health and Well-being Study (SHOT22 study)--the most recent wave of a large national survey of college and university students in Norway.

The students were asked how often they drank energy drinks, with the response options of daily, weekly (once; 2-3 times; 4-6 times), monthly (1-3 times), and seldom/never. They were also asked detailed questions about their usual sleep patterns: when they went to bed and got up; how long it took them to fall asleep (sleep latency); wakefulness after going to sleep. Sleep efficiency was then calculated from the total nightly hours of sleep vs time spent in bed. Insomnia was defined as experiencing difficulties falling and staying asleep and waking early on at least 3 nights of the week, plus daytime sleepiness and tiredness for at least 3 days of the week, for at least 3 months. However, there was a clear dose-response association for both sexes between energy drink consumption and fewer hours of sleep. Both men and women who reported daily consumption slept around half an hour less



than those reporting only occasional or no consumption. Similar associations were also observed for waking after falling asleep and taking longer to fall asleep. Increasing consumption was associated with a corresponding increase in both nocturnal wake time and time taken to fall asleep--poorer sleep efficiency. Insomnia was also more common among both women and men reporting daily consumption than among those reporting occasional or no consumption: 51 per cent vs 33 per cent (women) and 37 per cent vs 22 per cent (men).

Overall, higher energy drink consumption was associated with an increasing risk of sleep problems across all the aspects studied, with the strongest associations for short sleep duration.

Compared with those reporting no or only an occasional energy drink, men who reported daily consumption were more than twice as likely to say they slept fewer than 6 hours/night, while women were 87 per cent more likely to do so. But even those reporting having an energy drink just 1-3 times a month

were still at heightened risk of sleep problems. This is an observational study, and as such, no firm conclusions can be drawn about the cause.

The researchers acknowledge that reverse causality--whereby energy drink consumption might be a consequence of poor sleep rather than the other way round--might explain the associations found. There was no information either on the timing of consumption or the exact quantities drunk, and the study relied on self-assessment rather than objective measures of consumption and sleep patterns.

Nevertheless, the researchers conclude: "The results from the current study show that there is a robust association between the frequency of [energy drink] consumption and the different sleep parameters.

"Identifying modifiable risk factors for sleep problems among college and university students is vital and our results suggest that the frequency of ...consumption could be a possible target for interventions."

Walking fitness can predict fracture risk : Study



DARLINGHURST: Researchers from the Garvan Institute of Medical Research believe that being able to walk one kilometer comfortably can help predict fracture risk.

The findings, published today in JAMA Network Open, suggested that just asking a patient about walking limitations may assist clinicians in identifying those who require additional bone health assessment and prescribing therapies to prevent fractures. We've discovered that trouble walking even short distances appears closely tied to higher fracture risk over the following five years," said lead author of the study, Professor Jacqueline Center, Head of Garvan's Clinical Studies and Epidemiology Lab. Just a few simple questions about how far someone can walk could give doctors an early warning sign to check bone health."

The researchers examined data on nearly 267,000 adults aged 45 and older from the Sax Institute's 45 and Up Study, a major ongoing research initiative that has been tracking health outcomes in adults in NSW for more than 15 years. Participants

were asked if health issues limited their ability to walk various distances, with answer options of 'not at all,' 'a little,' or 'a lot'. The group was then followed for five years to track fracture outcomes. The researchers found that one in five adults reported some walking limitation at the beginning of the study. Those with more difficulty walking were significantly more likely to experience a fracture during follow-up. For example, women who said they were limited 'a lot' in walking one kilometer had a 60 per cent higher fracture risk than women with no limitation. For men, the increased risk was over 100 per cent.

"We saw a clear 'dose-response' pattern, where greater walking limitation meant higher fracture risk. This suggests a direct relationship between low walking ability and weaker bones," said the first author of the study Dr Dana Bliuc, Senior Research Officer at Garvan. Approximately 60 per cent of all fractures in the study were attributable to some level of walking limitation. The link remained strong even after accounting for other factors like age, falls, prior fractures, and weight, and the findings were consistent across different fracture sites like hips, vertebrae, arms, and legs. In this generally healthy community-based population, we still found one in five people had trouble walking a kilometer," said Professor Center.

"We think this simple assessment could help identify many more at-risk individuals who may benefit from bone density screening or preventative treatment.

Antibiotics from human use are contaminating rivers worldwide: Study

Washington DC [US] : Millions of kilometers of rivers around the world are carrying antibiotic pollution at levels high enough to promote drug resistance and harm aquatic life, a new study warns.

The study estimated the scale of global river contamination from human antibiotics use. Researchers calculated that about 8,500 tons of antibiotics -- nearly one-third of what people consume annually -- end up in river systems around the world each year even after in many cases passing through wastewater systems. Published in PNAS Nexus, the study is the first

to estimate the scale of global river contamination from human antibiotics use.

"While the amounts of residues from individual antibiotics translate into only very small concentrations in most rivers, which makes them very difficult to detect, the chronic and cumulative environmental exposure to these substances can still pose a risk to human health and aquatic ecosystems," said Heloisa Ehalt-Macedo, a post-doctoral fellow in geography at McGill and lead author of the study.

The research team used a global model validated by field data from nearly 900



river locations. They found that amoxicillin, the world's most-used antibiotic, is the most likely to be

present at risky levels, especially in Southeast Asia, where rising use and limited wastewater treatment amplify the problem.

"This study is not intended to warn about the use of antibiotics -- we need antibiotics for global health treatments -- but our results indicate that there may be unintended effects on aquatic environments and antibiotic resistance, which calls for mitigation and management strategies to avoid or reduce their implications," said Bernhard Lehner, a professor in global hydrology in McGill's Department of Geography and co-author of the study. The findings

are especially notable because the study did not consider antibiotics from livestock or pharmaceutical factories, both of which are major contributors to environmental contamination.

"Our results show that antibiotic pollution in rivers arising from human consumption alone is a critical issue, which would likely be exacerbated by veterinarian or industry sources of related compounds" said Jim Nicell, an environmental engineering professor at McGill and co-author of the study. "Monitoring programs to detect antibiotic or other chemical contamination of waterways are therefore needed.

