



As the offices and press of Morning India will remain closed on Saturday, July 29, 2023 on the occasion of Muharram, there will be no edition of this Newspaper dated Sunday, July 30, 2023.

AT A GLANCE

Big relief for Abhishek and Rujira

Great relief for Trinamool Congress All India General Secretary Abhishek Banerjee and his wife Rujira Narula Banerjee. Supreme Court on Friday ordered to withdraw the 'look out' notice issued by ED against them. A division bench of Justice Sanjay Kisan Kaul and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia was hearing the case on. Division bench also informed that Abhishek-Rujira will have to take permission from the Central Investigation Agency seven days before traveling abroad from now



on. About a month and a half ago, Rujira along with her children were stopped by the Immigration Department at the Kolkata airport on their way to go abroad. They were forced to return. Due to ED's objection, Rujira's foreign journey was not served. ED directed her not to leave country without their permission as investigation against her is going on. Rujira claimed that she had already informed the ED about her foreign visit. As Abhishek suddenly went on a foreign tour at this point, it has started to be discussed in various circles. CPM and Congress allege that the setting of the BJP and Trinamool has been made clear by the way Abhishek went abroad while pointing the finger at the law during the court case. However, Abhishek's lawyer claims that his client has gone abroad for medical treatment after informing the ED.

State in Cal HC

West Bengal government on Friday again approached the Calcutta High Court's single judge bench of Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharya seeking a stay on the NIA probe in violence incidents of Ram Navami processions this year. **P-3**

Test at border

CM Mamata claimed that dengue in the state is spreading from neighboring Bangladesh and that necessary tests should be done at the border. Speaking in the assembly on Thursday, she said, 'Dengue is spreading in West Bengal from Bangladesh. **P-3**

Kaku in trouble

Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a charge sheet at special court of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in Kolkata against prime accused Sujay Krishna Bhadra a.k.a. Kaligater Kaku (uncle of Kaligat) in the alleged multi-crore school recruitment case. **P-3**



More bank accounts linked to Manik Bhattacharya surfaces
In a fresh case against the former president of West Bengal Board of Primary Education (WBBPE) Manik Bhattacharya in the cash-for-school-job-posting, several other bank accounts linked to him, his family members and close associates have come under the scanner of the CBI. **PG 3**

Morning India



SC grants bail to Vernon Gonsalves, Arun Ferreira in Bhima Koregaon case.

Bhima Koregaon case: SC grants bail to Gonsalves, Arun Ferreira

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court Friday granted bail to Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira, charged with the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in relation to the Bhima Koregaon violence. A bench comprising Justices Aniruddha Bose and Sudhanshu Dhulia granted bail to the duo who were booked under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 for their alleged Maoist links. It said that the two accused cannot be kept behind the bars for a period of over five years pending trial, solely on the ground that they are charged for serious offences. The court ordered that the two accused will not be allowed to leave the state of Maharashtra, while they are out on bail except with the permission of the trial court. The top court imposed many conditions for grant of bail, like surrendering

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passport with NIA, sharing of location with the IO, reporting to NIA once a week, etc. Gonsalves and Ferreira have been lodged in Mumbai's Taloja jail since 2018 and had approached the apex court for bail after their bail pleas were denied by the Bombay High Court. The duo argued that the Bombay HC had denied them bail even though it had granted the same to co-accused Sudha Bharadwaj. The Bhima Koregaon case pertains to a conference held in Pune's Shaniwar Wada to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Koregaon-Bhima and the violence that followed, resulting in the death of a young man and injuries to several others. Several months later, in August 2018, activists Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira were arrested and charged under the UAPA. The two had

been arrested along with other activists Sudha Bharadwaj, P Vara Rao and Gautam Navlakha, and had all been put under house arrest initially on the directions of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court clarified that in case of breach of bail conditions, it will be open for prosecution to move an application seeking cancellation of bail. Earlier in December last year, the Bombay High Court had granted default bail to lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj. However, the division bench of Justices S.S. Shinde and N.J. Jamadar had declined the applications of eight other co-accused in the same case including Dr P. Varavara Rao, Sudhir Dhawale, Rona Wilson, Advocate Surendra Gadling, Prof Shoma Sen, Mahesh Raut, Arun Ferreira and Vernon Gonsalves.

Modi-Xi spoke on bilateral ties 8 months ago, Centre confirms now

MI News Service, New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping not only exchanged courtesies at the G20 summit in Bali last November, but also spoke on the need to stabilise bilateral relations, the Ministry of External Affairs has said. The government's confirmation came two days after Beijing claimed that PM Modi and Xi Jinping reached an "important consensus" on stabilising bilateral ties during their interaction at the G20 Summit in Bali. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson

Cong digs over 22 Bali meet

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Congress on Friday asked whether the government had arrived at a consensus with China or did it make a concession on the border dispute a day after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) confirmed that leaders of the two countries had discussed bilateral relations at the G20 summit in Bali eight months ago. In a long Twitter post, Congress General Secretary Jairam Ramesh questioned whether Chinese soldiers from Depsang and Demchok in Ladakh would finally be withdrawn, alluding to the "consensus" between the two countries. "Ever since Prime

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son Arindam Bagchi stated, "During the Bali G20 summit last year, the Prime Minister and President Xi Jinping, at the conclusion of the dinner hosted by the Indonesian President, exchanged pleasantries and discussed the necessity of stabilising our bilateral relations." He said, "Our consistent stance has been that resolving the issue along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the western sector of the India-China boundary and restoring peace and tranquillity in the border areas is crucial for the overall resolution."

Bagchi made the comments in response to the Chinese foreign ministry's readout of the meeting between NSA Ajit Doval and top diplomat Wang Yi in Johannesburg earlier this week in which it said PM Modi and Xi reached a consensus in Bali on stabilising relations. The MEA had previously mentioned the exchange of pleasantries between PM Modi and Xi on the sidelines of the G20 summit in Bali, which was their first public interaction since the border standoff began in May 2020.

"I think the foreign secretary did mention. Maybe he didn't mention the second part of it. He did talk about extending courtesies and I think there was a general discussion on the need to stabilise our bilateral relations and how we see that," Bagchi said. In fact, Indian foreign secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra had earlier said that PM Modi and President Xi exchanged

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Lust for power, BJP playing with women's respect, alleges Rahul

MI News Service, New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday alleged that the BJP in its "greed for power" is playing with "women's respect" as well as the self-respect of the country. In a Facebook post, Gandhi shared a video montage built with media reports about incidents of sexual assault to attack the central government. The video referred to such incidents as the sexual assault on two women who were stripped and paraded by a mob in Manipur, alleged sexual harassment of women wrestlers by outgoing WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, alleged killing of a woman in Uttarakhand in which the son of a BJP leader was accused, and the release of the convicts in the Bilkis Bano gangrape case. "A country which does not respect its women can never progress. In the greed for power, the BJP is playing with both the respect of women as well as the self-respect of the country," the former Congress president said in his post in Hindi. Gandhi's remarks come amid the opposition's continued attack on the government over its handling of the situation in violence-hit Manipur, where two women were stripped and paraded naked by a mob. Meanwhile, The All Bazar Community and Traders on July 28 organized a sit-in protest at Thangal Bazar in Imphal West, demanding the swift restoration of peace and tranquillity in

Manipur. The protest witnessed a significant turnout of non-Manipuri residents and traders belonging to various communities, including Sikh and Jain, all joining hands to raise their voice for peace. Dolly Jain, one of the impassioned protestors, emphasizing that the demands for peace and harmony transcend barriers of caste, creed, and community. She lamented the instability that has plagued the beautiful state of Manipur for far too long, urging everyone to come together and focus on restoring normalcy while praying for peace and harmony. The sit-in demonstration, organized in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COMI). "Manipur holds tremendous potential and can become one of the top cities in the world. However, to unlock this potential, we need a stable and harmonious environment. Peace is the only path forward for progress, and every section of society must contribute to achieving this stability," expressed Gagandeep, another fervent participant in the protest. On the other hand The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which is probing six cases related to violence in Manipur, has not made any arrest so far, officials said on July 28. In accordance with the procedure, the federal agency took over the FIRs from the state police last month and the investigation is continuing, they said.

India Pulls Out of FISU Games over VISA issues with China

MI News Service, New Delhi: India withdrew its whole wushu (martial art) squad from the World University Games, which get underway Friday in Chengdu, China. This decision came as a protest over China's decision to give stapled visas rather than stamped ones to three athletes from Arunachal Pradesh. The athletes submitted their visa applications on July 16, according to a representative of the federation. Applications of the remaining members of the squad were timely handled, but the paperwork submitted by the three athletes from Arunachal Pradesh — Nye man Wangsu, Onilu Tega, and

Mepung Lamgu—were not accepted. The Chinese embassy sent back their passports with stapled visas on Wednesday afternoon, after they were instructed to complete their applications again on Tuesday. According to coach Raghvendra Singh, the decision was made hours after airport officials in New Delhi stopped an eight-person group, consisting of five athletes, a coach, and two support personnel, at the boarding gate minutes before departure on Thursday night at midnight. Arunachal Pradesh athletes who were supposed to fly out to China on Friday at 1.05 am were not among those who were denied entry. After

being notified of the choice, the administration postponed the team's participation until determining on Thursday that India will not compete in the wushu event of the University Games. Arunachal's officials and athletes have previously been denied stamped visas by China. Five state-based karate athletes received stapled visas in 2011 so they could compete in Quanzhou. "We were stopped at the gate by immigration officials and CISF personnel. They did not give any reason and claimed they were merely acting on the government's instructions," said Singh. The government determined that no

Indian wushu player should travel for the competition in protest to China's discriminatory move, according to a Wushu Federation of India official. Other athletes were therefore denied boarding even though they had legitimate travel documents. People from Arunachal Pradesh have been denied stamped visas by China over the years. It continues to treat areas that it deems to be in dispute separately. The matter has been brought up by India with the Chinese. Indian people from Arunachal Pradesh have frequently been denied stamping visas by China due to a territorial issue.

Iranian turns alphabet learning into a new experience

UDAY BASU
Ree Raz is an Iranian author, illustrator, designer, living in Turkey, who has wielded his sketch pen to turn visual art into a powerful tool to give a new dimension to the method of educating children. He has written an electronic book in English using the alphabets in such a manner that each letter produces an image and visual that matches the image.

This is a unique illustration to help children master English words with the help of explanatory visuals that make the words imprinted in children's mind. The unique primer is titled, FROG. The book addresses the needs of teachers, pedagogues, psychologists, doctors and specialists as well as parents who are looking for an exciting story that can be used to teach. The purpose of the FROG lesson plan is to help students understand and

use vocabulary words in context so that they can read more fluently, understand the author's choice of words and gain deeper insight into meaning of word. Students can learn new vocabulary and they are guided to use them correctly in a sentence. Those who have a hard time learning a word from text definitions will benefit from the "visual dictionary" approach used in FROG. A picture says more than a thousand words. Easy and swift comprehension of words occurs

only through practice. Being able to identify a word, many times over and in a varied setting, makes a reader more confident. Author Reezy Raz has found that readers gain comprehension more readily when a word is visually matched with its identity and form. "Cracking" the meaning of a word, in turn and through the visual links established, aid in the learning of the next. In this way, readers take

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TMC's women wing's leader and activists take part in protest rally against violence on women in Manipur, in Kolkata on Friday.

State appoints Indranil Sen as chairman of WBTDCL

MI News Service, Kolkata: The state government has appointed Indranil Sen as the chairman of West Bengal Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (WBTDCL) replacing Nandini Chakraborty from that post. Chakraborty, who is the Principal Secretary of the Tourism department will, however, act as Director of WBTDCL. Sen happens to be the Minister of State for Technical Education, Training and Skill Development department as well as the Information and Cultural Affairs department. The Board of Directors (BOD) of WBTDCL



which has been reconstituted with nine members has actor Sayantika Banerjee as the Vice-Chairman of WBTDCL. According to sources in the Tourism department, Supriyo had requested Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to appoint

Sen as the chairman of WBTDCL. "I am extremely happy that Indranil Sen, who has been my friend for a long time due to our association with music and my colleague in the Cabinet, has been appointed as WBTDCL chairman. Sen (Indranil Da) has earlier held the charge as Minister of State for Tourism and so his experience will be of immense help. I have always believed that projects in tourism should be executed in a time-bound manner and with his assistance, I am hopeful of meeting deadlines for projects," Supriyo said.

Eight fishermen rescued

MI News Service, Kakdwip: Eight fishermen were rescued after their trawler capsized in the Bay of Bengal, officials said on Friday. The fishermen went to the sea to catch hilsa. When they were fishing near Gangasagar in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district, their trawler capsized due to turbulence in the sea. The fishermen somehow managed to stay afloat for an hour, holding onto their belongings when another fishing trawler spotted them and came to their rescue, officials said. The fishermen were rescued and taken to a hospital in Purba Medinipur district, they said. Their condition are stated to be stable, officials said.

NEERI providing training on green fire-crackers manufacturing

MI News Service, Maheshtala: CSIR NEERI (National Environmental Engineering Research Institute), at the request of state MSME department, is providing training in the manufacture of green fire crackers to 200 odd manufacturers at Jhowtala area under Maheshtala police station from Thursday to Sunday. Minister of state for transport, Dilip Mondal, hopes that the 15-bigha land identified for developing a cluster for green cracker manufacturing at Nandarampur in Maheshtala can be promoted as a model cluster for the entire state. He appealed to all the firecracker manufacturers to support the development of the cluster. "The development of the cluster for manufacture of green firecrackers is the brain child of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Over 1.5 lakh people across the state are directly associated with the manufacturing of firecrackers and the state government is committed to safeguard the livelihood of the people associated with this industry," Mondal said while addressing a state-level workshop on safety measures for small-scale green fireworks industry, at Maheshtala, in South 24 Parganas, on Wednesday ahead of the hands-on training that commenced from Thursday.