STUDY SHOWS SLEEP DEPRIVATION MAKES US LESS HAPPY, MORE ANXIOUS

Sleep deprivation does more than just make us sleepy. According to a study released by the American Psychological Association that synthesised more than 50 years of research on sleep deprivation and mood, it may hinder our emotional functioning, diminish good emotions, and increase our risk of anxiety symptoms.

"In our largely sleep-deprived society, quantifying the effects of sleep loss on emotion is critical for promoting psychological health," said study lead author Cara Palmer, PhD, of Montana State University. "This study represents the most comprehensive synthesis of experimental sleep and emotion research to date, and provides strong evidence that periods of extended wakefulness, shortened sleep duration, and nighttime awakenings adversely influence human emotional functioning."

The study was published in the journal Psychological Bulletin.

Palmer and her colleagues, including co-lead author Joanne Bower, PhD, of East Anglia University, analyzed data from 154 studies spanning five decades, with 5,715 total participants. In all those studies, researchers disrupted participants' sleep for one or more nights. In some experiments, participants were kept awake for an extended period.

In others, they were allowed a shorter-than-typical amount of sleep, and in others, they were periodically awakened throughout the night. Each study also measured at least one emotion-related variable after the sleep manipulation, such as participants' self-reported mood, their response to emotional stimuli, and measures of depression and anxiety symptoms. Overall, the

researchers found that all three types of sleep loss resulted in fewer positive emotions such as joy, happiness and contentment among participants, as well as increased anxiety symptoms such as a rapid heart rate and increased worrying.

"This occurred even after short periods of sleep loss, like staying up an hour or two later than usual or after losing just a few hours of sleep," Palmer said. "We also found that sleep loss increased anxiety symptoms and blunted arousal in response to emotional stimuli." Findings for symptoms of depression were smaller and less consistent, as were those for negative emotions such as sadness, worry and stress.

One limitation of the study is that the majority of participants were young adults - the average age was 23. Future research should include a more diverse age sample

to better understand how sleep deprivation affects people at different ages, according to the researchers. Other directions for future research could include examining the effects of multiple nights of sleep loss, looking at individual differences to find out why some people may be more vulnerable than others to the effects of sleep loss, and examining the effects of sleep loss across different cultures, as most of the research in the current study was conducted in the United States and Europe, according to the researchers. Research has found that more than 30 per cent of adults and up to 90 per cent of teens don't get enough sleep," Palmer said. The implications of this research for individual and public health are considerable in a largely sleep-deprived society. Industries and sectors prone to sleep loss.

Addressing health, lifestyle variables might minimise the risk of young-onset dementia: Study

A wide range of risk factors for young-onset dementia have been found by researchers. The findings call into question the concept that genetics is the only cause of the disease, paving the way for novel preventative techniques.

The large-scale study identified 15 risk factors, which are similar to those for late-onset dementia. For the first time, they indicate that it may be possible to reduce the risk of young-onset dementia by targeting health and lifestyle factors.

Relatively little research has been done on young-onset dementia, though globally there are around 370,000 new cases of young-onset dementia each year.

Published in JAMA Neurology, the new research by the University of Exeter and Maastricht University followed more than 350,000 participants younger than 65 across the United Kingdom from the UK Biobank study. The team evaluated a broad array of risk factors ranging from genetic predispositions to lifestyle and environmental influences. The study revealed that lower formal education, lower socioeconomic status, genetic variation, lifestyle factors



such as alcohol use disorder and social isolation, and health issues including vitamin D deficiency, depression, stroke, hearing impairment and heart disease significantly elevate risk of young-onset dementia

Professor David Llewellyn of the University of Exeter emphasized the importance of the findings: "This breakthrough study illustrates the crucial role of international collaboration and big data in advancing our understanding of dementia. There's still much to learn in our ongoing mission to prevent, identify, and treat dementia in all its forms in a more targeted way. This is the

largest and most robust study of its kind ever conducted. Excitingly, for the first time it reveals that we may be able to take action to reduce risk of this debilitating condition, through targeting a range of different factors.

Dr Stevie Hendriks, Researcher at Maastricht University, said: "Young-onset dementia has a very serious impact, because the people affected usually still have a job, children, and a busy life. The cause is often assumed to be genetic, but for many people we don't actually know exactly what the cause is. This is why we also wanted to

investigate other risk factors in this study."

Sebastian Kohler, Professor of Neuroepidemiology at Maastricht University, said: "We already knew from research on people who develop dementia at older age that there are a series of modifiable risk factors. In addition to physical factors, mental health also plays an important role, including avoiding chronic stress, loneliness and depression. The fact that this is also evident in young-onset dementia came as a surprise to me, and it may offer opportunities to reduce risk in this group too."

The study's support was supported by Alzheimer's Research UK, The Alan Turing Institute/Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Alzheimer Nederland, Gieskes Strijbis Fonds, the Medical Research Council, the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration South West Peninsula (PenARC), the National Health and Medical Research Council, the National Institute on Aging, and Alzheimer Netherlands.

Dr Janice Ranson, Senior Research Fellow at the University

of Exeter, said: "Our research breaks new ground in identifying that the risk of young-onset dementia can be reduced. We think this could herald a new era in interventions to reduce new cases of this condition."

Dr Leah Mursaleen, Head of Clinical Research at Alzheimer's Research UK, which co-funded the study, said: "We're witnessing a transformation in understanding of dementia risk and, potentially, how to reduce it on both an individual and societal level. In recent years, there's been a growing consensus that dementia is linked to 12 specific modifiable risk factors such as smoking, blood pressure and hearing loss. It's now accepted that up to four in 10 dementia cases worldwide are linked to these factors.

"This pioneering study shines important and much-needed light on factors that can influence the risk of young-onset dementia. This starts to fill in an important gap in our knowledge. It will be important to build on these findings in broader studies."

The full study is entitled 'Risk factors for young-onset dementia in the UK Biobank: A prospective population-based study', published in JAMA Neurology.

Study finds how type of allergy remedy help treat lung cancer

NEW YORK [US] : Researchers at Mount Sinai's Icahn School of Medicine have discovered an allergy route that, when inhibited, activates antitumor immunity in animal models of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

In preliminary human research, combining immunotherapy with dupilumab - an Interleukin-4 (IL-4) receptor-blocking antibody widely used to treat allergies and asthma - improved patients' immune systems, with one out of six patients having substantial tumour decrease. The findings were described in the December 6 issue of Nature.