Debris removal work begins in Mangalahaat

MI News Service, Kolkata: The removal of debris from the Mangalahaat area began this week under the leadership of the four-member supervisory committee, formed for the renovation of Mangalahaat in Howrah. According to the sources of the district administration, this supervisory committee will coordinate between various departments of the administration and take initiative in the renovation of burnt huts. Haat traders breathed a sigh of relief as the work of removing the debris started. The Mangalahaat Traders Association arranged Khichuri and Alur Dum for the municipal cleaners. On Thursday last week, 2,500 shops in Dan Mangalahaat (also known as Pora Mangalahaat) were reduced to ashes. Just before the puja, the businessmen lost hundreds



of crores of rupees. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee came straight to Mangalahaat from the 21st of July meeting in Dharmatala after receiving the news of the fire. A monitoring committee of five members was created on the Chief Minister's instructions. On the instructions of that committee, a four-member supervisory committee was again formed. On Wednesday, the five-member monitoring committee decided in a meeting that the Howrah municipality will start the work of removing the debris from Thursday. According to municipal sources, efforts are being made to remove all the debris before next Monday. A team of 50 municipal cleaners started working from eight o'clock in the morning with pay loaders and other equipment. After first removing the burnt tins, iron pipes and other debris, the work of demolishing the burnt shops started in Thursday afternoon. Former Trinamool Mayor Shailesh Rai of Ward No. 29 was also present along with Municipal Chairperson Sujoy Chakraborty. Mangalahaat Traders Association President Rajkumar Saha said, "If the rubble is removed, the affected traders will sit temporarily in the burnt market." Efforts are underway so that they can start business by Monday. We thank Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and the district administration officials along with the state government for standing by the affected businessmen."

Sangeet Bharti Deepshri received Mahanayak Uttam Kumar award



MI News Service, Kolkata: Sangeet Bharti Deepshri received Mahanayak Uttam Kumar Award. On the evening of July 25th, the

official announcement of this meritorious reception was made every year by Kavyalok at Fanibhushan Vidya Vinod Yatra stage in Bagbazar. The first recipient of which is Deepshri. The multi-honored Deepshri Ahen thanked all the members of the organization for being selected as the first recipient of the award ceremony. A compilation of 201 songs written by Deepshree, a music artist, lyricist, composer, actress and teacher, has already been published. A collection of 1001 songs

written by her is going to be released within a few days. In the meantime, she is going to get the title of Best Music Director and Composer on behalf of Reporters and Photographers Association and Indian Institution of Journalists on August 5. On the cultural evening of Mahanayak Shradhdhaanjali, poet Chitra Lahiri, musician Saikat Mitra, lyricist Dipankar Chattopadhyay were present on stage. Kavyalok editor Sujit Dutta was in charge of the entire event.

GJM hints at distancing with BJP

MI News Service, Darjeeling: After facing a disaster in the hills of Darjeeling and Kalimpong in the recently concluded panchayat polls in West Bengal, the BJP seems to be heading for yet another complication with Gorkha Janmukti Morcha (GJM) supremo Bimal Gurung hinting at distancing his party with the saffron camp unless the latter announces its definite stand-point on the issue of separate 'Gorkhaland' state. "BJP will have to come open about its stand on separate Gorkhaland state. We will wait till August 15 to see whether the Prime Minister gives any specific message on this Gorkhaland issue. If there is no such mention, we will be forced to take our movement in demand of the separate state to the national capital," Gurung said on Friday. He also said that on August 4, the GHM will orga-



nise a rally at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi in support of their demand for a separate state. "This movement will be for the sake of our Gorkha identity. We need a government at New Delhi who understands the sentiments of the Gorkhas," Gurung added. Political observers see this statement as a note of caution for BJP considering that the saffron camp man-

aged to get its candidates elected from Darjeeling Lok Sabha constituency thrice in 2009, 2014 and 2019 entirely because of the backing from GJM. However, in the recently concluded panchayat polls BJP's alliance with eight local hill parties, including GJM faced major set-back, with Trinamool Congress-backed and Anit Thapa founded Bharatiya

Gorkha Prajatantrik Morcha (BGP) emerging the winner in the majority of the seats contested in the rural civic body polls. However, BJP state president in Darjeeling district Kalyan Diwan described the statements by Gurung as an immature one. "The issue of separate statehood involves a lot of complications and cannot be settled in minutes. It needs lots of discussions. There is no point in opening a front against the Union government on this issue," he said. Recently, BJP also faced criticism from his own party legislator from Kurseong Vishnu Prasad Sharma who claimed that poor results of his party and its allies from the hill areas of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts in the recently concluded panchayat polls in the state was because of outsiders who had been dumped in the hills by the leadership.

Colleges re-open admission portals to fill up vacant seats

MI News Service, Kolkata: Colleges in city that have opened their admission portals for a second time. Several Calcutta University colleges are planning to reopen their admission portals to fill up vacant seats in subjects that have had few takers even after two-three rounds of admission. Maharaja Manindra Chandra College, Vidyasagar College, Basanti New Alipore College Devi College, New Al-

ipore College and AJC Bose College are among those that have already decided to seek a second round of applications for subjects wise is July 31, like economics, philosophy Sanskrit, physics, chemistry and mathematics. Surendranath College has decided to seek fresh applications for Bengali, philosophy Sanskrit, economics, physics and BSc general while Vidyasagar College will

do the same for BSc general, geography general, Sanskrit, philosophy and even core science subjects if required. It had been reported earlier that there has been an overall dip in demand for core science subjects like physics, chemistry, mathematics and humanities subjects like Sanskrit and philosophy this year. Manindra Chandra College will open its admission portal for three days from

Thursday while AJC Bose College's portal reopened on Wednesday and will stay live till Monday New Alipore College, too, reopened its admission portal for two days on Wednesday for this year, the state higher education department has allowed colleges to reopen their admission portals twice to fill up vacant seats. The deadline to wrap up the admission process will be completed soon.

Chief Secretary chaired review meeting to discuss various schemes

MI News Service, Kolkata: Under the direction of the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, a review meeting on various schemes and programmes of the State Govt. was chaired by the Chief Secretary on Friday at Nabanna.

Effective engagement of Employment Officers for Utkarsh Bangla scheme was discussed for greater synergy between the initiatives of Labour Dept. and the corresponding skilling required for gainful employment.

Immediate steps to check the rising dengue cases was discussed by the Health Dept.

The meeting was held with all District Magistrates, ADMS, SDOs and BDOs who joined through virtual conference. And the following Head of Departments were also present - Home and Hill Affairs, Labour, Irrigation & Waterways, Technical Education, Training & Skill Development, MSME & Textiles, Agriculture, Health & Family Welfare, Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Minorities Affairs & Madrasah Education, CMO (Coordination & Monitoring), Land & Land Reforms and Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation, Backward Classes Welfare, Panchayat & Rural Development and PWD.

In this meeting various aspects were discussed. Regarding Panchayat General Election 2023, the districts were reminded that the first meeting of the new Board must be held within five years of first meeting of the previous Board as per the WB Panchayat Constitution Rules, 1975. On the other hand, grievance redressal under "Sorasoni Mukhyamantri" initiative was reviewed and emphasis was laid on quality of disposal of the grievances. The upcoming "MSME Month" programme was discussed. The importance of involvement of the banking

sector and conduction of an early Block Level Bankers Committee was reiterated. Discussion on measure to combat dengue were also discussed in the meeting.

Discussed where there have been delay in completion of projects due to pending land acquisition/land purchase. Districts were directed to closely monitor the specific

At the outset, Chief Secretary appreciated the efforts undertaken by the departments and the field officers in the implementation of the various schemes.

Environment friendly Public Transportation Systems in the city

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal Transport Corporation (WBTC) launched a comprehensive study on "Accelerating Net Zero Transition of Public Transportation Systems in the City of Kolkata" in collaboration with TERI, the leading Environment think tank. The study provides the overview on the future of electric mobility in the city of Kolkata and pave way for replication in other cities in the state. The study summaries CO2 and air pollution related emission reductions; which could be achieved over the next 28 year period. The study came out at a very important time where WBTC celebrates its 150th



year of Calcutta Tramways, 75 years of CSTC and TERI celebrates its 50th year of establishment. Speaking at the event, Rajanvir Singh Kapur

IAS, the MD of WBTC, mentioned the benefits of the energy transition in the public transport and associated emissions reductions which will have

positive impact on health issues. He also said that he would share the report with linked organisations like KMC, PCB and Environment Department. The team from TERI presented the project findings and K. Umamaheswaran from Teri thanked WBTC's leadership in supporting the project in all levels. In addition, TERI observed around 7000 crore plus rupees would be required over the next 20 years to achieve this clean energy transition. The report will open avenues for cities to implement similar action plan aiming towards decarbonisation in the public sector.

National and International Convention for integrated management

MI News Service, Kolkata/Nabarangapu: The International Mission for Social Welfare and Charity (I.M.S.W.C) organized its 43th anniversary of "National and International Convention for integrated management framework on Environment and Bio-Engineering, Climate Change and Pollution, Conservation of medicinal Plants and their Sustainable utilization Agro Advantages to farmers, Earthquakes, Advances in Science, Engineering, Technology and Natural Resources, Environmental Science and development and evaluation of the program was held on 21st July, 2023, at Orissa State under Nabarangapur District under "Sanakumuli", "Pilika" and "Hatibeda" Village. The 634 poets, men and women participated in the said Programme.

agriculture, land degradation and use, waste management, health, resource depletion, water pollution, air pollution, industrial pollution, food pollution, population. IMSWC provide to improve their livelihood and well-being while also protecting their natural resources at. Uttar Pradesh state under Shrawasti District Under "Birpur", "Kunda" and "Madargarh" Village. The 583 farmers, Scientist-E, Youth men and women and villagers participated in the above program.

23rd July, 2023: They organized "Access to integrated development Programme for safer drinking water to accelerate the switch to a low-carbon economy and to create environmental awareness with the common people of India towards sustainable development. professional development wildlife research and conservation, animal welfare, animal health, immunization, rescue and rehabilitation at. Gujarat State under Jamnagar District under "Naghuna", "Chandraga", and "Dhutarpar" Village. The 627 Writer, Scientist-G, and villagers participated in the above program.

24th July, 2023: They organized protecting the environment.



Exclusive awareness with the common people is needed that promote decentralized methods of protecting the environment, public community awareness about the local and global issues facing the environment and re-

newable Energy and Conservation and Implementation of the Programme at. Tamil Nadu State Under Karur District Under "Nagampalli", "Velambadi" and "Balarajapuram" Village. The 492 Students, teachers partici-

pated in the above program. 25th July, 2023: They organized to improve livelihood and well-being while also protecting their natural resources and to concepts and principles that support green lifestyles and green

Technology and science, bathymetry, geology, meteorology, coastal zone management and associated resources. Clean Water Social Changes, Cultures, and Education, biosphere research, mangroves, forest and coral reefs research at. Chhattisgarh State under Rajnandgaon district under, Dilapahari", "Fuljhar" and "Daragaon" village. The 586 professors, teachers participated in the above program.

26th July, 2023: They organized "Innovative integrated Program for Universal elementary education, training and assessment for general people, teachers, youth generation, farmers and students to carry out surveys and acquire information using satellite technology, forest and environmental education, ships, buoys, boats or any other platforms to generate information on fisheries, minerals, oil, biology, hydrology, Academic Research in Sciences, Arts, and Humanities, improvement of human environment, ecosystems research, waste management and pollution, wetlands, biodiversity conservation, water, agriculture, energy, consumerism, community health and education their economic development and live-

lihoods, Biomedical and Bioinformatics Engineering and monitoring of the workshop at West Bengal state under Bankura District Under, "Baital", "Narayanpur" and "AmarkanandeshbandhuVidyalaya" The 735 dean, College and School Student and Villagers participated in the above program. The guest who participated were : Mr. Debashish Ghosh- Secretary General of IMSWC, Miss. Mali Bagchi- President, IMSWC, ShriBhupender Yadav-Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India. Ms. LeenaNandan-IAS, Secretary, Ministry of State for Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India. ShriGiriraj Singh- Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. Honorable Sri. Chandra PrakashGoyal, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, Government of India. Honorable DrAshishoAsosii Mao-Director, Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Kolkata, West Bengal, Srimoth Swami. ChinmayanandaMoharaj, Srimoth Swami. Nityananda Moharaj, Srimoth

Modi-Xi spoke on bilateral ties 8 months...

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courtesies during their Bali meeting in 2022. "With regard to the question relating to the handshake between the Prime Minister and President Xi Jinping, I will only say that Prime Minister Modi and President Xi Jinping who were both attending the G-20 dinner yesterday, hosted by the Indonesian President exchanged courtesies at the conclusion of

the dinner." Foreign Secretary Vinay Mohan Kwatra had said after the Bali meet in a briefing to the media. Arindam Bagchi, Spokesperson of the MEA, confirmed that the two leaders had spoken of the need to stabilise bilateral ties. However, he also stated that India's perspective was that the situation on the LAC remains a key issue that must be resolved.

State moves to Cal HC over NIA probe in Ram Navami's incidents

MI News Service, Kolkata: West Bengal government on Friday again approached the Calcutta High Court's single judge bench of Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharya seeking a stay on the NIA probe in violence incidents of Ram Navami processions this year. The move of the State

government just 48 hours after NIA has moved Calcutta High Court's single judge bench of Justice Jay Sengupta accusing the West Bengal police administration of non-cooperation in the matter especially as regards to handing over the case related documents to the central agency.

The order for NIA probe in the matter was given by the division bench of Calcutta High Court's Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharya. However, the State government challenged that order at the Supreme Court on grounds that the NIA probe was ordered

based on public interest litigation, which according to the state government, was unjustified. The State government petition was dismissed by the apex court three judge bench of Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, Justice J.B. Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Mishra. On April 27 this year, while ordering

the NIA probe in the matter, Calcutta High Court's division bench observed that it is beyond the ability of the state police to find those who were responsible for the clashes or who instigated it and hence asked the for a probe by the central agency. Earlier, the same division bench also questioned

the efficiency of the intelligence wing of the state police regarding pelting of stones from the roofs of residences in the troubled belts. The bench questioned the failure of the intelligence in getting information about stones being accumulated on the rooftops.

Cong digs over' 22 Bali meet...

From PG 1
Minister's public clean chit to China on June 19th, 2020, the Modi government has been acting as if it is being tough on China, and there have been no

compromises or meaningful conversations between PM Modi and President Xi Jinping while Chinese troops remain in violation of previous LAC agreements," Ramesh said in the tweet.

Iranian turns alphabet learning into a...

From PG 1
ownership of their learning. For example, the letter B conjures up the images of a bat and a bee, a bone or a brush. The artist draws the image of a bat using the letter B and that of a bee using the letter B. The letter 'r' in the word

brush, is turned into the image of a brush. Similarly, words such as camel, carrot, cat and cane are introduced to the child reader with images of the animals, vegetables and walking stick by drawing their images with the help one letter of the word.

ED files charge sheet against Bhadra

MI News Service, Kolkata: Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a chargesheet at special court of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in Kolkata against prime accused Sujay Krishna Bhadra a.k.a. Kalighater Kaku (uncle of Kalighat) in the alleged multi-crore school recruitment case. In the 7,600-page chargesheet, with the principal chargesheet being of 125 pages, the central agency sleuths have detailed on how Bhadra collected the proceeds in the case and then diverted the same through different channels.

price of a particular company from the price of Rs 10 a share to that of Rs 440 a share. The chargesheet against Bhadra has been filed in less than two months since he was arrested by the ED on May 30 this year. Meanwhile, Bhadra continues his legal battle to get bail, challenging the judgment of the lower court, his lawyer approached the Calcutta High Court on Friday. The judge allowed the filing of the case. Bhadra claims he needs bypass surgery and he wants to get operated at the hospital of his choice, the same plea was taken by Kaku of Kalighat in the lower court. However, the judge of the lower court rejected his application on Thursday. According to Kaku, he wants the bypass surgery to be done in a private hospital. But the ED advocated for this surgery at SSKM Hospital itself. The lower court agreed to the same. Challenging the order of the lower court, Sujaykrishna Bhadra approached the High Court on Friday. Kaku of Kalighat wanted a speedy hearing of his application today. This time he applied to the bench of Justice Tirthankar Ghosh seeking interim bail. It is likely to be heard next week after the case is listed.

Sources said that in the chargesheet, the ED have detailed that as many as 100 bank accounts were used by Bhadra and his close associates in diverting the proceeds through the hawala route. ED has also identified the corporate entities that were utilised in this diversion process as well as in entities in sectors like real estate development where these proceeds were invested, sources added.

In the chargesheet, source added, that how Bhadra with the help of reported city-based chartered accountant had artificially pumped up the

Couple sells baby to buy phone, travels across state for honeymoon

MI News Service, Kolkata: Police in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district have arrested a couple for allegedly selling their eight-month-old infant. It was the local residents who got suspicious after they found the couple having a brand-new phone and reported the matter to the police. According to locals, the couple, who also have a daughter, travelled across the state and visited many places, including Digha and Mandarmani sea beaches for their honeymoon. Through the incident came to light on Sunday (July 24), it took place at least one and a half months ago. The couple, identified as Jaydev Ghosh and Sathi, are now in police custody and the baby has been rescued. "Jaydev Ghosh and Sathi sold their

baby for Rs 2 lakh. Later, they visited many places, like Digha sea beach for their honeymoon with the money. They even bought a mobile phone." Laxmi Kundu, a neighbour said. She even alleged that Sathi would bring other people to her house, saying that the couple sold the baby for buying opium and ganja. Police have also arrested another woman, Priyanka Ghosh, to whom the couple allegedly sold the infant. Priyanka was taken to Khardah police station but she is yet to reveal details. Kamai Chowdhury, Jaydev's father said, "I knew that the baby had been sent to his maternal uncle's house. Later, I came to know that the baby had been sold off. I can't say why and to whom the baby was sold.



Chandrima Bhattacharya, MOS (IC) Finance and Programme Monitoring, of Government of West Bengal, Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay, Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs minister of Government of West Bengal and Namit Bajoria, President, Merchants' Chamber of Commerce and Industry at the 122nd Annual General Meeting felicitate (3rd from Left) Kunj Bihari Agarwala, Managing Director, Rupa & Co. Ltd and (4th from Left) Hemant Bangur Executive Chairman, Gloster Limited in Kolkata on Friday.

MCCI organises its 122nd annual general meeting

MI News Service, Kolkata: Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized its 122nd Annual General Meeting on Friday at The Taj Bengal, Kolkata. The theme of the AGM was Destination West Bengal- Investment, Business & Growth Opportunities. The 122nd Annual General Meeting was addressed by Shri Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction and Smt. Chandrima Bhattacharya, Hon'ble MOS (IC) of Finance, Govt. of West Bengal. While speaking on the prospect of Bengal as an investment destination, Shri Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, mentioned that not a single man-days is lost in the State. E-governance is best in the state. The state is endowed with availability of power, land and connectivity. Bengal can be chosen as an industrial hub for its self sufficiency in power, connectivity and E-governance. He said that the state was providing exemptions on oil mills, tea producing and packaging, cold storages and cold chains. Dr. Shashi Panja, Hon'ble Minister of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Public Enterprises & Industrial Reconstruction said we are fighting against the decades old per-

ceptions which had been built against West Bengal. State holds strong manufacturing capacity in textiles, iron & Steel and mining. While emphasizing on various advantages that Bengal has such as availability of industrial parks all over Bengal, simplification of business processes, strong MSME base, declining Debt to GDP ratio, geographical advantage such as gateway to North-East and South-East, Bengal is literally reaching beyond Bengal to the World. She mentioned that there is a need to streamline the sand mining policy. She informed that trials have begun in Deocha Pachami which is the biggest coal mine in Bengal as well as in Asia. The government is giving huge thrust on infrastructure development in the State and set up 3 economic corridors, Dankuni to Raghunathpur in Purulia, Dankuni to Kalyani and Dankuni to Haldia for logistics parks and townships. She mentioned that industrial parks are on lease in West Bengal. While speaking on 'leasehold to freehold conversion' Dr. Panja mentioned that the government would not allow free hold land for conversion and if a lease hold is transferred to free hold the land as to be used for the purpose for which it is being used. "Whatever the industry needs to flourish in West Bengal, we have here" - said Smt. Chandrima Bhattacharya, Hon'ble MOS (IC) of Finance, Govt. of West Bengal. She

mentioned that though a financial crunch is there, an industry will get support at every point from the State. She urged the industry to be with the State, give constructive suggestions and work jointly. On this occasion, MCCI felicitated the leading industrialists Shri Kunj Bihari Agarwala, said "West Bengal has already announced a number of policies - Maritime Policy, Ethanol Policy, Textile Policy, Electric Vehicle Policy, Renewable Energy Policy, Food Processing Policy, Logistics Policy, and many others. But a little more clarity and a comprehensive outline can attract investments, which can take West Bengal to a bigger spot", said Shri Namit Bajoria, President of MCCI in his Welcome Address. Panja said the government was providing financial exemptions to ethanol manufacturing on different counts. On this occasion the Ministers released "MCCI West Bengal Repeal Law Compendium". While praising the Government's decision to introduce the regime of "freehold" land ownership from "leasehold" system through amendment of the relevant law, Rules and Manual, he viewed that this will undoubtedly boost West Bengal's industrial rejuvenation at a faster pace and encourage fresh investments in the State in diverse sectors. The Session ended with a hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by Shri Lalit Beriwal, Sr. Vice President, MCCI.

Maidan to get 4.5L sandalwood saplings, geo-tag to prevent thefts

MI News Service, Kolkata :

Kolkata: The forest department in close association with the Army, the custodian of the Maidan, has kicked total plantation of sandalwood off the most ambitious and extensive plantation drive saplings of both red and white sandalwood in and around Maidan. Bengal forest minister Jyotipriya Mallick said saplings across the state 60 lakh plantation drive in several area will be initiated. Either side of Red Road,

along the periphery of Fort William, around the periphery of the eastern side of Maidan Safety | Special fencing and geo-tagging of each sapling for better protection and higher survival. Sandalwood trees in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu will be brought. Why not have such sandalwood trees in our state? We will try to develop sandalwood trees in our land," the minister said. Mullick said, experts were engaged to conduct surveys and soil

tests. "The plan was to plant sandalwood trees where the soil is suitable. We brought red and white sandalwood saplings from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. One crore saplings were brought to be planted in different places under the Sabuj Shree scheme with permission. We will protect the trees with fences. As we have started now, we will get fence after 10 years," he added. The authorities have planned to bring

around one crore sandalwood saplings from south India for plantation. They are also working on plans to set up "Nagar Vatika Bans" in and around the city. The sandalwood oil has high medicinal value and economic value of sandalwood. The minister said that the plantation drive which began on July 18 has a target to plant as many as 4.5 lakh sandalwood The forest minister said that they saplings, Mehgini, arrowroots,

More bank accounts linked to Manik Bhattacharya surfaces

MI News Service, Kolkata: In a fresh case against the former president of West Bengal Board of Primary Education (WBBPE) Manik Bhattacharya in the cash-for-school-job-posting, several other bank accounts linked to him, his family members and close associates have come under the scanner of the CBI. Sources said that as many 61 bank accounts have come under scanner of the central agency sleuths. The CBI is examining them to track the questionable inward and outward remittances through them. Sources further said that in the fresh round of interrogation in this new case, Bhattacharya had admitted his association with as many as 25 such bank accounts. "Additional details will be revealed once the details of inward and outward remittances are examined," a CBI associate said. Bhattacharya, along with his wife and son, is already serving judicial custody for his alleged involvement in the multi-crore school recruitment case in West Bengal. The new development has revealed that the irregulari-

ties were not related to selection of ineligible candidates against cash but also to ensure their postings in native districts against payments. CBI has already filed a fresh FIR against Bhattacharya in case of the new cash-for-school-job-posting case. The probe has been initiated by the CBI following an order from the Calcutta High Court's single-judge bench of Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay, where the latter has also directed the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to get involved in the 99-page FIR filed against Bhattacharya and unknown officials of WBBPE. CBI has maintained that the focus of the investigation in the new case is in relation to accepting money for selected candidates posting in the schools in their native districts. The rate-charts were prepared on the basis of distance of posting school from the residence of the candidates. The CBI sleuths doubt that Bhattacharya was assisted by some top officials of WBBPE and hence the FIR has been filed against unknown board officials also.





Members of East Coast Railway Women's Welfare Organisation (ECRWWO) headed by its President, Divya Sharma planting saplings in the Tree Plantation Drive near Railway Officers' Rest House, Puri. Smt. Mandal, Secretary, ECRWVO coordinated the programme.

Record production of hilsa this year in Bengal

MI News Service, Kolkata: It has been a good news for hilsa lover that finally after four years there is record production of hilsa in Bengal. So far this year, more than 8 thousand tons of hilsa have been caught in the nets of the fishermen of South 24 Parganas. Fishermen hope to find hilsa in the deep sea in the next month. Hilsa is entering the sea in droves due to the strong winds and heavy rains. As a result, tons of silver grains are caught in the net. Fishing ports at Kakkvip, Namkhana, Fraserganj, Patharpratima, Sagar, Raidighi, Diamond Harbor are busy now. Fishermen are returning with trawlers full of hilsa throughout the day. The hilsa ghat is leaving for the

Diamond Harbor fish market. Aarte is spreading across the state and beyond the state after the auction. This time the size of the hilsa is also quite good. Also, the taste of fish has increased in rainwater. Owners and wholesalers say that the price will decrease quite a bit in the coming days. Excess production is likely to drive down prices. In the last three days, an average of more than 1,000 tons of hilsa has been auctioned for fish stocks. Hilsa fishing season started last June 15. A month has passed since the start of the season. Fishermen got good hilsa every day. The last good hilsa was found in 2018. Since then there was a continuous drought of hilsa.

Many trawler owners turn away from this business as they are unable to pull their fleets at a loss. Fishermen were living in financial distress. Many fishermen of A-state migrated to other states. But this time the picture has changed. Record hilsa caught. Every trawler owner has seen the face of profit. Satinath Patra, secretary of the Sundarban Sea Fishermen Workers Union said, "The drought of several years is about to end. Hilsa found in the sea. Flocks of hilsa are falling into the fishermen's nets. We are optimistic. Hilsa will be available in the same way for the next month. Bengalis are going to get cheap hilsa."

State police initiate actions against Bamangola police for inaction

MI News Service, Malda: West Bengal police has finally initiated departmental actions against police personnel under Bamangola Police Station in Malda district for "inaction" after the alleged harassment and outrage of modesty of two tribal women at Pakua Hat in the same district on July 19. As many as four officers have been "closed" on charges of negligence in the matter. The officers against who actions have been taken include Bamangola Police Station's inspector-in-charge Jaideep Chakraborty, Nalagola police outpost's officer-in charge Mrinal Sarkar, Pakua Hat police outpost officer-in-charge Rakesh Biswas and assistant sub-inspector Sanjay Sarkar.