"Immunotherapy using checkpoint blockade has revolutionized treatment for non-small cell lung cancer, the most common form of lung cancer, but currently only about a third of patients respond to it alone, and in most patients, the benefit is temporary," says senior study author Miriam Merad, MD, PhD, Director of the Marc and Jennifer Lipschultz Precision Immunology Institute and Chair of the Department of Immunology and Immunotherapy at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

"A big focus of our program TARGET is to use single cell technology and artificial intelligence to identify molecular immune programs that can dampen tumor immune response to checkpoint blockade."

Also known as a PD1 inhibitor, checkpoint blockade is a type of cancer immunotherapy that can unleash the cancer-killing activity of T cells.

"Using single cell technologies, we discovered that the immune cells infiltrating lung cancers, as well as other cancers we studied, exhibited characteristics of a 'type 2' immune response, which is commonly associated with allergic conditions like eczema and asthma," said first study author Nelson LaMarche, PhD, a postdoctoral research fellow in the lab of Dr. Merad.

"These results led us to explore whether we could repurpose a medication typically used for allergic conditions to 'rescue' or enhance tumor response to checkpoint blockade," says Thomas Marron, MD, PhD, Director of the Early Phase Trial Unit at Mount Sinai's Tisch Cancer Center, and co-senior author of the study.

"Strikingly, we found that IL-4 blockade enhanced lung cancer response to checkpoint blockade in mice and in six lung cancer patients with treatment-resistant disease. In fact, one patient whose lung cancer was growing despite checkpoint blockade had nearly all their cancer disappear after receiving just three doses of the allergy medication, and his cancer remains controlled today, over 17 months later."

World Uyghur Congress intensifies global advocacy, flags human rights concerns in September newsletter

MI News Service, Munich: The World Uyghur Congress (WUC) intensified its international advocacy efforts in September, raising concerns over alleged human rights violations against Uyghurs in China, transnational repression and the rights of Uyghur children, according to its September 2026 newsletter.

According to the newsletter, Vice President Zumretay Arkin addressed the 63rd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council on September 9, urging member states to take concrete action following the UN human rights office's 2022 assessment of the situation in Xinjiang, referred to as East Turkistan by Uyghur groups.

The newsletter said WUC and UZDM representatives also held advocacy meetings at the European Parliament in Strasbourg in mid-September. Discus-



sions focused on China's newly enacted Ethnic Unity and Progress Law, individual Uyghur cases and allegations of an ongoing Uyghur genocide. Representatives also presented a report marking ten years since the beginning of the mass internment campaign.

According to the WUC newsletter, the organisation's Women's Committee

held its second International Women's Meeting in Istanbul on September 12 and 13, bringing together more than 50 women, activists and young participants from the diaspora. The discussions addressed the preservation of Uyghur language and identity, women's participation, mental health, security and challenges faced by Uyghurs living in exile.

The WUC further reported that it joined 28 human rights organisations in an open letter to Chinese President Xi Jinping ahead of his planned visit to Washington, calling for the release of prisoners of conscience and an end to transnational repression.

At the end of September, WUC and UZDM representatives participated in the UN Human Rights Council session in Geneva and raised concerns about Uyghur refugees and inter-personal accountability. On September 30, they also participated in a pre-session working group of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child ahead of China's upcoming review.

The WUC newsletter said the representatives highlighted concerns over family separation, state-run boarding schools, discrimination and the cultural, religious and educational rights of Uyghur children.

Separately, the newsletter highlighted a press conference organised by the Japan Uyghur Association in Tokyo on August 31. It presented the testimony of a Uyghur man who was allegedly sent to work at a factory thousands of kilometres from home through China's labour transfer programme before being sold to an international fraud ring.

The WUC newsletter also drew attention to reports concerning AI-assisted surveillance targeting Uyghur advocacy groups, restrictions on freedom of movement and a global call by more than 130 UN human rights experts to combat transnational repression.

The organisation urged supporters to engage with its advocacy initiatives, contribute to legal proceedings concerning Uyghurs in Argentina and help raise awareness of Uyghur rights.

MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh plants sacred sapling under 'EkPedMaaKeNaam'

MI News Service, Reykjavik: Expanding India's global green footprint, Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, visited Thorsmork Forest in Iceland and planted a Rowan sapling as part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'EkPedMaaKeNaam' initiative.

Highlighting his participation on social media on Saturday, the minister stated, "Visited the Thorsmork Forest in Iceland and witnessed the inspiring conservation efforts to restore and protect its unique ecosystem. Planted a Rowan sapling, a native Icelandic species, as part of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji's 'EkPedMaaKeNaam' initiative."

He also noted, "The Rowan tree is historically considered sacred in Icelandic folklore and often protected from harvesting."

Earlier on Friday, the Union Minister met Iceland's Minister for the Environment, Energy and Climate, Johann Pall Johannsson, in Reykjavik. Their discussions focused on expanding bilateral ties in clean and renewable energy, climate action and sustainable development following Johannsson's recent return from India after participating in the 2nd India-EFTA Prosperity Summit.

Describing the exchange, Singh posted, "Pleased to meet H.E. Johann Pall Johannsson, Minister for the Environment, Energy and Climate of Iceland, in Reykjavik today, who had just returned from India after attending the 2nd India-EFTA Prosperity Summit. Had a productive exchange on opportunities to strengthen bilateral cooperation in clean/renewable energy, climate action and sustainable development."

Upgradation Of Beliatore Station Of Adra Division

MI News Service, Kolkata, 11th October, 2026: South Eastern Railway has decided to upgrade the Beliatore Halt Station (existing HG-2 category) to a Block Station under Adra division, with a view to improve operational efficiency and passenger amenities.

The proposed upgradation will include the construction of a new station building with a waiting hall and booking office, provision of one loop line and construction of a Foot Over Bridge. This will improve passenger convenience and facilitate better rail services in the region. Following upgradation, the station may be considered for categorisation under NSG-6, subject to applicable norms.

The Bankura-Masagram section is a single-line, electrified section with only three existing Block Stations, namely Sonamukhi, Bowaichandi and Rainagar. At present, six pairs of coaching trains operate in this section. There has been a long-standing demand from local public representatives, residents and daily commuters for increasing the frequency in train service. However, due to the existing long block sections, introduction of additional train services is presently constrained from the operational point of view.