To recall, besides those involved in harassment of the two tribal women, the police also arrested the two victims on charges of their recent involvement in ransacking of Nalagola Police outpost under Bamangola police station. However, both were released on bail later. The matter attracted huge criticism and even the Malda district police authorities initiated a departmental inquiry against these four officers. Finally, actions have been initiated against them nine days af-

ter the alleged harassment and outrage of modesty of the tribal women took place. Initially after a video on the incident surfaced, the state commerce & industries minister Dr Sashi Panja claimed that BJP was unnecessarily politicising the Malda matter. "The Malda incident was a case of theft, where the two women tried to steal something from a local market. In that process a group of women made an attempt to take law & order in their hands. A case has been registered and the police are investigating the matter," she had said. At this the civil society raised questions that can even a theft accused be manhandled and harassed in such a manner and that too at a public place.

30 Solar Street Lights to be set up in Sundarbans

MI News Service, Kultali: It is a good news for around 4,516 households in the Sundarbans as they are set to enjoy the brighter evening from now onwards. Directorate of Forest, South 24 Pargana have joined hands with Super Shakti Foundation and Kolkata Society for

Cultural Heritage to install 30 solar street lights in Kultali range. These solar lights also would save lives of villagers from man wild conflict.

The project is a public private partnership one. Directorate of Forest has given the mandate to KSCH, a social enterprise. The solar street lights will be installed by Kolkata Society for Cultural Heritage whereas the Super Shakti Foundation has come forward with the requisite funds. Super Shakti Foundation plans to install 30 solar street lights in that area and to start with they already installed 5 poles. Today after inaugurating the project they will implement the rest at different phases.

Around 4,136 families of Debipur in the Kultali range in the Sundarbans are beneficiaries of the proposed street lights. They are the victims of frequent snake bites as the villages are adjacent to the core area of the Sundarbans. The villagers stumble upon poison-



ous snakes in darkness leading to death or serious injury on a regular basis. Kultali range falls under the jurisdiction of the Directorate Forest, South 24 Pargana Division, Govt. of West Bengal. Nearby hospital is 36 km away.

and wild conflict is one of the major concerns of the forest department in the Sundarbans. Roads are developed with bricks and electricity has been a rarity here. Snake bites are the common problems in Sundarbans area. Common kraits and Cobras are making the prime damages for the local people. Mortality rate (65%) is very high for snake bite cases.

Even Tigers strayed out of the core areas twice in the last five years. So Solar lights are the only solution of this concern here", said Milan Mandal, DFO, 24 Parganas, South Division.

"The project has been implemented through Super Shakti Foundation which is our registered foundation for Implementing of CSR Projects. The project promotes both environmental sustainability and rural development. We are happy that we have planned to install 30 sets of Solar Street Lamps in a remote area adjacent to the Sundarbans will directly benefit at least 4000 families. To start with we already installed 5 solar poles", said by Mr. Ishant Jain, CSR Nodal Officer, Sai Group.

Office of the GARAIMARI GRAM PANCHAYAT
VIII-P.O.- GARAIMARI, P.S.- Domkal, Dist.-Murshidabad, (W.B.)
UNDER DOMKAL BLOCK
NleT No: 04/2023-24, Memo No: GGP-118 (8), Date: 27/07/2023
Publishing & Bid Submission Start Date: 28/07/2023 (from 1.00 PM)
Bid Submission Closing Date: 11/08/2023 (up to 05.00 PM)
Bid Opening Date: 14/08/2023 (11.00 AM)
Details See In: www.wbtenders.gov.in

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SARIF COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
-- Required --
Assistant Professor for B.Ed. Bengali (1), English (1), Sanskrit (1), Life Science (1), Mathematics (2), Commerce (1), Hindi (1), History (1), Geography (1).
Qualification / Salary : As per NCTE Norms
e-mail : baliadangabedcollege@gmail.com

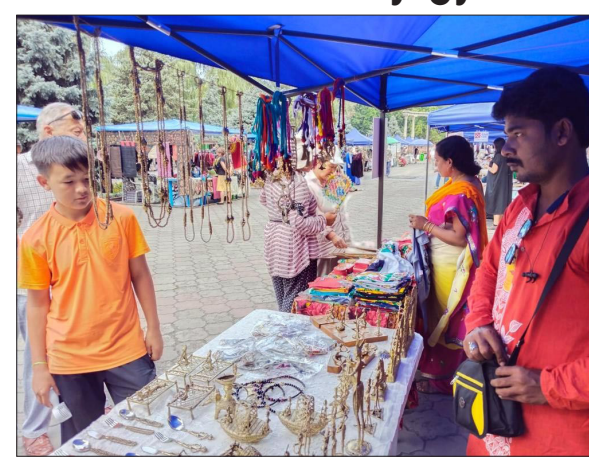
SARIF B. ED. COLLEGE
-- Required --
Principal & Assistant Professor for B.Ed. Principal (1), Foundation (3), Education (1), Commerce (1), Bengali (1), English (1), Mathematics (2), Physical Science (1), Life Science (1), History (1), Political Science (1), Fine Arts (1), Physical Education (1), Music (1), Librarian (1), Hindi (1), Philosophy (1).
Qualification / Salary : As per NCTE Norms
e-mail : baliadangabedcollege@gmail.com

NBS COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
-- Required --
Assistant Professor for B.Ed. Bengali (1), English (1), Political Science (1), Sanskrit (1), Life Science (1), Mathematics (2), Hindi (1), History (1), Geography (1).
Qualification / Salary : As per NCTE Norms
e-mail : baliadangabedcollege@gmail.com

Office Of The Dhuliyani Municipality
P.O. Dhuliyani, Dist-Murshidabad
Notice Inviting E-Tender & E-Quotation
The Chairman, Dhuliyani Municipality invites E-Tender/E-NieQ from the eligible and bonafied resourceful contractors Ref: 1. DHLYN/HFA/06/2023-2024 (2nd Call). Last date of Bid submission 10.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. 2. DHLYN/Electric furnace GRNT/07/2023-2024. Last date of Bid Submission: 16.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. 3. DHLYN/SWM_GRANT/8/2023-2024. Last date of Bid Submission: 16.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. 4. DHLYN/OHR_GRNT/9/2023-2024. Last date of Bid Submission: 16.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. 5. DHLYN/Electric_GRANT/10/2023-2024. Last date of Bid Submission: 16.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. 6. DHLYN/Relief_GRNT/11/2023-2024. Last date of Bid Submission: 16.08.2023 up to 18.00 PM. For further details please visit WB Tender.gov.in & Dhuliyani Municipality website www.dhuliyanimunicipality.org
Sd/- Chairman
Dhuliyani Municipality

Bardhaman's Docra Artist in the Festival of Traditional Culture and Craft at Kyrgyzstan

MI News Service, Burdwan: Dokra artist Suvo Karmakar of Dwariapur of Ausgram-1 Block of Purba Bardhaman District, will present the dokra art at the international Festival of Traditional Culture and Crafts organized by Central Asia Craft Support Association's Resource Center in Kyrgyzstan from July 27-30 of this year. He will attend the International 'Oimo' Festival of Handicrafts, Traditional Culture and Crafts of West Bengal organized by the 'CACASAR' kg there. Besides, he is also supposed to attend a festival of Tamchi village in Isik-Kul lake of that country. On Tuesday, he left for a foreign country. Before that, his co-artists congratulated him at Dokra Para in Dwariapur. In October last year, Suvo went to London with the Dokra artwork.



According to local sources, artists are participating in this festival as part of the 'Rural Craft and Cultural Hub' project under the supervision of West Bengal Government's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Textile Department and UNESCO. Through this project, since 2013, folk artists are going to participate in festivals in different countries of the world, ni Chitrakar from Chandipur in East Medinipur and Kantha artist Papia Sultana from Nanur in Birbhum will join the festival along with Suvo Karmakar.

In this regard, BDO (Ausgram-1) Arindam Mukhopadhyay said, "Congrats Mr. Suvo on behalf of my block administration. Before this, he has taken his artwork to foreign soil several times. Besides, many people from abroad come to Dwariapur. Along with the dokra industry, the name of Dwariapur is shining in the country and abroad". Patchitra artist Khukura-

doings cultural exchange with foreign artists. In this regard, Suvo said, "I have been invited to attend the festival of Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan from July 27 to 31 of this month and from August 1 to 6, Tamchi village in Issyk-Kul lake in that country. It feels good to be able to present this handicraft of Bengal in this festival of international standard". Dokra's artwork was recently awarded at the prestigious Crossroads Music Festival in the Czech Republic. Suvo claims that he also made that. Patchitra artist Khukura-

Symposium on sleep disorder organised at B. R. Singh Hospital

MI News Service, Kolkata: Under the guidance of Dr. Rudrendu Bhattacharya, Principal Chief Medical Director, Eastern Railway & Dr. Indira Jha, Medical Director, B. R. Singh Hospital, a unique symposium on Sleep disorders was organised at the auditorium of B.R. Singh hospital on July 27 2023. Dr. Bhattacharya in his inaugural speech emphasized on the rising importance of this topic. Dr. Indira Jha also explained about the importance of sleep hygiene. Dr. Arup Halder, city's eminent pulmonologist &



sleep specialist graced the occasion as guest of honour and lucidly explained the physiology of sleep, sleep disorders, investigations needed for diagnosis & the various treatment modalities.

A multidisciplinary panel discussion on different aspects of Sleep disordered breathing-obstructive sleep apnoea was moderated by the doctors of various departments of B. R. Singh Hospital. All Indian Railway Health Service (IRHS) doctors of different specialties, Diplomate of National Board (DNB) trainees & Residents were present in the symposium and were immensely benefited from this program.

The legacy of the Asansol Durand Institute- resuscitate to life

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Durand Institute, one of oldest institutes in India, was set up in 1878 and was named as European Institute in 1915 and rechristened as "Durand Institute" in year 1925 in the honour of Sir Mortimer Durand, the foreign secretary of India during 1884 to 1894 and architect of Durand line - the international border between Afghanistan and Pakistan.



Set amidst the lush surroundings in the company of mahogany trees, Durand Institute with its majestic Tower kissing the azure skyline was the landmark of Asansol, an important city and Divisional Headquarters of the then East Indian Railways (EIR) in Howrah - Delhi Route. It was a social and cultural hub, a place to unwind, a place to relax after day's hard work, a country club away from home for Europeans. Its tower was the tallest structure in the town, taller even than the spires of the Sacred Heart Church located at the town square and would be seen even from the railway station. With large teak paneled dancing hall, swimming pool, billiards and card rooms, library, tennis and badminton courts, bar room, it was abuzz with social, cultural and sports activities.

Evenings were full of fun; kids swarming all over the places, youngsters running and skidding along the dance floor sprinkled with talcum powder, cacophony of housie (bingo), gramophone blaring lively tunes and catchy numbers, animated discussion amongst members quenching their thirst in bar would suddenly come to an end and people would join the dance floor for waltz, foxtrot and other dances in rage back home then. Till the 60s, when the Anglo-Indian diaspora had not migrated, the Durand institute was the absolute centre of social and cultural life in Asansol. It had a huge central dance hall, with a wide nave on one side for tables and seating. The dance floor was normally used for seating for the cinema which had a cinemascope screen

installed in the mid fifties. A different movie was shown every week. It had a lounge area, a bar, cloak rooms, a library, spacious toilets, a cycle room, tennis and badminton courts outside, and a separate two-table billiards/snooker hall. The famous Tower with the War Memorial Copper Plate, commemorating the sacrifice of railway men in the First World War, is of 22 meters high, from the ground level to its zenith. Four 18.5 long spires adorn at the top of tower. The natives of Asansol had nothing at that time which could rival with the grandeur of the Durand Institute. Even today the building reminds of its past glory. From the large staircases to the arched and pillared interior of the halls, from the big windows and doors to the

Burma-teak flooring on the stage, from the tennis court to the billiards rooms, from the sprawling lawns to the shady trees - everywhere it is in evidence. The Institute suffered a benign neglect and decline after large scale migration of Anglo Indians post-Independence and slowly it degenerated to a marriage hall or a venue for occasional official functions. As a part of Eastern Railway's initiative to preserve the heritage structures, the Team of Railway officials of Asansol Division had undertaken Institute Revival Scheme and had put in selfless and tireless work, beyond the call of duty and a race against time. This Institutes is coming alive with cultural activities and is providing platform to Railway family members and local artists to display their talent. It is also renewing social fiber and reconnecting people lost somewhere in the faceless virtual world of face-book, WhatsApp and internet.

History of Asansol is entwined with history of Railways in Asansol, as the town itself was formed and developed after EIR bought large tract of forest land to construct a Railway township. Durand has been restored back as the landmark of the town.

Name Change
I, Smt. CHHANDA NANDI, spouse of No. 14261464N, Rank Ex NAIK, Name Samar Kumar Nandi resident of Arambagh, Suryasen Pally, Word No. 5, Dist. - Hooghly, PIN-712601 have changed my name from CHHANDA NANDI to CHHANDA RANI NANDI and date of birth from 10/01/1974 to 14/11/1977 vide affidavit dated 28.07.23 before The Executive Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman.