The proposed upgradation of Beliatore Passenger Halt to a Block Station will reduce the effective block length and provide greater operational flexibility for regulating train movements. It will also reduce the detention time of trains and improve punctuality.

Introduction Of One Pair Night-Hour Special EMU Service For Sealdah – Komagata Maru Budge Budge (KBGB) From 12.10.2026

SEALDAH DIVISION INTRODUCES NIGHT-HOUR SPECIAL EMU TRAINS

COMMENCING OCTOBER 12, 2026, TO DECEMBER 31, 2026 (ON EXPERIMENTAL BASIS)

SEALDAH TO KOMAGATA MARU BUDGE BUDGE SPECIAL	KOMAGATA MARU BUDGE BUDGE TO SEALDAH SPECIAL
● 22:55 hrs DEPARTS SEALDAH	● 23:54 hrs DEPARTS BUDGE BUDGE
● 23:03 / 23:04 hrs Ballygunge	● 00:15 hrs Majerhat
● 23:14 hrs New Alipore	● 00:19 hrs New Alipore
● 23:17 hrs Majerhat	● 00:48 hrs ARRIVES SEALDAH
● 23:43 hrs ARRIVES BUDGE BUDGE	

The special trains will halt at all en-route stations. Sealdah Division urges commuters to make full use of these late-night train services and plan their journeys accordingly.

MI News Service, Kolkata, October 11, 2026: To accommodate passengers and improve late-night connectivity during the ongoing festive season, Sealdah Division has introduced one pair of night-hour Special EMU train services between Sealdah and Komagata Maru Budge Budge. These special services will run on an experimental basis from October 12, 2026, to December 31, 2026.

The special trains will halt at all en-route stations. timings include:

Sealdah – Komagata Maru Budge Budge Special:

Departs from Sealdah at 22:55 hrs, halts at Ballygunge (23:03/23:04), New Alipore (23:14), Majerhat (23:17), and arrives at Komagata Maru Budge

Budge at 23:43 hrs.

Komagata Maru Budge Budge – Sealdah Special:

Departs from Sealdah at 22:55 hrs, halts at Ballygunge (23:03/23:04), New Alipore (23:14), Majerhat (23:17), and arrives at Komagata Maru Budge Budge at 23:43 hrs.

Komagata Maru Budge Budge – Sealdah Special:

Departs from Komagata Maru Budge Budge at 23:54 hrs, stops at Majerhat (00:15), New Alipore (00:19), and arrives Sealdah at 00:48 hrs.

Sealdah Division urge commuters to make full use of these late-night train services during the festive rush and kindly request passengers to check the timetable carefully and plan their journeys accordingly to avoid any inconvenience.

Puja Gift For Commuters & Local Residents, Sealdah Division Introduces Modern Cafeteria, Executive Lounge & Upgraded Waiting Complex At Kalyani Station

MI News Service, Kolkata: 11 Oct 2026: As a festive gift for the upcoming Durga Puja season, Sealdah Division has rolled out a landmark passenger amenity project by opening an integrated hospitality and waiting complex in the newly developed building at Kalyani Station. Conceived as an open hub accessible both to daily rail commuters and the general public, this initiative elevates passenger comfort to contemporary standards.

Major Highlights of Floor-wise Facilities—

Ground Floor (Modern Waiting Amenities & Child Care):

- Free General Waiting Room: Equipped with comfortable steel seating, modern fans, LED illumination, and entertainment/information screens with DTH connectivity at zero user cost.
- Executive Paid Lounge: Featuring premium cushioned seating/recliners, air-conditioning, and optional value-added services available at nominal market-aligned rates.
- Dedicated Child Care Room: A specially demarcated, hygienic, and private feeding zone designed for



mothers traveling with infants.

First Floor & Terrace (Modern Cafeteria):

- Designed to host popular national and international dining and beverage brands (including coffee chains, quick-service restaurants, and confectioneries). Equipped with modular kitchen setups, air conditioning, and contemporary interiors, the facility strictly adheres to eco-friendly, biodegradable packaging norms and high culinary safety.

Dedicated & Separate Toilet Facilities:

- To ensure top-tier hygiene, separate and dedicated modern toilet facilities have been provided individually for the General Waiting Room, Paid Lounge, and the Cafeteria, maintained round

the clock.

The complex incorporates automated fire detection and suppression systems, regular sanitization protocols, and cashless digital payment options via UPI and mobile wallets.

In this context Divisional Railway Manager/ Sealdah Rajeev Saxena said that, Sealdah division is committed to transforming station premises into modern transit spaces that offer exceptional comfort and convenience. This state-of-the-art cafeteria and lounge complex at Kalyani is our Puja gift to the passengers as well as the local community. By integrating dedicated child care facilities, separate washrooms for all sections, and world-class dining under one roof, we aim to provide a memorable and dignified travel experience.

East Coast Railway Leads Indian Railways in Drone Based Surveillance

11 Drones Cover 2,708 Route Kilometres and 284 Railway Stations

MI News Service, Bhubaneswar, October 11, 2026: East Coast Railway is leading Indian Railways in drone based surveillance, with 11 drones currently deployed across its three divisions and plans to increase the fleet to 22 by March 2027. The initiative strengthens railway security, passenger safety, crowd management and railway assets.

Named "DROAWK EYE – Observation, Detection, Prevention," the system supports the Railway Protection Force (RPF) in monitoring vulnerable locations, detecting suspicious activities and preventing offences. The 11 drones—four in Khurda Road, six in Sambalpur and one in Rayagada Division—are operated with the support of 160 DGCA certified drone pilots. The network covers 284 stations, 2,708 route kilometres and 6,072 track kilometres across 31 RPF posts.

From January 1 to September 15, 2026, ECoR RPF conducted 3,033 drone sorties, including 680 in Khurda Road, 1,024 in Rayagada and 1,329 in Sambalpur Division. Of these, 1,265 RED coded sorties focused on critical security activities, including prevention of sabotage and



protection of railway stations, coaching yards and vital installations, detect trespassing, theft and encroachment, and support investigations and disaster response.

Drone surveillance played an important role in crowd management during Rath Yatra 2026 in Puri. It also supports women's safety under the Meri Saheli initiative, cleanliness drives, environmental protection and monitoring of vulnerable railway assets. Live surveillance and audio warnings help discourage unauthorised track crossing and stone pelting.