Name Change
I, ARSAD ALI and MD ARSHAD ALI is wrongly recorded in my Son's Birth Report No-5509398 and School Certificate, S/o-DARCIUD SK. Residing at Vill-Khagrapura, Post-Mirzapur, PS-Beldanga, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742190, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ARSHAD ALI. That my name ARSHAD ALI and ARSAD ALI and MD ARSHAD ALI is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, MD AKSAR SK is wrongly recorded in my Son's Voter Card No-RDH2126233, S/o-AHAD ALI. Residing at Vill-Kalupara, Post-Bechuaitala, PS-Daulatabad, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742302, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as AKSAR ALI. That my name AKSAR ALI and MD AKSAR SK is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, ABDUR ODUD is wrongly recorded in my Son's School Certificate, S/o-SAMSUDDIN SK. Residing at Vill-Babupara, Post-Mahaldia, PS-Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742180, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUL ODUD SK. That my name ABDUL ODUD SK and ABDUR ODUD is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, ALOKE BISWAS is wrongly recorded in my School Certificate, S/o- SUDHIR BISWAS, Residing at Goalpara, Baganchara, Krishnanganj-1, Dist- Nadia, Pin-741404, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ALOK BISWAS. That my name ALOK BISWAS and ALOKE BISWAS is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, ASIM DUTTA is wrongly recorded in my Daughter School Certificate, S/o-AMARNATH DUTTA. Residing at 69 Shyamnanda Bagchi lane, Khagra, Berhampore, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742103, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ASIM KUMAR DUTTA. That my name ASIM KUMAR DUTTA and ASIM DUTTA is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, SAMAD SEKH is wrongly recorded in my Passport No- J2645225, S/o- TAHASEN SEKH. Residing at Vill-Tikarpura, Post-Kolnaradhakantapur, PS-Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742123, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUS SAMAD. That my name ABDUS SAMAD and SAMAD SEKH is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, SAMAD SEKH is wrongly recorded in my Passport No- J2645225, S/o- TAHASEN SEKH. Residing at Vill-Tikarpura, Post-Kolnaradhakantapur, PS-Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742123, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUS SAMAD. That my name ABDUS SAMAD and SAMAD SEKH is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, SAMAD SEKH is wrongly recorded in my Passport No- J2645225, S/o- TAHASEN SEKH. Residing at Vill-Tikarpura, Post-Kolnaradhakantapur, PS-Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742123, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUS SAMAD. That my name ABDUS SAMAD and SAMAD SEKH is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, SAMAD SEKH is wrongly recorded in my Passport No- J2645225, S/o- TAHASEN SEKH. Residing at Vill-Tikarpura, Post-Kolnaradhakantapur, PS-Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742123, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUS SAMAD. That my name ABDUS SAMAD and SAMAD SEKH is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Name Change
I, SAMAD SEKH is wrongly recorded in my Passport No- J2645225, S/o- TAHASEN SEKH. Residing at Vill-Tikarpura, Post-Kolnaradhakantapur, PS-Ranitala, Dist-Murshidabad, Pin-742123, West Bengal. Shall henceforth be known as ABDUS SAMAD. That my name ABDUS SAMAD and SAMAD SEKH is the same and one Identical Person. Vide an affidavit sworn before the Notary Public at Berhampore Murshidabad.

Today is Yaum-E-Ashura of Muharram



Nurul Islam Khan Today is Muharram. This day is also known as yaum e Ashura. Ashura means a memorable day in Islam.

ed that DJ playing along with weapon parade has been banned. On the occasion of this day, many religious leaders including Pir Saheb of Furfura Sharif and religious leaders of Nakhoda Mosque have said to fast, worship and give food to the hungry.

huge procession came out from Sealdah, Rajabazar and Park Circus. Many people, including Mohammad Alam, saw this procession and opposed the procession with music and weapons, saying that this civilized society is very progressive, and that this activity is not approved by Islam.

Shakil Ahmed felicitated on appointment as Special Commissioner of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education



MI News Service, Howrah: After Shakeel Ahmed got the post of special Commissioner of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education...

MI News Service, Kolkata: Maulana Azad College, Alumni Association, Elliot Pregnancy Hostel, Aliya Madrasa, Muslim Institute and Prabhu Jesus Church etc. are many ancient educational institutions located in Kolkata.

Proliferation of hawkars, encroachment on footpaths create inconvenience for students and school-college authorities



MI News Service, Kolkata: Maulana Azad College, Alumni Association, Elliot Pregnancy Hostel, Aliya Madrasa, Muslim Institute and Prabhu Jesus Church etc. are many ancient educational institutions located in Kolkata.

pavement have come up to the gate of the college. As a result there is a problem in the way of coming and going of students and the environment of the school is disturbed.

press conference so that it is resolved soon. The meeting was attended by Muslim Institute Secretary Nisar Ahmed, Tanbir Ahmed Khan Alumni Secretary, Lord Jesus Church Head Pastor Father Kurian, Tajdar Ali Mirza Elliot Hostel Superintendent, Mother Teresa Foundation State Chairman Munam Mallik, Sohil Hussain and others.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.reps.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.reps.gov.in

No written order but UP Police has shut Muslim restaurants in Sambhal for Kanwar Yatra

MI News Service, Sambhal: For 12 days last year, Talib Hussain was in a lock-up. A restaurant owner in Uttar Pradesh's Sambhal, Hussain was arrested by the police for allegedly selling chicken wrapped in newspapers with images of Hindu gods.

the month when Shiva devotees, known as Kanwariyas, take out their annual Kanwar Yatra procession. He had put up new flex banners at his Mehak restaurant on Munsilf road with images of vegetarian dishes.

An aggressive, proactive UP Police force in Sambhal has ordered Hussain and about 40 other restaurants selling non-vegetarian food to shut shop in the two monsoon months when Kanwariyas pass through the town.

The UP Police's move has left restaurant owners and their employees, who are mostly Muslims, jobless for the past one month. Shopkeepers stand outside their closed shops.

"I had switched to selling only vegetarian food at the beginning of monsoons," Hussain said, referring to

New Chief Advisors to the Bengal State Haj Committee

MI News Service, Kolkata: The Government in the Department of Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education is going to appoint new Chief Advisors to the West Bengal State Haj Committee in order to utilize their vast experience in the matter of Haj operations for the benefit of the Haj pilgrims until

further orders. The persons are: Jb. Md. Nadimul Haque, MP, Jb. Haji Nurul Islam, MLA, Maulana Md. Shafique Quasmi, Imam of Nakhoda Mosque. This is informed by Md. Ghulam Ali Ansari, Secretary to the Government of West Bengal through a written order from Nabanna on Tuesday.



Jamiat Ulema West Bengal held a protest meeting at Moulana Ali Youth Centre against UCC and burning the Holy Quran incident in Sweden where besides Imam Eidain Qari Fazlur Rahman, Moulana Siddique Choudhury, Murti Abdul Islam, Janab Abdur Razzaq several religious personalities attended the meeting and all raised their voice of anger against UCC and burning of the Holy Quran in Sweden.

Manipur violence: SC says plea of Hyderabad University professor to be heard on Monday

MI News Service, New Delhi: The Supreme Court declined to hear urgently Friday's plea of Dr Kham Khan Suan Hausing, a professor of Hyderabad University from Manipur, seeking quashing of the criminal proceedings initiated against him in which summons were also issued for his personal presence before a district court in Imphal.

an urgent hearing before a bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul. However, Justice Kaul declined to list the matter on Friday saying it will come up for hearing on Monday. "This is about a professor from Hyderabad. He has to appear today," Grover said.

Imphal East, Manipur, issued a summons to Hausing asking him to be before it on July 28, 2023, in pursuance of the criminal complaint filed against him by Manihar Moirangthem Singh, a member of the Meitei Tribes Union (MTU).

ing of any person), 120B (criminal conspiracy) of Indian Penal Code (IPC). The complainant claimed that Professor Hausing's statements in an interview defamed the Meitei community and fueled communal enmity in Manipur. In the interview, Hausing advocated a separate administrative setup for the Kuki community. The petitioner sought a record of the entire complaint including, the statement of the complainant and witnesses, a copy of the complaint, a copy of the FIR lodged and orders passed by the court.

Ex-WFI chief exempted from personal appearance in sexual harassment case

MI News Service, New Delhi: A Delhi court on Friday granted one-day exemption from personal appearance to Bharatiya Janata Party MP and former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) Chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh in connection with the sexual harassment case of female wrestlers.

granted exemption from personal appearance for the day only. The court then listed the matter for hearing next on August 3. On the grant of bail, the accused people were directed by the court to not leave the country without its prior intimation and said that they will not, directly or indirectly, indulge in threat or inducement to the complainants or witnesses.

ual harassment and intimidation. The Delhi Police's charge sheet running over 1,000 pages was filed before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Mahima Rai of Rouse Avenue Court for the offences under Sections 354 (Assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty), 354A (making sexually coloured remarks), 354D (stalking) of Indian Penal Code (IPC) against accused Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

sheet contains statements of around 200 witnesses.

Delimitation a ploy to target Muslims in Assam: Cong MLA

MI News Service, Guwahati: Lashing out at the ruling BJP over the ongoing delimitation exercise by the Election Commission in Assam, Congress MLA Abdur Rashid Mandal on Thursday said it was a ploy to target the Muslims in the state.

but is being given 3 while Nagao is being allocated 10 instead of 11 constituencies," he added. The population of each constituency in Barpeta district, on an average, is about 2.73 lakh. Why are non-Muslim districts being allotted more constituencies? The West Karbi Anglong district, with a population of only 2.47 lakh, has been allotted 2 seats. In Golaghat district,

the average population in each constituency is only 1.89 lakh. In Lakhimpur, the average population in each segment is 1.77 lakh. Yet they have been allotted more seats. This exercise is aimed merely at fulfilling the vested interests of the BJP and the RSS. We have moved the Supreme Court, challenging this exercise," the Congress MLA said.

REGULATION OF TRAINS FOR MAINTENANCE WORK OVER HOWRAH DIVISION

For Track, OHE & Signal maintenance work in Howrah-Bardhaman Chord, Howrah-Bandel-Naihati, Bardhaman-Howrah, Katwa-Azimganj & Khana-Gumani sections over Howrah Division, Integrated Mega Traffic & Power Block will be necessary on 30.07.2023 (Sunday). Consequently, the following arrangements have been made in train running as under:-

Eastern Railway logo and social media handles: @EasternRailway, @easternrailwayheadquarter

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: SGW/272/147/ T/150, Dated: 27.07.2023. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/ Project/HQ, Eastern Railway, 17, Netaji Subhash Road, 3rd Floor, Fairlie Place, Kolkata 700 001 invites Open e-Tender for the order noted work: Name of work with its location: Supply of materials (partly), installation, testing & commissioning of indoor & outdoor signalling equipments with provision of dual MSDAC in DDJ-BLH Automatic section of Sealdah Division.

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: 222-S/1/W/1, dated 17.07.2023. Following e-tender is invited online by Sr. Divisional Engineer (I) Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd Floor, Remote Control Building, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: Tender No.: TN-70-23-24. Name of the work: Balance CTR(P) work along with all ancillary work for 3rd (Reversible) Line in the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer/Kanchrapara. Tender Value: ₹ 80,26,109.76. EMD: ₹ 1,60,500/-.



Like every year, this year also on the occasion of Moharram, 4 drums of Sherbats (drinks) and 9 pots of Khichdas were distributed to the people near the crossing of Haji Md Mohsin Square and Waliullah lane, under the leadership of social activist Ibrahim Zama Sadvu (Bablu) of Haji Mohammad Waliullah Social Welfare and United club 62. Before the distribution programme, Jama Masjid's Imam Sahab Qari Maulana Iftaqar Azmi Sahab recited the fatiha, followed by which the programme started.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020. CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Table with 6 columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Guarantor/Loan Account Number & Address, Property Address of Secured Asset/Asset to be Enforced, Date of Notice Sent/Outstanding as on Date of Notice, NPA Date. It lists details for 6 different borrowers.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. Date: July 28, 2023 Place: West Bengal

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

EDITOR'S CHOICE

ELECTRONICS, DEFENCE PRODUCTION WILL STRONGLY PUSH INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH

SEVERAL FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS ARE KEEN TO PARTICIPATE

NANTOO BANERJEE

Electronics and defence production are expected to strongly accelerate the country's economic growth engine in the coming years. Global manufacturers now find India as the most happening place as China used to be in the beginning of the current century. From just two small mobile phone manufacturing factories in less than 10 years ago, the country has already emerged as the world's second largest mobile phone producer looking at an output target worth Rs 24 lakh crore, generating over 10 lakh jobs by 2025-26.

The production of semiconductors comes next. The Indian semiconductor market is all set to witness a stellar growth reaching US\$65 billion by 2026. The government expects nearly half-a-dozen global semiconductor manufacturing firms to invest in India. With over a billion users, India boasts the world's second largest mobile phone market although the internet growth has been rather slow. Presently, the number of wireless broadband subscribers is only around 800 million. However, the market is fast changing.

Last week, US-based Micron Technology announced plans to build a two-phased semiconductor assembly and test facility in Gujarat with a total investment of \$2.75 billion. Micron's own investment will be \$825 million. The rest will come from a 50 percent fiscal support from the union government and a 20 percent incentive from the state government. The plant will produce the country's first 'made-in-India' chip in 18 months. Micron is the world's fifth largest company in the realm of manufacturing semiconductors used by mobiles, laptops, servers, defence equipment, cameras, electric vehicles, trains, cars, and telecom equipment across the globe.

The highly competitive semiconductor market is mostly ruled by a select group of countries such as the US, China, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan. Now, India is seen as a rising star in the industry, endowed with a comparative edge that could potentially reshape the landscape of the global semiconductor sphere. Having a vast market potential backed by a rapidly growing population and a burgeoning middle class, India offers a huge consumer base for semiconductor products providing a strong demand driver for the industry. The country's talent pool can propel semiconductor developments and encourage domestic chip design skills by giving a significant emphasis on skill development and innovation. The latest government incentives have enhanced the attractiveness of the Indian market for semiconductor companies.