A single drone team can effectively monitor approximately 8 to 10 kilometres, enabling wider coverage and more efficient deployment of security personnel. With the planned expansion to 22 drones by March 2027, ECoR aims to further strengthen railway security and passenger safety through technology-driven surveillance.

“Unacceptable”: India condemns attack on Saudi airport

MI News Service, Delhi: India strongly condemned the deadly strike targeting King Khalid International Airport in the Saudi capital of Riyadh, which resulted in 12 fatalities and over 300 injuries, while affirming its firm solidarity with Saudi Arabia in protecting its sovereignty.

In an official statement released on Sunday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) stated, "We strongly condemn the repeated attacks on Riyadh's King Khalid International Airport over the past few days, including the dastardly attack on October 10, which have led to loss of lives, injuries and damage to property. We express our condolences to the families of the deceased and wish speedy recovery to the injured persons."

New Delhi asserted that the assault on civilian areas and vital installations was entirely unjustifiable. In the statement, the ministry noted, "The repeated attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure are completely unacceptable and must cease immediately."

Reiterating India's diplomatic position, the MEA added, "We stand in soli-



darity with the people and the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in defence of their sovereignty, and hope that peace and normalcy return to the region at the earliest."

According to figures released by the Saudi General Authority of Civil Aviation, the 12 victims who died in the Saturday afternoon strike comprised four Saudi nationals alongside eight foreign residents, two from Bangladesh and one each from the United States, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Palestine and Sudan. Medical personnel are treating the 309 wounded individuals across multiple hospitals, with some patients listed in serious condition.

Following the initial emergency, aviation authorities temporarily

suspended operations at the facility to conduct structural damage assessments and safety evaluations. Meanwhile, Yemen's Houthi group announced in an official statement that it remained open to reciprocal measures with Riyadh aimed at keeping key aviation hubs, ports and humanitarian installations insulated from the intensifying military conflict.

This development unfolded as Houthi-run Al-Masirah TV reported that Saudi forces had initiated a fresh barrage of air and missile strikes across territories controlled by the group in Yemen, striking Sanaa International Airport in the capital, regions near the strategic Bab al-Mandeb Strait and various northern provinces.

Regulation Of Trains Due To Land Slide In Rayagada

Division Of East Coast Railway

MI News Service, Kolkata, 11th October, 2026: Regulation of following Trains due to Land Slide in Rayagada division of East Coast Railway:

Cancellation of Trains

(1) 18107 Rourkela-Jagdalpur Express from 13.10.2026 to 20.10.2026.

(2) 18108 Jagdalpur-Rourkela Express from 14.10.2026 to 21.10.2026.

Short Termination/Short Origination of Trains

(1) 18005 Howrah-Jagdalpur Express journey commencing from 13.10.2026 to 20.10.2026 will be Short-terminated at Koraput.

(2) 18006 Jagdalpur-Howrah Express journey commencing from 15.10.2026 to 22.10.2026 will be Short-originated from Koraput.

Regulation Of Trains Due To Developmental Works In Adra Division

MI News Service. Kolkata, 11th October 2026: In view of developmental works in Adra Division, the following trains will be regulated as under:

Cancellation of Trains:

(1) 68046/68045 Asansol-Adra-Asansol MEMU will remain cancelled from 12.10.2026 to 18.10.2026.

(2) 63594/63593 Asansol-Purulia-Asansol MEMU will remain cancelled on 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026.

(3) 68023/68024 Jhargram-Purulia-Jhargram MEMU will remain cancelled on 12.10.2026, 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026.

(4) 68013/68014 Kharagpur-Tatanagar-Kharagpur MEMU will remain cancelled on 12.10.2026, 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026.

Short Termination/Short Origination of Trains:

(1) 68053/68054 Adra-Barabhum-Adra MEMU journey commencing on 12.10.2026, 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026 will be short terminated at/short originated from Purulia.

(2) 68055/68056 Asansol-Tatanagar-Asansol MEMU journey commencing on 12.10.2026, 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026 will be short terminated at/short originated from Purulia.

(3) 68056/68060 Tatanagar-Asansol-Barabhum MEMU journey commencing on 15.10.2026 and 17.10.2026 will be short terminated at/short originated from Adra.

Diversion of Train:

(1) 18601 Tatanagar-Hatia Express journey commencing on 15.10.2026 will be diverted via Chandil-Gunda Bihar-Muri.

ER Intensifies Cleanliness and Solid Waste Management Drives Across Divisions

MI News Service, Kolkata, October 11, 2026: Under the leadership of Gitika Pandey, General Manager, Eastern Railway, the divisions actively undertook cleanliness initiatives and promoted strict compliance with the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Rules, 2026, as part of Swachhata Pakhwada 2026 and Special Campaign 6.0.

In Sealdah Division, awareness sessions and briefings were organised for railway staff, Onboard Housekeeping Services (OBHS) personnel, catering teams, station vendors and contractors. The drive focused on four-stream waste segregation, proper disposal methods and penalties for non-compliance. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) posters were displayed across stations, railway colonies and offices, alongside pledge-taking programmes to foster collective responsibility.

Howrah Division promoted sustainable operations by launching a time-bound plan to address gaps in waste-processing



infrastructure and ensure departmental accountability. The division introduced four-stream segregation at the point of waste generation, covering wet, dry, sanitary and special-care waste. It also formalised registration of Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) on the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) portal and their linkage with authorised recyclers.

In Asansol Division, intensive cleanliness drives were conducted at key stations, including Asansol, Durgapur, Andal and Pandaveswar, as well as the Jasidih Railway Colony. Four-stream dustbins are already in use at major stations, with plans to expand the facility further. BWG registration has been completed for four stations, two railway colonies, the

Divisional Railway Hospital at Asansol and MDZTI Bhuli. The Environment and Housekeeping Management (EnHM) Department is closely monitoring the initiatives.

Meanwhile, Malda Division organised a tree plantation drive titled "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" at Vivekananda Park. Intensive cleaning operations covered station premises, railway tracks, drains and circulating areas across the division.

"Eastern Railway remains fully committed to fostering environmentally sustainable operations through community participation, strict waste management protocols and green initiatives," said Shishram Majhi, Chief Public Relations Officer, Eastern Railway.