After wasting 40 years to set up a semiconductor plant in India, the government has taken a new initiative under the Modified Semicon India Programme, effective from 1st June, to set up semiconductor fabs and dis-

play fabs in the country. Under the programme, a fiscal incentive of 50 percent of the project cost is available to companies/consortia/joint ventures for setting up semiconductor fabs units in India of any node (including mature nodes). Similarly, a fiscal incentive of 50 percent of the project cost is available for setting up display fabs of specified technologies in the country. The semiconductor manufacturing facilities in the country will benefit both the consumer electronics and defence electronics production.

Lately, India, boasting the world's fourth largest defence capability and the largest arms importer since 1993 (as listed by SIPRI), is attracting foreign collaborations in a wide ranging area of defence production. Among those interested in defence tie-ups with Indian ventures are from the US, France, the UK, Germany, Israel and Japan. The launch of the India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) is an encouraging new development in India's growing military cooperation with global powers, barring China. GE Aerospace's tie-up with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the joint production of F414 engines may be part of the ecosystem. These engines [F414] will be used for HAL-built Tejas aircraft. INDUS-X is designed to vitalise India's defence industrial cooperation and unlock new innovations in technology and manufacturing.

France has already expressed that it wants to be India's "best partner" in boosting the country's defence manufacturing efforts. It has decided to share the best technologies and equipment in sync with the growing "trust" between the two sides. French Ambassador Emmanuel Lenain had said. The French Ambassador went further to add: "I do not think any country provides India with the same level of technology. The progress is also due to the fact that we recognise that India wants to boost its strategic autonomy, wants to build its industrial base and we want to be India's best partner in this move." India is a big defence importer from France. Last year, France delivered the last of the 36 Rafal fighter jets, worth Euro 7.87 billion, to India which was contracted in 2015.

India is also working with Germany to find ways to develop key military platforms. India and Germany plan to build a "more symbiotic" defence relationship based on shared goals and complementarity of strength. India has invited German investments in defence corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. New Delhi's mega plan to procure six stealth conventional submarines at a cost of around Rs 43,000 crore has further strengthened the Indo-German defence relationship. With the UK, India has formed a joint working group to bolster the defence and security partnership through industrial collaboration.

The UK recently issued its first Open General Export License (OGEL) in the Indo-Pacific region to India, shortening delivery times for defence procurement.

DONALD TRUMP HINTS AT DEPORTATION OF COMMUNISTS FROM US, IF ELECTED

REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDER REVIVES MCCARTHY ERA ATTACKS AGAIN



C.J. ATKINS

WASHINGTON: Attempting to deflect attention from his criminal indictment on charges of violating the Espionage Act, former President Donald Trump is escalating his use of anti-communist and anti-Semitic red-baiting rhetoric to smear opponents and investigators.

For years, Trump has wielded accusations of left-wing radicalism against anyone who challenged him, but over the past week, he slid further into fascist-like language. Speaking to supporters at a series of campaign rallies, he alleged that a supposed coalition of "communists," "socialists," and "Marxists" had combined as "a powerful force" targeting him and plotting the downfall of the United States.

His revival of McCarthy-era attacks reached new heights this weekend during a 90-minute speech at the far-right Evangelical "Faith and Freedom Conference" in Washington. Speaking to a crowd of Christian fundamentalists, Trump alleged that the Democratic Party was "trying to impose their woke communism on every man, woman, and child."

Urging the audience of religious zealots to stand by his side in 2024, Trump declared, in near-apocalyptic terms, "Together, we're warriors in a righteous crusade to stop the arsonists, the atheists, the globalists, and the Marxists!" The word "globalists" has long been used by the right as a code word for Jews, similar to how "cosmopolitan" was deployed in the past.

Trump raged about the supposed persecution of Christians under President Joe Biden and implied that investigations of his own crimes were punishment for standing up for Christianity. "They want to take away my freedom because I won't let them

take your freedom," he said, reminding listeners about how his Supreme Court appointments cemented the majority that repealed Roe v. Wade. "No president has ever fought for Christians as hard as I have," Trump told his rapt adorer. "I got it done," he said, referring to stripping women of their constitutional right to an abortion.

Describing his supposed sacrifices in almost Christ-like terms, Trump portrayed himself as a modern-day martyr for the cause. "Every time the radical left Democrats, Marxists, communists, and fascists indict me, I consider it a great badge of courage—I'm being indicted for you," he said. The irony of a fascist posing a false equivalence between Marxism with fascism was lost on those attending the Christian conference.

The anti-communist tirade was paired with a racist revival of Trump's now-standard anti-immigrant bigotry. Recalling the restrictive border proposals of his first White House run—when he labelled all Mexican migrants "rapists" and "murderers"—Trump said he would bring back policies like separating migrant children from their parents, blocking asylum seekers from entering the U.S., and finishing his border wall. But the old policies are not enough, apparently, given the danger of an imaginary communist threat.

"Using federal law, section 212 (f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, I will order my government to deny entry to all communists and all Marxists," he said. "Those who come to join our country must love our country. We don't want them if they want to destroy our country.... So, we're going to be keeping foreign Christian-hating communists, socialists, and Marxists out of America. We're keeping them out of America."

He said, accurately, that the law already "prohibits the entry of communists" into the U.S. Federal immigration law does indeed say that any immigrant "...who is or has been a member of or affiliated with the Communist...party (or subdivision or affiliate thereof), domestic or foreign, is inadmissible." It's an old, undemocratic leftover from the Red Scare dating back to 1918.

But that's not enough for Trump. Going further, he asked, "But my question is, what are we going to do with the ones that are already here, that grew up here?" The packed auditorium erupted with screaming chants of "Deport them! Deport them!"

The revival of deportation threats recalls the notorious Palmer Raids of 1919 and 1920 when the Justice Department arrested and deported foreign-born anarchists, communists, and radical leftists. They were part of the same period of hysteria that saw the implementation of the communist entry prohibition.

To facilitate such deportations today, Trump said he would issue an executive order repealing birthright citizenship. This is the provision in the 14th Amendment which says any person born on U.S. soil unless they're the child of a foreign diplomat, is automatically a U.S. citizen.

The president has no authority to override this guarantee, so any executive order trying to do so would be obviously unconstitutional and dictatorial. It would be nothing out of the ordinary for Trump, though. His anti-democratic ravings at the Christian conference came immediately after his attendance at a fundraiser for jailed right-wing Jan. 6 coup participants. There, he defended those who attacked the Capitol on his behalf as "great patriots"

who would receive pardons if he is elected again.

He also repeated the lie that Black Lives Matter activists and "Antifa" were really responsible for the violence that happened when he tried to orchestrate the overthrow of the government in the last days of his administration.

Extending his anti-communist threats to the international arena, Trump said he would put a 24-hour deadline on China from the moment of his inauguration to remove its "military installations" from Cuba—installations which are not confirmed to even exist. He criticized the Biden administration for supposedly allowing the establishment of Chinese "listening posts" 90 miles from Florida.

His remarks concerning the Sunshine State's security came just a day before Florida Sen. Rick Scott made his own anti-communist headlines by saying Reds of any variety were not welcome to visit. "We like freedom, liberty, capitalism, things like that," Scott said, rambling off a list of three items, two of which are not necessarily connected to the third.

Anti-communism is nothing new for Trump. The seeds of his extreme right politics were probably planted in him by his father, Fred Trump—a past Ku Klux Klan supporter and notoriously racist New York landlord. Unconfirmed rumours have long swirled that the elder Trump was also a backer of the German-American Bund, the American outpost of Hitler's Nazi Party in the 1930s. President Trump also learned anti-communist witch-hunt tactics from one of their original practitioners. His chief political mentor early in life was lawyer Roy Cohn, sidekick of Sen. Joseph McCarthy, who made a name for himself "exposing" supposed Communist infiltration.

CONGRESS IS APPROACHING STATE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS WITH MORE UNITY

GEHLOT-PILOT LEADERSHIP TRUCE SENDS AN OMINOUS SIGNAL

SUSHIL KUTTY

Finally, the Congress is on track to win Rajasthan after the Bharatiya Janata Party poured urine over its prospects in Madhya Pradesh which along with Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh are among five states that will go to polls before the 2024 general elections. So, has Sachin Pilot's truce with Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot put an end to the bitter feud which more than once left the Congress high command at its wit's end? From henceforth, both Gehlot and Pilot have promised to work as a team with the right to name the Chief Minister resting with the high command, i.e., the Gandhi family.

The Gehlot-Pilot truce was hammered out in the presence of senior Congress leader and "bhavi Pradhan Mantri" Rahul Gandhi with Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge in the picture. Pilot was there in person but a toe injury kept Gehlot at home though he was "virtually" very much part of this breakthrough. Significantly, and historically, Rajasthan is known not to repeat the same party twice in succession. But nearly 10 years of Modi rule at the Centre would be the reason for Rajasthan to remain in safe hands. In fact, if the Bharatiya Janata Party wasn't so full of the daft, it would pack off Prime Minister Narendra Modi without much ado and as little ceremony. Voters almost everywhere have had enough of Gujarat running the show from New Delhi. As simple as that.

So, be prepared to witness the Gehlot-Pilot feud in Rajasthan to renew! The hard-earned truce worked out at the 24 Akbar Road Congress headquarters in New



Delhi will last at the most till the last vote is counted and the Congress is declared winner of Rajasthan. Only idealists and utopians will give the Gehlot-Pilot truce a long life. When it comes to holding hands these two have claws!

That said, there was unprecedented unity in play at the 24 Akbar Road meeting. The brainstorming lasted four hours. The feud was discussed along with the party's preparedness for 2023's five assembly elections. Congress general secretary (Org) KC Venugopal broke the news that a "united leadership" will take on the BJP in Rajasthan, meaning neither Gehlot nor Pilot would get the option to screw up Congress prospects.

Needless to say, behind the truce is the confidence that this is where Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his longtime sidekick will go into political wilderness without creating too much of a fuss. The only fear is, the duo is not spooked into

putting into play the EVM to avoid sure-shot defeat.

Even otherwise, the BJP's election juggernaut is living in the false belief that it's fully in command. And just so that Congress plans are not leaked to the rival camp, KC Venugopal warned of strict punishment to those discussing party matters in public. Again, needless to say, Congress Chief Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi approved of this.

Two men who will be directly affected by this diktat are, of course, Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot. When the two will come to blows is something nobody, not even them, can predict. If past behaviour is to go by, the Gehlot and Pilot feud will be part of Rajasthan Congress lore for as long as the ship of the desert walks the Thar!

Hopefully, the election strategy part of the meeting will remain on top and not the feud. And as part of

election strategy, it was made clear that the Congress had a policy not to declare a chief ministerial candidate. Instead, the party will fight the election "unitedly". Gehlot and Pilot have to live with it. In any case, it was time somebody read out the riot act to the pair. Their shenanigans had simply gotten out of hand.

However, curious party men and women in both the feuding factions were dissatisfied. They wanted to know the specifics of the peace deal to show unity. For, let nobody be fooled into believing that Gehlot and Pilot had changed overnight and for the love of the Gandhi family chosen to bury the hatchet.

Nothing of the sort. Credit, however, should be given where and when it is due. The Congress high command finally let it be known to all and sundry who is 'Boss'. That said, Sachin Pilot supporters had something to gloat when Venugopal announced the Gehlot government would introduce Bills to reform the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) and ensure strict punishments for those leaking question papers.

Also, cases of corruption dating back to time of BJP Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje would be made a poll issue. Pilot believes strongly that the Congress will return to power if it goes after the BJP's corruption. The man who wants to be Rajasthan Chief Minister believes he can deliver Rajasthan to the Congress if the party acts on his recommendations. But he overdid it when he said he will "follow whatever directions the party gives me". Pilot and party discipline are two different things though rumours are the high command wants Pilot to head the state election campaign committee. And that, not because Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has hurt his toes!

HEALTH CAPSULE

'IMMUNOTHERAPY FOR LUNG CANCER PATIENTS IMPROVES LONG-TERM SURVIVAL'

LONDON: The cancer immunotherapy atezolizumab significantly increased the overall survival of patients with advanced-stage non-small cell lung cancer who were unable to receive platinum-containing chemotherapy when compared to single-agent chemotherapy, according to a global study conducted by UCL and UCLH and funded by Roche. For non-small cell lung cancer patients who are ineligible for standard of care platinum-based chemotherapy due to worries about their capacity to survive the treatment, the trial results, which were published in The Lancet, are welcome news. Lung cancer is the most frequent type of cancer that results in mortality globally, with about 2.2 million new cases and 1.8 million fatalities per year. The majority of patients present with advanced stage non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). For the fittest patients with advanced stage NSCLC, first-line immunotherapy with or without platinum-based doublet chemotherapy (PDC) is now established as the standard of care treatment. This follows several randomised trials that were limited to 'fit' participants with a median age of 65 or younger and were able to tolerate PDC. However, more than 40% of advanced stage NSCLC patients are in poor health and are often elderly with significant medical co-morbidities. Treatment with standard PDC is not suitable for many of these patients because of poor tolerance or toxicity concerns, leaving them with limited treatment options. They are frequently treated with less effective single-agent chemotherapy or offered the best supportive care. Currently, most treatment guidelines do not recommend immunotherapy treatment due to lack of randomised results to indicate that it is safe, well tolerated and increases overall survival for this poor prognosis population. Sponsored by Roche, this is the first reported randomised phase III trial of first-line immunotherapy treatment with atezolizumab (also known as Tecentriq) in an advanced NSCLC population deemed unfit for standard platinum-chemotherapy. The trial sought to establish the efficacy, safety and overall survival rate of first-line immunotherapy treatment with atezolizumab compared with single-agent chemotherapy in advanced stage NSCLC patients. Patients were randomised 2:1, with 302 patients receiving atezolizumab and 151 receiving single-agent chemotherapy. The study showed that atezolizumab significantly improved overall survival and resulted in a clinically meaningful long-term survival benefit.

DELIMITATION A PLOY TO TARGET MUSLIMS IN ASSAM: CONGRESS MLA

GUWAHATI (ASSAM) : Lashing out at the ruling BJP over the ongoing delimitation exercise by the Election Commission in Assam, Congress MLA Abdur Rashid Mandal on Thursday said it was a ploy to target the Muslims in the state.

Speaking to ANI on Friday, the Congress MLA said, "This (delimitation) exercise is a clear and flagrant violation of the Constitution and the laws of the land. It is a ploy to target the Muslims in Assam. Why are Muslims being singled out this way? Are they not Indian citizens? Are they not paying taxes to the government? What is it that qualifies one to be an Indian citizen? We demand that the BJP comes up with answers to these questions." Alleviating that the ruling party in the state was depriving the Muslims of government benefits, the Congress MLA said, "However, the Muslims aren't bothered in the least as they are hard-working people and can take care of themselves and their families. However, these are basic rights being denied by the BJP. Why are we being deprived of our constitutional rights?"

MANIPUR VIOLENCE: SC SAYS PLEA OF HYDERABAD UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR TO BE HEARD ON MONDAY

NEW DELHI : The Supreme Court declined to hear urgently Friday's plea of Dr Kham Khan Suan Hausing, a professor of Hyderabad University from Manipur, seeking quashing of the criminal proceedings initiated against him in which summons were also issued for his personal presence before a district court in Imphal.

The matter was listed before Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud on Friday. However, with the sitting of the bench cancelled on Friday, senior advocate Anand Grover, appearing for Hausing, mentioned the case for an urgent hearing before a bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul.

However, Justice Kaul declined to list the matter on Friday saying it will come up for hearing on Monday.

"This is about a professor from Hyderabad. He has to appear today," Grover said.

The petitioner, Dr Kham Khan Suan Hausing, a professor of Political Science and also the Head of the Department of Political Science at the University of Hyderabad, approached the top court seeking the quashing of proceedings and summons.

I am very optimistic about future of QUAD: Jaishankar

NEW DELHI (INDIA) : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, on Friday said that he is very optimistic about the future of the QUAD as the new way of working is more flexible and open-minded.

EAM Jaishankar was addressing the media at the inaugural session of the India-Japan Forum with his Japanese counterpart Yoshimasa Hayashi. "I am really very optimistic (for the future of QUAD)...Every meeting of the QUAD is depending the agenda and gives us issues to work on. There are many more ideas about where we are going. This new way of working as flexible, open-minded is the

way how the future of important relationships is going to go, they are not going to go by 1945-50 type of alliances," Jaishankar said.

"We restarted (QUAD) in 2017. Every six months, people pronounce it dead. And every time it reincarnated it was stronger and stronger," Jaishankar said.

He said that the issues are very practical. "Today, we have critical and emerging technologies. You have a maritime domain awareness. You have SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) for HADR (Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief)."

Jaishankar said that the QUAD is deepening the agen-

da with every meeting.

"It is giving us many more issues to work on. And I feel after every meeting that actually there are many more ideas about where we're going. So I am today very validated that this new way of working which is very flexible, very open minded, very a lot of give and take," he said.

"This is the way to go. This is how actually, the future of important relationships is going to go. They're not going to go by 1945, 1950 type, balance analysis," Jaishankar said.

India and Japan established diplomatic relations in 1952. India, Japan, Australia, US are part of the Quadrilateral Security

Dialogue (QSD), commonly known as the Quad.

The two leaders also spoke on terrorism, counter-terrorism, technology, people-to-people ties and modernisation.

The Japanese Foreign Minister had arrived in New Delhi earlier on Thursday.

Jaishankar and Yoshimasa Hayashi held the 15th India-Japan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi on Thursday.

The meeting provided an opportunity to review the progress made in the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

The two ministers engaged in comprehensive discussions covering a wide

range of issues of bilateral, regional, and global significance. They highlighted the importance of further strengthening India-Japan partnership based on shared values and principles.

The ministers emphasized the importance of achieving the target of JPY 5 trillion Japanese investment in India in the period 2022-27. They explored potential areas of collaboration in critical and emerging technologies, including semiconductors; resilient supply chains; and digital public infrastructure, among others.

During the meeting, the ministers also expressed satisfaction with the strengthening of defence and security



cooperation, including regular exercises and staff talks between all three services. In this context, they discussed a way forward to deepen

defence equipment and technology cooperation.

The ministers exchanged views on regional and global issues of interest as well.

1,774 health facilities in 32 states/UTs adopted 'Scan and Share': Govt

NEW DELHI : As many as 1,774 health facilities across 32 states and Union Territories have adopted the 'Scan and Share' service which enables for quick and seamless OPD registration for patients using smartphones, the Lok Sabha was told on Friday.

A total of 52 lakh tokens have been generated using the service under the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) which aims to create a digital platform enabling interoperability of health data within the health ecosystem to create longitudinal electronic health record of every citizen, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said in response to a question.

According to the data shared by the minister, 552 healthcare facilities in Uttar Pradesh (the highest), fol-



lowed by 336 in Andhra Pradesh, 277 in Bihar, Karnataka 224 and 137 in Maharashtra have adopted the service.

The Mission, the Scan and Share feature has been enabled for quick and seamless OPD (out patient department) registration for

patients at hospitals using their smartphone, he said.

This facility has been provisioned through the use of a hospital-specific QR code and an ABDM-enabled personal health record (PHR) application. By scanning the QR code, patients can share their demographic details with the

hospital via the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) profile.

In return, they receive a token number that they can use to obtain their OPD printed card from the OPD registration counter, Mandaviya explained.

He said this process not

only saves patients' time by reducing waiting hours, it also ensures that the hospital receives accurate patient information in a timely manner. In addition, the OPD crowd also reduces.

"As on July 24, a total of 1,774 health facilities across 32 states and UTs, including Jharkhand, have adopted this service of Scan and Share, and over 52 lakh tokens have been generated using the service," he said.

In Jharkhand, six health facilities (All India Institute of Medical Sciences Deoghar; District Hospital Chatra; Sadar Hospital Giridih; MGM medical college Jamshepur; East Singhbhum, Sadar Hospital Khunti; and Dr A Kumars Pathology, Hazaribagh) have adopted this service, the health minister added.

Om Birla to inaugurate conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region in Shillong

SHILLONG : Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla will inaugurate the 20th annual conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region here on Saturday.

The four-day conference will deliberate on natural disasters and strategies for management with special reference to the northeast region.

The delegates will also hold discussion on the topic of regional connectivity to bring the northeast region of the country at par with the rest of India.

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Hariyansh, Meghalaya Assembly Speaker Thomas A Sangma and Arunachal Pradesh Assembly Speaker Pasang D Sona will

attend the conference, the Lok Sabha Secretariat said in a statement on Friday.

It will also be attended by MPs, Meghalaya MLAs and other dignitaries, it added.

"The conference will conclude on July 30 with the valedictory address by Governor of Meghalaya Phagu Chauhan," the statement said.

On Sunday, the Lok Sabha Speaker will inaugurate the new building of the Assam Legislative Assembly in Guwahati.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal and Assam Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary and other dignitaries will grace the occasion, the Lok Sabha Secretariat said.



NIA COURT KULGAM ISSUES PROCLAMATION ORDERS AGAINST 2 ACTIVE TERRORISTS IN J-K

SRINAGAR (JAMMU AND KASHMIR) : NIA Special Court Kulgam designated under National Investigation Agency Act issued Proclamation orders under section 82 CrPC against two active terrorists, Kashmir Police said on Friday.

The terrorists identified as Yawar Bashir Dar and Irfan Yaqoob Lone have been involved in the case and booked under section 302 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Qaimoh police station. The orders have been issued against the involved terrorists at the request of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). Yawar Bashir Dar is a resident of Redwani Balla and Irfan Yaqoob Lone belongs to Hawoora. Before issuing proclamation, the court has already issued open-ended Non Bailable warrants (NBW) against these terrorists. "Today, proclamation orders have been read in the conspicuous places of their native villages and copies of proclamations were pasted in conspicuous places of their residential houses and conspicuous place of their villages as well," the police said. Before initiation of further proceedings under the law against these terrorists, the court has given them a chance to surrender before the court.

India should give stapled visas to anyone applying from Tibet: Tharoor



NEW DELHI : Amid a row over China issuing stapled visas to a few sportspersons from Arunachal Pradesh, senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Friday said India should simply start issuing stapled visas to anyone applying for an Indian visa from Tibet.

India on Thursday described as "unacceptable" China issuing stapled visas to a few sportspersons from Arunachal Pradesh and asserted that it reserves the right to "suitably respond" to such actions.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India has lodged its "strong protest" with the Chinese side on the matter and there should be no discrimination on the basis of domicile or ethnicity in the visa regime for Indian citizens.

Tagging a media report on China issuing stapled visas to some Indian sportspersons

from Arunachal Pradesh, Tharoor tweeted, "Enough is enough. Instead of frustrating our sportsmen and every other Arunachali seeking a Chinese visa, we should simply start issuing stapled visas ourselves, to anyone applying for an Indian visa from Tibet."

"And say we will continue to do so until the disputed border between Tibet and India is settled," the former minister of state for external affairs said.

People familiar with the matter said the visit of a 12-member team of Wushu players to China's Chengdu to compete at the World University Games was called off on Wednesday night as three players from Arunachal Pradesh in the group were given stapled visas.

The decision to put on hold the team's travel was taken after the government examined the matter.

In the past too, there were instances of China issuing stapled visas to Indians from Arunachal Pradesh that drew sharp reactions from New Delhi.

China has been laying claims over Arunachal Pradesh, saying it is part of Southern Tibet.

In April, India outrightly rejected China's renaming some places in Arunachal Pradesh, asserting that the state is an integral part of India and assigning "invented" names does not alter this reality.

G7 nations' position on war in Ukraine will remain same, says Japan

NEW DELHI : Japan on Friday said the position of the G7 nations on the war in Ukraine will remain same and it is up to the Indian presidency of the G20 to build consensus on the text to refer to the crisis in the leaders' declaration to be adopted at the upcoming summit of the grouping.

India, the current president of the G20, is facing the uphill task of building consensus on the issue in view of sharp differences between the West and Russia-China.

Yukiko Okano, the deputy press secretary in Japan's foreign ministry, told reporters in Delhi that the Ukraine crisis figured in the talks between Japanese foreign minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar on Thursday evening.

Okano, who is accompanying Hayashi in his two-day visit to India, said at a media briefing that the G7's position on Ukraine will not change.

"I think our position will remain the same as G7 countries, whichever forum we would voice out our concerns and our objection relating to Ukraine," she said.

"When it comes to the joint communicate, it is really up to the presidency how to reach a consensus. So I would prefer not to comment on the path forward. This is in the hands of the Indian presidency," Okano said.

She was replying to a question on lack of consensus

on the text of the joint communicate and whether the G7 will review its position on the contentious issue to pave the way for finalising the leaders' declaration at the New Delhi summit of the G20.

The G7 summit took place in Hiroshima in May under Japan's presidency.

In the summit, the G7 leaders resolved to stand against Russia's "illegal, unjustifiable, and unprovoked" invasion of Ukraine and unveiled new sanctions on Moscow.

In the text of the draft G20 communicate, two paragraphs on the Ukraine conflict were taken from G20 'leaders' Bali declaration that was unveiled in November last.

Both Russia and China had agreed to the two paragraphs on the Ukraine conflict in the Bali declaration, but they backtracked from it this year creating difficulties for India to build consensus on the tricky issue.

The G20 operates under the principle of consensus. Almost all key meetings held under India's G20 presidency including those of finance and foreign ministers, could not come out with consensus documents in view of opposition from Russia and China to any text referring to the Ukraine conflict.

However, Indian negotiators are confident of finding consensus on the text relating to Ukraine for the leaders' declaration.



DMK MOST CORRUPT PARTY: AMIT SHAH DURING LAUNCH OF "EN MANN EN MAKKAL" YATRA IN TAMIL NADU

RAMESHWARAM (TAMIL NADU) : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday alleged DMK as the most corrupt party adding that Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin did not ask for Senthil Balaji's resignation because he's afraid that Balaji will reveal his secrets.

"DMK is the most corrupt party. One of their ministers was arrested for a scam by the ED. However, despite being in jail, he's still the minister...But Stalin will not ask for his resignation because the minister will reveal all the secrets

about Stalin...". Amit Shah said. "I want to tell the Congress party and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Stalin that changing the name does nothing. As soon as you go in public, people remember the commonwealth scam, 2G scam, commonwealth scam, coal scam, choppers scam, submarine scam, ISRO scam and many more...", he said.

He further said that the party's Yatra is to make Tamil Nadu free from family dynastic politics, corruption and to improve the law and order situation in the state. "This Yatra is not only a

political Yatra. "En Mann En Makkal" (My land, My People) Yatra is a Yatra to spread the Tamil language worldwide. It is to make Tamil Nadu free from family dynastic politics, and corruption, and to improve the law and order situation in the state. It is a Yatra to end corruption and start development work..."