34th Inter-Railway RPF Football Tournament 2026 Concludes in Kolkata

Eastern Railway RPF Team Crowned Champion

MI News Service, Kolkata, October 11, 2026: The seven-day 34th Inter-Railway RPF Football Tournament 2026, organised by the Railway Protection Force (RPF), Eastern Railway, concluded on Sunday at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) complex in Salt Lake, Kolkata, amid great enthusiasm and sporting fervour.

The tournament, which commenced on October 5, witnessed spirited competition among 11 football teams representing different railway zones and units, including Central Railway, Eastern Railway, South Eastern Railway, East Coast Railway, North Eastern Railway, South Western Railway, Northeast Frontier Railway, Southern Railway, East Central Railway, Northern Railway and the Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF). The event showcased the footballing talent, discipline, teamwork and sportsmanship of railway personnel.

Gitika Pandey, General Manager, Eastern Railway, attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest. Following an exciting final, she presented trophies to the winner



and runner-up teams and distributed individual medals. She also congratulated the participating players on their commendable performances throughout the tournament.

The Eastern Railway team emerged as champions, defeating Northeast Frontier Railway 1-0 in the final. Southern Railway secured third place. The performances of the participating teams reflected the high standards of fitness, determination, teamwork and competitive spirit associated

with the RPF.

Amiya Nandan Sinha, IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, Eastern Railway, was present at the event along with other senior officials, including the Chief Administrative Officer (Construction), Principal Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer and Principal Chief Personnel Officer.

The tournament followed a league-cum-knockout format, with teams progressing through the league stage, quarter-finals and semi-finals to reach the final. The competition provided a platform for RPF personnel from different railway zones to demonstrate their footballing skills while fostering camaraderie, mutual respect and healthy competition among railway colleagues.

Congratulating the winning teams, Pandey appreciated the efforts of Eastern Railway's RPF in successfully organising the prestigious national-level sporting event. She emphasised the importance of sports in promoting physical fitness, disci-

pline, teamwork and a positive work culture among railway personnel.

Addressing the gathering, Sinha said the tournament exemplified the talent, teamwork and sportsmanship of railway personnel. He also appreciated the enthusiasm and dedication displayed by the participating teams.

Recognising individual excellence, Sanjay Biswas of Eastern Railway was adjudged the Man of the Match for his outstanding performance in the final, while Ashish Minz of Northeast Frontier Railway received the Man of the Tournament award for his exceptional performance throughout the competition.

The successful conclusion of the 34th Inter-Railway RPF Football Tournament 2026 marked another milestone in promoting sports and fitness within Indian Railways. The event reaffirmed Eastern Railway's commitment to encouraging sporting excellence, camaraderie, discipline and the all-round development of railway personnel.

Ranji Trophy: Shami takes four-wicket haul; Smaran smashes century on captaincy debut on opening day

NEW DELHI : India fast bowler Mohammed Shami reminded the national selectors of his capability yet again as he took a four-wicket haul for Bengal in their opening Group C clash against Delhi at the Bengal Cricket Academy Ground in Kalyani on Sunday.

Shami, who has been overlooked by Indian selectors despite his consistent performances in the domestic circuit, took 4-30 in 17.3 overs as Bengal bowled Delhi out for 240. The veteran also sent in nine maiden overs and bowled at a minging economy of 1.70, showing his class once again.

Other India internationals, Akash Deep and Mukesh Kumar, were also among the wickets, with Akash taking 2-74 in his 17 overs (4.40 economy) and Mukesh scalping 1-43 in 17 overs (2.50 economy). Off-spinner Aamir Gani took three wickets for 45 as he also played a crucial role

with Bengal.

Meanwhile, Ravichandran Smaran marked his Karnataka captaincy debut with a stellar hundred against Andhra in a Group B clash at the Dr Gokaraju Liala Gangaaraju ACA Cricket Ground in Vijayawada.

Karnataka were in trouble at 22/4, but Smaran smashed 126 from 218 balls to bail the team out of trouble, with wicketkeeper Krishnan Shrijith hitting 58 and Madhav Bajaj scoring 33 to help Karnataka make 274. In reply, Andhra ended the day 16/2 with Shikhar Shetty and Madhav Bajaj taking a wicket each.

In another Group B fixture between Saurashtra and Chhattisgarh at the Niranjan Shah Stadium in Rajkot, India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja remained unbeaten at 72 at the end of Day 1 as Saurashtra made 308/4. Prerak Mankad also went



back unscathed on 92, while opener Chirag Jani had scored 83 earlier. Umesh Yadav also struck

twice for Punjab in their fixture against Assam in New Chandigarh, but bad light forced an early stumps as Assam were 68/3.

In other Group C matches, Jharkhand's Sikhar Mohan made 143 as his team ended the Day 1 strong at 289/5 against Kerala at Keenan Stadium in Jamshedpur.

Gaurav Choudhary scored an unbeaten 121 to power Odisha to 272/3 against Gujarat in Ahmedabad, while Ankeet Bawne hit a hundred for Maharashtra to help them end Day 1 against Services at 289/5. Prithvi Shaw also made 70. In Group A, Akshay Wadkar and Yash Rathod scored centuries to help Vidarbha end the day at 292/5 against Pondicherry after they were in trouble at 54/5. J&K seamer Rohit Sharma took his maiden five-wicket haul, playing after two years as Madhya Pradesh were bowled out for 196.

Baroda ended Day 1 at 204/3 after opener Shivalik Sharma made 62, while Deepak Hooda, having returned to his former team, remained unbeaten on 38.

Rinku Singh and Madhav Kaushik also scored centuries for Uttar Pradesh in their clash against Bihar to lift the team from 85/3 to 287/3 at the end of the day. In Group D, India Test opener Yashasvi Jaiswal was dismissed for a duck, but Mumbai's new captain went back unbeaten on 80, with Musheer Khan also scoring 65 as Mumbai ended the day on 249/5.

For Haryana, Anshul Kamboj picked a four-wicket haul to keep Himachal at 153/7 at the end of Day 1, while Karan Lamba scored 103 as Rajasthan ended Day 1 against Tamil Nadu strongly at 286/4.

India is moving forward with the dream of hosting 2036 Olympics: PM Modi

CHENNAI : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India is moving forward with the dream of hosting the 2036 Olympic Games, expressing confidence that the country's youth would take Indian sports to new heights as the nation prepares to host major international sporting events.