Amit Shah said that through this Yatra BJP state president K Annamalai will establish the nationalism of Prime Minister Narendra Modi across Tamil Nadu. "Through the En Mann En Makkal Yatra state BJP



president K Annamalai is going to establish the nationalism of PM Modi

across Tamil Nadu. PM Modi was the first to speak in Tamil- the world's oldest

AS SOON AS YOU GO IN PUBLIC, PEOPLE REMEMBER THE COMMONWEALTH SCAM, 2G SCAM, COMMONWEALTH SCAM, COAL SCAM, CHOPPERS SCAM, SUBMARINE SCAM, ISRO SCAM AND MANY MORE..." HE SAID.

language in UN...", he added. The Home Minister fur-

ther made a scathing attack on the previous Congress-UPA government at the Centre and said, "The massacre of Tamils took place in Sri Lanka during the rule of this Congress-UPA. DMK and Congress are responsible for the plight of Tamil fishermen during their rule..."

Amit Shah launched the BJP's six-month-long padyatra 'En Mann, En Makkal' (My Land, My People) in the State's Rameswaram town today.

The Yatra comes ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election and seeks a decisive

mandate to install party leader Narendra Modi as Prime Minister for a third term.

The padyatra that will begin from Rameswaram aims to cover all 234 assembly constituencies across the state and is scheduled to conclude on January 11 next year ahead of the Lok Sabha polls, BJP Tamil Nadu President K Annamalai who will lead the yatra had told reporters earlier.

The Yatra aims to cover 1068 Km on foot and the rest of the area by vehicle, the BJP state leader said.



BRIJ BHUSHAN TO CONVENE MEETING ON JULY 30 AHEAD OF WFI ELECTION NOMINATION CLOSING DATE

NEW DELHI : Outgoing Wrestling Federation of India president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh has convened a meeting on Sunday to nominate his panel, which will contest the upcoming WFI elections to elect the new office-bearers. Though Brij Bhushan and his son Karan are not part of the electoral college for the elections, the BJP leader's son-in-law Vishal Singh is a representative from Bihar in the polls and could likely contest for a top position. Outgoing WFI assistant secretary Vinod Tomar confirmed that a meeting had been scheduled for Brij Bhushan on July 30, though he did not specify the venue.

"Yes, the outgoing president has convened a meeting on Sunday. It has not been decided where the meeting will take place. The meeting will likely be attended by all those (state body officials) who support him (Brij Bhushan)," said Tomar.

"The presidents and secretaries of the various state associations will likely come for the meeting to discuss the candidates for the elections. The venue for the meeting has not been decided as yet," added Tomar.

The last date for filing nominations for the August 12 elections is July 31.

Brij Bhushan is not eligible to contest as he has already completed 12 years as an office-bearer, which is the maximum term allowed as per the National Sports Code.

The day-to-day affairs of the WFI are currently being managed by the Indian Olympic Association-constituted ad-hoc committee led by Bhpender Singh Bajwa.

Punjab Wrestling Association secretary Ranbir Kundu said on Friday that so far his state association had not received invite from any quarter or candidate to attend their meeting.

"So far, we have not received any invite. We are not going to field any candidate in the upcoming elections for the top posts. However, we will vote for truth and the betterment of wrestling in the country," said Kundu.

Incidentally, the Punjab Wrestling Association's president, renowned former grappler Kartar Singh, was a secretary-general of the WFI until he was removed in 2013. Two representatives from each state unit will be allowed to vote. Maharashtra and Tripura will not have any representatives at the elections as the Returning Officer deemed claims of both factions from the former "ineligible" while Tripura has remained disaffiliated since 2016. The WFI elections are taking place after several postponements. The IOA ad-hoc panel had initially scheduled the elections for July 6 but it was forced to reschedule the polls to July 11 after disaffiliated state bodies from Maharashtra, Haryana, Telangana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh approached it for a hearing, claiming that his dismissal was not appropriate. The IOA panel heard the aggrieved representatives of the state bodies but the polls could not go ahead even on July 11 with the Gauhati High Court staying the elections.

"Felt good that somebody took it...": Ravindra Jadeja in awe of Virat Kohli's one-handed stunner



BRIDGETOWN : India all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja lauded Virat Kohli's quick reflex catch off his bowling at slip during the opening ODI against West Indies at Kensington Oval, Barbados on Thursday.

Men in Blue outplayed West Indies in the first ODI of three-match to clinch a victory by five wickets. India claimed a 1-0 lead in the series. Jadeja stated that Kohli's superb slip catch increased the bowlers' confidence on a difficult batting field at the Kensington Oval.

With a double-wicket over, Jadeja shifted the momentum in India's favour as the West Indies lost their last seven wickets for just 36 runs. In the 18th over, Jadeja dismissed big

hitters Rovman Powell and Romario Shepherd, leaving West Indies 6 down before Kuldeep wiped out the tail.

Romario Shepherd's wicket was notable because the batter went for an expansive shot and paid the price by giving Virat Kohli a chance at slip cordon. It was an incredible take from the former captain, who kept low and stretched his right palm to show off his reflexes. As Jadeja wove a web around the West Indies batting unit, the ball adhered to Kohli's palms.

Jadeja joked that it's about time someone took a nice catch off his bowling.

"Generally, I take such catches on other's bowling, but it felt good that somebody took it on my bowling,"

Jadeja said in an official video posted by BCCI.

"Virat Kohli took a fabulous catch. It was low and Kohli held it wonderfully. He didn't get any time to react, he got only one second to react and he grabbed it. Even Shubman also grabbed a nice low catch. On wickets like these, fielders need to support the bowlers and that in turn helps to boost the confidence of players, because you need to convert those half chances," he added.

Jadeja ended up with figures of 3-37 off his six overs. Team India will play their second ODI against West Indies at the same venue in Kensington Oval, Barbados on Saturday.



Japan Open: Lakshya Sen enters semifinals; Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty pair bows out

TOKYO : India's star shuttler Lakshya Sen extended his excellent run on Thursday, defeating local hope Koki Watanabe in straight games to enter the semifinals of the Japan Open Super 750 badminton competition in

Tokyo. The 2022 Commonwealth Champion Lakshya registered a straight-set 21-15 21-19 victory over Watanabe to make his third successive semifinals, following his exploits in Canada and the United States. Sen, who won the Canada Open Super 500 earlier this month, jumped out to a 5-3 lead early on before closing to 11-7 at the break. The Indian had little trouble manoeuvring the Japanese and quickly sealed the opening game with two cross-court returns on both sides of the court.

Watanabe tried to infuse some energy into the rallies after switching sides, but Sen looked in command and moved to 3-2 with a stunning cross court drop. A 42-shot rally finished with Sen's backhand falling into the net, giving Watanabe a 5-3 lead.

Sen, who trailed 7-14, staged a comeback, pulling his opponent to the net and making good use of drop shots. With a cross-court smash, he quickly turned the tables at 18-17. Sen secured one match point with two returns on his opponent's backhand before producing another crisp return at the backhand line to clinch the match against his Japanese opponent.

Meanwhile, the Indian in-form men's doubles duo of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty failed to bring their 'A' game into the match, falling 15-21 25-16-21 to Olympic winners Lee Yang and Wang Chi-Lan of Chinese Taipei.

Indian eighth seed HS Prannoy will be in action later in the day against World and Olympic badminton champion Viktor Axelsen.

RP Singh backs Suryakumar Yadav to be India's option at No 4 for World Cup

MUMBAI : Former fast bowler RP Singh on Friday backed Suryakumar Yadav to be India's option at No 4 during the ICC World Cup in the possible absence of Shreyas Iyer, and said the Mumbaier should be given ample game-time ahead of the big event.

Not having a strong batter at the No 4 slot was one of India's failings in the 2019 World Cup, and four years down the line the team could be troubled by the very same issue as Shreyas has been recuperating from an injury.

But Suryakumar, so far, has not been able to replicate his T20 prowess in ODI cricket, and he has gone without a fifty in the last 16 matches.

However, RP Singh said ruling out the option of Suryakumar would be naive.

"Suryakumar Yadav is a good option for No 4, along with Shreyas (Iyer), provided he is fit. But if you are looking at him even as a backup option, it is important to give him game-time and he is certainly a good pick," said RP Singh during an interaction organised by Jio Cinema.

"Suryakumar is yet to make his mark in one-day cricket but the way he is batting, and the kind of batter that he is, he can be a good option for No 4 or 5," he said.

"You must always have backup options heading into major tournaments. His current form in T20 cricket has been very good, one-day format is different because you have (to face) more number of balls. Due to that, he will have to change his game-plan a bit," he said.

The former left-arm fast bowler highlighted the fact that India do not



have many options to pick from for the No 4 slot.

"He is an experienced player, it is about that one click - how many games he takes to make one big score. Once that happens, he will not face any such issues. Anyway, how many options does the team even have for No 4?," he said.

RP Singh said pacer Umran Malik will have to improve his skills as a bowler as speed alone cannot be his weapon, adding that he is one of the bowlers in fray to play in the World Cup.

"You have a good number of matches before the World Cup. He can get 5-6 games in the Asia Cup, and three more matches (against Australia). Umran has the advantage of pace. But the issue with him is the skill - his deliveries do not move much," RP Singh said.

"In international cricket, speed alone cannot be the only weapon. You have to make a game-plan as well, and that is something he is not learning as quickly as he should. He also concedes a lot of runs. But he seems

to be in the loop for the World Cup because he has the pace."

"But he should also get game-time. You cannot have someone playing one match and then sitting out for two. If you think Umran is a long-term option then he has to be polished accordingly," said RP Singh.

RP Singh welcomed the prospect of Jasprit Bumrah returning to international cricket.

The pace spearhead may return during the upcoming Ireland tour, and RP Singh said it is crucial for him to get as many matches under his belt as possible. "For Bumrah, getting some games under his belt on the Ireland tour and in the Asia Cup will be better in the context of playing in the World Cup. When you are returning from an injury layoff, the body and the mind need time to adjust and you need to play some matches for that," he said.

Given that Rishabh Pant is unlikely to feature in the World Cup and KL Rahul still far away from being match-fit, RP Singh placed Ishan Kishan as an option for the wicketkeeper-batter slot.

Indian men's hockey team holds England to 1-1 draw

Barcelona : The Indian men's hockey team came up with a spirited performance to hold England 1-1 in their third match at the ongoing 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation - International Tournament here on Friday.

While Sam Ward scored an early goal for England in the fifth minute, India bounced back to level the scores in the 29th minute through Harmanpreet Singh.

The draw meant India are out of contention for the final on Sunday.

After losing to the hosts and drawing with the Netherlands in their previous matches, India were looking for an elusive win and a spot in the final.

Despite their positive body language on the field, it was the Brits who got off to a good start, with Ward scoring a stunning field goal.

A tumbling James Oates crossed the ball from the right flank towards the goalpost, which Ward deflected into the post, giving England the lead.

Pawan, who was filling in for PR Sreejesh and Krishan Bahadur Pathak in the goalpost, could do little to defend.

Despite the early setback, India showed tenacity in the following minutes, defending admirably to save two consecutive penalty corners. Meanwhile, the Indian forwardline continued their attack, earning a well-deserved penalty corner in the 12th minute. Unfortunately for Indian skipper Harmanpreet, the umpire disallowed his goal for dangerous play.

With England leading by



a goal, India came out with a new burst of attack in the early minutes of the second quarter, led by vice captain Hardik Singh, whose stick-work gave Indian fans hope for a goal.

However, a goal-mouth scramble ensured that England maintained their lead.

It took India a lot of effort to break through the English defence, and it wasn't until the 29th minute that India were able to level the score. It was Harmanpreet yet again leading the charge, as he broke no sweat in converting a brilliant penalty corner.

A goal just before the 10-minute half-time break meant that the two teams would return with strategies that would promise exciting 30 minutes of play. With a spot in the final at stake, both teams lived up to the billing with their brilliant attacking tactics that kept the spectators glued.

Having shaken off the early nervousness, young India goalie Pawan who replaced Sreejesh in the third quarter

came up with a fine save in the 35th minute when England earned a penalty corner.

India too found a couple of chances in the following minutes. But they could not manage to put it past England's custodian James Mazarelo.

With the score reading 1-1, the final quarter remained tense for India.

Desperate to find a breakthrough, India came up with a disciplined attacking structure while Sreejesh produced some incredible saves to keep the scoreline intact.

India found a golden opportunity to score in the dying minutes when they won a PC. This was after the team had pulled their goalkeeper out for the want of an extra man in their attack. The tactic worked, but India could not convert from the PC with Mazarelo making a fine save with his foot.

That ended India's hope of progressing to the final in Terassa, Barcelona.

Kishore Jena bags gold medal in Sri Lanka National Athletics meet

COLOMBO: Indian athlete Kishore Jena clinched the gold medal in the men's javelin throw event at Sri Lanka National Athletics meet on Friday.

Kishore Jena won the gold medal with a personal best throw of 84.38m. On the other hand, Shivpal Singh secured the silver medal with the best throw of 77.36m. Sports Association of India (Sai) took to X, formerly known as Twitter, to congratulate both athletes for their success in the Athletics meet.

Last week, Jena bagged a gold medal at the Lebanon Athletics Championships 2023 in Beirut. The Indian athlete achieved a distance of 78.96m to clinch the gold medal. He failed to get past his personal best distance of 82.87, which he achieved in Bhubaneswar last month.

Tokyo 2020 Olympian Shivpal Singh won the silver with a 73.34m throw. Seven men competed in the men's javelin event. Nabil Al-Akoui was third with 59.79m.

While in the Women's javelin throw event, Annu Rani recorded a best throw of 55.32m to top the six-woman field. Even though, her effort was far from her national record-setting mark of 63.82m which she achieved last year. Annu Rani has not crossed the 60m mark in four competitions since the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham, where she won the bronze medal. Annu Rani's distance at Lebanon Athletics Championships was more than double of what silver medallist Lynn Nader (26.48m) managed to achieve.



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