Addressing the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya, PM Modi said hosting the world's biggest sporting events in India would provide young athletes with a platform, better facilities and the support needed to pursue their ambitions.

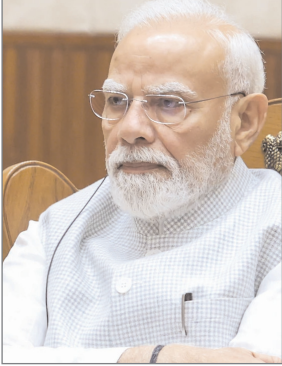
"India is preparing to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games. We are also moving forward with the dream of hosting the 2036 Olympics," PM Modi said.

"In the coming years, when the world's biggest sports events will be held in India, the youth of India will have a platform, potential and support," he added.

PM Modi said the opportunities for young people in sports were expanding as the country developed new facilities and strengthened training and support systems for athletes.

"Every youngster has their own unique dreams and talents. For example, I am sure there are many of you who want to make sports their career. This is why the country is ensuring that sports should not be limited to entertainment only," he said.

PM Modi said young players were receiving better training and support, while India's position in international sports was also improving. "It means the opportunities are endless. I am confident that your generation will take India to new heights in the world of sports," PM Modi said.



India is among seven interested parties currently in dialogue with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) over hosting the 2036 Olympic Games. The other interested parties are Germany, Hungary, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, South Africa and Türkiye.

India formally expressed its interest in hosting the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games by submitting a Letter of Intent to the IOC's Future Host Commission on October 1, 2024.

The IOC has outlined a multi-stage selection process, with its Executive Board expected to shortlist interested parties for the next stage by March 2027. The host is scheduled to be elected by IOC members in mid-2029.

India is also preparing to host the 2030 Commonwealth Games in Ahmedabad, which will provide the country with another opportunity to stage a major international sporting event.

PM Modi is in Chennai on Sunday for a series of engagements, including the inauguration of development projects in Tamil Nadu. Earlier, PM Modi and Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay flagged off the first train on the Chennai Metro Rail Phase II network and travelled on the inaugural service from Porur to Poonamallee.

Gurjapneet, Thakur, Sindhu star as India A avoid 3-0 sweep with 49-run win over Australia A



PUDUCHERRY : A clinical effort from the bowling attack, led by Gurjapneet Singh's three-for and two scalps each taken by Yash Thakur and Nishant Sindhu, helped India A avoid a 3-0 series sweep with a convincing 49-run victory over Australia A in the third and final 50-over game here at the CAP Siechem Ground on Sunday.

In a successful defence of 275, India A bundled out Australia A for 226 in 46.2 overs. The visitors suffered a sensational collapse as they lost seven wickets for just 49 runs after sitting comfortably at 177/3 at one stage.

Left-arm pacer Gurjapneet used his variations to great effect to finish with impressive figures of 3-42, while right-arm fast bowler Thakur (2-38) and left-arm spin bowling all-rounder Sindhu (2-41) delivered key strikes in the middle and lower overs to seal the win for India A.

Earlier, after being inserted to bat on a slowish pitch with variable bounce, India A were bowled out for 275 in 49.3 overs, largely anchored by a counter-attacking 85-run seventh-wicket stand between Suryansh Shedge (66) and Vipraj Nigam (40).

India A had gotten off to a flying start as openers Priyansh Arya and Prabhsimran Singh had an 83-run opening stand. However, Prabhsimran's exit

for 39 in the 11th over triggered a top-order wobble, as India A lost five wickets for 35 runs to slip to 118/5.

Alongside Shedge, skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad attempted to steady the ship by hitting 33 off 57 balls. But Mitchell Owen removed the captain to leave India A reeling at 159/6. Vipraj then provided the much-needed impetus alongside a determined Shedge to lift the side to exactly 275.

Chasing 276, Australia A had an 82-run opening stand, led by Josh Philippe's fluent half-century. But Nigam provided the breakthrough by dismissing Philippe, and Liam Scott fell in the very next over as India A put the brakes on the scoring rate. Though Nathan McSweeney (39) and Lachlan Shaw (31) added 58 runs for the third wicket, India A's bowlers kept pressure at both ends. Once the stand was broken, as Shaw fell to Anukul Roy, Gurjapneet, Thakur, and Sindhu ripped through the lower order, and aided by a timely run-out of Nikhil Chaudhary, India A managed to get a consolation win, as Australia A won the series 2-1.

Brief Scores: India A 275 in 47.3 overs (Suryansh Shedge 66, Priyansh Arya 49; Ben Dwarshuis 3-38, Will Sutherland 3-44) beat Australia A 226 in 46.2 overs (Josh Philippe 56, Nathan McSweeney 39; Gurjapneet Singh 3-56, Yash Thakur 2-35) by 49 runs.

Australia's fabled quartet moves past 600-wicket milestone in historic first

DURBAN : Australia's fabled fast-bowling quartet of Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood, Mitchell Starc and Nathan Lyon etched their names into the history books during the first Test against South Africa at Kingsmead here.

The fabled bowling unit breached a special 600-wicket milestone with their scalps in the first innings against the Proteas. The four have become the first-ever quartet to complete 600 wickets in Test cricket while playing Test matches together.

Coming into the first Test in Durban, the four bowlers had taken 599 wickets in the 37 matches they played together and breached the



600-wicket mark during Day 2 of the fixture at Kingsmead.

The four bowlers now have over 600 wickets in 38 matches that they have played together. This came after the four combined to take all first eight wickets that fell in South Africa's

152 wickets in 72 innings. Lyon is a close fourth as he has 140 wickets in 70 innings when he played with the above three bowlers. They are the first quartet to go past the mark and have a huge gap between the other most prolific quartet of James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Ben Stokes and Moeen Ali, all of whom have 433 wickets in the 34 Test matches they have played together. Australian bowlers made inroads in South Africa's batting line-up on Day 3 of the fixture. Cummins took three wickets, while Hazlewood and Lyon scalped two each, and Starc also took one.

ISSF World Cup: Udhayveer Singh clinches gold in men's 10m air pistol

CAIRO : India's Udhayveer Sidhu clinched the gold medal in the Men's 10m Air Pistol at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Rifle/Pistol on Sunday.

The 24-year-old produced a determined performance in the medal match to finish with a score of 240.6. He edged past Germany's multi-Olympic medalist Christian Reitz by 0.5 points in a dramatic finish. Reitz secured the silver medal with a tally of 240.1. Italy's Paolo Monna took bronze with 219.8.

Udhayveer held his nerve during the closing elimination stages. Trailing Reitz by 0.3 points going into the final two shots, the Indian fired 10.2 and 9.8. Reitz recorded twin scores of 9.6, handing Udhayveer victory on the final shot.

Earlier in the day, Udhayveer qualified for the eight-man final in fourth position. He posted a total of 585 across six series (99, 98, 98, 97, 97, 96).

India's Jonathan Gavin Antony, competing for



Ranking Points Only (RPO), shot an impressive 586 to tie for the top score in qualification with Monna. Among the other Indian participants in the field, Ajendra Singh

Chauhan finished 14th with a score of 580. Olympic medalist Sarabjot Singh placed 31st with 574, while Kumar Yogesh posted 573 in the RPO section.

The final also featured Turkey's Paris 2024 Olympic medalist Yusuf Dikec, who finished seventh with 138.0. Greece's Georgios Gampierakis placed fourth on 198.7, followed by Latvia's Emils Vasermanis in fifth position with 177.6.

The ISSF World Cup is being held from October 8 to October 16, 2026, in which India has sent a 24-member team. The squad travelled to Cairo after completing an intensive national camp in Dehradun. The camp was held from October 1 to October 7, 2026, at the Maharana Pratap Sports College. Shooters spent the week working on match simulations and fine-tuning technical routines. India is competing across eight individual Olympic disciplines and two mixed team events.

NEW DELHI : Wimbledon champion and world No. 6 Linda Noskova has announced her withdrawing from the Wuhan Open, citing a left calf injury.

Since Noskova withdrew before the release of the first order of play, No. 9 seed Belinda Bencic -- the next available seeded player to receive a bye -- takes Noskova's spot on Line 48 of the draw and will have a bye into the second round.

Anna Kalinskaya, the next available player to be seeded then assumes Bencic's spot on Line 9 in the draw and will face Zhang Shuai in the first round. Kalinskaya's original spot will be replaced a lucky loser tomorrow before the start of play. To see an updated singles main draw, click here, according to WTA.

The Wuhan Open's main draw begins on Monday with the finals on October 18.

Noskova is the latest player to miss Wuhan, joining World No. 1 Elena Rybakina, Coco Gauff, Naomi Osaka, Amanda Anisimova and others. In addition, Oleksandra



Olyinykova also pulled out Sunday with a right ankle injury, and was replaced by a qualifier, Aoi Ito. Noskova's withdrawal from Wuhan Open came a few days after she, alongside Mirra Andreeva, qualified for her first-ever WTA Finals, which will be held at Indian Wells from November 8-15.

The WTA on Friday announced that Andreeva and Noskova, two of the most exciting young players on the WTA Tour, have secured qualification for the WTA Finals Indian Wells.

Andreeva, 19, and 21-year-old Noskova are the third and fourth players to

confirm their place to compete on tennis' ultimate stage in November. They join World No. 1 Elena Rybakina and two-time WTA Finals runner-up Aryna Sabalenka in the draw. Both Andreeva and Noskova will make their WTA Finals singles debuts, with Andreeva having qualified in doubles alongside Diana Shnaider in 2025. In addition to her first Grand Slam title, Noskova also triumphed on grass at the WTA 500 Berlin Open, made the semifinals at the WTA 1000 Indian Wells and posted her best result at the US Open with a quarterfinal run.

New Zealand look to move Finn Allen to middle-order during India ODIs

NEW DELHI : New Zealand are considering a move to slot Finn Allen down to the middle order during the upcoming five-match ODI series against India that begins on November 4 in New Zealand.

Allen has been recalled for the 50-over series and last featured in the ODIs in late 2023. He has not batted anywhere below the opening slots in List A cricket since 2020. Allen and Tim Seifert open the innings for the Kiwis in the T20Is, but the Kiwis are considering breaking that subconscious association in the ODIs.

Head coach Rob Walter confirmed the development after the Kiwis announced their squad for the India series, stating that his demo-

tion to the middle order can help the Blackcaps "influence the game" in crucial middle overs and get more runs.

"It's unlikely that they (Allen and Seifert) will open together," Walter said after the squad announcement, as quoted by Cricinfo. "We've got sort of a different role in mind for Finn in the middle order. So we want to explore that as an option, obviously, given his capability to sort of influence the game."

"In 50-over cricket, there's a space in the middle of the game to take on the spinners or the fifth or sixth bowler. So, yeah, we'll explore that with Finn. Obviously, we know he's destructive, and it is a little bit different in 50-over cricket.



"I mean, this is a conversation that happened in the T20 World Cup already," Walter said. "And I can't remember if he came to me or if I went to him, but we were sort of probably both thinking about a similar thing. I know Rob Nicol at the Aces had discussed it with him as well.

He's not foreign to 50-over cricket. He's certainly played enough of it, but it is a slightly new role for him. So, yeah, looking forward to seeing how that goes," he added.

With a possible move down the order for Allen, Devon Conway is the likeliest option to open with Seifert, and when Conway leaves after the first three ODIs to prepare for the India Tests, Nick Kelly could be entrusted to open the innings.

Walter further highlighted

that the rationale behind the move is to take the game on in the middle overs with Allen a proven power-hitter. "We actually want to see what it looks like to have someone in the middle order just taking on the game," Walter said. "So, that's obviously not being reckless because if it was that easy, everyone would do it. But there's a sort of a shift in 50-over cricket, especially if the surfaces are good, where overs 25-40 become pretty important whilst there's an

extra fielder in the ring.

"So, we want him to express himself. But there obviously has to be a slight shift in it. And it is very different to when there are only two (fielders) out in the powerplay of a T20 game. But that said, he also has batted into the latter parts of a T20 game where there are five fielders out. So, hopefully, finding sort of the happy medium in between can provide a nice competitive advantage," he added. He fur-

ther revealed that the discussion took place during the T20 World Cup 2026, with the batter also having conversations with Auckland Aces coach Rob Nicol about generating more power for the middle-order role. "I mean, this is a conversation that happened in the T20 World Cup already," Walter said. "And I can't remember if he came to me or if I went to him, but we were sort of probably both thinking about a similar thing."